

Challenging Chapter books for the Upper Elementary Reader

* books denoted with an asterisk are high interest books identified to encourage the timid or uninterested reader.

Title and Author

Genre

Struggling Readers (approximately 3rd to 4th grade)

<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid (Series)*</i> by Jeff Kinney	<i>Comic Books and Graphic Novels</i>
<i>Goosebumps*</i> By R.L. Stine	<i>Horror and Supernatural</i>
<i>Charlotte's Web</i> by E.B. White	<i>Animal Stories, Classics, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>The Mouse and the Motorcycle</i> by Beverly Cleary	<i>Animal Stories, Classics</i>
<i>Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing (Series)</i> by Judy Blume	<i>Comedy and Humor, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</i> by Roald Dahl	<i>Adventure, Classics</i>
<i>The Maze of Bones (The 39 Clues Series)</i> by Rick Riordan	<i>Adventure, Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>Matilda</i> by Roald Dahl	<i>Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>The Tale of Despereaux</i> by Kate DiCamillo	<i>Animal Stories, Fairy tale, Fantasy</i>
<i>The One and Only Ivan</i> by Katherine Applegate	<i>Animal Stories, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>James and the Giant Peach</i> <i>Fantasy</i> by Roald Dahl	<i>Adventure, Classics, Comedy and Humor,</i>
<i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> by Katherine Paterson	<i>Classics, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Inkheart</i> by Cornelia Funke	<i>Adventure, Fantasy</i>
<i>The Chronicles (Series)</i> by Holly Black	<i>Western</i>

The Whipping Boy
by Sid Fleischman

*Adventure, Myths, **Newberry Honor***

Out of My Mind
by Sharon M. Draper

Realistic Fiction

Eleven (The Winnie Years Series)
by Lauren Myracle

Realistic Fiction

Little House on the Prairie (Series)
by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Classics, Historical Fictions

Because of Winn-Dixie
by Kate DiCamillo

Realistic Fiction

Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures
by Kate DiCamillo

Adventure, Comedy and Humor, Graphic Novels
Newberry Honor

4th grade Readers (early to mid-year)

<i>Crenshaw*</i> by Katherine Applegate	<i>Realistic Fiction, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe (Chronicles of Narnia Series)*</i> by C.S. Lewis	<i>Adventure. Classics</i>
<i>The Strange Case of Origami Yoda</i> by Tom Angleberger	<i>Comedy and Humor, Diaries and Journals</i>
<i>Harry Potter (Series)</i> by J.K. Rowling	<i>Fables, Folk Tales and Myths</i>
<i>Frindle</i> by Andrew Clements	<i>Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret</i> by Judy Blume	<i>Classics, Realistic fiction</i>
<i>The BFG</i> by Roald Dahl	<i>Comedy and Humor, Fantasy</i>
<i>Shiloh (Series)</i> by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor	<i>Realistic Fiction, Animal Stories, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>A Tale Dark & Grimm</i> by Adam Gidwitz	<i>Fairy Tale</i>
<i>Ella Enchanted</i> by Gail Carson Levine	<i>Fantasy</i>
<i>The Cricket in Times Square (Series)</i> by George Selden	<i>Adventure, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>The Best Christmas Pageant Ever</i> by Barbara Robinson	<i>Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>The Name of this Book is Secret</i> by Pseudonymous Bosch	<i>Adventure, Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>Dying to Meet You (43 Old Cemetery Road Series)</i> by Kate Klise	<i>Comedy and Humor, Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry	<i>Science Fiction</i>
<i>The Lost Hero (Series)</i> by Rick Riordan	<i>Adventures, Myths</i>
<i>When You Reach Me</i> by Rebecca Stead	<i>Historical Fiction, Science Fiction</i>

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
by Mildred D. Taylor

Classics, Historical Fiction

Al Capone Does My Shirts
by Gennifer Choldenko

Historical Fiction

Rules
by Cynthia Lord

Realistic Fiction

Every Soul A Star
by Wendy Mass

Realistic Fiction

Souder
by William H. Armstrong

*Classics, Animal Story, Historical, **Newberry Honor***

5th grade Readers (early to mid-year)

<i>Matilda*</i> by Roald Dahl	<i>Humor and Comedy</i>
<i>Wonder*</i> By R.J. Palacio	<i>Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>A Living Nightmare (Cirque Du Freak Series)*</i> by Darren Shan	<i>Horror and Supernatural</i>
<i>The Invention of Hugo Cabret*</i> <i>Suspense</i> by Brian Selznick	<i>Comic Books and Graphic Novels, Mystery</i>
<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass</i> by Lewis Carroll	<i>Classics and Fantasy</i>
<i>Pippi Longstocking</i> by Astrid Lindgren	<i>Adventure, Classics, Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>Chasing Vermeer</i> by Blue Balliett	<i>Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>Found (The Missing Series)</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix	<i>Mystery Suspense, Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>
<i>From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler</i> by E.L. Konigsburg	<i>Adventure, Classics, Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt	<i>Classics, Fantasy</i>
<i>Flipped</i> by Wendelin Van Draanen	<i>Comedy and Humor, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Number the Stars</i> by Lois Lowry	<i>Classics, Historical Fictions</i>
<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan	<i>Historical Fiction</i>
<i>Walk Two Moons</i> by Sharon Creech	<i>Realistic Fiction, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar	<i>Adventure, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Wonder</i> by R.J. Palacio	<i>Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> by Scott O'Dell	<i>Adventure, Classics</i>

<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster	<i>Classics, fantasy</i>
<i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen	<i>Adventures, Classics</i>
<i>Ruby Holler</i> by Sharon Creech	<i>Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Stuart Little</i> by E.B. White	<i>Classics</i>
<i>Warriors (Series)</i> by Erin W. Hunter	<i>Animal Stories, Adventure, Fantasy</i>
<i>Gathering Blue</i> by Lois Lowry	<i>General Fiction</i>
<i>A Mango-Shaped Space</i> by Wendy Mass	<i>General Fiction</i>
<i>The Midwife's Apprentice</i> by Karen Cushman	<i>Historical Fiction, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate</i> by Jacqueline Kelly	<i>Historical Fiction</i>
<i>Bud, Not Buddy (Series)</i> by Christopher Paul Curtis	<i>Classics, Historical Fiction, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>Out of the Dust</i> by Karen Hesse	<i>Historical Fiction, Verse Novel, Newberry Honor</i>
<i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton	<i>Classics, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>Princess Academy</i> by Shannon Hale	<i>Fantasy</i>
<i>The Red Pyramid (Series)</i> by Rick Riordan	<i>Adventure, Legends and Myths</i>
<i>The Graveyard Book</i> by Neil Gaiman	<i>Adventure, Mystery and Suspense, Fantasy</i>
<i>The City of Ember</i> by Jeanne DuPrau	<i>Mystery and Suspense, Fantasy</i>
<i>Among the Hidden (Series)</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix	<i>Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>

Wildwood Chronicles
by Colin Meloy

Fantasy

*The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey (Series)**
by Trenton Lee Stewart

Adventure, Mystery and Suspense, Science Fiction

*Where the Red Fern Grows**
by Wilson Rawls

Adventure, Classics, Realistic Fiction, Animal Stories

6th grade Readers (early to mid-year)

<i>The Bad Beginning (A Series of Unfortunate Events Series)*</i> by Lemony Snicket	<i>Adventure, Comedy and Humor</i>
<i>His Dark Materials Trilogy (The Golden Compass Series)*</i> by Philip Pullman	<i>Adventure, Classics, Fantasy</i>
<i>Artemis Fowl*</i> by Eoin Colfer	<i>Adventure, Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>
<i>Maximum Ride*</i> by James Patterson	<i>Fantasy</i>
<i>Uglies</i> by Scott Westerfeld	<i>Science Fiction</i>
<i>The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson Series)</i> by Rick Riordan	<i>Adventure, Fables, Folk Tales and Myths</i>
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L'Engle	<i>Adventure, Classics, Science Fiction</i>
<i>The Wednesday Wars</i> Gary D. Schmidt	<i>Comedy and Humor, Historical Fiction</i>
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> by L.M. Montgomery	<i>Classics, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>What My Mother Doesn't Know</i> by Sonya Sones	<i>Poetry, Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>The Westing Game</i> by Ellen Raskin	<i>Classics, Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>My Side of the Mountain (Anthology)</i> by Jean Craighead George	<i>Classics</i>
<i>The Hobbit (Middle-Earth Universe)</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien	<i>Adventure, Classics, Fantasy</i>
<i>Freak the Mighty</i> by Rodman Philbrick	<i>Realistic Fiction</i>
<i>The Cay</i> by Theodore Taylor	<i>Adventure, Classics</i>
<i>The Egypt Game</i> by Zilpha Keatley Snyder	<i>Mystery and Suspense</i>
<i>Shakespeare's Secret</i> by Elise Broach	<i>Mystery and Suspense</i>

Crispin: The Cross of Lead
by Avi

*Adventure, Historical Fiction, **Newberry Honor***

Stargirl
by Jerry Spinelli

*Realistic Fiction, **Young Adult***

Advanced Elementary Readers

The Doldrums
by Nicholas Gannon

Action and Adventure

Fever 1793
by Laurie Halse Anderson

Historical Fiction

Catherine, Called Birdy
by Karen Cushman

Diaries and Journals, Historical Fiction

Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures
by Kate DiCamillo

Fables, Folk Tales and Myths

Savvy
by Ingrid Law

Fantasy

Ender's Game
by Orson Scott Card

Science Fiction

I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You
by Ally Carter

*Mystery and Suspense, **Young-adult**, Romance*

The Hunger Games (Series)
by Suzanne Collins

*Adventure, Science Fiction, **Young-adult***

Twilight (Series)
Romance
by Stephanie Meyer

*Horror and Supernatural, **Young-adult**,*

Divergent (Series)
by Veronica Roth

*Science Fiction, Utopian and dystopian fiction, **Young-adult***

Lord of the Flies
William Golding

*Allegory, **Young-adult**, Psychological Fiction*