

Great Books for Boys, ages 8-12

<i>Al Capone Does My Shirts</i> by Gennifer Choldenko.....	YAFIC Choldenko
<i>Artemis Fowl</i> series by Eoin Colfer.....	YA FIC Colfer
<i>Baseball Card Adventures</i> series by Dan Gutman.....	JFIC Gutman
<i>Better Nate Than Ever</i> by Tim Federle.....	JFIC Federle
<i>Big Nate</i> series by Lincoln Peirce.....	JFIC Peirce
<i>Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London.....	JFIC London
<i>Crispin</i> by Avi.....	JFIC Avi
<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i> series by Jeff Kinney.....	JFIC Kinney
<i>The Egypt Game</i> by Zilpha Keatley Snyder.....	JFIC Snyder
<i>Eragon</i> by Christopher Paolini.....	YAFIC Paolini
<i>Guys Read</i> series by Various Authors.....	JFIC Scieszka
<i>Hank Zipzer</i> series by Henry Winkler.....	JFIC Winkler
<i>Harry Potter</i> series by J.K. Rowling.....	JFIC Rowling
<i>The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien.....	FIC Tolkien
<i>Holes</i> by Louis Sachar.....	JFIC Sachar
<i>Humphrey</i> series by Betty G. Birney.....	JFIC Birney
<i>I Survived</i> series by Lauren Tarshis.....	JFIC Tarshis
<i>Maniac Magee</i> by Jerry Spinelli.....	JFIC Spinelli
<i>Middle School</i> series by James Patterson.....	JFIC Patterson
<i>Origami Yoda</i> series by Tom Angleberger.....	JFIC Angleberger
<i>Percy Jackson</i> series by Rick Riordan.....	YAFIC Riordan
<i>Ranger's Apprentice</i> series by John Flanagan.....	YAFIC Flanagan

Recommended Authors:

Avi, Matt Christopher, Christopher Paul Curtis, Roald Dahl, Jack Gantos, Dan Gutman, Gordon Korman, Rick Riordan, Louis Sachar, Jon Scieszka, Jerry Spinelli, Mark Twain, Jules Verne

Book Selection Tips:

- Don't forget about nonfiction! Many boys may find books on sports, history, science, etc. more interesting than made-up stories. Biographies of favorite athletes or celebrities can be appealing too. We have lots of "fun", current nonfiction displayed around the Children's Room. These books also meet national Common Core standards.
- Graphic novels count as books too. Many contain intriguing storylines and lots of action. They also promote visual literacy and comprehension. Graphic novels are often less intimidating than chapter books if your reader is reluctant or struggling.
- Series are great ways to hook readers. If your child truly enjoys the first book, he will know exactly what to turn to next.
- Does your child's busy schedule prevent him from reading as much as he should? Try listening to audiobooks in the car as you move from one activity to another. This format also helps build listening skills.
- Reading shouldn't be a chore. Try not to force your son to read too far above his level, or he may become frustrated. You can, however, read more difficult books together as a family.
- Some genres that tend to appeal to boys are action/adventure, mystery, science fiction/fantasy, and humor. Realistic fiction that features male characters is also a safe bet.
- When in doubt, try the classics! If your son is not ready for the full version, we have abridged editions of most classic titles in the Children's Room. Authors such as Mark Twain, Jules Verne, and Robert Louis Stevenson are great at capturing adventure and excitement.
- Still stuck? Ask a library staff member or your child's teacher for more suggestions and tips!