



❖ 4th & 5th Grade ❖ Best Books of 2018



Best Books lists from previous years may be obtained by request at the Youth Services desk.

**Additional formats available from other libraries and/or downloadable from OverDrive.*

***All the Things That Could Go Wrong* – Stewart Foster**

+Foster, Fiction

Dan and his friends, Sophie and the Georges, are bullies who target obsessive-compulsive Alex, but when Dan is in trouble, Alex is the one who conquers his fears to show up.

***Amal Unbound* – Aisha Saeed**

+Saeed, Fiction; +Sae, CD-Audio Books*

The compelling story of a girl's fight to regain her life and dreams after being forced into indentured servitude.

***Aquicorn Cove* – Katie O'Neill**

+O'Neill, Graphic Novels

When Lana finds a sick creature in a tide pool after a storm, she realizes it's not just the magical aquicorn that is sick, but the ocean itself. It's up to Lana and the inhabitants of her small town to make changes that will protect Aquicorn Cove.

***Awesome Engineering: Fairground Rides* – Sally Spray**

+791 Spr, Non-Fiction

Follow the development of fairground rides, as they have grown taller, scarier, and more fantastical through engineering skill, design, and ambition.

***Be Prepared* – Vera Brosgol**

+Brosgol, Graphic Novels*

In this funny graphic novel, Vera goes to a summer camp for Russian immigrants and tries to make friends and survive.

***Blended* – Sharon M. Draper**

+Draper, Fiction*

Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

***Bluecrowne* – Kate Milford**

+Milford, Fiction

In 1810, Lucy Bluecrowne, twelve, is bored of living ashore with her stepmother and half brother until two nefarious strangers identify her little brother as the pyrotechnical prodigy they need for their evil plan.

***Bob* – Wendy Mass**

+Mass, Fiction; +Mas, CD-Audio Books*

Visiting her grandmother in Australia, Livy, ten, is reminded of the promise she made five years before to Bob, a strange, green creature who cannot recall who or what he is.

***The Book of Boy* – Catherine Gilbert Murdock**

+Murdock, Fiction*

In 1350, a boy with a large hump on his back becomes the servant of a shadowy pilgrim while on his way to Rome. The boy is pulled into a dangerous expedition across Europe to gather the seven precious relics of Saint Peter.

***City of Ghosts* – Victoria Schwab**

+Schwab, Fiction*

Ever since her near-fatal drowning, Cassidy has been able to see ghosts, and she was really looking forward to a ghost-free summer. However, her parents are going to start filming a TV series about the world's most haunted places, and Cass and her personal ghost, Jacob, are about to find out that a city of old ghosts can be a very dangerous place.

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The Complete Cookbook for Young Chefs – America’s Test Kitchen* +641.5 Com, Non-Fiction

For the first time ever, America's Test Kitchen is bringing their scientific know-how, rigorous testing, and hands-on learning to KIDS in the kitchen! Features kid-tested and approved recipes.

Dactyl Hill Squad – Daniel José Older* +Older, Fiction; +Old, Digital Audio Players

In this alternate 1863, the Civil War rages between dinosaur-mounted armies while Magdalys and the other children at the Colored Orphan Asylum are trying to survive; but when she receives a letter telling her that her brother Montez was wounded, she knows that her ability to communicate telepathically with dinosaurs may come in handy to save him.

***Dreaming Dangerous – Lauren DeStefano* +DeStefano, Fiction**

At Brassmere Academy for the Extraordinary, twelve-year-old Plum and her best friends share adventures in dreams each night, but when Artem disappears they discover alarming secrets about Brassmere and its intentions.

Endling: The Last – Katherine Applegate* +Applegate, Fiction; +App, CD-Audio Books

In the Kingdom of Nedarra, dog-like Dairnes can detect lies. It’s this skill that evil human ruler, Murdano, wants. He hunts Byx and her companions, while she tries to find a secret island in the hope that she’s not the last of her kind.

Everlasting Nora – Marie Miranda Cruz* +Cruz, Fiction

After surviving a fire in which her father dies, Nora and her mother live in a cemetery, but when her mother disappears and a loan shark steals her savings, Nora finds support from her neighbors to earn money and search for her mother.

Finding Langston – Lesa Cline-Ransome* +Cline-Ransome, Fiction

Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied.

Front Desk – Kelly Yang* +Yang, Fiction; +Yan, CD-Audio Books

Recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money, ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, even though the owner, Mr. Yao is dangerous, nasty, and cheap. While her mother (who was an engineer in China) does the cleaning, Mia works the front desk.

***Gamer Army – Trent Reedy* +Reedy, Fiction**

Rogan is an obsessed gamer, so he’s thrilled to join a tech giant's virtual reality TV gaming contest but as they become more intense and dangerous, the gamers realize that something sinister is behind this particular game.

***Goldfish Vol. 1 – Nana Yaa* +Yaa, Graphic Novels**

After his artifact-finding father disappears, Morrey finds himself cursed with the ability to turn anything he touches to gold. In this exciting manga, the boy must lift the curse, save his brother, and avoid the Obtainers hunting for HIM.

Harbor Me – Jacqueline Woodson* +Woodson, Fiction; +Woo, CD-Audio Books

In the ARTT (A Room To Talk) a special class of 5th and 6th graders spend the last period of the day, unsupervised, where they get to talk about anything they want, sharing bits of their lives and topics that are important to them.

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***Hurricane Child* – Kheryn Callender**

Born on Water Island in the Virgin Islands during a hurricane, which is considered bad luck, twelve-year-old Caroline falls in love with another girl and together they set out in a hurricane to find Caroline's missing mother.

+Callender, Fiction*

***Itch!* – Anita Sanchez**

In this en(GROSS)ing non-fiction book, you will learn about things that make you itch and what you can do about them.

+612.79 San, Non-Fiction

***Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World* – Ashley Herring Blake**

Twelve-year-old Ivy's house is destroyed in a tornado. Afterward, she starts to develop feelings for another girl at school.

+Blake, Fiction*

***Knights Vs. Dinosaurs* – Matt Phelan**

With the realm at peace and few dragons about, the Knights of the Round Table are bored, so Merlin sends them to face the most terrible lizards of all dinosaurs.

+Phelan, Fiction*

***Louisiana's Way Home* – Kate DiCamillo**

Louisiana Elefante's granny wakes her up in the middle of the night and tells her they need to leave home immediately, and this time Granny does not intend for them to return.

+DiCamillo, Fiction; +DiC, Digital Audio Players*

***Love Like Sky* – Leslie C. Youngblood**

Eleven-year-old Georgie is still adjusting to leaving Atlanta for a small town, having a stepfather, and being unable to get close to her stepsister when her six-year-old sister, Peaches, suddenly becomes very ill.

+Youngblood, Fiction

***Mac Undercover* – Mac Barnett**

Before Mac Barnett was an author, he was a kid. And while he was a kid, he was a spy for the Queen of England.

+Barnett, Fiction

***Marcus Vega Doesn't Speak Spanish* – Pablo Cartaya**

After a fight at school leaves Marcus facing suspension, his mother takes him and his younger brother, who has Down syndrome, to Puerto Rico to visit relatives they do not remember, and while there Marcus searches for his father.

+Cartaya, Fiction*

***Merci Suárez Changes Gears* – Meg Medina**

Winner of the 2019 Newbery Medal. Thoughtful, strong-willed sixth-grader Merci Suarez navigates difficult changes with friends, family, and everyone in between in a resonant new novel from Meg Medina.

+Medina, Fiction*

***The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* – Stacy McAnulty**

A lightning strike made Lucy, twelve, a math genius but, after years of homeschooling, her grandmother enrolls her in middle school and she learns that life is more than numbers.

+McAnulty, Fiction*

***National Parks of the U.S.A.* – Kate Siber**

Take a tour of America's great outdoors and discover the beauty and diversity of its most iconic and majestic national parks.

+917.3 Sib, Non-Fiction

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***The Night Diary* – Veera Hiranandani**

+Hiranandani, Fiction; +Hir, CD-Audio Books*

Shy 12-yr-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 Partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in her diary.

***The Parker Inheritance* – Varian Johnson**

+Johnson, Fiction*

Twelve-year-old Candice is spending the summer in South Carolina, in the old house that belonged to her deceased grandmother. When Candice finds the letter that sent her grandmother on a treasure hunt years ago, she finds herself caught up in the mystery.

***Sanity & Tallulah* – Molly Brooks**

+Brooks, Graphic Novels

Two best friends living on a dilapidated space station at the far end of the galaxy are challenged to save their home after creating an illegal, but impossibly cute, three-headed kitten that wreaks havoc throughout the station.

***The Season of Styx Malone* – Kekla Magoon**

+Magoon, Fiction; +Mag, CD-Audio Books*

Styx Malone is 16. Is he a “handful of trouble” or the greatest friend Bobbie and Caleb ever met? Styx teaches them about the “Escalator Trade,” but will it lead the younger boys to adventure? Or to trouble?

***Small Spaces* – Katherine Arden**

+Arden, Fiction; +Ard; CD-Audio Books*

When Ollie reads a scary book, it has sinister consequences. She and her friends, Brian and Coco, find themselves in a spooky wood at night, with no way to get help. Something is out there with them that shouldn't be.

***Tight* – Torrey Maldonado**

+Maldonado, Fiction; +Mal, CD-Audio Books

After his quick-tempered father gets in a fight and is sent back to jail, sixth-grader Bryan, known for being quiet and thoughtful, snaps and follows new friend Mike into trouble.

***Toaff's Way* – Cynthia Voigt**

+Voigt, Fiction; +Voi, CD-Audio Books

Toaff is a small squirrel full of big questions. Why must I stay away from the human's house? Why shouldn't I go beyond the pine trees? Why do we fight with the red squirrels across the drive?

***Willa of the Wood* – Robert Beatty**

+Beatty, Fiction; +Bea, CD-Audio Books*

In the late 1800s, a twelve-year-old nightspirit living in the Great Smoky Mountains despairs as homesteaders destroy her forest habitat, until a chance encounter with a “day-folk” man changes everything she thought she knew about her people and their greatest enemy.

***The Wind Called My Name* – Mary Louise Sanchez**

+Sanchez, Fiction (Plover)

Margarita Engle's family moves from New Mexico to Wyoming, and even though she makes a friend, her family faces discrimination. Can she stand up for herself in her home? What will it cost her?

***Winnie's Great War* – Lindsay Mattick**

+Mattick, Fiction*

An imagining of the real journey undertaken by the extraordinary bear, from her early days in the Canadian forest to her travels with the Veterinary Corps across the country and overseas, all the way to the London Zoo, where she met Christopher Robin Milne and inspired the creation of Winnie-the-Pooh.

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