Picture Book Challenge:

___ **THE PRINCESS AND THE FROGS** (ISBN: 978-0062365910 - Balzer & Bray/Harper Collins) by Veronica Bartles (Catonsville, MD) - Princess Cassandra wants a frog, but she keeps kissing them goodnight & ends up with a castle full of princes instead. Princes aren’t pets!

___ **LIFE IN THE AMAZON RAINFOREST** (ISBN: 9978-1524784874 - Penguin Young Readers) by Ginjer L. Clarke (Richmond, VA) - Learn all about the largest rainforest in the world as you explore this tropical habitat!

___ **THE PENGUIN LADY** (ISBN: 978-1607185277 - Arbordale Publishing) by Carol A. Cole (Vienna, Virginia) - The Penguin Lady will help children learn more about penguins and where they live, through geography. It will also reinforce counting.

___ **OLIVER’S OTTER PHASE** (ISBN: 978-1607184515 - Arbordale Publishing) by Lisa Connors (Lexington, VA) - Oliver decides to be a sea otter after a trip to an aquarium. Does a boy have what it takes to be an otter?


___ **MAMA AFRICA: HOW MIRIAM MAKEBA SPREAD HOPE WITH HER SONG** (ISBN: 978-0374303013 - Farrar Straus Giroux) by Kathryn Erskine (Charlottesville, VA) - The story of South African singer and activist who used her voice to fight oppression.

___ **MASTERPIECE ROBOT AND THE FEROCIOUS VALERIE KNICK-KNACK** (ISBN: 978-0884485186 - Tilbury Publishing House) illustrated by Rebecca Evans (Severna Park, Maryland) - Imagination transforms a backyard into a futuristic battleground and siblings into participants in a fight for a planet’s survival.

___ **I GOT A CHICKEN FOR MY BIRTHDAY** (ISBN: 978-1512431308 - Carolrhoda Books/Lerner) by Laura Gehl (Chevy Chase, MD) - Ana wanted tickets to the amusement park. Instead, she got a chicken. Could this possibly be the best gift ever?

___ **VIVIAN AND THE LEGEND OF THE HOODOOS** (ISBN: 978-1628559576 - Arbordale Publishing) by Terry Catasús Jennings (Reston, VA) - Through a native legend, Vivian discovers her tribe’s heritage while exploring erosion and the need to protect our natural resources.

___ **MOTHER GHOST: NURSERY RHYMES FOR LITTLE MONSTERS** (ISBN: 978-1585363926 - Sleeping Bear Press) by Rachel Kolar (Laurel, MD) - Thirteen classic nursery rhymes with Halloween twists, from "Mary, Mary, Tall and Scary" to "Wee Willie Werewolf."
NITA'S FIRST SIGNS (ISBN: 978-1945547676 - Familius Press) by Kathy MacMillan (Owings Mills, MD) - Nita knows just how to tell Mommy and Daddy what she needs - she just has to use her signs!

EAT YOUR U.S. HISTORY HOMEWORK: RECIPES FOR REVOLUTIONARY MINDS (ISBN: 978-1570919237 - Charlesbridge) by Ann McCallum Staats (Kensington, MD) - Cook up YUM as you discover, march through, and mull over fun facts about America's history.

ONE LEAF, TWO LEAVES, COUNT WITH ME (ISBN: 978-0399544712 - Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin) by John Micklos, Jr. (Newark, DE) - Young readers can count their way through the seasons in this charming counting book.

PUDDLE PUG (ISBN: 978-1454904366 - Sterling Children's Books) by Kim Norman (Smithfield, VA) - Percy the Pug loves puddles of every sort! But no puddle is perfect... until he finds one with three friendly piglets.

SWEET SUCCESS (ISBN: 978-0062403605 - HarperCollins) by Liz and Jimmy Reed (Columbia, MD) - Nothing makes Scoops happier than starting a sweet new project. She just isn't the best at completing them.

PORCUPINE'S PIE (ISBN: 978-1506431802 - Beaming Books) by Laura Renauld (Leesburg, VA) - When her friends can't bake their specialty for Fall Feast, Porcupine opens her pantry to them. Her kindness leads to a new tradition.


COLOR WONDER: WINTER IS HERE! (ISBN: 978-1481487214 - Simon and Schuster) by Chiêu Anh Urban (Laytonsville, MD) - Join in this inventively visual experience that allows readers to mix and match the colors of a winter wonderland.

JOAN PROCTER, DRAGON DOCTOR: THE WOMAN WHO LOVED REPTILES (ISBN: 978-0399557255 - [Random House / Knopf BFYR]) by Patricia Valdez (Kensington, MD) - "Valdez paints a portrait of a unique woman whose love for reptiles developed into a gratifying career."—Publishers Weekly, starred review

AN ARTIST'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS (ISBN: 978-1455622054 - Pelican Publishing Company) by Joan Waites (Silver Spring, MD) - A story of lost confidence and renewed determination, this book introduces art terms, materials, techniques, and art’s modern masters.

IF YOU GIVE THE PUFFIN A MUFFIN (ISBN: 978-0764355523 - Schiffer Publishing) by Timothy Young (Easton, MD) - The Angry Little Puffin is back but this time he's angry about something entirely different!
Middle Grade Challenge:


**THE FUTURE ARCHITECT'S TOOL KIT** (ISBN: 978-0764351938 - Schiffer Publishing) by Barbara Beck (Annapolis, MD) - This book is the perfect introduction to what an architect does at work and why buildings look and function as they do.


**TINY INFINITIES** (ISBN: 978-1452163352 - Chronicle Books) by J.H. Diehl (Chevy Chase, MD) - Funny and devastatingly honest, this sharply observed depiction of family, friendship, and determination to prove one's self, rings loud and true.

**THE INCREDIBLE MAGIC OF BEING** (ISBN: 978-1338148510 - Scholastic) by Kathryn Erskine (Charlottesville, VA) - Julian deals with his anxiety and fears by resolutely believing in the power of the universe to solve our problems.


**THE BATTLE OF JUNK MOUNTAIN** (ISBN: 978-0762462957 - Running Press) by Lauren Abbey Greenberg (Rockville, MD) - A 12-year-old girl navigates a friendship in peril, a grandmother who hoards, and the danger of trying to hold on too hard to one’s past.


**125 PET RESCUES: FROM POUND TO PALACE - HOMELESS PETS MADE HAPPY** (ISBN: 978-1426327360 - National Geographic Kids) by Kitson Jazynka (Washington, DC) - A heartwarming collection of stories about beloved rescued pets from dogs and cats and from tortoises to donkeys.


**LALLI'S WINDOW** (ISBN: 978-1786930279 - Austin Macauley) by Kamakshi P. Murti (Fairfax, VA) - When eleven-year-old Lalli loses a leg, her bedroom window defines her world.


**ALL THAT’S MISSING** (ISBN: 978-0763661021 - Candlewick) by Sarah Sullivan (Williamsburg, VA) - On a journey to find the grandmother he’s never known, Arlo finds a girl who picks locks, a dog who jumps out of car windows and a ghost.

**Young Adult Challenge:**

**TWELVE STEPS** (ISBN: 978-0999324103 - Kissing Frogs Press) by Veronica Bartles (Catonsville, MD) - Tired of living in the shadow of her perfect older sister, Andi decides she needs a 12-step program for 2nd-class siblings.

**HOW SHE DIED, HOW I LIVED** (ISBN: 978-0316523813 - Little, Brown and Company) by Mary Crockett (Salem, VA) - GIRL IN PIECES meets THE WAY I USED TO BE in this powerful book about a girl overcoming survivor's guilt after a classmate's brutal murder.

**BEWITCHING HANNAH** (ISBN: 978-1987976311 - Mirror World Publishing) by Leigh Goff (Annapolis, MD) - Being a witch is the last thing Hannah wants...

**EVERYWHERE YOU WANT TO BE** (ISBN: 978-0310763338 - Blink/HarperCollins) by Christina June (Fairfax County, VA) - A dancer spends her summer in NYC avoiding sabotage, making amends with a past love, and learning the power of friendship.

**DAGGER AND COIN** (ISBN: 978-0062324641 - HarperTeen) by Kathy MacMillan (Owings Mills, MD) - Soraya was meant to be queen. But in the wake of her city’s destruction, can she work with her former enemies and become a true leader?

**THE DISTURBED GIRL’S DICTIONARY** (ISBN: 978-1512439762 - Carolrhoda Lab/Lerner) by NoNieqa Ramos (Ashburn, VA) - Macy Cashmere is labeled emotionally disturbed. With humor and heart, Macy writes a personal dictionary to define life on her own terms.

**THE TOMBS** (ISBN: 978-0062656445 - HarperTeen) by Deborah Schaumberg (Potomac, MD) - In 1882 New York, a young aura seer must free her mother from The Tombs where seers are being experimented upon and used against their will.