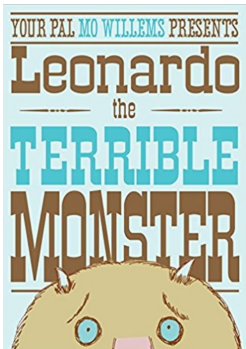


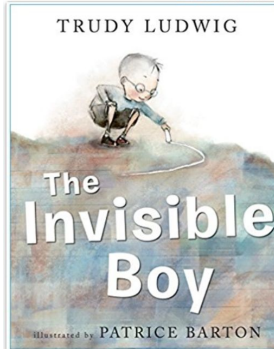
Ages 4-6



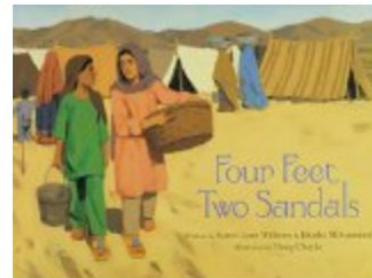
Ages 5-8



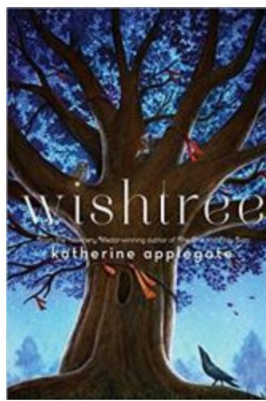
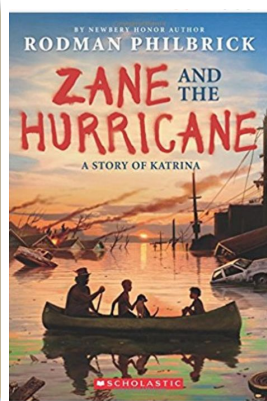
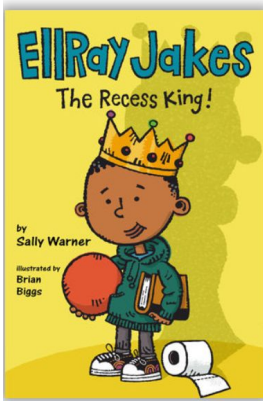
Ages 6-9



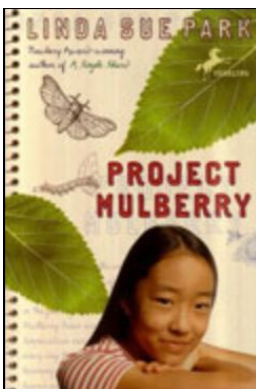
Ages 7-10



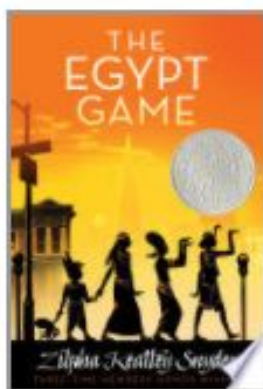
Ages 6-8 (part of a series) Ages 8-12



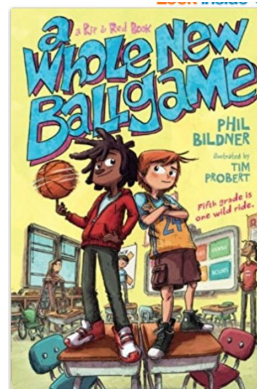
Ages 9+



Ages 10+



Ages 9-12 (series)



Ages 9-12 (new series)



**Leonardo the Terrible Monster by Mo Willems**

Leonardo is truly a terrible monster-terrible at being a monster that is. No matter how hard he tries, he can't seem to frighten anyone. Determined to succeed, Leonardo sets himself to training and research. Finally, he finds a nervous little boy, and scares the tuna salad out of him! But scaring people isn't quite as satisfying as he thought it would be. Leonardo realizes that he might be a terrible, awful monster-but he could be a really good friend.

***Bree Finds a Friend* by Mike Huber**

Bree doesn't know anyone who likes to dig as much as she does. What's more, Bree doesn't know anyone who likes worms as much as she does. So Bree digs alone, until one day a classmate joins her. Together, the two unearth something even better than worms—a new friendship. The book contains a page of information to help adults connect the story to children's experiences.

***The Invisible Boy* by Trudy Ludwig**

Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party . . . until, that is, a new kid comes to class. When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when Brian and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine. This gentle story shows how small acts of kindness can help children feel included and allow them to flourish. Any parent, teacher, or counselor looking for material that sensitively addresses the needs of quieter children will find *The Invisible Boy* a valuable and important resource.

***Four Feet, Two Sandals* by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed**

When relief workers bring used clothing to a refugee camp in Pakistan, everyone scrambles to grab whatever they can. Ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly, until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe. But soon Lina and Feroza meet and decide that it is better to share the sandals than for each to wear only one.

As the girls go about their routines -- washing clothes in the river, waiting in long lines for water, and watching for their names to appear on the list to go to America -- the sandals remind them that friendship is what is most important.

*Four Feet, Two Sandals* was inspired by a refugee girl who asked the authors why there were no books about children like her. With warm colors and sensitive brush strokes, this book portrays the strength, courage, and hope of refugees around the world, whose daily existence is marked by uncertainty and fear.

***EllRay Jakes* by Sally Warner**

Eight-year-old EllRay is down to one-and-a-half best friends, which leads his little sister to point out the obvious: he needs new friends. A spare, at least. For emergencies. So EllRay decides to audition other boys for the role of Spare Best Friend.

EllRay's class is brimming with possibilities, but no one seems to share his exact interests. What's so great about car parts? And why would anyone think boring instruction manuals are fun to read? But EllRay isn't worried—he can fix any problems once he gets to know each kid. And the only way to get to know them is to come up with fun things to do at recess. When he's the Recess King, everyone will want to be his friend!

***Zane and the Hurricane* by Rodman Philbrick**

Zane Dupree is a charismatic 12-year-old boy of mixed race visiting a relative in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hits. Unexpectedly separated from all family, Zane and his dog experience the terror of Katrina's wind, rain, and horrific flooding. Facing death, they are rescued from an attic air vent by a kind, elderly musician and a scrappy young girl--both African American. The chaos that ensues as storm water drowns the city, shelter and food vanish, and police contribute to a dangerous, frightening

atmosphere, creates a page-turning tale that completely engrosses the reader. Based on the facts of the worst hurricane disaster in U.S. history, Philbrick includes the lawlessness and lack of government support during the disaster as well as the generosity and courage of those who risked their lives and safety to help others. Here is an unforgettable novel of heroism in the face of truly challenging circumstances.

### ***Lemons* by Melissa Savage**

Lemonade Liberty Witt's mama always told her: When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. But Lem can't possibly make lemonade out of her new life in Willow Creek, California—the Bigfoot Capital of the World—where she's forced to live with a grandfather she's never met after her mother passes away.

Then she meets eleven-year-old Tobin Sky, the CEO of Bigfoot Detectives Inc., who is the sole Bigfoot investigator for their small town. After he invites Lem to be his assistant for the summer, they set out on an epic adventure to capture a shot of the elusive beast on film. But along the way, Lem and Tobin end up discovering more than they ever could have imagined. And Lem realizes that maybe she can make lemonade out of her new life after all.

### ***Wishtree* by Catherine Applegate**

A 10-year-old Muslim girl named Samar and her parents move into a house in a suburban neighborhood, hoping for a new life. Samar has wary eyes and a shy smile, with “the look of someone who has seen too much.” Even so, she is quietly hopeful, tying her written wish on a large red oak wishing tree in front of her house, as people have done for decades. “I wish for a friend,” she whispers, and the tree listens.

But the next-door neighbors aren't friendly. A teenager carves the word “LEAVE” into the tree's trunk. Someone throws eggs at Samar's house. A car races by whose occupants shout, “Muslims get out!” Finally, the “wishtree,” named Red, can stand silent no longer. It's time to act.

### ***Project Mulberry* by Linda Sue Park**

Julia Song and her friend Patrick would love to win a blue ribbon, maybe even two, at the state fair. They've always done projects together and they work well as a team. This time though, they're having trouble coming up with just the right plan. Then Julia's mother offers a suggestion: They can raise silkworms, as she did when she was a girl in Korea.

Patrick thinks it's a great idea. Of course there are obstacles - for example, where will they get mulberry leaves, the only thing silkworms eat - but nothing they can't handle. Julia isn't so sure. The club where kids do their projects is all about traditional American stuff, and raising silkworms just doesn't fit in. Moreover, the author, Ms. Park, seems determined to make Julia's life as difficult as possible, no matter how hard Julia tries to talk her out of it.

### ***The Egypt Game* by Zilpha Keatley Snyder**

The first time Melanie Ross meets April Hall, she's not sure they have anything in common. But she soon discovers that they both love anything to do with ancient Egypt. When they stumble upon a deserted storage yard, Melanie and April decide it's the perfect spot for the Egypt Game. Before long there are six

Egyptians, and they all meet to wear costumes, hold ceremonies, and work on their secret code. Everyone thinks it's just a game until strange things start happening. Has the Egypt Game gone too far?

***A Whole New Ballgame* by Phil Bildner (part of *Rip and Red* series)**

Rip and Red are best friends whose fifth-grade year is nothing like what they expected. They have a crazy new tattooed teacher named Mr. Acevedo, who doesn't believe in tests or homework and who likes off-the-wall projects, the more "off" the better. And guess who's also their new basketball coach? Mr. Acevedo! Easy-going Rip is knocked completely out of his comfort zone. And for Red, who has autism and really needs things to be exactly a certain way, the changes are even more of a struggle. But together these two make a great duo who know how to help each other—and find ways to make a difference—in the classroom and on the court.

With its energetic and authentic story and artwork, *A Whole New Ballgame* by Phil Bildner is a fresh, fun book about school, sports, and friendship.

***Gabby Garcia's Ultimate Playbook* by Eva-Marie Palmer (a new series)**

Gabby is on top of her game (baseball all the way!), but just as she's pitching her second no-hitter of the year, her school is closed because of asbestos. She's sure she'll be welcomed by her new school's team, and will keep shining. Instead, as she recounts in her play book of goals and strategies (which she makes clear is Not a diary), her efforts to shine go wrong in horribly relatable middle grade ways. Gabby comes to realize that her need for greatness doesn't have to rule her life, and the fact that greatness comes in the end after she changes her priorities for the better is a gift. The story is full of humor, and the playbook format makes this one especially accessible for kids daunted by blocks of text. Sports enthusiasts especially will love it!