



# Summer Reading at Bank Street

(Middle School)

Happy Summer Reading!

Inside you will find, compiled by your librarian:

- Tips to make summer reading a non-chore
- Summer reading recommendations

The library is open all summer; please come visit us to refresh your reading options.

Enjoy!

-Allie

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Note: Because I am on the 2016 Newbery Committee, I am unable to provide suggestions that are eligible for the 2016 Newbery award.

## Important Dates and Numbers

- Any children's books checked out in May or June are due September 15.
- **If you would like to keep any children's books that were checked out before May for the summer, please renew them.** Otherwise, please return them by their due dates.
- Kids may have up to 10 books out at a time for the summer. Grown-ups may have up to 25.



# 7 Ways to make Summer Reading a NON-CHORE!

**1** Studies show that **kids read more when they see others reading\***—so make time to read yourself. Curl up with a book, right where your kid can see you.

**2** Reading as a leisure activity is the best predictor of comprehension, vocabulary, and reading speed.\*\* Remember that **“reading” is not just novels; picture books, non-fiction, magazines, comics, and audiobooks all count.**

**3** Kids often report that they have a hard time finding books that they like. If that happens, **have a friend recommend books.** Your kids are much more likely to enjoy something recommended by a friend than by a grown-up.

**4** **Plan regular trips to the library** to refresh your reading options. Bank Street Library is open Mon-Thurs 9-9:45; Fri 9-5; Sat 10-5 (August Mon-Fri 9-5). Check out your local public library, too.

**5** **Visit bookstores for author events and storyhours,** and invite friends too! Check [bankstreetbooks.com](http://bankstreetbooks.com) for Bank Street Bookstore’s calendar.

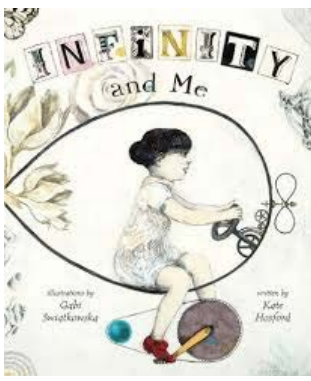
**6** Make bookstore visits a treat. Give kids a set amount of money to buy a book or two, and **just let it go when they choose The Day My Butt Went Psycho.**

**7** To **understand what your child may be feeling about reading-as-chore,** read Summer Reading Is Killing Me (Jon Scieszka) or Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little (Peggy Elizabeth Gifford).

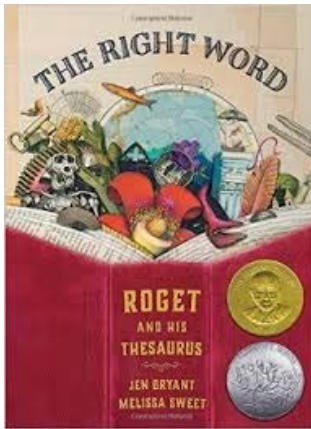
\*Krashen, Stephen D. The Power of Reading: Insights From the Research. Libraries Unlimited: USA, 2004.

\*\**Ibid.*

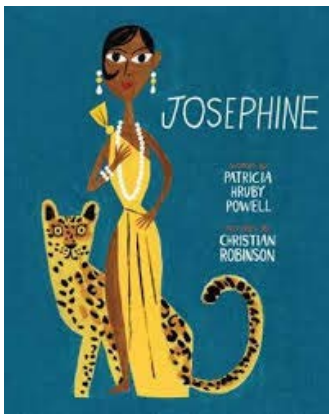
## Non-Fiction Picture Books



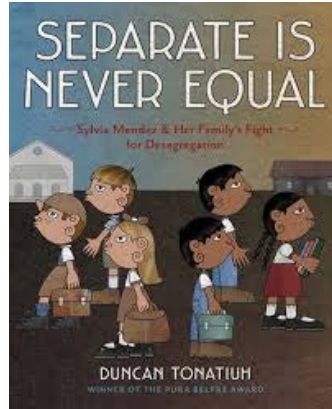
*Infinity and Me* by Kate Hosford  
After the sight of a night sky filled with stars makes 8-year-old Uma feel very small, she asks people how they think about infinity and gets a variety of answers.



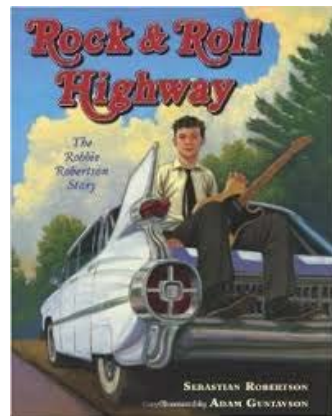
*The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus* by Jen Bryant  
Tells the story of shy, young Peter Mark Roget, who found words and books to be better companions than people—and how he created lists of words that eventually became his famous thesaurus.



*Josephine* by Patricia Hruby Powell  
Tells the story of Josephine Baker, a passionate performer and civil rights advocate, and how she worked her way from the slums of St. Louis to the grandest stages in the world.



*Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation* by Duncan Tonatiuh  
Years before the Brown v. Board ruling, Sylvia Mendez, an 8-year-old girl, played an instrumental role in Mendez v. Westminster, the landmark desegregation case of 1946 in California.



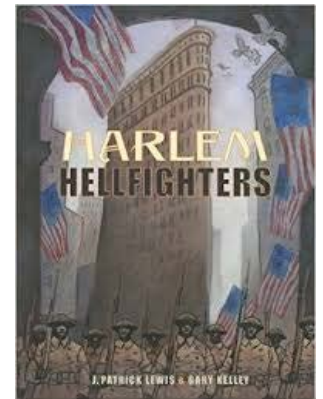
*Rock & Roll Highway* by Sebastian Robertson  
Robbie Robertson is given a guitar at the age of 9 while visiting his grandparents at their Mohawk Reservation. He goes on to become a rock and roll legend with The Band.



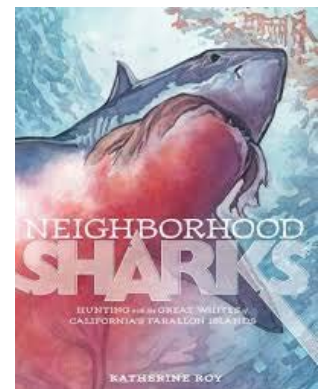
*A Boy and a Jaguar* by Alan Rabinowitz  
As a child, Alan struggles with a speech disorder; he can only speak fluently when communicating with animals. He resolves to find his voice to be their advocate.



*Mr. Ferris and His Wheel* by Kathryn Gibbs Davis  
Tells the story of how the engineer George Ferris invented the famous carnival attraction for the renowned 1893 Chicago World's Fair. Detailed pictures help teach how the structure worked.



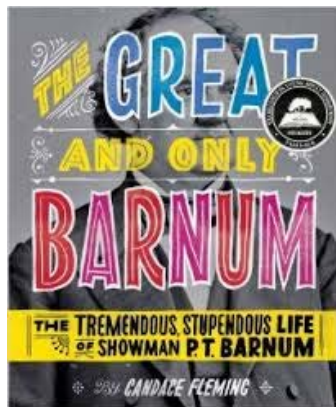
*Harlem Hellfighters* by J. Patrick Lewis  
A regiment of African American soldiers from Harlem journeys across the Atlantic to fight alongside the French in World War I, inspiring a continent with their brand of jazz music.



*Neighborhood Sharks* by Katherine Roy  
An up-close look at the ocean's most fearsome and famous predator and the scientists who study them, just 26 miles from the Golden Gate Bridge.



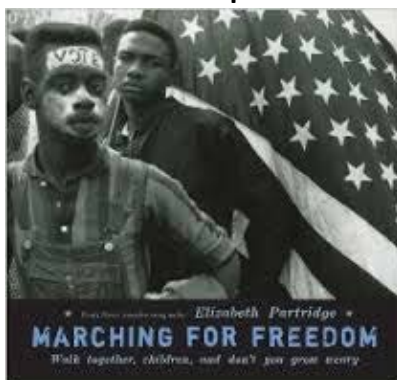
## Non-Fiction Chapter Books



### *The Great and Only Barnum*

by Candace Fleming

Tells of the tremendous, stupendous life of P.T. Barnum, and invites readers to visit his American Museum and learn the secrets behind Barnum's persona.



### *Marching For Freedom*

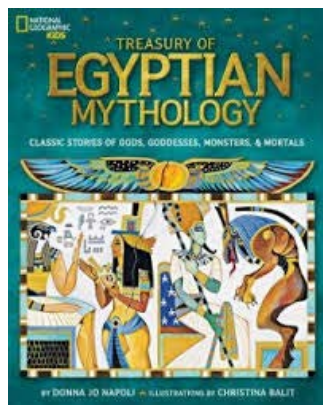
by Elizabeth Partridge

Recounts the three months of protest that took place before the landmark march from Selma to Montgomery to secure Black people the right to vote. Includes primary-source photos and song lyrics.



### *El Deafo* by Cece Bell

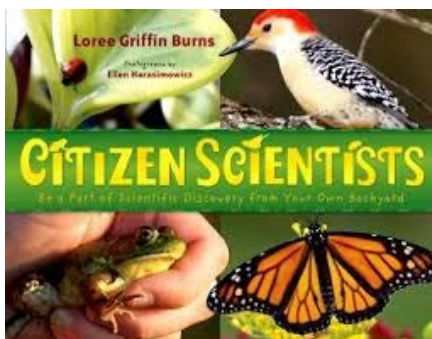
In this graphic memoir, Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and tells how she developed the alter-ego El Deafo, a superhero, to deal with the challenges of everyday life.



### *Treasury of Egyptian Mythology*

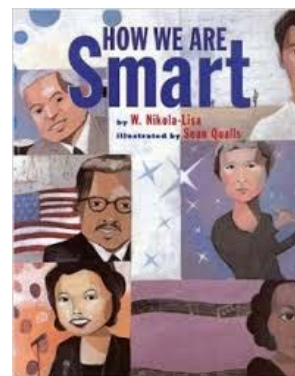
by Donna Jo Napoli

Stories of the Sun God Ra, the Sphinx, and numerous pharaohs and queens mix with historical, cultural, and geographic facts and colorful illustrations.



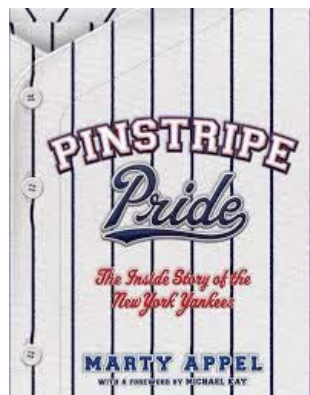
### *Citizen Scientists* by Loree Griffin Burns

Shows young readers how a citizen scientist learns about butterflies, birds, frogs, and ladybugs. Anyone can get involved in gathering data for ongoing, actual scientific studies such as the Audubon Bird Count and FrogWatch USA.



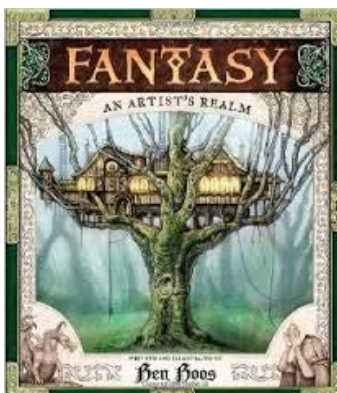
### *How We Are Smart* by W. Nikola-Lisa

Poetry, prose, and quotes celebrate the achievements of a diverse group of people who illustrate Dr. Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences.



### *Pinstripe Pride* by Marty Appel

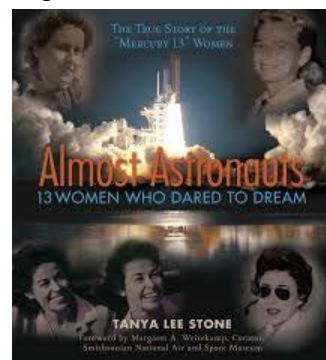
Tells the complete story of the Yankees, from Babe Ruth to Derek Jeter--with 27 World Championships in between. Apologies to Mets fans.



### *Fantasy: An Artist's Realm*

by Ben Boos

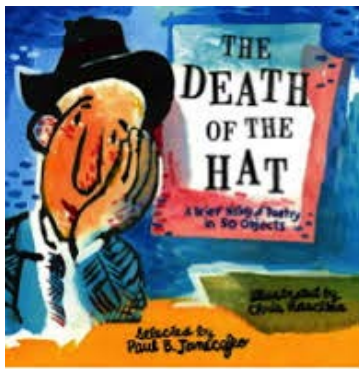
The imaginary land of New Perigord is brought to life in stunning, detailed imagery.



### *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream* by Tanya Lee Stone

13 women proved that they were not only as tough as the toughest man but also brave enough to challenge the government. They were blocked by prejudice, jealousy, and the scrawled note of one of the most powerful men in Washington.

## Poetry



### *The Death of the Hat*

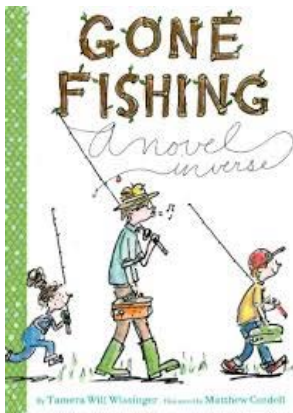
by Paul B. Janeczko

A collection, drawn from different historical eras, of poems inspired by objects—earthly and celestial—that reflect the time in which each poet lived.



### *Beastly Verse* by JooHee Yoon

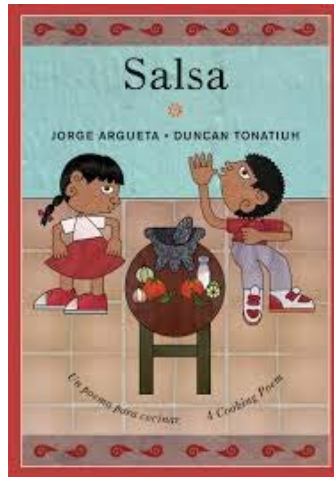
16 animal poems about elephants, hummingbirds, yaks, and more, are paired with zany, colorful illustrations.



### *Gone Fishing*

by Tamara Will Wissinger

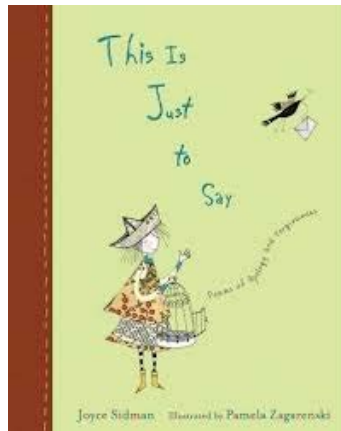
In this novel told through poems, nine-year-old Sam loves fishing with his dad, so when his pesky little sister horns in on their fishing trip, he is none too pleased.



### *Salsa: Une Poema Para Cocinar*

by Jorge Argueta

A young boy and his sister gather the ingredients for salsa and grind them up in a molcajete, just like their ancestors used to do, singing and dancing all the while.



### *This Is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness* by Joyce Sidman

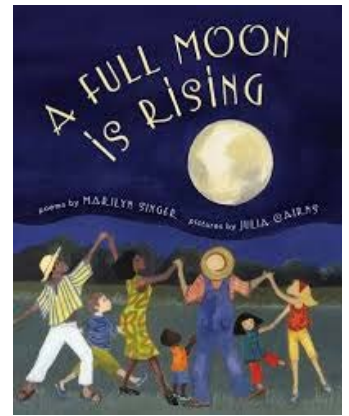
In haiku, pantouns, two-part poems, snippets, and rhymes, Mrs. Merz's class writes of crushes, overbearing parents, loving and losing pets, and more.



### *Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich*

by Adam Rex

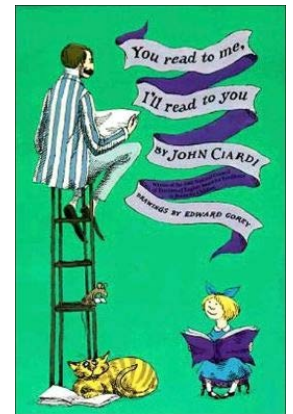
Stories in verse about the monster-sized problems Dracula, Wolfman, Bigfoot, and other monsters have.



### *A Full Moon is Rising*

by Marilyn Singer

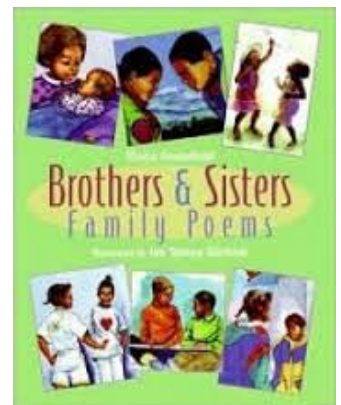
Poems celebrate the full moon as seen from different spots throughout the world, from New York to Israel to Hong Kong to the International Space Station.



### *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You*

by John Ciardi

Poetry for parents to read to their children and simpler poems for children to read to their parents.



### *Brothers and Sisters*

by Eloise Greenfield

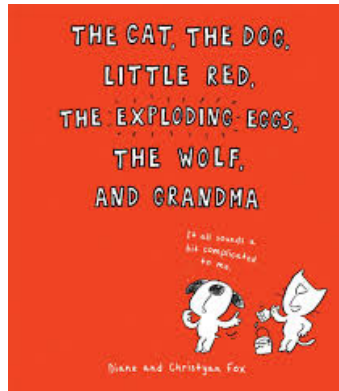
Poems explore the range of emotions siblings experience with each other, from love to hurt to fun to frustration.



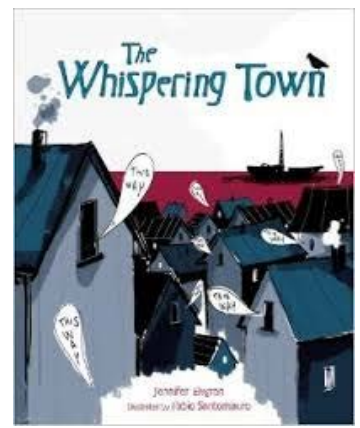
## Fiction Picture Books



**Hana Hashimoto** by Chieri Uegaki  
Hana signs up to play the violin at her school's talent show, even though she's only had three lessons. Her brothers mock her, but her grandfather provides the inspiration she needs to triumph.



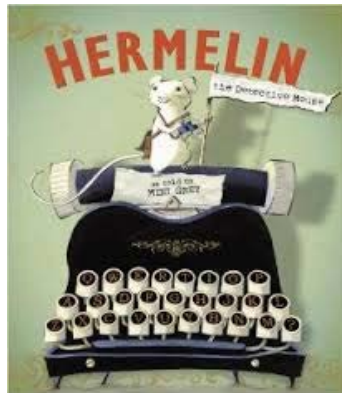
**The Cat, the Dog, Little Red, the Exploding Eggs, the Wolf, and Grandma** by Diane Fox  
Cat tries to read the story of Little Red Riding Hood aloud, but Dog keeps interrupting with silly questions.



**The Whispering Town**  
by Jennifer Riesmeyer Elvgren  
In Denmark during World War II, young Annet, her parents, and their neighbors help a Jewish family hide from Nazi soldiers until it is safe for them to leave Annet's basement.



**Hansel & Gretel** by Neil Gaiman  
Stark language and creepy pictures bring to life the classic tale of two abandoned children who come upon a gingerbread cottage inhabited by a cruel woman who wants to eat them.



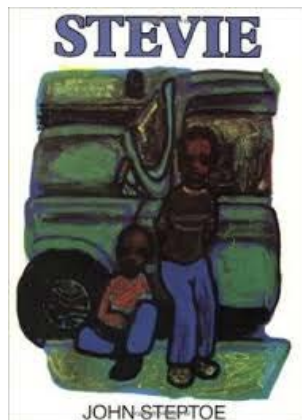
**Hermelin, The Detective Mouse**  
by Mini Grey  
A mouse with typewriting skills secretly helps the people of Offley Street find lost items, and eventually saves the day.



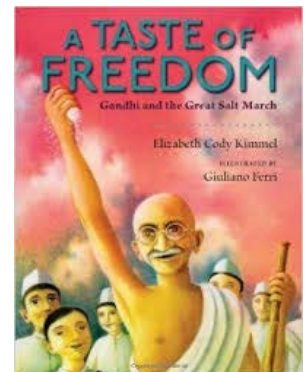
**The Z Was Zapped**  
By Chris Van Allsburg  
Shows how A was in an avalanche, B was badly bitten, C was cut to ribbons, and the other letters of the alphabet suffered similar mishaps.



**The Shark King** by R. Kikuo Johnson  
Retells a classic Hawaiian folktale about Nanaue, born of human mother and shark father, who struggles to find his place in a village of humans.

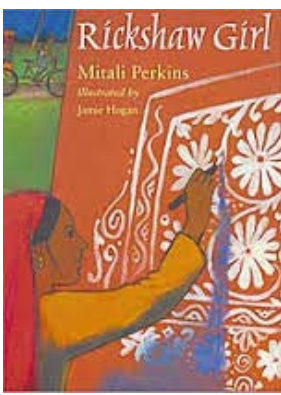


**Stevie** by John Steptoe  
Robert wishes Stevie, a house guest, would go away--but when he does, Robert finds himself missing Stevie.

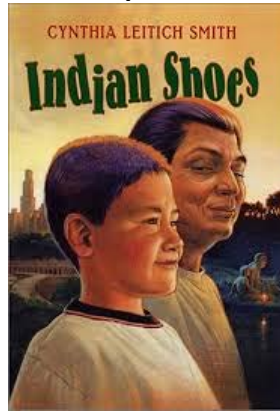


**A Taste of Freedom**  
by Elizabeth Cody Kimmel  
An old man in India recalls how, when he was a young boy, he got his first taste of freedom as he and his brother joined the great Mahatma Gandhi on a march.

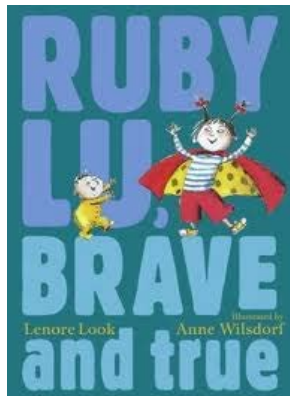
## Fiction Chapter Books



*Rickshaw Girl* by Mitali Perkins  
In her Bangladesh village, ten-year-old Naimi excels at painting designs called alpanas, but to help her impoverished family financially she would have to be a boy—or disguise herself as one.



*Indian Shoes* by Cynthia Leitich Smith  
Ray Halfmoon, a Seminole-Cherokee boy living with his grandfather, finds creative solutions to problems ranging from a terrible haircut to a power outage that threatens their neighbors' pets.



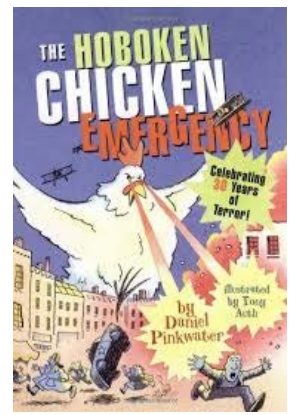
*Ruby Lu, Brave and True* by Lenore Look  
Almost-eight-year-old Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks, and has adventures with old and new friends.



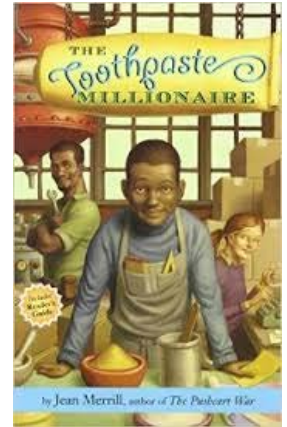
*Princess* by Jeremy Whitley  
Princess Adrienne is tired of being locked in a tower. She escapes from the tower with the help of her guardian dragon, Sparky, and sets off on a quest to rescue her sisters, who are suffering the same fate.



*Looking for Bapu* by Anjali Banerjee  
When his beloved grandfather dies, eight-year-old Anu feels that his spirit is near and will stop at nothing to bring him back.

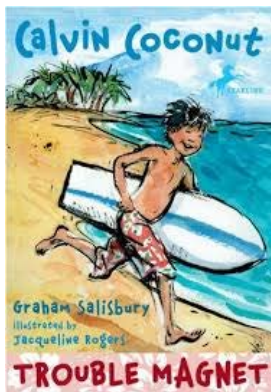


*The Hoboken Chicken Emergency* by Daniel Pinkwater  
Arthur goes to pick up the turkey for Thanksgiving dinner, but comes back with a 266-pound chicken.

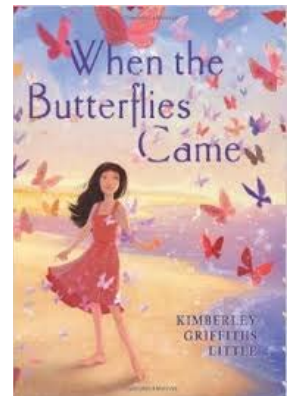


*The Toothpaste Millionaire* by Jean Merrill

A young girl describes how her school friend made over a million dollars by creating and marketing a cheaper and better toothpaste.



*Calvin Coconut: Trouble Magnet* by Graham Salisbury  
Nine-year-old Calvin catches the attention of the school bully on the day before he starts fourth grade, while at home, the unfriendly, 15-year-old daughter of his mother's best friend has taken over his room.



*When the Butterflies Came* by Kimberley Griffiths Little  
Tara is grieving for her grandmother, and her family is falling apart around her, but it seems that grandma has preplanned an elaborate itinerary for her to follow which will lead her into danger—and everywhere she turns, butterflies follow.