

Goldie's At Home Booklist

Books about Iowans

At-home storytime is an effective way to promote language and literacy skills and help encourage a lifelong love of reading and learning.

Below are recommended books for children that are about Iowans (Kate Shelley) or significant individuals from history who spent time in Iowa (pilot Amelia Earhart).



Kate Shelley: Bound for Legend by Robert D. San Souci

Year: 1995

Book Synopsis: Once in a while an ordinary person performs a deed so brave and unexpected that it is remembered long afterward. Kate Shelley was such a person. In the midst of a torrential storm in the summer of 1881, a dreadful train wreck occurred near 15-year-old Shelley's Iowa farm. Find out what deeds make her a well-remembered person of courage.

I am Amelia Earhart by Brad Meltzer

Year: 2014

Book Synopsis: Amelia Earhart refused to accept no for an answer; she dared to do what no one had ever done before, and became the first woman to fly a plane all the way across the Atlantic Ocean. This book follows her from childhood to her first flying lessons and onward to her multi-record-breaking career as a pilot.

A Weed Is a Flower: The Life of George Washington Carver by Aliko

Year: 1988

Book Synopsis: This children's book provides text and pictures about the incredible life of scientist George Washington Carver. Born enslaved, Carver went on to become a world-reknown scientist and devoted his entire life to helping improve agricultural processes. In 1890, Carver started studying art and piano at Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. His art teacher, Etta Budd, recognized his talent and encouraged him to study botany at Iowa State Agricultural College (now Iowa State University) in Ames. When he began there in 1891, he was the first African-American student, and later, the first African-American faculty member at Iowa State.

The Kid Who Changed the World by Andy Andrews

Year: 2010

Book Synopsis: This engaging story reveals the incredible truth that everything people do matters. This story shows children that even the smallest of their actions can affect all of humanity. The book shares the stories of Nobel Laureate Norman Borlaug (Iowan), Vice President Henry A. Wallace (Iowan) and scientist George Washington Carver (studied in Iowa).

American Gothic: The Life of Grant Wood by Susan Wood

Year: 2017

Book Synopsis: American Gothic is a picture-book biography that explores the birth of the famous painting, the movement that made it possible, and the artist - Iowan Grant Wood - who created it all.