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2021 2X2 Annotated Reading List

The 2X2 Committee's charge is to produce a list of 20 recommended books for children, age two to grade two.

Barnes, Derrick. ***I Am Every Good Thing***. Illustrated by James, Gordon C. Penguin. ISBN 978-00525-51877-8. \$17.99. A confident young boy wants to tell the world what makes him special. Not only does he provide an eloquent description of all of his qualities, he also shares the determination needed to keep going despite the negative words of others.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: *Booklist, *Kirkus, School Library Journal

Barnett, Mac. ***A Polar Bear In the Snow***. Art by Harris, Shawn. Candlewick Press. ISBN 978-1-5362-0396-7. \$17.99. Join polar bear as he awakes in the deep snow and travels on a thought provoking journey. Where does he go? What does he do? The answers are sure to surprise and delight readers!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: *Kirkus, *School Library Journal

Eliopoulos, Christopher. ***The Yawns are Coming!***. Dial Books for Young Readers. ISBN 978-1-9848-1630-6. \$17.99. Two best friends get together for a sleepover, but their plans to stay up all night are foiled when the yawns show up!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, Kirkus, Publishers Weekly, School Library Journal

Elya, Susan Middleton. ***The Three Billy Goats Buenos***. Illustrated by Ordóñez, Miguel. G.P. Putnam's Sons. ISBN 978-0-399-54739-3. \$16.99. Enjoy this wonderfully illustrated bilingual version of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" that offers a fresh perspective by asking, what is making the gigante so grumpy?

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, Publishers Weekly, *School Library Journal

Gomez, Rebecca J. ***Federico and the Wolf***. Illustrated by Chavarri, Elisa. Clarion Books. ISBN 978-1-328-56778-9. \$17.99. A Mexican-American version of the classic Little Red Riding Hood story, with bright, bold illustrations, Spanish vocabulary, and a hilarious, spicy twist at the end.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, Kirkus, *School Library Journal

Higgins, Ryan T. and Willems, Mo. ***What About Worms!?***. Hyperion Books for Children. ISBN 978-136804573-5. \$9.99. Tiger is big and brave, except when it comes to worms. Can Tiger learn to face his fears and overcome his worries?

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus

Jenkins, Steve and Page, Robin. ***What Do You Do If You Work at the Zoo?***. Illustrated by Jenkins, Steve. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN 978-0-544-38759-1. \$17.99. If you have ever wondered what a zookeeper might do, this is the book for you! Simple, colorful, text paired with longer page blurbs and extensive back matter make this book engaging for older and younger readers alike.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, Kirkus, School Library Journal

John, Jory. ***First Day Critter Jitters***. Illustrated by Climo, Liz. Dial Books for Young Readers. ISBN 978-0-7352-2855-9. \$17.99. The first day of school can be scary for so many reasons! Soon the animals will discover that maybe not just students get nervous on the first day of school, and they all have strengths to help ease each others' fears.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Publishers Weekly

Kim, Uijung. ***Underground - Subway Systems Around the World***. Cicada Books Ltd. ISBN 978-1-908714-83-1. \$16.95. Both children and adults will enjoy searching for cultural items in the colorful, contemporary illustrations of busy trains and platforms. Each highlighted subway system is also brought to life with interesting facts and figures.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus

LaRochelle, David. ***See the Cat - Three Stories About a Dog***. Illustrated by Wohnoutka, Mike. Candlewick Press. ISBN 978-1-5362-0427-8. \$8.99. This is Max. Max is a dog, but the book says, "See the cat." Max is mad!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: *Kirkus

Lichtenheld, Tom. ***Louis***. Illustrated by Rowan-Zoch, Julie. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN 978-1-328-49806-9. \$17.99. Louis the teddy bear can't bear it any longer! He's been treated as a hankie, a pillow, a snack, and was even made to be an accessory to a crime. Just as he is ready to leave the scene, he suddenly realizes the power of love.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus

Lopez-Alt, J. Kenji. ***Every Night is Pizza Night***. Illustrated by Ruggiero, Gianna. W.W. Norton. ISBN 978-1-324-00525-4. \$17.95. Pipo loves pizza! She wants to eat it every night. Every night that is, until she tries foods from around the world.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus

Oswald, Pete. ***Hike***. Candlewick Press. ISBN 978-1-5362-0157-4. \$17.99. In this nearly wordless picture book a father and his child head out to the woods for a hike. They make memories while having a snowball fight, eating a picnic-style lunch, bird watching, and many other fun outdoor activities.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus, SLJ

Paul, Miranda. ***Speak Up***. Illustrated by Glenn, Ebony. Clarion Books. ISBN 978-0-358-14096-2. \$17.99. The kids at this school know that when something really matters, their voice can make a difference. Discover the many ways that you can speak up and make your voice heard!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: School Library Journal

Rex, Michael. ***Facts vs. Opinions vs. Robots***. Nancy Paulsen Books. ISBN 978-1-9848-1626-9. \$17.99. What's the difference between a fact and an opinion, and why is it important? Join a crew of ice-cream loving robots to find out!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, Publishers Weekly, School Library Journal

Robinson, Christian. ***You Matter***. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. ISBN 978-1-5344-2169-1. \$17.99. From the smallest microbe to a Tyrannosaurus Rex, you matter. No matter who or what you are, how far or near, everyone and everything matters to someone or something.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist, *Kirkus, Publishers Weekly, School Library Journal

Rotner, Shelley and Woodhull, Anne. ***Shapes***. Photographs by Rotner, Shelley. Holiday House. ISBN 978-0-8234-4638-4. \$17.99. Explore the world of shapes found all around us through vibrant photographs and playful text.

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Kirkus

Salyer, Hannah. ***Packs - Strength in Numbers***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN 978-1-328-57788-7. \$17.99. *Packs* celebrate all walks of life working better together!

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Publishers Weekly, School Library Journal

Smith, Kim. ***Boxitects***. Clarion Books. ISBN 978-1-328-47720-0. \$17.99. Meg is the only "boxitect" at Maker School until Simone comes along. They are both brilliant with boxes, but not at working together. Will a competition help them think outside the box?

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: Booklist

Sullivan, Mary. ***Up on Bob***. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. ISBN 978-1-328-99471-4. \$17.99. All Bob wants to do is sleep all day. He works hard to make everything perfect, but someone interrupts! Will Bob ever get his nap?

[Cover Image](#) Reviews: *Booklist