



2017 Read Alouds : Primary

The Bear Ate Your Sandwich by Julia Sarcone-Roach

When a little girl's sandwich goes missing from her lunch box on the park bench, a dog conveniently "Ruff! Ruff!"s an "eyewitness account" that a bear was the culprit.

Bunnies!!! by Kevan Atteberry

A very excited little monster searches everywhere to find the things he loves: *bunnies*. Or could it be *birdies* instead?!

The Cow Who Climbed a Tree by Gemma Merino

Although her sisters think she is silly, Tina is a curious cow who loves to explore and try new things.

Goodnight Already! by Jory John

Bear is ready to go to bed, but Duck, his wide-awake neighbor, wants to hang out and have fun. Will he be able to convince Bear to stay awake?

Is There a Dog in This Book? by Viviane Schwarz

Andre is possibly sniffing out a dog in his third book with Tiny and Moonpie. Where is it hiding? Will a doggie make a good feline friend?

My Dog's a Chicken by Susan McElroy Montanari

Since Lula Mae is told she can not have a puppy, she turns one of the farm chickens into her very special doggie.

No Yeti Yet by Mary Ann Fraser

Is it a good day for a Yeti hunt? Little brother is not so sure and has many questions for big brother while traipsing through the snow. Can it run fast and see in a snowy, blowy blizzard?

Sad the Dog by Sandy Fussell

A touching look into the life of Sad, an unloved dog, and the heart-warming journey towards finding his true home with a new name and a new life.



Sing and Dance in Your Polka-Dot Pants by Eric Litwin

In this installment of the Nut family saga, Hazel Nut can not find anyone in her family to dance along with her until she realizes who she should call. See how Grandma Nut provides a wake up call to her family members and shakes things up!

Who Wants a Hug? by Jeff Mack

No way does grouchy Skunk want a hug from happy Bear who has higher popularity ratings than him. Does his scheme to make Bear stop hugging others really work?

2017 Read Alouds : Upper Elementary



Ben Franklin's Big Splash by Barb Rosenstock

This picture book talks about how eleven-year-old Benjamin Franklin created his first invention when he was trying to swim like a fish. It gives you a great perspective on Mr. Franklin's creativity and perseverance, which ultimately led to many of his other great inventions.

Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate

This is a very moving story that deals with being homeless. The main character copes with his family situation and hopelessness by talking to an imaginary friend named Crenshaw. This story is beautifully written and while there are some really sad and serious moments, it is interspersed with light moments as well.

A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord

This is a story that takes place in the beautiful setting of rural Maine. Lily lives with her grandparents who run the general store and Salma is part of a migrant family that work in the blueberry fields during the summer. Can two very different kids forge a friendship together?

Miss Mary Reporting: The True Story of Sportswriter Mary Garber by Sue Macy

This picture book biography introduces us to Mary Garber, one of the first women sportswriters in the United States. This story talks about how she had to overcome many obstacles to become one of the most respected journalists of her time.

My Pet Human by Yasmine Surovec

This early chapter book is unique in that it's told from the perspective of the cat. He is used to doing his own thing, but when an animal control officer starts coming around, he finds a nice house and family nearby. Will he remain independent or adopt them all?

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin

In this novel, Rose is a high functioning autistic girl who has a particular affection for homophones, among other things. A storm causes her beloved dog to run away and then her safe and ordered world is shattered. How does she cope with her situation?

Raymie Nightingale by Kate DiCamillo

Raymie has a hard life. Her father has left the family and she devises a scheme to convince him to come home. Along the way she meets two other girls going through their own problems and an unlikely bond forms between the three of them. They embark on some crazy adventures, especially toward the end of the book!



Space Taxi: Archie Takes Flight by Wendy Mass and Michael Brawer

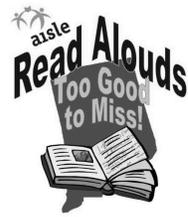
This early chapter book is a fun story about a boy who goes on a “Take your child to work day”. Little does he know that his Dad will be taking him not just out of town, but out of this world!

The Terrible Two by Mac Barnett and Jory John

In this illustrated novel, Miles has to move to a new town. At his old school, he was the king of the pranksters, but when he shows up for his first day of class at the new school, he sees that he’s got some serious competition from another student. Will they butt heads or join forces to cause mischief and mayhem?

Zane and the Hurricane: A Story of Katrina by Rodman Philbrick

This is a survival story that talks about the experience of a young boy living through a hurricane and flood in New Orleans. It gives the reader a realistic view of what it feels like to be trapped in a house that is flooded, getting rescued through the heroism of strangers and the aftermath that follows.



2017 Read Alouds : Middle Grades

Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms by Katherine Rundell

Wilhelmina Silver, or Will for short, lives a carefree life on a farm in Zimbabwe when an unexpected event forces her to go to England and attend a boarding school for girls. She finds her new life cruel and restrictive and decides to run away. How will she survive on her own?

Dust of Eden by Mariko Nagai

In this story, Mini Tagawa and her family are taken from their home in Seattle and are imprisoned in an internment camp in Idaho for three years. This is a compelling, historical account told in verse about the experiences of Japanese Americans during World War 2.

Guys Read: Terrifying Tales by Jon Scieszka (ed.)

Compiled and edited by Jon Scieszka, here are 10 creepy and spooky stories that will scare you out of your pants---that is if you aren't too scared to open up the book!

Nine Lives of Jacob Tibbs by Cylin Busby

This is a thrilling 19th century seafaring tale told from the perspective of the ship's cat named Jacob. Through the cat's narration, the reader experiences life aboard the ship and all of the exciting adventures that happen to the captain and crew!

The Odds of Getting Even by Sheila Turnage

Mo and Dale, aka the Desperado Detectives, are involved in the trial of the century in the small southern town of Tupelo Landing. It involves Dale's Dad, and instead of being convicted, he goes on the run and kidnaps Dale's brother. Now it's up to Dale and Mo to save the day!

Orbiting Jupiter by Gary D. Schmidt

Jack's life on a small farm in rural Maine is turned upside-down when his parents decide to take care of Joseph, a foster child from an abusive background. Joseph is fourteen, has been in and out of juvenile detention and has fathered a child. Overcoming these obstacles and opening up to Jack and his family is the focus of this story.

Rhyme Schemer by K.A. Holt

Kevin is a different kind of bully--instead of fists he uses his mind to write very creative and nasty things about his classmates. When he gets detention with the school librarian, a relationship develops that helps bring out the best in him. Written in verse.



Saving Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea

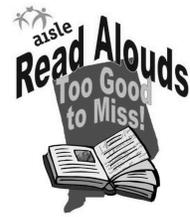
This story is told from multiple points of view and follows seven students as they encounter their first year of junior high. They look to their former teacher for guidance, but they are the ones that end up helping him in the end.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper

Stella lives in a small North Carolina town during segregation. She witnesses a Klan gathering and later on experiences their hatred first-hand when they set a neighbor's house on fire. Will the community cower in fear or stand together to confront this evil?

The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin

Suzy's best friend dies in a drowning accident and she withdraws from the world as a way to deal with her guilt and grief. Instead of dealing with other people, she obsesses about rare jellyfish and their deadly stings in the hope of bringing closure to her friend's death.



2017 Read Alouds : High School

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely

Told by two high school boys in alternating viewpoints, *All American Boys* tells the story of a mistaken crime. Sixteen year old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing while classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating by a police officer.

The Detour by S.A. Bodeen

Livvy Flynn is a 17 year old YA fiction author. When she wrecks her car in a rural area of Oregon, she is kidnapped by a woman and her psychotic daughter. Undisclosed to Livvy, the kidnapper is seeking a mysterious revenge.

Drowned City written and illustrated by Don Brown

This graphic novel clearly chronicles the Hurricane Katrina devastation of New Orleans. The dynamic illustrations of this book show the utter devastation and despair of the flood victims.

Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: a Memoir by Margarita Engle

This poetic memoir tells how author Margarita Engle grew up in two cultures during the Cold War: her mother's island of Cuba and her home in Los Angeles. Hostility breaks out between the U.S. and Cuba during this time, which leads to worry about her family. In poetry format.

Hotel Ruby by Suzanne Young

Teen siblings Audrey and Daniel, along with their father, stop at Hotel Ruby on the way to their grandmothers. This antiquated hotel has a draw on its guests, who feel compelled to stay. The book culminates with an unexpected revelation that forces Audrey to make the most difficult decision - will she stay forever?

Love and Other Unknown Variables by Shannon Lee Alexander

Charlie Hanson, an awkward math and science genius, has his planned out life turned upside down when he touches the tattoo on Charlotte Finch's neck. Charlie and Charlotte become a sweet couple, even though Charlie can't solve Charlotte's problem.

Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

Salt to the Sea is a fictional retelling of the sinking of the Wilhelm Gustloff at the end of World War II, which leads to the largest loss of life on a single ship. In alternating voices, teen refugees tell their stories as try to escape the final dangers of the war.



Tell Me Three Things by Julie Buxbaum

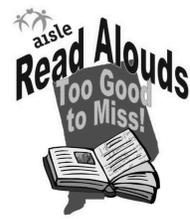
Jessie, a sixteen year old teen, grieves her mother's death. When she moves in with her new stepfamily, she receives an anonymous email from a fellow student, who offers to help her at her new school.

This is Where it Ends by Marieke Nijkamp

This eerily realistic books tells an account of a school shooting. Minutes after the school principal gives his welcome back speech in the school auditorium, the students find they are locked in the auditorium by a shooter. Told in the viewpoint of four teenagers.

The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B by Teresa Toten

Two teens, Adam Ross and Robyn Plummer, aka Batman and Robin, meet in a group for those with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). They face family issues as they learn about themselves and young love.



2017 Read Alouds : Ageless

Finding Winnie: The true story of the world's most famous bear, by Lindsay Mattick

This is the true story of how a young soldier named Harry Colebourn bought a bear cub as he was on his way to basic training. He named her "Winnie," after his hometown of Winnipeg. As the book's subtitle states, "The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear".

I Used to Be Afraid, by Laura Vaccaro Singer

A young girl discovers that she feels more confident in dealing with things that used to frighten her. Quietly reassuring.

I Wish You More, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

A gentle book about friendship and strength, about hope and wonder.

Marvelous Cornelius: Hurricane Katrina and the spirit of New Orleans, by Phil Bildner

Cornelius worked in New Orleans as a street cleaner. People in the Quarter loved him, and he kept his streets sparkling. Then Katrina hit. Cornelius looked at the mountains of trash, but his spirit was strong. Bag by bag, he cleaned the city he loved.

Mother Bruce, by Ryan T. Higgins

An hilarious book about a bear who loves to cook. Once he starts boiling some eggs, he is in for an unexpected surprise. What follows is an endearing tale about fatherhood!

The Night World, by Mordicai Gerstein

A young boy & his cat are the only ones in the house who are not sleeping. They go outside to explore this magical world, and meet other nocturnal creatures.

The Story of Diva and Flea, by Mo Willems

A charming tale of Diva, a tiny white dog, and Flea, a large black cat, who meet in their Paris neighborhood. Flea teaches Diva to be a "flaneur," and Diva introduces Flea to "Breck-Fest."

Thunder Boy Jr, by Sherman Alexie

A touching story about the power inherent in naming your children. When a Native American boy learns that he doesn't have his own name, he comes up with many creative ways to describe himself.



Water is Water, by Miranda Paul

This story is told in rhyme and describes the ever changing quality of water. The reader is invited into exploring the properties of each change and predicting what will happen next!

Willy's Stories, by Anthony Browne

Step back in time as the main character invites the reader to guess what book he is describing. Each page gives clues to a classic children's story. Can you name all of them?

For further information about the Read Aloud Committee (or to suggest titles for our future Read Aloud lists), please contact Chuck Pieri, program Chair- cpieri@myepl.org