

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2016

Grade 3 and Grade 4

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Applegate, Katherine. **Crenshaw**. Feiwel and Friends, 2015. A story about a homeless boy and his imaginary feline friend, Crenshaw, that proves in unexpected ways that friendships matter, whether real or imaginary.
- Asim, Jabari. **Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington**. Little, Brown, 2012. Booker, a former slave, journeys five hundred miles, mostly on foot, with 50 cents in his pocket to begin making a dream come true at the Hampton Institute.
- Bauer, Marion Dane. **Little Dog, Lost**. Atheneum, 2012. A dog without a boy, a boy without a dog, and an elderly gentleman without a sense of belonging follow their star-crossed paths and find that love, compassion, and charity can cure loneliness and restore balance to their lives.
- Becker, Aaron. **Journey**. Candlewick, 2013. Follow a girl on an elaborate flight of fancy in a wondrously illustrated, wordless picture book about self-determination and unexpected friendship.
- Birney, Betty G. **Surprises According to Humphrey**. Putnam's, 2008. While continuing to help his classmates solve their problems, Humphrey, pet hamster of Longfellow School's Room 26, faces many surprises, like rolling in a hamster ball, a substitute janitor who might be an alien, and the possibility of Mrs. Brisbane retiring. *Series*
- Bishop, Nic. **Spiders**. Scholastic, 2007. Nic Bishop's signature up-close, stop-action photographs show spiders larger than life.
- Borden, Louise. **The Journey That Saved Curious George: The True Wartime Escape of Margaret and H. A. Rey**. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. Tells how the creators of "Curious George" narrowly escaped capture by the Nazis while fleeing Paris on their bicycles during World War II.
- Brown, Don. **Henry and the Cannons: An Extraordinary True Story of the American Revolution**. Roaring Brook, 2013. In 1776, Henry Knox creatively delivers cannons to General Washington in Boston, which leads to a victory over the British Army.
- Bryan, Ashley. **Ashley Bryan's Puppets: Making Something from Everything**. Atheneum, 2014. Beloved storyteller and creator Ashley Bryan reveals the vibrant spirit of found objects in this magnificent treasury of poetry and puppets.
- Cardillo, Margaret. **Just Being Audrey**. Balzer + Bray, 2011. Illustrations and text describe the life of Audrey Hepburn, beginning with her childhood, and describing her life in Nazi-occupied Holland, her dreams of becoming a prima ballerina, her success as an actress, and her efforts to help the world's children through UNICEF.
- Cleary, Beverly. **The Mouse and the Motorcycle**. HarperCollins, 1965. A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

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- Clements, Andrew. **No Talking.** Simon & Schuster, 2007. The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.
- Cole, Henry. **A Nest for Celeste.** Katherine Tegen, 2010. Celeste, a mouse longing for a real home, becomes a source of inspiration to teenaged Joseph who is an assistant to the artist and naturalist John James Audubon, at a New Orleans, Louisiana, plantation in 1821.
- Colfer, Chris. **The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell.** Little, Brown, 2012. Through the mysterious power of a cherished book of stories, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with the fairytale characters they grew up reading about. *Series*
- Cronin, Doreen. **Chicken Squad: The First Misadventure.** Atheneum, 2014. Dirt, Sweetie, Poppy and Sugar, the chicks of the Chicken Squad, must figure out what is making Tail the squirrel so afraid. *Series*
- Crum, Shutta. **Thomas and the Dragon Queen.** Yearling, 2010. The princess must be rescued from the Dragon Queen, and the smallest squire-in-training, 13-year-old Thomas, rises to the challenge of this quest.
- Dahl, Roald. **The BFG.** Farrar, Straus, Giroux, First published in 1982. Sophie is kidnaped from her orphanage by a BFG--Big Friendly Giant--and the two set out to save the world.
- Davies, Jacqueline. **The Magic Trap.** Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Evan Treski is trying his hand at magic with his little sister's help while the unexpected appearance of a hurricane and their long-lost father make for some interesting twists. *Series*
- Desmond, Jenni. **The Blue Whale.** Enchanted Lion Books, 2015. This nonfiction picture book, draws children into the life and world of this enormous whale by putting facts within a familiar context that is fun and engaging.
- DiCamillo, Kate. **Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures.** Candlewick, 2013. A girl named Flora and a squirrel named Ulysses, whose life was saved by Flora after he was involved in an incident with a vacuum cleaner, team up to use Ulysses' superpowers to conquer villains and protect the weak.
- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. **Grandma and the Great Gourd: A Bengali Folk Tale.** Roaring Brook, 2013. On her way to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, Grandma encounters a hungry fox, bear, and tiger, and although she convinces them to wait for her return trip, she still must find a way to outwit them all.
- Edgers, Geoff. **Who Is Stan Lee?** Grosset and Dunlap, 2014. A biography of comic book author and creator Stan Lee. *Series*
- Elliott, David. **On the Wing.** Candlewick, 2014. Clever verse and lovely artwork celebrate all things bird from the hummingbird to the majestic bald eagle.

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- Friedman, Laurie B. ***Mallory on the Move***. Carolrhoda Books, 2004. When eight-and-a-half year-old Mallory McDonald's parents tell her that they are moving, she's mad! How can they make her move away from Mary Ann, her best friend in the whole wide world?
- Gibbs, Stuart. ***Poached***. Simon & Schuster, 2014. Twelve-year-old Teddy Fitzroy is the prime suspect when FunJungle's newly-acquired koala goes missing, thanks to a prank staged by middle school bully Vance Jessup.
- Grabenstein, Chris. ***Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library***. Random House, 2013. Nine children enter into a competition to "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library," a game which the creator describes as "like *The Hunger Games* but with lots of food and no bows or arrows."
- Griffiths, Andy. ***The 13-Story Treehouse***. Feiwel and Friends, 2013. Under pressure by their publisher to finish their next book, two young authors graphically describe all the extraordinary distractions they face living in their 13 story treehouse.
- Gutman, Dan. ***Mission Unstoppable***. Harper, 2011. On a cross-country vacation with their parents, 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. *Series*
- Hale, Nathan. ***Big Bad Ironclad!: A Civil War Steamship Showdown***. Amulet Books, 2012. Retells, in graphic-novel format, the history of the ironclad steam warships used in the Civil War, revealing facts about the ship's inventor, William Cushing—who pranked his way through the entire war—as well as other real-life characters. *Series*
- Halls, Kelly Milner. ***Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes***. Greenwillow, 2010. This photo-illustrated book tells the poignant stories of abandoned lions who roamed an empty palace with no food or drink; the camel, Lumpy, who survived transport through sniper fire; the tigers, Riley and Hope, who traveled 7,000 miles from home; and shares first-hand accounts of how the United States soldiers and volunteers saved the animals of the Baghdad Zoo.
- Harley, Bill. ***Charlie Bumpers vs. the Really Nice Gnome***. Peachtree, 2014. Charlie has looked forward to being in the fourth-grade play, but he is not at all happy when Mrs. Burke assigns him the role of the Nice Gnome. *Series*
- Hatke, Ben. ***Zita the Spacegirl. Book One, Far from Home***. First Second, 2010. Zita rushes to the rescue after her best friend is abducted by an alien doomsday cult, and, before long, finds herself hailed as an intergalactic hero. *Series*
- Henry, Marguerite. ***Misty of Chincoteague***. Aladdin, 1947. Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.
- Hicks, Betty. ***The Worm Whisperer***. Roaring Brook, 2013. Ellison Ellis Coffey, a lonely fifth-grader, discovers he might have the special gift of talking to bugs and decides to use his ability to win his town's annual Woolly Worm Race.

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- Holm, Jennifer L. ***The Fourteenth Goldfish***. Random House, 2014. Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging and consequently has turned into a teenager, which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.
- Holub, Joan. ***Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom***. Aladdin, 2012. When ten-year-old Zeus is kidnapped, he discovers he can defend himself with a magic thunderbolt. *Series*
- Hopkinson, Deborah. ***Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building***. Schwartz & Wade, 2006. In 1931, a boy and his father watch as the world's tallest building, the Empire State Building, is constructed, step-by-step, near their Manhattan home.
- Huey, Lois Miner. ***Ick! Yuck! Eew!: Our Gross American History***. Millbrook, 2014. Discover many unusual and gross facts from America in the 1700s including many sights, smells and habits of the past.
- Jenkins, Steve. ***Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World***. Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Profiles a series of animals with unusual eyes and explains how the animals use their uniquely evolved eyes to gain essential information about the biological world.
- Kalman, Maira. ***Thomas Jefferson Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Everything***. Nancy Paulsen, 2014. Thomas Jefferson, interested in science, nature, architecture, math and botany, and best known for writing the Declaration of Independence, was also a slave owner who called slavery an "abomination."
- Keller, Laurie. ***Bowling Alley Bandit***. Holt/Christy Ottaviano, 2013. Arnie the talking doughnut is delighted to be Mr. Bing's new pet "doughnut-dog, so when Mr. Bing starts rolling gutter balls during a big bowling tournament, Arnie suspects foul play and sets out to solve the mystery. *Series*
- Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. ***A Taste of Freedom: Gandhi and the Great Salt March***. Walker, 2014. An old man in India recalls how, when he was a young boy, he got his first taste of freedom as he and his brother joined the great Mahatma Gandhi on a march to the sea to make salt in defiance of British law.
- Klimo, Kate. ***Barry***. Random House, 2013. Barry der Menschenretter, a Saint Bernard dog, reflects back on his life in the early 1800s at the Hospice of the Great Saint Bernard in the Swiss Alps, where he rescued some forty people from avalanches. *Series*
- Klise, Kate. ***The Show Must Go On!*** Algonquin, 2013. Two mice and a crow, who travel with a circus, cleaning up the spilled popcorn after every performance, come to the rescue when a greedy con artist takes over the management of the circus.
- Lee, Jenny. ***Elvis and the Underdogs***. Balzer + Bray, 2013. Benji, a young boy who suffers from seizures, has his life turned around when a talking therapy dog comes to live with him. *Series*
- Lewis, J. Patrick, ed. ***National Geographic Book of Animal Poetry: With Favorites From Robert Frost, Jack Prelutsky, Emily Dickinson, and More: 200 Poems With Photographs That Squeak, Soar, and Roar!*** National Geographic, 2012. Full-color photographs accompany two hundred poems about animals.

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- Lord, Cynthia. ***A Handful of Stars***. Scholastic, 2015. When her blind dog slips his collar, twelve-year old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family is in Maine for the blueberry-picking season, and based partly on their mutual love of dogs, the two forge a friendship while painting bee boxes for Lily's grandfather - but as the Blueberry Queen pageant approaches, Lily and Salma are confronted with some of the hard truths of prejudice and migrant life.
- MacLachlan, Patricia ***The Truth of Me: About a Boy, His Grandmother, and a Very Good Dog***. Katherine Tegen, 2013. Robbie and his dog, Ellie, spend the summer at his grandmother Maddy's house, where Robbie learns many things about his emotionally distant parents and himself.
- Malam, John. ***You Wouldn't Want to Be a Ninja Warrior!: A Secret Job That's Your Destiny***. Franklin Watts, 2012. Examines the skills needed to become a ninja, including practicing with weapons everyday, listening and not asking questions, and keeping your identity secret. *Series*
- Martin, Ann M. ***Rain Reign***. Feiwel and Friends, 2014. Struggling with Asperger's syndrome, Rose shares a bond with her 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 in order to search for her pet. *Schneider Family Book Award 2015*
- McCarthy, Meghan ***Pop!: the Invention of Bubble Gum***. Simon & Schuster, 2010. A collection of amusing historical facts on the invention of bubble gum.
- McGehee, Claudia. ***My Wilderness: An Alaskan Adventure***. Little Bigfoot, 2015. Beautifully written memoir of a young boy, his father, and an old frontiersman who spent one winter on isolated Fox Island in Alaska in the early 1900s.
- McMullan, Kate. ***Have a Hot Time, Hades!*** Stone Arch Books, 2012. In this story with a modern twist, Hades tells his own version of how he became King of the Underworld and Zeus became King of the Gods. *Series*
- Meltzer, Brad. ***I am Albert Einstein***. Dial Books, 2014. A picture book biography with an inspiring message that we can all be heroes like Albert Einstein, whose special way of thinking drove him to figure out the secrets of the universe.
- Messner, Kate. ***Rescue on the Oregon Trail***. Scholastic, 2015. Ranger, a golden retriever, could have been a great search-and-rescue dog except for the squirrels, but one day he unearths a mysterious box and finds himself transported back to the year 1850, where his faithful service is really needed by a family traveling west along the Oregon Trail. *Series*
- Morris, Gerald. ***The Adventures of Sir Lancelot the Great***. Houghton Mifflin, 2008. Follow the great, yet humble, Sir Lancelot through a series of exciting adventures in this humorous tale of one of King Arthur's knights. *Series*
- Neri, Greg. ***Hello, I'm Johnny Cash***. Candlewick, 2014. A stirring look at the early life of Johnny Cash, from his harsh but music-filled childhood to the first flush of stardom.

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- O'Neill, Alexis. ***The Kite That Bridged Two Nations: Homan Walsh and the First Niagara Suspension Bridge.*** Calkins Creek, 2013. Young Homan Walsh loves flying his kite and enters a contest to fly the kite with a line attached all the way across the Niagara River to help build the first suspension bridge between Canada and the United States.
- Osborne, Mary Pope and Natalie Pope Boyce. ***Heroes For All Times: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #51: High Time for Heroes.*** Random House, 2014. Jack and Annie track the facts behind six people who have changed history, including Florence Nightingale, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mahatma Gandhi, Harriet Tubman, Susan B. Anthony, and John Muir. *Series*
- Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. ***Dogs on Duty: Soldiers' Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond.*** Walker, 2012. Explains the many ways that dogs are used in the military and how they are trained and cared for.
- Polacco, Patricia. ***Tucky Jo and Little Heart.*** Simon & Schuster, 2015. A heartwarming story of friendship, loyalty, and kindness based on a true account of a World War II Veteran who gave as much as he could and never expected his kindness would come back to him when he needed it most.
- Probst, Jeff and Chris Tebbetts. ***Stranded.*** Puffin, 2013. Jane, Buzz, Carter, and Vanessa, aged nine to thirteen, are on a sailing trip in the South Pacific intended to help them bond in their newly-blended family when a massive storm strands them on a deserted island. *Series*
- Pyron, Bobbie. ***Lucky Strike.*** Arthur A. Levine, 2015. Nathaniel Harlow lives with his grandfather in a trailer park in Franklin County, Florida, and he has always been unlucky--but when he is struck by lightning on his eleventh birthday and survives, it seems like his luck starts to change.
- Rappaport, Doreen. ***Jack's Path of Courage: The Life of John F. Kennedy.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2010. A biographical portrait of John F. Kennedy, telling how he overcame childhood sickness and tragedy to lead the United States as president.
- Ripkin, Cal, Jr. ***Super-Sized Slugger.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2012. Thirteen-year-old Cody Parker moves to Baltimore, Maryland, where as a fat eighth-grader, he has to deal with brutal teasing from a baseball teammate, and his school is beset by a rash of mysterious thefts that threaten to sideline Cody and ruin a golden season for his team. *Series*
- Riordan, Rick. ***The Lightning Thief.*** Disney-Hyperion, 2005. Percy, expelled from six schools for being unable to control his temper, learns the truth from his mother that his father is the Greek god Poseidon, and is sent to Camp Half Blood where he is befriended by a satyr and the demigod daughter of Athena who join him in a journey to the Underworld to retrieve Zeus's lightning bolt and prevent a catastrophic war. *Series*
- Roberts, Cokie. ***Founding Mothers: Remembering the Ladies.*** Harper, 2014. A brief, behind the scene look at the women from the period of the Revolution and early United States.

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- Rosenstock, Barb. **The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2014. Describes how Wassily Kandinsky's creative life was profoundly shaped by a neurological condition called synesthesia which caused him to experienced colors as sounds and sounds as colors.
- Sachar, Louis. **Sideways Stories from Wayside School.** HarperTrophy. Originally published in 1978. Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story. *Series*
- Shurtliff, Liesl. **Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Relates the tale of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood and youth, explaining why his name is so important, how he is able to spin straw into gold, and why a first-born child is his reward for helping the miller's daughter-turned-queen.
- Silverstein, Shel. **A Light in the Attic.** HarperCollins, 1981. A collection of poems and drawings by American poet and humorist, Shel Silverstein including "Backward Bill," "Day After Halloween," "Gumeye Ball," "Nailbiter," "Sour Face Ann," and many others.
- Singer, Marilyn. **Follow, Follow: A Book of Reverso Poems.** Dial Books, 2013. A collection of clever poems that can be read backward and forward, often opposite in their meaning – all of familiar fairy tales.
- Spires, Ashley. **Binky: License to Scratch.** Kids Can Press 2013. When the humans leave the space station and board the animals at the vet, Binky and his friends make a humorous attempt to escape. *Series*
- Sternberg, Julie. **Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie.** Amulet Books, 2011. When nine-year-old Eleanor's beloved babysitter Bibi moves away to care for her ailing father, Eleanor must spend the summer adjusting to a new babysitter while mourning the loss of her old one. *Series*
- Tarshis, Lauren. **Hurricane Katrina, 2005.** Scholastic, 2011. Barry's family prepares to evacuate before Hurricane Katrina hits, but when his little sister gets very sick, they are forced to stay home and face the floodwater that sweeps Barry away. *Series*
- Temple, Bob. **The Titanic: An Interactive History Adventure.** Capstone, 2008. Describes the events surrounding the sinking of the ship Titanic in 1912, revealing the historical details from the perspective of a first-class passenger, a third-class passenger, and a crew member. *Series*
- Turnage, Sheila. **Three Times Lucky.** Dial Books, 2012. Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder. *Series*
- Van Allsburg, Chris. **Jumanji.** Houghton Mifflin, 1981. Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game. *Randolph Caldecott Award 1982*

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- Vande Velde, Vivian. **8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel Divided by 1 Dog = Chaos.** Holiday House, 2012. Twitch, the school yard squirrel, is chased into the building by the principal's dog and is now locked in for a dangerous and disastrous night where a group of small animals turns an elementary school into a real zoo.
- Walker, Sally M. **Winnie: The True Story of the Bear who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh.** Holt 2015. This is the true story of a bear named Winnie who was left behind at the London Zoo while her keeper went away fighting in World War I and becomes the inspiration for the fictional character Winnie-the-Pooh.
- Wallace, Bill. **Totally Disgusting!** Holiday House, 1991. Mewkiss, a timid, little kitten, who in spite of his uncourageous name, overcomes his fear of rats and finds strength during a crisis to save his mistress from danger.
- Weatherford, Carole. **Leontyne Price: Voice of a Century.** Alfred A. Knopf, 2014. Looks at the life and career of African American soprano singer Leontyne Price.
- Winter, Jonah. **Joltin' Joe DiMaggio.** Atheneum, 2014. In the golden age of baseball, sports announcers ruled the radio, winning and losing was front-page news, and just about every young boy wanted to grow up to wear Yankee pinstripes, including Giuseppe Paolo DiMaggio, Jr., a first generation Italian from San Francisco.
- Winter, Jonah. **Lillian's Right To Vote : A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.** Schwartz & Wade, 2015. As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great grandparents were sold as slaves in front of a courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then the long fight that led to her right and determination to cast her ballot when the Voting Right Act gave every American the right to vote.
- Yolen, Jane. **Animal Stories: Heartwarming True Tales from the Animal Kingdom.** National Geographic, 2014. Presents a collection of true animal stories from different historical periods, including the tales of Balto the Alaskan sled dog, Smoky the Bear, and Internet sensation Christian the lion.

Compiled by:

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