



Elementary School and Middle School Pairings

Are you looking to extend your reading program by including both your elementary and middle schools but need book suggestions appropriate for both audiences? We have created a list of elementary and middle school book pairings that offer books by the same author or books with similar themes. You can also contact us by emailing programs@readtothem.org or calling 1-804-367-3195 to discuss your needs further. We are always happy to help you find just the right book – or books – for your students and families.

| Author Pairings | | |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Author | Elementary School Book | Middle School Book |
| Dusti Bowling | <i>Aven Green Baking Machine</i> | <i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> |
| Sharon Creech | <i>Saving Winslow</i> <i>Granny Torrelli Makes Soup</i> | <i>The Wanderer</i> <i>Walk Two Moons</i> |
| Kate DiCamillo | <i>Because of Winn-Dixie*</i> <i>Flora and Ulysses*</i> | <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*</i> <i>The Tale of Despereaux*</i> |
| Emily Jenkins | <i>Toys Go Out</i> | <i>Upside Down Magic</i> |
| Grace Lin | <i>The Year of the Dog</i> | <i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i> |
| Cynthia Lord | <i>Because of the Rabbit</i> | <i>Rules</i> |
| Pam Muñoz Ryan | <i>Riding Freedom</i> | <i>Esperanza Rising*</i> |
| Louis Sachar | <i>Sideways Stories of Wayside School</i> | <i>Holes</i> |
| Holly Goldberg Sloan | <i>Appleblossum the Possum</i> | <i>Counting by 7s*</i> |
| Renée Watson | <i>Ways to Make Sunshine</i> | <i>Some Places More Than Others</i> |
| Malala Yousafzai | <i>Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights</i> | <i>I Am Malala</i> |

*=Available in Spanish

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Read to Them[®]

Creating a Culture of Literacy in Every Home[™]

| Thematic Pairings | | |
|--|---|---|
| Theme | Elementary School Book | Middle School Book |
| Autism, Learning Differences | <i>A Boy Called Bat*</i> (Spring 2023) <i>Bat and the Waiting Game</i> <i>Because of the Rabbit</i> | <i>Rules</i> <i>Counting by 7s*</i> |
| | <i>Hank Zipzer, Niagara Falls or Does It?</i> | <i>Fish in a Tree</i> |
| Physical Differences | <i>Aven Green Baking Machine</i> | <i>Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</i> <i>Out of My Mind</i> <i>Wonder*</i> |
| Contemporary Black Life | <i>Ways to Make Sunshine</i> <i>Cleo Edison Oliver, Playground Millionaire</i> | <i>Some Places More Than Others</i> <i>From the Desk of Zoe Washington</i> <i>Harbor Me</i> |
| | <i>Simon B. Rhymin'</i> | <i>Ghost</i> <i>Booked</i> <i>The Crossover</i> |
| | <i>J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*</i> <i>Dog Days*</i> | <i>Look Both Ways</i> |
| Hispanic Life, Contemporary and Historic | <i>Stella Díaz Has Something to Say</i> <i>Stella Díaz Never Gives Up</i> | <i>Merci Suárez Changes Gears*</i> <i>The First Rule of Punk*</i> <i>Stef Soto, Taco Queen*</i> <i>Esperanza Rising*</i> <i>Harbor Me</i> |
| Science, Innovation, and Conservation | <i>Dragons and Marshmallows*</i> <i>Frank Einstein and the Electro Finger</i> | <i>Project Mulberry</i> <i>The Fourteenth Goldfish*</i> <i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*</i> |
| | <i>Stella Díaz Never Gives Up</i> <i>Nuts to You</i> | <i>The Islanders</i> <i>Hoot</i> |
| | <i>Toys! Amazing Stories behind Some Great Inventions</i> | <i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</i> |

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| Fantastical Creatures | <i>Dragons in a Bag</i> <i>Kenny and the Dragon</i> <i>Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher</i> | <i>Malamander</i> |
| History | <i>Riding Freedom</i> <i>Rescue on the Oregon Trail</i> | <i>Esperanza Rising*</i> |
| | <i>Finding Langston</i> | <i>Some Places More Than Others</i> <i>Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963</i> <i>Bud, Not Buddy</i> |
| Toys | <i>Toys Go Out</i> | <i>Toys! Amazing Stories behind</i> <i>Some Great Inventions</i> <i>The Miraculous Journey of</i> <i>Edward Tulane</i> |
| Dogs | <i>Because of Winn-Dixie</i> <i>Shiloh</i> | <i>Wish</i> |
| Journeys and Quests | <i>The Trumpet of the Swan</i> <i>The Adventures of a South Pole</i> <i>Pig</i> | <i>Rump</i> |
| | <i>Nim's Island</i> | <i>The Wanderer</i> |
| | <i>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</i> <i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH</i> <i>Nuts to You</i> | <i>The Tale of Despereaux*</i> <i>The Miraculous Journey of</i> <i>Edward Tulane*</i> |
| School Stories | <i>Frindle</i> <i>No Talking</i> | <i>The Next Great Paulie Fink</i> <i>Restart</i> |
| | <i>Save Me a Seat</i> <i>Dog Days*</i> <i>Upside Down Magic</i> <i>Stella Díaz Has Something to Say</i> | <i>Restart</i> <i>The Wednesday Wars</i> <i>Because of Mr. Terupt</i> <i>Look Both Ways</i> <i>Harbor Me</i> |

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| Theme | Elementary School Book | Middle School Book |
| Kids Against the World | <i>J.D. and the Great Barber Battle*</i> <i>Matilda*</i> <i>Almost Super</i> <i>Frindle</i> <i>No Talking</i> <i>Lunch Money</i> <i>From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler</i> <i>The Terrible Two</i> | <i>Hoot</i> <i>The First Rule of Punk*</i> <i>Ban This Book</i> <i>Stef Soto, Taco Queen*</i> <i>Rump</i> <i>Look Both Ways</i> |
| Finding Your Voice | <i>Stella Díaz Has Something to Say</i> <i>Stella Díaz Never Gives Up</i> <i>Because of the Rabbit</i> <i>Finding Langston</i> <i>Simon B. Rhymin'</i> | <i>Harbor Me</i> <i>Esperanza Rising*</i> <i>Rules</i> <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> <i>Out of My Mind</i> |
| Novels in Verse | <i>Love that Dog</i> | <i>Booked</i> <i>The Crossover</i> <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> |

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