

Librarian's Choice FUN BOOKS!



Adventure Books (Fiction)



Here are some great books that are read all over the country, enjoyed all over the world. Each author is identified with a side heading.

Each title is listed below its author, along with the date the book was published. Each title includes a short description to help you see why each book can be FUN!

All of these books FICTION, so they are located in alphabetical order by the author's last name. Remember, our library may or may not have each book – we will have to check.

Please let Mr. Breitsprecher know when your library does not have one of these books. Perhaps we can order a copy for next year.

You can check for them at the Portage County Library too. They can get any of these books for you via interlibrary loan too. If you are looking for something fun to read, check out these great books.

Aiken, Joan

Dangerous Games, 1999. Her mission to bring an expert on games back to an ailing King James III in London takes Dido Twite to a small tropical island, where she is caught up in the conflict between a conniving city dweller and the more subtle powers of the native forest people.

Is Underground, 1993. Bound to keep a promise to her dead uncle, Is travels to the mysterious north country to find two missing boys--one of them a prince--and to discover why so many children in London are disappearing.

The El Dorado Adventure, 1987. Traveling to Central America to inspect her real estate holdings, seventeen-year-old Vesper tries to stop a villain from building a canal which would destroy an Indian tribe's homeland.

The Xanadu Adventure, 2004. Vesper Holly's adventures continue as she, her guardians, and their friends journey to Asia Minor in search of the ancient city of Troy, but fall into the trap of an old nemesis.

All, William Stuart

Swords for Hire, 2003. In the ancient kingdom of Parnall, sixteen-year-old Sam Hatcher and an eccentric Royal Guard set out on a mission to rescue the rightful king who has been imprisoned in a faraway dungeon by his evil brother.

Allende, Isabelle

City of Beasts, 2002. When fifteen-year-old Alexander Cold accompanies his individualistic grandmother on an expedition to find a beast in the Amazon, he experiences ancient wonders and a supernatural world as he tries to avert disaster for the Indians.

Avi

Beyond the Western Sea, 1996. Driven from their impoverished Irish village, fifteen-year-old Maura and her younger brother meet their landlord's runaway son in Liverpool while all three wait for a ship to America; their fates continue to intertwine on board ship and in the New World.

Baillie, Allan

Adrift, 1993. While playing pirates with his little sister and her cat in an old crate he finds on the beach, a young boy suddenly discovers that they are adrift on the sea and that he must somehow keep them all alive.

Bartholomew, Lois

The White Dove, 2000. Having escaped from the compound where she was imprisoned by the usurper of her dead father's throne, Tasha fights to survive while planning how to join those working to turn the kingdom into a democracy.

Bodett, Tom

Williwaw! 1999. In their father's absence, thirteen-year-old September and her younger brother Ivan disobey his orders by taking the boat out on their Alaska bay, where they are caught in a terrifying storm called a williwaw.

Browne, N.M.

Hunted, 2002. A young woman in a coma becomes a magical red fox in another space and time, where she plays a vital role in a rebellion against the king.

Bruchac, Joseph

Skeleton Man, 2001. After her parents disappear and she is turned over to the care of a strange "great-uncle", Molly must rely on her dreams about an old Mohawk story for her safety and maybe even for her life.

Collier, James Lincoln

Wild Boy, 2002. Twelve-year-old Jesse runs away from home and tries to survive on his own in the nearby mountains.

Cottonwood, Joe

Quake! 1995. With their parents away at the 1989 World Series, fourteen-year-old Franny, her younger brother, and her friend try to cope with the frightening events following an earthquake that destroys their home on Loma Prieta mountain.

Derby, Pat

Away To The Goldfields, 2004. Yearning for adventure and tired of farm life in New Hampshire, sixteen-year-old Mary Margaret Malarkey journeys to California in 1848 to find her father who arrived earlier to make his fortune in the goldfields.

Dygaard, Thomas J.

River Danger, 1998. Although he reluctantly agrees to accompany his little brother on a canoe trip, eighteen-year-old Eric finally gains new respect for this younger sibling whose ingenuity rescues him.

Eckert, Allan

Return to Hawk's Hill, 1998. Running away from a vicious trapper, seven-year-old Ben MacDonald is separated from his family and eventually ends up on the shores of Lake Winnipeg, where he is taken in by a tribe of Metis Indians.

Evans, Douglas

MVP*: Magellan Voyage Project, 2004. Twelve-year-old Adam Story is challenged by the deposed ruler of Babababad and his mongoose companion to become the first youngster to travel around the world in forty days without an adult.

Fama, Elizabeth

Overboard, 2002. Escaping from a sinking ferry in the waters off Sumatra, fourteen-year-old Emily fights for survival for herself and a young Indonesian boy, who draws courage from his quiet but firm Islamic faith.

Farmer, Nancy

A Girl Named Disaster, 1996. While journeying to Zimbabwe, eleven-year-old Nhamo struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.

Fleischman, Sid

The Whipping Boy, 1989. A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they trade places by mistake after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws. (Newbery Award winner)

The Giant Rat of Sumatra: Or Pirates Galore, 2005. A cabin boy on a pirate ship finds himself in San Diego in 1846 as war breaks out between the United States and Mexico.

Furlong, Monica

Robin's Country, 1995. A mute orphan boy, with only shadowy recollections of his past, runs away from his cruel master and eventually joins Robin Hood and his followers in their forest hideaways.

George, Jean C.

My Side of the Mountain, 1988. A boy conducts an experiment in survival and self-sufficiency as he spends a year alone living off the land in a tree house in a remote area of the Catskill Mountains.

On the Far Side of the Mountain, 1990. Sam's peaceful existence in his wilderness home is

disrupted when his sister runs away and his pet falcon is confiscated by a conservation officer.

Tree Castle Island. 2002. After building his own canoe, fourteen-year-old Jack Hawkins goes to try it out in his beloved Okefenokee Swamp, where an accident tests his survival skills and leads him to a shocking discovery.

Gurney, James

Dinotopia: The World Beneath, 1995. Four years after being shipwrecked on the lost island of Dinotopia, sixteen-year-old Will Denison, now a fully trained Skybox Corps pilot, explores the skies over the island while his scientist father leads an expedition into the forgotten caverns.

Haber, Melissa Glenn

Hercules Amsterdam, 2003. A human boy, just three inches tall, finds a home and happiness in a mouse city until he learns of an ancient threat and goes on a dangerous quest to save the city, assisted by old friends and new.

Heisel, Sharon E.

Precious Gold, Precious Jade, 2000. A young woman befriends a Chinese family despite the racism and fear that overwhelm the residents of her small western mining town at the end of the gold rush.

Higson, Charles

Silverfin, 2005. This prequel to the adventures of James Bond, 007, introduces us to the young James when he's just started boarding school in England and is about to become involved in his first adventure.

Hill, Kirkpatrick

Winter Camp, 1993. Eleven-year-old Toughboy and his younger sister must survive the harsh Alaskan winter at a friend's winter trapping camp.

Hirsch, Odo

Bartlett and the Ice Voyage, 2002. When an impatient queen longs to taste the delicious but

fragile melidrop fruit, two explorers use "Inventiveness, Desperation, and Perseverance" to try to bring it to her.

Hobbs, Will

Far North. 1996. After the destruction of their floatplane, sixteen-year-old Gabe and his Dene friend, Raymond, struggle to survive a winter in the wilderness of the Northwest Territories.

Down the Yukon. 2001. In the wake of Dawson City's Great Fire of 1899, sixteen-year-old Jason and his girlfriend Jamie canoe the Yukon River across Alaska in an epic race from Canada's Klondike to the new gold fields at Cape Nome.

Wild Man Island. 2002. After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he manages to survive, encounters unexpected animal and human inhabitants, and looks for traces of the earliest prehistoric immigrants to America.

Honey, Elizabeth

Remote Man. 2002. Thirteen-year-old Ned and his depressed mother leave Australia for a rest in America, but he is soon on the trail of international smugglers of exotic animals, with help from his internet friends.

Horowitz, Anthony

Ark Angel. 2006. After recovering from a near fatal gunshot wound, teenage spy Alex Rider embarks on a new mission to stop a group of eco-terrorists from sabotaging the launch of the first outer space hotel.

Eagle Strike. 2004. After a chance encounter with assassin Yassen Gregorovich in the South of France, teenage spy Alex Rider investigates international pop star and philanthropist Damian Cray whose new video game venture hides sinister motives involving Air Force One, nuclear missiles, and the international drug trade.

Scorpiia. 2005. After being told that his father was an assassin for a criminal organization, fourteen-year-old Alex goes to Italy to find out more and becomes involved in a plan to kill thousands of English schoolchildren.

Hughes, Carol

Jack Black and the Ship of Thieves, 2000. Having fallen from his father's airship, Jack blunders into a feud between a pirate ship and a deadly ocean-going war machine and encounters danger, intrigue, and treachery.

Hutchins, Pat

Follow That Bus! 1977. Two bank robbers find that a group of second graders visiting a farm are more than they bargained for.

The House That Sailed Away, 1975. In a heavy rain Morgan's house floats from London to the South Pacific where he and his family confront cannibals and pirates.

Hyde, Dayton O

Mr. Beans, 2000. A boy rescues a performing bear in this story of high adventure.

Kahn, Sharon.

Kacy and the Space Shuttle Secret, 1996. Eleven-year-old Kacy Holiday's idea about sending a houseplant on a shuttle into outer space has astronomical consequences.

Karr, Kathleen

Bone Dry, 2002. In the 1840's, Dr. Asa B. Cornwall, a phrenologist, and his fourteen-year-old assistant Matthew Morrissey travel from Paris to Northern Africa to seek the missing skull of Alexander the Great.

Skullduggery, 2000. In 1839, twelve-year-old Matthew's job as assistant to the phrenologist Dr. Cornwall takes him up and down the Eastern Seaboard and to Europe, as they rob graves and try to find out who is following them and why.

Kehret, Peg

Earthquake Terror, 1996. When an earthquake hits the isolated island in northern California where his family had been camping, twelve-year-old Jonathan Palmer must find a way to keep himself,

his partially paralyzed younger sister, and their dog alive until help arrives.

The Secret Journey, 1996. In 1834 when a storm at sea destroys the slave ship on which she is a stowaway, twelve-year-old Emma musters all her resourcefulness to survive in the African jungle.

Lawrence, Iain

The Wreckers, 1999. Shipwrecked after a vicious storm, fourteen-year-old John Spencer attempts to save his father and himself while also dealing with an evil secret about the English coastal town where they are stranded.

Leonard, Laura

Finding Papa, 1991. In 1905 12-year-old Abby and her brother and sister take the train to California to be with their father.

Lynn, Jodi

Glory, 2003, Thirteen-year-old Glory Mason's questioning and spirited nature makes life difficult for her in the conservative West Virginia Christian community that is her home and leads to consequences which threaten her survival.

Shadow Tree, 2003. Having been expelled from her home in a conservative West Virginia Christian community, thirteen-year-old Glory struggles to survive in a small town and, though ill, attempts to realize her dream of traveling to Boston.

Masefield, John

Jim Davis: A High-Sea Adventure, 2002. Jim Davis is a twelve-year-old boy whose life takes a terrifying turn when he stumbles upon a ring of bloodthirsty pirates.

Mikaelsen, Ben

Sparrow Hawk Red, 1993. Thirteen-year-old Ricky, the Mexican-American son of a former Drug Enforcement Agency man, tries to avenge his mother's murder by crossing over into Mexico to steal a high tech radar plane from drug smugglers.

Montgomery, Hugh

The Voyage of the Arctic Tern, 2002. A simple fisherman betrays his village for a handful of jewels, a group of courageous Englishmen foils a traitorous Spanish pirates, and a lost soul seeks to redress an ancient wrong by finding a treasure chest.

Morpurgo, Michael

Kensuke's Kingdom, 2003. When Michael is swept off his family's yacht, he washes up on a desert island where he struggles to survive-until he finds he is not alone.

Myers, Edward

Hostage, 1996. While hiking with a group of other teens in the Utah desert, Alyssa and Rob attempt to foil the plans of a fossil-stealing kidnapper.

Napoli, Donna Jo

Trouble on the Tracks, 1997. While traveling across the Australian outback on a train, twelve-year-old Zack and his younger sister Eve uncover an endangered bird smuggling ring and try to save two trains from a full-speed collision.

Three Days, 2001. When her father suddenly dies while on a business trip, leaving her alone on an Italian highway, eleven-year-old Jackie worries what will happen when she is picked up by two men with unknown motives.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

The Fear Place, 1994. When he and his older brother Gordon are left camping alone in the Rocky Mountains, twelve-year-old Doug faces his fear of heights and his feelings about Gordon--with the help of a cougar.

Neale, Jonathan

Lost at Sea, 2002. A brother and sister recount their harrowing experiences as they sail a small yacht across the Atlantic Ocean, after their mentally unstable mother's boyfriend is washed overboard.

Paulsen Gary

Brian's Hunt, 1995. Two years after having survived a plane crash into the Canadian wilderness, a sixteen-year-old returns to the wild to befriend a wounded dog and hunt a rogue bear .

Brian's Return, 1999. After having survived alone in the wilderness, Brian finds that he can no longer live in the city but must return to the place where he really belongs.

Brian's Winter, 1996. Instead of being rescued from a plane crash, as in the author's book Hatchet, this story portrays what would have happened to Brian had he been forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet.

Hatchet, 1987. After a plane crash, 13-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

The River, 1991. Because of his success surviving alone in the wilderness for 54 days, 15-year-old Brian, profoundly changed by his time in the wild, is asked to undergo a similar experience to help scientists learn more about the psychology of survival.

The Voyage of the Frog, 1989. When David goes out on his sailboat to scatter his recently deceased uncle's ashes to the winds, he is caught in a fierce storm and must survive many days on his own as he works out his feelings about life and his uncle.

Peck, Robert Newton

Arly's Run, 1991. Arly, an orphan in search of a home and a family, escapes from a brutal migrant labor camp, joins a traveling religious show, and battles a devastating Florida hurricane.

Petersen, P.J.

Rising Water, 2002. Tracy, her brother, and the new animal care volunteer at the Jefferson Science Center travel by boat to feed a dog stranded by flooding, and end up having a full day of dangerous adventures, which give them new perspectives about themselves and about each other.

Pullman, Philip.

Count Karlstein, 1998. In the mountains of Switzerland the wicked Count Karlstein plots to abandon his two orphaned nieces in a hunting lodge as prey for the Demon Huntsman and his ghostly hounds.

Roberts, Willo Davis

Baby-Sitting is a Dangerous Job, 1985. A babysitter and her three willful charges make a formidable team to outwit their surprised kidnappers.

Hostage, 2000. When eleven-year-old Kaci interrupts burglars in the process of robbing her house, she and her nosy elderly neighbor Mrs. Banducci are kidnapped and held hostage by the desperate and ruthless criminals.

The Kidnappers: A Mystery, 1998. No one believes eleven-year-old Joey, who has a reputation for telling tall tales, when he claims to have witnessed the kidnapping of the class bully outside their expensive New York City private school.

Sedgwick, Marcus

The Dark Horse, 2003. Having risen to power as chief of his people, the Storn, sixteen-year-old Sigurd leads them as they try to resist the bloodthirsty invaders known as the Dark Horse and makes a shocking discovery about his foster sister Mouse.

Skurzynski, Gloria

The Hunted, 2000. The Landon family travels to Glacier National Park to investigate why grizzly bear cubs are disappearing and becomes involved with a ten-year-old Mexican runaway boy.

Smith, Roland

Thunder Cave, 1995. Determined, after his mother's accidental death to foil his stepfather's plans for his future, fourteen-year-old Jacob travels alone to Africa in search of his father, a biologist studying elephants in a remote area of Kenya.

Springer, Nancy

Lionclaw: A Tale of Rowan Hood, 2002 Young Lionel, minstrel in the outlaw band of Rowan Hood, daughter of Robin, tries to find his courage when she is abducted from Sherwood Forest.

Rowan Hood: Outlaw Girl of Sherwood Forest, 2001. In her quest to connect with Robin Hood, the father she has never met, thirteen-year-old Rosemary disguises herself as a boy, befriends a half-wolf, half-dog, a runaway princess, and an overgrown boy whose singing is hypnotic, and makes peace with her elfin heritage.

Rowan Hood Returns, 2005. When she finds out who murdered her mother, Celandine, Rowan Hood returns to her former home to seek revenge.

Stevenson, Robert Louis

Treasure Island, 1996. While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, the mistress of the inn and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.

Stevenson, James

The Bones In the Cliff, 1995. Pete, a lonely and timid eleven-year-old who has just made friends with an adventurous girl named Rootie, hides out on Cutlass Island with his alcoholic father waiting for the gunman his father fears will kill him.

Stewart, Paul

Fergus Crane, 2006. Nine-year-old Fergus Crane's life is filled with classes on the school ship Betty Jeanne, interesting neighbors, and helping with his mother's work until a mysterious box flies into his window and leads him toward adventure.

Taylor, Theodore

Timothy of the Cay, 1993. Having survived being blinded and shipwrecked on a tiny Caribbean island with the old black man Timothy, 12-year-old white Phillip is rescued and hopes to regain his sight with an operation. Alternate chapters follow the life of Timothy from his days as a young cabin boy.

Turner, Megan Whalen

The King of Attolia, 2006. Eugenides, still known as a Thief of Eddis, faces palace intrigue and assassins as he strives to prove himself both to the people of Attolia and to his new bride, their queen.

The Thief, 1998. 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.

Wallace, Barbara Brooks

Cousins In the Castle, 1996. A new friend comes to Amelia's rescue when she finds herself the victim of a dastardly villain's fiendish plans.

Wallace, Bill

Journey Into Terror, 1996. A country kid and his half-brother from the city team up and learn from each other in order to save their lives in an adventure set in rural Oklahoma.

Skinny Dipping at Monster Lake, 2003. When twelve-year-old Kent helps his father in a daring underwater rescue, he wins the respect he has always craved.

Weaver, Will

Memory Boy, 2001. Sixteen-year-old Miles and his family must flee their Minneapolis home and begin a new life in the wilderness after a chain of cataclysmic volcanic explosions creates dangerous conditions in the city.

Wyss, Johan David

The Swiss Family Robinson, 1977. Tale of a Swiss family shipwrecked on a desert island and the dangers they must face in order to survive.

Yolen, Jane

Atalanta and the Arcadian Beast, 2003. Twelve-year-old Atalanta discovers a home and friendship with a bear, misunderstanding from town-dwellers, and grudging respect from the great hunter Orion, as together they pursue the mysterious creature that killed her father.

Odysseus In the Serpent Maze, 2001. Thirteen-year-old Odysseus, who longs to be a hero, has many opportunities to prove himself during an adventure which involves pirates and satyrs, a trip to Crete's Labyrinth, and the two young girls, Penelope and Helen, who play a major role in his future life.

EASY FICTION

Conaway, Judith

King Kong, 1983. A young film actress on location on a remote jungle island is chosen by the natives to be the bride of their giant gorilla god Kong.

20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, 1983. An adaption of the nineteenth-century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and the undersea world, which anticipated many of the scientific achievements of the 20th century.

Jones, Betty M.

King Solomon's Mines, 1982. An elephant hunter and an English nobleman track the latter's missing brother who disappeared while searching for King Solomon's legendary lost diamond mines.

Osborne, Mary Pope

Afternoon on the Amazon, 1995. Eight-year-old Jack, his seven-year-old sister, Annie, and Peanut the mouse ride in a tree house to the Amazon rain forests, where they encounter giant ants, flesh-eating piranhas, hungry crocodiles, and wild jaguars.

Pinkwater, Daniel Manus

Wallpaper From Space, 1996. At bedtime, a young boy enters the outer space-patterned wallpaper in his room and has adventures with a band of spacemice.

Woods, Harold

Tarzan of the Apes, 1982. Tarzan, born in the jungle and raised by apes, falls in love with Jane Potter and follows her to America.