
Literary Element: Plot

K-2Arnosky, Jim. **GRANDFATHER BUFFALO.** Putnam, 2006.

In this touching and beautiful story an old buffalo is having trouble keeping up with the herd. He helps a young calf and finds that he is needed as much as he needs.

Stevens, Janet. **THE GREAT FUZZ FRENZY.** Harcourt, 2005.

It all begins when Violet the dog drop a tennis ball down a prairie dog tunnel. The green wonder brings excitement that quickly turns to chaos in this wacky and creative story that has a profound plot twist for this age group.

3-4Curtis, Christopher. **MR. CHICKEE'S FUNNY MONEY.** Wendy Lamb, 2005.

This hilarious adventure begins when nine-year-old Steven's elderly blind neighbor gives him what looks like a quadrillion-dollar bill with Godfather of Soul, James Brown's face on it and ends how you would least expect.

Edward, Michelle. **STINKY STERN FOREVER.** Harcourt, 2005.

Written by Iowa City author, Michelle Edwards, *Stinky Stern Forever* is the fourth book in the Jackson Friends series. The delicate subject of a classmate's death is handled in a sensitive, yet realistic way. Stinky Stern has been the class bully, but his untimely death brings up a flood of conflicting emotions for his classmates, especially the main character, Pa Lia.

5-6Auch, Mary Jane. **WING NUT.** Holt, 2005.

A transient mother and twelve-year-old son find themselves stranded in Pennsylvania. They are lucky to find work and a place to stay with an old widower. The rocky relationship finally provides them with the home that they have been searching for.

Springer, Nancy. **THE CASE OF THE MISSING MARQUESS: AN ENOLA HOLMES MYSTERY.** Philomel Books, 2006.

When Enola Holmes' mother disappears in 19th century London she disguises herself as a lady and escapes to solve the case, find her mother, and outwit her older brothers (yes, you guessed it – Sherlock!). This is the first book in a promising series.

Riordan, Rick. **THE LIGHTNING THIEF.** Mirimax Books/Hyperion Books for Children, 2005.

In his first book for young readers Rick Riordan brings Greek mythology into the 21st century. Twelve year old Percy (Perseus) Jackson, a "troubled" boy with dyslexia and ADHD who has been kicked out of six schools in six years, learns that he is the son of the Greek god, Poseidon, and a mortal woman. Percy, along with his newly made friends, Grover, a satyr, and Annabeth, a daughter of

Athena, set out on a quest to retrieve Zeus's stolen lightning bolt and prevent a war among the gods.