**Humor**

***Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing***by Judy Blume (**or any of her books**)
Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever increasing problem.
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***The Lemonade War*** by Jacqueline Davies
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, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars.

***Swindle*** series by Gordon Korman
After a collector cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into a heavily guarded store and steal the card back.

***I Funny***series by Robert Patterson
Jamie Grimm is a middle schooler on a mission: he wants to become the world's greatest standup comedian, even if he doesn't have a lot to laugh about these days.

***War with Grandpa*** by Robert Kimmel Smith
Upset that he has to give up the room he loves to his grandfather, Pete decides to declare war in an attempt to get it back.

***Fourth Grade Rats*** by Jerry Spinelli
Suds is not sure he wants to be like his friend, Joey, because Joey is mean, a troublemaker, but Joey is also popular and Suds does want to be popular.

***Pie*** by Sarah Weeks
Alice's Aunt Polly passes away and entrusts the recipe for her world-famous pie crust to her cat, which she leaves in Alice's care, and as everyone, including Alice, tries to discover the secret ingredients, Alice learns some important lessons about faith, love, and family.

**Fiction**

***Penderwicks on Gardam Street*** by Jeanne Birdsall
The four Penderwick sisters are faced with the unimaginable prospect of their widowed father dating, and they hatch a plot to stop him.

***Runt*** by Marion Bauer
From the very start, Runt struggles in the harsh world of the wolves and tries to learn along with his brothers and sisters but he makes serious mistakes. If only Runt could prove himself to his family and his powerful father.
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***Gaby, Lost and Found*** by Angela Cervantes
Gaby is a volunteer at the local animal shelter. A story about adoption, abandonment, immigration and deportation wrapped in a warm-hearted tale.

***Misty of Chincoteague*** by Marguerite Henry**(or any other book by Henry)**
Two youngsters' determination to own a Chincoteague pony is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among those rounded up for the yearly auction.

***Shiloh*** by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

***Hatchet*** by Gary Paulsen
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.​

***Fuzzy Mud*** by Louis Sachar
Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world.
**OR** ***Holes***
Stanley Yelnats is sent to a terrible correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

**Non Fiction**

***Writing Magic: Creating Stories that Fly*** by Gail Carson Levine
Newbery Honor author Gail Carson Levine shares her secrets of making magic with your writing.

***Favorite Norse Myths*** by Mary Pope Osborne
From the creation of the universe, to its heroic battles for order, the fourteen intriguing myths in this collection come together to tell one powerful story.

***One Day in the Tropical Rain Forest*** by Jean Craighead George
The future of the rainforest and the Macaw depends on a scientist and a young Venezuelan Indian boy, as they search for a nameless butterfly during one day in the rainforest.

***The Red Pencil*** by Andrea Davis Pinkney
After her tribal village is attacked by militants, Amira, a young Sudanese girl, must flee to safety at a refugee camp, where she finds hope and the chance to pursue an education in the form of a single red pencil and the friendship and encouragement of a wise elder.
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**Sports**

**Any sports books by Matt Christopher**

***Comeback Kid*** series by Mike Lupcia (or others by Lupica)
Series featuring young protagonists dealing with challenging situations, both in and out of the sports they play.

***Honus and Me*** by Dan Gutman
Joey, who loves baseball but is not very good at it, finds a valuable 1909 Honus Wagner card and travels back in time to meet Honus.

**Historical Fiction**

***The War That Saved My Life*** by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
A young disabled girl and her brother are evacuated from London to the English countryside during World War II, where they find life to be much sweeter away from their abusive mother.

***Misadventures of Maude March*** by Audrey Couloumbis
Eleven-year-old Sallie March is a whip-smart tomboy and voracious reader of Western adventure novels. When she and her sister Maude escape their self-serving guardians for the wilds of the frontier, they begin an adventure the likes of which Sallie has only read about.

***Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*** by Eleanor Coerr
Hospitalized with the dreaded atom bomb disease, leukemia, a child in Hiroshima races against time to fold one thousand paper cranes to verify the legend that by doing so a sick person will become healthy.

***Inside Out and Back Again***by Thanhha Lai
Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

***A Boy at War*****series**by Harry Mazer
While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

***Snow Treasure*** by Marie McSwigan
This is the story of the Norwegian children who helped their country during World War ll by sneaking the country's gold bullion passed the enemy to a place of safety, so it could be kept out of the hands of the Nazis.

**Fantasy**

***Lightning Thief* / Percy Jackson series** by Rick Riordan
Twelve-year-old Percy Jackson is on the most dangerous quest of his life. With the help of a satyr and a daughter of Athena, Percy must journey across the United States to catch a thief who has stolen the original weapon of mass destruction — Zeus’ master bolt.

***Crenshaw***by Katherine Applegate
A story about a homeless boy and his imaginary friend that proves in unexpected ways that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.

***Snow and Rose***by Emily Winfield Martin
Before their father disappeared into the woods and their mother disappeared into sorrow, Snow White and Rose Red had the perfect life. This is the story of two sisters and the enchanted woods that have been waiting for them to break a set of terrible spells.

***Pax***by Sara Pennypacker
After being forced to give up his pet fox Pax, a young boy named Peter decides to leave home and get his best friend back.

***The Fourteenth Goldfish***by Jennifer Holm
Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager--which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

***George’s Marvelous Medicine***by Roald Dahl
George decides that his grumpy, selfish old grandmother must be a witch and concocts some marvelous medicine to take care of her.

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