

WISCONSIN BRAILLE

Volume 19, Issue 3

Fall 2018

October, 2018

Dear teachers and parents of the visually impaired and school librarians,

In our effort to promote braille literacy among blind children, Wisconsin Braille Inc. is very pleased to offer another new selection of free braille books, financially supported by the Glen Stacey Fund. Once again, this year's collection was well researched and includes recommended children's books not already available in braille [after checking the databases at American Printing House for the Blind (www.aph.org) and the National Library Service (www.loc.gov/nls)].

The book selection committee is very excited to offer this particular collection of 21 books. Through both prose and poetry, this year's collection offers books that are fanciful and fun to read as well as those with more thoughtful themes. **Eight delightful books are offered in print/braille for young readers, including a counting book. We're also offering three chapter books for early readers and six books written in verse.** Several books are award winners. We sincerely hope that our selection meets the needs of your readers! And, of course, all the books in this year's collection are produced in UEB.

While this project is supported by Glen Stacey funds, none of these funds are used by Wisconsin Braille for its day-to-day operations. We rely on our membership dues to support our other activities, including a newsletter and a website. If you appreciate receiving these free books, we would urge you to become a member of Wisconsin Braille Inc. Annual dues are only \$10 for a regular membership or \$30 for a sustaining membership. A membership form is attached or may be found on our website: www.wisbrl.org. Wisconsin Braille does not sell its membership list to any other organization.

One decided advantage of becoming a member of Wisconsin Braille Inc. is that you may order additional free books from our composite listings. A composite listing of UEB books has been posted this fall to the website(www.wisbrl.org) in addition to a listing of books previously produced in EBAE.

Baby Goes to Market by Atinuke and Angela Brooksbank

Join a busy mama and her baby at a traditional Nigerian market. The market is very crowded; the mama is very busy; and the baby is very curious. With a gentle introduction to numbers, baby eats one of each of the goodies offered by the

vendors and puts the rest in the basket on Mama's head. Mama doesn't realize until the end and thinks she still needs to feed the baby when they arrive home! A Charlotte Zolotow Award Honor Book for 21018 **for ages 2-4**, produced in **print/braille**.

BRAVO! Poems about Amazing Hispanics by Margarita Engle and Rafael López Musician, botanist, baseball player, pilot -- the Latinos featured in this collection come from Latin American countries and many different backgrounds. The reputations of those described in this book range from "some who were celebrated in their lifetimes but have been forgotten by history," to others who "achieved lasting fame." **For ages 8-12.**

The Buddy Files: The Case of the Library Monster by Dori Butler
Buddy is a dog detective, and he has appeared in several, award winning mysteries by this author. In this book, he is in the school library and students are taking turns reading with him. He is distracted by some unusual sounds and strange smells. Could it be the ghost Buddy has heard so much about? It will be fun to find out as he narrates the story and solves the mystery with his own, funny, doggy style.
For ages 7-10.

A Different Pond by Bao Phi

A 2018 Caldecott Honor Book and the winner of the Charlotte Zolotow Award given by the University of Wisconsin's Cooperative Children's Book Center. Kirkus Reviews calls it "a must read for our times." It provides a powerful, honest glimpse into the relationship between a father and son as they go on a fishing trip before dawn to secure food for the day. Discussing the pictures with a parent/teacher will add much to an understanding of the difficulties that refugees coming to the United States face. **For K-grade 2, produced in print/braille.**

Ellen's Broom: A young girl discovers a family tradition by Kelly Starling Lyons

During slavery, Ellen's parents could only marry using the broom that is mounted on their wall. They jumped over it and into a new life together. In this rare story from the Reconstruction period in US history, we follow Ellen as she accompanies her parents to their legally recognized marriage ceremony and learns the history the family broom. **For grades 4-6.**

The First Step--How One Girl Put Segregation on Trial by Susan E. Goodman
In 1847, a young African American girl named Sarah Roberts was attending a school in Boston. Then one day she was told she could never come back. She didn't belong. The Otis School was for white children only. This single event set in motion the desegregation of the Boston schools. In 1950 another girl, Linda

Brown, faced similar discrimination in her city, Topeka, KS. Enjoy reading about these two brave girls and their families as they set out to desegregate schools across the country.

For grades 3 – 6.

Follow the Moon Home: A Tale of One Idea, Twenty Kids, and a Hundred Sea Turtles by Philippe Cousteau and Deborah Hopkinson

Viv moves to South Carolina and discovers that the sea turtles in her community by the coast are encountering a problem that endangers them. This book delivers a powerful environmental message while demonstrating how kids can change the world through teamwork and persistence. A winner of the GOLD Nautilus Award and a Parent's Choice 2016 Award, **for K-grade 3.**

Frog and Friends by Eve Bunting

Welcome to Frog and his world! In this introductory book in the Frog and Friends series, we meet Frog's friends Rabbit, Possum, Raccoon and Squirrel. Together, in a trio of stories, they discover THING in Frog's pond, share a beautiful blue scarf, and meet a hippo who has run away from the zoo to live in Frog's pond. An "I am a Reader" book **for Grades 1 and 2.**

I Dissent—Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark by Debbie Levy

This book traces Justice Ginsburg's accomplishments in the field of law back to her girlhood years, emphasizing the importance of dissent in an unequal society. It also stresses that one can disagree without being disagreeable. A 2016 National Jewish Book Award winner, **I Dissent** is as important for boys as well as girls. **For grades 3-5.**

King and Kayla and the Case of the Missing Dog Treats by Dori Hillestad Butler

King is a dog and a detective, just like his owner, Kayla. This early reader is a great introduction to mysteries, gathering facts, and analytical thinking. A Geisel Award book and a beginning chapter book **for grades 1-3.**

A New School Year: Stories in Six Voices by Sally Derby

In this book, six children ranging from kindergarten to fifth grade walk through the excitement, jitters, and small pleasures that accompany the first day of school. Divided into four phases—The Night Before, In the Morning, At School and After School—the children voice their experiences in four **poems**. A very relatable book, it reflects the emotions of so many children on such a momentous day. **For ages 5-10.**

The One Day House by Julia Durango

This is a sweet story of a young boy's concern for an elderly neighbor, and the feelings she has for him. Wilson hopes one day to repair Gigi's home, even fix her

piano "so she can have music again". Gigi reassures Wilson that she simply appreciates his friendship and presence in her life. But one day, Wilson

actually keeps his promises, enlisting the help of others in his diverse, multigenerational neighborhood. This is a highly recommended book and the winner of a Charlotte Zolotow Award. **For ages 4-8, produced in print/braille.**

One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me! by John Micklos, Jr. and Clive McFarland

Count and rhyme your way through the seasons, from one to ten and back again! There is so much activity around this beautiful tree as the wild creatures, and one little boy celebrate the cycles of nature. **For ages 2-4; produced in print/braille; tactiles added to facilitate counting.**

Our Very Own Dog by Amanda McCardie and Salvatore Rubbino

If you have a dog, or want to adopt one, this story is full of facts that you may need to know about being a dog owner. The story is narrated by a girl who was four when a dog named Sophie came to live with her family. They learn about bedding and bowls, treats and training, walks and washing. Facts related to dog ownership are seamlessly integrated into the blithe, upbeat narrative. **For ages 4-8.**

The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet! by Carmen Agra Deedy and Eugene Yelchin

La Paz is a happy, but noisy village. The people think they would appreciate a little peace and quiet. So, they elect a bossy mayor, Don Pepe who outlaws singing! After seven years of silence, a rooster comes to the village and refuses to be quiet. This is a delightfully told allegory about the importance of freedom and speaking up, and having the courage to sing at any cost. **For ages 6-9.**

Thank You Bees by Toni Yuly

This book is a lovely tribute to the Earth and to gratitude. "The sun gives us light, thank you sun" -- with sentences like these, the author takes a large and important concept and makes it completely accessible to young children, inspiring them to use the same pattern to express what they are thankful for. **For ages 2-5, produced in print/braille.**

Things to Do by Elaine Magliaro and Catia Chien

With playful, child-centered **poems**, this book brings to life the small moments and secret joys of a child's day. There are wonders everywhere -- dawn, birds, honeybees, etc . just waiting to be found. Written by a more-than-thirty year teacher turned librarian, this book is sure to inspire creative thinking and writing. **For ages 3-7, produced in print/braille.**

Thunder Underground by Jane Yolen

What really is under our feet?...Ant cities, fox dens, rabbit warrens. Now dig deeper...Subways, forgotten towns, fossilized bones... What other secrets hide deeper still beneath our shoes? A whole world waits for us. In this book, we'll go on an adventure to unearth its surprises. And we'll discover in these **poems** that there is thunder...and wonder! A five star book **for ages 6-10.**

Tidy by Emily Gravett

In this zany **rhyming book**, Pete the badger learns that being obsessively tidy isn't always the best thing! There's a conservation message in this book written by an award winning author, but it's subtle, cloaked in humor. Pete wants everything to be neat and tidy at all times, but what starts as the collecting of one fallen leaf escalates quickly and ends with the complete destruction of the forest! Will Pete realize his mistake and reverse his tidying habit? **For ages 3-6, produced in print/braille.**

You Hold Me Up by Monique Gray Smith and Danielle Daniel

The award winning author of this book is Cree, Lakota and Scottish and is a consultant and an international speaker. With simple, declarative statements, she answers the question "what does it mean to hold someone up?" The simple beauty of this book affirms the importance and power of acts of kindness and connection. **For ages 3-8 produced in print/braille.**

W is for Welcome—A Celebration of America's Diversity by Brad Herzog

"A is for America, a dreamer's destination, made up of people who are here due to immigration."

Following the alphabet, this book uses **poetry and expository text** to celebrate America's diverse population and showcase the remarkable achievements and contributions of the many people who have chosen to make our country their home. In addition to celebrating America's history and development, key concepts such as the steps to citizenship are explained in easy-to-understand terms for children. From A to Z, this book celebrates our collective heritage. **For grades 3-6.**

Please remember to **submit your order by December 15, 2018** at the latest, using the accompanying order form; send it only to the address on the form. You may continue to order print/braille books for early readers in either contracted or uncontracted braille. Books for older readers may be ordered in hard copy braille or e-files. Just indicate your preferences on the order form.

Teachers, please work with your school librarians to make them aware of our project and answer any questions they may have. Likewise, please alert the parents with whom you work about our project, especially those who do not have ready access to school libraries; this group may well include the parents of

preschool blind children. You should receive your books in the spring of 2019 before school dismisses for summer vacation. Many thanks for using our service!

Special Book Project Committee Members,
Sandy Adams, Cindy Collins, Mary Ann Damm, Marilyn Harmon, Alison McKee
Email contact: adamssandra454@gmail.com (new email address)

Wisconsin Braille Inc.
Special Book Project Order Form
Fall, 2018

Check here if you have ordered from us in the past. _____

Cust. ID (if known) _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Note: All orders will be sent in hard copy, contracted braille. If you prefer uncontracted braille for print/braille books, please indicate this after each title you order.

_____ **Baby Goes to Market** by Atinuke and Angela Brooksbank
(print/braille) _____

_____ **BRAVO! Poems about Amazing Hispanics** by Margarita Engle and Rafael López

_____ **The Buddy Files: The Case of the Library Monster** by Dori Butler

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- _____ **You Hold Me Up** by Monique Gray Smith and Danielle Daniel
(print/braille) _____
- _____ **W is for Welcome—A Celebration of America’s Diversity** by Brad Herzog

Additional books from previous years: You may order from our composite lists if you are a current member or a new member of Wisconsin Braille. (See composite lists on our web site: www.wisbrl.org).

You are welcome to suggest books for next year’s production on the back of this form.

By December 15, 2018 send order to this address:

Wisconsin Braille Inc., Membership Chair, 557 Milky Way, Madison, WI 53718
Your order will be forwarded on to the OSCI Braille Program for production.

Please remember, your membership in Wisconsin Braille, Inc. will go a long to help us cover our operating expenses. Many thanks for your consideration!

Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes by New York Times bestselling author Jonathan Auxier

The first line of this 381-page book written for children from 5th to 9th grade says, “Now, for those of you who know anything about blind children, you are aware that they make the very best thieves.” And, who is the greatest thief who ever lived? Why, Peter Nimble, of course!

This book is an action-packed, adventure-fantasy, magical mystery causing the reader to think of Dickens, Dahl and Tolkien. Peter is an orphan, blinded by ravens (caution -- gruesome!) in infancy and made to steal for the town's beggar-monger. His wretched life changes when he steals a box containing eggs that are actually three pairs of magical eyes. When Peter puts the first pair into his eye sockets, he is transported to a hidden island! Professor Cake awaits him there, provides him with a companion (Sir Tode, a half-cat, half-horse knight) and a mission: to solve a riddle and save the Vanished Kingdom from an evil king. Once on the island, Peter and his companion battle a desert of thieves, a palace of monster apes, and a pit of sea serpents to free the city from the tyrannical king. The author manages to tie these fantastical elements into a cogent, (somewhat) believable story. Peter's adventures, from facing and overcoming hardships to discovering the meaning of heroism, make him a lovable character.

Spoiler alert: Peter does, on page 375 of this 381-page book, put his third pair of eyes in, and he is able to see. Since it is a fantasy world, obviously this can happen, but if it is being recommended for a student who would be upset by this detail, parents or teachers recommending this book should be aware of this fact.

This book, with a young blind character who can do anything and everything, is not available in braille. It is available in an audio version, and on Kindle, so children could access it with their electronic braille readers.

Puzzled in UEB

*Dear Ms. Perkins,
How to do puzzles in UEB?*

*Puzzled,
Cody Morse*

Dear Cody,
"Puzzles" is a broad category! Let's start with word searches. We'll talk about crossword puzzles, Sudoku puzzles, and code puzzles in later letters.

Word searches involve individual letters with a space before and after each letter. That means they are standing alone. To ensure that they are read as letters, we need to use the grade 1 passage indicator ⠠⠠⠠ before the puzzle and terminate the passage ⠠⠠ at the end. If the letters are capitalized, then we need to indicate that as well with the capitals passage indicator ⠠⠠⠠ and terminate the passage ⠠⠠ at the end. Note that the indicators are closed in the reverse order of opening, called "nesting." If we put these indicators on the same lines as the letters of the puzzle, they will skew the alignment, so we want these indicators on lines by themselves. That makes it difficult to tell whether these dot configurations

are in the upper or lower part of the cell, or on the left or right side of the cell. That's where dot locators come in.

UEB has two dot locators, the dot locator for "mention" ⠠⠠⠠ and the dot locator for "use" ⠠⠠⠠⠠. The dot locator for "mention" is used when introducing symbols that will appear later in the text. The symbols are inactive and do not affect the following text. Situations like this include the special symbols page, a transcriber's note, or a document that discusses braille itself. In this case, however, the grade 1 passage and capitals passage indicators are active, retaining their true function and meaning. The dot locator for "use" is used for these situations, which simply orients the reader to the dot positions in the following cell or cells.

The list of words to be searched for is in uncontracted braille. No special indicators are needed for this list.

See *Braille Formats 2016*, §19.6 and *Rules of Unified English Braille 2013*, §3.14 for details.

Example:

BRAILLE
CELL
ENGLISH
INDICATORS
LOCATOR
MENTION
PASSAGE
UNIFIED
USE
VOLUNTEER

I L T A E H H E V M
A N L C S X G L O E
D A D E U N K L L N
W I F I C X U I U T
Y V X F C N W A N I
P E C O I A T R T O
A Q U F X I T B E N
H S I L G N E O E R
Z E L O C A T O R O
D E G A S S A P B S

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Often, word searches often show the answers with circling. A suggested alternative is shown below. A transcriber's note may be needed. In this case, the print already explains the method.

Answers: (Over, Down, Direction)

BRAILLE (8, 7, N)
 CELL (5, 4, NW)
 ENGLISH (7, 8, W)
 INDICATORS (1, 1, SE)
 LOCATOR (3, 9, E)
 MENTION (10, 1, S)
 PASSAGE (8, 10, W)
 UNIFIED (7, 4, SW)
 USE (5, 3, N)
 VOLUNTEER (9, 1, S)

Happy puzzling!

Ms. Perkins

The puzzle was generated from <http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com>. The method of conveying the answers is taken from that website.

This article was originally written for *Dear Pearl*, the newsletter for Braille Library & Transcription Services, Inc. (BLTS).

Contributors to this issue are:

Sandy Adams, Cindy Collins and Julie Sumwalt.

Please Join Us

For our next Board Meeting

At

The Monona Public Library

1000 Nichols Rd.

Monona, WI

On October 13, 2018

10:00-2:30

Our Meetings are always open to the public

If you are interested in joining Wisconsin Braille, or have not paid your membership this year, please be sure to complete the membership form at the back of this newsletter and mail it to the address listed.

The WISCONSIN BRAILLE newsletter is published three times a year.

Deadlines are: Spring/Summer – April 15, Fall – August 15, Winter – December 15

The purpose of WISCONSIN BRAILLE INC. is to advance communication and coordinate the efforts of all persons concerned with the availability, quality, and distribution of brailled materials in the state of Wisconsin thereby encouraging braille literacy.

The purpose of this newsletter is to disperse information. WISCONSIN BRAILLE INC. does not endorse or vouch for the reliability of any of the persons, organizations, or products appearing in this publication.

This version of the Wisconsin Braille newsletter was prepared by the members of the OSCI Braille Program. It has not been proofread. Readers are encouraged to report noted errors to: Wisconsin Braille Newsletter, Editor, 5745 Bittersweet Place, Madison, WI 53705.