



Ridgewood Public Library

125 North Maple Avenue
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
(201)670-5600
www.ridgewoodlibrary.org

Realistic & Historical

Grades 2-5 / 2010

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Fever, 1793** (2000) *Sixteen-year-old Matilda learns to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic on her own.*

Adler, David. **Don't Talk to Me About the War** (2008) *Tommy Duncan's interest in the Brooklyn Dodgers is sidetracked by WWII coverage.*

Babbitt, Natalie. **Jack Plank Tells All** (2008) *After realizing he's not very good at plundering, Jack searches for a new job.*

Balliett, Blue. **Chasing Vermeer** (2004; series) *Petra & Calder set out to solve an international art scandal when odds events begin to unfold.*

Birdsall, Jeanne. **The Penderwicks** (2005; series) *Four sisters discover summertime magic at the Arundel estate.*

Blume, Judy. **Fudge Series** (Book 1: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*; 1972) *Grown-ups think Fudge is absolutely adorable, but Peter and his pet turtle, Dribble, know the truth.*

Choldenko, Gennifer. **Al Capone Does My Shirts** (2007; series) *12-yr. old Moose grows up on the prison island of Alcatraz in San Francisco.*

Cleary, Beverly. **Beezus and Ramona** and **Henry Huggins** by Beverly Cleary (1955/1950; series) *Timeless tales of growing up.*

Clements, Andrew. **Frindle** (1996) *Clever Nick Allen invents a new word for pen and a fascinating chain of events begins to unfold.*
Jake Drake (Book 1: *Jake Drake: Bully Buster*; 2001) *Jake takes matters into his own hands when superbully Link Baxter moves to town.*

Codell, Esme Raji. **Sahara Special** (2003) *Sahara struggles when her father leaves, but gets support from a special teacher.*

Cooney, Caroline. **The Face on the Milk Carton** (1990; series) *While drinking her milk at school, Janie realizes that she is the missing girl.*

Creech, Sharon. **Bloomability** (1998) *Thirteen year old Dinnie finds her world view expanded in a new international school in Switzerland.*

Creech, Sharon. **Granny Torrelli Makes Soup** (2003) *Twelve-year-old Rosie's wise granny helps to smooth out a few problems.*

Curtis, Christopher Paul. **Bud, Not Buddy** (1999) *Buddy sets out to find the man who may be his father in Depression-era Michigan.*

Cushman, Karen. **The Ballad of Lucy Whipple** (1996) *Lucy's family moves to a rough California mining town in 1849.*

Danziger, Paula. **P.S. Longer Letter Later** (1998; series) *Best friends Elizabeth and Tara keep in touch through thick & thin.*

DiCamillo, Kate. **Because of Winn-Dixie** (2000) (2000) *Ten-yr-old Opal describes how a funny old dog helped her adjust to a new town.*

Ellis, Deborah. **The Breadwinner** (2001; series) *Parvana disguises herself as a boy after her father is arrested by the Taliban.*

Edwards, Julie Andrews. **Dragon: Hound of Honor** (2004) *In medieval France, an Irish wolfhound helps solve the murder of his master.*

Estes, Eleanor. **The Hundred Dresses** (1944) *Wanda's classmates learn a poignant tale about prejudice when they tease her for being different.*
Moffats (1969; series) *Adventures of Jane Moffat and siblings in their new CT home.*

Gantos, Jack. **Joey Pigza** (Book 1: *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key*; 1998) *Joey has trouble paying attention and controlling his moods.*

Gardiner, John. **Stone Fox** (1980) *Willie hopes to pay the taxes his grandpa owes on his farm by winning the prize money in a dog sled race.*

Fitzhugh, Louise. **Harriet the Spy** (1964) *Harriet's life is turned upside-down when her notebook is found ... and read out loud!*

George, Jean Craighead. **Cry of the Crow** (1980) *By caring for a baby crow, Mandy begins to see her family in a new light.*



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Giff, Patricia Reilly. **Nory Ryan's Song** (2000) *Nory's courage and ingenuity help her family and neighbors survive Ireland's 1845 famine.*

Hesse, Karen. **Out of the Dust** (1998) *Billie Jo uses poetry to tell of life in Oklahoma during the Depression.*

Konigsburg, E.L. **From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler** (1967) *Two runaways take up residence at the Met in NYC.*

Lord, Bette Bao. **In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson** (1984) *Baseball helps a Chinese girl in 1947 settle into Brooklyn.*

Lord, Cynthia. **Rules** (2006) *Catherine longs for a normal life while also finding a way to help her autistic brother understand his world.*

Lowry, Lois. **Number the Stars** (1989) *Annemarie shows great courage in saving her Jewish friend in Denmark during WWII.*

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall** (1985; series) *Caleb and Anna find new hope when Sarah arrives in their prairie town.*

Mason, Simon. **The Quigleys** (2002; series) *The Quigleys give us a slice of British life.*

Mathis, Sharon Bell. **The Hundred Penny Box** (1975) *Michael's special bond with a great-great aunt has much to teach everyone.*

Mochizuki, Ken. **Baseball Saved Us** (1993) *Baseball was a saving grace for Japanese Americans in the internment camps during WWII.*

Myers, Laurie. **Surviving Brick Johnson** (1995) *5th grader Nick takes up karate to handle the new bully in town.*

Namioka, Lensey. **Yang the Youngest and His Terrible Ear** (1992; series) *Yingtao finds baseball is much more appealing than music.*

Park, Linda Sue. **A Single Shard** (2001) *13-year old Tree-ear, an orphan living under a bridge in medieval Korea, longs to find creativity.*

Paterson, Katherine. **The Great Gilly Hopkins** (1978) *11-year old foster-child Gill, is determined to be unmanageable until she meets the Trotters.*

Peck, Richard. **A Long Way from Chicago** (1998, series) *Joey and Mary Alice's summers with feisty Grandma Dowdel in rural Illinois.*

Pennypacker, Sara. **The Talented Clementine** (2007; series) *8-year old untalented Clementine tries to find a way to avoid the class talent show.*

Sachar, Louis. **Holes** and **Small Steps** (1998/2005) *Stanley goes to a correctional camp in the desert and finds a new sense of himself.*

Schlitz, Laura. **Good Masters! Sweet Ladies!** (2007) *A unique book reflecting the lives of the people of the Middle Ages, both noble and poor.*

Speare, Elizabeth. **The Witch of Blackbird Pond** (1958) *Kit befriends an old woman thought to be a witch and finds herself on trial.*

Spinelli, Jerry. **Maniac Magee** (1990) *Jeffrey turns himself into a folk hero as he deals with the death of his parents, running away and racism.*

Taylor, Mildred. **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** (1976; series) *Cassie faces racist attacks, illness, poverty, and betrayal in the 1930's Deep South.*

Voigt, Cynthia. **Homecoming** (1981; series) *13-year-old Dicey brings her abandoned family to their eccentric grandmother's home.*

Taylor, Sydney. **All-of-a-Kind-Family** (1951; series) *Five Jewish sisters grow up in early 1900s New York City.*

Wiles, Deborah. **Love, Ruby Lavender** (2001) *Ruby learns to survive on her own when her grandmother leaves Mississippi.*

Wolff, Virginia. **Bat 6** (1998) *An all-girl baseball team learns how to better their game, and about prejudice.*