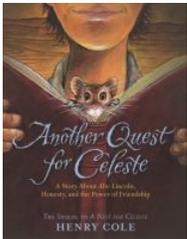


READ

November 2018

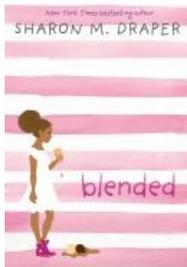
Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!

Another Quest for Celeste: A Story about Abe Lincoln, Honesty, and the Power of Friendship by Henry Cole. J Fiction

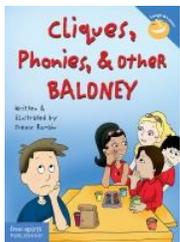


In a previous book by Henry Cole, we are introduced to a little mouse named Celeste who develops a friendship with an associate of John James Audubon, the man famous for studying and painting birds. In that book Celeste finds a new and safer place to live within a large house near the Mississippi River. In this follow-up book, Celeste has ventured outside of the house to look for food. The house cat that is always trying to trap Celeste wanders outside also. In order to hide from the cat, Celeste jumps up on a wagon loaded with cotton bales. The cotton is so wonderful and fluffy that Celeste ends up falling asleep and being driven away from the house early the next morning. Next thing she knows her cotton bale is loaded onto a steamboat heading up the Mississippi river. After a hair-raising trip, Celeste finally ends up in a forest area in Kentucky -- miles from her old cozy home. Celeste goes on to have many adventures and misadventures and even comes to know a future president of the U.S.! Both of these books by Henry Cole have great stories, but also amazingly detailed, sketched pictures which are similar in some ways to *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick. This would be a good book for kids in 2nd grade or 3rd grade or older to read.

Blended by Sharon Draper. J Fiction, JCD, eBook, eAudiobook



11-year-old Isabella/Izzy has been dealing with her parent's divorce for years. An only child, she hates having to go back and forth between their houses each week, but no one's ever given her much of a choice. And her two worlds are trying: when she's with her mom she is Izzy, and lives in a small house in a regular neighborhood. On her dad weeks she is Isabella - and lives in a big house in a fancy neighborhood. Even worse is the fact that her parents really don't get along, and more than once Izzy has had to referee some pretty vicious arguments between the two of them. Izzy feels pulled in both directions, and it doesn't seem fair that her parents can't work out their differences. Izzy's mom is white and her dad is black, so in addition to feeling out of sorts at home, she is also constantly having to struggle to define her ethnicity. When she is confronted with a racial incident at school, Izzy is further conflicted. This book takes on a lot of issues, and will provide great discussion topics on race, but I liked it even better for it's focus on divorce. Readers in grades 5 and up who have lived through their own family upheavals will be fans.



Cliques, Phonies and Other Baldoney by Trevor Roman. J 155.4 Romain

"Be yourself -- everyone else is taken." This is the first sentence in this book which goes on to give great information about navigating the social aspects of school or other places in your world. If you are experiencing the not-so-great feelings of being left out or unwelcome with certain people or groups known as cliques, this book will be really helpful. It explains exactly what cliques are, what they do and what you can do about them if they are making life hard for you. There is good information about



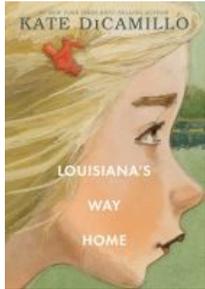
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friendship and ideas for making friends who will hopefully support and encourage you to be your true self and not a “phony baloney.” This would be a great book for kids in 3rd grade and up and might be helpful for any age child who is experiencing challenging social situations.

Louisiana’s Way Home by Kate DiCamillo. J Fiction, JCD, eBook

We first encountered Louisiana Elefante in a previous book by Kate DiCamillo. Louisiana is quite a memorable character who lives with her Granny because her parents, the famous “Flying Elefantes” trapeze artists, unfortunately died when she was a baby. This follow-up book begins with Louisiana being awakened in the middle of the night by her Granny telling her “The day of reckoning has arrived. The hour is close at hand. We must leave immediately.” Off they go in their car at 3 a.m. from their home in Florida. They drive a long time and then run out of gas right after they cross the state line into Georgia. This is the beginning of a series of events which change Louisiana’s life in ways she could never imagine. It is so interesting to see how Louisiana navigates all these new circumstances of her life until ultimately finding out so much more about who she and her Granny really are. This would be an excellent read for 3rd graders and older. It’s a good stand-alone book, too, not necessary to have read the related DiCamillo book, *Raymie Nightingale*.



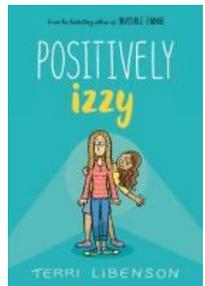
Mummy Dogs and Other Horrifying Snacks by Ali Vega. J 641.5 Vega

Want to continue the Halloween fun - or start to plan for next year?! Take a look at this new book at the library. The book starts with a smidgen of basic cooking information. Then it goes right into the weirdness by talking about the importance of a sinister name for this type of snack and how to think of ingredients in a new way -- like bread sticks being bony fingers or syrup being a new kind of slime. After that there are some ideas about how to make the snacks extra eerie when you set them out for guests. They suggest adding fake bugs, spiders or other props to up the spookiness factor. Then we get to the recipes. How about some Popped Brains or Zombie-Skin Crisps? Don't forget the Slime Cocktail to wash it all down. This would be a really fun book for all ages of kids who don't mind being creeped out a little.



Positively Izzy, by Terri Libenson. J Graphic Novel

Izzy is the middle child in a family of three girls. Both of her sisters are pretty and popular and do well in school, while the comment Izzy always gets from her teachers is that she needs to focus more. Izzy's real interest and talents lie in performing. She has prepared a comic routine for the upcoming school talent show and can't wait to get up on stage and do her thing. But if her grades don't improve she might not be allowed to perform.... Izzy's story alternates with that of another 7th grader, Brianna. Bri has a reputation as the class brain, but there's lots more to her than that. Bri's mother recently took a job as the school drama teacher, and Bri is having a hard time dealing with this. Everyone loves her mom, but her mom's coolness just makes Bri's reputation as a geeky brain even more glaring. Izzy and Bri aren't friends, but the school talent show will bring them both together in a fun and surprising way. Recommended for grades 5 and up.



You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P! by Alex Gino. J Fiction

Jillian Pirillo is 12 years old, an avid fantasy reader, and niece to an African American woman (her aunt's partner). Jilly's mom is just about to have another baby, and Jilly is very much looking forward to being a big sister. But when Emma is born with severe hearing loss, Jilly and her parents have a new and tough road to navigate. Jilly immediately begins to teach herself sign language, and also turns to a deaf friend in a chatroom she participates in surrounding her favorite book series. profoundinoaktown (aka Derek) is deaf and black, and once Jilly is dealing with deafness in her own life she has lots of questions for him. But although Jilly is coming from a place of true interest and a desire to learn, more than once she says or does the wrong thing and offends Derek. At the same time that this is going on, Jilly's Aunt Alicia has a run in with another family member during Thanksgiving dinner. Again what was intended as an innocent question comes out wrong, and the result is Jilly's aunts and their kids leaving early. As Jilly's eyes are opened to racism (blatant and unintentional) all around her, she struggles to be a good sister and a good friend. And when yet another shooting of an unarmed black teen comes very close to home, Jilly realizes that she must make a stand. This is a great discussion book, full of many issues including deafness, racism and being a good friend. The author's grandparents were both deaf, so they write from a background of real knowledge about the subject. Recommended for readers in grades 5 and up.

