

Librarian's Choice FUN BOOKS!



Humor



Here are some great books that are read all over the country, enjoyed all over the world. Each author is identified with a side heading.

Each title is listed below its author, along with the date the book was published. Each title includes a short description to help you see why each book can be FUN!

All of these books FICTION, so they are located in alphabetical order by the author's last name.

Remember, our library may or may not have each book – we will have to check.

Please let Mr. Breitsprecher know when your library does not have one of these books. Perhaps we can order a copy for next year.

You can check for them at the Portage County Library too. They can get any of these books for you via interlibrary loan too. If you are looking for something fun to read, check out these great books.

Ahlberg, Allan

The Cat Who Got Carried Away, 2003. It is an exciting couple of days for the Gaskitt family and their community--with missing pets, an unusual substitute teacher, and a special addition to their household.

Ardagh, Philip

Dreadful Acts, 2003. Twelve-year-old Eddie Dickens survives encounters with an escape artist in a runaway hearse's coffin, a hot air balloon bearing the escape artist's lovely assistant, a gas explosion, and a jewel thief on the run.

A House Called Awful End, 2002. When eleven-year-old Eddie Dickens's ill parents become "a bit crinkly round the edges," he is taken by his great-uncle and great-aunt, Mad Uncle Jack and Mad Aunt Maude, and embarks on adventures that

involve strolling actors, St. Horrid's Home for Grateful Orphans, and a carnival float shaped like a giant cow.

Terrible Times, 2003. Leaving his parents, his Mad Uncle Jack, and his Even Madder Aunt Maud at home at Awful End, Eddie Dickens, along with the color-blind Lady Constance, boards the ship the Pompous Pig on a mission to America.

Blume, Judy

Freckle Juice, 1971. A gullible second grader pays fifty-cents for a recipe to grow freckles. (Easy Fiction)

Fudge-a-Mania, 1990. Pete describes the family vacation in Maine with the Tubmans, highlighted by the antics of his younger brother Fudge.

Superfudge, 1991. Fudge is still a problem for Peter; the family is moving away for his 6th grade year which he will have to spend in a new school, and a new baby further complicates matters.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, 1972. Any fourth grader would agree that Peter Hatcher has a terrible problem -- his little brother Fudge. But the grown-ups in his life just can't see that there is something wrong with a two-year-old who wears his food on his head and swallows a pet turtle.

Brennan, Herbie

Nuff Said, 2002. Between hungry African ants, worried Javanese termites, hot weather, and an error by a dyslexic builder, Fairy Nuff has his hands full on the day of his extravagant garden party even before the evil Widow Buhiss arrives.

Cazet, Denys

Elvis the Rooster Almost Goes to Heaven, 2003. Elvis the rooster thinks he has died when he fails to crow at the rising of the sun but the chickens find a way to restore his cluck.

Cleary, Beverly

Beezus and Ramona, 1992. Beezus' biggest problem is her four-year-old sister Ramona. Even though Beezus knows sisters are supposed to love

each other, with a sister like Ramona it seems impossible.

Ellen Tebbits, 1951. Eight-year-old Ellen has braces on her teeth, takes ballet lessons, and worst of all, wears long woolen underwear which slips down during ballet class.

Henry and Beezus, 1952. When Henry makes friends with Beezus he finds he must also put up with her pesty little sister, Ramona.

Henry and Ribsy, 1954. The continuing adventures of Henry and his dog who innocently keeps getting him into trouble.

Henry and the Clubhouse, 1962. Henry finds himself locked inside the clubhouse with most of his newspapers still to be delivered.

Henry and the Paper Route, 1957. Henry is willing to try anything to be a paper boy -- from giving away a free kitten with every new subscription to working for an older boy -- but nothing seems to work until a solution arrives in the unexpected form of that little pest Ramona Quimby.

Henry Huggins, 1950. Henry is a small boy with a knack for creating hilarious situations.

Otis Spofford, 1953. Otis gets his come-uppance when he plays one trick too many.

Ramona and Her Father, 1977. Since her father lost his job nothing seems right to the Quimby family. Even Picky-Picky, the family cat, is grumpy because he has to eat the low-priced cat food. Ramona tries to be adorable so she can make a million dollars doing TV commercials so that her family will be happy again.

Ramona and Her Mother, 1979. Ramona at seven and one-half sometimes feels discriminated against by being the youngest in the family.

Ramona Quimby, Age 8; 1981. The further adventures of the Quimby family as Ramona enters third grade.

Ramona the Brave, 1975. Ramona Quimby, professional pest and loudmouth extraordinaire, now in first grade and trying hard to mend her

bratty ways, becomes the star of Show and Tell after a big dog chases her to school.

Ramona the Pest, 1968. Big sister Beezus thinks Ramona is the pestiest kid in town. So does Henry Huggins. And even his dog Ribsy ducks when Ramona comes in sight. That Ramona!

Ribsy. Ribsy, a carefree city dog, gets separated from his master, Henry Huggins, and gets involved in many predicaments (such as being forced to take a bath in violet-scented soap) before he and Henry are reunited.

Conford, Ellen

What's Cooking, Jenny Archer? 1989. Follows the comic mishaps of Jenny Archer as she goes into business preparing lunches for friends at school. (Easy Fiction)

Dahl, Roald

The Twits, 2002. The misadventures of two terrible old people who enjoy playing nasty tricks and are finally outwitted by a family of monkeys.

David, Lawrence

Terror of the Pink Dodo Balloons, 2003. Little Horace Splattly, alias The Cupcaked Crusader, hopes to become Celernip Prince at the Celernip Festival, keep his best friends, win the love of Sara Willow, cope with his talented scientist sister, and figure out who is creating the pink dodo balloons that are making people bald.

Dragonwagon, Crescent

Dear Miss Moshki, 1986. Banished to the hallway for disrupting the class on the day of a favorite author's visit, best friends Chris and Jeremy write the most outlandish apologies they can think of.

Doyle, Roddy

The Giggler Treatment, 2000. A talking dog, the Mack children and the small elf-like Gigglers themselves must try to stop the prank that the Gigglers have mistakenly set in motion to punish Mr. Mack for being mean to his children.

Rover Saves Christmas, 2001. When Rudolph comes down with the flu, it's up to Rover the dog and the Mack children to help Santa complete his Christmas deliveries.

Du Bois, William Pene

Twenty-one Balloons, 1947. Truth and fiction are combined in the adventures of a professor who sails around the world in a balloon. (Newbery Award Winner)

Eberhardt, Thom

Rat Boys, 2001. Fourteen-year-olds Marci and Summer use a magic ring to turn two rats into cute boys so that they can have dates for the Spring Fling.

Gantos, Jack

Heads or Tails: Stories from the Sixth Grade, 1994. Jack's diary helps him deal with his problems which include dog-eating alligators, a terror for an older sister, a younger brother who keeps breaking parts of himself, and next-door neighbors who are really weird.

Jack on the Tracks: Four Seasons of Fifth Grade, 1999. Moving with his unbearable sister to Miami, Florida, Jack tries to break some of his bad habits but finds himself irresistibly drawn to things disgusting, gross, and weird.

Jack's Black Book, 1997. Comic misadventures ensue when seventh-grader Jack tries to write the great American novel.

Gauthier, Gail

A Year with Butch and Spike, 1998. Upon entering the sixth grade, straight-A student Jasper falls under the spell of the dreaded, irrepressible Cootch cousins.

My Life among the Aliens, 1996. Two brothers begin to wonder if it is their Mother's unusual cooking that is attracting the aliens that keep showing up at their house.

Gilbreth, Frank B. Jr.

Cheaper by the Dozen, 1948. The hilarious adventures of twelve wonderful, red-headed rascals

set in the days of the "horseless carriage."
(Paperback only)

Haddad, Charles

Captain Tweakerbeak's revenge : a Calliope Day adventure", 2001. When mischievous nine-year-old Calliope Day talks her rich new friend into bringing Captain Tweakerbeak the parrot to school for a prank, the results are so hilarious Calliope decides to keep the bird for herself.

Hale, Bruce

The Malted Falcon, 2003. Chet Gecko and his partner Natalie try to find a missing valentine and the winning ticket to a fantastic dessert.

Horvath, Polly

The Pepins and Their Problems, 2004. The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow who creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.

Howe, Deborah

Bunnicula: a Rabbit Tale of Mystery, 1979. A dog named Harold tells the story of a rabbit many believe to be a vampire.

Hutchins, Pat

Follow that Bus! 1977. Two bank robbers find that a group of 2nd graders visiting a farm are more than they bargained for.

The House that Sailed Away, 1975. A nonsense novel about an English family's adventures at sea in their uprooted house.

Ibbotson, Eva

Not Just a Witch, 2003. Wanting to be more than just an ordinary witch, Heckie, whose speciality is changing people into animals, settles in a small town determined to use her powers for good purposes.

Ives, David

Scrib, 2005. In 1863, a sixteen-year-old boy nicknamed Scrib travels around the West making

his living writing and delivering letters, an occupation that leads to him nearly getting killed, being jailed as a criminal, joining up with the notorious Crazy James Kincaid, and delivering a letter from President Abraham Lincoln to a Paiute Indian.

Jocelyn, Marthe

The Invisible Enemy, 2002. Sixth grader Billie finds her life complicated when a cute boy from Montreal transfers to her school and her enemy Alyssa accidentally uses her vanishing powder.

Kline, Suzy

Orp, 1989. Twelve-year-old Orville and his friend Derrick form their own detective agency and, with help from Orville's younger sister Chloe, investigate the arrival of an unusual letter and the appearance of a mysterious intruder.

Korman, Gordon

The Chicken Doesn't Skate, 1996. Wild things happen at the South Middle School when Milo's science project, Henrietta the chicken, becomes the hockey team's mascot and their only chance for a winning season.

Lindgren, Astrid

Pippi Longstocking, 1945. Pippi, the strongest little girl in Sweden, lives with her horse and her monkey but no grownups. She delights her neighbors, Tommy and Annika, by foiling all attempts of police, schools, and neighbors to make her a polite little girl who goes to school.

Pippi Goes on Board, 1946. Tommy and Annika find life with Pippi so fascinating -- like getting shipwrecked, or going shopping for six pints of assorted medicines and 36 pounds of candy -- that when her father suddenly reappears to take her off to sea they are miserable. But Pippi, the hilarious tomboy with strength enough to lift her own horse, can also be gentle and generous, and so she makes an unexpected decision.

Lowry, Lois

See You around, Sam! 1996. Sam Krupnik, mad at his Mother because she won't let him wear his

new plastic fangs in the house, decides to run away to Alaska.

MacDonald, Betty

Hello, Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle, 1992. Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle has an old sea chest full of magic cures for children left to her by her husband the pirate. This time she provides the "Show-off" cure, the "Crybaby" cure, and perfect remedies for a bully, a whisperer, and a slowpoke.

Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle, 1985. Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle loves children good or bad. She never scolds them but has positive cures for "Answer-Backers", "Never-Want-To-Go-To-Bedders", and many other problems. These include the "Won't-Pick-Up-Toys" cure, the "Selfishness" cure, the "Radish" cure, the "Slow-Eater-Tiny-Bite-Taker" cure, and the "Fighter-Quarrelers" cure.

Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle's Farm, 1992. This time the remarkable Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle, who lives in an upside-down house and smells like cookies, provides the "Not-Truthful" cure, the "Pet-Forgetter" cure, the "Destructiveness" cure, the "Fraidy-Cat" cure, and the "Can't-Find-It" cure.

Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle's Magic, 1992. Mrs. Piggie-Wiggle helps worried parents once again with the hilarious "Thought-You-Saiders" cure, the "Tattletale" cure, and the "Bad-Table-Manners" cure, and several others.

Maguire, Gregory

Four Stupid Cupids, 2000. The students' scheme to find a love match for their beloved teacher on Valentine's Day turns into a comedy of errors when four stupid cupids from Ancient Greece try to help.

Three Rotten Eggs, 2002. The students of Miss Earth's class in rural Vermont experience an eventful spring when they become involved with a bullying new student, a competitive egg hunt, and genetically altered chicks.

Manes, Stephen

The Great Gerbil Roundup, 1988. In an effort to put the town of Gerbil, Pennsylvania on the map, the residents open up the First National Drive-Thru

Museum of American Sightseeing and Clean Rest Rooms and stage a gerbil roundup and jubilee.

Mason, Simon

The Quigleys, 2002. As with all ordinary families, occasionally things do go as planned - but not necessarily for the right person.

The Quigleys not for Sale (2004). The adventures and misadventures of the Quigleys--Mum, Dad, Lucy, and Will--continue, as they visit an elegant hotel, struggle with money matters, take a Mother's Day walk in the country, and consider moving to a bigger house.

McKay, Hilary

Dolphin Luck (2000). Sent by their vacationing parents to visit Mad Aunt Mabel, Perry and Ant have an adventure, while their younger siblings Sun Dance and Beany stay at home making burglar traps and searching for a magic sword.

McManus, Patrick F.

Never Cry "Arp!" 1996. is a lively collection of twelve stories about young Pat's misadventures in the Great American Wilderness.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

The Boys Return, 2001. The Benson boys return to Buckman for spring vacation and concoct a prank involving a nonexistent ghost, continuing the practical joke war between the Hartford boys and the Malloy girls.

Ogden, Charles

Rare Beasts, 2003. The sinister siblings, twins Edgar and Ellen, kidnap the pets of Nod's Limb's youngest citizens and turn them into "rare beasts" in hopes of making money to finance future pranks.

Pinkwater, Daniel

Artsy Smartsy Club, 2005. After three Hoboken children and their giant chicken Henrietta begin to

appreciate beautiful sidewalk art, they venture into art class and visits to Manhattan.

Blue Moose, 1975. A man who runs a restaurant on the edge of the big north woods meets a talking moose that moves in to spend the winter serving as headwaiter. (Easy Fiction)

Return of the Moose, 1979. The blue moose writes a novel based on his exploits and is sure it is the greatest book ever written by man or moose. He goes to Hollywood to supervise its filming. (Easy Fiction)

Fat Men from Space, 1977. Through his radio tooth, William learns of an invasion by spacemen who are taking all of Earth's supply of junk food.

Lizard Music, 1996. The sudden appearance of real lizards playing regular musical instruments on a television program launches an 11-year-old Walter Cronkite addict on a zany adventure with the Chicken Man and Claudia, a hen, as companions.

Wallpaper from Space, 1996. At bedtime, a young boy enters the outer space-patterned wallpaper in his room, and has adventures with a band of spacemice.

Proimos, James

Johnny Mutton, He's so Him; 2003. A kind-hearted sheep in human clothing enjoys entering a cooking contest, planning a birthday party, and participating in a staring contest, but each event has an unexpected result.

Richler, Mordecai

Jacob Two-two Meets the Hooded Fang, 1975. Unjustly imprisoned by the Hooded Fang and other big people, Jacob two-two awaits the aid of the members of Child Power to free him and two hundred other children.

Robinson, Barbara

The Best School Year Ever, 2005. Sequel to: The best Christmas pageant ever. The six horrible

Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, cause mayhem throughout the school year.

Rockwell, Thomas

How to Eat Fried Worms, 1973. In this very humorous story, Billy takes on a b-- he will eat 15 worms a day. His family and friends help devise ways to cook them.

Rodgers, Mary

Freaky Friday, 1988. Rebellious 13-year-old Annabel learns some unexpected things about herself during the preposterous experience of being turned into her mother.

Sachar, Louis

Sideway Stories from Wayside School, 1985. Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger, 1995. Unusual things continue to happen in the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each floor.

Wayside School Is Falling Down, 1989. More humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, where students learn to tango, face the cafeteria's dreadful Mushroom Surprise, and study a hobo during Show and Tell.

Shipton, Paul

Bug Muldoon: the Garden of Fear. Something strange is going on in the garden and Bug Muldoon, beetle private investigator, tries to figure out how the ants and the wasps are involved.

Smith, Robert Kimmel

Chocolate Fever, 2001. From eating too much chocolate, Henry breaks out in brown bumps that

foil some hijackers and teach him a valuable lesson about self-indulgence. (Paperback Only)

Snicket, Lemony

The Slippery Slope, 2003. In the perilous Mortmain Mountains, Klaus and Violet Baudelaire meet another well-read person, who helps them try to rescue Sunny from the villainous Count Olaf and his henchmen as they all near the "last safe place".

Stevenson, James

Yard Sale, 1996. Sinsbury is sitting under his favorite tree when a red chair and an accordion pass by, prompting him to get up and take a look at the Mud Flats Yard Sale. (Easy Fiction)

Vande Velde, Vivian

Wizard at Work: a Novel in Stories, 2003. A young wizard, who runs a school to teach wizards, looks forward to a quiet summer off but is drawn into adventures with princesses, unicorns, and ghosts instead.

Venokur, Ross

The Autobiography of Meatball Finkelstein, 2001. Thirteen-year-old Meatbell, an overweight vegetarian, discovers that eating meatballs gives him the magic power of turning into anything he wants, and he uses this ability to fight his principal's diabolical plot to eliminate fun from the planet.

Williams, Barbara

The Crazy Gang Next Door, 1990. When a gang of wild red-haired children, claiming to be midgets, take over the house next door while the owner is away, 12-year old Kim must figure out who they are and how to get rid of them.

H-e-l-l-p! the crazy gang is back! 1995. Kim finds out to her horror that two members of the Spikes gang have transferred to her junior high school and that one of them has a crush on her.