November 2026 Book Frenzy - ELEMENTARY

By Cindy Mitchell and Kiss the Book

NON-FICTION

***The Danger Files: Real Life Disasters* by Anna Crowley Redding, illustrated by Robbie Cathro**, 198 pages. NON-FICTION Candlewick, 2025. $18
BUYING ADVISORY EL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Formula Fast* by Matt Ralphs and Dragan Kordic,** 64 pages. NON-FICTION. Phaidon, 2026. $20. 9781837291243
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Omnibird: An Avian Investigator's Handbook* by Giselle Clarkson**, 96 pages. NON-FICTION. Gecko Press, 2025. $25. 9798765670514
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Twice Enslaved: Liberty and Justice for Henrietta Wood* by Selene Castrovilla and Erin K. Robinson**. 80 pages. NON FICTION. Calkins Creek (Lerner), 2026. $20.
Language: PG (0 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: PG (Henrietta has a son, but doesn't reveal who the father is); Violence: PG-13 (slavery, vicious floggings, and describes her situation as being "in hell.")
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***The Vanishing of Lake Peigneur* by Allan Wolf, illustrated by Jose Pimienta**, 176 pages. GRAPHIC NOVEL Candlewick, 2025. $20
Language: G (0 swears); Mature Content: G; Violence: G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

NOVELS

***Dawn of the Axolotl* (The Last Immortals #1) by Kit Brooks, illustrated by Brandon Dorman,** 194 pages. Christy Ottaviano Books, 2026. $9
Language: G (0 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (One axolotl bites the tail off of another axolotl and eats it.)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ADVISABLE; MS - OPTIONAL
APPEALS TO: EL - MANY; MS - SOME

***The Free State of Jax* by Jennifer A. Nielsen**, 352 pages. Scholastic, 2025. $19
Language: G (0 swears); Mature Content: G; Violence:G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***The Lionharts* by Mike Lawrence**, 233 pages. GRAPHIC NOVEL. Abrams Fanfare, 2026. $25
Language: G (3 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (Hand to hand combat, peril, and danger)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Madsi the True* by S. J. Taylor**, 295 pages. Atheneum Books for Young Readers (Simon), 2024. $18
Violence: G (peril, danger, fights with mythical beings)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Mixed Feelings* by Sara Amini and Shadia Amin**, 240 pages. GRAPHIC NOVEL Scholastic, 2026. $15. Language: G (0 swears 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: G
BUYING ADVISORY: MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: MANY

***No Way Never Sisters* by Chantel Acevedo and Natalia Sylvester,** 276 pages. Aladdin (Simon), 2026. $19
Content: G (mild pranks, family tension)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Octopus Moon* by Bobbie Pyron**, 310 pages. Novel in Verse Nancy Paulsen (Penguin), 2025. $19.
Language: G; Mature Content: G; Violence: G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ESSENTIAL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Pocket Bear* by Katherine Applegate**, 263 pages. Feiwel & Friends (Macmillan), 2025. $18.
Language: G (0 swears 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***River of Spirits* (The Underwild #1) by Shana Targosz**, 416 pages. Aladdin (Simon), 2025. $19
Language: G (6 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (peril, some fighting)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Scrap* by Guy Bass,** 320 pages. Penguin< SEPTEMBER 2026. $10 (pb)
Language: G (0 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (danger, injury)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Sleepless* by Gordon Korman**, 240 pages. Scholastic JULY 2026. $19
Content: G (mild threats)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Song of the Yellow Dragon* by Ying Ping Low**, 278 pages. Putnam (Penguin), 2026. $19
Language: G (0 swears); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (murder, attempted murder)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***The Travelers* by Greg Howard**, 320 pages. Nancy Paulsen (Penguin), 2026. $10
Language: G (0 swears) Mature Content: PG (same sex attraction, death) Violence: G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: MANY

***The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest* by Aubrey Hartman**, 320 pages. Little, Brown, 2025. $18.
Language: G (0 swears 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (peril, monster description)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***War Boats* by Jennifer A. Nielsen**, 304 pages. Scholastic, MARCH 2027. $19
Language: G (0 swears, 0 'f'); Mature Content: G; Violence: PG (war deaths mentioned)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***What Happened to the Naked Mole Rat?* (Class Pet Ghost Detective Case #1) by Akeem S. Roberts**, 123 pages. Kokila (Penguin), 2025 $10.
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ADVISABLE
APPEALS TO: MANY

EARLY READER

***Bad Banana* by Michael Rex**. EARLY READER LEVEL 2. Simon, 2026. $6 (pb). 9781665962124
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOKS

***Cassini's Mission* by Kate Venit, illustrated by Julia Blattman**. NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK. MIT Kids Press, 2025. $19. 9781536232325
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS, HS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***From Bam to Burp* by Melissa Stewart, illustrated by Marta Alvarez Miguens**. NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK Charlesbridge/Imagine, 2025. $18. 9781623544461
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Home Construction* by Anne Blanchard, illustrated by Didier Balicevic**. INTERACTIVE NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK. Bayard Editions- France, 2023. $19. 9791027612208
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Houdini's Library* by Barb Rosenstock and Mar Delmar**. NON-FICTION, BIOGRAPHY PICTURE BOOK. Alfred A. Knopf (Random), 2026. $19. 9780593570135
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***My Friend the Paintbrush: The Colorful World of Marcus Pfister* by Marcus Pfister**. NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK. NorthSouth Books, 2026. $20. 9780735845947
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Please Look After This Cat* by Kasia Antczak and Kasia Fryza, translated by Agnes Monod-Gayraud**. NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK. Post Wave, 2025. $19. 9798895090268
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Poo Pile on the Prairie* by Amy Hevron**. NON-FICTION PICTURE BOOK. Beach Lane (Simon), 2026. $20. 9781665935029
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Prince Among Slaves* by N.H. Senzai, illustrated by Anna Rich**. BIOGRAPHY PICTURE BOOK. Nancy Paulson Books (Penguin), 2025. $20. 9781984816986
Content: PG (mention of slavery practices, including whipping and death)
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

PICTURE BOOKS

***The Bats on the Bus* by Alison Jackson and Scott Magoon**. PICTURE BOOK. Little Brown, JULY 2026. $19. 9780316584180
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, El (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Beginning Middle and End* by Jen Burgerman**. PICTURE BOOK. Boxer Books (Union Square), 2026. $19. 9781454713234
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Bennett's Roof* by Anuska Allepuz.** PICTURE BOOK. NubeOcho, 2025. $18. 9788410406353
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Exca-Gator!* by Brooke Hartman and Michael Slack**. PICTURE BOOK. Flamingo Books (Penguin), 2026. $19. 9780593693339
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Forty the Fortune Teller* by Drew Daywalt, illustrated by Kevin Cornell**. PICTURE BOOK Philomel (Penguin), 2026. $19. 9780593691465
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Gigantic* by Rob Biddulph**. PICTURE BOOK. Doubleday (Random House), 2026. $19. 9780593518960
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Goodnight Already!* by Jory John and Benji Davies**. PICTURE BOOK. HarperCollins, 2025. $13. 9780063464995
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Here a Creak, There a Shriek!* by Kelly Conroy and Nikolas Ilic**. PICTURE BOOK. Tiger Tales, 2026. $19. 9781664300965
BUYING ADVISORY: PRe-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***How Not to Make a Jelly Sandwich* by Ross Burach**. PICTURE BOOK. Scholastic, APRIL 2026. 9781338877090
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***I Am NOT Grumpy!* by Caroline L. Perry and Sydney Hanson**. PICTURE BOOK. SImon and Schuster, 2026. $20. 9781665984195
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***I Need Space* by Molly Harris and Jon Corby**. PICTURE BOOK. McElderry (Simon), 2026. $20. 9781665980579
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***I Think We're Upside Down!* by Marcus Cutler**. PICTURE BOOK. Putnam's (Penguin), 2026. $19. 9798217113552
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***I Used to be a Dinosaur* by Casey Lyall and Laurie Keller**. PICTURE BOOK. Greenwillow (Harper), JUNE 2026. $20. 9780062890313
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***The Inactivity Book* by Kyo Maclear and Tracy Subisak**. PICTURE BOOK. Random House, 2026. $19. 9780593181980
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL

***Incredibly Fast and Not at All Fun* by Tadgh Bentley**. PICTURE BOOK. Atheneum (Simon), 2026. $20. 9781665971409
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***It's Swing Time* by Abi Bi**. PICTURE BOOK. Frances Lincoln Children's Books (Quarto), 2026. $19. 9781836008743
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Quietly . . . Quietly . . . QUACK!* by Jonty Howley**. PICTURE BOOK. Happy Yak, 2026. $20. 9781836005896
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Rock and Roll* by Ruby Amy Thompson**. PICTURE BOOK. Tiger Tales, 2026. $19. 9781664300927
BUYING ADVISORY: EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***The Shy Book* by Howard Pearlstein and James Munro**. PICTURE BOOK. Red Comet Press, 2026. $17. 9781636551883
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) – ESSENTIAL APPEALS TO: MANY
***The Worried Book* by Howard Pearlstein and James Munro.** PICTURE BOOK. Red Comet Press, 2025. $17. 9781636551982
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3)- ESSENTIAL APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

***Tomorrow I'm in Charge!* by Jörg Muhle**. PICTURE BOOK. Lerner Publishing Group, 2026. $19. 9798765670538
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) – ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Tony Rex's Seven Stomps to Success* by Alex Latimer**. PICTURE BOOK. Random House, 2026. $19. 9798217124312
BUYING ADVISORY: EK (K-3) - EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

***Whirby* by Molly Harris and Jacob Souva**. PICTURE BOOK. HarperCollins Children's Books, 2026. $12. 9780063385474
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

The Wombats go Wild for Words **by Beth Ferry, illustrated by Lori Nichols.** PICTURE BOOK. Random House Children's Books (Penguin Random House), 2025. $19. 9780593711057
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
AUDIENCE APPEAL: AVERAGE

HONORABLE MENTION PICTURE BOOKS

Hurricane by Jason Chin. NON-FICTION, PICTURE BOOK Neal Porter (Holiday House), 2025. $20. 9780823458493
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

Everything is Music by Miriam Park. PICTURE BOOK. Blue Dot Kids Press, 2026. $20. 9798999567673
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3), EL, MS, HS – ESSENTIAL
AUDIENCE APPEAL: MANY

When Auggie Learned to Play Chess written by Meredith Rusu, illustrated by Stephen Costanza. PICTURE BOOK. Random House Children's Books (Penguin Random House), 2025. $19. 9780593710814
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
AUDIENCE APPEAL: MANY

Aya Has Never Seen a Bear by Gerelchimeg Blackcrane and Jiu'er. PICTURE BOOK. Greystone Books, 2026. $21. 9781778403064
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

April's Journey by Annamaria Piccione, Luis Amavisca and Francesc Rovira. PICTURE BOOK. NubeOcho, 2026. $18. 9788410406803
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

Better Than A Touchdown by Jalen Hurts and Nneka Myers. PICTURE BOOK. Flamingo Books (Penguin), 2026. $20. 9798217040308
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Sammy and Sunny's First Day of School by Nina LaCour and Elizabeth Lilly. PICTURE BOOK. Rocky Pond Books (Penguin), 2025. $19. 9780593695753
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Little Bird Laila by Kelly Yang and Xindi Yan. PICTURE BOOK. Dial Books (Penguin), 2025. $19. 9780593407110
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

The Whale’s Tale and the Otter’s Side of the Story By Kate Messner and Brian Biggs. PICTURE BOOK. Clarion Books (Harper), 2026. $20.
Content: G
BUYING ADVISORY: EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Serafina Makes Waves by Matthew Burgess and Robin Rosenthal. PICTURE BOOK. Dial Books for Young Readers (Penguin), 2026. $17. 9780593699638
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Gingerbread Yeti by Dan Gemeinhart and Hugo L. Cuellar. PICTURE BOOK. Henry Holt (Macmillan), SEPTEMBER 2026. $19. 9781250356765
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Claire & the Cathedral by Pam Fong. PICTURE BOOK. Greenwillow Books (Harper), 2026. $16. 9780063360006
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: SEVERAL

Bookie & Cookie Turn the Page by Blanca Gómez. PICTURE BOOK. Penguin Young Readers Group, 2026. $19. 9780593696835
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Crouton: One Cat's Adoption Tale by Kristine A. Lombardi. PICTURE BOOK. Random House Children's Books, 2026. $19. 9798217029167
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Don’t Wash Winston by Ashley Belote. PICTURE BOOK. Feiwel and Friends, 2024. $19. 9781250883056
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Dragon Dog by Suzanne Lang and Max Lang. PICTURE BOOK. RandomHouse, 2026. $19. 9798217223718
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Go Bananas! by A. B. Peele, illustrated by Lala Watkins. PICTURE BOOK. Simon & Schuster Books For Young Readers, 2026 $20. 9781665953566
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Mama Won't Mind by Kathleen Bahr, illustrated by Ramona Kaulitzki. PICTURE BOOK. Random House Children's Books, 2026. $20. 9798217024728
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

My Tiger by Joy Cowley and David Barrow. PICTURE BOOK. Lerner Publishing Group, 2026. $19. 9798765683200
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY

Navigating Night written by Julie Leung, illustrated by Angie Kang. PICTURE BOOK. Random House, 2026. $19. 9780593897690
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL, MS – ESSENTIAL
AUDIENCE APPEAL: SEVERAL

The Perfect Match: A Soccer Cinderella Story written by Chris Becker, illustrated by Dan Taylor. PICTURE BOOK. Nosy Crow, 2026. $19. 9798887772707
BUYING ADVISORY: EL (K-3), EL, MS - ESSENTIAL
AUDIENCE APPEAL: MANY

A Quick Trip to the Store by Sam Wedelich. PICTURE BOOK. Knopf (Random), 2025. $19. 9780593905982
BUYING ADVISORY: Pre-K, EL (K-3) - ESSENTIAL
APPEALS TO: MANY