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Picture Book Update, 2005-2006

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Picture Book Update, 2005-2006
Association of Christian Librarians
Indiana Wesleyan University
June 14, 2006

Aiki. *A Play's the Thing*. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060743557
Miss Brilliant's class puts on a performance of "Mary had a little lamb." RL 1.9

Anderson, M.T. *The Serpent Came to Gloucester*. Candlewick, 2005. ISBN: 0763620386
Rhyming text tells of a sea serpent that plays off the coast of Massachusetts the summer of 1817, and is hunted upon its return the next year. Includes a page of facts upon which the story is based. RL 3.8

Arnold, Katya. *Elephants Can Paint Too!* Atheneum, 2005. ISBN: 0689869851
Learn about elephants and how they can paint just like human children in this true story of how Katya Arnold teaches painting to kids in Brooklyn and Asian elephants in Thailand. RL 1.7

Ashman, Linda. *Starry Safari*. Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152047662
Bedtime becomes a jungle safari until the Big Safari Ranger brings it to a halt. RL 3.5

Aston, Dianna. *An Egg Is Quiet*. Chronicle Books, 2006. ISBN: 0811844285
Introduces readers to more than 60 types of eggs and an array of egg facts. RL 2.9

Banks, Kate. *The Great Blue House*. Frances Foster Books, 2005.
ISBN: 0374327696
When its owners leave, a summer house comes alive with the sounds of a mouse nibbling crumbs in the fall, a cat taking shelter in the winter, and rain falling on the roof in the spring. RL 3.7

Beaumont, Karen. *I Ain't Gonna Paint No More!* Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152024883
Told to the rhythm of a familiar folk song, this book tells the story of a child who cannot resist adding one more dab of paint in surprising places. RL 1.6

Best, Cari. *Are You Going to Be Good?* Melanie Kroupa Books, 2005. ISBN: 0374303940
While attending his first "night party" to celebrate Great-Gran Sadie's 100th birthday, Robert's manners disappoint family members and relatives but please the guest of honor, who loves his dance steps.

Bial, Raymond. *Where Washington Walked*. Walker & Co., 2005.
ISBN: 0802788998
Biography of George Washington. RL 7.1

Bildner, Phil. *The Shot Heard 'Round the World*. Simon & Schuster, 2005.
ISBN: 0689862733
On October 2, 1951, the Dodgers faced the Giants in a third, tie-breaking game to determine which team would go on to play the Yankees in the World Series. More than just a story about baseball, this is a sweeping view of life in Brooklyn in the summer of 1951, from its streets, to its Cyclone, to its stadium. RL 6.0

Blackstone, Stella. My Granny Went to Market: A Round-the-World Counting Rhyme. Barefoot Books, 2005. ISBN: 1841487929

A child's grandmother travels around the world, buying things in quantities that illustrate counting from one to ten. RL 3.6

Bloom, Suzanne. A Splendid Friend, Indeed. Boyds Mill Press, 2005. ISBN: 1590782860
When a studious polar bear meets an inquisitive goose, they learn to be friends. RL 1.5

Bolden, Tonya. The Champ: The Story of Muhammad Ali. Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.
ISBN: 0375824014

From his unlikely beginnings as a skinny, young Cassius Clay learning to box at a local gym, to becoming the heavyweight champion of the world at the famous "Rumble in the Jungle," Muhammad Ali has captivated the world. RL 2.5

Borden, Louise. The Journey That Saved Curious George. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
ISBN: 0618339248

Tells how the creators of "Curious George" narrowly escaped capture by the Nazis while fleeing Paris on their bicycles during World War II. RL 4.9

Bruel, Nick. Bad Kitty. Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN: 1596430699

In this alphabet book, a kitty decides to become very, very bad when she discovers there is no cat food in the house. RL 2.3

Buehner, Caralyn. Snowmen at Christmas. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2005.
ISBN: 0803729952

On Christmas Eve, snowmen hold a party in the center of town and celebrate with food, music and dancing, and presents. RL 3.7

Buller, Laura. A Faith Like Mine. Dorling Kindersley, 2005. ISBN: 0756611776

Children of different religious backgrounds tell about their faith and what it means to them; includes background information on each religious tradition. RL 4.9

Carle, Eric. 10 Little Rubber Ducks. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060740752

In this story based on an actual incident, a storm strikes a cargo ship, and ten rubber ducks are tossed overboard and swept off in ten different directions. Also a counting book. RL 3.7

Chernaik, Judith, ed. Carnival of the Animals. Candlewick, 2005. ISBN: 076362960X

A collection of fourteen poems inspired by Saint-Saens' "Zoological Fantasy," accompanied by a fifty-five-minute CD featuring a reading of the poems and music performed by the Apollo Chamber Players. RL 3.8

Child, Lauren. But Excuse Me, That Is My Book. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2005.
ISBN: 0803730969

When Lola's favorite book is not on the library's shelf, her older brother, Charlie, tries to find another book she will enjoy.

Child, Lauren. The Princess and the Pea. Hyperion Books for Children, 2006.
ISBN: 0786838868

Presents a re-telling of the well-known fairy tale of a young girl who feels a pea through twenty mattresses and twenty featherbeds, proving that she is a real princess.

Chin-Lee, Cynthia. Amelia to Zora: twenty-six women who changed the world. Charlesbridge, 2005. ISBN: 1570915229

Alphabet and informational book for older readers. RL 6.2

Cordsden, Carol Foskett. The Milkman. Dutton Children's Books, 2005.
ISBN: 0525472088

In the early, early morning, the milkman makes his rounds, helping his neighbors in a variety of ways. RL 2.1

Cowley, Joy. Chameleon, Chameleon. Scholastic, 2005. ISBN: 0439666538
Experience close-up the many moods (and colors) of chameleons. One brave chameleon ventures from the safety of his tree in search of a new home. On his journey, he meets other rain forest animals, not all of them friendly! Alas, the new tree he chooses is already home to another chameleon. She dons her aggressive coloring until she's sure that the visitor is friend, not foe. Then they welcome each other with brilliant, happy colors. RL 1.5

Cronin, Doreen. Click, Clack, Quackity-Quack. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005.
ISBN: 0689877153

An assortment of animals gathers for a picnic in this alphabet book. RL 2.0

Cronin, Doreen. Click, Clack, Splish, Splash: A Counting Adventure. Atheneum, 2006.
ISBN: 0689877161

While Farmer Brown sleeps, some of the animals who live on the farm go on a fishing expedition. RL 1.3

Cronin, Doreen. Diary of a Spider. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060001534

A young spider discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including how to spin webs and avoid vacuum cleaners. RL 1.7

Cronin, Doreen. Wiggle. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0689863756
Rhyming text describes the many ways to wiggle. RL 1.5

Cunnane, Kelly. For You Are a Kenyan Child. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2006.
ISBN: 068986194X

From rooster crow to bedtime, a Kenyan boy plays and visits neighbors all through his village, even though he is supposed to be watching his grandfather's cows. RL 1.7

Curlee, Lynn. Ballpark: The Story of America's Baseball Fields. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0689867425

From the first ballpark converted from an ice rink in 1862 to the space-aged Houston Astrodome to the league's newest state-of-the-art stadiums, this book tells the history of baseball through its ballparks. RL 6.4

Davis, Katie. Kindergarten Rocks! Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152049320

Dexter knows everything there is to know about kindergarten and is not at all scared about his first day there, but his stuffed dog, Rufus, is very nervous. RL 1.7

Demarest, Chris L. Alpha Bravo Charlie. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2005.
ISBN: 0689869282

An alphabet book about words used by the United States military. RL 4.8

Demi. Mother Teresa. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2005. ISBN: 0689864078

A biography of Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu, known as Mother Teresa, who spent most of her life serving "the poorest of the poor" in Calcutta, India. RL 7.3

dePaola, Tomie. Stagestruck. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0399243380

Although Tommy fails to get the part of Peter Rabbit in the kindergarten play, he still finds a way to be the center of attention on stage. RL 2.8

Dorros, Arthur. Julio's Magic. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060290056
A young artist discovers the power of friendship when he helps his mentor win a prestigious wood-carving contest. RL 2.7

Ehlert, Lois. Leaf Man. Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152053042
In a series of die-cut illustrations, Ehlert tells the story of a man made of leaves who blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him. RL 2.3

Engelbreit, Mary. Mary Engelbreit's Mother Goose: One Hundred Best-Loved Verses. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060081716
An illustrated collection of nearly one hundred nursery rhymes, including "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and other familiar poems, as well as "Mary had a Pretty Bird" and other less familiar ones. RL 2.4

Fisher, Aileen. The Story Goes On. Roaring Brook Press, 2005. ISBN: 1596430370
An illustrated poem about the cycle of life--bug eats plant, frog eats bug, snake eats frog, hawk eats snake, and so on. RL 2.1

Fisher, Valorie. How High Can a Dinosaur Count? Schwartz & Wade Books, 2006. ISBN: 037583608X
Presents fifteen story problems with wacky elements such as flapjack-flipping frogs, a daisy-chomping dragon, and a laundromat whose washing machines mix frappes. RL 3.3

Fleming, Denise. First Day of Winter. Henry Holt, 2005. ISBN:0805073841
A snowman comes alive as the child building it adds pieces during the first ten days of winter. Also a counting book. RL 1.6

Florian, Douglas. Zoo's Who. Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152046399
Presents an illustrated collection of animal poems for children. RL 2.6

Fradin, Dennis Brindell. Let It Begin Here! Walker and Co., 2005. ISBN: 0802789455
Discusses the battles of Lexington and Concord. RL 5.8

Fraze, Marla. Santa Claus: The World's Number One Toy Expert. Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152049703
Santa Claus has his own ways of knowing more about children and toys than anyone else in the world. RL 1.6

Fraze, Marla. Walk On! A Guide for Babies of All Ages. Harcourt, 2006.
Simple text and illustrations describe how a baby starts to walk, encouraging people of all ages to stand up and walk more. ISBN: 0152055738

Freeman, Don. Earl the Squirrel. Viking, 2005. ISBN: 0670060194
Earl the squirrel learns to gather acorns on his own. A newly-found book by the creator of Corduroy. RL 2.7

Freymann, Saxton. Fast Food. Arthur A. Levine Books, 2006. ISBN: 043911019X
Playful rhyming text about different modes of transportation accompanies colorful sculptures of vegetables and fruits on the move. RL 1.9

Freymann, Saxton. Food for Thought: The Complete Book of Concepts for Growing Minds. A. Levin Books, 2005. ISBN: 0439110181
Uses bright photographs of fruit and vegetables shaped like animals and simple labels to teach toddlers about shapes, colors, numbers, letters, and opposites. RL 3.0

Friedman, Robin. The Silent Witness: A True Story of the Civil War. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618442308

Four-year-old Lula McLean lived on a plantation overlooking Bull Run Creek. In July 1861, troops fighting in the new Civil War arrived at their front lawn in Manassas, Virginia, and the peaceful countryside became a battleground. RL 3.5

Giovanni, Nikki. Rosa. Henry Holt, 2005. ISBN: 0805071067

The story of Rosa Parks, whose refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, sparked a revolution. RL 6.0

Gower, Catherine. Long-Long's New Year. Tuttle, 2005. ISBN: 0804836663

New Year is almost here, and Long-Long sets off to market with his grandfather to make money for their Spring Festival celebrations. RL 3.5

Grey, Mini. Traction Man Is Here! Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. ISBN: 0375831916

Traction Man, a boy's courageous action figure, has a variety of adventures with Scrubbing Brush and other objects in the house. This superhero searches for the Lost Wreck of the Sieve as the boy makes a game of doing the dishes, and later in the bathtub, he conquers the Mysterious Toes that are stealing his pet, the brave little Scrubbing Brush. RL 3.2

Harley, Bill. Dear Santa: The Letters of James B. Dobbins. HarperCollins, 2005.

ISBN: 0066237785

James Dobbins writes letters to Santa Claus, detailing what he and some family members want for Christmas and explaining his behavior of the past year. RL 2.8

Henkes, Kevin. Lilly's Big Day. Greenwillow Books, 2006. ISBN: 0060742364

When her teacher announces that he is getting married, Lilly the mouse sets her heart on being the flower girl at his wedding. RL 2.2

Hennessy, B.G. The Boy Who Cried Wolf. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2006. ISBN: 0689874332

A boy tending sheep on a lonely mountainside thinks it a fine joke to cry "wolf" and watch the people come running--and then one day a wolf is really there, but no one answers his call. RL 2.0

Henson, Heather. Angel Coming. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005.

ISBN: 0689855311

A family makes preparations, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the angel who will come up the mountain bringing a new baby. RL 2.4

Hesse, Karen. The Young Hans Christian Andersen. Scholastic, 2005. ISBN: 0439679907

A biography of Hans Christian Andersen that relates events in the early part of his life with the inspiration for the stories which he later wrote. RL 6.7

Hines, Anna Grossnickle. Winter Lights: A Season in Poems & Quilts. Greenwillow Books, 2005. ISBN: 0060008172 RL 3.8

With breathtaking, intricate quilts and lyrical poems, Hines exposes readers to holidays such as Kwanzaa and the Festival of Lights along with the seasonal winter solstice. RL 3.8

Hodgkins, Fran. If You Were My Baby: A Wildlife Lullaby. Dawn Publications, 2005.

ISBN: 1584690747

At bedtime, a parent explains how animals, like humans, care for their young children and help them grow and thrive. RL 2.2

Holt, Kimberly Willis. Waiting for Gregory. Henry Holt and Co., 2006.
ISBN: 0805073884

A young girl eagerly awaits the birth of her baby cousin, while growing more and more confused by the way her relatives answer her questions. RL 2.2

Hopkins, Lee Bennett. Oh, No! Where Are My Pants? And Other Disasters: Poems. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 068817860X

A collection of children's poetry about childhood embarrassments. RL 1.7

Hopkinson, Deborah. Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building. Schwartz & Wade, 2006. ISBN: 0375836101

In 1931, a boy and his father watch as the world's tallest building, the Empire State Building, is constructed, step-by-step, near their Manhattan home. RL 2.6

Janeczko, Paul. A Kick in the Head. Candlewick Press, 2005. ISBN: 0763606626
Featuring formal poems from the likes of Eleanor Farjeon, Ogden Nash, Liz Rosenberg, and William Shakespeare, this playful volume presents examples of 29 poetic forms and the spirit that inhabits each of them. RL 6.4

Jarrie, Martin. ABC USA. Sterling, 2005. ISBN: 1402716192

Folk art-style illustrations capture the culture, history, and heritage of the United States--from A to Z. RL 1.8

Jenkins, Emily. That New Animal. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 0374374430
The lives of two dogs change after a new animal, a baby, comes to their house. RL 3.3

Jenkins, Steve. I See a Kookaburra. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618507647
Readers can search for an oystercatcher, an elephant shrew, and a fierce snapping turtle in the places where they live. Learn how these animals and many others grow and thrive in very different environments. Incorporated into the book is an interactive element. Hidden in the illustrations are animals camouflaged in their surroundings. Turn the page to see if you were able to find them all. RL 4.8

Jenkins, Steve. Prehistoric Actual Size. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618535780
Learn what it's like to come face-to-face with some of the dinosaurs that once roamed the Earth through these "actual-size" illustrations. RL 4.3

Johnson-Davies, Denys. Goha the Wise Fool. Philomel Books, 2005. ISBN: 0399242228
A collection of fourteen tales about the folk hero Nasreddin Hoca, also known as Goha, a man with a reputation for being able to answer difficult questions in a clever way. RL 2.8

Josse, Barbara M. Papa, Do You Love Me? Chronicle Books, 2005. ISBN: 0811842657
A Masai father in Africa answers his son's questions, reaffirming his unconditional love for the boy. RL 1.9

Jurmain, Suzanne Tripp. George Did It. Dutton Children's Books, 2006.
ISBN: 0525475605
Biography of George Washington. RL 3.9

Juster, Norton. The Hello, Goodbye Window. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786809140
The kitchen window at her grandparents' house is a magic gateway for one little girl. RL 3.9

Kangas, Juli. The Surprise Visitor. Dial, 2005. ISBN: 0803729898
Edgar the mouse discovers a roundish, blue object in front of his door and sets out to find it a family. RL3.8

Karas, G. Brian. On Earth. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN: 039924025X
Text and illustrations relate the motions of the Earth to time, such as the year, seasons, and days. RL 3.1

Kasza, Keiko. The Dog Who Cried Wolf. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0399242473
Tired of being a house pet, Moka the dog moves to the mountains to become a wolf but soon misses the comforts of home. RL 2.1

Kimmel, Eric A. The Hero Beowulf. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005. ISBN: 0374306710
A simple, brief retelling of the Anglo-Saxon epic about the heroic efforts of Beowulf, son of Ecgtheow, to save the people of Heorot Hall from the terrible monster, Grendel. RL 3.3

Krauss, Ruth. Bears. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060757167
Captioned drawings depict bears in some unusual places and poses.

Krinitz, Esther Nisenthal. Memories of Survival. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786851260
A story of surviving the Holocaust in Poland, illustrated in a collection of embroidered panels, and told in the survivor's own words. The author, a survivor of the Holocaust, illustrates her experiences through fabric panels that capture her and her sister's childhood as they, disguised as Catholic farmhands, are separated from their family and escape Nazi rule.

Kuskin, Karla. So, What's It Like to Be a Cat? Atheneum, 2005. ISBN: 0689847335
A cat answers a young child's questions about such things as how much and where it sleeps, and whether or not it likes living with people. RL 3.5

Layne, Steven L. T Is for Teachers: A School Alphabet. Sleeping Bear Press, 2005. ISBN: 1585361593
Presents an A to Z rhyming book that describes a number of topics relating to teachers including books, kindergarten, librarians, and principals. RL 3.9

Leedy, Loreen. The Great Graph Contest. Holiday House, 2005. ISBN: 0823417107
Gonk and Chester, two amphibian friends, hold a contest to see who can make better graphs. RL 2.0

Lester, Julius. Let's Talk About Race. HarperCollins Publishers, 2005. ISBN: 0060285982
The author introduces the concept of race as only one component in an individual's or nation's "story." RL 3.3

Lewis, E. B. This Little Light of Mine. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c2005. ISBN: 068983179X
An illustrated version of the traditional song about letting one's light shine around the world. Includes musical score. RL 2.0

Lewis, J. Patrick. Please Bury Me in the Library. Gulliver Books, 2005. ISBN: 0152163875
A collection of poems about books and reading. RL 3.3

Lewis, Kim. Here We Go, Harry. Candlewick Press, 2005.
ISBN: 0763625493

Harry the elephant is helped by his toy friends, Lulu and Ted, to jump from a little grassy hill on a beautiful summer day. RL 1.8

MacDonald, Suse. Edward Lear's A Was Once an Apple Pie. Orchard Books, 2005.
ISBN: 0439660564

An adaptation of Edward Lear's fun-to-say, alphabet rhyme in a picture book that combines the classic with the up-to-date. RL 4.4

McKissack, Patricia C., and Moss, Onawumi Jean. Precious and the Boo Hag.
Athenuem, 2005. ISBN: 0689851944

Home alone with a stomachache while the family works in the fields, a young girl faces up to the horrifying Boo Hag that her brother warned her about. RL 2.3

McLeod, Bob. SuperHero ABC. HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN: 0060745142

Humorous SuperHeroes such as Goo Girl and The Volcano represent the letters of the alphabet from A to Z. RL 2.7

McMillan, Bruce. The Problem with Chickens. Houghton Mifflin, 2005.

ISBN: 1415628440

When women in an Icelandic village buy chickens to lay eggs for them to use, the chickens follow them, adopting human ways and forgetting their barnyard roots, until the ladies hatch a clever plan. RL 3.1

Mahy, Margaret. Down the Back of the Chair. Clarion Books, 2006. ISBN: 0618693955

A poor family is searching down the back of a chair for Dad's lost car keys and, miraculously in the mess of things back there, their financial problems are solved. Rhyming text.

Markes, Julie. Shhhhh! Everybody's Sleeping. Delacorte, 2006. ISBN: 0060537906

A young child is encouraged to go to sleep by the thought of everyone else sleeping, from teacher to baker to postman. RL 2.3

Markle, Sandra. A Mother's Journey. Charlesbridge, 2005. ISBN: 1570916217

Describes the tremendous effort the female penguin makes to find food for her newborn. RL 2.9

Marsalis, Wynton. Jazz A•B•C. Candlewick, 2005. ISBN: 0763621358

Biographies of 24 jazz greats in poetic form. RL 4.8

Melmed, Laura Krauss. New York, New York! The Big Apple from A to Z. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060548746

Welcome to New York City, the Big Apple, the city that never sleeps, the crossroads of the world! This city has something to offer everyone, from A to Z. Come visit the American Museum of Natural History and see prehistoric Animals, get a Bird's-eye view of the Brooklyn Bridge, and Check out Central Park in this alphabetical tour from best-selling duo Laura Krauss Melmed and Frane Lessac, who brought us Capital! Washington D.C. from A to Z. RL 2.6

Michelson, Richard. Happy Feet. Gulliver Books, 2005. ISBN: 0152050574

A young boy who loves to dance listens as his father retells the story of the night he was born, which coincided with the opening of the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem. RL 3.3

Minor, Wendell. Yankee Doodle America: The Spirit of America A to Z. Putnam's, 2006. ISBN: 0399240039

A striking depiction of America's struggle for independence features the Stamp Act, the Sons of Liberty, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and other historical figures and documents. RL 6.9

Muth, Jon J. Zen Shorts. Scholastic, 2005. ISBN: 0439339111

When Stillwater the giant panda moves into the neighborhood, the stories he tells to three siblings teach them to look at the world in new ways. Includes factual notes on Zen. RL 2.7

Nelson, Kadir. He's Got the Whole World in His Hands. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0803728506

A picture-book interpretation of one of America's best-known songs, focusing on landscapes and images of a boy and his family. Includes printed melody line and all four verses. RL 1.5

Ó Flatharta, Antoine. Hurry and the Monarch. Knopf, 2005. ISBN: 0375930035

Hurry the tortoise befriends a monarch butterfly when she stops in his garden in Wichita Falls, Texas, during her migration from Canada to Mexico. Includes facts about monarch butterflies. RL 2.0

O'Malley, Kevin. Captain Raptor and the Moon Mystery. Walker & Co., 2005.

ISBN: 0802789358

When something lands on one of the moons of the planet Jurassica, Captain Raptor and his spaceship crew go to investigate. RL 3.0

Osborne, Will. Sleeping Bobby. Athenuem, 2005. ISBN: 0689876688

A retelling of the Grimm tale featuring a handsome prince who is put into a deep sleep by a curse until he is awakened by the kiss of a brave princess. RL 2.2

Paschen, Elise, ed. Poetry Speaks to Children. Sourcebooks MediaFusion, 2005.

ISBN: 1402203292

A collection of ninety-five children's poems written by seventy-three poets including Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, Roald Dahl, Lewis Carroll, and many more; includes an audio CD featuring fifty-two poems, some read by the poets themselves. RL 5.7

Pinkney, Gloria Jean. Music from Our Lord's Holy Heaven. Amistad/HarperCollins Publishers, 2005. ISBN: 0060007699

Tapping a wellspring of comfort, inspiration, and renewal, Gloria Jean Pinkney has gathered twenty-two African-American spirituals and reverential songs. She's carefully chosen a psalm for each to illuminate its meaning. The illustrations are by her husband, Jerry, and their sons, Brian Pinkney and Myles C. Pinkney, with notes on the music by their daughter, Troy. An accompanying CD has performances of all the songs by Gloria Jean Pinkney. RL 5.3

Piper, Watty. The Little Engine That Could. Philomel Books, 2005.

ISBN: 0399244670

Although she is not very big, the Little Blue Engine agrees to try to pull a stranded train full of toys over the mountain. A new setting of a familiar story. RL 2.0

Polacco, Patricia. Emma Kate. Philomel Books, 2005. ISBN: 0399244522

Emma Kate and her best friend share many activities, such as homework and soccer practice, and even have their tonsils out at the same time! RL 2.0

Polacco, Patricia. Mommies Say Shhh! Philomel Books, 2005. ISBN: 0399243410
Animals make many different noises, but when they make too much noise, their mommies quiet them down. RL 2.0

Poole, Josephine. Anne Frank. Alfred A. Knopf, 2005. ISBN: 0375832424
The life of Anne Frank, from birth until being taken from the hidden attic by the Nazis, is presented in this meticulously researched picture book. It is a compelling yet easy-to-understand "first" introduction to the Holocaust as witnessed by Anne and her family. A detailed timeline of important events in Europe and in the Frank family is included. RL 3.8

Priceman, Marjorie. Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride. Atheneum Books, 2005. ISBN: 0689826427
The story of the historic first hot-air balloon flight in 1783, told from the point of view of the duck, sheep, and rooster who were the first passengers. RL 3.6

Provinsen, Alice. Klondike Gold. Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0689848854
A fictionalized account of William Howell, a young prospector who braved the arduous journey from Boston to the Yukon Territory in search of gold in the Klondike River valley.

Rappaport, Doreen. The Secret Seder. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786807776
During the Nazi occupation of France, a boy and his father slip out of their village and into the mountains, where they join a group of fellow Jews at a humble seder table. RL 2.2

Reinhart, Matthew. The Ark. Little Simon, 2005. ISBN: 0689859090
A pop-up version of the classic Bible story about Noah, his family, and the Ark. RL 4.1

Reinhart, Matthew. Cinderella. Little Simon, 2005. ISBN: 1416905014
A pop-up version of the classic fairytale. RL 7.3

Robbins, Ken. Seeds. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2005. ISBN: 0689850417
From flowers to fruits, everything begins with a tiny seed. Young readers will learn how seeds grow, and how they vary in shape, size, and dispersal patterns. RL 6.5

Rosen, Michael. Michael Rosen's Sad Book. Candlewick Press, 2005. ISBN: 0763625973
Rosen tells about all the emotions that accompany his sadness over the death of his son, and how he tries to cope. RL 3.7

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. Cookies: Bite-Size Life Lessons. HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN: 006058081x
Simple text and illustrations describe lessons in life as a young girl bakes cookies and learns cooperation, patience, pride, compassion, trust, and more. RL 2.7

Rosenthal, Amy Krouse. Little Pea. Chronicle Books, 2005. ISBN: 0-8118-4658-X
Little Pea hates eating candy for dinner, but his parents will not let him have his spinach dessert until he cleans his plate. RL 1.7

Rubin, Susan Goldman. The Flag with Fifty-Six Stars. Holiday House, 2005. ISBN: 0823416534
On May 6, 1945, when members of the 11th Armored Division of the U.S. Army marched into the Mauthausen concentration camp, they were presented with an extraordinary gift: an American flag. RL 5.6

Sabuda, Robert. Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Dinosaurs. Candlewick Press, 2005. ISBN: 0763622281
Features more than 35 pop-ups and information about more than 50 different dinosaurs. RL 6.8

Sabuda, Robert. Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Sharks and Other Sea Monsters. Candlewick Press, 2006. ISBN: 076362229X
This companion volume to Encyclopedia Prehistorica: Dinosaur explores the prehistoric underwater world. RL 7.7

Sabuda, Robert. Winter's Tale. Little Simon, 2005. ISBN: 0689853637
Master paper engineer Sabuda offers a winter wonderland spectacular full of cut-paper animals that soar across snowy landscapes and light up the night in an all-new story that has a special surprise at the end. RL 5.7

St. George, Judith. The Journey of the One and Only Declaration of Independence. Philomel Books, 2005. ISBN: 0399237380
In 1776 Thomas Jefferson put his quill to paper and the Declaration of Independence sprang to life. Follow the Declaration's journey over the next two centuries, surviving eight wars and traveling through five states on horseback, boat, railcar, and tank to its current home in the National Archives. RL 3.6

Say, Allen. Kamishibai Man. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618479546
After many years of retirement, an old Kamishibai man--a Japanese street performer who tells stories and sells candies--decides to make his rounds once more even though such entertainment declined after the advent of television. RL 3.0

Sayre, April Pulley. The Bumblebee Queen. Charlesbridge, 2005. ISBN: 1570913625
Bumblebee queens begin the spring alone, but can create colonies of hundreds throughout the year. Follow one queen as she finds a nest, gathers nectar, lays eggs and tends her colony through spring, summer, and fall. RL 2.6

Sayre, April Pulley. Stars Beneath Your Bed: The Surprising Story of Dust. Greenwillow Books, 2005. ISBN: 0060571896
Explains the origins of dust, what dust is, and how dust shows up in the world. RL 2.1

Scieszka, Jon. Seen Art? Viking, 2005. ISBN: 0670059862
While looking for his friend Art, a boy wanders through the Museum of Modern Art and is amazed by what he discovers there. RL 4.9

Scotton, Rob. Russell and the Lost Treasure. HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN: 0060598514
While searching for the lost treasure of Frogsbottom, Russell the sheep discovers treasure of a different sort. RL 3.8

Scotton, Rob. Russell the Sheep. HarperCollins, 2005. ISBN: 0060598484
Russell the sheep tries several different ways to get to sleep. RL 1.5

Shannon, David. Good Boy, Fergus! Blue Sky Press, 2006. ISBN: 0439490278
Except for his bath, Fergus experiences the perfect doggy day, from chasing cats and motorcycles to being scratched on his favorite tickle spot. RL 1.3

Sherman, Pat. The Sun's Daughter. Clarion Books, 2005. ISBN: 0618324305
Once there was a time when the people of the earth did not have to tend the fields, for the Sun's daughters - Maize, Pumpkin, and Red Bean - walked among them, leaving lush crops wherever they stepped. But then headstrong Maize disobeyed her mother and was trapped by cold, lonely Silver, and the Sun vowed not to touch the earth again until Maize was returned. How the tiny pewee bird saved Maize and kept the people from starving is eloquently told in this tale, which, though based on an Iroquois legend, parallels the Greek myth of Persephone and Demeter. RL 3.8

Shore, Diane Z. This Is the Dream. HarperCollins, 2006. ISBN: 006055519X
An illustrated poem that describes how nonviolent protests helped end the segregation of schools and public places in the United States. RL 4.3

Shulman, Lisa. The Matzo Ball Boy. Dutton Children's Books, 2005. ISBN: 0525471693
In this Jewish version of "The Gingerbread Boy," a matzo ball boy runs away from an old woman as she prepares her Passover dinner. RL 2.3

Sidman, Joyce. Meow Ruff: A Story in Concrete Poetry. Houghton Mifflin, 2006. ISBN: 0618448942
Presents a collection of brief, illustrated poems that tells the story of a dog who slips out of his house and meets a white cat left alone on the street and together they share adventures.

Sidman, Joyce. Song of the Water Boatman. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. ISBN: 0618135472
A collection of poems that provide a look at some of the animals, insects, and plants that are found in ponds, with accompanying information about each. RL 2.0

Sís, Peter. Play, Mozart, Play. Greenwillow Books, 2006. ISBN: 0061121819
Introduces very young children to the child prodigy, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, in a tribute to the beauty of listening, looking, imagining, and, above all, playing. RL 1.9

Síy, Alexandra. Mosquito Bite. Charlesbridge, 2005. ISBN: 1570915911
A game of hide-and-seek forms the backdrop of a mosquito's life cycle. Micrographs show details of the mosquito and what she sees as she searches. RL 4.9

Smith, Lane. John, Paul, George & Ben. Hyperion Books for Children, 2006. ISBN: 0786848936
A humorous look at our Founding Fathers. RL 3.5

Stevens, Janet. The Great Fuzz Frenzy. Harcourt, 2005. ISBN: 0152046267
When a tennis ball lands in a prairie dog town, the residents find that their newfound frenzy for fuzz creates a fiasco. RL 1.9

Swinburne, Stephen R. Turtle Tide: The Ways of Sea Turtles. Boyds Mills Press, 2005. ISBN: 1590780817
Follows the fate of one hundred sea turtle eggs from the time they are laid by their mother on the beach, until the eggs hatch and the newborns try to make the short but perilous journey to the sea. RL 3.7

Uhlberg, Myron. Dad, Jackie, and Me. Peachtree, 2005. ISBN: 1561453293
In Brooklyn, New York, in 1947, a boy learns about discrimination and tolerance as he and his deaf father share their enthusiasm over baseball and the Dodgers' first baseman, Jackie Robinson. RL 2.2

Valckx, Catharina. Lizette's Green Sock. Clarion Books, 2005. ISBN: 0618452982
Lizette tries to figure out what to do with the one green sock that she finds while out walking one day. RL 1.5

Varon, Sara. Chicken and Cat. Scholastic Press, 2006. ISBN: 0439634067
When Cat feels sad about living in the hustle and bustle of the city, Chicken finds colorful ways to make Cat feel better. Wordless picture book.

Wells, Rosemary. Carry Me! Hyperion Books for Children, 2006. ISBN: 1415662363
Carry me! -- Talk to me! -- Sing to me!. Presents three illustrated rhyming stories for very young children that speak of the love between parents and their children. RL 1.9

Willems, Mo. Don't Let the Pigeon Stay Up Late! Hyperion Books for Children, 2006.
ISBN: 0786837462
A pigeon fights yawns while coming up with many reasons why it should be allowed to stay up late. RL 2.1

Willems, Mo. Leonardo the Terrible Monster. Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786852941
Leonardo is a terrible monster -- he can't seem to frighten anyone. When he discovers the perfect nervous little boy, will he scare the lunch out of him? Or will he think of something better? RL 1.9

Willems, Mo. Time to Say "Please"! Hyperion Books for Children, 2005. ISBN: 0786852933
Book and accompanying board game teach why it is important to say "please." RL 1.6

Williams, Mary. Brothers in Hope. Lee & Low Books, 2005. ISBN: 1584302321
Eight-year-old Garang, orphaned by a civil war in Sudan, finds the inner strength to help lead other boys as they trek hundreds of miles seeking safety in Ethiopia, then Kenya, and finally in the United States. Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Honor book. RL 4.1

Wilson, Karma. Mortimer's Christmas Manger. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2005.
ISBN: 0689855117
Unhappy in his cramped, cold hole, Mortimer Mouse moves into a nativity scene thinking it is the perfect home for him, until he discovers who truly belongs there. RL 2.4

Winter, Jeanette. The Librarian of Basra: A True Story from Iraq. Harcourt, 2005.
ISBN: 152054456
Alia Muhammad Baker is a librarian in Basra, Iraq. For fourteen years, her library has been a meeting place for those who love books. Now that war has come, Alia fears that the library--along with the thirty thousand books within it--will be destroyed forever. RL 4.5

Winter, Jonah. Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates. Atheneum, 2005.
ISBN: 0689856431
On the island of Puerto Rico, a boy named Roberto Clemente dreamed of nothing but baseball. Little League became minor league, which turned into winter league, and, finally, he made it to the major leagues! With lightning speed, towering home runs, and grand slams, Clemente introduced himself to America. RL 5.4

Woodson, Jacqueline. Show Way. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0399237496
The making of Show Ways, or quilts which once served as secret maps for freedom-seeking slaves, is a tradition passed from mother to daughter in the author's family. RL 3.8

Wooldridge, Connie Nordhielm. Thank You Very Much, Captain Ericsson. Holiday House, 2005. ISBN: 0823416267

Swedish-born engineer and inventor Captain John Ericsson was ahead of his time. His sleek fire engine could shoot gallons of water as high as ninety feet. His steam locomotive could fly down the tracks at the unheard of speed of thirty miles per hour. But was such a quantity of water necessary? Was such speed advisable? Neither the starched lords of the British Admiralty nor the snooty London Fire Brigade were ready for his strange and wonderful inventions. However, wonderful opportunities awaited Captain Ericsson on the other side of the Atlantic, where people had a taste for dreamers. RL 4.6

Wormell, Christopher. Mice, Morals, and Monkey Business: Lively Lessons from Aesop's Fables. Running Press, 2005. ISBN: 0762424044

Twenty-one illustrated Aesop's Fables. RL 2.4

Yolen, Jane. This Little Piggy and Other Rhymes to Sing and Play. Candlewick, 2006. ISBN: 0763613487

A collection of sixty lap songs, clapping games, and action rhymes along with musical arrangements for piano and guitar, historical information, and CD. RL 1.5

Yolen, Jane. The Perfect Wizard: Hans Christian Andersen. ISBN: 0525469559

Yolen explores Andersen's youth and how his words were inspired by his life's experiences. This book celebrates the 200th anniversary of Andersen's birth. RL 4.2

Young, Ed. Beyond the Great Mountains: A Visual Poem about China. Chronicle Kids, 2005. ISBN: 0811843432

Lyrical text and illustrations featuring Chinese characters and paper collage introduce the beauty and richness of China. RL 3.0

Young, Ed. My Mei Mei. Philomel, 2006. ISBN: 0399243399

Antonia gets her wish when her parents return to China to bring home a Mei Mei, or younger sister, for her. RL 2.2

Zweibel, Alan. Our Tree Named Steve. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2005. ISBN: 0399237224

In a letter to his children, a father recounts memories of the role Steve, the tree in their front yard, has played in their lives. RL 3.2

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