

Chapter Books with Graphic Novel Elements

The titles in this list would be of interest to readers who enjoy graphic novels or books in the form of Diary of a Wimpy Kid. They are mostly chapter books with some graphic novel elements. The following titles are shelved in the Juvenile Fiction section by the first three letters of the author's last name unless otherwise noted. Need help? Ask a librarian!

Jedi Academy by Jeff Brown (J BRO)

A young boy named Roan living on Tatooine is disappointed when he learns that he has been rejected by the Pilot Academy. He is soon invited to attend Jedi academy instead. There, he learns that he possesses an innate talent for the use of the Force and that he will learn to harness it under some of the Jedi's greatest masters. Roan settles into the life of a typical schoolboy, from struggling through homework, learning to make new friends in an unfamiliar situation, and catching up with classwork. Along the way, he finds friends, but must deal with bullies also.

Bad Kitty series by Nick Bruel (J BRU)

Those who loved the Bad Kitty picture books growing up will love these new chapter books! Bad Kitty can be very bad, but she doesn't always mean to be! Whether she is trying to be a good little kitty and eat her vegetables or be a quiet little kitty and behave at a birthday party, it seems that trouble finds a way to her.

Night of the Living Worms by Dave Coverly (J COV)

What's a bird to do when his sibling is a big-time celebrity? It's a question Speed Bump has to deal with every single morning because his brother happens to be the one and only Early Bird. You know, THE Early Bird, who ALWAYS gets the worm! Unfortunately, Speed Bump is a sleepy little bird with a big head and tiny wings who's worried he'll never live up to his brother. But he has a great buddy, the ever-hungry Slingshot, who knows how to lift his spirits. Together, they end up on an adventure deep in the nighttime forest, where they're forced to confront something more terrifying—and slimier—than they've ever imagined.

Timmy Failure series by Stephan Pastis (J PAS)

Timmy is a self-confident yet clueless CEO of his very own investigative business. He completes spy missions and other investigations with the help of his crew, who is generally just as clueless (yet comical) as him.

Big Nate series by Lincoln Peirce (J PEI)

Big Nate follows the adventures and misadventures of Nate Wright, a spirited yet rebellious sixth-grader, and his classmates and teachers. He is portrayed as a boy with little interest in studies or conforming to standards, which has led him into several conflicts with his social studies teacher Mrs. Godfrey, whom he considers to be his nemesis.

Cakes in Space by Phillip Reeve (J REE)

When ten-year-old Astra and her family move to a new planet, she must save the spaceship and its crew from man-eating cakes, aliens, and more.

Dork Diaries series by Rachel Renee Russell (J RUS)

These books are the personal diary of 14-year old Nikki Maxwell. They feature drawings, doodles, and comic strips that chronicle the daily drama of her life in (and outside of) middle school.

Frank Einstein series by Jon Scieszka (J SCI)

In this start of this series, young Frank Einstein and his trusted pal Watson foil the dastardly plans of arch nemesis, T. Edison, and his financial advisor, Mr. Chimp. Along the way, they rely on the assistance of Frank's genius robot Klink, the not-so-genius-but-affectionate robot Klank, and Frank's Grampa Al. The hijinks begin at a school science competition and continue after Edison steals Frank's antimatter technology, ultimately leaving the fate of the world hanging in the balance.

Dragonbreath series by Ursula Vernon (J VER)

Danny Dragonbreath can't breathe fire, but he has no fear. And that comes in handy when a bad grade at school inspires him to enlist his cousin the sea-serpent's help with a research project. These books follow Danny on his crazy adventures and include a number of comic strips to help propel the story.