

Georgia *Chapter Book* Award Nominees



2015-2016



Prairie Evers by Ellen Airgood

Prairie Evers has always been homeschooled by her grandmother, learning about life while they ramble through the woods. But now Prairie's family has moved north and she has to attend school for the first time, where her education is in a classroom and the behavior of her classmates isn't very nice. The only good thing is meeting Ivy, her first true friend. RL 4.9, L 790 (Realistic Fiction)



This Journal Belongs to Ratchet by Nancy J. Cavanaugh

Homeschooled by her mechanic-environmentalist father, eleven-year-old Rachel "Ratchet" Vance records her efforts to make friends, save a park, remember her mother, and find her own definition of "normal." RL 5.3, L 830 (Realistic Fiction)



A Bird on Water Street by Elizabeth Dulemba

Jack is a boy growing up in a Southern Appalachian town environmentally devastated by a century of poor copper-mining practices and pollution. Jack is opposed to the mine where so many of his relatives have died, but how can he tell that to his Dad who wants him to follow in the family trade? L 760



The Saturday Boy by David Fleming

Every school day seems to bring more trouble to eleven-year-old Derek, whose former best friend bullies him, while at home he deals with the long absence of his father, a Blackhawk helicopter pilot, and his mother's sudden moodiness. RL 5.9, L 700 (Realistic Fiction)



Absolutely Almost by Lisa Graff

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. RL 4.7, L 750 (Realistic Fiction)



Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz

Based on the life of Jack Gruener, this book relates his story of survival from the Nazi occupation of Krakow, when he was eleven, through a succession of concentration camps, to the final liberation of Dachau. RL 4.9, L 760 (Historical Fiction)



Hope is a Ferris Wheel by Robin Herrera

After moving from Oregon to a trailer park in California, ten-year-old Star participates in a poetry club, where she learns some important lessons about herself and her own hopes and dreams for the future. RL 5.3, L 825 (Realistic Fiction)



The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer L. Holm

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. RL 4.1, L 550 (Fiction)



The Mark of the Dragonfly by Jaleigh Johnson

Since her father's death in a factory in the Dragonfly territories, thirteen-year-old Piper has eked out a living as a scrapper in Merrow Kingdom, but the arrival of a mysterious girl sends her on a dangerous journey to distant lands. RL 5.6, L 820 (Fantasy)



How to Outrun a Crocodile When Your Shoes Are Untied by Jess Keating

When twelve-year-old Ana's zoologist parents move the whole family into the zoo, the Sneers--the clan of carnivorous female predators in her class--have even more ammunition to make her life miserable, although she tries to act like a chameleon and fade into the background. RL 5.1, L 750 (Fiction)



The Vine Basket by Josanne La Valley

Life has been hard for fourteen-year-old Mehrigul, a member of the Uyghur tribal group scorned by the Chinese communist regime, so when an American offers to buy all the baskets she can make in three weeks, Mehrigul strives for a better future for herself and her family despite her father's opposition. RL 5, L 800 (Fiction)



Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere by Julie T. Lamana

At the end of August 2005, ten-year-old Armani is looking forward to her birthday party in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, where she and her extended family live, but Hurricane Katrina is on the way, bringing destruction and tragedy in its wake. RL 4.7, L 775 (Historical Fiction)



A Snicker of Magic by Natalie Lloyd

The Pickles are new to Midnight Gulch, Tennessee, a town which legend says was once magic--but Felicity is convinced the magic is still there, and with the help of her new friend Jonah the Beetle she hopes to bring the magic back. RL 4.7, L 775 (Fiction)



Half a Chance by Cynthia Lord

Lucy, with her mother and her photographer father, has just moved to a small rural community in New Hampshire, and with her new friend Nate she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest, but pictures sometimes reveal more than people are willing to see. RL 4.5, L 690 (Realistic Fiction)



Sylo by D.J. MacHale

SYLO, a secret branch of the U.S. Navy, parachutes out of the sky to invade Tucker Pierce's hometown in Maine claiming the island has been hit by a lethal virus and must be quarantined. But strange occurrences make Tucker think there's more to the story than what they've been told. RL 4.7, L 775 (Science Fiction)



The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano by Sonia Manzano

In 1969 Spanish Harlem, Evelyn tries to break free from her conservative Puerto Rican environment, but her activist grandmother & neighborhood protests complicate things. RL 4.6, L 720 (Historical Fiction)



Nickel Bay Nick by Dean Pitchford

When eleven-year-old Sam gets into trouble and is forced to work for his reclusive neighbor Mr. Wells, he soon finds out that his mysterious new acquaintance hides many secrets of his own--including one that will change Sam's life forever. RL 4.9, L 830 (Realistic Fiction)



The Girl From Felony Bay by John Thompson

When Abbey's father falls into a coma and is accused of a crime he didn't commit, Abbey sets out to prove his innocence--and repay a century-old debt. RL 5.7, L 875 (Mystery)



Loot: How to Steal a Fortune by Jude Watson

When Alfie McQuinn, the notorious jewel thief, is killed on a job, his last words to his son, March, are to "find jewels" and 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. RL 4.2, L 560 (Adventure)



Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South. RL 5.3, L990 (Biography/Poetry)



Additional Resources

Georgia Children's Book Awards - <http://gcba.coe.uga.edu/>

Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl - <http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/hrrb/>