



Show Me Readers Award

2026 Nominees

Apple Pie Tired

by *Beth Charles and Hannah Brinson* E CHA

Lola wants to make Thanksgiving dinner, but each time she tries to start, her parents need her help making apple pies for the family business.

A Letter to My Best Friend

by *Yangsook Choi* E CHO

Jihun recently moved to the United States. In his new classroom, he receives an assignment to write a letter to his best friend, but he's not sure how it will turn out. Fueled by wonderful memories of his former home, Jihun uses his creativity to craft a letter for his best friend, Oto. The result is nothing short of extraordinary and opens a door for Jihun to make new friends.

Campingland

by *Ame Dyckman and James Burks* E DYC

When a family's outdoor camping adventure does not go well, they visit the perfect indoor camping theme park, Campingland. But they soon realize it's boring and decide to give outdoor camping another go!

The Boy Who Found His Voice

by *Tyler Gordon* E GOR

A boy has trouble with words until he learns, with paintbrush in hand, that finding your voice isn't about being perfect — it's about being true to yourself.

Itty Bitty Betty Blob

by *Constance Lombardo and Micah Player* E LOM

Itty Bitty Betty Blob prefers dancing and rainbows to growling and scaring. She practices being monstrous on her way to school until she makes a discovery and new friends.

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The Yellow Bus

by *Loren Long* E LON
A forgotten school bus finds joy and purpose in the most unexpected places.

The Little Red Chair

by *Cathy Stefanec Ogren and Alexandra Thompson* E OGR

Mia and her mother purchase a little red chair from an antique store and it quickly becomes one of Mia's beloved possessions until it is lost in a move. Years later fate reunites Mia and her chair.

Sinclair, the Velociraptor Who Thought He Was a Chicken

by *Douglas Rees and Galia Bernstein* E REE

Edna, the very first chicken, is hatching her very first eggs! With sharp teeth and claws, one of her chicks, Sinclair, is an unusual chicken. But when Gorgosaurus threatens his family, Sinclair might prove to be the best chicken ever.

All the Books

by *Hayley and John Rocco* E ROC
Piper, a book-hoarding chipmunk, does not want to share, until she discovers the magic of the library.

Porcupine Had a Fuzzy Sweater

by *Jody Jenson Shaffer and Angela Edmonds* E SHA

Porcupine's favorite sweater is missing! It was fuzzy, red and made with love by his grandma. Porcupine doesn't want to hurt her feelings by admitting he lost it. Maybe he can make a new one? Or borrow someone else's? Or maybe he'll have no choice but to leave home.





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