

Grade 5/6 Book Recommendations  
from Lara Bafaro,  
Crestwood School Teacher Librarian  
[lara.bafaro@crestwood.on.ca](mailto:lara.bafaro@crestwood.on.ca)

Hello! Due to popular demand, here are some book recommendations for grades 5 and 6 students. In some cases I have included a book review or summary and in others I have included a “book trailer” (like a movie trailer, but for books). Please browse this list with your children and see what interests them. Perhaps find a book that you can read together. These books are readily available at the Toronto Public Library as well as our Crestwood library, but the public library often has many copies. Please encourage your children to ask me for any of the books that catch their interest.

Out of My Mind

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6609765-out-of-my-mind>

The Breadwinner

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6549997-the-breadwinner-trilogy?from\\_search=true&qid=7RZpvGhv7e&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/6549997-the-breadwinner-trilogy?from_search=true&qid=7RZpvGhv7e&rank=1)

Fish in a Tree

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22402972-fish-in-a-tree?from\\_search=true&qid=suLxQIYs9M&rank=11](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22402972-fish-in-a-tree?from_search=true&qid=suLxQIYs9M&rank=11)

<https://youtu.be/zrPWhRrmaZM>

Truth or Dare

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25337544-truth-or-dare?ac=1&from\\_search=true&qid=aKKvZTxkUC&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25337544-truth-or-dare?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=aKKvZTxkUC&rank=1)

Everything I know About You

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/27242453-everything-i-know-about-you>

Tom Gates

<http://lizpichon.com/books/>

Timmy Failure

<https://timmyfailure.com/>

I Funny

<https://www.jamespatterson.com/?s=i-funny>

The Misadventures of Max Crumbly

<https://maxcrumbly.com/books/>

The Loser List

[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/8337193.H\\_N\\_Kowitt](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/8337193.H_N_Kowitt)

The Strange Case of the Origami Yoda

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/7150174-the-strange-case-of-origami-yoda>

<https://youtu.be/gM-JN6D3cAo>

Front Desk

<https://youtu.be/--sDoefzSrY>

Don't Tell the Enemy/Nazis

<https://youtu.be/Nf94inqWOAw>

Goldfish Boy

<https://youtu.be/qzSQRG1yDGw>

Focused

<https://youtu.be/5cth6dRX8Qg>

Blended

<https://youtu.be/BkTSC-DI3AY>

Amal Unbound

[https://youtu.be/\\_jgfpgoyn8](https://youtu.be/_jgfpgoyn8)

Restart

<https://gordonkorman.com/restart>

Rebound

<http://www.ericwalters.net/novels/rebound/>

Ordinary Boy! The Hero Revealed

<https://www.harpercollins.ca/9780060774660/the-extraordinary-adventures-of-ordinary-boy-book-1-the-hero-revealed/>

No Fixed Address

<https://susinnielsen.com/books/no-fixed-address/>

Dear George Clooney, Please Marry My Mother

<https://susinnielsen.com/books/dear-george-clooney-please-marry-my-mother/>

The Shadow Thieves

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/332854.The\\_Shadow\\_Thieves](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/332854.The_Shadow_Thieves)

Dust

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/50396193-dust>

Hidden Talents

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/37240.Hidden\\_Talents](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/37240.Hidden_Talents)

The Magic Thief

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1809175.The\\_Magic\\_Thief](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1809175.The_Magic_Thief)

Magyk

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/769483.Magyk>

Artemis Fowl

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/37593.Artemis\\_Fowl\\_Boxed\\_Set](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/37593.Artemis_Fowl_Boxed_Set)

Beyonders

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/15802268-brandon-mull-s-beyonders-trilogy>

The Unwanteds

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/9917879-the-unwanteds>

Pax

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22098550-pax?from\\_search=true&from\\_srp=true&qid=gxKb1zQsjU&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22098550-pax?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=gxKb1zQsjU&rank=1)

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33413919-the-vanderbeekers-of-141st-street?ac=1&from\\_search=true&qid=YtSoLRpjr&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/33413919-the-vanderbeekers-of-141st-street?ac=1&from_search=true&qid=YtSoLRpjr&rank=1)

The Book Scavenger

[https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22718727-book-scavenger?from\\_search=true&from\\_srp=true&qid=8pl9kdB6sf&rank=1](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/22718727-book-scavenger?from_search=true&from_srp=true&qid=8pl9kdB6sf&rank=1)

School of Fear

<https://youtu.be/KPfhfuB1fHU>

The Wild Robot

<https://youtu.be/uv4qwCEF9Lk>

Time Traveling Fashionista

<https://vimeo.com/25928319>

Wildfire

[https://youtu.be/ihB\\_bBWY-go](https://youtu.be/ihB_bBWY-go)

Sweep

[https://youtu.be/1PabaaV\\_I EQ](https://youtu.be/1PabaaV_I EQ)

The Night Gardener

<https://youtu.be/Q3DVhTtclIQ>

Theodore Boone

<https://youtu.be/cijPRwfOAMo>

The War that Saved my Life

<https://youtu.be/stbW0MjYeEI>

The Genius Files 1

<https://youtu.be/LMsDvLAVk48>

Wings of Fire

<https://youtu.be/is-vizJtscY>

Midnight for Charlie Bone

<https://youtu.be/E7JHszClu50>

Shouting at the Rain

<https://youtu.be/bZ2VBOziCeo>

The Mystery of Black Hollow Lane

[https://youtu.be/2E5paw\\_blnA](https://youtu.be/2E5paw_blnA)

Allies

[https://youtu.be/\\_9lJ4wzn7h8](https://youtu.be/_9lJ4wzn7h8)

Story Thieves

<https://youtu.be/XLC3hqFK42o>

School of Fear

<https://youtu.be/KPfhfuB1fHU>

Genesis Begins Again

[https://youtu.be/FA4pilQc\\_iw](https://youtu.be/FA4pilQc_iw)

One Crazy Summer

<https://youtu.be/GijAGDdM5BY>

Wishtree

<https://youtu.be/-P5TSKKBlyo>

The List

<https://youtu.be/xa08yg0rL0I>

Stella by Starlight

<https://youtu.be/zbfLI3dzVBg>

The Thing About Jellyfish

<https://youtu.be/QnH7Rtysh7o>

The Incurrible Children of Ashton Place

<https://youtu.be/aatYYpQbCoU>

The Fourteenth Goldfish

<https://youtu.be/91FeXVF-56E>

The Mysterious Benedict Society

<https://youtu.be/j5Jlp1I8kJE>

Books by Lisa Graff:

<http://www.lisagraff.com/books.html>

Books by Lynda Mullaly Hunt:

<https://www.lyndamullalyhunt.com/books/>

Another option that you might want to entertain are hybrid graphic novels. Some benefits are:

- **Aid language decoding** by providing visual cues
- **Guide comprehension** by including pictures to help with the understanding and visualization of the story
- **Provide a sense of accomplishment** regularly due to short chapters that are broken up with images
- **Build stamina** by pushing the reader on text heavy pages and providing rest on the comic strip-style pages so they don't feel overwhelmed

Here are some options:

<https://www.katedicamillo.com/books/flora.html>

<https://www.rhcbooks.com/books/608929/whisker-wizard-by-jennifer-l-holm-illustrated-by-matthew-holm>

<https://bookivivat.com/books>