



Third Grade Recommended Reading List

- The Box Car Children [series] (Gertrude Chandler Warner)-Four orphaned children set out, determined to make it on their own.
- Sarah, Plain and Tall (Patricia MacLachlan)-When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. Newbery Medal.
- Skylark (Patricia MacLachlan)-When a drought tests the commitment of a mail-order bride from Maine to her new home on the prairie, her stepchildren hope they will be able to remain a family.
- Caleb's Story (Patricia MacLachlan)-This sequel to *Sarah, Plain and Tall* & *Skylark*, focuses on Caleb who finds a mysterious old man in the barn, and forces his father to deal with his past.
- More Perfect Than the Moon (Patricia MacLachlan)-Eight-year-old Cassie Witting is upset when she finds out that her mother, Sarah is expecting a baby, but writing in the journal that was her brother Caleb's helps sort out her feelings and she finally learns that Sarah will always love her.
- Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective [series] (Donald J. Sobol)-Miscellaneous mystery stories
- Little House on the Prairie [series] (Laura Ingalls Wilder)-A family travels from the big woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie, where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, build a well, and fight a prairie fire.
- Henry Huggins (Beverly Cleary)-
- Henry and Ribsy (Beverly Cleary)-Henry Huggins makes a deal with his father-if Henry can keep his dog Ribsy out of trouble for a month, he can go fishing with his father. Ribsy does his best to make Henry lose the deal.
- Ramona and Her Father (Beverly Cleary)-The family routine is upset during Ramona's year in second grade when her father unexpectedly loses his job. Newbery Medal.
- "B" is for Betsy (Carolyn Haywood)-Betsy experiences an interesting first year in school and looks forward to summer vacation at her grandfather's farm.
- Homer Price (Robert McCloskey)-Six episodes in the life of Homer Price including one in which he and his pet skunk capture four bandits and another about a donut machine on the rampage.
- The Courage of Sarah Noble (Alice Dalgliesh)-Remembering her mother's words, an eight-year-old finds courage to go alone with her father to build a new home in the Connecticut wilderness and to stay with the Indians when her father goes back to bring the rest of the family. Newbery Honor.
- A Lion to Guard Us (Clyde Robert Bulla)-Left on their own in seventeenth-century London, three impoverished children draw upon all their resources to stay together and make their way to the Virginia colony in search of their father.
- The Matchlock Gun (Walter D. Edmonds)-In 1756, during the French and Indian War in upper New York state, ten-year-old Edward is determined to protect his home and family with the ancient, and much too heavy, Spanish gun that his father had given him before leaving home to fight the enemy. Newbery Medal.
- Stone Fox (John Reynolds Gardiner)-Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather's farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters.
- How to Eat Fried Worms (Thomas Rockwell)-Two boys set out to prove that worms can make a delicious meal.
- Poppy [series] (Avi)-Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.
- Walking the Road to Freedom: A Story about Sojourner Truth (Jeri Ferris)-Traces the life of the Black woman orator who spoke out against slavery throughout New England and the Midwest.
- What Are You Figuring Now? A Story About Benjamin Banneker (Jeri Ferris)-A biography of the Afro-American farmer and self-taught mathematician, astronomer, and surveyor for the new capital city of the United States in 1791, who also calculated a successful almanac notable for its preciseness.
- The Hundred Dresses (Eleanor Estes)-In winning a medal she is no longer there to receive, a tight-lipped little Polish girl teaches her classmates a lesson.
- The Toothpaste Millionaire (Jean Merrill)-A young girl describes how her school friend made over a million dollars by creating and marketing a cheaper and better toothpaste.
- Exodus (Brian Wildsmith)-With the author's beautiful illustrations as background, he describes one of the greatest stories in the Bible: God sends Moses to lead His people out of Egypt and into the promised land of Canaan.
- Hank Aaron: Brave in Every Way (Peter Golenbock)-A boy's determination to play in the major leagues is an inspiration to us all of how strength and perseverance can make a difference.
- The Hickory Chair (Lisa Fraustino)-A blind boy tells of his warm relationship with his grandmother and the gift she left him after her death.
- Can You Hear a Rainbow? (Jamee Riggio Heelan)-A deaf child tells how he uses sign language, hearing aids, and his other senses to communicate and how his friends help him, and his attendance in public school with an interpreter.
- Noah's Ark (Jerry Pinkey)-The retelling of the great flood and how Noah and his family faithfully responded to God's call to save life on earth.
- Snuggle Mountain (Lindsay Lane)-In the morning, Emma climbs Snuggle Mountain, trying to rouse the two-headed Sleeping Giant to make pancakes for breakfast.
- Imagine a Day (Sarah L. Thompson)-A book of breathtaking paintings that encourages the reader to imagine a day when the ordinary becomes extraordinary...a day when anything is possible.

- Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburg Pirates (Jonah Winter)-Biography of Roberto Clemente, born in Puerto Rico, who became one of the most admired major league baseball players of all time.
- Edward's Eyes (Patricia MacLachlan)-When a talented young boy dies suddenly, his loving family donates his organs, and his brother learns to see him in the life of an unexpected recipient.
- A Seed is Sleepy (Dianna Hutts Aston)-Inventive personification and descriptive illustrations lead readers through the amazing, scientific transformations of seeds to flowering plants.
- Summerhouse Time (Eileen Spinelli)-Sophie's annual trip with her extended family to the beach is filled with fun traditions and exciting new experiences.
- Swift (Rober J. Blake)-A young boy must rely on his dog and his training to save himself and his father after an attack by a bear during a hunting trip.
- Charlotte's Web (E.B. White)-Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.
- Lucy's Wish (Joan L. Nixon)-It's 1866, and ten-year-old Lucy Grigg's mother has just died, leaving Lucy alone on the streets of New York City. She learns about a group that sends orphans out west to new homes, and hopefully, a new, loving family-maybe even a little sister.
- Passage to Freedom (Ken Mochizuki)-The true story of Chiune Sugihara, who during WWII, chose to disobey his government by issuing countless visas to Jewish refugees, which allowed them to escape Nazi occupied Lithuania.
- Ruthie's Gift (Kimberly Bradley)-Just before the beginning of WWI, eight-year-old Ruthie, who lives with her parents and six brothers on a farm in Indiana, wishes for a sister and tries to behave like the lady her mother wants her to be.
- Bird Boy (Elizabeth Hill)-Chang cannot talk, at least not to people. The only sounds he can make are the squawks and caws of the cormorants that his father trains for fishing. Chang loves birds, and he is thrilled when he is finally old enough to join his father on important fishing trips.
- David's Search (Joan L. Nixon)-David Howard has been living on the streets of New York City so long he can barely remember his parents. Through the Children's Aid Society, he finds a new home with the Bauer family in Missouri. But farm life is hard, especially for a city boy.
- Radio Rescue (Lynne Barasch)-After he learns Morse code, a 12 year-old sends a message through an amateur radio station that leads to the rescue of a stranded family.
- Salt in His Shoes (Deloris Jordan)-This is the heartwarming and inspirational story of Michael Jordan as a young boy.
- Born in the Breezes: The Seafaring Life of Joshua Slocum (Kathryn Lasky)-In 1895, a former sea captain attempts to be the first to sail around the world.
- A Doctor Like Papa (Natalie Kinsey-Warnock)-When an outbreak of the flu comes to Vermont in 1918, eleven-year-old Margaret aspires to be a doctor just like her papa.
- Lewis & Clark & Me (Laurie Myers)-Meriwether Lewis's dog, Seaman, describes Lewis and Clark's expedition, which he accompanied from St. Louis to the Pacific Ocean.
- Hachiko Waits (Leslea Newman)-Professor Ueno's loyal Akita, Hachiko, waits for him at the train station every afternoon, and even after the professor unexpectedly dies while at work, Hachiko faithfully continues to await his return until the day the dog dies.
- Zoo School (Laurie Hornik)-Students attending the unusual new Zoo School do not realize how much they have learned until inspectors threaten to close it down.
- Abby Takes a Stand (Patricia C. McKissack)-Gee recalls for her grandchildren what happened in 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee, when she, aged ten, passed out flyers while her cousins and other adults held sit-ins at restaurants and lunch counters to protest segregation.
- Show Way (Jacqueline Woodson)-The making of "Show ways" or quilts which once served as secret maps for freedom-seeking slaves, is a tradition passed from mother to daughter in the author's family.
- Crossing Bok Chitto (Tim Tingle)-Martha Tom, a young Choctaw girl, crosses a river called Bok Chitto, thus begins the story about seven slaves who find their freedom on the other side of the river led by a Choctaw angel.
- Owen and Mzee, The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship (Isabella Hatkoff)-The true story of two great friends-a baby hippo named Owen and a 130-year-old giant tortoise named Mzee.
- The Story of Salt (Mark Kurlansky)-With a playful mix of witty illustrations, informative sidebars, and illuminating maps, *The Story of Salt* shows both the scientific and historical ways that salt has shaped the world.
- Theodore (Frank Keating)-Frank Keating's telling of incidents in Roosevelt's rich and varied life reminds readers how one person can make a difference.