

To: Teachers and Media Specialists
Re: Classroom Loan Bags for **2018-2019** School Year

Lincoln City Libraries provides sets of multiple copies of select titles written for children. Each set contains approximately 20-25 copies of the same title. We make these bags available on a monthly basis to teachers to use in their classrooms from August through July. As with any book, we recommend that teachers read the book before they use it in their classroom to determine if it is appropriate for their needs. The following guidelines apply to the use of these book bags:

- Bags may be reserved beginning **August 1**.
- In-person reservations on that day, in order of arrival at Bennett Martin Public Library, will take precedence over telephone reservations (402-441-8500), which will be honored in the order received.
- Bags may be picked up and checked out on the first day of the month it was reserved. **Bags must be checked out at Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th St. during regular library hours.** Any bags not picked up by the 5th of the month will be considered available for another teacher to use that month.
- Bags are due back on the 26th of the month. A charge of \$1.00 a day will be assessed for each day the bag is late. **Bags must be returned to Bennett Martin Public Library, 136 S. 14th St. during regular library hours**
- The borrower may renew his/her checked out Classroom Loan Bag for an additional month if that Classroom Loan Bag is available for an additional month's check out. **Additional month renewal inquiries must be done by phoning 402-441-8500 or visiting Bennett Martin Public Library in person by the 25th of the month.**

Following is a list of the books available, including grade level and a brief description.
New titles for the current school year appear in blue text & underlined

Absolutely Almost by Lisa Graff (gr. 4-6) Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself.

Adventures of Beanboy, by Lisa Harkrader (gr. 4-6) Wheaton, Kansas seventh-grader Tucker MacBean loves comic books, so when his favorite comic has a contest to create a sidekick, he is hopeful that he can win, thereby fixing his struggling family.

All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee) (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee), by Leslie Connor (gr. 4-6). Eleven-year-old Perry was born and raised by his mom at the Blue River Co-ed Correctional Facility in Surprise, Nebraska. When a new district attorney discovers that Perry is living with his mother there, he is removed from the facility and forced into a foster home. Desperate to be reunited with his mom, Perry goes on a quest for answers about her past crime.

All the Answers by Kate Messner (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Ava finds an old pencil in her family's junk drawer and discovers, during a math test, that it will answer factual questions. She and her best friend Sophie have a great time--and Ava grows in self-confidence--until the pencil reveals a truth about her family that Ava would rather not know.

Anna's Blizzard by Alison Hart (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Anna discovers that she knows a few things about survival when the 1888 Children's Blizzard traps her and her classmates in their Nebraska schoolhouse.

Apple Blossom the Possum by Holly Goldberg Sloan (gr. 4-6). A young possum strikes out on her own and winds up trapped in a human house before her brothers can rescue her.

Baker's Magic by Diane Zahler (gr. 4-6). Bee steals a bun from a bakery, and to her surprise the baker offers her a place at his shop. As she learns to bake, Bee discovers that she has a magical power. When a new friend needs her help against an evil mage, Bee wonders what a small orphan girl with only a small bit of magic can do.

Balto and the Great Race by Elizabeth Kimmel (gr. 2-4). Recounts how the sled dog Balto saved Nome, Alaska, in 1925 from a diphtheria epidemic by delivering medicine through a raging snowstorm.

Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea (gr. 4-6). Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt.

Book Scavenger by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman (gr. 4-6). Just after twelve-year-old Emily and her family move to San Francisco, she teams up with new friend James to follow clues in an odd book they find, hoping to figure out its secrets before the men who attacked Emily's hero, publisher Garrison Griswold, solve the mystery or come after the friends.

Bunnacula by Deborah and James Howe (gr. 3-5). A dog named Harold tells the story of a rabbit many believe to be a vampire.

The Candymakers by Wendy Mass (gr. 4-6). When four twelve-year-olds, including Logan, who has grown up never leaving his parents' Life Is Sweet candy factory, compete in the Confectionary Association's annual contest, they unexpectedly become friends and uncover secrets about themselves during the process.

Charlie Bumpers vs the Teacher of the Year by Bill Harley (gr. 2-3). Charlie Bumpers is sure he does not stand a chance of getting along with his fourth grade teacher and despite his best efforts to be neat and well-behaved, he always seems to be in trouble until he discovers her secret.

Chocolate Fever by Robert Kimmel Smith (gr. 2-5). Wacky adventures arise when Henry comes down with the only reported case of "chocolate fever."

Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene Catling (gr. 3-5). A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate (gr. 4-6). Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent and not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan—again. Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything?

Darling: Mercy Dog of World War I by Alison Hart (gr. 2-3), In Cosham, England, in 1917, Darling, a mischievous collie, must leave the children who love her when she is chosen for training as a mercy dog, seeking out injured soldiers on the battlefield and leading medics to them.

Diamond in the Desert by Kathryn Fitzmaurice (gr. 4-6). After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, thirteen-year old Tetsu and his family are sent to the Gila River Relocation Center in Arizona where a fellow prisoner starts a baseball team, but when Tetsu's sister becomes ill and he feels responsible, he stops playing.

Dog called Kitty by Bill Wallace (gr. 2-5). Afraid of dogs since he was attacked by a mad one, Ricky resists taking in a homeless pup that shows up at the farm.

Donavan's Word Jar by Monalisa DeGross (gr. 2-4). His friends collect coins or comics, Donovan collects interesting words and puts them in a jar.

Earthquake Terror by Peg Kehret (gr. 4-6). When an earthquake hits the isolated island in northern California where his family has been camping, twelve-year-old Jonathan Palmer must find a way to keep himself, his partially paralyzed younger sister and their dog alive until help arrives.

Eight Keys by Suzanne LaFleur (gr. 4-6). When twelve-year-old Elise, orphaned since age three, becomes disheartened by middle school, with its bullies, changing relationships, and higher expectations, keys to long-locked rooms and messages from her late father help her cope.

El Deafo by Cece Bell (gr. 4-6) The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower."

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape.

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements (gr. 4-6). When Abby's first letter arrives at a small school in Afghanistan, Sadeed Bayat is chosen to be her pen pal...well, kind of.

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (gr. 4-6). 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.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm (gr. 4-6). Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager--which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

Freaky Fast Frankie Joe by Lutricia Clifton (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Frankie Joe Huckaby, forced to live with the father he never knew, a stepmother, and four half-brothers in Illinois, starts a delivery service to finance his escape back to his mother in Texas, not realizing he is making a better life for himself than he ever had with her.

Freedom's Wings: Corey's Diary by Sharon Dennis Wyeth (gr. 2-4). A nine-year-old slave keeps a diary of his journey to freedom along the Underground Railroad in 1857.

Frindle by Andrew Clements (gr. 4-6). When he decides to turn his fifth grade teacher's love for the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Frostborn by Lou Anders (gr. 4-6). Destined to take over his family farm in Norrongard, Karn would rather play the board game, Thrones and Bones, until half-human, half frost giantess Thianna appears and they set out on an adventure, chased by a dragon, undead warriors, an evil uncle, wyverns, trolls and giants.

Fuzzy Mud by Louis Sachar (gr. 4-6). Two middle-grade kids, fifth grader Tamaya Dhilwassi and seventh grader Marshall Walsh, take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world.

Garvey's Choice (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee) by Nikki Grimes (gr. 4-6). Garvey's father has always wanted him to be athletic, but Garvey isn't interested in sports. Feeling like a failure, he comforts himself with food. Garvey is kind, funny, smart, a loyal friend, and he is also overweight, teased by bullies, and lonely. When his only friend encourages him to join the school chorus, Garvey's life changes.

The Giver by Lois Lowry (gr. 5-7). Given his lifetime assignment at the Ceremony of Twelve, Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

Half a Chance by Cynthia Lord (gr. 4-6). Lucy, with her mother and her photographer father, has just moved to a small rural community in New Hampshire, and with her new friend Nate she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest, but pictures sometimes reveal more than people are willing to see.

Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord (gr. 4-6). When her blind dog slips his collar, twelve-year old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family are in Maine for the blueberry-picking season, and, based partly on their mutual love of dogs, the two forge a friendship while painting bee boxes for Lily's grandfather. But as the Blueberry Queen pageant approaches Lily and Selma are confronted with some of the hard truths of prejudice and migrant life.

Hold Fast by Blue Balliett (gr. 4-6). On a cold winter day in Chicago, Early's father disappeared, and now she, her mother and her brother have been forced to flee their apartment and join the ranks of the homeless--and it is up to Early to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father.

Holes by Louis Sachar (gr. 4-6). As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself. 1999 Newbery Medal Winner.

Joyful Noise by Paul Fleischman (gr. 3-6). Written to be read aloud by two voices--sometimes alternating, sometimes simultaneous--here are irresistible poems that celebrate the insect world. 1989 Newbery Medal Winner.

Kenny and the Dragon by Tony DiTerlizzi (gr. 4-6). Book-loving Kenny the rabbit has few friends in his farming community, so when one, bookstore owner George, is sent to kill another, gentle dragon Grahame, Kenny must find a way to prevent their battle while satisfying the dragon-crazed townspeople.

Kindred Souls by Patricia MacLachlan (gr. 4-6). Ten-year-old Jake shares a special bond with his grandfather, Billy, but when Billy asks Jake to build him a sod house, Jake is not sure he wants to do it.

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies (gr. 4-6). Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand.

Life on Mars by Jennifer Brown (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Arcturus Betelgeuse Chambers' quest to find life on other planets seems at an end when his parents decide to move to Las Vegas, but while they look for a house he stays with his neighbor, an astronaut who soon becomes a friend.

Loot: How to Steal a Fortune by Jude Watson (gr. 4-6). When Alfie McQuinn, the notorious jewel thief, is killed on a job, his last words to his son, March, are to "find jewels." This instruction leads the boy to Jules, the twin sister he never knew he had--and the perfect partner to carry on the family business.

Martin Bridge Ready for Takeoff by Jessica Scott Kerrin (gr. 1-3). Meet Martin Bridge, almost special and ordinary boy, whose well-meant plans sometimes go awry.

[Maxi's Secrets \(or What You Can Learn from a Dog\) \(2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee\)](#) by Lynn Plourde (gr. 4-6). Fifth-grader Timminy, who's small for his age and new in town, isn't eager to start middle school--but he gets a great consolation prize in Maxi, a big, deaf, lovable dog.

May B. by Caroline Starr Rose (gr. 4-6). When a failed wheat crop nearly bankrupts the Betterly family, Pa pulls twelve-year-old May from school and hires her out to a couple new to the Kansas frontier.

[Moo: A Novel \(2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee\)](#) by Sharon Creech (gr. 4-6). When Reena, her little brother, Luke, and their parents first move to Maine, Reena doesn't know what to expect. Her parents "volunteer" Reena and Luke to work for an eccentric neighbor named Mrs. Falala, who has a pig named Paulie, a cat named China, a snake named Edna—and that stubborn cow, Zora.

Mr. Popper's Penguins by Richard Atwater (gr. 3-6). The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

Night of the Twisters by Ivy Ruckman (gr. 4-6). A fictional account of the night freakish and devastating tornadoes hit Grand Island, Nebraska, as experienced by a twelve-year-old, his family and friends.

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry (gr. 4-7). In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis. 1990 Newbery Medal Winner.

Paper Things Jennifer Richard Jacobsen (gr. 4-6). When Ari's mother died, she had two final wishes: that Ari and her older brother, Gage, would stay together always, and that Ari would go to Carter, the middle school for gifted students. When nineteen-year-old Gage decides he can no longer live with their bossy guardian, Janna, Ari knows she has to go with him. But it's been two months, and Gage still hasn't found them an apartment. All of this jumping around makes it hard for Ari to keep up with her schoolwork, never mind her friendships, and getting into Carter starts to seem impossible.

Pioneer Girl: Growing Up on the Prairie by Andrea Warren (gr. 4-6). Tells about the daily life and activities of a pioneer girl growing up on the prairies of Nebraska.

Ruby Lee & Me by Shannon Hitchcock (gr. 4-6). When a formerly segregated North Carolina town hires its first African-American teacher in 1969, two girls--one black, one white--confront the prejudice that challenges their friendship.

Rump: The true story of Rumpelstiltskin by Liesl Shurtliff (gr. 4-6). Relates the tale of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood and youth, explaining why his name is so important, how he is able to spin straw into gold, and why a first-born child is his reward for helping the miller's daughter-turned-queen.

Runt by Marion Dane Bauer (gr. 4-6). Runt, the smallest wolf cub in the litter, seeks to prove himself to his father, King, and the rest of the pack and to earn a new name.

Save Me A Seat (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee) by Sara Weeks & Gita Varadarajan (gr. 4-6). Joe has lived in the same town all his life, and was doing just fine until his best friends moved away and left him on his own. Ravi's family just moved to America from India, and he's finding it pretty hard to figure out where he fits in. Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common, but soon enough they have a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and a common mission: to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

Seventh Most Important Thing, The by Shelley Pearsall (gr. 4-6). Arthur threw a brick at the trash picker and the judge is ready to send Arthur to juvie for the foreseeable future. Amazingly, it's the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service . . . working for him.

Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (gr. 3-6). When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs. 1992 Newbery Medal Winner.

Sky Jumpers by Peggy Eddleman (gr. 4-6). Twelve-year-old Hope lives in a post World War III town called White Rock where everyone must participate in Inventions Day, though Hope's inventions always fail. Her unique skill set comes in hand when a group of bandits invades the town.

[Slacker \(2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee\)](#) by Gordon Korman (gr. 4-6). When eighth-grader Cameron Boxer creates the Positive Action Group at school he intends it as a diversion to fool his parents, teachers, and sister into letting him continue to concentrate on his video-gaming. Before he knows it other kids are taking it seriously, and soon he finds himself president of the P.A.G. and involved in community service.

Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio by Peg Kehret (gr. 4-6). The author describes her battle against polio at age thirteen and her efforts to overcome its debilitating effects.

[Soar \(2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee\)](#) by Joan Bauer (gr. 4-6). Moving to Hillcrest, Ohio, when his adoptive father accepts a temporary job, twelve-year-old Jeremiah, a heart transplant recipient, has sixty days to find a baseball team to coach.

SOS File, The by Betsy Byars (gr. 4-6). The students in Mr. Magro's class submit stories for the SOS file about their biggest emergencies, and then they read them aloud for extra credit.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper (gr.). When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid by Megan McDonald (gr. 2-4). The shortest kid in second grade, James Moody, also known as Stink, learns about the shortest president of the United States, James Madison. Every morning, Judy Moody measures Stink; every day it's the same: three feet, eight inches, until one day....is Stink shrinking?

Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner (gr. 2-4). Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the prize money from a dog sled race he enters.

[Towers Falling \(2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee\)](#) by Jewell Parker Rhodes (gr. 4-6). While learning about September 11th, fifth grader Dèja (who was born after the attacks) realizes how much the events still color her world.

Unwanted, The by Lisa McMann (gr. 4-6). In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated, one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic.

Walls Within Walls by Maureen Sherry (gr. 4-6). When the Smithfork family moves into a lavish Manhattan apartment building, they discover clues to a decades-old mystery hidden behind the walls of their new home.

War that Saved My Life, The by Kimberly B Bradley (gr. 4-6). A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls (gr. 4-6). A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart's desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be champion hunters.

Wild Life by Cynthia DeFelice (gr. 4-6). When twelve-year-old Eric's parents are deployed to Iraq, he goes to live with grandparents he hardly knows in a small town in North Dakota, but his grandfather's hostility and the threat of losing the dog he has rescued are too much and Eric runs away.

Wild Robot, The (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee) by Peter Brown (gr. 4-6). Roz the robot discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island with no memory of where she is from or why she is there. Her only hope of survival is to try to learn about her new environment from the island's hostile inhabitants.

Wish (2018–2019 Golden Sower Nominee) by Barbara O'Connor (gr. 4-6). Eleven-year-old Charlie Reese has been making the same secret wish every day since fourth grade. But when she is sent to the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina to live with family she barely knows, it seems unlikely that her wish will ever come true. That is until she meets Wishbone, a skinny stray dog who captures her heart, and Howard, a neighbor boy who proves surprising in lots of ways.

Wonder by R. J. Palacio (gr. 4-6). Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

World According to Humphrey, The by Betty G. Birney (gr. 4-6). Sent to live in Room 26, Humphrey, the class hamster, begins to learn a lot about humans through simple observation from his cage, in an amusing tale about a curious creature who takes full advantage of his educational opportunities.

Year of the Panda, The by Miriam Schlein (gr. 2-5). A Chinese boy rescues a starving baby panda, and, in the process, learns why pandas are endangered, and what the government is doing to save them.