

Worlds of Words 2026

Grade 2-3 Recommended Global Information Books

	Global Book	Genre Date	Level Info	Global Context	Themes/Plot of Global Books
Global Traditions and Cultures	<i>African Proverbs for All Ages</i> , Nelda LaTeef	Proverbs 2021	32 pp 570 L	Africa	The power of proverbs, how they evolve over time, and the wisdom of various cultures in Africa.
	<i>Arab Arab All Year Long!</i> Cathy Camper & S. Chalabi	Info 2022	RL 3.2 32 pp	Arab World	Celebrates beauty and diversity of Arab life and traditions throughout the year in the world.
	<i>Birthdays around the World</i> , Margriet Ruurs	Info 2017	780 L 40 pp	Global	Celebrations of birthdays in 17 countries around the world.
	<i>Families around the World</i> , Margriet Ruurs	Info 2017	660 L. 40 pp.	Global	Children's lives in 14 families with a range of homes, locations, customs, and activities. Cut-paper collage illustrations.
	<i>Game of Freedom: Mestre Bimba & the Art of Capoeira</i> Duncan Tonatiuh	Bio 2023	32 pp RL 2.9	Brazil	Bimba was a legendary capoeira player in Brazil who resisted racial oppression and turned a marginalized practice into a global hit, blends arts, dance, acrobatics, music and spirituality.
	<i>Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns</i> , Hena Khan	Concept 2015	32 pp RL 2.5	Global Muslim	A young Muslim girl and her family introduce the traditions and colors of Islam
	<i>Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets</i>	2018	32 pp 600L(M)		Celebrates the shapes and traditions in the artwork of Muslims from around the world Also see <i>One Sun and Countless Stars</i> (2022) on numbers
	<i>If You Come to Earth</i> , Sophie Blackall	Info/FA 2020	520 L 32 pp	Global	A young boy describes all the things a visitor from Outer Space would see in visiting the earth, celebrates rich diversity of life.

	<i>In My Mosque</i> , M.O. Yuksel & Aly Hatem	Info 2021	RL 2.9 32 pp	Global	Highlights the varying activities and services that take place in mosques as places for Muslims to be together in community. Includes a list of historic mosques from around the world.
	<i>Journey of the Midnight Sun</i> , Shazia Afzal & Aliya Ghare	Info 2022	RL 4.6 840 L	Canada	Follows the journey of the Midnight Sun Mosque that traveled 4000 kilometers to become the most northern mosque in the Arctic Circle.
	<i>Little Treasures</i> , Jacqueline Ogburn	Info 2012	32 pp RL 3.8	Global	Endearments for young children to express a parent's love in 14 different languages.
	<i>Lunar New Year</i> , Natasha Yim	Info 2024	24 pp RL 2.9	China	History of Lunar New Year, the traditions associated with it, and how it is celebrated in China and the world.
	<i>My Life on the Mountain</i> , Marion Brand	Memoir 2025	47 pp	Switzerland French Tr	The memoir of a shepardess and her experiences of running an alpine dairy farm with a focus on mountain life.
	<i>My Name is Bana</i> , Bana Alabed & Nez Fiaz	Bio 2021	32 pp 790 L	Syria Turkey	A girl from Syria who became an activist documenting the war in Aleppo and their escape to Turkey. Provides a child's perspective on the war and the rights of refugees.
	<i>Same Here! The Differences We Share</i> , Susan Hughes & Sophie Casson	Info 2022	63 pp RL 4.6 660 L	Global	Cites 9 basic needs of communication, love and protection, shelter, education, food, families, community, play and dreams and offers examples from many countries and cultures to show differences in how these needs are met.
	<i>School Days around the World</i> , Margriet Ruurs	Info 2020	680 L 40 pp	Global	Describes what a typical school day is like for children in 14 countries. Cut-paper collage illustrations.
	<i>Soups On Around the World</i> , Denyse Waissbluth & Chelsea O'Bryne	Info 2025	40 pp	Global	Text and sidebars are full of facts about soup from different parts of the world. Each soup tells its own story.

	<i>This is How We Do It</i> , Matt Lamothe	Info 2017	810L (P) 32 pp	Global	One day in the lives of 7 kids from Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda, Russia. Detailed large format comparative illustrations.
	<i>Throw Your Tooth on the Roof</i> , Sally Beeler	Info 2001	770 L 32 pp	Global	Different cultural traditions for what you do when you lose a tooth. Lively comical art.
Social Studies	<i>111 Trees: How One Village Celebrates the Birth of Every Girl</i> , Rina Singh & Marianne Ferrer	Bio 2020	950 L RL 3.5 2020	India	Sundar Paliwal is determined to live in a place where girls are treated equally with girls and so he persuades people in his village to welcome every girl born with the planning of 111 trees, turning a desert village into a green oasis.
	<i>Benito Juarez Fights for Justice</i> , Beatriz G Herandez	Bio 2024	RL 2.8 32 pp	Mexico 1800s	Traces the life of Benito from childhood to lawyer to exile to president and his commitment to human rights.
	<i>Breaking the Ice: The First Woman to Play in the NHL</i> Angie Bullaro & C. F. Payne	Bio 2020	RL 3.5 32 pp	Canada	A biography of Manon Rheaume from Quebec, the first and only woman to play a game in the National Hockey Leagues.
	<i>Castles</i> , David Macaulay	Info 2013	570 L 31 pp	Europe	An intro to a medieval castle, who lives there, defense strategies (see How It Works series)
	<i>City Streets are for People</i> , Andrea Curtis	Info 2022	32 pp	Global	How urban areas can move away from traffic congestion and fossil-fueled vehicles in cities around the world.
	<i>Daughter of the Light-Footed People</i> , Belen Cabot & Natalia Castro	Bio 2024	32 pp	Mexico Indigenous	Lorena Ramirez wears the traditional sandals and long skirt of the Rarámuri as a world champion long-distance runner. Running is an integral part of her heritage.
	<i>Digging for Words: Jose Alberto Gutierrez and the Library He Built</i> , Angela Kunkel & Paola Escobar	Bio 2020	730 L (N) 32 pp	Colombia	A garbage collector builds a library based on a book he found in the trash. He continues collecting books for years and opens a library on Saturdays for neighborhood children.

	<i>Doctor Esperanto and the Language of Hope</i> , Mara Rockliff	Bio 2019	RL 2.2 32 pp	Poland 1860s	In a town of many languages, Dr. Esperanto decided to create a new language so that people could understand each other. 1860
	<i>Emmanuel's Dream</i> , Laurie Thompson	Bio 2015	770 (N) 36 pp	Ghana	Childhood of Yeboah, born with one functional leg, who became an athlete and disability activist. Expressive collages.
	<i>Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes</i> , Wab Kinew	Bio COL 2018	R.L. 1.9 32 pp	Canada and U.S.	Highlights a diverse group of historic and modern Indigenous leaders and heroes from the U.S. and Canada.
	<i>Grandfather Gandhi</i> , Arun Ghandi and Evan Turk	Bio 2014	600 L 48 pp	India	Gandhi shares with his grandson how to turn darkness into light and to channel anger for good. Vivid mixed-media illustrations.
	<i>Growing Up Under a Red Flag</i> , Ying Chang Compestine & X. Liu	Memoir 2024	32 pp 800 L	China 1966-1976	Compestine spent her childhood growing up during the Chinese Cultural Revolution, experiencing the arrest of her father, censorship, scarcity, and a loss of independence.
	<i>Joan Proctor, Dragon Doctor</i> , Patricia Valdez	Bio 2018	32 pp 800 L (O)	UK	A love of reptiles led Joan to become a curator of reptiles in London, bringing her Komodo dragon to events.
	<i>Jovita Wore Pants: The Story of the Mexican Freedom Fighter</i> , Aida Salazar & Molly Mendoza	Bio 2023	RL 3.1 32 pp	Mexico	A freedom fighter challenges traditional gender roles as Mexico's poor resist a crackdown on religious freedom. Jovita became a leader in the Cristero Revolution, 1920s.
	<i>Lady of the Lines</i> , Michaela MacColl & Elisa Chavarra	Bio 2025	32 pp	Peru	How Maria Reiche discovered hidden lines, animal carvings in the sand and clay in 1941 and worked to protect the land.
	<i>The Librarian of Basra</i> , Jeanette Winter	Bio 2019	640 L 32 pp	Iraq	The actions of a librarian to save her library's collection when war comes to her city. Quiet heroism.

	<i>Lion Lights: My Invention that Made Peace with Lions</i> , Richard Turere	Bio 2022	RL 2.9 32 pp	Kenya	A young Maasai boy in Kenya invented a system of blinking lights to protect farm animals from lions that prowled at night.
	<i>Living Bridges: The Hidden World of India's Woven Trees</i> , Sandhya Acharya	Info 2025	32 pp	India	Jingkieng Jri are bridges woven from the roots of living ficus trees in the mountains of Meghalaya, India. A boy learns how to care for and weave the roots, and to warn against littering.
	<i>Manjhi Moves the Mountain</i> , Nancy Chumin	Bio 2017	610 L RL 3.5 32 pp	India	A man spends 20 years hand-carving a path through a mountain to connect his poor village with another village full of resources.
	<i>Mariam's Dream</i> , Leila Boukarim & S. Avedikian	Bio 2025	32 pp 570 L	Lebanon	Palestinian Mariam Al-Shaar organized the women in a Lebanese refugee camp to build a women-run kitchen and food truck.
	<i>My Street Remembers</i> , Karen Krossing & Cathie Jamieson	History 2025	32 pp	Canada	14,000 years of history in Canada are portrayed, starting with mammoths and First Peoples, using historically accurate illustrations of one city street.
	<i>Nelson Mandela</i> , Kadir Nelson	Bio 2016	960 L 40 pp	South Africa	Bio of S. African president from childhood to political activism. Large-scale oil paintings showing strength and emotions.
	<i>One Plastic Bag</i> , Miranda Paul	Bio 2015	480L (P) 34 pp	Gambia	Isatou Ceesay recycled plastic bags into purses. Environmental activism. Textured collages.
	<i>Peace</i> , Baptiste and Miranda Paul, Esteli Meza	Concept 2021	32 pp RL 2.2	Global	Explores different definitions of peace and the actions that foster peace, made concrete through visual scenarios.
	<i>The Pharaoh vs the Felines</i> , Jennifer Fo	History 2024	32 pp 690 L	Egypt Persia	In an epic battle, Persia used the Egyptian love of cats to win control of the Fertile Crescent. Back matter with more info.
	<i>A Plate of Hope: The Story of Humanitarian Chef José Andrés</i> , Eric Frankil & Paola Escobar	Bio 2024	32 pp (P)	Global	José Andrés, from Spain, is a famous chef in the U.S. who founded his own non-profit, the World Central Kitchen, which took him from a food kitchen to Haiti to global sites of disaster. Spanish Ed.

	<i>Playing at the Border: A Story of Yo-Yo Ma</i> , Joanna Ho & Teresa Martinez	Bio 2021	32 pp RL 4.3	China Mexico US	Yo-Yo Ma, a celebrated cellist, believes that music can build bridges to unite communities. He decides to play a concert on the U.S./Mexico border with feet planted in both nations.
	<i>Seeker of Truth</i> , Srividya Venkat & D. Pereira	Bio 2024	32 pp 830 L	India	A biography of Kailash Satyarthi who devoted his life to ending child labor world wide. Received the Nobel Peace Prize.
	<i>Serengeti: Plains of Grass</i> , Leslie Bulion & Becca Stadtlander	Info 2022	32 pp RL 5.3	E. Africa	Explores the rainy season of East Africa's Serengeti Plain through a look at an ecosystem in motion by documenting the annual migration of animals through the Serengeti.
	<i>The Shape of Things: How Mapmakers Picture Our World</i> , Dean Robbins	Info 2024	32 pp 580 L	Global	History of maps and mapmakers across cultures—the tools they used, methods of surveying new lands, and how they measured the world. Goes to modern day.
	<i>The Spy in the Museum</i> , Erin McGuire	Bio 2025	32 pp	France WWII	A biography of Rose Valland who saved art from the Nazis by becoming a spy in her own museum in Paris.
	<i>Ten Blocks to the Big Wok</i> , Ying-Hwa Hu	Counting 2022	32 pp	China/US	A bilingual counting book in Mandarin and English of Mia and her Uncle walking 10 blocks through Chinatown for dim sun.
	<i>Two at the Top: A Shared Dream of Everest</i> , Uma Krishnaswami	Bio 2021	32 pp RL2.2 (0) 840 L	Nepal	Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hilary each tell their story of their thrilling ascent of Mount Everest. From different cultures and backgrounds, they shared a love of mountaineering.
	<i>Up, Up, and Away: The History of Aviation</i> , Tomas Svoboda	Info 2025	55 pp	Global	Depicts early, modern, and theoretical gliders, balloons, jets, and aircraft, including mythical flight with Icarus and ancient Chinese military kites, early aviators, and recent aircraft
	<i>Vigdís: A Book about the World's First Female President</i> , Ren Flygenning	Bio 2024	32 pp 700 L	Iceland Tr 1980	Vigdís made history when she became the world's first woman to be democratically elected president in Iceland. Written through the voice of a child interviewing her.

	<i>What Is a Refugee?</i> Elise Gravel	Info 2019	680L (O) RL 2.8	Global	An illustrated explanation to define what is meant by the term refugee.
	<i>Yukie's Island: My Family's World War II Story</i> , Yukie & Kodo Kimura	Bio 2023	32 pp RL 2.2	Japan WW II 1945	Yukie was 8 years old, living on a tiny island in a lighthouse in northern Japan, when bombs were dropped in Japan, changing Yukie's view of herself and the world.
Science	<i>1,001 Creatures</i> , Laura Merz & Aino Jarvinen	Info 2020	59 pp RL 2.7	Global Finnish Tr	A collection of facts about animals around the world in free verse paired with free style illustrations
	<i>A is for Axoloti: An Unusual Animal ABC</i> , Catherine Macorol	ABC 2022	32 pp RL 2.8	Global	A rhyming ABC book that introduces the most unique and strangest animals from around the world.
	<i>Alberto Salas Plays Paka Paka Con La Papa</i> , Sara Fajando & J. Martinez-Neal	Bio 2025	32 pp	Peru	Alberto Salas was a Peruvian scientist who went on a quest to save different types of potatoes because he believed they had the power to save the world. Spanish Ed.
	<i>All the Water on Earth</i> , Rochelle Straus & Madelyn Goodnight	Info 1016	40 pp	Global	Depicts how water is flowing all around us and shows that water is the earth's most precious resource but is finite. The water that circles the earth is all the water we will ever have.
	<i>As the Seas Rise</i> , Angela Quezada Padron	Bio 2024	32 pp	Guatemala	Nicole Hernandez Hammer, an environmental scientist, shares about climate change and its impact on communities of color.
	<i>The Bees of Notre-Dame</i> , Meghan Browne & E. Goodale	Info 2023	920 L (R) 32 pp	France	Story of the honeybee colonies that lived on the roof of the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris and survived the devastating 2019 fire.
	<i>Birrarung Wilam</i> , Andrew Kelly	Info 2020	32 pp	Aboriginal Australia	A descriptive portrait of the lush land and life in all forms along the Birrarung, Yarra River.

	<i>Border Crossings</i> , Sneed Collard & Howard Gray	Info 2023	790 L RL 5.3	Mexico	Follows endangered ocelots as they face obstacles in crossing the border to convey the environmental impact of the Wall.
	<i>Christiana Figueres, Friend of the Rainforest</i> , Margarita Engle & N. Lobo	Bio 2025	32 pp	Costa Rica	Figueres is a diplomat and activist for the rainforests in Costa Rica as well as the natural world globally. Born in Costa Rica, she has dedicated her life to conservation efforts.
	<i>Circle</i> , Jeannie Baker	Info 2020	770 L 32 pp.	Australia	Textured collages of the migration of godwits between New Zealand/Australia to Alaska and issues of habitat loss.
	<i>Comet Chaser</i> , Pamela Turner & V. Mildenerberger	Bio 2024	820 L 32 pp	Germany UK	Caroline Herschel and her brother developed a telescope in their backyard, but she was treated as a servant, until she was able to escape from German to the UK, becoming a top astronomer.
	<i>Viento, Vientito = Wind, Little Wind</i> , Jorge Argueta & Felipe Ugalde Alcantara	Info Poetry 2022	32 pp	Global	The power of wind from the perspective of a mischievous child. Trilingual in English, Spanish, Nahuat.
	<i>Tierra, Tierrita = Earth, Little Earth</i>	2023	32 pp	Global	An homage to Mother Earth who tells her story and that of the forms of life that call her home. Trilingual.
	<i>Destiny Finds Her Way</i> , Margarita Engle & Sam Trull	Info 2023	RL 5.0 1230 L	Costa Rica	Photographs document the story of a little sloth with an injured eye who is rescued. Despite her poor eyesight, she eventually learns how to survive in the forest.
	<i>Ducks Overboard! A True Story of Plastic in Our Oceans</i> , Markus Motum	Info 2021	RL 4.0 32 pp	Global Pacific Ocean	A rubber duck is washed away on ocean currents, encountering endangered whales and sea turtles and passing through the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, a floating island of trash.
	<i>Evidence! How John Snow Solved the Mystery of Cholera</i> , Deborah Hopkinson & N.Henderson	History 2024	32 pp 690 L	London UK 1854	The story of how John Snow traced London's cholera outbreak to a single water pump and went on to save lives through his research.

	<i>Earth Hour: A Lights-Out Event for Our Planet</i> , Nanette Hefferman	Info 2020	620 L RL 4.7	Global	An annual event that honors energy conservation and addresses climate change by encouraging everyone to turn out their lines for one hour on a specific date in March.
	<i>Flipflop: A Boat Made from Flip-Flops to Save the Ocean</i> , Linda Lodding & Dipesh Pabari	Info 2023	600L RL 2.4	Kenya	Juma finds the beach covered in plastic pollution, but a flip-flop floating on a wave gives him an idea. Tons of plastic waste items are collected, melted and shaped into the dhow boat named Flipflop as a testament to the need to take action.
	<i>The Forest Keeper: The True Story of Jadav Payeng</i> . Rina Singh & Ishita Jain.	Bio 2023	750 L RL 3.1	India	In northeastern India, a boy planted a forest after a river flooded the island of Majuli in 1979, killing the snakes washed ashore. He learned to balance the needs of humans, animals, and the river with his work unnoticed until 2009.
	<i>Fourteen Monkeys: A Rain Forest Rhyme</i> , Melissa Stewart & Steve Jenkins	Info Counting 2021	32 pp RL 4.1 850 L	Peru	Explore how fourteen different species of monkeys live together in Manu National Park in Peru and their habits, diet and home.
	<i>Galapagos Girl = Galapaguena</i> , Marsha Arnold	Bio 2018	700 L RL 3.6 32 pp	Ecuador	Bilingual biography of Valentina Cruz and her promise to protect the islands and animals.
	Go Wild! National Geographic Series	Info 2023	760 L RL 3.1	Global	Each book focuses on an animal – lions, pandas, elephants, lemurs, sea turtles – with information on the animal, how they hunt, what their lives are like.
	Great Migration Series (e.g. <i>Elephants, Whales</i>), Laura Marsh	Info	770-790L	Global	National Geographic series with each book focusing on an animal who travels great distances and the reasons why
	<i>Healthy Kids</i> , Maya Ajmera	Info 2013	32 pp 840 L	Global	The different ways that children from around the world stay healthy. Photos
	<i>Hidden Dangers</i> , Lola Schaefer	Info 2017	850L (R) 32 pp	Global	13 of the world's deadliest animals are hidden in the illustrations of their environment as they hide in plain sight.

	<i>Home</i> , Isabelle Simler	Info 2024	32 pp 860 L	Global French Tr	27 poems look inside the amazing homes of animals around the world. Striking illustrations. Back matter with more info.
	<i>If You Take Away the Otter</i> , Susannah Buhrman-Deever & Matthew Trueman	Info 2020	910 L (O) 32 pp	North America	Examines the food chain on the Pacific coast of North America and what happened when sea otters were hunted to near extinction. Shows how the removal of a single element affects an entire habitat.
	<i>Jellyfish Scientist</i> , Michelle Cusolito & Ellen Rooney	Bio 2025	32 pp 710 L	Ireland	Maude Delap was the first person to raise jellyfish and observe and document their full life cycle.
	<i>A Life Electric: The Story of Nikola Tesla</i> . Azadah Westergaard	Bio 2021	32 pp 990 L	Serbia	Tesla was born in Serbia and became an important electrical inventor with patents for radar, remote-control technology, and wireless communications. Also loved pigeons as messengers.
	<i>The Lion Queens of India</i> , Jan Reynolds	Info 2020	32 p (R) RL 3.3	India	Introduction to the Asiatic lion and the female forest rangers in a wildlife sanctuary in Gujarat, India.
	<i>Mario and the Hole in the Sky</i> , Elizabeth Rusch	Bio 2019	RL 3.7 32 pp	Mexico	Bio of a chemist who discovered that CFCs, a chemical used in spray cans, was destroying Earth's protective ozone layer.
	<i>Masked Hero: How Wu Lien-teh Invited the Mask that Ended an Epidemic</i> , Shan Woo Liu & Lisa Wee	Bio 2023	32 pp.	China Manchuria 1910	Dr. Lien-teh defeated the 1910 Manchurian plague with his life-saving first version of the N95 mask. He figured out that a deadly pneumonic plague was airborne and invented the mask that is still used today. Authored by his great-granddaughter.
	<i>Migration</i> , Gail Gibbons	Info 2021	RL 4.1 32 pp	Global	30 species of animals that migrate, including mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, and fishes. See Explore the World series.
	<i>The Moon Tonight</i> , Chang-hoon Jung & Ho Jang	Info 2023	RL 3.2 640 L	S. Korea Tr	A father and daughter learn the science behind the 29-day lunar cycle and the 4 phases of the moon. Author is an astronomer.

	<i>Odd Boy Out: A Young Albert Einstein</i> , Don Brown	Bio 2008	32 pp RL 4.0	Germany 1879	Describes the childhood of Einstein as an introspective child who struggled at school. Brief intro to his theories and work.
	<i>On the Move: Things in Motion</i> . Romana Romanyshyn & Andriy Lesiv	Info 2025	64 pp	Global Ukraine Tr	Combines history with meditative insights on the theme of movement using infographics. Covers 40,000 years from the first steps of human beings to space travel and a consideration of time travel.
	<i>Panda Kindergarten</i> , Joanne Ryder	Info 2015	830 L 32 pp	China	Photo essay on panda cubs in a Chinese nature preserve, compared with children's activities.
	<i>Pearls in the Sand</i> , Beatriz Guterrez	Info 2025	32 pp	Mexico	Focuses on efforts to protect endangered sea turtles in Oaxaca, Mexico.
	<i>The Penguin of Ilha Grande</i> , Shannon Earle & Renato Alarcao	Bio 2023	540 L 32 pp	Brazil	A man rescues an oil-soaked Magellanic penguin on a beach who stays after recovering, becoming a close companion and returning annually to visit.
	<i>Queen of Leaves: The Story of Botanist Ynes Mexia</i> , Stephen Briseno & Isabel Muñoz	Bio 2023	32 pp RL 3.3	Mexico	Ynes, an adventurer-botanist, was passionate about botany and led many expeditions to gather plant and flower samples. One of her quests was the mysterious wax palm tree in Latin America.
	<i>Rats to the Rescue</i> , Scott Riley & Huy Voun Lee	Info 2024	(P) 32 pp	Cambodia	Humans are working with specially trained rats to locate many land mines left behind from a long-ago war.
	<i>Save the Series</i>	Info 2023	79 pp RL 4.4	Global	Each book focuses on an endangered animal with info on their habitats, why they are endangered, and efforts to save them. Books include Koalas, Rhinoceroses, Elephants, Tigers, Giraffes
	<i>Sea Horse</i> , Chris Butterworth	Info 2009	930 L (O) 26p	Australia	Stunning illustrations and engaging facts about the unusual life of a sea horse.

	<i>Seasons: A Year in Nature</i> , Hannah Pang & Clover Robin	Info 2021	RL 3.3 32 pp	Global	Uses different sizes of pages to depict changing seasons in Europe, Alaska, Australia, China, and Kenya with information about the animals and plants of each region at different times.
	<i>The Secret Life of a Sea Turtle</i> , Magdalena Bearzi	Info 2025	32 pp	Mexico Global	Follow the exciting and perilous life of a sea turtle, born in a nature reserve in Mexico and traveling thousands of miles.
	<i>The Secret Life of Trees</i> , Moira Butterfield & Vivian Mineker	Info Fiction 2020	47 pp 800 L	Global	An old oak tree shares science facts and folk tales about trees. A collection of traditional stories from around the world and engaging facts. Detailed illustrations.
	<i>She Sells Seashells</i> , Heidi Stemple	Bio 2024	740 L 32 pp	UK 1800s	Mary Anning found many fossils, but men took credit for her discoveries and barred her from scientific meetings.
	<i>Sisters In Science: Marie Curie, and Bronia Dluska</i> , Linda Marshall & Elena Balbusso	Bio 2023	RL 3.3 800 L	Poland France	Explores the life and work of Marie Curie and her sister Bronia and their impact on chemistry and health care. Focus is on how the sisters informed and relied on each other. Detailed illustrations that integrate math, science, and images.
	<i>Sound: Shhh...Bang..Pop.. Boom!</i> Romana Romanyshyn & Andri Leslv	Info 2020	RL 3.9 620L (M) 32 p	Ukraine Tr	Scientific explanation of the phenomenon of sound with connections along with a philosophical reflection on the nature of sound. Bright colors and many infographics.
	<i>Sight: Glimmer, Glow, Spark, Flash!</i>	Info 2021	RL 3.5 (U) 960L		Combines scientific and historical explorations to sight along with philosophical reflections on the nature of sight.
	<i>Stand as Tall as the Trees</i> , Patricia Gualinga	Bio 2023	660 L 32 pp	Ecuador Indig.	The true story of a Kichwa activist in the Amazon who worked with Indigenous communities to protect and preserve sacred lands and forests. Spanish Ed.
	<i>Stones and Bones: Fossils and the Stories They Tell</i> , Rob Wilshaw & S. Williams	Info 2024	81 pp	Global	Examines what scientists have learned from the fossil record on the drifting of continents and the evolution and extinction of life forms. Also includes the science of Paleontology today.

	<i>The Three Water Drop Brothers</i> , Eun-Hee Lee and Yuni Mi-Sook	Fic/Info 2021	32 pp RL 2.9	S. Korea Tr	A fictionalized information book that follows three raindrop brothers who come from clouds to cool the hot earth. Follows their journeys to show how water travels on earth.
	<i>Up, Up, Ever Up!</i> Anita Yasuda & Yuko Shimizu	Bio 2024	32 pp RL 4.7	Japan	Junko Tabei was the first woman to summit Mount Everest and then worked to protect the wild spaces that she loved.
	<i>Volcano Rising</i> , Elizabeth Rusch	Info 2013	1090 L 32 pp	Global	Profiles of 8 volcanoes around the world to show their destructive and creative forces. Dramatic artwork
	<i>Walk This Underground World</i> , Kate Baker	Info 2019	RL 2.9 32 pp	Global	A journey around the globe of the curious worlds hidden beneath our feet.
	<i>Who Hid the Stars?</i> Valentina Gottardi	Info 2026	44 pp	Global Italian Tr	Focuses on the effects of light pollution and how people can fight light pollution and the harm being caused to nature.
	<i>Who's Looking: How Animals See the World</i> , Carol Matas & Cornelia Li	Info 2022	RL 4.6 810 L	Canada	Two girls explore while animals and insects look on. The art reflects how each animal views the world versus how a human would see along an explanation of the science of their vision.
	<i>Young Zoologist series</i>	Info 2023-24	RL 3.2 980 L	Global	Field guides on animals to inspire the next generation of biologists and conservationists. Includes Koala, Humpback Whale, Giant Panda, African Elephant, Emperor Penguin, Tiger, Axolotl, Capybara, Pygmy Hippo
	<i>Your Place in the Universe</i> , Jason Chin.	Info 2020	RL 3.5 (V) 32 p	Universe	Introduction to the massive scale of the known universe through concepts of size, scale, and distance.
	<i>Zero Waste: How One Community is Leading the World Recycling Revolution</i> , Alan Drummond	Info 2023	RL 3.0 760 L	Japan	A town in Japan takes a stand against its throwaway past and develops a zero waste plan based on careful recycling, reuse of what they have, and reduction of further purchasing. Follows two children visiting their grandmother in Kamikatsu.

The Arts	<i>A is for Bee: An Alphabet Book in Translation</i> , Ellen Heck	ABC 2022	32 pp	Global	An animal ABC with 68 non-English languages for animal names that begin with different letters or sounds than their English counterparts – e.g. G is for Cat in Spanish, Ojibwe, and Korean.
	<i>Ada's Violin</i> , Susan Hood	Info 2016	820 L. 32 pp	Paraguay	True story of an orchestra made up of children playing instruments built from recycled trash. Gorgeous, layered artwork.
	<i>Copycat: Nature-Inspired Design around the World</i> , Christy Hale	Info 2022	RL 4.3 32 pp	Global	A collection of tanka poems, illustrations, and photographs show how plants, animals, and objects in the natural world have inspired human-made inventions and designs.
	<i>Drummer Boy of John John</i> , Mark Greenwood	Bio 2018	32 pp 820 L	Trinidad	An imagined story from the childhood of Winston Simon, a musician who invented steel drums.
	<i>Erno Rubik and His Magic Cube</i> , Kerry Aradhya & Kara Kramer	Bio 2024	32 pp	Hungary	Erno Rubik loved books, art, nature, and puzzles and grew up to be a professor of architecture and design. His fascination with how shapes work together led him to create the Rubik's cube.
	<i>Everything is Music</i> , Miran Park	Info 2026	44 pp	S. Korea Tr.	A girl and her dog journey along city streets and nature trails, listening to the music all around in everyday sounds.
	<i>The Fabled Life of Aesop</i> , Ian Lendler	Bio Fable 2020	RL 4.0 63 pp	Greece Ancient	Bio of how a child born into slavery found a way to speak out about injustice using storytelling. Includes a collection of tales.
	<i>Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos</i> , Monica Brown & John Parra	Bio 2017	32 pp 780 L RL 3.8	Mexico	Frida Kahlo had many pets who inspired her art and gave her comfort in her life.
	<i>His Fairytale Life: Hans Christian Anderson</i> , Jane Yolen & B. Boynton-Hughes	Bio 2025	32 pp	Denmark	The life of Hans Christian Anderson, marked by hardship and ambition, and the stories behind the tales that constitute his legacy and body of work. Poetic language and luminous illustrations work together to create an outstanding bio.

	<i>The Glass Pyramid: A Story of the Louvre Museum</i> , Jeanne Harvey & Khoa Le	Info 2025	32 pp	France, Paris 1981	Architect I.M. Pei was asked to redesign the Louvre Museum, facing many obstacles and problems, that he solved through creating a glass pyramid at its center.
	<i>Itzhak: A Boy Who Loved the Violin</i> , Tracy Newman & Abigail Halpin	Bio 2020	RL 4.6 (0) 32 pp	Israel	Born into a poor immigrant family in Tel Aviv, Itzhak loved music, begging for an instrument. Despite obstacles, including polio, he persevered to turn his dream into reality.
	<i>Music and Silence</i> , Christy Mihaly	Bio 2026	32 pp	Spain 1940s	Pablo Casals used his songs and his silence to fight fascism and oppression during the time of Hitler and Franco.
	<i>My Friend the Paintbrush</i> , Marcus Pfister	Bio 2026	40 pp	Swiss German Tr	The creator of Rainbow Fish praises his paintbrush and shows a range of artistic techniques using different kinds of paints, provides a playful survey of his work.
	<i>The One & Only Googoosh</i> , Azadeh Westergaard	Bio 2024	32 pp	Iran	Googoosh is a legendary Iranian singer and actress who was silenced for 20 years before allowed to again sing and perform.
	<i>Pedro and the Monster Eaters</i> . Xequina Berber & Rod Unalt	Bio 2024	32 pp	Mexico	Bilingual book about the life of Pedro Linares, a Mexican artist known for his colorful papier-mâché sculptures of animals, that were based in his nightmares and the family business of piñatas.
	<i>Van Gogh's Dog</i> , Georgia Larson & Grace Helmar	Fic 2026	32 pp	Netherland	Vincent Van Gogh struggles to find inspiration until a dog takes him on a journey through locations that inspired his most famous paintings. Back matter with info on the paintings.
	<i>Viva Frida</i> , Yuyi Morales	Bio 2014	34 pp	Mexico	Text captures moments in Frida Kahlo's life, which incorporates references to her art.
Math	<i>Blockhead: The Life of Fibonacci</i> . Joseph D'Agnese	Bio 2010	570 L (S) 40 pp	Italy	Set in 1178 Italy, a boy daydreams of numbers leading to discovery of the numerical sequence in nature. Illustrations include math patterns.

	<i>The Boy Who Loved Math</i> , Deborah Heiligman	Bio 2013	550 L 37 pp	Hungary	Biography of mathematician Paul Erdos and his fascination with numbers. Illustrations contain puzzles and math concepts.
	<i>Can You See Me?: A Book about Feeling Small</i> , Gokce Irten	Concept 2021	RL 2.2 620 L 32 pp	Turkey, Tr	Concepts of point of view, perspective and size are conveyed by showing that whether something is seen as large or small depends on what it is being compared to.
	<i>One Moment in Time</i> , Ben Lerwill, Alette Straathof	Info 2021	32 pp RL 3.3	Global	A global journey to show how children in different parts of the world are doing different things at the exact same moment.
	<i>Friends of Numbers</i> , Priya Narayanan & Satwik Gade	Bio 2023	32 pp	India	A bio of Srinivasa Ramanujan, an Indian mathematician whose love of numbers led him to new questions and discoveries.
	<i>A Million Dots</i> , Sven Volker	Info 2019	32 pp	Germany Tr	Counting from one to a million by doubling the numbers on each page through different arrangements of dots.

<i>Pocket Bios</i>	RL 2.0-3.6 24 pp	Global France Tr	A series of short biographies for young readers with each book on a different global figure – e.g. Pablo Picasso, Anne Frank, Albert Einstein, Cleopatra, Blackbird, Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Rosa Parks
<i>Little People Big Dreams series</i>	24 pp RL 4.0	Global UK	Short biographies of the lives of outstanding people from designers and artists to scientists with a focus on their lives as children with a dream—e.g. Zaha Hadid, Rudolf Nureyev, Pele, Nelson Mandela, Mother Theresa, Greta Thunberg.

Tr = translated from that language and country into English

Under Levels, the letters, e.g. (O), in parentheses are Fountas and Pinnell levels

Note: There are many global books for read-alouds to Grade 2-3 children listed under the 4-5 grade level.

8/23/2026