

4th Grade Book Titles	Criteria
Frindle by Andrew Clements	Fiction
Is Nick Allen a troublemaker? He really just likes to liven things up at school -- and he's always had plenty of great ideas. When Nick learns some interesting information about how words are created, suddenly he's got the inspiration for his best plan ever...the frindle. Who says a pen has to be called a pen? Why not call it a frindle? Things begin innocently enough as Nick gets his friends to use the new word. Then other people in town start saying frindle. Soon the school is in an uproar, and Nick has become a local hero. His teacher wants Nick to put an end to all this nonsense, but the funny thing is frindle doesn't belong to Nick anymore. The new word is spreading across the country, and there's nothing Nick can do to stop it.	Lexile: 830
M.C. Higgins, The Great by Virginia Hamilton	Realistic Fiction
Mayo Cornelius Higgins sits on his gleaming, forty-foot steel pole, towering over his home on Sarah's Mountain. Stretched before him are rolling hills and shady valleys. But behind him lie the wounds of strip mining, including a mountain of rubble that may one day fall and bury his home. M.C. dreams of escape for himself and his family. And, one day, atop his pole, he thinks he sees it -- two strangers are making their way toward Sarah's Mountain. One has the ability to make M.C.'s mother famous. And the other has the kind of freedom that M.C. has never even considered.	Lexile: 620
Flush by Carl Hiaasen	Mystery, Fiction, Science
Noah's dad has a little problem with anger control. He tried to stop the Coral Queen casino boat's illegal dumping . . . by sinking the boat. But his bold protest fizzles: within days the casino is back in business, and Noah's dad is behind bars and out of action. Now Noah is determined to succeed where his father failed. But even though pumping raw sewage into the waters of the Florida Keys is both gross and against the law, turns out it's near impossible to catch the flusher—especially when he's already bamboozled the prosecutors, the local press, and even the Coast Guard.	Lexile: 830
One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate	Realistic Fiction
Ivan is an easygoing gorilla. Living in a shopping mall, 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, his friends Stella and Bob, and painting.	Lexile: 570

By the Great Horn Spoon by Sid Fleischman	Realistic Fiction Historical
In this rollicking adventure set during the California Gold Rush, Jack's aunt is forced to sell her beloved mansion to meet her debts. She is still unable to raise enough money to pay her creditors, and twelve-year-old Jack goes to California in search of gold to help her. Joined by his trusty butler, Praiseworthy, Jack finds adventure and trouble at every turn. Will Jack strike gold in San Francisco or come home empty-handed?	Lexile: 730
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind by William Kamkwamba (Scholastic version)	Biography
The true story of a 14-year-old Malawi boy who, during a devastating drought, saved his village by learning to build a windmill.	Lexile: 910
Casey at the Bat by Ernest Lawrence Thayer and Illustrated by Patricia Polacco	Poetry
Casey at the Bat: A Ballad of the Republic Sung in 1888 is the full title an American poem written by Ernest Lawrence Thayer. The poem tells the story of the final half-inning of a baseball game. The home team of Mudville is losing four to two. The first two batters for Mudville quickly strike out, but the following two get on base safely so that a home run will win the game for Mudville. The next batter is the team's star hitter Mighty Casey, whom the crowd believes will pull through.	Lexile: 1040 CCSS Exemplar