

TEEN READS

Fantasy

Spiderwick Chronicles series (8 books) by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black Lexile: 560-700 When the Grace children go to stay at their Great Aunt Lucinda's worn Victorian house, they discover a field guide to fairies and other creatures and begin to have some unusual experiences.

Artemis Fowl series (7 books) by Eoin Colfer

Lexile: 600 – 770 When a twelve-year-old evil genius tries to restore his family fortune by capturing a fairy and demanding a ransom in gold, the fairies fight back with magic, technology, and a particularly nasty troll.

The World According to Humphrey (3 books) by Betty G. Birney

Lexile: 600-700 Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, learns that he has an important role to play in helping his classmates and teacher.

Poppi and Friends series (5 books) by Avi

Lexile: 610 -690

Ragweed, a young country mouse, leaves his family and travels to the big city, where he finds excitement and danger and sees cats for the first time.

Time warp trio series (16 books) by Jon Scieszka

Lexile:530-690

Three boys use a magical book to travel through time and have many adventures with King Arthur, the Knights of the Roundtable and Merlin, the Magician.

Mystery

Sammy Keyes (11 books) by Wendelin Van Draanen Lexile: 650 - 850

Seventh grader Sammy's penchant for speaking her mind gets her in trouble when she involves herself in the investigation of a robbery at the "seedy" hotel across the street from the seniors' building where she is living with her grandmother.

Herculeah Jones Mysteries (7 titles) by Betsy Cromer Byars

Lexile: 520 - 570

The intrepid Herculeah Jones helps her mother, a private investigator, solve a puzzling and frightening case.

Half Moon Investigations by Eoin Colfer

Lexile: 620

When Fletcher Moon, the youngest detective in the world, is framed for a crime he did not commit, he must team up with the unlikeliest of allies, run from the authorities, and solve the case within twelve hours to clear his name.

Realistic Fiction

Joey Pigza series (4 books) by Jack Gantos Lexile: 800-970

To the constant disappointment of his mother and teacher, Joey has trouble paying attention or controlling his mood swings when his prescription medicine wears off and he starts acting weird.

Shiloh series (3 books) by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor Lexile: 860-1020

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.

Stargirl /Love, Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli

Lexile:560

In this story about the perils of popularity, the courage of nonconformity, and the thrill of first love, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.

Frindle by Andrew Clements

Lexile:830

There are two reasons you want to be in Nick's class. First, he is famous for stalling the teacher at the end of the day so there's not enough time for her to give any homework. Second, you can see the excitement first hand when he invents a new word for pen, which spreads through the classroom, school, town, and across the country.

*****Other authors to try include Kate DiCamillo, Roald Dahl, Carl Hiaasen, E.L. Konigsburg, Gary Paulsen, Dan Gutman, Bill Wallace, Gail Carson Levine

Science Fiction

M.T. Anderson's thrilling tales, Whales on Stilts! (2 books) By Anderson, M. T. Lexile: 750

Racing against the clock, shy middle-school student Lily and her best friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

My teacher is an alien (3 books) by Bruce Coville

Lexile: 650 - 750 Susan Simmons can tell that her new substitute teacher is really weird. But she doesn't know how weird until she catches him peeling off his face and realizes "Mr. Smith" is really an alien.

Historical Fiction

Boy at War series (3 books) by Harry Mazar

Lexile: 530 -650

While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

A Long Way from Chicago by Richard Peck

Lexile: 750

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

Don't you know there's a war on by Avi

In wartime Brooklyn in 1943, eleven-year-old Howie Crispers mounts a campaign to save his favorite teacher from being fired.

Jason's Gold / Down the Yukon by Will Hobbs

Lexile: 860

When news of the discovery of gold in Canada's Yukon Territory in 1897 reaches fifteen-year-old Jason, he embarks on a 10,000-mile journey to strike it rich.

Lily's Crossing by Patricia Reilly Giff

Lexile: 720

During a summer spent at Rockaway Beach in 1944, Lily's friendship with a young Hungarian refugee causes her to see the war and her own world differently.