

# Wesleyan School

## Summer Reading for Rising Fourth Grade Students

Comparable-level books may be chosen by students with parent approval.  
Students should read from a variety of genre and authors.

**One of the four books must be the following required book:**

### **No Talking by Andrew Clements**

The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest. AR 4.7, RC 5.0, 820L ♥

*Numbers following each annotation are reading levels determined by commercial reading management programs. Creating reading levels is not an exact science. There is not a consensus among experts on the best way to determine a reading level for a book. Remember the best books are those read and enjoyed by your child. These levels are guidelines only and should never be the sole consideration in determining if a book is appropriate for your child.*

**AR**=Accelerated Reader: managed by Renaissance Learning

**RC**=Reading Counts: managed by Scholastic

**L** = Lexile Measures: managed by MetaMetrics

*The ♥ symbol indicates the book received a "highly recommended" endorsement from one or more review sources.  
The term "Notable Book" indicates that the book is highly recommended by the American Library Association.*

## Fiction

Anderson, M. T.: Whales on Stilts

Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales. AR 4.6, RC 4.3, 760L ♥

Avi: Iron Thunder: The Battle Between the Monitor & the Merrimac: A Civil War Novel

Thirteen-year-old Tom Carroll takes his place as head of the family after his father dies fighting for the Union; but his job at the local ironworks, where he helps build an iron ship for the Union army, and his loyalty come into question when he is approached by Confederate spies to sell secrets about the ship to the South. AR 4.3, RC 3.5, 620L ♥

Baggott, Julianna: The Ever Breath

Twins Truman and Camille, spending winter break with their paternal grandmother, follow a secret passageway to the Breath World, where all creatures of magic dwell, to find the Ever Breath, a magical stone that maintains balance between worlds.

AR 4.0, RC 4.2, 680L ♥

Birney, Berry: The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs

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

AR 4.8, RC 4.5, 790L ♥

Blume, Judy: Double Fudge

His younger brother's obsession with money and the discovery of long-lost cousins Flora and Fauna provide many embarrassing moments for twelve-year-old Peter. AR 3.6, AR 4.5, 450L

Broach, Elise: Masterpiece

After Marvin, a beetle, makes a miniature drawing as an eleventh birthday gift for James, a human with whom he shares a house, the two new friends work together to help recover a Durer drawing stolen from the Metropolitan Museum of Art. AR 4.8, RC 6.1, 700L  
Notable Book ♥

Butler, Dori Hillestad: Trading Places with Tank Talbott

Jason, who would rather work on his horror movie screenplay than learn to swim, finds an unlikely ally in Tank, the class bully, who is being forced to take ballroom dance lessons. AR 3.4, RC 3.7, 530L

Chick, Bryan: The Secret Zoo

Noah and his friends follow a trail of mysterious clues to uncover a secret behind the walls of the Clarksville City Zoo--a secret that must be protected at all costs. AR 4.7, 700L

Cleary, Beverly: *Henry and Ribsy*

Before he can go fishing with his father, Henry must keep his dog Ribsy out of trouble for a month. AR 4.6, RC 5.1, 740L

Cooper, Susan: *The Boggart*

After visiting the castle in Scotland which her family has inherited and returning home to Canada, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.

AR 6.9, RC 6.9, 1030L ♥

Creech, Sharon: *The Castle Corona*

Two orphaned peasant children discover a mysterious pouch, the contents of which lead them to the majestic Castle Corona, where their lives may be transformed forever. Many other books by this author are wonderful. AR 5.5, RC 5.4, 880L♥

Crisp, Marty: *White Star: A Dog on the Titanic*

Twelve-year-old Sam, a passenger on the Titanic's maiden sea voyage, volunteers to help care for the dogs in the ocean liner's kennel and becomes fast friends with the Irish setter of J. Bruce Ismay, the ship's owner. AR 4.7, RC 5.2, 780L

Davies, Jacqueline: *The Lemonade War*

Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand. 630L

DeFelice, Cynthia: *The Missing Manatee*

While coping with his parents' separation, eleven-year-old Skeet spends most of Spring Break in his skiff on a Florida river, where he finds a manatee shot to death and begins looking for the killer. AR 4.9, RC 5.0, 830L

Dicamillo, Kate: *Because of Winn Dixie*

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. AR 3.9, RC 4.1, 610L ♥

DiCamillo, Kate: *The Tale of Despereaux*

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin. AR 4.7, 670L ♥ Newbery Honor

DiSalvo, DyAnne: *The Sloppy Copy Slipup*

Fourth-grader, Brian Higman, worries about how his teacher Miss Fromme will react when he fails to hand in a writing assignment; but he ends up being able to tell his story after all. AR 3.9, RC 3.3, 590L ♥

Etchemendy, Nancy: *The Power of Un*

When he is given a device that will allow him to "undo" what has happened in the past, Gib Finney is not sure what event from the worst day in his life he should change in order to keep his sister from being hit by a truck. AR 4.8, RC 4.7, 720L

Evans, Douglas: *MVP\*: \*Megellan Voyage Project*

Twelve-year-old Adam Story is challenged by the deposed ruler of Babababad and his mongoose companion to become the first youngster to travel around the world in forty days without an adult. 690L

Fitzhugh, Louise: *Harriet the Spy*

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge. AR 4.5, RC 6.2, 760L

Fleischman, Sid: *Bandit's Moon*

Twelve-year-old Annyrose, left behind when her brother joins the Gold Rush, escapes the unscrupulous woman she is staying with and sets out on a grand adventure with the notorious bandit Joaquin Murieta and his band of outlaws. AR 4.2, RC 4.5, 670L ♥

Fleming, Candace: *The Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School*

An unlikely teacher takes over the disorderly fourth-grade class of Aesop Elementary School with surprising results. Good selection for fans of *The Wayside School* books by Louis Sachar. AR 3.9, 580L

French, Terrell: *Operation Redwood*

In northern California, Julian Carter-Li and his friends old and new fight to save a grove of redwoods from an investment company that plans to cut them down. AR 4.6, RC 4.3, 700L

Giff, Patricia Riley: *Eleven*

When Sam, who can barely read, discovers an old newspaper clipping just before his eleventh birthday, it brings forth memories from his past, and, with the help of a new friend at school and the castle they are building for a school project, his questions are eventually answered. AR 4.1, RC 3.4, 600L ♥

Gilson, Jamie: *4B Goes Wild*

Fourth graders on a three-day camping trip with their teachers experience frights and delights. 770L

Gordon, Amy: *The Gorillas of Gill Park*

While spending the summer before seventh grade with his aunt, Willy Wilson finds his first friends ever in the colorful characters who all love the neighborhood park owned by an eccentric old man. AR 4.7, RC 4.2, 680L

Gutman, Dan: *The Homework Machine*

Four fifth-grade students--a geek, a class clown, a teacher's pet, and a slacker--as well as their teacher and mothers, each relate events surrounding a computer programmed to complete homework assignments. 680L ♥

Hannigan, Katherine: *Ida B: And Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World*

In Wisconsin, fourth-grader Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother begins treatment for breast cancer and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.

AR 5.3, RC 6.4, 970L ♥

Harley, Katherine: *The Amazing Flight of Darius Frobisher*

The disappearance of his adventurous father during a hot-air balloon flight forces ten-year-old Darius to leave his beloved housekeeper and go live with an obnoxious aunt until a strange bicycle repairman with a secret changes his life.

AR 4.4, RC 3.6, 660L

Hawking, Lucy & Stephen: *George's Secret Key to the Universe*

George and his neighbor friend Eric travel through a computer portal into outer space encountering black holes while trying to escape an evil scientist. AR 5.6, RC 5.2, 850L

Hodgeman, Ann: *House of a Million Pets*

Ann Hodgman describes what it is like to live in a house full of all kinds of pets. AR 5.5, RC 4.7, 870L ♥

Horvath, Polly: *The Trolls*

Eccentric Aunt Sally comes from Canada to babysit the Anderson children while their parents are on a trip to Paris, and each night, the bedtime story adds another piece to a very suspicious family history. AR 5.4, RC 4.9, 810L ♥ Notable Book

Hyland, Hilary: *The Wreck of the Ethie*

Fictionalized account of the wreck of the steamship Ethie which occurred on the remote western coast of Newfoundland in December 1919 and in which the dog Skipper proved his heroism. AR 5.6, RC 5.1, 800L

Juster, Norton: *The Phantom Tollbooth*

Milo travels through a magical tollbooth and begins a journey to the Kingdom of Wisdom, where he and a "watch" dog named Tock try to end the feud between numbers and words. AR 6.7, RC 5.4, 1000L

Karr, Kathleen: *The Great Turkey Walk*

In 1860, fifteen-year-old third-grader Simon Green attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit. AR 4.5, RC 4.8, 700L

Karwoski, Gail: *Seaman: The Dog who Explored the West with Lewis and Clark*

Seaman, a Newfoundland, proves his value as a hunter, navigator, and protector while serving with the Corps of Discovery when it explores the West under the leadership of Lewis and Clark. AR 6.0, RC 5.5, 800L

Lin, Grace: *The Year of the Dog*

Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life. AR 4.2, RC 5.2, 690L ♥ Notable Book

Manes, Stephen: *Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days!*

Milo, tired of problems with his sister, parents, and classmates, finds a book in the library which promises to make him perfect in just three days. 720L

Martin, Ann M.: *Ten Kids, No Pets*

The ten Rosso children, spaced a year apart and named alphabetically, find their life rambunctious and exciting when their family leaves New York City for a big old farmhouse and new friends. AR 4.4, RC 5.4, 700L

Myers, Laurie: *Surviving Brick Johnson*

Afraid of getting maimed for making fun of Brick, the husky new kid in his fifth-grade class, Nick decides that even his baseball collection will not protect him so he signs up for karate class, despite his little brother's reassurances that Brick is not a bully.

AR 3.5, RC 3.6, 410L Notable Book

Myklusch, Matt: *Jack Blank and the Imagine Nation*

Twelve-year-old Jack, freed from a dismal orphanage, makes his way to the elusive and impossible Imagine Nation, where a mentor saves him from dissection and trains him to use his superpower, despite the virus he carries that makes him a threat.

AR 5.5, RC 4.7, 780L ♥

Nitz, Kristine Wolden: *Saving the Griffin*

When eleven-year-old Kate and her younger brother Michael encounter a baby griffin in an Italian garden, they vow to help the creature find its way back home and to keep Griffo's existence a secret. AR 3.6, RC 2.9 , 550L

Peck, Richard: *A Long Way From Chicago*

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother. AR 5.0, RC 4.6, 750L Newbery Honor ♥

Peck, Richard: *A Year Down Yonder*

Sequel to *A Long way from Chicago*. During the recession of 1937, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman. AR 4.5, RC 4.9, 610L  
Newbery Medal ♥

Ryan, Pam Munoz: *Esperanza Rising*

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression. AR 5.3, RC 5.5, 750L Notable Book ♥

Sachar, Louis: *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*

An unmanageable, but lovable, eleven-year-old misfit learns to believe in himself when he gets to know the new school counselor, who is a sort of misfit too. AR 3.4, RC 5.5, 490L

Selznick, Brian: *The Houdini Box*

A chance encounter with Harry Houdini leaves a small boy in possession of a mysterious box--one that might hold the secrets to the greatest magic tricks ever performed. AR 5.0, RC 5.3, 840L

Speare, Elizabeth George: *The Sign of the Beaver*

Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills. AR 4.9, RC 5.7 , 770L Newbery Honor

Spinelli, Jerry: *Maniac Magee*

After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries. AR 4.7 , RC 5.4, 820L Notable Book, Newbery Medal ♥

Van Cleave, Kathleen: *Drizzle*

When a drought threatens her family's magical rhubarb farm, eleven-year-old Polly tries to make it right again. 650L ♥

Weston, Elise: *The Coastwatcher*

While eleven-year-old Hugh, his family, and his cousin Tom are spending the summer of 1943 on the South Carolina shore to escape the polio epidemic, Hugh uncovers clues that point to a German plot to sabotage a nearby naval base. AR 4, RC 3.3, 600L

Winthrop, Elizabeth: *The Castle in the Attic*

A gift of a toy castle, complete with silver knight, introduces William to an adventure involving magic and a personal quest. 750L

Sequel: *Battle for the Castle*

Sequel to: *The Castle in the Attic*. Twelve-year-old William uses the magic token to return, through the toy castle in his attic, to the medieval land of Sir Simon, which is now menaced by a skeleton ship bearing a plague of ravenous rats. 700L

## Fiction Series

Brooks, Walter R.: *Freddy the Pig*

Follow Freddy the pig and his barnyard friends on their many adventures. The popularity of these older stories is attributed to the richness of the characters and the wisdom of their sentiments. Mr. Young enjoyed these stories when he was an elementary school student. AR 5.0-6.0, 830L♥

Byng, Georgia: *Molly Moon*

Molly Moon, living in a dreary orphanage in a small English town, discovers a hidden talent for hypnotism and hypnotizes her way from one adventure to another--from one continent to another! 750-800L

Cleary, Beverly: *Ramona Quimby*

Humerous stories about Ramona and her family 860L

Dixon, Franklin W.: *The Hardy Boys*

Adventure stories in which young detectives Frank and Joe Hardy investigate suspicious happenings. AR 5.0-6.0, 740L

Eager, Edward: *Half Magic*

Four children looking forward to an ordinary summer enjoy a series of fantastic adventures. 830L

- Gutman, Dan: *The Million Dollar ... Kick / Strike / Shot*  
Humorous stories featuring high-stake contests, riveting sports action, and friendship. AR 3.8-4.7, 660L
- Hale, Bruce: *Chet Gecko*  
The star of this hilarious mystery is non other than green-scaled, smart-aleck fourth grader, Chet Gecko, an intrepid, private-eye lizard. 530L
- Henry, Marguerite: *Misty of Chincoteague*  
Two youngsters' determination to own a Chincoteague pony is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among those rounded up for the yearly auction. 750L Newbery Honor
- Jenkins & LaHaye: *Left Behind for Kids*  
The kids in the Young Tribulation Force, a group of teens left behind on Earth after God's Rapture, must decide whether to run, hide, or face the enemy. 700L
- Keene, Carolyn: *Nancy Drew Mysteries*  
Teen sleuth Nancy Drew, and her friends George and Bess, solve mysteries. Try to choose the older titles, as the new titles feature Nancy as a Generation-X hip teen with situations which may not be appropriate for younger readers. 780L
- Korman, Gordon: *Everest*  
Four kids are prepared to go into thin air in order to become the youngest person ever to climb Everest. But they are not prepared for the challenges. 700L
- Lupica, Mike: *Comeback Kids*  
Young sports aficionados team up to help each other succeed in both sports and school. 880L
- Marsh, Carole: *Carole Marsh Mysteries*  
Follow the adventures of children who solve mysteries at locations such as Disney World and the New Atlanta Aquarium. 710L
- Martin, Ann M.: *The Doll People*  
A family of porcelain dolls that has lived in the same house for one hundred years is taken aback when a new family of plastic dolls arrives and doesn't follow The Doll Code of Honor. 570L
- Mazer, Anne: *The Amazing Days of Abby Hayes*  
Abby, the quirky girl with the unmanageable red hair, feels left out when compared to her talented siblings. She takes solace by writing in her journal--and that may be exactly where her hidden talent will show through. 520L
- McDonald, Megan: *The Sisters Club*  
In Acton, Oregon, sisters Alex, Stevie, and Joey take turns telling about their lives, including their long line of actor ancestors, creative family dinners, toe marshmallows, swearing in Shakespeare, and the Sisters Club. 650L
- Myers, Bill: *Incredible Worlds of Wally McDoogle*  
Twelve-year-old Wally, a computer whiz who is a "walking disaster area," has many unlikely adventures but always learns a lesson. 630L
- Nimmo, Jenny: *Charlie Bone*  
Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking. Harry Potter fans may enjoy this series. AR 4.8, 630L
- Ogilvy, Ian: *Measle and the Wrathmonk*  
Twelve-year-old orphan Measle Stubbs is shrunk down to half an inch tall and placed in a train set by his evil guardian, the Wrathmonk. AR 5.6, 900L
- Snicket, Lemony: *Series of Unfortunate Events*  
Tales of three likable, resilient, and unfortunate Baudelaire orphans, Violet, Klaus, and Sunny, in search of a home--stories that are literary and irreverent, hilarious and deftly crafted. 1010L
- Stewart, Trenton Lee: *The Mysterious Benedict Society*  
After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. 890L ♥
- Van Draanen, Wendelin: *Sammy Keys*  
Seventh-grade sleuth Sammy Keyes, a girl, investigates mysterious happenings. 840L
- Various authors: *39 Clues*  
Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage. 610L

Various authors: *Dear America / My Name is America*

Written in a diary format, each historical novel is extensively researched from actual letters and diaries, allowing readers to experience the daily lives of girls from different times in American history. A companion series--My Name Is America--follows the adventures of boys from America's past.

Various authors: *The Royal Diaries*

Intriguing and vivid portraits of historical characters written by noted fiction writers in diary format. Many include black-and-white drawings, photos, and historical notes about each era. 900L

## Math & Puzzles

Anno, Masaichiro: *Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar*

Simple text and pictures introduce the mathematical concept of factorials. 380L

Berlin, Eric: *The Potato Chip Puzzles*

Winston and his friends enter an all-day puzzle contest to win fifty-thousand dollars for their school, but they must also figure out who is trying to keep them from winning. Puzzles for the reader to solve are included throughout the text. AR 4.4, RC 3.5, 650L

Berlin, Eric: *The Puzzling World of Winston Breen*

Winston Breen loves solving puzzles; and when his sister uncovers a twenty-five-year-old scavenger hunt--which leads to a ring worth thousands of dollars--he and his family jump at the opportunity to solve it AR 4.2, RC 3.5, 670L

Feldman, Jody: *The Gollywhopper Games*

Twelve-year-old Gil Goodson competes against thousands of other children at extraordinary puzzles, stunts, and more in hopes of a fresh start for his family, which has been ostracized since his father was falsely accused of embezzling money from Golly Toy and Game Company. AR 590L

Leedy, Loren: *Fraction Action*

Miss Prime and her animal students explore fractions by finding many examples in the world around them. RC 2.1, 330L

Neuschwander, Cindy: *Sir Cumference and the First Round Table*

A math adventure in which King Arthur finds the perfect shape for his table with the ideas of his wife and son, and the assistance of his knight, Sir Cumference. AR 4.3, RC 4.8, 600L

Schwartz, David: *G is for Googol*

Explains the meaning of mathematical terms which begin with the different letters of the alphabet from abacus, binary, and cubit to zillion. AR 5.4, RC 5.5, 760L ♥

## Classic Fiction

### Abridged versions are very good

Baum, Frank L.: *The Wizard of Oz*

The story of Dorothy, a young girl who is transported by a cyclone to the magical world of Oz where she makes wonderful friends, battles evil, and must face down a wizard to return home to Kansas. RC 6.9, 1000L

Burnett, Frances Hodgson: *A Little Princess*

Sara Crewe, a pupil at Miss Minchin's London School, is left in poverty when her father dies, but is later rescued by a mysterious benefactor. AR 6, RC 5.5, 930L

Burnett, Frances Hodgson: *The Secret Garden*

A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors where she discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden. Includes review questions. AR 6.3, 950L

Grahame, Kenneth: *The Wind in the Willows*

A classic animal story featuring friends Toad, Mole, Rat, and Badger celebrates the book's seventy-fifth anniversary. AR 8.2, 1140L

Knight, Eric: *Lassie Come Home*

A collie undertakes a 1000-mile journey in order to once again meet her former master at the school gate. AR 5.4, RC 5.8, 780L

Lewis, C. S.: *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (series)

The special adventures of several children who find their way to the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over evil. AR 5.0-6.0

Lofting, Hugh: *The Story of Dr. Dolittle* (series)

The whimsical adventures of Dr. Dolittle, a man who loved animals so much that he switched his medical practice from humans to animals and learned to speak animal languages.

London, Jack: *White Fang*

Follows the adventures of a dog who is part wolf as he eventually makes his peace with man in the wilderness of northern Canada. AR 7.4, 900L

Montgomery, Lucy Maud: *Anne of Green Gables* (series)

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her. Includes review questions. AR 7.3, 1000L

Spyri, Johanna: *Heidi*

A Swiss orphan is heartbroken when she must leave her beloved grandfather and their happy home in the mountains to go to school and to care for an invalid girl in the city. Includes review questions. AR 8.2, 1000L

Stevenson, Robert Lewis: *Treasure Island*

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads them to a pirate's fortune. AR 7.0, 1100L

Travers, P. L.: *Mary Poppins* (series)

This classic series tells the story of the world's most beloved nanny, who brings enchantment and excitement with her everywhere she goes. AR 5.0-6.0, 840L

Wyss, Johann David: *The Swiss Family Robinson*

Relates the fortunes of a shipwrecked family as they adapt to life on an island with abundant animal and plant life. AR 9.7, 1260L

## Biography

Borden, Louise: *The Journey That Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*

Tells how the creators of "Curious George" narrowly escaped capture by the Nazis while fleeing Paris on their bicycles during World War II. AR 6.1, 950L Notable Book ♥

Brewster, Hugh: *Anastasia's Album: The Last Tsar's Youngest Daughter Tells Her Own Story*

Photographs and excerpts from personal letters tell the story of Anastasia, daughter of Tsar Nicholas II, who is believed to have been executed along with the rest of her family during the Russian revolution in 1918. AR 6.4, RC 5.9, 1010L ♥ Notable Book

Dahl, Roald: *Boy: Tales of Childhood*

Presents humorous anecdotes from the author's childhood which includes summer vacations in Norway and an English boarding school. AR 6.0, RC 6.4, 1090L Notable Book

Delano, Marge: *Genius: A Photobiography of Albert Einstein*

Presents a biography of Albert Einstein, in words and photographs, and examines the life of the physicist whose theories revolutionized the way science views the space-time continuum, and integrates Einstein's political, cultural, and social interests with his scientific beliefs. AR 7.6, 1030L ♥ Notable Book

Freeman, Russell: *Lincoln: a Photobiography*

Photographs and text trace the life of the Civil War President. AR 7.7, RC 6.1, 1110L ♥ Newbery Medal

George, Jean: *The Tarantula in My Purse: And 172 Other Wild Pets*

A collection of autobiographical stories about raising a houseful of children and wild pets including crows, skunks, and raccoons. AR 5.4, RC 5.9, 830L ♥

Hamilton, Bethany: *Soul Surfer: A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board*

Bethany Hamilton shares the story of her lifelong love of surfing, and tells how she was able to recover and return to competition with the help of her family, friends, and faith after losing her arm in a shark attack at the age of thirteen. 960L

Krull, Kathleen: *The Boy Who Invented TV: the Story of Philo Farnsworth*

Presents a picture-book biography of Philo Farnsworth, who created the world's first television image in 1928. AR 5.5, 860L

Paulsen, Gary: *My Life in Dog Years*

The author describes how dogs have impacted his life from childhood through the present day, recounting the stories of his first dog, Snowball, in the Philippines; Dirk, who protected him from bullies; and Cookie, who saved his life. AR 5.6 RC 5.2, 1150L ♥ Notable Book

Rector, Anne Elizabeth: *Anne Elizabeth's Diary*

Presents a selection of writings and drawings from the diary of Anne Elizabeth Rector, a twelve-year-old girl who lived in New York City in 1912, and includes sidebars that describe Rector's life and family, as well as notable people, places, and events of the time. AR 5.5 ♥

Scieszka, Jon: *Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka*

Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka. RC 4.3, 750L ♥

## Nonfiction

Armstrong, Jennifer: *The American Story: 100 True Tales from American History*

Contains 100 short stories about real people and events in American history, arranged chronologically from 1565 to 2000, including the lost colony of Roanoke, Pocahontas, the Chicago fire, and the 2000 presidential election. AR 8.1 RC 6.4 ♥ Notable Book

Buchanan, Andrea: *The Daring Book for Girls*

Provides information on various topics and instructions for several activities, covering women spies, the Bill of Rights, friendship bracelets, paper airplanes, cartwheels, games, changing a tire, and others.

Bredeson, Carmen: *NASA Planetary Spacecraft: Galileo, Magellan, Pathfinder, and Voyager*

Discusses the roles of several NASA spacecrafts which carried out probes during explorations of the planets. AR 7.3

Cerullo, Mary: *The Truth about Great White Sharks*

Describes the habits and behavior of the white shark and uses this information to dispel myths about this predator.

AR 6.4, RC 5.9, 1030L ♥

Cole, Michael: *Apollo 13: Space Emergency*

Text and pictures trace the Apollo 13 space mission, describing the accident and the crew's safe return to Earth. AR 5.5

Cook, David (text), Mauss, Doug (editor) and Sergio Cariello (illustrator): *The Action Bible*

Retells the stories of the Bible in graphic novel format, including the stories of Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Jonah, and the life and death of Jesus Christ. Great book for boys!

DK Eyewitness Books and DK SuperGuides

Presents information on a variety of topics with multiple photos and fact boxes. AR 7.0-8.9

Edelman, Marian Wright: *I Can Make a Difference*

Presents an illustrated collection of stories, poems, songs, and quotes from around the world to inspire children that they can make a difference.

Fritz, Jean: *The Lost Colony of Roanoke*

Describes the English colony of Roanoke, which was founded in 1585, and discusses the mystery of its disappearance.

AR 5.7, RC 5.2, 850L ♥

High, Linda Oatman: *The Cemetery Keepers of Gettysburg*

With his father, the caretaker of Gettysburg's Evergreen Cemetery, off fighting in the Union Army, Fred Thorn endures the three-day Battle of Gettysburg and then helps his mother and grandfather bury around one hundred soldiers.

Hoose, Phillip: *It's Our World, Too! Young People Who are Making a Difference*

A collection of essays about children who have made notable achievements, arranged in the categories "Taking a Stand," "Reaching Out to Others," "Healing the Earth," and "Creating a Safer Future," accompanied by a handbook for young activists. 840L

Hopkins, Lee Bennett: *Hand in Hand: An American History Through Poetry*

A collection of poems and lyrics from several songs provides a look at our country, from colonial times to the present.

Iggulden, Conn: *The Dangerous Book for Boys*

A collection of entertainments geared toward boys, containing accounts of famous battles, William Shakespeare quotations, games, and instructions for activities such as building a go-cart, cutting flint heads, making an electromagnet, and folding the "greatest paper airplane in the world."

Jones, Charlotte Folz: *Accidents May Happen*

Profiles fifty accidental inventions, such as the ice cream soda, nitrous oxide, fingerprinting, and dynamite, explaining how they came to be. AR 6.9, RC 5.9, 930L Notable Book

Kehert, Peg: *Shelter Dogs*

Tells the stories of eight stray dogs that were adopted from animal shelters and went on to become service dogs, actors, and heroes.

AR 6.5, RC 6.2, 940L

Kramer, Stephen P.: *Hidden Worlds: Looking Through a Scientist's Microscope*

Describes the work of Dennis Kunkel, a microscopist from Hawaii, and provides illustrations of microscopic worlds of plants, bugs, and mites. AR 7.0, RC 6.5, 1040L ♥ Notable Book

Krull, Kathleen: *The Night the Martians Landed*

Recounts the night before Halloween in 1938 when a fake news broadcast about invading Martians sent radio listeners around the country into a panic, and examines why so many people confused entertainment with reality. AR 6.7, RC 4.9, 960L

- Lasky, Kathryn: *The Man Who Made Time Travel*  
Describes the need for sailors to be able to determine their position at sea and the efforts of John Harrison, an eighteenth century man who spent his life refining instruments to enable them to do this. AR 6.4, RC 4.9, 840L ♥
- Murphy, Jim: *Blizzard! : The Storm that Changed America*  
Presents a history, based on personal accounts and newspaper articles, of the massive snow storm that hit the Northeast in 1888, focusing on the events in New York City AR 7.6, RC 7.1, 1080L ♥ Notable Book
- Newquist, HP: *Here There Be Monsters: The Legendary Kraken and the Giant Squid*  
Examines the connections between old myths about the kraken--a Scandinavian sea monster--and modern scientific study of the giant squid, and explores representations of the creature in film and literature. AR 7.9 ♥
- Pascoe, Elaine: *Fooled You! Fakes and Hoaxes Through the Years*  
Presents a collection of eleven stories that turned out to be hoaxes including Edgar Allan Poe's fantastic tale of a hot air balloon crossing the Atlantic in the 1840s. AR 6.4, RC 5.9, 900L
- Patterson, Francine: *Koko's Kitten*  
The real life experience of Koko, a gorilla in California who uses sign language, with a young kitten whom she loved and grieved over when it died. AR 3.5, RC 4.6, 610L
- Ruurs, Margriet: *My Librarian is a Camel: How Books Are Brought to Children Around the World*  
Contains photographs, information, and personal stories about mobile libraries and their young patrons in countries around the world, showing some of the unique ways by which books are delivered, including boat, camel, and elephant. AR 6.3, RC 6.8, 980L ♥
- Settel, Joanne: *Exploding Ants: Amazing Facts About How Animals Adapt*  
Describes examples of animal behavior that may strike humans as disgusting, including the "gross" ways animals find food, shelter, and safety in the natural world. AR 6.4, RC 6.3, 1020L
- Slavin, Bill: *Transformed: How Everyday Things are Made*  
Presents full-color illustrations that describe how over sixty everyday objects are made including chewing gum, pencils, plastic wrap, paper, ice cream, toothpaste, and many more. AR 7.4, RC 5.6, 1080L
- Thimmesh, Catherine: *Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women*  
Tells the story of how women throughout the ages have responded to situations confronting them in daily life by inventing such items as correction fluid, space helmets, and disposable diapers. 960L
- Thomson, Sarah: *Three Cups of Tea* (for elementary students)  
Adapts for young readers Greg Mortenson's book in which he recounts the experiences he had while trying to help impoverished villages in Pakistan's Karakoram Himalaya build schools for their children. AR 6.1, RC 5.9, 910L
- Tunnell, Michael: *Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot"*  
Describes the efforts of US Air Force Lieutenant Gail Halvorsen to aid the children in Russian-blockaded West Berlin by dropping packages filled with candy from the air. Features personal photographs, along with letters and drawings from the children of Berlin. 1130L
- Wulffson, Don: *The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle*  
Brief factual stories about how various familiar things were invented, many by accident, from animal crackers to the zipper. 1080L