



## Nutmeg Book Award Winners 2025-2018

### Elementary, Grades 2-3



#### (2025) Yoshi's Big Swim : One Turtle's Epic Journey Home

by Mary Wagley Copp

*Yoshi's Big Swim* chronicles the impressive true story of Yoshi, a loggerhead turtle who was rescued by fishermen, then rehabilitated and cared for by scientists for many years. Discover an amazing story celebrating teamwork, science, and an animal hero who swam more than 22,000 miles to her true home.



#### (2024) Mellybean and the Giant Monster

by Mike White

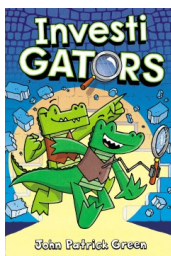
While trying to bury a shoe in the backyard, a young dog who lives with two humans and three cats is transported to a world filled with magic, adventure, and one giant, grumpy monster.



#### The Floating Field: How a Group of Thai Boys Built Their Own Soccer Field

by Scott Riley

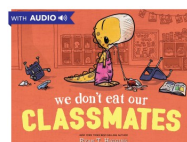
On a tiny Thai island without room for a soccer field, a group of resourceful teen boys gathers scraps and works together to build a floating field so they can play the game they love.



#### (2022) InvestiGATORS

by John Patrick Green

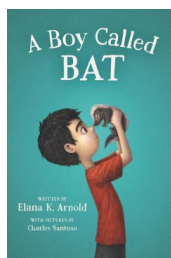
On their first mission together, alligator detectives Mango and Brash must uncover the clues, crack the case, and corral the crooks before the criminals wriggle out of their grasp.



#### (2021) We Don't Eat Our Classmates

by Ryan T. Higgins

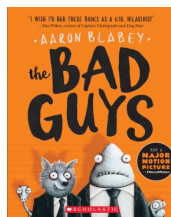
When the class pet bites the finger of Penelope, a Tyrannosaurus rex, she finally understands why she should not eat her classmates, no matter how tasty they are.



#### (2020) A Boy Called Bat

by Elana K. Arnold

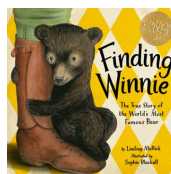
Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk, which she needs to take care of until she can hand him over to a wild-animal shelter. But Bat, on the autism spectrum, wants to show his mom that a baby skunk might just make a terrific pet.



#### (2019) The Bad Guys

by Aaron Blabey

A group of animal companions who look bad but perform good deeds overcome their inborn natures to work together for the sake of rescuing hundreds of dogs from a maximum-security dog pound.



#### (2018) Finding Winnie: the True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear

by Lindsay Mattick

A picture book adaptation of the story of the real bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh describes how the author's great-grandfather, a veterinarian from Winnipeg, rescued a bear cub and took her with him to an English army base during World War I.

# Nutmeg Book Award Winners 2025-2014

Intermediate, Grades 4-6



## (2025) Invisible

by Christina Diaz Gonzalez

When five overlooked students are forced to complete their school's community service hours, they meet someone in need but must decide if they are each willing to expose their own secrets to help... or if remaining invisible is the only way to survive middle school.



## (2024) Scritch Scratch

by Lindsay Currie

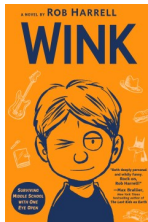
Haunted after helping her father on his ghost-themed Chicago bus tour, twelve-year-old Claire must discover what the spectral boy from the bus wants before it is too late.



## (2023) When Stars Are Scattered

by Victoria Jamieson

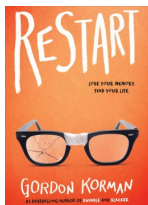
Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp, and when an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school every day or caring for his nonverbal brother.



## (2022) Wink : Surviving Middle School with One Eye Open

by Rob Harrell

After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, twelve-year-old Ross discovers how music, art, and true friends can help him survive both treatment and middle school.



## (2021) Restart

by Gordon Korman

After losing his memory in a fall, thirteen-year-old Chase uncovers the person he was before and does not like what is revealed, but amnesia gives him an opportunity most people do not get--a clean slate.



## (2020) Ban This Book

by Alan Gratz

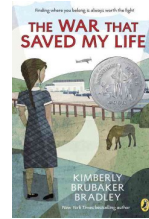
Amy Anne and her friends start a secret banned books locker library, using ridiculous reasons to ban every book in the library to make a point.



## (2019) Awkward

by Svetlana Chmakova

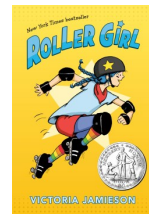
After shunning Jaime on her first day at a new middle school, Penelope tries to blend in with her new friends in the art club, until the art club goes to war with the science club, of which Jaime is a member.



## (2018) The War that Saved My Life

by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

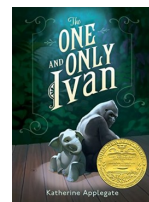
A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.



## (2017) Roller Girl

by Victoria Jamieson

Astrid discovers roller derby right as she and her best friend Nicole are growing apart.



## (2016) The One and Only Ivan

by Katherine Applegate

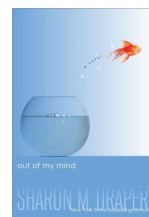
When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.



## (2015) The Unwanteds

by Lisa McMann

13-year-old Alex is astonished when he is sent to a fantastical place where he is encouraged to develop magical abilities.



## (2014) Out of My Mind

by Sharon M. Draper

Possessing a photographic memory in spite of an inability to walk or speak, Melody is mistaken as mentally challenged by those who cannot see beyond her cerebral palsy.



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