2020 Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts
Award Books (2019 Copyright)

A Plan for Pops. Written by Heather Smith and illustrated by Brooke Kerrigan. Published by Orca Book Publishers.

Beverly, Right Here. Written by Kate DiCamillo. Published by Candlewick Press.


Born to Ride: A Story About Bicycle Face. Written by Larissa Theule and illustrated by Kelsey Garrity-Riley. Published by Abrams.

Carter Read the Newspaper. Written by Deborah Hopkinson and illustrated by Don Tate. Published by Peachtree Publishing.

Dream within a Dream. Written by Patricia MacLachlan. Published by Margaret K. McElderry Books.


Free Lunch. Written by Rex Ogle. Published by Norton Young Readers.

Freedom Soup. Written by Tami Charles and illustrated by Jacqueline Alcantara. Published by Candlewick Press.

Genesis Begins Again. Written by Alicia D. Williams. Published by A Caitlyn Dlouhy Book/Atheneum Book for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster.

Going Home with Daddy. Written by Kelly Starling Lyons and illustrated by Daniel Minter. Published by Peachtree Publishing.


Insect Superpowers: 18 Real Bugs that Smash, Zap, Hypnotize, Sting, and Devour! Written by Kate Messner and illustrated by Jillian Nickell. Published by Chronicle Books.
Lion of the Sky: Haiku for All Seasons. Written by Laura Salas and illustrated by Mercè López. Published by Millbrook Press.


New Kid. Written by Jerry Craft. Published by Quill Tree Books.

Other Words for Home. Written by Jasmine Varga. Published by Harper Collins.

Rise: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou. Written by Bethany Hegedü and illustrated by Tonya Engel. Published by Lee & Low Books.

Say Something. Written by Peter Reynolds. Published by Orchard Books.

Searching for Lottie. Written by Susan J. Ross. Published by Holiday House.

Small World. Written by Ishta Mercurio and illustrated by Jen Corace. Published by Abrams.

Soaring Earth: A Companion Memoir to Enchanted Air. Written by Margarita Engle. Published by Atheneum Books for Young Readers.

Sofia Valdez, Future Prez. Written by Andrea Beaty and illustrated by David Roberts. Published by Abrams.

Soldier for Equality: José de la Luz Sáenz and the Great War. Written by Duncan Tonatiuh. Published by Abrams.

Thanku: Poems of Gratitude. Edited by Miranda Paul and illustrated by Marlena Myles. Published by Millbrook Press.


To Night Owl from Dogfish. Written by Holly Goldberg Sloan and illustrated by Meg Wolitzer. Published by Dial Books for Young Readers.

Room on our Rock. Written by Kate Temple and Joi Temple and illustrated by Terri Rose Baynton. Published by Kane/Miller Books.
2020 Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts Selection Committee Members

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