



# A children's book for every state

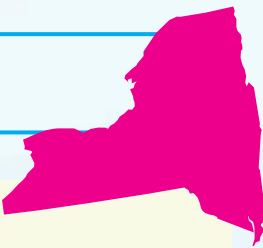
To celebrate Read Across America Day on March 2, which kicks off National Reading Month, *The Week Junior* chose one middle-grade book set in each state across the US. Happy reading!



Turn the page to find out more about every book pictured on the map!



# Read Across America



## ALABAMA



**WONDERLAND**  
By Barbara O'Connor  
(Farrar, Straus & Giroux Books for Young Readers)  
When a girl's mom gets a job in a new Alabama town, she hopes they stay long enough for her to find a best friend.

## ALASKA



**DOGSONG**  
By Gary Paulsen  
(Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)  
A teen is pushed to the limits as he goes on an epic dog-sledding journey across Alaska.

## ARIZONA



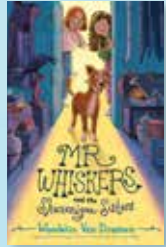
**DUST**  
By Dusti Bowling  
(Little, Brown and Company)  
Dust storms are wreaking havoc in an Arizona town known for its clean air. Could a new student have something to do with weather changes?

## ARKANSAS



**UNPLUGGED**  
By Gordon Korman  
(Balzer + Bray)  
A California boy's family sends him to a wellness retreat in Arkansas to disconnect from technology, and he ends up enjoying his device-free life.

## CALIFORNIA



**MR. WHISKERS AND THE SHENANIGAN SISTERS**  
By Wendelin Van Draanen  
(Alfred A. Knopf)  
When a college professor is kidnapped, his daughters and a dog detective traverse San Francisco to crack the case.

## What is Read Across America?

Read Across America is a celebration of reading sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA), a group of 3 million educators, that begins on March 2. The day—which began in 1998 and falls during National Reading Month—honors teachers, librarians, parents, caregivers, and students who encourage reading. More than 45 million people participated in Read Across America Day last year, making it the biggest reading celebration in the US. In 2018, Read Across America became a year-round program. An important goal of Read Across America is to introduce children to diverse books with characters they can relate to and worlds that are different from their own.

This year, the NEA will celebrate the award-winning novel in verse *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander with a special concert. The author will read *The Crossover* (*The Week Junior's* pick for North Carolina, p16) aloud, accompanied by a jazz performance. Videos of the concert will be posted every day from March 3–7. See it and learn more about Read Across America at [tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Read](http://tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Read).

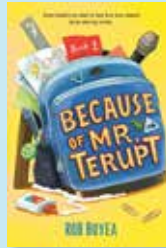


## COLORADO



**ALONE**  
By Megan E. Freeman  
(Aladdin)  
A 12-year-old wakes up to find that everyone in her Colorado town has been suddenly evacuated—except her.

## CONNECTICUT



**BECAUSE OF MR. TERUPT**  
By Rob Buyea  
(Yearling)  
When an inspiring teacher is hospitalized for a snowball accident, seven of his students use what he taught them to work together.

## DELAWARE



**WE DREAM OF SPACE**  
By Erin Entrada Kelly  
(Greenwillow Books)  
Three siblings from a small town are enthralled with space and react to the explosion of the space shuttle Challenger in 1986.

## FLORIDA



**BEAST**  
By Watt Key  
(Farrar, Straus & Giroux Books for Young Readers)  
After his parents disappear following a car accident, a teen sets off to find answers (and maybe even Bigfoot).

## GEORGIA

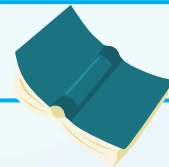


**FUTURELAND: BATTLE FOR THE PARK**  
By H.D. Hunter  
(Yearling)  
When a floating theme park stops in Atlanta in the year 2048, it becomes a target for a sinister force.

## HAWAII



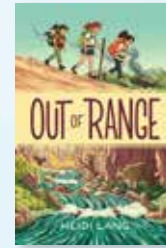
**KAYA OF THE OCEAN**  
By Gloria L. Huang  
(Holiday House)  
Something mystical happens in Maui when a teenage girl who has always been afraid of the water decides to go surfing with her friends.



# Read Across America



## IDAHO



**OUT OF RANGE**  
By Heidi Lang  
(Margaret K. McElderry Books)  
Three squabbling sisters, who are sent to a technology-free sleepaway camp in the Idaho mountains, get lost in the wilderness during a wildfire.

## ILLINOIS



**DOODLEVILLE**  
By Chad Sell  
(Random House Children's Books)  
In this graphic novel, a budding artist and her classmates visit the Art Institute of Chicago, where their doodles come to life.

## INDIANA



**UNFADEABLE**  
By Maurice Broaddus  
(Katherine Tegen Books)  
A homeless teen artist turns into an activist when she suspects that funds are being misused in her Indianapolis neighborhood.

## IOWA



**DEWEY THE LIBRARY CAT: A TRUE STORY**  
By Vicki Myron and Bret Witter  
(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)  
A tabby kitten found in a return book slot gets to spend the rest of his life at the library.

## KANSAS



**THE AMELIA SIX**  
By Kristin L. Gray  
(Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)  
When six girls spend the night in Amelia Earhart's childhood home, the aviator's flight goggles go missing.

## KENTUCKY



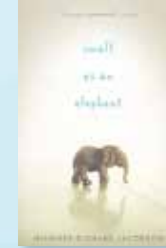
**LIGHT COMES TO SHADOW MOUNTAIN**  
By Toni Buzzeo  
(Holiday House)  
In 1937, a girl tries to convince her neighbors (and mom!) to bring electricity to their rural community.

## LOUISIANA



**NINTH WARD**  
By Jewell Parker Rhodes  
(Little, Brown and Company)  
A 12-year-old orphan, who communicates with ghosts, summons her fortitude (one of her favorite words) to survive Hurricane Katrina.

## MAINE



**SMALL AS AN ELEPHANT**  
By Jennifer Richard Jacobson  
(Candlewick Press)  
Abandoned in Maine's Acadia National Park by his mentally ill mom, a boy struggles to survive and find his way back home.

## MARYLAND



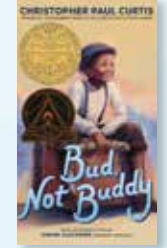
**SQUISHED**  
By Megan Wagner Lloyd, illustrated by Michelle Mee Nutter  
(Scholastic)  
An 11-year-old with six siblings wishes for her own room in this graphic novel.

## MASSACHUSETTS



**KARTHIK DELIVERS**  
By Sheela Chari  
(Amulet Books)  
A boy bikes all over Boston to make deliveries for his family's grocery store while discovering new friends and his true passion—theater!

## MICHIGAN



**BUD, NOT BUDDY**  
By Christopher Paul Curtis  
(Yearling)  
In this Newbery Medal-winning book that takes place during the Great Depression (1929–1941), a 10-year-old runs away from a children's home to find his dad.

## MINNESOTA



**HOME OF THE BRAVE**  
By Katherine Applegate  
(Square Fish)  
A young refugee from Africa, whose mother is missing, comes to live with his aunt and cousin on a Minnesota farm in this novel in verse.

## MISSISSIPPI



**THE LUCKY ONES**  
By Linda Williams Jackson  
(Candlewick Press)  
With the help of an incredible teacher, an 11-year-old boy with a big heart tries to get his family out of poverty in northwest Mississippi.

## MISSOURI



**NOW YOU SAY YES**  
By Bill Harley  
(Peachtree)  
On a cross-country road trip to find their grandmother, two siblings stop in St. Clair and witness a solar eclipse and the kindness of strangers.





# Read Across America



## MONTANA



**15 SECRETS TO SURVIVAL**  
By Natalie D. Richards  
(Delacorte Press)  
When four classmates get in trouble for unkind texts, their parents send them on a trip to the wilderness to learn teamwork and survival skills.

## NEBRASKA



**ONE BIG OPEN SKY**  
By Lesa Cline-Ransome  
(Holiday House)  
In this novel in verse set in the 1800s, a girl and her family embark in a wagon from Mississippi to Nebraska to find land to build a home.

## NEVADA



**PHANTOM STALLION: THE WILD ONE**  
By Terri Farley  
(Aladdin)  
A 13-year-old rancher hopes the silver stallion she sees in the wild is her horse that went missing two years ago.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE



**A WEEK IN THE WOODS**  
By Andrew Clements  
(Aladdin)  
During a fifth-grade camping trip, a boy who is going to be sent home storms off into the New Hampshire woods alone.

## NEW JERSEY



**THE BIG BREAK**  
By Mark Tatulli  
(Little, Brown and Company)  
In this graphic novel, two best friends investigate sightings of the Jersey Devil, a creature some believe lurks in the state's Pinelands.

## NEW MEXICO



**THE GHOSTS OF RANCHO ESPANTO**  
By Adrianna Cuevas  
(Farrar, Straus & Giroux Books for Young Readers)  
A Florida boy works during the summer at a New Mexico ranch where mysteries abound.

## NEW YORK



**THE TAPPER TWINS: TEAR UP NEW YORK**  
By Geoff Rodkey  
(Little, Brown and Company)  
Sixth graders compete in a zany scavenger hunt around New York City to win tickets to a special event.

## NORTH CAROLINA



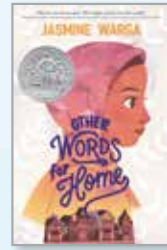
**THE CROSSOVER**  
By Kwame Alexander  
(Clarion Books)  
Twin basketball players dream of playing at North Carolina universities in this dynamic Newbery Award-winning novel in verse.

## NORTH DAKOTA



**A SKY FULL OF SONG**  
By Susan Lynn Meyer  
(Union Square Kids)  
The beautiful North Dakota prairie becomes the new home of a Jewish family fleeing the Russian empire in the early 1900s.

## OHIO



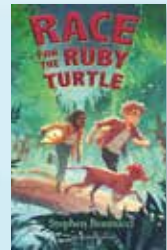
**OTHER WORDS FOR HOME**  
By Jasmine Warga  
(Balzer + Bray)  
In this tender novel in verse, a Syrian girl adjusts to her new life in the city of Cincinnati and even tries out for the school musical.

## OKLAHOMA



**SALT MAGIC**  
By Hope Larson, illustrated by Rebecca Mock  
(Margaret Ferguson Books)  
A 12-year-old risks her life to save her family's farm from a witch curse in this graphic novel set in 1919.

## OREGON



**RACE FOR THE RUBY TURTLE**  
By Stephen Bramucci  
(Bloomsbury)  
During the last week of summer break, a boy and his new friend strive to protect an endangered turtle from poachers.

## PENNSYLVANIA



**IN HONOR OF BROKEN THINGS**  
By Paul Acampora  
(Dial Books for Young Readers)  
Three eighth graders form an unlikely friendship during a pottery class at their school in a small coal town.

## RHODE ISLAND



**THE ART OF THE SWAP**  
By Kristine Asselin and Jen Malone  
(Aladdin)  
The daughter of a Newport museum caretaker magically swaps places with a girl who lived there a century ago.



# Read Across America



## SOUTH CAROLINA



**THE CREEPING OF DOGWOOD HOUSE**  
By Eden Royce  
(Walden Pond Press)  
A boy and his aunt move into a mysterious home that's been in the family for generations and uncover its secrets.

## SOUTH DAKOTA



**THE MOUNT RUSHMORE CALAMITY**  
By Jeff Brown  
(Harper)  
The first book of Flat Stanley's Worldwide Adventures Series explores Mount Rushmore.

## TENNESSEE



**THE LONELY HEART OF MAYBELLE LANE**  
By Kate O'Shaughnessy  
(Alfred A. Knopf)  
An 11-year-old girl signs up for a singing contest in Nashville to reconnect with her absent father.

## TEXAS



**BRIDGE TO BAT CITY**  
By Ernest Cline  
(Little, Brown for Young Readers)  
A grieving teen pours her heart into relocating a colony of bats to Austin because their cave has been destroyed by a mining company.

## UTAH



**GHOST HORSES: A MYSTERY IN ZION NATIONAL PARK**  
By Gloria Skurzynski and Alane Ferguson  
(National Geographic)  
Mustangs behave curiously in Zion National Park.

## VERMONT



**GOOSEBUMPS HOUSE OF SHIVERS: GOBLIN MONDAY**  
By R.L. Stine  
(Scholastic)  
Bizarre things happen after a Florida boy travels to his grandparents' Vermont home.

## VIRGINIA



**JUNE BERRY BLUE**  
By Candice Ransom  
(Peachtree)  
A girl wants to reopen the factory that made the delicious Juneberry Blue beverage so her dad can return home to work.

## WASHINGTON



**A GALAXY OF WHALES**  
By Heather Fawcett  
(Rocky Pond Books)  
Two young neighbors, whose parents each run whale-watching tours, team up to compete in a wildlife photography contest.

## WASHINGTON, DC



**NATIONAL ARCHIVE HUNTERS: CAPITOL CHASE**  
By Matthew Landis  
(Pixel + Ink)  
Twins witness a museum robbery and track the case using clues from the National Archives Research Center.

## WEST VIRGINIA



**SHILOH**  
By Phyllis Reynolds Naylor  
(Atheneum Books for Young Readers)  
In this Newbery Medal-winning story, a boy befriends a beagle who was abused by its owner.

## WISCONSIN



**HELLO FROM RENN LAKE**  
By Michele Weber Hurwitz  
(Wendy Lamb Books)  
When a beloved lake becomes contaminated with harmful algae, a 12-year-old and her friend discover an eco-friendly way to save it.

## WYOMING



**WILDER BOYS**  
By Brandon Wallace  
(Aladdin)  
While on a quest to find the father who abandoned them, teen brothers explore the wilderness at Grand Teton National Park.



## Take our challenge!

Which books from which states on the list have you read, and which do you want to explore next? We challenge you to read a book from any state, then write a brief review. Have a photo taken of you with your book, then ask an adult to email your photo and review to [hello@theweekjunior.com](mailto:hello@theweekjunior.com). Please be sure to include your first name, age, and the state where you live with your submission. It may appear in a future issue! If you're looking for even more amazing middle-grade books, check out [kids.theweekjunior.com/bookclub](http://kids.theweekjunior.com/bookclub).

