



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MPS READS!

Selections for April, 2020

April is National Poetry Month



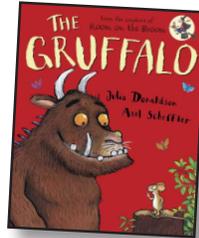
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about the world in which they live; and ignite a passion for reading.

PRESCHOOL

The Gruffalo

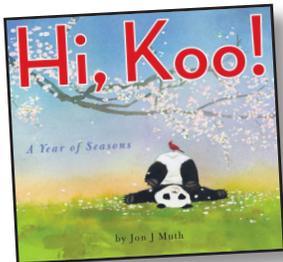
by Julia Donaldson

When Mouse strolls through the woods, he meets a fox, an owl, and a snake who all want to eat him! So Mouse invents a Gruffalo—a monster with “terrible tusks and terrible claws, terrible teeth, and terrible jaws.” Will Mouse’s frightful description scare off his foes? After all, there’s no such thing as a gruffalo . . . is there?



Hi, Koo!: A Year of Seasons

by Jon J. Muth



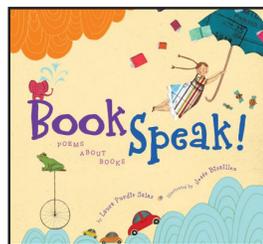
With a featherlight touch and disarming charm, Jon J. Muth and his delightful little panda bear, Koo, challenge readers to stretch their minds and imaginations with 26 haiku about the four seasons.

PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

BookSpeak!: Poems About Books

by Laura Purdie Salas

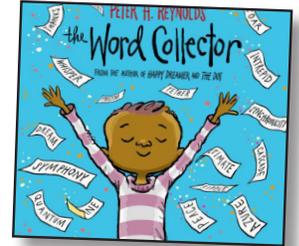
This is a collection of wacky, whimsical poems about books and all the treasures they contain. Characters plead for sequels, book jackets strut their stuff, and we get a sneak peek at the raucous parties in the aisles when all the lights go out at the bookstore.



The Word Collector/El coleccionista de palabras

by Peter H. Reynolds

Some people collect stamps or coins. Some people collect art. And Jerome? Jerome collects words! Jerome discovers the magic of the words all around him—short and sweet words, two-syllable treats, and multisyllable words that sound like little songs. He finds words that connect, transform, and empower.

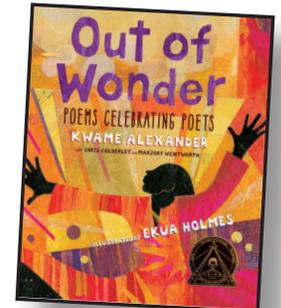


INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets

by Kwame Alexander, Chris Colderley, and Marjory Wentworth

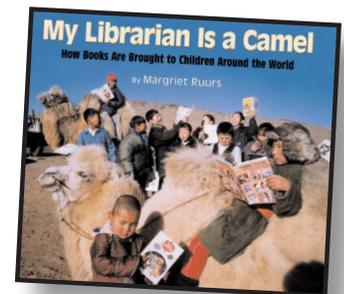
These original poems pay homage to 20 famed poets who have made the authors’ hearts sing and their minds wonder. Stunning mixed-media images by Ekua Holmes complete the celebration and invite the reader to listen, wonder, and perhaps even pick up a pen.



My Librarian Is a Camel/Mi bibliotecaria es un camello

by Margriet Ruurs

Do you get books from a library? Many remote areas of the world have no library buildings, and books are delivered in unusual ways: by bus, boat, elephant, donkey, train, and wheelbarrow. Why would librarians go to the trouble of packing books on the backs of elephants? As one librarian in Azerbaijan says, “Books are as important to us as air or water!”

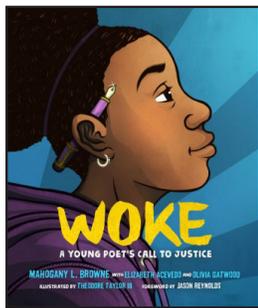


MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice

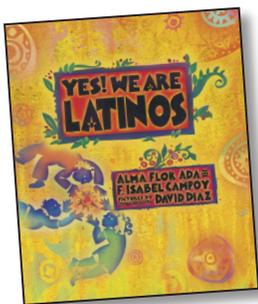
by Mahogany Browne, Elizabeth Acevedo, and Olivia Gatwood

This collection of poems by women reflects the joy and passion in the fight for social justice, tackling topics such as discrimination, empathy, acceptance, and speaking out. With Theodore Taylor's bright, emotional art, kids will be inspired to create their own art and poems to express how they see justice and injustice.



Yes! We Are Latinos: Poems and Prose About the Latino Experience

by Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy



Thirteen young Latinos and Latinas living in America are introduced in this book celebrating the rich diversity of the Latino experience in the United States. Free-verse fictional narratives help the reader to better understand the Latino people's quest for identity. Each profile is followed

by nonfiction prose that further clarifies the character's background and history, touching upon important events in the history of the Latino American people.

If you would like to recommend a book of the month title, please click here:

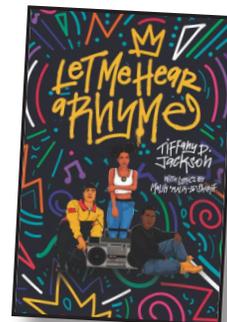
<https://goo.gl/forms/kY7iv9ixf1d6ViaX2>

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Let Me Hear a Rhyme

by Tiffany D. Jackson

Three Brooklyn teens plot to turn their murdered friend into a major rap star by pretending he's still alive. Quadir and Jarrell can't let their best friend Steph's music lie forgotten under his bed after he's murdered.



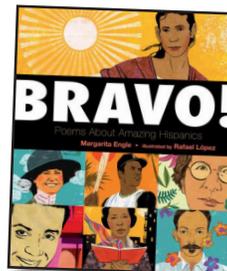
With the help of Steph's sister Jasmine, they promote Steph's music under a new rap name: the Architect. When his demo catches the attention of a hotheaded music label rep, the trio must prove Steph's talent from beyond the grave.

As the pressure of keeping their secret grows, Quadir, Jarrell, and Jasmine are forced to confront the truth about what happened to Steph. And with everything riding on Steph's fame, they need to decide what they stand for or lose all that they've worked so hard to hold on to—including each other.

Bravo!: Poems About Amazing Hispanics

by Margarita Engle

Musician, botanist, baseball player, pilot—the Latinos featured in this collection come from many different countries and backgrounds. Celebrate their accomplishments and contributions to a community that continues to evolve and thrive!



Biographical poems include Aida de Acosta, Arnold Rojas, Baruj Benacerraf, César Chávez, Fabiola Cabeza de Baca, Félix Varela, George Meléndez, José Martí, Juan de Miralles, Juana Briones, Julia de Burgos, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, Paulina Pedroso, Pura Belpré, Roberto Clemente, Tito Puente, Ynes Mexia, and Tomás Rivera.

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