

Attentiveness

Character... It starts with me!

Vs. Distraction

ROBIN'S READING LIST

I WILL:

- look at people when they speak to me
- ask questions when I do not understand
- sit or stand up straight
- not draw attention to myself
- keep my eyes, ears, hands, feet, and mouth from distractions

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Showing the worth of a person or task by giving my undivided concentration

Teacher Resource:

Attention Games: 101 Fun, Easy Games That Help Kids Learn To Focus

by Barbara Sher

Grades Pre K- 3:

Dawdle Duckling by Toni Buzzeo and Margaret Spengler

Dawdle Duckling won't follow dutifully behind Mama Duck like his three siblings do. He's too busy preening and playing, splashing and spinning, dunking and dipping...and always, always dreaming. But he's in for a surprise...there's a crocodile waiting for a duckling lunch to swim by. When Mama quacks a warning, suddenly Dawdle Duckling isn't such a dawdler after all.

Fox and His Friends by Edward Marshall

This is an easy-to-read story where Mom, once again, wants Fox to look after Louise, but Fox wants to have fun with his friends...not take care of his little sister!!!!

Officer Buckle and Gloria by Peggy Rathman

The children at Napville School always ignore Officer Buckle's safety tips, until a police dog named Gloria accompanies him when he gives his safety speeches. How will Gloria liven up the speeches?

Madeline's Rescue by Ludwig Beleman

One day on a walk through Paris, Madeline slips and falls off a bridge right into the Seine. Everyone feared she would be dead, "But for a dog that kept its head," saving her from a "watery grave." What choice do Madeline and the girls have but to take the heroic pooch home, feed her biscuits, milk, and beef, and name her Genevieve? Sadly, when Lord Cucuface gets wind of the new dog, he decrees that no dogs will be allowed in the "old house in Paris that was covered with vines," and kicks Genevieve out on the street. Madeline vows vengeance and the girls scour Paris looking for the pup.



Robin's Reading List

Hi by Ann Herbert Scott

Sometimes children are literally overlooked, and hurt feelings result. Such is the case with Margarita, the heroine of this picture book. On a trip to the post office with her mother, Margarita becomes increasingly frustrated when her repeated greeting is ignored—by girls “too busy talking with each other,” by a harried mother “too busy taking care of her baby,” etc. Finally the postal clerk makes Margarita’s day with a hearty “hi” of her own.

Listen and Learn by Cheri J. Meiners

Knowing how to listen is essential to learning, growing, and getting along with others. Simple words and inviting illustrations help children develop skills for listening, understanding why it’s important to listen, and recognize the positive results of listening. This book includes a note to teachers and parents, additional information for adults, and activities.

Tea With an Old Dragon by Jane Yolen

Young Louisa's curiosity is piqued when the formidable Miss Sophy Smith drives by in her carriage and the boys with whom she is playing refer to its occupant as the "Old Dragon." When Louisa repeats the boys' appellation for this pillar of Hatfield society, the girl's mother sends her off to her room without lunch. After being liberated from her confinement, Louisa sets off to determine who or what this old dragon has to do with the elderly woman. She, of course, begins at the source. Rather than resenting the intrusion of this curious, perplexed child into her fine home, Miss Sophy is charmed by Louisa's direct manner. The two have tea and conversation despite the woman's limited hearing. Louisa plays her new friend's grand piano on her first visit and returns frequently to do so until, to her great disappointment, the child's family moves.

Lola at the Library by Anna McGuinn

Lola at the Library, originally published in Britain as Lulu Loves the Library, follows Lola’s day with books from waking her mommy early in the morning for their trip to the library to their cozy bedtime story in the evening. Lola is an African-American toddler, who loves everything about Tuesdays. This is the day she packs her library books and library card in her backpack for the walk with her mommy to the library for story time.

Eagle Eyes: A Child’s Guide to Paying Attention by Jeanne Gehret and Michael Laduca

Revised with new illustrations, this tale begins with the hero's fascination with nature, and shows how ADHD negatively affects his family dynamics, schoolwork, and self-esteem. The hallmarks of ADHD--impulsivity, distractibility, and hyperactivity, as well as difficulty sleeping--are clearly shown in this story. Newer updates of the treatment process are provided, including relaxation techniques, medication, and an entire song that a child can sing to help them gather school materials before leaving home. Discussion starters to help parents and professionals expand on the meaning of the book are included for use with individuals or groups of children.



Robin's Reading List

Grades 4 – 8:

For Your Eyes Only by Joanne Rocklin

When Mr. Moffat gets everyone in class to start keeping journals, Lucy pours her heart out to him in entries with the warning: For YOUR eyes only! Through the journal, Mr. Moffat becomes Lucy's confidant and inspiration. Lucy begins writing poetry and becomes more attentive to the world around her, and her feelings about her divorced parents, her best friend, and a boy named Andy.

The Cat Ate My Gym Suit by Paula Danziger

Marcy Lewis is bored by school and life in general, until Ms. Finney comes along. Although Ms. Finney is accessible and human, her controversial teaching methods cause her a suspension. With a new sense of self, Marcy embarks in a protest that provokes her suspension, too.

The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mary, a frightened orphan, discovers the joyful wonders of life on the Yorkshire Moors with the help of two local boys and a mysterious, abandoned garden...where all things seem possible.

Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry

On an island 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. The wild 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.

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

Ivan is an easy going gorilla. Living at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade, he has grown accustomed to humans watching him through the glass walls of his domain. He rarely misses his life in the jungle. In fact, he hardly ever thinks about it at all.

Instead, Ivan thinks about TV shows he's seen and about his friends Stella, an elderly elephant, and Bob, a stray dog. But mostly Ivan thinks about art and how to capture the taste of a mango or the sound of leaves with color and a well-placed line.

Then he meets Ruby, a baby elephant taken from her family, and she makes Ivan see their home—and his own art—through new eyes. When Ruby arrives, change comes with her, and it's up to Ivan to make it a change for the better.



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Just A Dog by Michael Gerard Bauer

When Corey was three years old, his family let him choose a puppy from a litter of mixed-breed dogs. Without hesitation, he picked the puppy that was mostly white. The name "Mister Mostly" eventually became "Mr. Mosely," because Corey was too little to be able to say the letter "t."

Mr. Mosely learned only one trick in his whole life. He never won a prize in a dog show. He didn't rescue anyone from a burning building. Still, Mr. Mosely was an absolutely incredible dog. With his amazing love, loyalty and intuition, he supported every member of his family. He seemed to know what they needed even when they didn't know themselves.

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry

Number the Stars tells the tale of Annemarie Johansen, a young girl living in Denmark during World War II. The book opens in 1943, three years after German soldiers first arrived to occupy the small country. After three years of living uneasily with this occupying force, the gloves finally come off as the German Nazis begin their campaign to "relocate" all the Jews of Denmark. The Danish Resistance, made up of ordinary citizens like the Johansen family, works steadily to smuggle the Jews out of Denmark and over the sea to nearby Sweden. Annemarie, only ten years old, must find courage and maturity beyond her years within herself in order to help her best friend, Ellen Rosen, escape from the Nazis.

Don't You Know There's a War On? by Avi

World War II is on everyone's mind and in every headline, and Howie Crispers has a hunch that his school principal is a spy. With a little snooping around, Howie finds out something even more alarming. Principal Lomister may not be a spy, but he is plotting to get rid of Howie's favorite teacher. Howie's dad is fighting Nazis overseas, and his mom is working hard to support the war effort, so Miss Gossim is the only person Howie can depend on. With the help of his friends, and an attentive plan worthy of radio show superhero Captain Midnight, Howie intends to save Miss Gossim!

Buttermilk Hill by Ruth White

Until Piper Berry is ten years old, life is simple and stable in her hometown of Buttermilk Hill, North Carolina. She lives with her mom and dad, spends time listening to her grandmother's stories, and has fun with her best friend's aunt, who is also her age. But then her parents divorce. Her mother goes back to college and her father remarries. Suddenly, Piper has to deal with a whole new set of circumstances, such as trying to fit in with her step family, and spending less time with her mother who is busy with classes and new boyfriends. Faced with these challenges Piper learns to express herself through poetry, and discovers that her newfound talent can open the door to her dreams.



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Koya Delaney and the Good Girl Blues by Eloise Greenfield

Koya has a knack for hiding her true feelings with her infectious laugh that leaves everyone happy, except herself. Koya is upset by an argument that her sister Loritha and her friend Dawn had right before a jump rope contest. Not sure what to do about the situation, she remains angry with the both of them, and confused the situation. Her cousin Del, a rock star, comes to visit, and now her attention must be focused on him instead of Loritha and Dawn.

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

The summer Opal and her father, the preacher, move to Naomi, Florida, Opal goes into the Winn-Dixie supermarket and comes out with a dog. This dog is a big, ugly, suffering dog, with a sterling sense of humor. A dog she dubs Winn-Dixie. Because of Winn-Dixie, the preacher tells Opal ten things about her absent mother, one for each year Opal has been alive. Winn-Dixie is better at making friends than anyone Opal has ever known, and together they meet the local librarian, Miss Franny Block, who once fought off a bear with a copy of War and Peace. They meet Gloria Dump, who is nearly blind but sees with her heart, and Otis, an ex-con who sets the animals in his pet shop loose after hours, then lulls them with his guitar. Opal spends all that sweet summer collecting stories about her new friends, and thinking about her mother. But because of Winn-Dixie or perhaps because she has grown, Opal learns to let go, just a little, and that friendship-and forgiveness-can sneak up on you like a sudden summer storm.

Crackback by John Coy

John Coy presents the high stakes world of high school football, where doing what it takes to win doesn't always mean doing the right thing, and a young man discovers that the hits he takes on the field don't compare to the ones he faces in life. This look into the world of high school boys and athletes, and their struggle to be the best, is honest...teens struggling with adults who demand, but don't always deserve respect.

Grades 9-12:

Bad by Jean Ferris

Sixteen year old Dallas loves the rush, the excitement of "skating." She and her friends decide to rob a convenience store, and she gets caught. Since it is her first offense, the judge says she can go home on probation, but her father says that he can't control her. Dallas gets six months in the Girls' Rehabilitation Center. Once there, she meets an assortment of "bad" girls, many of whom don't expect to change. Those who do, often time don't make it. How Dallas comes to terms with herself, both the bad and the good, makes for a heartfelt and insightful novel about troubled teenagers and the odds they face in trying to turn their lives



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around.

Home of the Braves by David Klass

Joe Brickman, captain of the soccer and wrestling teams, is trying to find the courage to ask Kristine, his best friend since childhood, out on a date. Antonio is a Brazilian Soccer star who arrives as a transfer student, is totally self-assured, and able to defend himself one-on-one, and scoffs at the system. Joe tries to explain how things work, but the newcomer is rude and condescending. Joe's nerdy buddy, "Mouse" is marked by the jocks and refuses to play the game. When violence erupts, the administration responds with a zero-tolerance policy. Intervention comes in the form of bars on the windows, metal detectors, police in the halls, etc. There are many strands in this multilayered story. The characters are believable teens searching for answers to complex societal and individual issues.

The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make: A Guide for Teens by Sean Covey

The challenges teens face today are tougher than at any time in history: academic stress, parent communication, media bombardment, dating drama, abuse, bullying, addictions, depression, and peer pressure, just to name a few. And, like it or not, the choices teens make while navigating these challenges can make or break their futures.

In The 6 Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make, Sean Covey, author of the international bestseller The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, gives teens the strong advice they need to make informed and wise decisions. Using real stories from teens around the world, Sean shows teens how to succeed in school, make good friends, get along with parents, wisely handle dating and sex issues, avoid or overcome addictions, build self-esteem, and much more. Jam-packed with original cartoons, inspiring quotes, and fun quizzes, this innovative book will help teens not only survive but thrive during their teen years and beyond.

Building upon the legacy of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, this is an indispensable resource for teens everywhere.

The Selected Stories of O. Henry by Henry O.

O. Henry, the pen name of William Sydney Porter, is known for short stories with surprise endings. In this collection you will find the following beloved O. Henry stories: "The Plutonian Fire", "The Princess and the Puma", "By Courier", "The Gift of the Magi", "The Love-Philtre of Ikey Schoenstein", "Mammon and the Archer", "The Memento", "Springtime À La Carte", "The Last Leaf", "The Skylight Room", "The Caliph, Cupid and the Clock", "The Count And The Wedding Guest", "The Romance of a Busy Broker", "The Higher Pragmatism", "While the Auto Waits", "The Social Triangle", "After Twenty Years", "The Green Door", "A Lickpenny Lover", "Lost on Dress Parade", "Transients in Arcadia", "Brickdust Row", "The Furnished Room", "Schools And



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Schools", "The Defeat of the City", "Madame Bo-Peep, of the Ranches", "From Each According to his Ability", "The Cabellero's Way", "Hygeia at the Solito", "The Higher Abdication", "A Double-Dyed Deceiver", "Friends in San Rosario", "The Hiding of Black Bill", "Jeff Peters as a Personal Magnet", "The Man Higher Up", "The Handbook of Hymen", "Telemachus, Friend", "The Lonesome Road", "A Retrieved Reformation", "The Renaissance at Charleroi", "The Thing's the Play", "Tobin's Palm", "A Newspaper Story", "Proof of the Pudding", and "Confessions Of A Humorist"

The World Without Us by Alan Weisman

If a virulent virus—or even the Rapture—depopulated Earth overnight, how long before all trace of humankind vanished? That's the provocative, and occasionally puckish, question posed by Weisman (*An Echo in My Blood*) in this imaginative hybrid of solid science reporting and morbid speculation. Days after our disappearance, pumps keeping Manhattan's subways dry would fail, tunnels would flood, soil under streets would sluice away and the foundations of towering skyscrapers built to last for centuries would start to crumble. At the other end of the chronological spectrum, anything made of bronze might survive in recognizable form for millions of years—along with one billion pounds of degraded but almost indestructible plastics manufactured since the mid-20th century. Meanwhile, land freed from mankind's environmentally poisonous footprint would quickly reconstitute itself, as in Chernobyl, where animal life has returned after 1986's deadly radiation leak, and in the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea, a refuge since 1953 for the almost-extinct goral mountain goat and Amur leopard. From a patch of primeval forest in Poland to monumental underground villages in Turkey, Weisman's enthralling tour of the world of tomorrow explores what little will remain of ancient times while anticipating, often poetically, what a planet without us would be like.

Ecological Disasters by Ann Weil

This series of nonfiction readers will grab a student's interest from the very first page. Designed with struggling readers in mind, these riveting 92-page soft cover books offer short chapters on significant disasters. Each chapter is its own mini-book, which includes a timeline, key terms, and interesting facts. Fascinating black and white photographs keep the pages turning. A bibliography encourages further topical reading. Disasters are inherently frightening, riveting, and involving. Grabbed straight from the headlines, these disasters leave tragedy, destruction, and years of anguish: London Fog, The Love Canal, The Hanford Nuclear Power Plant, The Exxon Valdez, Chernobyl, Bhopal, Fukushima Daiichi and more.

