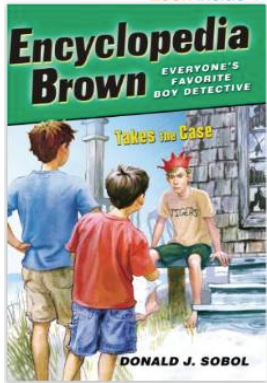


A few of Mr. Loughran's favorites...

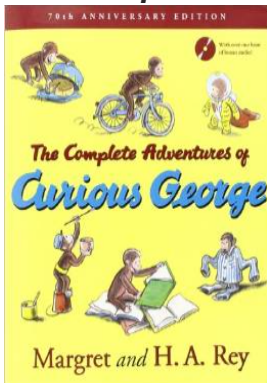
Encyclopedia Brown Takes the Case: “As Idaville’s ten-year-old star detective, Encyclopedia has



an uncanny knack for trivia. With his unconventional knowledge, he solves mysteries for the neighborhood kids through his own detective agency. But his dad also happens to be the chief of the Idaville police department, and every night around the dinner table, Encyclopedia helps him solve some of the most baffling crimes. With ten confounding mysteries in each book, not only does Encyclopedia have a chance to solve them, but readers are given all the clues as well and can chime in with their own solutions. Interactive and fun—it’s classic Encyclopedia Brown!” (Amazon.com Book Review). **Mr. Loughran’s Comment:** I LOVED any of the books in this series, especially because there was always the reward of guessing what happened in – and sometimes solving! – each case!! This series is part of the Loughran childhood ephemera, and even though

it is a bit “quaint,” the books are fun, nonetheless! In between the countless number of stickball games I played at Atlantic Stadium (the name we gave to the blacktop schoolyard at AHES that served as our second home from 1977 to 1985), I can remember reading many books like this one. Good stuff!

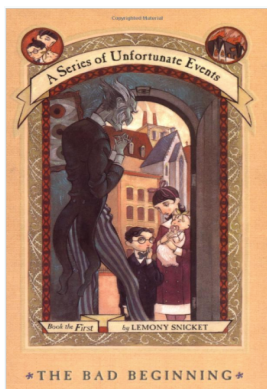
The Complete Adventures of Curious George: “Sixty years have passed since a curious little



chimp in Africa met the man with the big yellow hat and got into the first of many scrapes. Decades later, George is as curious--and naughty--as ever. To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Curious George's debut, this special edition is a collection of seven classic adventures by Margret and H.A. Rey, along with an introduction by critic Leonard Marcus, a retrospective note by publisher Anita Silvey, a history of the Reys by Dee Jones, curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, and a photo album” (Amazon.com Book Review). **Mr. Loughran’s Comment:** As a child in first and second grade at Highlands Elementary School, I remember taking home EVERY episode of Curious George’s many adventures, reading them over and over again! I’m not sure, but I think Margret (yes, that’s how she spells her name) and H.A. Rey are

responsible for all the “monkeying around” I did in various parks and playgrounds across Highlands, New Jersey, in 1974 and 1975!

A Series of Unfortunate Events: “Fans of Lemony Snicket and newcomers to his gleefully ghastly



Series of Unfortunate Events will be elated to discover this boxed gift set of the first three books in hardcover: *The Bad Beginning*, *The Reptile Room*, and *The Wide Window*. While it's true that the events that unfold in Snicket's novels are bleak, and things never turn out as you'd hope, these delightful, funny, linguistically playful books are reminiscent of Roald Dahl, Charles Dickens, and Edward Gorey. After they get their paws on this boxed set, there is no question that young readers will want to read the continuing unlucky adventures of the three Baudelaire orphans” (Karin Snelson: Amazon.com Book Review). **Mr. Loughran’s Comment:** My sister-in-law recommended this book to my family when my children were around nine and seven. We loved the books so much, and then we lost our minds with laughter when Jim Carrey portrayed the

pompous villain Count Olaf in a film version of the series. My favorite character, besides the inspirational, relentlessly resourceful Baudelaire orphans, was Aunt Josephine, who has an irrational fear of nearly everything, but especially *bad grammar*! Enjoy!