

Upper Elementary Realistic Fiction Books

Recommended for Grades 4 - 6



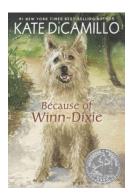
<u>The Crossover</u> (J ALE) by Kwame Alexander: Fourteen-year-old twin basketball stars Josh and Jordan wrestle with highs and lows on and off the court as their father ignores his declining health. (Series) Also available as eBook and Audiobook



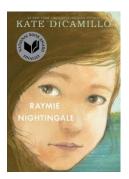
<u>The Next Great Paulie Fink</u> (J BEN) by Ali Benjamin: Led by new student Caitlyn, seventh-graders at a tiny rural school in Vermont create a reality-show inspired competition to determine who will replace the school's legendary class clown, Paulie Fink. Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



<u>The Thing About Jellyfish</u> (J BEN) by Ali Benjamin: Twelve-yearold Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Because of Winn Dixie</u> (J DIC) by Kate DiCamillo: Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Raymie Nightingale</u> (J DIC) by Kate DiCamillo: Hoping that if she wins a local beauty pageant her father will come home, Raymie practices twirling a baton and performing good deeds as she is drawn into an unlikely friendship with a drama queen and a saboteur. (Series) Also available as eBook and Audiobook



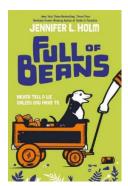
<u>Out of My Mind</u> (J DRA) by Sharon Draper: Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time. Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



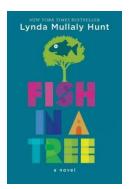
<u>Pictures of Hollis Woods</u> (J GIF) by Patricia Reilly Giff: A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her. Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



<u>Hoot</u> (J HIA) by Carl Hiassen: 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. Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



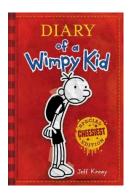
<u>Full of Beans</u> (J HOL) by Jennifer Holm: Ten-year-old Beans Curry, a member of the Keepsies, the best marble playing gang in Depression-era Key West, Florida, engages in various schemes to earn money while "New Dealers" from Washington, D.C., arrive to turn run down Key West into a tourist resort. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Fish in a Tree</u> (J HUN) by Lynda Mullaly Hunt: Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read. Also available as eBook and Audiobook

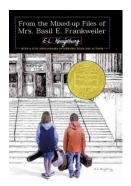


<u>Hello Universe</u> (J KEL) by Erin Entrada Kelly: Two boys and two girls explore respective views about courage and being different in the wake of a prank that traps one of them at the bottom of a well and compels the others to embark on a search-and-rescue mission. Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Greg Heffley's Journal (J KIN) by Jeff

Kinney: Greg records his sixth grade experiences in a middle school where he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive, but when Rowley grows more popular, Greg must take drastic measures to save their friendship. (Series) Also available as eBook and Audiobook



From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler (J KON

and JPB KON) by E.L. Konigsburg: Having run away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, twelve-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Slacker</u> (J KOR) by Gordon Korman: When eighth-grader Cameron Boxer creates the Positive Action Group at school he intends it as a diversion to fool his parents, teachers, and sister into letting him continue to concentrate on his video-gaming--but before he knows it other kids are taking it seriously, and soon he finds himself president of the P.A.G., and involved in community service, so the boy who never cared about anything is now the center of everything, whether he likes it or not. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Ungifted</u> (J KOR and JPB KOR) by Gordon Kormon: Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special school for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school. (Series) Also available as <u>eBook</u> and <u>Audiobook</u>



<u>The Poet's Dog</u> (J MAC) by Patricia MacLachlan: A dog with unusual communication talents loses his poet owner before rescuing two children trapped in a snowstorm and leading them to the poet's cabin, where the children explore the memories that the poet has left behind. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Rain Reign</u> (J MAR) by Ann M. Martin: Struggling with the challenges of OCD and Asperger's syndrome, Rose, a homonym enthusiast, shares an inseparable bond with a beloved dog, but when the dog goes missing during a storm, Rose is forced to confront the limits of her comfort levels, even if it means leaving her routines and safe places in order to search for her pet. Also available as eBook



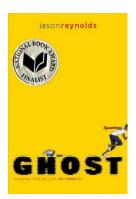
<u>Merci Suarez Changes Gears</u> (J MED) by Meg Medina: Merci Suárez begins the sixth grade and knows things will change, but she did not count on her grandfather acting strangely, not fitting in at her private school, and dealing with Edna Santos' jealousy. Also available as <u>eBook</u>



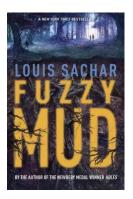
<u>Wish</u> (J OCO) by Barbara O'Connor: A story about a girl who, with the help of the dog of her dreams, discovers that family doesn't always have to be related--they are simply people who love you for who you are. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



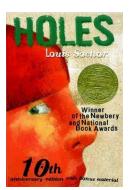
<u>Wonder</u> (J PAL) by R. J. Palacio: Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



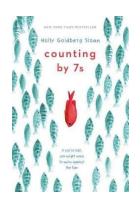
<u>Ghost</u> (J REY) by Jason Reynolds: As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



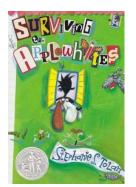
<u>Fuzzy Mud</u> (J SAC) by Louis Sachar: Two middle-grade kids take a shortcut home from school and discover what looks like fuzzy mud but is actually a substance with the potential to wreak havoc on the entire world. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Holes</u> (J SAC and JPB SAC) by Louis Sachar: 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. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Counting by 7s</u> (J SLO) by Holly Goldberg Sloan: Twelve-year-old genius and outsider Willow Chance must figure out how to connect with other people and find a surrogate family for herself after her parents are killed in a car accident. Also available as eBook and Audiobook

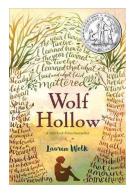


<u>Surviving the Applewhites</u> (J TOL and JPB TOL) by Stephanie

Tolan: Jake, a budding juvenile delinquent, is sent for home schooling to the arty and eccentric Applewhite family's Creative Academy, where he discovers talents and interests he never knew he had. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Save Me a Seat</u> (J WEE) by Sarah Weeks: Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems--but when their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives. Also available as eBook and Audiobook



<u>Wolf Hollow</u> (J WOL) by Lauren Wolk: Twelve-year-old Annabelle must learn to stand up for what's right in the face of a manipulative and violent new bully who targets people Annabelle cares about, including a homeless World War I veteran. Also available as eBook and Audiobook

Prepared by: Marcela Lenihan, Children's Librarian

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