

Mystery and Detective Stories for Kids

Absolutely Truly · Frederick, Heather Vogel

Find It: J FRE

“Twelve-year-old Truly Lovejoy’s family moves to a small town to take over a bookstore. Soon, she has to solve two mysteries involving a missing book and an undelivered letter.”

Ada Lace Adventures 1 and 2 · Calandrelli, Emily

Find It: J CD CAL

Eight-year-old Ada, who has knack for science and math also solves mysteries.

Belly Up! · Gibbs, Stuart

Find It: J GIB

“Twelve-year-old Teddy investigates when a popular Texas zoo's star attraction--Henry the hippopotamus--is murdered.”

Big Bad Detective Agency · Hale, Bruce

Find It: J HAL

The houses of the three (not-so-) little pigs have been broken into. The suspected culprit, Wolfgang, teams up with a fourth pig to solve the case and clear his name.

Bunnica: A Rabbit Tale of Mystery · Howe, Deborah

Find It: J HOW

“Though scoffed at by Harold the dog, Chester the cat tries to warn his human family that their foundling baby bunny must be a vampire.”

The Case of the Snack Snatcher · O’Donnell, Liam

Find It: J ODO

Third grade student Myron works to solve the mystery of the missing school snacks. Myron’s unique perspective from being on the autism spectrum makes him a top notch-sleuth.

The Case of the Stolen Sixpence · Webb, Holly

Find It: J WEB

“Junior sleuth Maisie Hitchens, who lives in her grandmother’s boarding house in Victorian London, uncovers an intriguing plot involving stolen sausages, pilfered halfpennies, and a fast-paced bicycle chase.”

The Charmed Children of Rookskill Castle · Fox, Janet S.

Find It: J FOX

In 1940, during the Blitz, Katherine Bateson’s family sends her out of London to a private school in Rookskill Castle in Scotland. When her classmates begin to vanish Katherine investigates.

The Cry of the Loon: A Samantha Mystery · Steiner, Barbara A.

Find It: J SER AME SAM

“In June 1907, twelve-year-old Samantha looks forward to happy summer with Nellie and her younger sisters at Grandmary’s country home in the Adirondacks but a series of mysterious accidents on the property lead Samantha to suspect that someone is deliberately causing trouble.”

The Crystal Ball: A Rebecca Mystery · Greene, Jacqueline Dembar

Find It: J SER AME REB

“When Rebecca helps her injured neighbor, Mr. Rossi, by caring for his pigeons, she discovers a strange black pigeon with an eerie message warning Mr. Rossi of danger, and consults a fortune teller to learn if she is in danger.”

Curse of the Boggin · MacHale, D. J.

Find It: J CD MAC

“There's a place beyond this world, beyond the land of the living, where ghosts go to write their unfinished stories--stories that ended too soon. It's a place for unexplained phenomena: mysteries that have never been solved, spirits that have never been laid to rest. And there's only one way in or out. It's called the Library, and you can get there with a special key. But beware! Don't start a story you can't finish. Because in this library, the stories you can't finish just might finish you.”

The Detective’s Assistant · Hannigan, Kate

Find It: J HAN

Eleven-year-old Nell helps her aunt, the first female detective for the Pinkerton’s National Detective Agency, solve cases.

Dew Drop Dead: A Sebastian Barth Mystery · Howe, James

Find It: J HOW

“While setting up a homeless shelter at the church, Sebastian and his friends, Corrie and David, solve the mystery of a dead man found in an abandoned inn.”

Digging for Trouble · Fairstein, Linda A.

Find It: J FAI; J CD FAI

“When twelve-year-old aspiring detective Devlin Quick goes on a fossil dig in the badlands of Montana, she realizes that she’s uncovering more than just dinosaur bones, but clues indicating that a crime is afoot.”

Effie Starr Zook Has One More Question · Freeman, Martha

Find It: J FRE

“City girl Effie Starr Zook is not excited about spending the summer on her aunt and uncle’s farm in Nowheresville, Pennsylvania, until she stumbles across a mystery that leads her smack into an old family feud.”

The Everafter War · Buckley, Michael

Find It: J CD BUC

“After their parents awake from a sleeping spell, Daphne and Sabrina become caught in the middle of a war between the Scarlet Hand and Prince Charming’s Everafter army and learn a shocking secret about a deadly enemy.”

Framed · Ponti, James

Find It: J PON

“In Washington, D.C., twelve-year-old Florian Bates, a consulting detective for the FBI, and his best friend Margaret help thwart the biggest art heist in United States history.”

A Guide to the Other Side · Imfeld, Robert

Find It: J IMF

“Thirteen-year-old Baylor Bosco does not like ghosts, but as a medium he sees them—including his twin sister Kristina--everywhere but Kristina disappears after a strange ghost shows up and Baylor must try to find her on his own.”

Greenglass House · Milford, Kate

Find It: J MIL

The twelve-year-old adopted son of the innkeepers at Greenglass House discovers the truth about Greenglass House and himself.

Hocus Pocus Hotel · Dahl, Michael

Find It: J DAH

“Combines two stories also published separately, *Out the Rear Window* and *To Catch a Ghost*, in which Charlie Hickock and Tyler Yu investigate mysteries at the Abracadabra Hotel.”

The Hollow Boy · Stroud, Jonathan

Find It: J STR

Lockwood Company investigators, Anthony, George, and Lucy, investigate a massive outbreak of supernatural visitors in London.

The House with a Clock in Its Walls · Bellairs, John

Find It: J BEL

A timepiece designed to obliterate humankind must be stopped.

Into The Lion’s Den · Fairstein, Linda A.

Find It: J FAI; J CD FAI

“Twelve-year-old Devlin Quick is determined to bring a thief to justice when someone steals a page out of a rare maps book in the New York Library.”

Isabel Feeney: Star Reporter · Fantaskey, Beth

Find It: J FAN

“In the 1920s, a ten-year-old newsgirl who aspires to be a reporter at the Chicago Tribune investigates the murder of a gangster.”

It Came from Beneath the Playground · Scroggs, Kirk

Find It: J SCR

“Fifth-grade private eyes Logan and Gustavo use their doodling and detective skills to solve the mystery of a group of moles that have stolen the amusement park merry-go-round”-- Provided by publisher.

Ivy + Bean Take the Case · Barrows, Annie

Find It: J SER IVY #10

"After watching a movie about a detective on the television, Bean decides to set up shop as a private investigator—and she and Ivy start looking for mysteries to solve."

Last Panda Standing · Jarrett, Krosoczka

Find It: J KRO

Detective Rick Zengo of the Platypus Police Squad investigates when mayoral candidate, Frank Pandini, is attacked by a boomerang in the animal inhabited Kalamazoo City.

The Legend of Diamond Lil: A J.J. Tully Mystery · Cronin, Doreen

Find It: J CRO

Search and rescue dog, J.J. Tully, is called out of retirement to investigate the strange goings-on in the barnyard.

Lunch Lady and the Summer Camp Shakedown · Krosoczka, Jarrett

Find It: J GN LUN V.4

"When the crime-fighting school lunch lady works as the cook at summer camp, she investigates the mystery of the legendary swamp monster."

The Magician's Bird: A Tuckernuck Mystery · Fairlie, Emily

Find It: J FAI

Seventh grade school friends attempt to prove that their school founder is innocent of the murder of Marchetti the Magician.

Me and Sam-Sam Handle the Apocalypse · Vaught, Susan

Find It: J VAU

Despite being on the autism spectrum, Jesse, and her Pomeranian, Sam-Sam, help her dad when he is arrested for stealing money.

Nick and Tesla's High-Voltage Danger Lab: A Mystery with Electromagnets, Burglar Alarms, and other Gadgets You Can Build Yourself · Pflugfelder, Bob

Find It: J SER NIC #1

"After moving in with their eccentric uncle, Nick and Tesla encounter strange occurrences in their new neighborhood and build gadgets using simple household objects to help them solve the mysteries."

Night of the Frankenfrogs · Schweizer, Chris

Find It: J GN CRE

The Creeps are on the case to figure out spooky mysteries and still get class on time at Pumpkins Count Middle School.

The Odds of Getting Even · Turnage, Sheila

Find It: J TUR

"Desperado Detectives--aka Mo Lo Beau and her best friend Dale, along with newly-appointed intern, Harm Crenshaw--must take on a new case when Dale's daddy goes on the lam just before his trial is about to start."

Once Upon a Crime · Buckley, Michael

Find It: J CD BUC

"When the fairy-tale detectives rush to New York City hoping to find an Everafter who can cure Puck, they trigger a chain of events that includes a murder mystery, and learn many new things about their mother who, along with their father is still in an enchanted sleep."

Pieces and Players · Balliett, Blue

Find It: J BAL

"When thirteen high-value pieces of art are stolen from a secret museum, Calder, Petra, and Tommy are grouped with two new companions to solve puzzles that are complicated by the clever Mrs. Sharpe."

Powerless · Cody, Matthew

Find It: J COD

"Soon after moving to Noble's Green, Pennsylvania, twelve-year-old Daniel learns that his new friends have super powers that they will lose when they turn thirteen, unless he can use his brain power to protect them."

The Puzzle of the Paper Daughter: A Julie Mystery · Reiss, Kathryn

Find It: J SER AME JUL

"In 1970s San Fransisco, Julie and her best friend Ivy learn about Chinese immigration in the early twentieth century when they investigate a mysterious doll theft."

- Secret Coders** · Yang, Gene Luen **Find It: J GN SEC**
 “Welcome to Stately Academy, a school which is just crawling with mysteries to be solved.”
- The Showstopper: A Rebecca Mystery** · Casanova, Mary **Find It: J SER AME REB**
 “After a series of odd mishaps befall a young Broadway actress, Rebecca decides to find out if someone is trying to keep the starlet off the stage.”
- Tales from the Hood** · Buckley, Michael **Find It: J CD BUC**
 “When a kangaroo court of Everafters, led by Judge Mad Hatter, tries Mr. Canis for his past crimes as the Big Bad Wolf, the Grimms seek evidence to save their friend, although Sabrina questions whether he should be saved.”
- Three Bird Summer** · St. Antoine, Sara **Find It: J STA**
 “An introspective boy and an adventurous girl uncover a poignant family mystery during a summer on the shores of Three Bird Lake.”
- True and Nelle** · Neri, Greg **Find It: J NER**
 Two friends, Tru and Nelle, find a mystery to solve when someone breaks into the town drugstore.
- Whatshisface** · Korman, Gordon **Find It: J KOR**
 Twelve-year-old Cooper Vega discovers that his phone is haunted by a boy from the sixteenth-century.
- Zap** · Freeman, Martha **Find It: J FRE**
 Eleven-year-olds Luis and Maura investigate the cause of a long-term, city-wide power outage in Hampton, New Jersey.

Series

- Agatha Mistery** · Stevenson, Steve **Find It: J SER AGA**
All the Wrong Questions · Snicket, Lemony **Find It: J SER ALL**
American Girl Mysteries · Varied **Find It: J SER AME**
A to Z Mysteries · Roy, Ron **Find It: J SER ATO**
Ballpark Mysteries · Kelly, David A. **Find It: J SER BAL**
Beforever · Varied **Find It: J SER AME**
Benjamin Pratt and the Keepers of the School · Clements, Andrew **Find It: J SER BEN**
Boxcar Children · Warner, Gertrude Chandler **Find It: J SER BOX**
Boxcar Children Graphic Novels · Denton, Sharon Eric **Find It: J GN BOX**
Brixton Brothers Adventures · Barnett, Mac **Find It: J SER BRI**
Buddy Files · Butler, Dori Hillestad **Find It: J SER BUD**
Calendar Mysteries · Roy, Ron **Find It: J SER CAL**
Cam Jansen Adventure · Adler, David **Find It: J SER CAM**
Capital Mysteries · Roy, Ron **Find It: J SER CAP**
Century Quartet · Baccalario, Pierdomenico **Find It: J SER CEN**
Chet Gecko Mysteries · Hale, Bruce **Find It: J SER CHE**
Clue · Jacks, Marie **Find It: J SER CLU**
Doyle and Fossey Science Detectives · Torrey, Michele **Find It: J SER DOY**
Encyclopedia Brown · Sobel, Donald **Find It: J SER ENC**
Extraordinary Education of Nicholas Benedict · Stewart, Trenton Lee **Find It: J SER MYS**
Field Trip Mysteries · Brezenhoff, Steven **Find It: J SER FIE**
Gilda Joyce, Psychic Investigator · Allison, Jennifer **Find It: J SER GIL**
Hardy Boys Mysteries · Dixon, Franklin **Find It: J SER HAR**
History Mysteries · Reiss, Kathryn **Find It: J SER AME HIS**
Humphrey Adventures · Birney, Betty G. **Find It: J SER HUM**
Jigsaw Jones · Preller James **Find It: J SER JIG**
King and Kayla · Butler, Dori Hillestad **Find It: J SER KING**

Marie-Grace Mystery · Buckey, Sarah Masters
Mermaid Mysteries · Kit, Katy
Museum Mysteries · Brezenoff, Steven
Mysterious Benedict Society · Stewart, Trenton Lee
Nancy Drew · Keene, Carolyn
Nick and Tesla · Pflugfelder, Bob
Geronimo Stilton and the Mystery in Paris · Stilton, Thea
The Great Shelby Holmes Meets Her Match · Eulberg, Elizabeth
Thea Stilton · Stilton, Thea
Sammy Keyes · Van Draane, Wendelin
Scooby-Doo Mysteries · Gelsey, James
Sisters Grimm · Buckley, Michael
Sophie · Bergen, Lara
Swindle · Korman, Gordon
Timmy Failure · Pastic, Stephan
Wells and Wong Mystery · Stevens, Robin
39 Clues · Haddix, Margaret Peterson

Find It: J SER AMA MAR
Find It: J SER MER
Find It: J SER MUS
Find It: J SER MYS
Find It: J SER NAN
Find It: J SER NIC
Find It: J SER THE #5
Find It: J EUL
Find It: J SER GER THE
Find It: J SER SAM
Find It: J SER SCO
Find It: J SER SIS
Find It: J SER SOP
Find It: J SER SWI
Find It: J SER TIM
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Find It: J SER THI