

Friends and School

Clements, Andrew
LUNCH MONEY

When budding billionaire Greg decides to make and sell comic books at school, he has a serious rival in his neighbor and classmate Maura.

Danziger, Paula
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Between entries in her diary and pages in her scrapbook, Skate tells about her difficulties adjusting to middle school.

Draper, Sharon
OUT OF MY MIND
When a brilliant 5th grader with cerebral palsy gets a talking computer, she is finally able to show the world what she can do.

Fletcher, Ralph
FLYING SOLO
The substitute teacher never shows up, so the kids in a sixth grade class decide to teach themselves for the day.

Gutman, Dan
MILLION DOLLAR KICK
Whisper, who hates sports, is torn when she gets a chance to win a million dollars by kicking a goal against a local soccer hero.

Koningsburg, E. L.
THE VIEW FROM SATURDAY
Why are Noah, Ethan, Nadia and Julian chosen for the 6th grade Academic Bowl team over the usual honor students?

Mackel, Kathy
MAD CAT
A fast-pitch softball catcher nearly loses her friends when her team makes the nationals.

O'Dell, Katheen
AGNES PARKER...KEEPING COOL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL *
7th grade brings bullying older boys, changing for gym class and her friend's family problems.

Park, Linda Sue
PROJECT MULBERRY
No obstacle, real or imagined, can stop Julia Song and her best friend Patrick from entering a community farming-club contest.

Perkins, Donna
ALL ALONE IN THE UNIVERSE *
Debbie's best friend since 3rd grade has a new friend who doesn't want to be around Debbie.

Philbrick, Rodman
FREAK THE MIGHTY *
Learning disabled Max and his brilliant new friend Freak find that when they combine forces, they make a powerful team.

Woodson, Jacqueline
FEATHERS
After a new white student joins her 6th grade class and is nicknamed "Jesus Boy," thoughtful Frannie sees changes in her classmates.

Humor

Anderson, M. T.
WHALES ON STILTS
Racing against the clock, Lily and her friends must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world ...with an army of whales!

Gantos, Jack
JACK ON THE TRACKS *
Jack, who loves all things gross and weird, writes about his fifth grade year.

Hiassen, Carl
HOOT
Roy gets involved with some wacky characters in his attempts to help save the owls whose habitat is threatened by development.

Maguire, Gregory
FOUR STUPID CUPIDS *
When a vase breaks, releasing four real cupids from ancient Greece, the kids in Miss Earth's fifth grade class plot to have her fall in love.

Lowry, Lois
ANASTASIA KRUPNIK *
Anastasia would like to have a boyfriend, but what she is getting is a baby brother.

Paulsen, Gary
MUDSHARK
With lightning reflexes and total recall, Lyle "Mudshark" Williams is the go-to guy for all the weird missing items at his school.

Peck, Richard
THE TEACHER'S FUNERAL
Russell's hopes that his rural one-room school will be closed when the teacher dies are dashed when his older sister Tansy takes over the job.

Schirripa, Steven R.
NICKY DEUCE: WELCOME TO THE FAMILY *
Rich, suburban Nicky spends the summer with his Italian relatives in Brooklyn where he is exposed to new food, new kids, and new risks.

Tolon, Stephanie
SURVIVING THE APPLEWHITES
Jake, a delinquent teen, has no idea what's in store for him when he is sent to live and home-school with the eccentric Applewhite family.

***This book has one or more sequels or is part of a series.**

Animals

Armstrong, Alan
WHITTINGTON
A beat-up cat moves into a barn and creates a community among the animals who live there and the children who visit them.

Cleary, Beverly
STRIDER
Leigh and his friend find an abandoned dog and agree to share custody-- not an easy task for a boy coping with his parents' divorce.

DiCamillo, Kate
BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE
New in town and lonely, Opal adopts a big ugly dog who introduces her to some of the unusual townspeople—her new friends.

George, Jean Craighead
MY SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN *
Unhappy with life in New York City, Sam sets up house in a hollowed-out tree, with a falcon and a weasel for companions.

Hunter, Erin
INTO THE WILD *
Rusty, bored with life as a pet, joins a gang of feral cats who are warring with a rival clan. This is the first book in the *Warriors* series.

Kadohata, Cynthia
CRACKER! THE BEST DOG IN VIETNAM
A bomb-sniffing German shepherd and her human handler bond during the Vietnam war.

McKay, Hilary
DOG FRIDAY
Since being attacked by a dog, Robin is afraid of them, but finding an abandoned mutt on the beach helps him overcome his fear.

Animals

Martin, Ann M.
A DOG'S LIFE
Squirrel, a stray dog, narrates her own story from lonely puppyhood to a happier old age.

Oppel, Kenneth
DARKWING *
Dusk can fly, which makes him a misfit in his prehistoric colony of winged, gliding mammals.

Rawls, Wilson
WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS
Glory, victory and sadness come to Billy and his two coonhounds in Depression-era Oklahoma.

Seidler, Tor
TOES
An exceptionally intelligent kitten with seven toes on each paw must make his own way in the world after his mother dies and his siblings reject him.

Family Stories

Birdsall, Jeanne
THE PENDERWICKS *
Four lively sisters, aged 4 to 12, spend a summer with their dad and their dog in a cottage in Massachusetts.

Choldenko, Geraldine
AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS *
Moose's world is turned upside down when his family moves to Alcatraz Island where his dad has a job as a prison guard.

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Creech, Sharon
RUBY HOLLER
The trouble twins, Dallas and Florida, are offered a 3 month break from the orphanage when an eccentric elderly couple needs help.

Dahl, Roald
DANNY, THE CHAMPION OF THE WORLD
Danny lives in a caravan with his loving father who runs a gas station by day and poaches pheasants by night.

Dowell, Francis O'Roark
CHICKEN BOY
Because his siblings are delinquents and his father is never home, Tobin spends his time with his unconventional grandmother and his chicken-obsessed friend, Henry.

Fitzmaurice, Kathryn
YEAR THE SWALLOWS CAME EARLY
When Groovy's father spends the money that was to be saved for her to go to cooking school someday, she must learn about forgiveness.

Leal, Ann
ALSO KNOWN AS HARPER
Harper's talent for poetry helps her through hard times when her family gets evicted and moves into a local motel.

Lord, Cynthia
RULES
Catherine is torn between love for her autistic brother and impatience with the responsibilities and embarrassment he brings to her life.

Lopez, Diana
CONFETTI GIRL
After her mother dies and her father becomes withdrawn, Lina depends on her friend Vanessa and her crush, Luis, to keep her life lively.

Family Stories

Lupica, Mike
HEAT
Ace pitcher Michael is banned from Little League because rival coaches doubt he is only 12 and he has no parents to offer them proof.

McKay, Hilary
INDIGO'S STAR *
Meet the extraordinary and irresistible Casson family: four very individual kids and their artist parents.

MacLachlan, Patricia
BABY
Larkin's family learns to accept the death of Larkin's baby brother after another baby is left in a basket on their doorstep.

Voigt, Cynthia
HOMECOMING *
The four Tillerman kids must depend on each other as they travel across Connecticut in search of a relative who will give them a home.

Wilson, Jacqueline
CANDYFLOSS
When her mother, stepdad, and brother go to Australia for six months, Flossie chooses to stay with her dad, the owner of a failing café.

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Humor
Family Stories
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Animals

