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Contemporary Classics for Grades 3 - 6

Children have read and enjoyed these books for several decades. They are known for their interesting stories, distinctive style, and memorable characterization, developed from a contemporary point of view. Click on the title to see if the book is available.

Animals

Bond, Michael	A Bear Called Paddington.
Burnford, Sheila	The Incredible Journey.
Farley, Walter	The Black Stallion.
George, Jean Craighead	Julie of the Wolves.

Fantasy & Science Fiction

Adams, Richard	Watership Down.
Aiken, Joan	The Wolves of Willoughby Chase.
Alexander, Lloyd	The Book of Three.
Babbitt, Natalie	Tuck Everlasting.
Bellairs, John	The House with a Clock in Its Walls.
Christopher, John	The White Mountains.
Cooper, Susan	The Grey King.
Dahl, Roald	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.
Howe, Deborah	Bunnicula.
Juster, Norton	The Phantom Tollbooth.
L'Engle, Madeleine	A Wrinkle in Time.
McCaffrey, Anne	Dragonsong.
O'Brien, Robert C.	Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH.
Pearce, Philippa	Tom's Midnight Garden.

Sleator, William	Into the Dream.
Smith, Robert Kimmel	Chocolate Fever.

Historical Fiction

Armstrong, William	Sounder.
Collier, James	My Brother Sam is Dead.
Forbes, Esther	Johnny Tremain.
Fox, Paula	The Slave Dancer.
Greene, Bette	Summer of My German Soldier.
Hamilton, Virginia	The House of Dies Drear.
Hunt, Irene	Across Five Aprils.
Lasky, Kathryn	The Night Journey.
Levitin, Sonia	Journey to America.
Speare, Elizabeth George	The Witch of Blackbird Pond.
Taylor, Mildred	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry.
Taylor, Theodore	The Cay.

Mystery

Raskin, Ellen	The Westing Game.
Sobol, Donald	Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective.

School, Friends & Family

Blume, Judy	Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.
Byars, Betsy	The Summer of the Swans.
Cleary, Beverly	Ramona the Pest.
Fitzhugh, Louise	Harriet the Spy.
Gardiner, John	Stone Fox.
Greene, Constance	Beat the Turtle Drum.
Holman, Felice	Slake's Limbo.
Konigsburg, E.L.	From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.
Nordstrom, Ursula	The Secret Language.
Paterson, Katherine	Bridge to Terabithia.
Paterson, Katherine	The Great Gilly Hopkins.

Peck, Robert N.	A Day No Pigs Would Die.
Rockwell, Thomas	How to Eat Fried Worms.

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