

HAISLN Recommended Reading List 2004

Grades 5

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

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Adler, C. S. ***One Unhappy Horse***. Clarion, 2001. Things are difficult for twelve-year-old Jan and her mother after her father's death, and when it turns out that her beloved horse needs an operation, Jan reluctantly gets money from an elderly woman whom she has befriended.

Alexander, Lloyd. ***The Gawgon and the Boy***. Dutton, 2001. In Depression-era Philadelphia, when eleven-year-old David is too ill to attend school, he is tutored by the unique and adventurous Aunt Annie whose teaching combines with his imagination to greatly enrich his life.

Avi. ***Ragweed***. Avon, 1999. Ragweed, a young country mouse, leaves his family and travels to the big city, where he finds excitement and danger and sees cats for the first time. Prequel to: *Poppy*.

Babbitt, Natalie. ***Tuck Everlasting***. First published 1975. A family discovers the "fountain of youth" and others try to uncover their secret.

Barron, T. A. ***The Lost Years of Merlin***. Philomel, 1996. A young boy with no memory of his past washes ashore on the coast of Wales and finds his true name after a series of adventures. *Lost Years of Merlin* series.

Bishop, Nic. ***Digging for Bird-dinosaurs: An Expedition to Madagascar***. Houghton Mifflin, 2000. Traces the experiences of Cathy Forster, one of the few female paleontologists working today, who explored the island of Madagascar in 1998 in search of fossil birds.

Bridges, Ruby. ***Through My Eyes***. Scholastic, 1999. The author recounts the story of the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960, when she was six year old.

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Notes from a Liar and Her Dog***. Putnam, 2001. Eleven-year-old Ant, stuck in a family that she does not like, copes by pretending that her "real" parents are coming to rescue her, loving her dog Pistachio, volunteering at the zoo, and bending the truth.

Clements, Andrew. ***A Week in the Woods***. Simon & Schuster, 2002. The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.

Codell, Esme Raji. ***Sahara Special***. Hyperion, 2003. Struggling with school and her feelings since her father left, Sahara gets a fresh start with a new and unique teacher who supports her writing talents and the individuality of each of her classmates.

Creech, Sharon. ***Granny Torrelli Makes Soup***. Joanna Cotler Books, 2003. With the help of her wise old grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, Bailey, the boy next door.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. ***Bud, Not Buddy***. Delacorte, 1999. Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father: the renowned bandleader, H. E. Calloway of Grand Rapids. Newbery Medal.

Damon, Duane. ***Growing Up in the Civil War, 1861 to 1865***. Lerner, 2003. Presents details of daily life of American children during the period from 1861 to 1865.

Dyson, Marianne. ***Space Station Science: Life in Free Fall***. Scholastic, 1999. Written by a former member of a NASA control team, this work explores living and working in space, including details on a space station bathroom. Includes experiments and activities simulating conditions in space.

Earle, Sylvia A. ***Dive! My Adventures in the Deep Frontier*** . National Geographic Society, 1999. The author relates some of her adventures studying and exploring the world's oceans, including tracking whales, living in an underwater laboratory, and helping design a deep water submarine.

Forbes, Esther. ***Johnny Tremain*** . First published 1943. While apprenticed to a silversmith during the time of the Revolutionary War, Johnny burns his hand and eventually learns that his crippled hand can be put to use on the battlefield. Newbery Medal.

George, Jean Craighead. ***Julie of the Wolves*** . First published 1972. While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, Julie, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack. Newbery Medal.

Giff, Patricia Reilly. ***Maggie's Door***. Wendy Lamb Books, 2003. In the mid-1800s, Nory and her neighbor and friend, Sean, set out separately on a dangerous journey from famine-plagued Ireland , hoping to reach a better life in America . Sequel to: *Nory Ryan's Song* .

Gutman, Dan. ***Jackie and Me: A Baseball Card Adventure*** . Avon , 1999. With his ability to travel through time by using his baseball cards, Joe goes back to 1947 to meet Jackie Robinson, turning into a black boy in the process.

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Just Ella*** . Simon & Schuster, 1999. In this continuation of the Cinderella story, fifteen-year-old Ella finds that accepting Prince Charming's proposal ensnares her in such a suffocating tangle of palace rules and royal etiquette that she plots her escape.

Hale, Shannon. ***The Goose Girl*** . Bloomsbury , 2003. Princess Anidori, on her way to marry a prince she has never met, is betrayed by her guards and her lady-in-waiting and must become a goose girl to survive until she can reveal her true identity and reclaim the crown that is rightfully hers.

Hamilton , Virginia . ***Second Cousins*** . Blue Sky, 1998. The friendship of twelve-year-old cousins, Cammy and Elodie, is threatened when a family reunion includes two other cousins near their age.

Horvath, Polly. ***Everything on a Waffle***. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2002. Eleven-year-old Primrose, who lives in a small fishing village in British Columbia , recounts her experiences and all that she learns about human nature and the unpredictability of life in the months after her parents are lost at sea.

Ibbotson, Eva. ***Island of the Aunts***. Dutton, 2000. Three aging aunts who need help caring for their magical animals resort to kidnapping suitable young people and taking them to their secluded island home.

Jackson, Donna. M. ***Hero Dogs: Courageous Canines in Action*** . Little, Brown, 2003. Presents a variety of stories about working and rescue dogs, such as those involved in the work at the World Trade Center site after the disaster of September 11, 2001 .

Kehret, Peg. ***Blizzard Disaster*** . Minstrel Books, 1998. In their second adventure, Warren and Betsy use the Instant Commuter to travel back in time to the Armistice Day Blizzard of 1940.

Konigsberg , E.L., ***From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*** . First published 1967. Claudia and Jamie have a wonderful time when they run away to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Newbery Medal.

Lasky, Kathryn. ***The Journal of Augustus Pelletier: The Lewis and Clark Expedition*** . Scholastic, 2000. Twelve-year-old Augustus Pelletier, youngest member of Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, keeps a journal in this fictional account of the expedition. *My Name is America* series.

Lauber, Patricia. ***Painters of the Caves*** . National Geographic Society, 1998. The author describes the 1994 discovery made in Chauvet , France , of a cave with Stone Age rock paintings, and the significance of cave art in prehistoric as well as modern times.

L'Engle, Madeleine. ***Meet the Austins*** . First published 1960. The large and happy Austin family teaches an unhappy orphaned Maggie about life and love.

Lowry, Lois. ***Number the Stars*** . Houghton Mifflin, 1989. Annemarie learns about bravery when her family shelters a young Jewish friend from the Nazis during the German occupation of Denmark in World War II. Newbery Medal.

McDonald, Amy. ***No More Nasty*** . Farrar, Straus, & Giroux, 2001. When Simon's Great Aunt Matilda becomes the substitute teacher for his unruly fifth-grade class, her unique way of looking at things gives the students a new perspective on learning.

McKissack, Patricia . ***Color Me Dark: The Diary of Nellie Lee Love, the Great Migration North, Chicago , Illinois , 1919***. Scholastic, 2000. Eleven-year-old Nellie Lee Love records in her diary the events of 1919, when her family moves from Tennessee to Chicago , hoping to leave the racism and hatred of the South behind. *Dear Diary* series.

Montgomery, Sy. ***The Snake Scientist*** . Houghton Mifflin 1999. Enter the world of zoologist and snake lover Bob Mason, who annually gathers and studies thousands of snakes.

Murphy, Jim. ***The Great Fire***. Scholastic, 1995. The Chicago fire of 1871 is described with personal accounts and photographs. Newbery Honor book.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. ***Saving Shiloh*** . Atheneum, 1997. Marty and his family try to help Judd Travers change his mean ways, even though his neighbors continue to expect the worst of him. Mark Twain Award. Previous books in the *Shiloh* trilogy are: *Shiloh* and *Shiloh Season* .

Nixon, Joan Lowery. ***The Making of a Writer***. Delacorte, 2002. The author recalls events from her childhood that contributed to her development as a writer.

Paterson, Katherine. ***Bridge to Terabithia*** . First published 1977. During a storm, Jess' new friend Leslie meets an unexpected tragedy while trying to reach their secret kingdom of Terabithia . Newbery Medal.

Paulsen, Gary. ***Hatchet*** . Bradbury, 1987. After his plane crashes in the Canadian wilderness, thirteen-year-old Brian must survive with only the aid of a hatchet. Newbery Honor book. Companion titles are *The River*, *Brian's Winter*, and *Brian's Return*.

Peck, Richard. ***Fair Weather*** . Dial, 2001. In 1893 thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.

Ritter, John. ***The Boy Who Saved Baseball***. Philomel, 2003. The fate of a small California town rests on the outcome of one baseball game, and Tom Gallagher hopes to lead his team to victory with the secrets of the now disgraced player, Dante Del Gato.

Roberts, Willo Davis. ***The Kidnappers: A Mystery*** . Atheneum, 1998. Because Joey likes to tell tall tales, no one will believe him when he witnesses the kidnapping of his classmate.

Silverman, Jerry and Susan Swan. ***Songs and Stories of the Civil War*** . Twenty-First Century Books, 2002. Provides a history of the music and lyrics of a dozen Civil War songs, describing the circumstances under which they were created and performed.

Springer, Nancy. ***Rowan Hood, Outlaw Girl of Sherwood*** . Philomel, 2001. In her quest to connect with Robin Hood, the father she has never met, thirteen-year-old Rosemary disguises herself as a boy, befriends a wolf dog, a runaway princess, and an overgrown boy whose singing is hypnotic, and makes peace with her elfin heritage.

Staples, Suzanne Fisher. ***The Green Dog: A Mostly True Story***. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2003. During the summer before fifth grade, Suzanne, a daydreaming loner who likes to fish and walk through the woods, acquires a canine companion. Based on the author's childhood in northeastern Pennsylvania .

Testa, Maria. ***Becoming Joe DiMaggio*** . Candlewick, 2002. Joseph Paul grows up following the baseball career of the great Joe DiMaggio and dreaming of becoming a famous baseball player himself, while learning the rules of the game from his grandfather.

Townley, Roderick. ***The Great Good Thing, Into the Labyrinth: A Novel***. Atheneum, 2001. Twelve-year-old Princess Sophie's storybook kingdom really is a storybook, where nothing ever changes, even the character's mad scramble to reach their places whenever the book is opened, until Sylvia discovers she can enter new worlds with the Reader, and find new adventures. Sequel is *Into the Labyrinth: A Novel*.

Walker, Alice . ***Langston Hughes: American Poet*** . HarperCollins, 2002. An illustrated biography of the Harlem poet whose works gave voice to the joy and pain of the black experience in America .

Wright, Betty Ren. ***The Wish Master*** . Holiday House, 2000. Certain that his grandfather doesn't want him around, Corby is unhappy when he and his mother go to spend the summer in Wisconsin to help take care of his ailing grandmother, until a local boy takes him to the Wish Master

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