

Books Are Magic



Mini Idea:

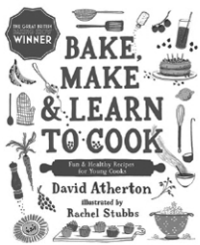
Search “winter reading challenge 2022” to find a program in your area!

How have your reading habits changed during the COVID-19 pandemic? Did you have more time to go on an adventure, try a new recipe, make a new friend — all through books? The holiday break is a great time to explore an enchanting story or learn something new.

- Fans of Matthew Cody and Chad Thomas’ “Cat Ninja” digital graphic novels will be happy to know that the second print edition, Volume 2, “Time Heist,” is on the shelves. Meet Claude, a housecat whose alter ego protects the city from villains and scoundrels.
- Time to put on your thinking cap!



- When a radioactive bat sinks his teeth into Gary the pig’s flesh, he gains superhero powers that he’s not quite sure what to do with. Rob Harrell wrote and illustrated “Batpig: When Pigs Fly.”
- David Atherton, winner of “The Great British Baking Show,” wrote “Bake, Make, and Learn to Cook” to help guide readers on their journeys of creating delicious recipes and spending time in the kitchen developing culinary skills.



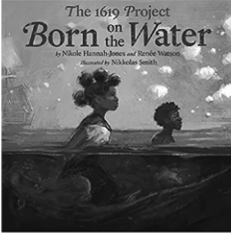
- “Super Puzzletastic Mysteries: Short Stories for Young Sleuths From Mystery Writers of America” was written by several bestselling authors, including Chris Grabenstein. In this book, you can read 20 puzzling stories. How many mysteries can you solve?



- “Bowling Buddies” by H.A.M. Westring is the first book in a series written by an 8-year-old champion bowler and his parents. In this book, three friends take readers with them on their journey as they compete in a big bowling tournament.



- Soccer superstar Megan Rapinoe shares the story of her life and her passion for social justice and equality in “One Life: Young Readers Edition.” Rapinoe’s message includes the responsibility everyone has to step up and fight for their beliefs.
- When a student tries to trace her family tree, her family gathers round to hear about her people in the years before they were sold into the slave trade. “The 1619 Project: Born on the Water” is by Nikole Hannah-Jones, Renee Watson and Nikkolas Smith.



Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of winter reading are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ADVENTURE, BOOKS, COVID, DREAMS, FRIEND, FUN, GRAPHIC, HOLIDAY, IMAGINE, LEARN, MAGIC, MESSAGE, MYSTERY, NOVEL, PANDEMIC, READING, REALITY, RECIPE, STORY, WINTER.

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Y R E T S Y M C I M E D N A P
E R D R E A M S R Z V C W Z C
G E L O R D E L E V O N F E W
A A E J E V Y N C C D I V O C
S D A B T E A C I H P A R G I
S I R O N N D X P G Y I A K G
E N N O I T I X E X A R O L A
M G P K W U L N G W S M O I M
D A X S I R O U R E A L I T Y
Y T Q Y C E H F R I E N D G S
    
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Cook's Corner

Good Luck Black-eyed Peas*

You'll need:

- 1 (15-ounce) can black-eyed peas
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper

- 1 tablespoon bacon grease
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar



What to do:

- Combine all ingredients in a large pot.
- Stir and simmer over medium heat for about 5 minutes.
- Serves 2.

* Black-eyed peas are thought to bring good luck when eaten on New Year's Day!

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

Mini Jokes



Alex: What does a book do in the winter?
Arthur: Puts on a book jacket!

Eco Note



Dozens of troublesome buzzards have mysteriously attacked a North Carolina town, where their acid vomit, toxic feces and general carousing have become a nightmare for residents. Droppings from the scavengers that have invaded the town of Bunn can strip paint from a car, and their seemingly intentional projectile vomit is often aimed at approaching people or other creatures, according to the News and Observer daily.

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For later:

Make a list of your favorite books from 2020. Share your list with a friend.

Teachers: For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bit.ly/MPstandards. And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



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ROOTONYM®

by Jan & Carey Orr Cook



Study the definition. When you know the missing word, fill in the letter boxes and the sentence blanks.

Answers: Story, Pages, Title, Popular.

1. A short, often interesting tale (5-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □

2. The paper parts of a book (5-letter plural noun)

□ □ □ □ □

3. The name of a book, job, song, etc. (5-letter noun)

□ □ □ □ □

4. Enjoyed and accepted by many people (7-letter adjective)

□ □ □ □ □ □ □

- Fernando enjoyed the _____ about elephants in Africa.
- Julie read 10 _____ in a book that her teacher liked.
- Polly chose the _____ “Magic Moon” to read in class.
- Hugo picked a _____ book that his friends had read.