# 2021 Notable Children’s Books in the Language Arts

**Award Books (2020 Copyright)**

- **Above the Rim: How Elgin Baylor Changed Basketball.** Written by Jen Bryant & illustrated by Frank Morrison. Published by Harry N. Abrams Books.
- **All Because You Matter.** Written by Tami Charles & Illustrated by Bryan Collier. Published by Scholastic Books.
- **Before the Ever After.** Written by Jacqueline Woodson. Published by Nancy Paulsen Books.
- **Black Brother, Black Brother.** Written by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Published by Little Brown Books for Young Readers.
- **Fighting Words.** Written by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley. Published by Dial Books.
- **I Am Every Good Thing.** Written by Derrit Barnes & illustrated by Gordon C. James. Published by Nancy Paulsen Books.
- **If Dominican Were a Color.** Written by Sili Recio & illustrated by Brianna McCarthy. Published by Denene Millner & Simon & Schuster Press.
- **I Talk Like a River.** Written by Jordan Scott & illustrated by Sydney Smith. Published by Neal Porter Books.
- **Land of the Cranes.** Written by Aida Salazar. Published by Scholastic Press.
- **Lift.** Written by Minh Lê & Illustrated by Dan Santat. Published by Little Brown Books for Young Readers.
- **Mañanaland.** Written by Pam Muñoz Ryan. Published by Scholastic Press.
- **On Account of the Gum.** Written by Adam Rex. Published by Chronicle Books.
- **Overground Railroad.** Written by Lesa Cline-Ransome and illustrated by James E. Ransome. Published by Holiday House Publishers.
- **Packs: Strength in Numbers.** Written by Hannah Salyer. Published by HMH Books for Young Readers.
Swashby and the Sea. Written by Beth Ferry & illustrated by Juana Martinez Neal. Published by HMH Books for Young Readers.

Swish: The Slam-Dunking, Alley-Ooping, High-Flying Harlem Globetrotters. Written by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Don Tate. Published by Little Brown Books for Young Readers.

The Canyon’s Edge. Written by Dusti Bowling. Published by Little Brown Books for Young Readers.

The Day Saida Arrived. Written by Susana Gómez Redondo & illustrated by Sonja Wimmer. Published by Blue Dot Kids Press.

The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read. Written by Rita Lorraine Hubbard & illustrated by Oge Mora. Published by Schwartz & Wade.


We Are Water Protectors. Written by Carole Lindstrom & illustrated by Michaela Goade. Published by Roaring Brook Press.

What I Like Most. Written by Mary Murphy & illustrated Zhu Cheng-Liang. Published by Candlewick Press.

When Stars Are Scattered. Written by Victoria Jamieson & Omar Mohamed. Published by Dial Books.

When You Trap a Tiger. Written by Tae Keller. Published by Random House Books for Young Readers.

Winged Wonders: Solving the Monarch Migration Mystery. Written by Meeg Pincus & Illustrated by Yas Imamura. Published by Sleeping Bear Press.

Write! Write! Write! Written by Amy Ludwig Vanderwater & illustrated by Ryan O’Rourke. Published by Wordsong. Published by Boyd Mill Kane.

Your Name is a Song. Written by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow. Published by The Innovation Press.

Your Place in the Universe. Written by Jason Chin. Published by Neal Porter Books.
Jeanne Gilliam Fain, Chair (Lipscomb University, Tennessee)
Vera Ahiiya, (Brooklyn Arbor Elementary, New York)
Elizabeth Bemiss (University of West Florida)

Janine Schall (The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley)
Jennifer Summerlin (University of Alabama-Birmingham)
Kathryn Will (University of Maine, Farmington)
Fran Wilson (Madeira Elementary, Ohio.)