

Kennebec Valley Book Award Books 2019-2020
Selected by the RSU#38 Elementary Library Team
All books are 2018 copyright

Bardoe, Cheryl. Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain. Little Brown Books for Young Readers. 40p. Her parents tried to prevent her from doing the math and the universities didn't allow women to attend but nothing stopped Sophie from her love of math. Her determination finally won her the prestigious award from France's Academy of Sciences. Non-Fiction. Biography/Science 1030L.

Bishop, Poppy. Where in the Wild. Tiger Tales. 20p. A look at the animals who live in habitats around the world. Non-Fiction. Animal.

Bowman, Donna. Abraham Lincoln's Dueling Words. Peachtree Publishing. 36p. As a young lawyer, Abraham Lincoln was known for his sense of humor. But in 1842, he did something so obnoxious mean that he was challenged to a duel. Lincoln needed his wits and a healthy dose of humility to save his life and his career. Non-Fiction. History. 800L.

Bruchac, Joseph. Chester Nez and the Unbreakable Code: A Navajo Code Talker's Story. Albert Whitman & Co. 32p. Chester Nez had to leave the reservation in 1929 to attend boarding school. Here he was told to never use his native language and to forget about his culture. Secretly he never forgot his native tongue or culture. This proved to be helpful during WWII when the government recruited him and others to use their Navajo language to create a secret code. Non-Fiction. Biography/History. 780L.

Cameron, Bruce. Max's Story: A Dog's Purpose Puppy Tale. Starscape. 192p. Max is a feisty little dog who is determined to make CJ his companion. Together they help each other navigate NYC and develop a beautiful friendship. Fiction. Animal

Christopher, Matt. On the Field with....Tom Brady. Little Brown Books. 160p. How did Tom Brady become the sports icon he is today? A look into Tom Brady's life. Non-Fiction. Biography.

Cole, Henry. Another Quest for Celeste. Katherine Tegen Books. 272p. Celeste, a little mouse from the south, unexpectedly finds herself on a journey down the Mississippi River. Her adventure teaches her how to deal with the harsh reality of frontier life along with meeting a new friend, a tall lanky boy, young Abe Lincoln. Fiction. Fantasy. 720L.

Coulson, Art. Unstoppable: How Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indian School Football Team Defeated Army. Capstone Editions. 40p. In the autumn of 1912, The Carlisle Indian football team was matched up against the bigger, stronger better equipped West Point Cadets. Jim Thorpe and his teammates proved skill, speed, and innovative plays, making them the best football team around. Non-Fiction. Sports. 830L.

Creech, Sharon. Saving Winslow. Harper Collins. 176p. Louie doesn't have the best of luck when it comes to nurturing small creatures. When his father brings home a sickly newborn mini donkey, he is determined to save him. A bond grows between Louie and the donkey which helps them through difficult times. Fiction. Realistic. 690L.

Cusolito, Michelle. Flying Deep: Climb Inside Deep-Sea Submersible Alvin. Charlesbridge. 32p. Experience the day in the life of an Alvin deep-sea pilot. Join the scientists as they conduct research and gather deepwater specimens. Non-Fiction. Science. 610L.

Desmond, Jenni. The Elephant. Enchanted Lion Books. 48p. A young boy takes us on an adventure to learn amazing facts about the two species of elephants; the African elephant and the Asian elephant. Non-Fiction. Animal.

Donne, Elena Delle. Ellie of the Ball. Simon & Schuster. 161p. It is hard enough trying to cope with middle school but it is even more difficult when you are a six-foot-tall girl. Ellie struggles with learning a new position on her basketball team, learning ballroom dance steps and having to dance with a boy, shorter than her, for the first time. Fiction. Realistic.

George, Kallie. Heartwood Hotel: Better Together. Disney-Hyperion. 176p. Mr. Heartwood, owner of the Heartwood Hotel is on vacation. Mona, who is placed in charge, struggles to keep the hotel running smoothly when Gilles decides a spring fling contest will help the hotel's image. Will she be able to save the hotel from danger with all the activities that are happening? Fiction. Fantasy. 600L.

Halfmann, Janet. Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School. Lee & Low Books. 40p. It was illegal in Mississippi for a slave to be taught to read and write. The punishment for those caught was 39 lashes with a whip. Lilly Ann Granderson believed in the power of education and was willing to take the chance by starting a midnight school. Non-Fiction. Biography. 950L.

Hoover, Connor. Pick Your Own Quest: Trapped in a Fairy Tale. Roots in Myth. 154p. Your granny disappears into a closet and you follow her. Suddenly you're trapped in the land of fairy tales. How do you find granny and get out? You must choose your adventure wisely because fairy tales do not always end happily ever after. Fiction. Fantasy.

Humphrey, Anna. Megabat. Tundra Books. 192L. Daniel has just moved into a new house and he believes his room is haunted or as it turns out has a talking bat living there. Daniel and the bat develop a warm friendship helping each other in their new homes. Fiction. Fantasy. 620L.

Johnson, Terry Lynn. Survivor Diaries: Avalanche! HMH Books. 112p. Twins Ashley and Ryan are on a ski trip with their parents. They deviate off trails only to get swept up in an avalanche. Can they use their wit and courage to save themselves? Fiction. Survival.

Kuhlmann, Torben. Edison: The Mystery of the Missing Mouse Treasure. NorthSouth Books. 112p. Can a young mouse persuade an old adventurous mouse to help him locate a lost treasure at sea? Together with trial and error, they build a seaworthy submarine for their adventure. Fiction. Fantasy. 730L.

Magaziner, Lauren. Case Closed: Mystery in the Mansion. Katherine Tegen Books. 400p. Carlos's mom owns a struggling detective agency. When Carlos's mom gets the flu he must solve the case with his best friend Eliza and with the help of you. You pick the suspects to interview, which questions to ask and which clues to follow. Fiction. Mystery.

Matthews, Pam. Cornelia "Fly Rod" Crosby, Champion of Maine. Pam Matthews and Heidi Kendrick. Cornelia Crosby was an amazing woman for her time. She loved the outdoors and shared her enthusiasm by promoting Maine as an amazing place to visit. Non-Fiction. Biography.

Maynard, Thane. Saving Fiona: The Story of the World's Most Famous Baby Hippo. HMH Books. 48p. Fiona was born prematurely at the Cincinnati Zoo. The team at the zoo worked hard to help Fiona survive and become the cute little hippo who won the hearts of many on Facebook and Instagram, an internet sensation. Non-Fiction. Animal. 1020L.

Moss, Marissa. The Eye That Never Sleeps: How Detective Pinkerton Saved President Lincoln. Harry N. Abrams. 48p. History would be very different if Allan Pinkerton, America's greatest detective, hadn't helped foil the would-be assassin's attempt on President Lincoln. Non-Fiction. History.

Motum, Markus. Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover. Candlewick. 56p. August 6, 2012, the rover Curiosity touched down on the rocky surface of Mars. Learn all about the creation of this rover to the wonderful discoveries she has made. Non-Fiction. Science. 970L.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. Roxie and the Hooligans at Buzzard's Roost. Atheneum. 208p. Roxie's Uncle Dangerfoot has invited Roxie and her friend Norman on a vacation. Not wanting to be left out Helvetia and her hooligans find a way to join in on the vacation, even though they are uninvited. Once again Roxie and the gang find themselves in another adventure. Fiction. Adventure. 910L.

Nobleman, Marc Tyler. Thirty Minutes Over Oregon: A Japanese Pilot's World War II Story. Clarion Books. 40p. During WW II a Japanese pilot was given the mission to drop bombs over Oregon, hoping to cause destruction, his actions did not. 20 years later the town invites him

back to make amends, creating a friendship between him and the people of the town.
Non-Fiction. History. 990L.

Paquette, Ammi-Joan. The Train of Lost Things. Philomel Books. 208p. A magical story about a boy's love for his dying father and his journey to the mythic Train of Lost Things.
Fiction. Fantasy. 670L.

Paschkis, Julie. Vivid: Poems & Notes About Color. Henry Holt and Co. 32p. Playful poems and facts about the colors of the world. Non-Fiction. Poetry. 650L.

Phelan, Matt. Knights vs. Dinosaurs. Greenwillow Books. 160p. Knights of the Round Table can't help but brag. Merlin decides to teach them a lesson by sending a group of knights back to the land of dinosaurs. Can they figure out a way to survive and get back home? Fiction.
Adventure. 610L.

Potter, Ellen. Big Foot and Little Foot. Harry N. Abrams. 144p. Hugo is a young Sasquatch who longs for adventure. Boone is a young boy who longs to see a Sasquatch. When their worlds collide a unique friendship is born. Fiction. Fantasy. 700L.

Shetterly, Margot Lee. Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race. HarperCollins. 40p. The story of four incredible black women who helped NASA put men in space. More amazingly is these women had to work extra hard during a time when being black and a woman was considered inferior to white men. Non-Fiction. Science. 980L.

Stone, Tanya Lee. Pass Go and Collect \$200: The Real Story of How Monopoly was Invented. Henry Holt and Co. 40p. Have you ever played Monopoly? Did you ever wonder who came up with the idea for the game? Find out why Lizzie Magie created the game and her reason to bring attention to the unfair justice during the industrial era. Non-Fiction. History. 930L.

Thermes, Jennifer. Grandma Gatewood Hikes the Appalachian Trail. Abrams Books. 48p. Emma Gatewood in 1955 at the age of 67 decided to hike the Appalachian trail. She became the first woman to hike, in one journey, 2,160 miles from the beginning in Georgia and ending in Maine. Non-Fiction. Adventure.

Williams, Lily. If Polar Bears Disappeared. Roaring Brook Press. 40p. What is global warming? A look at how climate change is affecting animals, especially the polar bear in our arctic region. Non-Fiction. Animal. AD1060L.

Wittenstein, Barry. The Boo-Boos that Changed the World: A True Story About an Accidental Invention (Really!). Charlesbridge. 32p. "Necessity is the mother of invention." Never so true than when it involves actual bodily injury. Josephine Dickson was particularly accident-prone in the kitchen, inspiring her husband Earle to come up with a creative solution. Non-Fiction. History. 640L.

