A Bike Like Sergio’s by Maribeth Boelts Candlewick, 2018 ISBN: 9781536209253 Ruben feels like he is the only kid without a bike. His friend Sergio reminds him that his birthday is coming, but Ruben knows that the kinds of birthday gifts he and Sergio receive are not the same.


Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope by Nikki Grimes Simon & Schuster, 2012 ISBN: 9781442440495 Ever since Barack Obama was young, Hope has lived inside him. From the beaches of Hawaii to the streets of Chicago, from the jungles of Indonesia to the plains of Kenya, he has held on to Hope.

Boss Stories: 11 Real Life Stories about the Impact of Incarceration on Students & Educators by Dr. Jaclyn Walker, et. al. INBP, 2019 ISBN: 9781094697369 These stories are from the perspective of 9 children and 2 adults that have been impacted by incarceration. However, these O.O.S.S. (Breaking Obstacles to Seek Success) stories will encourage others in similar situations that regardless of your circumstances, then you can still be a BOSS!

Code 7: Cracking the Code for an Epic Life by Bryan Johnson Candy Wrapper, 2019 ISBN: 9781940556048 Life at Flint Mill Elementary School may seem normal, but seven friends find themselves on a path to crack the code for an epic life. Whether they’re chasing their dreams on stage, searching for an elusive monster fish, or running a makeshift business out of a treehouse, can these heroes find a way to work together to change their community?

Dream March: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. & the Civil Rights Movement by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson Random House, 2017 ISBN: 9781101936966 Set against Dr. King’s historic march on Washington in the summer of 1963, a moving story and powerful illustrations combine to illuminate not only one of America’s most celebrated leaders, but also one of America’s most celebrated moments.

Emmanuel’s Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah by Laurie Ann Thompson Schwartz & Wade, 2015 ISBN: 9780689417445 Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people—but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams.

Enemy Pie by Derek Munson Chronicle Books, 2000 ISBN: 9780811827782 It was the perfect summer. That is, until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one.

Everyday Heroes by Sarah L. Schuermanapist 2018 Lerner, 2018 ISBN: 9781626726500 These stories, inspired by the lives of real people, will inspire you to find your everyday hero.

going down Home with Daddy by Kelly Starling Lyons, et. al. Peachtree Pub Company, 2019 ISBN: 9781561459384 “On reunion morning, we rise before the sun. Daddy hums as he packs our car with suitcases and a cooler full of snacks. He says there’s nothing like going down home.”

Hula Hooping Queen by Thelma Lynne Godin Lee & Low Books, 2017 ISBN: 9781620145791 Kameeka yearns to continue her hula hooping competition with her rival, Jamara, rather than help prepare for Miz Adeline’s birthday party, and “the itch” almost ruins the party before the birthday party, and “the itch” helps prepare for Miz Adeline’s birthday party.

Janna and the Kings by Patricia Smith Lee & Low Books, 2016 ISBN: 97816162042530 Saturdays are special for Janna. That’s when she and Grandaddy spend the whole day together. Walking down the street with Grandaddy is like strolling through a kingdom with a king

Janna and the Kings by Alla Pierson Lee & Low Books, 2016 ISBN: 97816162042530 Saturdays are special for Janna. That’s when she and Grandaddy spend the whole day together. Walking down the street with Grandaddy is like strolling through a kingdom with a king.

Kaia and the Bees by Maribeth Boelts Candlewick, 2020 ISBN: 9781536201055 Kaia is the brave type. Like the best kind of gum—bubble gum!—wasn’t invented until 1928, when an enterprising young accountant at Flner Gum and Candy used his spare time to experiment with different recipes.

Knock, Knock! My Dad’s Dream for Me by Daniel Beaty Little Brown Books, 2013 ISBN: 9780316209175 This powerful and inspiring book shows the love that an absent parent can leave behind, and the strength that children find in themselves as they grow up and follow their dreams.

Love to Langston by Tony Medina Lee & Low Books, 2006 ISBN: 9781584302834 Seventeen poems offer young readers an exciting glimpse into the life of Langston Hughes, one of America’s most beloved poets.

My Pink Playhouse by Jeanne Willis Peachtree, 2008 ISBN: 9781561459634 Will they be able to help little Marshmallow before it’s too late?

President of the Whole 5th Grade by Sheri Winston Little Brown Books, 2012 ISBN: 9780545541510 When Brianna Justice’s hero, the famous celebrity chef Miss Delicious, speaks at her school and traces her own success back to being president of her fifth grade class.


The Bad Seed by Jory John HarperCollins, 2018 ISBN: 9780062467768 This is a book about a bad seed. A badaaaaaaaad seed. How bad? Do you really want to know?

The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read by Lora Lorraine Hubbard Schwartz & Wade, 2020 ISBN: 9781524768287 Imagine learning to read at the age of 116! Discover the true story of Mary Walker, the nation’s oldest student.

Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts Candlewick, 2009 ISBN: 9780763642846 All Jeremy wants is a pair of those shoes, the ones everyone at school seems to be wearing. Though Jeremy’s grandma says they don’t have room for “want,” just “need,” when his old shoes fall apart at school, he is more determined than ever to have those shoes, even a thrift-shop pair that are much too small.

Zoe and Sassafras: Dragons and Marshmallows by Asia Citiro The Innovation Press, 2017 ISBN: 9781943147090 Zoe discovers a glowing photo and learns an amazing secret. Injured magical animals come to their backyard barn for help! When a sick baby dragon appears, it’s up to Zoe and Sassafras to figure out what’s wrong. Will they be able to help little Marshmallow before it’s too late?

Adapted from Portsmouth Public Schools