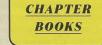


character, Ryan, in this new beginning chapterbook series that's hailed by our kid-lit judges as a "modern-day Ramona." *Ages 6 to 10*



1 The One and Only Bob Written by Katherine Applegate, illustrated by Patricia Castelao

This sequel to *The One and Only Ivan* exudes equal charm and suspense. Although the animals all have much better homes, a storm puts their reunion in jeopardy. "I would rate this a million," says one reviewer. *Ages 7+*

2 Ways to Make Sunshine Written by Renée Watson, illustrated by Nina Mata

"If she were real, I'd be her BFF." That's how one 8-year-old reviewer feels about the main

3 What About Worms!?

Written and illustrated by Ryan T. Higgins

A rare find: an early reader with an important message—namely, that we all see situations differently. Sensory words and sounds add fun. Ages 4 to 6

4 See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog

Written by David LaRochelle, illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka

Using common sight words, LaRochelle constructs a highly amusing story about a dog that's mistaken for a cat. It gets even wackier when a unicorn shows up. Ages 4 to 6

5 Shirley & Jamila Save Their Summer

Written and illustrated by Gillian Goerz

This fast-paced graphic novel is one of the few in the mystery genre and reminded our tween reviewers of the Nate the Great series. "After I finished it, I read it again to see what clues I had overlooked," says a 10-year-old reviewer. Ages 8 to 12

6 Class Act

Written and illustrated by Jerry Craft

A companion to the Newbery Medal winner New Kid, this graphic novel shines for its realistic portrayal of what it's like to be an eighth-grader of color at a mostly white school. In both weighty and lighthearted moments, the dialogue feels authentic. Head to Parents IGTV to watch Craft read two chapters. Ages 8 to 12

(7) History Smashers: The Mayflower Written by Kate Messner, illustrated by Dylan Meconis

The debut title in this nonfiction series debunks myths about the pilgrims' arrival. The intro to fact-checking feels especially relevant in these times. "With its chummy tone, the series eradicates stereotypes and encourages kids to think more critically," says book blogger Julie Danielson. Ages 8 to 12

8 Prairie Lotus Written by Linda Sue Park

Laura Ingalls Wilder fans have a new hero: Hanna. The biracial teen in the Dakota Territory is determined to get an education and achieve her dreams of becoming a dressmaker. "At times, I felt sad and angry about the prejudice she faces," says one reviewer. "But how she handles it inspired me." Ages 8 to 12

9 From the Desk of Zoe Washington Written by Janae Marks

Our reviewers saw themselves in the title character—a 12-year-old trying to prove the innocence of her jailed father. "Zoe is so much like me with her love for baking and wanting to know the real answer to things," says one 12-year-old, who was moved to send the author a thank-you note. Ages 8 to 12

(10) City Spies Written by James Ponti

The premise—five kids from all over the world come together to be real-life spies—gave our reviewers Hogwarts vibes. Plus, Ponti's keep-you-guessing mystery style made this thick book a fast read for them. (They can't wait until March for the sequel.) Ages 8 to 12



The Best Books for Teens

Simply hover your phone's camera over the smart code for ten 2020 faves from our teen reviewers.