

BOOK LIST FOR CHILDREN AGES 10-12

Compiled by Debra Weistar

For children between the ages of 9 and 12, inspiration is of utmost importance. Inspirational stories--whether they be of the birth/death/rebirth cycle, of a spiritual nature, myths, or simply about the human challenge of facing adversity--are essential for the development of deep feeling. Connection to others, one's place in community, facing death and the yearning for transcendent possibilities are central concerns of this age. Through story, inspiration moves us. Sharing such stories aloud is real life inspiration and connection. Use feeling words and your own emotions to talk with your child about aspects of the unfolding story.

All of the titles on this list come highly recommended, but unfortunately many of these titles are long out of print. You can order out of print books through amazon.com quite easily and inexpensively. Often amazon will have on-line reviews so you can find out what the books are about, as this is solely a list.

Two excellent teacher's resources are [A Call To Character](#) by Colin Greer and Herbert Kohl, editors, and [Stories of the Spirit, Stories of the Heart: parables of the spiritual path from around the world](#) edited by Christina Feldman and Jack Kornfield. Both are excellent sources of short stories and poetry. [A Call To Character](#) is full of great excerpts from full length books and as such is useful on its own, as well as a resource for more titles.

Book List for Ages 10-12

RunAway to Freedom: a story of the underground railroad	Barbara Smucker
The NeverEnding Story	Michael Ende
The Chronicles of Narnia	C.S. Lewis
Heartlight The Ancient One	T.A. Barron
Tuck Everlasting	Natalie Babbitt
Abel's Island	William Steig
My Side of the Mountain	Jean George
The Education of Little Tree	Forrest Carter
Blue Willow	Doris Gates
Song of the Trees Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry Let the Circle Be Unbroken The Road to Memphis	Mildred D Taylor
The Indian in the Cupboard The Secret of the Indian The Return of the Indian One More River	Lynn Reid Banks
The Magical Adventures of Pretty Pearl Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush	Virginia Hamilton
The Endless Steppe	Esther Hautzig
Words By Heart	Ouida Sebestyen
Badger on the Barge Isaac Champion	Janni Howker
A Wizard of EarthSea	Ursula K. LeQuin
In the Shadow of a Rainbow	Robert Franklin Leslie
Kinship With All Life	J. Allen Boone
Bridge to Terebithia	Katherine Patterson
A Boat to Nowhere	Maureen Crane Wartski
Number The Stars	Lois Lowry
Dancing Carl	Gary Paulsen
Nobody's Family is Going to Change	Louise Fitzhugh
From Anna Mama's Going to Buy You a Mockingbird	Jean Little
Dawn of Fear	Susan Cooper
Good Night, Mr. Tom	Michelle Magorian
Lest Innocent Blood Be Shed	Philip Hallie

It's Our World, Too! We Were There, Too!	Phillip Hoose
Free the Children	Craig Kielburger
The Legacy of Luna One Makes the Difference	Julia Butterfly Hill
Crow and Weasel	Barry Lopez
The Wheel on the School	DeJong
Daughters of the Moon, Sisters of the Sun: Young Women and Mentors on the Transition to Womanhood	Hughes and Wolf
Real Girl, Real World	Heather M. Gray and Samantha Phillips
Our Boys Speak: Adolescent Boys Write About Their Inner Lives	John Nikkah
33 Things Every Girl Should Know About Women's History	Tonya Bolden
Farewell to Manzanar	Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
The Secret Life of Bees	Sue Monk Kidd
Rascal	Sterling North
Don Coyote Sandy	Dayton O. Hyde
Ramayana	Retold by William Buck