

Fabulous Books for 5th and 6th Graders

J Fic Arnold

Arnold, Elana K. **The House That Wasn't There.**

Dismayed when his neighbors cut down a beloved old walnut tree that has always been a source of comfort, Alder forges an unexpected friendship with the new girl next door over a series of mysterious connections.

J Fic Badua

Badua, Tracy. **The Takeout.**

When a celebrity chef's new restaurant threatens Mila's family's food truck, she plans to expose them for the recipe thieves they are—even if that means dabbling in the Filipino folk magic she's tried to avoid.

J Fic Cowell

Cowell, Cressida. **Which Way to Anywhere.**

Gifted with the ability to draw maps of worlds that are beyond imagining, K2 OHero must use his gift to find a crossing point into one of those worlds when his baby sister is kidnapped.

J/YA Fic Funke (Nēnē Award)

Funke, Cornelia. **Inkheart.**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father Mo, a bookbinder, can "read" fictional characters to life when an evil ruler named Capricorn, freed from the novel *Inkheart* years earlier, tries to force Mo to release an immortal monster from the story.

J Fic Gutman

Gutman, Dan. **Houdini and Me.**

Eleven-year-old Harry Mancini lives in the house where Houdini spent his final years, but when Houdini contacts Harry from beyond the grave, it's a complete surprise.

J Fic Hamza

Hamza, Nina. **Ahmed Aziz's Epic Year.**

An Indian American boy endures a family move from Hawaii to frigid Minnesota and, with the help of three life-changing books he reads in school, he learns to like reading, and ultimately, himself.

J Fic Keller

Keller, Tae. **The Science of Breakable Things.**

Middle schooler Natalie's year-long assignment to answer a question using the scientific method leads to truths about her mother's depression and her own cultural identity.

J Fic King

King, A.S. **Attack of the Black Rectangles.**

When sixth-grader Mac discovers several words of his classroom copy of Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic* are blacked out, he is outraged. He, his friends, and his eccentric family set out to do something about the censorship imposed by one teacher and the school board.

J Fic Korman

Korman, Gordon. **Restart.**

Chase Ambrose forgets everything after falling off a roof and losing consciousness. He forgets his name, his parents, and that he's the biggest bully at Hiawassee Middle School.

J Fic Lloyd

Lloyd, Natalie. **Hummingbird.**

Eleven-year-old homeschooled Olive is tired of being seen as "fragile" just because she has osteogenesis imperfecta (brittle bone disease). If she can find the magical wish-granting hummingbird and prove herself worthy, maybe her deepest wish will be granted.

J Fic Messner

Messner, Kate. **All the Answers.**

Twelve-year-old Ava finds an old pencil in her family's junk drawer and discovers, during a math test, that it will answer factual questions, so she and her best friend Sophie have a great time—until the pencil reveals a truth about her family that Ava would rather not know.

J Fic Opper

Opper, Kenneth. **Bloom.** (The Overthrow).

The invasion begins with a rain that carries seeds which sprout into carnivorous plants overnight. Only three kids seem to be immune to these toxic plants. Can they somehow be the key to beating back this invasion?

J Fic Park

Park, Linda Sue. **Forest of Wonders.** (Wing & Claw)

Discovering a medicinal plant deep in the forest while treating an injured animal, a young apothecary is alarmed when the creature manifests side effects.

J Fic Raskin (Newbery Award)

Raskin, Ellen. **The Westing Game.**

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.

J Fic Richards

Richards, Natalie. **15 Secrets to Survival.**

What starts off as a weekend of team building takes a scary turn when the instructor goes missing and the classmates are given nothing but pages of a survival guide to complete a series of challenges.

J Fic Schmidt

Schmidt, Gary D. **The Labors of Hercules Beal**

Seventh-grader Hercules Beal has to figure out how to fulfill his teacher's assignment of performing the Twelve Labors of Hercules in real life, and discovers important things about friendship, community, and himself along the way.

J Fic Van Eekhout

Van Eekhout, Greg. **Fennis & Mott.**

Mott's life becomes complicated when the abandoned puppy she found turns out to be a mythical Norse wolf who is partly responsible for bringing about the end of the world.

J Fic Waters

Waters, Charles. **Mascot.**

An eighth-grade English teacher creates an assignment for her class to debate whether Rye's mascot should stay or change. Now six middle schoolers get involved in the contentious issue that already has the suburb turned upside down.

J 320.473 Fo

Foster, Jeff. **For Which We Stand: How Our Government Works and Why It Matters.**

A comprehensive and entertaining guide to the government that features infographics, charts, maps, political caricatures, and other engaging visual elements.

J 332.4 Fl

Flynn, Sarah Wassner. **Not-So-Common Cent\$.**

Learn to think like an entrepreneur, save and invest money, and much more!

J 398.20938 Cu

Curtis, Kenny. **Greeking Out: Epic Retellings of Classic Greek Myths.**

This kid-friendly collection of tales from Greek mythology showcases familiar favorites from the well-loved *Greeking Out* podcast as well as brand-new, never-before-aired stories.

J 590 Sc

Schutten, Jan Paul. **Inside In: X-rays of Nature's Hidden World.**

Uses incredible x-ray techniques to display creatures and their natural habitats in a never-before-seen way.

J 594.8 Fo

Forrester, Amy Seto. **Search For a Giant Squid: Pick Your Path.**

A choose your own path style story that navigates the very real job of being a teuthologist.

Some titles may be available in digital formats. Please check our catalog or ask a librarian for assistance.

Compiled by Helena Roscoe
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