

Welcome 5th Grade Readers!

Anytime is a great time for reading. Research says that children who read daily are more apt to be successful in school and score better on reading achievement tests. They practice important skills that support learning and thinking. Reading fosters confidence and independence and ultimately, leads to success. Besides, reading is a lot of fun!

Here are some thoughts to encourage your readers:

- Visit the library! Encourage your children to read for pleasure.
- Books that are “just right”, not too hard or not too easy, are best for independent reading. Remember, reading is a meaning making process so if your child can’t read and readily understand most of what is on the page, save it for the future.
- Fifth graders’ decoding and fluency skills are more developed. On their own, and at school, they explore a variety of genres and topics. They use the text to relate to the characters and the world. Through reading they gain information to facilitate future reading and their own writing.
- Older readers still enjoy being read to and reading to you. Great discussions can follow. Reading to children builds background knowledge, encourages vocabulary development, and fosters critical thinking. Besides, what’s better than cuddling with your child and a good book!

It’s been my pleasure to work with your children. Happy Reading!

Cheryl Miller, CTA Library 2021

Fiction

11 Birthdays by Wendy Mass 2010 Best friends since birth, Amanda and Leo always celebrate birthdays together. But now they’re almost 11 and not speaking to each other.

23 Under 1 Roof: Book 1 The Big Surprise by R. Rappaport 2012

With twenty-one kids, the Schneiders are a very big family! Share their fun and excitement as they get ready to go to London for a family simcha. Read all the books in this popular series!

39 Clues by various authors Amy and Dan Cahill travel around the world looking for clues to their family’s power. Popular series begins with **The Maze of Bones** by Rick Riordan.

Absolutely Almost by Lisa Graf 2015 Albie is at a new school. He’s never been the smartest, tallest or best at anything, but his new nanny helps him learn to be proud of who he is.

Achdus Club: The Wedding Dance by Faygie Holt 2019 All the girls are excited to get invitations to their teacher’s wedding. All except Tova Green. Morah Steiner is her favorite teacher so why doesn’t she want to go to the wedding? 4th book in the popular series.

Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea 2010 It’s fifth grade for 7 kids at Snow Hill School and only Mr. Terupt can deal with them. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn’t let them get away with much - until a snowy winter day changes everything—and everyone.

Because of the Rabbit by Cynthia Lord 2019 In this story of honesty, acceptance and friendship Emma finds a baby rabbit the summer before she begins a new school.

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo 2001 Newbery Honor Because of Winn-Dixie, a scruffy, happy dog, ten-year-old Opal begins to let go of sadness and find happiness and her place in the world.

Breaking Stalin’s Nose by Eugene Yelchin 2013 Sasha admires his father, one of Stalin’s loyal officials. But after his father’s arrest life changes, and so do Sasha’s beliefs and values.

The Chronicles of Harris Burdick 2011 Short stories written by well-known children's authors that are based on Chris Van Allsburg's illustrations in his 1984 ***The Mysteries of Harris Burdick***.

Classic Stories written for children like ***Alice in Wonderland*** by Lewis Carroll; ***Around the World in Eighty Days*** by Jules Vern; ***Black Beauty*** by Anna Sewell; ***Heidi*** by Johanna Spyri; ***The Secret Garden*** by Frances Hodgson Burnett; ***Treasure Island*** by Robert Louis Stevenson

Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate 2015 Jackson's family has fallen on hard times. A big, imaginary cat from his younger days, Crenshaw, has come back into Jackson's life. Can he help?

Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary 1984 Newbery Medal Leigh writes to his favorite author. When Mr. Henshaw answers, a friendship develops and so does Leigh's writing.

Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine 1998 Newbery Honor A modern take on Cinderella, in which Ella of Frell receives the gift of obedience when she's born.

Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein 2013 Game maker, Luigi Lemoncello designed a state-of-the-art library and invited 12 lucky 7th graders to stay the night. They have 24 hours to win a prize. Lock the doors and let the games begin! Several sequels.

The Fourteenth Goldfish by Jennifer Holm 2014 Imagine Ellie's surprise when a visiting teenage boy turns out to be her grandfather, a scientist obsessed with immortality.

Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, their lives and dreams brought together by Ashley Bryan 2017 Newbery Honor Using actual documents from a plantation, this fictional book realistically contrasts slavery with the lives and dreams of the slaves.

Frindle by Andrew Clements 1996 Nicholas Allen is not a troublemaker. He just has lots of ideas. But with his new 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Granger, Nick has met his match. And when Mrs. Granger gives Nick a special assignment involving the dictionary, she has met *her* match. Who will win this war of the words?

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by e.l. konigsburg 1968 Newbery Medal Two children run away from home and live in New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they investigate the authenticity of a piece of art and meet an strange woman.

Front Desk by Kelly Yang 2019 Asian/Pacific American Award New to America, 10-year-old Mia Tang lives in a motel that her parents clean and manage. When not at school Mia works the front desk but she dreams of becoming a writer. She uses her letter writing skill to right injustices and help others. In the 2nd book, ***Three Keys***, Mia, now part owner of the motel, works to make it a success and help immigrants. Last in the trilogy, ***Room to Dream***, comes out in Sept. 2021.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh 1964 Harriet is a writer and spy. She observes friends and neighbors and writes about them in her notebook. But what happens when she loses her book?

The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman 2007 5th grader Brenton is a computer genius, or is he a nerd? Then he invents a homework machine! Great invention, or is it?

I, Funny by James Patterson 2015 Jamie Grimm won't let his wheelchair stop him from becoming the world's greatest stand-up comedian! Can he succeed? Series

I Survived: The Great Chicago Fire, 1871 by Lauren Tarshis 2015 In the 11th book in this popular historical fiction series a boy struggles to stay alive during the great Chicago fire.

Lemonade Girls Forever Sara Miriam Gross 2014 Chavi, Devorah, Shiffy, and Avigayil are the Lemonade Girls. They're good friends who love to solve problems with creative solutions. Their motto, "When you have lemons, make lemonade"!

The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davis 2007 Evan's sister, Jessie, is skipping a grade – into his 4th grade class! So begins the competition. Who can earn the most selling lemonade?

The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan 2005 Percy's mother tells him he's Poseidon's son and sends him to Camp Half Blood where he meets others who go with him to the Underworld to prevent a catastrophic war. Book 1 of *Percy Jackson & the Olympians*. *Popular Author*

Long Shot by Mike Lupica 2010 Point guard Pedro decides to run for class president, but his opponent, the team's star, isn't happy about that. *Great author of sports fiction.*

Matilda by Roald Dahl 1988 Matilda uses her smarts to help her teacher and get rid of evil headmistress, Miss Trunchbull. *From the author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish by Mo O'Hara 2014 When Tom's brother decides to be an evil scientist, Frankie's pet goldfish falls victim. Frankie saves him but he's changed!

The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart 2007 "Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?" This ad brings many but only four get to go to the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened.

No Talking! By Andrew Clements 2007 It's boys vs. girls for a 5th grade class when they compete to see who can go the longest without talking. .

The Report Card by Andrew Clements 2004 No one know Nora's a genius and she likes it that way. But when she decides there's too much importance on test scores and grades, she purposely brings home a bad report card just to prove a point! *Author of great school stories.*

Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade by Barthe DeClements 2008 Jenny knows one thing – Elsie Edwards is a thief who steals people's lunch money to buy candy. So, when the book club money is missing, why is the whole class punished? Nothing's fair. Is Jenny?

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate 2013 Newbery Medal Told in the voice of a gorilla living in a mall sideshow and based on the real story of a gorilla kept captive for 30 years! &

The One and Only Bob by Katherine Applegate 2020 Bob goes in search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan and Ruby. As a hurricane approaches Bob finds courage and learns the importance of friends and family. *Sequel to The One and Only Ivan*

Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson 2018 Coretta Scott King Honor Candice finds a letter written to her grandmother. It describes a young woman and an injustice that happened in the 1950s. It involves a mystery and a prize. Can she and her friend, Brandon, solve the puzzle?

Pax by Sara Pennypacker 2016 This is a story of struggle, of love and of loss when a boy and his pet fox are separated during wartime. Told in their alternating viewpoints.

Rain Reign by Ann M. Martin 2014 An inspiring story of hope about a young girl's struggle to fit in. It's also one of her love for her dog, and her search to find him.

From Gordon Korman – Read these 2 and more!

Restart 2018 Chase fell off the roof. When he wakes in the hospital there's a lot he can't remember. Back at school Chase learns things about himself that make him want to be better.

Slacker 2017 Cameron is happy spending his life avoiding homework, hanging out with his friends, and gaming for hours. But then he gets caught so he invents a pretend good deeds club but it turns out not to be so fake at all.

Sadako by Eleanor Coerr Based on the true story of a Sadako Sasaki, who became sick from radiation after Hiroshima, and her race against time to fold 1,000 paper cranes that legend says will heal illness. Her story remains a symbol for world peace.

A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning by Lemony Snicket 1999 First in the series about the Baudelaire orphans placed in the custody of their cousin, Count Olaf, who plots to steal their inheritance.

Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor 1992 Newbery Medal When Marty finds a lost beagle in the West Virginia hills, he tries to hide it from his family and the dog's abusive owner.

Short by Holly Goldberg Sloan 2017 Julia is tiny for her age and lacks confidence but she's decided to just get over it. But at an audition for Wizard of Oz, she's cast as a munchkin! How will that work out?

Stargazing by Jen Wang 2019 Moon is everything Christine isn't. She's confident, impulsive, artistic . . . and though they both grew up in the same Chinese-American suburb, Moon is somehow unlike anyone Christine has ever known. And they become best friends. *Graphic Novel*

The Strange Case of Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger 2010 When Dwight shows up at school with a weird finger puppet it's up to Tommy and his friends to figure out if it really has unusual powers. Popular series

A Tangle of Knots by Lisa Graff 2013 People in this magical town have Talent. Cady can bake the right cake for you. Miss Mallory matches children to parents, but she can't find ones for Cady. And there's the talent thief. Plots and sub-plots intertwine with lots of suspense.

There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom by Louis Sachar 1988 No one likes fifth grader Bradley Chalkers. He lies and picks fights with girls. But the new counselor sees the good in him and knows he can change. But will he?

Wayside School: Beneath the Cloud of Doom by Louis Sachar 2021 For fans of this hilarious series, this newest book (written 40 years after the 1st) is still about Mrs. Jewls' class on the 30th story of Wayside School. If you haven't already, read **Sideways Stories from Wayside School** (1978) and the others in the series.

Whatever After series by Sarah Mlynowski When the magic mirror in their basement transports them into classic fairy tales, siblings Abby and Jonah accidentally mess up the stories and they have to find a way to set things right. **#14 Good as Gold (2021)**: The magic mirror send the kids into Goldilocks and the Three Bears!

When Jessie Came Across the Sea, by Amy Hest 2003 This is a story about a young Jewish girl from a poor village in eastern Europe. She's sad to go to America and leave her grandmother but her new home brings surprising changes. Picture book

The Wishing Spell by Chris Colfer 2012 A favorite book's mysterious power takes Alex and Conner into a fairy tale world full of magic and familiar characters, but will they make it back home? First book about the adventures these brothers have in *The Land of Stories*.

Wonderstruck by Brian Selznick 2011 In the format of his award-winning *The Invention of Hugo Cabret*, two stories, 50 years apart, are told simultaneously, through words and pictures.

Nonfiction

A Black Hole is Not a Hole by Carolyn Cinami DeCristofano 2013 Find out what black holes are, what causes them, and how scientists first discovered them.

Bold & Brave: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote by Kirsten Gillibrand 2018 These are the stories of 10 women who worked to get all women the right to vote.

The Boy on the Wooden Box by Leon Leyson 2013 The author was 10 when Nazis invaded Poland. As the youngest member of Schindler's List, he was able to survive the Holocaust.

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Maker's Strike of 1909 by Melissa Sweet 2014 True story of Clara Lemlich who led the biggest strike of women workers in U.S. history.

DK Eyewitness Books various authors More than 100 Eyewitness books support non-fiction interests like dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, chemistry, Titanic, American Revolution & much more.

Drawing from Memory by Allen Say 2011 In this autobiographical account of his life as an artist the Caldecott winning author and illustrator tells of his experiences and his friendship with his mentor Noro Shinpei, Japan's leading cartoonist.

The Girl Who Drew Butterflies by Joyce Sidman 2019 Sibert Family Award Born in 1647, it is quite an accomplishment that Maria Sibylla Merian became a naturalist and a scientific illustrator. Picture book with detailed text and illustrations.

Grand Canyon by Jason Chin 2018 Caldecott Honor; Sibert Honor Learn about Grand Canyon National Park - its geology, flora and fauna in this beautifully illustrated book.

Hidden Figures (Young Readers' Edition) Margot Lee Shetterly 2016. The story of four African American women mathematicians who fought discrimination within NASA and were important to some of the great successes of the U.S. space program.

Joe Biden, Our 46th President by Beatrice Gormley 2021 A biography of the 46th President of the United States from childhood through the Senate, to his election as vice president, and, in 2020, as president.

The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margaret and H.A. Rey by Louise Borden 2010 It's 1940 and the Reys flee Paris and the approaching German army. Among their possessions are the precious manuscripts with the lovable chimp we all know.

The Man Who Walked between the Towers by Mordicai Gerstein 2004 Caldecott Medal Read about Philippe Petit's 1974 tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers

Neighborhood Sharks by Katherine Roy 2015 Sibert Honor Visit California's Farallon islands, a wildlife refuge where scientists study the great whites living on the island's rocky coasts.

Notorious RBG Young Reader's Edition: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg by Irin Carmon & Shana Knizhnik 2017 Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was an icon to millions. Her tireless fight for equality for all and for women's rights inspired positive changes in the workforce and impacted the law of the land.

Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco 1994 A civil war tale of friendship between soldiers, one white and one black. Beautiful picture book based on a story passed down by the author's family.

The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus by Jen Bryant and Melissa Sweet 2014 Learn about the life of Peter Roget, a boy who compiled lists, became a successful doctor, and created one of the most important reference books. Wonderfully illustrated and informative.

Scaly, Spotted Feathered Frills by Catherine Thimmesh 2013 Learn how a paleoartist figures out what a dinosaur must have looked like.

Separate is Never Equal by Duncan Tonatiuh 2015 Belpre Honor, Sibert Honor Almost 10 years before Brown vs. the Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez and her family helped end segregation in California schools.

She Persisted in Sports: American Olympians Who Changed the Game by Chelsea Clinton The stories of women who overcame challenges and excelled in sports. Also from the author: ***She Persisted*** (2017) & ***She Persisted Around the World*** (2018) *Picture Books*

Some Writer! The Story of E.B. White by Melissa Sweet 2016. This biography of the beloved children's author is an inviting, colorful collage of photos, art, letters, and examples of E. B. White's writing.

We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball by Kadir Nelson 2008 The story of the many heroes who overcame segregation, hatred, terrible conditions, and low pay to do the one thing they loved more than anything else in the world – play ball.

Weird But True Food - National Geographic 2015 Lots of interesting and funny food facts! This popular series delights and informs about animals, sports, our country, and much more.

Who Got Game?: Baseball: Amazing But True Stories! by Derrick Barnes 2020 Read about the people and stories that helped shape the game of baseball.

What Was...? Various authors Learn about events in history in this easy to read and fact-filled series. Topics include California Gold Rush, Pearl Harbor, Pompeii, Ellis Island and more.

What is the Super Bowl? By Dina Anastasio 2015 Learn about this American event.

What is..?/What was..? is a great series for all interests – sports, history, science and more.

Lots of wonderful nonfiction is available for children. Your reader's interests are a good guide in making choices.