

Year 3 – Middle School Booklist

Focus: Level 3 Readers – Independent & Advanced (Upper Elementary / Dialectic)

Levels Decoded

IL – illustrated books (young readers booklist)

1 – beginning readers (I can read books)

2 – intermediate readers (bigger print, more pictures, shorter length than level 3)

3 – advanced readers (suitable for upper grammar & dialectical)

4 – mature readers (suitable for rhetorical, due to length or content)

Reading levels are indicated by number in parentheses. Books are ordered according to quarters. These books are great for independent readers in elementary and middle school, as well as for family read-aloud stories.

It was difficult to hold myself back and stick to the timeline and authors mentioned, but this was my aim! Books are presented largely in the order of their historical setting, with the exception of saints and composers who are introduced earlier to match the order of presentation for grammar classes.

The emphasis here is on books that provide good literature and yet are fun, easy reads! Accordingly, there are few biographies and strict histories presented, since most of our curriculums will fill that gap. Nevertheless, these titles still belong mostly to the genre of “historical fiction” and wouldn’t themselves comprise a literature course. I do offer a few literary titles to suggest some books which could crossover and be used in both literature and history courses.

Quarter 1

Handel at the Court of Kings by Opal Wheeler (2-3) *a lovely read aloud too!*

He Sailed with De Gama by Louise Andrews Kent (3)

He Sailed with Magellan by Louise Andrews Kent (3)

Ship’s Boy with Magellan by Milton Lomask (3)

Cartier Sails the St. Lawrence by Esther Averill (3)

The King’s Fifth by Scott O’Dell (3) *conquistadors & the search for gold*

Captain Cortes Conquers Mexico (Landmark) by William Johnson (2-3)

Ignatius & the Company of Jesus (Vision) by August Derlerth (3)

Francis & the Seven Seas (Vision) by Albert Nevins (3)

Lepanto’s Lady by Laurie Schmitt (3) *girl searches for kidnapped Father during Lepanto*

St. Ignatius of Loyola: For the Greater Glory of God by Donna Giaimo (2)
Master Cornhill by Eloise McGraw (3) *plague & the Great Fire of London*
The Second Mrs. Gioconda by E. L. Konigsburg (3) *Da Vinci's apprentice & Mona Lisa*
Tales from Shakespeare by Charles & Mary Lamb (3)
The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood (3) *apprentice sent to steal a play*
Can You Escape from the Tower of London? by Blake Hoena(2) *You-Choose adventure*
A Murder for Her Majesty by Beth Hilgartner (3) *fun adventure during Elizabeth I's reign*

Quarter 2

Mozart the Wonder Boy by Opal Wheeler (2-3)
St. Martin de Porres by Mary Fabyn Windeatt (2-3)
Isaac and the Indians (Vision) by Milton Lamask (3)
St. Margaret Mary by Mary Fabyn Windeatt (2-3)
Outlaws of Ravenhurst by Sr. Imelda Wallace (3) *post-Reformation adventure tale!*
I, Juan de Pareja by Elizabeth de Trevino (3) *story of the slave of Diego Velazquez*

Quarter 3

St. Therese and the Roses (Vision) by Helen Homan (2-3)
The Little Flower by Mary Fabyn Windeatt (2-3)
Hippos in the Night by Christina Allen (2-3) *true stories about traveling through Africa*
The Story of Piotr Tchaikovsky by Opal Wheeler (2-3)
The Cure of Ars: The Man Who Out-talked the Devil (Vision) by Milton Lomask (2-3)
The Cure of Ars by Mary Fabyn Windeatt (2-3)
Lyddie by Katharine Peterson (3) *children during the industrial revolution*
The Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens (3)
Betsy and the Emperor by Staton Robin (3) *girl befriends the imprisoned Napoleon*
The Ravenmaster's Secret by Elvira Woodruff (3) *escaping from the Tower of London*
Under the Hawthorn Tree by Maria Conlon-McKenna (3) *children of Irish potato famine*
Nory Ryan's Song by Patricia Reilly Giff (3) *children of Irish potato famine*

Bernadette: Our Lady's Little Servant (Vision) by Hertha Pauli (2)

The Perilous Road by William Steele (3) *American civil war*

Quarter 4

Maximilian Kolbe: Saint of Auschwitz by Elaine Murray (3)

A Man for Others: Maximilian Kolbe the "Saint of Auschwitz" by Patricia Treece (3-4)

Sherlock Holmes Re-told for Children by Mark Williams (2) *available on Audible*

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (3-4)

Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling (3)

Voyage on the Great Titanic (Dear America) by Ellen White (2-3)

The Titanic by Bob Temple (2) *You-Choose adventure*

Five Children on the Western Front by Kate Saunders (3) – *the Five Children grown up in WWI*

Our Lady's Message by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle (3)

The Good Master by Kate Seredy (3)

The Singing Tree by Kate Seredy (3) *WWI setting in sequel to The Good Master*

At Battle in World War I by Allison Lassieur (2) *You-Choose adventure*

Angel on the Square by Gloria Whelan (3) *set during Russian Revolution*

The Little Riders by Margaretha Shemin (2) *WWII – girl befriends soldier & saves landmark*

Twenty and Ten by Claire Huchet Bishop (2) *WWII – saving Jewish children*

Snow Treasure by Marie McSwigan (3) *WWII – children smuggle treasure away from Nazis*

The Bicycle Spy by Yona McDonough (3) *WWII – boy bicyclist tries to save Jewish friends*

The Winged Watchman by Hilda van Stockum (3) *WWII – boy's family helps Dutch resistance*

Enemy Brothers by Constance Savery (3) *WWII – soldier thinks prisoner of war is his lost brother*

Diary of A Young Girl by Anne Frank (3) *WWII*

A Place to Hang the Moon by Kate Albus (3) *WWII – orphans evacuate London to find home*

World War II Spies by Michael Burgan (2) *You-Choose adventure*

The Endless Steppe by Esther Hautzig (3) *girl experiences Communist occupation post WW2*

The Small Woman by Alan Burgess (3) *Chinese missionary who saves orphan children during war*

Apollo 11 Moon Landing by Thomas Adamson (2) *You-Choose adventure*