

2021 Mock Newbery Discussion #1
July 30, 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/y3o8zauj>

Please read at least 7 books for the first meeting. Books that have not been read by half the number of participants at the meeting will not be discussed and will be removed from subsequent lists.

Mock Newbery Discussion #1
Thursday, October 8, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link

2021 Mock Newbery Reading List #1

1. *The Blackbird Girls* by Anne Blankman
2. *Black Brother, Black Brother* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
3. *Echo Mountain* by Lauren Wolk
4. *From the Desk of Zoe Washington* by Janae Marks
5. *A Game of Fox and Squirrels* by Jenn Reese
6. *The List of Things That Will Not Change* by Rebecca Stead
7. *The One and Only Bob* by Katherine Applegate
8. *The Only Black Girls in Town* by Brandy Colbert
9. *Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park
10. *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
11. *Snapdragon* by Kat Leyh
12. *Stand Up, Yumi Chung!* by Jessica Kim
13. *Ways to Make Sunshine* by Renée Watson
14. *When You Trap a Tiger* by Tae Keller
15. *A Wish in the Dark* by Christinia Soontornvat

Please send suggested titles for Reading List #2 by October 12th to: danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov
Reading List #2 will be available October 13th at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/youth/newbery/index.php>

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 14, 2021 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

Continuing sessions:

Mock Newbery Discussion #2
Thursday, December 3, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting
Thursday, January 14, 6:00 – 7:30 PM
Cranston Public Library, Central
Virtual Zoom Discussion, register for login link

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

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.