

2007 Readers' Choices for Grades 3 & 4  
compliments of Windham County Reads

Many annotations on this list are quotes from students who read and loved these books.

**Andrews, Julie.** *The Last of the Really Great Whangdoodles.* 1996. The Whangdoodle was the wisest, kindest and most extraordinary creature but he disappeared. Professor Savant, Lindy, Tom and Ben discover the way to the secret land the Whangdoodle created and battle Prock to find the great Whangdoodle and grant him his heart's desire.

**Birdsall, Jeanne.** *The Penderwicks.* 2005. A family headed by a single father spends its summer vacation on an exclusive estate and teaches the owner what being a family is all about.

**Cox, Lynne.** *Grayson.* 2006. The author tells her story of being a young girl and helping a baby whale find its mother.

**Dahl, Roald.** *The BFG.* 1993. Roald Dahl has written many great stories. In this one, discover what BFG stands for—it may surprise you! It definitely surprises Sophie as she is snatched from her orphanage bed and goes on to join forces with the BFG to vanquish nine giants.

**DiCamillo, Kate.** *The Tale of Despereaux: Being the Story of a Mouse, a Princess, Some Soup, and a Spool of Thread.* 2003. Despereaux is a little mouse in love with a princess. This is the story of his adventures attempting to defeat the horrid rat who wants to bring her ruin.

**Dowell, Frances O' Roark.** *Phineas L. MacGuire...Erupts!* 2006. Fourth-grade science whiz Phineas L. MacGuire is forced to team up with the quirky new boy in class on a science fair project. Do they have any chance of winning?

**Farley, Terri.** *The Phantom Stallion series.* 2002 on. A wildy popular series about Samantha and her mustang, the Phantom. Each book presents a new problem that Sam must solve.

**Funke, Cornelia.** *Dragon Rider.* 2004. Fantastic fantasy is found in this book as Ben, Firedrake and Sorrel search for the mythical place where dragons can live in peace forever.

**Hatkoff, Isabella.** *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship.* 2006. A baby hippo rescued after the 2004 tsunami becomes inseparable friends with a 130-year-old giant tortoise in this amazing true story written by a six-year-old and her father and illustrated with excellent photographs.

**Hiaasen, Carl.** *Hoot.* 2004. The race to save the owls is on in this contest between a pancake house and the little hooters. A runaway boy, a new boy in school, a bully and a bumbling policeman are all part of this story about owls that only two people have ever seen.

**Lubber, Captain William.** *Pirateology: The Pirate Hunter's Companion.* 2006. Jump aboard with the good captain on his voyage over the seven seas to capture the infamous pirate Arabella Drummond. The ship's log is full of information on sailing, navigation, sea battles and pirate lore.

**Markle, Sandra.** *Outside and Inside Mummies.* 2005. Vivid color photographs, sometimes eye-popping and sometimes gross, accompany a readable, informative text about all sorts of mummies—those created by human procedures and those caused by nature.

**McDonough, Yona.** *Hammerin' Hank: The Life of Hank Greenberg.* 2006. Already six feet, three inches tall at age thirteen, Hank Greenberg went on to become the first Jewish baseball star. This picture book biography, illustrated in neon colors by Malcah Zeldis, tells of his struggles and perseverance as he faces prejudice from all corners of the stadium.

**Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds.** *Roxie and the Hooligans.* 2006. Roxie knows just what to do if she finds herself buried in an avalanche but she's afraid of the Hooligans, a gang at Public School Number Thirty-Seven that has chosen her to be Victim of the Year because her ears stick straight out. This story with a big heart is equal parts fantasy, absurdity and reality.

**Osborne, Mary Pope.** *Magic Tree House series.* Travel with Jack and Annie to faraway places in their magic tree house. They visit ancient castles, the land of dinosaurs and the wild, wild West to solve a variety of mysteries.

**Paolini, Christopher.** *Eragon.* 2005. Join Eragon on the adventure of a lifetime as he finds a stone which turns out to be a dragon's egg. Once it hatches he and the dragon try to journey to safety in Varden.

**Patron, Susan.** *The Higher Power of Lucky.* 2006. Fearing that her legal guardian plans to abandon her to return to France, ten-year-old aspiring scientist Lucky Trimble determines to run away while also continuing to seek the Higher Power that will bring stability to her life.

**Pennypacker, Sara.** *Clementine.* 2006. "Spectacularful ideas are always sproinging up in my brain," says Clementine. As a result, she knows her way around the principal's office very well. This third grader with a talent for trouble will delight fans of Ramona and Junie B. Jones.

**Rockwell, Thomas.** *How to Eat Fried Worms!* 2006. Billy has to eat fifteen worms in fifteen days. With the help of his family, he is determined to win the bet he made.

**Roy, Ron.** *A to Z Mysteries.* A different mystery envelopes Dink, Josh and Ruth Rose in each of the books in this series illustrated by John Steven Gurney.

**Rowling, J.K.** *Harry Potter series.* 1998-2007. The amazing adventures of Harry Potter and his compatriots at Hogwarts Academy are some of the most read books on this year's lists. The seventh and final book is due out this summer.

**Snicket, Lemony.** *A Series of Unfortunate Events.* 1999-2006. The thirteen books in this series are about three children trying to escape their evil uncle after their parents die and their house burns up in a fire.

**Wilder, Laura Ingalls.** *The Little House on the Prairie.* 1953. The Ingalls family has a hard life as pioneers but they are happy in their little house. There are many great sequels to enjoy.