

Flipping Forward Twisting Backward

by Alma Fullerton

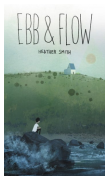
Fifth-grader Claire can do a perfect triple handspring. What she can't do is read. Claire has to convince her mother to let her get tested for a learning disability, which turns out to be even harder than reading.



Odder

by Katherine Applegate

After an unexpected run-in with a shark, Odder the otter is brought to an aquarium to heal—where her life takes even more unexpected turns.



Ebb & Flow

by Heather Smith

After a "rotten bad year" on the mainland, eleven-year-old Jett returns to Newfoundland to spend the summer with his sprightly Grandma Jo (whose hair is dyed cotton candy blue), bringing along a secret.

What *is* a novel in verse?

"Novels in verse are stories written using poetry instead of the usual sentence and paragraph form. The poems, often written from the point of view of several characters, tell a complete story in an unexpected way." - **Chicago Public Library**



Why read novels in verse?

- The lyrical storytelling & visual accessibility often appeal to young readers
- Narratives in verse can be accessible to readers who have yet to find a book that truly speaks to them
- The subject matter offers an enhanced emotional and empathetic connection

Elementary Novels in Verse





Love That Dog

by Sharon Creech

A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.



Heartbeat

by Sharon Creech

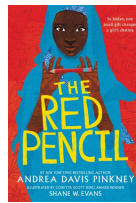
Twelve-year-old Annie ponders the many rhythms of life the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend (and running partner) becomes distant.



On the Horizon

by Lois Lowry

The two-time Newbery Medal-winning author explores the human stories behind World War II's Pearl Harbor attack and Hiroshima bombing to contemplate what victims share in common and the importance of bridging cultural divides.



The Red Pencil

by Andrea Davis Pinkney

After her tribal village is attacked by militants, Amira must flee to a refugee camp, where she finds hope and the chance to pursue an education in the form of a single red pencil and the encouragement of a wise elder.



Red, White, and Whole

by Rajani LaRocca

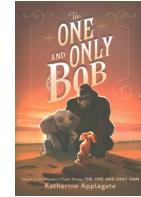
A heartbreakingly hopeful novel in verse about an Indian American girl whose life is turned upside down when her mother is diagnosed with leukemia.



The Magical Imperfect

by Chris Baron

Etan, who doesn't speak, becomes friends with Malia, who is also known as "the creature" due to her acute eczema. Etan must convince both his family and hers that he might have a cure for her condition.



The One and Only Bob

by Katherine Applegate

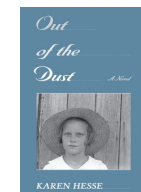
Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in search of his long-lost sister. As a hurricane approaches, Bob finds courage he never knew he had and learns the true meaning of friendship and family.



In the Beautiful Country

by Jane Kuo

Arriving in America -- the so-called beautiful country -- Anna finds it anything but beautiful as she and her family struggle to make a place for themselves in this world and learn the true meaning of home.



Out of the Dust

by Karen Hesse

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Great Depression.