# Language Arts
## Common Core State Standards
### Recommended Books

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIG BOOKS</strong></td>
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  Encourages the reader to exercise by following the movements of various animals; presented in a question and answer format.


  While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City.


  Relating the cycle of requests a mouse is likely to make after you give him a cookie takes the reader through a young child's day.
EASY


As an old man grumbles his way through a rainy morning, spreading gloom, his neighbor, a young child, spreads cheer while hopping through puddles in frog-themed rainwear.


With a supply of yarn that never runs out, Annabelle knits for everyone and everything in town until an evil archduke decides he wants the yarn for himself.


Bored with city life and the proper behavior it requires, Mr. Tiger has a wild idea that leads him to discover his true nature.


Robert and his friend Charlie are proud of their fathers, who are working on the construction of San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.


Rather than use the same old colors, a child paints animals and objects in a variety of different hues. Includes information about the German painter Franz Marc, who created unconventional animal paintings in the early 1900s, and how his art, banned by the Nazi regime, inspired young Eric Carle.


When Farmer Brown's cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands, and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.


When Duncan arrives at school one morning, he finds a stack of letters, one
from each of his crayons, complaining about how he uses them.


A sleepy child is flown through the night sky to see foxes hunting, rabbits playing, raccoons scrounging, and other animals that are active while people sleep.


When her teacher announces that he is getting married, Lilly the mouse sets her heart on being the flower girl at his wedding.


When a squirrel uses his red hat to mark the spot where he buried an acorn, he sets off a chain of events involving other creatures, each of which finds an unusual use for the chapeau.


Mr. Rabbit wonders if he will be able to get along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the golden rule.


Having to take her younger sister along the first time she is invited to a birthday party spoils Rubina's fun, and later when that sister is asked to a party and baby sister wants to come, Rubina must decide whether to help.


A lot of Marilyn’s friends have monsters. It's the latest thing. Each one is just right for its boy or girl. Marilyn really wants a monster, too, but despite her efforts to be the kind of girl no monster could resist, hers just doesn't come. What could be taking it so long? Everyone knows you just have to wait for your monster - but the spunky and determined Marilyn thinks there may be other ways that things can work.
Children see a variety of animals, each one a different color, and a mother looking at them.

A woman tells her young son the true story of how his great-great-grandfather, Captain Harry Colebourn, rescued and learned to love a bear cub in 1914 as he was on his way to take care of soldiers' horses during World War I, and the bear became the inspiration for A.A. Milne's Winnie-the-Pooh.

While helping his family in their work as migrant laborers far from their home, Tomás finds an entire world to explore in the books at the local public library.

When Amelia Bedelia runs into her principal, Mr. K., and plants the idea that students should vote on the rules, he decides that her class should be the first to come up with new ideas for running the school.

At first, Trisha loves school, but her difficulty learning to read makes her feel dumb, until, in the fifth grade, a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problem.

When a busy family's activities come to a halt because of a blackout, they find they enjoy spending time together and not being too busy for once.

A punctuation mark feels bad that he does not fit in with the others until a friend reveals the possibilities that exist when differences are accepted.

A child explores the ordinary life of his extraordinary great-grandfather, as expressed in his topiary garden.


When a contest at the local library offers a prize for the best story, a girl tries to write one using her family's suggestions, but her story does not seem right until she listens to her heart.


Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.


Two cousins, one in Mexico and one in New York City, write to each other and learn that even though their daily lives differ, at heart the boys are very similar.


Gerald the elephant tells his best friend Piggie a long, crazy story about how he broke his trunk.

**FICTION**


When strange and seemingly unrelated events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.


Anya, embarrassed by her Russian immigrant family and self-conscious about
her body, has given up on fitting in at school but falling down a well and making friends with the ghost there just may be worse.


Twin daughters of interracial parents, eleven-year-olds Keira and Minna have very different skin tones and personalities, but it is not until their African American grandmother enters them in the Miss Black Pearl Pre-Teen competition in North Carolina that red-haired and pale-skinned Minna realizes what life in their small town in the Pacific Northwest has been like for her more outgoing, darker-skinned sister.


Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read.


A young graphic novel chapter book about the escape escapades of class pets at Daisy P. Flugelhorn Elementary School.


A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provides a cure for his boredom.


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.


While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.

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Once there was a tree...and she loved a little boy.'

So begins a story of unforgettable perception, beautifully written and illustrated by the gifted and versatile Shel Silverstein.

Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older he began to want more from the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave.
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As Bridge makes her way through seventh grade on Manhattan's Upper West Side with her best friends, curvacious Em, crusader Tab, and a curious new friend--or more than friend--Sherm, she finds the answer she has been seeking since she barely survived an accident at age eight: "What is my purpose?"
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### NONFICTION


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Anansi and his wife outsmart the Sky God and win back the beloved folktales of their people.
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In this Algonquin Indian version of the Cinderella story, the Rough-Face Girl and her two beautiful but heartless sisters compete for the affections of the Invisible Being.
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Coyote, who has a nose for trouble, insists that the crows teach him how to fly, but the experience ends in disaster for him.
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A collection of short poems which, when reversed, provide new perspectives on the fairy tale characters they feature.


Who says words need to be concrete? This collection shapes poems in surprising and delightful ways. Concrete poetry is a perennially popular poetic form because they are fun to look at. But by using the arrangement of the words on the page to convey the meaning of the poem, concrete or shape poems are also easy to write!