

***The Island of the Blue Dolphins***

Adventure **JF O'Dell, Scott**  
Left alone on an isolated island, a young Indian girl spends 18 years surviving through courage and self-reliance.

***Run, Boy, Run : A Novel***

Historical Fiction **JF Orlev, Uri**  
The true survival story of orphaned eight-year-old Jewish Srulik Frydman, who escapes the Warsaw Ghetto and survives the Holocaust in the Nazi-occupied Poland.

***Bridge to Terabithia***

Realistic Fiction **JF Paterson, Katherine**  
The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer. Together they create a hideaway called Terabithia.

***Hatchet\****

Adventure **YA Paulsen, Gary**  
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive with the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother.

***Trouble Don't Last***

Historical Fiction **JF Pearsall, Shelly**  
Samuel, a Kentucky slave, and Harrison, the elderly slave who helped raise him, attempt to escape to Canada.

***The Wee Free Men\****

Fantasy **JF Prachett, Terry**  
Tiffany, a witch-in-training, enters Fairyland and teams up with the Wee Free Men, a clan of pixies, to rescue her brother and to ward off an invasion from the Queen of the Elves.

***Yellow Star***

Historical Fiction **JF Roy, Jennifer**  
A Jewish girl and her family struggle to survive in Poland's Lodz ghetto during the Nazi occupation.

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***The Waterstone***

Fantasy **JF Rupp, Rebecca**  
Twelve-year-old Tad, finding that he holds ancient wisdom and the power to draw beings together, embarks on a quest to seek a powerful crystal that will restore balance to the world.

***Esperanza Rising***

Historical Fiction **JF Ryan, Pam Muñoz**  
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave a life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to work in Southern California's labor camps during the Great Depression.

***Holes***

Adventure **JF Sachar, Louis**  
As evidence of his family's bad fortune, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds a friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

***Milkweed: A Novel***

Historical Fiction **JF Spinelli, Jerry**  
A young orphan boy with no name or background struggles to survive during the Nazi occupation in Warsaw.

***Listening for Lions***

Historical Fiction **JF Whelan, Gloria**  
Orphaned Rachel is tricked into assuming a deceased neighbor's identity to travel to England, where her only dream is to return to Africa and rebuild her parents' mission hospital.

***The Devil's Arithmetic***

Historical Fiction **JF Yolen, Jane**  
Sixteen-year-old Hanna was a typical American teenager, ignoring her family's heritage until a mystical Passover Seder takes her back in time to German-occupied Poland on an emotional journey of life, death, and survival.

# Fifth Grade



**\*Starred titles  
are the  
first title in a series**



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**Whales on Stilts\***Science Fiction **JF Anderson, M.T.**

A shy middle-school student and her best friends race against the clock to foil a plot to conquer the world with an army of whales.

***Crispin : The Cross of Lead\****Historical Fiction **JF Avi**

In 14th-century England, a boy known only as "Asta's son" goes on the run after his mother dies and he is accused of a crime that he didn't commit.

***The House with a Clock in its Walls\****Supernatural Fantasy **JF Bellairs, John**

A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion where a clock hidden in the walls ticks off the minutes until doomsday.

***The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs***Historical Fiction **JF Birney, Betty**

Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World.

***Skeleton Man\****Mystery **JF Bruchac, Joseph**

Molly is placed in the care of a strange "great-uncle," and must rely on her dreams about for her safety--maybe even for her life.

***The Sisters Grimm : The Fairy-Tale Detectives\****Mystery/Fantasy **JF Buckley, Michael**

Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with a grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

***Molly Moon's Incredible Book of Hypnotism\****Humorous Adventure **JF Byng, Georgia**

Unlucky and unloved Molly Moon discovers a hidden talent for hypnotism and hypnotizes her way to stardom in New York City.

***The Dark Hills Divide\****Fantasy Adventure **JF Carman, Patrick**

After she finds the key to a secret passageway to freedom, Alexa realizes her lifelong wish to explore the forests and mountains that lie beyond.

***Al Capone Does My Shirts\****

Historical Fiction

**Summer YA Choldenko, Gennifer**

Moose moves to Alcatraz Island in 1935 (when guards' families were housed there) and has to contend with his extraordinary new environment in addition to life with his autistic sister.

***The Dark is Rising\****Fantasy **JF Cooper, Susan**

On his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical signs that will enable him to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.

***The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963\****Historical Fiction **JF Curtis, Christopher Paul**

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

***Because of Winn-Dixie***Realistic Fiction **JF DiCamillo, Kate**

Ten-year-old India describes her first summer in Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog.

***The City of Ember\****Science Fiction **JF DuPrau, Jeanne**

In the year 241 (Ember time), twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs in order to be a messenger and run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

***Once Upon a Marigold\****Humorous Fantasy **JF Ferris, Jean**

Christian leaves his foster father, and his life in the forest to meet the princess he has observed through his telescope.

***Dragon Rider***Fantasy **JF Funke, Cornelia**

After learning that humans are headed toward his hidden home, a silver dragon is joined by a brownie and an orphan boy in a quest to find the legendary valley known as the Rim of Heaven.

***Julie of the Wolves\****Adventure **JF George, Craighead George**

While running away from an unwanted marriage, Julie becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.

***Willow Run***Historical Fiction **JF Giff, Patricia Reilly**

After moving with her parents to Michigan during WWII, Meggie learns about bravery from the people around her.

***Penny from Heaven***Historical Fiction **JF Holm, Jennifer**

During 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.

***Kira-Kira***Historical Fiction **YA Kadohata, Cynthia**

A story about two Japanese-American sisters growing up in Georgia in the early 1960s, and the despair that ensues when one sister becomes ill.

***The Capture\****Animal Adventure **JF Lasky, Kathryn**

A barn owl suspects trouble when he arrives at a school for orphaned owls and embarks on a journey to save all owls from danger.

***Rules***Realistic Fiction **JF Lord, Cynthia**

Frustrated with an autistic brother, Catherine longs for a normal existence, but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

***The Giver\****Science Fiction **YA Lowry, Lois**

Jonas becomes the receiver of memories shared by only one other in his community and discovers the terrible truth about the society in which he lives.

***Indigo's Star\****Realistic Fiction **JF McKay, Hilary**

Tom becomes friends with Indigo and his sister Rose and the three friends deal with the daily pressures of life.