HAISLN RECOMMENDED READING LIST 2019
Grade 3 and Grade 4

Any available unabridged edition of a title is acceptable.


Applegate, Katherine.  *Endling: The Last.* Harper, 2018. Byx, believed to be the last dairne, goes on a quest to search for more of her species and is joined by various allies as they uncover many secrets in this exciting series opener.  *Series*

Arnold, Elana K.  *A Boy Called Bat.* Walden Pond Press, 2017. When his veterinarian mom brings home a stray baby skunk that needs rehabilitation before it can be placed in a wild animal shelter, Bat, who has autism, resolves to prove that he is up to the challenge of caring for the skunk permanently.

Aston, Dianna Hutts.  *A Beetle Is Shy.* Chronicle Books, 2016. From flea beetles to bombardier beetles, an incredible variety of these beloved bugs are showcased in this carefully researched, visually striking book that is poetic in voice and elegant in design, perfect for sparking children’s imaginations.


Becker, Helaine.  *Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13.* Holt, 2018. From Katherine’s early beginnings as a gifted student to her heroic accomplishments as a prominent mathematician at NASA, this is the story of a groundbreaking American woman who not only calculated the course of moon landings but, in turn, saved lives and made enormous contributions to history.

Boothby, Ian.  *Sparks!* Graphix, 2018. Two cats, August and Charlie, wear a dog suit and attempt to save humans while their arch nemesis, Princess, tries to conquer the world.  *Graphic novel*

Brown, Jeffrey.  *Lucy and Andy Neanderthal.* Crown, 2016. Lucy and her brother Andy, two Neanderthal siblings living 40,000 years ago, take on a wandering baby sibling, bossy teens, cave paintings and a mammoth hunt, but the real adventure begins when they encounter a group of humans.  *Series*

Bryan, Ashley.  *Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life.* Atheneum, 2016. Using original slave auction and plantation estate documents and his own bold and vivid illustrations, the author creatively contrasts the monetary value of a slave with the priceless value of life experiences and dreams that a slave owner could never take away.
Cleary, Beverly. *Beezus and Ramona*. HarperTrophy, 2006. Four-year old Ramona has an imagination that makes her a menace to everyone around her, particularly her older sister, Beezus. *Series*

Clements, Andrew. *The Losers Club*. Random House, 2017. Alec, a sixth grade bookworm always in trouble for reading instead of listening and participating in class, starts a book club solely to have a place to read and discovers that real life, although messy, can be as exciting as the stories in his favorite books.


Creech, Susan. *Saving Winslow*. HarperCollins, 2018. When Louis’ dad brings home a scrawny and sickly newborn donkey, their connection is instant; while the adults around him say that Winslow might not survive, Louis finds the faith and courage to believe in his donkey and himself.


Davies, Jacqueline. *The Lemonade War*. Houghton Mifflin, 2007. Evan and his younger sister, Jessie, react very differently to the news that they will be in the same class for fourth grade, and as the end of summer approaches, they battle it out through lemonade stands, each trying to be the first to earn 100 dollars. *Series*

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *Grandma and the Great Gourd: A Bengali Folk Tale*. Roaring Brook, 2013. On her way to visit her daughter on the other side of the jungle, Grandma encounters a hungry fox, bear, and tiger, and although she convinces them to wait for her return trip, she still must find a way to outwit them all.


Eszterhas, Suzi. *Sea Otter Rescue.* Owkids, 2016. A visit to the Alaska SeaLife Center explores, through engaging text and striking photography, how sea otters have become orphaned or hurt by a range of threats and how the dedicated teams at the clinic help them heal and rehabilitate.

Fleming, Candace. *Ben Franklin’s in My Bathroom.* Schwartz & Wade, 2017. When ten-year-old Nolan and his little sister, Olive, find Ben Franklin in their kitchen, they do their best to guide Ben through the new world he helped form. *Series*


Florence, Debbi Michiko. *Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen.* Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017. Eager to do something her big sister has not done first, Jasmine Toguchi, eight, decides to pound mochi with the men and boys when her family gets together for New Year’s. *Series*

Gibbs, Stuart. *Spaced Out.* Simon & Schuster, 2016. In 2041 twelve-year-old Dashiell Gibson is a resident of Moon Base Alpha, and at the moment he is faced with a number of problems: coping with the nasty Sjoberg twins, finding out how the commander of the base has managed to disappear from a facility no bigger than a soccer field, and dealing with the alien Zan who communicates with him telepathically from afar--and who is hiding a secret which may threaten the whole Earth. *Series*


Graff, Lisa. *The Thing About Georgie.* HarperTrophy, 2008. Georgie's dwarfism causes problems, but he could always rely on his parents, his best friend, and classmate Jeanie the Meanie's teasing, until a surprising announcement, a new boy in school, and a class project shake things up.

Gratz, Alan. *Ban This Book.* Tom Doherty, 2017. Amy Anne, who never gets in trouble, finds herself in the battle of a lifetime when a concerned parent in her school has her favorite book taken off the library shelf.

Griffiths, Andy. *The 13-Story Treehouse.* Feiwel and Friends, 2013. Under pressure by their publisher to finish their next book, two young authors graphically describe all the extraordinary distractions they face living in their 13-story treehouse. *Series*


Halls, Kelly Milner. *Saving the Baghdad Zoo: A True Story of Hope and Heroes*. Greenwillow, 2010. This photo-illustrated book tells the poignant stories of abandoned lions who roamed an empty palace with no food or drink; the camel, Lumpy, who survived transport through sniper fire; the tigers, Riley and Hope, who traveled 7,000 miles from home; and shares first-hand accounts of how the United States soldiers and volunteers saved the animals of the Baghdad Zoo.


Harris, Chris. *I’m Just No Good at Rhyming and Other Nonsense for Mischievous Kids and Immature Grown-ups*. Little, Brown, 2017. In the vein of Shel Silverstein, this collection of poems is filled with humor, nonsensical language, rhyme, wordplay, and even codes to crack.

Henry, Marguerite. *Misty of Chincoteague*. Aladdin, 1947. Paul’s and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.

Holub, Joan. *Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom*. Aladdin, 2012. When ten-year-old Zeus is kidnapped, he discovers he can defend himself with a magic thunderbolt. *Series*

Humphrey, Anna. *Megabat*. Tundra Books, 2018. When Daniel moves into a new house in a new town, he thinks it might be haunted, but he is surprised to find a new friend who happens to be a fruit bat in need of some help to make the long journey back home. *Series*


Johannes, Shelley. *Beatrice Zinker, Upside Down Thinker*. Disney-Hyperion, 2017. When third grade begins, Beatrice fears she is losing her best friend, so she uses her topsy-turvy ways of thinking to get things looking up. *Series*

Lamothe, Matt. *This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from Around the World.* Chronicle Books, 2017. An illustrated take on how seven real kids from different countries go about a typical day.

MacLachlan, Patricia *The Truth of Me: About a Boy, His Grandmother, and a Very Good Dog.* Katherine Tegen, 2013. Robbie and his dog, Ellie, spend the summer at his grandmother Maddy’s house, where Robbie learns many things about his emotionally distant parents and himself.


McMullan, Kate. *Have a Hot Time, Hades!* Stone Arch Books, 2012. In this story with a modern twist, Hades tells his own version of how he became King of the Underworld and Zeus became King of the Gods. Series

McNamara, Margaret. *The Dinosaur Expert.* Schwartz & Wade, 2018. When a classmate tells Kimmy, who dreams of being a paleontologist, that “girls aren’t scientists,” their teacher Mr. Tiffin teaches them otherwise.

Messner, Kate. *Rescue on the Oregon Trail.* Scholastic, 2015. Ranger, a golden retriever, could have been a great search-and-rescue dog except for the squirrels, but one day he unearths a mysterious box and finds himself transported back to the year 1850, where his faithful service is really needed by a family traveling west along the Oregon Trail. Series


Nolan, Janet. *Seven and a Half Tons of Steel.* Peachtree, 2016. This powerful story reveals how seven and a half tons of steel that had once been a beam in the World Trade Center became a navy ship’s bow showing how something remarkable can emerge from a devastating event.

Patent, Dorothy Hinshaw. *Dogs on Duty: Soldiers’ Best Friends on the Battlefield and Beyond.* Walker, 2012. Explains the many ways that dogs are used in the military and describes how they are cared for and trained.

Patterson, James. *Jacky Ha-Ha.* Little, Brown, 2016. Twelve-year-old Jacky “Ha-Ha” Hart is a class clown with a penchant for pranking—and when she’s required to act in the school play to appease her frustrated teachers, she must conquer her stutter. Series
Pearson, Luke. **Hilda and the Stone Forest.** Nobrow, 2016. Hilda is hardly at home anymore, seeking days filled with excitement, and her mother can't help but worry... In a moment of tension, the pair find themselves flung far away into a mysterious, dark forest--the land of the trolls! Can they work together to escape the clutches of these sinister stone creatures? *Graphic novel series*

Phelan, Matt. **Knights vs. Dinosaurs.** Greenwillow, 2018. Merlin sends the Knights of the Round Table on their most exciting and dangerous quest to date -- to face dinosaurs! *Series*

Pipe, Jim. **You Wouldn't Want to Be Cleopatra! : An Egyptian Ruler You'd Rather Not Be.** Franklin Watts, 2017. Humorous illustrations and facts combine to provide a portrait of what life might be like as Cleopatra in Ancient Egypt. *Series*

Pizzoli, Greg. **The Quest For Z: The True Story of Explorer Percy Fawcett and a Lost City in the Amazon.** Viking, 2017. The true story of the British explorer Percy Fawcett, an adventurer who set out on a doomed expedition to find a lost city in the Amazon jungle.

Probst, Jeff, and Chris Tebbetts. **Stranded.** Puffin, 2013. Jane, Buzz, Carter, and Vanessa, ages nine to thirteen, are on a sailing trip in the South Pacific intended to help them bond in their newly-blended family when a massive storm strands them on a deserted island. *Series*


Robinson, Sharon. **The Hero Two Doors Down: Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend.** Scholastic, 2017. Eight-year-old Steve Satlow is thrilled when Jackie Robinson moves into his Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn in 1948, although many of his neighbors are not, and when Steve actually meets his hero he is even more excited--and worried that a misunderstanding over a Christmas tree could damage his new friendship.

Rockliff, Mara. **Anything But Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Herrmann, Queen of Magic.** Candlewick, 2016. Traces the story of dancer-turned-magician's assistant Adelaide Herrmann, placing her achievements against a backdrop of period conventions about women in the arts and her determination to continue her work after the death of her husband.

Ruurs, Margriet. **The Elephant Keeper: Caring for Orphaned Elephants in Zambia.** Kids Can Press, 2017. Documents the story of a devoted advocate for elephant conservation who, as a child in Zambia, rescued a baby elephant and reevaluated his beliefs about elephants as violent predators while visiting a wildlife sanctuary.
Sachar, Louis. *Sideways Stories from Wayside School.* HarperTrophy. Originally published in 1978. Humorous episodes from the classroom on the thirtieth floor of Wayside School, which was accidentally built sideways with one classroom on each story. *Series*

Scroggs, Kirk. *Snoop Troop: It Came from Beneath the Playground.* Little, Brown, 2014. Fifth-grade private eyes Logan and Gustavo use their doodling and detective skills to solve the mystery of a group of moles that have stolen the amusement park merry-go-round. *Series*

Shurtliff, Liesl. *Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin.* Alfred A. Knopf, 2013. Relates the tale of Rumpelstiltskin's childhood and youth, explaining why his name is so important, how he is able to spin straw into gold, and why a first-born child is his reward for helping the miller's daughter-turned-queen.


Stanley, Diane. *Ada Lovelace, Poet of Science: The First Computer Programmer.* Simon & Schuster, 2016. This is the story of how an important but little-known woman – a brilliant scientist and mathematician - envisioned the computer-driven world we know today.

Sternberg, Julie. *Like Pickle Juice on a Cookie.* Amulet Books, 2011. When nine-year-old Eleanor's beloved babysitter Bibi moves away to care for her ailing father, Eleanor must spend the summer adjusting to a new babysitter while mourning the loss of her old one. *Series*

Stone, Tanya Lee. *Pass Go and Collect $200: The Real Story of How Monopoly Was Invented.* Holt, 2018. This exciting nonfiction picture book tells the bold and fascinating story behind one of the world’s most beloved board games.

Tarshis, Lauren. *I Survived the Hindenburg Disaster, 1937.* Scholastic, 2016. Eleven year-old Hugo, his parents, and his sister Gertie are making the thrilling four thousand mile journey across the Atlantic in a zeppelin as big as the Titanic when disaster strikes and fire consumes the ship. *Series*


Turnage, Sheila. *Three Times Lucky*. Dial Books, 2012. Washed ashore as a baby in tiny Tupelo Landing, North Carolina, Mo LoBeau, now eleven, and her best friend Dale turn detective when the amnesiac Colonel, owner of a café and co-parent of Mo with the café’s hostess, Miss Lana, seems implicated in a murder. Series


Vande Velde, Vivian. *Three Good Deeds*. Houghton Mifflin, 2005. Caught stealing some goose eggs from a witch, Howard is cursed for his heartlessness and turned into a goose himself, and he can only become human again by performing three good deeds.


Walker, Sally M. *Earth Verse: Haiku from the Ground Up*. Candlewick, 2018. A collection of haiku poems that celebrates the planet Earth, including such topics as rocks, earthquakes, fossils, volcanoes and the water cycle. Factual information about each topic is included.

Walker, Sally M. *Winnie: The True Story of the Bear Who Inspired Winnie-the-Pooh*. Holt, 2015. This is the true story of a bear named Winnie who was left behind at the London Zoo while her keeper went away fighting in World War I and becomes the inspiration for the fictional character Winnie-the-Pooh.

Weeks, Sarah, and Gita Varadarajan. *Save Me a Seat*. Scholastic, 2016. Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class. Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems. When their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade, they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.
Winick, Judd. *Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth.* Random House, 2016. When a mysterious boy falls from the sky, friends D.J. and Gina must discover the secrets of his identity and help him save the world. *Series*

Winter, Jonah. *Lillian's Right to Vote: A Celebration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.* Schwartz & Wade, 2015. As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of the courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then remembers the long fight that led to her right--and determination--to cast her ballot since the Voting Rights Act gave every American the right to vote.

Woods, Brenda. *Zoe in Wonderland.* Nancy Paulsen, 2016. Because Zoe has such an active imagination, she does not think that her real life will ever be as interesting as her make-believe life.

Yep, Laurence. *A Dragon’s Guide to the Care and Feeding of Humans.* Crown, 2015. Feisty dragon Miss Drake's new pet human, precocious ten-year-old Winnie, not only thinks Miss Drake is her pet, she accidentally brings to life her "sketchlings" of mysterious and fantastic creatures hidden in San Francisco, causing mayhem among its residents. *Series*
All book summaries are provided by the publisher or written by committee members.

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