

Amato, Mary. *The Word Eater*.

Holiday House, 2000.

Lerner Chanse, a new student at Cleveland Park Middle School, finds a worm that magically makes things disappear, and she hopes it will help her fit in, or get revenge, at her hated school.

#### **J AMATO**

Anderson, M. T. *Whales on Stilts*.

Harcourt, c2005. Racing against the clock, shy Lily and her friends, Katie and Jasper, must foil the plot of her father's conniving boss to conquer the world using an army of whales.

#### **JM ANDERSON**

Angleberger, Tom.

*The strange case of Origami Yoda*.

Amulet Books, 2012. 6<sup>th</sup>-grader Tommy and his friends describe their interactions with a paper finger puppet of Yoda, worn by their weird classmate Dwight, as they try to figure out whether or not the puppet can really predict the future. With instructions for making Origami Yoda.

#### **J ANGLEBERGER**

Appelt, Kathi.

*The true blue scouts of Sugar Man Swamp*.

Atheneum, c2013.

12-year-old Chap Brayburn, ancient Sugar Man, and his raccoon-brother Swamp Scouts Bingo and J'miah try to save Bayou Tourterelle from feral pigs Clydine and Buzzie.

#### **J APPELT**

Ardagh, Philip. *Awful End*.

Scholastic, 2000. When both of Eddie's parents catch a disease that makes them turn yellow, it's agreed he should go away and stay with relatives at their house, Awful End.

#### **J ARDAGH**

Atwater, Richard Tupper.

*Mr. Popper's penguins*.

Little, Brown and Co., [1988], c1938. A delivery of a large crate containing an Antarctic penguin changes the life and fortunes of Mr. Popper, a house painter who dreams of the Polar regions.

#### **J ATWATER**

Baker, E. D. *Frog Princess*.

Bloomsbury, 2002. After reluctantly kissing a frog, a 14-year-old princess suddenly becomes a frog, too, and goes with the prince to become human.

#### **JSF BAKER**

Baron, Jeff. *I represent Sean Rosen*.

Greenwillow Books, [2013]

With the help of his "manager," a 13-year-old boy sells a movie idea to a major Hollywood studio

#### **J BARON**

Barry, Dave. Pearson, Ridley.

*Peter & the Starcatchers*.

Disney Editions, 2004. Soon after Peter sets sail from England on the ship Never Land, he befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a pirate and the natives of a remote island.

#### **J BARRY**

Basye, Dale E. *Heck; where the bad kids go*.

Random House, c2008. When timid Milton and his older sister Marlo die in a marshmallow bear explosion at Grizzly Mall, they are sent to Heck, an reform school from which they must escape.

#### **J BASYE**

Behrens, Andy. *The fast and the furriest*.

Alfred A. Knopf, 2010. The overweight and unathletic son of a former football star discovers that his equally fat and lazy dog is obsessively-interested in competing in dog agility contests.

#### **J BEHRENS**

Birdseye, Tom.

*Attack of the mutant underwear*.

Holiday House, 2003. 5<sup>th</sup>-grader Cody keeps a journal of his hopes for a fresh start where nobody knows about his past mistakes, but before school even begins so does his embarrassment.

#### **J BIRDSEYE**

Blume, Judy. *Tales of a fourth grade nothing*.

Dutton Children's Books, c1972, [2002].

Peter finds his demanding 2-year-old brother an ever increasing problem.

#### **J BLUME**

Brooks, Walter R.

*Freddy and the men from Mars*.

Overlook Press, [1954], 2002. Freddy the Pig's sleuthing skills are put to the test by conniving rats and animals pretending to be Martians.

#### **J BROOKS**

Buckley, Michael. *NERDS : National Espionage, Rescue, and Defense Society*.

Amulet Books, 2009. While running a spy network from school, five misfits combine their enhanced abilities using cutting-edge gadgetry to fight evil.

#### **J BUCKLEY**

Bunting, Eve. *Nasty stinky sneakers*.

HarperCollins, c1994. Will 10-year-old Colin find his stinky sneakers in time for The Stinkiest Sneakers in the World contest?

#### **J BUNTING**

Burch, Christian. *Hit the road, Manny*.

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2008. As the Dalinger family travels across America in a rented recreational vehicle, Keats grows more accepting of the attention-getting behavior of their "manny"--male nanny--especially after a visit with the manny's parents on their Wyoming ranch.

#### **J BURCH**

Campbell, L. A. *Cartboy goes to camp*.

Starscape, 2014. Hopelessly hapless Hal Rifkind, a.k.a. Cartboy, is off to summer camp. And not just any old camp, but history camp. Campers have to learn how to churn butter, plant maize, and carry water from the stream--or they get punished for not doing their chores. What else could possibly go wrong?

#### **J CAMPBELL**

Cavanna, Betty. *Petey*.

Philadelphia, Westminster Press [1973]. A young boy has some unusual adventures with his Great Dane when they move from a farm to a small house in a development.

#### **J CAVANNA**

Cleary, Beverly. *Henry and Ribsy*.

Morrow, 1954. Before he can go fishing with his father, Henry must keep his dog Ribsy out of trouble for a month.

#### **J CLEARY**

Conford, Ellen. *Nibble, nibble, Jenny Archer*.

Little, Brown, c1993. Jenny Archer is excited about making a television commercial for a new snack food, until she discovers that the food she liked so much was meant for gerbils.

#### **J CONFORD**

Cottrell Boyce, Frank. *Cosmic*.

Walden Pond Press, 2010. Super-sized, 11-year-old Liam makes a giant leap for boy-kind by competing with adults to go to space.

#### **JSF COTTRELL BOYCE**

Craddock, Erik. *Stone Rabbit*.

Random House Children's Books, c2009. When Stone Rabbit and Andy Wolf try to use a pirate's pegleg to repair a table, they awaken its former owner, Barnacle James, who makes them part of his ghost pirate crew. Graphic Novel.

#### **J CRADDOCK**

Dahl, Roald. *Matilda*.

Viking Kestrel, 1988. Matilda applies her mental powers to rid the school of the evil, child-hating headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, and restore her nice teacher, Miss Honey, to financial security.

**J DAHL**

Elliott, David.

*The transmogrification of Roscoe Wizzle*.

Candlewick Press, 2001. After eating constantly at the fast food restaurant known as Gussy's, 10-year-old Roscoe turns into a giant bug.

**JSF ELLIOTT**

Feiffer, Jules. *A room with a zoo*.

Michael di Capua Books, 2005. 9-year-old Julie loves animals. So much it seems that she's assembling a zoo in her room. But, what she really wants is a dog.

**J FEIFFER**

Fine, Anne. *The return of the killer cat*.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, [2003], 2007. Tuffy the cat narrates his escapades as he attempts to escape his family's cat-sitter and suffers through a humiliating episode of mistaken identity.

**J FINE**

Finney, Patricia. *I, Jack*.

HarperCollins, c2004. Jack, a Labrador Retriever, tells about his daily life, and the "apedogs" and "funny-looking dogs" (cats) in his pack. Includes explanatory footnotes written by the cats.

**J FINNEY**

Fitzgerald, John D. *The great brain*.

Dial Press [1967] The exploits of the Great Brain of Adenville, UT, as told by his younger brother, frequently the victim of the Brain's schemes for gaining prestige or money.

**J FITZGERALD**

Frank, Lucy. *Just ask Iris*.

Atheneum, c2001. In the summer before seventh grade, twelve-year-old Iris Diaz-Pinkowitz goes up and down the fire escape outside her new New York City apartment, becoming an integral part of the lives of her human and animal neighbors.

**J FRANK**

Gaiman, Neil. *Fortunately, the milk*.

Harper, [2013]. While picking up milk for his children's cereal, a father is abducted by aliens and finds himself on a wild adventure through time and space.

**J GAIMAN**

Gantos, Jack.

*Jack on the tracks: four seasons of fifth grade*.

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, c1999, 2001. Moving with his sister to Miami, Florida, Jack tries to break some of his bad habits but finds himself irresistibly drawn to things disgusting, gross, and weird.

**J GANTOS**

Galveston, Louise. *By the grace of Todd*.

Razorbill, [2014] When dirty laundry under his bed gives life to a tiny civilization that worships him, 12-year-old Todd must protect the Toddlians from a school bully.

**J GALVESTON**

Goscinnny, René. *Nicholas*.

Phaidon Press, c2005. The book, published in French in 1959 with new art by a New Yorker cartoonist creates Nicholas and his friends.

**J GOSCINNY**

Greenwald, Tom.

*Charlie Joe Jackson's guide to not reading*.

Square Fish, 2012. Middle schooler Charlie Joe is proud of his success at avoiding reading, but eventually it goes too far.

**J GREENWALD**

Gutman, Dan. *The million dollar strike*.

Hyperion, c2004. Ouchie and Squishy, who love bowling and horror movies respectively, meet the eccentric owner of a local bowling alley and try to help him save Bowl-A-Rama from the wrecking ball and a destructive psychotic lunatic.

**J GUTMAN**

Haywood, Carolyn. *Eddie's friend Boodles*.

Morrow Junior Books, c1991. A circus inspires Boodles to try clown makeup and to teach his dog Poochie to do tricks.

**J HAYWOOD**

Holm, Jennifer L. *Middle school is worse than meatloaf: a year told through stuff*.

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, c2007. The first year of middle school can be exciting, or scary, just ask Ginny.

**J HOLM**

Haven, Paul. *Two hot dogs with everything*.

Random House, c2006. Although everyone credits him and his superstitions for the Slugger's first winning streak in 108 baseball seasons, 11-year-old Danny Gurkin has another idea.

**J HAVEN**

Heide, Florence Parry. *The Treehorn trilogy*.

Harry N. Abrams, 2006. Collects the stories of Treehorn, a boy to whom very strange things keep happening which adults, from his parents to the meter reader, don't think are noteworthy.

**J HEIDE**

Henkes, Kevin. *The year of Billy Miller*.

Greenwillow Books, [2013] Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and a lot of worries, but by the end of the year, life gets better.

**J HENKES**

Horvath, Polly.

*The Pepins and their problems*.

Farrar Straus Giroux, 2004. The reader is invited to help solve the Pepin family's unusual problems, which include having a cow who creates lemonade rather than milk and having to cope with a competitive neighbor.

**J HORVATH**

Jonell, Lynne.

*Emmy and the incredible shrinking rat*.

H. Holt, 2007. When Emmy discovers that she and her parents are being drugged by their evil nanny with rodent potions that can change people in frightening ways, she and some new friends must try everything possible to return things to normal.

**J JONELL**

Keller, Laurie. *Bowling alley bandit*.

Henry Holt and Co., 2013. Arnie the talking doughnut is delighted to be Mr. Bing's new pet "doughnut-dog," so when Mr. Bing starts rolling gutter balls during a big bowling tournament, Arnie suspects foul play.

**J KELLER**

Kinney, Jeff. *Diary of a wimpy kid*.

Amulet Books, 2007. Greg records his 6<sup>th</sup> grade experiences as he and his best friend, Rowley, undersized weaklings amid boys who need to shave twice daily, hope just to survive.

**J KINNEY**

Klise, Kate.

*Regarding the bathrooms: a privy to the past*.

Harcourt, c2006. In this novel told through letters, newspaper articles, and police reports, a principal's bathroom renovation project leads to the discovery of stolen Roman antiquities.

**JM KLISE**

Korman, Gordon. *No more dead dogs*. Hyperion Books for Children, 2000. 8<sup>th</sup> grade football hero Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play where, in spite of himself, he becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.

**J KORMAN**

Krulik, Nancy E. *Trouble Magnet*.

Grosset & Dunlap, [2010]

As the students at his school prepare for a talent show and class presentations about Hawaii, fourth-grader George tries hard to behave but his magic super burps keep getting him in trouble.

**J KRULIK**

Kurzweil, Allen. *Leon and the spitting image*.

Greenwillow Books, c2003.

Leon, a fourth grader at The Ethical School, tries to outwit the school bully and learn to sew for fanatical teacher Miss Cronheim, with unexpected help from his final project-- a doll with magical powers.

**J KURZWEIL**

Labatt, Mary. *The Secret of Sagawa Lake*.

Kids Can Press, c2001. Join Sam, Dog Detective, on her sixth adventure as she spends some quality time communing with nature.

**JM LABATT**

Levy, Dana Alison.

*The misadventures of the family Fletcher*.

Delacorte Press, [2014]

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.

**J LEVY**

Lieb, Josh. *I am a genius of unspeakable evil and I want to be your class president*.

Razorbill, c2009. In Omaha, Nebraska, 12-year-old Oliver Watson has everyone convinced that he's extremely stupid and lazy, but he's actually a very wealthy, evil genius, and when he runs for 7<sup>th</sup> grade class president, nothing will stand in his way.

**J LIEB**

Lowry, Lois. *The Willoughbys*.

Houghton Mifflin, 2008. In this tongue-in-cheek take on classic themes in children's literature, the four Willoughby children set about to become "deserving orphans" after their neglectful parents embark on a treacherous around-the-world adventure, leaving them in the care of an odious nanny.

**J LOWRY**

MacDonald, Betty. *Mrs. Piggle-Wiggle*.

HarperCollins, [1947] Mrs. Piggle-wiggle, the widow of a pirate, has a remarkable way of handling children. She manages to cure a persistent never-want-to-go-to-bedder, an answer-backer, and a slow-eater-tiny-bite-taker.

**J MACDONALD**

McCloskey, Robert. *Homer Price*.

Puffin Books, c1943, 2005.

Six episodes in the life of Homer Price including one in which he and his pet skunk capture four bandits and another about a donut machine on the rampage.

**J MCCLOSKEY**

Meacham, Margaret.

*A mid-semester night's dream*.

Holiday House, c2004. Chaos results when Morgan gets help from Gretta, a fairy-godmother-in-training.

**JSF MEACHAM**

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds.

*Bernie Magruder & the bats in the belfry*.

Atheneum, c2003. People in Middleburg, Indiana, are going crazy from church bells. Bernie's family is worried the Indiana Aztec bat has finally arrived.

**JM NAYLOR**

Nesbø, Jo. *Dr. Proctor's Fart Powder*.

Aladdin, 2010. New friends Nilly and Lisa help Doctor Proctor to develop his latest invention, a powder that makes one fart.

**J NESBO**

Patterson, James. *Big fat liar*.

Little, Brown and Company, 2014. Georgia Khatchadorian plans to excel at Hills Village Middle School, in all the places her brother failed.

**J PATTERSON**

Paulsen, Gary.

*Family ties: the theory, practice, and destructive properties of relatives*.

Wendy Lamb Books, 2014.

Kevin Spencer has a history of big ideas going completely awry. This time, it's personal!

**J PAULSEN**

Peirce, Lincoln. *Big Nate; in a class by himself*.

Harper, c2013. Middle school student Nate makes getting detention from every one of his teachers in the same day seem like an achievement.

**J PEIRCE**

Pinkwater, Daniel Manus. *Bushman lives!*

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012. In the 1960s, Harold Knishke, a Chicago teenager with a special place in his heart for Bushman, the famed departed gorilla of the Lincoln Park Zoo, embarks on a quest to become a great artist and figure out how he became the object of a famous folk song.

**J PINKWATER**

Power, Timothy. *The boy who howled*.

Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2010. A boy who has been raised by wolves from a young age unexpectedly finds himself back in human society, trying to figure out how to fit in.

**J POWER**

Preller, James. *Justin Fisher declares war*.

Scholastic Press, 2010. Justin, class clown, realizes that his classmates are tired of his pranks, so he declares war on their 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mr. Tripp, in hopes of regaining his popularity.

**J PRELLER**

Raschka, Christopher. *Seriously, Norman!*

Scholastic, 2011. Why are grown-ups so insane? That's the question Leonard, Norman, and the twins try to answer with the help of Norman's new tutor, Balthazar Birdsong.

**J RASCHKA**

Rockwell, Thomas. *How to eat fried worms*.

Random House, [1973], 2006. Two boys set out to prove that worms can make a delicious meal.

**J ROCKWELL**

Russell, Rachel Renée.

*Tales from a not-so-fabulous life*.

Aladdin, 2009. 14-year-old Nikki Maxwell writes in her diary of her struggle to be popular at her exclusive new private school.

**J RUSSELL**

Sachar, Louis.

*Wayside School gets a little stranger*.

Morrow Junior Books, c1995. Unusual things happen in the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

**J SACHAR**

Salm, Arthur. *Anyway\* : \*a story about me with 138 footnotes, 27 exaggerations, and 1 plate of spaghetti.*

Simon & Schuster, c2012. At summer camp, 12-year-old Max reinvents himself as daring and fearless "Mad Max," and although he regrets some of his behavior among strangers, he tries to keep some of that fearlessness when he returns home to his friends.

**J SALM**

Sanderson, Brandon.

*Alcatraz versus the evil Librarians.*

Scholastic Press, c2007. On his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday, foster child Alcatraz Smedry receives a bag of sand immediately stolen by the evil Librarians trying to take over the world, and Alcatraz is introduced to his grandfather and his own special talent, and told that he must use it to save civilization.

**JSF SANDERSON**

Scieszka, Jon.

*Frank Einstein and the anti-matter motor.*

Amulet, 2014.

In his Grandpa Al's garage workshop, child genius Frank Einstein tries to invent a robot that can learn on its own, and after an accident brings wisecracking Klink and overly expressive Klank to life, they set about helping Frank perfect his Antimatter Motor until his archnemesis, T. Edison, steals the robots for his doomsday plan.

**J SCIESZKA**

Seegert, Scott.

*How to Grow Up and Rule the World.*

Egmont USA, 2010. A top supervillain offers rules and advice to readers on how to develop an evil plan to rule the world.

**J SEEGERT**

13

Selzer, Adam. *I put a spell on you : from the files of Chrissie Woodward, spelling bee detective.*

Delacorte Press, c2008. When Gordon Liddy Community School's resident tattletale-detective, realizes that the adults are out to fix the big spelling bee, she transfers her loyalty to her fellow students and starts collecting evidence.

**JM SELZER**

Smith, Robert Kimmel. *Chocolate fever.*

Puffin, 2006. Henry breaks out in brown bumps as a result of eating too much chocolate. He then gets caught up in a hijacking and learns a valuable lesson about self-indulgence.

**J SMITH**

Spinelli, Jerry. *The library card.*

Scholastic Press, 1997.

Humorous, poignant stories about how books changed the lives of four young people.

**J SPINELLI**

Spratt, R. A.

*The Adventures of Nanny Piggins.*

Little, Brown, 2010. When a stingy widower with three children he cannot be bothered with, decides to find a nanny for his children, he winds up hiring a glamorous ex-circus pig who knows nothing about children but a lot about chocolate.

**J SPRATT**

Stevens, Eric.

*Finn Reeder, flu fighter : how I survived a worldwide pandemic, the school bully, and the craziest game of dodge ball ever.*

Stone Arch Books, 2010. In a journal for English class, Finn Reeder relates the impact of an H1N1 flu epidemic at his school, but unfortunately excluding class bully Vic, as everyone seems to go insane trying to avoid or cope with the virus.

**J STEVENS**

14

Vande Velde, Vivian. *Frogged.*

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013.

When almost-thirteen-year-old Princess Imogene is turned into a frog, she puts into practice lessons from the book, *The Art of Being a Princess*, as she tries to become her less-than-perfect self again.

**J VANDE VELDE**

Vernon, Ursula. *Curse of the were-wiener.*

Dial Books, c2010. When Danny Dragonbreath's best friend Wendell the iguana is bitten by one of the hot dogs from his school lunch, he begins to turn into a were-wiener. Graphic Novel

**J VERNON**

Watson, Tom. *Stick dog.*

Harper, c2013. Stick Dog and his four friends - Stripes, Mutt, Poo-Poo and Karen - will do anything to steal some sweet-smelling hamburgers from a family at Picasso Park

**J WATSON**

Winkler, Henry.

*Help! Somebody get me out of fourth grade!*

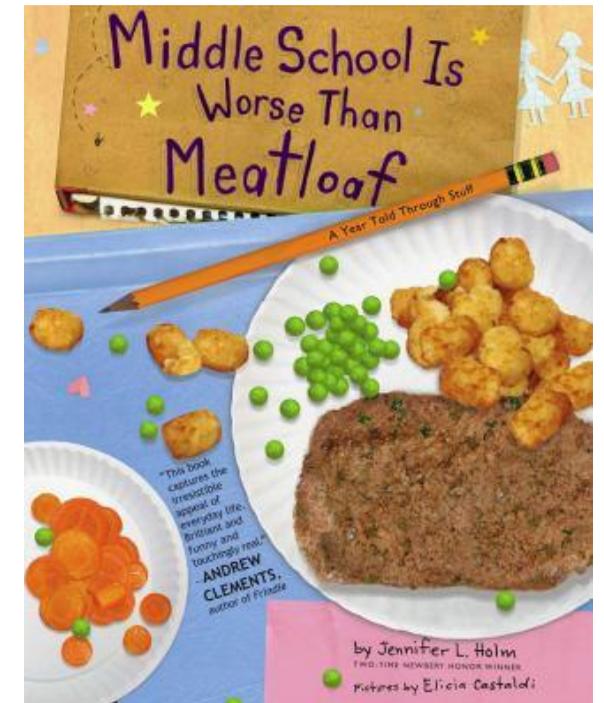
Grosset & Dunlap, c2004. Fearing that he may be failing fourth grade, Hank enlists the help of his friends, and even his annoying younger sister, in an effort to prevent his parents from attending a parent-teacher conference.

**J WINKLER**

**NOTE: Most of these authors have written many other humorous titles (or books are part of series). Check the catalog for details!**

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# Humor for Kids



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