



March 2014

Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!



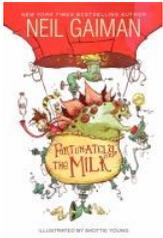
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein. J Fiction, Electronic Resource
Twelve year old Kyle is a fan of all kinds of games, especially video games. His favorite games were created by Luigi Lemoncello who is eccentric and rich. The town where Kyle lives has not had a library for twelve years. Mr. Lemoncello creates a new, futuristic library for the town which includes holograms, magnetic hover ladders and an IMAX theater. Kyle is one of twelve lucky kids to be invited to the overnight lock-in with fun and games as part of the library's grand opening. But in the morning, Kyle and his friends discover they have to find clues and solve puzzles to locate the hidden escape path out of the library and win a fantastic prize from Mr. Lemoncello. The book is entertaining and humorous as the reader tries to solve puzzles along with the characters. It includes messages about fair play, following game rules, and the pleasure of reading. Students in upper elementary grades (4-6), especially those who enjoy games and puzzles, and/or libraries and reading would find this book to be a great read.



Hold Fast by Blue Balliett. J Fiction, JCD
The Pearl family lives in a one room apartment on the south side of Chicago. Dash, the father, works at a library. Summer is the mother, Early is eleven and in fifth grade, and her little brother, Jubie is four. The family reads together often and shares the dream of owning a home some day. Dash takes on extra work for a reseller of old books to work toward that dream. But then the unthinkable happens, and Dash disappears on his way home from work. Then the family's apartment is ransacked, forcing Summer, Early, and Jubie to take refuge in a homeless shelter. Although the police don't take the case of missing Dash seriously, the family knows that he's not the kind of father who would just disappear. There are clues and patterns in the difficult things that have happened and Early works on piecing them together. She is resilient, persistent, and holds fast to her hopes of finding Dash. The realities of life in a homeless shelter, along with the deep desire of the family to find Dash and be a family again, make this a thought provoking story that personalizes some of the harsh realities of life in urban America. This story could lead to meaningful discussions with students in grades 4-7.

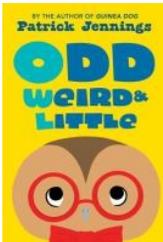


Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library
3 Community Park Road Broomfield, CO
www.broomfieldlibrary.com



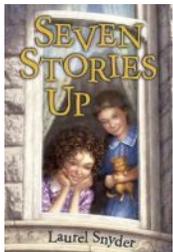
Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman. J Fiction, electronic resource

A father goes out to get his two daughters milk for their breakfast and is abducted by aliens when attempting to return home. As his girls wait and wait and wait for him to get home with the milk, he is traveling through space and time hoping to complete his mission of milk purchasing. The father encounters all sorts of hilarious characters and situations, while just managing to escape one scrape after another. The language is descriptive, fun and goofy. This is a shorter read and is appropriate for a younger audience. It would make a perfect read aloud for a classroom or at home.



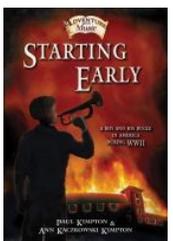
Odd, Weird and Little by Patrick Jennings - J Fiction

The author of *Guinea Dog* has brought us a quick read about how Woody, the picked upon fourth grader has a new student, Toulouse (from Quebec) join his class. Readers will quickly recognize Toulouse's secret, but that doesn't mean they will miss the fun and humor in this story. Parents and teachers will love the great messages about dealing with bullying and the importance of being yourself. And kids who love math and increasing their vocabulary are sure to find this fun. Recommended for grades 3 - 6



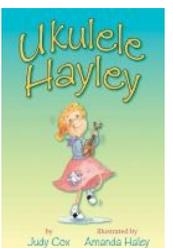
Seven Stories Up by Laurel Snyder - J Fiction

Annie has never known her grandmother. She and her mother don't get along, and they've not once been to Baltimore where her grandmother lives. That is until the call comes that her grandmother is dying. Once they arrive at the old hotel that her grandmother owns, Annie's mom goes to sit with her mother and Annie is sent to bed. But when she wakes up the next day, she doesn't recognize anything - including the girl sleeping next to her. Somehow, Annie has been sent back to 1937 - the year her grandmother was her age. Can her friendship with Molly change the future? And how will Molly get back to her own time? This companion book to *Bigger Than A Breadbox* will be a hit with readers in grades 4-6.



Starting Early: A Story about a Boy and his Bugle in America During World War II by Paul Klimpton. J Fiction, Electronic Resource

Set during World War II in a small town, sixth grader Dale, lives with his mother and grandparents while his father is away fighting in the war. Dale and his friends are excited that they are finally old enough to start playing a musical instrument at school, but are disappointed that there aren't enough instruments, so they will have to wait another year. Dale's grandfather, a veteran of the Spanish American War and a bugle player, decides to teach Dale to play the bugle. Dale doesn't know as he practices daily that learning to play the bugle will take him on adventures and will help him to save his town. This story is about friendships, bike rides, dogs, and community, and brings together music and history. It is the first book in the Adventures with Music series. Students in Grades 4-6, especially those with an interest in playing an instrument would enjoy this book.



Ukulele Hayley by Judy Cox. J Fiction

Hayley is worried because she doesn't have a special talent like all of her friends. When she finds an old ukulele at a garage sale, she decides she has found her calling. Playing the ukulele isn't as easy as she thought it would be, but Hayley sticks with it, and eventually becomes quite skilled. She ends up teaching some of her fellow students how to play, and even forming a ukulele club at school. But when budget cuts threaten music class - and the club - Hayley must take a stand. A quick, sweet read for grades 2 - 4 that imparts a great message about perseverance, courage and the importance of music.