

Realistic Fiction For Young Readers



Jake Drake: Class Clown by Andrew Clements
J CLE

Fourth grader Jake looks back on his days of being the class clown in 2nd grade.

That Crazy Eddie and the Science Project of Doom
by Judy Cox

J COX

Eddie and his friend Matt want to win the \$50 prize in the science fair, but working together is harder than they expected.

Amber Brown is Green with Envy by Paula Danziger
J DAN, AUDIO TAPE JF DAN

Amber's mom is planning her marriage and her dad is starting to date, making Amber feel left out.

Stinky Stern Forever by Michelle Edwards

J EDW

Pa Lia Vang and the rest of her 2nd grade class have to work through their feelings when tragedy strikes close to home.

Snowed In With Grandmother Silk by Carol Fenner

J FEN

A snowstorm strands Grandmother and Ruddy in the house without heat, water, or electricity, forcing them to improvise and at the same time get to know each other better.

Owen Foote, Mighty Scientist by Stephanie Greene

J GRE

Owen wants to win the 3rd grade science fair so he can get into Mr. Wozniak's class next year, but runs into one problem after another.

The Million Dollar Shot by Dan Gutman

J GUT

Eddie has the chance to win a million dollars if he sinks the half-time free throw, but his mom's boss gives him a tough choice that might make him decide to miss it.

Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Dolores Starbuckle
by Jennifer Jacobson

J JAC

Andy has just *got* to do something about Dolores. She tattles, corrects, interrupts, and makes school torture! Luckily, Andy's Granny Webb has a plan.

Lucy Rose, Here's the Thing about Me by Katy Kelly
J KEL, AUDIO CD J F KEL

Third-grader Lucy Rose has a lot of change to deal with, and she shares it all in her diary.

Martin Bridge, Ready for Take-Off by Jessica Scott Kerrin
J KER

Follow 3rd-grader Martin through three short stories about school, friends, and family.

Ruby Lu, Brave and True by Lenore Look
J LOO

Almost-eight-year-old Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks, learns to drive, and has adventures with both old and new friends.

Gooney Bird and the Room Mother by Lois Lowry
J LOW

Funny 2nd-grader Gooney Bird Greene likes challenging vocabulary words and tells "absolutely true" stories. Who is her "secret" room mother?

The Gold-Threaded Dress by Carolyn Marsden
J MAR

Oy is teased by her 3rd-grade classmates until they see her beautiful Thai dress. Should she risk getting in trouble by sharing the dress to win their friendship?

Stink: The Incredible Shrinking Kid by Megan McDonald
JP MCD

Judy Moody's little brother, Stink, is the shortest kid in his 2nd-grade class. Judy has ideas about how he can look taller, but Stink should think twice before taking her advice.

7 X 9 = Trouble! by Claudia Mills
J MIL

The worst thing about 3rd grade for Wilson is math, and the best is the class pet, Squiggles, the hamster. Can Wilson concentrate enough to beat the deadline for learning the multiplication tables after Squiggles goes missing?

Robert Takes a Stand by Barbara Seuling
J SEU

This is a new title in the series about 3rd-grader Robert Dorfman. In this one, Robert runs for class president, gets a new puppy, and has a visit from fur-coat-wearing Grandma Judy.



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Realistic Fiction For Older Readers

Tending to Grace by Kimberly Newton Fusco

J FUS

Cornelia is shy. She stutters and is made fun of at school. She seeks solace in books, referring to them often. Cornelia's mother is self-absorbed and on her way to Las Vegas with her boyfriend when she leaves Cornelia at her Great Aunt Agatha's run-down house. There Cornelia encounters a rural life for which she is totally unready. Agatha and Cornelia learn to get along and both help each other deal with their own personal losses.

The Road to Paris by Nikki Grimes

J GRI

While she was with her brother, Malcolm, going from one mean foster home to another was tolerable. But when she is separated from him, Paris misses him terribly. Malcolm is sent to a group home and Daisy to the Lincolns, who turn out to be very understanding and loving. The neighborhood is not always accepting though. Singing in the choir and getting to know the Lincolns help Paris to know herself and to slowly trust.

Escaping the Giant Wave by Peg Kehret

J KEH

Thirteen-year-old Kyle is vacationing with his family on the Oregon coast when an earthquake and tsunami hit. His parents are on a yacht and Kyle is left to babysit his sister, Beebee, at the hotel when disaster strikes. Now he has to get his sister to safety and maybe even save the guy who's been bullying him.

Eleven by Lauren Myracle

JP MYR

Surviving age eleven is not always easy. It can turn very ugly in fact. Your best friends can turn into strangers who get silly and giggle and tell secrets. Your day can start out just right and then you feel stupid and get your feelings hurt.

Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park

J PAR, AUDIO CD JF PAR

Julia Song moved with her Korean family from Chicago to Plainfield, Illinois. There she met and became good friends with her neighbor, Patrick. Joining the Wiggle club (Work-Grow-Give-Live) means the two of them must find a project for the state fair. Raising silkworms seems so Korean to Julia, but Patrick is excited about it. They learn not just about silkworms, but about prejudice, patience, friendship and tolerance.

Criss Cross by Lynne Rae Perkins

J PER, TEEN PER, AUDIO CD JF PER

Debbie, Hector and Lenny are three lives that criss cross in this small town during the summer months. As they try to find first love and wait for something good to happen, they discover things about themselves and who they really are. *Newbery Winner*

Becoming Naomi León by Pam Muñoz Ryan

J RYA, AUDIO CD JF RYA

Naomi and her little brother Owen live with their Gram in a trailer called Buluga in Southern California. Everything is going well until their mother, who wishes to be called Skyla, turns up. She and her boyfriend want to take Naomi with them, leaving Owen, who is physically handicapped, behind. Gram, knowing this would not be good for the children, sets out to find their father in Mexico. While there Naomi discovers things about her past that help explain why she is good with words and art.

It Only Looks Easy by Pamela Curtis Swallow

J SWA

Cheddar, Kat's dog, is hit by a car driven by a woman who has Alzheimer's, and that is when Kat's life takes on some unthinkable turns. Her reputation is ruined when a bike is stolen. While dealing with finding the bike thief, she is forced to look at things differently. Somehow she made it look easy as she solved the mystery of the missing bikes and learned to deal with life as it happens.

Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson

J WOO, AUDIO CD JF WOO

Lonnie Collins Motion lost his parents at the age of 7. His little sister Lili and he were split up, going to different foster homes. At the age of 11 he discovers writing in Ms. Marcus's poetry class. Being able to express his thoughts in a new and different way helps Lonnie get a new perspective on his world and his life, as he hopes one day to be together again with Lili. Lonnie tells his story in verse.

Millicent Min: Girl Genius by Lisa Yee

J YEE, AUDIO TAPE JF YEE

This is a story about a very smart 11-year-old named Millicent with an IQ that allows her to enter the senior class next fall. She is also taking a college-level poetry class this summer and would rather attend classes, but her mother enrolls her in volleyball so she can have a more normal childhood. Her grandmother, Maddie, is concerned when Millie has difficulty making friends and keeping them. A new found friend, Emily, helps Millie to have a more balanced life.

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