

Young Adult Novels

Age ranges for young adult novels range from about 7-18. If a novel gave a particular age range, it is included here. Books in this category are much longer and have more text than the Children's books, which are often very visually oriented with less text.

Amato, M. (2004). [*The Word Eater*](#). New York, NY: Holiday House, Inc.

Ages 8-12

Synopsis: Lerner discovers that her pet worm, Fip, likes to eat paper, and whatever words or phrases he eats make those items vanish from the world! What will Lerner do with this newfound knowledge?

Broach, E. & Murphy, K. (ill.) (2008). [*Masterpiece*](#). New York, NY: Henry Holt and Co.

Ages 9-12

Synopsis: Marvin the beetle and James the boy live in the same apartment in New York. When James gets a pen set for his birthday and Marvin uses it to draw an artistic masterpiece, boy and beetle become friends and end up on a mysterious adventure at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Copeland, M. (2006). [*The Bundle at Blackthorpe Heath*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 10-14

Synopsis: Art receives a new spyglass from his grandfather, the ringleader for an insect circus. He's told not to use the spyglass for spying, but inevitably he, his friend Daisy, and their pet ladybug uncover a conspiracy that could shake up the circus!

Dahl, R. (2007). [*James and the Giant Peach*](#) (Reprint) **Black, Q. (Illus).** New York, NY: Puffin.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: James Trotter and his insect friends have a fun adventure inside a large, magical peach!

Donovan, G. (2011). [*What's Bugging Bailey Blecker*](#). New York, NY: Dutton Juvenile.

Ages: 8-11

Synopsis: Bailey likes her long hair, but she doesn't like the head lice that are infesting it!

Hawdon, R. (1989). [*A Rustle in Grass*](#). New York, NY: Tor Books.

Ages: 12-17

Synopsis: When a colony of ants awake after a long winter, they discover from a neighboring scout that enemy Red Ants are on the way to destroy them. Can they find out more about their foe and save their colony before it's too late?

Holman, F. (2006). [*The Cricket Winter*](#). Thomas, R. (Illus.) .Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Books for Young Readers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Simms becomes friends with a cricket beneath the floorboards in his room. Learning to communicate through Morse code, the two friends update each other on all the triumphs and troubles of their human and insect lives.

James, M. (1992). [*Shoebag*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic Paperbacks.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: A cockroach is transformed into a boy and adopted by a human family.

Keneally, T., and Ryan, S. (ill). (1995). [*Ned Kelly and the City of the Bees*](#). Ryan, S. (Illus.) Boston, MA: David R. Godine.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: Ned and Nancy shrink to insect size and ride a bee into adventure. They join a beehive where they meet many strange new friends.

Kennedy, X.J. (1997). [*The Eagle as Wide as the World*](#). New York, NY: Margaret K. McElderry Books.

Ages 8-12

Synopsis: Giant killer bees are kidnapping people, including the Tibb twins. What can be done?

Kline, S. (2009). [*Horrible Harry Bugs the Three Bears*](#) (Reprint). New York, NY: Puffin.

Ages: 7-9

Synopsis: Harry loves bugs, and his newest favorite is earwigs. When his class is assigned to do a play about a fairy tale, Harry decides to incorporate his love of earwigs into the story.

Kotzwinkle, W. (1986). [*Trouble in Bugland: A Collection of Inspector Mantis Mysteries*](#).

Servello, J. (Illus.). Boston, MA: David R. Godine Pub.

Ages: 7-12

Synopsis: Inspector Mantis and his trusty sidekick, Dr. Hopper, meet clients and solve five engaging mysteries in Bugland.

Laven, K. (2007). [*Quit Bugging Me*](#). Denver, CO: HMRS Publishing.

Ages: 9 and up

Synopsis: Emily and her brother Bud must discover the secrets of an unsettling book about insects that is more than what it seems.

Liddell, J. (2006). [*Tales of Glarney*](#). Bloomington, IN: Trafford Publishing.

Ages: 7-9

Synopsis: Simon's love of collecting insects leads him to adventure in a fantastical world called Glarney.

Low, D. (2009). [*Petronella Saves Nearly Everyone: The Entomological Tales of Augustus T. Percival*](#). Corace, J. (Illus.). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: Age 10 and up

Synopsis: Petronella is turning 16 in Edwardian London, and it's time for a party. This should be an exciting time, but her guardian, Uncle Augustus, has taken to eating insects and to make things worse, guests are disappearing and insects seem to hold the key. Can Petronella solve the mystery and preserve her dignity?

Maguire, G. (2005). [*Seven Spiders Spinning*](#). Zimmer, D. (Illus.). Logan, IA: Perfection Learning.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Prehistoric spiders thawed from the ice show up at a Vermont elementary school.

Martin, L. (1997). [*Die, Bug, Die*](#). X-files novel (juvenile). New York, NY: Harper Trophy.

Synopsis: Miller's Grove is a small town overrun by homicidal roaches. Agents Mulder and Scully are on the case!

McKinley, R. (2010). [*Chalice*](#). New York, NY: Puffin.

Synopsis: Mirasol lives in the Willowlands as a beekeeper. But her destiny changes when she is asked to become the Chalice, a responsibility that requires her to bring the Willowland people together with a Master.

Moraja, M. P. (2010). [*Jake and the Fly*](#). Matthews, NC: Melissa Productions, Inc.

Synopsis: Jake rescues some worms and keeps them in his bedroom, only to discover they have turned into flies! Now he must try to rid his house of the flies before too much trouble ensues.

Park, L. S. (2007). [*Project Mulberry*](#). New York, NY: Yearling.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Julia and her neighbor Patrick decide to raise silkworms for their state fair project. It's more complex than they imagined, but can they be successful and possibly win the blue ribbon?

Paulus, T. (1973). [*Hope for the Flowers*](#). Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press.

Synopsis: A caterpillar's journey into metamorphosis explores discovering your true self and how life can bring some unexpected, but wonderful turns.

Place, M. (2011). [*Gossamer Lives*](#). Grandby, CT: Purple Ducks Digital Media, Inc.

Ages: 10 and up

Synopsis: Yarunt is a spider who is born without the usual spider instincts. Now she must face many dangers and a catastrophe outside her own web.

Reeve, K. (1998). [*Lolo and Red-Legs*](#). St. Louis, MO: Turtleback Books.

Ages: 7-10

Synopsis: Friends Lolo, Frankie, and Mario capture a Mexican red-leg tarantula and Lolo decides to name it and keep it as a pet. Lolo and his friends have a great summer until someone steals Red-legs and the boys, with the help of their friend Lisa, search for the culprit in hopes of getting Red-legs back.

Rockwell, T. (1988). [*How to Eat Fried Worms*](#). New York, NY: Random House Publishing Group.

Synopsis: Billy makes a bet with another boy that he will eat fifteen worms in fifteen days. Will he be able to do it, despite several obstacles?

Rowling, J.K. (2000). [*Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*](#). New York, NY: Scholastic Inc.

Ages: 8 and up

Synopsis: In this fourth book of the Harry Potter series, Harry and his friends.....Rita Skeeter turning into a beetle.

Thompson, M.G. (2012). [*Wuftoom*](#). Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.

Ages: 12 and up

Synopsis: Evan has been visited by a worm creature named Wuftoom, who tells Evan he is metamorphosizing and will soon become a worm, too. Desperate, Evan makes a deal with the sworn enemy of Wuftoom, the Vitflies, but finds he may regret that decision.

Ury, A.B. (1998). [*Crawlers! Worm meal and Other Tasty Tales*](#). New York, NY: Torkids.

Ages: 9-12

Synopsis: Freddie, Jason, and other characters must deal with carnivorous worms, stinkbugs, and other creepy crawlies in this short anthology of scary insect tales.

White, E.B. (1952). [*Charlotte's Web*](#). New York, NY: Harpercollins Publishers.

Ages: 8-12

Synopsis: Charlotte the barn spider tries to help Wilbur the farm pig from being killed by weaving amazing words about him in her web that awe and inspire everyone who sees them.

Zollman, P. (2001). [*Don't Bug Me!*](#) New York, NY: Holiday House, Inc.

Ages: 9-11

Synopsis: Megan has a hard time when she needs to collect insects for her sixth-grade project.