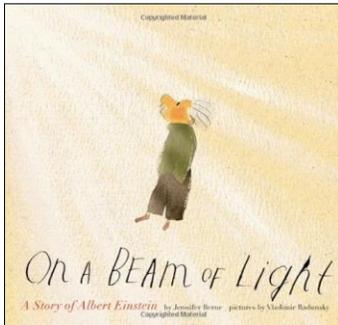


***In Search of Wonder: Common Core and More***  
**World History**  
**Book Recommendations**

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](http://thencbla.org)



**On a Beam of Light: A Story of Albert Einstein**

Written by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Vladimir Radunsky.

Published by Chronicle.

For ages 6-9.

Biography: From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, Albert Einstein ultimately grows into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe. Parents and children alike will appreciate this moving story of the powerful difference imagination

can make in any life.

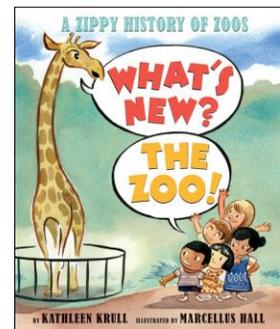
**What’s New? The Zoo!**

Written by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Marcellus Hall.

Published by Scholastic.

For ages 6-9.

Nonfiction: Kathleen Krull and Marcellus Hall bring jazzy style and a globe-trotting eye to our millennia-long history of keeping animals—and the ways animals have changed us in turn.



**Hiroshima No Pika**

Written by Toshi Maruki.

Published by Lothrop, Lee, and Shephard.

For ages 6-10.

Nonfiction: August 6, 1945, 8:15 a.m. Hiroshima. Japan. A little girl and her parents are eating breakfast, and then it happened. HIROSHIMA NO PIKA. This book is dedicated to the fervent hope the Flash will never happen again, anywhere. Winner of the

Batchelder Award.

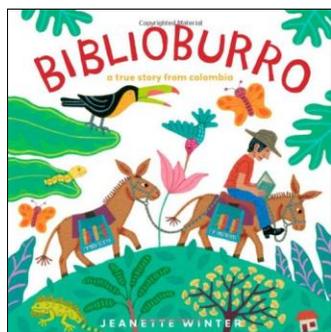
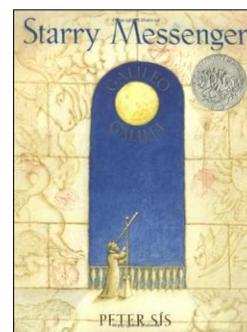
### **Starry Messenger**

Written and illustrated by Peter Sis.

Published in paperback by Square Fish, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, and in hardcover by Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.

For ages 6-10.

Biography: Peter Sís employs the artist's lens to give us an extraordinary view of the life of Galileo Galilei. Sís tells his story in language as simple as a fairy tale, in pictures as rich and tightly woven as a tapestry, and in Galileo's own words, written more than 350 years ago and still resonant with truth.



### **Biblioburro: A True Story from Colombia**

Written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter.

Published by Beach Lane Books, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.

For ages 7-8.

Nonfiction: Luis loves to read, but soon his house in Colombia is so full of books there's barely room for the family. What to do? Then he comes up with the perfect solution--a traveling library! He buys two donkeys—Alfa and Beto—and travels with them throughout the land, bringing books and reading to the children in faraway villages.

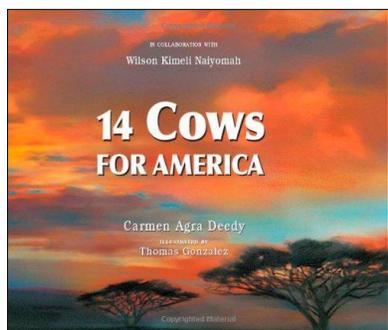
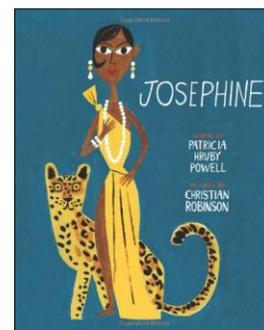
### **Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker**

Written by Patricia Hruby Powell, illustrated by Christian Robinson.

Published by Chronicle.

For ages 7-10.

Biography: In verse, a portrait of the passionate performer and civil rights advocate Josephine Baker, the woman who worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world. Meticulously researched, a powerful story of struggle and triumph. Winner of the Boston Globe-Horn Book Honor for Nonfiction.



### **14 Cows for America**

Written by Carmen Agra Deedy and Wilson Kimeli Naiyomah, illustrated by Thomas Gonzalez.

Published by Peachtree Publishers.

For ages 7 and up.

Nonfiction: In June of 2002, a very unusual ceremony begins in a village in western Kenya. An American diplomat, surrounded by hundreds of Maasai warriors, is about to accept an extraordinary gift on behalf of the American people. A mere nine months have passed since the September 11 attacks, and word of the gift will travel news wires around the globe. Many will be profoundly touched, but for Americans, this selfless gesture will have deeper meaning still. For a heartsick nation, the gift of fourteen cows emerges from the choking dust and darkness as a soft light of hope and friendship.

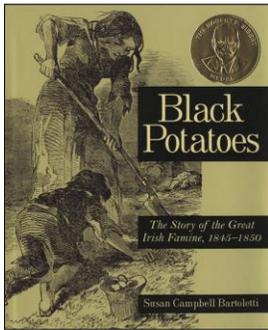
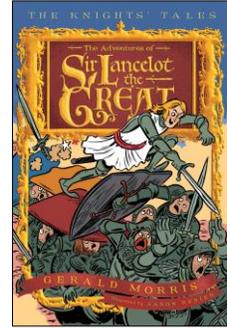
## Knights' Tales Series

Written by Gerald Morris, illustrated by Aaron Reiner.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 8-10.

Fiction: Many years ago, the storytellers say, the great King Arthur brought justice to England with the help of his gallant Knights of the Round Table. Of these worthy knights, there was never one so fearless, so chivalrous, so honorable, so...shiny as the dashing Sir Lancelot, who was quite good at defending the helpless and protecting the weak, just as long as he'd had his afternoon nap. Behold the very exciting and very funny adventures of Lancelot the Great, as only acclaimed Arthurian author Gerald Morris can tell them in *The Adventures of Sir Lancelot the Great*, just one of the four volumes in The Knights' Tales series.



## Black Potatoes: The Story of the Great Irish Famine

Written by Susan Campbell Bartoletti.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 9-12.

Nonfiction: In 1845, a disaster struck Ireland. Overnight, a mysterious blight attacked the potato crops, turning the potatoes black and destroying the only real food of nearly six million people.

Over the next five years, the blight attacked again and again. These years are known today as the Great Irish Famine, a time when one million people died from starvation and disease and two million more fled their homeland.

*Black Potatoes* is the compelling story of men, women, and children who defied landlords and searched empty fields for scraps of harvested vegetables and edible weeds to eat, who walked several miles each day to hard-labor jobs for meager wages and to reach soup kitchens, and who committed crimes just to be sent to jail, where they were assured of a meal. It's the story of children and adults who suffered from starvation, disease, and the loss of family and friends, as well as those who died. Illustrated with black and white engravings, it's also the story of the heroes among the Irish people and how they held on to hope.

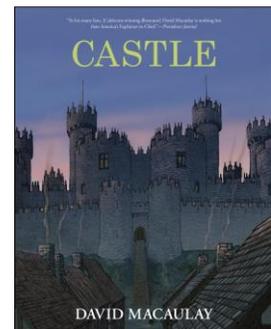
## Castle

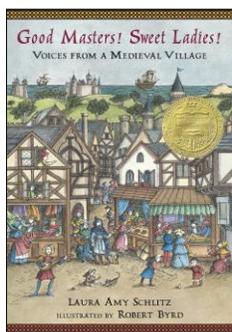
Written and illustrated by David Macaulay.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 9-12.

Fiction: In this first-ever standalone full-color edition, *Castle* is lavishly reborn in digitally finished drawings rendered with felt-tip markers and colored pencils. Factual and artistic details shine in light of newly researched information. With characteristic zest and wit, David Macaulay retraces the planning and construction of Lord Kevin's fictional castle. Architecture enthusiasts of all ages will marvel at the staggering possibilities of human imagination and ingenuity.





**Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village**

Written by Laura Amy Schlitz, illustrated by Robert Byrd.

Published by Candlewick Press.

For ages 10-12.

Fiction: Step back to an English village in 1255, where life plays out in dramatic vignettes illuminating twenty-two unforgettable characters. Written by Laura Amy Schlitz and illustrated with pen-and-ink drawings by Robert Byrd—inspired by the Munich-Nuremberg manuscript, an illuminated poem from thirteenth-century Germany—this witty, historically accurate, and utterly human collection forms an exquisite bridge to the people and places of medieval England. Winner of the 2008 Newbery Medal winner.

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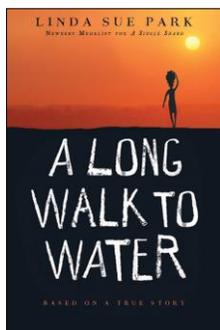
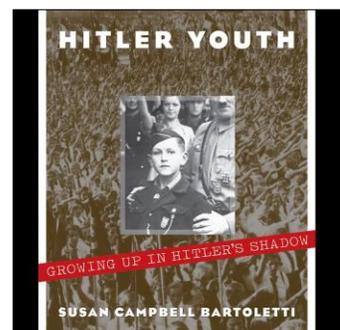
**Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow**

Written by Susan Campbell Bartoletti.

Published by Scholastic.

For ages 10-14.

Nonfiction: Susan Campbell Bartoletti explores the riveting and often chilling story of Germany's powerful Hitler Youth groups



**A Long Walk to Water**

Written by Linda Sue Park.

Published by Clarion.

For ages 10-14.

Fiction: *The New York Times* bestseller *A Long Walk to Water* begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.

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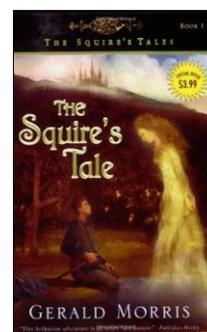
### Squire's Tales Series

Written by Gerald Morris.

Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

For ages 10-14.

Fiction: Growing up an orphan in an isolated cottage in the woods, young Terence never expected much adventure. But upon the arrival of Gawain, his life takes a surprising turn. Gawain is destined to become one of the most famous knights of the Round Table. Terence becomes Gawain's squire and leaves his secluded life for one of adventure in King Arthur's court. In no time Terence is plunged into the exciting world of kings, wizards, knights, wars, magic spells, dwarfs, damsels in distress, and enchanters. As he adjusts to his new life, he proves to be not only an able squire but also a keen observer of the absurdities around him. His duties take him on a quest with Gawain and on a journey of his own, to solve the mystery of his parentage. Filled with rapier-sharp wit, jousting jocularly, and chuckleheaded knights, *The Squire's Tale* (just one of the eight volumes in The Squire's Tales series) is King Arthur's court as never before experienced.



### Victory

Written by Susan Cooper.

Published by Margaret K. McElderry Books.

For ages 10-14.

Fiction: A historic connection has the power to change the future in this classic, gripping novel from Newbery Medalist Susan Cooper. Sam Robbins is a farm boy, kidnapped to serve on HMS Victory, the ship on which Lord Nelson will die a hero's death at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. Molly Jennings is a twenty-first-century English girl who's been transplanted to the United States by her stepfather's job and is fighting her own battle against loss and loneliness. Two different lives, two centuries apart, are linked by a tiny scrap of fraying cloth that's tucked into an old book. It draws Molly into Sam's world, to a moment in time that changed history—a frightening shared moment that holds the key both to secrets from the past and hope for the future.

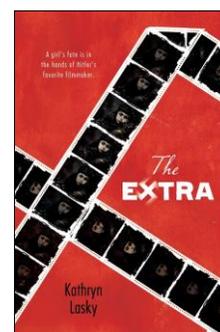
### The Extra

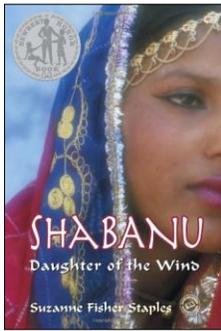
Written by Kathryn Lasky.

Published by Candlewick Press.

For ages 12 and up.

Fiction: In this chilling but ultimately uplifting novel, Kathryn Lasky imagines the lives of the Gypsies who worked as extras for the real Nazi filmmaker Leni Riefenstahl, giving readers a story of survival unlike any other.





**Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind**  
Written by Suzanne Fisher Staples.

Published by Ember.  
For ages 12 and up.

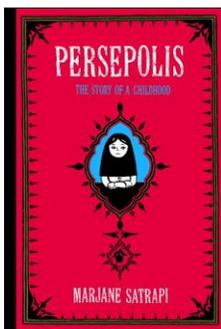
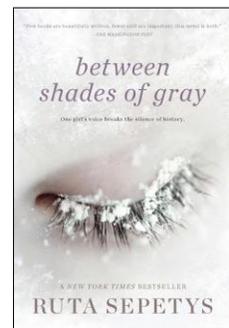
Fiction: Shabanu, whose home is the windswept Cholistan Desert of Pakistan, is the second daughter in a family with no sons and she's been allowed freedoms forbidden to most Muslim girls. But when a tragic encounter with a wealthy and powerful landowner ruins the marriage plans of her older sister, Shabanu is called upon to sacrifice everything she's dreamed of. Winner of a Newbery Honor Award.

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**Between Shades of Gray**  
Written by Ruta Sepetys.

Published by Speak.  
For ages 13 and up.

Fiction: Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life—until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive?



**Persepolis: The Story of a Childhood**  
Written and illustrated by Marjane Satrapi.

Published by Pantheon.  
For ages 14 and up.

Graphic Novel: *Persepolis* is Marjane Satrapi's wise, funny, and heartbreaking memoir of growing up in Iran during the Islamic Revolution. In powerful black-and-white comic strip images, Satrapi tells the story of her life in Tehran from ages six to fourteen, years that saw the overthrow of the Shah's regime, the triumph of the Islamic Revolution, and the devastating effects of war with Iraq. The intelligent and outspoken only child of committed Marxists and the great-granddaughter of one of Iran's last emperors, Marjane bears witness to a childhood uniquely entwined with the history of her country.

*Persepolis* paints an unforgettable portrait of daily life in Iran: of the bewildering contradictions between home life and public life and of the enormous toll repressive regimes exact on the individual spirit. Marjane's child's-eye-view of dethroned emperors, state-sanctioned whippings, and heroes of the revolution allow us to learn as she does the history of this fascinating country and of her own extraordinary family. Intensely personal, profoundly political, and wholly original, *Persepolis* is at once a story of growing up and a stunning reminder of the human cost of war and political repression.

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