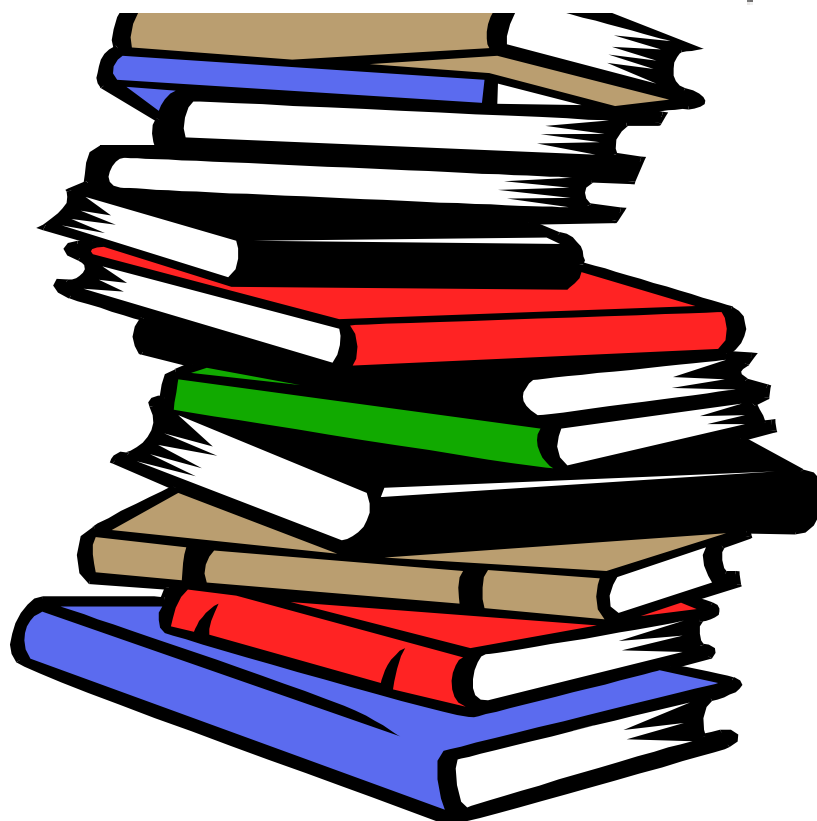


# Librarians Recommend....

Books for Kindergarten Through Sixth Grade



# Top Ten Read Aloud Tips

## To Remember When Reading to your Child

1. Spend at least ten wildly happy minutes every single day reading aloud.
2. Read at least three stories a day: it may be the same three stories. Children need to hear a thousand stories before they can begin to read.
3. Read aloud with animation. Listen to your own voice and don't be dull, or flat, or boring. Hang loose and be loud, have fun and laugh a lot.
4. Read with joy and excitement: real enjoyment for yourself and great joy for the listeners.
5. Read the stories that the kids love, over and over and over again and always read in the same "tune" for each book: i.e. with the same intonations on each page, each time.
6. Let children hear lots of language by talking to them constantly about the pictures, or anything else connected to the book; or sing an old song you remember; or say nursery rhymes in a bouncy way, or be noisy together doing clapping games.
7. Look for rhyme, rhythm or repetition in books for younger children, and make sure the books are really short.
8. Play games with the things that you and the child can see on the page, such as letting kids finish rhymes, and finding the letter that starts the child's name and yours, remembering that it's never work, it's always a fabulous game.
9. Never ever teach reading, or get tense around books.
10. Read aloud every day because you just love being with your child, not because it's the right thing to do. This is as important for fathers as it is for mothers.

~ Mem Fox

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## Classic Read Aloud Books

**Charlotte's Web**, E.B. White

**Corduroy**, Don Freeman

**Days With Frog and Toad**, Arnold Lobel

**Haiwatha**, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

**James and the Giant Peach**, Roald Dahl

**Old Yeller**, Fred Gipson

**Owl Moon**, Jane Yolen

**The Giving Tree**, Shel Silverstein

**The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**, C.S. Lewis

**The Magic School Bus Series**, Joanna Cole

**The Polar Express**, Chris Van Allsburg

**The Tenth Good Thing About Barney**, Judith Viorst

**The Ugly Duckling**, Hans Christian Anderson

**Velveteen Rabbit**, Margery Williams

**Where the Wild Things Are**, Maurice Sendak

# Librarians Recommend....

## Books for Kindergarten Through Sixth Grade

Dear Parent:

The world of independent reading is one of the most satisfying gifts we can give to our children. Although some children may discover this marvelous world on their own, many of them need our help and encouragement. When children discover that reading can be helpful and enjoyable, it becomes a meaningful, necessary part of their lives. They may read because of a hobby or interest, to seek information, or to satisfy their curiosity, but they will read with pleasure.

Our task, then, as adults to whom our children look for example and guidance, is to create favorable conditions for reading. Below are some suggestions for creating a climate that encourages reading.

1. Children follow examples. If they see that books are an important part of your family life, they will want to make them a part of theirs.
2. Children love to be read to. Studies have shown that most successful readers have had parents or brothers and sisters who have read to them.
3. Children appreciate organization. Setting aside a special time for reading - when TV is not permitted as a substitute - is an excellent way to develop a pattern for reading.

The lists which follow have been compiled to aid you in encouraging your child to read. They are not all-inclusive. Although the books are listed under specific grade levels, the interest and ability of your child should be considered when selecting a book.

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## Books for Parents

**Raising Readers: Helping Your Child to Literacy**, Steven Bialostok

**Raising Lifelong Learners: A Parent's Guide**, Lucy Calkins

**Let's Read About: Finding Books They'll Love**, Bernice Cullinan

**Read to Me: Raising Kids Who Love to Read**, Bernice Cullinan

**For Reading Out Loud:**

**A Guide To Sharing Books With Children**, Margaret Mary Kimmel

**Raising a Reader: Make Your Child A Reader For Life**, Paul Kropp

**A Parent's Guide To Children's Reading**, Nancy Larrick

**Teach A Child To Read With Children's Books**, Mark B. Thogmartin

**The Read Aloud Handbook**, Jim Trelease

\* Please visit [www.npenn.org](http://www.npenn.org), under the link For Families, to view this publication. \*

# Books for the **Kindergarten** Child

Asch, Frank. **Moon Bear.**

Bear becomes very upset when he notices that the moon is growing smaller and smaller each night.\*

Beaumont, Karen. **I Like Myself!**

In rhyming text, a child expresses her self-esteem.

Brown, Marc. **D.W. All Wet.**

Part of a series about an aardvark family. D.W. announces, "I don't like the beach and I don't like to get wet.\*"

Capucilli, Alyssa Satin. **Biscuit Finds a Friend.**

A puppy helps a little duck find its way to the pond.\*

Carle, Eric. **The Grouchy Ladybug.**

Hour by hour, a hungry, irritable ladybug challenges everyone she meets to a fight.\*

Carlson, Nancy. **Harriet and the Roller Coaster.**

George dares Harriet to ride the scary roller coaster and then find out who is the brave one.\*

Carlstrom, Nancy White. **Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?**

Starting in the morning, Jesse Bear goes through the day pondering what to wear.\*

Carrick, Carol. **Patrick's Dinosaurs.** Listening to his older brother show off his knowledge of dinosaurs, young Patrick begins to see enormous animals everywhere.\*

Cristolow, Ellen. **Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed.**

It's bedtime at the monkey house, yet the five rambunctious little monkeys keep jumping on their bed until, one by one, each falls off and has to visit the doctor.

Conrad, Pam. **The Tub People.**

Seven wooden toys are always perched on the edge of the bathtub until a disaster happens which results in a safer new home.

Crews, Donald. **Freight Train.**

Bright illustrations help children learn to identify colors.\*

Cronin, Doreen. **Wiggle.**

In rhyming text, a busy, happy dog shows readers the many ways and places to wiggle.\*

Dannenberg, Julie. **First Day Jitters.** Sarah is afraid to start at a new school, but both she and the reader are in for a surprise when she gets to her class.

Day, Alexandra. **Good Dog, Carl.**

A wordless book about Carl, the dog, and his baby.\*

Ehlert, Lois. **Leaf Man.**

A man made of leaves blows away, traveling wherever the wind may take him.\*

Falconer, Ian. **Olivia.**

Whether getting ready for the day, enjoying the beach, or preparing for bedtime, Olivia is a feisty pig who has too much energy for her own good.\*

Feiffer, Jules. **Bark, George.**

George's mother is in for a big surprise when she takes him to the veterinarian to find out why he doesn't bark.

Finchler, Judy. **Miss Malarkey Doesn't Live in Room 10.**

A first-grade boy is shocked, then pleased, when he finds out that his teacher has a life away from school.

Aylesworth, Jim. **Gingerbread Man.**

A freshly baked gingerbread man escapes when he is taken out of the oven and eludes a number of pursuers until he meets a clever fox.

Galdone, Paul. **Little Red Hen.**

Little Red Hen does all the chores on the farm while her lazy friends won't help.\*

Gibbons, Gail. **The Moon Book.** Identifies the moon as our only natural satellite, describes its movement and phases, and discusses how we've observed and explored it over the years.\*

Havill, Juanita. **Jamaica's Find.**

A little girl finds a stuffed dog in the park and decides to take it home.\*

Henkes, Kevin. **Wemberly Worried.**

A mouse named Wemberly, who worries about everything, finds that he has a whole list of things to worry about when he faces the first day of nursery school.\*

Henkes, Kevin. **Kitten's First Full Moon.** When Kitten mistakes the full moon for a bowl of milk, she ends up tired, wet and hungry trying to reach it.\*

## Books for the **Kindergarten** Child (continued)

Hoban, Russell. **Bread and Jam for Frances.** Frances won't eat anything except her favorite food—bread and jam.\*

Hoban, Tana. **26 Letters and 99 Cents.** Combines an alphabet book with one about counting and coins.\*

Hutchins, Pat. **The Doorbell Rang.** Ma makes cookies for Victoria and Sam to share, but the arrival of more and more friends means fewer cookies for each child.\*

Hutchins, Pat. **Rosie's Walk.** A hen is pursued by a fox.\*

Keats, Ezra Jack. **Whistle for Willie.** A small boy learns to whistle during the busy day.\*

Keller, Holly. **Geraldine's Blanket.** When her mother and father insist that Geraldine get rid of her baby blanket, she finds a new way to keep it with her all of the time.\*

Kraus, Robert. **Whose Mouse Are You?** A little mouse is lonely because he thinks he is nobody's mouse.\*

Lionni, Leo. **Swimmy.** Swimmy, a small black fish, finds a way to protect a school of red fish from their natural enemies.\*

Lionni, Leo. **Little Blue and Little Yellow .** Two blobs of paint play together but when they meet and hug, something happens!\*

MacDonald, Suse. **Alphabatics.** An alphabet book.

Marshall, James. **Red Riding Hood.** (retold and illustrated)-A humorous retelling of the story of the little girl who meets a hungry wolf in the forest on her way to grandmother's house.\*

Martin, Bill. **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom.** An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree.\*

Mayer, Mercer. **There's an Alligator under My Bed.** Tired of walking up a ramp to his bed each night, a boy lays a trail of goodies to lure the alligator out to the garage.\*

McPhail, David. **Pig-Pig Grows Up.** While Emma's parents try to entertain her when the TV stops working, the little girl becomes more interested in reading.\*

Moss, Marissa. **Regina's Big Mistake.** When told to draw a jungle in art class, Regina experiences feelings of failure and creative insecurity, but manages to create a beautiful picture that's all her own.

Munsch, Robert. **Thomas' Snowsuit.** His mother, teacher and principal have a hard time trying to convince Thomas to wear his snowsuit.\*

Opie, Iona. **Here Comes Mother Goose.** A good-humored collection of nursery rhymes.

Potter, Beatrix. **The Tale of Peter Rabbit.** Peter disobeys his mother by going into Mr. McGregor's garden and almost gets caught.\*

Reynolds, Peter. **The Dot.** Vashti believes that she cannot draw, but her art teacher's encouragement leads her to change her mind.

Rohmann, Eric. **My Friend Rabbit.** Something always seems to go wrong when Rabbit is around, but Mouse lets Rabbit play with his toy plane anyway because he is his good friend.

Sendak, Maurice. **Chicken Soup with Rice.** With rhymes and pictures, praises are sung for each month of the year.\*

Seuss, Dr. **Green Eggs and Ham.** Sam-I-Am" wins a campaign to get another character to try a plate of green eggs and ham.\*

Shannon, David. **No, David!** Tells the adventures of young David doing all kinds of things he isn't supposed to do.\*

Willems, Mo. **Knuffle Bunny: a Cautionary Tale.** Trixie becomes very unhappy when she accompanies her daddy to the laundromat and realizes she has lost her stuffed bunny.\*

Zion, Gene. **Harry the Dirty Dog.** A little dog runs away because he hates baths and is so dirty when he returns that nobody recognizes him.

**\*See other books by this author**

## Books for the **First Grader** (continued)

Adler, David. **Bones and the Cupcake Mystery.** (Viking easy-to-read series)

Detective Jeffery Bones finds he does not need fancy equipment to solve the school-lunch mystery of “Not Me” Amy’s missing cupcake.

Allard, Harry. **Miss Nelson Is Missing.**

The kids in Room 207 take advantage of their teacher’s good nature until she disappears and they are faced with a vile substitute.

Bang, Molly. **When Sophie Gets Angry — Really, Really Angry.**

When Sophie gets angry she goes outside and runs, cries, climbs her favorite tree – and then, calmed by the breeze, she is soon ready to go back home.

Bemelmans, Ludwig. **Madeline.**

Madeline, smallest and naughtiest of the twelve little charges of Miss Clavel, wakes up one night with an attack of appendicitis.

Bond, Felicia. **Poinsettia and the Firefighters.**

Lonely and afraid of the dark in her new room, Poinsettia Pig is comforted when she discovers that the fire fighters are awake and keep watch during the night.

Brett, Jan. **Honey-Honey-Lion!: A Story from Africa.**

After working together to obtain honey, the African badger always shares it with his partner, the honeyguide bird, until one day when the honey badger becomes greedy and his feathered friend decides to teach him a lesson.

Brown, Marc Tolon. **Arthur and the True Francine.**

Francine and Muffy are good friends until Muffy lets Francine take blame for cheating on a test.

Bunting, Eve. **Picnic in October.**

A boy finally comes to understand why his grandmother insists that the family come to Ellis Island each year to celebrate Lady Liberty’s birthday.

Burton, Virginia Lee. **The Little House.**

A country house is unhappy when the city, with all its buildings and traffic grows up around her.

Burton, Virginia Lee. **Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel.**

Although Mike Mulligan’s steam shovel is too old fashioned to compete with newer models, the people of Popperville find a way to keep it working.

Carlson, Nancy. **Loudmouth George and the Sixth Grade Bully.**

After having his lunch repeatedly stolen by a bully twice his size, Loudmouth George and his friend Harriet teach the bully a lesson he’ll never forget.

Clements, Andrew. **Brave Norman.**

Norman, a blind Labrador retriever, saves a girl from drowning in the ocean.

DePaola, Tomie. **The Art Lesson.**

Having learned to be creative in drawing pictures at home, young Tommy is dismayed when he goes to school and finds the art lessons there are much more regimented.

Cronin, Doreen. **Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type.**

When Farmer Brown’s cows find a typewriter in the barn they start making demands, and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.

Eastman, P. D.. **Go, Dog, Go.**

A story for beginning readers about busy dogs of all sizes and colors, engaged in all manner of silly activities.

Edwards, Pamela Duncan. **Warthogs Paint: A Messy Color Book.**

As some warthogs spend a rainy day painting their kitchen, they make a mess and learn about mixing colors.

Fleming, Denise. **Buster.**

Buster the dog thinks his perfect life is spoiled when Betty the cat comes to live with him, until he learns not to be afraid of cats.

Henkes, Kevin. **Chester’s Way.**

Chester and Wilson share the same exact way of doing things, until Lilly moves into the neighborhood and shows them that new ways can be just as good.

Holabird, Katharine. **Angelina and the Princess.**

Angelina is too sick to dance well during the tryouts for the lead for the “Princess of Mouseland” ballet, but when the leading ballerina sprains her foot, Angelina is ready to prove she is still the best dancer of all.

Johnson, Crockett. **Harold and the Purple Crayon.**

Harold uses his fantastic purple crayon to draw himself some wonderful adventures.

## Books for the **First Grader** (continued)

Joose, Barbara M. **Mama, Do You Love Me?**  
An Inuit child learns that her mother's love is unconditional when she disobeys and journeys across the Arctic from village to ice floe, in search of her puppy.

Katz, Alan. **Take Me Out of the Bathtub and Other Silly Dilly Songs.**

Well-known songs, including "Oh Susannah" and "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" are presented with new words and titles, such as "I'm So Carsick" and "Go, Go, Go to Bed".

Keats, Ezra Jack. **The Snowy Day.**

Relates the adventures of a little boy in the city on a very snowy day.

Kellog, Steven. **A Penguin Pup for Pinkerton.**

After dreaming that he is the father of a penguin egg, Pinkerton mistakes both a soccer ball and a football for real eggs, resulting in chaos all over town.

LeSieg, Theo. **Ten Apples Up On Top!**

A lion, a dog, and a tiger balance apples on their heads in rhyming verse.

Lester, Helen. **Tacky the Penguin.**

Tacky the penguin does not fit in with his sleek and graceful companions, but his odd behavior comes in handy when hunters come with maps and traps.

Marshall, Edward. **Fox at School.**

Fox stars in a play at school, survives a fire drill, and is left in charge of his class.  
(Puffin easy-to-read book series)

Marshall, James. **George and Martha.**

Relates several episodes in the friendship of two hippopotamuses.

Munsch, Robert. **Stephanie's Ponytail.**

When all the kids in Stephanie's class keep copying her hairstyle by making ponytails of their own, she threatens to shave off her hair.

Park, Linda Sue. **Bee-bim Bop!**

Newbery Award winner about a young Korean girl who helps her mother with shopping, food preparation, and table setting for her favorite meal. Presented in rhyming verse.

Prelutsky, Jack. **It's Thanksgiving.**

Presents twelve Thanksgiving Day poems about carving the turkey, watching a parade, and eating leftovers.

Rathmann, Peggy. **Officer Buckle and Gloria.**

The children at Napville Elementary School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches.

Rey, H. A. **Curious George.**

The curiosity of a newly-captured monkey gets him into continual trouble.

Rylant, Cynthia. **Henry and Mudge and the Great Grandpas.**

When Henry and his dog, Mudge go with Henry's parents to visit Great-Grandpa Bill in the home with lots of other grandpas, they lead them all on a wonderful adventure. (Henry and Mudge series)

Seuss, Dr. **The Cat in the Hat.**

Two children sitting at home on a rainy day are visited by the Cat in the Hat who shows them some tricks and games.

Seuss, Dr. **Horton Hatches the Egg.**

When a lazy bird hatching an egg wants a vacation, she asks Horton, the elephant, to sit on her egg – which he does through all sorts of hazards until he is rewarded for doing what he said he would.

Sharmat, Marjorie. **Nate the Great and the Owl Express.**

Nate investigates when an owl named Hoot disappears on board the Owl Express.  
(Nate the Great series)

Stevenson, James. **Candy Corn: Poems.**

A collection of short poems with titles such as "The Morning After Halloween", "Dumpsters", and "What Frogs Say to Each Other".

Stevenson, James. **Don't Make Me Laugh.**

Readers are requested not to laugh or do anything to influence the behavior of various animal characters in this book.

Tarpley, Natasha. **I Love My Hair.**

A young African-American girl describes the different, wonderful ways she can wear her hair.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. **Amanda Pig and Her Big Brother Oliver.**

Presents five stories about telling secrets, playing alone, and other activities in the lives of Oliver and Amanda who are sometimes know as Mighty Pig and Amazing Baby Pig. (Oliver and Amanda Pig series)

## Books for the **First Grader** (continued)

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Voist, Judith. **I'll Fix Anthony.**

A little brother thinks of ways he will someday get revenge on his older brother.

Waber, Bernard. **The House on East 88<sup>th</sup> Street.**

A family moving into a new house discovers in their bathtub a talented crocodile named Lyle, who soon becomes an important part of the family.

Waber, Bernard. **Ira Sleeps Over.**

A little boy is excited at the prospect of spending the night at his friend's house but worries how he'll get along without his teddy bear.

Wiesner, David. **Tuesday.**

Frogs rise on their lily pads, float though the air, and explore the nearby houses while their inhabitants sleep.

Wilson, Karma. **Bear Snores On.**

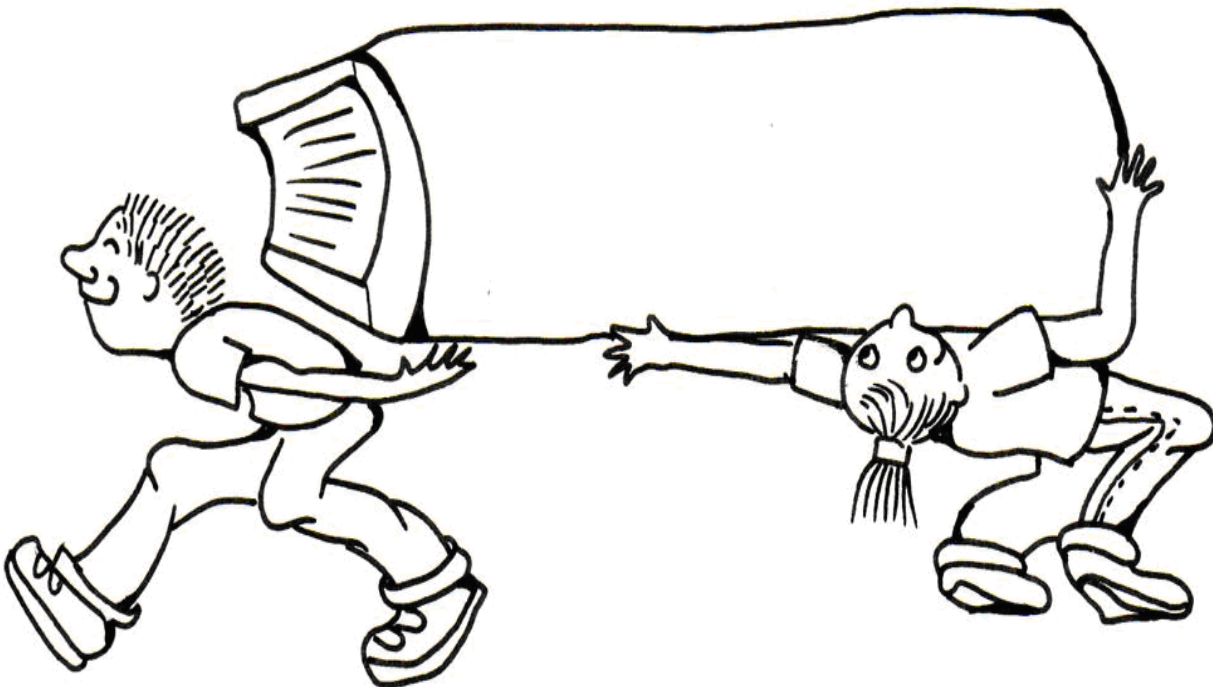
On a cold winter night many animals gather to party in the cave of a sleeping bear, who then awakes and protests that he has missed the food and fun.

Wiseman, Bernard. **Morris and Boris at the Circus.**

Morris and Boris go to the circus as spectators and end up being part of the action.

Wood, Audrey. **The Napping House.**

In this cumulative tale, a wakeful flea atop a number of sleeping creatures causes a commotion with just one bite.



**“Reading is a basic tool in the living of a good life.”**

**~ Mortimer J. Adler**



## Books for the **Second Grader**

Adler, David A. **A Picture Book of Helen Keller.** (Picture Book Biographies series.)

A brief biography of the woman who overcame her handicaps of being both blind and deaf.

Aliki. **Digging Up Dinosaurs.**

Briefly introduces various types of dinosaurs whose skeletons and reconstructions are seen in museums and explains how scientists uncover, preserve, and study fossilized dinosaur bones.

Andreae, Giles. **Giraffes Can't Dance.**

Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.

Bang, Molly. **Paper Crane.**

A mysterious man enters a restaurant and pays for his dinner with a paper crane that magically comes alive and dances.

Berenzy, Alixa. **A Frog Prince.**

A dressed-up frog on a handsome pony searches the world to find a princess who will love him for what he is.

Blume, Judy. **The Pain and the Great One.**

A six-year-old (The Pain) and his eight-year-old sister (The Great One) see each other as a troublemaker and the best-loved in the family.

Cannon, Janell. **Stellaluna.**

After she falls headfirst into a bird's nest, a baby bat is raised like a bird until she is reunited with her mother.

Cherry, Lynne. **The Great Kapok Tree: a Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest.**

The many different animals that live in a great kapok tree in the Brazilian rainforest try to convince a man with an ax of the importance of not cutting down their home.

Cronin, Doreen. **Diary of a Spider.**

A young spider discovers, day by day, that there is a lot to learn about being a spider, including how to spin webs and avoid vacuum cleaners.

Demi. **The Empty Pot.**

When Ping admits that he is the only child in China unable to grow a flower from the seeds distributed by the Emperor, he is rewarded for his honesty.

DePaola, Tomie. **Fin M'Coul : the Giant of Knockmany Hill.** Fin M'Coul's wife, Oonagh, helps him outwit his arch rival, Cucullin.

Florian, Douglas. **BowWow Meow Meow : It's Rhyming Cats and Dogs.**

A collection of short poems about dogs and cats.

Flournoy, Valerie. **The Patchwork Quilt.**

Using scraps cut from the family's old clothing, Tanya helps her grandmother and mother make a beautiful quilt that tells the story of her family's life.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. **The Beast in Ms. Rooney's Room.**

Held back for a year in second grade, Richard can't seem to help getting into trouble, until he gets really interested in reading and helps his class in a special way. (Kids of the Polk Street School series.)

Golenbock, Peter. **Teammates.**

Describes the racial prejudice experienced by Jackie Robinson when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers to become the first African-American player in Major League baseball and depicts the acceptance and support he received from his white teammate Pee Wee Reese.

Grifalconi, Ann. **The Village of Round and Square Houses.**

A grandmother explains to her granddaughter why in their village on the side of a volcano the men live in square houses and the women in round ones.

Heide, Florence. **The Day of Ahmed's Secret.**

Ahmed rides his donkey cart throughout the city of Cairo, hurrying to finish his work, so he can return home and share his secret with his family. Breathlessly he tells them he can write his name.

Heller, Ruth. **Chickens Aren't the Only Ones.**

A pictorial introduction to the animals that lay eggs, including chickens as well as other birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes, insects, and even a few mammals.

Hoffman, Mary. **Amazing Grace.**

Although classmates say she cannot play Peter Pan in the school play because she is black and a girl, Grace discovers that she can do anything she sets her mind to do.

Howe, James. **Pinky and Rex.**

Rex and her best friend Pinky, each the proud possessor of twenty-seven stuffed animals or dinosaurs, find their visit to the museum and its gift shop complicated by Pinky's little sister Amanda. (Pinky and Rex Ready to Read series.)

## Books for the **Second Grader** (continued)

Joyce, William. **Dinosaur Bob and His Adventures with the Family Lizardo.**

While vacationing in Africa, the Lizardo family finds and brings back to America a friendly dinosaur that becomes the talk of the town.

Kimmel, Eric A. **Anansi and the Magic Stick.**

Anansi the Spider steals Hyena's magic stick so he won't have to do the chores, but when the stick's magic won't stop, he gets more than he bargained for.

Lovka, Bob. **Dog's Rule: The Rules, Wisdom, and Witticisms that Go Along with Being a Dog.** Presents a canine perspective on the laws, rules, and reasonings, that govern the lives and behaviors of dogs.

McCully, Emily A. **Mirette on the High Wire.**

One hundred years ago in Paris, Mirette learns tightrope walking from Monsieur Bellini, a guest in her mother's boarding house, not knowing that he is a celebrated tightrope artist who has withdrawn from performing because of fear.

McDermott, Gerald. **Arrow to the Sun : a Pueblo Indian Tale.**

An adaptation of the Pueblo Indian myth which explains how the spirit of the Lord of the Sun was brought to the world of men.

Mosel, Arlene. **The Funny Little Woman.**

While chasing a dumpling, a little lady is captured by wicked creatures from whom she escapes with the means of becoming the richest woman in Japan.

Munsch, Robert. **Purple, Green and Yellow.**

Brigid gets 500 washable coloring markers but she gets bored with them. Finally she gets super-indelible-never-come-off-till-you're-dead-and-maybe- even-later coloring markers, and what does she do with them? (Munsch for Kids series.)

Owen, Ann (editor). **Traditional Songs.**

Presents an illustrated version of traditional songs, including *Clementine* and *Old MacDonald had a Farm*, along with some discussion of its folk origins.

Osborne, Mary Pope. **Dinosaurs Before Dark.**

Eight-year-old Jack and his younger sister Annie find a magic tree house, which whisks them back to an ancient time zone where they see live dinosaurs. (The Magic Tree House series.)

Palatini, Margie. **Zoom Broom.**

When her broom breaks down, Gritch the Witch visits a foxy salesman in search of a new Zoom Broom but ends up with something unexpected.

Parish, Peggy or Herman. **Amelia Bedelia Helps Out.**

Amelia Bedelia shows her niece Effie Lou how to follow instructions to the letter as they dust the potato bugs and sew seeds.

(Greenwillow Read-Alone Books – Amelia Bedelia series or I-Can- Read Level 2 series.)

Park, Barbara. **Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business.**

Through a misunderstanding, Junie B. thinks that her new baby brother is really a baby monkey, and her report of this news creates excitement and trouble in her kindergarten class.

(Junie B. Jones series.)

Parker, Nancy Winslow. **Bugs.**

Includes information and jokes about a variety of insects.

Peet, Bill. **The Whingdingdilly.**

Tired of a dog's life, Scamp visits the wicked little witch in the woods and becomes a whingdingdilly.

Polacco, Patricia. **Emma Kate.**

Emma Kate and her best friend share many activities, such as homework and soccer practice, and even have their tonsils out at the same time, all the things best friends do. But there is more to this best friend than meets the eye.

Prelutsky, Jack. **The Dragons are Singing Tonight.**

A collection of poems about dragons, including "I'm an Amiable Dragon," "If You Don't Believe in Dragons," and "A Dragon is in My Computer."

Ringgold, Faith. **Tar Beach.**

Eight-year-old Cassie dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family. Based on the author's quilt painting of the same name.

Roy, Ron. **The Absent Author.**

Dink Duncan and his two friends investigate the apparent kidnapping of famous mystery author Wallis Wallace. (A to Z Mysteries series.)

## Books for the **Second Grader** (continued)

San Souci, Robert D. **The Talking Eggs: a Folktale from the American South.**

The flavor of the American South is captured in this Creole folktale in which kind Blanche, following the instructions of an old witch, gains riches, while her greedy sister makes fun of the old woman and is duly rewarded.

Steig, William. **Brave Irene.**

Plucky Irene, a dressmaker's daughter, braves a fierce snowstorm to deliver a new gown to the duchess in time for the ball.

Steig, William. **Doctor De Soto.**

Dr. De Soto, a mouse dentist, copes with the toothaches of various animals except those with a taste for mice, until the day a fox comes to him in great pain.

Step toe, John. **Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: an African Tale.**

In this African version of the Cinderella tale, Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.

Van Allsburg, Chris. **The Polar Express.**

A magical train ride on Christmas Eve takes a boy to the North Pole to receive a special gift from Santa Claus.

Van Laan, Nancy. **Rainbow Crow: a Lenape Tale.**

A legend from Bucks County, PA. When the weather changes and the ever-falling snow threatens to engulf all the animals, it is Crow who flies up to receive the gift of fire from the Great Sky Spirit.

Yolan, Jane. **Raising Yoder's Barn.**

Eight-year-old Matthew tells what happens when fire destroys the barn on his family's farm and all the Amish neighbors come to rebuild it in one day.

Zelinsky, Paul O. **Rumpelstiltskin.**

In this beautifully illustrated and award winning version of the classic fairy tale, a strange little man helps the miller's daughter spin straw into gold for the king on the condition that she will give him her first-born child.

### Book Sharing Questions for Reading At Home

*When reading with your child, you can select one or two of these questions to use to discuss a book together.*

If you were in the story, how would you feel?

How could you change the ending of the story?

If you were the main character, what would you do at the end of the book?

Tell, write or draw me something you liked or disliked about the book.

How would the story be different if it took place in another setting?

How would you act toward the main character if he/she was one of your friends?

Did the book make you laugh? Cry? Cheer? Explain why.

What parts of the book seem most believable? Why? What parts seem unbelievable? Why?

How are you like one of the characters?

Is there anything in the book that surprised you? Confused you? Why?

Can you show me where the author tells you...

**“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”**

**~ W. Fusselman**

## Books for the **Third Grader**

Abbott, Tony. **Under the Shadow of Goll.**

Eric and his friends journey to the magical world of Droon by using a basement staircase.  
(The Secrets of Droon series)

Adler, David. **Cam Jansen and the Valentine Baby Mystery.**

Cam uses her photographic memory to solve a mystery in a hospital waiting room.

Auch, Mary Jane. **I Was a Third Grade Bodyguard.**

When Brian takes care of the third-grade class's pet chicken during Christmas vacation, Arful, his talking dog, has his paws full watching over it.

Barasch, Lynne. **Radio Rescue.**

In 1923, after learning Morse code and setting up his own amateur radio station, a twelve-year-old boy sends a message that leads to the rescue of a family stranded by a hurricane in Florida.

Blume, Judy. **Freckle Juice.**

Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.

Brown, Jeff. **Flat Stanley.**

After a bulletin board falls on Stanley while he is sleeping, he finds that being flat has its advantages.

Cameron, Ann. **More Stories Julian Tells.**

Episodes in the life of Julian include a bet with his best friend Gloria, a secret project, and what happens when his brother Huey decides to be Superboy.

Chandra, Deborah. **George Washington's Teeth.**

A rollicking rhyme portrays George Washington's lifelong struggle with bad teeth.

Christopher, Matt. **The Catcher's Mask.**

Mudders' catcher Rudy Calhoun is having a bad season behind the plate until, at a yard sale, he buys a used catcher's mask that greatly improves his playing.  
(Peach Tree Mudders series)

Cleary, Beverly. **Muggie Maggie.**

Maggie resists learning cursive writing in the third grade, until she discovers that knowing how to read and write cursive promises to open up an entirely new world of knowledge for her.

Clements, Andrew. **Jake Drake, Bully Buster.**

Jake faces the challenge of cooperating with the school bully on a class project.

Dadey, Debbie. **Dragons Don't Throw Snowballs.**

The Bailey School kids investigate to see if a mad scientist can turn a snow sculpture into a real dragon.  
(Bailey School Kids series)

Dahl, Roald. **The Magic Finger.**

Angered by a neighboring family's sport hunting, an eight-year-old girl turns her magic finger on them.

Danziger, Paula. **Amber Brown is Green with Envy.**

Amber Brown must make some important decisions when her mother and Max move their wedding date up and prepare to buy a house together, while her father makes some bad choices of his own.

DeGroat, Diane. **Annie Pitts, Burger Kid.**

Annie Pitts loves hamburgers and is determined to become the Burger Barn's next poster child.

dePaola, Tomie. **26 Fairmount Avenue.**

Children's author-illustrator Tomie De Paola describes his experiences at home and in school when he was a boy.

DiSalvo-Ryan Dyanne. **Spaghetti Park.**

Angelo and his grandfather help rejuvenate a local park.

Duffey, Betsy. **Cody Unplugged.**

Concerned that his television and video habits have gotten out of hand, Cody's parents send him to Camp Bear where he learns to experience real life rather than virtual reality.

George, Jean Craighead. **How to Talk to Your Cat and How to Talk to Your Dog.**

Describes how pets communicate with people through their behavior and sounds and explains how to talk back to them using sounds, behavior, and body language.

Greenburg, Dan. **It's Itchcraft!** - Zack asks a new girl to the Halloween dance and finds that she has traveled through time all the way from 1692 Massachusetts.

(Zack Files series)

## Books for the **Third Grader** (continued)

Haas, Jessie. **Runaway Radish.**

When Radish the pony grows too big for the girls who own him, he goes to live at a horse camp where there are always new children for him to train.

Hanson, Rosanna. **Animal Rescuers.**

Meet four animal heroes: Ginny, a dog who helps cats; Scarlett, a cat who rescued her kittens from fire; Lulu, a pig who found help for her ill owner; and Dorado, a guide dog who led his owner out of the collapsing World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. (True Tales series)

Hurwitz, Johanna. **Class Clown.**

Third grader Lucas Cott finds it very hard to turn over a new leaf when he decides to become the perfect student.

Hurwitz, Johanna. **PeeWee's Tale.**

When his owner's parents let him go in Central Park, a young guinea pig learns to survive in the natural world with the help of a "park-wise" squirrel.

Josse, Barbara. **Dead Guys Talk: A Wild Willie Mystery.**

In the dead middle of summer, the Scarface Detectives investigate their creepiest case yet when a mysterious client sends them to Oak Hill Cemetery, where Loonie Loraine is buried.

Kline, Suzy. **Horrible Harry Takes the Cake.**

When "Horrible Harry" sets out to discover who his teacher Miss Mackle is going to marry, he takes some risky moves to be the first one to know.

Looke, Lenore. **Ruby Lu, Brave and True.**

Almost-eight-years-old, Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks and learns to drive, and has adventures with both old and new friends.

McDonald, Megan. **Judy Moody Declares Independence!**

After learning about the American Revolution on a family trip to Boston, Judy Moody makes her own Declaration of Independence and tries to prove that she is responsible enough to have more freedoms, such as a larger allowance and her own bathroom.

McDonald, Megan. **Stink and the Incredible Super-galactic Jawbreaker.**

Judy Moody's seven-year-old brother gets so caught up in his letter writing campaign that he misses his best friend's birthday, but he plans a super surprise to make up for his mistake.

McKenna, Colleen. **Third Grade Ghouls.**

Third grader Gordie worries about coming up with a scary costume for the school Halloween parade and about having to take care of a timid younger boy.

**Miles of Smiles: Kids Pick the Funniest Poems #3.** Edited by Bruce Lansky.

Humorous poems divided into categories such as "Me," "Parents," "Gross Out," and "All Mixed Up" by poets including Shel Silverstein, Judith Viorst, and Jack Prelutsky.

Mills, Claudia. **7 x 9 = Trouble.**

The best thing about third grade for Wilson is the class pet, Squiggles the hamster. The worst are his struggles with his times-tables in order to beat the class deadline.

Peters, Stephanie True. **Making the Save.**

When the Soccer 'Cats decide to earn money to buy a gift for Coach Bradley, Bucky goes out of his way to make the gift a wonderful surprise (Soccer Cats series by Matt Christopher)

Peterson, John. **The Littles Go Exploring.**

The tiny family explores beyond the Dark Woods.

**A Poke in the I: a Collection of Concrete Poems.** Selected by Paul Janeczko.

Thirty poems have their text arranged to startle the reader.

Preller, James. **The Case of the Snowboarding Superstar.**

Kid detective Jigsaw Jones is forced to solve a case without his partner Miles when trouble hits the slopes. (Jigsaw Jones series)

Recorvits, Helen. **My Name is Yoon.**

Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or "shining wisdom," refers to herself as "cat," "bird," and "cupcake," as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country.

Roy, Ron. **Fireworks at the FBI.**

KC and her friend Marshall help the FBI solve the mystery of who hacked into the witness-protection program. (Capital Mysteries series)

## Books for the **Third Grader** (continued)

Sachar, Louis. **Marvin Redpost: Super Fast, Out of Control!**

Afraid of his new mountain bike, third-grader Marvin finds himself in a desperate situation when he accepts a challenge to ride down Suicide Hill.

Say, Allen. **Kamishibai Man.**

After the advent of television, an old Kamishibai man—a Japanese street performer who tells stories and sells candies—decides to entertain once more.

Silverstein, Shel. **Runny Babbit: a Billy Sook.**

A collection of children's poetry using spoonerisms by Shel Silverstein in place of traditional form.

White, E.B. **Charlotte's Web.**

Wilbur the pig discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend Charlotte decides to help him.



**“The book to read is not the one which thinks for you, but the one which makes you think.”**

**~ James McCosh**

## Books for the **Fourth Grader**

Avi. **Poppy.**

Poppy, a young deer mouse, lives near a large corn field with her family in a land ruled by Mr. Ocax, the owl.

(Tales from The Dimwood Forest Series)

Atwater, Richard. **Mr. Popper's Penguins.**

This is a favorite story about a man who leaves his job as a house painter to train a vaudeville troupe of penguins.

Baglio, Ben. **Raccoons on the Roof.**

Mandy tries to save raccoons from a neighbor who wants to kill them.

(Animal Ark Series)

Blume, Judy. **Double Fudge.**

Peter's younger brother's obsession with money and the discovery of his cousins Flora and Fauna, make for embarrassing moments for Peter.

Bunting, Eve. **Nasty Stinky Sneakers.**

Colin needs to find his missing sneakers in time to enter the Stinkiest Sneakers in the World contest.

Byars, Betsy. **Wanted Mud Blossom.**

A very funny trial occurs after Pap's dog, Mud, is accused of eating the class hamster.

Catling, Patrick. **The Chocolate Touch.**

Everything this boy touches to his lips turns into chocolate with very funny and disastrous results.

Cleary, Beverly. **Ramona's World.**

Enjoy the adventures of nine-year-old Ramona as she experiences fourth grade and finds a new best friend, Daisy.

Clements, Andrew. **Frindle.**

When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

Coerr, Eleanor. **Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes.**

Hospitalized with the dreaded bomb disease, leukemia, a child in Hiroshima races against time to fold one thousand paper cranes to verify the legend that by doing so a sick person will become healthy.

Coville, Bruce. **Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher.**

Small for his age but artistically talented, twelve-year-old Jeremy Thatcher unknowingly buys a dragon's egg.

Creech, Sharon. **Love that Dog.**

A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.

Dahl, Roald. **The BFG.**

Sophie is kidnapped by the BFG (big friendly giant) and taken to Giantland, where the other giants eat children.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Because of Winn-Dixie.**

Ten-year-old Ida Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida and all of the good things that happen to her because of her dog, Winn-Dixie.

diTerlizzi, Tony. **The Field Guide.**

When the Grace children go to stay at their great-aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures and begin to have some unusual experiences.

(The Spiderwick Chronicles Series)

Fleischman, Sid. **Whipping Boy.**

Prince Brat has a whipping boy named Jemmy who is punished for Prince Brat's misdeeds. Many adventures follow when they switch roles.

## Books for the **Fourth Grader** (continued)

Gilson, Jamie. **4B Goes Wild.**

Fourth graders are rewarded with a class camping trip that proves to be the experience of a lifetime for Hobie Hanson and his friends.

Giovanni, Nikki. **Rosa.**

This book presents an illustrated account of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955, and the subsequent bus boycott by the black community.

**Girls to the Rescue.** (ed. By Bruce Lansky).

A collection of ten stories, some based on folklore, featuring admirable girls in both familiar and exotic settings.

(Girls to the Rescue Series)

Gutman, Dan. **Shoeless Joe and Me.**

Joe Stoshack travels back to 1919, where he meets Shoeless Joe Jackson and tries to prevent the fixing of the World Series.

(Baseball Card Adventure Series)

Hale, Bruce. **Chameleon Who Wore Chartreuse.**

When hired by a fellow fourth grader to find her missing brother, Chet Gecko uncovers a plot involving a Gila monster's revenge upon the school football team.

(Chet Gecko Mystery Series)

Howe, Deborah. **Bunnacula: a rabbit tale of mystery.**

Harold the dog discovers the new pet rabbit is really a vampire.

Henry, Marguerite. **Misty of Chincoteague.**

Two children's determination to own a pony is increased when Phantom and her colt are rounded up for the auction.

King-Smith, Dick. **Babe, the Gallant Pig.**

Winning Babe, a piglet, in a weight guessing contest turns into a surprise for Farmer and Mrs. Hogget when Babe is adopted by their sheepdog Fly and discovers a special secret to success.

Lensey, Namioka. **Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear.**

Everyone in the Yang family is a talented musician except for nine-year-old Yang who prefers baseball.

Levine, Gail Carson. **Ella Enchanted.**

In this Cinderella story, a fairy puts a spell on Ella which causes her to always be obedient.

Lowry, Lois **Anastasia Krupnik.**

Anastasia is an amusing fourth-grader experiencing all the childhood pangs of this age group.

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Arthur, for the very first time.**

Arthur spends the summer with his unconventional aunt and uncle and begins to look at life, his family, and himself differently.

Markle, Sandra. **Outside and Inside Big Cats.**

This series explores and describes the inner and outer workings of many types of animals and insects.

Moss, Marisa. **Amelia's Bully Survival Guide.**

Amelia has her first day of fifth grade. Her journal talks about the kids in her class, her teacher, and how she survives the bullies at school and at space camp.

Naylor, Phyllis. **Shiloh.**

What should Marty Preston do when he finds a beagle that has been mistreated by its owner?

Peck, Robert Newton. **Soup.**

The first book in a series about a boy who is a genius at getting into trouble.

Prelutsky, Jack. **Scranimals: Poems.**

A series of poems leads readers through a land where vegetables, flowers, and animals are scrambled together.



## Books for the **Fourth Grader**

Robinson, Barbara. **The Best School Year Ever.**

The six horrible Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, cause mayhem throughout the school year.

Rockwell, Thomas. **How to Eat Fried Worms.**  
For fifty dollars, Billy takes the bet of eating fifteen worms - one a day. His friend and family help him create various ways to cook them.

Rodda, Emily. **Rowan of Rin.**

Rowan realizes that he possess a trait that is unique among the local villagers. This trait causes him to depart on an adventure that is life-changing.

Sachar, Louis. **Wayside School.**

More funny stories about the classroom on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor of Wayside School.

Scieszka, Jon. **Knights of the Kitchen Table.**

A magical book places three friends in medieval England where they defeat a dragon, knight, and a giant.

(The Time Warp Trio Series)

Smith, Robert Kimmel. **Bobby Baseball.**

Bobby's dreams of becoming a major league baseball player are interrupted when his father decides to coach his team.

Spinelli, Jerry. **Fourth grade rats**

His best buddy transforms Suds into a fourth grade rat from a third grade angel.

Stilton, Geronimo. **A Cheese-colored Camper.**

Geronimo Stilton is asked to write a travel guide about Ratzikistan, a cold, dark, remote spot on Mouse Island. He travels with his grandfather in a cheese-colored camper to Ratzikistan despite the fact that Geronimo hates traveling.

(Geronimo Stilton Series)

Taylor, Mildred. **The Gold Cadillac.**

Two Black girls living in the North are proud of their family's new Cadillac until they take it on a visit to the South and experience racial prejudice for the first time.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler. **The Castle Mystery.**

Four orphans live in an old boxcar and find themselves solving incredible mysteries.

(The Boxcar Children Series)

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. **Little House on the Prairie.**

Depicts the life of Laura Ingalls and her family when they lived in a little log house in Wisconsin in 1872.

Winkler, Henry. **Help! Somebody Get Me out of Fourth Grade.**

Fearing that he may be failing fourth grade, Hank enlists the help of his friends, and even his annoying younger sister, in an effort to prevent his parents from attending a parent-teacher conference.

(Hank Zipzer Series)

Winthrop, Elizabeth. **Castle in the Attic.**

His grandmother's gift of a miniature castle for his tenth birthday holds many adventures for William.

Woodson. Jacqueline. **Show Way.**

Describes quilts which once served as maps for freedom-seeking slaves, and illustrates how the tradition has been passed on from mother to daughter.

**“Read in order to live.”  
~ Gustave Flaubert**

## Books for the **Fifth Grader**

**Amato, Mary. *The Word Eater.***

Lerner Chanse, a new student at Cleveland Park Middle School, finds a worm that magically makes things disappear, and she hopes it will help her fit in, or get revenge, at her hated school.

**Babbitt, Natalie. *Tuck Everlasting.***

The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.

**Bauer, Marion Dane. *On My Honor.***

When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience.

**Brittain, Bill. *Wish Giver.***

Polly, Rowena and Adam are dismayed when their wishes do come true, but not in the way they envisioned. Humorous and suspenseful.

**Byars, Betsy. *The 18<sup>th</sup> Emergency.***

A boy nicknamed Mouse lives in fear after writing the name of the school bully underneath a picture of a caveman in school. He must decide if it is better to face up to Hammerman or to keep looking over his shoulder everywhere he goes.

**Clements, Andrew. *A Week in the Woods.***

Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him are tested during the fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods.

**Creech, Sharon. *Ruby Holler.***

Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins Dallas and Florida have grown up in a terrible orphanage, but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.

**Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963***

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African-American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

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

This is the exciting and tender story of a motherless boy and his father and their great adventure together.

**DiCamillo, Kate. *The Tale of Despereaux: being the story of a mouse, a princess, some soup, and a spool of thread.***

This is a story about the adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

**Ferris, Jeri. *Arctic Explorer: The Story of Matthew Henson.***

This story traces the life of Matthew Henson, the African-American explorer who accompanied the Peary expedition to the North Pole and explains the reasons for the long delay in his recognition.

**Fitzgerald, John D. *The Great Brain.***

A witty novel in which narrator John recalls the adventures of his older brother Tom whose crafty schemes set him apart.

**Fleischman, Paul. *Joyful Noise.***

This features poems for two voices that reveal the mysterious pulsing world of insects.

**Freedman, Russell. *Buffalo Hunt.***

More than 30 paintings and drawings by artists who traveled in the West in the 1800s highlight a record of the elaborate, sacred ceremonies surrounding the Great Plains Indians and their relationship to the buffalo.

**Fritz, Jean. *The Cabin Faced West.***

The story of a little girl living on the frontier of western Pennsylvania.

**Fritz, Jean. *Homesick.***

This is the author's story of her childhood in China in the 1920s and her adjustment to life in Pennsylvania after a long journey to her grandmother's home.

**Funke, Cornelia Caroline. *Dragon Rider.***

After learning that humans are headed toward his hidden home, Firedrake, a silver dragon, is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find the legendary valley known as the Rim of Heaven, encountering friendly and unfriendly creatures along the way, and struggling to evade the relentless pursuit of an old enemy.

**Gardiner, John. *Stone Fox.***

Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.

**George, Jean. *My Side of the Mountain.*** Sam Gibley spends a winter alone on a mountain in the Catskills.

## Books for the **Fifth Grader** (continued)

Giff, Patricia Reilly. **Lily's Crossing.** During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.

Gilson, Jamie. **Hello, My Name is Scrambled Eggs.**

This is a humorous story about a church-sponsored Vietnamese family living with an American family.

Henry, Marguerite. **King of the Wind.**

If you love horses, you will love all of Marguerite Henry's books about horses. This story is about the Arabian ancestor of Man O' War.

Hunter, Erin. **Warriors: Into the Wild.** Rusty, a bored house kitten, is apprenticed by the ThunderClan and must struggle to fit in when the group of feral cats is threatened by the enemy ShadowClan.

(Warriors series.)

Ibbotson, Eva. **The Secret of Platform 13.**

Odge Gribble, a young hag, accompanies an old wizard, a gentle fey, and a giant ogre on their mission through a magical tunnel from their Island to London to rescue their King and Queen's son who had been stolen as an infant.

Konigsburg, E. L. **From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.**

Claudia Kincaid is an eleven-year-old who decides to run away from home with her little brother and moves into the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Lauber, Patricia. **Lost Star: The Story of Amelia Earhart.**

This traces the life of the pilot who became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean and mysteriously disappeared in 1937 while on a flight over the Pacific.

Lewis, C. S. **The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.**

In the series, The Chronicles of Narnia, all the tales deal with the struggle between good and evil. Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy go through the back of a wardrobe and meet the lion, Aslan. They join up with Aslan and fight at his side to the bitter end.

(Chronicles of Narnia series.)

Little, Jean. **From Anna.** When the family moves from Germany to Canada in the 1930s, a nine-year-old girl discovers the reason for her awkwardness and apparent inability to do anything right.

O'Brien, Robert C. **Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH.** With nowhere else to turn, a field mouse asks the clever escaped lab rats living under the rosebush to help save her son, who lies in the path of the farmer's tractor, too ill to be moved.

O'Dell, Scott. **Sing Down the Moon.**

A young Navajo girl recounts her tribe's forced march to Fort Sumner as prisoners of the white soldiers.

Park, Barbara. **Kid in the Red Jacket.**

When ten-year-old Howard has to move with his family to a distant state, he is forced to live on a street named Chester Pewe, adjust to a new school, and get used to being shadowed by the little girl in a nearby house.

Paterson, Katherine. **Bridge to Terabithia.** The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who meets an untimely death trying to reach their secret hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.

Peck, Richard. **A Long Way from Chicago.**

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Roberts, Willo Davis. **Baby-sitting is a Dangerous Job.** A baby sitter and her three willful charges make a formidable team to outwit their surprised kidnapers.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Esperanza Rising.**

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

Sachar, Louis. **Small Steps.** Sequel to: Holes.

Three years after being released from Camp Green Lake, Armpit is trying hard to keep his life on track, but when his old pal X-Ray shows up with a tempting plan to make some easy money scalping concert tickets, Armpit reluctantly goes along.

Slote, Alfred. **Finding Buck McHenry.**

Jason believes the school custodian, Mack Henry, to be Buck McHenry, a famous pitcher for the old Negro League, and tries to enlist him as a little league coach by revealing his identity.

Smith, Doris. **A Taste of Blackberries.**

A young boy recounts his efforts to adjust to the accidental death of his best friend.

## Books for the **Fifth Grader** (continued)

Smith, Jeff. **Bone 1: Out from Boneville.** Fone Bone, Phoney Bone, and Smiley Bone are run out of their home, Boneville, and become separated in the wilds, but better fortune begins when the three cousins reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone meets a young girl named Thorn. Graphic Novel. (Bone series.)

Smith, Robert Kimmel. **Chocolate Fever.** From eating too much chocolate, Henry breaks out in brown bumps that help him foil some hijackers and teach him a valuable lesson about self-indulgence.

Smith, Roland. **Thunder Cave.** Determined, after his mother's accidental death, to foil his stepfather's plans for his future, fourteen-year-old Jacob travels alone to Africa in search of his father, a biologist studying elephants in a remote area of Kenya.

VanDraanen, Wendelin. **Sammy Keyes and the Sisters of Mercy.** Sammy continues to make life with her grandmother interesting as she tries to discover who is stealing from St. Mary's church, befriends a homeless girl, and plays in a softball tournament against a bitter rival. (Sammy Keyes series.)

Wright, Betty R. **The Dollhouse Murders.** A dollhouse filled with a ghostly light in the middle of the night and dolls that have moved from where she last left them, lead Amy and her sister to unravel the mystery surrounding grisly murders that took place years ago.



**“Any book that helps a child to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of his deep and continuing needs, is good for him.”**

**~ Richard McKenna**

## Books for the **Sixth Grader**

**Balliett, Blue. Chasing Vermeer.**

When seemingly unrelated and strange events start happening and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

**Birdsall, Jeanne. The Penderwicks : a summer tale of four sisters, two rabbits, and a very interesting boy.**

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.

**Bridges, Ruby. Through My Eyes.**

Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.

**Choldenko, Gennifer. Al Capone Does My Shirts.**

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

**Collins, Suzanne. Gregor the Overlander.**

When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving humans, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.

**Cooper, Susan. The Grey King.**

Will Stanton, visiting in Wales, is swept into a desperate quest to find the golden harp and to awaken the ancient Sleepers to help stop the Dark from rising.

**Creech, Sharon. Walk Two Moons.**

After her mother leaves home suddenly, thirteen-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

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

By Curtis, Christopher Paul. Dewey: -Fic- 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.

**Dahl, Roald. Boy : tales of childhood.**

Presents humorous anecdotes from the author's childhood, including his summer vacations in Norway and life at an English boarding school.

**DuPrau, Jeanne. The City of Ember.**

In the city of Ember, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

**Funke, Cornelia. Inkheart.**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel "Inkheart" years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.

**Giff, Patricia Reilly. Pictures of Hollis Woods.**

A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.

**Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Among the Hidden.**

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

**Hiaasen, Carl. Hoot.**

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

**Hoeye, Michael. Time Stops for No Mouse : a Hermux Tantamoq Adventure.**

When Linka Perflinger, a jaunty mouse, brings a watch into his shop to be repaired and then disappears, Hermux Tantamoq is caught up in a dangerous search for eternal youth as he tries to find out what happened to her.

**Horowitz, Anthony. Stormbreaker.**

After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.

## Books for the **Sixth Grader** (continued)

**Hunter, Erin. Into the Wild.**

In this series, Rusty, a bored house kitten, is apprenticed by the ThunderClan and must struggle to fit in when the group of feral cats is threatened by the enemy ShadowClan.

**Jacques, Brian. Redwall.**

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.

**Kadohata, Cynthia. Kira-Kira.**

Chronicles the close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

**Martin, Ann M. A Dog's Life : the Autobiography of a Stray.**

Squirrel, a stray puppy, tells her life story, from her nurturing mother and brother to making her own way in the world, facing busy highways, changing seasons, and humans both gentle and brutal.

**McCaughrean, Geraldine. Greek Gods and Goddesses.**

A collection of fifteen retellings of Greek myths.

**Mikaelsen, Ben. Touching Spirit Bear.**

After his anger erupts into violence, fifteen year-old Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

**Montgomery, Sy. The Snake Scientist.**

Discusses the work of Bob Mason and his efforts to study and protect snakes, particularly red-sided garter snakes.

**Paolini, Christopher. Eragon.**

In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

**Park, Linda Sue. A Single Shard.**

Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge near a potters' village, and longs to learn how to throw the delicate celadon ceramics himself.

**Paterson, Katherine. The Same Stuff as Stars.**

When Angel's self-absorbed mother leaves her and her younger brother with their poor great-grandmother, the eleven-year-old girl worries not only about her mother and brother, her imprisoned father, the frail old woman, but also about a mysterious man who begins sharing with her the wonder of the stars.

**Paulsen, Gary. Hatchet.**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

**Rodda, Emily. The Forests of Silence.**

In this series, Lief and Barda search for the seven lost stones of the Belt of Deltora, hoping to rid their land of the evil Shadow Lord, who has enslaved Deltora's people and hidden the stones in the most dangerous places in the kingdom.

**Ryan, Pam Munoz. Becoming Naomi Leon.**

When Naomi's absent mother resurfaces to claim her, Naomi runs away to Mexico with her great-grandmother and younger brother in search of her father.

**Rylant, Cynthia. Missing May.**

After the death of the beloved aunt who has raised her, twelve-year-old Summer and her uncle Ob leave their West Virginia trailer in search of the strength to go on living.

**Spinelli, Jerry. Milkweed : a novel.**

A street child, known to himself only as Stopthief, finds community when he is taken in by a band of orphans in Warsaw ghetto which helps him weather the horrors of the Nazi regime.

**Spinelli, Jerry. Stargirl.**

Stargirl, a teen who animates quiet Mica High with her colorful personality, suddenly finds herself shunned for her refusal to conform.

**Stewart, Paul. Stormchaser.**

In his continuing adventures, Twig, now sixteen years old, joins the crew of his father's sky pirate ship and embarks on a dangerous mission to collect the powerful stromphrax, a substance that purifies water and also prevents the city of Sanctaphrax from floating away.

**Taylor, Mildred D. The Gold Cadillac.**

Two black girls living in the North are proud of their family's beautiful new Cadillac until they take it on a visit to the South and encounter racial prejudice for the first time.

## Books for the **Sixth Grader** (continued)

Tolan, Stephanie S. **Surviving the Applewhites.**

Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had.

Watkins, Yoko Kawashima. **So Far from the Bamboo Grove.**

A fictionalized autobiography in which eleven-year-old Yoko escapes from Korea to Japan with her mother and sister at the end of World War II.

Yep, Laurence. **The Tiger's Apprentice.**

A tiger, a monkey, a dragon, and a twelve-year-old Chinese American boy fight to keep a magic talisman out of the hands of an enemy who would use its power to destroy the world.



**“It is important for your child to see you reading books,  
magazines, newspapers, and even the mail.  
Let them know that reading is important to you.”  
~ Dorothy Strickland**

