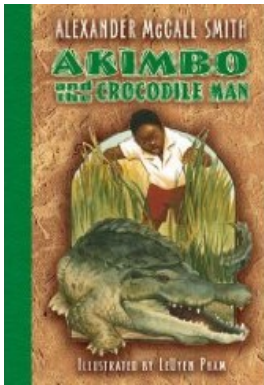


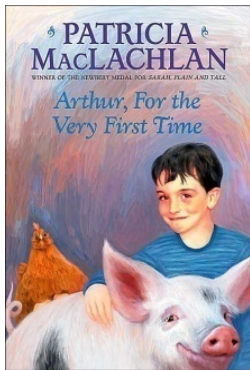
## Ms. Gennusa's 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading List 2019



**Akimbo and the Crocodile Man** by Alexander McCall Smith (\*series)

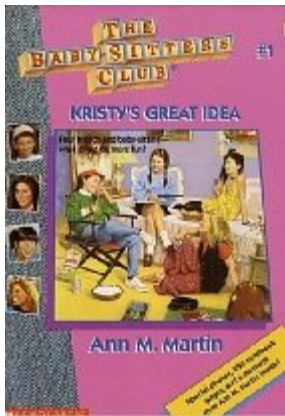
In this Akimbo book, Smith brings us an Akimbo wizened by age and adventure. Here Akimbo wishes to accompany the crocodile man who is tagging baby crocodiles in order to study survival rate in that part of the jungle. Most baby crocodiles become meals for other larger animals, and there was an interest to observe the number that survived to adulthood.

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



**Arthur, for the Very First Time** by Patricia MacLachlan

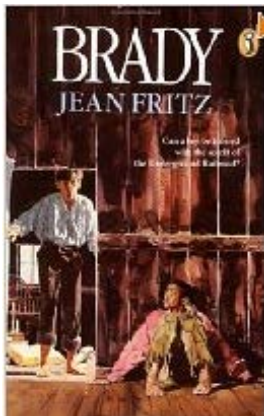
Arthur Rasby is ten years old and having the worst summer of his life. His parents don't listen to him, so he writes everything down-everything that's real-in his journal. But when he goes to stay with his Great-Aunt Elda and Great-Uncle Wrisby on their farm, his world is turned upside down. For the first time Arthur wonders what's real and what's not.



**Baby-Sitter's Club Series: Kristy's Great Idea** by Ann M. Martin (\*series)

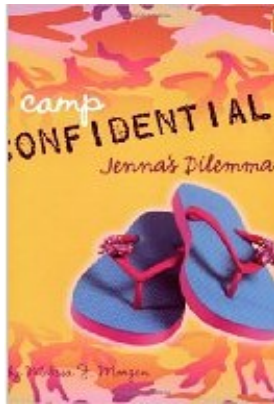
Kristy Thomas organizes her friends into a baby-sitters club. All of the areas of concern to pre-teen girls (wearing the "in" clothes, keeping friendships stable, coping with family stresses, and trying to grow up) are here, tied to the experience of baby-sitting.

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



**Brady** by Jean Fritz

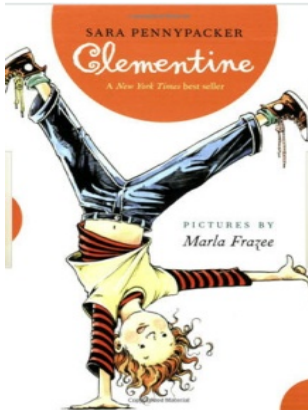
Brady has never been trusted with secrets, until now. When he discovers an Underground Railroad station near his family's farm, he is forced to make his own decision about the slavery controversy. Whatever his decision may be, he knows that this is one secret that must be kept.



**Camp Confidential: Jenna's Dilemma** by Melissa J. Morgan (\*series)

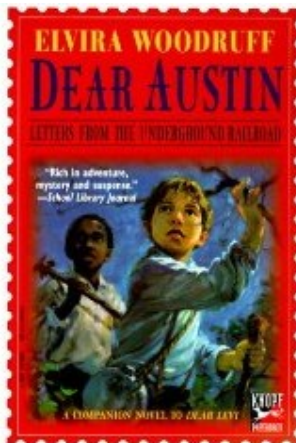
Summer camp means lots of things: new friends, roommates, bug bites, bathroom duty...But it's also a chance to be on your own and to reinvent yourself. A shy girl can become the belle of the ball, and a jock might find new competition.

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



**Clementine** by Sara Pennypacker

Clementine is having not so good of a week. On Monday she's sent to the principal's office for cutting off Margaret's hair. Tuesday, Margaret's mother is mad at her. Wednesday, she's sent to the principal....again. Thursday, Margaret stops speaking to her. Friday starts with yucky eggs and gets worse. And by Saturday, even her mother is mad at her. Okay, fine. Clementine is having a *DISASTROUS* week.



**Dear Austin** by Elvira Woodruff \*Sequel to Dear Levi

This historical novel tells the story of a young boy's friendship with African-American peers in the mid-1800s through his reflective letters to his older brother. In 1853, Levi Ives begins to write a series of letters to his older brother Austin who has moved to Oregon to settle the family's claim. Levi, who lives in the family's home in Pennsylvania, develops a friendship with Jupiter, the son of a former slave. Levi, Jupiter, and Possum, another friend, are adventurous boys who explore the wilderness until slave traders capture Darcy, Jupiter's younger sister.

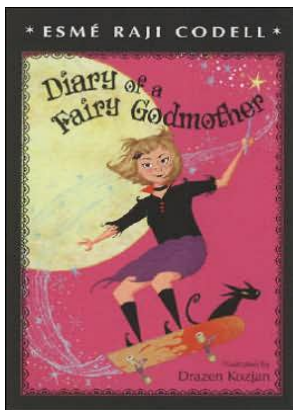
Levi joins Jupiter on a trip south through the woods to find Darcy. His letters chronicle the people and places he finds along the way including Harriet Tubman and slaves who are escape north via the Underground Railroad. He also tells his brother about the work of the abolitionists, the horror of a slave auction, and his own painful realization of racial prejudice.

**Dear Dumb Diary** by Jim Benton (\*series)



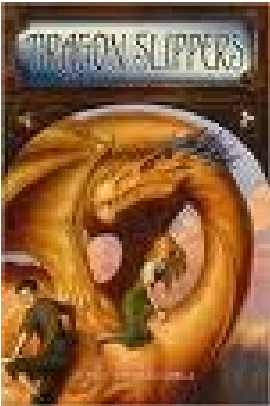
This is a series of books about life in Middle School. Jamie Kelly promises everything in her diary is true -- well, true as it needs to be, anyway. You will laugh as you read Jamie's diary entries about her life, especially the ones about the pretty, popular Angeline who, in Jamie's opinion, is a complete goon.

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



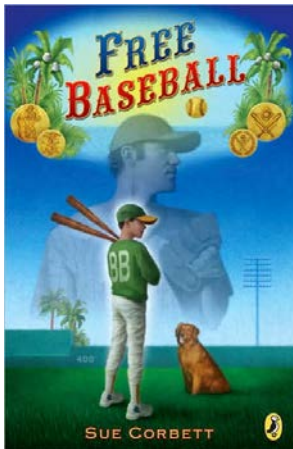
**Diary of a Fairy Godmother** by Esme Raji Codell

Hunky Dory's mother always told her, "You'll be the wickedest witch wherever the four winds blow." And why not? She's at the top of her class in charm school. She can make flowers wilt like wet spaghetti. She can also turn any prince into a frog - but she always changes him back. That's when she knows she has a problem. Hunky Dory's interest in "wishcraft" over witchcraft gets her kicked out of charm school. Now she's determined to follow her heart and become a fairy godmother. But how to go about doing it?



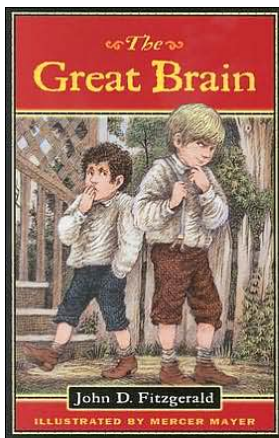
**Dragon Slippers** by Jessica Day George

After Creel's aunt totes her out to the local dragon in desperation, with the hope that the local prince will rescue her and marry her, Creel refuses the prince and finds friendship with the dragons, who set her on a journey to the center of the kingdom with a pretty pair of what only seem to be ordinary slippers. But soon enough those mysterious slippers begin to wreak havoc, and it's up to Creel to save the kingdom from disaster and defend the dragons from certain doom.



**Free Baseball** by Sue Corbett

Felix knows his dad was a famous baseball player in Cuba—and that his father risked everything to send Felix to America. But his mom won't reveal anything else. When a team with Cuban players comes into town, Felix wonders if they knew his dad, and sneaks into their locker room to ask. That's when the players mistake him for their new batboy. To uncover his father's story, Felix runs away from home to become the team's batboy. His bittersweet adventure glows with the friendship of a miraculous dog, the warmth of a mother's love, and the magic of baseball.

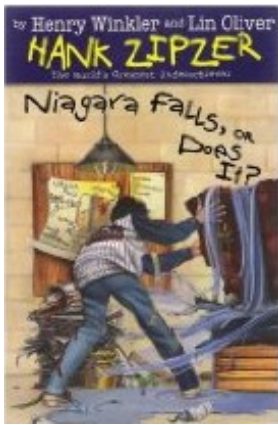


**The Great Brain** (Series) by John D. Fitzgerald

The best con man in the Midwest is only ten years old. Tom, a.k.a., the Great Brain, is a silver-tongued genius with a knack for turning a profit. When the Jenkins boys get lost in Skeleton Cave, the Great Brain saves the day. Whether it's saving the kids at school, or helping out Peg-leg Andy, or Basil, the new kid at school, the Great Brain always manages to come out on top—and line his pockets in the process.

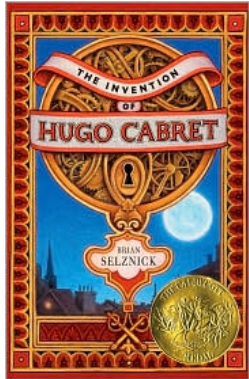
*\*\* If you like adventure and humor, try one of the books from this series.*





**Hank Zipzer Series** by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver

Inspired by his own experiences with undiagnosed dyslexia, actor/director Henry Winkler presents this series about the high-spirited and funny adventures of a fourth-grader with learning disabilities.



**The Invention of Hugo Cabret** by Brian Selznick

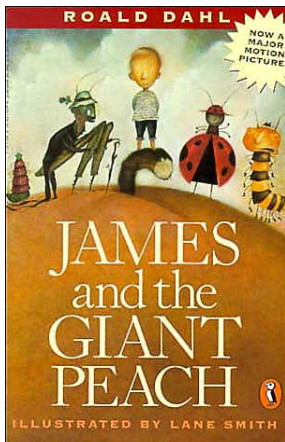
Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the station, Hugo's undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy.



**Jackie & Me** by Dan Gutman (\*series)

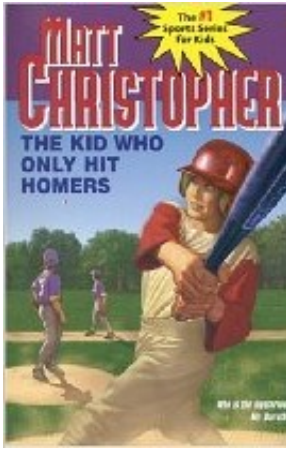
Joe Stoshack can travel through time with the help of his baseball cards. To write a report he goes back to meet one of the greatest baseball players ever, Jackie Robinson. This trip for a short time changes the color of his skin - and forever changes his view of history and his definition of courage.

\*This book is part of a series. Any other book from this series would be a great choice as well (ex. Babe & Me, Shoeless Joe & Me).



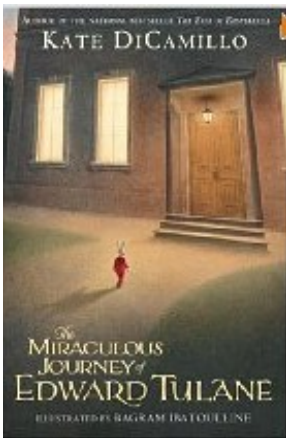
**James and the Giant Peach** by Roald Dahl

Have you ever had a dream? Did you ever have the chance to go somewhere you always wanted but the plans got destroyed? Well James's dream to go to NYC seems so close, but his only way getting there is traveling in a giant peach!



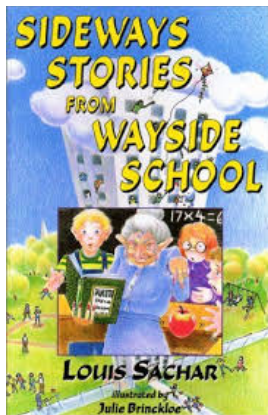
**The Kid Who Only Hit Homers** by Matt Christopher

When a mysterious man promises to make him a great player, Sylvester accepts and begins a phenomenal home-run streak.



**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane** by Kate DiCamillo

This adventure story is about a magnificent china rabbit who did not know how to love. He only cared about his looks and only half listens to the young girl he belongs to. This all changes when Edward is tossed overboard on the way to England and begins a journey from the depths of the ocean through many new homes and adventures.



**Sideways Stories from Wayside School** by Louis Sachar (\*series)

The Wayside School was supposed to be one story high, with 30 classrooms side by side; instead, it was built sideways, with 30 one-classroom stories. As befits such a strange school, these tales are a bit strange too.

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



**Who Was Ben Franklin** by Dennis Fradin (\*Series)

This is an often funny, always engaging introduction to one of America's most fascinating founding fathers. Franklin is affectionately and respectfully depicted as a man of insatiable intellectual curiosity with a tireless creative and inventive mind who played indispensable roles in the War for Independence and the establishment of the U.S. government.

\* This book is part of a series. Any other book from this series would be a great choice as well. However, please do not read Who is Malala Yousafzai, Who was King Tut, or Who Was Nelson Mandela, as they are part of our reading curriculum.

