

Graphic Novels for Beginning Readers

Abdo, Dan. **Blue, Barry, and Pancakes.** (JUV GN ABDO)

One day, when the gang goes to the beach, Barry and Pancakes lose Blue's beloved beach ball. They come up with a plan to get it back, but things go way off course. Now, these pals will have to go inside a giant whale's stomach, crash a pool party on an alien spaceship, and survive Duckzilla's volcanic birthday bash if they ever hope to see Blue's beach ball again!

Atkinson, Cale. **Simon and Chester: Super Detectives!** (JUV GN ATKIN)

Simon and Chester are bored...until they pretend to be detectives.

Bell, Cece. **Chick and Brain: Smell My Foot.** (JUV GN BELL)

Shares the interactions of the rule-following Chick and the absent-minded Brain, whose friendship is tested by miscommunications and misunderstandings about good manners.

Bolts, Russ. **Bots: The Most Annoying Robots in the Universe.** (JUV GN BOLTS)

When cameras sent from Earth finally arrive at the end of the universe, they discover big-hearted best friends Joe Bot and Rob Ot, as well as their nemesis, Tinny.

Braddock, Paige. **Peanut, Butter, and Crackers: Puppy Problems.** (JUV GN BRADD)

Crackers is a rescue dog who's a bit on the nervous side, but pretty comfy at home with Butter, a very plump cat who--like all cats--is all about himself. The two pets have a good life: big backyard, nice couch, good eats, and an owner who goes to work every day so they can pretty much do what they want. Enter Peanut, a brand-new puppy with big floppy ears, unabashed energy, and no appreciation for the quiet life.

Braddock, Paige. **Stinky Cecil in Operation Pond.** (JUV GN BRADD)

The hilarious tale of a group of amphibians (and one free-range hamster) who set out to save their tiny pond home from one very large steamroller.

Burks, James. **Bird and Squirrel on the run.** (JUV GN BURKS)

Bird and Squirrel outwit Cat and become best friends in this zany adventure. Squirrel is afraid of his own shadow. Bird doesn't have a care in the world. And Cat wants to eat Bird and Squirrel. Of course, he'll have to catch them first, and that's not going to be easy. Join this trio as they head south for the winter in a hilarious road trip. But watch out! Cat is waiting around every bend, and he's one pesky feline.

Clanton, Ben. **Narwhal, Unicorn of the Sea.** (JUV GN CLANT)

A happy-go-lucky, waffle-loving narwhal and a cynical, no-nonsense jellyfish forge an unlikely friendship and share adventures while exploring the ocean together.

Eaton III, Maxwell. **Flying Beaver Brothers and the Evil Penguin Plan.** (JUV GN EATON)

Two beavers thwart an evil plot by penguins who plan to turn Beaver Island into a frosty resort.

Esbaum, Jill. **Thunder and Cluck: Friends don't eat friends.** (ER ESBAU)

Big, scary, and hungry Thunder the dinosaur wants to chase and chomp Cluck, a small but brave dinosaur, but Cluck has decided that they will be friends.

Fang, Vicky. **Friendbots.** (ER FANG)

Meet the robots Blink and Block in this STEM-inspired story by debut author-illustrator Vicky Fang. Blink is scanning the playground for treasure, and Block is pretty sure there's no gold to be found. Will Blink prove that treasure does exist--or will these two new pals find something even better?

Ferry, Beth. **Fox & Rabbit.** (JUV GN FERRY)

Easygoing Fox and anxious Rabbit seem like total opposites. But, somehow, they make the perfect pair! Whether searching for hidden treasure or planting a garden in their own backyard, Fox and Rabbit find everyday magic at every turn. On this first adventure, the pair will discover some new favorite things like sunsets, dandelions, and cotton candy. And they'll face new fears like heights, swimming, and (poisonous!) frogs. Thankfully, there's nothing Fox and Rabbit can't do together!

Gravel, Elise. **Arlo & Pips: King of the Birds.** (JUV GN GRAVE)

Like most crows, Arlo has a big brain. But Arlo has something else: a little pal who's not afraid to tell him when he's being insufferable! In the first of three episodes, a battle of the brains and bird-to-bird banter soon turns into an unexpected friendship. Arlo and Pips' adventures include a visit the big city and the beach on their hunt for shiny things and French fries. Cool crow facts are included throughout the book.

Harper, Charise. **Pepper & Boo: A Cat Surprise!** (JUV GN HARPE)

Meet Pepper and Boo, two dogs who do not know much about the Cat. There is a lot to know about the Cat. Luckily, the Cat can explain. The Cat knows where and when to sleep. The Cat knows what and what not to eat. The Cat also knows that a cat can be happy to have housemates like Pepper and Boo. BOW-Wow-Meow. It's a cat surprise!

Keating, Jess. **BunBun & BonBon: Fancy Friends.** (JUV GN KEATI)

Bunbun, a rabbit, has everything but a friend -- until Bonbon, a talking candy, appears.

Kochalka, James. **Johnny Boo: The Best Little Ghost in the World.** (JUV GN KOCHA)

Johnny Boo is the best little ghost in the whole world, because he's got Boo Power. This means that he can go "BOO" really loudly. His pet ghost named Squiggle has Squiggle Power, which means that he can fly and do really fast loop-the-loops. Together they have the world's greatest ghost adventures!

O'Neill, Katie. **Dewdrop.** (PB ONEIL)

It's time for the annual pond sports fair. Dewdrop the axolotl can't wait to cheer on his friends. But as the big day gets closer and his friends get nervous, will he be able to remind them that doing their best is the most important part?

Pizzoli, Greg. **Baloney and Friends.** (JUV GN PIZZO)

Meet Baloney! He's a pig. This book is about him. And also Peanut, his best friend. There's Bizz, too, of course. And Krabbit. He'd rather not be here, but what can you do?

Raul the Third. **Tag Team.** (ER RAUL)

Wrestling star El Toro teams up with his fighting partner, La Oink Oink, when a post-match mess at the stadium becomes a bit too intimidating to clean up alone.

Runton, Andy. **Owly: The Way Home.** (JUV GN RUNTO)

All Owly wants is a friend... Owly is a good-natured little owl, and he's always helping those around him. But despite his kindness, he seems to frighten would-be friends away before they even give him a chance, just because he's an owl. That all changes, though, once Owly meets Wormy. Like Owly, Wormy is in need of a good friend, too -- someone who can be counted on for a helping hand, a good laugh, and a great adventure!

Ruzzier, Sergio. **Fish and Sun.** (ER RUZZI)

One day, bored little Fish journeys up to the surface of the ocean where it meets Sun, and a wonderful friendship blooms... Only, right in the middle of their fun, Sun starts to set!

Ruzzier, Sergio. **Fox & Chick: The Party.** (ER RUZZI)

Fox and Chick don't always agree. But Fox and Chick are always friends. With sly humor and companionable warmth, Sergio Ruzzier deftly captures the adventures of these two seemingly opposite friends. The luminous watercolor images showcased in comic-book panel form will entice emerging readers, while the spare text and airiness of the images make this early chapter book accessible to a picture book audience as well.

Shaskan, Stephen. **Pizza and Taco: Who's the Best?** (JUV GN SHASK)

Best friends Pizza and Taco agree on nearly everything until Pizza declares himself the best of all, leading to debating, voting, competing, and finally defining what being the best really means.

Sherry, Kevin. **Squidding Around: Fish Feud.** (JUV GN SHERR)

Squizzard is a small squid who always wants to be the center of attention, whether it is playing with his best friend Toothy the vegetarian Great White Shark, or giving a report in school; but when his behavior finally causes a rift in their friendship, Shay the seahorse explains what he is doing wrong--but change is difficult for Squizzard and it takes an encounter with Bennie the Barracuda, the fifth-grade bully at Deep Reef Elementary, to finally teach him the error of his ways.

Smith, Brian. **Pee, Bee, & Jay: Stuck Together.** (JUV GN SMITH)

Like all peas, Pea loves to roll. So when a no-good strawberry dares him to roll all the way off the farm, he swears he can do it--eazy me-zee! But along the way, a powerful thunderstorm strikes and bounces Pea off course...and right into two unlikely new buds: a bee named Bee who thinks she knows it all, and a bird named Jay who can't figure out how to fly. On their own they may not look like much, but if this trio can stick together, they just might help Pea find his way back home!

Song, Mika. **Apple of my Pie.** (JUV GN SONG)

When Norma, Belly, and their friend little B go into uncharted territory--the apple orchard--to find spy-master Pops, who has been squirrel-napped, they wonder if their adventure will end in tragedy--or apple pie!

Song, Mika. **Donut Feed the Squirrels.** (JUV GN SONG)

Belly and Norma are the best of squirrels . . . or so they think! After discovering donuts for the first time, they are determined to get some for themselves, even if they have to outsmart the food truck driver to do it!

Spires, Ashley. **Binky the Space Cat.** (JUV GN SPIRE)

Binky is a space cat - at least in his own mind. He's really a house cat who has never left the family "space station." Unlike other house cats, Binky has a mission: to blast off into outer space (outside), explore unknown places (the backyard) and battle aliens (bugs).

Stutzman, Jonathan. **Fitz and Cleo.** (JUV GN STUTZ)

Ghost siblings and best friends Fitz and Cleo go to the beach, fly paper airplanes, play baseball, and adopt a cat.

Vandorn, Kaeti. **Monster Friends**. (JUV GN VANDO)

Despite their differences, monster neighbors Reggie and Emily make the perfect pair of explorers, and with a map to make, a beach party to plan, and a sea monster to find, Reggie will have to learn to talk about his feelings and let new friends in.

Waldo, Steph. **Shell Quest**. (ER WALDO)

When a little slug finds new friends in the backyard, she notices they look a lot like her ... except they have shells! Maybe a shell is exactly what she needs to fit in--but finding one is a lot harder than it sounds!