



Show Me Readers Award

2025 Nominees

The Mighty McKraken by *Izzy B* E B
Captain Coarsebeard is the most feared pirate on the seven seas. He fears nothing... that is, except the mighty McKraken. Mrs. McKraken was the captain's first grade teacher, and she's heard he's been naughty. Captain Coarsebeard hasn't been using good manners, and it's up to her to reteach him everything she taught him in first grade. Will the captain treat others the way he wants to be treated? Will he earn a gold star and be a star student?

Seals Are Jerks! by *Jared Chapman* E CHA
Lorelei is shocked to learn that her favorite animal, seals, actually eat penguins, so she sets out to do some in-person research — and discovers that in nature things are complicated.

How This Book Got Red
by *Margaret Chiu Greanias* E GRE
When Red, a young red panda, finds that her book about pandas completely omits red pandas, she decides to write a book herself.

We Don't Lose Our Class Goldfish
by *Ryan T. Higgins* E HIG
When Penelope Rex brings home Walter, the class goldfish, for the weekend, she is not sure how she feels about the fish. But when Walter goes missing, Penelope searches high and low for her fishy classmate.

The Kitten Story: A Mostly True Tale
by *Emily Jenkins* E JEN
A family must learn to compromise as they set out to choose the perfect pet. In this heartwarming story about conflict resolution and overcoming disappointment, an adorable kitten is welcomed into their home.

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Cooler Than Lemonade by *Harshita Jerath* E JER
Eva starts a lemonade stand, but competition from Jake's stand across the street creates a tough challenge so Eva decides to make kulfi, her own Indian ice cream, and partner with Jake.

Building a Dream: How the Boys of Koh Panyee Became Champions by *Darshana Khiani* E 796.334 KHI
In the Thai village of Koh Panyee, a team of boys build their own very special football field.

Basketball Dreams by *Chris Paul* E PAU
Growing up, young Chris Paul dreamed of playing professional basketball. He knew it would take more than practice, so Chris looked to his grandfather Papa Chilly as a shining example of the values he could apply. Papa taught him about respect, kindness, generosity and determination to succeed as the first Black business owner of a service station in North Carolina. Papa Chilly and his lessons propelled Chris to become the star NBA player and the person he is today.

The Three Little Guinea Pigs by *Erica Perl* E PER
This retelling of the "Three Little Pigs" features three guinea pig sisters who must outwit a clever fox.

The World's Best Class Plant
by *Audrey Vernick and Liz Garton Scanlon* E SCA
A class that is terribly disappointed in their lack of a class pet discovers that having a class plant is the best thing ever.

