

To: Teachers and Media Specialists  
Re: Classroom Loan Bags for 2019-2020 School Year

Lincoln City Libraries provides sets 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 bags:

- Bags must be picked up and dropped off at **Bennett Martin Public Library** (136 S. 14<sup>th</sup> St.) during regular business hours. They can't be left in a book drop.  
Hours are:  
Monday through Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday: Noon to 6 p.m.
- 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 on the 1st** of the reserved, and **due back on the 26<sup>th</sup>** of that month.
- The borrower may renew their checked out Classroom Loan Bag for an additional month if it hasn't been reserved by someone else. **Renewal inquiries must be done by phoning 402-441-8566 or visiting Bennett Martin Public Library by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.**
- There are no longer late fees for youth materials, including Classroom Loan Bags. However, please be considerate of the next teacher in line.

## The following Classroom Loan Bags are available:

New titles are available for all of the Chapter Book Nominees for the 2019-2020 Golden Sower Award. These are in [underlined blue text](#). Grade level suggestions come from NoveList K-8 Plus.

***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.

***All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook***, by Leslie Connor (gr. 5-7).

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. 3-5).

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. 3-6).

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. 3-4).

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.

**Candymakers, The**, by Wendy Mass (gr. 4-8).

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. 2-4).

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. 3-4).

Wacky adventures arise when Henry comes down with the only reported case of "chocolate fever."

**Chocolate Touch**, by Patrick Skene Catling (gr. 3-4).

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?

***Diamond in the Desert***, by Kathryn Fitzmaurice (gr. 5-7).

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.

***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.

***Doughnut Fix, The***, by Jessie Janowitz (gr. 3-6).

When his family moves to tiny Petersville, eleven-year-old Tris stops focusing on his perfect sister, Jeanine, by using his cooking expertise to revive a town tradition of chocolate cream doughnuts.

***El Deafo***, by Cece Bell (gr. 2-6).

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. 4-7).

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.

***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.

***Fourteenth Goldfish, The***, 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.

***Fuzzy Mud***, by Louis Sachar (gr. 3-5).

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***, by Nikki Grimes (gr. 4-8).

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.

***Holes***, by Louis Sachar (gr. 5-8)

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.

***I Love You, Michael Collins***, by Lauren Baratz-Logsted (gr. 4-7).

It's 1969 and the country is gearing up for men landing on the moon. Ten-year-old Mamie's class is given an assignment to write letters to the astronauts. Only Mamie writes to Michael Collins, the astronaut who will come so close but never achieve everyone else's dream of

walking on the moon because he is the one who must stay with the ship. After school ends, Mamie keeps writing to Michael Collins, taking comfort in telling someone about what's going on with her family.

***Joyful Noise***, by Paul Fleischman (gr. 3-5).

Written to be read aloud by two voices--sometimes alternating, sometimes simultaneous--here are irresistible poems that celebrate the insect world.

***Kindred Souls***, by Patricia MacLachlan (gr. 3-5).

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.

***Lemonade War, The***, by Jacqueline Davies (gr. 3-5).

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.

***Lemons***, by Melissa Savage (gr. 3-6). Lemonade Liberty Witt is forced to live with a grandfather she's never met after her mother passes away. Eleven-year-old Tobin Sky, the CEO of Bigfoot Detectives Inc., invites Lem to be his assistant for the summer, and they set out to capture a shot of the elusive beast on film.

***Loot: How to Steal a Fortune***, by Jude Watson (gr. 4-7).

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.

***Losers Club, The***, by Andrew Clements (gr. 3-6).

Sixth grader Alec can't put a good book down. So when Principal Vance lays down the law—pay attention in class or else—Alec takes action. He can't lose all his reading time, so he starts a club that he intends to be the only member of. After all, reading isn't a team sport, and no one would want to join something called the Losers Club, right? But as more and more kids find their way to Alec's club—including his ex-friend turned bully and the girl Alec is maybe starting to like—Alec notices something. Real life might be messier than his favorite books, but it's just as interesting.

***Magic Misfits, The***, by Neil Patrick Harris (gr. 4-6).

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

***Maxi's Secrets (or What You Can Learn from a Dog)***, 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.

***Moo: A Novel***, by Sharon Creech (gr. 3-6).

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.

***Number the Stars***, by Lois Lowry (gr. 3-7).

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.

***Perfect Score, The***, by Rob Buyeah (gr. 4-6).

The whole school is in a frenzy with the statewide assessment tests approaching. When one of the kids has a big idea for acing the tests, they're all in.

***Pioneer Girl: Growing Up on the Prairie***, by Andrea Warren (gr. 3-4).

Tells about the daily life and activities of a pioneer girl growing up on the prairies of Nebraska.

***Rump: The true story of Rumpelstiltskin***, by Liesl Shurtliff (gr. 3-6).

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***, by Sara Weeks & Gita Varadarajan (gr. 3-6).

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. 4-7)

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. 4-8). 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.

***Sidetracked***, by Diana Asher (gr. 4-6).

Joseph Friedman spends most of his time avoiding school bully Charlie Kastner and hiding out in the Resource Room. But on the first day of seventh grade, two important things happen. First, his Resource Room teacher encourages him to join the school track team, and second, he meets Heather, a crazy-fast runner who isn't going to be pushed around by Charlie Kastner or anybody else.

***Sky at Our Feet, The***, by Nadia Hashimi (gr. 5-8).

Discovering that his Afghan mother has been living illegally in the United States since his father was killed in Afghanistan, American-born Jason fears that she has been deported and runs away to New York City to seek a family member who might be able to help.

***Slacker***, by Gordon Korman (gr. 4-7).

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***, 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. 4-8).

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.

***Stone Fox***, by John Reynolds Gardiner (gr. 4-6).

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***, by Jewell Parker Rhodes (gr. 4-8).

While learning about September 11th, fifth grader Dèja (who was born after the attacks) realizes how much the events still color her world.

***Vanderbeekers of 141<sup>st</sup> Street, The***, by Karina Yan Glaser (gr. 3-5).

The Vanderbeekers have always lived in the brownstone on 141st Street. When their reclusive, curmudgeonly landlord decides not to renew their lease, the five siblings have eleven days to do whatever it takes to stay in their beloved home and convince the dreaded Beiderman just how wonderful they are.

***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. 7-9).

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 Robot, The***, 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***, 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.

[Wishtree](#), by Katherine Applegate (gr. 4-8).

Red is an oak tree and the neighborhood "wishtree" - people write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches. You might say Red has seen it all, until a new family moves in. Not everyone is welcoming, and Red's experiences as a wishtree are more important than ever.

**Wonder**, by R. J. Palacio (gr. 4-7).

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. 2-4).

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. 4-6).

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.