



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MPS READS!

Selections for August, 2020



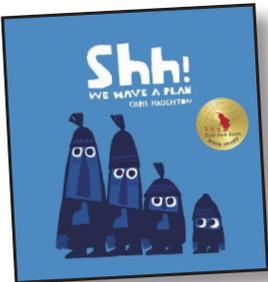
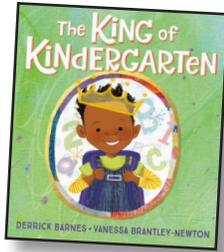
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about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

PRESCHOOL

The King of Kindergarten

by Derrick Barnes

Starting kindergarten is huge—and the hero of this story is ready! He can't wait to be part of a whole new kingdom of kids. The day will be jam-packed, and afterward, he'll tell his proud parents all about his day.



Shh! We Have a Plan / ¡Shhh! Tenemos un plan

by Chris Haughton

Four friends creep through the woods trying to catch a bird. “3, 2, 1 . . . GO!” But the bird escapes. The friends will not give up trying to catch the

bird, but the littlest one has other plans. And so does the bird!

PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

All the Colors We Are: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color / Todos los colores de nuestra piel: La historia de por qué tenemos diferentes colores de piel

by Katie Kissinger

Celebrate an important way that we are all special—our skin color! This bilingual (English/Spanish) book offers children a simple, scientifically accurate explanation about how our skin color is determined by our ancestors, the sun, and melanin. Colorful photographs capture the beautiful variety of skin tones. Reading this book frees children from the stereotypes of skin color and helps them accept, understand, and value our rich and diverse world.

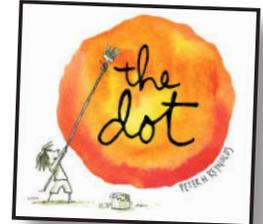


The Dot/El punto

by Peter H. Reynolds

Her teacher smiled. “Just make a mark and see where it takes you.” Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper.

But Vashti can't draw—she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. “There!” she says.



That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery and is the core of this delicate fable about the creative spirit in all of us.

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Ways to Make Sunshine

by Renee Watson

Ryan Hart has a lot on her mind—school, self-image, and family. Her dad finally has a new job, but money is tight. That means some changes, like moving into a new (old) house. But Ryan is a girl who knows how to make sunshine out of setbacks. Ryan is all about trying to be a good daughter, sister, and friend. But even if her life isn't everything she would wish for, she always finds a way forward with grace and wit. And plenty of sunshine.



Stef Soto, Taco Queen

by Jennifer Torres

Stef Soto is itching to shake off Tia Perla, her family's taco truck. She wants Papi to get a normal job and for Tia Perla to be a distant memory. Then maybe everyone at school will stop calling her Taco Queen. But when her family's livelihood is threatened, Stef surprises everyone by becoming the truck's champion. Stef will discover what matters most.



MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

Strong Inside

by Andrew Maraniss

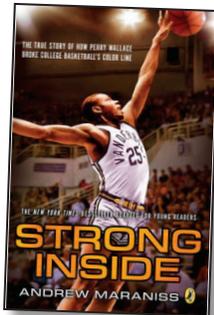
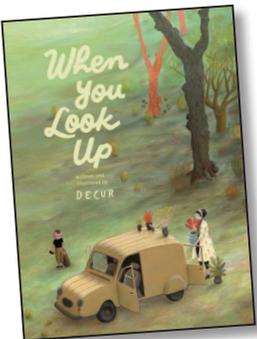
Perry Wallace entered kindergarten the year that integrated schools allowed blacks and whites to learn side by side. In high school, his sensational jumping and dunking earned him the attention of college basketball recruiters from top schools. His Pearl High School basketball team won Tennessee's first racially integrated state tournament.

When Vanderbilt University recruited Wallace, he courageously accepted the assignment to desegregate the Southeastern Conference. The hateful experiences he endured turned out to be the stuff of nightmares. Yet Wallace persisted and met this unthinkable challenge head on. This insightful biography reveals the inspiring story of an athlete turned civil rights trailblazer.

When You Look Up

by Decur

Lorenzo isn't happy about moving. But in his new room, he finds an old desk with hundreds of drawers, each with its own smell! Inside the desk, he finds a book and begins to read. When he looks up, he sees curious things. Has the book come to life? This is a graphic novel about observation, imagination, and the many incredible lenses through which everyday experience might be perceived.



HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Dreamland Burning

by Jennifer Latham

When 17-year-old Rowan Chase finds a skeleton on her family's property, she has no idea that investigating the century-old murder will lead to a summer of painful discoveries.

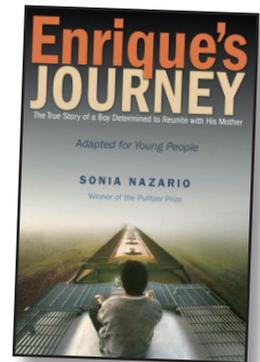
Nearly 100 years earlier, a violent encounter propelled 17-year-old Will Tillman into a racial firestorm. In a country rife with violence against blacks, Will was forced to make hard choices to do what was right. This lightning-paced page-turner brings the Tulsa race riot of 1921 to blazing life and raises important questions about the complex state of U.S. race relations.



Enrique's Journey/ La travesía de Enrique

by Sonia Nazario

Adapted for young people, this edition of *Enrique's Journey* is the true story of Enrique, a teenager from Honduras setting out to find his mother, who had to leave him and go to the United States in search of work. Enrique's story will bring to light the daily struggles of migrants, legal and otherwise, and the complicated choices they face simply trying to survive and provide for their families. Includes an 8-page photo insert and an epilogue describing what has happened to Enrique and his family since the original edition was published.



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