



## Books That Transform Us

**Mini Fact:**  
National Library Week is April 9-15. Visit your local library!

### Kelly Barnhill

Each year, the John Newbery Medal is awarded to an author for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. This year, Kelly Barnhill won the award for "The Girl Who Drank the Moon."



Kelly has had many jobs: teacher, waitress, park ranger, secretary and janitor. These jobs have given her a lot of ideas for telling stories, she said.



Today, she lives in Minneapolis with her husband, Ted, and their three children.

"The Girl Who Drank the Moon" is a fantasy about a kind and gentle witch who accidentally creates a magical baby. She locks the magic deep within the baby, Luna, but as Luna grows up, she begins to realize her powers.

Kelly said she loves storytelling and fairy tales. Her advice to young writers: "Be prepared to write really, really, really crummy stories. Like, the crummiest in the world. It takes a long time to achieve a skill set that allows us to produce work that even comes close to what we value. It's important to write the stinky stories because that is how you learn."



### Javaka Steptoe

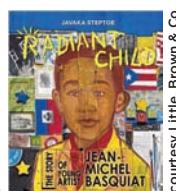
Javaka Steptoe is the winner of the 2017 Randolph Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished American picture book for children. He illustrated and wrote "Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat."



Javaka also won the 2017 Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award for the book. Javaka's father, John, was also an illustrator and author. Javaka uses everyday objects and art supplies to create collages. He said about collages: "It is how black folks survived 400 years of oppression, taking the scraps of life and transforming them into art forms." He has also won the Jane Addams Children's Book Award.



"Radiant Child" tells the story of a famous 1980s collage artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat, from his childhood in Brooklyn, New York, to his fame as an adult.



Javaka said: "I can't remember a time when I wasn't an artist. There was something that fascinated me about being able to run my hand across a surface and make marks. With these marks I could communicate and manifest ideas that were in my head."

His advice to kids: "Create art, look at art, ask questions and don't be afraid of mistakes."

### Honor books

Three Newbery Honor Books were named this year. There are four Caldecott Honor Books.

#### Newbery Honor Books

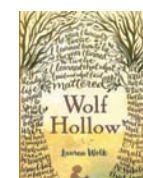
• "Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life by Ashley Bryan," written and illustrated by Ashley Bryan



• "The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog," written by Adam Gidwitz and illustrated by Hatem Aly



• "Wolf Hollow," written by Lauren Wolk



#### Caldecott Honor Books



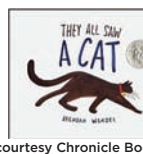
• "Leave Me Alone!" illustrated and written by Vera Brosgol

• "Freedom in Congo Square," illustrated by R. Gregory Christie and written by Carole Boston Weatherford



• "Du Iz Tak?" illustrated and written by Carson Ellis

• "They All Saw a Cat," illustrated and written by Brendan Wenzel



### Coretta Scott King award

The Coretta Scott King Author Award went to "March: Book Three," written by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin and illustrated by Nate Powell.

The Mini Page © 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndication

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of libraries are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ART, BOOKS, COMPUTERS, DESKS, DIRECTORY, ENCYCLOPEDIAS, GUIDES, INTERNET, LIBRARIAN, MAGAZINES, MAP, MOVIES, MUSIC, NEWSPAPERS, PAGES, REFERENCE, STORIES, STUDY, VIDEOS.

G M A G A Z I N E S B T M Y N  
K A T A Y S O E D I V U R S E  
S R E T U P M O C E S O K G W  
N T N D G P A M R I T S U U S  
S A R S T U D Y C C E I K I P  
E S E I R O T S E D D Y K D A  
I E T A L I B R A R I A N E P  
V G N C V F I S S K O O B S E  
O A I I S D E C N E R E F E R  
M P E N C Y C L O P E D I A S

## Cook's Corner Fruity Carrot Salad

### You'll need:

- 1 (8-ounce) can pineapple tidbits, drained (reserve 1/4 cup juice)
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise (regular or reduced-fat)
- 1 (10-ounce) package matchstick-cut carrots

- 1/4 cup golden raisins
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts (optional)



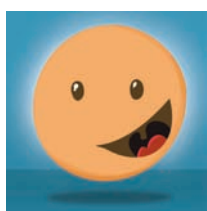
### What to do:

1. Blend 1/4 cup reserved pineapple juice and mayonnaise in a large bowl.
2. Add remaining ingredients and toss gently to coat with the dressing.
3. Refrigerate for 30 minutes to blend flavors. Serves 8.

\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

## 7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.



1. playtime at school (6) \_\_\_\_\_
2. male chicken (7) \_\_\_\_\_
3. book writer (6) \_\_\_\_\_
4. where a goldfish lives (8) \_\_\_\_\_
5. light wind (6) \_\_\_\_\_
6. precious metal (6) \_\_\_\_\_
7. person who fixes the sink (7) \_\_\_\_\_

ST	FISHB	AUTH	SIL
UMB	ER	CESS	BREE
ROO	OR	VER	ER
OWL	PL	RE	ZE

Answers: recess, rooster, author, fishbowl, breeze, silver, plumber.

## Mini Jokes



**John:** What building has the most stories?  
**Randy:** The library!

## Eco Note



Did you know that when you buy something packaged in plastic or cardboard, you're actually buying the item PLUS the garbage? Plastic is made from one of the Earth's greatest treasures: oil. Once we turn oil into plastic, we can never change it back. Keep a big box or bag at home for one week, and collect all the packaging your family throws away. You'll probably be shocked to see how much there is!

adapted with permission from "The New 50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth" by The Earthworks Group, Andrews McMeel Publishing (andrewsmcmeel.com)

## For later:

Which of the award-winning books would you like to read? Compare your list with a friend's.

## Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: [bbs.amuniversal.com/Everyone\\_content/Teaching\\_Guides/The\\_Mini\\_Page/](http://bbs.amuniversal.com/Everyone_content/Teaching_Guides/The_Mini_Page/)

The Mini Page © 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndication

Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at [MiniPageBooks.com](http://MiniPageBooks.com), or call 844-426-1256 for more information. Mail payment to: Andrews McMeel Universal, Mini Page Books, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106. Include \$4.00 shipping and handling per order.

