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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:
ABCHDJJLJSMBPCRRSHSJSThe GerbilsEFLWHG

The Tournament at Gorlan

by John Flanagan

Reading Level: Grades 5-8

Attention ***Ranger's Apprentice***fans! Adventures in the Kingdom of Araluen are back with this first volume of the ***Early Years***prequel series which trace the adventures of two young rangers, Halt and Crowley, during one of the most dangerous times in the Kingdom of Araluen. Brilliant, lethal Baron Morgarath has isolated King Oswald and discredited the crown prince. As part of his plan Morgarath has corrupted the King's staunchest allies, the Ranger corps. Determined to save the kingdom Crowley and Halt embark on a desperate race to find and recruit the scattered loyal Rangers before it is too late.

Check availability of this book

Other books by John Flanagan

Other books for action-lovers include:

The Merchant of Death by D. J. MacHale

The Warrior Heir by Cinda Williams Chima

Eon: Dragoneye Reborn by Alison Goodman and

Fall of a Kingdom by Hilari Bell

Reading Level: 5th Grade,6th Grade,7th Grade,8th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Fantasy
Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Cakes in Space

by Philip Reeve

Reading Level: Grades 2-5

Astra and her family are migrating to Nova Mundi. The trip will take 199 years. But Astra won't see any scenery because all the humans will be put in a deep, deep frozen sleep until the ship reaches their new home. Everything WOULD have gone as planned if Astra hadn't slipped off to the dining hall and asked the Num-O-Tron to make a cake that "is so delicious it is scary." Astra doesn't get her cake because the Num-O-Tron is still computing when she is put in her pod. When she wakes up she discovers the ship is infested with giant, ferocious cupcakes. Worse Pibeam, a friendly robot, tells her there are still ninety-nine years left before anyone else wakes up. Can Astra evade the sharp toothed cupcakes long enough to save the ship??

Check availability of this book

Other books byPhilip Reeve

If you liked this wacky science fiction tale try:

Can of Worms by Kathy Mackel

Archie Takes Flight by Wendy Mass

Space Rocks! by Tom O'Donnell and

Escape from Planet Yastol by Pamela Service

Reading Level: 2nd Grade,3rd Grade,4th Grade,5th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Humor, Science Fiction Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Cakes in Space

by Sarah McIntyre

Reading Level: Grades 2-5

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Space Rocks! by Tom O'Donnell and

Escape from Planet Yastol by Pamela Service

Reading Level: 2nd Grade,3rd Grade,4th Grade,5th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Humor, Science Fiction Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Summer Showers

by Kate Hannigan

Reading level: Grades 3 - 4

The entire Bumpus family is together again for their annual summer vacation. Cousins Delia and Willow are determined to carry on as chefs despite Willow's broken hand. There's lots to do. They hope to drum up business for the new Arts and Eats cafe with a winning entry at the county fair. They also plan to cater Aunt Rosie's baby shower and Delia really hopes she'll be able to find the heirloom ring that grandma gave her. Could it have fallen into some batter? The second entry in the Cupcake Cousins series has new Kate Hannigan tested recipes. Readers will relish this lively, sweet celebration of family.

Meet author Kate Hannigan at the library on January 9th.

Check availability of this book

Other books by Kate Hannigan

Reading Level: 3rd Grade,4th Grade Subjects: Realistic Fiction Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
HG

The Sword of Summer

by Rick Riordan

Reading Level: Grades 6-9

The author of the "Percy Jackson & the Olympians" series strikes gold again in this first episode of his new series "Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard."

Magnus Chase has been living on the streets ever since the wolves burst into the apartment and killed his mother. With her last breath she told him to hide and never go to his uncle for help. On his sixteenth birthday he can hide no more. Fate, in the form of his uncle, has found him. In moments Magnus recovers (and loses) a powerful, magical sword, fights a ferocious fire giant, dies and is taken to Valhalla, a paradise for warriors, where he discovers he is the son of the god of spring and summer.

Check availability of this book

More books byRick Riordan

If you enjoyed this Norse mythological adventure try:

The Sea of Trolls by Nancy Farmer

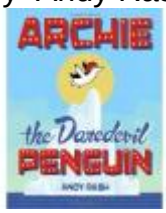
Loki's Wolves by Kelley Armstrong and

Runemarks by Joanne Harris

Reading Level: 6th Grade,7th Grade,8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Adventure, Fantasy, Mythological Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

Archie the Daredevil Penguin

by Andy Rash



Reading Level: Grades PreK - 3

All the other penguins know that Archie is fearless. He has climbed to the summit of Nosebleed Mountain among other exploits. But he's hiding a secret; he's afraid to swim and doesn't know how he'll get to Iceberg Nine for the fish fry. After various attempts to fly there, Archie learns to overcome his fear of the ocean and the creatures that live there. Rash's hilarious illustrations with sound bubbles will have you clapping for Archie along with his penguin friends!

Meet author/illustrator Andy Rash at the library on January 9th.

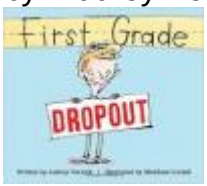
Check availability of this book

Other books written or illustrated by Andy Rash

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade,2nd Grade,3rd Grade Location: Picture Books
Reviewer:
HG

First Grade Dropout

by Audrey Vernick



Reading Level: Ages 4 - 8

Is there anyone who hasn't done something that is so embarrassing that they don't want to face the witnesses? In this book the boy's horrible blunder was, "I. Called. My. Teacher. MOMMY!!!" The class and laughed and now he sees no alternative but to drop out of school. The illustrations are Jules Feiffer-like. There's a great one that shows the image of the boy's class as a marching band all shouting "Ha Ha" and wearing caps that say "MOMMY." In the end the boy learns a

little about laughing off mistakes and laughing at others.

Check availability of this book

Other books by Audrey Vernick

Other books written or illustrated by Matthew Cordell

Meet illustrator Matthew Cordell at the library on January 9th.

Illustrator: Matthew Cordell Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade,2nd Grade
Subjects: Books for Boys, Books for Girls, Friends, Humor, School, Self Image Location: Picture Books
Reviewer:
HG

Detective's Assistant

by Kate Hannigan

Reading Level: Ages 9 - 12

In 1859 an orphaned eleven-year-old girl arrives in Chicago hoping to stay with her only living relative, Aunt Kitty. Her aunt prefers that Nell reside at the Chicago Home for the Friendless. And no wonder. There's bad blood between Kitty and Nell's family and Aunt Kitty is busy being the first woman detective for the Pinkerton Agency. Her aunt uses elaborate disguises in her undercover work as she solves murders and thefts and attempts to thwart an assassination. If Nell proves to be an able assistant perhaps her aunt will let her stay. Hannigan's fast paced novel combines adventure, humor, and history along with codes for readers to solve.

Meet author Kate Hannigan at the library on January 9th.

Check availability of this book

Other books by Kate Hannigan

Reading Level: 4th Grade,5th Grade,6th Grade,7th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Books for Boys , Books for Girls, Crime and Punishment, Don't Miss These, Historical Fiction, Spies Location: J Fiction
Reviewer:
HG

Ragweed's Farm Dog Handbook (Learn from the Best!)

by Anne Vittur Kennedy

Reading Level: Ages 3 - 8

Ragweeed tells you everything you need to know about being a farmdog, such as don't chase sheep (unless the farmer is away) and eating grass has its downsides and benefits.

Check availability of this book

More books by Anne Vittur Kennedy

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade,2nd Grade,3rd Grade Subjects: Animals--Talking, Humor Location: Picture Books
Reviewer:
SH

Deadly Design

by Debra Dockter

Reading Level: Grades 8+

Connor was two years old when the embryo for his identical twin was thawed and implanted. Kyle resents being Connor?s younger brother instead of his contemporary. He can never measure up to Connor?s perfectness. Their parents?everyone in town knows Connor is destined for greatness. The whole community mourns when Connor?s heart stops beating one week before his high school graduation.

Grief-stricken and guilty, Kyle searches for a reason for his brother?s death. Instead he finds

other inexplicable deaths involving 18-year-olds conceived in vitro at the Genesis Innovations Laboratory. Kyle has two years before his 18th birthday. The day his heart will stop.

Check availability of this book

More books by Debra Dockter

If you liked this book, you may enjoy:

Maximum Ride: The Angel Experiment by James Patterson

Subject Seven by James Moore and

Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes

Reading Level: 8th Grade,High Schoolers Subjects: Adventure, Books for Boys, Science Fiction Location: JY Fiction
Reviewer:
SJS

« first? previous 1 2 **3** 4 5 6 7 8 9 ? next ? last »

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