



Show Me Readers Award

2023 Nominees

Invasion of the Unicorns by David Biedrzycki E BIE

Special Agent Bubble07 is undercover on planet Earth. His mission: to decide whether alien unicorns should invade Earth. Posing as a stuffed animal, he infiltrates the home of Earthling Daughter, where he puts up with dog slobber, tea parties and show and tell. Will Bubble07 blow his cover, or will life on Eath win him over?

Negative Cat by Sophie Blackall E BLA

A little boy is finally allowed to get a pet, but Max the cat isn't quite what the family had in mind. He shuns the toy mouse, couldn't care less about a hand-knitted sweater and spends most of his time facing the wall. The little boy, however, is determined to turn his negative cat into a positive.

Norman Didn't Do It! (Yes, He Did.) by Ryan T. Higgins E HIG

Norman is a porcupine. Mildred is a tree. Norman and Mildred are best friends. Just the two of them. And only the two of them. So what will Norman do when a newcomer pops up out of the ground?

The Bruce Swap by Ryan T. Higgins E HIG

When Bruce says no to their schemes one too many times, Nibbs, Thistle and Rupert secretly wish Bruce was more fun. The next morning, all their wishes come true: Bruce is cheerful, adventurous and full of pizzazz! Except Bruce is not exactly Bruce. Is it possible that too much fun is no fun at all?

Be Strong by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Jen Hill E MIL

When her gym class must face the school rock-climbing wall, Tanisha knows she'll never reach the top. But maybe strength is about more than just muscles. With help from her family, Tanisha learns that by showing up, speaking up and not giving up, she can be strong too.

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What Can You Do With a Rock? by Pat Zietlow Miller, illustrated by Katie Kath E MIL

Rocks are simple, but the possibilities are endless. Rocks can build, sparkle and tell a story. They can hold memories. They may even be a little bit magic. With all the fun you can have with a rock, the best thing to do is to share it with a friend.

I Eat Poop: A Dung Beetle Story by Mark Pett E PET

Dougie has a secret: he's a dung beetle, and he loves eating poop. If anyone at school saw his lunch, he'd be an outcast. When the lunchroom bugs out over another classmate's poop lunch, Dougie must make a choice. Can he stand up for his friend and for his true self?

Hugo and the Impossible Thing by Renée Felice Smith and Chris Gabriel, illustrated by Sydney Hanson E SMI

At the edge of the forest stands the Impossible Thing, and none of the animals have explored what lies beyond. Then a brave little dog named Hugo decides he just might be up to the challenge. With determination and some unexpected help from his friends, Hugo might just be able to do the impossible.

A Walk in the Words by Hudson Talbott E TAL

When Hudson Talbott was a little boy, he loved drawing. But reading? No way! He felt alone, lost and afraid in a world of too many words. But his love of stories kept him going. Accepting that everyone learns in their own unique way made Hudson into the storyteller he is today.

Thankful by Elaine Vickers, illustrated by Samantha Cotterill E VIC

When the first snow falls, a little girl writes down the things she's thankful for on strips of paper and links them together. There's so much good in her life, and, as one idea leads to another, her chain grows longer. A much-needed reminder to observe and honor life's small joys.





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