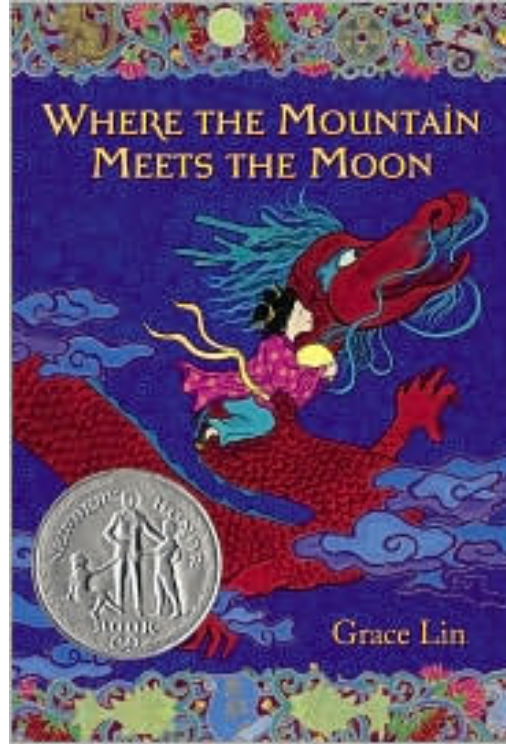


# Fifth Grade Reading List 2010



Lin, Grace. *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. New York : Little, Brown & Co., 2009.

### 2010 Caldecott Medal Winner

*The Lion and the Mouse* written and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

### Caldecott Honor Books

*All the World* illustrated by Marla Frazee, written by Liz Garton Scanlon

*Red Sings from Treetops* illustrated by Pamela Zagarenski, written by Joyce Sidman

### 2010 Newbery Winner

*When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead

### Newbery Honor Books

*Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice* by Phillip Hoose

*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* by Jacqueline Kelly

*Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* written and illustrated by Grace Lin

*The Mostly True Adventures of Homer P. Figg* by Rodman B. Philbrick

## **SUMMER READING REQUIREMENTS:**

You are required to read at least five books from four different genres. Please keep a list of what you have read, which is to be turned in on the first day of school. Remember to include the author, title and category (realistic fiction, historical fiction, science fiction/fantasy, short stories and nonfiction) on your list, as well as a concise paragraph about each book. **The books on this list are merely suggestions; feel free to choose other titles to complete your requirements.**

Metairie Park Country Day School    300 Park Road    Metairie, LA    (504) 837-5204

## Metairie Park Country Day School 2010 Fifth Grade Reading List

### NEW THIS YEAR...“BEST BOOKS” OF 2009-2010

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Books from at least one list of “best” books, which were compiled by leading journals in the field of children’s literature.

- Alvarez, Julia. **RETURN TO SENDER.** After Tyler's father is injured in a tractor accident, his family is forced to hire migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure.
- Bredsdorff, Bodil. **EIDI.** The sequel to **THE CROW-GIRL** finds Edid feeling displaced by the birth of her half-brother. She sets out on a journey to discover her independence and talents.
- DiCamillo, Kate. **THE MAGICIAN’S ELEPHANT.** A fortune teller’s strange prediction and a magician’s startling trick lead Peter on a journey to find his sister.
- Floca, Brian. **MOONSHOT: THE FLIGHT OF APOLLO 11.** Forty years after the first humans stepped on the moon’s surface, a handsome, largely visual chronicle of that historic journey brings its majesty and mystery to young readers.
- Hughes, Langston. **MY PEOPLE.** Warm photographic portraits by Charles R. Smith, Jr., celebrating the diversity of African-American faces, illustrate Hughes 1923 classic poem.
- Kelly, Jacqueline. **THE EVOLUTION OF CALPURNI-TATE.** A charming and inventive story of a child struggling to find her identity at the turn of the 20th century.
- Lin, Grace. **WHEN THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE MOON.** In the Valley of Fruitless Mountain, Minli spends her days working hard in the fields and her nights listening to her father spin fantastic tales about the Jade Dragon and the Old Man of the Moon. One night she embarks on an extraordinary journey to find the Old Man of the Moon and ask him how her family can change their fortune.
- Lowry, Lois. **CROW CALL.** Reunited after serving in the war, a father and youngest daughter begin their journey of reconnection as they hunt for crows in Pennsylvania farmland.
- O’Connor, Barbara. **THE SMALL ADVENTURES OF POPEYE AND ELVIS.** Popeye grabs a chance for adventure and friendship when a boy his age moves into town.
- Phelan, Matt. **THE STORM IN THE BARN.** At the stark, dry height of the 1937 Kansas dust bowl, 11-year-old Jack tries to bring back the rain when he challenges a mythical creature in this stirring graphic novel.
- Philbrick, Rodman. **THE MOSTLY TRUE ADVENTURES OF HOMER P. FIGG.** Homer, an admitted teller of tales, must rescue his brother Harold after Uncle Squinton Leach sells him to the Union Army.
- Stead, Rebecca. **WHEN YOU REACH ME.** A 12-year-old New York City girl tries to make sense of a series of mysterious notes received from an anonymous source that seems to defy the laws of time and space. **2010 Newbery Winner.**
- Stone, Tanya Lee. **ALMOST ASTRONAUTS: 13 WOMEN WHO DARED TO DREAM.** In the early 1960’s, 13 women endured rigorous testing and training for the space program. Numerous photographs and well written text chronicle their difficulties and achievements.
- Sturm, James. **ADVENTURES IN CARTOONING: HOW TO TURN YOUR DOODLES INTO COMICS.** Once upon a time . . . a princess tried to make a comic. And with the help of a magical cartooning elf, she learned how – well enough to draw her way out of an encounter with a dangerous dragon, near-death by drowning, and into her very own adventure!
- Thor, Annika. **A FARAWAY ISLAND.** Two Jewish sisters from Austria are sent by their parents to Sweden to escape the Nazis.
- Turner, Pamela. **THE FROG SCIENTIST.** Tyrone Hayes and his students work to understand frogs so they can save these amphibians from the pesticides that are slowly killing off creatures older than dinosaurs.
- Umansky, Kaye. **CLOVER TWIG AND THE MAGICAL COTTAGE.** When the sensible and tidy Clover Twig goes to work for a messy witch, she discovers that the witch's cottage has quite a few secrets hiding inside of it.
- Weitzman, David. **PHARAOH’S BOAT.** With poetic language and striking illustrations, Weitzman tells the story of how one of the greatest boats of ancient Egypt came to be built—and built again.
- Wing, Natasha. **AN EYE FOR COLOR: THE STORY OF JOSEF ALBERS.** Wing explains the unusual way that artist Josef Albers used color and shape to open the eyes of the world.
- Winter, Jonah. **GERTRUDE IS GERTRUDE IS GERTRUDE.** Winter has cleverly constructed the briefest of introductions to the life of Gertrude Stein and the salon era during which she wrote. Using mimicry, he demonstrates the repetitive, rambling, nonsensical style that made the eccentric writer famous.
- Winter, Jonah. **YOU NEVER HEARD OF SANDY KOU-FAX?** Sandy Koufax’s achievements as a great left-handed pitcher come to life in dramatic and dynamic illustrations coupled with a smattering of alluring facts and figures.

## Metairie Park Country Day School 2010 Fifth Grade Reading List

### HISTORICAL FICTION

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Avi. **THE TRUE CONFESSIONS OF CHARLOTTE DOYLE**. 13-year-old Charlotte Doyle, passenger on a 1832 voyage from England to America, must fend for herself when she learns that the captain is murderous.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **ELIJAH OF BUXTON**. Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, a haven for slaves fleeing the American South in 1859, tries to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

Fletcher, Susan. **SHADOW SPINNER**. When Marjan, a thirteen-year-old physically handicapped girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Shahrazad the stories which will save the queen's life.

Hesse, Karen. **WITNESS**. Two girls, one Jewish and one African-American, are among the townspeople who witness the effects of bigotry and hatred when the Klu Klux Klan comes to their Vermont community in the 1920's.

La Faye, A. **WORTH**. An accident almost costs eleven-year-old Nate his leg, making him useless for farm work. When his father gets a boy from the Orphan Train to help him, the new arrival heightens Nate's feelings of frustration, anger, and sadness.

McMullan, Margaret. **WHEN I CROSSED NO-BOB**. Set in rural Mississippi during the hard years of Reconstruction, this novel follows the life of 12-year-old Addy O'Donnell.

Sis, Peter. **THE WALL: GROWING UP BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN**. This powerful combination of graphic novel and picture book is an account of his growing up in Czechoslovakia under Soviet rule.

Weatherford, Carole Boston. **MOSES: WHEN HARRIET TUBMAN LED HER PEOPLE TO FREEDOM**. A fictionalized account of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery for freedom in Philadelphia and her work with the Underground Railroad.

Winthrop, Elizabeth. **COUNTING ON GRACE**. Inspired by a photograph of a young girl working in a textile mill taken by child labor reformer Lewis Hine, Winthrop's story relates the struggles of immigrant workers.

#### More Challenging . . .

Cushman, Karen. **MATILDA BONE**. Fourteen-year-old Matilda, an apprentice bonesetter and practitioner of medicine in a village in medieval England, tries to reconcile the various aspects of her life, both spiritual and practical.

McCaughrean, Geraldine. **THE KITE RIDER**. In thirteenth-century China, twelve-year-old Haoyou has life-changing adventures when he takes to the sky as a circus

kite rider and ends up meeting the great Mongol ruler Kublai Khan.

Rinaldi, Ann. **NUMBERING ALL THE BONES**. Thirteen-year-old Eulinda, a slave on a plantation in 1864, turns to American Red Cross founder, Clara Barton, for help in finding her brother who ran away to join the Northern war effort and is rumored to be at Andersonville Prison.

Yep, Lawrence. **DRAGONWINGS**. In the early twentieth century a Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

### REALISTIC FICTION

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Clements, Andrew. **NO TALKING**. The noisy fifth grade boys of Laketon Elementary School challenge the equally loud fifth grade girls to a "no talking" contest.

Dowd, Siobhan. **THE LONDON EYE MYSTERY**. In a race against time, 12-year-old Ted, with his sister Kat, uses his special skills and perceptions to discover how their cousin Salim disappeared while riding the London Eye.

Frazier, Sundee T. **BRENDAN BUCKLEY'S UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING IN IT**. Brendan is fascinated by science, and he likes to find the answers to questions that he poses in his notebook.

Goscinnny, Rene. **\*NICHOLAS AND THE GANG**. Energetic text and jaunty artwork combine to tell of the escapades of a schoolboy and his classmates in school.

Hannigan, Katherine. **IDA B . . . AND HER PLANS TO MAXIMIZE FUN, AVOID DISASTER, AND (POSSIBLY) SAVE THE WORLD**. Ida B. lives an idyllic life on her family's farm. It all changes when her mother is diagnosed with cancer, and Ida B. is left feeling fiercely angry and betrayed.

Himelblau, Linda. **THE TROUBLE BEGINS**. After years in a refugee camp in the Philippines, Du Nguyen and his grandmother finally join the rest of the family, who escaped war-torn Vietnam long ago. Fifth grader Du struggles to adapt to his new home in the US.

Holm, Jennifer L. **PENNY FROM HEAVEN**. As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death. **(2007 Newbery Honor Book)**.

Lord, Cynthia. **RULES**. "No toys in the fish tank" is one of many rules that 12-year-old Catherine shares with her autistic younger brother, David, to help him understand his world.

Morpurgo, Michael. **KENSUKE'S KINGDOM**. 11 year-old Michael is washed overboard off of his family's yacht and awakens on what he believes is a deserted Pacific island.

\* Series

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Patron, Susan. **THE HIGHER POWER OF LUCKY.** Ten-year-old Lucky lives in Hard Pan, California, on the outskirts of the Mojave Desert. **2007 Newbery Winner.**

Paulson, Gary. **HATCHET.** After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet.

Salisbury, Graham. **LORD OF THE DEEP.** When his stepfather, a Hawaiian deep-sea fishing guide, has to choose between the truth about a client's catch and the needs of his family, Mikey is forced to consider his own ethics.

White, Ruth. **TADPOLE.** The brash Collins girls don't have much but they have one another and their loving mama. Their orphaned cousin, Tadpole, has only his daddy's guitar to comfort and sustain him. A gem of a novel.

### More Challenging . . .

Erdrich, Louise. **\*THE GAME OF SILENCE.** Nine-year-old Omakayas and her family, members of the Ojibwa tribe, are forced to leave their island on Lake Superior in 1850, when white settlers move into the territory.

Hiaasen, Carl. **FLUSH.** With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters.

McKay, Hilary. **\*INDIGO'S STAR.** Spurred on by his youngest sister, Rose, twelve-year-old Indigo sticks up for himself and an American boy who has replaced him as the primary target of the school bullies.

## SCIENCE FICTION/ FANTASY

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Appelt, Kathi. **THE UNDERNEATH.** Intertwined stories of an embittered man, a loyal hound, an abandoned cat, and a vengeful lamia tell of love, loss, loneliness, and hope.

Armstrong, Alan. **WHITTINGTON.** Whittington, a feline descendant of Dick Whittington's famous cat of English folklore, appears at a rundown barnyard plagued by rats and restores harmony while telling his ancestor's story.

Ibbotson, Eva. **THE DRAGONFLY POOL.** In London in 1939, Tally leaves her home for a progressive boarding school where she makes friends and initiates a daring plan to help the young prince of Bergania escape the Nazis.

Jonell, Lynne. **EMMY AND THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING RAT.** Emmy discovers that her evil nanny is trying to control her family's lives, and she is ready to exact revenge.

Jacques, Brian. **\*REDWALL.** When the peaceful life of Redwall Abbey is shattered by the arrival of the evil rat Cluny and his villainous hordes, a young mouse determines to find the legendary sword of Martin the Warrior.

Pearce, Philippa. **THE LITTLE GENTLEMAN.** A mole, who has magically gained immortality and the capacity for human speech, encounters two humans. Lyrical, bittersweet, and bracingly unsentimental, the story contains a complicated, satisfying plot.

Riordan, Rick. **\*THE LAST OLYMPIAN.** The last book in the Percy Jackson series is as action packed as the rest.

Selznick. **THE INVENTION OF HUGO CABRET : A NOVEL IN WORDS AND PICTURES.** With intelligence, exquisite images, and a breathtaking design, Selznick shatters conventions related to the art of bookmaking in this magical mystery set in 1930's Paris. **2008 Caldecott Award**

Schlitz, Laura Amy. **GOOD MASTERS! SWEET LADIES!: VOICE FROM A MEDIEVAL VILLAGE.** Schlitz helps students step directly into the shoes-and lives-of medieval children in this outstanding collection of inter-related monologues. **2008 Newbery Winner.**

Stewart, Paul Lee. **\*THE MYSTERIOUS BENEDICT SOCIETY.** Reynie Muldoon responds to an advertisement recruiting "gifted children looking for special opportunities," and finds himself in a world of mystery and adventure.

Tolkien, J.R.R. **THE HOBBIT, OR, THERE AND BACK AGAIN.** The famous adventures of Bilbo Baggins.

Turner, Megan Whalen. **THE THIEF.** Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

Wrede, Patricia. **\*DEALING WITH DRAGONS.** Bored with traditional palace life, a princess goes off to be the servant of a group of dragons.

### More Challenging . . .

Farmer, Nancy. **SEA OF TROLLS.** Drawing upon history, Norse and Celtic myth, and Farmer's own abundant imagination, this story is an engrossing tale about a Saxon boy and what befell him upon his and his younger sister's capture by marauding Northmen.

Funke, Cornelia. **\*INKSPELL.** When Dustfinger finds a crooked storyteller who can read him back to Inkscape, he leaves his apprentice Farid behind; but Farid seeks out Meggie and the two follow him back into the enchanted book.

Gaiman, Neil. **THE GRAVEYARD BOOK.** A child marked for death by an ancient league of assassins escapes to an abandoned graveyard, where he is reared and protected by its spirit denizens. **2009 Newbery Winner.**

McCaughrean, Geraldine. **PETER PAN IN SCARLET.** In McCaughrean's authorized virtuoso new Peter Pan story, the densely patterned adventures unfold in a headlong rush. Barrie's old story is seamlessly knit into the new.

\* Series

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### SHORT STORIES

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**BEST SHORTS: FAVORITE SHORT STORIES FOR SHARING.** Selected by Avi, these stories from the past and the present have been gathered into an engaging collection for young people.

Gerson, Mary-Joan. **FIESTA FEMENINA: CELEBRATING WOMEN IN MEXICAN FOLKTALES.** Gerson retells eight Mexican folktales featuring women who show complexity and magical creativity.

McKissack, Patricia C. **PORCH LIES: TALES OF SLICKSTERS, TRICKSTERS, AND OTHER WILY CHARACTERS.** A collection of 9 original tales drawn from African American oral tradition that blends history and legend with sly humor, creepy horror, and villainous characters.

Peck, Richard. **A LONG WAY FROM CHICAGO.** A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

### NONFICTION

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Arnosky, Jim. **WILD TRACKS: A GUIDE TO NATURE'S FOOTPRINTS.** Life-size footprints depicting more than 60 North American wild animals make this an enticing field guide for young explorers.

Bishop, Nic. **FROGS.** Bishop presents salient facts about frogs with a clear text, augmented with fabulous photographs of species from around the world.

Bryant, Jen. **A RIVER OF WORDS: THE STORY OF WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS.** Melissa Sweet's layered multimedia illustrations with multiple images illuminate the words of the poet.

Cherry, Lynne & Gary Braasch. **HOW WE KNOW WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT OUR CHANGING CLIMATE: SCIENTISTS AND KIDS EXPLORE GLOBAL WARMING.** Dynamic text describes how data is gathered across the globe and used to understand climate change.

D'Aluisio, Faith. **WHAT THE WORLD EATS.** Adapted from an adult book, this fascinating volume offers photo-essays about families from around the world and presents an illustrated survey of what they eat in a single week.

Davies, Nicola. **WHAT'S EATING YOU: PARASITES — THE INSIDE STORY.** A fascinating, irreverent and informative guide by biologist Davies to all the microscopic creatures that live on and inside us.

Giovanni, Nikki. **ROSA.** A beautifully illustrated account of Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955.

Grandits, John. **TECHNICALLY, IT'S NOT MY FAULT: CONCRETE POEMS.** The author combines technical brilliance and goofy good humor to provide an accessible, fun-filled collection of poems, dramatically brought to life through a brilliant book design.

Freedman, Russell. **THE ADVENTURES OF MARCO POLO.** Freedman asks "Did he really travel to China and beyond, as he claimed?" Or was he . . . "the man of a million lies?"

Hawass, Zahi. **CURSE OF THE PHARAOHS: MY ADVENTURES WITH MUMMIES.** Archaeologist Hawass tells about his life, his discoveries, and his many adventures; he also discusses the famous "curse of the pharaohs."

Henderson, Kathy. **LUGALBANDA: THE BOY WHO GOT CAUGHT UP IN A WAR.** An ancient Sumerian tale about the youngest of eight brothers. One of the oldest stories in the world, this Sumerian epic was recorded on clay tablets around 4,500 years ago, unearthed in the nineteenth century, and recently deciphered.

Hoose, Phillip. **WE WERE THERE, TOO! YOUNG PEOPLE IN U.S. HISTORY.** Using mostly primary sources, Hoose gives voice to the many young people who helped shape the country.

Johnson, Stephen T. **A IS FOR ART: AN ABSTRACT ALPHABET.** In this amazing work, Johnson creates an original piece of art for each letter. Playful touches include hidden letters, alliterative text, and more.

Nelson, Kadir. **WE ARE THE SHIP: THE STORY OF NEGRO LEAGUE BASEBALL.** This fascinating and well-documented history of Negro League Baseball is told in the voice of an Everyman narrator.

O'Connor, Jane. **THE EMPEROR'S SILENT ARMY.** This enticing book takes readers to China where the discovery of 1,000-year-old terra-cotta soldiers has provided excitement and interest.

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. **WHEN THE WOLVES RETURNED: RESTORING NATURE'S BALANCE IN YELLOWSTONE.** Lively photographs capturing images of wildlife and an easy text make clear to young readers the beneficial impact to the ecosystem when wolves were reintroduced to Yellowstone National Park.

Raczka, Bob. **HERE'S LOOKING AT ME.** From the earliest known self-portrait by Albrecht Durer in 1484 to a painting by Chuck Close in 2000, Raczka examines fourteen self-portraits to see what the images reveal about the artists.

Siegel, Siena Cherson. **TO DANCE: A MEMOIR.** Both narrative and images in this nimble graphic memoir are filled with enthusiasm and humor, chronicling the life and career of a ballerina.