2019 Read Alouds: Primary

**Alan’s Big Scary Teeth**
by Jarvis
What shiny-white secret does alligator Alan have unbeknown to his rainforest friends? He is a scary and fearsome show-off until......

**Alfie: (the turtle that disappeared)**
by Thyra Heder
Nia shares everything with her pet turtle Alfie—even birthdays. Where does Alfie disappear to find Nia a present as nice as she is?

**Come Home Already!**
by Jory John
Can Duck survive a whole week without his best friend Bear who has gone fishing? Maybe Bear needs a camping buddy!

**Cookiesaurus Rex**
by Amy Fellner Dominy
Why would a cookie not mind a nice green suit and top hat to wear? Well, Cookiesaurus Rex is a little cookie with a big attitude in demanding that he be re-decorated! Will he be satisfied?

**Crunch the Shy Dinosaur**
by Cirocco Dunlap
Can you sing the “Happy Birthday” song softly to wake up a bashful dino named Crunch? He might even paint your name on his big rock.

**Dog Rules**
by Jef Czekaj
Two dogs training a new puppy can be tough. Then again, suppose it is a bird instead! Family is family, though!

**Groovy Joe: Dance Party Countdown**
by Eric Litwin
Will it be hard to join Joe’s Bow Wow Disco Dog Party with too many guests? Goodness no! Keep on rocking!

**Help Find Frank**
by Anne Bollman
We need your help in finding Frank, the cute little French bulldog who is lost. Be a detective and follow the clues to track him down.

**Jabari Jumps**
by Gaia Cornwall
Is Jabari ready to take that first big jump off the diving board? See how he finds courage to meet the challenge.

**Sheep 101**
by Richard T. Morris
When it takes more than 100 sheep to help go to sleep, trouble can ensue when storybook characters come along to help.
2019 Read Alouds: Upper Elementary

**Before She Was Harriet**
by Lesa Cline-Ransome
This beautifully illustrated picture book takes the reader backwards through Harriet Tubman’s life. Lyrical language describes many roles that shaped her, including some perhaps less familiar, to provide a complete overview of an American icon.

**Clayton Byrd Goes Underground**
by Rita Williams-Garcia
Clayton Byrd and his grandfather share a love of blues music, but when Cool Papa Byrd suddenly dies, Clayton’s mother is intent on removing every trace of the blues from his life. So Clayton sets off in search of his music, but he finds an unexpected adventure instead.

**Imagine That!: How Dr. Seuss Wrote the Cat in the Hat**
by Judy Sierra
Dr. Seuss had already written nine picture books before accepting the challenge of writing a book for beginning readers. This brightly illustrated picture book describes the process that led to The Cat in the Hat and includes writing tips from Dr. Seuss himself.

**Not So Different: What You Really Want to Ask About Having a Disability**
by Shane Burcaw
Shane Burcaw has a rare disease that left him wheelchair-bound. With bright photos, speech bubbles and humor, he answers questions about living with a disability, helping us see what we all have in common, rather than our differences.

**Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World**
by Susan Hood
In this inspiring collection, the accomplishment of each young woman is presented in a poem and each is illustrated by a different female illustrator.

**She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World**
by Chelsea Clinton
This picture book features a paragraph about each woman, along with a quote to tie in with the overarching theme and inspire girls of all ages.

**Superstar**
by Mandy Davis
See the world through the eyes of Lester, a 5th grader on the autism spectrum, trying to adjust to public school after years of homeschooling. The first person narrative is engaging and believable.

**The Tiny Hero of Ferny Creek Library**
by Linda Bailey
While on a mission to rescue his Aunt Min, a shiny, green bug named Eddie overhears a plan to turn his beloved library into a testing center. Inspired by other tiny heroes in children’s literature, he devises a clever plan to save the library.

**Wishtree**
by Katherine Applegate
Thanks to an old oak tree named Red and his animal friends, people remember their own history and come together to make immigrants feel at home. This touching story revolves around themes of inclusion and kindness.

**The Word Collector**
by Peter H. Reynolds
Thanks to a happy accident, Jerome’s perfectly organized word collection is jumbled. He comes to realize that putting words together in unexpected ways and sharing his treasures with others can make a real difference.
2019 Read Alouds: Middle Grades

**The Art of the Swap**
by Kristine Asselin
Hannah and Maggie live in the same Newport Mansion—a hundred years apart. After switching bodies, their only hope to return to their own time lies in solving a hundred year old mystery of a missing painting.

**The Rat Prince**
by Bridget Hodder
Retelling of the Cinderella fairytale. Told through dual narratives of Cinderella, or Lady Rose as she was formerly known, and Char, the rat prince. Read this book to see what really happened.

**Flying Lessons and Other Stories**
by Ellen Oh
A collection of realistic short stories by well known young adult authors. Each story reflects a wide variety of experiences.

**Greetings From Witness Protection**
by Jake Burt
A 7th grade kleptomaniac foster care girl is recruited by the US Marshals to help hide a family in the witness protection program. Find out what happens to them!

**Hope in the Holler**
by Lisa Lewis Tyre
Wavie, with her dead Mom’s list of instructions for life in her hand, is sent back to Conley Hollow, Kentucky to live with her mother’s family. Her mother’s family stinks, but with the aid of the “neighborhood no-accounts”, Wavie learns to focus on her future.

**Knockout**
by K.A. Holt
Levi is the protected little brother, who as an infant had a serious illness. Now in 7th grade he wished that his older brother and mother would not be so protective. With the encouragement of his father he takes up boxing and loves it. But the greatest challenge is to prove to his brother and mother that he can do this sport.

**Rebound**
by Kwame Alexander
Prequel to the Newbery Medal Winner “The Crossover”. Set in 1988, after his dad has died, Charlie Bell is getting into trouble. His mother hopes sending him to Washington D.C. to spent the summer with his grandmother will help him keep out of trouble. In Washington he discovers jazz, basketball and his family’s past.

**Saving Marty**
by Paula Griffin
Marty, a runt pig, is adopted by Lorenzo Ventura. There is one big problem—Marty believes he is a dog. After reaching 350 pounds and causing a dangerous accident, Lorenzo is not sure he will be able to keep his best friend.

**Someday Birds**
by Sally J. Pla
A family plans a trip across the USA to see their injured father. Charlie, the middle child, has OCD tendencies but also a list of birds he is hoping to see on the trip. Charlie wants to share his list with his father in hopes that his father will recover from his severe brain injuries.
2019 Read Alouds: High School

**Between the Lines**
by Nikki Grimes
Told in multiple points of view from the students in Mr. Ward's poetry class, this story is a mixture of narrative and verse. As each student participates in open-mic and poetry slam events, the reader learns more about their story and challenges.

**Far From the Tree**
by Robin Benway
Grace was adopted at birth. When she is faced with the reality of putting her own child up for adoption, she seeks out her biological siblings as a way to heal.

**The Hate U Give**
by Angie Thomas
Starr was the only witness the night her childhood friend was killed by a police officer. The murder becomes headline news, with much speculation about what actually happened that night. Starr is the only one with the truth, but will she be able to speak up?

**Long Way Down**
by Jason Reynolds
Will's brother was just murdered and he's out for revenge. On his way to find his brother's killer, his building's elevator makes a stop, with someone from his brother's past on each floor. What will Will do when he gets to the bottom?

**One Of Us Is Lying**
by Karen M. McManus
Five students are serving detention when Simon, the class outcast, dies in the classroom. The police determine it wasn't an accident. Who killed Simon?

**Refugee**
by Alan Gratz
Three interrelated stories of survival. Josef is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany, Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994, and Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015.

**Scythe**
by Neal Shusterman
In a world where death has been conquered, Scythes are required to take lives, in order to keep the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to be a Scythe's apprentice, a job neither of them want.

**Solo**
by Kwame Alexander
Blade is the son of a troubled rock star, with no interest in becoming like his father. When he finds out about a family secret, he runs off to Ghana where he learns about family and finding his place.

**Turtles All The Way Down**
by John Green
Aza has OCD. Aza's best friend, Daisy, wants to solve the mystery of a billionaire gone missing. This story shows how Aza must navigate her intrusive and spiraling thoughts, while continuing to live her life as if nothing is wrong.

**What To Say Next**
by Julie Buxbaum
Social outcast, David Drucker, is used to keeping to himself to avoid getting bullied. Popular girl, Kit Lowell, is just looking for a quiet place after her dad dies. When Kit sits at David's lunch table, an unlikely friendship is formed.
2019 Read Alouds: Ageless

**After The Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back Up Again**
by Dan Santat
Humpty Dumpty develops a fear of heights after his famous fall. He also loves to watch birds fly. Does he love flight enough to tackle his fear of heights?

**Alma and How She Got Her Name**
by Juana Martinez-Neal
Alma is a little girl with a very long name, containing six words. What do the six words in Alma’s name tell about her? What can the words in your name tell about you?

**Be Kind**
by Pat Zietlow Miller
After a girl spills grape juice on her new dress, her friends try to help her feel better. This picture book shows the importance of kindness in a variety of situations. Read how the students in this story show kindness.

**Be Quiet!**
by Ryan T. Higgins
Rupert the Mouse wants to be in a wordless picture book. Unfortunately his “helpful” friends don’t take the hint! Great full-page, colorful pictures and stimulating word clues will keep readers chuckling to the end of Rupert’s “wordless” book!

**Blue Sky White Stars**
by Sarvinder Naberhaus
Sparse text and inspiring full-color patriotic pictures present a tribute to America’s symbols, landscape, and people. America’s flag, Statue of Liberty, civil rights marchers, and a Cape Canaveral spacecraft are some of many patriotic images.

**Can I Be Your Dog?**
by Troy Cummings
Arfy is a homeless dog who wants a home. He writes letters to every person on Butternut Street stressing his good qualities! He’s housebroken, has his own squeaky bone, and can live with cats, among others. Who will take this lonesome dog?

**Full of Fall**
by April Pulley Sayre
With graphic, full-page, colorful illustrations Sayre explores the changes fall brings to nature. In a mainly wordless format, she explores the changes which occur in leaves each fall. A two-page spread at book’s end explains the scientific processes in each picture.

**The Legend of Rock Paper Scissors**
by Drew Daywalt
Are you prepared for the three greatest warriors in the world? Meet Rock, Paper, and Scissors. Who will win this battle of skills? The expressive faces of rock, paper, and scissors within their “empires” are a delight!

**Nothing Rhymes with Orange**
by Adam Rex
Orange wants to be the star of the show but can’t find a rhyming word. Plum, banana, and grapes all have rhyming words, but orange is lonesome. He’s available for the reader of this colorful, expressive book! Hint! Kiwi the peewee packs a pucker punch!

**The Tree in the Courtyard: Looking through Anne Frank’s Window**
by Jeff Gottesfeld
The tree outside Anne Frank’s window was there when she played as a child, wrote in a diary, and had to leave home because of war. It also saw her father return home alone after the war. It died during her 81st year, but seeds still survive as symbols of peace.