

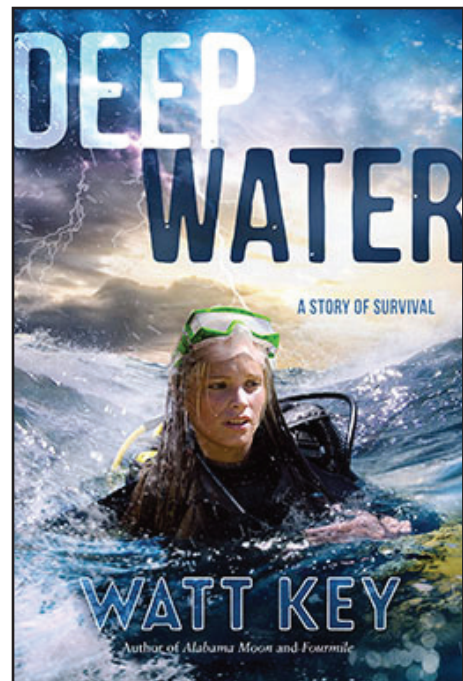


Deep Water: A Story of Survival

by Watt Key

Booktalk!

Julie Sims has been scuba diving hundreds of times, but she still gets nervous when she can't see what's below her. After all, she knows that scuba divers get separated from their boats more than people know. So, when Julie and an annoying classmate, Shane, lose sight of her father's boat on a diving mission, they find themselves in an aquatic wilderness where humans don't belong. How can they avoid panic when facing possible starvation, storms, hypothermia, and sharks? One girl, one boy — the chance of rescue seems hopeless. Will Julie and Shane survive these unknown waters?



Best for Grades: 6-8



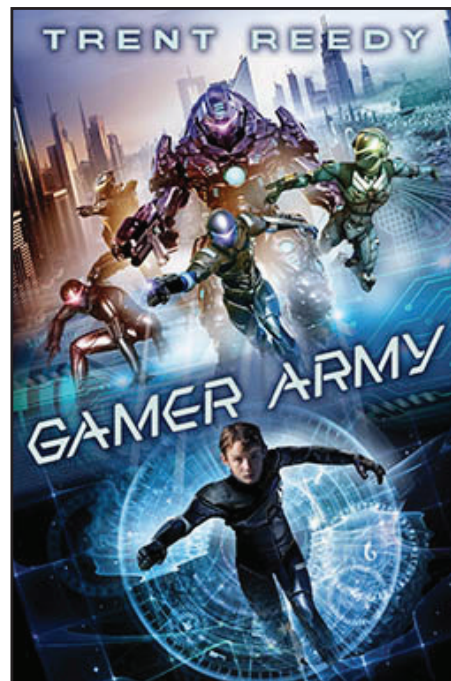


Gamer Army

by Trent Reedy

Booktalk!

Rogan Weller has been using electronic devices since he was two years old. At eight years old, he was playing video games and visiting people in Digi-Space. Now at the age of 12, Rogan is one of the world's five best Laser Viper gamers in his age division. It's obvious that the digital world is a huge part of Rogan's life, especially with his private 50th floor Virtual City apartment. But Rogan's life becomes even more exciting when he is chosen to compete in the most sophisticated, realistic gaming experience in world history – with a chance to win \$250,000 and a million game credits!



Best for Grades 4-8



Booktalk!

Ranger in Time: Hurricane Katrina Rescue

by Kate Messner, illustrated by Kelley McMorris

Booktalk!

Ranger, the time-traveling golden retriever, hears that humming sound his mysterious first-aid kit sometimes makes. Someone far away needs his help! Ranger winds up in New Orleans as Hurricane Katrina approaches. It's a monster storm, and people are evacuating. When Ranger meets Clare Porter, she is trying to find her grandmother, but Clare's father is also missing! Ranger stays by Clare's side while facing food and water shortages, dangerous creatures, and rising waters. When the levees break, it's going to be even harder to find Clare's family!



Best for Grades 2-3



Booktalk!

The Wish Fairy #1: Too Many Cats!

by Lisa Ann Scott

Booktalk!

Brooke and her best friend Izzy love cats more than any other animal. Brooke thinks her cat Patches is the best cat in the world. In the meadow, Patches captures what looks like a dragonfly, but it turns out to be a fairy! When Brooke saves the fairy's life, she is granted seven wishes. Brooke plans to make the most wonderful wishes in the world, but she soon learns that making wishes is not easy. After making her first wish, Brooke receives 100 cats! She realizes she should have been more careful with her wishes, especially when Patches goes missing!



Best for Grades 2-3



Anything But Okay

by Sarah Darer Littman

Booktalk!

Everyone in Stella Walker’s family has served in the military, except for her. “Walkers are patriots. That’s what we do.” But when Stella’s older brother Rob returns from serving two tours in Afghanistan, he doesn’t act like the same person. He’s moody, angry, and unpredictable. When she asks Rob to go to a movie at the mall, she is shocked when he assaults someone. She doesn’t understand — wasn’t he serving overseas to protect people harassed because of their religion? As Stella waits to learn if Rob will face charges, she starts to wonder — what is a patriot?



Best for Grades 6-8



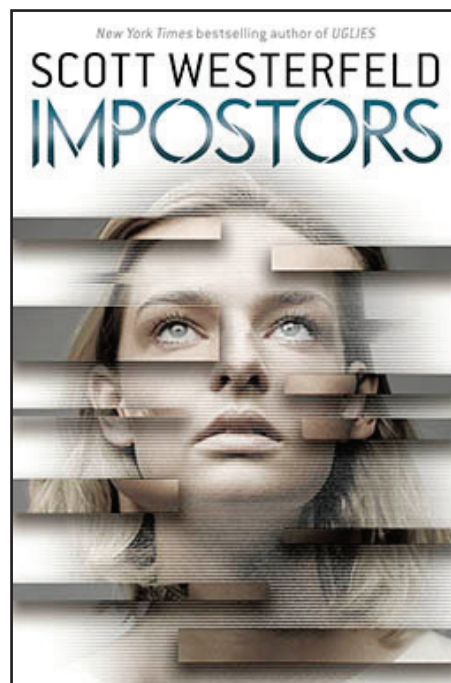


Impostors

by Scott Westerfeld

Booktalk!

The daughter of a dictator, Rafia represents the new regime. But why is the existence of her twin sister Frey a secret? Trained as a bodyguard, Frey takes Rafia's place at public events, even saving her from an assassination attempt. When the twins' father negotiates with a rival city to buy natural resources, they threaten to hold Rafia hostage. But instead of Rafia, they send Frey, and she must decide whether or not to reveal her identity. She can choose to join forces with a rebel group to overthrow her father's regime and rescue her sister — or not. What will she choose?



Best for Grades 6-8





On Blood Road

by Steve Watkins

Booktalk!

Taylor Sorenson is not happy about visiting his dad, a Special Attaché stationed at the U.S. Embassy in Saigon at the height of the Vietnam War. When Taylor sneaks away from the Embassy to observe the New Year's celebrations, he is captured by the North Vietnamese army that has invaded Saigon. Signaling the start of a massive enemy offensive, Taylor now faces a harrowing journey on the infamous Ho Chi Minh Trail. Even if he survives, he could be headed to the Hanoi Hilton prison, where his ordeal might just be beginning.



Best for Grades 6-8





Resistance

by Jennifer A. Nielsen

Booktalk!

Hope is in short supply in Nazi-occupied Poland. Chaya's sister has been taken and her brother has disappeared. Her parents seem to have given up the will to live. But Chaya is determined to fight back in whatever way she can to help Jews escape. Using courage and cleverness, Chaya becomes a courier, delivering fake papers, food, and hope. When a major mission fails, she finds herself teamed with Esther as part of a new resistance cell. Esther seems weak and Chaya isn't sure she can be safe with her, especially since they are now part of the uprising in Warsaw.



Best for Grades 5-8



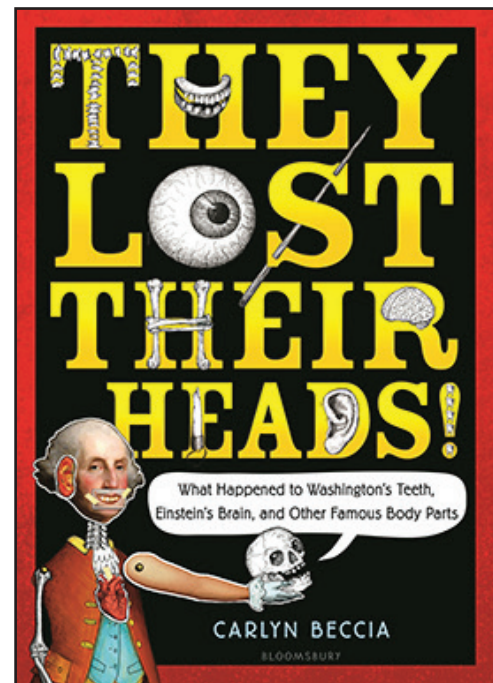
Booktalk!

They Lost Their Heads!: What Happened to Washington's Teeth, Einstein's Brain, and Other Famous Body Parts

by Carlyn Beccia

Booktalk!

Read some of the most fascinating facts about the most interesting people and topics! When George Washington became America's first president, he had only one tooth left. Getting a lock of Beethoven's hair was similar to asking someone famous for an autograph today. Did you know Egyptians were customarily buried with family pets and Einstein's brain was saved in a glass jar? Then what about the tonsils that are removed in more than 500,000 surgeries each year?



Best for Grades 6-8



The Sun Is Kind of a Big Deal

by Nick Seluk

Booktalk!

The sun is at the center of our solar system family. We couldn't do anything without it. The sun is also the biggest thing in our family. It's way bigger than earth. In fact, it's over a billion times bigger! All the planets move around the sun like a racetrack, and they all have their own lane. Some are fast, while some are slow. It takes us a whole year to make it around the sun. Without the sun, we wouldn't have life. Yes, that means plants, animals, and you! The sun gives us warmth, even in the coldest places. Every day, the sun is working hard for everyone — it's kind of a big deal!



Best for Grades K-3



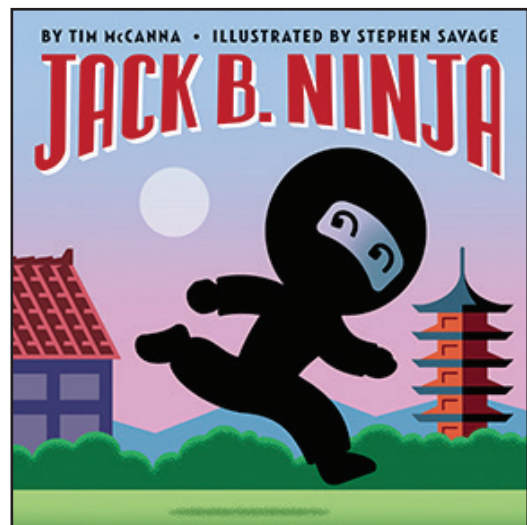


Jack B. Ninja

by Tim McCanna, illustrated by Stephen Savage

Booktalk!

Jack B. Ninja; Jack be quick; Jack jumps over a bamboo stick! His mission starts at night, a fearless escape. As he hides from the guards, he spots a pool, dives in, and swims to the tunnel. Go, Jack, go! Bold and brave, he tiptoes into a cave and finds ... a treasure chest! But soon Jack is found! How can he outsmart the bandits? He leaps and jumps and twists up the rope. Go, Jack, go! When his ninja master appears, is Jack finally safe?



Best for Grades K-2



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This Certificate Is Awarded to

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