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Recommended Trade Books

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Author	Title	Description	Best for. Grades...	Retail Price
Our Global Community				
Deedy, Carmen Agra	<i>14 Cows For American</i>	Kimeli Naiyomah returned home to his Maasai village from New York City with news of 9/11 terrorist attacks. His story prompted the villagers to give a heartfelt gift to help America heal.	2-5	17.95
Kerley, Barbara	<i>One World, One Day</i>	This book is an excellent way to introduce preschool and kindergarten students to their big global family using photography to illustrate similarities and differences..	Pre-2	17.95
Scanlon, Liz Garton	<i>All the World</i>	Tackling a topic no smaller than the world itself, Scanlon and Frazee invite children to explore a variety of its settings.	Pre-2	17.99
Smith, David	<i>If America Were a Village</i>	Using the same successful metaphor of the international bestseller <i>If the World Were a Village</i> , the book shrinks down America to a village of 100.	3-8	18.95
Whelan, Gloria	<i>Waiting for the Owl's Call</i>	For generations the women of Zulviya's family have earned their living by weaving rugs by hand.	1-4	17.95
Williams, Karen Lynn	<i>My Name is Sangoel</i>	The authors of <i>Four Feet, Two Sandals</i> craft another hope-filled immigrant story, this one featuring a young Sudanese refugee who finds an inventive way to break the ice in his new American school.	1-4 AR 3.2	17.00
Winter, Jonah	<i>Peaceful Heroes</i>	14 short biographies of figures who have embraced nonviolence,	3-7	17.99
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The Day of the Pelican</i>	Paterson unveils the experience of Muslim Albanians in the Kosovo war through her memorable heroine, Meli, who turns 11 just as her family flees genocide.	5-8	16.00
Whelan, Gloria	<i>The Disappeared</i>	A carefully researched and thoughtfully developed portrait of Argentina under despotic rule. The simple prose style belies the troubling and sometimes graphic content, though the novel ends with a realistic resolution and guarded hope.	7-10 AR 5.3	16.99
Ecology, Nature, Responsibility				
De Frombelle, Timothee	<i>Toby Alone</i>	The people of the Tree are two millimeters tall or less, but their society mimics ours. Industrialists keep digging holes, politicians play dirty games and scientists conduct research to discover the nature of the world in which they live.	3-8 AR 5.2	17.99
French, Terrell	<i>Operation Redwood</i>	A satisfying eco-adventure starring sixth grader Julian Carter-Li, who has been left with a rich uncle in San Francisco while his mother researches in China.	4-8	16.95

Alter, Anna	<i>What Can You Do With an Old Red Shoe</i>	This is a great choice for environmental units and a valuable resource for parents interested in teaching their children about reuse at home.	K-4	16.95
Brown, Peter	<i>The Curious Garden</i>	An ecological story encouraging us to look more closely at what is directly in front of us. With creativity and imagination great things are possible.	K-3 AR 4.4	16.99
Cole, Henry	<i>On Meadowview Street</i>	Caroline is surprised that she can't find a single meadow on her new street but is able to direct a neighborhood metamorphosis one patch of ground at a time.	K-3 AR 2.5	17.99
Franco, Betsy	<i>Pond Circle</i>	Structured after "this is the house that Jack built..." this straightforward depiction of the food chain focuses on a pond near the house of a little girl named Anna.	K-4	16.99
Sidman, Joyce	<i>Red Sings From the Treetops</i>	Through the seasons, this book personifies colors, starting with a red bird in early spring and concluding with it as winter ends.	K-3	16.00
Great Historical Fiction...FINALLY!				
Frost, Helen	<i>Crossing Stones</i>	Written in formally structured verse, Frost's story spans nine months from 1917-1918. Each of three characters' poems, with their own distinct rhyming schemes and visual shapes, tell about their lives on either side of a creek in rural Michigan.	6-10	16.99
House, Silas	<i>Eli the Good</i>	Well-drawn characters and rich setting including the popular culture of the time and the backdrop of the Vietnam War make this a memorable story.	6-10	16.99
Kelly, Jacqueline	<i>The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate</i>	Life at the turn of the century is not easy for a girl who loves books and science. Kelly's first novel presents spirited heroine Calpurnia (Callie) Virginia Tate, a middle child with six brothers, growing up in the isolation of Fentress, Tex., in 1899.	5-9 AR 5.3	16.99
Peck, Richard	<i>Season Of Gifts</i>	Irascible, independent, and unorthodox as ever, Grandma Dowdel makes a welcome return.	5-8 AR 4.6	16.99
Slayton, Fran Cannon	<i>When the Whistle Blows</i>	Linked stories set on seven consecutive Halloweens in the 1940's, relate Jimmy Cannon's teenage years in a railroad town in West Virginia.	5-8 AR 4.9	16.99
Whelan, Gloria	<i>After the Train</i>	In Germany, in 1955, scars of the Nazi regime and anti-Semitism are still evident. When a school assignment includes researching a "good German" who opposed Hitler's government, Peter Liebig finds himself in a dilemma.	5-8 AR 5.3	15.99
Whelan, Gloria	<i>Locked Garden</i>	Whelan establishes a strong sense of time, unusual setting and characters-an asylum for the mentally ill in 20th-century Michigan.	4-7 AR 5.2	15.99
The Best New Picture Books				
Aylesworth, Jim	<i>The Mitten</i>	A worthy retelling of the classic story paired with charming McClintock illustrations. Presents a great opportunity to compare and contrast with other classic retellings.	Pre-3	16.99
Brallier, Jess M.	<i>Tess's Tree</i>	In this tender tale of love and loss, readers meet Tess, who cherishes her beloved-but very old-tree and grow with her as she learns to celebrate, let go and remember.	K-3	16.99

Donaldson, Julia	<i>Stick Man</i>	Proving once again that almost any item can be a character in a children's book, <i>Stick Man</i> stands out as a sturdy fellow who has a distinct personality that is anything but wooden.	K-3	16.99
Goodrich, Carter	<i>The Hermit Crab</i>	When an unassuming hermit crab spies "the most beautiful shell he'd ever seen," the top half of a brawny purple action figure, he decides to move in.	K-3 AR 4.0	16.99
Graham, Bob	<i>How to Heal a Broken Wing</i>	In the middle of the busy city no one notices the bird that has hit a window and fallen — no one except young Will.	K-3	16.99
Lipson, Eden Ross	<i>Applesauce Season</i>	Lipson introduces a family of urban-dwellers whose ties that bind are made of applesauce. Family traditions, cooking, and apples	K-3 AR 3.9	17.99
Long, Loren	<i>Otis</i>	Otis the tractor loves to work as much as he loves to play. A nostalgic story perfect for reading aloud. In the manner of well loved classics.	Pre-2	17.99
Obed, Ellen Bryan	<i>Who Would Like a Christmas Tree?</i>	Though presented as a Christmas book, this informative introduction to the different animals inhabiting a Maine tree plantation can be enjoyed year round.	K-3	16.00
Otoshi, Kathryn	<i>One</i>	This is a deceptively simple color and counting book that turns into a lesson on bullying.	Pre-3 AR 2.2	16.95
Pinkney, Jerry	<i>The Lion and the Mouse</i>	A wordless take on the familiar fable.	Pre-3	16.99
Watt, Melanie	<i>Scaredy Squirrel at Night</i>	Scaredy Squirrel never sleeps because he is afraid of ghosts, unicorns, vampire bats, and polka-dot monsters.	K-2 AR 3.6	16.95
The Best New Novels (and a couple old ones)				
Dashner, James	<i>Maze Runner</i>	Boys come to the Glade via an empty freight elevator with no memory of how they got there or of their prior lives. Compare to <i>Hunger Games</i> and <i>Lord of the Flies</i> .	6-10	16.99
Korman, Gordon	<i>Zoo Break</i>	To complement his skills as a burglar and Savannah's expert animal knowledge, Griffin recruits an unlikely team to spring a stolen monkey from a local zoo.	4-8 AR 4.9	16.99
Martin, Ann M.	<i>Everything for a Dog</i>	Fans of Martin's <i>A Dog's Life</i> who are eager to know what happened to Bone, the brother of stray puppy Squirrel, will find the answer in this beautifully crafted companion novel.	4-8	16.99
McMullan, Margaret	<i>Cashay</i>	13-year-old Cashay compares the ups and (mostly) downs in her life in Chicago's Cabrini Green projects to those in the stock market.	7-10 AR 4.1	15.00
Messner, Kate	<i>The Brilliant Fall of Gianna Z.</i>	First-time author (and longtime middle-school teacher) Messner creates a believable engaging story of procrastination, family, sports and friends with a dash of poetry and a bit of French.	4-8	16.99
O'Connor, Barbara	<i>Greetings from Nowhere</i>	The lives of four families change when they intersect at a run-down motel in the middle of nowhere.	5-8 AR 4.2	16.00
O'Connor, Barbara	<i>The Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis</i>	Elvis and Popeye's journey reminds readers to look for and enjoy the small treasures in their lives.	3-6	16.99

Preller, James	<i>Bystander</i>	A 7th grade boy must choose between being a witness to bullying, or possibly becoming a victim. Effectively told and compelling for the individual reader as well as a group.	6-10	16.99
Salisbury, Graham	<i>Calvin Coconut</i>	Believable, funny characters populate this chronicle of fourth grader Calvin's life on the Hawaiian island of Oahu.	2-5 AR 2.8	12.99
Stead, Rebecca	<i>When You Reach Me</i>	Twelve-year-old Miranda, a latchkey kid whose single mother is a law school dropout, narrates this complex novel, a work of science fiction grounded in Manhattan in the late 1970s	4-9 AR 4.5	15.99
Dowell, Frances O'Roark	<i>Phineas L. MacGuire Erupts</i>	Budding scientist and fourth-grader Mac has just lost his best friend to a move. Now at lunch he sits at "the table for people who don't have anyone else to sit with."	3-7 AR 5.0	4.99
Key, Watt	<i>Alabama Moon</i>	Key writes honestly about hunting, trapping and the hardships of survival in this rather unusual coming-of-age story.	5-9 AR 4.1	6.99
Smith, Roland	<i>Peak</i>	The harshness of climbing Everest offers 14-year-old Peak harsh lessons of life and death, and helps him grasp the true importance of family and friends.	5-10 AR 5.0	6.95
White, Andrea	<i>Surviving Antarctica: Reality TV 2083</i>	The newest installment of the <i>Historical Survivor</i> series is a reenactment of Robert F. Scott's 1912 expedition to the South Pole by five 14-year-old kids.	5-10 AR 4.5	6.99
		Informational Picture Books		
Bourke, Anthony	<i>Christian the Lion</i>	Christian, the lion that was adopted from a London department store by the authors narrates this scrapbook-style account, based on the authors' 1971 work, <i>A Lion Called Christian</i> .	1-4 AR 3.6	16.99
Dennis, Brian	<i>Nubs: True Story of a Mutt, a Marine...</i>	The true story of an incredible journey that would take Nubs through a freezing desert, filled with danger to find his friend.	1-4 AR 4.8	17.99
Hill, Meggan	<i>Nico and Lola</i>	This photographic picture book is about a little boy, Nico, taking care of an even smaller dog, Lola, for the weekend while his aunt is out of town.	Pre-3	16.95
Ryder, Joanne	<i>Panda Kindergarten</i>	Ryder's book about the lives of young pandas is an exemplary model of how appealing, engaging, and resonant an informational picture book can be.	K-3	17.99
		For Everyone		
Berner, Rotraut Suzanne	<i>In the Town All Year 'Round</i>	These four seasonal vignettes follow an assortment of characters on errands and adventure around a small town. AMAZING!	All ages	16.99
Innocenti, Roberto	<i>The House</i>	An exceptionally beautiful and bittersweet look at a house through the ages with silent commentary on the deteriorating social history of the building even as the physical structure is restored.	All ages	19.95