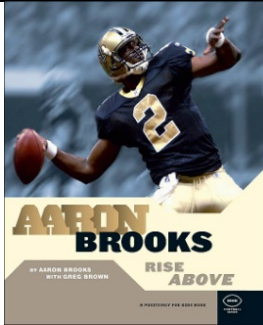
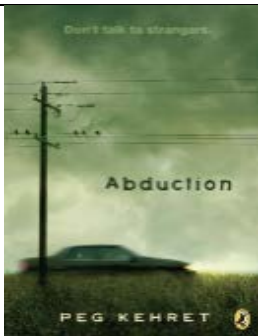


## ***Ms. Heckman's Summer Reading List***



### **Aaron Brooks: Rise Above** by Aaron Brooks and Gregg Brown

New Orleans Saints star quarterback Aaron Brooks takes us on his life journey from starting at "The Bottom"—the name for his childhood neighborhood in Newport News, Virginia—to being one of the elite 32 NFL quarterbacks. Aaron emphasizes the positive vision he had about his future and details how he, step by step, achieved his dreams.



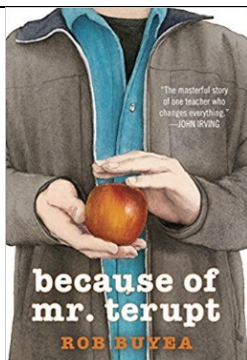
### **Abduction** by Peg Kehret

Matt is missing. Bonnie's brother left his classroom to use the bathroom—and disappeared. A police dog traces his scent to the curb, where he apparently got into a vehicle. But why would Matt go anywhere with a stranger? Overwhelmed with fear, Bonnie discovers that her dog is gone, too. Was Pookie used as a lure for Matt? Bonnie makes one big mistake in her attempt to find her brother. In a chilling climax on a Washington State ferry, Bonnie and Matt must outsmart their abductor or pay with their lives.



### **Artemis Fowl** by Eoin Colfer

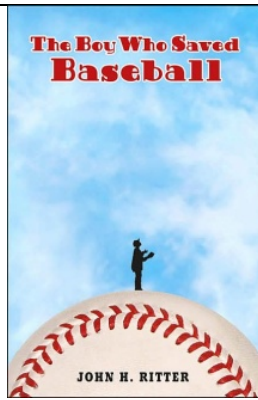
Twelve-year-old Artemis is a millionaire, a genius-and above all, a criminal mastermind. But Artemis doesn't know what he's taken on when he kidnaps a fairy, Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These aren't the fairies of the bedtime stories-they're dangerous!



### **Because of Mr. Terupt** by Rob Buyea

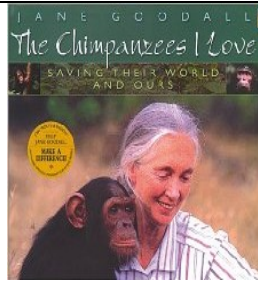
It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school.

Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone.



**The Boy who Saved Baseball** by John H. Ritter

Tom Gallagher is in a tight spot. The fate of the Dillontown team rests on the outcome of one baseball game, winner take all. If Tom's team loses, they lose their field too. But how can they possibly win? Just when everything seems hopeless, a mysterious boy named Cruz de la Cruz rides into town and claims to know the secret of hitting.



**The Chimpanzees and Me: Saving Their World and Ours** by Jane Goodall

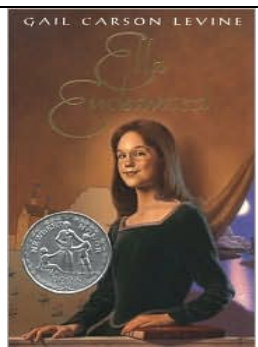
As a child, Jane Goodall dreamed of living with the wild animals of Africa. As a young woman, she amazed the world with her groundbreaking discoveries about chimpanzees, which she documented in her acclaimed National Geographic television specials. Ever since, Dr. Goodall has campaigned unceasingly for the protection of the chimpanzee, now an endangered species. This moving, personal account will inspire readers of all ages to join in her vital work.



**The Discovery (Dive, Book 1)** by Gordon Korman

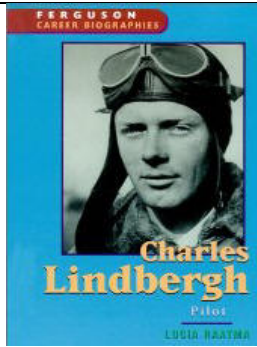
Four kids are diving to explore an underwater habitat that's just been altered by a seismic event. What they find, though, is much more than fish - it's sunken treasure. Can they salvage it without anyone else getting to it first? Will the prospect of wealth set them against one another? And what about those sharks? *Dive* is an action-packed trilogy (it includes books 2 & 3)

\*Gordon Korman has other trilogies: *Island*, *Everest*



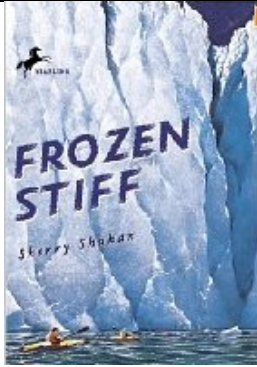
**Ella Enchanted** by Gail Carson Levine

At birth, Ella is inadvertently cursed by an imprudent fairy named Lucinda, who bestows on her the "gift" of obedience. Anything anyone tells her to do, Ella must obey. Her intelligence and saucy nature keep her in good stead as she sets out on a quest for freedom and self-discovery, trying to track down Lucinda to undo the curse, fending off ogres, befriending elves, and falling in love with a prince along the way. Yes, there is a pumpkin coach, a glass slipper, and a happily ever after, but this is the most remarkable, delightful, and profound version of Cinderella you've ever read.



### **Ferguson's Career Biography Series**

The Ferguson Career Biographies series tells the stories of some of the world's most admired people, focusing on the subject's early education and training, the challenges faced on the job, important career mentors, and career achievements. Students follow each person's journey along one or more career paths and get a sense of the person's historical importance.



### **Frozen Stiff** by Sherry Shahan

What begins as a two-night camping and kayaking trek in the untamed Alaskan wilderness turns into a test of survival for Cody and her cousin Derek. While their mothers are in Juneau picking up supplies for Yakutat Lodge, the cousins sneak off in an old pickup. The taste of freedom is soon tainted when Cody's kayak is lost on the rising tide, washing away her life vest and precious supplies. With only each other for support, the cousins face hunger and their fears of the unknown region of Southeast Alaska. As an advancing glacier floods the remote fjord, Cody and Derek find themselves facing menacing waves, immense icebergs, and wild animals. A sense that someone is following them adds to the formidable danger.



### **The Ghost of Lizard Light** by Elvira Woodruff (\*Author of *Dear Levi* and *Dear Austin*)

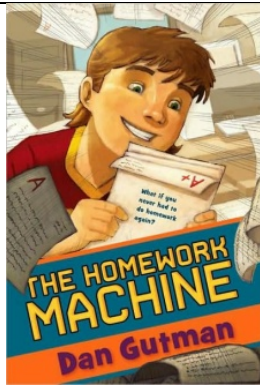
Ten-year-old Jack Carlton and his family have just moved to the small fishing town of Minty, ME, where his strict, unreasonable father has become the new elementary school principal. One night, the ghost of Nathaniel Witherspoon, a boy who died 150 years ago, suddenly materializes in his bedroom and cryptically tells Jack that he needs his help.



### **The Ghost Sitter** by Peni R. Griffin

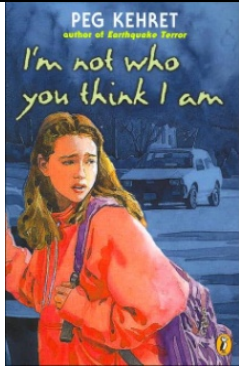
Charlotte is looking forward to a great summer in her new home, despite her many baby-sitting duties. Gradually, Charlotte realizes her all-too-normal house is haunted by the ghost of a girl who doesn't – or won't – realize that she's dead.





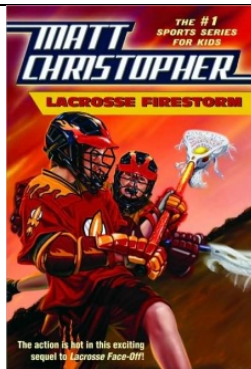
**The Homework Machine** by Dan Gutman

Fifth-grader Brenton is a computer genius, but the other three members of his work group think he's a nerd. So, when he tells them that he has invented a machine that does homework, they taunt him until he agrees to demonstrate. The machine actually works, and Kelsey, Sam, and Judy convince him to let them use it. At first, they are delighted with their freedom, but things quickly get out of hand.



**I'm Not Who You Think I Am** by Peg Kehret

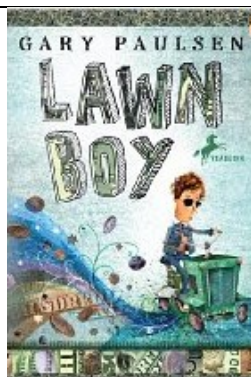
An odd woman confronts Ginger at the bus stop and divulges an unbelievable secret. While Ginger tries to decide what to do with the woman's strange information, she is involved in a school controversy between some parents and her favorite teacher. Suspense is interwoven with issues of loyalty and honor as Ginger desperately tries to save both her identity and her life.



**Lacrosse Firestorm** by Matt Christopher (\*series)

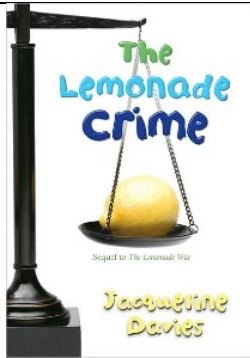
It's early summer, and things are really heating up between Garry Wallis and Michael Donofrio. At the end of last season, Garry sabotaged Michael's chances of becoming the league's top scorer. Now Michael is taking his revenge. He's got plenty of opportunity, too, for the Rockets are taking part in a week-long lacrosse tournament held at an overnight camp. Garry tries to ignore Michael, but the bullying finally gets to him-and what happens next sets off a string of near-disasters that finds Garry in the heart of a firestorm.

\* This book is part of a series. Any other book from this series would be a great choice as well.



**Lawn Boy** by Gary Paulsen

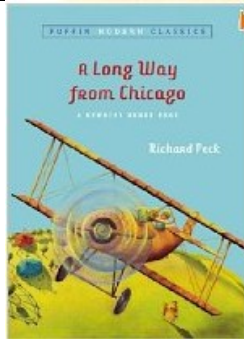
When the narrator's grandmother gives him an old rider mower for his 12th birthday, his life changes; he senses "some kind of force behind it." He begins a dizzying ascent up the financial ladder. The young tycoon ends up smarter than when he started out, *and* worth half a million dollars.



**The Lemonade Crime** by Jacqueline Davies (\*series)

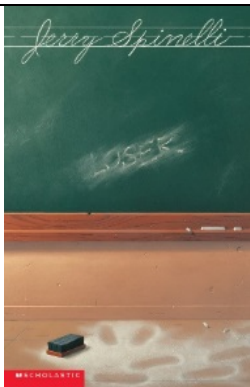
Following the laws of our legal system, Evan and Jessie's fourth grade class concocts a courtroom on the playground, putting Scott Spencer, alleged thief, on trial. They create a legitimate courtroom with a judge, witnesses, a jury of their peers, and surprising consequences.

\* This book is part of a series. Any other book from this series would be a great choice as well.



**A Long Way From Chicago** by Richard Peck

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



**Loser** by Jerry Spinelli

Just like other kids, Zinkoff rides his bike, hopes for snow days, and wants to be like his dad when he grows up. But Zinkoff also raises his hand with all the wrong answers, trips over his own feet, and falls with laughter over a word like "Jabip." Other kids have their own word to describe him, but Zinkoff is too busy to hear it. He doesn't know he's not like everyone else. And one winter night, Zinkoff's differences show that any name can someday become "hero."



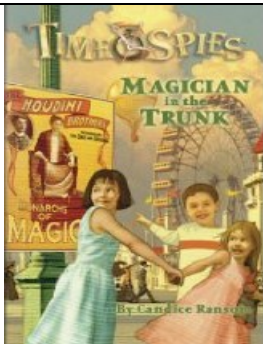
**Lunch Money** by Andrew Clements

Sixth-grader Greg Kenton has always had a talent for making money. His latest scheme, creating and selling miniature comic books, looks to be a success. However, problems arise when his classmate and longtime nemesis, Maura, competes with him by making her own mini-stories. Even worse, the principal, who believes that comic books are nasty and violent, bans their sale at school.



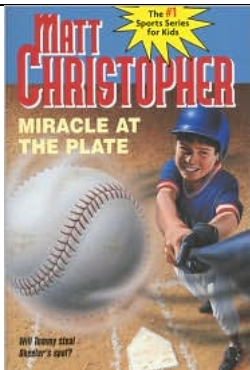
**The Magician's Nephew** by C.S. Lewis

On a daring quest to save a life, two friends are hurled into another world, where an evil sorceress seeks to enslave them. But then the lion Aslan's song weaves itself into the fabric of a new land, a land that will be known as Narnia. And in Narnia, all things are possible.



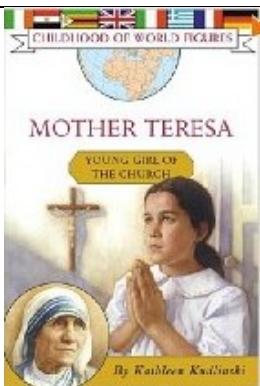
**Magician in the Trunk** by Candice Ransom

Mattie, Sophie, and Alex stumble onto a magical mystery at the Chicago Worlds Fair in 1893. Young Harry Houdini's magic show is failing and the kids decide to lend a hand. However, before they can sell one ticket, they're accused of stealing a priceless treasure. Can the world's greatest magician help the Times Spies conjure up the real thief?



**Miracle at the Plate** by Matt Christopher

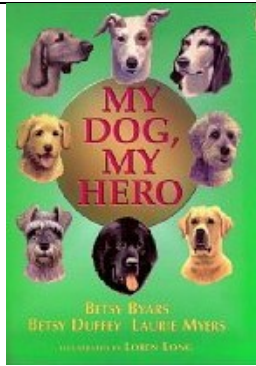
An ace batter but a pathetic fielder, Skeeter fears he might lose his position to a more consistent player. Black-and-white illustrations.



**Mother Teresa** by Kathleen Kudlinski

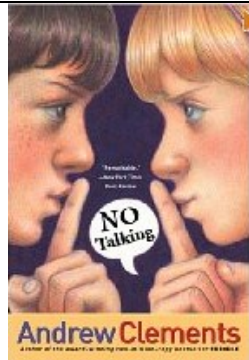
Born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in 1910, Mother Teresa grew up in a small war-torn town in Macedonia. The youngest of three children, Mother Teresa was called Gonxha, which means "flower bud," by her family because of her cheerful disposition. Mother Teresa's family were devoted Catholics who prayed every evening and went to church almost every day. By the time she was twelve years old, Mother Teresa knew she wanted to devote her life to helping the sick and poor.





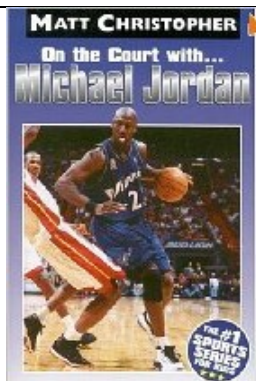
**My Dog, My Hero** by Betsy Byars

This delightful book is a collection of eight stories about extraordinarily heroic dogs. Each of the tales is told from the point of view of a contestant entering a dog in the My Hero contest. Drama, humor, excitement, and love fuel these short, well-written stories that are certain to be relished by dog lovers.



**No Talking** by Andrew Clements

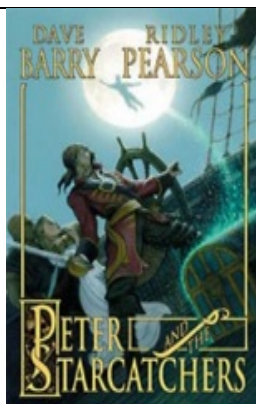
Dave Packer's classmates are so boisterous and difficult to quiet down that the teachers have dubbed them "The Unshushables." Dave has just read about Mahatma Gandhi and learned that the man practiced silence one day a week to bring order to his mind. Though Dave likes to talk nonstop, he's determined to give the idea a try.



**On the Court with Michael Jordan** by Matt Christopher

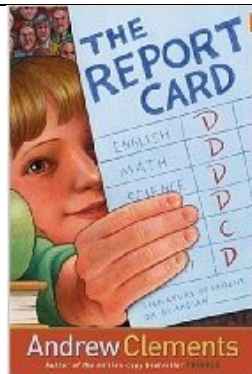
Matt Christopher, the number one sports writer for kids, profiles basketball superstar Michael Jordan, covering his childhood, college career, rookie years, and current professional standing. Real-life sports action makes for a reading experience that's not to be missed.

\*Any other biographies from this author are a great choice as well.



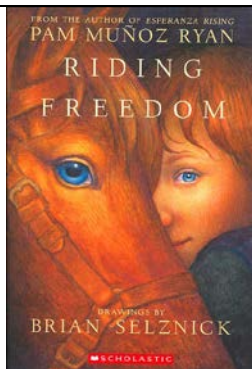
**Peter and the Starcatchers** by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson

Peter and the Starcatchers is the prequel to the Peter Pan story. It is the story of Peter and his friends and their magical adventure that takes Peter from a mundane orphan boy from England to an immortal flying boy on the magical island of Never Land.



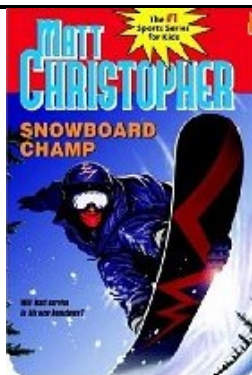
**The Report Card** by Andrew Clements

Fifth-grader Nora Rowley has always hidden the fact that she is a genius from everyone because all she wants is to be normal, but when she comes up with a plan to prove that grades are not important, things begin to get out of control.



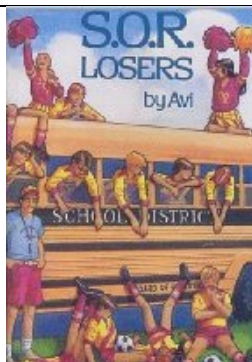
**Riding Freedom** by Pam Munos Ryan

This fictionalized biography of the first woman to vote in the state of California, and perhaps in the whole United States, is fascinating. Charlotte Parkhurst, known as Charley, spent most of her life masquerading as a man. Raised in an orphanage where she is the only girl, she is prevented from being adopted by the staff, who put her to work in the kitchen. Her preference is to be with the horses and the elderly man who cares for them.



**Snowboard Champ** by Matt Christopher

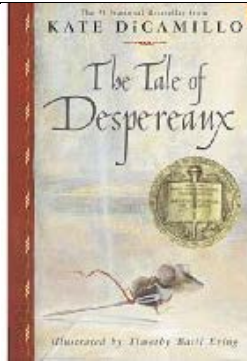
When Matt Harper's mother accepts a mysterious government job overseas, the boy must leave his home in Chicago to live with his Uncle Clay for a year in Dragon Valley. He is not happy but decides that he'll be fine as long as he can hit the slopes and snowboard. Then he runs into Riley, the best snowboarder and most popular boy in the eighth grade, and soon rumors are being spread about his past—that he was in a gang, did drugs, and that his mother is in prison. Matt must find a way to prove his innocence before Riley's campaign ruins him.



**S.O.R. Losers** by Avi

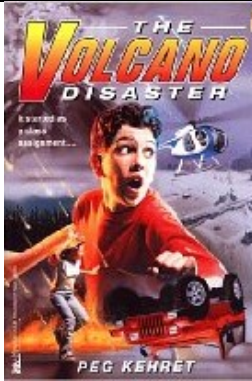
The South Orange River (S.O.R.) School is big on sports and famous for not losing a game all season. That all changes when the school insists that some seventh-grader non-jocks form a soccer team. The new team is sure that losing their first game 32-0 will put an end to their athletic adventure, but no such luck.





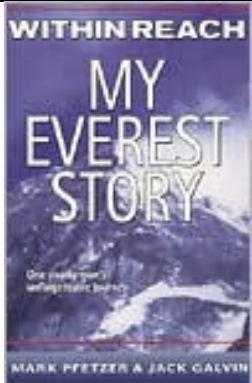
**The Tale of Despereaux** by Kate DiCamillo  
(Author of *Because of Winn-Dixie*)

Welcome to the story of Despereaux Tilling, a mouse who is in love with music, stories, and a princess named Pea. It is also the story of a rat called Roscuro, who lives in the darkness and covets a world filled with light. And it is the story of Miggery Sow, a slow-witted serving girl who harbors a simple, impossible wish. These three characters are about to embark on a journey that will lead them down into a horrible dungeon, up into a glittering castle, and, ultimately, into each other's lives.



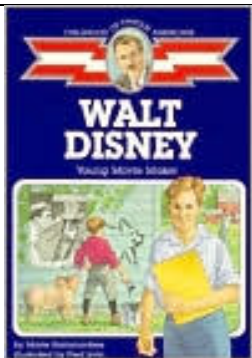
**The Volcano Disaster** by Peg Kehret

Warren Spalding is sent to live with his grandmother after his father dies in an accident and his mother returns to college. There he discovers his grandfather's invention, an Instant Commuter. Accidentally, the boy is transported back in time to the slopes of Mt. St. Helens just minutes before its eruption in 1980.



**Within My Reach...My Everest** Story by Mark Pfitzer

In May 1996, Mark Pfitzer at age 16 was the youngest climber on Mount Everest to reach 26,000 feet, and his gripping autobiography focuses exclusively on his mountain climbing achievements.



**Walt Disney: Young Movie Maker** by Marie Hammontree

In the childhood story of an American original, readers learn how a farm boy in Missouri grew up to be the father of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Pluto, Goofy, and scores of other beloved characters.

\*\* This book is part of a series. Any other book from the *Childhood of Famous Americans biography* series would be a great choice as well.