

Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books 2016-2017 List for Grades 3-5



***Absolutely Almost* by Lisa Graff**

Have you ever felt like you could never do anything right? And you spend most of your life trying to figure out what you're good at? Albie spends most of his time wondering just that. His new babysitter, Calista, opens up a world of adventures teaching him new skills and sometimes getting him in trouble.



***All Four Stars* by Tara Dairman**

Gladys has been cooking gourmet dishes since the age of seven, just don't tell her microwave-loving parents! After a small accident involving the crème brûlée, Gladys is cut off from the kitchen. But when Gladys is mistakenly offered an opportunity to write for a major newspaper as a food writer in New York City, she sets off to live her dream and keep her true identity a secret. Just, still don't tell her parents!



***Circus Mirandus* by Cassie Beasley**

Micah's grandfather, Ephraim, has always shared stories with him about Circus Mirandus, a magical circus. As his grandfather is dying, Micah realizes the stories are true. Can the magic of the mysterious circus save his grandfather from dying? Micah is determined to find out.



***Dinosaur Boy* by Cory Putman Oakes**

The summer before he begins fifth grade, Sawyer sprouts a tail with spikes. As a result, he is bullied in school. When the bullies begin to disappear, Sawyer, his best friend Elliot, and the new girl in school know they need to get to the bottom of the mystery before it is too late.



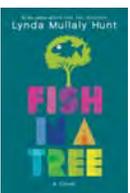
***Eddie Red Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile* by Marcia Wells**

Sixth-grader Edmund Xavier Lonnot code-name "Eddie Red," has a photographic memory and a talent for drawing anything he sees. When the NYPD is stumped by a mastermind art thief, Eddie becomes their secret weapon, drawing Eddie deeper into New York's famous Museum Mile. Can Eddie help catch the thieves in time, or will his first big case be his last?



***Fish Finelli: Seagulls Don't Eat Pickles* by E.S. Farber**

When the town bully bets nine-year-old Norman "Fish" Finelli that he can't find Captain Kidd's famous treasure, Fish and his friends embark on a quest to discover the pirate's buried wooden trunk of lost booty.



***Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt**

Ally uses her strengths in math and art, along with some behavior distractions, to help her get through school. When a new teacher discovers Ally's dyslexia, he builds up Ally's confidence, as well as her ability to read, maybe for the first time ever. With the help of her new friends, Ally learns that it is not always about fitting in, but about what it means to find a place that fits.



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***Gabby Duran and the Unsittables* by Daryle Connors and Elise Allen**

Gabby Duran, babysitter extraordinaire, has many celebrity clients all over the country. She soon finds herself as the newest associate working for the Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings (also known as A.L.I.E.N.) as a babysitter for the “unsittables” — some of the galaxy’s toughest extraterrestrials!



***Half a Chance* by Cynthia Lord**

Lucy’s family moves to a small, lakeside community in New Hampshire. She and her new friend Nate secretly plan to spend the summer taking photos for a contest which her professional photographer father will be judging. To their surprise, they learn that photos can sometimes show more than people want to see.



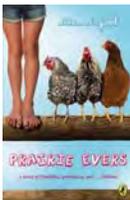
***The Pet War* by Allen Woodrow**

Eleven-year-old Otto’s desire for a dog turns into sibling rivalry when his older sister, Lexi, claims she wants a cat. Their mother wants neither. The competition is on after their mother gives them a challenge: whomever can earn \$500 in a month will get the pet of his or her choice. As the competition gets fiercer, the stakes get higher. Let the Pet War begin!



***Pip Bartlett’s Guide to Magical Creatures* by Maggie Stiefvater and Jackson Pearce**

Thanks to a Unicorn Incident at her school, Pip spends the summer with her aunt at a clinic for magical creatures. It’s fun... until Fuzzles appear and begin bursting into flames. Pip and her friend Tomas must take quick action to solve the problem before it causes more trouble for all creatures, magical or not.



***Prairie Evers* by Ellen Airgood**

Prairie Evers has been home-schooled her whole life. After a move up north with her family, Prairie finds herself going to public school for the very first time. Prairie discovers that between raising chickens and nurturing a brand new friendship with a girl her age, school and life in upstate New York aren’t quite as bad as she anticipated.



***Serafina’s Promise* by Ann Burg**

Eleven-year-old Serafina’s life in Haiti is filled with chores and struggle. But she dreams of going to school and becoming a doctor. She is still mourning the death of her baby brother when she learns her Manman is about to have another baby. Just as her dreams may come true, her family faces natural disasters and separation. This novel, written in verse, weaves a story of Haitian history, culture, and one girl’s determination to help her family and achieve her dreams.



***The Terrible Two* by Mac Barnett and Jory John**

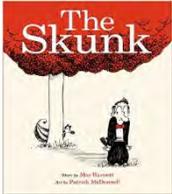
Miles moves to quiet Yawnee Valley with plans to make mischief, but he is quickly involved in a battle to be the best prankster in town. This book is full of many pranks and 1,346 interesting facts about cows!



***The Worm Whisperer* by Betty Hicks**

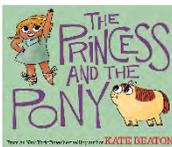
Fifth grader Ellis Coffey wants to win the annual Woolly Worm Race, because the prize is \$1,000, and his father needs just that amount to pay for his back surgery. To win, he must befriend and train a worm to be the fastest in the race. But will it be enough?

**2016-2017 SSYRA Jr.
Annotated Book List**



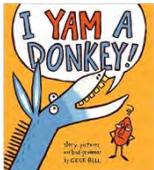
***The Skunk* by Mac Barnett & illustrated by Patrick McDonnell**

When a skunk first appears in the tuxedoed man's doorway, it's a strange but possibly harmless occurrence. But then the man finds the skunk following him, and the unlikely pair embark on an increasingly frantic chase through the city. What does the skunk want?



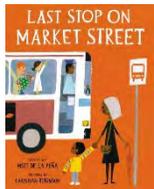
***The Princess and the Pony* by Kate Beaton**

Princess Pinecone knows exactly what she wants for her birthday this year. A BIG horse. A STRONG horse. A horse fit for a WARRIOR PRINCESS! But when the day arrives, she doesn't quite get the horse of her dreams...



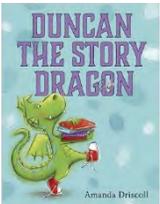
***I Yam a Donkey* by Cece Bell**

Confusion abounds when a poorly spoken donkey says to a grammarian yam. "I Yam a Donkey!" An escalating series of misunderstandings leaves the yam furious and the clueless donkey bewildered by the yam's growing (and amusing) frustration. The story ends with a dark and outrageously funny twist.



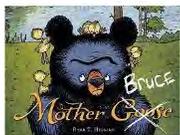
***Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Pena & illustrated by Christian Robinson**

Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from grandma, who helps him see the beauty and fun in their routine and the world around them.



***Duncan the Story Dragon* by Amanda Driscoll**

Duncan the Dragon loves to read. When he reads a story, his imagination catches fire. Unfortunately . . . so does his book! Duncan just wants to get to those two wonderful words, like the last sip of a chocolate milk shake: The End. Will he ever find out how the story ends?



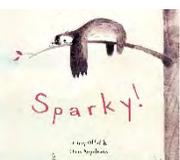
***Mother Bruce* by Ryan T. Higgins**

Bruce the bear is a grump. He loves to cook and eat gourmet eggs. But when his goose eggs hatch, he starts to lose his appetite. And even worse, the goslings are convinced he's their mother. Bruce tries to get the geese to go south, but he can't seem to rid himself of his new companions. What's a bear to do?



***Toys Meet Snow* by Emily Jenkins & illustrated by Paul Zelinsky**

While Little Girl goes away for winter vacation; Lumphy, a stuffed buffalo; Sting Ray, a plush stingray and Plastic, a rubber ball all head outside. They discover and play in the miraculous, amazing, heavenly snow.



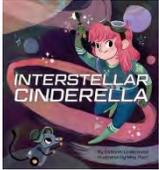
***Sparky!* by Jenny Offill & illustrated by Chris Appelhans**

Sparky stars a pet who has more to offer than meets the eye. When our narrator orders a sloth through the mail, the creature that arrives isn't good at tricks or hide-and-seek . . . or much of anything. Still, there's something about Sparky that is irresistible.



***The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires**

The girl has a wonderful idea. She is going to make the most MAGNIFICENT thing! She knows just how it will look and work. But making her magnificent thing is anything but easy. She tinkers, hammers and measures; she smooths, wrenches and fiddles; she Twists, tweaks and fastens. And finally manages to get it just right.



***Interstellar Cinderella* by Deborah Underwood & illustrated by Meg Hunt**

This outer space Cinderella is an aspiring rocket engineer. With a little help from her fairy god-robot, Cinderella is going to the ball. But when the prince's ship has mechanical trouble, someone will have to zoom to the rescue!



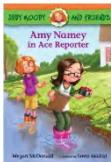
***The Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure* by Doreen Cronin & illustrated by Kevin Cornell**

Meet the Chicken Squad: Dirt, Sugar, Poppy, and Sweetie. These are not your typical barnyard chicks. They're busy solving mysteries and fighting crime. So when Squirrel comes barreling into the chicken coop, they know that it will be up to the Chicken Squad to crack a case that just might be out of this world.



***Tales of Bunjitsu Bunny* by John Himmelman**

Introducing Isabel, aka Bunjitsu Bunny! She is the BEST bunjitsu artist in her school, and she can throw farther, kick higher, and hit harder than anyone else! But she never hurts another creature . . . unless she has to.



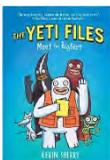
***Amy Namey in Ace Reporter* by Megan McDonald & illustrated by Erwin Madrid**

Amy Namey, Ace Reporter, is on the hunt for a good news story. But not a lot happens in the town of Frog Neck Lake. So what's a budding reporter to do? Team up with Judy Moody! With Judy along to sniff out a story, anything can happen. Like maybe a close encounter with the famed Great Virginia Sea Serpent, Taboo! Are Amy and Judy about to stumble upon the scoop of the century?



***Monkey Me and the Golden Monkey* by Timothy Roland**

Clyde is an energetic student who just can't sit still. After eating a banana that has been zapped by lasers on his class field trip to the science museum Clyde starts to feel weird. Now every time he gets excited, he transforms into a monkey! Only with the help of his twin sister, Claudia, can Monkey Clyde stay out of trouble.



***The Yeti Files: Meet the Bigfeet* by Kevin Sherry**

Blizz Richards is a great guy, a caring boss, and a loyal friend. He's also a yeti! He's made it his life's mission to study cryptids like him, hidden animals who have taken a powerful oath to never be seen by the outside world. When a photo of Cousin Brian becomes a media sensation, Brian disappears. Can they find their furry friend before their secret gets out for good?