

Book Selection Tools from a Christian Perspective

Compiled by Donna W. Bowling

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

100 Christian Books that Changed the Century / William J. Petersen and Randy Petersen. LCCN 00030500. Grand Rapids, Mich: Fleming H. Revell, 2000. ISBN 0800757351, 222 p.

Titles are arranged chronologically by date of publication, with two or three pages of commentary. Around ten percent are fiction titles. Three ground-breaking titles addressed specifically to children are: Jesse Lyman Hurlbut's *Story of the Bible* (1904), C. S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia* (1950), and Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* (1962). In "The Runners-Up" chapter, around twenty additional titles appear, along with several significant authors not included.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Best Books: for Kindergarten through High School / comp. by Donna Hess. Greenville, S.C.: Bob Jones University Press, 1994. ISBN 0890847290, 203 p.

Useful bibliography of nearly 1200 titles for Christian schools. Arranged by grade level groupings, with brief annotations. Includes lists of "Books for Analysis and Discussion," with more lengthy annotations, for upper grade levels. Additional listing of more than 100 "Biographies and Autobiographies," annotated earlier in the volume. "Guidelines for Choosing Books" discusses principles for evaluating literature. Less inclusive selection philosophy. [vs. "more inclusive"]

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

The Best Christian Children's Books, 1942-1992 / Karen Khamis. Ephemeron Press, 1994. ISBN 0912290142, 56 p. [Box 1037, RR 10, Germar Drive, Oswego, NY 13126]

Out of 447 potential books with a specifically Christian worldview, Khamis chose 157 titles as excellent Gold Star titles and an additional 46 Companion titles that have some literary weakness. Includes Bible stories and other non-fiction, along with various literary genres. Arranged alphabetically by author.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

The Book Tree: A Christian Reference for Children's Literature / Elizabeth McCallum and Jane Scott. LCCN 00010305. Moscow, Ida.: Canon Press, 2002. ISBN 1885767714, 222 p.

Nearly 500 titles for levels K-12, arranged by level and genre. Brief quotations from certain books accompany short annotations. Emphasis on biography and historical fiction of special interest to the classical Christian school and home school market served by publisher. Detailed subject index includes school level. Moderately inclusive.

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

Books Children Love: a Guide to the Best Children's Literature / Elizabeth L. Wilson, Rev. ed. LCCN 2002013455, Crossway, 2002. ISBN1581341989, 320 p.

Nearly 1000 entries, for 765 titles, in twenty-five chapters, deal with various fiction genres and non-fiction subjects for grades K-12. Longer annotations, with secondary entries for a title's special relevance to another topic. More inclusive.

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

Book Lover's Guide to Great Reading: a Guided Tour of Classic & Contemporary Literature / Terry W. Glaspey. LCCN 2001024041, Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2001. ISBN 0830823298, 237 p. [OP]

Of around 850 titles selected to nurture the thinking Christian, Glaspey lists over 120 titles of "Great Books for Young Readers" that focus on "awakening your child's moral vision."

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

Christian Fiction: a Guide to the Genre / John Mort. LCCN 2001050840, Greenwood Village, Colo.: Libraries Unlimited, 2002. ISBN 1563088711, 339 p.

Comprehensive annotated bibliography of nearly 2000 titles, is geared primarily to public libraries. A majority of the titles are published by members of the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association (ECPA), and marked with a distinguishing icon. Includes topical chapters, "Catholic Fiction," "Amish, Mennonite, and Quaker Fiction," "Mormon Fiction," and "Young Adults." Titles for children are not included.

Core Collection for Small Libraries: an Annotated Bibliography of Books for Children and Young Adults / Janice A. DeLong and Rachel E. Schwedt. LCCN 96042267. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press 1997. ISBN 0810832526, 229 p.

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

Nearly 500 titles for levels K-12 arranged by genre. Annotations include level and classroom applications and values. Prepared by an education professor and librarian at Liberty University. Less inclusive.

CLJ 8, 3:2+ (June2003)

History's Stories: a Literary Timeline / Kevin D. Washburn & Julia Washburn. Helena, AL: Make Way For Books, 1998, 126 p. [OP]

Chronologically arranged listing of around 600 social-studies related titles for grades K-9. Short descriptive annotations. Theme and title indexes.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Home Remedies / by Gina Dalfonzo and Jennifer A. Marshall. Washington, D.C.: Family Research Council. Stock no. BL 024, 1997, 64 p. [OP]

Includes annotations for 300 books plus 200 entries for curriculum aids and books for instruction in school subjects for levels K-12. Arranged by genre and level. Center foldout "Reading Road Map" lists around 100 titles for K-12. Designed for home school parents, but useful for all. No index.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Honey for a Child's Heart: the Imaginative Use of Books in Family Life / Gladys Hunt. 4th. ed. LCCN 2001007850, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002. ISBN 0310242460, 251 p.

Gladys Hunt shares her vision of literature in the home, a vision that is matched by her inspiring style. In the first half of the book she devotes nine chapters to "Using Books to Help Children Grow." Part Two is a graded listing, with brief sentence-length annotations, of nearly 1,000 "Best-Loved Books for Children" through age 14. More inclusive.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Honey for a Teen's Heart: Using Books to Communicate with Teens / Gladys Hunt and Barbara Hampton. LCCN 2002000783. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002. ISBN 0310242606 301 p.

Hunt has written the ten chapters in Part 1, "Using Books in Family Life," including an annotated listing of works expected as background knowledge for college students. In Part 2, Hampton contributes the bibliography listing over 400 books, arranged by subject, with annotations divided into paragraphs for description and recommendation. Both authors emphasize the importance of asking questions as part of the reading process. More inclusive.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Honey for a Woman's Heart: Growing Your World through Reading Great Books / Gladys Hunt. LCCN 2001045576. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002. ISBN 0310238463, 208 p.

Instead of a formal annotated bibliography, Hunt uses an informal first-person narrative style as she describes nearly 900 titles discussed by genre. In accompanying shaded sidebars, Hunt includes lists of related titles, many annotated, recommended by thirty other women. Several of these women have contributed more than one such list. They come from all walks of life: novelist, librarian, editor, teenager, educator, missionary-linguist, and other avid readers. Around 150 titles also listed in *Honey for a Teen's Heart*.

CLJ 5, 1:57+ (Win2000) & CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

How to Grow a Young Reader / Kathryn Lindskoog & Ranelda Mack Hunsicker, Rev. ed. LCCN 98051648. Wheaton, Ill.: Harold Shaw, 1999 ISBN 0877884080, 391 p.

Over 1800 titles for children and young adults. Useful chapter discussions and books on social problems. Also discusses impact of computers and TV on reading. An appendix lists useful web sites. More inclusive.

CLJ 9, 3:8+ (Nov2004)

How to Raise a Reader / Elaine K. McEwan. LCCN 99022613, Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1999. ISBN 0801011841, 205 p. [OP]

The first half of this book provides guidance to parents to foster life-long readers. The last four chapters give an annotated book list, arranged by level, and then by genre. Levels begin with birth through age 3, and up to age 12 and reluctant readers. Nearly 250 entries with additional titles in the annotations. More inclusive.

CLJ 8, 3:2+ (June2003)

Let the Authors Speak : a Guide to Worthy Books Based on Historical Setting / Carolyn Hatcher. LCCN 94055916. Joelton, TN: Old Dominion Publishing, 1994. ISBN 0964068117, 114 p. [OP. Distributed by Christian Book Distributors, Peabody, MA]

A computerized listing of almost 1200 titles for age 8 and up, arranged chronologically by time, and then by geographical location. Major section includes realistic historical fiction, biography, history, journals, and essays; added section includes myth-legend, fantasy, folk tale, fable, and allegory. Single row entries include short comments with coded information on setting, genre, and level. Author and title indexes.

The Librarian's Guide to Developing Christian Fiction Collections for Children / by Barbara J. Walker. LCCN 2005004976. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2005. ISBN 1555705464, 228 p.

The Librarian's Guide to Developing Christian Fiction Collections for Young Adults / by Barbara J. Walker. LCCN 2005005112. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2005. ISBN 1555705456, 200 p.

The Librarian's Guide to Developing Christian Fiction Collections for Adults / by Barbara J. Walker. LCCN 2005004978. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2005. ISBN 1555705227, 362 p.

The major part of each book is its Core Collection Recommendations, subdivided into genres. The nearly 200 titles listed for children, the nearly 200 titles listed for young adults, and the over 500 titles listed for adults have descriptive annotations. Each contains a chapter with many of the same short biographical sketches for a few selected authors of Christian fiction. Still available with over 300 titles plus some similar chapters:

CLJ 4, 2/3:77+ (WiSp1999)

Developing Christian Fiction Collections for Children and Adults / by Barbara J. Walker. LCCN 98005881. New York: Neal-Schuman, 1999. ISBN 1555702929, 224 p.

CLJ 7, 2/3:10+ (SpSu2002)

Survey of Recommended Reading Lists: Preschool through Grade Twelve / Sharon R. Berry, editor. Professional Report # 6256. Colorado Springs, CO: Association of Christian Schools International, [1997], 40 p. [OP]

For each two-grade span, one listing of around 25 most-recommended titles arranged by author with brief annotations, followed by a second listing (without annotations) of around 40 additional titles. Includes Bowling article on "Reading lists for Christian schools: selection issues." Less inclusive philosophy.

CLJ 8. 2:48+ (Apr2003)

A Time to Read : Good Books for Growing Readers / Mary Ruth K. Wilkinson & Heidi Wilkinson Teel. [National Library of Canada: 00910500X]. Vancouver: Regent College Pub., 2001. ISBN 1573831468, 215 p

More than 750 annotated titles for children and young adults arranged by genre. Expert mother-daughter team from Regent University marks those titles specifically relating to Canada. Chapter essays especially useful. More inclusive.

Curriculum guides

Across the centuries: teaching units for timeless children's literature from a Christian Perspective. Lifeway Christian Resources. <<http://www.lifeway.com/>>

For each two-grade level, each volume contains cross-curriculum units based on four or five individual children's literature titles.

Study guides for literature from a Christian perspective. Progeny Press. <<http://www.progenypress.com/>>

Individual guide for each title.

Sonlight Curriculum. <<http://www.sonlight.com/>>

Christian curriculum with heavy concentration on works of literature.

Other reviewing sources

Church libraries. Glen Ellyn, Ill.: Evangelical Church Library Association. Quarterly.

This quarterly journal is packed with timely articles and media reviews. Of the 40 pages, almost 75% are dedicated to reviewing books, videos, cassettes, music, and computer software.

Library Materials Guide. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Christian Schools International. Semiannual.

These guides include hundreds of concise, thoughtful reviews of recently published books for children and young adults.

Arranged by age and subdivided into the major subject areas, the reviews identify the best fiction and nonfiction books.

Online resources

"10 Christian Books No Child Should Miss" / Bonne Steffen & Randy Bishop. *Christian Reader* (9-10/1999).

<<http://www.christianitytoday.com/cr/9r5/9r5062.html>>

Lengthy annotations for each title or series. "Other mentions" in list at end of article.

"50 'Must Read' Children's Books." *Christian Parenting Today* (July/Aug. 1999).

<<http://www.christianitytoday.com/cpt/9g4/9g4025a.html>>

Includes listings for "Birth-3 years," "3-5 Years," and "5-7 Years," without annotations. Also lists "17 Ways to Encourage Reading."

"Core Collection Children's and Middle Grade Fiction and Non-fiction" & "Core Collection of Children's Mix of Secular and Christian Titles" / Evangelical Church Library Association. (2000). <http://www.eclalibraries.org/core_collection_children.htm> and <http://www.eclalibraries.org/core_collection_children_two.htm>

Arranged alphabetically by author's last name, without annotations. Second list divided into three grade levels, repeats many titles from first list.

Children's Crown Gallery Award, Children's Crown Award, Lamplighter Award / Children's Crown Award – Winners.

<<http://www.childrenscrownaward.org/winners.htm>>; "Past nominees by year" document available on request from

<smorrow@brentwoodchristian.org>

Crown Gallery Award, K-2; Crown Award, Gr. 3-5; Lamplighter Award, Gr. 6-8.

Christy Awards: Allegory, Contemporary/General, Fantasy, Futuristic, North American Historical, International Historical, Romance, Suspense, Visionary, Western, First novel. <<http://www.christyawards.com>>

Gold Medallion Book Awards: Preschool children, Elementary Children, Youth /

Evangelical Christian Publishers Association. <<http://www.ecpa.org/ECPA/Gawards.html>>,
<<http://www.ecpa.org/ECPA/GMwinners2005.html>>

Christian Library Journal. (by subscription). <<http://www.christianlibraryj.org>> [Most of the books listed above are reviewed in **CLJ**.]

Secular Tools

CLJ 10, 2:2+ (June2005)

100 Best Books for Children / Anita Silvey. LCCN 2003056899. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004. ISBN 0618278893, 192 p.
 . Chapters are divided according to suggested ages of children through age twelve and arranged alphabetically by author.
 Selected titles and their authors are discussed in one or two page essays. Also includes a listing of 250 other titles "Beyond the Best" one hundred.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

A to Zoo: Subject Access to Children's Picture Books, 6th ed. / Carolyn W. Lima, John A. Lima. LCCN 2001037398.
 Westport, Conn.: Bowker-Greenwood, 2001, ISBN 0313320691, 1771 p.
 A comprehensive guide to nearly 23,000 children's picture books--some out of print--cataloged under more than 1200 subjects.
 Subject guide precedes bibliographic entries arranged by author. Bibliographic entries also include title, illustrator, publisher, date, ISBN (for more recent books), and subjects. Title and illustrator indexes.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Best Books for Children: Preschool through Grade 6, 7th ed. / John T. Gillespie. LCCN 2001037971. Westport, Conn.:
 Libraries Unlimited, 2002, ISBN 0313320683, 1617 p.
Best Books for Children: Preschool through Grade 6. Supplement to the Seventh Edition / John T. Gillespie, Catherine Barr.
 LCCN 2003065949. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2003, ISBN 159158082X, 507 p.
Best Books for Middle School and Junior High Readers: Grades 6 – 9. / John T. Gillespie. Catherine Barr. LCCN
 2004041798. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2004. ISBN 1591580838, .1172 p.
Best Books for High School Readers: Grades 9-12. / John T. Gillespie. Catherine Barr. LCCN 20040303598. Westport,
 Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2004. ISBN 1591580846, 1182 p.

Main entries, which are arranged alphabetically by author within subjects, include: entry number, author, title, grade levels, illustrations and illustrator, series if non-fiction, date, publisher, ISBN, price, sentence-length annotation, and Dewey Decimal number. Some annotations contain additional recommended titles by the author. Indexes include: an author/illustrator index, a title index, and a subject/grade level index.

Best Books for Children (2002) includes 23,429 titles within 22,319 numbered entries. Its hardbound supplement (2003) provides an additional 6,112 titles within 5,682 entries. *Best Books for Middle School and Junior High Readers* (2004) includes 14,196 titles within 13,523 entries. *Best Books for High School Readers* (2004) includes 14,198 titles within 13,457 entries.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Beyond Picture Books: a Guide to First Readers, 2nd ed. / Barbara Barstow, Judith Riggle. LCCN 94049731. New Providence, N.J.: Bowker, 1995. ISBN 083523519X, 501 p.

Beginning with a listing of 200 "Outstanding First Readers" in print at the time of publication, 1995, this annotated bibliography includes 2,495 titles. Arranged alphabetically by author, it includes subject (non-fiction, then fiction), title, illustrator, series, and readability indexes.

CLJ 10, 2:2+ (June2005)

Books That Build Character: a Guide to Teaching Your Child Moral Values Through Stories / William Kilpatrick, Gregory Wolfe, Suzanne M. Wolfe. LCCN 94036308. New York: Simon & Schuster (Touchstone), 1994. ISBN 0671884239, 332 p.

More than 300 titles have lengthy annotations that emphasize character traits. Entries are arranged by genre, and then by age range: 4 to 8 years, 8 to 12 years, and 12 years and up. An appendix lists Twenty Great Children's Videos. The index includes authors and illustrators, titles, and subjects.

CLJ 10, 2:2+ (June2005)

Building Character through Literature : a Guide for Middle School Readers / Rosann Jweid & Margaret Rizzo. LCCN 00046401. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2001. ISBN 0810839512, 232 p.
Building Character through Multicultural Literature : a Guide for Middle School Readers / Rosann Jweid & Margaret Rizzo. LCCN 2004006581. Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2004. ISBN 0810850427, 239 p.

Each book discusses fifty significant novels considered appropriate for middle school readers, arranged alphabetically by title. The three or four page section for each novel includes a summary of the plot, questions for discussion that deal with character traits displayed in the story, and a vocabulary section. Combined indexes include names of fictional characters, awards listed, authors, specific character traits, and other relevant subject headings for the novels.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Children's Catalog, 18th ed. / edited by Anne Price and Juliette Yaakov, (Standard catalog series). LCCN 2001046599. New York: H. W. Wilson Co., 2001. ISBN 0824210093, 1265 p.

The first section is a classified catalog, with entries arranged in order based on the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification system for non-fiction titles, followed by fiction, story collection, and easy titles. Entries include class number, standard bibliographic information, subject headings, and short annotations. Following the classified catalog is a combined "author, title, subject, and analytical index" with entries interfiled in alphabetical order. Revised every 5 years, with annual supplements in intervening years. This edition includes 6,738 titles and 6,421 analytical entries.

CLJ 10, 2:2+ (June2005)

Children's Classics: a Booklist for Parents / compiled by Mary M. Burns. Boston: Horn Book, 2002. 13 p. [pdf file at www.hbook.com/classicsdownload.shtml]

This edition of an annotated bibliography has 108 entries arranged alphabetically by title within various sections: For the very young; Picture books; For beginning readers; Stories; Echoes of times past, part one (before 1800) and part two (1800-1920); Myths, legends, and folklore; Nonfiction. Most titles published some time before 1985.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Elementary School Library Collection: a Guide to Books and Other Media, Phases 1-2-3, 22nd ed. / Linda L. Homa, editor [et al.]. Williamsport, Pa.: Brodart, 2000. ISBN 087272123X, 1220 p.

The first section is a classified catalog, with entries arranged in order based on the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification system for non-fiction titles, followed by easy and fiction titles. Entries include class number, standard bibliographic information, subject headings, and short annotations. Following the classified catalog are separate author/illustrator, title, and subject indexes. This edition includes nearly 10,000 titles with around 1,500 non-print titles and over 4,000 non-fiction titles. Revised every 2 years; discontinued after this edition.

CLJ 10, 2:2+ (June2005)

For the Love of Reading : Books to Build Lifelong Readers / David Bouchard, et al. LCCN 2004100188. Victoria, BC ; Custer, WA: Orca Book Pub., 2004. ISBN 1551432811, 206 p.

Every chapter of this annotated bibliography with the more than 400 entries includes sections by each of four Canadian contributors. Chapters are organized by age ranges from birth to fifteen and up, and other general topics. Within each chapter section, each contributor selects appropriate titles and provides paragraph-length annotations. A French Canadian contributor selects and provides English annotations for books published in French. A maple leaf icon appears beside the title of each Canadian book selected. Title and author indexes.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

From Biography to History : Best Books for Children's Entertainment and Education / edited by Catherine Barr. LCCN 98023147. New Providence, N.J.: Bowker, 1998. ISBN 0835240126, 508 p.

This selective bibliography includes over 1,500 titles related to nearly 300 biographees that provide a glimpse into historical periods from 1400 B. C. to the present. Featured biography subjects are presented in alphabetical order. A brief paragraph about each featured subject is followed by one or more bibliographical entries for related biography or history titles for younger or older readers. Author, title and subject indexes are followed by a "Chronology" that lists biographical subjects in chronological order by date of birth.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Middle and Junior High School Library Catalog, 8th ed / edited by Anne Price and Juliette Yaakov, (Standard catalog series). LCCN 00063316. New York: H. W. Wilson, 2000. ISBN 0824209966, 1021 p.

The first section is a classified catalog, with entries arranged in order based on the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification system for non-fiction titles, followed by fiction, and story collection titles. Entries include class number, standard bibliographic information, subject headings, and short annotations. Following the classified catalog is a combined "author, title, subject, and analytical index" with entries interfiled in alphabetical order. Revised every 5 years, with annual supplements in intervening years. This edition includes 4,520 titles and 4,492 analytical entries.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Neal-Schuman Guide to Recommended Children's Books and Media for Use with Every Elementary Subject / Kathryn I. Matthew & Joy L. Lowe. LCCN 2001044490. New York: Neal-Schuman, 2002. ISBN 155570431X, 407 p.

This "guide explores more than 1,200 books, videos, software, CDs, cassettes, and Internet sites." Each of the eight chapters deals with a major elementary school subject area. Within subtopics of each area, suggested titles are arranged by grade level. Paragraph-length descriptive annotations include teacher applications. A subject index is followed by a combined author-illustrator-title index

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Senior High School Library Catalog, 16th ed. / edited by Juliette Yaakov, (Standard catalog series). LCCN 2002033133. New York: H. W. Wilson, 2002. ISBN 0824210085, 1243 p.

The first section is a classified catalog, with entries arranged in order based on the Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification system for non-fiction titles, followed by fiction, and story collection titles. Entries include class number, standard bibliographic information, subject headings, and short annotations. Following the classified catalog is a combined "author, title, subject, and analytical index" with entries interfiled in alphabetical order. Revised every 5 years, with annual supplements in intervening years. This edition includes 5,321 titles and 9,123 analytical entries.

CLJ 10, 1:51+ (Mar2005)

Guide to Reference and Information Sources in the Zoological Sciences / Diane Schmidt. LCCN 2003054568. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2003. ISBN 1563089777, 352 p.

This bibliography of nearly 2,000 resources lists both print and electronic sources designed for the use of graduate students, professional scientists, and the librarians that serve them. An associated web page at <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/bix/zoology/> has been set up to monitor all web sites and keep URLs up to date. Although this highly detailed comprehensive guide is too specialized for school libraries, librarians and students may access some useful information through the web page

Awards

Caldecott Medal (American Library Association)

Presented annually to "the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children." Runners up are Caldecott Honor Books.

Coretta Scott King Award (American Library Association)

Given annually to a black author and a black illustrator for outstanding inspirational and educational contributions to literature for children. Honor Books.

Carnegie Medal (British CILIP [formerly LA])

Awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book for children and young people written in English and first published in the U.K. Awarded annually by CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals).

Hans Christian Andersen Award (International Board of Books for Young People)

Presented every other year to a living author and illustrator whose complete works have made a lasting contribution to children's literature.

Kate Greenaway Medal (British CILIP)

Awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book in terms of illustration for children and young people. Awarded annually by CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals).

Laura Ingalls Wilder Award (American Library Association)

Given to an author or illustrator whose books (published in the United States) have made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children. Originally awarded every five years, now every two years.

Michael L. Printz Award (American Library Association)

Presented annually for excellence in young adult literature. Honor Books.

Mildred Batchelder Award (American Library Association)

Given annually for the most outstanding children's book originally published in a foreign language and subsequently translated into English for publication in the United States. Honor Books.

National Book Award for Young People's Literature (National Book Foundation)

Presented each year to recognize the outstanding contribution to children's literature for books of all genres written for children and young adults by U.S. writers with an emphasis on literary merit. The Young People's category succeeded the Children's Books category that had previously existed.

Newbery Medal (American Library Association)

Presented annually to "the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children." Runners up are Newbery Honor Books.

Notable Children's Books (American Library Association)

Each year the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) identifies the best of the best in children's books, recordings, videos, and computer software.