



Read + Think = Grow

Girls Read!

Preschool and Kindergarten

(These books are all shelved in Picture Books unless otherwise noted)

Bemelmans, Ludwig. **Madeline** (1939)

Madeline, smallest and naughtiest of the twelve little charges of Miss Clavel, wakes up one night with an attack of appendicitis.

Brown, Marc. **D.W. Flips!** (1987)

D.W. discovers that lots of practice eventually helps her master the new routine in her gymnastics class. One of many books in a series.

Burton, Virginia Lee. **Katy and the Big Snow** (1943)

Katy, the brave tractor who pushes a bulldozer in the summer and a snowplow in the winter, saves the day when she plows out the city after a big snowstorm.

Carlson, Nancy. **I Like Me!** (1988)

By admiring her finer points & showing that she can take care of herself, a charming pig proves that the best friend you can have is yourself.

Chodos-Irvine, Margaret. **Best Best Friends** (2006)

Mary and Clare do everything together at preschool, but Mary's birthday celebration puts a strain on the girls' friendship.

Cooney, Barbara. **Miss Rumphius** (1985)

As a child, Alice Rumphius resolved that when she grew up, she would go to faraway places, live by the sea in her old age, and do something to make the world more beautiful-and she does those things, the last being the most difficult of all.

Henkes, Kevin. **Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse** (1996)

Lilly loves everything about school, especially her teacher, but when he asks her to wait a while before showing her new purse, she does something for which she is very sorry later.

Henkes, Kevin. **Sheila Rae the Brave** (1987)

When brave Sheila Rae, who usually looks out for her sister Louise, becomes lost and scared one day, Louise comes to her rescue.

Hill, Susanna Leonard. **Punxsutawney Phyllis** (2005)

Although she can predict the weather much better than the boys in her family, no one thinks that Phyllis the groundhog has a chance of replacing the aging Punxsutawney Phil when Groundhog Day's official groundhog retires.

Laguna, Sophie. **Too Loud Lily** (2002)

Lily's family and friends often complain that she is too loud, but that loudness makes her a hit in the school play.

McCully, Emily. **Mirette on the High Wire** (1992)

Mirette learns tightrope walking from Monsieur Bellini, a guest in her mother's boarding house, not knowing he is a famous tightrope artist who has withdrawn from performing because of fear.

McDonald, Megan. **Insects Are My Life** (1995)

No one at home or at school understands Amanda Frankenstein's devotion to insects until she meets Maggie.

Parr, Todd. **It's Okay to be Different** (2001)

Illustrations and brief text describe all kinds of differences that are "okay", such as being a "different color".

Pinkney, Brian. **JoJo's Flying Side Kick** (1995)

In order to earn her yellow belt in Tae Kwon Do, young JoJo must break a board with a flying side-kick. With the help of her family, she masters her fears and succeeds.

Ringgold, Faith. **Tar Beach** (1991)

A young girl dreams of flying above her Harlem home, claiming all she sees for herself and her family. Based on the author's quilt painting of the same name.

Williams, Linda. **The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything** (1986)

A little old lady who is not afraid of anything must deal with spooky objects that follow her through the dark woods trying to scare her.

Young, Ed. **Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China** (1989)

Exquisite illustrations accompany this Chinese folktale about a girl who outwits a nasty wolf and saves her sisters. Winner of the Caldecott Medal.

Grades 1 and 2

(These books are all shelved in Grade 1-3 readers unless otherwise noted)

Buck, Nola. **Sid and Sam** (1996)

Sid sings a long song that drives Sam crazy.

Coerr, Eleanor. **The Big Balloon Race** (1981)

Ariel almost causes her famous mother to lose a balloon race and then helps her win it.

Cristaldi, Kathryn. **Baseball Ballerina Strikes Out!** (2000)

With the help of her coach, a young girl teaches two bullies a lesson and leads her team to victory in the playoffs.

Cushman, Doug. **Aunt Eater Loves a Mystery** (1987)

Aunt Eater loves mystery stories so much that she sees mysterious adventures wherever she looks.

Danziger, Paula. **Get Ready for Second Grade, Amber Brown** (2002)

Amber is nervous about starting second grade with a new teacher, but despite being in the same class as mean Hannah Burton, things turn out just fine.

Krull, Kathleen. **Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became the World's Fastest Woman** (1996)

Striking illustrations portray the life of Wilma Rudolph, who overcame childhood polio to become a great runner and win three Olympic gold medals.

Levinson, Nancy Smiler. **Clara and the Bookwagon** (1988)

Clara's dream of enriching her rough life on the family farm is fulfilled when a horse-drawn book wagon visits with the country's first traveling library.

Marshall, Edward. **Troll Country** (1980)

Elsie Fay ventures into the deep, dark woods, meets a troll, and attempts to outsmart him.

O'Connor, Jane. **Molly the Brave and Me** (1990)

Beth admires her friend Molly's courage, but on a visit to Molly's country home, Beth surprises herself with her own bravery when the two become lost within the maze of a cornfield.

Pomerantz, Charlotte. **The Outside Dog** (1993)

A charming beginning reader about a Puerto Rican girl who is determined to have a dog, despite her grandfather's objections.

Schechter, Ellen. **The Warrior Maiden : a Hopi Legend** (1997)

A retelling of the Indian legend in which Huh-ay-ay, a brave Hopi girl, helps to save her peaceful pueblo from Apache raiders.

Grades 3 and 4

(These books are all shelved in Grade 3-4 Fiction unless otherwise noted.)

Bulla, Clyde Robert. **Shoeshine Girl** (1975)

Determined to earn some money, ten-year-old Sarah Ida gets a job at a shoe shine stand and learns a great many things besides shining shoes.

Cleary, Beverly. **Ramona the Pest** (1968)

Ramona is entering kindergarten-a memorable event for all concerned! Whether Ramona is proving what a good rester she is by snoring delicately, or pulling classmate Susan's tempting curls, she makes her presence known.

Danziger, Paula. **Amber Brown is Not a Crayon** (1994)

The year she is in the third grade is a sad time for Amber because her best friend Justin is getting ready to move to a distant state.

DiCamillo, Kate. **Mercy Watson to the Rescue** (2005)

After Mercy the pig snuggles to sleep with the Watsons, all three awaken with the bed teetering on the edge of a big hole in the floor.

Gauch, Patricia Lee. **This Time, Tempe Wick?** (1974)

Everyone knew Tempe Wick was a most surprising girl, but they found out just how surprising when two mutinous Revolutionary soldiers tried to steal her beloved horse.

Hesse, Karen. **Sable** (1994)

More than anything, Tate wants to keep the stray dog that shows up at her mountain home. With persistence and hard work, the girl succeeds.

Isaacs, Anne. **Swamp Angel** (1994)

Along with other amazing feats, Angelica Longrider, also known as Swamp Angel, wrestles a huge bear, known as Thundering Tarnation, to save the winter supplies of the settlers in Tennessee. A Caldecott Honor book.

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall** (1985)

This small gem tells the story of two children and the quiet, strong woman who they hope will marry their father. Perfect for reading aloud. Winner of the Newbery Medal.

Oneal, Zibby. **A Long Way to Go** (1990)

An eight-year-old girl deals with the women's suffrage movement that rages during World War I.

Park, Barbara. **Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus** (1992)

In her own words, a young girl describes her feelings about starting kindergarten and what she does when she decides not to ride the bus home.

Porter, Connie Rose. **Meet Addy : An American Girl** (1993)

Nine-year-old Addy Walker escapes from a cruel life of slavery to freedom during the Civil War. Part of the American Girls Collection.

Stevens, Carla. Lily and Miss Liberty (1992)

A little girl makes crowns and sells them to help raise money for the pedestal needed for mounting France's gift of the Statue of Liberty to this country.

Wright, Betty Ren. The Ghost Witch (1993)

Jenny and her mother are all set to move into old Miss Nagle's mansion when Jenny discovers the house is haunted.

Grades 5 and 6

(These books are all shelved in Juvenile Fiction (jF) unless otherwise noted.)

Avi. The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle (1990)

"Not every thirteen-year-old girl is accused of murder, brought to trial, and found guilty," opens this thrilling tale of a proper young lady who changes when she gets caught up in a mutiny. A Newbery Honor book.

Blume, Judy. Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret (1970)

Faced with the difficulties of growing up and choosing a religion, a 12-year-old girl talks over her problems with her own private God.

Blume, Judy. Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great (1972)

This is the story of Sheila, who manages to survive the episodic trials of the summer--the beginners' swimming test, the revelations of her friends' Slam Books, even the presence of the dog who "goes with" the Tubmans' rented summer home...

Cameron, Ann. The Secret Life of Amanda K. Woods (1998)

Living in a rural community in Wisconsin during the 1950s, eleven-year-old Amanda gradually and painfully learns a lot about herself, her parents, and her older sister.

Climo, Shirley. A Treasury of Mermaids: Mermaid Tales from Around the World (1997)

A compilation of mermaid tales found in many of the world's cultures. (j398.2 Cli)

Creech, Sharon. Walk Two Moons (1994)

After her mother leaves home suddenly, 13-year-old Sal and her grandparents take a car trip, retracing her mother's route. Along the way, Sal recounts the story of her friend Phoebe, whose mother also left.

Cushman, Karen. The Ballad of Lucy Whipple (1996)

In 1849, a twelve-year-old girl who calls herself Lucy is distraught when her mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a small California mining town, where Lucy helps run a rough boarding house and looks for comfort in books while trying to find a way to get "home."

Dahl, Roald. Matilda (1988)

Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid her school of the evil, child-hating headmistress & restore a nice teacher.

DiCamillo, Kate. Because of Winn-Dixie (2000)

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 big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Fenner, Carol. Yolonda's Genius (1995)

A large and confident girl, Yolonda draws on all of her many talents to help her younger brother pursue his musical dream in this outstanding novel. A Newbery Honor book.

Fitzhugh, Louise. Harriet the Spy (1964)

Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.

Freedman, Russell. **Eleanor Roosevelt: A Life of Discovery** (1993)

Award-winning biographer Russell Freedman conveys the greatness of Eleanor Roosevelt through his lively writing and an extensive array of photographs. (j92 R7795 Fre)

Hale, Shannon. **The Princess Academy** (2005)

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland. (Teen)

Konigsburg, E.L. **From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler** (1967)

Having run away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, 12 year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself.

Levine, Gail Carson. **Ella Enchanted** (1997)

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

Lindgren, Astrid. **Pippi Longstocking** (1950)

Pippi Longstocking is a lucky little girl who lives with a horse and a monkey-but without any parents-at the edge of a Swedish village.

Montgomery, L. M. **Anne of Green Gables** (1908)

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. **The Agony of Alice** (1985)

11-year-old, motherless Alice decides she needs a gorgeous role model who does everything right; and when placed in homely Mrs. Plotkin's class she is greatly disappointed until she discovers that it's what people are inside that counts.

O'Dell, Scott. **Island of the Blue Dolphins** (1960)

In this modern classic, twelve-year-old Karana must survive alone for years on a California island. Winner of the Newbery Medal.

Ryan, Pam Munoz. **Esperanza Rising** (2000)

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. **Shabanu: Daughter of the Wind** (1989)

Set in contemporary Pakistan, this gripping novel follows the fate of Shabanu, an adolescent girl from a nomadic tribe who rebels against her arranged marriage. A Newbery Honor book.

Wrede, Patricia C. **Dealing with Dragons** (1990)

Cimorene finds being a princess so boring that she takes a job working for a dragon! The first in a popular, funny series.

Yolen, Jane. **Not One Damsel in Distress: World Folktales for Strong Girls** (2000)

A collection of 13 traditional tales from various parts of the world, with the main character of each being a fearless, strong, heroic, and resourceful woman. (j398.2208 Yo)

For Parents and Teachers

Many of these books are shelved in the Parent/Teacher collection.

Backes, Laura. **Best Books for Kids Who (Think They) Hate to Read : 125 books that will turn any kid into a lifelong reader** (2001) (j028.55 Bac)

Codell, Esme Raji. How to Get Your Child to Love Reading (2003) (028.55 Cod)

Cooper-Mullin, Alison. Once upon a Heroine: 450 Books for Girls to Love (1998)
(j028.1624 Co)

Dodson, Shireen. The Mother-Daughter Book Club : how ten busy mothers and daughters came together to talk, laugh, and learn through their love of reading (1997) (j372.4162 Dod)

Dodson, Shireen. 100 Books for Girls to Grow On : lively descriptions of the most inspiring books for girls, terrific discussion questions to spark conversation, great ideas for book-inspired activities, crafts and field trips (1998) (016.8135 Dod)

Fox, Mem. Reading Magic : why reading aloud to our children will change their lives forever (2001) (j649.58 Fox)

Knowles, Elizabeth. Talk about Books! : a guide for book clubs, literature circles, and discussion groups, grades 4-8 (2003) (j372.4162 Kno)

Odean, Kathleen. Great Books for Girls : more than 600 books to inspire today's girls and tomorrow's women (1997) (j028.1624 Ode)

Silvey, Anita. 100 Best Books for Children (2004) (011.62 Sil)