2022 Read Aloud Indiana
Primary List

The Yawns are Coming! by Christopher Eliopoulos
Noodles and his best friend were having a sleep over. They had a list of all the things they’d do including staying up all night. But then the yawns came. There were lots of them. Could they stay up all night or would the yawns overtake them? This is a cute bedtime story your children will love.

On Account of the Gum by Adam Rex
A hilarious account of the pitfalls of getting gum caught in your hair! Recount the misadventures of some of the best intentions to help the situation, but go terribly wrong! The artists’ facial expressions are priceless!

Everybody Says Meow by Constance Lombardo
This is a fun interactive story that your audience will love to participate in! It starts with a very simple instruction--but will everyone be able to follow it? See what happens as the story unfolds and watch for the unexpected twist at the end!

Starla Jean: Which Came First the Chicken or the Friendship? by Elana K. Arnold
In this short early chapter book, Starla Jean finds a lost chicken at her local park. When dad says, “If you can catch it, you can keep it,” Starla Jean is quick to accept the challenge! But who does the chicken really belong to, what makes a house pet a house pet, and what do chickens eat, anyway?

Rocket Says Clean Up! by Nathan Byron
Rocket is back! Her exuberant voice and the book’s quirky illustrations celebrate Jamaican beaches, a surfing grammy, and the needs of wildlife. Rocket demonstrates the power of one multiplied by many as she encourages beachgoers to clean up the plastic waste. A go-getting character partnered with an important environmental message make this book a joy to read.

Federico and the Wolf by Rebecca J. Gomez
Join Federico in this Mexican-American twist of a fairy tale as he takes a trip to the market and his abuelo’s shop, only to discover that the Big Bad Wolf is behind the counter. How will he get rid of the wolf and save his abuelo? With a cup of English and a dash of Spanish, this book is prime for fun, fairy tales, and learning new words.

Claude: The True Story of a White Alligator by Emma Bland Smith
When Claude the alligator was born, the other animals noticed he was different right away—he was an albino! Join Claude on his journey as he is rescued from the wild, meets new friends, and teaches others to love themselves just the way they are...no matter their skin color.

How to Catch a Clover Thief by Elise Parsley
Roy the wild boar has a BIG problem: someone keeps stealing all his clover! Join Roy as he tries to catch the thief with the help (or is it?) of his friend Jarvis the gopher. See if you can figure out how to catch a clover thief!

Me & Mama by Cozbi A. Cabrera
This simple, tender story about the bond between a mother and daughter as they spend the day together is a celebration of love. It is the quiet moments shared that are so special like sharing oatmeal, combing hair, and walking in the rain. The warmth of Mama’s laugh is joyfully felt.

The Blue House by Phoebe Wahl
Leo and his dad share a lovely life together in their old blue house, complete with warm pie and dancing. But the neighborhood is changing. Facing the loss of their special place brings many emotions, but they are encouraged to cherish the memories while embracing their new home.

2022 Read Aloud Indiana
Upper Elementary List

Facts VS Opinions VS Robots by Michael Rex

This book provides a very important lesson in a fun way. Facts vs Opinions are not always easy to determine, sometimes you need to wait for more information. This book takes the reader through several scenarios illustrating the concept of fact vs. opinion. Highly recommend this book for the classroom.

The Incredibly Dead Pets of Rex Dexter by Aaron Reynolds

All Rex wants for his birthday is a dog; instead his parents gift him a chicken which meets a terrible demise one hour and fourteen minutes after receiving him. Rex is then cursed by a video game and now wild animals are haunting him asking him to help find out why they died.

Strong Voices: Fifteen American Speeches Worth Knowing by Tonya Bolden

This book is a trove of speeches that chronicle important times in U.S. history. The speeches you’d expect are here: Lincoln and MLK. However, other important voices are captured as well: Red Jacket, a member of the Seneca tribe; Sojourner Truth on women’s rights; Hillary Rodham Clinton on human rights; and Fannie Lou Hamer and Cesar Chavez giving voice to marginalized communities. This book is a must read for all and will provoke interesting conversations in classrooms.

Who Gives a Poop? by Heather L. Montgomery

Want to know how many different words there are for poop? Poop can be fuel, saves a species, even save a life, the possibilities are amazing! This book has all the gross, engaging, and fascinating information about poop that anyone could want.

Before the Ever After by Jacqueline Woodson

ZJ worships his father. Dad was a football star that has begun to struggle with side effects from old head injuries. ZJ works hard to keep family traditions and keep them in his dad’s memories.

Milo Imagines the World by Matt de la Peña

Milo passes time on the subway by studying the faces of the other passengers and draws pictures of what he imagines their life is like in his notebook. After leaving the subway he is surprised to see the faces didn’t go where he had imagined and realizes that you can’t really know anybody by just looking at them. He then reimagines the pictures he drew on the subway.

Amari and the Night Brothers by B.B. Alston

After getting into trouble for standing up to bullies who said her missing brother was gone for good, Amari tries out for the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs. She is certain that this is where she will find answers about what happened to her brother. Amari faces intense scrutiny, everyone thinking she is the enemy, as well as trying to come to terms with everything supernatural being real.

Ways to Make Sunshine by Renée Watson

Ryan’s family has been through a tough year of lost jobs, new jobs, moving to a smaller home, and even selling one of their cars. Through it all, Ryan is finding ways to bring sunshine to her life: visiting friends, creating new recipes, solving the mystery of the hairpins she found in her closet, and finding the courage to participate in the school talent show. With stand-alone chapters, this book is the perfect school read-aloud.

The List of Things That Will Not Change by Rebecca Stead

When Bea’s parents get a divorce, together they help Bea make a list of things that will not change. Bea continues to add to this list as she grows and life changes. Bea learns that one thing will always remain constant, no matter what: love. Follow Bea as she grows and faces challenges in her life.

Premeditated Myrtle by Elizabeth Bunce

She’s smart, precocious, forthright, logical and in search of answers. Meet Myrtle Hardcastle! A Victorian miss who knows her own mind and will solve the mystery of her neighbor’s death no matter what. Read her story and join her team along with her governess, a cat, and, even, her great-aunt (who is determined that Myrtle be a Proper Young Lady).

2022 Read Aloud Indiana
Middle Grade List

**Ground Zero** by Alan Gratz

This is a very engaging historical novel describing the events of 9/11, told from the perspective of a young boy whose father works in the twin towers. Then in alternating chapters the reader is transported to Afghanistan 18 years later to see the effects of the war on a young girl and her family. Powerful, gripping and heart-wrenching!

**Elatsoe** by Darcie Little Badger

Elatsoe, Ellie for short, has a family secret: she can raise ghosts of the dead. After a family tragedy, Ellie travels to Willowbee to uncover the mystery behind her cousin’s accident. Woven throughout are tales of her 6th-Great-Grandmother, a Lipan Apache, and her feats of bravery.

**A Place to Hang the Moon** by Kate Albus

William, Edmund and Anna are orphaned in World War II. All they want is a mother who thinks they hang the moon. As they are passed around from family to family, they build a relationship with the town librarian. Will they discover the home they long for? A love story to the power of family, perseverance, love, and libraries.

**Verify** by Joelle Charbonneau

Words have incredible power. In a world where there are only facts, Meri Beckley begins to doubt their truth. She is pulled into a world where the authorities are controlling the narrative to the extent of removing entire words from the English language! Can she work with her secret organization to fight back?

**Starfish** by Lisa Fipps

Eleven-year-old Ellie has struggled with others’ perception of her weight and with bullying both at school and at home ever since she was dubbed “Splash” at her own 5th birthday party. Can she now let go of her Fat Girl Rules, learn to take up her own space, and “starfish?” This authentically voiced, compulsively readable novel in verse will appeal to anyone who has ever felt out of place in their own skin.

**A Wish in the Dark** by Christina Soontornvat

Imagine a world where all light is created and controlled by one man—the Governor. He who controls the light, controls the people and holds all of the power. Pong, a young man who was born in a prison camp, finally escapes to live his dream in the outside world. Unfortunately, Pong quickly learns that nothing is as it seems and that some people will do anything to keep the truth from coming into the light.

**King and the Dragonflies** by Kacen Callender

King is reeling from the losses of his older brother Khalid and the friendship of his best friend Sandy. When Sandy goes missing amid rumors he might be gay, King must face difficult truths about his own life and the lives of others in his small Louisiana town. A lovely story about loss and identity.

**The Radium Girls: Young Readers Edition** by Kate Moore

A shockingly true story set in the early 1900’s. At the turn of the century, young women were thrilled to be making their own money painting watch dials that would glow in the dark. Tragically, close contact with the radium-laced paint caused young women to develop devastating and often fatal side effects. The dial painters fought for justice and saved innumerable lives.

**Efrén Divided** by Ernesto Cisneros

Efrén’s world is turned upside down after his mother was caught up in an ICE raid and deported back to Mexico. With younger siblings at home and dad working two jobs, Efrén takes on a lot of responsibilities for a 12 year old. Follow along as Efrén and his dad make plans to get mom back home.

**Trouble in the Stars** by Sarah Prineas

They are a naive, friendly, shapeshifter and lost in space. The Captain calls them trouble and they embrace and take it on as their name—Trouble. Join the intrepid crew of the Hindsight as they set out on an adventure to discover who Trouble is and why the Intergalactic Police are after them in a rollicking adventure.

2022 Read Aloud Indiana
High School List

Fadeaway by E.B. Vickers

Jake—the star of his high school basketball team—disappears after winning the state title game. No one knows where he is. Was he abducted? Murdered? Did he run away? Find out what terrible secrets Jake has been hiding from everyone...even himself.

The Initial Insult by Mindy McGinnis

This dark mystery told in alternating points of view takes inspiration from Edgar Allan Poe. Seven years ago, Tress lost everything when her parents disappeared while driving her best friend home. Now Tress is determined to get answers or get revenge. Will Felicity give her the answers or get bricked up in the coal chute alive?

Internment by Samira Ahmed

In a not-so-distant future, Layla is living in a world of fear—fear of living her truth—that she holds Muslim beliefs under a regime that prides itself on ridding the country of those who are Muslim. Given little time to gather essentials, she and her family are taken away to an internment camp where Layla fights for freedom with the help of new friends, her boyfriend who remains on the other side of the fence, and someone who isn’t what they seem.

A Good Girl’s Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson

Dedicated student and confirmed rule-follower Pippa Fitz-Amobi is convinced that the accepted story of how the beautiful and popular Andie Bell died five years ago is wrong. Under the guise of her capstone senior project, Pippa begins to dig into the case; but truth isn’t always black and white, and someone doesn’t want this case reopened. Will Pippa’s investigation right an old wrong or destroy even more lives?

Inheritance Games by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

Avery is sleeping in her car when she inherits a fortune from a stranger. What happens when she moves in with those left behind in the Hawthorne family, who were left with little from their passing patriarch? A deadly game of riddles and puzzles ensues as Avery and the Hawthorne brothers attempt to discover the reasoning of their grandfather. Mysterious and thrilling, this is perfect for what-ifs and fun discussion.

The Voting Booth by Brandy Colbert

Told in alternating voices, this story recounts a single day’s events as Marva helps Duke cast his ballot on election day. Duke’s quest to vote is thwarted. While the two skip school to travel to various voting sites, we learn about Duke’s brother and band, Marva’s secret online identity and her rocky relationship with her boyfriend, and both teens’ aspirations for the future. Compelling and readable, both characters will lodge themselves in your heart.

Lore by Alexandra Bracken

What if the Greek gods still lived? As punishment, nine gods are reincarnated as humans only to die over and over again. Every seven years, humans hunt the gods in hopes of stealing and possessing their powers. Join Lore on her quest to protect those she loves and save the world.

This Light Between Us by Andrew Fukuda

Andrew Fukuda weaves a tale of friendship, loss, and hope with his historical fiction novel. Alex Maki is a Japanese American boy who is pen pals with Charlie Levy, a French Jewish girl, just before World War II. The reader is drawn into the story of both characters as they share hopes and dreams in letters to each other in the face of life trials and turmoil.

You Should See Me in a Crown by Leah Johnson

All Liz Lighty wants to do is get out of her small town, go to college and become a doctor. Now she’s stuck running for prom queen to get a scholarship. Mack is the new girl and is also running for prom queen. Will their romance last as competitors, or will it break them?

Hope and Other Punch Lines by Julie Buxbaum

What is it like to be the face of hope after a devastating event; to never feel like you can be your true self because you always have to be someone else for everyone else? Abbi Hope Goldstein is that - the face of hope for surviving and overcoming the aftermath of trauma in this heartfelt and heartbreaking story that takes place 15 years after 9/11. A moving tale about finding oneself and creating your own life while honoring the past, this story is applicable to more than history; it’s warmth for the soul and gives hope for a fulfilling future after trauma.

2022 Read Aloud Indiana
**Ageless List**

**A Stone Sat Still** by Brendan Wenzel

This rhyming, rhythmic picture book shows listeners all of the different things that just one ordinary stone can be simply by existing in its place in the world: rough or smooth, dark or bright, a feel or a smell, the wild or a home. All ages will enjoy how this book’s beautiful illustrations play on the variations in our shared perceptions.

**Shirley Chisholm is a Verb!** by Veronica Chambers

This biography of Shirley Chisholm emphasized her action with bold verbs. The story shares Shirley’s life from her humble beginnings in Barbados to her accomplishments in Congress. Each page is beautifully illustrated with a bold verb that highlights Shirley’s life.

**The Power of One: Every Act of Kindness Counts** by Trudy Ludwig

One may be the smallest number, but powerful things can come from a single act of kindness. See how kindness is demonstrated throughout this beautiful book. An apology, a smile, or even one small idea can grow into something that just might change the world.

**Outside, Inside** by LeUyen Pham

This beautifully illustrated story by LeUyen Pham reminds us of the growth we had on the inside, while we could not go outside during the spring of 2020. The simple text and illustrations give a glimpse into what life was like for all: first responders, adults, children, and animals during the pandemic.

**Find Fergus** by Mike Boldt

This is a hilarious take on Hide-n-Seek, as a big brown bear with glasses tries to hide himself! He has quite the problem getting the hang of it, but will he figure it out by the end of the story? Get ready for some unexpected page turns and lots of fun!

**A Place Inside of Me: A Poem to Heal the Heart** by Zetta Elliot

This book is truly “triumphant and beautiful” as it captures the depth and breadth of emotions experienced by a young black teenager. The reader can feel his fear, anger, and sorrow as he faces injustice and speaks up for “Black Lives Matter”. We are uplifted as he finds hope, pride, and peace inside of him too.

**Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away** by Meg Medina

Saying goodbye is difficult for two best friends who live across from each other. On Evelyn’s moving day, she and Daniela cherish the last giggles, adventure, and pure joy of being together. The girls are forever connected as mejor amigas in this loving, bittersweet story of enduring friendship.

**Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera** by Candace Fleming

Follow the life of a honeybee and find yourself captivated by every aspect of her journey! Author Candace Fleming creates a simple and engaging story that takes readers beyond bee basics and into the beautiful ways they make life better for us all. Eric Rohmann’s stunning illustrations bring every minute detail to life.

**Eyes That Kiss In the Corners** by Joanna Ho

This is a beautifully illustrated story celebrating the richness and diversity that shines within a young Asian girl and her heritage. Throughout the book, we meet other members of her family and they help her see that her uniqueness is a wonderful thing.

**Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball** by Jen Bryant

The life story of Elgin Baylor, one of the first African-American professional basketball players. Baylor's skill on the basketball court matched his commitment to social justice, and the impact of his decision to peacefully protest during a game had a significant impact on segregation laws. An often untold biography of a talented trailblazer.