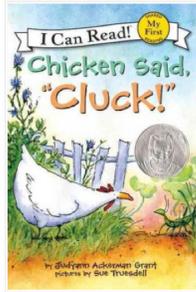


Last Stop on Market Street

by Matt De La Peña, illus Christian Robinson

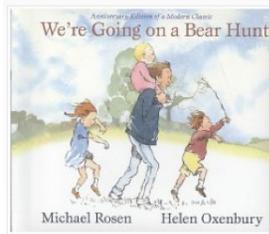
This is a study in kindness and grace. Nana's wisdom teaches her grandson (and readers) to look with eyes that see beyond the surface to love the potential of each individual and to give, because that is where joy begins. 2016 Caldecott Honor, 2016 Newbery Winner, and 2016 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor. It's that good, really.



Chicken Said, "Cluck!"

by Judyann Ackerman Grant, illus Sue Truesdell

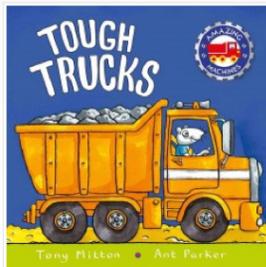
A chicken more than proves his worth as a gardener when an unexpected problem appears. The illustrations are as much fun as the story.



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

by Michael Rosen, illus Helen Oxenbury

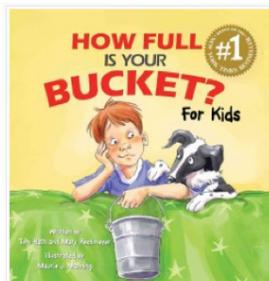
A beautifully illustrated, rhythmic story of a family adventuring outdoors. Littlest ones enjoy pointing out repeated features in the illustrations, and join in with 'Oh no!' Older children are soon able to recite the whole book—useful for group adventures!



Tough Trucks

by Tony Mitton & Ant Parker

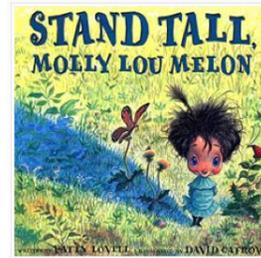
A colorful, animated introduction to a wide variety of trucks. Interesting details pique interest in unique machines, especially when paired with its companion, *Amazing Airplanes*.



How Full Is Your Bucket: For Kids

by Tom Rath & Mary Reckmeyer, illus Maurie J. Manning

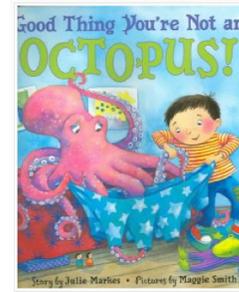
"The strange thing was that for every drop he helped put in someone else's bucket, he felt another drop in his own bucket." A memorable way to show kids that the way they interact with others is important; encouragement and selflessness are beautiful traits to cultivate.



Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon

by Patty Lovell, illus David Catrow

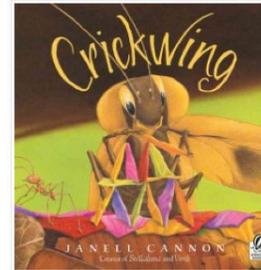
Skillfully written, the story allows readers to pause and consider how to treat others who are different and what role the opinions of others should be allowed to play in our lives. Whimsically illustrated and a delight to read again and again.



Good Thing You're Not an Octopus!

by Julie Markes, illus Maggie Smith

Young readers are tickled by these bright, engaging illustrations and challenged to predict what a day might be like if they were different types of animals. If you were a caterpillar, how challenging would putting on your shoes be? What would brushing your teeth be like if you were a shark? "It's a good thing you're you!"



Crickwing

by Janell Cannon

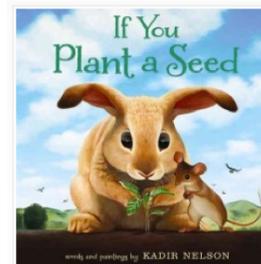
Sometimes when people are mean it's because their love bucket is low; they just need someone to help fill it up. An effective way to illustrate compassion in action.



The Biggest Story: How the Snake-Crusher Brings Us Back to the Garden

by Kevin DeYoung, illus Don Clark

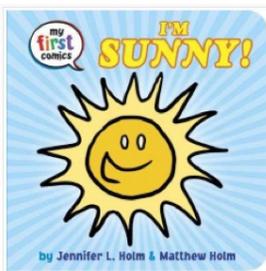
An excellent book to help kids understand the big picture of the Bible before they even start hearing its stories. Give them a mental framework for organizing details and events they'll hear the rest of their lives. Easily divided into a chapter (or less) per day. Beautifully illustrated.



If You Plant a Seed

by Kadir Nelson

Sparse but carefully-worded text takes a back seat to Kadir Nelson's stunning illustrations that evoke emotion through age-appropriate, provocative perspectives. Readers sense the terrible disappointment selfishness can grow, and see the redeeming joy kindness can reap. A treasure.



I'm Sunny!

by Jennifer L. Holm, illus Matthew Holm

A bright, simple illustration of how even a warm disposition can be clouded by a bad choice. Yet, that can be forgiven and turned to goodness. A comic-book style contributes to its clear message bound in board book format. A unique, refreshing combination. Don't miss its companion:

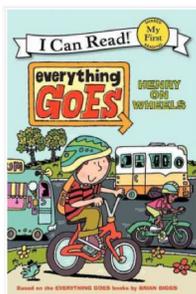
I'm Grumpy.



Spring Is Here

by Will Hillenbrand

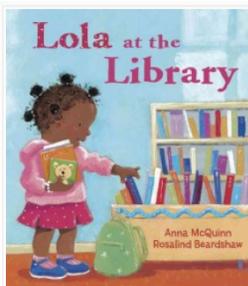
Larger-than-life illustrations with creative perspectives instantly engage young readers. Mole announces it's time for Bear to welcome Spring, but Bear is sound asleep. Little Mole's large undertaking for Bear's certain awakening pulls readers from step to step, inviting a prediction for a logical conclusion. A heartwarming duo!



Everything Goes: Henry on Wheels

by Brian Biggs & B.B. Bourne, illus Simon Abbott

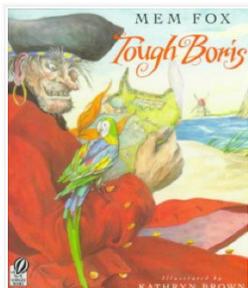
When Henry's mom limits his bike-riding exploration to around the block, he assumes he's in for a boring ride. However, the action he sees—conveyed through rich verb use and energetic illustrations—transforms his ride into an exciting adventure. An enticing first reader.



Lola at the Library

by Anna McQuinn, illus Rosalind Beardshaw

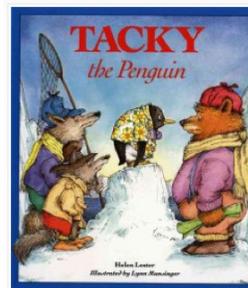
Reading is fun, but it is even more fun with friends. This delightful story celebrates the simple joy of stories and the power they have to bring together family and friends.



Tough Boris

by Mem Fox, illus Kathryn Brown

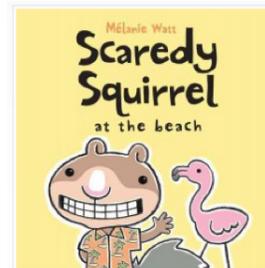
This multi-layered story appeals to a wide age range. Through a pattern of rich descriptors, the text conveys gruffness expected of pirate life. But when pirate Boris suffers loss, illustrations show even a tough character can feel sadness, and readers understand how important comforting companions are.



Tacky the Penguin

by Helen Lester, illus Lynn Munsinger

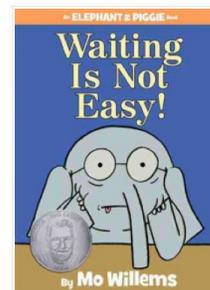
Tacky makes us smile because he's quirky and even though his outside-the-box thinking seems very odd, it is valuable. This one celebrates the unique gifts given to everyone. There are more Tacky books, each as praiseworthy.



Scaredy Squirrel at the Beach

by Melanie Watt

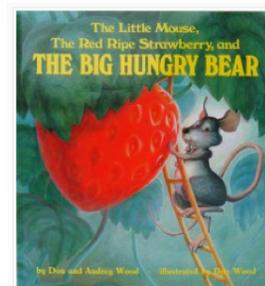
Courage is not Scaredy Squirrel's companion. Loads of excuses for personal protection stand between him and a genuine beach experience. Working around his fears result in unexpected challenges, but they turn into confidence-building learning. A laugh aloud tale!



Waiting Is Not Easy!

Mo Willems

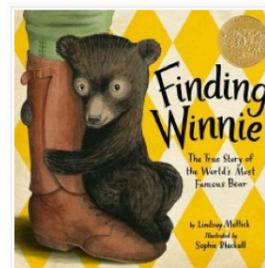
Each page's white background is a clean slate for comic-like, simple illustrations. Elephant can't wait for Gerald's surprise — young readers will recognize expressions of joy, anticipation, and frustration. Exaggerated word drawings delight just as well. A hilarious celebration of friendship, trust, and wonder.



The Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry, and the Big Hungry Bear

by Don & Audrey Wood

The humorous power of an invisible and possibly imaginary hungry bear will tickle older readers, while younger ones will laugh at the little mouse's antics. Simple, sparse text keeps the attention of squirmy toddlers. A classic now available as a board book.



Finding Winnie

by Lindsay Mattick, illus Sophie Blackall

Narrated by a mom to her child, the book's clean, softly-shaded illustrations offer a calm visual experience. Both storyteller and artist incorporate a winding pattern that repeats throughout, creating a familiar reference point that completely satisfies. This story from the author's family has ties to Winnie-the-Pooh. 2016 Caldecott Winner.