

MIDDLE GRADE MYSTERIES



2020 BOOK LIST



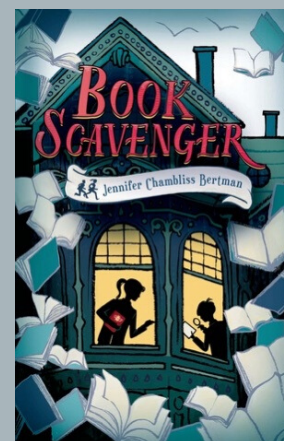
Book Scavenger

Jennifer Chambliss Bertman | Christy Ottaviano
Books/Henry Holt and Company

Emily's family is relocating to the home of her literary idol: Garrison Griswold, creator of Book Scavenger, a game where books are hidden and clues to find them are revealed through puzzles. But Emily soon learns that Griswold has been attacked. Emily and her new friend James discover an odd book, which they believe is from Griswold and leads to a valuable prize. But there are others on the hunt for this book, and Emily and James must race to solve the puzzles before Griswold's attackers make them their next target.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-6

Sequels: The Unbreakable Code; The Alcatraz Escape

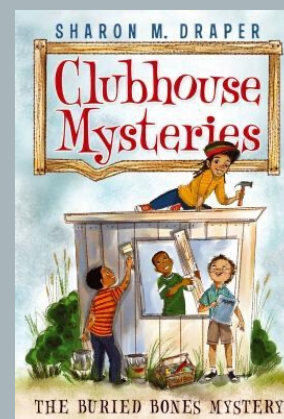


The Buried Bones Mystery

Sharon Draper | Aladdin Books

Four boys who call themselves the Black Dinosaurs find themselves involved in exciting mysteries around their town. In *The Buried Bones Mystery*, the boys build a clubhouse in Ziggy's backyard, where they uncover a box of bones while digging to bury their secret treasures. But when the boys try to hide their treasures, they're swept up in a mystery more intriguing—and scary—than anything they could have imagined. Who could have buried a box of bones behind their clubhouse?

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 3-4



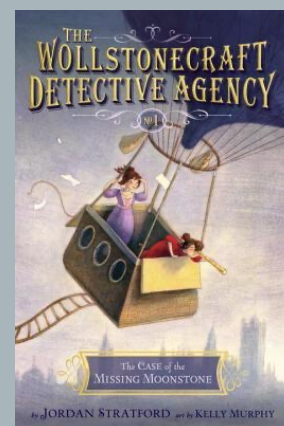
The Case of the Missing Moonstone

Jordan Stratford + Kelly Murphy | Knopf Books

Lady Ada Byron is a genius. Mary Godwin is a romantic. Mary is to become Ada's first true friend. And together, the girls conspire to form the Wollstonecraft Detective Agency. Their first case involves a stolen heirloom, a false confession, and an array of fishy suspects. But it's no match for the deductive powers and bold hearts of Ada and Mary. Mystery fans will love this tween girl riff on Sherlock Holmes and John Watson.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 5-8

Sequels: The Case of the Girl in Grey; The Case of the Counterfeit Criminals; The Case of the Perilous Palace



The Case of the Stolen Sixpence

Holly Webb + Marion Lindsay | HMH Books for Young Readers

When George, the butcher's boy, is fired for stealing coins from the till, Maisie knows in her heart he is innocent. With her little dog Eddie as the Watson to her Sherlock Holmes, Maisie uses her budding detective skills to solve the mystery of the stolen sixpence, vindicate her old friend, and even help a new friend in need.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 3-6

Sequels: The Case of the Vanishing Emerald; The Case of the Phantom Cat; The Case of the Feathered Mask; The Case of the Secret Tunnel; The Case of the Spilled Ink; The Case of the Blind Beetle; The Case of the Weeping Mermaid



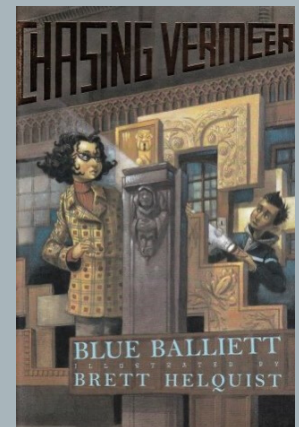
Chasing Vermeer

Blue Balliett | Scholastic

When a book of unexplainable occurrences brings Petra and Calder together, strange things start to happen: seemingly unrelated events connect, an eccentric old woman seeks their company, and an invaluable Vermeer painting disappears. Before they know it, the two find themselves at the center of an international art scandal, where no one — neighbors, parents, teachers — is spared from suspicion. As Petra and Calder are drawn into a mysterious labyrinth, they must draw on their powers of intuition, their problem-solving skills, and their knowledge of Vermeer. Can they decipher a crime that has left even the FBI baffled?

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 5-8

Sequels: The Wright 3; The Calder Game; Pieces and Players



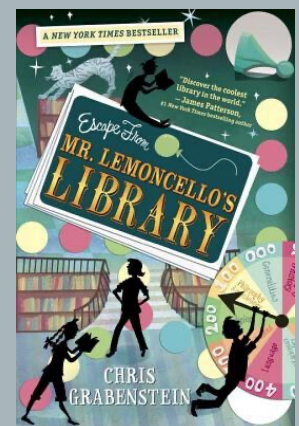
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library

Chris Grabenstein | Penguin Random House

Kyle Keeley is the class clown and an ardent fan of all games. His hero, Luigi Lemoncello, the most notorious and creative gamemaker in the world, just so happens to be the genius behind the building of the new town library. Lucky Kyle wins a coveted spot to be one of the first 12 kids in the library for an overnight of fun, food, and lots and lots of games. But when morning comes, the doors remain locked. Kyle and the other winners must solve every clue and every secret puzzle to find the hidden escape route. And the stakes are very high.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-7

Sequels: Mr. Lemoncello's Library Olympics; Mr. Lemoncello's Great Library Race; Mr. Lemoncello's All-Star Breakout Game; Mr. Lemoncello & the Titanium Ticket



The Friendship Code

Stacia Deutsch | Penguin Workshop

Lucy can't wait to get started with the new coding club at school. Finally, a school activity she's interested in. But Lucy's excitement turns to disappointment when she's put into a group with girls she barely knows. All she wanted to do was make an app that she believes will help someone very special to her. Suddenly, Lucy begins to get cryptic coding messages and needs help translating them. She soon discovers that coding - and friendship - takes time, dedication, and some laughs!

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 3-6

Sequels: Team BFF: Race to the Finish!; Lights, Music, Code!; Spotlight on Coding Club!

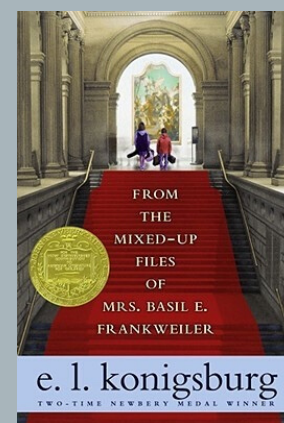


From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

E.L. Konigsburg | Atheneum Books for Young Readers

When Claudia decides to run away, she wants to run to a place that is comfortable, beautiful, and elegant. She chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing her younger brother Jamie has money, she invites him along. Once settled into the museum, Claudia and Jamie find themselves caught up in the mystery of an angel statue that the museum purchased for \$225. The statue is possibly an early work of Michelangelo and worth millions. Is it? Or isn't it? Claudia is determined to find out. Her quest leads her to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, the remarkable old woman who sold the statue.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-6

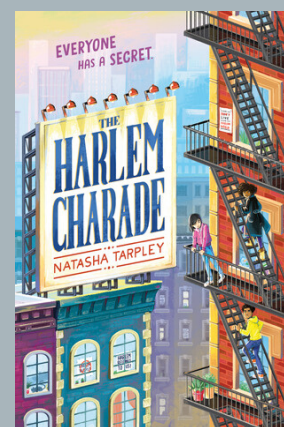


The Harlem Charade

Natasha Anastasia Tarpley | Scholastic

Harlem is home to all kinds of kids. Jin sees life passing her by from the window of her family's bodega. Alex wants to help the needy one shelter at a time, but can't tell anyone who she really is. Elvin's living on Harlem's streets, surviving on his own after his grandfather was mysteriously attacked. When these three strangers join forces to find out what happened to Elvin's grandfather, their digging leads them to an enigmatic artist whose missing masterpieces are worth a fortune—one that might save the neighborhood from a politician who wants to turn it into Harlem World, a ludicrous theme park. But if they don't find the paintings, nothing in their beloved neighborhood will ever be the same.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-6



The London Eye Mystery

Siobhan Dowd | Yearling

Ted and Kat watch their cousin Salim get on board the London Eye. He turns and the pod rises from the ground. The pod lands – but where is Salim? Ted and Kat become sleuthing partners since the police are having no luck. Despite their prickly relationship, they overcome their differences to follow a trail of clues across London in a desperate bid to find their cousin. And ultimately it comes down to Ted, whose brain runs on its own unique operating system, to find the key to the mystery.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 5-8

Sequel: The Guggenheim Mystery



The Maze of Bones

Rick Riordan | Scholastic

Minutes before she died, Grace Cahill changed her will, leaving her descendants an impossible decision: You have a choice – one million dollars or a clue. Grace is the last matriarch of the Cahills, the world's most powerful family. 39 clues hidden around the world will reveal the family's secret, but no one has been able to assemble them. Now the clues race is on, and Amy and Dan must decide what's important: hunting clues or uncovering what REALLY happened to their parents.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-7

Sequels: One False Note; The Sword Thief; Beyond the Grave; The Black Circle; In Too Deep; The Viper's Nest; The Emperor's Code; Storm Warning; Into the Gauntlet; Vespers Rising



Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring

Angela Cervantes | Scholastic

Paloma is traveling to Mexico City, birthplace of her deceased father, for the first time. While in Mexico, Paloma meets Lizzie and Gael, who present her with an irresistible challenge: to find a ring that once belonged to beloved Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. Finding the ring means a big reward – and the thanks of all Mexico. What better way to honor her father than returning a priceless piece of jewelry that once belonged to his favorite artist! But the brother and sister have a secret. Do they really want to return the ring, or are they after something else entirely?

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-6



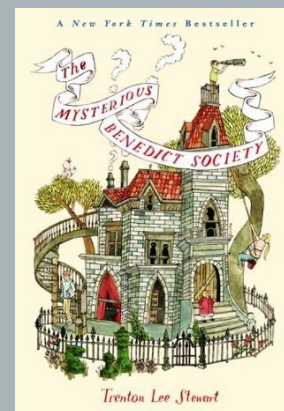
The Mysterious Benedict Society

Trenton Lee Stewart | Little, Brown and Company

"Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?" Dozens of children respond to this ad in the newspaper and are put through tests which readers take along with them. Only four children succeed. Their challenge: to go on a secret mission. To accomplish it they have to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened. But what they'll find in the hidden underground tunnels of the school is more than your average school supplies.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 5-8

Sequels: The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey; The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Prisoner's Dilemma; The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Riddle of Ages



The Name of This Book Is Secret

Pseudonymous Bosch | Little, Brown Books

Warning: this description has not been authorized by Pseudonymous Bosch. As much as he'd love to sing the praises of his book (he is very vain), he wouldn't want you to hear about his brave heroes, Cass and Max-Ernest. Or about how a mysterious box of vials sends them on the trail of a magician who has vanished under strange circumstances. And he certainly wouldn't want you to know about the hair-raising adventures that follow and the villains they face. You see, not only is the name of this book secret, the story inside is, too. For it concerns a Big Secret.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 4-6

Sequels: If You're Reading This, It's Too Late; This Book is Not Good for You; This Isn't What it Looks Like; You Have to Stop This; Write This Book: A Do-It-Yourself Mystery



Smashie McPterter and the Mystery of Room 11

N. Griffin | Candlewick

The day the hamster disappears from Smashie's class begins like any other. Well, except for the fact that the teacher is out sick and the class is stuck with Mr. Carper, the worst substitute in the world. And except for the mysterious business with the glue. And except for the fact that Smashie is wrestling with a terrible problem. As the peaceable and productive days of Room 11 turn into paranoia-fueled chaos, Smashie and her best friend, Dontel, are forced to the limits to set things right.

Suggested Reading Age: Grades 3-6

Sequel: Smashie McPterter and the Mystery of the Missing Goop

