

BOOK SETS

(APPROX. 30 BOOKS AND A TEACHER GUIDE EACH)

ACROSS FIVE APRILS

Irene Hunt

Grade 4-7

The unforgettable story of young Jethro Creighton, who comes of age during the turbulent years of the Civil War, by the Newbery Award-winning author of *Up a Road Slowly*. "An impressive book both as a historically authentic Civil War novel and as a beautifully written family story."--University of Chicago Center for Children's Books.

THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN

Mark Twain

Grade 5 and up

Mark Twain's classic novel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, tells the story of a teenaged misfit who finds himself floating on a raft down the Mississippi River with an escaping slave, Jim. In the course of their perilous journey, Huck and Jim meet adventure, danger, and a cast of characters who are sometimes menacing and often hilarious.

THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER

Mark Twain

Grade 5 and up

A captivating version of Mark Twain's classic yarn about an orphan growing up on the Mississippi. The narrator's voice resembles Twain's; he uses Twain's language. The reader for Tom does an exceptional job. A few of the minor characters sound forced, but don't ruin the performance.

ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT

Erich Maria Remarque

Grades 7 and up

This is the testament of Paul Baumer, who enlists with his classmates in the German army of World War I. They become soldiers with youthful enthusiasm. But the world of work, duty, culture, and progress they had been taught breaks into pieces under the first bombardment in the trenches. Through years of vivid horror, Paul holds fast to a single vow: to fight against the principle of hate that meaninglessly pits young men of the same generation but different uniforms against each other, if only he can come out of the war alive.

AMEILA BEDILA

Peggy Parish

Grades 4 – 8

Amelia Bedelia, the housekeeper with a literal mind, merrily upsets the household when she "dresses" the chicken and "trims" the steak with ribbons and lace.

THE BEAN TREES

Barbara Kingsolver

Grades 7 – 12

Marietta Greer's mama called her Missy, because, according to family legend, when she was three, she stamped her foot "and told my own mother not to call me Marietta but MISS Marietta, as I had to call all the people including children in the houses where she worked Miss this or Mister that..." Her growing up years in Pittman County, Kentucky, taught her two things: don't get pregnant, and get out as quick as you can. With Mama's expert training in old-car trouble-shooting, Marietta hits the road in her 1955 windowless, jump-start Volkswagen, determined to rename herself after the first place she has to buy gas. Relieved at missing Homer, Illinois, and keeping her "fingers crossed through Sidney, Sadorus, Cerro Gordo, Decatur, and Blue Mound," she "coasted into Taylorville on the fumes." Now Taylor Greer, she discovers that car trouble can change more than just her name: when her rocker arm breaks in Oklahoma, she is "given" a baby; when she has two flat tires in Tucson, she limps into Jesus Is Lord Used Tires, where she begins to learn that her troubles are minor compared to people hiding from Guatemalan death squads.

BRIAN'S WINTER

Gary Paulsen

Grades 5 – 10

Gary Paulsen adds to the saga of Brian, the boy who survived the plane crash in the North Woods, as told previously in HATCHET and THE RIVER. Richard Thomas delivers a somewhat melodramatic reading of this mild-mannered survival story. His tone fails to convey Brian's isolation or apprehension and builds none of the tension present in Peter Coyote's readings of the earlier titles. The title provides an additional entry in Paulsen's popular audio repertoire, but it's not the strongest.

BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

Katherine Paterson & Donna Diamond

Grades 4-8

Jess Aarons is eager to start fifth grade. He's been practicing his sprints all summer, determined to become the fastest runner at school. All seems to be on track, until the new girl in class (who also happens to be Jess's new next-door neighbor), Leslie Burke, leaves all the boys in the dust, including Jess. After this rather frustrating introduction, Jess and Leslie soon become inseparable. Together, they create an imaginary, secret kingdom in the woods called Terabithia that can be reached only by swinging across a creek bed on a rope. But one morning a tragic accident befalls Leslie as she ventures alone to Terabithia, and Jess's life is changed forever. Leonard deftly interprets the strands of humor, realism and heart-wrenching emotion woven into Paterson's fine tale. His careful and authentic handling of Jess's anger and grief in the aftermath of the accident is sure to touch listeners.

THE CAY

Theodore Taylor

Grades 7-12

This award-winning novel remains a powerful classic of prejudice, love, and survival. In 1942, 11-year-old Phillip Enright lives with his parents on the Dutch island of Curaçao, but when the war moves too close for comfort, his mother decides to travel with him back to the safety of Virginia. When their boat is torpedoed, however, Phillip is blinded and finds himself adrift on a life raft with an old black man and a cat. They eventually land on a deserted island. Phillip is suspicious of "the large Negro," but soon grows to trust--and ultimately love--the patient and generous Timothy. Dedicated to "Dr. King's Dream," *The Cay* has a clear message that friendship is colorblind; it is also a terrific adventure story of a young, newly blinded man learning to survive on an uninhabited island.

CHARLOTTES WEB

E.B. White

Grades 4-8

An affectionate, sometimes bashful pig named Wilbur befriends a spider named Charlotte, who lives in the rafters above his pen. A prancing, playful bloke, Wilbur is devastated when he learns of the destiny that befalls all those of porcine persuasion. Determined to save her friend, Charlotte spins a web that reads "Some Pig," convincing the farmer and surrounding community that Wilbur is no ordinary animal and should be saved. In this story of friendship, hardship, and the passing on into time, E.B. White reminds us to open our eyes to the wonder and miracle often found in the simplest of things.

DEAR MR. HENSHAW

Beverly Cleary

Grades 3-8

When, in second grade, Leigh writes to an author to tell him how much he "licked" his book, he never suspects that he'll still be writing to him four years later. And he never imagines the kinds of things he'll be writing about:

Dear Mr. Henshaw, I am sorry I was rude in my last letter... Maybe I was mad about other things, like Dad forgetting to send this month's support payment. Mom tried to phone him at the trailer park where, as Mom says, he hangs his hat.

It's not easy being the new kid in town, with recently divorced parents, no dog anymore, and a lunch that gets stolen every day (all the "good stuff," anyway). Writing letters, first to the real Mr. Henshaw, and then in a diary to a pretend Mr. Henshaw, may be just what he needs.

DICEY'S SONG

Cynthia Voight

Grades 5-12

The four Tillerman children finally have a home at their grandmother's rundown farm on the Maryland shore. It's what Dicey has dreamed of for her three younger siblings, but after watching over the others for so long, it's hard to let go. Who is Dicey, if she's no longer the caretaker for her family? Dicey finds herself in new friends, in a growing relationship with her grandmother, and in the satisfaction of refinishing the old boat she found in the barn. Then, as Dicey experiences the trials and pleasures of making a new life, the past comes back with devastating force, and Dicey learns just how necessary-and painful-letting go can be.

DO BANANA'S CHEW GUM

Jamie Gilson

Grades 4 – 8

Sam acts like a smart aleck to keep from looking dumb. Sam Mott's made it most of the way through sixth grade barely able to read and write. Now Sam's family's moved again, and none of the kids in his new school have started calling him Dumbhead Sam -- yet. But how long can Sam keep his problem secret when even the second grader he baby-sits for reads better than he does?

FANTASTIC MR. FOX

Roald Dahl

Grades 2-5

This early Roald Dahl adventure is great for reading aloud to three- to seven-year-olds, who will be delighted to hear that Mr. Fox keeps his family one step ahead of the obsessed farmers. When they try to dig him out, he digs faster; when they lay siege to his den, he tunnels to where the farmers least expect him--their own larders! In the end, Mr. Fox not only survives, but also helps the whole community of burrowing creatures live happily ever after. With his usual flourish, Dahl evokes a magical animal world that, as children, we always knew existed, had we only known where or how to look for it.

FROG AND TOAD

Arnold Lobel

Grades K-3

Frog and Toad, those famous pals, are beloved by generations of children. Their every adventure is filled with the magic of true friendship, whether they're telling ghost stories, searching for a lost button, or eating too many cookies. This captivating audio collection features all four of the Frog and Toad books, read with humor and charm by award-winning author Arnold Lobel

THE GREAT GILLY HOPKINS

Katherine Paterson

Grades 4 – 8

Gilly Hopkins is a determined-to-be-unpleasant 11-year-old foster kid who the reader can't help but like by the end. Gilly has been in the foster system all her life, and she dreams of getting back to her (as she imagines) wonderful mother. (The mother makes these longings worse by writing the occasional letter.) Gilly is all the more determined to leave after she's placed in a new foster home with a "gross guardian and a freaky kid." But she soon learns about illusions--the hard way. This Newbery Honor Book manages to treat a somewhat grim, and definitely grown-up theme with love and humor, making it a terrific read for a young reader who's ready to learn that "happy" and "ending" don't always go together.

THE GREAT KAPOK TREE

Lynne Cherry

Grades PreK-4

In the Amazon rain forest, a man is chopping down a great Kapok tree. Exhausted from his labors, he puts down his ax and rests. As he sleeps, the animals who live in the tree plead with him not to destroy their world.

THE GOLDEN GOBLET

Eloise Jarvis McGraw

Grades 4-9

Ranofer struggles to thwart the plotting of his evil uncle, Gebu, so he can become master goldsmith like their father in this exciting tale of ancient Egyptian mystery and intrigue. Newberry Honor Book.

HATCHET

Gary Paulsen

Grades 5-12

Thirteen year old Brian Robeson is on his way to visit his father when the single engine plane in which he is flying crashes. Suddenly, Brian finds himself alone in the Canadian wilderness with nothing but his clothing, a tattered windbreaker, and the hatchet his mother has given him as a present-and the dreadful secret that has been tearing him apart ever since his parents' divorce. But now Brian has no time for anger, self-pity, or despair-it will take all his know-how and determination, and more courage than he knew he possessed, to survive.

HOLES

Louis Sachar

Grades 5-12

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no good dirty rotten pig stealing great-great grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnatses. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the boys build character by spending all day, every day, digging holes exactly five feet wide and five feet deep. There is no lake at Camp Green Lake. But there are an awful lot of holes.

THE INDIAN IN THE CUPBOARD

Lynne Reid Banks

Grades 4 –8

What could be better than a magic cupboard that turns small toys into living creatures? Omri's big brother has no birthday present for him, so he gives Omri an old medicine cabinet he's found. Although their mother supplies a key, the cabinet still doesn't seem like much of a present. But when an exhausted Omri dumps a plastic toy Indian into the cabinet just before falling asleep, the magic begins. Turn the key once and the toy comes alive; turn it a second time and it's an action figure again.

THE ISLAND OF THE BLUE DOLPHINS

Scott O'Dell

Grades 4 – 9

O'Dell was inspired by the real-life story of a 12-year-old American Indian girl, Karana. The author based his book on the life of this remarkable young woman who, during the evacuation of Ghalas-at (an island off the coast of California), jumped ship to stay with her young brother who had been abandoned on the island. He died shortly thereafter, and Karana fended for herself on the island for 18 years.

JACOBS RESCUE

(A Holocaust Story)

Malka Drucker

Grades 4 – 8

Once Jacob Gutgeld lived with his family in a beautiful house in Warsaw, Poland. He went to school and played hide-and-seek in the woods with his friends. But everything changed the day the Nazi soldiers invaded in 1939. Suddenly it wasn't safe to be Jewish anymore. One afternoon, eight-year-old Jacob slipped through a hole in the ghetto wall to meet Alex Roslan, a kind Christian man who agreed to be his new "uncle." The Roslan family, at the risk of their own lives, kept Jacob's identity as a Jew hidden. Every day of hiding meant a new danger and a threat of discovery. Jacob worried about his real family and longed to go to school and play outside like the Roslan children. The fear, the hunger, and the hardships brought Jacob closer to the Roslan family-until at last they were able to begin a new chapter in their lives.

JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH

Roald Dahl

Grades 3 – 8

When poor James Henry Trotter loses his parents in a horrible rhinoceros accident, he is forced to live with his two wicked aunts, Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker. After three years he becomes "the saddest and loneliest boy you could find." Then one day, a wizened old man in a dark-green suit gives James a bag of magic crystals that promise to reverse his misery forever. When James accidentally spills the crystals on his aunts' withered peach tree, he sets the adventure in motion. From the old tree a single peach grows, and grows, and grows some more, until finally James climbs inside the giant fruit and rolls away from his despicable aunts to a whole new life. James befriends an assortment of hilarious characters, including Grasshopper, Earthworm, Miss Spider, and Centipede--each with his or her own song to sing. Roald Dahl's rich imagery and amusing characters ensure that parents will not tire of reading this classic aloud, which they will no doubt be called to do over and over again!

THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE

C.S. Lewis and Pauline Baynes

Grades 5 – 10

They open a door and enter a world. Narnia...the land beyond the wardrobe, the secret country known only to Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy...the place where the adventure begins. Lucy is the first to find the secret of the wardrobe in the professor's mysterious old house. At first, no one believes her when she tells of her adventures in the land of Narnia. But soon Edmund and then Peter and Susan discover the Magic and meet Aslan, the Great Lion, for themselves. In the blink of an eye, their lives are changed forever.

LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Grades 4 – 8

The adventures continue for Laura Ingalls and her family as they leave their little house in the big woods of Wisconsin and set out for Kansas. They travel for many days in their covered wagon until they find the best spot to build their little house on the prairie. Soon they are planting and plowing, hunting wild ducks and turkeys, and gathering grass for their cows. Sometimes pioneer life is hard, but Laura and her folks are always busy and happy in their new little house. And so continues Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved story of a pioneer girl and her family. The nine Little House books have been cherished by generations of readers as both a unique glimpse into America's frontier past and a heartwarming, unforgettable story. Laura and her family journey west by covered wagon, only to find they are in Indian Territory and must move on.

THE LONG WINTER

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Grades 4 –8

The adventures of Laura Ingalls and her family continue as Pa, Ma, Laura, Mary, Carrie, and little Grace bravely face the hard winter of 1880-81 in their little house in the Dakota Territory. Blizzards cover the little town with snow, cutting off all supplies from the outside. Soon there is almost no food left. So voting Almanzo Wilder and a friend make a dangerous trip across the prairie to find some wheat. Finally a joyous Christmas is celebrated in a very unusual way in this most exciting of all the little house books. And so continues Laura Ingalls Wilder's beloved story of a pioneer girl and her family. The nine Little House books have been cherished by generations of readers as both a unique glimpse into America's frontier past and a heartwarming, unforgettable story.

LITTLE HOUSE IN THE BIG WOODS

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Grades 4 –8

Wolves and panthers and bears roamed the deep Wisconsin woods in the 1860's. But Pa Ingalls preferred to live miles from his nearest neighbors. Pa built a snug log cabin for Ma and his three daughters, Mary and Laura and Baby Carrie. He hunted and trapped and farmed. Ma knew how to make her own cheese and sugar. At night the wind moaned lonesomely, but Pa played his fiddle and sang to his little girls.

THE MAGIC SCHOOL BUS AT THE WATERWORKS

Joanna Cole and Bruce Degen

Grades PreK-2

Ms. Frizzle, an unflappable science teacher, drives the magical school bus into a cloud where the children shrink to the size of water droplets and follow the course of water through the city's waterworks system.

MY BROTHER SAM IS DEAD

James Lincoln Collier, Christopher Collier

Grades 7 – 12

Young Tim is caught between his brother's patriotism and his father's Tory sympathies, in this classic story of the American Revolution. "This stirring and authoritative novel earns a place beside our best historical fiction."

THE MYSTERY OF THE CUPBOARD

Lynn Reid Banks

Grades 5 – 9

When Omri's family moves to the country house his mother has inherited, he learns the earlier history of the magical cupboard first featured in *The Indian in the Cupboard* (1980). The house belonged to distant cousin Frederick; in its thatched roof, Omri discovers a manuscript dictated by Frederick's mother, Jessica Charlotte, on her deathbed. A tragedy is revealed: jealous of her sister Maria (Omri's great-great-grandmother), Jessica Charlotte--music-hall singer, unwed mother, and family outcast--stole a pair of her earrings, unwittingly setting off events that left Maria widowed and impoverished. The cupboard was Jessica Charlotte's; now, when Omri finds her toy figures, he uses it to bring them to life, hoping to avert the tragedy by sending them back to her time--belatedly realizing that this may cancel his own existence.

OF MICE AND MEN

John Steinbeck

Grades 6 -12

Novella by John Steinbeck, published in 1937. The tragic story, given poignancy by its objective narrative, is about the complex bond between two migrant laborers. The book, which was adapted by Steinbeck into a three-act play (produced 1937), earned him national renown. The plot centers on George Milton and Lennie Small, itinerant ranch hands who dream of one day owning a small farm. George acts as a father figure to Lennie, who is large and simpleminded, calming him and helping to rein in his immense physical strength. When Lennie accidentally kills the ranch owner's flirtatious daughter-in-law, George shoots his friend rather than allow him to be captured by a vengeful lynch mob.

ON MY HONOR

Marion Dane Bauer, Dolores Kozielski

Grades 5 – 8

When his best friend drowns while they are swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience. "A powerful, soul-stirring novel told simply and well."--Booklist, starred review. A Newbery Honor Book; ALA Notable Children's Book.

THE OUTSIDERS

S. E. Hinton

Grades 6 – 12

According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers--until one terrible night when his friend Johnny kills a soc. The murder gets under Ponyboy's skin, causing his bifurcated world to crumble and teaching him that pain feels the same

whether a soc or a greaser. This classic, written by S. E. Hinton when she was 16 years old, is as profound today as it was when it was first published in 1967.

THE PAIN AND THE GREAT ONE

Judy Blume

Grades Prek – 3

"The Pain" and "The Great One" are not their real names. But you may know their voices. When this girl, age eight, and this boy, age six, tell all about each other, they sound a lot alike. They are brother and sister and they're caught in a contest over whom Mom and Dad love most. You probably know who wins, too, in this funny, family picturebook.

RAMONA THE PEST

Beverly Cleary

Grades 4-8

Ramona is off to kindergarten, and it's the greatest day of her life. So why is she sitting on the bench while the rest of the students play the game gray duck? Laughs and minor upsets abound in an enormously popular story starring the one and only Ramona Quimby!

THE RETURN OF THE INDIAN

Lynne Reid Banks

Grades 4 – 8

In *The Indian In The Cupboard*, Omri discovers a wonderful, magical world when a three inch high Indian named Little Bear came to life. Now, in *The Return Of The Indian*, Omri tries to see his friend Little Bear again, and lands in the middle of a whole new series of astonishing and dangerous adventures -- from which he may never escape!

ROLL OF THUNDER

Mildred Taylor

Grades 5 –8

Her Newbery Medal-winning *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* tells the story of one African American family, fighting to stay together and strong in the face of brutal racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the Deep South of the 1930s. Nine-year-old Cassie Logan, growing up protected by her loving family, has never had reason to suspect that any white person could consider her inferior or wish her harm. But during the course of one devastating year when her community begins to be ripped apart by angry night riders threatening African Americans, she and her three brothers come to understand why the land they own means so much to their Papa. "Look out there, Cassie girl. All that belongs to you. You ain't never had to live on nobody's place but your own and long as I live and the family survives, you'll never have to. That's important. You may not understand that now but one day you will. Then you'll see."

RUMBLE FISH

S. E. Hinton

Grades 6-12

Rusty-James, knows he's a tough teen, but now he wants to be even tougher, just like his older brother, the Motorcycle Boy. He wants to stay calm and laugh when things get dangerous, to be the strongest streetfighter and the most respected guy this side of the river.

Rusty-James isn't book smart– he relies on his fists instead of his brains. So far whenever he gets into trouble the Motorcycle Boy has bailed him out. But one day Rusty-James world comes apart in an explosive chain of events. And this time the Motorcycle Boy isn't around to pick up the pieces.

SARAH, PLAIN AND TALL

Patricia MacLachlan

Grades 2-5

“Did Mama sing every day?” Caleb asks his sister Anna. “Every-single-day,” she answers. “Papa sang, too.” Their mother died the day after Caleb was born. Their house on the prairie is quiet now, and Papa doesn't sing anymore. Then Papa puts an ad in the paper, asking for a wife, and he receives a letter from one Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton, of Maine. Papa, Anna, and Caleb write back. Caleb asks if she sings. Sarah decides to come for a month. She writes Papa: “I will come by train. I will wear a yellow bonnet. I am plain and tall,” and “Tell them I sing.” Anna and Caleb wait and wonder. Will Sarah be nice? Will she like them? Will she stay?

THE SECRET OF THE INDIAN

Lynn Reid Banks

Grades 4 – 8

In this sequel to *The Indian in the Cupboard* and *The Return of the Indian*, a terrible battle leaves many of Little Bear's warriors wounded. Omri must find medical help while protecting the secret of the magic cupboard.

SHILOH

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Grades 4 – 8

When 11-year-old Marty Preston chances upon a mistreated beagle pup in his hometown of Friendly, West Virginia, he is not prepared for the ethical questions he has to face. Should he return the dog to its owner, only to have the animal abused again? Should he tell his parents? Should he steal food to help the poor creature? Marty's efforts to cope with these questions provides the moral backbone for this story, which is presented in a language and manner that will be understood by third- and fourth-grade readers.

THE SIGN OF THE BEAVER

Elizabeth George Speare

Grades 4 –8

When his father returns East to collect the rest of the family, 13-year-old Matt is left alone to guard his family's newly built homestead. One day, Matt is brutally stung when

he robs a bee tree for honey. He returns to consciousness to discover that his many stings have been treated by an old Native American and his grandson. Matt offers his only book as thanks, but the old man instead asks Matt to teach his grandson Attean to read. Both boys are suspicious, but Attean comes each day for his lesson. In the mornings, Matt tries to entice Attean with tales from *Robinson Crusoe*, while in the afternoons, Attean teaches Matt about wilderness survival and Native American culture. The boys become friends in spite of themselves, and their inevitable parting is a moving tribute to the ability of shared experience to overcome prejudice.

SING DOWN THE MOON

Scott O'dell

Grades 4 – 7

One lovely spring day, fourteen-year-old Bright Morning and her friend Running Bird take their sheep to pasture. The sky is clear blue against the red buttes of the Canyon de Chelly, and the fields and orchards of the Navahos promise a rich harvest. Bright Morning is happy as she gazes across the beautiful valley that is the home of her tribe. Happy until the barking of Black Dog disturbs her and she turns. It is then that she sees the Spanish slavers riding straight toward her.

SNOW TREASURE

Marie McSwigan

Grades 4 – 7

A daring adventure based on a true story about a group of Norwegian children who smuggled nine million dollars in gold past Nazi sentries during World War II. "A story of courage and wits and grim determination."

STARGIRL

Jerry Spinelli

Grades 5-12

She's as magical as the desert sky. As strange as her pet rat. As mysterious as her own name. And she captures Leo Borlock's heart with just one smile. But when the students of Mica High turn on Stargirl for everything that makes her different, Leo urges her to become the very thing that can destroy her: normal.

STONE FOX

John Reynolds Gardiner

Grades 4 – 8

Ten-year-old Willy needs to win the big dogsled race in order to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm but that means beating the huge Indian mountain man, Stone Fox.

SUMMER OF THE MONKEYS

Wilson Rawls

Grades 4- 8

Jay Berry Lee is happy until the summer he is 14 years old and discovers monkeys living in the creek bottoms near his parents' homestead. Set in the late 1800s, *Summer of the Monkeys* traces the boy's adventures as he attempts to capture 29 monkeys that have (it

turns out) escaped from the circus. With somewhat dubious help from his grandfather, and over the objections of his mother, Jay goes about discovering that monkeys are much smarter and harder to catch than he thought possible. Woven into this story is a second theme about his physically disabled sister and the family's attempts to find money for an operation.

SUMMER OF THE SWANS

Betsy Byars

Grades 4 – 8

Sara's fourteenth summer was turning out to be the most confusing time of her life. Up until then things had flowed smoothly, like the gliding swans on the lake. Now she wanted to fly away from everything—her beautiful older sister, her bossy Aunt Willie, her remote father, and most of all from herself. And then there was her younger brother, Charlie. Sara loved him in a way she didn't understand until the night he disappeared, when she began to realize what it means to care more about someone else than you could care about yourself.

THERE'S A BOY IN THE GIRLS BATHROOM

Louis Sachar

Grades 4 – 8

He may be the weirdest kid in school, but he's not completely hopeless! The triumph of Bradley Chalkers, the weird, insecure bully of the fifth grade, will appeal to every reader who's cheered for—or been—the underdog.

TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD

Harper Lee

Grades 8 – 12

Set in the small Southern town of Maycomb, Alabama, during the Depression, *To Kill a Mockingbird* follows three years in the life of 8-year-old Scout Finch, her brother, Jem, and their father, Atticus—three years punctuated by the arrest and eventual trial of a young black man accused of raping a white woman. Though her story explores big themes, Harper Lee chooses to tell it through the eyes of a child. The result is a tough and tender novel of race, class, justice, and the pain of growing up.

THE TRUE CONFESSIONS OF CHARLOTTE DOYLE

Avi

Grades 8-12

Not every 13 year old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial and found guilty. Charlotte Doyle is just such a girl and she swears to tell the truth in all its detail. It happened during the summer of 1832 aboard a ship called the Seahawk. The only passenger on the long Atlantic Ocean crossing, Charlotte found herself caught between the madness of a ruthless captain and the rage of a mutinous crew. This is her terrifying account of that fateful voyage.

THE TWENTY-ONE BALLOONS

William Pene Dubois

Grades 3 – 12

Professor William Waterman Sherman intends to fly across the Pacific Ocean. But through a twist of fate, he lands on Krakatoa, and discovers a world of unimaginable wealth, eccentric inhabitants, and incredible balloon inventions. Winner of the 1948 Newbery Medal, this classic fantasy-adventure is now available in a handsome new edition. "William Pene du Bois combines his rich imagination, scientific tastes, and brilliant artistry to tell a story that has no age limit."

WE BEAT THE STREETS

Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt

Grades 7-12

For Drs. Sampson Davis, Rameck Hunt, and George Jenkins, growing up in street-tough Newark, New Jersey, was not an easy experience. They were all smart, and they all had loving families, but every day they had to struggle against peer pressure, gang violence, rampant drug use, and the challenges of being young and black. Then one day while trying to skip class to shoot hoops-the boys found themselves listening to a special presentation about the Seton Hall University Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Plus program. For the first time ever, the three friends believed that they might really have an opportunity to make their dreams come true. Then and there, they made a pact to apply to the program, and if they were accepted, to attend-and graduate-together. And that's just what they did. Uplifting and inspiring, this true story about how three friends came together and encouraged one another to achieve great success will speak to young readers everywhere.

WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS

Wilson Rawls

Grades 4 – 8

In *Where the Red Fern Grows*, Billy and his precious coonhound pups romp relentlessly through the Ozarks, trying to "tree" the elusive raccoon. In time, the inseparable trio wins the coveted gold cup in the annual coon-hunt contest, captures the wily ghost coon, and bravely fights with a mountain lion. When the victory over the mountain lion turns to tragedy, Billy grieves, but learns the beautiful old Native American legend of the sacred red fern that grows over the graves of his dogs.

WELCOME HOME JELLYBEAN

Marlene Fanta Shyer

Grades 4 - 7

Neil Oxley's older sister, Geraldine, is coming home for the first time. After spending most of her life in institutions for the retarded, she is finally going to live with her family and adapt to the "real world." "Skillful juxtaposition of two seemingly incompatible elements--light humor and the serious theme of mental retardation . . .

THERE ARE 10 DIFFERENT
TITLES OF 6 BOOKS EACH,
WITH TEACHERS GUIDES
FOR EACH OF THE
FOLLOWING SETS

FICTION GUIDED READING SETS

Gay Pinnell

Grades 2 – 6 and for Guided Reading Groups

The following are the different levels of Guided reading sets and the titles that are in them. Each level comes with a teacher’s guide and 6 books of each title.

LEVEL H

“A Clean House for Mole and Mouse”, “The Dinosaur Who Lived in My Backyard”, “George Shrinks: I was Walking Down the Road”, “Mom’s Secret”, “More Spaghetti, I Say!” “Mr. McCready’s Cleaning Day”, “The New Baby Calf”, “Robert and the Rocket”, and “Whose Mouse are You?”

LEVEL I

“Amalia and the Grasshopper”, “Apples and Pumpkins”, “The Gingerbread Man”, “Henny Penny”, “The Little Mouse”, “The Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear”, “Look-Alike Animals”, “My Father”, “Noisy Nora”, “This is the Place for Me”, and “Too Many Puppies”.

LEVEL J

“Bear’s Bargain”, “Big Mama and Grandma Ghana”, “City Mouse-Country Mouse”, “Fox and His Friends”, “Insects”, “The Magic Fish”, “Mouse Soup”, “Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog”, “Pack 109”, and “Stone Soup”.

LEVEL K

“Bedtime for Frances”, “The Blind Men and the Elephant”, “The Brementown Musicians”, “Clifford the Big Red Dog”, “Frog and Toad are Friends”, “Jamaica’s Find”, “Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie”, “Little Polar Bear and the Brave Little Hare”, “Martin and the Tooth Fairy”, “Nathan and Nicholas Alexander”.

NON-FICTION GUIDED READING SETS OF DIFFERENT BOOK TITLES

LEVEL A

Grades Kindergarten - 1st

Big and Little, Games, I Can, We Can, In the Woods, Kittens, Let's Go, My Color, School, We Can!, What Bears Like

LEVEL B

Grades Kindergarten-1st

Carrots, What am I?, Hop In, Water, Baby Animals Learn, Two Can do It, Kites, We Like to Play, Goldilocks, We are Painting

LEVEL C

Grades Kindergarten -1st

At Work, Bugs!, From Egg to Robin, How Many Can Play?, I Can Run, I See Fish, It's a Party, Joshua James like Trucks, Pancakes, Crackers, and Pizza, Rain

LEVEL D

Grades Kindergarten-1st

Footprints in the Snow, I know Karate, Nests, Nests, Nests, One Happy Classroom, Paul the Pitcher, Rain! Rain!, Ten Cats have Hats, Too Many Balloons, Where do Birds Live?, Who am I?

LEVEL E

Grades 1-2

Animal Babies, A Box Can be Many Things, A Buzz is Part of a Bee, Clay Art with Gloria Elliot, I Can See, Just Like Me, Look! I can Read!, Polar Bear Babies, Up, Up, and Away: The Story of Amelia Earhart, The Voyage of Mae Jemison

LEVEL G

Grades 1-2

The Class Trip, Dinosaur, The Great Race, Make it Move!, Pele: The King of Soccer, Sam the Garbage Hound, Sometimes things Change, Teddy Bear for Sale, Wait, Skates!, Why Can't I Fly?

LEVEL H

Grades 1-2

Caps, hats, Socks, and Mittens: A book about the Four Seasons, Danny and the Dinosaur go to Camp, Come! Sit! Speak!, It's Spring!, A Kiss for Little Bear, My Pigs, Plane Rides, The Very Big Potato, What will the Weather be like Today?, When I first Came to this Land

LEVEL I

Grades 1 - 2

All Tutus Should be Pink, A Day with a Mail Carrier, A Day with Fire Fighters, The Elves and the Shoemaker, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, I am a rock, Messy Bessey's Family Renion, Red-eyed Tree Frog, The Sun's Family of Planets, We Just Moved!

LEVEL L

Grades 2-3

The Mud Pony, Animal Tracks, This is my House, Spiders, Apatosaurus, Cam Hansen and the Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball, Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia, Solve it!, The Big "M", Rain Forest

LEVEL M

Grades 2-3

Jungle Jack Hanna's Safari Adventure, Firefighters, At 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Gung Hay Fat Choy, Nine True Dolphin Stories, The Littlies Go Exploring, Boom, California or Bust!, Buddy the first Seeing Eye Dog, Yellowstone National Park

LEVEL P

Grades 3-4

26 Fairmont Avenue, The Drum Beats ON, The Eagle has Landed, In the Rain Forest, The Magic School Bus inside a Beehive, The Real McCoy: The Life of an African-American Inventor, Shoebag, Weather, A Whale is not a Fish and Other Animal Mix-ups

LEVEL V

Grades 5-6

1000 Facts about Space, Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets, The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Get on Board: the story of the Underground Railroad, Alice in Wonderland, How I came a Write, Old Yeller, UnderWraps, Eleanor Roosevelt, The Music of Dolphins

LEVEL X

Grades 5-6

Call it Courage, Yellowstone 1988 Summer of Fire, M.C. Higgins, the Great, Children of the Wild West, Anne Frank Beyond the Diary, One More River to Cross, Sarah Bishop, Out of the Dust, At Her Majesty's Request, Bully for You Teddy Roosevelt!

10 COPIES OF EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TITLES WITH NO TEACHERS GUIDE
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THE CARROT SEED (SPANISH AND ENGLISH)

Ruth Krass

Grades PreK – 2, and Bi-lingual students

A little boy plants a carrot seed and waits patiently, tending to it carefully, while everyone around him insists, "it won't come up." His conviction is steadfast, however, and sure enough, a carrot worthy of first prize at any state fair springs forth from the earth. Krauss's husband, Crockett Johnson (creator of [*Harold and the Purple Crayon*](#)), illustrated *The Carrot Seed*, and while the little boy is rendered with uncomplicated lines, all of his hope, confidence, and serenity shine through. The image that resonates most strongly in this minimalist tale is the unfaltering faith of the mild-mannered little boy. Young readers learn that standing your ground in the face of opposition and doubt can often result in twice the reward expected.

WALK TWO MOONS

Sharon Creech

Grades 4 – 8

Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle's mother has disappeared. While tracing her steps on a car trip from Ohio to Idaho with her grandparents, Salamanca tells a story to pass the time about a friend named Phoebe Winterbottom whose mother vanished and who received secret messages after her disappearance. One of them read, "Don't judge a man until you have walked two moons in his moccasins." Despite her father's warning that she is "fishing in the air," Salamanca hopes to bring her home. By drawing strength from her Native American ancestry, she is able to face the truth about her mother. Walk Two Moons won the 1995 Newberry Medal.