

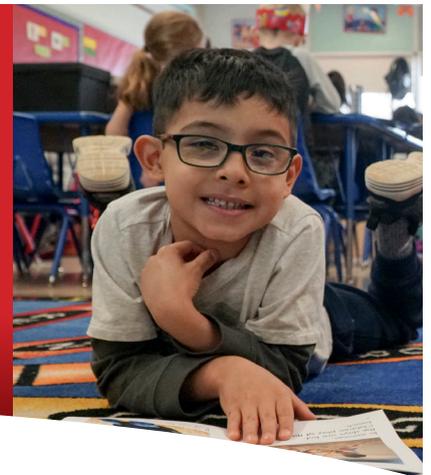


**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MPS READS!

Selections for January, 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

Saturday

by Oge Mora

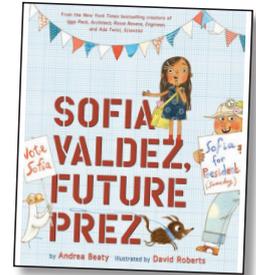
A mother and daughter look forward to their special Saturday routine every week. But this Saturday, things go wrong, ruining story time, salon time, picnic time, and a puppet show. Mom is nearing a meltdown until her loving daughter reminds her that being together is the most important thing of all.



Sofia Valdez, Future Prez/Sofía Valdez, presidenta tal vez

by Andrea Beaty

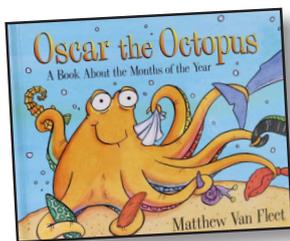
Every morning, Abuelo walks Sofia to school, until one day, Abuelo hurts his ankle at a nearby landfill. Sofia wonders what she can do about the dangerous Mount Trashmore. Then she gets an idea—the town can turn the mess into a park! She works up the courage to go to City Hall, only to be told that she can't build a park because she's just a kid! Sofia sets out to prove what one kid can do.



Oscar the Octopus

by Matthew Van Fleet

Join Oscar as he introduces preschoolers to the months of the year, texture, colors, and sea creatures. Textured pages will tickle fingertips and funny bones while revealing clues to what Oscar will catch next, from a shiny friend to a surprise pop-up ending!

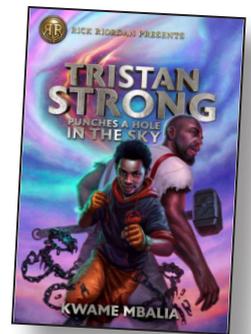


INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky

by Kwame Mbalia

Tristan Strong feels anything but strong ever since he failed to save his best friend when they were in a bus accident. All he has left of Eddie is the journal he kept. One night, a creature shows up and steals Eddie's notebook. Tristan chases after it and a tug-of-war ensues. Tristan punches a tree, accidentally ripping open a chasm into the MidPass, a place with a burning sea, haunted bone ships, and iron monsters. To get back home, Tristan and some new allies will need to entice Anansi, the Weaver, to seal the hole in the sky. Can Tristan save this world before he loses more of the things he loves?

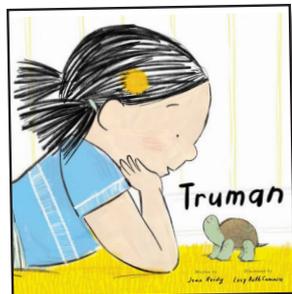


PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

Truman

by Jean Reidy

Truman the tortoise lives with Sarah, high above the taxis and the trash trucks and the buses. He never worries about the world below, until Sarah straps on a big backpack and does something Truman has never seen before. She boards the bus!

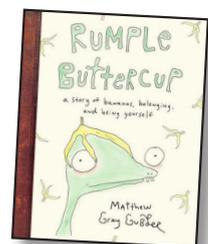


Truman waits for her to return. And when he can wait no longer, he knows what he must do—even if it seems impossible!

Rumple Buttercup

by Matthew Gray Gubler

Rumple Buttercup has five crooked teeth, three strands of hair, green skin, and his left foot is slightly bigger than his right. He is weird. Join him and Candy Corn Carl (his imaginary friend made of trash) as they learn the joy of individuality as well as the magic of belonging.

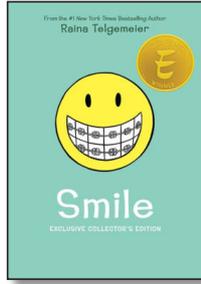


MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

Smile/ ¡Sonríe!

by Raina Telgemeier

Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But one night, she trips and falls, severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear, and a retainer with fake teeth. And she must deal with a major earthquake, boy confusion, and friends who turn out to be not so friendly.

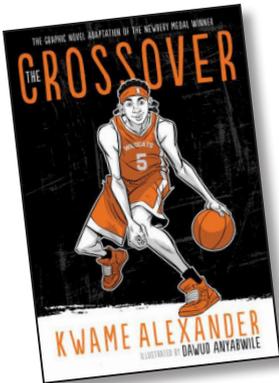


This story is sure to resonate with anyone who has ever been in middle school, especially those who have had dental drama.

The Crossover (Graphic Novel)

by Kwame Alexander

“With a bolt of lightning on my kicks, the court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. ’Cuz tonight I’m



delivering,” raps twelve-year-old Josh Bell. Thanks to their dad, he and his twin brother, Jordan, are kings on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood—he’s got mad beats, too, which help him find his rhythm when it’s all on the line.

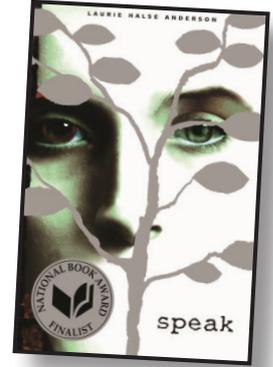
See the Bell family through Dawud Anyabwile’s dynamic illustrations as the brothers’ winning season unfolds, and the world as they know it begins to change.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Speak/ Habla!

by Laurie Halse Anderson

Melinda is friendless, an outcast, because she busted a party by calling the cops. Only her art class offers any solace. Through an art project, she is finally able to face what really happened at that party: She was raped by an upperclassman who still attends her school and is still a threat. Her healing process has just begun when she has another violent encounter with him. This time, Melinda fights back, refuses to be silent, and achieves a measure of vindication. This utterly believable heroine speaks for many a disenfranchised teenager while demonstrating the importance of speaking up for oneself.



Patron Saints of Nothing

by Randy Ribay

Jay Reguero plans to spend the last semester of his senior year playing video games before heading to college. But when he discovers that his Filipino cousin Jun was murdered as part of a war on drugs, and no one in the family wants to talk about it, Jay travels to the Philippines to find the real story.



Hoping to uncover more about Jun and his death, Jay is forced to face the horrible truth and the part Jun played in it.

To access the books on our monthly MPS Reads booklists, visit your school library, local library, or go online to OverDrive* at <https://soraapp.com/library/milwaukee/collections> and log in with your MPS student ID number.

*Some titles are not available through OverDrive.

For more books, visit:
mpsmke.com/mpsreads