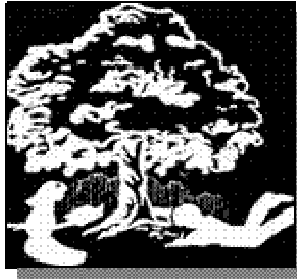


# Placer Area Reading Council



## Fall 2010 NEWSLETTER



### President's Message

#### WE HEARD YOU!!

After a "Banner Year" in 2009-2010 with record turn out at all events, the PARC Board made a commitment to bring you "Best Practices in Literacy." Dedicated teachers, reading coaches, and librarians have come together to present this 10 session 30 hour class. Please see the newsletter article for details.

Even though our itinerary has changed our commitment to support teachers and promote literacy continues. As has been the tradition we will host the Holiday Tea at our past president Joanne Devine's home on December 7th and our Young Writers Celebration on May 5th. As PARC continues to serve the Placer Area we would like to welcome the following new board members: Jenn Tverberg, Loomis Grammar School in Loomis is our new Recording Secretary; Alisa DeLeo, Stoneridge Elementary School in Roseville is our new Site Rep Coordinator; and Amy Nash, Loomis Grammar School is our Technology Coordinator. And a huge round of applause to those who continue to serve you both on the board and behind the scenes.

Many of us on the PARC Board have been "bitten" by the Daily 5 - CAFÉ bug!! We've found this management system and approach to teaching reading strategies very beneficial. In these times of increased class size and more assessments these approaches give teachers time, an accountability system, and a structure to teach strategies. Check out *The 2 Sisters* web site for more information: [www.thedailycafe.com](http://www.thedailycafe.com) Keep in touch with your site representative for information on the Daily 5 & CAFÉ Presentation in the spring.

Sincerely,

*Jody R. Anderson*

Jody R. Anderson

PARC President

Kindergarten Teacher @ Stoneridge Elementary in Roseville



IN ADDITION TO OUR BEST PRACTICES SERIES ...  
AN EVENT COMING UP IN DECEMBER ...



### HOLIDAY TEA AND BOOK TALK California Young Reader Medal Books

Thursday December 9, 2010 4:30-6:30 pm

This annual festive event will be held at 7330 Sierra Drive in Granite Bay; join other PARC members and guests for holiday music, delicious snacks, and hear teacher-librarians Kathy Goodwin and Joanne Ligamari book talk this year's CYRM nominated titles. At this event PARC members bring in new books to donate to a nonprofit organization. This year we will be collecting books for a local nonprofit located in Roseville ... *The Gathering Place*. They are in need of books for children, teens, and adults. Watch for an e-mailed flyer!



### SITE REPRESENTATIVES

As many of you know, we have a communication system at PARC involving dedicated teachers who get the word out about all PARC events. If you do not have a site rep at your school, or would like PARC information sent to you via email please email us at [<PARC.events@yahoo.com>](mailto:PARC.events@yahoo.com)

### BOOKMARK OUR PARC WEB SITE



[<www.placerareareadingcouncil.org>](http://www.placerareareadingcouncil.org)

Kevin Kurtz (Principal of Lincoln Crossing Elementary School) is our webmaster. Look for membership forms, flyers, a list of events, newsletters, and information for parents and students. Thank you to Principal Kurtz for all your work in maintaining our web presence again this school year!





## LITERACY EVENTS OF INTEREST TO PARC MEMBERS



### PARC BUSINESS MEETINGS

Meetings are usually from 4:30 - 6:00. **All PARC members, guests, supporters, and potential members are welcome.** These gatherings are held monthly during the school year and include not only planning for PARC events, but also lively discussions about reading, teaching, new book titles, and local, state, and national literacy/reading issues. During school year 2010/2011 we are meeting on the first Monday of the month at Jerico Coffee in Granite Bay located on Sierra College Blvd. just south of Douglas and across the street from the Safeway plaza. Check with a board member to confirm meeting dates or check our web site:

[www.placerareareadingcouncil.org](http://www.placerareareadingcouncil.org)



### PARC EVENTS

#### BEST PRACTICES IN LITERACY K-6

PARC presents a 30 hour course ...

\*ten sessions from August 31, 2010 - February 15, 2011\*  
(Three hour classes held in the Roseville S.D. Boardroom)

[www.placerareareadingcouncil.org](http://www.placerareareadingcouncil.org)

Check out our web site and view a flyer as well as notes about each scheduled topic. Experienced PARC member teachers are donating their services to offer this series of workshops and the response has been strong support from area districts and individual schools. **Registration reached 90 teachers and is now closed; talk to board members (or attend a meeting) to let us know if you feel the series is something we should offer again next school year.** Some administrators have paid for their teachers' PARC memberships in addition to the low cost fees for this unique opportunity to obtain college credit (optional), add to professional growth, and network with dozens of teachers. Topics include: The Daily 5; Word Walls; Assessment; Guided Reading; Books for Boys and Graphic Novels; Reading Strategies; Comprehension-Vocabulary-Fluency; Phonics and Making Words; Engaging EL Students; Phonics and Making Words; Return to Intervention (RTI); and Brain-Based Strategies. Additional opportunities include recommendations and viewings of professional research-based books, hands-on activities, for-next-day-use learning tips, and free student books and raffles.



artwork by Tomie dePaola

### 2010 CHILDRENS' CHOICES ANNOUNCED

By International Reading Association

[http://www.reading.org/Libraries/Choices/CC\\_Bookmark\\_2010.sflb.ashx](http://www.reading.org/Libraries/Choices/CC_Bookmark_2010.sflb.ashx)

This program is sponsored by the International Reading Association and The Children's Book Council. Winners were announced on Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each year over 12,000 school children from various regions of the country read, evaluate, and vote on newly published books. The October issue of *The Reading Teacher* lists the winning titles. Categories include: Beginning Readers (Grades K-2); Young Readers (Grades 3-4); Advanced Readers (Grades 5-6); and Teen Choice (Gr. 7+)



### READ FOR THE RECORD

October 7, 2010

[www.readfortherecord.org/](http://www.readfortherecord.org/)

Hopefully you received information about this year's program ... if not, remember to check out the website for next year's event at the beginning of the school year. Join other teachers and educators as children around the world set a record for reading the same book on the same day. This year's title is Ezra Jack Keats' *The Snowy Day* which won the Caldecott Award in 1963 and was one of the first children's picture books to feature a young black child. *Read for the Record* is a program created by the Pearson Foundation and Jumpstart ... an organization that provides students with literacy related materials, supplies, tutoring, and events.

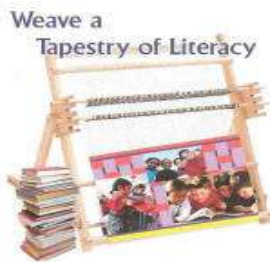


### NATIONAL BOOK AWARD

<http://www.nationalbook.org/>

October 13, 2010

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, The National Book Foundation will announce the 20 Finalists for the National Book Award which is given in November. Check out the web site for past winners and nominees for the Young People's Literature award; the list is an early glimpse into the books for 2010 that will endure and go on to win other accolades. The award is presented annually to recognize achievements in Fiction, Non-fiction, Poetry, and Young People's Literature. This year the list of finalists will be announced by noted author Pat Conroy.



**CALIFORNIA READING ASSOCIATION'S  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE**

*Weave a Tapestry of Literacy*

October 15-16, 2010

Riverside Convention Center

[www.californiareads.org](http://www.californiareads.org)

It's not too late to register and attend this important event. Some PARC members will be flying to Riverside and there will be familiar faces from our area at the institute. Bring a team with you (administrators, literacy coaches, Title 1 teachers) to hear experts including Regie Routman, Donald Bear, Kevin Feldman, Douglas Fisher, Adria Klein, Diane Lapp, Lori Oczkus, Shane Templeton, Hallie Yopp, and Ruth Yopp. President's Dinner on Friday evening and California Young Reader Medal Luncheon on Saturday!



**TEEN READ WEEK**

October 17-23, 2010

<http://www.ala.org/>

*Key Teen Read Week into the Search Box*

From the website: "This year's theme is *Books With Beat@your library* which encourages teens to read poetry, audiobooks, books about music and more. Libraries across the world celebrate Teen Read Week with a variety of special events and programs aimed at encouraging teen to read for pleasure and to visit their library for free reading materials." Check out the web site to find ways to celebrate as well as YALSA's hottest picks for teens.



**NATIONAL FRIENDS OF LIBRARIES WEEK**

October 17-23, 2010

<http://www.ala.org/ala/>

*Key National Friends of Libraries into the Search Box*

Library hours, services, and staff are being cut all over the country because of budget problems. As in the Great Depression, the USE of libraries has increased while funds to support libraries has decreased. Becoming involved in a local Friends of Library group is a great volunteer activity!



**PARC BOOK CLUB**

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*

by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

6:00 at the home of Jean Kelley

**SACRAMENTO AREA READING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS**



**VOCABULARY & WRITING-A WONDERLAND OF WORDS**

Saturday November 6, 2010 8:30 - 3:00

Del Dayo Elementary School

[www.sacramentoreads.org/](http://www.sacramentoreads.org/)

Sacramento Area Reading Association, San Juan Teachers Association, and the Penny and Terry Kastanis Trust are sponsoring a one day mini-conference. \$35 includes breakfast and lunch. Speakers include: Dr. Neil Anderson, Dr. Gretchen Bergabei, Dr. Lester Laminack, Dr. John Shefelbine, Dr. Armin Schulz, Dr. Shane Templeton, Dr. Marcie Merrill, Susan Radley Brown, and author Alexis O'Neill (author of *the Recess Queen*). Check out the web site above for details; register early as space is limited.



**CALIFORNIA SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION**

*Navigating the New - Charting the Future Together*

November 12-15, 2010

Sacramento Convention Center

[www.cla-csla.org](http://www.cla-csla.org)

For the first time the two California library organizations are having their annual conferences together. Members, friends, and supporters are welcome. Workshops, inspiring speakers, publisher and book displays, sessions, authors, and the latest in technology and literacy related topics.



**PARC BOOK CLUB**

*School Days*

by Robert Parker

Monday, November 22, 2010

6:00 at Bangkok City, Rocklin





### RACE TO NOWHERE

#### The Dark Side of America's Achievement Culture

A documentary film by Vicki Abelos

Screenings: Fall 2010

<http://www.racetonowhere.com/>

Check out the web site for a movie trailer, reviews, and a list/map of places (a few movie theatres as well as showings in schools, churches, and other venues) where this powerful documentary will be shown during October and November, 2010. Some reviewers suggest it as an alternative to the highly publicized fall release ... *Waiting for Superman*. Area showings include: University Covenant Church, Davis (October 8, 2010); William Jessup University, Rocklin (October 26, 2010); Napa Valley USD (November 4, 2010). Check the site for DVD release date.



### PARC EVENT

#### HOLIDAY TEA AND BOOK TALK

#### California Young Reader Medal Books

Thursday December 9, 2010 4:30-6:30 pm

This annual festive event will be held at 7330 Sierra Drive in Granite Bay; join other PARC members and guests for holiday music, delicious snacks, and hear teacher-librarians Kathy Goodwin and Joanne Ligamari book talk this year's CYRM nominated titles. Watch for an e-mailed flyer!



### PARC BOOK CLUB

#### *The Gargoyle*

by Andrew Davidson

Tuesday, January 11, 2011

6:00 at the home of Tracy Hayes

(Best Practices also scheduled for this date 4:00 - 7:00)

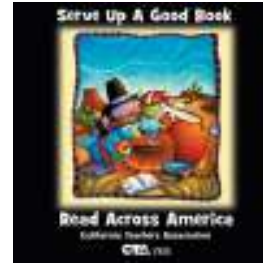


### PARC EVENT

#### Best Practices in Literacy K-6

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

This is the **last of the ten session series**; however, there is a possibility that PARC might be repeating the first program of the series. Watch for an e-mailed flyer.



### READ ACROSS AMERICA

Wednesday March 2, 2011

[www.nea.org/readacross](http://www.nea.org/readacross)

[www.ctareadacrossamerica.com](http://www.ctareadacrossamerica.com)

Check out the site and start preparing for this annual celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday! The NEA site for 2011 (as of October, 2010) does not yet have materials for March of 2011 but check out the CTA site which has bookmarks, posters and other materials.



### NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

April 10-16, 2011

[www.ala.org/](http://www.ala.org/)

#### Key National Library Week 2011 into the Search Box

Tools for creating library events will be available by the end of October: a Public Service Announcement for spreading the word about your events; tips for organizing and promoting National Library Week; and downloadable material. Theme: **Create your own Story @ your library**



### NATIONAL DROP EVERYTHING AND READ DAY

D.E.A.R.

Tuesday April 12, 2011

[www.dropeverythingandread.com/](http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/)

Look for book marks, activities, templates, and help from "Ramona" to assure that everyone in your classroom, home, and/or library drops everything and reads on April 12<sup>th</sup>!



### PARC EVENT

#### YOUNG AUTHORS' CELEBRATION

May 5, 2011

4:30 - 6:00

#### Maidu Elementary School - Eureka School District

Watch for an e-mailed flyer and encourage writing by getting your students involved in this annual program to honor young writers!!



## CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

May 2 - 8, 2011

<http://www.bookweekonline.com/>

An event sponsored by Children's Book Council; check out the web site early in 2011 for bookmarks, ideas for celebrating, a downloadable poster, and links to numerous web sites for well-known children's authors and illustrators. The author of *The Wimpy Kid* series is offering a bookmark to download.



## SCHOOL LIBRARY STANDARDS ADOPTED

On September 16, 2010 the California State Board of Education adopted Model School Library Standards after almost two years of work by CDE and CSLA. Almost every other state has had these standards in place for years and CA Ed Code 18101 requires that the state develop this document. With news of library cutbacks, closures, and staffing issues, this comes as welcome news to those who see school libraries as necessities rather than options. The draft of the standards is linked in the news announcement from CDE which can be found at the link below:

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/nr/ne/yr10/yr10rel107.asp>

The document links library standards with Common Core Language Arts standards. There are no penalties for not meeting these standards, but rather they serve as a model for effective programs for school libraries including the materials and staffing required to meet these goals.



## CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL

The California Young Reader Medal program encourages recreational reading of popular literature among the young people of our state. By April 1st of each year, students have read or listened to all the nominated books in an interest level or grade level category and voted for their favorites. Students may vote in more than one category, but must have read all the books in that group. Information on the program and forms for voting are linked to the official web sites of each of the four supporting organizations. The four sponsors are the following: California Reading Association, California Library Association, California School Library Association, and California Association of Teachers of English. Winning authors in each CYRM category are usually honored at annual conferences (October through January) held by these organizations. More information on the CYRM program can be found on the web site: [www.californiayoungreadermedal.org](http://www.californiayoungreadermedal.org)



(Graphic collage courtesy of CYRM web site.)

## CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL NOMINEES 2010 - 2011

### PRIMARY CATEGORY

Visitor for Bear  
Bonnie Becker  
Pete & Pickles  
Berkeley Breathed  
Duck  
Randy Cecil

Martina The Beautiful Cockroach  
Carmen Agra Deedy  
Thelonius Monster's Sky-High Fly Pie  
Judy Sierra

### INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

Greetings From Planet Earth  
Barbara Kerley  
Igraine The Brave  
Cornelia Funke  
Zorgamazoo  
Robert Paul Weston

### MIDDLE SCHOOL/JR. HIGH

Cracker  
Cynthia Kadohata  
Elijah of Buxton  
Christopher Paul Curtis  
Skulduggery Pleasant: Scepter of the Ancients  
Derek Landy

### YOUNG ADULT

Adoration of Jenna Fox  
Mary E. Pearson  
The Hunger Games  
Suzanne Collins  
Unwind  
Neil Shusterman

### PICTURE BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS

Four Feet, Two Sandals  
Karen Williams  
John, Paul, George & Ben  
Lane Smith  
Moon Over Star  
Diana Aston



### PARC BOOK CLUB NEWS

Our PARC Book Club choice for August 25, 2010 was *Kiyo's Story: A Japanese American Family's Quest for the American Dream* by Kiyo Sato. We were honored to have this longtime Sacramento resident and author join eleven members of the PARC Book Club for dinner at Joanne Ligamari's home in Loomis.

Kiyo brought posters and photographs that helped us visualize the events of her family's journey and especially the impact and tragedies when they, along with thousands of other Japanese Americans interned in camps during World War II, were taken away from their family home and farm in South Sacramento in 1942. As the oldest of nine family members, Kiyo supported and helped her parents and siblings. Eventually she was able to leave camp and complete a nursing degree. Kiyo is also well known as the creator of the Blackbird Vision Screening System which has been used for over thirty years to screen preschoolers and kindergarten children for vision problems. We thank Kiyo Sato for a lovely and unique evening.



A review of the book: "A touching account of a Japanese-American woman's experiences. Including her family's struggle through internment during World War II. Sato's memoir earned a well-deserved William Saroyan Prize for nonfiction last year. Readers, too, will find many rewards as she chronicles her long life. An eloquent personal work that's also an important portrait of a shameful period in American history." *Kirkus Reviews*.

PARC members and supporters have been meeting every four to six weeks since 1997. We select a variety of fiction and informational titles and at least once a year classic, and a children's or young adult book. If you would like to join us, on a regular basis, or just occasionally, e-mail me at [kathymgoodwin@hotmail.com](mailto:kathymgoodwin@hotmail.com) with your mailing address and a request to receive the flyer which is sent out about every four or five months with books to be discussed, meeting dates, times, and places. See above under "Literacy Events" for the next three selections on the current flyer. *KTG*



## Web Sites

of interest to educators ...

Note: The first few are ones almost always included in this column because of their importance to California teachers and members of CRA.



### California Reading Association

[www.californiareads.org](http://www.californiareads.org)

Includes information about conferences, membership, councils, forms for joining CRA and local councils.

### ReadWriteThink

[www.readwritethink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org)

Administered by the IRA, NCATE, and the MarcoPolo Education Foundation. Approximately 500 peer-reviewed K-12 lesson plans. [ReadWriteThink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org) has been named an official honoree in the Education category for the 14th Annual Webby Awards, a prestigious awards competition sponsored by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences. Visit [this page](#) on the Webby Awards website to see all the honorees in the Education category.

### International Reading Association

[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)

A wealth of information; links for ordering materials, research articles, conferences, state, and local councils.



### California Recommended Literature: K-12

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/rl/ll/index.asp>

Produced by CDE: "... a collection of outstanding literature for children and adolescents." Award winners from the last three years did not appear when I searched. It could be the budget difficulties have delayed updates. In 2007/2008 a committee worked on *California Social Science and History Recommended Literature: K-12* and it should have been ready to go two years ago, but has been delayed because of budget problems; there should be a link at the web site above when/if the database goes online.





### Media in Education

<http://guide.sacbee.com/146>

N.I.E. (Newspapers in Education) is now M.I.E. (Media in Education). The M.I.E. program provides e-Edition newspaper subscriptions, special projects based on important themes, lesson plans, and innovative activities relevant to students and teachers in Sacramento and throughout California. M.I.E. is the Sacramento Bee's online classroom and there are sections for Teachers, Kids, and Teens.



### DOODLE 4 GOOGLE

<http://www.google.com/doodle4google/index.html>

From the web site: "Doodle 4 Google is a competition where we invite K-12 students to reinvent Google's homepage logo." Check out the web site early in 2011 for information about next year's competition. The illustration above is the 2010 student winner.

### Word Clouds

<http://www.wordle.net/>

From the web: "Wordle is a toy for generating 'word clouds' from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text. You can tweak your clouds with different fonts, layouts, and color schemes. The images you create with Wordle are yours to use however you like. You can print them out, or save them to the Wordle gallery to share with your friends." Not for student-use; the site does not track or censor any "inappropriate" use of language.

### Nancy Keane's Children's Literature Webpage

<http://www.nancykeane.com/>

Over 5,000 ready-to-use Booktalks; recommended lists of books on almost any topic one can imagine.

### NetSmartz Workshop

<http://www.netsmartz.org/>

Keep children and teens safe online. Teach the dangers of cyberbullying. Sections for Educators, Kids, Teens, Parents. Key *Real-Life-Stories* into the Search box and link to short videos with Activity Cards to help teach the lessons. A free Online Safety Education Kit is available.

### Read Kiddo Read

<http://www.readkiddoread.com/home>

Author James Patterson's web site is aimed at parents, teachers, and librarians who are interested in connecting young people with books that will keep them reading; includes lesson plans, reviews, and interviews.



### Online Classroom Tutorial Web 2.0

<http://classroomlearning2.csla.net/>

Do you want to speak the language of your tech savvy students? Learn about Flickr, blogging, wiki's, and many of the other online tools that might help you in your teaching (as well as possibly provide hours of entertainment). The link below leads to this free online tutorial developed by a committee of California Teacher Librarians and posted on the CSLA website. Check out the reviews for CSLA's tutorial on web 2.0 classroom learning on *Edutopia* at the link below: <http://www.edutopia.org/teachers-media-reviews-recommendations>

### Jim Trelease

<http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/>

By the author of *The Read Aloud Handbook*, information for parents, teachers, administrators, and researchers on the importance of reading and especially reading aloud ... not only to younger children, but even to middle and high school age students. Jim Trelease has retired from the lecture circuit but his web site and videos keep the message alive.



### A Wiki Created by a California Teacher Librarian

<http://sladvocacy.wikispaces.com/>

Well funded and staffed school libraries assure equal access to reading materials, information, and technology for all students. The budget crisis in California has led to layoffs of library staff, less money for materials, and even closures. The wiki above has information on the value of school libraries and artwork that may be freely copied created by award-winning California illustrators: Alikei, Joe Cepeda, Brian Selznick, David Shannon, and others. The images may be used by anyone wishing to promote the cause of helping California school libraries survive this crisis. The image above was created by author/illustrator Brian Selznick (*The Invention of Hugo Cabret* written and illustrated by Selznick; *When Marian Sang* by Pam Munoz Ryan; *Frindle* by Andrew Clement).



## Too good To miss ...



Note: Annotations are by Kathy Goodwin with Library of Congress C.I.P. notes (which are found on the verso of the title page) used in some of the descriptions. Thanks also to [www.perma-bound.com](http://www.perma-bound.com) (Perma-Bound) and [www.titlewave.com](http://www.titlewave.com) (Follett) for information from their web sites.



### PRIMARY



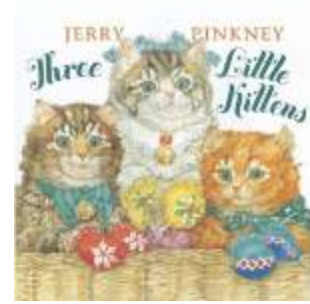
**Knuffle Bunny Free**  
by Mo Willems (2010)

Starred reviews for what appears to be the final installment in the Knuffle Bunny saga. While traveling with her family to Holland to visit her grandparents, Trixie once again loses her beloved Knuffle Bunny. It turns out Knuffle Bunny is on his way to China ... but Trixie's dream brings her consolation. The return trip home might bring sighs and resolution and even tears to parents/teacher who read this book aloud.



**Little Mouse Gets Ready**  
by Jeff Smith (2009)

This Seuss Award book is sweet and funny and beginning readers will love the humor and the illustrations. Little Mouse gets dressed to go to the barn with his mother, brothers, and sisters. After all his struggles, he is reminded that mice don't wear clothes!!



**The Three Little Kittens**  
by Jerry Pinkney (2010)

This longer circular version of the traditional nursery rhyme turns in a playful adventure for those mischievous kitties. Pinkney uses an autumn background and muted colors in this lovely picture book which will be useful to preschool, kindergarten, and even EL teachers as they introduce children to some of the nursery tales they might have missed while watching *Barney* and *Dora the Explorer* videos!



**Mice and Mole: Fine-Feathered Friends**  
by Wong Herbert Yee (2009)

Mice and Mole are friends (think "Frog and Toad") and they decide they want to find and draw some birds. Mistakes are made and they must use their creativity as they discover a way to succeed in their plan. A story of birding, teamwork, and friendship AND one that works as a beginning reader (Seuss Honor Award 2010)



**Actual Size**  
by Steve Jenkins (2004)

The author/illustrator creates this striking picture book using his usual cut-paper artwork. What is unique in this litany of *all creatures great and small* is that each illustration is made to correspond to "actual size" ... revealing striking and colorful images of parts of some animals and whole bodies of others. I used this as a read-aloud in a library one day and each group of kindergarteners, first graders, and special day students reacted with the same oohs and aahs of amazement! The back material includes a thumbnail drawing of each animal along with additional information.



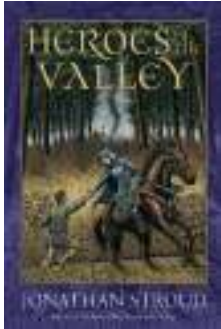
## MIDDLE/UPPER GRADES



### Wanting Mor

by Rukhsana Khan (2009)

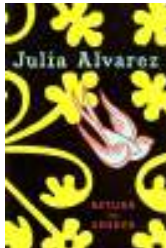
Jameela must depend upon memories of her beloved mother Mor to sustain her when her stepmother (at her father's request) abandons her in a busy market in Afghanistan and she ends up in an orphanage run by the same army that killed many of her family members. A memorable book that will touch the heart ... especially when Jameela's cleft lip is repaired in a simple but often life-changing surgery. Pair this title with Deborah Ellis's *Breadwinner* series. Gr. 5+



### Heroes of the Valley

by Jonathan Stroud (2009)

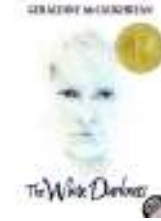
Halli is a mischievous young man who does not fit in. He plays a trick that goes too far, forcing him to embark on a hero's quest in which he will face highway robbers, monsters, an intriguing girl, and truths about his family and the legends of his childhood. This is a thoughtful fantasy about a central character who is not the tall dark and handsome traditional hero; full of adventure and humor. Well-reviewed. Gr. 5+



### Return to Sender

by Julia Alvarez (2009)

After his family hires migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure, eleven-year-old Tyler befriends the oldest daughter. When he discovers they may not be in the country legally, despite his conflicts, he helps Mari's family reunite with her mother. Award-winning. Gr. 4+



### The White Darkness

by Geraldine McCaughren (2009)

Literally a 'chilling' story, originally published in Great Britain in 2005. Taken to Antarctica by the man she thinks of as her uncle, for what she believes to be a vacation, Symone - a troubled fourteen year old - discovers that he is dangerous. He is obsessed with seeking Symme's Hole, an opening that supposedly leads into the center of a hollow Earth. A fascinating survival story featuring an imaginative young girl who must deal with her hearing loss while finally discerning that her "uncle" is really unstable. For mature middle school students, high school reluctant readers, and adults who like adventure tales set in one of the coldest places on earth! Winner of the 2008 Printz Award.



### Mudshark

by Gary Paulsen (2009)

From the C.I.P: "Principal Wagner confidently deals with a faculty washroom crisis, a psychic parrot, and a terrorizing gerbil, but when sixty-five erasers go missing, he enlists the help of the school's best problem solver and lost item locator, twelve-year-old Lyle Williams, also known as Mudshark." Vintage Paulsen! Gr. 3+ Watch for a new series by Paulsen for middle grades which will be out in the spring of 2011. Also check out his latest historical fiction: *Woods Runner* (2010) - set during the Revolutionary War. Gr. 6+



### Turtle in Paradise

by Jennifer L. Holm (2010)

Set in 1935, eleven-year-old Turtle is sent to stay with relatives she has never met in far away Key West, Florida while her mother stays in New Jersey as a housekeeper for a woman who does not like children. Full of adventure, "conch" lore and colorful characters. Watch for a possible Newbery award for this one! Grades 3+

## PICTURE BOOKS

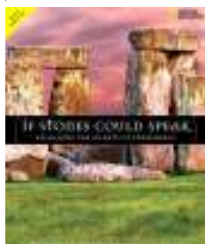
SOME FOR ALL AGES ... OTHERS FOR OLDER READERS



### The Anne Frank Case

Simon Wisenthal's Search for the Truth  
by Susan Goldman Rubin (2009)

A picture book biography of Simon Wiesenthal, a Holocaust survivor who went on a personal quest in 1958 to track down the Gestapo officer who had arrested the Frank family. Bill Farnsworth's illustrations help bring the stirring story alive. Highly reviewed. Gr. 4+



### If Stones Could Speak

Unlocking the Secrets of Stonehenge  
by Marc Aronson (2010)

"Includes bibliographical references and an index. Text, photographs, and explanatory maps and illustrations document archaeologist Mike Parker Pearson's study of Stonehenge and the surrounding area, describing what he found and what the artifacts reveal about the site and its history." (from the C.I.P.) A fascinating study in how archeologists develop theories while exploring. Gr. 4+ (Watch for Aronson's next title due out in November: *Sugar Changed the World --A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science.*



### Coretta Scott

By Ntozake Shange (2009)

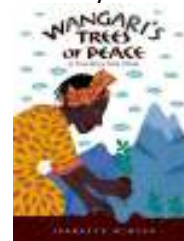
*Booklist:* "Unflinching verse and elegant imagery combine in a powerful, evocative, picture-book portrait of Coretta Scott King ... Shange uses poetry to recount Coretta Scott's life, from her childhood to her marriage with Martin Luther King, Jr. On the final page, the author offers a linear, prose biography, adding context to her more abstract references in the poetry." Gr. 4+ (younger for reading-aloud.)



### Kakapo Rescue

Saving the World's Strangest Parrot  
by Sy Montgomery (2010)

This 74 page informational book provides an introduction to the kakapo parrot, a flightless bird found on Codfish Island off the coast of New Zealand. Sy's very readable text explains how the country's National Kakapo Recovery Team is working to save the kakapos, whose population numbers less than one hundred. The author once again teams with photographer Nic Bishop for this newest entry in the Scientists in the Field Series which has included two Sibert Award titles. Note: I usually do not include books I have not read ... but this one just came out and I'll read it as soon as I obtain a copy ... I've read every one in this series! Gr. 4+



### Wangari's Trees of Peace

by Jeanette Winter (2008)

This 32 page picture book tells the story of Wangari Maathai, a Nobel Prize-winning environmentalist who, shocked to see entire forests being cut down in her native country of Kenya, decided to take action, beginning with the planting of nine seedlings in her own backyard. Kg. + See also another book on the same topic which might appeal more to older students: *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai* by Claire Nivola. And *Mama Miti: Wangari Maathai and the Trees of Kenya* written by Donna Jo Napoli and illustrated by Kadir Nelson could be on some award lists in January.



### Zero

By Kathryn Otoshi (2010)

This sequel to her first picture book (*One*) also deals with bullying. *Booklist:* "The simple story and colorful, minimalist art will intrigue children, even those too young to understand every bit of wordplay and wisdom in the text, while older kids will find food for thought." All ages.

Check out the ALA web site the second week in January when the 2011 winners will be announced at the ALA Mid-Winter Conference.

## 2010 American Library Association Award Winners

### **Newbery Award (outstanding writing for children)**

WHEN YOU REACH ME by Rebecca Stead

### **Newbery Honor Books**

CLAUDETTE COLVIN, by Phillip Hoose

THE EVOLUTION OF CALPURNIA TATE by Jacqueline Kelly

MOSTLY TRUE ADVENTURES OF HOMER P. FIGG by W. R. Philbrick

WHERE THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE MOON by Grace Lin

### **Caldecott Award (outstanding illustrating for children)**

THE LION AND THE MOUSE illustrated and written by Jerry Pinkney

### **Caldecott Honor Books**

ALL THE WORLD written by Liz Garton Scanlon; illustrated by Marla Frazee

RED SINGS FROM TREETOPS by Joyce Sidman; illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski

### **Coretta Scott King Author Award (honoring African American authors)**

BAD NEWS FOR OUTLAWS: THE REMARKABLE LIFE OF BASS REEVES by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson

### **Coretta Scott King Author Honor Books**

MARE'S WAR by Tanita S. Davis

### **Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award (honoring African American illustrators)**

MY PEOPLE illustrated by Charles R. Smith, Jr. and written by Langston Hughes

### **Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Books**

THE NEGRO SPEAKS OF RIVERS illustrated by E. B. Lewis and written by Langston Hughes

### **Coretta Scott King New Talent Award**

THE ROCK AND THE RIVER by Kekla Magoon

### **Michael L. Printz Award (honoring young adult authors)**

GOING BOVINE by Libba Bray

### **Michael L. Printz Honor Books**

CHARLES AND EMMA: THE DARWINS' LEAP OF FAITH by Deborah Heiligman

THE MONSTRUMOLOGIST by Rick Yancy

PUNKZILLA by Adam Rapp

TALES OF THE MADMAN UNDERGROUND: AN HISTORICAL ROMANCE, 1973 by John Barnes

### **Robert F. Sibert Award (honoring authors of informational books)**

ALMOST ASTRONAUTS by Tanya Lee Stone

### **Sibert Honor Books**

CLAUDETTE COLVIN by Phillip Hoose

THE DAY-GLO BROTHERS by Chris Barton; illustrated by Tony Persiani

### **Schneider Family Book Award (books that embody an artistic expression of the disability experience)**

ANYTHING BUT TYPICAL by Nora Raleigh Baskin (ages 10-14)

DJANGO written and illustrated by Bonnie Christensen (ages 5-9)

MARCELO IN THE REAL WORLD by Francisco X. Stork (ages 12-16)

### **Theodor Seuss Geisel Award (honoring authors and illustrators of beginning reader books)**

BENNY AND PENNY IN THE BIG NO-NO! written and illustrated by Geoffrey Hayes

### **Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Books**

I SPY FLY GUY! written and illustrated by Tedd Arnold

LITTLE MOUSE GETS READY written and illustrated by Jeff Smith

MOUSE AND MOLE: FINE FEATHERED FRIENDS written and illustrated by Wong Herbert Yee

PEARL AND WAGNER: ONE FUNNY DAY written by Kate McMullan; illustrated by R.W. Alley

### **Pura Belpre Award (honoring Latino illustrators and authors)**

Rafael Lopez, illustrator of BOOK FIESTA! (written by Pat Mora)

Julia Alvarez, author of RETURN TO SENDER

**Pura Belpre Honor Books: Illustrator:** DIEGO: BIGGER THAN LIFE (David); MY ABUELITA (Yuyi Morales written by Tony Johnston); GRACIAS THANKS (John Parra); **Author:** DIEGO: BIGGER THAN LIFE (Tony Johnston); FEDERICO GARCIA LORCA (Georgina Lazaro)



## PARC BOARD MEMBERS 2010 - 2011

Members are always welcome at our board meetings. We plan events, discuss news related to teaching, reading, and education, and share food and laughter! Pass on the membership form below to friends and co-workers! We are looking for someone to fill the position of Vice President. Interested? Contact any Board Member! <[www.placerareareadingcouncil.org](http://www.placerareareadingcouncil.org)>

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### Placer Area Reading Council MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please tear off this portion and mail with your appropriate membership dues (payable to CRA):  
PARC C/O Debi Pitta, 1768 Stone Canyon Drive, Roseville, CA 95661

Becoming a PARC member automatically makes you a member of CRA. Both memberships are valid for 12 months from the date of the application:

\$40.00 per year regular individual membership       \$20.00 per year full-time student,  
BTSA teacher, or retired individual

Name (First) \_\_\_\_\_ (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I can help by being a site rep (five minutes a month)