**Sideways Stories from Wayside School**

by [Louis Sachar](http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/contributor/louis-sachar)

Interest Level: Grade 3 - Grade 5

Grade Level Equivalent: 4.9

Lexile® measure: 460L

DRA: 34-38

Guided Reading: P

Book Type: Chapter Book

Genre/Theme: Comedy and Humor

Topics: Friends and Friendship Elementary School Friends and Friendship

## About This Book

Wayside School was supposed to be built with 30 classrooms all next to each other in a row. Instead, the classrooms were stacked one on top of the other — 30 stories tall! Here are some hilarious and fun stories about the school, the teachers, and the students.

You'll meet Mrs. Gorf, the meanest teacher of all, terrible Todd, who always gets sent home early, and John who can read only upside down — along with all the other kids in the crazy mix-up school that came out sideways. But you'll never guess the truth about Sammy, the new kid...or what's in store for Wayside School on Halloween!

**Sixth Grade Secrets**

by [Louis Sachar](http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/contributor/louis-sachar)

Interest Level: Grade 6 - Grade 8

Grade Level Equivalent: 4.7

Lexile® measure: 520L

DRA: 50

Guided Reading: S

Genre/Theme: Realistic Fiction

Topics: Friends and Friendship School Life Friends and Friendship

## About This Book

Here is a perceptive coming-of-age story about rivalry, trust, betrayal, and blackmail among a precocious group of sixth graders who are vying for popularity.

Laura and her girlfriends create the Pig City Club at her school. But the club is secret, and to ensure that no one spills the beans, the members take out "insurance" and tell Laura one secret about themselves. Anyone who talks about the club will have her secret told to the entire school. But when Laura allows Gabriel, a boy in her class, to join the club, a rival club is formed, and the Pig City girls are embarrassed when their insurance secrets are revealed. A web of betrayal is spun!

Sachar uses his trademark humor to reveal a common social phenomenon in adolescent life, and readers in this stage of their lives may recognize their classmates or themselves in this engaging read.

***There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom***   
by Louis Sachar

Interest Level: Grade 3 - Grade 5

Grade Level Equivalent: 5.5

Lexile® measure: 490L

DRA: 40

Guided Reading: Q

Book Type: Chapter Book

Genre/Theme: Realistic Fiction

Topics: Pride and Self-Esteem Elementary School Emotional and Social Development Special Needs

This book tells the story of Bradley Chalkers, a boy who tells enormous lies, picks fights with girls, spits on people and is considered by his teachers to have behavioral issues. Bradley has no friends, is disliked by all the students and teachers in the school and, always sits by himself in the last seat, last row. Things start to change when Jeff Fishkin, a new student, arrives and is placed in the only empty seat left in the room, right next to Bradley. The school hires a new counselor, Carla, who sees potential in Bradley and works with him to make him see the potential in himself, a difficult task for a boy who sees himself as a monster. 195 pages

**Pippi Longstocking**

<p>Pippi Longstocking</p>


by [Astrid Lindgren](http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/contributor/astrid-lindgren)

Interest Level: Grade 3 - Grade 5

Grade Level Equivalent: 5.2

Lexile® measure: 870L

DRA: 34

Guided Reading: O

Book Type: Chapter Book

Genre/Theme: Adventure Classics Comedy and Humor

Topics: Cleverness, Creativity and Imagination Curiosity Friends and Friendship Friends and Friendship

## About This Book

Tommy and Annika have always wished someone would come to live in the ramshackle house next door, and one day, someone does: Pippi Longstocking, an irrepressible nine-year-old girl with a unique way of doing things. Soon the three are inseparable friends. With a horse on the porch, a monkey on her shoulder, and no parents to tell her when to go to bed, Pippi makes everything into an adventure, whether she's climbing inside a hollow tree or taking her friends "thing-finding" around the village.

When policemen come to take Pippi away to a children's home, she convinces them that she's better off where she is. But after one day of school, she decides that academic matters such as "pluttification tables" aren't for her, either. So Pippi becomes the star of the circus and a rescuer of small children, and in her own happy home, she scrubs the floor with her feet, dances with the burglars who come to rob her, and entertains her favorite neighbors. No matter how maddening her high jinks might be to the adults around her, Pippi proves herself to be the kindest and most generous of friends.