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

**Owen & Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship**
Written by Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff, and Dr. Paula Kahumbu, with photographs by Peter Greste.
Published by Scholastic.
For ages 4-8.
Nonfiction: The true story of two great friends, a baby hippopotamus named Owen, and a 130-yr-old giant tortoise named Mzee (Mm-ZAY).

**My Five Senses**
Written and illustrated by Aliki.
Published by HarperCollins.
For ages 5-6.
Nonfiction: How do you learn what the world is like? Through your five senses! Each sound and taste, each smell, sight, and touch helps you to discover something new. So find out more about your senses—what they are and what you can learn through them about the exciting world. The world awaits!

**Monarch Butterfly**
Written and illustrated by Gail Gibbons.
Published by Holiday House.
For ages 5-8.
Nonfiction: From egg to caterpillar to butterfly, Gail Gibbons presents the stages of life for a butterfly and the story of how Monarch butterflies live.
Munching: Poems About Eating
Edited by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illustrated by Nelle Davis.
Published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers.
For ages 5-8.

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

Poetry: Lee Bennett Hopkins edited this anthology of 23 poems celebrating the joys of eating, each illustrated by Nelle Davis.

Snakes
Written by Nic Bishop, with photography by the author.
Published by Scholastic.
For ages 5-8.

Nonfiction: With breathtaking full-page images, Sibert Medal-winning photographer Nic Bishop introduces the terrifying and beautiful world of snakes.

Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?
The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell
Written by Tanya Lee Stone, illustrated by Marjorie Priceman.
Published by Henry Holt, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group.
For ages 5-8.

Biography: The inspiring story of Elizabeth Blackwell, the first female doctor.

How Big Were the Dinosaurs? Gigantic!
Written by Patrick O’Brien.
Published by Owlet Paperbacks.
For ages 5-12.

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

Nonfiction: Comparing dinosaurs with familiar items to give a sense of their real size, these oil paintings line up the armored Ankylosaurus with the military tank it resembles and set the petite Compsognathus side-by-side with a mother duck. (Summary from Publishers Weekly, Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.)
**Actual Size**  
Written and illustrated by Steve Jenkins.  
Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.  
For ages 6-8.  
Nonfiction: How big is a crocodile? What about a tiger, or the world’s largest spider? Can you imagine a tongue that is two feet long or an eye that’s bigger than your head? Sometimes facts and figures don’t tell the whole story. In this visually stunning book, seeing is believing as Steve Jenkins illustrates animals both large and small at ACTUAL SIZE.

**The Brain: All About Our Nervous System and More!**  
Written by Seymour Simon.  
Published by HarperCollins Children's Books.  
For ages 6-10.  
Nonfiction: Award-winning science writer Seymour Simon brings you this full-color photographic introduction on the amazing human brain.

**Manfish: A Story of Jacques Cousteau**  
Written by Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Eric Puybaret.  
Published by Chronicle.  
For ages 6-10.  
Biography: Before Jacques Cousteau became an internationally known oceanographer, he was a curious little boy. Biographical poetic text and illustrations combine to create a portrait of Jacques Cousteau that is as magical as it is inspiring.

**The Monster Health Book: A Guide to Eating Healthy, Being Active & Feeling Great for Monsters & Kids!**  
Written and illustrated by Edward Miller.  
Published by Holiday House.  
For ages 7 and up.  
Nonfiction: Beginning with a concise discussion of each food group and the redesigned food pyramid, and including sections on exercise, drugs, and self-esteem, this fun and fact-filled introduction to nutrition and fitness will help kids pick up nourishing foods and get into wholesome habits.
The Fourteenth Goldfish
Written by Jennifer Holm.
Published by Random House Books for Young Readers.
For ages 8-12.

Fiction: Believe in the possible with this brilliantly quirky, thought-provoking novel from *New York Times* bestseller, three-time Newbery Honor winner Jennifer L. Holm.

Galileo. Newton. Salk. Oppenheimer. Science can change the world, but can it go too far? Eleven-year-old Ellie has never liked change. She misses fifth grade. She misses her old best friend. She even misses her dearly departed goldfish. Then one day a strange boy shows up. He's bossy. He's cranky. And weirdly enough . . . he looks a lot like Ellie's grandfather, a scientist who's always been slightly obsessed with immortality. Could this pimply boy really be Grandpa Melvin? Has he finally found the secret to eternal youth?

With a lighthearted touch and plenty of humor, Jennifer Holm celebrates the wonder of science and explores fascinating questions about life and death, family and friendship, immortality, and possibility.

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Human Footprint
Written by Ellen Kirk.
Published by National Geographic Kids.
For ages 9-12.

Nonfiction: What is your human footprint? Well, it's 13,056 pints of milk, 28,433 showers, 12,888 oranges, 14,518 candy bars, and $52,972 worth of clothes, all in one lifetime. Makes you want to step more lightly on the planet! This book doesn't preach or judge, but simply shows kids—in an exciting, visual way—how humans interact with the environment and how we can lessen our impact. Astonishing photography captures the full picture of consumption, documenting all the diapers you wore as a baby, the bread you'll eat in a lifetime, and the cans you'll recycle, based on national averages. Tying in with a National Geographic Channel production, *Human Footprint* is colorful and fun—yet also manages to be a powerful tool for kids to visualize the dimensions of consumption.

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Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World’s Strangest Parrot
Written by Sy Montgomery, with photographs by Nic Bishop.
Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
For ages 9-12.

Nonfiction: On remote Codfish Island off the southern coast of New Zealand live the last ninety-one kakapo parrots on earth. These trusting, flightless, and beautiful birds—the largest and most unusual parrots on earth—have suffered devastating population loss. Now, on an island refuge with the last of the species, New Zealand’s National Kakapo Recovery Team is working to restore the kakapo population. With the help of fourteen humans who share a single hut and a passion for saving these odd ground-dwelling birds, the kakapo are making a comeback in New Zealand. Follow intrepid animal lovers Sy Montgomery and Nic Bishop on a ten-day excursion to witness the exciting events in the life of the kakapo.
Parrots Over Puerto Rico
Written by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore, illustrated by Susan L. Roth.
Published by Lee & Low Books.
For ages 9-12.
Nonfiction: The story of the rescue and return of the Puerto Rican parrot, a species once so abundant it blotted out the sun. Through the efforts of a dedicated team of scientists and island residents the fate of this native bird is now inching out of extinction. Winner of the ALA 2014 Robert F. Sibert Medal for the most distinguished informational book for children.

Face to Face with Sharks
Written by David Doubilet and Jennifer Hayes, with photography by David Doubilet.
Published by National Geographic.
For ages 10 and up.
Nonfiction: It is man’s greatest fear—being eaten alive. And diving down here in the depths, the streamlined shark holds every advantage. How close do you want to get?

Acclaimed underwater photographer David Doubilet takes you deep into their dangerous realm. Yet he points out that it is we who are the killers! Our fear and ignorance puts this diverse family of fish in great danger. Let David teach you about sharks’ complex nature, and about how you can help to save the shark.

Far From Shore: Chronicles of an Open Ocean Voyage
Written and illustrated by Sophie Webb.
Published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
For ages 10-14.
Nonfiction: In extremely deep waters (two miles deep), the vast sea appears empty. But as naturalist and artist Sophie Webb shows us, it is full of fascinating—yet difficult to study—life. Together with her shipmates, Sophie counts and collects samples of life in the deep ocean, from seabirds to dolphins, from winged fish to whales. Only their long-term field work can really help scientists determine the health of these remarkable creatures who need the clean deep ocean to survive.
Squish: Super Amoeba
Written and illustrated by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm.
Published by Random House Books for Young Readers.
For ages 12 and up.
Fiction: When trouble calls, there is a single cell who has the courage to do what's right. . . . Introducing SQUISH—a new graphic novel series about a comic book-loving, twinkie-eating grade school AMOEBA trying to find his place in the world (or at least trying to make it through a school day). Inspired by his favorite comic book hero, SUPER AMOEBA!, Squish has to navigate school (bullies! detention! Principal Planaria!), family (dad: Hates to wear a tie. Secretly listens to heavy metal in the car), and friends (Peggy-rainbows! happy all the time! and Pod . . . who's . . . well, you just have to meet him). Can Squish save the world--and his friends--from the forces of evil lurking in the hallways? Find out in Squish: Super Amoeba--saving the world, one cell at a time!
From the creators of Babymouse . . . a brand new graphic novel series geared to boys! Just like Babymouse, Squish is smart and funny and will appeal to both kids and grownups. Unlike Babymouse Squish is GREEN and filled with superheroes, comics within comics, and gross out science!

Charles and Emma: The Darwins’ Leap of Faith
Written by Deborah Heiligman.
Published by Square Fish, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group in paperback and by Henry Holt, an imprint of Macmillan Children's Publishing Group in hardcover.
For ages 12 and up.
Biography: Deborah Heiligman's biography of Charles Darwin is a thought-provoking account of the man behind evolutionary theory: how his personal life affected his work and vice versa. The end result is an engaging exploration of history, science, and religion for young readers.

Red Madness: How a Medical Mystery Changed What We Eat
Written by Gail Jarrow.
Published by Calkins Creek.
For teenagers.
Nonfiction: One hundred years ago, an alarming illness spread across America’s South, striking tens of thousands of victims. No one knew how to treat it. People were left disfigured, insane, and in some cases, dead. This book tracks this disease, pellagra, and highlights how it was finally defeated. Includes: archival photographs, primary sources, and scientific investigations.

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