He must race to find Anansi, the Weaver, and repair the rip before the iron monsters wreaking havoc in the Midpass consume their world and ours.

Jake the Fake Keeps It Real*

JF Robinson

Having faked his way into the Music and Art Academy, a performing arts school for gifted students where his talented older sister rules, sixth-grader Jake, a jokester who can barely play an instrument, has to think of something quick before the last laugh is on him.

Barakah Beats

JF Siddiqui

When Nimra accepts an invitation to join a band to impress her friend, she knows her parents wouldn't approve. With a gig a few weeks away, Nimra must decide whether to betray her bandmates— or herself.

Just Like Jackie

JF Stoddard

Fifth grader Robbie is determined to stay out of trouble so that she does not worry her grandfather whose memory is failing and to make sure that she and her grandfather stay together as he is the only family she has left.

Graphic Novels

Making Friends*

JF G Gudsnuk

When she and her friends are placed in separate classes and begin liking different things, Dany inherits a magic sketchbook and uses it to create a perfect best friend, but this best friend soon becomes far from perfect.

Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales: One Dead Spy*

JF G Hale

Nathan Hale was America's first spy, a Revolutionary War hero who famously said "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country" before being hanged by the British. This series presents history's roughest, toughest, and craziest stories in graphic novel format.

Sunny Side Up

JF G Holm

Sunny Lewin is sent to her grandfather's home in Florida for the summer, where she befriends Buzz, a boy completely obsessed with comic books, and faces the secret behind why she is in Florida in the first place.

New Kid

JF G Craft

After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan finds himself torn between two worlds.

Nonfiction

Tornado Terror (I Survived True Stories)*

JF Tarshis

Provides information about infamous tornadoes that have caused major destruction, including the Tri-State Tornado in 1925 and the Joplin Tornado in 2011, and presents personal accounts of these events.

It's Alive! (Two Truths and a Lie)*

J 508 PAQ

Blends strange but true facts about the natural world with a handful of fictional accounts, challenging readers to discover which two out of every three stories are true.

For further suggestions tailored to your interests, search the Novelist K-8 database or ask a librarian!

Fifth Grade



*Starred titles are part of a series; other books in that series will also be appropriate for this grade.



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Chapter Books

A Whole New Ballgame (Rip and Red)*

JF Bildner

Red and Rip are best friends whose fifthgrade year is nothing like what they expected. But together this great duo knows how to help each other--and find ways to make a difference--in the classroom and on the court.

The War That Saved My Life*

JF Bradley

A young girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the countryside during World War II, where they find life away from their abusive mother to be much better.

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora

JF Cartaya

When his family's restaurant and Cuban-American neighborhood in Miami are under threat by a greedy land developer, Arturo is determined to fight back.

Troublemaker

JF Cho

It's 1992 in California, and Jordan's life is coming apart: He's been suspended from school for cheating. He's banned from seeing his friend. And Sarah, his sister, is always busy—and so perfect that he looks even more disappointing by comparison. When violence breaks out in LA Jordan and his friends set out on a dangerous journey to help his father at their store.

The Pants Project

JF Clarke

Eleven-year-old Liv fights to change the junior high dress code requiring girls to wear a skirt and, along the way, finds the courage to tell his moms he is meant to be a boy.

The Losers Club

JF Clements

Alec starts a book club and discovers that real life, although messy, can be as exciting as the stories in his favorite books.

The Many Reflections of Miss Jane Deming

JF Coats

Jane is excited to be part of an expedition to bring orphans and Civil War widows to frontier Washington Territory, but life out west isn't at all what she expected.

The Wishing Spell (The Land of Stories)*

JF Colfer

Through the mysterious powers of a cherished book of stories, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with fairy tale characters.

The Wizards of Once*

JF Cowell

Young wizard prince Xar, who has no magic, and warrior princess Wish, an outcast, team up on an adventure that brings them to witches long believed to be extinct.

Superstar

JF Davis

Lester's first days as a fifth grader are not like he thought they would be -- the cafeteria is too loud for Lester's ears, there are too many kids, and then there's the bully. But then Lester hears about the science fair, which really excites him!

Halfway Normal

JF Dee

Twelve-year-old cancer survivor Norah struggles to fit in at her middle school after two years of medical treatment, but she finds her voice with the help of new friend Griffin, who shares her love of mythology.

Melissa

JF Gino

When people look at Melissa they think they see a boy named George, but she knows she's a girl. When a teacher won't allow her to try out for a female role in the school play, Melissa comes up with a plan so everyone can know who she is, once and for all.

The Last Cuentista

JF Higuera

Earth has been destroyed by a comet and only a few hundred scientists and their children have been chosen to journey to a new planet. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet- and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. Petra alone now carries the stories of the past, and any hope for the future. Can she make them live again?

The Parker Inheritance

JF Johnson

When 12-year-old Candice Miller finds a letter that sent her grandmother on the treasure hunt, she finds herself caught up in the mystery and sets out to find an inheritance, exonerate her grandmother, and expose an injustice once committed against an African American family.

Amina's Voice

JF Khan

A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.

Restart

JF Korman

After falling off a roof, Chase doesn't remember anything about himself. When he gets back to middle school and learns who he was through the reactions of the other kids, he's not sure he likes that Chase. Can he take the opportunity amnesia has provided and restart his life?

Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky

JF Mbalia

Tristan accidentally creates a hole into the Midpass, a world where ancient African gods clash.