



Belleville Area District Library's **Best Bets for 2nd and 3rd Grade**

Ada, Alma Flor. *My Name Is Maria Isabel*

Maria Isabel is hurt when her teacher decides to call her Mary because there are already two other Marias in the class. Maria is proud of her name and heritage and must find a way to make her teacher understand.

Adinolfi, JoAnn. *The Egyptian Polar Bear*

A lonely polar bear is swept away on an iceberg and winds up in Egypt where he becomes the royal playmate of Rahotep the boy king.

Bang, Molly. *The Paper Crane*

A mysterious man enters a restaurant and pays for his dinner with a paper crane that magically comes alive and dances.

Blume, Judy. *Freckle Juice*

Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

Blume, Judy. *The Pain and the Great One.*
An eight-year-old girl, "The Great One," and her six-year-old brother, "The Pain," state their cases about each other and who is best loved by their parents.

Brown, Jeff. *Flat Stanley*

After a bulletin board falls on Stanley while he is sleeping, he finds that being flat has its advantages.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. *The Chalk Box Kid*

Nine-year-old Gregory's house does not have room for a garden, but he creates a surprising and very different garden in an unusual place.

Christopher, Matt. *Centerfield Ballhawk*

Baseball player Jose Mendez worries about his poor performance with the bat and fears disappointing his father, a former ballplayer with an outstanding batting average.

Christopher, Matt. *The Hit-Away Kid*

Barry McGee, a left fielder and hit-away batter, learns an important lesson in fair play after his sister sees him cheat.

Cleary, Beverly. *Muggie Maggie*

When her teacher, Mrs. Leeper, says Maggie's cursive is so untidy her name looks like "Muggie," Maggie decides she will never read or write cursive.

Dadey, Debbie. *Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots*

There are some pretty weird grown-ups living in Bailey City. But could the new third grade teacher from Transylvania really be a vampire?

Dagleish, Alice. *The Courage of Sarah Noble*

In 1707, young Sarah Noble and her father traveled through the wilderness to build a new home for their family.

Delton, Judy. *Camp Ghost-Away*

On their first night at camp, the Pee Wee Scouts hear a very scary voice calling out. Could it be a tiger...or maybe a ghost?

Flournoy, Valerie. *Patchwork Quilt*

Using scraps cut from the family's old clothing, Tanya helps her grandmother and mother make a beautiful quilt that tells the story of her family's life.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. *The Beast in Ms. Rooney's Room*

Held back for a year in second grade, Richard can't seem to help getting into trouble, until he gets really interested in reading and helps his class in a special way.

Houston, Gloria. *My Great Aunt-Arizona*

Arizona was born in a log cabin her papa built. She grew into a tall girl who liked to sing, square-dance, and -- most of all -- read and dream of the faraway places she would visit one day.

Isaacs, Anne. *Swamp Angel*

Along with other amazing feats, Angelica Longrider, also known as Swamp Angel, wrestles a huge bear, known as Thundering Tarnation, to save the winter supplies of the settlers in Tennessee.

Joose, Barbara. *The Losers Fight Back*

With some help from his detective partner King Kyle in Cleveland, Wild Willie and his friend Lucy figure out how to turn their soccer team into winners.

King-Smith, Dick. *The Invisible Dog*

Events conspire to turn Janie's imaginary Great Dane into a real dog.

Kline, Suzy. *Herbie Jones and the Class Gift*

Herbie and his best friend, Raymond, don't have the money they need for the class's end-of-the-year gift for their teacher. They solve their problem by earning the money, but that's when the trouble really begins.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Seven Kisses in a Row*

It's not fair, Emma thinks, for her parents to go away (for five whole days) and leave her with an aunt and uncle she hardly knows. What if they don't like children?

Milne, A. A. *Winnie the Pooh*

The adventures of Christopher Robin and his friends in which Pooh Bear uses a balloon to get honey, Piglet meets a Heffalump, and Eeyore has a birthday.

Myers, Laurie. *Earthquake in the Third Grade*

Just as the ants feel a jolt when John knocks over the ant farm, John and his third grade classmates find their world turned upside down when their favorite teacher announces that she's moving.

Steig, William. *The Real Thief*

Honorable goose Gawain has only his King's best interests at heart but, as guard of the royal treasury, he is accused of theft after jewels and money disappear from the vault.

Weller, Frances Ward. *Riptide*

Zach's dog is no ordinary dog. He's strong, energetic, in constant motion, and loves the ocean, thus living up to his name, Riptide.

Whelan, Gloria. *Hannah*

Nine-year-old Hannah, living on a farm in 1887 Michigan, is referred to as 'poor Hannah' because she is blind. Hannah tells of a turning point in her life when a new teacher persuades her family to let her attend school.