

Great Adventure Books at the Pleasanton Public Library

Compiled by the Pleasanton Library Children's Staff

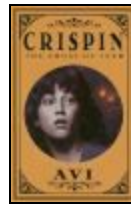


Books are shelved in **Children's Fiction** by author's last name and/or **Children's Paperbacks** by first letter of author's last name (unless otherwise noted).

Please ask at the Children's Desk if you need help.

Heaven Eyes by David Almond
 Grades 4-7 (233 p)
 Having escaped from their orphanage on a raft, Erin, January, and Mouse float down into another world of abandoned warehouses and factories, meeting a strange old man and an even stranger girl with webbed fingers and little memory of her past.

Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi
 Grades 5-8 (262 p) *Audiobook available*
Sequel: Crispin at the Edge of the World
 Falsely accused of theft and murder, an orphaned peasant boy in fourteenth-century England flees his village and meets a larger-than-life juggler who holds a dangerous secret.



The Door to Time by Pierdomenico Baccalario
 Grades 4-6 (222 p) *Ulysses Moore series*
 After moving from London to an old mansion on the English coast, eleven-year-old twins Jason and Julia discover that their new home has twisting tunnels, strange artifacts from around the world, and a mysterious, locked door.

Tracking Triple Seven by Jamie Bastedo
 Grades 5-7 (215 p)
 Benji, a city slicker kid, who joins a team of biologists using cutting-edge technology with good bush wisdom in a death-defying search for the real grizzly bear of the Northwest Territories.

Shakespeare Stealer by Gary L. Blackwood
 Grades 5-8 (216 p) *Audiobook available*
Shakespeare Stealer series
 A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

A Week in the Woods by Andrew Clements
 Grades 4-6 (190 p)
 The fifth grade's annual camping trip in the woods tests Mark's survival skills and his ability to relate to a teacher who seems out to get him.



The Misadventures of Maude March
 by Audrey Coulombis
 Grades 4-7 (295 p) *Audiobook available*
Sequel: Maude March on the Run
 After the death of the stern aunt who raised them since they were orphaned, eleven-year-old Sallie and her fifteen-year-old sister escape their self-serving guardians and begin a wild west adventure resembling those in the dime novels Sallie loves to read.



Ruby Holler by Sharon Creech
 Grades 4-7 (310 p) *Audiobook available*
 Thirteen-year-old fraternal twins, Dallas and Florida, have grown up in a terrible orphanage but their lives change forever when an eccentric but sweet older couple invites them each on an adventure, beginning in an almost magical place called Ruby Holler.

The Twenty-One Balloons by William Pène Du Bois
 Grades 5-8 (179 p)
 The incredible adventures are related of Professor William Waterman Sherman who in 1883 sets off in a balloon across the Pacific, survives the volcanic eruption of Krakatoa, and is eventually picked up in the Atlantic.



Wilderness Peril by Thomas J. Dygard
 Grades 7-8 (194 p)
 Two teenage boys camping in the Minnesota woods encounter a desperate airplane hijacker attempting to escape with three-quarters of a million dollars.

I am the Ice Worm by Maryann Easley
 Grades 5-8 (127 p)
 When the plane carrying her to visit her mother crashes above the Arctic Circle, fourteen-year-old Allison Atwood is rescued by an Inupiat man who takes her back to his village, where she slowly comes to admire their very different way of life.

A Girl Named Disaster by Nancy Farmer
 Grades 6-8 (309 p)
 While journeying to Zimbabwe, eleven-year-old Nhamo struggles to escape drowning and starvation and in so doing comes close to the luminous world of the African spirits.

The Giant Rat of Sumatra by Sid Fleischman
 Grades 5-8 (194 p)
 A cabin boy on a pirate ship finds himself in San Diego in 1846 as war breaks out between the United States and Mexico. After being plucked from the sea by the most notorious pirate in the Pacific, he discovers his adventure is only beginning.



The Whipping Boy by Sid Fleischman
 Grades 4-7 (90 p) *Audiobook available*
 A bratty prince and his whipping boy have many adventures when they inadvertently trade places after becoming involved with dangerous outlaws.

The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke
 Grades 5-8 (349 p) *Audiobook available*
 Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter and protection from Venice's "Thief Lord."

Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George
 Grades 5-8 (170 p) *Audiobook available*
Julie series
 While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a thirteen-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack.



Tree Castle Island by Jean Craighead George
 Grades 4-7 (242 p) *Audiobook available*
 After building his own canoe, fourteen-year-old Jack Hawkins goes to try it out in his beloved Okefenokee Swamp, where an accident tests his survival skills and leads him to a shocking discovery.

Getting Air by Dan Gutman
 Grades 5-8 (232 p)
 After foiling a terrorist hijacking aboard their airplane, fourteen-year-old Jimmy, his younger sister, and two skateboarding friends crash-land the plane and try to survive in a forest wilderness until help arrives.



SilverFin: A James Bond Adventure by Charles Higson
 Grades 6-9 (335 p) *Audiobook available*
Young Bond series
 This prequel to the adventures of James Bond, 007, introduces us to the young James when he's just started boarding school in England and is about to become involved in his first adventure.



Jason's Gold by Will Hobbs
 Grades 5-8 (221 p)
 When news of the discovery of gold in Canada's Yukon Territory in 1897 reaches fifteen-year-old Jason, he embarks on a 10,000-mile journey to strike it rich.



Wild Man Island by Will Hobbs
 Grades 5-8 (184 p) *Audiobook available*
 After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he manages to survive, encounters unexpected animal and human inhabitants, and looks for traces of the earliest prehistoric immigrants to America.

Slake's Limbo by Felice Holman
 Grades 4-6 (117 p) *Audiobook available*
 Thirteen year-old Areemis Slake, hounded by his fears and misfortunes, flees them by entering into New York City's subway tunnels, never again--he believes--to emerge.



Popular Adventure Series

Dive by Gordon Korman
 J Paperbacks "K"

Everest by Gordon Korman
 J Paperbacks "K"

Island by Gordon Korman
 J Paperbacks "K"

Kidnapped by Gordon Korman
 J Paperbacks "K"

National Parks Mysteries by Gloria Skurzynski
 J Paperbacks "N"

On the Run by Gordon Korman
 J Paperbacks "O"

Pleasanton Public Library
 Children's Services
 400 Old Bernal Ave.
 Pleasanton, California 94566

(925) 931-3400

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.



***Into the Firestorm:*
*A Novel of San Francisco, 1906***

by Deborah Hopkinson
Grades 5-8 (200 p)
Days after arriving in San Francisco from Texas, eleven-year-old orphan Nicholas Dray tries to help his new neighbors survive the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the subsequent fires.

The Devil and His Boy by Anthony Horowitz
Grades 5-7 (182 p)
In 1593, thirteen-year-old Tom travels through the English countryside to London, where he falls in with a troupe of actors and finds himself in great danger from several sources.

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz
Grades 5-8 (326 p) *Audiobook available*
Alex Rider series
After the death of his uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced to continue his dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, M16.



Skulduggery by Kathleen Karr
Grades 5-8 (227 p)
In 1839, twelve-year-old Matthew's job as assistant to the phrenologist Dr. Cornwall takes him up and down the Eastern Seaboard and to Europe, as they rob graves and try to find out who is following them and why.

Earthquake Terror by Peg Kehret
Grades 4-6 (132 p)
When an earthquake hits the isolated island in northern California where his family had been camping, twelve-year-old Jonathan Palmer must find a way to keep himself, his partially paralyzed younger sister, and their dog alive until help arrives.

Alabama Moon by Watt Key
Grades 5-8 (294 p) *Audiobook available*
After the death of his father, ten year-year-old Moon leaves their forest shelter home and is sent to an Alabama institution, becoming entangled in the outside world he has never known and making good friends, a relentless enemy, and finally a new life.

The Wreckers by Iain Lawrence
Grades 5-8 (196p) *Audiobook available*
High Seas trilogy
Shipwrecked after a vicious storm, fourteen-year-old John Spencer attempts to save his father and himself while also dealing with an evil secret about the English coastal town where they are stranded.

Black Duck by Janet Taylor Lisle
Grades 5-8 (252 p) *Audiobook available*
Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum-smuggling trade.

The Killing Sea by Richard Lewis
Grades 6-9 (183 p)
In the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami in Sumatra, two teenagers, American Sarah and Acehnese Ruslan, meet and continue together their arduous climb inland, where Ruslan hopes to find his father and Sarah seeks a doctor for her brother.



Shackleton's Stowaway by Victoria McKernan
Grades 5-9 (317 p)
A fictionalized account of the adventures of eighteen-year-old Perce Blackborow, who stowed away for the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition and, after their ship Endurance was crushed by ice, endured many hardships, including the loss of the toes of his left foot to frostbite, during the nearly two-year return journey across sea and ice.

Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary "Jacky" Faber, Ship's Boy
By L. A. Meyer
Grades 7-9 (278 p) *Bloody Jack Adventure series*
Reduced to begging and thievery in the streets of London, a thirteen-year-old orphan disguises herself as a boy and connives her way onto a British warship set for high sea adventure in search of pirates.



Stranded by Ben Mikaelson
Grades 4-6 (247 p) *Audiobook available*
Twelve-year-old Koby, who has lost a foot in an accident, sees a chance to prove her self-reliance to her parents when she tries to rescue two stranded pilot whales near her home in the Florida Keys.

The Fear Place by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
Grades 4-7 (118 p) *Audiobook available*
When he and his older brother Gordon are left camping alone in the Rocky Mountains, twelve-year-old Doug faces his fear of heights and his feelings about Gordon — with the help of a cougar.

Adaline Falling Star by Mary Pope Osborne
Grades 4-7 (170 p)
Feeling abandoned by her deceased Arapaho mother and her explorer father, Adaline Falling Star runs away from the prejudiced cousins with whom she is staying and comes close to death in the wilderness, with only a mongrel dog for company.



Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Grades 6-8 (142 p) *Audiobook available*
Brian series
After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends fifty-four days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents' divorce.

White Water by P.J. Petersen
Grades 4-7 (107 p)
Greg confronts his own fears and assumes a leadership role when his father is bitten by a rattlesnake during a white-water rafting trip.

Pirates! By Celia Rees
Grades 6-9 (379 p) *Audiobook available*
In 1722, after arriving with her brother at the family's Jamaican plantation where she is to be married off, sixteen-year-old Nancy Kington escapes with her slave friend, Minerva Sharpe, and together they become pirates traveling the world in search of treasure.



Blind Mountain by Jane Resh
Grades 4-7 (117 p)
Unsure of himself and annoyed at having to spend a day climbing a Montana mountain with his bossy father, twelve-year old Sam must become the guide on their perilous journey down when his carelessness temporarily blinds his father.

Holes by Louis Sachar
Grades 5-8 (233 p) *Audiobook available*
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.

Night of the Howling Dogs by Graham Salisbury
Grades 5-9 (191p)
In 1975, eleven Boy Scouts, their leaders, and some new friends camping at Halape, Hawaii, find their survival skills put to the test when a massive earthquake strikes, followed by a tsunami.



Sea Legs by Alex Shearer
Grades 4-6 (309 p)
Twin brothers Eric and Clive are ready for adventure on the high seas, so instead of staying with their grandparents yet again, they stow away on the cruise ship on which their father serves as senior steward.

The Trap by John Smelcer
Grades 6-9 (170 p)
In alternating chapters, seventeen-year-old Johnny Least-Weasel, who is better known for brains than brawn, worries about his missing grandfather, and the grandfather, Albert Least-Weasel, struggles to survive, caught in his own steel trap in the Alaskan winter.

Peak by Roland Smith
Grades 6-9 (246 p)
To avoid juvenile detention, Peak Marcello is sent to live with his father, whose renewed interest in him has strings attached. He wants Peak to be the youngest person to reach the Everest summit—a challenge that could cost him his life.



Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli
Grades 6-9 (184 p) *Audiobook available*
After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.

Rowan Hood: Outlaw Girl of Sherwood Forest
by Nancy Springer
Grades 5-7 (170 p) *Audiobook available*
Rowan Hood series
In her quest to connect with Robin Hood, the father she has never met, thirteen-year-old Rosemary disguises herself as a boy, befriends a half-wolf, half-dog, a runaway princess, and an overgrown boy whose singing is hypnotic, and makes peace with her elfin heritage.

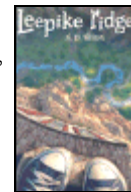
Thief of Dreams by Todd Strasser
Grades 5-8 (160 p)
Thirteen-year-old Martin's parents are always too busy making money to pay much attention to him, so he enjoys the attention he gets from his Uncle Lawrence, until he discovers that his uncle has a secret life.



The Cay by Theodore Taylor
Grades 5-9 (137 pages) *Audiobook available*
Sequel: Timothy of the Cay
When the freighter on which they are traveling is torpedoed by a German submarine during World War II, an adolescent white boy, blinded by a blow on the head, and an old black man are stranded on a tiny Caribbean island where the boy acquires a new kind of vision, courage, and love from his old companion.

The Thief by Megan Whalen
Grades 6-8 (219 pages) *Queens's Thief series*
Gen flaunts his ingenuity as a thief and relishes the adventure which takes him to a remote temple of the gods where he will attempt to steal a precious stone.

Leepike Ridge by Nathan D. Wilson
Grades 4-8 (224 pages)
While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.



Swiss Family Robinson
by Johann David Wyss
Grades 5-8 (377 p)
Relates the fortunes of a shipwrecked family as they imaginatively adapt to life on an island abundantly inhabited by animal and plant life.

Rogues by Jane Yolen and Robert J. Harris
Grades 7-9 (234 p) *Scottish Quartet*
After his family is evicted from their Scottish farm, fifteen-year-old Roddy forms an unlikely friendship with a notorious rogue who helps him outwit a tyrant landlord in order to find a family treasure and make his way to America.

Adventure Fiction for Younger Readers

Jumanji by Chris Van Allsburg
Grades 3-4 (31 p) Children's Moving Up Van Allsburg
Also available in Spanish
Left on their own for an afternoon, two bored and restless children find more excitement than they bargained for in a mysterious and mystical jungle adventure board game.

Amazon River Rescue by Amanda Lumry
Grades K-3 (32 p) Children's Picture Books "L"
Adventures of Riley series
Nine-year-old Riley visits a rainforest in Brazil near the Amazon River while his scientist uncle is on assignment there.



Afternoon on the Amazon by Mary Pope Osborne
Grades 2-3 (67 p) Children's Moving Up Osborne
Magic Tree House series
Eight-year-old Jack, his seven-year-old sister, Annie, and Peanut the mouse ride in a tree house to the Amazon rain forests, where they encounter giant ants, flesh-eating piranhas, hungry crocodiles, and wild jaguars.

Kaya's Escape by Janet Shaw
Grades 2-4 (63 p) Children's Moving Up Shaw
The American Girls Collection series
In the fall of 1764, after Kaya and her sister are kidnapped from their Nez Percé village by enemy horse raiders, she tries to find a way to escape back home.

Akimbo and the Elephants by Alexander McCall Smith
Grades 3-4 (68 p) J Fiction McCall Smith
Audiobook available — Akimbo series
On the African game preserve where his father works, Akimbo devises a dangerous plan to capture a ring of elephant poachers.

