

Genre: Mystery and Detective

Bibliography

This kit contains a wide variety of individual titles that fit the genre category of “Mystery and Detective Stories.” The titles vary in their interest levels, reading levels, number of pages, themes etc., in order to provide students with “choice” in their reading for pleasure. Note that if more than one interest level (IL) is listed, the first is from the publisher. Publishers tend to rate titles for lower grade levels than reviewers.

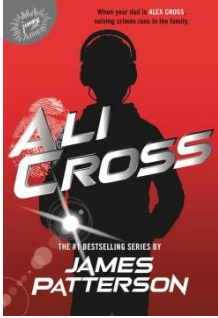
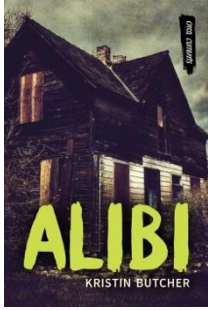
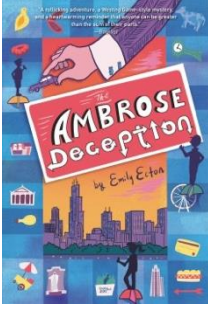
If you would like a second or third copy of a title, or more titles beyond what is in the kit, your Teacher-Librarian or Library Clerk will be able to help you find titles in your school’s collection, or interlibrary loan copies from other schools.


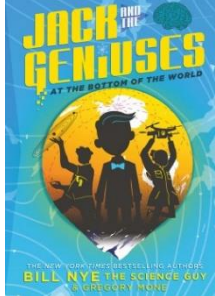
We hope that your students enjoy these titles and expand the genres that they regularly choose to read. A “Passport to Genres” activity, where students read one title from each genre, is one way to encourage this. If you have any questions about any of them, please feel free to contact me.

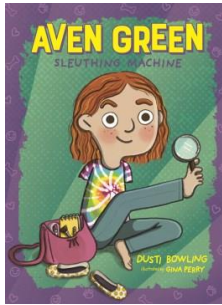
Joan

Genre: Mystery and Detective

Selected by Joan Pearce

 The book cover for 'Ali Cross' by James Patterson features a red background. At the top, it says 'When your dad is ALEX CROSS solving crimes isn't the easiest.' Below that is a silhouette of a person wearing a headset and holding a glowing red object. The title 'ALI CROSS' is written in large, white, stylized letters. At the bottom, it says 'THE #1 BESTSELLING SERIES BY JAMES PATTERSON'.	<p><u>Ali Cross</u> (<i>Ali Cross, Bk. 1</i>) by James Patterson, c2019 (IL: 5-9, 4-7, 5+; RL: 4.6)</p> <p>“Alex's son Ali is eager to follow in his father's footsteps as a detective, but when his best friend goes missing, what price will he have to pay to solve the mystery? Ali Cross has always looked up to his father, former detective and FBI agent Alex Cross. While solving some of the nation's most challenging crimes, his father always kept his head and did the right thing. Can Ali have the same strength and resolve? When Ali's best friend Gabe is reported missing, Ali is desperate to find him. At the same time, a string of burglaries targets his neighborhood -- and even his own house. With his father on trial for a crime he didn't commit, it's up to Ali to search for clues and find his friend. But being a kid sleuth isn't easy -- especially when your father warns you not to get involved! -- and Ali soon learns that clues aren't always what they seem. Will his detective work lead to a break in Gabe's case or cause even more trouble for the Cross family?” - <i>Pub.</i></p>
 The book cover for 'Alibi' by Kristin Butcher shows a dark, multi-story house at night with some windows lit. The title 'ALIBI' is written in large, bright green letters at the bottom. Below the title, it says 'KRISTIN BUTCHER'. There is a small vertical logo on the right side that says 'ORCA CURRENTS'.	<p><u>Alibi</u> (<i>Orca Currents Hi Lo</i>) by Kristin Butcher, c2021 (IL: 4-7, RL: 2-3)</p> <p>“Teenager Christine visits her great-aunt Maude in Witcombe and investigates a pickpocket who is targeting her great-aunt's shop.” - <i>Pub.</i></p>
 The book cover for 'The Ambrose Deception' by Emily Ecton is colorful and busy. It features a hand holding a red sign that says 'THE AMBROSE Deception by Emily Ecton'. The background is filled with various icons related to a city and a competition, such as a city skyline, a person with a camera, a person with a magnifying glass, and a person with a trophy. There are also some smaller text elements and a small logo at the top.	<p><u>The Ambrose Deception</u> by Emily Ecton, c2018, 2019 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 4.5)</p> <p>“Not a single one of Melissa, Wilf, or Bondi's middle school teachers would consider them a star student. Yet to everyone's surprise, Melissa, Wilf, and Bondi are the three students chosen to compete for a ten thousand-dollar scholarship, solving clues that lead them to various locations around Chicago. None of the kids have heard of the scholarship before, but the rules seem simple enough: solve clues, take photo proof, and win money. At first the three contestants work independently, but it doesn't take long before each begins to wonder</p>

	<p>whether the competition is a sham. It's only by secretly joining forces and using their unique talents that the trio is able to uncover the truth behind the Ambrose Deception -- a truth that involves a lot more than just a scholarship." - <i>Pub.</i></p>
	<p><u>The Area 51 Files</u> (<i>Area 51 Files, Bk. 1</i>) by Julie Buxbaum, c2022 (IL: 4-7, RL: 4.0)</p> <p>“When Sky Patel-Baum is sent to live with her mysterious uncle, she never imagines she'll end up in Area 51, a top-secret military base with a bajillion rules. Sky feels like she's landed in a whole new world, even though she hasn't left the planet. Because guess what? Area 51 is full of aliens. Lots and lots of aliens. But something even stranger is happening in Area 51: aliens are going missing. Where could they be? How come everyone thinks sky and her uncle are involved in their disappearance? And why are there eyeballs in the macaroni and cheese at Area 51 Middle School? Sky must team up with her pizza-obsessed pet hedgehog, Spike, her otherworldly next-door neighbor, Elvis, and his fluffy pup, Pickles, so solve the case!” - <i>back cover</i></p>
	<p><u>At the Bottom of the World</u> (<i>Jack and the Geniuses, Bk. 1</i>) by Bill Nye, c2017 (IL: 3-7, RL: 4.7)</p> <p>“In the series opener, <i>Jack and the Geniuses: At the Bottom of The World</i>, readers meet Jack and his foster siblings, Ava and Matt, who are orphans. But they're not your typical kind of orphans--they're <i>geniuses</i>. Well, Ava and Matt are, which sometimes makes life difficult for 12-year-old Jack. Ava speaks multiple languages and builds robots for fun, and Matt is into astronomy and a whiz at math. As for Jack, it's hard to stand out when he's surrounded by geniuses all the time. When the kids try to spy on Dr. Hank Witherspoon, one of the world's leading scientists, they end up working for him in his incredible laboratory. Soon, Hank and the kids travel to Antarctica for a prestigious science competition, but they find that all is not as it seems: A fellow scientist has gone missing, and so has any trace of her research. Could someone be trying to use her findings to win the contest?” - <i>Pub.</i></p>



Aven Green Sleuthing Machine

by Dusti Bowling, c2021 (IL: 1-3, 2-4; RL: 4.0)

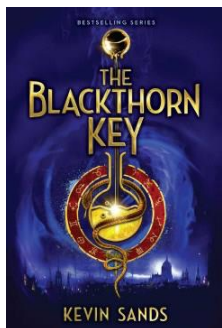
“Third-grader Aven Green has been solving mysteries for a whole month cracking such cases as *The Mystery of the Cranky Mom*. But can this perceptive detective solve two cases at the same time? First her teacher's lunch bag disappears. Then Aven's great-grandma's dog goes missing. Fortunately, since Aven was born without arms, all the 'arm' cells went to her super-powered brain instead. (That's her theory.) This hilarious chapter book showcases a new side to Dusti Bowling's unforgettable protagonist.” – *Pub*.



Bear Bottom (FunJungle)

by Stuart Gibbs, c2021, 2022 (IL: 4-7, RL: 5.7)

“Teddy Fitzroy, his family, and some other FunJungle employees have been invited to visit a bison ranch just outside Yellowstone National Park that FunJungle's owner, J.J. McCracken, is considering purchasing. But as usual, trouble isn't far behind. The ranch's endangered bison have been mysteriously disappearing. Then a massive local grizzly bear named Sasquatch breaks into the house, causing chaos. In the aftermath, Kandace McCracken discovers that her exceptionally expensive sapphire necklace has vanished. Was it stolen? Or did Sasquatch eat it? (And if so, can it be recovered?) And what's been happening to the bison?” - *Pub*.



The Blackthorn Key (Blackthorn Key, Bk. 1)

by Kevin Sands, c2015, 2016 (IL: 5-9, 4-7; RL: 4.6)

“Following a series of murders, an apothecary's apprentice must solve puzzles and decipher codes in pursuit of a secret that could destroy the world in this "spectacular debut" (*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review). "Tell no one what I've given you." Until he got that cryptic warning, Christopher Rowe was happy, learning how to solve complex codes and puzzles and creating powerful medicines, potions, and weapons as an apprentice to Master Benedict Blackthorn--with maybe an explosion or two along the way. But when a mysterious cult begins to prey on London's apothecaries...” - *Pub*.



The Body Under the Piano (*Aggie Morton, Mystery Queen, Bk. 1*)
by Marthe Jocelyn, c2020, 2021 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.8)

“A smart and charming middle-grade mystery series starring young detective Aggie Morton and her friend Hector, inspired by the imagined life of Agatha Christie as a child and her most popular creation, Hercule Poirot. Aggie Morton lives in a small town on the coast of England in 1902. Adventurous and imaginative but deeply shy, Aggie hasn't got much to do since the death of her beloved father . . . until the fateful day when she crosses paths with twelve-year-old Belgian immigrant Hector Perot and discovers...” - *Pub.*



Bone Hills (*Luna Garza, Accidental Detective*)
by P. J. Gray, c2022 (IL: 4-7, RL: 2.4)

“When Luna's team wins a trivia competition, she is the only one excited about the prize: a weekend at Stone Hills. Rumor has it that the old horse ranch is haunted. As she tries to piece together the ranch's past, Luna discovers a lot more than ghosts.” - *Pub.*



Call Waiting (*Vintage Rose Mysteries*)
by Evan Jacobs, c2020 (IL: 6-8, RL: 2.6)

“Ryan is helping Tenley clean the basement of her parents' antique shop when a mysterious phone rings. There's a strange man on the other end. To figure out what he wants, the friends go on a journey unlike any they have taken before. In the fictional town of Scarecrow, California, tweens keep discovering mysterious and sometimes magical objects at the Vintage Rose Antique Shop. When they take these objects home, strange things begin to happen ...” *Pub.*



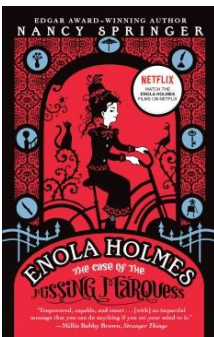
A Case of Grave Danger (*Violet Veil Mysteries, Bk. 1*)
by Sophie Cleverly, c2021 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.8)

“Violet Veil wants nothing more than to prove her worth and become her father's apprentice at Veil & Sons Undertakers. And one rain-soaked night she gets her chance when she meets a boy, Oliver, who is wandering around the graveyard. The last time Violet saw Oliver, he was very much dead, waiting to be buried. Violet has just found her first case: can she, with the help of her dog, Bones, help Oliver solve his own 'murder'?” - *Back cover*



The Case of the Counterfeit Painting (*Museum Mysteries-Stone Arch*)
by Steven Brezenoff, c2017 (IL: 4-6, RL: 3.9)

“While searching for her friends at the Dino Festival, Clementine Wim runs into two people carrying what she thinks is the Tiled Lunch Counter (a famous painting) away from the Capitol City Art Museum, but when she checks the painting is still hanging in place--and before she can track down the thieves, and prove that the painting now in the museum is a forgery, she has to convince her friends that she was not imagining things.” - *Pub.*



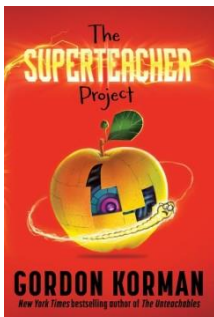
The Case of the Missing Marquess (*Anola Holmes Mystery, Bk. 1*)
by Nancy Springer, c2007, 2020 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 6.6)

“While searching the clues to her missing mother's whereabouts, fourteen-year-old Enola Holmes, the younger sister of Sherlock Holmes, suddenly gets involved in the kidnapping of a young Marquess and must put the search for her mother on hold in order to save the spoiled girl from her dangerous captors.” - *Pub.*



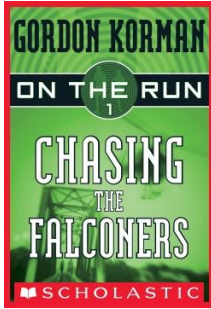
A World Below
by Wesley King, c2018 (IL: 5-8, RL: 6.0)

“Mr. Baker's eighth grade class thought they were in for a normal field trip to Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, but their journey takes a terrifying turn when an earthquake hits and the students are plunged into a frigid underground lake, forcing them to fight for survival and find their way back above ground.” – *Pub.*



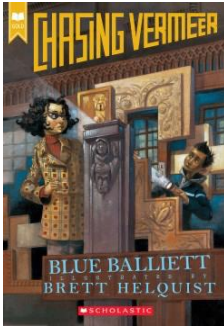
The Superteacher Project
by Gordon Korman, c2023 (IL: 4-7, RL: 5.2”

“Oliver and Nathan, determined to get to the bottom of their new homeroom teacher's fishy behavior, discover Mr. Aidact is actually an AI robot from a secret experimental program.”– *Pub.*



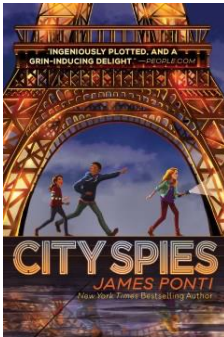
Chasing the Falconers (*On the run, Bk. 1*)
by Gordon Korman, c2005 (IL: 4-7, RL: ?)

“Aiden and Meg Falconer must escape from a juvenile detention center in order to prove their parents innocent of charges which would put them in jail for life.” – *Pub.*



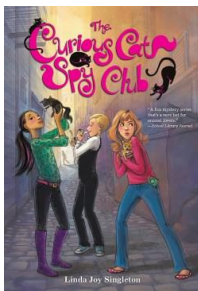
Chasing Vermeer
by Blue Balliett, c2004, 2005 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 5.4)

“When a book of unexplainable occurrences brings Petra and Calder together, strange things start to happen: Seemingly unrelated events connect; an eccentric old woman seeks their company; an invaluable Vermeer painting disappears.” - *Pub.*



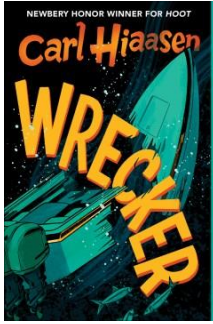
City Spies (*City Spies, Bk. 1*)
by James Ponti, c2020, 2021 (IL: 4-7; RL: 5.3)

“Sara Martinez is facing years in the juvenile detention system for hacking into the foster care computer system to prove that her foster parents are crooks. But then she gets a second chance when a mysterious man offers her a chance to join a group of MI6 affiliated spies.” - *Pub.*



Curious Cat Spy Club (*Curious Cat Spy Club, Bk. 1*)
by Linda Joy Singleton, c? (IL: 3-7; RL: 4.8)

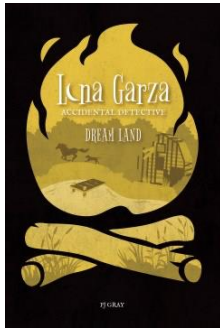
“Kelsey helps catch a runaway zorse (horse + zebra) with the help of the nicest and most popular girl in school, Becca. The two are walking home when they happen upon a litter of kittens trapped in a dumpster and Leo is the only person around who can help get them out. The three unlikely friends decide to work together to help solve animal crimes with their secret club.” – *Pub.*



Wrecker

by Carl Hiaasen, c2023 (IL: Gr. 6+, RL: 5.3)

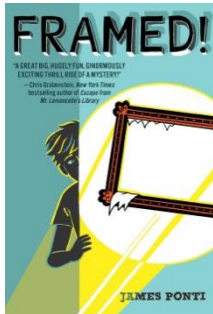
“When fifteen-year-old Valdez Jones VIII, a.k.a. Wrecker, unwittingly becomes entangled with a group of smugglers and grave robbers, he must deep dive into their shady dealings in order to escape their twisted net.” – *Pub.*



Dream Land (*Luna Garza, Accidental Detective*)

by P. J. Gray, c2022 (IL: 4-7, RL: 2.2)

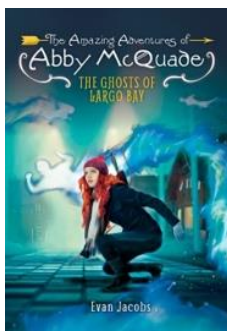
“When her best friend invites her to spend a week at the lake, Luna jumps at the chance. But what starts off as the perfect summer getaway quickly turns to an unsettling mystery. Can Luna figure out the forest's secrets before it's too late?” - *Pub.*



Framed! (*Framed! Bk. 1*)

by James Ponti, c2016, 2017 (IL: 4-7, RL: 5.4)

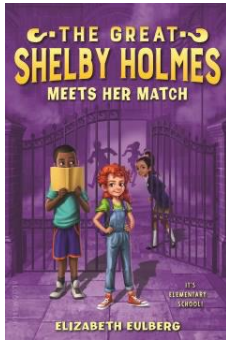
“Get to know the only kid on the FBI Director's speed dial and several international criminals' most wanted lists all because of his Theory of All Small Things in this hilarious start to a brand-new middle grade mystery series. So you're only halfway through your homework and the Director of the FBI keeps texting you for help...What do you do? Save your grade? Or save the country?” - *Pub.*



The Ghosts of Largo Bay (*Amazing Adventures of Abby McQuade*)

by Evan Jacobs, c2018 (IL: 4-7, RL: 2.7)

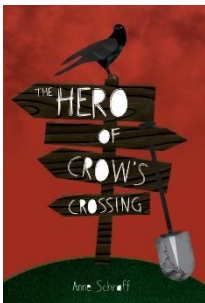
“Abby sees a strange blue-green light. Aliens? Electrical storm? Fog warning? She drags bestie Clara out to investigate after bizarre things start happening. Some would call Largo Bay quirky. Others would call it downright strange. To Abby McQuade it's just home. Abby has a big imagination. And her curiosity always leads to trouble. Every adventurer has a sidekick. Holmes had Watson. Batman had Robin. Abby has her bestie, Clara Erickson. Clara is regimented, hyper-scheduled, and disciplined. Abby is ... not. Abby is yin to Clara's yang. Would her bestie be bored without Abby's curious mind? Totally.” - *Pub.*



The Great Shelby Holmes Meets Her Match

by Elizabeth Eulberg, c2017, 2018 (IL: 4-7, 3-6; RL: 4.7)

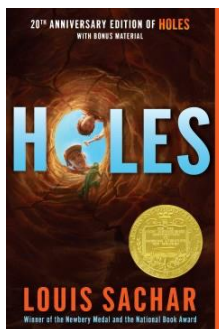
“Eleven-year-old John Watson never expected his first friend in his new Harlem neighborhood to be Shelby Holmes, a nine-year-old, four-foot-tall supersleuth whose incredible smarts are outweighed only by her big attitude. But it turns out that solving mysteries with Shelby is just the adventure that aspiring writer John needs. On John's very first day of school in New York, Shelby deduces that their new science teacher, Mr. Crosby, is in trouble. But as Shelby and John dig deeper to expose the truth, they discover there might be someone unexpected involved . . . Someone determined to outsmart Shelby Holmes. Can Shelby and John uncover the truth before the case goes from puzzling to downright dangerous?” - *Pub.*



The Hero of Crow's Crossing (*Red Rhino Hi Lo*)

by Anne Schraff, c (IL: 4-7, RL: 1.0-1.5)

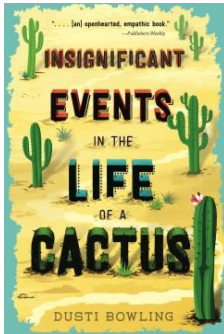
“Excellent teacher Mr. Ridley appears from nowhere and accepts a teaching job at the tiny and poor Crow's Crossing School. He's an excellent teacher, but questions swirl around him. Why is he here? Where did he come from? And most importantly, why is he digging holes on Shadow Hill? Tazmin doesn't care about all that. She's learning math. Her brother is learning how to read. But the truth has a way of revealing itself, much to Tazmin's dismay.” - *Pub.*



Holes

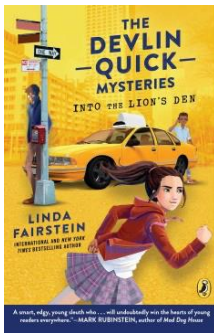
by Louis Sachar, c1998, 2000 (IL: 5-8, 6-9; RL: 4.6)

“As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.” - *Pub.*



Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus (*Life of a Cactus, Bk. 1*)
by Dusti Bowling, c2017, 2019 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 4.6)

“Aven Green loves to tell people that she lost her arms in an alligator wrestling match, or a wildfire in Tanzania, but the truth is she was born without them. And when her parents take a job running Stagecoach Pass, a rundown western theme park in Arizona, Aven moves with them across the country knowing that she'll have to answer the question over and over again. Her new life takes an unexpected turn when she bonds with Connor, a classmate who also feels isolated because of his own disability, and they discover a room at Stagecoach Pass that holds bigger secrets than Aven ever could have imagined. It's hard to solve a mystery, help a friend, and face your worst fears. But...”



Into the Lion's Den (*Devlin Quick Mysteries, Bk. 1*)
by Linda A. Fairstein, c2017 (IL: 3-7, RL: 6.3)

“Someone has stolen a page from a rare book in the New York Public Library. At least, that's what Devlin's friend Liza *thinks* she's seen, but she can't be sure. Any other kid might not see a crime here, but Devlin Quick is courageous and confident, and she knows she has to bring this man to justice-even if it means breathlessly racing around the city to collect evidence. But who is this thief? And what could the page-an old map-possibly lead to? With her wits, persistence, and the help of New York City's finest...Dev and her friends piece the clues together to uncover a mystery that's bigger than anyone expected-and more fun, too.” - *Pub.*



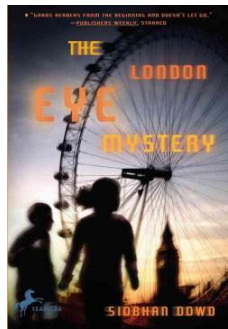
It Wasn't Me
by Dana Alison Levy, c2018, 2020 (IL: 5-8, RL: ?)

“The Breakfast Club meets middle school with a prank twist in this hilarious and heartwarming story about six very different seventh graders who are forced to band together after a vandalism incident. When Theo's photography project is mysteriously vandalized at school there are five suspected students who all say "it wasn't me." Theo just wants to forget about the humiliating incident but his favorite teacher is determined to get to the bottom of it and has the six of them come into school over vacation to talk. She calls it "Justice Circle." The six students, the Nerd, the Princess, the Jock, the Screw Up, the Weirdo, and the Nobody think of it as detention. AKA their worst nightmare. That is until they realize they might get along after all, despite their differences.” - *Pub.*



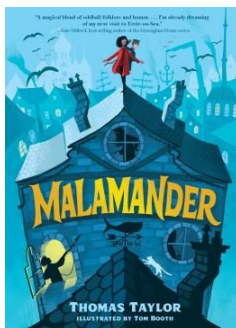
Kazu Jones and the Denver Dognappers (*Kazu Jones, Bk. 1*)
by Shauna M. Holyoak, c2019, 2020 (IL: 3-7, 3-6; RL: 5.5)

“When a string of dognappings grips her Denver neighborhood, Kazu Jones vows to track down the culprits. She can't stand to see more dogs go missing-especially once her neighbors' beloved pet is taken because of *her* gigantic mistake. With the help of her gang-including her best friend and expert hacker, March; and her ginormous, socially anxious pup, Genki-Kazu uncovers evidence that suggests the dognapping ring is bigger than she ever imagined. But the more she digs, the more dangerous her investigation becomes. The dognappers are getting bolder, and Genki could be next . . .” – *Pub.*



The London Eye Mystery (*London Eye Mystery, Bk. 1*)
by Siobhan Dowd, c2007, 2008 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 4.1)

“Ted and Kat watched their cousin Salim board the London Eye, but after half an hour it landed and everyone trooped off--except Salim. Where could he have gone? How on earth could he have disappeared into thin air? Ted and his older sister, Kat, become sleuthing partners, since the police are having no luck. Despite their prickly relationship, they overcome their differences to follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin. And ultimately it comes down to Ted, whose brain works in its own very unique way, to find the key to the mystery.” – *Pub.*



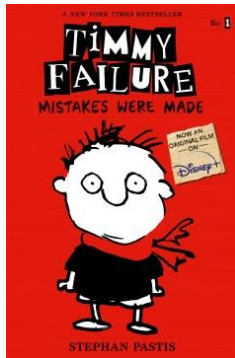
Malamander (*Legends of Eerie-on-Sea, Bk. 1*)
by Thomas Taylor, c2019, 2020 (IL: 4-7, 5-7; RL: 5.8)

“It's winter in the town of Eerie-on-Sea, where the mist is thick and the salt spray is rattling the windows of the Grand Nautilus Hotel. Inside, young Herbert Lemon, Lost and Founder for the hotel, has an unexpected visitor. It seems that Violet Parma, a fearless girl around his age, lost her parents at the hotel when she was a baby, and she's sure that the nervous Herbert is the only person who can help her find them. The trouble is, Violet is being pursued at that moment by a strange hook-handed man. And the town legend of the Malamander--a part-fish, part-human monster whose...” – *Pub.*



The Missing Jewels (*Hayley Mysteries*)
by Hayley LeBlanc, c2022 (IL: 4-8, RL: 4.3)

“Things are going great for Hayley on the set of the mystery show *Sadie Solves It*. But one day, things start disappearing from the studio--expensive jewelry used on the show, and even earrings from someone's purse! Who's the thief stalking Silver Screen Studios? Hayley doesn't want to get involved... after all, she only plays a detective on TV. But then one of the stolen items is found in her trailer, and her favorite makeup artist, Vee, is blamed for the theft! With the help of her two best friends and co-stars, Hayley begins to investigate. Can they find the real thief before Vee is fired for good?” – *Pub*.



Mistakes Were Made (*Timmy Failure, Bk. 1*)
by Stephan Pastis, c2013, 2015 (IL: 3-7, 3-8; RL: 3.8)

“Take Timmy Failure--the clueless, comically self-confident CEO of the best detective agency in town, perhaps even the nation. Add his impressively lazy business partner, a very large polar bear named Total, and what you have is Total Failure, Inc. From the offbeat creator of *Pearls Before Swine* comes an endearingly bumbling hero in a hilarious caper accompanied by a whodunit twist.” – *Pub*.



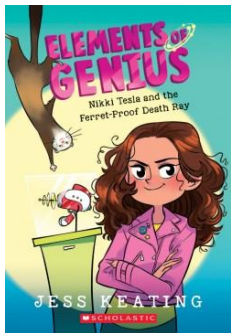
Murder at Midnight
by Avi, c2009, 2011 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 4.7)

“A plot to overthrow King Claudio is brewing in the Kingdom of Pergamontio, Scholarly Mangus the magician--along with his street--smart and faithful new servant boy, Fabrizio--have been marked as easy scapegoats for the traitor lurking within the king's court. Together, these two unlikely partners must gather clues to solve the mystery and prove their innocence before the stroke of midnight...or face death!” – *Pub*.



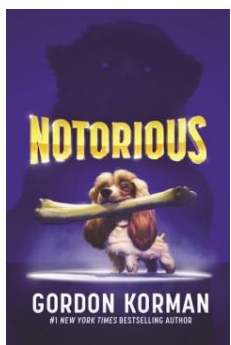
The Mutant Mushroom Takeover (*Maggie and Nate Mystery*)
by Summer Rachel Short, c2020, 2021 (IL: 4-7, RL: 4.7)

“Ever since Magnolia Stone's scientist dad left Shady Pines to find a new job, Maggie's been stuck in her grandma's mobile home with her grumpy older brother, Ezra. Now she's on a mission to put her family back together by winning the Vitaccino Junior Naturalist Merit Award. When Maggie and her best friend, Nate, a wannabe YouTube star and alien conspiracy theorist, scout out a rare bioluminescent fungus, Maggie is certain she's a shoo-in to win. But after animals around town start sprouting unusual growths and Ezra develops a bluish glow and hacking cough, Maggie wonders what they've really stumbled onto.” – *Pub.*



Nikki Tesla and the Ferret-proof Death Ray (*Elements of Genius, Bk. 1*)
by Jess Keating, 2019 (IL: 3-7, 4-6; RL: ?)

“Nikki Tesla is a genius, so mostly she finds school boring, and amuses herself by inventing things, like her mysterious missing father; trouble is most of her inventions have serious, lethal potential (like the death ray, which just blew a hole in her floor); so she and her ferret are hustled off to the special Genius Academy with classmates who are equally exceptional, although she still worries about fitting in--but when her death ray disappears she has something bigger to worry about: who took it and what are they planning to do?” – *Pub.*



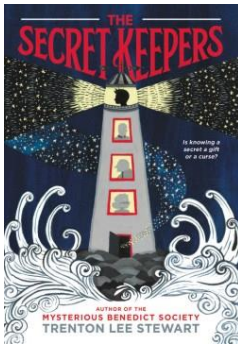
Notorious
By Gordon Korman, c2020 (IL: 4-7, RL: 4.1)

“Keenan has lived all over the world but nowhere quite as strange as Centerlight Island, which is split between the United States and Canada. The only thing weirder than Centerlight itself is his neighbor Zarabeth, aka ZeeBee. ZeeBee is obsessed with the island's history as a Prohibition-era smuggling route. She's also convinced that her beloved dog, Barney, was murdered--something Keenan finds pretty hard to believe. Just about everyone on Centerlight is a suspect, because everyone hated Barney, a huge dog--part mastiff, part rottweiler--notorious for terrorizing the community. Accompanied by a mild-mannered new dog who is practically Barney's opposite, ZeeBee enlists Keenan's help to solve the mystery. As Keenan and ZeeBee start to unravel the clues, they uncover a shocking conspiracy that dates back to Centerlight's gangster past.” – *Pub.*



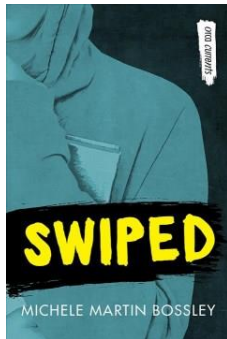
Scent of Blue (*Luna Garza, Accidental Detective*)
by P. J. Gray, 2022 (IL: 5-8, RL: 2.5)

“When her best friend invites her to spend a week at the lake, Luna jumps at the chance. But what starts off as the perfect summer getaway quickly turns to an unsettling mystery. Can Luna figure out the forest's secrets before it's too late?” – *Pub.*



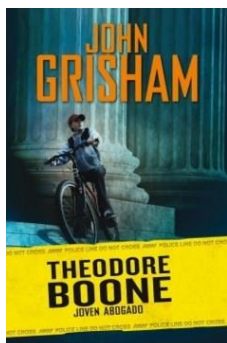
The Secret Keepers
by Trenton Lee Stewart, c2016, 2017 (IL: 4-7, 5-8; RL: 5.6)

“When Reuben discovers an extraordinary antique watch with a secret power, his life takes an intriguing turn. As one secret leads to another, Reuben finds himself torn between his honest nature and the lure to be a hero. Now he is on a dangerous adventure--full of curious characters, treacherous traps, and hairsbreadth escapes--as he races to solve the mystery before it is too late. With fearless Penny, mighty Jack, and the wise Mrs. Genevieve on his side, can Reuben outwit a sly villain called The Smoke and save the city from a terrible fate?” – *Pub.*



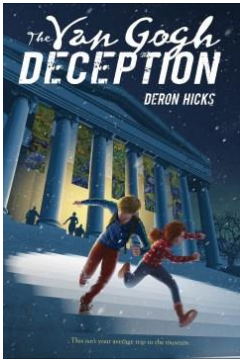
Swiped (*Orca Currents Hi Lo*)
by Michele Martin Bossley, c2020 (IL: 4-7, RL: 3.1)

“Trevor and his friends become caught up in solving several mysteries at their junior high school in Calgary involving missing lunches and stolen books.” – *Pub.*



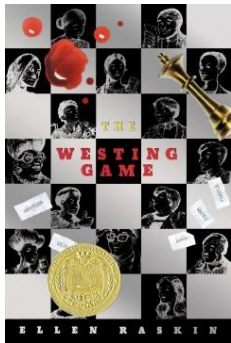
Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer (*Theodore Boone, Bk. 1*)
by John Grisham, c2012 (IL: 6-8, RL: 5.2)

“Thirteen-year-old Theodore Boone, who knows every judge, police officer, and court clerk in the small town of Strattenburg, finds himself involved in a murder trial because of knowledge he might have about a cold-blooded killer.” – *Pub.*



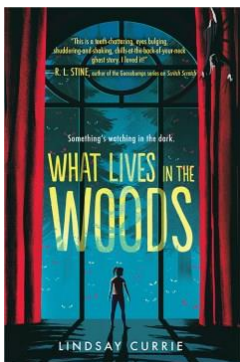
The Van Gogh Deception (*Lost Art Mysteries, Bk. 1*)
by Deron R. Hicks, c2017 (IL: 4-7, RL: 5.4)

“Dan Brown meets Jason Bourne in this riveting middle-grade mystery thriller. When a young boy is discovered in Washington DC's National Gallery without any recollection of who he is, so begins a high-stakes race to unravel the greatest mystery of all: his identity. As the stakes continue to rise, the boy must piece together the disjointed clues of his origins while using his limited knowledge to stop one of the greatest art frauds ever attempted. Digitally interactive, this breathtaking museum mystery offers QR codes...”



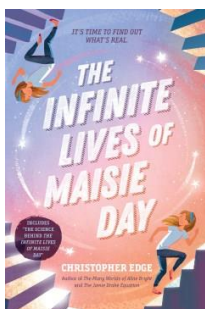
The Westing Game
by Ellen Raskin, c1978, 2003 (IL: 4-7, 5+, RL: 5.3)

“This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires, depending on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, which involves blizzards, burglaries, and bombings. Ellen Raskin has entangled a remarkable cast of characters in a puzzle-knotted, word-twisting plot filled with humor, intrigue, and suspense.”
- *Pub.*



What Lives In the Woods
by Lindsay Currie (IL: 5-9, RL: 4.9)

“Ginny is unhappy when her family moves from Chicago to upstate Michigan for the summer; her father has a job restoring a 1930s mansion, but there are rumors about Woodmoor and the forest next to it: rumors about strange mutant creatures; Ginny, an aspiring mystery writer, is soon half convinced that the rumors are true, because something or someone is haunting the house--and she plans to investigate, with the help of Will, the older boy who lives nearby.” – *Pub.*



The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day
by Christopher Edge, c2019 (IL: 4-8, RL: ?)

“On her tenth birthday, super-smart Maisie wakes to a shifted reality and must work within the laws of the universe and trust the love of her family to set the world right. Alternate chapters present divergent timelines.” – *Pub.*



Spy School (*Spy School, Bk. 1*)

by Stuart Gibbs, c2012 (IL: 5-8, RL: 5.3)

“Can an undercover nerd become a superstar secret agent? Maybe not, but it'll be fun to watch him try. Ben Ripley may only be in middle school, but he's already pegged his dream job: C.I.A. or bust. Unfortunately for him, his personality doesn't exactly scream "secret agent." In fact, Ben is so awkward, he can barely get to school and back without a mishap. Because of his innate nerdiness, Ben is not surprised when he is recruited for a magnet school with a focus on science--but he's entirely shocked to discover that the school is actually a front for a junior C.I.A. academy. Could the C.I.A. really want *him*? Actually, no. There's been a case of mistaken identity—but...” – *Pub.*