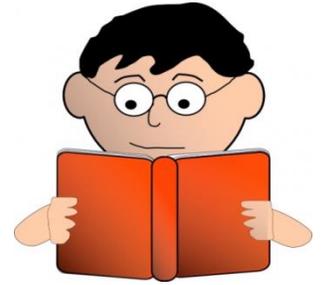


Realistic Fiction

All the following books are owned by the Fair Lawn Library. Look for them in the Children's Fiction section under the author's last name.



Check out other great books by these authors.

J	<p><i>Elaine & the Flying Frog</i> by Heidi Chang Chinese American Elaine Chow feels like an outcast after moving to a small town in Iowa, until she shares a new friendship and a science project with a girl strongly interested in frogs.</p>
K	<p><i>Allison's Puppy</i> By Marion Bauer All Allison wants is a puppy for her birthday.</p>
K	<p><i>Puppy Power</i> by Judy Cox Boisterous third-grader Fran has trouble controlling herself, but learning how to train her gigantic Newfoundland puppy helps her gain enough self-control to win the part of princess in the class play. Includes instructions on puppy training.</p>
L	<p><i>Horrible Harry and the Locked Closet (Series)</i> by Suzy Kline Harry and his detective classmates try to find clues relating to a mysterious locked closet in Room 3B.</p>
L	<p><i>Kiki: My Stylish Life (Series)</i> by Kyla May Kiki and her best friends, Coco and Lulu, all live on Lotus Lane, attend Amber Acres Elementary School, and have their own club, so when a Japanese girl named Mika moves in next door and also chooses fashion design for her art project, Kiki is seriously annoyed.</p>
L	<p><i>Martin Redpost Kidnapped at Birth (Series)</i> by Louis Sachar Marvin Redpost has never felt like he fits in with his family. So when he hears a news report about a missing prince who looks just like him, he knows exactly what happened. Now all he has to do is tell Mr. and Mrs. Redpost that it's time for him to move in with his real parents at the castle....</p>
L	<p><i>Ready Freddy Tooth Trouble (Series)</i> by Abby Klein Unhappy to be the only one in his class who still has not lost a tooth, first-grader Freddy tries to find a way to expedite matters but then is faced with another problem.</p>
L	<p><i>Roscoe Riley Rules: Never Glue your Friends to Chairs (Series)</i> by K. Applegate When the first graders' bee antennae would not stay on their heads and the drummers would not stay in their seats for the open house play, Roscoe decides to help by using the "don't-you-dare" glue.</p>
M	<p><i>Freckle Juice</i> by Judy Blume Andrew wants freckles so badly that he buys Sharon's freckle recipe for fifty cents.</p>

M	<p><i>Ghost</i> by Jason Reynolds Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team.</p>
M	<p><i>Ivy and Bean (Series)</i> by Anne Barrows When seven-year-old Bean plays a mean trick on her sister, she finds unexpected support for her antics from Ivy, the new neighbor, who is less boring than Bean first suspected.</p>
M	<p><i>Martin Bridge Blazing Ahead (Series)</i> by Jessica Kerrin Martin's back in two more stories. His first overnight camping trip with the Junior Badgers brings a mixed blessing as he shares a cabin room with his friend Alex. The second story, is about a familiar family conflict, watching TV or helping dad? See how Martin learns that spending time with Dad is more special than his favorite TV show.</p>
M	<p><i>Two and Only Kelly Twins</i> by Johanna Hurwitz Second-graders Arlene and Ilene Kelly are twins, identical twins to be exact, and they love being a pair. They love to dress alike, they have identical pet ferrets, and they do everything together. But being a twin is not always easy. And when Arlene gets sick and has to visit the hospital, the twins each find out what it's like to be one instead of two. But whether they're together or apart, Arlene and Ilene know they're lucky to have each other.</p>
N	<p><i>Gooney Bird Greene</i> by Lois Lowery A most unusual new student who loves to be the center of attention entertains her teacher and fellow second graders by telling absolutely true stories about herself, including how she got her name.</p>
N	<p><i>Ruby Lu, Brave and True (Series)</i> by Lenore Look "Almost-eight-year-old" Ruby Lu spends time with her baby brother, goes to Chinese school, performs magic tricks and learns to drive, and has adventures with both old and new friends.</p>
N	<p><i>The Stories Julian Tells</i> by Ann Cameron Relates episodes in seven-year-old Julian's life which include getting into trouble with his younger brother Huey, planting a garden, what he did to try to grow taller, losing a tooth, and finding a new friend.</p>
O	<p><i>7 X 9 = Trouble</i> by Claudia Mills Third-grader, Wilson, struggles with his times-tables in order to beat the class deadline.</p>
O	<p><i>Clementine (Series)</i> by Sara Pennypacker While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, Clementine gains several unique hairstyles, all while helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons.</p>
O	<p><i>EllRay Jakes is a Rock Star (Series)</i> by Sally Warner Eight-year-old EllRay Jakes decides to "borrow" his father's crystals to impress his classmates, but his plan to return the crystals before his father notices goes awry.</p>

O	<p><i>Just Grace (Series)</i> by Mericle Harper Comic misadventures ensue when seven-year-old Grace joins forces with her nemesis Sammy in a valiant effort to find the neighbor's missing cat.</p>
O	<p><i>The Kid in the Red Jacket</i> by Barbara Park When Howard has to move with his family to a distant state, he is forced to live on a street named Chester Pewe, adjust to a new school, and get used to being shadowed by a little neighbor girl.</p>
O	<p><i>Nicky Deuce: Welcome to the Family</i> by Steven R. Schirripa & Charles Fleming While his parents are on a cruise, twelve-year-old Nicholas spends his summer in Brooklyn with his grandmother and uncle and learns, with unintended results, about his Italian-American heritage.</p>
O	<p><i>Ramona the Brave(Series)</i> by Beverly Cleary Six-year-old Ramona tries to cope with an unsympathetic first-grade teacher, a new room and a ferocious dog.</p>
O	<p><i>Stella Batts Needs a New Name (Series)</i> by Courtney Sheinmel When a classmate makes fun of her name, eight-year-old Stella picks a new one for herself, but discovers that the name she abandoned suits her just fine.</p>
P	<p><i>Dory Fantasmagory</i> By Abby Hanlon Dory, youngest in her family, is a girl with a very active imagination, and she spends the summer playing with her imaginary friends, pretending to be a dog, battling monsters, and generally driving her family nuts.</p>
P	<p><i>Judy Moody and Stink: the Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt (Series)</i> by Megan McDonald During a weekend trip to Ocracoke Island, siblings Judy and Stink Moody take part in a pirate treasure-hunting game, in which various clues lead them to "pieces of eight," hidden across the island.</p>
P	<p><i>The Worst Best School Year Ever</i> by Barbara Robinson The six horrible Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, cause mayhem throughout the school year.</p>
P	<p><i>Year of Billy Miller</i> by Kevin Henkes Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and a lot of worries- but by the end of the year, he has learned many lessons and developed good relationships with his teacher, little sister, and his parents.</p>
Q	<p><i>Allie Finkle's Rules for Girls: Moving Day</i> by Meg Cabot Nine-year-old Allie Finkle's world is turned upside-down when she learns that her family is moving across town, which will mean a new house, school, best friend, and plenty of new rules.</p>

Q	<i>Alvin Ho Allergic to Girls, School, and other Scary Things</i> by Lenore Look A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.
Q	<i>Because of Anya</i> by Margaret Peterson Haddix While ten-year-old Anya faces the difficulties of losing her hair to alopecia, her classmate Keely learns how to stand up for what she knows is right.
Q	<i>Cody Harmon: King of Pets</i> by Claudia Mills Cody Harmon loves animals--he even has nine pets--so when the school holds a pet show fundraiser, it should be his time to shine.
Q	<i>Penelope Crumb(Series)</i> by Shawn Stout Fourth-grader Penelope Crumb's large nose leads to a family discovery.
Q	<i>Summerlost</i> by Ally Condie During the first summer after her father and brother died in a car accident, Cedar moves with her remaining family to a town near the Summerlost Theater Festival. There, she makes friends, finds work, and is drawn into the mystery of the festival's resident ghost.
Q	<i>Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing</i> by Judy Blume 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 in reality he is a tiny terror in disguise ruining Peter's life.
Q	<i>Weekends with Max and his Dad</i> by Linda Urban Third-grader Max pursues neighborhood adventures with his dad as they both adjust to changes in their family.
Q	<i>The Year of the Dog</i> by Grace Lin Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese-American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog to her own life.
R	<i>Frindle</i> by Andrew Clements When he decides to turn his fifth grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.
R	<i>Because of Winn-Dixie</i> by Kate DiCamillo Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big, ugly dog, Winn-Dixie.
R	<i>The Beloved Dearly</i> by Doug Cooney Ernie, a twelve-year-old business tycoon, makes a tidy profit in the pet funeral business, until he refuses to give his star employee a raise and the business starts to fall apart.

R	<i>How to Eat Fried Worms</i> by Thomas Rockwell Billy wants a dirt bike so badly he makes a bet with his friends that for fifty dollars he'll eat a worm every day for fifteen days.
R	<i>Julia Gillian and the Art of Knowing</i> by Alison McGhee Julia Gillian learns a lot about facing fear as she and her dog take long walks through their neighborhood one hot summer and she seeks the courage to finish a book that could have an unhappy ending.
R	<i>Moxy Maxwell Does Not Love Stuart Little</i> by Peggy Gifford With summer coming to an end, about-to-be-fourth-grader Moxy Maxwell does a hundred different things to avoid reading her assigned summer reading book.
R	<i>Nasty Stinky Sneakers</i> by Eve Bunting Will ten-year-old Colin find his missing stinky sneakers in time to enter "The Stinkiest Sneakers in the World" contest? Find out in this hilarious book.
R	<i>Niagara Falls, or Does It?</i> By Henry Winkler Hank, Ashley, and Frankie are excitedly preparing for a magic show at the Rock 'N Bowl when Hank's creative alternative to an English essay lands him in detention and grounded the week of the show.
R	<i>Rules</i> by Cynthia Lord Frustrated at life with an autistic brother, twelve-year-old Catherine longs for a normal existence but her world is further complicated by a friendship with a young paraplegic.
S	<i>Dear Max</i> by Sally Grindley As Max--who is almost ten--and his favorite author, D.J. Lucas, exchange letters, the two writers help each other with their new books and develop a special friendship.
S	<i>Fizzy Whiz Kid</i> by Maiya Williams Moving to Hollywood with his academic parents, Mitch feels like an outsider in his school where everyone has connections to the entertainment industry but him, until he is cast in a soda commercial.
S	<i>Ida B: --and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World</i> by Katherine Hannigan Ida B spends happy hours being home-schooled and playing in her family's apple orchard, until her mother gets sick and her parents must sell part of the orchard and send her to public school.
S	<i>Lemonade War</i> by Jacqueline Davis Evan and his younger sister, Jesse, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade and decide to battle it out through competing lemonade stands.
S	<i>Million Dollar Shot</i> by Dan Gutman Eleven-year-old Eddie gets a chance to win a million dollars by sinking a foul shot at the National Basketball Association finals.

S	<p><i>Out of My Mind</i> by Sharon Draper Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.</p>
S	<p><i>Skunk Scouts</i> by Laurence Yep Teddy goes on a camping trip with his uncle and younger brother, his first outing away from San Francisco's Chinatown, and learns some interesting facts about nature, his uncle, and himself.</p>
S	<p><i>What I Call Life</i> by Jill Wolfson Placed in a group foster home, eleven-year-old Cal Lavender learns how to cope with life from the four other girls who live there and from their storytelling guardian, the Knitting Lady.</p>
T	<p><i>Bridge to Terabithia</i> by Katherine Paterson The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.</p>
T	<p><i>Deliver Us from Normal</i> by Kate Klise Trapped in the middles of a very wacky family, life for eleven-year-old Charles Harrisong is anything but normal in Normal, Illinois.</p>
T	<p><i>Harriet the Spy</i> by Louise Fitzhugh Eleven-year-old Harriet keeps notes on her classmates and neighbors in a secret notebook, but when some of the students read the notebook, they seek revenge.</p>
T	<p><i>How to Steal a Dog</i> by Barbara O'Connor Georgina, desperate to improve her family's situation, persuades her younger brother to help her in an elaborate scheme to get money by stealing a dog and then claiming the reward.</p>
T	<p><i>Joey Pigza Loses Control (Series)</i> by Jack Gantos Joey, who is still taking medication to keep him from getting to wired, goes to spend the summer with the hard-drinking father he has never known and tries to help the basketball team he coaches win the championship.</p>
T	<p><i>Love that Dog</i> by Sharon Creech A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different famous poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.</p>
T	<p><i>The Mother-Daughter Book Club</i> by Heather Vogel Frederick When the mothers of four sixth-grade girls with very different personalities pressure them into forming a book club, they find that they have much more in common than they could have imagined.</p>
T	<p><i>Notes From a Liar and Her Dog</i> by Gennifer Choldenko Eleven-year-old Ant, stuck in a family that she does not like, copes by pretending that her "real" parents are coming to rescue her, loving her dog, volunteering at the zoo, and bending the truth and telling lies.</p>

T	<p><i>Oggie Cooter</i> by Sarah Weeks</p> <p>Oggie Cooter has a talent – he can charve better than anyone else in Truman Elementary School. (Charving, for the uninitiated, is the carving of a piece of cheese with ones teeth.) Oggie doesn't think this is anything special – but his whole school will soon be disagreeing with him. Suddenly he's the star of the school... but he's not sure that he wants to shine that way.</p>
T	<p><i>Penderwicks</i> by Jeanne Birdsall</p> <p>While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.</p>
T	<p><i>The Strange Case of Origami Yoda</i> by Tom Angleberger</p> <p>Sixth-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future.</p>
T	<p><i>Swindle</i> by Gordon Korman</p> <p>After an unscrupulous collector cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back.</p>
T	<p><i>The Trouble with Mark Hopper</i> by Elissa Brent Weissman</p> <p>When two boys with the same name, similar looks, and very different personalities go to the same middle school, confusion ensues, but things improve when they become study partners.</p>
T	<p><i>A Week in the Woods</i> by Andrew Clements</p> <p>The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.</p>
T	<p><i>When Life Gives You O.J.</i> by Erica Perl</p> <p>Zelly wants a dog, so at the urging of her grandfather she takes care of a "practice dog" made out of an orange juice jug to show her parents that she is ready for the responsibility.</p>
U	<p><i>Flipped</i> by Wendelin Van Draanen</p> <p>In alternating chapters, two young people describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families have changed over the years.</p>
U	<p><i>So B. It</i> by Sarah Weeks</p> <p>After spending her life with her mentally disabled mother and agora-phobic neighbor, twelve-year-old Heidi sets out from Reno, Nevada, to New York to find out who she is.</p>
U	<p><i>Ways to Live Forever</i> by Sally Nicholls</p> <p>Eleven-year-old Sam McQueen, who has leukemia, writes a book during the last three months of his life, in which he tells about what he would like to accomplish, how he feels, and things that have happened to him.</p>

U	<p><i>Wonder</i> by R.J. Palacio August Pullman is not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. He was born with a craniofacial abnormality, a genetic defect that caused his facial features to be severely deformed. His life has never been 'normal'. Despite his differences August and his parents decide to transition him from home school to a private school now that he is entering fifth grade.</p>
V	<p><i>Absolutely Almost</i> by Lisa Graff Ten-year-old Albie has never been the smartest, the best at gym, the greatest artist, or the most musical in his class, as his parents keep reminding him. But his new nanny Calista helps him uncover his strengths and take pride in himself.</p>
V	<p><i>Becoming Naomi Leon</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan Naomi Soledad Leon Outlaw has had a lot to contend with in her young life, her name for one. With Gram and her little brother, Owen, life at Avocado Acres Trailer Rancho in California is happy and peaceful...until her mother reappears after seven years of being gone, stirring up all sorts of questions and challenging Naomi to discover and proclaim who she really is.</p>
V	<p><i>Crash</i> by Jerry Spinelli Seventh-grader John "Crash" Coogan has always been comfortable with his tough, aggressive behavior, until his relationship with an unusual Quaker boy and his grandfather's stroke make him consider the meaning of friendship and the importance of family.</p>
V	<p><i>Heat</i> by Mike Lupica Pitching prodigy Michael is on the run from social services after being banned from playing Little League baseball because rival coaches doubt he his age and he has no parents to offer them proof.</p>
V	<p><i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar As further evidence of his family's bad fortune, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a horrible correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.</p>
V	<p><i>Lawn Boy</i> by Gary Paulsen Things get out of hand for a twelve-year-old boy when a neighbor convinces him to expand his summer lawn mowing business.</p>
V	<p><i>Locomotion</i> by Jacqueline Woodson In a series of poems, eleven-year-old Lonnie writes about his life, after the death of his parents, separated from his younger sister, living in a foster home, and finding his poetic voice at school.</p>
V	<p><i>Liar and Spy</i> by Rebecca Stead Seventh-grader Georges adjusts to moving from a house to an apartment, his father's efforts to start a new business, his mother's extra shifts as a nurse, being picking on at school, and Safer, a boy who wants his help spying on another resident of their building.</p>

V	<p><i>Middle School: The Worst Years of my Life</i> by James Patterson</p> <p>When Rafe Kane enters middle school, he teams up with his best friend, "Leo the Silent," to create a game to make school more fun by trying to break every rule in the school's code of conduct.</p>
V	<p><i>Olive's Ocean</i> by Kevin Henkes</p> <p>On a summer visit to her grandmother's cottage by the ocean, Martha gains perspective on the death of a classmate, on her relationship with her grandmother, and on her feelings for an older boy.</p>
V	<p><i>Pictures of Hollis Woods</i> by Patricia Reilly Giff</p> <p>A troublesome twelve-year-old orphan, staying with an elderly artist who needs her, remembers the only other time she was happy in a foster home, with a family that truly seemed to care about her.</p>
V	<p><i>Stargirl</i> by Jerry Spinelli</p> <p>In this story about the perils of popularity and the courage of nonconformity, an eccentric student named Stargirl changes Mica High School forever.</p>
W	<p><i>Almost Home</i> by Joan Bauer</p> <p>With the help of a rescue dog, Shush; a foster family; a supportive teacher; a love of poetry; and her own grace and good humor, Sugar comes to understand that while she can't control the hand life deals her, she can control how she responds.</p>
W	<p><i>Counting by 7s</i> by Holly Goldberg Sloan</p> <p>Willow Chance is a 12-year-old genius, obsessed with nature and diagnosing medical conditions, who finds it comforting to count by 7s. It has never been easy for her to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents, but it hasn't kept her from leading a happily quiet life, until now.</p>
W	<p><i>Walk Two Moons</i> by Sharon Creech</p> <p>Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle's mother has disappeared. While tracing her footsteps on a car trip from Ohio to Idaho with her grandparents, Salamanca tells a story to pass the time about a friend named Phoebe Winterbottom whose mother vanished. Salamanca hopes to bring her home.</p>
X	<p><i>Deep Down Popular</i> by Phoebe Stone</p> <p>Jessie Lou Ferguson has a crush on the hugely popular Conrad Parker Smith, and when he suddenly develops a medical problem and the teacher asks Jessie Lou to help him, they become friends.</p>
X	<p><i>Jeremy Fink and the Meaning of Life</i> by Wendy Mass</p> <p>Just before his thirteenth birthday, Jeremy Fink receives a keyless locked box--set aside by his father before his death five years earlier--that purportedly contains the meaning of life.</p>
X	<p><i>Paper Things</i> by Jennifer Richard Jacobson</p> <p>After joining her brother when he decides to leave their guardian, Ari endures a life of homelessness that challenges her schoolwork, friendships, and the promise made to her other that she and her brother would stay together.</p>

X	<i>Stanford Wong Flunks Big Time</i> by Lisa Yee After flunking English, basketball prodigy Stanford Wong must struggle to pass his summer-school class, keep his failure a secret from his friends, and satisfy his academically demanding father.
Y	<i>See You at Harry's</i> by Johanna Knowles Twelve-year-old Fern feels invisible in her family, with grumpy eighteen-year-old Sarah, struggling fourteen-year-old Holden, and adorable Charlie, and when tragedy strikes, the fragile bond holding the family together is stretched to the breaking point.
Y	<i>The Thing about Jellyfish</i> by Ali Benjamin Twelve-year-old Suzy Swanson wades through her intense grief over the loss of her best friend by investigating the rare jellyfish she is convinced was responsible for her friend's death.
Y	<i>When Friendship Followed Me Home</i> by Paul Griffin When former foster kid Ben rescues an abandoned mutt from the alley next to the Coney Island Library, he is led into a life-altering friendship with fellow book-lover Halley.
Y	<i>Zebra Forest</i> by Adina Gewirtz Inspired by her grandmother to strive for excellence in all things, eleven-year-old Annie lies to her social worker and invents stories about her murdered father, until an escaped fugitive takes her family hostage, upending everything she thought she knew about herself, her family, and her past.
Z	<i>George</i> by Alex Gino Knowing herself to be a girl despite her outwardly male appearance, George is denied a female role in the class play before teaming up with a friend to reveal her true self.
Z	<i>Millions</i> by Frank Cottrell Boyce After their mother dies, two brothers find a huge amount of money which they must spend quickly before England switches to the new European currency, but disagree on what to do with it.
Z	<i>The Truth about Twinkie Pie</i> by Kat Yeh When twelve-year-old GiGi and her big sister DiDi move to Long Island from South Carolina for GiGi to attend a fancy new private school, GiGi has a new recipe for success and makes new friends, but then discovers a family secret that turns her life upside down.

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