

Family Sunday Book List

January 2022 Theme: Creativity

PICTURE BOOKS

Aaron Slater, Illustrator

By Andrea Beaty

Aaron Slater loves stories and dreams of one day writing them himself. But when it comes to reading, the letters just look like squiggles to him. When his teacher asks each child in the class to write a story, Aaron can't get a single word down. He is sure his dream of being a storyteller is out of reach... until inspiration strikes, and Aaron finds a way to spin a tale in a way that is uniquely his. Printed with a dyslexia-friendly font, *Aaron Slater, Illustrator* tells the empowering story of a boy who discovers that there are many ways to be a gifted communicator.

Crafty Llama

By Mike Kerr

Llama loves to make things. It doesn't matter what, really—something special, something lovely. Beaver loves to make things, too. But he likes things to be useful. On this lovely day, Llama is inspired to make gifts for her friends. And soon many of her friends are inspired right along with her. But Beaver needs to think about what Llama and the other animals are making. What useful thing can he do with this day?

The Dot

By Peter Reynolds

“Just make a mark and see where it takes you.” Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw—she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. “There!” she says. That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery.

The Most Magnificent Thing

By Ashley Spires

The girl has a wonderful idea. She is going to make the most magnificent thing! She knows just how it will look. She knows just how it will work. All she has to do is make it, and she makes things all the time. But making her magnificent thing is anything but easy, and the girl tries and fails, repeatedly. Eventually, the girl gets so mad that she quits. But after her dog convinces her to take a walk, she comes back to her project with renewed enthusiasm and manages to get it just right.

JUNIOR CHAPTER BOOKS

Max Einstein: The Genius Experiment

By James Patterson

Max Einstein is not your typical genius. She hacks the computer system at NYU to attend classes, builds inventions to help the homeless and talks to Albert Einstein! (Okay, that's just in her imagination.) But everything changes when Max is recruited by a mysterious organization. Their mission: solve some of the world's toughest problems using science. She's helped by a diverse group of young geniuses from around the globe as they invent new ways to power the farthest reaches of the planet. But that's only if the sinister outfit known only as The Corporation doesn't get to her first...

Pencilvania

By Stephanie Watson

Zora Webb's drawings fill sketchbooks and cover the walls of the happy home she shares with Frankie and their mother. But when Zora's mom dies from leukemia, everything changes. Desperate to escape the pain, Zora scribbles out her artwork. Her dark, furious scribbles lift off the page and yank Zora and Frankie into Pencilvania, a magical world that's home to everything Zora has ever drawn. And one drawing—a scribbled-out horse named Viscardi—is determined to finish the destruction Zora started. If she is to save Frankie and herself, Zora will have to face the darkness that both surrounds her and is inside of her.

Peanut Jones and the Illustrated City

By Rob Biddulph

Drawing feels like magic to Peanut Jones. But art can't fix her problems. Her dad has gone missing, and she's stuck in a boring new school. Until the day she finds a unique pencil turbo-charged with special powers! Suddenly she's pulled into a world packed with more colour, creativity, excitement and danger than she could ever have imagined. And maybe, just maybe, she might find out what happened to her dad.

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JUNIOR CHAPTER BOOKS

Truly Tyler

By Terri Libenson

Ever since Tyler started getting into art and hanging out with Emmie, his friends and teammates have been giving him a hard time. He wonders why he can't nerd out on drawing and play ball. Emmie is psyched that she gets to work on a comics project with her crush, Tyler. But she gets the feeling that his friends don't think she's cool enough. Maybe it's time for a total reinvention...

YOUNG ADULT

Pet

By Akweake Emezi

There are no monsters anymore, or so the children in the city of Lucille are taught. But when Jam meets Pet, a creature made of horns and colours and claws who emerges from one of her mother's paintings and a drop of Jam's blood, she must reconsider what she's been told. Pet has come to hunt a monster, and the shadow of something grim lurks in her best friend Redemption's house. Jam must fight not only to protect her best friend, but also to answer to the question: how do you save the world from monsters if no one will admit they exist?

She's Too Pretty to Burn

By Wendy Heard

Veronica is bored, caustically charismatic, and uninspired in her photography. Nico is insatiable, subversive, and obsessed with chaotic performance art. They're artists first, best friends second. But that was before Mick. Delicate, lonely, magnetic Mick: the perfect subject, and Veronica's dream girl. The days are long and hot, full of adventure, and soon they are falling in love. Falling so hard, they never imagine what comes next.

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YOUNG ADULT

My Last Summer with Cass

By Mark Crilley

Megan and Cass have been joined at the brush for as long as they can remember. For years, while spending summers together at a lakeside cabin, they created art together. Then Cass moved away to New York. When Megan finally convinces her parents to let her spend a week in the city, it seems like Cass has completely changed. She has tattoos, and every artist in the city knows her. She even eats chicken feet now! At least one thing has stayed the same: they still make their best art together. But when one girl betrays the other's trust on the eve of what is supposed to be their greatest artistic feat yet, can their friendship survive? Can their art?

Indestructible Object

By Mary McCoy

For the past two years, Lee has been laser-focused on two things: her job as a sound tech at a local coffee shop and her podcast Artists in Love, which she cohosts with her boyfriend Vincent. Until he breaks up with her on the air right after graduation. When their unexpected split, the loss of her job, and her parents' announcement that they're separating coincide, Lee's plans, her art, and her life are thrown into turmoil. Searching for a new purpose, Lee recruits her old friend Max and new friend Risa to produce a podcast called Objects of Destruction, where they investigate whether love actually exists at all. But the deeper they get into the love stories around them, the more Lee realizes that she's the one who's been holding love at arm's length.



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