

Library lines  
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Youth Services

People love fall for lots of reasons: Halloween, beautiful foliage, apple cider, a general feeling of coziness and community before we all hunker down for the winter. As a children's librarian, I love autumn because it's when some of the year's most exciting books are published. Fall is when new books in many popular series come out, along with anticipated titles by award-winning authors. Here are some of the season's most exciting new releases, just in time to start thinking about holiday gift giving.

"Diary of a Wimpy Kid: No Brainer" by Greg Kinney is the 18th book of the series, which started in 2007, and is out now. In this installment, there's a lot of drama at Greg Heffley's school. Books are being banned and the school is running out of money! Will Greg be separated from his best friend Rowley if the school closes, or will they and their classmates save the day?

"Cat Kid Comic Club: Influencers" by Dav Pilkey, the fifth in the very popular graphic novel series, will be out November 28. The baby frogs are getting a comic published! Find out what they're so worried about, and enjoy all the mini-comics in this newest book.

"The Bad Guys in Look Who's Talking" by Aaron Blabey is out this week. Here's a sneak peek from the book's description: "Forget what you know. This book changes everything. Someone's found her voice and she has A LOT to tell you. Take a deep breath, hermano, it's the 18th installment of THE BAD GUYS!"

"The Big Cheese" by Jory John, the newest edition to The Food Groups hilarious picture book series, is also out this week. The Big Cheese is the best at everything, until he meets Wedge Wedgeman and has to learn that sometimes winning isn't the most important thing.

"Stacey's Mistake," by Ellen T. Crenshaw, is the newest graphic novel adaptation of Ann Martin's Baby-sitters Club series. Stacey's friends from The Baby-sitters Club are coming to New York City for a long weekend. Will she be able to juggle showing them a good time and a big babysitting job?

"Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Chalice of the Gods" by Rick Riordan, came out in September and reunited Percy Jackson fans with their favorite characters. In this series opener, Percy is a senior in high school and just wants to get to college, but the gods have other plans for him.

"Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Sleigh!" by Mo Willems stars everyone's favorite blue bird, and this time he *really* wants to borrow Santa's sleigh. Won't you let his Christmas wish come true? This one is out now.

"How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney?" by blockbuster duo Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen is a hilarious look at the absurd ways Santa Claus gets into houses to leave presents. Maybe he drips out of the faucet, or slides under the door?

"The Puppets of Spellhorst" is the newest, highly-anticipated book by the award-winning Kate DiCamillo. This middle-grade novel also has illustrations by award-winning illustrator Julie Morstad. Five puppet friends are shut up in a box, but they know they're meant for something important. Their journey to fulfill their destiny is full of whimsy, wisdom, and humor.

I hope your kids find new books they're excited about this fall. It's the best time to cozy up with a great story!