

WEST SIDE SCHOOL BOOK CLUB LIST

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1. *My First Day*, Steve Jenkins

The first day of life is different for every animal. Human newborns don't do much at all, but some animals hit the ground running.

2. *Fly Guy Presents: space*, Tedd Arnold

Join Fly Guy at the space museum as he learns about space and the history of space exploration.

3. *Eye: How it Works*, David Macauley

How can you see that your shirt is on inside out? How do you see the soccer ball coming right at you? How do you know which players are on your team? It all starts with light--and with the amazing human eye.

4. *That's a Possibility: a book about what might happen*, Bruce Goldstone

Colorful photographs and interactive examples introduces readers to the ideas of something being possible, probable, or impossible.

5. *Super simple things to do with water : fun and easy science for kids*

Cool off in the summer heat with a collection of simple activities featuring water, with how-to photographs, instructions, and explanations.

6. *The Greatest Dinosaur Ever*, Brenda Z Guiberson

Which dinosaur was the greatest? Was it the tallest, the biggest, the strongest, the smartest, the weirdest, the fastest, or the smallest? Or was it the oldest bird, the best parent, the one with the best night vision, the best armor, or the longest tail spikes?

7. *Henry and the Cannons*, Don Brown

Before Washington crossed the Delaware, Henry Knox crossed Massachusetts in winter—with 59 cannons in tow. In 1775 in the dead of winter, a bookseller named Henry Knox dragged 59 cannons from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston—225 miles of lakes, forest, mountains, and few roads. It was a feat of remarkable ingenuity and determination and one of the most remarkable stories of the revolutionary war.

8. *Look Up: Birdwatching in your own backyard*, Annette LeBlanc Cate

A humorous introduction to bird-watching encourages kids to get outdoors with a sketchbook and really look around. Dozens of birds chat about their distinctive characteristics, including color, shape, plumage, and beak and foot types and bring an age-old hobby to new life for the next generation of bird-watchers.

9. *On a Beam of Light: A story of Albert Einstein*, Jennifer Berne

A boy rides a bicycle down a dusty road. But in his mind, he envisions himself traveling at a speed beyond imagining, on a beam of light. This brilliant mind will one day offer up some of the most revolutionary ideas ever conceived. From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, Albert Einstein ultimately grows into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe.

10. *Ben Franklin: His wit and wisdom from A-Z*, Alan Schroder

This nontraditional tribute to Franklin, made to look like an almanac, is brimming with clever art, intriguing information, and amusing adages.

11. *The Tree Lady: the true story of how one tree loving woman changed a city*, H. Joseph Hopkins

Katherine Olivia Sessions never thought she'd live in a place without trees. But after becoming the first woman to graduate from the University of California with a degree in science, she took a job as a teacher in the dry desert town of San Diego. Where there were almost no trees. Kate decided that San Diego needed trees more than anything else. Now, more than 100 years after Kate first arrived in San Diego, her gorgeous gardens and parks can be found all over the city.

12. *When the Beat Was Born: DJ Kool Herc and the Creation of Hip Hop*, Laban Carrick Hill

Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc. On a hot day in 1973 Cindy Campbell at a back-to-school party at a park in the South Bronx, Clive Campbell, spun the records. He had a new way of playing the music to make the breaks longer for dancing. He called himself DJ Kool Herc and this is *When the Beat Was Born*. From his childhood in Jamaica to his youth in the Bronx, this story tells how Kool Herc came to be a DJ, how kids in gangs stopped fighting in order to breakdance, and how the music he invented went on to define a culture and transform the world.

13. *Sneaky Art*, Marthe Jocelyn

For young artists, tricksters, and crafters, here is a hip, friendly how-to manual for creating removable and shareable art projects from easily found materials. Each work of art is custom-created for display in public places — a tiny cork-bottomed boat in a public fountain, a plate of tiny paper cupcakes on your teacher's desk, a penny left on the ground for a stranger, a funny message left on your mother's bathroom mirror, and more. This utterly unique guide — part craft book, part art-philosophy — offers a stylish and sweet "made-you-look-twice" spirit of fun meant to put a smile on the faces of strangers and loved ones alike.

14. *Deadly! The truth about the most dangerous animals*, Nicola Davies

Sometimes nature can be nasty: snakes that spit poison, insects with exploding bottoms, and tigers that have you for dinner. Throughout the animal kingdom, creatures are equipped with lethal weapons, from finger-length fangs to toxic tentacles, and have ingenious ways of killing one another — poisoning, dive-bombing, strangling, and even electrocuting! Discover the murderous methods of attack and defense that make animals armed, dangerous, and deadly.

15. *Bedtime Math* Laura Overdeck

Inside this book, families will find fun, mischief-making math problems to tackle—math that isn't just kid-friendly, but actually kid-appealing. With over 100 math riddles on topics from jalapeños and submarines to roller coasters and flamingos, this book bursts with math that looks nothing like school. There's something for everyone.

16. *Eruption: Volcanoes and the science of saving lives*, Elizabeth Rusch

Today, more than one billion people worldwide live in volcanic danger zones. Filled with spectacular photographs and sidebars—this book reveals the perilous, adrenaline-fueled, life-saving work of an international volcano crisis team (VDAP) and the sleeping giants they study, from Colombia to the Philippines, from Chile to Indonesia.

17. *Everything Rocks and Minerals*, Steve Tomecek

Steve Tomecek is "The Dirt Meister." Targeted to rock-crazy kids, youngsters become geology experts as they browse eye-popping photos and absorb layers of information made extra fun through a humor-infused presentation.