

## PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION

### Purpose

CORE COLLECTIONS is designed to serve a number of purposes:

**As an aid in purchasing.** Core Collections is designed to assist in the selection and ordering of titles. Summaries and evaluative excerpts are provided for each title along with information regarding the publisher, ISBN, page count, grade level, and publication year. In evaluating the suitability of a work, each library will want to consider the needs of the unique patron base it serves.

**As an aid in verification of information.** For this purpose, bibliographical information is provided in the list of works. Entries also include recommended subject headings based on NoveList's proprietary subject vocabulary. Notes may describe editions available and other content; for the most up-to-date metadata, please consult the EBSCOhost database.

**As an aid in curriculum or programming support.** The classified approach, subject indexing, annotations, and evaluative excerpts are helpful in identifying materials appropriate for classroom support, for book discussions, and other programming.

**As an aid in collection maintenance.** Information about titles available on a subject facilitates decisions to rebind, replace, or discard items. If a book has been demoted to the Supplemental or Weeded recommendation levels and therefore no longer appears in the print abridgment of the database, that demotion is not intended as a sign that the book is no longer valuable or that it should necessarily be weeded from your library's collection.

**As an aid in professional development or instruction.** The Core Collection is useful in courses or professional training that deal with collection development and readers' advisory; it may also be used in course that deal with literature and book selection, especially in the creation of bibliographies and reading lists.

**As an aid to readers' advisory.** Every title in this Core Collection is a recommended work and can be given with confidence to a user who expresses a need based on topic, genre, etc. Readers' advisory and user service are further aided by series and awards information, by the descriptive summaries and evaluative excerpts from trusted review sources, and by the subject headings in the Title and Subject Index applied by professional metadata librarians at NoveList.

### Organization

CHILDREN'S CORE COLLECTION is presented in a single volume. As in previous editions, the CHILDREN'S CORE COLLECTION contains graphic novels: most fiction graphic novels can be found in 741.5, while most non-fiction graphic novels are found either in the biography section (B) or under specific Dewey headings.

This Core Collection is organized into two parts: a Classified Collection and an Author, Title, and Subject Index.

#### Part 1. Classified Collection

The Classified Collection is arranged with nonfiction books first, classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification in numerical order from 000 to 999. Individual biographies are classed at B and follow the Dewey Classified section. Two sections follow the biographies: Easy Books (E), consisting primarily of picture books of interest to

CHILDREN'S CORE COLLECTION  
TWENTY-FIFTH EDITION

Grades: 3 4 5 6

1. Vietnam 2. Pourquoi tales  
ISBN 0152242007

LC 00008300

An illustrated collection of Vietnamese folktales with explanatory notes following each story.

"This handsome volume gathers six well-told traditional tales not readily available elsewhere. . . . [The book is] greatly enhanced by Hyman's strong color work, romantic sensibility, and dramatic characterizations." *School Library Journal*.

**Gavin, Jamila**

**School** for princes; stories from the Panchatantra / retold by Jamila Gavin; illustrated by Bee Willey. Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2012. 64 p.

Grades: 4 5 6

1. Princes 2. Arrogance 3. Sages 4. Wisdom 5. Fables  
ISBN 9781845079901

A collection of centuries-old fables, including the stories a wise old man told to some young princes to help them grow up to be sensible men.

**Goldman, Judy, 1955-**

**Whiskers, tails & wings;** animal folktales from Mexico / Judy Goldman; illustrated by Fabricio VandenBroeck. Charlesbridge, c2013. 58 p.

Grades: 2 3 4 5

1. Indians of Mexico 2. Animals  
ISBN 9781580893725

LC 2012024636

Retells animal folktales from five indigenous peoples of Mexico, including the Tarahumara tale in which a puma meets a grasshopper, and provides information on the culture of each indigenous people.

**Gregorowski, Christopher**

**Fly, eagle, fly!;** an African fable / retold by Christopher Gregorowski; pictures by Niki Daly. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2000. 1 v. (unpaged)

Grades: K 1 2 3

1. Eagles 2. Farmers 3. Self-fulfillment 4. Fables  
ISBN 0689823983

LC 98045302

A farmer finds an eagle and raises it to behave like a chicken, until a friend helps the eagle learn to find its rightful place in the sky.

"This is a powerful celebration of the human spirit and its need for independence. It is beautifully complemented by watercolors, rich in the vibrant tones of earth and sky." *Booklist*.

**Grifalconi, Ann, 1929-2020**

The **village** of round and square houses; Ann Grifalconi. Little, Brown, 1986 1 v. (unpaged)

Grades: K 1 2 3

1. Grandmother and child 2. Villages 3. Storytelling 4. Volcanoes 5. Granddaughters  
ISBN 9780316328623

LC 85024150

A grandmother explains to her listeners why in their village on the side of a volcano the men live in square houses and the women in round ones.

"The author illustrates her own tale, told to her by a young girl who grew up in Tos. The resting purple volcano, suddenly erupting into orange; the eerie orange sun; the villagers covered with ash; the fiery colored skies; the dense, lush jungles all are captured beautifully by Grifalconi's art." *Publishers Weekly*.

398.2

**Hamilton, Virginia, 1936-2002**

★ The **people** could fly; American Black folktales / Virginia Hamilton; illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. A. A. Knopf, 1985. 178 p.

Grades: 5 6 7 8

1. Freedom 2. Slavery  
ISBN 0375804714

LC 84025020

Coretta Scott King Award, Author Category, 1986.

Retold African-American folktales of animals, fantasy, the supernatural, and desire for freedom, born of the sorrow of the slaves, but passed on in hope.

"The author has been successful in her efforts to write these tales in the Black English of the slave storytellers. Her scholarship is unobtrusive and intelligible. She has provided a glossary and notes concerning the origins of the tales and the different versions in other cultures. Handsomely illustrated." *New York Times Book Review*.

**Hamilton, Virginia, 1936-2002**

★ The **people** could fly the picture book; Virginia Hamilton; illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon. Knopf, 2004. 40 p.

Grades: 3 4 5 6

1. Slavery 2. African Americans 3. Freedom 4. Magic 5. Prejudice 6. United States -- History -- 19th century  
ISBN 0375824057

LC 2003025579

In this retelling of a folktale, a group of slaves, unable to bear their sadness and starvation any longer, calls upon the African magic that allows them to fly away.

"Familiar as it is, we have never seen the story like this. Not with all these evocative images, vivid, bright and moving, leading us on a journey through territory we thought we knew." *New York Times Book Review*.

**Han, Suzanne Crowder, 1953-**

The **rabbit's** tail; a story from Korea / Suzanne Crowder Han; illustrated by Richard Wehrman. Henry Holt, 1999. 1 v. (unpaged)

Grades: K 1 2 3

1. Tigers 2. Rabbits 3. Tails  
ISBN 9780805045802

LC 9816627

Tiger is afraid of being eaten by a fearsome dried persimmon, but when Rabbit tries to convince him he is wrong, Rabbit loses his long tail.

"The tale is vividly retold. . . . An amusing entertainment about misperceptions." *School Library Journal*.

**Hartman, Bob, 1955-**

The **lion** storyteller book of animal tales; animal tales old and new especially for reading aloud / Bob Hartman, Krisztina Kallai Nagy. Trafalgar Square Books, 2011. 128 p.

Grades: K 1 2 3

1. Animals  
ISBN 9780745961316

A varied collection of more than 35 animal stories blends familiar stories with little-known tales from such diverse sources as La Fontaine, Aesop and Uncle Remus. —all meant to inspire children to think about right and wrong.

"Hartman vibrantly retells and updates 36 animal fables hailing from ancient Greece, Africa, Japan, India, and other world cultures. The selections include trickster, morality, and animal-origin tales . . . along with a few original stories. Nagy's bright and friendly illustrations mimic Hartman's descriptive but accessible tone. A thoughtful collection that might inspire some readers to create animal stories of their own." *Publishers Weekly*.

ing, grooming, and riding is detailed, accurate, and accessible. . . . The photographs are beautiful and in sharp focus. . . . This book is a must-have for young horse lovers.” School Library Journal.

**Gibbons, Gail**

**Horses!**; by Gail Gibbons. Holiday House, c2003. 1 v. (unpaged)  
Grades: K 1 2 3 **636.1**  
1. Horses 2. Animals 3. Hoofed mammals  
ISBN 0823417034

LC 2003041683

Presents information on horses, including their physical characteristics, behavior, and how to ride a horse.

“Attractive, full-color labeled illustrations fill every page, with many expanding on a particular point in the main text. . . . The book’s accessible format will attract browsers as well as legions of young would-be equestrians.” Booklist.

**Jazynka, Kitson**

**Gallop!**; 100 fun facts about horses / Kitson Jazynka. National Geographic, 2018 48 p.  
Grades: 2 3 4 **636.1**  
1. Horses  
ISBN 9781426332388

LC 2018031319

Information about horses for children learning to read.

**Lewin, Ted**

★ **Stable**; Ted Lewin. Flash Point, 2010. 1 v. (unpaged)  
Grades: K 1 2 3 **636.1**  
1. Kensington Stables (Firm) 2. 19th century 3. Horses -- Transportation 4. Stables 5. Horses 6. Brooklyn, New York City 7. Prospect Park, Brooklyn, New York City  
ISBN 9781596434677

LC 2009044431

Presents the history of Kensington Stables, one of the last remaining stables in New York City.

“Lewin conveys the spirit of a Brooklyn institution through sumptuously detailed, luminous watercolors. Kensington Stables, a relic from the days when horses provided necessary transportation, shelters 37 animals, large and small. . . . The straightforward, present-tense prose conveys the central point that horses are important to the community, and they should be preserved.” Kirkus.

**Lomberg, Michelle**

**Horse**; Michelle Lomberg. Weigl Pub. Inc., 2009. 32 p. My pet  
Grades: 3 4 5 **636.1**  
1. Horses 2. Hoofed mammals 3. Pets 4. Livestock  
ISBN 9781605960920

“With clear, formal writing, and extensive coverage . . . [this title is] useful for reports. . . . Numerous color photographs, charts . . . and question-and-answer boxes supplement the [text].” School Library Journal.

**Mack, Gail**

**Horses**; Gail Mack. Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, c2010. 48 p.  
Grades: 2 3 4 **636.1**  
1. Horses  
ISBN 9780761441472

LC 2008037262

Describes the characteristics and behavior of pet horses, also discussing their physical appearance and place in history. —Provided by publisher.

**Matzke, Ann H.**

★ **Mini horse**; Ann Matzke. Rourke Pub. Group, 2015 32 p. You have a pet what?!  
Grades: 3 4 5 6 **636.1**

1. Miniature horses 2. Pets 3. Horses 4. Miniature horses as pets  
ISBN 9781634304344

“Well written, with a clean design, these titles will be useful for educators and popular with potential pet owners.” School Library Journal.

**Niven, Felicia Lowenstein**

**Learning** to care for a horse; Felicia Lowenstein Niven. Bailey Books/Enslow, c2011. 48 p. Beginning pet care with American Humane  
Grades: 2 3 4 **636.1**

1. Horses 2. Horse care 3. Children and horses 4. Ponies  
ISBN 9780766031968

LC 2008048961

Readers will learn how to choose a horse and care for a horse, from what kind of horse is best for them and how long they live. —Provided by publisher.

**Riggs, Kate**

**Wild horses**; Kate Riggs. Creative Education, 2017, c2015. 24 p. Amazing animals  
Grades: K 1 2 3 **636.1**

1. Wild horses 2. Horses 3. Mammals 4. Animals 5. Animal behavior  
ISBN 9781608188703

“The oversize books in the Amazing Animal series are notable for their extraordinary photographs. From the large close-ups on the cover to the 10 or so photos inside, these pictures are heads above most series photography.” Booklist.

**Rockwood, Leigh**

**Horses are smart!**; Leigh Rockwood. PowerKids Press, 2010. 24 p. Super smart animals  
Grades: 2 3 4 5 **636.1**

1. Horses -- Psychology 2. Animal intelligence 3. Hoofed mammals  
ISBN 9781435893993

LC 2009033096

“Bright, colorful, captioned photographs complement the text. Rockwood does an excellent job of simplifying the information without making it choppy or boring.” Library Media Connection.

**Scholastic Inc. (COR)**

**Horses**; the definitive catalog of horse and pony breeds Scholastic, 2019. 208 p.  
Grades: 3 4 5 6 **636.1**

1. Horse breeds 2. Horses -- History 3. Horses  
ISBN 9781338360813

LC 2018277590

This book takes a trip around the world, visiting more than 140 breeds of horses and breeds in their habitats. It explores their history, looks at their unique characteristics, and examines their adaptations to their environment. This is an essential book for every horse-owner and horse-lover.

**Simon, Seymour**

★ **Horses**; by Seymour Simon. Harper Collins Publishers, 2017, c2006. 1 v. (unpaged)  
Grades: 2 3 4 **636.1**

1. Horses 2. Animals 3. Hoofed mammals  
ISBN 9780064462563

LC 2004030392

Grades: 4 5 6 7

1. Lebanon  
ISBN 9781612286532

LC 2014008837

Describes the geography, history, culture, and social life of the nation of Lebanon.

“Understanding Lebanon Today discusses the first prosperous civilization, established by the Phoenicians, and the sectarian tension that currently threatens peace. Extensive back matter includes a recipe, craft, time line, glossary, and area facts.” Booklist.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

**Sheehan, Sean, 1951-**

**Lebanon;** Sean Sheehan & Zawiah Abdul Latif. Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2008. 144 p. Cultures of the world

Grades: 5 6 7 8 **956.92**

1. Lebanon. 2. Middle East.  
ISBN 9780761420811

LC 2006101735

Provides comprehensive information on the geography, history, wildlife, governmental structure, economy, cultural diversity, peoples, religion, and culture of Lebanon. —Provided by publisher.

**956.94 Palestine; Israel**

**Saul, Laya**

**We visit Israel;** by Laya Saul. Mitchell Lane, 2011. 64 p. Your land and my land: the Middle East

Grades: 4 5 6 7 8 **956.94**

1. Israel -- History. 2. Israel -- Social life and customs.  
ISBN 9781584159575

LC 2011024706

Explores Israel, highlighting its history, people, and customs.

**Young, Emma**

**Israel;** Emma Young; Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, George Kanazi, and Avi-va Haramish, consultants. National Geographic, c2008. 64 p. National Geographic countries of the world

Grades: 4 5 6 7 **956.94**

1. Israel 2. Middle East  
ISBN 9781426302589

A basic overview of the history, geography, climate, and culture of Israel.

**956.9405 Israel -- 1948-**

**Ellis, Deborah, 1960-**

**Three wishes;** Palestinian and Israeli children speak / Deborah Ellis. Greenwood Books, c2004. 110 p.

Grades: 5 6 7 8 **956.9405**

1. Arab-Israeli conflict 2. Children 3. Teenagers 4. Interethnic conflict 5. Social conflict 6. Israel -- Foreign relations 7. Palestine -- Foreign relations  
ISBN 0888995547

LC 2006386925

Through in-depth interviews with young adults living in the midst of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the experiences, dreams, and sorrows of a diverse group of children from both sides are presented.

“An excellent presentation of a confusing historic struggle, told within a palpable, perceptive and empathetic format.” School Library Journal.

**956.92**

**956.95 Jordan and West Bank**

**Lusted, Marcia Amidon**

**Understanding Palestine today;** Marcia Amidon Lusted. Mitchell Lane Publishers, 2015 63 p.

Grades: 4 5 6 7 **956.95**

1. Palestine  
ISBN 9781612286556

LC 2014008838

Introduces Palestine, describing the country’s food, people, culture, and geography.

“Understanding Palestine Today explains the area’s legacy as a sacred religious crossroad, the creation of Israel, and why violence continues between Israel and Palestine. Extensive back matter includes a recipe, craft, time line, glossary, and area facts.” Booklist.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

**Sonneborn, Liz**

**Jordan;** Liz Sonneborn. Children’s Press, 2019 144 p. Enchantment of the World

Grades: 5 6 7 8 **956.95**

1. Jordan  
ISBN 9780531126981

Describes the geography, wildlife, history, government, economy, religion, and culture of Jordan.

**958.1 Afghanistan**

**Ali, Sharifah Enayat, 1943-**

**Afghanistan;** Sharifah Enayat Ali. Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2006. 144 p. Cultures of the world

Grades: 5 6 7 8 9 **958.1**

1. Afghanistan 2. South Asia  
ISBN 0761420649

LC 2005034789

Provides comprehensive information on the geography, history, governmental structure, economy, cultural diversity, peoples, religion, and culture of Afghanistan. —Provided by publisher.

**Bjorklund, Ruth**

**Afghanistan;** by Ruth Bjorklund. Children’s Press, c2012. 144 p. Enchantment of the world

Grades: 5 6 7 8 **958.1**

1. Afghanistan. 2. South Asia.  
ISBN 9780531253502

LC 2011013627

Describes the geography, history, government, economy, people, religion, and daily life of Afghanistan.

**Bjorklund, Ruth**

**Afghanistan;** Ruth Bjorklund. Children’s Press, 2018. 144 p.

Grades: 5 6 7 8 **958.1**

1. Afghanistan  
ISBN 9780531235874

LC 2017025769

Explores the geography, people, national characteristics, and wild-life of Afghanistan.

**Fordyce, Deborah**

**Afghanistan;** written by Deborah Fordyce. Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, c2011. 48 p. Welcome to my country (Marshall Cavendish Benchmark)

appropriately sized boxes: a cat, a dog, and a miniature horse. The new friends play in the snow, make Christmas cookies, and finally snuggle in bed together after a long, wonderful day. This wordless story [is] told in full and half-page illustrations. . . . It's a sure bet that this supersweet yet cozy story will have kids adding a cat, a dog, and a horse—REAL ones—to their Christmas lists." *School Library Journal*.

**Dopirak, Kate**

**Twinkle**, twinkle, little car. Kate Dopirak; illustrated by Mary Peterson. 40 p.

Grades: PreK K 1 **E**  
1. Automobiles 2. Bedtime 3. Transportation 4. Stories in rhyme  
5. Bedtime stories  
ISBN 9781481488037

LC 2017014891

In this twist on the classic poem, a little red car takes a final cruise around town before going to bed, beeping good-night to all his vehicular friends.

**Doremus, Gaetan, 1976-**

**Bear** despair. Gaetan Doremus. Enchanted Lion Books, 2012. 32 pages:

Grades: PreK K 1 2 **E**  
1. Stealing 2. Teddy bears 3. Bears 4. Animals 5. Stories without words 6. Translations -- French to English  
ISBN 9781592701254

A bear gobbles up a wolf, a lion, and an elephant after each animal steals the bear's teddy bear and refuses to return it.

**Empty** fridge. Gaetan Doremus. Wilkins Farago, 2012. 40 pages:

Grades: PreK K 1 **E**  
1. Apartments 2. Sharing 3. Dinners and dining 4. Neighbors 5. Neighborliness 6. Translations -- French to English  
ISBN 9780987109934

Every resident in an apartment building has been too busy to buy groceries, and when dinnertime comes around, the neighbors come together with their meager pantry offerings to make a tasty communal dish.

**Dormer, Frank W.**

★ **Firefighter** duckies! words and pictures by Frank W. Dormer. Atheneum, [2017] 40 p.

Grades: PreK K 1 **E**  
1. Fire fighters 2. Rescue work 3. Ducks 4. Animals 5. Humorous stories  
ISBN 9781481460903

LC 2015051070

Firefighter Duckies fill a busy day with everything from rescuing a whale that is stuck in a tree to helping a monster who is having trouble seeing.

The **obstinate** pen. Frank W. Dormer. Henry Holt, 2011. 32 p.

Grades: K 1 2 3 **E**  
1. Pens 2. Obstinacy 3. Writing 4. Insults 5. Uncle and nephew  
ISBN 9780805092950

LC 2010031794

Uncle Flood is very pleased with his new pen until he tries to write with it and finds that it writes only what it wants to for him, and the series of people who try it after him, until finally his nephew Horace tries something new.

**Socksquatch**. written and illustrated by Frank W. Dormer. Henry Holt, 2010. 32 p.

Grades: PreK K 1 **E**

1. Monsters 2. Castles 3. Searching  
ISBN 9780805089523

LC 2009027413

Socksquatch tries to find a sock to warm his cold foot.

"The palette contrasts warm-toned monsters with soothing backgrounds of aqua or plain white, and Dormer uses scrawled ink motion and texture lines to great effect to add movement and dimension to the artwork. While youngsters will definitely enjoy listening to this one in a crowd, don't be surprised if they borrow it afterwards to reenact with a friend." *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*.

**Dorros, Alex**

**Numero uno**. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2007. 32 p.

Grades: K 1 2 3 **E**  
1. Strong men 2. Gifted men 3. Architects 4. Construction workers 5. Boys 6. Mexico.  
ISBN 0810957647

"The battle between brains and brawn is entertainingly pitched here. . . . The Spanish dialogue is simple . . . and punctuates the story-hour-ready text with verve. Guevara's tropically accented pastoral oil paintings provide contrast to the often slapstick goings-on but also do their share of storytelling." *Horn Book*.

**Dorros, Arthur**

★ **Abuela**. by Arthur Dorros; illustrated by Elisa Kleven. Dutton Children's Books, 1991. unpag.

Grades: PreK K 1 2 **E**  
1. Grandmother and granddaughter 2. Hispanic American girls 3. Hispanic American grandmothers 4. Hispanic American senior women 5. Grandmothers 6. New York City  
ISBN 0525447504

LC 90021459

While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City. Includes a glossary of Spanish words and phrases.

"Each illustration is a masterpiece of color, line, and form that will mesmerize youngsters. . . . The smooth text, interspersed with Spanish words and phrases, provides ample context clues, so the glossary, while helpful, is not absolutely necessary." *Booklist*.

**Mama** and me. by Arthur Dorros; illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez. Rayo, 2011. 32 p.

Grades: PreK K 1 2 **E**  
1. Mothers and daughters 2. Hispanic Americans 3. Baking 4. Painting 5. Parent and child  
ISBN 9780060581602

A girl and her mother spend a day together gardening, making cookies, and visiting a neighbor. Includes Spanish words interspersed in the text.

"The first person point of view and smooth integration of informal Spanish terms and phrases provide a comfortable intimacy with the characters, and the vibrant magic realism of the full-page spreads includes elements of street art." *Booklist*.

**Papa** and me. Arthur Dorros; pictures by Rudy Gutierrez. Harper Collins Publishers, c2008. 32 p.:

Grades: K 1 2 3 **E**  
1. Fathers and sons 2. Bilingualism 3. Hispanic Americans 4. Parent and child 5. Families  
ISBN 9780060581565

A bilingual boy and his father, who only speaks Spanish, spend a day together.

and impoverished laborers, while the prison warden's daughter, who is hunting him, uncovers other daunting secrets.

**Sorosiak, Carlie**

**I, Cosmo**; Carlie Sorosiak. Candlewick Press, 2019. 192 p.  
Grades: 3 4 5 6 **Fic**  
1. Boys and dogs 2. Family problems 3. Contests 4. Interracial families 5. Dog shows 6. Stories told by animals  
ISBN 9781536207699  
"Touching, bittersweet, and true, this book will appeal to anyone who has loved a pet." Publishers Weekly.

**Leonard** (my life as a cat); Carlie Sorosiak. Walker Books, 2021, c2020. 244 pages;  
Grades: 4 5 6 **Fic**  
1. Aliens (Non-humanoid) 2. Families 3. Belonging 4. Cats 5. Girls 6. Science fiction  
ISBN 9781536207705  
Rescued by a young girl when a space mission gone wrong strands him on the planet Earth in the form of a cat, Leonard endeavors to make his way back home while his young friend introduces him to the beautiful, confusing world of humans.  
"Often amusing and occasionally moving, this imaginative chapter book is never less than fully engaging." Booklist

**Soto, Gary**

**Baseball** in April and other stories; Gary Soto. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990. 111 p.  
Grades: 5 6 7 8 **Fic**  
1. Mexican American children 2. Mexican American teenagers 3. Hispanic American children 4. Hispanic American teenagers 5. Fresno, California 6. Short stories  
ISBN 015205720X

LC 89036460  
Eleven short stories focusing on the everyday adventures of young Chicanos growing up in Fresno, California.  
"Each story gets at the heart of some aspect of growing up. The insecurities, the embarrassments, the triumphs, the inequities of it all are chronicled with wit and charm. Soto's characters ring true and his knowledge of, and affection for, their shared Mexican-American heritage is obvious and infectious." Voice of Youth Advocates.

**Facts of life**; stories / Gary Soto. Harcourt, c2008. 176 p.;  
Grades: 5 6 7 8 **Fic**  
1. Hispanic American teenagers 2. Growing up 3. Personal conduct 4. Teenagers 5. Preteens 6. Realistic fiction 7. Short stories  
ISBN 0152061819

LC 2007035765  
Children and teens from all walks of life deal with the dramas of growing up.  
"Pivotal moments in the lives of California Latino teens and tweens provide the starting points for Soto's collection of 10 . . . stories. For Letty, it's the realization that her boyfriend loves her money more than he does her; for Hector, it's the announcement of his parents' plan to divorce. . . . Soto's affection and concern for his characters is evident throughout." Booklist.

**Sovern, Megan Jean**

**The meaning** of Maggie; Megan Jean Sovrn. Chronicle Books, 2014 224 p.  
Grades: 4 5 6 7 **Fic**  
1. 1980s 2. Children of sick persons 3. Multiple sclerosis 4. Gifted girls 5. Families 6. Middle schools 7. Realistic fiction  
ISBN 9781452110219

"Maggie's self-realizations come quickly, but her distinct voice, with a snarky superiority that often masks her true vulnerability, creates a character who's not easy to love but tough to forget." Horn Book.

**Speare, Elizabeth George**

**The bronze bow**; Elizabeth George Speare. Houghton Mifflin, 1971, c1961. 255 p.  
Grades: 6 7 8 9 **Fic**  
1. Jesus Christ 2. Revenge 3. Personal conduct 4. Compassion 5. Eighteen-year-old men 6. Zealots (Jewish party) 7. Palestine -- History -- To 70 C.E. 8. Bible novels  
ISBN 0395137195

LC 61010640  
Newbery Medal, 1962.  
When the Romans brutally kill Daniel bar Jamin's father, the young Palestinian searches for a leader to drive them out, but comes to realize that love may be a more powerful weapon than hate.  
"Daniel had sworn vengeance against the Romans who had killed his parents, and he had become one of a band of outlaws. . . . Each time he saw the Rabbi Jesus, the youth was drawn to his cause; at last he resolved his own conflict by giving up his hatred and, as a follower of the Master, accepting his enemies. The story has drama and pace, fine characterization, and colorful background detail." Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books.

★ **The witch** of Blackbird Pond; Elizabeth George Speare. Houghton, 1958. 249 p.  
Grades: 6 7 8 9 **Fic**  
1. Colonial America (1600-1775) 2. 18th century 3. Puritans -- History -- 18th century 4. Independence (Personal quality) 5. Witchcraft 6. Prejudice 7. Connecticut -- History -- Colonial period, 1600-1775 8. United States -- History -- Colonial period, 1600-1775 9. Historical fiction 10. Classics  
ISBN 0395071143

LC 58011063  
Newbery Medal, 1959.  
A young woman brought up in Barbados comes to live with her uncle in Connecticut, and finds their Puritan way of life difficult after her unconventional upbringing.

**Spillett, Tasha, 1988-**

**I sang you down** from the stars; by Tasha Spillett-Summer; art by Michaela Goade. Little, Brown and Company, 2021. 32 pages  
Grades: PreK K 1 2 **Fic**  
1. Infants 2. First Nations (Canada) 3. Maternal love 4. Mother and child 5. New baby in family  
ISBN 9780316493161

A Native American woman describes how she loved her child before it was born and, throughout her pregnancy, gathered a bundle of gifts to welcome the newborn.  
"Caldecott Medalist Goade (who is Tlingit) contributes enchantingly expansive, star-stippled landscapes done in watercolor and mixed media, with a semi-translucent ribbon of stars tracing the connection between 'all living things.' A tender celebration of parenthood that will resonate with Native and non-Native readers alike." Publishers Weekly

**Spinelli, Eileen**

**Where I live**; by Eileen Spinelli; illustrated by Matt Phelan. Dial Books for Young Readers, c2007. 112 p.  
Grades: 1 2 3 4 **Fic**  
1. Children of unemployed parents 2. Girl poets 3. Emotions in girls 4. Coping in girls 5. Creativity in girls 6. Realistic fiction 7. Novels in verse  
ISBN 9780803731226

CHILDREN'S CORE COLLECTION  
TWENTY-FIFTH EDITION

McQuinn, A. My friend Jamal	E	Yee, W. H. Hammy and Gerbee	Fic
McQuinn, A. My friend Mei Jing	E	<b>BEST FRIENDS -- DEATH</b>	
Meddour, W. Lubna and Pebble	E	Benjamin, A. The thing about jellyfish	E
Medina, M. Evelyn Del Rey is moving away	E	Mbalia, K. Tristan Strong punches a hole in the sky	Fic
Messner, K. Marty McGuire	Fic	Best friends and drama queens. Cabot, M.	Fic
Messner, K. Marty McGuire digs worms!	Fic	Best friends forever. DiCamillo, K.	Fic
Mills, C. Nixie Ness	Fic	Best friends in the universe. Watson, S. E.	E
Neri, G. Tru & Nelle	Fic	Best frints at skrool. Portis, A.	E
Nix, G. Have sword, will travel	Fic	Best frints in the whole universe. Portis, A.	E
Nyeu, T. Squid and Octopus	E	Best in snow. Sayre, A. P.	551.57
O'Connor, B. Wonderland	Fic	The best man. Peck, R.	Fic
Parr, M. Adventures with waffles	E	Best nerds forever. Patterson, J.	Fic
Pasternack, S. Anya and the nightingale	Fic	The best nest. Mueller, D.	E
Patterson, J. Ali Cross	Fic	The best of Iggy. Barrows, A.	Fic
Petruck, R. Boy bites bug	Fic	The best of times. Tang, G.	513.2
Portis, A. Best frints at skrool	E	The best pet of all. LaRochelle, D.	E
Potter, E. The monster detector	E	The best seat in second grade. Kenah, K.	E
Prevost, M. Let's have a dog party!	E	The best story. Spinelli, E.	E
Primavera, E. Louise the big cheese	E	The best thing about kindergarten. Lloyd, J.	E
Pyron, B. Lucky strike	Fic	<b>Best, Cari</b>	
Quintero, I. Ugly Cat & Pablo	Fic	Easy as pie	E
Rash, A. The happy book	E	My three best friends and me, Zulay	E
Reynolds, A. Nerdy Birdy tweets	E	Sally Jean, the Bicycle Queen	E
Rosenberg, L. What James said	E	What's so bad about being an only child?	E
Rosenthal, A. K. Chopsticks	E	<b>BESTIARIES</b>	
Salmieri, D. Bear and wolf	E	Baynes, P. Questionable creatures	398.24
Sarah, L. Big friends	E	Curlee, L. Mythological creatures	292
Schwab, V. City of ghosts	Fic	Peebles, A. Demons & dragons	398.24
Schwab, V. Tunnel of bones	Fic	Peebles, A. Giants and trolls	398
Scieszka, J. Smash! Crash!	E	<b>Bestor, Sheri Mabry</b>	
Seeger, L. V. Dog and Bear	E	Soar high, dragonfly!	595.7
Shaskan, S. Pizza and Taco	741.5	<b>Beswitched.</b> Saunders, K.	Fic
Shea, B. The totally secret secret	E	<b>Beth, Georgia</b>	
Shepherd, A. The boy who lived with dragons	Fic	Discover Mars	523.43
Simon, T. R. The cursed ground	Fic	<b>BETHLEHEM</b>	
Song, M. Donut feed the squirrels	741.5	Castillo, L. Christmas is here	232.92
Soo, K. Jellaby.	741.5	Cotten, C. This is the stable	E
Springstubb, T. What happened on Fox Street	Fic	Crossley-Holland, K. How many miles to Bethle-	
Stead, R. Goodbye stranger	Fic	hem?	232.92
Tan, S. This book is a classic	Fic	Hawthorne, L. Silent night	782.421
Tatulli, M. The big break	741.5	Morpurgo, M. On angel wings	E
Tavares, M. Red and Lulu	E	<b>BETHLEM ROYAL HOSPITAL (LONDON, ENGLAND)</b>	
Tetri, E. Tiger vs. Nightmare	741.5	Edge, C. Twelve minutes to midnight	Fic
Turnage, S. The odds of getting even	Fic	<b>BETHUNE, MARY MCLEOD, 1875-1955</b>	
Vail, R. Well, that was awkward	Fic	McKissack, P. Mary McLeod Bethune	B
Vickers, E. Paper chains	Fic	<b>BETRAYAL</b>	
Wang, J. Stargazing	741.5	Clark, Z. L. The Adventurers Guild	Fic
Ward, L. Don't forget Dexter!	E	Hunter, E. Broken pride	Fic
Watson, S. E. Best friends in the universe	E	Lerangis, P. The tomb of shadows	Fic
Watson, T. The candy caper	Fic	Rosenberg, L. What James said	E
West, J. A storm of wishes	Fic	Rylant, C. A fine white dust	Fic
Wiles, D. Countdown	Fic	Sage, A. Twilight hauntings	Fic
Willems, M. A big guy took my ball!	E	<b>BETS</b>	
Willems, M. The thank you book	E	Rockwell, T. How to eat fried worms	Fic
Willems, M. Waiting is not easy!	E	<b>BETSCH, MAVYNEE</b>	
Wittlinger, E. This means war!	Fic	King, H. T. Saving American Beach	B
Yee, L. Bobby vs. girls (accidentally)	Fic	<b>Betsy Red Hoodie.</b> Levine, G. C.	E