

6.8



Office of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

FORM FOR DONATED BOOKS

This is a formal request for donated library books procured through grants or donations to be included in the school library for circulation. If there is only one donated book, the lines below will be completed. Otherwise, attachments will be provided to this form.

Note for Librarians: If purchased from a vendor, print out the detailed list with reviews, annotations, etc. If not purchased through a vendor, the librarian will make a spreadsheet with the following information if there is more than one book..

- 1. Grade Level(s): Middle 6-8 or See Attached List
2. Title(s)/ Author(s): or See Attached List
3. Genre: or See Attached List
4. Format (e.g., graphic novels, chapter bks, etc.): large print novels or See Attached List
5. Content/Summary (below): or See Attached

Blank lines for content/summary input.

The librarian signing the form below certifies that the books meet the criteria listed in Board Policy 2530 and that the book/books have been reviewed using professional resources endorsed by AASL, SLJ, and NJASL including but not limited to the following:

- Mackin Curator, Junior Library Guild, School Library Journal, Various book awards, e.g., Newberry, Caldecott, JLG Gold Standard, etc., Horn Book, Kirkus Review, We Need Diverse Books

Lisa Krauze Librarian

Signature of Lisa Krauze

3/26/24 Date

SANDRA PAUL Supervisor/Director*

Signature of Sandra Paul

3/27/24 Date

*The Director will inform the building administration of the book(s) being added to the school's library once s/he has approved the form.

The book(s) on this form may not be added until they have received Board of Education approval.

KMS

Available Titles

Title	Series Title	Author	ISBN	Publisher	DOP	Dewey	Genre	Alt Genre	RL	Lexile	AR	RC	F&P	Language	Pages	Reviews	Product
BASEBALL GENIUS: (LARGE PRINT)	BASEBALL GENIUS: 1	GREEN, TIM	9781432874148	THORNDIKE PRESS LARGE PRINT	2020	FIC	Sports		5-8					English	409	0	Hardcover Library
★ FREEWATER		LUQMAN-DAWSON, AMINA	9798885787017	YOUTH LARGE PRINT	2023	FIC	Historical		4.6	4-8				English	505	6	Hardcover Library

Annotation: Jalen DeLuca's dad doesn't have the money to keep him on his traveling baseball team, so Jalen decides he'll find a way to cover the fees himself. But when he sneaks into James Yager, and steals a couple of balls that he hopes to sell for cash, he's caught by Yager. Desperate to get out of trouble, Jalen shares a secret--he has a strange ability to predict base Jalen helps him out of his batting slump, a slump that could get him replaced by a younger player.

Tags: African/Black/African-American, North America, Own Voices
Annotation: After they flee the plantation where they were enslaved, twelve-year-old Homer and his sister Ada find a home with the people of Freewater, a group of escaped slaves who he finds a new community of friends who support and protect one another, he can't stop thinking about the mother he left behind. When their community is threatened, Homer hatches Freewater residents.

Review Sources: Kirkus Reviews Starred - 12/15/2021, Booklist Starred Reviews - 01/01/2022, Publishers Weekly Starred - 02/28/2022, School Library Journal - March 2022, School Librar Starred - May 2022, Newbery Award - 2023, Coretta Scott King - 2023

Full Text Reviews:

- Horn Book Guide Starred May 2022 Many accounts of the Underground Railroad mention that enslaved Blacks would stick close to swamps as they made their way North, as the lesser-known fact is that from the 1700s through the Civil War, hundreds of African Americans remained in the swamp and established thriving communities. One such area, the C Luqman-Dawson's engrossing, multi-perspective debut novel. Twelve-year-old Homer is on the run with his seven-year-old sister, their mother having turned back to save his frie swamp, the answer arrives in Suleman, a Black man with knowledge of both the swamp and the surrounding plantations. Suleman leads them to Freewater, an established comr only, the youngest daughter of the plantation owner. When they all converge on the night of a wedding, sacrifices from each of them bring the story to an explosive and cathartic name and records their journey, successfully developing a multidimensional cast. The author's note contains a brief history of these communities formed by both Indigenous anc nearby swamp to evade the dogs chasing them. Once out of immediate danger, they eventually come under the watchful eye of a man who calls himself Suleman. As Homer and they soon find themselves surrounded by a host of people who are not only living in what they call Freewater but thriving there. New relationships and friendships are formed, ye hopeful they can one day be reunited with her. As the story unfolds readers are also told of the goings on back on the plantation. There is a huge wedding that will be taking place married, and they are set on making it into the event of the year. These intertwining stories eventually intersect on the day of the wedding. After that it becomes a race for survival and threatens the guests. Homer and Ada, along with their mother and their new family, finally manage to escape the fire and cross back into Freewater. Homer sums it up best: " explores a relatively unknown piece of history from the southern U.S. in the African American maroon communities that existed in the region known as the Great Dismal Swamp t and how they managed to create communities in what others considered to be an uninhabitable environment. Filled with both hope and joy, it explores the families we are born HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- School Library Journal March 2022 Gr 5-8—Sometimes, to be free, you have to make a life in a place where no one can find you. Freewater is such a place. With their mother leadi escape their hellish lives of slavery on the Southerland Plantation. But Homer remembers his promise of freedom to his friend Anna; his mother turns back for her but is caught. I the raging waters that carry them into the Great Dismal Swamp. Lost and disoriented, they are rescued by Suleman, a mysterious and taciturn guide who leads them through the escaped men, women, and children living in freedom. Slowly, Homer begins to appreciate living and working together to contribute to the thriving community. But what about hi capture, Homer decides to return to the plantation to rescue his mother and Anna. His new friends from Freewater pledge to return with him. Using a hand-drawn map that (unb

company undertake the seemingly impossible rescue. Told from many alternating points of view, it is somewhat challenging to keep the characters straight at the outset. While u formerly enslaved people within the Great Dismal Swamp as the basis for the text, the story itself is a speculative look into such a community. VERDICT A fascinating look at a ficti place.—Lisa Crandall Copyright 2022 Reed Business Information.

- Publishers Weekly Starred February 2022 Based on the real-life Great Dismal Swamp, where enslaved people sought refuge from plantation life, Luqman-Dawson's engrossing his 12-year-old Homer and seven-year-old Ada after their escape from Southerland Plantation and its white overseer. An encounter with plantation raider Suleman results in the chil forest peopled with individuals who escaped slavery and who keep watch for possible invaders. Making her children's debut, Luqman-Dawson populates the town with richly ren who has never seen a white person, and her sister Sanzi, a tough but unseasoned fighter who looks up to Suleman and wants to do her part to help the people of Freewater. Whei the characters must build courage and overcome their fears in this vividly written, wholly accessible novel of enslavement and resistance. Back matter includes an author's note c
- 12. Agent: Emily Van Beek, Folio Jr. (Feb.)
- Booklist Starred Reviews January 2022 Grades 4-7 - "*" Starred Review* Fleeing enslavement at Southland Plantation, 12-year-old Homer and his little sister, Ada, get separated frc a wild, unknown area. Struggling forward and fearing capture, they are helped by a man who literally swings to their rescue from the trees! Suleman helps them make their way t and their freeborn children. The newcomers are in awe of how this hidden enclave—Freewater—exists, but they also fear for their new home and friends after overhearing the pla set the swamp ablaze to flush them out. Back at the plantation, their recaptured mother and others want to join the Freewater community, and a perfect plan comes together. De known piece of Black history: the role of swamplands as safe areas for those making their way to freedom. She has imagined how people not only would survive but thrive in suc and moving them toward an exciting, heartfelt resolution, Luqman-Dawson does not shy away from the realities of slavery. This lyrical story of hope, strength, and ingenuity will lovers. Direct your Christopher Paul Curtis and Avi fans this way."
- Kirkus Reviews Starred December 2021 Two youngsters escaping slavery find refuge. Twelve-year-old Homer and his little sister, Ada, become separated from their mother as the: plantation. They are rescued by Suleman, who takes them deep into the Great Dismal Swamp, where they join Freewater, a community of people who successfully fled from slave together to remain free, support one another, and remember the history of their founding. Suleman is one of the men who patrols the swamp, watching for any who would seek t plantations for supplies. Freeborn Sanzi, 12, is determined to be a hero like Suleman—even if it gets her into trouble—and when her efforts go badly wrong, it places their settle Homer's mother has been caught and severely whipped. This does not keep Homer's friend Anna from plotting her own escape while Homer seeks a way to rescue his mother. Se those who fled slavery and lived secretly in Southern swamps, this is detailed and well-researched historical fiction. The characters are varied, complex, and fully realized. Descrij aspect of the narrative. The page-turning action will engage readers as the story reaches a satisfying conclusion. An exceptional addition to the resistance stories of enslaved peo

THE ONE
AND ONLY
BOB :
(LARGE
PRINT)

THORNDIKE
PRESS
LARGE
PRINT

2020 FIC
Animals
Fantasy
3.9
3-6
570L
3.9 MG
PV:4
508343EN

English
367
0
Hardcover
Library

Tags: High Interest

Annotation: A scrappy dog named Bob and his best friends, Ivan the gorilla and Ruby the elephant, undertake a dangerous journey to seek Bob's long-lost sister, but a storm is approach