Explore wonderous rocks in this Pura Belpré Youth Illustration Award winner. Rocks can have special meaning to each of us, while they also illustrate the natural beauty of the world. Garcia's illustrations in particular are vibrant and colorful, pulling the reader in. The book also contains facts at the end of the book for further understanding and questioning.

Sibling relationships are unique and loving. In this Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor book, we follow Lee and his big sister, Zora, as they go to a library program. While Lee doesn't succeed at first to learn embroidery, he tries and tries again until he has prevailed and can help his big sister, too.

This delightful growth mindset book won the Geisel Award (given to the best book for beginning readers), and it definitely makes a great readaloud. Encouraging, quirky, and so relatable, the main character attempts (and fails) at a number of tasks but keeps trying and ultimately and triumphantly succeeds!

A picture book that serves up great non-fiction content AND serves as a beginning reader? Yes, please! This book won both the Geisel Honor and a Sibert Honor (for non-fiction). Easily accessible art accompanies the spare, simple, color-coded text. A gatefold surprise awaits the reader along the way!

Owl has always dreamed of being a knight! Finally, he gets the chance in this Caldecott Medal Honor book. But if he wants to succeed at his night watch duties, he'll have to use his wits and his heart.

This book won the 2023 Mathical Prize and tells the familiar tale of an older sibling who wants to protect belongings from a younger child. Exploring physical space and geometry, this is a fun readaloud that shares great math content too.
Author/Illustrator Spotlight

MEM FOX

Sometimes an author or illustrator has so many great titles, we wish we could name them all! This month, we want to highlight the work of Mem Fox, whose titles include lyrical bedtime books, perfect readalouds, and themes of inclusion and acceptance.

Bedtime is a perfect time to develop narrative skills. Looking back over the day, discuss what happened in the beginning (breakfast, playtime), middle (lunch, maybe a nap?), and end (dinner, bath). Exploring the day that way frames it like a story arc. It might even become a helpful habit to problem-solve difficulties and remember good times your child had earlier in the day.

Early Literacy Tips

When a new day begins, the future can be exciting or scary! The morning is a great time to help prepare kids for the future, whether to practice patience for something fun or to prepare for something difficult. You can talk about what is going to happen today (first we'll go here, then we'll do this, and after that we'll head home!) to help teach kids narrative structure and how to know the future!