

# CURRICULET CORE 36 BOOK LIST

Core 36 is a collection of 36 curriculets, 9 per grade, for grades 3–6. Curriculets include questions and student- and teacher-facing writing prompts and activities that cover literature, informational text (where applicable), foundational skills, language, writing, and speaking and listening standards. Special care was given to ensure a diverse list of books that reflects a variety of students, cultures and experiences.

TITLE	AUTHOR	LEXILE	BOOK NOTES
<b>GRADE 3</b>			
The One and Only Ivan	Katherine Applegate	570	Popular, heartwarming story of a heroic, artistic, captive gorilla.
Sarah, Plain and Tall	Patricia MacLachlan	660	Warm family story of children’s wish for a mother.
Ella Enchanted	Gail Carson Levine	670	Highly imaginative twists on the Cinderella tale.
The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett	710	Beautiful classic filled with magic and realism.
Coraline	Neil Gaiman	740	Strange, surreal tale sure to creep kids out.
Tiger Boy	Mitali Perkins	770	Multi-cultural Bengali story with obvious appeal for animal loving kids.
Ruby Holler	Sharon Creech	660	A heartwarming adventure about finding family, and a home, when you least expect it.
Satch & Me	Dan Gutman	660	An unforgettable road trip to the Negro League World Series.
Matilda	Roald Dahl	840	Kid genius gets revenge and discovers magic.
Hope Solo: My Story (Young Readers’ Edition)	Hope Solo	810	Soccer sensation Hope Solo tells the story of her challenging journey to become a world famous goalie.
<b>GRADE 4</b>			
James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl	870	Lonely boy’s magical adventure still satisfies.
Wonder	R.J. Palacio	790	Moving tale of facially different boy with inner beauty.
Bridge to Terabithia	Katherine Paterson	810	Honest, moving story of friendship and loss.
Hoot	Carl Hiaasen	760	Award-winning tale has environmental theme.
Bud, Not Buddy	Christopher Paul Curtis	950	Well-crafted tale of an orphan’s search for home.
Eight Keys	Suzanne LaFleur	590	A girl discovers the heart of family and friendship, and begins to unlock the biggest mystery of all: herself.
One Thousand Paper Cranes: The Story of Sadako and the Children’s Peace Statue	Ishii Takayuki	1010	Moving book about dying girl who became symbol for peace.
When You Reach Me	Rebecca Stead	750	Perfectly voiced, mysterious sci-fi coming-of-age tale.
The Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman	820	Tale of boy raised by ghosts is both creepy and warmhearted.

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TITLE	AUTHOR	LEXILE	BOOK NOTES
<b>GRADE 5</b>			
One Crazy Summer	Rita Williams-Garcia	750	A gem, with strong girl characters, '60s black history.
Holes	Louis Sachar	620	Humorous and moving story has an edge.
Inside Out and Back Again	Thanhha Lai	800	Inspiring, educational immigrant story told in free verse.
The Bad Beginning (A Series of Unfortunate Events, #1)	Lemony Snicket	1010	A cliff-hanging orphan adventure wrapped in black humor.
Stargirl	Jerry Spinelli	590	A must-read to discuss.
Al Capone Does My Shirts: A Tale from Alcatraz	Gennifer Choldenko	600	Boy stands up for autistic sister in compassionate tale.
Souder	William H. Armstrong	900	Sharecropper boy finds hope, dignity amid racism, hardship.
The City of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau	680	Fast-paced fantasy has lots of tense moments.
How Writers Work	Ralph Fletcher	N/A	Unlock the secret to being a writer!
<b>GRADE 6</b>			
Hatchet	Gary Paulsen	1020	Hold on tight for an intense tale of survival.
Walk Two Moons	Sharon Creech	770	Dramatic, complex tale has rich characters, emotional depth.
Touching Spirit Bear	Ben Mikaelson	730	A poignant coming-of-age story of a boy who must overcome the effects that violence has had on his life.
The Ruins of Gorlan: The Ranger's Apprentice	John Flanagan	920	First in popular series has positive characters, some battles.
The Diary of Ma Yan: The Struggles and Hopes of a Chinese Schoolgirl	Ma Yan, Pierre Haski	720	Ma Yan's heart-wrenching, honest diary chronicles her struggle to escape hardship and bring prosperity to her family.
Hattie Big Sky	Kirby Larson	700	Teen girl homesteads alone in Newbery Honor book.
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind	William Kamkwamba	850	A remarkable true story about human inventiveness and its power to overcome crippling adversity.
The Westing Game	Ellen Raskin	750	Would-be heirs compete for a fortune in classic mystery.
The Phantom Tollbooth	Norton Juster	1000	Trip to enchanted world excites learning in kids' classic.