

Getting Ready for Grade 5 Reading List

Fiction, Chapter Books & Series

Various authors, The 39 Clues; 2008,2010, RL 4.5 (Series), Amy and her younger brother hunt for the 39 clues that will reveal what really happened to their parents as well as other family secrets.

Butler, Dori Hillestad, The Case of the School Ghost, 2012. RL 3.0. (Buddy Files Series), Buddy, a dog, goes to the fourth grade sleepover with Connor. Strange things happen, and Buddy wonders if the rumor about the school ghost is true.

Clements, Andrew, We the Children, 2010. RL 5.2 (Benjamin Pratt Series), This first novel in this series focuses on Benjamin's efforts to save his historic school from amusementpark developers. Benjamin and his friend discover clues that show something fishy is going on.

Danziger, Paula, Amber Brown Goes Fourth, 1995. RL 3.3 (Series), When Amber's parents divorce and her best friend moves away, she needs to start over in fourth grade.

Davies, Jacqueline, The Lemonade War, 2007. RL 3.9 (Series), Evan and his sister learn they will be in the same fourth grade class next year because Jesse is skipping a grade. They battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to earn \$100 first.

DiCamillo, Kate, Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride, 2006. RL 2.6,2.7 (Series), Mercy, a loveable pet pig, has many unusual adventures including driving a car.

George, Kristiana, The Secret of Robber's Cave, 2008. RL 5.0 (Series), Two brothers and their cousin, Claire, explore Lost Island, where they solve an old mystery and have many adventures. This is a fast - paced story.

Greenburg, Dan, The Zack Files. RL 2.8 , 4.2 (Series), Each book is a humorous story about 10,year,old Zach and the strange things that keep happening to him.

Hicks, Betty, Goof,Off Goalie, 2008. RL 3.3 (Series), Goose really wants to play goalie for his soccer team, but he has trouble focusing. His friend Henry agrees to train him, but Henry gets grounded. Will Goose make it?

Klise, Kate, Dying to Meet You: 43 Cemetery Road, Book 1, 2009. RL 4.4, Suffering from writer's block, author I.B. Grumpy moves into a quiet, creepy old mansion to solve his problem. However, a boy and a possible ghost have other ideas. This humorous tale is told through letters, emails, and newspaper articles.

Look, Lenore, Alvin Ho: Allergic to Camping, Hiking and Other Natural Disasters,

2009. RL 3.8 (Series) , Alvin's fears are ignited when his father suggests a camping trip. Alvin's escapades are hilarious.

Osborne, Mary Pope, Haunted Castle on Hallows Eve, 2003. RL 3.6 (Magic Tree House Series) , Jack and Annie are transported to King Arthur's time to solve a mystery about a stolen diamond.

Pennypacker, Sara, The Talented Clementine, 2007. RL 4.0 (Series), Third grader Clementine is distressed by the upcoming school talent show; she has no visible talent. The unexpected talent she demonstrates surprises everyone, even her. Spending time with Clementine always means fun.

Roy, Ron, A to Z Mysteries, 1997. RL 2.8,3.8 (Series), These 26 books feature a title for each letter of the alphabet. Josh, Dink, and Ruth Rose solve challenging mysteries.

Fiction , Chapter Books , Individual Titles

Amato, Mary, Please Write in This Book, 2008, RL 3.8, Mrs. Wurtz decides to encourage creative dialogue by leaving a blank notebook in the "Writer's Corner". Because of the journal, a classroom battle erupts between the girls and the boys.

Blume, Judy, Freckle Juice, 1971. RL 3.6, Andrew wants freckles so he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents. He learns a very valuable lesson.

Brown, Peter, The Curious Garden, 2009. RL 4.4, In a city without greenery, a young boy turns an abandoned railway into a lush garden.

Clements, Andrew, Frindle, Lost and Found, or Extra Credit (Various copyright dates). RL 4.8 – 5.2. , This popular author sets the standard for school stories.

DiCamillo, Kate, The Adventures of a Chicken, 2009. RL 3.8, Written in short chapters, this exciting book tells what happens when Louise, a chicken, leaves home and seeks out danger and extreme adventure.

Grandits, John, Ten Rules You Absolutely Must Not Break if You Want to Survive the School Bus, 2011. RL 3.2, Kyle's older brother is eager to share his rules for surviving the school bus. But the advice about seat location, girls, bullies, and more terrifies Kyle, who breaks all the rules by the end of day one.

Khan, Rukhsana, Big Red Lollipop, 2010. RL 1.6, This charming story tells about sibling rivalry in an immigrant family.

MacLachlan, Patricia, Waiting for the Magic, 2011. RL 3.3, This is a story about how four dogs and one cat help one boy and a sister save their family" (book jacket). An excellent read by an award – winning author.

Petersen, P.J., *Wild River*, 2009. RL 3.3, Tanner convinces his younger brother Ryan, a non-athletic video junkie, to go on a camping and kayaking trip. Things go seriously wrong, and when Tanner is injured, it is up to Ryan to save them both.

Polacco, Patricia, *Thank You, Mr. Falker*, 1998. RL 4.8, Trisha loves school but has difficulty learning to read and feels dumb. In fifth grade, a new teacher helps her understand and overcome her problem.

Wissinger, Tamera Will, *Gone Fishing: A Novel in Verse*, 2013. RL 2.0, Sam can't wait to go fishing with his father, until his little sister, Lucy, worms her ways into their trip... Wissinger's novel artfully captures both the thrill of the catch and the aggravation of younger siblings (especially when they're catching more fish) (Booklist). Black and white sketches complement the poetry.

Ryan, Pam Munoz, *The Dreamer*, 2012. L 650, Much to his father's disappointment, Neftalí is not like other children. Frail and painfully shy, he spends most of his time alone: collecting treasures, reading, writing, and daydreaming — pastimes his authoritarian father thinks are for fools. This is the story of a great poet in the making.

Williams,Garcia, Rita, *One Crazy Summer*, 2010. L 750, Delphine, 11, and her two younger sisters don't know what to expect when their dad puts them on plane to visit their mother, who abandoned the family years ago. It is 1968 and their mother is active in Oakland's Black Power movement. If this is your child's first exposure to historical fiction, she may be hooked.

Jung, Mike, *Geeks, Girls, and Secret Identities*, 2012. L 790, In Vincent Wu's world, superheroes are real. He's obsessed with Captain Stupendous. But even Vincent can admit something's off with his hero. Turns out, Captain Stupendous is actually his crush, Polly Winnicott, Lee. She recently gained Captain Stupendous' powers in a fluke accident. Now, it's up to Vincent and his friends to train Polly so she can defeat Captain Stupendous' nemesis, Professor Mayhem.

Kate DiCamillo, *Because of Winn-Dixie* March 2000. This award-winning realistic fiction novel tells the story of Opal, a young girl who moves to a new town and finds an unexpected friend in a stray dog she names Winn-Dixie. Through their adventures, Opal begins to connect with those around her and navigates the challenges of change, loss, and growing up.

The book gently explores important themes such as friendship, empathy, resilience, a sense of belonging, and the importance of family and forgiveness. It's a touching and age-appropriate story that encourages thoughtful discussion and emotional growth.