

Boy Main Characters

for
Middle Readers
9-12 years old



Blue fingers: a ninja's tale
by Cheryl Whitesel

In 16th century Japan, Koji is in the forest when he is kidnapped by a secret ninja clan and forced to train to be a ninja.



Brotherhood by Anne Westrick

It is 1867 and the Civil War has just ended in Richmond, Virginia. Fourteen-year-old Shadrach, who is dyslexic, follows his older brother to a meeting and ends up being initiated into the Ku Klux Klan.



Cabin on Trouble Creek by Jean Van Leeuwen

Two young boys journey from Pennsylvania to Ohio with their father to claim and clear their land in 1803. The boys are left alone to guard the land and have many adventures when their father goes back to Pennsylvania to retrieve the rest of the family.



The crossover by Kwame Alexander

This novel-in-verse is the story of fourteen-year-old Josh and his twin brother Jordan who are star basketball players. Off the court, at home, they are dealing with their father's declining health.



The 14 fibs of Gregory K. by Greg Pincus

Eleven-year-old Gregory is living in a family of math geniuses. The problem is, Gregory loves writing but does not like math at all.



Freak the mighty by W.R. Philbrick

The friendship between a brilliant physically-handicapped boy and an overly large learning-disabled boy helps both of them to overcome many obstacles.



Frindle by Andrew Clements

After Nick is assigned to do a report on dictionaries and where words come from, he decides to create a new word for pen and sets out to convince his class to use his made-up word (frindle).



Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

A thirteen-year-old boy spends 54 days alone in the Canadian wilderness after the plane he is riding in crashes, leaving the pilot dead.



Here be monsters!: an adventure involving magic, trolls, and other creatures by Alan Snow

Arthur becomes trapped in the city of Ratbridge by the evil outlaw Snatcher and, with the help of his new friends, tries to stop Snatcher from shrinking the monsters of Arthur's home, the Underworld.



Hero on a bicycle by Shirley Hughes

It's 1944 in Florence, Italy and the Nazi's are occupying the city. Thirteen-year-old Paolo sneaks out at night on his bike to ride the city streets, but is caught and he and his family are put in a terrifying situation.



The hound of Rowan by Henry H. Neff

On a visit to an art museum, Max sees a strange, glowing tapestry and then is visited by several odd people before he is invited to attend Rowan Academy where he will train to help kidnapped children.



The invention of Hugo Cabret: a novel in words and pictures by Brian Selznick

An orphan, living alone in a train station in Paris after his uncle's disappearance, befriends a young girl and finds that her godfather is a famous filmmaker who may help him to understand an automaton he found at the station.



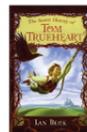
My side of the mountain by Jean Craighead George

Sam spends an adventure-filled year living alone in the Catskill Mountains learning to survive through harsh conditions and developing a strong appreciation of nature.



The Saturday boy by David Fleming

Eleven year old Derek is dealing with his father's deployment in Afghanistan as an Apache helicopter pilot, his best friend who has started bullying him, and his mother whose moods have gone quickly downhill.



The secret history of Tom Trueheart by Ian Beck

When his brothers do not return from their assignments with the Story Bureau, Tom sets out to find them and discover why they have not finished their missions.



Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

An eleven-year-old boy finds a beagle in the woods near his house and grapples with whether or not to return the dog to his abusive owner.



Tiger by Jeff Stone

When their Grandmaster is killed in the temple in 17th century China, five orphan warrior monks set out to recover ancient scrolls and discover the secrets of their past.



Tunnels by Roderick Gordon

When his father goes missing, Will and his friend Chester set out on a search through the tunnels beneath Will's house and discover a mysterious underground city.



Twerp by Mark Goldblatt

Set in 1960's Queens, New York, this is the story of Julian Twerski who is given the choice by his sixth-grade English teacher to write a journal about the terrible incident that got him and his friends suspended, or write a report on Shakespeare. Julian chooses the journal.



Zombie baseball beatdown by Paolo Bacigalupi

Thirteen-year-old Rabi and his friends investigate the nearby meatpacking plant and discover that toxic cattle feed is turning the cows into zombies.