

**HASL N RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2022**  
**Grades 1 and 2**

*All book summaries are provided by the publisher or written by committee members.*

*Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.*

- Adler, David A. ***Don't Throw it to Mo!***. Penguin Press, 2015. Although Mo, the youngest kid on the Robins football team, is being teased, his coach has a plan to turn things around.
- Alexander, Kwame. ***Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band***. Sleeping Bear Press, 2011. Acoustic Rooster forms a jazz band with Duck Ellington, Bee Holliday, and Pepe Ernesto Cruz to compete in the annual Barnyard Talent Show against such greats as Thelonius Monkey, Mules Davis, and Ella Finchgerald. Includes glossary, notes on the characters and songs, and jazz timeline.
- Aureliani, Franco. ***Dino-Mike and the Lunar Showdown***. Stone Arch Books, 2016. Mike and Shannon take to space to face off against their archnemesis, Mr. Bones, in a lunar showdown of dino-sized proportions, finally realizing that Mr. Bones isn't at all what he seems to be! *Series*
- Barton, Chris. ***Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions***. Charlesbridge, 2016. One of the top twenty toys of all time, the Super Soaker water gun was invented quite by accident by a NASA engineer working on a new system for refrigerators.
- Bell, Cece. ***Smell My Foot!*** Candlewick, 2019. Shares the interactions of the rule-following Chick and the absent-minded Brain, whose friendship is tested by miscommunications and misunderstandings about good manners.
- Blabey, Aaron. ***The Bad Guys: The Big Bad Wolf***. Scholastic, 2019. In this installment of the illustrated chapter book series, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Shark, Mr. Snake, and Mr. Piranha want to help the Big Bad Wolf who has been enlarged to Godzilla size and protect the world from an alien invasion. *Series*
- Burks, James. ***Bird and Squirrel All or Nothing***. Graphix, 2020. The dangerous Horned Toad 500 cross-country race is coming up and Bird's father has always won it. But when his dad gets injured, Bird reluctantly joins the race to save the family honor. While dealing with the scorching desert heat and dirty tricks from another team, Bird and Squirrel are put to the ultimate test of endurance and sportsmanship. Along the way, the duo learns that, win or lose, having good friends and family will always get you to the finish line. *Graphic novel, series*
- Byers, Grace. ***I Am Enough***. Balzer + Bray, 2018. This gorgeous, lyrical ode to loving who you are, respecting others, and being kind to one another comes from *Empire* actor and activist Grace Byers and talented newcomer artist Keturah A. Bobo.
- Chin, Jason. ***Gravity***. Roaring Brook, 2014. Minimal text and enthralling illustrations provide an introduction to the concept of gravity and explain what would happen without gravity. Additionally, specific and easy to understand information on gravity is included in the afterward.

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- Choi, Yangsook. ***The Name Jar***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2001. Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. What will she do?
- Clanton, Ben. ***Narwhal's School of Awesomeness***. Tundra Books, 2021. Narwhal and Jelly become the coolest teachers in the world-wide waters in the hilarious sixth book of this blockbuster graphic novel series! *Graphic novel, series*
- Collier, Bryan. ***It's Shoe Time!*** Hyperion, 2017. Tie your laces. Zip your zippers. And tap your toes. It's...SHOE TIME! This lyrical beginning-reader by multi award-winning artist Bryan Collier turns the closet on its heel and redefines what it means to be a pair. Beautifully rendered art paired with rich, rhyming dialog creates a powerful reading experience.
- Cornwall, Gaia. ***Jabari Jumps***. Candlewick, 2017. With his father's support and encouragement, Jabari overcomes his fear, musters up his courage, and jumps off the swimming pool diving board.
- Coy, John. ***Hoop Genius: How a Desperate Teacher and Rowdy Gym Class Invented Basketball***. Carolrhoda Books, 2013. In 1891 James Naismith invented basketball as a game of skill to keep the unruly students in his gym class engaged.
- Cummings, Troy. ***Rise of the Balloon Goons***. Scholastic, 2013. Alexander has just moved into Stermont, but because the elementary school is being torn down, his new classroom is located in the hospital morgue where he finds a notebook full of information about monsters--and everywhere he turns there are spooky balloon men determined to attack him. *Series*
- Davies, Nicola. ***Tiny Creatures: The World of Microbes***. Candlewick, 2014. This engaging introduction to microbes explains how some of the smallest things on Earth have really big jobs.
- Elya, Susan Middleton. ***Little Roja Riding Hood***. Putnam's, 2014. A rhyming twist on the classic fairy tale in which a little girl saves her grandmother from a wolf. Includes a glossary of Spanish words.
- Flintham, Thomas. ***Press Start: Game Over, Super Rabbit Boy!*** Scholastic, 2017. Uh-oh, Animal Town is in trouble! Meanie King Viking has created a dreaded robot army to spread No Fun across the land. On top of that, he has stolen the happiest and most fun animal ever, Singing Dog. There is only one person who can save the day: Super Rabbit Boy! *Series*

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- Florian, Douglas. ***Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars: Space Poems and Paintings.*** Harcourt, 2007. Blast off with Douglas Florian's high-flying compendium, which features twenty whimsical poems about space. From the moon to the stars, from the Earth to Mars, here is an exuberant celebration of our celestial surroundings that's certain to become a universal favorite among aspiring astronomers everywhere.
- Funk, Josh. ***Dear Dragon: A Pen Pal Tale.*** Viking, 2016. George and Blaise are pen pals, and they write letters to each other about everything: their pets, birthdays, favorite sports, and science fair projects. There's just one thing that the two friends don't know: George is a human, while Blaise is a dragon! What will happen when these pen pals finally meet face-to-face?
- Greenawalt, Kelly. ***I Can Build It!*** Scholastic, 2020. Princess Truly is a great inventor! With her magic, sparkling curls, she can build anything from a Brushy-Brush machine to a super-cool, turbo-boosted racing bike for her little brother. But when Truly and her sidekick pug Sir Noodles discover that the animal shelter is all out of treats, it's time for their biggest invention yet... the Super Snack Machine! These rhyming, funny, and empowering short stories with full-color artwork and easy-to-read text throughout are perfect for new readers! *Series*
- Gutman, Dan. ***My Weird School: Teamwork Trouble.*** Harper, 2018. Ryan wants to form a curling team at school with A.J. and Andrea, but soon trouble amongst his teammates threatens to end their season early. *Series*
- Hernandez, Laurie. ***She's Got This.*** Harper, 2018. This is a beautiful story of a young girl who learns that hard work and perseverance are worth it, especially when accompanied by the encouragement and support of her family.
- Jenkins, Steve. ***Apex Predators: The World's Deadliest Hunters, Past and Present.*** Houghton Mifflin, 2017. Award-winning author/illustrator Steve Jenkins shares amazing facts about extinct and modern-day apex (animals at the top of the food chain) predators.
- John, Jory. ***The Good Egg.*** HarperCollins, 2019. When the other eggs in his carton behave badly, the good egg feels like he needs to be perfect.
- Juster, Norton. ***The Hello, Goodbye Window.*** Hyperion, 2005. This book is a love song devoted to that special relationship between grandparent and grandchild. The kitchen window at Nanna and Poppy's house is, for one little girl, a magic gateway. Everything important happens near it, through it, or beyond it. *Caldecott Medal 2006*
- Kelly, Scott. ***My Journey to the Stars.*** Crown, 2017. A picture book memoir about NASA astronaut Scott Kelly that takes readers on a journey through his ordinary childhood to his record-breaking year commanding the International Space Station.

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- Klise, Kate. ***Stay: A Girl, A Dog, A Bucket List***. Feiwel and Friends, 2017. Eli the dog has been with Astrid since she was a baby, and now that Eli is getting older and slowing down, Astrid wants to make fun memories with him, but she knows what is most important to Eli is the time he spends with Astrid.
- Levine, Sara. ***Tooth by Tooth: Comparing Fangs, Tusks, and Chompers***. Millbrook, 2016. This nonfiction book explains the similarities and differences of teeth in humans and animals. It includes more information about mammals, a glossary, further reading suggestions, and websites.
- Lobel, Arnold. ***Frog and Toad Are Friends***. HarperCollins, 2003. First published 1970. Be entertained by the classic, short, delightful tales about best friends Frog and Toad. *Series*
- Mallery, Sydra. ***A Most Unusual Day***. Greenwillow, 2018. Something is unusual about today, from the time Caroline wakes up, throughout her day at school, until her parents greet her with an unusually perfect surprise.
- May, Kayla. ***Diary of a Pug: Pug Blasts Off***. Scholastic, 2019. Enjoy the antics of a funny and adorable pug named Bub and his human, Bella, told from Bub's point of view. *Series*
- Miller, Rhett. ***No More Poems!: A Book in Verse That Just Gets Worse***. Little, Brown, 2019. In the tradition of Shel Silverstein, these poems bring a fresh new twist to the classic dilemmas of childhood as well as a perceptive eye to the foibles of modern family life. Full of clever wordplay and bright visual gags—and toilet humor to spare—these twenty-three rhyming poems make for an ideal read-aloud experience.
- Mosca, Julia Finley. ***The Doctor with an Eye for Eyes: The Story of Dr. Patricia Bath***. Innovation Press, 2017. As a girl coming of age during the Civil Rights Movement, Patricia Bath dreamed of becoming a doctor, and not only did she fulfill that dream, but she also invented a procedure to remove cataracts and became the first African American female doctor to hold a medical patent.
- Murray, Carol. ***Cricket in the Thicket***. Holt, 2017. Over 30 common insects are described in a variety of amusing poems combined with interesting facts and collage illustrations.
- Penn, Audrey. ***The Kissing Hand***. Tanglewood, 2006. To help ease Chester's fears, Mrs. Raccoon shares a family secret called The Kissing Hand to give him the reassurance of her love any time his world feels a little scary.
- Pilkey, Dav. ***The Hallo-wiener***. Blue Sky Press, 1995. When is a hot dog not a hot dog? When he becomes a hero sandwich! Pilkey delivers a hilarious Halloween treat in this story about Oscar, a dachshund doomed to wear a hot dog costume on Halloween. When he saves the day -- and night -- Oscar proves that while he may be short on height, he's long on heart. A tale that trick-or-treaters will relish.

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- Potter, Alicia. ***Miss Hazeltine's Home for Shy and Fearful Cats***. Albert A. Knopf, 2015. Miss Hazeltine opens her home to cats needing courage, and their new learned skills are put to use when she finds herself in trouble.
- Raczka, Bob. ***Niko Draws a Feeling***. Carolrhoda Books, 2017. A young boy draws his feelings, but no one seems to understand what he is drawing until he meets Iris, the new girl who moves in next door.
- Rex, Adam. ***XO, OX: A Love Story***. Roaring Brook, 2017. This is the hilarious tale of an ox who is in love with a gazelle, told in series of letters.
- Reynolds, Peter H. ***The Dot***. Candlewick, 2003. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you." This sage advice, offered by her teacher, sets the young heroine on a journey of self-expression, artistic experimentation, and success.
- Robbins, Dean. ***Margaret and the Moon: How Margaret Hamilton Saved the First Lunar Landing***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2017. Pursuing her childhood passion for mathematics and astronomy, Margaret Hamilton becomes a pioneer in computer programming and a hero in the Apollo 11 mission.
- Rylant, Cynthia. ***The Old Woman Who Named Things***. Harcourt, 1996. An old woman who has outlived all her friends is reluctant to become too attached to the stray dog that visits her each day.
- Santat, Dan. ***After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again***. Roaring Brook, 2017. After his famous fall, Humpty Dumpty summons his courage to get back up and is rewarded with something amazing.
- Santat, Dan. ***Harold & Hog Pretend for Real!*** Hyperion, 2019. Can the friendship of best friends Harold and Hog, a carefree elephant and a careful hog, survive a game of pretending to be Mo Willems's Elephant and Piggie?
- Schlitz, Laura Amy. ***Princess Cora and the Crocodile***. Candlewick, 2017. Princess Cora is sick of boring lessons, exercising in the dungeon gym, and especially taking three baths a day. But when she writes to her fairy godmother for help, she doesn't expect that help to come in the form of a crocodile--a crocodile who does not behave properly.
- Selznick, Brian, and David Serlin. ***Baby Monkey, Private Eye***. Scholastic Press, 2018. Baby Monkey, private eye, will investigate stolen jewels, missing pizzas, and other mysteries – if he can manage to figure out how to put his pants on.
- Sundin, David. ***The Book That Did Not Want to Be Read***. Simon & Schuster, 2022. Beware! This picture book will do anything in its power to stay unread in this fun, interactive, and irresistibly silly read-aloud.
- Tabor, Corey R. ***Fox the Tiger***. Balzer + Bray, 2018. Fox decides to become a tiger because they are fast and sneaky, and soon, his other animal friends are joining in the fun.

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- Vail, Rachel. ***A is for Elizabeth***. Feiwel and Friends, 2019. Elizabeth, the second-grade sister of Justin Case, is excited about her first homework assignment, but it leads her to start a protest of alphabetical order. *Series*
- Van Dusen, Chris. ***If I Built a School***. Dial Books, 2019. If Jack built a school, there would be hover desks and pop-up textbooks, skydiving wind tunnels and a trampoline basketball court in the gym, a robo-chef to serve lunch in the cafeteria, field trips to Mars, and a whole lot more. The inventive boy who described his ideal car and house in previous books is dreaming even bigger this time. *Series*
- Verde, Susan. ***I Am Love: A Book of Compassion***. Abrams Books, 2019. Love means showing kindness, living with gratitude, and taking care of our minds and bodies. Grounded in mindfulness and wellness, *I Am Love* asks readers to look inward when they feel afraid, angry, hurt, or sad. When a storm is brewing inside us and the skies grow dark, the transformative power of love lets the light back in. Includes heart-opening yoga poses and a guided meditation. *Series*
- Vere, Ed. ***Max and Bird***. Sourcebooks, 2017. Max, a kitten, and Bird, a very young bird, want to be friends, but Max also wants to eat Bird, so they strike a deal. *Series*
- West, Tracey. ***Dragon Masters: Howl of the Wind Dragon***. Scholastic, 2021. Drake and Rori rush off to find a Wind Dragon -- the final dragon needed to undo the False Life spell. But they soon learn that the Wind Dragon is being held captive! Can they rescue her and her Dragon Master, Quilla? They'll need to hurry because evil wizard Astrid has already cast her terrible spell. *Series*
- Willems, Mo. ***We Are in a Book!*** Hyperion, 2010. Gerald is careful. Piggie is not. Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can. Gerald and Piggie are best friends. In *We Are in a Book!* Gerald and Piggie discover the joy of being read. But what will happen when the book ends? *Series*
- Woodson, Jacqueline. ***The Day You Begin***. Nancy Paulsen, 2018. There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it's how you look or talk, or where you're from; maybe it's what you eat, or something just as random. It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it. Jacqueline Woodson's lyrical text and Rafael López's dazzling art reminds us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes-and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. And that sometimes, when we reach out and begin to share our stories, others will be happy to meet us halfway.

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