

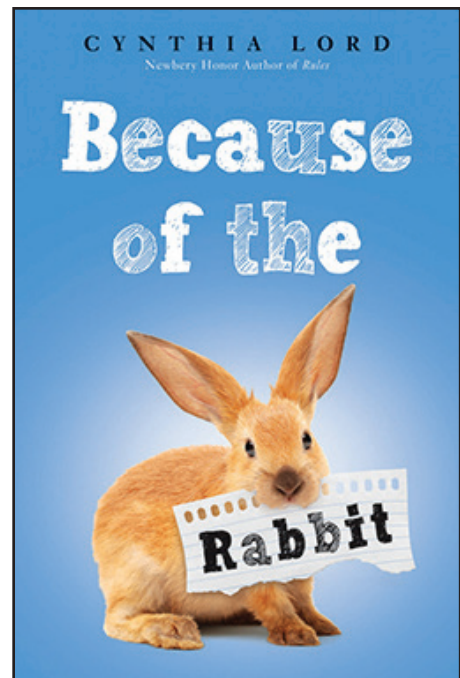


Because of the Rabbit

by Cynthia Lord

Booktalk!

Homeschool had its benefits, but Emma is excited about attending public school. She wants to make new friends even though she knows it won't be easy. Emma is afraid that the other kids already have enough friends, but then she meets Jack. Jack has special needs and is very friendly to Emma. When her father's job as game warden puts Emma in charge of a rescued rabbit, can the rabbit give her and Jack the courage to make even more friends?



Best for Grades 4-6





The Super Life Of Ben Braver

by Marcus Emerson

Booktalk!

The no-bummer summer Ben Braver was hoping for is ruined when his best friend moves away. But it thankfully takes a positive turn when he's invited to attend the very secretive Kepler Academy, where his lifelong dream of becoming a superhero may just come true. Kepler is a school for kids with special abilities. But when strange things start to happen, Ben wants to help. The problem is, why is he the only kid at school whose special abilities have not shown up yet? Can he be the superhero he's always wanted to be without special powers?



Best for Grades 4-6





The Girl in the Locked Room

by Mary Downing Hahn

Booktalk!

Alone in a locked room, Lily forgets her name and her birthday. But it doesn't matter because no one visits. She talks to the people in the old paintings that hang on the walls. Why won't they come to life and keep her company? Jules, on the other hand, can't recall how many houses she's lived in, or the number of schools she's attended. Her father's job restoring historic buildings makes them move — a lot. When Jules and her parents move to a house built in 1786, she sees and hears horrifying things. She wants to help a ghost girl trapped in the 21st century rejoin her family, but how?



Best for Grades 5-8





The Cardboard Kingdom

by Chad Sell

Booktalk!

Summer vacation in this neighborhood certainly won't be boring. The kids have decided to convert their entire neighborhood block into the Cardboard Kingdom! Imagination is required — as well as lots of cardboard and paper supplies — so that anyone can become anything. A huntress might become the guardian of cookies, and the big banshee can disguise himself with a terrifying cardboard box costume. One cardboard sign announces that unicorn blood can melt everything, especially dragons! Competition is fierce, but new friends can still be made.



Best for Grades 4-6





Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond #2: Game of Stars

by Sayantani DasGupta

Booktalk!

Being a hero always looks awesome in the movies, but when Kiranmala travels back to the Kingdom Beyond to rescue her friend Neel, her newly discovered talents get pushed to the limits. She must enter the Who Wants to Be a Demon Slayer TV reality show that has become the obsession of everyone in the kingdom. Bright lights and super-fans — yikes! It won't be easy for her to figure out the difference between villains, monsters, and friends. One thing is certain — her Serpent King father is not on her side.



Best for Grades 4-6



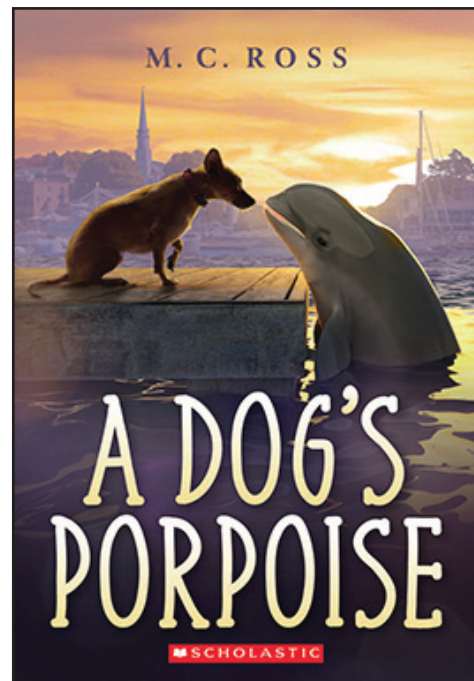


A Dog's Porpoise

by M. C. Ross

Booktalk!

Bangor, a harbor porpoise, is always adventurous. Harbor porpoises usually live in one place, but Bangor wants to swim in any direction that offers a chance to make new friends and eat fish. During a big storm, huge waves separate him from his family. When Natalie sneaks Lars, a stray dog, onto her father's fishing boat, they encounter the same storm. Lars is thrown overboard into the dark, stormy waters, but will Bangor rescue him? Will three completely different species become friends where the water meets the land?



Best for Grades 4-6





Ruff vs Fluff

by Spencer Quinn

Booktalk!

Between Queenie the cat and Arthur the dog, there is never a boring moment at Blackberry Hill Inn. Household pets Harmony and her twin brother Bro are their sworn enemies; both demand undivided attention and usually receive it. But when a guest at the inn is found dead in the snow, Arthur and Queenie need to stop fighting like cats and dogs in order to help Harmony and Bro clear the name of their friend who is accused of murder! A stolen map, an old trail, a postcard, and an antique bottle could lead to the killer's identity. Will it?



Best for Grades 4-6



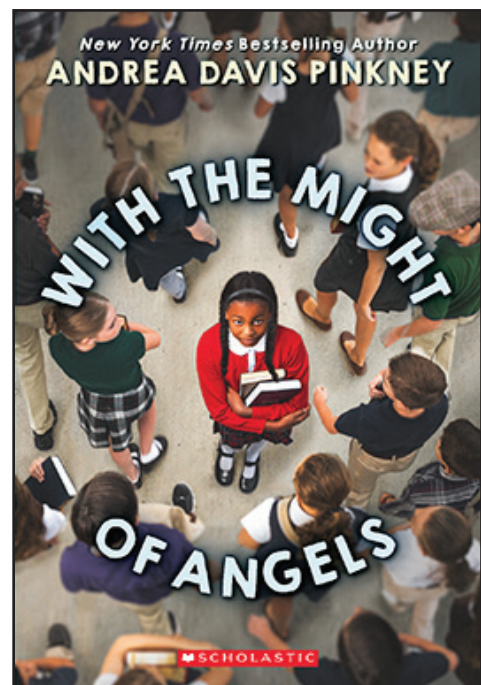


With the Might of Angels

by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Booktalk!

Starting a new school is usually hard, but for Dawnie Rae, that doesn't even begin to describe how she feels. While she is thrilled to be attending a beautiful school that has a science lab, homeroom, and teachers for every subject, she is going to be the only Negro girl in the entire school. It is 1954, and in Virginia, schools are still segregated. But Dawnie Rae is an excellent student and her parents decide that she needs the very best, including all the benefits this new school has to offer. Unfortunately, not everyone wants her there, and she needs to determine if justice is worth the fight.



Best for Grades 4-6



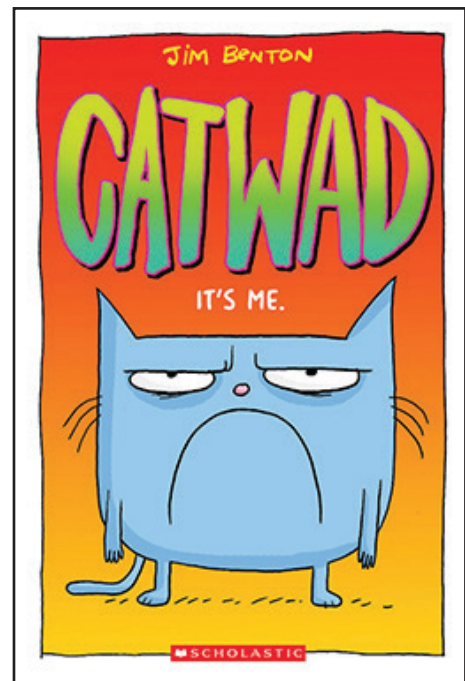


Catwad: It's Me.

by Jim Benton

Booktalk!

Catwad is completely annoyed by Blurmp. If Blurmp wants to be Catwad's best friend, he must act more mature. Catwad finds it ridiculous that Blurmp thinks he must brush his teeth fifteen hours a day. Catwad says that he would like pizza more than Blurmp, even if a dirty, sweaty rat was sitting on top of it! Poor Blurmp. What can he do to get Catwad to like him more? If Catwad sees that Blurmp smiles all the time because he is always happy, maybe Catwad will practice smiling more, even if it means wearing a giant, permanent grin for the rest of his life!



Best for Grades 4-6



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