

**The young man and the sea** / Rodman Philbrick

Twelve-year-old Skiff Beaman undertakes a dangerous trip alone out on the ocean off the coast of Maine to try to catch a huge bluefin tuna.

**Revenge of the whale: the true story of the whaleship Essex** /

Nathaniel Philbrick (YA 910.45 P53)

Recounts the 1820 sinking of the whaleship "Essex" by an enraged sperm whale and how the crew of young men survived against impossible odds.

**The lightning thief** / Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson learns he is a demigod, son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea. *Percy Jackson & the Olympians series*; book 1.

**Floodland** / Marcus Sedgwick

After global warming causes the sea to rise until cities in England become islands, 10-year-old Zoe goes on a harrowing boat trip to find her parents.

**The cay** / Theodore Taylor

When their ship is torpedoed by a German submarine during World War II, a twelve-year-old white boy, blinded by a blow on the head, and an old black man are stranded on a tiny Caribbean island.

**Ice drift** / Theodore Taylor

Two Inuit brothers must fend for themselves while stranded on an ice floe that is adrift in the Greenland Strait.

**Voyage of ice : chronicles of courage** / Michele Torrey (grades 4+)

In 1849, fifteen-year-old Nick and his older brother, longing to be whalers, sign on as hands on the whaling ship Sea Hawk, and find that the journey is full of hardship and unexpected dangers.

**Jules Verne's 20,000 leagues under the sea** / retold by Carl Bowen (graphic j Verne)

An illustrated adaptation of the 19<sup>th</sup> century science fiction tale of an electric submarine, its eccentric captain, and their undersea world.

**Leepike Ridge** / N.D. Wilson

Eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasure-hunters.

**The Swiss Family Robinson** / Johann Wyss

The shipwrecked Robinson Family finds new life on a deserted island far from civilization.

# Wet & Wild Adventures

Stories of survival,  
shipwrecks, and the sea



Selections from the Children's Library - Mt. Lebanon Public Library  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania - 412.531.1912 - [www.mtlebanonlibrary.org](http://www.mtlebanonlibrary.org)

*These suggestions are for kids in grades 5 and up unless otherwise marked.*

**Shipwreck at the bottom of the world: the extraordinary true story of Shackleton and the Endurance** / Jennifer Armstrong (j 919.804 Arm)

The events of the 1914 Shackleton Antarctic expedition whose ship was trapped in ice and crushed, forcing the crew to make a very long and perilous journey across ice and stormy seas to reach inhabited land.

**The true confessions of Charlotte Doyle** / Avi

As the lone "young lady" on a transatlantic voyage in 1832, Charlotte learns that the captain is murderous and the crew rebellious.

**SOS Titanic** / Eve Bunting

Fifteen-year-old Barry O'Neill, traveling from Ireland to America on the maiden voyage of the Titanic, finds his life endangered when the ship hits an iceberg and begins to sink.

**Trouble River** / Betsy Byars

A 12-year-old boy never dreams that his homemade raft will be the sole means of escape for him and his grandmother when hostile Indians threaten their prairie cabin.

**Ship of fire** / Michael Cadnum

In 1587, a 17-year-old surgeon's apprentice must suddenly takeover as ship's surgeon and prove his skill not only as a doctor but also as a fighter when he is enlisted by Sir Francis Drake to face battle.

**Attack of the Turtle** / Drew Carlson

During the Revolutionary War, fourteen-year-old Nathan joins forces with his older cousin, the inventor David Bushnell, to secretly build the first submarine used in naval warfare.

**Shen and the treasure fleet** / Ray Conloque

After rebel forces seize the Chinese royal city of Nanjing in 1403, thirteen-year-old Shen and his sister take refuge with a traveling acrobat troupe who gains passage on a vast fleet of ships setting sail to explore the world.

**Two years before the mast** / Richard Henry Dana, Jr.

The exciting adventure of Richard Henry Dana, who, in 1834, went from Harvard student to common seaman, sailing from California to Cape Horn on a merchant sailing ship.

**Robinson Crusoe** / Daniel Defoe

During one of his several adventure-filled voyages in the 1600s, an Englishman becomes the sole survivor of a shipwreck and lives on a deserted island for more than 28 years.

**Overboard** / Elizabeth Fama

Escaping from a sinking ferry in the waters off Sumatra, fourteen-year-old Emily fights for survival for herself and a young Indonesian boy, who will drown if she doesn't help him.

**The black stallion** / Walter Farley

Young Alec Ramsay is shipwrecked on a desert island with a horse destined to play an important part in his life.

**The voyage of Patience Goodspeed** / Heather Vogel Frederick

Following their mother's death in Nantucket, Captain Goodspeed brings 12-year-old Patience and 6-year-old Tad aboard his whaling ship.

**Downriver** / Will Hobbs

Rebellious teenage members of a wilderness survival school team abandon their adult leader, hijack his boats, and try to run the dangerous white water at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. (Sequel: **River Thunder**)

**Wild Man Island** / Will Hobbs

After fourteen-year-old Andy slips away from his kayaking group to visit the wilderness site of his archaeologist father's death, a storm strands him on Admiralty Island, Alaska, where he must try to survive.

**Captains courageous** / Rudyard Kipling

After being swept overboard from an ocean liner, fifteen-year-old Harvey Cheyne, spoiled son of a millionaire, is rescued by New England fishermen who put him to work on their boat

**Island Series** / Gordon Korman

**Book 1: Shipwreck** (Sequels: **Survival** and **Escape**)

When a terrifying storm hits their boat in the middle of the Pacific, 6 teenagers are shipwrecked on a deserted island where they think they are alone – but they are not.

**The wreckers** / Iain Lawrence

Shipwrecked after a vicious storm, fourteen-year-old John Spencer discovers an evil secret about the English coastal town where he is stranded. First in a series. Also other titles by this author.

**Freedom beyond the sea** / Waldtraut Lewin

To escape the Inquisition, Esther Marchadi, the sixteen-year-old daughter of a murdered Jewish rabbi, disguises herself as a boy and joins the crew of Christopher Columbus's "Santa Maria."

**Peter Raven under fire** / Michael Molloy

During the Napoleonic Wars a young British midshipman, a swashbuckling secret agent, and a beautiful young American heiress try to stop a plan by Napoleon and a murderous pirate to take over America.

**The man with the silver Oar** / Robin Moore

In 1718, fifteen-year-old Daniel leaves his uncle's Quaker household to stowaway on a ship in pursuit of a pirate captain bent on raiding the coast of North America.

**The journal of Brian Doyle**/ Jim Murphy

In 1874, Brian Doyle records in his diary how he ran away from his home in San Francisco, joined the crew of a whaling ship, and endured storms, hostile shipmates, and being stranded in the Arctic.

**Island of the Blue Dolphins** / Scott O'Dell

The story of young Karana, an Indian girl who survives by herself for eighteen years on a deserted island off the California coast.

**Caught by the sea : my life on boats** /

Gary Paulsen (j 92 P PAULSEN Pau)

The author tells of his life with boats: how they got him through terrifying storms and how they deepened his love of the ocean.

**Wild river** / P.J. Petersen

Considered lazy and un-athletic, 12-year-old Ryan discovers a heroic side of himself when a kayak trip with his older brother goes horribly awry.