

HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Grade 3 and Grade 4

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.

- Arnold, Elana K. ***A Boy Called Bat***. Walden Pond Press, 2017. When his veterinarian mom brings home a stray baby skunk that needs rehabilitation before it can be placed in a wild animal shelter, Bat, who has autism, resolves to prove that he is up to the challenge of caring for the skunk permanently.
- Aston, Dianna Hutts. ***A Beetle Is Shy***. Chronicle Books, 2016. From flea beetles to bombardier beetles, an incredible variety of these beloved bugs are showcased in this carefully researched, visually striking book that is poetic in voice and elegant in design, perfect for sparking children's imaginations.
- Bass, Hester. ***Seeds of Freedom: The Peaceful Integration of Huntsville, Alabama***. Candlewick, 2015. In this intriguing story of nonviolent protests in early 1960s Jim Crow era South, black residents of Huntsville, Alabama, organize Blue Jean Sunday--a boycott of shops that sell traditional expensive Easter outfits; students plan a sit-in at a lunch counter; and schools are integrated through persistence and peaceful methods.
- Beck, W.H. ***Glow: Animals with Their Own Night-lights***. Houghton Mifflin, 2015. Whether it is used to hunt, hide, find a friend, or escape an enemy, bioluminescence--the ability to glow--is a unique adaptation in nature. In this fun and fascinating nonfiction picture book, join world-renowned photographers and biologists on their close encounters with the curious creatures that make their own light.
- Brown, Jeffrey. ***Lucy and Andy Neanderthal***. Crown, 2016. Lucy and her brother Andy, two Neanderthal siblings living 40,000 years ago, take on a wandering baby sibling, bossy teens, cave paintings and a mammoth hunt, but the real adventure begins when they encounter a group of humans.
- Bryan, Ashley. ***Freedom Over Me : Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought To Life***. Atheneum, 2016. Using original slave auction and plantation estate documents and his own bold and vivid illustrations, the author creatively contrasts the monetary value of a slave with the priceless value of life experiences and dreams that a slave owner could never take away.
- Bryant, Jen. ***Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille***. Random House, 2016. An inspiring picture book biography of Louis Braille—a blind boy so determined to read that he invented his own alphabet.
- Cleary, Beverly. ***Beezus and Ramona***. HarperTrophy, 2006. Four-year old Ramona has an imagination that makes her a menace to everyone around her, particularly her older sister, Beezus. *Series*
- Clements, Andrew. ***The Losers Club***. Random House, 2017. Alec, a sixth grade bookworm always in trouble for reading instead of listening and participating in class, starts a book club solely to have a place to read and discovers that real life, although messy, can be as exciting as the stories in his favorite books.

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- Colfer, Chris. ***The Land of Stories: The Wishing Spell***. Little, Brown, 2012. Through the mysterious power of a cherished book of stories, twins Alex and Conner leave their world behind and find themselves in a foreign land full of wonder and magic where they come face-to-face with the fairytale characters they grew up reading about. *Series*
- Cronin, Doreen. ***Into the Wild: Yet Another Misadventure***. Atheneum, 2016. In this droll story, four little chicks use their new spy kits (observation logs, binoculars, fake mustaches, and string-of-marshmallow belts) to investigate a mystery -- what animal lurks in the new backyard cage? A thunderstorm tests their survival skills, but in the end, the mystery is solved. *Series*
- Dahl, Roald. ***The BFG***. Farrar, Straus, Giroux. First published in 1982. Sophie is kidnaped from her orphanage by a BFG--Big Friendly Giant--and the two set out to save the world.
- Davies, Jacqueline. ***The Lemonade War***. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Evan and his younger sister, Jessie, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade, and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. *Series*
- Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. ***Grandma and the Great Gourd: A Bengali Folk Tale***. Roaring Brook, 2013. On her way to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, Grandma encounters a hungry fox, bear, and tiger, and although she convinces them to wait for her return trip, she still must find a way to outwit them all.
- Elliott, David. ***On The Wing***. Candlewick, 2014. Clever verse and lovely artwork celebrate all things bird from the hummingbird to the majestic bald eagle.
- Eggers, Dave. ***Her Right Foot***. Chronicle Books, 2017. This beautifully illustrated book looks at the significance of the Statue of Liberty's right foot.
- Eszterhas, Suzi. ***Sea Otter Rescue***. Owlkids, 2016. A visit to the Alaska SeaLife Center explores, through engaging text and striking photography, how sea otters have become orphaned or hurt by a range of threats and how the dedicated teams at the clinic help them heal and rehabilitate.
- Fleming, Candace. ***Ben Franklin's In My Bathroom***. Schwartz & Wade, 2017. When ten-year-old Nolan and his little sister, Olive, find Ben Franklin in their kitchen, they do their best to guide Ben through the new world he helped form.
- Fleming, Candace. ***Giant Squid***. Roaring Brook, 2016. A nonfiction picture book exploring the mysterious life of the elusive giant squid.
- Florence, Debbi Michiko. ***Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen***. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017. Eager to do something her big sister has not done first, Jasmine Toguchi, eight, decides to pound mochi with the men and boys when her family gets together for New Year's. *Series*

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- Gibbs, Stuart. ***Spaced Out***. Simon & Schuster, 2016. In 2041 twelve-year-old Dashiell Gibson is a resident of Moon Base Alpha, and at the moment he is faced with a number of problems: coping with the nasty Sjoberg twins, finding out how the commander of the base has managed to disappear from a facility no bigger than a soccer field, and dealing with the alien Zan who communicates with him telepathically from afar--and who is hiding a secret which may threaten the whole Earth. *Series*
- Grabenstein, Chris. ***Home Sweet Motel: Welcome to Wonderland***. Random House, 2016. P.T. and his friend Gloria must solve a mystery at the world's wackiest motel: The Wonderland. *Series*
- Graff, Lisa. ***The Thing About Georgie: A Novel***. HarperTrophy, 2008. Georgie's dwarfism causes problems, but he could always rely on his parents, his best friend, and classmate Jeanie the Meanie's teasing, until a surprising announcement, a new boy in school, and a class project shake things up.
- Griffiths, Andy. ***The 13-Story Treehouse***. Feiwel and Friends, 2013. Under pressure by their publisher to finish their next book, two young authors graphically describe all the extraordinary distractions they face living in their 13-story treehouse. *Series*
- Hale, Nathan. ***Alamo All-Stars***. Amulet Books, 2016. Hale recounts the story of the Alamo, featuring the exploits of historical legends Jim Bowie and Davy Crockett. *Graphic novel series*
- Halls, Kelly Milner. ***Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes***. Greenwillow, 2010. This photo-illustrated book tells the poignant stories of abandoned lions who roamed an empty palace with no food or drink; the camel, Lumpy, who survived transport through sniper fire; the tigers, Riley and Hope, who traveled 7,000 miles from home; and shares first-hand accounts of how the United States soldiers and volunteers saved the animals of the Baghdad Zoo.
- Harley, Bill. ***Charlie Bumpers vs. His Big Blabby Mouth***. Peachtree, 2017. With a little exaggerated bragging, Charlie convinces his classmates that his accountant dad would be the greatest Career Week speaker ever, and, using his friend's 'Parent Persuasion Strategy,' he finally talks his dad into coming. *Series*
- Harper, Charise Mericle. ***The Amazing Crafty Cat***. First Second, 2017. A new graphic novel trilogy for elementary-age readers about a little girl who can craft her way out of any situation. Each volume includes fun and simple instructions for do-it-yourself crafting activities. *Series*
- Henry, Marguerite. ***Misty of Chincoteague***. Aladdin, 1947. Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.
- Holm, Jennifer L. ***The Fourteenth Goldfish***. Random House, 2014. Ellie's scientist grandfather has discovered a way to reverse aging and consequently has turned into a teenager, which makes for complicated relationships when he moves in with Ellie and her mother, his daughter.

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- Holub, Joan. ***Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom.*** Aladdin, 2012. When ten-year-old Zeus is kidnapped, he discovers he can defend himself with a magic thunderbolt. *Series*
- Jenkins, Steve. ***Eye to Eye: How Animals See the World.*** Houghton Mifflin, 2014. Profiles a series of animals with unusual eyes and explains how the animals use their uniquely evolved eyes to gain essential information about the biological world.
- Kalman, Maira. ***Thomas Jefferson: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Everything.*** Nancy Paulsen, 2014. Thomas Jefferson, interested in science, nature, architecture, math and botany, and best known for writing the Declaration of Independence, was also a slave owner who called slavery an “abomination.”
- Keller, Laurie. ***Bowling Alley Bandit.*** Holt/Christy Ottaviano, 2013. Arnie the talking doughnut is delighted to be Mr. Bing's new pet "doughnut-dog," so when Mr. Bing starts rolling gutter balls during a big bowling tournament, Arnie suspects foul play and sets out to solve the mystery. *Series*
- Kimmel, Elizabeth Cody. ***A Taste of Freedom: Gandhi and the Great Salt March.*** Walker, 2014. An old man in India recalls how, when he was a young boy, he got his first taste of freedom as he and his brother joined the great Mahatma Gandhi on a march to the sea to make salt in defiance of British law.
- Klise, Kate. ***The Show Must Go On!*** Algonquin, 2013. Two mice and a crow, who travel with a circus, come to the rescue when a greedy con artist takes over the management of the circus. *Series*
- Lamothe, Matt. ***This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids From Around the World.*** Chronicle Books, 2017. An illustrated take on how seven real kids from different countries go about a typical day.
- Lewis, J. Patrick, ed. ***National Geographic Book of Nature Poetry : More Than 200 Poems With Photographs That Float, Zoom, and Bloom!*** National Geographic, 2015. Two hundred plus poems about nature beautifully illustrated by amazing photographs.
- MacLachlan, Patricia ***The Truth of Me: About a Boy, His Grandmother, and a Very Good Dog.*** Katherine Tegen, 2013. Robbie and his dog, Ellie, spend the summer at his grandmother Maddy’s house, where Robbie learns many things about his emotionally distant parents and himself.
- McCarthy, Meghan. ***The Wildest Race Ever: The Story of the 1904 Olympic Marathon.*** Simon & Schuster, 2016. The exciting and bizarre true story of the 1904 Olympic marathon, which took place at the St. Louis World’s Fair.
- McCully, Emily Arnold. ***Clara : The (Mostly) True Story of the Rhinoceros Who Dazzled Kings, Inspired Artists, and Won the Hearts of Everyone ... While She Ate Her Way Up and Down a Continent!*** Schwartz & Wade, 2016. A rhinoceros tours Europe in the mid-18th century and becomes a sensation--based on a true story.

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- McMullan, Kate. ***Have a Hot Time, Hades!*** Stone Arch Books, 2012. In this story with a modern twist, Hades tells his own version of how he became King of the Underworld and Zeus became King of the Gods. *Series*
- Messner, Kate. ***Rescue on the Oregon Trail.*** Scholastic, 2015. Ranger, a golden retriever, could have been a great search-and-rescue dog except for the squirrels, but one day he unearths a mysterious box and finds himself transported back to the year 1850, where his faithful service is really needed by a family traveling west along the Oregon Trail. *Series*
- Michelson, Richard. ***Twice As Good: The Story of William Powell and Clearview, the Only Golf Course Designed, Built and Owned by an African-American.*** Sleeping Bear Press, 2012. The true story of William Powell, who overcame great odds and obstacles to open Clearview Golf Course in Ohio, the first golf course that was designed, built, and owned by an African American.
- Mlynowski, Sarah. ***Upside-Down Magic.*** Scholastic, 2015. Nory, Elliott, Andres, and Bax find their lives forever changed when they attend the Dunwiddle Magic School's Upside-Down Magic class. *Series*
- Muntean, Michaela. ***Stay: The True Story of Ten Dogs.*** Scholastic, 2012. Luciano Anastasini, an injured circus performer, creates a fun, new act with his ten rescue dogs.
- Nolan, Janet. ***Seven and a Half Tons of Steel.*** Peachtree, 2016. This powerful story reveals how seven and a half tons of steel that had once been a beam in the World Trade Center became a navy ship's bow showing how something remarkable can emerge from a devastating event.
- Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. ***Dogs on Duty: Soldiers' Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond.*** Walker, 2012. Explains the many ways that dogs are used in the military and describes how they are cared for and trained.
- Patterson, James. ***Jacky Ha-Ha.*** Little Brown, 2016. Twelve-year-old Jacky "Ha-Ha" Hart is a class clown with a penchant for pranking--and when she's required to act in the school play to appease her frustrated teachers, she must conquer her stutter. *Series*
- Pearce, Jackson. ***Pip Bartlett's Guide to Magical Creatures.*** Scholastic, 2015. Pip is spending the summer with her aunt. At first it's all fun, games, and chatting until Fuzzles appear and start bursting into flames. *Series*
- Pearson, Luke. ***Hilda and the Stone Forest.*** Flying Eye Books, 2016. Hilda is hardly at home anymore, seeking days filled with excitement, and her mother can't help but worry... In a moment of tension, the pair find themselves flung far away into a mysterious, dark forest--the land of the trolls! Can they work together to escape the clutches of these sinister stone creatures? *Graphic novel series*
- Pipe, Jim. ***You Wouldn't Want to Be Cleopatra! : An Egyptian Ruler You'd Rather Not Be.*** Franklin Watts, 2017. Humorous illustrations and facts combine to provide a portrait of what life might be like as Cleopatra in Ancient Egypt. *Series*

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- Pizzoli, Greg. ***The Quest For Z: The True Story of Explorer Percy Fawcett and a Lost City in the Amazon.*** Viking, 2017. The true story of the British explorer Percy Fawcett, an adventurer who set out on a doomed expedition to find a lost city in the Amazon jungle.
- Probst, Jeff, and Chris Tebbetts. ***Stranded.*** Puffin, 2013. Jane, Buzz, Carter, and Vanessa, ages nine to thirteen, are on a sailing trip in the South Pacific intended to help them bond in their newly-blended family when a massive storm strands them on a deserted island. *Series*
- Raczka, Bob. ***Wet Cement: A Mix of Concrete Poems.*** Roaring Brook, 2016. A collection of concrete poetry written and shaped in surprising ways.
- Rissi, Anica Mrose. ***Anna, Banana and the Friendship Split.*** Simon & Schuster, 2015. Anna and Sadie have always been best friends, so when Sadie suddenly starts being mean, Anna is very sad and seeks support from her dog Banana and classmate Isabel, as well as advice from her brother Chuck and her parents. *Series*
- Robinson, Sharon. ***The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend.*** Scholastic, 2017. Eight-year-old Steve Satlow is thrilled when Jackie Robinson moves into his Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn in 1948, although many of his neighbors are not, and when Steve actually meets his hero he is even more excited--and worried that a misunderstanding over a Christmas tree could damage his new friendship.
- Rockliff, Mara. ***Anything But Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Herrmann, Queen of Magic.*** Candlewick, 2016. Traces the story of dancer-turned-magician's assistant Adelaide Herrmann, placing her achievements against a backdrop of period conventions about women in the arts and her determination to continue her work after the death of her husband.
- Rosenstock, Barb. ***The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art.*** Alfred A. Knopf, 2014. Describes how Wassily Kandinsky's creative life was profoundly shaped by a neurological condition called synesthesia which caused him to experienced colors as sounds and sounds as colors.
- Ruurs, Margriet. ***The Elephant Keeper: Caring for Orphaned Elephants in Zambia.*** Kids Can Press, 2017. Documents the story of a devoted advocate for elephant conservation who, as a child in Zambia, rescued a baby elephant and reevaluated his beliefs about elephants as violent predators while visiting a wildlife sanctuary.
- Sachar, Louis. ***Sideways Stories from Wayside School.*** HarperTrophy. Originally published in 1978. Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story. *Series*
- Scroggs, Kirk. ***It Came From Beneath the Playground.*** Little, Brown, 2014. Fifth-grade private eyes Logan and Gustavo use their doodling and detective skills to solve the mystery of a group of moles that have stolen the amusement park merry-go-round. *Series*

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- Shurtliff, Liesl. ***Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin.*** Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Relates the tale of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood and youth, explaining why his name is so important, how he is able to spin straw into gold, and why a first-born child is his reward for helping the miller's daughter-turned-queen.
- Silverstein, Shel. ***A Light in the Attic.*** HarperCollins, 1981. A collection of poems and drawings by American poet and humorist Shel Silverstein, including "Backward Bill," "Day After Halloween," "Gumeye Ball," "Nailbiter," "Sour Face Ann," and many others.
- Singer, Marilyn. ***Mirror Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse.*** Dutton, 2010. A collection of short poems which, when reversed, provide new perspectives on the fairy tale characters they feature.
- Stabler, David. ***Kid Athletes: True Tales of Childhood from Sports Legends.*** Quirk Books, 2015. Hilarious childhood biographies and full-color illustrations show how Tiger Woods, Gabby Douglas, Bruce Lee, Billie Jean King, and other budding sports champions faced kid-sized challenges growing up. *Series*
- Stanley, Diane. ***Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science : The First Computer Programmer.*** Simon & Schuster, 2016. This is the story of how an important but little-known woman – a brilliant scientist and mathematician - envisioned the computer-driven world we know today.
- Sternberg, Julie. ***Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie.*** Amulet Books, 2011. When nine-year-old Eleanor's beloved babysitter Bibi moves away to care for her ailing father, Eleanor must spend the summer adjusting to a new babysitter while mourning the loss of her old one. *Series*
- Tarshis, Lauren. ***I Survived the Hindenburg Disaster, 1937.*** Scholastic, 2016. Eleven year-old Hugo, his parents, and his sister Gertie are making the thrilling four thousand mile journey across the Atlantic in a zeppelin as big as the Titanic when disaster strikes and fire consumes the ship. *Series*
- Tavares, Matt. ***Crossing Niagara: The Death-Defying Tightrope Adventures of the Great Blondin.*** Candlewick, 2016. An illustrated account of the daredevil of Niagara Falls, the Great Blondin, who walked from America to Canada across the Niagara River on a rope.
- Temple, Bob. ***The Golden Age of Pirates: An Interactive History Adventure.*** Capstone, 2016. Describes the people and events of the Golden Age of Piracy. The reader's choices reveal the historical details from the perspective of a pirate, a navy sailor, and a merchant ship crewmember. *Series*
- Turnage, Sheila. ***Three Times Lucky.*** Dial Books, 2012. Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with his cook, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder. *Series*
- Van Allsburg, Chris. ***Jumanji.*** Houghton Mifflin, 1981. Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game. *Randolph Caldecott Award 1982*

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- Van Haeringen, Annemarie. ***Coco and the Little Black Dress***. NorthSouth, 2015. A picture book biography of the famous French fashion designer, Coco Chanel.
- Vande Velde, Vivian. ***Three Good Deeds***. Magic Carpet, 2005. Caught stealing some goose eggs from a witch, Howard is cursed for his heartlessness and turned into a goose himself, and he can only become human again by performing three good deeds.
- Vernick, Audrey. ***The Kid from Diamond Street: The Extraordinary Story of Baseball Legend Edith Houghton***. Clarion, 2016. A historical picture book about Edith Houghton, a female baseball phenomenon who joined the professional women's team the Bobbies in 1922 at the age of 10.
- Walker, Sally M. ***Winnie: The True Story of the Bear who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh***. Holt, 2015. This is the true story of a bear named Winnie who was left behind at the London Zoo while her keeper went away fighting in World War I and becomes the inspiration for the fictional character Winnie-the-Pooh.
- Weeks, Sarah, and Gita Varadarajan. ***Save Me A Seat***. Scholastic, 2016. Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class. Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems. When their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade, they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.
- Weiner, Ellis. ***The Templeton Twins Have an Idea***. Chronicle Books, 2012. Abigail and John, the Templeton twins, and their dog Cassie, foil two inept kidnappers intent on stealing one of their father's newest inventions. *Series*
- Winick, Judd. ***Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth***. Random House, 2016. When a mysterious boy falls from the sky, friends D.J. and Gina must discover the secrets of his identity and help him save the world. *Series*
- Winter, Jonah. ***Lillian's Right To Vote : A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965***. Schwartz & Wade, 2015. As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of the courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then remembers the long fight that led to her right--and determination--to cast her ballot since the Voting Rights Act gave every American the right to vote.
- Yep, Laurence. ***A Dragon's Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans***. Crown, 2015. Feisty dragon Miss Drake's new pet human, precocious ten-year-old Winnie, not only thinks Miss Drake is her pet, she accidentally brings to life her "sketchlings" of mysterious and fantastic creatures hidden in San Francisco, causing mayhem among its residents. *Series*

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*All book summaries are provided by the publisher or
written by committee members.*

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