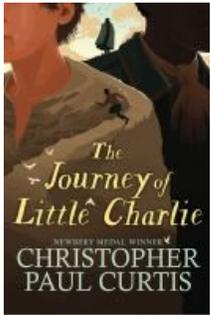
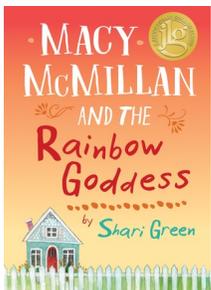


September 2018

Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!



The Journey of Little Charlie by Christopher Paul Curtis. J Fiction, JCD, eBook, eAudiobook
At 12-years-old, Charlie Bobo is often mistaken for a grown man because of his towering height and strength. "Little" Charlie and his parents are poor, white sharecroppers who farm the land adjacent to a plantation in South Carolina. The overseer to the plantation is a true villain who coerces Little Charlie to settle his father's debt after he dies in a freak accident. Together, they travel North to capture runaway slaves living in Detroit. Charlie is repulsed by the vile overseer/slave catcher, who smells terrible and inflicts pain upon everyone who crosses his path. This novel is compellingly told in southern dialect from the perspective of a young, poor, white boy who has always accepted the lie that his race makes him superior to black slaves. Through his journey, Charlie begins to question this idea as he realizes the injustices of slavery and that if given the opportunity, slaves can attain a better life. Charlie begins to wonder if he too can overcome his origins and find a new life for himself in the North. This book is a must read, especially for anyone who enjoys adventure novels and historical fiction. Kids who like Christopher Paul Curtis's other books, and books written by Avi will also enjoy *The Journey of Little Charlie*.



Macy McMILLAN and the Rainbow Goddess by Shari Green. J Fiction
Macy McMILLAN is in 6th grade and has been having a hard time lately. First of all, her mom is about to get remarried - to a man with twin 6-year-old daughters. If this weren't bad enough, Macy's mom is selling their house - the only home Macy has ever known - and they're going to move in with Paul and the girls. Macy doesn't like Paul's house, or that fact that he isn't fluent in sign like her mom so Macy can't always understand him. Macy is reluctantly supposed to be making centerpieces for the wedding, but keeps putting it off, just like her family tree project for school. Then her mother volunteers her to help Iris, the elderly woman next door, pack up her books. Iris is also selling her house and moving into a retirement home. Iris doesn't sign either, and Macy is uncomfortable dealing with someone who has no knowledge or experience with a person who is deaf. But despite Iris' lack of signing skills, she and Macy hit it off and are able to communicate via notes and gestures. The old woman has a lot of life experience to impart to Macy, and with her support and advice Macy slowly begins to accept that she can't keep things from changing - and that change isn't always bad. This sweet novel in verse exposes

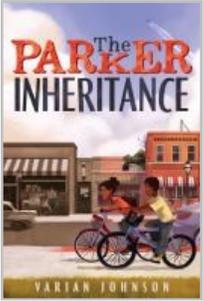


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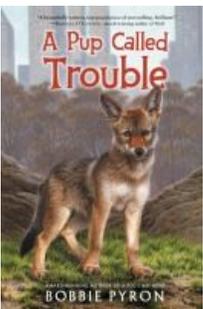
readers to some important life lessons and will be of particular to those with hearing issues or an interest in the subject. Recommended for readers in grades 4-7.

The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson. J Fiction, JCD



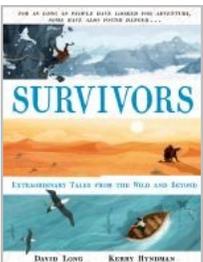
Candace Miller is not looking forward to her summer vacation this year. Her parents finalized their divorce 6 months ago and she and her mother will be moving to the house where her grandmother lived in a very small town in Mississippi. This is so far away from the house and friends that Candace loves in Atlanta, Georgia. It's also a little sad for Candace to think of her grandmother not being there anymore, because they had such a special relationship when her grandmother was alive. Once she and her mom are living in the house in Mississippi, Candace finds out some surprising things about her grandmother, especially research she did to uncover a treasure that she thought was buried in the town. Candace is intrigued by all of this because she loves games and solving puzzles. However, she finds out that there are many twists and turns in the mystery that her grandmother was investigating. Along with a new friend, Candace delves into the intrigue of what has gone on in the town and finds out way more than she ever expected. This is a really great book for kids in 4th grade or older, especially kids who enjoy solving puzzles and may have liked *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin.

A Pup Called Trouble by Bobbie Pyron. J Fiction, JCD



One early Spring day four coyote pups are born near a farm in New York state. One of the pups emerges with his eyes wide open and his ears and nose perked up to all the sounds and scents around him. Usually coyotes are born with their eyes closed and they just sleep and nurse next to their mother for the first week of their lives. As soon as the coyote mother saw this one new pup with his eyes wide open and actually heading out to explore on his first day, she knew that he was going to be "all kinds of trouble." So Trouble turned out to be his name and pretty much foretold how his life would go. In his explorations and desire to know everything about his world, he ends up riding in the back of a produce truck into New York City. One of the first things that happens to him is barely escaping capture by someone from the New York City Animal Control and Welfare Department. In the midst of this incident he meets a crow named Mischief. It is clear that when Trouble and Mischief get together, rowdy things are going to happen! This is a fun book for 3rd graders and up to read. Younger kids would enjoy hearing it read to them. It also gives really interesting information about the different wild animals that inhabit Central Park in New York City.

Survivors: Extraordinary Tales from the Wild and Beyond by David Long. J 613.6 Long



Can you imagine being the only survivor of an airplane that crashed in the jungle? That is what happened to 17 year-old Juliane Koepcke in 1971. She and her mother were flying home to Peru when their plane entered into a storm with tremendous wind and lightning. The plane was rocking back and forth and things inside were being tossed around. Juliane looked out the window and saw that one of the engines was glowing. Then the inside of the plane went completely dark and all she could hear was the roar of the engines. Suddenly everything went silent and Juliane realized that she was somehow outside of the plane, but still strapped in her seat. The airplane was coming apart in the air. Amazingly she survived the experience of falling 2 miles down from the sky all the way to the floor of the jungle. Then she had to continue on alone in the jungle for many days until she found help. This is the first of 23 incredible but true stories of survivors. Some were looking for adventure, but others, like Juliane, just ended up in unbelievable situations. These stories of bravery and endurance make for a great book which could be read by kids in 4th grade and up shared by parents with younger kids.