

## UPPER ELEMENTARY LEVEL BOOK LIST

*Please keep this list as long as your child is in the Upper Elementary.*

This list is composed of many well-known classics recommended for 9- to 12-year-olds. At this age, it is more important than ever that children read books of high quality with complex themes, admirable characters, meaningful dialogue, and challenging vocabulary.

Since this list encompasses choices for students up through age 12, some books begin to deal with issues (such as war) which might be frightening to certain children. For this reason, parents should ensure that the content is appropriate for each individual child.

Our children read every day at school during a “silent reading” period and the teacher reads to the class as a whole every day as well. Equally important, children are **expected to read for an hour at home each day, with an additional fifteen to thirty minutes reading time when a parent reads aloud to them.**

The books on this list are just suggestions, and students are welcome to read other books for their school and home reading times, as long as those books are of similar literary quality (i.e., **classics or “modern classics”**). Children this age still need a great deal of help in choosing **books that will contribute to their literary education**, and we ask parents to be involved in the selection process.

Every related study shows remarkable benefits for students growing up in homes with great emphasis on reading good literature. Among the benefits demonstrated by research are preparation for testing and performance in writing ability, language expression, vocabulary, spelling and comprehension. **Please help our students choose the best quality books for their reading, and insist that they establish a daily reading and study habit at home.**

TITLE	AUTHOR
Arabian Nights	
Watership Down	Adams, Richard
Aesop’s Fables	Aesop
Little Women (and sequels)	Alcott, Louisa May
Souder	Armstrong, William H.
Fantastic Voyage	Asimov, Isaac
The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi
The Search for Delicious	Babbitt, Natalie
Tuck Everlasting	Babbitt, Natalie
Jonathan Livingston Seagull	Bach, Richard
The Indian in the Cupboard	Banks, Lynne Reid
The Girl Who Drank the Moon	Barnhill, Kelly

TITLE	AUTHOR
Peter Pan	Barrie, J.M.
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (series)	Baum, L. Frank
Stories and Poems for Extremely Intelligent Children of All Ages (collection)	Bloom, Harold, ed.
A Gathering of Days	Blos, Joan W.
I, Juan de Pareja	Borton de Trevino, Elizabeth
Dandelion Wine	Bradbury, Ray
Something Wicked This Way Comes	Bradbury, Ray
The War That Saved My Life	Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker
The Wish Giver	Brittain, Bill
Caddy Woodlawn	Brynk, Carol R.
Little Lord Fauntleroy	Burnett, Frances Hodgson
A Little Princess	Burnett, Frances Hodgson
The Secret Garden	Burnett, Frances Hodgson
The Incredible Journey	Burnford, Sheila
The Midnight Fox	Byars, Betsy
The Summer of the Swans	Byars, Betsy
The Wonderful Flight to the Mushroom Planet	Cameron, Eleanor
Alice in Wonderland	Carroll, Lewis
The Hunting of the Snark (a book-length poem)	Carroll, Lewis
Secret of the Andes	Clark, Ann Nolan
Dear Mr. Henshaw	Cleary, Beverly
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes	Coerr, Eleanor
Thank You, Jackie Robinson	Cohen, Barbara
My Brother Sam is Dead	Collier, Christopher & James L.
Pinocchio	Collodi, Carlo
The Dark is Rising (series)	Cooper, Susan
Walk Two Moons	Creech, Sharon
Bud, Not Buddy	Curtis, Christopher Paul
Elijah of Buxton	Curtis, Christopher Paul
The Watsons Go to Birmingham	Curtis, Christopher Paul
The Midwife's Apprentice	Cushman, Karen

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>
Danny, Champion of the World	Dahl, Roald
Matilda	Dahl, Roald
The Witches	Dahl, Roald
The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More	Dahl, Roald
The Courage of Sarah Noble	Dalgliesh, Alice
D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths	D'Aulaire, Edgar and Ingri
D'Aulaires' Book of Norse Myths	D'Aulaire, Edgar and Ingri
The Little Prince	De Saint-Exupery, Antoine
The Door in the Wall	DeAngeli, Marguerite
The Wheel on the School	DeJong, Miendert
The Tale of Despereaux	DiCamillo, Kate
A Christmas Carol	Dickens, Charles
Great Expectations*	Dickens, Charles
Oliver Twist*	Dickens, Charles
Hans Brinker, or The Silver Skates	Dodge, Mary Mapes
Hound of the Baskervilles*	Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan
Incident at Hawk's Hill	Eckert, Allan W.
The Number Devil	Enzensberger, Hans Magnus
American Indian Myths and Legends	Erdoes, Richard & Ortiz, Alfonso
The Birchbark House	Erdrich, Louise
The Adventures of Ulysses	Evslin, Bernard
The Trojan War	Evslin, Bernard
The Black Stallion (series)	Farley, Walter
A Girl Named Disaster	Farmer, Nancy
Understood Betsy	Fisher, Dorothy Canfield
The Great Brain (series)	Fitzgerald, John D.
The Whipping Boy	Fleischman, Sid
Johnny Tremain	Forbes, Esther
The Slave Dancer	Fox, Paula
Julie of the Wolves	George, Jean Craighead
My Side of the Mountain (series)	George, Jean Craighead

TITLE	AUTHOR
Cheaper by the Dozen	Gilpreth, Frank B.
Old Yeller	Gipson, Fred
The Princess Bride	Goldman, William
The Reluctant Dragon	Grahame, Kenneth
The Wind in the Willows	Grahame, Kenneth
The Adventures of Robin Hood	Green, Roger Lancelyn
King Solomon's Mines	Haggard, H. Rider
The Dark Frigate	Hawes, Charles B.
King of the Wind: The Story of the Godolphin Arabian	Henry, Marguerite
Misty of Chincoteague (series)	Henry, Marguerite
All Creatures Great and Small	Herriot, James
Out of the Dust	Hesse, Karen
Stowaway	Hesse, Karen
The Nutcracker and the Mouse King	Hoffman, E.T.A.
North to Freedom	Holm, Anne
Everything on a Waffle	Horvath, Polly
The Trolls	Horvath, Polly
The Iron Giant: A Story in Five Nights	Hughes, Ted
The Parker Inheritance	Johnson, Varian
The Phantom Tollbooth	Juster, Norton
The Trumpeter of Krakow	Kelly, Eric
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate	Kelly, Jacqueline
Children of the Lamp	Kerr, P.B.
Rifles for Watie	Keith, Harold
The Jungle Book	Kipling, Rudyard
Just-So Stories	Kipling, Rudyard
Kim	Kipling, Rudyard
Puck of Pook's Hill	Kipling, Rudyard
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	Konigsberg, E.L.
The View from Saturday	Konigsberg, E.L.
Onion John	Krumgold, Joseph

<b>TITLE</b>	<b>AUTHOR</b>
A Wrinkle in Time (series)	L'Engle, Madeleine
Tales from Shakespeare	Lamb, Charles and Mary
The Fledgling	Langton, Jane
Carry on, Mr. Bowditch	Latham, Jean Lee
Ben and Me	Lawson, Robert
The Tales of Uncle Remus	Lester, Julius [retold by]
Ella Enchanted	Levine, Gail Carson
The Chronicles of Narnia (series)	Lewis, C.S.
Pippi Longstocking (series)	Lindgren, Astrid
Dr. Dolittle (series)	Lofting, Hugh
The Call of the Wild	London, Jack
White Fang	London, Jack
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson	Lord, Bette Bao
Anastasia (series)	Lowry, Lois
The Giver (and sequels)	Lowry, Lois
Number the Stars	Lowry, Lois
The Golden Key and Other Stories	MacDonald, George
The Princess and the Goblin	MacDonald, George
The Hundred Penny Box	Mathis, Sharon Bell
Homer Price (series)	McCloskey, Robert
Merci Suárez Changes Gears	Medina, Meg
The Pushcart War	Merrill, Jean
Anne of Green Gables (series)	Montgomery, Lucy Maud
Gentle Ben	Morey, Walt
Lewis and Clark and Me: A Dog's Tale	Myers, Laurie
Shiloh (series)	Naylor, Phyllis R.
Five Children and It	Nesbit, Edith
The Phoenix and the Carpet	Nesbit, Edith
Rascal	North, Sterling
The Borrowers (series)	Norton, Mary
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH	O'Brian, Robert C.

TITLE	AUTHOR
Island of the Blue Dolphins	O'Dell, Scott
My Friend Flicka	O'Hara, Mary
Wonder	Palacio, R.J.
A Long Walk to Water	Park, Linda Sue
A Single Shard	Park, Linda Sue
A Bridge to Terabithia	Paterson, Katherine
Hatchet	Paulsen, Gary
A Long Way from Chicago	Peck, Richard
A Year Down Yonder	Peck, Richard
King Arthur and the Legends of Camelot	Perham, Molly
Pollyanna	Porter, Eleanor H.
The Golden Compass (series)	Pullman, Philip
The Westing Game	Raskin, Ellen
The Mysterious Disappearance of Leon (I Mean Noel)	Raskin, Ellen
The Yearling	Rawlings, Marjorie
Where the Red Fern Grows	Rawls, Wilson
Gods, Heroes and Men of Ancient Greece	Rouse, W.H.D.
Haroun and the Sea of Stories	Rushdie, Salman
Echo	Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Esperanza Rising	Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Holes	Sachar, Louis
Sideways Stories from Wayside School (series)	Sachar, Louis
Bambi: A Life in the Woods	Salten, Felix
A Cricket in Times Square	Selden, George
Black Beauty	Sewell, Anna
Lafcadio, the Lion Who Shot Back	Silverstein, Shel
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn	Smith, Betty
The Egypt Game	Snyder, Zilpha
Encyclopedia Brown (series)	Sobol, Donald J.
Miracles on Maple Hill	Sorensen, Virginia
The Sign of the Beaver	Speare, Elizabeth G.

TITLE	AUTHOR
The Witch of Blackbird Pond	Speare, Elizabeth G.
Call It Courage	Sperry, Armstrong
Maniac Magee	Spinelli, Jerry
Heidi	Spyri, Johanna
Treasure Island	Stevenson, Robert L.
Kidnapped	Stevenson, Robert L.
Ballet Shoes (series)	Streatfield, Noel
Black Ships Before Troy	Sutcliff, Rosemary
The Wanderings of Odysseus	Sutcliff, Rosemary
Penrod	Tarkington, Booth
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Taylor, Mildred
The Cay	Taylor, Theodore
The Hobbit	Tolkien, J.R.R.
The Lord of the Rings [series]	Tolkien, J.R.R.
Mary Poppins [series]	Travers, P.L.
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*	Twain, Mark
A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*	Twain, Mark
The Prince and the Pauper*	Twain, Mark
Banner in the Sky	Ullman, James R.
A Journey to the Center of the Earth*	Verne, Jules
Around the World in 80 Days	Verne, Jules
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*	Verne, Jules
Homecoming (and sequels)	Voigt, Cynthia
Peppermints in the Parlor	Wallace, Barbara Brooks
The Little Grey Men	Watkins-Pitchford, Denys (B.B.)
Daddy-Long-Legs	Webster, Jean
The War of the Worlds*	Wells, H.G.
The Time Machine*	Wells, H.G.
Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm	Wiggin, Kate Douglas
Fairy Tales	Wilde, Oscar
The Little House Books [series]	Wilder, Laura Ingalls

TITLE	AUTHOR
Brown Girl Dreaming	Woodson, Jacqueline
Amos Fortune, Free Man	Yates, Elizabeth
The Devil's Arithmetic	Yolen, Jane
Favorite Folktales from Around the World	Yolen, Jane
<b>NON-FICTION</b>	
E=mc <sup>2</sup> : A Biography of the World's Most Famous Equation*	Bodanis, David
Beyond the Myth: The Story of Joan of Arc	Brooks, Polly
Brother Eagle, Sister Sky	Chief Seattle
Boy	Dahl, Roald
Pocahontas	D'Aulaire, Edgar
Lincoln: A Photobiography	Freedman, Russell
The Story of My Life	Keller, Helen
Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jamison	Lenski, Lois
A Night to Remember (Titanic)	Lord, Walter
Looking Back: A Book of Memories	Lowry, Lois
Euclid's Window: The Story of Geometry from Parallel Lines to Hyperspace*	Mlodinow, Leonard
An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793	Murphy, Jim
Florence Nightingale	Nolan, Jeannette Covert
Harriett Tubman: Conductor of the Underground Railway	Petry, Ann
Leonardo DaVinci	Stanley, Diane
Michelangelo	Stanley, Diane
Good Queen Bess	Stanley, Diane
The Story of Mankind	van Loon, Hendrik
Childhood of Famous American series (Jesse Owens; Coretta Scott King; Crazy Horse; Geronimo)	various authors
Creative Minds Biographies series (Statesman to the World; A Hunger for Learning; Demanding Justice)	various authors
National Geographic Magazine (check for content first)	
I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World	Yousafzai, Malala

\* = Very challenging books (most originally written for adults) that older children might attempt with some guidance; these might also make excellent read-aloud books.



The following books are out of print (OP), so if you'd like to find them, check your local library.

TITLE	AUTHOR
<b>FICTION</b>	
Born Free: A Lioness of Two Worlds (OP)	Adamson, Joy
The King's Shadow (OP)	Alder, Elizabeth
The Book of Three (and sequels) (OP)	Alexander, Lloyd
Waterless Mountain (OP)	Armer, Laura Adams
Behind the Attic Wall (OP)	Cassidy, Sylvia
Hurry Home, Candy (OP)	DeJong, Miendert
The Twenty-One Balloons (OP)	duBois, William P.
The Christmas Mystery (OP)	Gaarder, Jostein
The Solitaire Mystery (OP)	Gaarder, Jostein
My Grandmother's Stories: A Collection of Jewish Folktales (OP)	Geras, Adele
The Oxford Book of Story Poems (OP)	Harrison and Stuart-Clark, eds.
Paddle to the Sea (OP)	Holling, Holling C.
The One Hundredth Thing About Caroline (OP)	Lowry, Lois
The Case of the Baker Street Irregular (OP)	Newman, Robert
The Man from the Other Side (OP)	Orlev, Uri
The Sign of the Chrysanthemum (OP)	Paterson, Katherine
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (OP)	Robinson, Barbara
Five Little Peppers and How they Grew (series) (OP)	Sidney, Margaret
Moon Over Manifest (OP)	Vanderpool, Clare
<b>NON-FICTION</b>	
I'm Nobody! Who Are You? (biography of Emily Dickinson) (OP)	Barth, Edna
Going Solo (OP)	Dahl, Roald
The Story of Clara Barton (OP)	Nolan, Jeannette
Peter the Great (OP)	Stanley, Diane