

Grades 5-8 Recommended Authors: Fiction and Poetry

Traditional Literature/Authors

Grimms' fairy tales
French fairy tales
Tales by Hans Christian Andersen and Rudyard Kipling
Aesop's fables
Greek, Roman, or Norse myths
Stories about King Arthur, Robin Hood, Beowulf and Grendel, St. George and the Dragon
Myths and legends of indigenous peoples of North, Central and South America
American folktales and legends
Asian and African folktales and legends

Louisa May Alcott
Lloyd Alexander
Isaac Asimov
Natalie Babbitt
L. Frank Baum
Nathaniel Benchley
Ray Bradbury
Carol Ryrie Brink
Elizabeth Coatsworth
Esther Forbes
Paula Fox
Jean Craighead George
Virginia Hamilton
Bret Harte
O. Henry
Washington Irving
Jack London
L.M. Montgomery
Sterling North
Scott O'Dell
Edgar Allan Poe
Howard Pyle
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
Elizabeth Speare
Booth Tarkington
James Thurber
Mark Twain

E. B. White
N. C. Wyeth
James Barrie
Lucy Boston
Frances Hodgson Burnett
Lewis Carroll
Carlo Collodi
Daniel Defoe
Charles Dickens
Arthur Conan Doyle
Leon Garfield
Kenneth Grahame
Rudyard Kipling
C. S. Lewis
George MacDonald
Edith Nesbit
Mary Norton
Philippa Pearce
Arthur Rackham
Anna Sewell
William Shakespeare
Isaac Bashevis Singer
Johanna Spyri
Robert Louis Stevenson
Jonathan Swift
Rosemary Sutcliff
J.R.R. Tolkien
T.H. White
William Blake
Lewis Carroll
John Ciardi
Rachel Field
Robert Frost
Langston Hughes
Edward Lear
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
David McCord
Ogden Nash
Richard Wilbur

Contemporary Authors

David Almond (fantasy, realistic fiction)
M. T. Anderson (comic fiction, historical fiction)
Joan Bauer (realistic fiction)
Nancy Bond (fantasy)
Gennifer Choldenko (mysteries)
James and Christopher Collier (fiction: historical)
Susan Cooper (fantasy)
Leslie Connor (realistic fiction)
Bruce Coville (fantasy)
Christopher Paul Curtis (historical fiction)
Cynthia DeFelice (historical fiction, mysteries)
Jeanne DuPrau (science fiction)
Louise Erdrich (historical fiction)
Louise Fitzhugh (realistic fiction)
Neil Gaiman (fantasy)
Bette Greene (historical fiction)
Mary Downing Hahn (ghost stories, historical fiction)
Karen Hesse (historical fiction)
S. E. Hinton (realistic fiction)
Irene Hunt (historical fiction)
Paul Janeczko (poetry)
Diana Wynne Jones (fantasy)
Ellen Klages (historical fiction)
E.L. Konigsburg (realistic fiction))
Madeleine L'Engle (fantasy, realistic fiction)
Ursula LeGuin (fantasy)
Robert Lipsyte (fiction: realistic)
Mike Lupica (mysteries, sports fiction)
Robin McKinley (fantasy)
Walter Dean Myers (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Marilyn Nelson (poetry)
Kenneth Oppel (fantasy, adventure)
Katherine Paterson (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Gary Paulsen (comic fiction, historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Mitali Perkins (realistic fiction)
Terry Pratchett (fantasy)
Philip Pullman (fantasy)
Rick Riordan (fantasy)
Pam Munoz Ryan (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Louis Sachar (realistic fiction)
Gary Soto (realistic fiction, poetry)
Rebecca Stead (science fiction)
Laurie Halse Anderson (historical fiction)
Avi (historical fiction)
Jean P. Birdsall (realistic fiction)
Bruce Brooks (realistic fiction)
John Christopher (science fiction)
Suzanne Collins (fantasy, science fiction)
Eoin Colfer (fantasy, science fiction)
Frank Boyce Cottrell (fiction: humorous)
Sharon Creech (realistic fiction)
Karen Cushman (historical fiction)
Frances O'Roark Dowell (realistic fiction)
Marguerite Engle (historical fiction, poetry)
Nancy Farmer (fantasy)
Paul Fleischman (poetry, realistic fiction)
Jack Gantos (fiction: humorous)
Rosa Guy (realistic fiction)
Shannon Hale (fantasy, historical fiction)
Carl Hiassen (fiction: humorous, mysteries)
Will Hobbs (realistic fiction)
Eva Ibbotson (fantasy)
Angela Johnson (realistic fiction)
Norton Juster (fantasy)
Ron Koertge (comic fiction, poetry)
Iain Lawrence (historical fiction)
Gail Carson Levine (fiction: fantasy, realistic)
Lois Lowry (realistic fiction, science fiction)
Hilary McKay (fiction: humorous)
Margaret Mahy (fantasy, realistic fiction)
Donna Jo Napoli (historical fiction, fantasy)
Naomi Shihab Nye (poetry)
Linda Sue Park (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Sue Patron (realistic fiction)
Richard Peck (historical, realistic fiction)
Daniel Pinkwater (fiction: humorous)
Philip Reeve (fantasy)
J. K. Rowling (fiction: fantasy)
Cynthia Rylant (poetry, realistic fiction)
William Sleator (ghost stories, science fiction)
Suzanne Fisher Staples (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Jonathan Stroud (fantasy)
Kate Thompson (fantasy)

Theodore Taylor (historical fiction)
Megan Whalen Turner (fantasy)
Rita Williams-Garcia (historical fiction, realistic fiction)
Jacqueline Woodson (realistic fiction)

Cynthia Voigt (realistic fiction, fantasy)
Jacqueline Wilson (realistic fiction)
Tim Wynne-Jones (realistic fiction)
Laurence Yep (historical fiction, fantasy)

Informational texts

Susan Campbell Bartoletti (history)
Russell Freedman (biography, history)
James Cross Giblin (biography, history)
Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan (art history)
Deborah Heiligman (informational: history)
Kathryn Lasky (multi-genre)
Philp Hoose (biography, history)

Albert Marrin (biography, history)
Milton Meltzer (history, biography)
Jim Murphy (history)
Elizabeth Partridge (biography, history)
Steve Sheinkin (biography, history)
Tanya Lee Stone (biography, history)

See the annual Horn Book Guide for ongoing
additional selections