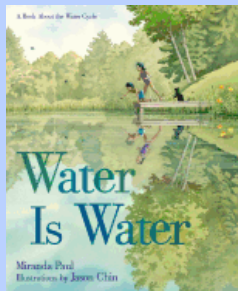


Beginning Nonfiction

Winner

Water is Water
by Miranda Paul
Roaring Brook Press 2015



The water cycle is a topic children are exposed to daily - and it's as mysterious as it is ubiquitous, making this book equally accessible and exciting. Miranda Paul seizes on this fact, using simple

poetic language that allows young readers to flow through the book in the same way water transitions forms seamlessly page to page. Children will connect with Jason Chin's beautiful illustrations of familiar environments, which expertly tie into and add depth to the text. Paul's back matter elaborates on her water cycle narrative, providing facts, infographics, and calls-to-action for her readers, who will no doubt be drawn to *Water is Water* for both its information and beauty.

Honor Books

Bee Dance by Rick Chrustowski
Henry Holt 2015

Woodpecker Wham! by April Pulley Sayre
Henry Holt 2015

Spectacular Spots by Susan Stockdale
Peachtree Publishers 2015

2016 Maryland Blue Crab Committee Roster

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Beginning Fiction

Winner

What This Story Needs is a Pig in a Wig
by Emma J Virján
HarperCollins 2015



With a pig in a wig, a frog, a dog, a goat on a log and other friends, Emma J. Virján builds a wonderful story about friendship and fun. Pig narrates a story starring herself (Pigs rule!) and adds all her friends one by one. When it gets too crowded on her boat, she sends them off and discovers life is more fun with friends. Rhyming vocabulary and a cumulative narrative make it a perfect choice for a beginning reader. The simple text is woven together for a great story that children will love to read and adults will love to hear! Bright, funny illustrations add to the charm of the book and will delight the reader.

Honor Books

3,2,1 Go! By Emily Arnold McCully
Holiday House

Two Mice by Sergio Ruzzier
Clarion Books

I Really like Slop by Mo Willems
Disney Hyperion

Transitional Fiction

Winner

Francine Poulet Meets the Ghost Raccoon
by Kate DiCamillo
Candlewick, 2015



In this hilarious book with illustrations by Chris Van Dusen, brave Francine the intrepid animal control officer of Gizzford County faces a raccoon that won't leave the roof of bejeweled Mrs. Bissinger. After climbing a shaky ladder, Francine hears the raccoon screaming her name! Shocked, she tumbles off the rooftop. Her confidence plummeting with her. Recuperating, Francine decides to become a cashier in a bait and tackle shop, a safer career choice. Discover how, Frank, a young boy who is an avid reader, reminds Francine who she really is. He convinces her to face her fears and go after the ghostly raccoon again! Join the fun on Deckawoo Drive.

Honor Books

Flurry of the Snombies by Troy Cummings
Scholastic

The Princess in Black and the Perfect Princess Party by Shannon Hale
Candlewick Press

The Story of Diva and Flea by Mo Willems
Disney-Hyperion

Transitional Nonfiction

Winner

Fur, Fins and Feathers: Abraham Dee Bartlett and the Invention of the Modern Zoo
by Cassandre Maxwell
Eerdmans Books for Young Readers 2015



How do you take care of hundreds of animals of all kinds and keep them well fed and happy? Abraham was a self-taught zoologist, and he combined great kindness with constant study to care for the many wild animals in the London Zoo. This picture book combines well researched illustrations of the Victorian era with a classic storybook format to tell the tale of a man who was devoted to the humane care of wild animals. The facts at the end of the book help explain this remarkable man's life and contribution to the creation of the modern zoo.

Honor Books

The Blue Whale by Jenni Desmond
Enchanted Lion Book

I, fly: the buzz about flies and how awesome they are by Bridget Heos
Henry Holt

Emmanuel's Dream by Laura Ann Thompson
Schwartz & Wade Books