

Kaufman Silverberg Library
Grade 4 and 5
Suggested Reading List
2013

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Judaic Books for Young Readers

Green Bible Stories for Children, by Tami Lehman-Wilzig. Bible stories retold and reinforced with activities to help young readers understand how to nurture and protect the environment.

Irena's Jars of Secrets, by Marcia Vaughan. The story of Irena Sendler, a Polish Catholic social worker who helped rescue nearly 2500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Looking for Me, by Betsy R. Rosenthal. In 1936 Baltimore, an eleven-year-old Jewish girl, one of twelve siblings, tries to find her place in her overcrowded family in this novel written in free verse.

Meet at the Ark at Eight, by Ulrich Hub. Two squabbling penguins who smuggle their little friend aboard Noah's ark under the watchful eyes of an officious, overworked dove find many answers to their questions about God.

The Story of Esther: a Purim tale, retold by Eric A. Kimmel. This story shows how it was only because of Queen Esther's cunning and courage that evil was brought to justice and many threatened lives were saved.

Stories from our Sages: adapted from the Talmud and Midrash, by C. Schreiber. Stories with morals and lessons on ethics from the Sages in language that children can understand.

Take me to the Holy Land: a youngster's tour of Eretz Yisrael, by Tsivia Yanofsky. Talks about numerous places all made unusually appealing and interesting with the help of strikingly beautiful full-color photographs.

Fiction

4 Kids in 5E and 1 Crazy Year, by Virginia Frances Schwartz. Family, school, and life in general are seen through the writings of four fifth graders who have been taken out of an overcrowded classroom and placed with a teacher who shows them how to write and how to believe in themselves.

My Name is Brain Brian, by Jeanne Betancourt. Although he is helped by his new sixth grade teacher after being diagnosed as dyslexic, Brian still has some problems with school and with people he thought were his friends.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Third Wheel, by Jeff Kinney. A Valentine's Day dance at Greg's middle school has turned his world upside down.

Encore Edie, by Annabel Lyon. Life isn't easy for thirteen year-old Edie who is the youngest kid in her new high school, has a serious shortage of cool clothes, and her own family doesn't even understand her.

Extra Credit, by Andrew Clements. As letters flow back and forth--between the prairies of Illinois and the mountains of Afghanistan, across cultural and religious divides--sixth-grader Abby, ten-year-old Amira, and eleven-year-old Sadeed begin to speak and listen to each other.

I Survived the Shark Attacks of 1916, by Lauren Tarshis. In July, 1916, Chet Roscow is fascinated by news accounts of the great white shark but when he goes swimming in Matawan Creek he discovers the truth of the stories.

Journey to Atlantis, by Philip Roy. With his loyal crew of a dog and a seagull by his side, Alfred sails across the Atlantic in his home-made submarine.

Maverick Mania, by Sigmund Brouwer. If the Mavericks win just a few more games, they'll make it to the national soccer championship. There's only one catch. Their star player, Caleb Riggins, has disappeared.

Out of my Mind, by Sharon M. Draper. Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

The Stonekeeper, by Kazu Kibuishi. After the death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the ancestral home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous.

Superior Saturday, Book 6 in the series *The Keys to the Kingdom*, by Garth Nix. Even as he grows stronger and closer to discovering the secret of his identity, Arthur must face further dangers and conflicts as he struggles to attain the Sixth Key from the powerful Saturday.

Wild Girl, by Patricia Reilly Giff. When twelve-year-old Lidie leaves Brazil to join her father and brother on a horse ranch in New York, she has a difficult time adjusting to her changed circumstances.

Non Fiction

Clydesdales, by Lorijo Metz. Covers the breed's physical characteristics and history.

Energy-resource Maps, by Jack Gillett and Meg Gillett. Young readers are introduced to the world's extensive demand for energy and what this demand entails.

Fake Foods: fried, fast and processed: the incredibly disgusting story, by Paula Johanson. Explains why various junk foods are unhealthy, offers a breakdown of the foods' components and both short and long-term effects of consumption.

Food and Faith, by Susan Reuben and Sophie Pelham. Describes foods eaten in different religions for celebrations and other reasons, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Sikhism.

Gems, Crystals, and Precious Rocks, by Steven M. Hoffman. Explains the crystal structure that many gems have and how beautiful rocks form in nature.

Guy-write: what every guy writer needs to know, by Ralph Fletcher. With advice from favorite authors like Jon Scieszka, Jarrett Krosoczka, and Robert Lipsyte, this hands-on book will make a writer out of any guy.

The Gymnastics Book: the young performer's guide to gymnastics, by Elfi Schlegel & Claire Ross Dunn. A book for beginners of artistic gymnastics that features skilled guidance from a medal-winning athlete.

Horse Heroes: true stories of amazing horses, by Kate Petty. Photographs and illustrations enhance these real-life horse stories.

The Kingfisher Book of Great Boy Stories: a treasury of favorites from children's literature, chosen by Michael Morpurgo. Includes extracts from seventeen beloved children's classics and brief notes about the authors.

Robotics: discover the science & technology of the future with 20 projects, by Kathy Ceceri. Introduces readers to robotics, with information on its history, different robot technologies, and the evolution of the field.

The Whale Shark, by Megan Borgert-Spaniol. Engaging images accompany information about the whale shark.