

**Grades  
4-5**

# The Pingry School Lower School Library Summer Reading List 2018



**Postcards to the Library**

June 2018

*A Message to Pingry Families,*

**Fostering a love of reading is one of the greatest gifts we can give our children.**

The Lower School Library Summer Reading Lists have been developed to encourage reading and to guide our students with their book choices during the summer. Reading for pleasure helps to build reading skills and instills a love of reading that will last a lifetime.

We recommend that students read a variety of books from their reading list. Many different books, from challenging to easier choices, are listed. While specific book titles are suggested, students may choose any book by the authors listed. Titles are annotated to help in the selection process.

**Children are not expected to read all the books on the list; these suggestions are intended to provide many possible choices.**

We hope every child will find something on the list which will spark their interest in reading.

**The following information and resources can be found in this booklet:**

- **Postcards to the Library Program** – Students send picture postcards to the Library and share information about the books they are reading. See directions for participation on the next page.
- **Reading Log** – Set a reading goal, and record all the books read during the summer.

Browse the [Lower School Library Website](#) for subscription databases and other online resources for research and related activities. (These resources require a username and password for login.)

*Have a Wonderful Summer and Happy Reading!*

Sincerely,

Mrs. D’Innocenzo

Lower School Librarian

# Send Postcards to the Library

Dear Mrs. D'Innocenzo,

I am having fun this summer.

I go to soccer camp during the day, go swimming with my friends, and read every night before dinner.

I read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl. It was a great book and I loved it!

Your friend,  
Taylor Jones



**Mrs. D'Innocenzo  
The Pingry School Library  
50 Country Day Drive  
Short Hills, NJ 07078**

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## How to Participate in Postcards to the Library:

- Send picture postcards to the Library at the above address.
- Send one postcard for every book you read.
- A picture postcard can be sent from anywhere – even from your own hometown or from Grandma's house.
- Include the book title, author's name, and your first and last name.
- Write a short description of what you liked about the book and how you are enjoying your summer vacation.
- Each postcard is entered in a drawing to be held the first week of school in September.
- Ten postcards will be picked at random, with prizes of Barnes & Noble gift cards awarded at the assembly.
- All postcards will be displayed in the hallway at Back-to-School Night and later placed in an album available in the library.

**Have a wonderful summer!**

**Happy Reading!**

# The Pingry Lower School Library

## 2018 Summer Reading List

### Students Entering Grades 4 and 5



## Fiction

The titles are presented by GENRE in alphabetical order.

### Adventure/Action

Barry, Dave and Ridley Pearson. **Peter and the Starcatchers**. Hyperion, 2004.

Peter, an orphan boy, and his friend Molly fight off thieves and pirates in order to keep the secret safe from the Black Stache and his evil associate Mister Grin. Also read the sequels.

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks**. Random House, 2005.

While vacationing with their father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother. Read the sequels.

Brown, Peter. **The Wild Robot**. Little, Brown, 2016.

Roz the robot discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island with no memory of where she is from or why she is there, and her only hope of survival is to learn about her new environment from the island's hostile inhabitants. Read the sequel: **Wild Robot Escapes**.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Flora and Ulysses**. Candlewick, 2013.

After Flora saves a squirrel named Ulysses from a run-in with a vacuum cleaner, they team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak. *Newbery Winner 2014*.

DuBois, William Pene. **The Twenty-One Balloons**. Viking, 1975.

After setting out from San Francisco in a hot-air balloon bound across the Pacific, Professor Sherman is picked up in the Atlantic clinging to wreckage. *Newbery Winner 1948*.

Grabenstein, Chris. **Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library**. Random House, 2013.

Twelve-year-old Kyle and his friends get to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by the famous Mr. Lemoncello, but in the morning they must solve puzzles in order to escape. Read Sequels: **Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics** (2016), and **Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race** (2017).

**The Island of Dr. Libris**. Random House, 2015.

Twelve-year-old Billy discovers that an island in the middle of the lake where he is spending the summer is the testing ground of mysterious Dr. Libris, who may have invented a way to make characters in books come alive.

Hanel, Rachael. **Can You Survive an Earthquake? An Interactive Survival Adventure**. 2014.  
Readers can choose how the story ends in different adventures about survival during an earthquake.  
**Read any book in the *Can You Survive...? Series*.**

Jenson, Marion. **Almost Super**. Harper Collins, 2014.  
Two brothers in a family of superheroes are forced to reexamine everything they knew about being super when the powers they receive are total duds and their enemy is just like they are.

Kelly, Mark. **Project Blastoff (Astrotwins Series)**. Simon & Schuster, 2015.  
Young Mark Kelly and his brother decide to build a rocket over the summer but their constant bickering starts to annoy their grandfather. Based on the NASA astronauts' real childhoods.  
Read the sequel: **Project Rescue (Astrotwins, Book 2)**. 2016. Twins Mark and Scott discover an abandoned Apollo command module and take off to rescue a stranded Russian cosmonaut lost in space.

Lowry, Lois. **The Willoughbys**. Houghton Mifflin, 2008.  
A tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes, in which the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on an around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

Patterson, James. **Word of Mouse**. Little Brown & Co., 2016.  
What makes Isaiah, a young mouse, so unique? He can read, write, and talk to humans. After a dramatic escape from a mysterious laboratory, Isaiah is separated from his family. When he meets an equally a lonely human girl, the two soon learn the importance of true friendship.

Paulsen, Gary. **Hatchet**. Atheneum Books, 1987.  
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only a hatchet.

Rundell, Katherine. **The Explorer**. Simon & Schuster, 2017.  
Left stranded in the Amazon jungle when their plane crashes on their way back to England from Brazil, four children struggle to survive for days until one of them finds a map that leads them to a ruined city and a secret hidden among the vines.

Selznick, Brian. **Wonderstruck**. Scholastic, 2011.  
Stories of twelve-year-old Ben, who loses his mother and his hearing, and leaves his home in 1977 to seek the father he has never known in New York; and Rose, who lives with her father but searches for what is missing in her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. **The Mysterious Benedict Society**. Little, Brown, 2007.  
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. Read the sequels.

Tarshis, Lauren. **I Survived The American Revolution, 1776 (I Survived Series)**. Scholastic, 2017. Nathaniel never imagined he'd find himself in the middle of a battlefield fighting for his life. He was only eleven years old! He'd barely paid attention to the troubles between American and England. Nate is suddenly propelled toward a thrilling and dangerous journey into the heart of the Revolutionary War. Read any title in the series.



## Fantasy & Science Fiction

Applegate, Katherine. **The One and Only Ivan**. Harper, 2012.

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life. A novel of friendship, inspired by a true story. *Newbery Medal 2013*.

**Crenshaw**. Feiwel & Friends, 2015.

A story about a homeless boy and his imaginary friend that proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.

**The Last**. Harper Collins, 2018.

Byx is the youngest member of her dairne pack. Believed to possess remarkable abilities, her mythical dog-like species has been hunted to near extinction in her war-torn kingdom.

**Wishtree**. Feiwel & Friends, 2017.

Red, an old red oak tree, tells how he and his crow friend, Bongo, help their human neighbors get along after a threat against an immigrant family is carved into the tree's trunk.

Baker, E. D. **Wide-Awake Princess (Series)**. Bloomsbury, 2010.

Annie, the younger sister of the princess, Sleeping Beauty, is immune to magic. She stays awake when everyone in the castle falls asleep, then sets out to break the spell.

Banks, Lynn Reid. **The Indian in the Cupboard**. Doubleday, 1980.

A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a key for his birthday and finds himself in an adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

Barnhill, Kelly Regan. **The Girl Who Drank the Moon**. Algonquin, 2016.

An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monster, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her. *Newbery Medal 2017*.

Burgis, Stephanie. **The Girl with a Chocolate Heart**. Bloomsbury, 2017.

After drinking enchanted hot chocolate, a brave young dragon is transformed into a twelve-year-old human girl with a passion for chocolate.

Colfer, Chris. **The Wishing Spell: The Land of Stories Series**: Little, Brown, 2012.

Through the mysterious powers of a book of stories, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic, where they come face-to-face with the fairy tale characters they grew up reading about. Read the series: **The Enchantress Returns** (2013), **A Grimm Warning** (2014), **Beyond the Kingdom** (2015), and **An Author's Odyssey** (2016).

Dahl, Roald. **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**. Knopf, 2001, c1964.

Five lucky children discover an entry ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory and take advantage of the situation, each in their own way. A rags-to-riches story, in which little Charlie Bucket strives to outlast his four selfish rivals in the quest to win the prize.

**Matilda.** Viking, 1988. Matilda applies her mental powers to rid the school of the evil headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey.

**BFG.** Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 1982. Kid-snatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts a plan to save the world from nine other cannybull giants.

**James and the Giant Peach.** Knopf, 1961. Wonderful adventures abound after James escapes from his fearsome aunts by rolling away inside a giant peach.

DiCamillo, Kate. **The Tale of Despereaux.** Candlewick Press, 2003.

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess he loves, the servant girl longing to be a princess, and a rat determined to bring them all to ruin. *Newbery Medal 2004. Read any title by this author.*

D’Lacey, Chris. **The Wearle (Erth Dragons Book 1).** Scholastic, 2017.

An epic fantasy of the first dragons sent to Erth! Gabriel is a young dragon who wants to find his father who years ago was one of a Wearle of dragons who set out from their home planet and were never heard from again--and now he is part of a new Wearle that has come to Erth.

DuPrau, Jeanne. **City of Ember.** Random House, 2003.

In the city of Ember, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger and finds a message that she and her friend Doon must decipher to save the city, before the lights go out on Ember forever! Read the sequels.

George, Jessica. **Tuesdays at the Castle.** Bloomsbury, 2011.

Princess Celie loves Tuesdays at Castle Glower, because every Tuesday the castle adds a new room or sometimes a whole new wing, and Celie likes to map the changes. When her parents, King and Queen Glower, are taken captive, Celie uses her knowledge of the castle to save the kingdom. Read the sequels: **Wednesdays in the Tower** (2013), **Thursdays with the Crown** (2014), **Fridays with the Wizards** (2016), and **Saturdays at Sea** (2017).

Griffiths, Andy. **78-Story Treehouse (Series).** Feiwel and Friends, 2013.

Andy and Terry live in a 78-story treehouse. (It used to be a 65-story treehouse, but they just keep building more levels!) It has a drive-thru car wash, a courtroom with a robot judge, a scribbletorium, an ALL-BALL sports stadium, a high-security potato chip storage facility, and an open-air movie theatre . . . which is a very useful thing to have now that Terry's going to be a big-shot movie star! **Read other Treehouse Books.**

Gutman, Dan. **Return of the Homework Machine.** Simon & Schuster, 2009.

After discarding their homework machine, four friends find themselves in trouble in an incident involving a powerful computer chip and a Grand Canyon treasure.

Hale, Shannon. **Princess Academy.** Bloomsbury Children’s Books, 2005.

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland. Companion books to Princess Academy:

**Palace of Stone** (2012). Coming down from the mountain to a new life in the city is a thrill for Miri. She and her princess academy friends have been brought to Asland to help the future princess Britta prepare for her wedding.

**The Forgotten Sister** (2015). Miri wants to return to Mount Eskel, but the king and queen ask her to first journey to a distant swamp and start her own miniature princess academy for three royal cousins, but she must solve a mystery before she can return home.

Hale, Shannon & Dean. **The Unbeatable Squirrel Girl**. Marvel, 2017.

Doreen Green moved from California to the suburbs of New Jersey and must start at a new school, make new friends, and continue to hide her tail. Yes, Doreen has the powers of a squirrel! One day Doreen uses her extraordinary powers to stop a group of troublemakers from causing mischief in the neighborhood, and her whole life changes.

Korman, Gordon. **Restart**. Scholastic, 2017.

Twelve-year-old Jackson Opus is descended from two powerful hypnotist bloodlines, but he has just begun to realize that he can control other people's actions with sometimes frightening results. Read any title by this author.

L'Engle, Madeleine. **A Wrinkle in Time**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1962.

Three extraterrestrial beings take Meg, her brother, and her friend to another world in search of her missing father. *Newbery Medal 1963*.

Lewis, C. S. **The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (The Chronicles of Narnia)**. Harper Collins, 1950. Four English school children find their way through a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and help Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

Lin, Grace. **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**. Little, Brown, 2009.

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish and joins a dragon who cannot fly in a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon. Read companion books:

**Starry River of the Sky (2012)**. **When the Sea Turned to Silver (2016)**.

McMann, Lisa. **Dragon Captives (The Unwanteds Quests, Book 1)**. Aladdin, 2017.

Magical twins Fifer and Thisbe Stowe have spent their lives wishing for an adventure. When a dragon shows up claiming that his family is being kept as slaves in their homeland, the twins sneak off to the land of the dragons to help them.

**Dragon Bones (Unwanteds Quests, Book 2)**, 2018. Sequel series to *The Unwanteds*.

Mlynowski, Sarah. **Fairest of All (Whatever After Series)**. Scholastic, 2013.

After moving to a new house, ten-year-old Abby and her younger brother Jonah discover an antique mirror that transports them into the Snow White fairy tale. *Read the sequels*.

Park, Linda Sue. **Forest of Wonder; Wing & Claw Series**. Harper, 2016.

When Raffa makes a cure from a rare crimson vine he finds deep in the forbidden forest, the bat he saves transforms into something much more.

Sequel: **Cavern of Secrets**, 2017. Hoping to return home after a winter in the Mountains so he can join his parents in the fight against the evil Chancellor, Raffa must use his skills to survive the journey.

Peck, Richard. **Secrets at Sea**. Dial Books, 2011.

In 1887, the Cranstons voyage from New York to London, where they hope to find a husband for their older daughter, who is secretly accompanied by Helena and her mouse siblings, for whom the journey is terrifying as they try to remain hidden.

**The Mouse With the Question Mark Tail.** Dial Books, 2013. Companion book.  
A very small mouse runs away from school in the Royal Mews of Buckingham Palace. Soon he's running for his life through the history of Buckingham Palace to find out who he is and who he will become.

Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series).** Hyperion, 2005.

Percy, expelled from six schools for his uncontrollable temper, learns that his father is the Greek god Poseidon. Percy is sent to Camp Half Blood, where he and a friend set out on a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war.

**The Lost Hero (Series).** Hyperion, 2010. Three students from a school for "bad kids" find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself. Read the sequels.

**Magnus Chase: The Sword of Summer (Series).** Disney/Hyperion, 2015.

Since his mother's mysterious death, Magnus Chase has lived alone on the streets of Boston, surviving by his wits. One day, he's tracked down by an uncle he barely knows who tells him a secret: Magnus is the son of a Norse god, Viking myths are true, and the gods are preparing for war.

**Trials of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle (Series).** Disney/Hyperion, 2016.

After angering his father Zeus, the god Apollo is cast down from Olympus. Weak and disoriented, he lands in New York City as a regular boy. Now, without his godly powers, he must learn to survive in the modern world.

Rowling, J. K. **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (Series)** Scholastic, 1999, c1997.

Rescued from the neglect of his aunt and uncle, Harry, age 11, attends Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, where he fights evil forces.

Seldon, George. **A Cricket in Times Square.** Farrar, Straus and Giroux, c1960.

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat. *Newbery Honor Book 1961.*

Sutherland, Tui. **The Dragonet Prophecy: Wings of Fire Series, Book #1.** Scholastic, 2012.

Clay and the other dragonets were stolen from their homes while they were still in their egg and hidden for years to fulfill a prophecy claiming that the dragonets would end the war.



## Historical Fiction

Appelfeld, Aharon, **Adam & Thomas**. Seven Stories Press, 2015.

Two young Jewish boys join together to survive the last winter of World War II, living alone in a forest, where they are visited by a young girl who brings them food.

Atkins, Jeannine. **Finding Wonders: Three Girls Who Changed Science**. Atheneum, 2016.

Novel in verse about three girls in three different time periods who grew up to become groundbreaking scientists.

Avi. **Crispin: The Cross of Lead**. Hyperion Books for Children, 2002.

An orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his lifelong home after being falsely accused of theft and murder. He travels from town to town with an itinerant juggler, trying to escape persecution and learn the secret of his past. *Newbery Medal 2003*.

Blakemore, Megan. **The Spy Catchers of Maple Hill**. Bloomsbury, 2014.

Hazel Kaplansky and new student Samuel Butler investigate rumors that a Russian spy has infiltrated their small Vermont town, amidst the fervor of Cold War-era McCarthyism, but more is revealed than they could ever have imagined.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker. **The War That Saved My Life**. Dial Books, 2015.

A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother. *Newbery Honor Book 2016, Best Books of 2015*.

**The War I Finally Won**. Dial Books, 2017. (Sequel to **The War That Saved my Life**)

As the frightening impact of World War II creeps closer and closer to her door, eleven-year-old Ada learns to manage life on the home front.

Bruchac, Joseph. **Talking Leaves**. Dial Books, 2016.

When his father, Sequoyah, returns to the village, Uwohali is eager to reconnect. But his father's mind seems far away and everyone thinks he is crazy because he is making strange markings. What Uwohali discovers is that Sequoyah is a genius and his strange markings are actually an alphabet representing the sounds of the Cherokee language.

Calkhoven, Laurie. **Daniel at the Siege of Boston, 1776 (Boys of Wartime Series)**. Dutton, 2010. Twelve-year-old Daniel, hiding his parents' allegiance to the Sons of Liberty from the British officers, tries to gather information and risks his life to reveal a traitor to George Washington.

Read: **Michael at the Invasion of France, 1943** and **Will at the Battle of Gettysburg, 1863**.

Choldenko, Gennifer. **Al Capone Does My Shirts**. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2004.

A twelve-year-old boy named Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935, when guards' families were housed there, and has to adapt to his new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **Bud, Not Buddy**. Delacorte, 1999.

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father — the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids. *Newbery Medal 2000*.

**Elijah of Buxton**. Scholastic, 2007. *Newbery Honor and Coretta Scott King Award*.

Eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the South in 1859, uses his wits and skills to bring to justice the preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

**Mighty Miss Malone**. Wendy Lamb Books, 2012.

Deza Malone, the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, accompanies her mother and older brother on a trip to find her father, who left to find work after the Great Depression hit. They end up in a Hooverville outside Flint, Michigan, in search of a new home.

Draper, Sharon. **Stella by Starlight**. Atheneum Books, 2015.

When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town. *Notable Children's Books 2015*.

Gemeinhart, Dan. **Some Kind of Courage**. Scholastic, 2016.

In 1890 Washington, the only family Joseph Johnson has left is his half-wild Indian pony, Sarah, so when she is sold by a man who has no right to do so, he sets out to get her back--and he plans to let nothing stop him in his quest.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. **Gingersnap**. Wendy Lamb Books, 2013.

In 1944, W.W. II is raging. Jayna's big brother Rob is her only family and he is called to duty. Jayna is left in their small town in upstate New York with their cranky landlady. But before he leaves, Rob tells Jayna a secret: they may have a grandmother in Brooklyn.

Gutman, Dan. **The Lincoln Project**. Harper, 2016.

Miss Z, a mysterious billionaire and collector of rare photographs, is sending her four very different kids back in time on a mission to capture one of the most important moments in American history — Abraham Lincoln giving his famous Gettysburg address.

Lai, Thanhha. **Inside Out and Back Again**. Harper, 2011.

Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

Park, Linda Sue. **A Single Shard**. Clarion Books, 2001.

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village and longs to learn how to create delicate celadon ceramics. *Newbery Medal 2002*.

Paterson, Katherine. **My Brigadista Year**. Candlewick Press, 2017.

Thirteen-year-old Lora a young Cuban teenager volunteers for Fidel Castro's national literacy campaign and travels into the impoverished countryside to teach others how to read.

Scattergood, Augusta. **Making Friends With Billy Wong**. Scholastic, 2016.

Told in two points of view, this is a powerful story about family, friendship, and the problems of racism and bullying. Set in small-town Arkansas in 1955, it depicts the unrest surrounding the arrival of Chinese immigrants in the segregated south.

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. **Little House in the Big Woods (Series)**. Harper Collins, 1953.

A year in the life of two young girls growing up on the Wisconsin frontier, as they help their mother, enjoy their father's stories, and share special occasions when they get together with relatives or neighbors.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. **One Crazy Summer**. Amistad, 2010.

In the summer of 1968, three sisters travel from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know. *Coretta Scott King Award*.

**P.S. Be Eleven**. Amistad, 2013. After spending the summer of 1968 with their mother and the Black Panthers, Delphine, Vonetta, and Fern return home to Brooklyn and discover that many changes have come to their home. *Coretta Scott King Award*.

Wolk, Lauren. **Wolf Hollow**. Dutton Children's Books, 2016. *Newbery Honor Book 2017*.

Twelve-year-old Annabelle must learn to stand up for what's right in the face of a new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran.



## Mystery

Avi. **School of the Dead**. Harper, 2016.

In this spine-tingling story, a boy must solve the mystery of the ghost haunting him.

Balliett, Blue. **Chasing Vermeer**. Scholastic, 2004.

When strange events occur and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder use their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Read the sequels: **The Wright 3** (2006). **The Calder Game** (2008). **Pieces and Players** (2015).

Burnett, Francis Hodges. **The Secret Garden**. c. 1910 (various editions).

Ten-year-old Mary, a spunky orphan, comes to live in a lonely servant-run house on the English moors. There she discovers her invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden. Can she find her own happiness and a key to the garden?

DelRio, Tania. **Warren the 13th and the All-Seeing Eye**. Quirk Books, 2016.

Twelve-year-old orphan Warren's pride and joy is his family's hotel, but he's been miserable ever since his evil Aunt Anaconda took over the management. Anaconda believes a mysterious treasure known as the All-Seeing-Eye is hidden somewhere on the grounds, and she'll do anything to find it. Solve the mystery by deciphering a series of clues.

Gibbs, Stuart. **Spy School (Series)**. Simon & Schuster, 2012.

Twelve-year-old Ben Ripley leaves his middle school to attend the CIA's highly secretive Espionage Academy, which everyone is told is an elite science school.

Read the series: **Spy Camp** (2013), **Evil Spy School** (2015), **Spy Ski School** (2016), and **Spy School Secret Service** (2017). Also read **Moon Base Alpha Series** — a murder mystery on the moon. **Fun Jungle Series** — mysteries at the zoo.

Hiaasen, Carl. **Scat**. Knopf, 2009.

Like **Flush** and **Chomp**, **Scat** is a humorous, environmentally conscious and quick-paced mystery set in Florida. Nick and Marta are both suspicious when their biology teacher, the feared Mrs. Bunny Starch, disappears, and try to uncover the truth despite the police and headmaster's insistence that nothing is wrong.

Pflugfelder, Bob. **Nick and Tesla's Secret Agent Gadget Battle: A Mystery with Spy Cameras, Code Wheels, and Other Gadgets You Can Build Yourself**. Quirk, 2014.

Sibling sleuths Nick and Tesla work to expose a spy in their midst and must engineer spy gadgets in order to catch the culprit.

Rubin, Sarah. **The Impossible Clue**. Scholastic, 2017.

Math whiz Alice Jones has cracked many codes, but when a famous scientist disappears from a locked room, she must put her detective skills to the test.

Schlitz, Amy. **Splendors and Glooms**. Candlewick, 2013.

When Clara vanishes after the puppeteer Grisini and two orphaned assistants were at her twelfth birthday party, suspicion of kidnapping chases the trio away from London and soon the two orphans are caught in a trap set by Grisini's ancient rival. *Newbery Honor Book*.

Selznick, Brian. **The Invention of Hugo Cabret**. Scholastic, 2007.

When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living hidden in the Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toymaker and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized. *Caldecott Medal 2008*.

Stead, Rebecca. **When You Reach Me**. Wendy Lamb Books, 2009.

As her mother prepares to compete on the 1980s television game show, "\$20,000 Pyramid," a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source. *Newbery Medal 2010*.

Swanson, Matthew. **The Real McCoys**. Macmillan, 2017.

The world's greatest fourth-grade detective faces her biggest challenge! When someone kidnaps beloved school mascot Eddie the Owl, Moxie is on the case — but she's forced to fly solo now that her best friend (and crime-solving partner) has moved away.

Turnage, Sheila. **Three Times Lucky**. Dial, 2012.

Mo LoBeau, who was washed ashore as a baby, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel seems implicated in a murder. *Newbery Honor Book 2013*.

**The Ghosts of Tupelo Landing (Sequel)**. Penguin, 2014. When Miss Lana accidentally buys a haunted inn at the Tupelo Landing town auction, Desperado Detectives open a paranormal division to uncover the ghost's identity before the town's big 250th anniversary celebration.

Voigt, Cynthia. **Mister Max: The Book of Lost Things**. Alfred Knopf, 2013.

Max's parents are missing. They are actors, and unpredictable, but sailing away, leaving Max with only a cryptic note, is unusual even for them. Did they *intend* to leave him behind? Have they been kidnapped? Read the Trilogy: **Book of Secrets** and **The Book of Kings**.

### ***Read Classic Mystery Series:***

- **Nancy Drew** • **Hardy Boys** • **Encyclopedia Brown** • **The Boxcar Children**



### **Realistic**

Anderson, John David. **Ms. Bixby's Last Day**. Harper Collins, 2016.

Ms. Bixby unexpectedly announces that she is sick and won't be able to finish the school year, and Topher, Brand and Steve come up with a plan to tell her how much she means to them.

Bauer, Joan. **Soar**. Viking, 2016.

Jeremiah is the world's biggest baseball fan and he knows everything there is to know about his favorite sport. So when he's told he can't play baseball following an operation on his heart, Jeremiah decides he'll do the next best thing and become a coach.

Bell, Cece. **El Deafo**. Amulet Books, 2014. *Newbery Honor Book 2015*.

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest requires superpowers! In this funny graphic novel memoir, the author tells of her hearing loss at a young age.

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks**. Random House, 2005.

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother. Read the sequels: **The Penderwicks on Gardam Street** (2008), **The Penderwicks at Point Mouette** (2012), and **The Penderwicks in Spring** (2016).

Burg, Anne. **Serafina's Promise**. Scholastic, 2013.

In a poor village in Haiti, Serafina works hard to help her family, but dreams of going to school and becoming a doctor — then the earthquake hits and Serafina gets the courage to find her father and still get medicine for her sick baby brother as she promised.

Cavanaugh, Nancy. **Just Like Me**. Sourcebook Jabberwocky, 2016.

Three very different girls, adopted as babies from the same Chinese orphanage, spend a week at a summer camp, where the adoption agency coordinator wants them to journal their “bonding” experience.

Creech, Sharon. **MOO**. Joanna Cotler Books, 2016. Read any title by this amazing author!

When Reena, her little brother, Luke, and their parents move to Maine, Reena doesn't know what to expect. She's ready for beaches, blueberries, and all the lobster she can eat. Instead, her parents “volunteer” Reena and Luke to work for a neighbor who has a pig named Paulie, a cat named China, a snake named Edna, and that stubborn cow, Zora.

Davies, Jacqueline. **The Lemonade War (Series)**. Houghton Mifflin, 2007.

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, battle it out through their lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn \$100. Includes tips for running a lemonade stand. **Read the series: The Lemonade Crime (2011), Bell Bandit (2011), Candy Smash (2013), and Magic Trap.**

DiCamillo, Kate. **Raymie Nightingale**. Candlewick, 2016.

Hoping that if she wins a local beauty pageant her father will come home, Raymie practices twirling a baton and performing good deeds as she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with two of her competitors and challenge each of them to come to the rescue.

Draper, Sharon. **Out of My Mind**. Atheneum, 2010.

The story of a brilliant girl who cannot speak or write. Considered by many to be mentally challenged, this outstanding fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

Frederick, Heather Vogel. **The Mother-Daughter Book Camp (Series)**. Simon & Schuster, 2016.

Emma, Jess, Megan, Becca, and Cassidy go to Camp Lovejoy in New Hampshire to serve as counselors and when some of the young campers are stricken with homesickness, the friends decide to start a summer camp book club. *Final book in the series.*

Giff, Patricia Reilly. **Jubilee**. Wendy Lamb, 2016.

Judith stopped talking long ago when Mom left her in the care of beloved Aunt Cora. Going back into a regular fifth-grade classroom won't be easy, but she has her Dog and new friend who will help her through.

Glaser, Karina Yan. **The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street**. Houghton Mifflin 2017.

Told that they will have to move out of their Harlem brownstone just after Christmas, the five Vanderbeeker children, ages four to twelve, decide to change their reclusive landlord's mind.

Graff, Lisa. **Lost in the Sun**. Philomel Books, 2015.

As Trent Zimmerman struggles to move past a traumatic event that took place months earlier, he befriends class outcast Fallon Little who helps him understand that he can move on.

Graff, Lisa. **Absolutely Almost**. Philomel Books, 2014.

Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself.

Gutman, Dan. **Nightmare at the Book Fair**. Simon & Schuster, 2008.

While Trip is on his way to lacrosse tryouts, the PTA president asks him to help with the book fair. His resulting head injury causes amnesia and leads to a strange journey home.

Jamieson, Victoria. **All's Faire In Middle School**. Dial Books, 2017. (Graphic Novel)

Homeschooled by Renaissance Fair enthusiasts, eleven-year-old Imogene has a hard time fitting in when her wish to enroll in public school is granted.

**Roller Girl**. Dial Books, 2015. (Graphic Novel)

For most of her twelve years, Astrid has done everything with her best friend Nicole. But after she decides to go to roller derby camp and Nicole decides to go to dance camp, Astrid struggles to keep up and be strong on her own. *Newbery Honor 2016*.

Kadohata, Cynthia. **The Thing About Luck**. Atheneum, 2013.

Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.

Kelly, Erin Entrada. **You Go First**. Greenwillow, 2018.

Charlotte, twelve, and Ben, eleven, are highly-skilled competitors at online Scrabble and that connection helps both as they face family issues and the turmoil of middle school.

Kine, Christina Baker. **The Orphan Train Girl**. Harper Collins, 2017.

A young readers' version of the story about seventeen-year-old Molly Ayer, who is sent to perform community service at elderly Vivian Daly's home in order to avoid juvenile hall and discovers that the two are very much alike, despite the vast age difference.

LaFleur, Suzanne. **Eight Keys**. Wendy Lamb, 2011.

When twelve-year-old Elise, orphaned since age three, becomes disheartened by middle school, with its bullies, changing relationships, and high expectations, keys to long-locked rooms and messages from her late father help her cope.

Lee, Jenny. **Elvis and the Underdogs**. B+B, 2013.

All his life Benji has been sickly and has long been targeted by the school bully, but after a seizure Benji gets a therapy dog that is not only big enough to protect him, it can also talk.

Lin, Grace. **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon (Trilogy)**. Little, Brown, 2009.

Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River. *Newbery Honor Book*.

**Starry River of the Sky.** 2014. Companion book #2: An innkeeper's chore boy discovers that a visitor's stories hold the key to returning the moon to the Starry River of the Sky.

**When the Sea Turned to Silver.** 2016. Companion book #3:  
Young Pinmei goes in search of a Luminous Stone, hoping to give it to the emperor in exchange for her grandmother, whom he has kidnapped and imprisoned.

Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking and Other Natural Disasters.** Schwartz & Wade, 2009.  
Alvin makes a new friend and learns that he can be brave despite his fear of everything when his father takes him camping, hoping to install a love of nature.

Lord, Cynthia. **Half a Chance.** Scholastic, 2014.  
Lucy, with her mother and her photographer father, has just moved to a small community in New Hampshire. With her new friend Nate she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest, but pictures sometimes reveal more than people are willing to see.

**A Handful of Stars.** Scholastic, 2015.  
When her blind dog slips his collar, twelve-year old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family is in Maine for the blueberry-picking season, and, based partly on their mutual love of dogs, the two forge a friendship.

**Rules.** Scholastic, 2006.  
Though Catherine loves her brother who is autistic, she is embarrassed by his behavior and feels neglected by her parents. She wants him to be "normal" so badly that she makes up rules for him to follow.

Martin, Ann. **Rain Reign.** Feiwel and Friends, 2014.  
Struggling with Asperger's syndrome, Rose shares a bond with her dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels, even if it means leaving her routines in order to search for her pet. *Best Book of 2014.*

Nannestad, Katrina. **When Mischief Came to Town.** Houghton Mifflin, 2016.  
In 1911, when orphaned ten-year-old Inge comes to live with her stern grandmother in a remote island village in Bornholm, Denmark, she ends up changing the town, bringing joy and laughter to her grandmother's life and finding a new family for herself.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Shiloh.** Atheneum, 1991.  
When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs. Read the Trilogy. *Newbery Medal 1992.*

Palacio, R.J. **Wonder.** Knopf, 2012.  
Ten-year-old Auggie, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, was not expected to survive, then goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, where he endures taunts and the fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student. Read companion book: **Auggie and Me.** Knopf, 2015.

Paterson, Katherine. **Bridge to Terabithia.** Harper Collins, 1977.  
The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with the new girl, Leslie, who has a tragic accident trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm. *Newbery Medal 1978.*

Stead, Rebecca. **When You Reach Me**. Wendy Lamb Books, 2009.

As her mother prepares to compete on the 1980s TV show “The \$20,000 Pyramid,” a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of anonymous notes that seem to defy the laws of time and space. *Newbery Medal 2010*.

Telgemeier, Raina. **Sisters**. Scholastic, 2013. Companion book to **Smile** (2010)

Raina can't wait to be a big sister. But once Amara is born, things aren't quite how she expected them to be, but when a baby brother enters the picture, they realize they must figure out how to get along. They are sisters, after all. Graphic Novel.

**Ghosts**. Scholastic, 2016. Graphic Novel.

Catrina and her family move to the coast of Northern California for the sake of her sister, Maya, who has cystic fibrosis -- and Cat is even less happy about their move when she is told that her new town is inhabited by ghosts, and Maya sets her heart on meeting one.

Williams-Garcia, Rita. **Clayton Byrd Goes Underground**. Harper Collins, 2017.

Clayton is forbidden by his mother from playing the blues after his grandfather dies, so he runs away to the subways to join a band. *Best Books of 2017, National Book Award Finalist*.



## School Stories

Angleberger, Tom. **Fuzzy**. Amulet, 2016.

When Max befriends her new robot classmate Fuzzy, she helps him navigate Vanguard Middle School and together they reveal the truth behind the Robot Integration Program.

Birney, Betty. **Summer According to Humphrey (Series)**. Putnam, 2010.

When summer arrives, Humphrey, the pet hamster of Longfellow School's Room 26, is surprised to learn that he will be going to Camp Happy Hollow.

Buyea, Rob. **Because of Mr. Terupt**. Delacorte Press, 2010.

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. Mr. Terupt, their energetic new teacher makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much... until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything and everyone.

Clements, Andrew. **About Average**, Atheneum 2012.

Sixth-grader Jordan Johnson, unhappy that she is only average in appearance, intelligence, and athletic ability, reveals her special skills when disaster strikes her elementary school. Also read any other title by this author: **Room One, Lost and Found, Landry News, Lunch Money, The Report Card, No Talking, School Story, and Week in the Woods**.

Fitzhugh, Louise. **Harriet the Spy**. First published Harper & Row, 1964.

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

Konigsburg, E.L. **A View from Saturday**. Atheneum, c. 1996.

Four students develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, who chooses them to represent their sixth-grade class in the Academic Bowl competition. *Newbery Medal*.

Korman, Gordon. **Schooled**. Hyperion, 2007.

Cap has been raised in isolation and home-schooled by his hippie grandmother. When she breaks her hip, he is sent to a foster home and experiences his first year in public school.

**Ungifted**. Balzer + Bray, 2013. Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, for gifted and talented students.

**Supergifted**. Balzer + Bray, 2018. Donovan Curtis has never been “gifted.” But his genius friend Noah is actually supergifted, with one of the highest IQs around. After years at the Academy for Scholastic Distinction, all Noah dreams of is to fail if he wants to. And he’s landed in the perfect place to do it — Donovan’s school.

McAnulty, Stacy. **The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl**. Random House, 2018.

Lucy Callahan was struck by lightning. She doesn’t remember it but it changed her life. The zap gave her genius-level math skills. Lucy has been homeschooled but now, at twelve years old, she just has to pass one more test — middle school!

Sachar, Louis. **Sideways Stories from the Wayside School**. Morrow Junior Books, c1978.

Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways, with one classroom on each story.

Spinelli, Jerry. **Loser**. Joanna Cotler Books, 2002.

Even though his classmates from first grade on have considered him strange and a loser, Daniel Zinkoff’s optimism and the support of his loving family do not allow him to feel that way about himself.

### **Dr. Pearlman’s Required Reading for Rising Fifth Graders:**

**From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler**, by E. L. Konigsburg.  
Atheneum, 1967. *Newbery Medal Winner 1968*.

Two children run away from home to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, enjoying their newfound independence and delving into the mystery of an angel statue donated by Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler. Who sculpted the statue? Only Mrs. Frankweiler knows...

## Books about Fourth Grade

Blume, Judy. **Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing.** Dutton, 2002, c. 1972.

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever-increasing problem.

Fleming, Candace. **The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School.** Schwartz, 2007.

An unlikely teacher takes over the disorderly fourth-grade class of Aesop Elementary School with surprising results.

Salisbury, Graham. **Calvin Coconut, Dog Heaven.** Wendy Lamb Books, 2010.

Fourth-grader Calvin creates a unique way to express his desire for a dog after his teacher asks him to write a persuasive argument about something he really wants.

## Books about Fifth Grade

Clements, Andrew. **Homework Machine.** Simon & Schuster, 2006.

Four fifth-grade students as well as their teacher and mothers, each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments.

**A Week in the Woods.** Simon & Schuster, 2002.

The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to the teacher he thinks doesn't like rich kids, or slackers, or know-it-alls.

DeClements, Barthe. **Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade.** Viking, 1981.

The new girl is not treated well by her classmates and nothing seems fair.

Frasier, Sundee Tucker. **Cleo Edison Oliver: Playground Millionaire.** Scholastic, 2016.

Fifth-grader Cleo Edison Oliver has money-making ideas, but things get complicated when she has to be a good listener when her best friend needs her, and deal with the bully teasing her about being adopted.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. **Jubilee.** Wendy Lamb, 2016.

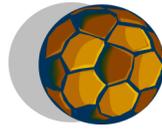
Judith stopped talking long ago when Mom left her in the care of Aunt Cora. Going back into a regular fifth-grade class won't be easy, but she has her dog and new friend.

Shovan, Laura. **The Last Fifth Grade of Emerson Elementary.** Wendy Lamb, 2016.

The kids in the graduating fifth grade class of Emerson Elementary join together to try to save their school from being torn down to make way for a supermarket.

Woodrow, Allan. **Class Dismissed.** Scholastic, 2015.

Class 507 is terrible, and one day, after a disastrous science experiment, Ms. Bryce walks out in the middle of class. Should the students keep this a secret?



## Fiction – Sports

Alexander, Kwame. **Crossover**. Houghton Mifflin, 2014.

Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. *Newbery Medal 2015, Coretta Scott King Honor 2015*. Also read: **Booked** (2013) and **Playbook** (2017). Kwame Alexander shares poetry and lessons about the rules of life.

Aronson, Sarah. **Beyond Lucky**. Dial Books, 2011.

Twelve-year-old Ari Fish is sure that the rare trading card he found has changed his luck and that of his soccer team, but after the card is stolen he comes to know that we make our own luck, and that heroes can be fallible.

Bauer, Joan. **Soar**. Viking, 2016.

Jeremiah is the world's biggest baseball fan and he knows just about everything there is to know about his favorite sport. So when he's told he can't play baseball following an operation on his heart, Jeremiah decides he'll do the next best thing and become a coach.

Freitas, Donna. **Gold Medal Summer**. Arthur Levine Books, 2012.

After Joey learns that her best friend wants to quit competitive gymnastics, she considers giving up her dream of winning gold medals in order to have a normal life.

Green, Tim. **Kid Owner**. Harper Collins, 2015.

When Ryan learns his estranged father left him the Dallas Cowboys in his will, it is all Ryan can do to keep his dad's other son from snatching the team away.

Jamieson, Victoria. **Roller Girl**. Dial Books, 2015.

When Astrid, about to begin junior high, heads to summer roller derby camp while best friend Nicole opts for ballet camp, their relationship is jeopardized by opposing interests. *Newbery Honor Book 2016*. Graphic novel.

Lupica, Mike. **Game Changers (Series)**. Scholastic, 2012.

When the coach's son is chosen to play quarterback, eleven-year-old Ben McBain is not surprised. But when he tries to be a good teammate and help him, he learns that his new friend does not want the position. Read: **Play Makers** (2013) and **Heavy Hitters** (2014).

**The Only Game**. Simon & Schuster, 2015.

Jack Callahan is the star of his baseball team and sixth grade is supposed to be his year with an undefeated season, records shattered, Little League World Series, until he up and quits. Read the series: **The Extra Yard** (2016). **Point Guard** (2017), **Team Players** (2018).

Morgan, Alex. **In the Zone (The Kicks Series)**. Simon & Schuster 2018.

Spring season continues and the Kicks are working their hardest to be champions. But Emma's confidence takes a dive after tripping and letting a shot go into the goal.



## Nonfiction



This is only a sampling of all the wonderful nonfiction books available.  
Choose any nonfiction books to read!

Read any title in the “What is ...,” “What Was...,” and “What Were...” series.

**What is Climate Change?** Grosset & Dunlap, 2018.

Learn more about what climate change means and how it's affecting our planet. What are the causes? Are humans at fault?

**What Were the Twin Towers?** Grosset & Dunlap, 2016.

Discover the true story of the Twin Towers — how they came to be the tallest buildings the world and why they were destroyed.

**What Was the Ice Age?** Grosset & Dunlap, 2017.

Go back 20,000 years ago when glaciers covered the earth and creatures, now extinct, like the woolly mammoths and saber-toothed cats battled to survive.

Burgan, Michael. **Ellis Island: An Interactive History Adventure (Series)**. Capstone Press, 2014.

The reader chooses the course of the action in a story about immigrants moving to the United States in the early 1900s.

Evans, Lady Hestia. **Mythology: The Gods, Heroes, and Monsters of Ancient Greece**. Candlewick Press, 2007. Introduces Greek mythology, exploring gods and goddesses, origins of mankind, monsters, beasts, and battles, featuring fold-outs, pop-ups, maps, “secret” messages, and other interactive features. Read other “-ology” books, such as **Egyptology, Pirateology, Oceanology**.

Grimes, Nikki. **Chasing Freedom: The Life Journeys of Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony**. Scholastic, 2015. In this imaginative biographical story, Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony sit down over a cup of tea in 1904 to reminisce about their struggles and triumphs in the service of freedom and women's rights.

Hale, Nathan. **Nathan Hale’s Hazardous Tales Series**. Amulet Books, 2012 -2016.

Elements of the strange but true are presented in this series, funny format, highlighting the larger-than-life characters that pop up in real history. Graphic novels.

Halls, Kelley Milner. **Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes**. Greenwillow, 2010. Firsthand account of how United States soldiers and volunteers saved the animals of the Baghdad Zoo after the start of the Iraq War.

Krull, Kathleen. **The Boy Who Invented Television: The Story of Philo Farnsworth.** Knopf, 2009.  
The biography of Philo Farnsworth, who created the world's first television image in 1928.  
*Read any nonfiction by this author.*

Mortenson, Greg. **Three Cups of Tea (Young Reader's Edition)** Puffin Books, 2009.  
The story of Dr. Greg Mortenson, who was rescued and healed by Himalayan villagers after his failed attempt to climb K2. He returned to build schools for young girls previously denied education by the Taliban.

**National Geographic Kids Weird But True Series,** National Geographic, 2017.  
Fun reference books chock-full of wacky facts and bold illustration and photographs.

Olson, Tod. **Lost in Outer Space: The Incredible Journey of Apollo 13.** Scholastic, 2017.  
On April 13, 1970, two hundred thousand miles from Earth, an explosion ripped through Jim Lovell's spacecraft. The crippled ship hurtled toward the moon at three times the speed of sound, losing power and leaking oxygen. Lovell and his crew were two days from walking on the surface of moon. Now, they will they set foot on Earth again?



## Poetry

Cleary, Brian. **Bow-Tie Pasta: Acrostic Poems.** Millbrook, 2016.  
Acrostic? Actually, it's a poem! Award-winning author Brian P. Cleary explains how acrostics are created and shows how even the wackiest words be turned into a poem.

Lewis, J. Patrick. **Countdown to Summer.** Little, Brown & Company, 2009.  
A collection of humorous poems, one for each day of the school year, including haiku, limericks, riddles, shape poems, and nonsense verse.

Prelutsky, Jack. **Pizza, Pigs, and Poetry: How to Write a Poem.** Greenwillow, 2008.  
Explains how to write poems about everyday subjects, such as experiences with their family, friends, and pets, providing tips and example poems. Also read **The New Kid on the Block** or any title by this poet.

Raczka, Bob. **Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems.** Roaring Brook, 2016.  
Who says words need to be concrete? These shape poems are delightful surprises. Concrete poems are a favorite because they are fun to look at. Using the arrangement of the words on a page to convey the meaning of the poem, concrete or shape poems are also easy to write!

Silverstein, Shel. **Every Thing On It.** Harper, 2011.  
A book of original, never-before published poems and drawings by Silverstein. Read any book by this author, such as: **Falling Up, Where the Sidewalk Ends, and A Light in the Attic.**



## Biography

**DK Biographies Series** – Read any title in the series, written by different authors.

**“Who is...” and “Who Was...” Series.** Read any title in the series.

Brown, Dinah. **Who Is Malala Yousafzai?** Grosset & Dunlap, 2015.

Malala Yousafzai is a girl who loved to learn, but was told that girls would not be allowed to go to school. She wrote a blog that called attention to what was happening in her corner of Pakistan and realized that words can bring about change. In 2014, she won the Nobel Peace Prize. She continues to speak out for the right of all children to have an education.

Engel, Margarita. **Bravo!** Henry Holt & Co. 2017.

Musician, botanist, baseball player, pilot—the Latinos featured in this collection, *Bravo!* come from many different countries and from many different backgrounds.

Freedman, Russell. **Washington at Valley Forge.** Holiday House, 2008.

An account of the six months when George Washington’s soldiers camped at Valley Forge, enduring the harsh winter of 1777-1778 without adequate food, clothing, or blankets.

Krull, Kathleen. **Lives of the Presidents: Fame, Shame, and What the Neighbors Thought.** Harcourt, 2011.

Focuses on the lives of the presidents as parents, husbands, pet-owners, and neighbors, with humorous, little-known facts about hobbies, hairstyles, and habits.

McGinty, Alice. **Gandhi: A March to the Sea.** Amazon Children’s Books, 2013.

Tells of the March to the Sea when Mohandas Gandhi and seventy protesters marched from Ahmedabad to Dandi, in twenty-four days, to protest the laws and taxes from Great Britain.

Myers, Walter Dean. **Frederick Douglass: The Lion Who Wrote History.** Harper, 2017.

Frederick Douglass was a self-educated slave in the South who grew up to become an icon. He was a leader of the abolitionist movement, a writer, a speaker, and a social reformer, proving that, as he said, "Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."

Stanley, Diane. **Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science: The First Computer Programmer.** Simon & Schuster, 2016.

A hundred years before the digital age, Ada Lovelace envisioned the computer-driven world we know today. In demonstrating how the machine would be coded, she wrote the first computer program.

Woodson, Jacqueline. **Brown Girl Dreaming.** Nancy Paulsen Books, 2014.

The author shares her childhood memories and reveals the first sparks that ignited her writing career in free-verse poems about growing up in the North and South. *Newbery Honor 2015.*

## Fourth Grade Teachers' Picks

### ***Mr. Buckley recommends:***

**Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**, by Ian Fleming

**Extra Credit**, by Andrew Clements

### ***Ms. Casey recommends:***

**Wonder**, by R. J. Palacio

**Glory Be**, **Making Friends with Billy Wong**, and **The Way to Stay in Destiny**, by Augusta Scattergood

**Charlotte's Web** and **The Trumpet of the Swan**, by E. B. White

Any books by:

- Beverly Cleary
- Roald Dahl
- James Howe
- Patricia Polacco
- Louis Sachar

### ***Mr. Haber recommends:***

**Danny, the Champion of the World**, by Roald Dahl

**Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**, by J. K. Rowling

**The Search for Delicious**, by Natalie Babbitt

### ***Mrs. Tummarello recommends Science picks:***

**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind**, by William Kamkwamba

**The Shocking Truth about Energy**, by Loreen Leedy

**Energy Island**, by Allan Drummond

**DK Biographies: Marie Curie** and/or **Albert Einstein**

## Fifth Grade Teachers' Picks

### ***Dr. Pearlman recommends:***

**Maniac Magee**, by Jerry Spinelli

**Bridge to Terabithia**, by Katherine Paterson

