

## [Best Books for Third Grade \[1\]](#)



Adventures and escapes abound in books for readers of this age. Some involve school. Some are about family. Some may involve creatures from other worlds! Whatever the case, these titles are sure to keep you interested.

### [Edgar Allan's Official Crime Investigation Notebook](#) [2]by Mary Amato

When someone takes a pet goldfish, then other items from Ms. Herschel's classroom, each time leaving a clue in the form of a poem, student Edgar Allan competes with a classmate to be first to solve the mystery.

### [A Dog on His Own](#) [3]by Mary Jane Auch

After a daring escape from the animal shelter, Pearl, Peppy, and K-10--so named because he is one step above all the other canines--explore the outside world while moving from one adventure to another.

### [The Red Ghost](#) [4]by Marion Bauer

After Jenna gives her little sister an old doll dressed in red velvet as a birthday present, the occurrence of some very disturbing events make Jenna suspect the doll might be possessed.

### [Friend or Fiend?](#) [5]By Judy Blume

First-grader Jake "The Pain" and his sister, third-grader Abigail "The Great One" have more adventures, including visiting their cousins in New York and celebrating their cat Fluzzy's birthday.

### [Bad Kitty For President](#) [6]by Nick Bruel

Kitty decides to run for President of the Neighborhood Cat Association.

### [Ramona Quimby, Age 8](#) [7]by Beverly Cleary

The further adventures of the Quimby family as Ramona enters the third grade.

### [Legend of the Worst Boy in the World](#) [8]by Eoin Colfer

Every Saturday, while helping polish the lens of the lighthouse his grandfather tends, nine-year-old Will tells a tale he hopes will top Grandad's, but Grandad always wins until Dad reminds Will of a long-forgotten escapade with his brother.

### [No Room For Dessert](#) [9]by Hallie Durand

Eight-year-old Donahue "Dessert" Schneider is feeling completely ignored and unloved at home, but she is certain that will change when her invention wins the Thomas Edison Contest at school.

### [Just Grace and the Flower Girl Power](#) [10]by Charise Harper

Although disappointed at not being chosen to be the flower girl in her best adult friend's wedding, third-grader Grace plans a special surprise for the big day.

### [Captain Awesome and the New Kid](#) [11]by Stan Kirby 112p. (series)

Eugene McGillicuddy stands up for Sally Williams, the new student at Sunnyview Elementary, and then

discovers that they both like an orange cat named Mr. Whiskersworth and the comic book super hero, Super Dude.

**[Alvin Ho Allergic to Babies, Burglars and Other Bumps in the Night](#)** [12]by Lenore Look

When fearful seven-year-old Alvin Ho learns that his mother is expecting a baby, he develops a sympathetic pregnancy--adding to his worry about the burglar who is targeting Concord, Massachusetts.

**[Curse of the Camp-Fire Weenies](#)** [13]by David Lubar

Thirty-five creepy stories about pigeons, ancient predators, Girl Scouts, and other terrifying things. Includes author's notes on how he got his ideas for these stories.

**[Rainmaker](#)** [14]by Kevin Markey

The Rambletown Rounders want to end their last season together with a fun-filled rafting trip and a championship win, but star pitcher Slingshot Slocum hits a slump, believing the drenching rains that threaten to ruin their adventure are his fault.

**[Being Teddy Roosevelt](#)** [15]by Claudia Mills

When he is assigned Teddy Roosevelt as his biography project in school, fourth-grader Riley finds himself inspired by Roosevelt's tenacity and perseverance and resolves to find a way to get what he most wants--a saxophone and music lessons.

**[Mason Dixon: Basketball Disasters](#)** [16]by Claudia Mills

Fourth-grader Mason struggles to enjoy playing basketball after his best friend persuades him to join a team, and learns that the dog-hating lady next door is not so bad after all.

**[Lawn Boy Returns](#)** [17]by Gary Paulsen

Having expanded his summer lawn mowing job into an ever-growing business conglomerate, a twelve-year-old boy gets involved in high finance thanks to his hippie stockbroker, takes on sponsorship of a boxer, and becomes a media sensation.

**[Big Nate Flips Out](#)** [18]by Lincoln Peirce

In this latest misadventure, Nate, the all-time record-holder for detentions, gets to see how the other half lives as he follows his best friend Francis's example and becomes a total neat freak; has Nate totally flipped out?

**[Calvin Coconut: Extra Famous](#)** [19]by Graham Salisbury

Calvin and his friends have the opportunity to earn some money by appearing as extras in a zombie movie being filmed on a nearby beach.

**[Third Grade Angels](#)** [20]by Jerry Spinelli

"George 'Suds' Morton competes with his third-grade classmates to earn the first 'halo' of the year for good behavior, but being good turns out to be more stressful than he anticipated"

**[My Name is Stilton, Geronimo Stilton](#)** [21]by Geronimo Stilton

Who is Geronimo Stilton? That's me! I run a newspaper, but my true passion is writing tales of adventure. Here in New Mouse City, the capital of Mouse Island, my books are all bestsellers! My stories are full of fun - tastier than Swiss cheese and tangier than extra-sharp cheddar.

**[Minn & Jake's Almost Terrible Summer](#)** [22]by Janet Wong

Ten-year-old Jake's summer starts off badly, goes downhill when his family visits Los Angeles, California, and his old friends are too busy for him, then gets even worse after he disagrees with Minn when her family joins his for a trip to Disneyland.

## NON-FICTION

[Tsunamis](#) [23]by Judith Fradin (551.463)

The words and photographs of people who have witnessed tsunamis, along with the science, history, and protection efforts surrounding this watery disaster.

[Earth](#) [24]by Nick Hunter (J525) (Astronaut Travel Guides series)

Prepare for landing! -- Third planet from the sun -- Earth's story -- Interview with an astronomer -- Seeing the sights -- Supporting life -- When to go -- People worth meeting -- Interview with an astronaut -- Living on earth.

[I Wonder Why the Dinosaurs Died Out and Other Questions About Extinct and Endangered Animals](#)

[25]by Andrew Charman (J591.52) (I Wonder Why? series)

This highly popular and long-running series has been revamped for a new generation of readers, with a clean, crisp redesign and colorful covers. The series explores questions that young readers ask about the world around them in an unrivalled child-friendly style. The conversational format is perfect for delivering solid information in a natural, amusing and imaginative way. Why did all of the dinosaurs die? Why is a boat bad for a manatee? You'll be surprised when you find out why!

[Reptiles](#) [26]by Simon Holland (J597)

Explores the world of reptiles, discussing lizards, snakes, tortoises, turtles, alligators, crocodiles, and tuataras.

[Winter's Tail : How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again](#) [27]by Juliana Hatkoff (J599.53)

Describes the rescue and rehabilitation of a young Atlantic bottlenose dolphin, named Winter, who received an artificial tail after being badly injured when caught in a crab trap.

[Baseball: How It Works](#) [28]by David Dreier (J796.357)

"Describes the science behind the sport of baseball, including offense, defense, stadiums, and individual players who have mastered the sport"--Provided by publisher.

## CHAPTER BOOKS

Critter Club by Callie Barkley

Ivy & Bean (series) by Annie Barrows

Franny K. Stein by Jim Benton

The SOS Files by Betsy Byers

Jake Drake by Andrew Clements

Heidi Heckelbeck by Wanda Coven

Amber Brown by Paula Danziger

Zigzag Kids by Patricia Giff

Rosy Cole by Sheila Greenwald

Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

Horrible Harry by Suzy Kline

Gooney Bird Greene by Lois Lowry

Judy Moody by Megan McDonald

Pirates Drive Buses by Christopher Morgan

Some Good News by Cynthia Rylant

Wayside School by Loius Sachar

Stella Batts by Courtney Sheinmel

Maybelle in the Soup by Katie Speck

## Junior Paperback Series

Secrets of Droon by Tony Abbott  
Young Cam Jansen by David Adler  
Bella Sara by Felicity Brown  
Chet Gecko (series) by Hal Bruce  
Keyholders by Debbie Dadey  
Mercy Watson (series) by Kate DiC DiCamillo  
Clues Brothers by Franklin Dixon  
Tiara Club by Vivian French  
Ghosthunters by Comelia Funke  
Andrew Lost by J.C Greenburg  
My Weird School by Dan Gutman  
Babymouse by Jennifer Holm  
Nancy Drew Notebooks by Carolyn Keene  
Katie Kazoo by Nancy Krulik  
Stink by Megan McDonald  
Magic Tree House by Mary Osborne  
Junie B. Jones by Barbara Park  
Clementine's Letter by Sara Penneypacker  
Captain Underpants by Dav Pilkey  
Jigsaw Jones Mysteries by James Preller  
A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy  
Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka  
Horrid Henry by Francesca Simon  
Encyclopedia Brown by Donald J. Sobol  
Third Grade Detectives by George E. Stanley  
Geronimo Stilton by Geronimo Stilton  
Boxcar Children by Gertrude Warner

## Topic Guide:

- Kids

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