

Potter, Ellen - **Slob**

Picked on, overweight genius Owen tries to invent a television that can see the past to find out what happened the day his parents were killed.

Scieszka, Jon - **Knucklehead: Tall Tales and Mostly True Stories of Growing Up Scieszka**

Scieszka, who grew up as the second of six sons, has written an autobiography about boys, for boys and anyone else interested in baseball, fire, and peeing on stuff.

Spradlin, Michael - **The Youngest Templar: Keeper of the Grail (series)**

In 1191, fifteen-year-old Tristan, a youth of unknown origin raised in an English abbey, becomes a Templar Knight's squire during the Third Crusade and soon finds himself on a mission to bring the Holy Grail to safety.

Springer, Nancy - **Enola Holmes series**

Sherlock Holmes 14-year-old sister is just as clever as her older brother in solving mysteries.

Stewart, Trenton Lee - **The Mysterious Benedict Society (series)**

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

Tolan, Stephanie - **Listen!**

During her solitary convalescence from a crippling accident, twelve-year-old Charley finds a wild dog, and the arduous process of training him leads her to explore her feelings about her mother's death two years earlier.

Winthrop, Elizabeth - **Counting on Grace**

In 1910 in Pownal, Vermont twelve-year-old Grace and her best friend Arthur must go to work in the mill helping their mothers work the looms. When they write a secret letter to the Child Labor Board, Lewis Hines, a famous reformer and photographer, arrives undercover to gather evidence about underage children forced into work.

These are just a few of the many books that fifth and sixth graders enjoy. Ask your local librarian for further suggestions.

Compiled by the Children's Services Advisory Council of the Vermont Dept. of Libraries.
<http://www/libraries.vermont.gov>

This program is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act.

-2009-

BOOKS
for
GRADES 5 and 6



Avi - **Crispin, the Cross of Lead**

Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in 14th century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.

Babbitt, Natalie - **Tuck Everlasting**

The Tuck family finds out that living forever is more of a curse than a blessing.

Balliett, Blue - **Chasing Vermeer (series)**

When seemingly unrelated and strange events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker - **The Lacemaker and the Princess**

In 1788, eleven-year-old Isabelle, living with her lacemaker grandmother and mother near the palace of Versailles, becomes close friends with Marie Antoinette's daughter, Princess Therese, and finds their relationship complicated not only by their different social class, but by the growing political unrest and resentment of the French people.

Collins, Susan - **Gregor the Overlander (series)**

Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, triggering an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches and spiders while on a quest foretold by ancient prophecy.

Creech, Sharon - **Unfinished Angel**

In a tiny village in the Swiss Alps, an angel meets an American girl named Zola who has come with her father to open a school, and together Zola and the angel rescue a group of homeless orphans, who gradually change everything.

Curtis, Christopher Paul - **Bud, Not Buddy**

Scrappy 10-year-old philosopher Bud – “not Buddy” – Caldwell is an orphan on the run from abusive foster homes and “Hooverilles” in 1930.

Dowd, Siobhan - **The London Eye Mystery**

When Ted and Kat's cousin Salim disappears from the London Eye ferris wheel, the two siblings must work together - Ted with his brain that is “wired differently” and impatient Kat - to try to solve the mystery of what happened to Salim.

Funke, Cornelia - **Inkheart (series)**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can “read” fictional characters to life when one of the characters abducts them and tries to force him into service.

Hahn, Mary Downing - **Closed for the Season**

When thirteen-year-old Logan and his family move into a run-down old house in rural Virginia, he discovers that a woman was murdered there and becomes involved with his neighbor Arthur in a dangerous investigation to try to uncover the killer.

Hale, Shannon - **Rapunzel’s Revenge**

After using her hair to free herself from her prison tower, this Rapunzel ignores the pompous prince and teams up with Jack (of Beanstalk fame) in an attempt to free her birth mother and an entire kingdom from an evil witch who once moonlighted as her mother. Graphic novel.

Hesse, Karen - **Music of the Dolphins**

After rescuing an adolescent girl from the sea, researchers learn she has been raised by dolphins and attempt to rehabilitate her to the human world.

Hiassen, Carl - **Flush**

With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of a floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home.

Jonell, Lynne - **Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat**

When Emmy discovers that she and her formerly loving parents are being drugged by their evil nanny with rodent potions that can change people in frightening ways, she and some new friends must try everything possible to return things to normal.

Kehret, Peg - **Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio**

The author describes her battle against polio when she was thirteen and her efforts to overcome its debilitating effects.

Key, Watt - **Alabama Moon**

After the death of his father, ten-year-old Moon leaves their forest shelter home and is sent to an Alabama institution, becoming entangled in the outside world he has never known and making good friends, a relentless enemy, and finally finding a new life.

Kinney, Jeff - **Diary of a Wimpy Kid (series)**

Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship.

L’Engle, Madeleine - **A Wrinkle in Time (series)**

Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and search for Meg’s father, who disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Lord, Cynthia - **Rules**

Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.

Nimmo, Jenny - **Midnight for Charlie Bone (series)**

Charlie Bone’s life with his widowed mother and two grandmothers undergoes a dramatic change when he discovers that he can hear people in photographs talking.

Paterson, Katherine - **Great Gilly Hopkins**

An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be nice to her.

Paulsen, Gary - **How Angel Peterson Got His Name – And Other Outrageous Tales About Extreme Sports**

Author Gary Paulsen relates tales from his youth in a small town in northern Minnesota in the late 1940’s and early 1950’s, such as skiing behind a souped-up car and imitating daredevil Evel Knievel.

Paver, Michelle - **Wolf Brother (series)**

6,000 years in the past, twelve-year-old Tarek and his guide, a wolf cub, set out on a dangerous journey to fulfill an oath the boy made to his dying father – to travel to the Mountain of the World Spirit seeking a way to destroy a demon-possessed bear that threatens all the clans.

Peck, Richard - **A Long Way From Chicago**

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Philbrick, W. R. - **The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg**

Twelve-year-old Homer, a poor but clever orphan, has extraordinary adventures after running away from his evil uncle to rescue his brother, who has been sold into service in the Civil War.