

Grade 5 Class Sets

Adeline's Dream Aksomitis, Linda Gr. 5 2005
Summary: When 12-year-old Adeline, her little brother, and mother emigrate from Germany to Qu'Appelle to join Papa, Adeline is disappointed with their new home. Living in a "soddie", dodging grasshoppers, and enduring the blazing heat of a Saskatchewan summer are almost more than Adeline can bear. Gradually, however, Adeline makes friends, develops her talent for singing, and grows to love her new home. *From Many Peoples Series.* **(40 copies)**

Alligator pie Lee, Dennis Gr. 1-5 c1974
Summary: This classic edition of irresistible rhymes about elephants and Laundromats, hockey games and skyscrapers, features Frank Newfeld's unforgettable illustrations. The poems reflect a Canadian child's world and children will identify with the universal themes in Lee's poetry. **(65 copies)**
CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED: Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5- Imaginative and Literary Context.

Alligator Stew Lee, Dennis Gr. 1-5 c2005
Summary: Alligator stew : favorite poems by Dennis Lee is a treasury of some of the best-loved poems ever written for Canadian children. In this special collection, you will find lots of reasons to smile and giggle as you read each and every verse. **(27 copies)**

Barn., The Avi Gr. 5-6 c1994
Summary: The schoolmaster says nine-year-old Benjamin is the finest student he's ever seen - fit for more than farming; destined for great things someday. But his father's grave illness brings Ben home from school and compels him to strive for something great right now - to do the one thing that will please Father so much he'll want to live. But first Ben must convince his older sister and brother to work with him. And together, they succeed in ways they never dreamed possible. **(38 copies/support material)**

Beethoven lives upstairs Nichol, Barbara Gr. 5 c1992
Summary: The letters that ten-year-old Christoph and his uncle exchange show how Christoph's feelings for Mr. Beethoven, the eccentric boarder that shares his home, change from anger and embarrassment to compassion and admiration. **(35 copies/support material)**

Best Christmas pageant ever, The Robinson, Barbara Gr. 5 c1972
Summary: The six mean Herdman kids lie, steal, smoke cigars (even the girls) and then become involved in the community Christmas pageant. **(58 copies/support material)**

Body battles Gelman, Rita Golden Gr. 5 c1992
Summary: This book introduces children to the natural defensive weapons in their bodies. The poetic read-aloud text explores the wonders of mucus, cilia, earwax, skin, stomach acid, the immune system, and the brain—our most powerful protection against harmful substances.
(22 copies) Suggested Use: Science Grade 5 – Human Body Systems.

Call it courage Armstrong, Sperry Gr. 5 & 9 c1940, 1989
Summary: Relates how Mafatu, a young Polynesian boy whose name means Stout Heart, overcomes his terrible fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his people.
(95 copies/support material)

Castle in the attic, The Winthrop, Elizabeth Gr. 5 c1985
Summary: A gift of a toy castle, complete with silver knight, introduces William to an adventure involving magic and a personal quest. **(37 copies/support material)**

Catching Forever Gugler, Laurel Dee Gr. 4&5 c2007
Summary: Things were so much easier at Rose's old school, where all of the kids were Mennonite. If only she had more spunkiness. Then she wouldn't mind being the second-last one picked for softball at recess. She could stand up to Snooty Judy's bullying. She might even convince Mamma to relax the strict rules that take the fun out of just about everything. But maybe, deep inside her, Rose has a little spunkiness after all. **(40 copies) CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED. Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grades 4 & 5; Personal and Philosophical Context.**

Chocolate River Rescue Kent, Jennifer Gr. 5 c2007
Summary: "Get off of there, Craig!" shouted Shawn. "I can't! I'm slipping!" wailed Craig. Shawn leaped back onto the ice. He took a breath and jumped over the widening crack, grabbing his little brother by the coat as he flew through the air. Both boys fell heavily to the ice on the other side. The boys stared in horror as the crack widened to reveal an eddy of churning, foaming brown water. Tony, Craig, and Shawn are trapped on an ice floe on the Petitcodiac River in the dead of winter, and the rapid current is pulling them toward the ocean. Twelve-year-old Petra arrives and the boys think they're saved, but their dangerous journey is only just beginning. The boys and Petra face peril at every twist and turn of the river in *Chocolate River Rescue*, an exhilarating adventure based on true events. They also learn that a river of chocolate is far better served warm, over ice cream, than cold on an ice flow! **(40 copies) CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED. Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 5; Personal and Philosophical Context.**

Christmas at Wapos Bay Wheeler, Jordan Gr. 5 c2005
Summary: Talon and Raven and their cousin T-Bear are visiting their grandfather at his cabin on a northern lake. They've never lived in the bush, but they want to learn the old ways of surviving on the land. It's Christmas, and the whole extended family is coming to Mushom's cabin. Everyone is looking forward to it. But after a terrible forest fire, hunting is poor this winter. There may not be enough food for Christmas. The kids want to help. What if they went hunting all by themselves? *From Many Peoples series.* **(40 copies) Also recommended for Social Studies Grades 1-5.**

Updated June 19, 2015

Dancing Feathers

Kleitsch, Christel

Gr. 5

c1985

Summary: A reluctant Tafia agrees to do the traditional jingle dance at her first pow-wow but "forgets" her jingle dress at home. **(25 copies/support material)**

Dear Jo: the story of losing Leah...and searching for Hope

Kilbourne, Christina c2007

Summary: Maxine and Leah used to have so much fun chatting with boys online. Their other friends were jealous of their new relationships, and their parents were oblivious to the love notes being emailed back and forth. So what if Max and Leah lied about their ages and where they lived ... it was just a website ... just for fun. But when Leah disappeared, Max realized that they weren't the only ones telling lies online. Through her daily journal entries, Max shares the horrible feeling of betrayal, the crushing loss of Leah, and the struggle to move on after all that has happened.

CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED:

Suggested Use: Health Grade 5- Violence, Abuse, and Supports; Dealing with Peer Pressure.

4 kids in 5E and 1 Crazy Year Virginia Frances Schwartz Gr. 5 c2007

Summary: Max, Willie, Destiny and Gio are four kids who never seem to get a break. So when they're pulled out of their usual classes and stuck in Room 5E, they're sure it will be a disaster. But then they meet the new teacher, and discover that Grade 5 might just turn out okay after all.

(40 copies) CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED: Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 5; Communicative Context; Personal and Philosophical Context.

Fatty Legs : a true story

Jordan-Fenton, Christy

Gr. 5

c2010

Summary: This book chronicles the unbreakable spirit of an eight-year old Inuit girl while attending an Arctic residential school.

Margaret is determined to learn to read, even though it means leaving her home in the Arctic. Her father finally agrees to let her make the five-day journey to attend school. He tries to warn Margaret about residential schools. She soon encounters a nun that she calls the Raven. Raven immediately dislikes Margaret and humiliates her every chance she gets. Raven gives gray stockings to all the girls, except Margaret, who gets red stockings. Instantly, Margaret is the laughing stock of the school. A sympathetic nun stands up for Margaret, however, in the end, it is Margaret's strength and determination to confront Raven and give her a lesson in the power of human dignity. **(62 copies)**

CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED: Suggested Use: English Language Arts: Grade 5 - Personal and philosophical context. Social Studies: Grade 5 - Interactions and Interdependence, Power and Authority.

Social Studies Grade 5- Interactions and Interdependence; Power and Authority.

Good-Bye Marianne: The Graphic Novel Irene N. Watts Gr. 5 c2008
Summary: Berlin, Germany, 1938, one week after the Night of the Broken Glass, is a cold place for eleven-year-old Marianne Kohn to grow up. Her father has disappeared and Marianne is expelled from school. As the Nazis tighten the noose around the Jews, her mother can no longer keep her daughter safe. **(40 copies) CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED: Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 5; Personal and Philosophical context; Social, Cultural and Historical context.**

Hailstones and halibut bones O'Neill, Mary Le Duc Gr. 3-5 c1961
Summary: Twelve poems reflect the author's feelings about various colors. **(41 copies)**

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's stone Rowling, J. K. Gr. 5 c1997
Summary: Harry's life is about to change when a mysterious letter arrives by owl messenger: a letter with an invitation to a wonderful place he never dreamed existed. There he finds not only friends, aerial sports, and magic around every corner, but a great destiny that's been waiting for him...if Harry can survive the encounter. **(36 copies/support material)**

Hurry, Freedom Wishinsky, Frieda Gr. 5 c2008
Summary: Transported back through time on the Canadian Flyer, an antique red sled, Emily Bing and Matt Martinez experience the past firsthand. In this adventure, Emily and Matt think the clue "Underground Railroad" will lead to an exciting train adventure. Instead, on a stormy, moonless night, they must evade ruthless slave catchers. Can they help their friends escape to freedom? **(44 copies) CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED. Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 5; Social, Cultural, and Historical Context.**

Island of the blue dolphins O'Dell, Scott Gr. 5 c1960
Summary: In the Pacific there is an island that looks like a big fish sunning itself in the sea. Indians lived on the island and when they left and sailed to the east, one young girl was left behind. This is a story of the adventures of Karana who lived alone for years on the Island of the Blue Dolphins. **(118 copies/support material)**

Lord of the fries and other stories Wynne-Jones, Tim Gr. 5 c1999
Summary: The path through the woods was sloppy, puddles everywhere. Rodney, in a hurry, slipped more than once. In the deeper darkness he turned on his flashlight. He kept hearing sounds, and he flashed his light this way and that, crazily. He tripped over a root and fell, sprawling in the muck and losing his flashlight. The hoot that followed was no owl. He lay in the mud, not breathing, waiting to hear it again. He cursed Claire for what she had said. The hooting sound came again. It was human, all right. And it was near. **(20 copies)**

Mirror Mirror: a book of reversible verse Singer, Marilyn Gr. 4 & 5 c2010
Summary: First, read the poems forward (how old-fashioned!), then reverse the lines and read again to give familiar tales, from Sleeping Beauty to that Charming Prince, a delicious new spin.
CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED:
Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 4 & 5- Imaginative and Literary Context. (30 copies)

My side of the mountain George, Jean Craighead Gr. 5 c1959
Summary: A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his ultimate realization that he needs human companionship.
(36 copies/support material)

Nexus ring, The Bush, Maureen A. Grade 3 c2007
Summary: Josh and his sister Maddy are going home to Calgary with their parents, after a holiday on Vancouver Island. On the ferry, Maddy buys a pretty ring as a souvenir. But it's no ordinary ring. Two other people want it. Two dangerous people. Gronvald and Aleena. If they really are people. Josh and Maddy pass through a veil of magic and learn the true meaning of the ring. But how can they protect it?
CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED:
Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 3 and Grade 5- Imaginative and Literary Context.

Number the stars Lowry, Lois Gr. 5 c1990
Summary: In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.
(143 copies/support material)

On my honor Bauer, Marion Dane Gr. 4-6 c1986
Summary: During a bicycle trip to the state park, Joel dares his best friend, Tony, to a swimming race in the dangerous Vermillion River. The boys have been warned never to go near the river, but Tony can't let Joel think he's scared. Both boys jump in. When Joel reaches the sandbar he turns and looks for Tony and finds that he has vanished. Joel is stunned. How can he face their parents and the terrible truth? **(40 copies/ support material)**

**One more border:
the true story of one family's escape from war-torn Europe.** Kaplan, William Gr. 5 c1998
Summary: During World War II, as Nazi troops took over Europe, hundreds of thousands of Jews tried to flee Hitler's advance. Most did not escape the Holocaust. The Kaplans were one of the lucky families. As the war progressed, borders shut down and the rest of the world became less and less willing to accept refugees. The Kaplans found themselves trying to make their way to safety by the only route available -- three-quarters of the way around the world by train and ship, across Russia and Japan and finally to North America. This is the story of the family's brave and harrowing journey. **(20 copies)**

Pinballs, The Byars, Betsy Cromer Gr. 5 c1977

Summary: Three lonely foster children learn to care about themselves and each other. **(46 copies/support material)**

Pit pony Barkhouse, Joyce Gr. 5 c1990

Summary: If Willie could have his dream, he would go to Sable Island and ride free over the sand dunes on the back of a wild horse. Instead, eleven-year-old Willie must work in the coal mines of Cape Breton, hardly ever seeing the light of day. But with the help of gem, the gentle pit pony, he discovers that things aren't always as bad as they seem. And a surprising event reveals that miracles can happen, even in a coal mine. **(35 copies/support material)**

Run Walters, Eric Gr. 5 & 7 c2003

Summary: This first book for young readers about Terry Fox and the Marathon of Hope, written by one of Canada's best-known writers for young adults, is a blending of fact and fiction, fully endorsed by The Terry Fox Foundation. In his trademark page-turning style, Eric Walters tells the story of Winston MacDonald. In trouble again after a suspension from school and a runaway attempt, Winston is sent to spend time with his father, a journalist who is heading to Nova Scotia to cover a human-interest story about a man trying to run across the country. When Winston meets Terry Fox and his best friend, Doug, he's impressed by their determination to achieve what seems like an impossible goal. But will their inspiring story be enough to make Winston change his ways? **(40 copies/support material)**

Secret of Sentinel Rock Silverthorne, Judith Gr. 5 c1996

Summary: Emily's favourite spot on her grandmother's farm is the lookout rock. When her grandmother dies, Emily comes to the rock to say a last goodbye, but someone is there already. Who is she? Where did she come from? Together Emily and the girl must unravel the secrets that have brought them together. **(14 copies)**

Shiloh Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds Gr. 5 c1991

Summary: When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs. **(92 copies/support material)**

Sign of the beaver, The Speare, Elizabeth George Gr. 5 c1983

Summary: Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills. **(50 copies/support material)**

Spinning through the universe: a novel in poems from room 214

Frost, Helen Gr. 4 & 5 c2004

Summary: A collection of poems written in the voices of Mrs. Williams of room 214, her students, and a custodian about their interactions with each other, their families, and the world around them. Includes notes on the poetic forms represented.

CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED:

Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 4 & 5- Personal and Philosophical Context. (30 copies)

Stranger at home Jordan-Fenton, Christy Gr. 5 c2011

Summary: The sequel to the powerful memoir Fatty Legs.

The true story of Margaret Pokiak, a young Inuit girl, picks up where the previous book concluded - with her return to her family.

Ten-year-old Margaret can hardly contain her excitement. After two years in a residential boarding school, she is finally headed for home. But when she stands before her family at last her mother doesn't recognize her. This was hardly the homecoming Margaret expected. She has forgotten her people's language and can't stomach her mother's food. She isn't even allowed to play with her friend Agnes, because she is now seen as too much like the despised outsiders. She has become a stranger to her own people. In this extraordinary sequel, Margaret must begin a painful journey of learning how to fit in again, how to reconcile her old self with the new. **(40 copies)**

Suggested Use: English Language Arts: Grade 5 - Personal and philosophical context. Social Studies: Grade 5 - Interactions and Interdependence, Power and Authority.

Tuck everlasting Babbitt, Natalie Gr. 5 c1975

Summary: The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older. **(61 copies/support material)**

Tunnels of terror Bishop, Mary Harelkin Gr. 4-5 c1981

Summary: Andrea's not looking for more adventures in Moose Jaw's terrifying tunnels. Once was enough! But now she's back in the city with her little brother Tony. And soon he's got them stuck in the perilous past again, in big trouble with a gang of thieves. **(42 copies)**

Tunnels of time Bishop, Mary Harelkin Gr. 5 c2001

Summary: Thirteen-year-old Andrea doesn't want to go to Moose Jaw for her cousin's wedding, and in those mysterious tunnels and discovers she's traveled back to the dangerous past.

(46 copies)

Where the red fern grows Rawls, Wilson Gr. 5 1987, c1961

Summary: A young boy living in the Ozarks achieves his heart's desire when he becomes the owner of two redbone hounds and teaches them to be champion hunters.

(38 copies/support material)

Winter poems Rogasky, Barbara Gr. 4-6 c1994

Summary: A collection of winter poems ranging from late fall to early spring, by such authors as Shakespeare, Edgar Allan Poe, and Wallace Stevens. **(15 copies)**

Word after word after word MacLachlan, Patricia Gr. 4 & 5 c2010

Summary: Every school day feels the same for fourth graders Lucy and Henry and Evie and Russell and May. Then Ms. Mirabel comes to their class—bringing magical words and a whole new way of seeing and understanding.

CURRICULUM RECOMMENDED:

Suggested Use: English Language Arts Grade 4 & 5- Communicative Context; Personal and Philosophical Context. (30 copies)

Wringer Spinelli, Jerry Gr. 5 c1997

Summary: As Palmer comes of age, he must either accept the violence of being a wringer at his town's annual Pigeon Day or find the courage to oppose it. **(35 copies)**