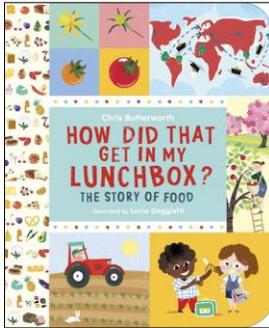


In Search of Wonder: Common Core and More
Computer Science, Engineering, and Technology
Book Recommendations

This list of book recommendations was created by specialists in literature for young people to supplement *In Search of Wonder: Common Core and More*, a professional development day presented by The National Children’s Book and Literacy Alliance, in conjunction with the Perry Ohio School District. We invite you to print and share this list as needed. Books are listed by age range. This document is formatted so you can print it double sided on 3-hole punch paper and store in a binder. Lists of book recommendations for many other categories are available at: thencbla.org



How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? The Story of Food

Written by Chris Butterworth, illustrated by Lucia Gaggiotti.

Published by Candlewick Press.

For ages 5-8.

Nonfiction: From planting wheat to mixing flour into dough, climbing trees to machine-squeezing fruit, picking cocoa pods to stirring a vat of melted bliss, *How Did That Get in My Lunchbox?* is a clear, engaging look at the steps involved in producing some common foods.

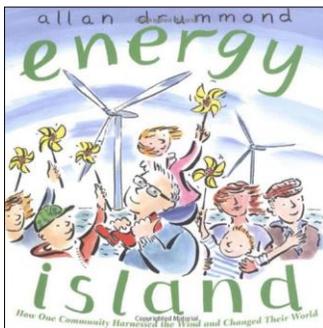
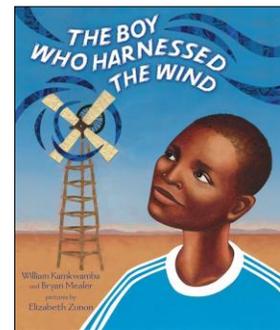
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

Written by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon.

Published by Dial.

For ages 5-9.

Biography: When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought, everyone's crops began to fail. Without enough money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library . . . and figured out how to bring electricity to his village. Persevering against the odds, William built a functioning windmill out of junkyard scraps, and thus became the local hero who harnessed the wind.



Energy Island: How One Community Harnessed the Wind and Changed Their World

Written by Allan Drummond.

Published by Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.

For ages 6-8.

Nonfiction: The true story of an island whose people make all the energy they need—using the power of the wind!

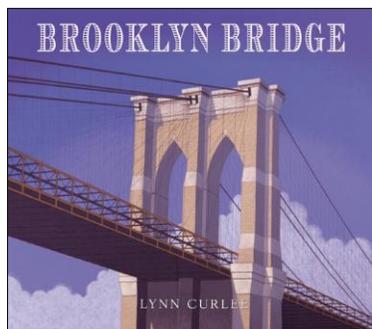
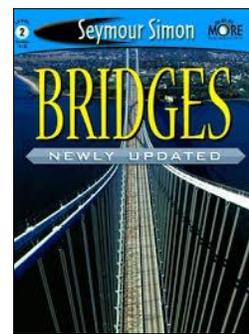
Bridges

Written by Seymour Simon.

Published by Starwalk Kids Media.

For ages 7 and up.

Nonfiction: Build bridges of your own design—from the “workhorse” truss-beam bridge to the dazzling suspension bridge. Use bridge-building basics, and along the way, discover how science and creativity come together in the creation of those weight-bearing wonders—bridges.



Brooklyn Bridge

Written and illustrated by Lynn Curlee.

Published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers.

For ages 8-12.

Nonfiction: Beneath the Brooklyn Bridge's triumphant arches lie astonishing tales of death, deception, genius, and daring. Over the fourteen-year course of its construction, there were many deaths, including that of John A. Roebling, designer and chief engineer; an underwater fire; and even fraud. Finally, though, the bridge was finished, and as part of the opening day festivities, the president, and two mayors crossed it. In this stunning visual history, Lynn Curlee tells the fascinating story of the history and construction of the "Eighth Wonder of the World."

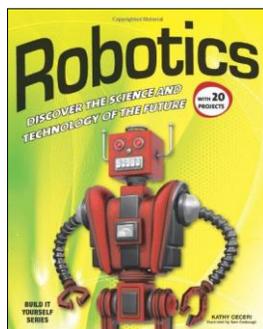
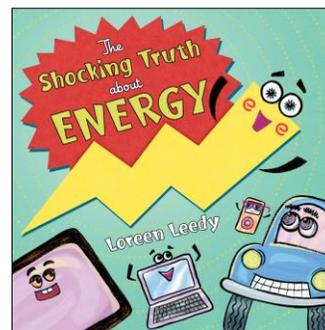
The Shocking Truth About Energy

Written and illustrated by Loreen Leedy.

Published by Holiday House.

For ages 8-12.

Nonfiction: This high-voltage introduction to energy combines physical science and environmental science with fun. Comical characters explain the many forms energy can take and how energy changes from one form to another so that the sun's energy can end up in a lunch box and eventually in people's muscles. Easy-to-follow diagrams show different ways energy can be harnessed. For a green look at the topic, the pros and cons of each form of energy are outlined, and tips on how to use energy sensibly are included.



Robotics: Discover the Science and Technology of the Future

Written by Kathy Ceceria, illustrated by Canbaugh.

Published by Nomad Press.

For ages 9-12.

Nonfiction: Named to the 2012 Chicago Public Library's "Best of the Best" for Informational Books for Older Readers. Covers designing, building, and operating robots—featuring step-by-step instructions for building real robot models using ordinary craft materials and parts salvaged from recycled toys and other household devices. A great way to get kids interested in STEM subjects.

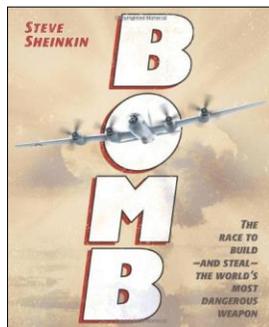
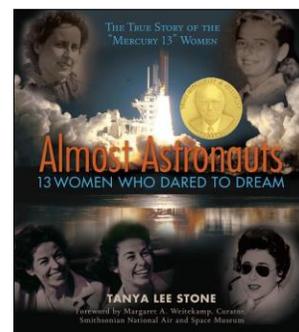
Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream

Written by Tanya Lee Stone.

Published by Candlewick Press.

For ages 10 and up.

Nonfiction: *Almost Astronauts* is the story of thirteen true pioneers of the space age, the Mercury 13 Women. When America created NASA in 1958, there was another unspoken rule: you had to be a man. Here is the tale of thirteen women who proved that they were not only as tough as the toughest man but also brave enough to challenge the government.



Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World's Most Dangerous Weapon

Written by Steve Sheinkin.

Published by Roaring Brook Press, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.

For ages 10-14.

Nonfiction: A gripping narrative of the race between countries, spies, and scientists to create the first atomic bomb.

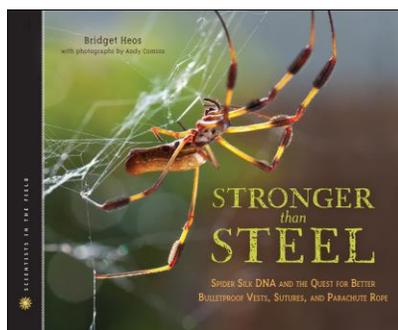
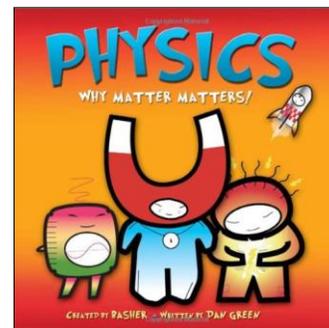
Physics: Why Matter Matters

Written by Dan Green, illustrated by Simon Basher.

Published by Kingfisher.

For ages 10-15.

Nonfiction: Imagine physics as a community full of wacky characters—the building blocks of the universe each with a unique personality. From gravity to the theory of relativity, this unique book provides visual interpretations of complex concepts, designed to make learning physics easier.



Stronger Than Steel: Spider Silk DNA and the Quest for Better Bulletproof Vests, Sutures, and Parachute Rope (Scientists in the Field Series)

Written by Bridget Heos, illustrated by Andy Comins.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 12-15.

Nonfiction: An introduction to the field of genetics through the story of Randy Lewis and his work with golden orb weaver spiders and his subsequent creation of artificial spider silk that can be used to save and improve lives.

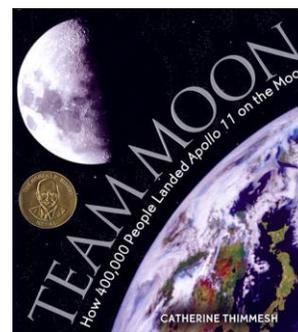
Team Moon

Written by Catherine Thimmesh.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 12 and up.

Nonfiction: Here is a rare perspective on a story we only thought we knew. For Apollo 11, the first moon landing, is a story that belongs to many, not just the few and famous. It belongs to the seamstress who put together twenty-two layers of fabric for each space suit. To the engineers who created a special heat shield to protect the capsule during its fiery reentry. It belongs to the flight directors, camera designers, software experts, suit testers, telescope crew, aerospace technicians, photo developers, engineers, and navigators. Gathering direct quotes from some of these folks who worked behind the scenes, Catherine Thimmesh reveals their very human worries and concerns. Culling NASA transcripts, national archives, and stunning NASA photos from Apollo 11, she captures not only the sheer magnitude of this feat but also the dedication, ingenuity, and perseverance of the greatest team ever—the team that worked to first put man on that great gray rock in the sky.



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