

**Suggested Reading for Children  
@ the New Brunswick Free Public Library**

**Historical Fiction**

Interested in the past? Climb into your time machine and be transported back in time with these historical fiction novels:

***Recommended for grades 2 and up***

**Abigail Takes The Wheel** by Avi

After two ships collide, Abigail must take command of the paddle boat while her father gives assistance.  
(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: ER AVI**

**The Long Way Westward** by Joan Sandin

Relates the experiences of two young brothers and their family, immigrants from Sweden, from their arrival in New York through the journey to their new home in Minnesota.

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: ER SAN**

**Lo-Jack and the Pirates** by William B. Hooks Illustrated by Tricia Tusa

When Jack is kidnapped by a band of greedy pirates, he persists in misunderstanding all the captain's orders.

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: ER BAN**

**A Place Called Freedom** by Scott R. Sanders

After being set free from slavery in 1832, young James Starman and his family journey from Tennessee to Indiana to start a new life and over the years they are joined by so many Blacks that they start their own town.

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F SAN**

**Caddie Woodlawn** by Carol Ryrie Brink

Adventures of an eleven-year-old tomboy living in Wisconsin in 1864.

*Newberry Medal*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: JNEW F BRI**

***Recommended for grades 4 and up***

**Bud, Not Buddy** by Christopher Paul Curtis

Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father--the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

*Newberry Medal Winner*

*Corretta Scott King Award*

*ALA Notable Children's Books*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: JNEW F CUR**

**The Witch of Blackbird Pond** by Elizabeth George Speare

A young woman brought up in Barbados comes to live with her uncle in Connecticut, and finds their Puritan way of life difficult after her unconventional upbringing

*Newberry Medal Winner*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F SPE**

**The Watsons go to Birmingham, 1963** by Christopher Paul Curtis

The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

*Newberry Honor Book*

*Coretta Scott King Honor Book*

*ALA Notable Children's Book*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F CUR**

**Anne of Green Gables** by L.M. Montgomery

Anne, a mischievous, red-haired, eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F MON**

**Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison** by Lois Lenski

Little Mary, captured by Indians, learns to love them and refuses to leave when English soldiers try to rescue her.

*Newberry Honor Book*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: JNEW F LEN**

**Elijah of Buxton** by Christopher Paul Curtis

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

*Newberry Honor Book*

*Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award*

*Parents Choice Award*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F CUR**

**The Sign of the Beaver** by Elizabeth George Speare

Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home in eighteenth-century Maine, a boy is hard-pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills.

*Newberry Honor Book*

*ALA Notable Children's Book*

*Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: JNEW F SPE**

**Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry** by Mildred D. Taylor

A Black family living in the South during the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination which their children don't understand.

*Newberry Medal Winner*

*Young Reader's Choice Award*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: JNEW TAY**

**Number the Stars** by Lois Lowry

In 1943, during the German occupation of Denmark, ten-year-old Annemarie learns how to be brave and courageous when she helps shelter her Jewish friend from the Nazis.

*Newberry Medal Winner*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: YA F LOW**

**Island of the Blue Dolphins** by Scott O'Dell

Left alone on a beautiful but isolated island off the coast of California, a young Indian girl spends eighteen years, not only merely surviving through her enormous courage and self-reliance, but also finding a measure of happiness in her solitary life.

*Newberry Medal Winner*

(Source: Novelist)

**Call Number: J F ODE**