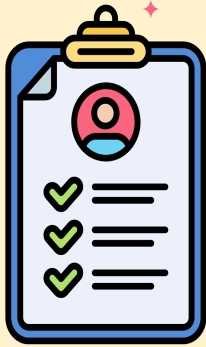


**Allen-Stevenson Lower Division**  
**Grades 3 & 4**  
**Required & Recommended Books for Summer 2025**

**REQUIRED READING**



**Entering 3rd Grade:**

- ❖ *Polly Diamond and the Magic Book* by Alice Kupiers
- ❖ *Soupy Saturdays with the Pain & The Great One* by Judy Blume
- ❖ 1 Chapter Book of his choice (which he has never read)

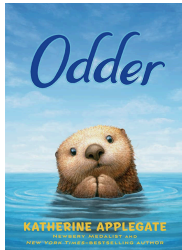
**Entering 4th Grade:**

- ❖ *Weekends with Max and his Dad* by Linda Urban
- ❖ 3 Chapter Books of his choice (which he has never read)

*All book covers are provided by publishers, other graphics in this list are created using Canva.*



**FICTION: ADVENTURE** Stories featuring exciting plots with plenty of action and confrontations. Characters display bravery and are often pitted against nature.



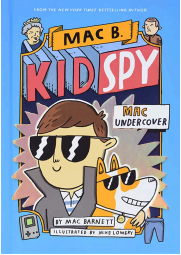
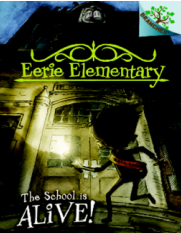
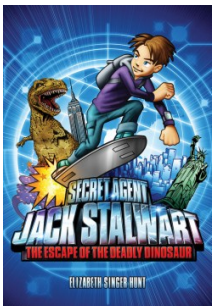

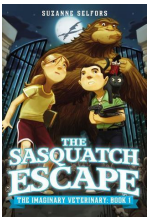
**ODDER by Applegate, Katherine (3-4)**

Like her Newbery winning title *The One and Only Ivan*, *Odder* is written in verse from the perspective of the animal, in this case Odder, an orphaned otter. Odder is a delightful and playful otter whose positive nature is put to the test when faced with a terrible shark attack. Students couldn't wait to see what happened next with this intrepid otter!

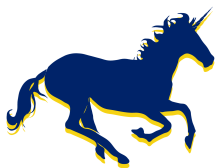


**THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN (series) by Applegate, Katherine (3-4)**

This beloved Newbery series has finally been completed in a quartet of novels. Ivan is an easy-going gorilla living at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade; he has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass walls of his domain. Then he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from her family, and she makes Ivan see their home through new eyes. Each book centers on a different character in Ivan's world except for the final one, where Ivan becomes a proud father.

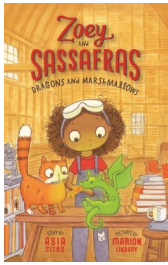
	<p><b>MAC B. KID SPY (series) by Barnett, Mac (3-4)</b></p> <p>A thrilling, hilarious fully-illustrated spy adventure series, from the beloved picture book author Mac Barnett! Before Mac Barnett was an author, he was a kid. And while he was a kid, he was a spy. Not just any spy—he was a spy for the Queen of England! From secret identities to Karate hijinks, this fast-paced, witty and historically inspired chapter book will keep readers guessing until the very last page.</p>
	<p><b>EERIE ELEMENTARY: THE SCHOOL IS ALIVE! (series) by Chabert, Jack (3)</b></p> <p>When Sam Graves is assigned to be the hall monitor, he has no idea just how dangerous a job it is. He is positive the school is trying to eat him, but nobody believes him except for a creepy old janitor. Then at the school play, the school becomes more dangerous than ever, and it's up to Sam to save everyone. Sequel: <i>The Locker Ate Lucy</i></p>
	<p><b>JACK STALWART: ESCAPE OF THE DEADLY DINOSAUR (series) by Hunt, Elizabeth Singer (3)</b></p> <p>Kids looking for adventure series now have even more options. The Escape of the Deadly Dinosaur by Elizabeth Singer Hunt, heralds the action-heavy Secret Agent Jack Stalwart series, which stars nine-year old Jack, a member of the top secret Global Protection Force. In this opening installment, he travels to the Big Apple to put the brakes on a dinosaur running loose in the city.</p>
	<p><b>PERCY JACKSON: THE LIGHTNING THIEF (series) by Riordan, Rick (4)</b></p> <p>This mega-popular series has sold millions of copies worldwide and has been translated into several languages. Meet Percy Jackson, a boy who seems to have the worst luck ever! Luckily, he is half-god, unluckily - he has to go on a quest to save the world.</p>
	<p><b>SASQUATCH ESCAPE (series) by Selfors, Suzanne (3-4)</b></p> <p>Ben is set for boredom in his grandpa's rundown town of Buttonville, until he and reckless Pearl Petal take a wounded baby dragon to the only veterinarian, Dr. Woo at her "Worm Hospital" -- actually for creatures from an imaginary world. After Ben leaves the front door unlocked, the intrepid pair must rescue the escaped giant sasquatch.</p>

### **FICTION: FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION**



Fantasy stories are deliberately freed from reality. High fantasies take place in another world (e.g., *Harry Potter*). Low fantasies feature magical events in this world. Science fiction is based on imagined future scientific or technological advances and frequently portrays space or time travel and life on other planets.





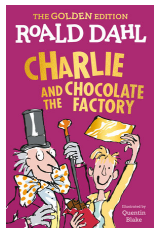
### **ZOEY AND SASSAFRAS (series) by Citro, Asia**

Zoey is a budding young scientist who just learned the family secret - they see magical forest creatures! But when an injured dragon shows up while Zoey's mom is at a conference, it's up to Zoey to figure out how to save the day using scientific method. Written by a real life scientist, this STEM book series has captivated many students who enjoy both fantasy and science.



### **GREGOR THE OVERLANDER (series) by Collins, Suzanne (4)**

You've likely heard of *The Hunger Games* but did you know that before that series, Suzanne Collins wrote a book series for younger children? Gregor is a typical big brother, helping watch his baby sister while doing his chores. When she disappears however, Gregor discovers she isn't missing - she has been kidnapped and brought to the underworld! And it's up to him to go on a quest to rescue his sister!



### **BOOKS BY DAHL, ROALD:**

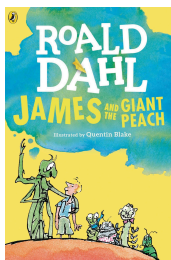
#### **CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY (3-4)**

Charlie Bucket's wonderful adventure begins when he finds one of Mr. Willy Wonka's precious Golden Tickets and wins a whole day inside the mysterious chocolate factory. Little does he know the surprises that are in store for him! These classic books by Roald Dahl have stood the test of time and even 60 years later they have never gone out of print!



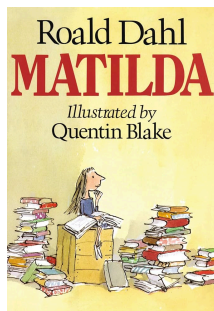
#### **GEORGE'S MARVELOUS MEDICINE (3-4)**

George's Grandma is a grizzly, grumpy, selfish old woman. Four times a day she takes a large spoonful of medicine, but it doesn't seem to do her any good. She's always just as poisonous after she's taken it as she was before. When George is left to look after her one morning, it's just the chance he needs to make his own concoction. . .



#### **JAMES & THE GIANT PEACH (3-4)**

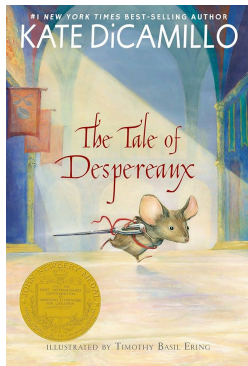
James lives with two ghastly aunts, Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker. He's very lonely until one day something peculiar happens. . . At the end of the garden a peach starts to grow and GROW AND GROW, and so do the seven very unusual insects inside - all waiting to take James on a magical adventure. But where will they go in their GIANT PEACH, and what will happen to the horrible aunts if they stand in their way?



#### **MATILDA (4)**

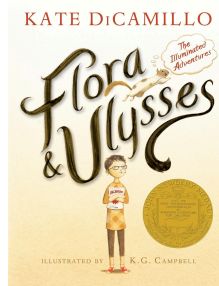
Matilda is a little girl who is far too good to be true. At age five-and-a-half she's knocking off double-digit multiplication problems and blitz-reading grown up chapter books. Even more remarkably, her classmates love her even though she's a super-nerd and the teacher's pet. If only her awful parents, rotten brother, and evil headmaster would notice the good she brings! Fortunately for her, she has the inner resources to deal with such annoyances: astonishing intelligence,

saintly patience, and an innate predilection to set things right!



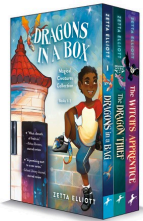
**DESPEARAUX by DiCamillo, Kate (3-4)**

Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light. And it is the story of Miggery Sow, a slow-witted serving girl who harbors a simple, impossible wish. These three characters are about to embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives. What happens then? As Kate DiCamillo would say: Reader, it is your destiny to find out.



**FLORA & ULYSSES by DiCamillo, Kate (3-4)**

The squirrel never saw the vacuum cleaner coming, but self-described cynic Flora Belle Buckman, who has read every issue of the comic book *Terrible Things Can Happen to You!*, is the just the right person to step in and save him. What neither can predict is that Ulysses (the squirrel) has been born anew, with powers of strength, flight, and misspelled poetry — and that Flora will be changed too, as she discovers the possibility of hope and the promise of a capacious heart.



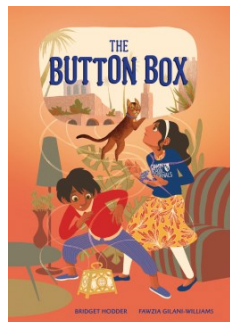
**DRAGONS IN A BAG (series) by Elliot, Zetta (3-4)**

Jaxon does his best to stay out of Ma's way. Ma is the old woman that his mother was forced to have as a babysitter when she couldn't find anyone else to take care of Jaxon. As Jaxon's knowledge of history and geography begins to win over Ma, he realizes that things are not what they seem because suddenly he finds that HE is a babysitter too...of dragons!



**DORY FANTASMAGORY (series) by Hanlon, Abby (3)**

Dory's older siblings may roll their eyes at her childish games, but Dory has lots of things to do: outsmarting the monsters all over the house, moving into the closet, and exacting revenge on her sister's favorite doll. And when they really need her, daring Dory will prove her bravery, and finally get exactly what she has been looking for. With plenty of pictures bursting with charm and character, this hilarious book about an irresistible rascal is a delightful series.



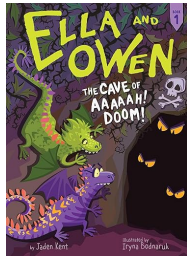
**THE BUTTON BOX by Hodder, Bridget (4)**

Ava is Jewish, her cousin Nadeem is Muslim, and they both love their wise, possibly magical, Jewish Granny Buena. When Granny selects a silver button covered in rubies from a gilded box, she begins the tale of how their Jewish ancestor Ester acquired this button from the Muslim prince Abdur Rahman. When Granny stops midtale, Ava takes the button — magically transporting the children and Granny's cat Sheba to the marketplace at Sabtah at the moment Granny stopped the story!



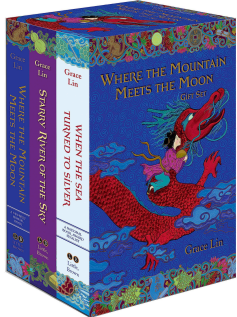
**HEROES IN TRAINING: ZEUS AND THE THUNDERBOLT OF DOOM (series) by Holub, Joan (3-4)**

This first book in the series introduces 10-year-old Zeus as he embarks on his very first adventure. He is sure that he is meant for something bigger than living in the cave in which he finds himself. This A-S favorite has 15 books in the series.



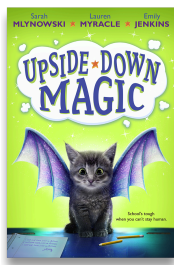
**ELLA & OWEN (series) by Kent, Jaden (3)**

Dragon twins Ella and Owen are always at odds. Owen wants to stay in bed and read, but adventurous Ella convinces him to go with her to search for a cure for his fiery cold. Then the journey quickly becomes scarier than either twin could have imagined! Can Ella and Owen escape an ogre, outsmart the evil vegetable wizard, and cure Owen's cold?



**WHERE THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE MOON (series) by Lin, Grace (4)**

Inspired by stories of the Old Man on the Moon, who knows the answers to all of life's questions, Minli sets off on a quest to change her family's fortune by asking a question of legendary Old Man on the Moon who knows all. Along the way she meets a dragon who accompanies her on her quest for the ultimate answer. Paired with brilliant illustrations, this Newbery series will enchant readers of all ages.



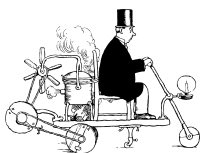
**UPSIDE DOWN MAGIC (series) by Mlynowski, Sarah (3-4)**

What do you do when you try to turn into a dragon or a kitten, but you accidentally turn into a dritten instead? Or you try to conjure fire but can only make flurries? Or maybe you get to fly, but you can't come back down? For Nory and her friends in Dunwiddle Magic School's Upside-Down Magic class, magic is amazing, unpredictable, and out of control!



**WINGS OF FIRE (series) by Sutherland, Tui (3-4)**

Dragons, tales of destiny, and fantastic feats of heroism transport the reader into a world in which cheering for the "good" guys sometimes is harder than you think. In this well-written series, Sutherland has created a world in which dragons dominate, yet ultimate leadership continues to be a battle of the fittest. Readers will be enchanted by the humanistic storyline and the page-turning excitement.



**FICTION: HISTORICAL**

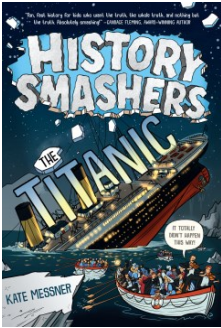
Realistic fiction in which the setting is very important and which portrays significant historical time periods.





### **CHINESE MENU by Lin, Grace (3-4)**

This innovative book will leave your family hungry and ready for more! Part nonfiction, part mythology, this creative book teaches you all about your favorite things in a Chinese restaurant as well as the legends and stories behind all of them including chopsticks, tea, rice and fortune cookies. Illustrated and written by the Caldecott/Newbery Honor medalist, Grace Lin.



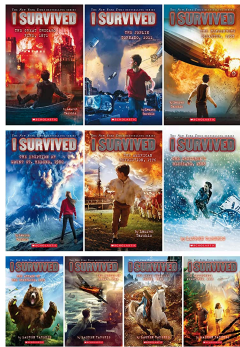
### **HISTORY SMASHERS: THE TITANIC (series) by Messner, Kate (4)**

On April 15, 1912 an "unsinkable" ship called the Titanic unexpectedly hit an iceberg and sank to the bottom of the North Atlantic. Right? Wrong! Nobody was really talking about the Titanic being unsinkable until after it sank. The truth is, four different ships wired the Titanic to report icebergs and field ice in the area. But the Titanic never slowed down. In fact, when the Californian warned that it was trapped in ice, the Titanic's wireless operator was so busy sending outgoing messages that he replied, "Shut up!" No joke. Discover the nonfiction series that demolishes everything you thought you knew about history.



### **RANGER IN TIME: RESCUE ON THE OREGON TRAIL (series) by Messner, Kate (3-4)**

Ranger is a time-traveling golden retriever. Trained as a search-and-rescue dog, he is transported back to the year 1850 to help the Abbott family on their journey west along the Oregon Trail. A fast-paced story, this series is perfect for lovers of historical fiction.



### **I SURVIVED: THE HINDENBURG DISASTER, 1937 (series) by Tarshis, Lauren (Grades 3-4)**

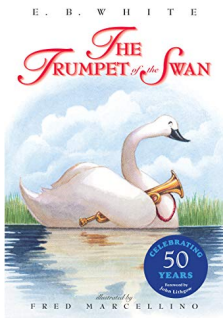
The *I Survived* series is that rare series that combines many different genres together. Part historical fiction, part action, part adventure, and all parts thrilling! In this installment, a boy named Hugo dreams of flight and he is so excited to be aboard the famous zeppelin as it journeys across the Atlantic. Unfortunately, the Hindenburg is as doomed as the Titanic and Hugo must find a way back to his family and away from the fires which have begun to spread across the airship!



### **THE STORY OF ... (biography series) by Various Authors (3-4)**

This new biography series is a wonderful improvement on the famed "Who Was" series. Targeted for a slightly younger audience, this series has delighted 3rd and 4th graders as the books are full color and filled with illustrations, timelines and fun facts. Each book in the series focuses on a single individual. Favorite biographies include Jackie Robinson, Stan Lee and Ruby Bridges.



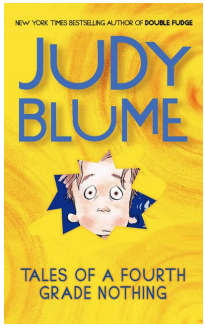



	<p><b>TRUMPET OF THE SWAN by White, E. B. (3-4)</b></p> <p>Although this was published fifty-five years ago, this book remains a forever favorite and is considered to be one of the greatest works of children's literature. In this wonderful chapter book, a pair of Trumpeter Swan are delighted when their new cygnets begin to hatch. Unfortunately, one of their sons, Louis, is born mute and cannot trumpet like his family. A loving father, a daring robbery and a famous Boston adventure has ensured that this classic novel will be read and adored by each coming generation for many years to come.</p>
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## FICTION: HUMOR

Stories to amuse you and sometimes make you laugh out loud!

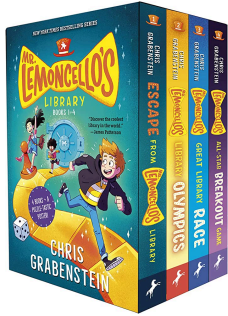
	<p><b>TERRIBLE TWO (series) by Barnett, Mac and Jory John (4)</b></p> <p>Miles Murphy is not happy about moving to a new town, especially when he finds out that the role of class prankster at his new school is already filled. Pretty soon it's prankster against prankster in an epic war of trickery, until the two finally decide to join forces and pull off the biggest prank ever seen!</p>
	<p><b>IVY &amp; BEAN (series) by Barrows, Annie (3)</b></p> <p>Never judge a book by its cover! Although the girls on this book cover seem as sweet as pie, you are looking at two of the wickedest children on Pancake Court. Follow the hilarious and impulsive Bean as she befriends the dainty new girl Ivy, only to discover Ivy is an aspiring witch! Together, they go on a hilarious adventure to run away from home and freak out Nancy, Bean's bossy older sister.</p>
	<p><b>TALES OF A 4TH GRADE NOTHING (series) by Blume, Judy (3-4)</b></p> <p>Life with his little brother, Fudge, makes Peter Hatcher feel like a fourth grade nothing. Whether Fudge is throwing a temper tantrum in a shoe store, smearing mashed potatoes on the walls at Hamburger Heaven, or trying to fly, he's never far from trouble. When Fudge walks off with Dribble, Peter's pet turtle, it's the last straw. Peter has put up with Fudge for too long. This classic chapter book continues to enchant and entertain readers more than 50 years after its initial publication.</p>
	<p><b>THE SUPER LIFE OF BEN BRAVER (series) by Emerson, Marcus (4)</b></p> <p>Ben Braver is just an ordinary kid, but when a child screams for help one day, Ben, like his favorite comic book heroes, tries to save the day. Although things end badly, Ben is led to a secret school where kids with super abilities learn to control their powers. Dream big!</p>

	<p><b>BEN FRANKLIN'S IN MY BATHROOM by Fleming, Candace (4)</b></p> <p>Nolan is a typical kid living in a typical 21st century American town. Ben Franklin is, well, Ben Franklin—Founding Father, inventor of the lightning rod and bifocals, and more. When, through a bizarre set of circumstances, Nolan and his little sister, Olive, find Ben in their house, chaos isn't far behind.</p>
	<p><b>THE 13-STORY TREEHOUSE (series) by Griffiths, Andy (4)</b></p> <p>Andy and Terry live in a treehouse with a bowling alley, a secret underground laboratory, and a marshmallow machine that follows them around. Life would be perfect if it wasn't for the fact that the boys have to write their next book surrounded by flying cats, giant bananas, and dangerous burp-gas bubblegum bubbles!</p>
	<p><b>MY WEIRD SCHOOL (series) by Gutman, Dan (3)</b></p> <p>This is a great series for boys by a well known sports writer. Boys join the protagonist AJ in his elementary school adventures filled with zany teachers and situations. Favorite titles include <i>Ms. LaGrange is Strange</i>, <i>Ms. Yonkers is Bonkers</i> and <i>Officer Spence Makes No Sense</i>.</p>
	<p><b>I'M JUST NO GOOD AT RHYMING by Harris, Chris (3-4)</b></p> <p>This was read aloud to students in grades 1-4 and they could not get enough of these poems and were desperate to borrow this from the library. Harris's hilarious debut molds wit and wordplay, nonsense and oxymoron, and visual and verbal sleight-of-hand in masterful ways that make you look at the world in a whole new wonderfully upside-down way. Also, please consider the sequel: <i>My Head has a Bellyache</i>.</p>
	<p><b>MYTH-O-MANIA: HAVE A HOT TIME HADES (series) by McMullan, Kate (4)</b></p> <p>This playful and hysterical retelling of Greek Gods comes from Kate McMullan, an A-S grandparent! (Younger boys may be more familiar with her <i>I Stink!</i> picture book series.) Join a bitter Hades as he exposes his brother Zeus for being a Myth-O-Manic (old Greek for “liar”) as he recounts the takeover of Mount Olympus. Boys LOVED hearing the beginning of this title when we read it aloud during a book tasting. They’ve been flying off of the library shelves ever since.</p>
	<p><b>Uss, Christina      <u>ERIK VS. EVERYTHING</u></b></p> <p>Erik’s family is deeply proud of the adventurous spirit from their Viking-heritage, unfortunately Erik feels very differently. While his family members each have an adventurous motto for fighting and conquering, Erik’s motto is to “avoid stuff.” This motto becomes hard to follow when his wild and hilarious axe-wielding family decide to physically combat Erik’s and his fears. Boys who love heartfelt and humorous adventure tales will really enjoy this one.</p>



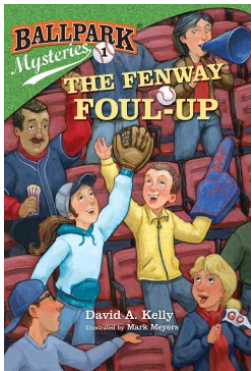
## FICTION: MYSTERIES AND THRILLERS

Thrilling stories in which readers are often invited to gather clues to reach a conclusion.



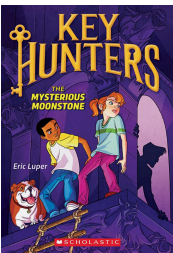
### **ESCAPE FROM MR. LEMONCELLO'S LIBRARY (series) by Grabenstein, Chris (4)**

Mr. Lemoncello is an eccentric game designer who has just built an incredible new library in his hometown. In honor of the grand opening, Lemoncello has selected a dozen 12-year-olds to participate in an overnight lock-in event at the library. But when the kids wake up, they discover a new game is afoot: whoever can find a way out of Mr. Lemoncello's library will win the grand prize.



### **BALLPARK MYSTERIES (series) by Kelly, David A. (3)**

Thanks to Kate's mom (a sports reporter), cousins Mike Walsh and Kate Hopkins have tickets to a Red Sox game and All Access passes to Fenway Park. But as they're watching batting practice before the game, the lucky bat of Red Sox star slugger is stolen right in front of dozens of people. Without the bat, D can't seem to hit a thing. Can Kate and Mike figure out who pinched the bat before D and the Sox chalk up a loss? Cross Ron Roy's mystery series with Matt Christopher's sports books and you get the Ballpark Mysteries: fun, puzzling whodunnits aimed right at beginning readers. Each book takes place in a different MLB ballpark.



### **THE MYSTERIOUS MOONSTONE (series) by Luper, Eric (3-4)**



After a second school librarian disappears, students Erin and Cleo discover that she has been sucked up into the world of the book! In this mysterious first story, Evan and Cleo must follow a series of clues to set her free and uncover a stolen priceless diamond. Fans of the *Magic Tree House* will enjoy this series for older readers.



### **THE A-Z MYSTERIES (series) by Roy, Ron (3)**

This beloved chapter book mystery series is a huge hit for readers who are transitioning to middle grade chapter books. The unique genre identifications that group books thematically – including mystery, fantasy, fiction, true stories, humor, history, and classic - make it easy for readers to select their favorite subjects.

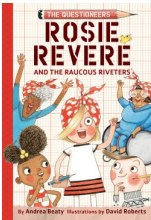
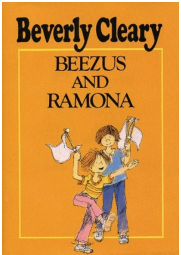
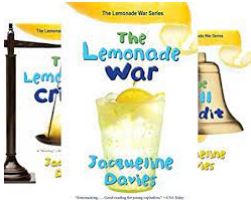


	<p><b>TIMMY FAILURE (series) by Pastis, Stephan (3-4)</b>  Eleven-year-old Timmy Failure is the clueless, comically self-confident CEO of the best detective agency in town, perhaps even the nation. Add his impressively lazy business partner, a very large polar bear named Total and throw in the Failuremobile, Timmy's mom's Segway, and what you have is Total Failure, Inc.</p>
	<p><b>The Secret of the Jade Bangle (series) by Trinh, Linda (3)</b>  When Anne and her younger siblings Jacob and Liz are given gifts passed on to them by their Grandma, Anne soon realizes that hers - a beautiful jade bangle - has a secret power. One that might just give her the strength to stand up to her ballet teacher, who treats her differently than her white classmates, and embrace her Vietnamese identity through cooking Grandma's recipes. No matter how difficult things get, Anne learns that the love of her ancestors is always with her.</p>

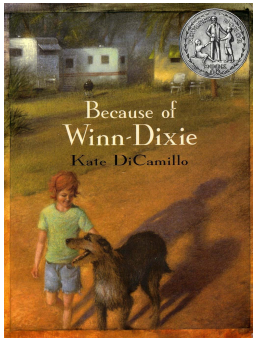


### **FICTION: REALISTIC**

Imaginary characters in situations that could happen in real life.

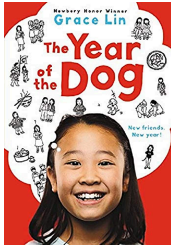
	<p><b>THE QUESTIONEERS (series) by Beaty, Andrea (3)</b>  You loved the bestselling picture books starring Rosie Revere, Ada Twist, and Iggy Peck. Now you can follow The Questioneers' further adventures in brand-new chapter books! The first installment, Rosie Revere and the Raucous Riveters, is a spirited story about the power of teamwork and the true meaning of home.</p>
	<p><b>BEEZUS &amp; RAMONA (series) by Cleary, Beverly (3-4)</b>  Sure, other people have little sisters that bother them sometimes, but is there anyone in the world like Ramona? Whether she's taking one bite out of every apple in a box or secretly inviting 15 other 4-year-olds to the house for a party, Ramona is always making trouble – and getting all the attention. Even after 70 years, this classic chapter book series still resonates with students, particularly older siblings.</p>
	<p><b>THE LEMONADE WAR (series) by Davies, Jacqueline (3-4)</b>  During the last days of summer, Evan is horrified to learn that his younger sister is skipping third grade and joining his class! Up until now they have always gotten along really well, but rivalries and misunderstandings pile up, as they compete to see who can make the most money on their lemonade stands.</p>





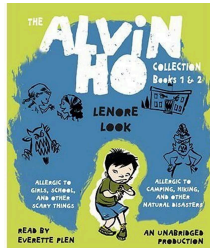
### **BECAUSE OF WINN DIXIE by DiCamillo, Kate (3)**

The summer Opal and her father, the preacher, move to Florida, Opal goes into the Winn-Dixie supermarket—and comes out with a dog she dubs Winn-Dixie. Because of Winn-Dixie, the preacher tells Opal ten things about her absent mother, and together they meet new friends. But because of Winn-Dixie or perhaps because she has grown, Opal learns to let go, just a little, and that friendship—and forgiveness—can sneak up on you like a sudden summer storm. This beloved Newbery winner is a favorite title at A-S.



### **YEAR OF THE DOG (series) by Lin, Grace (3-4)**

Behind every great book is an author with an amazing story to tell. This story is Grace Lin's and is based on her real life experiences of being the only Taiwanese-American girl in a school where no one looked like her. Although she has won numerous accolades (including a Newbery and Caldecott) for fantastical tales, this vulnerable and moving true-life story is the one Grace wishes she had when she was a kid.



### **ALVIN HO: ALLERGIC TO GIRLS, SCHOOL, AND OTHER SCARY THINGS (series) by Look, Lenore (3-4)**

Second grader Alvin Ho fears everything. Most of all, he is afraid of school. So afraid that he is totally unable to speak in class. However, at home he becomes a very loud superhero named Firecracker Man. While reading this book, you come to empathize with and really enjoy Alvin.





### **SHELTER PET SQUAD (series) by Lord, Cynthia (3-4)**

In this charming illustrated chapter book series, the Shelter Pet Squad kids find the perfect homes for animals in need! Suzannah's always wanted a pet of her own, but she lives in an apartment where there are absolutely no pets allowed. What she CAN do is volunteer at a local pet shelter. When a girl just her age brings a guinea pig named Jelly Bean to the shelter, Suzannah promises that she'll find the little creature the perfect home. But what if no one wants an abandoned guinea pig?



### **WHITE FUR FLYING by MacLachlan, Patricia (3-4)**

Zoe's family rescues dogs in need, so in her house there is always the sweet smell of dogs and a warm body looking to cuddle or play. The house across the street is another story; it's always quiet these days. A new family has moved in and Phillip, the boy, has stopped speaking. He doesn't even want to try. Saving dogs and saving boys may be different jobs, but Zoe learns that some parts are the same. Both take attention and care. They take understanding and time. And maybe just a bit of white fur flying.

	<p><b>WAYLON! ONE AWESOME THING (series) by Pennypacker, Sara (3)</b></p> <p>Waylon, a boy with the mind of a scientific genius and the vulnerable heart of an eight-year-old, is trying to understand his older sister and deal with changes among the kids at school. Fans of Clementine will enjoy her classmate Waylon.</p>
	<p><b>CILLA LEE JENKINS: FUTURE AUTHOR EXTRAORDINAIRE (series) by Tan, Susan (3-4)</b></p> <p>Introducing an irresistible new character who shares stories about a new sibling, being biracial, and her path to literary greatness! Priscilla "Cilla" Lee-Jenkins is asked "what" she is a lot, and the answer is obvious--she's a future bestselling author extraordinaire! But she's on a tight deadline, because when her new baby sister comes, her family will forget all about her. So Cilla writes about what she knows best - herself!</p>
	<p><b>SAM WU IS NOT AFRAID OF GHOSTS by Tsang, Katie and Kevin (3-4)</b></p> <p>Sam Wu loves outer space and science-fiction TV-and he's desperate to prove he's not the scaredy-cat his classmates think he is. So when his class goes on a trip to the local space museum, he accepts a dare to ride a rocket simulator that's for adult riders only. And he suffers embarrassing consequences as a result. More determined than ever to demonstrate his bravery, Sam is aided by his friends Bernard and Zoe in adopting a snake and hunting down a ghost that lives in his closet.</p>
	<p><b>ELLRAY JAKES IS NOT A CHICKEN (series) by Warner, Sally (3)</b></p> <p>Eight-year-old EllRay Jakes is sick of getting picked on. But every time he tries to defend himself against class bully Jared Matthews, EllRay is the one who winds up in trouble. It's just not fair! Then his dad offers him that if EllRay can stay out of trouble for a week, they'll go to Disneyland! But being good for one whole week is not so easy. . . . This humorous and true-to-life story kicks off the EllRay series.</p>
	<p><b>FRONT DESK (series) by Yang, Kelly (4)</b></p> <p>When Mia Tang's parents find a new job managing the Calivista motel, it seems like the answer to their prayers - free housing and a stable, secure job, both of which these recent Chinese immigrants desperately need. Fifth-grader Mia takes pride in working the front desk of the motel but the motel's owner, Mr. Yao, is mean and racist, so Mia enters a writing contest to win their very own motel.</p>



## FICTION: SPORTS

Stories featuring plenty of sports action but which also appeal to boys who don't love sports.



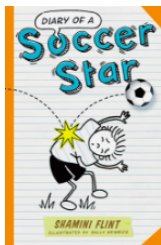
**KICK OFF! (series) by Barber, Tiki & Ronde (3-4)**

Identical twin brothers, Tiki and Ronde Barber, can hardly wait for school to begin. You read that right! It's because the twins will start junior high and finally be eligible for their school football team. Written from the authentic voices of two NFL superstars, this book shows the power of hard work and team work to succeed.



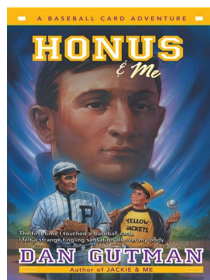
**GO FOR THE GOAL (series) by Bowen, Fred (3-4)**

All the players on Josh's elite travel league soccer team, the United, are talented, but they each seem to be playing for themselves. As a result, they can't win a single game. Tired of always losing, Josh begins to wonder if he made a mistake by leaving his old team. But just when Josh is about to give up on his new team, he makes a discovery: the 1999 United States Women's World Cup team faced similar difficulties the year they won it all. Using team-building exercises was their solution, and Josh convinces his coach to try the same approach. Will they be able to turn the United into a real team?



**DIARY OF A SOCCER STAR (series) by Flint, Shamini (3-4)**

Follow a brilliant (but very uncoordinated) boy named Marcus, as he navigates his first soccer team to please his enthusiastic father. With plenty of illustrations, this book will especially appeal to fans of *The Diary of a Wimpy Kid* style book. Each book portrays the adventure of a new sport including tennis, rugby and cricket.



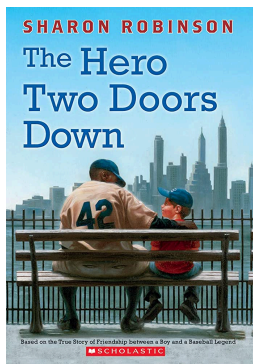
**HONUS & ME (Baseball Card series) by Gutman, Dan (4)**

In this wonderful series, a boy gets to time travel and meet titans of baseball. In this first volume, Joe finds a valuable baseball card in an old lady's attic. He thinks he's got it made with the Honus Wagner card, baseball's rarest find. What he doesn't know is that the card has properties that allow both Joe and Honus Wagner to travel through time. Joe (now rather inexplicably a man) even gets to play in the 1909 World Series. Other titles include *Jackie & Me* and *Babe & Me*.



**POWER FORWARD (series) by Khan, Hena (3-4)**

Zayd may be small, but he's got big dreams. Hoop dreams! This delightful and realistic coming of age story is about a boy who tries to balance the wishes of his parents with wishes of his own heart – basketball!



**THE HERO TWO DOORS DOWN by Robinson, Sharon (3-4)**

It's 1948 and Stephen Satlow is an average kid with baseball on the brain, when his quiet street is interrupted with the news that an African-American family is moving into his all-Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn. Following the lead of his hero, the color-barrier breaking Jackie Robinson, Stephen supports an integrated neighborhood. Imagine his surprise when he discovers that the person moving in is Jackie Robinson! Based on a true story, this friendship is lovingly remembered by Jackie's daughter, the writer Sharon Robinson



**MR. STRIKE OUT: JAKE MADDOX SPORTS (series) by Tiffany, Sean (3-4)**

When pitted against the legendary little leaguer who can strike out players as fast as he hits home runs, Jake Maddox looks to Babe Ruth for inspiration on how to be the best all-around player he can be.



**FICTION: GRAPHIC NOVELS** Similar to comic books, these image based novels tell stories and convey information using panels containing both pictures and text. While there can be written descriptions, characters usually speak using speech bubbles.



**EL DEAFO by Bell, Cece (4)**

Going to a new school can be tough but what about when you have a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires super powers! Join Cece as she tries to find a true friend in this extraordinary, Newbery honor-winning memoir.



**NEW KID (series) by Craft, Jerry (4)**

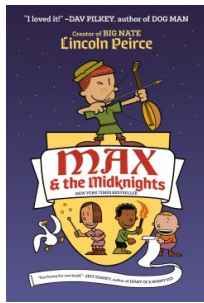
As Jordan begins his daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School (the prestigious private school his parents have recently enrolled him in) Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself? This Newbery and CSK winning title is based on the author's true-life story.



**GREEN LANTERN: LEGACY by Lê, Minh**

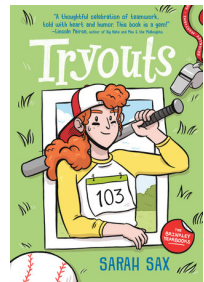
The dynamic and detailed artwork in this graphic novel tells the story of thirteen-year-old Tai Pham. When Tai inherits his grandmother's jade ring, he soon finds out he has been inducted into a group of space cops known as the Green Lanterns. Now Tai must decide what kind of hero he wants to be.





### **MAX AND THE MIDKNIGHTS (series) by Peirce, Lincoln (3-4)**

The bestselling creator of the Big Nate series now presents Max and the Midknights! Max wants to be a knight, too bad that dream is about as likely as finding a friendly dragon. But when Max's uncle Budrick is kidnapped by the cruel King Gastley, Max sets out on a thrilling quest: to save Uncle Budrick and restore the realm of Byjovia to its former high spirits! Joined by a band of brave adventurers (the Midknights) Magic and (mis)adventures abound in this hilarious illustrated novel.



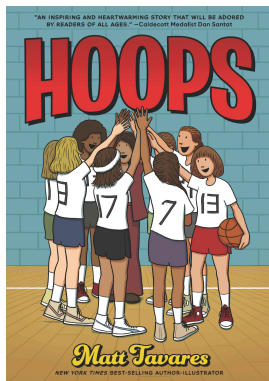
### **TRYOUTS by Sax, Sarah (3-4)**

When Al ages out of Little League, it seems like it's the end of the road for the sport she loves. Until, that is, her friend Sammy suggests that Al try out for the middle school team—a team that has always been boys-only. Al is prepared to fight for her right to try out, but with a tenth consecutive championship on the line for Brinkley Middle School and a team that can't seem to get along, will their season ground out faster than Al can say "home run"?



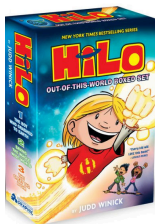
### **THE CARDBOARD KINGDOM by Sell, Chad (3)**

Welcome to a neighborhood of kids who change ordinary boxes into props and costumes until their ordinary block resembles a cardboard kingdom. Knights and rogues, evil queens, robots and monsters are everywhere, as the kids make the most of the very last days of summer, and become anything they want to be.



### **HOOPS by Tavares, Matt (4)**

It is 1975 in Indiana, and the Wilkins Regional High School girls' basketball team is in their rookie season. Despite being undefeated, they practice at night in the elementary school and play to empty bleachers. Unlike the boys' team, the Lady Bears have no buses to deliver them to away games and no uniforms, much less a laundry service. They make their own uniforms out of T-shirts and electrical tape. And with help from a committed female coach, they push through to improbable victory after improbable victory. Illustrated in full color, this true story about the ongoing battle of women striving for equality in sports rings with honesty, bravery, and heart.



### **HILO (series) by Winick, Judd (3-4)**

BOOM! CLANG! CRASH! D.J. and Gina are totally ordinary kids. But Hilo isn't! Hilo just fell out of the sky and doesn't know where he came from, or what he's doing on Earth. (Or why going to school in only your underwear is a BAD idea!)... a laugh-out-loud, epic story of friendship! Adventure! (And the occasionally mutant space robot.)