Using 2015 K-2 Kentucky Bluegrass Award Nominees as a Springboard to Information Reading

2014 KLA/KASL Joint Conference, Louisville KY
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A tiny honey bee emerges from the hive for the first time. Using sunlight, landmarks, and scents to remember the path, she goes in search of pollen and nectar to share with the thousands of other bees in her hive. She uses her powerful sense of smell to locate the flowers that sustain her, avoids birds that might eat her, and returns home to share her finds with her many sisters.

To see a real honey bee at work, go to:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p022v2yw

Author: Raymond Huber

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One early morning in Uganda, a boy struggles to carry his jerry cans filled with a day’s supply of water.

At the village square, he stops to peek in the aid-worker’s truck, where he spies something amazing.

What can a small, barefoot boy do to earn the treasure inside that truck?

To watch a book trailer for *A Good Trade*, go to: [http://youtu.be/HlnE8n0DJzw](http://youtu.be/HlnE8n0DJzw)

Author Alma Fullerton

Copyright 2013, Pajama Press
Beatrice’s Goat, by Page McBrier; illustrated by Lori Lohstoeter (2001) Atheneum Books for Young Readers


Give up, Gecko! Retold by Margaret Read MacDonald; illus. by Deborah Melmon (2013) Amazon Children’s Publishing.
This book contains 26 Haiku poems about the four seasons. Here is one of them:

Eating warm cookies on a cold day is easy

water catches every thrown stone skip skip splash

Author Jon J. Muth

Fun Fact: He was born and grew up in Cincinnati, OH. He lives in upstate New York with his wife and 4 children.

His book, Zen Shorts, is a Caldecott Honor Book.

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Capstone interactive

Panda Kindergarten,
Joanne Ryder and
Dr. Kathleen Feng
(2009) Collins

Panda (2004)
Gareth Stevens
Publishing

I Live in Tokyo,
by Mari Takabayashi
Do you ever feel invisible when you're around other people?
Meet Brian, the invisible boy. Nobody ever seems to notice him or think to include him in their group, game, or birthday party...until, that is, a new kid comes to class.
When Justin, the new boy, arrives, Brian is the first to make him feel welcome. And when Brian and Justin team up to work on a class project together, Brian finds a way to shine.

Author Trudy Ludwig

To watch a book trailer for The Invisible Boy, go to:
http://youtu.be/n4k7Zyreikg

Copyright 2013, Knopf Books for Young Readers.

A group of frogs are living happily in a peaceful pond, until they discover a surprise visitor: a little pink pig. Sitting contentedly on a rock in the middle of their pond, the pig opens his mouth and says: RIBBIT! The frogs are bewildered at first, and then a bit annoyed—"What did that little pig just say?", "Does he think he's a frog?", "Is he making fun of us?" Read to see what happens next!

Whose Sound is This? by Nancy Kelly Allen, 2005, Picture Window Books, Capstone interactive

Let's Be Friends, by Amanda Miller, 2010, Children’s Press

“Pigs”PebbleGo. www.pebblego.com September 20, 2014
Every book needs you to turn the pages. But not every book needs you to tap it, shake it, jiggle it, or even blow it a kiss. Innovative and timeless, *Tap the Magic Tree* asks you to help one lonely tree change with the seasons. Now that’s interactive—and magical!

**Author Christie Matheson**

To find out about the magic, watch the book trailer here: [http://youtu.be/Otnip3-zDus](http://youtu.be/Otnip3-zDus)
One Tree, by Leslie Bockol; illus. by Jillian Phillips (2009)
Innovative Kids

Charlesbridge
This is a fictive memoir. From the early 1900s until the mid 1970s, more than 6 million African Americans moved from the rural south to northern cities. This novel is inspired by those families and by my own Mom, who moved from Greenville, South Carolina to Brooklyn, New York in 1968.

The book begins:

This is the rope my grandmother found beneath an old tree a long time ago back home in South Carolina. This is the rope my grandmother skipped under the shade of a sweet-smelling pine.

In the late 1800s, scientist Kate Sessions, an arboreal enthusiast from a young age, led the transformation of San Diego from a desert town to the lush, leafy city it is today.

How did she do this? Read The Tree Lady: The True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever by H. Joseph Hopkins; illustrated by Jill McElmurry.

Meet author H. Joseph Hopkins.

Fun fact: He lives on a houseboat in Portland, Oregon, and this is his first picture book.


Copyright 2013, Beach Lane Books.

Planting the Wild Garden, by Kathryn O. Galbraith; illus. by Wendy Anderson Halperin (2011) Peachtree.
Trouper ran with a mob of mutts who tripped over trash cans and pawed the cold streets for bones. They howled and cried and wished for a home. Until one day, the dogs are captured from off the streets and put in cages in a shelter as they wait to be adopted. Trouper watches sadly as, one by one, each of his dog friends are chosen. He's the only one left until finally, one lucky day, just the right boy comes around and finds that this three-legged mutt is the perfect pet for him!

Trouper is based on a real-life rescue story. See the real Trouper at: http://youtu.be/vyf2B-dgtQg.

Written by Meg Kearney
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis

Copyright 2013, Scholastic Press

*Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, A Marine, and a Miracle*, by Brian Dennis; Mary Nethery; Kirby Larson (2009) Little, Brown
Do you love funny stories? Greg Pizzoli introduces us to one funny crocodile who has one big fear: swallowing a watermelon seed. What will he do when his greatest fear is realized? Will vines sprout out his ears? Will his skin turn pink? Read to find out what happens next!

Watch the trailer for this book: http://youtu.be/EYwWUarlSLE

Copyright 2013, Disney Hyperion

Author and Illustrator
Greg Pizzoli
Watermelon Life Cycles, by Julie Murray, 2007, ABDO Publishing


Belches, Burps, and Farts, Oh My, by Artie Bennett, 2014, Blue Apple Books
