An Award Winning Collection: Newberry and Caldecott’s for Children

Annotated Bibliography (I formatted my annotated bibliography as follows because as a teacher, I will need to know the premise of stories. Also, I do not collect these books because of their print or special features, but rather on the basis of their content. Therefore, this collection will be more applicable to my future classroom and students.)

N= Newberry Award. C=Caldecott Award. (H)=honor

Esperanza goes through difficult life altering events that make her a stronger, more humble individual. She suffers love and loss, riches and poverty, but struggles to find herself.

A brother and sister live alone on an island, one that once held their Indian people until the Russians came and attacked.

This novel is the journey of three children who find a wrinkle in time and travel through it for life threatening events on the other side.

After a murder, the residents of an apartment complex are chosen as heirs and must figure out how they are all connected, and what really happened to Mr. Westing.

After losing their mother of child-birth complications, The ‘Papa’ puts an ad in the paper looking for another wife. Sarah from Maine decides to come and live their prairie lifestyle.

Two Jewish girls are thrown through the turmoil of war in 1943. Living in Denmark, they suffer the effects of prejudice based on their religion, and almost lose their lives.

This is a book of predetermined fates. In this alternative society, people are given a purpose and are expected to fulfill it without question.

When a piglet confides in a spider, they become friends, and have adventures, which in the end lead them in different directions.

A young girl boards a ship and becomes part of the crew. Through twists and turns, the ending is unlike any you would expect.
Linnea Czerney  
2009

A girl, Sal, searches for her lost mother.

Told from the point of view of a young boy, an African American family moves from Flint, Michigan, to live with their grandmother in Birmingham, Alabama. This is set in the 1960’s.

A young boy, Bud, living in Flint, Michigan, is on his own and destined to find his father. With only a few things to his name, Bud takes on the difficulties of life and takes an adventure.

When born, Ella is cursed to always obey no matter what the case. In this book, she journeys to attempt to find a way to have her curse lifted.

Written as a journal by two children, Sophie and Cody are sailing to England to visit their grandfather with their uncles.

Annie’s grandmother says that when she is finished weaving the rug, then she will die. Annie spends her time trying to unweave the rug and delay her grandmother’s death.

As a seagull flies on its journey, America’s history is told.

This fifth grade girl believes that her quiet, shy brother is truly a musical genius. She works throughout the story to make adults believe and to make dreams come true.

During the Great Depression, a fourteen year old tells her story of the struggles and heartbreak she endures.

While living alone in Maine, Matt meets an Indian chief and gains understanding of nature through his son Attean. The two become friends and are confronted with a dilemma when Matt’s family still does not return and it is time for the Beaver tribe to move on.

Claudia runs away from home to reside in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Upon discovering a mysterious statue, she refuses to return home until all her questions are answered.

Adopting twelve penguins seems like a difficult feat for Mr. Popper and his family. It isn’t until he takes these penguins to perform, that the real story begins.

This is the story of a young boy who either imagines or dreams of being king of a distant land where Wild Things live.

A brother and sister begin an interactive game they find that turns their afternoon into an African adventure.

Children are given tickets to ride a train to the north pole to visit Santa and witness the giving of the first gift of Christmas.

A poetic mouse, Frederick, is preparing for a cold winter.

Through five great adventures, Frog and Toad show their great friendship in a way that children can relate to.

Written from a child’s point of view, hand writing, and illustrative style, David goes through multiple events in which his mother yelled “No, David!”

Two girls bring their Knuffle Bunnies for show and tell, then take the other girl’s home by accident. In the middle of the night the mistake is realized, the girls trade back, and become best friends.

This stray dog charms a family while they picnic, when they return for him the next week, the find that the dog catcher is also trying to get him.

A graphic novel which incorporates large amounts of illustrations into a chapter book. Hugo is a young boy fascinated by magic. He then meets Isabella and take on a quest to fix a mysterious automaton.
A migratory panda, Stillwater, shares various stories with different children as he goes from neighborhood to neighborhood.

A nursery classic, Langstaff adds color and life to an old story.

When life seems rough, a janitor and his dog are approached by a bird offering them paradise from their lives on the West Side.

From the author of Frog and Toad, these fables are illustrated with great detail telling silly stories.

A classic, this story is of a snowy night when a parent and their child go searching for a great horned owl.

An African folktale, tells how we get our stories; this includes how tales come to be.

A girl of Native American decent, is known in her tribe for having a way with horses. The horses know it too, when they invite her to live with them.

This common turn of phrase is the philosophy of Lachie MacLachlan, where he always welcome that wayward traveler.

Told through the voice of a young girl, she illustrates her Christmas celebration with a piñata, a Christmas posada party, and her town.

Three children follow their grandfather into his attic where he then teaches them that you are only as old as you feel. He reveals his past of singing and dancing, while he illustrates that he can still do it.
C
This book offers a great introduction to musical instruments, all the while helping a child to learn to count. The story progressively builds an orchestra.

C
A Native American tale told by Little Wolf about the buffaloes.

A story of perspective, seven blind mice venture out to solve the mystery of “something” by the pond, but each come back with a different answer.

C
Depicting the struggle of the pilgrims during settlement, this story progresses to end with a Thanksgiving feast.

DePaola’s take on an Italian tale of a grandma who’s a witch and makes magic food, where Big Anthony is determined to prove the magic of her pasta pot.

In Harlem, a child dreams of soaring over the city on a blanket watching the rooftops fly by.

A young girl growing up in Paris has appendicitis, goes to the hospital in the middle of the night, and is visited by all of the girls she lives with.

This southern folktale tells the story of a young girl, Blanche, who gain riches from an old woman.

New York: Scholastic. C
A just-so story explaining the reason for a mosquito’s buzz.

A donkey named Sylvester Duncan discovers a magic pebble and wishes to be a rock. However, he then cannot hold the pebble to wish himself back into a donkey.