

Summertime Treasures 2009



Welcome to our Seventeenth Edition of Summertime Treasures!

To prepare this annual brochure, area librarians read and review hundreds of books in an effort to select titles that will provide a high quality reading experience. We suggest grade level groupings for included titles. These are only guidelines, however. Many of the books can be read and enjoyed by a wider audience of readers. We hope that you and your family enjoy exploring many of our suggestions. This list is also available online at:

http://www.msad71.net/Library/Our_School_Libraries/Recommended.htm

Our best wishes for a summer full of great reading!

Prepared by the Librarians of MSAD 71, Kennebunk Free Library, and
Louis T. Graves Memorial Library, Kennebunkport.

Suggested grade level groupings:

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PRESCHOOL

Cotton, Cynthia. Rain Play. Henry Holt, 2008.

Most people leave the park when rain begins to fall, while others enjoy the sights, sounds, and feel of the cool water--until thunder and lightning come near.

Foley, Greg E. Don't Worry Bear. Viking, 2008.

A caterpillar reassures a worried bear that they will see each other again when the caterpillar emerges from its cocoon.

Lee, Suzy. Wave. Chronicle Books, 2008.

A wordless picture book that shows a little girl's first experiences at the beach, as she goes from being afraid of the roaring waves to playing on the shore while gulls soar overhead.

Lithgow, John. I Got Two Dogs. Simon & Schuster, 2008.

A song celebrating two dogs that are as different as they could be, and both well-loved by their owner.

Nakagawa, Chihiro. Who Made This Cake? Front Street, 2008.

While a boy and his parents go for an outing, little people invade the house and use their big construction equipment to bake a cake.

Rylant, Cynthia. Snow. Harcourt, 2008.

Celebrates the beauty of a snowfall and its happy effects on children.

Schertle, Alice. Little Blue Truck. Harcourt, 2008.

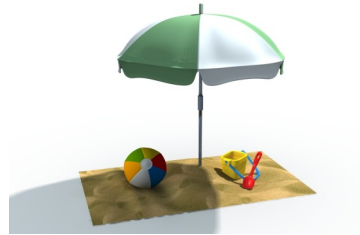
A small blue truck finds his way out of a jam, with a little help from his friends.

Tafari, Nancy. Blue Goose. Simon and Schuster, 2008.

When Farmer Gray goes away for the day, Blue Goose, Red Hen, Yellow Chick, and White Duck get together and paint their black and white farm.

Wood, Jakki. A Hole in the Road. Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2008.

Looks at the people, machinery, and processes involved in repairing a road, from the workers breaking up the old pavement with a loud jackhammer, to smoothing down the new asphalt with a super-sized roller.



GRADES K TO 1

Browne, Anthony. Little Beauty. Candlewick Press, 2008.

When a gorilla who knows sign language tells his keepers that he is lonely, they bring him a very special friend.

Crow, Kristin. Bedtime at the Swamp. HarperCollins, 2008.

Upon hearing a swamp monster's splashing, rumbling approach, a boy hides in a tree, where he is soon joined by his sister, brother, two cousins, and even the monster itself, until Ma arrives to bring them all home to bed.

DiCamillo, Kate. Louise, the Adventures of a Chicken.

HarperCollins, 2008.

Longing for adventure, intrepid Louise leaves her comfortable nest and goes to sea.

Fern, Tracey E. Buffalo Music. Clarion Books, 2008.

After hunters kill off the buffalo around her Texas ranch, a woman begins raising orphan buffalo calves and eventually ships four members of her small herd to Yellowstone National Park, in a story based on the life of Mary Ann Goodnight and her husband Charles.

Frazer, Marla. A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever.
Harcourt, 2008. *Caldecott Honor Award*.

Friends James and Eamon enjoy a wonderful week at the home of Eamon's grandparents during summer vacation.

George, Jean Craighead. Goose and Duck. Laura Geringer Books, 2008.

A young boy becomes the "mother" to a goose, who becomes "mother" to a duck, as they learn about the rhythms of nature together.

Harvey, Matt. Shopping with Dad. Barefoot, 2008.

A little girl and her father have a wonderful time in the grocery store until she nearly knocks over a display. Then while trying her best to be good, she lets out a big sneeze that results in chaos.

Henkes, Kevin. Old Bear. HarperCollins, 2008.

When Old Bear falls asleep for the winter, he has a dream that he is a cub again, enjoying each of the four seasons.

Kerby, Mona. Owney, the Mail-Pouch Pooch. Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2008.

Owney, a stray terrier puppy, finds a home in the Albany, New York post office and becomes its official mascot as he rides the mail train through the Adirondacks and beyond, eventually traveling around the world by mail boat.

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. How to be a Baby, by Me the Big Sister. Schwartz & Wade, 2007.

An all-knowing big sister gives her baby sibling lessons in being a baby.

McMullan, Kate. I'm Bad! HarperCollins, 2008.

A hungry Tyrannosaurus Rex searches for food in the prehistoric forest but is thwarted in its attempts to find something to eat.

- McPhail, David. Dot and Bob. Green Light Readers, 2008.
Bob the dog's love of digging comes in handy when Dot's mom decides to plant a tree.
- Nedwidek, John. Ducks Don't Wear Socks. Viking, 2008.
Emily, a serious girl, meets a duck who helps her see the more serious side of life.
- O'Connor, Jane. Fancy Nancy and the Boy From Paris. HarperCollins, 2008.
Nancy is delighted that the new boy in her class is from Paris and sets out to become his friend, then discovers that this Parisian is not quite as fancy as she had thought.
- Plourde, Lynn. The Dump Man's Treasure. DownEast Books, 2008.
As people continually throw their books away, the dump man restores and re-circulates them, which only pleases the children, but one day when the dump does not open, only the children know where to possibly find the dump man.
- Prelutsky, Jack. My Dog May Be a Genius: Poems. Greenwillow, 2008.
Presents a collection of humorous poems with such unusual topics as an underwater marching band, a pig in a bathing suit, a pet orangutan, a witch in a hardware store, and a skunk in a courtroom.
- Rostoker-Gruber, Karen. Bandit. Marshall Cavendish, 2008.
When Bandit's family moves to a new house, the cat runs away and returns to the only home he knows, but after he is brought back, he understands that the new house is now home.

Schaefer, Lola. Look Behind!: Tales of Animal Ends.

Greenwillow, 2008.

Presents facts and information about the rear ends of insects, fish, birds and animals for each letter of the alphabet, from the blubber butt of a walrus to the zany behind of a zebra.

Walton, Rick. What Do We Do With Baby? HarperCollins, 2008.

A bunny mother explores all of the wonderful things she can do with her baby, from holding and hugging to feeding and dressing.

Willems, Mo. I Will Surprise My Friend! Hyperion, 2008.

Best friends Elephant and Piggy decide that they will try to surprise each other, with unexpected results.

GRADES 2 TO 3

Bauer, Marion Dane. The Red Ghost. Random House, 2008.

Jenna purchases an old doll dressed in red velvet at a neighbor's garage sale, thinking it will be the perfect birthday gift for her sister, but as soon as Jenna brings the doll home, strange things begin to happen and she wonders if the doll might be haunted.

Bond, Michael. Paddington Here and Now. HarperCollins, 2008.

Paddington seems to find trouble at every turn while staying with the Browns at number thirty-two Windsor Gardens.

Bryant, Jen. A River of Words: The Story of William Carlos Williams.

Melissa Sweet, Maine Illustrator. Eerdmans, 2008.

Caldecott Honor Award.

Presents a picture book biography of American poet William Carols Williams, who studied to become a doctor, but still found time to write poetry.

- Cowley, Joy. Snake and Lizard. Kane/Miller, 2008.
Snake and Lizard share a number of adventures, argue with each other, and end up as lifelong friends.
- Gibson, Sarah P. The Truth About Horses, Friends, & My Life as a Coward. Marshall Cavendish, 2008.
As she fearfully begins learning to ride and manage the horses she never wanted her family to own, Sophie Groves also begins to acquire friends on the Maine island she calls home.
- Goldman, Judy. Uncle Monarch and the Day of the Dead. Boyds Mills Press, 2008.
Upon the death of her beloved Tio Urbano, who has taught her that monarch butterflies are the souls of the dead, young Lupita gains a deeper understanding of Dia de los Muertos, the Day of the Dead, as it is observed in rural Mexico.
- Jackson, Emma. A Home for Dixie: The True Story of a Rescued Puppy. HarperCollins, 2008.
When Emma is taken to the local dog-shelter by her parents and sets eyes on Dixie, an unwanted puppy in need of a home, she immediately forms a bond with the young dog.
- Jenkins, Steve. Sisters & Brothers: Sibling Relationships in the Animal World. Houghton Mifflin, 2008.
Investigates sibling relationships in the animal kingdom, providing such examples as falcons that play-hunt together in the sky and hyena cubs that fight to the death.
- Larson, Kirby. Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival. Macmillan, 2008.
Having been left behind by their owners and forced to ride out the deadly storm, Bobbi the dog breaks free from his chain and goes in search of food on his own, followed by a frightened, blind cat whose survival depends on his new best friend.

McDonald, Megan. Judy Moody Goes to College. Candlewick, 2008.
When her substitute teacher realizes she is struggling in math, Judy is sent to a math tutor at the local college and soon is completely into the spirit of college life.

Nivola, Claire A. Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai. Frances Foster Books, 2008.
Watercolor illustrations and lyrical prose combine to tell the true story of Wangari Maathai, the winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize, who changed the fate of her village in the highlands of Kenya by teaching her people how to care for it.

Pennypacker, Sara. Clementine's Letter. Hyperion, 2008.
After learning that her favorite teacher will be leaving for a trip to Egypt and will be absent for the remainder of the year, Clementine devises a plan to get rid of the substitute and get Mr. D'Matz to stay.

Rabin, Staton. Mr. Lincoln's Boys: Being the Mostly True Adventures of Abraham Lincoln's Trouble-Making Sons, Tad and Willie. Penguin, 2008.
An illustrated story recounting the adventures of Abraham Lincoln and his two sons that focuses on the years Lincoln was President.

Rosen, Michael J. Our Farm: Four Seasons with Five Kids on One Family's Farm. Darby Creek Pub., 2008.
A year in the life of the Bennett family on their 150 acre farm in Ohio is told through the voices of the five Bennett children and their parents.

Shulevitz, Uri. How I Learned Geography. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2008. *Caldecott Honor Award*.
As he spends hours studying his father's world map, a young boy escapes the hunger and misery of refugee life. Based on the author's childhood in Kazakhstan, where he lived as a Polish refugee during World War II.

Soman, Davis. Ladybug Girl. Dial, 2008.

After her brother tells her she is too little to play with him, Lulu, dressed as Ladybug Girl, makes her own fun.

Stevens, Janet. Help Me, Mr. Mutt!: Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems. Harcourt, 2008.

Dogs across the United States write to Mr. Mutt, a people expert, for help with their humans, but the dog's advice gets warning letters from the Queen, the cat he lives with.

Swanson, Susan Marie. The House in the Night. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. *Caldecott Medal Winner.*

Illustrated and easy-to-read text explore the light that makes a house in the night a home filled with light.

Wise, Bill. Louis Sockalexis: Native American Baseball Pioneer. Lee & Lo Books, 2007.

Tells the story of Louis Sockalexis, a Penobscot, who in the late nineteenth century pursued his childhood love of baseball and became the first Native American to play in the major leagues, where he faced racism and discrimination.



GRADES 4 TO 5

- Anderson, Laurie Halse. Independent Dames: What You Never Knew About the Women and Girls of the American Revolution. Simon & Schuster, 2008.
Combines historical facts and humor to pay homage to the ladies who played important roles in the founding of our nation.
- Appelt, Kathi. The Underneath. Atheneum, 2008.
Newbery Honor Award.
An old hound that has been chained up at his hateful owner's run-down shack, and two kittens born underneath the house, endure separation, danger, and many other tribulations in their quest to be reunited and free.
- Avi. The Seer of Shadows. HarperCollins, 2008.
Photographer Horace Carpetine is commissioned to do a portrait for society matron Mrs. Frederick Von Macht; however, the photos evoke both the image and the ghost of the Von Macht's dead daughter, Eleanora, who has returned to seek vengeance on those who killed her.
- Birdsall, Jeanne. The Penderwicks on Gardam Street. Knopf, 2008.
The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him.
- Bishop, Nic. Nic Bishop Frogs. Scholastic, 2008.
Full color, illustrated photographs describing the characteristics and behaviors of a variety of frogs around the world.
- Bryant, Jennifer. Ringside, 1925: Vies From the Scopes Trial: A Novel. Knopf, 2008.
Visitors, spectators, and residents of Dayton, Tennessee, in 1925 describe, in a series of free-verse poems, the Scopes "monkey trial" and its effects on that small town's citizens.

- DiTerlizzi, Tony. Kenny & the Dragon. Simon & Schuster, 2008.
Kenny Rabbit tries to save his friend, the dragon, after he is labeled a community nuisance by the simple people of Roundbrook Village, who arrange for the creature to be fought by St. George.
- Gregory, Kristiana. Bronte's Book Club. Holiday House, 2008.
When twelve-year-old Bronte moves to a small California beach town, her idea to form a book club in order to make friends turns out to be a good one, after a rocky start.
- Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Found. Simon & Schuster, 2008.
When thirteen-year-olds Jonah and Chip, who are both adopted, learn they were discovered on a plane that appeared out of nowhere, full of babies with no adults on board, they realize that they have uncovered a mystery involving time travel and two opposing forces, each trying to repair the fabric of time.
- Humphrey, Mary. Kids Yoga Book of Feelings. Marshall Cavendish, 2008.
Teaches children about feelings through eighteen simple yoga exercises.
- Kinney, Jeff. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. Amulet Books, 2008.
Greg Heffley tells about his summer vacation and his attempt, after his return to middle school, to keep his older brother Rodrick from telling everyone about Greg's most humiliating experience of the summer.
- Korman, Gordon. One False Note. Scholastic, 2008.
Amy and Dan Cahill are in the lead to find thirty-nine clues that safeguard a great power, and are in the possession of a coded sheet of Mozart's music that will help them find the next clue while their relatives follow in close pursuit.

Krull, Kathleen. Road to Oz: Twists, Turns, Bumps, and Triumphs in the Life of L. Frank Baum. *Kevin Hawkes, Maine Illustrator*. Knopf, 2008.

Presents the life of the creator of "The Wizard of Oz," looking at the diverse occupations he had that helped inspire him to write his timeless classic and create its unique characters in the later stages of his life.

L is For Lolligag: Quirky Words for a Clever Tongue by the Chronicle Books Staff. 2008.

A fun book of words to browse through and have fun with the definitions. A great book for trips, around the dinner table or just to pick up and find a new word.

Meltzer, Milton. Albert Einstein: A Biography. Holiday House, 2008. Briefly explores the life of the famous physicist, who was also a peace activist and fighter for social justice.

Nelson, Kadir. We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball. Hyperion, 2008.

Explores the history of Negro League baseball teams, discussing owners, players, hardships, wins and losses.

Riordan, Rick. The Maze of Bones. Scholastic, 2008.

Amy and Dan, members of the powerful Cahill family, try to uncover the thirty-nine clues which will reveal the secrets of their lineage and find out what really happened to their parents.

Schrock, Jan West. Give a Goat. Tilbury House, 2008. *Maine Author; Aileen Darragh, Maine Illustrator*.

After hearing a story about a girl in Uganda whose life is changed for the better by the gift of a goat, a class of fifth-graders pulls together to raise funds to make a similar donation to someone in need.

Turner, Pamela S. Life on Earth--and Beyond: An Astrobiologist's Quest. Charlesbridge, 2008.

By conducting experiments on Earth under conditions resembling those on Mars and other planets, scientists hope to find the answer as to whether life exists beyond Earth.

Winters, Kay. Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak. Dutton, 2008.
Ethan, a printer's errand boy, runs through Boston in 1773 to deliver a message about an important Patriots meeting and visits different types of colonial workers who voice various opinions about living under Britain's rule.



GRADES 6 TO 8

Barry, Dave. Science Fair: A Story of Mystery, Danger, International Suspense, and a Very Nervous Frog. Disney Editions, 2008.
The president of Kprshtskan is plotting to infiltrate the science fair at Hubble Middle School in Maryland in order to take over the United States government, but when Toby Harbinger, an ordinary student, makes up his mind finally to win the fair, the terrorists' plans go awry.

Carter, Anne. The Shepherd's Granddaughter. Groundwood Books/House of Anansi, 2008.
Amani, a young Palestinian girl, looks to the meadows of the Firdoos to get her sheep the food they need, but when Israeli settlers impede her ability to get to the pasture, she must try to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

Collins, Suzanne. The Hunger Games. Scholastic, 2008.
Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen accidentally becomes a contender in the annual Hunger Games, a grave competition hosted by the Capitol where young boys and girls are pitted against one another in a televised fight to the death.

Engle, Margarita. The Surrender Tree. Henry Holt, 2008.
Newbery Honor Award.

A collection of poems in which Rosa, a healer, describes her experiences trying to help Cuban peasants who have been forced to leave their farms and villages in 1896 and given eight days to find their way to “reconcentration camps” or be killed.

Dowd, Siobhan. The London Eye Mystery. David Fickling Books, 2008.

When Ted and Kat’s cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together—Ted with his brain that is “wired differently” and impatient Kat—to try to discover what happened to Salim.

Farndon, John. Do Not Open. DK, 2007.

Provides information on a variety of unbelievable topics and mysterious places including the history of Area 51 and hidden secrets in the Mona Lisa.

Gaimen, Neil. The Graveyard Book. Harper Collins, 2008.
Newbery Medal Winner.

The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherworldly creatures.

George, Jessica Day. Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow. Bloomsbury, 2008.

A girl travels east of the sun and west of the moon to free her beloved prince from a magic spell.

Hiaasen, Carl. Scat. Knopf, 2009.

Nick and his friend Marta decide to investigate when a mysterious fire starts near a Florida wildlife preserve and an unpopular teacher goes missing.

Horvath, Polly. My One Hundred Adventures. Schwartz & Wade, 2008.

Twelve-year-old Jane, who lives at the beach in a run-down old house with her mother, two brothers, and sister, has an eventful summer accompanying her pastor on Bible deliveries, meeting former boyfriends of her mother's, and being coerced into babysitting for a family of ill-mannered children.

Jones, Carrie. Need. Bloomsbury, 2009.

Depressed after the death of her stepfather, high school junior Zara goes to live with her grandmother in a small Maine town, where new friends tell Zara the strange man she keeps seeing may be a pixie king, and that only "were" creatures can stop him from taking souls.

Kuhlman, Evan. The Last Invisible Boy. Atheneum Books, 2008.

In the wake of his father's sudden death, twelve-year-old Finn feels he is becoming invisible as his hair and skin become whiter by the day, and so he writes and illustrates a book to try to understand what is happening and to hold onto himself and his father.

Law, Ingrid. Savvy. Dial, 2008. *Newbery Honor Award*.

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"—a magical power unique to each member of her family—just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

Ly, Many. Roots and Wings. Delacorte Press, 2008.

While in St. Petersburg, Florida to give her grandmother a Cambodian funeral, fourteen-year-old Grace, who was raised in Pennsylvania, finally gets some answers about the father she never met, her mother's and grandmother's youth, and her Asian American heritage.

- Maki. Custom Kicks : Personalized Footwear. Laurence King Publishers, 2008.
Discusses artistic footwear customization, with photographs of work by over 140 artists and illustrators and an examination of the origins of the trend and types of materials that can be used.
- Padian, Maria. Brett McCarthy, Work in Progress. Knopf, 2008.
Eighth grader Brett McCarthy finds herself redefining her life after a practical joke gets her suspended, ruins her friendships, and forces her to discover what is really important in her life.
- Schmidt, Gary D. Trouble. Clarion Books, 2008.
Fourteen-year-old Henry, wishing to honor his brother Franklin's dying wish, sets out to hike Maine's Mount Katahdin with his best friend and dog, but fate adds another companion—the Cambodian refugee accused of fatally injuring Franklin—and reveals troubles that predate the accident.
- Scieszka, Jon. Knucklehead: Tall Tales & Mostly True Stories About Growing Up Scieszka. Viking, 2008.
Presents a memoir of what it was like to grow up in the 1950s and other almost true stories by American children's author Jon Scieszka.
- Whelan, Gloria. The Disappeared. Dial Books, 2008.
Teenaged Silvia tries to save her brother, Eduardo, after he is captured by the military government in 1970s Argentina.
- Woodson, Jacqueline. After Tupac and D Foster. Putnam's, 2008.
Newbery Honor Award.
In the New York City borough of Queens in 1996, three girls bond over their shared love of Tupac Shakur's music, as together they try to make sense of the unpredictable world in which they live.

GRADES 9 TO 12

Anderson, Laurie Halse. Chains: Seeds of America. Simon & Schuster, 2008.

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Bradbury, Jennifer. Shift. Atheneum, 2008.

When best friends Chris and Win go on a cross country bicycle trek the summer after graduating and only one returns, the FBI wants to know what happened.

Brooks, Kevin. Black Rabbit Summer. Scholastic, 2008.

When two of sixteen-year-old Pete's childhood classmates disappear from a carnival the same night, he is a suspect, but his own investigation implicates other old friends he was with that evening—and a tough, knife-wielding enemy determined to keep him quiet.

Busby, Cylin. The Year We Disappeared: A Father-Daughter Memoir. Bloomsbury, 2008.

Father and daughter, Cylin and John Busby, share their memories of the challenges they faced after their family was forced to go into hiding in order to protect themselves from a killer who had already shot John, a police officer, once and was determined to finish the job.

Chang, Leslie T. Factory Girls: From Village to City in a Changing China. Spiegel & Grau, 2008.

Examines the lives of female migrant factory workers in China, focusing on the experiences of two young women and including the author's story of her family's migration within China and to the West.

Craig, Colleen. Afrika. Tundra Books, 2008.

Thirteen-year-old Kim learns the truth about her father and her mother's homeland after visiting South Africa, where she meets relatives and other children her age and witnesses the Truth and Reconciliation Hearings.

Fields, Terri. My Father's Son. Roaring Brook Press, 2008.

Kevin's life of high school classes, crushes, basketball, and shuttling between his parents' homes falls apart when his father is arrested as a suspected serial killer, leading Kevin to a new understanding of this family and himself.

Green, John. Paper Towns. Dutton, 2008.

One month before graduating from his Central Florida high school, Quentin "Q" Jacobsen basks in the predictable boringness of his life until the beautiful and exciting Margo Roth Spiegelman, Q's neighbor and classmate, takes him on a midnight adventure and then mysteriously disappears.

Guibert, Emmanuel. Alan's War: The Memories of G.I. Alan Cope. First Second, 2008.

Presents a graphic memoir of Alan Cope, who was drafted into the U.S. military during WWII, recounting his first experiences at Fort Knox, his friendships with other soldiers, and encounters with combat and various Europeans during and after the war.

Les Becquets, Diane. Season of Ice. Bloomsbury, 2008.

Seventeen-year-old Genesis Sommer's father disappears on Moosehead Lake near their small-town Maine home in mid-November, leaving her to cope with the pressure of keeping her family together, even while rumors about the event plague her.

Lockhart, E. The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks: A Novel. Hyperion, 2008.

Frankie Landau-Banks attempts to take over a secret, all-male society at her exclusive prep school, and her antics with the group soon draw some unlikely attention and have unexpected consequences that could change her life forever.

Marchetta, Marleta. Jellicoe Road. Harper Teen, 2008.

Abandoned by her drug-addict mother at the age of eleven, high school student Taylor Markham struggles with her identity and family history at a boarding school in Australia.

McCarty, Jennifer Hooper. What Really Sank the Titanic: New Forensic Discoveries. Citadel Press, 2008.

Applies cutting-edge forensic technology to the mystery of why the Titanic sank, analyzing how the ship was designed and constructed, discussing its vulnerabilities, and exploring the events of the night it sank.

McMann, Lisa. Wake. Simon Pulse, 2008.

Ever since she was eight years old, high school student Janie Hannagan has been uncontrollably drawn into other people's dreams, but it is not until she befriends an elderly nursing home patient and becomes involved with an enigmatic fellow-student that she discovers her true power.

Mee, Benjamin. We Bought a Zoo. Weinstein Books, 2008.

The author relates his experiences buying and moving into a rundown zoo in the English countryside and trying to rebuild it with his family while taking care of his dying wife and two children.

Meldrum, Christina. Madapple. Knopf, 2008.

A girl who has been brought up in near isolation is thrown into a twisted web of family secrets and religious fundamentalism when her mother dies and she goes to live with relatives she never knew she had.

- Mussi, Sarah. The Door of No Return. Margaret K. McElderry, 2008.
Zac Baxter travels to Africa after his grandfather is brutally murdered, hoping to learn the truth about his family's dark past and discover why someone was willing to kill his grandfather to learn the family secret.
- Myers, Walter Dean. Sunrise over Fallujah. Scholastic, 2008.
Robin Perry, from Harlem, is sent to Iraq in 2003 as a member of the Civilian Affairs Battalion, and his time there profoundly changes him.
- Nelson, Marilyn. The Freedom Business. Wordsong, 2008.
A collection of poems by Marilyn Nelson, accompanied by prose by African slave Venture Smith and watercolor paintings by Deborah Darcy.
- Parker, Robert B. The Boxer and the Spy. Philomel Books, 2008.
Fifteen-year-old Terry, an aspiring boxer, uncovers the mystery behind the unexpected death of a classmate.
- Pearson, Mary E. The Adoration of Jenna Fox. Henry Holt, 2008.
In the not-too-distant future, when biotechnological advances have made synthetic bodies and brains possible but illegal, a seventeen-year-old girl, recovering from a serious accident and suffering from memory lapses, learns a startling secret about her existence.
- Preston, Richard. The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion and Daring. Random, 2008.
A narrative nonfiction that describes the story of a group of botanists and amateur naturalists who climb and research California's giant redwood trees.
- Scalin, Noah. Skulls. Lark Books, 2008.
Contains photographs of 150 skulls made by Noah Scalin as part of a project during which he created one skull a day for an entire year and posted the project online, and includes instructions and patterns for making four skulls.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. The House of Djinn. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2008.

An unexpected death brings Shabanu's daughter, Mumtaz, and nephew, Jameel, both aged fifteen, to the forefront of an attempt to modernize Pakistan, but the teens must both sacrifice their own dreams if they are to meet family and tribal expectations.

Stein, Tammar. High Dive. Knopf, 2008.

With her mother stationed in Iraq as an Army nurse, Vanderbilt University student Arden Vogel, whose father was killed in a traffic accident a few years earlier, impulsively ends up on a tour of Europe with a group of college girls she meets on her way to attend to some family business in Sardinia.

Trout, Nick. Tell Me Where It Hurts: A Day of Humor, Healing and Hope in My Life as an Animal Surgeon. Broadway Books, 2008.

Nick Trout recounts some of the most memorable, humorous, and terrifying moments of his career as an animal surgeon.

Vaught, Susan. Big Fat Manifesto. Bloomsbury/Holtzbrinck, 2008.

Overweight, self-assured, high school senior Jamie Carcaterra writes in the school newspaper about her own attitude to being fat, her boyfriend's bariatric surgery, and her struggles to be taken seriously in a very thin world.



SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

- Barnett, Sloan. Green Goes With Everything: Simple Steps to a Healthier Life and a Cleaner Planet. Atria Books, 2008.
Explores many of the household products that have proven to be unhealthy, and offers alternatives that will make the home safer and save money in the long run.
- Gerdner, Linda. Grandfather's Story Cloth. Shen's Books, 2008.
Chershen helps his grandfather cope with his failing memory, brought on by Alzheimer's disease, by showing him the story quilt Grandfather made after fleeing Laos during wartime.
- Hamilton, Emma Walton. Raising Bookworms: Getting Kids Reading for Pleasure and Empowerment. Beech Tree Books, 2008.
Offers strategies and activities aimed at helping children appreciate reading and discusses how children benefit from the connection between reading and pleasure.
- Osit, Michael M. Generation Text: Raising Well-Adjusted Kids In an Age of Instant Everything. AMACOM, 2008.
Explores how technology shapes children's values, attitudes, and behavior and provides advice on how parents can help their kids develop social skills, a healthy identity, and a strong work ethic.
- Ratey, Nancy A. The Disorganized Mind: Coaching Your ADHD Brain to Take Control of Your Time, Tasks, and Talents. St. Martin's Griffin, 2008.
Introduces practical strategies for adults suffering from attention-deficit disorder to help them gain control of their lives in order to achieve success.
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