



MPS READS!



MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Selections for September 2024

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

Big Kids No Everything

by Wednesday Kirwan

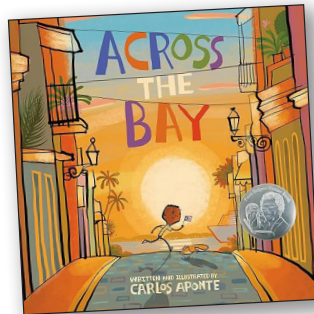
“No” is not always a bad word—it’s just part of growing up! Because when kids learn to hear and say the word “no,” they’ll learn when to say “yes.”



Across the Bay

by Carlos Aponte

Embark on a journey through Old San Juan in this book following Carlitos, who lives in Puerto Rico with his mother, abuela, and Coco the cat. As Carlitos travels in search of his father, he’ll learn the meaning of family and home.

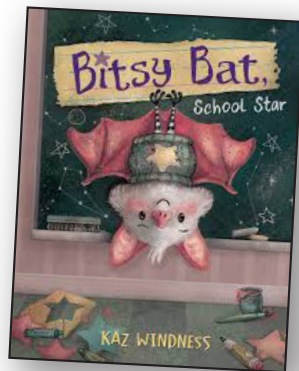


PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

Bitsy Bat: School Star

by Kaz Windness

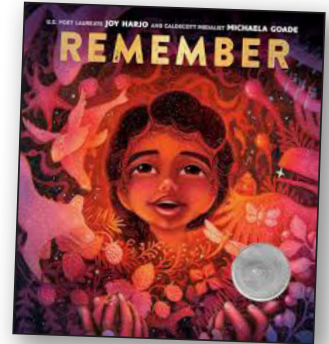
Bitsy is a little bat with big star dreams. Everyone at school tells Bitsy she’s doing things wrong. But with help from her family, Bitsy musters her courage, comes up with a new plan, and discovers that being a good friend is one of the ways she shines bright!



Remember

by Joy Harjo

This adaptation of the renowned poem encourages young readers to reflect on family, nature, and heritage. Harjo, a member of the Mvskoke Nation, urges readers to pay attention to who they are, the world they were born into, and how all inhabitants on Earth are connected.



INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

Your Name Is a Song

by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow

Frustrated by a day full of teachers and classmates mispronouncing her beautiful name, a young girl’s mother teaches her about the musicality of African, Asian, Black-American, Latinx, and Middle Eastern names on their walk home. The girl is ready to return to school the next day to share her knowledge with her class.



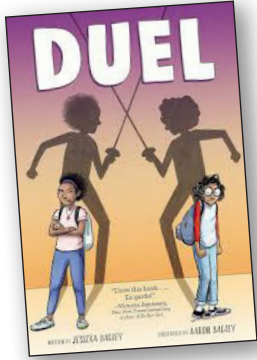
Isla to Island

by Alexis Castellanos

Cuba is vibrant with flowers and food and people, but the home Marisol loves is no longer safe, and her parents are sending her to the United States. Nothing about Marisol’s new life in Brooklyn feels like home. But she realizes that home isn’t always a place. Finding her way can be as simple as staying true to herself.



MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)



Duel

by Jessixa Bagley

Sixth grader Lucy loves fantasy novels. GiGi is the undisputed queen bee of eighth grade. They have only one thing in common: fencing. Oh, and they're sisters. When GiGi humiliates Lucy on the first day of school, Lucy snaps and challenges GiGi to a duel. But will winning the duel mean fracturing their family?

Summer of the Mariposas

by Guadalupe García McCall

When Odilia and her four sisters find a dead body in the swimming hole, they embark on a hero's journey to return the dead man to his family in Mexico. But returning home to Texas turns into an odyssey that would rival Homer's original tale.



HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

Mid-Air

by Alicia D. Williams

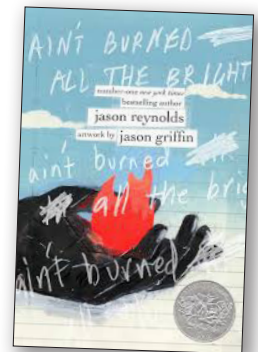
It's the end of eighth grade, and Isaiah feels lost. His friend Drew is fading from their friendship since a hit and run killed their friend Darius in the midst of a long wheelie. If only Isaiah could be less sensitive, more tough, less weird, more cool, less him, things would be easier. But how much can Isaiah keep inside until he shatters wide open?



Ain't Burned All the Bright

by Jason Reynolds

Jason Reynolds and his best bud, Jason Griffin, had a mind-meld. And they tackled it in about ten sentences and 300 pages of art in this piece about oxygen. For anyone who didn't know what it means not to be able to breathe, now you know. And for those who already do, you'll be nodding yep—that's exactly how it is.



SEPTEMBER AUTHENTIC SPANISH SUGGESTION



Ni gua ni miao

by Blanca Lacasa

Fabio es un perro diferente. No le gusta nada de lo que le gusta a los otros perros. Un día, Max descubre que Fabio desaparece cada noche y decide seguirlo...

Una divertidísima y tierna historia que nos ayuda apreciar nuestras propias cualidades y a entender la diversidad. ¿Quién no se ha sentido alguna vez como Fabio?

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