



## Reading Recommendations for Upper Elementary & Middle Grades

1. *Refugee* by Alan Gratz. Although separated by continents and decades, Josef, a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany; Isabel, a Cuban girl trying to escape the riots and unrest plaguing her country in 1994; and Mahmoud, a Syrian boy in 2015 whose homeland is torn apart by violence and destruction, embark on harrowing journeys in search of refuge, discovering shocking connections that tie their stories together. New York: Scholastic Press (2017).
2. *Flush* by Carl Hiaason. With their father jailed for sinking a river boat, Noah Underwood and his younger sister, Abbey, must gather evidence that the owner of this floating casino is emptying his bilge tanks into the protected waters around their Florida Keys home. New York: Alfred A. Knopf: Distributed by Random House (2005).
3. *Wild Man Island* by Will Hobbs. 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. New York: HarperCollins (2002).
4. *Lifeboat 12* by Susan Hood. In 1940, a group of British children, their escorts, and some sailors struggle to survive in a lifeboat when the ship taking them to safety in Canada is torpedoed. Includes historical notes. New York: Simon Shuster Books for Young Readers (2018).
5. *Mystery of Crocodile Island* by Carolyn Keene. A young detective's attempts to uncover a group of poachers on Crocodile Island in Florida involve her with kidnapping, reptiles, enemy boats, and a sinister racket. New York: Grosset & Dunlap (1978)
6. *Carry on, Mr. Bowditch* by Jean Lee Latham. A fictionalized biography of the mathematician and astronomer who realized his childhood desire to become a ship's captain and authored *The American Practical Navigator*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin (1983, 1955).
7. *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea: Jules Verne's Classic Tale* by Ron Miller. Retells the adventures of a French professor and his two companions as they sail above and below the world's oceans as prisoners on the fabulous electric submarine of the deranged Captain Nemo. Illustrated notes throughout the text explain the historical background of the story. New York: DK Pub (1998).
8. *Viking Ships at Sunrise* by Mary Pope Osborne. Their magic tree house takes Jack and Annie back to a monastery in medieval Ireland, where they try to retrieve a lost book while being menaced by Viking raiders. New York: Random House (1998).

9. *Puppy Pirates Stowaway* by Erin Soderberg. A golden retriever puppy named Wally looks for adventure and finds it on a pirate ship run by puppy pirates. New York: Random House (2015).
10. *I Survived the Sinking of the Titanic, 1912* by Lauren Tarshis. Excited to board the Titanic with his aunt and little sister, ten-year-old George begins to explore the ill-fated ship's first-class storage cabin when the ship is rocked by a collision with an iceberg and begins to sink. New York: Scholastic, (2010).

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