



Books for Fifth Grade SRC 2012

Chapter Books (J)

Angleberger, Tom. Fake Mustache.

Regular kid Lenny Flem Jr. is the only one standing between his evil-genius best friend, Casper, and world domination. It all begins when Casper spends money from his granny on a spectacularly convincing fake mustache. With it he's able to rob banks, amass a vast fortune, and run for president. Will Lenny be able to stop Casper from taking over the world?

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. Cosmic.

12-year old Liam looks like he's thirty. Sometimes it's not bad; for example when he convinces a car dealer to let him test drive a Porsche. Feeling like he's stuck between two worlds, Liam cons his way into being the adult chaperone on the first space ship to take civilians into space. But when the ship is stuck 230,000 miles from home, being mistaken for an adult is not good.

Greenwald, Tom. Charlie Joe Jackson's Guide to Not Reading.

Middle schooler Charlie Joe is proud of his success at avoiding reading, but eventually his schemes go too far.

Harkrader, Lisa. The Adventures of Beanboy.

Tucker MacBean loves comic books, so when his favorite comic has a contest to create a sidekick, he is hopeful that he can win, thereby fixing his struggling family.

LaFleur, Suzanne. Eight Keys.

When twelve-year-old Elise, orphaned since age three, becomes disheartened by middle school, with its bullies, changing relationships, and higher expectations, keys to long-locked rooms and messages from her late father help her cope.

Malone, Marianne. The Sixty-Eight Rooms.

Ruthie thinks nothing exciting will ever happen to her until her sixth-grade class visits the Art Institute of Chicago, where she and her best friend Jack discover a magic key that shrinks them to the size of gerbils and allows them to explore the Thorne Rooms--the collection of sixty-eight miniature rooms from various time periods and places--and discover their secrets.

McMann, Lisa. The Unwanteds.

In a society that purges thirteen-year-olds who are creative, identical twins Aaron and Alex are separated, one to attend University while the other, supposedly Eliminated, finds himself in a wondrous place where youths hone their abilities and learn magic.

Morpurgo, Michael. An Elephant in the Garden.

Elizabeth's mother works at Dresden Zoo, where her favorite animal is an elephant named Marlene. When the zoo director tells her the dangerous animals must be shot to prevent them running amok when the town is bombed, Elizabeth's mother moves Marlene into the back garden to save her.

Odyssey, Shawn Thomas. The Wizard of Dark Street.

In 1877, in an enchantment shop on the last of the Faerie roads linking New York City to the Land of the Fey, just after 12-year-old Oona opts to relinquish her apprenticeship to her uncle, the Wizard, and become a detective, her uncle is stabbed, testing her skills.

Richards, Jasmine. The Book of Wonders.

In a tale loosely based on the Arabian nights, thirteen-year-old Zardi and her best friend, Ridhan, join forces with Captain Sinbad to defeat an evil sultan and restore magic to the world of Arribitha.

Shang, Wendy Wan Long. The Great Wall of Lucy Wu.

Eleven-year-old aspiring basketball star and interior designer Lucy Wu is excited about finally having her own bedroom, until she learns that her great-aunt is coming to visit and Lucy will have to share a room with her for several months, shattering her plans for a perfect sixth-grade year.

Smith, Clete. Aliens on Vacation.

Unhappy at being sent to stay with his grandmother at the inn she operates, The Intergalactic Bed & Breakfast, Scrub discovers that each room is actually a portal to space and the inn's visitors are aliens who are vacationing on Earth.

Chapter Book Series (J)

Collins, Tim. Notes From a Totally Lame Vampire.

Nigel Mullet, a 100-year-old vampire doomed to spend eternity in the body of a socially awkward fifteen-year-old boy, records his attempts to impress the love of his life, Chloe, while battling an embarrassingly overwhelming desire to sink his fangs into her.

Kerr, Philip. Children of the Lamp.

When twelve-year-old twins Philippa and John discover that they are descended from a long line of djinn, their mother sends them away to their Uncle Nimrod, who takes them to Cairo where he starts to teach them about their extraordinary powers.

Smith, Roland. Storm Runners.

Twelve-year-old Chase Masters travels the country with his father, a "storm runner," but he is tested in ways he never could have imagined when he and a new friend are caught in a hurricane near St. Petersburg, Florida.

Graphic Novels (J)

Miyazaki, Hayao. The Secret World of Arrietty.

Arrietty isn't your ordinary fourteen-year-old girl -- she's small enough to make her home under the floorboards of a typical house, "borrowing" what she and her family needs from the giants in whose shadows they live. A young boy named Sho befriends Arrietty, but when adults discover the Borrowers, Arrietty and Sho must work together to save her family.

Phelan, Matt. Around the World.

Challenged with circling the world at the end of the nineteenth century, three very different adventurers--avid bicyclist Thomas Stevens, fearless reporter Nellie Bly, and retired sea captain Joshua Slocum--embark on epic journeys.

Trondheim, Lewis. Kaput and Zosky.

Two aliens bent on ruling the galaxy continue to bungle their plans for domination of the universe.

Young Adult Fiction (Y)

Meloy, Maile. The Apothecary.

Jane Scott, a fourteen-year-old American girl, has her life unexpectedly transform when she moves to London in 1952 and gets swept up in a race to save the world from nuclear war.

Non-Fiction

Bryson, Bill. Really Short History of Nearly Everything.

Tackling everything from the Big Bang to the rise of civilization, Bill Bryson's inimitable storytelling skill makes the why, how, and, just as importantly, the who of scientific discovery entertaining and accessible for young readers. **(550 Br)**

Katz, Alan. Poems I Wrote When No One Was Looking.

Presents a treasury of more than one hundred whimsical poems that frolic on the lighter side of everything from school and siblings to sports and friendship, in a volume complemented by black-and-white illustrations. **(811.54 Ka)**

Raum, Elizabeth. Can You Survive Storm Chasing?

Experience the life or death dilemmas that face storm chasers. You choose what you'll do next. The choices you make will either lead you to safety or to doom. **(613.69 Ra)**

Stone, Tanya Lee. Almost Astronauts.

They had the right stuff. They defied the prejudices of the time. And they blazed a trail for generations of women to follow. *ALMOST ASTRONAUTS* is the story of thirteen true pioneers of the space age. **(629.45 St)**