

Librarian's Choice FUN BOOKS!



Mysteries (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 FICTON, 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.

Abela, Deborah

Mission: Hollywood, 2006. Eleven-year-old Max and other Spy Force agents investigate a dark plot involving the movie industry as Max, Linden, and an unexpected guest work as extras on her father's latest film.

Mission: The Nightmare Vortex, 2005. Spyforce agents Max and Linden have only a few hours to save the world's spy agencies, gathered together on a remote island for the top secret Annual Spy Awards Night, from being destroyed by a volcanic eruption set off by the evil Mr. Blue.

Abrahams, Peter

Down the Rabbit Hole, 2005. Ingrid Levin-Hill lands the plum role of Alice in the Echo Falls production of "Alice in Wonderland." Things in Ingrid's small town soon keep getting "curiouser

and curiouser." Then events in Echo Falls turn into a nightmare, and Ingrid is determined to wake up.

Anderson, Janet

The Last Treasure, 2003. Thirteen-year-old Ellsworth leaves his father to visit the relatives he has never met and eventually joins forces with Jess, his distant cousin, to uncover family secrets and search for their ancestor's hidden treasure.

Avi

The Man Who Was Poe, 1989. In Providence, Rhode Island, in 1848, Edgar Allan Poe reluctantly investigates the problems of 11-year-old Edmund, whose family has mysteriously disappeared and whose story suggests a new Poe tale with a ghastly final twist.

Windcatcher, 1991. While learning to sail during a visit to his grandmother's at the Connecticut shore, 11-year-old Tony becomes excited about the rumors of sunken treasure in the area and starts following a couple who seem to be making a mysterious search for something.

Bailey, Linda

How can a Brilliant Detective Shine in the Dark? 1999. While Stevie attends her family reunion with her best friend, Jesse, they investigate rumors of hidden gold and the mystery surrounding her long-lost Uncle Archie.

How Come the Best Clues are Always in the Garbage? 1996. When a thief steals money from her mom's Garbage Busters project, Stephanie, a sixth grader, identifies herself as "Stevie Diamond, Detective" and sets off to find the culprit.

Balliett, Blue

Chasing Vermeer, 2004. When a book of unexplainable occurrences brings Petra Andalee and Calder Pillay together, strange things start to happen: Seemingly unrelated events connect, an eccentric old woman seeks their company, and an invaluable Vermeer painting disappears. Before they know it, the two find themselves at the center of an international art

The Wright 3, 2006. In the midst of a series of unexplained accidents and mysterious coincidences, sixth-graders Calder, Petra, and Tommy lead their classmates in an attempt to keep Frank Lloyd

Wright's famous Robie House from being demolished.

Bellairs, John

The Secret of the Underground Room, 1990.

When Father Higgins disappears, Johnny Dixon and Professor Childermass discover disturbing clues which lead them to England and an encounter with a long-dead knight.

The Mansion in the Mist, 1992. While spending the summer in an old house on a desolate Canadian island, Anthony Monday and Miss Eells discover a chest that can transport them to another world and a maniacal group who are plotting the destruction of people on Earth.

The Drum, the Doll and the Zombie, 1994. When thirteen-year-old Johnny Dixon and his friend Professor Childermass try to save the life of the elderly Dr. Coote, they find themselves facing the forces of a menacing voodoo cult.

Broach, Elise

Shakespeare's Secret, 2005. Named after a character in a Shakespeare play, misfit sixth-grader Hero becomes interested in exploring this unusual connection because of a valuable diamond supposedly hidden in her new house, an intriguing neighbor, and the unexpected attention of the most popular boy in school.

Brockmeier, Kevin

Grooves: A Kind of Mystery, 2006. After a seventh-grader discovers that the grooves in his Thigpen-brand blue jeans are encoded with a cry for help, he sets out to save the factory workers from greedy entrepreneur Howard Thigpen.

Buckley, Michael

The Sisters Grimm. Book 1, 2005. Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

The Sisters Grimm. Book 2, 2005. Although filled with anger over her parents' disappearance, eleven-year-old Sabrina Grimm--along with her grandmother, sister, and several fairy-tale characters--tries to discover who has killed her teacher.

Byars, Betsy Cromer

The Dark Stairs, 1994. A Herculeah mystery. The intrepid Herculeah Jones helps her mother, a private investigator, solve a puzzling and frightening case. (paperback)

Disappearing Act: A Herculeah Jones Mystery, 1998. Herculeah stumbles onto the trail of her friend Meat's long-lost father while she and Meat are investigating the disappearance of a dead body from the men's room of a comedy club.

Christopher, Mat

Penalty Shot. Little, Brown, 1997. Jeff, already worried about losing his place on the hockey team because of low grades suddenly finds himself the victim of sabotage in the form of forged papers.

Clements, Andrew

Room One: A Mystery or Two, 2006. A young boy living in rural western Nebraska investigates the connection between a mysterious face in the window of an empty house and the possible closing of the one-room school he attends.

Conford, Ellen

A Case for Jenny Archer, 1988. After reading three mysteries in a row, Jenny becomes convinced that the neighbors across the street are up to no good and decides to investigate.

Creary, Eve

A Silent Witness in Harlem, 2002. Felicia's grandmother tells her the story of a twelve-year-old girl named Lily, who witnessed a mysterious kidnapping one night in 1928 in Harlem, New York. (Mysteries in Time series).

Cross, Gilbert B.

Terror Train! 1987. Two boys traveling from Chicago to Portland, Oregon, by train join forces with an elderly mystery writer to investigate a fellow passenger's sudden death.

Crossman, David

The Secret of the Missing Grave, 1999. Summering on a Maine island, thirteen-year-old Ab joins her friend Bean in investigating the odd noises in her boarding house and solving the mystery of a missing treasure and stolen paintings.

Cushman, Doug

Inspector Hopper's Mystery Year, 2003.

Inspector Hopper and his partner McBugge solve a mystery in each season of the year.

Dale, Anna

Dawn Undercover, 2005. Eleven-year-old Dawn, Rustgate Primary School's most forgettable student, is recruited for a British secret intelligence agency and sent on a spy mission to track a master criminal.

De Felice, Cynthia

The Light on Hogback Hill, 1993. When she investigates the mysterious light up on Hogback Hill, eleven-year-old Hadley finds and befriends a hunchbacked old woman with a tragic past.

Dexter, Catherine

I Dream of a Murder, 1997. Fourteen-year-old Jere is haunted by a recurring dream about a murder he may have witnessed ten years earlier.

Fast, Natalie

Secret Apartment, 2005. After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Feinstein, John

Last Shot, 2005. After winning a basketball reporting contest, eighth graders Stevie and Susan Carol are sent to cover the Final Four tournament, where they discover that a talented player is being blackmailed into throwing the final game.

Friedrich, Joachim

4 1/2 Friends and the Secret Cave, 2001. A lonely boy named Radish Rademacher hopes to become a member of his twin sister's detective agency after showing the members an old treasure map he found in a cave.

George, Jean Craighead

The Missing 'Gator of Gumbo Limbo: the Ecological Mystery, 1992. Sixth-grader Liza K., one of five homeless people living in an unspoiled forest in southern Florida, searches for a missing

alligator destined for official extermination and studies the delicate ecological balance keeping the outdoor home beautiful.

The Fire Bug Connection, 1993. Twelve-year old Maggie receives European fire bugs for her birthday, but when they fail to metamorphose and grow grossly large and explode instead, she uses scientific reasoning to determine the cause of their strange death.

The case of the Missing Cutthroats: an Ecological Mystery, 1996. After Spinner Shafter catches a cutthroat trout in the Snake River, she and her cousin, Alligator, search the nearby mountains to determine where the endangered fish came from and how it survived.

Goldman, E.M.

Getting Lincoln's Goat: an Elliot Armbruster Mystery, 1996. Tenth-grader Elliot wants to be a detective when he grows up, and when he discovers that Lincoln the goat, the school mascot is missing, he and some of his classmates get a taste of what their chosen careers would really be like.

Hale, Bruce

The Big Nap, 1995. Someone is turning the students at Emerson Hicky Elementary into zombies, and it's up to fourth-grade private eye Chet Gecko to find out who.

Give My Regrets to Broadway, 2004. Chet and his partner, Natalie Attired, take on a case involving an actor gone missing from the school musical.

The Mystery of Mr. Nice, 2000. When the principal of his school begins acting nice to him, Chet Gecko realizes that he is an imposter and so sets out to find the real one.

The Hamster of the Baskervilles, 2002. Something is trashing the classrooms at Emerson Hicky Elementary School, and fourth-grade private eye Chet Gecko sets out to find the creature that's responsible.

The Possum Always Rings Twice, 2006. Chet Gecko and his partner, Natalie Attired, try to find out who is sending threatening notes to Viola Fuss, candidate for student council president at Emerson Hickey Elementary School.

This Gum for Hire, 2002. To save his own skin, private eye Chet Gecko sets out to solve the mystery of Emerson Hicky Elementary School's disappearing football players.

Hamilton, Virginia

The House of Dies Drear, 1968. A family of five moves into an enormous house once used as a hiding place for runaway slaves. Mysterious sounds and events and discoveries of secret passageways make the family believe they are in great danger.

Wrapped in a Riddle, 1993. While staying at the Jumping Frog Inn, a bed-and-breakfast establishment run by her grandmother, eleven-year-old Miranda investigates a mystery involving stolen letters supposedly written by Mark Twain.

Hildick, E.W.

The Purloined Corn Popper, 1997. Ten-year-old Tim is worried when a popcorn popper containing a wad of money is stolen from his kitchen and his friend Freddie is suspected of the crime.

The Serial Sneak Thief, 1997. A master criminal known as The Chameleon threatens to disrupt a mystery contest being held in the public library, but J.G. and the other Watchdogs are on hand to investigate.

Hirsch, Odo

Something's Fishy, 2005. As Hazel tries to find out who took two lobsters from Mr. Petrusca's fish shop, she discovers that the fishmonger has a secret and determines to help him.

Hoeye, Michael

Time Stops for no Mouse, 2002. When Linka Perflinger, a jowly mouse, brings a watch into his shop to be repaired and then disappears, Hermux Tantamoq is caught up in a world of dangerous search for eternal youth as he tries to find out what happened to her.

Hoobler, Dorothy

The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn, 1999. While attempting to solve the mystery of a stolen jewel, Seikei, a merchant's son who longs to be a samurai, joins a group of kabuki actors in eighteenth-century Japan.

The Demon in the Teahouse, 2001. In eighteenth-century Japan, fourteen-year-old Seikei, a merchant's son in training to be a samurai, helps his patron investigate a series of murders and arson in the capital city of Edo, each of which is associated in some way with a popular geisha.

The Ghost in the Tokaido Inn, 1999. While attempting to solve the mystery of a stolen jewel, Seikei, a merchant's son who longs to be a samurai, joins a group of kabuki actors in eighteenth-century Japan.

In Darkness, Death; 2005. In eighteenth-century Japan, young Seikei becomes involved with a ninja as he helps Judge Ooka, his foster father, investigate the murder of a samurai.

Sword That Cut the Burning Grass, 2005. In his latest adventure in eighteenth-century Japan, fourteen-year-old samurai apprentice Seikei, with the help of a servant girl and an imperious old man, sets out to rescue the young Emperor Yasuhito from his kidnappers.

Horowitz, Anthony

The Falcon's Malteser, 2004. After his older brother, a fledgling private detective, agrees to safeguard a package for a dwarf who does not live long, thirteen-year-old Nick scampers to solve the mystery while also trying to stay one step ahead of **an assortment of thugs.**

South By Southeast, 2005. Fourteen-year-old Nick and his bumbling detective brother Tim Diamond investigate a mystery involving international spies and assassins.

Three of Diamonds, 2005. A collection of three Diamond Brothers mysteries in which Tim and Nick bungle their way through a search for a missing philanthropist, find themselves in a Parisian prison, and are stranded on a Scottish island with a murderer.

Howe, James

Dew Drop Dead: a Sebastian Barth Mystery, 1990. While setting up a homeless shelter at the church, Corrie and David solve the mystery of a dead man found in an abandoned inn.

Eat Your Poison, Dear; 1990. (Sebastian Barth mysteries; bk. 3) Young sleuth Sebastian and three

friends probe the mystery of a poisoning in their school cafeteria.

The Mona Lisa Mystery, 1997. Class 3 of Hampstead Primary School takes a trip to Paris and lands in the middle of a mystery.

Joosee, Barbara M.

Alien Brain Fryout, 2000. When the neighborhood bully starts following Willie, Lucy, and Kyle around and acting goofy, they suspect that he's been abducted by aliens until Scarface the parrot presents another possibility.

Terror at the Zoo, 1992. Twelve-year-old Ellen and her younger brother Carey are excited about their overnight camp-out at the zoo, until they discover that they are locked inside with a desperate escaped convict.

Karbo, Karen

Minerva Clark Gets A Clue, 2005. A thirteen-year-old girl in Portland, Oregon, loses all self-doubt when she is zapped by lightning and uses her newfound courage to solve a murder mystery.

Minerva Clark Goes to the Dogs, 2007. Still enjoying her new found self-confidence, a thirteen-year-old sleuth in Portland, Oregon, tries to uncover a missing red diamond and gets herself mixed up with a crooked animal shelter worker and some very strange animals.

Karr, Kathleen

The Seventh Knot, 2003. Two brothers touring Europe in the 19th century become embroiled in a mystery involving Albrecht Durer's knot woodcuts and a secret German society when they go in search of their uncle's enigmatic missing valet.

Klise, Kate

Letters from Camp, 1999. Sent to Camp Happy Harmony to learn how to get along with each other, pairs of brothers and sisters chronicle in letters home how they come to suspect the intentions of the singing family running the camp.

Labatt, Mary

The Ghost of Captain Briggs, 1999. Best friends Jennie and Beth, along with Sam, the dog detective, find themselves spending their summer vacation in a rented house that was built long ago by a

bloodthirsty pirate. Super sleuth Sam digs up a hidden tunnel which adds suspense to the mysterious sounds coming from the attic, a creepy housekeeper, and threatening notes.

The Mummy Lives! 2002. Sam, the detective dog, joins his friends Jennie and Beth in an investigation of a mummy in search of his missing shaggy white dog.

A Weekend at the Grand Hotel, 2001. Sam, the detective dog, joins his friends Jennie and Beth in an investigation at the Grand Hotel.

Lawrence, Caroline

Secrets of Vesuvius, 2002. Ten-year-old Flavia and her friends encounter the Roman admiral Pliny before making a journey to her uncle's farm near Mt. Vesuvius, where they try to solve a riddle, reunite a family, and get out of the path of a natural disaster.

The Thieves of Ostia, 2002. In Rome in the year A.D. 79, a group of children from very different backgrounds work together to discover who beheaded a pet dog - and why.

Lehr, Norma

The Secret of the Floating Phantom, 1994. While staying with her grandmother in Monterey, California, eleven-year-old Kathy has some strange experiences as she is led by a foglike phantom to a treasure hidden from pirates over 150 years ago.

Mitchell, Marianne

Finding Zola, 2003. A thirteen-year-old girl investigates the disappearance of an older woman in this coming-of-age mystery.

Napoli, Donna Jo

Sly the Sleuth and the Sports Medicine, 2006. Sly uses her detective skills to help her friends solve the case of the soccer switch, the kick craze and the basketball blues.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds

The Face in the Bessledorf Funeral Parlor, 1993. Convinced that the strange things happening at the funeral parlor next door to his family's hotel are somehow connected to a recent robbery, Bernie determines to become famous by proving his theory and catching the thief.

Nixon, Joan Lowery

A Deadly Promise, 1992. Sarah risks her life to clear her murdered father's name and expose big time criminal activity in the lawless mining town of Leadville. Sequel to "High Trail to Danger."

Playing for Keeps, 2001. On a Caribbean cruise, sixteen-year-old Rosie meets a teenage Cuban baseball player seeking political asylum in the United States and tries to help him escape a charge of murder.

Who are You? 2001. When the police discover that a man who has been shot has been keeping a file of her entire life, sixteen-year-old Kristi, an aspiring artist, suspects a connection with the possible theft of a painting from a museum.

Page, Katherine Hall

Christie and Company, 1998. Three new eighth-grade girls at Cabot School find that their shared interest in mysteries comes in handy when the roommates are blamed for a series of thefts at the school.

Christie and Company: In the Year of the Dragon, 1998. Three roommates and amateur sleuths try to deal with a Chinese gang that is threatening the family of a friend.

Patneau, David

Someone was Watching, 1995. When his baby sister disappears from the river near their summer home, eighth grader Chris fights the assumption that she has drowned and sets off on a journey to discover the truth.

Potter, Ellen

Pish Posh, 2006. Eleven-year-old Clara Frankofile sits in her parents' elegant New York City restaurant, Pish Posh, and passes judgement on each customer as a Somebody or a Nobody, but her all-seeing eyes fail to observe the mysterious events occurring right under her nose.

Pryor, Bonnie

Luke on the High Seas, 2000. In 1850, Luke and Toby set sail from Boston to California on a voyage featuring shady characters, a story of a lost gold mine, and a cabin boy with a secret.

Marvelous Marvin and the Wolfman Mystery, 1994. Marvin looks for clues after suspecting that his new neighbor is a werewolf and involved in a murder conspiracy.

Marvelous Marvin and the Pioneer Ghost, 1995. Marvin enlists the help of his twin sister, Sarah, and Ernie, the biggest boy in the fourth grade, to solve a mystery involving a ghostly figure and the polluting of his favorite stream.

Raskin, Ellen

The Westing Game, 1992. The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance. (Newbery Award)

Roberts, Willo Davis

Caught! 1994. After a bus journey in search of their father, thirteen-year-old Vickie and her younger sister discover that he is missing and may need their help.

Scared Stiff, 1991. When their mother disappears, two brothers go to stay with a great uncle in a mobile home park next to an abandoned amusement park and begin a search which puts them in danger.

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.

Rylant, Cynthia

Case of the Fidgety Fox, 2003. When the fluffy dice of Melvin the bus driver turn up missing, Bunny and Jack, two animal detectives, investigate the case.

Skurzynski, Gloria

Deadly Waters, 1999. While visiting the Everglades National Park with their parents, the Landon children uncover the mystery of dying manatees and learn important lessons about the natural environment.

Wolf Stalker, 1997. Twelve-year-old Jack, his younger sister, and the family's teenage foster child Troy go to Yellowstone National Park, where Jack's mother, a wildlife veterinarian, is investigating the

report that wolves reintroduced to the park have killed a dog.

Smith, Alison

A Trap of Gold, 1985. Thirteen-year-old Margaret finds a mysterious, shadowy figure watching her as she searches for a lost gold nugget from an abandoned mine.

Smith, Roland

Cryptid Hunters, 2005. Twins, Grace and Marty, along with a mysterious uncle, are dropped into the middle of the Congolese jungle in search of their missing photojournalist parents.

Stanley, Diane

The Mysterious Matter of I.M.Fine, 2001. Noticing that a popular series of horror novels is having a bizarre effect on the behavior of its readers, Franny and Beamer set out to find the mysterious author.

Stem, Jacqueline

The Cellar in the Woods, 1998. When twelve-year-old Joanna, her younger sister, and their cousin Mark discover a haunted house in the woods, they set out to resolve the mysteries surrounding it.

Torrey, Michele

The case of the Barfy Birthday and Other Super-scientific Cases, 2003. Fifth graders Drake Doyle and Nell Fossey use their detective and scientific investigation skills to solve cases which involve food poisoning, missing terns, a haunted treehouse, and a pig in a pit.

The Case of the Gasping Garbage, 2001. Fifth-graders Drake Doyle and Nell Fossey combine their detective and scientific-investigation skills to solve a variety of cases, involving a noisy garbage can, endangered frogs, a stuck truck, and a mysterious love letter. Includes a section of scientific experiments and activities.

The Case of the Graveyard Ghost, 2002. Now in fifth grade, Drake Doyle and Nell Fossey continue to combine their detective skills to solve a variety of cases, involving a noisy laundry chute, a ruined flower show, and a ghost.

The Case of the Mossy Lake Monster, 2002. Fourth-graders Drake Doyle and Nell Fossey

combine their detective and scientific investigation skills to solve a variety of cases, involving a hungry cat, endangered penguins, a fish-stealing monster, and a dirty election. Includes a section of scientific experiments and activities.

Vande Velde, Vivian

Never Trust a Dead Man, 1999. Wrongly convicted of murder and punished by being sealed in the tomb with the dead man, seventeen-year-old Selwyn enlists the help of a witch and the resurrected victim to find the true killer.

VanDraanen, Wendelin

Sammy Keyes and the Curse of Moustache Mary, 2000. While celebrating the New Year with a friend, Sammy encounters a mystery involving an elderly neighbor, a pioneer cabin, and a century-old family feud.

Sammy Keyes and the Dead Giveaway, 2005. While investigating why someone is trying to force people from their homes to expand a recreation center, Sammy is distracted by the lies she must tell to cover an accident she caused, but which was blamed on her nemesis, Heather.

Sammy Keyes and the Hollywood Mummy, 2001. A Hollywood actress, who had been competing with Sammy's mother for an important role, is murdered, but thirteen-year-old Sammy and her friend Marissa are on the case.

Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief, 1998. Thirteen-year-old Sammy's penchant for speaking her mind gets her in trouble when she involves herself in the investigation of a robbery at the "seedy" hotel across the street from the seniors' building where she is living with her grandmother.

Sammy Keyes and the Runaway Elf, 1999. After a dog she is watching disappears from a city parade and the owner receives a ransom note, thirteen-year-old Sammy must use her detective skill to solve the mystery.

Sammy Keyes and the Search for Snake Eyes, 2002. When thirteen-year-old Sammy finds herself with an abandoned baby on her hands, she sets out to find the young mother, who may belong to a gang, and accidentally jeopardizes her position on the softball team.

Voigt, Cynthia

The Vandemark Mummy, 1991. When, as the new Classics professor at Vandemark College, their father is made responsible for a collection of ancient Egyptian artifacts, 12-year-old Phineas and his older sister Althea try to find out why the collection is the target of thieves, especially when the mummy disappears.

Warner, Gertrude Chandler

The Haunted Clock Tower Mystery, 2001. The Aldens accompany their grandfather to his class reunion and investigate the possibility of a buried Civil War treasure, and of a ghost in the bell tower, at Goldwin University.

The Copycat Mystery, 2001. A series of practical jokes at a restored nineteenth-century farmhouse makes the Aldens wonder if the ghost of its builder is at work .

The Mystery in the Mall, 1999. The Alden children help out a store owner at the Hope Harbor mall and discover that someone is tampering with the shipments.

The Mystery in New York, 1999. While visiting a friend in New York City, the Aldens investigate the theft of a valuable diamond.

The Mystery of the Screech Owl, 2001. The Aldens visit an old camp in Quebec, Canada, and begin to suspect that someone or something is trying to scare them away from the place.

The Mystery of the Lost Village, 1993. While visiting a Navajo Indian reservation in New Mexico, the Aldens try to save a forest under threat of development by proving it is the site of a lost, buried village, but someone is sabotaging their dig.

The Mystery of the Midnight Dog, 2001. While visiting a small town in Alabama, the Aldens hear mysterious howls, leading them to wonder if an old local legend about a ghost dog is true.

The Mystery of the Secret Message, 1996. While helping their grandfather prepare for Greenfield's Winter Festival, the Alden children uncover a mystery surrounding the statue in the town square.

The Mystery of the Tiger's Eye, 2001. While visiting an old mansion, the Aldens investigate the possibility that it may be haunted.

The Poison Frog Mystery, 2000. The Aldens investigate when exotic and endangered animals begin to disappear from the zoo where their new friend Lindsey works.

Winterfeld, Henry

Mystery of the Roman Ransom, 2002. The purchase of a slave for their teacher leads a group of schoolboys in ancient Rome into a dangerous intrigue.

Wright, Betty R.

Christina's Ghost, 1985. Christina's summer in a spooky, isolated Victorian house with her grumpy uncle turns into a ghostly adventure.

The Dollhouse Murders, 1983. A dollhouse with a ghostly light in the middle of the night and dolls that have moved from where she left them lead Amy and her retarded sister to unravel the mystery surrounding grisly murders that took place years ago.

Too Many Secrets, 1997. Nine-year-old Chad and his friend Jeannie try to discover who is breaking into their neighbor's house, while Chad also deals with his suspicions about why his father has been spending so much time away from home.

Yep, Laurence

The Case of the Firecrackers, 1999. When a pop gun used during the making of a television show turns out to have real bullets, twelve-year-old Lily Lew and Auntie, her movie actress great-aunt, comb San Francisco's Chinatown in search of the culprit responsible for loading the gun.

The Case of the Goblin Pearls, 1997. Lily and her aunt, a Chinese American movie actress, join forces to solve the theft of some priceless pearls and stop the operator of a sweatshop in San Francisco's Chinatown.

The Case of the Lion Dance, 1998. When \$2000 is stolen during the opening of a restaurant, Lily and her aunt, a Chinese American movie actress, search for the thief throughout San Francisco's Chinatown.

EASY FICTION

Adler, David A.

Cam Jansen and the Triceratops Pops Mystery, 1995. When Cam Jansen and her friend Eric go to

the music store at the mall for the latest CD by the Triceratops Pops band, Cam uses her photographic memory to foil a crime.

Bradford, Ann

The Mystery of the Missing Raccoon, 1978. Five youngsters discover who is repeatedly letting a friendly raccoon out of his cage at the zoo.

Conaway, Judith

Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes: Based on the stories of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1982.

Amateur detective Sherlock Holmes, the master of deductive reasoning, solves several mysteries with the aid of his friend, Dr. John Watson.

Levy, Elizabeth

School Spirit Sabotage, 1994. Brian and his younger sister Penny try to catch the culprit who has been sabotaging School Spirit Week.

Myers, Walter

Smiffy Blue: Ace crime detective: The case of the missing ruby and other stories, 1996. Famous crimefighter Smiffy Blue blunders his way to solving the mystery of a missing formula and three other cases.

Pearson, Susan

The Bogeyman Caper, 1990. When the kids at school tell her that an old house is haunted by a bogeyman, Ernie uses her "eagle-eye" to prove them wrong.

The 123 Zoo Mystery, 1991. Eagle-Eye Ernie and the Martian Club try to solve the mystery of who let all the classroom pets out of their cages.

Supraner, Robyn

Case of the Missing Rattles, 1982. Hoping to join Max's new detective service, Maxine works on his first case of the missing baby rattles.

EASY READERS

Lawrence, James

Binky Brothers, Detectives, 1986. When a catcher's mitt is stolen, the Binky Brothers Detectives are called in on the case.

Binky Brothers and the Fearless Four, 1983.

When the snow fort is threatened and then wrecked, the obvious suspect is the new boy in the neighborhood.

Levy, Elizabeth

The Schoolyard Mystery, 1994. Chip, an invisible boy, and his friends solve the mystery of who took the school ball from the playground.

The Snack Attack Mystery, 1995. Chip, an invisible boy and his friends investigate the mysterious disappearance of yogurt-covered raisins, mixed nuts, and ginger snaps from the classroom.

Montgomery, Elizabeth

The Mystery of the Boy Next Door, 1978.

Neighborhood children think the new boy is mean until he leads them on a mysterious puzzle-solving hunt.

Platt, Kin

Big Max in the Mystery of the Missing Moose, 1977. Big Max helps a zoo keeper find a missing moose.

Schulz, Charles M

It's a Mystery, Charlie Brown, 1975. Sally is at her wits' end due to a science project. She steals a bird's nest hoping to end her problems but only succeeds in creating more.

PICTURE BOOKS

Miller, Edna

Mousekin's Mystery, 1983. After his home is burned by lightning during a summer storm, Mousekin is frightened by a strange pale light in the dark forest which he eventually learns to be fox fire, a glow caused by fungi in decaying wood.

Supraner, Robyn

Sam Sunday and the Mystery at the Ocean

Beach Hotel, 1996. Annoyed that his friends have forgotten his birthday, detective Sam Sunday begins investigating the disappearance of some valuables at an old hotel.