

Grade 5 – Grade 6 Booklist

<u>Biography</u>	<u>Fantasy, Folklore, Mythology</u>		<u>Graphic Novels/Non-Fiction</u>	<u>Historical Fiction</u>
<u>Non-Fiction</u>	<u>Mystery</u>	<u>Poetry</u>	<u>Realistic Fiction</u>	<u>Science Fiction</u>

Biography

- Fleischman, Sid Escape!: The Story of the Great Houdini
 A biography of the magician, ghost chaser, aviator, and king of escape artists whose amazing feats are remembered long after his death in 1926. Pair this with The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life by the same author!
- Freedman, Russell The Adventures of Marco Polo (Read other books by this author)
 An illustrated chronicle of the travels of thirteenth-century explorer Marco Polo; includes a discussion of the controversy over whether he indeed went to China.
- Green, Michelle Y. A Strong Right Arm
 Tells the story of Mamie "Peanut" Johnson, a woman who had to overcome the obstacles of gender and race to pursue her dream of playing baseball, and who finally got her chance when she and other African-American women were invited to play in the Negro Leagues after male players were allowed on major league teams.
- Kostyal, K. M. Trial by Ice: A Photobiography of Sir Ernest Shackleton
 Traces the adventurous life of the South Pole explorer whose ship, the Endurance, was frozen in ice and crushed, leaving the captain and crew to fight for survival.
- Krull, Kathleen Marie Curie
 Presents a biography of Polish-French physicist and chemist Marie Curie, who was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and won a Noble prize in both physics and in chemistry.
- Paulsen, Gary Guts: The True Stories Behind Hatchet and the Brian Books
 This collection of six stories reveals Paulsen's real-life spirit and the part it played in Brian's four adventures. Paulsen relates the nature lore and autobiographical incidents behind the wilderness survival scenarios.

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Fantasy, Folklore and Mythology

- Alexander, Lloyd The Remarkable Journey of Prince Jen
Bearing six unusual gifts, young Prince Jen embarks on a perilous quest and emerges triumphantly into manhood.
- Avi Crispin: At the Edge of the World (Sequel to *Crispin: The Cross Of Lead*)
Picking up where *Crispin: The Cross of Lead* left off, this tale finds Crispin and the minstrel Bear making their way across the English countryside, one step ahead of Bear's former confederates, who are certain he has sold them out.
- Cooper, Susan The Dark is Rising (Series)
In the first book, Over Sea, Under Stone, Will Stanton discovers on his eleventh birthday that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.
- Farmer, Nancy The Land of the Silver Apples (Sequel to *Sea of Trolls*)
After escaping from the Sea of Trolls, the apprentice bard Jack plunges into a new series of adventures, traveling underground to Elfland and uncovering the truth about his little sister, Lucy.
- Hulme, John The Seems: Glitch in Sleep
When twelve-year-old Becker Drane is recruited by The Seems, a parallel universe that runs everything in The World, he must fix a disastrous glitch in the Department of Sleep that threatens the ability of everyone to fall asleep.
- LeGuin, Ursula A Wizard of Earthsea
A boy grows to manhood while attempting to subdue the evil he unleashed on the world as an apprentice to the master wizard.
- Paolini, Christopher Eldest
The second book in the Inheritance Trilogy, following Eragon, takes up the epic story just three days after the end of the bloody battle in which Eragon slew the Shade Durza, and the Varden and dwarves defeated the forces of the evil ruler of the Empire.
- Paver, Michelle Wolf Brother (Book One of the Chronicles of Ancient Darkness Series)
6,000 years ago, twelve-year-old Torak and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father – to travel to the Mountain of the World Spirit to destroy a demon possessed bear that threatens all the clans.

- Riordan, Rick The Titan's Curse (Book 3 of the Series Percy Jackson and the Olympians)
Percy Jackson, modern-day half-blood son of Poseidon, returns to face mythical monsters while on a cross-country trip. Percy's kept occupied fighting skeleton warriors and Atlas himself.
- Rowling, J.K. Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
In this concluding volume, Rowling brings together the themes and characters familiar to her readers, providing thrills both expected and unexpected. Harry, Ron, and Hermione set out on the mission left to Harry by Albus Dumbledore, to search for the remaining Horcruxes, the hidden pieces of Voldemort's soul that must be destroyed to ensure his final defeat.
- Snyder, Zilpha
Keatley The Bronze Pen
With her father's failing health and the family's shaky finances, twelve-year-old Audrey's dreams of becoming a writer seem very impractical until she is given a peculiar bronze pen that appears to have unusual powers.
- Springer, Nancy Rowan Hood, Outlaw Girl of Sherwood Forest (Read other books by this author)
In her quest to connect with Robin Hood, the father she has never met, thirteen-year-old Rosemary disguises herself as a boy, befriends a half-wolf, half-dog, a runaway princess, and an overgrown boy whose singing is hypnotic, and makes peace with her elfin heritage.
- Stroud,
Jonathan Ptolemy's Gate (Bartimaeus Trilogy Book 3)
Bartimaeus, Nathaniel, and Kitty face treacherous magicians and an enemy from "The Other Place" that threatens London and the world.
- Ursu, Anne The Shadow Thieves
After her cousin Zee arrives from England, he and thirteen-year-old Charlotte must set out to save humankind from denizens of the underworld, Nightmares, Death, Pain, and a really nasty guy named Phil. (Mythical animals – like Titan's Curse).
- Walden, Mark H.I.V.E.: Higher Institute of Villainous Education
Thirteen-year-old orphan Otto Malpense, identified as a boy with a special talent for villainy, is kidnapped and taken to the remote Higher Institute of Villainous Education, or H.I.V.E., where he is enrolled in a six-year training program and immediately begins formulating a plan to escape.

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Graphic Novels/Non-Fiction

- Guibert, Emmanuel Sardine in Outer Space 4 (Series)
Young space pirate Sardine foils the plans of Supermuscleman, a tyrant who wants all the galaxy's children to behave as she fights monsters under the bed, diseased tattoos and boredom.
- Holm, Jennifer Babymouse #6: Camp Babymouse (Series)
Baby Mouse is excited to be going to Camp Wild whiskers for two weeks, but she discovers that camping is not as easy as it seems.
- O'Donnell, Liam The Shocking World of Electricity with Max Axiom, Super Scientist
Follows the adventures of Max Axiom as he explains the science behind electricity.
- Selznick, Brian The Invention of Hugo Cabret: A Novel in Words and Pictures
When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.
- Smith, Jeff Bone, Vol. 7: Ghost Circles (Series)
The Bone continues to struggle to reach the city of Atheia.
- Tan, Shaun The Arrival
In this wordless graphic novel, a man leaves his homeland and sets off for a new country, where he must build a new life for himself and his family.
- Yeh, Phil Dinosaurs Across America
A collection of comics that teaches interesting facts about each of the states, their history, people, and cities.

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Historical Fiction

- Avi Iron Thunder
Tom gets work building the iron ship called the Monitor.
- Bryant, Jen The Trial
Living in Farmington, New Jersey, in 1935, twelve-year-old Katie Leigh Flynn describes, in a series of poems, the effect on her small town of the ongoing trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of Charles Lindberg's baby son.

Curtis, Paul Christopher	<u>Elijah of Buxton</u> In 1860, eleven year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.
Fleischmann, Sid	<u>The Giant Rat of Sumatra or Pirates Galore</u> A cabin boy on a pirate ship finds himself in San Diego in 1846 as war breaks out between the United States and Mexico.
Lisle, Janet Taylor	<u>Black Duck</u> Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum-smuggling trade.
Napoli, Donna Jo	<u>The King of Mulberry Street</u> Dom, a nine-year old stowaway from Naples, Italy, arrives in New York and must learn to survive the perils of street life in the big city.
Park, Linda Sue	<u>When My Name Was Keoko</u> (Read other books by this author) In alternating chapters, ten-year-old Sun-Hee and her thirteen-year-old brother, Tae-yul, describe the changes their family undergoes starting in 1940, when the Japanese who rule Korea decree all Koreans must forsake their Korean names for Japanese ones.
Paterson, Katherine	<u>Bread and Roses, Too</u> This tale is about two children caught up in the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Jake labors in the textile mills, and Rosa goes to school while her mother and sister toil. Both Jake and Rosa are unwilling participants in the labor action.
Peck, Richard	<u>Here Lies the Librarian</u> Fourteen-year-old Eleanor "Peewee" McGrath, a tomboy and automobile enthusiast, discovers new possibilities for her future after the 1914 arrival in her small Indiana town of four young librarians.
Peck, Richard	<u>On the Wings of Heroes</u> Davy's small-town life reflects joy and sorrow just before and after World War II.
White, Ruth	<u>Memories of Summer</u> (Read other books by this author) In 1955, thirteen-year-old Lyric finds her whole life changing when her family moves from the hills of Virginia to a town in Michigan and her older sister Summer begins descending into mental illness.

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Non-Fiction

- Bonner, Hannah When Bugs Were Big, Plants Were Strange, and Tetrapods Stalked the Earth: A Cartoon Prehistory of Life Before
Takes a tour of the earth three hundred and twenty million years ago, during the Paleozoic Era, and investigates the plants and animals found there.
- Burns, Lori
Griffin Tracking Trash
Describes the work of a man who tracks trash as it travels great distances by way of ocean currents.
- Cummins, Julie Women Daredevils: Thrills, Chills, and Frills
Profiles fourteen women who flouted convention to work as entertainers in the years between 1880 and 1929, performing thrilling feats in the water, in the air, and in the circus.
- Freedman,
Russell Who Was First? Discovering the Americas
Before Columbus – Admiral of the ocean sea – Did China discover America? – Leif the lucky – The not-so-new world – Who really discovered America? Examines the evidence that indicates others may have traveled to the Americas before Columbus in 1492 including Viking ruins, Mayan stonework, and other mysterious objects found in New England that date before Columbus.
- Hodgkins, Fran The Whale Scientists
Presents a scientific study of why so many whales become stranded in shallow water.
- Iggulden, Conn The Dangerous Book for Boys
A collection of entertainments geared toward boys, containing accounts of famous battles, William Shakespeare quotations, games, and instructions for activities such as building a go-cart, cutting flint heads, making an electromagnet, and folding the "greatest paper airplane in the world."
- Marrin, Albert Oh Rats!: The Story of Rats and People
Describes rat behavior and survival skills and aspects of their relationship with humans, including disease, rats as food, rats as pests, and the training of rats as rescuers.
- Platt, Richard Forensics
Presents an introduction to forensic science, explaining what it is and providing information on how it helps law enforcement solve difficult crimes in the field and in the lab.

- Thimmesh,
Catherine Girls Think of Everything
Tells the story of how women throughout the ages have responded to situations confronting them in daily life by inventing such items as correction fluid, space helmets, and disposable diapers.
- Wecchsler,
Doug Bizarre Bugs
A visit to the fascinating world of some very unusual creatures, both in appearance and behavior. Most of the insects live in tropical habitats, but the text does relate similarities in behavior to those found in North America. The reasons for the insects' specific appearances and the importance of these adaptations to survival are explained.

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Mystery

- Bosch,
Pseudonymous The Name of This Book is Secret
Cassandra and Max find a missing magician's notebook and start to investigate the fire which burnt down his house and his mysterious "symphony of smells."
- Clements,
Andrew Room One: A Mystery or Two
Sixth-grader Ted Hammond, who loves a good mystery, finds one in real life when he sees a face in the window of an abandoned farmhouse while on his paper route.
- DeFelice,
Cynthia The Missing Manatee (Read other books by this author)
While coping with his parents' separation, eleven-year old Skeet spends most of spring break in his skiff on a Florida river, where he finds a manatee shot to death and begins looking for the killer.
- Dowd, Siobham The London Eye Mystery
When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.
- Feinstein, John Vanishing Act
Thirteen-year-old aspiring journalists Stevie Thomas and Susan Carol Anderson find themselves entangled in a sports mystery at the U.S. Tennis Open.
- Giff, Patricia
Reilly Eleven
When Sam, who can barely read, discovers an old newspaper clipping just before his eleventh birthday, it brings forth memories from his past, and, with the help of a new friend at school, his questions are eventually answered.

- Hahn, Mary
Downing Deep and Dark and Dangerous: A Ghost Story
When thirteen-year-old Ali spends the summer with her aunt and cousin at the family's vacation home, she stumbles upon a secret that her mother and aunt have been hiding for over thirty years.
- Horowitz,
Anthony Scorpia (Series)
After being told that his father was an assassin for a criminal organization, fourteen-year-old Alex goes to Italy to find out more and becomes involved in a plan to kill thousands of English schoolchildren.
- Raskin, Ellen The Westing Game
The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.
- Springer, Nancy The Case of the Bizarre Bouquets: An Enola Holmes Mystery
Fourteen-year-old Enola Holmes, disguised as a beautiful woman, finds clues in floral bouquets as she searches for the missing Doctor Watson, a companion of her famous older brother, Sherlock.

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Poetry

- Grandits, John Technically, It's Not My Fault: Concrete Poems
A collection of poems in which words and art combine to make pictures of the life of an eleven-year old boy.
- Hughes Ted Collected Poems for Children
More than 250 poems for children arranged by volume and age level.
- Janeczko, Paul A Kick in the Head: An Everyday Guide to Poetic Forms (Read other books by this author)
Presents an illustrated collection of poems which showcases twenty-nine different poetic forms, each with a brief definition.
- Kennedy,
Caroline A Family of Poems
Presents a collection of over one hundred poems from around the world drawn from the author's family memories.
- Miller, Kate Poems in Black and White
A collection of poems which explores the world in black and white.

- Rex, Adam Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich: and Other Stories You're Sure to Like Because They're All About Monsters, and Some of Them are also about Food, You Like Food, Don't You" Well, All Right Then
Contains twenty humorous poems about the bad habits, anxieties, and other fears and foibles of monsters.
- Schlitz, Amy Good Masters! Sweet Ladies! Voices from a Medieval Village
A collection of one-person plays and poems featuring characters, between ten and fifteen years old who live in or near a thirteenth-century English manor.
- Sidman Joyce This is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness
A collection of poems written by a number of sixth-grade students who write poems of apology to someone, and a collection of responses in poetry form.
- Yolen, Jane Shape Me a Rhyme: Nature's Forms in Poetry
Twelve poems and photographs explore the beauty and variety of shapes and forms in nature, examining such items as an egg, the sun, and the moon.

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Realistic Fiction

- Clements, Andrew No Talking
The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.
- Drubin, William Blackwater Ben
In the winter of 1898, a seventh-grade boy drops out of school to work with his father, the cook at Blackwater Logging Camp in Minnesota.
- Han, Jenny Shug
Tall, freckled, gawky seventh-grader Annemarie Wilcox (whose family calls her Shug) has a beautiful, popular older sister; a gorgeous, alcoholic mother who doesn't fit in their small Georgia town; and a father who's always away on business.
- Korman, Gordon Schooled
Home schooled by his hippie grandmother, Capricorn (Cap) Anderson has never watched television, tasted a pizza, or even used money. When his grandmother has to go to the hospital, Cap is forced to move in with a guidance counselor and attend the local middle school. While Cap knows a lot about tie-dying and Zen Buddhism, no education could prepare him for the politics of public school!

Lord, Cynthia	<p><u>Rules</u> Frustrated at life with her autistic brother, twelve year old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a paraplegic.</p>
Lupica, Mike	<p><u>Travel Team</u> After he is cut from his travel basketball team – the very same team that his father once led to national prominence – twelve-year-old Danny Walker forms his own team of cast-offs that might have a shot at victory.</p>
Mass, Wendy	<p><u>Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life</u> Just before his thirteenth birthday, Jeremy Fink receives a keyless locked box – set aside by his father before his death five years earlier--that purportedly contains the meaning of life.</p>
O'Connor, Barbara	<p><u>How to Steal a Dog</u> Living in the family car in their small North Carolina town after their father leaves them virtually penniless, Georgina, desperate to improve their situation and unwilling to accept her overworked mother's calls for patience, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward that the owners are bound to offer.</p>
Paulson, Gary	<p><u>Lawn Boy</u> Things get out of hand for a twelve-year old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.</p>
Schmidt, Gary D.	<p><u>The Wednesday Wars</u> During the 1967 school year, on Wednesday afternoons when all his classmates go to either Catechism or Hebrew School, seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood stays in Mrs. Baker's classroom where they read the plays of William Shakespeare and Holling learns much of value about the world he lives in.</p>
Sonnenblick, Jordan	<p><u>Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie</u> When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.</p>
Spinelli, Jerry	<p><u>Eggs</u> Mourning the loss of his mother, nine-year-old David forms an unlikely friendship with independent, quirky thirteen-year-old Primrose, as the two help each other deal with what is missing in their lives.</p>

Spinelli, Jerry Love, Stargirl (Sequel to Stargirl)
This brilliant and funny sequel to Stargirl takes place a year later. Now living in Pennsylvania, Stargirl, 15, continues to pine for Leo, who dumped her, and struggles to make a place for herself in her new community. Fortunately, her eclectic neighbors draw her back into life and happiness. Written in diary format – the "world's longest letter," as Stargirl calls it – this novel addresses loss, growing pains, and staying true to oneself.

Urban, Linda A Crooked Kind of Perfect
Ten-year-old Zoe dreams of becoming a famous piano prodigy. Instead of a piano, though, her father brings home a Perfectone D-60 organ. Zoe's witty voice narrates the book's short chapters. Readers will identify with Zoe's insecurities, laugh at her quirky family, and feel her pride in this winning story about family, friendship, self-confidence, and dreams come (realistically) true.

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Science Fiction

Oppel, Kenneth Airborn (Series)
Matt and Kate embark on a quest to prove "cloud cats" exist, but evil pirates attack their airship. Can they survive the battle?

Philbrick, Rodman Last Book in the Universe (Read other books by this author)
After an earthquake has destroyed much of the planet, an epileptic teenager nicknamed Spaz begins the heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to the Earth of a distant future.

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

Vande Velde, Vivian Heir Apparent (Read other books by this author)
While playing a total immersion virtual reality game of kings and intrigue, fourteen-year-old Giannine learns that demonstrators have damaged the equipment to which she is connected, and she must win the game quickly or be damaged herself.

Waugh, Sylvia Who Goes Home?
"A companion to Space race and Earthborn"; "A Dell Yearling book." On his thirteenth birthday, Jacob learns a secret about his birth and becomes involved in his father's work to protect other beings from the planet Ormingat who live on Earth.

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