**SUGGESTED READING**

- **You Wouldn’t Want to Be a Roman Gladiator: Gory Things You’d Rather Not Know!**
  John Malam • J 796.8 Mal
  At gladiator school, you’ll be taught to fight, kill, and die in a suitably sporting manner to entertain the Roman crowds. If you survive, you could become a hero—but don’t count on it.

- **Mal and Chad: The Biggest, Bestest Time Ever!**
  Stephen McCranie • Youth - Graphic Novel Mal
  Mal is a super kid genius and Chad is a talking dog, but no one knows it. Fortunately, Mal and Chad are best friends—even if time-traveling does get them grounded.

- **Kelsey Green, Reading Queen**
  Claudia Mills • J Mil Franklin #1
  When the principal announces a reading contest, Kelsey knows she’s just the person to lead her class to victory. But how can they win when even her best friends don’t live up to her expectations?

- **Sadiq and the Desert Star**
  Siman Nuurali • J Nuu Sadiq #1
  When Sadiq’s father shares his passion for stars and outer space, Sadiq is enthralled. But can he find others who are willing to help him start the space club of his dreams?

- **Meet the Bigfeet**
  Kevin Sherry • J She Yeti #1
  Blizz is a yeti who has taken an oath to never be seen by the outside world. When a photo of Cousin Brian becomes a media sensation, Brian disappears. Can Blizz find him before the yeti’s secret gets out for good?

- **Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye**
  Geronimo Stilton • J Sti Geronimo #1
  I, Geronimo Stilton, run a newspaper, but my true passion is writing tales of adventure. This one started when my sister discovered a mysterious map with a secret treasure on a faraway island.

- **Welcome to Dead House**
  R. L. Stine • J Sti Goosebumps
  Josh and Amanda just moved into the oldest, weirdest house—it might even be haunted! But of course, their parents don’t believe them.

- **The Titanic: An Interactive History Adventure**
  Bob Temple • J You Choose History
  It is 1912 and you are aboard the Titanic. Suddenly the ship is sinking into the freezing Atlantic Ocean. You choose what happens next! Your choices reveal historical details from the point of view of a first-class passenger, a third-class passenger, and a crewmember of the infamous ship.

- **Justin Case: School, Drool, and Other Daily Disasters**
  Rachel Vail • J Vai Justin #1
  Justin didn’t get the teacher he wanted, he’s not in a class with his best friend, and he’s lost his favorite stuffed animal. But he can’t tell anyone, because technically he’s too old to have stuffed animals.

- **Dragonbreath**
  Ursula Vernon • J Ver Dragon #1
  Danny is a dragon who can’t breathe fire, but he has no fear. And that comes in handy when a bad grade at school inspires him to enlist his sea-serpent cousin’s help with a research project!

- **The Case of the Stolen Sixpence**
  Holly Webb • J Web Maisie #1
  Maisie is convinced she would make an excellent detective! But instead, she spends her days polishing at her grandmother’s boarding house. Her big chance arrives when crime strikes her neighborhood.

- **100 Cupboards**
  N. D. Wilson • J Wil 100 Cup #1
  Henry wakes up one night to find two knobs have broken through the wall. He discovers cupboards of all different sizes and shapes and soon finds that these are not just cupboards, but portals to other worlds.

- **Look for these books in the following sections:**
  - Juvenile Fiction
  - Juvenile Nonfiction
  - Youth Graphic Novels

- **Other titles by these authors are also great options**

Contact our Youth Services staff with any questions:
(712) 255-2933 ext. 2231
The Seer of Shadows
Avi • J Avi
Horace discovers he somehow captured a girl’s spirit while taking her photograph. When the spirit escapes, he has released a ghost bent on deadly revenge.

Ivy + Bean
Annie Barrows • J Bar Ivy #1
The moment they saw each other, Bean and Ivy knew they wouldn’t be friends. But when Bean plays a joke on her sister and has to hide, Ivy comes to the rescue.

The Trouble With Chickens:
A J.J. Tully Mystery
Doreen Cronin • J Cro J. J. #1
J.J. is a former search-and-rescue dog trying to enjoy retirement. He’s not terribly impressed when some chickens show up demanding to find their missing siblings. Are there dark forces at work?

How To Train Your Dragon
Cressida Cowell • J Cow How #1
Travel back to the days when the mighty warrior Hiccup was just a boy. Can he capture a dragon and train it without being torn limb from limb?

Because of Winn-Dixie
Kate DiCamillo • J DiC
One summer’s day, Opal goes to the local supermarket for some groceries—and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog.

The Field Guide
Tony DiTerlizzi • J DiT Spider #1
After finding a mysterious book in the attic, Jared, Simon, and Mallory discover a magical and maybe dangerous world—the world of faerie.

Sam the Man and the Chicken Plan
Frances O’Roark Dowell • J Dow Sam #1
To earn some spending money, Sam volunteers to look after a neighbor’s chickens. The experience inspires him to hatch his own plan with a chicken named Helga.

Dog Days
Karen English • J Eng Carver #1
When Gavin’s classmate Richard comes over, they end up in trouble. Not only does Gavin risk losing his one new friend, he now has to take care of his great aunt’s horrible dog as punishment.

Fortunately, the Milk
Neil Gaiman • J Gai
While picking up milk for his children’s cereal, a father is abducted by aliens and finds himself on a wild adventure through time and space.

Pinch Hit
Tim Green • J Gre
Trevor and Sam look alike but their lives couldn’t be more different. Trevor is a movie star who wants to play baseball. Sam is a regular kid. When Sam and Trevor see the chance to trade places, they believe they can make everyone’s dreams come true.

The Homework Machine
Dan Gutman • J Gut Homework #1
Because the secret machine is doing their homework for them, a group of misfits starts spending a lot of time together, attracting a lot of attention. And attention is exactly what you don’t want when you have a secret.

The Princess in Black
Shannon Hale • J Hal Princess #1
Princess Magnolia is having scones with Duchess Wigtower when she hears the monster alarm! Princess Magnolia has a secret—she’s the Princess in Black! Can she sneak away and defeat the monster before the nosy duchess discovers her secret?

Zita the Spacegirl: Far From Home
Ben Hatke • Youth - Graphic Novel Zit #1
When her best friend is abducted by aliens, Zita leaps to the rescue and finds herself on a strange planet.

Hissy Fitz
Patrick Jennings • J Jen
Hissy Fitz lives with some two-legged creatures who are destined to serve him. Sadly, these creatures are lacking in skills. For one thing—they pet him and speak to him! What is this grumpy cat to do?

Lucy Rose, Here’s the Thing About Me
Katy Kelly • J Kel Lucy #1
Lucy Rose is not-so sure about things. She and her mom just moved and she has no friends, but she hopes her hilarious personality will fix that.

The Tail of Emily Windsnap
Liz Kessler • J Kes Emily #1
After finally convincing her mother that she should take swimming lessons, Emily discovers a terrible and wonderful secret about herself that opens up a whole new world.

Lunch Lady and the Cyborg Substitute
Jarrett Krosoczka • Youth - Graphic Novel Lun #1
Hector, Terrence, and Dee have always wondered about their school lunch lady. Little do they know, Lunch Lady doesn’t just serve sloppy joes—she serves justice!

Fairy Mom and Me
Sophie Kinsella • J Kin Fairy #1
Ella can’t wait to grow up and have her own set of fairy wings, just like her mom! But sometimes even fairies make mistakes, and it’s a good thing Ella is there to help her mom out.

Anyone But Me
Nancy Krulik • J Kru Katie #1
Katie had no idea what would happen when she wished she could be anyone but herself. Now she keeps turning into other people and even animals!

Alvin Ho: Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things
Lenore Look • J Loo Alvin Ho #1
Alvin is afraid of everything—elevators, tunnels, girls, and, most of all, school. But at home, he’s a very loud superhero, a brother, and a gentleman-in-training.