



Sunshine State Young Readers Award Books

2023-24 List for Grades 3-5



The Area 51 Files by Julie Buxbaum

After a mysterious disappearance in Area 51, suspicion falls on the new residence, Sky. Ky and her new friend Elvis (Alien) work together to prove her Uncle Anish's innocence. Cute, goofy fun mystery!



Bedhead Ted by Scott SanGiacomo

A graphic novel about wanting to fit in when you stand out, friendships, and uncovering the truth of a local urban legend - the elusive giant raccoon known as the Brookside Beast! For the first time, Ted wonders if his unruly hair is a gift rather than a curse.



Better with Butter by Victoria Piontek

Afraid of everything, Marvel, finds an unlikely friend -- and emotional support animal -- in the form of an adorable fainting goat. Everything is easier for her with Butter by her side. But what will happen to Marvel when Butter's owner shows up to take her back? Will Marvel find a way to keep her friend?



The Curse on Spectacle Key by Chantel Acevedo

A Cuban American boy who befriends a pair of spirits and tries to break the curse on his island home . . . only to discover a seemingly lost piece of his family's history in the process.



Glitch by Laura Martin

Regan and Elliott, enemies since they started training to become Glitchers, must break all the rules of time travel. Will they be able to set aside their past in order to save the future?



Good Dogs on a Bad Day by Rachel Wenitsky and David Sidorov

A group of Very Good doggie daycare buddies, meet the Naughty Dog and try following a few of their wilder instincts leading to hilarious chaos. Do good dogs have to be good all the time?



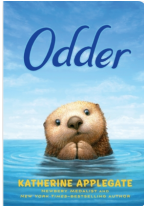
Honestly Elliott by Gillian McDunn

With a best friend that moved away, Elliott starts school amid personal turmoil only to be partnered with popular and smart Maribel for a class project that really counts. Sometimes the least likely friends help you see a new side to things... and sometimes you have to make a few mistakes before you figure out what's right.



Fright Nights: *The Haunted Mustach* by Jo McGee

Parker and Lucas, out to debunk one of Wolver Hollow's creepiest legends, of the ghostly mustache that returns every year seeking a lip to claim as its own, find more than they bargained for.



Odder by Katherine Applegate

Inspired by the true story of a Monterey Bay Aquarium program that pairs orphaned otter pups with surrogate mothers, this poignant and humorous tale told in free verse examines bravery and healing through the eyes of one of nature's most beloved and charming animals.



The Raven Heir by Stephanie Burgis

Deep within an enchanted forest lies a castle where a set of triplets and their sorceress mother have safely lived for years. But one day, the world comes calling and her family is captured, it's up to Cordelia to use her powers to keep her siblings hidden and discover the truth about the Raven Heir — before it's too late.



Secondhand Dogs by Carolyn Crimi

When she adopted Gus, Roo, Tank, and Moon Pie, Miss Lottie rescued each member of the pack and turned them into a family. But when a new dog, Decker, arrives and tries to hoard Miss Lottie's heart and home for himself, the pack's future is threatened.



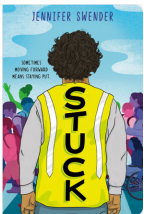
Solimar - The Sword of the Monarchs by Pam Muñoz Ryan

On the brink of her Quinceañera, Solimar is given a gift and a curse; she can predict the future. Can this princess-to-be save her family, the kingdom, and the future of the monarch butterflies from a greedy and dangerous king?



Strangeville School is Totally Normal by Darcy Miller

Harvey Hill wants the kids at his new school to think he is normal, but the school is anything but normal. His guide, and a new friend? Stella Cho goes missing and it's up to Harvey to solve the secret of the supply closet. Harvey must embrace what makes him unique to save his new friend and his new school.



Stuck by Jennifer Swender

Austin, a boy used to flying under the radar, wants to keep his secret: he struggles to read. Enter larger-than-life Bertie, who excites Austin to join the Safety Patrol and finally speak up, finding he may not be that different after all.



Swim Team by Johnie Christmas

Excited for her first day of school, Bree finds herself stuck with the dreaded Swim 101. She's forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help.