

## GOOD HOPE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL 2020-2021

### Fourth Grade

Students should read at least 3 books--one from each genre-- *either independently or as a read-aloud with family member*. We will discuss these books and work on a project during the first week of school.

(BL=approximate book level)

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#### REALISTIC FICTION

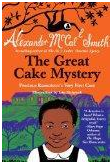
***Because of Winn-Dixie***, Kate DiCamillo

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. BL 3.9



Pax and Peter have been inseparable since Peter rescued him as a kit, until Peter's dad enlists in the military and makes him return the fox to the wild. An enchanting wartime story of trust, loyalty, and betrayal. BL 5.3

#### MYSTERY



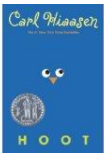
***The Great Cake Mystery***, Alexander McCall Smith

Have you ever said to yourself, *Wouldn't it be nice to be a detective?*

This is the story of an African girl who says just that. Her name is Precious.

When a piece of cake goes missing from her classroom, a traditionally built young boy is tagged as the culprit. Precious, however, is not convinced. She sets out to find the real thief. Along the way she learns that your first guess isn't always right. She also learns how to be a detective.

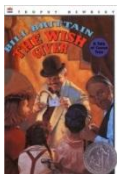
BL 4.5



***Hoot***, Carl Hiaasen

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site. BL 5.2

#### FANTASY



***The Wish Giver***, Bill Brittain

Various people take cards from Thaddeus Blinn, who says he can give them whatever they desire. Polly, who has a sharp tongue, asks to be well-liked. Rowena wants Henry to stay in town long enough to put down roots. Sam, sick of hauling water, wishes for water on his folks farm. They all get their wishes, with some truly horrible side effects, in Brittain's Newbery Honor Book. BL 4.4



***Crenshaw***, Katherine Applegate

This is an unforgettable and magical story about family, friendship, and resilience. Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent. And not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan. Again.

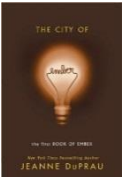
Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything? BL 3.8

## SCIENCE FICTION



### ***The Wild Robot*** by Peter Brown

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is--but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realizes that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. BL 5.1



### ***City of Ember***, Jeanne DuPrau

The city of Ember was built as a last refuge for the human race. Two hundred years later, the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city. She and her friend Doon must decipher the message before the lights go out on Ember forever! BL 5.0

## HISTORICAL FICTION



### ***Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere***, Julie T. Lamana

Armani Curtis can think about only one thing: her tenth birthday. She's having a party, her mama is making a big cake, and she has a good feeling about a certain wrapped box. Turning ten years old is a big deal to Armani. It means she's older, wiser, more responsible. But when Hurricane Katrina hits the Lower Nines of New Orleans and tears her world apart, Armani realizes that being ten means being brave, watching loved ones die, and mustering all her strength to help her family weather the storm. A gripping story of courage and survival, *Upside Down in the Middle of Nowhere* celebrates the power of hope and love in the face of the unthinkable. BL 4.7



Any book in the ***I Survived*** series (range of BL)

**NON FICTION** - any book in the following series (range of BL)

Who Was....  
My Name Is...