



Belleville Area District Library's **Best Bets for 4th and 5th Grade**

Avi. *The Barn*

Children of Oregon settlers are left to fend for themselves on the frontier.

Blume, Judy. *Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great*

Sheila Tubman sometimes wonders who she really is: the outgoing, witty, and capable Sheila the Great, or the secret Sheila, who's afraid of the dark, spiders, swimming, and dogs.

Brink, Carol. *Caddie Woodlawn*

At age 11, Caddie Woodlawn is the despair of her mother and the pride of her father: A clock-fixing tomboy running wild in the woods of Wisconsin.

Burnett, Frances Hodgson. *The Secret Garden*

Neglected Colin lives the life of a spoilt and incurable invalid until the arrival of an orphaned cousin. The two children secretly combine to restore his mother's locked garden and Colin to health.

Burnford, Sheila Every. *The Incredible Journey*

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles

through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Christopher, Matt. *Fighting Tackle*

When he becomes stronger but slower, Terry must deal with being moved from defensive safety to offensive tackle on his football team

Dahl, Roald. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*

What happens when the five luckiest children in the entire world walk through the doors of Willy Wonka's famous, mysterious chocolate factory? What happens when, one by one, the children disobey Mr. Wonka's orders?

Dahl, Roald. *Matilda*

Matilda applies her untapped mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

DeClements, Barthe. *Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade*

Elsie Edwards is just a big, fat thief. Or at least, that's what everybody in Mrs. Hanson's fifth grade class thinks.

Farley, Walter. *The Black Stallion*

When the steamer Drake is shipwrecked off the Spanish coast, there are only two survivors. One is young Alec Ramsay. The other is the Black Stallion--wildest of all creatures--who saves Alec's life.

Fitzgerald, John. *The Great Brain*

Such people as Mr. Standish, the mean schoolmaster, regret the day they came up against The Great Brain. But others, like the Jensen kids lost in Skeleton Cave, know that Tom's great brain always saves the day.

Fitzhugh, Louise. *Harriet the Spy*

Harriet M. Welsch is a spy. In her notebook, she writes down everything she knows about

everyone, even her classmates and her best friends. Then Harriet loses track of her notebook, and it ends up in the wrong hands.

Howe, Deborah & James. *Bunnacula*

Before it's too late. Harold the dog and Chester the cat must find out the truth about newest pet in the Monroe household--a suspicious-looking bunny with unusual habits...and fangs!

Juster, Norton. *Phantom Tollbooth*

As Milo heads toward Dictionopolis he meets with the Whether Man, passes through The Doldrums, and picks up a watchdog named Tock (who has a giant alarm clock for a body).

King-Smith, Dick. *Ace: The Very Important Pig*

Farmer Tubbs' amazing pig, Ace of Clubs, eventually winds up on television for his cleverness.

Konigsburg, E. L. *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*

Claudia runs away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. They stand on the toilets and hide until the museum closes--and then their adventure begins.

Lewis, C. S. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

Lord, Bette. *In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson*

Shirley Temple Wong is thrilled to move from her home in China to America. But it isn't easy. She doesn't speak English, the kids at school ignore her, and she feels very far from home.

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

Arthur spends a summer with his unconventional aunt and uncle and begins to look at life, his family, and himself differently.

Merrill, Jean. *The Toothpaste Millionaire*

Rufus, a sixth-grader, succeeds in business without really trying when he develops and markets his own toothpaste.

Rodgers, Mary. *Freaky Friday*

Annabel awakens one morning in her mother's body! Annabel tries to cope with her mother's problems, plunging madly from one disaster to another.

Smith, Robert. *Chocolate Fever*

From eating too much chocolate, Henry breaks out in brown bumps that help him foil some hijackers and teach him a valuable lesson about self-indulgence.

Spinelli, Jerry. *Fourth Grade Rats*

Suds learns that his best friend is wrong. You don't have to be a tough guy, a "rat," to be a grown up fourth grader.

Taylor, Mildred. *The Gold Cadillac*

The shiny gold Cadillac that their father brings home one summer evening marks a stepping stone in the lives of two African-American sisters growing up in Ohio during the fifties.

Taylor, Sidney. *All-of-a-Kind Family*

Share the adventures of the All-of-a-Kind Family -- Ella, Henny, Sarah, Charlotte, and Gertie -- who live with their parents in New York City at the turn of the century.

Travers, P. L. *Mary Poppins*

A blast of wind, a house-rattling bang, and the beloved magical nanny Mary Poppins arrives at the Banks home. Quicker than she can close her umbrella, she takes charge of the Banks children--and changes their lives forever.