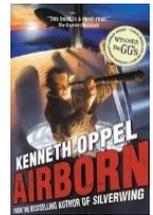


CHILDREN'S BOOK CLUB SETS

Do you need novel sets for your class or group? Then we have the perfect service for you! Our children's book club sets allows you to borrow 8-10 copies of one title from a variety of bestselling authors for FREE. All you need is a valid Oshawa Public Libraries card! Check our website at <http://www.oshawalibrary.on.ca/KidsNovelSets> for an availability calendar. We update the calendar every few weeks, so please call us at (905) 579-6111, ext. 5236 to book your selection or use our Book Club in a Bag Booking Request online form.

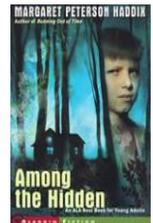
DESCRIPTIONS, as of January 2016

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel (2004) 
Matt Cruse series; BK 1



Matt Cruse is a cabin boy on the Aurora, a huge airship that sails hundreds of feet above the ocean, ferrying wealthy passengers from city to city. It is the life Matt always wanted - convinced he's lighter than air, he imagines himself as buoyant as the hydrium gas that powers his ship. One night he meets a dying balloonist who speaks of beautiful creatures drifting through the skies. It is only after Matt meets the balloonist's granddaughter that he realizes that the man's ravings may, in fact, have been true, and that the creatures are completely real and utterly mysterious.

Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix (1998)
The Shadow Children series; BK 1



Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows -- does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford "not" to?

Alex and the Ironic Gentlemen by Adrienne Kress (2007) 
Alex and the Ironic Gentleman series; BK 1

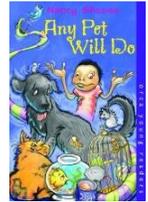


The first book in a magical fantasy series. Here is the tale of Alex and her quest to find the Infamous Wigpowder treasure and her kidnapped year-six teacher, Mr. Underwood. Along the way she encounters the likes of the Shakespeare-quoting Octopus, the talking walk-in fridge and a 1930's playboy who steals souls. She also rides a doomed Art Deco party train and goes to sea with Captain Magnanimous and the HMS Valiant.

All this while being hotly pursued by the Daughters of the Founding Fathers Preservation Society, and Pirate Captain Steele the Inevitable, captain of the most deadly pirate ship this side of the equator – The Ironic Gentleman!

Any Pet Will Do by Nancy Shouse (2005) 

Jeremy longs for a pet, but he doesn't know what kind of pet to get. When his parents agree that he can start a pet-sitting business in order to try out a variety of species, Jeremy has no idea what adventures are in store for him. Pet after pet is eliminated from his "To Get" list. In the end, not a single animal seems suited--until a favourite relative comes up with a surprising solution



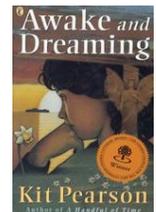
Anything But Typical by Nora Raleigh Baskin (2009)

Jason Blake is an autistic 12-year-old living in a neurotypical world. Most days it's just a matter of time before something goes wrong. But Jason finds a glimmer of understanding when he comes across PhoenixBird, who posts stories to the same online site as he does. Jason can be himself when he writes and he thinks that PhoenixBird — her name is Rebecca — could be his first real friend. But as desperate as Jason is to meet her, he's terrified that if they do meet, Rebecca will only see his autism and not who Jason really is. By acclaimed writer Nora Raleigh Baskin, this is the breathtaking depiction of an autistic boy's struggles—and a story for anyone who has ever worried about fitting in.



Awake and Dreaming by Kit Pearson (1996) 

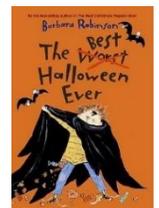
Theo and her young, irresponsible mother seem trapped in their miserable, poverty-stricken life. Theo dreams of belonging to a "real" family with two parents and brothers and sisters, and her dream seems to come true when she is mysteriously adopted by a large, warm family, the Kaldors. For the first time in her life, Theo has brand new clothes and things of her own, security and good friends. But as time passes, the magic of Theo's new life begins - literally - to fade, and soon she finds herself back with her mother. Were the Kaldors real, or just a dream? And who is the shadowy figure who haunts Theo's thoughts?



The Best Halloween Ever by Barbara Robinson (2006)

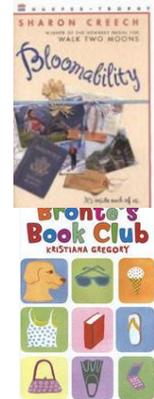
The Herdmans series; Book 3

Every Halloween, the six Herdman kids steal candy, spray-paint other kids, and take everything that isn't nailed down. And this year promises to be the same, until the Mayor decides to up and cancel Halloween. True, that means there'd be no Herdman trouble to contend with, but that also means no candy, no costumes, and no trick-or-treating! Is it possible that the Herdmans themselves could make what looks like a horrible Halloween into the best one ever?



Bloomability by Sharon Creech (2012)

When she is whisked away to an international school in Switzerland, Dinnie Doone discovers all the "bloomabilities" that life has to offer. From Newbery Award-winning author Sharon Creech is a story about everyday joys.

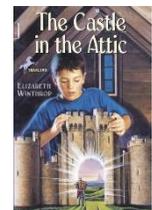


Bronte's Book Club by Kristiana Gregory (2008)

Bronte Bella had just moved to sunny California from her mountain town in New Mexico. Living right by a beach is wonderful, but word-loving, quirky Bronte is worried she won't fit in. She starts a book club to make new friends, but at first no one comes, in this story about trust and friendship.

The Castle in the Attic by Elizabeth Winthrop (1994)

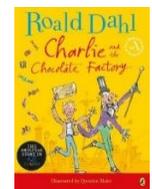
William has just received the best present of his life—an old, real-looking stone and wooden model of a castle, with a drawbridge, a moat, and a finger high knight to guard the gates. It's the mysterious castle his housekeeper has told him about, and even though William is sad she's leaving, now the castle is his! William can't wait to play with the castle—he's certain there's something magical about it. And sure enough, when he picks up the tiny silver knight, it comes alive in his hand! Sir Simon tells William a mighty story of wild sorcery, wizards, and magic. And suddenly William is off on a fantastic quest to another land and another time—where a fiery dragon and an evil wizard are waiting to do battle.



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl (1964)

Charlie series; BK 1

Who doesn't know Dahl's story of poverty-stricken little Charlie Bucket who finds one of Willie Wonka's golden tickets and, along with four other children, gets a tour of his amazing chocolate factory? On the occasion of its 40th anniversary, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl, wonderfully illustrated by Quentin Blake, presents the famous story interspersed with Blake's characteristically frenetic line drawings, with clusters of candy sprinkled across the pages. Pink, lavender, baby blue and yellow backgrounds of the pages make a sugary new wrapper for this favourite tale.

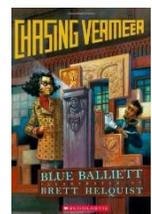


Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett (2004)

Hyde Park series; BK 1

A puzzling art theft is solved by two sixth-grade sleuths in a first-rate first novel by Blue Balliett, illustrated by Series of Unfortunate Events artist Brett Helquist. Cut from similar cloth to The Da Vinci Code while harkening back to E. L. Konigsburg and Agatha Christie, Balliett's book follows young Petra Andalee and Calder Pillay as they piece together separate, seemingly disconnected events to locate The Lady Writing, a

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett continued



Vermeer painting that gets stolen en route to Chicago's Art Institute. Going on the theory that there are no coincidences, the two wonder about the link between their teacher's statements,

Petra's dreams, a book Petra finds in the library, and other clues that set the reader guessing as to their significance as well. But after they learn of the culprit's aim to correct untruths about Vermeer's life and art -- which spurs them into full-throttle detective work -- the pieces all come together in a brilliant ending sure to make readers cheer, "Ah ha!" Infused with intrigue and Helquist's clever illustrations that include coded messages, Balliett's novel is a dynamic can't-miss that will get those brain cells firing as it satiates your appetite for intelligent, modern-day mystery.

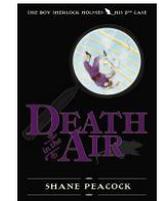
The Contest by Caroline Stelling (2009) 



Rosy, a humorous, spirited, dark-haired, girl who being half-Mohawk is the first and only Native to enter an Anne of Green Gables look-alike contest. Convinced that being "kindred-spirits" and well versed in everything Anne is actually the true nature of the contest, Rosy bravely sets forth to do what she must to win. "When Helen, my favourite librarian, told me about the contest, I was thrilled. And determined to win. I know everything about Anne--I'd even say we're kindred spirits. And do you know what the best part is? The prize! A brand new set of Anne books. It may not seem like a big deal, but to me it would be amazing. Almost everything I own is a hand-me-down. I can only imagine what it would be like to have my own set of books, never before read by anyone else."

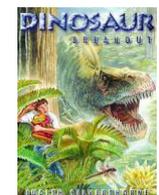
Preparing for the contest is an adventure in itself. As Rosy overcomes setbacks with her health as well as financial hardships, readers will experience along with Rosy her discovery of the true value of friendship, family, and community. CM Magazine - October 2, 2009. "An engaging story about a young determined girl who has been brought up to think of others even though she has very little herself...Readers will enjoy Rosy's spunk, the colorful cast of additional characters, and the funny mishaps as the story of selflessness unfolds.

Death in the Air by Shane Peacock (2008) 
Boy Sherlock Holmes; BK 2



After the harrowing experience of losing his mother while solving a brutal murder in London's East End, young Sherlock Holmes commits himself to fighting crime ...and is soon involved in another case. While visiting his father at the magnificent Crystal Palace, Sherlock stops to watch a remarkable and dangerous trapeze performance high above, framed by the stunning glass ceiling of the legendary building. Suddenly, the troupe's star is dropping, screaming and flailing, toward the floor. He lands with a sickening thud just a few feet away, and rolls up almost onto the boy's boots. Unconscious and bleeding profusely, his body is grotesquely twisted. In the mayhem that follows, Sherlock notices something that no one else sees — something is amiss with the trapeze bar! He knows that foul play is afoot. Wrapped in the fascinating world of Victorian entertainment, its dangerous performances, and London's dark underworld, Death in the Air raises The Boy Sherlock Holmes to a whole new level.

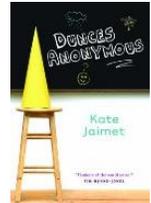
Dinosaur Breakout by Judith Silverthorne (2004) 
Dinosaur Adventures; BK 2



In *Dinosaur Hideout*, Daniel and Pederson, a reclusive paleontologist living on a neighbouring farm in southwestern Saskatchewan, made a brilliant discovery--the fossil remains of a dinosaur called an Edmontosaurus. Now, local bullies Todd and Craig Nelwin, jealous of all the attention Daniel gets, want to find his hideout and wreck it. When the three scuffle and Daniel hits his head on the rocks, he is whisked out of his own time and into the world of the dinosaurs. When another equally strange shock brings him back to his own time, Daniel at first doesn't realize that he carries a small piece of the past--a bit of redwood bark. Whenever he touches it, he will return to the dinosaurs' world. Daniel makes two more unplanned but thrilling trips to the past. But who else knows...

Dunces Anonymous by Kate Jaimet (2009) 🍁

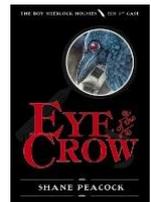
Josh Johnson's mother wants him to run for class president. Josh just wants to run and hide. If only there were a club to help downtrodden eleven-year-olds escape their parents' ambitions! But since no such club exists, Josh has to invent one--he calls it Dunces Anonymous, and before he knows it, the membership is up to three. Magnolia and Wang help Josh lose the school presidential election, but that's just the beginning of the club's activities. As the three friends try to free Magnolia from the school play, liberate Wang from the chess club and get rid of horrible Stacey Hogarth, who has vowed to become the new president of Dunces Anonymous, they realize that they all have talents--if only their parents could see them.



Eye of the Crow by Shane Peacock (2007) 🍁

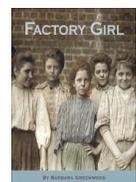
Sherlock Holmes series; BK 1

Sherlock Holmes, just 13, is a misfit. His highborn mother is the daughter of an aristocratic family, his father a poor Jew. Their marriage flouts tradition, makes them social pariahs in the London of the 1860s; and son Sherlock bears the burden of their rebellion. Friendless, bullied at school, he belongs nowhere and has only his wits to help him make his way. But what wits he has! He loves to amuse himself by constructing histories from the smallest detail for everyone he meets. Partly for fun, he focuses his attention on a sensational murder to see if he can solve it. But his game turns deadly serious when he finds himself the accused, and in London, they hang boys of thirteen.



Factory Girl by Barbara Greenwood (2007) 🍁

At the dingy, overcrowded Acme Garment Factory, Emily Watson stands for eleven hours a day clipping threads from blouses. If Emily snips too fast, she could ruin the garment and be docked pay. If she works too slowly, she will be fired. She desperately needs this job. Without the four dollars a week it brings, her family will starve. When a reporter arrives, determined to expose the terrible conditions in the factory, Emily finds herself caught between the desperate immigrant girls with whom she works and the hope of change. Emily's fictional experiences are interwoven with non-fiction sections describing family life in a slum, the plight of working children then and now, and much more.



Flight from Bear Canyon by Anita Daher (2004) 
Sequel to Flight from Big Tangle; Orca Young Readers



Kaylee is furious about being left to spend the summer with a girl her own age, Jaz, and Jaz's uncle, Jack. All she wants is time alone with her dog, Sausage. Things change quickly, though, when Jack is injured after his helicopter goes down near a group of grizzly bears. Kaylee and Jaz must team up to save him, and Kaylee finds herself once again at the controls of a plane.

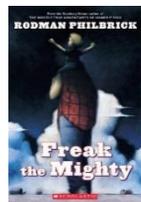
Footsteps in the Snow: Red River Diary of Isobel Scott by Carol Matas (2002);
Dear Canada series 



Isobel thinks that she and her family will find their fortune in Canada. But Isobel's mother dies before they even cross the ocean, and other misfortunes seem to follow their every step. They cannot even start to build once they finally reach their destination. The harsh climate and escalating threats against the settlers make it impossible to start a new life. Only through perseverance and help from the local Cree band are Isobel and her family able to put down roots in the Red River Valley

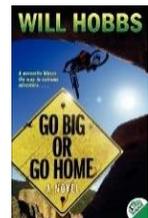
Freak the Mighty by W. Rodman Philbrick (1993)

Max has been taunted all of his life as stupid and slow. When he meets Kevin, a tiny Einstein in leg braces, they defend the weak, right every wrong, and solve the mystery of Max's past. The two boys forge a unique friendship when they pair up to create one formidable human force. A wonderful story of triumph over imperfection, shame, and loss.



Go Big or Go Home by Will Hobbs (2008)

Brady Steele watches in awe as a fireball comes crashing through the roof of his house. Brady immediately calls up his cousin, Quinn. They both love all things extreme, and this is the most extreme thing ever! Fred, as Brady names his space rock, turns out to be one of the rarest meteorites ever found. Professor Rip Ripley from the museum in Hill City wants to study a sliver of it in search of extraterrestrial bacteria. He's hoping to discover the first proof of life beyond Earth, a momentous breakthrough for the new science of astrobiology. During a wild week of extreme bicycling, fishing, and caving, Brady and Quinn battle their rivals, the notorious Carver boys, for possession of the meteorite. With each new day, Brady is discovering he's able to do strange and wonderful feats that shouldn't be possible. At the same time, he's developing some frightening symptoms. Could he be infected with long-dormant microbes from space? Is Fred a prize or a menace?



Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech (2003)

Twelve-year-old Rosie and her best friend, Bailey, don't always get along, that's true. But Granny Torrelli seems to know just how to make things right again with her interesting stories and family recipes. It's easier to remember what's important about love, life, and friendship while Granny Torrelli makes soup.



A Handful of Time by Kit Pearson (2003) 🍁

When Patricia's mother sends her to her cousins' cottage for the summer, Patricia doesn't want to go. She doesn't know her cousins at all, and she's never been good at camping or canoeing, let alone making new friends. When she arrives at the cottage, her worst fears come true: her cousin Kelly teases her; Aunt Ginnie and Uncle Doug feel sorry for her. She doesn't fit in. Then Patricia discovers an old watch hidden under a floorboard. When she winds it, she finds herself taken back in time to the summer when her own mother was twelve.



The Hero's Guide to Saving the Kingdom by Christopher Healy (2012);
League of Princes series: Bk 1

Prince Liam. Prince Frederic. Prince Duncan. Prince Gustav. You've never heard of them, have you? These are the princes who saved Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Snow White, and Rapunzel, respectively, and yet, thanks to those lousy bards who wrote the tales, you likely know them only as Prince Charming. But all of this is about to change. Rejected by their princesses and cast out of their castles, the princes stumble upon an evil plot that could endanger each of their kingdoms. Now it's up to them to triumph over their various shortcomings, take on trolls, bandits, dragons, witches, and other assorted terrors, and become the heroes no one ever thought they could be.



A completely original take on the world of fairy tales, the truth about what happens after "happily ever after." It's a must-have for middle grade readers who enjoy their fantasy adventures mixed with the humor of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid books. Witty black-and-white drawings by Todd Harris add to the fun.

How Can a Brilliant Detective Shine in the Dark by Linda Bailey (1999) 🍁
Stevie Diamond Mysteries series; BK 6

Even an experienced detective like Stevie Diamond can miss clues. All her life, a gigantic mystery was right there in her own family and she'd missed it, until now! *How Can a Brilliant Detective Shine in the Dark?* is a page-turning mix of mystery and comedy sure to capture the imaginations and tickle the funny bones of young readers everywhere.



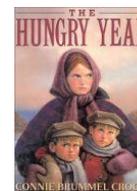
How it Happened in Peach Hill by Martha Jocelyn (2007) 🍁

Annie's mother has special powers. Annie's mother is a master at drawing out secrets. Annie's mother is the one and only, the irresistible Madam Caterina. Annie and her mother come to Peach Hill, the latest in a string of towns where Mama sets herself up as a spiritual adviser who can put people in contact with the "dearly departed." Fifteen-year-old Annie is Mama's invisible secret weapon—she gathers important information about clients by pretending to be an idiot. After all, people will say anything in front of an idiot. But Annie isn't invisible, she's smart as a whip, and she longs to break out of this role and into a real life with friends and school. Annie may be under Mama's spell—but not for long.



The Hungry Year by Connie Brummel Crook (2001) 

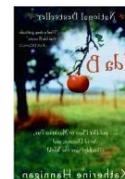
Twelve-year-old Kate has always had to be more responsible than other girls her age. Since her mother's death and her family's flight to Canada, Kate's father has relied on her to keep house and look after her younger twin brothers. In a new place with poor shelter and no help, Kate must grow up even faster.



Ida B...and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World by Katherine Hannigan (2004)

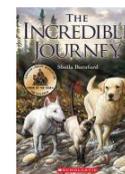
Ida B. Applewood believes there is never enough time for fun.

That's why she's so happy to be homeschooled and to spend every free second outside with the trees and the brook. Then some not-so-great things happen in her world. Ida B has to go back to that Place of Slow but Sure Body-Cramping, Mind-Numbing, Fun-Killing Torture—school. She feels her heart getting smaller and smaller and hardening into a sharp, black stone. How can things go from righter than right to a million miles beyond wrong? Can Ida B put together a plan to get things back to just-about perfect again?



The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford (1960) 

Instinct told them that the way home lay to the west. And so the doughty young Labrador retriever, the roguish bull terrier and the indomitable Siamese set out through the Canadian wilderness. Separately, they would soon have died. But, together, the three house pets faced starvation, exposure, and wild forest animals to make their way home to the family they love.



Into the Ravine by Robert Scrimger (2007) 

In the tar-melting heat of a suburban summer, every boy Jules, athletic and handsome Chris, and oddball Corey (he laughs at gravel and anticipates zombie attacks) have lived side by side for most of their lives. Behind their backyards is a ravine through which flows a modest river. This familiar territory is by turns comforting and terrifying. When a tornado brings down a big maple tree, the boys make a raft of the branches and set off downstream. After all, at thirteen they are old enough to take a day trip by themselves. On their way, the boys meet with a series of adventures that are funny at first glance but resonate deeply. They rescue a diabolical dog, confront a hydrophobic gang, and survive a waterfall. They are bombarded by bicycles, hoodwinked by hobos, and bewitched by bikinis. By accident, they crash a funeral, and, by design, they crash a pool party — with tragic results. Urban blight and rural beauty, Into the Ravine is a journey where the geography mirrors the contradictions of the human heart. Renowned author Richard Scrimger draws on his powerful ability to tell a story that can truly make you laugh until you cry.



Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell (1960)

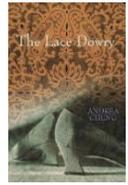
In the Pacific there is an island that looks like a big fish sunning itself in the sea. Around it, blue dolphins swim, otters play, and sea elephants and sea birds abound. Once, Indians also lived on the island. And when they left and sailed to the east, one



young girl was left behind. — This is the story of Karana, the Indian girl who lived alone for years on the Island.

The Lace Dowry by Andrea Cheng (2005)

Twelve-year-old Juli wants neither a dowry nor the dancing lessons that her mother has long planned for her. Studious and smart, Juli dreams of a career, not of marriage. But her mother insists, and together they make regular trips to the Budapest countryside to check on the progress of the large lace tablecloth commissioned for her dowry. Soon Julie makes friends with the lace maker's daughter, Roza, an unschooled girl her own age who is already saddled with adult responsibilities. When progression the tablecloth slows because of unexpected difficulties in Roza's family, Juli finds herself defying her mother in order to help her new friend. Through this painful episode, Juli and her mother grow to better understand themselves, each other, and how the past has shaped them.



Lost Goat Lane by Rosa Jordan (2005) 

For Kate, being one of three kids in a family that's always broke means feeling ashamed and isolated, especially at school, where her classmates tease her constantly. Things can't get much worse at home. Her mother works long hours to make the mortgage payments on their tiny farm. Her older brother Justin talks about running away, and her younger brother Chip has a way of getting into trouble when Kate is supposed to be minding him. The day Kate's goat Sugar runs away, things start to get more interesting - and a lot more complicated. She and her brothers meet the Wilsons, a tight-knit African American family. Kate is drawn to Ruby, the Wilsons' glamorous grown daughter who has returned home from New York City. Ruby hasn't got much time for white trash but the two eventually form an unlikely bond as partners in Ruby's fledgling candy business. And as Kate begins to spend more time with Ruby, she awakens to the undercurrents of prejudice that run through their small town.



The Mother-Daughter Book Club by Heather Vogel Frederick (2007)

The Mother-Daughter Book Club series; BK 1

When the mothers of four sixth-grade girls with very different personalities pressure them into forming a book club, they find as they read and discuss "Little Women," that they have much more in common than they could have ever imagined.



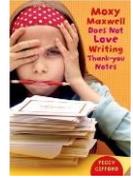
Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls: Moving Day by Meg Cabot (2008)

Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls series; BK 1

When 9-year-old Allie Finkle's parents announce that they are moving her and her brothers from their suburban split-level into an ancient Victorian in town, Allie's sure her life is over. She's not at all happy about having to give up her pretty pink wall-to-wall carpeting for creaky floorboards and creepy secret passageways-not to mention leaving her modern, state-of-the-art suburban school for a rundown, old-fashioned school just two blocks from her new house.



Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Writing Thank-You Notes by Peggy Elizabeth Gifford (2008); Moxy Maxwell series; BK 2



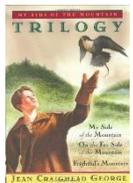
It isn't as though Moxy isn't grateful for her Christmas presents. She is. She's just not thrilled that she has to write a thank-you note for each one by tomorrow . . . or she will not be allowed to fly to Hollywood to attend a star-studded Hollywood bash with the father she hasn't seen in three years. And writing thank-you notes is not something that a world-class Creative Type relishes doing. But it is more than writing thank-you notes that finally prevents Moxy from taking her trip. When her father cancels at the last minute, Moxy is forced to deal with the reality of a situation she doesn't want to accept, and can't change. But, not surprisingly, she rises to the occasion brilliantly.

My Life in Pink and Green by Lisa Greenwald (2009)
My Life in Pink and Green series: BK 1



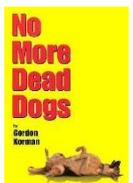
Twelve-year-old Lucy Desberg is a natural problem solver. After the local homecoming queen shows up at her family's struggling drugstore with a beauty disaster that Lucy helps to fix, Lucy has a long line of makeover customers for every school dance and bat mitzvah. But all the makeup tips in the world won't help save the pharmacy. If only she could find a way to make the pharmacy the center of town again—a place where people want to spend time, like in the old days. Lucy dreams up a solution that could resuscitate the family business and help the environment, too. But will Lucy's family stop fighting long enough to listen to a seventh-grader?

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George (1959)
My Side of the Mountain Trilogy; BK1



Terribly unhappy in his family's crowded New York City apartment, Sam Gribley runs away to the solitude and danger of the mountains, where he finds a side of himself he never knew. A classic tale and Newbery Honor book where Sam relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.

No More Dead Dogs by Gordon Korman (2000) 



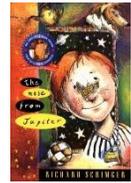
Nobody understands Wallace. This reluctant school football hero has been suspended from the team for writing an unfavorable book report of Old Shep, My Pal. But Wallace won't tell a lie -- he hated every minute of the book! Why does the dog in every classic novel have to croak at the end? After refusing to do a rewrite, his English teacher, who happens to be directing the school play Old Shep, My Pal, forces him go to the rehearsals as punishment. Although Wallace doesn't change his mind, he does end up changing the play into a rock-and-roll rendition, complete with Rollerblades and a moped!

No Talking by Andrew Clements (2007)



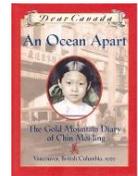
"You have the right to remain silent." However... The fifth-grade girls and the fifth-grade boys at Laketon Elementary don't get along very well. But the real problem is that these kids are loud and disorderly. That's why the principal uses her red plastic bullhorn. A lot. Then one day Dave Packer, a certified loudmouth, bumps into an idea -- a big one that makes him try to keep quiet for a whole day. But what does Dave hear during lunch? A girl, Lynsey Burgess, jabbering away. So Dave breaks his silence and lobs an insult. And those words spark a contest: Which team can say the fewest words during two whole days? And it's the boys against the girls.

The Nose from Jupiter by Richard Scrimger (1998) 
Norbert books; BK 1



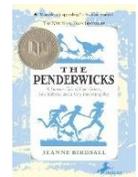
Alan is not big or strong. He hates playing soccer and can barely keep up in math class. Moreover he's fodder for every bully for miles around. But all that changes the day Norbert, an alien from Jupiter, comes to earth on an exploration mission and moves into – Alan's nose. Soon Alan isn't acting like himself, but is Norbert really to blame? Loud, pushy and hilarious, Norbert teaches Alan to stand up for himself, even when the odds are stacked against him.

An Ocean Apart: The Gold Mountain Diary of Chin Mei-Ling by Gillian Chan
(2004); Dear Canada series 



Mei-ling lives with her father in Vancouver, but her mother and baby brother are still in China. Mei-ling works after school, and her father holds down several jobs, in a frantic effort to come up with the head tax that will allow her mother and brother to come to Canada. They must have that money before the Exclusion Act bars any more Chinese from immigrating. Mei-ling cannot stop thinking about what will happen if they are unable to come up with the money to reunite their family?

The Penderwicks by Jeanne Birdsall (2005)
The Penderwick series; BK 1



This summer the Penderwick sisters have a wonderful surprise: a holiday on the grounds of a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts. But the best discovery of all is Jeffrey Tifton, son of Arundel's owner, who quickly proves to be the perfect companion for their adventures. The icy-hearted Mrs. Tifton is not as pleased with the Penderwicks as Jeffrey is, though, and warns the new friends to stay out of trouble. Which, of course, they will—won't they? One thing's for sure: it will be a summer the Penderwicks will never forget.

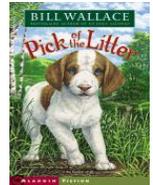
A Perfect Gentle Knight by Kit Pearson (2007) 🍁

Pearson's long-awaited new novel tells the story of the six Bell children, each of them coping in various ways in the aftermath of their mother's death. Set in the 1950s and seen through the perspective of the middle child, 11-year-old Corrie, Pearson's story illustrates how a rich fantasy life both helps and hinders children trying to cope with loss, loneliness, and growing up. While elder sister Roz is growing up and out of the desire for fantasy games, eldest brother Sebastian, who fancies himself Sir Lancelot in their Round Table game, continues to need them as much as ever.



Pick of the Litter by Bill Wallace (2005)

Tom's grandfather is recovering from heart surgery, so during summer vacation Tom is helping him with his hunting dog business. It's hard work, but Tom doesn't mind so much after he falls in love with one of the pups, a rare blue-eyed pointer Tom names Tad. It's almost as if Tad understands when Tom talks to him, especially about confusing things like how hard it is to write to Angie, a girl Tom met on vacation.



The Princess Academy by Shannon Hale (2007)

Princess Academy series; BK 1

Miri lives on a mountain where, for generations, her ancestors have quarried stone and lived a simple life. Then word comes that the king's priests have divined her small village the home of the future princess. In a year's time, the prince himself will come and choose his bride from among the girls of the village. The king's ministers set up an academy on the mountain, and every teenage girl must attend and learn how to become a princess.



Promise Song by Linda Holeman (1997) 🍁

The year is 1900 and orphaned 14-year-old Rosetta and her beloved younger sister Flora sail from England as "home girls." They are sent to Canada so that they can have a chance at family life. Their dreams are shattered when Flora is adopted, but Rosetta is deemed to be too old. She is to become a farm worker, far from Flora's new home.



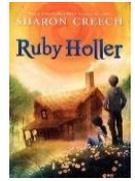
Rescue Pup by Jean Little (2004) 🍁

Shakespeare is a Seeing Eye puppy. But before the time comes for him to train with a blind person, he must spend six months with a girl who has never learned to love. He does all he can to teach her, but the job places him in some dangerous situations and by the end of the story he has earned the title Rescue Pup.



Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech (2002)

Troubled twins Dallas and Florida are orphans who have given up believing there is such a thing as a loving home. Tiller and Sairy are an eccentric older couple who live in the beautiful, mysterious Ruby Holler, but they're restless for one more big adventure. When they invite the twins to join them on their journeys, they first must all stay together in the Holler, and the magic of the place takes over. Two pairs of lives grow closer and are changed forever.



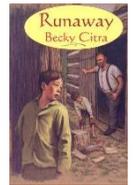
Rules by Cynthia Lord (2006)

Twelve-year-old Catherine just wants a normal life. Which is near impossible when you have a brother with autism and a family that revolves around his disability. She's spent years trying to teach David the rules-from "a peach is not a funny-looking apple" to "keep your pants on in public"-in order to stop his embarrassing behaviors. But the summer Catherine meets Jason, a paraplegic boy, and Kristi, the next-door friend she's always wished for, it's her own shocking behavior that turns everything upside down and forces her to ask: What is normal?



Runaway by Becky Citra (2003)

Max is horrified when he sees Sam Black, a new neighbor, strike a boy who is in his charge, but Max still shouts, "Thief," and tries to catch the boy when he sees him steal from the General Store in The Landings. When the abused boy runs away and takes refuge in Max's secret fort in the woods, Max must decide where his loyalties lie.



Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan (1985)

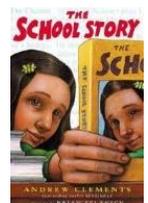
Sarah, Plain and Tall series; BK 1

This Newbery Medal-winning book is the first of five books in Patricia MacLachlan's chapter book series about the Witting family. Set in the late nineteenth century and told from young Anna's point of view, Sarah, Plain and Tall tells the story of how Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton comes from Maine to the prairie to answer Papa's advertisement for a wife and mother. Before Sarah arrives, Anna and her younger brother Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she sing? Will she stay? This children's literature classic is perfect for fans of Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little House on the Prairie books, historical fiction, and timeless stories using rich and beautiful language. Sarah, Plain and Tall gently explores themes of abandonment, loss and love.



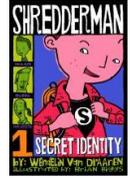
The School Story by Andrew Clements (2001)

Natalie's best friend, Zoe, is sure that the novel Natalie's written is good enough to be published. But how can a twelve-year-old girl publish a book? Natalie's mother is an editor for a big children's publisher, but Natalie doesn't want to ask for any



favors. Then Zoe has a brilliant idea: Natalie can submit her manuscript under a pen name, with Zoe acting as her literary agent. But it's not easy for two sixth graders to put themselves over as grown-ups, even with some help from a couple of real grown-ups who are supportive but skeptical. The next bestselling school story may be in their hands...but can Natalie and Zoe pull off their masquerade?

Secret Identity Wendelin Van Draanen (2004)
Shredderman series: BK 1



Alvin Bixby: Hulking, knuckles of steel, hideous breath, foul temper. Kids call him: Bubba. Nolan Byrd: Puny, power walker, math genius, can't keep shoes tied. Kids call him: Nerd. Bubba has been the bane of Nolan's existence for five long years. So when Mr. Green asks the class to become reporters, Nolan decides he'll write an exposé—on Bubba. He doesn't want to sign his name to it (that'd be suicidal), so Nolan creates a secret identity for himself—on the Internet. He launches Shredderman.com as a place where truth and justice prevail—and bullies get what's coming to them. This hilariously triumphant story is for any kid who's ever dreamed of unleashing their own inner superhero!

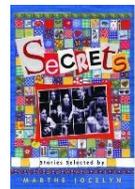
The Secret of Grim Hill Linda DeMeulemeester (2007) 
Grim Hill series; BK 1



Cat Peters just transferred to Darkmont High and is already desperate to get out. When she hears that Grimoire, the private school nearby, is offering scholarships to the winners of a Halloween soccer match, Cat jumps at the chance. Her little sister, Sookie, and their bookworm neighbor, Jasper, try to tell her there's something ... "just not right" about the old school on the hill, and their worries are confirmed when they uncover a mystery about an entire soccer team that disappeared many years ago. Further investigation leads Cat to a book about ancient Celtic myth and fairy lore, and she soon realizes that there is something truly wicked at work inside the walls of Grimoire.

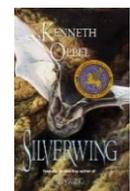
Secrets by Marthe Jocelyn (2005) 

In all their permutations, these unforgettable stories explore one of the irresistible facets of human nature, the fact that everyone has a secret. Marthe Jocelyn has selected twelve stories by several of the best authors in North America to explore the nature and the power of secrets. Sometimes secrets can be downright funny – how would you like to be the front person for your fake, clairvoyant mother? Secrets can also be scary – if you are pretending that your father is dead so you don't have to introduce him to your teacher. And sometimes secrets can break your heart, and heal it – when they have to do with the ties that bind generations together.



Silverwing by Kenneth Oppel (1997) 
Silverwing series; BK 1

Shade is a young Silverwing bat, the runt of his colony. But he's determined to prove himself on the long, dangerous winter migration to Hibernaculum, millions of wingbeats to the south. During a fierce storm, he loses the others and soon faces the most incredible journey of his young life. Desperately searching for a way to rejoin his flock, Shade



meets a remarkable cast of characters: Marina, a Brightwing bat with a strange metal band on her leg; Zephyr, a mystical albino bat with a strange gift; and Goth, a gigantic carnivorous vampire bat. But which ones are friends and which ones are enemies? In this epic story of adventure and suspense, Shade is going to need all the help he can find -- if he hopes to ever see his family again.

Sinking Deeper by Steve Vernon (2011) 🍁

The tiny fishing community of Deeper Harbour is in deep trouble--and so is 14-year-old Roland MacTavish. Roland's mom wants to move with him to Ottawa, away from his father, his weird friend Dulsie and his even weirder grandfather, Angus. So Roland does what any sane teenager would do: He invents a sea monster. Unfortunately, the scheme quickly spins out of Roland's control, and he has to go to even greater lengths to keep up the illusion. And then Roland must deal with a situation far more terrifying than any sea monster.



The Sky is Falling by Kit Pearson (1989) 🍁

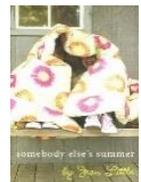
Guests of War series; Bk 1

It is the summer of 1940, and all of England fears an invasion by Hitler's army. Norah lies in bed listening to the anxious voices of her parents downstairs. Then Norah is told that she and her brother, Gavin, are being sent to Canada. The voyage across the ocean is exciting, but at the end of it Norah is miserable. The rich woman who takes them in prefers Gavin to her, the children at school taunt her, and as the news from England becomes worse, she longs for home. As Norah begins to make friends, she discovers a surprising responsibility that helps her to accept her new country.



Somebody Else's Summer by Jean Little (2006) 🍁

On a flight from Vancouver to Toronto, two girls meet, forming an unlikely friendship. Tall, athletic Samantha is going to spend the summer with a family friend while her father is in South America. Alexis, a shy girl who likes books, is being sent to a horse farm to learn how to ride while her mother and stepfather are travelling in Australia. By the time their flight lands in Toronto, the girls have hatched their plots. They're going to trade places for the summer. After all, the people they're going to visit have never met them, and their parents are far away and hard to contact. But will they manage to pull it off? For how long? And with what consequences?



The Spy in the Alley by Melanie Jackson (2002) 🍁

Dinah Galloway Mystery series; BK 1

Meet Dinah Galloway: eleven years old, headstrong and impulsive, with a voice that can raise the roof and an appetite to match. When a bucktoothed prowler begins to stalk Madge Galloway, a local teen model in Vancouver, her inquisitive younger sister vows to track him down and bring him to justice. When she is not tormenting her sister over her stuck-up boyfriend, whose dad happens to own the agency where Madge works, the 11-year-old uses her resources to fight video-game monsters and sing for free ice cream at the local gelati



shop. Before long, Dinah begins to suspect that there are connections among the prowler, repeated break-ins to the neighbouring Rinaldi house, and a deal between the modeling agency and Fields Tobacco. The characters avoid broad stereotypes (Madge actually prefers painting to modeling) and have interesting backgrounds, even though the situations they find themselves in stretch credibility at times. This is a fun, lighthearted story that also deals thoughtfully with serious issues such as substance abuse and self-esteem.

Star Wars, Jedi Academy: Return of the Padawan by Jeffrey Brown (2014)

Star Wars, Jedi Academy; BK 2

Author/illustrator Jeffrey Brown returns in the highly anticipated sequel to the NY Times Bestseller Star Wars: Jedi Academy! It's time to return to middle school in a galaxy far, far away. . . .

After surviving his first year at Jedi Academy, Roan Novachez thought his second year would be a breeze. He couldn't have been more wrong. Roan feels like he's drifting apart from his friends, and it's only made worse when Roan discovers he's not the amazing pilot he thought he'd be. When the school bullies take him under their wing, he decides they aren't so bad after all--or are they? This year, Roan will have to face alien poetry tests, menacing robots, food fights, flight simulation class, online bullies, more lightsaber duels, and worst of all . . . a girl who is mad at him.

This incredible, original story captures all of the humor, awkwardness, fun, and frustrations of middle school--all told through one boy's comics, journal entries, letters, sketches, e-mails, and more.



The Summer of the Spotted Owl by Melanie Jackson

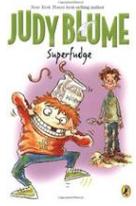
Dinah Galloway Mystery series; BK 4

After a hang glider crashes into the pool of the house where Dinah and Madge are house-sitting, the hapless pilot creates more than a splash of suspicion in Dinah's mind. Why does this itchy intruder make off with Dinah's inflatable turtle? Why is someone trying to drive their cat-mad neighbor away? And what is the connection with the balding stranger seen lurking behind the hedge? And when Madge's boyfriend starts a campaign to save the endangered spotted owl, it seems that a crooked politician may be out to destroy the habitat of the near-extinct animal. While Madge paints, Dinah brushes aside suggestions that she be a quiet, well-behaved guest in this posh North Vancouver neighborhood. There's just too much for Dinah and her friends--tree-fanatic Pantelli and irritatingly conscientious Talbot--to investigate in this hilariously suspenseful adventure. Along with learning about endangered animals and fragile ecosystems, Dinah runs across clueless reporters and greedy developers, all the while continuing to belt out her favorite songs and satisfy her healthy appetite.



Superfudge by Judy Blume (1980); Fudge series; BK 3

Sometimes life in the Hatcher household is enough to make twelve-year-old Peter think about running away. His worst problem is still his younger brother, Fudge, who hasn't changed a bit since his crazy capers in *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. If you ask Peter, Fudge is just an older — and bigger — pain. Then Peter learns that his mom is going to have a baby and the whole family is moving to Princeton for a year. It will be bad enough starting sixth grade in a strange place and going to the same school as Fudge. But Peter can imagine something even worse. How will he ever survive if the new baby is a carbon copy of Fudge?



Swindle by Gordon Korman (2008) 

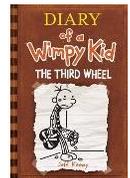
After a mean collector named Swindle cons him out of his most valuable baseball card, Griffin Bing must put together a band of misfits to break into Swindle's compound and recapture the card. There are many things standing in their way -- a menacing guard dog, a high-tech security system, a very secret hiding place, and their general inability to drive -- but Griffin and his team are going to get back what's rightfully his - even if hijinks ensue.



The Third Wheel by Jeff Kinney (2012)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid series; BK 7

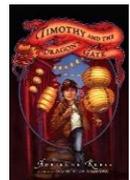
Love is in the air - but what does that mean for Greg Heffley? A Valentine's Day dance at Greg's middle school has turned his world upside down. As Greg scrambles to find a date, he's worried he'll be left out in the cold on the big night. His best friend, Rowley, doesn't have any prospects either, but that's a small consolation. An unexpected twist gives Greg a partner for the dance and leaves Rowley the odd man out. But a lot can happen in one night, and in the end, you never know who's going to be lucky in love.



Timothy and the Dragon's Gate by Adrienne Kress (2008) 

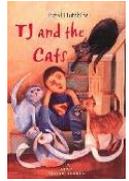
Alex and the Ironic Gentleman series; BK 2

11-year-old Timothy Freshwater has been expelled from every school in his city. With nowhere else to go, he joins his father at the Tall and Imposing Tower of Doom and lands himself an (unpaid) internship with Evans Bore, a hopelessly awkward CEO who hasn't been invited to single fancy party in his entire life. When his father is called away on business, his real education begins. Left in the care of an eccentric neighbour named Mr. Bazalgette, Timothy learns some curious facts about Mr. Bore and his unusually loyal mail clerk, Mr. Shen--facts that lead to unbelievable revelations: about dragons, servants, and the laws that bind them. With time running out, Timothy takes it upon himself to change one dragon's fate. Those readers who loved her first book, Alex and the Ironic Gentleman, will rejoice in the reappearance of Alex, Captain Magnanimous and the peculiar Jack Scratch.



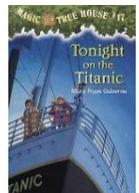
TJ and the Cats by Hazel Hutchins (2002) 
Orca Young Readers; BK 13 (BK 1 in the TJ series)

TJ may not like cats, but that doesn't stop a taxi from showing up at his door bearing his grandmother's four felines. Killer, Cleo, Kink and Maximillian the Emperor--Max for short--invade TJ's life and replace dinosaurs as the topic for his school project. The animals' presence in TJ's house leads to a series of adventures, one involving the police and another involving a mass escape. This realistic story has moments of humor, likable characters and mischievous pets.



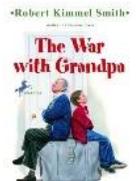
Tonight on the Titanic by Mary Pope Osborne (1999)
The Magic Tree House series; BK 17

Jack and Annie are in for an exciting, scary, and sad adventure when the Magic Tree House whisks them back to the decks of the "Titanic." Is there anything they can do to help the ill-fated ship? Will they be able to save anyone? Will they be able to save themselves?



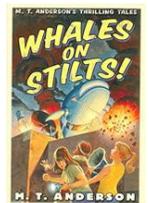
The War with Grandpa by Robert Kimmel Smith (1984)

When 10-year-old Peter Stokes finds out that his newly widowed grandfather is coming to live with the family, he is glad because he really likes his grandfather. However, when he discovers that the plan is for his grandfather to take the room that Peter has had all his life, he declares it unfair. At the urging of his two best friends, Peter declares war on his grandfather to recover his rightful property. Family love is not destroyed, but attacks and counterattacks escalate until Peter finally surrenders--or does he win?



Whales on Stilts by M.T. Anderson (2005)

Lily Gefelty is just an average twelve-year-old girl. But her dad—a normal-enough seeming guy—just so happens to work for an evil genius who plans to unleash an army of extremely cranky, stilt-walking, laser-beam-eyed whales upon the world. Lucky for Lily, her two best friends are anything but average. Both of them are famous for their adventures. Jasper Dash, Boy Technonaut, invents gadgets; Katie Mulligan spends her spare time fighting off zombies and were-goats. Surely they'll know what to do. And if they don't? It will be up to Lily—average, every day Lily—to come up with a plan.



White Jade Tiger by Julie Lawson (1993) 

Jasmine is not sure she likes the idea of being stuck in Victoria while her father goes to China for a year. But on a field trip to Chinatown, she explores a curious shop in Fan Tan Alley and accidentally passes through a hidden door. She finds herself in Victoria's Chinatown of the late 1880's. Mistaken for a Chinese boy, she is soon caught up in a race through the Fraser Canyon to find a tiger amulet.



Zorgamazoo by Robert Paul Weston (2008) 🍁

Zorgamazoo tells the rhyming, rhythmical tale of Katrina, a girl with a big heart and an even bigger imagination. Too bad Old Krabby will have none of it! She thinks Katrina is losing her marbles! Worse, she hires the quack neurosurgeon, Doctor LeFang, to make a midnight house call! But there is nothing wrong with Katrina's noggin. In fact, she is perfectly sane (Old Krabby is the one who is lame in the brain!)



The strange figure Katrina spotted, bumbling through the subway tunnels beneath the city, is Morty the zorgle. He has been sent on a quest to find the lost zorgles of Zorgamazoo...

When Katrina and Morty join forces, however, they discover it's not just the zorgles who have gone missing. Someone—or something—has kidnapped all of the Earth's most magical creatures! It isn't long before Katrina and Morty uncover a bizarre, intergalactic conspiracy that threatens the existence of every last griffin, ogre, sphinx, dragon, mermaid, pixie and zorgle on the planet! And it rhymes—all 280 pages worth.