

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

| Title | Author | Summary | Awards & Honors |
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| <i>Sasquatch In The Paint</i> | Abdul-jabbar, K | Eighth-grader Theo Rollins' growth spurt has definitely captured the attention of everyone around him--especially Coach Mandrake, who has devoted himself to transforming Theo into a basketball star. Unfortunately, Theo has zero experience with the game. Theo's true passion is his school's science club, but basketball practice is hurting the science club's chances of winning the "Aca-lympics." Even worse, a stealing accusation could mean Theo is off both teams—unless he can act quickly and get to the bottom of the strange claim. Tackling issues that will easily be relatable to middle school readers, this excellent novel from Abdul-Jabbar is what Kirkus Reviews calls "fearless, caring sports fiction." | Compendium Spring 2014 IN Young Hoosiers Award 2016 PA Reader's Choice 2017-2018 TX Lone Star Reading List 2014 |
| <i>Yes! We Are Latinos</i> | Ada, A | A collection of poems representing thirteen young Latinos of diverse backgrounds and starting with "My name is..." Includes nonfictional interludes discussing issues pertinent to today's Latinos, and black-and-white illustrations. | Compendium Spring 2014 CCBC Book 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 IL SALSA Spanish Language Books 2014 |
| <i>Golda Meir : A Strong Determined Leader</i> | Adler, D | A biography of the Israeli prime minister and world leader, emphasizing her early childhood and youth in Russia and America. | Middle East Book Honor |
| <i>I Lived On Butterfly Hill</i> | Agosin, M | When her beloved country, Chile, is taken over by a militaristic, sadistic government, Celeste is sent to America for her safety and her parents must go into hiding before they "disappear." | Compendium Fall 2014 2015 ALA Honor 2015 ALA Medalist 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books Pura Belpre Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 IRA Teachers' Choices |

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| <i>Green Bicycle</i> | Al mansour, H | In Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, eleven-year-old Wadjda dreams of having a bicycle to race her friend, Abdullah, but it is not proper for girls to own bikes. Wadjda attempts to earn money for a bike by passing notes in class and selling mixtapes of banned music, but she is caught. Although Wadjda is forced to temporarily stop scheming, she is determined to buy a bicycle, and risks everything to make her dream come true. | Amelia Bloomer Project Title 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2016 |
| <i>Mary Bowser And The Civil War Spy Ring</i> | Alberti, E | Relates the story of African American Union spy Mary Bowser who worked as a maid in Confederate President Jefferson Davis's home during the Civil War while also providing clues to the reader in order for them to discover the location of Mary's secret diary. | Camellia Award Winner Skipping Stones Book Award Texas Topaz Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Booked</i> | Alexander, K | Twelve-year-old Nick loves soccer and hates books, but soon learns the power of words as he wrestles with problems at home, stands up to a bully, and tries to impress the girl of his dreams. | Compendium Fall 2016 New York Times Best Seller National Book Award Longlist ILA-CBC Children's Book Choice List ALA Notable Children's Book Book Links' Lasting Connections Kirkus Prize YA Nominee 2016 San Francisco Chronicle Best Book Washington Post Best Book BookPage Best Book Beehive YA Book Award Winner Golden Archer Award Winner Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books for the 21st Century Youper Award Honor New York Charlotte Award MS 2018 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2018-2019 |
| <i>Undefeated</i> | Alexander, K | Presents a poem honoring the troubles and triumphs of African Americans through history. | Compendium Title |

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| <i>I Will Always Write Back : How One Letter Changed Two Lives</i> | Alifirenka, C | Presents a true story of how twelve-year-old Caitlin Alifirenka from Pennsylvania became a pen pal with Martin Ganda, who lives in Zimbabwe. Describes how the letters they exchanged changed both of their lives and led to a lifelong friendship. | New York Times Best Seller Compendium 2015 Fall YARP MS Teen Choice Winner ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List Soaring Eagle Award Nominee 2018-2019 |
| <i>Growing Up Muslim : Understanding The Beliefs And Practices</i> | Ali-karamali, S | Presents a look at the basic tenets of Islam through the eyes of Sumbul Ali-Karamali and her experiences growing up in southern California as a Muslim. | Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 |
| <i>Spirit Week Showdown</i> | Allen, C | Mya Tibbs is ecstatic: It's Spirit Week at school! She and her best friend, the ultra-popular Naomi Jackson, have pinky promised to be Spirit Week partners so that they can win VIP tickets to the Fall Festival. However, they are not allowed to pick their own partners. Mya draws mean girl Connie for her partner! Could anything more go wrong? However, Mya soon discovers that Connie isn't mean, and Naomi isn't acting like the friend Mya thought she was ... "Nuanced depictions of friendship coupled with larger-than-life and fully three-dimensional characters make this delightful book at once thoughtful and a riot to read" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 |
| <i>Wall Of Fame Game</i> | Allen, C | Nine-year-old Mya Tibbs is excited to enjoy her evenings with her pregnant mother watching Annie Oakley shows before the baby arrives. But Mya's plans are curbed when her nemesis, Naomi Jackson, challenges her to beat her at the fourth-grade Wall of Fame Game. Now she's stuck studying every night. And don't forget the chili cook-off she's determined to win despite the fact that she doesn't know a thing about cooking. Mya has a lot on her plate, but she's determined to juggle it all and come out victorious. | Sid Fleischman Humor Award |

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| <i>Before We Were Free</i> | Alvarez, J | In the early 1960s in the Dominican Republic, twelve-year-old Anita learns that her family is involved in the underground movement to end the bloody rule of the dictator, General Trujillo. | Compendium Title Miami Herald Best Book of the Year Winner of the Americas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature Pura Belpre Award ALA-YALSA Best Book for YA ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book |
| <i>How Tia Lola Came To Visit Stay</i> | Alvarez, J | Although ten-year-old Miguel is at first embarrassed by his colorful aunt, Tia Lola, when she comes to Vermont from the Dominican Republic to stay with his mother, his sister, and him after his parents' divorce, he learns to love her. | Compendium Title Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2001 DC Capitol Choices Award 2005-2006 FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2013 IL Bluestem Book Award 2003-2004 MA Children's Award 2005-2006 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 1 Award 2003-2004 TX Bluebonnet Award 2004 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2003-2004 WV Children's Book Award |
| <i>How Tia Lola Ended Up Starting Over</i> | Alvarez, J | Worried that Papa Espada cannot find a job, Tía Lola, Juanita, Miguel, and the "Sword" sisters decide to start a bed and breakfast at Colonel Charlebois's Vermont house. | |
| <i>Return To Sender</i> | Alvarez, J | When 11-year-old Tyler Paquette's father is injured in a tractor accident and the family faces losing their Vermont farm, his father decides to hire undocumented Mexican workers to help save their farm from foreclosure. Tyler befriends one of the worker's daughters, Mari Cruz, and the families form a close-knit bond over the course of the year. Tyler becomes a witness to the struggles that the Cruz family must endure, from the fear of deportation and imprisonment to coping with the disappearance of Mari's mother. Accompanied by chapters that conclude with Mari's unsent letters to her mother, Alvarez's "novel is an excellent curriculum tool ... [and] belongs in every collection" (LMC). | Compendium Fall 2009 Pura Belpre Award Americas Award NCSS-CBC Notable Children's Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies |

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| <i>Ole! Flamenco</i> | Ancona, G | Presents the origins and history of flamenco and depicts the movements, music, technique, and song of the traditional Spanish art. Describes the costuming, techniques, and equipment and includes color photos and a glossary. | ALA Honor 2011 ALA Notable Children's Books 2011 Pura Belpre Honor Book Americas Award - CLASP - 2011 CCBC Book 2011 |
| <i>Ashes</i> | Anderson, L | Former slaves Isobel and Curzon have escaped from Valley Forge by the skin of their teeth and have finally found some relief—but it is short-lived. They are reported as runaways and pursued, which makes finding Isobel's younger sister, Ruth, on a South Carolina Plantation even harder. However, when Isobel and Curzon do find Ruth, she refuses to escape with them! Now the bounty hunters are as thick as flies and freedom seems even further away than ever, but Isobel and Curzon have purpose and an unshakeable faith! A “gripping finish to an epic journey that speaks resoundingly to the human capacity to persevere” (PW). | Compendium Spring 2017 NCSS Notable Title 2017 |

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| <p><i>Chains</i></p> | <p>Anderson, L</p> | <p>This poignant novel that follows a determined young slave who longs for freedom is "an excellent choice for YA collections; it will almost surely win awards" (KLT). Upon their mistress' death, Isabel and her sister, Ruth, are supposed to be freed. A willfully misguided handling of the will sends Isabel and Ruth to the Locktons, a Loyalist couple in New York City who have vital information about British forces. Encouraged by a fellow slave, Isabel spies for the rebels -- providing the Patriot army with British secrets in exchange for her and her sister's freedom. Isabel suffers greatly, but "there is courage, intelligence, and a grappling with the meaning of freedom" (KLT).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2009 ALA Best Books for YA 2009 ALA Notable Children's Books 2009 ALA Popular Paperbacks YA 2014 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween - 2011 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 DC Capitol Choices Award 2009 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2011-2012 IA Teen Award 2011-2012 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2009 IRA Teacher's Choices 2009 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2009-2010 MI Thumbs Up! 2009 Nominee MO Truman Reading Nominee 2010-2011 National Book Award Honor NCSS Notable Title 2009 NE Golden Sower YA 2010-2011 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2011 NY Charlotte Award YA 2010 OR Reader's Choice 2010-2011 PA Reader's Choice 2009-2010 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2008 PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2011 SC Junior Book Award 2010-2011 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction TN Volunteer YA Award 2010-2011 TX Tayshas High School Reading Award 2010-2011 UT Beehive YA Book Award 2010-2011 WV Children's Book Award 2010-2011</p> |
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| <i>Forge</i> | Anderson, L | Separated from his friend Isabel after their daring escape from slavery, fifteen-year-old Curzon serves as a free man in the Continental Army at Valley Forge until he and Isabel are thrown together again, as slaves once more. | Compendium Spring 2011 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2011 Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 Delaware Diamonds Award 2012-2013 Horn Book Fanfare 2010 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 TN Volunteer Award 2013-2014 |
| <i>Month Of Mondays</i> | Anthony, J | Middle school is tough for Suze Tamaki; she's always getting into trouble. Then her estranged mother returns after a ten-year absence but Suze's older sister Tracie refuses to welcome her back. If that isn't bad enough, Suze is moved into more challenging classes and her stress level builds. It finally comes to a head when she learns the school board is planning to fire all the school's custodians and replace them with subcontractors, causing Suze to makes some important decisions. | VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 |

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| <p><i>Home Of The Brave</i></p> | <p>Applegate, K</p> | <p>A young African named Kek is separated from his mother and sent to live in Minnesota. He doesn't like the snow and ice but he makes it through the winter with the help of new friends.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2008 Bank Street Best Children's Books of 2008 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 Golden Kite Award Honor HI Nene Nominee 2010 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2010 IN Young Hoosier Award 2010 Josette Frank Award KS William Allen White Award 2009-2010 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2008-2009 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2008-2009 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2009-2010 NCSS Notable Title 2008 NE Golden Sower Award RI Children's Book Award 2008-2009 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2008-2009 SLJ Best Books TX Bluebonnet Award 2010-2011 VOYA Poetry Picks VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2005-2007 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2008-2009</p> |
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| <p><i>Wishtree</i></p> | <p>Applegate, K</p> | <p>An old red oak tree tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 New York Times Best Seller Golden Sower Chapter Books 2019-2020 2019 CCBA Junior Novel Award Louisiana Young Reader's Choice Texas Blue Bonnet Award 2019-2020 William Allen White Award 2019-2020 Grand Canyon Intermediate Nominee 2020 Iowa Children's Choice Award 2019-2020 Missouri Mark Twain Book Award 2019-2020 South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Illinois Bluestem Book Award 2020 Triple Crown Children's Award 2019-2020 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2019-2020 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 PNLA Young Reader's Choice 4-6 Nominee 2020 Reader's Choice Award 3-5 Nominee 2019-2020 Nene Award Nominees 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Booklist Editor's Choice Books for Youth 2017 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Keystone to Reading Intermediate Nominee 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019 Junior Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 Cochecho Readers Award Nominee 2018-2018</p> |
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| <i>Sidetracked</i> | Asher, D | Joseph Friedman has attention deficit disorder and spends most of his time avoiding the school bully and hiding in the Resource Room. On the first day of seventh grade, however, everything changes: his Resource Room teacher forces him to join the school track team and he meets Heather, a runner who doesn't let herself be pushed around. | Compendium Winter 2018 ABA Indies Introduce Book ALA Notable Book Golden Sower Chapter Books Award South Carolina Junior Book Award Prairie Pasque Nominee ALA Notable Children's Book 2018 Rhode Island Children's Award |
| <i>Zombie Baseball Beatdown</i> | Bacigalupi, P | While practicing for their next baseball game, thirteen-year-old friends Rabi, Miguel, and Joe discover that the nefarious activities of the Delbe, Iowa, meatpacking plant have caused cows to turn into zombies. | Best Children's Books of 2014 ME Student Book Award Maud Hart Lovelace Award NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award SC Junior Book Award VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2013 |
| <i>Abby Spencer Goes To Bollywood</i> | Bajaj, V | Astonished to learn that the father she never knew is actually Bollywood's biggest celebrity, Abby travels to Mumbai to meet her father and struggles with cultural differences, the challenges of her identity, and her changing sense of self. | Spirit of Texas Award MS 2015-2016 |
| <i>Water Wow! : An Infographic Exploration</i> | Banyard, A | Through a collection of visually stimulating infographics, maps, flowcharts, and brightly colored illustrations, the authors reveal the answers to many questions children have about water. From the role of water in climate change and the impact climate change has on the water cycle, to conservation, water pollution, and the origins of this necessary life force, a variety of topics are thoroughly explored in a way that will attract young readers. "An effervescent dive into water's nature, use, misuse, and conservation ... refreshing and essential, like its subject" (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2016 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 |

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| <p><i>Anything But Typical</i></p> | <p>Baskin, N</p> | <p>Jason, a twelve-year-old autistic boy who wants to become a writer, relates what his life is like as he tries to make sense of his world.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2009 ALA Honor 2010 Schneider Family Book Award Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2009 CCBC Book GA Book Award 2011-2012 IA Teen Award 2011-2012 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2010 KS William Allen White 2011-2012 MA Children's Award 2010-2011 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2010-2011 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2011-2012 NC Young Adult Book Award MN 2010-2011 NCSS Notable Title 2010 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2011-2012 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2012 NM Land of Enchantment YA 2013-2014 NV Intermediate Reader 2013 PA KSRA YA MS Award 2010-2011 RI Children's Book Award 2011-2012 SC Junior Book Award 2011-2012 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2011-2012 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2011-2012 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2010-2011 WY Indian Painbrush Award 2014-2015</p> |
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| <p><i>Close To Famous</i></p> | <p>Bauer, J</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Foster McFee and her mother escape from her mother's abusive boyfriend and end up in the small town of Culpepper, West Virginia, where they use their strengths and challenge themselves to build a new life, with the help of the friends they make there.</p> | <p>ALA Honor 2012 Best Fiction for YA 2012 Schneider Family Book Award 2012 AR Teen Book Award 2012-2013 Best Children's Books of 2012 Christopher Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2012-2013 IA Children's Choice IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2014 IN Young Hoosier Award 2014 KS William Allen White Award 2013-2014 LA Young Readers' Choice 2014 Lamplighter Award 2012-2013 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2013-2014 NY 3 Apples Teen Nominee 2013 OH Buckeye Children's Award 2012 OK Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2014 SC Children's Book Award 2014 TX Horned Toad Tales 2013-2014 UT Beehive Fiction Award 2013-2014 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2011 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2012-2013</p> |
| <p><i>Soar</i></p> | <p>Bauer, J</p> | <p>After receiving a heart transplant, 12-year-old Jeremiah knows he can never play baseball, but his love for the game inspires him to try his hand at coaching the middle school baseball team in his new town. And when steroid use by the high school baseball team is revealed after the death of one of their star players, Jeremiah's determination and infectiously positive attitude is just what the community needs. "Jeremiah's voice is perfect: plucky, vulnerable, pragmatic, smart, and immensely endearing. An outstanding, tender exploration of courage and the true nature of heroism and, for good measure, a fine homage to America's game, as well" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Christopher Award for Adults and Young People Iowa Children's Choice Award Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2018-2019</p> |

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| <i>Lucky Broken Girl</i> | Behar, R | Author Behar has crafted a story based on her own experience of adjusting to life in New York City as a young Cuban Jewish girl in 1966. Just as fifth-grader Ruthie feels like she's settling into her new world—she's even earned a reputation for being the "hopscotch queen" of her neighborhood—she's terribly injured in a car accident. Confined to her bed in a body cast for nearly a year, Ruthie struggles with her loneliness, but finds strength within herself as she heals. "Lyrical and rich ... A poignant and relevant retelling of a child immigrant's struggle to recover from an accident and feel at home in America" (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2017 2018 Pura Belpre Award William Allen White Award 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title 2018 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 2018 ALA Honor VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 |
| <i>Cesar : Si, Se Puede! = Yes, We Can!</i> | Bernier-grand, C | Contains a collection of poetry that discusses the life, work, and values of activist Cesar Chavez. | Compendium Title ALA Notable Children's Books 2005 Pura Belpre Honor Book Bank Street College Best Children's Books California Collection 2012 |
| <i>Drum Roll, Please</i> | Bigelow, L | Quiet, unassuming Melissa Goodwin only joined band because Olivia, her best friend, begged her to, but now, to her great surprise, she finds that she loves playing the drums. The next two weeks at Camp Rockaway are looking to be really fun--or they would have been, if the day before they leave Melly's parents hadn't told her they are getting a divorce. Now, miles from home, Melly feels extremely out of place--especially when she meets her bandmate Adeline and instead of dreaming about boys, like the other girls in her tent do, Melly catches herself thinking of Adeline. | Compendium Spring 2018 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 Rhode Island MS Nominee 2020 |

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| <p><i>Ivy Aberdeen's Letter To The World</i></p> | <p>Blake, A</p> | <p>A tornado rips through town and, in demolishing her family's home, flings Ivy Aberdeen's secret notebook of drawings of girls holding hands she knows not where. Those drawings begin showing up in Ivy's locker with notes telling her she should open up about her identity, and Ivy dares to hope they are from the girl she has developed a crush on.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Stonewall Children's & YA Honor Book YA Award MS Nominee 2019-2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor Just One More Page! List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2020 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Capitol Choices Award 2019 Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2019-2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Volunteer MS Nominees 2020-2021</p> |
| <p><i>Nuclear Physicist Chien-shiung Wu</i></p> | <p>Bodden, V</p> | <p>Provides a biography of award-winning Chinese nuclear physicist Chien-Shiung Wu. Discusses her childhood, education, career in science, and accomplishments. Includes color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources.</p> | |
| <p><i>Maritcha : A Nineteenth-century American Girl</i></p> | <p>Bolden, T</p> | <p>Maritcha grew up in the late 1800s in New York City until her family had to flee amidst the Draft Riots. They settled in Providence, Rhode Island and at age fifteen, Maritcha had to overcome prejudice and eventually was the first black person to graduate from the high school. Bolden's text focuses on Lyon's growing up and it includes an attractive spread of archival photographs and engravings that offer a fascinating look into Lyon's world of New York City's striving class of blacks. She writes this biography primarily from Lyons's unpublished memoir, dated one year before her death in 1929. An author's note describes Lyon's adult achievements and provides insight into Bolden's research. School Library Journal says, "The high quality</p> | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Honor Book ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books 2006 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book Children's Literature Choices DC Capitol Choices Award James Madison Book Award NAPPA Best Kids' Books 2002-2008 SLJ Best Books</p> |

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| | | of writing and the excellent documentation make this a first choice for all collections." | |
| <i>Kinda Like Brothers</i> | Booth, C | Eleven-year-old Jarrett is angered and dismayed when his mother fosters Kevon, a haughty kid Jarrett's own age with whom he is forced to share a room. But when Jared starts snooping around to uncover the secrets Kevon is hiding, what he finds forces him to see Kevon in a much more sympathetic light. | ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate 2017 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CT Nutmeg Intermediate Award 2015-2016 RI Children's Book Award 2015-2016 TN Volunteer MS Award 2016-2017 WA Sasquatch Reading Award |
| <i>Smoking Mirror</i> | Bowles, D | Twelve-year-old twins Carol and Johnny Garza are still upset over the disappearance of their mother when their grieving father sends them to their aunt's house in Mexico. There they learn their mother is a shapeshifter and they have her same powers. Now sure that their mother was kidnapped by evil forces, Carol and Johnny enter the dangerous Aztec underworld to find and rescue her. | ALA Honor 2016 Pura Belpre Honor Book |

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| <p><i>They Call Me Guero : A Border Kid's Poems</i></p> | <p>Bowles, D</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Mexican American Güero--which is a nickname in Spanish for boys with pale skin, whether they are Latino or Anglo--is red-headed and freckled, a nerd, and loves his friend squad of misfits. His seventh-grade "woke" English teacher helps him express himself through poetry and make it cool.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award Pura Belpre Honor Book SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2019 Americas Award - CLASP - 2019 The Walter Award</p> |
| <p><i>Insignificant Events In The Life Of A Cactus</i></p> | <p>Bowling, D</p> | <p>The one question Aven Green is sure to get from strangers is, "What happened to your arms?" Sometimes she tells people they got bitten off by an alligator, but the reality is she was born without her arms—a fact she has never let stop her from doing anything she sets her mind to. When her parents' new job running a Western theme park forces them to move to Arizona, Aven discovers adventure with Connor, a new classmate who has his own disability, when the two of them find a hidden room in Stagecoach Pass with a mystery inside. "The tale of Stagecoach Pass is just as compelling as the story of Aven, and the setting, like the many colorful characters ... is so vivid and quirky that it's practically cinematic" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Autumn 2017 Kids' Indie Next Pick Junior Library Guild Selection Library of Congress's 52 Great Reads List 2018 Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association Award Louisiana Young Readers' Choice 2020 2019-2020 William Allen White 2020 Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Nominee 2019 Global Read Aloud Contenders 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019-2020 South Carolina Junior Book Award 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019-2020 Young Reader's Choice Award 2019-2020 Reader's Choice Middle School Nominee 2020 Illinois Bluestem Book Award 2019-2020 Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee Keystone to Reading MS Nominee 2018-2019 YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2018-2019</p> |

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| <p><i>War That Saved My Life</i></p> | <p>Bradley, K</p> | <p>A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 2016 Newbery Honor Book 2016 Scheider Family Book Award #1 New York Times Bestseller Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award California Young Reader Medal Maine Student Book Award Golden Sower Chapter Book Award Volunteer State Book Award Delaware Diamonds MS 2018-2019 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books for the 21st Century Nutmeg Intermediate Award Reader's Choice Award Nene Award Nominee Virginia Readers' Choice Award Bluestem Book Award Indian Paintbrush Award Sunshine State Young Reader Award E.B. White Read Aloud Honor Isinglass Award Oklahoma Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award Young Reader Medal</p> |
| <p><i>Crow-girl : The Children Of Crow Cove</i></p> | <p>Bredsdorff, B</p> | <p>After the death of her grandmother, a young orphaned girl leaves her house by the cove and begins a journey which leads her to people and experiences that exemplify the wisdom her grandmother had shared with her.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Mildred L. Batchelder Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2005 Andre Norton Award Bank Street College Best Children's Books Booklist Editor's Choice DC Capitol Choices Award 2005 HI Nene Nominee 2006 ME Student Book Award 2005-2006 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2005-2006 Parents' Choice Award Winner School Library Journal Best Books</p> |

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| <p><i>Dolores Huerta Stands Strong : The Woman Who Demanded Justice</i></p> | <p>Brill, M</p> | <p>Presents a young reader's biography chronicling the life and legacy of Dolores Huerta, who cofounded the organization known today as the United Farm Workers of America, and who acted as an advocate for the rights of farmworkers, Mexican American immigrants, women, and the LGBTQ population. She also received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2012. Includes a timeline and black-and-white photographs.</p> | <p>Compendium Title</p> |
| <p><i>Sanity & Tallulah</i></p> | <p>Brooks, M</p> | <p>Kid genius Sanity Jones experiments and creates a cute three-headed kitten on the space station she shares with her best friend, Tallulah Vega. However, the kitten escapes and begins wreaking havoc, forcing an evacuation and desperate search to stop the kitten.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award 2019-2020 Nene Award Nominee</p> |
| <p><i>Caminar</i></p> | <p>Brown, S</p> | <p>Carlos must flee from his village, which has been invaded by soldiers, and join with a small band of guerillas to travel to his grandmother's village to warn her about the danger.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2014 ALA Notable Children's Book 2015 Americas Award - CLASP - 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Talking Leaves</i></p> | <p>Bruchac, J</p> | <p>When 13-year-old Uwohali's father Sequoyah returns after being in the West for six years, he is obsessed with drawing peculiar images that leave those in his Cherokee community thinking he might be going mad. Little do they know, he is creating a new alphabet that represents the sounds of the Cherokee language and allows them to create their own texts, or "talking leaves." Despite the power of his new discovery, convincing others of its worth could prove to be dangerous for Uwohali and his father. "A tale of depth and universal humanity ... with an authentic voice, [author] Bruchac weaves details of Cherokee customs, cultural stories, and language without any heavy-handedness" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Walking With Miss Millie</i> | Bundy, T | A young girl named Alice meets her elderly neighbor named Miss Millie and every day they walk Miss Millie's dog and learn about the town and Miss Millie's life. | Iowa Children's Choice Award 2019-2020 Missouri Mark Twain Book Award 2019-2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title 2018 Rhode Island Children's Book Award 2018-2019 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 |
| <i>Serafina's Promise</i> | Burg, A | Eleven-year-old Serafina dreams of fulfilling her promise to her grandfather to attend school and become a doctor. She is still reeling from the death of her baby brother. Serafina tried all she could with her natural healing skills and her big heart to save him, but it wasn't enough. Serafina finally gets the opportunity to go to school, but will the torrential rains and earthquakes in her hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, wash away her dream? Just this once, a miracle might happen in Serafina's life. "The spirit of the text's celebration of the power of determination, family, friendship and love is ably captured in [illustrator] Quall's delightful cover art" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2014 NAACP Image Award ALA Notable Title |
| <i>Unbound : A Novel In Verse</i> | Burg, A | Grace has only known life as a slave, but it is about to get slightly better—she is called from the slave cabins to come and work in the "Big House." Her Mama advises her to keep her eyes down. Uncle Jim says to keep her thoughts to herself. But when she sees how heartless and hateful Master and Missus are, she cannot help but cry out against the injustice of slavery. How come white folks can own other people, sell them, separate families forever? Her unintentional outburst sends her family to the auction block, but before that happens, Grace and her whole family decide to flee for freedom. "Told through Grace's eyes in Southern rhythms ... the story unfolds with a combination of historical precision, honesty, and adventure" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2017 Christopher Award for Adults and Young People Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee 2020 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Breaking Barriers : The Story Of Jackie Robinson</i> | Burgan, M | Details the life and career of legendary baseball star Jackie Robinson--the first professional African American baseball player. Also features profiles of notable people in Robinson's professional and social circle. | |
| <i>Daring Play : How A Courageous Jackie Robinson Transformed B</i> | Burgan, M | Presents an illustrated biography of Jackie Robinson chronicling his life, baseball career, and legacy. Includes a timeline, photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Olympic Gold, 1936 : How The Image Of Jesse Owens Crushed Hi</i> | Burgan, M | Explores the life of Jesse Owens and how his gold-medal winning feats at the 1936 Olympics challenged and undid Hitler's propaganda that the Aryan race was superior to all others. | Compendium 2017 |
| <i>Ana Maria Reyes Does Not Live In A Castle</i> | Burgos, H | With her fourth sibling on the way, Dominican American Ana María Reyes feels a need to get out of her family's small, Washington Heights apartment. She learns of an upcoming piano competition that offers a scholarship to a private school in New York City. | Compendium Title ALA Notable Children's Book CCBC Book 2019 |
| <i>Hurricane Child</i> | Callender, K | On the island of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands, twelve-year-old Caroline is known for her bad luck because she was born during a hurricane. A new student from Barbados named Kalinda arrives and becomes Caroline's only friend—and her first crush. As Caroline works through her feelings for Kalinda, the two set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother and are followed by a mysterious spirit. | Compendium Spring 2018 Stonewall Book Award Lambda Literary Award 2019 ALA Honor SLJ 2018 Best Books ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Volunteer Middle School Nominees 2020-2021 |
| <i>Clutch</i> | Camlot, H | Twelve-year-old Joey Grosser wants to escape from his poor Jewish neighborhood to provide a better life for his family. As he watches the career of Jackie Robinson with fascination, awe, and inspiration, Joey comes up with plans to get enough money to leave, but seems to make all the wrong choices. | Compendium Winter 2018 Skipping Stones Honor Award 2018 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Lowriders To The Center Of The Earth</i> | Camper, C | When the Aztec god of the Underworld steals the Lowriders' beloved cat, they embark on a wild road trip into the center of the earth in order to rescue their pet. | 2017 Pura Belpre Illustrator Award Winner Aesop Prize 2017 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Books 2017 Americas Award - CLASP - 2017 TX Little Maverick Graphic Novel 2017 TX Maverick Graphic Novel 2017 |
| <i>Epic Fail Of Arturo Zamora</i> | Cartaya, P | Arturo Zamora must save his family's restaurant before a land developer destroys it. He teams up with the funny, cute new girl, Carmen, to thwart the developer's plans and help bring the community together. | Compendium Fall 2017 2018 Pura Belpre Author Honor Book South Carolina Junior Book Award 2019-2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award 2020 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 PNLA Young Reader's Choice Nominee 2020 Rhode Island Middle School Nominee 2020 2018 ALA Honor E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honors Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018 ALA Notable Children's Book |
| <i>Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish</i> | Cartaya, P | Although Marcus Vega is only in the eighth grade, he looks like an adult and that frequently gets him into trouble. After a fight at school, his mother takes Marcus and his younger brother to Puerto Rico to spend time with relatives. While there, Marcus becomes obsessed with his father who left the family years ago and now lives on the island. So Marcus decides to find his father, but during the course of his misadventures, he finds something else instead and even learns a little Spanish along the way. | Compendium Title SLJ 2018 Best Books Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award 2019-2020 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2020 Americas Award - CLASP - 2019 |
| <i>Just Like Me</i> | Cavanaugh, N | In this story about unlikely friendships and finding your place in the world, three very different girls, adopted as babies from the same Chinese orphanage, spend a week at a summer camp, where the adoption agency coordinator wants them to journal their "bonding" experience. | Compendium 2016 Fall ILA Children's Choices 2017 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Just A Drop Of Water</i> | Cerra, K | High school student Jake Green, who plans on following in the footsteps of his veteran grandfather, faces difficult choices when his Muslim friend Sam is harassed by bullies, Sam's family is targeted in an FBI investigation following the 9/11 attacks, and the truth about Jake's grandfather's past is revealed. | Florida Book Award 2014 HI Nene Nominee 2018 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 MO Truman Reading Nominee 2016-2017 MS Magnolia Award 2017 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2017 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2014 Crystal Kite Award |
| <i>Allie, First At Last</i> | Cervantes, A | Allie Velasco lives in an amazing family that can boast many accomplishments: Her great-grandfather is a Congressional Medal of Honor winner; her younger sister is a TV star; her brother is a soccer prodigy. However, Allie's name isn't on the list. An upcoming prestigious school contest offers her a chance to make a name for herself, but what will she do when her former best friend, Sara, becomes her biggest competitor? "A sweet middle-grade read that promotes compassion and empathy over competitiveness" (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2016 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee |
| <i>Pashmina</i> | Chanani, N | Priyanka Das, an Indian girl living in America, has always wondered why her mother abandoned her home in India years ago, taking Priyanka with her, and still refuses to tell Pri anything about India or her father. One day, Pri finds one of her mother's pashminas in a forgotten suitcase, and, putting it on, finds herself transported to a place that very much resembles India--however, it may be another world altogether, and there is danger. | Compendium Winter 2018 Junior Library Guild Selection 2017 Amazon Top 20 Children's Book of the Year 2017 Amazon Best Book of the Month - December 2017 Chicago Public Library Best Book of 2017 Texas Maverick Graphic Novel 2017 Northern California Indie Bookseller Association Long-List Title Isinglass Teen Reader Award Nominee 2019-2020 Blue Hen Middle Graphic Novel Nominee 2020 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 Great Lakes Great Books Nominee 2019-2020 ALA Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2018 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Finding Mighty</i> | Chari, S | Twelve-year-old Peter's older brother, Randal, has run away. Randal, a graffiti artist and master of parkour, just like their deceased father, left a note telling Peter not to find him; however, Peter won't rest until he does. His search leads him to Myla, a twelve-year-old girl on her own mission in New York City. Together they uncover a mystery that involves gangs, stolen diamonds, and a secret that links both families together and endangers them all. | Compendium Title ILA Children's Reading List Title 2018 |
| <i>Daphne Definitely Doesn't Do Dances</i> | Charles, T | Annabelle is finding her place at her new school, but still feels a bit out of touch with everything. She starts a blog with an alter-ego named Daphne, and when she starts trying to learn to dance in order to prepare for the upcoming school dance, she posts videos of "Daphne" failing to learn, hilariously, and they go viral. Now, though, her secret identity is about to be revealed. She may have to find a way to be both Daphne and Annabelle at the same time. | |
| <i>Daphne Definitely Doesn't Do Sports</i> | Charles, T | Annabelle finds herself in an identity crisis when she invents "Daphne Doesn't," an alter-ego who vlogs. Her videos go viral in which she makes fun of everything she thinks is a waste of time, like sports like lacrosse and swimming--but Annabelle never imagined the kids at her school would start liking Daphne so much. | |
| <i>Like Vanessa</i> | Charles, T | It is 1983 and Vanessa Martin, a thirteen-year-old African American girl in Newark's public housing, dreams of following in the footsteps of the first black Miss America, Vanessa Williams; but the odds are against her until a new teacher at school organizes a beauty pageant and encourages Vanessa to enter. | Compendium Spring 2018 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2020 Volunteer Middle School Nominee 2020-2021 |
| <i>So Done</i> | Chase, P | Jamila and Metai have been best friends for years, but something happened at the end of seventh grade that they won't speak about, and it tore their friendship apart. Taking a break from each other proves hard given that they live across the street from one another | Compendium Title Volunteer Middle School Nominee 2020-2021 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | and are both auditioning for the gifted and talented dance program at their school. | |
| <i>Etched In Clay : The Life Of Dave, Enslaved Potter And Poet</i> | Cheng, A | Meet Dave, a young African sold into slavery sometime before 1818. Dave worked for a potter and made many items out of clay—pots, jars, anything asked of him, eventually becoming the best potter in the region. When he learned to read, at great personal risk, Dave began etching poems into the pottery he made, and became a poet for all slaves. “Combining visual art with poetry as Dave did, Cheng includes her own striking woodcuts, illustrating both Dave's experiences and his artistry” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2013 Best Children's Books of 2014 CCBC Book 2014 Grade 4-8 Book Award 2014-2015 IRA Teacher's Choice 2014 Lee Bennet Hopkins Poetry Award NCTE Notable Books 2014 OH Ohioana Juvenile Book Award OR Reader's Choice 2015-2016 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2013 Skipping Stones Book Award 2014 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2014 |
| <i>Willows Vs. Wolverines</i> | Cherry, A | Izzy Cervantes and her bestie, Mackenzie, go to Camp Foxtail instead of Camp Sweetwater this summer, and the worst thing about it is they are put in different cabins. When Izzy decides to make up an older, prank-master brother in order to impress the girls of her new cabin in their prank war with their rival boys' cabin, Izzy starts to neglect Mackenzie, who knows the truth about her non-existent brother, threatening both Izzy's new and old friendships. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Awkward</i></p> | <p>Chmakova, S</p> | <p>Penelope "Peppi" Torres has two cardinal rules for surviving middle school--do not draw the attention of mean kids, and seek out friends with similar interests. She breaks the first one when she trips into nerdy Jaime Thompson, and the mean kids see it. Recoiling, Peppi shoves Jaime away, but feels guilty about it later. Complicating things is the fact that Jaime is part of the science club, Peppi's art club's rival club in the school.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers 2016 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2015 CT Nutmeg Award 2019 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2018 LA Reader's Choice 2018 MD Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award ME Student Book Award NH Great Stone Face Award NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award PA Reader's Choice 2017-2018 RI Middle School Award Nominee 2017-2018 TX Little Maverick Graphic Novel 2017 TX Maverick Graphic Novel List 2016 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher 2016-2017 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2018 WY Indian Paintbrush Nominee 2019-2020</p> |
| <p><i>Brave</i></p> | <p>Chmakova, S</p> | <p>Presents a graphic novel in which a young boy who daydreams of being a superhero must show real-world bravery after he is recruited to be part of the school newspaper, and is suddenly drawn into middle school drama that he doesn't fully understand and isn't prepared to handle.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Isinglass Teen Read Award Nominee 2019-2020 Great Texas Mosquito List 2019-2020 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice 2020 Nene Award Nominee 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 ALA Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Crush</i></p> | <p>Chmakova, S</p> | <p>Jorge Ruiz, who attends Berrybrook Middle School with his best friends Olivia and Garrett, struggles to cope with his first crush on Jazmine, friend issues, and daily drama. Then a scandal rocks the school and Jorge must decide where his loyalties lie.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2018 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2019 ALA Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project Title 2019 Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award 2019-2020</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Chasing Secrets</i> | Choldenko, G | Thirteen-year-old Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who is hiding in her house, plan to rescue Noah's father from the quarantined Chinatown, and save everyone they love from contracting the plague that is spreading in 1900 San Francisco. | Compendium Spring 2016 Winner of Los Angeles Public Library FOCAL Award Pennsylvania Young Reader's Choice Nominee TN Volunteer State Book Award Nominee Missouri Association of School Librarians Readers Award Nominee California Eureka! List Nominee |
| <i>On The Court With...Kevin Durant</i> | Christopher, M | Highlights the life and career of NBA star Kevin Durant. Takes readers from his childhood in Maryland where he learned what it means to work hard despite his natural talent through his current career where he's won the MVP trophy two years in a row. Includes a chronology of life events and photographs. | |
| <i>LeBron James : Nba Champion</i> | Ciovacco, J | Presents a biography of professional basketball player LeBron James, including his childhood and his path to professional success. Includes a timeline, glossary, and further reading. | |
| <i>Book That Proves Time Travel Happens</i> | Clark, H | Twelve-year-olds Ambrose, Tom, and Frankie are transported to the boys' hometown of Freedom Falls, Ohio, in 1852 when Frankie blows her Romani family's magical trombone, and to return home they will have to use both Morse code and the ancient form of divination known as the I-Ching. | Best Children's Books of 2016 |
| <i>Immigration Stories From A Fargo High School : Green Card Yo</i> | Clark, T | Collects thirty personal essays from immigrant students at Fargo South High School in North Dakota, who were brought together from twenty-two different cultures into one classroom. Each student describes their childhood, their reasons for leaving their country, their impressions of America, and their hopes for their futures. | |
| <i>Immigration Stories From A Minneapolis High School</i> | Clark, T | Collects thirty personal essays from immigrant students at Wellstone International High School in Minneapolis, Minnesota, who were brought together from twenty-two different cultures into one classroom. Each student describes their childhood, their reasons for leaving | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | their country, their impressions of America, and their hopes for their futures. | |
| <i>Immigration Stories From A St. Paul High School</i> | Clark, T | Collects thirty personal essays from immigrant students at LEAP High School in Saint Paul, Minnesota, who were brought together from thirteen different cultures into one classroom. Each student describes their childhood, their reasons for leaving their country, their impressions of America, and their hopes for their futures. | |
| <i>Extra Credit</i> | Clements, A | As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other. | AR Charlie May Simon Award 2011-2012 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate 2012 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2009 Children's Crown 2011-2012 Christopher Award for Adults and Young People CT Nutmeg Children's Award Delaware Diamonds Award FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award 2011-2012 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IA Children's Choice 2011-2012 IL Bluestem Book Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2012 IRA Children's Choices 2010 KS William Allen White 2011-2012 KY Bluegrass Award LA Young Readers' Choice Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award Middle East Book Honor MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2012-2013 NCSS Notable Title 2010 NE Golden Sower Intermediate Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Losers Club</i> | Clements, A | Principal Vance warns Alec to pay attention in class, or else--but Alec loves reading too much. So, he starts the Losers Club, intending to be the only member, just to have free reading time to himself. Astonishingly, other kids join the club, and Alec begins to realize that his life could be just as interesting as the stories he loves. | Compendium Winter 2018 Golden Sower Chapter Book Award 2019-2020 William Allen White Award 2019-2020 Missouri Mark Twain Book Award 2019-2020 Young Reader Medal 2019-2020 Reader's Choice Elementary Nominee 2019-2020 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 Maud Hart Lovelace Nominee 2019-2020 Blue Hen Middle Readers Nominee 2020 Reader's Choice Nominee 2019-2020 Children's Choice Book of the Year Winner Horned Toad Tales Award 2018-2019 Rhode Island Book Award 2018-2019 ILA Children's Choice Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Things Not Seen</i> | Clements, A | When fifteen-year-old Bobby wakes up and finds himself invisible, he and his parents and his new blind friend Alicia try to find out what caused his condition and how to reverse it. | Compendium Title Schneider Family Book Award California Young Reader Medal Winner Maud Hart Lovelace Award New York 3 Apples Teen Award Nominee |
| <i>Finding Langston</i> | Cline-ransome, L | After his mother's death in 1946, eleven-year-old Langston and his father leave behind their quiet life in Alabama and move to Chicago. Struggling to fit in and missing his mother, Langston finds refuge at the local library where, unlike his library in Alabama, blacks are just as welcome as whites to use. There he discovers the poetry of Langston Hughes and a secret--he was named after this very poet whose work his mother loved. | Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Honor Book Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year School Library Journal Best Book of 2018 2019 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction Junior Library Guild Selection 2019 ALA Honor 2019 ALA Notable Children's Book 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Capitol Choices Award 2019 Notable Books for a Global Society |
| <i>Passenger On The Pearl : The True Story Of Emily Edmonson's</i> | Conkling, W | In 1848, thirteen-year-old slave Emily Edmonson undertakes a courageous journey from captivity to freedom. | Junior Library Guild Selection Carter G. Woodson Book Award Skipping Stones Book Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Sylvia & Aki</i></p> | <p>Conkling, W</p> | <p>At the start of World War II, Japanese-American third-grader Aki and her family are sent to an internment camp in Poston, Arizona, while Mexican-American third-grader Sylvia's family leases their Orange County, California, farm and begins a fight to stop school segregation.</p> | <p>Americas Award - CLASP - 2012 Best Children's Books of 2012 CCBC Book 2012 Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award 2012-2013 Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2014-2015 NV Young Readers Award 2014 Skipping Stones Book Award 2012 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2012 Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Award VOYA - Nonfiction Honor List</p> |
| <p><i>Truth As Told By Mason Buttle</i></p> | <p>Connor, L</p> | <p>Mason Buttle is the biggest, sweatiest kid in his grade and can barely read or write. Fifteen months ago, Mason's best friend, Benny, was found dead in the Buttle family orchard and as the investigation drags on, Mason can't understand why the police won't believe his story about what happened. When Mason and his new friend Calvin make an underground club space in order to escape the neighborhood bullies, Mason finds himself in even more trouble and becomes desperate to figure out what happened to Calvin and Benny.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 National Book Award Finalist Schneider Family Book Award 2019 ALSC Notable Children's Book Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2018 2019-2020 Nebraska Golden Sower Award Amazon Best Books of 2018 Kirkus Best of Children's 2018 New York Public Library Best Books 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Books 2018 2018 Nerdy Book Club Middle Grade Winner South Carolina Junior Book Award Nominee 2020 Colorado Children's Book Award Nominee Grand Canyon Tween Award Nominee 2020 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Black-Eyed Susan Award 2019-2020 Colorado Children's Book Award 2020 Junior Novel Capitol Choices Award 2019 Rhode Island MS Nominee 2020 Indian Paintbrush Nominee 2019-2020 Volunteer MS Nominee 2020-2021</p> |

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| <p><i>Waiting For Normal</i></p> | <p>Connor, L</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Addie tries to cope with her mother's erratic behavior and being separated from her beloved stepfather and half-sisters when she and her mother go to live in a small trailer by the railroad tracks on the outskirts of Schenectady, New York.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2008 ALA Honor 2009 ALA Best Books for YA 2009 ALA Notable Children's Books 2009 Schneider Family Book Award CA Young Reader Medal 2011-2012 CCBC Book 2009 Connecticut Book Award CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2011 DC Capitol Choices Award 2009 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2011-2012 Heartland Award Nominee 2011 IA Teen Award 2010-2011 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' 2011 KS William Allen White Award 2010-2011 KY Bluegrass Award 2009-2010 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2010-2011 ME Student Book Award 2009-2010 MI Thumbs Up! Nominee 2009 NH Isinglass Teen Read List 2010-2011 NJ Garden State Fiction Award 2011 OR Reader's Choice Award 2010-2011 RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2009-2010 School Library Journal Best Books of 2008 TN Volunteer YA Award 2010-2011 TX Lone Star Reading List 2009 UT Beehive YA Book 2009-2010 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 WV Children's Book Award 2009-2010</p> |
| <p><i>All About Roberto Clemente</i></p> | <p>Conte, A</p> | <p>Provides a biography of baseball icon Roberto Clemente. Describes his early years, overcoming racial prejudice, accomplishments, and legacy. Includes illustrations, primary source quotes, a glossary, and timelines.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Kwame Alexander</i> | Cooper, A | Highlights the life and career of award-winning author Kwame Alexander. Includes a glossary, a timeline, a text-related activity, resources for further information, and color photographs. | |
| <i>Mars Science Lab Engineer Diana Trujillo</i> | Cornell, K | Provides a biography of NASA engineer Diana Trujillo. Discusses her childhood, education, and work with the Mars rover, "Curiosity." Includes color photographs, quotes, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Urban Biologist Danielle Lee</i> | Cornell, K | Provides a biography of urban biologist Danielle Lee. Discusses her childhood, education, achievements, and work encouraging the next generation of scientists. Includes color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources. | Amelia Bloomer Project Title 2017 |
| <i>Eight Times Up</i> | Corr, J | Riley's father signs him up for aikido in order to help him deal with his anxiety. At the dojo, Riley meets boys who are much rougher than he is and Wafaa, a Muslim girl for whom aikido is not her first choice. Through their sensei, Riley and his classmates begin to learn that aikido isn't about winning or losing or being perfect, but about finding inner strength. | |
| <i>New Kid</i> | Craft, J | Seventh grade African American boy Jordan Banks dutifully travels from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale private Riverdale Academy Day School. As one of the few kids of color in his new school, Jordan feels out of place. He doesn't really fit in with his new classmates, and it begins to feel like his neighborhood friends live in a different world. Jordan finds comfort in his art as he tries to navigate both worlds. | Compendium Title Great Stone Face Nominee 2019-2020 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Volunteer Middle School Nominee 2020-2021 |
| <i>Life As A Somali American</i> | Creager, E | Briefly explores the history of Somali Americans, discussing the history of Somalia and the ways in which modern Somali immigrants make a home in the United States. Includes a list of famous Somali Americans, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Moo</i></p> | <p>Creech, S</p> | <p>When Reena's parents lose their city jobs, they decide to do something completely different with their lives and move out to a “boat-bobbing / sea salty harbor town” in Maine! She is sure she will be bored, with only lobster, cold weather, and blueberries to keep her and her younger brother, Luke, entertained—then she meets elderly Mrs. Falala and her many pets, including a cantankerous cow named Zora. Reena and Luke take on chores for Mrs. Falala, and before long Reena makes friends with Zora the cow and will soon show her at the local fair! Author and “Newbery Medalist Creech touches on themes of loss, friendship, and belonging in this appealing tale of a young girl's unlikely friendship with ... an enormous belted Galloway” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 New York Times Best Seller Gate City Book Award Winner Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Underground Railroad : Navigate The Journey From Slavery To</i></p> | <p>Cummings, J</p> | <p>Explores the history of the Underground Railroad and what it was like to be a slave in America before the Civil War using the Railroad to escape.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Survival Guide For Kids With Ld* : (*learning Differences)</i></p> | <p>Cummings, R</p> | <p>Kids with LD can learn—they just learn differently. Young people labeled with a “learning disability” or “learning disorder” will find a welcome resource in this fully revised and updated survival guide. The book retains the warmth, affirmation, and straightforward approach of earlier editions while incorporating current information about why some kids have LD and what supports are available, including new technologies. It defines different kinds of LD, describes a range of learning aids, helps kids deal with bullying and difficult feelings, suggests ways to make friends, and inspires young people to set goals for the future. Readers will find quizzes, think-about-it questions, stories, and quotes from other kids with LD. A special section discusses how IEPs and 504 Plans help kids with learning difficulties succeed in school. Includes a chapter written to parents and teachers along with resources for kids and adults.</p> | |

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| <p><i>Bud, Not Buddy</i></p> | <p>Curtis, C</p> | <p>Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Newbery Medal Coretta Scott King Award ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books IRA Children's Book Award Prairie Pasque Award Nene Award Maine Student Book Award Massachusetts Children's Book Award Volunteer State Book Award William Allen White Award Loe Black Bear Winner Louisiana Young Readers' Choice Young Reader's Choice Award Grand Canyon Reader Tween Winner PNLA Young Reader's Choice Award</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Elijah Of Buxton</i></p> | <p>Curtis, C</p> | <p>Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first child born free in Buxton, Canada -- a haven for slaves fleeing pre-emancipation America -- uses his wits and skills to bring to justice the lying preacher who stole money that was to be used to buy one family's freedom. Along the way, a vivid cast of characters are introduced, and unforgettable stories are relished, including hoop snakes, toady-frogs, and fish-head chunking and crying. Readers will be inspired by Elijah's heroic actions and compassion for his people. "This is Curtis' best novel yet, and no doubt many readers, young and old, will finish and say, 'This is one of the best books I have ever read'" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2008 Newbery Honor Coretta Scott King Award 2008 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2008 Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2007 Boston Globe - Horn Book CA Young Reader Medal 2010-2011 CCBC Book 2008 DC Capitol Choices Award DE Blue Hen Chapter Book Award Delaware Diamonds HS Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award HI Nene Nominee IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2008 Jane Addams Honor KLIATT - Editor's Choice Hardcover YA Fiction KS William Allen White Award KY Bluegrass Award LA Young Reader's Choice Award MA Children's Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Magic Johnson : Basketball Legend, Entrepreneur, And Hiv/aid</i></p> | <p>Dakers, D</p> | <p>Presents photos and information about the life of NBA star Magic Johnson. Discusses his professional basketball career with the Lakers, famous rivalry with Larry Bird, and his 1991 announcement that he had HIV, leading to his work as an activist for the cause.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>In The Shadow Of Liberty : The Hidden History Of Slavery, Fo</i> | Davis, K | It is a great tragedy and contradiction that the United States of America was “conceived in liberty” by the Founding Fathers, who fought for liberty and justice while at the same time owning slaves. Some of the names of the slaves of our most important early presidents are known, but their stories have rarely, or never, been told—until now. Here, author Davis presents stories of five slaves, from Billy Lee, George Washington's valet, to Alfred Jackson, a servant of Andrew Jackson, exploring their lives and experiences in a land of contradiction. “A valuable, broad perspective on slavery” (BL). | Compendium Spring 2019 YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction Honor 2017 ALA Honor NCSS Notable Title 2017 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Mo'ne Davis : Remember My Name : My Story From First Pitch T</i> | Davis, M | Memoir of eighth-grade pitcher Mo'ne Davis, the first female pitcher to win a game in the Little League World Series. Offers encouragement for young female athletes on following their sports dreams. | Compendium Fall 2015 RI Children's Book Award 2017-2018 |
| <i>Son Of A Gun</i> | De graaf, A | Eight-year-old Liberian Lucky, his ten-year-old sister Nopi, and their schoolmates are kidnapped and forced to become child soldiers, but even after they escape along with some other children and are reunited with their parents, their lives will never be the same. Includes chapter about Liberia. | ALA Honor 2013 Mildred L Batchelder Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 Outstanding International Booklist 2013 |
| <i>Star-crossed</i> | Dee, B | When Mattie is cast as Romeo in an eighth-grade play, she is confused to find herself increasingly attracted to Gemma, a new classmate who is playing Juliet. | NCSS Notable Title 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 ALA Rainbow Project Booklist 2018 |
| <i>Memoir Of Susie King Taylor : A Civil War Nurse</i> | Dell, P | African American Susie King Taylor offers an eyewitness account of the Civil War from her perspective as a nurse, teacher, and laundress in a military camp. Features illustrations, a timeline, a glossary, critical thinking questions, and further resources. | |
| <i>Ali : An American Champion</i> | Denenberg, B | Examines the life of Muhammad Ali, highlighting facts about him often forgotten due to his fame in later years--such as his original name of Cassius Clay and how he won an Olympic gold as a teenager. | MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2015-2016 NCSS Notable Title 2015 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Marley Dias Gets It Done : And So Can You!</i> | Dias, M | Examines the life of social media celebrity and social activist Marley Dias, offering advice from Marley on how to become "woke" to social injustices and how to start making a difference to society. | Compendium Winter 2018 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2019 |
| <i>Crossroads</i> | Diaz, A | Jaime Rivera is an undocumented teen who came to the United States from Guatemala hoping for a better life. While his cousin, Angela, seems to fit in at school quickly, Jaime struggles and wishes to be with his family in his native country. But news of gang violence hitting close to home makes returning to his parents and Abuela impossible. Jaime sketches his observations in his sketchbook and finds hope in a few unexpected allies. | Notable Books for a Global Society 2019 |
| <i>Only Road</i> | Diaz, A | When Jaime hears his cousin Miguel murdered outside his house in Guatemala, Jaime knows he either needs to get out or get hurt next. With his cousin Àngela, Jaime leaves for the United States, risking everything for a chance at a new, safe life. | Compendium Spring 2017 Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Notable Book Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Nominee Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Young Reader's Choice Award 2019-2020 CCBC Global Book Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee ALA Honor NCSS Notable Title 2017 |
| <i>Momotaro : Xander And The Lost Island Of Monsters</i> | Dilloway, M | Twelve-year-old Xander discovers and learns to use the fantastic powers that are his birthright in order to save his father. Based on Japanese mythology. | APALA Children's Literature Award HI Nene Nominee 2019-2020 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Lotterys Plus One</i></p> | <p>Donoghue, E</p> | <p>Nine-year-old Sumac Lottery considers herself the “good girl” in her oversized family. With four parents (one lesbian couple and one gay couple), seven children from multicultural backgrounds, and five rescue pets, this unconventional household is happily living life their own way. But when Grandpa Grumps, who Sumac has never met because he's been estranged from the family, comes to live with them, his disapproving attitude toward the life Sumac loves is hard to take. “The Lotterys, a family very much of our century, star in this story about the true meaning of acceptance and belonging ... Delves into universal themes of family relationships that will resonate with readers from all backgrounds” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Rewilding : Giving Nature A Second Chance</i></p> | <p>Drake, J</p> | <p>Explores the process of rewilding in which scientists reintroduce nearly extinct creatures to their native environments from trumpeter swans and prairie dogs to panda bears and wild boars. Includes a glossary, resources for further information, and color photographs.</p> | <p>Compendium 2017 California Eureka! Nonfiction Award 2018 Skipping Stones Honor Award 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Out Of My Mind</i></p> | <p>Draper, S</p> | <p>Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 New York Times Best Seller Prairie Pasque Award California Young Reader Medal Young Hoosier Award Winner Buckeye Children's Award Maine Student Book Award Massachusetts Children's Book Award Winner Maud Hart Lovelace Award Winner Missouri Mark Twain Book Award Winner Young Reader Award Winner Sunshine State Young Reader Winner Volunteer State Book Award Winner Beehive Fiction Award Winner Sasquatch Reading Award Winner Black-Eyed Susan Award Winner Loe Black Bear Winner New York 3 Apples Children's Award Nominee 2019 North Dakota Flicker Tale MS Fiction Award Young Reader's Choice Award 6-8 Winner Sunshine State Young Reader 6-8 Winner</p> |
| <p><i>It Ain't So Awful, Falafel</i></p> | <p>Dumas, F</p> | <p>In the late 1970s, Zomorod Yousefzadeh is the new kid in class at her middle school in Newport Beach, California. With the Iranian hostage crisis hot in the headlines, Zomorod, who decides to go by Cindy, finds herself struggling to fit in after facing racial hostility because of her Iranian heritage. With a humorous, authentic voice, author Dumas takes young readers on a journey of adaptation and personal acceptance as Cindy eventually finds friends and her own sense of identity. "Dumas's semi-autobiographical novel is both funny and affecting ... Readers will be thoroughly invested in Cindy's story, whether holding their breath or laughing out loud, and always hoping that the Yousefzadehs will come out on top" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Middle East Book Award Young Reader Medal 2019-2020 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Youper Award NCSS Notable Title 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee 2019 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2018-2019</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Hour Of The Bees</i> | Eagar, L | Due to a rift in her family, 12-year-old Carolina only meets her grandfather, Serge, when her family travels to Albuquerque in order to sell Serge's sheep ranch and help him move into a nursing home. Carol's disappointment at having to give up some of her summer turns to shame when Grandpa asks her, "Why do you spit on your roots, chiquita?" Then her shame turns to wonder as Grandpa tells her stories about her heritage, of the magic tree that heals, of a green-glass lake, of 100 years of no rain, and of the magical bees that brought the rain back. Author "Eagar sustains a sense of wonder and longing for small things (bees, seeds, stories) to respond to big human needs" (PW). | Compendium Spring 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019 |
| <i>Bubble Wrap Boy</i> | Earle, P | Fourteen-year-old social outcast Charlie Han, known as "the short Chinese kid" at school, searches for a talent to improve his popularity, but when he discovers skateboarding, much to the disapproval of his overprotective mother, he also uncovers a huge family secret. | Compendium Spring 2016 |
| <i>Bird</i> | Elliott, Z | Bird, an artistic young African American boy, expresses himself through drawing as he struggles to understand his older brother's drug addiction and death, while a family friend, Uncle Son, provides guidance and understanding. | Compendium Spring 2009 Ezra Jack Keats New Writer and Illustrator Award John Steptoe New Talent Award West Virginia Children's Book Award Winner Lee & Low's New Voices Award Honor Coretta Scott King Honor |
| <i>Breadwinner</i> | Ellis, D | After her father is arrested for the crime of having a foreign education, Parvana must transform herself into a boy and earn money for her family in Afghanistan. | Compendium Title CCBC Book |
| <i>Bravo! : Poems About Amazing Hispanics</i> | Engle, M | Features a collection of poetry celebrating the accomplishments of notable Hispanics from religious leaders and scientists to activists and celebrities. | Compendium Fall 2017 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2018-2019 NCSS Notable Title 2018 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Enchanted Air : Two Cultures, Two Wings : A Memoir</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>In this beautifully crafted memoir, Margarita Engle, the first Latina to receive a Newbery Honor, presents the story of her childhood in Cuba and Los Angeles during the Cold War. The daughter of an American father and a Cuban mother, Engle often felt pulled between the two worlds, both emotionally and physically, as the family shuttled between her mother's island homeland and L.A. In time, she learned to embrace her Cuban heritage while navigating her American identity as well. "As so many of our children are immigrants or children of immigrants, we need more of these stories, especially when they are as beautifully told as this one" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 Pura Belpre Award YALSA Nonfiction Finalist Walter Dean Myers Award Honoree ALA Honor 2016 ALA Notable Children's Books 2016 Americas Award - CLASP - 2016 Best Children's Books of 2016 CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award CCBC Book 2016 CCBC Global Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2015 DC Capitol Choices Award KA William Allen White Award Lee Bennett Hopkins Poetry Award NCSS Notable Title 2016 NCTE Notable Books 2016 NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction Award Skipping Stones Book Award The Walter Award WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2016</p> |
| <p><i>Firefly Letters : A Suffragette's Journey To Cuba</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Presents the thoughts of Fredrika Bremer as she describes her journey to Cuba and the women she came to know that transformed the life of this nineteenth century women's rights pioneer.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Notable Children's Book Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year</p> |
| <p><i>Forest World</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Sent to Cuba to visit the father he barely knows, Edver is surprised to meet a half-sister, Luza, whose plan to lure their cryptozoologist mother into coming there, too, turns dangerous.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Green Earth Book Award Winner NCSS Notable Book The Walter Award</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Hurricane Dancers : The First Caribbean Pirate Shipwreck</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Award-winning author Margarita Engle presents a historical novel that follows young Quebrado, the son of a Taino Indian mother and a Spanish father. Taken from his village and enslaved on a pirate ship, Quebrado must help Captain Bernardino de Talavera navigate the Caribbean world. When a hurricane destroys the ship and most of the crew, Quebrado manages to escape, pulled to safety by a kind fisherman, Narido. As Quebrado slowly adjusts to living in the village, surrounded by people who care about him, he realizes that he can't escape his horrible past. Written in verse, Engle's "powerful, original story" (BL) uses "potent rhythms, sounds, and original, unforgettable imagery" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 Pura Belpre Honor Book ALA Honor 2012 ALA Notable Children's Book 2012 Americas Award - CLASP - 2012 Best Children's Books of 2012 California Collection MS 2013-2014 CCBC Book 2012 NCSS Notable Title 2012 VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |
| <p><i>Lion Island : Cuba's Warrior Of Words</i></p> | <p>Engle, M</p> | <p>Antonio Chuffat, a young man of Chinese and African descent, works as a messenger for Chinese diplomats in Cuba during the 1870s. Surrounded by African slaves and indentured Chinese servants, Antonio meets a boy named Wing and his sister Fan, both refugees who fled San Francisco during the anti-Chinese riots. The three become determined to fight for freedom, and while Antonio prefers to use words, Wing would rather use force. Presented in verse, this novel showcases the power of words to create change. "Young readers will be able to draw analogies to present-day injustice ... A beautifully written, thought-provoking work from a highly regarded author and poet" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 NCSS Notable Title 2017</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Silver People : Voices From The Panama Canal</i> | Engle, M | Fourteen-year-old Mateo and other Caribbean islanders face discrimination, segregation, and harsh working conditions when American recruiters lure them to the Panamanian rain forest in 1906 to build the great canal. | Compendium Fall 2014 Americas Award - CLASP - 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Reading Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2015 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 Jane Addams Honor Book NCSS Notable Title 2015 VOYA Poetry Pick |
| <i>Wild Book</i> | Engle, M | In early twentieth-century Cuba, bandits terrorize the countryside as a young farm girl struggles with dyslexia. Based on the life of the author's grandmother. | Compendium Fall 2012 Best Children's Books of 2013 CA Collection 2013-2014 VOYA Poetry Picks |
| <i>Birchbark House</i> | Erdrich, L | Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847. | Compendium Title AILA American Indian Youth Literature Award National Book Award Honor NEA Native American Booklist Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century |
| <i>Game Of Silence</i> | Erdrich, L | This long-awaited sequel to "The Birchbark House" takes place on Madeline Island in Lake Superior at the midpoint of the 19th century when white settlers are threatening the traditional Ojibwe way of life. Omakayas is now nine-years-old and readers follow a year in her life. Erdrich provides an abundance of details about life on the island throughout the seasons. In the spring, Omakayas goes on a spirit quest and sees what her future has in store for her. Readers familiar with the first book will welcome the return of several richly drawn characters, including Omakayas' pesky brother, her irritable mom, and her bold, tough mentor, Old Tallow. The story is so engaging that readers "will scarcely notice that they have absorbed great draughts of Ojibwe culture, habits and language" (KIRK). | Compendium Title ALA Notable Children's Books of 2006 Andre Norton Award Bank Street College Best Children's Books Booklist Editor's Choice Boston Globe - Horn Book through 2009 CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2006 HI Nene Nominee 2007 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2006-2007 NCTE Notable Book Parents' Choice Award Winner Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction |

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| <i>Makoons</i> | Erdrich, L | In the fifth book in the Birchbark House series, Makoons and his twin brother Chickadee adjust to their new home on the Great Plains of the Dakota Territory in the 1860s. The boys learn to hunt buffalo and contribute to the survival of their family. But Makoons is haunted by a vision he had that foretells of a great challenge his family may not be able to overcome. With detailed descriptions of the Ojibwe culture and customs, author Erdrich's strongly developed characters take readers into a harrowing time in American history. "This beautiful novel is quick moving and deeply affecting. Readers will thoroughly enjoy following Makoons and learning about Ojibwe life" (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century SLJ Battle of the Kids' Books 2017 |
| <i>Porcupine Year</i> | Erdrich, L | It is 1852, and the United States government has ordered 14-year-old Omokayas and her family to leave their beloved Madeline Island. In search of a new home, the family struggles to survive amidst brutal weather, violent raids, and a lack of food and supplies. Old Tallow, an elderly woman who rescued Omokayas as an infant, helps Omokayas find the strength to charge through her trials. Omokayas must summon the courage to fight for her life and the lives of the Ojibwa people. "Based on Erdrich's own family history, this celebration of life will move readers with its mischief, its anger and its sadness" (BL). Includes an appended glossary and black-and-white sketches. | Compendium Spring 2009 ALA Notable Children's Books 2009 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2008 CCBC Book 2009 Children's Crown Award 2010-2011 DC Capitol Choices Award IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2009 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2009-2010 |
| <i>Incredible Magic Of Being</i> | Erskine, K | Julian lives large in eternal optimism, while his sister Pookie and his parents seem to be falling apart now that they are moving from Washington, D.C. to Maine. Julian is excited to use his telescope without the city's light pollution, and thinks that if he can discover a comet and name it, then his family will see how they are all connected--if only Mr. X, their neighbor, would stop trying to undermine his parents' opening of a B&B. | Compendium 2017 |

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| <i>Ibtihaj Muhammad : Muslim American Champion Fencer And Olymp</i> | Faust, D | Introduces the life of Muslim Olympic fencer Ibtihaj Muhammad from her childhood in New Jersey to her success at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. | |
| <i>Five, Six, Seven, Nate!</i> | Federle, T | Now on Broadway as second understudy for E.T., Nate Foster keeps in close contact with his best friend, Libby, as he faces his nemesis, Jordan Rylance, and his own insecurities as the cast member with the least training and experience. | Compendium Spring 2014 Lambda Literary Award |
| <i>90 Miles To Havana</i> | Flores-galbis, E | Two young brothers are sent by their mother from Cuba to escape the revolution there. After they arrive in Miami they enter a strange world where they feel isolated and confused and miss their homeland. | 2011 Pura Belpre Honor Book for Narrative 2011 Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year ALA 2011 Honor ALA Notable Children's Books 2011 Best Children's Books 2011 CCBC Book 2011 FL Sunshine State Young Readers 2012-2013 MA Children's Award 2013-2014 NCSS Notable Title 2011 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2013 |
| <i>Armstrong & Charlie</i> | Frank, S | Both Armstrong and Charlie have reservations about being in sixth grade. Armstrong is bussed from South Central Los Angeles to a middle school in the Hollywood Hills in the hopes of enjoying better opportunities. But not all of his primarily Caucasian classmates are welcoming to the black boy from the bad part of town. Meanwhile, Charlie, a Caucasian student at the school, struggles with the idea that finishing sixth grade will mean he's officially older than the brother he recently lost—something that causes Charlie a great deal of anxiety and grief. And though Armstrong and Charlie are vastly different, they learn they are also very much the same. “Unforgettable, well-drawn titular characters are the heart of this deeply moving and laugh-out-loud funny story about family, friendship, integrity, and navigating differences” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2017 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Rhode Island MS Nominees 2018-2019 |

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| <p><i>Other Half Of My Heart</i></p> | <p>Frazier, S</p> | <p>Minni and Keira King are twin sisters who share a black mother and a white father. Minni appears more white, and Keira appears more black, which results in each sister being viewed very differently by the predominately white populace of their native Washington. When they are both sent to visit their grandmother in North Carolina, however, the situation is reversed. Minni is now the one who stands out, and Keira fits in and is accepted by those around her. Eventually, Minni's appearance even leads some to question whether she can identify herself as black – a question that creates a rift between her and her sister. Just when things seem to be at their worst, it is Minni who reaches out and tries to fix things before it's too late. "Never didactic, this is the richest portrait of multiracial identity and family since Virginia Hamilton's 1976 novel 'Arilla Sun Down'" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 Skipping Stone Honor Award Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 MA Children's Award 2013-2014 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title 2011 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction 2013</p> |
| <p><i>Thief Lord</i></p> | <p>Funke, C</p> | <p>Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with--and protection from--Venice's "Thief Lord."</p> | <p>Compendium Title Mildred L. Batchelder Award Maine Student Book Award Winner Massachusetts Children's Book Award Garden State Teen Fiction Award Great Lakes Great Books Award Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Librarians' Top 10 Choices PNLA Young Reader's Choice Award</p> |
| <p><i>Tending To Grace</i></p> | <p>Fusco, K</p> | <p>When Cornelia's mother runs off with a boyfriend, leaving her with an eccentric aunt, Cornelia must finally confront the truth about herself and her mother.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA Schneider Family Book Award Bank Street College Best Children's Books GA Peach Teen Choice 2006-2007 OK Sequoyah YA Book Award 2007 SC YA Book Award 2006-2007 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2005-2006</p> |

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| <i>Stories Of The Aurora : Dot To Dot In The Sky</i> | Galat, J | Examines the legends and scientific facts of the Aurora Borealis. Includes Inuit tales of the afterlife, a European fairy tale, and a story from the ancient Romans. | 2017-2018 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award Nominee in the English Nonfiction Category Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 |
| <i>Run For Your Life</i> | Gandolfi, S | Santino, a young boy with a talent for running, is fast approaching his first communion in the city of Palermo, Sicily. To pay for the party, his father and grandfather carry out a theft--but they steal from someone with Mafia connections. Santino barely escapes with his life, and must weigh his odds between cooperating with the police and being labeled a "rat," or keeping the Mafia's code of silence. | Mildred L. Batchelder Honor Book ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 |
| <i>Maximilian & The Mystery Of The Guardian Angel : A Bilingual</i> | Garza, X | Eleven-year-old Margarito, a big fan of the form of wrestling known as lucha libre, begins to suspect that he has a close connection with his favorite luchador, El Angel de La Guardia, the Guardian Angel. | ALA Honor 2012 ALA Notable Children's Books 2012 Pura Belpre Honor Book Best Children's Books of 2012 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2013-2014 TX Tejas Star Book Award 2012-2013 |
| <i>Rooster Joe And The Bully = El Gallo Joe Y El Abuson</i> | Garza, X | Seventh-grader Joe López, a promising artist, stands up to a bully and survives, thanks to his Grandpa Jesse's advice about "la lucha." A bilingual flip book with Garza's black and white sketches depicting bullies, heroes, and the roosters that Joe loves to draw. | |

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| <p><i>Lily And Dunkin</i></p> | <p>Gephart, D</p> | <p>Lily is a young transgender girl, in the body of a boy, who is in the eighth grade. Dunkin is a young boy in her class with bipolar disorder. Both know what it is like to be different, but for Dunkin, who has just moved to Lily's school, things are a bit more painful because Dunkin harbors deep secrets that even he can't face. When Lily and Dunkin meet, they slowly become friends, even though Dunkin at first tries to fit in with a popular but bullying crowd, and Lily faces challenges of her own from her friends and family when she "comes out." A "valuable portrait of two teenagers whose journeys are just beginning" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 2017 Southern Book Award Winner Voice Award from the Palm Beach County Action Alliance for Mental Health NPR's Best Kids' Books of 2016 Chicago Public Library Best Fiction for Older Readers 2016 New York Public Library Best Books for Kids 2016 Amazon's Top 20 Children's Books of 2016 Top 10 Audiobooks of 2016 SLJ YALSA 2017 Best Fiction for YA YALSA 2017 Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers ALA 2017 Rainbow Book List - GLBTQ Books for Children and Teens Georgia Book Award 2017-2018 Nominee Rhode Island Middle School Book Award Nominee 2018 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2017 Indie Next Pick Summer 2016 Junior Library Guild Selection Goodreads Choice Awards 2016 2016 Nerdy Book Club Award 2016 Rainbow Awards - Best Transgender Book 2016 Spring Okra Pick - the Best in Southern Literature Iowa Teen Award 2019-2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Nutmeg Teen Nominee 2019</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Braced</i> | Gerber, A | <p>Twelve-year-old Rachel Brooks is thrilled to have earned a spot on her middle school soccer team as a forward. To top it off, her crush, Tate, seems to like her back. Everything is falling into place for a perfect year—until she learns her scoliosis is getting worse and she has to wear a back brace 23 hours each day. The brace changes the way her clothes fit and makes everyone treat her differently. Even the way she plays soccer has changed. Now Rachel must fight to keep her spot on the team while struggling with her perception of herself. “The author doesn't diminish Rachel's difficulties, but at heart her story is uplifting ... Comparisons to Judy Blume's 'Deenie' (1973) might be inevitable, but Rachel stands admirably on her own” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2019-2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2020 Reader's Choice MS Nominee 2019-2020</p> |
| <i>Jubilee</i> | Giff, P | <p>Fifth-grader Judith lives on an island with her aunt Cora and her faithful Dog. When Judith's mother left the island years ago, Judith stopped talking completely. When she finally meets a friend at school, Judith just might have the confidence to find her voice again.</p> | <p>ILA-CBC Choices Reading Lists Children's Choices Selected for the Kansas NEA Reading Circle Catalog Compendium 2016 Fall Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2018-2019</p> |
| <i>As The Crow Flies</i> | Gillman, M | <p>Thirteen-year-old Charlie Lamonte is stuck on a girls only Christian youth backpacking trip designed to teach a lesson on pioneering women. But being queer and the only person of color, Charlie feels left out--until she meets the secretly transsexual fellow camper, Sydney.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Texas Maverick Graphic Novel List 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project Title ALA Honor 2018 Stonewall Book Award ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens</p> |

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| <i>George</i> | Gino, A | Though most of her peers see George as a boy, she thinks she is really a girl, on the inside. George is scared of that secret, thinking she will have to keep it forever—until her teacher announces the class play will be “Charlotte's Web.” George decides to try out for the part of Charlotte, her favorite character. However, her teacher insists that she is a boy and does not allow George to try out for Charlotte's part. Then George's best friend, Kelly, comes up with a plan for George to be Charlotte and at the same time show everyone who she really is. “Profound, moving, and—as Charlotte would say—radiant, this book will stay with anyone lucky enough to find it” (PW). | Compendium Fall 2015 Stonewall Book Award E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor |
| <i>Laurie Hernandez</i> | Golkar, G | Profiles the life and work of Olympic gymnast Laurie Hernandez, discussing her childhood, Hispanic heritage, career, and activism for children's literacy and nutrition. Includes color photographs, a glossary, a timeline, an activity, sources for further learning, and an index. | |
| <i>Barack Obama : Our 44th President</i> | Gormley, B | Highlights the life and achievements of the Harvard Law School graduate, legislator, and civil rights lawyer who became the forty-fourth president of the United States. | |
| <i>Nicholas</i> | Gosciny, R | Nicholas is a French child who is always in trouble. His adventures with his friends always end up confusing the adults around him. | Compendium Title Mildred L. Batchelder Honor ALA Notable Children's Books of 2016 NH Great Stone Face Award 2006-2007 |
| <i>Nicholas And The Gang</i> | Gosciny, R | A collection of adventure stories about young French boy Nicholas and his friends who always create exciting things to do. | ALA Honor 2018 Mildred L. Batchelder Honor ALA Notable Children's Book 2008 CCBC Book 2008 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Distance Between Us : Young Readers Edition</i></p> | <p>Grande, R</p> | <p>Forced to live with her stern grandmother while her parents trek across the dangerous and illegal Mexican border, young Reyna and her siblings can't wait for their parents to return and build a new life for them. Things don't go as planned, however. Now Reyna has to go herself to "El Otro Lado" to live with her biological father, a man she never knew, who has haunted her imagination throughout her childhood. Living in the United States brings other challenges as well, such as figuring out her own identity and how she fits into this new world. "This honest first-person account may be a mirror for many readers, allowing them to see reflections of their own strengths, possibilities, and hopes" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 CCBC Global Book Americas Award - CLASP - 2017 Best Children's Books of 2017 CA Eureka! Nonfiction Award 2016 ILA YA Choices 2017</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Refugee</i></p> | <p>Gratz, A</p> | <p>Three children. Three different countries. Three harrowing stories of survival under the shadow of war. Josef's Jewish family flees Nazi Germany in 1938. Isabel's family braves the ocean in a homemade raft in 1994 in the hopes of a better life in America. And in 2015, Mahmoud's family hopes to find refuge from the war raging in Syria. Each protagonist navigates the uncertainty of leaving behind the only life they've ever known, revealing the fear and heartache associated with being a refugee. Author "Gratz accomplishes a feat that is nothing short of brilliant, offering a skillfully wrought narrative laced with global and intergenerational reverberations that signal hope for the future" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Isinglass Teen Read Award Nominee Sydney Taylor Book Award Buckeye Children's Award Winner Maine Student Book Award YARP MS Teen Choice Winner Junior Book Award Golden Sower YA Novel Nominee Texas Bluebonnet Award Louisiana Young Readers' Choice William Allen White Award Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nominee Arkansas Teen Book Award The Global Read Aloud Contender 2018 Missouri Truman Reader Award Iowa Teen Award Young Reader Medal Rebecca Caudill Young Reader Award Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee NCSS Notable Title 2018 PNLA Young Reader's Choice Nominee Maud Hart Lovelace Award North Dakota Flicker Tale MS Fiction Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Macy Mcmillan And The Rainbow Goddess</i></p> | <p>Green, S</p> | <p>Deaf sixth-grader Macy is best friends with Olivia until an embarrassing comment about Macy's father causes a fight. Now, neither girl is talking to the other, and Macy really needs a friend now that her mother is getting remarried and they have to sell their house. Macy's mother sends her next door to help their elderly neighbor Iris Gillan pack for her own move to an assisted living home, and surprisingly a bond forms between the two and the unexpected friendship helps Macy deal with the changes in her life.</p> | <p>Schneider Family Book Award Reader's Choice MS Nominee 2019-2020 Illinois Bluestem Book Award 2020 Beehive Children's Poetry Nominee 2019-2020 Bluegrass Award Nominee 2019-2020 2018 ALA Honor</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Dark Sons</i> | Grimes, N | Alternating poems compare and contrast the conflicted feelings of Ishmael, son of the Biblical patriarch Abraham, and Sam, a teenager in New York City, as they try to come to terms with being abandoned by their fathers and with the love they feel for their younger stepbrothers. | Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award Best Books for YA 2006 Bank Street College Best Children's Books NCTE Notable Books NJ Garden State Fiction Award TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2006-2007 |
| <i>My Family Divided : One Girl's Journey Of Home, Loss, And Ho</i> | Guerrero, D | Guerrero was the daughter of undocumented immigrants living in Boston. When she was fourteen, she came home to find that her parents had been arrested and would be deported. Alone (neither ICE nor Child Protective Services ever checked on her), she had to rely on friends to survive. Guerrero details the financial and emotional troubles that resulted from this childhood trauma, as well as how she ended up on the show "Orange Is the New Black." | Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018 NV Intermediate Reader Award 2020 |
| <i>Free Throw</i> | Guest, J | When his mother remarries, Matthew Eagletail must leave his school and his favorite basketball team, but with a little help from his friends, he just may join another team. | American Indian Youth Literature Award |
| <i>Triple Threat</i> | Guest, J | Matthew Eagletrail and his good friend John Salton go up against a bully on the basketball court. | American Indian Youth Literature Award |
| <i>Freedom For Me : A Chinese Yankee</i> | Haas, S | As the Civil War begins, Thomas longs to fight for the Union but his brother Robert tells him he can't because there are no Chinese Yankees. But Thomas is determined, and although underage, he talks his way into the Union Army. However, even there he endures racism. But when Thomas befriends a runaway slave just prior to the Battle of Gettysburg, he begins to understand the true meaning of freedom. Based on the life of a real Chinese Yankee in the American Civil War. | Skipping Stones Honor Award 2018 |
| <i>Bluish</i> | Hamilton, V | Ten-year-old Dreenie feels both intrigued and frightened when she thinks about the girl nicknamed Bluish, whose leukemia is making her pale and causing her to use a wheelchair. | Compendium Title CCBC Book NJ Garden State Easy Fiction Award 2002 WV Children's Book Award 2002-2003 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Perfect Place</i> | Harris, T | Twelve-year-old Treasure Daniels and her younger sister must move in with Great-aunt Grace until their mother sorts herself out, but life in Black Lake, Virginia, where segregation lingers, is hard and Grace is a nightmare--at least on the surface. | Compendium Spring 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 LA Young Reader's Choice 2017 |
| <i>Sky At Our Feet</i> | Hashimi, N | When Jason learns that his mother has been living illegally in the United States since his father was killed in Afghanistan, he becomes terrified that she will be deported and they will be separated. After seeing his mother being escorted from her workplace by two officers, Jason takes off to New York City to find his aunt. An accident lands him in the hospital, where he meets Max, who helps Jason plan an escape out of the hospital and into the big city in the hopes of finding his family. | Compendium Spring 2018 Golden Sower Chapter Books 2019-2020 |
| <i>One Shadow On The Wall</i> | Henderson, L | In Senegal, eleven-year-old orphan Mor has three months to prove to his aunt that he can support himself and his two younger sisters, allowing them to stay together in their village and fulfilling the promise he made to their dying father, but a malicious gang of boys threatens Mor's success and his integrity. | Children's Africana Book Award |
| <i>Other Boy</i> | Hennessey, M | Twelve-year-old Shane Woods loves pitching on his baseball team, writing graphic novels, and spending time with his best friend Josh. But nobody knows that Shane is transgender--that he was assigned at birth as female but really identifies as a boy. And when someone at school threatens to expose Shane's secret, he must find a way to ignore the hate, accept himself, and show the world what his identity means. | ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2017 ME Student Book Award 2017-2018 NC YA Book Award MS 2018-2019 OH Buckeye Children's Award 2017 RI Middle School Award Nominee 2017-2018 VA Reader's Choice MS 2018-2019 |
| <i>Dragon Slayer : Folktales From Latin America : A Toon Graphi</i> | Hernandez, J | Retells three Latin American folk tales in graphic novel format, including the title story, in which a servant girl faces a seven-headed dragon. | Compendium Spring 2018 TX Bluebonnet Award 2019-2020 Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award 2019-2020 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Laughing Out Loud, I Fly : Poems In English And Spanish</i></p> | <p>Herrera, J</p> | <p>A collection of poems in Spanish and English about childhood, place, and identity.</p> | <p>Juan Felipe Herrera (Author) is U.S. Poet Laureate Pura Belpre Honor Book SALSA - Spanish Language Books 2016 VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |
| <p><i>Full Cicada Moon</i></p> | <p>Hilton, M</p> | <p>In 1969, 11-year-old Mimi moves with her African American father and Japanese mother to a small town in Vermont, and suddenly it seems like her appearance is the only thing about her that people notice. That is until Mimi, who wants to be an astronaut, is suspended for refusing to follow the school's rule that girls take home economics class and boys take shop class. Despite the fact that many of her classmates have made Mimi feel singled out due to her ethnicity, a number of them come to her defense by organizing a sit-in protesting her suspension. "Through the perspective of this clear-eyed, courageous heroine, [author] Hilton ... powerfully recreates a time of momentous transition in American history" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 Winner of the 2015-2016 APALA Literature Award - Children's Category</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Night Diary</i></p> | <p>Hiranandani, V</p> | <p>Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 2019 Newbery Honor Book Great Stone Face Nominees 2019-2020 The Global Read Aloud Contenders 2018 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Honor Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 2019 CCBC Book Beehive Fiction Award Nominee 2019-2020 Capitol Choices Award 2019 Notable Books for a Global Society 2019 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 ILA Teachers' Choices Reading List 2019 Volunteer Intermediate Nominees 2020-2021 The Walter Award</p> |
| <p><i>Whole Story Of Half A Girl</i></p> | <p>Hiranandani, V</p> | <p>When her father loses his job, Sonia Nadhamuni, a half-Indian, half-Jewish fifth-grader, is forced to leave her private school and attend the local, racially-divided public school. Upon her arrival, she realizes her heritage is a problem for others. As her father sinks into a deep depression and financial problems cause tension in her household, Sonia struggles to fit in at school and begins to question her place in the world. Author Hiranandani "excels in charting the fluctuating discomfort zones of adolescent identity with affectionate humor" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 Best Children's Books of 2013 RI Children's Book Award 2013-2014 Skipping Stones Book Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2013-2014</p> |
| <p><i>One True Way</i></p> | <p>Hitchcock, S</p> | <p>Allie and Samantha, two middle school girls in the 1970s American South, struggle with their growing feelings for each other, and find challenges and support from unlikely places.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Too Young To Escape : A Vietnamese Girl Waits To Be Reunited</i> | Ho, V | The author shares her personal account of living in Vietnam after a communist regime took over her city. Too young to escape by boat with her parents and siblings, she was left in the care of her grandmother, who was too old for the trip. Together, they waited, hoping for the day to come quickly when they could join their family in Canada. | Notable Books for a Global Society 2019 |
| <i>Ugly</i> | Hoge, R | Memoir from writer Robert Hoge, born with a tumor in his face that left him looking different than everyone he knew. Discusses how Hoge dealt with bullying, accepting his appearance, and creating a positive identity for himself. | Compendium Spring 2017 Iowa Teen Award Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Buffalo Soldiers</i> | Honders, C | Presents the history of black soldiers in the American military, chronicling notable officers, battles and wars, and honors. Also discusses prejudice in the Army and the end of military segregation. Includes a timeline, photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Claudette Colvin : Twice Toward Justice</i> | Hoose, P | "This fresh look at a well-documented period in American history" (VOYA) celebrates the life and actions of 15-year-old African American Claudette Colvin who was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus almost a year before Rosa Parks committed the same act of civil disobedience. Because she was considered too emotional to be the "face" of the bus boycott, the importance of Colvin's actions was lost. However, she later testified in a federal lawsuit that helped end discrimination on public transportation. Black-and-white photographs, sidebars, first-person accounts and reproduced documents supplement this important piece of history. | Compendium Fall 2009 National Book Award Winner for Young People's Literature Newbery Honor Book YALSA Award for Excellence in Nonfiction for Young Adults Finalist Robert F. Sibert Honor Book Carter G. Woodson Book Award Writers' League of Texas Children's Book Award SLJ 42 Diverse Titles for Every Library List |
| <i>Forensic Investigations Of The Ancient Chinese</i> | Hudak, H | Explores what modern forensic tools and techniques reveal about ancient Chinese history, such as what well-preserved bodies can tell us about ancient human migration, and what advanced technology can reveal about the secrets of the Great Wall. Includes a glossary. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Outsmarting Worry : An Older Kid's Guide To Managing Anxiety</i> | Huebner, D | Presents a guide to overcoming anxiety, worry, and fear for children ages 9-13. Describes how the anxiety cycle works and ways in which children can help identify and stop the cycle. | |
| <i>Fish In A Tree</i> | Hunt, L | Sixth-grader Ally Nickerson has managed to keep her inability to read a secret from her teachers and classmates at seven different schools in seven years. But keeping her secret takes a big toll on Ally's reputation, requiring her to constantly create disruptions in the classroom to distract her teachers from her debilitating dyslexia. It is not until a new teacher, Mr. Daniels, realizes that the bright but disruptive Ally is unable to read that Ally is offered a chance to finally realize her potential. Slowly, her confidence grows as she begins to learn to read with Mr. Daniel's help, and new possibilities open in her life. "Ally's journey is heartwarming but refreshingly devoid of schmaltz" (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2015 New York Times Best Seller Schneider Family Book Award Winner Maine Student Book Award Winner William Allen White Award Winner Great Lakes Great Books Award Winner Young Reader's Choice Award Winner Bluestem Book Award Winner Young Reader Medal |
| <i>Rosa Parks : Civil Rights Activist</i> | Hurt, A | Explores the life and legacy of Rosa Parks, a woman who decided to not give up her seat on a Montgomery bus for a white person, which in turn started the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955. Discusses how this boycott was a turning point in the fight for civil rights. | |
| <i>Lgbtq Rights</i> | Hyde, N | Examines primary and secondary sources to discuss the history of LGBTQ rights, from the Stonewall riots in the 1960s through the decriminalization of homosexuality and marriage rights. Helps young readers analyze the concepts of freedoms in a democracy. | |
| <i>How Mexican Immigrants Made America Home</i> | Imery-garcia, A | Explores the history of Mexico and the emigration of Mexican citizens to America, highlighting the struggles they faced. Includes maps, archival and color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Midnight Without A Moon</i> | Jackson, L | Rose Lee Carter, a thirteen-year-old African-American girl, dreams of life beyond the Mississippi cotton fields during the summer of 1955, but when Emmett Till is murdered and his killers are unjustly acquitted, Rose is torn between seeking her destiny outside of Mississippi or staying and being a part of an important movement. | Compendium 2017 Nutmeg Middle School Nominee 2020 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 |
| <i>Circuit : Stories From The Life Of A Migrant Child</i> | Jimenez, F | Presents several intertwined stories of a family of Mexican American farm workers as they move from camp to camp, adding members to their family along the way. | Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA Americas Award - CLASP CCBC Book IN Young Hoosier Award 2001 Jane Addams Honor Book VOYA Books in the Middle |
| <i>Taking Hold : From Migrant Childhood To Columbia University</i> | Jimenez, F | This memoir is the fourth book in author Jiménez's autobiographical series, in which he chronicles his experiences as a young migrant worker who draws strength from his family and culture to escape poverty and build a better life for himself. Here, he recounts the difficult decision he made to leave behind his family, beloved girlfriend, and community in California to move to New York City to attend Columbia University, and the hard-won success that followed as a result of pursuing his dreams. "Simply written but full of beautiful details, this book should inspire every citizen of our diverse and changing world" (VOYA). | Compendium Fall 2015 CCBC Book 2016 |
| <i>Heaven</i> | Johnson, A | Fourteen-year-old Marley's seemingly perfect life in the small town of Heaven is disrupted when she discovers that her father and mother are not her real parents. | ALA Best Books for YA Coretta Scott King Award Chicago Public Library Best of the Best KY Bluegrass Award SC Junior Book Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Great Greene Heist</i></p> | <p>Johnson, V</p> | <p>Jackson Greene has a reputation as a prankster at Maplewood Middle School, but after the last disaster he is trying to go straight--but when it looks like Keith Sinclair may steal the election for school president from Jackson's former best friend, Gabriela, he assembles a team of talented troublemakers to make sure Keith does not succeed.</p> | <p>ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2016-2017 NAPPA Best Kids' Books 2014-2015 NCSS Notable Title 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction 2017 OR Reader's Choice 2016-2017 PA KRSA Young Adult MS Award 2015-2016 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2016-2017 TX Lone Star Reading List 2015 Spirit of Texas MS Award 2015-2016 WI Just One More Page! List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Parker Inheritance</i></p> | <p>Johnson, V</p> | <p>When Candice finds a letter in an old attic in Lambert, South Carolina, she isn't sure she should read it. It's addressed to her grandmother, who left the town in shame. But the letter describes a young woman. An injustice that happened decades ago. A mystery unfolding its writer. And the fortune that awaits the person who solves the puzzle.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Coretta Scott King Author Honor Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor ALA Honor Texas Lone Star Reading List 2019 SLJ 2018 Best Books Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 Georgia Children's Book Award 2019-2020 CCBC Book 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award 2019-2020 Maud Hart Lovelace Award Rhode Island MS Nominee 2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Mississippi Magnolia Nominee 2020 Texas Institute of Letters Best Children's Books Junior Book Award Nominee 2018-2019</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>To Catch A Cheat</i> | Johnson, V | Just when Jackson Greene gets his life together—he's retired from conning, gotten in the good graces of the principal, and inched closer to his first kiss with Gaby—he gets blackmailed. Some bullies doctored a video that seems to show Jackson and his friends flooding the school gym. If Jackson and his Gang Greene do not steal an upcoming exam for the blackmailers, they will release the video. It is time for Gang Greene to reunite and outwit the school's security, steal the exam, and set a trap for the blackmailers in order to clear their names. "A satisfying stand-alone sequel" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Unusual Chickens For The Exceptional Poultry Farmer</i></p> | <p>Jones, K</p> | <p>Through a series of letters, Sophie Brown, age twelve, tells of her family's move to her Great Uncle Jim's farm, where she begins taking care of some unusual chickens with help from neighbors and friends.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 2016 Notable Children's Book 2017-2018 AR Charlie May Simon Award 2018 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate Award 2016 Best Children's Books Award 2016 CCBC Book 2016 DC Capitol Choices Award E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor 2016-2017 GA GRade 4-8 Book Award 2016-2017 GA HRRB - Helen Ruffin Award 2018 IN Young Hoosier Award 2016-2017 MA Children's Award 2017-2018 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2016-2017 ME Student Book Award 2016-2017 NC Junior Book Award 2018 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction Award 2016-2017 NM Loe Coyote List 2018 OK Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2017-2018 OR Readers' Choice Award 2018 PNLA Young Reader's Choice Award 2015 School Library Journal Best Books 2017-2018 SD Prairie Pasque Award 2017-2018 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2016-2017 TX Bluebonnet Award 2016-2017 TX Horned Toad Tales Award 2016-2017 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2016 Just One More Page! Award</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Silhouetted By The Blue</i></p> | <p>Jones, T</p> | <p>A "beautiful, haunting tale rich in story and characterization" (BL), author Jones' novel centers on Serena Shaw. Still grieving her mother's death from a year ago, seventh-grader Serena must carry her burden alone when her depressed father sinks even deeper into his anguish. Though she struggles to keep things together -- doing household chores and homework, going to school and taking care of her curious younger brother, she pursues and lands the role of Dorothy in "The Wiz." If the play is a success, Serena will be able to save her school's drama program. "As poignant as it is realistic, this story deserves a wide readership" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 CCBC Book 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2012 LA Young Readers' Choice 2014 MO Truman Reading Nominee 2013-2014</p> |
| <p><i>Color Of My Words</i></p> | <p>Joseph, L</p> | <p>When life gets difficult for Ana Rosa, a twelve-year-old would-be writer living in a small village in the Dominican Republic, she can depend on her older brother to make her feel better--until the life-changing events on her thirteenth birthday.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Notable Children's Books 2001 Amelia Bloomer Project Title Americas Award - CLASP CCBC Global Book GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2002-2003 IRA Notable Books Global Society Jane Addams Honor NCSS Notable Title NCTE Notable Books NJ Garden State Easy Fiction 2003 WI Golden Archer Award 2004-2005</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Forbidden Schoolhouse : The True And Dramatic Story Of Prude</i></p> | <p>Jurmain, S</p> | <p>Profiles Prudence Crandall and her efforts to teach African-American girls at a white schoolhouse in Canterbury, Connecticut, in the early 1830s. Describes how Miss Crandall's school became a site of violence and protest as she tried to teach geography, history, reading, philosophy, and chemistry to African-American girls.</p> | <p>ALA Best Books for YA 2006 ALA Notable Books for YA 2006 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Teen Award 2008 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Booklist Editor's Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award CCBC Book 2006 DC Capitol Choices Award 2006 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society James Madison Book Honor NCSS Notable Title NJ Garden State Nonfiction Award 2008 Orbis Pictus Honor RI Children's Book Award 2006-2007</p> |
| <p><i>Thing About Luck</i></p> | <p>Kadohata, C</p> | <p>Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.</p> | <p>National Book Award Winner Compendium Fall 2013 APALA Children's Literature Award AR Charlie May Simon Award Best Children's Books of 2014 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth CCBC Book 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award Horn Book Fanfare 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction NM Land of Enchantment 2014-2015 PA KRSA Young Adult MS 2014-2015 Parents' Choice Award School Library Journal Best Books 2013 TN Volunteer MS Award VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award WA Sasquatch Reading Award Just One More Page! Reading List 2014</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Boy Who Harnessed The Wind : Young Readers Edition</i></p> | <p>Kamkwamba, W</p> | <p>When a severe drought descended on his Malawi village, 14-year-old William Kamkwamba felt helpless. His family was already so poor that not only could they not afford to send him to school, but they barely had enough food to eat, living on insects and a mouthful of rationed food per day. It was not long, however, before William came up with an idea, inspired by time spent in the local library reading about engineering—he decided to build a windmill to draw water for irrigation. William's project was immensely successful, resulting in both water and energy for his family and neighbors, as well as a prototype for future projects in famine-stricken areas. A “fascinating, well-told account that will intrigue curious minds” (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Children's Africana Book Award CCBC Book</p> |
| <p><i>Blackbird Fly</i></p> | <p>Kelly, E</p> | <p>After her father dies, Apple Yengko and her mother move from the Philippines to Louisiana. Now in middle school, Apple's life is falling apart. The first friends she made after the move are trying to become popular, so continuing to hang out with Apple, a girl on the stupid boys' "Dog-Log" list of unpopular and ugly girls, is a no go. Apple's only refuge is music and her father's Beatles cassette tape. She thinks if she can learn to play guitar and some of those songs, "Blackbird" in particular, she will be transformed. Fortunately for Apple, some new friends come along who teach her she's special just the way she is. Author Kelly's tale "will resonate with any student ... who has felt different and ostracized" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2016 Best Children's Books 2016 CCBC Book 2016 Delaware Diamonds Award Winner Golden Kite Award Winner IRA Children's Choices 2016 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2018 School Library Journal Best Books 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Riding Chance</i></p> | <p>Kendall, C</p> | <p>After Troy's mother dies and he gets into trouble on the streets of Philadelphia, he's assigned to the city stables to care for the horses there. Troy begins to work through his grief and discovers the game of polo. It is through polo that he finds redemption, hope, and a second chance at life.</p> | <p>Compendium 2016</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Yay! You're Gay! Now What? : A Gay Guy's Guide To Life</i></p> | <p>Khalaf, R</p> | <p>In this personal, heartfelt go-to guide for young queer guys, YouTuber and presenter Riyadh Khalaf shares frank advice about everything from coming out to relationships, as well as interviews with inspirational queer role models, and encouragement for times when you're feeling low. There's a support section for family and friends written by Riyadh's parents and LOADS of hilarious, embarrassing, inspiring and moving stories from gay boys around the world.</p> | |
| <p><i>Amina's Voice</i></p> | <p>Khan, H</p> | <p>In a quiet Milwaukee suburb lives the musically gifted Pakistani American Muslim girl Amina. Her best friend is Soojin, a South Korean girl who will soon become a citizen. Amina is confused when Soojin starts hanging out with Emily, one of the popular mean girls, and talks about changing her name to “something more American.” What does that mean for Amina? Should she change her name, too? Then Amina's strict Muslim uncle visits and tells her that her piano playing is forbidden in Islam, and Amina is truly at a loss when her beloved Islamic Center is vandalized. What is happening to Amina's world? “Written as beautifully as Amina's voice surely is, this compassionate, timely novel is highly recommended” (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Washington Post Best Children's Books of 2017 2018-2019 TX Bluebonnet Award 2019-2020 William Allan White Award 2018 Global Read Aloud Contender 2019-2020 South Carolina Children's Book Award 2020 IN Young Hoosier Intermediate Nominee 2018 NCSS Notable Social Studies Book 2019-2020 Readers' Choice Middle School Nominee Booklists's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century 2019-2020 Maud Hart Lovelace Award Div. 1 Nominee 2019-2020 Reader's Choice Award Gr. 3-5 Nominee 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018 ALA Notable Children's Book 2018-2019 YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee</p> |
| <p><i>Out Of Left Field</i></p> | <p>Klages, E</p> | <p>In 1957, inspired by what she is learning about civil rights and armed with knowledge of female ball players, ten-year-old Katy Gordon fights to be allowed to play Little League baseball.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 ILA Teachers' Choice Reading List 2019</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>See You At Harry's</i></p> | <p>Knowles, J</p> | <p>Seventh grader Fern has a full (and somewhat complicated) life: Her high school freshman brother, Holden, has taken the first steps toward acknowledging he is gay, and their older sister Sara is spending her first year after high school helping with the family restaurant, allowing her overly critical eye to land wherever it pleases. Then there's three-year-old Charlie, oftentimes messy but always loved, and the children's distant parents who leave them all desperate for more attention. When a sudden tragedy rips the family apart, Fern is at the forefront of their efforts to manage the pain and vividly describes the process by which her siblings come together to find some semblance of healing. "Prescient writing, fully developed characters and completely, tragically believable situations elevate this sad, gripping tale to a must-read level" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books 2013 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 CT Nutmeg Teen Award DC Capitol Choices Award IA Teen Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MO Truman Reading Nominee NCTE Notable Books 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award RI Teen Book Award Nominee SC Junior Book Award SC YARP MS Reading List TN Volunteer MS Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |
| <p><i>Life As A Nigerian American</i></p> | <p>Kovacs, V</p> | <p>Briefly explores the history of Nigerians in America, discussing the history of Nigeria and the slave trade, to ways in which modern Nigerian immigrants make a home in the United States. Includes a list of famous Nigerian Americans, a glossary, and resources for further information.</p> | |
| <p><i>Misty Copeland : First African American Principal Ballerina</i></p> | <p>Krajnik, E</p> | <p>It isn't very often that late bloomers are called prodigies, but Misty Copeland is an extraordinary case. At the age of 13, she began her formal ballet training, which is considerably later than most children begin ballet. In 2015, Copeland was promoted from soloist to principal at American Ballet Theatre, one of the world's premiere ballet companies. She has written a memoir and a children's book, and starred in the screen adaptation of her memoir. She advocates for inclusivity in the classical ballet world and as well as body positivity for young women.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Grand Plan To Fix Everything</i> | Krishnaswami, U | Eleven-year-old Dini loves movies, and so when she learns that her family is moving to India for two years, her devastation over leaving her best friend in Maryland is tempered by the possibility of meeting her favorite actress, Dolly Singh. | Compendium Fall 2011 CCBC Book 2012 CCBC Global Reading Book Delaware Diamonds Award |
| <i>Black Sheep, White Crow And Other Windmill Tales : Stories F</i> | Kristofic, J | A young boy named Kameron moves to his grandma's sheep camp on the Navajo Reservation. When Kameron takes the sheep out to the local windmill, he encounters an old storyteller who tells him eight tales of the Diné people and their culture. | Skipping Stones Book Award 2018 |
| <i>Shadow Warrior</i> | Kyi, T | Presents a fictionalized picture book account of the true story of Mochizuki Chiyome, a girl from sixteenth-century Japan who created an all-female spy network of ninjas. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Inside Out & Back Again</i></p> | <p>Lai, T</p> | <p>Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 ALA Honor 2012 Newbery Honor Book AR Charlie May Simon Award 2013-2014 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 CT Nutmeg Intermediate Award 2014 DC Capitol Choices Award 2012 IA Children's Choice Award 2014-2015 IN Young Hoosier Award 2014 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2012 Jane Addams Honor MA Children's Award 2013-2014 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2012-2013 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2012-2013 National Book Award Honor NC Junior Book Award Winner NCTE Notable Book 2012 NH Cochecho Reader Award 2012-2013 UT Beehive Fiction Award 2013-2014 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2014 <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Listen, Slowly</i></p> | <p>Lai, T</p> | <p>In this “superb, sometimes humorous, always thought-provoking coming-of-age story” (BL), 12-year-old Mai cannot wait to spend her summer at the beach. There she plans on getting to know “HIM,” the boy she's crushing on. Her parents crush those plans when they tell her she must fly to Vietnam with her grandmother to meet her large extended family—get in touch with her roots and all that. At first Mai hates Vietnam, considering herself a true American; but as she spends more time there and gets to know some distant cousins as friends, she decides Vietnam is not so bad after all.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 New York Times Book Review Notable Book Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year CCBC Book Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Little Piece Of Ground</i> | Laird, E | During the Israeli occupation of Ramallah in the West Bank of Palestine, twelve-year-old Karim and his friends create a secret place for themselves where they can momentarily forget the horrors of war. | CCBC Book 2007 CCBC Global Book Middle East Book Honor Outstanding International Booklist 2005-2007 |
| <i>Goldie Vance : 1</i> | Larson, H | When Walter, the current in-house hotel detective, encounters a case he can't crack, he agrees to mentor Goldie in exchange for her help solving the mystery utilizing her smarts, random skills, and connections with the hotel staff and various folks in town. | TX Maverick Graphic Novel Award 2017 |
| <i>Liberty</i> | Larson, K | In 1940s New Orleans, where social and racial barriers are firmly established, a disabled boy named Fish Elliot awaits his father's return from the war raging in Europe. When Fish, a natural-born inventor, finds a stray dog in need of a home, he and his African American neighbor, Olympia, form an unlikely friendship and work together to care for the dog they call Liberty and to rescue her from an unscrupulous neighbor. Author "Larson once again creates an engaging story that is rich in historical details. She purposefully captures both the fear and the hope in a world torn by war as well as the simple love of a boy for his dog ... Practically perfect" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2017 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 NCSS Notable Title 2017 |
| <i>Astronaut Mae Jemison</i> | Lassieur, A | Provides a biography of African American astronaut Mae Jemison. Discusses her childhood, education, and passion for space. Includes color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources. | Science Books and Films - Best Books 2016 |
| <i>Journey To A Promised Land : A Story Of The Exodusters</i> | Lassieur, A | Hattie Jacobs and her family join the Great Exodus of 1879 when they leave Tennessee to travel to Kansas where Hattie dreams of becoming a school teacher. But life after emancipation is filled with hardship, and the journey to Kansas is one of danger. | Compendium Title |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Dog Called Homeless</i></p> | <p>Lean, S</p> | <p>Fifth-grader Cally Fisher is convinced her mother is contacting her from beyond the grave, often appearing in the company of a large, silver-gray dog. The dog is clearly real, since Cally has seen him with a homeless man named Jed, at school, and in the apartment of their new neighbors, Mrs. Cooper and her 11-year-old son, Sam. Cally's father, though, doesn't believe her. He has ignored her for so long and has been so silent about the death of his wife, Cally doesn't think he ever will. "Ever so gently, this fine debut effort explores the power of human kindness as Cally and her father find effective ways to cope with their loss" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 California Young Reader Medal Schneider Family Award ALA Honor 2013 IL Bluestem Book Award 2015 TX Horned Toad Tales Award 2013-2014 WY Indian Paintbrush Award 2014-2015</p> |
| <p><i>Stormy Seas : Stories Of Young Boat Refugees</i></p> | <p>Leatherdale, M</p> | <p>All throughout history refugees have used boats to try to escape hostile homelands. Author Leatherdale and illustrator Eleanor Shakespeare present five true stories of young people who have set sail to seek refuge—Ruth and her family escape the Nazis aboard the “St. Louis”; Phu goes it alone to escape the war in Vietnam; José desperately sets out on a raft from Cuba; Najeeba tries to escape the Taliban in Afghanistan; and Mohamed, an orphan, is forced to flee his Ivory Coast home for safety. “A timely, powerful piece of nonfiction” (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 VOYA Nonfiction Honor List 2018 California Eureka! Nonfiction Award 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 Booklist Editors' Choice Books for Youth 2017 Skipping Stones Honor Awards 2018 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018</p> |
| <p><i>Not Your Sidekick</i></p> | <p>Lee, C</p> | <p>When high school student Jessica Tran accepts a paid internship with the local supervillain, she's happy to at least be working alongside her crush, Abby. In a town where everyone has superpowers, Jessica is just trying to fit in and maybe spite her super hero parents in the process. But when she uncovers a dangerous plot, Jessica soon realizes she might be in too deep.</p> | <p>CCBC Book 2017 Lambda Literary Award Finalist</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Some Kind Of Happiness</i></p> | <p>Legrand, C</p> | <p>Eleven-year-old Finley Hart isn't happy to be spending the summer with grandparents she's never met. And no matter how much her parents pretend things are okay, she knows their marriage is in trouble. Finley finds escape in a forest kingdom called Everwood that she's created in her notebook. When she discovers the kingdom is real and in grave danger, Finley and her cousins set out to save it. But first she has to save herself from her own sadness. Author "Legrand handles the tough subject of childhood mental health gently and honestly and ... paints a realistic picture of a girl trying to figure out what's wrong with her" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Iowa Teen Award 2019-2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Family Fletcher Takes Rock Island</i></p> | <p>Levy, D</p> | <p>On historic Rock Island, time was supposed to stand still and nothing was supposed to change, but this summer when the Fletchers arrive, they find that things have changed a lot. The Fletchers—with two dads, four adopted brothers, two cats, and a pug—are shocked and saddened to find their favorite lighthouse all boarded up. They have new neighbors, too, the Galindos, who have two daughters, Val and Alex. Making friends with the girls, the Fletcher boys set out to find a way to save their lighthouse while embarking on a variety of fun adventures! "An old-fashioned summer adventure set in a very modern world" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 A JLG Selection Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominees 2016</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Misadventures Of The Family Fletcher</i></p> | <p>Levy, D</p> | <p>Relates the adventures of a family with two fathers, four adopted boys, and a variety of pets as they make their way through a school year, Kindergarten through sixth grade, and deal with a grumpy new neighbor.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 Junior Library Guild Selection ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 CT Nutmeg Intermediate Award 2017 HI Nene Nominee 2016 IL Bluestem Book Award 2017 MA Children's Award 2017-2018 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 NH Cochecho Readers Award 2015-2016 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction Award 2017 RI Children's Book Award 2016-2017 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2015-2016 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Little White Duck : A Childhood In China</i></p> | <p>Liu, N</p> | <p>A young girl describes her experiences growing up in China, beginning with the death of Chairman Mao in 1976.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 CCBC Global Book Horn Book Fanfare 2012 MD Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award 2013-2014 TX Maverick Graphic Novel List 2014</p> |
| <p><i>W.e.b. Du Bois</i></p> | <p>Lochte, H</p> | <p>Provides a biography of African American W. E. B. Du Bois, chronicling his childhood, education, fight for equal rights, and legacy. Includes photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources.</p> | |
| <p><i>Ellen Degeneres : Groundbreaking Television Star</i></p> | <p>Lombardo, J</p> | <p>Profiles celebrity talk show host, comedienne, philanthropist, and LGBT activist Ellen DeGeneres.</p> | |
| <p><i>Inside The Lgbtq+ Movement</i></p> | <p>Lombardo, J</p> | <p>Traces the history of the LGBTQ+ movement in the U.S., discussing its achievements and challenges. Includes a timeline, sidebars, photographs, a glossary, and further resources.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Handful Of Stars</i> | Lord, C | In rural Maine, twelve-year-old Lily begins a friendship with Salma, the daughter of migrant blueberry pickers, but their friendship is put to the test when both girls decide to compete in a local Blueberry Queen pageant. | Compendium Fall 2015 Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate Award Winner Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee 2019 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2018-2019 |
| <i>Rules</i> | Lord, C | Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with an young paraplegic. | Compendium Spring 2007 Newbery Honor Schneider Family Book Award Buckeye Children's Award Winner Maine Student Book Award Winner Great Stone Face Award Winner Great Lakes Great Books Award Winner Kentucky Bluegrass Award Winner Librarians' Top 10 Choices |
| <i>Flying The Dragon</i> | Lorenzi, N | When Skye's cousin Hiroshi and his family move to Virginia from Japan, the cultural differences lead to misunderstandings and both children are unhappy at the changes in their lives--will flying the dragon kite finally bring them together? | Compendium Spring 2013 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 Children's Crown Award 2015-2016 GA Grade 4-8 Award 2013-2014 MA Children's Award MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2014-2015 MO Mark Twain Award Preliminary TX Bluebonnet Award 2013-2014 |
| <i>Long Pitch Home</i> | Lorenzi, N | Ten-year-old Bilal preferred life in Pakistan where he was the star of his cricket team and his family was all together. Now he's living in America with his aunt and uncle while his father remains in Pakistan. Hoping to fit in and keep up with her American cousin Jalaal, Bilal joins the baseball team where he is determined to stand out as a pitcher--perhaps then his father would come to America to watch him play. | Compendium 2016 Fall Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 |
| <i>How Chinese Immigrants Made America Home</i> | Lu, G | Explores the history of China and the emigration of Chinese citizens to America, highlighting the struggles they faced. Includes maps, archival and color photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Wheels Of Change : How Women Rode The Bicycle To Freedom (Wi</i></p> | <p>Macy, S</p> | <p>The introduction of the bicycle in the late 1800s coincides with the beginning of the struggle for women to gain freedoms and rights equal to men as documented in this entertaining and informative book. Due to this simple mode of transportation, women had opportunities to exercise and transform their clothing from restrictive corsets to more comfortable and daring garb. School Library Journal says, “The use of primary sources such as advertisements, excerpts from journals, photographs, and artwork all add invaluable to the informative and accessible writing.” Also includes an interesting time line that contrasts the history of the women’s movement and the history of the bicycle.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies 2012 SLJ Best Books of 2011 Finalist YALSA Excellence in Nonfiction for YA SLJ’s 100 Magnificent Children’s Books of 2011 Amelia Bloomer List</p> |
| <p><i>Camo Girl</i></p> | <p>Magoon, K</p> | <p>Sixth-grader Ella, the only black student in her class, has a skin discoloration that causes some of her classmates to call her “Camo-Face.” Her only friend at school, Zachary, sticks by her through thick and thin as they float along the edges of schoolyard society. But when a new black student arrives and instantly falls in with the popular group – and then reaches out to Ella for friendship – Zachary sees this new boy as a threat and causes Ella to become torn between her loyalty to him and a desire for some semblance of normalcy. “This poetic and nuanced story addresses the courage it takes to truly know and support someone, as well as the difficult choices that come with growing up” (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 2012 Best Children’s Books 2012 CCBC Book 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2013-2014 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers’ Award 2012-2013 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 2 Award 2012-2013 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 VA Readers’ Choice MS</p> |
| <p><i>Rebellion Of Thieves</i></p> | <p>Magoon, K</p> | <p>Robyn Loxley plans to sieze the opportunity to rescue her parents from the governor’s mansion by competing in the Iron Teen contest, although success could bring unwanted attention from Crown.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Season Of Styx Malone</i> | Magoon, K | Caleb Franklin and his younger brother, Bobby Gene, spend an extraordinary summer with their new, older neighbor, Styx Malone, a foster boy from the city. | <p>Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Honor Book Boston Globe Horn Book Award for Fiction NPR, Horn Book, Kirkus Review, SLJ, and Shelf Awareness Five Best Books of the Year Lists ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Book of 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Black-Eyed Susan Award 2019-2020 Rhode Island Children's Book Award 2020 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020</p> |
| <i>Shadows Of Sherwood</i> | Magoon, K | Robyn Loxley's parents disappear one night, leaving her to fend for herself in Nott City. When Ignomus Crown takes over the city, Robyn must flee for her life, taking up with a band of teens with unique talents for evading problems. Robyn enlists their help to track down her parents and take back the city from Crown. | <p>FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award 2017-2018 TX Lone Star Reading List 2017 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2016-2017 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2018</p> |
| <i>Chinese Cinderella : The True Story Of An Unwanted Daughter</i> | Mah, A | The autobiography of a young girl growing up with her stern step-mother and her spoiled siblings in China. | <p>PW Best Book of the Year ALA-YALSA Best Book for Young Adults ALA Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults IN Eliot Rosewater/Rosie Award 2002 IRA Young Adults' Choices 1998-2007 Lamplighter Award 2001-2002 NJ Garden State Nonfiction 2002 Publishers Weekly Best Books SD YARP Reading List 2002</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Revolution Of Evelyn Serrano</i></p> | <p>Manzano, S</p> | <p>Author Manzano draws from her own experiences to craft this "wry, moving debut" (BL) about 14-year-old Rosa Serrano. It's 1969, and Rosa just wants to blend in with the status quo amid her conservative Puerto Rican surroundings. So she changes her name to Evelyn and attempts to stay off the radar of her political activist grandmother who has just arrived from Puerto Rico, ready to engage in fighting and protests for Puerto Rican rights. Gradually, inspired by her grandmother and intrigued by the Young Lords and Black Panthers, Evelyn grows interested in the revolution, despite her mother's objections to the violence and uncertainty. "The teen's intense narrative is set against real-life political events ... while the family drama and revelations continue right up to the end" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 2013 ALA Honor ALA Notable Children's Book of 2013 Pura Belpre Honor Book Amelia Bloomer Project 2013 Americas Award - CLASP - 2013 Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2015-2016 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2013 NCSS Notable Title 2013 TN Volunteer MS Award 2015-2016</p> |
| <p><i>My Life As A Diamond</i></p> | <p>Manzer, J</p> | <p>Ten-year-old Caz Cadman lives for baseball. He loves everything about it and has a great arm. When his family moves from Toronto to a suburb of Seattle, one of the first things he does is try out for the local summer team. He's thrilled when he makes the team, but also nervous because back in Toronto, Caz used to be Cassandra, a girl. When a player on a rival team reveals Caz's secret, he's worried that he'll lose the support of his team.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Strong Inside : Young Readers Edition</i></p> | <p>Maraniss, A</p> | <p>Perry Wallace grew up during a period of American history when the country was just beginning to integrate African American and Caucasian children into the same classrooms. By the time Perry entered high school, his presence on the basketball court was getting attention from recruiters from some of the best colleges across the U.S. When he signed with Vanderbilt University, he never imagined the racially motivated hate he'd face. But he pressed on despite the hostility, proving himself to be more than just an exceptional basketball player—but also a brave, civil rights trailblazer. "This moving biography is thought-provoking, riveting and heart-wrenching, though it remains hopeful as it takes readers into the midst of the basketball and civil rights actions" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List</p> |
| <p><i>Click Here To Start</i></p> | <p>Markell, D</p> | <p>When twelve-year-old Ted Gerson's Great Uncle Ted dies and leaves him everything in his overstuffed apartment, Ted takes to exploring it like he plays one of his video games. He soon discovers that there's more to Uncle Ted's junk than meets the eye. With the help of his friends, Caleb and Isabel, Ted sets out to uncover the true treasure his uncle has hidden away. But they're not the only ones after it, and finding what they're looking for could prove to be dangerous.</p> | <p>School Library Guild Selection Amazon Best Books of the Month Selection Rhode Island Middle School Nominee 2018-2019</p> |
| <p><i>Rain Reign</i></p> | <p>Martin, A</p> | <p>Autistic fifth-grader Rose Howard, who is fascinated by her own set of rules and a passion for homonyms, sets out on a search for her beloved dog Rain after her father accidentally lets the dog out during a dangerous storm.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 New York Times Best Seller Schneider Family Book Award Dolly Gray Award Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Bluestem Book Award Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2018-2019</p> |
| <p><i>My Real Name Is Hanna</i></p> | <p>Masih, T</p> | <p>In this story based on real events, it is 1941, and Hitler's army has arrived in the Ukraine. Hanna Slivka, a fourteen-year-old Jewish girl, is forced into hiding with</p> | <p>Skipping Stones Honor 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | her family, first in the woods outside of town, and then into caves beneath the ground. | |
| <i>Refugee's Journey From Syria</i> | Mason, H | A young boy from Syria describes his country's history and civil conflict, and his experience as a refugee journeying to a new country. Includes color photographs, a glossary, discussion prompts, statistics, the UN Rights of the Child, and further resources. | Middle East Book Honor WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Mango-shaped Space</i> | Mass, W | Afraid that she is crazy, thirteen-year-old Mia, who sees a special color with every letter, number, and sound, keeps this a secret until she becomes overwhelmed by school, changing relationships, and the death of her beloved cat, Mango. | ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2006 Schneider Family Book Award Bank Street College Best Children's Books IA Teen Award 2005-2006 LA Reader's Choice Award 2006 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NH Great Stone Face Award 2004-2005 NV Intermediate Reader Award 2006 SC YA Book Award 2006-2007 VA Young Reader's Award 2005-2006 |
| <i>John Lewis : American Politician And Civil Rights Icon</i> | Mcaneney, C | Highlights the life, career, and activism of politician and civil rights icon John Lewis. Includes a timeline, a glossary, a website for further resources, and color photographs. | |
| <i>Madam C.j. Walker And Her Beauty Empire</i> | Mcaneney, C | Presents a biography of Sarah Breedlove Walker, who overcame her life as a former slave, became a pioneer in hair and beauty care products for black women, and achieved great financial success. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Summer Of The Mariposas</i></p> | <p>Mccall, G</p> | <p>When the five Garza sisters find the body of a dead man near the Rio Grande, they discover he is a native of Mexico and take it upon themselves to return his body to his family. As they venture forth, their party becomes the target of supernatural forces both benevolent and malevolent, causing minor obstacles that test their resolve and their commitment to their journey. Even as they contend with such creatures as a warlock and the vampiric chupacabra, their path is laid before them by the mysterious mariposas - butterflies - that make sure they never lose their way. "Readers ... are sure to be intrigued by both the unusual qualities of the mythical characters and the sense of adventure that lies behind every twist and turn of the girls' revelatory journey" (SLJ).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 Amelia Bloomer Project 2013 Andre Norton Award Best Children's Books of 2013 CA Westchester Fiction Award 2013 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 School Library Journal Best Books 2012 TX Lone Star Reading List Spirit of Texas HS Award 2015-2016</p> |
| <p><i>Harriet Tubman In Her Own Words</i></p> | <p>Mcdonnell, J</p> | <p>Presents a biography of Harriet Tubman chronicling her life and many achievements. Draws on Tubman's own words, and includes historical images, sidebars, fact boxes, a glossary, a timeline, and further resources.</p> | |
| <p><i>Merci Suarez Changes Gears</i></p> | <p>Medina, M</p> | <p>Eleven-year-old Merci Suarez is a scholarship student at a private school in Florida, and though poorer than her classmates, she thrives on her own self-confidence. But at home, life is stressful with an ailing grandfather and family obligations; and more, she is targeted by a mean girl, Edna, who is jealous of Merci's friendship with Edna's crush.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Winner of the 2019 Newberry Medal Young Adult Award MS Nominee 2019-2020 2019 ALA Honor SLJ 2018 Best Books 2019 ALA Medalist ALA Notable Children's Books 2019 2019 CCBC Book Capitol Choices Award 2019 Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 America's Award from CLASP 2019 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Volunteer Middle School Nominees 2020-2021 Kirkus Prize Honor</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>What Was Stonewall?</i> | Medina, N | In the early-morning hours of June 28, 1969, police arrived at the Stonewall Inn's doors and yelled, "Police! We're taking the place!" But the people in this New York City neighborhood bar, members of the LGBTQ community, were tired of being harassed. They rebelled in the streets, turning one moment into a civil rights movement and launching the fight for equality among LGBTQ people in the United States. | |
| <i>I Am Gandhi : A Graphic Biography Of A Hero</i> | Meltzer, B | Presents a graphic novel showing the life and work of Gandhi, covering his work as a young man refusing to accept the injustice of his society and fighting them in quiet, peaceful protest, both in South Africa and in India, where he freed his country from British rule. | Texas Topaz Reading List 2019 |
| <i>Playing Cupid : A Wish Novel</i> | Meyerhoff, J | For a school project, Clara Martinez decides to start a matchmaking service for her classmates. But even though she's an expert for her friends' love lives, Clara can't figure out who keeps leaving notes and gifts in her locker. | |
| <i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 4 : Girl-moon</i> | Montclare, B | Lunella is the smartest person in the world, but that may not help her when her battles are in outerspace. Along with her sidekick Devil Dinosaur, Moon Girl travels through time where they could face their biggest challenge so far. | |
| <i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 5 : Fantastic Three</i> | Montclare, B | Lunella must fight to protect others without Devil Dinosaur by her side so she joins forces with the Human Torch and the Ever-Lovin' Blue-Eyed Thing. The the Fantastic Three are looking for one more superhero to round them up to the be a foursome that can stop any villain. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 6 : Save Our School</i></p> | <p>Montclave, B</p> | <p>When Wilson Fisk becomes mayor of New York City and sets his daughter, Princess Fisk, up as co-runner of the Department of Education, it means bad things for LUnella and the students of her school, P.S. 20. Meanwhile, Lunella's problems--like her genetic mystery that continues to swap her brain with a forty-foot-tall T. rex--continue to get worse, especially when her cousin, Devin Dinosaur, comes to visit and the Wrecking Crew strikes.</p> | |
| <p><i>Tapir Scientist : Saving South America's Largest Mammal</i></p> | <p>Montgomery, S</p> | <p>Details the efforts of field scientist Pati Medici to locate Brazil's lowland tapir and lead efforts to protect this rare creature. Outlines the technology Pati and her team use to achieve their goal and features color photographs throughout.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2014 CCBC Book List</p> |
| <p><i>Temple Grandin : How The Girl Who Loved Cows Embraced Autism</i></p> | <p>Montgomery, S</p> | <p>Enhanced with personal photographs, this "powerful biography" (VOYA) examines the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Temple Grandin. Diagnosed with autism as a toddler, Temple grew up realizing she was very different. While her father demanded that she be institutionalized, Temple's mother believed she could unlock Temple's abilities and strove to give her daughter a good education. Her mother was right. Temple went on to revolutionize the livestock industry and become an advocate for autism.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 AAAS/Subaru SB&F Prize for Excellence ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 AR Charlie May Simon Award AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction Award Best Children's Books of 2013 CCBC Book 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award IN Young Hoosiers Award Jane Addams Honor KS William Allen White Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title 2013 ND Flicker Tale Nonfiction Award NM Land of Enchantment Award NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Book Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Stars Beneath Our Feet</i></p> | <p>Moore, D</p> | <p>Lolly is having a terrible time--his brother Jermaine got in a fight and then got shot. He doesn't know how to go on, but using the two giant bags of LEGOs his mom's girlfriend gave him, Lolly finds himself caught up in making a gigantic city--so big it goes outside his apartment. Then, he and his friend Vega get jumped by a few older guys, and Lolly will have to decide either to join a "crew" and get revenge, or find a different path.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent New York Times Notable Book A Time Top 10 Children's Books of the Year A Boston Globe Best Children's Book of the Year Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Books of the Year ALA-YALSA Quick Pick ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2020 E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Lin-manuel Miranda : Award-winning Actor, Rapper, Writer, An</i></p> | <p>Morlock, T</p> | <p>Profiles the life and career of entertainer Lin-Manuel Miranda, who has achieved profound modern success as a writer, performer, director, and composer on Broadway and in the movies, including the musical "Hamilton" and film "Moana."</p> | |
| <p><i>Marco Impossible</i></p> | <p>Moskowitz, H</p> | <p>When Marco discovers that his crush will be performing at the high school prom, he enlists the help of his friend Stephen to find a way to get on stage and profess his love. They soon discover, however, that not all missions go smoothly, and they run into more than a few hiccups along the way.</p> | <p>Rainbow Project Book List 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014</p> |
| <p><i>Cruisers</i></p> | <p>Myers, W</p> | <p>Friends Zander, Kambui, LaShonda, and Bobbi, caught in the middle of a mock Civil War at DaVinci Academy, learn the true cost of freedom of speech when they use their alternative newspaper, The Cruiser, to try to make peace.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 Book Link Lasting Connections of 2010 PA KSRA Young Adult MS Award 2011-2012 Parent's Choice Award Winner 2010</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Greatest : Muhammad Ali</i> | Myers, W | Details the life of boxer Muhammad Ali, including his rise to athletic fame, the hazards of his sport which permanently affected him, and his battle with Parkinson's disease. | Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2002 ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2002 Booklist Editor's Choice CCBC Book DC Capitol Choices Award 2002-2003 Michigan Reading Award 2003 TX Tayshas HS Reading Award 2002-2003 |
| <i>Riot</i> | Myers, W | In 1863, fifteen-year-old Claire, the daughter of an Irish mother and a black father, faces ugly truths and great danger when Irish immigrants, enraged by the Civil War and a federal draft, lash out against blacks and wealthy "swells" of New York City. | Compendium Spring 2010 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2009 |
| <i>David Ortiz : World Series Champion</i> | Nagelhout, R | Presents a biography of professional baseball player David Ortiz, including his childhood and his path to professional success. Includes a timeline, glossary, and further reading. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Other Side Of Truth</i></p> | <p>Naidoo, B</p> | <p>Smuggled out of Nigeria after their mother's murder, Sade and her younger brother are abandoned in London when their uncle fails to meet them at the airport and they are fearful of their new surroundings and of what may have happened to their journalist father back in Nigeria.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA ALA Notable Children's Books 2002 Amelia Bloomer Project Title Booklist Editor's Choice Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award Carnegie Medal CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best DC Capitol Choices Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award IRA Teachers' Choices Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award ME Student Book Award NCSS Notable Title Nestle Children's Book Prize PNLA Young Reader's Choice Publishers Weekly Best Books SC Junior Book Award SLJ Best Books</p> |
| <p><i>Going Where It's Dark</i></p> | <p>Naylor, P</p> | <p>Thirteen-year-old Buck Anderson is sad when his best friend moves away and he is bullied for his stuttering. His only joy comes in caving, which he used to do with his friend, but now does alone. He takes a job doing errands for a retired doctor who tells Buck he might be able to cure him of his stuttering. However, before Buck can be cured, he is forced to defend himself against his bully and the retribution puts Buck in danger. Now the only thing that can save him is his knowledge of caving.</p> | <p>Best Children's Books of the Year 2017</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Heart And Soul : The Story Of America And African Americans</i></p> | <p>Nelson, K</p> | <p>An unnamed narrator tells the story of her Pap and the history of African Americans in America, including the Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement, and finally the election of Barak Obama.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 ALA Honor 2012 Coretta Scott King Award ALA Notable Children's Books of 2012 Best Children's Books of 2012 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2011 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2011 California Collection 2013-2014 CCBC Book 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2012 Horn Book Fanfare 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2012 IRA Teacher's Choices 2012 Jane Addams Honor NCSS Notable Title 2012 OK Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2014 Parents' Choice Award Winners 2011 School Library Journal Best Books of 2011 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2012-2013</p> |
| <p><i>Ghetto Cowboy</i></p> | <p>Neri, G</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Cole's behavior causes his mother to drive him from Detroit to Philadelphia to live with a father he has never known, but who soon has Cole involved with a group of African-American "cowboys" who rescue horses and use them to steer youths away from drugs and gangs.</p> | <p>IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award 2014 ME Student Book Award 2012-2013 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 2 Award 2016-2017 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2014 PA Reader's Choice YA 2012-2013 SC Junior Book Award 2013-2014 TN Volunteer MS Award 2013-2014 TX Bluebonnet Award 2013-2014 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2011 WA Evergreen Teen Book Award 2014</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Cloud And Wallfish</i> | Nesbet, A | Noah Keller is surprised when his parents pick him up from school and drive directly to the airport, telling him they're immediately traveling to East Germany so his mother can do dissertation research. Even more shocking to Noah, they inform him that he will now be called Jonah Brown and that he must follow very strict rules that include never talking about important matters inside the house because "they" are always listening. Unsure who "they" are or why they would want to listen in on his family's conversations, Noah's mind is overloaded with questions he's unable to even ask. "In this atmospheric page-turner set just as the Iron Curtain begins to lift, [author] Nesbet deftly ratchets up the tension ... Edgy, dramatic, and emotionally rich historical fiction that provides a vivid look into an extraordinary moment in history" (HM). | Compendium Spring 2017 CCBC Book NCSS Notable Title 2017 |
| <i>Evangelina Takes Flight</i> | Noble, D | Having fled the rampaging revolutionaries in Mexico in 1911, thirteen-year-old Evangelina and her family face unexpected prejudice and violence in Texas. | Skipping Stones Honor Award 2018 |
| <i>Bunk 9's Guide To Growing Up : Secrets, Tips, And Expert Adv</i> | Nuchi, A | Provides a guide for prepubescent girls to understand the process of puberty. Offers secrets, tips, and advice on topics ranging from physical development to skin care to relationships with boys written in a fun, easy-to-understand way. | California Eureka! Nonfiction Award 2018 Skipping Stones Honor 2018 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>19 Varieties Of Gazelle : Poems Of The Middle East</i></p> | <p>Nye, N</p> | <p>Presents the author's new and collected poems of the Middle East.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2003 ALA Notable Books of 2003 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Boston Globe Horn Book through 2009 CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices Award DC Capitol Choices Award 2002 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society KY Bluegrass Award 2003-2004 ME Student Book Award 2003-2004 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award Winner 2003-2004 Middle East Book Honor National Book Award Honor NJ Garden State Nonfiction Award 2005 Parents' Choice Award Winner School Library Journal Best Books TX Teyshas High School Reading Award 2003-2004 VOYA Poetry Picks</p> |
| <p><i>Turtle Of Oman</i></p> | <p>Nye, N</p> | <p>Aref Al-Amri loves his native land of Oman, so when his professor parents tell him to pack his suitcase and prepare to move to Ann Arbor, Michigan, in America, Aref refuses. They are going there for three years to get their graduate degrees. Sulking, Aref finds comfort in his grandpa, Siddi, who rescues him from packing, and in the last days before the move, takes him on several adventures throughout Oman. They camp in the desert at night, watch thousands of stars in the sky, fish in the Gulf of Oman, dream about vacationing in India, and visit a nature reserve to see the titular turtles. At the end, Aref is finally ready to say goodbye, knowing he will return one day. A story "somehow both quiet and exhilarating" (HM).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Reading Book Horn Book Fanfare 2014 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 MA Children's Award 2017-2018 Middle East Book Honor Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2017-2018 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction Award 2017 VA Readers' Choice Elementary 2016-2017 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2015-2016</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Flying Lessons & Other Stories</i> | Oh, E | From basketball dreams and family fiascos to first crushes and new neighborhoods, this anthology, written by award-winning children's authors, celebrates the uniqueness and diversity in all of us. | Compendium Spring 2017 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020 Delaware Diamonds Award 2017-2018 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2018 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Notable Books for a Global Society 2018 |
| <i>Spirit Hunters</i> | Oh, E | Twelve-year-old Harper Raine has heard the whispers about her new home in Washington, D.C.—it is rumored to be haunted. Harper's not sure she believes in such things until her four-year-old brother, Michael, starts acting strangely. Now Harper wonders if his new imaginary friend, Bill, is something more. And while she struggles to unravel the mysterious and dark history of the home, she also tries to tap into memories she's repressed about an accident that left her badly injured. Author "Oh has crafted a truly chilling middle grade horror novel that will grab readers' imaginations" (PW). | Compendium Fall 2017 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2018-2019 South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Bluegrass Award Nominee 2019-2020 Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2019-2020 Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee 2020 Nene Award Nominee 2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Rhode Island MS Nominee 2018-2019 |
| <i>Notations Of Cooper Cameron</i> | O'reilly, J | At the family cabin by the lake where his grandfather died two years ago, eleven-year-old Cooper Cameron spends the summer trying to rid himself of the rituals that allow him to cope with his grief and fear. | Compendium Winter 2018 |
| <i>Hidden Witch</i> | Ostertag, M | Aster is thrilled his parents have finally agreed to let him learn witchery with the girls. But his happiness is met with concern when it becomes apparent that someone is practicing dark magic and Aster's friend Charlie is in danger. To protect his friend, Aster will need help from the most dangerous witch around. | ALA Great Graphic Novels for Teens 2019 |
| <i>Girls Like Me</i> | Packebush, N | Banjo Logan, a sixteen-year-old queer girl, wakes up in a juvenile mental ward. She is pregnant, cuts her arms, and her therapist and psychiatrist cannot help her deal with her genderqueer boy/girlfriend's recent suicide. Help comes in the form of a queer and manic Ethiopian girl and a shy gay boy kicked out by his strict religious family, who may teach Banjo that friendship is the best medicine. | Lambda Literary Award Finalist Golden Crown Literary Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>On The Court With... Stephen Curry</i></p> | <p>Page, S</p> | <p>Examines the career of professional basketball player Stephen Curry from high school to the NBA. Includes black-and-white photographs, statistics, and career highlights.</p> | |
| <p><i>Wonder</i></p> | <p>Palacio, R</p> | <p>August "Auggie" Pullman, a boy born with a facial deformity, is finally ready to go to a public school for the beginning of his fifth grade year. Inside he feels just like other kids, but his face may separate him from potential friends forever.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2012 #1 New York Times Best Seller USA Today Best Seller Time Magazine's 100 Best YA Books of All Time New York Times Book Review Notable Book Washington Post Best Kids' Book E.B. White Read Aloud Award Charlie May Simon Award Colorado Children's Book Award - Jr. Novel Prairie Pasque Award Nene Award Rebecca Caudill Award California Young Reader Medal Young Hoosier Award Maine Student Book Award Mark Twaing Book Award Golden Sower Chapter Book Winner Rhode Island Children's Book Award Winner Golden Archer Award Winner Christopher Award for Adults and Young People Georgia Children's Book Award Winner Junior Book Award Black-Eyed Susan Award Great Stone Face Award Flicker Tale MS Fiction Award Louisiana Young Reader Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Archer's Quest</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Kevin Kim helps Chu-mong, a legendary king of ancient Korea, return to his own time.</p> | <p>Compendium Title AL Emphasis on Reading Award 2007-2008 CT Nutmeg Children's Choice Award 2008-2009 IA Children's Choice Award 2008-2009 IN Young Hoosier Award 2010 KS William Allen White 2008-2009 KY Bluegrass Award 2007-2008 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2007-2008 MO Mark Twain Book Award 2008-2009 SC Children's Book Award 2008-2009 TX Horned Toad Tales Award 2007-2008 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2009</p> |
| <p><i>Cavern Of Secrets</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>Determined to make it home, Raffa and his friends begin the journey across Obsidia. When Raffa comes across a luminous plant he's never seen before, his apothecary instincts tell him the plant may be the key to saving the creatures stuck in the Chancellor's grasp.</p> | |
| <p><i>Forest Of Wonders</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Raffa Santana is a prodigy apothecary who has always loved the Forest of Wonders for all the mysterious and potentially magical vegetation he finds there. But when he saves an injured bat using a mysterious red vine that he finds deep in the forest, he is faced with a magic that is both life-saving and dangerous. Intent on warning his uncle and cousin, who are also apothecaries, of the plant's potentially dangerous effects, Raffa travels to Gilden where he realizes the botanical research going on there could threaten the very creatures he hopes to protect.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominees 2016</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Long Walk To Water</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>In alternating chapters, Park's novel illuminates the stories of two young people living in Sudan. First there is 11-year-old Salva, whose school is attacked by rebels in 1985, launching him on a three-year journey to refugee camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. Eventually, Salva is chosen to travel to America and is adopted by a family there. The other side of the story focuses on Nya, a young girl living in Sudan in 2008 who must walk eight hours each day to gather water for her family. Desperate for help and change, Nya's prayers are answered when a now-grown Salva returns home and builds a well, helping his people find the water they need to survive. "The switching viewpoints may initially disorient some, but young readers will be stunned by the triumphant climax of the former refugee who makes a difference" (BL).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2011 New York Times Best Seller Book Links Lasting Connections of 2010 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2013 FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2012-2013 HI Nene Nominees 2013 IA Children's Choice Awards 2013-2014 IL Read for a Lifetime Award 2011-2012 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 Jane Addams Honor KY Bluegrass Award 2011-2012 Lamplight Award 2012-2013 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2011-2012 ME Student Book Award 2011-2012 MN Great Lakes Great Books Award 2011-2012 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Div. 2 Award 2012-2013 MS Magnolia Award 2013 NC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 NCSS Notable Title 2011 ND Flicker Tale Award 2011-2012 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2012-2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 NY 3 Apples Teen Nominee 2018-2019 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 PA Reader's Choice 2012-2013 Smithsonian Notable Books for Children TN Volunteer MS Award 2012-2013 VA Reader's Choice MS Award 2013-2014 WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2013 WY Indian Paintbrush Award 2012-2013</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Project Mulberry</i> | Park, L | Newbery-winning writer Park covers the big issues of conservation, prejudice, patriotism, and biology in her latest novel. Julia Song doesn't want to do a silkworm project for the state fair. It's too Korean; she wants to do something American, but she becomes interested in caring for the eggs, the caterpillars, and the moths and then sewing the silk thread. Kind, elderly Mr. Dixon donates the mulberry leaves the silkworms eat, but why is Mom against Julia spending time with him? The first-person narrative alternates with lively interchanges between Julia ("Me") and the author ("Ms. Park"), which may seem distracting, but will eventually rope children in with the funny conversations. | Compendium Title APALA Children's Literature Award Blue Hen Book Award Winner |
| <i>Single Shard</i> | Park, L | Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself. | Newbery Medalist APALA Children's Literature Award NEA Asian American Booklist Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>When My Name Was Keoko</i></p> | <p>Park, L</p> | <p>With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for YA 2003 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2003 AR Charlie May Simon Award 2004-2005 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Children's Literature Choices Award DC Capitol Choices Award 2002 DE Blue Hen Book Award 2004 FL Sunshine State Young Reader 2005-2006 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2005 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society IRA Teachers' Choices Jane Addams Honor Book KY Bluegrass Award 2003-2004 Lamplighter Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2004-2005 ME Student Book Award 2003-2004 MI Mitten Award MO Mark Twain Book 2004-2005 NCSS Notable Title NJ Garden State Fiction 2005 NM Land of Enchantment Award 2006-2007 Skipping Stones Book Award UT Beehive Fiction Award 2003-2004 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2003-2004</p> |
| <p><i>Strong Is The New Pretty : A Celebration Of Girls Being Them</i></p> | <p>Parker, K</p> | <p>Presents a range of photographs of girls, age five to eighteen, doing the things they love to do, showing that being beautiful is more about being strong, confident, and one's authentic self than it is conforming to societal beauty standards.</p> | <p>Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 Skipping Stones Honor Award 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Finding Someplace</i></p> | <p>Patrick, D</p> | <p>Aspiring fashion designer Reesie Boone is eagerly anticipating her 13th birthday. This will be her chance to finally sew her first outfit on Ma Maw's sewing machine, and she can't wait to show off her new style with her best friends Ayanna and Orlando by her side. But Reesie's birthday instead brings a devastating surprise—Hurricane Katrina hits her city of New Orleans while Reesie is home alone, and she is forced to escape in a boat along with her elderly neighbor, Miss Martine. Although Reesie is finally rejoined with her family, they still have a long journey to undertake before they can return home. “A perfect storm of suspense and character building” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 Best Children's Books of 2016</p> |
| <p><i>I Funny : A Middle School Story</i></p> | <p>Patterson, J</p> | <p>Resolving to become the world's greatest stand-up comedian despite less-than-funny challenges in his life, wheelchair-bound middle school student Jamie Grimm endures bullying from his mean-spirited cousin and hopes he will be fairly judged when he enters a local comedy contest.</p> | <p>New York Times Best Seller Compendium 2013 Spring Colorado Children's Book Jr. Award 2016 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2014-2015 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2013-2014</p> |
| <p><i>Lebron James</i></p> | <p>Payment, S</p> | <p>Examines the life of professional basketball player LeBron James and traces his path to stardom. Also details his accomplishments in the NBA. Includes a timeline, fact sheet, color photographs, a glossary, and further resources.</p> | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Seventh Most Important Thing</i></p> | <p>Pearsall, S</p> | <p>Shortly after his father dies, middle schooler Arthur T. Owens sees the local “Junk Man” picking through the neighborhood garbage and wearing his father's hat. Hurt and angry, Arthur responds by hurling a brick at the man, hitting him in the arm. But despite the fact that the judge wants to send Arthur to juvenile detention, Arthur receives a reprieve—the Junk Man, whose real name is James Hampton, requests that Arthur serve 120 hours of community service instead, working for Hampton himself. This turns out to be no ordinary job—Hampton is scouring the trash looking for materials to construct an incredibly large, complex, and ethereal work of art in his garage. Based on the actual life of artist James Hampton, this story is “luminescent, just like the artwork it celebrates” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2016 ALA Notable Book ILA Teacher's Choice Kirkus Review Best Book of the Year AR Charlie May Simon Award 2017-2018 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Best Children's Books of 2016 CT Nutmeg Teen Award 2018 DC Capitol Choices Award Delaware Diamonds Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IA Teen Award IN Young Hoosier Award KS William Allen White Award MA Children's Award ME Student Book Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award MO Mark Twain Preliminary NE Golden Sower Intermediate Award NH Isinglass Teen Read List NY Charlotte Award MS Ohioana Juvenile Book Award OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Best Man</i></p> | <p>Peck, R</p> | <p>As Archer Magill enters middle school, he has a great selection of men in his life to admire, from his dad and grandfather to his Uncle Paul and his first male teacher, Mr. McLeod. While Archer navigates the windy road leading to puberty, Uncle Paul and Mr. McLeod fall in love. Young Archer finds himself making a trip down the wedding aisle in a sleek, new tux as their best man in this delightfully funny coming-of-age novel set against a backdrop of contemporary social issues. “An incredible portrait of what it looks like to grow up in an age of viral videos and media frenzies, undergirded by the same powerful sense of family that characterizes so much of [author] Peck's work” (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Boston Globe Horn Honor Book Amazon's Editors' Picks for Fall New York Times Notable Children's Books Horn Book Fanfare School Library Journal Best Books of 2016 Kirkus Best Books of 2016 Chicago Public Library Best Books of 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century E.B. White Read Aloud Honor Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee 2019 Garden State Children's Fiction Nominee 2019</p> |
| <p><i>First Rule Of Punk</i></p> | <p>Perez, C</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Malú is the new kid at school and nothing goes right. But when she meets a group of other misfits and starts a punk band, she must find a way to express herself even in the face of the anti-punk administration.</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 2018 Pura Belpre Author Honor Book Young Adult Award MS Nominee 2019-2020 Tomas Rivera Mexican American Children's Book Award 2019 TX Lone Star Reading List 2019-2020 South Carolina Junior Book Award 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 IN Young Hoosier Intermediate Nominee Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century 2020 Blue Hen Middle Reader Nominees 2020 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2018 ALA Honor E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2018 ALA Notable Children's Book 2018 Amelia Bloomer Project 2018-2019 Junior Book Award Nominee</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Bamboo People</i> | Perkins, M | Two Burmese boys, one a Karenni refugee and the other the son of an imprisoned Burmese doctor, meet in the jungle and in order to survive they must learn to trust each other. | Compendium Spring 2011 ALA Best Fiction for YA Top 10 2011 APALA Children's Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 APALA Children's Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 CCBC Global Book IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader Award 2014 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 Indies Choice - YA IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 Lampighter Award 2012-2013 ME Student Book Award 2011-2012 PA KSRA Young Adult HS Award 2011-2012 Skipping Stones Book Award 2011 TN Volunteer HS Award 2013-2014 |
| <i>Little Rock Nine</i> | Perritano, J | Simple text and photographs profile the "Little Rock Nine," nine students who protested during the civil rights movement at Central High School. | |
| <i>Serena Williams</i> | Peters, S | Provides a biography of the life and career of professional tennis player Serena Williams. Includes discussion of her early years, career highlights, and her work outside of tennis. | |
| <i>Boy Bites Bug</i> | Petruck, R | To defuse a situation between his best friend and a new student, Nolan eats a live stink bug, gaining popularity and a class project idea but, perhaps, losing a friend. | Compendium Spring 2018 |
| <i>This Kid Can Fly : It's About Ability (Not Disability)</i> | Philip, A | The fourteen-year-old author chronicles his life through a series of stories that describe his birth in Antigua, his family's immigration to New York City, his triumph over cerebral palsy and other difficulties, and his work as an artist. | Best Children's Books of 2017 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2016 NJ Garden State Children's Nonfiction Award 2019 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Bird In A Box</i></p> | <p>Pinkney, A</p> | <p>Spanning from 1936 to 1937, Pinkney's novel, narrated by the alternating voices of 12-year-olds Hibernia, Otis, and Willie, follows the three black children whose lives begin to intersect as Joe Louis approaches the title of American heavyweight boxing champion. After Otis and Willie meet in an orphanage, they learn to trust each other as they find ways to overcome their similar problems. When Hibernia's choir group performs at their orphanage, Otis takes notice. The three youngsters learn that they all shared the pleasure of listening to radio broadcasts detailing the exploits and achievements of Louis. Eventually, all three find themselves at the title fight between Louis and James Braddock, where Louis' efforts to strive "for the pride of Negroes" instill the trio with dreams and aspirations of their own. School Library Journal calls this "an accessible and inspiring piece of historical fiction that belongs in most collections."</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 Best Children's Books 2012 CCBC Book 2012 MI Great Lakes Great Books 2012-2013 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2011</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Red Pencil</i></p> | <p>Pinkney, A</p> | <p>Twelve-year-old Amira, a resident of a Sudanese refugee camp following the murder of her parents in a Janjaweed attack, finds hope in the gift of a simple red pencil that allows her to express her creativity and formulate her hopes for the future.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books 2015 Best Children's Books of 2015 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2014 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 Children's Africana Book Award DC Capitol Choices Award GA Grade 4-8 Book Award HI Nene Nominee 2016 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2015 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award NCSS Notable Title 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award RI Children's Book Award School Library Journal Best Books 2014 VOYA Poetry Picks WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2015</p> |
| <p><i>Someday Birds</i></p> | <p>Pla, S</p> | <p>When 12-year-old Charlie's father, a journalist, returns from the war in Afghanistan with a severe brain injury, Charlie and his three siblings—who have already lost their mother—face an uncertain future. As they travel from California to Virginia with a woman they hardly know to see their father in the hospital, Charlie turns to his obsession with birds to help him cope with his feelings. Author “Pla's debut is an achingly real portrait of a family living in the in-between place of a wait-and-see prognosis. Charlie's unique voice and his quest to understand the world around him will resonate with readers dealing with their own pain” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Winner of the 2018 Dolly Gray Children's Literature Award New York Public Library Best Kids Books of 2017 Bank Street Best Children's Book of 2017 Wisconsin Library Association CBA Outstanding Books of the Year Selection 2018-2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Book Award List Selection 2018-2019 Maryland Black-Eyed Susan Award Nominee Young Hoosier Book Award Nominee</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Gracefully Grayson</i> | Polonsky, A | Transgender high school student Grayson Sender struggles with the urge to live openly as a girl, the identity he is inside. Support from unexpected places helps him embrace his true identity. | AR Teen Book Award 2015-2016 Best Children's Books of 2015 CCBC Book 2015 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2014 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2017 WI Just One More Page! List 2016 |
| <i>Framed! : A Florian Bates Mystery</i> | Ponti, J | In Washington, D.C., twelve-year-old Florian Bates, a consulting detective for the FBI, and his best friend Margaret help thwart the biggest art heist in United States history. | Missouri Mark Twain Book Award Winner Intermediate Reader Award Winner Maud Hart Lovelace Nominee 2019-2020 Massachusetts Children's Book Award 2018-2019 |
| <i>Vanished!</i> | Ponti, J | Florian Bates is a middle schooler, but he is so good at secret investigations that he is on the FBI Director's speed dial. He has also earned the top spot on several international criminals' hit lists. After helping the FBI with the National Gallery art theft and DC spy ring cases, Florian finds himself sent to a private school to investigate nothing more than middle school pranks—pranks involving the President of the United States' daughter. But when a student vanishes, things take a turn for the worse ... “A splendid whodunit: cerebral, exhilarating, low in violence, methodical in construction, and occasionally hilarious” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2017 Edgar Award Winner for Juvenile Fiction |
| <i>Stephen Curry : Nba Sharpshooter</i> | Porterfield, J | Presents a biography of professional basketball player Stephen Curry, chronicling his path to success. Includes a timeline, fact boxes, color photographs, a glossary, and resources for further information. | |
| <i>Who's Ju?</i> | Ramos, D | While seventh-grader Ju Felicino and her fellow sleuths are investigating who vandalized the school drama club scenery, Ju finds herself in a deeper conundrum doing a genetics assignment. Forced to come to terms with her frizzy blonde hair and amber eyes, which clash with the rest of her family, Ju discovers an important secret about her ancestry. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>African American Artists & Writers</i> | Randolph, J | Profiles and celebrates the lives of a range of African American artists and writers, including Langston Hughes, Maya Angelou, James Allen, and Toni Morrison. Includes a glossary, index, and suggestions for further reading. | |
| <i>42 Is Not Just A Number : The Odyssey Of Jackie Robinson, Am</i> | Rappaport, D | Discusses the life and career of baseball icon Jackie Robinson, who in 1946 became the first African American baseball player in the league's history. | Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction Nominee 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2020 ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctatnt Readers 2018 |
| <i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 1 : Bff</i> | Reeder, A | Lunella Lafayette isn't your typical kid. She possesses an inhuman gene that is poised to change her into a monster at any moment. But she's not going to sit around and wait for the awful transformation. She's on the hunt for the Omni-Wave Projector, the only thing that can prevent the otherwise inevitable. And helping her along the way is her pet, a Devil Dinosaur that teleported from prehistoric times into the present. And having a T-Rex as a best friend presents its own set of challenges. | TX Maverick Graphic Novel List 2017 |
| <i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 2 : Cosmic Cooties</i> | Reeder, A | Lunella is finally struck by the Terrigen Cloud but her transformation is not what she expected it to be. Then she spends a strange day in Devil Dinosaur's body, and is accosted by the new boy in class. Finally, Moon Girl encounters a new nemesis, Kid Kree. | |
| <i>Moon Girl And Devil Dinosaur : 3 : The Smartest There Is</i> | Reeder, A | Lunella Lafayette is the smartest girl in the Marvel Universe, smarter even than Tony Stark, and she is only a fourth grader. Her unrivaled intellect is put to the test when Devil Dinosaur, the Thing, Ironheart, Doctor Strange, Storm, and the X-Men all team up with her to take on enemies like Doctor Doom. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>House That Lou Built</i> | Respicio, M | Longing for an escape from her extended Filipino family, Lou plans to build a tiny house on land she inherited from her father, but difficulties quickly arise. | Compendium Title NPR Best Book of the Year Kirkus Review Best Book of the Year CCBC Book 2019 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2019-2020 |
| <i>As Brave As You</i> | Reynolds, J | When 11-year-old Genie and his older brother Ernie are sent away from their home in Brooklyn to spend a month with their estranged grandfather in rural Virginia, Genie finds himself facing the perplexity of what it means to become a man. Surprised by his grandfather's ability to function so well despite his blindness, Genie thinks his grandfather might be the bravest man he's ever met. But when he realizes his grandfather never leaves his home, he wonders what bravery truly is. "Uncommonly well-developed, complex characters ... This pitch-perfect contemporary novel gently explores the past's repercussions on the present" (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2016 Kirkus Award Finalist Schneider Family Book Award Winner Coretta Scott King Honor Book 2017 Best Children's Books of the Year 2020 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honors 2017 ALA Honor |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Ghost</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>If they can get their acts together, Ghost, Lu, Patina, and Sunny—four kids with widely different backgrounds and explosive personalities—could potentially become their middle school track team's elite squad, and maybe even qualify for the Junior Olympics. Ghost has outstanding natural talent, but no formal training, and his discipline is lacking ever since his father chased him and his mother out of the house. He will have to do everything he can to stay on track, physically and figuratively, to be the best sprinter in the city. Author Reynolds “uses a light hand to delve into topics that include gun violence, class disparity, and bullying in this compelling series opener”(PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature Nominated as one of America's best-loved novels by PBS's The Great American Read Illinois Rebecca Caudill Award Winner Buckeye Children's Award Maine Student Book Award Winner National Book Award Honor William Allen White Winner Young Adult Book Award MS Winner Great Lakes Great Books Award winner South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner Nutmeg Teen Award Winner Reader's Choice 6-8 Winner 2020 Nene Award Nominee Virginia Reader's Choice Award MS Winner 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2017-2018 Delaware Diamonds MS Award 2019 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2019 Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2019 Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee 2018-2019 Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2018-2019 Reader's Choice Award Nominee Nutmeg Teen Nominee 2019 2018-2019 MA Children's Book Award</p> |
| <p><i>Patina</i></p> | <p>Reynolds, J</p> | <p>Four kids are chosen for an elite middle school track team—Ghost, Lu, Patina, and Sunny—a team that might even make it to the Junior Olympics if they can learn to work together. But they come from very different backgrounds and have wildly different personalities that often clash. Patina runs to get away from her problems at home, but can she learn to control her anger enough to work as a team? “Another stellar lap—readers will be eager to see who's next” (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Winter 2018 New York Times Best Seller Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant YA Readers 2018 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Sunny</i> | Reynolds, J | Sunny always has a goofy smile and is the happiest person on the Defenders team. But Sunny's mom died giving birth to him and it seems like his dad blames him since he ignores Sunny and makes him call him "Darryl" and never "Dad." The only thing Sunny can do right in his dad's eyes is to win first place ribbons in running the mile, just like his mother. Sunny hates running and loves to dance and when he discovers a track event that allows him to incorporate elements of dance that he loves, he learns to let go of everything that's eating him up inside. | Compendium Spring 2018 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Top Ten Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers 2019 CCBC Book 2019 Booklist's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles Indian Paintbrush Award Nominee 2019-2020 |
| <i>Ninth Ward</i> | Rhodes, J | In New Orleans' Ninth Ward, twelve-year-old Laneshia, who can see spirits, and her adopted grandmother have no choice but to stay and weather the storm as Hurricane Katrina bears down upon them. | Compendium Spring 2011 Coretta Scott King Honor ALA Honor 2011 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2011 Amelia Bloomer Project 2011 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate 2013 Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2012-2013 IA Children's Choice IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's 2013 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 Jane Addams Honor LA Young Readers' Choice 2013 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NCSS Notable Title 2011 NV Intermediate Reader 2012 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2010 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 School Library Journal Best Books of 2010 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award WY Indian Paintbrush Award 2013-2014 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Sugar</i> | Rhodes, J | In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where spunky ten-year-old Sugar has always lived, including changes to her friendship with Billy, the son of her former master, and the arrival of workmen from China. | <p>Compendium Fall 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 CCBC Book 2014 IA Children's Choice 2016-2017 Jane Addams Honor KA William Allen White Award 2015-2016 LA Young Readers' Choice 2016 MD Black Eyed Susan Award 2014-2015 ME Student Book Award 2014-2015 MS Magnolia Award 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2014 NJ Garden State Children's Book Award 2016 OK Sequoyah Children's Book Award 2016 SC Children's Book Award 2014-2015 SD Prairie Pasque 2015-2016 TN Volunteer Intermediate Award 2015-2016 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS 2013 WI Just One Page! Reading List 2014 WY Indian Paint Brush Award 2014</p> |
| <i>8th Grade Super Zero</i> | Rhoday-perkovich, O | After half-heartedly joining his church youth group's project at a homeless shelter near his Brooklyn middle school, eighth-grade "loser" Reggie McKnight is inspired to run for school office on a platform of making a real difference in the community. | <p>Compendium Fall 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 NCSS Notable Title 2011</p> |
| <i>Gauntlet</i> | Riazi, K | Three friends are trapped in a mechanical board game called The Gauntlet of Blood and Sand. They have to figure out how to defeat the game's evil creator to save themselves and all the other children who have been trapped inside-before they become part of the machine themselves. | <p>Compendium 2017 Just One More Page! List 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Hammer Of Thor</i> | Riordan, R | As Magnus Chase and his friends adjust to Hotel Valhalla, they train for Ragnarok and settle into the afterlife. But when Magnus's friends Hearthstone and Blitzen disappear and he hears that Thor's hammer has gone missing, Magnus knows he needs to summon Jack, the Sword of Summer, to take action before it's too late. | Stonewall Book Award 2017 ALA Honor |
| <i>Closer : Young Readers Edition</i> | Rivera, M | Presents a memoir by Mariano Rivera, a thirteen-time All-Star for the New York Yankees, discussing how he came to be a professional baseball player as well as what his life is like off the field. | ALA Quick Picks for Reluctant YA 2015 NJ Garden State Teen Nonfiction 2017 |
| <i>Hero Two Doors Down : Based On The True Story Of Friendship</i> | Robinson, S | Inspired by real events in 1948, the story describes eight-year-old Stephen Satlow's life in Brooklyn, New York, and his obsession with the Dodgers baseball team. When Stephen's all-Jewish neighbors protest the arrival of an African American family to their neighborhood, Stephen decides to befriend the new neighbor who turns out to be Jackie Robinson himself. The friendship that develops teaches Stephen many lessons and binds the Christian and Jewish families together for life. | Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 2019 Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee |
| <i>Refugee's Journey From Iraq</i> | Rodger, E | A young girl from Iraq describes her country's history and civil conflict, and her experience as a refugee journeying to a new country. Includes color photographs, a glossary, discussion prompts, statistics, the UN Rights of the Child, and further resources. | Middle East Book Honor WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Hurt Go Happy</i> | Rorby, G | When thirteen-year-old Joey Willis, deaf since the age of six, meets Dr. Charles Mansell and his chimpanzee Sukari, who use sign language, her world blooms with possibilities but that of the chimp begins to narrow. | Compendium Spring 2017 Schneider Family Book Award International Literacy Association Teachers' Choice Book Sense Children's Pick KLIATT Editor's Choice: Best of the Year's Hardcover YA Fiction New York Public Library "Books for the Teen Age" Selection |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>May B.</i></p> | <p>Rose, C</p> | <p>When a failed wheat crop nearly bankrupts the Betterly family, Pa pulls twelve-year-old May from school and hires her out to a couple new to the Kansas frontier.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 Amelia Bloomer Project 2013 AR Charlie May Simon 2014-2015 Best Children's Books of 2013 Children's Crown Award 2014-2015 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2014-2015 IA Children's Choice 2015-2016 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' 2016 IN Young Hoosier Award KY Bluegrass Award MD Black-Eyed Susan Award MO Mark Twain Award NE Golden Sower Intermediate Award NM Land of Enchantment Award SC Junior Book Award TN Volunteer Intermediate Award VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award WV Children's Book Award</p> |
| <p><i>Grand Mosque Of Paris : A Story Of How Muslims Rescued Jews</i></p> | <p>Ruelle, K</p> | <p>Tells the story of how Muslims rescued, hid, and transported Jews during the Nazi occupation of Paris. Includes a glossary, bibliography, and a list of recommended books and films.</p> | <p>ALA Notable Children's Books 2010 CA Eureka! Nonfiction Children's Award CCBC Book 2010 FW BOTYA Finalist Juvenile Nonfiction Award Middle East Book Honor NCSS Notable Title 2010</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Becoming Naomi Leon</i></p> | <p>Ryan, P</p> | <p>When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Notable Children's Books 2005 Pura Belpre Honor Book Scheider Family Book Award Amelia Bloomer Project 2002-2009 Americas Award - CLASP Andre Norton Award AR Charlie May Simon Award 2006-2007 AZ Young Reader Intermediate 2007 Bank Street College Best Children's Books Book Sense Book of the Year Award CA Young Reader Medal 2006-2007 CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best CO Children's Book Award 2007 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2007 DC Capitol Choices Award FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award IA Children's Choice Award IN Young Hoosier Award 2007 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 1996-2007 KS William Allen White Award 2006-2007 KY Bluegrass Award 2006-2007 MA Children's Award 2006-2007 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2006-2007 NCTE Notable Books 1997-2006 NM Land of Enchantment Award 2007-2008 Parent's Choice Award Winner <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Dreamer</i></p> | <p>Ryan, P</p> | <p>Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first child born free in Buxton, Canada -- a haven for slaves fleeing pre- emancipation America -- uses his wits and skills to bring to justice the lying preacher who stole money that was to be used to buy one family's freedom. Along the way, a vivid cast of characters are introduced, and unforgettable stories are relished, including hoop snakes, toady-frogs, and fish-head chunking and crying. Readers will be inspired by Elijah's heroic actions and compassion for his people. "This is Curtis' best novel yet, and no doubt many readers, young and old, will finish and say, 'This is one of the best books I have ever read'" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 Pura Belpre Award Winner ALA Honor 2011 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2011 Americas Award - CLASP - 2011 Charlie May Simon Award 2012-2013 Best Children's Books of 2011 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2010 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2010 Boston Globe - Horn Book 2010 California Collection 2011 CCBC Book 2011 DC Capitol Choices Award 2011 HI Nene Nominee 2012 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Children's Choices 2011 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 2011 NAPPA Best Kids Books 2010 NC Young Adult Book Award MS 2011-2012 NCSS Notable Title 2011 Smithsonian Notable Books for Children 2010</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Esperanza Rising</i></p> | <p>Ryan, P</p> | <p>Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Best Books for Young Adults Pura Belpre Award Americas Award CLASP AR Charlie May Simon Award 2002-2003 AZ Young Reader Teen Award 2003 Bank Street Best Children's Books 2008 CA Young Readers Medal 2002-2003 CCBC Book Chicago Public Library Best of the Best Colorado Children's Book Award 2002-2003 CT Nutmeg Children's Book Award 2004 FL Sunshine State Young Readers Award 2004-2005 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2002-2003 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2004 IRA Notable Books for a Global Society 1996-2007 Jane Addams Honor Book NCTE Notable Books 1997-2006 NH Great Stone Face Award 2001-2003 Publishers Weekly Best Books <i>(more individual state awards not noted due to space restriction)</i></p> |
| <p><i>Riding Freedom</i></p> | <p>Ryan, P</p> | <p>A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst who ran away from an orphanage, posed as a boy, moved to California, and fooled everyone by her appearance.</p> | <p>Compendium Title Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award Winner California Young Reader Medal Winner Grand Canyon Reader Intermediate Winner</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Small Steps</i> | Sachar, L | Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along. | Compendium Schneider Family Book Award ALA Honor 2007 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book Colorado Children's Book Jr. 2008 IA Teen Award 2007-2008 IRA Children's Choice IRA Young Adults' Choices KY Bluegrass Award NCSS Notable Title 2007 Parents' Choice Award Winners PNLA Young Reader's Choice 2009 |
| <i>Astronaut Ellen Ochoa</i> | Schwartz, H | Briefly examines the life of astronaut Ellen Ochoa, who was a young girl when the first astronauts walked on the Moon, and the obstacles she had to overcome to become the first female Hispanic American astronaut. | |
| <i>Code-breaker And Mathematician Alan Turing</i> | Schwartz, H | Presents a brief biography of Alan Turing, a gay man who became a famous mathematician and code breaker. | |
| <i>Super Soaker Inventor Lonnie Johnson</i> | Schwartz, H | Provides a biography of African American inventor and NASA engineer Lonnie Johnson who invented the Super Soaker. Discusses his childhood, education, and passion for inventing. Includes quotes, photographs, a timeline, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Sincerely, Harriet</i> | Searle, S | In 1996 Chicago, thirteen-year-old Harriet Flores, living with boredom, loneliness, and a chronic illness, lets her imagination run wild--with mixed results--and learns about the power of storytelling. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Black Dragon</i> | Sedgwick, J | Talented magician Danny, who is half-Chinese, half-British, and dwarf strongman Zamora try to find the connection between the disastrous end of the circus Mysterium, where Danny's performer parents were killed, and the disappearance of his guardian aunt, who is investigating sinister gangs in Hong Kong. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Palace Of Memory</i> | Sedgwick, J | While searching for more clues to the murder of his circus performer parents, talented magician Danny Woo follows the Mysterium circus to Barcelona, where he discovers a traitor and a dangerous woman in green. | |
| <i>Wish Upon A Sleepover</i> | Selfors, S | Leilani's quest to become friends with the most popular girls at school by hosting a sleepover takes a turn when she sends the invitations to the "do not invite" list. Now, she's stuck spending an evening with the girls she'd rather stay away from. When they decide to make Leilani's grandmother's Sleepover Soup, they engage on a hunt for one ingredient they can each contribute that means something to them. And Leilani finds the friendship she's been craving in an unlikely group of gal pals. | |
| <i>Cardboard Kingdom</i> | Sell, C | Sixteen children transform their neighborhood with the help of cardboard boxes as they have fun and use their imagination during summer vacation. | Compendium Kirkus Reviews Best Books of the Year Texas Bluebonnet 2019-2020 Master List Selection Elizabeth Burr Award Blue Hen Middle Graphic Novel Nominee 2020 SLJ 2018 Best Books Texas Little Maverick Graphic Novels 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 ALA Rainbow Project Book List 2019 Maine Student Book Award Reading List 2019-2020 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020 Nene Award Nominee 2020 |
| <i>Escape From Aleppo</i> | Senzai, N | After Nadia is separated from her family while fleeing the civil war, she spends the next four days with a mysterious old man who helps her navigate the checkpoints and snipers of the rebel, ISIS, and Syrian armies that are littering Aleppo on her way to meeting her father at the Turkish border. | Compendium Winter 2018 Indie Next List Pick The Global Read Aloud 2018 Contender |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Saving Kabul Corner</i> | Senzai, N | Twelve-year-old Ariana is worlds apart from her proper Afghan cousin Laila, who just moved into their California home. Ariana is a tomboy; Laila cooks, sews, and sings. When a revival Afghan grocery store opens in their town, Laila and Ariana fall on opposite sides of an ancient feud, only to realize that they might be the only ones to end it. | Best Children's Books of 2015 Edgar Award Honor MO Mark Twain Preliminary 2016-2017 SC Children's Book Award 2016-2017 |
| <i>Shooting Kabul</i> | Senzai, N | After moving to the United States from his native Afganistan, Fadi wants to return there to find his missing six-year-old sister, Mariam. Includes a glossary. | APALA Young Adult Literature Award Best Children's Books of 2011 California Collection MS 2012-2014 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2013 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 MA Children's Award 2012-2013 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award 2012-2013 Middle East Book Honor NCSS Notable Title 2011 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 SC Junior Book Award 2012-2013 |
| <i>Paper Wishes</i> | Sepahban, L | Near the start of World War II, ten-year-old Manami, her parents, and her grandfather are evacuated from their home and sent to Manzanar, an internment camp in the desert for Japanese-American citizens, where Manami grieves the home and dog she was forced to leave behind. | Compendium Spring 2016 Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2017 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2018-2019 |
| <i>Betty Before X</i> | Shabazz, I | The granddaughter of Malcolm X tells a fictionalized story from her grandmother's childhood. Betty Shabazz is a young girl learning first-hand about the real change people can make when they help each other and the power of acceptance and belonging. But when a terrible crime happens in her neighborhood, she learns that things aren't always as clear as she once thought. | Compendium Winter 2018 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 Amelia Bloomer Project 2019 CCBC Book 2019-2020 MA Children's Book Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>This Is Just A Test</i> | Shang, W | David Da-Wei Horowitz is busily preparing for his bar mitzvah, in which he must try to please both his Jewish and his Chinese grandmothers, who love to argue with one another. David tries making everyone in his life happy, including his friend Scott, who is determined to win their upcoming trivia tournament. However, Scott dislikes their teammate—and David's best friend—Hector. When David and Scott start building a fallout shelter (just in case the Cold War gets hot), David finds himself thinking that Hector would be a better underground bunker-mate. Hector, and the cute Kelli Ann, if only he could find a way to talk to her ... “Giggle-inducing, light, and charmingly realistic fiction that will resonate with a wide variety of readers” (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2017 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Way Home Looks Now</i> | Shang, W | In the tragic aftermath of his older brother's death, 12-year-old Peter Lee finds his baseball-loving family falling apart. When his older brother was alive, Peter's family would bond while listening to broadcasts of Pittsburgh Pirates games on the radio; but now everything has changed. Peter and his sister, Elaine, find that their mother's silence and depression is insurmountable—until Peter decides to try out for his school's baseball team. Could baseball cheer his mother up again? Things start looking up even more when Peter's father volunteers to coach! A “fine story of family, loss, growing up and learning to play baseball” (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2015 |
| <i>Coretta Scott</i> | Shange, N | Presents a poetic story that explores the life of Coretta Scott King and her accomplishments during the Civil Rights Movement. | Compendium Fall 2009 CCBC Book 2010 IRA Children's Choice 2010 NM Land of Enchantment Award 2011-2012 |
| <i>Tuskegee Airmen</i> | Shea, J | Profiles the African American pilots who became the Tuskegee Airmen, chronicling their training, missions, honors, and legacy. Also discusses prejudice in the Army, and the end of military segregation. Includes a | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | timeline, photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Undefeated : Jim Thorpe And The Carlisle Indian School Footb</i> | Sheinkin, S | Features the underdog story of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School football team which under the leadership of coach Pop Warner and player Jim Thorpe became known as "the team that invented football." Highlights the systematic governmental persecution by the government and the players determination and grit, on and off the field, that led them to defeat more privileged schools like Army and Harvard. | Compendium Spring 2017 2017 Horn Book - Boston Globe Nonfiction Honor Book VOYA Nonfiction Honor List YARP MS Teen Choice Nominee 2019-2020 NCSS Notable Title 2018 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 Texas Tayshas HS Reading List 2018-2019 Texas Topaz Nonfiction Reading List 2018 Booklist Editor's Choice - Books for Youth 2017 Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Award 2019 ALA Notable Children's Books 2018 Rhode Island Teen Book Award Nominee 2018-2019 Keystone to Reading HS Nominee 2018-2019 Jefferson Cup Award |
| <i>25 Women Who Fought Back</i> | Sherman, J | Profiles twenty-five women past and present who advanced women's rights through their work in journalism, music, politics, and literature among other areas. Includes a timeline, critical thinking questions, photographs, a glossary, and further resources. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Boys Without Names</i> | Sheth, K | Eleven-year-old Gopal and his family leave their rural Indian village for life with his uncle in Mumbai, but when they arrive his father goes missing and Gopal ends up locked in a sweatshop from which there is no escape. | Best Children's Books of 2011 CCBC Book 2011 CCBC Global Book GA Grade 4-8 Book Award IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' ME Student Book Award 2011-2012 NCSS Notable Title 2011 SC Junior Book Award WA Sasquatch Reading Award 2014 |
| <i>Hidden Figures : Young Readers' Edition</i> | Shetterly, M | Explores the true story of four African American female mathematicians recruited by the U.S. government during World War II to work at the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory. Their job involved being "human computers," using pencils, slide rulers, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would allow rockets and astronauts to be launched out of the atmosphere. | New York Times Bestseller Amelia Bloomer Project 2018 IA Teen Award 2018-2019 Lampighter Award 2018-2019 NSTA Best Stem Books 2018 TV Volunteer MS Award 2018-2019 Texas Topaz Reading List 2018 |
| <i>Handy Health Guide To Dyslexia</i> | Silverstein, A | Presents information on dyslexia, including symptoms, the structure of the brain and how it processes language, and how dyslexia is diagnosed and treated. Includes fact boxes, a glossary, and further resources. | |
| <i>Pele : The King Of Soccer</i> | Simon, E | Presents a graphic novel biography of Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as the soccer superstar Pelé, from his birth in 1940 up through his first forays into professional soccer, and to how he became a star. | Compendium Winter 2018 |
| <i>Muhammad Ali</i> | Skinner, J | Explores how Muhammad Ali inspired others through his activism, highlighting his career and the causes he felt strongly about. Includes a timeline, text-related questions, resources for further information, a glossary, and color photographs. | |
| <i>Hoop Kings</i> | Smith, C | A collection of twelve poems that celebrate contemporary basketball stars, including Shaquille O'Neal, Allen Iverson, and Kobe Bryant. | Compendium Title International Reading Association Children's Choice New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age CCBC List Selection |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Twelve Rounds To Glory : The Story Of Muhammad Ali</i> | Smith, C | A biography of champion boxer Muhammad Ali featuring rap-inspired verse and collage artwork. Describe's Ali's successes as an Olympian and a professional boxer, his protest against the Vietnam war, and his battle with Parkinson's disease. | Compendium Fall 2008 Coretta Scott King Honor ALA Honor 2008 NCSS Notable Title 2008 |
| <i>Phillis Wheatley</i> | Smith, E | Presents a biography of African American poet Phillis Wheatley. Discusses her life as a slave and the publishing of her poetry. Includes illustrations, an activity, a glossary, and an index. | |
| <i>Black Power Salute : How A Photograph Captured A Political P</i> | Smith-Ilera, D | Examines the story behind the photographs of American athletes Tommie Smith and John Carlos with their heads bowed and fists raised in silent protest of racial injustice during the 1968 Olympic medal ceremony for their gold and bronze medals in the 200-meter sprint. Includes a timeline, resources for further information, text-related questions, and color photographs. | Compendium 2017 |
| <i>Che Guevara's Face : How A Cuban Photographer's Image Became</i> | Smith-Ilera, D | Examines the life of Che Guevara and the famous photograph of his face, a spur-of-the-moment snapshot in 1960, which was turned into a now-world famous poster. | Compendium Spring 2017 |
| <i>Serena Vs. Venus : How A Photograph Spotlited The Fight Fo</i> | Smith-Ilera, D | Text and photographs tell the story of sisters Serena and Venus Williams and their accomplishments for women and African Americans in the sport of tennis, focusing on the famous photograph of them after the historic 2001 U.S. Open. Includes a timeline, a glossary, and further resources. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>After Ever After</i></p> | <p>Sonnenblick, J</p> | <p>Although eighth-grader Jeffrey Alper's cancer is in remission, the intense chemotherapy and radiation treatments have left him fragile, limping and struggling in school. Adding to these troubles are issues in his personal life: his best friend is driving him bonkers, his older brother ran off to Africa to "find himself" and a girl thinks he is cute. As Jeffrey deals with each of these issues in turn, he looks deep within his own soul to find the resolve to move on with his life and persevere. Moving between heavy issues and everyday teenage concerns, this title delivers a moving, lighthearted story.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 ALA Best Fiction for YA 2011 Schneider Family Book Award AR Teen Book Award 2011-2012 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award 2013 Best Children's Books of 2011 Booklist Ed. Choice for Youth 2010 CT Nutmeg Children's Award 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award 2011 GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2011-2012 GA Tome Society "It" List Nominee 2013-2014 Heartland Award Nominee 2011 IA Teen Award 2011-2012 IN Young Hoosier Award 2013 IRA Teacher's Choice 2011 MI Thumbs Up! Nominee 2011 MN Maud Hart Lovelace Award 2012-2013 MO Truman Reading Nominee 2012-2013 NCSS Notable Title 2011 NE Golden Sower YA Award 2013-2014 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2013 OK Sequoyah Award PA Carolyn W. Field Winner RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2011-2012 TN Volunteer HS Award 2012-2013 TX Lone Star Reading List 2011 UT Beehive YA Book Award 2011-2012 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2011-2012</p> |
| <p><i>Red Butterfly</i></p> | <p>Sonnichsen, A</p> | <p>In China, a foundling girl with a deformed hand raised in secret by an American woman must navigate China's strict adoption system when she is torn away from the only family she has ever known.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2016 MO Mark Twain 2017-2018 Preliminary PA KRSA Young Adult MS Award 2016-2017 WI Just One More Page! Reading List 2016</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Baseball In April And Other Stories</i> | Soto, G | A collection of eleven short stories focusing on the everyday adventures of Hispanic young people growing up in Fresno, California. | ALA Best Book for YA Booklist Editor's Choice Horn Fanfare Selection Judy Lopez Memorial Honor Book Parenting Magazine's Reading Magic Award John and Patricia Beatty Award |
| <i>Alia's Mission : Saving The Books Of Iraq</i> | Stamaty, M | Alia is chief librarian of Basra Central Libray in Iraq. When war breaks out, Alia does all she can to save the books that chronicle the history and culture of her country. | Compendium Title Children's Literature Choices Award Middle East Book Honor |
| <i>First Class Murder</i> | Stevens, R | On holiday with Hazel's father, Daisy and Hazel secretly investigate a murder on the Orient Express, rushing to solve it before another murder occurs, or someone else finds the killer. | Compendium Fall 2017 |
| <i>Murder Is Bad Manners</i> | Stevens, R | At an English boarding school in the 1930s, crime-solving friends Hazel Wong and Daisy Wells struggle to find an exciting mystery to investigate until Hazel discovers the dead body of Miss Bell, the science teacher. | Compendium Fall 2015 ALA Notable Children's Books 2016 |
| <i>Poison Is Not Polite</i> | Stevens, R | Schoolgirl detectives and best friends Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong travel to Daisy's home of Fallingford for the holidays. Daisy's birthday is coming up, and her glamorous mother is planning a huge tea party. The whole family shows up, even eccentric Aunt Saskia and dashing Uncle Felix. However, the party is not actually for Daisy! How rude, on her birthday! Daisy's anger turns to curiosity when one of the guests appears to have been poisoned, and she and Hazel have another case on their hands to solve! "A first-rate whodunit, reminiscent of a game of Clue" (KIRK). | Compendium Fall 2016 Booklist's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 |
| <i>Ballad Of A Broken Nose</i> | Svingen, A | Immersing himself in his love for opera in order to cope with a difficult life, shy and bullied Bart embraces an optimistic outlook and bonds with an outgoing girl who encourages him to perform in a school talent show. | Mildred L. Batchelder Award 2017 ALA Honor |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Basketballogy : Supercool Facts You Never Knew</i> | Sylvester, K | Contains a collection of facts related to basketball from its invention by James Naismith in 1891 and important players over the years to statistics surrounding the cost of attending and how many people are watching or attending games. Includes text-related trivia and resources for further information. | Compendium Winter 2018 |
| <i>Soldier Bear</i> | Tak, B | When a group of Polish soldiers stationed in Iran during World War II find a bear cub, they adopt it and take it with them on their travels. Eventually, the bear learns to carry bombs for them, catches a spy, and keeps them entertained as they travel from one battlefield to another before arriving in Scotland once the war ends. | 2012 Mildred L. Batchelder Award ALA Honor 2012 ALA Notable Children's Books 2012 CCBC Book 2012 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award Outstanding International Booklist 2012 |
| <i>Harlem Charade</i> | Tarpley, N | Jin, Alex, and Elvin, three kids living in Harlem, are brought together when Elvin's grandfather is mysteriously attacked. The three strangers join forces to find out what happened and why, and stumble upon an enigmatic artist whose missing masterpieces, worth a fortune, might be able to save their beloved neighborhood after an ambitious politician announces plans to turn it into a ridiculous historical theme park called "Harlem World." If the kids don't find the paintings soon, their home will never be the same ... "A story that motivates justice and inspires kindness" (KIRK). | Compendium Spring 2017 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2018-2019 Camellia Award 2018-2019 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2017 |
| <i>Survival Guide For Kids With Adhd</i> | Taylor, J | Presents advice and encouragement for kids with ADHD on how to manage their ADHD and focus on their studies, friendships, and families. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Drama</i></p> | <p>Telgemeier, R</p> | <p>Ever since she saw Les Miserable when she was little, Callie has loved theater. She wishes she had a better singing voice, but contents herself with being the set designer for Eucalyptus Middle School. This year she swears the set will be worthy of Broadway-except she is bad at carpentry, and no one seems to want to buy tickets. Added to all this is the drama both on and off the stage, with hurt feelings over casting decisions and hormone-infused relationship tension. Callie herself is among the latter group, having had her heart broken by eighth-grader Greg, but with two cute twin boys entering the theater world, Callie isn't sure she can juggle everything at once. Author Telgemeier captures "all the drama swirling around the school production: from jealousies and misunderstandings to the last-minute surprise stage substitution that may not make a star, but helps settle who likes who" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2013 ALA Honor 2013 ALA Notable Children's Books of 2013 ALA Popular Paperbacks for YA 2013 Stonewall Book Award AR Teen Book Award AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Award Best Children's Books of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2012 Chicago Public Libarary Best of the Best 2012 DC Capitol Choices Award 2013 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2015 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2015 PNLA Young Reader's Choice RI Teen Book Award Nominee 2013-2014 TN Volunteer Award 2014-2015 TX Maverick Graphic Novels List 2013 VA Reader's Choice MS 2014-2015 WA Evergreen Teen Book Award 2015 WY Soaring Eagle Award 2015-2016</p> |
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Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Ghosts</i> | Telgemeier, R | Cat's little sister Maya is battling cystic fibrosis, so their mother decides that moving to a beachfront town in Northern California is just what the doctor ordered. What's worse than moving away from all her friends? It seems that everyone in Cat's new town is obsessed with ghosts, but Cat wants nothing to do with any of it. But when Maya's determination to see one lands her in the hospital for weeks, Cat begins to realize she'll need to accept her sister's passion for the spirits in order to help her. "The bright tones and wonderfully expressive figures of the racially diverse cast ... make this compassionate, approachable, and gentle story about death irresistible" (BL). | Compendium Spring 2017 Colorado Children's Book Award Winner Garden State Teen Fiction Winner Volunteer State Book Award Winner Great Stone Face Award Winner Delaware Diamonds Award 2018-2019 New York 3 Apples Children's Award Nominee 2019 Young Reader's Choice Award Winner South Carolina Children's Book Award Winner Eisner Award Winner Black-Eyed Susan Graphic Novel Award Kirkus Prize Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Isinglass Award Winner NCSS Notable Title 2017 Beehive Graphic Novel Award Garden State Children's Graphic Novel Award 2019 |
| <i>Science Fair Sabotage</i> | Terrell, B | When several students' projects turn up ruined on the day of the science fair, the kid detectives of Fleischman Middle School are on the case. Includes a glossary and discussion questions. | |
| <i>Tracking Champ</i> | Terrell, B | When Fleischman Middle School's mascot, Champ the dog, goes missing, it's up to the Snoops crew to track Champ down in time for the big game. | |
| <i>Undercover Cheerleader</i> | Terrell, B | Keisha Turner and Frankie Dixon used to be best friends, but then they had a horrible fallout. No matter-when Frankie receives a threatening note, Keisha goes undercover on the school's Spirit Squad to solve the mystery and stop Frankie's foe. | |
| <i>Forget Me Not</i> | Terry, E | In this novel in verse, Calliope June, who has Tourette syndrome, is tired of moving so much with her mother. At each new school she tries to hide her tics, but soon everyone thinks she's weird. Then she meets her neighbor, Jinsong, who is popular and also the student body president, and the two slowly become friends. | Louisiana Young Readers' Choice 2020 Missouri Truman Readers Award 2019-2020 Young Hoosier Middle Grade Nominee 2020 Arkansas Charlie May Simon Award 2019-2020 Great Lakes Great Books Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| | | However, Calli worries that it won't be long before her mother wants to move again. | |
| <i>George Washington Carver For Kids : His Life And Discoveries</i> | Thomas, P | Presents a biography of scientist and agriculturalist George Washington Carver including his early years, his time at Iowa Agricultural College, and his success at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Includes twenty-one projects to do relating to Carver's life including making peanut cookies, creating a window box, and starting an herbarium. | Compendium Title |
| <i>Faraway Island</i> | Thor, A | Set in the beginning stages of World War II, this story revolves around two Jewish siblings from Vienna – 12-year-old Stephie and her younger sister, Nellie – who are sent to host families in Sweden until their parents can join them and immigrate to America. Despite being welcomed into their new families, each girl feels lost and faces problems at school while constantly worrying about the fate of their parents. They hold on to hope as best they can, but as the war drags on, the girls become isolated on the island and wonder if they will ever see their parents again. | Compendium Spring 2010 Mildred L. Batchelder Honor Sydney Taylor Book Honor |
| <i>Lily Pond</i> | Thor, A | Having left Nazi-occupied Vienna a year ago, thirteen-year-old Jewish refugee Stephie Steiner adapts to life in the cultured Swedish city of Gothenburg, where she attends school, falls in love, and worries about her parents who were not allowed to emigrate. | Mildred L. Batchelder Honor Book ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book |
| <i>How I Became A Ghost</i> | Tingle, T | Isaac is a Choctaw boy who has become a ghost, and he can see things that haven't happened yet. He and his talking dog, Jumper, and their family learn tough life lessons on the Trail of Tears. | Compendium Spring 2014 AILA American Indian Youth Literature Award 2014 CCBC Book 2017 IL Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Award 2014 NCSS Title 2016 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Applewhites At Wit's End</i> | Tolan, S | Great changes are in store for the highly creative and somewhat eccentric Applewhite family when money problems force them to open a summer camp for gifted children, who almost immediately begin to rebel, while a mysterious interloper watches from the woods. | Best Children's Books of 2013 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2012 |
| <i>Undocumented : A Worker's Fight</i> | Tonatiuh, D | Presents the unique, illustrated journey of a man illegally emigrating to the United States and the dangers he faces to carve a life for himself. | SLJ 2018 Best Books 4 Teens CCBC Book 2019 Americas Award - CLASP - 2019 ILA Young Adults' Choices Reading List 2019 |
| <i>Stef Soto, Taco Queen</i> | Torres, J | Stef Soto just wants a normal life, without her dad's taco truck getting in the way of everything. But when new city regulations threaten the family business, everyone will have to dig deep and discover what really matters. | Compendium 2017 Texas Bluebonnet Award 2018-2019 South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Young Hoosier Intermediate Nominee 2020 Reader's Choice Award Nominee 2019-2020 Rhode Island Children's Book Award 2018-2019 |
| <i>Ibn Battuta : The Greatest Traveler Of The Muslim World</i> | Toth, H | Explores the life of fourteenth-century Arab explorer, traveler, and scholar Ibn Battuta, and highlights some of the things he saw and did throughout thirty years of exploring in Africa, Asia, and Europe. | |
| <i>Well, That Was Awkward</i> | Vail, R | Eighth-grade student Gracie Grant has a huge crush on handsome, popular AJ Rojanasopondist. The only problem is, AJ likes her best friend, Sienna. Grace quickly overcomes the tinge of jealousy she feels upon learning the news, and happily helps Sienna craft responses to AJ's surprisingly funny text messages. Unbeknownst to the girls, there's a good reason the messages seem out of character for AJ—his buddy Emmett is writing them on his behalf. “A modern, multicultural version of Cyrano de Bergerac ... This tween romance proves that some stories stand the test of time” (SLJ). | Compendium Fall 2017 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020 Texas Lone Star Reading List 2018 VOYA Top Shelf Fiction for MS Readers 2017 VOYA Perfect Tens 2017 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Super Max And The Mystery Of Thornwood's Revenge</i> | Vaught, S | Twelve-year-old Max is determined to investigate the connection between a hacker's online attacks of her grandfather and other town officials and suspicious activity at the supposedly haunted Thornwood Manor, even though her grandfather, who is Blue Creek's police chief, wants to keep Max and her souped-up wheelchair out of police business. | Parents' Choice Recommended Book South Carolina Children's Book Award 2019-2020 |
| <i>Paperboy</i> | Vawter, V | When an eleven-year-old boy takes over a friend's newspaper route in July, 1959, in Memphis, his debilitating stutter makes for a memorable month. | Compendium Fall 2013 Newbery Honor Award Winner ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Book IRA Children's and Young Adults' Choice IRA Teachers' Choice Bank Street College of Ed. Best Book of the Year National Parenting Publications Award Honor Book BookPage Best Children's Book ABC New Voices Pick Junior Library Guild Selection ALA-ALSC Notable Children's Recording ALA-YALSA Amazing Audiobook Mississippi Magnolia State Award List Selection |
| <i>Life And Death Of Malcolm X</i> | Vietze, A | Explores the life of Malcolm X including his early years, his time in jail, his conversion to Islam, his fight for civil rights, and his legacy. | |
| <i>Zheng He : China's Greatest Navigator</i> | Vietze, A | Explores the life and legacy of fourteenth-century Chinese explorer and maritime navigator Zheng He. | |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>You Can Fly : The Tuskegee Airmen</i></p> | <p>Weatherford, C</p> | <p>The poster of Uncle Sam said "I WANT YOU!" But for a young black man in 1940, it probably did not seem like Uncle Sam wanted him. Certainly not behind the stick of a warplane! Nevertheless, young black men from around America wanted to serve their country in the skies, and so the Tuskegee Airmen were born. Dozens of men began learning engineering, mechanics, code communication, and map reading. Before long, they were in the air, on the front lines of Europe, making history! "Gentle yet stirring, [author] Weatherford's 40-plus free-verse poems create a composite portrait of the first African-American military pilots ... and the rampant racial prejudice that these military heroes battled throughout the war" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 NCSS Notable Title 2017</p> |
| <p><i>Save Me A Seat</i></p> | <p>Weeks, S</p> | <p>Ravi's family has just moved to America from India and he is trying to find his place at Albert Einstein Elementary. Joe has been a student there since he started grade school, but without his best friends who have moved away, he's feeling a little lost. When Dillon, the class bully, zeros in on Ravi and Joe, the two decide to pair up and take back control of their lives together. Author "Varadarajan's voice offers an authenticity and liveliness that perfectly pairs with [author] Weeks' realistic, quietly poignant style ... a novel treatment of a familiar situation delivered with fizz and aplomb" (KIRK).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2016 Best Children's Books of the Year 2017 Camellia Award Gr. 4-5 Fiction Award 2018-2019 Maud Hart Lovelace Award Nominee 2019-2020 Nutmeg Intermediate Nominee 2020 Nene Award Nominee 2020 Kirkus Prize - Young Readers' Nominee 2016 Skipping Stones Book Award 2017 Sasquatch Reading Award Nominee 2019</p> |
| <p><i>Creepy Case Files Of Margo Maloo</i></p> | <p>Weing, D</p> | <p>After Charles moves to Echo City, his monster neighbors won't leave him alone. Charles call on Margo Maloo, the city's great monster mediator, to help him find some peace and quiet.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2017 Kirkus Best of 2016 Book Nene Award Nominee Garden State Children's Graphic Novel Award 2019</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Karma Khullar's Mustache</i></p> | <p>Wientge, K</p> | <p>As Karma Khullar prepares to enter middle school, her life has taken several dramatic turns. First her beloved Dadima passes away. Then her mother became the primary breadwinner, leaving her father as the stay-at-home parent. Never mind that her best friends seems to be ditching her for another friend. And as if that weren't enough, suddenly Karma has noticed a small mustache budding above her upper lip--seventeen black hairs to be exact. With everyone else busy and preoccupied, Karma is left to figure out her hairy situation alone.</p> | <p>GA Grade 4-8 Book Award 2018-2019</p> |
| <p><i>Clayton Byrd Goes Underground</i></p> | <p>Williams-garcia, R</p> | <p>After his grandfather, Cool Papa Byrd, dies and his mother forbids him from playing the blues, Clayton runs away to find his grandfather's blues group, the "Bluesmen," to join them on the road. While on his journey through New York City, Clayton learns things that surprise him and help him find his way home.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2017 National Book Award Finalist Kirkus Best Books of 2017 Horn Book Best Books of 2017 Publishers Weekly Best Books of 2017 SLJ Best Books of 2017 NAACP Image Awards Youth/Teen Winner Chicago Public Library Best Books Boston Globe Best Books of 2017 Louisiana Young Readers' Choice 2020 Young Hoosier Intermediate Nominee 2020 Georgia Children's Book Award Youper Award Winner ALA Notable Children's Books of 2018 ILA Children's Choices Reading List 2018</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Gone Crazy In Alabama</i></p> | <p>Williams-garcia, R</p> | <p>Three feisty sisters--Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern Gaither--help their eighty-two-year-old grandmother, Ma Charles, make peace with her half-sister, Miss Trotter, while visiting Ma Charles in Alabama during the summer of 1969.</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2015 Coretta Scott King Award Newbery Honor Award ALA 2016 Honor ALA Notable Children's Books 2016 Best Children's Books Award 2016 Bulletin Blue Ribbon Award 2015 CCBC Book 2016 DC Capitol Choices Award 2016 NJ Garden State Teen Fiction Award 2018 School Library Journal Best Books of 2015 WI Just One More Page! List 2016</p> |
| <p><i>One Crazy Summer</i></p> | <p>Williams-garcia, R</p> | <p>In the summer of 1968, 11-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters travel from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know. Much to their surprise, they arrive to a cold welcome and discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp. Left without an option, Delphine attempts to make the best of things while attending the day camp but remains skeptical of the hateful words spouted by the camp instructors. "Delphine's growing awareness of injustice on a personal and universal level is smoothly woven into the story in poetic language that will stimulate and move readers" (PW).</p> | <p>Compendium Fall 2010 Newbery Honor Book Coretta Scott King Award Winner Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction National Book Award Honor Booklists's 50 Best Middle Grade Books of the 21st Century</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>P.s. Be Eleven</i> | Williams-garcia, R | In "One Crazy Summer" (2010), Delphine, Vonetta and Fern Gaither reveled in their newfound freedoms while staying with their mother in Oakland, California. Having returned to Brooklyn to live with Pa and his new girlfriend, the sisters now find that the reins on life are tightened. To complicate matters, Uncle Darnell is back from Vietnam but just isn't himself anymore, and the sixth grade gets a new teacher, Mr. Mwillla, from Zambia. Delphine decides to voice her concerns through letters to her mother, who always reminds her to just "Be Eleven." Narrated by Delphine, author Williams-Garcia's story is a "finely drawn portrait of a family in flux" (BL). | Compendium Fall 2013 Coretta Scott King Award ALA Honor 2014 ALA Notable Children's Books 2014 Amelia Bloomer Project 2014 Best Children's Books of 2014 Book Links Lasting Connections of 2013 Booklist Ed. Choice Books for Youth 2013 CCBC Book 2014 Chicago Public Library Best of the Best 2013 DC Capitol Choices Award 2014 Horn Book Fanfare 2013 MO Mark Twain Nominee 2015-2016 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction Award 2016 School Library Journal Best Books 2013 VT Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2014-2015 WI Just One Page! Reading List 2014 |
| <i>Young, Gifted And Black</i> | Wilson, J | Profiles the lives and achievements of fifty-two iconic people of color from across the world. | Compendium Spring 2018 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 |
| <i>California Gold Rush : Chinese Laborers In America (1848-188</i> | Wilson, S | Discusses the history of the Chinese immigration to the United States, how they adapted to their new home, and what hardships they had to endure. | |
| <i>Saturdays With Hitchcock</i> | Wittlinger, E | Twelve-year-old Maisie feels that she has enough complications in her life: her actor uncle has moved in with her family while he recovers from an accident and her father is not pleased, her grandmother is slipping into dementia but wants to remarry, her mom has been laid off, and her best friend Cyrus, with whom she spends Saturdays watching classic movies, has revealed that he is gay--but Gary, the boy he has a crush on, seems more attracted to Maisie herself. | ALA Rainbow Project Booklist 2019 |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Good Fortune : My Journey To Gold Mountain</i></p> | <p>Wong, L</p> | <p>A Chinese-American woman, Li Keng Gee remembers her journey to California with her family in 1933 during a time of racism and poverty. Her poignant memories depict the struggle to become part of a new nation, to graduate from college, and to raise three children. Ultimately, the story delivers a strongly positive message about hard work and perseverance. "Well written and frequently moving, Wong's story offers young readers a fascinating look into the world of Chinese immigrants during the Exclusion Act era" (LMC).</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2007 AL Emphasis on Reading 2007-2008 Bank Street College Best Children's Books NCSS Notable Title 2007</p> |
| <p><i>Saint Louis Armstrong Beach</i></p> | <p>Woods, B</p> | <p>As Hurricane Katrina bears down on New Orleans, Saint is stuck in the city after escaping evacuation to look for his dog, Shadow. Then Saint, Shadow, and an elderly neighbor, Miz Moran, are forced to take shelter in an attic.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2012 California Collections 2013-2014 CT Nutmeg Intermediate Award 2015 FL Sunshine State Young Reader Award 2012-2013 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2013-2014 NJ Garden State Children's Fiction Award 2013-2014 PA Keystone to Reading Award 2012-2013 SC Junior Book Award 2013-2014</p> |
| <p><i>Zoe In Wonderland</i></p> | <p>Woods, B</p> | <p>When an astronomer from Madagascar arrives at Zoe G. Reindeer's father's Exotic Plant Wonderland looking for a baobab tree, it makes Zoe long for a real adventure, and starts the ball rolling to lead her to a place no Reindeer has gone before.</p> | <p>Compendium 2016 Fall Best Children's Books of the Year 2017</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i> | Woodson, J | Free verse autobiography of Jacqueline Woodson about her childhood growing up in the sixties and seventies in both the North and the South, from South Carolina to Brooklyn, New York. | Compendium Fall 2014 National Book Award Winner Newbery Honor Jacqueline Woodson (author) is he 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature A President Obama "O" Book Club Pick E.B. White Read Aloud Award Winner Coretta Scott King Award Robert F. Sibert Award National Book Honor The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender Loe Lizzard Winner NEA African American Booklist |
| <i>Brown Girl Dreaming : (Large Print)</i> | Woodson, J | Free verse autobiography of Jacqueline Woodson about her childhood growing up in the sixties and seventies in both the North and the South, from South Carolina to Brooklyn, New York. | Compendium Fall 2014 National Book Award Winner Newbery Honor Jacqueline Woodson (author) is he 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature A President Obama "O" Book Club Pick E.B. White Read Aloud Award Winner Coretta Scott King Award Robert F. Sibert Award National Book Honor The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender Loe Lizzard Winner NEA African American Booklist |
| <i>Miracle's Boys</i> | Woodson, J | Twelve-year-old Lafayette's close relationship with his older brother Charlie changes after Charlie is released from a detention home and blames Lafayette for the death of their mother. | Compendium Title Coretta Scott King Award Winner Los Angeles Times Book Prize Jacqueline Woodson (author) is the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature The Global Read Aloud 2019 Contender |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Science Comics : The Brain : The Ultimate Thinking Machine</i></p> | <p>Woollcott, T</p> | <p>Teaches young learners about the brain in a graphic novel format. When Fahama is kidnapped by a mad scientist and his zombie assistant who plan on stealing her brain, and she'll need to learn all she can about the brain in order to come up with a plan of escape.</p> | <p>Compendium Title</p> |
| <p><i>Front Desk</i></p> | <p>Yang, K</p> | <p>Mia Tang and her immigrant parents are not exactly living the American dream since moving here from China--they live in the Calivista Motel, and Mia must tend to its guests. Her parents, meanwhile, have been hiding illegal immigrants in the motel's empty rooms, risking the wrath of the owner, Mr. Yao. On the personal life front, Mia wants to become a writer, but her mother is being very discouraging because she is better at math and English is not her first language. No matter what, however, Mia vows to follow her dreams.</p> | <p>Compendium Spring 2018 Asian/Pacific American Award for Children's Literature 2020 Flicker Tale Middle Readers Nominee 2019-2020 Junior Book Award Nominee 2019 ALA Honor 2019 Global Read Aloud Contender 2018 School Library Journal Best Books 2019 Just One More Page! Reading List 2019 ALA Notable Children's Book 2019-2020 GA Children's Book Award 2019 CCBC Book 2020 OK Sequoyah Intermediate Book Award 2019-2020 Black-Eyed Susan Award 2019 Capitol Choices Award Booklists's Top 10 #OWNVOICES Middle Grade Titles 2019-2020 Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award 2020 RI Children's Book Award 2019-2020 Bluegrass Award 2019-2020 Great Lakes Great Books Award 2020 Garden State Teen Fiction Nominee 2020-2021 Volunteer Intermediate Nominee 2020 Nene Award Nominee E.B. White Read Aloud Award Honor</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>Millicent Min : Girl Genius</i></p> | <p>Yee, L</p> | <p>Millicent Min is having a difficult time being an eleven-year-old because she is a very smart kid, but when Emily meets Millie she does not know what Millie's IQ is and a very "normal" friendship begins.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Teen Read Week 2007 Bank Street College Best Children's Books CCBC Book GA Grade 4-8 Book Award HI Nene Nominee 2005 IN Young Hoosier Award IRA Childrens' Choices MN Maud Hart Lovelace NJ Garden State Easy Fiction Award PA Reader's Choice PNLA Young Reader's Choice SC Junior Book Award Sid Fleischman Humor Award TX Lone Star Reading List 2005-2006</p> |
| <p><i>Stanford Wong Flunks Big-time</i></p> | <p>Yee, L</p> | <p>After flunking sixth-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer-school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends, and satisfy his academically demanding father.</p> | <p>Compendium Title ALA Notable Children's Books of 2006 CCBC Book 2006 MI Great Lakes Great Books Award NY Charlotte Award Intermediate PA Reader's Choice Award School Library Journal Best Books SD Prairie Pasque Award VA Reader's Choice MN 2007-2008</p> |

Grade 6 Diverse Book Collections with Annotations

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| <p><i>I Am Malala : How One Girl Stood Up For Education And Change</i></p> | <p>Yousafzai, M</p> | <p>Describes the life of the young Pakistani student who advocated for women's rights and education in the Taliban-controlled Swat Valley, survived an assassination attempt, and became the youngest nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize.</p> | <p>Nobel Peace Prize Winning Author Compendium 2016 Spring Amelia Bloomer Project 2015 AZ Grand Canyon Reader Tween Nonfiction 2017 CCBC Book 2015 CCBC Global Reading Book CO Blue Spruce YA Award 2016-2017 IRA Teacher's Choices 2015 MD Black-Eyed Susan Award 2015-2016 ME Student Book Award 2015-2016 NCSS Notable Title 2015 NH Isinglass Teen Read List 2015-2016 NV YA Books 2017 Parents' Choice Award Winner 2015 SD Prairie Pasque 2016-2017</p> |
| <p><i>Rising Above : Inspiring Women In Sports</i></p> | <p>Zuckerman, G</p> | <p>Collects ten stories of female athletes who have overcome the odds and become superstar athletes and role models for young girls, including Serena and Venus Williams, Simone Biles, and Carli Lloyd.</p> | |