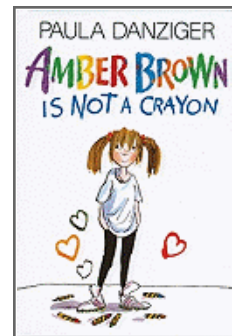
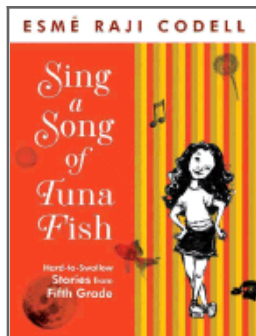




10 in Ten Recommendations - Youth2



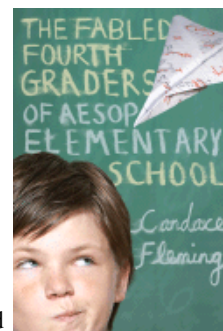
Fabled Fourth Graders of Aesop Elementary School

by Candace Fleming
 Published 2007
 ISBN: 9780375836725

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Here's a chapter book of contemporary fables about a rambunctious group of fourth graders and their amazing teacher--the globe-trotting, Mayan-ceremonial-robe-wearing Mr. Jupiter--that is sure to delight students and teachers alike. There's Calvin Tallywong, who wants to go back to kindergarten. But when he actually gets the chance, he's forced to do the squirrel dance and wear a school bus name tag. The moral of his story? "Be careful what you wish for." Then there's Amisha Spelwadi, who can spell "wildebeest," "no problem. When Mr. Jupiter asks the class to spell "cat," all Amisha can come up with is "kat." The moral: "Don't count your chickens before they hatch." Kids will laugh out loud as they learn tried-and-true lessons in this funny, fast-paced book.



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Publishers Weekly 08/13/2007

A rowdy group of students and their eccentric teacher star in Fleming's ("Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!") collection of determinedly loopy vignettes, each of which ends with an Aesop-like moral. On the day before school opens, the frantic principal still has not found a teacher for the notoriously unruly fourth graders. In walks Mr. Jupiter, whose credentials include working as a translator for Bigfoot, discovering the lost city of Atlantis and studying at the Coochie-Coochie Institute for Misbehaved Monkeys; he is hired on the spot. When he refuses to react to his students' misbehavior, they think up pranks guaranteed to rile him, but no one dares to pull them off (moral: It is one thing to talk about it, another to do it). In another tale, a boy who is struggling with math wishes he were back in kindergarten, where tasks were easier, but then is forced to participate in humiliating activities when he goes to help out with the younger class (Be careful what you wish for it might come true). Packed with puns of varying cleverness, the fables range from pithy to protracted, the morals from spot-on to strained. Even with the inconsistencies, there's plenty to laugh at and even to ponder. Ages 7-11. "(Aug.)" Copyright 2007 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

Here's a chapter book of contemporary fables about a rambunctious group of fourth graders and their amazing teacher--the globe-trotting, Mayan-ceremonial-robe-wearing Mr. Jupiter--that is sure to delight students and teachers alike. There's Calvin Tallywong, who wants to go back to kindergarten. But when he actually gets the chance, he's forced to do the squirrel dance and wear a school bus name tag. The moral of his

story? "Be careful what you wish for. "Then there's Amisha Spelwadi, who can spell "wildebeest, "no problem. When Mr. Jupiter asks the class to spell "cat," all Amisha can come up with is "kat." The moral: "Don't count your chickens before they hatch. "Kids will laugh out loud as they learn tried-and-true lessons in this funny, fast-paced book.

Clementine

by Sara Pennypacker
Published 2006
ISBN: 9780786838820

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

The author of "Stewart's Cape" and "Stewart Goes to School" introduces a new charmingly flawed and quirky character with an altogether unforgettable voice.

Clementine is having not so good of a week.

On Monday she's sent to the principal's office for cutting off Margaret's hair. Tuesday, Margaret's mother is mad at her. Wednesday, she's sent to the principal...again. Thursday, Margaret stops speaking to her. Friday starts with yucky eggs and gets worse. And by Saturday, even her mother is mad at her. Okay, fine. Clementine is having a DISASTROUS week.



Read or Write a Comment ►

Publishers Weekly 08/07/2006

I have had not so good of a week," begins the irrepressible narrator of this winning caper. Pennypacker ("Stuart's Cape") then takes readers straight through that week, making clear that Clementine has an unfailing nose for trouble and a comical way with words. The eight-year-old proclaims herself lucky because "spectacularful ideas are always sproinging up in my brain." One of these ideas concerns her fourth-grade friend and neighbor Margaret getting glue in her hair, and Clementine's attempt to help; together they cut off nearly all of Margaret's long locks. Further strategies involve the use of permanent markers and Clementine undergoing a sympathy coif. Frazee's black-and-white illustrations of the close-cropped gals captures the mixed emotions of their shared fate. Her portraits of the heroine's three-year-old brother, "who didn't get stuck with a fruit name," and whom Clementine calls by various vegetable names, including "Spinach," "Lima Bean" and "Pea Pod," may remind readers of the charming star of Frazee's "Walk On!" Along with the humorous bits, Pennypacker seamlessly weaves into the narrative common third-grade themes, such as Clementine comparing Margaret's neatly dressed banker mother with her own overalls-clad artist mother, and envying Margaret her kitten from the litter of Clementine's own lately deceased cat, Polka Dottie. Luckily, Clementine ends her week on an up note. Fans of Judy Moody will welcome this portrait of another funny, independent third-grader. Ages 7-10. "(Sept.)" Copyright 2006 Reed Business Information.

Sing a Song of Tuna Fish: Hard-To-Swallow Stories from Fifth Grade

by Esme Raji Codell
Published 2004
ISBN: 9780786855094

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

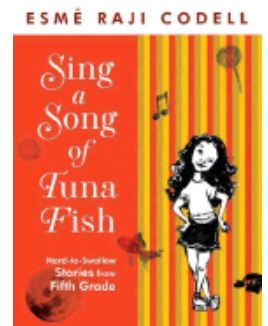
Jacket Notes:

Like every fifth grader, EsmA(c) Raji Codell spent her days within the small world of school, neighborhood, and family. But this small world provides rich material for the often hilarious, always engrossing stories and vignettes in this book. EsmA(c) tells us about: the night she and her mother became "egg vigilantes" against an illegally parked car; her freewheeling first school, where kids could choose disco dancing instead of math; her dangerous neighborhood, which her father made seem friendly and wondrous; the Passover dinner when she stole a matzoh right out from under a rabbi; the awe-inspiring, life-threatening Chicago snowstorms; and lessons about love from tea-reading gypsies and Popeye cartoons.

Read or Write a Comment ►

Publishers Weekly 12/13/2004

The author of Sahara Special eloquently expresses memories of her own fifth-grade year in this volume of loosely connected vignettes set in 1979. Readers who savor details will relish Codell's descriptions of her Chicago neighborhood, especially the series of unique specialty shops, ranging from the cigar store ("It was more like a hallway than a store. You had to say excuse me' to turn around") to the collector's shop specializing in war memorabilia ("Flags with swastikas hung in the window, along with lighters, knives in sheathes, and lots of jagged metal things that seemed to be for throwing at people"). Equally vivid are depictions of Esme's family: her fiery-tempered mother, who encourages Esme to hurl eggs at a rich man's car, parked in front of a hydrant; her soft-spoken, poet father; and the grandmother whose apartment is like a giant treasure chest, housing an assortment of entertaining artifacts. The author periodically interrupts the ebb and flow of family quarrels and struggles caused by being "broke," with landmark occasions such as Esme's initiation to public school, a memorable Passover dinner (when Esme manages to outwit the rabbi) and a freak storm that covers Chicago with piles of snow. With its strong nostalgic flavor and poetic



imagery, this warmly humorous memoir will likely find an audience with children of the 1970s as well as with children of the new millennium. Ages 9-up. (Jan.) Copyright 2004 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

Like every fifth grader, Esma(c) Raji Codell spent her days within the small world of school, neighborhood, and family. But this small world provides rich material for the often hilarious, always engrossing stories and vignettes in this book. Esma(c) tells us about: the night she and her mother became "egg vigilantes" against an illegally parked car; her freewheeling first school, where kids could choose disco dancing instead of math; her dangerous neighborhood, which her father made seem friendly and wondrous; the Passover dinner when she stole a matzoh right out from under a rabbi; the awe-inspiring, life-threatening Chicago snowstorms; and lessons about love from tea-reading gypsies and Popeye cartoons.

Amber Brown Is Not a Crayon

by Paula Danziger

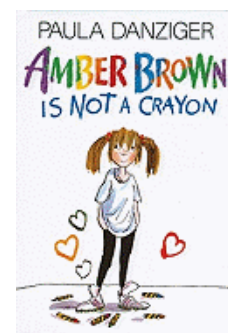
Published 1994

ISBN: 9780399225093

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Amber and Justin have been best friends for practically forever. They always sit together in class and play every day after school. Then disaster strikes when Justin has to move to Alabama. Amber Brown and Justin Daniels are best friends. They sit next to each other in school, help each other with fractions and spelling, and always stick up for one another. But when Justin finds out that he is moving away, everything begins to change.



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ►

Publishers Weekly 02/21/1994

With spunky Amber Brown, Danziger (*The Cat Ate My Gysmsuit*; *Everyone Else's Parents Said Yes*) adds to her oeuvre's sizable brood of magnetic young characters. This heroine's perky, first-person narrative ("I, Amber Brown, am one very excited third grader") allows readers to make her acquaintance immediately--and effortlessly. They'll learn straight away that Amber's life is about to change, and she is not at all happy about it. Her best friend, Justin, is moving away. Since preschool, they have been "a great team": he helps her with fractions ("which I only half understand"); she eats the cream center out of Oreos and passes the cookie part to him ("We call it teamwork. Hannah Burton calls it gross. ") Though she tries to keep a stiff upper lip, Amber's emotions get the best of her when Justin, while packing, decides to throw out the chewing-gum ball they have accumulated. She resolves never to speak to him again, but the two make peace in an affecting scene that brings this brief but memorable novel to a close. Once again, Danziger demonstrates her ability to connect with her audience. One hopes she has more escapades planned for Amber. Ages 7-9. (Apr.)

Samantha the Swimming Fairy (Fifth book in the Rainbow Magic: Sports Fairies series)

by Daisy Meadows

Published 2010

ISBN: 9780545202565

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

It's an exciting time in Fairyland. Everyone is getting ready for the Fairy Olympics! But Jack Frost's goblins have stolen the Sports Fairies' magic objects. Now they're threatening to take over the whole competition! The goblins are making a splash at the town pool with Samantha the Swimming Fairy's magic goggles. It's time for Rachel and Kirsty to dive into another adventure! Find the enchanted object in each book, and help keep the Fairyland Olympics magical!



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ►

Willoughbys

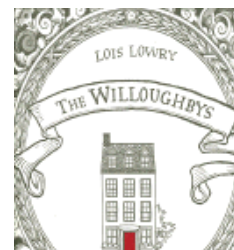
by Lois Lowry

Published 2008

ISBN: 9780618979745

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:



Abandoned by their ill-humored parents to the care of an odious nanny, Tim, the twins, Barnaby A and Barnaby B, and their sister, Jane, attempt to fulfill their roles as good old-fashioned children. Following the models set in lauded tales from A Christmas Carol to Mary Poppins, the four Willoughbys hope to attain their proscribed happy ending too, or at least a satisfyingly maudlin one. However, it is an unquestionably ruthless act that sets in motion the transformations that lead to their salvation and to happy endings for not only the four children, but their nanny, an abandoned baby, a candy magnate, and his long-lost son too. Replete with a tongue-in-cheek glossary and bibliography, this hilarious and decidedly old-fashioned parody pays playful homage to classic works of children's literature.



[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Publishers Weekly 02/04/2008

Signature

"Reviewed by" Lemony Snicket

Lois Lowry, who casts her noble and enviable shadow wide across the landscape of children's literature, from fantasy to realism, here turns her quick, sly gaze to parody, a word which in this case means a short novel mocking the conventions of old-fashioned children's books stuffed with orphans, nannies and long-lost heirs. These clichés are ripe if familiar targets, but Ms. Lowry knocks off these barrel-dwelling fish with admirable aplomb in "The Willoughbys", in which two wicked parents cannot wait to rid themselves of their four precocious children, and vice versa, and vice versa versa, and so on. The nanny adds a spoonful of sugar and a neighboring candy magnate a side order of Dahl, if you follow me, as the book's lightning pace traipses through the hallmarks of classic orphan literature helpfully listed in the bibliography, from the baby on the doorstep to the tardy yet timely arrival of a crucial piece of correspondence.

The characters, too, find these tropes familiar. What would good old-fashioned people do in this situation? one asks. Does the omniscient, woolgathering narrator, who begins with Once upon a time and announces an epilogue with Oh, what is there to say at the happy conclusion of an old-fashioned story? This critic even vaguely recognizes the stratagem of a glossary, in which the more toothsome words are defined unreliably and digressively. (He cannot put his finger on it, at least not in public.) Never you mind. The novel does make a few gambits for anachronistic musings (Oh goodness, do we have to walk them into a dark forest? I don't have the right shoes for that) and even wry commentary (That is how we billionaires exist, says the man who is not Willy Wonka. We profit on the misfortune of others) but mostly the book plays us for laughs, closer to the Brothers Zucker than the Brothers Grimm, and by my count the hits (mock German dialogue, e.g., It makesch me vant to womit) far outnumber the misses (an infant named Baby Ruth, oy).

There are those who will find that this novel pales in comparison to Ms. Lowry's more straight-faced efforts, such as "The Giver". Such people are invited to take tea with the Bobbsey Twins. Ms. Lowry and I will be across town downing something stronger mixed by Anastasia Krupnik, whom one suspects of sneaking sips of Ms. Lowry's bewitching brew. Tchín-tchín!

"Lemony Snicket is the author of A Series of Unfortunate Events. " Copyright 2008 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

Abandoned by their ill-humored parents to the care of an odious nanny, Tim, the twins, Barnaby A and Barnaby B, and their sister, Jane, attempt to fulfill their roles as good old-fashioned children. Following the models set in lauded tales from A Christmas Carol to Mary Poppins, the four Willoughbys hope to attain their proscribed happy ending too, or at least a satisfyingly maudlin one. However, it is an unquestionably ruthless act that sets in motion the transformations that lead to their salvation and to happy endings for not only the four children, but their nanny, an abandoned baby, a candy magnate, and his long-lost son too. Replete with a tongue-in-cheek glossary and bibliography, this hilarious and decidedly old-fashioned parody pays playful homage to classic works of children's literature.

Pippi Longstocking

by Astrid Lindgren

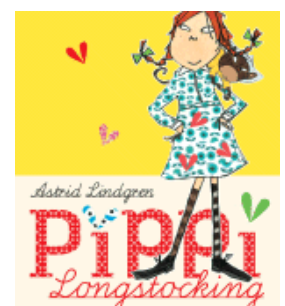
Published 2007

ISBN: 9780670062768

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

The classic novel about the little girl with crazy red pigtails and a flair for the outrageous is available once again in this large-format gift edition. Full color. Astrid Lindgren's story of feisty, red-haired Pippi has been given a



sparkling new translation by award-winning Tiina Nunnally and engaging pictures by acclaimed Lauren Child.

Illustrated by Lauren Child

[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy

by Jeanne Birdsall

Published 2005

ISBN: 9780375831430

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

This summer the Penderwick sisters have a wonderful surprise: a holiday on the grounds of a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts. But the best discovery of all is Jeffrey Tifton, son of Arundel's owner, who quickly proves to be the perfect companion for their adventures.

The icy-hearted Mrs. Tifton is not as pleased with the Penderwicks as Jeffrey is, though, and warns the new friends to stay out of trouble. Which, of course, they will-- won't they? One thing's for sure: it will be a summer the Penderwicks will never forget.

Deliciously nostalgic and quaintly witty, this is a story as breezy and carefree as a summer day.

[Read or Write a Comment](#) ▶

Publishers Weekly 07/25/2005

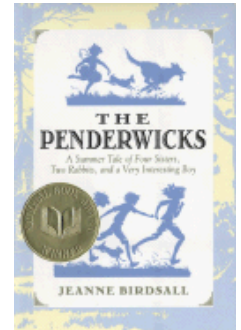
This timeless tale from a first-time author introduces the thoroughly likable Penderwicks, on vacation in a rental cottage on Arundel, a sprawling Massachusetts estate. Their spirited family dynamics and repartee call to mind those in Hilary McKay's novels, and the sisters' delightfully diverse personalities propel the plot. For instance, when they pull up to the estate's mansion, 10-year-old Jane feels certain she has spied a "lonely boy" in a window and promptly begins a novel about him once they reach their cottage. Skye, 11, elated to have her own room with two beds (she plans to use both), immediately "wrote the bed schedule next to her favorite word problem about trains traveling in different directions." Batty, a shy four-year-old, faithfully wears her butterfly wings and is devoted to her dog, Hound (who "insisted on licking faces in the middle of the night"). The girls' loving, amusingly distracted father is a botany professor with a fondness for spouting Latin phrases. Rosalind, the oldest at 12, has looked after the others since their mother's death (shortly after Batty's birth), and when she meets gentle Cagney, the estate's teenage gardener, he captures her heart. The "lonely boy" turns out to be sensitive, sincere Jeffrey, a talented musician. Tension arises when Jeffrey's pretentious mother and her fianc decide to send the boy to military school. Certain to be as sorry as the sisters are when it's time to leave Arundel, readers will hope for a return visit from this memorable cast. Ages 8-12. (June) Copyright 2005 Reed Business Information.

Publisher's Marketing Text:

This summer the Penderwick sisters have a wonderful surprise: a holiday on the grounds of a beautiful estate called Arundel. Soon they are busy discovering the summertime magic of Arundel's sprawling gardens, treasure-filled attic, tame rabbits, and the cook who makes the best gingerbread in Massachusetts. But the best discovery of all is Jeffrey Tifton, son of Arundel's owner, who quickly proves to be the perfect companion for their adventures.

The icy-hearted Mrs. Tifton is not as pleased with the Penderwicks as Jeffrey is, though, and warns the new friends to stay out of trouble. Which, of course, they will-- won't they? One thing's for sure: it will be a summer the Penderwicks will never forget.

Deliciously nostalgic and quaintly witty, this is a story as breezy and carefree as a summer day.



Starting with Alice

by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

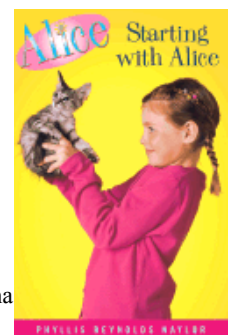
Published 2002

ISBN: 9780689843952

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

This is where it all started! Eight-year-old Alice McKinley wants pierced ears, really long hair, a pet, and, most of all, a mother. Oh, and some friends would be nice. As the new girl in third grade, Alice doesn't know a single person in Takoma Park, Maryland, except for her next-door neighbor Donald Sheavers, who not only is a "boy," but also seems to be a little bit peculiar! Desperate to meet people, Alice learns that making friends is harder than it seems when she runs into a group of girls whom she nicknames "the Terrible Triplets" after they make it very clear that they do not want to get to know Alice. On top of all this, Alice also has to keep an eye on Donald's recently divorced mom, who seems to have "her" eye on Alice's dad! This is the first of three prequels to Phyllis Reynolds Naylor's beloved Alice series. Now younger girls can get to meet the girl everyone wants to be best friends with, and older girls will enjoy finding out how Alice came to be the Alice they know and love.



Read or Write a Comment ►

Publishers Weekly 09/30/2002

Alice fans (and their younger friends) are in for a treat as Phyllis Reynolds Naylor turns back the clock on the popular series hero: Starting with Alice documents the ups and downs of Alice's third-grade year. Two additional prequels are planned, to bring the younger Alice up to the point where the original series opener, *Alice in Agony*, begins (see *Children's Books*, p. 27). (Sept.) Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information.

Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Writing Thank-You Notes

by Peggy Gifford

Published 2008

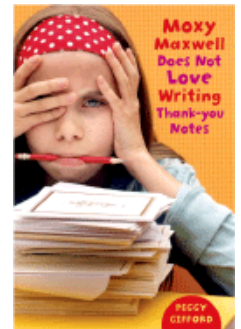
ISBN: 9780375842702

[Find this book in our catalog.](#)

Jacket Notes:

Moxy is not thrilled that she must write a thank-you note for each of her Christmas gifts or she will not be allowed to attend a Hollywood bash with her long-absent father. After her father cancels at the last minute, Moxy is forced to deal with the reality of a situation she doesn't want to accept. IT ISN'T AS though Moxy isn't grateful for her Christmas presents. She is. She's just not thrilled that she has to write a thank-you note for each one by tomorrow . . . or she will not be allowed to fly to Hollywood to attend a starstudded

Hollywood bash with the father she hasn't seen in three years. And writing thank-you notes is not something that a world-class Creative Type relishes doing. But it is more than writing thank-you notes that finally prevents Moxy from taking her trip. When her father cancels at the last minute, Moxy is forced to deal with the reality of a situation she doesn't want to accept, and can't change. But, not surprisingly, she rises to the occasion brilliantly.



Read or Write a Comment ►
