



Belleville Area District Library's **Best Bets for 3rd and 4th Grade**

Atwater, Richard & Florence. *Mr. Popper's Penguins*

The unexpected delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper.

Banks, Lynne Reid. *The Indian in the Cupboard*

A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life.

Berends, Polly. *The Case of the Elevator Duck*

Eleven-year-old Gilbert, self-styled private eye, takes on his toughest case when he finds a duck in the elevator of his apartment building.

Blume, Judy. *Iggie's House*

Winnie Barringer's best friend, Iggie, has moved away. When the Garber family moves into Iggie's House, Winnie is thrilled, however, not everyone is as welcoming as Winnie.

Blume, Judy. *Superfudge*

Nothing is simple for 12-year-old Peter. His younger brother, Fudge, is bad enough. Now there's a new baby on the way, and his family is moving.

Blume, Judy. *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*

Two is a crowd when Peter and his four-year-old brother, Fudge, are in the same room. Grown-ups think Fudge is absolutely adorable, but Peter and his pet turtle, Dribble, know the truth.

Catling, Patrick. *The Chocolate Touch*

A boy acquires a magical gift that turns everything his lips touch into chocolate.

Cleary, Beverly. *Henry Huggins*

Nothing ever happens to Henry Huggins. Nothing, that is, until a stray dog named Ribsy comes into his life.

Cleary, Beverly. *Ramona Quimby, Age 8*

Ramona feels quite grown-up taking the bus by herself, helping big sister Beezus make dinner, and trying hard to be nice to pesky Willa Jean after school. So how can her teacher call her a nuisance?

Hurwitz, Johanna. *Much Ado About Aldo*

Animal-loving Aldo is horrified by the implications of his classroom project on the food chain and decides to stop eating meat.

Landon, Lucida. *Meg Mackintosh and the Mystery in the Locked Library*

Meg investigates the theft of a rare book from a locked library. The reader is challenged to solve the mystery before Meg does.

Lindgren, Astrid. *Pippi Longstocking*

Pippi lives alone (with a monkey) in her wacky house, Villa Villekulla. When she's not dancing with the burglars who were just trying to rob

her house, she's attempting to learn the "pluttification" tables at school.

MacDonald, Betty. *Hello, Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*

A woman with a magic way of curing children's bad habits tries her hand with a bully, a whisperer, and a slowpoke and formulates cures for a show-off and a crybaby.

MacDonald, Betty. *Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*

Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle lives in an upside-down house and smells like cookies. She was even married to a pirate once. Most of all, she knows everything about children.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Sarah, Plain and Tall*

When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay.

MacLachlan, Patricia. *Skylark*

When a draught strikes the prairie, Sara and the children journey back east for the summer. (Sequel to *Sarah, Plain and Tall*).

Norton, Mary. *The Borrowers*

The borrowers, a race of miniature people, live concealed in the houses of full-sized human beings. They subsist on bits of food and cleverly use odds and ends that they "borrow" and make into clothing, tools, and furnishings.

Rockwell, Thomas. *How to Eat Fried Worms*

Because of a bet, Bill is in the uncomfortable position of having to eat 15 worms in 15 days.

Sachar, Louise. *Wayside School is Falling Down*

Wayside School is 30 stories high with only one room on each floor. On the top floor is Mrs. Jewls' class, where order has been abandoned in favor of nonsense and silliness.

Selden, George. *The Cricket in Times Square*

Chester Cricket and his friends struggle to bring success to their human friends' nearly bankrupt newsstand.

Shreve, Susan Richards. *The Flunking of Joshua T. Bates*

For Joshua T. Bates, summer ended with being told he would be returning to third grade, instead of moving into fourth with his friends.

Sobol, Donald. *Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective*

A Civil War sword, missing roller skates, a ghost who whistles... Is there any case this kid can't crack?

Warner, Gertrude. *The Mystery of the Hidden Beach*

While visiting the Florida Keys, the Boxcar Children encounter suspicious characters, strange incidents at night, and a plot to steal valuable coral.

White, E. B. *Charlotte's Web*

Wilbur, a lovable pig, is rescued from a cruel fate by a beautiful and intelligent spider named Charlotte.

Wilder, Laura Ingells. *Little House in the Big Woods*

Four-year-old Laura and her family live in a log cabin on the edge of a big woods in Wisconsin.

Wilder, Laura Ingells. *Little House on the Prairie*

Laura's family travels from Wisconsin to the prairie, where they build a house, meet neighboring Indians, and fight a prairie fire.