



Entering 4th Grade

Do you want to star in a commercial about your favorite summer reading book?

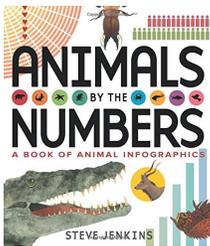
Ask about our exciting Video Booktalk After School Activity!

See Mrs. Phethean or Amy Kaplan (B.M.P.L.) for details.

Go to www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/ to see the videos!

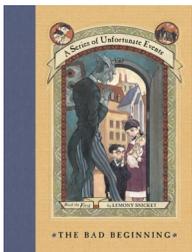
Prepared by Todd School Library Media Center and Briarcliff Manor Public Library librarians

It is important to note that the titles on this list span a range of reading levels for students entering fourth grade. The Briarcliff Public Library and Todd Library Media Center librarians have selected these books to help you and your child develop a lifetime habit and enjoyment of reading.



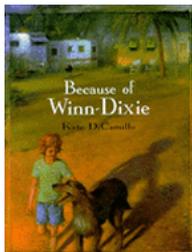
Animals by the Numbers by Steve Jenkins

How many species are there across the globe? How much do all of the insects in the world collectively weigh? How far can animals travel? Steve Jenkins answers these questions and many more with numbers, images, innovation, and authoritative science in his latest work of illustrated nonfiction. The level of scientific research paired with Jenkins creativity and accessible infographics is unmatched and sure to wow fans old and new.



The Bad Beginning [A Series of Unfortunate Events series] Lemony Snickett

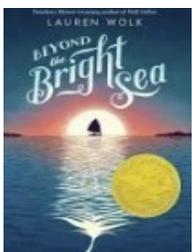
After the sudden death of their parents, the three Baudelaire children must depend on each other and their wits when it turns out that their guardian is determined to use any means necessary to get their fortune.



Because of Winn Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

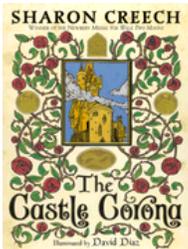


Beyond the Bright Sea by Lauren Wolk

Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny island...abandoned and set adrift in a small boat when she was just hours old, Crow's only companions are Osh, the man who rescued and raised her, and Miss Maggie, their fierce and affectionate neighbor...One night a mysterious fire appears across the water and an unstoppable chain of events is triggered, leading Crow down a path of discovery and danger.

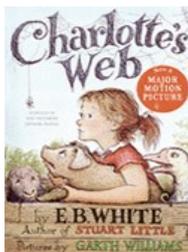


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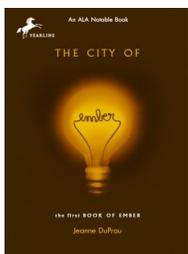
The Castle Corona by Sharon Creech

Newbery Medalist Sharon Creech spins an imaginative tale about a glittering castle and the royal — and very spoiled — family who lives there, and of two peasants who are in possession of a stolen pouch that has the power to unlock secrets and transform lives.



Charlotte's Web by E.B. White

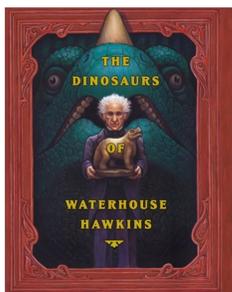
An affectionate, sometimes bashful pig named Wilbur befriends a spider named Charlotte who lives in the rafters above his pen. Wilbur is desolate when he discovers that he's destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner, until Charlotte helps him.



City of Ember [Book of Ember series] by Jeanne DuPrau

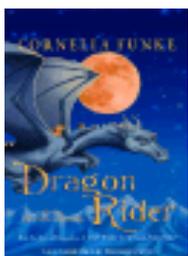
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

It is the year 241 and the great lamps that light the city are beginning to flicker. When Lina finds part of an ancient message, she's sure it holds a secret that will save the city.



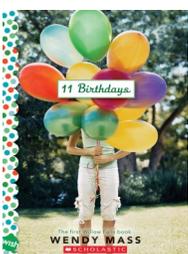
The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins by Barbara Kerley

This is a true and inspirational story of the man who built the world's first life sized models of dinosaurs. The text is complemented by amazing illustrations from Caldecott medalist Brian Selznick.



Dragon Rider by Cornelia Funke

Firedrake is a dragon on an adventurous journey to find the hidden city at the Rim of Heaven so that he might be able to live happily ever after and out of danger. Ben, an orphaned boy, and Sorrell, a wise-cracking fairy, join him on his quest.

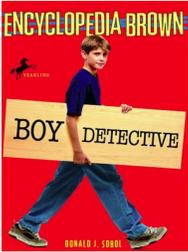


Eleven Birthdays [Willow Falls series] by Wendy Mass

After celebrating their first nine same-day birthdays together, Amanda and Leo, having fallen out on their tenth and not speaking to each other for the last year, prepare to celebrate their eleventh birthday separately. Peculiar things begin to happen as the day of their birthday begins to repeat itself over and over again.



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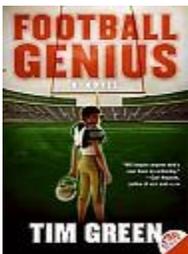


Encyclopedia Brown, Boy Detective [series] by Donald J. Sobol
America's "Sherlock Holmes in sneakers" fights crimes by solving mysteries.



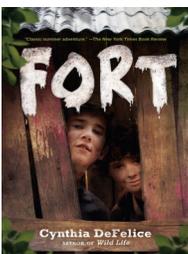
Extra Credit by Andrew Clements

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
Three young middle school aged children, Abby, Amira and Sadeed, exchange letters back and forth between Illinois and Afghanistan bridging the gaps in their culture along the way.



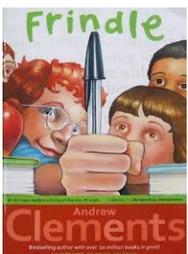
Football Genius [series] by Tim Green

Troy White can predict any football play before it happens. And when his single mom gets a job with the Atlanta Falcons, Troy knows it's his big chance to help them out of their slump—and finally prove his football genius.



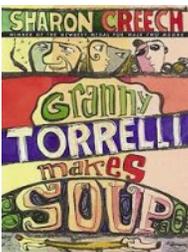
Fort by Cynthia DeFelice

A middle-grade summer adventure about two boys who build an awesome fort and tangle with two older bullies.



Frindle by Andrew Clements

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When he decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, clever Nick Allen invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.

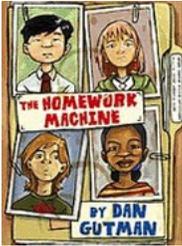


Granny Torrelli Makes Soup by Sharon Creech

With the help of her wise grandmother, twelve-year-old Rosie manages to work out some problems in her relationship with her best friend, the boy next door.



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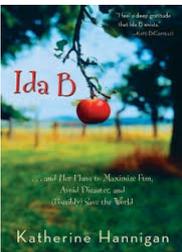
The Homework Machine by Dan Gutman

Four kids share a secret — a homework machine. Everything is great for a while, but soon the machine becomes more powerful than they ever imagined, and not even its inventor can stop it.



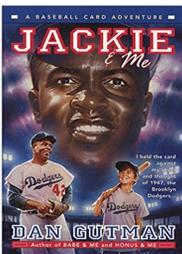
I Survived the Japanese Tsunami, 2011 [*I Survived* series] by Lauren Tarshish

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
When Ben is visiting his dad's hometown in Japan disaster strikes. First, a massive earthquake rocks his uncle's house and then the ocean waters rise and Ben is pulled apart from his family by a terrible tsunami. How will Ben survive?



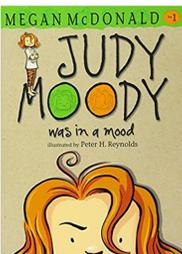
Ida B. by Katherine Hannigan

Life is perfect for Ida B., playing and planning on her farm and being home-schooled by her parents, until her mother gets sick and everything changes. Ida B. is determined to hate every minute of everything new, but her heart just can't help but soften in spite of herself.



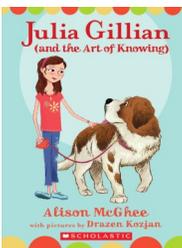
Jackie and Me [*Baseball Card Adventure* series] by Dan Gutman

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
With their ability to travel through time using vintage baseball cards, Joe and his father have the opportunity to meet Jackie Robinson. In the process, Joe turns from a white boy into a black boy.



Judy Moody Was in a Mood [*Judy Moody* series] by Megan McDonald

Judy starts the school year in a bad mood but her mood improves with her "Me Collage" assignment. Each *Judy Moody* book offers a different hilarious episode in the life and adventures of Judy.

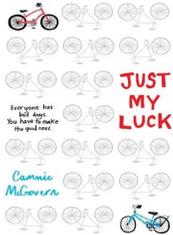


Julia Gillian (and the Art of Knowing) [*Julia Gillian* series] by Alison McGhee

Nine-year-old Julia Gillian learns a lot as she and her St. Bernard, Bigfoot, observe and explore their Minneapolis neighborhood.



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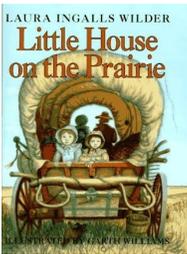
Just My Luck by Cammie McGovern

Since entering fourth grade, Benny Barrows worries that he is responsible for an accident that sent his father to the hospital. Meanwhile, he is working on his LEGO movies and wondering if he'll ever be acknowledged in his school's "kindness" challenge.



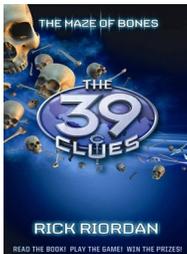
The Lincoln Project [Flashback Four series] by Dan Gutman

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/ Miss Z, a mysterious billionaire and a collector of rare photographs, is sending her four recruits back in time on a mission to capture, for the first time, one of the most important moments in American history-- Abraham Lincoln giving his famous Gettysburg address.



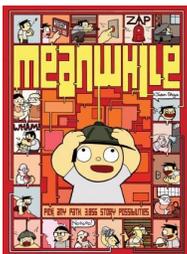
Little House on the Prairie [Little House series] by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Author Laura Ingalls Wilder writes of her experiences growing up in the 1800s. Follow Laura's life from the glorious days spent tucked in the Big Woods of Wisconsin, all the way through to her marriage to Almanzo and the birth of her own little girl in this series.



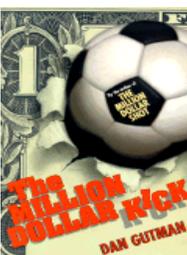
The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan [39 Clues series, by Various Authors]

The Cahills are the most powerful family in history—but the source of their power is lost. Young teens Dan and Amy must risk their lives time and again to follow the clues and get it back.



Meanwhile by Jason Shiga

In this choose-your-own adventure graphic novel, a boy stumbles on the laboratory of a mad scientist who asks him to choose between testing a mind-reading device, a time machine, and a doomsday machine.



The Million Dollar Kick [Million Dollar series] by Dan Gutman

Thirteen-year-old Whisper, who hates sports, is torn when she gets a chance to win a million dollars by kicking against a local soccer hero.

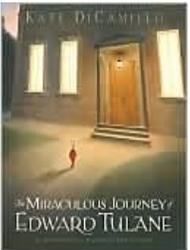


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Minn and Jake by Janet S. Wong

Fifth-grader Minn, the tallest girl in school, begins a rocky friendship with Jake, a new student who is afraid of the worms and lizards that Minn likes to collect.

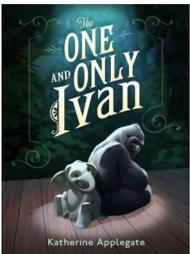


The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo, illus. by Bagram Ibatoulline
Edward Tulane, a cold-hearted and proud toy rabbit, loves only himself until he is separated from the little girl who adores him. He travels across the country, acquiring new owners and listening to their hopes, dreams, and histories.



Momotaro: Xander and the Lost Island of Monsters by Margaret Dilloway

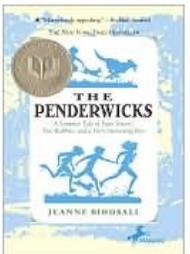
Twelve-year-old Xander suddenly discovers he has fantastical powers that he must learn to use immediately when he and his best friend set out on an epic adventure in order to save his father. Based on Japanese mythology.



The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

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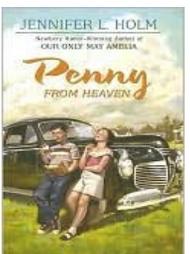
Ivan, a gorilla who has lived in a cage in a mall for most of his life as part of an "act," meets Ruby, a baby elephant who has been added to the show, and decides that she deserves a better life and aims to make it happen.



The Penderwicks: A Summer Tale of Four Sisters, Two Rabbits, and a Very Interesting Boy [series] by Jeanne Birdsall

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Follow the adventure of four sisters and their widowed father when they rent a house for the summer on a beautiful estate that is owned by a rich lady who terrifies them in this humorous story.

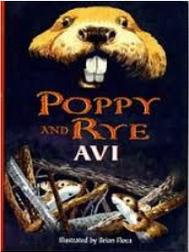


Penny from Heaven by Jennifer L. Holm

As she turns twelve during the summer of 1953, Penny gains new insights into herself and her family while also learning a secret about her father's death.

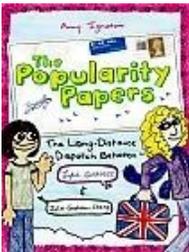


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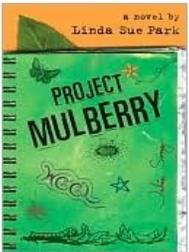
Poppy and Rye [Poppy series] by Avi

When their home next to a brook is destroyed by beavers, a large family of golden mice is aided by Poppy the deer mouse and her grumpy porcupine friend, who in the process forges a relationship with the son he had abandoned.



The Popularity Papers: Research for the Social Improvement and General Betterment of Lydia Goldblatt and Julia Graham-Chang [series] by Amy Ignatow

Read the "scrap book" of two best friends who are recording their findings as they embark on a project to study the behavior and taste of the popular girls so that by the time they get to middle school they too will be in the "right" crowd.



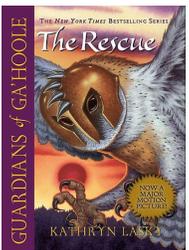
Project Mulberry by Linda Sue Park

Julia doesn't want to raise silkworms like her mother suggested, but Patrick does. When she doesn't say anything it all snowballs. Best friends Julia and Patrick learn a lot about prejudice, patience, and silkworms throughout the project, and Julia changes her attitude.



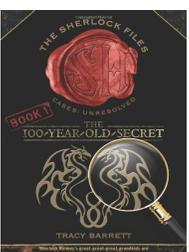
Quiz Whiz: 1,000 Super Fun Mind-Bending totally Awesome Trivia Questions [series] by National Geographic Kids

Presents one thousand trivia questions and answers on various subjects, from biology and technology to mathematics, history, and popular culture.



The Rescue [Guardians of Ga'Hoole series] by Kathryn Lasky

Soren, a barn owl, and his owl friend Gylfie must work together to figure out how to save the entire owl world from the evil owls of St. Aegolius Academy.

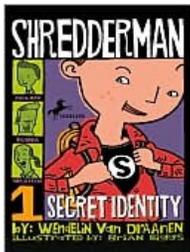


Sherlock Files: The 100 Year Old Secret [series] by Tracy Barrett

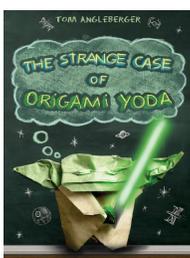
Xena and Xander Holmes, an American brother and sister living in London, discover that Sherlock Holmes is their great-great-great-grandfather and are given his unsolved case book. In this first book they attempt to solve the case of a missing painting.



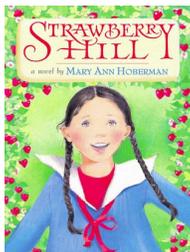
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Shredderman [series] by Wendelin van Draanen
Fifth-grader Nolan Byrd has had enough of suffering at the hands of Bubby Bixby the bully. He creates a super cyberhero, Shredderman, who hosts a top-secret web page that exposes the truth...and then a truth-exposing hero is born!



The Strange Case of Origami Yoda [*Origami Yoda* series] by Tom Angleberger
Dwight is a weird kid who talks through an origami yoda on his finger. What's even stranger is how wise this yoda-Dwight seems to be when real-Dwight isn't wise at all. Tommy chronicles all of the events surrounding this mysterious phenomenon in his humorous account of the school year.



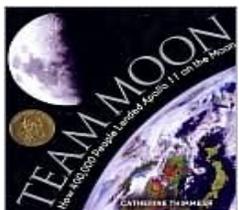
Strawberry Hill by Mary Ann Hoberman
Ten-year-old Allie's family moves from a city to a country town, and a street called Strawberry Hill, in the midst of the Great Depression. She meets two neighbor girls, and learns about loyalty, jealousy, friendship and rejection.



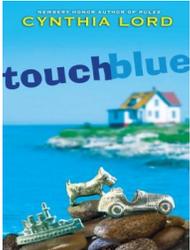
Swindle [series] by Gordon Korman
After unscrupulous collector S. Wendell Palamino cons him out of a valuable baseball card, sixth-grader Griffin Bing puts together a band of misfits to break into Palomino's heavily guarded store and steal the card back, planning to use the money to finance his father's failing invention, the SmartPick fruit picker.



A Tangle of Knots by Lisa Graff
All of the characters in this book fit together like a puzzle in a slightly magical world where everyone has a Talent, and an orphan with a cake-baking Talent finds her way home.



Team Moon by Catherine Thimmesh
Chronicles the Apollo 11 mission, the spaceflight that landed the first man on the Earth's moon on July 20, 1969, emphasizing the contributions and reactions of the thousands of people who made the mission successful.



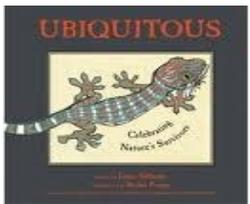
Touch Blue by Cynthia Lord

When the state of Maine threatens to shut down their island's one-room schoolhouse because of dwindling enrollment, eleven-year-old Tess, a strong believer in luck, and her family take in a trumpet-playing foster child to increase the school's population.



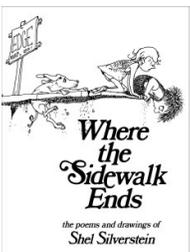
Tracks in the Snow by Lucy Bledsoe

Tiffany and Erin's survival skills are tested when they are stranded in the woods in a snowstorm.



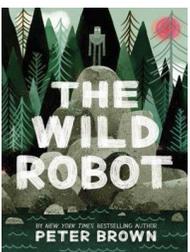
Ubiquitous: Celebrating Nature's Survivors by Joyce Sidman, illustrated by Beckie Prange

"Well-researched science facts are paired with vivid poems to describe how these very special life-forms avoided extinction to become nature's survivors...stunning illustrations..." -*School Library Journal*



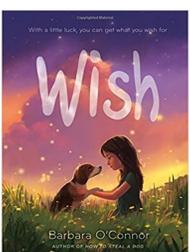
Where the Sidewalk Ends by Shel Silverstein

A boy who turns into a TV set and a girl who eats a whale are only two of the characters in a collection of humorous poetry illustrated with the author's own drawings.



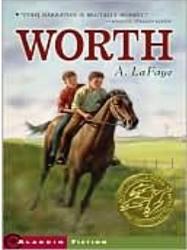
The Wild Robot by Peter Brown

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/
Roz is a very special robot who finds herself alone on a remote island with no memory of where she is or why she is there. She learns from the animals how to survive, adopts a small gosling, and tries to survive the challenges each season brings.



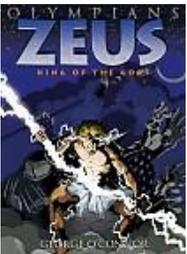
Wish by Barbara O'Connor

A story about a girl who, with the help of the dog of her dreams, discovers that family doesn't always have to be related--they are simply people who love you for who you are.



Worth by A. LaFaye

Nate feels worthless with his broken leg and he only feels worse when his family gets an orphan boy to live with them and do his share of work on the family farm.



Zeus: King of the Gods [*Olympians* series] by George O'Connor

A fictionalized retelling, in graphic novel format, of the Greek myth that details the story of Zeus, describing his boyhood through the beginning of his reign as the ruler of the Olympian Pantheon.

** END OF LIST **

SUGGESTED AUTHORS:

Andrew Clements
Matt Christopher
Beverly Cleary
Sid Fleischman

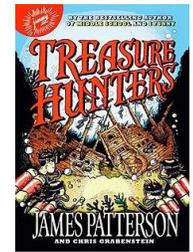
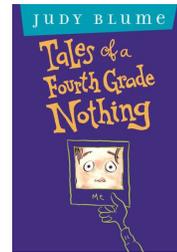
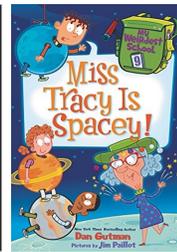
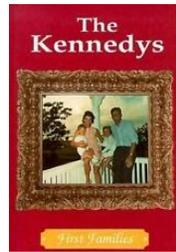
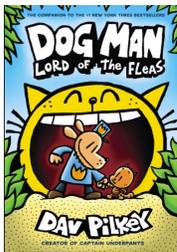
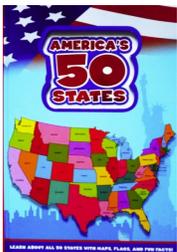
Cornelia Funke
Dan Gutman
Dick King-Smith
James Howe

Louis Sachar
Betty Ren Wright



Peer Recommended Video Booktalk Titles

Please note that these titles below are NOT a part of the Todd School official summer reading list. However, students at Todd School enjoyed them and created video booktalks to recommend them to their peers.



America's Fifty States by Flying Frog Publishing

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

This book contains interesting facts about each state in the U.S. in a colorful layout.

Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas by Dav Pilkey

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Our hero Dog Man has to team up with the villainous Petey to save the town in the 5th book in this humorous graphic novel series.

Fort Solitude (Secret Hero Society) by Derek Fridolfs

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Clark Kent and his friends are kids and are enjoying a classic good time at Camp Evergreen when mysterious disappearances and monster sightings change everything in this graphic novel.

The Kennedys by Cass R. Sendak

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

A biography of the President John F. Kennedy and his family that highlights many interesting facts about their lives.

Loot: How to Steal a Fortune by Jude Watson

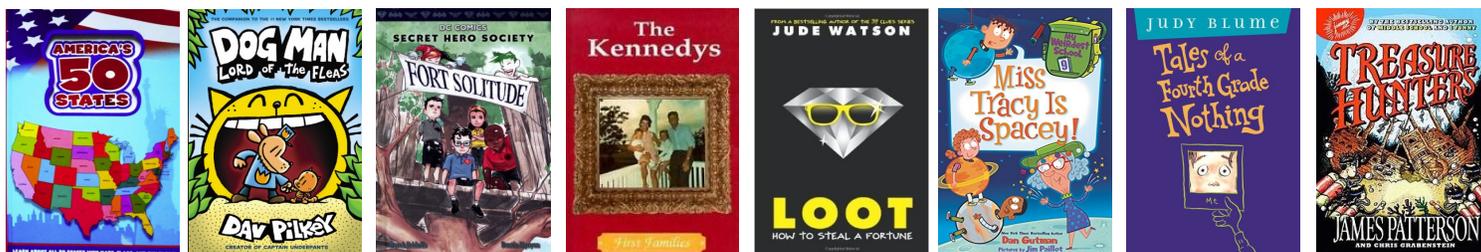
Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

When a notorious jewel thief is killed on the job, his son carries on the family business with a perfect partner: a twin sister he just found out he had.



Peer Recommended Video Booktalk Titles

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Miss Tracy is Spacey by Dan Gutman

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Retired scientist Miss Tracy comes to school to teach about the solar system and casts A.J. in the class play. This is a book from the humorous *My Weird School* series.

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Peter has had it with his terror of a little brother who gets all of the attention and gets away with everything. How can Peter get his parents to pay attention to *him* for a change?

Treasure Hunters by James Patterson

Watch the video booktalk! Go to: www.briarcliffmanorlibrary.org/booktalks/

Following clues left by their missing father, twelve-year-old twins Bickford and Rebecca Kidd sail from the Caribbean to New York City with their siblings to finish the dangerous quest of their world-famous treasure-hunting parents.