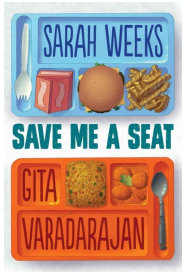
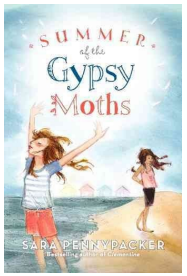
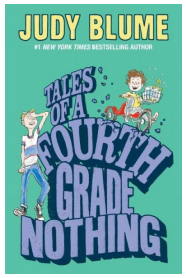


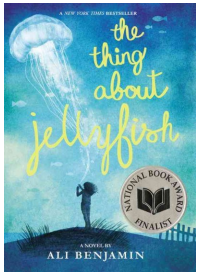
Save Me a Seat by Sarah Weeks
Ravi has just moved to the United States from India; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems. When their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control.
216p. | 2016



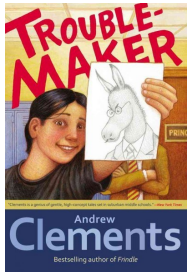
Summer of the Gypsy Moths
by Sara Pennypacker
A foster child named Angel and 12-year-old Stella, who are living with Stella's great-aunt Louise colony on Cape Cod, secretly assume responsibility for vacation rentals when Louise unexpectedly dies and the girls are afraid of being returned to the foster care system.
275p. | 2012



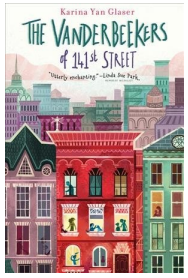
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing
by Judy Blume
Two is a crowd when Peter and his little brother, Fudge, are in the same room. Grown-ups think Fudge is absolutely adorable, but Peter and his pet turtle, Dribble, know the truth. So when Dribble goes missing, Peter knows just who to question. 120p. | 1972



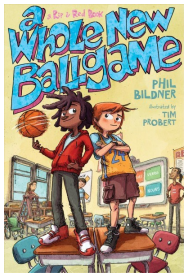
The Thing About Jellyfish by Ali Benjamin
12-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.
343p. | 2014



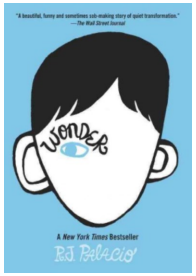
Troublemaker by Andrew Clements
Once a troublemaker, always a troublemaker? When his older brother gets in serious trouble, sixth-grader Clay decides to change his own mischief-making ways, but he cannot seem to shake his reputation as a troublemaker.
140p. | 2011



The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street
by Karina Glaser
The Vanderbeekers have always lived in the brownstone on 141st Street. It's practically another member of the family. So when their reclusive landlord decides not to renew their lease, the 5 siblings have 11 days to do whatever it takes to stay in their beloved home. 297p. | 2017



A Whole New Ballgame by Phil Bildner
Embarking on a 5th-grade year marked by an unconventional teacher and a new basketball coach, best friends Rip and Red work together to overcome Rip's academic struggles and Red's autism-related difficulties with change.
243p. | 2015



Wonder by R.J. Palacio
10-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering 5th grade at a private school, where he struggles to be seen as just another student as he endures the taunts and fear of his classmates.
315p. | 2012

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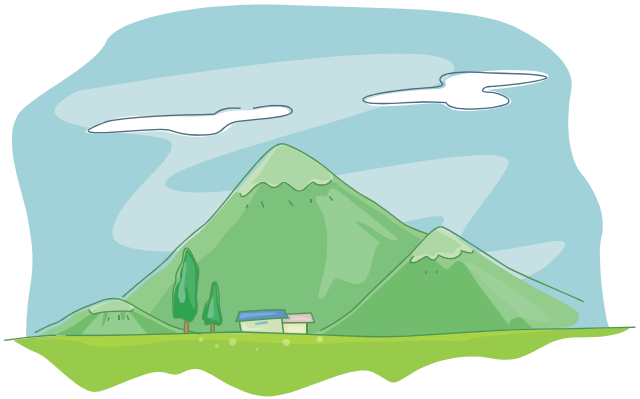

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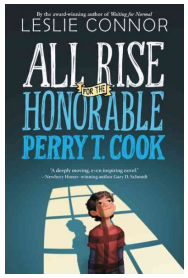
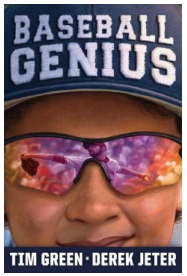
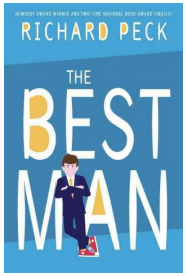


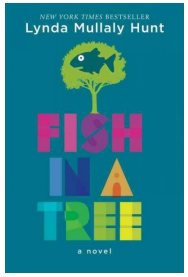
All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook
by Leslie Connor
Secretly being raised in prison so that he can be with his inmate mother, 11-year-old Perry is discovered by an ambitious new district attorney and brought to the outside world, where he desperately seeks to reunite with his mother while learning the truth about why she is in jail.
381p. | 2016



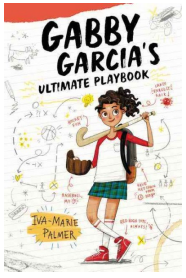
Baseball Genius
by Tim Green and Derek Jeter
An everyday kid with a talent for predicting baseball pitches is caught stealing baseballs from his favorite New York Yankees player, who agrees not to press charges if the boy will help him recover from a difficult batting slump.
344p. | 2017



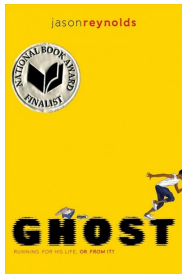
The Best Man by Richard Peck
Archer has four important role models in his life--his dad, his grandfather, his uncle Paul, and his favorite teacher, Mr. McLeod. When Uncle Paul and Mr. McLeod get married, Archer's sixth-grade year becomes one he'll never forget
232p. | 2016



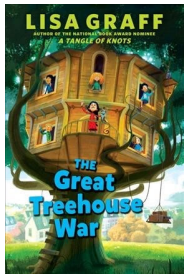
Fish in a Tree by Linda Mullaly Hunt
Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read. When she fails to hide her inability to read from her new teacher, she learns something new about herself and what she can accomplish.
157p. | 2016



Gabby Garcia's Ultimate Playbook
by Iva Marie-Palmer
When her school is shut down due to an asbestos problem, all-star pitcher Gabby Garcia is sent to an upscale private school that already has a star pitcher, and to make matters worse, she has trouble making friends and finding her place.
286p. | 2017



Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential. *First in a series.*
181p. | 2016

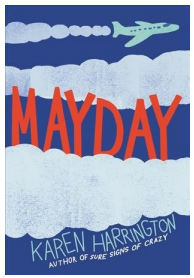


The Great Treehouse War by Lisa Graff
After her newly-divorced parents become unreasonable, fifth-grader Winnie, with notes from her friends, writes of turning her treehouse into an embassy, where she is joined by nine others with complaints.
272p. | 2017

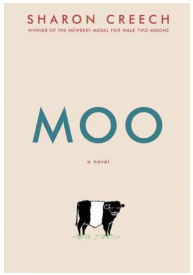
Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly
Lives of four misfits are intertwined when a bully's prank lands shy Virgil at the bottom of a well and Valencia, Kaori, and Gen ultimately band together in an epic quest to find and rescue him.
313p. | 2017

Jake and Lily by Jerry Spinelli
Jake and Lily are twins. Despite their slight differences, they tend to feel exactly the same. But the year they turn eleven, everything changes. Jake starts hanging out with a new pack of boys. Lily feels lost...who is she without Jake? And as her brother falls under the influence of a bully, he also must ask himself—who is the real Jake?
335p. | 2012

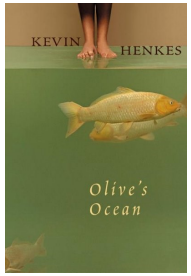
The Lemonade War by Jacqueline Davies
4th-grader Evan Treski is people-smart. He's good at talking with people, even grownups. His younger sister, Jessie, on the other hand, is math-smart, but not especially good with people. So when the siblings' lemonade stand war begins, there really is no telling who will win—or if their fight will ever end.
173p. | 2007



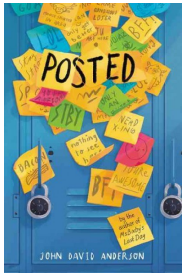
Mayday by Karen Harrington
Twelve-year-old Wayne Kovok loses his uncle to war and his voice to a plane crash in the same year and must learn to speak up as he navigates relationships with his father, grandfather, and new friend, Denny Rosenblatt.
344p. | 2016



Moo by Sharon Creech
12-year-old Reena, who has recently moved from a bustling city to rural Maine, finds it hard to adjust to her new environment and unexpectedly bonds with a stubborn, ill-tempered cow.
287p. | 2016



Olive's Ocean by Kevin Henkes
On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, 12-year-old Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, on her feelings for an older boy, and on her plans to be a writer.
217p. | 2003



Posted by John David Anderson
When cell phones are banned at their school, students start communicating through sticky notes left all over the school, triggering a wave of bullying activities in the wake of a new girl's arrival.
348p. | 2013

Runt by Nora Raleigh Baskin
Dog-lover Elizabeth's middle school experience is uncomfortably similar to how dogs determine pack order. Maggie wants to teach Elizabeth a lesson, so she creates a fake online profile and starts trouble. What makes a bully, and what makes a victim? It's all in the perspective.
194p. | 2013

Last updated April 2018