

Grades K-5 Realistic Fiction Graphic Novels Reading List 2023
Akron-Summit County Public Library



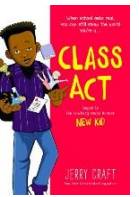
*Chang, Maggie. **Geraldine Pu and Her Lucky Pencil, Too!**, 2022. JRDR

Geraldine Pu loves to write stories with her lucky pencil, Chienbee. But when Geraldine's teacher assigns a story for class and says everyone will read theirs out loud, Geraldine is nervous. She decides to write about her grandmother, Amah, who tells her bravery runs in the family. Will Geraldine be brave too, and share her tale?



Christmas, Johnnie. **Swim Team**, 2022. JGN

Bree can't wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brightha, home to the Mighty Manatees-- until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help.



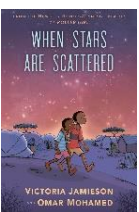
*Craft, Jerry. **Class Act**, 2020. JGN

Eighth grader Drew Ellis recognizes that he isn't afforded the same opportunities, no matter how hard he works, that his privileged classmates at the Riverdale Academy Day School take for granted, and to make matters worse, Drew begins to feel as if his good friend Liam might be one of those privileged kids and is finding it hard not to withdraw, even as their mutual friend Jordan tries to keep their group of friends together.



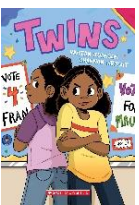
Gonzalez, Christina Diaz. **Invisible**, 2022. JGN

Can five overlooked kids make one big difference? There's George: the brain. Sara: the loner. Dayara: the tough kid. Nico: the rich kid. And Miguel: the athlete. And they're stuck together when they're forced to complete their school's community service hours. They meet someone who truly needs their help, and they must decide whether they are each willing to expose their own secrets to help . . . or if remaining invisible is the only way to survive middle school.



Jamieson, Victoria. **When Stars Are Scattered**, 2020. JGN

Omar and his younger brother Hassan live in a refugee camp, and when an opportunity for Omar to get an education comes along, he must decide between going to school every day or caring for his nonverbal brother in this intimate and touching portrayal of family and daily life in a refugee camp.



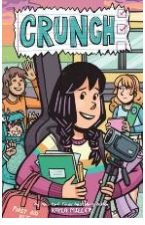
Johnson, Varian. **Twins**, 2020. JGN

Maureen and Francine Carter are twins and best friends. They participate in the same clubs, enjoy the same foods, and are partners on all their school projects. But just before the girls start sixth grade, Francine becomes Fran -- a girl who wants to join the chorus, run for class president, and dress in fashionable outfits that set her apart from Maureen. Maureen and Francine are growing apart and there's nothing Maureen can do to stop it. Are sisters really forever? Or will middle school change things for good?



*Loveless, Gina. **Animal Rescue Friends 2, Friends Fur-Ever**, 2022. JGN

When Maddie and Bell miss school club sign-ups, they decide to start an official ARF group. Whether it's a bearded dragon who's under the weather, a hamster on the loose at school, or a person in need of a fur-ever friend, there's no problem this animal-loving crew can't solve together!



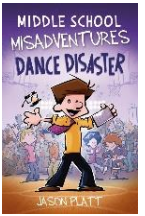
*Miller, Kayla. **Crunch**, 2022. JGN

Olive is balancing the too-many things she wants to do with the too-few hours in the day to do them. When everything adds up, suddenly it's crunch time! It's no secret that Olive loves trying new things. Between taking guitar lessons, making a short film, joining Berry Scouts, and leading the charge on her school's dress code reform, Olive has her hands full! As weeks fly by, it gets harder and harder for Olive to find time for her activities, never mind time for herself. Will she be able to accomplish her goals, or will all her sizzle turn to fizzle?



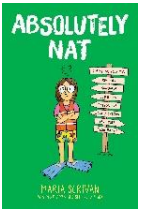
Ortega, Claribel. **Frizzy**, 2022. JGN

Marlene loves three things: books, her cool Tía Ruby and hanging out with her best friend Camila. But according to her mother, Paola, the only thing she needs to focus on is school and "growing up." That means straightening her hair every weekend so she could have "presentable good hair." But Marlene hates being in the salon and doesn't understand why her curls are not considered pretty by those around her. With a few hiccups, a dash of embarrassment, and the much-needed help of Camila and Tía Ruby--she slowly starts a journey to learn to appreciate and proudly wear her curly hair.



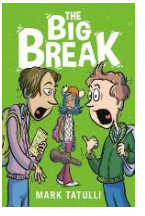
*Platt, Jason. **Middle School Misadventures 3, Dance Disaster**, 2022. JGN

Newell's perfectly comfortable life is turned upside down when Mrs. Hendricks announces the upcoming school dance, and he discovers his dad is dating his math teacher.



*Scrivan, Maria. **Absolutely Nat**, 2021. JGN

Natalie has just arrived at summer camp and soon realizes it isn't anything like the brochure. Instead of spending the summer with her best friends, Zoe and Flo, Natalie is stuck with her ex-BFF, Lily, and someone even more annoying than the endless mosquitoes: Millie Flatbottom. Even worse, she's constantly pushed out of her comfort zone and forced to come face-to-face with some of her greatest fears. Although summer camp isn't at all what Natalie expected, could it be exactly what she needs?



Tatulli, Mark. **The Big Break**, 2020. JGN

Russ's friendship with Andrew disintegrates when Russ gets a girlfriend, leaving the video they are making without an ending, but a close encounter with the legendary Jersey Devil brings them back together.

*this book is part of a series