

Dear Sixth Grade Families,

Welcome to sixth grade! I am so glad to have your child in my class this year. As leaders of this school, we will build skills and strategies that will serve well into middle school and beyond. I am so fortunate to have gotten to work with them this past year. I have personally enjoyed getting to know each one of their writing voices. I love our group of spirited and creative thinkers!

Some things to know about me are that ***I enjoy hands-on projects, experiments and learning through a variety of activities.*** However, I am old-fashioned in that I value the connection between the brain and pencil in written work. We read and write much in this class. We also take notes and learn the value of revision and organization. I build foundations by breaking them down into manageable parts; reviewing is part of that process. Also, I love teaching sixth grade. I was blessed with a teacher who made it my favorite grade. I hope I can make it yours as well.

Here are ***some*** highlights:

Language Arts: We will review foundations of grammar, vocabulary and spelling to formulate the basis for written work. Upon this, we will create a ***Writing Portfolio*** that includes a variety of writing styles from narrative to persuasive, research-based essays. Paraphrasing will be a focus as we learn proper citation.

We will be reading novels this year with an eye on deeper moral connections and symbolism that underlie the text. Greater attention will be given to making inferences. As we do this, ***we reflect upon Scripture in connection to each story.***

Book reports are written but presented in a variety of ways. These are ***very popular*** favorites that include making slideshows, websites, newspapers, models and even movies!

Science: This year science will have a ***new look!*** In addition to Mrs. Merryfield's Natural Science class, ***Mrs. Monique Niemaszyk will be teaching the other science disciplines on Tuesdays and Thursdays*** each week. She will also be managing our Science Fair projects. Science will be taught using hands-on and project-based learning. All academic evaluations will be done in class. There will be no homework as grading will be done on daily comprehension of concepts learned in class. Student science fair projects will also be done in-house with a fair in the spring. Mrs. Niemaszyk has a Bachelor of Science degree and over 30 years of teaching experience in science.

Math: Our math topics will include numbers and operations, geometry and measurement, statistics, data analysis and probability, and problem solving with algebraic and logical reasoning. We will take these topics and ***reinforce them with practice.*** Please practice math facts over the summer (especially multiplication tables).

Social Studies: We will take a ***world view of history*** from ancient civilizations to the Greeks, Romans and Early Church. We will explore kingdoms from Medieval Europe to the shores of the Americas. This all begins with geography and culminates with a World Food Festival.

Religion: We will come to know God's love through ***studying his Word in Holy Scripture and prayer***. We will learn about the promises and covenants of the Old and New Testaments. We write to seminarians and have welcomed them to our classroom. We have had many guests from the Daughters of Mary of Healing Love to a Carmelite who met St. Teresa of Calcutta. We study the saints and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. We are already prayer warriors and intercessors and will continue to grow with our "daily decade" of the Rosary. We also take Scripture to ***memory*** so it becomes alive and part of our being. ***Our first will be John 1:1.***

Enjoy a restful summer and time with family!

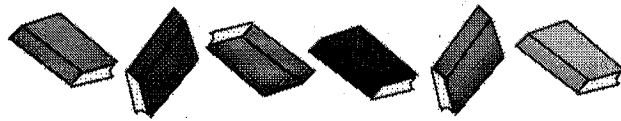
We have a great year ahead!

God bless,



Mrs. Lester

I have attached the summer reading assignment. My email is: lestera@stfrancisschoolnh.org



File Folder Book Report

Book reports are a great way to celebrate an enjoyable read. Think about a book that you want to read over the summer. Once you have read your book, you will make a file folder presentation that will highlight the best parts of the book. Your assignment will include a book preview, 5 things you liked best about the book, a review of what you thought of the book and your choice of something extra that represents your story. You could make a diorama, sculpture, poem or a drawing. The choice is up to you!

Your presentation will be shared with your classmates when you return to school. Who knows . . . you might just help someone find a new favorite book!

Creativity is encouraged! Decorate your file folders to make them stand out!

I can't wait to see what you have created!

Your file folder must contain:

___ The title of your book and author's name on the front with an illustration that represents your favorite part of the book.

___ An interesting book preview on the inside of the folder. Think of it like a movie preview, give some details but don't give away the ending.

___ Five parts of the book that you love. It can be settings, characters you like, things like that. Get creative!

___ Create a review of the book you read. Pretend you're a critic and tell me about your favorite or not so favorite parts of the story.

___ Come up with your own "extra" that represents your book in some way. It can be a song, drawing, painting, or whatever creation that you can come up with!

Don't forget to make your file folder stand out.

Neatness counts so make sure your handwriting is your best.

Have fun!



90 Classic Books for Middle Grade Girls Reading Checklist

- Happy Little Family by Rebecca Caudill _____
- Betsy-Tacy by Maud Hart Lovelace _____
- The Courage of Sarah Noble by Alice Dalgliesh _____
- The Happy Hollisters by Jerry West _____
- The Ordinary Princess by M. M. Kaye _____
- The Children of Noisy Village by Astrid Lindgren _____
- Happy Times in Noisy Village by Astrid Lindgren _____
- The Secret Valley by Clyde Robert Bulla _____
- The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner _____
- Surprise Island by Gertrude Chandler Warner _____
- The Yellow House Mystery by Gertrude Warner _____

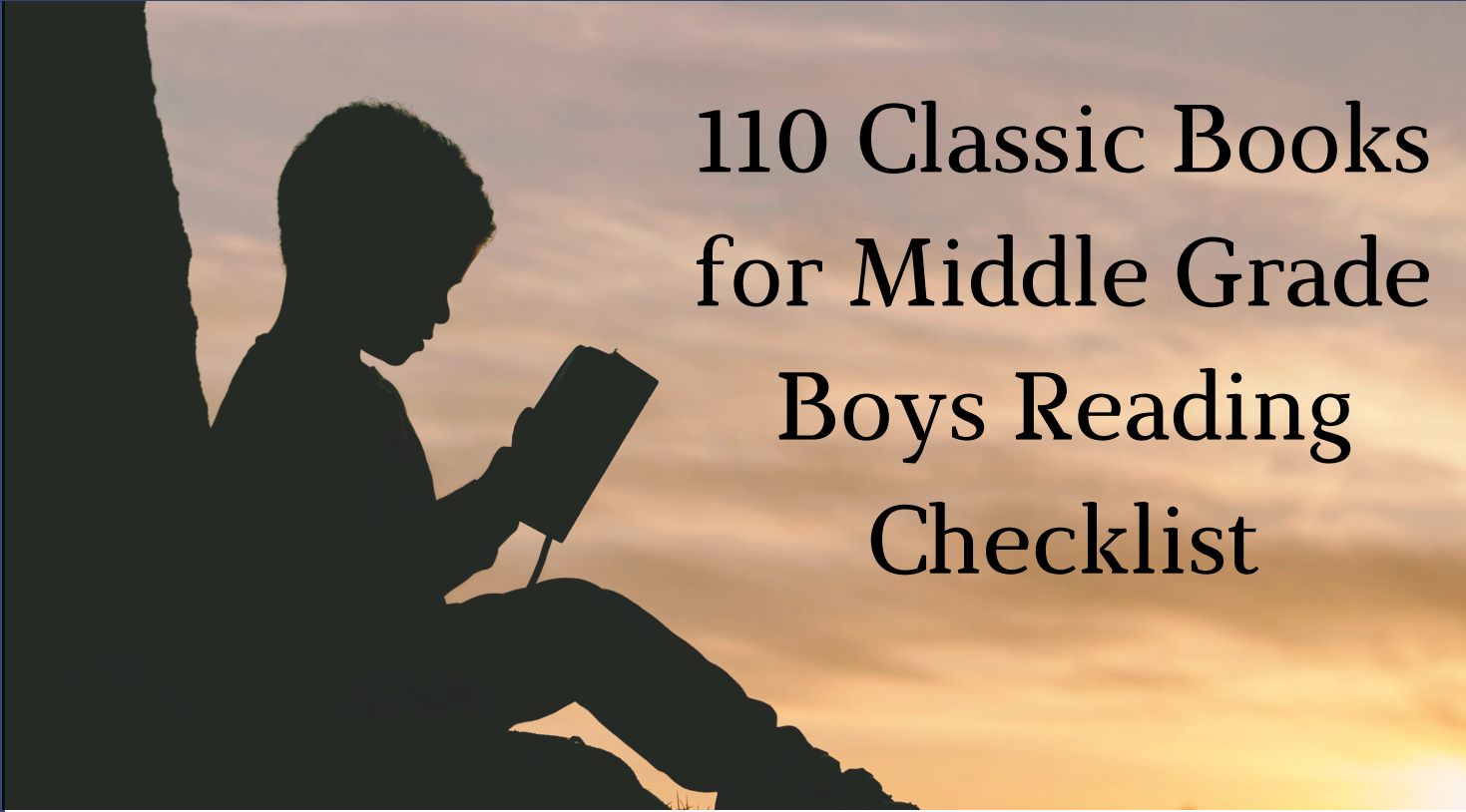
- Mystery Ranch by Gertrude Chandler Warner _____
- A Lion to Guard Us by Clyde Robert Bulla _____
- "B" is for Betsy by Carolyn Haywood _____
- Twenty and Ten by Claire Bishop _____
- Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren _____
- Mrs. Piggle Wiggle by Betty MacDonald _____
- First Farm in the Valley by Anne Pellowski _____
- The Family from One End Street by Eve Garnett _____
- Grandma's Attic by Arleta Richardson _____
- Five Little Peppers by Margaret Sidney _____
- Charlotte's Web by E. B. White _____
- The Mitchells: Five for Victory by Hilda Van Stockum _____
- Canadian Summer by Hilda Van Stockum _____
- Friendly Gables by Hilda Van Stockum _____
- A Little Princess by Frances Hodgson Burnett _____
- Tolliver's Secret by Esther Wood Brady _____
- The Enchanted Castle by E. Nesbit _____
- Hitty: Her First Hundred Years by Rachel Field _____
- Heidi by Johanna Spyri _____

9
0
C
L
A
S
S
I
C
B
O
O
K
S
F
O
R
M
I
D
D
L
E
G
R
A
D
E
G
I
R
L
S

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Borrowers by Mary Norton	_____	9 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Toothpaste Millionaire by Jean Merrill	_____	C L A S S I C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little House in the Big Woods by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	B O O K S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little House on the Prairie by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	F O R
<input type="checkbox"/>	On the Banks of Plum Creek by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	M I D D L E
<input type="checkbox"/>	On the Shores of Silver Lake by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	G R A D E
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Long Winter by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	G I R L S
<input type="checkbox"/>	All of a Kind Family by Sydney Taylor	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Strawberry Girl by Lois Lenski	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Princess and the Goblin by George MacDonald	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Princess and Curdie by George MacDonald	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Caddie Woodlawn by Carol Ryrie Brink	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Caspian by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Voyage of the Dawn Treader by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Silver Chair by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Horse and His Boy by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Magician's Nephew by C. S. Lewis	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Last Battle by C. S. Lewis	_____	

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Good Master by Kate Seredy	_____	9 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Singing Tree by Kate Seredy	_____	C L A S S I C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Olivia and the Little Way by Nancy Belanger	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Kellyhorns by Barbara Cooney	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome	_____	B O O K S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swallowdale by Arthur Ransome	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calico Bush by Rachel Field	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Number the Stars by Lois Lowry	_____	F O R
<input type="checkbox"/>	Turn Homeward, Hannalee by Patricia Beatty	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Saturdays by Elizabeth Enright	_____	M I D D L E
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Four Story Mistake by Elizabeth Enright	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Then There Was Five by Elizabeth Enright	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spiderweb for Two by Elizabeth Enright	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Crystal Snowstorm by Meriol Trevor	_____	G R A D E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Following the Phoenix by Meriol Trevor	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Angel and the Dragon by Meriol Trevor	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Rose and Crown by Meriol Trevor	_____	G I R L S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Stewart	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gone Away Lake by Elizabeth Enright	_____	

<input type="checkbox"/>	Pollyanna by Eleanor H. Porter	_____	9 0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Madeleine Takes Command by Esther Brill	_____	C L A S S I C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell	_____	B O O K S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Light Princess by George MacDonald	_____	F O R
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little Women by Louisa May Alcott	_____	M I D D L E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little Men by Louisa May Alcott	_____	G R A D E
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eight Cousins by Louisa May Alcott	_____	G I R L S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jack and Jill by Louisa May Alcott	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Under the Lilacs by Louisa May Alcott	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mara, Daughter of the Nile by Eloise McGraw	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Princess Academy by Shannon Hall	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Palace of Stone by Shannon Hall	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Forgotten Sisters by Shannon Hall	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anne of Avonlea by L. M. Montgomery	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Sherwood Ring by Elizabeth Marie Pope	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	An Old Fashioned Girl by Louisa May Alcott	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drover's Road by Joyce Allen	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cape Lost by Joyce Allen	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Golden Country by Joyce Allen	_____	



110 Classic Books for Middle Grade Boys Reading Checklist

- The Bears on Hemlock Mountain by Alice Dalgliesh _____
- Henry and Ribsy by Beverly Cleary _____
- Ribsy by Beverly Cleary _____
- The Mouse and the Motorcycle by Beverly Cleary _____
- Riding the Pony Express by Clyde Robert Bulla _____
- The Door in the Wall by Marguerite DeAngeli _____
- McBroom's Wonderful One Acre Farm by Fleischman _____
- The Whipping Boy by Sid Fleischman _____
- The Secret Valley by Clyde Robert Bulla _____
- The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner _____
- Surprise Island by Gertrude Chandler Warner _____
- The Yellow House Mystery by Gertrude Warner _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	Mystery Ranch by Gertrude Chandler Warner	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Happy Hollisters by Jerry West	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Freddy the Detective by Walter Brooks	_____	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Twenty and Ten by Claire Bishop	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Martin Wins His Sword by Brandon Hale	_____	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Martin and the Thieves by Brandon Hale	_____	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Martin and the Dragon by Brandon Hale	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Sails to Capri by Ann Weil	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Cricket in Times Square by Garth Williams	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mrs. Piggle Wiggle by Betty MacDonald	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charlotte's Web by E. B. White	_____	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Mitchells: Five for Victory by Hilda Van Stockum	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	Canadian Summer by Hilda Van Stockum	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Cottage at Bantry Bay by Hilda Van Stockum	_____	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Francie on the Run by Hilda Van Stockum	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Chitty Chitty Bang Bang by Ian Fleming	_____	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Five Children and It by E. Nesbit	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	Farmer Boy by Laura Ingalls Wilder	_____	R
<input type="checkbox"/>	Owls in the Family by Farley Mowat	_____	M

1
1
0
C
L
A
S
S
I
C
B
O
O
K
S
F
O
R
M
I
D
D
L
E
G
R
A
D
E
B
O
Y
S

<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow My Leader by James B. Garfield	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Toothpaste Millionaire by Jean Merrill	_____	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	By the Big Horn Spoon by Sid Fleischman	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Redwall by Brian Jacques	_____	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mossflower by Brian Jacques	_____	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rakkety Tam by Brian Jacques	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Taggerung by Brian Jacques	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Rogue Crew by Brian Jacques	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Homer Price by Robert McCloskey	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Snow Treasure by Marie McSwigan	_____	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Green Ember by S. D. Smith	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Princess and Curdie by George MacDonald	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Winged Watchman by Hilda Van Stockum	_____	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prince Caspian by C. S. Lewis	_____	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Voyage of the Dawn Treader by C. S. Lewis	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Silver Chair by C. S. Lewis	_____	R
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Horse and His Boy by C. S. Lewis	_____	M
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Magician's Nephew by C. S. Lewis	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Last Battle by C. S. Lewis	_____	D

1
0
C
L
A
S
S
I
C
B
O
O
K
S
F
O
R
M
I
D
D
L
E
E
R
A
D
D
E
B
O
Y
S

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Good Master by Kate Seredy	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Singing Tree by Kate Seredy	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Big Red by Jim Kjelgaard	_____	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Snow Dog by Jim Kjelgaard	_____	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swallows and Amazons by Arthur Ransome	_____	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Swallowdale by Arthur Ransome	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	King of the Wind by Marguerite Henry	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coot Club by Arthur Ransome	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Big Six by Arthur Ransome	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Saturdays by Elizabeth Enright	_____	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Four Story Mistake by Elizabeth Enright	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	Then There Was Five by Elizabeth Enright	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spiderweb for Two by Elizabeth Enright	_____	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Crystal Snowstorm by Meriol Trevor	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Following the Phoenix by Meriol Trevor	_____	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Angel and the Dragon by Meriol Trevor	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Rose and Crown by Meriol Trevor	_____	R
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Stewart	_____	M
<input type="checkbox"/>	TinTin by Herge	_____	I

1
1
0
C
L
A
S
S
I
C
B
O
O
K
S
F
O
R
M
I
D
D
L
E
E
R
A
D
E
B
O
Y
S

<input type="checkbox"/>	Adam of the Road by Elizabeth Gray	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Black Stallion by Walter Farley	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George	_____	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beorn the Proud by Madeleine Polland	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enemy Brothers by Constance Savery	_____	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	Red Hugh Prince of Donegal by Robert Reilley	_____	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Seaman by Gail Langer Karwoski	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Great Wheel by Robert Lawson	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bush Boys on the Move by James Tierney	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Seven Wonders of Sassafrass Springs by Birney	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Johnny Tremaine by Esther Forbes	_____	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Small War of Sergeant Donkey by Maureen Daly	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	North to Freedom by Anne Holm	_____	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	Henry Reed Inc. by Keith Robertson	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tom Playfair by Fr. Francis Finn	_____	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	Percy Wynn by Fr. Francis Finn	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	Harry Dee by Fr. Francis Finn	_____	R
<input type="checkbox"/>	That Football Game and What Came of It by Fr. Finn	_____	M
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Great and Terrible Quest by Margaret Lovett	_____	I

<input type="checkbox"/>	Outlaws of Ravenhurst by Sr. Imelda Wallace	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Good Bad Boy by Gerald Brennan	_____	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien	_____	0
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Trumpeter of Krakow by Eric Kelly	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Little Britches by Ralph Moody	_____	L
<input type="checkbox"/>	Man of the Family by Ralph Moody	_____	A
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Home Ranch by Ralph Moody	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lad: A Dog by Albert Payson Terhune	_____	I
<input type="checkbox"/>	Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls	_____	C
<input type="checkbox"/>	Banner in the Sky by James Ullman	_____	B
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beric the Briton by G. A. Henty	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Midshipman Quinn Collection by Frank Styles	_____	K
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Weka-Feather Cloak by Leo Madigan	_____	S
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carry On, Mr. Bowditch by Jean Latham	_____	F
<input type="checkbox"/>	On the Edge of the Dark Sea of Darkness by A. Peterson	_____	O
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain	_____	R
<input type="checkbox"/>	Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson	_____	M
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Eagle of the Ninth by Rosemary Sutcliff	_____	I

1
1
0
C
L
A
S
S
I
C
B
O
O
K
S
F
O
R
M
I
D
D
L
E
G
R
A
D
E
B
O
O
S