

6-8 Books

Title	Annotation [1]	Author	Genre	Sourcees	Format	Guided Reading	DRA [3]	Lexile [4]
Título	Anotación	Autor	Género	Fuentes	Formato	Lectura Guiada	DRA	Lexile
11 birthdays	Amanda and Leo were born on the same day and were friends until their tenth birthday. A misunderstanding results in the two not speaking to each other. On their eleventh birthday, they plan to celebrate separately, but suddenly they have to relive the day over and over. This contemporary work of fiction focuses on friendship and has enough drama and surprises to keep middle-school readers turning the pages.	Wendy Mass	Fiction	BookBub	PDF/Audio	V	50	650L
What's Smaller than a Pygmy Shrew	This book shows how microscopes are used to see the tiniest parts of the universe which helps readers understand that the size of any object may be viewed in relation to things both smaller and larger. The acrylic-and-ink artwork includes touches of humor and shows proportions from elephants to atoms.	Robert E. Wells	Science	BookBub	Audio	NA	NA	NA
101 Things You Don't Know About Science and No One Else Does Either	Originally titled THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE, this book is divided into eight sections covering the top ten problems in science, physical science, astronomy, cosmology, Earth and planetary sciences, biology, medicine, evolution, technology, and computers. Easy-to-read essays are indexed, stand alone, and can be read aloud to students.	James S. Trefil	Science	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA
1607: A New Look at Jamestown	Describes the new research and archaeological discoveries at Jamestown and demonstrates how existing knowledge and historians' views can change. Clearly written and well illustrated, the book shows how previous beliefs about the Jamestown settlement are erroneous. Provides an excellent account of the Native American tribes' history, relationships before and after the arrival of the colonists, and the process of colonization, including the challenges. Color photographs show interpreters in period costume photographed at Jamestown.	Karen Lange	History	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA
1621: A New Look at Thanksgiving	A well-researched book about Thanksgiving Day looks at the 1621 harvest feast from the perspectives of both the English colonists and the Wampanoag people. Photographs of Plimoth Plantation, a living history museum in Massachusetts, help the reader to visualize what life was like in 1621.	Catherine O'Neill Grace, Margaret M.	History	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA

The 1950s: Music	In the 1950s, Matthew befriends an African American boy who introduces him to a new style of music, and together they start a rock-and-roll band. They struggle against their parents' objections and eventually develop their own sound, becoming notable in the world of rock-and-roll. Illustrated with black-and-white photographs. Introduces issues of the time.	Dorothy Hoobler, Tom Hoobler	Fiction	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea	An account of a fictional journey beneath the sea. As captives of the vengeful Captain Nemo, three men find adventure as they view the ecosystems of the world's oceans. Originally published in 1870, the story includes predictions of technologies that have come to pass, and some that haven't.	Jules Verne	Fiction	Audible Stories	Audio	P	38	770L
A Maze Me: Poems for Girls	Contains 72 of Nye's poems. Younger teens will be intrigued and inspired by the poet's ability to create poetry from different sources: a car manual, a newspaper article, a taco sign, Julia Child's patting potatoes, and a vapor trail left in the sky by a pair of airplanes.	Terre Maher , Naomi Shihab Nye	Poetry	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA
Abe Lincoln Grows Up	This adaptation of ABRAHAM LINCOLN: THE PRAIRIE YEARS deals with Lincoln's early years up to age nineteen when he leaves home for New Salem, Illinois. A connection can be made to the eighth-grade history/social science curriculum.	James Henry Daugherty , Carl Sandburg	Biography/Nonfiction	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	1260L
Abel's Island	A gentleman mouse is stranded on an island. Formerly wealthy and spoiled, he is forced to become adventurous and self-reliant. This book is useful for character development studies.	William Steig	Fantasy	Open Library	PDF/Audio	T	50	920L
Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship	Russell Freedman gives a detailed account of two of this country's most famous men and the friendship they developed during a crucial period of American history. Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass were book-taught thinkers who understood the importance of the union and the abolition of slavery. Freedman uses period photographs and archival materials to tell this amazing story of a deep and abiding friendship.	Russell Freedman	Biography/Nonfiction	Open Library	PDF/Audio	NA	NA	NA
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian	Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white, farm-town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot. This realistic, bittersweet, and humorous novel highlights the challenges young native people experience as they learn to balance Indian life in a modern world.	Sherman Alexie	Realistic Fiction	BookBub	PDF/Audio	Z+	NA	600L

Bad Boy: A Memoir	This autobiography depicts the life of an African American child growing up in Harlem during the 1940s and 1950s before the Civil Rights Movement. Myers describes his life as a tough street kid who excelled in sports but secretly loved to read and write. His ability to endure hardships yet maintain his love for learning and reading is an inspiring story.	Walter Dean Myers	Non-fiction	Open Library	PDF	Y	60	970L
Carver: A Life in Poems	In a series of 59 lyrical poems, accompanied by black-and-white photographs, the life of George Washington Carver is revealed. The personal achievements and significant contributions of this scholarly botanist, inventor, educator, and artist are shared in poetry meant to be read aloud.	Marilyn Nelson	Biography/Autobiograph	Open Library	PDF	NA	NA	890L
Catherine, Called Birdy	The experiences of a young woman in England during the Middle Ages come to life through the journal writing of young Catherine, the daughter of a knight. In a highly spirited and animated manner, Catherine's fourteenth year is recorded with honesty and insight. California author.	Karen Cushman	Fiction, Historical Fictior	Open Library	PDF	X	60	NA
Diary of a Wimpy Kid	The first book in a series, this humorous work is written from a boy's point of view but can be enjoyed by both boys and girls. Author Jeff Kinney uses comical language to describe Greg Heffley's first year of middle school. Written as a diary, the book describes the relationships Greg has with his family members and friends, the hazards of middle school, and growing pains. It features comic-style illustrations and is especially recommended for struggling readers and sixth-graders.	Jeff Kinney	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	T	50	950L
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days	It's summer vacation, the weather's great, and all the kids are having fun outside. So where's Greg Heffley? Inside his house, playing video games with the shades drawn.	Jeff Kinney	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	T	50	1010L
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules	Whatever you do, don't ask Greg Heffley how he spent his summer vacation, because he definitely doesn't want to talk about it. As Wimpy Kid Greg enters the new school year, he's eager to put the past three months behind him . . . and one event in particular. Unfortunately for Greg, his older brother, Rodrick, knows all about the incident Greg wants to keep under wraps. But secrets have a way of getting out . . . especially when a diary is involved.	Jeff Kinney	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	T	50	NC910L
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever		Jeff Kinney	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	T	50	NA

Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie	Everything in thirteen-year-old Steven's world is busy and sweet. He is the drummer in a band, enjoys the company of a special girl, and is a role model for his younger brother, Jeffrey. His world is tipped upside-down when Jeffrey is diagnosed with leukemia. Steven is forced to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, his desire to support his family and most difficult of all, the medical complications caused by the illness.	Jordan Sonnenblick	Fiction	Open Library	PDF	Y	60	940L
The Giver	Jonas lives in a seemingly utopian society. He is about to experience the Ceremony of Twelve to determine his role in life. Little does he know that he will discover the secret memories of his dystopian society.	Lois Lowry	Fiction	Open Library	PDF	Y	60	760L
Esperanza Rising	This novel tells of a Mexican girl's fall from riches and her immigration to California in the 1930s. The story highlights her awareness of Mexico's post-revolution tensions, the rivalry with Oklahoma Dust Bowl victims, and struggles of Mexican workers trying to organize themselves to ask the U.S. government for better living conditions. California author and setting.	Pam Munoz Ryan	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	750L
False Prince, The	The royal family of Carthya has been poisoned, and among the various regents jockeying for the throne, Conner has the most ingeniously devious plan: to train four orphans, briefly and intensely, in all things royal, then choose one to impersonate the long-lost, presumed dead younger prince.	Jennifer A. Nielsen	Fantasy, Fiction, Mystery	Open Library	PDF	X	60	710L
Gathering Blue (The Giver #2)	Kira's world of the future is almost medieval, filled with violence, bleakness, anger and hostility. She has the unusual skill of embroidery and is given the honorable job of Threader. She enlists her friend Matt to go out into the unknown world to look for blue thread. This powerful story is bleak at times, but it also portrays hope, change, and enlightenment.	Lois Lowry	Fiction, Science Fiction	Open Library	PDF	NA	NA	NA
Harlem Stomp! A Cultural History of the Harlem Renaissance	Offers a cultural history of the Harlem Renaissance, discussing how it sparked a period of intellectual, artistic, literary, and political blossoming for many African Americans. This illustrated history combines the politics of this section of New York City in the 1920s with detailed chapters on the performers, writers, visual artists, and intellectuals of the time and place. Includes many literary excerpts, reproductions of magazine covers and art works, photographs of buildings and neighborhoods, short biographies and photographs of artists and activists, documents, a bibliography, and an index. Foreword by Nikki Giovanni.	Laban Carrick Hill	Narrative Nonfiction, Nonfiction	Open Library	PDF	Y	60	NA

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows	Harry, along with his friends Ron and Hermione, sets out on a final quest to defeat Lord Voldemort and his Death Eaters. In this final novel of the seven-book Harry Potter series, Harry faces more danger than in all of the other six books combined from the direct threat of the Death Eaters and you-know-who, to the subtle peril of losing faith in himself.	J. K. Rowling	Fantasy, Fiction	Open Library	PDF	Z	70	880L
Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire	Harry Potter's fourth year at Hogwarts will be anything but normal. Harry finds himself involved in a mysterious competition between Hogwarts and two other schools of magic. Harry wants to be a normal fourteen-year-old wizard, but he is not and he learns that being different can sometimes be deadly.	J. K. Rowling	Fantasy, Fiction	Open Library	PDF	W	60	880L
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince	Harry Potter's sixth year opens in the middle of a war between good and evil. Lord Voldemort has returned, and the Order of the Phoenix has suffered losses. With the guidance of Dumbledore, Harry discovers the complex story behind the boy who became Lord Voldemort.	J. K. Rowling	Fantasy, Fiction	Open Library	PDF	W	60	880L
Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix	Harry, now a fifth-year student at Hogwarts, struggles with a problematic and threatening teacher and dreams of his past. Along the way, he learns how strong his friends are and how fierce his enemies can be.	J. K. Rowling	Fantasy, Fiction	Open Library	PDF	W	60	950L
Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban	The third book in J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series finds Harry in his third year at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Harry must confront the dangerous wizard responsible for the death of his parents. Sirius Black, an escaped convict from the prison of Azkaban, is on the loose—and he is after Harry Potter.	J. K. Rowling	Fantasy, Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	880L
Hobbit, The	In the land of Middle Earth - inhabited by dwarves, elves, goblins, dragons, and humans - Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit, encounters many adventures when he is persuaded to join a band of dwarves on an expedition to recover a stolen treasure hidden by a thieving dragon. See other titles by this author.	J. R. R. Tolkien	Fantasy	Open Library	PDF	Z	70	1000L
Kira-Kira	A close friendship between two Japanese-American sisters growing up in rural Georgia during the late 1950s and early 1960s turns to despair when one sister becomes terminally ill. Told in the first person voice.	Cynthia Kadohata	Fiction, Historical Fiction	Open Library	PDF	T	50	740L
Light in the Attic, A	This second collection of Silverstein's irreverent verse features an entertaining cast that includes Backward Bill, Sour Face Ann, the Quick-Digesting Gink, a Gooloo bird, and the Meehoo with an Exactlywatt. The text is accompanied by humorous pen-and-ink drawings. Other Silverstein titles are WHERE THE SIDEWALK ENDS and FALLING UP.	Shel Silverstein	Humor, Poetry	Open Library	PDF	R	40	NA

Lightning Thief, The	A combination of fiction, fantasy, and mythology, this is the first book in the Percy Jackson and the Olympian's series Percy, expelled from six schools for an uncontrollable temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon. Percy is sent to Camp Half Blood, where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena. They join him in a journey to the underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. This entertaining book will appeal to students who want to learn more about Greek mythology.	Rick Riordan	Fantasy, Fiction, Mythology	Open Library	PDF	W	NA	NA
Love That Dog	Told in free verse, this story tells of a boy who comes to enjoy poetry through a wise teacher's introduction. His reluctance becomes interest, then enjoyment, and finally a passion for reading and writing poetry. Through poetry he is finally able to communicate his feelings and thoughts.	Sharon Creech	Fiction in Verse	Open Library	PDF	T	50	1010L
Maniac Magee	Maniac is an "on-his-own" kid searching for a place that he can call home. When he sees no difference between the people of the East Side and the West Side, others begin to realize that Jeffrey "Maniac" Magee is truly the "stuff" from which legends are made.	Jerry Spinelli	Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	W	60	820L
Miracle Worker, The	Considered an American classic, this play chronicles the struggle between Helen Keller, a visually impaired student, and her teacher, Annie Sullivan, as Annie attempts to help Helen learn to communicate. Students in both middle school and high school enjoy reading this play aloud and discussing its powerful themes.	William Gibson	Drama	Open Library	PDF	X	60	NA
Little Women	Four poor sisters in New England experience the Civil War at home. The social customs, the economics, and health problems faced by people in that era are presented in realistic detail. The author shared many of her experiences in this novel.	Louisa May Alcott	Historical Fiction	Open Library	PDF	NA	NA	NA
Number the Stars	In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be courageous when she helps to shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis. Readers will feel the tension and danger as the Danes help their Jewish friends escape to safety.	Lois Lowry	Historical Fiction	Open Library	PDF	U	50	670L
Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution	Ji-Li Jiang is a highly-ranked student, exceptional athlete, and avid follower of Chairman Mao's new China until her family's bourgeois background brings persecution and wrecks her educational opportunities and dreams of a successful career. This well-written memoir provides a detailed look at everyday life in 1960s Shanghai and presents a dilemma for readers to ponder. California author.	Ji-Li Jiang	Biography/Autobiography, Nonfiction	Open Library	PDF	Z	70	780L

Silent to the Bone	Branwell's baby sister, Nikki, has been abused and is in a coma. The babysitter accuses Branwell. He's jailed, and the trauma causes him to become mute, unable to defend himself. Branwell's best friend, Connor, devises a system of flash cards and blinking, and the communication begins. The themes of friendship, family, loyalty, and trust, combined with the who-done-it mystery, serve to fascinate young readers.	E. L. Konigsburg	Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	810L
Soldier's Heart	This fictional memoir presents the horrors of the Civil War experienced by a fifteen-year-old soldier. Through Charley Goddard's reflections, readers see the futility of war and the lasting impact it has on those who fight and those who wait at home. This selection may be used in conjunction with THE RED BADGE OF COURAGE.	Gary Paulsen	Fiction, Historical Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	1000L
Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963: A Novel, The	This story follows the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, as they travel south to visit their grandmother in Alabama. There they are confronted with the 1963 bombing of black churches. The book combines humorous characterization with important history. This selection is useful for fifth- and eighth-grade history studies.	Christopher Paul Curtis	Fiction, Historical Fiction, Humor	Open Library	PDF	U	50	920L
Where the Sidewalk Ends: The Poems and Drawings of Shel Silverstein	In the first collection of Silverstein's irreverent verse and unconventional drawings, readers are entertained by the likes of "Sarah Cynthia Sylvia Stout who will not take the garbage out," a boy who turns into a TV, a girl who eats a whale, and a place where shoes fly. This collection of 130 funny, touching, naughty, and disgusting poems was followed by A LIGHT IN THE ATTIC and FALLING UP.	Shel Silverstein	Humor, Poetry	Open Library	PDF	Q	40	NA
Wonder	Auggie Pullman was born with a combination of genetic disorders that caused extreme disfigurement of his facial features. Homeschooled until he was ten, Auggie spent the first year of regular school in a fifth-grade classroom. This narrative is told in shifting first-person accounts that provide insights, from a variety of perspectives, into Auggie's struggle to be accepted for who he is.	R. J. Palacio	Fiction, Realistic Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	790L
Wrinkle in Time, A	Meg and Charles Wallace and Calvin O'Keefe search for Meg's father, a scientist who disappeared while trying to solve the tesseract (wrinkle in time) problem. The story combines theology, fantasy, and science in a story of time and space travel and the power of good over evil. The value of a close, loving family is emphasized. Other books in the series are SWIFTLY TILTING PLANET and WIND IN THE DOOR.	Madeleine L'Engle	Science Fiction	Open Library	PDF	W	60	740L

Holes	Young Stanley Yelnats is sent to a correctional boot camp for a crime he did not commit. Through a series of flashbacks and subplots, the reader solves the puzzle of Camp Green Lake. One of these flashbacks reveals a racially motivated murder. This young adult novel is very useful for studying prediction, foreshadowing, and plot structure.	Louis Sachar	Fiction	Open Library	PDF	V	50	660L
Tuck Everlasting	The Tuck family have become ageless by drinking from a magic spring. When ten-year-old Winnie Foster and a greedy evil stranger discover their secret, the Tucks are determined to prevent a disaster. This selection is excellent for use in literature circles and theme study.	Natalie Babbitt	Fantasy	Open Library	PDF	W		770L
Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, The	The adventurous journey of four English children is traced as they discover the magical land of Narnia behind an old wardrobe. They join the good and powerful lion, Aslan, in a battle against the reign of the evil witch and restore peace. The novel is engaging and imaginative. Further adventures in Narnia may be found in the other six books of The Chronicles of Narnia series.	C. S. Lewis	Fantasy	Open Library	PDF	T	50	940L
Bud, Not Buddy	Ten-year-old Bud - "not Buddy" - Caldwell is an orphan on the run during the Great Depression. He escapes from an abusive foster home to find the man he believes to be his father. One dilemma after another uncovers a tough character who perseveres and triumphs in his quest. See also THE WATSON'S GO TO BIRMINGHAM-1963.	Christopher Paul Curtis	Historical Fiction, Humor	Open Library	PDF	U	50	950L

[1] Insert annotation from California Department of Education

[2] Found on Scholastic website

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[4] From Scholastic website