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KINDERGARTEN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2019-2020 | OPPL.ORG/KIDS

PICTURE BOOKS

Andros, Camille. **Charlotte the Scientist Is Squished.** Charlotte, a serious scientist and bunny, uses the scientific method to solve her problem: being squished by her many brothers and sisters.

Barroux. **Where's the Elephant?** A simple game of hide-and-seek quickly takes a new twist as a growing city encroaches on the jungle the animals call home. Where will the elephant, parrot, and snake go?

Berger, Samantha. **What if...** A child who likes to draw and write stories imagines what would happen if there were no pencils, paper, or other tools for being creative.

Campoy, Isabel. **Maybe Something Beautiful.** Mira lives in a gray and hopeless urban community until a muralist arrives and, along with his paints and brushes, brings color, joy, and togetherness to Mira and her neighbors.

Clanton, Ben. **Rot: The Cutest in the World.** Rot, a mutant potato, enters a "Cutest in the World" contest but worries when he sees his competition.

Clark-Robinson, Monica. **Let the Children March.** Under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, children and teenagers march against segregation in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963.

Dieckmann, Sandra. **Leaf.** When a polar bear arrives unexpectedly in the woods, the animals fear and avoid him until, one day, they watch as he attempts to fly over the water with wings made of

leaves. Maybe he just needs some help to get home?

Dominguez, Andrea. **Knit Together.** A little girl who loves to draw but cannot knit, and her mother who loves to knit but cannot draw, collaborate on a special project neither could have done alone.

Graegin, Stephanie. **Little Fox in the Forest.** A wordless picture book in which two friends follow a young fox deep into the woods and discover a wondrous and magical world.

Harren, Kayla. **Mary Had a Little Lizard.** A modern take on Mary Had a Little Lamb featuring hilarious antics as Lizard sneaks into Mary's backpack and causes nothing but mayhem in her Kindergarten class.

Higgins, Ryan T. **We Don't Eat Our Classmates.** When the class pet bites the finger of Penelope, a tyrannosaurus rex, she finally understands why she should not eat her classmates, no matter how tasty they are.

Litchfield, David. **The Bear and the Piano.** A bear finds a piano in the woods, learns to play it, and travels to the big city to become rich and famous, but ultimately discovers that his old friends in the forest back home are still the best audience of all.

Lloyd, Megan Wagner. **Finding Wild.** Two kids set off on an adventure and discover all the beauty of the natural world. As they make their way back to the city, they discover that wild exists not just off in some distant place, but right in their own backyard.

Luyken, Corinna. **The Book of Mistakes.** As an artist creatively incorporates her slip-ups into drawings, readers see how "mistakes" can provide inspiration and opportunity, and how both the art and artist are works in progress.

Martinez-Neal, Juana. **Alma and How She Got Her Name.** When Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her family.

McAnulty, Stacy. **Excellent Ed.** Everyone in the Ellis family is excellent, except Ed the dog, who is determined to find something at which he, too, can excel.

McDaniel, Breanna J. **Hands Up! A** young girl lifts her hands up in a series of everyday moments before finally raising her hands in resistance at a protest march.

Miller, Zietlow Pat. **Be Kind.** When Tanisha spills grape juice all over her new dress, her classmate contemplates how to make her feel better and what it means to be kind.

Morales, Yuyi. **Dreamers.** An illustrated picture book autobiography in which award-winning author Yuyi Morales tells her own immigration story.

Oliver, Alison. **Moon.** Throughout her busy days, Moon wonders what it would be like to be wild and free until the day she meets a wolf and learns his "wolfy ways."

continued on back



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PICTURE BOOKS CONT.

Perkins, Useni Eugene. *Hey Black Child*. A lyrical, empowering poem that celebrates black children and seeks to inspire all young ones to dream big and achieve their goals.

Rex, Adam. *School's First Day of School*. It's the first day of school at Frederick Douglass Elementary, and everyone's just a little bit nervous, especially the school itself.

Reynolds, Peter H. *The Word Collector*. Jerome enjoys collecting and using words that he hears, reads, or sees, and then decides to share his collection with others.

Santat, Dan. *Are We There Yet?* Everyone knows that car rides can be boring. And when things get boring, time slows down for this family—so much that it starts going backward, into the time of pirates! And princesses! And dinosaurs!

Sima, Jessie. *Harriet Gets Carried Away*. While shopping with her two dads for supplies for her birthday party, Harriet, who is wearing a penguin costume, is carried away by a waddle of penguins and must hatch a plan in order to get herself back to the store in the city.

Singh, Ranjit. *Nimesh the Adventurer*. Nimesh is walking home from school. Except ... there happens to be a shark in the corridor. And a dragon in the library! And why would crossing the road lead to the North Pole?

Thiele, Bob. *What a Wonderful World*. Illustrations and lyrics introduce the Louis Armstrong song, which celebrates the wonders of nature, loving friends, and the promise of the future.

Wenzel, Brendan. *They All Saw a Cat*. In this glorious celebration of observation, curiosity, and imagination, we explore the many lives of one cat, and how perspective shapes what we see.

NONFICTION

Barss, Patchen. *Flow, Spin, Grow: Looking for Patterns in Nature* (516.15 BAR). There are patterns throughout nature around us all the time, such as spiraling and spinning, the way shapes stack, the way things crack.

Elliott, David. *In the Past* (811 ELL). A poetic introduction to the dinosaur world illuminates a host of creatures both new and familiar, ranging from the mysterious Trilobite to the famed Tyrannosaurus Rex.

Ford, Gilbert. *The Marvelous Thing That Came From a Spring* (688.72 FOR). One day, a spring fell from the desk of Richard James, an engineer and dreamer. Its coils took a walk...and so did Richard's imagination. Welcome to the slinky.

Levine, Sarah. *Tooth by Tooth: Comparing Fangs, Tusks, and Chompers* (599.943 LEV). What animal would you be if your top canine teeth grew almost all the way down to your feet? This book will keep you guessing as you read about how human teeth are like—and unlike—those of other animals.

Macy, Sue. *Miss Mary Reporting* (B GARBER). As a child in the 1920s, Mary Garber loved sports and played tackle football with the boys in her Winston-Salem neighborhood. She became a sportswriter for 56 years and was the first woman to receive the Associated Press Sports Editors Red Smith Award, presented for major contributions in sports journalism.

Slade, Suzanne. *Out of School and Into Nature* (B COMSTOCK). From the time she was a young girl, Anna Comstock was fascinated by the natural world. In following her passion, this remarkable naturalist and artist blazed a trail for female scientists today.

Walters, Eric. *From the Heart of Africa: A Book of Wisdom* (398.996 WAL). A collection of African wisdom gorgeously illustrated by artists from Ghana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Canada, the United States and more.