

Bluebonnet Program Master List — 2011-2012

***Amazing Faces* by Lee Bennett Hopkins * Not AR**

This is a multicultural collection of 16 poems by various well-known authors.

***Balarama: A Royal Elephant* by Ted & Betsy Lewin RL: 5.4 AR: 1.0 pts.**

Meet Balarama the Royal Elephant who is leading the celebration on the last day of Dasara in India. His debut as the specially selected chariot carrier is imminent. Will he be successful? Filled with vivid images and fascinating pageantry, this book is an amazing tribute to these popular animals.

***Black Elk's Vision: A Lakota Story* by S.D. Nelson RL: 5.0 AR: 1.0 pts.**

Told from Black Elk's point of view, Nelson vividly describes the plight of the Lakota and their struggles to maintain their way of life. His message of hope is further brought to life by historical photographs.

***Buddy Files: The Case of the Lost Boy* by Dori Butler RL: 3.0 AR: 1.0 pts.**

King is a lovable mutt with an unmistakable voice. Although loyal and true to his family, King finds himself in the P-O-U-N-D when his owners suddenly vanish. Thankfully, he is rescued, renamed Buddy, and soon right in the middle of another mysterious disappearance when his new master also goes missing. Will Buddy's mental lists of clues and his strong sense of smell be enough to bring Connor home?

***Case of the Case of Mistaken Identity* by Mac Barnett RL: 4.1 AR: 4.0 pts.**

Little does Steve Brixton, aspiring detective, know that checking out a book on quilting from the library will be the beginning of his first case. Falsely accused of working for a criminal mastermind by ninja librarians, Steve turns to his trusty Bailey Brothers' Detective Handbook to solve this case of mistaken identity.

***The Duchess of Whimsy: An Absolutely Delicious Fairy Tale* by Randall de Seve RL: 4.7 AR: 0.5 pts.**

Will a simple sandwich unite an extraordinary royal with an ordinary fellow? This whimsical fairy tale proves that people are not always who they seem, and that simple things mean a lot.

***Extraordinary Mark Twain (According to Susy)* by Barbara Kerley RL: 5.8 AR: 0.5 pts.**

According to Susy Twain, her father Mark is "perfect except he hasn't extraordinary teeth." And so begins this innovative biography partially written by 13-year-old Susy.

***Goal!* by Mina Javaherbin RL: 2.7 AR: 0.5 pts.**

Soccer is played all over the world and brings people together in sport. In this picture book, set in a dusty township in South Africa, a group of boys gather to play with a new regulation ball. But danger lurks in a gang of bullies that roam the streets. Can they keep their ball and play their game?

***Hallelujah Flight* by Phil Bildner RL: 3.9 AR: 0.5 pts.**

Known as the "Flying Hoboes," James Banning and his co-pilot Thomas Allen made history by becoming the first African American pilots to fly across the U.S. Their mission was to inspire people brought low by the Great Depression. They relied on the help of the townspeople they met along the way. Based on a true story.

***Happenstance Found* by P.W. Catanese RL: 4.9 AR: 10.0 pts.**

Happenstance awakens in a cavern beneath an active volcano, remembering nothing about himself or his life. When he is rescued by the extraordinary Lord Umber, the irascible Oates, and the mysterious Sophie, he begins a fast-paced adventure full of peril and discovery. First installment in a series.

***Imogene's Last Stand* by Candace Fleming RL: 3.8 AR: 0.5 pts.**

"I have not yet begun to fight!" quotes Imogene Tripp when the town Mayor wants to tear down the historical museum in order to build a shoelace factory. Imogene begins her own battle of presidential proportions to save the museum.

***Louisa: The Life of Louisa May Alcott* by Yona McDonough RL: 5.6 AR: 0.5 pts.**

Louisa May Alcott loved spending time with her sisters. But, her first love was writing. She spent the majority of her time outdoors where she composed poetry and stories that grew quickly in popularity. Discover little-known facts about the author of *Little Women* in this rags-to-riches story.

***Mirror Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse* by Marilyn Singer * Not AR**

Read these clever poems from top to bottom. Then reverse the lines and read from bottom to top to give these well-loved stories a delicious new spin.

***Out of My Mind* by Sharon Draper RL: 4.3 AR: 8.0 pts.**

Melody is just a regular kid that wants all the same things that every 5th grader wants. The only difference is she is confined to a wheelchair and she cannot speak because she has cerebral palsy. Draper defies

your every pre-conceived notion about kids with special needs in this powerful novel.

***Shadows* by Jacqueline West RL: 5.1 AR: 7.0 pts.**

Olive and her parents have always lived in very bland apartment complexes. When they suddenly buy an old completely furnished house, Olive is curious to explore it. She begins to discover very strange things. Olive must confront her deepest fears as she races to protect her newfound friends from the darkness lurking inside the house. First volume in series.

***Storm in the Barn* by Matt Phelan RL: 2.3 AR: 0.5 pts.**

11-year-old Jack Clark is beginning to think he may have dust dementia, a new disorder in 1937 Kansas where it hasn't rained for so long people are starting to see strange things. There is water and a presence in the barn he can't explain. By combining history and fantasy, this graphic novel explores the hardships of the Dust Bowl era.

***The Strange Case of Origami Yoda* by Tom Angleberger RL: 4.7 AR: 3.0 pts.**

A nerd you say Dwight is, but on his side Yoda is. Tommy is starting an investigation to figure out how the origami Yoda puppet that Dwight insists on keeping on his finger doles out such relevant advice. Kids present evidence (or lack thereof) trying to figure out if Yoda is real or something out of Dwight's imagination.

***Turtle in Paradise* by Jennifer L. Holm RL: 3.7 AR: 4.0 pts.**

Life for Turtle in 1935 is no day at the beach. Her mother's new job means that she gets shipped off to live with family members in Key West, Fla., she has never even met.

***Wild Times at the Bed & Biscuit* by Joan Carris RL: 4.1 AR: 2.0 pts.**

Grampa Bender along with Ernest the mini pug run The Bed & Biscuit, a boardinghouse for wounded animals. They are asked to nurse a wounded Canada goose, a cranky old muskrat and two feisty fox kits back to health.

***The Witch's Guide to Cooking with Children* by Keith McGowan RL: 4.7 AR: 4.0 pts.**

So you think Hansel and Gretel is only a fairy tale? Meet Sol and his sister Connie who have just moved into a suburban neighborhood curiously devoid of children. Their father and stepmother are acting very strange, meanwhile the next door neighbor's dog keeps digging up funny looking bones. This modern twist on the classic fairy tale is creepy fun.

