

TEEN ZONE

The Colorado Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award is an annual award decided entirely by teens. Teens nominate and vote for the winner! Reading three or more books from this list entitles you to vote for your favorite novel. Stop by the teen space at your library, pick up a bookmark, and vote!



Along for the Ride by Sarah Dessen
Audrey, Wait! by Robin Benway
Betrayed by P.C. Cast
City of Ashes by Cassandra Clare
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules by Jeff Kinney
Every Soul a Star by Wendy Mass
Gorilla City by Charlie Small
Graceling by Kristen Cashore
The Host by Stephenie Meyer
Identical by Ellen Hopkins
The Last Olympian by Rick Riordan
Max: A Maximum Ride Novel by James Patterson
Nineteen Minutes by Jodi Picoult
Peak by Roland Smith
Rise of the Evening Star by Brandon Mull
Shiver by Maggie Stiefvater
Summer Ball by Mike Lupica
Swindle by Gordon Korman
Syren by Angie Sage
Truancy by Isamu Fukui
Under the Dome by Stephen King

East Chess Club



Join others in playing chess! Every third Friday of the month, the East Chess Club will be meeting from 4 - 5 p.m. at the East Library. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact khoke@ppld.org.

Friday Fun

Bored on a Friday afternoon? Come to the East Teen Center and partake in our amazing Friday activities. Crafts! Games! Chaotic randomness! Here, you make it happen. Direct questions to Violeta at vgarza@ppld.org.

Improv Club

Calling all hams!!! For those between the ages of 11 - 18 who are interested in drama, acting, or performing: come practice your quick thinking and acting skills with fun activities. No experience or registration required. Improv Club meets 4 - 5 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month at East Library. For more information, contact Violeta at vgarza@ppld.org.



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When your voice is getting tired, and you just cannot read another page, the Library has an assortment of items to help you out. Each library has books and CDs or cassettes in a bag that we call "kits" and you can find them in the Catalog if you use Power Search. There are many easy stories on CDs without a book. You can use these for listening time or check out the book, too. Playaways are a new way to listen to books. The entire story is recorded on an MP3 player: plug in a pair of ear buds or a headset and listen away. Another great product the library provides is called **TumbleBooks**. Go to the **Kids Web** found on ppld.org, and look for the tumbling icon in the lower right hand corner. **TumbleBooks** will give you access to hundreds of books, read to you on your computer.

The Library has many tools that you can use as you prepare your youngest child to be ready to learn to read, as well as interesting and entertaining books for the master readers in your home. We wish you all happy reading adventures.



HOMESCHOOL CONNECTIONS

An Educational Resource Tool

Autumn
2010

Literacy in the Library

Literacy and the library go together like peanut butter and jelly, like butter and toast, like cake and birthdays. It is easy to remember the library as a source of books for anyone who wants a book to read. What could be more obvious? But literacy begins long before reading, and research is pointing back to younger and younger ages. Babies and toddlers need certain pre-literacy skills in order to be prepared to learn to read.

The Library is addressing this need for skills in several ways. East and Penrose libraries both offer a program called Baby Time. Almost every library offers Toddler Time. Both of these programs focus on nursery rhymes, music, and very short books. Saying nursery rhymes to young children allows them to hear rich language with unusual words. Children need to hear us speak many, many words every day to develop good language skills themselves. Board books allow the very small to practice holding a book, turning the thick pages, and pointing to pictures. As adults, we should identify, or name, the different items on a page, things in a room, or what we see at the grocery store so that our young children have the opportunity to develop good vocabularies. As our children grow a little older, we should continue these practices and add a few more.



Preschool children, ages 3 - 5, should now be able to tell us what happened in the story we just read. Picture books are just the right length, although there are some very long picture books that are meant for school-age children, so do look for brief text on the pages when choosing books for the very young. Our preschoolers should be aware of the words on the page, and be starting to see differences in letters. They should understand that the words are telling the story that they see in the pictures. We should continue to name things, use our best language skills and the biggest words we know, at least part of the time, with our preschool-age children. Point to letters, help them find the letters in their own name, and sing that alphabet song! Formal instruction in reading is fast approaching.



Once your child has mastered the alphabet, and understands the sounds that letters make, begin checking out the easiest of the books that the library labels "Readers." The Level A books are the easiest, but there are 10 separate unmarked levels in this section – some will be very good beginner books, while others are much too hard for a beginner. Continue reading to your child, and have him tell you the story in his own words. Level A books are kindergarten/early first grade. Level B are late kindergarten/first grade, level C are late first grade/early second grade and Level C are solid second grade/third grade books.

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To contact PPLD's Homeschool Committee, please email gsohns@ppld.org.



Hidden away in the nonfiction, but mostly in the 900s, is a series of books published by Sleeping Bear Press. The authors of this series select topics and then apply the alphabet as a learning structure. There are two parts to the books, the easy reading text and the in-depth information. It is this extra information that makes these books so unique. Use "Sleeping Bear and alphabet" as your search terms to find these in the catalog.

P is for Peace Garden: a North Dakota Alphabet by Roxane B. Salonen

As you read through the state alphabet books in this series, you will get a glimpse into the distinctive features of each state. Agriculture, bison, ground squirrels, kuchen, mosasaur, teredo petrified wood, and oxcart are just a few of the delightful tidbits of information that grace the sidebars of the pages.

There are alphabet books on gladiators, the Smithsonian, airplanes, plants, writing, art, and other cultures. Do explore this series!



Children's literature is a big, important field for both literacy and art. Thousands of picture books are published each year, and awards are bestowed on the best books each January. Reading the Caldecott winner and honor books with your children is a great way to enrich your curriculum. You will find books with science, history, poetry and humor. You may like the Honor book more than the book that won the gold medal. Make reading the Caldecott books a family activity.

The easiest way to find this list is to go to ppld.org, select **Kids Web** and then click on **Book Ideas**. In the left-hand column, select **Award Books** and you will then click on **Caldecott Medal**. Since 1990, over 80 books have been selected; the Caldecott Award was first given in 1938, so you can imagine how many titles are on this list!

Remember that many of these picture books are for school-age children. Your independent readers will be able to enjoy many of these, too. Read the description in the PPLD catalog when you place your holds. The little "sunshine" icon can give you more information on suggested reading levels.

Database Focus: Literacy

The meaning of the term "literacy" runs the gamut: listening, reading, writing, spelling, critical thinking, numeracy, and technology. PPLD's databases and recommended websites offer many resources for early literacy as well as those that encourage lifelong literacy. This article will focus on reading.

From ppld.org, click on **Kids Web**, and then **Book Ideas** (the "Jackalope"), where you'll find **Booklists for Kids**, which includes **Battle of the Books**, the four levels of **Beginning Readers**, and several popular genre lists. **Tumblebooks** is a fun database of picture books and chapter books for children to listen to and read along. On the **Kids Blog**, kids have an opportunity to comment on posts written and moderated by one of our Children's Librarians. **NextReads** takes you to a list of email newsletters you can sign up for to get periodic genre-specific reading suggestions for kids, teens, and adults. You can also request the **Homeschool Events** newsletter and **Homeschool Booklist** here. **Reading Websites** includes three great sites that have reading lists, learning games, and educational activities. **Series & Sequels** is the place to go to find what book to read next. And finally, **Online Storytimes** has several filmed storytimes featuring one of our "famous" Children's staff members, as well as another link to **Tumblebooks**. At the top of the page, **Pikes Peak KidsRead** takes you to pictures of other kids and the books they're excited about. Check out the other parts of Kids Web to find help with writing reports (**Homework Help**) as well as educational games & keyboarding practice (**Fun & Games**).

For older kids, Teen Zone is the place to be. From ppld.org, click on **Teen Zone** and then **Read It** for some awesome book suggestions. Click on **Homework** then **English & Literature** for websites about creative writing, Shakespeare, poetry, and monologues. Click on **Boredom Relief** and brush up on your vocabulary by playing some fun crossword puzzles.

We don't want to forget you parents! From ppld.org click on **Find a Good Book**, you will find plenty of resources to get a great read..

Hopefully these resources will help you encourage your family to enjoy reading together!

C H I L D R E N S P A G E S

All Pikes Peak Reads

Put your imaginative and innovative thinking to work and participate in All Pikes Peak Reads (APPR)! Through the end of October, APPR hosts authors, art exhibits, book discussions, children/teen programs, and film screenings that focus on the selected books.

Young readers should grab ***The Invention of Hugo Cabret*** by Brian Selznick (upper elementary, middle school) and view the life of young Hugo through vivid sketches throughout the pages. Also, pick up ***Snowflake Bentley*** by Jacqueline Briggs Martin (elementary school) and discover the beautiful mysteries of snowflakes! Parents can participate alongside their kids with ***The Invention of Everything Else*** by Samantha Hunt, ***The Devil in the White City*** by Erik Larson, and ***Lightning in His Hand: the Story of Nikola Tesla*** by Inez Hunt and Wanetta W. Draper.



INNOVATION MMX
ALL PIKES PEAK READS

Awesome Award Winning Books for Kids

Caldecott Medal Winners
J-EASY (PICTURE BOOKS)
Song and Dance Man by Karen Ackerman
Arrow to the Sun by Gerald McDermott
The Paperboy by Dav Pilkey
Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin by Lloyd Moss
Tar Beach by Faith Ringold
Grandfather's Journey by Allen Say

Newberry Medal Winners
J-FICTION
Whittington by Alan Armstrong
Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E.L. Konigsburg
A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park
The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

Winners of Caldecott or Newberry Medals
J -NONFICTION
In the Beginning: Creation Stories from Around the World 291.24 H221I
Sugaring Time 633.645 L345S
The Voice that Challenged a Nation 782.1092 A548FR
Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! 812.6 S344G
26 Fairmount Avenue 813.54 D419T
Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow 943.086 B292H

Match the Book With the Author

Match these award winning children's chapter books with their authors. If you know the authors, you can find them on the J-Fiction shelves!

<i>Bridge to Terabithia</i>	Dave Barry
<i>Caddie Woodlawn</i>	Carol Ryrie Brink
<i>The Door in the Wall</i>	Bruce Coville
<i>Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher</i>	Marguerite de Angeli
<i>Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i>	Meindert DeJong
<i>Peter and the Starcatchers</i>	Kate DiCamillo
<i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i>	Madeleine L'Engle
<i>Shiloh</i>	Lois Lenski
<i>Strawberry Girl</i>	Hugh Lofting
<i>The Voyages of Doctor Doolittle</i>	Patricia MacLachlan
<i>The Wheel on the School</i>	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Katherine Paterson