

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

JF RYAN P

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.

Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick.

JF SELZNICK B

Having lost his mother and his hearing in a short time, twelve-year-old Ben leaves his Minnesota home in 1977 to seek the father he never knew in New York City, and meets there Rose, who is also longing for something missing from her life. Ben's story is told in words; Rose's in pictures.

To Night Owl from Dogfish by Holly Goldberg Sloan & Meg Wolitzer.

JF SLOAN H

Unhappy about being sent to the same summer camp after their fathers start dating, Bett and Avery, two girls, age eleven, eventually begin scheming to get the couple back together after a break-up. Told entirely through letters, emails and text messages.

Bone: Out from Boneville by Jeff Smith.

GN JF SMITH J

The three Bone cousins are run out of their home and become separated in the wilds, but better fortune begins when they reunite at a farmstead in a deep forested valley, where Fone Bone meets a young girl named Thorn.

Loser by Jerry Spinelli.

JF SPINELLI J

Even though his classmates from first grade on have considered him strange and a loser, Daniel Zinkoff's optimism and exuberance and the support of his loving family do not allow him to feel that way about himself.

When You Reach Me by Rebecca Stead.

JF STEAD R

A twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space.

Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks.

JF WEEKS S

Joe and Ravi don't think they have anything in common, but soon enough they have a common enemy, the biggest bully in their class, and a common mission, to take control of their lives over the course of a single crazy week.

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia.

JF WILLIAMS R

In the summer of 1968, after traveling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit.



More than books

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RECOMMENDED READS FOR FIFTH GRADE



The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

JF BRADLE K

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

City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau.

JF DUPRAU J

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

Absolutely Truly by Heather Vogel Frederick.

JF FREDER H

Twelve-year-old Truly Lovejoy's family moves to a small town to take over a bookstore. Soon, she has to solve two mysteries involving a missing book and an undelivered letter.

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George.

JF GEORGE J

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains.

The Genius Files: Mission Unstoppable by Dan Gutman.

JF GUTMAN D

On a cross-country vacation with their parents, twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

Fish in a Tree by Linda Mullaly Hunt.

JF HUNT L

Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read.

When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller.

JF KELLER T

When Lily, her sister Sam, and their mother move in with her sick grandmother, Lily traps a tiger and makes a deal with him to heal Halmoni.

Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly.

JF KELLY E

The lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully's prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan.

JF KHAN H

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.

Swindle by Gordon Korman.

JF KORMAN G

After an unscrupulous collector cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back.

Savvy by Ingrid Law.

JF LAW I

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy" - a magical power unique to each member of her family - just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle.

JF LENGLE M

Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers in a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Rules by Cynthia Lord.

JF LORD C

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry.

JF LOWRY L

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

The Seventh Wish by Kate Messner.

JF MESSNE K

Unsure of how to get her family's attention, Charlie comes across the surprise of her life one day while ice-fishing, in the form of a floppy, scaly fish offering to grant her a wish in exchange for its freedom

Wonder by R.J. Palacio.

JF PALACI R

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park.

JF PARK L

In Dakota Territory in the 1880s, half-Chinese Hanna and her white father face racism and resistance to change as they try to make a home for themselves.

The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin.

JF RASKIN E

The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.