

## New Book Reviews for Kids

Below are staff reviews of select new books in the Youth Services Department.  
For a list of all the new and forthcoming Youth books, [click here](#).

## New Book Reviews

### Reading Level:

BabiesPreschoolersKindergarteners1st Grade2nd Grade3rd Grade4th Grade5th Grade6th  
Grade7th Grade8th GradeHigh SchoolersAdults

### Genre:

AdventureAnimals--RealAnimals--TalkingAward WinnersBiographiesBooks for BoysBooks for  
GirlsChick LitCrime and PunishmentDon't Miss TheseDystopiasFamilyFantasyFolktalesFriends  
Historical FictionThe HolocaustHorrorHumorIn Other LandsLGBTMisfitsMysteriesMythological  
Non-FictionNon-ProsePhoneticRead-AlikesRead-AloudsRealistic FictionRebusRelationships  
SchoolScience FictionSelf ImageShort StoriesSocial IssuesSpiesSportsSupernaturalSurvival  
Time TravelVampiresWerewolves

### Collection:

J FictionJ Graphic NovelsJ Non-FictionJ SeriesJP FictionJP Non-FictionJP SeriesJY Fiction  
JY Graphic NovelsJY Non-FictionPicture BooksSpanish Picturebook

### Reviewer:

The GerbilsSJSSHRRPCHGEFDJCHJLJSMBLWKFAB

## The Great Trouble: a Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel

by Deborah Hopkinson



Reading Level: Ages 9 - 12

In 1854 there was a cholera outbreak in London. Hundreds died. There was no cure and no one knew the cause of cholera. Hopkinson's hero is a thirteen-year-old orphan, Eel, who scavenges the filthy Thames River and works odd jobs. One job brings him in contact with Dr. Snow, a real historical figure who was an early epidemiologist. The fast-paced novel combines a medical mystery, a race against the clock, evil child snatchers, and an assortment of characters. You'll love Eel and his friends and want to them to triumph.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Deborah Hopkinson](#)

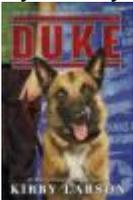
Reading Level: [4th Grade](#), [5th Grade](#), [6th Grade](#), [7th Grade](#) Subjects: [Adventure](#), [Books for Boys](#), [Books for Girls](#), [Historical Fiction](#), [Mysteries](#) Location: [JY Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

[HG](#)

## Duke

by Kirby Larson



Reading Level: Ages 8 - 12

Set in Seattle, Washington in 1944, this is the home front story of Hobie Hanson, a fifth-grader whose father is flying B-24s in Europe. It's a time of great patriotism and sacrifice even for those at home. Hobie is expected to step up and help at home, on the family fishing boat, and with his younger sister. There are ration stamps for sugar, meat, and shoes. Everyone is urged to do all they can to help in the war effort. When Hobie learns about the real life organization called Dogs For Defense, he decides to donate his beloved German Shepherd, Duke. It never occurred to him that Duke might be sent into combat or that Duke might bond with his Marine handler. Will his father and his dog survive?

[Check availability of the book](#)

[Other books by Kirby Larson](#)

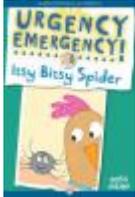
Reading Level: [3rd Grade](#),[4th Grade](#),[5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#),[7th Grade](#) Subjects: [Animals--Real](#),  
[Books for Boys](#), [Friends](#), [Historical Fiction](#) Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

[HG](#)

## Itsy Bitsy Spider

by Dosh Archer



**Reading Level:** Grades K - 3

On a rainy day an injured spider is rushed to City Hospital with injuries caused by a terrible waterspout accident.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Dosh Archer](#)

Reading Level: [Kindergarteners](#),[1st Grade](#),[2nd Grade](#),[3rd Grade](#) Subjects: [Animals--Talking](#),  
[Folktales](#), [Humor](#) Location: [JP Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

[SH](#)

## Outfoxed

by Mike Twohy



**Reading Level:** Ages 3 - 6

Fox wants chicken for dinner so he makes a quick grab from the chicken coop. When he gets home he finds that he has grabbed a duck by accident, and that duck keeps insisting she is a dog.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Mike Twohy](#)

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade Subjects: Animals--Talking, Humor

Location: Picture Books

Reviewer:

SH

## Los vecinos de la c/Quiénsabe

by Cristina Zafra



**Reading Level:** Grades 2 - 4

In this Spanish picture book a young girl meets the neighbors who have moved into the new building next door. Each neighbor she meets is a bit strange. For example, the first neighbor she meets has umbrellas for hands...

En este libro una chica les conoce a los vecinos en el edificio nuevo al lado de su casa. Cada vecino que le conoce es un poco raro. Por ejemplo, el primer vecino tiene paraguas como manos...

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Cristina Zafra](#)

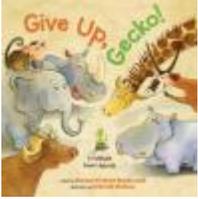
Reading Level: 1st Grade,2nd Grade,3rd Grade Subjects: Fantasy, In Other Lands Location: Spanish Picturebook

Reviewer:

JL

# Give Up, Gecko!

by Margaret Read MacDonald



**Reading Level:** Ages 3 - 8

The lakes and rivers have dried up and all the thirsty animals agree that whoever digs to water will be their king. When it is gecko's turn to dig all the other animals all laugh at him and call for him to give up, but gecko won't listen.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Margaret Read MacDonald](#)

[More books by Deborah Melmon](#)

Illustrator: Deborah Melmon Reading Level: [Preschoolers](#),[Kindergarteners](#),[1st Grade](#),[2nd Grade](#) Subjects: [Animals--Talking](#), [Folktales](#), [Non-Fiction](#), [Read-Alouds](#) Location: [JP Non-Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

SH

# All That's Missing

by Sarah Sullivan



**Reading Level** Grades 4-6

11-year-old Arlo has lived with his only relative, his grandfather Poppo, since Arlo was two. But in the last couple of years Poppo's mind has started slipping. Arlo now takes care of his grandfather making sure no one knows how bad Poppo is getting.

On the night Poppo is found trapped in a dumpster, life as Arlo knows it disappears. After one night in the children's home, Arlo knows he must escape. Armed with \$68 and courage he sets out on a journey to find his missing grandmother, the one he has just recently learned is alive.

**[Check availability of this book](#)**

**[Books by Sarah Sullivan](#)**

**Other stories of kids seeking family are:**

**[Homecoming by Cynthia Voigt and](#)**

**[Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis](#)**

Reading Level: [4th Grade](#),[5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#) Subjects: [Adventure](#), [Family](#), [Realistic Fiction](#)

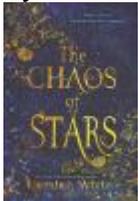
Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

[SJS](#)

## **[The Chaos of Stars](#)**

by Kiersten White



**Reading Level:** Grades 7 - 10

When Isadora was little she loved to hang out with her father. He was calm and gentle and very proud of her artistic talent. Both her parents were. Her mother Isis gave Isadora a beautiful set of paints and her father Osiris gave her an entire room all her own to decorate any way she liked. Isadora loved to show her parents her progress on her room. Until the day she discovered she was not going to be immortal like her parents...she was going to stay mortal...and the room would be her tomb.

**[Check availability of this book](#)**

**[Books by Kiersten White](#)**

**Other godly adventures include:**

[The Lost Sun](#) by Tessa Gratton

The Reluctant God by Pamela Service

The Savage Fortress by Sarwat Chadda and

Sweet Venom by Tera Lynn Childs

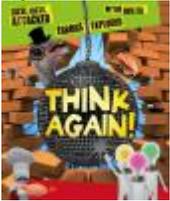
Reading Level: 7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Mythological Location: JY  
Fiction

Reviewer:

SJS

## Think Again! False Facts Attacked, Errors Exploded, Myths Busted

by Clive Gifford



**Reading Level:** Grades 4 - 8

Everyone knows that goldfish have a 3 second memory, Vikings wore horned helmets, and sugar makes kids hyperactive. Well, everyone is wrong. You will find out the truth about these myths and many, many more in this amusing collection of "facts" which have been busted by scientific studies.

Check availability of this book

More books by Clive Gifford

Reading Level: 4th Grade,5th Grade,6th Grade,7th Grade Subjects: Humor, Non-Fiction

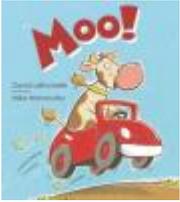
Location: J Non-Fiction

Reviewer:

SH

## Moo!

by David LaRoche



**Moomoo Moomoo:** Moo Moo - Moo

Moo moo moo moo moomoo moo moo moo moo moomoomoomoo moo moo moomoo moomoo moo moo moo.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by David LaRochelle](#)

[More books by Mike Wohnoutka](#)

**Reading Level:** Ages 2 - 6

When cow sees the farmer has left his car unattended he can't resist taking a joy ride.

Illustrator: Mike Wohnoutka Reading Level: [Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade](#)

Subjects: [Animals--Talking](#), [Humor](#) Location: [Picture Books](#)

Reviewer:

[SH](#)

[« first? previous](#)      ? [6](#) [7](#) [8](#) [9](#)      **10**   [11](#) [12](#) [13](#) [14](#)      ? [next](#) ? [last](#) »

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