

February 2023 Booktalks

Title: *I Love My Beautiful Hair*
Author(s): Elissa Wentt
Illustrator(s): Elissa Wentt
Ages: 1-5
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Scholastic, Inc.
Call Number: Juv BoardBk Wentt

This is the story of a little girl's first trip to the beauty salon. She has fun deciding how to wear her beautiful natural hair. Should she wear her hair like Mommy, like Grandmommy, or like Auntie, or will she find a way to wear it that is all her own?

Title: *Sprinkles and Swirls: Oh, What a Show!*
Author(s): Lola M. Schaefer
Illustrator(s): Savannah Allen
Ages: 4-6
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Simon Spotlight
Call Number: Juv Primer Schaefer, Lola

Sprinkles and Swirls are cupcake friends. Swirls signs up for a talent show, and wants Sprinkles to join her. Sprinkles is worried that she doesn't have a talent, and tries several different things with her friend's encouragement. Will Sprinkles find a talent to perform?

Title: *How to Host a Sleepover*
Author(s): Jean Reagan
Illustrator(s): Lee Wildish
Ages: 4-6
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Random House
Call Number: Juv Reader Reagan, Jean

Mia is coming for a sleepover! The friends do all kinds of fun things, and can't wait to eat pancakes in the morning. Mia gets sad and has to call her dad in the middle of the night. Will she and her teddy decide to go home, or to stay for the morning pancakes?

Title: *Tremendous: Diary of a Not Yet Mighty Oak*
Author(s): Bridget Heos
Illustrator(s): Mike Ciccotello
Publisher: Crown Books for Young Readers

Copyright: 2021
Ages: 6 and up
Call Number: Juv PicBk Heos, Bridget

Written in diary form, a little acorn documents its growth into a large oak tree. The little acorn describes living in the forest with all its 10,000 brothers and sisters, and wanting to sprout, and then become a gracefully aged tree – like Grandma. The diary tells of seasonal experiences of being c-c-c-cold and then Spring, when the bugs and birds come to bother. The little bud changes in color and then starts to bear stems and leaves. It even has a friend from the “Pine” family. The “Walnut” family seems to be a little nutty, but they are right there in the forest along with the “Floral” family too.

Title: *Amelia Bedelia Hops to It*
Author(s): Herman Parish
Illustrator(s): Lynne Avril
Ages: 6-10
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Greenwillow Books
Call Number: Juv Step-up Parish, Herman

Spring has sprung, and young Amelia Bedelia has a “spring in her step,” or as she says, it’s just her new sneakers. As she delights in her father’s April Fool’s jokes and plays with the baby animals on the neighborhood farm during a school field trip, she is “eggcited!” Amelia Bedelia faces obstacles in this story, but she doesn’t let them get her down. She continues here to delight young readers with some playful verbal misunderstandings; for instance, she initially thinks a “pop quiz” is about soda pop, and a “greenhouse” should be green.

Title: *My Life Begins*
Author(s): Patricia MacLachlan
Illustrator(s): Daniel Miyares
Ages: 8-12
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Katherine Tegen Books
Call Number: Juv MacLachlan, Patricia

Jacob is an only child who desperately wants a puppy but his parents bring home identical triplet girls instead: Charlotte (Char), Katherine (Kath), and Elizabeth (Liz) but he names them, the Trips. When Jacob’s class is assigned a research project at school, he decides to study the Trips. Slowly, he gets to know each of them as they begin to smile, talk, and grow. Jacob begins to wonder if the Trips is still a good name for them since the term labels them as one thing. They aren’t puppies, or a bunch of bananas, and they aren’t just the Trips anymore. So, what should he call them?

Title: *Growing Pangs*

Author(s): Kathryn Ormsbee
Illustrator(s): Molly Brooks
Ages: 8 to 12
Copyright Year: 2022
Publisher: Random House Children's Books, a division of Penguin Random House LLC, New York
Call Number: Juv Graphic Growing Pangs

Meet Katie, an eleven-year-old girl going through a lot of "growing pangs." She has a lot on her plate at the moment, including (1) living life as a homeschooler; (2) learning about her OCD tendencies; and (3) slowly losing her BFF while making new friends. Can Katie handle all this without losing her mind? Read to find out! Inspired by true events, children and adults will "buzz" about this moving and relatable story.

Title: *How to Change the World in 12 Easy Steps*
Author(s): Peggy Porter Tierney
Illustrator(s): Marie Letourneau
Ages: 5-8
Copyright Year: 2021
Publisher: Tanglewood Publishing, Inc.
Call Number: Juv 155.92 T564h

Tierney's lovely book was inspired by the life of Eva Mozes Kor, who had survived a concentration camp as a child, yet chose to forgive the people who caused her so much pain. The twelve steps begin with simple actions such as making your bed and tidying your room, then advance to more complicated suggestions such as volunteering to help someone when you see a need, accepting people for who they are, and standing up to bullies ("Stand up to the bully...but don't bully the bully.") Children are advised to never give on their dreams, because all things in life are possible. The last page of the book beautifully reinforces Tierney's twelve-step process: "Always remember: making the world a better place can start with one person – and that person is YOU."