1. **Trombone Shorty** by Troy Andrews (Grades 3 and up)
New Orleans jazz musician Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews tells the story of how he got his nickname and his start in jazz music.

2. **Ruby on the Outside** by Nora Raleigh Baskin (Grades 4 and up)
Eleven -year -old Ruby Danes has a real best friend for the first time ever, but agonizes over whether or not to tell her a secret she has never shared with anyone, her mother has been in prison since Ruby was five and does not know if she should express her anger to her mother.

3. **A Whole New Ballgame** by Phil Bildner (Grades 3 and up)
From the first morning with their odd new teacher fifth grade is full of shocking surprises for best friends Rip and Red.

4. **Ellie's Story: A Dog's Purpose Novel** by W. Bruce Cameron (Grades 3 and up)
A story about Ellie, a dog that has been trained for search and rescue since a pup, and her handlers, Jakob and Maya, who are lost in their own way, and how Ellie saves them also.

5. **Stella by Starlight** by Sharon M. Draper (Grades 5 and up)
When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

6. **The Honest Truth** by Dan Gemeinhart (Grades 5 and up)
A boy named Mark, tired of being sick with cancer, conceives a plan to climb Mount Rainier, and runs away from home with his dog, Beau, but with over two hundred miles between him and his goal, and only anger at his situation to drive him on, nothing will be easy, and only his best friend, Jessie, suspects where he is heading.

7. **Took** by Mary Downing Hahn (Grades 4 and up)
A witch called Old Auntie is lurking near Dan's family's new home. He doesn't believe in her at first, but is forced to accept that she is real and take action when his little sister, Erica, is 'took' to become Auntie's slave for the next fifty years.

8. **Full Cicada Moon** by Marilyn Hilton (Grades 5 and up)
In 1969, twelve-year-old Mimi and her family move to an all-white town in Vermont, where Mimi's mixed-race background and interest in “boyish” topics like astronomy make her feel like an outsider.

9. **Paper Things** by Jennifer Richard Jacobson (Grades 5 and up)
When forced to choose between staying with her guardian and being with her big brother, Ari chose her big brother. There’s just one problem, Gage doesn’t actually have a place to live.

10. **How to Swallow a Pig** by Steven Jenkins (Grades 3 and up)
How to Swallow a Pig is a clever and whimsical nonfiction book about animal behavior disguised as a How-to/Advice book by the bestselling team of Steve Jenkins and Robin Page.

11. **Masterminds** by Gordon Korman (Grades 4 and up)
A group of kids discover they were cloned from the DNA of some of the greatest criminal masterminds in history for a sociological experiment.

12. **The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher** by Dana Alison Levy (Grades 3 and up)
Relates the adventures of a family with two fathers, four adopted boys, and a variety of pets as they make their way through a school year, Kindergarten through sixth grade, and deal with a grumpy new neighbor.

13. **Ratscalibur** by Josh Lieb (Grades 4 and up)
When Joey is bitten by a rat, he goes from aspiring seventh-grader to three-inch tall rodent, and unwittingly unlocks the sword Ratscalibur.

14. **A Handful of Stars** by Cynthia Lord (Grades 4 and up)
When her blind dog slips his collar, twelve-year-old Lily meets Salma Santiago, a young Hispanic girl whose migrant family are in Maine for the blueberry-picking season, and, based partly on their mutual love of dogs, the two forge a friendship while painting bee boxes for Lily's grandfather, but as the Blueberry Queen pageant approaches Lily and Selma are confronted with some of the hard truths of prejudice and migrant life.

15. **Upside Down Magic** by Sarah Mlynowski (Grades 3 and up)
With their magic being unpredictable, Nory, Elliott, Andres, and Bax are sent to the upside-down magic room at Dunwiddle Magic School.

16. **Into the Killing Seas** by Michael P. Spradlin (Grades 4 and up)
In 1945, twelve-year-old Patrick and his younger brother Teddy stowaway on the U.S.S. Indianapolis in a desperate attempt to get back to the Philippines where they last saw their parents, just before the Japanese invasion—but when the ship is sunk they find themselves clinging to a piece of debris without food or water, and with hungry sharks circling below.

17. **Growing Up Pedro** by Matt Tavares (Grades 3 and up)
An illustrated biography of Pedro Martinez that describes his childhood and how he became a famous baseball player.

18. **Sisters** by Raina Telgemeier (Grades 4 and up)
In graphic novel format, Raina Telgemeier shares the story of her relationship with her younger sister.

19. **Hilo Book 1: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth** by Judi Winick (Grades 3 and up)
When a mysterious boy falls from the sky, friends D.J. and Gina must discover the secrets of his identity and help him save the world.

20. **Lillian’s Right to Vote** by Jonah Winter (Grades 3 and up)
As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of a courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then the long fight that led to her right and determination to cast her vote.