

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Animal Stories	Adams	Richard	<a href="#">Watership Down</a>	A worldwide bestseller for over thirty years, <i>Watership Down</i> is one of the most beloved novels of all time. Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of brothers, they journey from their native Sandleford Warren, through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, and toward the dream of a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society.	880
Animals	Burnsford	Sheila	<a href="#">The Incredible Journey</a>	An inquisitive Labrador retriever, friendly bull terrier, and courageous Siamese cat set out through the Canadian wilderness to find their owner in this truly "incredible" adventure. Instinct tells them that the way home lies to the west and together the three house pets face hunger, the natural elements, and wild forest animals as they make their way home to the family they love. This beloved classic that inspired the movie <i>Homeward Bound</i> has captured the hearts of generations of readers. The lengths to which these three animals will go for each other and for their owner make for a thrilling and thoroughly unforgettable tale.	1320
Animal Stories	DiCamillo	Kate	<a href="#">Because of Winn-Dixie</a>	One summer's day, ten-year-old India Opal Buloni goes down to the local supermarket for some groceries—and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog. It's because of Winn-Dixie that Opal begins to make friends. And it's because of Winn-Dixie that she finally dares to ask her father about her mother, who left when Opal was three. In fact, as Opal admits, just about everything that happens that summer is because of Winn-Dixie. This updated edition of Kate DiCamillo's classic novel invites readers to make themselves at home—whether they're experiencing the book for the first time or returning to an old favorite.	670
Animal Stories	Gipson	Fred	<a href="#">Old Yeller</a>	When his father sets out on a cattle drive toward Kansas for the summer, fourteen-year-old Travis Coates is left to take care of his family and their farm. Living in Texas Hill Country during the 1860s, Travis comes to face new, unanticipated, and often perilous responsibilities in the frontier wilderness.  A particular nuisance is a stray yellow dog that shows up one day and steals food from the family. But the big canine who Travis calls "Old Yeller" proves his worth by defending the family from danger. And Travis ultimately finds help and comfort in the courage and unwavering love of the dog who comes to be his very best friend.	910

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Animal Stories	Henry	Marguerite	<a href="#"><i>Benjamin West and His Cat Grimalkin</i></a>	<p>Benjamin West was born with an extraordinary gift—the gift of creating paintings of people, animals, and landscapes so true to life they “took one’s breath away.” But Benjamin is part of a deeply religious Quaker family, and Quaker beliefs forbid the creation of images.</p> <p>Because Benjamin’s family didn’t approve of his art, he had to make his own painting supplies. The local Native Americans taught him how to mix paints from earth, clay, and plants. And his cat, Grimalkin, sacrificed hair from his tail for Ben’s brushes.</p>	730
Animal Stories	Henry	Marguerite	<a href="#"><i>Misty of Chincoteague</i></a>	<p>On the island of Chincoteague, off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland, lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. Among them is the most mysterious of all, Phantom, a rarely-seen mare that eludes all efforts to capture her—that is, until a young boy and girl lay eyes on her and determine that they can’t live without her.</p> <p>The frenzied roundup that follows on the next Pony Penning Day does indeed bring Phantom into their lives, in a way they never would have suspected. Phantom would forever be a creature of the wild. But her gentle, loyal colt Misty is another story altogether...</p>	750
Animal Stories	Henry	Marguerite	<a href="#"><i>Brighty of the Grand Canyon</i></a>	<p>Brighty was a real live burro who lived in the Grand Canyon. He is believed to have been brought from Flagstaff, Arizona down to the Colorado River in the bottom of the Grand Canyon in 1890-1892. Whomever brought him there is believed to have drowned in the Colorado River. That persons body was never found. After that, Brighty spent the next thirty years as essentially an independent contractor. He would carry loads and passengers up and down the Bright Angel Trail in return for food. Nobody ever owned him. If the payment he received in food was not satisfactory, he would just leave and go to work for somebody else. Brighty was given his name by a prospector who found him after his original owners had died. Brighty became famous when US President Theodore Roosevelt used him to hunt mountain lions. An old prospector living in the canyon found the burro running wild along Bright Angle Creek and named him Brighty and held him not with ropes but with friendship. When the prospector mysteriously died, Brighty once again roamed free. On his trips up and down the canyon wall he hobnobbed with map-makers, artists and geologists and soon they were following his trail from rim to river.</p>	880

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Animal Stories	Herriott	James	<a href="#"><i>All Creatures Great and Small</i></a>	<p>Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients.</p> <p>For over forty years, generations of readers have thrilled to Herriot's marvelous tales, deep love of life, and extraordinary storytelling abilities. For decades, Herriot roamed the remote, beautiful Yorkshire Dales, treating every patient that came his way from smallest to largest, and observing animals and humans alike with his keen, loving eye.</p> <p>In <i>All Creatures Great and Small</i>, we meet the young Herriot as he takes up his calling and discovers that the realities of veterinary practice in rural Yorkshire are very different from the sterile setting of veterinary school. Some visits are heart-wrenchingly difficult, such as one to an old man in the village whose very ill dog is his only friend and companion, some are lighthearted and fun, such as Herriot's periodic visits to the overfed and pampered Pekinese Tricky Woo who throws parties and has his own stationery, and yet others are inspirational and enlightening, such as Herriot's recollections of poor farmers who will scrape their meager earnings together to be able to get proper care for their working animals. From seeing to his patients in the depths of winter on the remotest homesteads to dealing with uncooperative owners and critically ill animals, Herriot discovers the wondrous variety and never-ending challenges of veterinary practice as his humor, compassion, and love of the animal world shine forth.</p>	
Animal Stories	Rawlings	Marjorie	<a href="#"><i>The Yearling</i></a>	<p>No novel better epitomizes the love between a child and a pet than <i>The Yearling</i>. Young Jody adopts an orphaned fawn he calls Flag and makes it a part of his family and his best friend. But life in the Florida backwoods is harsh, and so, as his family fights off wolves, bears, and even alligators, and faces failure in their tenuous subsistence farming, Jody must finally part with his dear animal friend. There has been a film and even a musical based on this moving story, a fine work of great American literature.</p>	750

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Animal Stories	Rawls	Wilson	<a href="#">Where the Red Fern Grows</a>	<p>Billy has long dreamt of owning not one, but two, dogs. So when he's finally able to save up enough money for two pups to call his own—Old Dan and Little Ann—he's ecstatic. It doesn't matter that times are tough; together they'll roam the hills of the Ozarks.</p> <p>Soon Billy and his hounds become the finest hunting team in the valley. Stories of their great achievements spread throughout the region, and the combination of Old Dan's brawn, Little Ann's brains, and Billy's sheer will seems unbeatable. But tragedy awaits these determined hunters—now friends—and Billy learns that hope can grow out of despair, and that the seeds of the future can come from the scars of the past.</p>	
Animal Stories	Reynolds-Naylor	Phyllis	<a href="#">Shiloh</a>	<p>When Marty Preston comes across a young beagle in the hills behind his home, it's love at first sight—and also big trouble. It turns out the dog, which Marty names Shiloh, belongs to Judd Travers, who drinks too much and has a gun—and abuses his dogs. So when Shiloh runs away from Judd to Marty, Marty just has to hide him and protect him from Judd. But Marty's secret becomes too big for him to keep to himself, and it exposes his entire family to Judd's anger. How far will Marty have to go to make Shiloh his?</p>	890