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FLYP Forward

February 2017

Volume 9, Issue 11

Newsletter Topics

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C U on Social Media!

Book Reviews From the Field

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Webinars

[Developmentally Appropriate Programming for Babies and Toddlers](#)

2/9/17

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Eastern

[Children's Programming](#)

Check This Out!



Teen Video Challenge Deadline Approaching!

There is still time for your library's teens to produce a terrific public service announcement featuring the Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) theme of "Build a Better World." The teen video challenge deadline is Wednesday, March 1, 2017. Entry forms and model release forms are available on the [Florida Library Youth Program webpage](#).

"Libraries Rock!"

Do you have a song or activity that you love to present and that works well for your community programs? We would love you to make a short video of it so we can use the activity as part of FLYP 2018. Send your video to Jana Fine at jana.fine@dos.myflorida.com. For more information, send Jana an email or call her at 850.245.6629.



Chat With Jana - FLYP Youth and Adult Workshop Summary

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 | 10:00 a.m. Eastern

Join summer workshop presenters Erin Arnold, Jonathan Dolce and Donna Bachowski as they share workshop highlights and favorite activities. Be sure to [register today](#).

[Ideas, Tips and Tricks](#)

2/23/17

2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Eastern

[Chat With Jana - FLYP](#)

[Youth and Adult](#)

[Workshop Summary](#)

2/28/17

10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Eastern

February 2017 Celebration Weeks and Promotional Events

The links below will show you how to bring these promotions to your library. Don't forget to share your activities with others.

[African American
History Month](#)

[National Children's
Dental Health Month](#)

[Valentine's Day](#)
2/14/17

[Love Your Pet Day](#)
2/20/17

[Presidents' Day](#)
2/20/17

[Mardi Gras](#)
2/28/17

Did You Know?

The Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA) offers downloadable resources, including presentations, handouts and flyers. YALSA members can order up to 25 copies of most of these items, as well as YALSA swag and member ribbons, by filling out a [materials request form](#) (note: you'll need to log in using your ALA member number).



March 5-11 is [Teen Tech Week](#). Teen Tech Week is when libraries make the time to showcase all of the great digital resources and services that are available to help teens succeed in school and prepare for college and 21st century careers. This year's theme encourages teens to take advantage of all the great digital resources offered through their libraries to make positive changes in their lives and communities.



Digital Storytelling With Florida Memory

Students can use Florida Memory's photographs, audio recordings, videos and primary source documents for their digital storytelling projects. The new [digital storytelling page](#) on Florida Memory provides resources and guidelines for anyone interested in digital storytelling.

Encourage students to explore a particular topic in history, literature, science or mathematics by sharing a story about a person, community or idea. With digital storytelling, students practice inquiry-based skills that are applicable across disciplines.

Use Florida Memory to become a digital storytelling guru and help teachers incorporate digital storytelling into their curriculum.

For more information, contact Katrina Harkness, education officer at the State Library and Archives of Florida, at katrina.harness@dos.myflorida.com.

C U on Social Media

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Book Reviews From the Field

Spangler, Brie. *Beast*. New York: Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2016.

High school sophomore Dylan doesn't like that he towers over the other students like a giant. He's also unhappy with the fact that he can grow a beard and buy alcohol without getting carded. And what's with people always assuming that he's a football player? Dylan is an academic with dreams of attending Oxford!

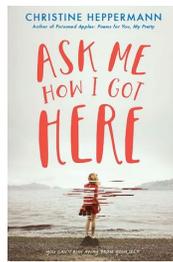


When Dylan falls off the roof and breaks his leg, his

mother (suspecting that it might not have been an accident) sends him to group therapy. There he meets the girl of his dreams, who, amazingly, likes him back. Dylan is on cloud nine until a revelation rocks his budding romance. At the same time, he has a falling out with his best friend, an event that leaves him feeling ostracized at school. As Dylan copes with these hardships, he also converses with his deceased father and awaits an official diagnosis for gigantism.

Spangler's story contains some inconsistencies; the group therapy subplot, for example, seems to vanish into thin air. Spangler also struggles with providing realistic dialogue; the high school students here sound more like college students than adolescents. Despite these shortcomings, Spangler's debut is a worthwhile read. A fast-paced novel filled with heart and humor, *Beast* addresses a variety of important issues, such as bullying, gender identity and single-parent households. Most importantly, Spangler has crafted an endearing character in Dylan, who constantly endeavors to contain the "beast" within. Highly recommended. Suitable for readers aged 12 and older.

Crystal Sidell
csidell@myseminole.com
[Seminole Community Library](#)



Heppermann, Christine. *Ask Me How I Got Here*. New York: Greenwillow Books, 2016.

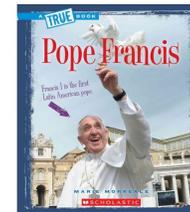
In the verse novel *Ask Me How I Got Here*, Addie is a cross country runner at an all girls' Catholic high school who learns she is pregnant. She chooses to have an abortion. While her family and boyfriend are supportive throughout the process, Addie deals with confusing emotions and changing relationships with her poetry. Heppermann uses poetry to set a frantic pace in the

novel. The verses are all from Addie's point-of-view and move from written notes and assignments to typed text messages. The story deals with heavy themes for teens, including abortion, religion, sex and sexuality. Recommended for readers in grades 10 and up.

Allison Banmally
abanmally@myseminole.com
[Seminole Community Library](#)

Morreale, Marie. *Pope Francis*. New York: Children's Press, Scholastic, 2017.

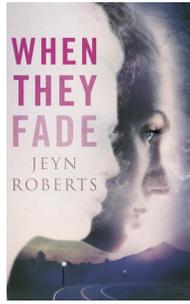
Marie Morreale gives young readers a brief and compelling glimpse into the life of the 266th pope in *Pope Francis*. The biography begins by discussing the early life of Jorge Mario Bergoglio, "the boy who would be pope," and continues on to his entrance into the seminary. Readers then learn about Bergoglio's ordainment as a priest and his pathway to becoming



Pope Francis. Morreale emphasizes Pope Francis's humility and decision to live a modest life. She also discusses his views on peace and cooperation, highlighting his meeting with the Russian Orthodox patriarch and his role in assisting with relations between Cuba and the United States.

The author successfully creates a biography that is both informative and engaging. She provides background information for those that may not be familiar with Catholicism in sections that explain the structure of the church and how a pope is elected. The text on each page accompanies relevant photos that serve to tell Pope Francis's life story. Words that may be unfamiliar to the reader are bolded and featured in an "important words" section in the back of the book with explanations. *Pope Francis* is a great secular resource for readers in grades 3 to 5.

Kimberly Sawyer



Roberts, Jeyn. *When They Fade*. New York: Knopf for Young Readers, 2016.

Molly and Tatum are two girls on different paths to the same fate. Born a decade before Tatum, Molly is the first to meet her destiny in the form of her horrifying murder. Instead of fading away from this world, Molly finds herself occasionally fading back in. Hitchhiking on the same road where she met her end, Molly can appear to unsuspecting drivers just long enough to deliver them a shocking premonition. And that's a good thing for Tatum, who, bullied and betrayed, needs an ally. Molly and Tatum meet one foggy evening, and Molly manages to deliver a dire warning to Tatum. But Tatum is too focused on having met a real ghost to take Molly's advice.

I enjoyed this fast-paced, suspenseful young adult novel. Author Jeyn Roberts holds nothing back on the grim and gory details of torture and murder. The character of Molly hits just right as a hippie ghost marveling at her afterlife. But the relationship between Tatum and her best friend Claudette doesn't quite ring true. *When They Fade* is an easy-to-read modern ghost story, but it's not for the faint of heart.

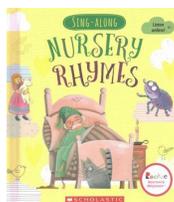
Michelle Risko
michelle.risko@marioncountyfl.org
[Bellevue Public Library, Marion County Public Library System](#)

Kim, Aram. *Cat on the Bus*. New York: Holiday House, 2016.

Charming illustrations enhance Aram Kim's *Cat on the Bus*, a nearly wordless picture book that tells the story of a homeless cat seeking food and shelter in a cold, big city. One day, after being chased away from stores and shops, our brave cat gets onto a bus. While riding through the city, he meets a kindly older gentleman passenger who thinks he just might be a perfect friend for his granddaughter. It is possible that the beginning of the book may come across as sad -- especially to sensitive children; however, readers will find themselves rooting for the spunky cat and will be delighted with the happy ending. Young readers may ask about the ordeals the cat faces when he is homeless, and such questions can lead readers to a greater understanding of animals and people who face those challenges. This title would work best for emergent readers and younger children, aged 2 to 6 years, due to the simple text used. The use of onomatopoeia ("whoosh," "rattle," "purr") to convey action and emotion is used to good effect. Kim's illustrations enhance the story and are so well done that readers can add their details to the story as they read, making this title highly re-readable. *Cat on the Bus* is a solid selection for both one-on-one reading and group story time.



Jackie Mantel
jmantel@brev.org
[Merritt Island Public Library, Brevard County Public Library System](#)



Lewis, Anthony. *Sing-Along Nursery Rhymes*. New York: Children's Press, Scholastic, 2017.

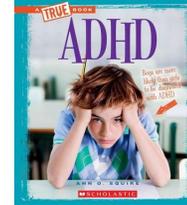
Sing-Along Nursery Rhymes is part of a series of small nursery rhyme books. This one includes "It's Raining, It's Pouring," "The Itsy Bitsy Spider" and "Mary Had a Little Lamb." One verse of each story is represented. The illustrations are darling. A feature of this series is the ability to access online songs to accompany each story. The songs can be accessed directly via the website, or you can scan the QR code on the back cover of the book with a smart phone. But

in the recorded versions of the songs, the singer does not sing word for word from the story that is printed in the book. This could cause confusion for beginning readers who are attempting to follow along. Still, the songs are fun and a nice addition to this book. At the end of the book, there are a few pages with additional activities for the stories, such as counting the animals or identifying colors.

Sonja Burford
sonja.burford@taylorcountygov.com
[Three Rivers Regional Library System](#)

Squire, Ann O. *A True Book: ADHD*. New York: Children's Press, Scholastic, 2017.

Nonfiction children's author Ann Squire writes a beginning readers book that is not only easy to read but easy to follow. Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or ADHD, is a widespread disorder that affects a significant portion of our population. Not only are a great percentage of children profoundly affected, but many adults are as well. This particular title on ADHD is clearly laid out and is easy for elementary school readers to understand and gain knowledge from. The illustrations are simple and help to move the text along nicely. The book also makes a great resource for parents and educators. Parents can use it as a one-on-one resource within their immediate family to gain a better understanding of the disorder. Teachers can use this book in their classrooms where classmates may have ADHD and would benefit from learning new information on the disease. The glossary included at the back of the book is a nice touch that is extremely helpful for beginning readers who may encounter new words and phrases as they read and learn about ADHD. As an adult, this simple nonfiction title for children gave me great insight into what ADHD truly is and what signs to look for without the overload of information found in many nonfiction books.



Alicia M. Bell
bella@stlucieco.org
[St. Lucie County Library System](#)



Cluess, Jessica. *A Shadow Bright and Burning*. New York: Random House, 2016.

Take a dash of *Harry Potter* and a smidgen of *Mortal Instruments*, then stir in a helping of *Infernal Devices*, and you will have the main idea of *A Shadow Bright and Burning*. The story follows Henrietta Howel, who may or may not be the prophesied one and the first female sorcerer. Henrietta is plucked from obscurity for her ability to burst into flames. She is taken to London to train and hopefully be commended by the queen as a sorcerer -- she'd be able to put on some pants and fight with the men battling the cthulhu-style monsters that exist in this world. What Henrietta learns is that her past may interfere with her future, as her father was (GASP) a magician. At some point, there was a falling out with the sorcerers and magicians, and now wizards are forbidden. Will Henrietta master her powers? Will the past hold her back from her true potential? Will she be able to stand up to those who think a woman has no place in magic? The story that follows is a thrill ride, with some twists and turns that I did not see coming. This book is the first in the *Kingdom on Fire* series. Readers ages 12 and up who like fantasy books will find this one enjoyable.

Kelly Palma
kpalma@leegov.com
[Literacy and Mobile Services, Lee County Library System](#)

FLYP Forward provides information about the Florida Library Youth Program and Florida's public libraries.

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