

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

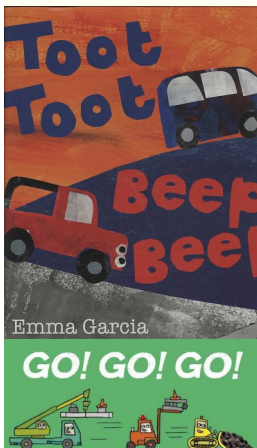
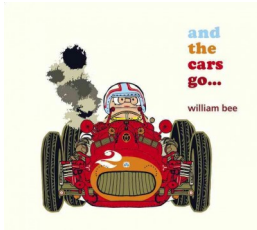
## Things That Go

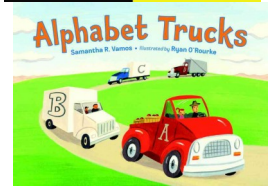
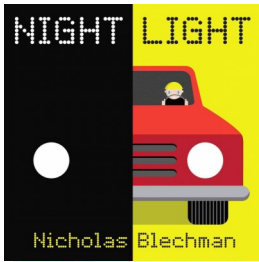


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I anticipated needing to learn many new things as a new parent, but when the time came, I was wholly unprepared to engage in "truck talk" with my toddler. Whether my inadequacy was due to having grown up in an area that did not have combines rolling down the highway, slowing traffic for miles, or the fact that my own interest in vehicles has never expanded much beyond whether it's green or blue? I needed to get up to speed fast to help satisfy my son's thirst for knowledge on all "things that go."

Fortunately, MCPL Children's Services offers a wonderful variety of books and DVDs to meet the demand for information on this topic. We can help you find the right nonfiction book the next time you need help distinguishing a bulldozer from a compactor (See **Cool Construction Vehicles** by Bobby Kalman), or want to satisfy curiosity about what's inside a fire truck. In the meantime, here are a few new picturebooks to share with your young fans of cars and trucks...





Posted by Lisa C. on March 27, 2014

[Everything goes on land](#)

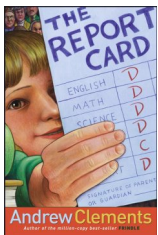
[Nonfiction](#)

[Picture Book](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

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## Testing, Testing, Testing...



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It's test time again for Indiana students. Children in grades 3-8 are taking the *Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress Plus (ISTEP+)* tests to measure student achievement in the subject areas of English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science (Grades 4 and 6), and Social Studies (Grades 5 and 7). This seasonal event - and the recent news that [teachers and parents in Chicago decided to boycott the Illinois Standards Achievement Test](#), an annual test for Illinois students in third through eighth grade - brought to mind the book: *The Report Card* by Andrew Clements.

Clements is one of my favorite authors. He writes thoughtfully about school-age students, the issues they face, their relationships with each other and with their teachers. And many of his books pose a 'what if?' question that make for marvelous discussion opportunities. In *The Report Card*, it's 5th grader Nora who ponders: what if students just all refused to take tests? What if they intentionally answered all the questions incorrectly? [Read more](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on March 5, 2014

[The report card](#)

[School](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

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## Build a stand, Spark a dream!



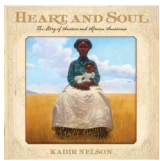
This year, the library is partnering with the Boys and Girls Club to help promote Lemonade Day Bloomington. Lemonade Day brings the community together to experience entrepreneurship, promote philanthropy, and celebrate the bright aspirations of our future leaders. [Read more](#)

Posted by Aubrey D. on March 3, 2014

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

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## Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans



[view in catalog](#)

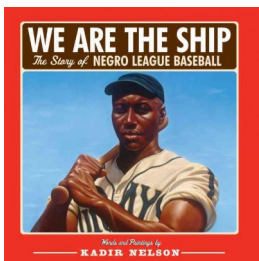


"Painting historical American subjects pushes me to learn more about who I am, where I come from, and the role my ancestors played in helping form our country." Kadir Nelson, author and illustrator of *Heart and Soul*.

Kadir Nelson's work brings history alive for students today. In the Prologue to *Heart and Soul* he notes that young people won't always have the chance to speak with the people who lived through the Civil Rights Movement, or who played baseball for a league that no longer exists. So he documents the stories from these people, vividly portrays them, so that they will be known and remembered, learned and absorbed by future generations.

*"Heart and Soul is not only the story of my family, but an intimate introduction to American history that I hope will remind readers of our extraordinary story and inspire them to learn more about America as I have done by exploring their unique family stories and their connection to the American story."*

Find *Heart and Soul* and other outstanding [books by Kadir Nelson](#) through the Library's catalog. See [Kadir Nelson's website](#) to learn more about him and his art. Visit the [African American History Month website from the Library of Congress](#) to discover more about the remarkable people and events that connect us all.



Posted by Lisa C. on February 18, 2014

[Heart and soul : the story of America and African Americans](#)

[African American](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

[Lisa C.'s blog](#) [Log in](#) to post comments

# Arabic and Persian for Children!



Connect with the World in our Learn and Play Space!

Every Saturday morning we offer Arabic and Persian language immersion learning in the Learn and Play Space.

These programs are made possible through a partnership with the Bridges Project, administered by the IU Center for the Study of Global Change.

The **Bridges: Children, Languages, World Project** strives to expose children to less commonly taught languages and culture through **play, games, crafts, stories, puppet shows, and interactive activities**. Exploratory programs in Arabic and Persian are led by IU students, some of them native speakers of their respective languages.

No registration is necessary for these programs. Just drop in!

**Alef Ba** (Arabic), Saturdays, 10:30 ? 11:15 a.m.

**Yek, Doh, Seh** (Persian), Saturdays 11:30 a.m. ? noon



Posted by Josh W. on February 5, 2014

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## Caldecott Worthy Books from 2013

It's award season again! And in the Children's Department that means we're looking forward to the upcoming ALA Youth Media Awards. On Monday the 2014 winners of the Newbery, Caldecott, Printz, and Coretta Scott King Book Awards will be announced honoring the most distinguished books published in 2013. In particular, the Caldecott is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children to the artist of the most outstanding American picture book for children. For the second year in a row we put together what we've deemed the Caldecart™, a library cart full of picture books published last year. For the first Caldecart we looked at around 30 books. This year we went crazy with 66 to peruse and evaluate!



Read more

Posted by Aubrey D. on January 23, 2014

Award Winner

Caldecott Award

Caldecott Honor

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

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