



# School Library Material *Order*

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SLM 506

Collection Development

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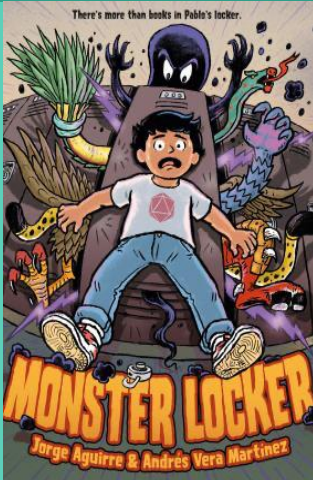
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## Book Order

### Book Order

#### Monster Locker. 1



**Author:** Aguirre, Jorge Augusto

**Publisher:** First Second

**ISBN-13:** 978-1-51609-733-3

**Dewey Number:** 741.5 (Graphic Novel)

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published October 1, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-8/ Ages 10-14

**Page Numbers:** 236

**Cost:** \$19.93

**Illustrator:** Andres Vera Martinez

#### Summary (from the publisher)

For hundreds of years, something in the basement of Glenfield Middle School has waited for its chance to open a portal into the realm of monsters. Now its time has come, and the school is going to need a hero. Pablo Ortiz . . . isn't that guy. All he wants to do is lie low and get through middle school in one piece. So when Pablo accidentally opens the portal and summons a vengeful Aztec goddess, he'll need the butt-kicking skills of his new friends and the wisdom passed down by his abuela to take her on.

#### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Monster Locker. 1* would be a great addition because...

- Action packed graphic novel approachable for emerging readers, boys especially
- Diversity improvement for Hispanic diversity collection
- *Essential* by *H.W. Wilson Core Collection* (Middle and Junior High Collection; Graphic Novels Collection, Children's Collection)
- Three reputable sources recommended ([Three by AACPS approved sources](#)); two out of the three sources are starred reviews

#### Reviews

- (Ages 10-14) "Centered on an amusing premise, this tale of ancient monsters and one very irate goddess serves up heaps of goofy humor thanks to its reluctant, pint-size Latine hero, comically antagonistic baddies, and frequent breaking of the fourth wall. A rich cast of culturally diverse characters, seamlessly inserted social commentary, and bustling, snappy artwork contribute greatly to a briskly paced adventure that teases a sequel. A simply smashing monster bash." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 08/15/24](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "Despite inconsistent human character designs by Martínez (Courage to Dream), the folkloric monsters are comically and meticulously rendered, and messages of appreciation and respect for the natural world are interwoven throughout. This graphic novel series opener by Aguirre (Call Me Iggy) gets off to a rip-roaring start that hints at even more exciting creatures to come." - [Publishers Weekly, 08/5/24](#)
- (Grades 4-8) "VERDICT With laugh-out-loud humor, rich cultural details, and eye-catching illustration, this series opener will have readers clamoring for the next installment. An essential first purchase." - [J. Caleb Mozzocco, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 09/01/24](#)

## Book Order

### Something Like Home



**Author:** Arango, Andrea Beatriz

**Publisher:** Random House

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-593-56619-0

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2023 (Published 09/12/2023)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-up/ Ages 10-14

**Page Numbers:** 248

**Cost:** \$17.84

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

Laura Rodríguez Colón has a plan: no matter what the grown-ups say, she will live with her parents again. Can you blame her? It's tough to make friends as the new kid at school. And while staying at her aunt's house is okay, it just isn't the same as being in her own space. So when Laura finds a puppy, it seems like fate. If she can train the puppy to become a therapy dog, then maybe she'll be allowed to visit her parents. Maybe the dog will help them get better and things will finally go back to the way they should be. After all, how do you explain to others that you're technically a foster kid, even though you live with your aunt? And most importantly . . . how do you explain that you're not where you belong, and you just want to go home?

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Something Like Home* would be a great addition because...

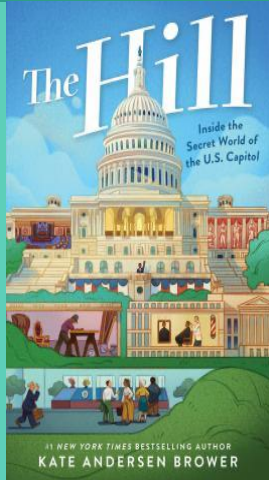
- Easily approachable for emerging readers
- Relatable for students with bilingual elements for our Hispanic students
- Diversity improvement for Hispanic diversity collection
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collection (Middle and Junior High Collection; Children's Collection); 2024 Pura Belpré Author Honor; 2024 ALSC Notable Children's Books
- Six reputable sources recommended ([Five by AACPS approved sources](#)); four out of the six sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 5-8) "Full of the author's signature heart-tugging verse, a character you just want to hug, and threads of friendship, family, and belonging, Arango's follow-up to her Newbery Honor debut is a triumph for readers who need comforting encouragement without having to ask for it." - [Aryssa Damron, Booklist, 09/15/23](#)
- (Middle School) "Arango's writing is intimate and heartbreaking, tackling such hefty issues as cultural identity, addiction, the pain of displacement and the anxiety it causes, and the adulation and rationalization that a child in pain can offer to adults they love. Arango (Newbery honoree for *Iveliz Explains It All*, rev. 9/22) accomplishes this with the believable voice of a girl in crisis and by tapping into compassion for all the characters amidst moving scenes of joy and connection." - Amanda R. Toledo, [The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 09/01/23](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "A powerful novel in verse about a girl coping after being ripped from her home... The short sections written in accessible free verse create a segmented structure that mirrors Laura's experiences and drives the storyline. The clear narrative arc and strong symbolic system make the novel cohere, and Laura's emotional landscape is realistically contradictory. Arango's writing is a joy to read, combining strong storytelling, compelling characters, and rich language." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 08/01/23](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "In moving, approachable verse, Arango (*Iveliz Explains It All*) thoughtfully portrays Laura's guilt and the constant push-and-pull of her desire to be with her parents and her growing connection with Titi Sylvia. Abundant bird facts—which Laura learned on daily walks with her father—add sensitive insight into Laura's interpretation of family and loyalty." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 07/17/23](#)
- (Grades 4-up) "VERDICT So much affirmation, exploration, and positivity for those in similar situations are packed beautifully into these verses, making it a solid addition to collections." - [Emily Beasley, School Library Journal, starred, 09/01/23](#)

## Book Order

### The Hill: Inside the Secret World of the U.S. Capitol



**Author:** Brower, Kate Andersen

**Publisher:** Quill Tree Books

ISBN-13: 978-0-06-322931-0

**Dewey Number:** 725

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published October 8, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 3-8/ Ages 8-12

**Page Numbers:** 298

**Cost:** \$16.66

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

#1 New York Times bestselling author Kate Andersen Brower shares a special look inside America's Capitol and highlights what the people who work there mean to the future of democracy. Perfect for readers of Brower's first middle grade book, *Exploring the White House*! There's a secret world hidden in the halls of the U.S. Capitol! The first stone was laid by George Washington himself, and the building stands today as one of the most recognizable symbols of the oldest democracy in the world. In this home of America's legislative branch, senators and representatives fight to pass laws they believe are for the good of the country. But these hallowed halls, which some swear are haunted, also harbor a deep history--both extraordinary and unsettling--and that is an equally important part of America's story. There is an entire universe tucked away inside the Capitol, and #1 New York Times bestselling author Kate Andersen Brower highlights the historic firsts, the building's restricted nooks and crannies, and the staffers--from pages to doorkeepers to librarians--who ensure that American democracy stays on track.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *The Hill: Inside the Secret World of the U.S. Capitol* would be a great addition because...

- Relevance to our close proximity to Washington D.C., with several connections to federal government workers amongst our families
- Provides support for understanding how government works and the role of those within the capitol
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collection (Middle and Junior High Collection; *recommended* in the Children's Collection)
- Three reputable sources recommended ([Three by AACPS approved sources](#)); One starred review

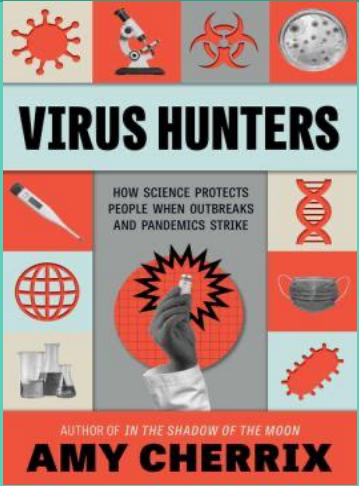
### Reviews

- (Grades 5-8) "Brower presents Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., as both a symbol of American democracy and an actual complex of office... text discusses the Capitol's varied purposes and its multifaceted history... From the use of enslaved people in the building of this "symbol of liberty" (infuriating late--eighteenth-century abolitionists in the process) to the storming of the Capitol on January 6, 2021 (told from various staffers' points of view), Brower shows her ability to research, organize, and retell stories in ways that help readers see the immediate drama and long-term significance of historical conflicts involving Capitol Hill. Engaging American history." - [Carolyn Phelan, Booklist, 08/01/24](#)
- (Ages 9-12) "A detailed guide to Capitol Hill.. this book offers an in-depth look into how the Capitol as we know it came to be, how it functions, and who runs it, both politically and practically... The information-heavy text is divided into three broad categories: "Places," "People," and "Perspective..." Text boxes with labels such as "Fun Fact" and "Did You Know?" offer additional context and help to alleviate reading fatigue. Photographs, historical newspaper clippings, paintings, and maps pair with humanizing anecdotes to create relevant connections and provide context while keeping the narrative flowing..." - [Kirkus Reviews, 10/15/24](#)
- (Ages 8-12) "U.S. Capitol proves a fascinating subject in this cutaway-feeling view of its inner workings by Andersen Bower (The Hidden History of the White House, for adults). In three parts rendered in meticulous detail, the author covers the building's development, staff, and significance beginning with its initial construction... Chapters relating the complicated ins and outs of running this small city highlight individuals... Later sections describe occasions and legislators who have made history within its halls... To showcase how the 'Capitol has been the site of important moments throughout history...' Archival photos bring the Capitol to life, reminding readers that 'understanding the past helps us make sense of where we are today.'" - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 08/19/24](#)



## Book Order

### Virus Hunters: How Science Protects People When Outbreaks and Pandemics Strike

	<b>Author:</b> Cherrix, Amy
	<b>Publisher:</b> Harper
	<b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-0-06-306954-1
	<b>Dewey Number:</b> 614.4
	<b>Copyright:</b> 2024 (Published September 10, 2024)
	<b>Age Level:</b> Grades 3-up/ Ages 8-18
	<b>Page Numbers:</b> 328
	<b>Cost:</b> \$16.66
	<b>Illustrator:</b> NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

A propulsive nonfiction look at the elite squads of scientists, doctors, and infectious disease experts who guard the boundary between public health and pandemics and how they gather data via boots on the ground "shoe-leather epidemiology" in order to save lives... Picture a detective. What comes to mind? A fast-talking private eye, interrogating a suspect? Or Sherlock Holmes, in his deerstalker hat, discovering clues to catch a killer? Now imagine that the suspect isn't a person but a microscopic menace--a deadly virus or bacteria making people sick. What kind of detective does it take to nab a biological assassin, invisible to the naked eye? Just like detectives, epidemiologists--scientists who study how diseases emerge and spread--interview witnesses and gather clues to identify the cause of illness, locate those who are sick, and uncover the sources of outbreaks to stop them in their tracks...

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Virus Hunters: How Science Protects People When Outbreaks and Pandemics Strike* would be a great addition because...

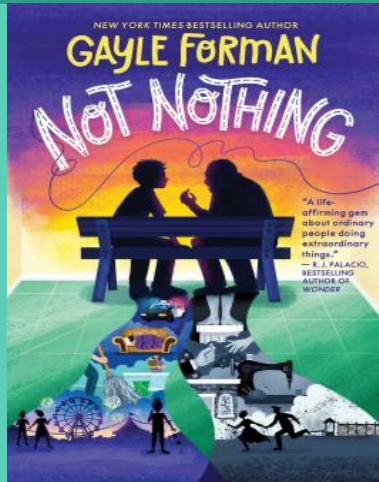
- It improves the percentage of the 600 collection
- Provides career connection for health and science fields with a high interest topic
- *Recommended by H.W. Wilson Core Collection* (Middle and Junior High Collection)
- Five reputable sources recommended ([Five by AACPS approved sources](#)); Two out of the five are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Ages 8-12) "Getting increasingly granular and technical as she goes, Cherrix surveys the history of modern epidemiology... Moreover, she's not hesitant to expand her purview even further by pointing out sexism in the scientific establishment or instances during disease outbreaks of homophobia and racial prejudice in official policies and statements...the author does break her narrative up into dozens of short chapters to make content easier to digest. She lightens up at the end... as she puts it, "the next generation of public health defenders." - [John Peters, Booklist, 08/01/24](#)
- (Intermediate, Middle School) "Positioning epidemiologists as forensic detectives, Cherrix examines six case studies that convey the scope and importance of their work. Throughout these riveting profiles, we learn how health and science professionals cooperate, collaborate, and corroborate to develop increasingly effective vaccines... Occasional sidebars and captioned photographs complement the text, while an extensive bibliography, comprehensive source notes, and an index (unseen) are appended." - [Jonathan Hunt, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 01/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-18) "... the text follows scientists over many subsequent decades as they try to learn enough about the outbreak to prevent such a pandemic from happening again. The next section covers the globally coordinated effort (by both scientists and laypeople)... The straightforward language... and human-focused narrative structure make for a readable book... Optimistic, informative, and inspiring for future scientists." - [Kirkus Reviews, 08/15/24](#)
- (Ages 8-12) "In this thrilling work, Cherrix (Eye of the Storm) breaks down the fascinating careers of scientists employed in the Epidemic Intelligence Service... Using cheeky, approachable text, the author compares EIS officers... to "Sherlock Holmes with a microscope in place of a magnifying glass." Covering early disease investigators... and the CDC chief epidemiologist who laid the foundation for the EIS, Cherrix details instances of scientists identifying, tracking, and working to eradicate pandemic viruses as one would an Indiana Jones adventure... Each selection culminates in this highly educational work that reads like a gripping and timely whodunit..." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 06/10/25](#)
- (Grades 6-up) "VERDICT An extensive, accessible, and relevant exploration of viruses and the people whose life's work to study them have changed the course of humanity." - [Shelley M. Diaz, School Library Journal, 09/01/25](#)

## Book Order

### Not Nothing



**Author:** Forman, Gayle

**Publisher:** Aladdin

**ISBN-13:** 978-1-66594-327-7

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published August 27, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 5-up/ Ages 10-up

**Page Numbers:** 280

**Cost:** \$15.08

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

Alex is twelve, and he did something very, very bad. A judge sentences him to spend his summer volunteering at a retirement home where he's bossed around by an annoying and self-important do-gooder named Maya-Jade. He hasn't seen his mom in a year, his aunt and uncle don't want him, and Shady Glen's geriatric residents seem like zombies to him. Josey is 107 and ready for his life to be over. He has evaded death many times, having survived ghettos, dragnets, and a concentration camp--all thanks to the heroism of a woman named Olka and his own ability to sew. But now he spends his days in room 206 at Shady Glen, refusing to speak and waiting (and waiting and waiting) to die. Until Alex knocks on Josey's door...and Josey begins to tell Alex his story. As Alex comes back again and again to hear more, an unlikely bond grows between them. Soon a new possibility opens up for Alex: Can he rise to the occasion of his life, even if it means confronting the worst thing that he's ever done?

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Not Nothing* would be a great addition because...

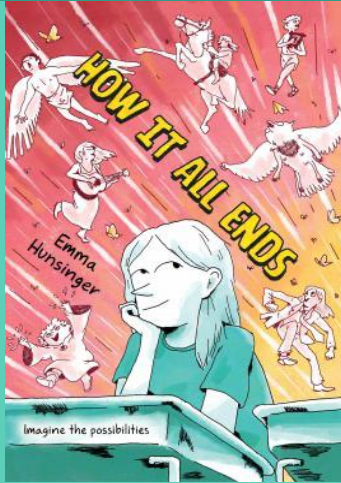
- Male protagonist means likely higher circulation amongst boys
- Curriculum connections to the Holocaust
- Diversity improvement for family structures and mental health diversity collections
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Collection)
- Six reputable sources recommended ([Five by AACPS approved sources](#)); Four out of six sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 5-7) "Forman... is a master of the slow, heart-wrenching reveal, and this story does not disappoint. Both characters feel deeply responsible for past mistakes and want to find a way to rise above them by making a good difference for others. Well-developed secondary characters add richness to the story and provide some lighter moments... While the subject matter (hate crimes, antisemitism, mental illness, death) makes for some difficult reading, those who stick with this story will be richly rewarded." - [Beth Rosania, Booklist, starred, 07/01/24](#)
- (Middle School) "...Forman crafts a unique story, told in the voice of a wiser, older character... She captures the quietly powerful moments of feeling seen and known, how friendships can make a bleak life feel fresh with possibilities, and how a person's worst moments need not shape their future." - [Amanda R. Toledo, The Horn Book Magazine, 09/01/24](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "...an intense dual narrative that moves between the speaker's tragic life during the Holocaust and contemporary 12-year-old Alex's tale of loss and its aftermath... readers will grasp its gravity. Both storylines are filled with misunderstandings, tragedy, horrible acts of hatred, and selfless acts of bravery, which affect the protagonists in profound ways... with striking language and depth of feeling, allowing readers to understand the characters' changing perspectives... Powerful, heartbreaking, and hopeful." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 06/01/24](#)
- (Ages 10-up) "Written in second person from Josey's perspective, this tale of intergenerational friendship forged through a shared understanding of loss by Forman (Frankie and Bug) is told with spellbinding grace and wrought with exquisite structuring that quietly highlights the heartrending parallels between Josey's WWII remembrances and Alex's current struggles." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 05/27/24](#)
- (Grade 5-up) "VERDICT This powerful book will be enjoyed by all young readers, especially those with a fondness for historical fiction. It will remind them that no matter what, no one is 'not nothing.'" - [Anne Jung-Matthews, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 10/11/24](#)

## Book Order

### How It All Ends



**Author:** Hunsinger, Emma

**Publisher:** Harper Collins

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-06-315815-3

**Dewey Number:** 741.5 (Graphic Novel)

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published August 6, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-9/ Ages 8 and up

**Page Numbers:** 295

**Cost:** \$21.40

**Illustrator:** Emma Hunsinger

### Summary (from the publisher)

Thirteen-year-old Tara lives inside the nonstop adventure of her imagination. It's far more entertaining than dull, everyday life. But when she's bumped from seventh grade directly to high school, she gets a dramatic jolt to reality. Tara isn't ready to watch the racy shows the high school kids like, or to listen to the angsty music, or to stop playing make-believe with her younger brother. She's not ready to change for PE in front of everyone, or for the chaos of the hallways, or for the anarchy of an English class that's overrun with fourteen-year-old boys. But then there's Libby. Tara doesn't know whether she's ready for Libby. She can't even explain who Libby is to her because she doesn't know yet. She just knows that everything's more fun when she and her new classmate are together. But what will happen next? How will it all end?

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *How It All Ends* would be a great addition because...

- Easily approachable reading for emerging readers
- Graphic novels have higher circulation and encourage more enjoyable reading for students
- Diversity improvement for LGBTQ+ diversity collection
- *Essential* by *H.W. Wilson Core Collections* (Middle and Junior High Collection; Graphic Novel Collections); *ALSC Notable Book 2025* (Rainbow List Book, 2025)
- Six reputable sources recommended ([five by AACPS approved sources](#)); four out of six sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Ages 8 and up) "Hunsinger (*My Parents Won't Stop Talking*) explores what it's like to be an especially inexperienced fish out of water in this vibrant, comedic character sketch." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 05/13/25](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "A slice of life that's as imaginative as its protagonist." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 05/17/24](#)
- (Grades 4-9) "VERDICT Those familiar with Hunsinger's moving New Yorker comic story 'How to Draw a Horse' will be thrilled with this beautiful, heartfelt, longer work. A must-have for any library serving middle and high school students." - [Amy Ribakove, School Library Journal, starred, 08/01/24](#)
- (Middle School, High School) "Funny and honest, this book is a poignant and relatable look at coming of age and the daunting transition to high school." - [Monica de los Reyes, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 07/21/24](#)
- (Grades 5-9) "In this exploration of maturity levels, close friendships, and first loves, Hunsinger uses color and illustration to portray the disquieted adolescent mind as Tara learns about herself through the coming-of-age challenge of high school." - [Vi Kwartler, Booklist, 06/01/24](#)



## Book Order

### ***Quagmire Tiarello Couldn't Be Better***



**Author:** Larsen, Mylisa

**Publisher:** Clarion Books

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-06-332466-4

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published September 17, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 3-8/ Age 8-12

**Page Numbers:** 240

**Cost:** \$15.87

**Illustrator:** NA

#### **Summary (from the publisher)**

Quagmire Tiarello prides himself on not needing anything from anybody. Sure, his mom is skipping work again and showing signs of going into one of her full-out spins, but it's nothing he can't handle. He's used to her up-and-down moods, even if this time it feels a little different. Then his mom disappears, and Quag must find shelter with an uncle he didn't know he had. Should he come clean about his mother's mental health challenges Or can he use his carefully honed skills to bluff long enough to find his mom and get home Readers will root for Quag as he finds himself rethinking his world and learning to accept help from the people who love him.

#### **Rationale**

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Quagmire Tiarello Couldn't Be Better* would be a great addition because...

- Humorous story and emotional
- Appeal to teenage boys
- Diversity improvement for Mental Health/ Illness diversity collection
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Core Collection; Children's Core Collection)
- Six reputable sources recommended ([five by AACPS approved sources](#)); five out of the six sources are starred reviews

#### **Reviews**

- (Grades 5-8) "This amazing story is told with deep understanding and touched with a humor forged through pain, delivering an exceptional experience that avoids maudlin stereotypes and instead captures emotions and situations with succinct sincerity; not a word is wasted..." - [Beth Rosania, Booklist, starred, 09/01/24](#)
- (middle school, high school) "Moving and quick-paced, this novel gives readers valuable insight into a character who normally avoids such attention and thus sympathy too. An author's note includes more information about the story with specifics about mental health challenges." - [Julie Roach, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 11/01/24](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "The novel realistically and empathetically addresses struggles around mental illness... Readers will find themselves emotionally invested in this journey. An original narrative voice filled with humor and poignant truth telling." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 06/15/24](#)
- (Ages 8-12) "Blunt and compassionate characterizations personify this emotionally wrenching story by Larsen... Intermittent chapters featuring bird observations and audio file sound bites seamlessly connect numerous plotlines while adding texture to this gorgeously written story that centers a teen yearning for stability and support. An author's note concludes. The cast reads as white." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 07/15/24](#)
- (Grades 3-7) "VERDICT In a year with many acclaimed books featuring neglectful parents-Lisa Fipps's And Then, Boom!, Sheri Winston's Shark Teeth, and Gennifer Choldenko's The Tenth Mistake of Hank Hooperman-this one may be the best of the bunch." - [Jonathan Hunt, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 02/28/25](#)

## Book Order

### The Secret Library



**Author:** Magoon, Kekla

**Publisher:** Candlewick Press

**ISBN-13:** 978-1-53623-088-8

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published May 7, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-7/ Ages 8-12

**Page Numbers:** 373

**Cost:** \$15.87

**Illustrator:** Bea Jackson

### Summary (from the publisher)

Since Grandpa died, Dally's days are dull and restricted. She's eleven and a half years old, and her exacting single mother is already preparing her to take over the family business. Starved for adventure and release, Dally rescues a mysterious envelope from her mother's clutches, an envelope Grandpa had earmarked for her. The map she finds inside leads straight to an ancient vault, a library of secrets where each book is a portal to a precise moment in time. As Dally "checks out" adventure after adventure—including an exhilarating outing with pirates—she begins to dive deep into her family's hidden history. Soon she's visiting every day to escape the demands of the present. But the library has secrets of its own, intentions that would shape her life as surely as her mother's meticulous plans. What will Dally choose? Equal parts mystery and adventure—with a biracial child puzzling out her identity alongside the legacy of the past—this masterful middle-grade fantasy rivets with crackling prose, playful plot twists, and timeless themes.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *The Secret Library* would be a great addition because...

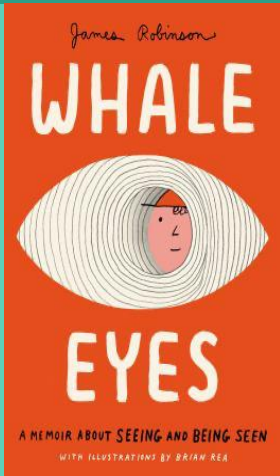
- Imaginative, adventure filled story with mystery
- 680 Lexile makes it approachable to emerging readers but with ideas and themes appropriate for strong readers
- Diversity improvement for African American and family structure diversity collection
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Core Collection; Children's Core Collection)
- Six reputable sources recommended ([five by AACPS approved sources](#)); five out of the six sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 4-7) "The story is full of clever touches... adventures... are particularly exciting. While the episodic structure of Dally's adventures occasionally slows the story's pace, the Secret Library itself is a memorable, original concept within an involving novel." - [Carolyn Phelan, Booklist, 02/15/24](#)
- (Intermediate) "Magoon adeptly and naturally weaves issues of race, class, and gender into a creative fantasy adventure. Readers will enjoy time-traveling with Dally and learning her family secrets, and many will especially enjoy Dally's time as a pirate. A family tree shown near the end of the book helps make connections among the many characters." - [Nicholl Denice Montgomery, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 07/01/24](#)
- (Ages 8-12) "Multiple award-winner Magoon has crafted an engrossing story that skillfully combines a coming-of-age story with fantasy and historical fiction. Dally is an irresistible protagonist... The lively, well-written narrative contains many surprises, pulling readers into Dally's life and the incredible choices she must make. A deeply satisfying, page-turning, genre-defying read." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 02/17/24](#)
- (Ages 8-12) "Whimsical worldbuilding, swashbuckling action, and buoyant third-person narration complement Magoon's vibrant character portraits and twisty, nuanced plot. Dally is biracial (Black and white); the supporting cast is intersectionally diverse." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 02/12/24](#)
- (Grades 4-7) "VERDICT Magical and reflective; a first purchase for stronger readers." - [Lisa Krok, School Library Journal, 04/01/24](#)

## Book Order

### Whale Eyes: A Memoir About Seeing and Being Seen



**Author:** Robinson, James

**Publisher:** Penguin Workshop

ISBN-13: 978-0-593-52395-7

**Dewey Number:** 362.4

**Copyright:** 2025 (Published March 18, 2025)

**Age Level:** Grades 5-up/ Ages 10-up

**Page Numbers:** 298

**Cost:** \$15.87

**Illustrator:** Brian Rea

### Summary (from the publisher)

Told through an experimental mix of intimate anecdotes and interactive visuals, this book immerses readers in James's point of view, allowing them to see the world through his disabling eye conditions. Readers will get lost as they chase words. They'll stare into this book while taking a vision test. They'll hold it upside down as they practice 'pretend-reading' . . . and they'll follow an unlikely trail toward discovering the power of words.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Whale Eyes: A Memoir About Seeing and Being Seen* would be a great addition because...

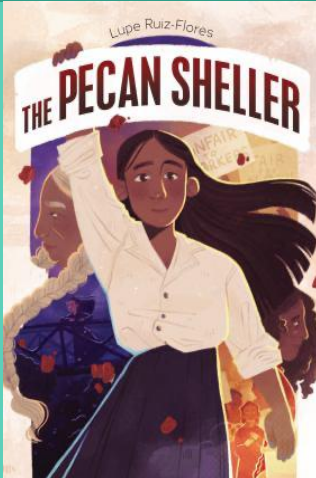
- Engaging text for more advanced readers with Interactive with images and tests with rigor in language written to encourage reading advances
- Encourages conversation about acceptance
- 300s collection improvement
- Diversity improvement for physical disabilities and body diversity
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collection (Middle and Junior High Collection; Senior High Collection)
- Five reputable sources recommended ([Four by AACPS approved sources](#)); four of the five sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 5-8) "...[Robinson] imaginatively helps readers understand his condition by incorporating intermittent activities, such as inverting the book and looking at red dots in relation to boxes, as well as changes in fonts and thought-provoking illustrations. The last third of the book... Robinson describes his entrée into filmmaking and recognizes his identity as a disabled individual. He credits the discovery of an archival film on whales that questionably contended that whales see out of one eye at a time. Undeniably, however, humans can only look into one whale eye at a time, inspiring Robinson to proudly claim the name "Whale Eyes" for his disability and identity and to use this concept as a way to educate others... heartfelt memoir is truly eye-opening and will encourage readers..." - [Angela Leeper, Booklist, starred, 02/01/25](#)
- (Ages 11-18) "In this memoir... Emmy-winning filmmaker Robinson recounts how he changed others' perceptions of his disability... Worse than the shame of falling behind his classmates was when strangers stared at his outward-turned eyes, feelings captured in pointed notes and Rea's cartoon illustrations... his autobiographical short film, *Whale Eyes*... affirming visually disabled people and enabling nondisabled people to better understand Robinson—and themselves. Robinson... candidly explores numerous topics, including disability tropes, privilege, and ways to turn "out-trigue"... into empathetic connections. Myriad interactive visuals immerse readers in Robinson's perspective..." - [Kirkus Reviews, 01/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-up) "Filmmaker Robinson crafts an accessible and immersive account of growing up with strabismus... Intermittent abstract artwork by Rea... depicts sight tests for readers to engage with throughout and help to illustrate how the subject navigated the world: how strabismus affected his performance in school, how he related to others, and how others perceived him. Using frank language, Robinson details the ableism he encountered from those he addresses as "starers"; he also recounts the loving efforts his mother took to ensure that he could engage with the world... Hoping to use his story to "entice the world into caring" about his experiences-and those of people like him-Robinson presents a sincere reflection on childhood experiences of growing up in a world not built with him in mind." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 01/06/25](#)
- (Grades 5-up) "VERDICT Highly recommended for all middle and high school collections, as well as the parent/teacher shelves in public libraries." - [Jennifer Costa, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 03/28/25](#)

## Book Order

### The Pecan Sheller



**Author:** Ruiz-Flores, Lupe

**Publisher:** Carolrhoda Books

**ISBN-13:** 979-87-6561-052-7

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2025 (Published 04/01/2025)

**Age Level:** Grades 5-8/ Ages 10-14

**Page Numbers:** 249

**Cost:** \$12.15

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

In 1930s San Antonio, thirteen-year-old Petra dreams of going to college and becoming a writer. But with her beloved father dead, two younger siblings to care for, and with a stepmother struggling to make ends meet, Petra has to drop out of school to shell pecans at a factory. Hoping it's only temporary, she tries not to despair over the grueling work conditions. But after the unhealthy environment leads to tragedy and workers' already low wages are cut, Petra knows things need to change. She and her coworkers go on strike for higher wages and safer conditions, risking everything they have for the hope of a better future.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *The Pecan Sheller* would be a great addition because...

- Connect to identified school need relating to higher education
- Relatable situation with a protagonist who faces adversity
- Popular historical fiction genre
- Diversity improvement for Hispanic collection
- *Recommended by H.W. Wilson Core Collection* (Middle and Junior High Collection)
- Three reputable sources recommended ([Three by AACPS approved sources](#)); Three of the three reviews starred

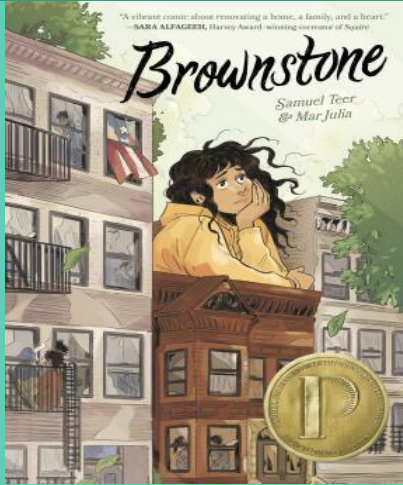
### Reviews

- (Grades 5-8) "The narrative explores the tense and unjust situations that exist between the Mexican American laborers and the police, the city government, and the exploitative owners of the factories. A powerful, moving story explores the little-known but important story of the six-week pecan shellers' strike. An author's note explaining the role of Emma Tenayuca and the Fair Standards Labor Act's impact on the pecan shellers' strike concludes." - [Ana Menchaca, Booklist, starred, 02/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "The story deftly explores the nuances of both Petra's and Amá's relationship and traumas, as well as the strength and hope to be found in family and community. A poignant, beautifully written tale." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 02/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "Visceral descriptions of the financial insecurity faced by pecan shellers and police brutality encountered during the strikes are balanced by Petra's optimistic spirit and determination to make changes for herself and her community. Using short chapters with quick pacing, Ruiz-Flores (Piece by Piece) unveils intimate and well-researched depictions of the Pecan Shellers Strike of 1938 and its impact on Mexican descendants and beyond. An author's note provides additional historical context." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 01/20/25](#)



## Book Order

### Brownstone



**Author:** Teer, Samuel

**Publisher:** Versify/ Harper Alley

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-358-39475-4

**Dewey Number:** 741.5 (Graphic Novel, Nonfiction)

**Copyright:** 2024 (published June 11, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 8-12/ Ages 12-16

**Page Numbers:** 315

**Cost:** \$22.19

**Illustrator:** Mar Julia

#### Summary (from the publisher)

Almudena has always wondered about the dad she never met. Now, with her white mother headed on a once-in-a-lifetime trip without her, she's left alone with her Guatemalan father for an entire summer. Xavier seems happy to see her, but he expects her to live in (and help fix up) his old, broken-down brownstone. And all along, she must navigate the language barrier of his rapid-fire Spanish--which she doesn't speak. As Almudena tries to adjust to this new reality, she gets to know the residents of Xavier's Latin American neighborhood. Each member of the community has their own joys and heartbreaks as well as their own strong opinions on how this young Latina should talk, dress, and behave. Some can't understand why she doesn't know where she comes from. Others think she's "not brown enough" to fit in. But time is running out for Almudena and Xavier to get to know each other, and the key to their connection may ultimately lie in bringing all these different elements together. Fixing a broken building is one thing, but turning these stubborn individuals into a found family might take more than this one summer.

#### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Brownstone* would be a great addition because...

- Relatable experience for our school's population; an appropriate graphic novel for older students
- Diversity improvement for Hispanic diversity collection
- Michael L. Printz Award, 2025; *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Core Collection; Graphic Novel Core Collections; Senior High Core Collection)
- Five reputable sources recommended ([five by AACPS approved sources](#)); two out of the five sources are starred reviews

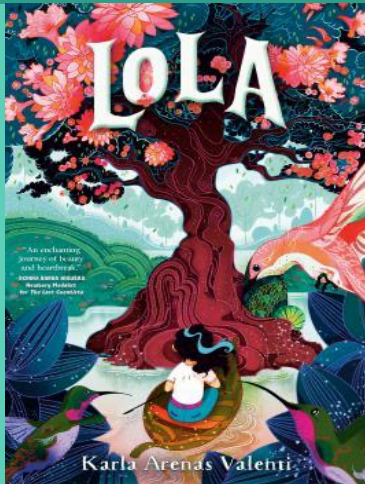
#### Reviews

- (Grades 8-12) "The neat, descriptive illustrations are full of bright and vivid colors. The backdrop of some panels shows a rundown neighborhood filled with graffiti, homelessness, gangs, and closed-down businesses. However, those same panels and more show the community uniting to support one another. The story brings to life the experiences and people of an urban Latinx neighborhood." - [Shaira Rock, Booklist, 06/01/24](#)
- (Middle School, High School) "The earth-toned illustrations warmly depict Xavier's metropolitan neighborhood and are full of affectionate detail... Spanish dialogue is either untranslated, paraphrased into English, or represented through Almudena's observations... Teer shows his characters' shortcomings without framing anyone as an antagonist and omits most period-specific references in favor of concentrating on timeless emotions related to overcoming cultural imposter syndrome." - [Emma Shacochis, The Horn Book Magazine, 09/09/24](#)
- (Age 12-16) "This coming-of-age tale chimes with discreet moments of humor and lots of heart, all centered around questions of heritage, identity, compassion, and acceptance and exemplified by the scrappy, vivid artwork, which wonderfully captures Almudena's inner turmoil... touch upon topics such as prejudice against brown folks and queerness in the Latine community. Beautifully profound." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred 04/15/24](#)
- (Age 14-up) "Via Almudena's resourceful and unfettered perspective, Teer (Veda) interrogates characters' preconceived notions surrounding one another's ethnicity and sexuality, clearing a path for greater openness and vulnerability... Fluid illustrations... saturated in rich earth tones, expressively distinguish each character's personality and breathe life into the vibrant metropolitan neighborhood. This energetic and emotionally grounded story hits the mark, culminating in a satisfyingly transformative tale." - [Publishers Weekly, starred, 03/25/24](#)
- (Grade 9-up) "VERDICT A great YA graphic novel for teens who are trying to figure out who they are or anyone who has ever felt like they were on the outside..." - [Cat Miserendino, School Library Journal, 05/01/24](#)



## Book Order

### Lola



**Author:** Valenti, Karla

**Publisher:** Alfred A. Knopf

ISBN-13: 979-83-687-7897-6

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published September 10, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-7/ Ages 8-13

**Page Numbers:** 247

**Cost:** \$19.31

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

Determined to save her brother from the Darkness that plagues their home, ten-year-old Lola follows mythical chaneques into a secret world where she seeks help from the queen.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Lola* would be a great addition because...

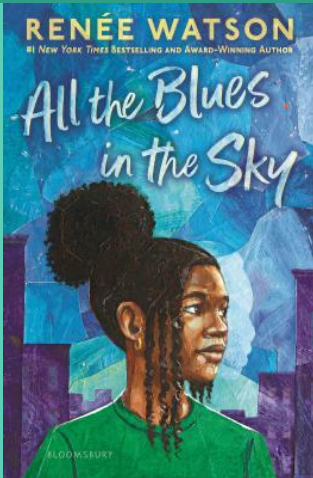
- Fantasy genre is a popular, ageless genre that students gravitate toward
- Lower lexile is approachable for emerging readers
- Diversity improvement for Hispanic collection
- *Recommended by H.W. Wilson Core Collection* (Middle and Junior High Collection; Children's Collection); Pura Belpre Author Award; 2025 ALSC Notable Children's Books
- Five reputable sources recommended ([Four by AACPS approved sources](#)); four out of the four are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 4-7) "The terrifically transporting tale is brimming with lush descriptions, intriguing Mexican folklore, creative world building, and compassionate characters. Thoughtful discussions of depression, grief, and the inevitability of change are particularly appreciated, and the tender sibling relationship grounds the fantastical proceedings beautifully. A risky last-minute reveal pays off and adds additional depth to an already stellar story. A truly enchanting adventure that both enthralls and entertains." - [Emily Graham, Booklist, starred, 12/01/24](#)
- (Intermediate) "Valenti (Loteria, rev. 11/21) skillfully incorporates magical realism into this captivating tale, taking the reader on a memorable journey through a different world. She addresses the weighty topic of death in a hopeful manner, encouraging readers to view death as a new phase, a transformation, rather than an end. The strong bonds between siblings are central to this heartwarming story, and love perseveres. Occasional black-and-white illustrations contribute to the mystical atmosphere (some final art unseen). An appended author's note and a glossary enrich the material." - [Yessica Hurd, The Horn Book Magazine, 01/01/25](#)
- (Ages 9-13) "Frequent glimpses of wondrous sights and folkloric creatures give the tale a flavor of magical realism, and on the way to a transformative closing twist, Valenti's characters reflect on the importance of letting some things go in order to allow others to grow, offering much food for thought for readers who are similarly stuck. Final art not seen. A quest undertaken for love and healing, replete alike with astonishing marvels and provocative themes." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 08/01/24](#)
- (Grades 4-7) "VERDICT A must-read for all upper elementary and middle school fantasy fans." - [Heather Lassley, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 11/02/24](#)

## Book Order

### All the Blues in the Sky



<b>Author:</b> Watson, Renée
<b>Publisher:</b> Bloomsbury Children's Books
<b>ISBN-13:</b> 978-1-54760-589-7
<b>Dewey Number:</b> Fic
<b>Copyright:</b> 2025 (Published February 4, 2025)
<b>Age Level:</b> Grades 5-up/ Ages 10-14
<b>Page Numbers:</b> 182
<b>Cost:</b> \$15.08
<b>Illustrator:</b> NA

#### Summary (from the publisher)

Sage's thirteenth birthday was supposed to be about movies and treats, staying up late with her best friend and watching the sunrise together. Instead, it was the day her best friend died. Without the person she had to hold her secrets and dream with, Sage is lost. In a counseling group with other girls who have lost someone close to them, she learns that not all losses are the same, and healing isn't predictable. There is sadness, loneliness, anxiety, guilt, pain, love. And even as Sage grieves, new, good things enter her life—and she just may find a way to know that she can feel it all. In accessible, engaging verse and prose, this is a story of a girl's journey to heal, grow, and forgive herself. To read it is to see how many shades there are in grief, and to know that someone understands.

#### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *All the Blues in the Sky* would be a great addition because...

- Written in prose verse making it an easy and accessible read for most students
- Diversity improvement for African American diversity collection and family structure diversity collection
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Core Collection)
- Five reputable sources recommended ([Five by AACPS approved sources](#)); four of the five sources are starred reviews

#### Reviews

- (Grades 5-8) "When readers meet Sage, she is learning to manage her grief and new reality by participating in the grief group at school. Told in lyrical verse, Sage's story shows that grief is not linear; there are moments of happiness that break through periods of extreme sadness...Sage is Black, with secondary characters of implied diverse ethnicity. A phenomenal and realistic portrayal of a teenager experiencing the loss of a loved one for the first time. A must for all middle-grade collections." - [Ashley Leffel, Booklist, starred, 01/01/25](#)
- (Middle School) "From the very first line, Watson takes a deep dive into the intricacies of grief and healing...Watson makes the wise choice to avoid neat resolutions to Sage's process. An author's note detailing her own recent experiences with grief adds impact to the idea that "the sadness & anger & laughter / don't wait their turn." A poignant story for all and a valuable resource for those experiencing grief and loss." - [Eboni Njoku, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 03/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "In the Newbery Honor-winning author's latest, a Harlem teen copes with overwhelming pain while learning how to open up... Watson has crafted an achingly beautiful novel that masterfully captures the realities of loss—the constant reminders of what life used to be like, the guilt that haunts Sage, and the anguish of "talking about someone you love in past tense." Sage's voice, rendered in a mix of prose and free verse, is visceral and wholly authentic, while the supporting characters are also richly and fully realized. Characters are cued Black. A heartfelt portrait of the complexities of grief and the indomitable human spirit." - [Kirkus Reviews, starred, 01/01/25](#)
- (Ages 10-14) "Alternating verse and prose depict Sage's present-day navigating new and uncomfortable experiences while going back and forth between her divorced parents' homes alongside memories with her best friend and the imagined future she wishes they had together... These brief yet poignant vignettes drive home the immediacy of Sage's grief as well as the importance of remaining attune to one's emotions in this tender and heartbreaking interpretation of loss. Sage is Black; supporting characters are racially diverse." - [Publishers Weekly, 11/4/24](#)
- (Grades 5-up) "VERDICT A heartrending story of grief and resilience with a surprising depth despite a brief page count. A recommended first purchase for all collections serving teens and tweens." - [Monisha Blair, School Library Journal, starred, 02/01/25](#)

## Book Order

### You're the Boss: A Kid's Ultimate Guide to Starting Your Own Business



**Author:** Weisfeld, Brian

**Publisher:** Philomel

ISBN-13: 978-0-593-52836-5

**Dewey Number:** 650.1

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published September 17, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 3-8/ Ages 8-12

**Page Numbers:** 105

**Cost:** \$15.08

**Illustrator:** NA

### Summary (from the publisher)

A kid's guide to entrepreneurship and starting your own business, from the renowned entrepreneur and founder of the Startup Squad! Are you bursting with great ideas for a new business but aren't quite sure where to start? Do you know that you'd be great at selling something but first need to figure out what that "something" actually is? Are you gearing up to be an entrepreneur but think that kids can't really build anything big? If any of these sound like you-you've come to the right book! You're never too young to start a business. Whether you want to launch a babysitting service, run a lemonade stand, sell crafts online-or don't even know what business to start-You're the Boss is here to help. In this book, you'll learn how to figure out which business is right for you, find your ideal customers, manage the competition, calculate costs and profits, pitch your ideas, and so much more. Ready to build up the confidence, creativity, and grit that come along with being an entrepreneur-and ready to make some money and build your business empire along the way? Let You're the Boss show you how!

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *You're the Boss: A Kid's Ultimate Guide to Starting Your Own Business* would be a great addition because...

- Improves nonfiction collection with a book that is a hot topic and easy guide to help create buzz amongst students
- Improves the 600 collection, adding a current text to the 650 relating to a popular career field for our outside community (Business)
- *Recommended by H.W. Wilson Core Collection* (middle and junior high core collection; children's core collection)
- Two reputable sources recommended ([Two by AACPS approved sources](#))

### Reviews

- (Grades 4-8) "Grades 4-8. This straightforward manual is intended for kids who are aspiring entrepreneurs. It comes from the American Library Association-endorsed Startup Squad, a proven brand that offers a website, start-up kits, and downloadable worksheets to help young CEOs navigate the myriad tasks involved in launching a business...The overall tone is friendly and encouraging, and pages walk readers through steps ranging from finding ideas, narrowing down and focusing on a specific goal, developing a brand, determining an audience, financing, marketing and advertising, selling and delivering, keeping momentum going, and maintaining a healthy work-life balance. Readers will be inspired by the variety of cited success stories and their range of products... This helpful and timely offering will appeal to future tycoons and support personal-finance units." - [Kathleen McBroom, Booklist, 08/01/24](#)
- (Grades 4-7) "VERDICT Recommended for general purchase for all nonfiction collections; there are impossibly few resources available to this readership that take on this topic and cover it in such depth." - [Kristen Todd-Wurm, School Library Journal, 09/01/24](#)

## Book Order

### Mid-Air



**Author:** Williams, Alicia

**Publisher:** Atheneum Books

**ISBN-13:** 978-1-48146-583-0

**Dewey Number:** Fic

**Copyright:** 2024 (Published April 23, 2024)

**Age Level:** Grades 4-8/ Age 10-up

**Page Numbers:** 313

**Cost:** \$15.08

**Illustrator:** Danica Novgorodoff

### Summary (from the publisher)

A tender-souled boy reeling from the death of his best friend struggles to fit into a world that wants him to grow up tough and unfeeling in this stunning illustrated middle grade novel in verse "full of vulnerability and hope" (Booklist, starred review) from the Newbery Honor-winning author of *Genesis Begins Again*. It's the last few months of eighth grade, and Isaiah feels lost. He thought his summer was going to be him and his boys Drew and Darius, hanging out, doing wheelies, watching martial arts movies, and breaking tons of Guinness World Records before high school. But now, more and more, Drew seems to be fading from their friendship, and though he won't admit it, Isaiah knows exactly why. Because Darius is...gone. A hit and run killed Darius in the midst of a record-breaking long wheelie when Isaiah should have been keeping watch, ready to warn: "CAR!" Now, Drew can barely look at Isaiah. But Isaiah, already quaking with ache and guilt, can't lose two friends. So, he comes up with a plan to keep Drew and him together--they can spend the summer breaking records, for Darius. But Drew's not the same Drew since Darius was killed, and Isaiah being Isaiah isn't enough for Drew anymore. Not his taste in clothes, his love for rock music, or his aversion to jumping off rooftops. And one day something unspeakable happens to Isaiah that makes him think Drew's right. If only he could be less sensitive, more tough, less weird, more cool, less him, things would be easier. But how much can Isaiah keep inside until he shatters wide open?

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), *Mid-air* would be a great addition because...


- An emotional coming of age story written in verse
- **Appeal to teenage boys**
- Diversity improvement for African American collection and mental health collection
- *Essential* by H.W. Wilson Core Collections (Middle and Junior High Core Collection; Children's Core Collection); 2025 ALSC Notable Children's Books
- Four reputable sources recommended ([four by AACPS approved sources](#)); three out of the four sources are starred reviews

### Reviews

- (Grades 4-8) "Williams' sophomore novel expertly explores the complexity of grief. Isaiah is a wonderfully written and nuanced character who challenges traditional gender roles within his community. Williams' book, written in verse and adorned with vivid illustrations, offers readers an accurate depiction of Black boyhood. This compelling novel, full of vulnerability and hope, is a must-read." - [Nashae Jones, Booklist, starred, 02/15/24](#)
- (middle school) "Williams (*Genesis Begins Again*, rev. 1/19) handles the sensitive topics of death, grief, racism, violence, and racial and gender expression with care, making sure the narrative doesn't become overly dark and heavy. The novel's focus on Isaiah's inner world allows readers to witness the evolution of a thirteen-year-old Black boy dealing with life-altering events, navigating challenging relationships with friends and family, and, finally, feeling comfortable enough to reveal his full self in the process." - [Monique Harris, The Horn Book Magazine, starred, 05/01/24](#)
- (Ages 10-up) "Pastoral features such as expressive b&w illustrations by Novgorodoff (*Long Way Down*) and clear, accessible verse by Williams (*Genesis Begins Again*) skillfully juxtapose larger, heavier examinations of grief, identity, mental health, and racism, making for a heartfelt novel about an unmoored child seeking strength and self-forgiveness." - [Publishers Weekly, 01/22/24](#)
- (Grades 5-8) "VERDICT A quietly stunning novel in verse about grief and learning to accept yourself. Recommended for all middle grade collections." - [Alicia D. Williams, School Library Journal Xpress, starred, 03/01/24](#)

## Nonprint Order

### Nonprint (Digital Tools) Order

<b>Curipod</b>	
	<b>Website URL:</b> <a href="https://curipod.com/">https://curipod.com/</a>
	<b>Publisher:</b> Curipod AS
	<b>Copyright:</b> 2025
	<b>Intended Users &amp; Age Level:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Users: Teacher accounts with students accessing via student account or live pin/link</li> <li>• Grades 3-12</li> </ul>
<b>Cost:</b> Free; School and District Plans available (must request quote)	
<b>Summary (from the developer)</b>	
Exciting lessons, real-time AI feedback. Learning that wows and delights, customize high-quality lessons to topics students care about with the power of AI. 100% participation, lively discussion tech that motivates supportive student interactions (not alone behind screens). AI feedback drives growth real-time, rubric-aligned, personalized, and actionable feedback accelerates progress.	
<b>Rationale</b>	
Based on identified <a href="#">school library improvement recommendations</a> , Curipod would be a great addition because...	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engages students instruction through gamification and using AI - perfect for reluctant learners</li> <li>• Gives immediate feedback generated by AI</li> <li>• Data tracking to ensure student growth</li> <li>• AI driven saving teachers time and customizable to teachers' criteria and meets the needs of students' demonstrated level</li> </ul>	
<b>Reviews</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Grades 3-12) "3/5 stars: The real strength of Curipod is not in the AI components but instead in the ability to add interactive elements to slides and engage students in a game style (similar to Kahoot!). This allows teachers to add an element of fun to reviews, collect feedback from their class on how things are going, answer questions using polls, and more, creating a more social and engaged atmosphere for the class. In addition, Curipod allows students to be assigned a nickname (some of which were a little odd -- like "eating iphone"), or the teacher can force students to use their real name (good for collecting anonymous feedback vs. evaluating individual students). There is also an option to moderate responses before sharing them with the class, which is especially useful if the draw feature is chosen. With heavy teacher input and focus, Curipod can be a good tool to add to a classroom and can encourage students to engage with the content in different ways. However, overuse of the tool may cause student burnout and disengagement. And the fact that feedback responses are AI-generated can give students the sense that the teacher is not engaging with them over time. When used thoughtfully, though, Curipod can be a useful tool for teachers looking to get students' attention." - <a href="#">Pamela Brittain, CommonSense Media, October 2023</a></li> <li>• (Age/ Grade not provided) "Used in concert with traditional teaching methods, these resources for creation, instruction, research, and grading can make learning more dynamic... Each new school year, teachers come to the library to find out what's new and interesting in technology. Consider recommending these nine AI resources for creation, instruction, research, and grading... Curipod: An AI-driven lesson planner, Curipod specifically focuses on inquiry and emphasizes joy in learning. It offers a variety of templates to generate custom lessons and templates to edit." - <a href="#">"9 AI Tools for Back to School," IdaMae Craddock, School Library Journal, 08/21/24</a></li> </ul>	
<b>Promotion</b>	
Curipod would best be promoted through professional development training for staff by not only presenting on the tool, but then engaging in a Curipod lesson. It may benefit to have some teachers start out with free accounts before purchasing to gather their anecdotal input, then depending on the consensus of the trial group, proceed with purchasing school plans, and potentially it could be proposed for district plan purchase.	
Further promotion is to actively use Curipod for lessons in the library.	



## Nonprint Order

### Diffit for Teachers



**Website URL:** <https://web.diffit.me/> <https://app.diffit.me/>

**Publisher:** Diffit, inc.

**Copyright:** 2024

**Intended Users & Age Level:**

- Users: Teachers
- Grades 2-12

**Cost:** 60 day free trial, \$14.99 per teacher account, School and District Quotes available

### Summary (from the developer)

Step 1: whatever you're teaching, we've got you covered. Use existing curriculum, or generate standards-aligned content with real, cited sources. Choose a grade level and language, and watch Diffit create complete, differentiated resources. Step 2: Get student-ready activities. Re-level, translate, add images and more. Then, export your content into student-ready activities.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), Diffit would be a great addition because...

- Support differentiated instruction for our diverse community of learners
- Great for supporting high population of EL learners
- Uses AI to customize and meet the needs as defined by the teacher's specification
- AASL Best Digital Tools for Teaching & Learning 2024; EdTech Index Recommended

### Reviews

- (Grades 2-12) "Diffit helps teachers save time by getting "just right" instructional materials in seconds - for any topic, lesson, or student. Whether they are adapting existing content to better meet their classroom's needs, or looking for student-ready activities to fill gaps in the curriculum, Diffit offers a user-friendly platform to get high-quality, differentiated resources in seconds." - [American Association of School Librarians, 2024](#)
- (K-12) "Teachers use Diffit to get "just right" instructional materials. Use existing curriculum, or generate standards-aligned content from scratch with real, cited sources. Choose a grade level and language, and watch Diffit create complete, differentiated resources. Instantly re-level text, customize vocabulary, add questions aligned to Skills, Standards, or DOK levels, translate, and lots more. Turn your content into "just right" activities with our library of high-quality, student-ready exports." - [EdTech Index, May 15, 2024](#)
- (Grades 2-12) "Diffit does a great job of quickly putting together resources on just about any topic you can think of—though there is a focus on English, social studies, science, and art. You can input a prompt for a specific topic, upload a link to a website or video, or drop in your own text, and the AI backend will create a series of resources you can use in your classroom. These resources are in printable and digital formats. This is where the tool shines: It can create PDFs, Google Forms quizzes, bubble maps, workbooks, vocabulary choice boards, character analysis sheets, interactive slides, and so much more. These resources can be used to introduce new topics, recap work already taught in class, organize thoughts on a larger research project, and more. It also stores past resources and searches to your account so that you can reference them later. Keep in mind that some of the resources and text the tool creates can be the same for all grades under fifth grade." - [Pamela Brittain, CommonSense Media, February 2024](#)
- (Age/ Grade not provided) "Diffit is an AI tool that will modify texts at different levels and in different languages. In addition, Diffit will create a summary, key vocabulary words, comprehension questions, and open-ended questions that work really well for class discussions. We have saved a lot of time with Diffit; however, we always review and adapt the created materials before sharing them with students. Diffit's generated vocabulary list comes with definitions and example sentences. You can copy definitions or example sentences and paste them into any AI image generator to create visuals that would help multilingual students understand the meaning of the words better." - [Larry Ferlazzo, Education Week, 08/08/23](#)

### Promotion

Diffit would best be promoted through professional development training for staff by not only presenting on the tool, but then engaging in a Diffit lesson. It may benefit to have some teachers start out with the free trial accounts before purchasing to gather their anecdotal input, then depending on the consensus of the trial group, proceed with purchasing school plans, and potentially it could be proposed for district plan purchase.

## Nonprint Order

### Pixton



**Website URL:** <https://www.pixton.com/>

**Publisher:** Pixton Comics, Inc.

**Copyright:** 2025

**Intended Users & Age Level:**

- Users: Teachers and Students (with a class code)
- Grades 1-12

**Cost:** Classroom Plan \$144 for an individual teacher; volume discounts available for schools and school districts

### Summary (from the developer)

We believe that storytelling is the world's most powerful force for communication and change. Pixton is a comic creation platform that enables people of all ages and abilities to develop storytelling skills, enhance writing and visual communication, demonstrate learning, and celebrate identity and culture through personalized avatars.

### Rationale

Based on identified [school library improvement recommendations](#), Pixton would be a great addition because...

- Great tool to utilize technology for Project-Based Assessment
- Help to illustrate concepts in class
- Good for emerging learners and EL students needing more visual support
- AASL Best Digital Tools for Teaching & Learning 2024; EdTech Index Recommended

### Reviews


- (Grades 1-12) "We believe that storytelling is the world's most powerful force for communication and change. Pixton is a comic creation platform that enables people of all ages and abilities to develop storytelling skills, enhance writing and visual communication, demonstrate learning, and celebrate identity and culture through personalized avatars." - [American Association of School Librarians, 2024](#)
- (Grades 1-12) "Educators use Pixton as a way to encourage students to write using images and text — exercising language skills, problem solving, critical thinking, personal expression and creativity. It is also used to motivate reluctant readers providing them with image support for significant content. Educators also use it as an assessment tool. Through a variety of activities such as book summaries, character maps, constructed timelines, history reviews, unit summaries, plus many others, educators can easily review student work to determine students' comprehension and retention of a particular subject. It's also used as an ELL and ESL tool helping students in a variety of ways from building vocabulary to creating dialog and exploring ideas in a fun and engaging way." - [EdTech Index, 04/21/24](#)
- (Grades 2-12) "4/5 stars: Pixton has a lot going for it: simple setup for teachers, easy-to-use interface, lots of options for customizing graphics, and the ability to quickly share comics. While the visual style is crisp, it can feel limited (characters start to look the same after a while). That style, though, plays into Pixton's ease of use, allowing many elements to blend together. There are many features to tweak, from facial expressions to subtle body movements. There are also visual options to create character with hearing aids or wheelchairs, and there's a nonbinary gender option. Pixton is a tool students can use to develop their literacy skills across grades and subjects. Creating comics can feel empowering, although some students might also feel overwhelmed when digging into the menus. The content pack organizational scheme provides some structure. But without a way for teachers to limit what students see, it's still relatively easy for students -- especially younger ones -- to get lost. Since there's not a lot of scaffolding, teachers will want to do that for students to mitigate these frustrations. That said, there's a clear effort to simplify Pixton, and the design and onboarding process is especially good for teachers. Even though there are some potential pitfalls, they should be easily mitigated by thoughtful teaching and lesson design. With that work in place, Pixton can offer students a creative outlet for blending art and literacy across subjects." - [Mieke VanderBorgh, CommonSense Media, February 2023](#)

### Promotion

Pixton would best be promoted through professional development training for staff by not only presenting on the tool, but then engaging in the tool.

Further promotion is to actively use Pixton for lessons in the library.

## Nonprint Order

<b>Sora</b>	
	<b>Website URL:</b> <a href="https://www.overdrive.com/discover/sora">https://www.overdrive.com/discover/sora</a> / <a href="https://soraapp.com/">https://soraapp.com/</a>
	<b>Publisher:</b> Overdrive
	<b>Copyright:</b> 2025
	<b>Intended Users &amp; Age Level:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Users: All stakeholders with AACPS login connected to the school (or district if opt for district subscription)</li><li>• Grades Prek-12</li></ul>
<b>Cost:</b> Must request a quote	
<b>Summary (from the developer)</b>	
<p>Experience the Sora difference. Sora isn't just another K-12 reading app. It's a full-service, digital reading platform that gives students in 53,000 schools and districts across the globe an equal opportunity to succeed with literacy. With Sora, you enjoy complimentary access to a dedicated team of experts to help you achieve your reading and learning goals – all while adhering to the strictest privacy standards to protect your students' data.</p>	
<b>Rationale</b>	
<p>Based on identified <a href="#">school library improvement recommendations</a>, Sora would be a great addition because...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large collection of ebooks and audio books as well as access to bilingual materials, magazines, and comics</li><li>• Accessible on all electronic devices anytime, anywhere - can be synced up to classlink for easy access with the other AACPS apps</li><li>• Becoming the leading ebook access app for schools</li><li>• AASL Best Digital Tools for Teaching &amp; Learning 2024; EdTech Index Recommended</li></ul>	
<b>Reviews</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• (Grades Prek-12) "Sora provides every student digital access to the right books on any device using their school credentials. As the leading student reading platform for schools, Sora offers the industry's largest catalog of ebooks, audiobooks, read-alongs, magazines and more for curriculum and choice reading." - <a href="#">American Association of School Librarians, 2024</a></li><li>• (Grades k-12) "The Sora student reading platform is designed to ignite a love of reading. Named one of TIME's Best Inventions, Sora provides every student digital access to the right books, including required curriculum titles, class sets and choice reading. Sora serves 62,000 schools worldwide with the industry's largest catalog of ebooks, audiobooks and digital magazines and provides 24/7 access to powerful learning tools to meet the needs of students and educators. Sora's sister company, TeachingBooks.net offers 300,000 supplemental resources that "bring books to life." Sora is a division of OverDrive, the world's leader in digital content for libraries and schools." - <a href="#">EdTech Index, 05/07/25</a></li></ul>	
<b>Promotion</b>	
<p>First level of promotion is promoting it to school staff, showing them how to access the app and how it could be used in their classroom (particularly early finishers).</p> <p>Next is to provide guides on the school website, newsletters, and direct emails home to families on how the app can be accessed and reading materials available.</p> <p>Further, it would be best to have posters hung up around the school with QR codes to allow for quick, direct access.</p> <p>Finally, feature ebooks on the Sora app during morning announcements or other physical or digital displays to promote students not only accessing the app, but also to read and circulate books within the app.</p>	

## Order Comparison

### Order Comparison

#### Side by Side Order Comparison

Below are the orders for two other peers enrolled in SLM 506 during the Spring 2025 term, who also work in a middle school setting alongside my order. Same recommendations are highlighted. **Bold are essential by H.W. Wilson.**

<p><b>Nicole Layton (My Order)</b> Wiley H. Bates Middle School Anne Arundel County Public Schools Annapolis, MD</p>	<p><b>Samantha Baldwin</b> Western Heights Middle School Washington County Public Schools Hagerstown, MD</p>	<p><b>Nevaeh Ross</b> John Hanson Middle School Charles County Public Schools Waldorf, MD</p>
<p>Print:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Monster Locker. 1</b> by Jorge Augusto Aguirre</li> <li>• <b>Something Like Home</b> by Andrea Beatriz Arrango</li> <li>• <b>The Hill Inside the Secret World of the U.S. Capitol</b> by Kate Andersen Brower</li> <li>• <i>Virus Hunters: How Science Protects People When Outbreaks and Pandemics Strike</i> by Amy Cherrix</li> <li>• <b>Not Nothing</b> by Gayle Forman</li> <li>• <i>How It All Ends</i> by Emma Hunsinger</li> <li>• <i>Quagmire Tiarello Couldn't Be Better</i> by Mylisa Larsen</li> <li>• <i>The Secret Library</i> by Kekla Magoon</li> <li>• <b>Whale Eyes: A Memoir About Seeing and Being Seen</b> by James Robinson</li> <li>• <i>The Pecan Sheller</i> by Lupe Ruiz-Flores</li> <li>• <b>Brownstone</b> by Samuel Teer</li> <li>• <i>Lola</i> by Karla Valenti</li> <li>• <b>All the Blues in the Sky</b> by Renée Watson</li> <li>• <i>You're the Boss: A Kid's Ultimate Guide to Starting Your Own Business</i> by Brian Weisfeld</li> <li>• <b>Mid-Air</b> by Alicia Williams</li> </ul> <p>Nonprint:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curipod (Publisher Curipod AS)</li> <li>• Diffit (Publisher Diffit, Inc.)</li> <li>• Pixton (Publisher Pixton Comics, Inc.)</li> <li>• Sora (Publisher Overdrive)</li> </ul>	<p>Print:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Hill: Inside the Secret World of the U.S. Capitol</b> by Kate Andersen Brower</li> <li>• <b>Ukraine: Remember Also Me</b> by George Butler</li> <li>• <i>The New Girl Vol 1</i> by Cassandra Calin</li> <li>• <b>Uprooted: A Memoir About What Happens When Your Family Moves Back</b> by Ruth Chan</li> <li>• <b>The Enigma Girls</b> by Candace Fleming</li> <li>• <b>Not Nothing</b> by Gayle Forman</li> <li>• <i>Maelstrom: A Prince of Evil</i> by Lirrian Merriman</li> <li>• <i>The Girl Who Sang</i> by Estelle Nadel</li> <li>• <i>A Two-Placed Heart: A Memoir in Verse</i> by Doan Phuong Nguyen</li> <li>• <i>It Came from the Trees</i> by Ally Russell</li> <li>• <i>Warrior Girl</i> by Carmen Tafolla</li> <li>• <b>Lunar Boy</b> by Jessica Wibowo</li> <li>• <b>Mid-Air</b> by Alicia Williams</li> <li>• <b>Rising from the Ashes: Los Angeles, 1992: Edward Jae Song Lee, Latasha Harlins, Rodney King, and a City on Fire</b> by Paula Yoo</li> </ul> <p>Nonprint:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Borderlands and the Mexican American Story</i> by David Dorado Romo, narrated by Victoria Villarreal (Audio Book)</li> <li>• <i>Find Her</i> by Ginger Reno, narrated by Amy Hall (Audio Book)</li> <li>• New American History (Publisher University of Richmond)</li> <li>• We Will Write (Published We Will Write)</li> </ul>	<p>Print:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Monster Locker</b> by Jorge Augusto Aguirre</li> <li>• <i>Boy 2.0</i> by Tracey Bapiste</li> <li>• <b>Virus Hunters: How Science Protects People When Outbreaks and Pandemics Strike</b> by Amy Cherrix</li> <li>• <i>On Again, Awkward Again</i> by Erin Enrada</li> <li>• <i>The Great Cool Ranch Dorito in the Sky</i> by Josh Galarza</li> <li>• <i>A Deathly Comendium of Poisonous Plants: Wicked Weeds and Sinister Sees</i> by Rebecca E. Hirsch</li> <li>• <b>Stealing Little Moon: The Legacy of the American Indian Boarding Schools</b> by Dan C. Jones</li> <li>• <i>Breath of the Dragon</i> by Shannon Lee</li> <li>• <b>Everything We Never Had</b> by Randy Ribay</li> <li>• <b>The Extraordinary Disappointments of Leopold Berry</b> by Ransom Riggs* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <i>*Essential for Senior High</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Whale Eye: A Memoir About Seeing and Being Seen</b> by James Robinson</li> <li>• <b>The Art Thieves</b> by Andrea L. Rogers* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <i>*Essential for Senior High</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Brooms</b> by Jasmine Walls</li> <li>• <i>The Dividing Sky</i> by Jill Tew</li> <li>• <b>All the Blues in the Sky</b> by Renee Watson</li> </ul> <p>Nonprint:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• .</li> <li>• .</li> <li>• .</li> <li>• .</li> </ul>



## Order Comparison

### Comparison Analysis

(Revised using ChatGPT: revising for brevity)

In SLM 506 for Spring 2025, there were two other middle school educators selecting materials: Samantha Baldwin at Western Heights Middle (Washington County) and Nevaeh Ross at John Hanson Middle (Charles County). These reflections are based on peer lists shared in the May 12 discussion board.

#### Nicole Layton – Wiley H. Bates Middle School (AACPS)

I teach English and reading at urban-suburban Wiley H. Bates Middle, a diverse school with a majority non-white population (35.9% Hispanic, 24% Black, 33.9% white). Based on my Module 1 analysis, I focused on improving Hispanic representation, supporting emerging readers, and increasing titles tied to career pathways—especially business, Annapolis's largest sector. Module 3 revealed an average collection age of 13 years, with every section needing improvement.

I selected 15 print titles (7 shared with peers) ranging from September 2023 to April 2025, with 11 marked *Essential* by Wilson's Core Collection. For nonprint, I chose tools to support teacher collaboration (Curipod, Diffit, Pixton) and student access (Sora).

#### Samantha Baldwin – Western Heights Middle (WCPS)

Sammy is a second-year LMS at a small urban school in a rural county. Her student body is racially diverse (38% white, 25% Black, 21% Hispanic). Her Module 1 goals emphasized expanding digital books, STEM, bilingual access, and culturally diverse texts. She noted nearly every section needed improvement, with an average collection age of 12 years.

Sammy's print order spanned from September 2023 to March 2025, with 14 of 15 titles from 2024 and 7 marked *Essential*. We overlapped on 3 titles: *The Hill*, *Not Nothing*, and *Mid-Air*. Her titles heavily featured history, memoir, and global awareness. Her nonprint selections focused on audiobooks and New American History—aligning with her goals to improve accessibility and build civic understanding. She also shared her district already subscribes to Sora, explaining its absence from her list.

#### Nevaeh Ross – John Hanson Middle (CCPS)

Vaeh teaches 7th-grade social studies in a suburban school where 62% of students are African American. Her Module 1 goals included improving Hispanic representation, art and mental health resources, and support for emerging readers. Her Module 3 analysis showed the collection's average age was 21 years—the oldest among us—and every section needed improvement. She chose to weed fiction.

Vaeh's 16 titles ranged from October 2023 to April 2025, with 8 marked *Essential* and 6 applicable to middle school. We shared 4 titles: *The Monster Locker*, *Virus Hunters*, *Whale Eyes*, and *All the Blues in the Sky*. Her list leaned heavily into genre variety, identity, and mental health, including several graphic novels to engage reluctant readers. She noted her librarian handles most graphic novel ordering but added more based on high demand. Vaeh is still finalizing her nonprint selections and mentioned interest in audiobooks.

### Key Takeaways





## Order Comparison

All three of us prioritized recent, diverse, student-centered titles tailored to the needs identified in our school analyses. While we overlapped in several strong titles, our differences reflect unique local needs, collection gaps, and selection priorities:

- **Subject Focus:** My list emphasized SEL and college/career readiness; Sammy prioritized nonfiction and civics; Vaeh centered mental health, identity, and genre diversity.
- **Nonprint Tools:** I included instructional supports; Sammy focused on audiobook access; Vaeh's are still pending.
- **Essential Titles:** Our use of Wilson's varied—mine had 11 Essentials, Sammy 7, and Vaeh 8 (6 for middle school). These differences reflect not just populations but current collection makeup. For instance, Sammy had already purchased *Lola* and *Something Like Home*, which Bates still lacks.

Ultimately, each of us made thoughtful, targeted choices designed to reflect and serve our students. Comparing lists has helped me reflect on my own genre balance and confirmed the value of peer collaboration for broadening future selection decisions.



## Reflection

### Reflection

(Revised using ChatGPT: revising for brevity)

When building my order, I began with clear goals based on my [Module 1 school analysis](#) and [Module 3 collection analysis](#): improve Hispanic representation, support emerging readers, increase books tied to student interests (like careers), and update the age of the collection. From there, I used my selection criteria to evaluate materials across different [selection sources](#).

I started with subject searches in EBSCO's Wilson Core Collections, prioritizing titles labeled *Essential* or *Recommended*. From there, I closely reviewed verdict statements—especially from *School Library Journal*, which I found the clearest and most targeted to school libraries. I hadn't realized until this assignment how heavily I favored SLJ as a source.

As for publishers, I didn't intentionally favor any, but noticed many titles came from large houses like HarperCollins or Random House. I was surprised by how few Scholastic titles came up in the Core Collections, considering how dominant they are in classroom libraries. It's something I'd like to investigate further.

When selecting fiction, I looked for realistic stories where students could see themselves in the protagonist. Most of my fiction reflects current SEL themes or identity-based narratives. For nonfiction, I tied choices to student interests—*You're the Boss* for entrepreneurship, *Virus Hunters* for health-related curiosity, and *The Hill* to connect with our proximity to D.C. and students' civic concerns. For nonprint, I prioritized instructional partnership tools (like Curipod and Diffit) and broader access through Sora, which offers eBooks and audiobooks in one platform.

I found nonprint selection the most difficult. Many tools are chosen at the district level in AACPS, and few have reputable reviews available. I turned to Common Sense Media—outside of my original selection sources—because it provided more anecdotal insight than ALSC or EdTech Index. Interestingly, even tools labeled "Notable" by ALSC had lower ratings on Common Sense.

This process taught me a lot about separating my own preferences from what students want. I love fantasy and young adult, but I had to focus on what my students are asking about now—mental health, social justice, identity, and real-life issues. Their questions directly informed my nonfiction picks.

When I shared my list with our school librarian, she appreciated the diversity and noted that students would likely enjoy the topics. She also reminded me that graphic novels often require a separate vetting process, and she sometimes references other schools' orders or checks public library shelves before recommending them. She mentioned that a few of my picks (*Lola*, *The Secret Library*, *Monster Locker*) were already on her order for next year.

To showcase new materials, she suggested placing them near the circulation desk so students see them immediately. She tracks circulation from there—any books that don't move quickly can be re-promoted or repositioned. She also mentioned nonfiction tends to sit longer, which shapes her future orders.

Ultimately, I hope this order strengthens the collection's relevance and impact. My selections aim to reflect the lived experiences of our diverse student body, answer the questions they're already asking, and help them grow in both literacy and confidence.



## Selection Criteria

### Selection Criteria

#### Personal Selection Criteria for Books

- Has at least two favorable reviews from reputable, professional sources
- Diverse and reflects the student population
- Supports students' personal enjoyment and interests
- Appropriate for students' development and curriculum goals
- Provides a global perspective
- Available in other formats to existing titles
  - For audiobooks, narration is easy to understand and engaging

#### Personal Selection Criteria for Digital Tools/ Nonbooks

- Must be approved or meet the criteria established by AACPS in [The Review and Selection Manual](#)
- Recommended by professional groups such as [AACPS TAIMMS](#), [AASL Best Digital Tools](#), and [ISTE/EdTech Index](#)
- Easily accessible by all learners with integrated accessibility tools
- Engaging, interactive, and suitable for diverse learning styles and preferences
- Aligned with the instructional expectations of students and their curriculum standards



## Reference

### Reference

Cover photo and headers made by Nicole Layton using Adobe Express

Revisions done utilizing ChatGPT (per Dr. Kerby's suggestion to improve brevity)

For the comparison section of this assignment, I reviewed my peers (Samantha Baldwin and Nevaeh Ross) assignment 1 and assignment 3 rough drafts posted to the discussion forums in order to provide data to support my comparison analysis.