**Elementary Music Book List 2019-2020**

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| **#** | **Book Title** | **Book Description** |
| 1 | ***88 Instruments*** | It's time to take up an instrument, and Barton's young narrator, confronted with *88* options at the music shop, is overwhelmed. ... Each instrument, the boy discovers, has a distinctive, superlative quality: the accordion is “the squeeziest,” a triangle is “the easiest,” a trombone is “the slideyest.” |
| 2 | ***Ah, Music*** | *Ah, Music!* is about composers and instruments. It’s about artists and performers. It’s about history—from the earliest music through classical, modern, jazz, and popular times. It’s about diversity and pleasure. |
| 3 | ***Bat’s in the Band*** | A late-spring night sky fills with bats flocking to a theater, already echoing and booming with delightful sounds of music. Bat music—plunky banjoes, bat-a-tat drums, improvised instruments, country ballads, and the sweet cries of a bat with the blues.  |
| 4 | ***The Bear, the Piano, the Dog, and the Fiddle*** | Fiddle-playing Hector and his dog, Hugo, are best friends. Hugo is Hector's biggest fan, and when Hector decides to retire, Hugo secretly learns to play the fiddle himself. Soon, a famous piano-playing bear invites him to join his all-animal band and travel the world to perform in front of huge crowds—an opportunity that Hector had always dreamed of for himself. Will Hector be able to overcome his jealousy and learn to be happy for his friend? |
| 5 | ***The Beatles*** | Presents a biography of the Beatles. |
| 6 | ***Before John was a Jazz Giant*** | Young John Coltrane was all ears. And there was a lot to hear growing up in the South in the 1930s: preachers praying, music on the radio, the bustling of the household. These vivid noises shaped John's own sound as a musician. Carole Boston Weatherford and Sean Qualls have composed an amazingly rich hymn to the childhood of jazz legend John Coltrane. |
| 7 | ***Berlioz the Bear*** | What's that strange buzz coming from the double bass? Berlioz has no time to investigate, because he and his bear orchestra are due at the gala ball in the village square at eight. But Berlioz is so worried about his buzzing bass that he steers the mule and his bandwagon full of magicians into a hole in the road and gets stuck.Time is running out, and if a rooster, a cat, a billy goat, a plow horse, and an ox can't rescue the bandwagon, who can?As the suspense mounts, intricate borders reveal the village animals making their way to the square one by one. When the clock chimes eight, the animals, ready to dance, have filled the square-but there's no sign of Berlioz. |
| 8 | ***The Carnival of the Animals*** | America’s first Children's Poet Laureate has written all-new verses to accompany the composer Camille Saint-Saëns’s *The Carnival of the Animals,* and the illustrator of the Harry Potter books has turned these rollicking rhymes into a picture-book fun fest.  |
| 9 | ***Chalk*** | Three children discover a magical bag of chalk on a rainy day |
| 10 | ***Charlie Parker Played Bee-Bop*** | Introduces the famous saxophonist and his style of jazz known as bebop |
| 11 | ***Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom*** | The story in *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*, an entertaining alphabet picture book, is a simple one. The book begins with the letter A telling the letter B and B telling the letter C to meet "at the top of the coconut tree." The letters, in alphabetical order, begin to climb the tree. |
| 12 | ***Commotion in the Ocean*** | Including whales, walruses, penguins, polar bears, stingrays, and sharks, a wonderful collection of poems celebrates the many creatures that live in and around the ocean |
| 13 | ***Dan, the Taxi Man*** | "Here's Dan, Beep! Beep! the Taxi Man, going to the show and picking up the band. Climb inside while you still can with Dan, Beep! Beep! the Taxi Man." And what a band it is! A symphony of sounds and colors, this cumulative tale is as much fun to read aloud as it is to listen to. |
| 14 | ***Decibella and her 6-inch Voice*** | Spunky, spirited Isabella is a screamer.She shouts out her every thought, idea and feeling. She loves using her loud voice so much, everyone calls her Decibella! Isabella doesn't know how or when to use a softer, quieter voice until her teacher introduces the five volumes of voice: 6-inch, Whisper, Table-Talk, STRONG Speaker, and Outside. With patience and a little practice (saying SLURPADOODLE out loud is a big help!), Isabella learns what volume is appropriate when speaking in class, chatting in the library, sitting at the lunch table or playing outside. |
| 15 | ***Do-Re-Mi*** | If you can read musical notes, you can sing any song or play any piece. But musical notes have not always been here. Long ago, songs were memorized. If songs were forgotten, they were lost forever.Thanks to one man, Guido d’Arezzo, music now can last forever. |
| 16 | ***Duke Ellington*** | Traces the life of the internationally acclaimed musician and composer who helped popularize jazz music |
| 17 | ***Duke Ellington’s Nutcracker Suite*** | Ellington's band members were not so sure that a classical ballet could become a cool-cat jazz number. But Duke and Billy, inspired by their travels and by musical styles past and present, infused the composition with Vegas glitz, Hollywood glamour, and even a little New York jazz |
| 18 | ***Five Little Pumpkins*** | With bouncy, rhyming text in verse from the classic nursery rhyme and bold, dynamic illustrations from acclaimed author-illustrator Dan Yaccarino, *Five Little Pumpkins* is a must-have Halloween board book! Roll along with the pumpkins and their spooky friends as they get into some spirited Halloween fun. |
| 19 | ***Footloose*** | Jack the zookeeper joins the zoo animals in an all-night dance party! Little ones will love the cast of characters, including the rockin' chimp Louise ("Geez, Louise!"), Mister DJ Elephant, the lemur Marie ("Oo Wee, Marie"), Milo the wombat, Luke the funkiest cat in the zoo, and so many more rocking, bopping, boogeying, tangoing, shaking, rattling and rolling animals! This new original story is sure to get your feet moving |
| 20 | ***Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue*** | George Gershwin only has a few weeks to compose a concerto. His piece is supposed to exemplify American music and premiere at a concert entitled "An Experiment in Modern Music." Homesick for New York while rehearsing for a musical in Boston, he soon realizes that American music is much like its people, a great melting pot of sounds, rhythms, and harmonies. JoAnn Kitchel's illustrations capture the 1920s in all their art deco majesty. |
| 21 | ***Giraffes Can’t Dance*** | *Giraffes Can’t Dance* is a touching tale of Gerald the giraffe, who wants nothing more than to dance. With crooked knees and thin legs, it's harder for a giraffe than you would think. Gerald is finally able to dance to his own tune when he gets some encouraging words from an unlikely friend. |
| 22 | ***The Girl Who Heard Colors*** | This eye-opening picture book introduces readers to their five senses and to synesthesia—a condition in which one sense triggers another. ... Jillian worries about being different until her music teacher shows her that having synesthesia is an amazing thing. |
| 23 | ***George Gershwin*** | Focuses on the life and music of the composer who wrote such musical masterpieces as Rhapsody in Blue, American in Paris, and Porgy and Bess, and who made jazz an accepted form of serious music |
| 24 | ***Grandma’s Feather Bed*** | Hooray for feather beds! Huge and soft, the perfect place to play ... and before you know it ... sleep. One of John Denver's most popular songs brings back favorite childhood memories. |
| 25 | ***Hand, Hand, Fingers, Thumb*** | Illus. in full color. A madcap band of dancing, prancing monkeys explain hands, fingers, and thumbs to beginning readers. |
| 26 | ***How to Speak Moo*** | If the title sounds a little peculiar, that's just the start! Here's a totally silly book about cows that is sure to make kids giggle. It tells boys and girls all about the way cows do the high moo and the low moo . . . the bumpy moo and the jumpy moo. Kids are invited to try these moos out for themselves. Then they can discover how their moo sounds in a tunnel. |
| 27 | ***In the Hall of the Mountain King*** | This beautifully illustrated story brings to life Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg's musical masterpiece and Henrik Ibsen's timeless characters. Geared toward children 5-9, the story will delight readers as the action mirrors the movement of the music it's based on. Includes downloadable audio files of *"In the Hall of the Mountain King"* and four other pieces from the "Peer Gynt Suite." Lesson plans and a puppet-making sheet are available from the author's website. "This is a pitch-perfect book that will capture the attention of an entire classroom |
| 28 | ***I See the Rhythm*** | This award-winning picture book invites children along to dance to the rhythm of swing at the Savoy in Harlem, to rejoice to the rhythm of gospel from a church pew on a Sunday morning, and more. Each stunning spread—including art, poetic text, a description of the music style, and a time line of selected historical events—encompasses the spirit of the times and the strength of the communities where the music was born. |
| 29 | ***Jazz Fly*** | A singular story about musical insects celebrating language and the inventive spirit of jazz. Includes narration set to a jazz quartet on audio CD. A fly, who speaks jazz, asks different critters which way to town. |
| 30 | ***John Philip Sousa*** | A simple biography of the famous band leader and composer who was known as the March King. |
| 31 | ***Juba This, Juba That*** | Traditional “juba” rhythms have a long history. They originated in Nigeria as hand-clapping games. People who were brought to the New World as slaves fought hard to keep their culture alive against terrible odds. They transformed “juba” rhythms into work songs that were passed down orally. |
| 32 | ***Just a Little Music*** | Little Critter has a musical hobby . . . and it's noisy! He's excited about his new drums, and this means playing them everywhere. But Little Critter soon realizes that he might need just a few more lessons before he's ready for his own rock-and-roll band! |
| 33 | ***La La La*** | "*La la la* … la." A little girl stands alone and sings, but hears no response. Gathering her courage and her curiosity, she skips farther out into the world, singing away to the trees and the pond and the reeds—but no song comes back to her.Day passes into night, and the girl dares to venture into the darkness toward the light of the moon, becoming more insistent in her singing, climbing as high as she can, but still there is silence in return.Dejected, she falls asleep on the ground, only to be awakened by an amazing sound … She has been heard. At last. |
| 34 | ***Listen to the Birds: An Introduction to Classical Music*** | Throughout history birds have caught the imagination of composers and inspired their creativity, and this selection of works by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Vivaldi, and others introduces children to classical music through the discovery of the melodious similarities between notes produced by instruments such as the flute, the organ, and the harpsichord and the birds’ songs. |
| 35 | ***Llama Llama Red Pajama*** | In this infectious rhyming read-aloud, Baby Llama turns bedtime into an all-out llama drama! Tucked into bed by his mama, Baby Llama immediately starts worrying when she goes downstairs, and his soft whimpers turn to hollers when she doesn't come right back. But just in time, Mama returns to set things right. Children will relate to Baby Llama's need for comfort, as much as parents will appreciate Mama Llama's reassuring message. |
| 36 | ***The Loud Book*** | BANG! CRACKLE! BOO!Just as there are different kinds of quiet, there are also different kinds of loud: good louds (HOORAY!), and bad louds (CRASH!), and accidental louds that make you the center of attention (BURP!).*The Loud Book* presents all these kid-friendly noises in a way that is sure to make readers CHEER! Now in a padded board edition just perfect for little hands. Pair this with its equally entertaining (but quieter) *The Quiet Book* |
| 37 | ***Ludwig Van Beethoven*** | Briefly recounts the life of a composer who wrote beautiful sonatas and symphonies despite tragic personal problems. |
| 38 | ***Marsh Music*** | At night, ten different species of frogs convene in a marsh. Fireflies light up the scene as Maestro bullfrog raises his baton. The music builds to a crescendo as the night goes on. Just before dawn, the frogs depart―but the serenade is not over . .  |
| 39 | ***The Marvelous Toy*** | A simple tale about a mysterious, magical, and mystical toy that a father gives to his son--and that eventually gets passed down to the next generation--it celebrates a child's sense of wonder. The witty, evocative lyrics spark the imagination. No surprise, then, that the song has been recorded by countless major artists, from Peter, Paul, and Mary to the Chad Mitchell Trio to John Denver, and won legions of fans through the years. |
| 40 | ***M is for Melody*** | From the oom pah pah of the brass section to the tickle and tease of the keyboard ivories, "M is for Melody" gives a music lesson in alphabet form. Instruments, composers, terms, and even musical styles are examined from A-Z in easy, read-aloud rhymes and expository, accompanied by colorful and engaging artwork. Based on MENC National Standards for Music Education, educators will find this a valuable addition to their classroom material. |
| 41 | ***Mole Music*** | A spiritual story about the far-reaching effects of private actions.Mole has always led a simple life, but lately he feels something is missing. When he first hears someone playing a violin, Mole realizes that he longs to make beautiful music, too.Through practice and patience, Mole learns to play. And even though he plays alone, in the privacy of his underground home, his music has an effect on others that is more magical than Mole will ever know. |
| 42 | ***Moo, Baa, La La La*** | This raucous story about the sounds animals make—including three pigs who say "la la la!"—is just right for reading aloud.Serious silliness for all ages. Artist Sandra Boynton is back and better than ever with completely redrawn versions of her multi-million selling board books. These whimsical and hilarious books, featuring nontraditional texts and her famous animal characters, have been printed on thick board pages, and are sure to educate and entertain children of all ages. |
| 43 | ***Moses Goes to a Concert*** | Moses and his school friends are deaf, but like most children, they have a lot to say. They communicate in American Sigh Language, using visual signs and facial expressions. This is called signing. And even though they can't hear, they can enjoy many activities through their other senses. Today, Moses and his classmates are going to a concert. Their teacher, Mr. Samuels, has two surprises in store for them, to make this particular concert a special event. |
| 44 | ***Moses Sees a Play*** | Actors from the Little Theatre of the Deaf are coming to Moses' school, and Moses and his classmates are going to see a play! A class from another school joins them, and Moses is introduced to Manuel, who has just moved to the United States. Manuel doesn't know English or sign language yet. Moses, being deaf, knows how hard it can be when no one understands you, so he tries communicating with Manuel using body gestures, while also teaching him some simple signs.  |
| 45 | ***My Family Plays Music*** | Ping! Ping! Cha-cha-cha! In this lively introduction to different kinds of music, a little girl tries out lots of instruments so she can play with her whole family! She rings a triangle with her dad's string quartet, jingles a cowbell with her brother's rock band, and hits a woodblock with her aunt's jazz group! Festive and animated cut paper art helps the sounds of music to leap off the page in this award-winning primer on musical genres. |
| 46 | ***My Many Colored Days*** | Dr. Seuss's youngest concept book is now available in a sturdy board book for his youngest fans! All of the stunning illustrations and imaginative type designs of Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher are here, as are the intriguing die-cut squares in the cover. A brighter, more playful cover design makes this board book edition all the more appropriate as a color concept book to use with babies or a feelings and moods book to discuss with toddlers. |
| 47 | ***Never Play Music Right Next to the Zoo*** | A concert gets out of hand when the animals at the neighboring zoo storm the stage and play the instruments themselves in this hilarious picture book based on one of John Lithgow’s best-loved tunes. This package includes a CD of John and an orchestra performing the song! |
| 48 | ***The Nutcracker in Harlem*** | This jazz-inspired reinvention of *The Nutcracker* is a worthy tribute to the dreamlike wonder and magic of the Christmas season.In this original retelling, set in New York City during the height of the Harlem Renaissance, one little girl finds her voice as a musician thanks to her enchanting adventures with a magical toy. |
| 49 | ***Octopus's Garden*** | Come sing and dance around in an *Octopus's Garden* in the shade! The classic Beatles song comes to life with colorful illustrations from bestselling illustrator Ben Cort and a CD with a new music recording and audio reading from stellar musician Ringo Starr. |
| 50 | ***Peter and the Wolf*** | There is no better way to introduce children to classical music than with Prokofiev’s musical fairy tale of the little boy (played by all the strings of the orchestra) who, with the help of a bird (played by the flute), outsmarted the big, bad wolf (played by the French horns). And now with this book and CD package, children can look and listen all at the same time. A new retelling by Janet Schulman follows the basic story, but with a kinder ending for both the big bad wolf and the argumentative duck. Peter Malone’s paintings have the luminous quality of old Russian masters.  |
|  | ***Peter Tchaikovsky*** | Presents a biography of the nineteenth-century Russian composer who created such ballets as Swan Lake, Sleeping Beauty, and The Nutcracker. |
| 51 | ***Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?*** | What will you hear when you read this book to a preschool child?Lots of noise!Children will chant the rhythmic words. They'll make the sounds the animals make. And they'll pretend to *be* the zoo animals featured in the book-- look at the last page! |
| 52 | ***Possum Come A-Knockin’*** | "While Granny is a-rockin' and a-knittin' and Ma's a-cookin' and Pa's a-fixin', that old possum in his top hat and vest just keeps on knocking. The narrator, a redheaded boy, tries to tell family members about the possum, and when the family checks, the possum hid |
| 53 | ***The Remarkable Farkle McBride*** | One after the other, gifted *Farkle McBride* learns to play a different instrument and master their sounds, but he still remains unsatisfied until an orchestra conductor becomes ill and Farkle learns his true calling |
| 54 | ***Risseldy Rosseldy*** | Reviving a timeless American folk song, this children’s book relates the hilarious story of a husband and his impossibly lazy wife. Following the couple from their marriage through the wife’s nonsensical antics over the years, the featured tune contains a clever tongue-twister as its chorus, which grows more elaborate and entertaining as the song progresses |
| 55 | ***Room on the Broom*** | The witch and her cat are happily flying through the sky on a broomstick when the wind picks up and blows away the witch's hat, then her bow, and then her wand!  Luckily, three helpful animals find the missing items, and all they want in return is a ride on the broom. But is there *Room on the Broom* for so many friends?  And when disaster strikes, will they be able to save the witch from a hungry dragon? |
| 56 | ***Singing Away the Dark*** | On a dark winter’s morning a little girl has to trudge a mile to catch the school bus. Will she be able to sing her way through the shadows? Lilting rhyming text by Caroline Woodward and stunning paintings by multiple award-winning illustrator Julie Morstad herald an era when singing away the dark was part of a six-year-old’s rural school-going routine |
| 57 | ***Singing in the Rain*** | Spring calls in this classic Broadway number, brought to life in a beautiful picture book―perfect for sharing! Jump in puddles, raise umbrellas, and dance with joy through the pages of this visual story. With colorful, springy scenes and the familiar lyrics, this is a beautiful, gift-worthy, feel-good read-aloud. |
| 58 | ***Skeleton Cat*** | After nine lives, *Skeleton Cat* is back for his tenth. And he has big dreams: to be a drummer. So he rattles and shakes his way through town to find the perfect band. And this phantom cat cause quite a hilarious scene.  |
| 59 | ***Song of Middle C*** | Practice makes perfect. And for a little girl facing her first recital of "Dance of the Wood Elves," so do artistry, imagination (those wood elves sure love to dance!), and lucky underwear for good measure. Is she nervous as she waits and waits for her turn on stage? Hoo boy, no! She’s as cool as a cucumber! Every child who has felt the pressure of the spotlight will smile at this comical tale of bravado that turns a onenote performance into an improvisation worthy of a standing ovation. Splendissimo! |
| 60 | ***Snowflakes Fall*** | In *Snowflakes Fall,* Newbery Medalist Patricia MacLachlan and award-winning artist Steven Kellogg portray life’s natural cycle: its beauty, its joy, and its sorrow. Together, the words and pictures offer the promise of renewal that can be found in our lives—snowflakes fall, and return again as raindrops so that flowers can grow. |
| 61 | ***Summoning the Phoenix*** | A collection of original poems about children learning to play traditional Chinese instruments in preparation for a performance, accompanied by factual information about each instrument. |
| 62 | ***This is the House that Jack Built*** | What happened in the house that Jack built? It all started with the cheese that lay in the house that Jack built. And then came the rat that ate the cheese and the cat who killed the rat. Caldecott Medal?winning author and illustrator Simms Taback brings his distinctive humor and creativity to the beloved story of Jack and the house that he built. |
| 63 | ***Too Much Noise*** | Peter thinks his house is noisy until the village wise man teaches him a lesson in perspective. |
| 64 | ***Tubby the Tuba*** | All day long, Tubby plays oompah, oompah with his orchestra, but what he really wants is to "dance with the pretty little tune." A resourceful bullfrog shows Tubby that everyone has the right to play his own melody.  |
| 65 | ***We’re Going on a Bear Hunt*** | *We’re going on a bear hunt. We’re going to catch a big one.*Will you come too? For more than twenty-five years readers have been swishy swashing and splash sploshing through this award-winning favorite. Join in the fun! |
| 66 | ***We’re Off to Find the Witch's House*** | It is Halloween night, and as the moon rises, four children set off to find the witch’s house. on their way they encounter a host of silly, spooky characters, from a skittle-skattle skeleton to a shirking, lurking Dracula. Can they make it all the way to the witch’s house, or will their fears get the best of them? this humorous take on a favorite holiday begs to be read aloud again and again. |
| 67 | ***What a Wonderful World*** | First recorded in 1967 by Louis Armstrong, and with sales of over one million copies, *"What a Wonderful World"* has become a poignant message of hope for people everywhere. Sweet and positive in its message, with bright, beautiful art, this book is sure to be a hit. Perfect for sharing |
| 68 | ***What is Rock and Roll?*** | Rock and roll sprang from a combination of African-American genres, Western swing, and country music that exploded in post World War II America. Jim O'Connor explains what constitutes rock music, follows its history and sub-genres through famous musicians and groups, and shows how rock became so much more than just a style of music influencing fashion, language, and lifestyle. |
| 69 | ***When The Beat Was Born*** | Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc.On a hot day at the end of summer in 1973 Cindy Campbell threw a back-to-school party at a park in the South Bronx. Her brother, Clive Campbell, spun the records. He had a new way of playing the music to make the breaks―the musical interludes between verses―longer for dancing. He called himself DJ Kool Herc and this is *When the Beat Was Born*. From his childhood in Jamaica to his youth in the Bronx, Laban Carrick Hill's book tells how Kool Herc came to be a DJ, how kids in gangs stopped fighting in order to breakdance, and how the music he invented went on to define a culture and transform the world. |
| 70 | ***Who Was Aretha Franklin?*** | Aretha Franklin was a musical and cultural icon whose legacy spanned six decades! Born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1942, Aretha got her start singing in front of her father's Baptist congregation and found minor success as a gospel singer. She then set her sights on becoming a pop music artist and used her powerful voice and impressive skills on the piano to get a record deal. Aretha released her first of many celebrated albums at the age of 18. In 1987, she was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, making her the first female artist to grace the prestigious list. With iconic hits such as "Respect" and "Think," and countless awards to her name including eighteen Grammys, Aretha Franklin was one of the bestselling artists of all time. |
| 71 | ***Who Was Elvis Presley?*** | Put on your blue suede shoes and get ready for another addition to the Who Was…? series! The King could not have come from humbler origins: Born in Tupelo, Mississippi, during the Depression, he grew up with the blues music of the rural South, the gospel music of local churches, and the country-western classics. But he forged a sound all his own—and a look that was all his own, too. With curled lip, swiveling hips, and greased pompadour, Elvis changed popular music forever, ushering in the age of rock and roll.  |
| 72 | ***Who Was Louis Armstrong?*** | If not for a stint in reform school, young Louis Armstrong might never have become a musician. It was a teacher at the Colored Waifs? Home who gave him a cornet, promoted him to band leader, and saw talent in the tough kid from the even tougher New Orleans neighborhood called Storyville. But it was Louis Armstrong?s own passion and genius that pushed jazz into new and exciting realms with his amazing, improvisational trumpet playing. His seventy-year life spanned a critical time in American music as well as black history. |
| 73 | ***Who Was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart?*** | Born in Austria in 1756, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart composed his first piece of music, a minuet, when he was just five years old! Soon after, he was performing for kings and emperors. Although he died at the young age of thirty-five, Mozart left a legacy of more than 600 works. This fascinating biography charts the musician's extraordinary career and personal life while painting a vivid cultural history of eighteenth-century Europe. Black-and-white illustrations on every spread explore such topics as the history of opera and the evolution of musical instruments. There is also a timeline and a bibliography. |
| 74 | ***Who Were The Beatles?*** | Geoff Edgers, a *Boston Globe* reporter and hard-core Beatles fan, brings the Fab Four to life in this *Who Was...?* book.  Readers will learn about their childhoods in Liverpool, their first forays into rock music, what Beatlemania was like, and why they broke up.  It's all here in an easy-to-read narrative with plenty of black-and-white illustrations! |
| 75 | ***Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart*** | A biography of the child prodigy who wrote more than 800 pieces of music before his untimely death at thirty-five. |