



FALL 2021

THE LIBRARY @ SPRINGHURST

GROW A LOVE OF READING

Dear Families,

The main goal of the Springhurst Library Program is for all students to grow a love of reading. Through an inquiry-based approach, students learn to follow their curiosity to ask questions, interpret and evaluate information, construct their own understandings and develop social responsibility and strategies for reflection and self-assessment. The information fluency skills required for independent and lifelong learning follow a coherent developmentally appropriate continuum of instruction and practice throughout grades K-5. This enables all of our children to succeed in our ever-expanding information-rich world and develop an understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion through literature.

I strongly recommend that your child reads for at least 20 minutes a day to build their stamina and improve their comprehension skills. Try asking your child questions about what they are reading to encourage them and take an active role in their reading journey.

The Springhurst Library will be sending out a newsletter throughout the year to update you on what is happening in the library. As of right now, we are awaiting the opening of our new library media center/technology lab.

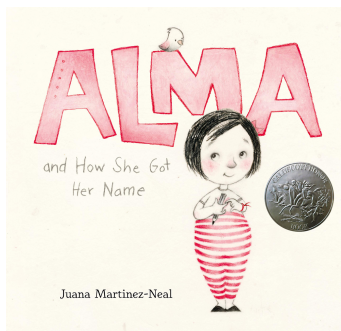
Below you will find a list of skills we will be developing throughout the year and books we will be reading by grade level. Please take some time to review the titles below and make yourself aware of the topics that may come up in our discussions.

Sincerely,
Ms. Lauren Rodriguez
Library Media Specialist

Kindergarten

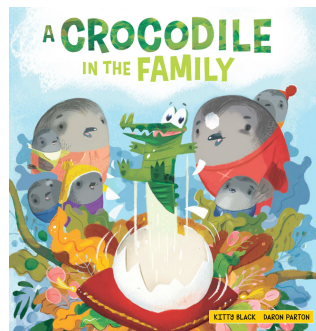
Kindergarten students are developing the following skills:

- Respect for library and library materials
- Listening to stories and recalling facts from the listening activity
- Making predictions about what will happen next in the story
- Showing respect for the ideas of others while participating in group discussions
- Understanding that library materials are organized in a consistent and predictable way
- Personally connecting to literature
- Distinguishing between fiction and nonfiction books



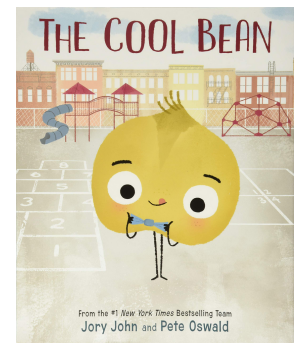
Alma, whose full name is Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela, thinks she has too many names and so she asks her dad about them. He explains the various people she was named to honor.

Lesson focus: Identity, family heritage



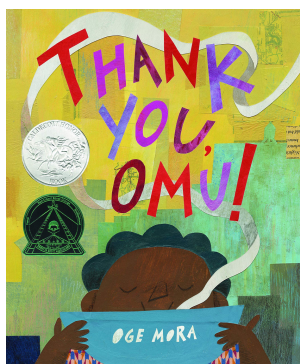
A Crocodile in the Family is a charming children's story about a family of birds who stumble across a lone egg in the Australian bush. After taking it home to care for the egg themselves, they discover it's actually a baby crocodile!

Lesson focus: Acceptance, different kinds of families



Everyone knows the cool beans. They're soooooo cool. And then there's the uncool has-bean . . . Always on the sidelines, one bean unsuccessfully tries everything he can to fit in with the crowd—until one day the cool beans show him how it's done.

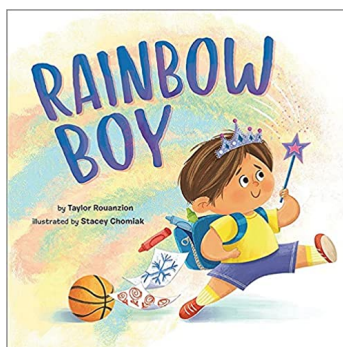
Lesson focus: Kindness and friendship



Everyone in the neighborhood dreams of a taste of Omu's delicious stew! One by one, they follow their noses toward the scrumptious scent.

And one by one, Omu offers a portion of her meal. Soon the pot is empty. Has she been so generous that she has nothing left for herself?

Lesson focus: Community, kindness, thankfulness and social awareness.



A story about a boy with a heart too big for one color alone. A little boy attempts to answer one of grown-ups' all-time favorite questions: "What's your favorite color?" But with so many wonderful colors to choose from, he doesn't know how to answer...

Lesson focus: Gender stereotypes, acceptance



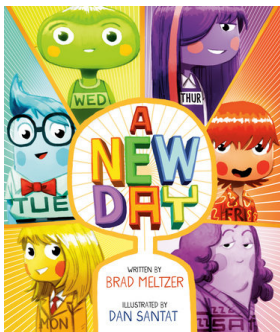
Stella's Stellar Hair celebrates the joy of self-empowerment, shows off our solar system, and beautifully illustrates a variety of hairstyles from the African diaspora.

Lesson Focus: self-empowerment

1st Grade

Grade 1 students are developing the following skills:

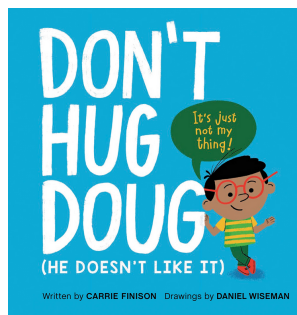
- Respect for library and library materials
- Learning how to use the online catalog to locate materials within the library
- Exploring and choosing materials based on personal interests
- Selecting and using fiction and nonfiction sources
- Making connections to prior knowledge
- Extracting information from illustrations
- Identifying characters, setting, and problem/resolution in a story
- Discussing characteristics of the work of favorite authors and illustrators
- Participating in discussions and actively listening



Sunday quit, just like that. She said she was tired of being a day. And so the other days of the week had no choice but to advertise: "WANTED: A NEW DAY.

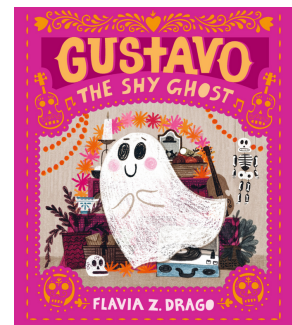
Must be relaxing, tranquil, and replenishing. Serious inquires only."

Lesson Focus: Kindness and helping others



Yup, some people love hugs; other people don't. So how can you tell if someone likes hugs or not? There's only one way to find out: Ask! Because everybody gets to decide for themselves whether they want a hug or not.

Lesson focus: Bodily autonomy and consent



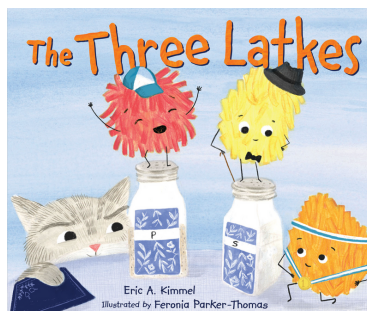
Gustavo, a shy ghost struggles with finding the courage to make friends. But, he decides to share his passion with others and in turn, introduces himself to a whole new group of friends.

Lesson focus: Overcoming obstacles



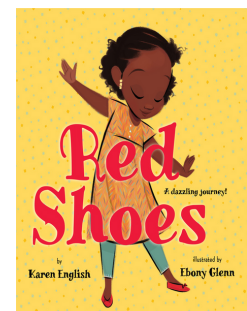
Harriet loves costumes. She wears them to the dentist, to the supermarket, and most importantly, to her super-special dress-up birthday party. Her dads have decorated everything for the party and Harriet has her most favorite costume all picked out for the big day. There's just one thing missing—party hats!

Lesson Focus: Being true to yourself



When three Hanukkah latkes fight over which of them tastes the best, the winner is decided by the family cat. Which will he choose? The excited latkes can't wait to find out, but perhaps they should be careful what they wish for!

Lesson focus: Comparing and contrasting



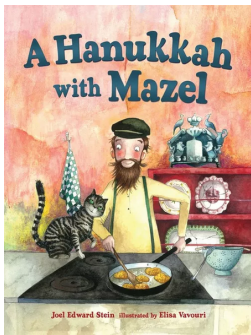
A sweet story about a pair of red shoes, beloved by Malika before she outgrows them and gives them up so they can become the favorite of another little girl half a world away.

Lesson focus: Sharing and helping others

2nd Grade

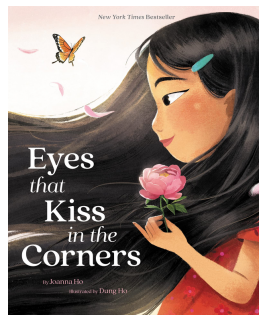
Grade 2 students are developing the following skills:

- Identifying books at their reading level ("just right" books)
- Choosing a variety of fiction and nonfiction
- Comparing characters and main ideas from different stories
- Showing respect for the ideas of others while participating in group discussions
- Generating questions during reading and research
- Following steps of the inquiry process
- Using a variety of online and print resources with guidance
- Comparing new information with prior knowledge
- Recognizing the purpose of nonfiction text features



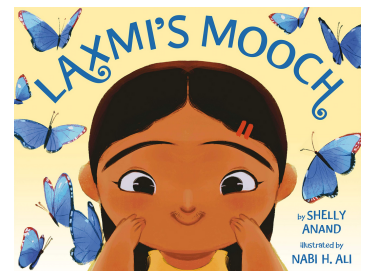
Misha, a poor artist, has no one to celebrate Hanukkah with until he discovers a hungry cat in his barn. The lucky little cat, whom Misha names Mazel, inspires Misha to turn each night of Hanukkah into something special. He doesn't have money for Hanukkah candles, but he can use his artistic skills to bring light to his home - as Mazel brings good luck to his life.

Lesson focus: Traditions and friendship



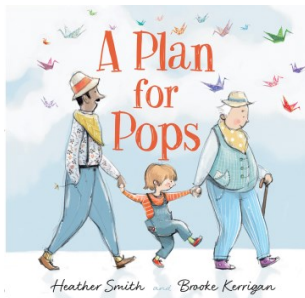
A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers'. They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's. They have eyes that kiss in the corners and glow like warm tea and are filled with stories of the past and hope for the future.

Lesson focus: Family and tradition, self-acceptance



A joyful, body-positive picture book about a young Indian American girl's journey to accept her body hair and celebrate her heritage after being teased about her mustache.

Lesson focus: Body positivity



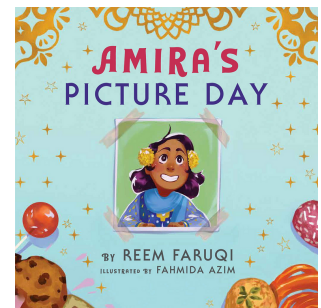
Lou spends every Saturday with Grandad and Pops. They walk to the library hand in hand, like a chain of paper dolls. Grandad reads books about science and design, Pops listens to rock and roll, and Lou bounces from lap to lap. But everything changes one Saturday. Pops has a fall. That night there is terrible news: Pops will need to use a wheelchair, not just for now, but for always.

Lesson focus: Comparing and contrasting



Jeff the bear has definitely forgotten something. He ate his breakfast, he watered his plant, he combed his fur... what could it be? Why does he feel so oddly off? So he asks his friend Anders the rabbit what could possibly be wrong. It couldn't have anything to do with the fact that he's wearing underwear...over his fur...could it?

Lesson focus: Kindness and being a good friend



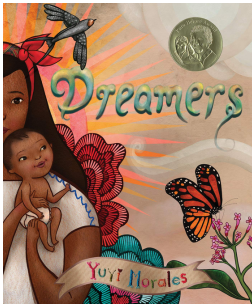
Just the thought of Eid makes Amira warm and tingly inside. Amira can't wait for the festivities to begin. But when a flier on the fridge catches her eye, Amira's stomach goes cold. Not only is it Eid, it's also school picture day. If she's not in her class picture, how will her classmates remember her? Won't her teacher wonder where she is?

Lesson focus: Celebrations and discussing feelings

3rd Grade

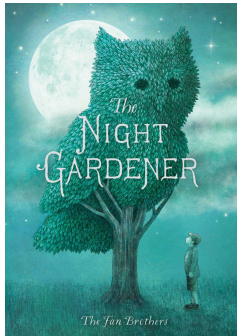
Grade 3 students are developing the following skills:

- Using both fiction and nonfiction material at an appropriate reading level
- Identifying and discussing the problems and solutions in stories
- Reflecting on text during reading or listening
- Generating questions during reading and research
- Understanding the concept of 'keywords' as a research tool
- Using author, title, subject or keywords to search the online catalog
- Understanding the need to cite resources
- Using online and print resources with guidance



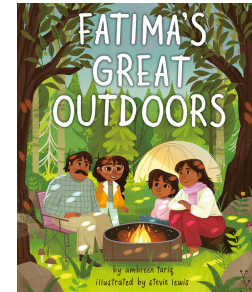
Dreamers is a celebration of making your home with the things you always carry: your resilience, your dreams, your hopes and history. It's the story of finding your way in a new place, of navigating an unfamiliar world and finding the best parts of it. In dark times, it's a promise that you can make better tomorrows.

Lesson focus: Family, following your dreams



One day, William discovers that the tree outside his window has been sculpted into a wise owl. In the following days, more topiaries appear, and each one is more beautiful than the last. Soon, William's gray little town is full of color and life. And though the mysterious night gardener disappears as suddenly as he appeared, William—and his town—are changed forever.

Lesson focus: Interpreting Illustrations



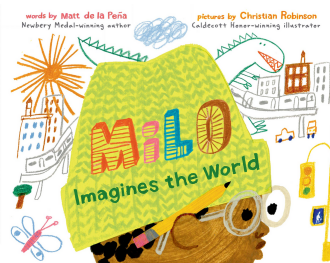
Fatima Khazi is excited for the weekend. Her family is headed to a local state park for their first camping trip! The thought of leaving the magic of the outdoors tugs at Fatima's heart, but her sister reminds her that they can keep the memory alive through stories—and they can always daydream about what their next camping trip will look like.

Lesson focus: Fitting in, immigrant families



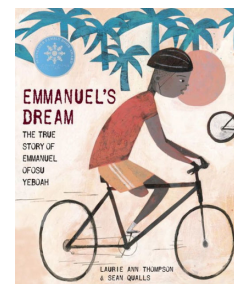
In a world built for Perfect Pets, Barnabus is a Failed Project, half mouse, half elephant, kept out of sight until his dreams of freedom lead him and his misfit friends on a perilous adventure.

Lesson focus: Diversity, bravery, and solidarity



Sitting on the subway beside his big sister, young Milo is "a shook-up soda." He feels "excitement stacked on top of worry on top of confusion on top of love." He looks at all the interesting people around him and imagines what their life is like. The kids are on their way to visit their mother, who is incarcerated.

Lesson focus: First impressions, empathy



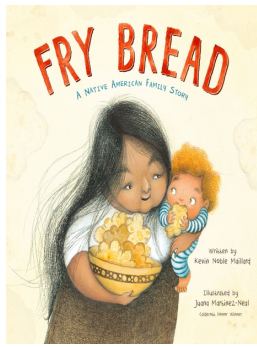
Emmanuel is born with one leg. However, his mother teaches Emmanuel not to let this physical impairment prevent him from doing things other kids do. When his mother passes away, Emmanuel decides to honor her by showing other people that "being disabled does not mean unable." He bicycles around Ghana, inspiring those with and without physical challenges, proving that it is possible to accomplish something big with just one leg.

Lesson focus: Overcoming challenges, inspiring others

4th Grade

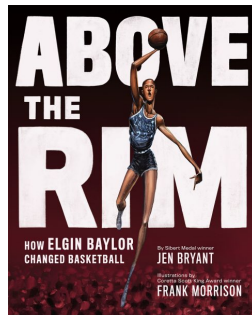
Grade 4 students are developing the following skills:

- Identifying the elements of various literary genres
- Supporting interpretation of story (characters, setting, plot) with specific evidence
- Choosing a variety of fiction and nonfiction at an appropriate reading level
- Creating list of keywords based on prior knowledge when beginning research
- Formulating questions to advance research
- Citing both print and online sources used during research
- Participating in discussions, listening well, and respecting others' ideas



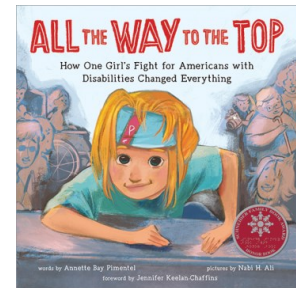
Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story is a love letter to Indigenous nations and communities centered around a simple food that represents a complex history of survival, relocation, and resilience.

Lesson focus: Native Families and resilience



The story of Elgin Baylor, basketball icon and civil rights advocate, from an all-star team Hall-of-famer Elgin Baylor was one of basketball's all-time-greatest players—an innovative athlete, team player, and quiet force for change.

Lesson focus: Civil rights, standing up for what is right



The inspiring true story of Jennifer Keelan, the activist whose participation in the Capitol Crawl at just eight years old encouraged Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Lesson focus: Determination, activism, people with disabilities



Lucian's father called them faraway things, those mysterious objects orphaned upon the windswept shore, their stories long lost in the shroud of ocean fog. Lucian's discovery on the beach this particular day, though, is no ordinary faraway thing. It's a cutlass: strong, shiny, and powerful.

Lesson focus: Self-discovery and letting go



Across the course of several seemingly unrelated but ultimately connected actions by different children, we watch how kids turn a lonely island into a community—and watch a journey from what the world should be to what the world could be. This is a book about what citizenship—good citizenship—means to you, and to us all.

Lesson focus: Teamwork and community



the story of a fawn making her way through a border landscape teeming with flora and fauna native to the region.

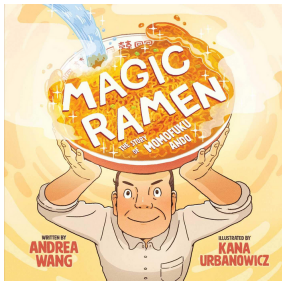
A gentle but empowering voice encourages her to face her fears when she comes across an obstacle in the form of an insurmountable barrier.

Lesson focus: Growth, empowerment, and finding one's own voice

5th Grade

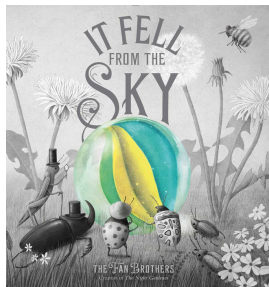
Grade 5 students are developing the following skills:

- Recognizing features of different literary genres
- Reading a variety of fiction and nonfiction
- Distinguishing between questions which can be answered by simple fact finding, those which cannot be answered, and those which lend themselves to an interesting inquiry topic
- Evaluating facts for accuracy and recognizing that different sources can provide conflicting information
- Using evidence from text to support opinions
- Reformulating ideas as new information is gathered
- Participating in discussions, listening well, and respecting others' ideas



Inspiration struck when Momofuku Ando spotted the long lines for a simple bowl of ramen following World War II. Magic Ramen tells the true story behind the creation of one of the world's most popular foods.

Lesson focus: Persistence



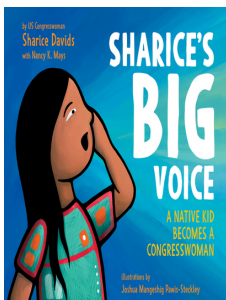
It fell from the sky on a Thursday. None of the insects know where it came from, or what it is. Some say it's an egg. Others, a gumdrop. But whatever it is, it fell near Spider's house, so he's convinced it belongs to him.

Lesson focus: Community, art and giving back



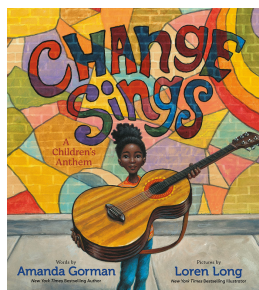
When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away. A story about a difficult time in history and, ultimately, one of empowerment and strength.

Lesson focus: Historical fiction, Indigenous families



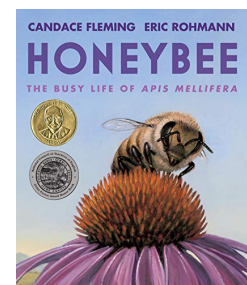
When Sharice Davids was young, she never thought she'd be in Congress. During her campaign, she heard from a lot of doubters. They said she couldn't win because of how she looked, who she loved, and where she came from. But here's the thing: Everyone's path looks different and everyone's path has obstacles.

Lesson focus: Determination



In this picture book by presidential inaugural poet and activist Amanda Gorman, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes—big or small—in the world, in their communities, and in most importantly, in themselves.

Lesson focus: Community, working together



A tiny honeybee emerges through the wax cap of her cell. Driven to protect and take care of her hive, she cleans the nursery and feeds the larvae and the queen. But is she strong enough to fly? Not yet! Apis builds wax comb to store honey, and transfers pollen from other bees into the storage. She defends the hive from invaders. And finally, she begins her new life as an adventurer.

Lesson focus: Non-fiction text features



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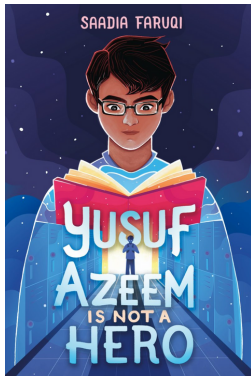


Three Little Engines by Bob McKinnon

Local author, Bob McKinnon visited our Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade classes in the courtyard on October 8th. He shared his gorgeously illustrated, modern retelling of the classic, *The Little Engine That Could*, sharing the timely message that everyone's journey is different, and that sometimes, success comes from a helping hand. Students had the opportunity to ask Bob questions after the reading of the story.



Upcoming Author Visits



Yusuf Azeem Is Not a Hero by Saadia Faruqi

A timely, emotional story full of hope and love even in the face of discrimination and prejudice.

October 15th
@ 4:30 via Google meet



Bravo Anjali by Sheetal Sheth TBA

In this follow-up to *Always Anjali*, Anjali realizes that she should never let anyone make her feel bad for being good at something. An important story for all children to remember to 'never dim their light.'

