

2024 Nutmeg Book Award Elementary Nominees Grades 2-3



Abdul's Story by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, art by Tiffany Rose

Do you get frustrated when you have a hard time doing something? So does Abdul, who loves to make up stories, but makes a lot of mistakes trying to write them down. A special visitor to his class gives him encouragement to keep doing what he loves.

Ablaze With Color: A Story of Painter Alma Thomas by Jeanne Walker Harvey, art by Loveis Wise

Alma Thomas, an artist and teacher, "set the world ablaze with color." Her colorful abstract paintings were inspired by nature and space travel. This beautiful biography shares the story of how Alma Thomas grew up in the south and became the first African American woman to have her artwork displayed in the White House!

All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans With Disabilities Changed Everything by Annette Bay Pimentel, art by Nabi H. Ali

Kids just like you can change the world! Meet a girl named Jennifer who had to fight for the right to go to school. What a difference she made when she was just 8 years old!

Brains! Not Just a Zombie Snack by Stacy McAnulty, art by Matthew Rivera

Zombies love brains and you will too when you read this funny and fact-based book. Laugh and learn along with a zombie chef about how the brain processes information from our five senses and how not all animal brains are the same. The brain is made of 78% water and the book is 100% delicious reading.

Cornbread & Poppy by Matthew Cordell

Cornbread loves being prepared; Poppy loves having fun! With winter swiftly approaching, Poppy is not ready and needs Cornbread's help. Will the two best friends find enough food to last Poppy through the winter?

Dear Earth... From Your Friends in Room 5 by Erin Dealey, art by Luisa Uribe

The students of Room 5 write to Earth each month asking for advice on how they can help the planet. With small steps, recycling, energy reduction and gardening, these Earth Heroes can make big changes.

The Elephants Come Home: A True Story of Seven Elephants, Two People, and One Extraordinary Friendship by Kim Tomsic, art by Hadley Hooper

Did you know that elephants are one of the smartest animals on Earth? You will read about how they learn to trust again and how their friendship with humans grows in this heartwarming true story about an incredible elephant journey.

The Fastest Girl on Earth: Meet Kitty O'Neil, Daredevil Driver! by Dean Robbins, art by Elizabeth Baddeley

Meet athlete, stuntwoman, and deaf person Kitty O'Neil, who has a serious need for speed! Kitty has already broken speed records in water skiing and boat racing; can she do it in her rocket-powered car, too?

How to Find a Fox by Kate Gardner, photos by Ossi Saarinen

Join a wildlife photographer on a quest to locate one of Connecticut's most beautiful and elusive canines, learning many fox facts along the way.

It Fell From the Sky by Terry and Eric Fan

What is it that has fallen into the garden? The inchworm, dung beetle, and ladybug surely don't know. Nor do their fellow insects. The dastardly, dapper spider claims it for his own to profit from others' curiosity. Not all goes as planned and the spider finds himself alone. Can the spider redeem himself?

The Little Wooden Robot and the Log Princess by Tom Gauld

When a little wooden robot forgets to wake his sister, the log princess, they both find themselves on separate adventures. Along the way, they meet the Queen of Mushrooms, some mischievous pixies, and a baby in a rosebush. Read this modern-day fairy tale to find out how these siblings rescue each other.

Mellybean and the Giant Monster by Mike White

A cute scruffy pup digs a hole in her backyard right into another world. Can Mellybean help a giant, save a kingdom, and find her way back home?

Sir Ladybug by Corey R. Tabor

Oh no! There is a caterpillar in danger! Will Sir Ladybug and his trusty companions, Pell the pill bug and Sterling the snail, be able to save the day?

Sugar in Milk by Thrity Umrigar, art by Khoa Le

A recent immigrant feels lonely in her new country, but her aunt's story gives her a new perspective. She learns that with a change of heart and a little bit of sugar, you can find sweetness everywhere you look..

Wind Riders: Rescue on Turtle Beach by Jen Marlin, art by Izzy Burton

Hop aboard Wind Rider, a magical ship, with Sofia and Max on their first animal rescue mission to Hawaii. With the help of their new friend, Laila, will they be able to guide the sea turtle hatchlings safely to sea?

