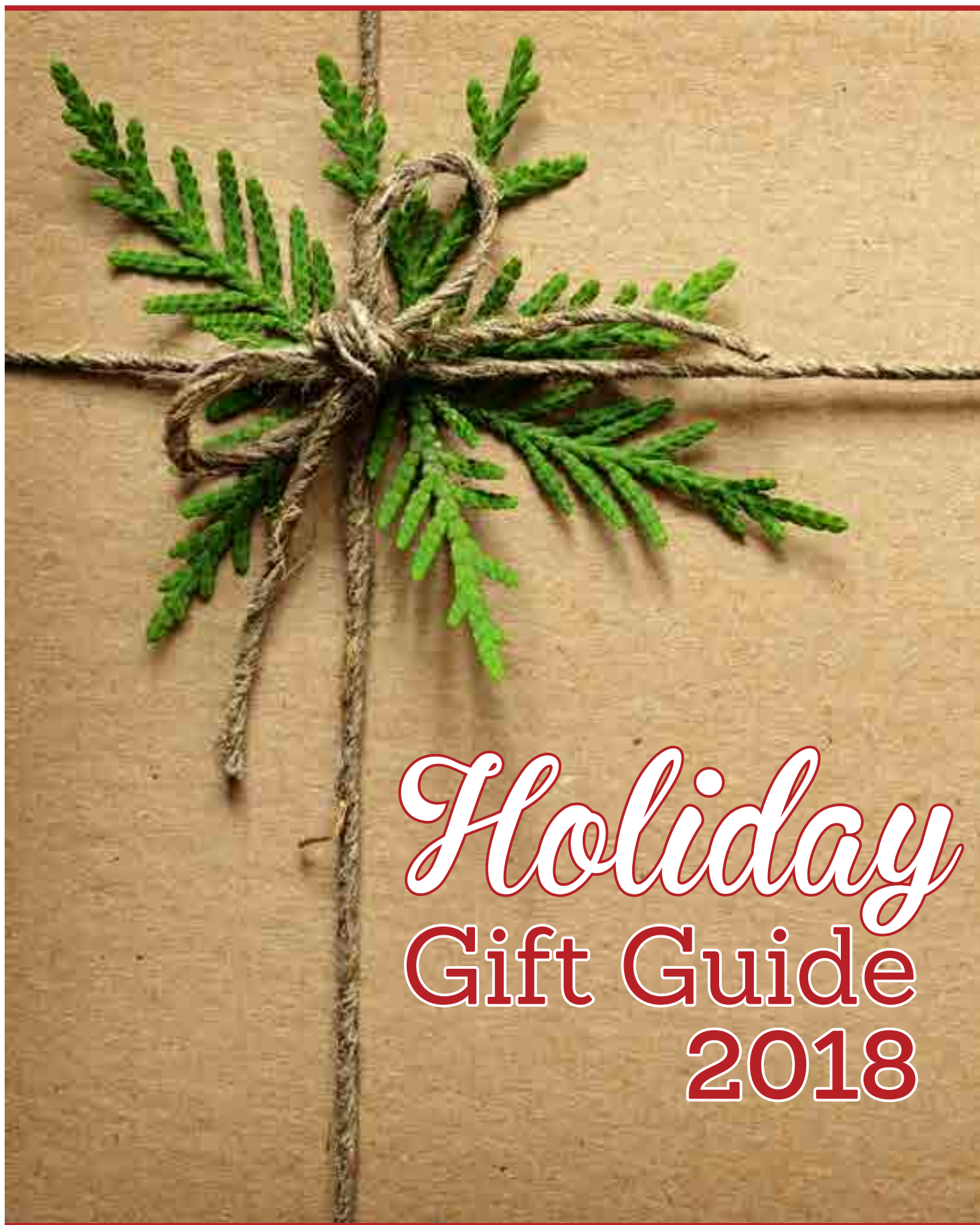


Elmhurst Public Library



Holiday Gift Guide 2018

125 S. Prospect Avenue • Elmhurst, IL 60126 • (630) 279-8696 • elmhurstpubliclibrary.org

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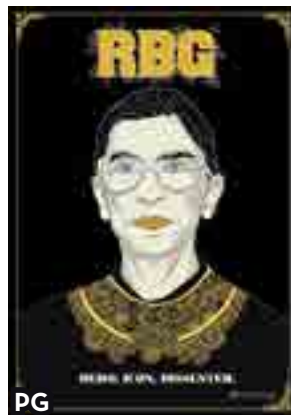
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MADE FOR TV



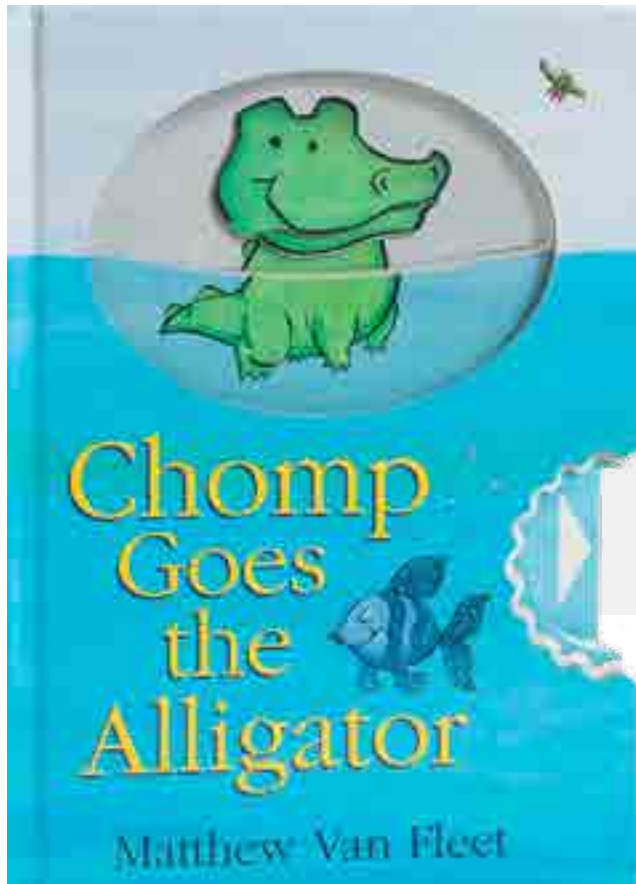
MADE FOR TV



The Holiday Gift Guide 2018 is a list compiled by staff at Elmhurst Public Library.

Elmhurst Public Library does not profit from the purchase of any of the items included in this publication.

for Kids: Board Books

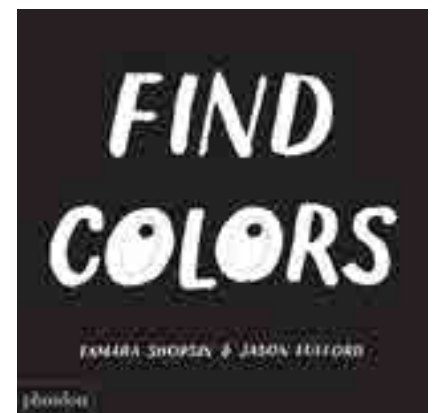
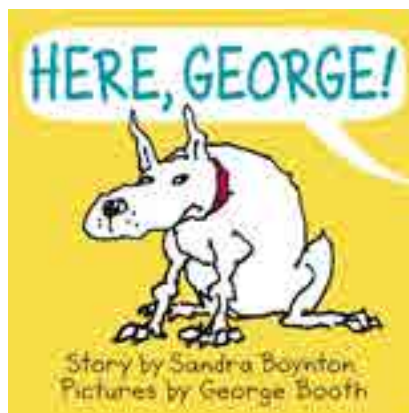
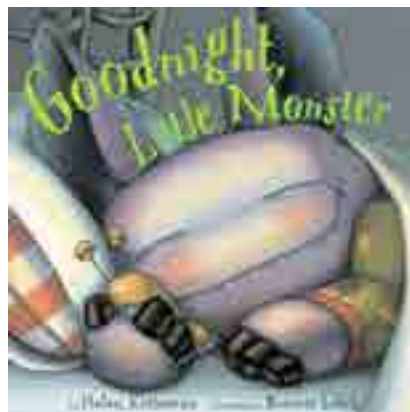
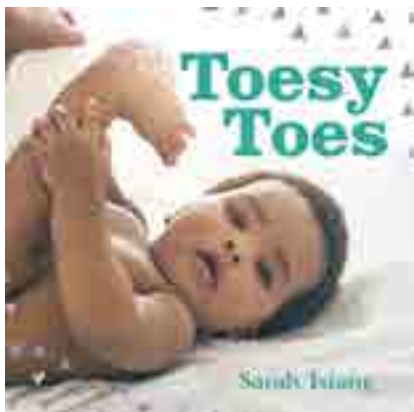


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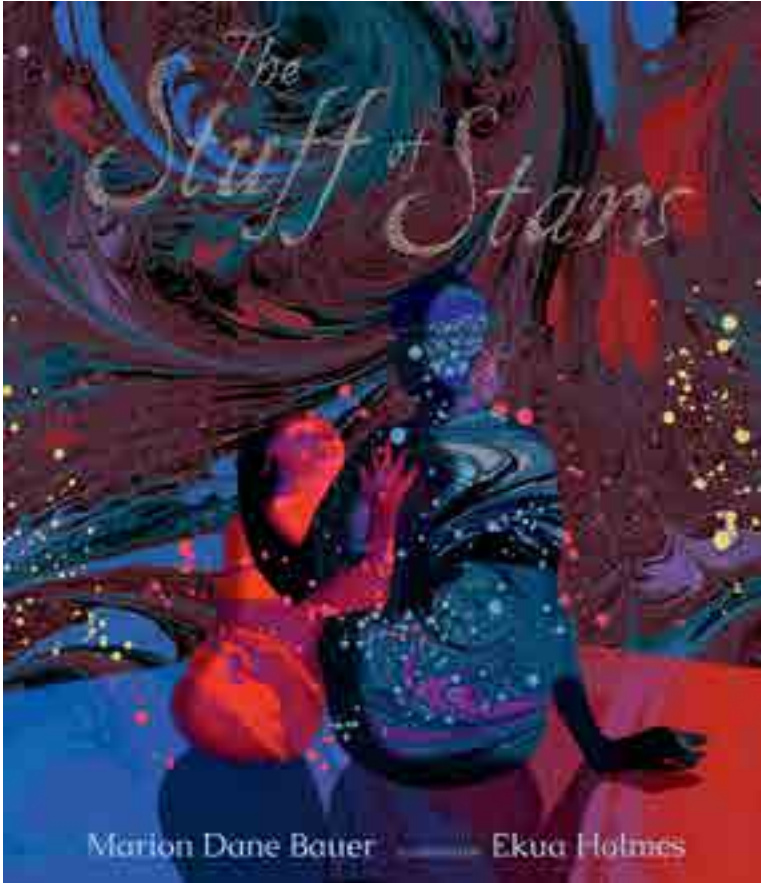
Chomp Goes the Alligator by Matthew Van Fleet

Why we love it:

The interactive pull tab makes the alligator go CHOMP, which adds to the fun of this colorful title. Inviting textures engage toddlers with every turn of the page. This playful counting book will have your little ones asking for this read over and over again.



for Kids: Picture Books

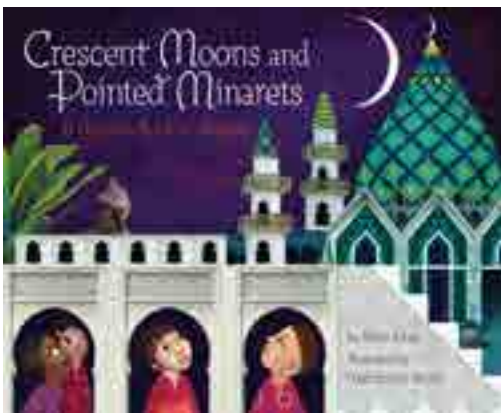
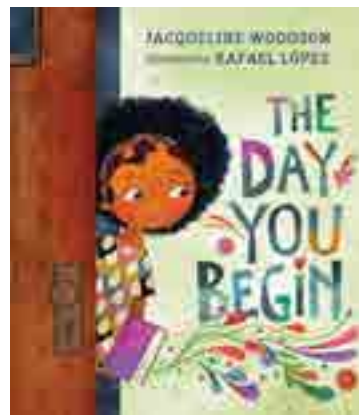


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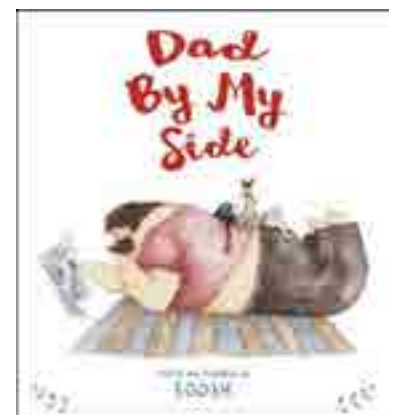
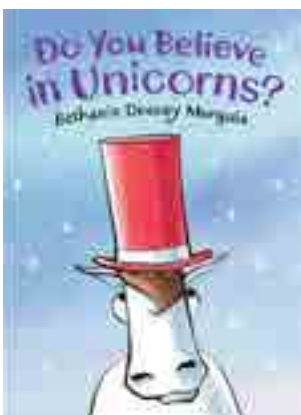
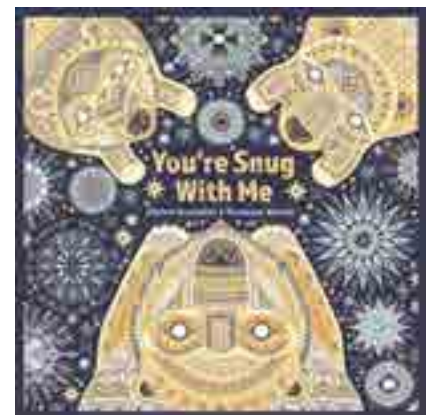
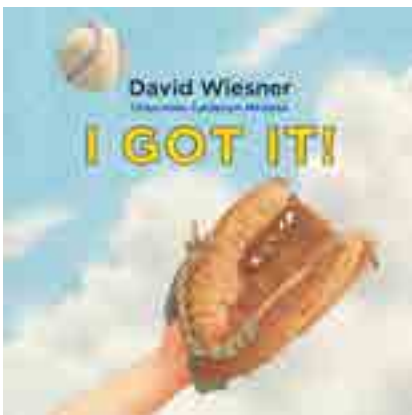
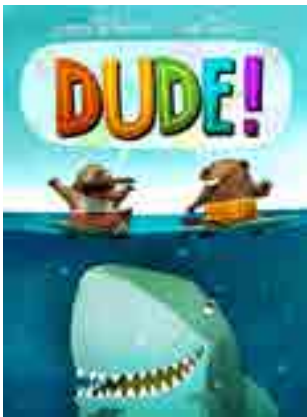
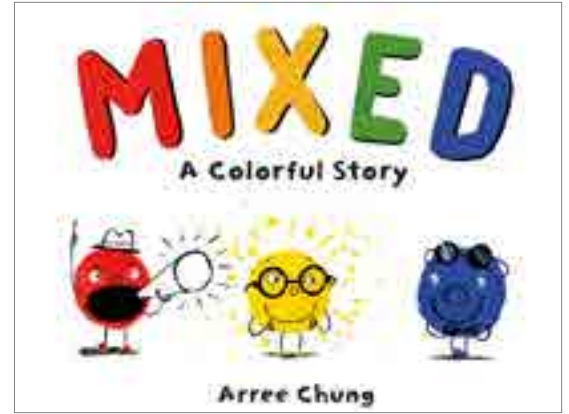
The Stuff of Stars by Marion Dane Bauer

Why we love it:

Vivid illustrations blend with the story of the birth of the universe. The author uses poetic text to weave a tale from Carl Sagan's famous quote, "We are made of star stuff." Judging a book by its cover isn't normally something we recommend, but when the entire book is as glorious as this one, we heartily support getting it for budding artists and scientists alike.



for Kids: Picture Books



for Hands-on Smart Fun



ARCKIT PLAY CITYSCAPE

Why we love it:

This colorful set includes a variety of shapes that offer different styles of architecture. Add details such as roads and water with supplied graphics. Develop fundamental design skills and experience the feeling of spontaneous creativity through hands-on model building. Ideal for future urban designers.



OLLIE

Why we love it:

Use a smartphone or tablet to control this robot. The wheel design enables it to conquer any terrain and perform awesome stunts without missing a beat.



LITTLEBITS RULE YOUR ROOM KIT

Why we love it:

Kids can develop engineering and problem-solving skills by creating interactive inventions. Minimize screen time with a toolbox that kids can use to create new toys. They'll have fun controlling their handiwork with touch-activations.

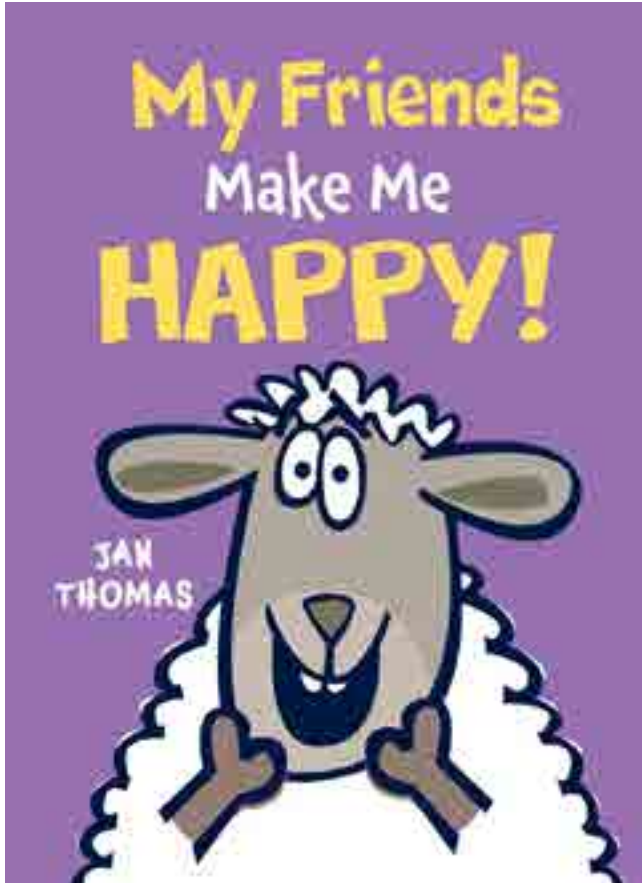


PIXIO-200 MAGNETIC CONSTRUCTION SET

Why we love it:

A unique opportunity to create pixel art in 3D. Build creatures, people, structures, land, anything the mind can dream up. Get inspired through a free app with hundreds of design ideas.

for Kindergarten–Grade 1

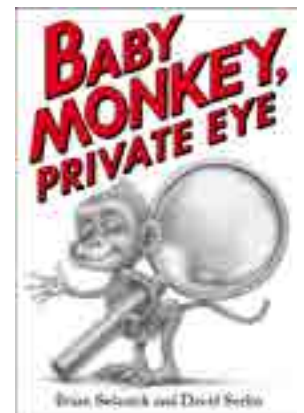
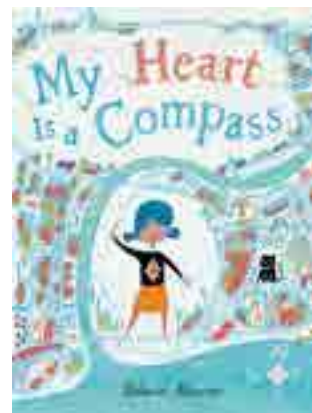
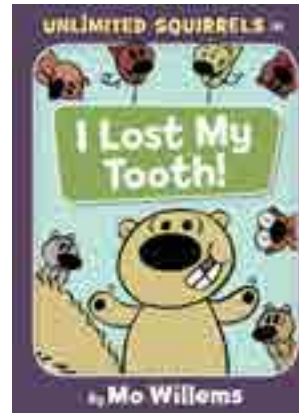
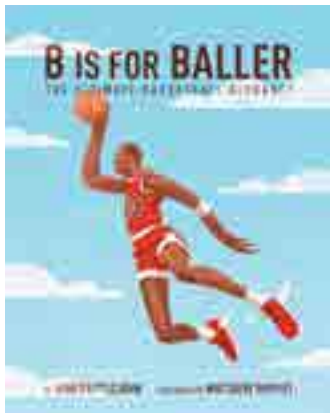


Librarian favorite:

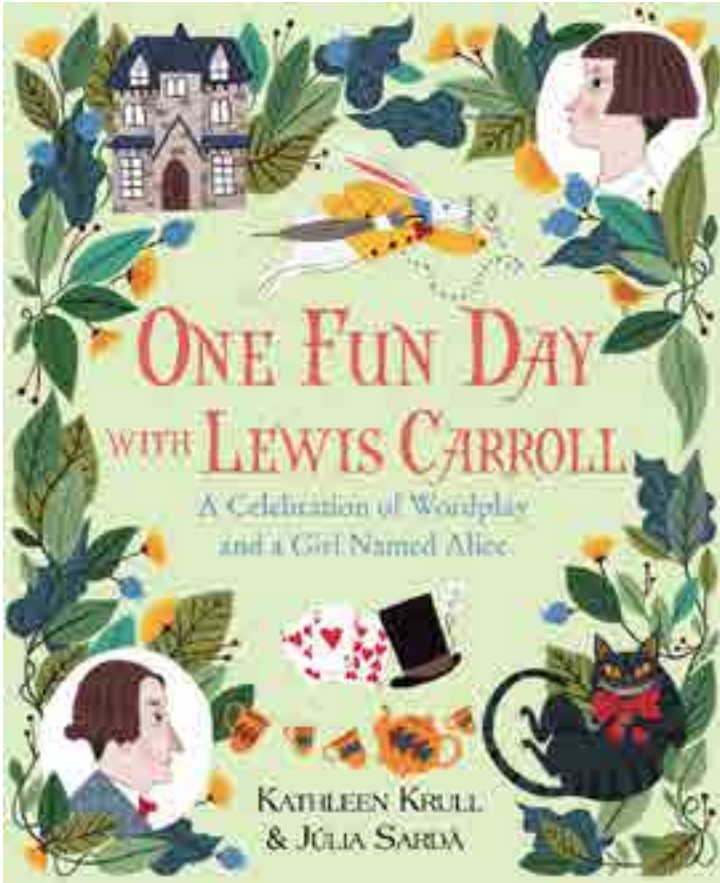
My Friends Make Me Happy! by Jan Thomas

Why we love it:

Lots of things make us happy, but one thing makes Sheep the happiest. When Sheep's friends join her, a guessing game begins that leads readers on a romp through silliness and fun. Jan Thomas is a master at getting readers involved in the story, with short, engaging text and bold illustrations that convey the joys of friendship, even when your friends drive you crazy!



for Grades 2–3

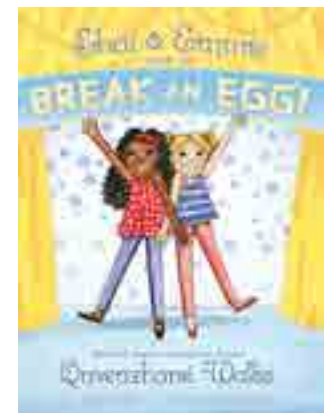
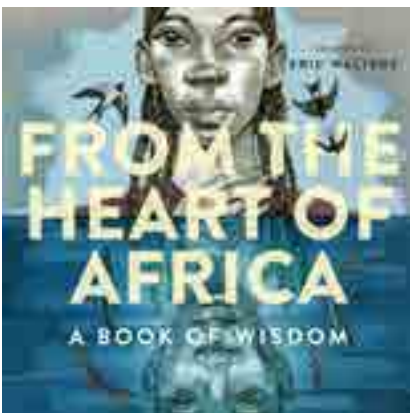
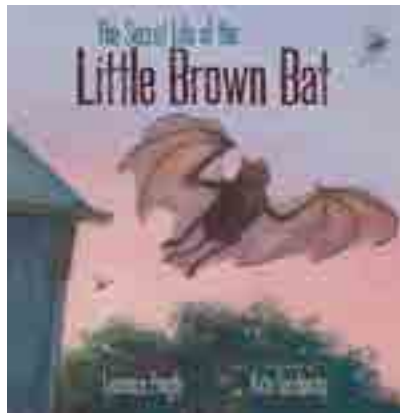
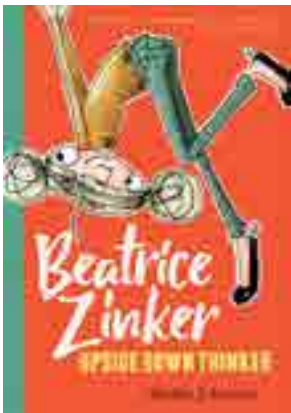


Librarian favorite:

One Fun Day with Lewis Carroll: A Celebration of Wordplay and a Girl Named Alice by Kathleen Krull

Why we love it:

This book is both a biography of Lewis Carroll and a dictionary of his most famous words. The illustrations are lively and fun, just like Lewis Carroll himself.



for Grades 4-6

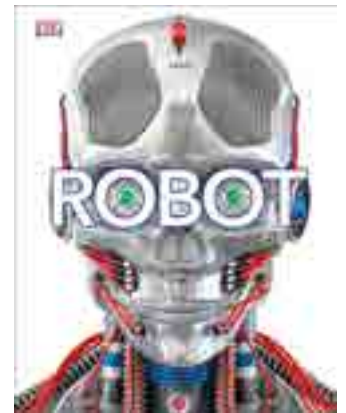
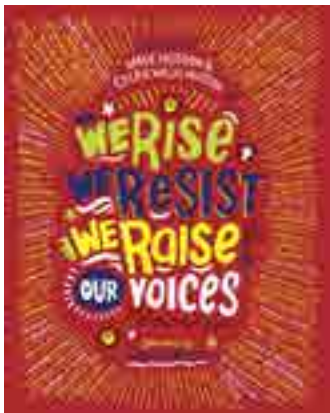


Librarian favorite:

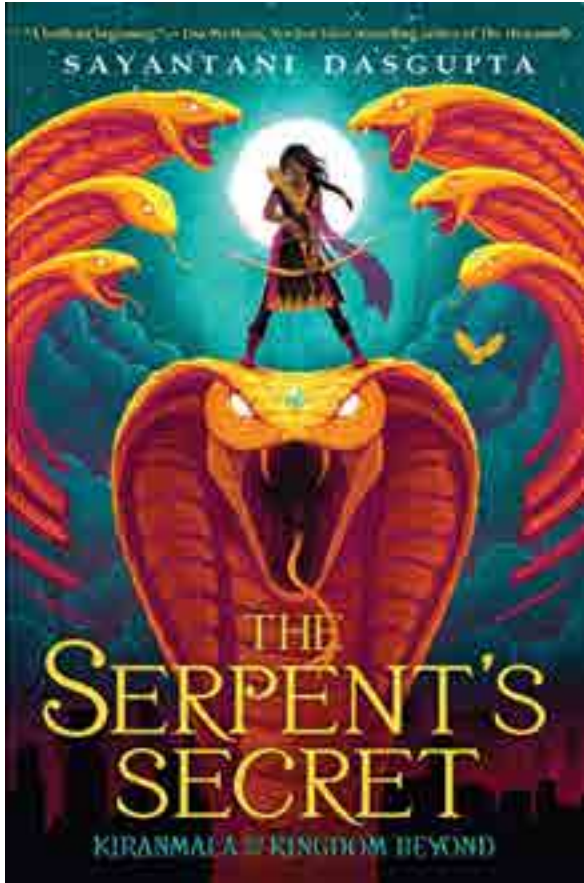
Inkling by Kenneth Oppel

Why we love it:

Ethan's family is struggling, but when an inkblot on Ethan's Dad's sketchbook jumps from the page, everything begins to look up. This humorous and touching book will appeal to fans of *Hoot* and *Frindle*. *Inkling* is sure to become a favorite character.



for Middle Schoolers

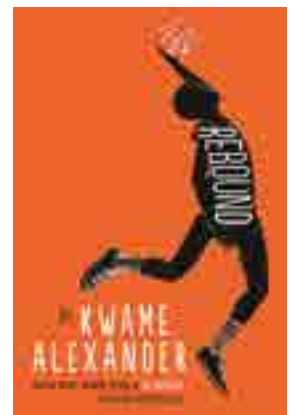


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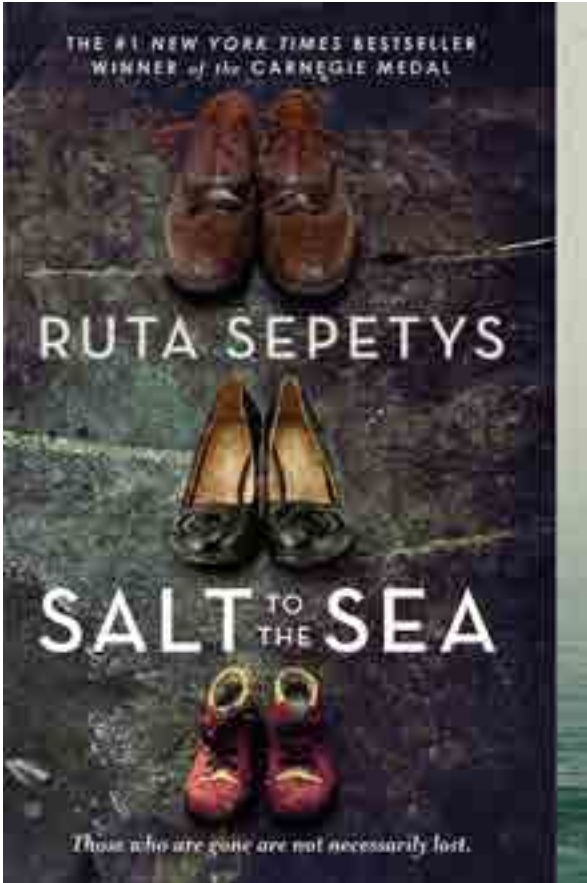
The Serpent's Secret by Sayantani DasGupta

Why we love it:

This book celebrates exploring what makes you special and the discovery of pride in one's culture. Kiranmala is just a regular sixth grader in New Jersey ... or is she? Could her parents' fantastical tales of another world filled with magic, where she just happens to be a princess, actually be real? Mythology and science merge with Bengali folklore in this adventure.



for High Schoolers

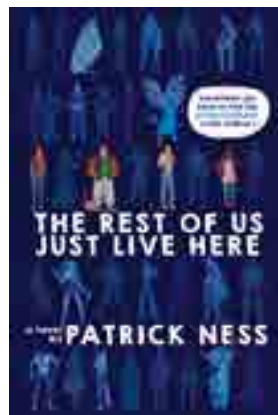


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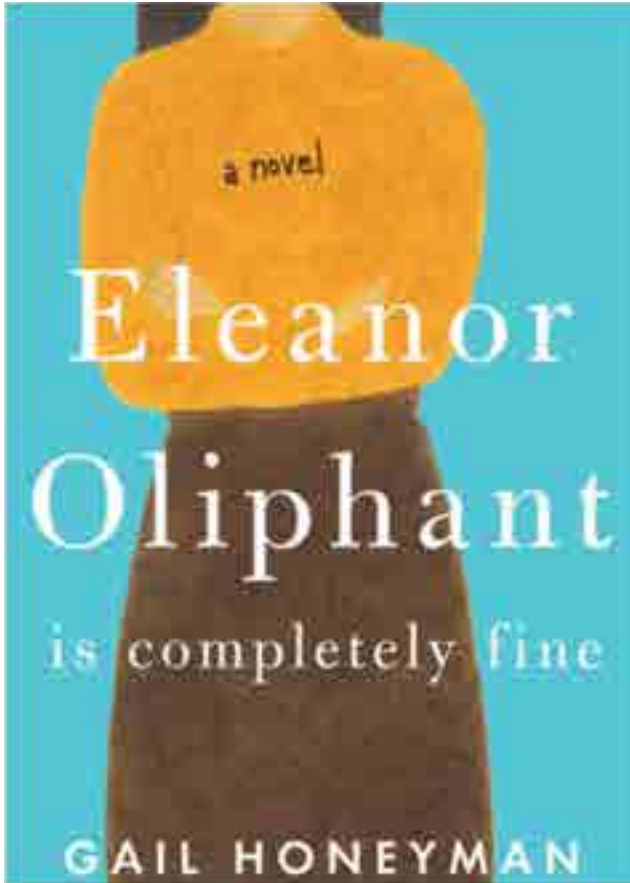
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

Why we love it:

Told through the eyes of four characters who are among thousands desperately trying to escape a 1945 Soviet advance. Short chapters are powerful in their sparseness, but filled with riveting and personal prose. This is one of those rare books that captures the imagination by bringing to light actual events.



for the Novel Reader

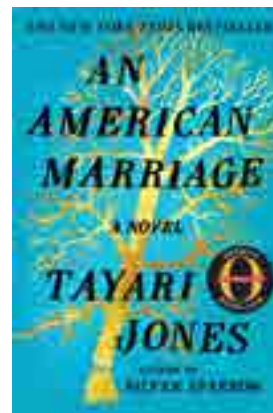
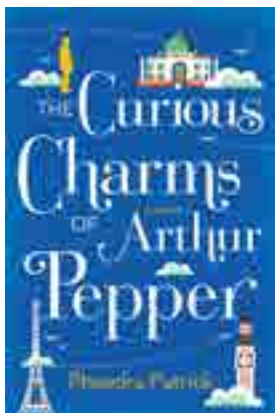
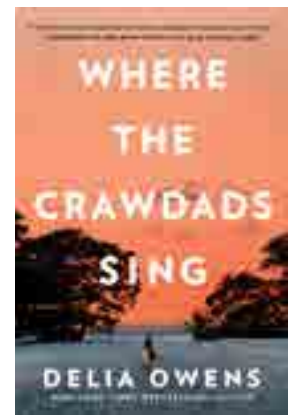
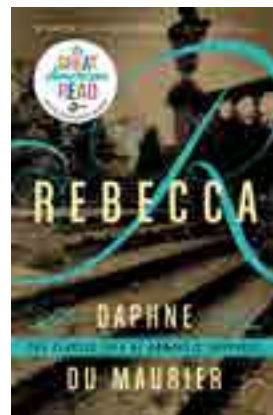
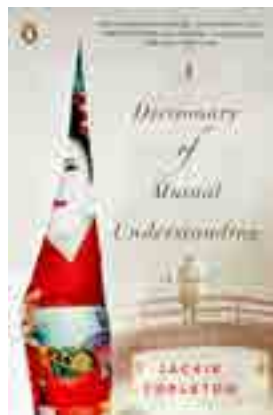


Librarian favorite:

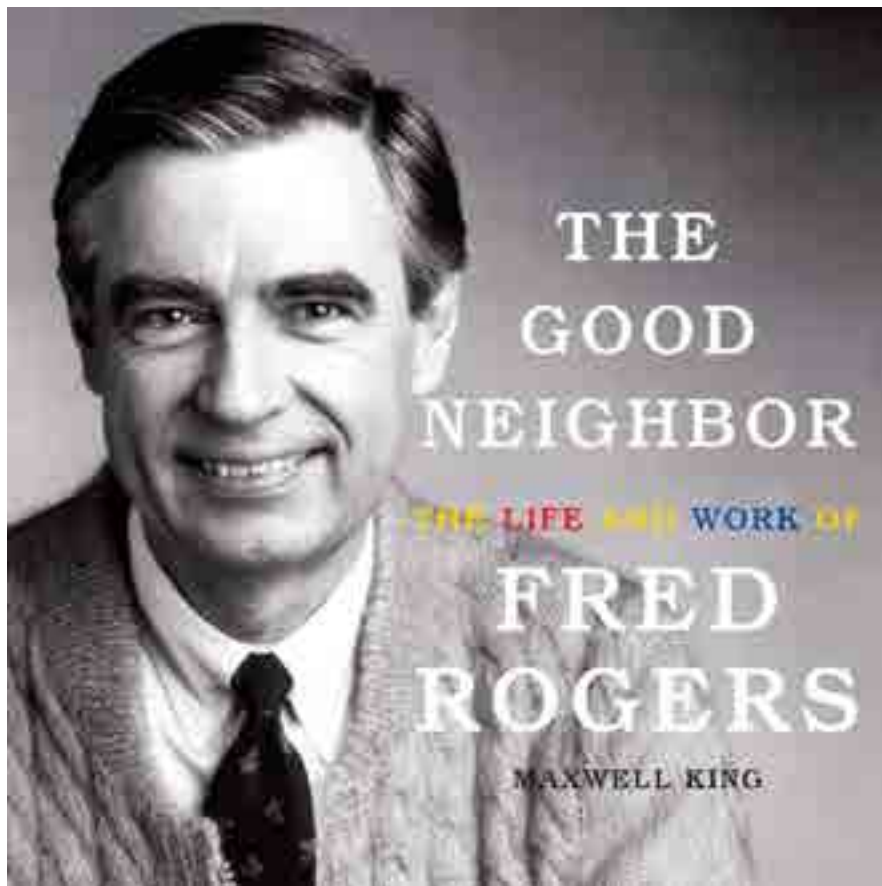
Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman

Why we love it:

Quirky and charming, with a bit of humor and sprinkling of suspense, this award-winning novel is engaging and thought-provoking. *Eleanor Oliphant* will entertain the readers on your holiday gift list. Grab a copy for yourself, too!



for the Audiobook Lover

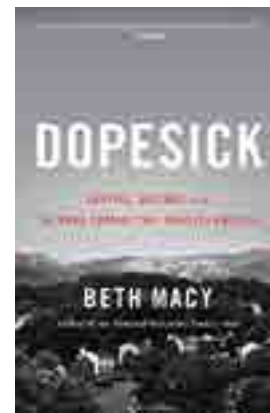
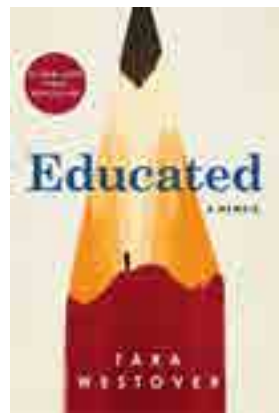
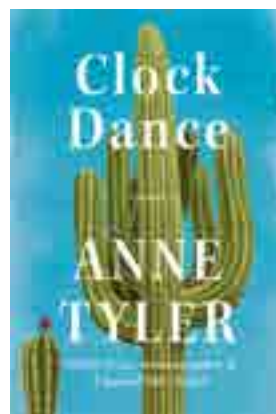
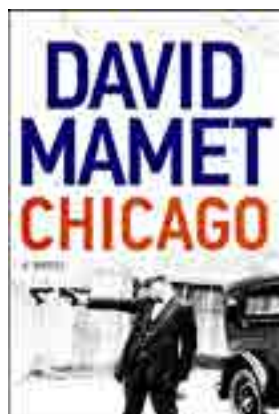


Librarian favorite:

The Good Neighbor: The Life and Work of Fred Rogers by Maxwell King

Why we love it:

This is the first full-length biography of Fred Rogers, beloved host of *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*. Full of anecdotes of intimate exchanges that highlight Rogers' kindness and grace. Why the audiobook version? It's narrated by another of our childhood heroes: LeVar Burton from the award-winning *Reading Rainbow*.



for the Intellectual



PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION

The Pulitzer Prize for Fiction recognizes distinguished fiction by an American author, preferably dealing with American life, published during the preceding calendar year.



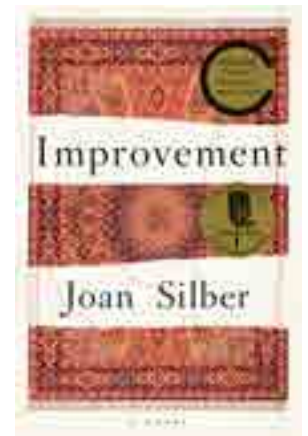
NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR FICTION

The National Book Award for Fiction is one of four annual National Book Awards, which recognize outstanding literary work by United States citizens.



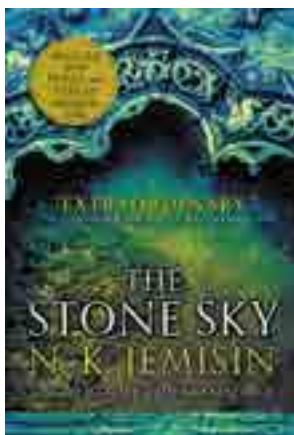
MAN BOOKER PRIZE

The Man Booker Prize is the leading literary award in the English speaking world, and has brought recognition, reward and readership to outstanding fiction for five decades.



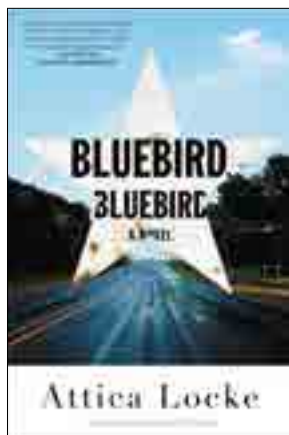
PEN/FAULKNER AWARD

The PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction is awarded annually to the authors of the year's best works of fiction by living American citizens.



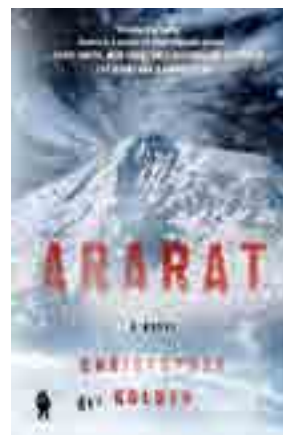
HUGO AWARD FOR BEST NOVEL

The Hugo Awards are given annually for the best science fiction or fantasy works and achievements of the previous year.



EDGAR AWARD FOR BEST NOVEL

The Edgar Allan Poe Awards, presented by the Mystery Writers of America, honor the best in mystery fiction, non-fiction, television, film, and theater published or produced in the previous year.



BRAM STOKER AWARD FOR SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT IN A NOVEL

The Bram Stoker Award is a recognition presented annually by the Horror Writers Association for "superior achievement" in dark fantasy and horror writing.



EISNER AWARD FOR BEST CONTINUING SERIES

The Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards, commonly shortened to the Eisner Awards, are prizes given for creative achievement in American comic books, sometimes referred to as the comics industry's equivalent of the Academy Awards.



Librarian favorite:

Yarn Harlot: The Secret Life of a Knitter
by Stephanie Pearl-McPhee

Why we love it:

This is a fun read that will appeal to any knitter in your life who needs some light reading. As a knitter, I found myself chuckling and nodding my head along in agreement to the stories. Fans can continue reading the author's blog and follow along with her patterns and life stories at yarnharlot.ca.



for the **Gourmet**

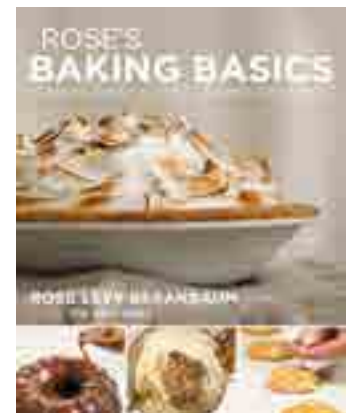
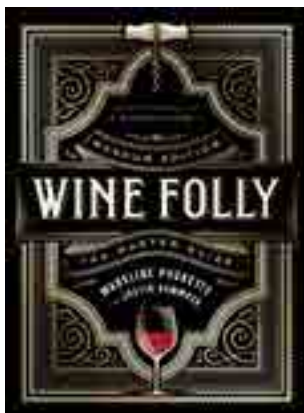


Librarian favorite:

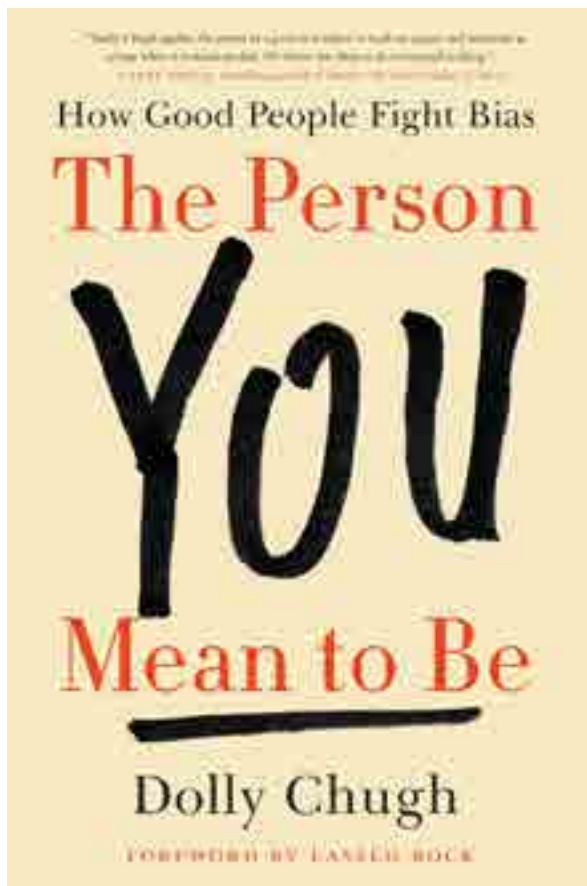
Cook Like a Pro by Ina Garten

Why we love it:

Really, this is a recommendation for all of Ina Garten's cookbooks. I like Ina's no-fuss cooking style. Her recipes are simple yet sophisticated and I use her cookbooks as my go-to when I'm looking for entertaining ideas. I even attempted to cook my way through one of her books - make every recipe over a period of time. I haven't finished yet, but maybe someday...



for the Civically Engaged

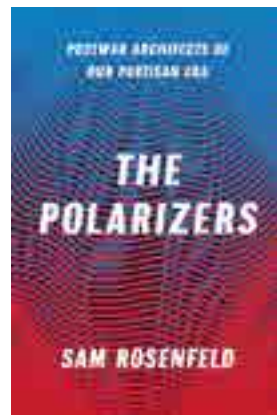
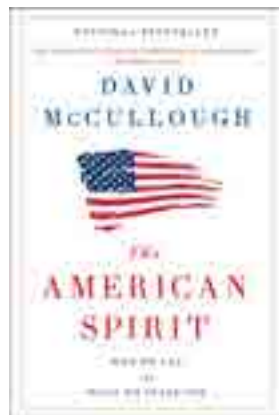
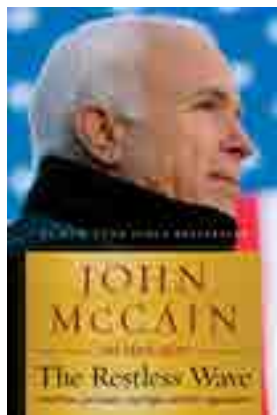
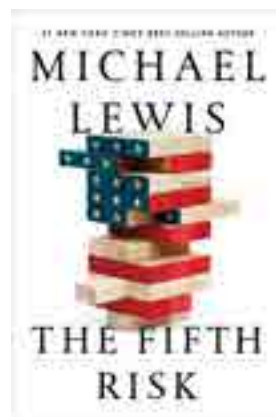
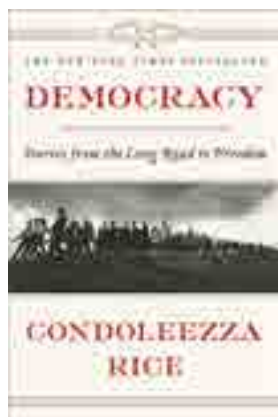
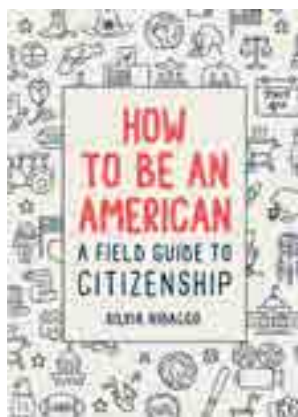


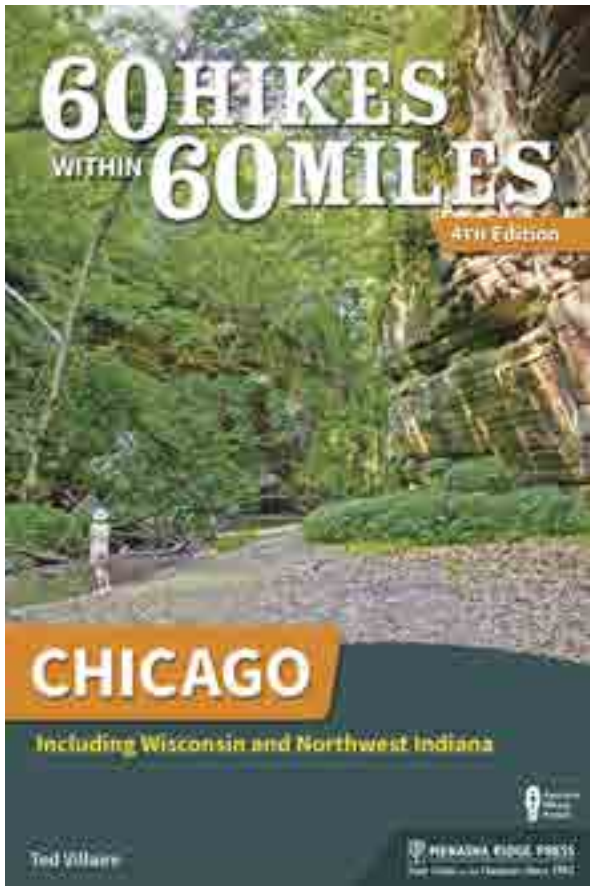
Librarian favorite:

The Person You Mean to Be: How Good People Fight Bias
by Dolly Chugh

Why we love it:

This is not a self-help book! It's an engaging, evidence-based book about how to battle biases, champion diversity and inclusion, and advocate for those who lack power and privilege. Dr. Dolly Chugh, a Harvard-educated, award-winning social psychologist at the NYU Stern School of Business, teaches that being an ally isn't about being a good person—it's about constantly striving to be a better person.



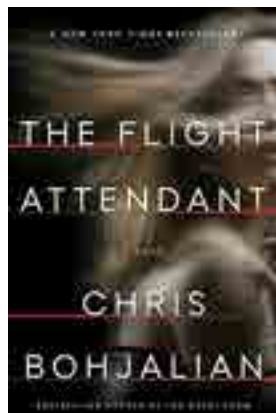
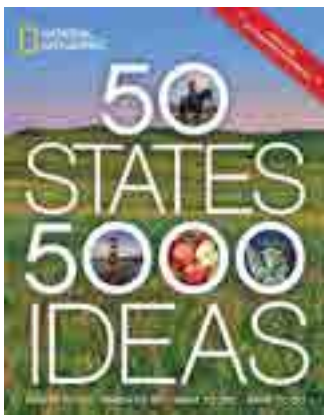


Librarian favorite:

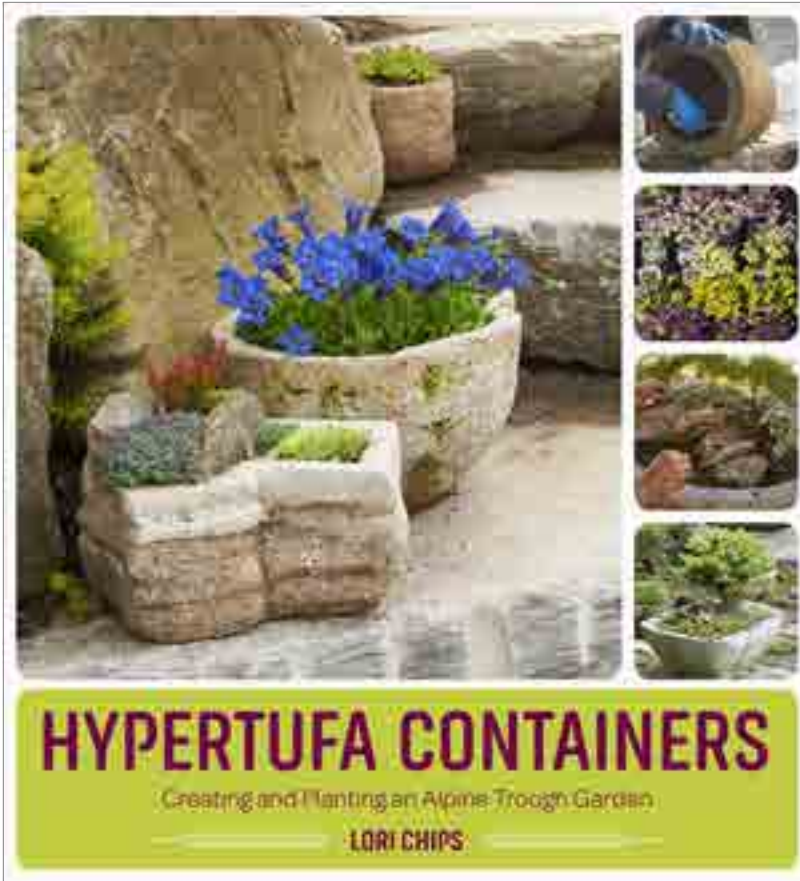
60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Chicago: Including Wisconsin and Northwest Indiana 4th edition by Ted Villaire

Why we love it:

My family loves to hike, and we have been using this book to earmark each hike we've been able to accomplish. We love seeing the beauty of nature without having to drive too far from home. Our Sunday hikes are wonderful family memories. Plus, I gets my steps in! The directions are easy to understand, and send me to neighborhoods/towns I wouldn't normally visit.



for the Green Thumb

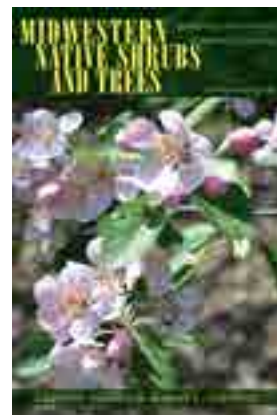


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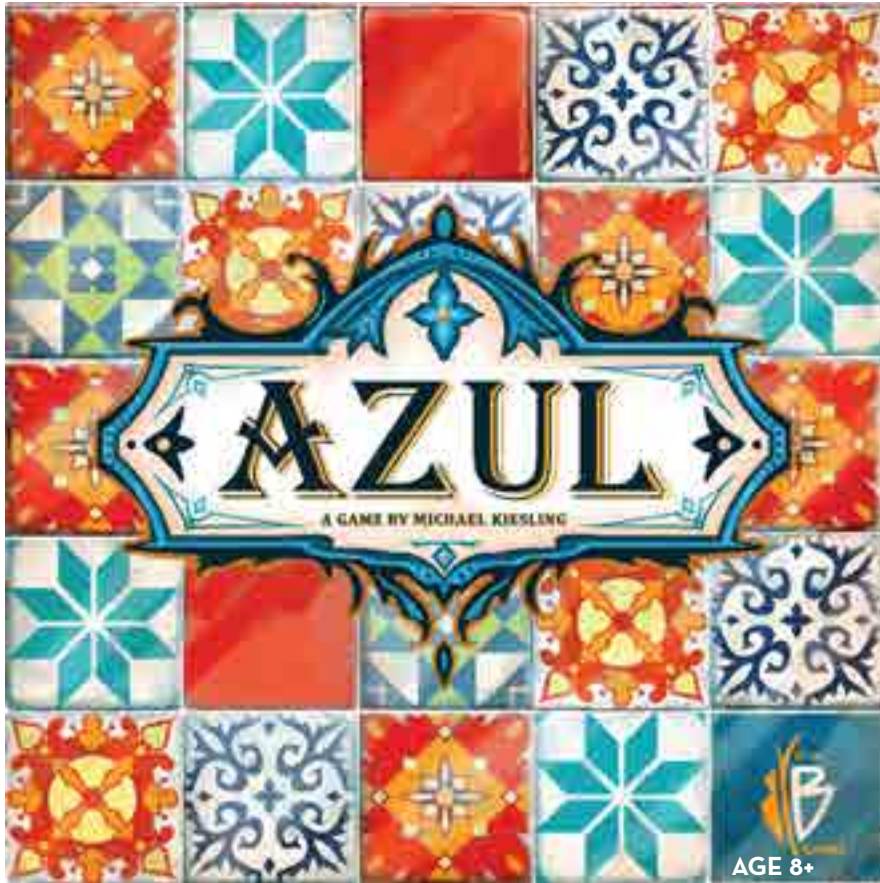
Hypertufa Containers by Lori Chips

Why we love it:

The crafty gardeners in your life will be thrilled to receive a copy of *Hypertufa Containers*. Step-by-step instructions and color photography guide in the creation of lightweight custom plant holders to suit your garden or space. Even as a coffee table book, it will be of interest to all who browse.



for the Playful



Librarian favorite:

Azul by Michael Kiesling

Why we love it:

Winner of the esteemed 2018 Spiele des Jahres award, Azul is a tile-placing game where players score points based on the patterns of azulejos (lushly decorated Portuguese tiles) on their board. Quick to set up, learn, and play, this family-friendly favorite is perfect for a short weeknight gaming session, but also rewards repeat plays and has a surprising depth of strategy despite its simple rules.

