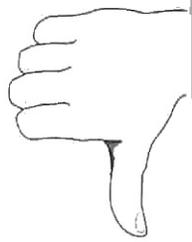


Rising Grade 5
Reading Suggestions
Book Report and List



Book Review



I recently read a book titled _____.

This book had approximately _____ pages, and it took me about _____ days to read it. The main character is a _____ named _____.

This book contains several events. The first thing that happens is _____

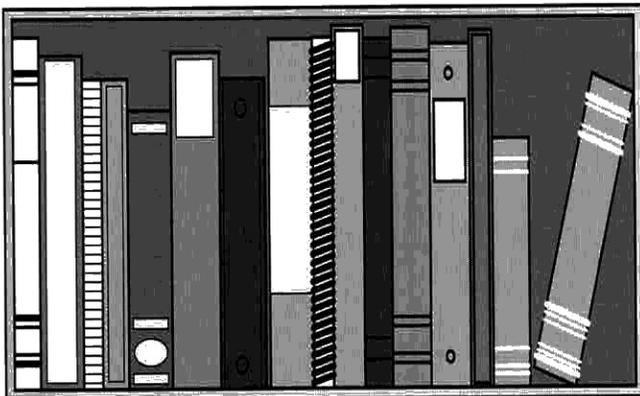
The next thing that happens is _____

This is followed by _____

You'll have to read the book to find out what happens next. The ending **will/will not** (circle one) be a surprise. There **is/is not** (circle one) another book that continues this story.

This book would be enjoyed by people who _____

I **would/would not** (circle one) recommend this book to my classmates. I got this book from the **classroom library/school library/home.** (circle one)



(Student Critic)

(Date)

**Summer Reading Suggestions
Rising Grade Five**

***You may enjoy reading other books written by authors whose names are marked by an asterisk.**

FICTION

Avi*

Blue Heron

When Maggie arrives at her father's rented seaside cottage, she senses something isn't right. As she tries to sort things out, the blue heron becomes a symbol of hope.

Birdsall, Jeanne

The Penderwicks

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.

Bryant, Annie

Beacon Street Girls: Worst Enemies/Best Friends (Series)

Charlotte Ramsey is the new girl. After causing the biggest cafeteria blunder in history, Charlotte's assigned lunch partners-the very stylish Katani, irrepressible Avery, and super-friendly Maeve-can't wait to dump her. Can the girls become true friends or will they remain worst enemies forever?

Burnford, Sheila

Incredible Journey

Three animals undertake a long and hazardous trip through the Canadian wilderness.

Clements

No Talking

The 5th grade girls and boys at Laketon Elementary spark a contest to see which team can say *the fewest words* during two whole days! How do the teachers react to silence? Read it and find out!

Colfer, Eoin

Artemis Fowl (Series)

Artemis Fowl, a genius, a criminal mastermind, a millionaire, see how he plots to steal the timeless treasure of the fairies!

Connor, Leslie

Crunch

Dewey Marriss is stuck in a crunch. He never guessed that the gas pumps would run dry the same week he promised to manage the family's bicycle-repair business. Suddenly *everyone* needs a bike. And *nobody* wants to wait. Meanwhile, the crunch has stranded Dewey's parents far up north. It's up to Dewey and his older sister, Lil, to look after their younger siblings and to run the bike shop.

Creech, Sharon

Walk Two Moons

13 yr.old Salamanca Tree Hiddle travels from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric and elderly but young at heart grandparents.

Creech, Sharon

MOO

We were reading this book in library, take it out and finish it to find out what happens to Reena,

Luke, Mrs. Falala, Paulie, China, Edna and of course, Zora!

Dahl, Roald

Danny The Champion of the World

The hilarious adventures of Danny and the best dad a boy ever had. But Dad has one surprise that catches Danny completely off-guard, a secret passion that he's hidden for years.

DiCamillo, Kate

Because of Winn-Dixie

Ten-yr.-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Draper, Sharon

Out of My Mind

Eleven-year-old Melody has a photographic memory but she can't talk, walk or write. Finally Melody Discovers something that will allow her to speak for the first time. At last Melody has a voice...but Not everyone around her is ready to hear it.

Fletcher, Ralph

Flying Solo

When the sixth grade teacher calls in sick and the substitute fails to show, the class takes it upon themselves to go solo for the day.

Funke, Cornelia

The Thief Lord

Prosper and Bo are orphans on the run from their cruel aunt and uncle. In Venice they meet a mysterious 13 yr. old who calls himself the "Thief Lord."

George, Jean

Water Sky

In searching for his uncle in Alaska, Lincoln becomes part of an Eskimo whaling crew and learns about. a different way of life.

Grisham, John

Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer

In the small city of Strattenburg, there are many lawyers, and though he's only thirteen years old, Theo Boone thinks he's one of them. He dreams of a life in the courtroom. But he finds himself in court much sooner than expected. Because he knows so much, maybe too much, he is suddenly dragged into the middle of a sensational murder trial. Book 2 is: "Theodore Boone: The Abduction"

Gutman, Dan

Million Dollar Shot

When 11 year old Eddie Ball wins a poetry contest sponsored by a local candy factory, he also wins the opportunity to hit a million dollar shot at the NBA finals.

Hahn, Mary*

Dead Man in Indian Creek

Two boys discover a body in the creek during a camping trip.

Holm, Jennifer

The Trouble with May Amelia

May Amelia lives in pioneer Washington State in 1900, and she just can't act the part of a proper young lady. Working a farm on the rainy Nasel River isn't easy - especially when you have seven brothers and a Pappa who proclaims that Girls Are Useless. May Amelia thinks she may have finally earned her father's respect when he asks her to translate for a gentleman who's interested in buying their land and making them rich. But when the deal turns out to be a scam, Pappa places all the blame on May. It's going to take a lot of sisu - that's Finnish for guts - to make things right. (Sequel to: "Our Only May Amelia")

Horvath, Polly

Everything on a Waffle

Newbery Honor Book: Primrose Squart simply *knows* her parents did not perish at sea during a terrible storm, but try convincing the other residents of Coal Harbour on that score. For the time being, Primrose is an orphan, and the town council is able to locate a relative, Uncle Jack, who reluctantly takes Primrose into his care.

Hunt, Lynda

One for the Murphys

Carley uses humor and street smarts to keep her emotional walls high and thick. But the day she becomes a foster child, and moves in with the Murphys, she's blindsided. This loving, bustling family shows Carley the stable family life she never thought existed. Despite her resistance, the Murphys eventually show her what it feels like to belong--until her mother wants her back and Carley has to decide where and how to live.

Hunter, Erin*

Warriors: Into the Wild

For generations, four Clans of wild cats have shared the forest according to the laws laid down by their warrior ancestors. The ThunderClan cats are in danger, against the ShadowClan cats. An ordinary house cat named Rusty may turn out to be the bravest warrior of them all.

Korman, Gordon

The Sixth Grade Nickname Game

Eleven year old Jeff and Wiley take pride in their ability to come up with funny nicknames for their classmates.

Levine, Gail Carson

Dave at Night

During the day, Dave Caros is a resident of the Hebrew Home for Boys. But Dave at night is a free spirit, experiencing the magic of the Harlem Renaissance in 1920s New York. Dave is an eleven-year-old daredevil who, within days of being orphaned, is separated from his older brother and placed in the institution known as the "Hell Hole for Brats." Adjusting to a new life filled with buddies (fellow orphans), bullies (older boys who steal food from the younger students), and a brutal superintendent...

Lupica, Mike*

Heat

Michael Arroyo is growing up in the shadow of Yankee Stadium. He is the star pitcher of his Little League team, dreaming of pitching them to the Little League World Series. Everything is on track for his dream to come true; then he is benched until the birth certificate that didn't make it out of Cuba with the family can be produced to prove he is only 12 and eligible to play. (Mrs. Davison's favorite sports writer, especially for boys! Several titles)

McCaughrean, Geraldine

Stop the Train!

This is a wild adventure set in Oklahoma at the time of the great land rush. Hardy souls come west to better their lives, but the owner of the train vows never to let his train stop in their town.

Mikaelsen, Ben

Countdown

While on the shuttle Endeavor, a 14 year old American makes contact with a boy from Kenya.

Mikaelsen, Ben

Rescue: Josh McGuire

Josh runs away with a baby bear cub that is destined for laboratory testing. Their lives are endangered.

Mone, Gregory

Fish

Fish--nicknamed for his incredible swimming abilities--is a twelve-year-old boy from a poor farming family. After taking a job as a courier for his uncle, Fish is waylaid by pirates, who steal the package he's carrying. He soon learns that it's the key to locating the Chain of Chuacar, a legendary treasure. As he works to earn the trust of Cobb, the fortune-hunting captain of the Scurvy Mistress, Fish learns of a mutiny headed by a nasty pirate called Scab. With time running out to find the Chain, Fish and some fellow shipmates still loyal to Cobb must thwart Scab's dastardly plan.

O'Hara, Mary*

Green Grass of Wyoming

Classic Rocky Mountain adventure story about horses.

Paulsen, Gary*

Hatchet

Thirteen year old Brian survives in the Canadian wilderness using his wits and a hatchet.

Palacio, R.J.

Wonder

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman was born with a facial deformity that kept him home schooled until the fifth grade when he enters Beecher Prep. Can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, despite appearances?

Paterson, Katherine

Preacher's Boy

A preacher's son grabs at trouble in 1900, he and Tom Sawyer have a lot in common!

Peck, Richard

A Long Way From Chicago

Grandma continually astounds her citified grandchildren by stretching the boundaries of truth. In eight hilarious episodes spanning the years 1929-1942, she plots outlandish schemes to even the score with various colorful members of her community, including a teenaged vandal, a drunken sheriff and a well-to-do banker. Like Grandma Dowdel's prize-winning gooseberry pie, this satire on small-town etiquette is fresh, warm and anything but ordinary. (This story should be read aloud to the family! It is Mrs. Davison's favorite story!)

Peck, Richard

Here Lies the Librarian

Peewee idolizes her big brother, Jake, who dreams of auto mechanic glory in 1914. A folksy setting, classic cars and vintage Richard Peck humor make this a fun read!

Selznick, Brian

The Invention of Hugo Cabret

Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. Hugo's secrets are put in jeopardy by a girl and old man who runs a toy booth. Book 2 is "Wonder Struck".

Snyder, Zilpha, Keatley

The Egypt Game

Two girls get involved in an elaborate "Egypt game," a fantasy game that soon leads to strange, unexplainable happenings. PW said the characters in Snyder's Newbery winner "true originals"

Spinelli, Jerry*

Crash

Super-jock 'Crash' Coogan discovers that he can't always get his way.

Taylor, Theodore

The Cay

In 1942, 11-year-old Phillip Enright lives with his parents on the Dutch island of Curaçao, but when the war moves too close for comfort, his mother decides to travel with him back to Virginia. When their boat is torpedoed, however, Phillip is blinded and finds himself adrift on a life raft with an old black man and a cat. They eventually land on a deserted island. *The Cay* has a clear message that friendship is colorblind.

Ullman, James

Banner in the Sky

Rudi's secret ambition is to scale the mountain that had claimed his father's life

Van Draanen, Wendelin

The Running Dream

16 yr. old Jessica is a runner, it's who she is. When a tragic accident causes her to lose one of her legs, she is shattered—inside and out. While healing Jessica gets to know Rosa—a girl with cerebral palsy who helps Jessica with her math. With a joint effort the girls wonder, will Jessica run again?

Yep, Laurence*

Later, Gator

Teddy is in trouble when he buys his younger brother an alligator.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Auch, Mary Jane

Journey To Nowhere

In 1815, 11 yr. old Mem reluctantly journeys with her family to the wilderness of New York state.

Beauty, Patricia

Charley Skedaddle

A 12 year old is a drummer for the Union Army.

Brown, Don

The Great American Dust Bowl

April 14, 1935 – a wild wind whipped up billions upon billions of these specks of dust to form a duster—a savage storm—on America's high southern plains. A gripping account of one of America's most catastrophic natural events: the Dust Bowl.

Cushman, Karen *

The Ballad of Lucy Whipple

Lucy and her family move from Massachusetts during the California Gold Rush and Lucy helps run a rough boarding house in a small mining town.

Fenner, Carol

Yolanda's Genius

Fifth grader Yolanda decides to prove that her younger brother is not retarded, but is a musical genius.

Fleischman, Sid*

Bull Run

Exciting story about a Civil War battle.

Giff, Patricia

Lily's Crossing

Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see World War II and her own world in a different light.

Kerr, Judith

When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit

Recounts the adventures of a 9 yr. old Jewish girl as she travels from Germany to England in 1930.

Morpurgo, Michael

War Horse

Joey was a farm horse that belonged to Albert. WWI came and Albert's father sells Joey to the Army and he is trained to charge the enemy, drag artillery and carry wounded soldiers off the battlefield.

Nelson, Kadir

We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball

The story of Negro League baseball is the story of gifted athletes and determined owners; of racial discrimination and international sportsmanship; of triumphs and defeats on and off the field. The story of the Negro Leagues is about hundreds of unsung heroes who overcame segregation, hatred, terrible conditions, and low pay to do the one thing they loved more than anything else: play ball.

O'Dell, Scott*

Sing Down the Moon

A young Navajo girl tells the story of her people's march into captivity at the hands of the white man.

Orlev, Uri

Island on Bird Street

Alex hides in an abandoned building while awaiting his father's return to Warsaw in this World War II story.

Paterson, Katherine*

Of Nightingales That Weep

A twelfth-century Japanese girl goes to live at the royal court.

Propp, Vera

When The Soldiers Were Gone

The story takes place in Holland in 1945. Henk is forced to leave the family that hid him from the Germans during the War and return to his Jewish parents.

Smucker, Barbara

Runaway to Freedom

Some of the incidents about Julilly and Liza's escape from slavery are based on facts.

Swanson, James L.

Chasing Lincoln's Killer

The pursuit and capture of John Wilkes Booth which gives a day-by-day account of the wild chase to find this killer and his accomplices. Original sources: letters, trial transcripts, newspapers and manuscript

Wisler, G. Clifton

Red Cap

Ramson J. Powell joined the Union Army at age 13. When captured by Confederates and taken to Andersonville Prison, he displays great courage.

Woodruff, Elvira

Letters From the Overland Trail

Austin joins a wagon train heading for Oregon. He writes letters that relate the challenging journey.

TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION

Aguiar, Nadia

The Lost Island of Tamarind

Maya Nelson spent her life living on the sea with her marine biologist parents, her younger brother, Simon, and baby sister, Penny. Maya used to love living on a sailboat, but lately, everything feels terribly claustrophobic. Maya longs to go to school on land. But when a violent storm hits and Maya's parents are washed overboard, life becomes anything but normal. The children manage to steer the

boat toward a mysterious island. Welcome to Tamarind, where fish can fly, pirates patrol the waters, jaguars lurk, the islanders are at war, and an evil, child-stealing enchantress rules the jungle.

Alexander, Lloyd*

The Remarkable Journey of Prince Jen

Bearing six unusual gifts, young Prince Jen embarks on a perilous quest and emerges triumphantly.

Auxier, Jonathan

Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes

Tale of a ten-year-old blind orphan who has been schooled in a life of thievery. One day, he steals a box from a mysterious traveling haberdasher—a box that contains three pairs of magical eyes. When he tries the first pair, he is instantly transported to a hidden island where he is presented with a special quest: to travel to the dangerous Vanished Kingdom and rescue people in need.

Avi *

Perloo The Bold

Perloo, a peaceful scholar, who has been chosen to succeed Joliane as leader of the furry underground people called Montmers, finds himself in danger when Joliane dies and her evil son seizes control of the borrow.

Baker, E.D.*

The Frog Princess

Princess Emeraldalda isn't exactly an ideal princess. Her laugh sounds like a donkey's bray, she trips over her own feet, and she hates the young Prince Jorge whom her mother hopes she will marry.

Balliett, Blue

The Calder Game

If you have read "Chasing Vermeer" and "The Wright 3" then you will enjoy Balliett's latest mystery. Two Calders are missing. Petra and Tommy must fly to England to help his father find him.

Bellairs, John

The Curse of the Blue Figurine

Johnny doesn't believe in evil spirits—until he found an old blue figurine in the town church basement with a message that said, "*Whoever removes these things from the church, does so at his own peril...*" By accident Johnny takes the figurine home. At once he is plunged into a terrifying adventure.

Brooks, Walter, R.*

Freddy the Pilot

Freddy the Pig, famous detective of the Bean farm, has his hands full. The comic book tycoon (and evil master-mind) Watson P. Condiment is trying to steal the prize performer from Mr. Boomschmidt's Circus. Freddy and his partner, Mrs. Wiggins the Cow must save their friend.

Buckley, Michael

The Sisters Grimm: The Fairy-Tale Detectives

Orphaned sisters Sabrina and Daphne are sent to live with their recently discovered grandmother, Relda Grimm. The girls learn that they are descendants of the Brothers Grimm, whose famous tome of fairy tales is actually a history book. The girls are pitted against a giant, who has been rampaging through town. But who set the giant loose in the first place? Was it Mayor Charming (formerly Prince Charming) The Three Not-So-Little Pigs, now working as police officers? Or a giant-killer named Jack, currently working at a Big & Tall store?

Carman, Patrick

The Dark Hills Divide

Elyon is a land of enchanted forests, and great walls that connect and encircle the cities of Lathbury, Turlock, Lunenburg, and Bridewell. On a trip to Bridewell with her father, the mayor of Lathbury,

Alexa Daley dreams of escape. But, the walls are heavily guarded, and legends suggest that forests and hills are no place for a young girl. However, an unfortunate accident puts Alexa within reach of a way outside the wall.

Colfer, Eoin

Artemis Fowl (Book One)

Artemis Fowl, a genius, a criminal mastermind, a millionaire, see how he plots to steal the timeless treasure of the fairies!

Colfer, Eoin*

Artemis Fowl: The Arctic Incident (Book Two)

Part 2 of the series, Artemis has to save his father after he has been kidnapped! **Book Three: The Eternity Code**, Artemis' father has vowed to go straight after 5 years in jail, and Artemis has promised to stop his life of crime, after one last scheme. **Book Four: The Opal Deception.**
Book Five: The Lost Colony

Coville, Bruce *

Song of the Wanderer

Sequel to Into the Land of The Unicorns. Cara continues her adventures in Luster.

Dicamillo, Katie

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane

In The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane we are given a glimpse of arrogance gone wild. The china doll is made to feel special and is loved so much by his owner that he can't conceive he holds any other position than the center of the universe. Then, in an unexpected event, Edward Tulane is thrust into the depths of despair and only through the kind acts of others is he taught the meaning of love. His various handlers and owners each contribute to Edward's salvation in small ways. Great book!

D'Aulaire*

Book of Greek Myths

Illustrated retellings of the myths surrounding the gods and goddesses of ancient Greece.

DuPrau, Jeanne

The City of Ember (series)

It is always night in the city of Ember. But there is no moon, no stars. The only light during the regular twelve hours of "day" comes from flood lamps that cast a yellowish glow over the streets of the city. Beyond are the pitch-black Unknown Regions, which no one has ever explored because an understanding of fire and electricity has been lost, and with it the idea of a Moveable Light. For 250 years they have lived pleasantly, because there has been plenty of everything in the vast storerooms. But now there empty shelves--and times when the lights flicker and go out, leaving them in terrifying blackness for long minutes. What will happen when the generator finally fails? Book 2 "The People of Sparks"

Fang, Linda

The Ch'i-lin Purse

This is an excellent collection of ancient Chinese stories.

Ferris, Jean

Once Upon a Marigold

A young man with a mysterious past and a penchant for inventing things leaves the troll who raised him, meets an unhappy princess he has loved from afar, and discovers a plot against her and her father.

George, Jessica Day

Dragon Flight

Young seamstress Creel finds herself strategizing with the dragon king Shardas once again when a renegade dragon in a distant country launches a war against their country.

Hahn, Mary D.*

Time For Andrew

While visiting his great aunt, 11 year old Andrew exchanges places with his uncle who died many years before.

Hesse, Karen*

The Music of Dolphins

Raised by dolphins, Mila is rescued by scientists who help her become more human.

Kaye, Mary Margaret

The Ordinary Princess

At her christening a princess is given the gift of "ordinariness" by a fairy, and the consequences of that eventually take her to a nearby palace where, having run away to become a fourteenth assistant maid, she meets the prince for her.

Law, Ingrid

Savvy

For Mibs Beaumont's family, the day of their thirteenth birthday could be an adventure or a disaster. It's when they get their savvy - an extra-special talent and know-how. Her brother Rocket is Mr Electric, he can send static shocks from the other side of the room, just for fun...But on Mibs' special day, their Poppa lies in a coma in hospital, and she has to reach him. The only way to get there is on the pink Bible bus, so, adventure or disaster, Mibs is getting on that bus. And who could guess what might happen then? Book 2 is **Scumble**

Levine, Gail *

The Princess Test (series)

The author of Ella Enchanted retells the story of The Princess and The Pea. This is the second in this series of very funny stories.

Lindbergh, Anne

Nick of Time

This is a funny and original time travel fantasy.

Lisle, Janet

Afternoon of the Elves

As Hillary works in a village allegedly made by elves, she becomes concerned about her friend who lives in a big, gloomy house.

Lupica, Mike

Hero

Zach Harriman knew that his dad was something of a hero, a man trusted by the president to solve international crises at a moment's notice. Suddenly people are telling him he has powers - people who know much more about his father than Zach ever did. But there are the Bads, who appear out of nowhere and attack him and his best friend. One thing is clear: he can do things ordinary people cannot. Like fend off grown men as though he possesses the strength of a hundred. Zach Harriman is his father's son. And he, too, is a hero.

McKinley, Robin

Beauty

This full-length story is based on the familiar tale, Beauty and the Beast.

McMann, Lisa

The Unwanted

Every year in Quill, thirteen-year-olds are sorted into categories: the strong, intelligent Wanted go to university, and the artistic Unwanted are sent to their deaths. Thirteen-year-old Alex tries his hardest to be stoic when his fate is announced as Unwanted, even while leaving behind his twin, Aaron, a Wanted. Upon arrival at the destination where he expected to be eliminated, however, Alex discovers a stunning secret--behind the mirage of the "death farm" there is instead a place called Artime. In Artime, each child is taught to cultivate their creative abilities and learn how to use them magically, weaving spells through paintbrushes

and musical instruments. Everything Alex has ever known changes before his eyes, and it's a wondrous transformation.

Nimmo, Jenny

Midnight for Charlie Bone (series)

The mysterious and magical powers of the Red King have been passed down through his descendants. These gifts, some evil and some good, turn up unexpectedly in someone who has no idea where they came from. This is what happened to Charlie Bone...

Oppel, Kenneth*

Airborn

Kenneth Oppel weaves a magical tale of adventure, treachery, friendship, and courage. Taking place in a future where airships and blimps travel across the Atlanticus and the Pacificus Oceans, cabin boy Matt Cruse, on board the *Aurora*, battles pirates and prehistoric cloudcats, accompanied by spirited heiress Kate DeVries.

Paolini, Christopher

Eragon

Eragon, a young farm boy, finds a marvelous blue stone in a mystical mountain place. It hatches a beautiful sapphire-blue dragon, a race thought to be extinct. Eragon bonds with the dragon, and when his family is killed by the marauding Ra'zac, he discovers that he is the last of the Dragon Riders.

Pearson, Ridley

Kingdom Keepers: Disney After Dark

Using cutting-edge technology, five Florida teens have been transformed into Holographic Hosts at Disney World. Their images appear throughout the Magic Kingdom, giving visitors information about the various attractions. It all seems to be going well, until the participants begin having disturbing dreams that start affecting their everyday lives. They sneak in after the park has closed, and Wayne, a retired Imagineer, directs them in their fight against the Dark Side, embodied by Maleficent from Sleeping Beauty. Seven books in this series.

*Rowling, J. K.

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

This will tie up all the loose ends to an awesome series!

Stroud, Jonathan

The Bartimaeus Series: The Amulet of Samarkand

Nathaniel has been apprenticed to Mr. Underwood for several years. At age 12, he has finally been Named and is on his way to becoming a real magician. However, the Amulet of Samarkand has been stolen from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace. Nathaniel's 5000 yr. Old djinni, Bartimaeus, stole it for him! (Book 2 is: The Golem's Eye Book 3: Ptolemy's Gate, Book 4: The Ring of Solomon)

Yolen, Jane

Passager: Young Merlin Trilogy

An 8-yr. old boy is abandoned in the woods of Medieval England. A Falconer captures and tames the boy.

Woodruff, Elvira

Magnificent Mummy Maker

A museum mummy helps transform Andy, a less than magnificent student, into the top student in the class.

Woodruff, Elvira

The Orphan of Ellis Island

Dominic gets stranded at Ellis Island and is transported back to an Italian village in 1908.

BIOGRAPHY

Dorling Kindersley (DK Publishing) has several good biography books available such as, "Mother Teresa

“Gandhi”, “Amelia Earhart”, “Martin L. King, Jr.” etc.

Cerasini, Marc

Diana Queen of Hearts

Diana was engaged at 19 years old to marry the heir to the British throne. Their romance and royal wedding were straight out of a fairy tale. Her marriage was sad, however, Diana found a way to use her position and privilege to give love and hope to millions of people in need.

Cobb, Vicki

Harry Houdini

Harry Houdini, born Ehrich Weiss, left his home in Wisconsin at the age of 12 to seek his fortune. But the factory work he found was dreary, and young Ehrich longed for excitement. He went from practicing coin tricks to selling out the theaters of Europe and transformed himself into the greatest magician in the world.

Craig, Robert

Derek Jeter

Derek Jeter's childhood dream was to play for the N.Y. Yankees. In 1996, his hard work paid off when he helped the Yankees win the World Series and was named American League Rookie of the Year.

Ehrich, Amy

Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West

The destruction of an Indian tribe is told in this story.

Favilli, Elena

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls

"Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls" is a children's book packed with stories about the lives of 100 extraordinary women from the past and the present, illustrated by 60 female artists from all over the world. Each woman's story is written in the style of a fairy tale.

Fendler, Don

Don Fendler: Lost on a Mountain in Maine

A 12 year old describes his 9-day struggle to survive after being separated from friends in the mountains of Maine.

Freedman, Russell*

Abraham Lincoln

This beautifully written biography of a beloved American president includes captions from Lincoln's own writing and photographs.

Fritz, Jean*

You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton?

This book is about Elizabeth Cady Stanton's fight for women's right to vote in the 1800's.

Hautiz, Esther

The Endless Steppe: Growing up in Siberia

The author writes of the years she and her family spent in a Siberian village as prisoners of the Russians. Kroeber

Krull, Kathleen

Lives of the Writers

The author and illustrator have created biographical sketches featuring twenty of the world's most famous literary figures.

Nelson, Marilyn

Carver: A Life in Poems

George W. Carver was born a slave in Missouri about 1864 and was raised by the childless white couple who had owned his mother. In 1896 he started the agricultural department at Tuskegee Institute. He was a botanist, inventor, painter, musician and teacher.

Nicholson, Lois

Cal Ripken. The Quiet Hero

A biography of the Baltimore Orioles player who has the longest running streak of unbroken games in professional athletics.

Nobleman, Marc Tyler

Boys of Steel: The Creators of Superman

Nobleman portrays teenaged Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster as outcasts, their peers did not understand their fascination with tales of musclemen and detectives with gadgets, and their teachers deemed the stories that they loved to write and illustrate "trash." Despite these obstacles, the two friends continued writing and illustrating, and in 1934, Siegel had an avalanche of ideas about a new type of hero that he then shared with Shuster, who drew the first concept illustrations of Superman. It took another four years, however, before the superhero would make his public debut in Action Comics #1.

Paulsen, Gary *

Woodsong

This book might have been called, "My Dog Teams: How They Changed My Life."

Ray, Delia

A Nation Torn

The story of how the Civil War began, told through letters, diaries, eyewitness accounts and photographs

Rappaport, Doreen

Escape From Slavery

Five accounts of black slaves who managed to escape to freedom before the Civil War.

St. George

Sacagawea

The story of the Indian girl who served as a guide to Lewis and Clark in 1805. She was chosen to be on the new dollar coin.

Steger, Will

Over the Top of the World

This is the story of explorers and their dog teams as they cross the top of the world on dog sleds.

Stevenson, Augusta

Clara Barton, Founder of the American Red Cross

Learn about this famous American woman whose home is right down the street from St. Barts in Glen Echo.

NON-FICTION

Blumberg, Rhoda

Shipwrecked!

The true tale of a 14-year-old Japanese boy who, after being shipwrecked while fishing in 1841, was marooned for six months, rescued by an American whaling ship, educated in New England, and returned home to become an honored samurai.

Castaldo, Nancy

Sniffer Dogs: How Dogs (and their noses) Saved the World

This book describes the many jobs sniffer dogs do, including detecting drugs and explosives, searching for survivors after disasters, and tracking animals. The author discusses: Sunny, a Doberman, who searched for survivors after September 11; Tucker, a black lab, looks for orcas through the scent of their scat; and Alan, a Labrador, can detect his 14-year-old owner's blood sugar levels and warn him if they slip dangerously low.

Montgomery, Sy **The Tapir Scientist: Saving South America's Largest Mammal**

Readers join Pati Medici and her team in their quest to study tapirs in the world's largest wetland, the Pantanal Wetlands of Brazil. Medici has dubbed the tapir "the gardener of the forest" for its critical role in maintaining foliage by ingesting fruits and excreting the seeds elsewhere, but little else is known about this vanishing species. By observing and trapping the animals to outfit them with radio collars or microchips and collect samples including blood and ticks from infestations, Medici's team hopes to better understand their lifestyles to enhance conservation efforts.

Sandler, Martin

Trapped in Ice

In the late summer of 1871, thirty-nine whaling ships traveled to the frigid Arctic waters in search of the prized bowhead whale. Despite warnings from local Inuit tribes about impending inclement weather, thirty-two of the whaling ships--carrying 1,219 officers, crewmen, women, and children --decided to journey ahead. When a succession of icy storms ensued, the ships' captains realized that they were, literally, trapped in ice. What followed was a desperate race toward rescue--and against certain death. And, in an extraordinary testament to human courage and perseverance, all survived.