2027 North Carolina Children's Book Award: *Picture Book Nominees*

Bird, Betsy. ***POP! Goes the Nursery Rhyme.*** **Illus. Andrea Tsurumi. New York : Union Square Kids, 2025.**
The sensible Secretary Bird wants nothing more than to get on with their job of properly narrating a classic nursery rhyme book. But something is afoot in the orderly land of nursery rhymes.

Booth, Leslie Barnard. ***I Am We: How Crows Come Together to Survive*****. Illus. Alexandra Finkeldey. San Francisco, CA : Chronicle Books, 2025.**
What is the secret to crows' survival? This riveting informational picture book explores the beguiling mysteries of crow behavior.

Chen, Sylvia. ***Tricky Chopsticks*****. Illus. Fanny Liem. New York : Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2024.**
Jenny Chow, determined to hold her own in her family's annual chopsticks challenge, creates a solution through STEAM trial and error to master those slippery, oh-so-tricky chopsticks.

Crow-Miller, Britt. ***Thank You, Old Oak.*** **Illus. Amy Schimler-Safford. Concord, MA : Barefoot Books, 2025.**
After 400 years in the forest, it's time for Old Oak to fall. With a pop, frenzy of snaps, and a flurry of movement, she leans to one side and falls heavily to rest on the forest floor. When news of beloved Old Oak spreads throughout the forest, creatures big and small gather to show their gratitude for all she gave in her rooted life.

Fairbanks, Ashley. ***This Land: The History of the Land We're On*****. Illus. Bridget George. New York : Crown Books for Young Readers, 2024.**
Before my family lived in this house, a different family did, and before them, another family, and another before them. And before that, the family who lived here lived not in a house, but a wigwam. Who lived where you are before you got there?

Hanson, Thor. ***The Escape Artist: A True Story of Octopus Adventure*****. Illus. Galia Bernstein. New York : Greenwillow Books, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2025.**
The true story of Inky the octopus, who slipped out of his tank at the National Aquarium of New Zealand and into the world's imagination.

Heck, Ellen. ***Sunflower Seeds*****. Montclair, NJ : Levine Querido, 2025.**
How do tiny seeds become towering sunflowers? Join Ms. B's class and discover the magic of nature in Sunflower Seeds.

Henn, Sophy. ***I Hate Everything!*****. New York : Beach Lane Books, 2025.**
With his friend's help, an irascible ghost discovers that he maybe does not hate everything after all.

Lies, Brian. ***Cat Nap.*** **New York : Greenwillow Books, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, 2025.**
In the warm, late afternoon sunlight, a girl sits on the couch reading a book. Her kitten dozes nearby. But when Kitten notices a mouse and dives after it through a framed poster on the wall, an epic chase through time, art, and history ensues.

Lukoff, Kyle. ***I'm Sorry You Got Mad.*** **Illus. Julie Kwon. New York : Dial Books, 2024.**
After knocking over Zoe's block castle, Jack's attempts at writing a note of apology fall short until their teacher coaches him on the three elements of a sincere apology.

Sharpson, Neil. ***Don't Trust Fish.*** **Illus. Dan Santat. New York : Dial Books, 2025.**
A supposed nature guide humorously warns readers why they should never trust fish, exploring their mysterious and villainous nature.

Tagholm, Sarah. ***We Are the Wibbly!: A Tadpole's Tail.*** **Illus. Jane McGuinness. New York : Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2025.**
A reluctant tadpole navigates the ups and downs of metamorphosis, learning to embrace growth, change, and the adventure of leaping into the wider world.