



# Book List

Grades 3–5

## AUGUST: HABITS

### ***Tommy's New Block Skates* by Garth Vaughan**

The local blacksmith makes block skates for Tommy in exchange for new fence posts from Tommy's father.

### ***Mission! The Extraordinary Adventures of Sir Wilfred Grenfell* by Colleen Shannahan and Raidel Bas**

In this true story, an English doctor travels in 1892 to remote fishing villages in Newfoundland and Labrador, where he works with the locals to construct clinics, schools, traveling hospital ships, and orphanages.

### ***The Shadows* by Jacqueline West**

After eleven-year-old Olive and her mathematician parents move into an old Victorian mansion, she discovers an old pair of glasses that enable her to travel into the home's paintings—where danger lurks.

### ***Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam* by Cynthia Kadohata**

After a broken leg ends a German shepherd's show-dog career, she becomes part of the military canine unit and goes to Vietnam. Paired with a seventeen-year-old handler, Rick, Cracker sniffs out bombs, traps, and enemy fighters.

### ***Lawn Boy* by Gary Paulsen**

When a twelve-year-old boy gets a second-hand rider mower for his birthday, his life changes. Making money hand over fist, the boy finds himself with numerous clients, a stock account, fifteen employees, and sponsorship of a prizefighter.

### ***Seedfolks* by Paul Fleischman**

A little girl plants lima beans in a rundown vacant lot and starts the transformation of a neighborhood.

### ***Gold Rush Fever: A Story of the Klondike, 1898* by Barbara Greenwood**

In this coming of age story, thirteen-year-old Tim sets off with his older brother and dog to make their fortune in the Klondike Gold Rush.

## SEPTEMBER: PRINCIPLES

### ***Frankly, Frannie* by AJ Stern**

Frannie's class field trip to a local radio station goes awry when she is her usual inquisitive, do-gooder self.

### ***Three Tall Trees* by David Weale**

A crow must sift through what three bickering trees tell it to determine the trees are all part of a whole.

### ***One of Us* by Peggy Moss**

Roberta learns about peer pressure and cliques when she goes to swing on the monkey bars.

### ***The Gigantic Sweet Potato* by Dianne de Las Casas**

When Ma Farmer tries to pull up a huge sweet potato, she, Pa Farmer, and the animals learn small efforts yield big rewards.

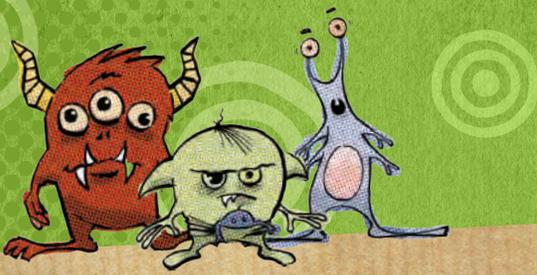
### ***Redwoods* by Jason Chin**

A young boy finds a book about redwoods and imagines all the adventures he can have in the forest.

## OCTOBER: PARADIGMS

### ***How Angel Peterson Got His Name* by Gary Paulsen**

Paulsen writes about the adventures he and his friends had when they were thirteen, including trying to shoot a waterfall in a barrel, break a skiing speed record, and other crazy stunts.



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## ***Highway of Heroes* by Kathy Stinson**

A boy and his mother travel along the Highway of Heroes, a span between Trenton and Toronto in Canada, after the boy's soldier father dies in action overseas.

## ***Dear Teacher* by Amy Husband**

A young boy attempts to get excused from class by writing notes to his teacher. His excuses run the gamut, including tales about the Secret Service needing him for a mission and being called to rescue a lost climber on Mount Everest.

## ***The Incurrable Children of Ashton Place: The Mysterious Howling* by Maryrose Wood**

Governess Penelope Lumley must solve the mystery of the three incurrable children who were supposedly raised by wolves.

## ***Astonishing Women Artists* by Heather Ball**

This book introduces students to ten female artists, including Frida Kahlo and Georgia O'Keeffe.

## NOVEMBER:

### BE PROACTIVE®

## ***A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever* by Marla Frazee**

In this Caldecott honor book, James and Eamon aren't too thrilled to spend a week at Nature Camp, but the two friends learn how to make the most of their time when they aren't at camp.

## ***The Detachable Boy: With One Loose Foot* by Scot Gardner**

Detachable boy John Johnson has kept his secret from his friends. But when Crystal is kidnapped by a gangster and taken to Arizona, John has to figure out how to rescue her.

## ***River of Hands: Deaf Heritage Stories* by Canadian Cultural Society of the Deaf**

This illustrated anthology is composed of four stories written by deaf youth, including a story about a man who runs into trouble when a railway worker doesn't understand his signs.

## ***Laura Secord's Brave Walk* by Connie Brummel Crook**

During the War of 1812, Laura Secord overhears news of an American ambush on the British. So she walks for miles through enemy-held areas to warn of the planned attack.

## ***Peggy of the Cove: A Legend Brought to Reality* by Ivan Fraser**

This retelling of a legend focuses on a young girl who was the sole survivor of a shipwreck in the mid-1800s in Nova Scotia.

## DECEMBER: BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND®

## ***Paddle-to-the-Sea* by Holling Clancy Holling**

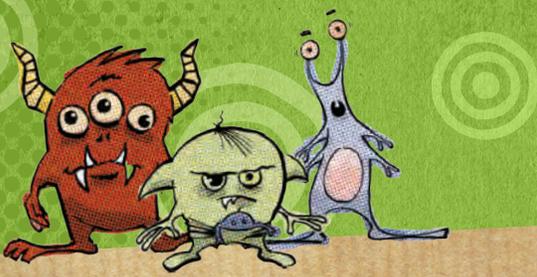
A young Indian boy in the central Canadian wilderness wishes he could travel to the ocean. So he sends a carving he made of an Indian figure inside a small canoe to take the long, dangerous voyage for him.

## ***Granite* by Susan Butcher and David Monson**

Susan Butcher, who won the Iditarod Trail sled-dog race four times, trains shy, bullied Granite to become her lead dog for the thousand-mile race.

## ***One Little Seed* by Elaine Greenstein**

Rhyming couplets introduce children to the step-by-step process of a seed growing into a flower.



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## **Leonardo's Monster by Jane Sutcliffe**

Young Leonardo da Vinci studies monstrous creatures for inspiration before painting a fire-breathing monster on a shield.

## **Colette and the Silver Samovar by Nancy Belgue**

When Colette's father goes back to Iran and her mother is injured in a car accident, Colette moves in with grandparents she has never met. She decides she must reunite her family.

## JANUARY: PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST®

### **Courage in the Storm by Thomas H. Raddall**

A poor, young mother makes brooms to sell in a fishing village not far from her small farm near the coast of Nova Scotia. As she attempts to return home, she loses her way during a storm.

### **Famous at Last by Lesley Choyce**

Fred wants to be famous and finds his niche acting in commercials for vegetables he doesn't like. Eventually, he has to decide whether being famous is worth living a lie.

### **Skippers Save the Stone by Caroline Stellings**

The Skipper dogs must win a boat race in Scotland to recover the Stone of Scone, which a squirrel clan has stolen. Gaelic translations accompany the English verses.

### **Men of Courage from Our First Nations by Vincent Schilling**

This book contains the stories of ten Native Canadians—including a doctor, firefighter, teacher, and community leader—who have enriched many people's lives.

## **Thunder from the Sea: Adventure on Board the HMS Defender by Jeff Weigel**

Jack enlists in the Royal Navy and learns about life, danger, and betrayal on a British naval frigate during the height of the Napoleonic Wars.

## FEBRUARY:

## RELATIONSHIP BANK ACCOUNT®

### **The Blue House Dog by Deborah Blumenthal**

A boy mourning his dog's death befriends a neighborhood stray whose owner has passed away.

### **No Pets Allowed by Irene N. Watts**

Matthew must leave his dog, Lucky, behind when he and his single mom move into an apartment. As the boy settles in, he teams up with Fred, an invisible puppy, to figure out a way to reunite with Lucky.

### **Maddy's Amazing African Birthday by Megan K. Williams**

For her tenth birthday, Maddy's photographer uncle takes her to Tanzania, where she learns about Africa and its people.

### **My (Worst) Best Sleepover Party by Anna Morgan**

Rose's plans for a birthday sleepover party get hijacked when two popular girls insist Rose must not invite her best friend.

### **Bobby the Brave (Sometimes) by Lisa Yee**

Bobby, an insecure, asthmatic fourth-grader, worries about winning his ex-football-star dad's regard, performing in the school musical, and running into the neighborhood cat that has twenty-seven toes.



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## MARCH:

### THINK WIN-WIN®

#### ***The Adventures of Ook and Gluk, Kung-Fu Cavemen from the Future* by Dav Pilkey**

An evil corporation besieges prehistoric Caveland, Ohio, the hometown of trouble-making cave boys Ook and Gluk. After being sucked through a time portal into the year 2222, the boys learn kung-fu so they can help save their city—if they can find a way back.

#### ***Sophie the Awesome* by Lara Bergen**

A third-grader decides her life is too boring, so she comes up with a new name. But Sophie's attempts to be seen as awesome don't pan out until she rescues a kindergartner and becomes Sophie the Hero.

#### ***Adventures at Camp Lots-o-Fun* by Marilyn Helmer**

Between the bugs, bad weather, and boredom, DJ and his camp cabinmates and not having much fun—until DJ puts his imagination to work.

#### ***Pigs in the Mud in the Middle of the Rud* by Lynn Plourde**

When all the family members fail to move the pigs and other livestock from the road, Grandma has the smarts to get the job done.

#### ***Simon and Catapult Man's Perilous Playground Adventure* by Norene Smiley**

Simon and his sidekick take on space pirates and giant worms in their neighborhood playground.

## APRIL: SEEK FIRST TO UNDERSTAND, THEN TO BE UNDERSTOOD®

#### ***The Talented Clementine* by Sara Pennypacker**

Clementine is in a panic over coming up with a talent for the school talent show. The third-grader eventually discovers, however, that being true to herself reveals her unique talent.

#### ***Kiss Me! (I'm a Prince!)* by Heather McLeod**

Ella won't kiss an enchanted prince because she thinks hanging out with a talking frog is apt to be far cooler than living in a castle. While exploring Ella's world with her, the frog prince discovers life outside the castle can be a lot of fun.

#### ***The Lunch Thief* by Anne C. Bromley**

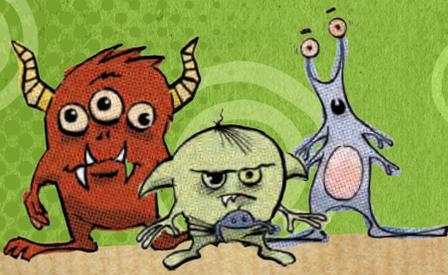
After Rafael's and others' lunches go missing, Rafael discovers that the new boy in class, Kevin, is responsible. He also finds out Kevin's family has likely lost their home, so Rafael offers to share his lunch with the new boy.

#### ***The Fish House Door* by Robert F. Baldwin**

An art dealer gives Shawn, who is descended from a long line of lobstermen, a new understanding of the weathered fish house door and his heritage.

#### ***Bubba Begonia You've Done It Again!* by Gerry O'Brien**

Bubba Begonia and his classmates don't know what to do about their new teacher, Miss Whackenbash, who is loud, mean, and gives too much homework.



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## MAY: SYNERGIZE®

### ***The Fossil Hunter of Sydney Mines*** by Jo Ann Yhard

When thirteen-year-old Grace receives a strange note with information about her father's death, she and her three fossil-hunting friends turn detective as they try to discover what really happened to him.

### ***Pony Express!*** by Steven Kroll

Readers explore the history of the US mail system as they learn about the Pony Express and how its riders risked their lives to deliver mail and some packages across the West.

### ***We Followed the Stars to Canada*** by Debi van de Wiel

After World War II, a Dutch family emigrates from Holland to Canada, taking the same emotional and difficult journey as thousands of other immigrants.

### ***Turtle in Paradise*** by Jennifer L. Holm

In 1935, eleven-year-old Turtle must figure out how to fit into her cousins' family when her mother sends her to Key West to live because her latest housekeeping job doesn't allow children.

### ***Dragonbreath*** by Ursula Vernon

Danny Dragonbreath, who is avoiding using traditional research methods for his ocean report, takes his friend Wendell with him on an underwater adventure, during which they encounter giant squid and vomiting sea cucumbers.

## JUNE:

## SHARPEN THE SAW®

### ***School! Adventures at the Harvey N. Trouble Elementary School*** by Kate McMullan

Ron Faster attends the outlandish Harvey N. Trouble Elementary School, where things aren't normal but lessons are learned with humor.

### ***Seagull Sam*** by Katie Clark

Sam's siblings say he is too small to fly kites with them, so he finds a way to amaze them all.

### ***King of the Castle*** by Kathy Stinson

An illiterate school custodian decides to learn how to read.

### ***The Dread Crew: Pirates of the Backwoods*** by Kate Inglis

Eric, a pirate tracker, intends to hunt down the Dread Crew, a gang of hardened junk hunters that has been traipsing through the Maritime woods.

### ***Far Enough Island*** by Lesley Choyce

After Sarah's family suffers a streak of bad luck, she begins worrying about her parents. Sarah has to believe in herself as her family flounders.