



Books for Boys

Lexile levels are included after each description.

Alexander, Lloyd. **The Book of Three** (*The Chronicles of Prydain* series, #1). Taran, Assistant Keeper to a famous pig which predicts the future, sets out on a hazardous mission to save Prydain from the forces of evil. Sequels: #2 The Black Cauldron; #3 The Castle of Llyr; #4 Taran Wanderer; #5 The High King. **770**

_____. **Crispin: The Cross of Lead**

In 14th century England a boy flees for his life after being falsely accused of murder. His fortunes change, however, when he meets a juggler named Bear. Sequel: #2 Crispin: At the Edge of the World. **780**

Barron, T. A. **The Lost Years of Merlin** (*The Lost Years of Merlin* series, #1). When Merlin, suffering from a case of severe amnesia, discovers his strange powers, he becomes determined to discover his identity. He flees to Fincayra where he fulfills his destiny - saving Fincayra from certain destruction and claiming his birthright and true name. Sequels: #2 The Seven Songs of Merlin; #3 The Fires of Merlin; #4 The Mirror of Merlin; #5 The Wings of Merlin. **770**

Blackwood, Gary. **The Shakespeare Stealer** (*Shakespeare Stealer* series, #1). An orphan named Widge gets the chance to join William Shakespeare's acting troupe, but there's a catch: he must betray the bard and secretly steal the script for "Hamlet." Sequels: #2 Shakespeare's Scribe; #3 Shakespeare's Spy. **840**

Cameron, Ann. **The Most Beautiful Place in the World**. A young Guatemalan boy triumphs over poverty and abandonment to find love and a sense of self-respect. **830**

Choldenko, Jennifer. **Al Capone Does My Shirts**. In 1935, twelve-year-old Moose lives with his family on Alcatraz Island where his dad works as a guard at the federal prison. So along with worrying about his autistic sister, he's also neighbors with Al Capone and other criminals. **600**

Clements, Andrew. **Frindle**. Trying to aggravate a tough language arts teacher, a fifth-grade boy invents a new word for pen: "frindle." Soon, the whole country is using it. **830**

Colfer, Eoin. **Artemis Fowl**. When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll. Sequels: #2 *The Arctic Incident*; #3 *The Eternity Code*; #4 *The Opal Deception*; #5 *The Lost Colony*; #6 *The Time Paradox*. **600**

Collins, Suzanne. **Gregor the Overlander**. (*Underland Chronicles* series, #1). Gregor and his little sister unexpectedly enter an underground world full of giant rats, bats, and cockroaches. Some of the giant animals are friendly; some are definitely not. Sequels: #2 *Gregor and the Prophecy of Bane*; #3 *Gregor and the Curse of the Warmbloods*; #4 *Gregor and the Marks of Secret*; #5 *Gregor and the Code of Claw*. **630**.

Coville, Bruce. **Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher**. The strange egg that Jeremy buys from a magic shop hatches into a small, but troublesome baby dragon. **710**.

Creech, Sharon. **Love That Dog**. Jack doesn't care about poetry at all, until he realizes that it may be the only way he'll ever be able to tell anyone about his very special dog. Sequel: *Hate that Cat*. **1010**

Cumyn, Alan. **The Secret Life of Owen Skye**. Owen's days with his brothers are magical and full of adventures as they observe the curious world of adults and ponder the secret mysteries of life, death, and love. **880**

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **Bud, not Buddy**. Bud leaves his foster home to search for his father during the Great Depression. Along the way he meets new friends, possible enemies, and the members of a jazz band. **950**

Dahl, Roald. **James and the Giant Peach**. James has lived with his two beastly aunts ever since the day his parents were eaten by an angry rhinoceros. Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker are really horrible people who make poor James's life a misery, but then something magical happens to change James's miserable existence. **870**

Denenberg, Berry. **The Journal of William Thomas Emerson: A Revolutionary War Patriot, Boston Massachusetts, 1774** (*My Name is America* series, #1). William, a twelve-year-old orphan, writes of his experiences in pre-Revolutionary War Boston where he joins the cause of the patriots who are opposed to the British rule. Eighteen other titles in the series. **950**

DiTerlizzi, Tony. **The Field Guide** (*The Spiderwick Chronicles*, #1). When the Grace children go to stay at their Great Aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures and begin to have some unusual experiences. Sequels: #2 *The Seeing Stone*; #3 *Lucinda's Secret*; #4 *The Ironwood Tree*; #5 *The Wrath of Mulgarath*. **600**

Fitzgerald, John D. **The Great Brain.** Tom D., also known as “the Great Brain,” is a ten-year-old boy in 1890’s Utah who uses his wits and imagination on sneaky tricks and money-making scenes, most of which end up getting his brother John into trouble. Sequels: *More Adventures of the Great Brain*; *Me and My Little Brain*; *The Great Brain at the Academy*; *The Great Brain Reforms*; *The Return of the Great Brain*; *The Great Brain Does it Again*; *The Great Brain is Back.* **840**

Fleischman, Sid. **The Whipping Boy.** A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws. **570**

Funke, Cornelia. **The Thief Lord.** Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with - and protection from - Venice's "Thief Lord." **640**

Gantos, Jack. **Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key.** To the constant disappointment of his mother and teachers, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription meds wear off and he starts getting worked up and acting wired. Sequels: *#2 Joey Pigza Loses Control*; *#3 What Would Joey Do?*; *#4 I Am Not Joey Pigza.* **970**

Gardiner, John. **Stone Fox.** Little Willie has only one chance to earn the money he needs to save his grandpa’s farm: he enters a race sled race with his dog, Searchlight, hoping to win the \$500 prize. **550**

George, Jean Craighead. **My Side of the Mountain.** A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains, including his struggle for survival, dependence on nature, animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship. Sequels: *#2 On the Far Side of the Mountain*; *#3 Frightful’s Mountain*; *#4 Frightful’s Daughter.* **810**

Gutman, Dan. **The Homework Machine.** Brentan is a genius who invents a homework machine that really works. He and his friends use it to get excellent grades, but run into trouble when others learn about their secret. **680**

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. **Dexter the Tough.** When Dexter has to go live with his grandmother while his father receives experimental cancer therapy, he learns how to deal with his feelings of anger and abandonment by seeing the world through the eyes of others. **690**

Hiaasen, Carl. **Hoot.** Roy, new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. **760**

Hunter, Erin. **Into the Wild** (*Warriors* series, #1). A housecat joins a feral colony and learns of dangerous prophecies among rival, warring clans of cats.

Sequels: #2 Fire and Ice; #3 Forest of Secrets; #4 Rising Storm; #5 A Dangerous Path; #6 The Darkest Hour. The *New Prophecy* series follows with #1 Midnight; #2, Moonrise; #3 Dawn; #4 Starlight; #5 Twilight; and #6 Sunset. **790**

Jacques, Brian. **Redwall**. When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which he is convinced will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy. Also available: **Redwall, the Graphic Novel**. Sequels: #2, Mossflower; #3 Mattimeo; #4 Mariel of Redwall; #5 Salamandastron; #6 Martin the Warrior; #7 The Bellmaker; #8, Outcast of Redwall; #9 The Pearls of Lutra; #10 The Long Patrol; #11 Marlfox; #12 The Legend of Luke; #13 Lord Brocktree; #14 Taggerung; #15 Triss; #16 Loamhedge; #17 Rakkety Tam; #18 High Rhulain; #19 Eulalia; #20 Doomwyte. **800**

Jennings, Patrick. **Out Standing in My Field**. Although fifth-grader Ty Cutter is named after baseball great Ty Cobb, he's the worst player on the Brewers' team, which happens to be coached by his overly-competitive father. **730**

Karr, Kathleen. **The Great Turkey Walk**. Brave, but not too bright 15-year-old named Simon has a plan for his future in 1860: he'll herd 1,000 turkeys from Missouri to Colorado and sell them all for a fortune. But he'll have to make it through storms, soldiers, and even turkey rustlers. **700**

Kimmel, Haven. **Kaline Klattermaster's Tree House**. Third-grader Kaline Klattermaster's father has gone somewhere and his mother can't seem to keep everything straight the way he did. But the two brothers and 100 dogs that live in his imaginary tree house – and his strange neighbor, Mr. Osiris Putnaminski – help him cope with his father's absence, his mother's forgetfulness, and the bullies that torment him in school. **990**

King-Smith, Dick. **Three Terrible Trins**. A mother mouse raises her three young sons to be brave, strong, and tough so that even cats won't dare to mess with them. **870**

Kinney, Jeff. **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**. The diary entries and cartoon drawings tell of Greg's first year in Middle School which is filled with silly mistakes, bad decisions, embarrassing situations, and lots of humor. Sequels: #2 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules; #3 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw.

Look, Lenore. **Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things**. A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything. **600**

Mackel, Kathy. **Can of Worms**. Bullied and unhappy at school, thirteen-year-old Mike, who has always thought that he might be an alien, sends a distress call into space asking to be rescued from the ignorance and cruelty of his life on Earth. **610**

McKay, Hilary. **Dog Friday**. Ten-year-old Robin Brogan is determined to keep the dog he finds abandoned on the beach from being impounded by the police. **750**

McSwigan, Marie. **Snow Treasure**. A daring adventure based on a true story about a group of Norwegian children who smuggled nine million dollars in gold past Nazi sentries during World War II. **690**

Mikaelson, Ben. **Rescue Josh McGuire**. When thirteen-year-old Josh runs away to the mountains of Montana with an orphaned bear cub destined for laboratory testing, they both must fight for their lives in a sudden snowstorm. **680**

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **Shiloh**. When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs. Sequels: #2 Saving Shiloh; #3 Shiloh Season. **890**

Nimmo, Jenny. **Midnight for Charlie Bone**. Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking. Sequels: #2 Charlie Bone and the Time Twister; #3 Charlie Bone and the Invisible Boy; #4 Charlie Bone and the Castle of Mirrors; #5 Charlie Bone and the Hidden King; #6 Charlie Bone and the Beast; #7 Charlie Bone and the Shadow. **630**

Nixon, Joan Lowry. **The Statue Walks at Night** (*Casebusters* series, #1). Helping their private-investigator dad find the culprit who has stolen art from the Redoaks Museum, Sean and Brian Quinn end up in the Egyptian room, where a statue of Anubis is rumored to take midnight strolls. Sequels: #2 The Legend of Deadman's Mine; #3 Backstage with a Ghost; #4 Check in to Danger; #5 The House has Eyes; #6 Secret of the Time Capsule; #7 Beware the Pirate Ghost; #8 Catch a Crooked Clown; #9 Fear Stalks Grizzly Hall; #10 Sabotage on the Set; #11 The Internet Escapade; #12 Bait for a Burglar; **670**

Paolini, Christopher. **Eragon** (*Inheritance* series, #1). When Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy; perhaps it will buy his family meat for the winter. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Sequels: #2 *Eldest*; #3 *Brisingr*. **710**

Paulsen, Gary. **Hatchet**. After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, surviving with only the aid of a hatchet, and learning also to deal with his parents' divorce. Sequels: #2 *The River*; #3 *Brian's Winter*; #4 *Brian's Return*. **1020**

_____. **Mr. Tucket**. In 1848, while on a wagon train headed for Oregon, fourteen-year-old Francis Tucket is kidnapped by Pawnee Indians and then falls in with a one-armed trapper who teaches him how to live in the wild. Sequels: #2 *Call Me Francis Tucket*; #3 *Tucket's Ride*; #4 *Tucket's Gold*; #5 *Tucket's Home*. **830**

Riordan, Rick. **The Lightning Thief.** When Percy Jackson discovers that his father is actually Poseidon, the god of the sea, he gets sent off to a summer camp for demi-gods, where he tries to prevent a war between rival gods. Sequels: #2 *The Sea of Monsters*; #3 *The Titan's Curse*; #4 *The Battle of the Labyrinth*. **740**

Rodda, Emily. **Rowan of Rin.** Because only he can read the magical map, young, weak, and timid Rowan joins six other villagers to climb the mountain and try to restore their water supply as fears of a dragon and other horrors threaten to drive them back. Sequels: #2 *Rowan and the Travelers*; #3 *Rowan and the Keeper of the Crystal*; #4 *Rowan and the Zebak*; #5 *Rowan and the Ice Creepers*. **660**

Sachar. **Holes.** 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. Sequel: *Small Steps*. **660**

Scieszka, Jon. **Knights of the Kitchen Table** (*The Time Warp Trio* series). Joe receives a magic book as a birthday present and it transports him and his friends to a time when evil knights, fire-breathing dragons, and vile-smelling giants roamed the land. Sequels: #2 *The Not-so-jolly Roger*; #3 *The Good, the Bad and the Goofy*; #4 *Your Mother was a Neanderthal*; #5 *2095*; #6 *Tut Tut*; #7 *Summer Reading is Killing Me*; #8 *It's All Greek to Me*; #9 *See you Later, Gladiator*; #10 *Sam Samurai*; #11 *Hey Kid, Want to Buy a Bridge?*; #12 *Viking It and Liking It*; #13 *Me Oh Maya!*; #14 *Da Wild, Da Crazy, Da Vinci*; #15 *Oh Say, I Can't See*. **630**

Smith, Roland. **Sasquatch.** Thirteen-year-old Dylan follows his father into the woods on the slopes of Mount St. Helens, which is on the brink of another eruption, in an attempt to protect the resident Sasquatch from ruthless hunters. **680** Try Smith's other books, too, such as *Cryptid Hunters* and *Thunder Cave*.

Snicket, Lemony. **The Bad Beginning** (*A Series of Unfortunate Events*, #1). After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that the distant relative who is appointed their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune. Sequels: #2 *The Reptile Room*; #3 *The Wide Window*; #4 *The Miserable Mill*; #5 *The Austere Academy*; #6 *The Ersatz Elevator*; #7 *The Vile Village*; #8 *The Hostile Hospital*; #9 *The Carnivorous Carnival*; #10 *The Slippery Slope*; #11 *The Grim Grotto*; #12 *The Penultimate Peril*; #13 *The End*. **1010**

Soto, Gary. **The Pool Party.** When Rudy Herrera is invited to a pool party by Tiffany, the school's richest and most popular girl, his father coaches him in how to act and talk, and Rudy wonders what to bring as a gift. **710**

Spinelli, Jerry. **Crash.** Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family. **560**

_____. **Maniac Magee.** After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries. **820**

Stone, Jeff. **Tiger** (*The Five Ancestors*, #1) In 17th century China, five young monks, each of whom specialize in a different style of "animal" kung fu which reflect their individual personalities, flee after a renegade brother monk leads a brutal attack on their secret Shaolin temple. Sequels: #2 Monkey, #3 Snake, #4 Crane, #5 Eagle. **700**

Van Draanen, Wendelin **Shredderman: Secret Identity** (*Shredderman* series, #1). When nerdy fifth-grader Nolan Byrd creates his alter-ego, Shredderman, along with a terrific Web site targeting the school bully, he changes his life and that of his classmates. Sequels: #2 Attack of the Tagger; #3 Meet the Gecko; #4 Enemy Spy. **580**

Yee, Lisa. **Stanford Wong Flunks Big-time.** After flunking sixth-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer-school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends, and satisfy his academically demanding father. Companion book to Millicent Min, Girl Genius. **650**

