

Chapter 6—Family Reading Resource Guide

Chapter 6: Creativity, Talent: A Special Gift

Below is a list of readings that support this chapter's topic. Each title contains a link to a dedicated webpage where the item can be purchased or downloaded (if available). Click on the blue text at the end of the title to activate the link. If the link provided is not longer valid, you can search for the title using the ISBN provided with each title.

Elementary

Arnie the Doughnut. Author: Laurie Keller. This fun-filled adventure takes readers to a bakery. A chocolate-covered doughnut serves as guide, describing each of the steps involved in the creation of various confections. Poor Arnie, however, is clueless as to why people buy tasty treats, and when he is sold to Mr. Bing, he is shocked to discover his fate. **ISBN: 9781250079473** . [Available at Amazon.](#)

Not a Box. Author: Antoinette Portis. Inspired by a memory of sitting in a box on her driveway with her sister, Antoinette Portis captures the thrill when pretend feels so real that it actually becomes real—when the imagination takes over inside a cardboard box, and through play, a child is transported to a world where anything is possible.. **ISBN: 9780007254804.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

The Dot. Author: Peter H. Reynolds. One little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery in Peter H. Reynolds' multiple award-winning modern classic. In this inspiring, award-winning story of self-expression and creativity. **ISBN: 9781844281695.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

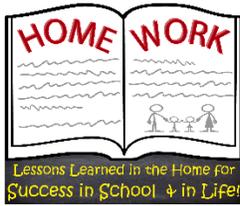
What Do You Do With an Idea? Author: Kobe Yamada. This is the story of one brilliant idea and the child who helps to bring it into the world. As the child's confidence grows, so does the idea itself. **ISBN: 9781938298073.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Pre-teen/Teen

I Am Gifted, Creative, & Talented. Author: Dennis A Hooker. All of us have unique gifts and talents that spark creativity. These experiences stretch young minds beyond normal limits - to create and discover themselves and others - the world. You get to facilitate the discovery process - and enjoy the fruits of young minds exploring. Upper Elementary through High School. **ISBN: 9780876942222.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Something from Nothing. Author: Phoebe Gilman. When Joseph was a baby, his grandfather made him a wonderful blanket. But as Joseph grows older, the blanket becomes tattered and worn. *Throw it out!* cries Joseph's mother. Luckily, Grandpa is an extraordinary tailor. He can fix anything! And so, with a snip! snip! here, and a few stitches there, Grandpa transforms the treasured blanket into a jacket, a vest, a Sabbath

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tie, a handkerchief, and finally a beautiful button. But when the button is lost, even Grandpa can't help. After all, how can you make something from nothing? In a rich and loving portrait of *shtetl* life, Phoebe Gilman presents a traditional Jewish folktale about family love and ingenuity that will warm the hearts of readers young and old. **ISBN: 9781443119467** . [Available at Amazon.](#)

Ish. Author/Illustrator: Peter H. Reynolds. Ramon loved to draw. Anytime. Anything. Anywhere. Drawing is what Ramon does. It's what makes him happy, but in one split second, all that changes. A single reckless remark by Ramon's older brother, Leon, turns Ramon's carefree sketches into joyless struggles. **ISBN: 978-0545303026** . [Available at Amazon.](#)

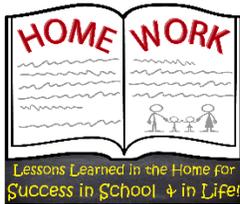
Sky Color. Author/Illustrator: Peter H. Reynolds. Marisol loves to paint. So, when her teacher asks her to help make a mural for the school library, she can't wait to begin! But how can Marisol make a sky without blue paint? After gazing out the bus window and watching from her porch as day turns into night, she closes her eyes and starts to dream. **ISBN: 9780545627436.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Elephants Can Paint Too! Author: Katya Arnold. In this true story, you'll learn about an amazing class of elephants that are taught to become artists by an amazing teacher. **ISBN: 9780545627436.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Going Places. Authors: Paul and Peter Reynolds. This sublime celebration of creative spirit and thinking outside the box—both figuratively and literally—is ideal for early learners, recent grads, and everyone in between. **ISBN: 9781442466081.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Weslandia. Author: Paul Fleischman. Now that school is over, Wesley needs a summer project. He's learned that each civilization needs a staple food crop, so he decides to sow a garden and start his own - civilization, that is. He turns over a plot of earth, and plants begin to grow. They soon tower above him and bear a curious-looking fruit. As Wesley experiments, he finds that the plant will provide food, clothing, shelter, and even recreation. It isn't long before his neighbors and classmates develop more than an idle curiosity about Wesley and exactly how he is spending his summer vacation. **ISBN: 9780763610524.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Perfect Square. Author: Michael Hall. A perfect square is transformed in this adventure story that will transport you far beyond the four equal sides of this square book. **ISBN: 9780545511995.** [Available at Amazon.](#)



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The Day the Crayons Quit. Author: Drew Daywalt. Illustrator: Oliver Jeffers. Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: His crayons have had enough! Kids will be imagining their own humorous conversations with crayons and coloring a blue streak after sharing laughs with Drew Daywalt and *New York Times* bestseller Oliver Jeffers. **ISBN: 9780008167929.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Beautiful Oops! Author: Barney Saltzberg. A life lesson that all parents want their children to learn: It's OK to make a mistake. In fact, hooray for mistakes! A mistake is an adventure in creativity, a portal of discovery. Don't be upset about it when you can turn it into the roaring mouth of an alligator. An award-winning, best-selling, one-of-a-kind interactive book, *Beautiful Oops!* shows young readers how every mistake is an opportunity to make something beautiful. [Available at Amazon.](#)

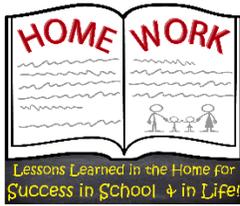
A Little Bit of Oomph! Author: Barney Saltzberg. *A Little Bit of Oomph!* teaches the invaluable lesson of throwing your heart into whatever you're doing and trying just a little bit harder— because with a little extra effort and a lot of oomph, you can make anything beautiful. Oomph changes curiosity into discovery, daydreams into playthings, your singing into others' dancing. **ISBN: 9780761177449.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Not a Stick. Author: Antoinette Portis. This book proves that a stick is not always a stick. Whether it's conducting an orchestra, painting a masterpiece, or slaying a dragon—give a child a stick and let imagination take over and the magic begin. **ISBN: 9780007254828.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Iggy Peck, Architect. Author: Andrea Beaty. When Iggy Peck's second-grade teacher declares her dislike of architecture, he faces a challenge. He loves building too much to give it up! With Andrea Beaty's irresistible rhyming text and David Roberts's puckish illustrations, this book will charm creative kids everywhere, and amuse their sometimes-bewildered parents. **ISBN: 9780810911062.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Lots of Dots. Author: Craig Frazier. In this exuberant book, acclaimed graphic designer Craig Frazier encourages young readers to look closely at the world around them. Through his energetic images, the ordinary becomes extraordinary. Buttons are dots. Wheels are dots. Ladybugs have dots. And so do the fried eggs on your plate. **ISBN: 978-0811877152.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

What Do You Do with an Idea? Author: Kobe Yamada. This is a story for anyone, at any age, who's ever had an idea that seemed a little too big, too odd, too difficult. It's a story to inspire you to welcome that idea, to give it some space to grow, and to see what happens next. Because your idea isn't going anywhere. In fact, it's just getting started. **ISBN: 9781938298073.** [Available at Amazon.](#)



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The Three Pigs. Author: David Wiesner. Satisfying both as a story and as an exploration of the nature of story, *The Three Pigs* takes visual narrative to a new level. Dialogue balloons, text excerpts, and a wide variety of illustration styles guide the reader through a dazzling fantasy universe to the surprising and happy ending. **ISBN: 9781849394055.** [Available at Amazon.](#)

Sector 7. Author: David Wiesner. On a school trip to the Empire State Building, a boy makes friends with a mischievous little cloud, who whisks him away to the Cloud Dispatch Center for Sector 7 (the region that includes New York City). The clouds are bored with their everyday shapes, so the boy obligingly starts to sketch some new ones. The wordless yet eloquent account of this unparalleled adventure is a funny, touching story about art, friendship, and the weather, as well as a visual tour de force. **ISBN: 9780395746561.** [Available at Amazon.](#)