

Books 5th and 6th Graders will Enjoy Reading

Fiction

Appelt, Kathi. **Keeper**. (JUV FAN APPEL)

On the night of the blue moon when mermaids are said to gather on a sandbar in the Gulf of Mexico, ten-year-old Keeper sets out in a small boat with her dog and a seagull, determined to find her mother.

Cooper, Susan. **Ghost Hawk**. (JUV COOPE)

At the end of a winter-long journey, Little Hawk returns to find his village decimated by a white man's plague. A new friendship with a young white settler is risky, but meaningful.

Federle, Tim. **Better Nate than Ever**. (JUV FEDER)

An eighth-grader, who dreams of performing in a Broadway musical, concocts a plan to run away to New York and audition for the role of Elliot in the musical version of "E.T."

Gantos, Jack. **Dead End in Norvelt**. (JUV GANTO)

In the town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, 12-year-old Jack spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, Girl Scout cookies and countless bloody noses.

Grabenstein, Chris. **Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library**. (JUV MYS GRABE)

When 12-year-old Kyle wins the chance to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello, he expects a night of fun. But he and the other winners must solve a series of clues and secret puzzles to find the hidden escape route out of the locked library by morning— or lose the grand prize.

Kadohata, Cynthia. **The Thing about Luck**. (JUV KADOH)

Just when 12-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving her to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.

Lloyd, Natalie. **A Snicker of Magic**. (JUV FAN LLOYD)

The Pickles are new to Midnight Gulch, Tennessee, a town which legend says was once magic—but Felicity Pickle is convinced the magic is still there, and with the help of her new friend Jonah the Beedle she hopes to bring it back.

Lord, Cynthia. **Half a Chance**. (JUV LORD)

Lucy, with her mother and photographer father, has just moved to a small rural community in New Hampshire where she plans to spend the summer taking photos for a contest with her new friend Nate. But Lucy soon learns that pictures reveal more than people are willing to see.

Palacio, R.J. **Wonder**. (JUV PALAC)

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

Sachar, Louis. **Holes**. (JUV MYS SACHA)

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune— which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative— Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert, where he finds his first real friend, a treasure and a new sense of himself.

Sloan, Holly Goldberg. **Counting by 7s**. (JUV SLOAN)

After her parents are killed in a car accident, 12-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people, and find herself a surrogate family.

Sovern, Megan J. **The Meaning of Maggie**. (JUV SOVER)

Eleven-year-old Maggie Mayfield is an A-plus student with big plans for herself, but at this moment she is also facing a lot of problems--like starting middle school and figuring out how to help her father who is out of work and in a wheelchair.

Timberlake, Amy. **One Came Home**. (JUV TIMBE)

In 1871 Wisconsin, 13-year-old Georgia sets out to find her sister Agatha— presumed dead when remains are found wearing the dress she was last seen in— and before the end of the year gains fame as a sharpshooter and foiler of counterfeiters.

Turnage, Sheila. **Three Times Lucky**. (JUV MYS TURNA)

Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now 11, and her best friend Dale turn detective when her adopted father seems implicated in a murder.

Vanderpool, Clare. **Moon Over Manifest**. (JUV VANDE)

Abilene Tucker's father has put her on a train, sending her off to live with an old friend for the summer while he works a railroad job. Abilene is disappointed to find Manifest is just a dried-up, worn-out old town. But her disappointment quickly turns to excitement when she discovers some old letters that mention a spy known as the Rattler.

Vawter, Vince. **Paperboy**. (JUV VAWTE)

When an 11-year-old boy takes over a friend's Memphis newspaper route in July 1959, his debilitating stutter makes for a memorable month.

Wilson, Nathan D. **Leepike Ridge**. (JUV MYS WILSO)

While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.