

Reading Connection

Working Together for Learning Success

February 2019

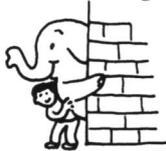
Moore Public Schools
Title I Reading



Book Picks

■ *The Magician's Elephant* (Kate DiCamillo)

Peter is an orphan looking for answers about his missing sister. He turns to a fortune-teller, who proclaims that an elephant will help Peter, setting off a chain of events that the boy never could have imagined. But will it lead him to his sister—or to more questions? (Also available in Spanish.)



■ *Dewey the Library Cat: A True Story* (Vicki Myron and Bret Witter)

On a cold morning, librarian Vicki Myron discovers a freezing kitten in the book drop. This is her true story of Dewey, who found a home at the library. He attended story hours, napped among the stacks, and eventually became famous around the world.



■ *Young, Gifted and Black* (Jamia Wilson)

These 52 short biographies introduce your child to important people in black culture. She will learn about the childhoods, struggles, and accomplishments of historical figures as well as present-day people. Features civil rights leaders, athletes, musicians, and others.

■ *Lola Levine Is Not Mean!* (Monica Brown)

Lola accidentally hurts a classmate during a soccer game, and the other kids start to call her "Mean Lola Levine." Lola feels terrible and wants to show everyone she's not mean! She turns to her best friend, her family, and her passion for writing for help. The first book in the Lola Levine series.



Understanding fiction

Charles is a strong reader. He follows complicated plots, and he gets to know story-book characters so well that he often correctly predicts what they'll do next. Help your child be a strong reader, too, with these fun ways to boost reading comprehension.

Basic facts	Traits	Actions
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~~~~~ ~~~~~ ~~~~~		



Create a storyboard

Filmmakers use a series of drawings called a "storyboard" to write movies. Let your youngster try this idea to visualize a book's plot. Have him divide a sheet of paper into eighths and sketch simple pictures (one per box) as he reads. *Tip:* Drawing arrows from box to box will show the sequence. With the storyboard, he can retell the story or write a summary.

into three columns: one for basic facts (name, age), one for traits (shy, brave), and one for actions (goes to the beach, makes the softball team).

Map the characters

Understanding a book's characters will help your youngster grasp the story. Encourage him to make a character chart while reading. He could divide it

Predict the future

To forecast what will happen in a book, your child has to think about what has taken place so far. Ask him to make predictions as he reads and jot down his ideas (best friend will move away, dad will recover). Suggest that he write his own ending about two-thirds of the way through. He'll enjoy seeing how it compares with the real one! 📖

Replace it

"The party was really *fun*! We played *fun* games." Your child will write fresher, more original stories if she finds alternatives for words she uses often, such as *fun*, *went*, and *good*.



Have each family member flip through books and copy a few sentences to jazz up or make more precise. Pick one, and circle the word to avoid. ("Wayside is a small village.")

Set a timer for three minutes. Everyone writes as many alternatives as possible—replacing just one word or maybe changing the whole sentence. ("Wayside is a tiny village" or "If you weren't paying attention, you could travel through the village of Wayside without noticing it.") Now when your youngster catches herself using a word too many times in a story, she'll remember this game. 📖