

## **Reading Suggestions From Wapiti Regional Library**

### **Grade Five Reading List**

**Title: 11 Birthdays**

**Author:** Mass, Wendy

**Description:** After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately but peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.

**Title: Always Remember Me: How One Family Survived World War II**

**Author:** Russo, Marisabina (Author, Illustrator)

**Description:** Gramma has 2 photo albums - one of happy time after WW II, and one of sadder times from before - when their life in Germany was destroyed by the Nazis' rise to power. See how the power of the Jewish family's love for one another gave them the strength to survive.

**Title: Anne Frank**

**Author:** Poole, Josephine; Barrett, Angela (Illustrator)

**Description:** The life of Anne Frank, from birth until being taken from the hidden attic by the Nazis. A compelling yet easy-to-understand "first" introduction to the Holocaust as witnessed by Anne and her family.

**Title: Bodies From the Ice: Melting Glaciers and the Recovery of the Past**

**Author:** Deem, James M.

**Description:** Recounts the discovery of the oldest human mummy in the 1990s by two mountain climbers on the Austrian border. This book reveals how glaciers, hulking masses of moving ice, are now offering up many secrets from the past.

**Title: The Book of Three**

**Author:** Alexander, Lloyd

**Description:** Taran, Assistant Pig-Keeper to a famous oracular sow, sets out on a hazardous mission to save Prydain from the forces of evil.

**Title: Bud, Not Buddy**

**Author:** Curtis, Christopher Paul

**Description:** Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

**Title: Bug Shots: The Good, The Bad, and the Bugly**

**Author:** Siy, Alexandra

**Description:** Bugs bite, drink blood, and rob food from gardens and fields. They can even kill plants, animals, and occasionally, people. Is bugging a crime? Alexandra Siy compiles 'rap sheets' on several major categories of bugs.

**Title: Cold Cereal**

**Author:** Rex, Adam

**Description:** A boy who may be part changeling, twins involved in a bizarre secret experiment, and a clurichaun in a red tracksuit try to save the world from an evil cereal company whose ultimate goal is world domination.

**Title: Dear Mr. Henshaw**

**Author:** Cleary, Beverly

**Description:** Ten-year-old Leigh confides his troubles in letters to his favorite author such as: Dear Mr. Henshaw, This year I am in the sixth grade in a new school in a different town. Our teacher is making us do author reports to improve our writing skills, so of course I thought of you. Please answer the following questions.

**Title: Electric Ben: The Amazing Life and Times of Benjamin Franklin**

**Author:** Byrd, Robert

**Description:** All about the life and accomplishments of Benjamin Franklin.

**Title: An Elephant in the Backyard**

**Author:** Sobol, Richard

**Description:** Describes how special elephants are in the village of Tha Kleng in Thailand and looks at the life of one particular young elephant named Wan Pen.

**Title: Escape From Mr. Lemoncello's Library**

**Author:** Grabenstein, Chris

**Description:** "Twelve-year-old Kyle gets to stay overnight in the new town library, designed by his hero (the famous gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello), with other students but finds that come morning he must work with friends to solve puzzles in order to escape"--Provided by publisher.

**Title: Every Minute on Earth: Fun Facts That Happen Every 60 Seconds**

**Author:** Murrie, Steve; Murrie, Matthew

**Description:** See what happens every minute on earth with these facts about earth, space, technology, pop culture, animals, sports, the human body, and food.

**Title: The Fourteenth Goldfish**

**Author:** Holm, Jennifer L.

**Description:** Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging, and consequently has turned into a teenager--which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

**Title: The Great Brain**

**Author:** Fitzgerald, John D.

**Description:** In a small town in turn-of-the-century Utah, a precocious boy hatches scheme after scheme to gain prestige and money.

**Title: Holes**

**Author:** Sachar, Louis

**Description:** As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

**Title: Hoot**

**Author:** Hiaasen, Carl

**Description:** Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.

**Title: If You Hopped Like A Frog**

**Author:** Schwartz, David M.

**Description:** Introduces the concept of ratio by comparing what humans would be able to do if they had bodies like different animals.

**Title: Inside Out and Back Again**

**Author:** Lai, Thanhha

**Description:** Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975, when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama.

**Title: The Invention of Hugo Cabret**

**Author:** Selznick, Brian

**Description:** When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

**Title: Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices**

**Author:** Fleischman, Paul

**Description:** A collection of poems describing the characteristics and activities of a variety of insects.

**Title: Kakapo Rescue: Saving the World's Strangest Parrot**

**Author:** Montgomery, Sy

**Description:** On remote Codfish Island off the southern coast of New Zealand live the last 91 kakapo parrots on earth. Originally this bird numbered in the millions before humans brought predators to the islands. Now on the isolated island refuge, a team of scientists is trying to restore the kakapo population.

**Title: Matilda Bone**

**Author:** Cushman, Karen

**Description:** Fourteen-year-old Matilda, an apprentice bonesetter and practitioner of medicine in a village in medieval England, tries to reconcile the various aspects of her life, both spiritual and practical.

**Title: Merlin and the Making of the King**

**Author:** Hodges, Margaret

**Description:** A retelling of four Arthurian legends, "The Sword in the Stone," "Excalibur," "The Lady of the Lake," and "The Last Great Battle," which feature Merlin, King Arthur, and other familiar figures.

**Title: Millicent Min, Girl Genius**

**Author:** Yee, Lisa

**Description:** In a series of journal entries, eleven-year-old child prodigy Millicent Min records her struggles to learn to play volleyball, tutor her enemy, deal with her grandmother's departure, and make friends over the course of a tumultuous summer.

**Title: The Mysterious Benedict Society**

**Author:** Steward, Trenton

**Description:** After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

**Title: The Odyssey**

**Author:** Cross, Gillian

**Description:** "Odysseus ... faces storm and shipwreck, terrifying monsters and the fury of the sea god Poseidon as he makes his epic journey home from the Trojan War [in this retelling of Homer's story]"--Dust jacket flap.

**Title: Once Upon a Toad**

**Author:** Frederick, Heather Vogel

**Description:** When her mother goes on a NASA mission, Cat Starr is sent to live with her father, stepsister Olivia, and younger brother Geoffrey, but interference by her inept fairy godmother causes toads to appear when Cat speaks and gems to fall from Olivia's mouth, bringing one to the attention of jewel thieves and the other to a secret government laboratory.

**Title: The One and Only Ivan**

**Author:** Applegate, Katherine

**Description:** When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

**Title: Rain Reign**

**Author:** Martin, Ann M.

**Description:** Rose Howard has OCD, Asperger's syndrome, and an obsession with homonyms. She gave her dog Rain a name with two homonyms (Reign and Rein). Rose and Rain are practically inseparable. And they are often home alone, as Rose's father spends most evenings at a bar, and doesn't have much patience for his special-needs daughter. Just as a storm hits town, Rain goes missing. Rose's father shouldn't have let Rain out. Now Rose has to find her dog, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places to search.

**Title: The Ravenmaster's Secret**

**Author:** Woodruff, Elvira

**Description:** The eleven-year-old son of the Ravenmaster at the Tower of London befriends a Jacobite rebel being held prisoner there.

**Title: The Real Vikings: Craftsmen, Traders and Fearsome Raiders**

**Author:** Berger, Melvin

**Description:** There's a lot more to the Viking's story than their traditional reputation suggests. Most Vikings were hard-working farmers who stayed at home in Scandinavia. Others were skilled craftsmen, producing everything from delicate jewelry to deadly battle-axes.

**Title: The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus**

**Author:** Bryant, Jen

**Description:** The story of "shy young Peter Mark Roget, [for whom] books were the best companions-- and it wasn't long before Peter began writing his own book. But he didn't write stories; he wrote lists. Peter took his love for words and turned it to organizing ideas and finding exactly the right word to express just what he thought. His lists grew and grew, eventually turning into one of the most important reference books of all time"--Amazon.com.

**Title: So You Want to be an Inventor?**

**Author:** St. George, Judith

**Description:** Presents some of the characteristics of inventors by describing the inventions of people such as Alexander Graham Bell, Thomas Edison, and Eli Whitney.

**Title: Swindle**

**Author:** Korman, Gordon

**Description:** After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palamino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.

**Title: Ten Rules for Living with my Sister**

**Author:** Martin, Ann M.

**Description:** Nine-year-old Pearl and her popular, thirteen-year-old sister, Lexie, do not get along very well, but when their grandfather moves in and the girls have to share a room, they must find common ground.

**Title: The Thing About Luck**

**Author:** Kadohata, Cynthia

**Description:** Just when twelve-year-old Summer thinks nothing else can possibly go wrong in a year of bad luck, an emergency takes her parents to Japan, leaving Summer to care for her little brother while helping her grandmother cook and do laundry for harvest workers.

**Title: Three Times Lucky**

**Author:** Turnage, Sheila

**Description:** Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder.

**Title: Through My Eyes**

**Author:** Bridges, Ruby

**Description:** Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement, as a six-year-old, in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.

**Title: Top Secret: A Handbook of Codes, Ciphers, and Secret Writing**

**Author:** Janeczko, Paul B.

**Description:** Handbook for the budding cryptographer including codes and ciphers, invisible inks, concealment techniques, spy stories and some history.

**Title: Tuck Everlasting**

**Author:** Babbitt, Natalie

**Description:** The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.

**Title: Unusual Creatures: a mostly accurate account of some of Earth's Strangest Animals**

**Author:** Hearst, Michael

**Description:** This book introduces the reader to a wealth of extraordinary life forms. From the top of Mt. Everest to 10,000 feet under the sea, fascinating animals are everywhere. A basilisk that can run on water, an octopus that can mimic other animals, a fish that defends itself with slime and ties itself in a knot to wipe the slime away ... plus dozens more!

**Title: When Bugs were Big, Plants Were Strange, and Tetrapods Stalked the Earth**

**Author:** Bonner, Hannah

**Description:** Takes a tour of the Earth three hundred and twenty million years ago, during the Paleozoic Era, and investigates the plants and animals found there.

**Title: Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**

**Author:** Lin, Grace

**Description:** Minli, an adventurous girl from a poor village, buys a magical goldfish, and then joins a dragon who cannot fly on a quest to find the Old Man of the Moon in hopes of bringing life to Fruitless Mountain and freshness to Jade River.