

**NOVEL APPROACH BOOKS – Fourth Grade**

#	Title	Author	Grade	Special	Codes	Summary
4	People Could Fly: American Black Folktales	Hamilton, Virginia	4	RL4; IL 3-6	TG	Retold African-American folktales of animals, fantasy, the supernatural, and desire for freedom, born of the sorrow of the slaves, but passed on in hope.
12	Homesick: My Own Story	Fritz, Jean	4	RL4; IL 4-7	* + TG	The author's fictionalized version, though all the events are true, of her childhood in China in the 1920's.
11	Souder	Armstrong, William	4	RL5; IL 5-8	* TG	Angry and humiliated when his sharecropper father is jailed for stealing food for his family, a young black boy grows in courage and understanding with the help of the devoted dog Souder.
10	Summer to Die	Lowry, Lois	4	RL5; IL 4-9	TG	Thirteen-year-old Meg envies her sister's beauty and popularity. Her feelings don't make it any easier for her to cope with Molly's strange illness and eventual death.
15	From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	Konigsburg, E. L.	4	RL5; IL 4-8	* TG	Two suburban children run away from their Connecticut home and go to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, where their ingenuity enables them to live in luxury.
20	Summer of Riley	Bunting, Eve	4	RL4.1; IL3-6		Shortly after he gets the perfect dog, Riley, eleven-year-old William must fight for his dog's life after Riley is taken away because he chases and injures an elderly neighbor's old horse.
11	Wrinkle in Time	L'Engle, Madeleine	4	RL6; IL 4-9	* + TG	Three extraterrestrial beings take Meg and her friends to another world.
12	My Side of the Mountain	George, Jean	4	RL5; IL 3-7	* + TG	A young boy relates his adventures during the year he spends living alone in the Catskill Mountains including his struggle for survival, his dependence on nature, his animal friends, and his realization that he needs human companionship.
14	Trumpet of the Swan	White, E. B.	4	RL5.9; IL 3-6		Knowing how to read and write is not enough for Louis, a voiceless Trumpeter Swan; his determination to learn to play a stolen trumpet takes him far from his wilderness home.
12	Old Yeller	Gipson, Fred	4	RL6; IL 4-8	* TG	In the late 1860s in the Texas hill country, a big yellow dog and a fourteen-year-old boy form a close, loving relationship.
12	By the Great Horn Spoon!	Fleischman, Sid	4	RL5; IL 4-7	TG	Jack and the family butler head 'round the Horn & have hilarious adventures in the 1849 California gold fields.
5	Zlata's Diary	Filopovic, Zlata	4	RL7; IL 4-7+	TG	The diary of a thirteen-year-old girl living in Sarajevo, begun just before her

						eleventh birthday when there was still peace in her homeland.
15	Music of Dolphins	Hesse, Karen	4	RL5; IL 4-7		Using sophisticated computer technology, a fifteen-year-old girl who has been raised by dolphins, records her thoughts about her reintroduction to the human world.
13	Great Brain Does It Again	Fitzgerald, John D.	4	RL4; IL 4-6	+ &	In turn-of-the-century Mormon Utah, Tom's great brain comes up with eight more schemes, most of them concerned with earning money.
14	Wolves of Willoughby Chase	Aiken, Joan	4	RL6; IL 4-7	+ TG	Surrounded by villains of the first order, brave Bonnie and gentle cousin Sylvia conquer all obstacles in this Victorian melodrama.
11	Lost Star: the Story of Amelia Earhart	Lauber, Patricia	4	RL5; IL 4-9		Presents tips and reproducible materials for teaching Patricia Lauber's "Lost Star : the story of Amelia Earhart" in grades six through nine, including author details, discussion questions, and activities.
11	James and the Giant Peach	Dahl, Roald	4	RL6; IL 3-6	TG	A young boy escapes from two wicked aunts and embarks on a series of adventures with six giant insects he meets inside a giant peach.
10	Snow Treasure	McSwigan, Marie	4	RL4; IL 3-7	TG	A fictionalized account of how a group of Norwegian children carried bullion to the sea on their sleds, thus helping their country move its gold reserves to the United States during the German occupation.
13	Welcome to the Grand View, Hannah	Skolsky, Mindy Warshaw	4	RL 4.5 ; IL3-6		"Previously published as Hannah is a palindrome." Living in rural New York state during the 1930's, Hannah begins to see her parents and herself in a different light as they settle into their new apartment behind the Grand View Restaurant.
15	Back in Time with Benjamin Franklin: a Qwerty Stevens Adventure	Gutman, Dan	4	RL5.3;IL3-6		After accidentally sucking Ben Franklin into 21st-century N.J. with his Anytime Anywhere machine, 12-yr-old Qwerty Stevens & friend are almost stuck in Philadelphia on July 4, 1776. (2 copies in FIC with title as Qwerty Stevens...)
12	Freedom Train: the Story of Harriet Tubman	Sterling, Dorothy	4	RL5; IL 4-7		Harriet Tubman, known as the Moses of her people, escapes slavery, then risks her life to bring other slaves to freedom up the Underground Railroad.
28	Sign of the Beaver	Speare, Elizabeth George	4	RL5; IL 4-9	* TG	Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills.

6	Random House Book of Poetry for Children	Prelutsky, Jack ed.	4	RL4; IL K-6		More than 550 poems by American, English, and anonymous authors.
6	Grandfather Tales	Chase, Richard ed.	4	RL4; IL 3-6		Presents 25 English-American folktales collected in the 1940s from storytellers in North Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, and Maine, including Americanized retellings of "Cinderella," "Robin Hood," "Hansel and Gretel," and "King Lear."
12	Perilous Road	Steele, William O.	4	RL5; IL 4-7	*	During the Civil War, fourteen-year-old Chris's spying for the Confederates may mean trouble for his brother in the Union Army.
32	Midnight Fox	Byars, Betsy	4	RL4; IL 3-7		A young boy saves the life of a fox that has been raiding his uncle's farm.
14	BFG	Dahl, Roald	4	RL5; IL 3-6		Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant) who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts a plan with him to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.
11	Squanto, Friend of the Pilgrims	Bulla, Clyde Robert	4	RL4; IL 3-5	&	A biography of the Indian who was a friend to the Pilgrims and was later taken to England and Spain, traveling to places where no other Indians had been.
26	Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	Lewis, C. S.	4	RL6; IL 5-8	+ &	Four English school children find their way through the back of a wardrobe into the magic land of Narnia and assist Aslan, the golden lion, to triumph over the White Witch who has cursed the land with eternal winter.
12	Return of the Indian	Banks, Lynne Reid	4	RL5; IL 4-7	+ & TG	Sequel to "The Indian in the Cupboard." A year after he sends his Indian friend, Little Bear, back into the magic cupboard, Omri decides to bring him back only to find that he is close to death and in need of help.
12	Call It Courage	Sperry, Armstrong	4	RL5; IL 4-8	* TG	Based on a Polynesian legend, this is the story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe.
11	Rascal	North, Sterling	4	RL6; IL 4-7	* TG	The author recalls his carefree life in a small midwestern town at the close of World War I, and his adventures with his pet raccoon, Rascal.
14	Tuck Everlasting	Babbitt, Natalie	4	RL5; IL 4-7	TG	The Tuck family is confronted with an agonizing situation when they discover that a ten-year-old girl and a malicious stranger now share their secret about a spring whose water prevents one from ever growing any older.
31	Shiloh	Naylor, Phyllis	4	RL5; IL 3-6	* +	Marty finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, and tries

		Reynolds				to hide it from his family and the dog's real owner, a mean-spirited man known to shoot deer out of season and to mistreat his dogs.
12	Trouble River	Byars, Betsy	4	RL5; IL 5-8	TG	When he builds his raft, a twelve-year-old boy never dreams that it will serve as the sole means of escape for him and his grandmother when hostile Indians threaten their prairie cabin.
27	Indian in the Cupboard	Banks, Lynne Reid	4	RL5; IL 4-7	+ TG	A nine-year-old boy receives a plastic Indian, a cupboard, and a little key for his birthday and finds himself involved in adventure when the Indian comes to life in the cupboard and befriends him.
12	Trouble on Janus	Slote, Alfred	4	RL4; IL 3-6	+	Jack and his robot buddy, Danny One, set off for the planet Janus to rescue the young King Paul from his conniving uncle.
13	Pinballs	Byars, Betsy	4	RL4; IL 4-7	TG	Three lonely foster children learn to care about themselves and each other.
12	Bridge to Terabithia	Paterson, Katherine	4	RL4; IL 4-7	* TG	The life of a ten-year-old boy in rural Virginia expands when he becomes friends with a newcomer who subsequently meets an untimely death trying to reach their hideaway, Terabithia, during a storm.
17	Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh	O'Brien, Robert C.	4	RL5; IL 4-6	* + TG	With nowhere else to turn, a field mouse asks the clever escaped lab rats living under the rosebush to help save her son, who lies in the path of the farmer's tractor, too ill to be moved.
43	Castle in the Attic	Winthrop, Elizabeth	4	RL5; IL 3-7	+ TG	A gift of a toy castle, complete with silver knight, introduces William to an adventure involving magic and a personal quest.
11	Caddie Woodlawn	Brink, Carol	4	RL5; IL 3-7	* + TG	Chronicles the adventures of eleven-year-old Caddie growing up with her six brothers and sisters on the Wisconsin frontier in the mid-nineteenth century.
20	Twenty and Ten	Bishop, Claire	4	RL4; IL 3-6	TG	Twenty school children, living in a refuge in France, hide ten Jewish children from the Nazis during the occupation of France during World War II and vow never to betray them.
15	Dear Mr. Henshaw	Cleary, Beverly	4	RL4; IL 4-7	* + TG	In his letters to his favorite author, ten-year-old Leigh reveals his problems in coping with his parents' divorce, being the new boy in school, and generally finding his own place in the world.
23	Great Gilly Hopkins	Paterson, Katherine	4	RL5; IL 4-9	* & TG	An eleven-year-old foster child tries to cope with her longings and fears as she schemes against everyone who tries to be friendly.

56	Touching Spirit Bear	Mikaelsen, Ben	4-6	RL6.7;IL 5-8		Fifteen-year-old Cole, trying to avoid prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the Native American Circle Justice, and is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.
15	Among the Betrayed	Haddix, Margaret	4-6	RL4.5;IL 3-6	+ &	Sequel to Among the Impostors: Thirteen-year-old Nina is imprisoned by the Population Police, who give her the option of helping them identify illegal "third-born" children, or facing death.
32	Sparrow Hawk Red	Mikaelsen, Ben	4-6	RL5; IL 3-6	&	Thirteen-year-old Ricky, the Mexican American son of a former Drug Enforcement Agency man, tries to avenge his mother's murder by crossing over into Mexico to steal a high-tech radar plane from drug smugglers.
58	Among the Hidden	Haddix, Margaret	4-6	RL4.7;IL 4-6	+ &	In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.
14	Among the Barons	Haddix, Margaret Peterson	4-6	RL5.5;IL 3-6	&	Sequel to: Among the betrayed. In a future world of false identities, government lies, and death threats, Luke feels drawn to the younger brother of the boy whose name Luke has taken.
53	Rescue Josh McGuire	Mikaelsen, Ben	4-6	RL5; IL 3-6		When thirteen-year-old Josh runs away to the mountains of Montana with an orphaned bear cub destined for laboratory testing, they both must fight for their lives in a sudden snowstorm.
10	Petey	Mikaelsen, Ben	4-6	RL7; IL 5-8		In 1922 Petey, who has cerebral palsy, is misdiagnosed as an idiot and institutionalized; sixty years later, still in the institution, he befriends a boy and shares with him the joy of life.
59	Among the Impostors	Haddix, Margaret	4-6	RL5.2;IL 3-6	+ &	Sequel to Among the Hidden: Third-born Luke has been in hiding for the entire twelve years of his life, until he enters boarding school under an assumed name and is forced to face his fears.
18	Stranded	Mikaelsen, Ben	4-6	RL5; IL 3-6	&	Twelve-year-old Koby, who has lost a foot in an accident, sees a chance to prove her self-reliance to her parents when she tries to rescue two stranded pilot whales near her home in the Florida Keys.