

Shipwrecked! : the true adventures of a Japanese boy - Rhoda Blumberg

In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck left him and his companions castaways on a remote island, Manjiro learned new ways when he became the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

The Indian in the cupboard - Lynne Reid Banks

When Omri's plastic Indian, put in an unusual cupboard overnight, comes to life, Omri has a new friend who can teach him about another culture and another time.

Charlotte's web - E.B. White

Wilbur the pig is upset when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.

My side of the mountain - written and illustrated by Jean Craighead George

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.

Shiloh - by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

Small steps : the year I got polio - Peg Kehret

The author describes her battle against polio and her efforts to overcome its debilitating effects.

Knots in my yo-yo string - Jerry Spinelli

This Italian-American Newbery Medalist presents a humorous account of his childhood and youth in Norristown, Pennsylvania.

The great American elephant chase - Gillian Cross

In 1881, fifteen-year-old Tad, an orphan, helps a girl attempting to get a mighty Indian elephant to friends in Nebraska, all the while pursued by two unscrupulous villains who claim that the elephant is theirs.

The borrowers - by Mary Norton

Miniature people who live in an old country house by borrowing things from the humans are forced to emigrate from their home under the clock. Includes a letter and a sketch of Homily and Arrietty by the author.

Superfudge - Judy Blume

Peter describes the highs and lows of life with his younger brother Fudge.

Be a perfect person in just three days! - by Stephen Manes

With the advice of a book he borrows from the library, Milo Crinkley tries to make himself into a perfect person in only three days.

Haunted summer - Betty Ren Wright

Shy, nine-year-old Abby surprises herself, her equally timid babysitter, and her older brother when they are haunted by a ghost that is trying to reclaim a stolen music box.

Time for Andrew - Mary Downing Hahn

When Drew goes to spend the summer with his great-aunt in the family's old house, is drawn eighty years into the past to trade places with his great-great-uncle who is dying of diphtheria.

The birchbark house - Louise Erdrich

Omakayas, a seven-year-old Native American girl of the Ojibwa tribe, lives through the joy of summer and the peril of winter on an island in Lake Superior in 1847.

The Boggart - Susan Cooper

Returning home to Toronto, Canada, after visiting the Scottish castle inherited by her family, twelve-year-old Emily finds that she has accidentally brought back with her a boggart, an invisible and mischievous spirit with a fondness for practical jokes.

Little house on the prairie; - by Laura Ingalls Wilder

A family travels from the woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie, where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, build a well, and fight a prairie fire.

All about Sam - Lois Lowry

The adventures of Sam, Anastasia Krupnik's younger brother, from his first day as a newborn through his mischievous times as a toddler.

The Quicksand pony - Alison Lester

After her pony Bella, trapped in quicksand, is rescued by a mysterious unseen person, ten-year-old Bidy follows the trail into the Australian bush and discovers the solution to a disappearance that happened years ago.

Who stole the Wizard of Oz? - by Avi

Becky and her brother use some ingenious clues to identify the person who stole five children's books from the town's library.

The pizza puzzle - Susan Beth Pfeffer

Distracted by her worries that her parents may get a divorce, Taryn gets in trouble with her seventh-grade English teacher and is caught up in an increasingly complicated series of lies.

Because of Winn-Dixie - Kate DiCamillo

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 dog, Winn-Dixie.

Benjy the football hero - Jean Van Leeuwen

Benjy discovers that brains work better than brawn when it comes to beating the other fourth grade class's football team.

Max and me and the time machine - by Gery Greer and Bob Ruddick

Steve and Max are transported by time machine to medieval England, into the bodies of a young knight and his trusty horse, and find themselves embroiled in danger, intrigue, and adventure.

Stinker from space - Pamela F. Service

An agent of the Sylon Confederacy, fleeing from enemy ships, crash lands on Earth, transfers his mind to the body of a skunk, and enlists the aid of two children in getting back to his home planet.

The breadwinner - Deborah Ellis

Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan, impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest.

Baseball fever - Johanna Hurwitz

Ten-year-old Ezra, who is suffering from an advanced case of baseball fever, must convince his scholarly father that this disorder is not responsible for wasting his mind away.



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4th grade books are fantastic



These books will help you discover new worlds, places and times, all while you're still in the fourth grade.

This list was compiled with help from Highland Park Public Library. The annotations are courtesy of Book Index with review. Check out BIR, part of the TFPL databases, for more reviews.