

Rising Fifth Graders



Fiction

The Penderwicks by Jeanne Birdsall J Fic & PB; Audiobook

Adventures await the Penderwick sisters when they go on summer vacation.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing or **Superfudge** (or other *Fudge* books) by Judy Blume

J Fic & PB; Audiobook; also available in French and Spanish

If you think your family is a little crazy, spend some time with the Hatchers!

The Crow-Girl by Bodil Bredsdorff J Fic & PB; Audiobook

A girl and her grandmother live alone by the sea. When the grandmother dies, the girl struggles to find a new life.

Dear Mr. Henshaw by Beverly Cleary J Fic & PB; Audiobook

Leigh's life begins to change when his favorite author, Mr. Henshaw, answers his letter.

A Week in the Woods by Andrew Clements J Fic & PB; Audiobook

Mark and his teacher, Mr. Maxwell, don't get along. Will this be a problem on the fifth grade camping trip?

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo J Fic & PB; Audiobook; also available in Large Print

Opal explores her new town, making friends with some strange people and a big, ugly dog she names Winn-Dixie.

The Birchbark House or **Game of Silence** by Louise Erdrich J Fic & PB; Audiobook

Life is full of joy and tragedy for Omakaya and her Ojibwa community.

A Room with a Zoo by Jules Feiffer J Fic & PB

Julie really wants a dog, but her parents won't let her get one. So instead she gets a kitten. Then a hamster, a fish, a turtle, a rabbit...

Coraline by Neil Gaiman J Fic & PB; Audiobook

One day Coraline steps through a mysterious door into another house that seems to be like her house. There she meets her "other" parents and Coraline soon realizes that she wants to go home.

Wait Till Helen Comes: A Ghost Story by Mary Downing Hahn J Fic & PB

Molly and Michael don't like their new stepsister Heather. She lies and misbehaves, but they are the ones who get in trouble with their parents. When they move to a new house, Heather discovers the ghost of a girl who died long ago.

Bunnacula (or other books in the series) by Deborah and James Howe J Fic & PB; Audiobook; also available in Spanish

Life is good for Harold and his pal Chester—until a new pet moves into their house. If Bunnacula the rabbit is not really a vampire, why is he behaving so strangely? What's a dog to do?

Junebug (or other *Junebug* books) by Alice Mead J Fic & PB; Audiobook

Junebug lives in a dangerous neighborhood, but he dreams of a better life for his family.

Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear by Lensey Namioka J Fic & PB

Yingtao would rather play baseball than the violin. Not only that, he's a terrible musician and is afraid he will let down his talented family.

Shiloh (or other *Shiloh* books) by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor J Fic & PB; Audiobook; also available in Spanish

Marty loves the dog that he finds in the woods near his house. It doesn't seem right that he has to return it to an abusive owner.

Sienna's Scrapbook: Our African American Heritage Trip by Toni Trent Parker J Fic

In North Carolina, Sienna and her family see a false-bottom wagon that was used to secretly move slaves on the Underground Railroad. History is more interesting than Sienna ever thought it could be.

Fat Men from Space by Daniel Manus Pinkwater PB

The new metal filling in William's mouth was picking up radio waves; first from regular radio programs and then from invading spacemen.

Safe at Home by Sharon Robinson J Fic & PB

After Jumper's father dies, he moves to New York City where his mother makes him go to baseball camp. Jumper's game is basketball.

Knights of the Kitchen Table (or other *Time Warp Trio* books) by Jon Scieszka J Fic & PB; Audiobook

"Halt vile knaves. Prepare to die." Joe, Fred and Sam are sitting at the kitchen table looking at the birthday present that Uncle Joe sent. The next thing they know they are facing the Black Knight.

Safari Journal: The Adventures in Africa of Carey Monroe by Hudson Talbott J Fic

A safari in Kenya with a wacky aunt is not how Carey wants to spend his summer, but it turns out to be the best vacation he could ever have imagined.

Robot Dreams by Sara Varon J Graphix Fic

Dog finally has a best friend, a robot he made from a mail order kit. A great day at the beach ends in tragedy when they find out that salt water is not good for robots. Graphics tell this story without words.

Nonfiction

The People Could Fly: The Picture Book by Virginia Hamilton J 398.2

"They say the people could fly." So begins a timeless story from the days of slavery that is still powerful today.

Don't Know Much About the Solar System by Kenneth C. Davis J 523.2

If the earth is always spinning, why don't you land on a different spot when you jump up? Why is Pluto dark all the time, even in the day? Would you have more birthdays if you were able to live on Mercury? Finding the answers to these and many other mysteries of our solar system, is as easy as reading this book.

The Bug Scientists by Donna M. Jackson J 595.7

Bugs that help solve crimes? Ants that have pets? Maybe bugs are more interesting than you thought!

The Chimpanzees I Love: Saving Their World and Ours by Jane Goodall J 599.885

If you never cared about chimpanzees before, you will after you read this book. The photographs will astound you.

Squirt! The Most Interesting Book You'll Ever Read About Blood (or other *Mysterious You* books)

by Trudee Romanek J 612.1

Your body is a most amazing machine!

Draw 50 Animals (or other *Draw 50* books) by Lee J. Ames J 743

Bugs, birds, fish and mammals big and small—you can draw them all.

A Poke in the I: A Collection of Concrete Poems J 811.008

Can a poem have a shape?

From the Bellybutton of the Moon and Other Summer Poems/Del Ombligo de la Luna y Otros Poemas de Verano (or other seasonal poem books) by Francisco X. Alarcón J 811.54

Summer is green grass, family vacations, hot sun and rain showers.

African Beginnings by James Haskins J 960

Once, the Sahara desert was a green and fertile land. Many cultures prospered on the continent. Explore African Beginnings.

George vs. George: The American Revolution as Seen from Both Sides by Rosalyn Schanzer J 973.3

Some think that King George was a “Royal Brute.” Others say that George Washington was a traitor. “There are two sides to every story.”

Capital by Lynn Curlee J 975.3

We live so close to the U.S. Capitol, the White House and the Lincoln Memorial that sometimes we forget how special they are.

When Marian Sang by Pam Muñoz Ryan J Bio Anderson; Audiobook

Marian Anderson wanted to sing. She wanted to sing opera on big, grand stages all over the world. The prejudice of her time could keep her from realizing her dream.

A Strong Right Arm: The Story of Mamie “Peanut” Johnson by Michelle Y. Green J Bio Johnson

Mamie Johnson had a dream to become a professional baseball pitcher. Can a girl do that?

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