

2021 Mock Newbery Discussion #3

December 9, 2020

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2020. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter certifying participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development.

Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/y4pshklk>

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting

Thursday, January 14, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link - <https://tinyurl.com/y4pshklk>

2021 Mock Newbery Reading List #3

1. *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman
2. *Birdie and Me* by J.M.M. Nuñez (**Added 10/8**)
3. *Black Brother, Black Brother* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
4. *Echo Mountain* by Lauren Wolk
5. *Efrén Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros (**Added 10/8**)
6. *Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley (**Added 10/8**)
7. *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks
8. *A Game of Fox and Squirrels* by Jenn Reese
9. *Here in the Real World* by Sara Pennypacker (**Added 10/8**)
10. *A Home for Goddesses and Dogs* by Leslie Connor (**Added 10/8**)
11. *King and the Dragonflies* Kacen Callender (**Added 12/3**)
12. *The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead (**Added back to the list on 12/3!**)
13. *The Only Black Girls in Town* by Brandy Colbert
14. *On the Horizon* by Lois Lowry (**Added 10/8**)
15. *Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park
16. *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
17. *When Stars are Scattered* by Victoria Jamieson (**Added 10/8**)
18. *A Wish in the Dark* by Christinia Soontornvat

Dropped on 12/3 (these books will not be eligible for voting in January)

1. *The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead
2. *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate
3. *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh
4. *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson
5. *Almost American Girl* by Robin Ha (**Added 10/8**)
6. *Chirp* by Kate Messner (**Added 10/8**)
7. *One Time* by Sharon Creech (**Added 10/8**)
8. *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* by Jessica Kim
9. *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller

Dropped on 10/8 (these books will not be eligible for voting in January)

10. *The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead
11. *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate
12. *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh
13. *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson

Criteria:

1. In identifying "Distinguished Writing" in a book for children,

a. Committee members need to consider the following:

- Interpretation of the theme or concept
- Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization
- Development of a plot
- Delineation of characters
- Delineation of setting
- Appropriateness of style

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.

2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.

3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008.