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KID



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BOOK SUGGESTIONS

Middle School—Historical Fiction

JUVENILE FICTION**J Blume—[Tennyson](#)**

After their mother abandons them during the Great Depression, 11-year-old Tennyson and her little sister Hattie are sent to live with their eccentric Aunt Henrietta in a decaying plantation house outside of New Orleans.

J Bryant—[Kaleidoscope Eyes](#)

In 1968, with the Vietnam War raging, 13-year-old Lyza inherits a project from her deceased grandfather, who had been using his knowledge of maps and the geography of Lyza's hometown to locate the lost treasure of Captain Kidd.

J Dowell—[Shooting the Moon](#)

When her brother is sent to fight in Vietnam, 12-year-old Jamie begins to reconsider the army world that she has grown up in.

J Gonzalez—[The Red Umbrella](#)

In 1961 after Castro has come to power in Cuba, fourteen-year-old Lucia and her seven-year-old brother are sent to the United States when her parents, who are not in favor of the new regime, fear that the children will be taken away from them as others have been.

J Klages—[The Green Glass Sea: a novel](#)

It is 1943, and 11-year-old Dewey is traveling west on a train to live with her scientist father--but no one will tell her exactly where he is. When she reaches Los Alamos, New Mexico, she learns why: he's working on a top secret government program.

J Lasky—[The Last Girls of Pompeii](#)

Twelve-year-old Julia knows that her physical deformity will keep her from a normal life, but counts on the continuing friendship of her life-long slave, Mitka, until they learn that both of their futures in first-century Pompeii are about to change for the worse.

J London—[Call of the Wild](#)

The adventures of an unusual dog forcibly taken to the Klondike gold fields where he eventually becomes the leader of a wolf pack.

J Park—[When My Name Was Keoko](#)

With national pride and occasional fear, a brother and sister face the increasingly oppressive occupation of Korea by Japan during World War II, which threatens to suppress Korean culture entirely.

J Rodman—[Jimmy's Stars](#)

In 1943, Ellie is her brother Jimmy's "best girl," and when he leaves Pittsburgh just before Thanksgiving to fight in World War II, he promises he will return, asks her to leave the Christmas tree up until he does, and reminds her to "let the joy out."

J Smith—[Elephant Run](#)

After Nick's British father's plantation in Burma is invaded by the Japanese in 1941, Nick and his friend plan a daring escape on elephants, risking their lives to save loved ones from a Japanese prisoner of war camp.

J Williams-Garcia—[*One Crazy Summer*](#)

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to Oakland, California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, eleven-year-old Delphine and her two younger sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet and printer, is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

J Woodruff—[*Fearless*](#)

In late seventeenth-century England, Digory, forced to leave his hometown, becomes an apprentice to the architect Henry Winstanley, who built a lighthouse on the treacherous Eddystone Reef -- the very rocks that sank Digory's grandfather's ship years before.

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

YA Davis—[*Mare's War*](#)

Teens Octavia and Tali learn about strength, independence, and courage when they are forced to take a car trip with their grandmother, who tells about growing up black in 1940s Alabama and serving in Europe during World War II as a member of the Women's Army Corps.

YA Kadohata—[*Cracker! : The Best Dog in Vietnam*](#)

A young soldier in Vietnam bonds with his bomb-sniffing dog.

YA Kelly—[*The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*](#)

In Texas in 1899, 11-year-old Callie Tate is instructed to be a lady by her mother, learns about love from the older three of her six brothers, and studies the natural world with her grandfather, the latter of which leads to an important discovery.

YA Lester—[*Day of Tears*](#)

Told almost entirely in dialogue, this is the powerful story of a Southern household divided by differing beliefs about slavery.

YA Magoon—[*The Rock and the River*](#)

In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party.

YA Paulsen—[*Woods Runner*](#)

From his 1776 Pennsylvania homestead, thirteen-year-old Samuel, who is a highly-skilled woodsman, sets out toward New York City to rescue his parents from the band of British soldiers and Indians who kidnapped them after slaughtering most of their community.

YA Preus—[*Heart of a Samurai*](#)

In 1841, rescued by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions castaways on a remote island, fourteen-year-old Manjiro, who dreams of becoming a samurai, learns new laws and customs as he becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

YA Schmidt—[*Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*](#)

In 1911, Turner hates his new home of Phippsburg, Maine, but things improve when he meets Lizzie from a poor island community founded by former slaves that the town fathers want to change into a tourist spot.

YA Wells—[*Red Moon at Sharpsburg*](#)

Finding courage she never thought she had, a young Southern girl musters the strength and wit to survive the ravages of the Civil War and keep her family together.