

110 Books for Every Child

COMPILED BY CHAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY CHILDREN'S SERVICES

These are our favorite books for grades 4 and 5. Why 110 of them? We're celebrating 110 years of children's services, which started at our library in 1899.

All-of-a-Kind Family (Juvenile Fiction/J/Tay) by Sydney Taylor. Imagine living in a house with five sisters! Growing up in early twentieth century New York, Ell, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte, and Gertie enjoy doing everything together.

Abel's Island (Juvenile Fiction/J/Ste) by William Steig. Cast away on an uninhabited island, Abel, a very civilized mouse, struggles to find a way home.

Across Five Aprils (Juvenile Fiction/J/Hun) by Irene Hunt. Young Jethro Creighton is left to take care of his family's farm during the Civil War.

Anne of Green Gables (Juvenile Fiction/J/Mon) by Lucy Maude Montgomery. Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent to live with a lonely couple on Prince Edward Island.

Babe: The Gallant Pig (juvenile Fiction/J/Kin) by Dick King-Smith. This little piggy went to market. This little piggy stayed home, but Babe is a wee, little piggy that wants to be a sheep dog!

The Bad Beginning (Juvenile Fiction/J/Sni) by Lemony Snicket. After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits to foil a dastardly guardian.

A Bear Called Paddington (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bon) by Michael Bond. A very small bear found by Mr. and Mrs. Brown at Paddington Station becomes one of the family.

Because of Winn-Dixie (Juvenile Fiction/J.DiCamillo) by Kate DiCamillo
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.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Juvenile Fiction/J/Rob) by Barbara Robinson. The six mean Herdman kids lie, steal, smoke cigars (even the girls), and then become involved in the community Christmas pageant.

The BFG (Juvenile Fiction/J/Dah) by Roald Dahl. Sophie befriends a BFG (Big Friendly Giant). Together they plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.

Black Beauty (Juvenile Fiction/J/Sew) by Anna Sewell. Black Beauty's life begins and ends in comfort, but he discovers how difficult and unpredictable life can be with a man as his master.

The Black Stallion (Juvenile Fiction/J/Far) by Walter Farley. Alec Ramsay is shipwrecked on a desert island with a wild, unbroken stallion.

The Blue Sword (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/McK) by Robin McKinley. Harry, bored with her sheltered life, is kidnapped by a king with mysterious powers.

The Book of Three (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Ale) by Lloyd Alexander. Taran, would-be hero and assistant pig-keeper, rescues the magical pig, Hen Wen, from the forces of evil.

The Borrowers (Juvenile Fiction/J/Nor) by Mary Norton. They are so small they live beneath the floorboards, where the big people can't see them. But Arrietty can't help it; she just has to know what the big world looks like.

The Boxcar Children (Juvenile Mysteries/J/War) by Gertrude Chandler Warner. Four orphaned children run away and live in a boxcar, until they are found by their grandfather.

Bridge to Terabithia (Juvenile Fiction/J/Pat) by Katherine Patterson. The life of a ten-year-old boy changes after the death of his friend.

Bud, Not Buddy (Juvenile Fiction/J/Curtis) by Christopher Paul Curtis. Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father—the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

Bunnicula (Juvenile Mysteries/J/How) by Deborah and James Howe. Who's sucking the juice out of the vegetables? Is it the family's new pet? Hmm, the cat suspects....

Call It Courage (Juvenile Fiction/J/Spe) by Armstrong Sperry. Mafatu must face his greatest fear: a shark.

The Call of the Wild (Juvenile Fiction/J/Lon) by Jack London. A dog is captured and taken to Alaska where he becomes the leader of a wolf pack.

Catherine, Called Birdy (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cus) by Karen Cushman. The thirteen-year-old daughter of an English country knight keeps a journal in which she records the events of her life, particularly her efforts to avoid being married off.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (Juvenile Fiction/J/Dah) by Roald Dahl. Who will win a ticket into Mr. Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory?

Charlotte's Web (Juvenile Fiction/J/Whi) by E.B. White. Wilbur, the pig, is going to be the farmer's Christmas dinner unless Charlotte can save him.

The Children of Green Knowe (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bos) by L.M. Boston. Tolly goes to live in the ancient house of his great-grandmother, but there's something odd and strange about the house. It's haunted.

The City of Ember (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Dup) by Jeanne DuPrau. Everything's falling apart. The city of Ember is dying. Is there a way out? Lina must find out before it's too late!

The Cricket in Times Square (Juvenile Fiction/J/Selden) by George Selden. A Connecticut cricket named Chester hops a ride in a picnic basket and ends up in a near-bankrupt newsstand in Times Square. He teams up with the son of the newsstand's owners, a fast-talking mouse and a local cat to rescue the business.

The Dark Is Rising (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Coo) by Susan Cooper. On his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones. He must find the six magical Signs before the forces of evil stop him.

Dealing with Dragons (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Wre) by Patricia Wrede. Bored with traditional palace life, a princess goes to live with a group of dragons.

The Egypt Game (Juvenile Fiction/J/Sny) by Zilpha Keatley Snyder. A group of children, entranced with the study of Egypt, play their own Egypt game and become involved in a murder.

Ella Enchanted (Juvenile Fiction/J/Lev) by Gail Carson Levine. After receiving the gift of obedience from a foolish fairy, Ella must obey every command given to her.

Encyclopedia Brown (Juvenile Mysteries/J/Sob) Donald J. Sobol. Using his detective skills, Encyclopedia Brown helps his father solve the most difficult cases for the Idaville police force.

Freddy series (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bro) by Walter R. Brooks. Robbers, dastardly rats, the evil schemes of Watson P. Condiment – nothing will stop Freddy the Pig. He’s an animal detective and an extraordinary pig.

Frindle (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cle) by Andrew Clement. Fifth grader Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler (Juvenile Mysteries/J/Kon) by E.L. Konigsburg. Twelve-year-old Claudia and her little brother, Jamie, run away and hide in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they uncover a secret that will change the art world forever.

The Giver (Juvenile Fiction/J/Low) by Lois Lowry. Young Jonas is given the important job of receiver of memories for his community, but soon realizes a terrible truth.

Granny Torelli Makes Soup (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cre) by Sharon Creech. Nothing is worse than a fight with your best friend; but Granny Torelli knows just the recipe to help Rosie and Bailey make things right.

Half Magic (Juvenile Fiction/J/Eag) by Edward Eager. Four children looking forward to an ordinary summer enjoy a series of fantastic adventures by double-wishing on an ancient coin.

Harriet the Spy (Juvenile Fiction/J/Fit) by Louise Fitzhugh. Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook. When some of the kids read the notebook, they want revenge!

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Row) by J.K. Rowling. Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy discovers his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Witchcraft and Wizardry.

Hatchet (Juvenile Fiction/J/Pau) by Gary Paulsen. After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet.

Heidi (Juvenile Fiction/J/Spy) by Johanna Spyri. An orphan sent to live with her grandfather learns to love both the old man and the Swiss Alps and is homesick when she goes to the city to be a companion to an invalid.

Henry Huggins (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cle) by Beverly Cleary. Henry adopts Ribsy, a dog of no particular breed. Who knew a dog could cause so much trouble?

Holes (Juvenile Fiction/J/Sac) by Louis Sachar. Like the rest of his family, Stanley Yelnats has bad luck. However, when he is sentenced to a correctional camp in the Texas desert, he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

Homer Price (Juvenile Fiction/J/McC) by Robert McCloskey. Bandits, a skunk, and a donut machine on a rampage? Join Homer Price in six hilarious escapades!

The House with a Clock in Its Walls (Juvenile Mysteries/J/Bel) by John Bellairs. Lewis is surprised to find out his uncle is a magician and he must find a magic clock in order to save the world.

How to Eat Fried Worms (Juvenile Fiction/J/Roc) by Thomas Rockwell. Chocolate Covered worms: yeah, we’d eat that. Fried grasshoppers: okay, we’d give it a try. But fifteen wiggly, squiggly, slimy dirty worms—no way! Billy, however, made a bet. He’s got to do it. But how?

The Incredible Journey (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bur) by Sheila Every Burnford. Mistakenly left behind, two dogs and a cat journey through the Canadian wilderness to rejoin their family.

The Indian in the Cupboard (Juvenile Fiction/J/Banks) by Lynne Reid Banks. A nine-year-old boy received a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret (Juvenile Fiction/J/Selznick) by Brian Selznick. When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toyseller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

Island of the Blue Dolphins (Juvenile Fiction/J/ODE) by Scott O'Dell. Karana, an Indian girl, is stranded on a deserted island. How will she survive?

James and the Giant Peach (Juvenile Fiction/J/Dahl) by Roald Dahl. A young boy escapes from two wicked aunts and embarks on a series of adventures with six giant insects he meets inside a giant peach.

A Light in the Attic (Juvenile Nonfiction/J811.54/Sil) by Shel Silverstein. This collection of laugh-out-loud poems and drawings is a classic.

The Lightning Thief (Juvenile Fiction/J/Riordan) by Rick Riordan. Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. His mother sends him to a summer camp for demigods where he and his new friends set out on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/Lew) by C.S. Lewis. An enchanted closet takes four English children to the land of Narnia, where they encounter a battle between the forces of good and evil.

Little House in the Big Woods (Juvenile Fiction/J/Wil) by Laura Ingalls Wilder. Experience a pioneer year with Laura and Mary Ingalls in frontier Wisconsin.

A Little Princess (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bur) by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Sara Crewe is left in poverty when her father dies, but she is rescued by a mysterious stranger.

Little Women (Juvenile Fiction/J/Alc) by Louisa May Alcott. Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy are sisters growing up in New England during the Civil War.

The Littles (Juvenile Fiction/J/Pet) by John Peterson. The Littles are only a few inches tall. What will the family do when a regular-sized cat arrives at their home?

A Long Way from Chicago (Juvenile Fiction/J/Peck) by Richard Peck. A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Mary Poppins (Juvenile Fiction/J/Tra) by P.L. Travers. A new, magical nanny takes Jane and Michael Banks on adventures that change their lives.

Matilda (Juvenile Fiction/J/Dah) by Roald Dahl. Matilda, a kindergarten genius, uses her amazing mental powers to save her teacher and classmates from the evil headmistress.

Misty of Chincoteague (Juvenile Fiction/J/Hen) by Marguerite Henry. Paul and his sister, Maureen, are determined to have a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia.

The Moffats (Juvenile Fiction/J/Est) by Eleanor Estes. There are adventures and misadventures aplenty for the Moffat children on New Dollar Street in Cranbury, Connecticut.

The Mouse and His Child (Juvenile Fiction/J/Hob) by Russell Hoban. Will the wind-up mouse and his child—broken and then mended, set upon by a mean dump rat, forced into wind-up toy slavery—ever find their friends and live happily again?

The Mouse and the Motorcycle (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cle) by Beverly Cleary. A reckless young mouse makes friends with a boy and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

Mr. Popper's Penguins (Juvenile Fiction/J/Atw) by Richard Atwater. The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter obsessed by dreams of the Polar regions.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH (Juvenile Fiction/J/OBr) by Robert C. O'Brien. Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats of NIMH, who are able to read.

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle (Juvenile Fiction/J/Mac) by Peggy Bard MacDonald. From her upside-down house, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle dispenses marvelous cures for such common children's diseases as Won't-Put-Away-Toys-itis, Answerbackism, and Fighter-Quarrelitis.

MVP*: *Magellan Voyage Project (Juvenile Fiction/J/Evans) by Douglas Evans. Twelve-year-old Adam Story competes in the ultimate challenge: if he wins a race around the world, he will win \$4 million!

My Side of the Mountain (Juvenile Fiction/J/Geo) by Jean Craighead George. A young boy tells about his adventures living alone in a hollowed out tree in the Catskill Mountains.

Number the Stars (Juvenile Fiction/J/Low) by Lois Lowry. In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

Old Yeller (Juvenile Fiction/J/Gip) by Fred Gipson. A stray dog is adopted by a frontier family. They quickly grow to love this brave and faithful dog.

The Phantom Tollbooth (Juvenile Fiction/J/Jus) by Norton Juster. Milo finds a cure for his boredom during a magical adventure with an unusual dog.

Pippi Longstocking (Juvenile Fiction/J/Lin) by Astrid Lindgren. A lucky little girl lives with a horse and a monkey—but without any parents—at the edge of a Swedish village.

Poppy (Juvenile Fiction/J/Avi) by Avi. Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.

Ramona Quimby, Age 8 (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cle) by Beverly Cleary. Follow the further adventures of the Quimby family as Ramona enters the third grade.

Redwall (Juvenile Fiction/J/Jac) by Brian Jacques. To save his friends, Matthias, a young mouse, must stop Cluny the Scourge, a cruel and evil rat.

Regarding the Fountain (Juvenile Fiction/J/Kli) by Kate Klise. When the principal asks a fifth-grader to write a letter regarding the purchase of a new drinking fountain for their school, he finds that all sorts of chaos results.

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry (Juvenile Fiction/J/Tay) by Mildred D. Taylor. A black family struggles to survive the prejudice and poverty of the 1930s.

Sarah, Plain and Tall (Juvenile Fiction/J/Mac) by Patricia MacLachlin. When their father invites a mail-order bride to come to live with them, Caleb and Anna are worried - will they like her?

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark (Juvenile Nonfiction/J398.25/Sch) by Alvin Schwartz. Whatever you do, don't read it by yourself. Don't even open the cover when you're alone. We warned you.

The Secret Garden (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bur) by Frances Hodgson Burnett. A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house where she discovers an invalid cousin and a mysterious garden.

Shakespeare's Secret (Juvenile Fiction/J/Broach) by Elise Broach. Life is rotten for sixth-grader Hero until she gets caught up in a mystery involving a long-dead queen, Shakespeare's possible secret identity, and a missing diamond.

Shiloh (Juvenile Fiction/J/Nay) by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor. When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's cruel owner.

Sideways Stories from Wayside School (Juvenile Fiction/J/Sac) by Louis Sachar. A collection of short stories shows how each day is wacky and strange in Wayside School's silliest classroom.

Souder (Juvenile Fiction/J/Arm) by William H. Armstrong. Angry and humiliated when his father is jailed for stealing food, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding with the help of the devoted dog, Souder, and by learning to read.

Stuart Little (Juvenile Fiction/J/Whi) by E.B. White. A stylish mouse finds adventure as he sets out to look for his dearest friend.

The Swiss Family Robinson (Juvenile Fiction/J/Wys) by Johann Wyss. Can a Swiss couple and their four sons survive after being shipwrecked on an island?

The Sword in the Stone (Juvenile Fiction/J/Whi) by T.H. White. Arthur, nicknamed Wart and unaware of his true identity, is tutored by Merlyn the magician, who transforms the young boy into various animals as a part of his schooling to become King Arthur.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (Juvenile Fiction/J/Blu) by Judy Blume. Peter's two-year-old brother is a pest!

The Thief (Juvenile Fiction/J/Tur) by Megan Whelan Turner. Gen is a clever thief, but is he good enough to steal an unstealable gem from the temple of the gods - and live?

Tom's Midnight Garden (Juvenile Fiction/J/Pea) by Philippa Pearce. Tom is lonely when he must stay with his aunt and uncle, until he discovers the secret of the back garden at midnight.

Treasure Island (Juvenile Fiction/J/Ste) by Robert Louis Stevenson. Young Jim Hawkins follows a dead man's treasure map that leads to pirates, a pirate's fortune, and danger!

Trumpet of the Swan (Juvenile Fiction/J/Whi) by E.B. White. Louis, a voiceless trumpeter swan, is determined to learn to play the trumpet his father stole for him.

Tuck Everlasting (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bab) by Natalie Babbitt. A girl and a sinister stranger have discovered the secret of the Tuck's spring water. Now what will happen?

Walk Two Moons (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cre) by Sharon Creech. Sal and her grandparents retrace the route taken by Sal's missing mother.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham (Juvenile Fiction/J/Cur) by Christopher Paul Curtis. Everything changes for an African American family after they travel to see a grandmother in Alabama during the summer of 1963.

The Westing Game (Juvenile Mysteries/J/Ras) by Ellen Raskin. The mysterious death of a millionaire, an unlikely assortment of heirs, and a clever puzzle could lead to millions!

Where the Red Fern Grows (Juvenile Fiction/J/Raw) by Wilson Rawls. A young boy in the Ozarks teaches his two redbone hounds and trains them to be champion hunters.

Where the Sidewalk Ends (Juvenile Nonfiction/J/811.54/Ste) by Shel Silverstein. A boy who turns into a TV set? A girl who eats a whale? These are just two of the characters in this book of funny poems and drawings.

The Whipping Boy (Juvenile Fiction/J/Fle) by Sid Fleischman. A bratty prince and his whipping boy trade places when they run into dangerous outlaws.

The Willoughbys (Juvenile Fiction/J/Lowry) by Lois Lowry. In this tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, the four Willoughby children set about 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.

The Wind in the Willows (Juvenile Fiction/J/Gra) by Kenneth Grahame. Ratty, Mole, Toad, and Badger are four good friends who have hilarious adventures.

Winnie the Pooh (Juvenile Fiction/J/Mil) by A.A. Milne. Pooh and his friends go adventuring in the Hundred Acre Wood.

Wishes, Kisses, and Pigs (Juvenile Fiction/J/Hea) by Betsy Gould Hearne. Louise made a wish and changed her brother into a pig!

The Witch of Blackbird Pond (Juvenile Fiction/J/Spe) Elizabeth George Speare. Kit finds herself accused of witchcraft in colonial Connecticut.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (Juvenile Fiction/J/Bau) by L. Frank Baum. Dorothy travels through the land of Oz with the Wizard, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman, and the Cowardly Lion.

A Wrinkle in Time (Juvenile Science Fiction/J/LEn) by Madeleine L'Engle. Meg Murry, her friends, and some unearthly strangers search for Meg's father, who disappeared doing secret work for the government.

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase (Juvenile Fiction/J/Aik) by Joan Aiken. Two orphans have an extravagant fortune—and a really, really nasty relative who wants all of their money.