



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MPS READS!

Selections for December 2023

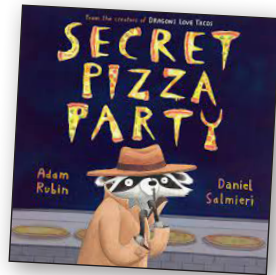
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about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

PRESCHOOL

Secret Pizza Party

by Adam Rubin

Raccoon loves pizza! But someone is always chasing poor Raccoon away from his favorite food. What's a hungry raccoon to do? Plan an elaborate secret pizza party, of course! But shhhh! It's a secret!



Knight Owl

by Christopher Denise



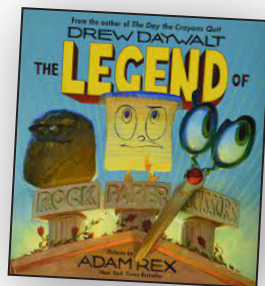
Since the day he hatched, Owl dreamed of becoming a real knight. He may not be the biggest, but his sharp nocturnal instincts can help protect the castle. While holding guard, Owl is faced with a frightening intruder. But what Owl lacks in size he makes up for in good ideas.

PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors

by Drew Daywalt

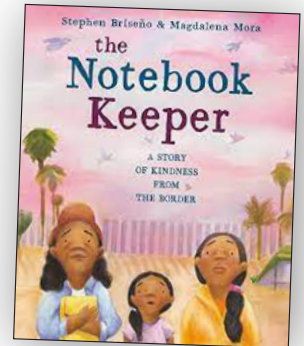
Rock, Paper, and Scissors were once warriors battling in their kingdoms. Rock smooches an apricot, Paper defeats a printer by causing a paper jam, and Scissors lays waste to a roll of tape. Finally, they meet: Rock defeats Scissors, Paper defeats Rock, and Scissors defeats Paper.



The Notebook Keeper: A Story of Kindness from the Border

by Stephen Briseño

Noemi and Mama flee their home in Mexico and head for the U.S. border. They look for the Notebook Keeper—the person with a ledger for those waiting to cross, and they add their names. The days turn into weeks. One day, when the Notebook Keeper's own name is called, Noemi and her Mama are chosen to take her place.



INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Barb and the Ghost Blade

by Dan Abdo

Barb is a Berzerker, an elite warrior who protects the land. The evil Witch Head has captured all the adult Berzerkers. Barb and her ragtag gang must find Franny Fire Fingers, who they hope will lead them to the Wise Wizards and the power to fight. Barb must learn that her true power comes from her own heart.



Leon the Extraordinary

by Jamar Nicholas

Where Leon lives, superheroes and supervillains are common. So how does an ordinary kid like Leon become a superhero? When all his classmates become obsessed with a new phone app that turns them into zombies, Leon gets to prove that using his brain and following his heart can save the day.



MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)



Virtually Me

by Chad Morris and Shelly Brown
Bradley, Edelle, Hunter, Jasper, and Keiko are invited to attend a virtual school. They'll be able to create an avatar and interact in real time using VR headsets. It's a chance to see just how much they've assumed about each other in the past and maybe become friends.

The First Rule of Punk

by Celia C. Pérez

At a new school, 12-year-old Malú upsets the queen bee, violates the dress code with her punk rock look, and disappoints her college professor mom. Her dad, who lives a thousand miles away, says things will get better as long as she remembers the first rule of punk: be yourself.



HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Whiteout

by Dhonielle Clayton, Tiffany D. Jackson, Nic Stone, Angie Thomas, Ashley Woodfolk, Nicola Yoon

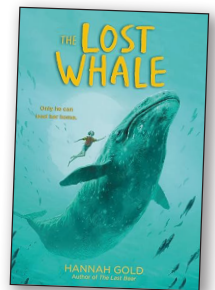
As the city grinds to a halt, twelve teens band together to help a friend pull off the most epic apology of her life. No one is prepared for this whiteout. But then, we can't always prepare for the magical moments that change everything.



The Lost Whale/La ballena perdida

by Hannah Gold

Rio has been sent to live with a grandmother in California while his mom is in a hospital. He joins his new friend Marina on her dad's whale watching trips and has an incredible encounter with White Beak, a gentle giant of the sea. When White Beak goes missing, Rio must set out to find his whale and somehow save his mom.



AUTHENTIC SPANISH TITLE



El elefante con gafas

by Natasha Domanova

Un elefante no es nada extraordinario. Pero si el elefante lleva gafas el cuento se pone interesante... ¿verdad? Un elefante con gafas se ha caído y... ¡aquí empieza esta historia!

El calcetín perdido: Una historia llena de vecinos

by Lawrence Schimel and Luciano Lozano

¿Qué es lo peor que le puede pasar a un calcetín? ¿Que se lo trague la lavadora? ¿Que se pierda en un cajón? Eso es lo que le ocurre al joven protagonista de esta historia. Dispuesto a recuperar su calcetín, Carlos emprenderá una aventura detectivesca escaleras abajo. Carlos no imagina que mientras intente desvelar el misterio, descubrirá el secreto mejor guardado del edificio donde vive: sus vecinos.



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