



**MURRAY CITY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*We Are Murray!*

**MCSD APPROVED BOOK LIST FOR ELEMENTARY**

TITLE	AUTHOR	GRADE LEVEL TAUGHT	LEXILE LEVEL	DATE REVIEWED/ APPROVED
<a href="#">Charlie and the Chocolate Factory</a>	Roald Dahl	1	810	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Flat Stanley</a>	Jeff Brown	1	420	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Love, Ruby Lavendar</a>	Deborah Wiles	1	570	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Boxcar Children</a>	Gertrude Chandlers Warner	1	490	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Castle in the Attic</a>	Elizabeth Winthrop	1	750	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Chocolate Touch</a>	Patrick Skene Catling	1	770	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Little Leftover Witch</a>	Florence Laughlin	1	670	3/15/2022
<a href="#">The Magic Treehouse #6 Afternoon on the Amazon</a>	Mary Pope Osborne	1	510	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Bob</a>	Wendy Mass	2	590	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Dinosaurs Before Dark (Magic Tree House #1)</a>	Mary Pope Osborne	2	510	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Ranger in Time - Rescue on the Oregon Trail</a>	Kate Messner	2	620	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Trouble with Chickens</a>	Doreen Cronin	2	570	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Wild Robot</a>	Peter Brown	2	740	11/1/2021
<a href="#">World According to Humphrey</a>	Betty T. Britney	2	630	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Because of Winn Dixie</a>	Kate DiCamillo	3	670	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Charlotte's Web</a>	EB White	3	680	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Fish in a Tree</a>	Lynda Mullaly Hunt	3	550	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Flora and Ulysses</a>	Kate DiCamillo	3	520	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Lola Levine is Not Mean.</a>	Monica Brown	3	720	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Stone Fox</a>	John Reynolds Gardiner	3	610	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Contender</a>	Robert Lipstye	3	760	
<a href="#">The Home-Run King</a>	Patricia C. McKissack	3	580	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</a>	Kate DiCamillo	3	700	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The One and Only Ivan</a>	Katherine Applegate	3	570	11/1/2021
<a href="#">The Storm</a>	Cynthia Rylant	3	760	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</a>	Grace Lin	3	810	11/1/2021
<a href="#">A City in Winter</a>	Mark Helprin	4		
<a href="#">A Wrinkle in Time</a>	Madelein L'Engle	4	740	
<a href="#">Backward Bird Dog</a>	Bill Wallace	4	630	
<a href="#">Bodies in the Besseldorf Hotel</a>	Phyllis Naylor	4	830	
<a href="#">Bridge to Terabithia</a>	Katherine Paterson	4	810	

Chocolate Fever	Robert Smith	4	680	
Chocolate War *	Robert Cormier	4	820	
Cricket in Times Square	George Selden	4	780	
<a href="#">Dragon Slippers</a>	Jessica Day George	4	860	11/1/2021
Fourth Grade Rats	Jerry Spinelli	4	340	
Freaky Friday	Mary Rogers	4	690	
Freedom Train	Dorothy Sterling	4	910	
Frindle	Andrew Clements	4	830	
Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets *	J.K. Rowling	4	940	
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	J.K. Rowling	4	880	
<b>Holes</b>	Louise Sachar	4	660	
Hundred Penny Box	Sharon Mathis	4	700	
<a href="#">I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World (Young Readers Edition)</a>	Mary Eisenhart	4	830	11/1/2021
In the year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson	Bette Bao Lord	4	730	
Indian in the Cupboard	Lynne Banks	4	780	2006
Island fo the Blue Dolphins	Scott O'Dell	4	1000	
James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl	4	870	
Jim Ugly	Sid Fleischman	4	710	
Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles	Julie Edwards	4	620	
Little House in the Big Woods	Laura Wilder	4	930	
Little House on the Prairie	Laura Wilder	4	760	
<a href="#">Love That Dog</a>	Sharon Creech	4	1010	11/1/2021
Maniac McGee	Jerry Spinelli	4	820	
Martin's Mice	Dick King-Smith	4	770	
Matilda	Roald Dahl	4	840	
Mississippi Bridge	Mildred Taylor	4	810	
Morning Glory War	Judy Glassman	4	710	
Mouse and the Motocycle	Beverly Cleary	4	860	
Mr. Popper's Penguins	Richard Atwater	4	910	
My Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George	4	810	
Naya Nuki	Kenn Thomasma	4	790	
Night of the Twisters	Ivy Ruckman	4	790	
Old Yeller	Fred Gipson	4	910	
Pretty Polly	Dick King-Smith	4		
<a href="#">Restart</a>	Gordon Korman	4	730	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Rules</a>	Cynthia Lord	4	670	11/1/2021
Sarah, Plain and Tall	Patricia MacLachlan	4	560	
<a href="#">Save Me a Seat</a>	Gita Varadarajan and Sarah Weeks	4	780	11/1/2021
Shiloh	Phyllis Naylor	4	890	
Skeleton Creek	Patrick Carman	4	620	

Skylark	Patricia MacLachlan	4	470	
Snow Treasure	Marie McSwigan	4	690	
Sperfudge	Judy Blume	4	560	
Sturat Little	E.B. White	4	920	
Summer of the Swans	Betsy Byars	4	830	
Swan Lake	Unknown	4		
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing	Judy Blume	4	470	
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever	Barber Robinson	4	930	
The BFG	Roald Dahl	4	720	
The Borrowers	Mary Norton	4	780	
The Eyes of the Amaryllis	Natalie Babbitt	4	840	
The Family Under the Bridge	Natalie Carlson	4	680	
The Flying Flea, Callie and Me	Bill Wallace	4	550	
The Forgotten Door	Alexander Key	4	720	
<a href="#">The Girl Who Drank the Moon</a>	Kelly Barnhall	4	640	11/1/2021
The Great Brain	John Fitzgerald	4	840	
The Great Gilly Hopkins	Katherine Paterson	4	800	
The Hundred Dresses	Eleanor Estes	4	870	
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis	4	940	2006
<a href="#">The One and Only</a>	Katherine Applegate	4	570	11/1/2021
The Secret Garden	Frances Burnett	4	970	
<a href="#">The Sign of the Beaver</a>	Elizabeth George Speare	4	770	11/1/2021
The Trumpet of the Swan	E.B. White	4	750	
The Van Gogh Cafe	Cynthia Rylant	4	810	
<a href="#">The War with Grandpa</a>	Robert Kimmel Smith	4	640	11/1/2021
The Whipping Boy	Sid Fleischman	4	570	
The Witches	Roald Dahl	4	740	
There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom	Louis Sachar	4	490	
This Island Isn't Big Enough for the Four of Us	Bob Ruddick & Gery Greer	4	750	
Trouble River	Betsy Byars	4	770	
Veil of Snows	Mark Helprin	4		
Watchdog and the Coyotes	Bill Wallace	4	600	
<b>Weasel</b>	Cynthia DeFelice	4	870	
<a href="#">Wishtree</a>	Katherine Applegate	4	590	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Wonder</a>	R.J. Palacio	4	700	11/1/2021
A Taste of Blackberries	Doris Smith	5	640	
Adventures of King Midas	Lynne Banks	5	770	
Afternoon of the Elves	Janet Lisle	5	820	
<a href="#">Blood on the River</a>	Elisa Carbone	5	880	11/1/2021
Bud, Not Buddy	Christopher Curtis	5	950	

Call it Courage	Armstrong Sperry	5	830	
Carley Skeddaddle	Patricia Beatty	5	870	
<a href="#">City of Ember</a>	Jeanne Duprau	5	680	11/1/2021
Dear Levi: Letters from the Overland Trail	Elvira Woodruff	5	1010	
<a href="#">Dragonwings</a>	Laurence Yep	5	870	11/1/2021
Eddie's Blue Winged Dragon	C.S. Alders	5		
Ella Enchanted	Gail Levine	5	670	
<a href="#">Esperanza Rising</a>	Munoz Ryan	5	750	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Extra Credit</a>	Andrew Clements	5	830	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Fablehaven</a>	Brandon Mull	5	710	11/1/2021
For Whom the Bell Tolls	Ernest Hemingway	5	840	
Freedom Crossing	Margaret Clark	5	720	
From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	E.L. Konigsburg	5	700	
Ghost Cadet	Elaine Alphin	5	830	
Ghost of Austwick Manor	Reby E. MacDonald	5		
Harriet Tubman	Francene Sabin	5		
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	5	1020	
Helen Keller's Teacher	Margaret Davidson	5	590	
Howliday Inn	James Howe	5	630	
<a href="#">Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus</a>	Dusti Bowling	5	700	5/9/2022
Jackie Robinson	Kenneth Rudeen	5	670	
Jacob's Rescue: A Holocaust Story	Malka Drucker	5	680	
Julie of The Wolves	Jean Craighead George	5	860	
Lincoln: A Photobiography	Russell Freedman	5	1110	
Lion to Guard Us	Clyde Bulla	5	360	
Long Journey Home	Julius Lester	5	810	
Mr. Lincoln's Drummer	Clifton Wisler	5	800	
Nothing's Fair in the 5th Grade	Barthe DeClements	5	600	
Number the Stars	Lois Lowry	5	670	
On the Far Side of the Mountain	Jean Craighead George	5	760	
Philip Hall Likes Me, I Reckon Maybe	Bette Greene	5	900	
Pinballs	Betsy Byars	5	600	
Quake	Joe Cottonwood	5	590	
<a href="#">Rabbit Hill</a>	Robert Lawson	5	1050	11/1/2021
Remember My Name	Nicholas Edwards	5	710	
Running Out of Time	Margaret Haddix	5	730	
Santa Paws	Nicholas Edwards	5	650	
<a href="#">Savvy</a>	Ingrid Law	5	1070	11/1/2021
Shades of Gray	Carolyn Reeder	5	800	
<b>Shadow Spinner</b>	Susan Fletcher	5	710	

Skinnybones	Barbara Park	5	590	
Streams to the River, Rivers to the Sea	Scott O'Dell	5	740	
The Bird's Christmas Carol	Kate Wiggin	5	1200	
The Cay	Theodore Taylor	5	860	
<a href="#">The Crossover</a>	Kwame Alexander	5	750	3/15/2022
The House with a Clock in its Walls	John Bellairs	5	800	
<a href="#">The Night Diary</a>	Veera Hiranandani	5	700	5/9/2022
The One Hundreth Thing About Caroline	Lois Lowry	5	690	
The Root Cellar	Janet Lunn	5	840	
<a href="#">The War that Saved My Life</a>	Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	5	580	11/1/2021
Thunder Rolling in the Mountains	Scott O'Dell	5	680	
Till's Christmas	Nola Thacker	5		
Trapped in Death Cave	Bill Wallace	5	630	
Water Sky	Jean Craighead George	5	730	
Wayside School is Falling Down	Louis Sachar	5	440	
<a href="#">Words on Fire</a>	Jennifer A. Nielsen	5	820	5/9/2022
American Tall Tales	Unknown	6	970	
Babysitting is a Dangerous Job	Willo Roberts	6	850	
Banner in the Sky	James Ramsey Ullman	6	680	5/12/2012
Battle for the Castle	Elizabeth Winthrop	6	700	
<a href="#">Beyonders Series</a>	Brandon Mull	6	700	11/1/2021
Black Star, Bright Dawn	Scott O'Dell	6	670	
Boy	Roald Dahl	6	1090	
<a href="#">Cinder</a>	Marissa Meyer	6	790	11/1/2021
Circle of Gold	Candy Boyd	6	610	
Dagger of Death	Walter G. Olesky	6		
Devil's Arithmetic	Jane Yolen	6	730	
Devil's Bridge	Cynthia DeFelice	6	810	
Finding Buck McHenry	Alfred Slate	6	500	
<a href="#">Good Masters Sweet Ladies</a>	Laura Amy Schlitz	6	NPO	11/1/2021
Incredible Journey	Shelia Bunford	6	1320	
Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key	Jack Gantos	6	970	
Journey to America	Sonia Levitin	6	750	
Journey to Jo'Burg	Beverly Naidoo	6	760	
Kavik, the Wolf Dog	Walt Morey	6	740	
Lisa's War	Carol Matas	6	600	
Locked in Time	Lois Duncan	6	990	
<a href="#">Mañanaland</a>	Pam Muñoz Ryan	6	650	3/15/2022
<b>Martin Luther King: The Peaceful Warrior</b>	Ed Clayton	6	1040	
Megan's Island	Willo Roberts	6	780	

Missing May	Cynthia Rylant	6	980	
Mr. Tucket	Gary Paulsen	6	830	
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH	Robert O'Brien	6	790	
On My Honor	Marion Bauer	6	750	
<a href="#">Out of My Mind</a>	Sharon M. Draper	6	700	11/1/2021
<a href="#">Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief</a>	Rick Riordan	6	680	11/1/2021
Phantom Tollbooth	Norton Juster	6	1000	
Pushcart War	Jean Merrill	6	1020	
Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry	Mildred Taylor	6	920	5/12/2012
Shadow of a Bull	Maia Wojcieszowska	6	740	
Souder	William Armstrong	6	900	
Stepping on Cracks	Mary Hahn	6	780	
The Dead Man in Indian Creek	Mary Hahn	6	820	
The Dollhouse Murders	Betty Ren Wright	6	670	
The Egypt Game	Zylpha Snyder	6	1010	
The Golden Goblet	Eloise McGraw	6	930	
<b>The House of Dies Drear</b>	Virgina Hamilton	6	670	
<b>The Iceberg Hermit</b>	Arthur Roth	6	1060	
<a href="#">The Last Kids on Earth Series</a>	Max Brallier	6	650	11/1/2021
The Other Side of Dark	Joan Lowry Nixon	6	660	
<b>The Shakespeare Stealer</b>	Gary Blackwood	6	840	
The Twenty One-Ballons	William DuBois	6	1070	
The Wringer	Jerry Spinelli	6	690	
Time for Andrew: A Ghost Story	Mary Hahn	6	710	
True Confession of Charlotte Doyle	Avi	6	740	
Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbitt	6	770	
Tut, Tut	Jon Scieszka	6	690	
Wait Till Helen Comes	Mary Hahn	6	750	
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech	6	770	5/12/2012
Westing Game	Ellen Raskin	6	750	
Where the Red Fern Grows	Wilson Rawls	6	700	
<b>Woodsong</b>	Gary Paulsen	6	1090	
<a href="#">Greggor The Overlander</a>	Suzanne Collins	1-2	630	6/2/2022
<a href="#">Other Words for Home</a>	Jasmine Warga	3-7	930	6/2/2022
<a href="#">The Princess In Black</a>	Shannon Hale	1	500	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Geronimo Stilton Series (Cavemice - The Stone of Fire)</a>	Geronimo Stilton	1-2	670	5/9/2022
<a href="#">A Boy Called Bat</a>	Elana K. Arnold	3	760	5/9/2022
<a href="#">The Nocturnals Series</a>	Tracey Hecht	3	530	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Third Grade Angels</a>	Jerry Spinelli	3	390	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Ways to grow love</a>	Renee Watson	3	600	5/9/2022

<a href="#">Planet Omar accidental trouble magnet</a>	Zanib Mian	3-4	820	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Snowman the true story of a champion</a>	Catherine Hapka	3-5	910	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Crenshaw</a>	Katherine Applegate	3-6	540	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Echo</a>	Pam Munoz Ryan	6	680	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Wolf Hollow</a>	Lauren Wolk	6	800	5/9/2022
<a href="#">Space Case</a>	Stuart Gibbs	6-only	750	3/15/2022
<a href="#">Touching Spirit Bear</a>	Ben Mickaelsen	6-only	670	3/15/2022

Titles approved since 2012 have dates noted in Dated Reviewed/Approved column and may be used as a current curriculum choice.

(Titles with no date were approved prior to 2012 by previous committees , but would need to be re-reviewed and approved before being taught.)

Title in BOLD are upper grade-level books taught in elementary school

Updated 6/2/2022 by Megan Kunzler

\*On ALA's most challenged book list