

Suggested Books & Authors

Summer Reading

Incoming 4th Graders



Alvarez: *How Tia Lola Learned to Teach* c2010 *divorce, family life, fiction*

Juanita and Miguel's great aunt, Tía Lola, comes from the Dominican Republic to help take care of them after their parents' divorce, and soon she is so involved in their small Vermont community that when her visa expires, the whole town turns out to support her.

Clements: *We the Children* series - mystery

Sixth-grader Ben Pratt's life is full of changes that he does not like but when the school janitor gives him a tarnished coin with some old engravings and then dies, Ben is drawn into an effort to keep the school from being destroyed.

Collins: *Gregor the Overlander* c2003 *fantasy*

Gregor and his two-year sister fall down a shaft in the basement and find a world of giant insects and rats. They become part of a huge battle.

DiCamillo: *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* c2006 *fantasy*

Edward Tulane is a selfish, thoughtless toy rabbit until he loses the little girl who loves him.

Giff: *Storyteller* c2010 *families, historical fiction*

Forced to spend months at an aunt's house, Elizabeth feel a connection to her ancestor Zee, whose picture hangs on the wall, and who reveals her story of hardships during the Revolutionary War as Elizabeth comes to terms with her own troubles.

Going: *The Liberation of Gabriel King* c2005 *race relations, friendship*

Gabriel, a white boy who is being bullied, and Frita, an African-American girl facing prejudice, decide to overcome their many fears together as they enter fifth grade in Georgia in 1976.

Lowry: *The Willoughbys* c2008 *family life, humorous stories*

A tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, in which the four Willoughby children set out to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

Lupica: *Two-Minute Drill* c2007 *dyslexia, football stories*

Brainy Scott, a great kicker who otherwise struggles with football, and star quarterback Chris, who has dyslexia, team up to help each other succeed in both football and school.

Paulsen: Hatchet c1987 survival, fiction

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

Pearson: Kingdom Keepers series suspense fiction

When Disney comes looking for five teenagers to serve as actors for a new technology-Daylight Hologram Images (DHIs), there is more to it than meets the eye.

Smith: Bone c2004 graphic novel

Three cousins leave their home of Boneville. On their journey they meet royalty, dragons, and monsters as they try to return home.

Stewart: The Mysterious Benedict Society c2007 fiction, adventure

Four children are secretly spies as students in the Learning Institute for the Enlightened. They have to avoid being brainwashed by Mr. Curtain, one of the owners of the school. This is a mystery you will be eager to see unfold.

Thomas: The Kids Guide to Money c2004, personal finance, nonfiction

Text and cartoon illustrations introduce kids to the concept of money.

Various authors: 39 Clues series mystery

Follow Amy Cahill and her brother, Dan, as they travel the world to hunt for the 39 Clues.

Various authors: Dear America series historical fiction

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Nonfiction Titles

Extreme Sports Stars by Philip Abraham (Level Q)

Solving The Mysteries Of The Past by Gerald Aksomitis (Level Q)

Sport Bikes by Katherine Bailey (Level Q)

Backstage At A Music Video by Holly Cefrey (Level Q)

Motion Pictures by Robyn Conley (Level Q)

Italy by Sarah De Capua (Level Q)

Women And Girls In The Middle Ages by Kay Eastwood (Level Q)

The Biography Of Sugar by Rachel Eagen (Level Q)

Extreme Skateboarding by Bobbie Kalman (Level Q)

Everything Dolphin: What Kids Really Want To Know About Dolphins by Marty Crisp (Level R)

Forest Animals by Connor Dayton (Level S)

The First Woman Doctor by Rachel Baker (Level T)

The Declaration Of Independence by Michael Burgan (Level T)

Other Suggested Series & Authors

I Survived Series by Lauren Tarshis (Level R/S)

Nicky Fifts Chapter Book Series by Lisa Funari-Willever

The Spiderwick Chronicles by Holly Black & Tony DiTerlizzi (Level Q)

Judy Blume Books

Andrew Clements Books

Brian Selznick Books