

Sports, History, Suspense, and Humor: Great Hooks to Get Boys Reading!

Bats at the Ballgame by Brian Lies (grades K-2)

Grab your bat—the other kind—and your mitt, and join these captivating bats as they flutter off to watch their all-stars compete. In sweeping compositions that transport fans to the rightside-up and upside-down world of bats at play, Brian Lies treats us to a whole new ballgame. Check out Brian's [author website](#) for teacher guides and activities!

I Feel Better with a Frog in My Throat by Carlyn Beccia (grades 1-4)

A colorful and funny medical mystery tour to times where people did not think twice about swallowing frog slime in the name of feeling better! Visit Carlyn's [website](#) to learn more about the book.

Guyku by Chris Raczka, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds (grades 1-4)

Raczka's and Reynolds' humorous haiku celebrates outdoor fun throughout the seasons—perfect for guys (big and small). Check out the interactive [website](#) packed with educator resources!

Lives of the Pirates by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt (grades 2-5)

If you think pirates are just parrot-toting, swashbuckling fantasy characters, take another look! This is a book with a lively style, lots of surprises, and solid research. Learn more about the author [here](#).

Tangerine by Edward Bloor (grades 4-8)

A season with the toughest soccer team in the county gives a teen the confidence to stand up to his wicked brother. Visit the author's [website](#) for discussion guides and teacher information.

Built to Last by David Macaulay (grades 5 and up)

Inspired by three classic, award-winning books, this new book reveals the how and why behind some of the most fascinating and enduring structures humankind has ever created. [Download the free discussion guide here](#).

Dormia by Jake Halpern and Peter Kujawinski (grades 5 and up)

This epic fantasy follows hero Alfonso Perplexon as he fights to save his homeland. Visit the [World of Dormia](#) website for discussion guides, the Dormia national anthem, and much more!

The Legend of the King by Gerald Morris (grades 5 and up)

In this final installment of the Squire's Tale series, Terence and his fellow Knights of the Round Table must come together in a last stand to save Camelot.

Payback Time by Carl Deuker (grades 7 and up)

Award-winning novelist Carl Deuker creates a mystery-thriller against the backdrop of high school football and the criminal underworld. Learn more about the book and check out the interactive reader Q&A section on Carl's [website](#).

Peak by Roland Smith (grades 7 and up)

The emotional, tension-filled story of a fourteen-year-old boy's attempt to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest. Download the free discussion guide [here](#).

Genius Wars by Catherine Jinks (grades 9 and up)

Cadel Piggott is back in the thrilling conclusion to the high-tech trilogy that began with *Evil Genius* and continued with *Genius Squad*.