

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Grade 5

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Alvarez, Lorena. ***Nightlights***. Nobrow, 2017. Each night Sandy creates beautiful creatures with the tiny lights that appear in her room and draws them the next day. Will the mysterious new girl who notices her art turn it into something sinister?
- Appelt, Kathi. ***The True Blue Scouts of Sugar Man Swamp***. Atheneum, 2013. Twelve-year-old Chap Brayburn, ancient Sugar Man, and his raccoon-brother Swamp Scouts Bingo and J'miah, try to save Bayou Tourterelle from feral pigs Clydine and Buzzie, greedy Sunny Boy Beaucoup, and world-class alligator wrestler and would-be land developer Jaeger Stitch in this hilarious tall tale from a Texas swamp.
- Applegate, Katherine. ***Wishtree***. Feiwel and Friends, 2017. Red, the neighborhood "wishtree," and her crow friend, Bongo, comfort an immigrant family who is threatened by others.
- Auxier, Jonathan. ***Sophie Quire and the Last Storyguard: A Peter Nimble Adventure***. Amulet Books, 2016. Twelve-year-old Sophie knows little beyond the four walls of her father's bookshop, where she repairs old books and dreams of escaping the confines of her dull life, when she finds herself pulled into an adventure beyond anything she has ever read. *Series*
- Behar, Ruth. ***Lucky Broken Girl***. Nancy Paulsen, 2017. It's 1960 and Ruthie, a recent Cuban immigrant, is finally showing confidence in her English and hopscotch abilities when a horrific car accident shrinks her world, causing her to rely on her inner strength, the love of family and neighbors, and a new love of art.
- Bell, Cece. ***El Deafo***. Amulet Books, 2014. This empowering graphic novel memoir of the author/illustrator's childhood struggle with being accepted and finding friends with her severe deafness received a 2015 Newbery Honor.
- Brown, Peter. ***The Wild Robot***. Little, Brown, 2016. Roz the robot discovers that she is alone on a remote wild island with no memory of where she is from or why she is there, and her only hope of survival is to try and learn about her new environment from the island's hostile inhabitants.
- Chin, Jason. ***Grand Canyon***. Roaring Brook, 2017. A father and daughter learn the Grand Canyon is more than a hole in the ground when they explore the variety of plants and animal that live in the mile-deep canyon.
- Creech, Sharon. ***Moo***. Joanna Cotler, 2016. Twelve-year-old Reena, who has recently moved to rural Maine, adjusts to a new environment and unexpectedly bonds with an ornery cow.
- Cushman, Karen. ***Grayling's Song***. Clarion, 2016. In a medieval kingdom, Grayling finds self-confidence when her mother is turned into a tree by evil forces, and Grayling must venture into the wilds to reverse the spell.

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- Draper, Sharon. ***Stella by Starlight***. Atheneum, 2015. When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.
- Flanagan, John. ***The Royal Ranger***. Philomel, 2013. Will Treaty is a shell of his former self, and his first apprentice may be the only one who can save him. *Series*
- Gantos, Jack. ***Writing Radar: Using Your Journal to Snoop Out and Craft Great Stories***. Farrar Straus Giroux, 2017. A fun guide to writing using stories from everyday experiences.
- Gemeinhart, Dan. ***Some Kind of Courage***. Scholastic, 2016. Fun, touching, adventurous story of an orphan boy's search for his beloved horse, sold without his knowledge.
- Graff, Lisa. ***Absolutely Almost***. Philomel, 2014. Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, tallest, best at gym, greatest artist, or most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him, but his new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself.
- Holm, Jennifer L. ***Full of Beans***. Random House, 2016. Ten-year-old Beans Curry, a member of the best marble playing gang in Depression-era Key West, engages in various schemes to earn money while "New Dealers" from Washington, D.C., arrive to turn his town into a tourist resort.
- Jamieson, Victoria. ***Roller Girl***. Dial Books, 2015. Twelve-year-old Astrid decides she wants to try something new this summer and signs-up for a Roller Derby camp, but her long-time best friend Nicole makes a different choice. How will this summer change Astrid and her friendship with Nicole?
- Janeczko, Paul B. compiler. ***The Death of the Hat: A Brief History of Poetry in 50 Objects***. Candlewick, 2015. A celebrated duo reunites for a look through history inspired by objects--earthly and celestial--reflecting the time in which the poet lived.
- Johnson, Varian. ***The Great Greene Heist***. Arthur A. Levine, 2014. Jackson Greene has a reputation as a prankster at Maplewood Middle School, but after the last disaster he is trying to go straight. But when it looks like Keith Sinclair may steal the election for school president from Jackson's former best friend Gabriela, he assembles a team to make sure Keith does not succeed.
- Khan, Hena. ***Amina's Voice***. Salaam Reads, 2017. A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community.
- Lloyd, Natalie. ***A Snicker of Magic***. Scholastic, 2014. The Pickles are new to Midnight Gulch, Tennessee, a town which legend says was once magic – but Felicity is convinced the magic is still there, and with the help of her new friend Jonah the Beedle, she hopes to bring the magic back.

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- Lord, Cynthia. ***Half a Chance***. Scholastic, 2014. When twelve-year-old Lucy enters a photography contest, she must decide if the picture that she wants to use showing her friend Nate's grandmother's face and the telltale signs of early dementia is worth the truth it portrays.
- Markle, Sandra. ***The Case of the Vanishing Honeybees: A Scientific Mystery***. Millbrook, 2013. Large numbers of honeybees are disappearing every year...and no one knows why. In this real-life science mystery, scientists and bee-keepers are working to answer these questions and save the world's honeybees before it's too late.
- Marshall, Joseph. ***In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse***. Amulet Books, 2015. Jimmy McClean is a part white and part Native American boy who embarks on a journey with his grandfather to learn more about his Lakota heritage while visiting places significant in the life of Crazy Horse, the 19th century Lakota leader and warrior.
- Messner, Kate. ***All the Answers***. Bloomsbury, 2015. Twelve-year-old Ava finds an old pencil in her family's junk drawer and discovers during a math test that it will answer factual questions, so she and her best friend, Sophie, enjoy testing the pencil's abilities and Ava grows in self-confidence until the pencil reveals a truth about her family that Ava would rather not know.
- Montgomery, Sy. ***Amazon Adventure: How Tiny Fish Are Saving the World's Largest Rainforest***. Houghton Mifflin, 2017. Scientific tale of how small fish and humans coexist to create a healthy and thriving ecology in the rainforest.
- Mull, Brandon. ***Sky Raiders***. Aladdin, 2014. Whisked through a portal to The Outskirts, an in-between world, sixth-grader Cole must rescue his friends and find his way back home before his existence is forgotten. *Series*
- Newman, Patricia. ***Plastic, Ahoy!: Investigating the Great Pacific Garbage Patch***. Millbrook, 2014. Informative book about how our overuse of plastics is affecting ocean life and has created the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Lots of photographs help tell the story of three female scientists doing research onboard a ship in the middle of the patch.
- O'Connor, George. ***Hera, the Goddess and Her Glory***. First Second, 2011. Recounts the stories of the many heroes who sought and won the approval and patronage of Hera, the Queen of the Gods, including the story of Heracles. *Series*
- Oppel, Kenneth. ***The Boundless***. Simon & Schuster, 2014. In 1885 Will uses his wits and courage to face dangerous men and mythical creatures on his ride across the Canadian frontier on The Boundless, the greatest train ever built.
- Palacio, R.J. ***Wonder***. Alfred A. Knopf, 2012. Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, born with extreme facial abnormalities, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, where he endures the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.
- Pennypacker, Sara. ***Pax***. Blazer + Bray, 2016. 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.

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- Philbrick, Rodman. ***Zane and the Hurricane: A Story of Katrina***. Blue Sky Press, 2014. On a visit to New Orleans to visit his great-grandmother for the first time, Zane Dupree and his dog Bandy are caught in Hurricane Katrina. After weathering the storm, they meet an old musician and a tenacious girl, and together they face many challenges to survive in the aftermath while searching for his grandmother.
- Riordan, Rick. ***The Lost Hero***. Disney-Hyperion, 2010. Jason, Piper, and Leo, three students from a school for "bad kids," find themselves at Camp Half-Blood, where they learn that they are demigods and begin a quest to free Hera, who has been imprisoned by Mother Earth herself. *Series*
- Ross, Stewart. ***Into the Unknown: How Great Explorers Found Their Way by Land, Sea, and Air***. Candlewick, 2011. Fourteen amazing journeys by explorers throughout history and the methods they used by land, sea, and sky to find their way. Includes unfolding cross-sections of vessels.
- Rusch, Elizabeth. ***Eruption: Volcanoes and the Science of Saving Lives***. Houghton Mifflin, 2013. An account of the work of volcanologists Andy Lockhart, John Pallister, and their team describes their life-risking efforts to investigate dangerous volcanoes that pose threats to more than one billion people worldwide.
- Scattergood, Augusta. ***The Way to Stay in Destiny***. Scholastic, 2015. Sixth-grader Theo moves to Destiny, Florida, to live with his Uncle Charlie, an isolated Vietnam War veteran. Theo meets Anabel, a baseball fanatic, and the two work together to solve a mystery.
- Scott, Elaine. ***Our Moon: New Discoveries About Earth's Closest Companion***. Clarion, 2016. Highlighting the latest thrilling discoveries about the moon, this comprehensive book for kids covers the moon's history, scientific findings, and fun facts, interspersed with informative color photos.
- Selfors, Suzanne. ***The Sasquatch Escape***. Little, Brown, 2013. Spending the summer in his grandfather's rundown town, ten-year-old Ben meets an adventurous local girl and together they learn that the town's veterinarian runs a secret hospital for imaginary creatures. *Series*
- Selznick, Brian. ***Wonderstruck: A Novel in Words and Pictures***. Scholastic, 2011. Rose and Ben are deaf children living fifty years and worlds apart, yet both marvel and connect with the world around them. The American Museum of Natural History links their separate stories – one narrated in text and the other through cinematic illustrations.
- Silvey, Anita. ***Untamed: The Wild Life of Jane Goodall***. National Geographic, 2015. This biography of Jane Goodall highlights her work with chimpanzees and her fight for the protection of the environment so her beloved chimpanzees and other animals can not only survive, but thrive.
- Sovern, Megan Jean. ***The Meaning of Maggie***. Chronicle Books, 2014. Eleven-year-old Maggie Mayfield is an A-plus student with big plans for herself, but at this moment she is facing a lot of problems such as starting middle school and figuring out how to help her father who is out of work and in a wheelchair.

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- Stead, Rebecca. ***When You Reach Me***. Wendy Lamb, 2009. As her mother prepares to be a contestant on the 1980s television game show “The \$20,000 Pyramid,” a twelve-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seem to defy laws of time and space. *Newbery Medal 2010*
- Stewart, Trenton Lee. ***The Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict***. Little, Brown, 2012. Nine-year-old Nicholas Benedict is moved to one more orphanage: this one filled with nasty bullies who target him, a suspicious orphanage director, and a mystery about lost treasure. Using his superior intellect and fierce determination, Nicholas strives to solve the mystery and makes a couple of fast friends in the process. *Series*
- Telgemeier, Raina. ***Sisters***. Graphix, 2014. Raina wants a baby sister until she has one who tends to be cranky and difficult. When it appears that their parents are having issues, the girls must figure out how to get along. This humorous look at relationships between siblings will resonate with readers. *Graphic novel*
- Tingle, Tim. ***How I Became a Ghost: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story***. RoadRunner, 2013. A Choctaw boy tells the story of his tribe’s removal from the only land its people had ever known, and how their journey to Oklahoma led him to become a ghost—one with the ability to help those he left behind. *Series*
- Turnage, Sheila. ***The Odds of Getting Even***. Kathy Dawson, 2015. Desperado Detectives--aka Mo LoBeau and her best friend Dale, along with newly-appointed intern, Harm Crenshaw--must take on a new case when Dale’s daddy goes on the lam just before his trial is about to start. *Series*
- Weeks, Sarah. ***Honey***. Scholastic, 2015. Melody, a girl living in Royal, Indiana, learns that her dad may have a new secret girlfriend, so Melody and her best friend Nick try to figure out the secret.
- Yang, Gene Luen, and Mike Holmes. ***Secret Coders***. First Second, 2015. A girl named Hopper is at a new school where everything seems creepy, until she makes a new friend named Eni and they work together to solve a mystery. *Graphic novel series*
- Ziegler, Jennifer. ***Revenge of the Flower Girls***. Scholastic, 2014. Triplets try to thwart their older sister’s wedding plans when they think she should marry someone else. Will their antics help or hinder the wedding? *Series*
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*All book summaries are provided by the publisher or
written by committee members.*

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