

## 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)**

**Among the hidden** Haddix, Margaret Peterson Gr. 4-8  
c2000  
**Summary:** In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong. **(30 copies)**

**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 + audio CD)**

**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)

**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 + audio CD)

**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 + DVD) **Also recommended for Social Studies Grades 1-5.**

**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)

## **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. **(30 copies)**

**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)**

Updated October 28, 2019

**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)**

**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 + 2 copies of audio CD)**

**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 +DVD)**  
Updated October 28, 2019

**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 + audio CD)**

**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)**

**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)**

**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)**

**Pushing up the Sky** Bruchac, Joseph Gr. 4-6 c2000  
**Summary:** Uses drama to tell seven different stories from Native American traditions, including the Abenaki, Ojibway, Cherokee, Cheyenne, Snohomish, Tlingit, and Zuni. **(20 copies)**

**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)**

**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 + 2 copies of DVD, audio CD)**

**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 + audio CD)**

**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.**

Updated October 28, 2019



**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)**

**Yellow Dog** Korner, Miriam Gr. 5-8 c2017

**Summary:** Jeremy lives in a small community where winters are long and stray dogs roam the streets. When peer pressure leads Jeremy into a bad prank, he is immediately struck with guilt - and that's when Jeremy's life changes forever. Trying to make amends Jeremy befriends Yellow Dog - and in the process meets a curious old man who introduces him to the adventures of dog sledding. Soon Jeremy is forming his own old-time dog team with Yellow Dog at lead - and in the process discovers more about himself - and the old man - than he ever thought possible. **(30 copies)**