

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:

Babies Preschoolers Kindergarteners 1st Grade 2nd Grade 3rd Grade 4th Grade 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade High Schoolers Adults

Genre:

Adventure Animals--Real Animals--Talking Award Winners Biographies Books for Boys Books for Girls Chick Lit Crime and Punishment Don't Miss These Dystopias Family Fantasy Folktales Friends Historical Fiction The Holocaust Horror Humor In Other Lands LGBT Misfits Mysteries Mythological Non-Fiction Non-Prose Phonetic Read-Alikes Read-Alouds Realistic Fiction Rebus Relationships School Science Fiction Self Image Short Stories Social Issues Spies Sports Supernatural Survival Time Travel Vampires Werewolves

Collection:

J Fiction J Graphic Novels J Non-Fiction J Series JP Fiction JP Non-Fiction JP Series JY Fiction JY Graphic Novels JY Non-Fiction Picture Books Spanish Picturebook

Reviewer:

The Gerbils SJS SHRRP CHGEFDJCHJLJSMBLWKFAB

The Whispering Town

by Jennifer Elvgren



Reading Level: Grades 1 - 3

During WWII the people of the Nazi occupied Danish town of Gilleleje helped 1,700 Jews escape to Sweden. This book tells the story of those brave residents and one night in particular when they had to figure out a new way to lead an escaping family to the ships that would take them to safety.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[More books by Jennifer Elvgren](#)

[More books by Fabio Santomauro](#)

Reading Level: [1st Grade](#), [2nd Grade](#), [3rd Grade](#), [4th Grade](#) Subjects: [Adventure](#), [Friends](#), [Historical Fiction](#), [The Holocaust](#), [In Other Lands](#), [Non-Fiction](#), [Realistic Fiction](#) Location: [JP Non-Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

[SH](#)

The Whispering Town

by Fabio Santomauro



Reading Level: Grades 1 - 3

During WWII the people of the Nazi occupied Danish town of Gilleleje helped 1,700 Jews escape to Sweden. This book tells the story of those brave residents and one night in particular when they had to figure out a new way to lead an escaping family to the ships that would take them to safety.

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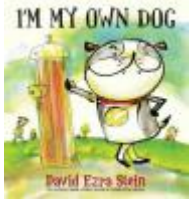
Reading Level: 1st Grade,2nd Grade,3rd Grade,4th Grade Subjects: Adventure, Friends, Historical Fiction, The Holocaust, In Other Lands, Non-Fiction, Realistic Fiction Location: JP Non-Fiction

Reviewer:

SH

I'm My Own Dog

by David Ezra Stein



Reading Level: Ages 3 - 7

A dog is very proud of the fact that he doesn't need a human in his life, until one rainy day a stray man follows him home.

Check availability of this book

More books by David Ezra Stein

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

Reviewer:

SH

The Barftastic Life of Louie Burger: Class B.U.R.P.

by Jenny Meyerhoff



Reading Level: Grades 3 - 7

Louie is a bit different from the other fifth-graders. He wants to be a comedian like his idol Lou Lafferman. Class so he has a notebook of jokes and comedy routines. What he doesn't want to be is class B.U.R.P. (Boy Used to Ridicule and Put-Downs) and that's just what Louie was until a video of him was aired on T.V. But the popularity bump didn't last, so Louie figures he needs something else even if that means upsetting his two best friends. Kids will love this second Louie Burger book and maybe even learn a few new jokes like "Why didn't anyone want to babysit the little vampire?"

Meet author Jenny Meyerhoff at the iRead kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Jenny Meyerhoff](#)

Illustrator: Jason Week Reading Level: [3rd Grade](#),[4th Grade](#),[5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#),[7th Grade](#)

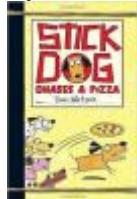
Subjects: [Books for Boys](#), [Books for Girls](#), [Humor](#), [Misfits](#), [School](#) Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

HG

Stick Dog Chases a Pizza

by Tom Watson



Reading Level: Grades 4 - 7

Stick dog and the crew are back for a third adventure. This time they have found something better than hamburgers and better than hotdogs! It's pizza! Before before they get they're hands (muzzles) on some pizza there's plans to be made and a kitten to rescue. Then there's one very messy game of frisbee.

Meet author Tom Watson at the iRead kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Tom Watson](#)

Reading Level: [3rd Grade](#),[4th Grade](#),[5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#),[7th Grade](#) Subjects: [Animals--](#)

[Talking](#), [Books for Boys](#), [Books for Girls](#), [Friends](#), [Humor](#) Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

HG

Game Over, Pete Watson

by Joe Schreiber



Reading Level: Grades 4 - 7

You don't have to be a gamer to love this book. It's an action-packed, hilarious adventure of video games and spies. Pete Wilson is short \$20 to buy the newest, most awesome video game, Brawl-A-Thon 3000XL. Since he need money he decides, without permission, to hold a garage sale and sell his father's ancient 8-bit game console CommandRoid 85 to The Bug Man. Mistake!!! His father is kidnapped and the President of the U.S. starts talking nonsense. It's up to Pete and friends to save the day. (game on) Cartoons and heavily pixilated images by Andy Rash make a winning combination.

Meet illustrator Andy Rash at the iRead kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Joe Schreiber](#)

[Other books written or illustrated by Andy Rash](#)

Illustrator: Andy Rash Reading Level: [4th Grade](#),[5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#),[7th Grade](#) Subjects: [Adventure](#), [Books for Boys](#), [Books for Girls](#), [Humor](#), [Mysteries](#), [Science Fiction](#) Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

HG

Princess Sparkle-Heart Gets a Makeover

by Josh Schneider



Reading Level: Preschool - Grade 2

With typical humor and understanding, Schneider creates another gem of a picture book. Amelia and her doll, Princess Sparkle -Heart, do everything together. There's tea parties, weddings, and secrets. But on every page there's the GRRRRRR of the jealous family dog until the pup tears up Princess Sparkle-Heart. Mom comes in with her sewing box to save the day for the heartbroken Amelia. Working together, they show that love and creativity can create wonders.

Meet author Josh Schneider at the iRead kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of the book](#)

[Other books by Josh Schneider](#)

Reading Level: Preschoolers,Kindergarteners,1st Grade,2nd Grade Subjects: Books for Girls, Humor Location: Picture Books

Reviewer:

HG

Cupcake Cousins

by Kate Hannigan



Reading Level: Grades 3 - 5

Nine-year-old cousins Willow and Delia are happy to be at their annual family vacation in Saugatuck, Michigan. They're happy that Aunt Rosie's wedding will be in just a few days. What they're not happy about is the pink, puffy, babyish flower girl dresses they are expected to wear at her wedding. They decide to show Aunt Rosie how much better it would be if they were the wedding caterers instead. But there's a new grown-up cook in the kitchen and some of their recipes don't turn out exactly as planned. Add in some impossible older sisters and some real-life problems and mix well for a sweet read. The book includes some of delicious recipes that would be fun to make!

Meet author Kate Hannigan at the iRead kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of this book](#)

Reading Level: 3rd Grade,4th Grade,5th Grade Subjects: Books for Girls, Family, Humor, Realistic Fiction Location: J Fiction

Reviewer:

HG

The Summer I Saved the World in 65 Days

by Michele Weber Hurwitz



Reading Level: Grades 5 - 8

Can a 13-year-old girl really make a difference in the world? While she's never been the "kind of person who goes out of her way to help people" Nina decides to do one nice thing for a neighbor for each day of the summer. All the while she's dealing with the loss of her beloved grandmother, her type-A parents, and her brother who may be headed for trouble. Nina also deals with her changing friendship with her best friend, Jorie. It's even harder when she realizes they both has a crush on the same neighbor boy, This is a feel-good read with a bright, charming heroine you'll be rooting for.

Meet author Michele Weber Hurwitz at the iRead Kick-off on January 10th.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Michele Weber Hurwitz](#)

Reading Level: [5th Grade](#),[6th Grade](#),[7th Grade](#),[8th Grade](#) Subjects: [Books for Girls](#), [Family](#), [Friends](#), [Realistic Fiction](#) Location: [J Fiction](#)

Reviewer:

HG

Wanderville

by Wendy McClure



Reading Level: Grades 4 - 6

In 1904, 11-year-old Frances and her younger brother Harold are sent on an orphan train

heading to Kansas from New York. On the train they meet Jack, whose family could not afford to keep him. When they hear rumors about horrible conditions that await them in Kansas, the three children jump the train. They meet up with Alexander, a boy who has escaped from a work farm and set up his own "kids-only" town called Wanderville. There they find happiness until the unthinkable happens.

This is the first in a series of historical fiction.

Meet author Wendy McClure at the iRead kick-off on January 10.

[Check availability of this book](#)

[Other books by Wendy McClure](#)

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

Reviewer:

[HG](#)

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