

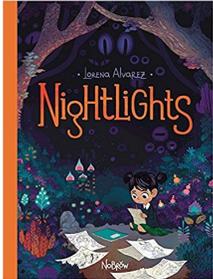
## Mellon Library's 2018 Summer Reading Suggestions for Rising 5<sup>th</sup> Graders

### RECENT FICTION



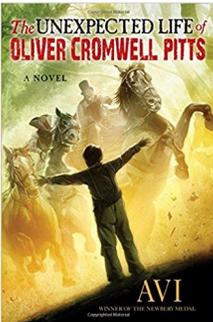
Alexander, William. *A Properly Unhaunted Place*

Rosa Ramona Díaz has a very special talent. She comes from a family of librarians who specialize in ghost appeasement. So she can't understand why her mother has moved them to Ingot, the world's only unhaunted town. What are they supposed to do there, with poltergeists to quiet and no specters to soothe? Jasper Chevalier has always lived in Ingot, working at the Renaissance Festival while his parents hold court. Jasper has never seen a ghost, and can't imagine his unhaunted town any other way...until an angry apparition thunders into the fairgrounds and turns Ingot upside down. Jasper is astonished...and Rosa is delighted. Mist is building in the hills, and something otherworldly is about to be unleashed. Rosa will need all her ghost appeasement tools--and a little help from Jasper--to try to rein in the angry ghosts in this hilariously spooky adventure.



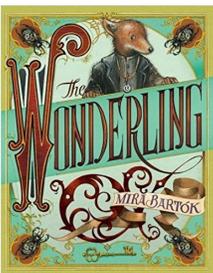
Alvarez, Lorena. *Nightlights*

Every night, tiny stars appear out of the darkness in little Sandy's bedroom. She catches them and creates wonderful creatures to play with until she falls asleep, and in the morning brings them back to life in the whimsical drawings that cover her room. One day, Morpie, a mysterious pale girl, appears at school. And she knows all about Sandy's drawings...



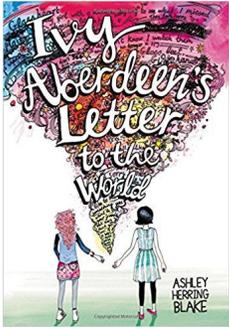
Avi. *The Unexpected Life of Oliver Cromwell Pitts*

In the seaside town of Melcombe Regis, England, 1724, Oliver Cromwell Pitts wakes to find his father missing and his house flooded by a recent storm. He's alone in his ruined home with no money and no food. Oliver's father has left behind a barely legible waterlogged note: he's gone to London, where Oliver's sister, Charity, is in trouble. Exploring damage to the town in the storm's aftermath, Oliver discovers a shipwreck on the beach. Removing anything from a wrecked ship is a hanging offense, but Oliver finds money that could save him, and he can't resist the temptation to take it. When his crime is discovered, Oliver flees, following the trail of his father and sister. The journey is full of thieves, adventurers, and treachery--and London might be the most dangerous place of all.



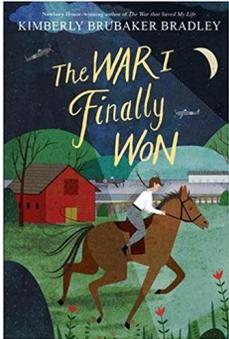
Bartok, Mira. *The Wonderling*

Welcome to the Home for Wayward and Misbegotten Creatures, an institution run by evil Miss Carbunkle, a cunning villainess who believes her terrified young charges exist only to serve and suffer. Part animal and part human, the groundlings toil in classroom and factory, forbidden to enjoy anything regular children have, most particularly singing and music. For the Wonderling, an innocent-hearted, one-eared, fox-like eleven-year-old with only a number rather than a proper name — a 13 etched on a medallion around his neck — it is the only home he has ever known. But unexpected courage leads him to acquire the loyalty of a young bird groundling named Trinket, who gives the Home's loneliest inhabitant two incredible gifts: a real name — Arthur, like the good king in the old stories — and a best friend. Using Trinket's ingenious invention, the pair escape over the wall and embark on an adventure that will take them out into the wider world and ultimately down the path of sweet Arthur's true destiny.



Blake, Ashley Herring. *Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World*

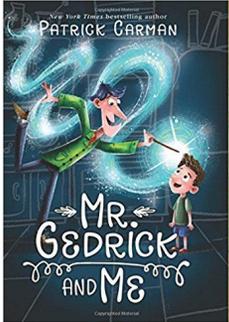
When a tornado rips through town, twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed and her family of five is displaced. Ivy feels invisible and ignored in the aftermath of the storm--and what's worse, her notebook filled with secret drawings of girls holding hands has gone missing. Mysteriously, Ivy's drawings begin to reappear in her locker with notes from someone telling her to open up about her identity. Ivy thinks--and hopes--that this someone might be her classmate, another girl for whom Ivy has begun to develop a crush. Will Ivy find the strength and courage to follow her true feelings?



Bradley, Kimberly. *The War I Finally Won*

Sequel to *The War That Saved My Life*

World War II continues, and Ada and her brother Jamie are living with their loving legal guardian, Susan, in a borrowed cottage on the estate of the formidable Lady Thorton - now along with Lady Thorton herself and her daughter Maggie. Life in the crowded cottage is tense enough, and then, quite suddenly, Ruth, a Jewish girl from Germany, moves in. A German? The occupants of the house are horrified. But other impacts of war are far more intrusive and frightening. As death creeps closer to their door, life and morality during wartime grow more complex.



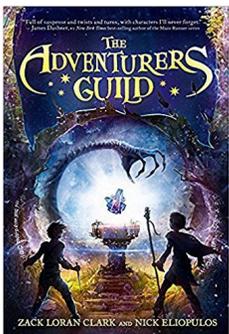
Carman, Patrick. *Mr. Gedrick and Me*

Stanley Darrow isn't sure what to expect when the mysterious Mr. Gedrick appears on his doorstep. He is certain, however, that his family could use Mr. Gedrick's help: Their lives--and their house--have been a mess since Stanley's dad died. The strange new nanny quickly helps them transform their cluttered home into a sparkling and spotless version of its former self, but it's going to take more than a clean house to help the Darrow family learn to live and love again. Can Mr. Gedrick help Stanley, his brother, Fergus, his sister, Amelia, and his mom find their way back to each other? And what secrets of his own is Mr. Gedrick hiding behind his crooked grin?



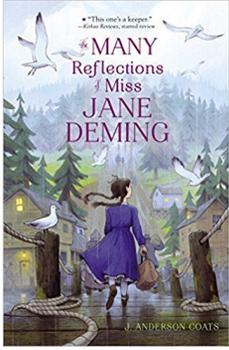
Carroll, Emma. *Strange Star*

Switzerland, 1816. On a stormy summer night, Lord Byron and his guests are gathered round the fire. Felix, their serving boy, can't wait to hear their creepy tales. Yet real life is about to take a chilling turn- more chilling than any tale. Frantic pounding at the front door reveals a stranger, a girl covered in the most unusual scars. She claims to be looking for her sister, supposedly snatched from England by a woman called Mary Shelley. Someone else has followed her here too, she says. And the girl is terrified.



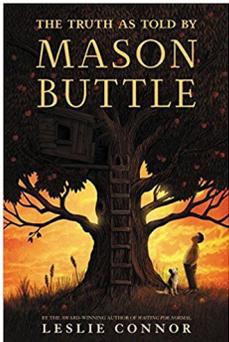
Clark, Zack Loran. *The Adventurers Guild*

In one of the last cities standing after the world fell to monsters, best friends Zed Kagari and Brock Dunderfel have high hopes for the future. Zed desperately wishes to join the ranks of the Mages Guild, where his status as Freestone's only half elf might finally be an asset. Brock, the roguishly handsome son of merchants, is confident he'll be welcomed into the ranks of the Merchants Guild. But just as it seems the boys' dreams have come true, their lives take a startling turn...and they find themselves members of the perilous Adventurers Guild.



Coats, J. Anderson. *The Many Reflections of Miss Jane Deming*

Washington Territory is just the place for men of broad mind and sturdy constitution--and girls too, Jane figures, or Mr. Mercer wouldn't have allowed her to come on his expedition to bring unmarried girls and Civil War widows out west. Jane's constitution is sturdy enough. She's been taking care of her baby brother ever since Papa was killed in the war and her young stepmother had to start working long days at the mill. The problem, she fears, is her mind. It might not be suitably broad because she had to leave school to take care of little Jer. Still, a new life awaits in Washington Territory, and Jane plans to make the best of it. Except Seattle doesn't turn out to be quite as advertised. In this rough-and-tumble frontier town, Jane is going to need every bit of that broad mind and sturdy constitution--not to mention a good sense of humor and a stubborn streak a mile wide.



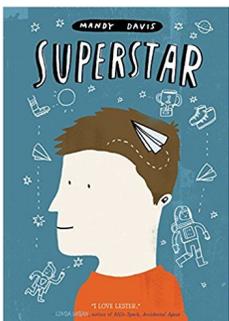
Connor, Leslie. *The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle*

Mason Buttle is the biggest, sweatiest kid in his grade, and everyone knows he can barely read or write. Mason's learning disabilities are compounded by grief. Fifteen months ago, Mason's best friend, Benny Kilmartin, turned up dead in the Buttle family's orchard. An investigation drags on, and Mason, honest as the day is long, can't understand why Lieutenant Baird won't believe the story Mason has told about that day. Both Mason and his new friend, tiny Calvin Chumsky, are relentlessly bullied by the other boys in their neighborhood, so they create an underground club space for themselves. When Calvin goes missing, Mason finds himself in trouble again. He's desperate to figure out what happened to Calvin, and eventually, Benny. But will anyone believe him?



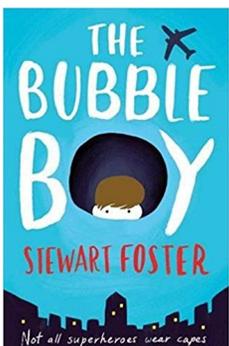
Cyprus, Naomi. *Sisters of Glass*

Two girls. Two worlds. Only magic can bring them together, in this fantastical middle grade adventure for fans of the Descendants and School for Good and Evil series. Halan is a powerless princess. She is heir to the Magi Kingdom, a blazing desert land ruled by ancient magic. But unlike every royal before her, Halan has no magical powers of her own. Nalah is a powerful pauper. The glassblower's daughter, she lives in the land of New Hadar, where magic is strictly outlawed. But Nalah has a powerful force growing within her--one she can't always control. One girl fears magic, one worships it. But when a legendary mirror connects them, Nalah and Halan finally meet--and must work together to save their two worlds, before everything they know is shattered forever.



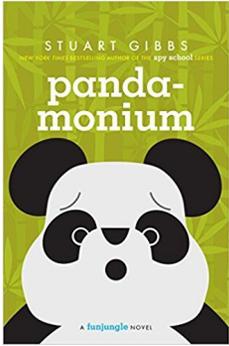
Davis, Mandy. *Superstar*

Lester's first days as a fifth grader at Quarry Elementary School are not even a little bit like he thought they would be--the cafeteria is too loud for Lester's ears, there are too many kids, and then there's the bully. Lester was always home-schooled, and now he's shocked to be stuck in a school where everything just seems wrong. That's until he hears about the science fair, which goes really well for Lester! But then things go a bit sideways, and Lester has to find his way back.



Foster, Stewart. *The Bubble Boy*

Eleven-year-old Joe can't remember a life outside of his hospital room, with its beeping machines and view of London's rooftops. His condition means he's not allowed outside, not even for a moment, and his few visitors risk bringing life-threatening germs inside his 'bubble'. But then someone new enters his world and changes it forever.



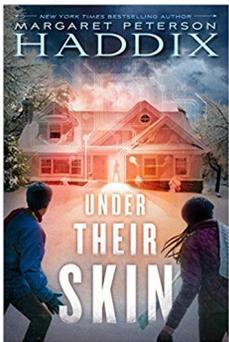
Gibbs, Stuart. ***Panda-Monium: A Funjungle Novel***

FunJungle is frenzied, awaiting the arrival of its most thrilling animal yet--Li Ping--a rare and very expensive giant panda that the zoo went to enormous lengths to secure. But when the truck transporting Li Ping shows up, its precious cargo has vanished into thin air. The FBI steps in to investigate, and Teddy is happy to leave the job in their (supposedly) capable hands. After all, FunJungle has never encountered a crime this serious. But when someone threatens to blackmail Teddy's girlfriend, Summer, if he doesn't solve the crime, his involvement in this mystery is no longer black and white.



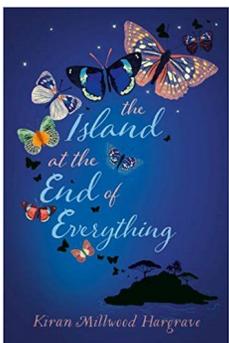
Gibbs, Stuart. ***Spaced Out: A Moonbase Alpha Novel***

There's nowhere to hide on the world's first moon base. After all, it's only the size of a soccer field. So when Nina Stack, the commander of Moon Base Alpha, mysteriously vanishes, the Moonies are at a total loss. Though he may be just twelve years old, Dashiell Gibson is the best detective they've got. But this confusing mystery pushes Dash to his limits. Especially since Dash accidentally made contact with an alien and has to keep it a secret. With the fate of the entire human race hanging in the balance, will Dash be able to solve the mystery of the missing Moonie?



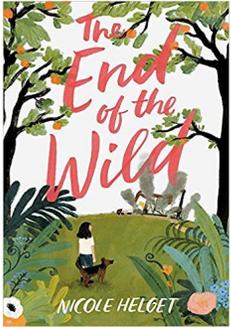
Haddix, Margaret Peterson. ***Under Their Skin***

Nick and Eryn's mom is getting remarried, and the twelve-year-old twins are skeptical when she tells them their lives won't change much. Well, yes, they will have to move. And they will have a new stepfather, stepbrother, and stepsister. But Mom tells them not to worry. They won't ever have to meet their stepsiblings. This news puzzles Nick and Eryn, so the twins set out on a mission to find out who these kids are--and why they're being kept hidden.



Hargrave, Kiran Millwood. ***The Island at the End of Everything***

Amihan lives on Culion Island, where some of the inhabitants - including her mother - have leprosy. Ami loves her home - with its blue seas and lush forests, Culion is all she has ever known. But the arrival of malicious government official Mr Zamora changes her world forever: islanders untouched by sickness are forced to leave. Banished across the sea, she's desperate to return, and finds a strange and fragile hope in a colony of butterflies. Can they lead her home before it's too late?



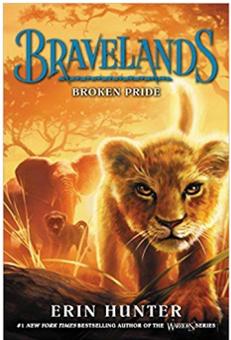
Helget, Nicole Lee. *The End of the Wild*

Eleven-year-old Fern doesn't have the easiest life. Her stepfather is out of work, and she's responsible for putting dinner on the table--not to mention keeping her wild younger brothers out of trouble. The woods near their home is her only refuge, where she finds food and plays with her neighbor's dog. But when a fracking company rolls into town, her special grove could be ripped away, and no one else seems to care. Her stepfather needs the money that a job with the frackers could bring to their family, and her wealthy grandfather likes the business it brings to their town. Even her best friend doesn't understand what the land means to Fern. With no one on her side, how can she save the forest that has protected her for so long?



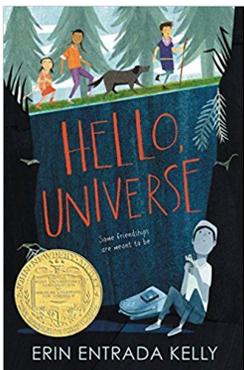
Horvath, Polly. *The Night Garden*

It is World War II, and Franny and her parents, Sina and Old Tom, enjoy a quiet life on a farm on Vancouver Island. Franny writes, Sina sculpts, and Old Tom tends to their many gardens--including the ancient, mysterious night garden. Their peaceful life is interrupted when their neighbor, Crying Alice, begs Sina to watch her children while she goes to visit her husband at the military base because she suspects he's up to no good. Soon after the children move in, letters arrive from their father that suggest he's about to do something to change their lives; and appearances from a stubborn young cook, UFOs, hermits, and ghosts only make life stranger. Can the forbidden night garden that supposedly grants everyone one wish help them all out of trouble? And if so, at what cost?



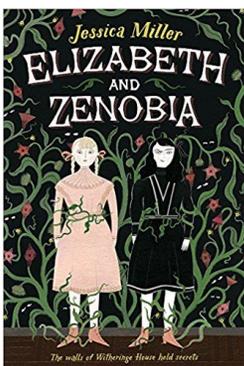
Hunter, Erin. *Broken Pride*

A lion cast out from his pride. An elephant who can read the bones of the dead. A baboon rebelling against his destiny. For generations, the animals of the African plains have followed a single rule: only kill to survive. But when an unthinkable act of betrayal shatters the peace, the fragile balance between predators and prey will rest in the paws of three unlikely heroes.



Kelly, Erin Entrada. *Hello, Universe*

In one day, four lives weave together in unexpected ways. Virgil Salinas is shy and kindhearted and feels out of place in his crazy-about-sports family. Valencia Somerset, who is deaf, is smart, brave, and secretly lonely, and she loves everything about nature. Kaori Tanaka is a self-proclaimed psychic, whose little sister, Gen, is always following her around. And Chet Bullens wishes the weird kids would just stop being so different so he can concentrate on basketball. They aren't friends, at least not until Chet pulls a prank that traps Virgil and his pet guinea pig at the bottom of a well. This disaster leads Kaori, Gen, and Valencia on an epic quest to find missing Virgil. Through luck, smarts, bravery, and a little help from the universe, a rescue is performed, a bully is put in his place, and friendship blooms.



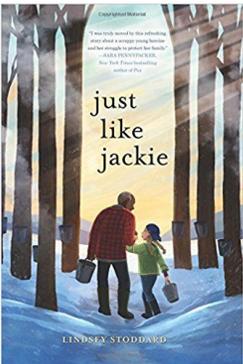
Miller, Jessica. *Elizabeth and Zenobia*

Abandoned by her mother and neglected by her scientist father, timid Elizabeth Murrum has only her fearless friend, Zenobia, for company. And Zenobia's company can be very trying! When Elizabeth's father takes them to live in his family home, Withering House, Zenobia becomes obsessed with finding a ghost in the creepy old mansion and forces Elizabeth to hold séances and wander the rooms at night. With Zenobia's constant pushing, Elizabeth investigates the history of the house and learns that it does hold a terrible secret.



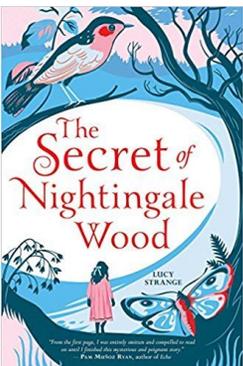
Rundell, Katherine. *The Explorer*

From his seat in the tiny aeroplane, Fred watches as the mysteries of the Amazon jungle pass by below him. He has always dreamed of becoming an explorer, of making history and of reading his name amongst the lists of great discoveries. If only he could land and look about him. As the plane crashes into the canopy, Fred is suddenly left without a choice. He and the three other children may be alive, but the jungle is a vast, untamed place. With no hope of rescue, the chance of getting home feels impossibly small. Except, it seems, someone has been there before them .



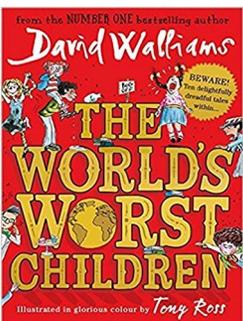
Stoddard, Lindsey. *Just Like Jackie*

For as long as Robinson Hart can remember, it's just been her and Grandpa. He taught her about cars, baseball, and everything else worth knowing. But Grandpa's memory has been getting bad--so bad that he sometimes can't even remember Robbie's name. She's sure that she's making things worse by getting in trouble at school, but she can't resist using her fists when bullies like Alex Carter make fun of her for not having a mom. Now she's stuck in group guidance--and to make things even worse, Alex Carter is there too. There's no way Robbie's going to open up about her life to some therapy group, especially not with Alex in the room. Besides, if she told anyone how forgetful Grandpa's been getting lately, they'd take her away from him. He's the only family she has--and it's up to her to keep them together, no matter what.



Strange, Lucy. *The Secret of Nightingale Wood*

1919. Mama is ill. Father has taken a job abroad. Nanny Jane is too busy to pay any attention to Henrietta and the things she sees - or thinks she sees - in the shadows of their new home, Hope House. All alone, with only stories for company, Henry discovers that Hope House is full of strange secrets: a forgotten attic, ghostly figures, mysterious firelight that flickers in the trees beyond the garden. One night she ventures into the darkness of Nightingale Wood. What she finds there will change her whole world ...



Walliams, David. *The World's Worst Children*

Are you ready to meet the World's Worst Children? Five beastly boys and five gruesome girls!

- Like Sofia Sofa – a TV super-fan so stuck to the sofa that she's turning into one!
- Or Dribbling Drew – a boy whose drool gets him into trouble on a school trip!
- And not forgetting Blubbering Bertha – a girl who bawls and tells terrible tales!

Also featuring a special appearance from fan-favourite Raj!

## NONFICTION (Grades 5&6)

### Atkins, Laura. *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up*

Fred Korematsu liked listening to music on the radio, playing tennis, and hanging around with his friends—just like lots of other Americans. But everything changed when the United States went to war with Japan in 1941 and the government forced all people of Japanese ancestry to leave their homes on the West Coast and move to distant prison camps. This included Fred, whose parents had immigrated to the United States from Japan many years before. But Fred refused to go. He knew that what the government was doing was unfair. And when he got put in jail for resisting, he knew he couldn't give up.

### Bolden, Tonya. *Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass, a Monumental American Man*

Frederick Douglass (1818–1895) is best known for the telling of his own emancipation. But there is much more to Douglass's story than his time spent enslaved and his famous autobiography. In his paper, the *North Star*, he pressed for an end to slavery and was outspoken in favor of women's suffrage. Once the nation's struggles between freedom and slavery led to armed conflict, he pushed President Abraham Lincoln to allow black men to fight in the Union cause. After the Civil War, Douglass remained tireless in seeking to improve the lives of African-Americans until the end of his life.

### Burns, Loree Griffin. *Life On Surtsey, Iceland's Upstart Island*

On November 14, 1963, a volcano fifteen miles off the shore of Iceland exploded under the sea, resulting in a brand-new island. Scientists immediately recognized Surtsey for what it was: an opportunity to observe the way life takes hold. Loree Griffin Burns follows entomologist Erling Ólafsson on a five-day trip to Surtsey, where since 1970 he has studied the arrival and survival of insects and other species. Readers see how demanding conditions on Surtsey can be, what it's like to eat and work while making the smallest impact possible, and the passion driving these remarkable scientists in one of the world's most unique fields ever!

### Chin, Jason. *Grand Canyon*

Rivers wind through earth, cutting down and eroding the soil for millions of years, creating a cavity in the ground 277 miles long, 18 miles wide, and more than a mile deep known as the Grand Canyon. Home to an astonishing variety of plants and animals that have lived and evolved within its walls for millennia, the Grand Canyon is much more than just a hole in the ground. Follow a father and daughter as they make their way through the cavernous wonder, discovering life both present and past. Weave in and out of time as die cuts show you that a fossil today was a creature much long ago, perhaps in a completely different environment.

### Doyle, Caitlin. *We Can Do Anything: 200 Incredible Women Who Changed the World*

From sports to innovation, art to politics - meet the incredible women who got there first, in the incredible girl-o-pedia of astounding achievements! Ever heard the saying "It's a man's world"? Clearly, the speaker had never met Amelia Earhart or Harriet Tubman. Those feisty females, and many more, rivaled their male counterparts in everything from computer programming to civil rights, and from world speed records to the invention of the chocolate chip cookie! Did you know that the first computer programmer was a woman? Countess Ada Lovelace (1842). Or that the inventor of the life raft, windshield wiper, and Kevlar were all female? Maria Beaseley (1882), Mary Anderson (1903), Stephanie Kwolek (1966). Read about ground-breaking inventions and feats of endurance by these incredible women.

Goldstone, Lawrence. ***Higher, Steeper, Faster: The Daredevils Who Conquered the Skies***

Aviator Lincoln Beachey broke countless records: he looped-the-loop, flew upside down and in corkscrews, and was the first to pull his aircraft out of what was a typically fatal tailspin. As Beachey and other aviators took to the skies in death-defying acts in the early twentieth century, these innovative daredevils not only wowed crowds, but also redefined the frontiers of powered flight. *Higher, Steeper, Faster* takes readers inside the world of the brave men and women who popularized flying through their deadly stunts and paved the way for modern aviation.

Levinson, Cynthia. ***Fault Lines in the Constitution: The Framers, Their Fights, and the Flaws that Affect us Today***

Many of the political issues we struggle with today have their roots in the US Constitution. Husband-and-wife team Cynthia and Sanford Levinson take readers back to the creation of this historic document and discuss how contemporary problems were first introduced--then they offer possible solutions. Think Electoral College, gerrymandering, even the Senate. Many of us take these features in our system for granted. But they came about through haggling in an overheated room in 1787, and we're still experiencing the ramifications.

Melvin, Leonard. ***Chasing Space (Young Reader's Edition)***

Leland Melvin is the only person in human history to catch a pass in the National Football League and in space. Though his path from the gridiron to the heavens was riddled with setbacks and injury, Leland persevered to reach the stars. While training with NASA, Melvin suffered a severe injury that left him deaf. Leland was relegated to earthbound assignments, but chose to remain and support his astronaut family. His loyalty paid off. Recovering partial hearing, he earned his eligibility for space travel. He served as mission specialist for two flights aboard the shuttle *Atlantis*, working on the International Space Station. As a chemist, athlete, engineer and space traveler, Leland's life story is a study in the science of achievement.

Sherman, Cindy. ***Meet Cindy Sherman: Artist, Photographer, Chameleon***

How does someone become a ground-breaking artist? Does it start when you're very little and discover that you like to play dress up? Does it happen when you're ten years old and someone gives you a Polaroid camera for Christmas? Maybe it begins in college, when you're finally on your own to discover the world as you see it for the first time. Looking at the life of legendary photographer Cindy Sherman, Jan Greenberg and Sandra Jordan have created an unconventional biography, that much like Cindy Sherman's famous photographs, has something a little more meaningful under the surface. Infusing the narrative with Sherman's photographs, as well as children's first impressions of the photographs, this is a biography that goes beyond birth, middle age, and later life. It's a look at how we look at art.

Sylvester, Kevin. ***Basketballogy: Supercool Facts You Never Knew***

For die-hard basketball fans and casual spectators alike, this collection of fascinating facts about the game will be a welcome addition to their library. From the origins of the game to how much players are paid, and the evolution of the basketball shoe, this book covers a wide range of topics. Among others are how the color barrier was breached, the rise of women's basketball, and innovations that have made the game accessible to disabled athletes.

Wallace, Sandra Neil. ***Bound By Ice: A True North Pole Story***

In the years following the Civil War, “Arctic fever” gripped the American public, fueled by myths of a fertile, tropical sea at the top of the world. Several explorers attempted to find a route to the North Pole, but none succeeded. *Bound by Ice* follows the journey of George Washington De Long and the crew of the USS Jeannette, who departed San Francisco in the summer of 1879 hoping to find a route to the North Pole. However, in mid-September the ship became locked in ice north of Siberia and drifted for nearly two years before it was crushed by ice and sank. De Long and his men escaped the ship and began a treacherous journey in extreme polar conditions in an attempt to reach civilization. Many—including De Long—did not survive. A riveting true-life adventure, *Bound by Ice* includes excerpts from De Long’s extensive journals, which were recovered with his body; newspapers from the time; and photos and sketches by the men on the expedition.

Weatherford, Carole. ***You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen***

*I WANT YOU!* says the poster of Uncle Sam. But if you’re a young black man in 1940, he doesn’t want you in the cockpit of a war plane. Yet you are determined not to let that stop your dream of flying. So when you hear of a civilian pilot training program at Tuskegee Institute, you leap at the chance. Soon you are learning engineering and mechanics, how to communicate in code, how to read a map. At last the day you’ve longed for is here: you are flying! From training days in Alabama to combat on the front lines in Europe, this is the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, the groundbreaking African-American pilots of World War II.

## SERIES FICTION (SEQUELS/TRILOGIES)

Auxier, Jonathan. **Peter Nimble.**

A ten-year-old blind orphan, who has been schooled in a life of thievery, steals a box from a mysterious traveling haberdasher—a box that contains three pairs of magical eyes.

(First book: ***Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes.*** Two books as of 2018.)

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks.**

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures.

(First book: ***The Penderwicks: a Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy.*** Five books as of 2018.)

Buckley, Michael. **NERDS.**

While running a spy network from their elementary school, five unpopular misfits combine their talents and use cutting-edge gadgetry to fight evil around the world.

(First book: ***NERDS: National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society.*** Five books as of 2018.)

Buckley, Michael. **The Sisters Grimm.**

Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother in a town populated by characters from fantasy and fairy tales, where their family business is detective work.

(First Book: ***The Fairy Tale Detectives.*** Nine books as of 2018.)

DuPrau, Jeanne. **Book of Ember.**

The tale of twelve-year-old Lina and her friend Doon, who are among those living in the decaying, post-apocalyptic underground city of Ember, and their efforts to come above ground and survive.

(First book: ***The City of Ember.*** Four books as of 2018.)

Frazier, Angie. **The Suzanna Snow Mysteries.**

In 1905, Suzanna is in training to be a well-mannered hostess at a New Brunswick hotel, but dreams of being a detective.

(First book: ***The Midnight Tunnel.*** Two books as of 2018.)

Freedman, Dan. **Jamie Johnson.**

Jamie is a boy who lives and breathes football. He has talent, drive and the desire to make it to the top as a world-class player..

(First book: ***The Kick Off.*** Eight books, including two prequels, as of 2018.)

Gidwitz, Adam. **Grimm.**

Warlocks with dark spells, hunters with deadly aim, and bakers with ovens retrofitted for cooking children lurk within these pages. But if you dare, turn the page and learn the true story of Hansel and Gretel - the story behind (and beyond) the bread crumbs, edible houses and outwitted witches.

(First book: ***A Tale Dark and Grimm.*** Three books as of 2018.)

Gutman, Dan. **The Genius Files.**

Twins Coke and Pepsi, soon to be thirteen, fend off strange assassins as they try to come to terms with their being part of a top-secret government organization known as The Genius Files.

(First book: **Mission Unstoppable**. Five books as of 2018.)

Levy, Dana Alison. **The Family Fletcher.**

Meet the Fletchers. Their year will be filled with new schools, old friends, a grouchy neighbor, hungry skunks, leaking ice rinks, school plays, wet cats, and scary tales told in the dark!

(First book: **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher**. Two books as of 2018.)

Malone, Marianne. **The Sixty-eight Rooms.**

A time-travel adventure series about the Thorne Rooms, sixty-eight miniature rooms housed at the Chicago Art Institute created by Mrs. James Ward Thorne in the 1930s, and a magic key that allows a person to shrink down small enough to explore their secrets.

(First book: **The Sixty-Eight Rooms**. Four books as of 2018.)

Pastis, Stephan. **Timmy Failure.**

Meet Timmy Failure, founder of the 'best' detective agency in town - Total Failure, Inc. Timmy may only be 11, but with the help of his polar bear, Total, he already has plans for world domination.

(First book: **Mistakes Were Made**. Six books as of 2018.)

Paver, Michelle. **Chronicles of Ancient Darkness.**

Torak is alone, wounded, terrified and on the run. His only ally is an orphaned wolf cub and his only chance of survival is his skill as a hunter. Soon he must face a foe that stalks him through the ancient darkness of the Forest and one that he can neither outrun nor outwit.

(First book: **Wolf Brother**. Six books as of 2018.)

Ross, Joel. **Fog Diver.**

Once the Fog started rising, the earth was covered with a deadly white mist until nothing remained but the mountaintops. Now humanity clings to its highest peaks, called the Rooftop, where the wealthy Five Families rule over the lower slopes and floating junkyards.

(First Book: **Fog Diver**. Two books as of 2018.)

## CLASSICS & OLD FAVORITES

Aiken, Joan. *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* (c1987)

Three children become involved in a series of adventures when left under the care of an evil detestable governess in the rural English manor of Willoughby Chase.

Avi. *Poppy* (c1995)

Poppy, a deer mouse, urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ooax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas. \*also a series

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden* (c1911)

A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors where she discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (c1865)

A little girl falls down a rabbit hole and discovers a world of nonsensical and amusing characters.

Cleary, Beverly. *Dear Mr. Henshaw* (c1983)

In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world. \*has a sequel

George, Jean Craighead. *My Side of the Mountain* (c1959)

A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains, including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship. \*also a series

Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague* (c1947)

On an island off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. Among them is the most mysterious of all, Phantom, a rarely seen mare that eludes all efforts to capture her--that is, until a young boy and girl lay eyes on her and determine that they can't live without her.

Kerr, Judith. *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* (c1971)

Recounts the adventures of a nine-year-old Jewish girl and her family in the early 1930s as they travel from Germany to England. \*also a series

Lewis, C.S. *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (c1950)

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the Golden Lion, in battling the White Witch who has cursed the land with an eternal winter. \*also a series

Lofting, Hugh. *The Story of Doctor Dolittle* (c1920)

The adventures of a kind-hearted doctor, who is fond of animals and understands their language, as he travels to Africa with some of his favourite pets to cure the monkeys of a terrible sickness.

Nesbit, Edith. *The Railway Children* (c1906)

When their father is sent away to prison, three London children move to the country where they keep busy preventing accidents on the nearby railway, making many new friends, and learning a good deal about themselves.

Oppel, Kenneth. *Silverwing* (c1997)

When a newborn bat named Shade (but sometimes called "Runt") becomes separated from his colony during migration, he grows in ways that prepare him for even greater journeys. *\*also a series*

Osborne, Mary Pope. *Adaline Falling Star* (c2000)

Feeling abandoned by her deceased Arapaho mother and her explorer father, Adaline Falling Star runs away from the prejudiced cousins with whom she is staying and comes close to death in the wilderness, with only a mongrel dog for company.

Sperry, Armstrong. *Call it Courage* (c1940)

Mafatu, a young Polynesian boy whose name means Stout Heart, overcomes his terrible fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his people.

St. John, Lauren. *The White Giraffe* (c2006)

After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe. *\*also a series*

Wilkinson, Carole. *Dragon Keeper* (c2003)

In Ancient China, during the Han Dynasty, a nameless orphan is hopeless and lonely until she comes to the aid of an aging dragon, and together they journey to protect a mysterious stone. *\*also a series*

Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little House on the Prairie* (c1935)

A family travels from the big woods of Wisconsin to a new home on the prairie where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, dig a well and fight a prairie fire. *\*also a series*