


Great Reads for 5th Graders



Selected by librarians from Milwaukee Public Library

Extra Credit by Andrew Clements. FIC CLEMENT.

It begins as a way for Abby to not fail English, but the extra credit pen pal project gets interesting when the Arab boy Sadeed Bayatis breaks the rules and writes back.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days by Jeff Kinney.

FIC KINNEY.

It's summer vacation and Greg Heffley is living out his ultimate summer fantasy--a video game marathon. But Greg's mom has a different vision for an ideal summer.

Words to My Life's Song by Ashley Bryan. 92 B91333.

In rich collages of words and pictures, this highly visual autobiography introduces artist Ashley Bryan's life and his vision of the world around him.

The Magic Thief by Sarah Prineas. SF PRINEAS.

Conn picks the pocket of the wizard Nevery. Instead of punishing the boy, Nevery invites Conn to dinner. The Magic Locus Stone Conn had grabbed kills anyone who touches it, but since Conn lived, he may possess some interesting magical abilities - and Nevery wants to find out what they are.

11 Birthdays by Wendy Mass. FIC MASS.

Amanda and Leo are caught in a time loop, waking up each morning to find themselves repeating their eleventh birthdays. Only if they work together, can they move ahead.

All the Broken Pieces by Ann Burg. FIC BURG.

Matt Pin is beginning to remember his childhood in Vietnam--flames and screams, bombs and helicopters--and what the war did to his little brother. Buttressed by a loving American family, Matt must face his past.

The Gollywopper Games by Jody Feldman.

FIC FELDMAN.

Brainteasers and tricky puzzles are all part of the Gollywopper Games, a promotional sweepstakes leading to untold wealth and fame for the lucky contestants.

Conquerors by Rupert Matthews. 909 M441.

Whether they set out to build an empire or simply to pillage, the world's great conquerors blazed trails of bloody havoc across the pages of world history.

Scat by Carl Hiaasen. FIC HIAASEN.

When their unpopular biology teacher goes missing in a suspicious fire during a field trip to the Black Vine Swamp, Nick and Marta don't buy the headmaster's excuse for her absence and decide to do some investigating of their own.

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia.

FIC WILLIAM.

Delphine's mother left years ago, and now, in the summer of 1968, her father has decided that his three daughters need to reconnect with her. Cecile, not the mothering kind, dumps them off at the neighborhood People's Center, run by the Black Panthers. Delphine doesn't buy into all of the group's ideas, but she does come to understand her mother a little better over the summer.

Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing up Scieszka by Jon Scieszka. 92 S416.

An autobiography about boys, for boys, and anyone else interested in baseball, fire, and peeing on stuff.

Face to Face With Leopards by Beverly and Dereck

Joubert. 599.7554 J861.

This latest entry in National Geographic's *Face to Face* series features striking color photographs, authors who are animal scientists/photographers, descriptions of their personal encounters with animals, and current issues in animal conservation.

A Crooked Kind of Perfect by Linda Urban.

FIC URBAN.

Nothing in Zoe's life is exactly perfect-- instead of a piano her father gets her an electric organ, at a friend's birthday party everybody gives CDs and she gives socks, her dad is a great cook, but he's afraid to leave the house. But perfect things can happen if you're willing to overlook some imperfections along the way.

Found by Margaret Peterson Haddix. SF HADDIX.

A plane arrives at an airline gate. The only passengers on board are 36 infants. Thirteen years later, teenage adoptees Jonah and his friend Chip begin receiving ominous messages declaring that they are among "the missing" and that someone is coming to find them.

TIPS for helping your child become a Super Reader:

Don't try to persuade your child to finish a book he or she doesn't like. Recommend putting the book aside and trying another.

Listening to books is reading too. Audiobooks let readers explore stories they might not otherwise try to read, help readers pronounce words, and increase comprehension. They are also fun on long car trips.



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