2019 Summer Reading List for Students Entering 4th Grade

The St. Paul’s 2019 Summer Reading List for students entering Grade 4 contains new and popular book suggestions. The books were chosen to reflect student and family interest, upcoming curriculum and to highlight interesting new titles and releases by popular authors. I encourage families to support daily reading throughout the summer whenever possible. All of the titles in the list can be found through new and used booksellers and some are in e-book format. Many of these books can be checked-out from your local public library. Public libraries are fantastic resources for summer reading and most public libraries sponsor generous summer reading programs. I hope you enjoy summer and that you come back with 2-3 book recommendations for the library and your classmates! Happy Reading! -- Ms. Cosgrove

Nonfiction - Biographies and History


Dias, Marley. Marley Dias Gets It Done: And So Can You! New York: Scholastic, 2018. Focusing on the importance of literacy and diversity, 13-year old Marley shares her personal journey to compassionate social action and delivers hands-on strategies for becoming a lifelong reader”.

Hughes, Susan. Case Closed? Nine Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science. Toronto, ON: Kids Can Press, 2010. Examines how developments in modern science, such as DNA analysis and spectroscopy, have helped to reopen archaeological mysteries about ancient cities, Egypt's first female pharaoh, a missing expedition to find the Northwest Passage, and more, with illustrations, maps, and photographs.

Ross, Stewart. Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way by Land, Sea, and Air. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2011. Artwork by cross-section specialist Stephen Biesty conveys the methods explorers throughout history have used to find their way by land, sea, and sky.

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Pompeii: Lost & Found.* New York: A. Knopf, 2006. Presents a short, illustrated narrative of the city of Pompeii before the 79 AD eruption of Mount Vesuvius buried the city; and describes how in 1763 the city was discovered.

*Our Story Begins: Your Favorite Authors and Illustrators Share Fun, Inspiring and Occasionally Ridiculous Things They Wrote and Drew As Kids.* New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2017. Contains a collection of true, humorous and vulnerable stories by popular children’s authors and illustrators such as Kwame Alexander, Rita Williams-Garcia, Yuyi Morales and Thanhhai Lai.


**Nonfiction Informational Books and Activities**


Challoner, Jack. *Maker Lab Outdoors: 25 Super Cool Projects: Build, Invent, Create, Discover.* New York: DK, 2018. Have a blast this summer with these twenty-five different science projects that can be done outside.

Chin, Jason. *Grand Canyon.* New York: Roaring Brook Press, 2017. Chin creates beautifully detailed picture books that also contain deeper content on subjects such as islands and space. This latest by Chin is about America’s top tourist attraction. It contains a vast array of information covering the geology, biology and ecology of the Grand Canyon.

Clarke, Adam. *Unofficial Minecraft Hacks Labs for Kids.* Beverly MA: Quarto Publ., 2019. Through a fun mix of in-game and hands-on projects, Unofficial Minecraft Life Hacks Lab for Kids shows kids how to develop the building blocks of positive communication, listening skills, leadership and collaboration traits, emotional empathy, self-confidence and self-control, and how these skills can be used to play positively and build a better world.


*Exploring Kitchen Science: 30+ Edible Experiments & Kitchen Activities.* San Francisco: Weldon Owen, 2015. Join the world-famous Exploratorium on a curious and tasty expedition through your kitchen, where you'll learn to flash-freeze ice cream with way-cool dry ice, create dyes with your favorite fruits and veggies, see your food glow in the dark, whip up oobleck, and more!--Back cover.

Fabiny, Sarah. *What is NASA?* New York: Penguin, 2019. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, better known as NASA, began in 1958. With its creation, the United States hoped to ensure it won the space race against the Soviet Union . . . describes the origins of NASA, the launching of the Apollo program that landed the first human on the moon, and the many missions and discoveries that have taken place since then. NASA has a rich history and still plays an important role in uncovering the mysteries of the universe"--Provided by publisher.


Harbo, Christopher L. *The Explosive World of Volcanoes with Max Axiom, Super Scientist* (Graphic Library, Graphic Science Series). Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2008. Max Axiom teaches the science of volcanoes, traveling the world to explore how they form, what makes them erupt, and other topics.


Herman, Gail. *What is the Stanley Cup?* New York: Penguin, 2019. The finals are almost over at this writing, but hockey enthusiasts can still satiate their appetite for the sport. Try this *Who Was Series* entry for an overview of hockey's Stanley Cup. From the formation of the leagues and the crowning of the first championship-winning team, to the Rangers' Stanley Cup curse and the uncertain fate of the teams during the Spanish flu epidemic, this book recounts the highs and lows of this exciting ice hockey series.


Incredible Earth: Eye-Opening Photos of Our Powerful Planet. New York: Play Bac Pub., 2008. A collection of amazing color photographs that feature images in the natural world, and provides facts and information about the geologic aspect of each image; and includes baobab trees, Crater Lake, the Vermilion Cliffs, the Bungle Bungle Range, the Lombenben volcano, and more.


Koll, Hilary. Design a Skyscraper (You Do the Math Series). Irvine, CA: QEB Pub. 2015. Examines the importance of math in the design of a skyscraper, and uses that format to foster an understanding of tables, graphs, multiplication, and decimals.


Margles, Samantha. Mythbusters Science Fair Book: Confirm or Bust! New York: Scholastic, 2012. This 2nd book in the Science Fair series contains instructions for science fair projects based on experiments conducted on the "MythBusters" television series in attempts to discover the truth behind popular myths and urban legends.


Fiction Titles and Series by Genre - Humor

Allen, Crystal. Magnificent Mya Tibbs: Mya in the Middle (Mya Tibbs Series Book 3). New York: Balzer+Bray, 2018. Nine-year-old Mya feels stuck in the middle between an exceptionally cute baby sister and an exceptionally smart older brother. And her tired parents seem to only notice the 'exceptional' kids in the house. So when a class project lassos Mya into starting her own school newspaper, she's sure this will earn her the star status she wants from her parents.

Barry, Dave. Science Fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger, International Suspense, and a Very Nervous Frog. New York: Disney Editions, 2008. The president of Kprshtskan is plotting to infiltrate the science fair at Hubble Middle School in Maryland in order to take over the United States government, but when Toby Harbinger, an ordinary student, makes up his mind finally to win the fair, the terrorists' plans go awry.


Gephart, Donna. Death by Toilet Paper. New York: Yearling Books, 2015. Contest-crazed twelve-year-old Ben Epstein uses his wits and way with words in hopes of winning a prize that will keep his family from being evicted until his mother can pass her final CPA examination.

Gutman, Dan. Bummer in the Summer (My Weird School Series Special). New York: Scholastic, 2019. School's almost out for the summer, and A.J. is dreaming about all the fun things he's going to do on vacation. But A.J.'s dream quickly turns into a nightmare when three familiar spirits appear to show him summers past, present, and yet to come. Will they be able to convince him to leave his bad ways behind? Or will this summer end up being a total bummer?

Holm, Jennifer. Lights, Camera, Middle School! (Babymouse Tales From the Locker Series Book 1-3). New York: Random House, 2017. Babymouse has gone from graphic novel to a chapter series! In the first book, Babymouse joins the school Film Club and writes the greatest cinematic masterpiece of all time! Book 3 will be released in July.


Patterson, James. *House of Robots (Series Book 1-3)*. New York: Little Brown, 2015. Fifth-grader Sammy Hayes-Rodriguez struggles to fit in when his inventor mother requires him to take her latest creation, a robotic 'brother,' to school with him to learn to become a student”--Provided by publisher.

Russell, Rachel Renee. *The Misadventures of Max Crumbly 3: Masters of Mischief (Series Book 3)*. New York: Aladdin, June 2019. Max and Erin continue the fight to protect South Ridge Middle School from Ralph and his henchmen, but Max's greatest challenge may be keeping his crush on Erin a secret. This is the latest by the author of *Dork Diaries*.

Scieszka, Jon. *Summer Reading is Killing Me! (Time Warp Trio Series)*. New York: Puffin Books, 1998. At the beginning of summer vacation Joe, Sam, and Fred find themselves trapped inside their summer reading list, involved in a battle between good and evil characters from well-known children's books.

Stilton, Thea. *Thea Stilton and the Secret of the Treasure Seekers (Book 1)*. New York: Scholastic, 2019. A new Thea Stilton series released February 2019 - On summer vacation in Scotland, the Thea sisters are intrigued by a tapestry that is really a treasure map supposedly leading to where an ancient treasure is buried. They set out to find the treasure using the explorer's diary as a guide.

Vivat, Booki. *Frazzled (Series)*. New York: Harper, 2016. Nervous about middle school because her family does not get her and her friends know exactly what they want to do, Abbie Wu searches for her own passion before discovering a knack for leadership when injustices in the cafeteria come to light. *Frazzled: Harmless Incidents and Absolute Uncertainties* released in February is Book 3.

**Realistic and Historical Fiction**


Barber, Tiki. *Extra Innings*. New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2014. "Tiki and Ronde have their sights set on a big diamond--a baseball diamond! Sure, they're experienced athletes, but they've never played baseball before. Do they have what it takes to make the team?"--Provided by publisher.

Boyce, Frank Cottrell. *Millions*. New York: Harper/Trophy, 2004. The Cunningham brothers literally have money drop in their laps when a bag of cash falls from the sky. However, the crooks that initially stole the loot want it back.

countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from home. Book 2: *The War I Finally Won*, brings new challenges for Ada as the war creeps closer.

**Buyea, Rob. Because of Mr. Terupt.** New York: Delacorte Press, 2010. Seven fifth-graders at Snow Hill School in Connecticut relate how their lives are changed for the better by "rookie teacher" Mr. Terupt. A very suspenseful ending!

**Cameron, Ann. Gloria Rising.** New York: Random House, 2002. A chance meeting with a woman astronaut encourages Gloria to try to be her best self, even with her difficult fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Yardley.

**Choldenko, Gennifer. Chasing Secrets.** New York: Wendy Lamb Books, 2015. Thirteen-year-old Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who is hiding in her house, plan to rescue Noah's father from the quarantined Chinatown, and save everyone they love from contracting the plague that is spreading in 1900 San Francisco.

**Christopher, Matt. Play Ball!** New York: Little, Brown, 2013. To reach the title match Liam and his cousin must first beat their number one rivals from Southern California.

**Clements, Andrew. Lunch Money.** New York: Aladdin Paperbacks, 2007. Twelve-year-old Greg, who has always been good at moneymaking projects, is surprised to find himself teaming up with his lifelong rival, Maura, to create a series of comic books to sell at school.


**Davies, Jacqueline. The Lemonade War (Series, Book 1).** Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2007. Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. Includes mathematical calculations and tips for running a successful lemonade stand. There are four more books in this series.

**DeVillers, Julia. Cleared for Takeoff (Liberty Porter First Daughter Series Book 3).** New York: Aladdin, 2011. Liberty Porter has become accustomed to living at the White House since her dad was elected president two months earlier, and she wants to be the best representative she can be for the kids of America, but she starts to worry on her first trip overseas that a mistake on her part could cause a diplomatic disaster.

**DiCamillo, Kate. Because of Winn Dixie.** Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2000. Ten-year-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.

**Donoghue, Emma. The Lottery's Plus One.** New York: Arthur A. Levine, 2017. Adult author Donoghue offers this middle grade fiction Once upon a time, two couples with Jamaican, Mohawk, Indian, and Scottish ethnic roots won the lottery and bought a big house where all of them, four adults and seven adopted and biological children, could live together in harmony--but change is inevitable, especially when a disagreeable grandfather comes to stay."--Provided by publisher.

**Erdrich, Louise. The Birchbark House (Series).** New York: Hyperion, 1999. Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joys of summer and the perils of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.


Harper, Charise Mericie. *Just Grace Gets Crafty (Series).* Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2014. "There's a new crossing guard in town who needs a bit of help making friends, a fun substitute teacher for Miss Lois, and most exciting, Grace and Mimi are going to have their own table at the craft fair.

Harris, Teresa. *Gabriela (American Girl Series Girl of the Year).* New York: Scholastic, 2017. Spoken word poetry and dance help free Gabby from stuttering. When these community center classes may be stopped, Gabby rallies her community to save this important resource.


Konigsburg, E. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.* NY: Atheneum, 1967. Claudia Kincaid and her brother run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City in order to teach their parents a lesson and embark upon a mystery involving a priceless work of art and the strange old woman who sold the piece to the museum.

Korman, Gordon. *Swindle (Series Book 1).* New York: Scholastic Press, 2008. After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.

Lee, Jenny. *Elvis and the Underdogs.* New York: Balzer + Bray, 2014. All his life Benji, now ten, has been sickly and he has long been targeted by the school bully, but after a seizure Benji gets a therapy dog that is not only big enough to protect him, it can also talk.

Levy, Dana Alison. *The Family Fletcher Takes Rock Island.* New York: Delacorte Press, 2016. In this second book of the series, Summertime brings the Fletcher Family back to Rock Island where the good times never end, but this summer the boys' favorite lighthouse is all boarded up and with the help from their new neighbors, the Garcia girls, the boys are determined to find out what is really happening with their lighthouse and saving it, no matter what the cost.


Maddox, Jake. *Lacrosse Laser*. (Jake Maddox Sports Series). Minneapolis, MA: Stone Arch Books, 2017. Now that he has new glasses, fourteen-year-old Jaylin is anxious to put his speed and accurate shot to use on offense, but his lacrosse team has always relied on his stellar defense, and without it too many goals are ending up in their net--so the team needs to come up with a strategy to balance both halves of his game.

Mass, Wendy. *The Candymakers*. New York: Little, Brown, 2010. Four gifted twelve-year-olds, including Logan, the candymaker's son, are set to be contestants in the Confectionary Association's national competition to determine the nation's tastiest sweet, but nobody anticipates that a friendship will form between them.


Morgan, Alex. *Sabotage Season* (Kicks Series). New York: Simon & Schuster, 2013. Someone is trying to sabotage the soccer team and Devin must figure out who it is before the playoffs start.

Reynolds, Jason. *Ghost, Patina, Sunny, Lu* (Track Series Books 1-4). New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2016-2018. Each book in this series about a middle school track team focuses on a specific member. In Book One, Ghost, a naturally talented runner is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.


Smith, Roland. *Storm Runners*. New York: Scholastic Press, 2011. 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.

Sports Illustrated Kids Victory School Superstars (Various Titles, Authors and Publication Years). Minneapolis: Stone Arch Books. This friendly illustrated format features engrossing sports fiction at reading levels J-M. They are popular light reading for many students.


Tarshis, Lauren. *I Survived: The Battle of D-Day*. New York: Scholastic, 2019. When Paul, a French boy living in a Nazi controlled village, finds an American paratrooper in a tree near his home, he has a chance to play a role in the Allies plan to crush the Nazis”--OCLC.

Wayans, Kim. *All Mixed-Up! (Amy Hodgepodge series Book 1)*. New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 2008. Attending a "regular" school for the first time, former homeschooler Amy, whose family is racially mixed, meets new friends who celebrate their differences and include Amy in their song and dance routine for the upcoming talent show.


Winston, Sherri. *President of the Whole Fifth Grade*. New York: Little, Brown, 2010. To gain leadership skills needed to run a cupcake-baking empire when she grows up, Brianna runs for president of the fifth grade--expecting little competition--until a new girl enters the race.


**Fantasy, Mystery and Science Fiction**

Applegate, Katherine. *The Last* (*Endling Series Book 1*). New York: HarperCollins, 2018. From the remarkable author of *The One and Only Ivan* and *The Animorphs* (listed below) comes a new series in time for summer. Byx, the last of the dairnes, sets out to find others of her kind and along the way meets new allies. The group soon uncovers a secret that threatens the lives of every creature in their world. Book 2 *The First* was released at the end of April.

Applegate, Katherine. *The Invasion*. (*The Animorphs Series*). New York: Scholastic, 2011, 1996. Jake and his friends are given the power to morph into animals by a dying alien who tells them the Earth is under attack by the invading Yeerk's, and they are called upon to test their new abilities almost immediately when they learn that Vissar Three, deadliest of the Yeerk's, is after them. The new 2011 editions of this series have the coolest covers – the pictures actually morph from human to animal!


Barry, Dave. *Peter and the Starcatchers (Series)*. New York: Disney/Hyperion Books, 2004-11. Keeping stardust away from evil thieves has an unintended effect on a ship’s boy and launches this mystery and action/adventure series as well as a hit Broadway play.

Bass, Patrik Henry. *The Zero Degree Zombie Zone*. New York: Scholastic, 2014. Fourth-grader Bakari Katari Johnson is having a really bad day--class bullies Tariq and Keisha are mad at him, his best friend Wardell has nominated him for hall monitor, a pack of ice zombies from a frozen world are demanding he return the magic ring that Keisha has, and somehow he has to find a way to save the school.

Black, Holly. *Spiderwick Chronicles Series Books 1-5 (Book 1: The Field Guide)*. 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.
Brallier, Max. *The Last Kids on Earth and the Cosmic Beyond (Book 4)*. New York: Viking, 2018. During the first winter after the Monster Apocalypse, Jack and his buddies prepare for a monstrous Christmas celebration, but a supervillainess steals Jack’s prized monster-slaying weapon, his Louisville Slicer, and he vows to get it back. If you haven’t tried the series yet, enjoy this series from the beginning with Book 1: After a monster apocalypse hits town, average thirteen-year-old Jack Sullivan builds a team of friends to help slay the eerily intelligent monster known as Blarg.

Calejo, Ryan. *Charlie Henandez and the League of Shadows*. New York: Aladdin, 2018. Steeped in Hispanic folklore since childhood, middle schooler Charlie Hernández learns the stories are true when, shortly after his parents disappearance, he grows horns and feathers and finds himself at the heart of a battle to save the world.


Chokshi, Roshani. *Aru Shah and the End of Time (Pandava Series Book 1)*. Los Angeles: Disney Hyperion, 2018. Twelve-year-old Aru stretches the truth to fit in at her private school, but when she is dared to prove an ancient lamp is cursed, she inadvertently frees an ancient demon.

Cowell, Cressida. *How To Train Your Dragon (Series Book 1)* New York: Little Brown, 2003. Chronicles the adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third as he tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan, the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans, by catching and training a dragon.

Draper, Sharon M. *Lost in the Tunnel of Time (Ziggy and the Black Dinosaurs Book 2; The Clubhouse Mysteries Book 2)*. New York: Aladdin, 2006. Ziggy and his friends are excited to find out about the tunnel under their school that was once used by the Underground Railroad and decide to check it out.

Gibbs, Stuart. *Spy School (Series)*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2012. Twelve-year-old Ben Ripley leaves his public middle school to attend the CIA’s highly secretive Espionage Academy, which everyone is told is an elite science school. Gibbs’ series plus, his FunJungle series are very popular.

Giles, L.R. *The Last Last-Day-Of-Summer*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019. When adventurous cousins Otto and Sheed Alston accidentally extend the last day of summer by freezing time, they find the secrets between the unmoving seconds are not as much fun as they expected”--Provided by publisher.

Goelman, Ari. *The Path of Names*. New York: Arthur Levine Books, 2013. Thirteen-year-old Dahlia's reluctance about attending Camp Arava changes to wonder as strange things begin to happen, and soon she is connecting with David Schank, a student of the kabbala, and the maze he built at the camp in the 1930s.

Grabenstein, Chris. *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello’s Library*. New York: Random House, 2013. Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape. Check-out the sequel for more – Mr. Lemoncello’s Library Olympics and this month’s release of the latest: Mr. Lemoncello’s All-Star Breakout Game!


Lerangis, Peter. *The Colossus Rises (Seven Wonders Series Book 1)*. New York: Harper, 2013. Teens Jack, Marco, Aly, and Cass begin a quest to find seven pieces of Atlantis' power that were hidden long ago and that will, if returned to Atlantis, save them from certain death due to the genetic abnormality that also gives them superior abilities.

Lubar, David. *Check-out the Library Weenies: And Other Warped and Creepy Tales*. New York: Starscape, 2018. Contains thirty stories, including ones about kids becoming cartoons, bullies suffering from bat hair, and weenies in a library. Includes notes on how the author got his ideas for these stories.

Meriano, Anna. *A Dash of Trouble (Love Sugar Magic Series Book 1)*. New York: Walden Pond Press, 2018. Leonora Logroña discovers her sisters and mother are not just bakers but also witches and tries to prove herself as good as them by helping a friend.


Messner, Kate. *Keepers of the Lost Cities (Series)*. New York: Aladdin, 2013–. Right now, this is the most popular series in the library and is a highly sought after action/adventure/fantasy. While folks are waiting for Book 8 (to be released in November), catch up with the story of twelve-year-old Sophie who discovers the abilities that have always caused her to stand out are because she is actually an elf and, learns she must harbors certain secrets that others would kill to learn.

Mull, Brandon: Mull is a popular author and there are a few series to choose from by this author: *Fablehaven, Candy Shop Wars, The Beyonders and Five kingdoms*. If this author is new to you, try one of the first two:  
*Fablehaven*. New York: Aladdin, 2006. Kendra and Seth find themselves in the midst of a battle between good and evil when they visit their grandparents' estate and discover that it is a sanctuary for magical creatures.

*Candy Shop War*. Salt Lake City: Shadow Mountain, 2007. When fifth-graders Nate, Summer, Trevor, and Pigeon meet the owner of the new candy store in town and are given a magical candy that endows them with super powers, they find that along with its benefits there are also dangerous consequences.

O’hearn, Kate. *Titans*. New York: Aladdin, 2019. A new series to be released this summer by the author of *Pegasus and Valkyrie* focuses on the titans of Greek Mythology: When Titans Astraea and Zephyr find a human boy on their world, they must figure out how he got there and why. What they uncover is a plot to take over Titus and ultimately the universe.

O’hearn’s first series was *Pegasus: The Flame of Olympus (Series Book 1)*. New York: Aladdin, 2011. Thirteen-year-old Emily's life is transformed when Pegasus, the mythological
winged horse, crashes onto the roof of her building during a New York City blackout and takes her to Olympus where she faces monsters, a corrupt governmental agency, and the quest to keep the Olympic flame burning.

Park, Linda Sue. *Archer's Quest*. New York: Yearling, 2006. Twelve-year-old Kevin is quietly doing his homework in 1999 when a fully-armed archer tumbles through space and time and into his bedroom, and upon verifying that the intruder is Chu-mong, a Korean king and folk hero from the ancient past, he works to find a way to send Chu back before history is altered forever.

Rex, Adam. *The True Meaning of Smekday*. New York: Hyperion, 2007. Twelve-year-old Gratuity "Tip" Tucci is left to fend for herself after Earth is colonized by aliens and her mother is abducted, and must try to stop another alien invasion with only the help of a cat named Pig and an alien named J. Lo There is a sequel, *Smek for President!*

Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter Series*. New York: Scholastic, 1998. If you have only seen the movies, this would be a great time to read or even reread the series to catch more details. The first book introduces the world of Harry Potter, rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.


Spencer, Octavia. *The Case of the Time-Capsule Bandit (Randi Rhodes, Ninja Detective Series, Book 1)*. As if Octavia Spencer is not talented enough as an actress, she has created a great middle grade mystery series about a girl and her friends who solve a case surrounding a stolen time capsule and rumors of a centuries-old treasure. The second book of the series is out too: *The Sweetest Heist in History*.

*Spirit Animals (Series)* by Various Authors. New York: Scholastic. This dynamic fantasy series began with *Wild Born* in 2013. Each book (written by a different popular middle grade fantasy author) follows the good versus evil saga of a world in danger. Four young strangers each has forged a bond and can shape shift with their spirit animal. The newest book in the series is by Varian Johnson, *The Return (Book 3 of Fall of the Beasts)*.

Stewart, Trenton Lee. *The Mysterious Benedict Society (Series)*. New York: Little, Brown, 2007. After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Stilton, Thea. *Thea Stilton and the Tropical Treasure (Thea Stilton Series Book 22)*. New York: Scholastic, 2015. While the Thea Sisters are on a tropical vacation in the Bahamas, they stumble upon an old pirate map! Could it lead to treasure? The five mice venture onto the sparkling Caribbean Sea to follow the map... but someone else is trying to find the treasure first. Stine, R.L. *The Haunted Car (Goosebumps Series)*. New York: Scholastic, 2015. Twelve-year-old car fanatic Mitchell Moinian is beside himself with excitement when his dad purchases a sports car, but it does not take long before they realize there is something very strange about their new automobile.
Sutherland, Tui. *The Poison Jungle* (*Wings of Fire Series Book 13*). New York: Scholastic, July 30th. In one of the biggest releases of the summer: Sundew and the Leafwings must unearth the oldest secret in the jungle—even if what they find has the power to destroy them all.

*Voyagers (Series)*. New York: Random House, 2015. Eight boys and girls compete for a spot on the space voyage that will search for a solution to Earth’s energy crises. Popular writers like D.J. MacHale and Kekla Magoon write each book in this series. This summer, Wendy Mass produces the newest volume, *The Seventh Element*

Westerfeld, Scott. *Horizon (Series Book 1)*. New York: Scholastic, 2017. After their plane crash lands in the arctic, eight children survivors emerge from the wreckage to find themselves alone and surrounded, not by ice, but by a mysterious and deadly jungle and find out the fate of the others.

**Comics, Graphic Novels**

Aguirre, Jorge. *Monsters Beware! (The Chronicles of Claudette Series Book 3)*. New York: First Second, 2018. Claudette competes in the annual Warrior Games, but must also stop the vicious Sea Queen from using the Games to free the dark Wizard Grombach.


Alvarez, Lorena. *Nightlights*. London: Nobrow, 2016. From the publisher: Every night, tiny lights appear out of the darkness in Sandy's bedroom. She catches them and creates wonderful creatures to play with until she fell asleep, and in the morning she brings them back to life in her whimsical drawings. When a mysterious new girl appears at school, Sandy's drawings are noticed for the first time... but Morfie's fascination with Sandy's talent soon turns in to something far more sinister.


Davis, Eleanor. *The Secret Science Alliance and the Copycat Crook*. U.S. New York: Bloomsbury, 2009. Eleven-year-old Julian Calendar thought changing schools would mean leaving his "nerdy" persona behind, but instead he forms an alliance with fellow inventors Greta and Ben and works with them to prevent an adult from using one of their gadgets for nefarious purposes.

Kibuishi, Kazu, Editor. *Explorer: The Hidden Doors*. New York: Amulet Books, 2014. While you are waiting for the 8th *Amulet* to be released in September, try the *Explorer* anthologies of short graphic works by such artists as Kazu Kibuishi, Jason Caffoe, and Jen Wang, all on the theme of hidden doors. *The Hidden Doors* is the fourth in the series.

Natural history will never be the same unless they can stop villains from trafficking in dinosaurs. Read this at the California Academy of Sciences when you go to the Pterosaurs exhibit this summer!


Love, Jeremy. *Shadow Rock.* Milwaukie, OR: Dark Horse, 2006. Timothy London, having moved from the big city to live with his father in a small New England town, makes friends with the ghost of young Kendahl Fog which is imprisoned in a nearby lighthouse, and becomes involved in solving the mystery of Kendahl's death and the curse that plagues Shadow Rock.

Maihack, Mike. *Cleopatra in Space: Series Books 1-5).* New York: Graphix, 2014+. Mysteriously zapped thousands of years into the future, a teenaged Cleopatra discovers that she is destined to save the galaxy.


Pastis, Stephan. *The Croc Ate My Homework: A Pearls Before Swine Collection.* A collection of "Pears Before Swine" comic strips specifically chosen for younger readers, featuring the adventures of a know-it-all Rat, a slow-witted Pig, and their other animal friends.

Shiga, Jason. *Meanwhile.* New York: Amulet Books, 2010. In this choose-your-own adventure graphic novel, a boy stumbles on the laboratory of a mad scientist who asks him to choose between testing a mind-reading device, a time machine, and a doomsday machine.

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Stevenson, Noelle. *Lumberjanes Vol. 1-6.* BOOM! Box, 2015. In the first volume, a strange event is witnessed by best friends at a summer camp and the first of the mysteries that The Lumberjanes set out to solve. This is a great choice for fans of Raina Telgemeier and girl power.

TenNapel, Doug. *Bad Island.* New York: Graphix, 2011. Reese, forced to go on vacation with his family, finds himself shipwrecked with them on a strange island full of weird plants and animals, and pursued by an unknown entity on the hunt.


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Yang, Gene Luen. *Secret Coders (Series Book 1)*. New York: First Second, 2015. The students at Stately Academy are challenged by the founder to solve a mystery. Solving the clues requires coding and they are determined to solve this puzzle first.

**Spanish Edicions / Libros Traducida en Español**


DiCamillo, Kate. *Flora y Ulises: Las Aventuras Iluminadas*. Barcelona: Grantravesia, 2014. Una chica llamada Flora y una ardilla llamado Ulises, cuya vida fue salvada por Flora después de que él estaba involucrado en un incidente con una aspiradora, se unen para utilizar potencias de Ulises a la conquista de villanos y proteger a los débiles.


Telgemeier, Raina. *Fantasmas*. Lyndhurst, NJ: Lectorum Pubns, 2017. Catrina and her family have moved to the coast of Northern California for the sake of her little sister, Maya, who has cystic fibrosis—and Cat is even less happy about the move when she is told that her new town is inhabited by ghosts, and Maya sets her heart on meeting one.

Warner, Gertrude. *El Misterio de la Casa Amarilla (Chicos del Vagon de carga Series)*. Saint Louis: Turtleback Books. Los niños Alden encontrar una carta perdida hace mucho tiempo que proporciona pistas sobre la desaparición de un hombre que desapareció de una casa amarilla en Isla Sorpresa años anteriores.