

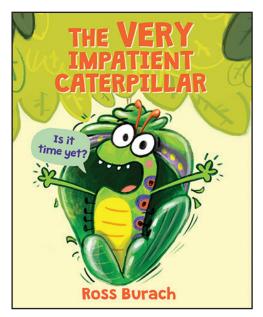
The Very Impatient Caterpillar

by Ross Burach

Booktalk!

Caterpillar cannot believe his luck!

Apparently, he can do an amazing thing called metamorphosis, which will transform him into a beautiful butterfly — with wings! All he has to do is build his chrysalis, sit still for two weeks, and let nature take its course. But he'll need a lot of patience to endure two whole weeks of waiting. Ugh! What's an impatient caterpillar to do?



Best for Grades K-3



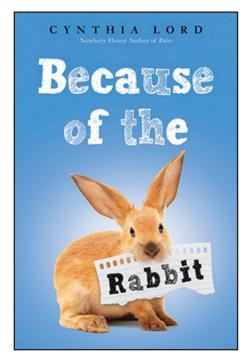


Because of the Rabbit

by Cynthia Lord

Booktalk!

omeschool 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



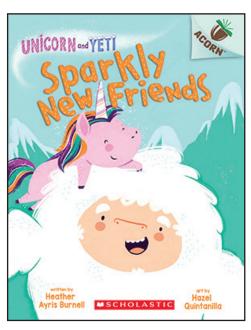


Unicorn and Yeti: Sparkly New Friends

by Heather Ayris Burnell, illustrated by Hazel Quintanilla

Booktalk!

Inicorn and Yeti are quite different from one another. Unicorn has a horn and Yeti is furry. Yeti likes snowball fights, but Unicorn's hooves are not great at making snowballs. Maybe with a little magic the two can find a way to play together, regardless of their differences. They might even realize they have more in common than they think!



Best for Grades K-1



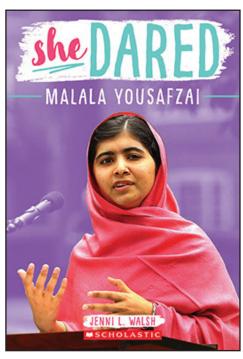


She Dared: Malala Yousafzai

by Jenni L. Walsh

Booktalk!

ave you ever wondered how brave you might be? It is hard to imagine anyone braver than Malala Yousafzai. School had always been Malala's happy place. She had dreams of becoming a doctor one day. Then the Taliban came and everything changed. They did not want women to leave the house or girls to go to school. At 11 years old, Malala dared to speak out and has not stopped since. She has turned tragedy into triumph, becoming an education activist and the youngest person to ever receive the Nobel Peace Prize because she dared!



Best for Grades 4-6





Elephant & Piggie: Should I Share My Ice Cream?

by Mo Willems

Booktalk!

It's a very hot day, so ordering ice cream makes Gerald extremely happy. He loves ice cream! His best friend Piggie loves it, too. But should Gerald share his ice cream with Piggie? She might not like the flavor, and she might not even realize Gerald ordered ice cream in the first place. But what if Piggie is feeling sad today? Ice cream might cheer her up. Gerald decides he must find her, but if he doesn't find Piggie quickly, his ice cream could melt, and then neither friend could enjoy the cool, sweet treat. Maybe Piggie has the very same idea!



Best for Grades K-2

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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



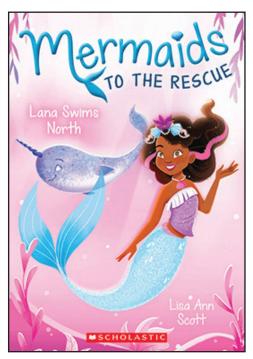


Mermaids to the Rescue: Lana Swims North

by Lisa Ann Scott

Booktalk!

Princess Lana isn't exactly known for her courage, even though she's a member of the Royal Mermaid Rescue Crew — the bravest mermaids of all. She doesn't even speak up in class when she knows the answer! She tries to take her mind off of school and her fears by helping a new friend find his way home to the Northern Seas. The journey is filled with fun new sights until they find themselves in the middle of a dangerous situation without any of the other Rescue Crew members. Will Princess Lana be able to find her voice and keep the seas safe, or will her fears get the better of her and her new friend?



Best for Grades 2-3



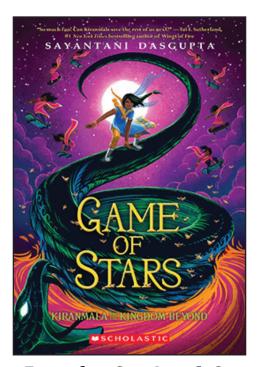


Kiranmala and the Kingdom Beyond #2: Game of Stars

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



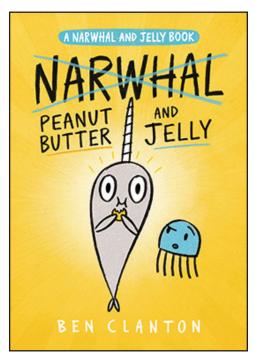


Peanut Butter and Jelly

by Ben Clanton

Booktalk!

Jelly cannot believe that Narwhal has never eaten spaghetti, ice cream, pizza, cake, mashed potatoes, or French fries! After all, Narwhal only eats waffles, so Jelly promises to make an extra-large waffle for Narwhal if he promises to try just one peanut butter cookie. When he finally tastes it, Narwhal thinks the cookie is absolutely fin-tastic! In fact, he loves it so much that he is considering changing his name to Peanut Butter. But is Narwhal taking it too far? It's up to Jelly to change his mind!



Best for Grades 1-3



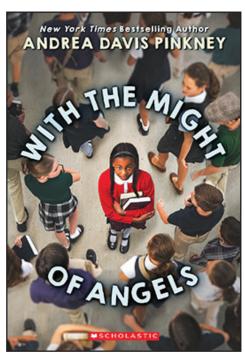


With the Might of Angels

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



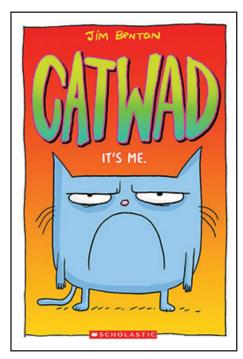


Catwad: It's Me.

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



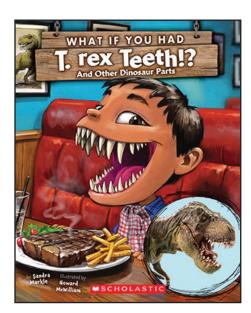


What If You Had T. rex Teeth!? And Other Dinosaur Parts

by Sandra Markle, illustrated by Howard McWilliam

Booktalk!

What if one morning you woke up and discovered that overnight, a dinosaur's body part had taken the place of one of your own? What if it was your teeth? Toes? Neck? And instead you had a tail with spikes, claws or horns! And what if those dinosaur parts helped you do really cool stuff, like win every food-eating contest or become a windsurfer? One thing's for sure. If you had T. rex teeth, you would never need a knife to cut up your food. Even though that might be fun, you are perfect just the way you are!



Best for Grades K-3



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