

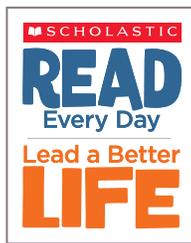
Scholastic 7 Strengths Reading List

BELONGING

Picture Books

- *Tar Beach* by Faith Ringgold
Faith Ringgold recounts the dream adventure of eight-year-old Cassie Louise Lightfoot, who flies above her apartment-building rooftop, the 'tar beach' of the title, looking down on 1939 Harlem.
- *Harlem* by Walter Dean Myers
Based on the childhood of National Football League superstars Ronde and Tiki Barber, this inspiring book follows the story of these childhood best friends through the ups and downs of their friendship and football career.
- *Junkyard Wonders* by Patricia Polacco
Based on a Polacco's childhood, the book tells the story of the quirky and invincible teacher Mrs. Peterson and her class of misfits who show Trisha, the protagonist of the book, the true meaning of genius.





CURIOSITY

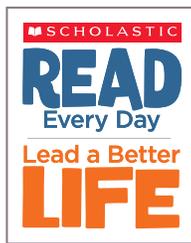
Picture Books

- *More Than Anything Else* by Marie Bradby
A fictionalized story about the life of young Booker T. Washington, living in a West Virginia settlement after emancipation, nine-year-old Booker travels by lantern light to the salt works, where he labors from dawn till dusk.
- *The Champ: The Story of Muhammad Ali* by Tonya Bolden
A biography of world famous boxer Muhammad Ali takes the reader through his unlikely beginnings as a skinny boy learning to box at a local gym to becoming the heavyweight champion of the world.
- *Stephen Hawking: Cosmologist Who Gets a Big Bang Out of the Big Bang* by Mike Venezia
Where did the universe begin? Are black holes real? Superstar cosmologist Stephen Hawking talks about his mind-boggling theories about the origins of our universe.

Chapter Books

- *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly
Calpurnia Virginia Tate is eleven years old in 1899 when she wonders why the yellow grasshoppers in her Texas backyard are so much bigger than the green ones. As Callie explores the natural world, she develops a close relationship with her grandfather, navigates the dangers of living with six brothers, and finds out what it means to be a girl at the turn of the century.





FRIENDSHIP

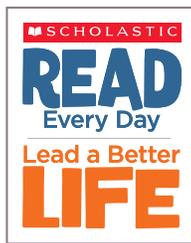
Picture Books

- *Two Bobbies* by Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery
Bobbi and Bob Cat are bestfriends. When Hurricane Katrina struck their hometown of New Orleans , many lost everything. But not Bobbi and Bob Cat—they still had each other. Only by staying together could they survive.
- *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship* by Isabella Hatkoff, Craig Hatkoff, and Paula Kahumbu
The amazing true story of a friendship created between an orphaned baby hippo and 130-year-old giant turtle.

Chapter Books

- *Crash* by Jerry Spinelli
Crash, a cocky seventh-grade super-joker, seems to be all brawn and no brains but he will need more than mere muscles to face the upcoming challenges in his life.
- *P.S. Longer Letter Later* by Ann M. Martin and Paula Danziger
Best friends Elizabeth and Tara Starr now live in different towns, but they continue their friendship through letters.





KINDNESS

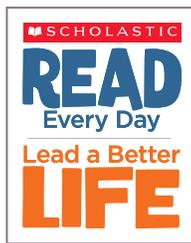
Picture Books

- *Those Shoes* by Maribeth Boelts
All Jeremy wants is a pair of those shoes, the ones everyone at school seems to be wearing. But Jeremy soon sees that the things he has — warm boots, a loving grandma, and the chance to help a friend — are worth more than the shoes he wants.
- *Zen Ties* by Jon J. Muth
Stillwater encourages Koo, Stillwater's haiku-speaking young nephew, and his friends to help a grouchy old neighbor in need. Their efforts are rewarded in unexpected ways.

Chapter Books

- *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
Charlotte's Web is the story of a little girl named Fern who loved a little pig named Wilbur—and of Wilbur's friends in the barn who help save Wilbur's life.
- *Esperanza Rising* by Pam Munoz Ryan
Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers.





CONFIDENCE

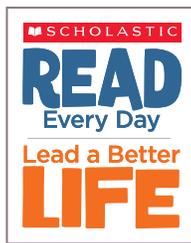
Picture Books

- *Ish* by Peter H. Reynolds
A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. Luckily Ramon's little sister, Marisol, opens his eyes to something a lot more valuable than getting things just "right."
- *Long Shot: Never Too Small to Dream Big* by Chris Paul
Everybody told Chris that he was too small to play basketball. But he ignored them all because he had big dreams. And, he loved the game.

Chapter Books

- *Maniac Magee* by Jerry Spinelli
A freak accident made Jeffrey Lionel "Maniac" Magee an orphan. After living with his unhappy and uptight aunt and uncle for eight years, he decides to run--and not just run away, but run.
- *Big Nate and Friends* by Lincoln Peirce
Nate is four-and-a-half feet tall, and the all-time record holder for detentions in school history. Equipped with the unshakable belief that he is #1, Nate fights a daily battle against overzealous teachers, undercooked cafeteria food, and all-around conventionality.





COURAGE

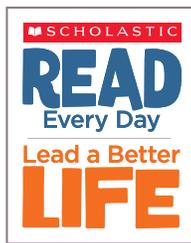
Picture Books

- *Henry's Freedom Box* by Ellen Levine
Henry is devastated when his family is sold at the slave market. He knows exactly what he must do: He will mail himself to the North. After an arduous journey in a shipping crate, Henry finally has his first day of freedom.
- *Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco
In a true story, Pinkus Aylee, a black Union soldier, finds Sheldon Curtis left for dead and carries him home to be tended by his mother. When the two boys attempt to rejoin the Union troops, they are captured and sent to Andersonville Prison.

Chapter Books

- *The Tale of Despereaux* by Kate DiCamillo
A princess, a rat, and a serving girl embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives.
- *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry
Mafatu has always been afraid of the sea. Yet, with his dog as his companion, Mafatu paddles out to sea. This adventure will change him forever and make him a hero in the eyes of his people.





HOPE

Picture Books

- *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judy Viorst
It was a terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Everything went wrong, right down to lima beans for supper and kissing on TV. What do you do on a day like that? You may be glad to find that some days are like that for other people too.
- *Wangari's Trees of Peace* by Jeanette Winter
Wangari returns to her home in Kenya and is shocked to see whole forests being cut down. Wangari decides to do something—and starts by planting nine seedlings in her own backyard. And as they grow, so do her plans. . . .
- *A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams
After their home is destroyed by a fire, Rosa, her mother, and grandmother save their coins to buy a really comfortable chair for all to enjoy.

Chapter Books

- *The Thief Lord* by Cornelia Funke
Two orphaned brothers, Prosper and Bo, have run away to Venice, where crumbling canals shelter a secret community of street urchins. The leader of this motley crew of lost children is a clever, charming boy with a dark history of his own: He calls himself the Thief Lord..

