

2017 - B.O.B. BOOK SUMMARIES

The Secret School - Avi

14 year-old Ida Bidson wants to be a teacher when she grows up. To do that she must go to high school. But her dream of that is shattered when the one-room school closes unexpectedly. Ida secretly becomes a teacher. Can she do it? To find out....read this book.

Book Scavenger - Jennifer Bertram

Twelve Year Old Emily is on the move again. Her family is relocating to San Francisco, home of her literary idol: Garrison Griswold, creator of the online sensation Book Scavenger, a game where books are hidden all over the country and clues to find them are revealed through puzzles. But Emily soon learns that Griswold has been attacked and is in a coma, and no one knows anything about the epic new game he had been poised to launch. Emily and James must race to solve the puzzles Griswold left behind before his attackers come after them.

Through My Eyes - Ruby Bridges

This is a true story of a little girl in 1960. Her name is Ruby Bridges. She did a brave thing and the world began to change. When Ruby was a little girl all the white children went to white schools. All the black children went to separate schools that weren't nearly as nice. There were laws that said all children should be able to go to better schools. Ruby Bridges was picked to be one of the first black children to go to the white school. Many white people were furious. They didn't want this to happen. They stood outside the school and they said and did some terrible things. Read this book to find out what happened to Ruby as she did this brave and important thing.

Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes - Eleanor Coerr

Sadako is the star of her school's running team. Then she ends up in the hospital with Leukemia. When a friend reminds her of a Japanese legend she begins to fold paper cranes and hang them on strings above her bed. The legend says that if a sick person folds 1,000 paper cranes they will get well again. This is a short biography that you can read quickly.

We the Children- Andrew Clements

First one in the Benjamin Pratt Keeper of the School series.

Benjamin Pratt's school is about to become the site of a new amusement park. It sounds like a dream come true! But lately, Ben has been wondering if he's going to like an amusement park in the middle of his town—with all the buses and traffic and eight dollar slices of pizza. It's going to change everything. And, Ben is not so big on all the new changes in his life. Maybe it would be nice if the school just stayed as it is. He likes the school. Loves it, actually. It's over 200 years old and sits right on the harbor. The playground has ocean breezes and the classrooms have million dollar

views...MILLION DOLLAR views. And after a chance—and final—run-in with the school janitor, Ben starts to discover that these MILLION DOLLAR views have a lot to do with the deal to sell the school property.

Magic School Bus: Inside a Hurricane - Joanna Cole

When Ms. Frizzle goes on a field trip to a weather station they end up in a hurricane. This book is a nonfiction book. You'll want to be sure to read all of the things found on each page! (Show them)

Bud, Not Buddy - Christopher Paul Curtis

Bud is a ten year old boy who travels alone from Flint, Michigan to Grand Rapids to try to find his father. This story takes place during a time called the Great Depression when a lot of people didn't have jobs or much money. This book won the Newberry medal in 2000.

Hundred Dresses - Eleanor Estes

One day when Lucille comes to school in a pretty new dress. Wanda Petronski, declares that she has a hundred dresses. (Read from page 30 - beginning with A Hundred dresses?) Does she really? Is she lying? Read the book to find out!

Black Stallion - Walter Farley

This book is probably the most famous horse story ever written! A boy named Alec ends up on a deserted island with the Black Stallion. The boy and the horse have many adventures together. It's one of the longer books on the list, but it's a wonderful story!

Where was Patrick Henry on the 29th of May? - Jean Fritz

When Patrick Henry was growing up he loved to run barefoot. He liked to fish and go hunting. He became a lawyer because he loved to listen to arguments. In his most famous speech he yelled, "Give me liberty or give me death!" Read this book to find out where Patrick Henry was on the 29th of May!

Babe and Me - Dan Gutman

Imagine you could travel back in time. Wouldn't that be cool! Thirteen year old, Joe Stoshack, has the ability to time travel using baseball cards to choose his destination. This book blends fact and fiction so you'll learn about the great Babe Ruth and the history of baseball, as you enjoy an entertaining story. On October 1, 1932, during Game Three of the Chicago Cubs - New York Yankees World Series, Babe Ruth belted a long home run straight over centerfield. According to legend, just before he hit, Babe pointed to the centerfield bleachers and boldly predicted he would slam the next pitch there. Did he call the shot, or didn't he? Witnesses never agreed. Joe will travel back in time in an attempt to solve this mystery.

Ida B and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster and (Possibly) Save the World - Katherine Hannigan

Ida B's happy days are filled with fun and adventures in the forest and brook near her home. She is homeschooled and loves it. But then some bad things start to happen and Ida B's whole world starts to change and she has to go to the fun-killing torturous place called SCHOOL! Can Ida B put together a plan to get her life back to just about perfect again?

Star in the Storm - Joan H Harlow

Maggie's dog Sirius has been outlawed from the village. A steamer crashes into the rocks during a violent storm with a hundred passengers on board. Maggie faces a difficult choice. She knows her dog Sirius can help with the rescue, but taking him out of hiding will put his own life in jeopardy. Read this books to find out what choice Maggie made.

Jonah - Inspired by God

The story of Jonah is an exciting one. God told Jonah to go to Ninevah but Jonah decided to run away. That's the beginning of a very famous story about Jonah that involves a storm some sailors, a big fish and a prayer. The book of Jonah is only 4 chapters. Your family can read this for devotions together.

Prince Caspian - C.S. Lewis

The Pevensie siblings travel back to Narnia to help a prince denied his rightful throne as he gathers an army in a desperate attempt to rid his land of a false king. But in the end, it is a battle of honor between two men alone that will decide the fate of an entire world.

Prince Caspian is the fourth book in C. S. Lewis's classic fantasy series, which has been drawing readers of all ages into a magical land where animals talk and trees walk for over sixty years. This is a stand-alone novel, but if you would like to read more of Lucy and Edmund's adventures, pick up *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, the fifth book in *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

11 Birthdays - Wendy Mass

Amanda and Leo share the same birthday and have done so every year of their life, but Leo does something really mean to Amanda on her 10th birthday and their friendship changes. Amanda's eleventh birthday should have been a happy occasion. Instead she's dressed in an itchy costume her mother picked out for her Hollywood-themed party (Dorothy from the "Wizard of Oz", even though the flying monkeys have always creeped her out.) Meanwhile, across town, her ex-best friend Leo is celebrating their joint birthday with a huge bash including a hypnotist, a football star, a giant iguana, and a rock band. SO not fair! Amanda can't wait for the day AFTER her birthday so she can stop thinking about the fight that led to her and Leo having separate parties for the first time in their lives. There's just one problem. The next day is her

birthday all over again. Read this hilarious story to see if Amanda figures out how to get unstuck from this most unusual time-warp.

Owls in the Family by, Farley Mowat

How would you like to have 2 owls as pets? In this book Billy has 2 pet owls, Wol & Weeps.

There are funny but true stories about:

- Wol bringing a dead skunk to the dinner table
- Wol terrorizing the minister when he comes to visit
- Weeps doesn't get into as much trouble because he is afraid of most everything, except Mutt, Billy's pet dog!

The back cover of this book says "Farley Mowat's funniest book..." You will enjoy reading it!!

Snow Treasure - Marie McSwigen

Snow Treasure takes place during WWII when the children of Riswyk, Norway were hiding gold in a cave so the Germans wouldn't take it. It was very sneaky and strange because the Germans didn't check the children's sleds. It's an exciting book, you always wonder what will happen next.

Emily's Fortune - Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

In this Wild West exciting tale, orphaned Emily Wiggins and her turtle travel by stagecoach to live with an aunt, but a devious uncle has other plans which Emily and fellow orphan Jackson must derail. This book is a rip-roaring adventure through the Wild West. Every other page has crazy fonts or fun pictures to put you right in Emily's story. Will Emily and Jackson escape the creepy Child Catchers and the vicious Uncle Victor? As Emily would say, "what in the pickin' poppies could possible happen next?"

Tale of the Mandarin Ducks - Katherine Patterson

A cruel man spotted a beautiful duck on a pond. He decided he wanted to keep the duck in a cage in his fancy home. But when the kitchen maids let the duck go free the cruel man is furious. The punishments are decided but then some mysterious guests arrive. Who are they and what will they do?

Lady Liberty - Doreen Rappaport

A birthday gift like none other, is the Lady who has welcomed so many immigrants to America. In this beautifully illustrated biography, you will learn the story of how the Statue of Liberty came to be created, the efforts it took to raise money to make her. You will also learn about the

preparations that occurred for her arrival in New York, and the celebration which culminated her unveiling in 1886.

Finding Buck McHenry - Alfred Slote

Mr. Henry is the school custodian but now the kids are starting to wonder if he's the famous baseball pitcher they've heard about. Jason, an 11 year old who loves playing baseball and collecting baseball cards, is **SURE** he is. Some comedy, some suspense and of course, some baseball.

Call it Courage - Armstrong Sperry

When Mafatu was only three years old he almost drowned. Now he's 15 years old and he's still afraid of the sea. Since he lives on an island this is a big problem. The other boys make fun of him and call him a coward because he won't go fishing but Mafatu is determined to show his courage as he sets sail alone.

So You Want to be President? - Judith St. George

How many presidents have the first name James?

How many were born in a log cabin?

Who was the biggest President? Best looking? Homeliest?

Find the answers to these and a lot more questions by reading this book. Be sure to enjoy the pictures as you read!

The Trouble with Tuck - Theodore Taylor

Helen's dog Tuck is absolutely wonderful. He's even a hero in the neighborhood. But Tuck starts to go blind and that's when the trouble begins. The family tries a lot of solutions but Helen finally finds the perfect answer for Tuck.

Pie - Sarah Weeks

When Alice's Aunt Polly, the Pie Queen of Ipswich, passes away, she takes with her the secret to her world-famous pie-crust recipe. Or does she? In her will, Polly leaves the recipe to her extraordinarily fat, remarkably disagreeable cat, Lardo . . . and then leaves Lardo in the care of Alice.

Suddenly, the whole town is wondering how you leave a recipe to a cat. Everyone wants to be the next big pie-contest winner, and it's making them pie-crazy. It's up to Alice and her friend Charlie to put the pieces together and discover the not-so-secret recipe for happiness:

Friendship, family, and the pleasure of doing something for the right reason.

This book will be sure to make your mouth water and I promise you will enjoy every last bite!

Lincoln and His Boys-Rosemary Wells

Historians claim him as one of America's most revered presidents. But to his rambunctious sons, Abraham Lincoln was above all a playful and loving father. Here is Lincoln as seen by two of his boys: Willie, thrilled to be on his first train trip when Lincoln was deciding to run for president; Willie and Tad barging into Cabinet meetings to lift Lincoln's spirits in the early days of the Civil War, Tad accompanying him to Richmond just after the South's defeat. With the war raging and the Union under siege, we see history unfolding through Willie's eyes and then through Tad's -- and we see Lincoln rising above his own inborn sadness and personal tragedy through his devotion to his sons.

Hannah - Gloria Whelan

This story takes place in the year 1887. It is about a nine year old girl named Hannah. Hannah is blind. Her parents think it is best for her to stay home all the time because that is where she is safe. But then a new teacher come to town. She helps Hannah go to school. This is a short, easy-to-read book and a very good story!

Each Little Bird that Sings - Deborah Wiles

Comfort is a ten year old girl who lives in a funeral home. She likes picnics, hanging out with her dog and being a funeral reporter. But suddenly everything in her life starts to go wrong. Her best friend is being mean and her rotten little cousin keeps following her everywhere. Then something happens that changes Comforts life!

Locomotion - Jacqueline Woodson

When Lonnie was seven years old, his parents died in a fire. Now he's eleven, and he still misses them terribly. And he misses his little sister, Lili, who was put into a different foster home because "not a lot of people want boys-not foster boys that ain't babies." But Lonnie hasn't given up. His foster mother, Miss Edna, is growing on him. She's already raised two sons and she seems to know what makes them tick. And his teacher, Ms. Marcus, is showing him ways to put his jumbled feelings on paper.

This story is told completely in poetry format called prose. You will be able to read this book really fast, BUT make sure you pay attention to the details as you read so that you can recall the story for the AR test.