

A grey rectangular sign with the word "BOOKLIST" written in large, black, sans-serif capital letters. A cartoon hand with a white body and black outlines is holding the bottom edge of the sign. The background is decorated with stars, lightning bolts, and a large grey arrow pointing towards the sign.

# BOOKLIST

★ **OCTOPUS**  
booklist inspired by  
**Yay For Octo-Moms!**

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**Behold the Octopus!** by Suzanne Slade & Thomas Gonzalez (4-8). A prolific author shares fascinating details about this intriguing creature alongside photorealistic illustrations. **Nonfiction.**

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**Mysterious, Marvelous Octopus!** by Paige Towler. Lyrical poetry is supported by informational sidebars and stunning photos of ink-squirting, shape-shifting, nine-brained undersea wonders. **Nonfiction.**

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**Inky's Amazing Escape: How a Very Smart Octopus Found His Way Home** by Sy Montgomery & Amy Schimler-Safford (4-8). Naturalist and award-winning author Montgomery tells the story of a real octopus's remarkable exit from a New Zealand aquarium. **Nonfiction.** For a similar but fictionalized story, see [The Octopus Escapes](#), by Maile Maloy & Felicita Sala (4-8).

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**Octopus Stew**, by Eric Velasquez (4-8). Ramsey dons his cape to protect his abuela from the octopus she's cooking after it grows to an enormous size and traps her. **Fiction.**

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**Octopus: Smartest in the Sea?** by Ginjer L. Clarke (6-9). Crisp photos and factual details about octopuses for independent readers. **Nonfiction.**

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**The Benefits of Being an Octopus** by Ann Braden (8-12). A realistic and hopeful story about an octopus-loving seventh grader, Zoey, who makes hard choices for the best interests of her family in a difficult situation. **Fiction.**