

The Best Books of 2009

as recommended by Youth Services Staff @ San Diego County Library & Serra Cooperative Library Members

FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS

- [Guess Who Eats What](#) by Liesbet Slegers (from the Guess series)
- [Just Like Bossy Bear](#) by David Horvath (Bossy Bear series)
- [Meoww and the Little Chairs](#) by Sebastien Braun (first in the Meoww series)

PICTURE BOOKS for Preschoolers and All Ages

- [All the World](#) by Marla Frazee
- [Are You a Horse?](#) by Andy Roth
- [Ballyhoo Bay](#) by Judy Sierra
- [Bartleby Speaks](#) by Robin Cruise
- [Betsy B. Little](#) by Anne McEvoy
- [Billy and Milly, Short and Silly!](#) by Eve B. Feldman
- [Can You Make a Scary Face?](#) by Jan Thomas
- [Chicken Butt](#) by Erica Perl
- [Crocodaddy](#) by Kim Norman
- [Curious Garden](#) by Peter Brown
- [Dinotrux](#) by Chris Gail
- [Duck! Rabbit!](#) by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- [For Just One Day](#) by Laura Leuck
- [Fran's Flower](#) by Lisa Bruce
- [Hello, My Name is Bob](#) by Linas Alsenas
- [Jeremy Draws a Monster](#) by Peter McCarty
- [Lion and the Mouse](#) by Jerry Pinkney
- [Little Dump Truck](#) by Margery Cuyler
- [Magic Box: A Magical Story](#) by Katie Clemenson
- [Odd Egg](#) by Emily Gravitt
- [Penguin Story](#) by Antoinette Portis (local author)
- [Princess Bess Gets Dressed](#) by Margery Cuyler
- [Rhyming Dust Bunnies](#) by Jan Thomas
- [Shark in the Dark](#) by Peter Bently
- [Snow Day](#) by Komako Sakai
- [Spoon](#) by Amy Krouse Rosenthal
- [Subway Ride](#) by Heather Lynn Miller
- [Truck Town series](#) by Jon Scieszka
- [Tushy Book](#) by Fran Manushkin
- [Wag!](#) by Patrick McDonnell
- [Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales](#) by Lucy Cousins

PICTURE BOOKS for School-Age and Older Kids

- [14 Cows for America](#) by Carmen Agra Deedy
- [Finding Lincoln](#) by Colin Bootman
- [I Spy Fly Guy](#) by Tedd Arnold (reader)
- [If America Were a Village: a Book About the People of the United States](#) by David J. Smith
- [Moonshot: the Flight of Apollo 11](#) by Brian Floca
- [Orangutan Tonggs: Poems to Tangle Your Tongue](#) by Jon Agee
- [Underwear Salesman: And Other Odd Jobs for Better or for Verse](#) by J. Patrick Lewis
- [Vanities](#) by Terence Lawler

JUVENILE NON-FICTION

- [Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream](#) by Tanya Lee Stone
- [Anne Frank: Her Life in Words and Pictures from the Archives of the Anne Frank House](#) by Metselaar & van der Rol (pictorial biography)
- [Boy Who Invented T.V.: The Story of Philo Farnsworth](#) by Kathleen Krull (biography)
- [Great and Only Barnum: The Tremendous, Stupendous Life of Showman P.T. Barnum](#) by Schwartz & Wade
- [Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary](#) by Elizabeth Partridge (civil rights pictorial)
- [Up Close series](#) by Andra Serlin Abramson (extreme photographs of vehicles and technology)

JUVENILE FICTION

- [Anything But Typical](#) by Nora Raleigh Baskin (realistic contemporary, autistic protagonist)
- [Camille McPhee Fell Under the Bus...](#) by Kristen Tracy (humorous)
- [Dandelion Fire](#) by N. D. Wilson (fantasy, sequel to 100 Cupboards)
- [Deeper](#) by Roderick Gordon (sequel to Tunnels, subterranean fantasy)
- [Evolution of Calpurnia Tate](#) by Jacqueline Kelly (historical—turn-of-the-century Southern U.S.)
- [Half Minute Horrors](#) by various authors (nicely illustrated scary short stories)
- [Heart of a Shepherd](#) by Rosanne Parry (realistic contemporary, military deployment in family)
- [Magician's Elephant](#) by Kate DiCamillo (fantasy, suitable for mature readers)
- [Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoner's Dilemma](#) by Trenton Lee Stewart (fantasy, adventure)
- [Ranger's Apprentice: The Siege of Macindaw](#) by John Flanagan (book # 6 in series, fantasy, adventure)
- [Season of Gifts](#) by Richard Peck (historical—1950's Midwest U.S.)
- [Secret of Zoom](#) by Lynne Jonell (humorous fantasy)
- [Taste for Red](#) by Lewis Harris (vampire-lite)
- [Umbrella Summer](#) by Lisa Graff (contemporary coming of age, dealing with grief)
- [Unknowns: A Mystery](#) by Benedict Carey (for science and math fans)
- [When You Reach Me](#) by Rebecca Stead (mystery, fantasy)

TEEN FICTION

- [1001 Cranes](#) by Naomi Hirahara (coming of age, realistic contemporary)
- [After](#) by Amy Efav (realistic contemporary)
- [Along for the Ride](#) by Sarah Dessen (realistic contemporary, romance)
- [Ash](#) by Malinda Lo (retelling of Cinderella story)
- [Beautiful Creatures](#) by Kami Barcia and Margaret Stohl (supernatural romance, southern gothic)
- [Catching Fire](#) by Suzanne Collins (sequel to Hunger Games, fantasy)
- [Chosen One](#) by Carol Lynch Williams (realistic contemporary)
- [Everafter](#) by Amy Huntley (supernatural, life after death)
- [Fire](#) by Kristin Cashore (sequel to Graceling, fantasy)
- [Flash Burnout](#) by L.K. Madigan (realistic contemporary, male protagonist interested in photography)
- [Forest of Hands and Teeth](#) by Carrie Ryan (supernatural, horror)
- [Hate List](#) by Jennifer Brown (realistic contemporary, school shooting)
- [Hold Still](#) by Nina LaCour (realistic contemporary, suicide recovery)
- [House of Many Ways](#) by Diana Wynne Jones (fantasy, sequel to Howl's Moving Castle)
- [If I Stay](#) by Gayle Forman (realistic contemporary)
- [Leviathan](#) by Scott Westerfeld (steam punk, alternative history)
- [Liar](#) by Justine Larbalestier (suspense, supernatural)
- [Marcelo in the Real World](#) by Francisco X. Stork (realistic contemporary, autistic protagonist)
- [Miles Between](#) by Mary Pearson (local author, realistic contemporary, road trip)
- [Monstrumologist](#) by Rick Yancey (historical, horror)
- [Rampant](#) by Diana Peterfreund (fantasy, killer unicorns)
- [Reformed Vampire Support Group](#) by Catherine Jinks (humorous supernatural)
- [Shiver](#) by Maggie Stiefvater (supernatural, werewolves)
- [Silver Phoenix](#) by Cynthia Pon (fantasy, Chinese mythology)
- [Treasure Map of Boys: Noel, Jackson, Finn, Hutch, Gideon--and me, Ruby Oliver](#) by E. Lockhart (sequel to The Boyfriend List, humorous chick lit)
- [Tricks](#) by Ellen Hopkins (realistic contemporary, 5 separate stories intertwine to challenge perceptions)
- [Wintergirls](#) by Laurie Halse Anderson (realistic contemporary, anorexia)

TEEN NON-FICTION

- [Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope](#) by Kamkwamba & Mealer
- [Charles and Emma: the Darwins' Leap of Faith](#) by Deborah Heiligman
- [Chasing Lincoln's Killer](#) by James L. Swanson
- [Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice](#) by Phillip Hoose (civil rights memoir)
- [I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six-Word Memoirs by Teens Famous & Obscure](#) by Smith & Fershleiser
- [Stitches](#) by David Small (graphic novel, memoir)
- [Written in Bone: Buried Lives of Jamestown and Colonial Maryland](#) by Sally M. Walker