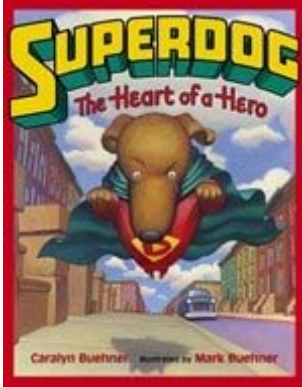


CALIFORNIA YOUNG READER MEDAL BOOKS 2007-2008

<http://www.californiayoungreadermedal.org/>

PRIMARY BOOKS GRADES K-3

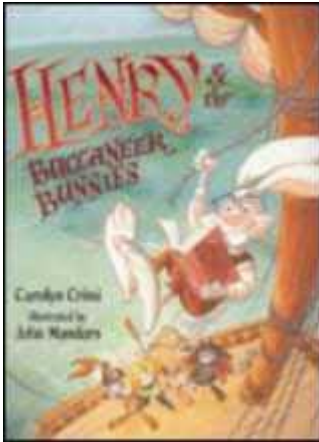


Dex: The Heart of a Hero (2004)

by Caralyn Buehner. Illustrated by Mark Buehner

Dexter is a little dog. He's so little that the other dogs forget to invite him to play, and Cleevis the tomcat bullies him. But little Dexter has dreams — big dreams. He wants to be a superhero. So Dexter starts a superhero training program. And suddenly, even Cleevis needs his help! In *Superdog*, husband-and-wife team Mark and Caralyn Buehner have created a timeless story about a true superhero. Dexter has determination, spirit, and heart as he proves, above all, that no matter how little you are, you can still do very big things.

HVC's pick—168 Votes and the 2007-2008 Winner

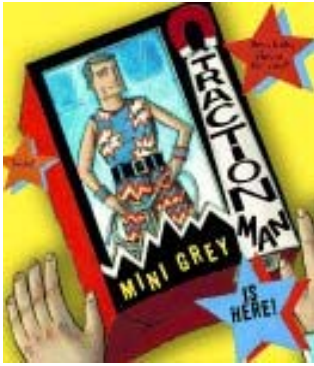


Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies (2005)

by Carolyn Crimi

Henry, a young bunny, is different from the other bunnies on the ship Salty Carrot. While the other pirates relish stealing jewels from other ships and admiring their tattoos, Henry favors reading books. But when a big storm arrives, Henry's favorite activity saves the lives of the pirates, especially Henry's scornful father, Barnacle Black Ear.

27 Votes



Traction Man is Here!!! (2005)
by Mini Grey

Traction Man—wearing combat boots, battle pants, and his warfare shirt—comes in a box, but very quickly finds the way into the imagination of his lucky boy owner. This superhero searches for the Lost Wreck of the Sieve as the boy makes a game of doing the dishes, and later in the bathtub, he conquers the Mysterious Toes that are stealing his pet, the brave little Scrubbing Brush. These are just a few of the action-packed adventures played out by the boy and his new toy that may not

be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, but can vanquish all manner of villains lurking around the house. Mini Grey's story in words and pictures is an irresistible invitation to the private world of a child's play.

61 Votes



The Giant Hug (2005)
by Sandra Horning. Illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev

A little pig named Owen decides to send his granny a hug. With the help of the post office, the hug travels from worker to worker with some surprising results. Can you guess what Granny sends back to Owen?

19 Votes



I Wanna Iguana (2004)
by Karen Kaufman Orloff. Illustrated by David Catrow

Alex just has to convince his mom to let him have an iguana, so he puts his arguments in writing. He promises that she won't have to feed it or clean its cage or even see it if she doesn't want to. Of course Mom imagines life with a six-foot-long iguana eating them out of house and home. Alex's reassurances: It takes fifteen years for an iguana to get that big. I'll be married by then and probably living in my own house. and his mom's replies: How are you going to get a girl to marry you when you own a giant reptile? This book will have kids in hysterics as the negotiations go back and forth

through notes. And the lively, imaginative illustrations show their polar opposite dreams of life with an iguana.

13 Votes