

ELEMENTARY BOOK AWARDS

LIBRARY OR CLASSROOM LESSON

Designed for Library Specials

Ready to teach TODAY!

Award Winners
Updated for 2026

Grades K-5

WHAT IS AN ILLUSTRATOR?

Illustrators create the pictures for a book.

The illustrations can be drawings, paintings, or even digital designs.

Some books also have photographs. These pictures are taken by photographers.

Some books have photos

SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you find all the images or photos in the Award Winners slides?



rock squirrel
speech balloon
thumbs up
award

SCAVENGER HUNT

All these objects and answers are in the Award Winners slides. Can you find them?

True or false:
Authors and illustrators cannot win more than one award in the same year.

Which award is for the best audiobooks of the year?

In what month are book award winners announced?

The Caldecott Award is given to the book's illustrator. What does an illustrator do?

What is bigger than the state of Rhode Island and one of the smallest?

Why are lightning bolts jagged?

RECOMMENDED READS

"Award Winners"

NEWBERRY AWARD
All the Birds in the Sky (Watson)
The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Laili (Shaver)
The Teacher of Deadwood Forest (Hartman)
A Sea of Lemon Trees (Agulán)
Maverick (Barnes)
Last Stop on Market Street (de la Peña)
The First State of Being (Kelly)
The Luckiest (Alexander)

SCOTT KING (AFRICAN AMERICAN AUTHORS / ILLUSTRATORS)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)

HELPING (HISPANIC AMERICAN AUTHORS / ILLUSTRATORS)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)

RECOMMENDED READS

"Award Winners"

GRAPHIC NOVELS
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)
The Boy Who Swam (Scales)



THIS LIBRARY LESSON INCLUDES:



2-part presentation (whole-group lesson + scrolling slideshow)



2 scavenger hunt activities + answer key



Printable Recommended Reads list



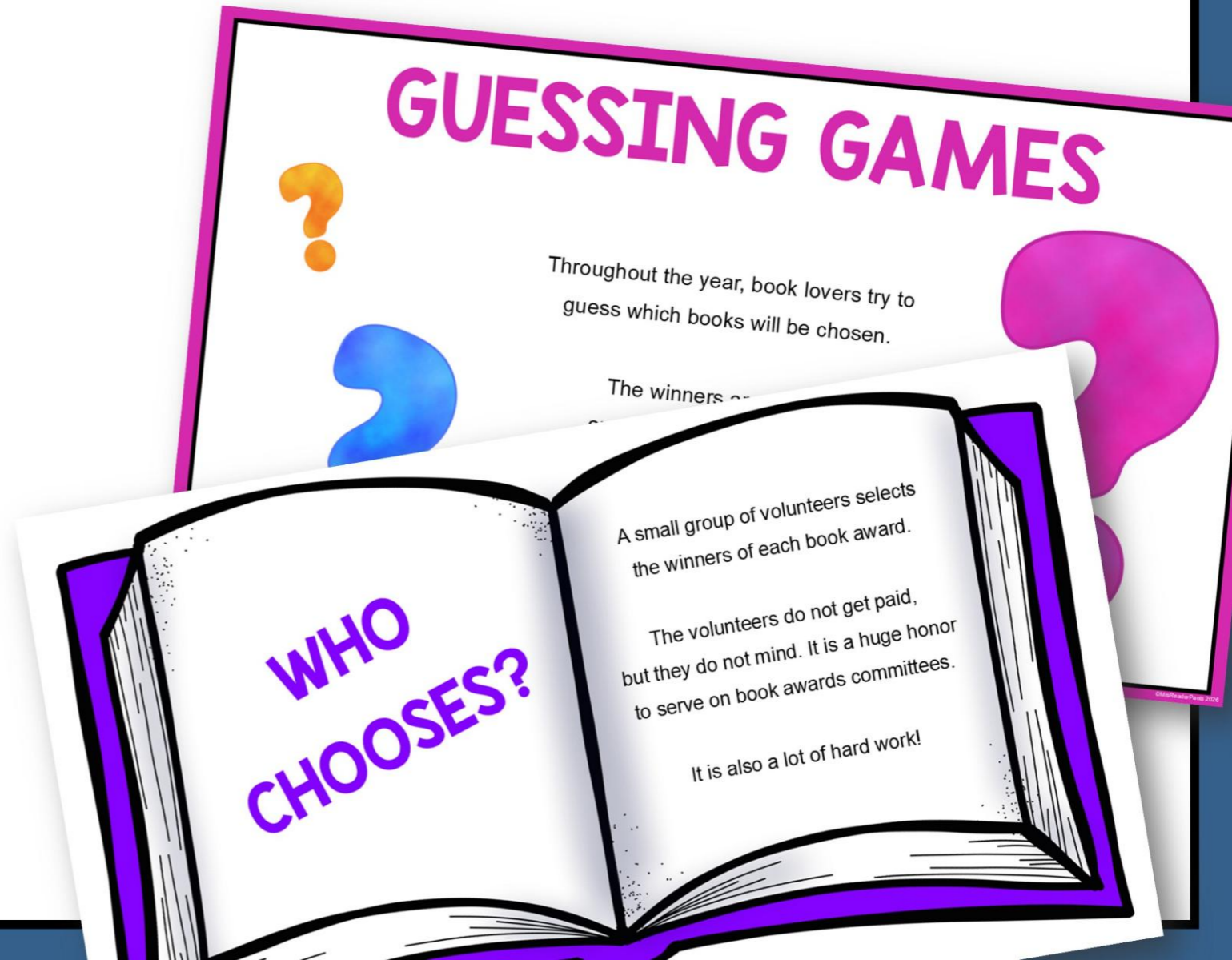
Standards-aligned lesson plan (AASL, CCSS, and TEKS) + "I Can" Statements

PART I - WHOLE-GROUP LESSON

This Library Lesson is comprehensive!

It includes 80 slides, so you can decide which awards you want to focus on with each grade level.

Part I introduces book awards, including who chooses them, eligibility criteria, and the definitions of author and illustrator.



PART II - SCROLLING SLIDES

The slides in Part II need to be set on a timer (instructions with visuals included).

The scrolling slides include specific award-winning titles for different awards. All titles are updated with 2026 award winners.

Students watch the slideshow to find the images and information included in the differentiated Scavenger Hunt activities.



PRINTABLE ACTIVITIES

Keep early-finishers engaged during checkout! All images and answers to the scavenger hunt questions appear in Part II of the presentation. Two differentiated versions of each!

SCAVENGER HUNT

Can you find all the images or photos in the Award Winners slides?

EASIER

open book

rock square

thumbs up

rainbow cupcake

SCAVENGER HUNT

All these objects and answers are in the Award Winners slides. Can you find them?

True or false: Authors and illustrators cannot win more than one award in the same year.	Which award is for the best audiobooks of the year?	In what month are book award winners announced?
The Caldecott award is given to the best children's book illustrator. Who won in 1936?	lighthouses	passing ships?
In what US state did John Henry live in the 1800s?	Which award is given to nonfiction books?	How many world records did Jesse Owens break in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany?

HARDER

ANSWER KEY

SCAVENGER HUNT

All these objects and answers are in the Award Winners slides. Can you find them?

True or false: Authors and illustrators cannot win more than one award in the same year. False—they can win more than one.	Which award is for the best audiobooks of the year? Odyssey Award	In what month are book award winners announced? January
The Caldecott award is given to the best children's book illustrator. Who won in 1936? John Steptoe	lighthouses	passing ships? anyone
In what US state did John Henry live in the 1800s? Virginia	Which award is given to nonfiction books? John Steptoe Award	How many world records did Jesse Owens break in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany? 11

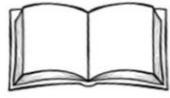
ANSWER KEY

(can be drawing, painting, digital art, photography, and more)

lighthouses about rocks, shallow water, and safe entries to harbors

RECOMMENDED READS

"Award Winners"



CALDECOTT (ILLUSTRATOR)

Animals of the Bible (Lathrop)
Fireworks (Burgess)
Every Monday Mabel (Awan)
Sundust (Peña)
Our Lake (Kang)
Stalactite & Stalagmite (Breckmeyer)
Chooch Helped (Rogers)
The Undefeated (Alexander)
Last Stop on Market Street (de la Peña)
Hello Lighthouse (Blackall)

NEWBERY (AUTHOR)

All the Blues in the Sky (Watson)
The Nine Moons of Han Yu and Luli (Glaser)
The Teacher of Nomad Land (Nayeri)
The Undead Fox of Deadwood Forest (Hartman)
A Sea of Lemon Trees (Águila)
Mexikid (Martin)
On Market Street (de la Peña)
...ing (Kelly)

CORETTA SCOTT KING (AFR)

My Daddy Is a Cowboy (Seale)
The Library in the Woods (Ramsen)
Will's Race for Home (Rhodes)
The Incredibly Human Henson Blayze (Barnes)
City Summer, Country Summer (Cartaya)
André: André Leon Talley - A Hero's Guide to Summer Vacation (Cartaya)
The Undefeated (Alexander)
Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky (Mbalia)

PURA BELPRE (HISP)

Popo the Xolo (Lopez)
The Pecan Sheller (Ruiz-Flores)
A Hero's Guide to Summer Vacation (Cartaya)

SIBERT (IN)

Alberto Salinas (Barnes)
At Last She Stood (Kelly)
A World Without S...
The Histor...
Go Tell It...
Grand Ca...

RECOMMENDED READS

"Award Winners"

PICTURE BOOKS

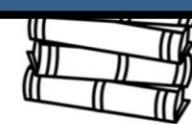
Animals of the Bible (Lathrop)
Chooch Helped (Rogers)
Fireworks (Burgess)
Every Monday Mabel (Awan)
Sundust (Peña)
Our Lake (Kang)
Stalactite & Stalagmite (Breckmeyer)
Many Things At Once (Hiranandani)
The Library in the Woods (Ramsen)



GRAPHIC NOVELS

Halfway to Somewhere (Pimental)
Mexikid (Martin)

**EDITABLE
TEXT**



NONFICTION & BIOGRAPHY

André: André Leon Talley - A Fabulously Fashionable Fairy Tale (Weatherford)
Wanda Hears the Stars: A Blind Astronomer Listens to the Universe (Hansen and Merced)
At Last She Stood (Kelly)
A World Without S...

This two editable lists of all 42 titles mentioned in the lesson presentation. One list is by category (picture books, fiction, etc), and the other lists titles by award.

Every title on this list is well-reviewed for Grades K-5 and includes positive professional reviews in Titlewave.

I do mention one YA award-winning title, but it is only to show that many of the awards also have YA titles. Librarians and teachers can easily remove this slide if desired.

Use these lists for your own reference, add them to book displays, or send it to teachers or home to parents!

EDITABLE LESSON PLAN

Includes pre-filled lesson plan with AASL, CCSS, and TEKS standards for Grades K-5. Also includes 18 “I Can” Statements for this lesson.

The Notes page is a place where you can make notes to yourself for next year, or whenever you teach this lesson again.

100% editable to make it as easy and useful as possible!

PREP CHECKLIST

Prep is very important for this lesson! Before your lesson, you will need to:

- Check your lesson plan to make sure you have enough time to play the PowerPoint for this lesson until the end of class.
- If you have a lesson area or a specific area to focus on, make sure you have enough time to cover it.
- Look through the lesson plan to make sure you have all the materials you need.
- Learn the script for the PowerPoint for this lesson.
- Select your reading materials, but you can change them later.
- Organize your materials so you can move any of them to a different grade level if needed.
- Set your timer for the lesson (Instructional Time).
- If you are using a display, make sure it is set up and ready to go.
- Do you want to put them in a folder?

NOTES ON THIS LESSON:

Use this space for any notes you might want to remember about this lesson next year. Is there anything you want to add or change?

Type here

LESSON PLAN

DATE

TYPE LESSON DATE HERE

GRADES

TYPE GRADE LEVEL(S) HERE

AASL STANDARDS FRAMEWORK

AASL V. C. I

Expressive

SUPPLIES

• Colored paper

• Book

• Crayon

• Crayon

LESSON PLAN

THE STUDENTS WILL...

- Learn ASL for "award"
- Discuss several book awards for youth, how often they are selected, when they are announced, and who decides which books get awards
- Differentiate between author and illustrator
- Differentiate between award books and honor books

READ-ALOU(S)

TYPE READ-ALOU(S) HERE

“I CAN” STATEMENTS

Sample Statements to Accompany Elementary Book Awards

Key Concepts from the lesson plan are in bolded text.

- Big Picture / Purpose of Awards**
 - I can explain why some books receive special awards.
 - I can describe what a book award is and why it matters.
 - I can recognize books that have won awards.

ALA & ASLC Book Awards

- I can name the organization that gives national book awards.
- I can identify books that won awards from the American Library Association (ALA).
- I can explain when ALA book awards are announced.
- I can explain which books are eligible to win ASLC book awards.

Multiple Awards

- I can name different ALA book awards.
- I can match book awards to the kinds of books they honor.
- I can explain that one book can win more than one award.
- I can recognize books that have earned multiple awards.

Award Seals

- I can explain what a gold, silver, black, blue, and red award seal means.
- I can use award seals to help me choose a book.

People Behind the Awards

- I can explain the role of the award seal.
- I can explain the role of the award seal.

100%
EDITABLE

§110.13. ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING, GRADES 2-3
(12) Reading/Comprehension of Text/Independent Reading. Students read a variety of texts and produce evidence of their reading.

§110.7. ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING, GRADE 5
(1) Developing and sustaining foundational language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The student develops oral language through listening, speaking, and writing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is this library lesson ready to use TODAY?

Mostly, yes! There are a few slides that are customizable to your library.

If you need a lesson in a pinch, you can just skip over or delete those slides in the lesson.

Is this lesson editable?

Yes – all text in all parts of the lesson presentation and printables are editable in PPT and Google Slides.

PDF versions are editable in Canva and Adobe Acrobat Pro.

Is this really for Grades K-5?

It is! There are 80 slides in this presentation. The award winners vary by grade level. Including a lot of slides enables you to choose different book awards for different grade levels.

Make a copy of the presentation to include only the slides you want to show each grade level.


MORE PICTURE BOOK LESSONS

Love this Elementary Library Lesson? I have more!

All follow a similar format to this lesson.

INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

CALDECOTT LIBRARY LESSON




WHAT IS THE CALDECOTT MEDAL?

- Award given to books for children
- "Children" can be up to age 14
- Caldecott Medal is for the book's artwork
- Almost always given to picture books

GRADES 2-5

Presentation + Activity




INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

FIREWORKS PICTURE BOOK LESSON

RECOMMENDED READS

TRIVIA QUESTION

The **setting** of a story is the time and place where it happens. What is the setting of *Fireworks*?




Winter in the mountains Spring in a park Summer in a city

(answer on next slide)

GRADES 2-4

designed for use with...
Fireworks by Matthew Burgess




INCLUDES GOOGLE™ SLIDES

DON'T TRUST FISH PICTURE BOOK LESSON

RECOMMENDED READS

TRIVIA QUESTION

Which of these is a fish? (2 answers)



stingray jellyfish orca seahorse

(answer on next slide)

GRADES K-3

designed for use with *Don't Trust Fish* picture book by Neil Sharpson

