Before Entering Second Grade

Read Alouds
Brett: *Town Mouse, Country Mouse* c1994, 2003 *fable*
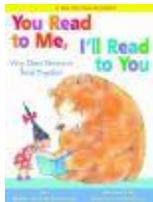After trading houses, the country mice and the town mice discover there's no place like home.

Cannon: *Crickwing, Pinduli, Stellaluna, Verdi*, *insects, fiction*
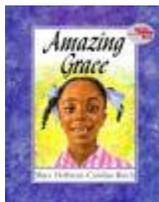Picture books about unappreciated and fascinating creatures

Ernst: *Sylvia Jean, Scout Supreme* c2010 *fantasy animals, humor*
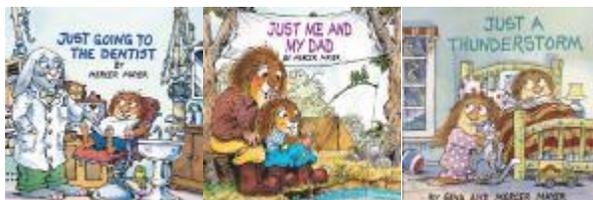Sylvia Jean disguises herself in order to assist a neighbor who does not want her enthusiastic help.

Hoberman: *You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Stories to Read Together* c2001 *stories in rhyme*
This collection of short, rhythmic stories and cheerful art is designed to be read out loud by both child and adult.

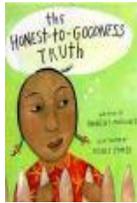**Hoffman:** *Amazing Grace* c1991 *diversity, fiction*
Although a classmate says that she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is black, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.

Mayer: Little Critter stories *fantasy, animals*
Little Critter is a small creature who is amazingly like a young human boy. His adventures take
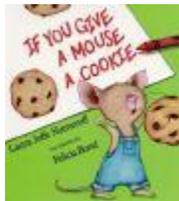
place with different members of his family who expose him to daily life experiences.

McKissack: *The Honest-to-Goodness Truth* c2000 *character, ethnic diversity*
A young girl promises not to ever lie but then discovers that there are times that one actually should not tell the entire truth.
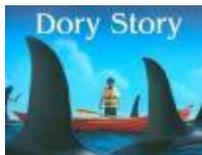
McNaughton: *Once Upon an Ordinary School Day* c2004 *school story*
Mr. Gee, the new teacher, changes "ordinary" when he challenges all the children to use their imaginations.
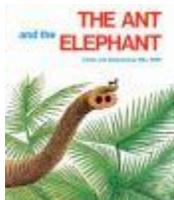
Numeroff: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* and sequels c1985 *cumulative tales*
When a mouse requests a cookie, a cycle of events occurs that brings the reader full circle.
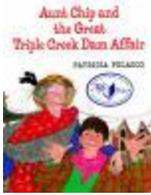
Orloff: *I Wanna Iguana* c2004 *letters, fiction*
Alex and his mother write notes back and forth in which Alex tries to persuade her to let him have a baby iguana for a pet.

Pallotta: *Dory Story* c2000 *sea story, fiction*
Danny's ocean adventures are completely enchanting, even if they take place in the bathtub.

Peet: *The Ant and the Elephant* c1972 *animals, fiction*
Of all the animals the elephant rescues, only the tiny ant returns the favor..

Polacco: *Aunt Chip and the Triple Creek Dam Affair* c1996 *TV, reading, fiction*
Since the invasion of television, no one can remember how to read.

Schachner: *Skippyjon Jones* c2003 *humor*
This Siamese kitten spends his "time-out" imagining himself as "El-Skippito" who comes to the rescue of some Chihuahuas.

Steig: *Brave Irene* c1986 *fiction*
Brave Irene, the dressmaker's daughter, ventures out into a fierce snowstorm to deliver the beautiful ball gown her mother has made for the duchess.

Stevens: *And the Dish Ran Away With the Spoon* c2001 *nursery rhymes*
From the Mother Goose nursery rhyme, Dish and Spoon run away. Concerned about the fate of the rhyme, Cat, Cow and Dog set out to find them.

Woodson: *The Other Side* c2001 *friendship, ethnic diversity*
A fence divides a town where two girls - one white and one black - sit and gradually become acquainted.

Independent Reading

Crews: *Below* c2006 *fiction*
When Jack drops his action figure into a mysterious hole, he has to devise a rescue.

Lionni: *Little Blue and Little Yellow* c1959 *friendship, colors*
A little blue spot and a little yellow spot are best friends, and when they hug each other they become green.

Lobel:Frog and Toad stories *classics*
Each of the frog and toad stories include several short tales about two very good friends.

Rylant:Henry and Mudge stories *family, dogs, humor*
A young boy named Henry and his dog Mudge share many adventures with Henry's parents and other important people in his life.

Sharmat: *Nate the Great series* *mystery*
Solve each mystery alongside the most popular sleuth in the business.

Silverman: *Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa series* *fiction*
Two new wranglers have hit the ranch. Read how the west will never be the same again!