



Rising Sixth Graders

Titles may be available on audiobook or in large print. Many also come in Spanish.

Fiction



How Tía Lola Came to (Visit) Stay by Julia Alvarez

Miguel is worried about making friends in his new school. His Tía Lola is visiting from the Dominican Republic and he is sure his new classmates will think she is a nut case.

Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett

A valuable painting has been stolen, setting off a worldwide search. Petra and Calder both like solving puzzles. Will they be the ones to find it?

Some Friend by Marie Bradby

Pearl wishes she had a best friend to talk to—someone like Lenore, who always looks good and is the most popular girl in her class.

Halfway to the Sky by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley

Her brother is dead; her parents are divorced. Dani can't stand her life anymore, so she runs away to hike the Appalachian Trail. It should take about six months.

The Boggart by Susan Cooper

Boggarts are invisible and full of mischief at home in Scotland. When one finds himself in Canada, he discovers chocolate, pizza and the tricky possibilities of electricity.

Lionboy a trilogy by Zizou Corder

Charlie Ashanti has always been able to talk to cats. When his parents are kidnapped, he takes off after them. His ability to talk Cat comes in handy as he attempts to rescue them.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Bud runs away from a terrible foster home. Join him as he sets out on a journey to find his father.

The City of Ember by Jeanne DuPrau

The underground City of Ember was built for people to live in for two hundred years. Now it is year 241 and the lights are going out.

Zeely by Virginia Hamilton

It might be the truth, or it might be Elizabeth's imagination. Is Zeely Tayber just a girl who tends hogs, or is she an African queen?

Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse

Rifka and her family are looking forward to their new life in America after escaping the brutal treatment of Jews in their Russian homeland. When the doctors refuse to let Rifka board the ship, her family must leave her behind. Will she ever see them again?

Middle School Is Worse Than Meatloaf by Jennifer L. Holm

Learn all about Ginny's year in seventh grade by reading her stuff—letters, notes, report cards, IMs and more.

Ella Enchanted by Gail Carson Levine

It starts with a foolish fairy who can't tell a gift from a curse. Before it is done, Ella finds adventure with ogres, giants, stepsisters, fairy godmothers and a very entertaining prince.

In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson by Bette Lord

Brooklyn is very different from China. It's hard to make friends when you don't speak English, but Shirley Temple Wong is determined to make America her country.

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

An orphan boy and an old man live under a bridge just trying to survive. One day, the boy sees something that makes him yearn for more and nothing will be the same again.

The Legend of Bass Reeves by Gary Paulsen

Based on the real life of Bass Reeves who escaped slavery and lived with the Creek Indians for many years before he was a free man. He became one of the greatest law men of the old west.

A Long Way from Chicago or **A Year Down Yonder** by Richard Peck

For Joey and Mary Alice, summer vacation means one thing—a visit with Grandma Dowdel that is sure to be full of unpredictable and wild adventures.

Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Naomi and her brother are happy living with their Gram at the Avocado Acres Trailer Rancho. All of that changes one day when their mother, who left them seven years ago, knocks at the door.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick

Hugo is trying to survive alone and undetected in a Paris train station in this story told partly in words but mostly through pictures.

Loser by Jerry Spinelli

Zinkoff has always been slow and clumsy, but the teacher chooses him to run the anchor in the relay race anyway. He loses a big lead, the race and the entire championship. His classmates are angry. They call him Loser.

The Secret of Gumbo Grove by Eleanora E. Tate

What is the big mystery that no one in town wants to talk about? Old Miss Effie knows and Raisin is determined to find out.

The Gold Cadillac by Mildred D. Taylor

An African American family travels through segregated Mississippi in their beautiful 1950 gold Cadillac.

Tripping Over the Lunch Lady

Ten authors each tell a school story. They also look back at what they loved and hated from their real school days—the best cafeteria meal, the meanest thing someone ever did to them and, of course, the worst smell at school.

The Red Rose Box by Brenda Woods

While visiting her aunt in California, Leah is excited to experience a world different from her small Louisiana town. A family tragedy forever changes life for Leah and her sister.

Millicent Min, Girl Genius by Lisa Yee

Millie is eleven years old and going into twelfth grade. She wants to spend her summer studying poetry. Why are her parents making her join a summer volleyball league?

Nonfiction

From Rags to Riches by Leslie Sills J 391.2

Take a look at hoop skirts, bloomers, shirtwaists and bustles. Retro is in, so one of these styles might come back.

Go Figure! by Johnny Ball J 510.76

Even if math is not your favorite subject, you will have fun with the magic tricks, brainteasers, puzzles and weird stuff about numbers in this book,

Rascal by Sterling North J 599.7

Sterling North had many pets and adventures growing up, but some of his best times were spent with his raccoon, Rascal.

Team Moon by Catherine Thimmesh J 629.454

In July 1969, half a billion people around the world watched Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the moon. Two astronauts moonwalked that day, but 400,000 people made it possible.

Emeril's There's a Chef in my Soup! (or other cookbooks) by Emeril Lagasse J 641.59

Cook muffins or meatballs, corndogs or casseroles. Don't forget dessert!

To Dance: A Memoir by Siena Cherson Siegel J Graphix 792.8

By age nine, Siena knew she wanted to be a ballerina. Practices, studies, rehearsals and injuries did not diminish her passionate love of dance.

¡Béisbol! Latino Baseball Pioneers and Legends by Jonah Winter J 796.357

Who do you think is the greatest baseball player of all time? Did you say Martin Dihigo? He could play every position, including pitcher, and was voted to the Baseball Hall of Fame in four countries!

The Oxford Illustrated Book of American Children's Poems J 811.008

Old poems and new for reading quietly and out LOUD!

Langston Hughes by Langston Hughes J 811.52

He died in 1967, but his poetry still speaks out loud and clear. It speaks of freedom and dreams, the past and the future. Read a few poems by Langston Hughes and let him speak to you.

Natural Disasters by Claire Watts J 904.5

Tsunamis, hurricanes and other natural disasters are explored in this Eyewitness favorite.

Kickoff! by Tiki Barber J Bio Barber

Twins Ronde and Tiki are worried about the start of 7th grade. They will be in different classes for the first time ever and will be trying out for the football team with much bigger kids.

Maritcha: A Remarkable Nineteenth-Century Girl by Tonya Bolden J Bio Lyons

"Born free in a nation stained by slavery, where free blacks had few rights and rare respect, here was a girl determined to rise, to amount to something, determined to overcome."

The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane by Russell Freedman J Bio Wright

On December 17, 1903, the world's first successful airplane flight took place. The Wright brothers had finally done it.