

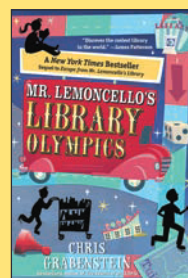
## ABOUT THE BOOKS



PB: 978-0-307-93147-4  
HC: 978-0-375-87089-7  
EL: 978-0-307-97496-9  
CD: 978-0-8041-6808-3

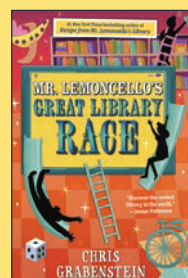
Now on  
42 State Award  
Nomination  
Lists!

In *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, readers meet Kyle Keeley, the class clown and a huge fan of all games—board games, word games, and particularly video games. His hero, Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious and creative game maker in the world, just so happens to be the genius behind the construction of the new town library. Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot as one of twelve kids invited for an overnight sleepover in the library, hosted by Mr. Lemoncello and riddled with lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors stay locked. Kyle and the other kids must solve every clue and figure out every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route!



PB: 978-0-553-51042-3  
HC: 978-0-553-51040-9  
GLB: 978-0-553-51041-6  
EL: 978-0-553-51043-0  
CD: 978-0-1475-2038-8

In *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics*, Mr. Lemoncello has invited teams from all across America to compete in the first-ever Library Olympics. But something suspicious is going on . . . books are missing from Mr. Lemoncello's library. Is someone trying to censor what the kids are reading?! Now it's not just a game—can Mr. Lemoncello find the real defenders of books and champions of libraries? In between figuring out mind-boggling challenges, the kids will have to band together to get to the bottom of this mystery.



HC: 978-0-553-53606-5  
GLB: 978-0-553-53607-2  
EL: 978-0-553-53608-9  
CD: 978-1-5247-7853-8

In *Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race*, Mr. Lemoncello is testing out his new Fabulous Fact-Finding Frenzy! If Kyle can make it through the first round of the competition, he and the other lucky finalists will go on a great race—by bicycle, bookmobile, and even Mr. Lemoncello's corporate banana jet to find fascinating facts about famous Americans. The first to bring their facts back to the library will win SPECTACULAR prizes! But when a few surprising “facts” surface about Mr. Lemoncello, it might be GO TO JAIL and LOSE A TURN all at once! Could Kyle's hero be a FRAUD?!

## PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

- Kids can relate to Kyle Keeley's love of games because so many of them have fallen in love with board or card games sitting around a table with their friends or family. Have students bring in their favorite games, and spend some time playing together.
- Break students into groups and give them each a board game. Their job is to change three rules of that game to make it better. They should test and then revise their rules to make sure that the game is still playable. Groups will then present their new and improved games to the class, and their classmates can have the opportunity to try each game.

## QUESTIONS FOR GROUP DISCUSSION

### *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*

- How would the book have been different if it had been told from Kyle's perspective?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.6

- Kyle's team chose him as the leader. What made Kyle a great leader?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.1

- Haley switched teams late in the game. If you were on Kyle's team, explain how you would have reacted to someone changing teams at that point. How would you have felt if you were on Charles's team?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.3

- Mr. Lemoncello could have opened his library in a more traditional way. Why do you think he chose such an elaborate game? What did he want the contestants to take away from the experience?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.2

- Mr. Lemoncello believes that the library helped make him the man he grew up to be. If you had to name one person or place that has helped you become the person you are today, who or where would you pick? Explain.

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.2

- Charles Chiltonington is not the nicest character. Why do you think he acts the way he does? Do you think he will learn from the mistakes he made during the game?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.3

★ “An ode to libraries and literature that is a worthy successor to the original madman puzzle-master himself, *Willy Wonka*.” —*Booklist*, Starred

### *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics*

- The story begins with the line: “Just about every kid in America wished they could be Kyle Keeley.” If you could spend a day in the life of someone else, who would you pick? What would you do?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.3

- Early in the book, we find out that Kyle loves being famous. What do you think are some positive and negative effects of being famous? Would you want to be famous?

- Team Kyle learns that kids all over America don't like them. Write about a time where someone didn't seem to like you.

- If you could ride Mr. Lemoncello's hover ladder, what books would you fly to?
- What are your thoughts on Mr. Lemoncello's motto: “Knowledge not shared remains unknown”?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.2

### *Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race*

- Failure is a major theme in this book. Think of a time you failed. Did you learn something?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.2

- Kyle has to work with someone who he doesn't really want to work with. What do you do when you are in this type of situation?

- Mr. Lemoncello is treated very unfairly by the Krinkle brothers. How do you handle being treated unfairly by others? Do you think Mr. Lemoncello dealt with this situation correctly?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.10

- Kyle gets to ride on Mr. Lemoncello's private plane during the Great Library Race. If you could take this plane and fly to the setting of any book, where would you go?

- There are times when Mr. Lemoncello doesn't seem like the wonderful person Kyle thought he was. What would you do if someone told you that someone you respected and admired wasn't the person you thought they were?

Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.R.1

## INTERNET RESOURCES

Nerdy Book Club features teachers and librarians from all over the world doing some pretty neat stuff with the Lemoncello books.  
[NerdyBookClub.wordpress.com](http://NerdyBookClub.wordpress.com)

A quick guide to rebus puzzles  
[Fun-with-Words.com/rebus\\_puzzle\\_explain.html](http://Fun-with-Words.com/rebus_puzzle_explain.html)

How to use the Dewey Decimal System  
[MCPL.info/childrens/how-use-dewey-decimal-system](http://MCPL.info/childrens/how-use-dewey-decimal-system)



## ACTIVITIES

- Host a school reading night focused on the Dewey Decimal System. Each classroom in the school can select a class from within the system as a theme to decorate their room and create a flyer about that theme to share with the community members who attend the event. Students can dress accordingly and share books from the class with visitors.
- Let students select one class from the Dewey Decimal System that they would like to explore. After learning more, have the students select a career relevant to that class to research further. For example, if they are studying the 700 class, they may choose to learn more about architecture. Have students create questions for an architect, and then set up in-person, Skype, or written interviews with experts or people in the field so the students can ask their questions.
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.W.6
- In *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, Mr. Lemoncello spends \$500 million to build his dream library. While your hometown may not be in dire need of a new library, there is probably something that could be built to make it a better community for kids. Have your students write letters to your local leadership (city council members, township trustees, etc.) with the purpose of convincing them to make an addition to the city. Mail the letters, or have students speak at a public meeting.
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.W.6
- Celebrate a banned book! *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics* celebrates books that have been banned in certain places. Have students check the American Library Association's list of the ten most-banned books to see if they have read any over the last several years. Have students choose a book that they know from the list and write a persuasive essay about why the book shouldn't be banned. [ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10](http://ala.org/bbooks/frequentlychallengedbooks/top10)
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standard CCRA.W.1
- In *Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race*, Kyle and his friends learn about how many extremely successful people experienced a lot of failure that eventually led to their success. Have students research a successful person who they find interesting, and make a presentation to the class showing how that person learned from their failures.
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standards CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4
- Most readers of the Mr. Lemoncello books would love to be able to participate in one of Mr. Lemoncello's games. Have students create something that would convince Mr. Lemoncello that he should consider them the next time he hosts one of his contests. Students could make a commercial (think *Survivor* videos), write a letter, or create a poster.
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standards CCRA.W.2, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.W.6
- Have students select a scene from one of the books that includes Charles Chilton. In groups, ask them to discuss and rewrite the scene from Charles's point of view. Ask for volunteers to share their scene.
- Correlates to Common Core Anchor Standards CCRA.R.6, CCRA.W.1, CCRA.W.4



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



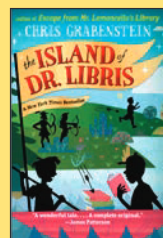
Tess Steinkolk

Chris Grabenstein is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library*, *Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics*, *Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race*, *The Island of Dr. Libris*, the *Welcome to Wonderland* series, and many other books. He is also the coauthor of numerous fun and funny page-turners with James Patterson, including *I Funny*, *House of Robots*, *Treasure Hunters*, and *Jackie Ha-Ha*.

Chris lives in New York City with his wife, J.J.

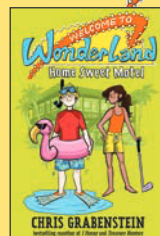
Visit [ChrisGrabenstein.com](http://ChrisGrabenstein.com) to learn more about the author and to download materials to run a Lemoncello-style scavenger hunt.

## MORE MIDDLE-GRADE FUN FROM CHRIS GRABENSTEIN



The Island of Dr. Libris  
PB: 978-0-385-38845-0

"Effortlessly readable and a whole lot of fun."  
—Booklist

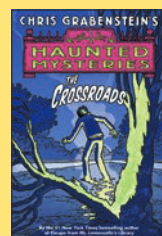


#1: Home Sweet Motel  
HC: 978-0-553-53602-7



#2: Beach Party Surf Monkey  
HC: 978-0-553-53610-2

"Outrageous hijinks and nonstop hilarity—five stars! Kids who check into this madcap motel will want to stay forever!" —Lincoln Peirce, author of the Big Nate series



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The Demons' Door  
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PB: 978-1-5247-6521-7



The Black Heart Crypt  
PB: 978-0-375-87301-0

☞ = Listening Library Audio Available

Prepared by Colby Sharp, fifth-grade teacher in Michigan and cofounder of the Nerdy Book Club  
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"Discover the coolest library in the world."

—James Patterson,  
#1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *I Funny*



# MR. LEMONCELLO'S LIBRARY

## EDUCATORS' GUIDE



Share **CHRIS GRABENSTEIN'S** fantastically fun, puzzle-packed adventures with your students!

