



**MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

MPS READS!

Selections for November, 2020



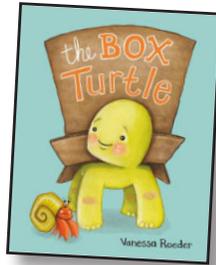
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about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

PRESCHOOL

The Box Turtle

by Vanessa Roeder

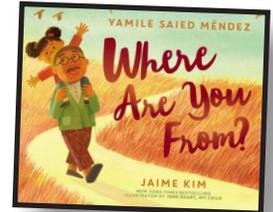
Terrance the turtle was born without a shell, so he uses a cardboard box instead. Terrance loves his box. It keeps him dry and safe and is big enough to cozy up with a friend. But when another turtle points out that Terrance's shell is weird, he looks for a better shell. Through trial and error, Terrance learns that it's okay to be different—especially when being yourself.



Where Are You From/ ¿De dónde eres?

by Yamile Saied Méndez

When a girl is asked where she's from, she turns to her loving abuelo for help. "You're from hurricanes and dark storms, and a tiny singing frog that calls the island people home..."



With themes of self-acceptance, identity, and home, this powerful picture book will resonate with readers from all backgrounds—especially anyone who ever felt that they don't belong.



Little Owl Lost/ Un poco perdido

by Chris Haughton

Little Owl has fallen from his nest, and his mommy is nowhere to be seen! Little Owl goes in search of animals that fit

his description of Mommy Owl. But none have all the features that make up his mommy. A cast of adorable forest critters will engage little readers right up to the story's comforting conclusion.

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

From the Desk of Zoe Washington

by Janae Marks

What does a girl say to the father she's never met, hadn't heard from until his letter arrived on her twelfth birthday, and who's been in prison for a terrible crime? When Marcus tells Zoe he is innocent, and her grandmother agrees, Zoe learns about inequality in the criminal justice system, and she sets out to find the alibi witness who can prove his innocence.

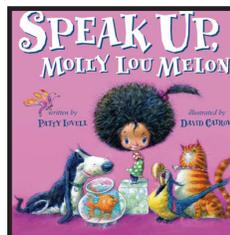


PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

Speak Up, Molly Lou Melon

by Patty Lovell

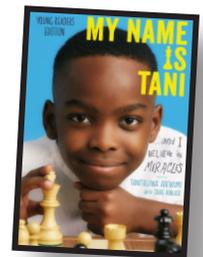
Molly Lou Melon's mother taught her to use her big voice for good—to speak up for what's right, for those who can't, and even when it's hard. So she does. When a bully begins teasing everyone, Molly Lou knows just what to do. From standing up for a friend to admitting when you've made a mistake, Molly Lou shows how speaking up is always the right choice.



My Name Is Tani . . . and I Believe in Miracles

by Tanitoluwa Adewumi

At eight years old, Tani Adewumi won the 2019 New York State Chess Championship after playing the game for only a year. Tani and his family fled Boko Haram's reign of terror in Nigeria to come to the United States, where they lived in a New York City homeless shelter while waiting to be granted religious asylum. Tani attended a public elementary school and joined the chess program—and a year later the young immigrant became a chess champion.



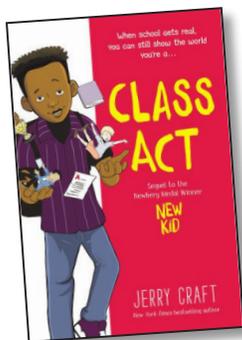
MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

We Dream of Space

by Erin Entrada Kelly

Cash, Fitch, and Bird Thomas are three siblings in seventh grade together. Cash loves basketball but has a broken wrist and is in danger of failing seventh grade for the second time. Fitch spends every afternoon at the arcade and wrestles with an explosive temper. And Bird, his twelve-year-old twin, dreams of being NASA's first female shuttle commander.

The Thomas children exist in a tense and unpredictable household. As the 1986 launch of the space shuttle *Challenger* approaches, their science teacher, Ms. Salonga, gives her students a project—they are separated into crews and must complete a mission. When *Challenger* launches in January, the event changes their lives.



Class Act

by Jerry Craft

When Drew and Jordan start eighth grade, it's hard for them to understand how they fit in amongst the wealthy, white students. Drew navigates his friendship with ultra-wealthy Liam and deals with microaggressions and racial

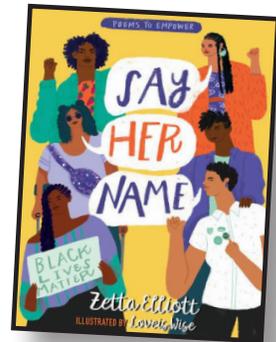
stereotyping from his classmates and teachers. This outstanding sequel to *New Kid* is sure to start important conversations about race, class, identity, friendship, bullying, and more, all while making readers laugh with Drew and Jordan's hilarious banter.

HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Say Her Name

by Zetta Elliott

Inspired by the #SayHerName campaign, these poems pay tribute to victims of police brutality as well as the activists insisting that Black Lives Matter. Elliott engages poets from the past two centuries to create a chorus of voices celebrating the creativity, resilience, and courage of Black women and girls. This provocative collection will move every reader to reflect, respond, and act.



Y no se lo tragó la tierra/ ...And the Earth Did not Devour Him

by Tomás Rivera

"I tell you, God could not care less about the poor. Tell me, why must we live here like this? What have we done to deserve this? You're so good and yet you suffer so much," a young boy tells his mother in Tomás Rivera's classic novel about the migrant worker experience. Rivera writes hauntingly about alienation, love and betrayal, man and nature, death and resurrection, and the search for community.

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