# Reluctant Readers

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EASY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>470L</td>
<td>Adler, David A. <em>Don’t Throw it to Mo!</em> New York: Penguin Young Readers, 2015. Mo is the youngest kid on the Robins football team. The kids on the rival team tease him for being a 'butterfingers' who's too tiny to catch the ball. But Mo's coach has a plan up his sleeve to turn Mo's little size into a big win for the Robins.</td>
<td>E AD59D</td>
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<tr>
<td>670L</td>
<td>Atinuke. <em>Anna Hibiscus</em>. Tulsa, OK: Kane Miller, 2007. Anna Hibiscus, who lives in Africa with her whole family, loves to splash in the sea and have parties for her aunties, but Anna would love to see snow.</td>
<td>F AT48A01</td>
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<tr>
<td>AD390L</td>
<td>Bruel, Nick. <em>Bad Kitty</em>. New Milford, CT: Roaring Brook Press, 2007. When a kitty discovers there is no cat food in the house, she decides to become very, very bad.</td>
<td>E B832BA</td>
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A young worm discovers, day by day, that there are some very good and some not so good things about being a worm in this great big world.

One day, Duncan is happily coloring with his crayons when a stack of postcards arrives in the mail from his former crayons, each of which has run away or been left behind, and all of which want to come home.

Two roller-skating best friends—one tiny, one tall—share three comical adventures involving outrageously bright socks, an impromptu trek to the Andes, and a most unlikely marvelous companion.

When her parents find a baby wolf on their doorstep and decide to raise him as their own, Dot is certain he will eat them all up until a surprising encounter with a bear brings them closer together.

Stick and Stone are both lonely until Pinecone's teasing causes one to stick up for the other, and a solid friendship is formed.

If the crayons cannot stop the scribble monster, this picture book and the play “Frankencrayon” may have to be canceled.

Two mice meet their new neighbor and discover that she is not as scary as they feared.
Two fuzzy creatures can't agree on who is small and who is big, until a couple of surprise guests show up, settling it once and for all!

In this story a little fish thinks he can get away with stealing a hat. A tiny minnow wearing a pale blue bowler hat has a thing or two up his fins in this underwater light-on-dark chase scene.

By not covering his mouth or washing his hands, Simon spreads his cold to his teacher and classmates, much to the delight of three germs named Virus, Protozoa, and Bacteria.

When Cow gets her hooves on the farmer's car, she takes it for a wild ride through the country.

Pete the cat loves the buttons on his shirt so much that he makes up a song about them, and even as the buttons pop off, one by one, he still finds a reason to sing.

An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree.

In this book with no pictures, the reader has to say every silly word, no matter what.
To an imaginative bunny, a box is not always just a box.

Owl takes drastic measures to have a good night's sleep.

It's the first day of school at Frederick Douglass Elementary and everyone's just a little bit nervous, especially the school itself. What will the children do once they come? Will they like the school? Will they be nice to him? The school has a rough start, but as the day goes on, he soon recovers when he sees that he's not the only one going through first-day jitters.

When the city is hit by a colossal snowstorm, only one superhero can save the day. But who is this mysterious hero, and why does he disappear once his job is done?

The Big Bad Wolf, who claims to be a vegetarian, tells his side of the story of Little Red Riding Hood and her granny.
Little Red Chicken wants Papa to read her a bedtime story, but interrupts him almost as soon as he begins each tale.

Instructs the reader on how to interact with the illustrations to create imaginative images.

A little girl pleads her innocence from her time-out chair by contrasting her behavior with that of wild and ferocious animals.

In simple, rhythmic prose and stylized pictures, a cat walks through the world, and all the other creatures see and acknowledge the cat.

No matter how hard he pleads and begs, the pigeon is not supposed to drive the bus while the driver is away, but pigeon tries every persuasive trick a young child knows to get you to say, "Yes."

A trip to the laundromat leads to a momentous occasion when Trixie, too young to speak words, realizes that something important is missing and struggles to explain the problem to her father.
FICTION

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

When strange and seemingly unrelated events start to happen and a precious Vermeer painting disappears, eleven-year-olds Petra and Calder combine their talents to solve an international art scandal.

Peter finds his demanding two-year-old brother an ever increasing problem.

Orphans Sabrina and Daphne Grimm are sent to live with an eccentric grandmother that they have always believed to be dead.

Lupe, Flapjack, Elirio customize their car into a low rider for the Universal Car Competition to win the cash prize that will enable them to buy their own garage.

When he decides to turn his fifth grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

The adventures of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious
rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

Considered by many to be mentally retarded, a brilliant, impatient fifth-grader with cerebral palsy discovers a technological device that will allow her to speak for the first time.

Seven-year-old Billy Miller starts second grade with a bump on his head and a lot of worries, but by the end of the year he has developed good relationships with his teacher, his little sister, and his parents and learned many important lessons.

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.

Ally's greatest fear is that everyone will find out she is as dumb as they think she is because she still doesn't know how to read.

Due to an administrative mix-up, troublemaker Donovan Curtis is sent to the Academy of Scholastic Distinction, a special program for gifted and talented students, after pulling a major prank at middle school.

Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan, which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student.

While sorting through difficulties in her friendship with her neighbor Margaret, eight-year-old Clementine gains several unique hairstyles while also helping her father in his efforts to banish pigeons from the front of their apartment building.


After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.


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


Horrid Henry causes his brother Perfect Peter all sorts of problems when he behaves properly for a change, upstages Peter at a dance recital, plays pirates, and goes on a camping trip.


After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that the distant relative who is appointed their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune. Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire are intelligent children. They are charming, and resourceful, and have pleasant facial features. Unfortunately, they are exceptionally unlucky.


After his parents die, Jeffrey Lionel Magee's life becomes legendary, as he accomplishes athletic and other feats which awe his contemporaries.
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The fascinating files of Robert Ripley prove there's nothing stranger than the truth. This bestselling annual edition is back and contains more creepy facts and crazy feats than ever before.

From the author of the New York Times-bestselling I Survived series come five harrowing true stories of survival, featuring real kids in the midst of epic disasters. From a group of students surviving the 9.0 earthquake that set off a historic tsunami in Japan, to a boy nearly frozen on the prairie in 1888, these unforgettable kids lived to tell tales of unimaginable destruction -- and, against all odds, survival.

Learn what it was like to travel on the transcontinental railroad in the 1860s.

Discover hundreds of animals, great and small. Lion and lizard, whale and wombat. Learn one wild fact about each animal. (Did you know that gorillas yawn when they are nervous?) Look carefully, because for each letter of the alphabet, one animal is pictured eight times. Why 8? Come inside and find out.

Sloth and Sengi are friends. They have grown up together in the zoo, and know every bit of their enclosure. And, frankly, they are a little bored with it. So they begin to plan an escape, with the help of some simple machines.

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>the circumstances surrounding those deaths.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(Part of the <em>What Was...</em> series)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Teaches important dates and facts about the Battle of Gettysburg.</td>
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