**Fantastic Picture Books for Grs 4-5**

**SWAMP ANGEL:**
The Swamp Angel of the title is Angelica Longrider, who was born scarcely taller than her mother and didn’t build her first log cabin until she was a full two years old. In the tallest tale of all, Swamp Angel tracks down and fights Thundering Tarnation, a huge bear with a bottomless appetite.

**THE ENGLISH ROSES, MR. PEABODY’S APPLES by MADONNA:**
Books by singer Madonna. The English Roses is an enchanting story of girlfriends who learn what it is truly like to be compassionate (instead of gossipy), while Mr. Peabody’s Apples is about a boy learns a lesson about the destructive power of gossip.

**HEROES:**
Japanese-American Donnie, whose playmates insist he be the "bad guy" in their war games, calls on his reluctant father and uncle to help him get away from that role.

**BASEBALL SAVED US:**
The moving tale of life in a Japanese internment camp during World War II. Inspired by actual events, it is a story of hope and courage.

**THE BRACELET:**
Emi, a Japanese American girl, is confused & frightened when she is interned in a prison camp during World War II.

**SO FAR FROM THE SEA:**
Laura Iwasaki and her family are paying what may be their last visit to Laura's grandfather's grave. The grave is at Manzanar, where thousands of Americans of Japanese heritage were interned during World War II.

**PASSAGE TO FREEDOM,** the Sugihara story: tells the story of Chiune Suguhara, the 'Japanese Schindler', who, with his family’s encouragement, saved the lives of thousands of Polish Jews in World War II.
**FAITHFUL ELEPHANTS**: Recounts how three elephants in a Tokyo zoo were put to death because of the war, focusing on the pain shared by the elephants and the keepers who must starve them.

**THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN STORY**: The Tuskegee Airmen not only flew 1,500 successful missions in World War II, but also laid the groundwork for an end to unfair practices banning black men from certain military professions.

**COOLIES**: Inspired by actual events in the history of the American railroad, Coolies reveals the harsh truth about life for thousands of Chinese laborers, while it celebrates the love and loyalty between two brothers who were determined to survive and succeed.

**CHEYEENE AGAIN**: In the late 1880's, a Cheyenne boy named Young Bull is taken to a boarding school to learn the white man's ways.

**How Many Days to America**: Refugees from a Caribbean island embark on a dangerous boat trip to America where they have a special reason to celebrate Thanksgiving.

**THE WALL**: A boy and his father come from far away to visit the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington and find the name of the boy's grandfather, who was killed in the conflict.
FLY AWAY HOME: A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal and trying not to be noticed, is given hope when he sees a trapped bird find its freedom.

Animal Books by Janell Cannon such as Stella Luna, Verdi, Pinduli & CrickWing. Descriptive writing full of facts, a string words like pearl and vibrant illustrations.

The BUTTER BATTLE BOOK: "Dr. Seuss chronicles the feud between the Yooks and the Zooks from slingshots through sophisticated weaponry, until each side has the capacity to destroy the world.

I AM A STORY: Told from the story's perspective, traces the evolution of storytelling from cave painting to the printing press to the digital technologies of today.

THE PAPER CRANE: A mysterious man enters a restaurant and pays for his dinner with a paper crane that magically comes alive and dances.

ALEJANDRO'S GIFT: Lonely in his house beside a road in the desert, Alejandro builds an oasis to attract the many animals around him.
ONE: A number/color book reminding us it just takes one to make everyone count. Topics covered: - Counting - Colors - Bullying - Courage

Blue is a quiet color. Red's a hothead who likes to pick on Blue. Yellow, Orange, Green, and Purple don't like what they see, but what can they do? When no one speaks up, things get out of hand - until One comes along and shows all the colors how to stand up, stand together, and count.

EXCLAMATION MARK: From the bestselling creators of Duck! Rabbit!, an exciting tale of self-discovery! He stood out here. He stood out there. He tried everything to be more like them. It's not easy being seen. Especially when you're NOT like everyone else. Especially when what sets you apart is YOU.

THE DAY THE CRAYONS QUIT:
Crayons have feelings too, in this funny, back-to-school story! Poor Duncan just wants to color. But when he opens his box of crayons, he finds only letters, all saying the same thing: His crayons have had enough! They quit!


THE LIBRARIAN FROM BASRA: In a war-stricken country where civilians—especially women—have little power, this true story about a librarian’s struggle to save her community’s priceless collection of books reminds us all how, throughout the world, the love of literature and the respect for knowledge know no boundaries.

Malala, a brave girl from Pakistan Iqbal, a brave boy from Pakistan. One country: Pakistan. Two children: Iqbal Masih and Malala Yousafzai. Each was unafraid to speak out. He, against inhumane child slavery in the carpet trade. She, for the right of girls to attend school. Both were shot by those who disagreed with them.

CHRISTIAN, THE LION: Through many previously unseen photographs, this picture book follows Christian as he grew from a tiny ball of fur into a majestic lion. Here is the incredible story of the remarkable journey to take Christian back to the wild.

CHEE-LIN: James Rumford traces the chee-lin’s journey from Africa to Bengal to China, weaving a tale not just of a giraffe but of the people he meets along the way. Chee-lin is a story for all time: of captivity and struggle, friendship and respect.

COMPANY BOOKS: McDonald's, You Tube, Nintendo, FaceBook, M & M's Mars Candy Maker, Sony, Ford, Ben and Jerry Ice Cream, Google.

HACHIKO, The True Story of a Loyal Dog: Hachiko was a real dog who lived in Tokyo, a dog who faithfully waited for his owner at the Shibuya train station long after his owner could not come to meet him. He became famous for his loyalty and was adored by scores of people who passed through the station every day. This is Hachiko’s story through the eyes of Kentaro, a young boy.
THE POLAR BEAR SON, an Inuit tale: An old woman adopts and raises a polar bear cub which grows up and provides for her even after she has had to send it away to save it from the jealous men of the village.

HUMPHREY, THE LOST WHALE: Describes how a migrating humpback whale mistakenly entered the San Francisco Bay in 1985 and swam sixty-four miles inland before being led back to the sea by people concerned for his welfare.

HENRY'S FREEDOM BOX: A fictionalized account of how in 1849 a Virginia slave, Henry "Box" Brown, escapes to freedom by shipping himself in a wooden crate from Richmond to Philadelphia.

GRANDPA'S BATTLESHIP MISSOURI TOUR: During career month at school, a young boy's grandfather volunteers to show the class around the USS Missouri and explain how he was stationed on the ship that played a big part in history.

DREAMCATCHER: In the land of the Ojibway a baby sleeps, protected from bad dreams, as the life of the tribe goes on around him.

THE GREAT KAPOK TREE, A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest: One day, a man exhausts himself trying to chop down a giant kapok tree. While he sleeps, the forest's residents, including a child from the Yanomamo tribe, whisper in his ear about the importance of trees and how "all living things depend on one another" . . . and it works.
Max goes to Mars, a science adventure with Max the dog: Max gets ready to go on the first human mission to Mars. This time, his mission is to help the human crew in the search for life on Mars, with sidebars on science lessons (note: During the 1950s and 1960s the USSR used dogs for sub-orbital and orbital space flights to determine whether human spaceflight was feasible).

As a boy, Emmanuel hopped to school more than two miles each way, learned to play soccer, left home at age thirteen to provide for his family, and, eventually, became a cyclist. He rode an astonishing four hundred miles across Ghana in 2001, spreading his powerful message: disability is not inability.

THE BOY WHO HARNESSED THE WIND: When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought, everyone’s crops began to fail. Without enough money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library . . . and figured out how to bring electricity to his village. Persevering against the odds, William built a functioning windmill out of junkyard scraps, and thus became the local hero who harnessed the wind (true story; he is an engineer today).

JOURNEY OF HEROES: The story of the 100th battalion and the 442nd regimental combat team in graphic novel format.

SURFER OF THE CENTURY: The life of Duke Kahanamoku (Biography): A biography of Hawaiian Duke Kahanamoku, five-time Olympic swimming champion from the early 1900s who is also considered worldwide as the father of modern surfing. (and Hawaiian historical fiction, TSUNAMI QUILT).