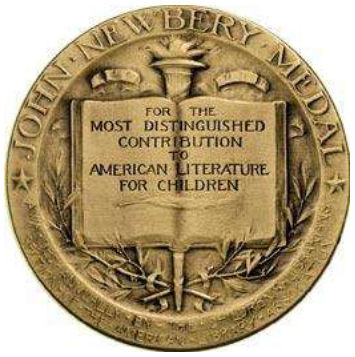
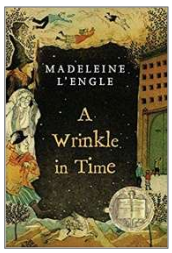
Newbery Award

Staff Favorites

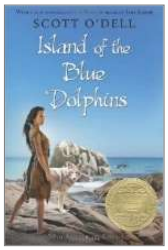
and Recent Award Winners





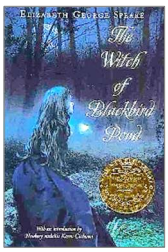
A Wrinkle in Time (1963)
by Madeleine L'Engle

Meg and her brother are involved in a battle between Good and Evil when they travel through space and time to rescue their scientist father.



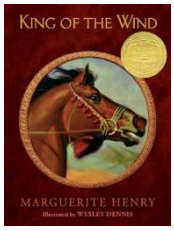
Island of the Blue Dolphins (1961)
by Scott O'Dell

When her tribe accidentally leaves her behind, Karana survives eighteen years alone on an island off the coast of California.



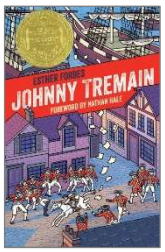
The Witch of Blackbird Pond (1959)
by Elizabeth George Speare

When Kit moves from the West Indies to New England in 1687, her outlandish bright clothes and friendship with an outcast woman bring charges of witchcraft.



King of the Wind (1949)
by Marguerite Henry

The mute, skinny stable boy Agba and his fiery little horse Sham set out to prove to the world that they are winners and worthy of the title "King of the Wind."



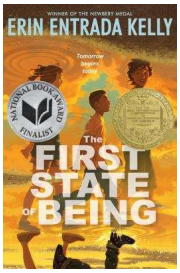
Johnny Tremain (1944)
by Esther Forbes

Johnny, an apprentice silversmith, becomes involved with Sam Adams and other Boston patriots after a horrible accident forces him to give up his work.

The Newbery Medal is awarded by the American Library Association for the "Most Distinguished American Children's Book" published in the previous year. Named for 18th Century bookseller John Newbery, it was the very first children's book award.

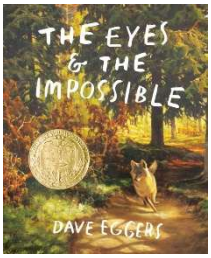
Children's

Franklin Township Public Library
www.franklintwp.org



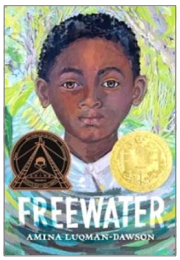
The First State of Being (2025)
by Erin Entrada Kelly

When Ridge, a time-traveler from the future, gets trapped in 1999, he befriends Michael, a lonely twelve-year-old boy, changing the course of their lives forever.



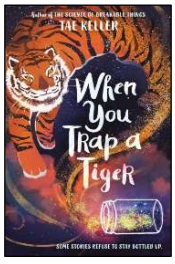
The Eyes & the Impossible (2024)
by Dave Eggers

Johannes, a free dog, is "the Eyes" and must see everything that happens within a park by the sea and report back to the park's elders, three ancient Bison.



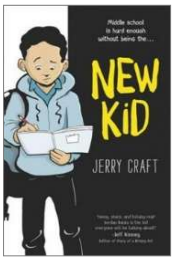
Freewater (2023)
by Amina Luqman-Dawson

After fleeing from slavery, siblings Ada and Homer discover the secret community of Freewater, and work to protect their new home from the outside world.



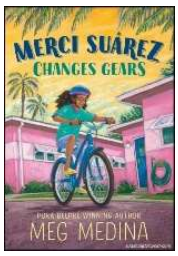
When You Trap a Tiger (2021)
by Tae Keller

Would you make a deal with a magical tiger? Korean folklore comes to life as a girl goes on a quest to unlock the power of stories and save her grandmother.



New Kid (2020)
by Jerry Craft

Instead of art school, Jordan's parents send him to a school noted for its academics, where he finds himself torn between two worlds.

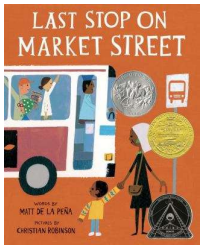


Merci Suárez Changes Gears (2019)
by Meg Medina

Merci's life changes when she begins 6th grade as a tuition student at a private school and her grandfather starts acting strangely.

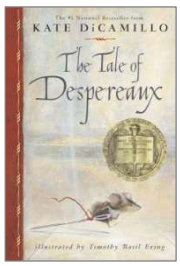
The Girl Who Drank the Moon (2017)
by Kelly Barnhill

A young girl raised by a kind witch, a swamp monster and a tiny dragon must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.



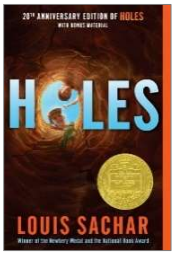
Last Stop on Market Street (2016)
by Matt de la Peña

A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.



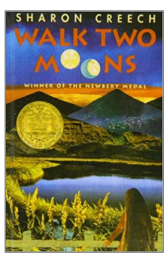
The Tale of Despereaux (2004)
by Kate DiCamillo

A small mouse who is in love with a princess must rescue her from the castle's dungeon, where a servant girl and devious rat have hidden her.



Holes (1999)
by Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats chooses Camp Green Lake over jail and finds it to be a desert – but also finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

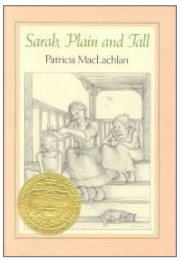


Walk Two Moons (1995)
by Sharon Creech

Thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents retrace the route of the mother who left her as Sal tells them stories about one of her friends.

Number the Stars (1990)
by Lois Lowry

Ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen saves her friend Ellen and other Jews during the Nazi occupation of Denmark in World War II.

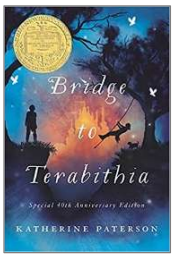


Sarah, Plain and Tall (1986)
by Patricia MacLachlan

Anna's mother died when her brother Caleb was born, and now her father has invited a mail-order bride to their home in Kansas.

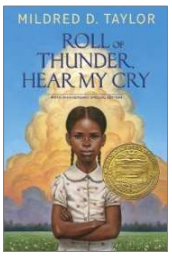
The Westing Game (1979)
by Ellen Raskin

This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who could be millionaires if they win the tricky and dangerous Westing Game.



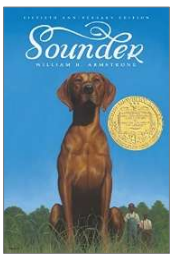
Bridge to Terabithia (1978)
by Katherine Paterson

After new friends Jess and Leslie create Terabithia, an imaginary world, tragedy strikes when Leslie attempts to reach the hideaway.



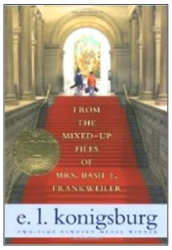
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (1977)
by Mildred D. Taylor

Cassie Logan and her brothers deal with prejudice and racial discrimination in rural Mississippi during the Depression.



Sounder (1970)
by William H. Armstrong

Angry and humiliated when his father is caught stealing food for his family, a young black boy's awareness grows through his relationship with his devoted dog Sounder.



From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler (1968)
by E.L. Konigsburg

Claudia and her younger brother James run away to New York City and hide out in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.