

Kennebec Valley Book Award Books 2018-2019
Selected by the RSU#38 Elementary Library Team
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Applegate, Katherine. Wishtree. Fewer and Friends. 211p. Red is an oak tree who is many rings old. Red is the neighborhood “wishtree”. People write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red’s branches. Along with her crow friend Bongo and other animals who seek refuge in Red’s hollows, this “wishtree” watches over the neighborhood. Fiction, Fantasy. 590L.

Balkan, Gabrielle. Book of Bones: 10 Record-Breaking Animals. Phaidon Press. 48p. A book of world records... of bones. Guess whose bones are the longest, shortest, heaviest, spikiest, and more. Informational, Animal. 680L.

Bundy, Tamara. Walking with Miss Millie. Nancy Paulsen Books. 240p. A poignant story about friendship between a white girl and an elderly black woman in the south during the late 1960’s. Fiction, Realistic. 790L.

Coville, Katherine, Ivy. Knopf Books 144p. Ivy and her grandmother live in a not-so-tidy cottage, where they nurse sick animals back to health. When a kingdom-wide contest is announced to find the tidiest town in the land, the people of Broomsweep are determined to win. That is, if they can get Ivy’s grandmother to clean up her ways. Fiction, Fantasy. 620L.

Corey, Shana. A Time to Act: John F. Kennedy’s Big Speech. North South Books. 56p. This is the story of JFK, from his childhood to the events that led to his game-changing speech and the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Non-fiction, History. 850L.

Dyer, Heather. Magic in the City. Kids Can Press. 143p. What happens when two brothers are given a time stopper, a magic camera and a magic carpet? This leads the boys and their cousin on a wacky adventure. Fiction, Fantasy. 590L.

Eggers, David. Her Right Foot. Chronicle Books. 104p. The Statue of Liberty represents freedom. David Eggers discusses what the symbolism might be on the Statue of Liberty’s right foot. Non-fiction, 800L.

Eszterhas, Suzi. Moto and Me: My Year as a Wildcat’s Foster Mom. Owlkids. 40p. Wildlife photographer, Suzi Eszterhas, recounts her experience fostering an orphaned serval kitten named Moto. Non-fiction, Animal. 860L.

Ford, Gilbert. How the Cookie Crumbled: The True (and Not-So-True) Stories of the Invention of the Chocolate Chip Cookie. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 40p. Which story is true about the chocolate chip cookie? Hear the delicious facts about the inventor of America’s favorite cookie. Non-fiction. History. 900L.

Fraser, Mary Ann. Alexander Graham Bell: Answers The Call. Charlesbridge. 32p. Alexander Graham Bell was fascinated by sound vibrations and modes of communication due to his mother being hearing impaired and his father who was a speech therapist. His inquisitiveness lead him to invent the telephone. Non-fiction, Biography. 820L.

Freeman, Ruth. One Good Thing about America. Holiday House. 160p. It is hard to go to a new school especially if you are from a different country. Annis writes home to her Oma explaining how crazy America is. Her Oma requests that she write in English only and include one good thing about America in her letter to her. Fiction, Realistic 570L.

Harvey, Jeanne Walker. Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines. Henry Holt and Co. 32p. The story of Maya Lin, the visionary artist-architect who designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Non-fiction, Biography. 800L.

Heos, Bridget. Shell, Beak, Tusk: Shared Traits and the Wonders of Adaption. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 32p. From mammals to reptiles and everything in between, the life theory of evolution and convergent evolution is explained. Informational, Science.

Johannes, Shelley. Beatrice Zinker Upside Down Thinker. Hyperion. 155p. Beatrice is afraid she is losing her best friend. She uses her topsy turvy way of thinking to get things to looking up. Fiction, Realistic. 570L.

Kelly, Jacqueline. Who Gives a Hoot? (Calpurnia Tate, Girl Vet). Henry Holt. 128p. Calpurnia and her grandfather rescue a barn owl from the river. Can they solve the mystery to what happened to the owl along with saving the bird's life? Fiction, Realistic. 750L.

Kelly, Scott. My Journey to the Stars: Astronaut Scott Kelly. Crown Books for Young Readers. 48p. The story of Scott Kelly and his journey to become the first astronaut to spend an entire year in space. Non-fiction, Biography. 680L.

King, Thomas. Coyote Tales. Greenwood Books. 60p. Two trickster tales, set in a time when animals and human beings still talked to each other. Fiction, Tales. 570L.

Macy, Sue. Trudy's Big Swim: How Gertrude Ederle Swam the English Channel and Took the World by Storm. Holiday House. 40p. Olympian Gertrude Ederle made history by becoming the first woman to swim the English Channel through hazardous conditions. Non-fiction, Biography.

Manley, Curtis. Crane Girl. Shen's Books. 32p. A popular Japanese folk tale in which a crane pays back an obligation by becoming a human. An inspirational story of friendship and the power of kindness. Fiction, Folk Tale.

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs. Chef Roy Choi and the Street Food Remix. Readers to Eaters Books. 32p. Chef Roy Choi calls himself a “street cook.” He wants outsiders, low-riders, kids, teens, shufflers and skateboarders to have food cooked with care, with love, with sohn maash. Non-fiction, Biography. 710L.

Maurer, Tracy Nelson. John Deere, That’s Who. Henry Holt and Company. 40p. Back in the 1830’s, who was a young blacksmith from Vermont about to make his mark on American History? John Deere, that’s who! Non-fiction, Farming. 860L.

McCormick, Patricia. Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero. Balzer & Bray. 40p. The inspiring true story of Reckless, the brave horse who became a marine. Non-fiction, Animal. 780L.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. Zack and the Turkey Attack! Atheneum Books. 163p. A boy must outsmart a tormenting turkey and solve the mystery surrounding some missing jewelry with the help of his friend and neighbor. Fiction, Realistic.

Polacco, Patricia. Remembering Vera. Simon & Schuster. 32p. The heartwarming story of Vera, an amazing dog who was found as a stray by the US Coast Guard, moved into the San Francisco Bay base, and became a hero and a friend. Fiction, Realistic. 780L.

Ransome, Lesa Cline. Before She Was Harriet. Holiday House. 32p. A memorable, lyrical reverse-chronological walk through the life of an American icon, Harriet Tubman. Non-fiction, Biography.

Robbins, Dean. Margaret and the Moon: How Margaret Hamilton Saved the First Lunar Landing. Alfred A. Knopf. 40p. Margaret Hamilton loved numbers as a girl. Her love of numbers lead her to a career with NASA where she wrote code for 4 Apollo missions. Non-fiction, Science. 630L.

Rose, Deborah Lee. Beauty and the Beak: How Science, Technology, and a 3D-Printed Beak Rescued a Bald Eagle. Persnickety Press. 40p. Stunning photographs of Beauty, an eagle that was illegally shot, rescued, and received an amazing 3D prosthetic beak. Includes amazing facts about eagles and their remarkable comeback from the endangered list. Non-fiction, Animal.

Schlitz, Laura Amy. Princess Cora and the Crocodile. Candlewick Press. 80p. Princess Cora is tired of her boring lessons. Her parents won’t let her have a dog. When she writes to her fairy godmother she doesn’t expect the help to come from a misbehaving crocodile. Fiction, Fantasy. 590L.

Sierra, Judy. Imagine That! How Dr. Seuss Wrote The Cat in the Hat. Random House. 48p. Have you ever wondered how the great Dr. Seuss wrote his most famous book? Beginning reader books in the 1950’s were very boring. Dr. Seuss was challenged to create a fun story using words from a very strict list. Non-fiction, History.

Smith, Danna. The Hawk of the Castle: A Story of Medieval Falconry. Candlewick Press. 40p. Experience the joys of taking a goshawk out for training as they did back in medieval times. Fiction, Realistic. 760L.

Tarshis, Lauren. I Survived: The American Revolution, 1776. Scholastic. 144p. Nathaniel Fox never imagined he'd find himself in the middle of a bloody battle, fighting for his life. The year is 1776 and suddenly he finds himself in a dangerous predicament, set in the heart of the Revolutionary War. Fiction, Historical. 660L.

Wallmark, Laurie. Grace Hopper: Queen of Computer code. Sterling Children's Books. 48p. Grace Hopper was the woman who revolutionized computer coding. A brilliant woman who had a passion for science and math and the firm belief that new solutions to problems are attainable. Non-fiction, Biography. 730L.

Wing, Natasha. When Jackie Saved Grand Central: The True Story of Jacqueline Kennedy's Fight for an American Icon. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. 48p. Jackie Kennedy loved NYC. When she heard that the owners of Grand Central wanted to demolish the building to build skyscrapers, she went into action saving the famous train station. Non-fiction, Architecture.

Yousafzai, Malala. Malala's Magic Pencil. Little Brown and company. 48p. The inspiring true story of growing up in a war torn region yet still seeing the magic of hope everywhere she looked. Non-fiction, Biography.