

How to Read the Book Information Chart

A detailed **Book Information Chart** for VersaTiles® for Favorite Children’s Books is provided on pages 12–19. It is intended to help you assign age- and reading-level-appropriate books to your students (or to help your students choose their own reading selections) and to help you integrate VersaTiles into your current curriculum.

The Book Information Chart is divided into categories that will help you make meaningful decisions about topics and themes, genres, authors, and reading levels.

This column gives the book number (Intermediate 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6) and page number for each activity.

Titles are listed alphabetically.

Find favorite authors and illustrators in this column.

Use the key to find the abbreviations for the awards, such as the Caldecott.

Extend learning with these prompts for journal writing or book discussions. They are a good complement to the Interview and Conferencing Guide (page 39).

Book/Pages	Title	Author (Illustrator)	Awards	RL-GE*	RL-GR ^Δ	Genre	Themes & Topics	Conferencing & Journal Response Ideas
⊖5 5-6	Cam Jansen and the Chocolate Fudge Mystery	David A. Adler (Susanna Natti)		3.7	L	Mystery	Detectives Solving a mystery Friendship	1. Cam found many clues in her search. Write about the clue that helped you figure out how the story was going to end. 2. Write a new mystery for Cam and Eric to solve.
⊖4 1-3	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl (Joseph Schindelman)		4.8	R	Fantasy	Good behavior Candy Adventure Grandparents	1. What part of the book did you like best? What did you think of the ending? 2. Invent a room that might be in Willy Wonka's factory. Describe it. Give details about it.
⊖6 7-12	Charlotte's Web	E.B. White (Garth Williams)	N	4.4	Q	Fantasy	Animal stories Pigs Spiders Friendship	1. Write about how friendship makes life better. 2. Write a newspaper article about the Zuckerman farm. Tell about the fantastic spider webs.

This column gives the approximate reading level by grade and month.

This column gives the recommended Guided Reading Level, when available.

Use these two columns—Genre and Themes & Topics—to help students decide which books to read and to find books that match your curriculum needs.

Book Information Chart for Intermediate Level

Book/ Page	Title	Author (Illustrator)	Awards	RL- GE*	RL- GR ^Δ	Genre	Themes & Topics	Conferencing & Journal Response Ideas
I-6 1-2	The Adventures of Ali Baba Bernstein	Johanna Hurwitz (Gail Owens)		4.6	O	Realistic Fiction (Humor)	Names City life School Detectives	1. Write a summary of the book. Who was the main character? What did he do? 2. What makes you different from everyone else? Give yourself a nickname and explain it.
I-5 1-2	Aldo Applesauce	Johanna Hurwitz (John Wallner)		4.7		Realistic Fiction	Making friends Moving Divorce	1. What part of the book did you like best? Why? 2. How did DeDe show that she was a good friend? How did Aldo show that he was a good friend? Write about their friendship.
I-3 1	Amazing Rescues	George Shea (Marshall H. Peck)		3.0		Informational Nonfiction	Bravery Rescue work Heroes	1. What did the heroes in these stories have in common? Describe them. 2. Have you ever rescued someone or been rescued? Write about it.
I-6 3-5	...and Now Miguel	Joseph Krumgold (Jean Charlot)	N	4.8		Realistic Fiction	Sheep Working Family Hispanic Americans	1. Both Miguel and Gabriel wanted to go places. Where did they want to go? How were the brothers alike? How were they different? 2. What do you think the title means? Explain.
I-1 1	Baseball Saved Us	Ken Mochizuki (Dom Lee)	PC	3.9	O	Historical Fiction	Prejudice World War II Baseball Japanese Americans	1. What do you think the title of the book means? Do you think it is a good title? 2. What was the narrator like? How did he become a good baseball player?
I-5 3	Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Ridin' Cowboy	Andrea D. Pickney (Brian Pickney)	ANB IRT NCSS	5.4		Biography	Cowboys Bill Pickett African Americans	1. Pretend you are Bill Pickett's child. Write a journal entry about one of your dad's rodeo performances. 2. Find out more about the seven standard events in a rodeo. Briefly explain each event.
I-6 6	Bones: Our Skeletal System	written and illustrated by Seymour Simon		3.0		Informational Nonfiction	Human body Medicine	1. Write five sentences that tell what you learned about the human skeletal system. 2. Did you enjoy this book? Did the photographs add to the story? Write about the book.
I-2 1	A Boy Called Slow: The True Story of Sitting Bull	Joseph Bruchac (Rocco Baviera)	ANB NCSS	4.3	U	Biography	Traditions Sitting Bull Native Americans	1. What name might you have been given by the Lakota Sioux? Explain. 2. Did the pictures add to the story? Tell what you learned from the pictures.
I-5 4	Brave as a Mountain Lion	Ann Herbert Scott (Glo Coalson)		3.0		Realistic Fiction	Courage Stage fright School Native Americans	1. Have you ever had to do something that made you feel nervous? Tell how you felt before, during, and after the event. 2. Which illustrations helped you figure out the setting? Describe when and where the story took place.

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I-4 1-3	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl (Joseph Schindelman)		4.8	R	Fantasy	Good behavior Candy Adventure Grandparents	1. What part of the book did you like best? What did you think of the ending? 2. Invent a room that might be in Willy Wonka's factory. Describe it. Give details about it.
I-6 7-12	Charlotte's Web	E.B. White (Garth Williams)	N	4.4	Q	Fantasy	Animal stories Pigs Spiders Friendship	1. Write about how friendship makes life better. 2. Write a newspaper article about the Zuckerman farm. Tell about the fantastic spider webs.
I-3 2-4	Class President	Johanna Hurwitz (Sheila Hamanaka)		4.3	O	Realistic Fiction	Leadership Elections School Puerto Rican Americans	1. Have you ever voted in a school election? Tell about your experience. 2. What do you think Julio told his family when he got home from school? Continue the story.
I-2 2-3	Dear Mr. Henshaw	Beverly Cleary (Paul Zelinsky)	ANB HB N PC	4.9	Q	Realistic Fiction	Writing Authors Divorce School	1. Describe 5 things that you might write about for the Young Writers Contest. 2. Write a diary entry explaining how you feel about school.
I-6 13	Eleanor	written and illustrated by Barbara Cooney	ANB IRT NCSS	4.7		Biography	Achievement First Ladies Eleanor Roosevelt	1. Look at the pictures carefully. Describe some of the interesting details. 2. How did reading about Eleanor Roosevelt's childhood make you feel? Explain.
I-3 5-6	Encyclopedia Brown and the Case of the Slippery Salamander	Donald J. Sobol (Warren Chang)		4.8		Mystery	Detectives Solving a mystery	1. What made Encyclopedia Brown a good detective? Describe him. 2. Which case did you solve yourself? Explain how you figured it out.
I-2 4-5	The Fighting Ground	Avi	ANB BB	4.2	V	Historical Fiction	American Revolution Early American life	1. What was Jonathan's opinion of the war? Did his opinion change or stay the same? 2. Do you think that Jonathan understood his father better at the end of the story? Explain.
I-6 14	Finding the Titanic	Robert D. Ballard (Paintings by Ken Marschall)		4.0		Informational Nonfiction	Titanic Shipwrecks Underwater exploration	1. Read about another shipwreck. Was it ever discovered? Write a paragraph about it. 2. Do you think objects from the Titanic should be left at sea or put in a museum? Why?

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I-1 2-3	Freckle Juice	Judy Blume (Sonia O. Lisker)		3.1	M	Realistic Fiction (Humor)	Growing up Feelings Pranks School	1. Write a short summary of the story. Who was the main character? What did he do? 2. What do you think Sharon's freckle remover recipe will be? Write a recipe.
I-2 6-10	From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	written and illustrated by E. L. Konigsburg	N	4.7	S	Realistic Fiction (Adventure, Mystery)	Feelings Museums Art Michelangelo	1. What was the best part of the story? Why did you like this part so much? 2. Read more about the artist Michelangelo. Write a paragraph about him.
I-1 4-6	Harriet the Spy	written and illustrated by Louise Fitzhugh		4.5	T	Realistic Fiction	Careers Friendship School	1. What was Harriet like? How did she change at the end of the story? 2. What was the best part of the book? Why?
I-5 7-9	Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	J.K. Rowling (Mary Grandpré)	ANB BB IRC SLJ	5.5	T	Fantasy	Good over evil Friendship School	1. Think of another fantasy you have read. How was it like <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone</i> ? How was it different? 2. Which character did you like best? Explain why.
I-1 7-12	Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	ANB N NCSS	5.7	R	Realistic Fiction (Adventure)	Survival Camping Divorce Problem solving	1. What was the most important thing that Brian had with him? Why was it so important? 2. Write a different ending for the story. Have Brian get rescued in a different way.
I-4 4-6	Henry Huggins	Beverly Cleary (Louis Darling)	ANB	4.7	O	Realistic Fiction (Humor)	Family Dog stories School Earning money	1. Does Henry remind you of another character you have read about in a different book? How are they alike? 2. What might happen if Henry and Ribsy went camping? Write another chapter for the book.
I-6 15-16	High Elk's Treasure	Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve (Oren Lyons)		5.0		Realistic Fiction	Missing treasure Horse stories Native Americans	1. Write about an object that is a treasure to your parents or grandparents. 2. Why do you think rebuilding the herd of horses was so important to the High Elks? Explain.
I-2 11-13	Homer Price	written and illustrated by Robert McCloskey		6.6	Q	Realistic Fiction (Humor)	Creative thinking Small town life	1. What was it like living in Homer's town? 2. What was the main problem in "The Doughnuts"? Write a new ending for the story.
I-3 7	I Have a Dream: The Story of Martin Luther King	Margaret Davidson		3.0		Biography	Holidays Civil rights Martin Luther King, Jr. African Americans	1. How did Dr. King make life better for other people? 2. What do Dr. King's speeches mean to you? What are some famous things that he said?

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I-4 7-9	Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison	written and illustrated by Lois Lensky	N	5.4		Biographical Fiction	Survival Pioneers Native Americans	1. Pretend that Molly wrote a letter to Captain Morgan when she decided to stay with the Senecas. What would she have said? Write the letter. 2. How did Molly's way of life change? Explain.
I-6 17-19	In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson	Bette Bao Lord (Marc Simont)	SLJ	4.6	S	Realistic Fiction	Immigration Baseball Chinese Americans	1. In the end, did Shirley find "double happiness"? Explain. 2. Compare Shirley's life in China to her life in America.
I-3 8-13	Island of the Blue Dolphins	Scott O'Dell	N	5.4	V	Historical Fiction	Survival Isolation Problem solving Native Americans	1. How did Karana feel about breaking the rules of her culture? 2. How well would Karana interact with others after being alone for 18 years?
I-5 10-13	Journey Home	Yoshiko Uchida (Charles Robinson)		5.3	V	Historical Fiction	Prejudice World War II Japanese Americans	1. What do you think the title of the book means? Write your own title for the book. 2. How did Yuki feel at the end of the story? Do you think you would have felt the same way? Explain.
I-4 10-11	Land of Hope	Joan Lowery Nixon		5.5		Historical Fiction	Immigration Ellis Island Jewish Americans	1. What does the title of the book mean? Is it a good title? 2. What do you think became of Rebekah and her family? Write an epilogue for the story.
I-4 12-15	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C. S. Lewis (Pauline Baynes)	PC	5.7	T	Fantasy	Adventure Good over evil Sisters and brothers	1. Think of a new adventure in the land of Narnia for the children to go on. Write about it. 2. Act as a book critic. Write a review of this book. List the reasons why you liked or didn't like the book.
I-1 13	The Magic School Bus and the Electric Field Trip	Joanna Cole (Bruce Degen)		4.4	P	Informational Nonfiction Fantasy	Electricity School	1. How many things use electricity in your home? Make a list. 2. Write 5 facts that you learned about electricity. Circle the most interesting fact.
I-4 16	Magic School Bus Inside a Hurricane	Joanna Cole (Bruce Degen)		4.3	P	Informational Nonfiction Fantasy	Weather Hurricanes School	1. Would you like to have Ms. Frizzle for a teacher? Why or why not? 2. Make a list of facts that you learned about hurricanes. Circle the most interesting fact.

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I-3 14-16	Maniac Magee	Jerry Spinelli	HB N	4.7	W	Realistic Fiction	Family difficulties Runaways Prejudice	1. Maniac was famous for running, but also for running away. How else could he have handled his problems? 2. Who finally took in Maniac? Do you think he will be happy with his foster family? Explain.
I-1 14	Many Moons	James Thurber (illustrator varies with edition)	C	3.9		Fantasy	Princesses Moon Problem solving	1. Were you surprised by the ending? Write another ending for the story. 2. Write about your favorite character in the story. Tell why you liked this character.
I-4 17-19	Meet Josephina	Valerie Tripp (Jean-Paul Tibbles)		4.1		Historical Fiction	Ranch life New Mexico Sisters Mexican Americans	1. Write a review of the book. In your review, tell what you liked about the illustrations. 2. What did you learn about New Mexico? How did it change? Write about it.
I-2 14	Moonwalk: The First Trip to the Moon	Judy Donnelly (Dennis Davidson)		4.1	O	Informational Nonfiction	Flight Astronauts Moon	1. What did you learn about Apollo 11? What else would you like to learn about the space program? 2. At the end, how did the astronauts feel about our own planet? Why?
I-1 15-16	My Name Is Maria Isabel	Alma Flor Ada (K. Dyble Thompson)		4.9	N	Realistic Fiction	Customs School Moving Hispanic Americans	1. Were you named after anyone in your family? Write about how your name was picked. 2. Maria Isabel wrote about her greatest wish. What is your greatest wish?
I-3 17-18	Number the Stars	Lois Lowry	N SLJ	5.0	U	Historical Fiction	Bravery Holocaust Denmark Jewish experience	1. What did you find out about Denmark? Describe the country and its way of life. 2. What was the most important thing that you learned from this story? Explain.
I-3 19	Out of Darkness: The Story of Louis Braille	Russell Freeman (Kate Kiesler)		6.7		Biography	Blindness Inventions Disabled experience	1. Write a journal entry describing a typical day for Louis Braille. 2. Make a list of the places that you find braille used today. Touch and describe the braille used in elevators.
I-2 15	Ox-Cart Man	Donald Hall (Barbara Cooney)	C NCSS	4.5		Historical Fiction	Farm life New England Seasons	1. What season was it when the story began? What seasons passed? Describe the farm in each season. 2. What do you think will happen next? Continue the story.
I-1 17	Paul Bunyan, a Tall Tale	retold and illustrated by Steven Kellogg		5.7		Folktales (Tall Tale)	Imagination Paul Bunyan U.S. geography	1. Write a story about how Paul Bunyan created the Rocky Mountains. 2. Which pictures have funny details? Explain.

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I-5 14	Pink and Say	written and illustrated by Patricia Polacco	ANB NCSS SLJ	3.8		Biographical Fiction	Friendship Civil War Slavery African Americans	1. Why did Pink and Say become such close friends so quickly? Explain. 2. Look at the pictures carefully. Describe some of the interesting details.
I-5 15	Pyramid	written and illustrated by David Macaulay	HB	7.5		Informational Nonfiction	Architecture Pyramids Egypt	1. List what you learned about the pyramids. Circle the most interesting facts. 2. Imagine you are a pyramid builder. Write about a day on the job.
I-5 16-17	Ribsy	Beverly Cleary (Louis Darling)		4.0	O	Realistic Fiction (Humor)	Pets Dog stories Adventure	1. Write about the responsibilities of owning a dog. What advice would you give Henry? 2. What is your pet like? Write about an adventure that your pet once had.
I-6 20	A River Ran Wild: An Environmental History	written and illustrated by Lynne Cherry	NCSS NSTA	4.7		Informational Nonfiction	Good deeds Water pollution New England Native Americans	1. Look at the illustrations. Choose three different scenes of the river. Describe how the river looked in each scene. 2. How does water pollution affect people? Explain.
I-2 16-20	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Mildred D. Taylor (Jerry Pinkney)	ANB HB N	5.7	W	Historical Fiction	Discrimination Great Depression Family African Americans	1. Write a paragraph telling what you learned from this book. 2. Cassie had many feelings in this story. Choose one and write about it.
I-2 21-22	Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes	Eleanor Coerr (Ronald Himler)	NCSS	4.1	R	Biography	Atom bomb Sadako Sasaki Leukemia Japanese experience	1. How would you describe Sadako to someone? Write about her. 2. Find out more about Hiroshima. Write 5 facts about the city.
I-5 18-19	Sarah, Plain and Tall	Patricia MacLachlan	ANB IRC N SLJ	3.4	R	Historical Fiction	Prairie life Stepmothers Maine	1. Where would you rather live, by the sea or on the prairie? Why? 2. Write a letter from Sarah to her brother describing her new life.
I-5 20-22	Shiloh	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor	N	4.4	R	Realistic Fiction	Animal welfare Problem solving Dog stories	1. By the end of the book, what had Marty learned about how his actions affected other people? 2. Marty felt he had to tell lies in order to save Shiloh. Write about better ways to rescue a dog.
I-2 23	The Sioux: A First Americans Book	Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve (Ronald Himler)		4.0		Informational Nonfiction	Great Plains Customs Native Americans	1. Write about the place where the Sioux lived. How did the Plains shape their lives? 2. Which pictures had interesting details? Explain.
I-2 24	A Sip of Aesop	Jane Yolen (Karen Barbour)		3.0		Folktales (Fable) Poetry	Good behavior Aesop's Fables Animals	1. Which fable did you like best? Rewrite it. Change it from a poem into a story. 2. Have you ever run in a race? How were you like the tortoise or the hare?

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I-5 23	The Skirt	Gary Soto (Eric Velasquez)		3.7		Realistic Fiction	Dance Customs Responsibility Hispanic Americans	1. Find out if there is a special object in your family, such as the skirt. 2. Have you ever lost something? How did you find it?
I-1 18-19	The Stories Julian Tells	Ann Cameron (Ann Strugnell)	ANB	3.4	N	Realistic Fiction	Families Growing up Friendship African Americans	1. Did you like the stories that Julian told? Which one did you like best? Why? 2. Plan a garden that you would like to grow. Write about it.
I-3 20-21	The Story of Harriet Tubman, Conductor of the Underground Railroad	Kate McMullan (Steven James Petruccio)		4.7	S	Biography	Bravery Underground Railroad Slavery African Americans	1. What skills did Harriet Tubman have? Why was she able to survive so many journeys on the Underground Railroad? 2. What did you learn about Harriet Tubman? Write 10 facts. Circle the most interesting fact.
I-4 20-22	Stuart Little	E.B. White (Garth Williams)		6.0	R	Fantasy	Animal stories Mice Adventure Family	1. Do you have the same feelings as Stuart Little? Give some examples from the story. 2. Think about a pet of yours. What do you think it would tell you about its life if it could talk to you?
I-4 23	The Talking Eggs: A Folktale from the American South	Robert D. San Souci (Jerry Pinkney)	C CSK	4.4		Folktale	Good behavior American South	1. The title says that this is a folktale from the American South. How can you tell this story took place in the South? 2. Write a description of Blanche in the chicken house. Tell what she secretly thought of the unusual chickens and talking eggs.
I-6 21	Teammates	Peter Golenbock (Paul Bacon)	NCSS	5.4		Biography	Jackie Robinson Integration Baseball African Americans	1. Think about how Jackie Robinson felt. Write about it. 2. How did Jackie Robinson make life better for other people? Explain.
I-4 24	Tea with Milk	written and illustrated by Allen Say	ANB SLJ	3.7		Biographical Fiction	Immigration Homesickness Japanese Americans	1. Would you like to live in another country? Why or why not? 2. How are the customs in America different from the customs in Japan? How are they alike?
I-5 24	The Unbreakable Code	Sara Hoagland Hunter (Julia Miner)		4.4		Historical Fiction	Grandfathers Secret codes World War II Native Americans	1. Use the alphabet code at the back of the book to decode the word on the book cover. Exchange secret messages with a friend using the code. 2. Which pictures helped you understand Grandfather's experiences? Explain.

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I-1 20-22	Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech	BB SLJ	4.9	N	Realistic Fiction	Family difficulties Mourning Grandparents Native Americans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sal faced many challenges in her life. Choose one challenge and give her some advice. 2. How did Sal feel at the end of the story? Do you think you would have felt the same way? Explain.
I-1 23	A Wall of Names: A Story of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial	Judy Donnelly		4.5	O	Informational Nonfiction	Vietnam War Holidays National Monuments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe a holiday that honors veterans, such as Veteran's Day or Memorial Day. 2. Write 10 facts that you learned the memorial. Circle the most interesting fact.
I-6 22-23	The Whipping Boy	Sid Fleischman (Peter Sis)	N SLJ	3.9	R	Fantasy (Adventure)	Robbers and outlaws Royalty	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write about your favorite character in the story. Tell why you liked this character best. 2. Continue the story. Write another adventure for the Prince and the whipping boy.
I-1 24	Wild Babies	written and illustrated by Seymour Simon		5.2		Informational Nonfiction	Wild animals Animal babies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose 5 photographs in the book and write captions for them. Point out something interesting in each photograph. 2. Which wild baby was your favorite? Why?
I-3 22	Wildfires	written and illustrated by Seymour Simon		4.0		Informational Nonfiction	Ecology Forest fires U.S. Forest Service	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What did you notice as you looked at the photographs? What did you think about? Write about the photography. 2. Would you like working for the U.S. Forest Service? Why or why not?
I-6 24	Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman	Kathleen Krull (David Diaz)	ANB	5.1		Biography	Polio Disabled experience Track and Field African Americans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What traits helped Wilma overcome the obstacles in her life? Give some examples. 2. Have you ever run in a race or played in a tournament? How were you like Wilma?
I-3 23-24	Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear	Lensey Namioka (Kees De Kieffe)		4.6	P	Realistic Fiction	Music Baseball Immigration Asian Americans	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. According to Chinese custom, what would you call your brothers and sisters? What would they call you? Explain. 2. Reread the ending. Yingtao had a great eye, but a terrible ear. What does this mean?

*: Approximate reading level or grade equivalent.
 Δ Guided Reading Level, if available

Key: **ABA**=American Book Award; **ANB**=ALA Notable Book For Children; **C**=Caldecott Award/Honor; **CSK**=Coretta Scott King Award/Honor; **HB**=Boston Globe-Horn Book Award; **IRC**=IRA-CBC Children's Choice Award; **IRT**=IRA-CBC Teacher's Choice; **N**=Newbery Medal/Honor; **NCSS**=National Council for Social Studies Notable Children's Trade Book; **NSTA**=National Science Teachers Association Outstanding Science Trade Book; **PC**=Parents' Choice Award; **SLJ**=School Library Journal Best Books