

Magical power unique to each member of her family-- just as her father is injured in a terrible accident.

**Lewis, C. S.**  
**The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe**  
(series)

Four English schoolchildren find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch, who has cursed the land with eternal winter.

**Lowry, Lois**  
**Number the Stars**

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

**Montgomery, L. M.**  
**Anne of Green Gables** (series)

Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

**Morpurgo, Michael**  
**Kensuke's Kingdom**

When Michael is swept off his family's yacht, he washes up on a desert island, where he struggles to survive--until he finds he is not alone.

**O'Brien, Robert**  
**Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH**

Having no one to help her with her problems, a widowed mouse visits the rats whose former imprisonment in a laboratory made them wise and long lived.

**Paulsen, Gary**  
**Hatchet**

After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the Canadian wilderness, learning to survive with only the aid of a hatchet given him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

**Patterson, Katherine**  
**The Great Gilly Hopkins**

An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be friendly. **See also The Bridge to Terabithia**

**Peck, Richard**  
**A Long Way From Chicago**

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

**Raskin, Ellen**  
**The Westing Game**

The mysterious death of an eccentric millionaire brings together an unlikely assortment of heirs who must uncover the circumstances of his death before they can claim their inheritance.

**Sachar, Louis\***  
**Holes** \*YA Fiction

As further evidence of his family's bad fortune which they attribute to a curse on a distant relative, Stanley Yelnats is sent to a hellish correctional camp in the Texas desert where he finds his first real friend, a treasure, and a new sense of himself.

**Stevenson, Robert Louis**  
**Treasure Island**

While going through the possessions of a deceased guest who owed them money, an innkeeper and her son find a treasure map that leads to a pirate fortune as well as great danger.

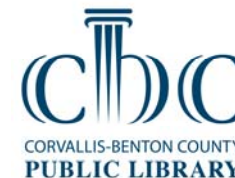
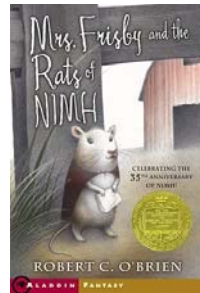
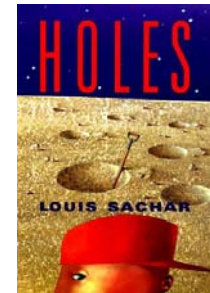
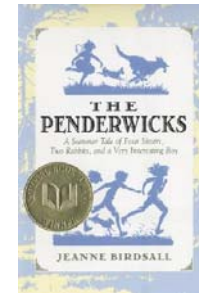
**Stewart, Trenton**  
**The Mysterious Benedict Society**

After passing a series of mind-bending tests, four children are selected for a secret mission that requires them to go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules.

**White, T. H.**  
**The Sword in the Stone**

At a medieval manor, Kay and Wart (later King Arthur) learn the attributes necessary for becoming a successful knight.

# Great Read-Aloud Chapter Books: For Older Listeners Ages 8 & Up



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## These books are located in the Juvenile Fiction Section under the author's last name.

**Avi**

**Poppy**

Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas. **See also The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle**

**Barrie, J. M.**

**Peter Pan**

The adventures of the three Darling children in Neverland with Peter Pan, the boy who would not grow up.

**Bellaire, John**

**The House with a Clock in its Walls**

A boy goes to live with his magician uncle in a mansion that has a clock hidden in the walls which is ticking off the minutes until doomsday.

**Birdsall, Jeanne**

**The Penderwicks: a summer tale of four sisters, two rabbits, and a very interesting boy**

While vacationing with their widowed father in the Berkshire Mountains, four lovable sisters, ages four through twelve, share adventures with a local boy, much to the dismay of his snobbish mother.

**Birney, Betty**

**The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs**

Eben McAllister searches his small town to see if he can find anything comparable to the real Seven Wonders of the World.

**Burnett, Frances Hodgson**

**The Secret Garden**

A ten-year-old orphan comes to live in a lonely house on the Yorkshire moors where she discovers an invalid cousin and the mysteries of a locked garden.

**See also A Little Princess**

**Curtis, Christopher Paul**

**The Watsons Go to Birmingham**

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

**Dahl, Roald**

**THE BFG**

Kidnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants. **See also Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**

**DiCamillo, Kate**

**Because of Winn-Dixie**

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

**DuBois, Pene**

**The 21 Balloons**

Relates the incredible adventures of Professor William Waterman Sherman who in 1883 sets off in a giant balloon across the Pacific, survives the volcanic eruption of Krakatoa, and is eventually picked up in the Atlantic.

**DuPrau, Jeanne.**

**The City of Ember**

In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a Messenger to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.

**Eager, Edward**

**Half Magic** (series)

A boring summer quickly turns interesting when four children encounter a magical coin that is only *half* magic. Be careful what you wish for—the results are not always what's expected.

**Edwards, Julie Andrews**

**The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles**

With help from an eccentric professor in giving their imaginations special intensive training, three children succeed in locating the last of the great Whangdoodles and granting his heart's desire.

**Funke, Cornelia**

**Inkheart**

Twelve-year-old Meggie learns that her father, who repairs and binds books for a living, can "read" fictional characters to life when one of those characters abducts

them and tries to force him into service.

**Gosciny, Rene & Jean-Jacques Sempé**  
**Nicholas**

The collection of 19 stories about high-spirited Nicholas, a French schoolboy with a knack for landing in trouble.

**Grahame, Kenneth**

**The Wind in the Willows**

The escapades of four animal friends who live along a river in the English countryside--Toad, Mole, Rat, and Badger.

**Horvath, Polly**

**The Trolls**

Eccentric Aunt Sally comes from Canada to babysit the Anderson children while their parents are on a trip to Paris and every night the bedtime story adds another piece to a very suspect family history.

**Juster, Norton**

**The Phantom Tollbooth**

A journey through a land where Milo learns the importance of words and numbers provide a cure for his boredom.

**Karr, Katherine**

**The Great Turkey Walk**

In 1860, a somewhat simple-minded fifteen-year-old boy attempts to herd one thousand turkeys from Missouri to Denver, Colorado, in hopes of selling them at a profit.

**Konigsburg, E. L.**

**From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler**

Having run away with her younger brother to live in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, twelve-year-old Claudia strives to keep things in order in their new home and to become a changed person and a heroine to herself. **See also The View from Saturday**

**Law, Ingrid**

**Savvy**

Recounts the adventures of Mibs Beaumont, whose thirteenth birthday has revealed her "savvy"--a