

Book Voyagers Fall 2016 & Spring 2017

Discussion Series:

The reading and discussion series available for the coming year are listed below. Each one-hour session is led by a skilled Book Voyagers facilitator and families receive a copy of the book to keep! Complete the interest form on the CT Humanities website or contact Susan Muro at (860)685-7588 or smuro@cthumanities.org.

For families / children grades 1-3:

1. **Believe in Yourself**

Sometimes it is hard to appreciate ourselves the way we are. Do you have an odd name? A different sense of time? Or perhaps a unique situation at school? In these stories, we see the varied ways others have learned to overcome obstacles and believe in themselves!

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

Leo the Late Bloomer by Robert Kraus

Miss Nelson is Missing by Harry Allard

Thank you, Mr. Falker by Patricia Polacco

2. **Growing Green**

When you look around do you see something green growing? Or do you see an empty lot with possibilities? Read the inspiring stories of one girl who creates community through a garden, one man who dreams of feeding everyone, one woman who envisions trees where there are none, and one young man who learns to cherish, not destroy, the rainforest. The power of one is an amazing thing!

Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table by Jacqueline Briggs Martin

City Green by DyAnne Di Salvo-Ryan

The Tree Lady by H. Joseph Hopkins

The Great Kapok Tree by Lynn Cherry

3. **Tales from around the World**

Folk tales help us to learn more about the world around us and, at the same time, about ourselves. A spider is rescued by the unique talents of each of his sons, a mysterious old man makes a magical paper crane, a wise woman rescues her silly helper with too much pasta, and a bossy rooster finds someone to do his bidding. Each of these stories will have some familiar characters in them!

Anansi the Spider by Gerald McDermott

The Paper Crane by Molly Bang

Strega Nona by Tomie dePaola

The Bossy Gallito by Lucia M. Gonzalez

4. Tales from around the World – with a Twist!

While time-honored folktales help us learn about the world around us, sometimes they just clamor for a twist! Enjoy the adventures of a boisterous chicken who really knows her fairytales, a sneezy wheezy wolf looking for a cup of sugar, a wise grandfather who retells a favorite story, and a pesky mosquito who causes quite a ruckus! See if you can recognize which parts of the stories are from the original tales and which parts are the twists!

Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka

Abuelo and the Three Bears by Jerry Tello

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears by Verna Aardema

5. Turning Obstacles into Opportunity

They say that when life gets tough, the tough get going. This four-book series invites conversations about overcoming whatever life throws our way with cleverness and patience -- whether it's a man trying to move a mountain, a donkey struggling to return to normal, a rooster trying to liven things up on the farm, or a young girl trying to help her mother.

Ming Lo Moves the Mountain by Arnold Lobel

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by William Steig

Chicks and Salsa by Aaron Reynolds

A Chair for My Mother by Vera Williams

For older readers / grades 3-5:

1. Mouse Messengers: Small but Mighty

Four spunky mice prove that being small does not always mean being powerless. Enjoy these varied tails, oops, tales of the adventures and heroism of Stuart, Ralph, Despereaux and Mouse Minor! Their courage and compassion make these pint-sized messengers bigger than they really are!

Stuart Little by E.B. White

Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

The Mouse with the Question Mark Tale by Richard Peck

2. Reading Adventures

Take a peek into the lives of four adventurous characters—all from the safety of your favorite reading spot! Meet kids, who, just like you, face interesting and challenging situations. Some they create themselves, while others take place because of when and where they live. What would you do if you were in their shoes? Discover how we each bring our own unique experiences, skills and judgement to overcome the obstacles in our own lives. These books are the perfect blend of mystery and adventure!

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

Frindle by Andrew Clements

Junebug by Alice Mead

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko