

## Travilah Elementary School Library Media Center



### Choosing Fiction

As you become an independent reader, you probably wonder how to choose a good story to read. How should I find a book that's just right (the goldilocks strategy)? Where should you start?

You might like to read a certain kind of story:

- children just like you with everyday problems (**realistic fiction**),
- children who lived a long time ago (**historical fiction**),
- children who get involved in a **mystery**,
- children who live on another planet (**science fiction**),
- children who live in an imaginary world (**fantasy**),
- or stories with **animals** that act and talk like people.

Maybe you have a **favorite author** or **series**.

The following list identifies some fiction titles you can find in the library. Your teacher calls them **chapter books**.

Use the **five finger test** to see if the book is just right for you.

Read a random page from the book.

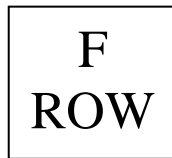
As you read, hold up a finger for each word you don't know.

Do not count proper names.

If five fingers come up before the end of the page, this book will be a challenge for you to read.

You might want to choose another.

This fiction list is in alphabetical order by the author's last name. That is how fiction books are shelved in the library. Use the author's last name to find the book on the shelf. For example, the call letters on the spine of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J. K. Rowling will look like this:



Section of the library

Author's last name

**Series** are in italics. *Italics is a slanted font and looks like this.* In fiction, series means more than one story about the same characters. *Harry Potter* is an example of a fiction series.

### Realistic Fiction

- Adler, David      *Cam Jansen*
- Barrows            *Ivy and Bean*
- Baglio              *Touching the Waves (Dolphin Diaries)*
- Betancourt        *I Want a Pony (Pony Pals)*
- Blume              *Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great*
- Blume              *Superfudge*
- Bryant             *Corey's Pony Is Missing (Pony Tails)*
- Bryant             *Horse Show (Saddle Club)*
- Cameron          *Julian's Glorious Summer*
- Catling            *The Chocolate Touch*
- Christopher, Matt *The Kid Who Hit Only Homers*
- Cleary             *Ramona*
- Clements         *No Talking!*
- Clifford          *Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library*
- Cole                *Great Shark Escape*  
*(Magic School Bus Chapter Books)*
- Conford          *A Job for Jenny Archer*
- Corbett            *Hairy Horror Trick*

- Dadey                      *Ghouls Don't Scoop Ice Cream  
(Bailey School Kids)*
- Danziger                  *Amber Brown is Not a Crayon*
- Delton                     *Camp Ghost-Away (Pee Wee Scouts)*
- Duffey                     *How to be Cool in the Third Grade*
- Duncan                    *Wonder Kid Meets the Evil Lunch Snatcher*
- Galbraith                 *Roommates*
- Giff                        *Kids of the Polk Street School*
- Gilson                     *Hobie Hanson, Greatest Hero of the Mall*
- Green                     *Eating ice Cream with a Werewolf*
- Greenburg               *Don't Count on Dracula (The Zack Files)*
- Greenwald               *Rosy Cole*
- Gutman                   *My Weird School Miss Daisy is Crazy*
- Hicks                     *Alvin Fernald, TV Anchorman*
- Howe                      *Pinky and Rex Get Married*
- Hurwitz                  *Aldo Applesauce*
- Hurwitz                  *Noisy Nora*
- Impey                     *Desperate for a Dog*
- Jukes                     *Like Jake and Me*
- Kelly                     *Lucy Rose, Here's the Thing About Me*
- Kline                     *Herbie Jones and the Dark Attic*
- Kline                     *Horrible Harry and the Green Slime*
- Krensky                  *Lionel in the Winter*
- Krulik                    *Anyone But Me (Katie Kazoo)*
- Leverich                 *Best Enemies*
- Levinson                 *The Fourth-Grade Four*
- Levy                      *Dracula is a Pain in the Neck*
- Maddox                  *On the Line*
- Mahy                     *The Good Fortune Gang*
- Manes                    *Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days*
- Martin                   *Baby-Sitters Little Sister*
- Mazer                    *Have Wheels, Will Travel  
(Amazing Days of Abby Hayes)*

- McDonald *Judy Moody Saves the World*
- McDonald *Stink: the Incredible Shrinking Kid*
- Mills *Dynamite Dinah*
- Naylor *The Boys Start the War*
- Naylor *One of the Third Grade Thinkers*
- Pennypacker *Clementine*
- Porte *Harry's Dog*
- Park *Junie B. Jones ... Yucky Blucky Fruitcake*
- Peck *Soup*
- Rockwell *How to Eat Fried Worms*
- Ross *Meet M & M*
- Shreve *Joshua T. Bates Takes Charge*
- Wallace *Emergency Quarterback*
- Wittman *Stepbrother Sabotage*
- Woodruff *Awfully Short for the Fourth Grade*
- Yep *Later, Gator*

### **Historical Fiction**

- Adler, Susan *Meet Samantha (American Girl)*
- Bulla *Viking Adventure*
- Harlow *Star in the Storm*
- MacLachlan *Skylark*
- Monjo *Drinking Gourd*
- Porter *Meet Addy (American Girl)*
- Shaw *Meet Kirsten (American Girl)*
- Shaw *Meet Kaya (American Girl)*
- Tripp *Meet Josefina (American Girl)*
- Tripp *Meet Molly (American Girl)*
- Tripp *Meet Samantha (American Girl)*
- Yep *The Earth Dragon Awakes*

### **Mystery**

- Buckley *Sisters Grimm: the Fairy Tale Detectives*

- Christian *Sebastian Super Sleuth*
- Curtis *Mr. Chickee's Funny Money*
- Hildick *The Case of the Dragon in Distress*
- Levy *Something Queer at the Library*
- Levy *Karate Class Mystery (Invisible, Inc.)*
- Preller *Case of the Disappearing Dinosaur  
(Jigsaw Jones Mystery)*
- Roy *A to Z Mysteries: The Absent Author*
- Sobol *Encyclopedia Brown*
- Warner *The Boxcar Children*

### **Science Fiction**

- Applegate *Animorphs*
- Asimov *Norby Down to Earth*
- Cameron *Mushroom Planet*
- Crilley *Akiko on the Planet Smoo*
- Etra *Aliens for Breakfast*
- Montgomery *Abominable Snowman  
(Choose Your Own Adventure)*
- Pinkwater *Fat Men from Space*
- Sadler *Bobo Crazy*
- Slote *My Robot Buddy*

### **Fantasy**

- Butterworth *Enormous Egg*
- Coville *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher*
- DiTerlizzi *Spiderwick Chronicles: The Field Guide*
- Duey *The Silver Thread  
(Unicorn's Secret series)*
- Fleischman *Here Comes McBroom!*
- Gage *Mrs. Gaddy and the Ghost*
- Griffith *Dinosaur Habitat*
- Gurney *Dinotopia*

- Jacques *Redwall*
- Leavitt Robinhound Crusoe  
*(Adventures of Wishbone)*
- Mahy The Pirates' Mixed-Up Voyage
- McMullan New Kid At School  
*(Dragon Slayers' Academy)*
- Osborne Dinosaurs Before Dark
- Peet How Droofus the Dragon Lost His Head
- Rodda The Charm Bracelet *(Fairy Realm)*
- Rodda Forests of Silence *(Deltora Quest)*
- Rowling *Harry Potter* and the Sorcerer's Stone
- Sachar Sideways Stories from *Wayside School*
- Sage Magyk
- Scieszka Knights of the Kitchen Table  
*(Time Warp Trio)*
- Snicket The Bad Beginning  
*(Series of Unfortunate Events)*
- Stine *Goosebumps*
- Van Allsburg The Stranger

### **Animals**

- Avi Poppy
- Baglio *Animal Ark: Tabby in the Tub*
- Berenstain *Berenstain Bear Scouts* Ghost Versus Ghost
- Cleary Ralph S. Mouse
- DiCamillo *Mercy Watson* To the Rescue
- Erickson *Hank, the Cowdog*
- Flack Walter, the Lazy Mouse
- Holm *Babymouse: Queen of the World*
- King-Smith The School Mouse
- Krensky Arthur Accused! *(Marc Brown Arthur)*
- Stilton Surf's Up, Geronimo! *(Geronimo Stilton)*
- Wallace A Dog Called Kitty

## Classics

<input type="checkbox"/> Averill	<i>Jenny and the Cat Club</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Atwater	Mr. Popper's Penguins
<input type="checkbox"/> Cleary	Henry Huggins
<input type="checkbox"/> Estes	The Moffats
<input type="checkbox"/> Gannett	<i>My Father's Dragon</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Haywood	Hello, Star
<input type="checkbox"/> Howe	<i>Bunnicula</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Lovelace	<i>Betsy-Tacy</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> MacGregor	Miss Pickerell
<input type="checkbox"/> MacDonald	Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle
<input type="checkbox"/> Streatfield	Ballet Shoes
<input type="checkbox"/> Titus	Basil of Baker Street

## Series with different authors:

American Girls  
Choose Your Own Adventure  
Dear America  
Dinotopia  
Illustrated Classics  
Mary Kate and Ashley  
Once Upon America  
The Royal Diaries  
Wishbone