

# Bronxville Elementary School

## Reading Suggestions 2017

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*Finally, please note that the listed books are only suggestions. No titles are required for reading and no child will be expected to read from the list. Enjoy!*

## IDEAS FOR MAKING YOUR CHILD A LIFE-LONG LOVER OF BOOKS

Picking up a book and reading for pleasure makes our minds grow. But some kids struggle with reading and for parents this can be very frustrating. Here are some things to keep in mind on ways to turn a young reader's reluctance into enthusiasm:

- **Encourage your child to read for fun, let them read books they enjoy.** Forcing a child to read books that are either not interesting or too difficult will only discourage them from reading. Use their interests and hobbies as starting points.
- **Don't rule out magazines!** The short, content-based articles are often written at an easy reading level and will spark their interest in a variety of topics. Most bookstore chains have a huge selection of magazines to appeal to almost every interest.
- **Read aloud to children of all ages.** There is no age cutoff for reading aloud. The pleasure of listening to you read, rather than struggling alone, may restore your child's initial enthusiasm for books and reading. Pick a story that the whole family can enjoy together!
- **Remember books on tape!** Long car trips are a great time for the family to listen to a book together. Pick the first book in a series to spark the children's interest in reading the rest of the books themselves.
- **Set aside a regular time for reading in your family.** This should be independent of schoolwork—the 20 minutes before lights out, just after dinner, or whatever fits into your household schedule. As little as 10 minutes of free reading a day can help improve your child's skills and habits.
- **Notice what attracts your children's attention, even if they only look at the pictures.** Then build on that interest; read a short selection aloud, or simply bring home more information on the same subject.
- **Take your children to the library regularly.** Explore the children's section together. Ask a librarian to suggest books and magazines your children might enjoy.
- **Treat your children to an evening of laughter and entertainment featuring books!** Many children (parents, too) regard reading as a serious activity. A joke book, a story told in riddles, or a funny passage read aloud can reveal another side of reading.
- **Read Yourself.** Be a good role model and let your child see you reading. Share your excitement with the whole family.
- **Limit your children's television/technology viewing** in an effort to make time for other activities, such as reading. But never use technology as a reward for reading, or a punishment for not reading.

## WHERE TO FIND GREAT BOOKS FOR YOUR CHILDREN

Here are some online resources to help you locate great books for children of all ages.

### **Association for Library Service to Children**

<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/notalists/ncb/index.cfm>

Each year a committee of the Association for Library Service to Children identifies the best of the best in children's books. Notable should be thought to include books of especially commendable quality, books that exhibit venturesome creativity, and books of fiction, information, poetry and pictures for all age levels (birth through age 14) that reflect and encourage children's interests in exemplary ways.

### **The Bronxville Public Library**

[www.bronxvillelibrary.org](http://www.bronxvillelibrary.org)

The children's section of the Library's website lists links to numerous "Best Books of the Year" lists including those from professional journals such as Horn Book, School Library Journal and Kirkus.

### **The Children's Book Committee at Bank Street College**

<http://www.bnkst.edu/bookcom/>

The Children's Book Committee was founded over 90 years ago to help parents, librarians and educators find the books that children will find transforming. Their publications, Best Books of the Year and Best Books to Read Aloud are available on their website and at the Bronxville Public Library.

### **Children's Book Council**

<http://www.cbcbooks.org/readinglists/>

The Children's Book Council produces a number of reading lists for young people such as Outstanding International Books, Outstanding Science Books and Notable Social Studies Books.

### **Westchester Library System**

[www.westchesterlibraries.org](http://www.westchesterlibraries.org)

The librarians of Westchester County compile a list of what they consider to be the best books of the year going back to 1998.

## **KINDERGARTEN INTO FIRST GRADE**

### **Picture Books Title - Author**

**It's Only Stanley** - Jon Agee. Stanley the dog makes mysterious noises in the night. What is he up to?

**Surf's Up** - Kwame Alexander. Frog friends Bro and Dude hilariously debate whether surfing or reading is a better way to spend a day at the beach.

**Miss Nelson Is Missing** - Harry Allard. The children in Miss Nelson's class go beyond misbehaving; they are downright terrible! Near her wits' end, Miss Nelson thinks up a brilliant plan. The next day the kids have a substitute--the nasty Viola Swamp--who loads the boys and girls with homework and never gives them a story hour. By the time Miss Nelson finally returns, the children are so grateful they behave well. But now Viola Swamp is missing....

**The Mine-o-saur** - Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen. Learning to share

**Children Make Terrible Pets (Starring Lucille Beatrice Bear)** - Peter Brown. Lucy, a bear, finds a young boy impossible to train as a pet.

**Mr. Tiger Goes Wild** - Peter Brown. Bored with city life, Mr. Tiger gets a wild idea.

**The Mitten** - Jan Brett. Nicki drops his white mitten and animals crawl into it without him noticing.

**Sunflower House** - Eve Bunting. Inventive children plant summer fun.

**The Little House** - Virginia Lee Burton. A house in the country becomes surrounded by a growing city but fortunately is eventually returned back to the countryside where she belongs.

**Choo Choo** - Virginia Lee Burton. The adventures of a beautiful locomotive who decides to run away.

**Miss Rumphius** - Barbara Cooney. A desire to travel and make world a more beautiful place

**Thunder-Boomer!** - Shutta Crum. Summer storm brings unexpected gift, a kitten

**Big Words for Little People** - Jamie Lee Curtis. Big sister teaches important words

**I'm Gonna Like Me** - Jamie Lee Curtis. Celebrate liking yourself through alternating points of view.

**The Day the Crayons Quit** - Drew Daywalt. Duncan wants to color but instead finds a letters from the crayons all saying they quit!

**The Day the Crayons Came Home** - Drew Daywalt. Companion to *The Day the Crayons Quit*; Duncan now finds a whole new group of crayons asking to be rescued.

**Strega Nona's Harvest** - Tomie dePaola. Strega Nona attempts to teach Big Anthony about gardening and the importance of order. But when Big Anthony does not follow her directions and tries to use her growing spell, his small vegetable patch turns into an unruly jungle! What will they do with all the extra vegetables?

**Gaston** - Kelly DiPucchio. What does it take for a bulldog to fit in with his proper poodle family? It turns out to be something simple: love.

**The Jelly Donut Difference: Sharing Kindness with the World** - Maria Dismondy. The ooey gooey jelly donuts in this story are a testament to the power of kindness, caring, and generosity.

**A Hat for Mrs. Goldman: A story About Knitting and Love** - Michelle Edwards. A celebration of winter mitzvahs, or kind deeds.

**The Princess and the Pig** - Jonathan Emmett. Baby princess changes places with a piglet

**Let's Do Nothing!** - Tony Fucile. Two boys run out of things to do with hilarious results

**Night Lights** - Susan Gal. Biking at night, a child sees different types of illumination

**The Night Gardener** - Terry Fan and Eric. William and an elderly gardener help transform their town by creating anonymous topiary artwork.

**Let's Do Nothing!** - Tony Fucile. Two boys run out of things to do with hilarious results

**Lights Out** - Aurthur Geisert. Little piglet overcomes fear of the dark

**The Monster Who Lost His Mean** - Tiffany Strelitz Haber. Noisy, strong, remarkable, but not mean.

**Wemberly Worried** - Kevin Henkes. Wemberly worries about everything. Big things, little things, and when school was about to start, Wemberly worried even more.

**Chrysanthemum** - Kevin Henkes. A book to talk about feelings.

**Goldilocks and Just One Bear** - Leigh Hodgkinson. Little Bear finds himself lost in the Big City.

**Little Red Writing** - Joan Holub. A brave little red pencil sets out to write an exciting story.

**Flora and the Flamingo** - Molly Idle. Flora and her graceful flamingo friend explore the trials and joys of friendship

**The Secret Olivia Told Me** - N. Joy. Secret is shared and then slips out

**Neville** - Norton Juster. Boy moves and devises way to meet people in his new neighborhood

**This Is Not My Hat** - Jon Klassen. A tiny fish knows it's wrong to steal a hat.

**A Very Special House** - Ruth Krauss , Maurice Sendak ill. Free Spirited Story about a boys imaginary house.

**Who Pushed Humpty Dumpty? And Other Notorious Nursery Tale Mysteries** - David Levinthal. Five fairy-tale stories with a twist.

**Matthew's Dream**- Leo Lionni. Matthew the Mouse has a moment of self discovery.

**Swimmy**- Leo Lionni . Swimmy shows his friends how—with ingenuity and team work—they can overcome any danger.

**Pezzettino**- Leo Lionni Pezzettino learns he belongs to himself.

**The Story Of Ferdinand** - Munro Leaf. All the other bulls would run and jump and butt their heads together. But Ferdinand would rather sit and smell the flowers.

**Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons** - Eric Litwin. A mellow-eyed feline looks for the bright side of every situation.

**Otis and the Scarecrow**- Loren Long Otis lets the scarecrow know he is part of the family.

**Elmer**- David McKee. Elmer the elephant, a colorful character because of his patchwork hide and sense of humor, tries to blend in with the herd but soon realizes he's happiest just being himself.

**Freckleface Strawberry** - Julianne Moore. Young girl doesn't like her freckles until she learns to live with them and accept herself

**The Monsters' Monster** - Patrick McDonnell. A very big monster shows three very bad little monsters the power of gratitude.

**I STINK!**- Kate & Jim McMullan. With ten wide tires, one really big appetite, and an even bigger smell, this truck's got it all.

**I Got the Rhythm** - Connie Schofield-Morrison. A neighborhood walk becomes so much more as a little girl explores the music and sound of everyday urban life.

**Blueberries for Sal** - Robert McCloskey What Happens when Sal and her mother meet a mother bear and her cub.

**Make Way for Ducklings** - Robert McCloskey Tale of Mallard ducks in Boston.

**Hi, Koo! A Year of Seasons** - Jon J. Muth . Koo the panda is back and discovering each season through poetry.

**Enemy Pie** - Derek Munson. This character learns how to get rid of an enemy and figures out a lot about friendship in the process.

**Ducks Don't Wear Socks** - John D. Nedwidek. Duck helps serious girl have fun

**We're All Wonders**- R.J. Palacio. The importance of choosing kindness.

**Xander's Panda Party** - Linda Sue Park. Xander is having a party and can't decide what animals to invite.

**Miss Moore Thought Otherwise : the Story of the Lady Who Made Libraries for Children** -Jan Pinborough. The true story of how Miss Moore created the first children's room at the New York Public Library.

**The Grasshopper & the Ants** -Jerry Pinkney. The third in his retellings of Aesop's Fables, Pinkney shows the grasshopper why the ants have worked so hard, and the ants learn the value of sharing.

**Not a Stick** - Natalie Portis. A pig explains how a stick can be different things

**Creepy Carrots!** - Aaron Reynolds. Rabbit fears his favorite treats are out to get him.

**Duck! Rabbit!** - Amy Rosenthal. Is a creature a rabbit or a duck?

**This Plus That: Life's Little Equations** -Amy Rosenthal. Simple math in life

**Dragons Love Tacos** - Adam Rubin. A humorous tale exploring the love dragons have for tacos.

**Pig Kahuna** -Jennifer Sattler. Fergus is afraid to go in the water

**Jangles: A Big Fish Story** - David Shannon. A boy comes face-to-face with a gigantic trout.

**A Sick Day for Amos McGee**- Philip C. Stead- Animals take care of their friend.

**Lenny & Lucy** - Philip C. Stead. Peter uses his imagination and pillows to create Lenny, the Guardian of the Bridge, and realizes that something is missing—a friend for Lenny.

**The Sneetches and Other Stories**- Dr. Seuss. Four funny easy to read stories with themes of tolerance diversity and compromise.

**The Dark** - Lemony Snicket. Mostly, the dark lives in the basement, but one night, when his night-light fails, it arrives in Laszlo's room.

**You're Here for a Reason** - Nancy Tillman. Author shows how each of us fits into life's big picture and the world would be incomplete without you in it.

**Poindexter Makes a Friend** -Mike Twohy. Shy pig and shy turtle learn to make friends.

**Suki's Kimono** - Chieri Uegaki. A little girl whose spirit leads her to march and dance to her own drumbeat.

**Before John was a Jazz Giant - A Song of John Coltrane** -Carole Boston Weatherford.

**Art and Max** -David Wiesner. Two friends on a whirlwind trip through various art media

**Mr. Wuffles** - David Wiesner. Mr. Wuffles ignores all his cat toys but one, which turns out to be a spaceship piloted by small green aliens.

**That is Not a Good Idea!** - Mo Willems. A surprising lesson about the importance of listening to one's inner gosling.

**My New Friend Is So Fun!** - Mo Willems. Will a new friend break apart Piggie and Gerald's friendship?

**Hooray for Amanda and her Alligator!** - Mo Willems. Amanda and her stuffed toy alligator are best friends, but one day Amanda brings a special but unwelcome surprise.

**The Plant Sitter** - Gene Zion, Margaret Bloy Graham ill. Tommy's takes care of his neighbors plants while they are on vacation. The plants get out of control until he goes to the library to learn about plant care and makes baby plants for the children from the trimmings.



Chapter Books Title - Author

**Young Cam Jansen** - David Adler

**Fly Guy** -Tedd Arnold. The adventures of a pet fly

**Rabbit & Robot: The Sleepover** - Cece Bell. Rabbit and Robot disagree on everything.

**The Magic Schoolbus Series-** Joanna Cole

**Twig** - Elizabeth Orton Jones. Empty tomato can is perfect fairy house

**Amanda Pig** - Jean Van Leeuwen. Calm stories about how Amanda solves everyday problems

**Up, Tall and High!** - Ethan Long. A bevy of birds perform a play in three acts.

**Adventures of Little Bear-** Else Holmelund Minarik. Stories of Little Bear and His Childlike Charm

**Henry and Mudge** - Cynthia Rylant. Henry finds companionship in a big dog named Mudge

**Elephant & Piggie** - Mo Willems. Two friends learn valuable life lessons

**Morris and Boris** - Bernard Wiseman

## **FIRST INTO SECOND GRADE**

### **Picture Books Title - Author**

**The Lonely Phonebooth** - Peter Ackerman. This is the story of one of the last remaining phone booths in New York City, the Phone Booth on the corner of West End Avenue and 100th Street.

**The Curious Garden** - Peter Brown. One boy's quest for a greener world... one garden at a time.

**Iggy Peck, Architect** - Andrea Beaty. Iggy loves building. However his creative expression is challenged when his second grade teacher declares her dislike of architecture.

**Rosie Revere Engineer** - Andrea Beaty. Rosie wants to build a contraption that flies but when it doesn't succeed in flying her aunt insists it is a success and she should not quit.

**Ada Twist, Scientist** - Andrea Beaty. Scientist Ada is imaginative, curious, and unafraid of failure. She conducts scientific experiments to make discoveries but this time the lead to more stink and get her into trouble.

**Odd Duck** - Cecil Castellucci. **(Comic)** A story about first impressions, tolerance, and friendship.

**The Black Book of Colors** - Menena Cottin. Imagine not having sight and using Braille

**Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale** - Carmen Agra Deedy. Bug picks mate

**Last Stop on Market Street** - Matt de la Pena - Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town where she helps him see the fun of their routine and the beauty of the world around them.

**Front Porch Tales and North Country Whoppers** - Tomie dePaola. Laugh-out-loud stories from New Hampshire and Vermont are set during the four seasons of the year.

**The Night Gardener** - Terry Fan. Mysterious night gardener brings color to a boy and his town.

**A Taste of Colored Water** - Matt Faulkner. Girls learn what "colored" water means

**Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella** - Paul Fleischman.

**Clever Jack Takes the Cake** - Candace Fleming. Boy tries to find a present fit for princess

**Year of Billy Miller** - Kevin Henkes. A funny story about friendship, sibling rivalry, and elementary school.

**Lost and Found**- Oliver Jeffers . A poignant, funny, and child-friendly story about a boy and a penguin whose friendship is lost . . . and then found again.

**Big Red Lollipop** - Rukhsana Khan. Tag-a-long little sister spoils girl's fun at a birthday party

**Mama Went to Jail for the Vote** - Kathleen Karr. Girl learns about fight for right to vote

**Do Unto Otters: A Book about Manners**- Laurie Keller. A delightfully illustrated tale demonstrated by the Otter family, of the importance of following the Golden Rule.

**The Elephant Quilt** - Susan Lowell. Story of 1859 journey from Missouri to California

**The Invisible Boy**- Trudy Ludwig This story shows how small acts of kindness can make someone feel included.

**Zen Ties** - Jon Muth. What happens after helping a grouchy neighbor

**If You Plant a Seed** - Kadir Nelson. A rabbit and his mouse pal are excited to harvest a few crops, but when the birds come to share in the spoils, rabbit and mouse have to make a decision. Will they plant seeds of selfishness or seeds of kindness.

**Red Butterfly: How Princess Smuggled the Secret of Silk out of China** - Deborah Noyes

**The Pea Blossom** - Amy Poole. Hans Christian Anderson tale from pea's perspective

**Wabi Sabi** - Mark Reibstein. Cat living in Kyoto learns about the concept of beauty

**Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin**. Chieri Uegaki. A young girl has signed up to play the violin for the schools talent show but she has only had three lessons.

**How I Learned Geography** - Uri Shulevitz. Based on author's refugee childhood

**Baker Cat** - Posy Simmonds. Overworked cat teams up with mice

**Grandpa Green**- Lane Smith. Grandpa Green shows grandson a world of memories passed down in topiary shapes.

**Sugar Cane: A Caribbean Rapunzel** - Patricia Storace. New twist on classic tale

**8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel ÷ 1 Dog = Chaos** - Vivian Vande Velde. A group of small animals turn an elementary school into a real zoo.

**Mr. President Goes to School** - Rick Walton. Important lessons from kindergarten

**What Do You Do With An Idea** - Kobi Yamada. Story of one brilliant idea and the child who helps to bring it into the world. As the child's confidence grows, so does the idea itself.

**Our Tree Named Steve** - Alan Zweibel. Father shares memories of tree in family yard

#### Chapter Books Title - Author

**Cam Jansen** - David Adler. Girl detective uses photographic memory to solve mysteries

**Never Glue Your Friends to Chairs**- Katherine Applegate. Hilarious story of boy's antics

**Rabbit & Robot and Ribbit** - Cece Bell. What happens when two friends suddenly become three?

**Freckle Juice** - Judy Blume. Boy wants freckles like his friend

**The Pain and The Great One** - Judy Blume. Stories about a third grade girl and her first grade brother and how they relate to each other.

**Flat Stanley** - Jeff Brown. Boy wakes up flat and must adjust to life

**The Littles** - Roberta Clark. Little people with tails who live in the walls of the Big family

**Bink & Gollie** - Kate DiCamillo. Two best friends share three comical adventures

**Mercy Watson to the Rescue**- Kate DiCamillo. Story about Mercy, a porcine wonder and the people who love her.

**My Father's Dragon** - Ruth Stiles Gannett. Adventures of boy and baby flying dragon

**Goose and Duck** - Jean Craighead George. Boy becomes the "mother" to a goose

**Houndsley and Catina and the Quiet Time** - James Howe. Enjoy a snowy day

**Pinky and Rex** - James Howe. Two friends tackle everyday problems

**Lotus and Feather** - Ji-li Jiang. Inspired by the true story of a crane that rescued a Chinese village, a young girl and a crane help each other, become friends and help a village from a flood.

**A Letter to Amy** - Ezra Jack Keats - Peter is inviting only one girl to his birthday party: his friend Amy. Rather than asking her in person, he decides to send her a special invitation, but a thunderstorm on the way to the mailbox sends Peter's plans into a tailspin. Will Amy get the letter in time? And will she come to Peter's party?

**Pinkerton, Behave**- Steven Kellog. Pinkerton the dog is sent to obedience school but learns his commands wrong.

**Horrible Harry** - Suzy Kline. Antics of friends as they move up from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade

**Song Lee** - Suzy Kline. Girl brings insights to her class from her native Korea

**The Children of Noisy Village**- Astrid Lindgren. A year in the lives and customs of six Swedish children living on a group of three farms in the countryside.

**Mr. Putter and Tabby** - Cynthia Rylant. Comical adventures of a man and his cat

**The Dot**- Peter H. Reynolds. Here we find a young child who "Can't draw" anything. Supposedly. But when the teacher gets our protagonist to draw a dot and then "sign it" - well, one thing leads to another and the dots become more and more elaborate.

**Ish** - Peter H. Reynolds. A creative spirit learns that thinking "ish-ly" is far more wonderful than "getting it right"

**Poppleton**- Cynthia Rylant. Poppleton the pig makes a friend, reads a library book about adventure, and helps a sick friend get better.

**Japanese Children's Favorite Stories**. Florence Sakade Twenty of Japan's most loved childrens stories about playful goblins, a magic teakettle, and many more. Folktale

**Every Thing On It** - Shel Silverstein. Poetry collection by the cherished American artist

**Runny Babbit: A Billy Sook**- Shel Silverstein. Book of poems that switches around the first letters of two words.

**Nate the Great** - Marjorie Weinman. Mysteries and clues for young readers

**Silver** - Gloria Whelan. Girl sets out to prove her puppy will be a racing champion

**The Box Car Children** - Gertrude Chandler Warner. A good first chapter book about four orphaned children and their survival adventures.

**Nanette's Baguette** - Mo Willems A funny story about a little girl frog whose mom sends her to buy a baguette - but she ruins the errand by eating the irresistible baguette.

**Non-fiction Title - Author**

**The House that Jane Built: A story about Jane Addams** - Tanya Lee Stone. Story of Jane Addams, the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, who transformed a poor neighborhood in Chicago by opening up her house as a community center.

**Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille**- Jen Bryant. Braille's inspiring story.

**A Splash of Red: The Life and Art of Horace Pippin** - Jen Bryant. The life and art of Horace Pippin who learned to draw and paint despite of injury and hardship.

**The Secret Subway**- Shana Corey. The fascinating, little known and true story of New York City's first subway.

**Here Come the Girl Scouts!: The Amazing All-True Story of Juliette 'Daisy' Gordon Low and Her Great Adventure** - Shana Corey. The amazing, all-true story of the first Girl Scouts and their visionary founder.

**Giant Squid**- Candace Fleming. Explores the mysterious life of the elusive giant squid.

**Locomotive** - Brian Floca. A rich and detailed sensory exploration of America's early railroads.

**Brave Girl Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909** - Michelle Markel. The true story of Clara Lemlich, an immigrant who led the largest strike of women workers in U.S. history.

**The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind** - William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer. How a young boy builds a windmill for his village.

**Eight Days Gone** - Linda McReynolds. Vibrant poetry and dramatic artwork describe the 1969 Apollo 11 voyage.

**Stay: The True Story of Ten Dogs** - Michaela Muntean. An irresistible family of dogs and the man who believed in them.

**The House That George Built** - Suzanne Slade. How George Washington built the White House.

## **SECOND INTO THIRD GRADE**

### **Fiction Title - Author**

**The One and Only Ivan**- Katherine Applegate. When Ivan, a circus gorilla, meets Ruby, a circus gorilla, meets Rub, a baby elephant that has been added to the show, he decided that he must find her a better life.

**Jack Plank Tells Tales** - Natalie Babbitt. Unemployed pirate shares funny job search tale

**Becca at Sea** - Deirdre Baker. Girl faces challenges and learns about herself and family

**The World According to Humphrey** - Betty Birney. Hamster helps classmates and teacher

**The Mouse and the Motorcycle** - Beverly Cleary. Adventurous mouse named Ralph

**Bears on Hemlock Mountain** - Alice Dalgliesh. Boy deals with bears as he crosses mountain

**Amber Brown** - Paula Danzinger. Follow girl through adventures at school and home

**Mercy Watson** - Kate DiCamillo. Pig and adventures with the Watsons

**Du Iz Tak?** - Carson Ellis. As a tiny plant springs from the ground, curious bugs watch it grow and marvel in their own buggy language. Whimsically detailed paintings showcase their activities and the subtly passing seasons

**Half Magic** - Edward Eager. First book in series of children's magical adventures

**Dream Wolf** - Paul Goble. Two young children seek shelter in a wolf's cave. There they meet a kindly wolf who leads them home.

**Adventures of Beanboy** - Lisa Harkrader. With comic book illustrations, this laugh-out-loud novel will have readers rooting for a superhero with true heart.

**Sadie and Ratz** - Sonya Hartnett. Hannah and her hands, named Sadie and Ratz, regularly get into trouble, especially when younger brother Baby Boy is around.

**Squish: Super Amoeba** -Jennifer Holm. Adventures of a microscopic, single-celled amoeba

**Ada's Violin: The story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay**- Susan Hood. An orchestra made up of children playing instruments built from recycled trash.

**Toys Go Out: Being the Adventures of a Knowledgeable Stingray, a Tough Little Buffalo, and Someone Called Plastic** - Emily Jenkins. Adventures of friends, who are toys

**Melonhead** - Katy Kelly. Ten year old's plans go awry in funny ways

**Homer Price** - Robert McCloskey. Boy's hysterical adventures

**Mrs. Piggle Wiggle** - Betty McDonald. Unusual cures for misbehaving children

**Judy Moody** - Megan McDonald. Funniest, moodiest third grader is always up to something

**Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid** - Megan McDonald. Antics of shortest kid in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

**Adventures at the Harvey N. Trouble Elementary School** - Kate McMullen. Nutty school

**The Borrowers** - Mary Norton. Fantasy about little people who live in houses of big people

**Skinny Bones** - Barbara Park. Comic story of an awkward boy's attempts to fit in

**Mudshark**. - Gary Paulsen. Principal needs help locating 65 missing erasers

**The Mouse with the Question Mark Tail** - Richard Peck. For every human on Earth, there is a mouse with the same job, doing it better.

**Clementine** - Sarah Pennypacker. Funny antics of an interesting third grade girl

**Mrs. Noodlekugel** - Daniel Pinkwater. Part Mary Poppins, part Mrs. Piggle Wiggles, the new babysitter is all fun.

**The Junkyard Wonders** - Patricia Polacco. Special-needs students prove worth to school.

**Battle Bunny** - Jon Scieszka. Alex hijacks a story about Birthday Bunny and turns it into a battle between a supervillain and his enemies in the forest.

**The Sneetches** - Dr. Seuss. Four easy to read stories with themes of tolerance, diversity, and compromise.

**Abel's Island** - William Steig A gentleman mouse spends a year stranded on an island.

**Amos and Boris** - William Steig. Amos the mouse and Boris the whale: a devoted pair of friends with nothing at all in common, except good hearts and a willingness to help their fellow mammal

**Brave Irene**- William Steig. Little volunteers to get a gown to the palace on time, in spite of the fierce snowstorm that's brewing.



**The Gardener** - Sarah Stewart. Lydia Grace Finch hopes to make her uncle smile by creating a beautiful rooftop garden. Story is written through letters in a Depression-era setting.

**Hooey Higgins and the Shark** - Steve Voake. Hooey Higgins plans to capture a shark and ends up finding something amazing.

**Charlotte's Web** - E.B. White. Spider has plan to save pig from farmer's dinner table

**Stuart Little** - E.B White. Mouse embarks on journey to find bird friend

**The Story of Diva and Flea** - Mo Willems - Pampered lapdog Diva and streetwise alley cat Flea strike up an unlikely friendship, finding adventure while exploring the stunning landmarks of Paris, France

**Each Kindness** - Jacqueline Woodson. Anti-bullying lessons teach the importance of kindness.

#### Non-fiction Title - Author

**Paleo Sharks: Survival of the Strangest** - Timothy J. Bradley.

**Hey Batta Batta Swing!** - Sally Cook and James Charlton. Early days of baseball

**She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World**- Chelsea Clinton. American Women who helped shape our country through their tenacity.

**Lift Your Light a Little Higher: The Story of Stephen Bishop: Slave-Explorer**- Heather Henson. Shares the life of the explorer and slave who mapped the Mammoth Cve of Kentucky.

**The Tree Lady** - H. Joseph Hopkins. The true story of Kate Sessions who helped San Diego grow from a dry desert town into a lush, leafy city.

**The One, the Only Houdini: World's Greatest Mystery Man** - Kathleen Krull.

**I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark**- Debbie Levy. Get to know Supreme Court justice as she proves that disagreeing does not make you disagreeable.

**Seeing Symmetry** - Loreen Leedy. Once you start looking, you can find symmetry all around you.

**Finding Winnie-** Lindsay Mattick- Before Winnie-the-Pooh, there was a real bear, rescued by Captain Harry Colebourn on route to World War I, and later was befriended by the real-life Christopher Robin

**The Incredible Life of Balto** - Meghan McCarthy.

**Strong Man: The Story of Charles Atlas** - Meghan McCarthy.

**Me . . . Jane.** McDonnell, Patrick. Young Jane Goodall observes nature

**Nurse, Soldier, Spy: The Story of Sarah Edmonds, a Civil War Hero** - Marissa Moss. The true story of Sarah Emma Edmonds, who at age nineteen disguised herself as a man in order to fight in the Civil War.

**Molly, by Golly!: The Legend of Molly Williams, America's First Female Firefighter** - Dianne Ochiltree. Introduces the first known female firefighter, Molly Williams, an African American cook for New York City's Fire Company 11.

**To Dare Mighty Things: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt** - Doreen Rappaport. The life of Theodore Roosevelt through vivid prose and the president's own words.

**Toad by the Road: A Year in the Life of these Amazing Amphibians** - Joanne Ryder.

**Swirl by Swirl: Spirals in Nature** - Joyce Sidman. Explores all types of spirals in nature

**A Strange Place to Call Home: The World's Most Dangerous Habitats & the Animals That Call Them Home** - Marilyn Singer. Fourteen animals who defy the odds by thriving in Earth's most dangerous places.

**Nothing But Trouble: The Story of Althea Gibson** - Sue Stauffacher.

**Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell** - Tanya Lee Stone. The inspiring story of the first female doctor.

**Queen of the Falls** - Chris Van Allsburg. First person to go over Niagra Falls in a barrel

**First Girl Scout: The Life of Juliette Gordon Low** - Ginger Wadsworth. The fascinating life of the woman who started The Girl Scouts.

### THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH GRADE

#### Fiction Title - Author

**Ms. Bixby's Last Day.** By John David Anderson. HarperCollins/Walden Pond.  
Ms. Bixby is the sort of teacher that makes going to school worthwhile. When she is diagnosed with cancer, three boys decide to make sure her last day is perfect.

**Trombone Shorty** - Troy Andrews. Picture book autobiography about Troy Andrews (aka Trombone Shorty) and his early years growing up in New Orleans. This musical prodigy got his nickname by wielding a trombone twice as long as he was high.

**The One and Only Ivan** - Katherine Applegate. When Ivan, a circus gorilla, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the show, he decides that he must find her a better life.

**The Strange Case of Origami Yoda** - Tom Angleberger. Advice of an origami finger puppet

**Mr. Popper's Penguins** - Richard and Florence Atwater. Antics after man inherits penguins

**Chasing Vermeer** -Blue Balliett. Children solve an international art scandal

**The Girl Who Drank the Moon-** Kelly Barnhill. An epic fantasy about a young girl raised by a witch, a swamp monser, and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon, who must unlock the powerful magic buried deep inside her.

**Tales of Fourth Grade Nothing** - Judy Blume. Funny tale of 4<sup>th</sup> grader and little brother

**A Bear Named Paddington** - Michael Bond. Bear's adventures with the Brown family

**The John Hancock Club** - Louise Borden. 3<sup>rd</sup> grader wants to join good penmanship club

**Mousenet** - Prudence Breitrose. 10-yr-old misfit tries to save Mouse Nation, and the planet.

**The Wild Robot** - Peter Brown. Robot Roz wakes up to find herself alone on a remote island.

**Moving Day** - Meg Cabot. Book one in series "Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls"

**Revolutionary Friends: General George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette** - Selene Castrovilla. The powerful and tender bond between the two men.

**Elijah of Buxton** - Christopher Paul Curtis. 1859 tale of free-born child's search for justice

**The Magician's Elephant** - Kate DiCamillo. Boy searches for his sister

**The Tale of Despereaux** - Kate DiCamillo- A brave mouse, a covetous rat, a wishful serving girl, and a princess named Pea come together

**The London Eye Mystery** - Siobhan Dowd. Siblings search for missing cousin

**Out of My Mind** - Sharon Draper. Student with cerebral palsy discovers way to speak.

**The Girl Who Could Not Dream** - Sarah Beth Durst. Sophie loves the hidden shop below her parents' bookstore, where dreams are secretly bought and sold. When the dream shop is robbed and her parents go missing, Sophie must unravel the truth to save them.

**The Hundred Dresses**- Eleanor Estes. Polish girl in a Connecticut school who is ridiculed by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day.

**Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary** - Candace Fleming. Teacher and tough class

**Inkheart** - Cornelia Funke. Reading aloud causes book characters to jump into real world

**Dead End in Norvelt** - Jack Gantos. Boy spends the summer grounded for various offenses

**Wild Girl** - Patricia Giff Reilly. Brazilian girl moves to NY and must adjust

**Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little** - Peggy Gifford. Girl avoids summer reading

**Get Rich Quick Club** - Dan Gutman. Friends try to become millionaires by summer's end

**The Homework Machine** - Dan Gutman. Trouble follows from computer that does homework

**Junonia** - Kevin Henkes. Alice, who is turning ten, is growing and realizes that there are some things in life cannot be kept the way they used to be and some changes are hard to adjust to.

**Scat** - Carl Haissen. Friends investigate a mysterious fire near a Florida wildlife preserve

**Chomp** - Carl Hiaasen. Wahoo Cray lives in a zoo. His father is an animal wrangler. The critters, he can handle. His father is the unpredictable one.

**Turtle in Paradise** - Jennifer L. Holm. Sassy 11 yr. old girl in Depression-era Key West

**Change Up** by Derek Jeter Derek is sure this will be the best season yet in this sequel to *The Contract* and *Hit & Miss*. He has it all planned - his dad will have him start at shortstop and the team will cruise to a championship. But sometimes life doesn't go according to plan. (series)

***I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark.*** By Debbie Levy  
Discover the life of Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in this picture-book biography about how one small yet powerful woman persisted against great odds.

**Year of the Rat** - Grace Lin. Autbio. tale of challenges facing young Taiwanese girl

**The Doll People** - Ann Martin. Porcelain dolls are taken aback by arrival of plastic dolls

**The Totally Made-up Civil War Diary of Amanda MacLeish** - Claudia Mills. Girl's project

**Owls in the Family** - Farley Mowat. Two owls turn a household upside down

**The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester** - Barbara O'Connor. Summer adventure

**Project Mulberry** - Linda Sue Park. Korean girl and friend learn about silkworms and life

**Time Hackers** - Gary Paulsen. Friends journey through space and time to stop pranksters

**Pax.** - Sara Pennypacker. Illus. by Jon Klassen. Tale of loss and reconciliation, told in the alternating views of a fox and his boy.

**Cloud and Wallfish** - Anne Nesbet, Story cracks history wide open and gets right to the heart of what it feels like to be an outsider in a world that is impossible to understand.

**Big Nate: In a Class by Himself** - Lincoln Pierce. Boy knows he is destined for greatness

**The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures.** by Brian Selznick. An intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery

**The Westing Game** - Ellen Raskin. Last will challenges heirs to solve a murder

**Rowan of Rin** - Emlily Rodda- Fantasy Story about a boy and his village who learn the meaning of courage.

**Ninth Ward** - Jewell Parker Rhodes. Girl lives through Hurricane Katrina

**Heroes of Olympus Series: The Lost Hero, The Son of Neptune, The Mark of Athena** - Rick Riordan. Camp Half-Blood returns with more demi-gods, prophesies, and quests.

**The Long Way Westward-** Joan Sandin- Sequel to the Long way to a new land- follows the fortunes of Carl Erik's family from NYC to the farmlands of Minnesota

**Wonderstruck** - Brian Selznick. After loss, boy leaves to seek the father he never knew

**The Adventures of Nanny Piggins** - R.A. Spratt. A widower hires ex-circus pig as nanny

**Liar & Spy** - Rebecca Stead. Seventh-grader Georges moves into a Brooklyn apartment building and meets Safer, a twelve-year-old self-appointed spy.

**My Life As a Book.** Janet Tashjian. Boy spends summer learning important lessons

**Three Times Lucky** by Sheila Turnage . A rollicking journey of mystery, adventure and small-town intrigue.

**Weekends with Max and His Dad.** - Linda Urban. On weekends, third-grader Max visits his dad's new apartment and begins to adjust to his parents' divorce.

**The Case of the Stolen Sixpence: The Mysteries of Maisie Hitchens-** Holly Webb. Mysteries in the tradition of the Sherlock Holmes

**Adam Canfield of the Slash** - Michael Winerip. Kids uncover fraud in their school

**Wolf Hollow** - Lauren Wolk- A young girl's kindness, compassion, and honesty overcome bullying.

#### **Non-Fiction Title - Author**

**Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95** - Phillip Hoose. Explores the tragedy of extinction through the triumph of a single bird.

**Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship** - Russell Freedman. An account of two surprisingly parallel lives and how they intersected at a critical moment in U.S. history.

**iOle! Flamenco** - George Ancona. Introduction to the art form of Spanish flamenco

**Taj Mahal** - Caroline Arnold and Madeleine Comoro. Story of famous mausoleum

**I Feel Better with a Frog in My Throat: History's Strangest Cures** - Carlyn Beccia.

**The Greatest Skating Race** - Louise Borden. Escape from German soldiers during WWII

**Napoleon: the Story of the Little Corporal** - Robert Burleigh.

**The Hive Detectives: Chronicle of a Honey Bee Catastrophe** - Loree Griffin Burns.

**Tracking Trash: Flotsam Jetsam and the Science of Ocean Motion** - Loree Griffin Burns

**Growing Patterns: Fibonacci Numbers in Nature** - Sarah C. Campbell.

**Tricking the Tallyman** - Jaqueline Davies. Humorous tale of the first U.S. Census

**Vinnie and Abraham** - Dawn Fitzgerald. Picture book bio of Lincoln sculptor

**Lafayette and the American Revolution** - Russell Freedman.

**Bones: Skeletons and How They Work** - Steve Jenkins. An entertaining guide to skeletons

**How to Clean a Hippopotamus: Unusual Animal Partnerships**-Steve Jenkins and Robin Page.

**The Extraordinary Mark Twain (According to Susy)** - Barbara Kerley.

**The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth** - Kathleen Krull.

**Different Like Coco** - Elizabeth Matthews. Rags-to-riches story of Coco Chanel

**The Great White Shark Scientist**- Sy Montgomery. A daring expedition into the realm of the great whites.

**Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo (Poems)** - Linda Sue Park. A unique poetry collection

**Down the Colorado: John Wesley Powel the One-Armed Explorer** - Deborah Kogan Ray.

**Edward Hopper: Painter of Light and Shadow** - Susan Goldman Rubin.

**We Shall Overcome: A Song that Changed the World** - Stuart Stotts.

**Some Writer!: The Story of E.B. White** - Melissa Sweet. Sweet mixes White's personal letters, photos, and family ephemera with her own exquisite artwork to tell the story of this American literary icon.

## **FIFTH GRADE AND UP**

### **Title - Author**

**Hold Fast** - Blue Balliett. Early struggles to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father's disappearance.

**Doll Bones** - Holly Black. Friends Zach, Alice, and Poppy embark on a quest to bury a doll made from the ashes of a dead girl.

**Tall Story** - Candy Gourlay. Sixteen-year-old suffers from a condition called Gigantism

**The Great Trouble: A Mystery of London, the Blue Death, and a Boy Called Eel** - Deborah Hopkinson - Eel helps Dr. John Snow prove that cholera is spread through water when an epidemic sweeps across their London neighborhood in 1854.

**Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler** - E.L. Konigsburg. Runaways' adventure

**The Lions of Little Rock** - Kristin Levine. In 1958 Little Rock, Arkansas, Marlee sees her city and family divided over school integration.

**The Chronicles of Narnia**- C.S. Lewis- Journeys to the end of the world, fantastic creatures, and epic battles between good and evil—

**Maybe a Fox**- Allison McGhee- fantastical, heartbreaking tale about two sisters, a fox cub, and what happens when one of the sisters disappears forever.

**Freak the Mighty** - Rodman Philbrick. Two boys - a slow learner stuck in the body of a teenage giant and a tiny Einstein in leg braces - forge a unique friendship

**Wonder** - R.J. Palacio. Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering middle school.

**Dodger** - Terry Pratchett. In an alternative version of Victorian London, Dodger, a street urchin, meets Charles Dickens and puts a stop to the murders of Sweeny Todd.

**Where the Red Fern Grows** - Wilson Rawls. Boy saves up to buy two coon dogs to train

**Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems** - Bob Raczka. A collection of twenty-one concrete poems arranged on the page to convey the meaning of the poem.

**Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**- J.K. Rowling- Harry Potter's life is miserable. His parents are dead and he's stuck with his heartless relatives, who force him to live in a tiny closet under the stairs. But his fortune changes when he receives a letter that tells him the truth about himself: he's a wizard.



**Okay for Now** - Gary Schmidt. Hard-luck boy finds an ally, and a safe haven

**Bomb: The Race to Build--and Steal--the World's Most Dangerous Weapon** - Steve Sheinkin. The risk-taking, the deceit, and genius that created the world's most formidable weapon.

**The War With Grandpa** - Robert Kimmel Smith. Boy learns compassion

**Maniac Magee** - Jerry Spinelli. After parents' death, boy accomplishes legendary feats

**Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat** - Javaka Steptoe. The short yet brilliant life story of Jean-Michel Basquiat and his determination to become an artist.

**Fallout** - Todd Strasser- In the summer of 1962, nuclear war is all anyone talks about. When the unthinkable happens, who will make it inside the fallout shelter?

**Moon Over Manifest** - Clare Vanderpool. Tale of people and mysteries of Manifest, Kansas

**Eddie Red, Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile** by Marcia Wells. Sixth-grader Eddie is called on by the NYPD to help bust a gang of art thieves by using his photographic memory and talent for drawing.

**Countdown** - Deborah Wiles. Girl deals with the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962

**Brown Girl Dreaming**- Jaqueline Woodson- Memoir in poems, that shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s.