

NEWBERY AWARD WINNERS

The Newbery Award was the first children's book award in the world. Its terms, as well as its long history, continue to make it the best known and most discussed children's book award in this country.

Please note the following when selecting a book:

[1] Those titles ~~marked out~~ should NOT be read for Summer Challenge because they are not grade appropriate OR are on the class novel list.

[2] Those titles that are **highlighted** have been read or recommended by either Mrs. Vincent or Covenant staff.

[3] Remember, if you have read a book within the last year, it does not count for Reading Challenge. You are encouraged to read books that you have NOT ever read before 😊



For this list, I have included some summaries of some of the more popular titles and/or ones that I recommend. For a complete listing of all winners, scroll past the summary boxes.

AWARD YEAR	TITLE AND AUTHOR	GENRE...what's book about?	TOTAL PAGES
1931	<i>The Cat Who Went to Heaven</i> By Elizabeth Coatworth	Fiction <i>The story is set in ancient Japan, and is about a penniless artist and a calico cat his housekeeper brings home.</i>	100
1949	<i>King of the Wind</i> By Marguerite Henry	Animal Fiction <i>He was named "Sham" for the sun, this golden red stallion born in the Sultan of Morocco's stone stables. Upon his heel was a small white spot, the symbol of speed. But on his chest was the symbol of misfortune. Although he was as swift as the desert winds, Sham's proud pedigree would be scorned all his life by cruel masters and owners.</i>	192

1956	<p>Carry on Mr. Bowditch By Jean Lee Latham</p>	<p>Historical Fiction <i>Nathaniel Bowditch grew up in a sailor's world—Salem in the early days, when tall-masted ships from foreign ports crowded the wharves. But Nat didn't promise to have the makings of a sailor; he was too physically small. Nat may have been slight of build, but no one guessed that he had the persistence and determination to master sea navigation in the days when men sailed only by "log, lead, and lookout."</i></p>	250
1968	<p>From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler E. L. Koningsburg</p>	<p>Realistic Fiction/Mystery <i>When suburban Claudia Kincaid decides to run away, she knows she doesn't just want to run from somewhere, she wants to run to somewhere — to a place that is comfortable, beautiful, and, preferably, elegant. She chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing her younger brother Jamie has money and thus can help her with a serious cash-flow problem, she invites him along.</i></p>	178
1979	<p>The Westing Game Ellen Rankin</p>	<p>Mystery <i>A bizarre chain of events begins when sixteen unlikely people gather for the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. And though no one knows why the eccentric, game-loving millionaire has chosen a virtual stranger - and a possible murderer - to inherit his vast fortune, one thing's for sure: Sam Westing may be dead... but that won't stop him from playing one last game!</i></p>	182
1987	<p>The Whipping Boy By Sid Fleishman</p>	<p>Historical Fiction <i>A young orphan named Jemmy rouses from his sleep. "Ain't I already been whipped twice today? Gaw! What's the prince done now?" It was forbidden to spank, thrash, or whack the heir to the throne. Jemmy had been plucked from the streets to serve as whipping boy to the arrogant and spiteful Prince Brat.</i></p>	90

AWARD YEAR	TITLE AND AUTHOR	GENRE...what's book about?	TOTAL PAGES
2003	<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i> By Avi	Historical Fiction <i>Ever since May, Summer's aunt and good-as-a-mother for the past six years, died in the garden among her pole beans and carrots, life for Summer and her Uncle Ob has been as bleak as winter. Ob doesn't want to create his beautiful whirligigs anymore, and he and Summer have slipped into a sadness that they can't shake off. They need May in whatever form they can have her -- a message, a whisper, a sign that will tell them what to do next.</i>	262
1991	<i>Maniac Magee</i> By Jerry Spinelli	Fantasy Fiction <i>Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee might have lived a normal life if a freak accident hadn't made him an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run. This is where the myth of Maniac Magee begins, as he changes the lives of a racially divided small town with his amazing and legendary feats.</i>	184
1993	<i>Missing May</i> By Cynthia Ryalant	Realistic Fiction <i>Ever since May, Summer's aunt and good-as-a-mother for the past six years, died in the garden among her pole beans and carrots, life for Summer and her Uncle Ob has been as bleak as winter. Ob doesn't want to create his beautiful whirligigs anymore, and he and Summer have slipped into a sadness that they can't shake off. They need May in whatever form they can have her -- a message, a whisper, a sign that will tell them what to do next</i>	89
2010	<i>When You Reach Me</i> By Rebecca Stead	Science Fiction <i>Miranda is an ordinary sixth grader, until she starts receiving mysterious messages from somebody who knows all about her, including things that have not even happened yet. Each message brings her closer to believing that only she can prevent a tragic death. Until the final note makes her think she's too late.</i>	199

2015	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Crossover</i> By Kwame Alexander</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Poetry/Fiction</p> <p><i>"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks . . . The court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering," announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood, he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious middle grade novel of family and brotherhood.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">240</p> <p>*Note: Book is written in verse. It reads very fast.</p>
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2020: *New Kid*, written by Jerry Craft

- 2019: *Merci Suárez Changes Gears*, written by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press)
- 2018: *Hello, Universe* by Erin Entrada Kelly (Greenwillow Books, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers)
- 2017: *The Girl Who Drank the Moon* by Kelly Barnhill (Algonquin Young Readers/Workman)
- 2016: *Last Stop on Market Street* by Matt de la Peña (G.P. Putnam's Sons/Penguin) (children)
- 2015: *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)
- 2014: *Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures* by Kate DiCamillo (Candlewick Press)
- 2013: *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate (HarperCollins Children's Books)
- 2012: *Dead End in Norvelt* by Jack Gantos (Farrar Straus Giroux)
- 2011: *Moon over Manifest* by Clare Vanderpool (Delacorte Press, an imprint of Random House Children's Books)
- 2010: *When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead (Wendy Lamb Books, an imprint of Random House Children's Books)
- 2009: *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman, illus. by Dave McKean (HarperCollins)
- 2008: *Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village* by Laura Amy Schlitz (Candlewick)
- 2007: *The Higher Power of Lucky* by Susan Patron, illus. by Matt Phelan (Simon & Schuster/Richard Jackson)
- 2006: *Criss Cross* by Lynne Rae Perkins (Greenwillow Books/HarperCollins)
- 2005: *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata (Atheneum Books for Young Readers/Simon & Schuster)
- 2004: *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread* by Kate DiCamillo (Candlewick Press)
- 2003: *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* by Avi (Hyperion Books for Children)
- 2002: *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park (Clarion Books/Houghton Mifflin)
- 2001: *A Year Down Yonder* by Richard Peck (Dial)
- 2000: *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis (Delacorte)
- 1999: *Holes* by Louis Sachar (Frances Foster)
- 1998: *Out of the Dust* by Karen Hesse (Scholastic)
- 1997: *The View from Saturday* by E.L. Konigsburg (Jean Karl/Atheneum)
- 1996: *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman (Clarion)
- 1995: *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech (HarperCollins)
- 1994: *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (Houghton)
- 1993: *Missing May* by Cynthia Rylant (Jackson/Orchard)
- 1992: *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Atheneum)
- 1991: *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli (Little, Brown)

1990: ~~Number the Stars~~ by Lois Lowry (Houghton)
 1989: *Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices* by Paul Fleischman (Harper)
 1988: *Lincoln: A Photobiography* by Russell Freedman (Clarion)
 1987: *The Whipping Boy* by Sid Fleischman (Greenwillow)
 1986: ~~Sarah, Plain and Tall~~ by Patricia MacLachlan (Harper)
 1985: *The Hero and the Crown* by Robin McKinley (Greenwillow)
 1984: *Dear Mr. Henshaw* by Beverly Cleary (Morrow)
 1983: *Dacey's Song* by Cynthia Voigt (Atheneum)
 1982: *A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers* by Nancy Willard (Harcourt)
 1981: *Jacob Have I Loved* by Katherine Paterson (Crowell)
 1980: *A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal, 1830-1832* by Joan W. Blos (Scribner)
 1979: *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin (Dutton)
 1978: ~~Bridge to Terabithia~~ by Katherine Paterson (Crowell)
 1977: *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor (Dial)
 1976: *The Grey King* by Susan Cooper (McElderry/Atheneum)
 1975: *M. C. Higgins, the Great* by Virginia Hamilton (Macmillan)
 1974: *The Slave Dancer* by Paula Fox (Bradbury)
 1973: *Julie of the Wolves* by Jean Craighead George (Harper)
 1972: *Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH* by Robert C. O'Brien (Atheneum)
 1971: *Summer of the Swans* by Betsy Byars (Viking)
 1970: *Sounder* by William H. Armstrong (Harper)
 1969: *The High King* by Lloyd Alexander (Holt)
 1968: *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg (Atheneum)
 1967: *Up a Road Slowly* by Irene Hunt (Follett)
 1966: *I, Juan de Pareja* by Elizabeth Borton de Trevino (Farrar)
 1965: *Shadow of a Bull* by Maia Wojciechowska (Atheneum)
 1964: ~~It's Like This, Cat~~ by Emily Neville (Harper)
 1963: *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle (Farrar)
 1962: ~~The Bronze Bow~~ by Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton)
 1961: ~~Island of the Blue Dolphins~~ by Scott O'Dell (Houghton)
 1960: *Onion John* by Joseph Krumgold (Crowell)
 1959: ~~The Witch of Blackbird Pond~~ by Elizabeth George Speare (Houghton)
 1958: *Rifles for Watie* by Harold Keith (Crowell)
 1957: *Miracles on Maple Hill* by Virginia Sorensen (Harcourt)
 1956: *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham (Houghton)
 1955: *The Wheel on the School* by Meindert DeJong (Harper)
 1954: *...And Now Miguel* by Joseph Krumgold (Crowell)
 1953: *Secret of the Andes* by Ann Nolan Clark (Viking)
 1952: *Ginger Pye* by Eleanor Estes (Harcourt)
 1951: *Amos Fortune, Free Man* by Elizabeth Yates (Dutton)
 1950: ~~The Door in the Wall~~ by Marguerite de Angeli (Doubleday)
 1949: *King of the Wind* by Marguerite Henry (Rand McNally)
 1948: *The Twenty-One Balloons* by William Pène du Bois (Viking)
 1947: *Miss Hickory* by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey (Viking)
 1946: *Strawberry Girl* by Lois Lenski (Lippincott)
 1945: *Rabbit Hill* by Robert Lawson (Viking)
 1944: ~~Johnny Tremain~~ by Esther Forbes (Houghton)
 1943: *Adam of the Road* by Elizabeth Janet Gray (Viking)
 1942: *The Matchlock Gun* by Walter Edmonds (Dodd)

1941: *Call It Courage* by Armstrong Sperry (Macmillan)
1940: *Daniel Boone* by James Daugherty (Viking)
1939: *Thimble Summer* by Elizabeth Enright (Rinehart)
1938: *The White Stag* by Kate Seredy (Viking)
1937: *Roller Skates* by Ruth Sawyer (Viking)
1936: *Caddie Woodlawn* by Carol Ryrie Brink (Macmillan)
1935: *Dobry* by Monica Shannon (Viking)
1934: *Invincible Louisa: The Story of the Author of Little Women* by Cornelia Meigs (Little, Brown)
1933: *Young Fu of the Upper Yangtze* by Elizabeth Lewis (Winston)
1932: *Waterless Mountain* by Laura Adams Armer (Longmans)
1931: *The Cat Who Went to Heaven* by Elizabeth Coatsworth (Macmillan)
1930: *Hitty, Her First Hundred Years* by Rachel Field (Macmillan)
1929: *The Trumpeter of Krakow* by Eric P. Kelly (Macmillan)
1928: *Gay Neck, the Story of a Pigeon* by Dhan Gopal Mukerji (Dutton)
1927: *Smoky, the Cowhorse* by Will James (Scribner)
1926: *Shen of the Sea* by Arthur Bowie Chrisman (Dutton)
1925: *Tales from Silver Lands* by Charles Finger (Doubleday)
1924: *The Dark Frigate* by Charles Hawes (Little, Brown)
1923: *The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle* by Hugh Lofting (Stokes)
1922: *The Story of Mankind* by Hendrik Willem van Loon (Liveright)

[PDF Version of Medal Winners, 1922-Present](#) [78 kb]