

REALISTIC

Bauer, Joan. X Bauer, J.
CLOSE TO FAMOUS

Twelve-year-old Foster McFee and her mother escape from her mother's abusive boyfriend and end up in the small town of Culpepper, West Virginia, where they use their strengths and challenge themselves to build a new life, with the help of the friends they make there.

Coulumbis, Audrey. X Coulumbis, A.
LEXIE
When 10-year-old Lexie goes with her father to the beach for a week, she is surprised to find that he has invited his girlfriend and her two sons to join them .

Curtis, Christopher Paul. X Curtis, C.
THE MIGHTY MISS MALONE
Deza is the smartest girl in her class in Gary, Indiana, singled out by teachers for a special path in life. But the Great Depression hit Gary hard, and there are no jobs for black men, so her beloved father leaves to find work.

Davies, Jacqueline. X Davies, J.
LEMONADE WAR*
Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands.

Dowell, Francis O’Rourke. X Dowell, F.
PHINEAS L. MACGUIRE...ERUPTS!*
Fourth-grade science whiz Phineas L. MacGuire is forced to team up with the new boy in class on a science fair project, but the boy's quirky personality causes Phineas to wonder if they have any chance of winning.

Draper, Sharon. X Draper, S.
LITTLE SISTER IS NOT MY NAME*
It's not easy being nine, especially when you're Sassy Simone Sanford. Especially when you were named for sticking out your tongue on the day you

were born. Especially when everyone in the family calls you Little Sister.

Fleming, Candace. X Fleming, C.
THE FABLED FOURTH GRADERS OF AESOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL*
An unlikely teacher takes over the disorderly fourth-grade class of Aesop Elementary School with surprising results.

Friedman, Laurie. X Friedman, L.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY MALLORY!*
Mallory wants her ninth birthday to be extra special. So instead of celebrating just one day, she plans an entire "birth month" celebration. But soon, things aren't going according to plan.

Gifford, Peggy. X Gifford, P.
MOXY MAXWELL DOES NOT LOVE STUART LITTLE*
It wasn't as if Moxy Maxwell hadn't *tried* to do her summer reading. But now it's the end of August—the day before fourth grade. And if Moxy doesn't read *all* of *Stuart Little* immediately, there are going to be "consequences."

Haddix, Margaret P. X Haddix, M.
DEXTER THE TOUGH
Dexter hates his new school. He hates that his family moved across the country so his dad can get treatment for his cancer. To make matters worse, Dexter gets into a fight the first day of school. This touching book explores issues of bullying, family, and friendship.

Hoberman, Mary Anne. X Hoberman, M.
STRAWBERRY HILL
When 10-year-old Allie learns that her family will be moving from a two-family home to their very own house, she's hesitant until she finds out they will be living on a street with the magical name of Strawberry Hill. That changes everything.

Holt, Kimberly. X Holt, K.
PIPER REED, NAVY BRAT*
Meet Piper Reed, a spunky nine-year-old who has moved more times than she can count on one hand.

Wherever Piper goes, adventure follows, inspired by her active imagination, free-wheeling spirit, and a bit of sister magic.

Harkrader, Lisa. X Harkrader, L.
THE ADVENTURES OF BEANBOY
Wheaton, Kansas, seventh-grader Tucker MacBean loves comic books, so when his favorite comic has a contest to create a sidekick, he is hopeful that he can win, thereby fixing his struggling family.

Kelly, Katy. X Kelly, K.
MELONHEAD*
Adam Melon's friend Lucy Rose gave him a nickname--Melonhead. Melonhead is a self-proclaimed inventor. All his life, which is 10 years and counting, great ideas have been popping in and out of his melon head. And sometimes they work!

Knudson, Mike. X Knudson, M.
RAYMOND AND GRAHAM RULE THE SCHOOL*
Best friends Raymond and Graham have waited their whole lives for fourth grade, when they'll rule the school. But things don't go quite as planned when Raymond gets the most embarrassing line in the school play.

Lupica, Mike. X Lupica, M.
TWO MINUTE DRILL (Comeback Kids Novels)*
Chris Conlan is the coolest kid in sixth grade and the quarterback of the football team. Scott Parry is the new kid--a brainiac. These two boys may seem like an odd couple, but each has a secret that draws him to the other.

McGhee, Allison. X McGhee, A.
JULIA GILLIAN (AND THE ART OF KNOWING)*
Ten-year-old Julia Gillian knows everything about her quirky neighbors and her Minneapolis neighborhood. The one thing Julia doesn't know is how the book she's reading is going to end.

Mills, Claudia. X Mills, C.
BEING TEDDY ROOSEVELT
Riley O'Rourke is writing his fourth-grade

biography report on President Teddy Roosevelt, but he has a far more important goal - to get a saxophone, which his family cannot afford, so he can take band class. As he learns about Roosevelt, he gains determination, new work habits, and an instrument.

Nielsen, Susin. X Nielsen, S.
DEAR GEORGE CLOONEY: PLEASE MARRY MY MOM
Violet's parents have divorced. When her mother takes up with the unfortunately named Dudley Wiener, Violet and her friend Phoebe decide that if Violet's mom can't pick a decent man herself, they will help her snag George Clooney.

Peck, Richard. X Peck, R.
SEASON OF GIFTS*
It is 1958, and a new family has moved in next door to Grandma Dowdel - a Methodist minister and his wife and three kids. Soon Mrs. Dowdel will work her particular brand of charm on all of them.

Van Draanen, Wendelin. X Van Draanen, W.
SECRET IDENTITY*
Creating a secret identity for himself when he writes an expose of a bully for the school newspaper, Nolan Byrd launches shredderman.com, a place where truth and justice prevail--and bullies get what's coming to them.

Weeks, Sarah. X Weeks, S.
OGGIE COODER
Oggie Cooder can charve better than anyone else in his school (charving is the carving of a piece of cheese with ones teeth). Oggie doesn't think this is anything special, but after he inadvertently charves during a nationwide hunt for unusual talents, his charving puts him on the path to fame and fortune.

Yee, Lisa. X Yee, L.
BOBBY VS. GIRLS (ACCIDENTALLY)*
Bobby Ellis-Chan has a secret: his best friend is a girl. Holly Harper has always liked to do the same things Bobby does, but now that they're in the fourth grade, things are changing.
***this book has a sequel or is part of a series**

SCIENCE FICTION/FANTASY

Angelberger, Tom. X Angelberger, T.
THE STRANGE CASE OF ORIGAMI YODA*
Dwight, unpopular at school, talks to his classmates via an origami finger puppet of Yoda. Things get strange when it looks like Yoda can predict the future.

Baccalario, Pierdomenico. X. Baccalario, P.
THE DOOR TO TIME*
After moving from London to an old mansion on the English coast, eleven-year-old twins Jason and Julia discover that their new home has twisting tunnels, strange artifacts from around the world, and a mysterious locked door.

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. X Cottrell Boyce, F.
COSMIC
Liam has always had trouble keeping his feet on the ground. Being 239,000 miles from earth doesn't make it any easier.

DiCamillo, Kate. X DiCamillo, K.
THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE
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 adored him completely. And then, one day, he was lost. . .

DiTerlizzi, Tony. X DiTerlizzi, T.
KENNY & THE DRAGON
Book-loving Kenny the rabbit has few friends in his farming community, so when the bookstore owner George is sent to kill gentle dragon Grahame, Kenny must find a way to prevent their battle while satisfying the dragon-crazed townspeople.

Hanson, Mary. X Hanson, M.
HOW TO SAVE YOUR TAIL
Once upon a time, in a grand castle, there lived a rat named Bob, who was fond of baking and wild about reading. So begins Bob's quest to save himself from being eaten by Muffin and Brutus, the

Queen's cats, by telling them fractured fairy tales about his whole rat family (and feeding them cookies).

Levine, Gail Carson. X Levine, G.
A TALE OF TWO CASTLES
A fabulous and funny fantasy novel about a shape-shifting ogre, a dragon detective, and a girl who dreams of becoming an actress.

McElligott, Matthew. X McElligott, M.
BENJAMIN FRANKLINSTEIN LIVES!*
Victor Godwin's orderly life is upended when he discovers that Benjamin Franklin never actually died--he was put into suspended animation and hidden away for more than 200 years in Victor's basement.

Prineas, Sarah. X Prineas, S.
THE MAGIC THIEF*
In a city that runs on a dwindling supply of magic, a young boy is drawn into a life of wizardry and adventure.

White, Ruth. X White, R.
YOU'LL LIKE IT HERE (EVERYBODY ELSE DOES)
Although Meggie Blue seems to be an average sixth-grader she is abnormally frightened when residents of her small, North Carolina town become fixated on aliens, and soon she and her family are forced to flee, making it clear that all is not as it seems.

ADVENTURE/MYSTERY/THRILLER

Avi. X Avi
MURDER AT MIDNIGHT
Mangus the magician and his new servant boy, Fabrizio, have been marked as scapegoats in a plot to overthrow King Claudio. Together, these two unlikely partners must solve the mystery before midnight . . . or face death.

Broach, Elise. X Broach, E.
MISSING ON SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN*
It's summer and the three Barker brothers--Simon,

Henry, and Jack--have just moved from Illinois to Arizona. Their parents have warned them repeatedly not to explore Superstition Mountain, which is near their home. But when their cat goes missing, they see no other choice.

Buckley, Michael. X Buckley, M.
NERDS (National Espionage, Rescue, & Defense Society)*
A secret spy society made up of fifth grade misfits uses their unique nerdiness to fight crime, with hilarious results.

Colfer, Eoin. X Colfer, E.
HALF-MOON INVESTIGATIONS
As Fletcher follows the clues, evidence of a conspiracy begins to emerge. But before he can crack the case, Fletcher finds himself framed for a serious crime. To clear his name, he will have to pair up with the unlikeliest of allies and go on the run from the authorities. Fletcher has twelve hours to find the guilty party--or he "is" the guilty party.

Gordon, Amy. X Gordon, A.*
TWENTY GOLD FALCONS
Unhappy Aidan learns about a stash of hidden valuable coins called gold falcons. Her search for it unleashes a remarkable chain of events and brings her in touch with unforgettable characters, including smart-aleck elevators and a mouse that appears to appreciate opera.

Kelley, Jane. X Kelley, J.
GIRL BEHIND THE GLASS
Moving from Brooklyn to a rental house in the country strains the relationship between 11-year-old identical twins Hannah and Anna, a situation made worse by the ghost of a girl who is trapped in the house.

O'Connor, Barbara. X O'Connor, B.
THE FANTASTIC SECRET OF OWEN JESTER
Once you've finally captured the most enormous frog in Carter, Georgia, what exactly are you supposed to do with it?

***this book has a sequel or is part of a series**

Great Reads for Grade 4



Realistic
Science Fiction/Fantasy
Adventure/Mystery/Thriller

Stanislaus County Library
Children's Department 2012

