

# LRC Intermediate Novels

*The Entire Collection*

*December 2024*



Dear Colleagues:

The LRC has an extensive collection of Novel kits in a variety of formats, to support all your learners:

- Novel sets of 10, 20 and 30+, plus single copies
- Sets with individual titles organized by Genre
- Sets with individual titles organized by Mental Health Themes
- Sets with individual titles of popular/new novels organized by grade and year
- Sets of Hi-Lo books (complete list at end of document)
- Sets of Decodable books
- Sets of Leveled books

The number of LRC copies have been listed to help you with your planning. If a professionally narrated audio book copy exists in Destiny (Sora) then that has been listed as well. These can be signed out through your Sora account.

ARC-BC has an electronic version of all titles, usually in three different formats for you to choose from.

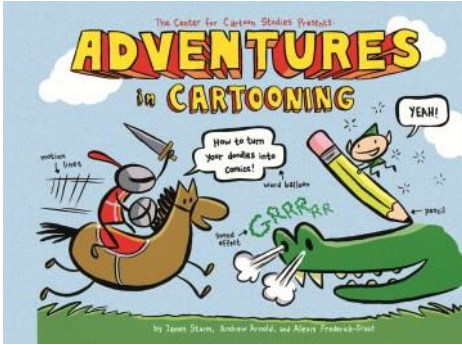
A tip sheet on how to book LRC novels has been included as well to ensure you get the number of copies you are looking for.

*Joan Pearce*

*District Elementary Teacher-Librarian*

*Learning Resources Centre*

*December 2024*



## **Adventures in Cartooning**

By James Sturm, c2009

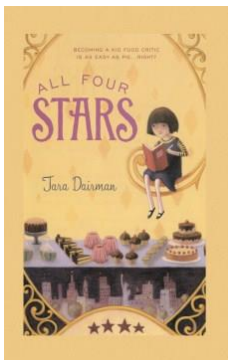
Interest Level: 2-6, Reading Level: 2.1

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Cartoons and Comics, Drawing Techniques

### **Summary:**

“Uses a story about a magical elf who helps a princess learn how to draw a comic to present techniques for and advice about drawing comics.” – *Follett*

\*LRC: 11 print copies



## **All Four Stars** (*All Four Stars, Book 1 of 3*)

By Tara Dairman, c2016

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 6.0

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Humorous Stories, Cooking & Food, Journalism

### **Summary:**

“Wanted - One Anonymous Restaurant Critic...Gladys Gatsby has been cooking gourmet dishes since the age of seven. Now she's eleven, and after a crème brûlée accident (just a small fire), Gladys is cut off from the kitchen (and her allowance). She's devastated, but soon finds a way to pay her parents back when she's mistakenly contacted to write a restaurant review for one of the largest newspapers in the world. But in order to meet her deadline and keep her dream job, Gladys must cook her way into the heart of her archenemy and sneak into New York City - all while keeping her identity a secret!” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



### **Alone**

By Megan E. Freeman, c2021

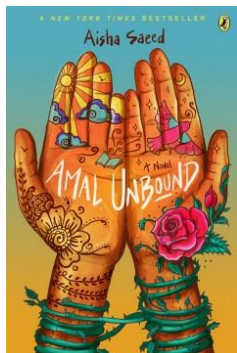
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.7

**Themes:** Survival, Dystopian, Stories in Verse

#### **Summary:**

“When twelve-year-old Maddie hatches a scheme for a secret sleepover with her two best friends, she ends up waking up to a nightmare. She's alone - left behind in a town that has been mysteriously evacuated and abandoned. With no one to rely on, no power, and no working phone lines or internet access, Maddie slowly learns to survive on her own. Her only companions are a Rottweiler named George and all the books she can read. After a rough start, Maddie learns to trust her own ingenuity and invents clever ways to survive in a place that has been deserted and forgotten. As months pass, she escapes natural disasters, looters, and wild animals. But Maddie's most formidable enemy is the crushing loneliness she faces every day.” – *Amazon.ca*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies*



### **Amal Unbound**

By Aisha Saeed, c2018

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.2 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Family Life, Social Justice, Pakistan, Courage, Indentured Servants

#### **Summary:**

“Twelve-year-old Amal's dream of becoming a teacher one day is dashed in an instant when she accidentally insults a member of her Pakistani village's ruling family. As punishment for her behavior, she is forced to leave her heartbroken family behind and go work at their estate.

Amal is distraught but has faced setbacks before. So, she summons her courage and begins navigating the complex rules of life as a servant, with all its attendant jealousies and pecking-order woes. Most troubling, though, is Amal's increasing awareness of the deadly measures the Khan family will go to in order to stay in control. It's clear that their hold over her village will never loosen as long as everyone is too afraid to challenge them - so if Amal is to have any chance of ensuring her loved ones' safety and winning back her freedom, she must find a way to work with the other servants to make it happen.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Among the Hidden** (*Shadow Children, Book 1 of 7*)

By Margaret Peterson Haddix, c1998

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.7 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Science Fiction, Government, Action & Adventure, Survival

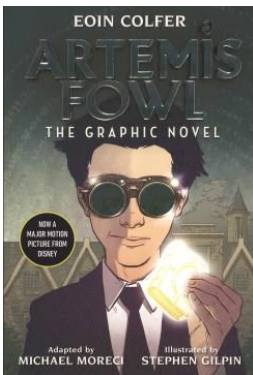
**Summary:**

“Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend.

Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside.

Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows—does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford not to?” - Amazon

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



**Artemis Fowl: The Graphic Novel** (*Artemis Fowl, Book 1 of 3*)

By Michael Moreci

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.2

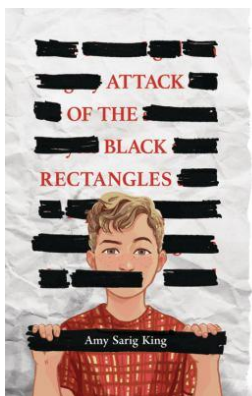
**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Cartoons and Comics, Fantasy, Fairies, Magic

**Summary:**

“Adaptation of: *Artemis Fowl* by Eoin Colfer. When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.” – Follett

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*





### **Attack of the Black Rectangles**

By A.S. King, c2022

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.5 (Six starred reviews)

**Themes:** Holocaust, Censorship, School Stories, Realistic Fiction

#### **Summary:**

“When sixth-grader Mac discovers several words of his classroom copy of Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic* are blacked out he is outraged, so he, his friends, and his eccentric family set out to do something about the censorship imposed by one teacher and the school board”—*OCLC*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Avalanche** (*Hip-Senior, Hi-Lo*)

By Paul Kropp

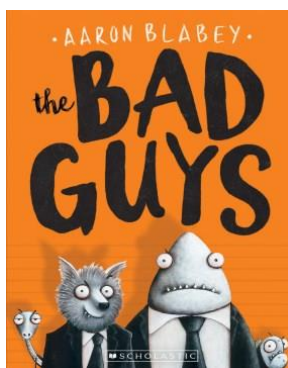
Interest Level: 4-7, 6-12, Reading Level: 3.4

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Survival, Avalanches, Hi-Lo

#### **Summary:**

“It was just a school trip, just a winter hike through the mountains. But when a wall of snow comes sliding down, fifteen kids have to fight for their lives. Not all of them will win the fight.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **The Bad Guys** (*Bad Guys, Book 1 of 11*)

By Aaron Blabey, c2017

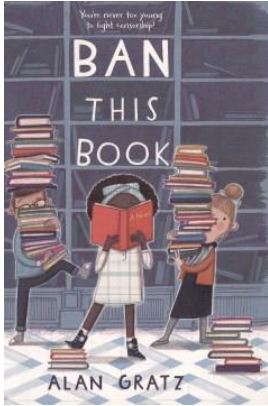
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 2.8 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Humorous Stories, Action & Adventure, Animal Stories, Heroes, Rescues

#### **Summary:**

“The Bad Guys, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Shark, Mr. Snake, and Mr. Piranha, want to be heroes, and they decide that the way to do it is free the 200 dogs in the city dog pound—but their plan soon goes awry.” – *Follett*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Ban This Book**

By Alan Gratz, c2017

Interest Level: 4-6, Reading Level: 3.9

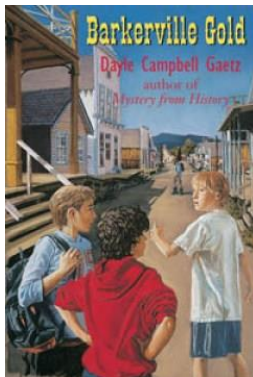
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Censorship, Books & Libraries, Friendship

#### **Summary:**

"... Alan Gratz, a fourth grader fights back when '*From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*' by E. L. Konigsburg is challenged by a well-meaning parent and taken off the shelves of her school library. Amy

Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world. Amy Anne and her lieutenants wage a battle for the books... as they start a secret banned books locker library, make up ridiculous reasons to ban every single book in the library to make a point, and take a stand against censorship." – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 26 print copies, audiobook*



### **Barkerville Gold**

By Dayle Campbell Gaetz

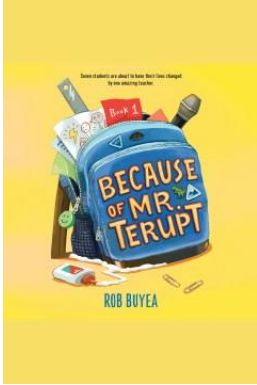
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.5

**Themes:** Historical Fiction, Mystery & Detective, Gold Rush-British Columbia

#### **Summary:**

"Fresh from their adventures capturing daring art thieves in *Mystery from History*, Rusty, Katie and Sheila are back, sent out of town with Rusty's grandparents to keep them out of trouble. This time the trio is in historic Barkerville, a gold rush town with a secret. After witnessing what they take to be a ghost in the night, the three friends find themselves involved in a mystery from the past that seems to have a few other people interested as well. New information has come to light about a fortune in missing gold, a centuries-old curse and a missing miner. While the three budding detectives try and figure out which of the aging prospectors they keep running into is actually a ghost, they find they are in a race against time to recover the gold and return it to its rightful owners to avert a tragedy. Will they find the gold in time? Or will they suffer the fate of Three Finger Evans, the missing miner?"  
- *Follett*

*\*LRC: 11 print copies*



### **Because of Mr. Terupt** (Book 1 of 4)

By Rob Buyea, c2010

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.1 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Cause & Effect, Multiple (Point of View), Interpersonal Relations, Teacher-Student Relationships

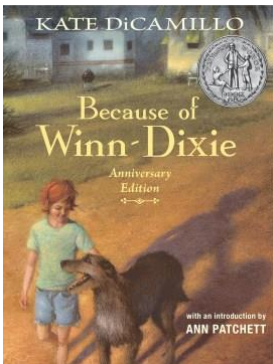
**Summary:**

“Seven students are about to have their lives changed by one amazing teacher in this school story filled with unique characters every reader can relate to.

It's the start of a new year at Snow Hill School, and seven students find themselves thrown together in Mr. Terupt's fifth grade class. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school.

They don't have much in common, and they've never gotten along. Not until a certain new teacher arrives and helps them to find strength inside themselves--and in each other. But when Mr. Terupt suffers a terrible accident, will his students be able to remember the lessons he taught them? Or will their lives go back to the way they were before--before fifth grade and before Mr. Terupt?” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 47 print copies, audiobook*



### **Because of Winn-Dixie**

By Kate DiCamillo, c2000, 2020

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 3.9 (Newberry Honour)

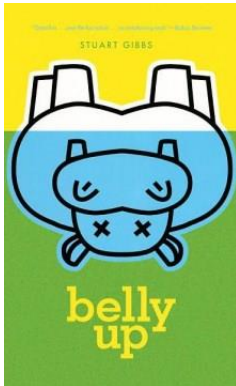
**Themes:** Animal Stories, Realistic Fiction, Dogs, Community, Friendship

**Summary:**

"This book is (I hope) a hymn of praise to dogs, friendship, and the South," Kate DiCamillo said of her best-selling debut novel, which has been awarded a Newbery Honor, translated into nearly thirty languages, and turned into a major motion picture. The story of a preacher's daughter named Opal whose life is transformed by a scruffy dog named Winn-Dixie continues to touch the hearts of readers of all ages.” – *Follett*

*\*LRC: 32 print copies, audiobook*





**Belly Up** (*Fun Jungle*)

By Stuart Gibbs, c2010

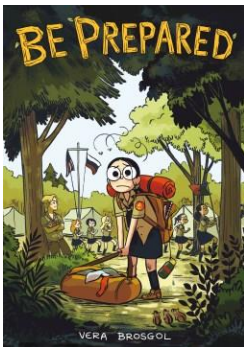
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.6

**Themes:** Mystery & Detective Stories, Humorous Stories, Animal Stories, Zoos

**Summary:**

“When 12-year-old Teddy Fitzroy and his parents move into FunJungle, the nation's largest zoo, Teddy is prepared for some excitement, like maybe the occasional elephant stampede or a chimpanzee water balloon fight. Then Henry the Hippo dies from not-so-natural causes, and Teddy suspects foul play. It's just the first of many mysteries to unfold at FunJungle, as Teddy finds himself investigating a missing koala, trying to save a rhino from poachers, and more. This series features hilarious, madcap mysteries, fun facts for every animal lover, and has an eye towards environmentalism and conservation--suggestions to kids on how to get involved are included in the back of the books.” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



**Be Prepared**

By Vera Brosgol, c2018

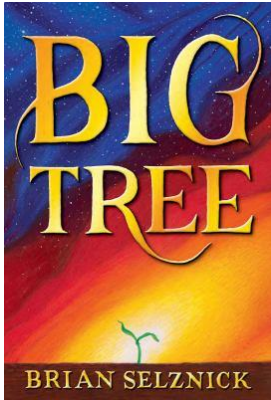
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 3.2 (Six starred reviews)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Camps, Friendship, Social Acceptance, Russian Americans

**Summary:**

“Her friends live in fancy houses and their parents can afford to send them to the best summer camps. Vera’s single mother can’t afford that sort of luxury, but there’s one summer camp in her price range – Russian summer camp. Vera is sure she’s found the one place she can fit in, but camp is far from what she imagined. And nothing could prepare her for all the “cool girl” drama, endless Russian history lessons, and outhouses straight out of nightmares!” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies*



### **The Big Tree**

By Brian Selznick, c2023

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 3.4 (Six starred reviews)

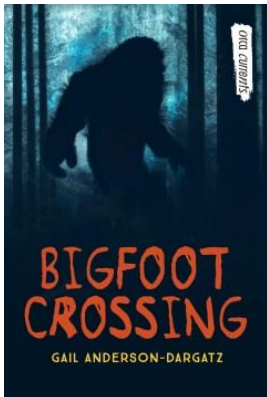
**Themes:** Friendship, Fantasy, community, Nature, Trees and Forests, Seeds, Environemnt

### **Summary:**

“A mysterious voice has been speaking to Louise in her dreams. She and her brother Merwin are Sycamore seeds, who hope to one day set down roots and become big trees. But when a fire forces them to leave their mama tree prematurely, they find themselves catapulted into the unknown, far from home. Alone and unprepared, they must use their wits and imagination to navigate a dangerous world—filled with dinosaurs, meteors, and volcanoes!—and the fear of never finding a safe place to grow up. As the mysterious voice gets louder, Louise comes to realize their mission in life may be much bigger than either of them ever could have imagined!

Brimming with humor, wonder, mystery, and a profound sense of hope, *Big Tree* is a trailblazing adventure, illustrated with nearly 300 pages of breathtaking pictures. It is Selznick's most imaginative and far-reaching work to date and a singular reading experience for the whole family.”

*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook in Sora*



### **Bigfoot Crossing (Orca Currents)**

By Gail Anderson-Dargatz, c2023

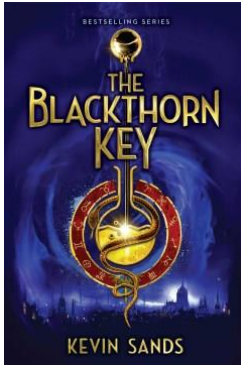
Interest level: 5-8, Reading Level: 2.4

**Themes:** Hi-Lo, Adventure, Thriller, Family life, Sasquatch, Camping

### **Summary:**

“Jay doesn't believe in Bigfoot. His dad loves hunting for Bigfoot but searching for a mythical creature in the dark isn't Jay's idea of fun. Especially because he always gets stuck looking out for his little sister while his dad plays with the cool gear, like night-vision goggles. But while out on a camping trip, a large creature starts hunting them, and then Jay's father goes missing. Jay is forced to start tracking the creature himself while keeping his sister safe. It turns out that not only is Bigfoot real, but it isn't the only threat in the woods. There's a different kind of monster out here, one who is armed with a gun. Jay must act fast to save his father before it's too late. And he needs Bigfoot's help to do it. This short novel is a high-interest, low-reading level book for middle-grade readers who are building reading skills, want a quick read or say they don't like to read!

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, ebook*



**The Blackthorn Key** (*Blackthorn Key, Book 1 of 4*)

By Kevin Sands, c2015

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.6 (Four starred reviews)

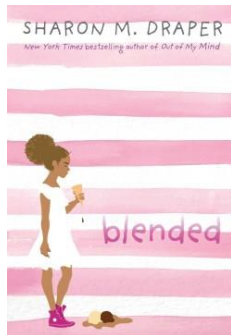
**Themes:** Fantasy, Mystery, Supernatural, Historical Fiction, London History 17<sup>th</sup> Century, Secret Societies, Pharmacists, Apprentices

**Summary:**

“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 suspenseful debut novel.”

“‘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, the trail of murders grows closer and closer to Blackthorn's shop. With time running out, Christopher must use every skill he's learned to discover the key to a terrible secret with the power to tear the world apart. In his stunning debut novel, Kevin Sands brings readers on a heart-stopping adventure rich with suspense, mystery, and unforgettable characters.” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



**Blended**

By Sharon Draper, c2018

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.0 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Diverse Families, African American, Divorce, Prejudice & Racism

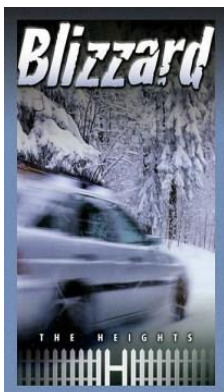
**Summary:**

“Eleven-year-old Isabella's parents are divorced, so she has to switch lives every week: One week she's Isabella with her dad, his girlfriend Anastasia, and her son Darren living in a fancy house where they are one of the only black families in the neighborhood. The next week she's Izzy with her mom and her boyfriend John-Mark in a small, not-so-fancy house that she loves.

Because of this, Isabella has always felt pulled between two worlds. And now that her parents are divorced, it seems their fights are even worse, and they're always about HER. Isabella feels completely stuck in the middle, split and divided between them more than ever. And she is beginning to realize that being split between Mom and Dad involves more than switching houses, switching nicknames, switching backpacks: it's also about switching identities. Her dad is black, her mom is white, and strangers are always commenting: "You're so exotic!" "You look so unusual." "But what are you really?" She knows what they're really saying: "You don't look like your parents." "You're different." "What race are you really?" And when her parents, who both

get engaged at the same time, get in their biggest fight ever, Isabella doesn't just feel divided, she feels ripped in two. What does it mean to be half white or half black? To belong to half mom and half dad? And if you're only seen as half of this and half of that, how can you ever feel whole? It seems like nothing can bring Isabella's family together again--until the worst thing happens. Isabella and Darren are stopped by the police. A cell phone is mistaken for a gun. And shots are fired." – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



**Blizzard** (*The Heights, Hi-Lo*)

By Mary Kate Doman, c2012

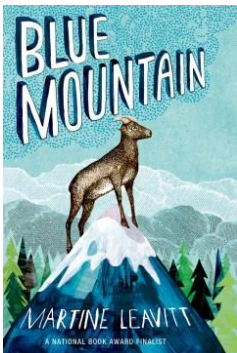
Interest Level: 4-9, Reading Level: 2.2

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Action & Adventure, Blizzards, Family Life, Traffic Accidents, Survival, Hi-Lo

**Summary:**

"Rafael Silva takes his kids along on a last-minute business trip, planning to squeeze in some family fun skiing at Jackson Hole, Wyoming, but an unexpected blizzard makes them thankful their mother Ana, who stayed at home, insisted they bring extra warm clothes and snacks." - *Follett*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



**Blue Mountain**

By Martine Leavitt, c2014

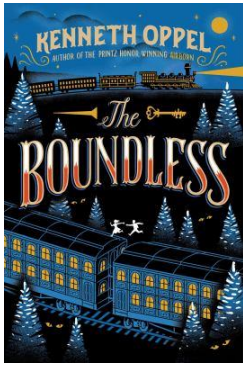
Interest level: 3-6 Reading Level: 4.8 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Bighorn Sheep, Endangered Species, Environment, Interconnectedness, Survival, Canadian Rockies

**Summary:**

"Tuk the bighorn sheep is told he will be the one to save his herd, but he is young and would rather play with his bandmates than figure out why the herd needs saving. As humans encroach further and further into their territory, there is less room for the sheep to wander, food becomes scarce, and the herd's very survival is in danger. Tuk and his friends set out to find Blue Mountain, a place that Tuk sometimes sees far in the distance and thinks might be a better home. The journey is treacherous, filled with threatening pumas and bears and dangerous lands, leading Tuk down a path that goes against every one of his instincts. Still, Tuk perseveres, reaching Blue Mountain and leading his herd into a new, safe place." - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



### The Boundless

By Kenneth Oppel, c2014

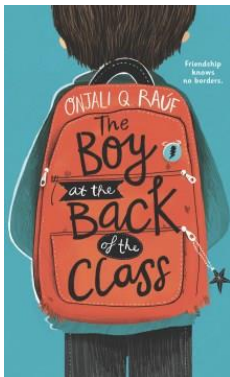
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.0 (5 starred reviews)

Themes: Action and Adventure, Historical Fiction, Canadian History, Railroads and Trains

#### **Summary:**

“Will Everett has always wished for an adventure. Little does he know his adventure starts the moment he boards the Boundless. There is a murder, and now Will protects a key that can unlock the train’s hidden treasures. Villains are fast on his heels and strange creatures are lurking outside the windows, as the Boundless hurtles across the country. Together with Maren, a gifted escape artist, and Mr. Dorian, a circus ringmaster with amazing abilities, Will must save the Boundless before someone else winds up dead. His adventure may have begun without him knowing...but how it ends is up to Will.” – *Amazon.ca*

*LRC: 24 print copies, ebook in Sora*



### The Boy at the Back of the Class

By Rauf Onjali, c2020

Interest Level: 4-6, Reading Level: 5.4 (One starred review)

Themes: Realistic Fiction, Refugees, School Stories, Friendship, Syrians

#### **Summary:**

“There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it.

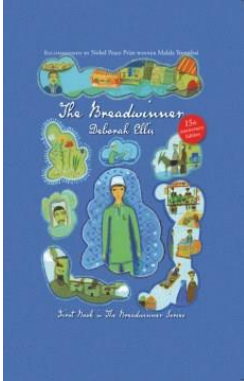
He's eight years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets - not even lemon sherbets, which are my favourite!

But the truth is, Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to be his friend.

That's where my best friends Josie, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan.” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook*





**The Breadwinner** (*Breadwinner, Book 1 of 5*)

By Deborah Ellis, c2000, 2015

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.0 (Four starred reviews)

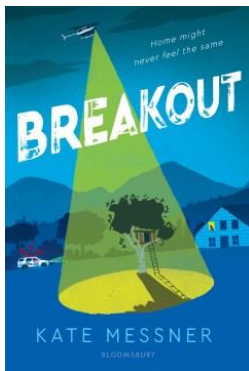
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Refugees, War, Afghanistan, Social Justice, Prejudice & Racism, Family

**Summary:**

“Eleven-year-old Parvana lives with her family in one room of a bombed-out apartment building in Kabul, Afghanistan’s capital city. Parvana’s father — a history teacher until his school was bombed and his health destroyed — works from a blanket on the ground in the marketplace, reading letters for people who cannot read or write. One day, he is arrested for the crime of having a foreign education, and the family is left without someone who can earn money or even shop for food.

As conditions for the family grow desperate, only one solution emerges. Forbidden to earn money as a girl, Parvana must transform herself into a boy, and become the breadwinner.” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 58 print copies, audiobook*



**Breakout**

By Kate Messner, c2018

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.4

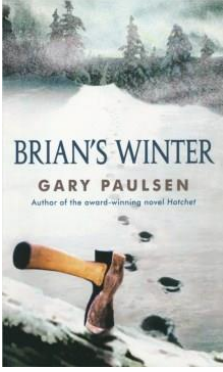
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Prejudice & Racism, Community Life, School Stories, Journalism, Prisons, Time Capsules, Social Awareness

**Summary:**

“Told in letters, poems, text messages, news stories, and comics—a series of documents Nora collects for the Wolf Creek Community Time Capsule Project—*Breakout* is a thrilling story that will leave readers thinking about who's really welcome in the places we call home.

Nora Tucker is looking forward to summer vacation in Wolf Creek—two months of swimming, popsicles, and brushing up on her journalism skills for the school paper. But when two inmates break out of the town's maximum-security prison, everything changes. Doors are locked, helicopters fly over the woods, and police patrol the school grounds. Worst of all, everyone is on edge, and fear brings out the worst in some people Nora has known her whole life. Even if the inmates are caught, she worries that home might never feel the same.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 14 print copies, ebook*



**Brian's Winter** (*Brian's Saga, Book 3 of 5*)

By Gary Paulsen, c1996, 2017

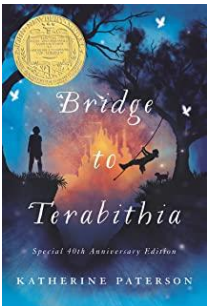
Interest Level: 5-9, Reading Level: 5.9 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Action & Adventure, Survival, Self-Reliance, Science & Nature

**Summary:**

“Companion book to: *Hatchet* and *The River*. Instead of being rescued from a plane crash, as in the author's book *Hatchet*, this story portrays what would have happened to Brian had he been forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet.” - Follett

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Bridge to Terabithia**

By Katherine Paterson, c1977

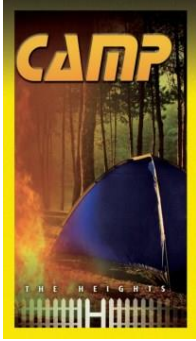
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.6 (Newberry Medal Winner)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Classics, Coming of Age, Friendship, School Stories, Death, Grief, Bereavement

**Summary:**

“Jess Aarons has been practicing all summer so he can be the fastest runner in the fifth grade. And he almost is, until the new girl in school, Leslie Burke, outpaces him. The two become fast friends and spend most days in the woods behind Leslie's house, where they invent an enchanted land called Terabithia. One morning, Leslie goes to Terabithia without Jess and a tragedy occurs. It will take the love of his family and the strength that Leslie has given him for Jess to be able to deal with his grief.” – Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Camp** (*The Heights, Hi-Lo*)

By Mary Kate Doman, c2011

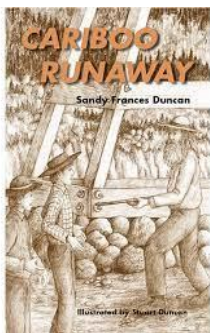
Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 1.8

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Camping, Outdoors, Realistic Fiction

**Summary:**

“The men in the Silva family go on a camping trip, and while enjoying the wilderness they encounter a bear and escape a fire.” - *Follett*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



**Caribou Runaway**

By Sandy Frances Duncan, c1997

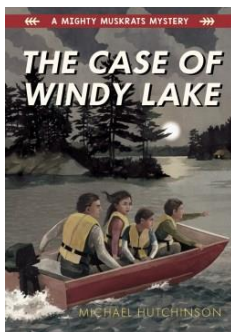
Interest Level: 4-6, Reading Level: ?

**Themes:** Goldrush, Gold Mining, History of British Columbia

**Summary:**

“Elva Parkhurst and her brother journey 500 miles up the Cariboo Wagon Road having many adventures along the way. They finally arrive in Barkerville, only to discover their father is in jail. Only his children can find a way to free him.” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 35 print copies



**The Case of Windy Lake** (*Mighty Muskrats Mystery, Book 1*)

By Michael Hutchinson, c2019

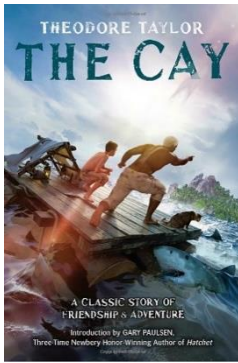
Interest Level: 5-7, Reading Level: 6.5

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Detective & Mystery, Indigenous Peoples-Canada, Archeologists, Missing Persons

**Summary:**

“Sam, Otter, Atim, and Chickadee are four cousins growing up on the Windy Lake First Nation. They are inseparable. Knick-named the "Mighty Muskrats" for their habit of laughing, fighting, and adventuring together, each new exploit adds to their reputation. From their base of operations in a fort made out of an old school bus, the Mighty Muskrats are ready to work together to solve whatever mysteries come their way.” – *Follett*

\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook



### **The Cay**

By Theodore Taylor, c1969, 2002

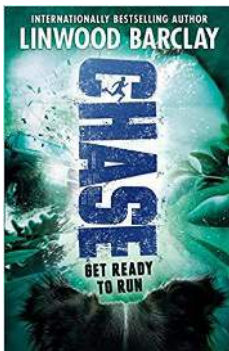
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.0 (Numerous “best books” lists)

**Themes:** Historical Fiction, Realistic Fiction, Classics, Survival, Action & Adventure, World War II, Prejudice & Racism, Blindness

#### **Summary:**

“Phillip is excited when the Germans invade the small island of Curacao. War has always been a game to him, and he's eager to glimpse it firsthand- until the freighter he and his mother are traveling to the United States on is torpedoed. When Phillip comes to, he is on a small raft in the middle of the sea. Besides Stew Cat, his only companion is an old West Indian, Timothy. Phillip remembers his mother's warning about black people: ‘They are different, and they live differently.’ But by the time the castaways arrive on a small island, Phillip's head injury has made him blind and dependent on Timothy.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



### **Chase** (A sequel, *Escape*, follows)

By Linwood Barclay, c2017

Interest Level: Gr. 5-8, Reading Level: 5.3

**Themes:** Mystery & Detective Stories, Science Fiction, Action & Adventure, Dogs, Animal Experimentation

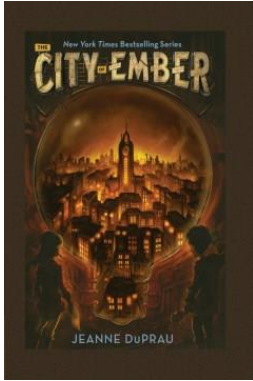
#### **Summary:**

“Chipper is a very special dog. He's part of a multi-million-dollar experiment at a secret organization known only as The Institute. The Institute has been experimenting with dogs, melding them with state-of-the-art computer technology. But there's a problem with Chipper. His natural dog instincts often overrule his computer side. No matter what he's doing, if he sees a squirrel or a mouse, he'll drop everything to chase it. So, The Institute has decided it's time to pull the plug on Chipper. Chipper manages a daring escape with a destination in mind, but a team from the Institute, led by the cold-hearted Daggert, is hot on his heels.

Twelve-year-old Jeff Conroy lives with his aunt and helps run her business, a lakeside cabin-rental operation that caters to fishermen. Jeff desperately misses his parents, who were killed in a plane crash a year earlier. But at least he's made one friend: Emily, whose ex-cop father owns a similar business down the lake. And Emily, a computer whiz, has the coolest fort ever: a trackless, abandoned train station in the middle of the forest.

After eluding his would-be captors...” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



**City of Ember** (*City of Ember, Book 1 of 4*)

By Jeanne DuPrau, c2003, c2016

Interest Level: 5-7, Reading Level: 5.0 (Three starred reviews plus awards)

**Themes:** Science Fiction, Fantasy, Dystopian, Good & Evil

**Summary:**

“The city of Ember was built as a last refuge for the human race. Two hundred years later, the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she’s sure it holds a secret that will save the city. She and her friend Doon must race to figure out the clues before the lights go out on Ember forever!” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



**Clan**

By Sigmund Brower, c2021

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.5

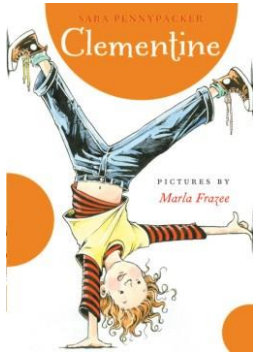
**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Survival, Prehistoric peoples, Historical fiction

**Summary:**

“Part survival story, part animal-human friendship story and part redemption story, *Clan* follows the journey of Atlatl and the saber tooth cub he rescued from a dire wolf attack. When Atlatl brings Cub back to his Clan, it begins a series of events that end with Atlatl being banished--the worst possible punishment for any Clan member. Without the protection of the group, a single person is all but helpless in the face of predators like the short-nosed bear, dire wolves and cheetahs. And Atlatl is even more vulnerable because of a childhood injury to his leg. But before the Clan can leave him behind, disaster strikes, and Atlatl has to rely on his wits, his ingenuity and his bravery to face the biggest foe yet and try to save what remains of his Clan.” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 copies, audiobook*





**Clementine** (*Clementine, Book 1 of 7*)

By Sara Pennypacker, c2006

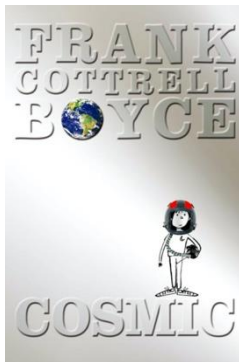
Interest Level: 2-5, Reading Level: 4.5 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Family, Humorous Stories, Strong Character

**Summary:**

“Clementine is having not so good of a week. On Monday she's sent to the principal's office for cutting off Margaret's hair. Tuesday, Margaret's mother is mad at her. Wednesday, she's sent to the principal again. Thursday, Margaret stops speaking to her. Friday starts with yucky eggs and gets worse. And by Saturday, even her mother is mad at her. Okay, fine. Clementine is having a DISASTROUS week.” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



**Cosmic**

By Frank Cottrell Boyce, c2008, 2011

Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 4.9

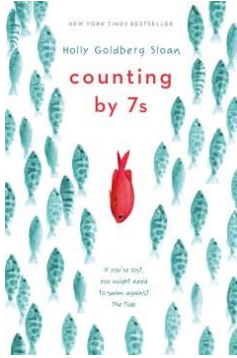
**Themes:** Science Fiction, Action & Adventure, Interplanetary Voyages, Outer space, Physical Diversity-Size

**Summary:**

“Liam is a twelve-year-old kid who's so tall that he's easily mistaken for an adult, as he discovers when he and his classmate Florida wander around town together after school. Stopping by a car dealership, Liam is approached by the salesman, who assumes Florida is his daughter. Soon enough Liam finds himself invited to take a flashy Porsche for a test drive. To his relief, his taxi-driving father brings this unnerving experience to an end before Liam has to actually put the car in gear.

But when he enters a competition to win a place on a secret amusement park ride, Liam finds that posing as Florida's father has its advantages: he is chosen to be the sole adult in charge of the four kids who've been selected by the Drax Foundation to secretly ride a rocket ship out of earth orbit. Soon after launch, the kids fight over who gets to man the controls, and the next thing they know, their ship has tumbled out of orbit and they can no longer see Earth. It's not all bad, though; as Liam says, *Being doomed is Not Good. But being weightless is Outstanding.*”  
– *Caroline Parr*

\*LRC: 33 print copies



### **Counting by 7s**

By Holly Goldberg Sloan, c2013

Interest Level: 5-8, 7-10, Reading Level: 5.3 (Six starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Family, Foster Care, Identity, Overcoming Adversity, Eccentrics and Eccentricities, High Schools, Neurological Diversity, Orphans, Loss & Grief

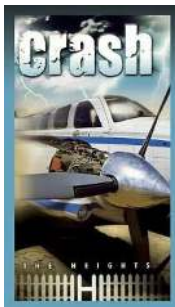
**Summary:**

“In the tradition of *Out of My Mind*, *Wonder*, and *Mockingbird*, this is an intensely moving middle grade novel about being an outsider, coping with loss, and discovering the true meaning of family.

Willow Chance is a twelve-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but that hasn't kept her from leading a quietly happy life . . . until now.

Suddenly Willow's world is tragically changed when her parents both die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. The triumph of this book is that it is *not* a tragedy. This extraordinarily odd, but extraordinarily endearing, girl manages to push through her grief. Her journey to find a fascinatingly diverse and fully believable surrogate family is a joy and a revelation to read.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Crash (*The Heights, Hi-Lo*)**

By Mary Kate Doman, c2011

Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 1.7

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Aircraft Accidents, Hi-Lo

**Summary:**

“Rafael Silva and his children are on a small plane headed toward California when the plane is struck by lightning, and the pilot is able to land the aircraft in the desert.”  
- *Follett*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Crenshaw**

By Katherine Applegate, c2015

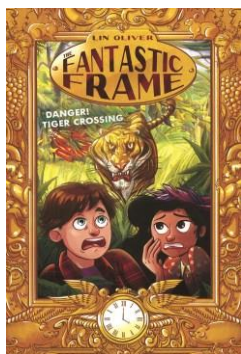
Interest Level: 3-7, 4-6, Reading Level: 3.7 (Five starred reviews)

**Themes:** Homelessness & Poverty, Imaginary Playmates, Fantasy & Magic, Cats, Friendship, Overcoming Adversity

#### **Summary:**

“Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent. And not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan. Again. Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything? Beloved author Katherine Applegate proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Danger! Tiger Crossing** (*Fantastic Frame, Book 1 of 5*)

By Lin Oliver, c2016

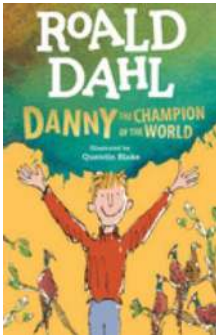
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 3.7

**Themes:** Fantasy & Magic, Action & Adventure, Jungles

#### **Summary:**

“When ten-year-old Tiger Brooks and his family move into a new home, he sees some strange things at the house next door—like a talking pig in a top hat! When he and his neighbor, Luna Lopez, investigate, they discover a reclusive old woman and her magical golden frame, through which they can enter the world's greatest paintings. In this book, Tiger and Luna get pulled into the painting *Surprised! Or Tiger in a Tropical Storm* by Henri Rousseau. But they must escape the jungle adventure before time runs out, otherwise they'll be trapped in the painting forever!” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Danny, The Champion of the World**

By Roald Dahl, c1975, c2007

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.0

**Themes:** Humorous Stories, Fathers and Sons, Realistic Fiction

**Summary:**

“Can Danny and his father outsmart the villainous Mr. Hazell?”

Danny has a life any boy would love - his home is a gypsy caravan, he's the youngest master car mechanic around, and his best friend is his dad, who never runs out of wonderful stories to tell. But one night Danny discovers a shocking secret that his father has kept hidden for years. Soon Danny finds himself the mastermind behind the most incredible plot ever attempted against nasty Victor Hazell, a wealthy landowner with a bad attitude. Can they pull it off? If so, Danny will truly be the champion of the world.” – *Amazon.ca*

*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook in Sora*



### **The Dragon Pearl**

By Yoon Ha Lee, c2019

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 7.0 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Action & Adventure, Science Fiction, Magic, Space Flight, Family, Brothers and Sisters

**Summary:**

“*Rick Riordan Presents* Yoon Ha Lee's space opera about thirteen-year-old Min, who comes from a long line of fox spirits. But you'd never know it by looking at her. To keep the family safe, Min's mother insists that none of them use any fox-magic, such as Charm or shape-shifting. They must appear human at all times. Min feels hemmed in by the household rules and resents the endless chores, the cousins who crowd her, and the aunties who judge her. She would like nothing more than to escape Jinju, her neglected, dust-ridden, and impoverished planet. She's counting the days until she can follow her older brother, Jun, into the Space Forces and see more of the Thousand Worlds. When word arrives that Jun is suspected of leaving his post to go in search of the Dragon Pearl, Min knows that something is wrong. Jun would never desert his battle cruiser, even for a mystical object rumored to have tremendous power. She decides to run away to find him and clear his name. Min's quest will have her meeting gamblers, pirates, and vengeful ghosts. It will involve deception, lies, and sabotage. She will be forced to use more fox-magic than ever before, and to rely on all of her cleverness and bravery. The outcome may not be what she had hoped, but it has the potential to exceed her wildest dreams.” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



**Wings of Fire: The Graphic Novel** (*The Dragonet Prophecy, Book 1 of 3*)

By Barry Deutsch, c2018

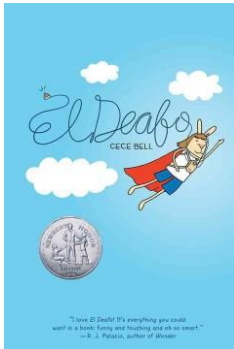
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 3.4 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Dragons, Fantasy, Action & Adventure

**Summary:**

“Not every dragonet wants a destiny. Clay has grown up under the mountain, chosen along with four other dragonets to fulfill a mysterious prophecy and end the war between the dragon tribes of Pyrrhia. He's not so sure about the prophecy part, but Clay can't imagine not living with the other dragonets; they're his best friends. So, when one of the dragonets is threatened, all five spring into action. Together, they will choose freedom over fate, leave the mountain, and fulfill their destiny -- on their own terms.” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



**El Deafo**

By Cece Bell, c2014

Interest Level: 3-6, 4-7, Reading Level: 3.2 (Five starred reviews)

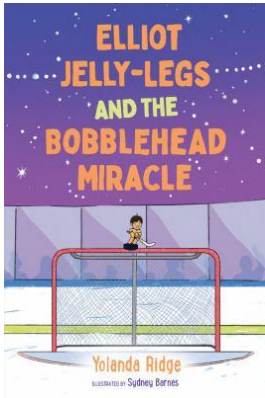
**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Real Life, Diverse Abilities, Autobiography, Deaf Children, Friendship, Physical Diversity, School Stories

**Summary:**

“Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful-and very awkward-hearing aid. The Phonic Ear gives Cece the ability to hear-sometimes things she shouldn't - but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her as she is. After some trouble, she is finally able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become ‘*El Deafo, Listener for All.*’ And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.”

\*LRC: 12 print copies





### **Elliot Jelly-legs and the Bobblehead Miracle**

By Yolanda Ridge, c2023

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.2

**Themes:** Hockey, Confidence, Anxiety, Self-esteem, Friendship

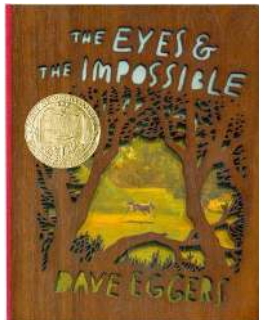
**Summary:**

“Is a magical Carey Price bobblehead the key to Elliot's success on the ice?”

Eleven-year-old Elliot loves hockey and finally convinces his parents to sign him up. There's just one problem: he can barely skate. But he is determined. He practices every chance he gets and even takes extra lessons. He is still miles behind the rest of his teammates in terms of skills and speed, though. So when the goalie gets injured, Elliot surprises everyone by offering to take his place. He figures his "jelly-legs" won't be quite so obvious in net. He is wrong. The first game is a complete disaster. In desperation, Elliot begs his Carey Price bobblehead for a win. Both thrilled and surprised when his wish is granted, Elliot makes more wishes. His team keeps winning. But is the magic real? And what will happen if his teammates discover the secret to Elliot's success?

With twenty-five hockey-card-style illustrations scattered throughout, this is a heartfelt story of friendship, hockey and the importance of believing in yourself.” – *Follett*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



### **The Eyes and the Impossible**

By Dave Eggers, c2023

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: ? (Newberry Medal 2024)

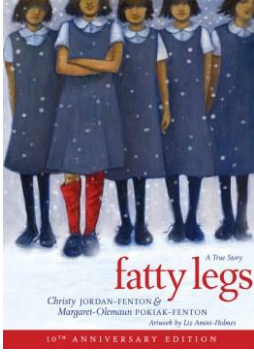
**Themes:** Animal Stories, Fantasy, City and Town Life, Man and Nature

**Summary:**

“Johannes, a free dog, lives in a park hemmed in on three sides by dense human neighborhoods, and on one side by the ocean. His job is to be the Eyes—to see everything that happens within the park and report to the park’s elders, three ancient bison who ensure the Equilibrium. His friends; a stalwart seagull, a mordant raccoon, a one-eyed squirrel, and a pelican who can read—work with him as the Assistant Eyes, observing the humans and other animals who share the park and making sure everything is in balance.

But changes are afoot. Moor humans, including Trouble Travelers, arrive in the park. A new building, containing mysterious and hypnotic rectangles, goes up. And then there are the goats—an actual boatload of goats—who appear, along with a shocking revelation that changes Johannes’ view of the world.” – *Pub.*

LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook in Sora



### **Fatty Legs: A True Story**

By Christy Jordan-Fenton, c2010, 2020

Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 5.5 (One starred review)

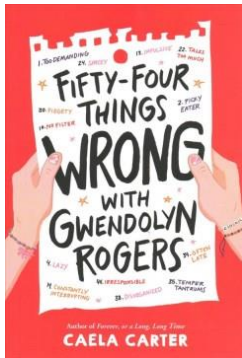
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Biography, Inuit-Canada, Indigenous People of Turtle Island, Residential Schools; Margaret-Olemaun Pokiak-Fenton, 1936, Childhood and Youth

#### **Summary:**

“Eight-year-old Margaret Pokiak has set her sights on learning to read, even though it means leaving her village in the high Arctic. Faced with unceasing pressure, her father finally agrees to let her make the five-day journey to attend school, but he warns Margaret of the terrors of residential schools.

At school Margaret soon encounters the Raven, a black-cloaked nun with a hooked nose and bony fingers that resemble claws. She immediately dislikes the strong-willed young Margaret. Intending to humiliate her, the heartless Raven gives gray stockings to all the girls — all except Margaret, who gets red ones. In an instant Margaret is the laughingstock of the entire school. In the face of such cruelty, Margaret refuses to be intimidated and bravely gets rid of the stockings. Although a sympathetic nun stands up for Margaret, in the end it is this brave young girl who gives the Raven a lesson in the power of human dignity.” – *Follett*

*\*LRC: 33 print copies, audiobook*



### **Fifty-four Things Wrong with Gwendolyn Rogers**

By Caela Carter, c2021

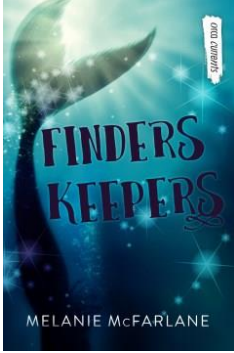
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.7 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Neurological Diversity, Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Adolescence & Coming of Age, Self-Esteem & Self Reliance, Social Emotional Learning

#### **Summary:**

“No one can figure out what Gwendolyn Rogers’s problem is—not her mom, or her teachers, or any of the many therapists she’s seen. But Gwendolyn knows she doesn’t have just one thing wrong with her: she has fifty-four. At least, according to a confidential school report (that she read because she is #16. Sneaky, not to mention #13. Impulsive). So, Gwendolyn needs a plan, because if she doesn’t get these fifty-four things under control, she’s not going to be able to go to horse camp this summer with her half-brother, Tyler. But Tyler can’t help her because there’s only one thing “wrong” with him: ADHD. And her best friend Hettie can’t help her because there’s nothing wrong with Hettie. She’s perfect. So, Gwendolyn is hopeless until she remembers the one thing that helped her mother when her own life was out of control. Or actually, the twelve things. Can these Twelve Steps that cured her mother somehow cure Gwendolyn too?” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Finders Keepers** (*Orca Currents, Hi-Lo*)

By Melanie McFarlane, c2021

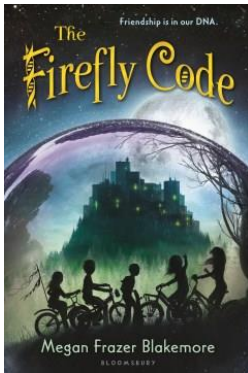
Interest Level: 6-9, Reading Level: 3.0

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Fantasy, Mermaids, Hi-Lo

**Summary:**

“Twelve-year-old Macy is an amateur treasure hunter who finds lost things along the southern Saskatchewan shores of Buffalo Pound Lake. When her mom announces she’s leaving her park ranger job at the lake to be a police officer in the city, Macy decides she needs to find a treasure big enough to put Buffalo Pound on the map so her family can stay put. But instead of a treasure, Macy finds a mermaid kidnapped from the West Coast and brought to the Prairies by a monster known only as ‘*The Beast.*’ Macy must find a missing magic shell to reconnect the mermaid with her family. But will Macy find the shell before the Beast does?” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



**The Firefly Code** (*A sequel follows: The Daybreak Bond*)

By Megan Frazer Blakemore, c2017

Interest Level: 4-6, Reading Level: 4.6

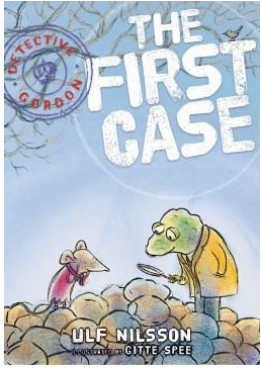
**Themes:** Science Fiction, Genetic Engineering, Utopian Fiction, Friendship

**Summary:**

“Mori and her friends live a normal life on Firefly Lane in their utopian community, Old Harmonie. In a world this safe and perfect, they've never had to question anything.... never had to wonder about how their lives came to be. Until a new girl named Ilana moves in. She's *so* perfect that Mori and her friends are curious... Where exactly did Ilana come from, and why does she act so strange sometimes? When Ilana's secret is revealed, the kids on Firefly Lane must decide: is it finally time to start questioning the only world they've ever known?

In a stunningly imaginative story, critically acclaimed author Megan Frazer Blakemore takes readers on a journey with five friends--new and old--that will have everyone talking about not just what makes people human, but what makes them true friends.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Detective Gordon: The First Case** (*Detective Gordon, Book 1 of 4*)

By Ulf Nilsson, c2015

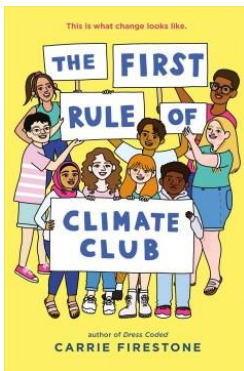
Interest Level: K-5, Reading Level: 4.2 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Mystery & Detective Stories

**Summary:**

“Someone's stealing nuts from the forest, and it's up to Detective Gordon to catch the thief! Unfortunately, solving this crime means standing in the snow and waiting for a long time.... If only he had an assistant--someone small, fast, and clever—to help solve this terrible case. A brilliant detective story by one of Sweden's top children's writers and illustrated in full color throughout. A book to read alone or aloud!” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



**The First Rule of Climate Club**

By Carrie Firestone

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.5

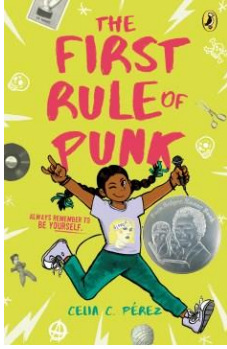
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Climate, Conservation & the Environment, School Stories

**Summary:**

“An eighth grader starts a podcast on climate activism and rallies her friends to create lasting change in their local community and beyond, in this companion to *Dress Coded*.

When Mary Kate Murphy joins a special science pilot program focused on climate change, the class opens her eyes to lots of things she never noticed before about her small suburban town—Kids waste tons of food at school without a second thought. Parents leave their cars running in the pick-up lane all the time. People buy lots of clothes they don't really need. Some of her friends who live in the city and are bused to her school don't always feel included. And the mayor isn't willing to listen to new ideas for fixing it all. Mary Kate and her friends have big plans to bring lasting change to their community and beyond. And now is the time for the young people to lead and the leaders to follow—or get out of the way.” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



### **The First Rule of Punk**

By Celia C. Pérez, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.5 (Three starred reviews)

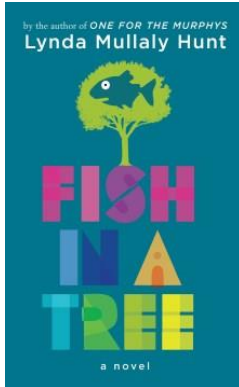
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Hispanic American, Punk Rock Music, Friendship, Music, Identity

#### **Summary:**

“There are no shortcuts to surviving your first day at a new school - you can't fix it with duct tape like you would your Chuck Taylors. On Day One, twelve-year-old Malo (Maria Luisa, if you want to annoy her) inadvertently upsets Posada Middle School's queen bee, violates the school's dress code with her punk rock look, and disappoints her college-professor mom in the process. Her dad, who now lives a thousand miles away, says things will get better as long as she remembers the first rule of punk - be yourself.

The real Malo loves rock music, skateboarding, zines, and Soyrizo (hold the cilantro, please). And when she assembles a group of like-minded misfits at school and starts a band, Malo finally begins to feel at home. She'll do anything to preserve this, which includes standing up to an anti-punk school administration to fight for her right to express herself!” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Fish in a Tree: A Novel**

By Lynda Mullaly Hunt, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.2 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Bullying, Learning Disabilities, School Stories, Neurological Diversity, Reading

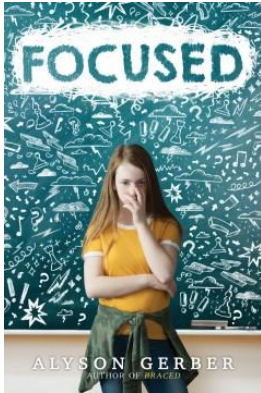
#### **Summary:**

“The author of the beloved *One for the Murphys* gives readers an emotionally-charged, uplifting novel that will speak to anyone who's ever thought there was something wrong with them because they didn't fit in. Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid.”

Ally has been smart enough to fool a lot of smart people. Every time she lands in a new school, she is able to hide her inability to read by creating clever yet disruptive distractions. She is afraid to ask for help; after all, how can you cure dumb? However, her newest teacher Mr. Daniels sees the bright, creative kid underneath the troublemaker. With his help, Ally learns not to be so hard on herself and that dyslexia is nothing to be ashamed of. As her confidence grows, Ally feels free to be herself and the world starts opening up with possibilities. She discovers that there's a lot more to her-and to everyone-than a label, and that great minds don't always think alike.” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





### **Focused**

By Alyson Gerber, c2019

Interest Level 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 4.6 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Attention-deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Family Life, Chess, Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

### **Summary:**

"Clea can't control her thoughts. She knows she has to do her homework . . . but she gets distracted. She knows she can't just say whatever thought comes into her head . . . but sometimes she can't help herself. She knows she needs to focus . . . but how can she do that when the people around her are always chewing gum loudly or making other annoying noises? It's starting to be a problem-not just in school, but when Clea's playing chess or just hanging out with her best friend. Other kids are starting to notice. When Clea fails one too many tests, her parents take her to be tested, and she finds out that she has ADHD, which means her attention is all over the place instead of where it needs to be. Clea knows life can't continue the way it's been going. She's just not sure how you can fix a problem that's all in your head. But that's what she's going to have to do, to find a way to focus." – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Framed**

By James Ponti, c2016

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.4

**Themes:** Mystery & Detective Stories, Action & Adventure, Friendship, Humorous Stories, Law & Crime

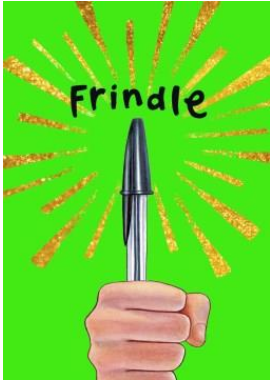
### **Summary:**

"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? If you're Florian Bates, you figure out a way to do both. Florian is twelve years old and has just moved to Washington. He's learning his way around using TOAST, which stands for the *Theory of All Small Things*. It's a technique he invented to solve life's little mysteries such as: where to sit on the on the first day of school, or which Chinese restaurant has the best eggrolls.

But when he teaches it to his new friend Margaret, they uncover a mystery that isn't little. In fact, it's HUGE, and it involves the National Gallery, the FBI, and a notorious crime syndicate known as EEL. Can Florian decipher the clues *and* finish his homework in time to help the FBI solve the case?" - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





### **Frindle**

By Andrew Clements, c1996, 2021

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 4.8

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Humorous Stories, Teacher-Student Relationships, Words (New)

#### **Summary:**

“Is Nick Allen a troublemaker? He really just likes to liven things up at school -- and he's always had plenty of great ideas. When Nick learns some interesting information about how words are created, suddenly he's got the inspiration for his best plan ever...the frindle. Who says a pen has to be called a pen? Why not call it a frindle? Things begin innocently enough as Nick gets his friends to use the new word. Then other people in town start saying frindle. Soon the school is in an uproar, and Nick has become a local hero. His teacher wants Nick to put an end to all this nonsense, but the funny thing is frindle doesn't belong to Nick anymore. The new word is spreading across the country, and there's nothing Nick can do to stop it.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Front Desk** (Book 1 of 5)

By Kelly Yang, c2018

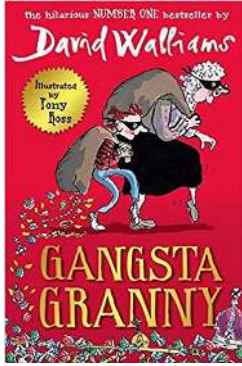
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.5 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Chinese Americans, Immigration & Emigration, Friendship, Family Life, Self-Confidence

#### **Summary:**

“Recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, even though the owner, Mr. Yao, is a nasty skinflint who exploits them. While her mother (who was an engineer in China) does the cleaning, Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with demanding customers and other recent immigrants--not to mention being only one of two Chinese in her fifth-grade class, the other being Mr. Yao's son, Jason.” – *Follett*

*\*LRC: 25 print copies, audiobook*



### **Gangsta Granny**

By David Walliams, c2015

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: ?

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Humorous Stories, Grandparent & Child, Jewel Thieves

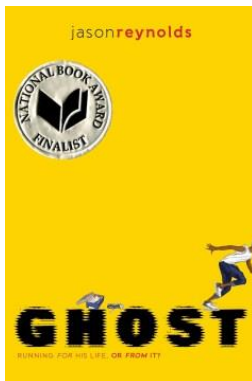
**Summary:**

“A story of prejudice and acceptance, funny lists and silly words, this new book has all the hallmarks of David’s previous bestsellers.

Our hero Ben is bored beyond belief after he is made to stay at his grandma’s house. She’s the boringest grandma ever; all she wants to do is to play Scrabble and eat cabbage soup. But there are two things Ben doesn’t know about his grandma:

- 1) She was once an international jewel thief.
  - 2) All her life, she has been plotting to steal the Crown Jewels, and now she needs Ben’s help...”
- Publisher

*\*LRC: 10 print copies, audiobook*



### **Ghost (Track, Book 1 of 4)**

By Jason Reynolds, c2017

Interest: 6-8, 7-9, Reading: 4.6 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Sports, Overcoming Adversity, African American

**Summary:**

“Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his elite middle school track team, but his past is slowing him down in this first electrifying novel in a new series from Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award-winning author Jason Reynolds. Ghost. Lu. Patina. Sunny. Four kids from wildly different backgrounds with personalities that are explosive when they clash. But they are also four kids chosen for an elite middle school track team--a team that could qualify them for the Junior Olympics if they can get their acts together. They all have a lot to lose, but they also have a lot to prove, not only to each other, but to themselves.

Running. That's all Ghost (real name Castle Cranshaw) has ever known. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons--it all started with running away from his father, who, when Ghost was a very little boy, chased him and his mother through their apartment, then down the street, with a loaded gun, aiming to kill. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems--and running away from them--until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who sees something in Ghost: crazy natural talent. If Ghost can stay on track, literally and figuratively ...” - Publisher

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Girl Who Could Fly (Piper McCloud, Book 1 of 3)**

By Victoria Forester, c2015

Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 6.0

**Themes:** Fantasy, Science Fiction, Action & Adventure, School Stories, Self-acceptance, Ability, Flight, Individuality

#### **Summary:**

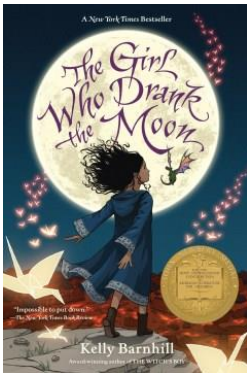
“You just can't keep a good girl down... unless you use the proper methods.

Piper McCloud can fly. Just like that. Easy as pie. Sure, she hasn't mastered reverse propulsion and her turns are kind of sloppy, but she's really good at loop-the-loops.

Problem is, the good folk of Lowland County are afraid of Piper. And her ma's at her wit's end. So, it seems only fitting that she leave her parents' farm to attend a top-secret, maximum-security school for kids with exceptional abilities.

School is great at first with a bunch of new friends whose skills range from super-strength to super-genius. (Plus, all the homemade apple pie she can eat!) But Piper is special, even among the special. And there are consequences.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Girl Who Drank the Moon**

By Kelly Regan Barnhill, c2019

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 7.4 (Six starred reviews and winner of the 2017 Newbery Award)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Magic, Friendship, Witches, Multigenerational

#### **Summary:**

“Every year, the people of the Protectorate leave a baby as an offering to the witch who lives in the forest. They hope this sacrifice will keep her

from terrorizing their town. But the witch in the Forest, Xan, is kind. She shares her home with a wise Swamp Monster and a Perfectly Tiny Dragon. Xan rescues the children and delivers them to welcoming families on the other side of the forest, nourishing the babies with starlight on the journey.

One year, Xan accidentally feeds a baby moonlight instead of starlight, filling the ordinary child with extraordinary magic. Xan decides she must raise this girl, whom she calls Luna, as her own. As Luna's thirteenth birthday approaches, her magic begins to emerge--with dangerous consequences. Meanwhile, a young man from the Protectorate is determined to free his people by killing the witch. Deadly birds with uncertain intentions flock nearby. A volcano, quiet for centuries, rumbles just beneath the earth's surface. And the woman with the Tiger's heart is on the prowl...” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Ghostlight**

By Kenneth Oppel, c2022

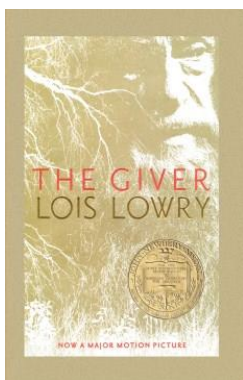
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.7 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Ghost Stories, Paranormal Fiction, Action and Adventure, Historical Fiction

#### **Summary:**

“Rebecca Strand and her father fell to their deaths from the top of the Gibraltar Point Lighthouse in 1839. Just how they fell—or were they pushed?—remains a mystery. And their ghosts haunt the light house to this day... Gabe tells this story every day when he gives the ghost tour on Toronto Island. He tries to make it scary enough to satisfy the tourists, but he doesn’t actually believe in ghosts until he finds himself face to face with Rebecca Strand. The true story of her death is far more terrifying than any ghost tale Gabe has told. Rebecca reveals that her father was a member of the Order, a secret society devoted to protecting the world from “the wakeful and wicked dead”, malevolent spirits like Viker, the ghost responsible for their deaths. But the Order has disappeared, and Viker’s ghost is growing ever stronger. Now Gabe and his friends must find a way to stop Viker before they all become lost souls.” – *Pub.*

*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook in Sora*



### **The Giver** (*Giver Quartet, Book 1 of 4*)

By Lois Lowry, c1993, 2014

Interest Level: 7-9, Reading Level: ? (Young Adult) (Newberry Medal 1994)

**Themes:** Dystopian, Science Fiction, Coming of Age, Ethics, Memory

#### **Summary:**

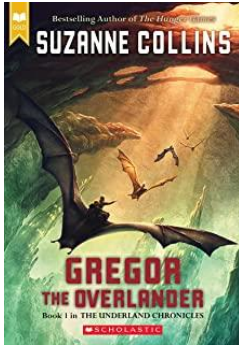
“In Lois Lowry’s Newbery Medal–winning classic, twelve-year-old Jonas lives in a seemingly ideal world. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver does he begin to understand the dark secrets behind his fragile community.

Life in the community where Jonas lives is idyllic. Designated birthmothers produce new children, who are assigned to appropriate family units. Citizens are assigned their partners and their jobs. No one thinks to ask questions. Everyone obeys. Everyone is the same. Except Jonas.

Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. Gradually Jonas learns that power lies in feelings. But when his own power is put to the test—when he must try to save someone he loves—he may not be ready. Is it too soon? Or too late?

Told with deceptive simplicity, this is the provocative story of a boy who experiences something incredible and undertakes something impossible. In the telling it questions every value we have taken for granted and re-examines our most deeply held beliefs.” – Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Gregor the Overlander** (*Underland Chronicles Book 1 of 5*)

By Suzanne Collins, c2003, c2020

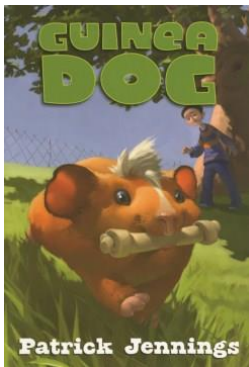
Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 4.8 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Action & Adventure, Missing Persons, Survival

**Summary:**

“When Gregor falls through a grate in the laundry room of his apartment building, he hurtles into the dark Underland, where spiders, rats, cockroaches coexist uneasily with humans. This world is on the brink of war, and Gregor's arrival is no accident. A prophecy foretells that Gregor has a role to play in the Underland's uncertain future. Gregor wants no part of it -- until he realizes it's the only way to solve the mystery of his father's disappearance. Reluctantly, Gregor embarks on a dangerous adventure that will change both him and the Underland forever.” – Amazon

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



**Guinea Dog** (*Guinea Dog Book 1 of 3*)

By Patrick Jennings, c2010

Interest Level: 2-6, Reading Level: 3.7

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Family Life, School Stories, Guinea Pigs

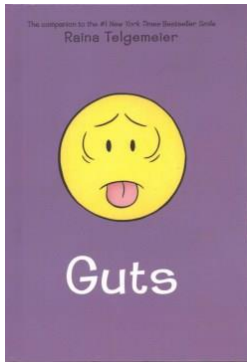
**Summary:**

“Rufus has been dreaming of getting a dog. His best friend has one. His worst friend has one. But his dad has a few objections: They whine. They gnaw. They bark. They scratch. They beg. They drool. Rufus pays no attention when his mom offers her think-outside-the-box suggestion because she can't be serious. She can't be. She can be. And she actually comes home with a guinea pig. And if Rufus's dad thinks dogs are a problem, he won't know what hit him when he meets the Guinea Pig who thinks that she's a Dog. She barks. She bites. She'll eat your homework.”

– Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





### **Guts**

By Raina Telgemeier, c2019

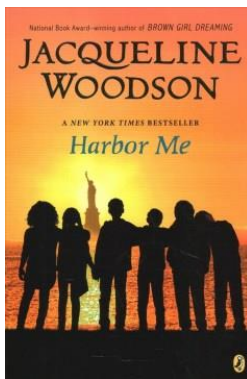
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 3.1 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Realistic Fiction, Autobiographical, Stress, Stomach Diseases, School Stories, Friendship

#### **Summary:**

“Raina wakes up one night with a terrible upset stomach. Her mom has one, too, so it's probably just a bug. Raina eventually returns to school, where she's dealing with the usual highs and lows: friends, not-friends, and classmates who think the school year is just one long gross-out session. It soon becomes clear that Raina's tummy trouble isn't going away... and it coincides with her worries about food, school, and changing friendships. What's going on? Raina Telgemeier once again brings us a thoughtful, charming, and funny true story about growing up and gathering the courage to face -- and conquer -- her fears.”  
– Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Harbor Me**

By Jacqueline Woodson, c2018, 2020

Interest Level: 5-8, 6-9, Reading Level: 4.1 (Four starred reviews)

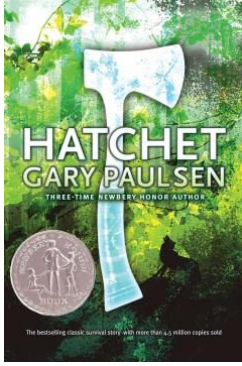
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Prejudice & Racism, African American, Friendship, School Stories, Social Emotional Learning, Adversity

#### **Summary:**

“It all starts when six kids have to meet for a weekly chat--by themselves, with no adults to listen in. There, in the room they soon dub the ARTT Room (short for "A Room to Talk"), they discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them--everything from Esteban's father's deportation and Haley's father's incarceration to Amari's fears of racial profiling and Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes. When the six are together, they can express the feelings and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world. And together, they can grow braver and more ready for the rest of their lives.” - Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





**Hatchet** (*Hatchet, Book 1 of 5*)

By Gary Paulsen, c1987, 2017

Interest Level: 6-9, Reading Level: 5.7 (Newberry Honor, 1988)

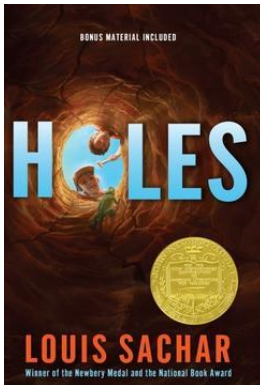
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Action & Adventure, Survival, Divorce, Canada (North)

**Summary:**

“Thirteen-year-old Brian Robeson, haunted by his secret knowledge of his mother’s infidelity, is traveling by single-engine plane to visit his father for the first time since the divorce. When the plane crashes, killing the pilot, the sole survivor is Brian. He is alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother had given him as a present.

At first consumed by despair and self-pity, Brian slowly learns survival skills—how to make a shelter for himself, how to hunt and fish and forage for food, how to make a fire—and even finds the courage to start over from scratch when a tornado ravages his campsite. When Brian is finally rescued after fifty-four days in the wild, he emerges from his ordeal with new patience and maturity, and a greater understanding of himself and his parents.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



**Holes** (*Book 1 of 2*)

By Louis Sachar, c1998

Interest Level: 5-8, 6-9, Reading Level: 4.6 (Newberry Medal, 1999)

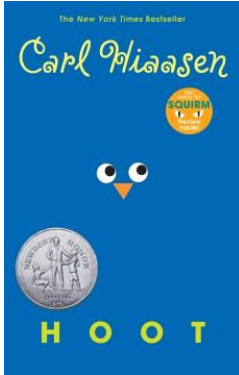
**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Mystery & Detective, Friendship, Buried Treasure, Juvenil Delinquency, Poverty & Homelessness

**Summary:**

“Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys’ detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes.

It doesn’t take long for Stanley to realize there’s more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something. But what could be buried under a dried-up lake? Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment—and redemption.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 32 print copies, audiobook*



## **Hoot**

By Carl Hiaasen, c2002

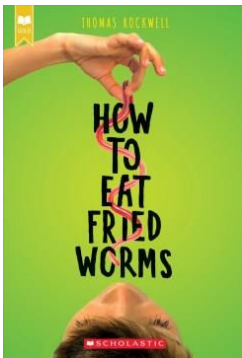
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.2 (Newberry Honor, 2003)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Environmental Protection, Burrowing Owls, Florida, Third Person (Point of View), Owls

### **Summary:**

“This Newberry Honor-winning, hilarious Floridian adventure involves new kids, bullies, alligators, eco-warriors, pancakes, pint-sized owls, and more. A *New York Times* bestseller! Everybody loves Mother Paula's pancakes. Everybody, that is, except the colony of cute but endangered owls that live on the building site of the new restaurant. Can the awkward new kid and his feral friend prank the pancake people out of town? Or is the owls' fate cemented in pancake batter?” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook*



## **How to Eat Fried Worms**

By Thomas Rockwell, c1973, 2019

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 3.5

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Humorous Stories, Worms, School Stories, Friendship

### **Summary:**

“Billy isn't one to back down from a bet. But this one is *gross*: If he eats fifteen worms in fifteen days, Alan will pay him fifty dollars. Billy takes the bet and tries worms smothered in ketchup, drowned in mustard, even breaded and fried worms and gets closer to victory, and to buying the minibike he's always wanted. But Alan won't let him win that easily...” – *Amazon.ca*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **How to Steal a Dog**

By Barbara O'Connor, c2007, c2009

Interest Level: 5-7, Reading Level: 4.0

**Themes:** Homelessness, Poverty, Realistic Fiction, Dogs, Overcoming Adversity

**Summary:**

"Half of me was thinking, Georgina, don't do this. Stealing a dog is just plain wrong. The other half of me was thinking, Georgina, you're in a bad fix and you got to do whatever it takes to get yourself out of it.

Georgina Hayes is desperate. Ever since her father left and they were evicted from their apartment, her family has been living in their car. With her mama juggling two jobs and trying to make enough money to find a place to live, Georgina is stuck looking after her younger brother, Toby. And she has her heart set on improving their situation. When Georgina spots a missing-dog poster with a reward of five hundred dollars, the solution to all her problems suddenly seems within reach. All she has to do is "borrow" the right dog and its owners are sure to offer a reward. What happens next is the last thing she expected." – *Amazon.ca*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



### **How to Train Your Dragon** (*How to Train Your Dragon, Book 1 of 12*)

By Cressida Cowell, c2003

Interest Level: 3-5, 4-8, Reading Level: 6.6

**Themes:** Fantasy, Action & Adventure, Dragons, Humorous Stories

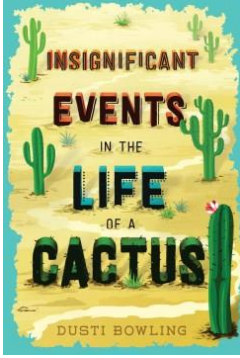
**Summary:**

"Read the *New York Times* bestselling book that inspired the hit movies!

Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, the quiet and thoughtful son of the Chief of the Hairy Hooligans, tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan by catching and training a dragon. Can Hiccup do it without being torn limb from limb?

Join his adventures and misadventures as he finds a new way to train dragons--and becomes a hero. This action-packed, hilarious, and perfectly illustrated novel is a modern classic beloved by millions across the globe." - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



**Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus** (*Life of a Cactus, Book 1 of 2*)

By Dusti Bowling, c2017

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.6 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Diverse Abilities, Overcoming Adversity, Mystery, Amusement Parks, People with Disabilities

**Summary:**

"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 Aven's about to discover she can do it all ..... even without arms."

– *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**In the Red**

By Christopher Swiedler, c2020

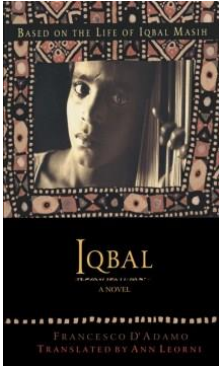
Interest Level: 5-7, 6+, Reading Level: 5.3

**Themes:** Science Fiction, Action & Adventure, Survival, Mars, Anxiety

**Summary:**

"Michael Prasad knows he shouldn't go out on the Mars surface alone. It's dangerous. His parents have forbidden it. And the anxiety he feels almost every time he puts on a spacesuit makes it nearly impossible for him to leave the safety of the colony. But when his best friend, Lilith, suggests they sneak out one night, he can't resist the chance to prove everyone--including himself--wrong. As the two ride along the Mars surface in a stolen rover, miles from the colony, a massive solar flare hits the planet, knocking out power, communication, and navigation systems, and the magnetic field that protects the planet from the sun's deadly radiation. Stranded hours from home with an already limited supply of food, water, and air, Michael and Lilith must risk everything if they're to get back to the colony alive." – *OCLC*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Iqbal: A Novel**

By Francesco D'Adamo, c2003

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.5 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Historical Fiction, Child Labor, Grief & Loss, Overcoming Adversity, Prejudice & Racism, Multicultural, Biography

#### **Summary:**

“When young Iqbal is sold into slavery at a carpet factory, his arrival changes everything for the other overworked and abused children there. It is Iqbal who explains to them that despite their master's promises, he plans on keeping them as his slaves indefinitely. But it is also Iqbal who inspires the other children to look to a future free from toil...and is brave enough to show them how to get there.

This moving fictionalized account of the real Iqbal Masih is told through the voice of Fatima, a young Pakistani girl whose life is changed by Iqbal's courage.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 76 print copies, audiobook*



### **It Wasn't Me**

By Dana Alison Levy, c2018, 2020

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.5 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Mystery, Friendship, Bullying

#### **Summary:**

“*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. But what is everyone hiding and will school ever be the same?” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



**Jump** (*The Heights, Hi-Lo*)

By Mary Kate Doman, c2012

Interest Level: 5-6, Reading Level: 2.6

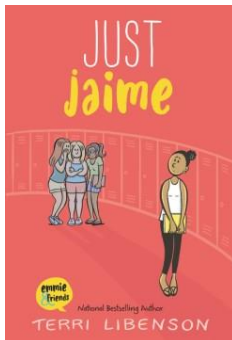
**Themes:** Jewelry Theft, Skydiving Fiction, Action & Adventure, Hi-Lo

**Summary:**

"The Silvas decide to go to skydiving school and soon find that there is a connection between the school and the unsolved Jewelry Exchange burglary."

- Follett

\*LRC: 12 print copies



**Just Jaime** (*Emmie & Friends, Book 1 of 4*)

By Terri Libenson, c2019

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.6 (One starred review)

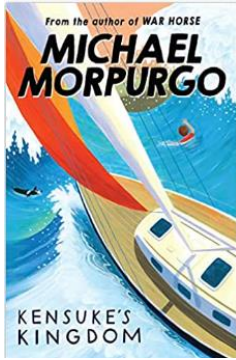
**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Realistic Fiction, Friendship, School Stories, Girls

**Summary:**

"Friends. Frenemies. Middle school... The last day of seventh grade has Jaime and Maya wondering who their real friends are. Jaime knows something is off with her friend group. They've started to exclude her and make fun of the way she dresses and the things she likes. At least she can count on her BFF, Maya, to have her back . . . right? Maya feels more and more annoyed with Jaime, who seems babyish compared to the other girls in their popular group. It's like she has nothing in common with Jaime anymore. Are their days as BFFs numbered?" – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook





### **Kensuke's Kingdom**

By Michael Morpurgo, c1999,  
Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 4.3

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Survival, Castaways, Friendship, Values & Virtues

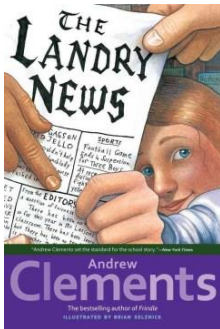
**Summary:**

“I heard the wind above me in the sails. I remember thinking, this is silly, you haven't got your safety harness on, you haven't got your lifejacket on. You shouldn't be doing this. I was in the cold of the sea before I could even open my mouth to scream.

Washed up on an island in the Pacific, Michael struggles to survive on his own. With no food and no water, he curls up to die. When he wakes, there is a plate beside him of fish, of fruit, and a bowl of fresh water. He is not alone ...

From the author of War Horse comes this tale of survival against all odds, set against the dramatic backdrop of the Pacific and recalling memories of the Second World War. This is a remarkable and unforgettable story.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 66 print copies*



### **The Landry News**

By Andrew Clements, c1999, 2000  
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 6.1 (One starred review)

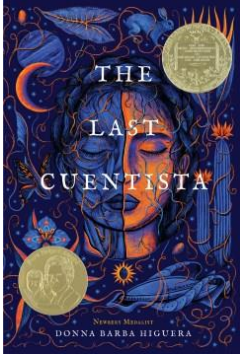
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Divorce, Newspapers, Humorous Stories

**Summary:**

“NEW STUDENT GETS OLD TEACHER: The bad news is that Cara Landry is the new kid at Denton Elementary School. The worse news is that her teacher, Mr. Larson, would rather read the paper and drink coffee than teach his students anything. So, Cara decides to give Mr. Larson something else to read -- her own newspaper, *The Landry News*.

Before she knows it, the whole fifth-grade class is in on the project. But then the principal finds a copy of *The Landry News*, with unexpected results. Tomorrow's headline: Will Cara's newspaper cost Mr. Larson his job?” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Last Cuentista**

By Donna Barba Higuera, c2021

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 6.0 (Newberry Medal, 2021)

**Themes:** Science Fiction, Life on Other Planets, Dystopian, Survival, Fairy Tales & Folklore, Hispanic/Latino, Government

#### **Summary:**

“Había una vez...”

There lived a girl named Petra Peña, who wanted nothing more than to be a storyteller, like her abuelita. But Petra's world is ending. Earth has been destroyed by a comet, and only a few hundred scientists and their children – among them Petra and her family – have been chosen to journey to a new planet. They are the ones who must carry on the human race.

Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet – and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. A sinister Collective has taken over the ship during its journey, bent on erasing the sins of humanity's past. They have systematically purged the memories of all aboard – or purged them altogether. Petra alone now carries the stories of our past, and with them, any hope for our future. Can she make them live again?” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Last Kids on Earth** (*Last Kids on Earth, Book 1 of 6*)

By Max Brallier, c2015

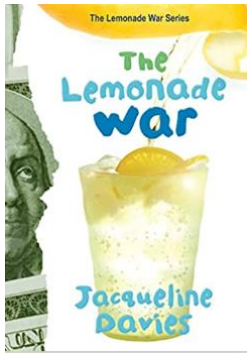
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.1 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Humorous Stories, Monsters, Survival, Comics & Graphic Novels

#### **Summary:**

“Ever since the monster apocalypse hit town, average thirteen-year-old Jack Sullivan has been living in his tree house, which he's armed to the teeth with catapults and a moat, not to mention video games and an endless supply of Oreos and Mountain Dew scavenged from abandoned stores. But Jack alone is no match for the hordes of Zombies and Winged Wretches and Vine Thingies, and *especially* not for the eerily intelligent monster known only as *Blarg*. So, Jack builds a team: his dorky best friend, Quint; the reformed middle school bully, Dirk; Jack's loyal pet monster, Rover; and Jack's crush, June. With their help, Jack is going to slay Blarg, achieve the ultimate Feat of Apocalyptic Success, and be average no longer! Can he do it?” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Lemonade War** (*Lemonade War Series, Book 1 of 6*)

By Jacqueline Davies, c2007

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.1 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Moneymaking Projects, Brothers & Sisters

**Summary:**

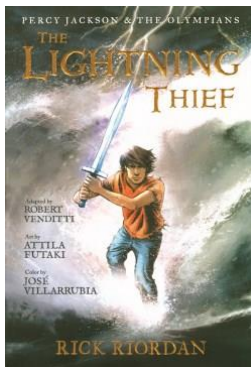
“Here is a clever blend of humor, math wizardry, and business know-how. As it captures the one-of-a-kind bond between brother and sister, this poignant novel also subtly explores how arguments can escalate beyond anyone’s intent.

*For a full hour, he poured lemonade. The world is a thirsty place, he thought as he nearly emptied his fourth pitcher of the day. And I am the Lemonade King.*

Evan Treski is people-smart. He’s good at talking with people, even grownups. His younger sister Jessie, on the other hand, is math-smart—but not especially good at understanding people. She knows that feelings are her weakest subject.

With just five days left of summer vacation, Evan and Jessie launch an all-out war to see who can sell the most lemonade before school starts. As the battleground heats up, there really is no telling who will win—and even more important, if their fight will ever end?” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Lightning Thief: The Graphic Novel**

By Robert Venditti, illustrated by Attila Futaki, c2010

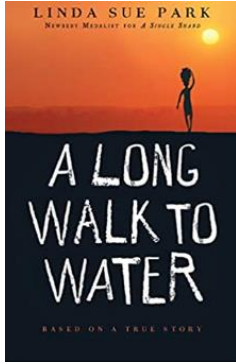
Interest Level: 5-9, Reading Level: 3.5 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Mythology, Fantasy & Magic, Action & Adventure, Friendship, Camps, Fathers & Sons

**Summary:**

“Mythological monsters and the gods of Mount Olympus seem to be walking out of the pages of twelve-year-old Percy Jackson's textbooks and into his life. And worse, he's angered a few of them. Zeus's master lightning bolt has been stolen, and Percy is the prime suspect. Now, he and his friends have just ten days to find and return Zeus's stolen property and bring peace to a warring Mount Olympus.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story**

By Linda Sue Park, c2010

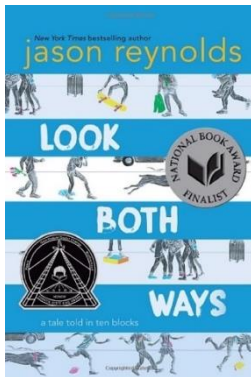
Interest Level: 5-8, 6-9, Reading Level: 5.0 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Historical Fiction, Survival, Refugees, Immigration & Emigration, Overcoming Adversity, Sudan, Civil War, Freshwater

**Summary:**

*"A Long Walk to Water* begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way. Includes an afterword by author Linda Sue Park and the real-life Salva Dut, on whom the novel is based, and who went on to found Water for South Sudan." – A.

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



### **Look Both Ways: A Tale Told in Ten Blocks**

By Jason Reynolds, c2019

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.8 (Six starred reviews)

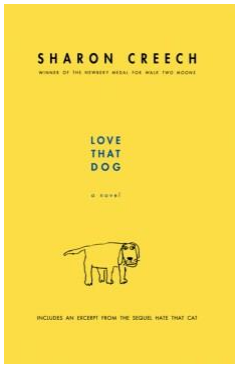
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Interpersonal Relations, Emotions & Feelings, Humorous stories, Short Stories

**Summary:**

*"This story was going to begin like all the best stories. With a school bus falling from the sky. But no one saw it happen. They were all too busy— Talking about boogers. Stealing pocket change. Skateboarding. Wiping out. Braving up. Executing complicated handshakes. Planning an escape. Making jokes. Lotioning up. Finding comfort. But mostly, too busy walking home.*

Jason Reynolds conjures ten tales (one per block) about what happens after the dismissal bell rings, and brilliantly weaves them into one wickedly funny, piercingly poignant look at the detours we face on the walk home, and in life." – Amazon

*\*LRC: 12 copies*



### **Love that Dog: A Novel**

By Sharon Creech, c2001, 2003

Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 4.1 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Novels in Verse, Poetry, Diaries, Dogs, School Stories

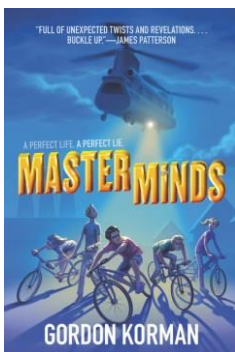
#### **Summary:**

"*Love That Dog* shows how one boy named Jack finds his voice with the help of a teacher, a pencil, some yellow paper, and of course, a dog. Written as a series of free-verse poems from Jack's point of view, and with classic poetry included in the back matter, this novel is perfect for kids and teachers, too.

Jack hates poetry. Only girls write it and every time he tries to, his brain feels empty. But his teacher, Miss Stretchberry, won't stop giving her class poetry assignments—and Jack can't avoid them. But then something amazing happens. The more he writes, the more he learns that he does have something to say."

*"I guess it does  
look like a poem  
when you see it  
typed up  
like that." – Amazon*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook*



### **Masterminds (Masterminds, Book 1 of 3)**

By Gordon Korman, c2015

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 5.2 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Science Fiction, Cloning, Experiments, Mystery & Detective Stories

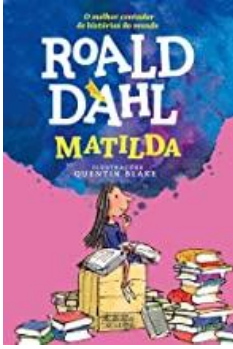
#### **Summary:**

"Eli Frieden has never left Serenity, New Mexico...why would he ever want to? Then one day, he bikes to the edge of the city limits and something so crazy and unexpected happens, it changes everything.

Eli convinces his friends to help him investigate further, and soon it becomes clear that nothing is as it seems in Serenity. The clues mount to reveal a shocking discovery, connecting their ideal crime-free community to some of the greatest criminal masterminds ever known.

*The kids realize they can trust no one--least of all their own parents." – Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 copies, audiobook*



### **Matilda**

By Roald Dahl, c1988, 2022

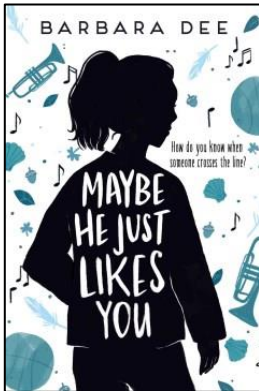
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 5.0

**Themes:** Fantasy, Family Problems, Humorous Stories, School Stories, Teacher-Student Relationships

#### **Summary:**

“Matilda is a sweet, exceptional young girl, but her parents think she's just a nuisance. She expects school to be different but there she has to face Miss Trunchbull, a kid-hating terror of a headmistress. When Matilda is attacked by the Trunchbull she suddenly discovers she has a remarkable power with which to fight back. It'll take a superhuman genius to give Miss Trunchbull what she deserves and Matilda may be just the one to do it!” - *Follett*

*\*LRC: 11 print copies, audiobook*



### **Maybe He Just Likes You**

By Barbara Dee, c2019, 2020

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.2 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Sexual Harassment, Bullying, Hispanic/Latino, African American, Friendship

#### **Summary:**

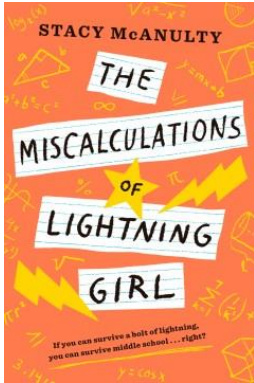
“For seventh-grader Mila, it starts with some boys giving her an unwanted hug on the school blacktop. A few days later, at recess, one of the boys (and fellow trumpet player) Callum tells Mila it’s his birthday and asks her for a “birthday hug.” He’s just being friendly, isn’t he? And how can she say no? But Callum’s hug lasts a few seconds too long and feels...weird. According to her friend, Zara, Mila is being immature and overreacting. Doesn’t she know what flirting looks like?

But the boys don’t leave Mila alone. On the bus. In the halls. During band practice—the one place Mila could always escape.

It doesn’t feel like flirting—so what is it? Thanks to a chance meeting, Mila begins to find solace in a new place: karate class. Slowly, with the help of a fellow classmate, Mila learns how to stand her ground and how to respect others—and herself.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





### **The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl**

By Stacy McAnulty, c2018

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 3.7? (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Bullying, Savants, Obsessive-compulsive Disorder, Friendship, Neurological Diversity

**Summary:**

“Lucy Callahan was struck by lightning. She doesn't remember it, but it changed her life forever. The zap gave her genius-level math skills, and ever since, Lucy has been homeschooled. Now, at 12 years old, she's technically ready for college. She just has to pass 1 more test--middle school!

Lucy's grandma insists - Go to middle school for 1 year. Make 1 friend. Join 1 activity. And read 1 book (that's not a math textbook!) Lucy's not sure what a girl who does calculus homework for fun can possibly learn in 7th grade. She has everything she needs at home, where nobody can make fun of her rigid routines or her superpowered brain. The equation of Lucy's life has already been solved. Unless there's been a miscalculation?

A celebration of friendship, Stacy McAnulty's smart and thoughtful middle-grade debut reminds us all to get out of our comfort zones and embrace what makes us different.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies*



### **Missing Mike**

By Shari Green, c2018

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 5.0

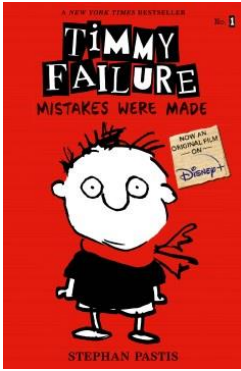
**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Animal Stories, Grief & Loss, Manmade Disasters, Forest Fires (BC)

**Summary:**

“A timely middle-grade story about the devastation of wildfires and the resilience of the human spirit.

He's a rescue, a mutt. Maybe there's a little golden retriever in him, although he's not exactly pretty. He's had a run-in with coyotes and he's missing an eye. But Mike is eleven-year-old Cara Donovan's dog, and they love each other absolutely. Usually her pet follows Cara everywhere, but on the day the family first smells smoke in the air, Mike becomes anxious. Pine Grove is in the path of a wildfire, and the family is ordered to evacuate. In the ensuing chaos, Mike runs off. And then the unthinkable happens; there is no time to search for Mike. They are forced to leave him behind.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Mistakes Were Made** (*Timmy Failure, Book 1 of 7*)

By Stephan Pastis, c2013

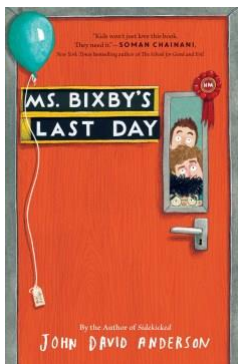
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 3.8

**Themes:** Mystery & Detective Stories, Friendship, Humorous Fiction, Comics & Graphic Novels

#### **Summary:**

“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. With perfectly paced visual humor, Stephan Pastis gets readers snorting with laughter, then slyly carries the joke a beat further--or sweetens it with an unexpected poignant moment--making this a comics-inspired story that truly stands apart from the pack.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Ms. Bixby's Last Day**

By John David Anderson, c2016

Interest Level: 4-7 Reading Level: 5.2 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Grief & Loss, School Stories, Teacher-Student Relationships, Friendship

#### **Summary:**

“Everyone knows there are different kinds of teachers. The boring ones, the mean ones, the ones who try too hard, the ones who stopped trying long ago. The ones you'll never remember, and the ones you want to forget. Ms. Bixby is none of these. She's the sort of teacher who makes you feel like school is somehow worthwhile. Who recognizes something in you that sometimes you don't even see in yourself. Who you never want to disappoint. What Ms. Bixby is, is one-of-a-kind.

Topher, Brand, and Steve know this better than anyone. And so when Ms. Bixby unexpectedly announces that she won't be able to finish the school year, they come up with a risky plan, more of a quest, really, to give Ms. Bixby the last day she deserves. Through the three very different stories they tell, we begin to understand what Ms. Bixby means to each of them—and what the three of them mean to each other.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



## **My Name is Seepetza**

By Shirley Sterling, c1992

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.8

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Historical Fiction, Diary, Salish, Indigenous People, Physical & Emotional Abuse, Prejudice & Racism

### **Summary:**

“Her name was Seepetza when she was at home with her family. But now that she's living at the Indian residential school her name is Martha Stone, and everything else about her life has changed as well. Told in the

honest voice of a sixth grader, this is the story of a young Native girl forced to live in a world governed by strict nuns, arbitrary rules, and a policy against talking in her own dialect, even with her family. Seepetza finds bright spots, but most of all she looks forward to summers and holidays at home.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 36 print copies*



## **New Kid (A sequel follows)**

By Jerry Craft, c2019

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 3.6 (Newberry Medal, 2019)

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Prejudice and Racism, Diversity, Identity

### **Summary:**

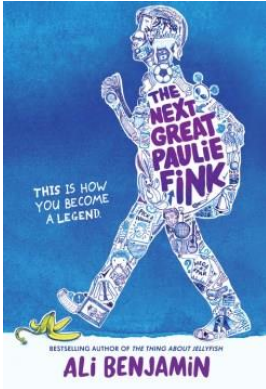
“Perfect for fans of Raina Telgemeier and Gene Luen Yang, *New Kid* is a timely, honest graphic novel about starting over at a new school where

diversity is low and the struggle to fit in is real, from award-winning author-illustrator Jerry Craft.

Jordan loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade.

As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 37 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Next Great Paulie Fink**

By Ali Benjamin, c2019

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 6.0 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Friendship, Bullying

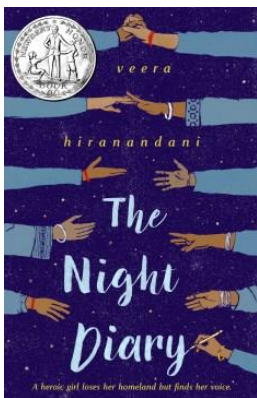
#### **Summary:**

“In this acclaimed novel by the author of the award-winning, bestselling *The Thing About Jellyfish*, being the new kid at school isn't easy, especially when you have to follow in the footsteps of a legendary classroom prankster.

When Caitlyn Breen begins her disorienting new life at Mitchell School--where the students take care of real live goats and study long-dead philosophers, and where there are only ten other students in the entire seventh grade--it seems like nobody can stop talking about some kid named Paulie Fink.

Depending on whom you ask, Paulie was either a hilarious class clown, a relentless troublemaker, a hapless klutz, or an evil genius. One thing's for sure, though: The kid was totally legendary. Now he's disappeared, and Caitlyn finds herself leading a reality-show-style competition to find the school's next great Paulie Fink. With each challenge, Caitlyn struggles to understand a person she never met...but it's what she discovers about herself that most surprises her.” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook



### **The Night Diary**

By Veera Hiranandani, c2018

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.5 (Four starred reviews, 2019 Newbery Honor Book)

**Themes:** Historical Fiction, Refugees, Family Life, Diaries, Muslims, Hindus, Pakistan, India, Identity, Refugees, Survival

#### **Summary:**

“It's 1947, and India, newly independent of British rule, has been separated into two countries: Pakistan and India. The divide has created much tension between Hindus and Muslims, and hundreds of thousands are killed crossing borders.

Half-Muslim, half-Hindu twelve-year-old Nisha doesn't know where she belongs, or what her country is anymore. When Papa decides it's too dangerous to stay in what is now Pakistan, Nisha and her family become refugees and embark first by train but later on foot to reach her new home. The journey is long, difficult, and dangerous, and after losing her mother as a baby, Nisha can't imagine losing her homeland, too. But even if her country has been ripped apart, Nisha still believes in the possibility of putting herself back together.” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook



### **No Fixed Address**

By Susin Nielsen, c2018

Interest Level: 7-9, Reading Level: 4.7 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Homelessness and Poverty, Friendship, School Stories, Overcoming, Adversity, Vancouver

**Summary:**

“Twelve-and-three-quarter-year-old Felix Knutsson has a knack for trivia. His favorite game show is *Who What Where When*; he even named his gerbil after the host. Felix's mom, Astrid, is loving but can't seem to hold on to a job. So, when they get evicted from their latest shabby apartment, they have to move into a van. Astrid swears him to secrecy; he can't tell anyone about their living arrangement, not even Dylan and Winnie, his best friends at his new school. If he does, she warns him, he'll be taken away from her and put in foster care.

As their circumstances go from bad to worse, Felix gets a chance to audition for a junior edition of *Who What Where When*, and he's determined to earn a spot on the show. Winning the cash prize could make everything okay again. But things don't turn out the way he expects...” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 49 print copies, audiobook



### **No More Dead Dogs**

By Gordon Korman, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.9

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Humorous Fiction, Sports, Theater & Musicals

**Summary:**

“Nobody understands Wallace Wallace. This reluctant school football hero has been suspended from the team for writing an unfavorable book report on *Old Shep, My Pal*. But Wallace won't tell a lie—he hated every minute of the book! Why does the dog in every classic novel have to croak at the end?

After Wallace refuses to do a rewrite, his English teacher, who happens to be directing the school play of *Old Shep, My Pal*, forces him to go to the rehearsals as punishment. Although Wallace doesn't change his mind, he does end up changing the play.....into a rock-and-roll rendition, complete with Rollerblades and a moped!” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook





### **Number the Stars**

By Lois Lowry, c1989, 2010

Interest Level: 5-9, Reading Level: 4.5 (One starred review)

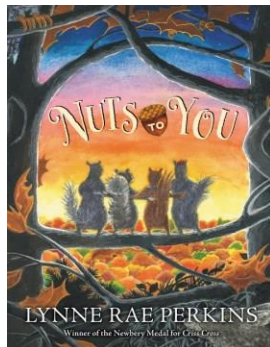
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Holocaust, Historical Fiction, Courage, Friendship, Heroes

**Summary:**

“Through the eyes of ten-year-old Annemarie, we watch as the Danish Resistance smuggles almost the entire Jewish population of Denmark, nearly seven thousand people, across the sea to Sweden. The heroism of an entire nation reminds us that there was pride and human decency in the world even during a time of terror and war.”

– Amazon

*\*LRC: 56 print copies, audiobook*



### **Nuts to You**

By Lynne Rae Perkins, c2016

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.2 (Five starred reviews)

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Forests & Forestry, Squirrels, Survival, Environmental Impact on Nature

**Summary:**

“How far would you go for a friend? In *Nuts to You*, the funny and moving illustrated novel by Newbery Medalist Lynne Rae Perkins, two squirrels go very far indeed to save a friend who has been snatched up by a hawk. *Nuts to You* "begs to be read aloud.....another completely original and exceptional package from Perkins," said the Horn Book. *Nuts to You* features black-and-white art by the author on every page, as well as exclusive material original to this edition.

Jed, TsTs, and Chai are the very best of friends. So, when Jed is snatched up by a hawk and carried away to another realm, TsTs and Chai resolve to go after him. Mysteriously, the hawk has dropped him. They saw it. Jed could be alive. New communities are discovered, new friends are made, huge danger is encountered (both man-made and of the fox and bobcat variety) and the mysteries of squirrel culture are revealed. *Nuts to You* is wholly original, funny, lively, and thought-provoking.” - Publisher

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook*



### **Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere (Olga, Book 1 of 3)**

By Elise Gravel, c2017

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.4

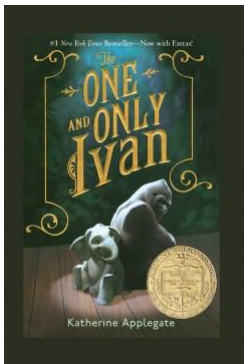
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Science Fiction, Humor, Animals, Girls

**Summary:**

“*Olga and the Smelly Thing from Nowhere* is jam-packed with fun: vibrant illustrations, word bubbles, quirky humor, olgamus facts, and plenty of excitement for readers who love making discoveries and meeting new friends. Olga is a charming combination of independent, curious, and smart--making her the coolest girl scientist around--perfect for fans of *Dork Diaries* and *Captain Underpants*.”

When Olga crosses paths with a weird creature and becomes the first kid to discover the species olgamus ridiculus, she is ecstatic! What does an olgamus eat? How does it poop? Why does its burp sound like the word rubber? With her trusty observation notebook and the help of a librarian, a shopkeeper, and some friends, Olga sets out to do science--learning the facts about her smelly, almost-furry pal and searching for him when he goes missing. The scientific method is the best way to discover anything!” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 12 print copies



### **The One and Only Ivan**

By Katherine Applegate, c2012

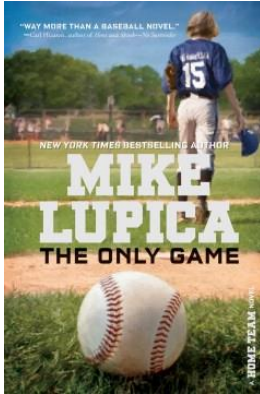
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 3.6 (Newbery Medal, 2013)

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Friendship, Animal Treatment

**Summary:**

“Having spent twenty-seven years behind the glass walls of his enclosure in a shopping mall, Ivan has grown accustomed to humans watching him. He hardly ever thinks about his life in the jungle. Instead, Ivan occupies himself with television, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting. But when he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from the wild, he is forced to see their home, and his art, through new eyes.” – *Amazon*

\*LRC: 37 print copies, audiobook



**The Only Game** (*Home Team, Book 1 of 4*)

By Mike Lupica, c2016

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.5

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Sports, Loss & Grief, Baseball, Bullies

**Summary:**

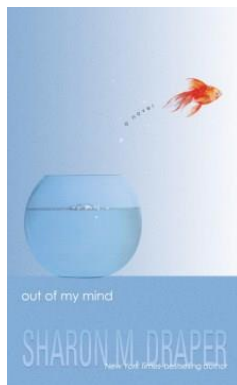
“Jack Callahan is the star of his baseball team and seventh grade is supposed to be his year. Undefeated season. Records shattered. Little League World Series. The works. That is, until he up and quits.

Jack's best friend Gus can't understand how Jack could leave a game that means more to them than anything else. But Jack is done. It's a year of change. Jack's brother has passed away, and though his family and friends and the whole town of Walton thinks baseball is just the thing he needs to move on, Jack feels it's anything but.

In comes Cassie Bennett, star softball player, and the only person who seems to think Jack shouldn't play if he doesn't want to. As Jack and Cassie's friendship deepens, their circle expands to include Teddy, a guy who's been bullied because of his weight.

Time spent with these new friends unlocks something within Jack, and with their help and the support of his family and his old friends, Jack discovers sometimes it's more than just the love of the game that keeps us moving forward--and he might just be able to find his way back to *The Only Game*, after all.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Out of My Mind**

By Sharon M. Draper, c2012

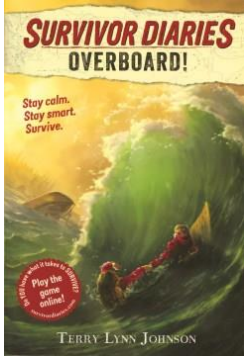
Interest Level: 5-9, Reading Level: 4.3 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Diverse Abilities, Realistic Fiction, Cerebral Palsy, Identity, School Stories

**Summary:**

“Eleven-year-old Melody is not like most people. She can't walk. She can't talk. She can't write. All because she has cerebral palsy. But she also has a photographic memory; she can remember every detail of everything she has ever experienced. She's the smartest kid in her whole school, but NO ONE knows it. Most people—her teachers, her doctors, her classmates—dismiss her as mentally challenged because she can't tell them otherwise. But Melody refuses to be defined by her disability. And she's determined to let everyone know it...somehow.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 16 print copies, audiobook*



**Overboard** (*Survivor Diaries*)

By Terry Lynn Johnson, c2017

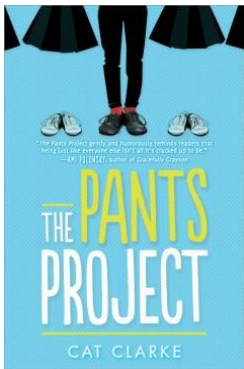
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 3.9

**Themes:** Adventure, Realistic Fiction, Survival

**Summary:**

“Eleven-year-old Travis and his family are on a whale watch off the coast of Washington when disaster strikes. The boat capsizes, throwing everyone into the ice-cold chaotic waves. Separated from their families and struggling to stay afloat, Travis and twelve-year-old Marina must use all of their grit and knowledge to survive.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



**The Pants Project**

By Cat Clarke, c2017

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.7 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, LGBTQIA+, Transgender People, Gay Parents, Middle Schools, Uniforms, Family Life

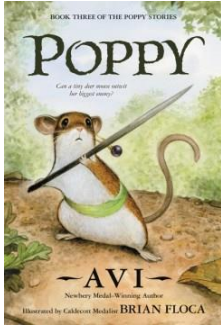
**Summary:**

“Okay, here goes. My name is Liv (not Olivia). I'm not technically a girl. I'm transgender. Which is a bit like being a Transformer, only not quite as cool because I probably won't get to save the world one day.

Liv knows he was always meant to be a boy, but with his new school's terrible dress code, he can't even wear pants. Only skirts.

*Operation: Pants Project* begins! The only way for Liv to get what he wants is to go after it himself. But to Liv, this isn't just a mission to change the policy--it's a mission to change his life. And that's a pretty big deal.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



**Poppy** (*Poppy Series, Book 3*)

By Avi, c2020 (1995)

Interest Level: 3-7, 4-6, Reading Level: 4.5

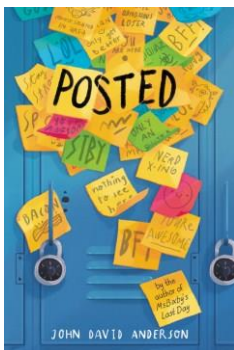
**Themes:** Animal Stories, Fantasy, Survival

**Summary:**

“Poppy knew she was taking a risk following her beloved Ragweed to Bannock Hill, but a night of dancing with the handsome golden mouse was just too tempting. So when Ragweed is scooped up by the sinister owl, Mr. Ocax, who rules over Dimwood forest, she’s devastated. Her whole life she was warned of Mr. Ocax’s evil ways...how could she have been so foolish to put herself *and* Ragweed at risk?

To make matters worse, when Poppy attempts to move with her family to a different part of the woods where the food supply is richer, Mr. Ocax refuses to let them go. Despite what she’s been led to believe for years, Mr. Ocax is not as strong as he wants the mice to think he is. Armed with the bravery, gumption, and wit of a hero, Poppy embarks on a dangerous quest—joined by the irascible but lovable porcupine, Ereth—to defeat Mr. Ocax and lead her family to a better home.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobooks for Books 1 and 2*



**Posted**

By John David Anderson, c2018

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.1 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Bullying, School Stories, Friendship

**Summary:**

“In middle school, words aren't just words. They can be weapons. They can be gifts. The right words can win you friends or make you enemies. They can come back to haunt you. Sometimes they can change things forever.

When cell phones are banned at Branton Middle School, Frost and his friends Deedee, Wolf, and Bench come up with a new way to communicate: leaving sticky notes for each other all around the school. It catches on, and soon all the kids in school are leaving notes--though for every kind and friendly one, there is a cutting and cruel one as well.

In the middle of this, a new girl named Rose arrives at school and sits at Frost's lunch table. Rose is not like anyone else at Branton Middle School, and it's clear that the close circle of friends Frost has made for himself won't easily hold another. As the sticky-note war escalates, and the pressure to choose sides mounts, Frost soon realizes that after this year, nothing will ever be the same.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 27 print copies, audiobook*





### **Randoms** (*Randoms, Book 1 of 3*)

By David Liss, c2015

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 6.0, 485 pages (One starred review)

**Themes:** Science Fiction, Conspiracies, Action & Adventure

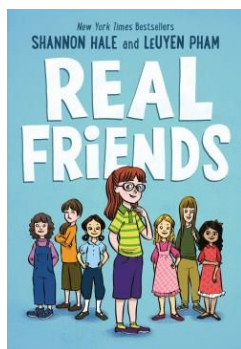
#### **Summary:**

“Zeke Reynolds comes from a long line of proud science fiction geeks. He knows his games, comics, movies, and TV shows like Captain Kirk knows the starship *Enterprise*. So, it's a dream come true when he learns the science fiction he loves so much is based on reality--and that he's been selected to spend a year on a massive space station. To evaluate humanity's worthiness, the Confederation of United Planets has hand picked three of Earth's most talented young people--and then there's Zeke. He's the random.

Unfortunately, Zeke finds life in space more challenging than he'd hoped. When he saves his transport ship from a treacherous enemy attack, he's labeled a war criminal. Now despised by the Confederation, rejected by his fellow humans, and pursued by a ruthless enemy, Zeke befriends the alien randoms: rejected by their own species, but loyal to each other. But their presence in the Confederation may not be so random after all, and as the danger increases, Zack's knowledge of science fiction might be the only thing that can save himself, his friends, and Earth itself.”

– *Publisher*

\*LRC: 24 print copies



### **Real Friends**

By Shannon Hale, c2017

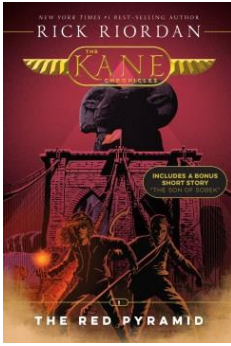
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 3.7 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Memoir, Graphic Novels, Bullying, School Stories, Friendship, Auto-Biography

#### **Summary:**

“Following little Shannon's life from kindergarten through fifth grade, *Real Friends* captures the emotional roller coaster ride of friendship, from navigating the tricky waters of cliques and bullies to her never-ending struggle to stay in "The Group." Shannon's honest and heartfelt story reminds us of how hard it was to learn what real friends are--and why finding them is worth the journey.” – *Publisher*

\*LRC: 13 print copies



### **The Red Pyramid (*Kane Chronicles, Book 1*)**

By Rick Riordan, c2010

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.5 (6 starred reviews)

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Fantasy, Egyptian Mythology, Magic, Siblings

#### **Summary:**

“Since their mother's death, Carter and Sadie have become near strangers. While Sadie has lived with her grandparents in London, her brother has traveled the world with their father, the brilliant Egyptologist, Dr. Julius Kane. One night, Dr. Kane brings the siblings together for a "research experiment" at the British Museum, where he hopes to set things right for his family. Instead, he unleashes the Egyptian god Set, who banishes him to oblivion and forces the children to flee for their lives.

Soon, Sadie and Carter discover that the gods of Egypt are waking, and the worst of them—Set has his sights on the Kanes. To stop him, the siblings embark on a dangerous journey across the globe -- a quest that brings them ever closer to the truth about their family, and their links to a secret order that has existed since the time of the pharaohs.” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 copies, ebook*



### **The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise**

By Dan Gemeinhart, c2020

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.7 (One starred review)

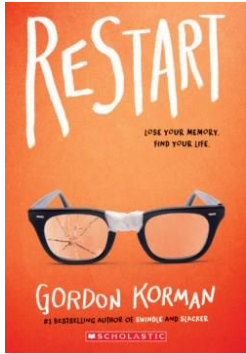
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Loss & Grief, Fathers & Daughters, Social-Emotional Learning

#### **Summary:**

“Five years. That's how long Coyote and her dad, Rodeo, have lived on the road in an old school bus, criss-crossing the nation. It's also how long ago Coyote lost her mom and two sisters in a car crash. Coyote hasn't been home in all that time, but when she learns that the park in her old neighborhood is being demolished—the very same park where she, her mom, and her sisters buried a treasured memory box—she devises an elaborate plan to get her dad to drive 3,600 miles back to Washington state in four days...without him realizing it.

Along the way, they'll pick up a strange crew of misfit travelers. Lester has a lady love to meet. Salvador and his mom are looking to start over. Val needs a safe place to be herself. And then there's Gladys...Over the course of thousands of miles, Coyote will learn that going home can sometimes be the hardest journey of all...but that with friends by her side, she just might be able to turn her “once upon a time” into a “happily ever after.” – *Amazon.ca*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Restart**

By Gordon Korman, c2018

Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 5.1 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Humour, Bullying, School Stories, Self-Perception, Alternating (Point of View), Interpersonal Relations, Memory

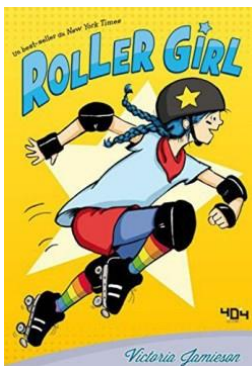
#### **Summary:**

“Chase's memory just went out the window. Chase doesn't remember falling off the roof. He doesn't remember hitting his head. He doesn't, in fact, remember anything. He wakes up in a hospital room and suddenly has to learn his whole life all over again ..... starting with his own name.

He knows he's Chase. But who is Chase? When he gets back to school, he sees that different kids have very different reactions to his return. Some kids treat him like a hero. Some kids are clearly afraid of him. One girl in particular is so angry with him that she pours her frozen yogurt on his head the first chance she gets.

Pretty soon, it's not only a question of who Chase is--it's a question of who he was ..... and who he's going to be.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 48 print copies, audiobook*



### **Roller Girl**

By Victoria Jamieson, c2015

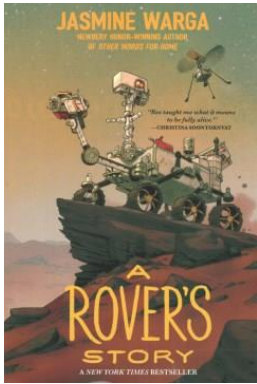
Interest Level: 4-7, 4-8, Reading Level: 3.1

**Themes:** Graphic Novels, Sports, Friendship, Roller Skating

#### **Summary:**

“For most of her twelve years, Astrid has done everything with her best friend Nicole. But after Astrid falls in love with roller derby and signs up for derby camp, Nicole decides to go to dance camp instead. And so begins the most difficult summer of Astrid's life as she struggles to keep up with the older girls at camp, hang on to the friend she feels slipping away, and cautiously embark on a new friendship. As the end of summer nears and her first roller derby bout (and junior high!) draws closer, Astrid realizes that maybe she *is* strong enough to handle the bout, a lost friendship, and middle school... in short, strong enough to be a roller girl.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **A Rover's Story**

By Jasmine Warga, c2022

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: ? (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Adventure, Science Fiction, STEM, Grief & Loss, Mars, Artificial Intelligence

**Summary:**

“Meet Resilience, a Mars rover determined to live up to his name.

Res was built to explore Mars. He was not built to have human emotions. But as he learns new things from the NASA scientists who assemble him, he begins to develop humanlike feelings. Maybe there's a problem with his programming....

Human emotions or not, launch day comes, and Res blasts off to Mars, accompanied by a friendly drone helicopter named Fly. But Res quickly discovers that Mars is a dangerous place filled with dust storms and giant cliffs. As he navigates Mars's difficult landscape, Res is tested in ways that go beyond space exploration.

As millions of people back on Earth follow his progress, will Res have the determination, courage, and resilience to succeed...and survive?” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 copies, audiobook*



### **Sail (The Heights, Hi-Lo)**

By Mary Kate Doman, c2012

Interest Level: 5-9, 4-8, Reading Level: 2.1

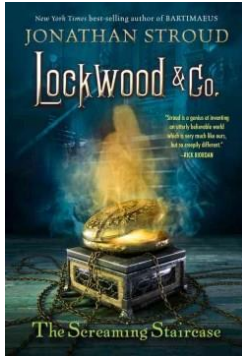
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Action & Adventure, Boating Accidents, Hi-Lo

**Summary:**

“Again and again, the shark hit the raft. Again and again, Rafael and Franco hit the shark. It kept coming back. The shark lifted its head out of the water.”

– *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **The Screaming Staircase** (*Lockwood & Co., Book 1 of 5*)

By Jonathan Stroud, c2014

Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 5.1

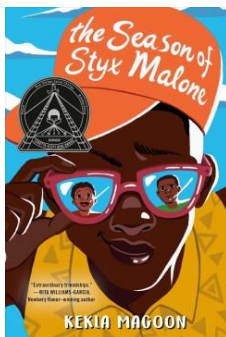
**Themes:** Fantasy, Horror, Scary Stories, Supernatural, Thriller, Ghosts

#### **Summary:**

“A sinister problem has occurred in London: all nature of ghosts, haunts, spirits, and specters are appearing throughout the city, and they aren't exactly friendly. Only young people have the psychic abilities required to see-and eradicate-these supernatural foes. Many different Psychic Detection Agencies have cropped up to handle the dangerous work, and they are in fierce competition for business.

In *The Screaming Staircase*, the plucky and talented Lucy Carlyle teams up with Anthony Lockwood, the charismatic leader of Lockwood & Co, a small agency that runs independent of any adult supervision. After an assignment leads to both a grisly discovery and a disastrous end, Lucy, Anthony, and their sarcastic colleague, George, are forced to take part in the perilous investigation of Combe Carey Hall, one of the most haunted houses in England. Will Lockwood & Co. survive the Hall's legendary Screaming Staircase and Red Room to see another day?” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Season of Styx Malone**

By Kekla Magoon, c2018

Interest Level: 3-6, 4-7, Reading Level: 3.8 (Four starred reviews)

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Realistic Fiction, Friendship, Family Life

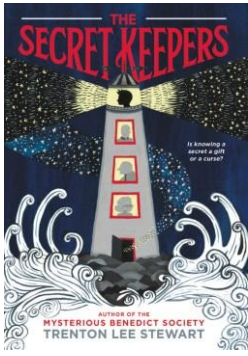
#### **Summary:**

“Caleb Franklin and his big brother Bobby Gene are excited to have adventures in the woods behind their house. But Caleb dreams of venturing beyond their ordinary small town.

Then Caleb and Bobby Gene meet new neighbor Styx Malone. Styx is sixteen and oozes cool. Styx promises the brothers that together, the three of them can pull off the Great Escalator Trade-- exchanging one small thing for something better until they achieve their wildest dream. But as the trades get bigger, the brothers soon find themselves in over their heads. Styx has secrets-- secrets so big they could ruin everything.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*





### **The Secret Keepers**

By Trenton Lee Stewart, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.6 (Three starred reviews)

**Themes:** Mystery, Fantasy, Action & Adventure, Invisibility, Magic, Secrets

#### **Summary:**

“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?

In this ingeniously crafted novel, acclaimed author Trenton Lee Stewart invites readers to join the adventure, decipher the clues, and ask themselves the question: Is knowing a secret a gift or a curse?” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Shamus the Urban Rez Dog**

By Leslie Gentile, c2023

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: ?

**Themes:** First Nations Peoples, Indigenous, Mystery and Detective Stories, Dogs

#### **Summary:**

“Missing jewelry, a false accusation, and a real thief. Shamus the Urban Rez Dog, P.I. is on the case.

The name's Shamus. I'm a special kind of dog known as a Rez Dog. That means I'm a mix of different breeds and I come from a reserve. I live in the city with Mom and the twins, Rainey and Cole. We are one of many Indigenous families on our block.

Life is great -- until Mom is falsely accused of stealing from the jewelry store she's worked at for years. When the kids and I set out to catch the real thief, we discover some surprising and, if I do say so myself, hilarious clues -- including a false wall, a lucky bowling ball, and a vicious poodle named Hepzibah!” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Shine**

By J.J. Grabenstein, c2021

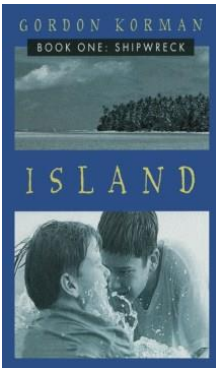
Interest Level: 3-7, 3-6, Reading Level: 4.7

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Schools Stories, New Experiences, Contests

#### **Summary:**

“*Shine on!* might be the catchphrase of twelve-year-old Piper's hero--astronaut, astronomer and television host Nellie Dumont Frisse--but Piper knows the truth: some people are born to shine, and she's just not one of them. That fact has never been clearer than now, since her dad's new job has landed them both at Chumley Prep, a posh private school where *everyone* seems to be the best at something and where Piper *definitely* doesn't fit in.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



### **Shipwreck** (*Island Series, Book 1*)

By Gordon Korman, c2001

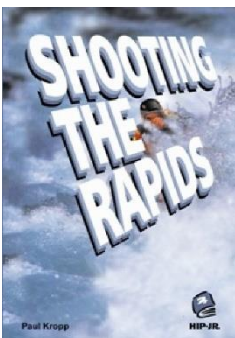
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.9

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Shipwrecks, Survival

#### **Summary:**

“Six kids. One shipwreck. One desert island. They didn't want to be on the boat in the first place. They were sent there as punishment, or as a character-building experience. Now the adults are gone, and the quest for survival has begun.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 24 print copies, audiobook*



### **Shooting the Rapids** (*Hip-Junior, Hi-Lo*)

By Paul Kropp

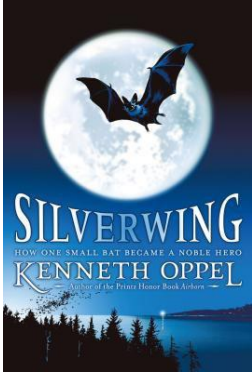
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 2.3

**Themes:** Family, Survival, Action & Adventure

#### **Summary:**

“When Dad gets hurt on a canoe trip, his two sons have to get him back to town in a hurry. But Connor and Timmy soon get lost in the wilderness. Can they get back to town and find help in time to save their father?” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 14 print copies*



**Silverwing** (*Silverwing, Bk. 1*)

By Kenneth Oppel, c1997, 2007

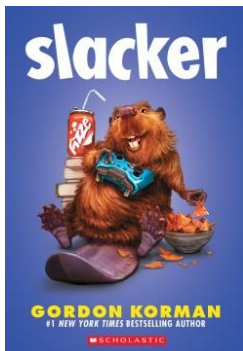
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 4.7 (One starred Review)

**Themes:** Animal Fantasy, Action and Adventure, Survival, Bats

**Summary:**

“Shade is a young Silverwing bat, the runt of his colony, determined to prove himself on the long and dangerous winter migration of Hibernaculum, millions of wingbeats to the south. During a storm, he is swept out over the ocean -- away from his family, his friends, and the only life he has ever known. Alone and frightened as winter fast approaches and temperatures plunge, Shade sets out on a remarkable journey to rejoin his colony in the south...” – *Pub.*

LRC: 24 print copies



**Slacker** (Sequel is *Level 13: A Slacker Novel*)

By Gordon Korman, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.2

**Themes:** Adventure, Friendship, School Stories, Responsibility, Social Action

**Summary:**

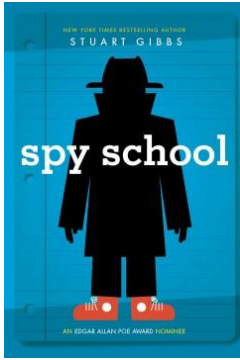
“A funny, fantastic story of an underachiever who ends up achieving much more than any overachiever could ever imagine.

Cameron Boxer is very happy to spend his life avoiding homework, hanging out with his friends, and gaming for hours in his basement. It's not too hard for him to get away with it...until he gets so caught up in one game that he almost lets his house burn down around him. Oops.

It's time for some serious damage control, so Cameron and his friends invent a fake school club that will make it seem like they're doing good deeds instead of slacking off. The problem? Some kids think the club is real - and Cameron is stuck being president.

Soon Cameron is part of a mission to save a beaver named Elvis from certain extinction. Along the way, he makes some new friends. And some powerful new enemies. The guy who never cared about anything is now at the center of everything ..... and it's going to take all his slacker skills to win this round.” - *Publisher*

\*LRC: 36 print copies, audiobook



**Spy School** (*Spy School, Book 1 of 7*)

By Stuart Gibbs, c2012

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.3

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Mystery, School Stories, Spies

**Summary:**

“Can an undercover nerd become a superstar agent? Ben Ripley sure hopes so--and his life may depend on it!

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 that doesn't stop Ben from trying to morph into a supercool undercover agent, the kind that always gets the girl. And through a series of hilarious misadventures, Ben realizes he might actually be a halfway decent spy...if he can survive all the attempts being made on his life!” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Stowaway** (*Icarus Chronicles, Book 1*)

By Jon David Anderson, c2021

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 6.8 (One Starred review)

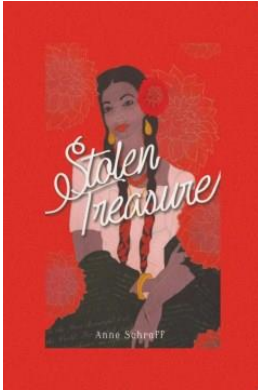
**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Science Fiction, Natural Resources, Family

**Summary:**

“When scientists discover a rare and mysterious mineral buried in the Earth's crust, they have no idea that it just happens to be the most valuable substance in the entire universe. It's not long before aliens show

up...offering a promise of protection, some fabulous new technology, and entry into their intergalactic coalition--all in exchange for this precious resource. A material so precious that other alien forces are willing to start a war over it. A war that soon makes its way to Earth... His mother was killed in one such attack, and soon after, his father, a Coalition scientist, decides it would be best for them to leave Earth behind. It's on this expedition that their ship is attacked, Leo's father is kidnapped, and Leo and his brother are stranded in the middle of space. The only chance they have is for Leo to stow away on a strange ship of mercenary space pirates bound for who knows where and beg the captain to help him find his father. But the road is dangerous, and pirates, of course, only look out for themselves. Leo must decide who to trust as he tries to stay alive and save his family, even as he comes to understand that there aren't many people--human or alien--that he can count on in this brave new universe.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Stolen Treasure**

By Anne Schraff, c2014

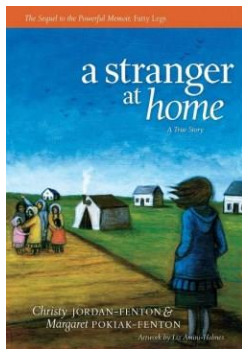
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 2.5

**Themes:** Hi-Lo, Mystery, Family Life, Law & Crime (Stealing)

**Summary:**

“A family treasure of a picture of grandmother is causing a rift between Isa's mom and her aunt, but when it is stolen Isa wants to know why.” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **A Stranger at Home: A True Story**

By Christy Jordan-Fenton, c2011

Interest Level: 6-7, Reading Level: 5.5

**Themes:** Memoir, Inuit Biography, Residential Schools

**Summary:**

“Traveling to be reunited with her family in the arctic, 10-year-old Margaret Pokiak can hardly contain her excitement. It’s been two years since her parents delivered her to the school run by the dark-cloaked nuns and brothers. Coming ashore, Margaret spots her family, but her mother barely recognizes her, screaming, ‘Not my girl.’ Margaret realizes she is now marked as an outsider.

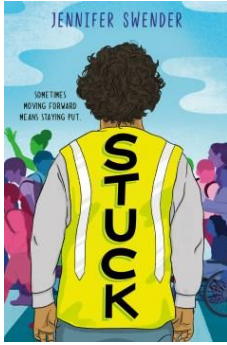
And Margaret is an outsider: she has forgotten the language and stories of her people, and she can’t even stomach the food her mother prepares.

However, Margaret gradually relearns her language and her family’s way of living. Along the way, she discovers how important it is to remain true to the ways of her people—and to herself.”

– *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 10 print copies*





### **Stuck**

By Jennifer Swender, c2021

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 3.7 (One starred review)

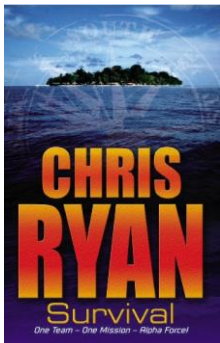
**Themes:** Coming of Age, Realistic Fiction, School Stories

#### **Summary:**

“If Austin picked a color to describe his life, it would be *tumbleweed brown*. Austin doesn't like standing out. He's always the new kid, and there's no hiding his size. Plus, Austin has a secret: he struggles to read.

Then Austin meets Bertie, who is *razzmatazz*. Everything about Bertie is bursting! But the best part of his newest school is the Safety Squad, with their *laser lemon* vests. Their easy confidence and leadership stand out in the coolest way. Even when things are not so vibrant and life at home makes Austin feel *pacific blue*, for the first time, he wants to leave a mark. And the more Austin speaks up, the more he finds he may not be that different after all.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Survival** (*Alpha Force, Book 1*)

By Chris Ryan, c2003

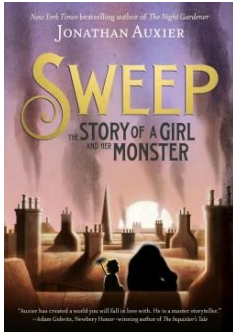
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: ?

**Themes:** Survival, Airplane Incidents, Action & Adventure

#### **Summary:**

“Five kids: Alex, Li, Paulo, Hex and Amber bond on board a sailing ship. When they are marooned on a desert island, they must face the ultimate test -- survival! The team is born.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 33 print copies*



### **Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster**

By Jonathan Auxier, c2019

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 4.5 (Six starred reviews)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Historical Fiction, Fantasy & Magic, Homelessness & Poverty, Orphans & Foster Homes

**Summary:**

“It's been five years since the Sweep disappeared. Orphaned and alone, Nan Sparrow had no other choice but to work for a ruthless chimney sweep named Wilkie Crudd. She spends her days sweeping out chimneys. The job is dangerous and thankless, but with her wits and will, Nan has managed to beat the deadly odds time and time again.

When Nan gets stuck in a chimney fire, she fears the end has come. Instead, she wakes to find herself unharmed in an abandoned attic. And she is not alone. Huddled in the corner is a mysterious creature--a *golem*--made from soot and ash.

*Sweep* is the story of a girl and her monster. Together, these two outcasts carve out a new life--saving each other in the process. Lyrically told by one of today's most powerful storytellers, *Sweep* is a heartrending adventure about the everlasting gifts of friendship and wonder.”

- *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Thing About Jellyfish**

By Ali Benjamin, c2017

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.6 (Five starred reviews)

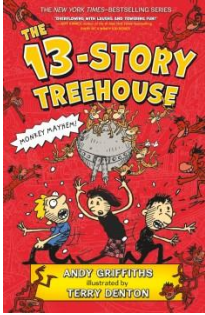
**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Friendship, Grief & Loss, Jellyfishes, Marriage & Divorce

**Summary:**

“Everyone says that it was an accident... that sometimes things "just happen". But Suzy won't believe it. Ever. After her best friend dies in a drowning accident, Suzy is convinced that the true cause of the tragedy was a rare jellyfish sting. Retreating into a silent world of imagination, she crafts a plan to prove her theory--even if it means traveling the globe, alone. Suzy's achingly heartfelt journey explores life, death, the astonishing wonder of the universe...and the potential for love and hope right next door.”

-*Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*



### **The 13-story Treehouse (Treehouse, Book 1)**

By Andy Griffiths, c2013

Interest Level: 2-5, 3-5, Reading Level: 3.8

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Story Collections, Humorous Stories, Books & Libraries

**Summary:**

“Andy and Terry live in a treehouse. But it's not just any old treehouse, it's the most amazing treehouse in the world. This treehouse has thirteen stories, a bowling alley, a see-through swimming pool, a secret underground laboratory, and a marshmallow machine that follows you around and automatically shoots marshmallows into your mouth whenever you are hungry.

Life would be perfect for Andy and Terry if it wasn't for the fact that they have to write their next book, which is almost impossible because there are just so many distractions, including thirteen flying cats, giant bananas, mermaids, a sea monsters pretending to be mermaids, enormous gorillas, and dangerous burp gas-bubble gum bubbles.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **The Tornado**

By Jake Burt, c2020

Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.9 (One starred review)

**Themes:** Bullying, Realistic Fiction, Friendship, School Stories

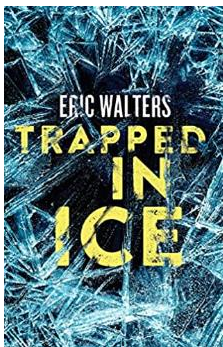
**Summary:**

“Bell Kirby is an expert at systems, whether he’s designing the world’s most elaborate habitat for his pet chinchilla, re-creating Leonardo da Vinci’s greatest inventions in his garage, or avoiding Parker Hellickson, the most diabolical bully Village Green Elementary has ever seen.

Since third grade, Parker has tormented Bell, who’s spent two long years devising a finely tuned system that keeps him out of Parker’s way. Sure, it means that Bell can’t get a drink when he wants to, can’t play with his best friend on the playground, and can’t tell his parents about his day, but at least he’s safe. Until Daelynn Gower touches down in his classroom like a tornado.

Bell’s not sure why the new girl, with her rainbow hair, wild clothes, and strange habits, is drawn to him, but he knows one thing--she means trouble. It’s bad enough that she disrupts Bell’s secret system, but when Daelynn becomes the bully’s new target, Bell is forced to make an impossible decision: Finally stand up to Parker...” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Trapped In Ice**

By Eric Walters, c2017

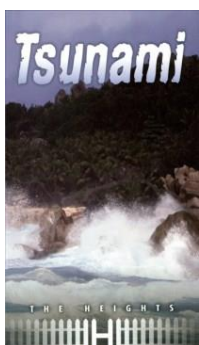
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 4.8

**Themes:** Historical Fiction, Canadian Arctic Expedition, Shipwrecks, Survival

#### **Summary:**

“The Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913 is not meant for children, so it doesn't look like bookish Helen or her squirmy little brother, Michael, will be having any fun. To fight off the boredom, Helen plans to keep her nose in her favourite books. But on their way to the Arctic, the ocean freezes over early, catching the captain and crew by surprise. The boat becomes trapped in ice and everyone is forced to abandon ship before it sinks. It's a long and treacherous road to solid land and many dangers lie ahead. Helen could not have predicted that instead of reading about adventures, she would soon be living an extraordinary one of her own...” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Tsunami** (*The Heights, Hi-Lo*)

By Mary Kate Doman, c2012

Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 2.9

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Tsunamis, Survival, Family Life, Hi-Lo

#### **Summary:**

“When the Silvas go on vacation to Tanna Island, Vanuatu, they are in for more than just a family vacation.” - *Follett*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies*



### **Ungifted** (*A sequel follows: Supergifted*)

By Gordon Korman, c2014

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 5.2

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, Humor, School Stories, Gifted Children, Robotics

#### **Summary:**

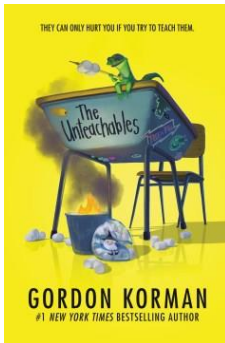
“From #1 New York Times bestselling author Gordon Korman comes a hilarious and heartfelt novel in which one middle-school troublemaker accidentally moves into the gifted and talented program--and changes everything.

For fans of Louis Sachar and Jack Gantos, this funny and touching underdog story is a lovable and goofy adventure with robot fights, middle-school dances, live experiments, and statue-topping pranks!

When Donovan Curtis pulls a major prank at his middle school, he thinks he's finally gone too far. But thanks to a mix-up by one of the administrators, instead of getting in trouble, Donovan is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students.

Although it wasn't exactly what Donovan had intended, the ASD couldn't be a more perfectly unexpected hideout for someone like him. But as the students and teachers of ASD grow to realize that Donovan may not be good at math or science (or just about anything), he shows that his gifts may be exactly what the ASD students never knew they needed." - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 25 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Unteachables**

By Gordon Korman, c2019

Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 5.1

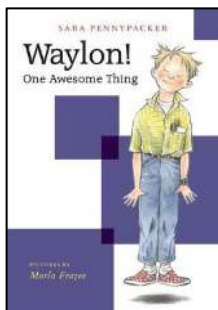
**Themes:** Humor, Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Social-Emotional Learning

**Summary:**

"The Unteachables' never thought they'd find a teacher who had a worse attitude than they did. And Mr. Kermit never thought he would actually care about teaching again. Over the course of a school year, though, room 117 will experience mayhem, destruction--and maybe even a shot at

redemption." - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies*



### **Waylon! One Awesome Thing** (*Waylon!, Book 1 of 3*)

By Sara Pennypacker, c2017

Interest Level: 2-5, Reading Level: 4.6

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Brothers & Sisters, Friendship

**Summary:**

"Waylon, a boy with the mind of a scientific genius and the vulnerable heart of an eight-year-old, is trying to understand his older sister and deal with changes among the kids at school." – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*





### **We're Not from Here**

By Geoff Rodkey, c2020

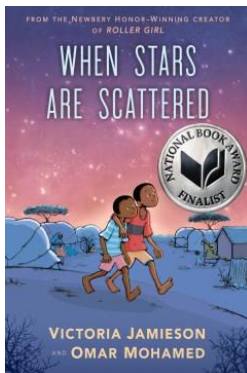
Interest Level: 4-7, 5-8, Reading Level: 5.0

**Themes:** Action & Adventure, Science Fiction, Extraterrestrial Beings, Social Awareness, School Stories, Survival

#### **Summary:**

“After a year on Mars, a young boy and his family migrate to the planet Choom, but the inhabitants of Choom, the Zhuri, who look like giant mosquitoes, don't really like humans and it up to the boy and his family to change their minds if they hope to survive.” - *Follett*

*\*LRC: 15 print copies, audiobook*



### **When Stars are Scattered**

By Victoria Jamieson, c2020

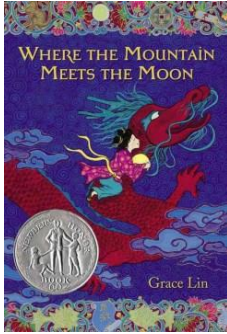
Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: ? Graphic (Seven starred reviews)

**Themes:** Refugees, Immigration, Diverse Abilities, Brothers, Memoir, Omar Mohamed

#### **Summary:**

“Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care Omar knows his nonverbal brother needs. So, when Omar has the opportunity to go to school, he knows it might be a chance to change their future . . . but it would also mean leaving his brother, the only family member he has left, every day. Heartbreak, hope, and gentle humor exist together in this graphic novel about a childhood spent waiting, and a young man who is able to create a sense of family and home in the most difficult of settings. It's an intimate, important, unforgettable look at the day-to-day life of a refugee, as told to New York Times Bestselling author/artist Victoria Jamieson by Omar Mohamed, the Somali man who lived the story.” – *Pub.*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



**Where the Mountain Meets the Moon** (Companion book: *Starry River of the Sky* follows)

By Grace Lin, c2009

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 5.5 (Four starred reviews, Newberry Honor book, 2010)

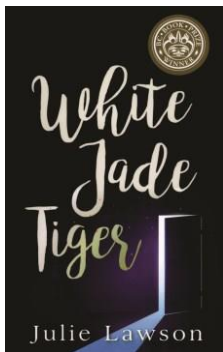
**Themes:** Fantasy, Dragons, Fairy Tales, Moon, Asian American

**Summary:**

“In the valley of Fruitless Mountain, a young girl named Minli lives in a ramshackle hut with her parents. While her father regales her with old folktales of the Jade Dragon and the Old Man in the Moon, Minli's mother chides him for filling her head with stories. But inspired by these stories, Minli spends one of her precious copper pennies on a beautiful goldfish, which is said to be able to change the fortune of the owner. Her mother reprimands her for the silly purchase, but it pays off when the goldfish talks and offers to show her the path to fortune and wealth! Minli is eventually joined by a dragon who can't fly, and together they set out to find the Old Man of the Moon to ask him to fulfill their dreams.

Fantasy crossed with Chinese folklore, with timeless elements of the classic *The Wizard of Oz* mixed in, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* is a wondrous story of adventure, devotion, and friendship. Grace Lin has once again written a charming, engaging book for young readers.” – *Pub.*

\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook



**White Jade Tiger**

By Julie Lawson, c2006

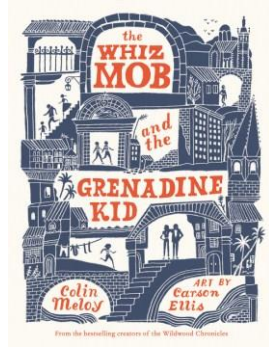
Interest Level: 4-7, Reading Level: 5.7

**Themes:** Chinese British Columbia History, Historical Fiction, Victoria History, Science Fiction

**Summary:**

“When her father goes to China for a year, Jasmine must stay in Victoria, British Columbia, but while on a field trip to Chinatown she finds herself transported back to the 1880s where she finds herself caught up in the search for a tiger amulet.”  
- *Follett*

\*LRC: 37 print copies, audiobook



### **The Whiz Mob and the Grenadine Kid**

By Colin Meloy, c2017

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 6.2, 420 pages (One starred review)

**Themes:** Adventure, Historical Fiction, Humor, Fantasy, Robbers & Outlaws, Pickpockets, Friendship, Street Children

#### **Summary:**

“It is an ordinary Tuesday morning in April when bored, lonely Charlie Fisher witnesses something incredible. Right before his eyes, in a busy square in Marseille, a group of pickpockets pulls off an amazing robbery. As the young bandits appear to melt into the crowd, Charlie realizes with a start that he himself was one of their marks. Yet Charlie is less alarmed than intrigued. This is the most thrilling thing that's happened to him since he came to France with his father, an American diplomat. So instead of reporting the thieves, Charlie defends one of their cannons, Amir, to the police, under one condition: he teach Charlie the tricks of the trade.

What starts off as a lesson on pinches, kicks, and chumps soon turns into an invitation for Charlie to join the secret world of the whiz mob, an international band of child thieves who trained at the mysterious School of Seven Bells. The whiz mob are independent and incredibly skilled and make their own way in the world--they are everything Charlie yearns to be. But what at first seemed like a (relatively) harmless new pastime draws him into a dangerous adventure with global stakes greater than he could have ever imagined.” - *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **The Wild Robot (Wild Robot, Book 1 of 3)**

By Peter Brown, c2020

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 5.1 (4 starred reviews)

**Themes:** Science Fiction, Animal Stories, Action & Adventure, Robots, Technology, Survival, Social Emotional Learning

#### **Summary:**

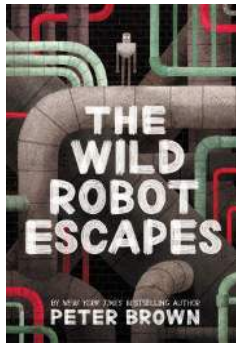
“Can a robot survive in the wilderness?”

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is all alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a violent storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants.

As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home--until, one day, the robot's mysterious past comes back to haunt her.

From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed novel about what happens when nature and technology collide.” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 26 print copies, audiobook*



**The Wild Robot Escapes** (*Wild Robot, Bk. 2*)

By Peter Brown, c2018

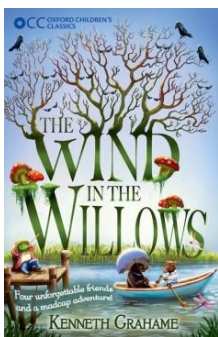
Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 5.0 (Two starred reviews)

**Themes:** Robotics, Action and Adventure, Animal Stories, Conservation and the Environment, Survival Stories, Farm Life

**Summary:**

“Shipwrecked on a remote, wild island, Robot Roz learned from the unwelcoming animal inhabitants and adapted to her surroundings—but can she survive the challenge of the civilized world and find her way home to Brightbill and the island? From bestselling and award-winning author and illustrator Peter Brown comes a heartwarming and action-packed sequel to his New York Times bestselling, *The Wild Robot*, about what happens when nature and technology collide.” – *Pub.*

*LRC: 24 print copies, ebook in Sora*



**The Wind in the Willows**

By Kenneth Grahame, c1908, 2014

Interest Level: 5-8, Reading Level: 8.2

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Classics, Friendship

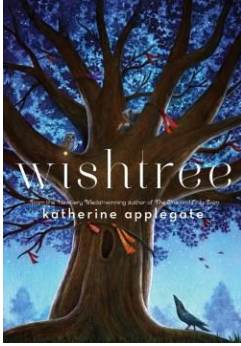
**Summary:**

“Mole, Rat, and Badger are Toad’s dearest friends even as the aristocratic amphibian’s wastrel ways get him into trouble. After being arrested and sentenced to jail, he returns to his ancestral home of Toad Hall to find it overrun with stoats and weasels from the Wild Wood. But his friends haven’t abandoned him yet. In fact, they’ve conspired to help drive the villainous vermin from his home.

Embracing themes of empathy and friendship under the most trying conditions, *The Wind in the Willows* follows the journey of its anthropomorphic characters through the changing seasons of the English countryside while providing life lessons that have endured for generations.”

– *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **Wishtree**

By Katherine Applegate, c2017

Interest Level: 3-6, Reading Level: 4.2 (Five starred reviews)

**Themes:** Fantasy, Multicultural, Tolerance, Friendship, Wishes, Trees, Crows, Racism

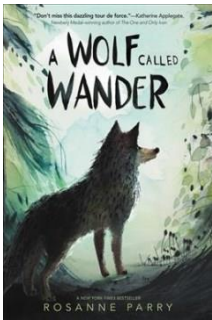
#### **Summary:**

“Red is an oak tree who is many rings old. Red is the neighborhood ‘wishtree’--people write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches. Along with her crow friend Bongo and other animals who seek refuge in Red's hollows, this ‘*wishtree*’ watches over the neighborhood.

You might say Red has seen it all. Until a new family moves in. Not everyone is welcoming, and Red's experiences as a wishtree are more important than ever.

Funny, deep, warm, and nuanced, *Wishtree* is Newbery Medalist and *New York Times*-bestselling author Katherine Applegate at her very best--writing from the heart, and from a completely unexpected point of view.” – *Publisher*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*



### **A Wolf Called Wander**

By Rosanne Parry, c2020

Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 4.4

**Themes:** Animal Stories, Relationship Skills, Nature, Wolves, Survival

#### **Summary:**

“This gripping novel about survival and family is based on the real story of one wolf’s incredible journey to find a safe place to call home. Illustrated throughout, this irresistible tale by award-winning author Rosanne Parry is for fans of Sara Pennypacker’s *Pax* and Katherine Applegate’s *The One and Only Ivan*.

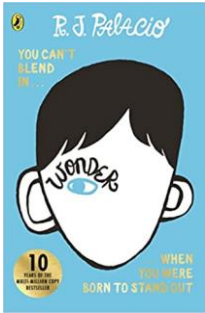
Swift, a young wolf cub, lives with his pack in the mountains learning to hunt, competing with his brothers and sisters for hierarchy, and watching over a new litter of cubs. Then a rival pack attacks, and Swift and his family scatter.

Alone and scared, Swift must flee and find a new home. His journey takes him a remarkable one thousand miles across the Pacific Northwest. The trip is full of peril, and Swift encounters forest fires, hunters, highways, and hunger before he finds his new home.

Inspired by the extraordinary true story of a wolf named OR-7 (or Journey), this irresistible tale of survival invites readers to experience and imagine what it would be like to be one of the most misunderstood animals on earth. This gripping and appealing novel about family, courage, loyalty, and the natural world is for fans of Fred Gipson’s *Old Yeller* and Katherine Applegate’s *Endling*.” - *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 13 print copies, audiobook*





### Wonder

By R.J. Palacio, c2012

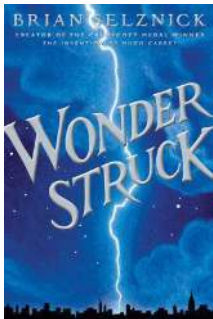
Interest Level: 3-7, Reading Level: 4.8 (Seven starred reviews)

**Themes:** Realistic Fiction, School Stories, Friendship, Disabilities, Self-acceptance

#### **Summary:**

“August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid--but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face. WONDER, now a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and a blockbuster hit, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.” - *Follett*

\*LRC: 33 print copies, ebook



### Wonderstruck

By Brian Selznick, c2011

Interest Level: 4-8, Reading Level: 5.0 (Five starred reviews)

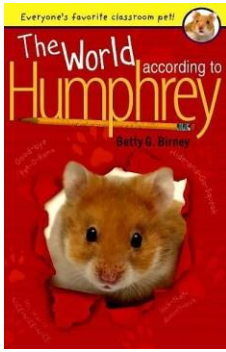
**Themes:** Overcoming Adversity, Historical Fiction, Adventure, Family Life, Art, Determination

#### **Summary:**

“Ben and Rose secretly wish their lives were different. Ben longs for the father he has never known. Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his mother’s room and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out alone on desperate quests to find what they are missing.

Set fifty years apart, these two independent stories—Ben’s told in words, Rose’s in pictures—weave back and forth with mesmerizing symmetry. How they unfold and ultimately intertwine will surprise you, challenge you, and leave you breathless with wonder. Rich, complex, affecting, and beautiful—with over 460 pages of original artwork—Wonderstruck is a stunning achievement from a gifted artist and visionary.” – *Pub.*

LRC: 12 print copies, ebook in Sora



**The World According to Humphrey** (*Humphrey the Hamster, Book 1*)

By Betty G. Birney, c2004

Interest Level: 3-7, 2-5, Reading Level: 4.2

**Themes:** Animal Stories, School Stories, Pets, Hamsters

**Summary:**

“You can learn a lot about life by observing another species. That’s what Humphrey was told when he was first brought to Room 26. And boy, is it true! In addition to having FUN-FUN-FUN in class, each weekend this amazing hamster gets to sleep over with a different student, like Lower-Your-Voice-A.J. and Speak-Up-Sayeh. Soon Humphrey learns to read, write, and even shoot rubber bands (only in self-defence, of course). With lots of friends to help, adventures to enjoy, and a cage with a lock-that-doesn’t- lock, Humphrey's life is almost perfect. If only the teacher, Mrs. Brisbane, wasn’t out to get him!” – *Amazon*

*\*LRC: 12 print copies, audiobook*

# **Additional Novel Kits**

## Genre Novel Kit Collection

Each genre novel kit contains a wide variety of individual title. The titles, which are “tried and true”, or selected from the popular section of bookstores, vary in their interest levels, reading levels, number of pages, themes etc., in order to provide students with “choice” in their reading for pleasure. Some Hi-Lo (high interest low vocabulary) titles have been included to meet the needs of all learners. The eleven genres include: Action & Adventure, Animal Stories, Fantasy, Graphic Format, Historical Fiction, Humour, Mystery & Detective, Real Life, Science Fiction, Sports and Supernatural. It is hoped that these kits will make it easier for you to introduce students to genres beyond their favorite ones. A “Passport to Genres” activity, where students read one title from each genre, is a fun way to encourage this.

For an electronic list of the titles in each genre kit, click [here](#).



### Genre : action & adventure

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 GEN ACT  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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### Genre : animal stories

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 GEN ANI  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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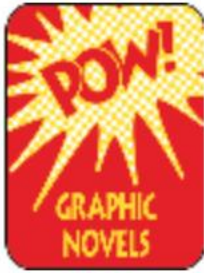


### Genre : fantasy

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 GEN FAN  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

---



**Genre : graphic novels**

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 GEN GRA  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : historical fiction**

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 GEN HIS  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : humorous stories**

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 GEN HUM  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : mystery and detectives**

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 GEN MYS  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : real life**

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 GEN REA  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : science fiction**

[Details](#)

📖 Call #: NV 813 GEN SCI  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : sports stories**

[Details](#)

📖 Call #: NV 813 GEN SPO  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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**Genre : supernatural**

[Details](#)

📖 Call #: NV 813 GEN SUP  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

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## Popular Novel Kit Collection

Looking for some refreshing, newer, popular novels to offer your students for reading for pleasure? Each kit contains single copy titles covering a wide variety of interests, as well as reading levels, so that there is lots of choice for students. Several of the titles are graphic novels. Most were published in the year indicated and received good reviews in the reviewing journals or were found in bookstores as popular titles. Several of the titles in the kits are found in other LRC novel kits, organized under “Genre” or “Mental Health” etc. Click [here](#) to see an extensive list of novels in digital format.

3/4

### Popular novels and NF : grade 3/4 - 2024


[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: 3-6

4/5

### Popular novels : grade 4/5 - 2021-2022 - set 1


[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2021  
Interest Level: 3-6

4/5

### Popular novels : grade 4/5 - 2021-2022 - set 2


[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: 3-6

4/5

### Popular novels : grade 4/5 - 2022-2023


[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6

4/5


### Popular novels : grade 4/5 - 2023 - set 4

[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6

4/5

[Popular novels and NF : grade 4/5 - 2024](#) [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP


Series: Go! Emerge

Published 2024

Interest Level: 3-6

5/6

[Popular novels : grade 5/6 - 2021-2022 - set 1](#) [Details](#)


 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP

Published 2021

Interest Level: 5-8

5/6

[Popular novels : grade 5/6 - 2022-2023 - set 2](#) [Details](#)


 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP

Published 2022

Interest Level: 5-8

5/6

[Popular novels : grade 5/6 - 2022-2023 - set 3](#) [Details](#)


 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP

Published 2023

Interest Level: 5-8

5/6

[Popular novels: grade 5/6 - 2023 - set 4](#) [Details](#)


 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP

Published 2023

Interest Level: 5-8

5/6

[Popular novels and NF : grade 5/6 - 2024.](#) [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP


Series: Tween emergent reader libraries

Published 2024

Interest Level: 3-6

6/7

[Popular novels : grade 6/7 - 2021-2022 - set 1](#) [Details](#)


 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP

Published 2021

Interest Level: 5-8


6/7

Popular novels : grade 6/7 - 2022-2023 - set 2 [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: 5-8


6/7

Popular novels: grade 6/7 - 2023 - set 4 [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8


6/7

Popular novels : grade 6/7 - 2023-2024 - set 3 [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 5-8

6/7

Popular novels and NF : grade 6/7 - 2024 [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Series: Go! Excel  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: 5-8



Popular novels : grade 5-7 - 2021-2022 (Survival theme) [Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 POP  
Published 2021  
Interest Level: 5-8

## Mental Health & Well-Being Kit Collection

There are nine Mental Health and Well-Being Kits centered around common themes that have an impact on the mental health and well-being of students. Each kit was designed to provide easy access to a wide variety of individual titles to spark student self-reflection and/or discussion through their reading. Also included are suggestions from a School Counsellor on how to deal with sensitive topics, a variety of ways to use the kits, a list of possible questions to consider while reading and an annotated bibliography which is also posted to the LRC section of learn71 under theme lists: <http://learn71.ca/elementary-libraries/> It is recommended that you browse the bibliography to get an idea of the interest levels of the novels as well as their reading levels. Click [here](#) to see the bibliography for each kit.



**Mental health and well-being : exploring family life and relationships through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring bullying and teasing through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring friendship and school life through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring gender identity through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring loss and grief through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring neurological diversity through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



**Mental health and well-being : exploring worries and low mood through the reading of novels - intermediate**

Call #: KT 152.4 MEN      Joan Pearce and Leanne Webster Brenner.

Published 2020  
Interest Level: 5-8



## Decodable Book Kit Collection

The targeted interest level of most of these kits is Grades 4 to 8, which the publishers have created to fill a huge need. Kits aimed at primary students have been included as well as they can be beneficial to some intermediate students. While searching the LRC in Destiny, click on the Resource List “LRC Literacy: Decodable Books” to pull up these titles.



### **Meg and Greg : four phonic stories**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 MEG      Written by Elspeth Rae and Rowena Rae; illustrations by Elisa Gutiérrez.  
Series: Meg and Greg  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: K-3

### TwERL Phonics Collection:



### **TwERL phonics: Go! Develop [2] : high interest decodable books for intermediate students**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6



### **TwERL phonics : Go! Develop [2] : mini kit for individual reading**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6



### **TwERL phonics : Go! Discover [3]**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: 3-6



### **TwERL phonics : Go! Discover [3] : mini kit for individual reading**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6



### **TwERL phonics: Go! decode : high interest decodable books for intermediate students**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: 3-6



### **TwERL phonics: Go! decode : high interest decodable books for intermediate students individual titles**

[Details](#)

Learning Resource Center      Call #: KT 372.4 TWE  
Series: TwERL phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: 3-6

## Tween Emergent Reader Libraries

\*These titles are not labeled “decodable” but are at a very low reading level and contain lots of decodable words and high frequency sight words:



### Tween emergent reader libraries: Go! Emerge [1]

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 1  
Published 2018



### Tween emergent reader libraries : Go! Engage [2]

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 2  
Published 2018  
Interest Level: 5-8



### Tween emergent reader libraries : Go! Emerge [1] (mini)

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 1  
Published 2018  
Interest Level: 5-8



### Tween emergent reader libraries : Go! Excel [3]

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 3  
Published 2018  
Interest Level: 5-8



### Tween emergent reader libraries: Go! Engage [2] (mini)

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 2  
Published 2018  
Interest Level: 5-8



### Tween emergent reader libraries : Go! Excel [3] (mini)

[Details](#)

**Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.4 TWE

Series: Tween emergent reader libraries ; 3  
Published 2018  
Interest Level: 5-8

The kits below are “primary” oriented but are of benefit to intermediate students as well:



**Flyleaf publishing decodable emergent reader series**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 FLY written by Laura Appleton-Smith  
Series: Flyleaf readers  
Published 2012  
Interest Level: K-3

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**Flyleaf publishing decodable reading series 1**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 FLY written by Laura Appleton-Smith  
Series: Flyleaf readers  
Published 2014  
Interest Level: K-3

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**Flyleaf publishing decodable reading series 2**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 FLY written by Laura Appleton-Smith  
Series: Flyleaf readers  
Published 2014  
Interest Level: K-3

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**Flyleaf publishing decodable reading series 3**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 FLY written by Laura Appleton-Smith  
Series: Flyleaf readers  
Published 2014  
Interest Level: K-3

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**Pip and Tim decodable books**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 PIP  
Series: Little learners love literacy  
Published 2020  
Interest Level: K-3

---



**Primary phonics decodable storybook series, sets 1-6**

[Details](#)

Call #: KT 372.4 PRI Barbara W. Makar  
Series: Primary phonics  
Published 2020  
Interest Level: K-3

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**Simple words decodable chapter books**

[Details](#)


Call #: KT 372.4 SIM  
Published 2021  
Interest Level: K-3





**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 1, set 1, short vowels**


[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3



**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 1, set 2, short vowels**


[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3




**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 1, set 3, short vowels**

[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3

**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 2, set 1, (ck, zz, ll, ff, ss)**


[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3



**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 2, set 2, (th, ch, wh, sh)**


[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3



**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 3, set 1, (ing, ink, ang, and ank)**


[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3



**Whole phonics™ decodable books : level 3, set 2, (blends with l, r and s+)**

[Details](#)

 Call #: KT 372.4 WHO  
Series: Whole phonics  
Published 2022  
Interest Level: K-3

## Leveled Reader Kit Collection

Most of the leveled reader series start at the earliest levels, which appeal mostly to primary students. As the levels increase, the interest levels increase as well. While searching the LRC in Destiny, click on the Resource List "LRC Literacy: Leveled Books" to pull up these titles. There are usually several copies of each title in these kits.

### **PM Family: Kits go from Level 1 to 24**

---

	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 3-6</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 3-6
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 7-9</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 7-9
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 10-12</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 10-12
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 13-15</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 13-15
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 16-18</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 16-18
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 19-21</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 19-21
	<b>PM family of readers : Levels 22-24</b>  <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Series: PM family readers Published 2006 Interest Level: K-3	<a href="#">Details</a> Call #: KT 372.4 PMF LEV 22-24

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PM readers : Levels 9-14: Set 2

[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: KT 372.4 PMR LEV 9-14

Series: PM

Interest Level: K-3

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PM readers : Levels 1-8: Set 1

[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: KT 372.4 PMR LEV 1-8

Series: PM


Interest Level: K-3

---



PM readers : Levels 1-8 : Set 2

[Details](#)

 Learning Resource Center Call #: KT 372.4 PMR LEV 1-8

Series: PM

Interest Level: K-3

---



PM readers : Levels 9-14: Set 1

[Details](#)











 Learning Resource Center Call #: KT 372.4 PMR LEV 9-14

Series: PM

Interest Level: K-3



**JiIE:** Kits go from Level B to H

- 
- |   |   |                           |
|---|---|---------------------------|
|    | <p><b>JiIE literacy readers : Levels B,C,D</b> <a href="#">Details</a><br/> <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Call #: KT 372.4 JIL<br/>Published 2022<br/>Interest Level: K-3</p>                        | Eggleton, Jill.           |
| <hr/>   |   |                           |
|    | <p><b>JiIE literacy readers : Levels E,F,G - set 1</b> <a href="#">Details</a><br/> <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Call #: KT 372.4 JIL<br/>Published 2022<br/>Interest Level: K-3</p>                | Eggleton, Jill.           |
| <hr/>   |   |                           |
|    | <p><b>JiIE literacy readers : Levels E,F,G - set 2</b> <a href="#">Details</a><br/> <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Call #: KT 372.4 JIL<br/>Published 2022<br/>Interest Level: K-3</p>                | Eggleton, Jill.           |
| <hr/>   |   |                           |
|   | <p><b>JiIE literacy readers : Levels F,G,H</b> <a href="#">Details</a><br/> <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Call #: KT 372.4 JIL<br/>Published 2022<br/>Interest Level: K-3</p>                       | Eggleton, Jill.           |
| <hr/>   |   |                           |
|  | <p><b>JiIE literacy readers : Levels B to G (Individual titles)</b> <a href="#">Details</a><br/> <b>Learning Resource Center</b> Call #: KT 372.4 JIL<br/>Published 2008<br/>Interest Level: K-3</p> | written by Jill Eggleton. |

## Hi Lo Kit Collection

For a list of Hi-Lo books that may be of interest to your schools, some of which are included in our LRC kits, click [here](#).



### Hi lo chapter book collection: RL 1.6 to 2.6.

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 HIL  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6

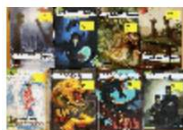


### Hi lo chapter book collection: RL 2.9 to 3.9.

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 HIL  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6

## Dragonblood:



### Dragonblood hi-low chapter books

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 DRA Dahl, Michael.  
Series: Dragonblood  
Published 2021  
Interest Level: 5-8



### Dragonblood series (12 books)

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 DRA Dahl, Michael.  
Series: Dragonblood  
Published 2009  
Interest Level: 5-8

## Faeriground:



### Faeriground, bk. 1-12 (12 books)

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 FAE Bracken, Beth.  
Series: Faeriground  
Published 2012  
Reading Level: 2.7 Interest Level: 5-8



### Faeriground fantasy chapter books

[Details](#)

■ Call #: NV 813 FAE Bracken, Beth.  
Series: Faeriground  
Published 2021  
Interest Level: 5-8

## The Library of Doom:



### The library of doom series (12 books)

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 LIB Dahl, Michael.

Series: Library of doom

Published 2008

Reading Level: 2.7 Interest Level: 5-8

## The Heights:



### The heights series (20 books)

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 HEI

Series: The heights

Interest Level: 5-8



### Jump

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 JUM Doman, Mary Kate.

Series: Heights

Published 2012

Reading Level: 2.6 Interest Level: 5-8



### Jump (single book)

[Details](#)

Call #: NV 813 JUM Doman, Mary Kate.

Series: Heights

Published 2012

Reading Level: 2.6 Interest Level: 5-8

**Blizzard**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 BLI Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2012
- Reading Level: 2.2 Interest Level: 5-8

**Blizzard (single book)**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 BLI Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2012
- Reading Level: 2.2 Interest Level: 5-8

**Camp**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 CAM Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2011
- Reading Level: 1.8 Interest Level: 5-8

**Camp (single book)**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 CAM Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2011
- Reading Level: 1.8 Interest Level: 5-8

**Crash**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 CRA Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2011
- Reading Level: 2.0 Interest Level: 5-8

**Crash (single book)**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 CRA Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2011
- Reading Level: 2.0 Interest Level: 5-8

**Sail**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 SAI Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2012
- Reading Level: 2.1 Interest Level: 5-8

**Sail (single book)**[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 SAI Doman, Mary Kate.
- Series: Heights
- Published 2012
- Reading Level: 2.1 Interest Level: 5-8



**Tsunami**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 TSU      Doman, Mary Kate.  
Series: Heights  
Published 2012  
Reading Level: 2.9 Interest Level: 5-8



**Tsunami (single book)**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 TSU      Doman, Mary Kate.  
Series: Heights  
Published 2012  
Reading Level: 2.9 Interest Level: 5-8

## Orca Currents:



**Bigfoot crossing**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 BIG      Anderson-Dargatz, Gail, 1963-  
Series: Orca currents  
Published 2023  
Reading Level: 2.4 Interest Level: 5-8



**Bigfoot crossing (single book)**

[Details](#)

[Open](#)

- Call #: NV 813 BIG      Anderson-Dargatz, Gail, 1963-  
Series: Orca currents  
Published 2023  
Reading Level: 2.4 Interest Level: 5-8



**Finders keepers**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 FIN      McFarlane, Melanie.  
Series: Orca currents  
Published 2021  
Reading Level: 3.0 Interest Level: 5-8



**Finders keepers (single book)**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 FIN      McFarlane, Melanie.  
Series: Orca currents  
Published 2021  
Reading Level: 3.0 Interest Level: 5-8

## Hip Jr:



**Bats mystery series (12 books)**

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 BAT      Jennings, Sharon.  
Series: HIP-JR  
Reading Level: 2.5 Interest Level: 3-6





### Shooting the rapids

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 SHO Kropp, Paul.
- Series: HIP JR
- Published 2006
- Reading Level: 2.3 Interest Level: 3-6



### Shooting the rapids (single book)

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 SHO Kropp, Paul.
- Series: HIP JR
- Published 2006
- Reading Level: 2.3 Interest Level: 3-6

## Hip Sr:



### Avalanche

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 AVA Kropp, Paul.
- Series: HIP SR
- Published 2005
- Reading Level: 3.4 Interest Level: 5-8

## Jake Maddox:



### Jake Maddox sports and adventure hi-low chapter books

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 MAD
- Published 2021
- Interest Level: 3-6

## Red Canoe Books:



### Red Canoe leveled chapter books (36 books)

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 RED
- Series: Red Canoe books
- Published 2017
- Reading Level: 2.0 Interest Level: 3-6



## Red Rhino Books:



### Red rhino fiction and nonfiction, gr. 4-8 (29 books)

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 RED
- Series: Red rhino books
- Published 2015
- Interest Level: 3-6



### Red Rhino hi-low fiction and non-fiction chapter books

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 RED
- Published 2021
- Interest Level: 3-6



### Red rhino series (19 books)

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 RED
- Series: Red rhino books
- Published 2015
- Interest Level: 3-6



### Stolen treasure

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 STO Schraff, Anne.
- Series: Red rhino books
- Published 2014
- Reading Level: 2.5 Interest Level: 3-6



### Stolen treasure (single book)

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 STO Schraff, Anne.
- Series: Red rhino books
- Published 2014
- Reading Level: 2.5 Interest Level: 3-6

## Miscellaneous:



### Easy to read spooky tales hi-low chapter books

[Details](#)

- Call #: NV 813 EAS Charles, Veronika Martenova.
- Series: Easy to read spooky tales
- Published 2021
- Interest Level: 3-6

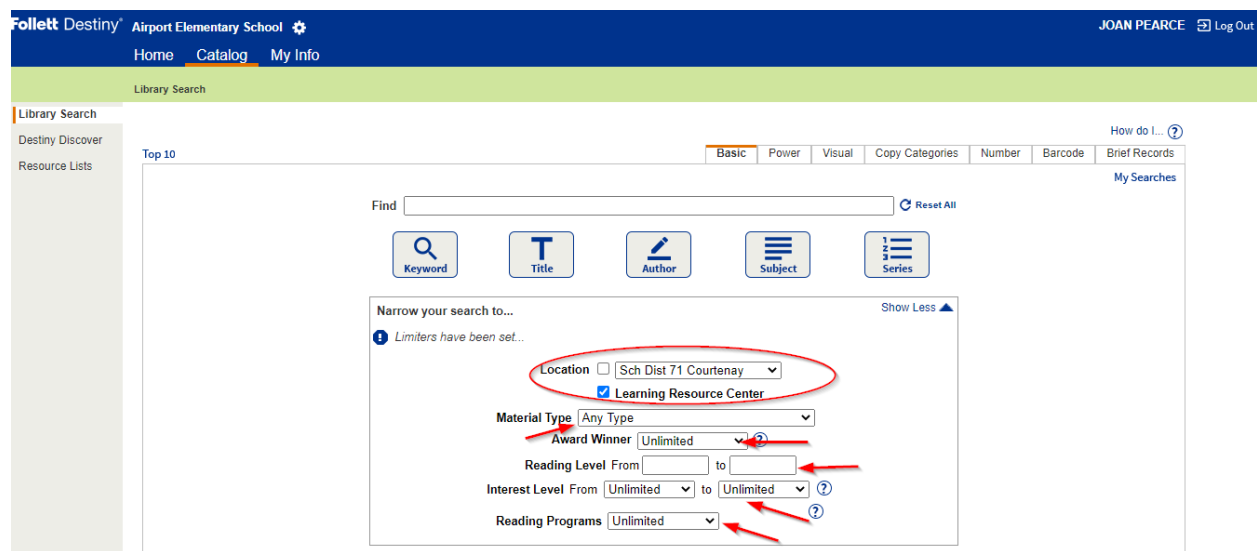
**Quick access to these resources can be found using the "LRC Resource Lists." Log into your school library, click on Catalog, then Resource Lists. Make sure the tab in the upper right-hand corner is set to "Public." Then scroll down the lists that appear looking for the ones that start with "LRC." Once you pull up the titles in a list you can click on them and book them directly from that screen.**

## Tips for Booking LRC Novel Sets

Below are the most often asked questions about booking LRC novels for lit circles as well as for whole class novel studies.

### How do I search for a novel title when I know the title that I am looking for?

Log into your school library and click on **Catalog**. Ensure the checkmark is beside the LRC and the other search fields are set to the defaults. In the “Find” bar type in your title and press Enter:



The screenshot shows the Follett Destiny library search interface for Airport Elementary School. The user is logged in as JOAN PEARCE. The interface includes a search bar and several filter options. The "Narrow your search to..." section is expanded, showing the following filters:

- Location:  Sch Dist 71 Courtenay
- Learning Resource Center
- Material Type: Any Type
- Award Winner: Unlimited
- Reading Level: From [ ] to [ ]
- Interest Level: From Unlimited to Unlimited
- Reading Programs: Unlimited

Red arrows point to the "Learning Resource Center" checkbox and the "Unlimited" dropdowns for Award Winner, Interest Level, and Reading Programs. A red circle highlights the "Location" dropdown menu.

### How do I search to see what novels are available for my grade when I don't have a specific title in mind?

Log into your school library and click on **Catalog**. On the left-hand side of the screen click on **Resource Lists** then ensure that the **Public** tab is selected in the upper right-hand side of the screen. The LRC has made the following “Resource Lists” to group novels for one-stop browsing. Click on the list that is the best fit for what you are looking for. When you see a title that interests you, click on it.

The current “Resource Lists” are:

LRC Elem novel sets French	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4/11/2019
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 1 & 2	<a href="#">View</a>	Debra Lovett [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5/20/2020
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 2 & 3	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5/20/2020
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 3 & 4	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5/20/2020
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 4 & 5	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10/20/2020
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 5 & 6	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/12/2020
LRC Elem novel sets, gr. 6 & 7	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/12/2020
LRC Graphic novels	<a href="#">View</a>	Debra Lovett [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/2/2020
LRC Hi-Lo novels	<a href="#">View</a>	Debra Lovett [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2/27/2019
High interest low vocabulary					
LRC New novels INT 2017-2021	<a href="#">View</a>	Debra Lovett [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/12/2020
LRC New novels PRI 2017-2021	<a href="#">View</a>	Debra Lovett [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5/20/2020
LRC Novels with 20+ copies	<a href="#">View</a>	Joan Pearce [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	11/12/2020
LRC Novels with Audio books	<a href="#">View</a>	LRC [LRC]	<a href="#">Show More</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10/20/2020
The LRC Novel set titles in this list also have available a professionally narrated audio book, that can be accessed through logging into your school library and searching in Destiny.					

## How do I know how many copies of a novel there are?

When you search for a novel by title two records for it will display. One is for a box of 10, and the other is for single copies. Here is an example for the novel Slacker:

Searched for (slacker) Searched in: Learning Resource Center. [Printable] [Add Page]

[Not what you're looking for? Refine your search? Browse Subjects?] Selected List: Sci Fi Titles for Elizabeth

Titles: 1 - 4 of 4 Sort By: Relevance Go

	<b>Slacker</b> <a href="#">Details</a> Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 SLA Korman, Gordon. Published 2017 Reading Level: 5.2 Interest Level: 5-8	This record is for a box of 10. If you open the record and scroll to the bottom, it will say "Quantity: 10." 1 box of 3 boxes is available now.	1 of 3 available <a href="#">Add to This List</a>
	<b>Slacker (single book)</b> <a href="#">Details</a> Learning Resource Center Call #: NV 813 SLA Korman, Gordon. Published 2017 Reading Level: 5.2 Interest Level: 3-6	This record is for a single copy only.	5 of 5 available 5 single copies of 5 are available now. <a href="#">Add to This List</a>

If I want to book a total of 30 novels (3 boxes of 10), how do I do this?

You first need to make sure that 3 boxes of 10 are available. Below is an example of the records for “The Next Great Paulie Fink”:

The screenshot shows a library search results page. At the top, it says "Library Search > Search Results" and "Read". Below that, it says "Searched for (the next great paulie fink). Searched in: Learning Resource Center." There are buttons for "Printable" and "Add Page". A dropdown menu shows "Selected List: Sci Fi Titles for Elizabeth". The search results are sorted by "Relevance" and show 1-3 of 3 titles. The first title is "The next great Paulie Fink" by Benjamin, Ali, published in 2019. It has a reading level of 6.0 and an interest level of 5-8. A red box highlights the text "3 boxes of 10 are available." and an arrow points to the "3 of 3 available" text. The second title is "The next great Paulie Fink (single book)" by Benjamin, Ali, published in 2019, with a reading level of 6.0 and an interest level of 5-8. It has "6 of 6 available" copies.

3 boxes of 3 are available so click on the title to bring up the full record then click on then **Book It**:

The screenshot shows the full record page for "The next great Paulie Fink [novels]" by Ali Benjamin. The call number is NV 813 NEX. It states "Off-site copies available: 3 of 3. See all...". There is a "Book It" button with a red arrow pointing to it. Below the title, there is a description: "Led by new student Caitlyn, seventh-graders at a tiny rural school in Vermont create a reality-show inspired competition to determine who will replace the school's legendary class clown, Paulie Fink."

On the screen that appears, be sure to fill in 3 for the number of copies. When picking your starting date, be sure to select the day that your school receives LRC deliveries. The note under the calendar states this. Also skip ahead in the calendar to see that the novel is available for the length of time that you need it. The loan period for novels is 6 weeks. If you double click on your start date in the calendar, and there are 6 available weeks from that date, the system will fill in your end date for you.

**Requesting**

From Learning Resource Center

**The next great Paulie Fink**  
Benjamin, Ali  
Copies: 3

Book

From  to   
The maximum loan period for this item in open days: 30

<< January 2021 >>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Copies to book: 3  
 Not Available  
 Closed  
 Delivery & Pick Up for SD71 Other Sites is on Tuesday

Remember to click on **Save**. When you do, you may get this message:

Booking requested for "The next great Paulie Fink" at Learning Resource Center placed from 1/5/2021 to 2/23/2021. The requested dates of 1/5/2021 to 2/18/2021 do not match the scheduled Delivery & Pick Up days for SD71 Other Sites. Copies: 3

The media software program is antiquated and cannot adjust for holidays etc., so to double check that you did indeed book the novel, click on **My Info**, to the right of **Catalog** in the blue horizontal bar at the top of the screen. If you see the novel title listed there, it has been booked for you. "**Pending**" indicates that the LRC Circulation staff has yet to approve the booking. This will be done when the novels are pulled from the shelves for delivery.

SD71 Other Sites JOAN PEARCE

Home Dashboard Catalog Circulation Reports Admin My Info

Status for JOAN PEARCE

---

How do I... ?

**Items Out**  
Library Materials  
There are no library materials checked out for this patron.

**Fines**  
There are no fines for this patron.

**Holds**

Title	Requested	Quantity	Status
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The next great Paulie Fink	[LRC] (1/5/2021 to 2/23/2021)	3	Pending

**Recommended Titles**  
There are no recommended titles for this patron.

## Which LRC Novels have ARC-BC copies?

All LRC novel titles were sent to ARC-BC for digital copies in three versions. If you find that a novel title does not have an ARC-BC version then ask your LST to request one. If a "rush" job is requested then ARC-BC will try and get it done as soon as possible.

## Which LRC Novels have professionally narrated digital audio books?

Whenever a digital audio book is available to purchase in an “own forever” format, it is purchased. The audio books are either purchased from Follett, our library software company” or from Overdrive, which hosts its content on the SORA platform. Most of the ebooks and audiobooks purchased from Follett in the past were moved to the Overdrive SORA platform in the summer of 2020 because it is such so user-friendly and attractive. A few Follett ebooks and audiobooks couldn’t be transferred to the SORA platform due to copyright. These titles can only be found by doing a library Catalog search for the title.

To make it easier for teachers to see in one spot what LRC novel titles have digital audio books, a Resource List was made. When you click on this list it will show the titles that have audiobooks, but to sign them out you must do a library **Catalog** search. Note that the ebooks and audio books are typically one copy one user at a time. If you need more than one copy at a time, discuss this with your Teacher-Librarian.

LRC Novels with Audio books

[View](#)

LRC [LRC]

[Show More](#)



10/20/2020

The LRC Novel set titles in this list also have available a professionally narrated audio book, that can be accessed through logging into your school library and searching in Destiny.

## Who can I ask for more help?

The LRC Circulation Staff is available to answer questions and can be reached by emailing the “LRC Circulation Desk” or calling:

Phone: 250-338-7926, extension 12951

Fax: 250-338-8629

Email: [Irc.circulationdesk@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:Irc.circulationdesk@sd71.bc.ca)

Your school’s Teacher Librarian and Library Clerk can also help.



# **Adrienne Gear Notes & Resources**

*From LRC Pro-d Workshop, August 2023*

\*Blackline masters of her activity sheets can be purchased from her website.

## Notes From the Adrienne Gear Online Pajama Pro-d Sessions

### *Whole Class Novel Study Workshop*

#### How Adrienne plans her year:

**Term One:** She teaches Reading Power (RP) strategies using picture books so students develop a language to understand and share their thinking.

**Term Two:** She does a whole class novel study through reading aloud a novel and modelling the Reading Power (RP) strategies.

**Term Three:** Students engage in Lit Circle books according to reading ability, similar activities but independence varies, weekly check-ins.

She highlights the difference between **“Book Reading”** (Decoding and Fluency) and **“Brain Reading”** (Comprehension, Thinking, Metacognition: Making Predictions, Literal Re-tell, Making Connections, Asking Questions, Visualizing, Inferring, Transformed Thinking.)

#### Reading Powers:

- Connect
- Question
- Visualize
- Infer
- Transform
- Predict
- Summarize

**Anne Proulx:** “The words on the page are only half the story...the rest is what you bring to the party.”

**Create a common language around what thinking sounds like:** “I’m thinking...”, “I’m wondering...”, “I’m noticing...”, “I’m picturing...”, “It reminds me of...”, “I’m figuring out...”, “I just learned...”

When Adrienne is reading aloud she likes to put post-it notes in the books where she stops and shares her thinking, i.e., “This reminds me of...”

**“Turn and Talk”** is a powerful strategy Adrienne uses to get students to share their thinking.

Adrienne’s tip for students whose summaries are longer than the story? Use her **“Somebody...Wanted...But...So...Then...”** strategy. A template is in her book. She also uses a similar template for students to map out simple stories they are writing.

The “**Diamante**” activity is helpful to do after reading a novel aloud (format: noun, adjective, adjective, verb, verb, verb, etc.) (See template.)

### **Connect M.I.T.s** (Most Important Points)

Not all connections help you understand the story better. They need to be connected to the heart of the story, feelings and experiences of the character. “Bring It Back To the Book!” (BIBB) Use your “brain pockets” to help find connections.

### **Visualize M.I.T.s**

It is a “thinking picture” you see in your brain and you need to train the brain to visualize. Use your brain pockets, visualizing comes from all three parts. Use all your senses to visualize. She likes to practice with “Imagine a Day” by Sarah Thomson. She reads the whole book then students draw an imagine for one page of their choice. Then she shows them the pages. See the template for “Visualize...Draw...Describe.”

### **Question M.I.T.s**

Good readers ask questions before, during and after they read. There are quick questions to help with clarifying facts and deep-thinking questions that help stretch our thinking. Makes sure questions are connected to the main idea of the story. See the template for “What Are You Wondering?”

### **Infer M.I.T.s**

Good writers leave spaces for our thinking and good readers fill in what is missing. That is inferring. Use brain pockets to do this. “Maybe...”, or “I think...” are words/phrases to trigger inferring. Best places to infer are character traits, emotions, and themes. Showing students images and asking them what they are inferring is a good starting point. “Less ink means more think.” (Adrienne). See the template for “O.W.I.” A “prediction” is a level one inference (you know the answer by the end of the book so no further thinking. An “inference” is level two as it is never verified but adds meaning and the thinking keeps going.

### **Transform M.I.T.s**

Transforming is when your thinking gets stretched. A thought in your head gets “re-arranged” because of something you read. A transformed thought doesn’t erase or replace a thought, just changes how it looks. Learning is “re-telling” and understanding is “re-thinking.” See the template “First thoughts about...(connection, visual image, feeling)” and the “One Word Activity...” template. For the latter strategy, before the book is shown to the students, they see one word written in the middle of a page that is connected to the novel that will be read. For example, the word “chocolate.” Students write thoughts about the word radiating out from the centre like a web. After reading the story the students use a different colour to show the stretching of their thinking (transforming) about the word (theme.) For “chocolate”, the students thought about the treat, but in reality the novel was about deeper themes like slavery.

**Purpose of Whole Class Novel Study:**

Model interactive brain reading, provide explicit instruction of the Reading Powers, show students how thinking enhances reading pleasure, and give students the tools they need to participate in thoughtful book discussions.

**Benefits of a Read Aloud Novel:**

All students can focus on “brain reading” as the reading level of the text does not come into play and evens the playing field, a more challenging reading level can be chosen, provides students with an opportunity to develop their listening comprehension skills, provides opportunities to model the teacher’s thinking (put post it notes in the book to highlight different Reading Powers and thinking) and enables a gradual release of responsibility.

**While Reading Aloud Share:**

Personal connections, descriptive/visual passages, questions and wonderings you have, “maybe’s”, i.e., inferences, predictions, themes and messages you think the author might be implying. Post-its are helpful to remember these powerful parts.

Activity before reading: “Before You Read!” (See template.)

Activity while reading “What Strategy Would You Use?” (See template.)

Wrap Up Activities such as “Transforming My Thinking”, “What? So What? Now What?” (See templates.)



### **Introducing the Study:**

Explain the novel study and it will involve both written and oral participation.

Have piles of the books on display but do not pass out. Maybe cover them a few days ahead of this lesson to create interest.

Divide class into their groups. Invite them to choose a name for their book club.

Each group does the “One Word Activity.” (See template.)

Also, “Before You Read!” template.

### **Remind students of the Reading Power Tips:**

BIBB: Bring It Back to the Book

Somebody Wanted But So Then

Deep thinking Connections

Deep thinking Questions

Maybe’s

Visualizing what sticks

Once a week groups do the “**Weekly Thinking Page.**” (See template.)

Remind them how to summarize with the “Somebody Wanted But So Then” template.

Students share their thinking in their groups. She circulates and listens in. See the “Lit Circle Discussion Record” template.

Other fun activities that can be included in the **Lit Circle Package**, for which there are templates, are:

“Characters I will Meet”

“New Words?”

“Character VENN”

“Facebook Page/Instagram”

“Setting Map”

“Photo Album”

“Transforming My Thinking”

“Letter to the Author”

“Diamante Poem

“Found Poem”

“Design a New Cover”









When the novel is finished, give students back their “**One Word Activity**” sheet. They add their new thinking to it in a different colour of pen. In this way they can see how their thinking has been transformed.



She is very clear in advance how she is going to assess them. See the “Assessment: Lit Circle Prep and Participation” template.

## Adrienne Gear Resources at the LRC

The LRC has several Adrienne Gear professional resources as well as kits:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|    | <p><b>Powerful understanding : helping students explore, question, and transform their thinking about themselves and the world around them</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>4 of 4 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 303.3 GEA Gear, Adrienne.<br/>Published 2018<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p> |
|    | <p><b>Writing power : engaging thinking through writing</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>2 of 2 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 372.62 GEA Gear, Adrienne.<br/>Published 2011<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p>   |
|   | <p><b>Powerful writing structures : brain pocket strategies for supporting a year-long writing program</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>3 of 3 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 372.62 GEA Gear, Adrienne, author.<br/>Published 2020<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p>                            |
|  | <p><b>Nonfiction writing power : teaching information writing with intent and purpose</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>1 of 1 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 372.62 GEA Gear, Adrienne.<br/>Published 2014<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p>   |
|  | <p><b>Powerful thinking : engaging readers, building knowledge, and nudging learning in elementary classrooms.</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>3 of 3 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 372.47 GEA Gear, Adrienne.<br/>Published 2024<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p>                            |
|  | <p><b>Adrienne Gear reading power : teaching students to think while they read</b> <a href="#">Details</a></p> <p> Learning Resource Center Call #: KT 372.47 ADR<br/>Published 2018</p>   |
|  | <p><b>Stratégies de lecture de textes courants</b> <a href="#">Details</a> <b>1 of 1 available</b><br/><a href="#">Add to This List</a></p> <p>Call #: PL 372.47 GEA Gear, Adrienne.<br/>Published 2011<br/>Interest Level: Professional</p>  |

The LRC resources below are kits with books and lessons.



**Adrienne Gear strategies : Indigenous stories across Turtle Island**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2024



**Adrienne Gear reading power anchor books for intermediate - set 2**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR Adrienne Gear.  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: 3-6



**Adrienne Gear nonfiction reading power anchor books for Intermediate**


[Details](#)

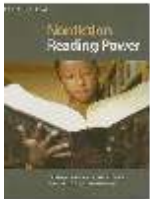
 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: 3-6



**Adrienne Gear reading power anchor books for primary - set 2**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: K-3



**Adrienne Gear nonfiction reading power anchor books for primary**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2024  
Interest Level: K-3



**Adrienne Gear reading power anchor books for primary - set 1**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: K-3



**Adrienne Gear strategies : interconnectedness of nature**


[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR



**Adrienne Gear brain pocket writing anchor books, gr. 2-7**

[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.6 ADR  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: All juvenile



**Adrienne Gear reading power anchor books for intermediate - set 1**

[Details](#)

 **Learning Resource Center** Call #: KT 372.47 ADR  
Published 2023  
Interest Level: 3-6



**Connecting to the land, K-7**

[Details](#)



**Learning Resource Center**

Call #: KT 508 CON

Adrienne Gear (Compiler).

Published 2023

Interest Level: All juvenile



**We are all connected : comparing Indigenous and western cultures using reading strategies, K-6**

[Details](#)



**Learning Resource Center**

Call #: KT 302 WEA

Published 2018

Interest Level: K-3

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**Nonfiction reading power : intermediate connect kit**

[Details](#)



**Learning Resource Center**

Call #: KT 372.47 GEA

Gear, Adrienne.

Published 2008

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**Nonfiction reading power : intermediate importance kit**

[Details](#)



**Learning Resource Center**

Call #: KT 372.47 GEA

Gear, Adrienne.

Published 2008

\*Note: The current separate Intermediate kits for each Reading Power are currently being replaced with French and English titles published in 2024. They should be in circulation by February 2025

## Adrienne Gear Sites

Adrienne's website lists resources available as well as her Pro-d on-line workshop offerings:

<https://www.readingpowergear.com/up-coming-workshops>

Adrienne's blog: [www.readingpowergear.wordpress.com](http://www.readingpowergear.wordpress.com)



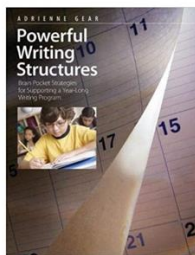
I attended her online Reading Power workshops for Intermediate Fiction and Non-Fiction and they were excellent and fairly inexpensive: The link to these and other Pajama Pro-d Workshops is: <https://www.readingpowergear.com/webinar-registration>

Hard copy resources available:



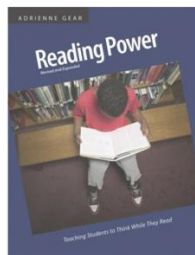
**Powerful Poetry:**  
Read, Write,  
Rejoice, Recite  
Poetry All Year

CA#28.95



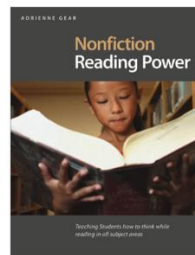
**Powerful Writing  
Structures: Brain  
Pocket Strategies to  
Support a Year-  
Long Writing  
Program**

CA#28.95



**Reading Power:**  
Teaching students  
to think while they  
read (Revised &  
Expanded Edition)

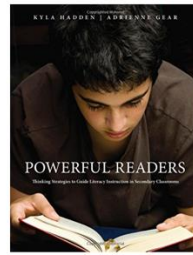
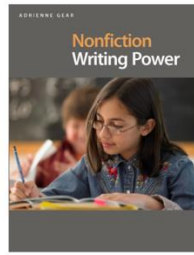
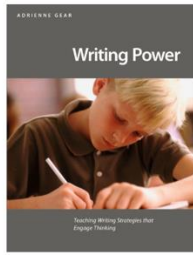
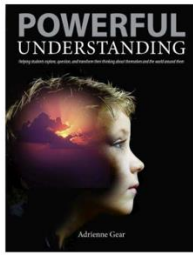
CA#28.95



**Nonfiction Reading  
Power: Teaching  
students how to  
think while reading  
in all subject areas**

CA#28.95





Powerful Understanding: Helping Students Explore, Question, and Transform Their Thinking about Themselves and the World Around Them

CA#28.95

Writing Power: Teaching writing strategies that engage thinking

CA#28.95

Nonfiction Writing Power

CA#28.95

Powerful Readers: Thinking strategies to guide literacy instruction in secondary classrooms

CA#28.95

English and French “bundles” for each Reading Power can be found here:

<https://www.readingpowergear.com/store>

Adrienne Gear resources and support materials in French:

<https://www.readingpowergear.com/french>

