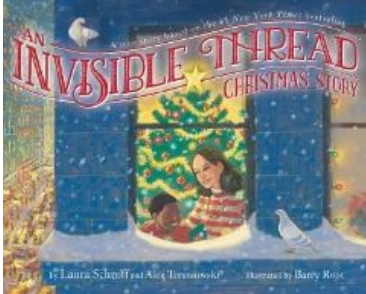


# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce

## Picture Books (Many based on real people/events.)

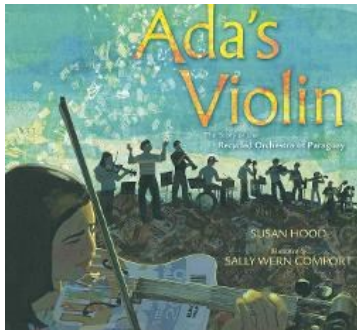
\*Note: Interest Level from publishers/reviewers, at teacher's discretion



### An Invisible Thread Christmas Story

by Laura Schroff, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4)

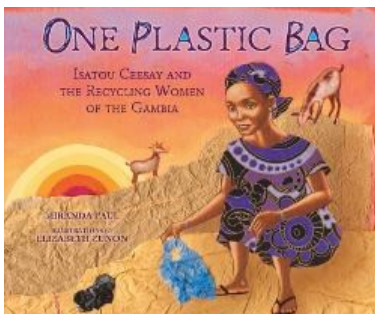
"From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *An Invisible Thread* comes the true, heartfelt, and extraordinary story of how one woman's decision to help a boy on the street who was asking for change, forged a friendship that changed both their lives forever." - Pub.



### Ada's Violin: the Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay

by Susan Hood, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

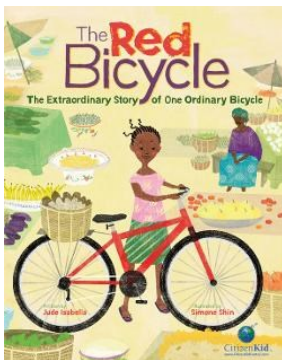
This is the extraordinary true tale of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay, an orchestra made up of children playing instruments built from recycled trash. Ada grew up in Cateura, a small town in Paraguay built on a landfill. She dreamed of playing the violin, but with little money for anything but the bare essentials, it was never an option...until a music teacher named Favio arrived." - Pub.



### One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia

by Miranda Paul, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)

"What happens when a plastic bag breaks or is no longer needed? In Njau, Gambia, people simply dropped the bags and went on their way. One plastic bag became two. Then ten. Then a hundred. The bags accumulated in ugly heaps alongside roads. Water pooled in them, bringing mosquitoes and disease. They killed livestock that tried to eat them. Something had to change." - Pub.



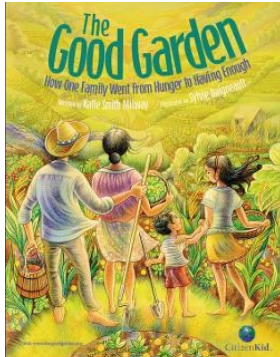
### The Red Bicycle: The Extraordinary Story of One Ordinary Bicycle

by Jude Isabella, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.4)

"Leo treasures his bicycle so much he gives it a name --- Big Red. But eventually Leo outgrows Big Red, and decides to donate it to an organization that ships bicycles to Africa. Big Red is sent to Burkina Faso, in West Africa, where it finds a home with Alisetta, who uses it to gain quicker access to her family's sorghum field and to the market. Then, over time, it finds its way to a young woman named Haridata, who has a new purpose for the bicycle..." - Pub.

# Poverty

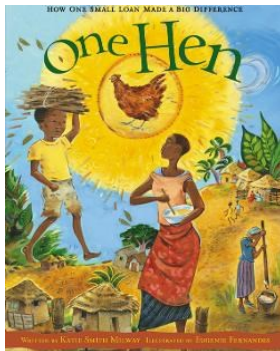
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
Picture Books



## **The Good Garden: How One Family Went from Hunger to Having Enough**

by Katie Smith Milway, c2010 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.8)

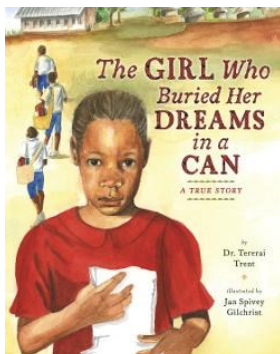
"From the best-selling author of *One Hen* comes the inspiring story of one struggling farming family in Honduras and their journey to growing enough food to meet their needs. Based on the real story of farm transformation underway in Honduras and many other countries, this book offers children ways they can be part of the movement to grow "good gardens" and foster food security." - Pub.



## **One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference**

by Katie Smith Milway, c2008 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.9)

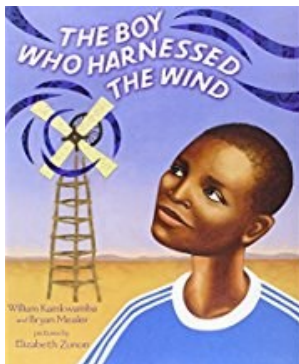
"Inspired by true events, *One Hen* tells the story of Kojo, a boy from Ghana who turns a small loan into a thriving farm and a livelihood for many. After his father died, Kojo had to quit school to help his mother. When his mother receives a loan from some village families, she gives a little money to her son. With this tiny loan, Kojo buys a hen. A year later, Kojo has built up a flock of 25 hens. With his earnings Kojo is able to return to school. Soon Kojo's farm grows..." - Pub.



## **The Girl Who Buried Her Dreams in a Can: A True Story**

by Dr. Tererai Trent, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.3)

"This is the story of a little girl with big dreams. All the girl ever wanted was an education. But in Rhodesia, education for girls was nearly impossible. So she taught herself to read and write with her brother's schoolbooks and to count while watching cattle graze. When the girl became a young wife and mother, she wrote her goals on a scrap of paper and buried them in a can—an ancient ritual that reminded her that she couldn't give up on her dreams." - Pub.



## **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**

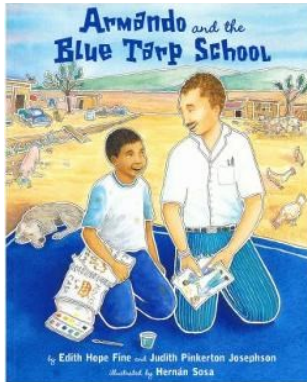
by William Kamkwamba, c2012 (IL: K-3, RL: 5.3)

"When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought, everyone's crops began to fail. Without enough money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library . . . and figured out how to bring electricity to his village. Persevering against the odds, William built a functioning windmill out of junkyard scraps, and thus became the local hero who harnessed the wind." - Pub.



# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce  
**Picture Books**

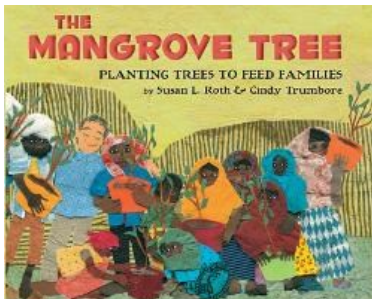


## **Armando and the Blue Tarp School**

by Edith Hope Fine, c2007 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"Armando and his father are trash-pickers in Tijuana, Mexico, but when Senor David brings his "school"--a blue tarp set down near the garbage dump--to their neighborhood, Armando's father decides that he must attend classes and learn. Based on a true story."

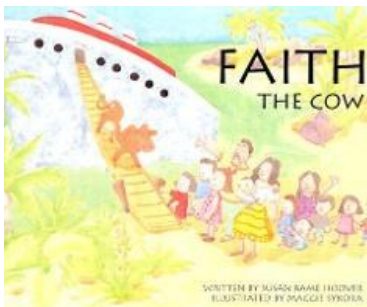
- Follett



## **The Mangrove Tree: Planting Trees to Feed Families**

by Susan L. Roth, c2011 (IL: K-3, RL: 6.1)

"For a long time, the people of Hargigo, a village in the tiny African country of Eritrea, were living without enough food for themselves and their animals. Then along came a scientist, Dr Gordon Sato, who helped to change their lives for the better. And it all started by planting some special mangrove trees. This fascinating story of environmental innovation is a celebration of creativity, hard work and the ability of one man to make a positive difference in the lives of many." - Pub.



## **Faith the Cow**

by Susan Bame Hoover, c1995 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.9)

"Dan West, a pacifist, refuses to go to war, but instead sends cows around the world in order to feed starving children." - Follett



## **Give a Goat**

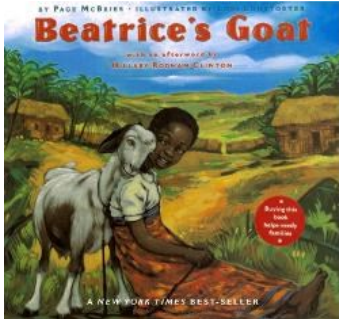
by Jan West Schrock, c2008 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.7)

"After hearing a story about a girl in Uganda whose life is changed for the better by the gift of a goat, a class of fifth-graders pulls together to raise funds to make a similar donation to someone in need." - Follett

# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce

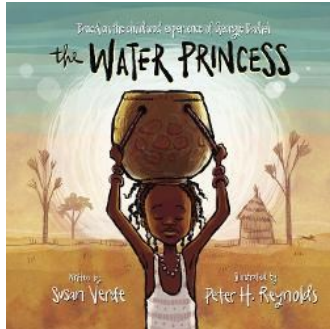
## Picture Books



### **Beatrice's Goat**

by Page Brier, c2001 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)

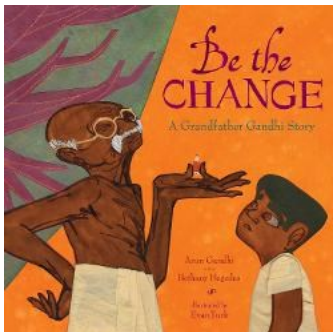
"A young girl's dream of attending school in her small Ugandan village is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat. Based on a true story about the work of Project Heifer." - Follett



### **The Water Princess: Based on the Childhood Experience of Georgie Badiel**

by Susan Verde, c2006 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.1)

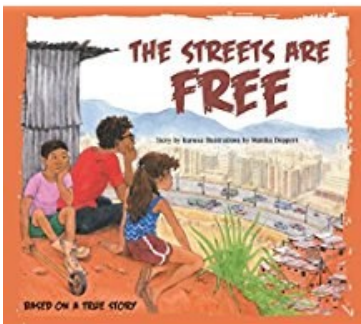
"Inspired by the childhood of African-born model Georgie Badiel. As a child in Burkina Faso, Georgie and the other girls in her village had to walk for miles each day to collect water. This vibrant, engaging picture book sheds light on this struggle that continues all over the world today, instilling hope for a future when all children will have access to clean drinking water." - Pub.



### **Be the Change: A Grandfather Gandhi Story**

by Arun Gandhi, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.8)

"At Grandfather Gandhi's service village, each day is filled, from sunrise to sunset, with work that is done for the good of all. The villagers vow to live simply and non-violently. Arun Gandhi tries very hard to follow these vows, but he struggles with one of the most important rules: not to waste. How can throwing away a worn-down pencil hurt anyone? How can wastefulness lead to violence?" - Pub.



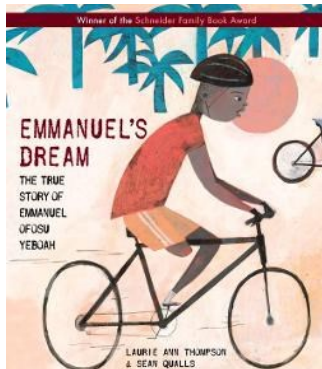
### **The Streets are Free**

by Kurusa, c1995 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

"This inspiring book is based on the true story of the children of the barrio of San José de la Urbina in Caracas, Venezuela. There are no parks where they live, and the children must play in the streets. They ask the mayor for an empty lot to build a playground, but all they get are campaign promises. They know that they are the only ones who will make something happen, so they get their friends and family involved until the whole barrio unites to create a space of their own." - Pub.

# Poverty

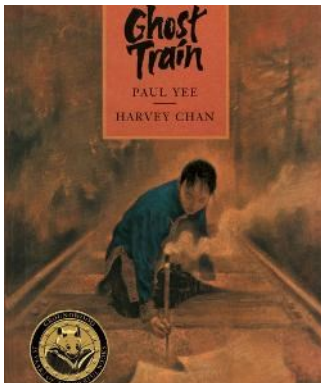
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
Picture Books



## Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah

by Laurie Ann Thompson, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.2)

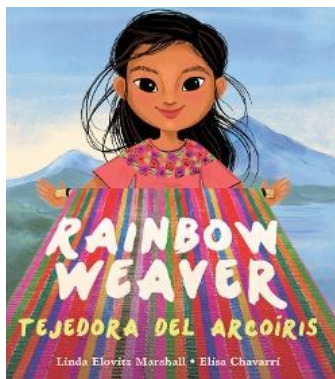
"Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people--but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams. As a boy, Emmanuel hopped to school more than two miles each way, learned to play soccer, left home at age thirteen to provide for his family, and, eventually, became a cyclist. He rode an astonishing four hundred miles across Ghana in 2001, spreading his powerful message." - Pub.



## Ghost Train

by Paul Yee, c2013 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.6)

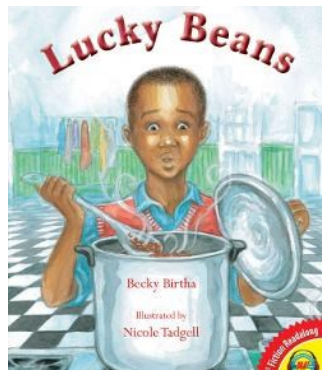
"This is the story of a young Chinese girl arriving in North America only to discover that her father has died building the railway, and how she finds a way through her grief. This powerful, unforgettable and multi-award-winning tale is based on the lives of the Chinese who settled on the west coast of North America in the early 1900s." - Pub.



## Rainbow Weaver

by Linda Elovitz Marshall, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4)

"A young Mayan girl isn't allowed to use her mother's thread to weave, so with a little ingenuity she discovers how to repurpose plastic bags to create colorful weavings. Based on an actual recycling movement in Guatemala." - Follett



## Lucky Beans

by Becky Birtha, c2010 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)

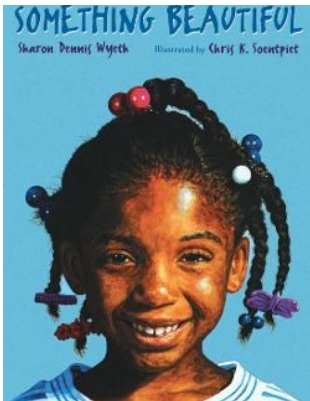
"During the Great Depression, Marshall, an African American boy, uses lessons learned in arithmetic class and guidance from his mother to figure out how many beans are in a jar in order to win her a new sewing machine in a contest." - Follett



# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce

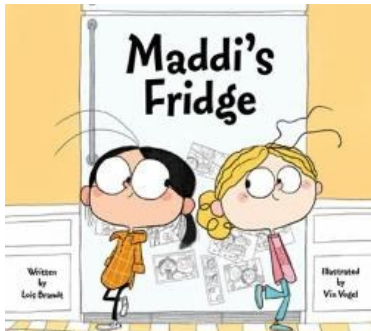
## Picture Books



### Something Beautiful

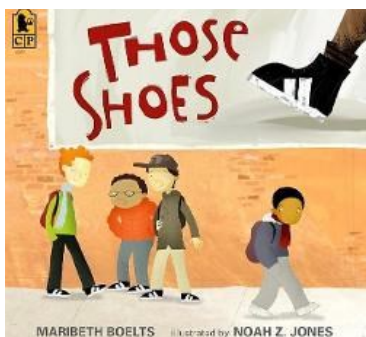
by Sharon Dennis Wyeth, c1998 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

"When she goes looking for "something beautiful" in her city neighborhood, a young girl finds beauty in many different forms." - Follett



### Maddi's Fridge by Lois Brandt, c2014 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.7)

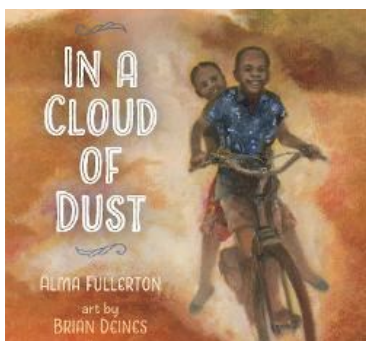
"Best friends Sofia and Maddi live in the same neighborhood, go to the same school, and play in the same park, but while Sofia's fridge at home is full of nutritious food, the fridge at Maddi's house is empty. Sofia learns that Maddi's family doesn't have enough money to fill their fridge and promises Maddi she'll keep this discovery a secret. But because Sofia wants to help her friend, she's faced with a difficult decision: to keep her promise or tell her parents about Maddi's empty fridge." - Pub.



### Those Shoes

by Maribeth Boelts, c2007 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

"Jeremy, who longs to have the black high tops that everyone at school seems to have but his grandmother cannot afford, is excited when he sees them for sale in a thrift shop and decides to buy them even though they are the wrong size." - Pub.



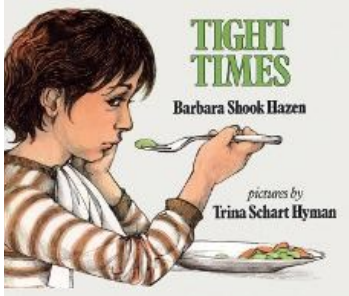
### In a Cloud of Dust

by Alma Fullerton, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)

"In a Tanzanian village school, Anna struggles to keep up. Her walk home takes so long that when she arrives, it is too dark to do her homework. Working through the lunch hour instead, she doesn't see the truck from the bicycle library pull into the schoolyard. By the time she gets out there, the bikes are all gone. Anna hides her disappointment, happy to help her friends learn to balance and steer. She doesn't know a compassionate friend will offer her a clever solution..." - Pub.

# Poverty

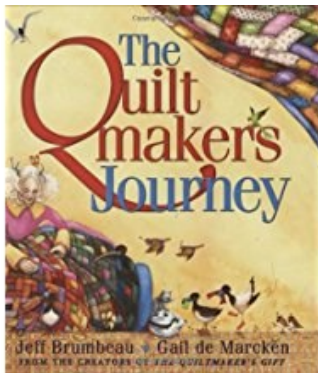
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
Picture Books



## Tight Times

by Barbara Shook Hazen, c1979 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.2)

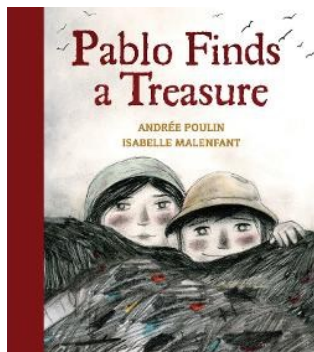
"A small boy, not allowed to have a dog because times are tight, finds a starving kitten in a trash can on the same day his father loses his job." - Follett



## The Quilt Maker's Journey

by Jeff Brumbeau, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.4)

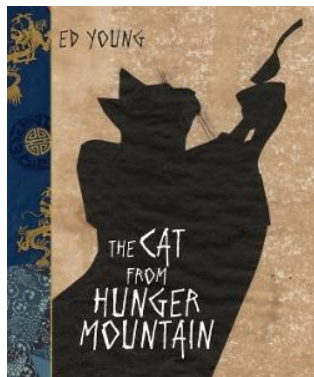
"A young girl makes the loveliest quilts in the land—and decides to give them away to the less fortunate. Illustrated with rich, sumptuously detailed paintings, this prequel to the bestselling *The Quiltmaker's Gift* will be embraced by both new and old fans of *The Quiltmaker*." - Pub.



## Pablo Finds a Treasure

by Andrée Poulin, c2014

"Pablo and his sister spend every day at "Treasure Mountain," the local dump. There, they rummage through garbage looking for items their mother can sell to put food on the table. When Pablo finds real treasure, it takes all his ingenuity to keep it safe from the local bully." - Pub.



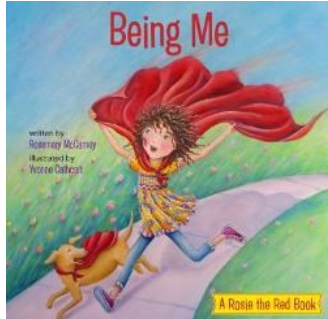
## The Cat from Hunger Mountain

by Ed Young, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.4)

"Lord Cat lives a lavish lifestyle until drought strikes Hunger Mountain, but when he goes to seek sustenance, he finds much more than food." - Follett

# Poverty

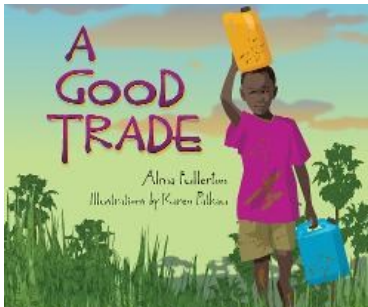
Compiled by Joan Pearce  
Picture Books



## Being Me

by Rosemary McCarney, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.1)

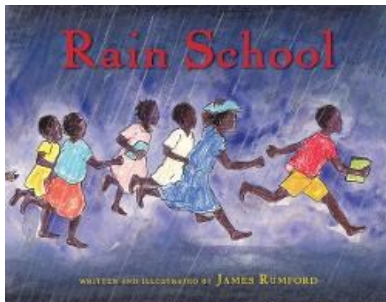
"Rosie doesn't know what she wants to be when she grows up. But she knows she wants to do something right now. With the help of her dad and the kids at school, she discovers she can be proactive with lots of things. When Rosie sees her friend Sam while working at a food bank she helps him feel less embarrassed about it." - Follett



## A Good Trade

by Alma Fullerton, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

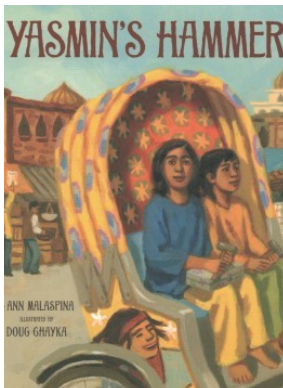
"In a small Ugandan village, Kato wakes early to start the long, barefoot trek beyond his village. His destination is the village well, where he will pump a day's supply of water into two jerry cans. Like every day, Kato lets the water splash over his hot tired feet before carrying his heavy load back home, where his chores await him. But this is no ordinary day. The aid worker's truck has come to the village square, and in the back is a gift so special..." - Pub.



## Rain School

by James Rumford, c2010 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

"This is the simple story of a school in rural Chad, Africa. It shows how important learning is to children." - Follett



## Yasmin's Hammer by Ann Malaspina, c2010 (IL: K-3)

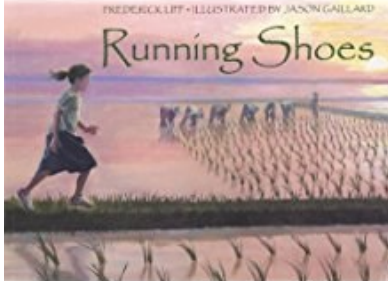
"A young girl in Bangladesh works in a brickyard to help her family, but dreams to go to school so she can learn to read." - Follett



# Poverty

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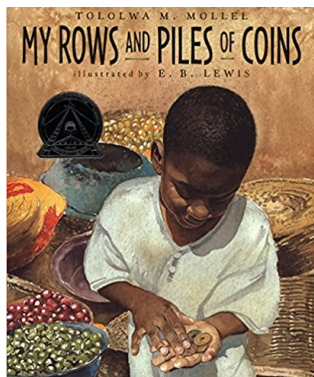
## Picture Books



### Running Shoes

by Frederick Lipp, c2008

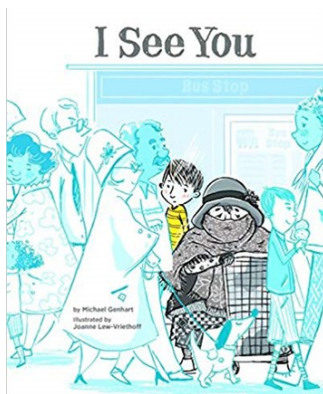
"Sophy, a young girl living in Cambodia, faced a number of obstacles that prevented her from going to school. Only boys attended the closest school, which was eight kilometers away, and the recent death of her father dealt a large personal and economic blow. However, one day a government census worker noticed Sophy staring at his running shoes. The running shoes that arrived at Sophy's home a month later helped her to overcome one obstacle - the long trip by foot on a narrow, rocky road - to get to school." - Pub.



### My Rows and Piles of Coins

by Torolwa Mollel, c1999 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)

"I emptied my secret money box, arranged the coins in piles and the piles in rows . . ." The market is full of wonderful things, but Saruni is saving his precious coins for a red and blue bicycle. How happy he will be when he can help his mother carry heavy loads to market on his very own bicycle - and how disappointed he is to discover that he hasn't saved nearly enough! Determination and generosity are at the heart of this satisfying tale." - Pub.



### I See You

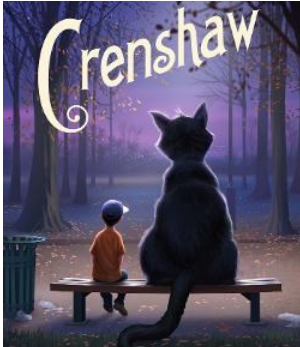
by Michael Genhart, c2017 (IL: K-3)

"I See You is a wordless picture book that depicts a homeless woman who is not seen by everyone around her - except for a little boy. Over the course of a year, the boy is witness to all that she endures. Ultimately, in a gesture of compassion, the boy acknowledges her in an exchange in which he sees her and she experiences being seen. This book opens the door for kids and parents to begin a conversation about homelessness." - Amazon.ca

# Poverty

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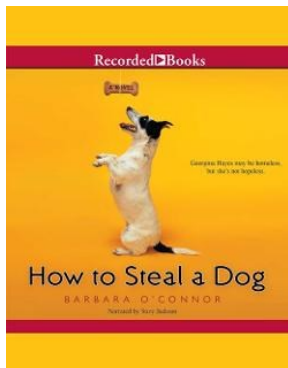
## Novels



### Crenshaw

by Katherine Applegate, c2018 (IL: 3-6, 4-6; RL: 3.7)

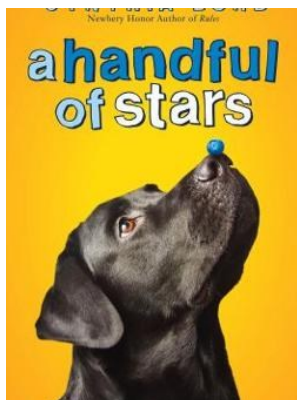
"Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent. And not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan. Again. Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything?" - Pub.



### How to Steal a Dog

by Barbara O'Connor, c2007 (IL: 3-6, 4-7; RL: 4.0)

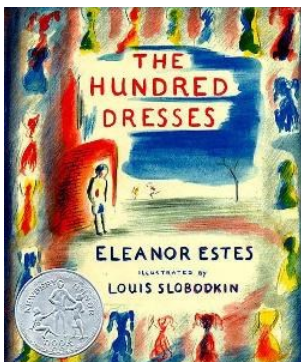
"After being abandoned by her father, Georgina Hayes is forced to spend much of her time watching her younger brother, while their mother works two jobs to make ends meet. When she sees a missing-dog poster offering a \$500 reward, Georgina cooks up a scheme to steal a look-a-like dog and claim the reward. But things don't quite go as planned." - Pub.



### A Handful of Stars

by Cynthia Lord, c2015 (IL: 3-6, 4-6; RL: 4.4)

"When her blind dog slips his collar, twelve-year old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family are in Maine for the blueberry-picking season, and, based partly on their mutual love of dogs, the two forge a friendship while painting bee boxes for Lily's grandfather—but as the Blueberry Queen pageant approaches Lily and Selma are confronted with some of the hard truths of prejudice and migrant life." - Pub.



### The Hundred Dresses

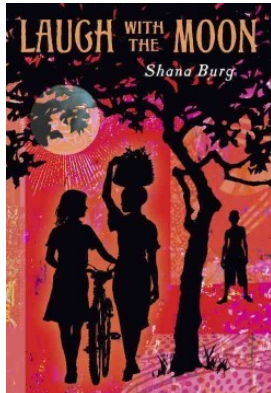
by Eleanor Estes, c1944 (IL: 3-6, RL: 5.4)

"Wanda Petronski is a Polish girl in a Connecticut school who is ridiculed by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day. Wanda claims she has one hundred dresses at home, but everyone knows she doesn't and bullies her mercilessly. The class feels terrible when Wanda is pulled out of the school, but by that time it's too late for apologies. Maddie, one of Wanda's classmates, ultimately decides that she is "never going to stand by and say nothing again." - Pub.

# Poverty

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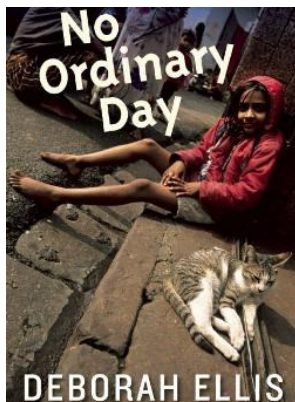
## Novels



### Laugh With the Moon

by Shana Burg, c2013 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.4)

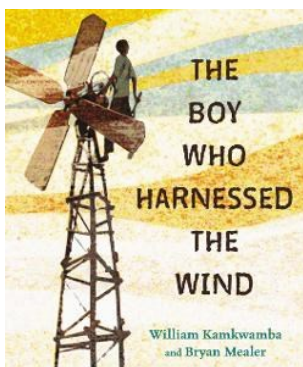
"Massachusetts thirteen-year-old Clare, grieving after her mother's recent death, reluctantly travels with her father to spend nine weeks in a remote village in Malawi, where new friends and experiences help open her mind and heart." - Follett



### No Ordinary Day

by Deborah Ellis, c2011 (IL: 5-8, RL: 4.4)

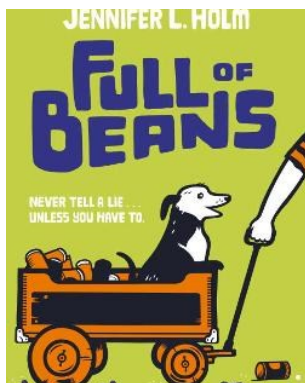
"Even though Valli spends her days picking coal and fighting with her cousins, life in the coal town of Jharia, India, is the only life she knows. The only sight that fills her with terror is the monsters who live on the other side of the train tracks -- the lepers. When Valli discovers that her "aunt" is a stranger who was paid money to take Valli off her own family's hands, she leaves Jharia and begins a series of adventures that takes her to Kolkata, the city of the gods." - Pub.



### The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind

by William Kamkwamba, c2015 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.2)

"African teenager William Kamkwamba explored science books in his village library when he was forced to drop out of school, and was able to change his family's life by creating a windmill to pump water for his family's farm." - Follett



### Full of Beans

By Jennifer L. Holm, c2018 (IL: 3-6, 4-6; RL: 3.8)

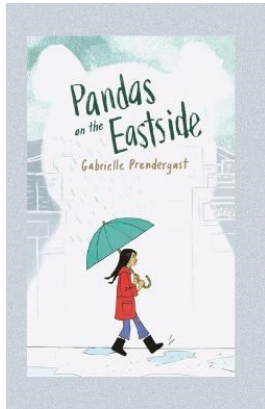
"Ten-year-old Beans Curry, a member of the Keepsies, the best marble playing gang in Depression-era Key West, Florida, engages in various schemes to earn money while "New Dealers" from Washington, D.C., arrive to turn run down Key West into a tourist resort." - Follett



# Poverty

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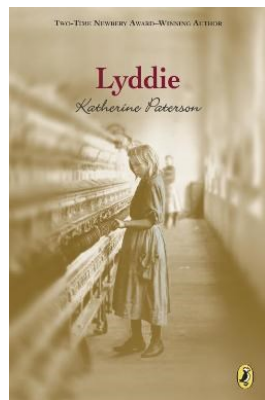
## Novels



### Pandas on the Eastside

Gabrielle Prendergast, c2016 (IL: 3-6, 4-6; RL: 5.5)

"Living on the Eastside, one of Vancouver's most notorious slums, 10-year-old Journey Wind Song has become accustomed to the uglier sides of life. There's homeless Kentucky Jack, crazy Contrary Gary, and pretty prostitute Kellie Rae. When she hears that two giant pandas are stuck in a cold, empty warehouse on the dilapidated docks on Vancouver, she rallies her community to protect them and bring some much-needed beauty to the neighborhood." - Pub.



### Lyddie by Katherine Paterson, c1991 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.6)

"When Lyddie and her younger brother are hired out as servants to help pay off their family farm's debts, Lyddie is determined to find a way to reunite her family once again. Hearing about all the money a girl can make working in the textile mills in Lowell, Massachusetts, she makes her way there, only to find that her dreams of returning home may never come true." - Pub.



### Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster

by Jonathan Auxier, c2018 (IL: 5-8, RL: 4.0)

"Orphaned and alone, Nan Sparrow had no other choice but to work for a ruthless chimney sweep named Wilkie Crudd. She spends her days sweeping out chimneys...When Nan gets stuck in a chimney fire, she fears the end has come. Instead, she wakes to find herself unharmed in an abandoned attic. And she is not alone. Huddled in the corner is a mysterious creature—a golem—made from soot and ash...Together, these two outcasts carve out a new life-saving each other in the process." - Pub.



### No Fixed Address

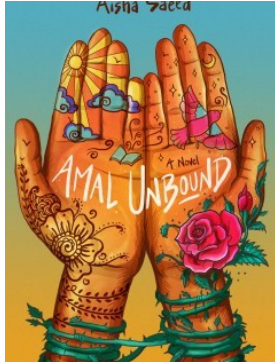
by Susan Nielsen-Fernlund, c2020 (IL: 5-8, 6-8)

"Twelve-year-old Felix's appearance on a television game show reveals that he and his mother have been homeless for a while, but also restores some of his faith in other people." - Follett

# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce

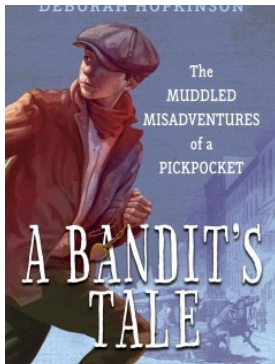
## Novels



### Amal Unbound

by Aisha Saeed, c2018 (IL: 5-8, RL: 4.2)

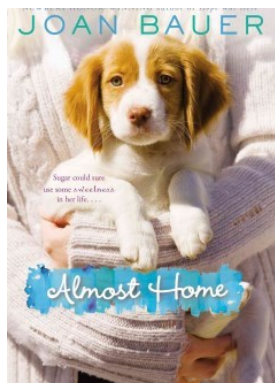
"In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family." - Follett



### A Bandit's Tale

by Deborah Hopkinson, c2016 (IL: 3-6, 4-7; RL: 5.9)

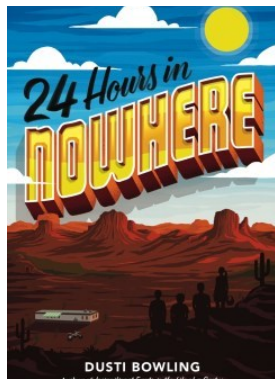
"Eleven-year-old Rocco is an Italian immigrant who finds himself alone in New York City...he meets the boys of the infamous Bandits' Roost, who teach him the art of pickpocketing. Rocco embraces his new life of crime—he's good at it...But when he meets Meddlin' Mary... things begin to change. Rocco begins to re-examine his life—and take his future into his own hands." - Pub.



### Almost Home

by Joan Bauer, c2013 (IL: 5-8, RL: 3.7)

"When twelve-year-old Sugar's grandfather dies and her gambling father takes off yet again, Sugar and her mother lose their home in Missouri...With the help of a rescue dog, Shush; a foster family; a supportive teacher; a love of poetry; and her own grace and good humor, Sugar comes to understand that while she can't control the hand life deals her, she can control how she responds." - Pub.



### 24 Hours in Nowhere

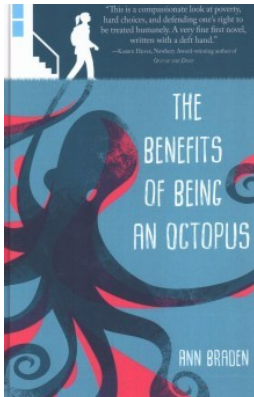
by Dusti Bowling, c2018 (IL: 5-8, 4-7; RL: 5.2)

"Thirteen-year-old Gus, having been saved from the bullying of Bo Taylor by Rossi Scott who agreed to trade her dirt bike in exchange for Gus being left alone, agrees to go into Dead Frenchman Mine with Rossi and two other kids to find a piece of gold to buy the bike back; and, while on their adventure, the four bond over how hard life is in their small town of Nowhere, Arizona." - Follett

# Poverty

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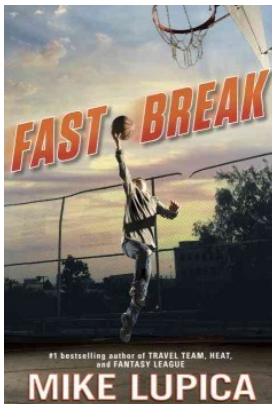
## Novels



### The Benefits of Being an Octopus

by Ann Braden, c2019 (IL: 3-6, 4-7, 5-8; RL: 4.9)

"Seventh-grader Zoey Albro focuses on caring for three younger siblings and avoiding rich classmates at school until her fascination with octopuses gets her on the debate team and she begins to speak out." - Pub.



### Fast Break

by Mike Lupica, c2015 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.1)

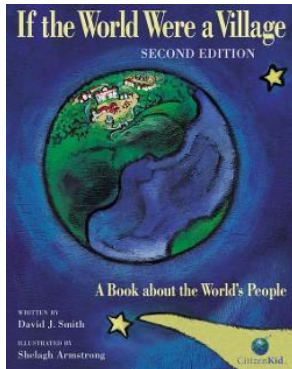
"Since his mother's death, Jayson, twelve, has focused on basketball and surviving but he is found out and placed with an affluent foster family of a different race, and must learn to accept many changes, including facing his former teammates in a championship game." - Follett



# Poverty

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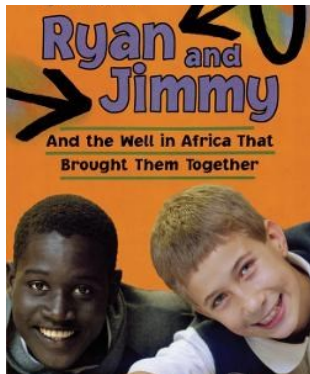
## Non-fiction



### If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People

by David J. Smith, c2011 (IL: 3-6, RL: 4.6)

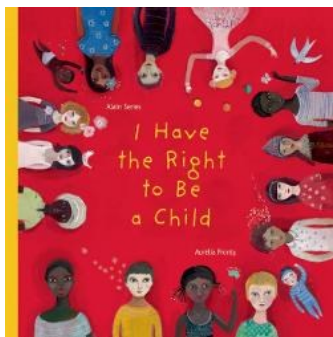
"Breaks down the population of the world into a collection of one hundred representative people and describes what one would find in this global village, covering languages, ages, religions, food, air and water, schooling, and possessions, accompanied by vivid color illustrations." - Follett



### Ryan and Jimmy and the Well in Africa That Brought Them Together

by Herb Shoveller, c2006 (IL: 3-6, RL: 5.6)

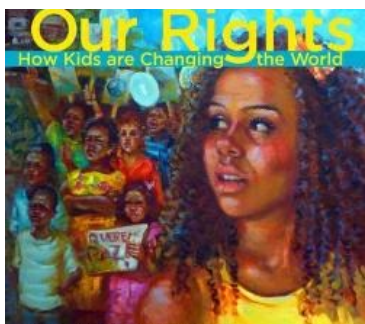
"Chronicles the friendship of Ryan Hreljac and Akana Jimmy, who became pen pals after Ryan, a Canadian boy, raised money to build a well in Jimmy's village in Uganda, and explains how they became brothers." - Follett



### I Have a Right to Be a Child

by Alain Serres, c2012 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

"With a very simple text accompanied by rich, vibrant illustrations, a young narrator describes what it means to be a child with rights -- from the right to food, water and shelter, to the right to go to school, to the right to be free from violence, to the right to breathe clean air, and much more. The book emphasizes that these rights belong to every child on the planet, whether they are 'black or white, small or big, rich or poor, born here or somewhere else.'" - Pub.



### Our Rights: How Kids are Changing the World

by Janet Wilson, c2013 (IL: 3.6, RL: 6.8)

"This around-the-world tour introduces readers to children who have taken on the role of social activist, fighting for human rights and social justice in countries as diverse as Yemen and Congo, Canada and the United States. Ten children receive main profiles, and over a dozen others are featured in smaller sidebars." - Follett

# Poverty

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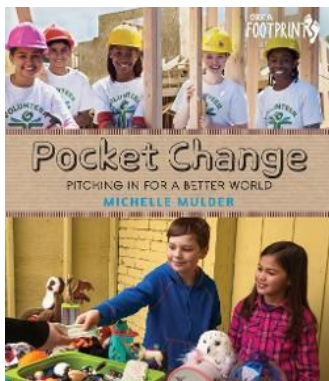
## Non-fiction



### The Way to School

by Rosemary McCarney, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.5)

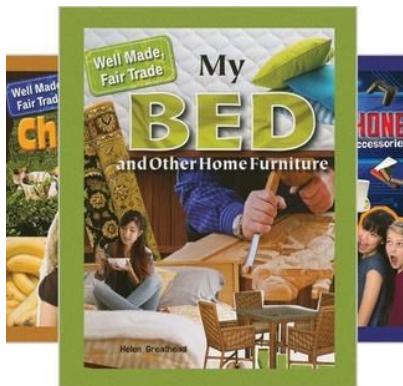
"Minimal text and stunning photographs from around the world describe the remarkable, often dangerous journeys children make every day on their way to and from school. No simple school bus picks them up each day, but rather children travel through disaster zones, cross rapids, climb mountains, and maneuver on zip lines daily to get to the classroom. Some of them even carry their desks!" - Pub.



### Pocket Change: Pitching in for a Better World

by Michelle Mulder, c2016 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.7)

"Until a few hundred years ago, people were embarrassed to buy bread in a store. Families took pride in making almost everything they owned. These days, many people take pride in buying as much as possible: new clothes, a speedier bicycle, the latest phone. If we've got money, someone can sell us a product that will supposedly make our lives better. But each year, humanity uses resources equivalent to nearly one and a half Earths, and we're still not meeting everyone's needs." - Pub.



### Series: Well Made, Fair Trade

by Helene Greathead, c2017 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.3-8.5)

#### Titles:

*My T-Shirt and Other clothing*  
*My Smartphone and Other Digital Accessories*  
*My Chocolate Bar and Other Foods*  
*My Bed and Other Home Furniture*



### Factory Girl

by Barbara Greenwood, c2007 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.1)

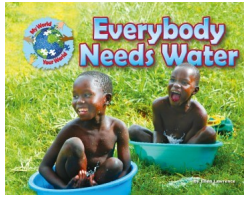
"Emily Watson stands for eleven hours a day clipping threads from blouses. Every time the boss passes, he shouts at her to snip faster. But if Emily snips too fast, she could ruin the garment and be docked pay. If she works too slowly, she will be fired. She desperately needs this job. Without the four dollars a week it brings, her family will starve. When a reporter arrives, Emily finds herself caught between the desperate immigrant girls with whom she works and the hope of change." - Pub.



# Poverty

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## Non-fiction



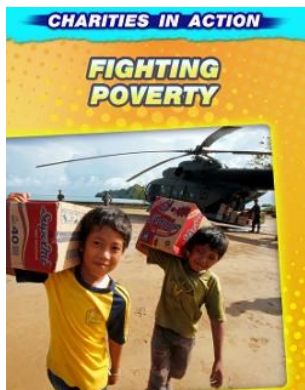
**Everybody Needs Water**, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4)

**Time to Play**, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.0)

by Ellen Lawrence

Series: *My World Your World*

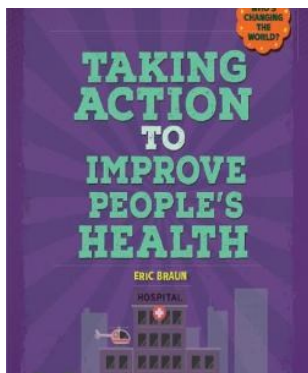
"...series introduces young readers to the lives of children from many different countries and cultures. The series highlights the diversity of children's lives, but also celebrates and examines the ways in which children worldwide are very much alike." - Pub.



**Fighting Poverty** by Nicola Barber, c2012 (IL: 5-8, RL: 8.7)

Series: *Charities in Action*

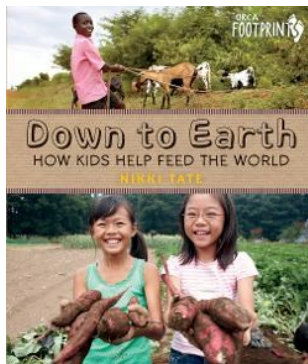
"Poverty is an outrage against humanity. It robs peoples dignity, freedom, and hope, of power over their own lives." (Statement by the Christian Aid charity.) All around the world - in both wealthy and less economically developed countries - there are charities trying to improve the lives of those in poverty. This book looks at the efforts of charity workers and volunteers, with exciting stories and case studies, and gives advice on how..." - Pub.



**Taking Action to Improve People's Health**

by Eric Braun, c2017 (IL: 3-6, RL: 7.0)

"Have you ever wished you could stop the spread of diseases? Or help fight hunger? It can be as easy as taking a picture of your school lunch and posting it online. That's what a nine-year-old in Scotland did to raise awareness about healthy eating and hunger. One young boy talked to his senator about health care. Another girl used animation skills to start a conversation about autism. These kids are all activists for health. They noticed a problem, and they did what they could to raise awareness and fix that problem. Read their stories about how they worked to improve health, and learn how you too can be an activist." - Pub.



**Down to Earth: How Kids Help Feed the World**

by Nikki Tate, c2013 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.9)

Series: *Orca Footprints*

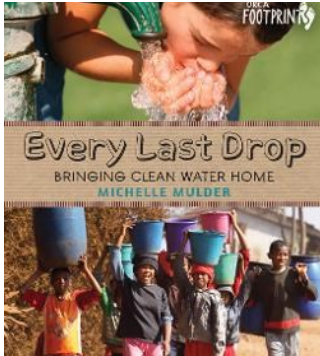
"Kids all over the world help collect seeds, weed gardens, milk goats and herd ducks. From a balcony garden with pots of lettuce to a farm with hundreds of cows, kids can pitch in to bring the best and freshest products to their families' tables—and to market. Loaded with accessible information about the many facets of farming, *Down to Earth* takes a close look at everything from what an egg carton tells you to why genetic diversity matters—even to kids." - Pub.



# Poverty

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## Non-fiction

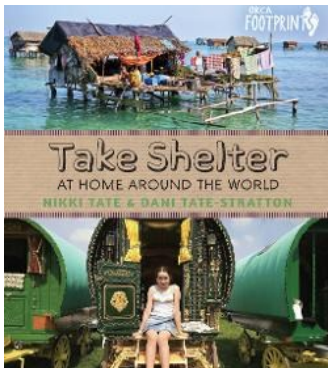


### **Every Last Drop: Bringing Clean Water Home**

by Michelle Mulder, c2014 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.8)

Series: Orca Footprints

"In the developed world, if you want a drink of water you just turn on a tap or open a bottle. But for millions of families worldwide, finding clean water is a daily challenge, and kids are often the ones responsible for carrying water to their homes. *Every Last Drop* looks at why the world's water resources are at risk and how communities around the world are finding innovative ways to quench their thirst and water their crops." - Pub.

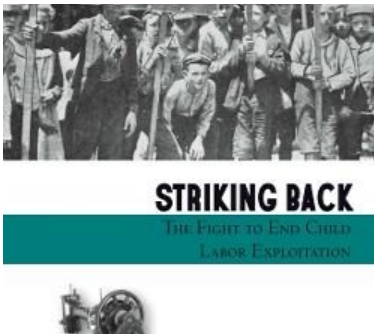


### **Take Shelter: At Home Around the World**

by Nikki Tate, c2014 (IL: 3-6, RL: 6.7)

Series: Orca Footprints

"A roof, a door, some windows, a floor. All houses have them, but not all houses are alike. Some have wings (airplane homes), some have wheels (Romany vardoes), some float; some are made of straw, some of snow and ice. Some are enormous, some are tiny; some are permanent and some are temporary. But all are home." - Pub.

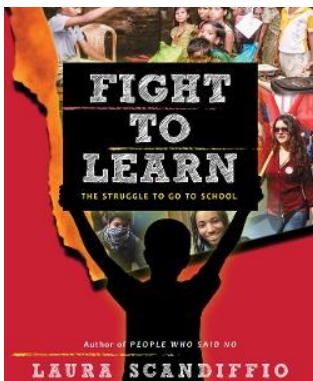


### **Striking Back: The Fight to End Child Labor Exploitation**

by J. Dennis Robinson, c2010

Series: Taking a Stand

"In 1790 the first water-powered mill in America was run by children, some as young as 7 years old. They were paid pennies for a work day that might last more than 10 hours. As America grew, the children's plight grew worse. Millions of young workers had no time to play or go outdoors. They had no childhood. In time children and adults fought back, and the children went on strike to protest harsh conditions." - Pub.



### **Fight to Learn: The Struggle to Go to School**

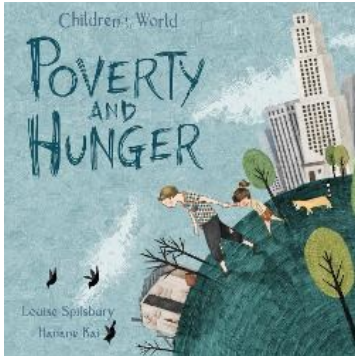
by Laura Scandiffio, c2016 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.7)

"In many countries around the world, universal access to education is a seemingly unattainable dream; however, determined individuals with vision and drive have made this dream come true for many. This book highlights people such as Okello, a former child soldier in Uganda, who founded a school for children like himself whose education was derailed by war ..." - Pub.

# Poverty

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## Non-fiction

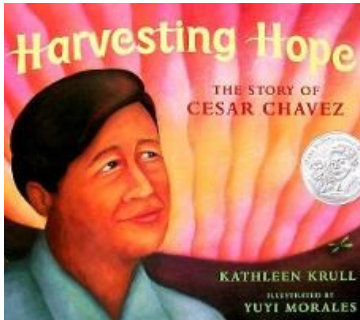


### Poverty and Hunger

by Louise Spilsbury, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.4)

Series: *Children of the World*

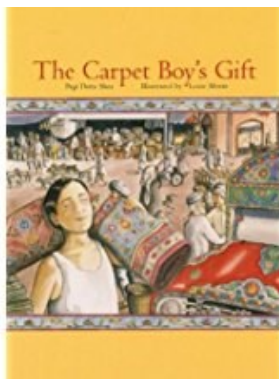
"With our 24/7 news cycle and constant access to the latest headlines, the world can be a scary place. Now imagine you're a child trying to make sense of it all! What does this news mean? How does it affect me? That's where *Children in Our World* can help. This beautifully illustrated non-fiction series takes a timely look at today's biggest issues and sensitively explains the crises that dominate the news in an appropriate way for young children." - Pub.



### Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez

by Kathleen Krull, c2013 (IL: K-3, RL: 6.3)

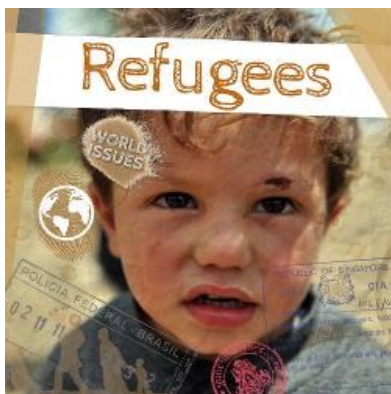
"Cesar Chavez is known as one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. But Cesar wasn't always a leader. As a boy, he was shy and teased at school. His family slaved in the fields for barely enough money to survive. Cesar knew things had to change, and he thought that—maybe—he could help change them. So he took charge. He spoke up. And an entire country listened." - Pub.



### The Carpet Boy's Gift

By Pegi Deitz Shea, c2003

"A fictional account of the true story of Iqbal Masih, a child labourer who escaped from a factory and worked to liberate thousands of other children." - Follett



### Refugees

by Harriet Brundle, c2017 (IL: 3-6, RL: 7.0)

Series: *World Issues*

"What is a refugee? Why do people become refugees, and how do they migrate? What is it like to migrate on foot, by boat, or by vehicle? What are refugee camps? How does it feel to be a refugee? Includes a case study of Syrian refugees." - Pub.

# Poverty

Compiled by Joan Pearce

**Non-fiction**



## **On Our Street: A First Talk About Poverty**

by Jillian Roberts, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.9)

Series: *World Around Us*

"Using illustrations, full-color photographs and straightforward text, this nonfiction picture book introduces the topics of homelessness and poverty to young readers." - *Pub.*