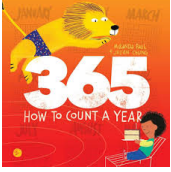


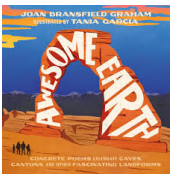


## SSYRA Orange Blossom 2026-2027 Annotated List



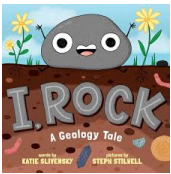
**365: How to Count a Year** written by Miranda Paul and illustrated by Julien Chung

A year can feel like a really, *really* long time. One trip around the sun. Twelve months. Fifty-two weeks. 365 days. 31,535,000 seconds. It seems like forever, so let's break it down! A year is made up of 365 "Good mornings." It's fifty-two Friday night movie nights, twelve calendar backgrounds, and one special birthday wish. Time passes in so many fun and exciting ways—come explore them!



**Awesome Earth: Concrete Poems Celebrate Caves, Canyons, and Other Landforms** written by Joan Bransfield Graham and illustrated by Tania Garcia

The Earth's crust shakes, water swells, lava flows, and glaciers advance. In this ingenious picture book, the landforms created by Earth's powerful forces are examined through compelling concrete poetry. From canyons to volcanoes, archipelagoes to hoodoos, take a tour of the many fascinating forms and features of our awesome planet.



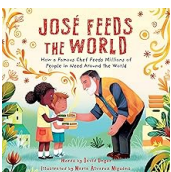
**I, Rock: A Geology Tale** written by Katie Slivensky and illustrated by Steph Stilwell

Rock tells his sensational, sometimes harrowing, sometimes hilarious, geological tale to a group of eager students. From his humble beginnings beneath Earth's crust, to a volcano blast that propelled him onto land, to the storms and earthquakes and dinosaur encounters and deep-sea adventures that finally bring him to the bottom of a student's shoe, come discover what makes Rock rock!



**I'm Longer Than You: An Epic Contest of Measurement** written and illustrated by Carolyn Fisher

When Supersaurus claims to be the longest animal, Blue Whale begs to differ. The two animals debate who is longer until Inchworm (who happens to be exactly one inch long) enters the scene and offers to measure them both. The animals agree and decide that the loser will treat the winner to lunch. Inchworm inches along the entire length of Blue Whale, who measures 1300 inches long. But the measuring took so long that Inchworm has no time to measure Supersaurus. Luckily, Centipede (who happens to be exactly one centimeter long) offers to measure all 3302 centimeters of Supersaurus. Great! Except centimeters are different units of measure from inches. Will the two ever figure out who won?



**Jose Feeds the World** written by David Unger and illustrated by Marta Alvarez Miguens

**One chef. One plate of food. Millions of lives changed. An inspiring true story for young readers who want to make a difference.**

When chef José Andrés sees disaster strike, he doesn't just watch—he shows up, ready to cook. From the smell of saffron and rice in his childhood kitchen in Spain, to the bustling kitchens of earthquake and hurricane relief zones, José has learned that food can be more than nourishment, it can be hope.

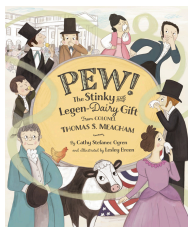
José Feeds the World tells the remarkable true story of how an award-winning chef became the founder of World Central Kitchen, serving over 200 million meals to people affected by natural disasters, pandemics, and war.



***Messi's Magic: How Lionel Messi Became the G.O.A.T*** written by Caroline L. Perry and illustrated by Luciano Lozano

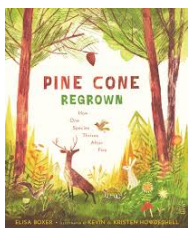
How did a small, shy, soccer-obsessed child with a serious medical condition become a goal-scoring, record-breaking, once-in-a-generation sensation?

For everyone who loves soccer, dreams big, and is inspired by heroes who triumph against the odds, *Messi's Magic* delivers a thrilling, deeply emotional story.



***Pew! The Stinky and Legen-Dairy Gift from Colonel Thomas S. Meachum*** written by Cathy Stefanac Ogren and illustrated by Lesley Breen

In 1835, Colonel Thomas S. Meacham wanted to give the president of the United States a present that celebrated the achievements of his upstate New York farming community. Believing that big is always better, he decided a colossal, legen-dairy gift was in order: a wheel of cheese measuring four feet in diameter, two feet thick, and weighing 1,400 pounds. Transporting the cheese to Washington D.C. was another big undertaking. It traveled by wagon and by ship, before being delivered to the White House on New Year's Day in 1836. But with a big cheese comes a big smell, and after a year the president had a stinky situation on his hands. How can he get rid of this cheesy gift? Readers of all ages will enjoy this slice of American history. Back matter includes science facts on cheese making.



***Pine Cone Regrown: How One Species Thrives After Fire*** written by Elisa Boxer and illustrated by Kevin and Kristin Howdeshell

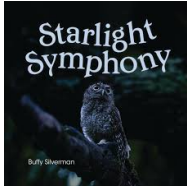
**Through lyrical prose and stunning art, learn how one tree species thrives through fire.** One pine cone hangs in wait at the top of a tall lodgepole pine—for forty years it waits. But it watches as a small spark flickers into flame. It watches as the flames whip into a forest fire, sending animals fleeing. It watches as the flames grow higher and hotter—until the pine cone cracks open. As the fire cools and dies, the pine cone finally drops its seeds into the soil. Soil that has been made rich by the fire, warmed by the sun that can reach the forest floor once more. And from that destructive start, comes new life once more.

This poetic story introduces readers to one of the serotinous tree species that can only grow anew when the seeds face fire. Back matter includes additional information on forest fires and lodgepole pines.



***She Kept Dancing: The True Story of a Professional Dancer with a Limb Difference*** written by Mesher, Sydney and Catherine Laudone and illustrated by Natelle Quek

Sydney Mesher was born with ten toes and five fingers. But it was her toes that her mom noticed first. "I can tell she's going to be a dancer," she said. And it turned out Mom was right—after years of hard work, Sydney eventually danced her way onto the famous stage of Radio City Music Hall, becoming the first Rockette with a visible disability.



**Starlight Symphony** written and illustrated by Buffy Silverman

*Eee-oh-lay! Chirp-a-chirp! Rat-a-tat!*

Nature is full of music. Listen in as a wood thrush, a cricket, a woodpecker, and many other animals perform a symphony under the stars. Rhyming verse and eye-catching photos will draw in animal lovers and music lovers alike!

This is a great fit for educators looking for STEAM content, bringing together animal behavior, figurative language as animals are compared to musicians, and lots of onomatopoeia. Back matter includes more about each of the featured animals and each of the featured instruments.

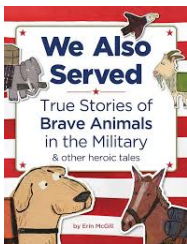


**The Dog Who Saved the Bees** written by Stephanie Gibeault and illustrated by David Hohn

**When an overworked beehive inspector seeks a detection dog to protect bees from a deadly disease, she teams up with a lonely dog who needs a loving home and a purpose.**

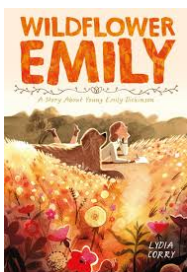
Cybil Preston needs a dog. But not just any dog. She needs a dog to help her with her work. Cybil is a beehive inspector who works to ensure the health of commercial beehives in Maryland. Hundreds of hives are shipped across the country as farmers need bees to pollinate their crops. Without the bees, there wouldn't be foods like apples, almonds, and strawberries. But the bees must be healthy to be shipped, and there's a deadly disease, foulbrood, that is highly contagious. If even one infected hive left the state, entire bee populations could be wiped out. Dogs, with their ultrasensitive sense of smell, can sniff out even the tiniest scent of foulbrood in a hive. A well-trained, focused detection dog can inspect 50 hives in 10 minutes. Work that would take Cybil an entire day to do.

When Cybil meets Mack, an unruly and lonely dog, she wonders if she has found her canine colleague. Can rambunctious Mack be trained to meet this important challenge? Readers of all ages will enjoy this warmly illustrated true story of Cybil and Mack as they work to save the bees.



**We Also Served: True Stories of Brave Animals in the Military** written and illustrated by Erin McGill

History is full of incredible untold tales of courageous animals. We Also Served tells the inspiring stories of the amazing bravery and loyalty displayed by animals throughout history and their vital contributions to military success. Each true story gives readers a lesson in history and a lesson in the importance of these animals' contribution. The perfect gift for animal lovers and military families!

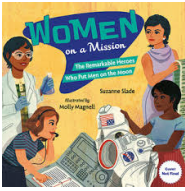


**Wildflower Emily: A Story about Young Emily Dickinson** written and illustrated by Lydia Corry

Emily Dickinson is one of America's greatest and most original poets of all time. When you hear her name, you may imagine the famous recluse whose withdrawal from society became legendary. But it's time to meet a new side of Emily, one that is powerful, adventurous, and joyful.

Follow along as we delve into Emily Dickinson's childhood, revealing a young girl desperate to go out exploring—to meet the flowers in their own homes. Wade through tall grasses to gather butterfly weed and goldenrod, the air alive with the "buccaneers of buzz." And, don't forget to keep a hot potato in your pocket to keep your fingers warm.

This is Emily Dickinson as you've never seen her before, embarking on an unforgettable journey in her hometown of Amherst, Massachusetts, with her trusty four-legged companion, Carlo.



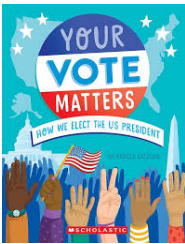
***Women on a Mission: The Remarkable Heroes Who Put Men on the Moon*** written by Suzanne Slade and illustrated by Molly Magnell

This is the story of our daring quest to visit the moon, featuring twelve talented women who helped get us there. These women performed a variety of daunting jobs to accomplish the first moon landing. Some of their impressive accomplishments include:

- How Phyllis Gaylard helped design the descent engine that allowed for a gentle landing on the lunar surface.
- Hazel Fellows' creation of the spacesuits that shielded the astronauts on the moon.
- And Katherine Johnson's verification of the flight calculations that let them return home safely.

Playful, retro-style illustrations pay homage to the 60s era.

Despite sexism and racism, these "hidden figures" persisted, contributing to the space program and paving the way for future women engineers and astronauts. *Women on a Mission* will surely astound and inspire young readers.



***Your Vote Matters: How We Elect the US President*** written by Rebecca Katzman and illustrated by Ellen Duda

**This engaging and comprehensive illustrated guide will answer all kids' questions about how the president is elected!**

There's never been a timelier moment for kids to learn the importance of voting. *Your Vote Matters* walks readers through all the ins and outs of voting in America -- and more specifically, voting in presidential elections.

This easy-to-understand guide explains every step in the presidential election process -- from who is eligible to run for president to what the president does once they are sworn into office. Learn about campaigning and debates, the difference between caucuses and primaries, and how the Electoral College works, plus information about who is eligible to vote; the many different ways citizens can vote on (and leading up to) Election Day; what happens after the final ballots are cast; and tips on what to consider when deciding which candidate should get your vote.

Each page of this nonfiction guidebook also features full-color artwork, including photographs, maps, illustrations, charts, and infographics aimed at making the information inside as accessible and kid-friendly as possible.

*Your Vote Matters* is the perfect book to not only help kids understand how elections work -- but why it's important to participate in every single one.