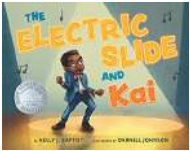




## SSYRA Jr. 2022-2023 Annotated List



***The Electric Slide and Kai* written by Kelly Baptist illustrated by Darnell Johnson** Kai is the only member of his family who can't get the dance steps to the Electric Slide right. But Kai is determined to bust a move in this fun and sweet celebration of African American families. Will he be able to dance well enough to get a nickname at his aunt's wedding reception? Read and find out!



***Cranky Chicken* written and illustrated by Katherine Battersby** Cranky Chicken is, well, cranky. With one cranky eyebrow, cranky eyes, and even cranky, scratchy feet. But then one day, Cranky meets a very friendly worm named Speedy who wants nothing more than to be friends. Young readers will love seeing the mismatched friendship grow over the course of three charming and laugh-out-loud short adventures as Chicken and Speedy become BFFs (Best Feathered Friends) and Speedy shows Chicken how to look on the bright side.



***Invasion of the Unicorns* written and illustrated by David Biedrzycki** He's just a cute little unicorn who wants to take over the world. Special Agent Bubble07 is undercover on planet Earth. His mission: to decide whether his team of alien unicorns should invade Earth. Posing as a stuffed animal, he infiltrates the home of Earthling Daughter, where he puts up with dog slobber, tea parties, and show and tell. Will the unicorn blow his cover and call for backup? Or will his alien heart be won over by storytime, snow days, and snuggles?



***Mad about Meatloaf* by Maureen Fergus Illustrated by Alexandra Bye** Meet Weenie, a meat loaf obsessed wiener dog. Weenie loves his human, Bob. He loves his guinea pig friend Beans and his cat friend Frank. He loves naps, adventures and sharing. In fact, Weenie loves pretty much everything (except the mail carrier). But the thing Weenie loves and desires more than anything else in the world is meatloaf. And he'll do anything to get it.



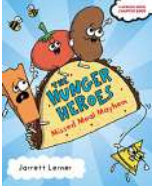
***The Littlest Yak* by Lu Fraser Illustrated by Kate Hindley** On the tip of the top of a mountain, in a herd full of huddling yaks, big and small, lived Gertie . . . the littlest yak of them all. Gertie is the littlest yak in her whole herd, and she's feeling stuck in her smallness - she wants to grow UP and have bigness and tallness! But when it turns out that there are some things that only Gertie can do, might she come to see that she's perfect, just the way she is?



***Ten Beautiful Things* by Molly Beth Griffin Illustrated by Maribel Lechuga** Lily and her grandmother search for ten beautiful things as they take a long car ride to Iowa and Lily's new home with Gran. At first, Lily sees nothing beautiful. Soon though, Lily can see beauty in unexpected places. A furious rainstorm mirrors Lily's anxiety, but as it clears Lily discovers the tenth beautiful thing: Lily and Gran and their love for each other.



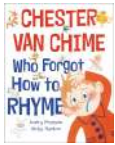
***What if, Pig?* by Linzie Hunter** You're not going to find a more heartwarming dynamic duo than Pig and Mouse! Join Pig as he learns how to turn his "what if" worries from anxiety to optimism, all with the help of his loving friend Mouse.



**Missed Meal Mayhem by Jarrett Lerner** It's a typical Monday when the Hunger Heroes get the call: a kid in Ms. Sternbladder's class missed breakfast and isn't allowed to have snacks! How will he pass his math test, study for spelling, or play soccer at recess if his stomach is growling out of control? Hunger Heroes to the rescue!



**Ivy Lost and Found by Cynthia Lord Illustrated by Stephanie Graegin** A lonely doll helps a child adjust to a blended family in the first of a charming series about library toys and the children who borrow them, written by Newbery Honoree Cynthia Lord.



**Chester Van Chime Who Forgot How to Rhyme by Avery Monson Illustrated by Abby Hanlon** Chester tries his best to recover his rhyming talent when he suddenly loses the ability that once came so naturally to him.



**The Sneaking, Hiding, Vibrating Creature by Nathan Pyle** When the nearest star rises, Lifegiver has an exciting quest planned for Offspring! Follow along as they observe a strange creature that sneaks, hides, and vibrates around their house. Hilarity ensues as the blue beings try to mimic this talented creature.



**Chez Bob by Bob Shea** Welcome to Chez Bob, which seems like a real restaurant...until you realize...it's on an alligator's NOSE! Bob's got a hidden plan for his customers: Birds will come to eat, but I will eat the birds! As they fly in from all over the world to dine on Bob's face, something starts to happen that takes the lazy, hungry reptile by surprise -- the birds stay. More yummy birds! he rejoices -- he'll want for nothing! But when the time is right, will Bob make the right choice?



**Mel Fell by Corey R. Tabor** Readers will delight in turning their book sideways and upside down to follow Mel on her journey from downward fall to triumphant flight in this tale of self-confidence and taking a leap of faith.



**The Middle Kid by Steven Weinberg** When you're the middle kid, you're never the first nor the last to do anything. You're not the tallest or the smallest; you're babysitting one sibling but teased by the other. Stuck between a bossy older brother and a naive younger sister, Middle Kid feels left out of two worlds. Gently funny and richly detailed, The Middle Kid takes readers through a day in the life of a middle kid, and all the challenges and advantages of a life in-between.



**Someone Builds the Dream written by Lisa Wheeler Illustrated by Loren Long** An eye-opening exploration of the many types of work that go into building our world--from the making of a bridge to a wind farm, or an amusement park. An architect may dream up the plans for a house, but someone has to actually work the saws and pound the nails. This book is a thank-you to the skilled women and men who work tirelessly to see our dreams brought to life.