

**Summer Opportunity for Academic Reading  
(S.O.A.R.)**

**Fourth Grade Book List (2009 Edition)**

***Almost Starring Skinnybones.*** Park, B.

Irrepressible, twelve-year-old Alex is convinced that he will be a star and impress his schoolmates when, as the winner of a cat food essay contest, he is asked to make a commercial for national television.

***Amelia's Family Ties.*** Moss, M.

Ten-year-old Amelia records her thoughts and feelings about flying solo to Chicago to meet the father she has not seen since her parents divorced when she was an infant.

***Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!*** Kudlinski, K.

Describes how information and ideas about prehistoric dinosaurs are constantly changing as new discoveries are made.

***Bunnica : A Rabbit-tale of Mystery.*** Howe, D.

Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.

***Clarice Bean Spells Trouble.*** Child, L.

Clarice Bean, aspiring actress and author, unsuccessfully tries to avoid getting into trouble as she attempts to help a friend in need by following the rules of the fictional, "exceptionordinarily" spy, Ruby Redfort.

***Comeback of the Home Run Kid.*** Peters, S.

After spraining his ankle before the beginning of the baseball season, Sylvester Coddmyer III meets an ex-ballplayer who offers him a solution to his problem.

***Crossing Bok Chitto : A Choctaw Tale of Friendship & Freedom.*** Tingle, T.

In the 1800s, a Choctaw girl becomes friends with a slave boy from a plantation across the great river, and when she learns that his family is in trouble, she helps them cross to freedom.

***The Dollhouse Murders.*** Wright, B.

A dollhouse filled with a ghostly light in the middle of the night, and dolls that have moved from where she last left them, lead Amy and her mentally handicapped sister to unravel the mystery surrounding grisly murders that took place years ago.

***The Five Lost Aunts of Harriet Bean.*** McCall Smith, A.

When her absent-minded inventor father suddenly remembers that he has five sisters, nine-year-old Harriet Bean, who has never heard of them before, determines to find her unknown aunts so that the unfinished family portrait can be completed.

***Gotcha! Gotcha Back!*** Krulik, N.

When the magic wind turns fourth grader Katie into her friend George, who has been playing practical jokes to liven up their school, she has to figure out how to get him out of trouble and sooth everyone's hurt feelings.

***Help! Somebody Get Me Out of Fourth Grade!*** Winkler, H.

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.

***Heroes of Beesville.*** Wooden, J.

Inch, Miles, Pepper, and Lily have three weeks to finish a group project before Open House, but none of them can agree on what to do.

***Jake Drake, Bully Buster.*** Clements, A.

Jake faces the challenge of cooperating with the school bully on a class project.

***Jake Drake, Know-It-All.*** Clements, A.

Jake strives to win the grand prize for his school's first science fair.

***The Missing Silver Dollar.*** Cirrone, D.

Fourth-grader and local reporter Lindy investigates the whereabouts of a silver dollar that has supposedly gone missing from her young neighbor's bank.

***No Biz Like Show Biz.*** Krulik, N.

The magic wind changes Katie into Miriam, who just landed the role in the school play, and she soon finds herself on stage, trying to sing and remember her lines. Includes directions for making fingerprint doodles.

***The Prince and the Pauper.*** Olmstead, K.

An abridged version of the Mark Twain classic in which young Edward VI of England and a poor boy who resembles him exchange places and each learns something about the other's very different station in life.

***Ramona's World.*** Cleary, B.

Ramona Quimby expects fourth grade to be the best year of her life; and although things do not go just as she had hoped, she still manages to have her share of adventures.

***Scout.*** Miles, E.

Charles and Lizzie Peterson search for a home for Scout, a helpful German shepherd.

***Sideways Stories From Wayside School.*** Sachar, L.

Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story.

***Skinnybones.*** Park, B.

Alex's active sense of humor helps him get along with the school braggart, make the most of his athletic talents, and simply get by in a hectic world.

***Softball for Fun!*** Lockman, D.

Simple text and photographs describe the sport of softball with information on ground rules and scoring, offensive and defensive strategies, softball leagues, the Olympics, and brief profiles of famous players.

***The Toothpaste Millionaire.*** Merrill, J.

Kate MacKinstrey explains how her friend went from being a poor sixth-grader to an eighth-grade millionaire by making a cheaper, better toothpaste--with her help.

***Trouble at the Treasury.*** Roy, R.

A large bundle of money turns up missing at the U.S. Treasury building and KC and Marshall think they know who did it; however, they aren't quite sure how it was done.

***Vote 4 Amelia.*** Moss, M.

Amelia describes the student council election she is participating in, explaining what the student council does, how it works, and why it is important to elect the best people for office.

***What Goes Up Must Come Down.*** Mazer, A.

Abby's vacation in Paris is almost ruined by her squabbling siblings, Eva and Isabel, until they get separated and Abby is free to explore the city on her own.

***The Whipping Boy.*** Fleischman, S.

A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

***Zack Attack.*** King, M. C.

Cody steps in to be Max's partner on the "Go Dance USA" dance contest, but isn't quite sure he is as good as Zack.