

## Recommended Chapter Books for Third Graders

***A Bear Called Paddington*** by Michael Bond

J BON

Mr. and Mrs. Brown first met Paddington--a most endearing bear from Darkest Peru--on a railway platform in London. A sign hanging around his neck said, "Please look after this bear. Thank you" So that is just what they did.

***Bad Kitty vs. Uncle Murray*** by Nick Bruel

J BRU

Kitty's owners are taking a week off and leaving Kitty and Puppy at home with Uncle Murray. It isn't long before Uncle Murray is driven to near madness by shenanigans of epic proportions.

***Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*** by Roald Dahl

J DAH

Poor Charlie Bucket is practically starving to death, but his luck changes for the better when he wins a lifetime supply of candy- and a chance to visit Willy Wonka's fabulous, top secret chocolate factory.

***The Curse of the Bologna Sandwich*** by Greg Trine

J TRI

Move over Captain Underpants! Melvin Beederman has just graduated from Superhero Academy and he is ready to take on the bad guys. Turns out, he is a pretty good superhero- it just takes him a few tries to get it right.

***Frindle*** by Andrew Clements

J CLE

When clever yet precocious Nick decides to invent a new word for pen, it puts him at odds with his no-nonsense teacher, a stickler for grammar and proper word usage. What begins as a classroom duel over the usage of the word "frindle," escalates into a national word craze.

***Ghost Trap*** by Barbara Joesse

J JOO

When Wild Willie's best friend Kyle moves back to the neighborhood, the boys suspect that Kyle's new house is haunted.

***The Houdini Box*** by Brian Selznick

J SEL

A chance encounter with Harry Houdini leaves a small boy in possession of a mysterious box--one that might hold the secrets to the greatest magic tricks ever performed.

***I Was a Third Grade Spy*** by Mary Jane Auch

J AUC

When Brian's dog Arful suddenly begins talking, Brian and his two friends send the dog to find out what their classmates are planning for the school talent show.

***Mercy Watson to the Rescue*** by Kate DiCamillo

J DIC

To Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mercy is not just a pig — she's a porcine wonder. And to the good-natured Mercy, the Watsons are an excellent source of buttered toast, not to mention that buttery-toasty feeling she gets when she snuggles into bed with them. This is not, however, so good for the Watsons' bed. **BOOM! CRACK!**

***My Father's Dragon*** by Ruth Stiles Gannett Illus. by Ruth Chrisman Gannett

J GAN

Humor and adventure abound in this early chapter book when a little boy, who would do anything to be able to fly, finds himself on a dangerous mission to rescue a dragon.

***My Haunted House*** by Angie Sage

J SAG

Araminta Spookie lives in a haunted house with trapdoors and secret passageways leading to surprising places. But her Aunt Tabby wants to sell Spook House. How can Araminta stop her? She needs the help of some of the ghostly residents to save her home.

***Oggie Cooder*** by Sarah Weeks

J WEE

Quirky fourth-grader Oggie Cooder goes from being shunned to everyone's best friend when his uncanny ability to chew slices of cheese into the shapes of states wins him a slot on a popular television show.

***Ruby Lu, Brave and True*** by Lenore Look

J LOO

Most days the best thing about being Ruby is everything. Like when she's the star of her own backyard magic show. Or when she gives a talk at the school safety assembly on the benefits of reflective tape. And then there are the days when it's very hard to be Ruby. Like when her mom suggests Chinese school on Saturdays. Or when her little brother, Oscar, spills all of Ruby's best magician secrets. Join Ruby Lu on her first adventure and discover your own best things about her!

***Sarah, Plain and Tall*** by Patricia MacLachlan

J LAC

Their mother died the day after Caleb was born. Their house on the prairie is quiet now, and Papa doesn't sing anymore. Then Papa puts an ad in the paper, asking for a wife, and he receives a letter from one Sarah Elisabeth Wheaton, of Maine. Papa, Anna, and Caleb write back. Caleb asks if she sings. Sarah decides to come for a month. Will Sarah be nice? Will she like them? Will she sing? Will she stay?

***Sideways Stories from Wayside School*** by Louis Sachar and Julie Brinckloe

J SAC

The Wayside School was supposed to be one story high, with 30 classrooms side by side; instead, it was built sideways, with 30 one-classroom stories. As befits such a strange school, these tales are a bit strange too!

***Star Jumper: Journal of a Cardboard Genius*** by Frank Asch

J ASC

Self-proclaimed genius inventor Alex is convinced that his little brother Jonathan is evil. The kid never shuts up and he drools on his pillow when he sleeps. Jonathan's specialty, though, is sticking to Alex like glue. That's why Alex has to leave Earth and fly so far away that no one will ever be able to find him. So, using cardboard, Alex builds Star Jumper, a spaceship that will deliver him from his rotten little brother forever, but Jonathan has other ideas!

***Starring Grace*** by Mary Hoffman

J HOF

In this novel about friendship, Grace and her friends have all sorts of adventures during their summer vacation--going to the circus, taking an imaginary safari, pretending to be astronauts, calling the paramedics when her grandmother has an accident, and more.

***Superfudge*** by Judy Blume

J BLU

Nothing is easy for 12-year-old Peter Hatcher. His younger brother, Fudge, is bad enough. But now there's a new baby coming and the family is moving to Princeton.

***Tippy Lemmey*** by Pat McKissack

J MCK

Tippy Lemmey is no ordinary dog. Not only is he the only dog Leandra, Paul, and Jeannie have ever met with a first and a last name, he's a living, breathing monster! There's no getting away from him. He's their number one enemy. Leandra, Paul, and Jeannie try to come up with a plan to stop Tippy Lemmey, but nothing works. But then Tippy does something totally unexpected, and the kids realize that maybe he's not their enemy after all.