

2026 Suggested Reading for FRES Students Entering 5th Grade

Reading is good for your brain and helps keep it in shape when school is out. It can take you on adventures, be a window to help you gain new ideas and learn about others, or a mirror to help you understand yourself and your experiences.

We encourage you to read what you enjoy but have created this list to give you some ideas. Questions? Just ask! Happy reading! - *BML Children's Staff*

Alternate format availability:  Libby  Hoopla  Playaway  Wonderbook  Book on CD

Science Fiction & Fantasy



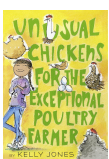
Space Case by *Stuart Gibbs*   
Dashiell Gibson, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, has to solve the murder of one of the moon's most prominent doctors.



Winterhouse by *Ben Guterson*   
Elizabeth spends break at Winterhouse hotel where she discovers that she has magic, and solves a mystery with her new friend.



The Fourteenth Goldfish by *Jennifer Holm*  
Ellie's grandfather discovers a way to reverse aging, turns into a teenager, and moves in with Ellie and her mom.



Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer by *Kelly Jones* 
Through letters, Sophie Brown tells of her move to her Great Uncle's farm, where she begins caring for some very unusual chickens.



The Phantom Tollbooth by *Norton Juster*  
Milo journeys through the Phantom Tollbooth to a land where he learns the importance of words and numbers and finds a cure for his boredom.



Malamander by *Thomas Taylor* 
Herbert Lemon, the Grand Nautilus Hotel's Lost and Founder, has an unexpected visitor in Violet Parma, who wants his help finding her parents.



Lost Girl by *Anne Ursu*   
Twins Iris and Lark struggle with insecurities over their individual identities and at the same time things begin to go missing around town.



Pie in the Sky by *Remy Lai*  
As a distraction from moving to Australia, Jingwen daydreams about baking at Pie in the Sky, the bakery his father had planned to open before he passed away.



Firefly Summer by *Morgan Matson* 
For Ryanna, her summers have been spent with her father and his new wife. This summer, she gets a letter from her grandparents, who she hasn't spoken to since her mom's death, inviting her to stay with them at an old summer camp.



Olivetti by *Allie Millington*   
Olivetti has been forgotten by the Brindle family, but he remembers every word they've typed on him. When he learns the family's mother has gone missing, he breaks code to type back to Ernest to help him find his mother.



Front Desk by *Kelly Yang*   
Mia must be courageous, kind, and work hard to get through this year. Will she be able to hold on to her job, help the immigrants and guests, escape Mr. Yao, and go for her dreams?

Family and Friends



Macy McMillan and the Rainbow Goddess by *Shari Green*   
With her mother getting remarried and her house for sale, Macy could use a best friend right now, but the only person who has time for her is the crabby old next door neighbor who doesn't know ASL and struggles to communicate with Macy. (*in verse*)



Wink by *Rob Harrell*  
After being diagnosed with a rare eye cancer, Ross discovers how music, art, and friends can help him survive middle school.



Song for a Whale by *Lynne Kelly*  
Iris and her grandmother, both deaf, drive to Alaska to help Blue-55, a whale unable to communicate with other whales.

Adventure & Historical



Rescue at Lake Wild

by Terry Lynn Johnson

When Madi and her friends rescue orphaned beaver kits, she discovers a local conspiracy that's putting the beavers and their habitats in danger.



Will's Race for Home

by Jewell Parker Rhodes

It's 1888 and Will's father learns of a land rush in Oklahoma. Together they make the treacherous trip over 400 miles to try to win a stake of land for their own.



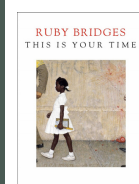
Burning Season

Opal is learning to become a smoke and fire lookout on Wolf Mountain, but she's afraid of fire. While Mom is out and Gran is missing, Opal is the only one to spot a tell-tale spiral of smoke. *(in verse)*

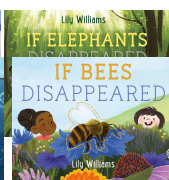


Lonely Planet Kids: Myths and Legends of the World

by Alli Brydon;
illus. by Julia Iredale j292 BRY



This is Your Time by Ruby Bridges
j323.1196 BRI



If...Disappeared

(Series) by Lily Williams
(various call numbers)



The Great Stink: How Joseph Bazalgette Solved London's Poop Pollution Problem by Colleen Paeff;
illus. by Nancy Carpenter j628.3 PAE



A Sporting Chance: How Ludwig Guttman Created the Paralympic Games by Lori Alexander; illus. by Allen Drummond j796.04 ALE



Cast Away: Poems of Our Time by Naomi Shihab Nye j811.54 NYE



The Great Lakes: Our Freshwater Treasure by Barb Rosenstock j977 ROS

Nonfiction & Poetry

Mystery & Spooky



The Vanquishers

by Kalynn Bayron
Why do Boog's parents still take vampire precautions? The Vanquishers wiped out the last horde decades ago...didn't they?



Winterborne Home for Vengeance and Valor

by Ally Carter
After years in foster care, April gets to live in a mansion where she's caught up in a mystery of a missing heir and a lost legacy.



The Misfits: A Royal Conundrum

by Lisa Yee
Olive is dropped off at the strangest boarding school: a former castle turned prison that's now a "reforming arts school!"

Graphic Novels



Batpig

by Rob Harrell
Gary Yorkshire was your perfectly average, fuzzy pink pig until one day . . . a radioactive bat bite gives him powers he never would have dreamed of!



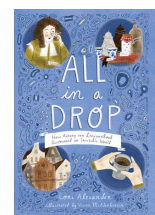
Measuring Up

by Lily LaMotte & Ann Xu
Fresh to Seattle from Taiwan, Cici enters a cooking competition to win the chance to see her grandmother again, but she only knows how to cook Taiwanese food.



Unsolved Case Files

by Tom Sullivan
Explore some of the FBI's cases through history that remain unsolved to this day!



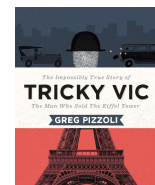
All in a Drop: How Antony van Leeuwenhoek Discovered an Invisible World by Lori Alexander

jBIO LEEUWENHOEK



Hedy LaMarr's Double Life: Hollywood Legend and Brilliant Inventor by Laurie Wallmark

jBIO LAMARR



Tricky Vic: The Impossibly True Story of The Man Who Sold the Eiffel Tower by Greg Pizzoli

jBIO LUSTIG



She Made a Monster: How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein by Lynn Fulton jBIO SHELLEY

Biography