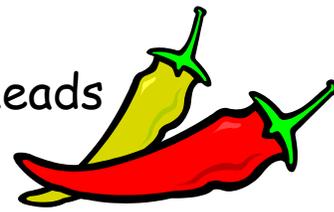
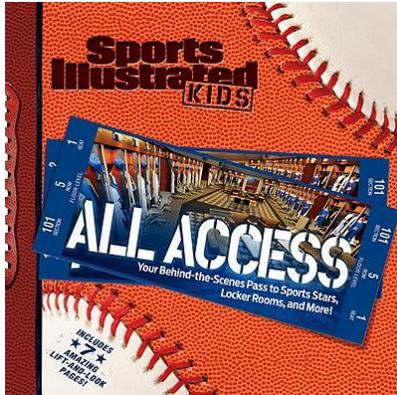


Mrs. Gehrke's Hot Reads

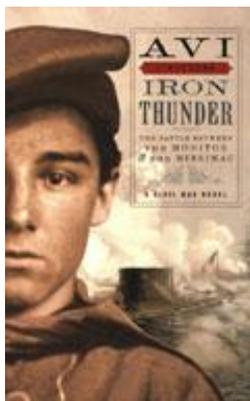


Sports Illustrated Kids All Access: Your Pass to Behind the Scenes Photos of Athletes, Locker Rooms, and More



Even non-sports fans are bound to find this book really, really cool. You will get a behind-the-scenes look at some pretty awesome locations, players and gear. Incredible pictures with several overlay pages that let you see things from another point of view. I loved seeing inside Nascar driver Kyle Busch's team hauler and the inside of the scoreboard at Fenway Park, where the Red Sox play.

Iron Thunder: The Battle Between the Monitor & the Merimac by Avi

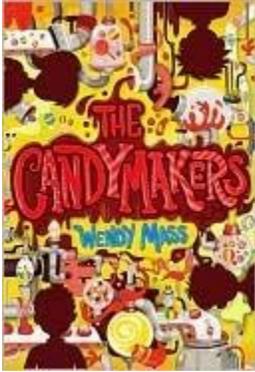


When his father is killed fighting for the Union in the War Between the States (Civil War), thirteen-year-old Tom Carroll must take a job to help support his family. He manages to find work at a bustling ironworks in his hometown of Brooklyn, New York, where dozens of men are frantically pounding together the strangest ship Tom has ever seen. A ship made of iron. Tom soon learns that the Union army has very important plans for this iron ship called the *Monitor*. It is supposed to fight the Confederate "sea monster"—another ironclad, the *Merimac*. But almost no one believes the Monitor will float!

Meanwhile, Tom's job at the ironworks has made him a target of Confederate spies who offer him money for information about the ship. Tom finds himself caught between two certain dangers: an encounter with murderous spies and a battle at sea in an iron coffin. . .

Ages 9-12

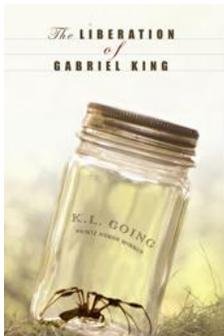
The Candymakers by Wendy Mass



Four children have been chosen to compete in a national competition to find the tastiest confection in the country. Who will invent a candy more delicious than the Oozing Crunchorama or the Neon Lightning Chew? Logan, the Candymaker's son, who can detect the color of chocolate by touch alone? Miles, the boy who is allergic to merry-go-rounds and the color pink? Daisy, the cheerful girl who can lift a fifty-pound lump of taffy like it's a feather? Or Philip, the suit-and-tie wearing boy who's always scribbling in a secret notebook? This sweet, charming, and cleverly crafted story, told from each contestant's perspective, is filled with mystery, friendship, and juicy revelations.

Grades 4-6

The Liberation of Gabriel King by K.L. Going



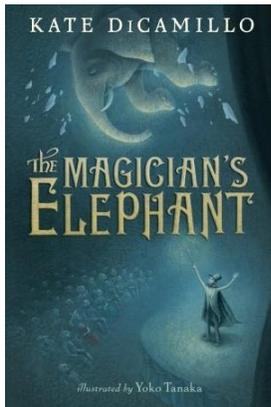
Gabriel King believes he was born chicken. He's afraid of spiders, corpses, loose cows, and just about everything related to the fifth grade. If it's a choice between graduating or staying in the fourth grade forever, he's going to stay put — only his best friend Frita Wilson won't hear of it.

She tells Gabe to make a list of everything he's afraid of. Gabe's list is a lot longer than he'd like Frita to know. Plus, he can't quite figure out how tackling his fears will make him brave. Surely jumping off the rope swing over the catfish pond can only lead to certain death...But maybe Frita knows what she's doing. It turns out she's got her own list, and while she's watching Gabe tackle each of his fears, she's avoiding the fear that scares her the most.

With wisdom and clarity, K. L. Going explores the nature of fear in what should be an idyllic summer for two friends from different backgrounds. For them, living in a small town in Georgia with an active Ku Klux Klan, the summer of 1976 is a momentous one.

Ages 9-12

The Magician's Elephant by Kate DiCamillo



When a fortuneteller's tent appears in the market square of the city of Baltese, orphan Peter Augustus Duchene knows the questions that he needs to ask: Does his sister still live? And if so, how can he find her? The fortuneteller's mysterious answer (an elephant! An elephant will lead him there!) sets off a chain of events so remarkable, so impossible, that you will hardly dare to believe it's true.

Ages 8-12