

Lawrence, Iain. The Wreckers (*Mystery*)

Off the coast of England in 1799, shipwrecked fourteen-year-old John attempts to save his father and himself while dealing with an evil secret surrounding the village where he is stranded.

Levine, Gail Carson. Ella Enchanted

(*Fantasy/Science Fiction*)

A retelling of the classic Cinderella story, in which Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her.

Mikaelson, Ben. Stranded (*Realistic Fiction*)

Wanting to prove her self-reliance to her parents, twelve-year-old Koby tries to rescue two pilot whales near her home in the Florida Keys.

Murphy, Jim. The Great Fire (*Non-Fiction*)

Told through the eyes of several survivors, this is a fascinating account of the infamous fire that decimated most of Chicago in 1871.

Paterson, Katherine. Jip, His Story

(*Historical Fiction*)

While living on a Vermont poor farm during the 1850's, Jip learns his true identity and begins to understand why and how he came to live at this place.

Paulsen, Gary. Tucket's Ride*

(*Historical Fiction*)

After losing their way in the wilderness, fifteen-year-old Francis and his two young companions face capture at the hands of dangerous men.

Pullman, Philip. Clockwork

(*Fantasy/Science Fiction*)

In a small German village, a storyteller's story and an apprentice clockwork-maker's nightmare meet in a menacing life-like figure created by the strange Doctor Kalmenius.

Rylant, Cynthia. The Islander

(*Fantasy/Science Fiction*)

Living with his grandfather on an island, orphaned ten-year-old Daniel feels deep loneliness until the night he meets a mermaid.

Sachar, Louis. Holes (*Realistic Fiction*)

As further evidence of his family's ill fortune, Stanley is sent to a hellish correctional camp where he finds his first real friend, a treasure and a new sense of himself.

Spinelli, Jerry. Crash (*Realistic Fiction*)

Through his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his love for his ill grandfather, tough seventh grade Crash learns the true meaning of friendship and the importance of family.

Spinelli, Jerry. Knots On My Yo-Yo String: the Autobiography of a Kid (*Biography*)

This Newbery award-winning children's author presents a humorous account of his childhood and youth in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

White, Ruth. Belle Prater's Boy (*Realistic Fiction*)

After his mother disappears, Woodrow moves in with his grandmother and befriends his cousin who helps him find the strength to face his terrible loss.

Young, Ronder Thomas. Moving Mama to Town (*Historical Fiction*)

After his father runs off, thirteen-year-old Freddy moves his mother from their Georgia farm into town and takes on the challenge of holding his family together.

**this title is one in a series of books*

GRADE 6

Books Too Good To Miss

***Recommended by the
Nassau Library System
and Your Local Public
Library.***



Books for Sixth Graders

Anderson, Janet. Going Through the Gate
(Mystery)

In a small town, five sixth grade students prepare for their teacher's mysterious annual graduation ceremony.

Almond, David. Skellig
(Fantasy/Science Fiction)

Unhappy about his baby sister's illness and his move into a dilapidated old house, Michael retreats to the backyard shed where he discovers a strange owl-like man.

Armstrong, Jennifer. Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World: The Extraordinary True Story of Shackleton and the Endurance
(Non-Fiction)

An exciting and fascinating account of the 1914 exploration expedition, that left Shackleton and his men shipwrecked on the frozen Antarctic Sea.

Cooper, Susan. The King of Shadows
(Fantasy/Science Fiction)

While working in a replica of the famous Globe Theater in London, Nat finds himself transported back to 1599 and performing in the original theater under the guidance of Shakespeare himself.

Creech, Sharon. Chasing Redbird
(Realistic Fiction)

Thirteen-year-old Zinnia uncovers family secrets and self-truths while clearing a mysterious trail that begins on her family's farm in Kentucky.

Cushman, Karen. The Ballad of Lucy Whipple
(Historical Fiction)

In 1849, twelve-year-old Lucy tries to adjust to her new life after her family moves from a civilized town in Massachusetts to a rough mining town in California.

DeFelice, Cynthia. The Apprenticeship of Lucas Whitaker
(Historical Fiction)

After his family members die of tuberculosis in 1849, twelve-year-old Lucas becomes a doctor's apprentice.

Farmer, Nancy. A Girl Named Disaster
(Realistic Fiction)

Fleeing an impending marriage to a cruel man, eleven-year-old Nhamo sets out on a perilous journey to Zimbabwe and comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.

Fleischman, Paul. Seedfolks (Realistic Fiction)

One by one, a number of people, varying in age and background, transform a trash-filled inner city lot into a beautiful garden.

Fleischman, Sid. The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life (Biography)

An autobiography of the Newbery award-winning children's book author who set out from childhood determined to be a magician.

Fletcher, Susan. Shadow Spinner
(Historical Fiction)

In ancient Persia, thirteen-year-old Marjan, a crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem and gathers the stories that will save the queen Shahrazad's life.

Freedman, Russell. Martha Graham, A Dancer's Life (Biography)

A photo-biography of the American dancer, teacher and choreographer, who became a leading figure in the world of modern dance.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Running Out of Time (Mystery)

When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840's village, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1996 tourist site under unseen observation by heartless scientists.

Hesse, Karen. Out of the Dust
(Historical Fiction)

In a series of poems, fifteen-year-old Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family's farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Great Depression.

Holt, Kimberly Willis. When Zachary Beaver Came to Town (Realistic Fiction)

During the summer in 1971 in a small Texas town, thirteen-year-old Toby and his best friend meet the star of a sideshow act, 600-pound Zachary, the fattest boy in the world.

Ibbotson, Eva. Which Witch?
(Fantasy/Science Fiction)

Deciding that he must have a child to carry on his evil traditions, the Great Wizard Arriman announces a contest among the witches of Todcaster, one of which will marry him.

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