

2003 Children's Notable Books

This list of children's books was compiled by the American Library Association (ALA). The books on this list are divided according to age ranges. You can find most of the books on this list at your local library

Younger Readers

- **"Slowly, Slowly, Slowly," said the Sloth.** by Eric Carle.
- **Rap a Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles – Think of That!** by Leo and Diane Dillon.
- **Gossie & Gertie** by Olivier Dunrea.
- **Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!** by Candace Fleming.
- **Alphabet Under Construction** by Denise Fleming.
- **What Charlie Heard** by Mordicai Gerstein
- **Henrietta and the Golden Eggs** by Hanna Johansen
- **Gooney Bird Greene** by Lois Lowry
- **Hondo & Fabian** by Peter McCarty. *A 2003 Caldecott Honor Book*
- **I Stink!** by Kate McMullan
- **7 X 9 = Trouble!** by Claudia Mills.
- **Head, Body, Legs: A Story from Liberia** by Won-Ldy Paye and Margaret H. Lippert
- **My Friend Rabbit** by Eric Rohmann. *The 2003 Caldecott Medal Book*
- **Duck on a Bike** by David Shannon.
- **Madlenka's Dog** by Peter Sis.
- **Get Well, Good Knight** by Shelley Moore Thomas.
- **Bear Snores On** by Karma Wilson.
- **Frida** by Jonah Winter.

Middle Readers

- **The Pot that Juan Built** by Nancy Andrews-Goebel.
- **Stand Tall** by Joan Bauer.
- **Togo** by Robert J. Blake.
- **Ruby Holler** by Sharon Creech.
- **Inventing the Future: A Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison** by Marfe Ferguson Delano.
- **Georgie Lee** by Sharon Phillips Denslow.
- **Once Upon a Marigold** by Jean Ferris.
- **Up On Cloud Nine** by Anne Fine.
- **The Signers: The 56 Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence** by Dennis Brindell Fradin.
- **Confucius: The Golden Rule** by Russell Freedman.
- **The Thief Lord** by Cornelia Funke. *The 2003 Mildred L. Batchelder Medal Book*
- **Coraline** by Neil Gaiman.
- **Pictures of Hollis Woods** by Patricia Reilly Giff. *A 2003 Newbery Honor Book*
- **Talkin' about Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman** by Nikki Grimes. *The 2003 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award Book and a 2003 Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book*
- **Journey to the River Sea** by Eva Ibbotson.
- **My Chinatown: One Year in Poems** by Kam Mak.

- **A Corner of the Universe** by Ann Martin. *A 2003 Newbery Honor Book*
- **Saffy's Angel** by Hilary McKay.
- **To Fly: The Story of the Wright Brothers** by Wendie Old.
- **Ella Fitzgerald: The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa** by Andrea Davis Pinkney.
- **Degas and the Dance: The Painter and the Petits Rats, Perfecting their Art** by Susan Goldman Rubin.
- **When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Anderson, The Voice of a Century** by Pam Muñoz Ryan. *A 2003 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book*
- **Saladin: Noble Prince of Islam** by Diane Stanley.
- **Becoming Joe DiMaggio** by Maria Testa.
- **Surviving the Applewhites** by Stephanie S Tolan. *A 2003 Newbery Honor Book*
- **Fossil Fish Found Alive: Discovering the Coelacanth** by Sally M. Walker.

Older Readers

- **Before We Were Free** by Julia Alvarez.
- **Avi. Crispin: The Cross of Lead.** *The 2003 Newbery Medal Book*
- **Six Days in October: The Stock Market Crash of 1929** by Karen Blumenthal. *A 2003 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book.*
- **Where the Action Was: Women War Correspondents in World War II** by Penny Colman.
- **Goddess of Yesterday** by Caroline Cooney.
- **The House of the Scorpion** by Nancy Farmer. *A 2003 Newbery Honor Book*
- **Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story about Brain Science** by John Fleischman.
- **Hole in My Life** by Jack Gantos. *A 2003 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book*
- **The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler** by James Cross Giblin. *The 2003 Robert F. Sibert Medal Book.*
- **Hoot** by Carl Hiaasen. *A 2003 Newbery Honor Book.*
- **The Kite Rider** by Geraldine McCaughrean.
- **19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East** by Naomi Shihab Nye.
- **When My Name Was Keoko: A Novel of Korea in World War II** by Linda Sue Park.
- **This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody Guthrie** by Elizabeth Partridge.

All Ages

- **The Declaration of Independence** by Sam Fink.
- **Action Jackson** by Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan. *A 2003 Robert F. Sibert Honor Book.*
- **The Spider and the Fly** by Mary Howitt. *A 2003 Caldecott Honor Book.*
- **Fireboat: The Heroic Adventures of the John J. Harvey** by Maira Kalman.
- **Atlantic** by G. Brian Karas.
- **I Pledge Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance with Commentary** by Bill Martin Jr. and Michael Sampson.
- **Noah's Ark** by Jerry Pinkney. *A 2003 Caldecott Honor Book*
- **Knick-Knack Paddywhack!** by Paul O. Zelinsky.