Librarians and staff experts from across The New York Public Library have compiled this list of the best books of 2023 for kids, including picture books, graphic novels, fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Explore the list—and more for readers of all ages: nypl.org/bestbooks

**PICTURE BOOKS**

- **At the Drop of a Cat**
  Élise Fontenaille, illustrated by Violeta Lópiz, translated by Karin Snelson and Emilie Robert Wong

- **Bâbo: A Tale of Armenian Rug-Washing Day**
  Astrid Kamalyan, illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan

- **Big**
  Vashti Harrison

- **Big Tune: Rise of the Dancehall Prince**
  Alliah L. Agostini, illustrated by Shamar Knight-Justice

- **The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name**
  Sandhya Parappukkaran, illustrated by Michelle Pereira

- **Breaking to the Beat!**
  Linda J. Acevedo, illustrated by Frank Morrison

- **Bunny and Tree**
  Balint Zsako

- **Cape**
  Kevin Johnson, illustrated by Kitt Thomas

- **Do You Remember?**
  Sydney Smith

- **Just Like Grandma**
  Kim Rogers, illustrated by Julie Flett

- **Kicks in the Sky**
  C.G. Esperanza

- **Mama Shamsi at the Bazaar**
  Mojdeh Hassani and Samira Iravani, illustrated by Maya Fidawi

- **Mr. S**
  Monica Arnaldo

- **My Baba’s Garden**
  Jordan Scott, illustrated by Sydney Smith

- **9 Kilometers**
  Claudio Aguilera, illustrated by Gabriela Lyon, translated by Lawrence Schimel

- **Papá’s Magical Water-Jug Clock**
  Jesús Trejo, illustrated by Eliza Kinkz

- **Rainbow Shopping**
  Qing Zhuang

- **Roll, Roll, Little Pea**
  Cécile Bergame, illustrated by Magali Attiogbé, translated by Angus Yuen-Killick

- **That Flag**
  Tameka Fryer Brown, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith

- **There Was a Party for Langston**
  Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Jerome Pumphrey and Jarrett Pumphrey

- **These Olive Trees**
  Aya Ghanameh

- **To the Other Side**
  Erika Meza

- **The Train Home**
  Dan-ah Kim

- **The Walk**
  Winsome Bingham, illustrated by E.B. Lewis

- **When You Can Swim**
  Jack Wong

- **Window Fishing**
  DK Dyson, illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez

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Chinese Menu: The History, Myths, and Legends Behind Your Favorite Foods
Grace Lin

Contenders: Two Native Baseball Players, One World Series
Traci Sorell, illustrated by Arigon Starr

From Here to There: A First Book of Maps
Vivian French, illustrated by Ya-Ling Huang

Glitter Everywhere!: Where It Came From, Where It's Found and Where It's Going
Chris Barton, illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat

Great Carrier Reef
Jessica Stremer, illustrated by Gordy Wright

Holding Her Own: The Exceptional Life of Jackie Ormes
Traci N. Todd, illustrated by Shannon Wright

How the Sea Came to Be: And All the Creatures in It
Jennifer Berne, illustrated by Amanda Hall

How to Bird
Rasha Hamid

Jumper: A Day in the Life of a Backyard Jumping Spider
Jessica Lanan

The Lion Queen: Rasila Vadher, the First Woman Guardian of the Last Asiatic Lions
Rina Singh, illustrated by Tara Anand

The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity
Nicholas Day, illustrated by Brett Helquist

The Monkey Trial: John Scopes and the Battle over Teaching Evolution
Anita Sanchez

My Indigo World: A True Story of the Color Blue
Rosa Chang

Rock, Rosetta, Rock! Roll, Rosetta, Roll!: Presenting Sister Rosetta Tharpe, the Godmother of Rock and Roll
Tonya Bolden, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie

Search for a Giant Squid: Pick Your Path
Amy Seto Forrester, illustrated by Andy Chou Musser

Shipwrecked!: Diving for Hidden Time Capsules on the Ocean Floor
Martin W. Sandler

The Sky Is Not the Limit
Jérémie Decalf

Stars of the Night: The Courageous Children of the Czech Kindertransport
Caren Stelson, illustrated by Selina Alko

Thank a Farmer
Maria Gianferrari, illustrated by Monica Mikai

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About Best Books
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