

8th Grade Reading Level

*According to the Destiny Catalog, Reading Counts or Accelerated Reader

Sorted by Call Number / Author.

- FIC ALC Alcott, Louisa May, 1832-1888. An old fashioned girl. [United States] : Akasha Pub., c2008.
Polly's friendship with the wealthy Shaws of Boston helps them to build a new life and teaches her the truth about the relationship between happiness and riches.
- FIC ALC Alcott, Louisa May, 1832-1888. Rose in bloom. [United States] : Akasha Pub., c2008.
Rose Campbell returns to the "Aunt Hill" after two years of traveling around the world and is surrounded by male admirers eager to marry her, but before she marries anyone, Rose is determined to establish herself as an independent young woman.
- FIC ALD Alder, Elizabeth. Crossing the panther's path. 1st ed. New York : Farrar, Straus, Giroux, 2002.
Sixteen-year-old Billy Calder, son of a British soldier and a Mohawk woman, leaves school to join Tecumseh in his efforts to prevent the Americans from taking any more land from the Indians in the Northwest Territory.
- FIC AND Anderson, M. T. The astonishing life of Octavian Nothing, traitor to the nation. 1st ed. Cambridge, Mass. : Candlewick Press, 2008.
After escaping a death sentence in the summer of 1775, Octavian and his tutor find shelter but no safe harbor in British-occupied Boston and, persuaded by Lord Dunmore's proclamation offering freedom to slaves who join his counterrevolutionary Royal Ethiopian Regiment, Octavian and his friends soon find themselves engaged in naval raids on the Virginia coastline as the Revolutionary War breaks out in full force.
- FIC AVI Avi, 1937-. The Traitors' Gate. 1st ed. New York : Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2007.
When his father is arrested as a debtor in 1849 London, fourteen-year-old John Huffman must take on unexpected responsibilities, from asking a distant relative for help to determining why people are spying on him and his family.
- FIC BLA Blackwood, Gary L. The year of the hangman. 1st ed. New York : Dutton Children's Books, c2002.
In 1777, having been kidnapped and taken forcibly from England to the American colonies, fifteen-year-old Creighton becomes part of developments in the political unrest there that may spell defeat for the patriots and change the course of history.
- FIC BRO Brooks, Terry. Magic kingdom for sale, sold! 1st mass market ed. New York : Ballantine, 1987, c1986.
For one million dollars Ben Holiday purchases a magic kingdom complete with fairies, wizards and dragons. He must prove his right to be king by fighting the lord of the demons.
- FIC BRO Brooks, Terry. The sword of Shannara. 1st Ballantine Books mass market ed. New York : Ballantine Books, 1978, c1977.
In spite of his protests that he is only an ordinary man and not a hero, Shea Ohmsford eventually accepts his role as the leader of his people in

the struggle against the Lord of Evil.

- FIC CAB Cabot, Meg. All-American girl. 1st Harper Trophy ed. New York : HarperTrophy, 2003, c2002.
Sophomore Samantha Madison stops a presidential assassination attempt, is appointed teen ambassador to the United Nations, and catches the eye of the very cute First Son.
- FIC CAR Carter, Ally. Heist society. 1st ed. New York : Disney Hyperion Books, c2010.
Fifteen-year-old Kat schemes her way into the best boarding school, hoping to leave the thieving antics of her family behind her, but Hal, a former co-conspirator, appears on campus to tell Kat that a powerful mobster believes her father stole art from a priceless collection, and in order to save him, Kat will have to recover the paintings.
- FIC CHO Choldenko, Gennifer, 1957-. Notes from a liar and her dog. New York : Putnam's, c2001.
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, by loving her dog Pistachio, by volunteering at the zoo, and by bending the truth and telling lies.
- FIC COO Cooper, James Fenimore, 1789-1851. The deerslayer, or, The first war-path. North Hollywood, Calif. : Aegypan Press, [2009].
The deadly crack of a long rifle and the piercing cries of Indians on the warpath shatter the serenity of beautiful Lake Glimmerglass. Danger has invaded the vast forests of upper New York State as Deerslayer and his loyal Mohican friend Chingachgook attempt the daring rescue of an Indian maiden imprisoned in a Huron camp. Soon they are caught in the cross fire between a cunning enemy and two white bounty hunters who mercilessly kill for profit.
- FIC COR Cormier, Robert. The rag and bone shop : a novel. New York : Delacorte Press, c2001.
Trent, an ace interrogator from Vermont, works to procure a confession from an introverted twelve-year-old accused of murdering his seven-year-old friend in Monument, Massachusetts.
- FIC CRO Crossley-Holland, Kevin. King of the Middle March. New York : Scholastic, [2006], c2003.
Arthur de Caldicot, on his way to becoming a man, witnesses the horrors of the Fourth Crusade in Venice and Zara, as well as the downfall of King Arthur's court, in his seeing stone.
- FIC CRO Crossley-Holland, Kevin. King of the Middle March. 1st American ed. New York : Arthur A. Levine Books, 2004, c2003.
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- FIC CUT Cutler, Jane. The song of the molimo. 1st ed. New York : Farrar Straus Giroux, 1998.
When twelve-year-old Harry comes from Kansas to visit the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, he befriends an African pygmy who is part of an anthropology exhibit, works for the first female news photographer, and becomes involved in a burgeoning scientific controversy.
- FIC DAS Dashner, James, 1972-. The journal of curious letters. [Salt Lake City, Utah] :

Shadow Mountain, c2008.

Thirteen-year-old Atticus "Tick" Higginbottom begins receiving mysterious letters from around the world signed only "M.G.," and the clues contained therein lead him on a journey to the perilous 13th Reality and a confrontation with evil Mistress Jane.

- FIC DIC Dickinson, Peter, 1927-. The ropemaker. New York : Delacorte Press, c2001. When the magic that protects their Valley starts to fail, Tilja and her companions journey into the evil Empire to find the ancient magician Faheel, who originally cast those spells.
- FIC DUA Duane, Diane. So you want to be a wizard. San Diego : Magic Carpet Books, [2001], 1996. Thirteen-year-old Nita, tormented by a gang of bullies because she won't fight back, finds the help she needs in a library book on wizardry which guides her into another dimension.
- FIC DUR Durbin, William, 1951-. The journal of C.J. Jackson : a Dust Bowl migrant. 1st ed. New York : Scholastic, 2002. Thirteen-year-old C.J. records in a journal the conditions of the Dust Bowl that cause the Jackson family to leave their farm in Oklahoma and make the difficult journey to California, where they find a harsh life as migrant workers.
- FIC ELI Eliot, George, 1819-1880. Silas Marner : the Weaver of Raveloe. New York : A.A. Knopf :, c1993. Embittered by a false accusation and disappointed in friendship and love, the weaver Silas Marner retreats into a life alone with his loom and his gold. 'Fate steals his gold and replaces it with a golden-haired founding child.
- FIC FLA Flake, Sharon. Money hungry. 1st ed. New York : Jump at the Sun/Hyperion Books For Children, c2001. All thirteen-year-old Raspberry can think of is making money so that she and her mother never have to worry about living on the streets again.
- FIC FRA Frank, Hillary. Better than running at night. Boston : Houghton Mifflin Co, c2002. Ellie, having endured a lonely high school existence, tries to make a place for herself as a freshman art student at the New England College of Art and Design.
- FIC GRA Gray, Luli. Falcon and the Charles Street Witch. Boston, Mass. : Houghton Mifflin, 2002. Twelve-year-old Falcon must find the courage to save the day--and the dragon, Egg--after having a series of magical misadventures caused by her little brother, a distracted old dragon, and a bumbling witch.
- FIC HAD Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Turnabout. 1st ed. New York : Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c2000. Melly and Anny Beth agree to participate in Project Turnabout, a scientific experiment in which they are given a shot that will make them grow younger, until they receive a second injection that will stop the aging process, but when other participants die after receiving the second shot, Melly and Anny Beth refuse to have the shot and set out to find someone to care for them when they are too young to do it themselves.
- FIC HAD Haddix, Margaret Peterson. Turnabout. 1st ed. New York : Simon & Schuster

Books for Young Readers, c2000.

Melly and Anny Beth agree to participate in Project Turnabout, a scientific experiment in which they are given a shot that will make them grow younger, until they receive a second injection that will stop the aging process, but when other participants die after receiving the second shot, Melly and Anny Beth refuse to have the shot and set out to find someone to care for them when they are too young to do it themselves.

- FIC HAR Harrison, Barbara, 1936-. Theo. New York : Clarion Books, c1999.
A twelve-year-old puppeteer performs bravely on and off the stage after joining the Greek resistance movement during World War II.
- FIC HAU Hausman, Gerald. Escape from Botany Bay : the true story of Mary Bryant. 1st ed. New York : Orchard Books, 2003.
Mary Bryant, among the first of a wave of convicts to be transported to Australia in the late eighteenth-century, stages a daring escape in an open boat from the brutal conditions of the Botany Bay penal colony, along with her husband and two children, and seven other convicts.
- FIC HIL Hill, Stuart. Last battle of the Icemark. 1st American ed. New York : Chicken House/Scholastic Inc., 2009.
Queen Thirrin's tiny kingdom of Icemark has enjoyed peace since the banishment of her murderous daughter Medea, but when Medea allies herself with the King of Darkness and his terrifying Ice Demons, the queen must respond to the threat of war.
- FIC HOL Holm, Jennifer L. Boston Jane : an adventure. 1st ed. New York : HarperCollins, c2001.
Schooled in the lessons of etiquette for young ladies of 1854, Miss Jane Peck of Philadelphia finds little use for manners during her long sea voyage to the Pacific Northwest and while living among the American traders and Chinook Indians of Washington Territory.
- FIC HOW Howe, James, 1946-. The misfits. 1st ed. New York : Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2001.
Four students who do not fit in at their small-town middle school decide to create a third party for the student council elections to represent all students who have ever been called names.
- FIC HUT Hutchens, Paul, 1902-. The blue cow. Rev. ed. Chicago : Moody Press, 1998.
Bill Collins saves the day when Shorty's blue cow becomes ill after eating too much clover.
- FIC JAC Jacques, Brian. Mariel of Redwall. [American ed.]. New York : Philomel Books, 1992.
The mousemaid Mariel achieves victory at sea for the animals of Redwall Abbey, fighting the savage pirate rat Gabool the Wild, warlord of rodent corsairs.
- FIC JAC Jacques, Brian. Rakkety Tam. New York : Philomel Books, c2004.
Two warrior squirrels lead the battle against Gulo, a bloodthirsty wolverine who will stop at nothing to recover the Walking Stone that will give him the authority to rule the lands of ice beyond the Great Sea.
- FIC JAC Jacques, Brian. Taggerung. 1st American ed. New York : Philomel, 2001.
A young otter, kidnapped in his infancy and raised as a warrior-thief by a band of vermin, leaves the tribe and goes off to seek adventures of his own.

- FIC JON Jones, Diana Wynne. Howl's moving castle. 1st Harper Trophy ed. New York : HarperTrophy, 2001, c1986.
Eldest of three sisters in a land where it is considered to be a misfortune, Sophie is resigned to her fate as a hat shop apprentice until a witch turns her into an old woman and she finds herself in the castle of the greatly feared wizard Howl.
- FIC KEN Kendall, Carol, 1917-. The Gammage Cup : a novel of the Minnipins. 1st Harcourt young classics ed. San Diego : Harcourt Inc., 2000, c1959.
A handful of Minnipins, a sober and sedate people, rise up against the Periods, the leading family of an isolated mountain valley, and are exiled to a mountain where they discover that the ancient enemies of their people are preparing to attack.
- FIC KER Kerr, Philip. The Akhenaten adventure. New York : Apple Signature, [2005], c2004.
Twelve-year-old twins John and Philippa Gaunt discover that they are descended from a long line of Djinn and embark upon a great journey to Egypt with their Uncle Nimrod in order to locate the lost tomb of the Pharaoh Akhenaten.
- FIC KEY Keyes, Daniel. Flowers for Algernon. 1st ed. New York : Harcourt Brace, [199-], c1966.
After being mentally retarded for all of his thirty-two years, Charlie Gordon undergoes an operation designed to change his life.
- FIC KLI Klise, Kate. Trial by jury journal. 1st Harper Trophy ed. New York : HarperTrophy, 2002, c2001.
In this illustrated novel told through journal entries, news clippings, and letters, twelve-year-old Lily finds herself on the jury of a murder trial while conducting her own undercover investigation of the case.
- FIC LAS Lasky, Kathryn. A time for courage : the suffragette diary of Kathleen Bowen. New York : Scholastic, [2002], c2001.
A diary account of thirteen-year-old Kathleen Bowen's life in Washington, D.C. in 1917, as she juggles concerns about the national battle for women's suffrage, the war in Europe, and her own school work and family. Includes a historical note.
- FIC LEA Leavitt, Martine, 1953-. The dollmage. Calgary, Alberta, Canada : Red Deer Press, 2002, c2001.
Seekvalley's wise woman, the Dollmage, chooses the lazy Renoa over the self-sacrificing Annakey as her successor, unknowingly setting Annakey on a painful path involving betrayal, violence, and brutal justice.
- FIC LEW Lewis, Sinclair, 1885-1951. Arrowsmith. New York : Signet, 1998, c1953.
A young doctor must decide between worldly success and his own desire to devote his life to scientific research.
- FIC LIT Littlefield, Bill. The circus in the woods. Boston : Houghton Mifflin, 2001.
Molly, her parents, and her sister spend most summer vacations at a camp in the Vermont mountains, and as the years pass, Molly is led to find a mysterious circus in the nearby woods.
- FIC MAZ Mazer, Harry. A boy at war : a novel of Pearl Harbor. 1st ed. New York : Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, c2001.
While fishing with his friends off Honolulu on December 7, 1941, teenaged Adam is caught in the midst of the Japanese attack and through the chaos

of the subsequent days tries to find his father, a naval officer who was serving on the U.S.S. Arizona when the bombs fell.

- FIC MCC McCaffrey, Anne. All the Weyrs of Pern. New York : Ballantine Books, 1992, c1991.
The greatest dream of the dragonriders was to find a way to eradicate Thread completely, so that never again would their beloved Pern be threatened with destruction.
- FIC MCC McCaffrey, Anne. Dragonflight. New York : Ballantine, c1968.
Exciting adventure as Lessa of Pern wages a single-handed secret battle to become Weyrwoman of Benden. She soon discovers an even more deadly battle looms ahead of her and only her daring ideas can save the people of Pern.
- FIC MCC McCaffrey, Anne. Dragonquest. 1st ed. New York : Ballantine, c1971.
On a small beleaguered planet patrolled by giant dragons, a tiny golden fire-lizard brings a searing threat greater than any Pern has ever met.
- FIC MCC McCaffrey, Anne. Moreta, dragonlady of Pern. 1st Ballantine Books ed. New York : Ballantine, 1984, c1983.
All seems well on Pern until a mysterious ailment strikes, killing myriads of holders, craftsmen, and dragonriders. Pern is left in mortal danger with no one to rise to char the parasitic Thread.
- FIC MCC McCaffrey, Anne, 1926-. Dragonseye. 1st mass market ed. New York : Ballantine Books, 1998.
Two hundred years after the first Threadfall, the people of Pern are preparing for the return of the deadly plague, this time armed with the highly-trained fire-lizards that were developed specifically to fight Thread, but Lord Holder Chalkin of Bitra refuses to heed warnings about the coming onslaught and his disbelief could spell disaster.
- FIC MCK McKinley, Robin. The blue sword. 1st ed. New York : Greenwillow Books, c1982.
Harry, bored with her sheltered life in the remote orange-growing colony of Daria, discovers magic in herself when she is kidnapped by a native king with mysterious powers.
- FIC MEY Meyer, L. A. (Louis A.), 1942-. Curse of the blue tattoo : being an account of the misadventures of Jacky Faber, midshipman and fine lady. 1st ed. Orlando : Harcourt, c2004.
In 1803, after being exposed as a girl and forced to leave her ship, Jacky Faber finds herself attending school in Boston, where, instead of learning to be a lady, she battles her snobbish classmates, roams the city in search of adventure, and learns to ride a horse.
- FIC MUR Murphy, Pat, 1955-. The wild girls. New York : Viking, 2007.
Twelve-year-old Joan, worried that she will not have any friends when her family moves from Connecticut to California, bonds right away with Sarah, a girl who prefers to be called Fox, and the two spend a joyous summer playing outside, making up stories, and attending a writing class.
- FIC ODE O'Dell, Scott, 1898-1989. The captive. Boston : Houghton Mifflin, c1979.
As part of a Spanish expedition to the New World, a Jesuit seminarian witnesses the enslavement and exploitation of the Mayas and his own seduction by greed and ambition.
- FIC REE Reeve, Philip. Larklight, or, The revenge of the white spiders!, or, To Saturn's

- rings and back! : a rousing tale of dauntless pluck in the farthest reaches of space. 1st U.S. ed. New York : Bloomsbury Children's Books :, 2006.
In an alternate Victorian England, young Arthur and his sister Myrtle, residents of Larklight, a floating house in one of Her Majesty's outer space territories, uncover a spidery plot to destroy the solar system.
- FIC REE Reeve, Philip. Starcross or the coming of the moobs! or our adventures in the fourth dimension! : a stirring adventure of spies, time travel and curious hats. 1st U.S. ed. New York : Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2007.
Young Arthur Mumby, his sister Myrtle, and their mother accept an invitation to take a holiday at an up-and-coming resort in the asteroid belt, where they become involved in a dastardly plot involving spies, time travel, and mind-altering clothing.
- FIC RIN Rinaldi, Ann. The last silk dress. New York : Dell Laurel-leaf, [1999], c1988.
During the Civil War, Susan finds a way to help the Confederate Army and uncovers a series of mysterious family secrets.
- FIC ROB Roberts, Katherine, 1962-. Spellfall. 1st American ed. New York : Scholastic, 2001, c2000.
After twelve-year-old Natalie, unaware of her own powers, is kidnapped by a wizard, she, her stepbrother, and their friends are caught up in the sorcerer's attempt to cross an invisible boundary in order to invade another world.
- FIC SCH Schmidt, Gary D. Straw into gold. New York : Clarion Books, c2001.
Pursued by greedy villains, two boys on a quest to save innocent lives meet the banished queen whose son was stolen by Rumpelstiltskin eleven years earlier, and she provides much more than the answer they seek.
- FIC SHE Shea, Pegi Deitz. Tangled threads : a Hmong girl's story. New York : Clarion Books, c2003.
After ten years in a refugee camp in Thailand, thirteen-year-old Mai Yang travels to Providence, Rhode Island, where her Americanized cousins introduce her to pizza, shopping, and beer, while her grandmother and new friends keep her connected to her Hmong heritage.
- FIC SMI Smith, Roland, 1951-. Zach's lie. 1st ed. New York : Hyperion Books For Children, c2001.
When Jack Osborne is befriended by his school's custodian and a Basque girl, he begins to adjust to his family's sudden move to Elko, Nevada, after entering the Witness Security Program, but the drug cartel against which his father will testify is determined to track them down.
- FIC SUT Sutcliff, Rosemary. Sword song. Sunburst ed. [New York] : Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2005, c1997.
At sixteen, Bjarni is cast out of the Norse settlement in the Angles' Land for an act of oath-breaking and spends five years sailing the west coast of Scotland and witnessing the feuds of the clan chiefs living there.
- FIC TAY Taylor, Mildred D. The land. New York : P. Fogelman :, c2001.
Paul-Edward, the son of a part-Indian, part-African slave mother and a White plantation owner father, finds himself caught between the two worlds of his parents as he pursues his dream of owning land in the aftermath of the Civil War.
- FIC TWO Twomey, Cathleen. Beachmont letters. 1st ed. Honsedale, Pa. : Boyds Mills Press, 2003.

Scarred by a fire that killed her father, a seventeen-year-old girl begins a correspondence with a young soldier in 1944.

- FIC UPD Updale, Eleanor. Montmorency and the assassins. 1st Orchard Books ed. New York : Orchard Books, 2006.
After twenty years as a gentleman, Montmorency is glad to be free of Scarper, his wretched alter-ego, but when a young friend is caught in the middle of a murderous political plot, Montmorency may have no choice but to call upon Scarper for help.
- FIC UPD Updale, Eleanor. Montmorency on the rocks : doctor, aristocrat, murderer? 1st Orchard Books ed. New York : Orchard Books, 2005.
In Victorian London, when Montmorency and his alter ego, Scarper, reunite with Dr. Farcett, the two cooperate to capture a bomber and become involved in solving the mystery of the poisoning of a village of Scottish children.
- FIC WEI Wein, Elizabeth. The empty kingdom. New York : Viking, 2008.
Telemakos, the half-British, half-Aksumite grandson of King Arthur, is accused of treachery by Abreha, the ruler of Hinyar, and lacking any means to communicate his predicament to his family in far-away Aksum, tries to find a subtle and effective way to regain his freedom.
- FIC WHE Whelan, Gloria. Angel on the square. 1st ed. New York : HarperCollins, c2001.
In 1913 Russia, twelve-year-old Katya eagerly anticipates leaving her St. Petersburg home, though not her older cousin Misha, to join her mother, a lady in waiting in the household of Tsar Nicholas II, but the ensuing years bring world war, revolution, and undreamed of changes to her life.
- FIC WHI White, T. H. (Terence Hanbury), 1906-1964. The once and future king. Ace ed. New York : Ace, 1987, c1958.
Tells the story of the youth and reign of King Arthur, the establishment of the Round Table, and the search for the Holy Grail.
- FIC ZIN Zindel, Paul. The doom stone. Rev. Hyperion pbk. ed. New York : Hyperion Paperbacks for Children, 2004, c1995.
Jackson and his new friend Alma investigate the mysterious attacks upon a young man and Jackson's Aunt Sarah at Stonehenge in England.
- The handmaid's tale, by Margaret Atwood. Pasadena, Calif. : Salem Press, c2010.
Collects critical essays on Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale," including selections by Jascha Hoffman, Shirley Neuman, Eleonora Rao, and others; and includes a chronology of the life of the author.