

Beginning Fiction

Winner

***Max Spaniel: Best in Show*, by David Catrow. Orchard Books, 2011.**

That zany and loveable dog Max Spaniel is back again, this time for the funniest dog show ever. Max shows his zany antics and star qualities as he fiercely competes against the other dogs. The silly humor that shines through Max's character is reflected in the expressive pictures that will have readers giggling to the end.

Honors

***Friday the Scaredy Cat*, by Kara McMahon; illustrated by Maddy McClellan. Simon Spotlight, 2011.**

Friday is a scaredy cat, but only sometimes. He is afraid of things like thunder and lightning or chickens riding bicycles, but fearless when it comes to ghosts. When Friday is scared, he jumps, runs and hides. New readers will be drawn in by the charming illustrations and the spooky details. Friday is simply irresistible.

***I Want My Hat Back*, by Jon Klassen. Candlewick Press, 2011.**

The bear simply wants to find his hat, but as he travels through the forest, no one can give him any clue to where it might be. When he remembers an important piece of information, the story takes a darkly funny turn that will surprise many readers.

***See Me Run*, by Paul Meisel. Holiday House, 2011.**

A pack of fun-loving dog friends enjoy a day of running, chasing and rolling around in the mud. When their fun turns to digging, what will they uncover? Delightful cartoon-style illustrations accompany a simple, yet compelling adventure story. Encourage your young readers to dig this book up on their next adventure to the library.

Beginning Non-Fiction

Winner

***Capybara (A Day in the Life: Rain Forest Animals)* by Anita Ganeri. Heinemann Library, 2011.**

A delightful look into the life of rain forest dweller, Capybara. Fun facts and wonderful photos make this a great book for beginning readers to learn about this interesting little mammal.

Honors

***About Hummingbirds: A Guide for Children* by Cathryn Sill; illustrated by John Sill. Peachtree Publishers, 2011.**

Simple language and colorful drawings introduce young readers to the world of hummingbirds. Learn about how and where they live, what they eat, and more!

***Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature* by Joyce Sidman. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2011.**

When you first start out reading, you need a book that you can read again and again. *Swirl by swirl* is a poetry book, a science book, and a great book to read out loud. Grab your favorite person, animal, or listener and begin with: "A spiral is a snuggling shape".

Transitional Fiction

Winner

***Labracadabra* by Jessie Nelson & Karen Leigh Hopkins; Illustrated by Deborah Melmon. Viking Juvenile, 2011.**

Zach has always wanted a dog, but when he finally gets one he is disappointed. Larry is a goofy-looking mixed breed with a ridiculous name. Soon enough, however, Zach starts noticing that magical things happen each time Larry wags his tail. Maybe there's something special about Larry, after all!

Honors

***Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie* by Julie Sternberg. Illustrated by Matthew Cordell. Amulet Books, 2011.**

When Eleanor's babysitter moves away during summer vacation, she must learn to accept her new babysitter, while missing her old one. This is a simple story about friendship and growing up that will be relevant to many young readers.

***The One and Only Stuey Lewis: Stories from the Second Grade* by Jane Schoenberg; Illustrated by Cambria Evans. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011.**

Stuey is so worried about reading that he wants to skip the first day of second grade! With a great teacher like Ms. Curtis, however, Stuey finds out that 2nd grade can be pretty great. He overcomes his fear of reading, joins the soccer team, and even makes a surprise friend in his class. On the very last day of school Stuey wants to play sick again—but only because he doesn't want the school year to end!

***Spunky Tells All* by Ann Cameron. Illustrated by Lauren Castillo. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2011.**

Spunky the dog loves his family, but knows that if they would just learn to speak dog, everything would be better. When his beloved family brings home a new pet, an eccentric cat named Fiona, his world is turned upside down. Readers will enjoy viewing the world through Spunky's eyes.

