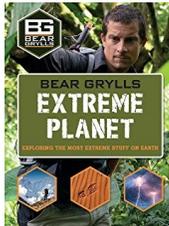
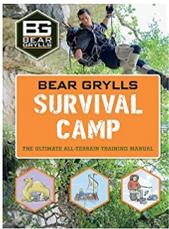




March 2018

Recent books for kids that the Children's Library staff have read & loved & that we think you will too!



Bear Grylls Extreme Planet: Exploring the Most Extreme Stuff on Earth. J 550 Gryll

Bear Grylls Survival Camp: The Ultimate All-terrain Training Manual. J 613.6 Gryll

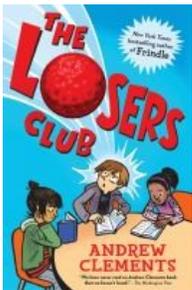
If you like the television show "Running Wild with Bear Grylls" you will be really excited to see these new books that he has written especially for kids. In the book, *Survival Camp*, he explains the best ways to explore and survive in the different environments of our planet -- jungle, desert, forest and mountain, oceans and rivers, and polar regions. He begins the book with a list of essential gear and then goes on to talk about each type of terrain and the best ways to explore each one. Each section begins with an "Explorer's Quest" with some ideas for what to look for or achieve in each environment. Sometimes these are related to things that previous famous explorers have found or even what they might have left behind. Throughout the book he gives lots of great tips and techniques which are easy to see and understand with the great pictures and photos next to the explanations. Grylls shows how to use different tools; find water or food; protect yourself from dangerous animals; and even how to treat injuries that might happen. Both of these books would be really interesting for 3rd grade and older kids.

The Losers Club by Andrew Clements. J Fiction, JCD, eBook, eAudiobook

Sixth grader Alec Spencer loves to read, and prefers a good book to almost anything else. He is one of those kids who doesn't pay attention in class because most of the time he's secretly reading a book under his desk. In the fifth grade he was sent to the principal's office 14 times for reading instead of doing his other work! This year his parents have both gotten new jobs, which means Alec and his little brother Luke are going to have to go to the Extended Day Program after school each day. Alec figures it won't be too bad - he can just find someplace to read. But it turns out that everyone is required to either do active games, report to the Homework Room, or join a club. All Alec wants to do is read, but since that's not an option he comes up with a brilliant alternative. He starts his own club - a club for kids who just want to read and not be bothered. And in another stroke of genius he decides to give his club a name that pretty much guarantees that no one else will want to join. You guessed it: The Losers Club! But oddly enough, as kids slowly begin to find out what goes on at The Losers Club table, more and more of them want to join. Maybe Alec isn't such a loser after all. There are a ton of great books recommended throughout the story and readers in grades 4 and up will enjoy seeing how many they've read - or finding some new favorites!

Refugee by Alan Gratz J Fiction, JCD, eBook, eAudiobook

This is the harrowing story of three different children, spanning three different decades across three different continents and yet they all have much in common. Josef, Isabel and Mahmoud are fleeing

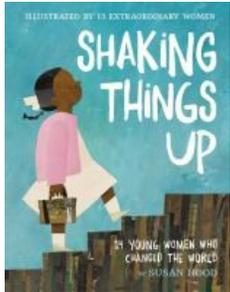


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war torn countries looking for refuge miles away from the only homes they have ever known. Joseph is fleeing Nazi occupied Germany, Isabel is escaping from Cuba where there is little food, and rioting in the streets and Mahmoud is leaving Syria as violence explodes in the streets all around him. Their journeys are long and filled with one horrific obstacle after another. They are all surviving on the love of their families and the hope of a better life in the new land that will take them in. The three stories converge at the end in quite unexpected ways. The Author's Note at the end of the book provides true facts about Germany in 1939, Cuba in 1994 and Syria in 2015 and ways that the reader can help current refugees. This is a wonderful book to read as a family or with a book club. There are many important talking points and conversation starters. Recommended for grades 5 and up.

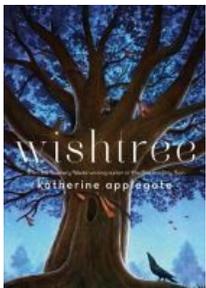


Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World. J 920 Hood/Collective Biography
This is a wonderful new book about 14 inspiring women and girls who “broke down walls to pursue their interests, talents, and rights.” There is one who was only 6 years old when she made a major difference in the American Civil Rights movement. This was Ruby Bridges who, as a young African American girl, was escorted by 4 U.S. Marshalls into an all-white school in New Orleans. This was the beginning of a fight to end segregation in the schools and “little Ruby led the way.” Another girl was 13 year-old Mary Anning who was born in 1799 in a coastal area of England. After her father’s death, her family was penniless. To help support her family, she and her brother would find fossils to sell to tourists. After her brother found a skull of an animal, she ended up finding the complete skeleton of an ichthyosaur, a prehistoric sea reptile. This was an amazing discovery for its time and laid the foundation for the work of Charles Darwin. There are 12 other inspiring accounts and each written description in the book is illustrated by a different woman. People of all ages would be uplifted and energized by reading this book!



Spirit Hunters by Ellen Oh. J Fiction

Harper Raine and her family have just moved into an old house in Baltimore. Harper is happy to get a chance to see her estranged grandmother who lives close by, but she is also upset and unsure about moving away from New York City. Right away Harper notices strange things happening in the house, especially in her brother Michael's room, which is strangely cold even though the house has no air conditioning. Her parents are busy and her older sister Kelly is constantly studying for the SATs. Harper doesn't know what to do when her brother begins acting strange and angry - very unlike his usual cheerful self. One day Harper takes a bike ride around her new neighborhood to get the lay of the land and so she can have a break from her eerie house. Fortunately, she meets a true friend who welcomes into her home, and believes everything Harper has to say about her house. Will Harper and her new friend unravel the mystery that is engulfing Harper's family? This book is not for the faint-hearted. The house in the story is full of ghosts, mystery and strange experiments that took place a century ago. Kids who love ghosts stories will love this book and it is best for ages 9-12.



Wishtree by Katherine Applegate. J Fiction, JCD, eBook, eAudiobook

Red is a tree. An oak tree who is over 200 years old. And Red has a secret - trees can talk! To animals and to humans, although they mostly never do. Another special thing about Red is that Red is a wishtree. Once a year in the spring, the local residents make wishes and write them on a piece of cloth or paper and tie them to Red's branches. Legend has it that a wish on the tree will come true. But this year things are a bit out of sorts in the neighborhood. A Muslim family has moved in to one of the two little houses in Red's yard, and not everyone is welcoming. After someone carves "leave" into Red's trunk, resulting in some negative press, the landlady decides that this tree is too much trouble. The roots are getting entwined with the water lines and causing the yard to flood, and she's tired of the crowds and the mess on wishing day. With Red's fate on the line, the children living in the two houses, Samer and Stephen, who up until now haven't had much to say to one another, must work together to convince the landlady that the wishtree must stay. This thoughtful and original story is recommended for readers in grades 4 and up, and would make a great read aloud as well.