Great Books to Give as Gifts- 2018

The Very Youngest

**Title: Alphaprints : 1 2 3**, Powell, Sarah , ISBN: 9780312517366
Rhyming text counts groups of one to ten animals, which are illustrated with finger and thumb prints, and relates their activities.

**Ducks Away!**, Fox, Mem, ISBN: 9781338185669
One by one five little ducklings tumble off the bridge into the river below--and mother duck follows them.

Jim Panzee wakes up in a bad mood one beautiful day, but he keeps denying he is grumpy even as his friends give advice for feeling better.

Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.

**Can You dance Like John?**, Kurrus, Jeff, ISBN: 9781496206671
Jeff Kurrus's fictional account of one sandhill crane learning to cope with the loss of her mate.

Beginning Readers

**An Elephant and Piggie BIGGIE!**, Willems, Mo, ISBN: 9781484799673
Mo Willems, a #1 New York Times bestselling author and illustrator, celebrates ten years of Elephant & Piggie in this special bind-up collection.

Young Readers

Alongside everything the young oceanographer needs to know, Zommer's charming illustrations bring to life some of the slipperiest, scaliest, strangest, and most monstrous underwater animals.
**Also, The Big Book of Beasts, and The Big Book of the Bugs** by the same author/illustrator
An Anthology of Intriguing Animals, Hoare, Ben, ISBN: 9781465477026
This animal encyclopedia with a twist showcases more than 100 animals in close-up detail. Arranged from biggest to smallest, the wildlife of the world is revealed with stunning photography and gorgeous illustrations.

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, and her only hope of survival is to try to learn about her new environment from the island's hostile inhabitants.

Six young magicians and illusionists team up to save their small town from a crooked carnival owner and his goons.

Tweens and Young Teens

After shunning Jaime, the school nerd, on her first day at a new middle school, Penelope Torres tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, until the art club goes to war with the science club, of which Jaime is a member. Sequels: Brave and Crush.

Just Breathe: Meditation, Mindfulness, Movement, and More, Chopra, Mallika, ISBN: 9780762491582
A meditation guide for teens offers specific mindfulness exercises to help deal with day-to-day challenges and includes tips to lead a happier, healthier, and more connected life.

Illustrator Hope Larson takes the classic story to a new level with her vividly imagined interpretations of tessering and favorite characters like the Happy Medium and Aunt Beast. Perfect for old fans and winning over new ones, this graphic novel adaptation is a must-read.

Older Teens/ Young Adults

Split Tooth, Tanya Tagaq, ISBN: 9780670070091
Haunting, brooding, exhilarating, and tender all at once, Tagaq moves effortlessly between fiction and memoir, myth and reality, poetry and prose, and conjures a world and a heroine readers will never forget.

Scythe, Shusterman, Neal, ISBN: 9781442472433
In a world where disease has been eliminated, the only way to die is to be randomly killed ('gleaned') by professional reapers ('scythes'). Two teens must compete with each other to become a scythe--a position neither of them wants. The one who becomes a scythe must kill the one who doesn't.
The Hate U Give, Thomas, Angie, ISBN: 9780062871350
After witnessing her friend's death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter's life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her in an effort to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.

Adaptations for Young Readers

A thrilling expedition to 100 of the most surprising, mysterious, and weird-but-true places on earth, from the team behind the #1 bestseller Atlas Obscura.

How We Got to Now: Six Innovations that Made the Modern World, Johnson, Steven, ISBN: 9780452877781 (Middle school age)
Steven Johnson looks at how accidental genius, brilliant mistakes, and unintended consequences shape the way we live in the modern world.

Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of the Species (Young Reader’s Edition) Adapted by Rebecca Stefoff, ISBN: 9781481462495 (Middle School and high school age)
Charles Darwin’s groundbreaking On the Origin of Species is now available in an accessible, illustrated edition for young readers that includes an introduction, glossary, modern insight and information, and more!

For the Whole Family

A naturalist and adventurer discusses the personalities and quirks of thirteen animals who have profoundly affected her, exploring themes of learning to become empathetic, creating families, coping with loss, and the otherness and sameness of people and animals.

This absorbing and surprising book measures and compares a huge variety of different subjects: the strongest animals, the biggest poopers and eaters, the amount of water in the oceans, the deadliest creatures and disasters, extreme journeys, altitudes and depths, the power of natural forces, and much, much more!

Timelines of Everything, Dorling Kindersley and The Smithsonian, ISBN: 9781465474933
Explore an illustrated history of the world through timelines for kids. From dinosaurs and Vikings to the history of robots and espionage, discover incredible world history in this lavish collection of timelines.
Adults

Together: Our Community Cookbook, ISBN: 9781984824080
In the aftermath of the Grenfell Tower fire in London, a group of local women gathered together to cook fresh food for their families and neighbors.

Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families.

An exploration of influential literature of the Plains region in both the United States and Canada

The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning: How to Free Yourself and Your Family from a Lifetime of Clutter, Magnusson, Margareta, ISBN: 9781501173240
In Sweden there is a kind of decluttering called döstädning, dö meaning "death" and städning meaning "cleaning." This surprising and invigorating process of clearing out unnecessary belongings can be undertaken at any age or life stage but should be done sooner than later, before others have to do it for you.

Bill Shapiro collected this sweeping range of stories--he talked to everyone from renowned writers to Shark Tank hosts, from blackjack dealers to teachers, truckers, and nuns, even a reformed counterfeiter--to reveal the often hidden, always surprising lives of objects.

In Their Lives: Great Writers on Great Beatles Songs, ISBN: 9780735210691
An anthology of essays from a chorus of twenty-nine luminaries singing the praises of their favorite Beatles songs.

Ground Rules: 100 Easy Lessons for Growing a More Glorious Garden, Frey, Kate, ISBN: 9781604698787
Frey distills the vital lessons gardening into 100 simple rules that will yield a gorgeous, healthy, and thriving home garden.

Tell Me More: Stories About the Twelve Hardest Things I’ve Learned to Say, Corrigan, Kelly, ISBN: 9780399588372
With Kelly's signature candor and good will, each chapter draws from her sometimes ridiculous, sometimes profound struggles with parenting and marriage, career and friendship, illness, aging and mortality.