

Grade 6 Suggested FICTION Titles

90 Miles to Havana by Enrique Flores-Galbis (Lexile: 790)

When unrest hits the streets of Havana, Cuba, Julian's parents must make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation. The boys are thrust into a world where bullies seem to run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves.

A Crooked Kind of Perfect by Linda Urban (Lexile: 730)

Ten-year-old Zoe Elias, who longs to play the piano but must resign herself to learning the organ, finds that her musicianship has a positive impact on her workaholic mother, her jittery father, and her school social life.

A Wrinkle in Time: The Graphic Novel by Madeleine L'Engle (adapted by Hope Larson) (Lexile: 740)

A graphic novel adaptation of the classic tale in which Meg Murry and her friends become involved with unearthly strangers and a search for Meg's father, who has disappeared while engaged in secret work for the government.

Amulet: The Stonekeeper by Kazu Kibuishi

After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother into a strange house proves to be dangerous. When a sinister creature lures their mom through a door in the basement, Em and Navin, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals.

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan (Lexile: 750)

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

Football Genius by Tim Green (Lexile: 800)

Troy, a sixth-grader with an unusual gift for predicting football plays before they occur, attempts to use his ability to help his favorite team, the Atlanta Falcons, but he must first prove himself to the coach and players.

Hold Fast by Blue Balliett (Lexile 780)

On a cold winter day in Chicago, Early's father disappeared, and now she, her mother and her brother have been forced to flee their apartment and join the ranks of the homeless - and it is up to Early to hold her family together and solve the mystery surrounding her father.

Lawn Boy by Gary Paulsen (Lexile: 780)

Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.

Princess Academy by Shannon Hale (Lexile: 890)

While attending a strict academy for potential princesses with the other girls from her mountain village, fourteen-year-old Miri discovers unexpected talents and connections to her homeland.

Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time by Lisa Yee (Lexile 650)

After flunking sixth-grade English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer-school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends, and satisfy his academically demanding father.

Strike Three, You're Dead by Josh Berk (Lexile: 590)

Lenny Norbeck and his friends The Mikes set out to investigate the suspicious death of a young pitcher at a Phillies game

Will in Scarlet by Matthew Cody (Lexile: 840)

In the late 1100s, thirteen-year-old Will, the future Lord of Shackley, is exiled to Sherwood Forest, where he meets Robin Hood and the Merry Men and bands with them to try retake Shackley Castle.

Grade 7 and 8 Suggested FICTION Titles

A Medal for Leroy by Lee Berger and Marc Aronson (Lexile: 860)

In World War II-era England, Michael learns about his black British Army soldier grandfather, a World War I officer who risked his life to save wounded men but who did not receive special commendations because of his race.

Cinder by Marissa Meyer (Lexile: 790)

As plague ravages the overcrowded Earth, observed by a ruthless lunar people, Cinder, a gifted mechanic and cyborg, becomes involved with handsome Prince Kai and must uncover secrets about her past in order to protect the world in this futuristic take on the Cinderella story.

Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan (Lexile: 770)

Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident.

Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip by Jordan Sonnenblick (Lexile: 800)

After an injury ends former star pitcher Peter Friedman's athletic dreams, he concentrates on photography which leads him to a girlfriend, new fame as a high school sports photographer, and a deeper relationship with the beloved grandfather who, when he realizes he's becoming senile, gives Pete all of his professional camera gear.

Dead End in Norvelt by Jack Gantos (Lexile: 920)

In the historic town of Norvelt, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Jack Gantos spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore involving the newly dead, molten wax, twisted promises, Girl Scout cookies, underage driving, lessons from history, typewriting, and countless bloody noses.

Drums, Girls & Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick (Lexile: 940)

When his younger brother is diagnosed with leukemia, thirteen-year-old Steven tries to deal with his complicated emotions, his school life, and his desire to support his family.

Jake and Lily by Jerry Spinelli (Lexile: 480)

Jake and Lily are twins and have always felt the same--like two halves of one person--but the year they turn eleven and Jake begins hanging out with Bump Stubbins, everything changes.

Legend by Marie Lu (Lexile: 710)

In a dark future, when North America has split into two warring nations, fifteen-year-olds Day, a famous criminal, and prodigy June, the brilliant soldier hired to capture him, discover that they have a common enemy.

Revolution by Deborah Wiles (Lexile: 840)

It's 1964 in Greenwood, Mississippi, and Sunny's town is being invaded by people from up north who are coming to help people register to vote. Her personal life isn't much better, as a new stepmother, brother, and sister are crowding into her life, giving her little room to breathe.

West of the Moon by Margi Preus (Lexile: 810)

In nineteenth-century Norway, fourteen-year-old Astri, whose aunt has sold her to a mean goatherder, dreams of joining her father in America.

Wonder by R.J. Palacio (Lexile: 790)

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.