

## 2021 Read Aloud Indiana

### Primary



#### **Bad Dog** by Mike Boldt

Even though a dog was listed on her birthday wish list, a little girl gets a cat and shares with readers why Rocky is a bad "dog." Maybe cat-like behavior has its perks for being a pet.



#### **Bears Don't Eat Egg Sandwiches**

by Julie Fulton

Jack gets a visitor (a bear), and he wants to eat Jack! See how Jack turns his love of egg sandwiches into a strategy that fools the bear.



#### **Freedom Soup** by Tami Charles

With vivid and motion packed illustrations, this story recounts Belle's first experience making the traditional Haitian Freedom Soup with Ti Gran. The story is infused with love, pride, a respect for past struggles, and a celebration of

the largest successful slave revolution in modern history.



#### **I Am A Tiger** by Karl Newson

In this hilarious tale of mistaken identity, a mouse says he is every animal... except a mouse! Mouse says he is a fox, raccoon, snake and bird, and convinces all the animals that he really is one! But then Mouse says he is

a tiger. Will he be able to keep up the charade and convince a real tiger that they are the same?



#### **I Am A Wolf** by Kelly Leigh Miller

A stray dog insists it's a wolf—it's not cute or nice, and it doesn't need anyone. The dog barks at everyone and everything especially when it is taken to a humane shelter where children are looking for an animal

friend to take home. Will it remain a "lone wolf"?



#### **I Am Not A Fish!** by Peter Raymond

Edgar, a jellyfish goes to a "self-help" group to deal with his problem of being called a "fish", when he has no characteristics of a fish besides being an ocean dweller. He explains that in naming sea creatures, humans did not discriminate

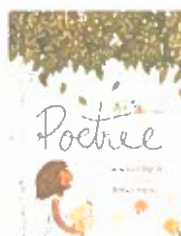
by various features. Facts about fishes are stated, as are those concerning jellyfish.



#### **Neck & Neck** by Elise Parsley

Leopold, a giraffe, becomes jealous of a balloon giraffe when it starts getting all of the attention from the children visiting the zoo. So what should Leopold do when he has the chance to get rid of the balloon?

This is a good book to teach right from wrong.



#### **Poetree** by Shauna LaVoy Reynolds

Inspired by spring, Sylvia writes a poem and ties it to a birch tree for all to read.

When she passes the tree on her way to school the next day, her poem is gone and another is left in its place! The kids at school laugh at her as she daydreams

about how the Poetree had written a poem just for her. She leaves it a haiku and can't wait to see if Poetree will respond.



#### **Saturday** by Oge Mora

For Ava and her mother, Saturdays are filled with traditions and special events.

A day each week when they spend time together. But sometimes our plans don't work out as expected. A beautiful tale of

resilience, flexibility, and love. The most important tradition is the time spent together.



#### **The Scarecrow** by Beth Ferry

Scarecrow does his job well. He stands alone in the field and scares away the fox, deer, mice, and crows until the day comes when he rescues a baby crow

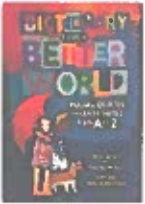
who falls by his pole. He keeps the baby safe, and their friendship grows—but how long will it last with Scarecrow on his pole and the bird ready to fly?

# 2021 Read Aloud Indiana

## Upper Elementary

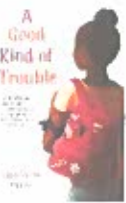


**Cog** by Greg van Eekhout  
Cog may look like a normal boy, but he's not. He's been created by a brilliant scientist with unique programming, among them the ability to think and make his own decisions. Now the corporation that made him wants him back so they can replicate his brain and use it for evil purposes. What will happen to Cog?



**Dictionary for a Better World: Poems, Quotes, and Anecdotes from A to Z** by Irene Latham and Charles Waters  
Using a variety of poetic forms, these authors touch the heart from A to Z discussing qualities of Kindness, Gratitude and Peace.

The format starts with a verse, then a quotation, then a suggestion and then a "Try It!" Opportunity.



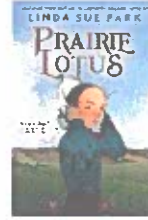
**A Good Kind of Trouble** by Lisa Moore  
Remée  
"Shayla does not like trouble, in fact trouble makes her hands itch. She has two close friends she has grown up with, because of their diversity, they call themselves the United Nations. However, middle school has brought some changes to their friendship. Along with surviving seventh grade she has to navigate protests, witnessing a shooting, and choosing whether to support the Black Lives Matter movement.



**The Hero Next Door** by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich (ed.)  
This book contains short stories written by diverse authors with one theme in mind: that heroes can be anyone and anywhere! Each story depicts an individual that stands up for what they feel is right; they do not seek the spotlight, only the focus of light against the dark.



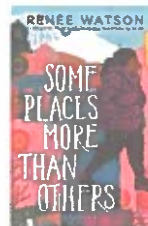
**Nightbooks** by J.A. White  
Alex gets lured into an apartment in his building and discovers that the sweet old lady is really a witch! She traps him inside and the only thing that soothes her are scary stories. How will Alex escape this living nightmare?



**Prairie Lotus** by Linda Sue Park  
Half-Asian fourteen-year-old Hanna and her white father travel from Cheyenne in the 1880s to Dakota Territory to build a new life after her mother's passing, facing stereotyping and racism from townspeople when they try to become part of the community.



**Roll with It** by Jamie Sumner  
Ellie is the new kid in town with a talent for baking. She also has cerebral palsy, and life in a wheelchair means it can be challenging to make friends. Will Ellie find her way in a new place, despite life's ups and downs?



**Some Places More Than Others** by Renee Watson  
Amara lives a sheltered life in Beaverton, Oregon, but longs to visit her dad's family in New York City. A trip for her twelfth birthday leads to revelations. Family: Why haven't her dad and granddad spoken for 12 years? Why do her cousins say she's spoiled? Places: What does it mean to be Black in Oregon? In Harlem? Stories: What do we know about our past? How does that shape our future?



**Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice** by Mahogany L. Browne, Elizabeth Acevedo, Olivia Gatwood  
This collection of poems focuses on topics of activism and social justice. Written by diverse female authors, these poems will inspire readers and help them in their journey to learn about the beauty in diversity and power of justice.



**A Wolf Called Wander** by Rosanne Parry  
When Swift's wolf pack is attacked, he must leave the only home he's ever known to find a safe place to thrive. Traveling alone through the Pacific Northwest, we see the world through a wolf's eyes as he seeks safety and companionship in a treacherous world. Inspired by a true story.

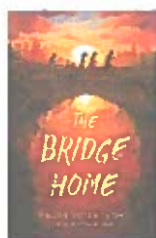


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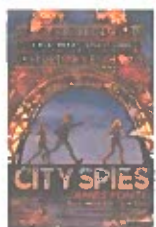
### Middle Grades



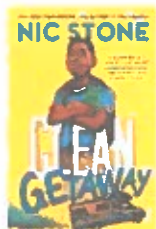
**Born to Fly** by Steve Sheinkin  
The true story of the 1929 Air Derby, the first women's air race. Flying from California over nine days, pioneering female pilots battled sabotage and sexism while racing to be the first woman to land in Ohio. Author Steve Sheinkin profiles some of the toughest, funniest, and most talented pilots in aviation history. Who will win the big race?



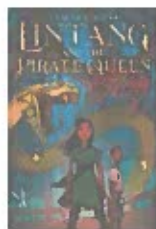
**The Bridge Home** by Padma Venkatraman  
Two sets of siblings from similar predicaments find shelter on an abandoned bridge in Chennai. The children bond and form a family of sorts while scavenging for money and food. The children are forced from their haven and two of them fall sick, will they seek help from adults or hold on to their freedom?



**City Spies** by James Ponti  
Four teens with amazing true-to-life abilities are brought together as junior agents of the British spy agency M16. When called upon, their mission is to both solve a deadly crime that could save the world as we know it and, to be a "regular" teenager...Which mission will win out?



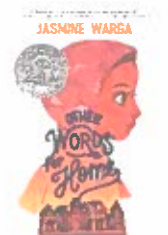
**Clean Getaway** by Nic Stone  
African-American William "Scoob" Lamar has an eye-opening Spring Break traveling in a RV with his white Grandma through 5 Southern states on a trip which she and her husband did not get to complete during the Civil Rights segregation era of the 1960s.



**Lintang and the Pirate Queen** by Tamara Moss  
Join Lintang and the pirate crew of the Winda as they set off on an epic quest filled with pixies, mermaids, sea monsters, and deities. Trouble abounds when Lintang is around so be careful but have fun, she does as she explores a world of myth and adventure.



**Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks** by Jason Reynolds  
As students return home at the end of a school day, their life stories are beautifully woven together by author Jason Reynolds. The ten tales bring a neighborhood to life through the eyes of the children who live there.



**Other Words for Home** by Jasmine Warga  
Jude moves with her mother out of her turbulent home country of Syria. How will she juggle a new life in the U.S., living with relatives, and middle school in a new culture? Jude looks to find her niche in acting, while she also wrestles with coming-of age milestones that middle schoolers must navigate.



**Scary Stories for Young Foxes** by Christian McKay Heidicker  
This is a tale of survival as two young foxes separated from their litters and thrown into a dangerous world. It's told in a succession of short stories, each one weaving into the next, with a wonderful conclusion that ties everything together. Heartbreaking, scary and thought-provoking, this story also introduces readers to a fictional dark-side of Beatrix Potter!



**Wink** by Rob Harrell  
Semi biographical, Wink is a book about Ross, a 7th grader who has been diagnosed with a rare eye cancer. Harrell paints a realistic picture of everything Ross goes through from how people treat him, since his diagnosis, to the treatment of his cancer. Ross deals with his diagnosis through his art (Bat Pig), humor and a new interest in guitar playing, and a new genre of music.



**Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valor** by Ally Carter  
Moving from foster care to the infamous Winterborne House, April joins the four other orphans in a non-stop adventure to find the missing Winterborne heir and determine how April's coat-of-arms crested key locket reveals a lost family legacy.



# 2021 Read Aloud Indiana



## High School



**All the Stars and Teeth** by Adalyn Grace  
Amora, an island princess, has spent her entire life training to become the next High Animancer. Unfortunately, she completely fails her test for the throne and is forced to leave the island for the first time ever. While sailing across the seas on a pirate ship, Amora searches for the truth about magic and the way to save the world as she knows it.



**Dig** by A.S. King  
Dig follows the lives of five seemingly random teenagers. The Shoveler, shoveling snow and painting houses, Can I Help You? working at Arby's and dealing pot through the drive thru, Loretta the Flea-Circus Ring Mistress, her abusive and neglectful home life, First-Class Malcolm splitting his time between Pennsylvania and Jamaica, and The Freak, showing up and disappearing with no control over where she goes. How do these teenagers' lives intersect?



**Dread Nation** by Justina Ireland  
The world changed the day the dead rose up on the battlefield of Gettysburg. Laws were put into place requiring Native Americans and African American children to attend combat schools to learn to fight the dead. This is not the life Jane wants, she wants to return home to Kentucky. But when things start to go wrong in Baltimore she gets caught up in a fight for her life.



**The Grace Year** by Kim Liggett  
Tierney is approaching her sixteenth year, when she will be banished along with the other girls her age. The banishment allows them to release their magic that gives them power to lure grown men and make women jealous, they will return from their yearlong banishment purified and ready for marriage. However, not all of them will return but who is it she should fear?



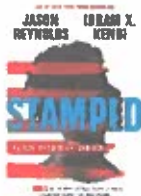
**The June Boys: A Novel** by Courtney C. Stevens  
Thea and her friends are searching desperately for her cousin Aulus, who goes missing. She is convinced that he was kidnapped by the Gemini Thief, a person who takes three boys every June, keeps them for over a year, then releases them. This year is different, however, when one of the boys is found dead. Will Thea and her friends find him before it's too late?



**Ordinary Hazards** by Nikki Grimes  
Award-winning author and poet Nikki Grimes shares a stunning memoir written in prose. Despite childhood experiences that might have destroyed her spirit and her future, Grimes finds the power of writing at a young age, drawing from years of personal journals to share her story of hope and perseverance.



**Patron Saints of Nothing** by Randy Ribay  
Jay is looking forward to coasting through his last semester of high school, graduating, and going away to college. His plans take a detour when he finds out his cousin--and closest friend--was murdered in the Philippines. Jay travels to the Philippines to solve the mystery surrounding his cousin Jun's death while searching for his own answers about his faith, his family, and immigrant identity.



**Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You** by Jason Reynolds & Ibram X. Kendi  
Jason Reynolds asserts that this is NOT a history book. Dr. Kendi's book, reimaged by Reynolds, breaks down the history behind the social construct of race in America. This timely exploration of racism provides historical background and calls for social change.



**Stepsister** by Jennifer Donnelly  
Stepsister is at heart a story of self-worth, of being yourself. Isabelle tried to be everything her mother wanted her to be, everything she thought she should be. Isabelle thinks she needs to be beautiful, like Ella, and then everything will be okay. What she finds instead is that there is more to someone than just beauty and there is more to her.



**With the Fire on High** by Elizabeth Acevedo  
Emoni Santiago is many things: a doting teenage mother, a high school senior, an Afro-Latinx with Puerto Rican roots, and an amazing chef. Emoni jumps at the chance to take a new culinary arts course with a possible trip to Spain! Can she juggle all the challenges that life dishes up for her? Or will she have to get out of the kitchen? This delicious, authentic book will leave your soul well fed.

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## Ageless

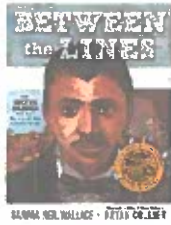


### Abner and Ian Get Right-side Up

by Dave Eggers

Abner and Ian are thrilled to be in their first picture book, but they're stuck sideways! How will they ever get right side up? Ask for help from the reader, of course! Listeners will love the silly ways that Abner and Ian

ask them to "help" them get right side up - but will it work?



### Between the Lines: How Ernie Barnes went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery

by Sandra Neil Wallace

This is the biography of Ernie Barnes, a pro football player who followed his passion and became an artist. So many young people see their way to fame and fortune through

athletics, as did Ernie Barnes...But Ernie's desire to produce art "of people that looked like him" ultimately won out! Ernie's paintings of life as he saw it, graced the walls of art galleries for all to see. Beautifully illustrated by artist Bryan Collier.



### Bear Came Along

by Richard T. Morris  
Bear didn't know he was on an adventure. As he encounters frog, the turtles, the raccoons, duck and more, he realizes he's on the adventure of his life. Animals are united on their adventure down the river. What will happen when they encounter a waterfall?



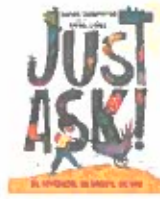
### I Found a Kitty!

by Troy Cummings  
Arfy the dog tries to help a homeless kitty find a person to live with. His letters to townspeople explain how Scamper would be the perfect match, but it takes a while to find a forever home for his feline friend.



### I Got Next

by Daria Peoples-Riley  
It's game day, and how should a boy get ready? How does he practice all the twists and turns, dribbles and shooting to play the best he can no matter who's on the other side? The boy's shadow steps in to encourage him to put his game face on and to give his all on the court.



### Just ask! Be Different, Be

Brave, Be You by Sonia Sotomayor

United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities people have. As the kids work together to build a community garden, we learn that

much like gardens are made more beautiful by having many different plants, our world is made more vibrant and beautiful by having many different types of people in it. Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges and celebrates the special powers inside all of us.



### Lubna and Pebble

by Wendy Meddour  
Lubna arrives in the "World of Tents" and finds a pebble. Pebble listens; Pebble smiles.

Pebble is there when Lubna meets a new friend. When the time is right, Lubna gives Pebble to someone who needs a friend. A

powerful exploration of what it means to have and be a friend.



### Ruby Finds a Worry

by Tom Percival  
Ruby loves being herself! But one day she discovers a little worry. The worry follows Ruby around all the time, growing bigger and bigger. Ruby thinks it is hopeless. But when she meets a boy who also has a worry, they realize the worst thing you can

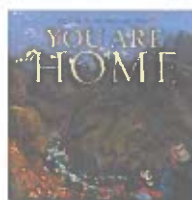
do with a worry is keep it inside.



### Sea Bear: A Journey for Survival

by Lindsay Moore

Polar Bears are patient, sea living creatures with amazing abilities. Follow a Sea Bear as it patiently navigates the shifting of the seasons in the high arctic.



### You Are Home: An Ode to the National Parks

by Evan Turk  
Chipmunks, elk, bobcats and pronghorn feel at home in the National Parks, and so can you! All are welcome and can feel at home across the United States in the awe inspiring National Park system.



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