Adventures for Grades 3 - 5

Call It Courage / Armstrong Sperry
Relates how Mafatu, a young Polynesian boy whose name means Stout Heart, overcomes his terrible fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his people. Gr. 3+

Abel's Island / William Steig
Castaway on an uninhabited island, a very civilized mouse finds his endurance tested to the limit as he struggles to survive and return home. Gr. 4+

Hugo Pepper / Paul Stewart
A boy raised by reindeer herders uncovers a plot that threatens his mermaid godmothers and other friends of his family. One of The Far Flung Adventures series. Gr. 4+

Lake of Skulls: A Knight’s Story / Paul Stewart and Chris Riddell
A knight meets more than his share of trouble when he signs on with Lord Big Nose to recover a crown from the Lake of Skulls. First in the A Knight’s Story series. Gr. 4+

Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye / Geronimo Stilton
Geronimo’s sister discovers an old map showing a secret treasure hidden on a faraway island. First in the series. Gr. 2+

Nurk: The Strange, Surprising Adventures of a (Somewhat) Brave Shrew / Ursula Vernon
Nurk, a sort-of brave shrew, packs up a few pairs of clean socks and sails off on an accidental adventure. Gr. 3+

Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express / Margaret K. Wetterer (j 92S SHELLEY)
Fifteen-year-old Kate risks her life in a storm to prevent a train disaster. Gr. 2+

Night of the Full Moon / Gloria Whelan
A young girl is trapped with her friend’s Potawatomi Indian family when they are rounded up and forced from their lands by soldiers in the 1840s. Gr. 3+

Princess for a Week / Betty Ren Wright
When Princess arrives to spend a week at Roddy’s house, she encourages him to help her investigate the suspicious activities at a supposedly haunted house. Gr. 3+

Whales on Stilts! / M.T. Anderson
A shy middle-school student and her friends must foil the plot of her father’s boss to conquer the world using an army of whales. Gr. 3+

Poppy / Avi
Poppy the mouse urges her family to move next to a corn field big enough to feed them all forever, but a terrifying owl has other ideas. Gr. 4+

Harry the Poisonous Centipede: A Story to Make You Squirm / Lynne Reid Banks
When their adventures lead them to explore the scariest villain of all, Harry and George realize that they are not brave, only reckless and foolish. Gr. 3+

The Secret History of Tom Trueheart / Ian Beck
When young Tom’s 7 older brothers go missing during their adventures in the Land of Stories, he embarks on a perilous mission to save them. Gr. 3+

The Greatest Skating Race / Louise Borden
During World War II in the Netherlands, a ten-year-old boy’s dream of skating in a famous race allows him to help two children escape to Belgium by ice skating past German soldiers and other enemies. Gr. 3+

My Buddy, the King / Bill Brittain
When King Tokab is saved from choking on a frankfurter by Tim Quilt, they become friends and together outwit a plot to do in the king. Gr. 4+
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A Lion to Guard Us / Clyde Robert Bulla
Left on their own in seventeenth-century London, three poor children decide to go to the Virginia colony in search of their father. Gr. 3+

Trouble River / Betsy Byars (j pb B)
A twelve-year-old boy and his grandmother escape a hostile Indian attack on their homemade raft. Gr. 3+

How to Train Your Dragon / Cressida Cowell
Chronicles the adventures and misadventures of Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third as he tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan, the Tribe of the Hairy Hooligans, by catching and training a dragon. Gr. 4+

White Star: A Dog on the Titanic / Marty Crisp
Aboard the Titanic, 12-year-old Sam helps care for the dogs in the ocean liner’s kennel and befriends the Irish setter of the ship’s owner. Gr. 3+

James and the Giant Peach / Roald Dahl
A young boy escapes from 2 wicked aunts and embarks on an adventure with six giant insects he meets inside a giant peach. Gr. 3+

The Courage of Sarah Noble / Alice Dalgliesh
An eight-year-old girl finds courage to go alone with her father to build a new home in the Connecticut wilderness and to stay with the Indians when her father goes back to bring the rest of the family. Gr. 2+

The Field Guide / Tony DiTerlizzi
When the Grace children go to stay at their Great Aunt Lucinda’s house, they discover a field guide to fairies and begin to have some unusual experiences. The first in The Spiderwick Chronicles. Gr. 3+

Everest / Bill Doyle
As part of a group of young climbers trying to climb Mount Everest, the reader must make decisions that will ensure survival and success in reaching the summit. Part of the Worst-Case Scenario Ultimate Adventure series. Gr. 3+

The Giant Rat of Sumatra: or, Pirates Galore / Sid Fleischman
A cabin boy on a pirate ship finds himself in San Diego in 1846 as war breaks out between the United States and Mexico. Gr. 4+

The Whipping Boy / Sid Fleischman
A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws. Gr. 3+

Stone Fox / John Reynolds Gardiner
Little Willie hopes to pay the back taxes on his grandfather’s farm with the purse from a dog sled race he enters. Gr. 3+

The Abominables / Eva Ibbotson
A century after a yeti captures Lady Agatha Farlingham and takes her to a hidden valley to raise his motherless children, tourism threatens their peaceful existence and young Con and Ellen take these educated and civilized yetis across Europe to Lady Agatha’s home in England. Gr. 3+

Earthquake Terror / Peg Kehret
When an earthquake hits the California island where his family had been camping, 12-year-old Jonathan must find a way to keep himself, his partially paralyzed younger sister, and their dog alive until help arrives. Gr. 4+

The Great Serum Race: Blazing the Iditarod Trail / Debbie S. Miller
The story of the heroic role played by sled dogs in the delivery of antitoxin serum to those sick with diphtheria in 1925 Nome. j 798.8 Mil Gr. 2+

The Extraordinary Adventures of Ordinary Basil / Wiley Miller
Tired of his life in a lighthouse, Basil sets out for adventure and, in a mysterious cloud city, discovers a plan that threatens the world. Gr. 3+

Road Trip / Jim and Gary Paulsen
A father and son embark on a road trip to a distant animal shelter to save a homeless border collie puppy.

White Water / P.J. Petersen
Greg confronts his own fears and assumes a leadership role when his father is bitten by a rattlesnake during a white-water rafting trip. Gr. 4+

Luke on the High Seas / Bonnie Pryor
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. Gr. 4+

The Firework-Maker’s Daughter / Philip Pullman
In a country far to the east, Chulak and his talking white elephant help Lila seek the Royal Sulphur from the sacred volcano so that she can become a master maker of fireworks like her father. Gr. 4+

Riding Freedom / Pam Muñoz Ryan
A girl runs away from an orphanage, poses as a boy, moves to California, and fools everyone by her appearance. Gr. 3+

The Great Cape Rescue / Phyllis Shalant
Upon entering fourth grade, Fin and his friends discover that their superhero game might become real through a magical cape, and the Society of Super Secret Heroes is born. Gr. 3+