

# Fabulous Titles for Fifth & Sixth Grade Boys

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## Fiction

Avi. ***Strange Happenings: Five Tales of Transformation***. 2006.

Read about five original stories where strange changes occur, from a boy and a cat changing places to a young man learning about the price of selfishness.

Barry, Dave and Ridley Pearson. ***Peter and the Starcatchers***. \* 2004.

After Peter sets sail from England on the ship Never Land, he befriends Molly, a young starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate.

Choldenko, Gennifer. ***Al Capone Does My Shirts***. \* 2004.

Moose and his family move to Alcatraz Island in 1935. He has to contend with his extraordinary new environment and life with his autistic sister.

Clements, Andrew. ***A Week in the Woods***. \* 2002.

The fifth graders' annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.

Colfer, Eoin. ***Half-Moon Investigations***. \* 2006.

Twelve-year-old private investigator Fletcher Moon must track down a conspiracy or be framed for a crime he didn't commit.

Creech, Sharon. ***Replay: a New Book***. 2005.

While preparing for a role in the school play, 12-year-old Leo finds an autobiography that his father wrote as a teenager and ponders the ways people change as they grow up.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. ***The Watsons Go to Birmingham — 1963***. \* 1995.

The ordinary lives of the Watson family are drastically changed when they go to visit their Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

Divakaruni, Chitra. ***The Conch Bearer***. \* 2003.

In India, a healer invites 12-year-old Amand to join him on a quest to return a magical conch to its safe and rightful home, high on the Himalayan Mountains.

DuPrau, Jeanne. ***City of Ember***. \* 2003.

In the year 241, 12-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a messenger to run to new places, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

Funke, Cornelia. ***Inkheart***. \* 2003.

Meggie's father can "read" fictional characters to life, setting the stage for some interesting situations.

Haber, Melissa. ***The Heroic Adventure of Hercules Amsterdam***. 2003.

A human boy, just three inches tall, finds a home and happiness in a mouse city, until the city is threatened and he must go on a dangerous quest to save the city.

Lupica, Mike. ***Heat***. \* 2006.

Pitching prodigy Michael Arroyo is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball. Rival coaches doubt he is only 12 years old, and Michael doesn't have parents to prove his age.

Mitchell, Betsy. ***Journey to the Bottomless Pit: the story of Stephen Bishop and Mammoth Cave***. 2004.

In 1938, Stephen Bishop serves his master as a guide in Kentucky's Mammoth Cave and spends his free time exploring new passages and rooms.

Morpurgo, Michael. ***Kensuke's Kingdom***. 2003.

When Michael is swept off his family's yacht, he washes up on a deserted island where he struggles to survive—until he finds out that he is not alone.

Paulsen, Gary. ***Harris and Me***. 1993.

Sent to live with relatives for a summer, an 11-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin, Harris, and is introduced to a whole new world.

Park, Linda Sue. ***Archer's Quest***. 2006.

Twelve-year-old Kevin Kim helps Chu-Mong, a legendary king of ancient Korea, return to his own time.

Pearsall, Shelley. ***Trouble Don't Last***. 2002.

Two slaves attempt to escape to Canada on the Underground Railroad.

Stauffacher, Sue. ***Donuthead***. 2003.

A fifth grader obsessed with hygiene and safety finds an unlikely friend and protector in Sarah Kervick, the new student who is as "irregular" as he is.

Taylor, Theodore. ***Ice Drift***. 2005.

Two Inuit brothers must fend for themselves while stranded on an ice floe adrift in the Greenland Strait.

Telander, Rick. ***String Music***. 2002.

An unlikely friendship develops between a lonely 11-year-old boy and the professional basketball star he idolizes.

## Series

**Underland Chronicles\*** by Suzanne Collins.

Gregor travels into the dark Underland where spiders, rats and cockroaches coexist uneasily with humans.

**Joey Pigza\*** by Jack Gantos.

Living with ADHD is difficult, especially when Joey's medication wears off.

**Abner & Me: a Baseball Card Adventure** by Dan Gutman.

With the ability to travel back in time with baseball cards and photographs, 13-year-old Joe has many adventures. Titles in this series also include: *Babe & Me*, *Honus and Me*, *Jackie and Me*, *Mickey & Me*, *Satch & Me* and *Shoeless Joe & Me*.

**Among the Hidden** by Margaret Peterson Haddix.

In the future, the Population Police enforce a law limiting a family to only two children. The "third" children must stay in hiding. Titles in this series also include: *Among the Imposters*, *Among the Betrayed*, *Among the Barons*, *Among the Brave*, *Among the Enemy* and *Among the Free*.

**Redwall\*** by Brian Jacques.

Over the years, many creatures living in Redwall Abbey must go on quests and work to defeat the evildoers.

**Dive** by Gordon Korman.

A summer internship sends four kids scuba diving in the Caribbean Sea. There are a few problems. First, the sharks. And then the fact that the people running the program are covering up something big!

**Five Ancestors\*** by Jeff Stone.

Five young warrior-monk brothers must rely on the ancient arts to avenge wrongs and set things right.

**Eddie Dickens\*** by Philip Ardagh.

Follow the many humorous adventures of Eddie Dickens.

## Non-fiction

***Bones Rock! Everything You Need to Know to Be a Paleontologist*** by Peter Larson and Kristin Donnan. 2004.  
Read about what it would be like to be a paleontologist.  
J 560 LAR

***George vs. George: the American Revolution as Seen by Both Sides*** by Rosalyn Schanzer. 2004.  
This book compares George Washington and King George III.  
J 973.3 SCH

***Getting Away with Murder: the True Story of the Emmett Till Case*** by Chris Crowe. 2003.  
Read about the true account of the murder of a 14-year-old boy that helped spark the Civil Rights movement.  
J 364.1523 CRO

***Hero Dogs: Courageous Canines in Action*** by Donna M. Jackson. 2003.  
Working and rescue dogs help humans in many ways, including at the site of the World Trade Center disaster.  
J 636.7 JAC

***Hitler Youth: Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*** by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. 2005.  
This is the story of German young people who join the Hitler youth, as well as those who resisted the Nazi movement.  
J 943.086 BAR

***How Angel Peterson Got His Name*** by Gary Paulsen. 2003.  
Author Gary Paulsen relates tales from his youth in a small town in the 1940s and 1950s, including skiing behind a souped-up car and imitating daredevil Evel Knievel.  
JB PAULSEN

***Mummy*** by James Putnam. 2004.  
This book documents the history and significance of mummies and describes the ceremonies associated with them.  
J 393.3 PUT

***Onward: a Photobiography of African-American Polar Explorer Matthew Henson*** by Delores Johnson. 2006.  
Read about Henson as he travels with Robert Peary to the North Pole in 1909.  
JB HENSON

***Outbreak: Plagues That Changed History*** by Bryn Barnard. 2006.  
This book looks at the spread of such diseases as smallpox, yellow fever and cholera.  
J 614.49 BAR

***Secret Life of Food*** by Clare Crespo. 2002.  
Recipes for spaghetti with eyeballs, tarantula cookies and monkey pop are included in this book.  
J 641.5 CRE

***Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest*** by Steve Jenkins. 1999.  
Learn about the daring mountaineers who have tried to reach the summit of Mount Everest.  
J 796.522 JEN

***Transformed: How Everyday Things are Made*** by Bill Slavin. 2005.  
Discover how nature is transformed into more than 60 things we eat, drink, play with, wear or use every day.  
J 670 SLA

\* Also available on audiocassette and/or CD