

Ten Great Early Chapter Books

The Hidden Stairs and the Magic Carpet (Secrets of Droon) by Tony Abbott

Something under the stairs is magic. For Julie, Eric, and Neal, an enchanted staircase in Eric's basement is the portal to their first adventure in the fantastical and troubled land of Droon.

The Frandidate (Franny K Stein, Mad Scientist) by Jim Benton

Determined to be elected class president, mad scientist Frannie K. Stein uses her Atomic Combiner to create a suit that makes her seem to be whatever a voter wants her to be, but the suit has plans of its own.

Equinus, the Spirit Horse (Beast Quest) by Adam Blade

Hoping to reverse the magic that turned his father into a ghost, Tom must figure out a way to get the second piece of the Amulet of Avantia from Equinus, a spirit horse who steals life forces. (*Beast Quest* has many books in the series and an interactive website.)

Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes by Kate Dicamillo

When Mercy notices the smell of real butter on popcorn wafting in the air at a drive-in movie, she ventures off on a personal mission to get some of the tasty treat.

The Little League team from the Black Lagoon by Mike Thaler

Hubie just feels sick because baseball fever is catching everyone. The only hit he had last year was when he got hit in the head by a ball. Will he make the big hit this year and knock the ball out of the park?

See You Later, Gladiator (Time Warp Trio) by Jon Scieszka

Joe, Fred, and Sam demonstrate some of their favorite professional wrestling moves, including the "Time Warp Trio Blind Ninja Smackdown" when they are transported to ancient Rome and forced to fight as gladiators in the Colosseum. (This series is quite funny with historical references.)

Silver Horse Switch (Horse Crazy) by Allison Lester

In a rural Australian town, best friends Bonnie and Sam, who share a mutual love of horses, watch in amazement as a farm horse and a wild horse, identical in appearance, trade places. (Excellent series for readers who love horses!)

My Father's Dragon by Ruth Gannett

A young boy runs away from home to rescue an abused baby dragon held captive to serve as a free twenty-four hour, seven-days-a-week ferry for the lazy wild animals living on Wild Island. (First of three books)

Princess Posey and the Next-Door Dog by Stephanie Greene

Holding her princess wand, six-year-old Posey finds the courage to visit the large dog next door.

Akimbo and the Baboons by Alexander McCall Smith

Akimbo and his cousin Kosi accompany a scientist into the African bush to study the behavior of a troop of baboons.