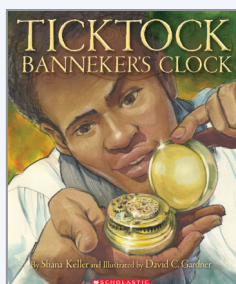


Dear Educator,

The Byron V. Garrett Life and Literacy Skills Library offers books for PreK to Grade 5. For each grade, the library features lively, appealing books perfect for read-alouds, paired reading, and independent reading that have been selected because they demonstrate the importance of key life skills. These library books have been categorized into five distinct themes, with an additional take-home book that encompasses all themes.

Your Grade 4 Library includes: 1 Take-Home/Whole-Class title per grade, 31 copies of each, and 20 high-interest trade books, 2 copies of each.

Take-Home Book



Ticktock Banneker's Clock

written by Shana Keller and illustrated by David C. Gardner

This inspiring picture-book biography talks about the accomplishments of Benjamin Banneker (1731–1806), who was born a free man in Maryland. Benjamin was very curious about the world around him. After examining a pocket watch, Benjamin decides he wants to build his own striking clock. Using his mathematical skills, his powers of observation and problem-solving, and the resources from his own backyard, Benjamin succeeds in building a clock after nearly two years of work. *Ticktock Banneker's Clock* gives readers a glimpse into the life of a man who persevered despite setbacks and used his ingenuity and organizational skills to achieve a goal. This book relates to all five library themes and is supported by both a Read-Aloud Lesson resource for teachers to use in the classroom as well as a Read Together resource for families to share with children at home.

Talk About It: How was Benjamin Banneker inspired by the world around him? How did he use his environment's resources to achieve a goal?

Understanding Myself



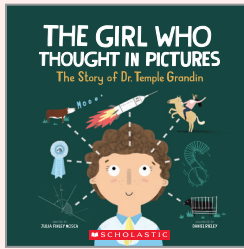
Allergic

written by Megan Wagner Lloyd and illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter

Maggie wants nothing more on her birthday than a brand-new puppy. But when her family goes to the animal rescue to find a pet, something doesn't feel right. Suddenly, Maggie is itchy, swollen, and sneezy! She's allergic to all furry things! Maggie must now find a pet that doesn't trigger her allergies and a way to navigate in a world where lots of other people's pets still do.

Talk About It: At first, Maggie is upset about her allergies. What does she learn about herself, and how does she find a solution to her problems?

Understanding Myself continued

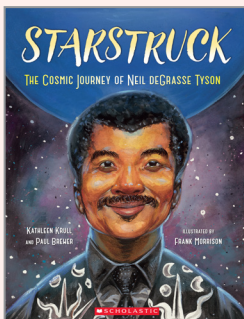


The Girl Who Thought in Pictures

written by Julia Finley Mosca and illustrated by Daniel Rieley

Temple Grandin always knew that she was different from others, but she never thought of being different as bad! What made her different from other people was exactly what made her the person she is today: an exceptional scientist and activist.

Talk About It: How does Temple's life change when she discovers that cows think in pictures, almost like the way she thinks? Why do you think that realization, along with the positive support of her teacher, shaped her career? What do you think of her advice to "keep learning, especially from your mistakes"?



Starstruck: The Cosmic Journey of Neil deGrasse Tyson

written by Kathleen Krull and Paul Brewer and illustrated by Frank Morrison

Neil deGrasse Tyson's journey to becoming an astrophysicist begins at the Hayden Planetarium, where nine-year-old Neil first sees images of the stars and planets created by the Big Bang. This book recounts Tyson's avid pursuit of knowledge through school, college, and his career, where he remains hungry for information and excited to share it with the world.

Talk About It: How did having a vision of himself studying the stars help Neil deGrasse Tyson succeed in school and in life?



The Tyrell Show: Season One

written by Miles Grose and illustrated by Shaz Lym

Tyrell is excited to start his last year at Marcus Garvey Elementary, but things don't go the way he expected. His best friend Boogie is acting different, schoolwork is much harder than he thought it would be, and being one of the older kids doesn't automatically make him popular. What's even worse is the show the school is putting on. There's only one thing that will help him through: his podcast.

Talk About It: How does Tyrell use his podcast to work through what he is feeling?

Managing Myself

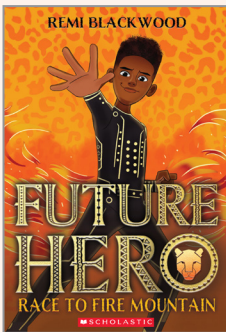


Bobby vs. Girls (Accidentally)

written by Lisa Yee and illustrated by Dan Santat

Bobby doesn't know how it happened, but all the problems he has in life seem centered around girls. His sister has an odd fascination with his goldfish, his ex-best friend's personality has changed and she's running for school president opposite him, and his ex-best friend's new best friend seems to hate boys! Bobby realizes he's going to need a lot of courage and determination to get through the school year.

Talk About It: Bobby writes a poem about his goldfish, Rover. How does writing this poem help Bobby? How might you use writing, art, or talking with someone you trust to work through something that you are feeling?

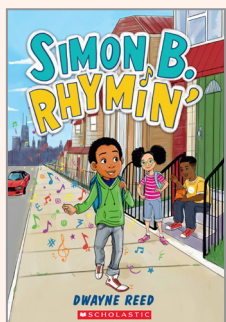


Future Hero: Race To Fire Mountain

written by Remi Blackwood

The barbershop is the only place Jarell feels comfortable being himself. So when Jarell finds a magical portal in his local barbershop, he's surprised. But what's even more surprising is that everyone in the world beyond this portal thinks that Jarell is the hero they've been waiting for. Now Jarell has to find out what it means to be a hero and how to become the one that the magical community he has found needs.

Talk About It: At the end of the book, Legsy tells Jarell he has to wait until he can go back to Ulfrika. Why is Jarell determined to go back? How do you think he will handle waiting?

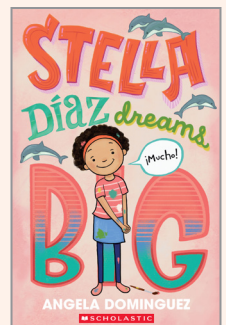


Simon B. Rhyming

written by Dwayne Reed and illustrated by Robert Paul Jr.

In Simon's dreams, he's a big-time rapper called Notorious D.O.G., but in real life he's a shy fifth grader who prefers to blend into the background. All that changes when Simon's teacher assigns an oral presentation about things around the community. It will take a lot of courage for Simon to turn the person he is in his dreams into a reality for his presentation, but he's willing to try.

Talk About It: What qualities does Simon have that make him a compelling character? How does he demonstrate his courage? How are you and Simon alike?



Stella Díaz Dreams Big

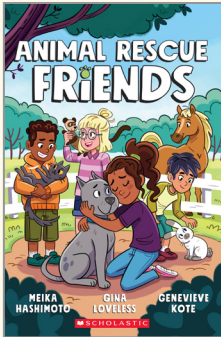
written and illustrated by Angela Dominguez

Stella wants to do it all. In the new school year, she becomes president of the Sea Musketeers and joins several other clubs. But there's simply not enough time in the day! Stella will be in big trouble if she doesn't get a handle on things.

Talk About It: Stella accepts that she can't do everything by herself. How does Stella succeed once she asks for help from her friends?

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Respecting Others



Animal Rescue Friends

written by Gina Loveless and Meika Hashimoto and illustrated by Genevieve Kote

In this graphic novel, children show empathy and compassion as they work hard to help animals find their forever homes. Whether the animals are dogs, cats, bunnies, or ferrets, the children in this book are determined to help them find the homes and shelters that can offer them the best care.

Talk About It: How does Boyd's real owner show Maddie that she is thankful to her for taking such good care of her dog?



Planting Stories

written by Anika Aldamuy Denise and illustrated by Paola Escobar

This is an inspiring picture-book biography of Pura Belpré—storyteller, puppeteer, and New York City's first Puerto Rican librarian—who championed bilingual literacy and used the stories she told to help children envision the world. This biography shows the impact that librarians can have on a community, how scientific skills like researching and cataloging are important, and how reading and literacy can open readers' eyes to all kinds of new concepts.

Talk About It: How did Pura Belpré help her community?

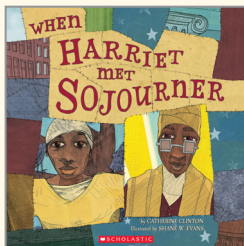


Kids Who Are Changing the World

written by Sheila Sweeny Higginson and illustrated by Alyssa Petersen

This book proves that kids don't have to wait until they've grown up in order to help change the world for the good of those around them. Read along to learn about these amazing kids who don't let their age stop them from helping those in need.

Talk About It: What do each of these teens who made a difference have in common? Why do you think helping other people is important to them?



When Harriet Met Sojourner

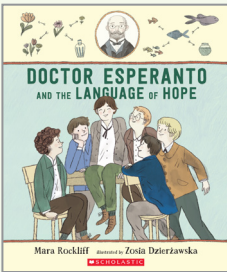
written by Catherine Clinton and illustrated by Shane W. Evans

The life stories of two pivotal figures in American history who helped shape the foundation of rights for Black people in the U.S.—Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth—are explored in this powerful text. Relating their lives on alternating pages, this book leads up to the day they likely met in Boston in 1864. This informative and uplifting text is sure to spark interest in these two Black American heroes.

Talk About It: How did these two women demonstrate strength and leadership?

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Building Relationships



Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope

written by Mara Rockcliff and illustrated by Zosia Dzierżawska

Leyzer lives in a town where everyone speaks different languages, but few kind words. He dreams of a world where everyone can understand one language that unites them, and he dedicates his life to making a language that does just that. After many years and different trials, he finally achieves his dream of bringing people together and building up community relationships.

Talk About It: How did Leyzer accomplish his goal of fostering understanding, compassion, and respect for all people?

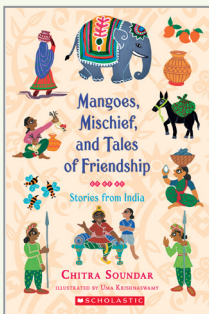


Eva Evergreen: Semi-Magical Witch

written by Julie Abe and illustrated by Shan Jiang

In this fast-paced fantasy, Eva wants nothing more than to move up a rank before she turns thirteen. If she doesn't, her magic will be lost forever! The requirements seem easy enough, but there's one problem: Eva is only semi-magical, which makes her magic hard to use. She can never get her spells to do what she wants, and if she overdoes it, she falls asleep. How will she become a Novice Witch? Eva must learn how to control her powers and help the townspeople before it's too late!

Talk About It: What does Eva learn about helping people? How do the lessons she learns relate to your own life?

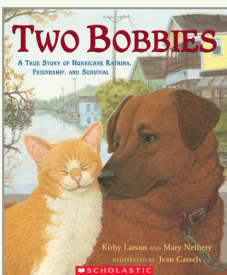


Mangoes, Mischief, and Tales of Friendship

written by Chitra Soundar and illustrated by Uma Krishnaswamy

When given an opportunity to take control of his father's court, Prince Veera and his best friend Suku immediately take on the job. But things aren't as simple as they seem. Now Prince Veera has to settle problems across the kingdom, from disputes with greedy merchants to jewels that turn into pickles. Prince Veera and Suku will need each other and their friendship more than ever to get through this!

Talk About It: What are some ways Prince Veera and Suku help each other throughout the story?



Two Bobbies

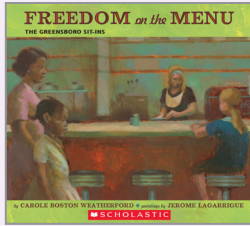
written by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery and illustrated by Jean Cassels

After Hurricane Katrina, Bobbi the dog and Bob Cat are left to roam the streets of New Orleans. Together, the two Bobbies scrape by on whatever they can find, and eventually they are rescued by a kind construction worker who brings them to a shelter. But will the two Bobbies be able to get adopted together?

Talk About It: How were Bobbi and Bob Cat supported after the hurricane?

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Making Decisions



Freedom on the Menu

written by Carole Boston Weatherford and illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue

The 1960s Civil Rights Movement is viewed through the eyes of Connie, a young Black girl whose family is involved in the protests to end segregation. Connie wishes for equality between White and Black people, and helps her family as her siblings join the NAACP and go door-to-door to sign up voters. Though sit-in protests could be dangerous, the brave decisions of the young activists still serve as models for peaceful protest.

Talk About It: How does Connie decide to help support her siblings' efforts?

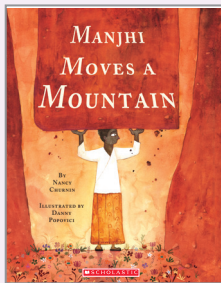


If Bees Disappeared

written and illustrated by Lily Williams

Bees play an essential role in nature, bringing pollen to flowers and other plants. But what would happen to our world if all of them disappeared? Read along to find out how even the smallest decisions we make can have consequences that affect our lives and our world.

Talk About It: How can making even small decisions have big consequences?

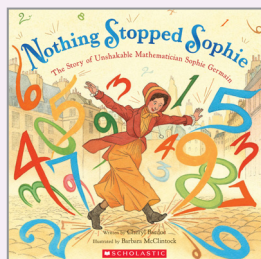


Manjhi Moves a Mountain

written by Nancy Churnin and illustrated by Danny Popovici

There were two villages separated by a mountain. One village had food, water, and resources, while the other had very little. Manjhi dreams of a day when people from the second village would not have to climb a mountain to access simple things, and he begins to work to physically move the mountain! Through his steady example and determination, the villages are eventually joined via a path in the mountain.

Talk About It: How does the path Manjhi decides to create make life for the people in his community better?



Nothing Stopped Sophie

written by Cheryl Bardoe and illustrated by Barbara McClintock

Everyone in Sophie Germain's life tried to discourage her from studying mathematics. In France during the 1700s and 1800s, mathematics was not considered a suitable pursuit for a woman. But Sophie was fascinated by math and used her skills to become the first woman to win a grand prize from the Royal Academy of Sciences. She may not have known it, but Sophie's fearless decision to pursue her dreams still inspires others around the world today.

Talk About It: How does Sophie overcome obstacles to study what she wants?

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