**In Search of Wonder: Common Core and More**

**Geography**

**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

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**How I Learned Geography**  
Written and illustrated by Uri Schulevitz.  
Published by Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.  
For ages 4-8.  
Informational Picture Book: The award-winning artist’s most personal work to date is based on his childhood memories of World War II and features stunning illustrations that celebrate the power of imagination. An author’s note includes a brief description of his family’s experience, two of his early drawings, and the only surviving photograph of himself from that time.

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**There’s A Map on My Lap**  
Written by Tish Rabe, illustrated by Aristides Ruiz.  
Published by Random House Books for Young Readers.  
For ages 4-8.  
Informational Picture Book: The Cat in the Hat introduces beginning readers to maps—the different kinds (city, state, world, topographic, temperature, terrain, etc.); their formats (flat, globe, atlas, puzzle); the tools we use to read them (symbols, scales, grids, compasses); and funny facts about the places they show us (“Michigan looks like a scarf and a mitten! Louisiana looks like a chair you can sit in!”).

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**Blast Off to Earth: A Look at Geography**  
Written and illustrated by Loreen Leedy.  
Published by Holiday House.  
For ages 5-8.  
Informational Picture Book: A group of curious aliens visits Earth and discovers many amazing facts about our world! Loreen Leedy explores the planet Earth with young readers as she introduces them to geography.
Mapping Penny's World
Written and illustrated by Loreen Leedy.
Published by Square Fish, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.
For ages 5-8.
Informational Picture Book: Lisa and her dog, Penny, learn the basics of mapmaking in this delightful sequel to Measuring Penny.

The Whole World in Your Hands: Looking at Maps
Written by Melvin and Gilda Berger, illustrated by Robert M Quakenbush.
Published by Ideals Children’s Books.
For ages 5-8.
*Note: This book is out of print. Please ask for it at your local library or used book bookstore.*
Nonfiction: This easy reader explains what maps are and how to use them, discusses map symbols and their meanings, and includes maps of a house, community, city, state, country, and the world.

One World, One Day
Written by Barbara Kerley.
Published by National Geographic.
For ages 6-9.
Nonfiction: One World, One Day uses exquisite, moving photographs and Barbara Kerley’s poetic text to convey a simple yet profound concept: we are one global family. This is a sophisticated concept book, presented as an elegant picture book with contributions from top international photographers.
This beautiful photo book follows the course of one day in our world. Sunrise to sunset is captured in the essential things we all do daily, wherever we live in the world, and in the different ways we do them. The first meal of the day will take on a whole new dimension for American kids as an American pancake breakfast is contrasted with porridge in North Korea and churros in Spain.
At the end, each image is reprinted as a thumbnail and accompanied by a detailed caption. Selected images feature photographers’ notes that share the thoughts and methodology involved in the making of the picture and reveal fascinating behind-the-scenes information. The photographers reflect on how the pictures might resonate within the theme of the global family. Such reflections are rooted in the life experiences of these well-traveled professionals. Their global viewpoints, in tandem with Barbara Kerley’s powerful message, set an ideal example for all future world citizens.
The Amazing Pop-Up Geography Book
Written by Kate Petty, illustrated by Jennie Maizels.
Published by Dutton.
For ages 8 and up.

Informational Picture Book: From the top of Everest to the deepest point in the ocean, children will journey to some of the Earth's extraordinary spots. Between the covers of this book are pop-up mountains and volcanoes, lift-the-flap continents and countries, swirling storms, jittering earthquakes, and much, much more. There is even a pop-up globe for kids to twirl as they learn hundreds of fascinating facts about our special planet. Kate Petty and Jennie Maizels have created a unique series of books that take the terror out of difficult topics through an irresistible combination of quips, hints, exuberant illustrations, and ingenious paper mechanics.

The Geography Book:
Activities for Exploring, Mapping, and Enjoying Your World
Written by Caroline Arnold.
Published by Jossey-Bass.
For ages 8 and up.

Nonfiction: Find out how to determine location on the Earth, how maps can provide us with a wide range of information, how different landforms were created, how water has helped shape the Earth, and much more. Create things like a giant compass rose, a balloon globe, a contour potato, a map puzzle, and a tornado in a jar.

Lost on a Mountain in Maine
Written by Donn Fendler.
Published by HarperCollins Children's Books.
For ages 8-12.

Nonfiction: The timeless story of a boy's harrowing journey back to civilization after getting separated from his Boy Scout troop on a foggy climb up the Katahdin Mountains. Based on a true event that took place in Maine in 1939.
Mapping the World
Written by Sylvia A. Johnson.
Published by Atheneum.
For ages 8-12.

Note: This book is out of print. Please ask for it at your local library or used book bookstore.

Nonfiction: Maps show us how to get from one place to another, but they have other stories to tell. By looking at a map, we can see which aspects of the world were most important to people in a particular time and place. The earliest maps from ancient Mesopotamia picture a small world made up only of neighboring kingdoms. During the Middle Ages, when Christianity was a powerful influence, maps often showed the location of the Garden of Eden and other places mentioned in the Bible. In a later period of trade and exploration, mapmakers produced sea charts based on compass readings to guide sailors as they navigated unknown seas. With the discovery of new lands and new peoples, the known world was transformed, and maps reveal the different stages of this great change.

Through a fascinating collection of colorful maps and an informative, engaging text, Mapping the World encourages readers to think about how views of the world have changed over time. After reading it, budding cartographers might even be inspired to create maps of their own.

Into the Volcano
Written and illustrated by Don Wood.
Published by Scholastic.
For ages 9-10.

Graphic Novel: The volcano is erupting, and brothers Sumo and Duffy are trapped inside a deep lava tube—almost certain death. How did they get here? A vacation "hike" turned out to be a cut-throat search for their missing family fortune.

Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95
Written by Phillip Hoose.
Published by Farrar Straus Giroux, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.
For ages 10-14.

Nonfiction: Phillip Hoose tells the extraordinary story of one bird's strength, adaptability, and determination.
You Are Here
Written by Jennifer E. Smith.
Published by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers.
For ages 12 and up.

Fiction: Emma and her neighbor Peter are both lonely in a way that only bothers them on occasion. They both come from families they don’t quite understand. They both feel like something big is missing from their lives—and they’re both about to search for answers. When Emma makes a discovery that shakes the foundations of her identity, she convinces Peter to join her for a road trip. Each of them has something to find: For Emma, it is a grave—a grave that may be her only connection to her family. Peter is seeking something harder to define, but perhaps easier to navigate—a freedom, a sense of something more than what he has. Together, they take to the open road, engaging in a universal quest to make sense of who they are and where they come from…and learning a thing or two about love along the way.

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