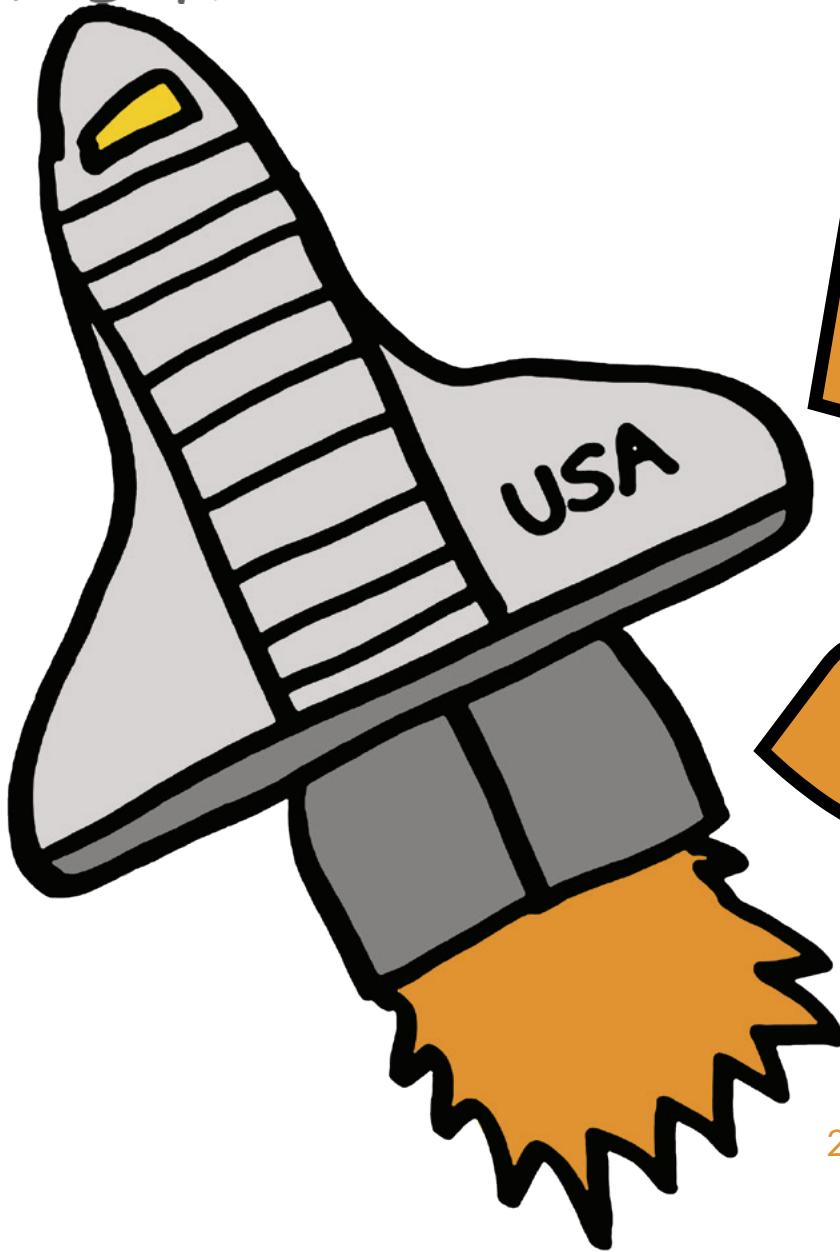




TIMBERDOODLE



TIMBERDOODLE'S
CURRICULUM HANDBOOK

2020-2021 Nonreligious Edition



WE'RE SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

Congratulations on choosing to homeschool this year! Whether this is your first year as a teacher or your tenth, we're confident you'll find that there is very little that compares to watching your child's learning take off. In fact, teaching can be quite addictive, so be forewarned!

ON YOUR MARK, GET SET, GO!

Preparing for your first "school day" is very easy. Peruse this guide, look over the typical schedule, browse the introductions in your books, and you will be ready to go.

GET SUPPORT

Are you looking for a place to hang out online with like-minded homeschoolers? Do you wonder how someone else handled a particular science kit? Or do you wish you could encourage someone who is just getting started this year? Join one or more of our Facebook Groups.

Timberdoodlers of all ages:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Timberdoodle/>

Timberdoodlers with 5th- to 8th-grade students:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UpperElementaryTimberdoodle>

Timberdoodlers using nonreligious kits:

www.facebook.com/groups/SecularTimberdoodle

SCHEDULE CUSTOMIZER

Your 2020–2021 Fifth-Grade Nonreligious Curriculum Kit includes access to our Schedule Customizer, where you can not only adjust the school weeks, but also tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want on your schedule. To get started, just click the link in your access email and visit the scheduling website!

www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com

If you ordered through a charter school or don't have that link for some other reason, just email schedules@Timberdoodle.com and we'll get that sorted out ASAP. (Including your order number will really speed that process up for you.)

WE WILL HELP

We would love to assist you if questions come up, so please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. Whether you contact us by phone, email, or live online chat, you will get a real person who is eager to serve you and your family.

YOU WILL LOVE THIS!

This year you and your student will learn more than you hoped while having a blast. Ready? Have an absolutely amazing year!

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MEET YOUR HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO YOUR TEACHING TOOLBOX!

Simple Is Better

We really believe that, so your guide is as simple as we could make it.

1. The Planning

First up are all the details on planning your year, including your annual planner and sample weekly checklists, the absolute backbones of Timberdoodle's curriculum kits. More on those in a moment.

2. Reading Challenge

Next up is the reading challenge, complete with book ideas to give you a head start.

3. Item-by-Item Details

We then include short bios of each item in your kit, ideal for refreshing your memory on why each is included, or to show off exactly what your fifth-grader will be covering this year. This is where we've tucked in our tips or tricks to make this year more awesome for all of you.

4. Teacher Resources

In this section, you'll find our favorite articles and tidbits amassed in our more-than-30 years of homeschool experience.

5. Item-based Resources

This is where you'll find the 36-week schedule for Mosdos and assignment options for A History of US.

6. The Book List

Finally, we'll conclude with specific book ideas for your reading challenge this year.

All the Details Included

This Timberdoodle curriculum kit is available in two different standard levels: Complete or Elite. This allows you to choose the assortment best suited to your child's interest level, your family's schedule, and your budget. In this guide, you'll find an overview and any tips for each of the items included in the Elite Curriculum Kit. If you purchased a Complete kit or if you customized your kit, you chose not to receive every item, so you'll only need to familiarize yourself with the ones which were included in your kit.

Don't Panic, You Didn't Order Too Much Stuff!

We know you. OK, maybe not you personally, but we have yet to meet a homeschooler who doesn't have other irons in the fire. From homesteading or running a business to swimming lessons or doctor's appointments, your weeks are not dull. As you unpack your box you may be asking yourself how you'll ever fit it all in.

We'll go in-depth on schedules momentarily, but know now that most of the items in your kit feature short lessons, not all of them should be done every day, and your checklist is going to make this incredibly manageable. Really!

MEET YOUR ONLINE SCHEDULER

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR PLANNERS

Use the Customizer

On the next pages you'll find sample weekly checklists for Complete and Elite kits. Before you photocopy 36 of them, though, take a moment to check out the custom online schedule builder that came free with your kit. You'll not only easily adjust the weeks, but you'll also tweak the checklist to include exactly what you want listed. Plus, you'll be able to print your weekly checklists directly from the schedule builder so you don't have to do that by photocopying! www.TimberdoodleSchedules.com

Activating Your Account

Before you can get started, you'll need your account activated for the online schedule builder. If you didn't get

an activation email (perhaps you ordered through a charter school so we don't have your email address), shoot us a quick email at schedules@Timberdoodle.com and we'll get that straightened out ASAP. Including your order number really speeds that process up, but our team is skilled at finding your activation info with whatever order data you have.

What's Your Dream Schedule?

Now that you're ready you'll want to know two things:

1. How Many Weeks Do You Want to Do School?

A standard school year is 36 weeks + breaks. Some families prefer to expedite and complete the entire year in fewer weeks—a great option for those of you who'd like to get all

this year's school done before baby arrives, for instance. Or perhaps your family, like ours, prefers to school year-round and keep that brain sharp.

2. What Breaks Do You Want?

Thanksgiving, Christmas, winter break, spring break... you could also add in weeks off that you're traveling, have guests, baby is coming, or...

Typically you'll be adding full-week



breaks only, so unless you're traveling to Disneyland® for little Hazel's birthday, you don't need to add that to the calendar. For single-day breaks you'll likely prefer to just shuffle the work to earlier/later in the same week and keep on task otherwise. If you're using a daily schedule (next page), though, you may find it worth your time to enter days off, as well.

Choosing Your Items

Now just pop that data into the online schedule and scroll down to see the items you might have in your kit. Unchecking the boxes for any items you don't have removes them from your list. You'll also see "Alternative Items" listed under each subject. This usually includes all of our most popular customizations for this grade so that you can simply check a box and switch the scheduler to fourth-grade math, for instance.

Add Custom Courses

Your course list is limited only by your imagination. Perhaps your friend wrote you a custom curriculum you'd like to include, your family makes up a band and you'd like to have practice on this list, or you need to list ballet since that's P.E. this year. At the very bottom of the page you'll find a place to



add in just as many courses as you'd like. Just walk through the prompts on-screen to get it all set up.

Tweak It to Perfection

Do you have everything set? On the next screen you'll have some fun options.

Continued on the next page.

1. Large-Font Edition

YOUR ANNUAL PLANNER

	CURRICULUM	LESSONS OR PAGES	= PER WEEK
Language Arts	6-Trait Writing	25 weeks	1 week's work
	Mosdos Coral	37 subsections	1 subsection
	Spelling You See F	36 weeks	1 week's work
	101 Doodle Definitions	101 definitions	3 definitions
	Show Me How to Survive	175 scenarios	4-5 scenarios
Math	Math-U-See	30 lessons	a 7-worksheet lesson
	Extreme Dot-to-Dot: U.S. History	32 puzzles	1 puzzle
Thinking Skills	<h2>SEE YOUR HANDBOOK FOR THE COMPLETE CHART</h2>		
History & Social Studies			
Science			
STEM			
Art			
Etc.			

Language Arts	6-Trait Writing	1 week's work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Mosdos Coral	1 subsection	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Spelling You See F	1 week's work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	101 Doodle Definitions	3 definitions	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Show Me How to Survive	4-5 scenarios	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Math	Math-U-See	a 7-worksheet lesson	<input type="checkbox"/>					
	Extreme Dot-to-Dot: U.S. History	1 puzzle	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Thinking Skills	<h1>SEE YOUR HANDBOOK FOR THE COMPLETE CHART</h1>							
History & Social Studies								
Science								
STEM								
Art								



THE READING CHALLENGE

BASED ON THE READING CHALLENGE FOR KIDS FROM REDEEMEDREADER.COM

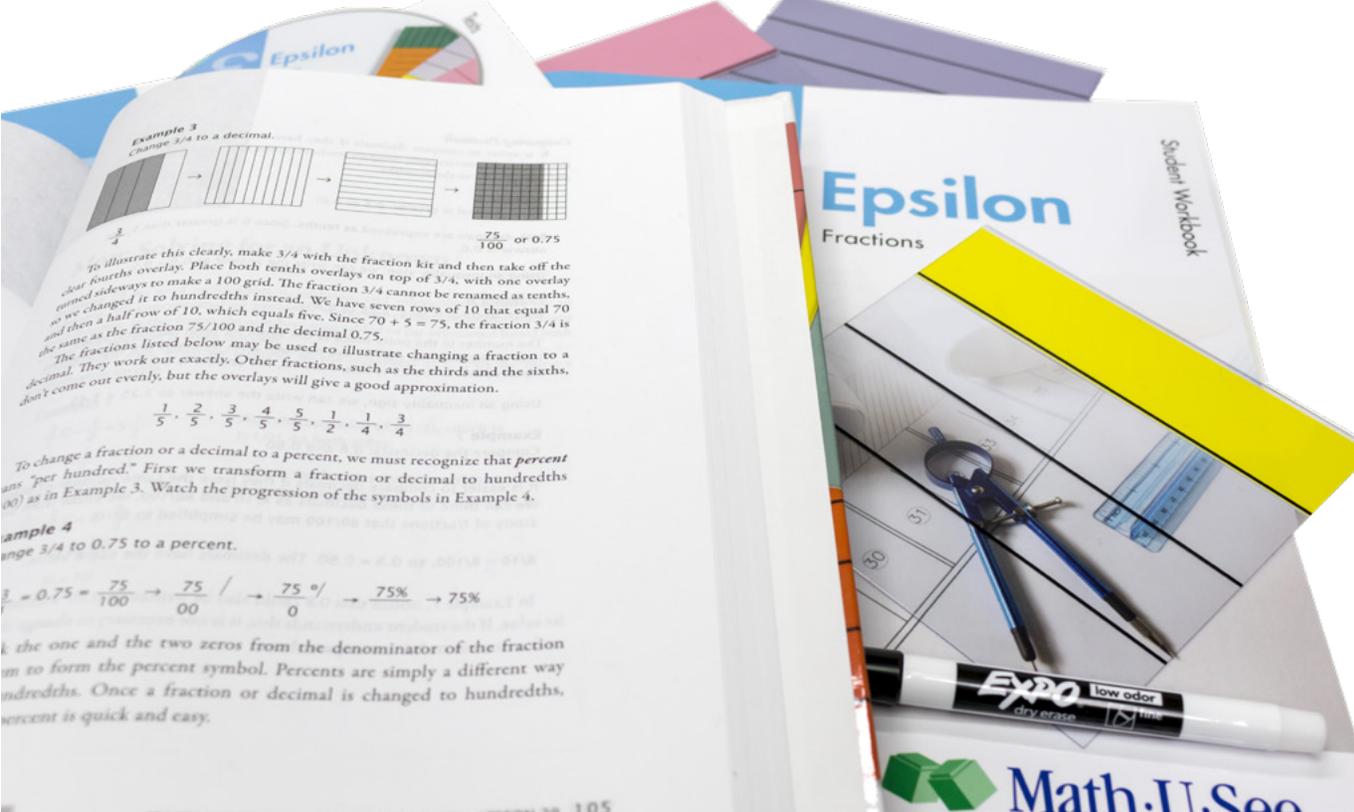
The Reading Challenge for Kids will get you and your child reading a broader variety of books this year and perhaps discovering new favorites. This reading challenge is heavily adapted by us and used with permission from the fine folks at RedeemedReader.com. Check out their website for more information about this reading challenge and for great book reviews and book suggestions for your kids.

Reading Solo and Together

At this grade level, it is entirely appropriate that most of these books are titles he will read independently. However, we highly recommend keeping a read-aloud time, too, as long as it's possible. Many sources recommend that parents continue reading to their children well past the time their children become accomplished readers, and we agree!

THE LIGHT READER

The Challenge	The Book You Chose	Date Completed
1. An inspirational book		
2. A book about the world		
3. A biography		
4. A classic novel/story		
5. A book your grandparent (or other relative) says was his/her favorite at your age		
6. A book about ancient history		
7. A book about something that makes you happy		
8. A book based on a true story		
9. A book someone at least twice your age recommends		
10. A book more than 100 years old		
11. A book about families		
12. A book about relationships or friendship		
13. A book featuring someone of a different ethnicity than you		



Basic math is a critical skill for your child to master, whether he grows up to be a carpenter, doctor, accountant, or farmer. But all too often math programs rely on memorization instead of comprehension, leaving the student at a disadvantage.

That's not going to happen to your child! The real-world math problems posed in Math-U-See (combined with the hands-on manipulatives) create an unbeatable math program.

With simple, uncluttered pages, Math-U-See is mastery-oriented, clear, to the point, and effective. In Math-U-See, new ideas are introduced step by step in a logical order, while concepts that have been mastered are reviewed periodically.

Math-U-See's teacher guide and supplemental DVD will teach more than just how to solve a math problem. They will also show why the problem is solved in this manner and when to apply the concept. On the DVDs, each lesson is demonstrated with kind-hearted enthusiasm. DVDs can be played on a DVD player or computer; however, Windows 10 users will need to download a separate video player.

MATH-U-SEE

COMPLETE ~ ELITE

While Math-U-See still requires a fair amount of parental involvement, by this grade your child will be able to work more independently. The instruction manual can be read by your child and, of course, he will want to watch the DVD presentation before beginning each lesson. The instruction manuals also include complete answers with step-by-step solutions for all the exercises and tests, and there is extra instruction for the enrichment problems.

Math-U-See is laid out with step-by-step procedures for introducing, practicing, mastering, and reviewing concepts. How do you know when your child has "mastered" a math concept? Not just when he gets the answers right, but when he can teach the concept back, especially if he is able to do so with a word problem. Math-U-See will show you how.

You will want to decide as you start the year whether your student will be completing the optional "Application and Enrichment" section of each lesson—sometimes considered the honors portion. If these challenges overwhelm your student, you should skip them or offer generous assistance. Otherwise, embrace them for the opportunity to help him learn more skills and train his brain to think logically.

It's worth mentioning that there are other reasons your child may not need to complete every one of these pages. At the risk of oversimplifying, the practice worksheets (A, B, C) are to be used with the manipulatives until your child reaches an "aha!"

moment and grasps the lesson. He may then move to the review pages (D, E, F) and should at least complete worksheet D in its entirety. If he's breezing through the pages, you have several great options. One would be to have him complete every other problem, or he could skip E or F or both. (You do want to be sure he's not rusty on any of those problems before skipping, though—many students will do best completing all or most of the D, E, and F worksheets.) Worksheet G is that application/enrichment/extra-credit page. It's okay to skip but valuable to complete.

Scheduling

You have 30 lessons to complete, so we suggest planning on 1 lesson a week, including the DVD as well as the textbook/workbook portions and any relevant tests. However, as Mr. Demme points out, some lessons will take you longer than others to achieve mastery. If you find yourself "stuck" on a lesson, feel free to allow it to take you an extra week. Just don't do that more than six times this year!



EXTREME DOT-TO-DOT

COMPLETE → ELITE

Extreme Dot-to-Dot: U.S. History contains 32 puzzles of landmarks, events, and memorable sights from around the USA. These scenes include Ellis Island, the Roaring '20s, Martin Luther King Jr., and more. A handy key in the back identifies each scene and provides interesting details and facts.

Kick-start your student's mental focus with an amazing Extreme Dot-to-Dot book. Unlike conventional dot-to-dot puzzles that reveal too much of the picture and ruin the mystery, Extreme Dot-to-Dot: U.S. History's puzzles are intricate and so challenging that when your student looks at a page, he will have no idea what the end result will be.

Mapping and concentration are just two of the educational benefits of solving these dot-to-dot puzzles. Both your student's left brain and right brain will be exercised as he works to complete puzzles containing 510 to over 1,600 dots. Some puzzles even cover a two-page spread – definitely not for the faint-hearted.

Scheduling

With 32 puzzles in all, completing 1 a week will set a perfect pace.



MOSDOS CORAL WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

A SAMPLE DETAILED SCHEDULE

Here's one way to break down your assignments to flow easily through a 36-week schedule.

Please note that you only need to complete as many of the corresponding activity pages and assignments as you determine to be appropriate for your reader. Our family would have chosen to answer the Studying the Selection questions in the readers orally rather than in writing. We would also likely skip the writing assignments since you'll be covering writing systematically with Daily 6-Trait Writing.



SUGGESTED WEEK-BY-WEEK PLAN

UNIT 1

Week 1

What Is a Story? – page 14
Samuel's Choice – Page 16
Activity pages and assignments.

Week 2

What is Plot? – page 32
Slower Than the Rest – page 34
Activity pages and assignments.

Week 3

What is Character – page 42
Kate Shelley – page 44
Activity pages and assignments.

Week 4

Setting – page 62
New Providence – page 64
Activity pages and assignments.

Week 5

Theme – page 80
The Silent Lobby – page 82
Activity pages and assignments.



543 BOOK SUGGESTIONS

So you love the idea of the reading challenge, but you'd like a boost to get you started? You've come to the right place!

Customize This!

You'll find a few ideas here for each challenge, but don't forget that you're not bound to our list. There are literally hundreds more options that may be even better for your family. Use these pages as starter ideas and not as your final list.

Will I See the Same Books Over and Over?

No, not on this list! However, you can expect to see some of these books appear on the lists for more than one grade (so if you have a fifth-grader and a sixth-grader, some parts of the list will match), since books are often appropriate for more than one grade level.

Many books could easily fit into more than one category, but we only put each in one place on your list for your

543 BOOK SUGGESTIONS, CONT.

1. AN INSPIRATIONAL BOOK

The Children's Book of Virtues by William J. Bennett
The Children's Book of Heroes by William J. Bennett
Chicken Soup for the Kid's Soul by Jack Canfield
Real Kids, Real Stories, Real Change by Garth Sundem
The Seven Wonders of Sassafras Springs by Betty G. Birney

2. A BOOK ABOUT THE WORLD

This Is the World by Miroslav Sasek
DK Pocket Genius: Earth
DK Eyewitness: Wonders of the World
If the World Were a Village by David J. Smith
DK Where on Earth? Atlas
The Usborne Encyclopedia of Planet Earth



3. A BIOGRAPHY

Pathfinders by Tonya Bolden
Portraits of Hispanic American Heroes by Juan Felipe Herrera
Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad by Ann Petry
Who Was? series
Freedom Train by Dorothy Sterling
Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook Creator by Adam Woog
Alexander Graham Bell! An Inventive Life

by Elizabeth MacLeod

To Fly, The Story of the Wright Brothers by Wendie Old
I, Galileo by Bonnie Christensen

4. A CLASSIC NOVEL/STORY

Little House series by Laura Ingalls Wilder
The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling
Betsy-Tacy series by Maud Hart Lovelace
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

The Swiss Family Robinson by Johann David Wyss
The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle by Hugh Lofting
The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
Hans Brinker, or The Silver Skates by Mary Mapes Dodge

5. A BOOK YOUR GRANDPARENT (OR OTHER RELATIVE) SAYS WAS HIS/HER FAVORITE AT YOUR AGE

Ask your grandparents or relatives. Or, if that's not possible, ask an older friend for a recommendation.

6. A BOOK ABOUT ANCIENT HISTORY

Mara, Daughter of the Nile by Eloise Jarvis McGraw
The Trojan War by Olivia Coolidge
The Story of the World: Ancient Times by Susan Wise Bauer
Who Was King Tut? by Roberta Edwards
Where Is Stonehenge? by True Kelley
Where Are the Great Pyramids? by Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler

7. A BOOK ABOUT SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU HAPPY

What do you love to learn about? Are you interested in coin collecting? This is the perfect time to read a book on that. Would you rather be outside? How about a book on adventures? Hiking, gaming, religion, friends, crafts... nothing is off the table for this book!

8. A BOOK BASED ON A TRUE STORY

January's Sparrow by Patricia Polacco
The Whispering Town by Jennifer Elvgren
Call of the Klondike by David Meissner and Kim Richardson
Pocahontas and the Strangers by Clyde Robert Bulla
The Courage of Sarah Noble by Alice Dalgliesh
Royal Diaries series from Scholastic

543 BOOK SUGGESTIONS, CONT.



41. A BOOK ABOUT MUSIC OR A MUSICIAN

Soldier Song by Debbie Levy
The Voice That Challenged a Nation by Russell Freedman
Composer series by Anna Harwell Celenza
The Science of Sound & Music by Shar Levine and Leslie Johnstone

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart by Kate Riggs
The School of Music by Meurig and Rachel Bowen
Lives of the Musicians by Kathleen Krull
The Story of the Orchestra by Robert Levine
Who Was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart? by Yona Zeldis McDonough
Blue Ridge Billy by Lois Lenski

42. A BOOK ABOUT AN INVENTION OR INVENTOR

Inventions and Discovery set (Graphic Library)
Robert Fulton: Boy Craftsman by Marguerite Henry
The Story of Eli Whitney by Jean Lee Latham
Electrical Wizard by Elizabeth Rusch
The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle by Don L. Wulffson
Who in the World Was the Secretive Printer? by Robert Beckham
DK Eyewitness: Invention
Bell's Breakthrough by Stacia Deutsch and Rhody Cohon

43. A BOOK OF CRAFTS OR GAMES

101 Ways to Amaze & Entertain by Peter Gross
The Quilt Walk by Sandra Dallas
Sidewalk Chalk by Jamie Kyle McGillian

Cat's Cradle by Anne Akers Johnson
Juggling for the Complete Klutz by John Cassidy and B.C. Rimbeaux
Low-Mess Crafts for Kids by Debbie Chapman
A Kid's Guide to Awesome Duct Tape Projects by Instructables.com
101 Things to Do Outside from Weldon Owen
The Daring Book for Girls by Andrea J. Buchanan
The Dangerous Book for Boys by Conn Iggulden

44. A BOOK ABOUT A BOY

Henry Reed series by Keith Robertson
The Whipping Boy by Sid Fleischman
Diary of an Early American Boy by Eric Sloane
Little Britches by Ralph Moody
San Francisco Boy by Lois Lenski

45. A BOOK ABOUT A GIRL

Understood Betsy by Dorothy Canfield Fisher
Bayou Suzette by Lois Lenski
A Gathering of Days by Joan W. Blos
Bonanza Girl by Patricia Beatty
Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh

46. A BOOK ABOUT BOOKS OR A LIBRARY

Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library by Carole Boston Weatherford
Sweet Home Alaska by Carole Estby Dagg
The Tiny Hero of Ferny Creek Library by Linda Bailey
Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library by Chris Grabenstein
The Wednesday Wars by Gary D. Schmidt
Book Scavenger series by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman
Absolutely Truly by Heather Vogel Frederick
The Mother-Daughter Book Club series by Heather Vogel Frederick