

## ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA **RECOMMENDED SUMMER READING**

### **Pre K Entering Kindergarten**

***Alphabet Rescue* - Audrey Woods and Bruce Woods** From School Library Journal  
When Charley leaves to visit his grandparents for summer vacation, his lowercase alphabet letters travel on a pencil to their hometown of Alphabet City.

***Bunny Cakes* - Rosemary Wells** It's Grandma's birthday, and Max wants to make her an icky, worm-infested cake. But Ruby says, "No, Max. We are going to make Grandma an angel surprise cake, with raspberry-fluff icing."

***Can You Count 10 Toes?* - Lezlie Evans** Counting book you can learn to count in ten different languages: Spanish, French, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Russian, Hindi, Hebrew, and even Zulu!

***Centipede's 100 Shoes* - Tony Ross** But when are one hundred shoes too many shoes? And what do you do with too many shoes? Why, you give them away! Find out who gets them in this delightfully silly story about a centipede with sore feet.

***Cucumber Soup* - Vickie Leigh Krudwig** All the insects in the garden, from ten little black ants down to one tiny flea, get involved in moving a fallen cucumber. Includes a recipe for cucumber soup and factual information about the insects in the story.

***Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed* - Eileen Christelow** As soon as they say good night to Mama, the five little monkeys start to jump on their bed. But trouble lies ahead as, one by one, they fall off and hurt themselves.

***A Frog in the Bog* - Karma Wilson** There's a frog on the log in the middle of the bog.

***How do dinosaurs say good night?* - Jane Yolen** Brimming with humor and familiar goodnight adventures, here is a playful peek into the homes of dinosaur children and their parents at bedtime.

***The Icky Bug Counting Book* - Jerry Pallotta** Count bugs; classify & sort; watch for surprises in illustrations!

***I'm Gonna Like Me* - Jamie Lee Curtis** "I'm gonna like me when I jump out of bed, from my giant big toe to the braids on my head." Celebrate liking yourself. Through alternating points of view.

***Ira Sleeps Over* - Bernard Waber** Ira has a dilemma - he is thrilled to be invited over to Reggie's house for his very first sleep over, but his older sister got him really thinking. At home Ira sleeps with a teddy bear named Tah Tah. He's never slept without him.

***The Kissing Hand* - Audrey Penn** The story of little Chester the raccoon, his fear of going away to school, and how his mom gives him a kissing hand so he'll know her love is with him is a priceless story.

***The Mitten* - Jan Brett** "Once there was a boy named Nicki, He wanted mittens as white as snow."

***A Splendid Friend Indeed* - Suzanne Bloom** A friendly, talkative goose endears himself to a contemplative polar bear. On each spread, Bear practices a quiet activity, such as reading, writing, and thinking. And each time, Goose interrupts by asking what he is doing and then taking over the activity. **Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book**

## **Kindergarten Entering First Grade**

***1, 2, 3 to the Zoo* - Eric Carle** This counting book is also a colorful train ride to the zoo. With each new spread, a new train car comes into view, each loaded with more animals than the last.

***Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* - Bill Martin Jr.** The author, Bill Martin, Jr., takes the reader from page to page with a question: "What do you see?" Each page introduces a new character, including a brown bear, red bird, blue horse, and purple cat, all of which are pictured above.

***Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type* – Doreen Cronin** When he refuses to comply with their demands, the cows take action. Farmer Brown finds another note on the barn door: "Sorry. We're closed. No milk today."

***Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* - Mo Willems** On the title page the bus driver addresses the reader directly. He says that he has to be gone for a while and asks if the reader can watch things, but not to let the pigeon drive the bus. **Caldecott Honor Book**

***Ella Sarah Gets Dressed* - Margaret Chodos-Irvine** Ella Sarah may be little, but she has a BIG sense of style--and it isn't at all like that of her mother, father, and older sister.

***What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* - Robin Page and Steve Jenkins** Children will learn that lizards can completely break off their tail as a defense and that it will grow back. And, they'll find out that crickets' ears are on their knees. Most fish have two eyes, but some have four, the better to see above and below the water at the same time.

### **Caldecott Honor Book**

***Guess How Much I Love You?* - S. McBratney** A young rabbit named Little Nutbrown Hare thinks he's found a way to measure the boundaries of love. In a heartwarming twist on the "I-can-do-anything-you-can-do-better" theme, Little Nutbrown Hare goes through a series of declarations regarding the breadth of his love for Big Nutbrown Hare.

***If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* - Laura Numeroff** If a hungry little traveler shows up at your house, you might want to give him a cookie. If you give him a cookie, he's going to ask for a glass of milk.

***Millions of Cats* – Wanda Gag** An old man and his wife decide to get a cat, so the old man goes out in search of the prettiest cat of all. **Caldecott Medal Book**

***My Friend Rabbit* – Eric Rohmann** When Mouse lets his best friend, Rabbit, play with his brand-new airplane, trouble isn't far behind. Of course, Rabbit has a solution -- but when Rabbit sets out to solve a problem, even bigger problems follow. **Caldecott Medal Book**

***Oliver Button is a Sissy* - Tomie de Paola** A boy is teased by others because he takes dance classes. His classmates change their attitude about him when they see what a good dancer he is.

***Skippyjon Jones* - Judy Schachner** SkippyjonJones is a Siamese kittenboy who, while having a time-out in his room, resorts to his imagination and takes on the superhero persona of the great Spanish sword fighter, Skippito.

***The Spider and the Fly* – Mary Howitt** "Will you walk into my parlor?" said the Spider to the Fly," 'Tis the prettiest little parlor that ever you did spy; the way into my parlor is up a winding stair, and I have many curious things to show you when you are there."

## **First Grade Entering Second Grade**

***Elizabeth's Doll* - Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen** Set in a Tanzanian village, the story tells of Elizabeth, who watches her mother care for her new baby brother and longs for a little one of her own to cuddle. **Ezra Jack Keats Book Award**

***Flat Stanley* - Jeff Brown** He's an ordinary boy with an extraordinary problem.

***Grandfather's Journey* - Allen Say** Say explores familiar themes of cultural connection and disconnection. He focuses on his mother Masako, or May, as she prefers to be called, who, after graduating from high school in California, unwillingly moves with her parents to their native Japan. **Caldecott Medal Book**

***Henry and Mudge and the Big Sleepover* - Cynthia Rylant** Henry and his dog Mudge are invited to a sleepover in Patrick's attic, where they watch monster movies, eat pizza, and enjoy a contest to determine whose dog is the best popcorn catcher.

He's four feet tall, about a foot wide and half an inch thick. At first being flat is fine. It's fun going in and out of rooms simply by sliding under the door.

***Mailing May* - Michael O. Tunnell** Five-year-old Charlotte May Pierstorff begs to visit her grandmother, but her parents cannot afford to send her. In Idaho in 1914, the train is the only way to make the 75-mile trip over the mountains.

***The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* - Mordicai Gerstein** As this story opens, French funambulist Philippe Petit is dancing across a tightrope tied between two trees to the delight of the passersby in Lower Manhattan. Gerstein places him in the middle of a balancing act, framed by the two unfinished World Trade Center towers when the idea hits: "He looked not at the towers, but at the space between them and thought what a wonderful place to stretch a rope." **Caldecott Medal Book**

***Office Buckley and Gloria* - Peggy Rathmann** Officer Buckle knows more about safety than anyone in the town of Napville. But whenever he tries to share his safety tips, nobody listens. Until, that is, the Napville Police Department buys a police dog named Gloria. **Caldecott Medal Book**

***The Doorbell Rang* - Pat Hutchins** When Ma gave Sam and Victoria a dozen cookies to share, they were delighted. Then the doorbell rang, and rang, and rang. **Story can be used for a math lesson.**

***The Faithful Friend* - Robert D. San Souci** On the lush tropical island of Martinique live Clement and Hippolyte, two inseparable friends. When Clement falls in love with the beautiful Pauline, Hippolyte agrees to join his best friend on his journey. **Caldecott Honor Book**

***The Gardener* - Sarah Stewart** Lydia Grace Finch brings a suitcase full of seeds to the big gray city, where she goes to stay with her Uncle Jim, a cantankerous baker. There she initiates a gradual transformation, bit by bit brightening the shop and bringing smiles to customers' faces with the flowers she grows. **Caldecott Medal Book**

***Things I Learned in Second Grade* by Amy Schwartz** A young boy shares all of the things he learned and how he changed in second grade, what he still wonders about, and what he hopes to accomplish when he is in third grade.

***Tops and Bottoms* - Janet Stevens** Hare solves his family's problems by tricking rich and lazy Bear in this funny, energetic version of an old slave story. With roots in American slave tales, *Tops & Bottoms* celebrates the trickster tradition of using one's wits to overcome hardship. **Caldecott Honor Book**

## **Second Grade Entering Third Grade**

**26 Fairmount Avenue - Tomie dePaola** It all began when the "Big Hurricane of 1938" roared into town...then his first day of school took an unexpected turn...so did Mr.

Disney's Snow White, the movie everyone had been waiting to see. **Newbery Honor Book**

**Ben Franklin and the Magic Squares - Frank Murphy** Shows how Benjamin Franklin, inventor, writer and scientist, created a puzzle called the magic square to keep from being bored while serving as clerk for the Pennsylvania Assembly. Includes step-by-step instructions for creating your own magic squares.

**The Best School Year Ever – Barbara Robinson** The Herdmans are the most famous kids at Woodrow Wilson School. In fact, they are the most famous kids in the whole town -- and they are the worst kids in the history of the world.

**Class Clown - Johanna Hurwitz** Lucas Cott, the most obstreperous boy in the third grade, finds it very hard to turn over a new leaf when he decides to become the perfect student.

**Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective - Donald J. Sobol** Whenever ten-year-old Leroy (nicknamed "Encyclopedia") Brown's father, Chief of Police of Idaville, had a difficult case, Encyclopedia always managed to solve it at the dinner table.

**The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with Louis Bleriot July 25, 1909 - Alice Provensen** A biography of the man whose fascination with flying machines produced the Bleriot XI, which in 1909 became the first heavier-than-air machine to fly the English Channel. **Caldecott Medal Book**

**Hailstones and Halibut Bones - Mary O'Neill** Newly illustrated edition features lavish full-color illustrations from an award-winning artist, yet the poems have been left intact with all the powerful rhythm and rich language of the original.

**Judy Moody - Megan McDonald** Meet Judy Moody, a third grader with plenty of attitude. She has moods to fit every occasion and special faces she makes to go with them.

**Mapping Penny's World - Loreen Leedy** Lisa's class is learning how to make maps in school. For a homework assignment, she decides to make a map of her dog Penny's world.

**Ramona Quimby, Age 8 – Beverly Cleary** Ramona Quimby, one of the most loved characters in children's fiction, has now reached third grade. At school, she acquires a new teacher, Mrs. Whaley, who addresses the class as "you guys." **Newbery Honor Book**

**A Remainder of One - Elinor J Pinczes** What's a poor bug to do? Joe is determined. He studies the problem, relining the twenty-five bugs in his squadron from two lines to three lines to four lines, until inspiration and fortitude result in five lines of five -- and Joe fits in the last.

**The Skull Alphabet Book - Jerry Pallotta** The Skull Alphabet Book makes young readers use their brains. Children learn simple facts and hone their critical thinking skills as they deduce the identity of 26 different animals arranged in alphabetical order.

**So You Want to be President? - Judith St. George (Author), David Small (Illustrator)** "There are good things about being President and there are bad things about being President."

### **Third Grade Entering Fourth Grade**

***Bill Peet: An Autobiography - Bill Peet*** Bill Peet, a former Disney illustrator, shares his life story in this book. Written as a simple children's story, this irresistible autobiography boasts lots of funny drawings, including favorite Disney characters.

#### **Caldecott Honor Book.**

***The Case of the Shrunken Allowance - Joanne Rocklin and Marilyn Burns*** Why is P.B.'s allowance shrinking? He is not spending the money but the amount sitting in his peanut-butter jar looks smaller than it did the day before.

***Class Clown - Johanna Hurwitz*** Lucas Cott, the most outrageous boy in the class, finds it hard to turn over a new leaf when he decides to become the perfect student.

***Fourth-Grade Celebrity - Patricia Reilly Giff*** Tired of being compared with her popular older sister; Casey decides she will make herself over.

***Frinkle - Andrew Clements*** When he decides to turn his teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

***Lily's Crossing - Patricia Reilly Giff*** Set in 1944 just after D-Day, the story follows Lily and her family who always spend the summer in Rockaway in a house on stilts over the Atlantic Ocean. **Newbery Honor Book**

***Missing May - Cynthia Rylant*** Since Summer was six years old she lived with dear Aunt May and Uncle Ob. Now, six years later, Aunt May has died. Summer, who misses May with all her might, is afraid something will happen to Ob. Most days Ob seems like he doesn't want to go on. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Mr. Popper's Penguins - Richard Atwater*** First published 1938. The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortune of Mr. Popper. **Newbery Honor Book**

***The Phantom Tollbooth - Norton Juster*** Milo, a very bored little boy, receives an unusual package one day: a make-believe tollbooth. When he drives through it in his electric toy car, he is suddenly transported to the Lands Beyond, a fantastic world of imagination.

***Penny From Heaven - Jennifer L. Holm*** It's 1953 and 11-year-old Penny dreams of a summer of butter pecan ice cream, swimming, and baseball. But nothing's that easy in Penny's family. For starters, she can't go swimming because her mother's afraid she'll catch polio at the pool. To make matters worse, her favorite uncle is living in a car.

#### **Newbery Honor Book**

***Shiloh - Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds*** Marty, age eleven, befriends an abused dog, Shiloh, and his father demands that he return Shiloh to his owner, Marty must choose between deceit and truth. **Newbery Medal Book**

***The Tale of Despereaux - Kate DiCamillo*** Despereaux Tilling is a mouse. He has big dreams and gets out of the world of mice and into the world of people and rats. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Thank You, Jackie Robinson - Barbara Cohen*** After Sam's father died, he became so wrapped up in the Brooklyn Dodgers that he could describe every game they'd played in the past four years. Nobody was very interested, until Sam met Davy. They came from different races, religions, and generations.

## **Fourth Grade Entering Fifth Grade**

***The Cay* - Theodore Taylor** Phillip Enright lives with his parents on the island of Curaçao where his father works for Royal Dutch Shell. There is a threat of a German invasion and Mrs. Enright decides to take Phillip back to the states. When the ship they are traveling on is torpedoed, Phillip is separated from his mother and left floating on a wooden raft with Timothy, a black man from the West Indies.

***Dear Mr. Henshaw* - Beverly Cleary** "Dear Mr. Henshaw, My teacher read your book about the dog to our class." **Newbery Medal Book**

***Go Figure! A Totally Cool Book About Numbers* - Johnny Ball** Experience the mysterious and magical world of numbers as never before. This unique book investigates mathematical marvels such as why daisies always have 34, 55, or 89 petals, why the world's phone numbers appear in pi, and other patterns and paradoxes that will make readers look at numbers in a whole new way.

***Holes* - Louis Sachar** Stanley Yelnats was given a choice. The judge said, "You may go to jail, or you may go to Camp Green Lake." Stanley was from a poor family. He had never been to camp before. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Liberty or Death: The American Revolution* - Betsy Maestro** A comprehensive look at the Revolutionary War.

***Locomotion* - Jacqueline Woodson** In this touching story of love, loss, and hope, fifth-grader Lonnie's poetry reveals the heartbreaking loss of his parents in a house fire, his disappointment at being separated from his sister Lilli, and his determination to reunite the family he has left.

***Midnight for Charlie Bone* - Jenny Nimmo** Charlie Bone's life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking.

***The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* - Kate DiCamillo** Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane. The rabbit was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who treated him with the utmost care and adored him completely. And then, one day, he was lost.

***Sarah, Plain and Tall* - Patricia Mac Lachlan** Caleb doesn't remember Mama, who died a day after he was born. But his older sister, Anna, says Papa and Mama sang "every-single-day." Now Papa doesn't sing at all. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Sing Down the Moon* - Scott O'Dell** A historical novel about the forced migration of the Navajos from their homeland in Arizona to Fort Summer, New Mexico in the mid-1800s. **Newbery Honor Book**

***Surviving Jamestown* - Gail Karwoski** Sam Collier, a twelve-year-old, serves as page to John Smith during the relentless hardship experienced by the founders at the first permanent English settlement in the New World.

***War With Grandpa* - Robert Kimmel Smith** Peter loves his grandpa, but when he moves in and forces Peter to give up his room, Peter has no choice but to declare war! With the help of his friends, Peter devises outrageous plans to make Grandpa surrender the room. But Grandpa is tougher than he looks. Rather than give in, Grandpa plans to get even.

## **Fifth Grade Entering Sixth Grade**

***The Boy Who Saved Baseball* - John H. Ritter** Tom Gallagher is in a tight spot. The Dillontown baseball field is about to be torn down by developers, and he has to save it.

***The Breadwinner* - Deborah Ellis** 11 year old Parvana is trying to grow up in war-torn Afghanistan. With the Taliban ruling the already extremely poor country, her family is struggling to survive.

***Catherine, Called Birdy* - Karen Cushman** "I am commanded to write an account of my days: I am bit by fleas and plagued by family." **Newbery Honor Book**

***The Eyes of the Amaryllis* - Natalie Babbitt** Young Jenny Reade has been sent to an isolated Cape Cod home to care for her grandmother Geneva, who has broken her ankle. Jenny doesn't know her grandmother well and has never before seen the ocean.

***Fractals, Googols And Other Mathematical Tales* - T Pappas** Includes short stories and discussions which present such mathematical concepts as decimals, tangrams, number lines, and fractals.

***The Invention of Hugo Cabret* - Brian Selznick** Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity.

***Island of the Blue Dolphins* - Scott O'Dell** In an effort to escape Aleutian seal hunters in the early 1800s, the Indians of Ghalas-at board a ship to leave the Island of the Blue Dolphins. When 12-year-old Karana finds that her younger brother is not on board, she dives into the sea and swims back to the island in search of him. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Kira-Kira* - Cynthia Kadohata** This is the story of a close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s, and the despair when one sister becomes terminally ill.

**Newbery Medal Book**

***Lyddie* - Katherine Paterson** When ten-year-old Lyddie and her younger brother are hired out as servants to help payoff their family farm's debts, Lyddie is determined to find a way to reunite her family. A story of determination and personal growth, Lyddie has already established itself as a classic.

***My Brother Sam Is Dead* - James Lincoln Collier** "it was april, and outside in the dark the rain whipped against the windows of our tavern, making a sound like muffled drums." **Newbery Honor Book**

***On My Honor* - Marion Dane Bauer** When his best friend drowns while they are both swimming in a treacherous river that they had promised never to go near, Joel is devastated and terrified at having to tell both sets of parents the terrible consequences of their disobedience. **Newbery Honor Book**

***A Single Shard* - Linda Sue Park** Set in 12th century Korea, this is the story of Tree-ear who lives under a bridge with his disabled older friend Crane-man. Tree-ear becomes fascinated with the potter's craft and longs to create celadon ceramics.

***The Westing Game* - Ellen Raskin** "The sun sets in the west (just about everyone knows that), but Sunset Towers faced east." **Newbery Honor Book**

***A Wrinkle in Time* - Madeleine L'Engle** On a dark and stormy night, twelve-year-old Margaret Murry sits on the foot of her bed in the attic and watches the storm. Except for her, everyone in the house, including her twin brothers Sandy and Denny's, and her baby brother Charles Wallace, is asleep.

## **SIXTH GRADE ENTERING SEVENTH GRADE**

***The Boxes* -William Sleator** How could it hurt to take just on peek? When Uncle Marco goes on one of his mysterious trips, he leaves Annie in charge of two exotic sealed boxed on one condition: she must not open either one while he is away.

***Bright Shadow* - Avi** Set in a time of palaces, kings, wizards, and wishes, this is the story of twelve-year-old Morwenna. She accidentally becomes bearer of the last five wishes in the land. She can tell no one that the wishes are hers.

***Bud, Not Buddy* - Christopher Paul Curtis** We were all standing in line waiting for breakfast when one of the caseworkers cam in an *tap-tap-taped* down the line. Uh-oh, this meant bad news, either they'd found a foster home for somebody or somebody was about to be paddled. **Newbery Medal Book**

***Crispin: The Cross Of Lead* - Avi.** An orphaned peasant boy in 14 th century England is accused of a crime he didn't commit. He flees and experiences many injustices before learning his name, Crispin, and that his parents' origins might be more perplexing than he ever imagined.

***G Is For Googol: A Math Alphabet Book* – David Schwartz** "Hundreds of years before calculators were invented, people in China discovered they could add and subtract quickly by sliding beads back and forth in strings."

***Heartbeat* - Sharon Creech** RUN, RUN, RUN that's what twelve-year-old Annie loves to do. When she's barefoot and running she can hear her heart beating.

***Midnight for Charlie Bone* - Jenny Nimmo** The story is that of nine-year-old Charlie Bone, who turns out to be one of the descendants of the Red King, a mysterious personage who had amazing powers.

***Secret Within* - Theresa Martin Martin Golding** Carly Chambers spends her summer days delivering mysterious packages for her harsh father but when she sneaks out at night to find some freedom, she faces danger from all sides.

***The Thief* - Megan Turner** The king's scholar, the magus, believes he knows the site of an ancient treasure. To attain it for his king, he needs a skillful thief, and he selects Gen from the king's prison.

***The Trial* – Jennifer Bryant** Living in Flemington, New Jersey, in 1935, a 12yearold court observer describes, in a series of poems, the trial of Bruno Hauptmann for the kidnapping and murder of Charles Lindbergh's baby.

***True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* – Avi** The date is mid-June in 1832, and Charlotte walks through the crowded docks of Liverpool, England with Mr. Grummage, a refined man hired by her father to see that Charlotte boards a ship that will take her to America. **Newbery Medal Book**

***The Voice That Challenged A Nation : Marian Anderson And The Struggle For Equal Rights* - Russell Freedman** In the mid-1930s, Marian Anderson was a famed vocalist who had been applauded by European royalty and welcomed at the White House. But, because of her race, she was denied the right to sing at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. **Newbery Honor Book**

***The Wednesday Wars* - Gary D. Schmidt** In *The Wednesday Wars*, seventh-grader, Holling Hoodhood, is convinced his teacher hates him. Through their Wednesday afternoon Shakespeare sessions she helps him cope with events both wildly funny and deadly serious. **Newbery Honor Book**

## SEVENTH GRADE ENTERING EIGHTH GRADE

***The Book Thief* - Markus Zusak** A German girl's book-stealing and story-telling talents in World War II help sustain her family and neighbors and the Jewish man they are hiding.

***The Case Against My Brother* - Libby Sternberg** Brother taking care of brother, but in this case the roles reverse as the plot unfolds when Carl, the fifteen-year old, takes on the chore of looking after his seventeen-year old brother, Adam.

***Code Talker: A Novel About The Navajo Marines Of World War Two* - Joseph Bruchac** After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay is recruited by the Marines to become a Code Talker, sending urgent messages during WW2 in his native tongue.

***Confessions of a Closet Catholic* - Sarah Darer Dutton Littman** Eleven-year-old Justine Silver has given up being Jewish for Lent. A series of events leads Justine to find faith in the most important place—herself.

***Devil's Arithmetic* - Jane Yolen** Hannah is tired of hearing about the Nazis during the Holocaust, but when she opens the door for Elijah at the Passover Seder, she is transported to 1940's Poland, where she is captured and put in a death camp.

***Down the Rabbit Hole: An Echo Falls Mystery* – Peter Abrahams**

Eighth grader Ingrid Levin-Hill idolizes Sherlock Holmes, so it is not surprising when, stumbling across a murder, she opts to keep what she knows a secret and tries to solve the crime herself.

***Eragon* - Christopher Paolini** In Aagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

***Inkheart* – Cornelia Caroline Funke.** Meggie lives alone with her father, a bookbinder, who has the “gift” of reading aloud and bringing the characters to life—literally. When Dustfinger comes to life on a dark and stormy night, their quiet lives change forever. The captivating fantasy continues in ***Inkspell***.

***The Joy of Pi* - David Blatner** No number has captured the attention and imagination of people throughout the ages as much as the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. Pi—or? as it is symbolically known—is infinite and, in *The Joy of pi*, it proves to be infinitely intriguing.

***Niner* - Theresa Martin Golding** When twelve-year-old Macey discovers a locket on her front steps, she begins a journey to find out about who she really is and why her adoptive mother has been gone for almost a year.

***Soldier's Heart* – Gary Paulsen** "He heard it all, Charley did; heard the drums and songs and slogans and knew what everybody and his rooster was crowing."

***The Thief Lord* - Cornelia Caroline Funke** Set in Venice, Italy, young orphans and runaways engage in acts of adventure and theft in this magical story.

***Troubling a Star* - Madeline L'Engle** For her birthday, Vicky receives the gift of a trip to the Antarctic, where her friend Adam Eddington is working as a marine biologist.

***A Year Down Yonder*.- Richard Peck** Mary Alice is sent from Chicago to live with her eccentric grandmother Dowdel while her family tries to make ends meet during the Great Depression. **Newbery Medal Book**