

Books Every 6 Sixth Grader Should Know

Burnett, Frances A Little Princess (J BUR)

Sara Crewe, a pupil at Miss Minchin's London school, is left in poverty when her father dies, but then rescued by a mysterious benefactor.

Cooper, Susan The Dark Is Rising (JCOO)

On his 11th birthday Will Stanton learns that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the forces of the Dark.

Draper, Sharon Out of My Mind (YA DRA)

A brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy, considered by many to be mentally retarded, discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

Gaiman, Neil Coraline (J GAI)

Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.

Haddix, Margaret Among the Hidden (J HAD)

In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his 12 years in isolation on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

Hiaasen, Carl Hoot (YA HIA)

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

Jacques, Brian Redwall (YA JAC)

When the peaceful life of ancient Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his hordes, Matthias, a young mouse, determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior which, he is convinced, will help Redwall's inhabitants destroy the enemy.



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Kelly, Jacqueline The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate (YA KEL)

In central Texas in 1899, eleven-year-old Callie Vee Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

Kibuishi, Kazu Amulet: Book One, The Stonekeeper

(J741.5973 KIB BOOK 1)

Graphic novel star Kazu Kibuishi creates a world of terrible, man-eating demons, a mechanical rabbit, a talking fox, a giant robot -- and two ordinary children on a mission.

Konigsburg, E. L. The View From Saturday (J KON)

Four students, with their own individual stories, develop a special bond and attract the attention of their teacher, a paraplegic, who chooses them to represent their sixth grade class in the Academic Bowl competition.

Levine, Gail Ella Enchanted (J LEV)

In this novel based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order that she's given.

Lowry, Lois The Giver (YA LOW)

Living in a "perfect" world without social ills, a boy approaches the time when he will receive a life assignment from the Elders, but his selection leads him to a mysterious man known as the Giver, who reveals the dark secrets behind the utopian facade.

O'Brien, Robert Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh (J OBR)

Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats whose former imprisonment in a laboratory made them wise and long lived.

Paulsen, Gary The Monument (YA PAU)

Thirteen-year-old Rocky, self-conscious about the braces on her leg, has her life changed by the remarkable artist who comes to her small Kansas town to design a war memorial.



Rawls, Wilson Where the Red Fern Grows (J RAW)

In the hills of Cherokee country, Billy trains his two dogs to be the finest hunting team in the valley, proving their loyalty and bravery in the face of danger.

Roberts, Willo

The View From the Cherry Tree (J ROB)

Rob admits having seen a murder, but no one believes him—except the murderer.

Rowling, J. K.

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (J ROW)

Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches.

Sachar, Louis Holes (YA SAC)

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

Schmidt, Gary The Wednesday Wars (J SCH)

During the turbulent year of 1967, New York seventh-grader Holling Hoodhood discovers Shakespeare, learning much about the value of the world he lives in.

Speare, Elizabeth The Witch of Blackbird Pond (J SPE)

In 1687 Connecticut, Kit Tyler, feeling out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt, befriends an old woman considered a witch by the community and suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft.

Telgemeier, Raina Smile (J 741.5973 TEL)

From sixth grade through tenth, Raina copes with a variety of dental problems that affect her appearance and how she feels about herself.

Tolkien, J. R. R. The Hobbit (YA TOL)

Bilbo Baggins, a respectable, well-to-do hobbit, lives comfortably in his hobbit-hole until the day the wandering wizard Gandalf chooses him to take part in an adventure from which he may never return.



