



Back-to-School Booklist

Ages 9-12

The Austere Academy by Lemony Snicket

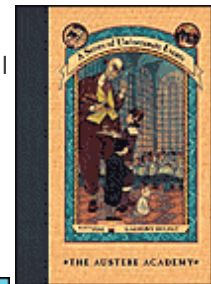
For the Baudelaires, school turns out to be another miserable episode in their unlucky lives. Truth be told, within the chapters that make up this dreadful story, the children will face snapping crabs, strict punishments, dripping fungus, comprehensive exams, violin recitals. S.O.R.E., and the metric system.

Frindle by Andrew Clements

Is Nick Allen a troublemaker? He really just likes to liven things up at school—and he's always had plenty of great ideas. When Nick learns some interesting information about how words are created, suddenly he's got the inspiration for his best plan ever...the frindle. Things begin innocently enough as Nick gets his friends to use the new word. Then other people in town start saying frindle. Soon the new word is spreading across the country, and there's nothing Nick can do to stop it.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh

Harriet M. Welsch is a spy. In her notebook, she writes down everything she knows about everyone, even her classmates and her best friends. Then Harriet loses track of her notebook, and it ends up in the wrong hands. Before she can stop them, her friends have read the always truthful, sometimes awful things she's written about each of them. Will Harriet find a way to put her life and her friendships back together?



The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes

Wanda Petronski, an immigrant girl in an American school, is ridiculed for wearing the same faded blue dress every day. When she tells her classmates that she has one hundred dresses at home, she unwittingly triggers a game of teasing that eventually ends in a lesson for all.

Lose, Team, Lose! by R.L. Stine

Jennifer Ech is so tough...she's at Rotten School on an Arm Wrestling scholarship! Bernie Bridges calls her Nightmare Girl. But she'll do anything to get him to be her boyfriend. That's why she joined the all-boys football team. With Jennifer playing, they can't lose. But wait. If they win, they have to play the National Champion team—the Bone Breakers! Someone's got to stop the attack of the Ech—or else Bernie and his teammates will be in the hospital by halftime!



The Princess Academy by Shannon Hale

Miri lives on a mountain where, for generations, her ancestors have quarried stone and lived a simple life. Then word comes that the king's priests have divined her small village the home of the future princess. In a year's time, the prince himself will come and choose his bride from among the girls of the village. The king's ministers set up an academy on the mountain, and every teenage girl must attend and learn how to become



academy on the mountain, and every teenage girl must attend and learn how to become a princess.

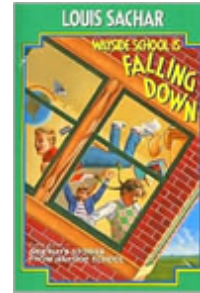
Sixth Grade Nickname Game by Gordon Korman

Best friends Jeff and Wiley are nickname addicts. It's only when a spunky red-haired environmentalist named Cassandra enters their lives that they begin to doubt their nicknaming prowess. No name seems to say it all. On top of everything, some of the nicknames that Jeff and Wiley have invented are backfiring on them. Will the nicknamers be able to get it together before it's too late?



Wayside School is Falling Down by Louis Sachar

There'd been a terrible mistake. Wayside School was supposed to be built with thirty classrooms one on top of the other...thirty stories tall! (The builder said he was very sorry.) That may be why all kinds of funny things happen at Wayside School...especially on the thirteenth floor. You'll meet Mrs. Gorf, the meanest teacher of all, terrible Todd, who always gets sent home early, and John who can read only upside down —along with all the other kids in the crazy mix-up school that came out sideways.



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