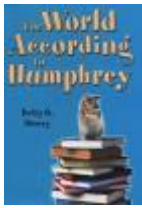
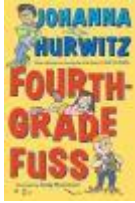


Summer Reading to get ready for Fourth Grade



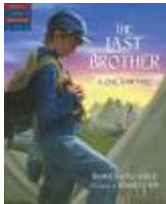
Birney: *The World According to Humphrey* c2005 fiction, humor

Humphrey, a classroom hamster, surveys his surroundings and finds ways to help the children in the class.



Hurwitz: *Fourth Grade Fuss* c2004 school story

Julio and his friends enjoy their fourth grade activities - the yard sale, ice skating, and a surprise party; but the students get serious when they have to study for end-of-the-year statewide tests.



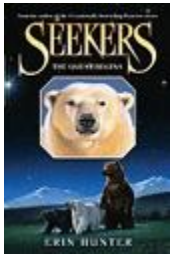
Noble: *The Last Brother* (Tales of Young America series) c2006 historical fiction

Gabe becomes a bugler in the Civil War to protect his only surviving brother.



Osborne: *Magic Tree House* series time travel, fiction

Explore the world with Jack and Annie.



The Quest Begins: Seekers #1 by Erin Hunter (HarperCollins, 2008).

Erin Hunter, author of the popular *Warriors* series, brings us a new series to love. *The Quest Begins* follows three young bears — a polar bear named Kallik, a black bear named Lusa and a grizzly named Toklo — whose stories begin to connect when they're all separated from their families. This first *Seekers* book is a compelling read. Hunter has definitely started enough threads to weave a richly detailed, adventurous series.



The Great Brain by John D. Fitzgerald, illustrated by Mercer Mayer (Puffin, 2004).

Set in the early 1900s, Tom Fitzgerald, aka "The Great Brain," is of the "Tom Sawyer" ilk. He is a shrewd and wily kid with a keen ability to earn a penny. Nevertheless, his intelligence ends up saving the day when he and his younger brother get lost in Skeleton Cave. I challenge you to try to pry this out of the hands of your fourth-grade adventure lover.



Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar, illustrated by Julie Brinckloe (HarperTrophy, 2004). On the 30th floor of the wacky Wayside School is Mrs. Jewl's class. Sharie falls asleep and rolls out the window. Joe counts all wrong and gets the right answer. Calvin is sent to the 19th floor to deliver a note, but there is no 19th floor - the builder forgot it. This nutty world is built on the sort of playful twists of logic that kids love.



No Talking by Andrew Clements, illustrated by Mark Elliott (Simon and Schuster, 2007). While studying about India, fifth-grader Dave Packer discovers that Gandhi did not speak for one day every week to bring order to his mind. This amazes Dave, as he and his friends are all so vocal they are called the Unshushables. Dave tries to stay quiet for a whole day. But when a girl at the table next to him just won't keep quiet, he can't resist and breaks his silence with an insult. This leads to a challenge: Which group, the boys or the girls, can be quieter for two days? How does this contest affect the fifth-graders, their teachers and their principal? What do they learn about language and the power of words? This is a very funny book that will make everyone think about how much we talk and all those wasted words. It is also the perfect choice for a book group or for a literature circle.