Great Read Alouds
For Middle Readers

Visit your local Idaho library to pick up some of these favorites to read with your kids:

Fourth through Sixth Grade

The 39 Clues series, by various authors
A Single Shard, by Linda Sue Park
Ella Enchanted, by Gail Carson Levine
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, by E.L. Konigsburg
Half Magic series, by Edward Eager
Hoot, by Carl Hiaasen
Leaving the Bellweathers, by Kristin Clark Venuti
The Magician's Elephant, by Kate DiCamillo
Maniac Magee, by Jerry Spinelli
The Mysterious Benedict Society, by Trenton Lee Stewart
The Penderwicks, by Jeanne Birdsall
Percy Jackson and the Olympians series, by Rick Riordan
Savvy, by Ingrid Law
There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom, by Louis Sachar
Tumtum and Nutmeg: Adventures Beyond Nutmouse Hall, by Emily Bearn
Walk Two Moons, by Sharon Creech
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, by L. Frank Baum

Some Picture Books:
Voices in the Park, by Anthony Browne
The Other Side, by Jacqueline Woodson
Pink and Say, by Patricia Polacco

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Older Children and Books

Kids this age definitely know what they like and dislike about everything ... including books! Who their friends are and what they think becomes more important. Children in grades four through six experience excitement about what they are learning and what they able to do, as well as new anxiety about growing responsibilities.

By reading a variety of books they'll be able to branch out more and discover new things. Reading for pleasure helps students build their vocabulary and fosters a lifelong love of literature. Kids this age may also be looking for books that help them figure out social challenges, from coping with friends and rejection to handling bullying and other conflicts. This age group likes more complex storylines and characters, and they like to “read between the lines.”

Reading Tips

- Books in a series are great for this age.
- Help them find more books in the genres they enjoy. Eventually they may branch out and find other genres they like.
- Encourage them to read magazines, graphic novels, poetry, and audio books.
- Let your children see you reading and talk about the things you are reading with them. Turn off the TV at least one or two weeknights and spend that time reading things you enjoy.

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