

Just for Kids!

Artists, authors, playwrights, screenwriters, and directors have adapted *A Wrinkle in Time* into various forms. Despite having the same characters, setting, and plot, each adaptation has its own look and feel. A book cover is important to entice a reader to choose the book from a shelf of many, while also giving an idea for what the book is about and who it is written for.

How would you adapt the cover of *A Wrinkle in Time*? Create your version (in two or three dimensions) and share it with us at your local Library!

First Name: _____ Grade: _____

I read *A Wrinkle in Time* with my _____
(family, classroom, grandmother, parents, dog, etc.)

A WRINKLE IN TIME
FAMILY READING PICK

Beginning, as many stories begin, with a dark, stormy, atmospheric night, *A Wrinkle in Time* tells the story of Meg Murry, her younger brother Charles Wallace, and her friend Calvin O'Keefe as they undertake a dangerous journey through time and space to rescue Meg's father, and possibly the universe. It's a story about the struggles of good and evil, leadership, and understanding.

Author Madeleine L'Engle

Lifelong writer Madeleine L'Engle described herself as writing her first book at the age of five. She is the author of books she thought people needed and wanted to read, not just an author for children. As a result, *A Wrinkle in Time* is a book that any reader can learn from. Despite facing 26 rejection letters while trying to publish, L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* was published in 1962 and went on to win the Newbery Medal for excellence in children's literature in 1963. In her acceptance speech, she said, "A book, too, can be a star, 'explosive material, capable of stirring up fresh life endlessly,' a living fire to lighten the darkness, leading out into the expanding universe."

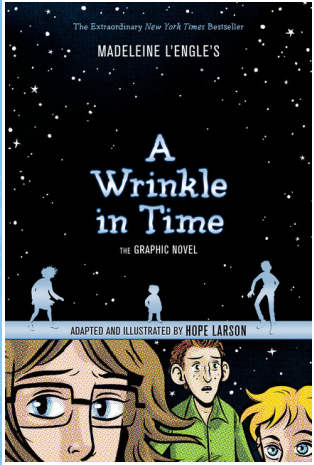
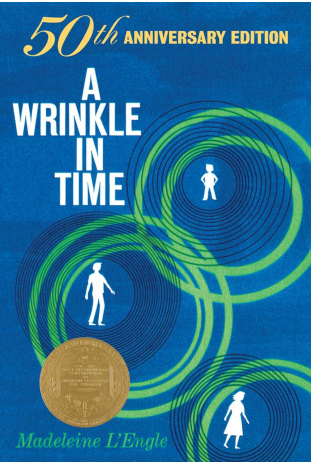
Author / Illustrator Hope Larson

Hope Larson's graphic novel adaptation of the book also won an award — the Eisner Award for Best Publication for Teens. Like L'Engle, Larson's works explore themes of adolescence, growing up, identity, and adventure. Her other titles feature relatable, strong female protagonists, just like Meg in *A Wrinkle in Time*.

Why it makes a great read aloud: *A Wrinkle in Time* remains a great novel to read aloud because, despite being written 65 years ago, the story, writing, and the characters remain perfectly relatable. (Except perhaps Meg longing for a typewriter and the use of "jeepers" by Calvin.) Meg feels like an outcast at school. She can't do anything right, she's in trouble at school, she has braces, and she's angry about her father's absence. These aspects of her character are ones that both children and adults will find compelling.

This is a book that doesn't condescend to young readers (or listeners). It makes demands on the reader's imagination and moral compass — would it be easier just to give in? What is bravery? What does it mean to resist conformity? Why must a child be responsible for a rescue? Why aren't Mrs. Whatsit, Who, and Which saving the universe?

A Wrinkle in Time gives us the opportunity to learn something about ourselves and to talk about these all-encompassing concepts. These issues, while clearly influenced by Cold War-era concerns, do provide parallels in our current time.



Recommended for:
Ages 8 and up

Discussion Questions

Read each question aloud and share your answers. Don't worry about staying on topic! See where the conversation leads you and encourage your readers to ask questions of their own.

- How would you define "bravery?" Can you think of a time when you were brave?
- Why is it so important for the children to stay together as they tesser through the universe? Who would you want to travel with?
- Would you travel through time if you could? Where would you go? Would you travel to the past or the future?
- If you met Meg in real life, do you think you would be friends? Why or why not?

An Activity for your Family to Do Together

Create your own wrinkle in time and space. Draw one of the worlds as you read or listen to the book (or create your own). Connect two or more worlds or places by attaching them to a piece of string. Fold the string so the two worlds are side by side. See how the folds — or wrinkles — bring the two objects together.

Share a photo on social with #FamilyReadingPick and tag the Library @calgarylibrary

Supplies:

- Paper or cardboard
- Drawing or colouring materials
- String or yarn
- Other craft materials (feathers, stickers, pipe cleaners, buttons, etc. It's your world you're creating, make it look however you like with whatever supplies you have.)

