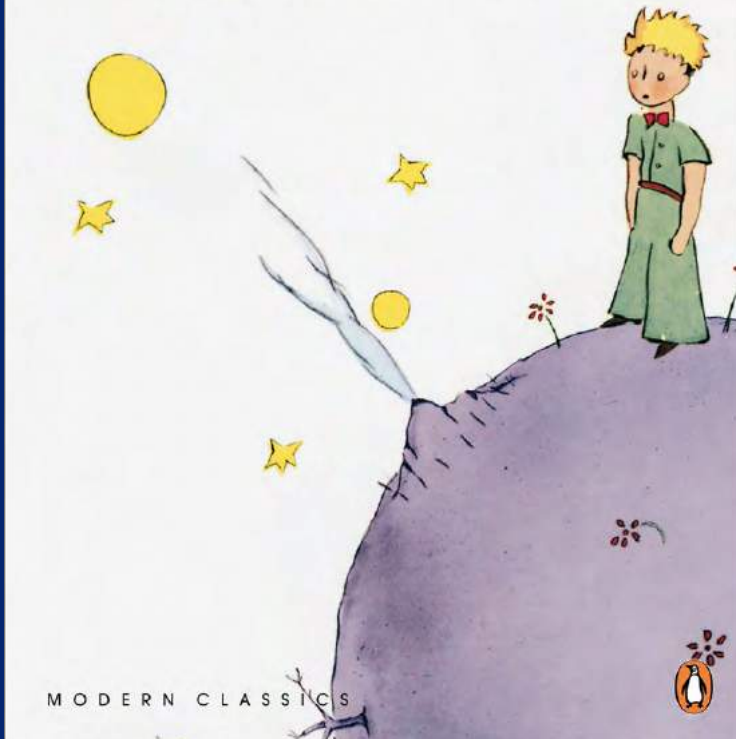


Antoine de
Saint-Exupéry
The Little Prince



FAMILY READING KIT

I'm yours to keep!
Please remember to return
the Library book.



CALGARY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

“Books are sometimes windows, offering views of the world that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created or recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror. Literature transforms the human experience.”

— Rudine Sims Bishop

Diverse children’s fiction, like this book, may have perspectives and content that are new and sometimes complex. Reading a wide variety of children’s literature gives children a chance to develop their own opinions and encourages deep thinking, emotional intelligence, and imagination. The contents of this reading kit can help to initiate conversations and spark interest, provide learning and teaching opportunities, and create time for your family to connect. The questions and activities encourage discussion on various topics to help foster self-reflection and a lifelong love of learning. We hope you enjoy reading together!

<p>BOOK <i>The Little Prince</i></p>	<p>Few stories are as widely read and as universally cherished by children and adults alike as <i>The Little Prince</i>, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry’s 1943 illustrated novella. The narrator, an airplane pilot, crashes in the Sahara Desert. The crash damages his airplane and leaves the narrator with very little food or water. As he is worrying over his predicament, he is approached by the Little Prince. The two become friends and set off on a journey through time, space, and back again. This story addresses themes of loneliness, friendship, love, and loss, including death.</p>
<p>AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR Antoine de Saint-Exupéry</p>	<p>Antoine de Saint-Exupéry was a pilot before and during World War II. His poetry and fiction reflect both his great love of flight and his thirst for adventure. In 1935, while attempting to break the air-speed record between Paris and Saigon, his plane crashed in the Sahara. He and his co-pilot wandered the desert for days, nearly dying of exposure and dehydration before being rescued by a wandering Bedouin. With few exceptions, all his fiction involves flying, danger, and desolation.</p>
<p>CONTEXT</p>	<p><i>The Little Prince</i> was originally published in both French and English and later in more than 200 other languages. It is considered one of the greatest books of the 20th century and is one of the bestselling books of all time, becoming the subject of numerous adaptations, including a Grammy-winning children’s album and a 2016 3D-animated film.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDED FOR Ages 11+, accessible vocabulary but a conceptual challenge.</p>	



This booklet is yours to keep.

Please return the Library books when they are due.

HOW TO USE THE FAMILY READING KIT

WHAT IS THE FAMILY READING KIT?

The Family Reading Kit is an opportunity to encourage literacy by reading a book together and doing fun learning activities inspired by the book. The reading kit can be used in a classroom or by independent readers, too. Each year, Calgary Public Library chooses titles that are relevant, high-interest, and appealing to readers of all ages.

What is family literacy and why is it so important?

Family literacy is a great way to practise, encourage, and develop reading skills as a family. Sharing a book out loud and reading together strengthens bonds between family members and helps create lifelong learners. The Library is proudly committed to supporting lifelong learning.

More information about Family Literacy can be found at abclifeliteracy.ca

English Language Arts Curricular Connections

While each grade and subject have specific curricular topics, each Family Reading Kit supports the overlapping outcomes between grade levels in English Language Arts in Alberta. Some titles may also connect to other topics and subjects in school, such as Science or Social Studies.

More information about ELA curricular connections can be found at calgarylibrary.ca/ela-curriculum-connect

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE FAMILY READING KIT?

Everything you need to explore this book is included! This package contains:

BOOK SUMMARY AND TIPS FOR READING TOGETHER

pages 2 and 5

Get some background information on the book and its author(s) and illustrator(s). Use this section to plan your family's reading journey and try out some tips and ideas for making reading together fun and enjoyable for all ages.

BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

pages 6 – 9

Book discussion questions are a great way to start thinking about the book you are reading. They help you slow down and think about what you have just read or what you are about to read next. There are discussion questions to answer before the book, in the middle of the book, and at the end.

ACTIVITIES

Each package contains two activities that help you explore ideas from the book in different and exciting ways at home and in your community.

THINGS YOU CAN DO:

Ephemeral Art Walk

pages 10 – 11

You can do these activities as a brain break. It could be as simple as some stretches between the chapters in your book to get the wiggles out, or it could be this physical

activity, connected to the themes in the book itself.

SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE THROUGH REAL WORLD APPLICATIONS:

Writing Prompts

pages 12 – 13

Books can be used to explore beyond our community into the wider world to learn about different cultures and perspectives. Books can also be a way to learn more about ourselves. Bigger Picture activities are a fun way to explore some of the larger themes in the title. *The Little Prince* includes themes of scientific discovery, curiosity, critical thinking, and perseverance.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

pages 14 – 15

All packages include Additional Resources with further reading on topics / themes in the book and suggestions for what to read next.

Please fill out a survey to provide your feedback on your family's experience at calgarylibrary.ca/family-reading-survey

SHARING WITH OTHER FAMILIES

Share your family's photos, book review, writing, artwork, audio, and video with others who read this book on the Library's Padlet at calgarylibrary.ca/family-reading-padlet

TIPS FOR READING TOGETHER

1. Create a Special Reading Space

- Nice lighting, no distractions, and a cozy nook make a great spot for reading. Or take reading on the go with an audiobook on your next family road trip.

2. Schedule Reading Time

- Plan for your family reading. Read ahead, take turns reading, and make time to chat about what you learned. As a group, make decisions about how you will read and who will read.

3. Think Outside the Book

- Involve your listeners — encourage them to get involved in the story with laughter, sound effects, actions, and different voices for different characters. Little readers might get distracted, so offer a pen and paper for their own illustrations.

4. Listening / Pausing / Talking

- Listening is an important part of reading skills. It takes practise to focus and listen to what is said.
- Let everyone have a turn talking and sharing.
- As you read, take time to talk about what is happening and what is going to happen in the story. If your listeners are curious, this is where your book discussion questions can shine and spark great conversations!

Get more tips and tricks for reading together at calgarylibrary.ca/reading-tips

BOOK DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Share each question, or choose a few that you like to read aloud and share your answers. Don't worry about staying on topic! See where the conversation leads you and encourage kids to ask questions of their own.

BEFORE THE BOOK

1. What do you think will happen during the book based on the title and cover? What can you guess about the plot or the characters?
2. How might the author's story / biography influence the book? What questions would you ask the author before reading the book?
3. Looking at the cover of the book, what is the character standing on? Where do you think he is? What clues does the cover give about the book?
4. Do you think people live on other planets?

As you dive deeper into reading together, you may come across some tough questions and topics. Here are some tips from Common Sense Media on talking about these questions with your kids:

- Check in by sharing how you feel and ask them how they feel. You can say, "I feel angry when I know that someone got hurt," or "It makes me feel sad to hear that someone didn't get a good education or the right treatment to help them," and "What are you feeling right now?"
- Ask open-ended questions to get kids to think more deeply about serious topics. For example, "What did you hear?," "What did it make you think?," and "Why do you think that?" For older kids, you can ask, "Do you think families from other backgrounds would view this the same way as us?"
- Admit when you don't know something. You can say, "I don't know. Let's try to find out more."

Source: calgarylibrary.ca/difficultsubjects

HALFWAY THROUGH THE BOOK

Around page 36 or after Chapter 13 (XIII)

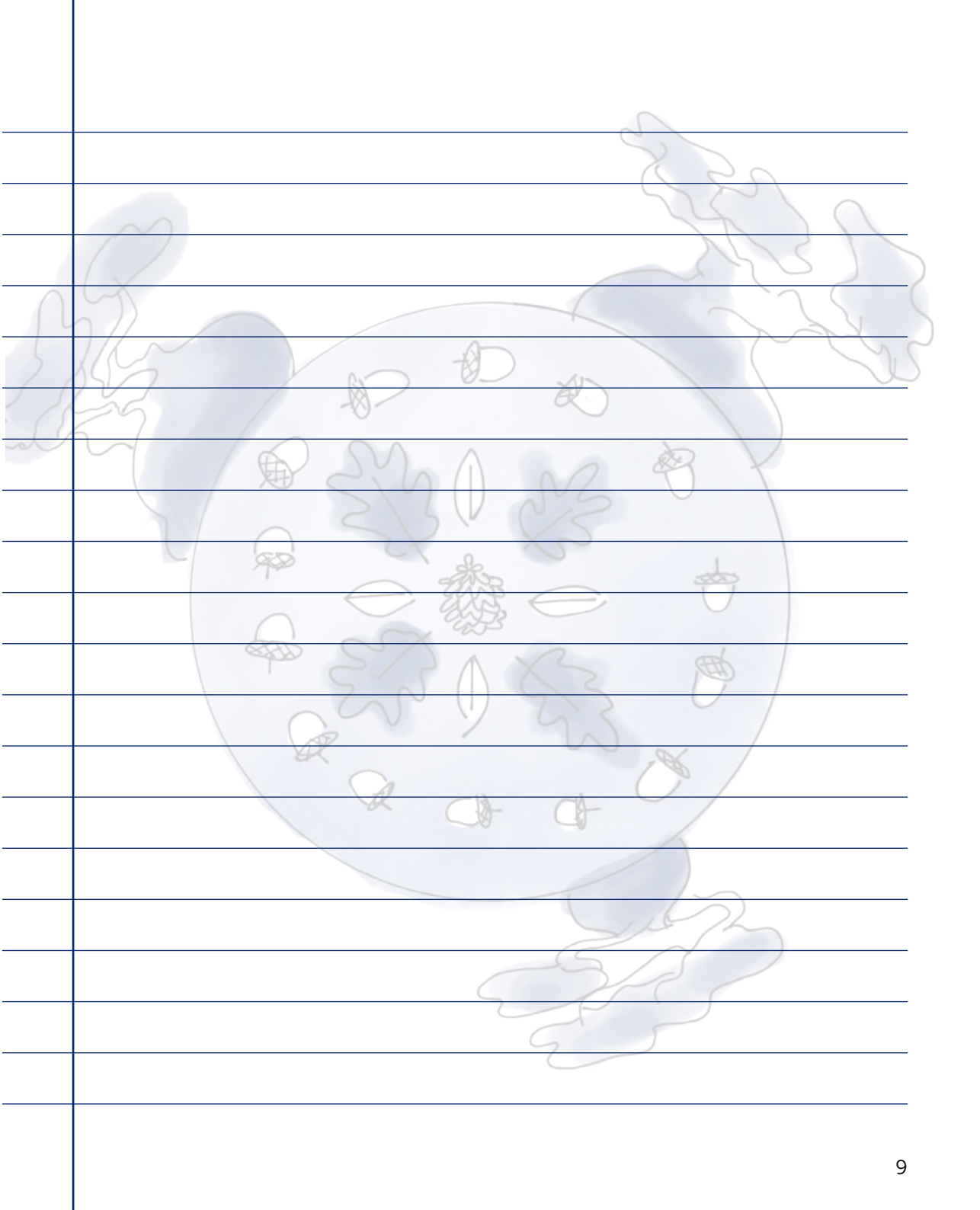
Pause here to check in and see how everyone is feeling about the book. Make some predictions to help stay engaged and redirect focus to specific areas of the story.

1. What will happen next? What will happen in the end?
2. Do you notice any changes in the characters from the beginning of the book? Have they grown in some way? Have their circumstances changed?
3. If you could ask one character a question, who would you ask and what would you ask them?
4. *The Little Prince* was written in 1943 and the author uses a lot of words that are not as common these days. What words were new for you?
5. The Prince discovered flowers on Earth that looked like the one he'd been caring for on his home planet. Why was he disappointed to find so many? How did it change about how he felt about his flower back home?
6. How many planets has the Little Prince visited so far? Which was the strangest? Why?
7. When the Little Prince asked the Pilot to draw him a sheep (page 6) he wasn't happy with any of the Pilot's drawings until the Pilot drew a crate. "This is just the crate. The sheep you want is inside." (Page 6) Why do you think the Little Prince liked the Pilot's drawing of a crate the best?
8. Are the Little Prince and the Pilot friends?

AFTER FINISHING THE BOOK

When you're done reading the book, you can keep asking questions. Try asking:

1. Were your predictions about the book correct? What surprised you?
2. What might a reader learn from *The Little Prince*?
3. A fable is a short story with characters that are typically animals or imaginary, and that convey a moral. Could *The Little Prince* be considered a fable, and if so, what is the moral? Why are fables an important part of almost every culture?
4. Is *The Little Prince* a book for children, adults, or both?
5. If you had the chance to change the ending, would you do it? How would you change it? What do you think should have happened?
6. *The Little Prince* has elements that are both taken from reality (a plane crash that the author experienced) and make-believe. What does it tell us about imagination and real life?
7. The Pilot loved to look up at the stars and think about the Little Prince. What do you think about when you look up at the stars?
8. What do you think happened to the Little Prince at the end of the book?
9. Now that you have read the story, what would you add to the book cover illustration?



THINGS YOU CAN DO:

EPHEMERAL ART WALK

WHAT IS EMBODIED LITERACY?

Embodied literacy is both the ability to understand the meaning that others are trying to create or communicate with their bodies, as well as being able to communicate with your own body. This can be through facial expression, body language, and gestures. Usually, this communication happens along with other modes of communication, like speaking, hearing, reading, or writing. When more than one mode of communication is used at once, it's called "multi-modal communication." Each mode offers different possibilities for how meaning can be created and understood. Readers can use their literacy skills and make meaning through multi-modal and embodied learning such as active listening, gestural body language, and physical action.

ACTIVITY

In *The Little Prince*, the geographer tells the Little Prince that flowers are ephemeral. When the Little Prince doesn't understand, the geographer explains that "ephemeral" means "[that] which is threatened by imminent disappearance." Something that is ephemeral only lasts a short time. Some good questions to think about are: if something only lasts a short time, is it worth doing / having? Can we still enjoy it? Should you put effort into it? If it only lasts a short time, what can we do to remember it?

Use natural items you find on a walk to create a piece of ephemeral art, or art that isn't meant to last forever. Then you can watch for it on your next walks to see if it changes, and if so, how. When you are creating your art, think about the parts you are using to make it, where they came from, and what might cause them to change. For example, will the wind blow it away? An everyday example of ephemeral art is a snowman: it only lasts until the sun melts it away!

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Anything natural that you find outside on your walk! Watch for things like:

- Pinecones
- Berries
- Twigs
- Feathers
- Leaves
- Sand
- Rocks
- Snow
- Flowers
- Dirt

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Dress appropriately for the weather and head out for a walk around your neighbourhood.
2. Collect items for your project as you see them on your walk. Be mindful of where things come from. Do not enter someone else's yard to collect materials or break materials off a plant or tree. As you collect items, start thinking of what you could create with them, knowing that it will one day decompose and / or disappear.
3. Find a spot to create your art. Consider making it somewhere that others can see it, such as your front yard, or a public space like a park or along the side of a pathway. Make sure not to block a pathway with your art.
4. Depending on where and when you are walking, the path you make could be your ephemeral art piece — are you walking in the snow? In the sand? What kinds of patterns could you make with your path?
5. Check out examples of ephemeral art for inspiration such as the work of American land artist, Andy Goldsworthy, or sand mandalas created by monks.
6. Go for a walk in a few days and see if your art has changed or disappeared!

These are some examples of ephemeral art created by kids and by the American land artist, Andy Goldsworthy:

calgarylibrary.ca/goldsworthy

[calgarylibrary.ca/
history-of-the-snowman](http://calgarylibrary.ca/history-of-the-snowman)

calgarylibrary.ca/ephemeral-art

calgarylibrary.ca/land-art

calgarylibrary.ca/nature-art



work by Andy Goldsworthy

SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE THROUGH REAL WORLD APPLICATIONS: **WRITING PROMPTS**

Sharing our reflections with others helps give what we learned new and deeper meaning and invites more discussion outside our immediate family groups. This helps connect what we have read and discussed to our own life. In addition to reflecting on the book itself, consider reflecting on your experience reading it and using this reading kit. Reflecting on what you liked and didn't like about this experience can help understand how everyone in your family likes to read and learn, which may influence the way you read your next book together!

Consider asking yourself:

- What worked best for me when I used the Family Reading Kit and read the book?
- What didn't work so well?
- What's next? What would I do differently or the same?

ACTIVITY

Writing can be a wonderful way to understand your own perspective in relation to another's. You can work together as a group, or write your responses individually, and share when you are done.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

- Something to write with (pen and paper, word processing software)
- A quiet space to work
- Someone to share and discuss your responses with

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Use any of the prompts below to respond to with your thoughts about the book.
2. Write down your response in a way that you can share it with someone else.
3. Talk about the ways that your answers were similar or different.
4. Add your answers to *The Little Prince* Padlet at calgarylibrary.ca/family-reading-padlet

PROMPTS

- An important scene or moment from the book is when the Little Prince makes the choice to leave. Why does the Little Prince want to return home? Why isn't his friendship with the Pilot enough to make him stay, especially since he is alone on the planet? Write about what you would have done in that situation or what do you think they should have done differently.
- Create an alternate ending for the book.
- Try to summarize *The Little Prince* for Twitter (280 characters). If you really want a challenge, summarize *The Little Prince* as a six-word story.
- Discuss the themes of time and death in *The Little Prince*. How does the Prince learn to appreciate the time he has with his loved ones better, and how does it affect his relationships with them? If you could write an epitaph (the words that are inscribed on someone's headstone when they die) for a character in the story, what would it say?
- Why do some people see Drawing Number One as a simple hat, while others think it represents an elephant inside a boa constrictor? What is the meaning of these different perspectives?
- Write an argument from the rose's point of view. Why doesn't the rose tell the Little Prince that she loves him? Why does he continue to love her?
- Why is the fox so eager to be tamed by the Little Prince? If he already knows how to tame himself, why does he need someone else to do it for him?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY DIGITAL LIBRARY eRESOURCES:

Access these resources and more for free with your Library card! Need help? Contact the Library at 403.260.2600.

NAXOS Music Library

Stream classical music online for free, including pieces inspired by *The Little Prince*. Search “The Little Prince” or “Saint-Exupéry” to listen to Tim Rescalá’s orchestral interpretation of *The Little Prince*, Laurent Petitgirard’s orchestral accompaniment to *The Little Prince* ballet, and other musical adaptations of the book.

calgarylibrary.ca/naxos-music-library

Smithsonian

Discover the history of aviation and space exploration in Air & Space Digital Magazine. You can also search other interesting facts and publications about science, history, art, popular culture, and innovation through the Smithsonian database.

calgarylibrary.ca/smithsonian

Adaptations:

The Little Prince has been adapted into various formats that you can find at the Library. Find them all at calgarylibrary.ca/little-prince-adaptations

- *The Little Prince* (graphic novel vol. 1-24) by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
- *The Little Prince*, DVD & Blu-Ray, 2016
- *The Little Prince*, DVD, 2004

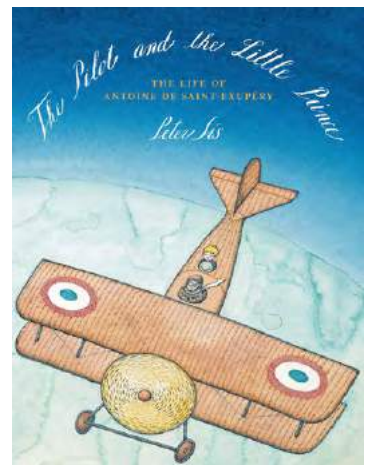
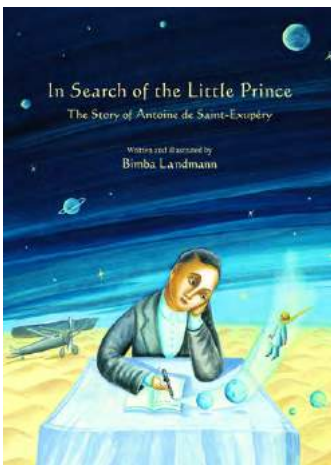
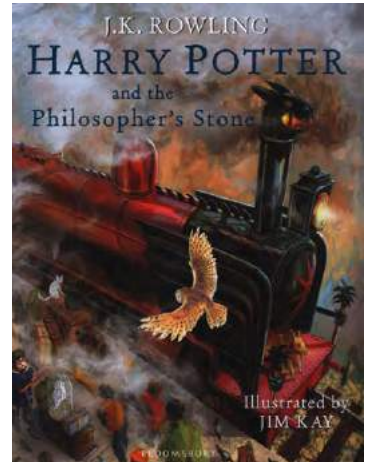
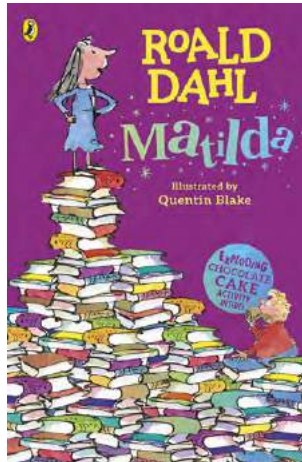
If your family enjoyed *The Little Prince*, you’ll want to check out these related titles at your Library location or in this booklist at calgarylibrary.ca/if-you-liked-the-little-prince:

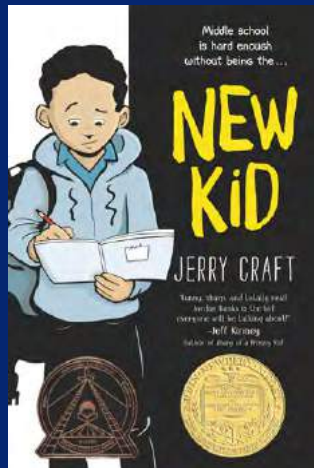
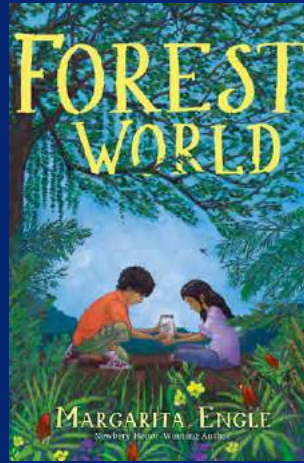
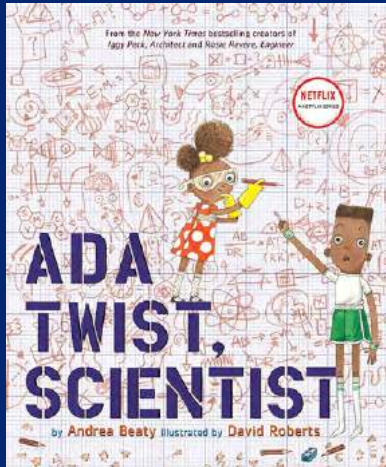
- *Matilda* by Roald Dahl
- *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone* (New Illustrated Edition) by J.K. Rowling
- *Alice in Wonderland* (graphic novel) by Lewis Carroll

You can learn more about the Sahara Desert with the book *Travelling Wild* by Sonya Newland, or launch your knowledge into space with *The Planets* by Gail Gibbons or *Destination Space: Living on Other Planets* by Dave Willams

To learn more about the author, find these titles:

- *In Search of the Little Prince: The Story of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry* by Bimba Landmann
- *The Pilot and the Little Prince: The Life of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry* by Peter Sis





CHECK OUT ALL OF THE 2022 FAMILY READING KIT TITLES

calgarylibrary.ca/family-reading-kit