

OTIS AND WILL DISCOVER THE DEEP: THE RECORD SETTING DIVE OF THE BATHYSPHERE by Barb Rosenstock and Katherine Roy

A biographical account of engineer Otis Barton and naturalist Will Beebe's record-setting descent into the deep ocean in their Bathysphere craft, making them the first humans to witness deep sea creatures in their natural habitat.

WEDGIE & GIZMO by Susanne Selfors and Barbara Fisinger

An exuberant little dog and a disdainful guinea pig, who become housemates in a newly blended family, are challenged to overcome their different perspectives.

STEF SOTO, TACO QUEEN by Jennifer Torres

Stef Soto is hoping to break free from her overprotective parents and embarrassing reputation from her family's taco truck business, but she soon learns that family, friendship, and the taco truck are important and wonderful parts of her life.

HOPE IN THE HOLLER by Lisa Lewis Tyre

Upon her mother's death, Wavie Conley, eleven, must go live with a scheming aunt in the Kentucky town her mother left behind.

Lexile	Grade
620	K-3
550	2-5
780	3-6
660	5-8

STUDENT'S INFORMATION - PLEASE PRINT

First & Last Name _____

Phone Number _____

School _____ Grade _____

Book Selection (1st choice) _____

Book Selection (2nd choice) _____



401 Plainfield Rd., Darien, IL 60561
630/887-8760 • ippl.info • ippl@ippl.info



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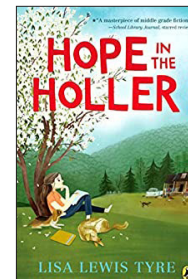
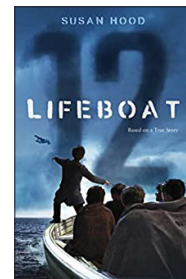
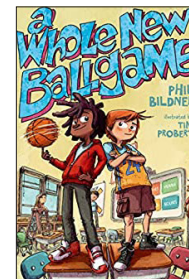
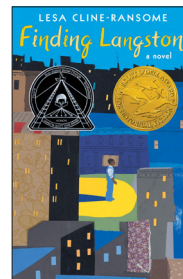


FOR GRADES 3-5

The Bluestem Book Young Readers' Award is an annual award given to the author of the book voted most outstanding by students in grades 3-5 in participating Illinois schools and libraries.

CHOOSE A CHALLENGE:

1. Read or listen to at least three of this year's Bluestem books, and vote for your favorite in February 2021 at the library. **OR**
2. Read or listen to all 20 Monarch books, vote for your favorite in February 2021, and receive a free paperback book from the current list or a past Bluestem list. Return your Bluestem Challenge form to the Kids & Teens Ask Us Desk by March 13, 2021.



	Lexile	Grade
<p>⬇️ THE UNDEFEATED by Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson An ode to black American triumph and tribulation.</p>	n/a	3-12
<p>⬇️ A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME by Phil Bildner and Tim Probert From the first morning with their odd new teacher, fifth grade is full of shocking surprises for best friends Rip and Red.</p>	540	4-6
<p>⬇️ CHESTER NEZ AND THE UNBREAKABLE CODE: A NAVAJO TALKER'S STORY by Joseph Bruchac and Liz Amini-Holmes This powerful book depicts the life of an original Navajo code talker while capturing the importance of heritage.</p>	780	2-5
<p>⬇️ FINDING LANGSTON by Lesa Cline-Ransome Eleven-year-old Langston, a boy from Alabama who moves with his father to Chicago, discovers a book of Langston Hughes' poetry the key to learning to cope with the loss of his mother, relocating and being bullied.</p>	760	2-5
<p>THE AMBROSE DECEPTION by Emily Ecton and Gilbert Ford Three Chicago students, Melissa, Wilf, and Bondi, are unlikely participants in a competition for a ten thousand-dollar scholarship, unaware that there is much more at stake.</p>	610	5-8
<p>⬇️ STRONGHEART: WONDER DOG OF THE SILVER SCREEN by Candace Fleming and Eric Rohmann A German shepherd is transformed from Etzel, a police dog from Berlin, to Strongheart, a silent movie star that will need his best acting skills to prove himself innocent of attacking a girl.</p>	560	4-6
<p>⬇️ THE VAN GOGH DECEPTION (THE LOST ART MYSTERIES) by Deron R. Hicks A young boy is discovered in Washington, DC's National Gallery of Art with no idea of who he is. He must piece together the clues of his true identity and stop one of the greatest art frauds ever attempted.</p>	750	4-6
<p>⬇️ LIFEBOAT I2 by Susan Hood In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed.</p>	610	4-7

Lexile Grade

n/a 3-12

540 4-6

780 2-5

760 2-5

610 5-8

560 4-6

750 4-6

610 4-7

⬇️ **ANIMALS BY THE NUMBERS: A BOOK OF INFOGRAPHICS**

by Steve Jenkins

Which animals have the longest tongues and how do humans compare in size to a blue whale?

⬇️ **POWER FORWARD: ZAYD SALEEM, CHASING THE DREAM**

by Hena Khan and Sally Wern Comport

Fourth-grader Zayd yearns to play basketball on the Gold Team, but when he skips orchestra rehearsal to practice, his parents forbid anything basketball-related, and tryouts are coming soon.

⬇️ **BOB** by Wendy Mass, Rebecca Stead, and Nicholas Gannon

Visiting her grandmother in Australia, Livy, ten, is reminded of the promise she made five years before to Bob, a strange, green creature who cannot recall who or what he is.

SERGEANT RECKLESS: THE TRUE STORY OF THE LITTLE HORSE WHO BECAME A HERO by Patricia McCormick and Iacopo Bruno

U.S. Marines fighting in the Korean War found a unkept little mare, and trained as a packhorse. As cannons thundered and shells flew through the air, Reckless proved herself again and again—becoming the only animal ever to officially hold military rank and receive two Purple Hearts.

⬇️ **A DASH OF TROUBLE** by Anna Meriano and Mirelle Ortega

Leonora Logrono's family owns the most beloved bakery in Rose Hill, Texas, creating delicious cookies and cakes for any occasion. And no occasion is more important than the annual Día de los Muertos festival.

⬇️ **CLICK** by Kayla Miller

Olive "clicks" with everyone in the fifth grade—until one day she doesn't. When a school variety show leaves Olive stranded without an act to join, she begins to panic, wondering why all her friends have already formed their own groups...without her.

CURIOSITY: THE STORY OF A MARS ROVER by Markus Motem

On August 6, 2012, the rover Curiosity touched down on the rocky surface of Mars—and now she's ready to guide you through her journey firsthand!

⬇️ **MAX & THE MIDKNIGHTS** by Lincoln Peirce

Aspiring knight Max teams up with a band of brave adventurers, the Midknights, on a madcap quest to save a kidnapped relative from a cruel king who is driving all the happiness out of the realm of Byjovia.

Lexile Grade

940 2-6

600 3-6

590 3-6

780 1-5

850 3-6

360 3-6

970 2-6

490 4-6

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