

Age appropriate suggested reading lists.

[Year one](#)

[Year Two](#)

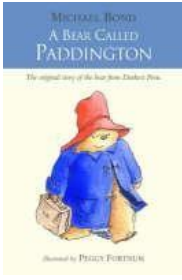
[Year Three](#)

[Year Four](#)

[Year Five](#)

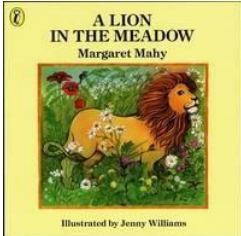
[Year Six](#)

Year 1- Suggested book list



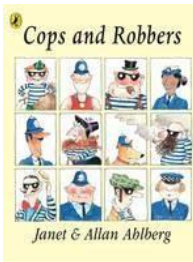
A Bear Called Paddington **Michael Bond**

A bear on Paddington Station? said Mrs Brown in amazement. Don't be silly -- there can't be. The Browns first met Paddington on a railway station -- Paddington station, in fact. He had travelled all the way from Darkest Peru with only a jar of marmalade, a suitcase and his hat. The Browns soon find that Paddington is a very unusual bear. Ordinary things -- like having a bath, travelling underground or going to the seaside become quite extraordinary, if a bear called Paddington is involved.



A Lion in the Meadow **Margaret Mahy**

What would you do if you knew there was a lion in the meadow, but your mother wouldn't believe you and gave you a matchbox with a dragon to scare the away the lion...and in fact the dragon was there too?



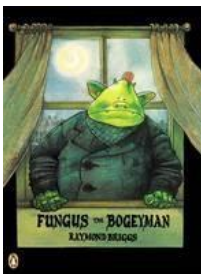
Cops and Robbers **Allan Ahlberg**

The robbers of London town plan a desperate crime one Christmas Eve - to steal all the toys they can lay their hands on! Fortunately, the robbers meet their match in brave Officer Pugh who leaps into action and arrests the villains - all except Grandma Swagg who manages to get away.



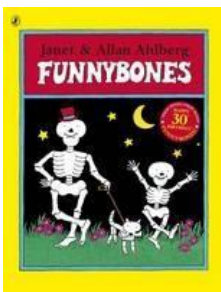
Don't Forget the Bacon **Pat Hutchins**

A young boy sets out to do the shopping, determined to remember his simple list but as the sights and sounds of town distract him he finds himself in a terrible muddle.



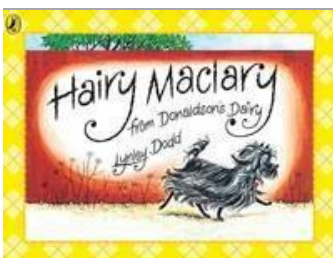
Fungus the Bogeyman **Raymond Briggs**

Life in Bogeydom is full of snot, smells, slime, scum and other unspeakable things, and Bogeymen live under the ground revelling in all the nastiness imaginable. Briggs has created a whole new world in this sophisticated cartoon-strip picture book for older children which will entice the most reluctant of readers into books.



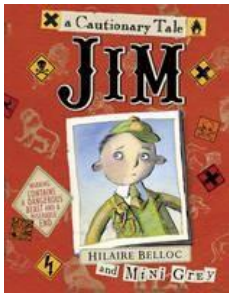
Funnybones **Allan Ahlberg, Janet Ahlberg**

This is the first book in the Funnybones series and introduces the skeletons - a big skeleton, a little skeleton and a dog skeleton. They live in a dark dark cellar of a dark dark house on a dark dark hill and so the word repetition continues through this lighthearted story for early readers. The skeletons venture out of their cellar one night to find someone to scare, but everyone is in bed so they amuse themselves by scaring each other and playing with the skeleton animals that live in the zoo.



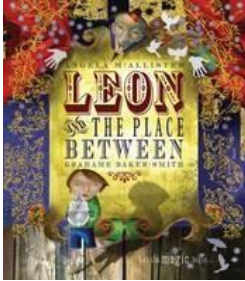
Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy **Lynley Dodd**

This bestselling story has now been brilliantly adapted for audio CD and there are two readings - the first is a straight reading with music and the second has a 'special sound' to indicate where to turn the page as you read along. Hairy Maclary goes off for a walk with a few of his friends - and comes up against a nasty surprise, in the shape of the cat Scarface Claw, who chases the dogs away.

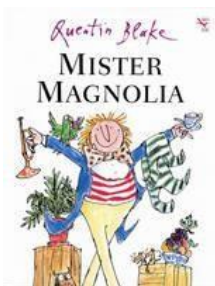


Jim
Mini Grey

Award-winning illustrator Mini Grey turns her inimitable hand to Hilaire Belloc's classic cautionary tale of Jim: who ran away from his Nurse and was eaten by a Lion! First published in 1907, Belloc's wickedly funny poem describing the sad end of Jim is now fabulously illustrated by Mini Grey for this extra-special new edition. This is a perfect gift with much to explore...

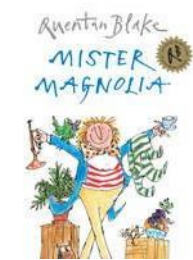


Leon and the Place Between
Angela McAllister, Grahame Baker-Smith



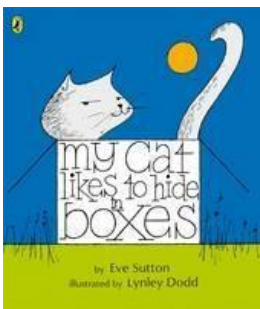
Mister Magnolia
Quentin Blake

Mr Magnolia has only one boot. He has an old trumpet that goes rooty-toot - And two lovely sisters who play on the flute - But Mr Magnolia has only one boot. In this wittily rhyming picture book, Mr Magnolia has a full and happy life except for one serious omission - a boot. But one day, he receives a mysterious parcel, and at last Mr Magnolia can splash in the puddles with everyone else!



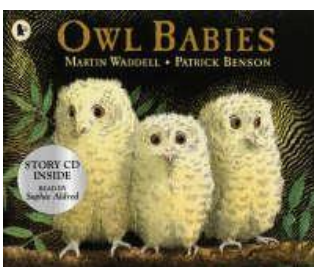
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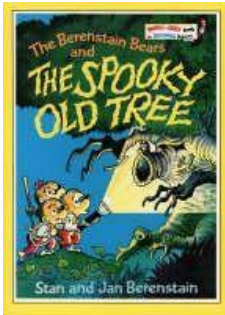


My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes
Eve Sutton, Lynley Dodd

Lots of cats all around the world do exciting things like fly aeroplanes or play the violin - but my cat, an ordinary round-the-house cat, likes to hide in boxes. Children will love joining in with this fun rhyming story that is just right for beginner readers.

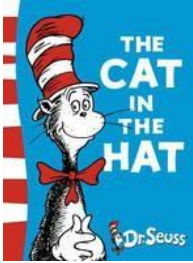


Owl Babies
Martin Waddell



The Berenstain Bears and the Spooky Old Tree
Berenstain, Jan Berenstain

Bright and Early books help even the youngest children get ready to read. Simple stories and basic concepts are humorously presented in rhythm and rhyme. Pictures that fully explain the text help even babies make the important connection between word and meaning. It's never too early to find out that 'Learning to read is Fun'. The small Berenstain Bears go out on a daring nighttime adventure in THE SPOOKY OLD TREE and find thrills and shivers in just the right measure before returning to the safety of home. Four- and five-year olds will enjoy having this story read to them and older children will want to read it themselves.



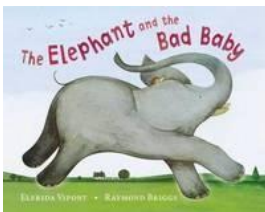
The Cat in the Hat Green Back Book
Dr. Seuss

To accompany the release of the live action movie of The Cat in the Hat, starring Mike Myers, HarperCollins are proud to present Dr. Seuss's original, classic tale of the coolest, hippest cat in history! When the Cat in the Hat steps in on the mat, Sally and her brother are in for a roller-coaster ride of havoc and mayhem! The Cat can rescue them from a dull rainy day, but it means lots of thrills and spills along the way. The wonderfully anarchic Cat in the Hat is one of the most popular characters in children's fiction, and this book is ideal for budding readers to tackle on their own.



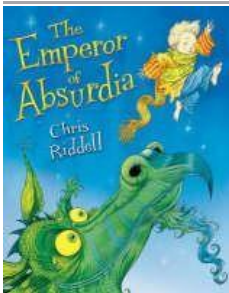
The Django
Levi Pinfold

Winner of the prestigious 'Best Emerging Illustrator Award' from Booktrust, Levi Pinfold has created a wonderfully moving story of a young boy dogged by the attentions of his imaginary friend 'Django' who keeps getting him into trouble. Finally, the young boy has to banish his friend, but he misses him terribly. When his father gives Jean a banjo, he rediscovers the infectious enthusiasm for music that was the Django's special gift to him.



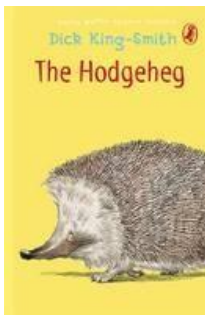
The Elephant and the Bad Baby
Elfrida Vipont, Raymond Briggs

The Elephant takes the Bad Baby for a ride and they go 'rumpeta, rumpeta, rumpeta down the road.' They help themselves to ice creams, pies, buns, crisps, biscuits, lollipops and apples, and the shopkeepers follow them down the road shouting and waving. All ends well as the Bad Baby learns to say 'Please' and his mother makes pancakes for everyone.



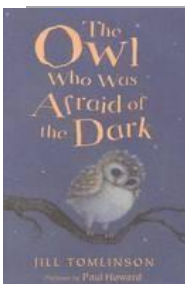
The Emperor of Absurdia
Chris Riddell

Welcome to Absurdia: a strange and wonderful land where nothing is quite what it seems. Trees are birds, umbrellas are trees, and the sky is thick with snoring fish. Join one small boy as he tumbles out of bed into a crazy dreamland of wardrobe monsters, dragons and amazing adventure. This gloriously rich and beautiful picture book comes from a uniquely talented artist at the height of his powers. With a story to enchant the youngest reader, and pictures to gasp and pore over whatever your age, it is an extraordinary achievement and one to savour.



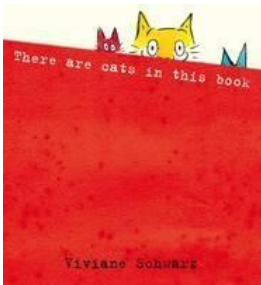
The Hodgehog
Dick King-Smith

Max is a hedgehog who lives with his family in a nice little home, but unfortunately on the wrong side of the road from the Park, with its beautiful lily pond, and more importantly its juicy slugs, worms and snails! The busy road is a dangerous barrier but Max notices that humans seem to cross it quite easily. If they can, why can't hedgehogs? So Max sets out on a quest to find a safe way to reach the Park. His first attempt ends in a nasty bump on the head, and Max finds when he tries to speak his words are all mixed up. He is now a Hodgehog, not a hedgehog, but he is still determined to fulfil his mission. After some careful detective work, Max eventually discovers the best way to cross the road - with the help of the lollipop lady, of course!



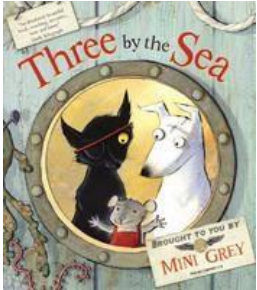
The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark
Jill Tomlinson

Plop, the Baby Barn Owl, is like every Barn Owl there ever was, except for one thing--he is afraid of the dark. Dark is nasty he says and so he won't go hunting with his parents. Mrs. Barn Owl sends him down from his nest-hole to ask about the dark and he meets a little boy waiting for the fireworks to begin, an old lady, a scout out camping, a girl who tells him about Father Christmas, a man with a telescope, and a black cat who takes him exploring. He realizes that through these encounters that dark is super after all.



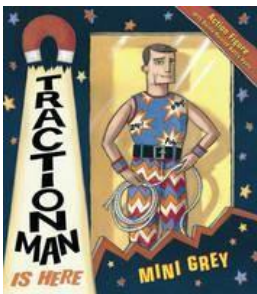
There Are Cats in This Book
Viviane Schwarz

If you're feeling feline-friendly, this may be just the novelty book for you. When did you last play with cats...inside a BOOK?! The cats in this book want to have fun, and by turning the pages and flipping the flaps YOU can play their favourite games with them! Tiny, Moonpie and Andre love wool to tangle with, cardboard boxes to hide in, pillow fights...and fish! But where there are fish, there is also water - lots of it. So who's going to rescue the cats from the giant floodwave? You are, of course!



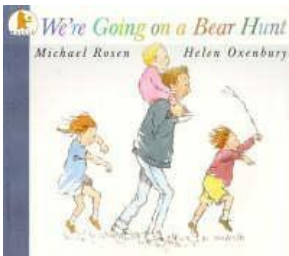
Three by the Sea
Mini Grey

In a house by the sea there happily live a dog, a cat and a mouse. Well, happily enough until a stranger knocks on the door one night, offering them each a special free gift. Who is this mysterious salesman blowing into their little world and turning it upside-down? And can their happy home survive his trouble- making gifts?



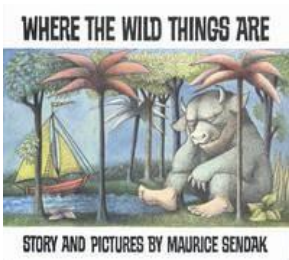
Traction Man Is Here
Mini Grey

With an action outfit for every occasion, Traction Man patrols the house. Whether he is saving toys (in latex space suit and Perspex helmet, teamed with Rocket Boots); searching the sink for the lost wreck of the sieve (in sub-aqua suit, fluorescent flippers and infra-red mask) or rescuing damsels in distress (in jungle pants, camouflage vest and a bandanna), Traction Man is never less than stylishly turned out and expertly accessorised. He is the last word in heroic fashion flair - until, that is, the day that he is presented with an all-in-one knitted green romper suit and matching bonnet by his owner's granny. Can Traction Man overcome the humiliation of his desperately dowdy new look and rediscover the action hero within or will the burden of the knitted green monstrosity be too great?



We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Michael Rosen

Follow the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river and squelch through the mud in search of the bear. What a surprise awaits in the cave on the other side of the dark forest.



Where the Wild Things Are
Maurice Sendak

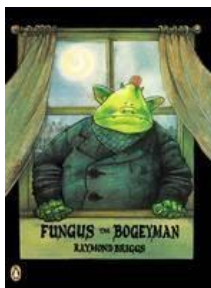
The story of Max's adventures when he sails away to the land where the wild things are has become an acknowledged classic of children's books. This book is the winner of the Caldecott Medal for the Most Distinguished Picture Book of the Year, 1964.

Year 2- Suggested book list



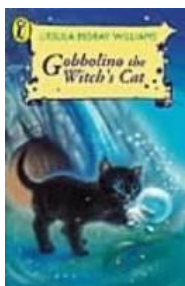
Beaver Towers Witches Revenge The Witch's Revenge Nigel Hinton

This is the second 'Beaver Towers' adventure. Once again Philip has been transported to the island to help his friends the beavers in their fight against the wicked witch, Oyin. But Oyin is planning a terrible revenge on the island's inhabitants.



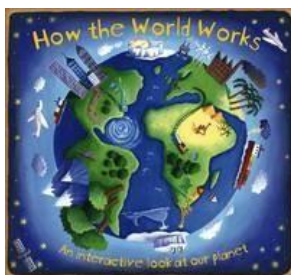
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Gobbolino the Witch's Cat Ursula Moray Williams

First published in the 1940s, the story of Gobbolino the witch's cat with one white paw and bright blue eyes, has been delighting generations of young readers. It's the charming tale of a cat born a witch's cat but who would much rather be a kitchen cat. While his sister Sootica learns how to ride a broomstick and turn mice into toads, Gobbolino sets out to find a family to care for him and a home of his own. But, Gobbolino is mistrusted wherever he goes, and blamed for mysterious happenings such as the farmer's milk turning sour, and the orphanage children's gruel turning into chocolate! After many such adventures, Gobbolino finally finds the home of his dreams.

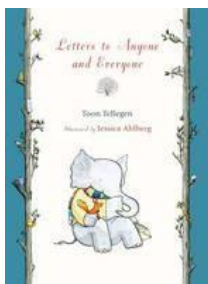


How the World Works Christiane Dorion



Just a Bit of Wind Jeremy Strong

It's the first day at Pirate School for Ziggy, Smudge, Carkella and Flo and they have lots of new things to contend with. Their headteacher is the scary Patagonia Clasterbotton and they have to take lessons include walking the plank and hand-to-hand fighting. When out on the pirate ship a storm blows up, resulting in the children having to rescue Patagonia when she's swept overboard, and they learn that really Patagonia is not so scary after all!



Letters to Anyone and Everyone Toon Tellegen

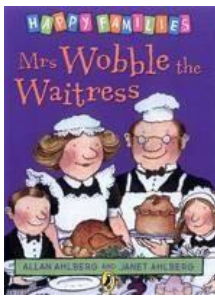
Discover a collection of extraordinary letters in this magical new volume of short stories. In Letters to Anyone and Everyone, Toon Tellegen depicts the correspondence between his animal characters and the world around them. These surreal and philosophical tales will capture the imaginations of readers everywhere. Perfectly complemented by Jessica Ahlberg's delicate illustrations, these stories are intelligent, moving and funny. 'Two twinkling gems! delicate, idiosyncratic! thoughtful and unusual! a delight for anyone lucky enough to read them'

- Booksellers Choice by Lindsey Stainer of Blackwells



Mister Magnolia Quentin Blake

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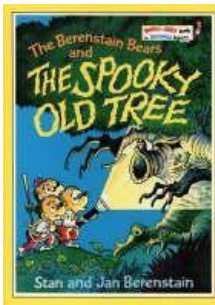
Mrs. Wobble the Waitress
Allan Ahlberg

Mrs Wobble loves her job as a waitress in a cafe but there's one big problem - she wobbles! She wobbles so much that she drops a chicken on a lady's pretty hat, then she drops a jelly on her boss and gets the sack. She fears her wobble will stop her working ever again - but Mr Wobble has a plan...Based on the classic 'Happy Families' card game, this highly entertaining series is ideal for reading and sharing at home or at school. It is guided by the Education Adviser, Brian Thompson, and written by the award-winning author, Allan Ahlberg. 'The best thing to happen to beginner readers since Dr Seuss' - Children's Rights Workshop.



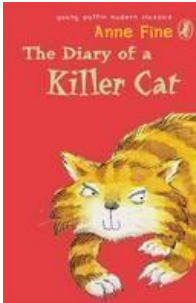
The Adventures of Captain Underpants
Dav Pilkey

When naughty George and Harold hypnotise their headteacher, they accidentally create the greatest superhero in the history of their school - Captain Underpants! His true identity is so secret that even he doesn't know who he is...but he's fighting for truth, justice, and all things pre-shrunk and cottony!! If you're a naughty villain like the diabolical Dr Diaper, watch out! Captain Underpants has wedgie-power on his side, and he's coming your way.



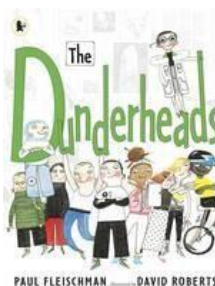
The Berenstain Bears and the Spooky Old Tree
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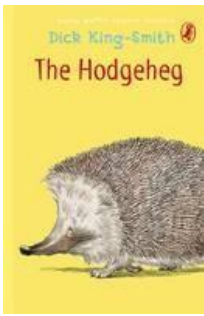
The Diary of a Killer Cat
Anne Fine

Poor Ellie is horrified when Tuffy drags a dead bird into the house. Then a mouse. But Tuffy can't understand what all the fuss is about. Who on earth will be the next victim to arrive through the cat-flap? Can soft-hearted Ellie manage to get her beloved pet to change his wild, wild ways before he ends up in even deeper trouble? The hilarious antics of Tuffy and his family are told by the killer cat himself.



The Dunderheads
Paul Fleischman

What's in a name? Meet the Dunderheads, an unlikely band of kids with extraordinary hidden talents! 'Never', shrieked Miss Breakbone, 'have I been asked to teach such a scraping together of fiddling, twiddling, time-squandering, mind-wandering, doodling, dozing, don't-knowing DUNDERHEADS!' Miss Breakbone, the school mistress, hates kids. She shouts, she confiscates, she makes kids cry. But one day she goes too far. She confiscates the one-eyed cat that Junkyard is going to give his mum for her birthday. So the children pool their many weird and wonderful talents to break into Breakbone's house and get Junkyard's cat back for him...This is a delightfully subversive, outrageously funny tale from Newbery Award-winner Paul Fleischman and Nestle Children's Book Prize-winner David Roberts. It offers a celebration of the unusual talents that make us unique and - and a welcome reminder not to underestimate children! It is a second thrilling adventure for the Dunderheads is in the pipeline!



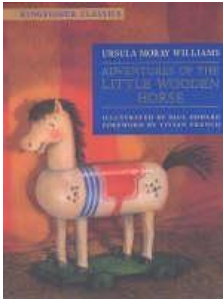
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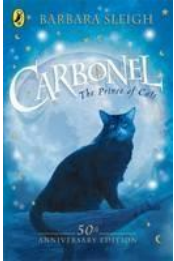
The Man Whose Mother Was a Pirate
Margaret Mahy

Sam is an ordinary person who wears an ordinary suit and ordinary shoes. He works in an ordinary, neat office writing down figures all day and underlining them. But Sam's mother is definitely not an ordinary woman, Sam's mother is a pirate and she wants to sweep him away to sea...Written by a best-selling author, this is a lively and enchanting tale with wonderfully exuberant illustrations to match.



Adventures of the Little Wooden Horse
Ursula Moray Williams, Vivian French

Proud and brave, Uncle Peder had never made so fine a horse before. The little wooden horse loves Uncle Peder like a father and hopes never to leave him. When the toymaker falls on hard times, the little wooden horse must go out into the world to seek his fortune. But whether he's working in a coal mine, walking the tightrope in a circus, or gathering pirate treasure, the loyal little horse has only one desire: to return to his beloved master's side. First published in 1938, *Adventures of the Little Wooden Horse* is well-loved modern children's classic.



Carbonel
Barbara Sleigh

This is the story of a cat, a broomstick and an ordinary schoolgirl called Rosemary. She bought them both in the market, quite cheaply. Of course, neither the cat nor the broomstick were just what they seemed, and they turned up just when Rosemary badly needed something nice to happen to her. A good cat is apt to be independent, so she did not have things all her own way, and as Carbonel proved to be a Royal cat in a very special sense, that was understandable. Between the cat and the broomstick, Rosemary picked up some useful spells and magic, and the adventures they brought about turned a dull-looking holiday into one long to be remembered for its unexpected excitements and rewards.



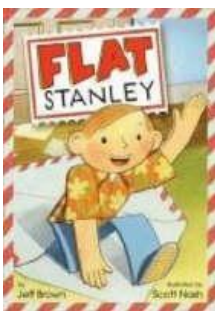
Charlotte's Web
E. B. White

This title presents the tale of how a little girl named Fern, with the help of a friendly spider, saved her pig Wilbur from the usual fate of nice fat little pigs.



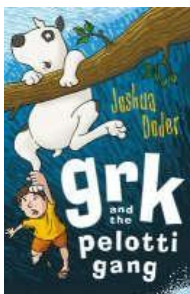
Finn Family Moomintroll
Tove Jansson

Poor little chap! He had been turned into a very strange animal indeed ...Although they're small, fat and shy creatures; Moomins have the most amazing adventures. It all begins when Moominpappa tries on a magic hat that makes exciting and funny things happen.



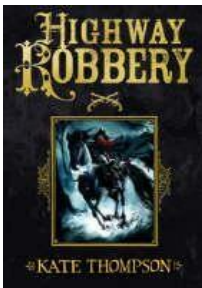
Flat Stanley
Jeff Brown

Stanley Lambchop is an ordinary boy with an extraordinary problem. One night, a giant pinboard falls on top of him leaving him completely flat. At first, Stanley enjoys the benefits of his strange predicament - it can be fun going in out of rooms simply by sliding under the door. And it's a hoot being posted to your friends in California for a holiday. But it's not always easy being different, and, once the novelty begins to wear off, Stanley wishes he could be just like everybody else again. But how will he ever fill out?



Grk and the Pelotti Gang
Joshua Doder

A trip to Brazil should be fun, right? Well, it's certainly exciting, as Tim and his dog Grk zip through the streets of Rio at high speed after the notorious Pelotti gang. Then their plane crashes in the jungle, and they find themselves having to fight to the death on the world's biggest waterfall. Will it be enough to stop the most dangerous criminals in South America? You'll just have to read to find out!

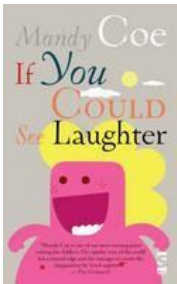


Highway Robbery
Kate Thompson

'Hold the mare for me, lad. And when I come back I'll give you a golden guinea.' It's more money than the street urchin has ever dreamt of. But who is the rider, and why is there so much interest in his big black horse? And will the boy ever see the money he has been promised? There's highway robbery in the air, but it isn't always entirely clear just who is trying to rob who.

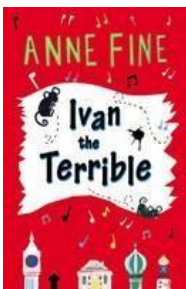


How the Whale Became and Other Stories
Ted Hughes



If You Could See Laughter
Mandy Coe

If You Could See Laughter is Mandy Coe's first collection of poetry for children. An award-winning poet, Mandy Coe is an educational specialist in poetry in schools and has been commissioned by CBeebies, the Book Trust, the Barbican and National Poetry Day to write poems and educational material for children of all ages. Her poetry has been described as 'literally spell-binding'.



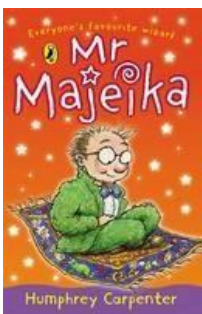
**Ivan the
Terrible**
Anne Fine

This is a very funny new story from one of our best-loved authors. It's Ivan's first day at his new school, and Boris is told to look after him, and translate for him, because Ivan can only speak Russian. After all, St Edmund's is a civilized school. Only problem is, Ivan isn't civilized. So when Ivan starts greeting people as 'lowly shivering worms', and asking for words in English like 'crush' and 'mutilate', Boris realises that he's going to have his work cut out for him. And that's just the start of the day...Little does he know that Ivan will leave a lasting influence, and that he himself will never enjoy listening to nursery rhymes ever again...This is a classic Anne Fine story - very funny and very real.



Mr Mumbles
Barry Hutchison

Kyle's imaginary friend from childhood is back! with a vengeance. Kyle hasn't seen Mr Mumbles in years. And there's a good reason for that: Mr Mumbles doesn't exist. But now Kyle's imaginary friend is back, and Kyle doesn't have time to worry about why. Only one thing matters: staying alive! A major series from a fresh new talent, brought to you by the publisher that put horror on the map.



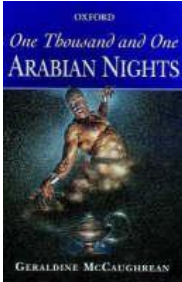
Mr. Majeika
Humphrey Carpenter

As a rule, magic carpets don't turn up in schools, but this is exactly what happens when Class Three's new teacher flies in through the classroom window and lands on the floor with a bump. Mr Majeika can behave just like any ordinary teacher if he wants to, but something has to be done about Hamish Bigmore, the class nuisance, and so he uses a little magic to turn him into a frog. And to everyone's delight it looks as if Hamish will have to remain a frog because Mr Majeika can't remember the spell to turn him back again! With Mr Majeika in charge, suddenly life at school become much more exciting - there's even a magic-carpet ride to Buckingham Palace!



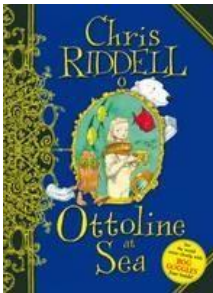
Noah Barleywater Runs Away
John Boyne

In *Noah Barleywater Runs Away*, bestselling author John Boyne explores the world of childhood and the adventures that we can all have there. Noah is running away from his problems, or at least that's what he thinks, the day he takes the untrodden path through the forest. When he comes across a very unusual toyshop and meets the even more unusual toymaker he's not sure what to expect. But the toymaker has a story to tell, a story full of adventure, and wonder and broken promises. And Noah travels with him on a journey that will change his life for ever. This is a thought-provoking fable for our modern world from the author of the bestselling and critically acclaimed *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*.



One Thousand and One Arabian Nights
Geraldine McCaughrean

This is a completely original version of the Arabian Nights Stories by award-winning author Geraldine McCaughrean. In order to delay her inevitable execution, Queen Shaharazad tells her murdering husband, King Shahryar, a wonderfully exciting story every night. The King is used to a new wife every day, only to put her to death the following day, but finds himself so intrigued in the magical stories Shaharazad tells, he can't bring himself to kill her. Night after night she tells her wonderful stories until the King starts to realize that he won't be able to live without them...



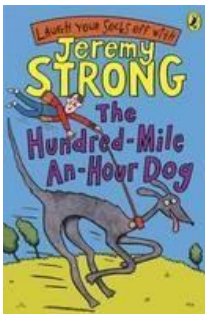
Ottoline at Sea
Chris Riddell

Ottoline and Mr. Munroe do everything and go everywhere together. That is, until the day Mr. Munroe mysteriously disappears leaving a strange clue written in string. Armed with her Amateur Roving Collectors' travel pass Ottoline sets off on a journey over, under and on top of the sea to find her hairy best friend and bring him back home.



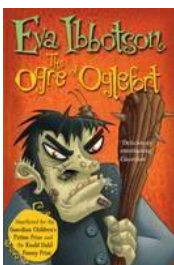
Please Mrs. Butler Verses
Allan Ahlberg, Julia Eccleshare

This witty collection of poems about school is full of typical classroom events that will be recognized and enjoyed by everyone: the candid revelations in a pupil's newsbook, the problem of copycats, bickering, making up, swaps, picking teams and forming gangs. Fritz Wegner's line drawings beautifully complement the hilarious and poignant verses. *Please Mrs Butler* was voted the most important twentieth-century children's poetry book in a Books for Keeps poll.



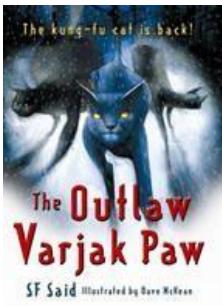
The Hundred-mile-an-hour Dog
Jeremy Strong

Streaker is a mixed-up kind of dog...with quite a bit of Ferrari and a large chunk of whirlwind...Streaker is no ordinary dog. She's a rocket on four legs with a woof attached, and Trevor has got until the end of the holidays to train her. If he fails, he'll lose his bet with horrible Charlie Smugg, and something very, very yucky involving frogspawn will happen...



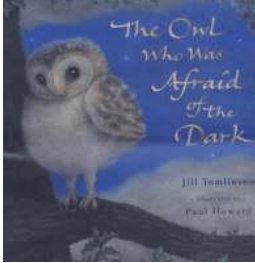
The Ogre of Oglefort
Eva Ibbotson

When a Hag, an orphan boy called Ivo, Ulf the troll and wizard Brian Brainsweller are sent to rescue a princess from an ogre, they briefly consider running away and hiding. Can they be any match for the gruesome, terrifying, ghastly, flesh-eating Ogre of Oglefort? But not all is as it first appears - the Ogre is depressed and the princess doesn't want to be rescued. The Norms, who rule their fates, decide to take things in hand and send a gang of the vilest, most petrifying ghouls to get the job done properly...



The Outlaw Varjak Paw
S. F. Said

Having saved the city cats from a fate worse than death, Varjak Paw finds himself the elected and popular leader of a new gang - a gang that supports freedom and kindness for all. But will the pressure take its toll on this brave, yet sometimes naive cat? Soon, the city erupts in an all-out gang war as the evil Sally Bones attempts to control the lives of all cats. Horrified and outnumbered, Varjak and the others must fight for their freedom or die trying; can Jalal's Way really be the best way? This is another thrilling adventure, eagerly awaited by all Varjak fans, both young and old.



The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark
Jill Tomlinson

Pop, the Baby Barn Owl, is like every Barn Owl there ever was, except for one thing - he is afraid of the dark. Dark is nasty and scary and so he won't go hunting with his parents. Mrs Barn Owl sends him down from his nest-hole to ask about the dark and he meets a little boy waiting for the fireworks to begin, an old lady, a scout out camping, a girl who tells him about her Christmas, a man with a telescope and a black cat who takes him exploring. He realizes that through these encounters that dark is super after all.



The Sam Pig Story Book
Alison Uttley



The Worst Witch
Jill Murphy, Julia Eccleshare

Mildred Hubble is the worst witch at Miss Cackle's Academy for Witches - she's always getting her spells wrong. But she manages to get by until she turns Ethel, the teacher's pet, into her deadly enemy.

Year 4- Suggested book list



A Dog So Small **Philippa Pearce**

Ben Blewitt is desperate for a dog. He's picked out the biggest and best dogs from the books in the library - and he just knows he's going to get one for his birthday. Ben is excited when the big day arrives, but he receives a picture of a dog instead of a real one! But the imagination can be a powerful thing, and when Ben puts his to work, his adventures really begin!

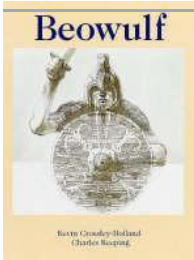


Alice's Adventures in Wonderland **Lewis Carroll, Philip Pullman**

Join Alice as she travels through Wonderland and meets a host of bizarre characters including the White Rabbit and the March Hare. Featuring Sir John Tenniel's original illustrations coloured by Harry Theaker and Diz Wallis, this is a beautiful edition of the ever-popular story, which will delight a new generation of readers. This title is a stunning new full-colour trade paperback edition of this children's classic.

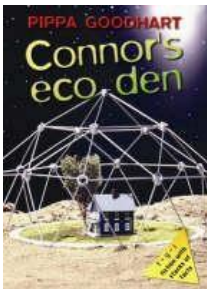


Anna Hibiscus **inuke**



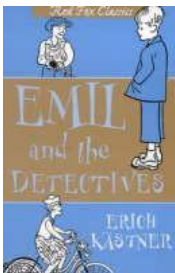
Beowulf **Kevin Crossley-Holland**

This is the story of a young man who travelled far across the sea to fight two terrifying monsters - one who could rip a man apart and drink his blood, the other who lived like a sea-wolf at the bottom of a dark, blood-stained lake. His name was Beowulf, and his story was written down in Anglo-Saxon in the eighth century. Kevin Crossley-Holland retells the story for children in strong, rhythmical prose, with striking illustrations by Charles Keeping. The paperback edition is now reissued with a new cover.



Connor's Eco Den **Pippa Goodhart**

The Hogg family are bursting out of their small house so Mr. Hogg challenges his three sons to build an extra bedroom themselves. Who will come up with the best design? Barrington Stoke specialises in books for reluctant, struggling and dyslexic readers.



Emil and the Detectives **Erich Kästner**

A reissue of this classic Emil story.



Haroun and the Sea of Stories
Salman Rushdie

Haroun's father is the greatest of all storytellers. His magical stories bring laughter to the sad city of Alifbay. But one day something goes wrong and his father runs out of stories to tell. Haroun is determined to return the storyteller's gift to his father. So he flies off on the back of the Hoopie bird to the Sea of Stories - and a fantastic adventure begins.



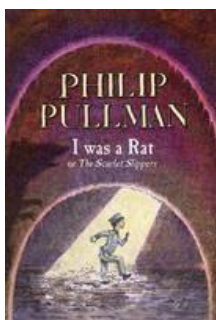
Harriet the Spy
Louise Fitzhugh

First published by HarperCollinsUS in 1964, this classic children's novel has sold over 4 million copies and was awarded the New York Times Outstanding Book Award. Sixth-grader Harriet attends school on the New York's Upper East Side along with her two best pals, Sport, the jock, and Janie, the mad scientist. After school every day, she takes her notebook and proceeds through her spy route. Climbing on milk crates and hoisting herself up dumbwaiters, Harriet observes the rich lady who never gets out of bed; the man with twenty-five cats and the Italian family who runs a grocery store. She writes brutally warts-and-all notes on them all. Harriet's downfall is that she also writes down her thoughts about people she actually knows. After a game in the park when her notebook is knocked out of her hands and read by her classmates, Harriet's deepest thoughts are revealed and she is quickly ostracised by all her classmates -- even the boy with the Purple Socks -- who form the Spycatcher's Club to punish her. After her parents find out what's happened, Harriet receives a final, crushing blow. She is no longer allowed to take notes -- her parents, her teacher and even the cook search her every day for a contraband notebook. Harriet's only consolation is the love and the wise advice of her nanny who manages to get her through this difficult period in her life. A classic in the US where it was first published and a major motion film from Paramount, Harriet the Spy is a beloved book throughout the world.



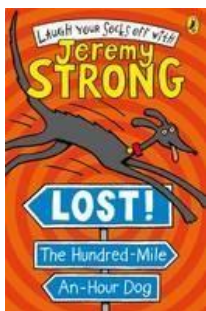
Highway Robbery
Kate Thompson

'Hold the mare for me, lad. And when I come back I'll give you a golden guinea.' It's more money than the street urchin has ever dreamt of. But who is the rider, and why is there so much interest in his big black horse? And will the boy ever see the money he has been promised? There's highway robbery in the air, but it isn't always entirely clear just who is trying to rob who.



I Was a Rat! Or, the Scarlet slippers
Philip Pullman

When a small boy turns up on Bob and Joan's doorstep unable to say much except 'I was a rat', the kindly couple adopt him. It seems strange but Bob reads about odder things every day in his newspaper. To them, the sunny little chap is Roger, and he's trying hard to adapt to human life. But when he gets lost and ends up on the run, other people, egged on by their newspapers, are quick to see him as the Monster, a rodent fiend who could terrorise the town. Only a friend in a very high place could save Roger from the authorities who are determined to exterminate him- Cleverly weaving elements of the Cinderella story into a subtle parody of modern times, master storyteller Philip Pullman has created a gallery of fascinating characters from the virtuous to the villainous, in a book which will grip every reader who picks it up.

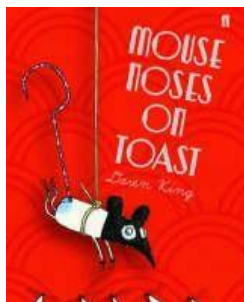


Lost! The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog
Jeremy Strong

Streaker the dog is lost. And not just a bit lost, but really lost! It wasn't even her fault! She wanted to protect some pies from the pie robber and suddenly she's miles from home and two-legged Trevor and she has to make friends with a cat. A cat! But it gets a lot hairier when they find themselves face-to-face with a baboon ...For the first time ever, Streaker tells her incredible adventures in her own words - and very funny words they are too. Rowan Clifford's illustrations add to the chaotic fun.

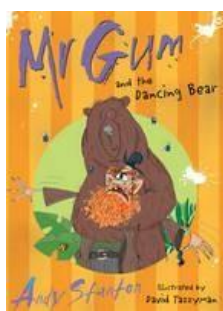
Lunatics and Luck
Marcus Sedgwick

Join the wonderfully weird Otherhand family and their faithful guardian, Edgar the raven, and discover the dark secrets of Castle Otherhand. Solstice and Cudweed are appalled to find their father has appointed a new school master. But things get even worse when the grumpy, viciously mean teacher actually arrives. The Otherhand children are sure there's something more to him than meets the eye - the trouble is, who will believe them? No one it seems. Except, perhaps, Edgar. Winner of the 2011 Blue Peter Book Award for Most Fun Story With Pictures, LUNATICS AND LUCK is the third story in this hilarious six book mystery series (with a touch of goth-froth) for 9 year olds from bestselling author, Marcus Sedgwick with quirky black and white line illustrations from new talent, Pete Williamson. Dedicated website on Raven Mysteries: www.ravenmysteries.co.uk



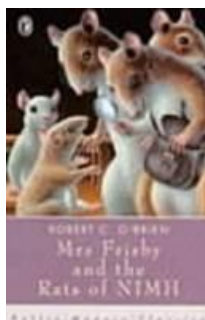
Mouse Noses on Toast
Daren King

'I will have the colourful parrot soup,' the lady said, 'with extra beaky bits.' 'And I,' said her husband, 'will have mouse noses on toast.' The waiter flipped open his notebook and wrote this down. 'Would that be with whiskers, Sir, or without?' Hiding on the restaurant table, Paul Mouse's world has just turned upside down. Surely the man is making a joke? Isn't mouse noses on toast just a big myth? Gathering his friends - Sandra the Christmas tree decoration, Rowley Barker Hobbs, the sheepdog, and the Tinby, a kind of monster - Paul becomes determined to find the truth. So begins an adventure involving mouse activists, the prime minister, cheese addicts and a wildly insane Tinby. But what awaits them all at the mouse noses abbatoir...?



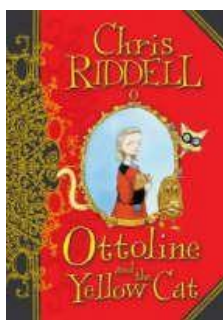
Mr Gum and the Dancing Bear
Andy Stanton

Mr Gum returns in the fifth shamelessly hilarious book...Good evening. Do you like bears called Padlock? Course you do. Do you like hot-air balloons? Course you do. Do you like tall sailing ships with mad sea captains, and horrifying old villains and words like 'wab!', 'tugler' and 'kelp'? COURSE you do! Well, guess what, you lucky little nibbleheads? This book's got all of those things - and a lot more besides. It's a rollicker! It's a frolicker! It's a funtime sun-time yollicker! So what you waiting for? Get reading!



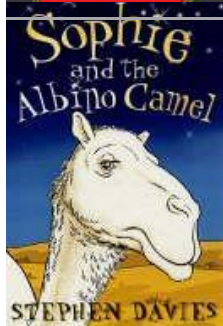
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH
Robert C. O'Brien

They are not like other rats. They work at night, in secret...Time is running out for Mrs Frisby. She must move her family of mice before the farmer destroys their home. But her youngest son, Timothy, is too ill to survive the move. Help comes in the unexpected form of a group of mysterious, super-intelligent rats. But the rats are in danger too, and little by little Mrs Frisby discovers their extraordinary past.



Ottoline and the Yellow Cat
Chris Riddell

This work introduces Miss Ottoline Brown, an exceptionally inquisitive Mistress of Disguise, and her partner in crime, Mr Munroe. No puzzle is ever too tricky for the two of them to solve ...Ottoline lives in a stylish apartment in Big City with a small hairy creature called Mr Munroe. Together they look after the Brown family's eclectic collections - and dabble in a spot of detective work. So they are the first to the scene of the crime when a string of high society dog-nappings and jewel thefts hits Big City. Ottoline (who luckily has a diploma from the Who-R-U Academy of Disguise) and Mr Munroe go undercover - and expose an ingenious scam masterminded by furry feline crook, the Yellow Cat. This is a quirky mystery - adventure which is perfectly packaged and highly collectable.



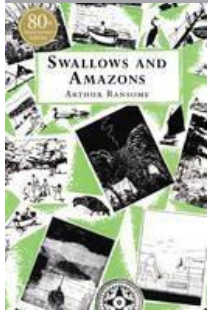
Sophie and the Albino Camel
Stephen Davies

Sophie lives in Gorom-Gorom, with her carnivorous-plant obsessed dad. Despite living there for two years and speaking the local language, Sophie finds it difficult to make friends. So when she meets Gidaado, a young griot (story-teller), she agrees to join him and his albino camel, Chobbal, on a journey to his village. It is not until they have set off, that Sophie begins to realise just how dangerous the desert is - it's full of djinnis that creep up behind you, and jump on your head and make you go mad. Not to mention the infamous Moussa ag Litni, a ruthless bandit who steals camels...



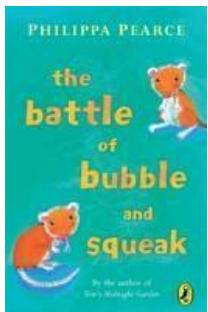
Stig of the Dump
Clive King

Barney is a solitary little boy, given to wandering off by himself. One day he is lying on the edge of a disused chalk-pit when it gives way and he lands in a sort of cave. Here, he meets 'somebody with a lot of shaggy hair and two bright black eyes' wearing a rabbit skin and speaking in grunts. He names him Stig. Of course nobody believes Barney when he tells his family all about Stig, but for Barney cave-man Stig is totally real. They become great friends, learning each others ways and embarking on a series of exciting adventures.



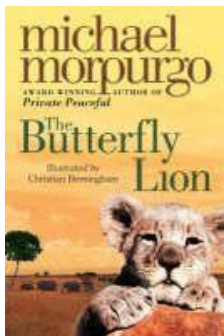
Swallows and Amazons
Arthur Ransome

The ultimate children's classic - long summer days filled with adventure. John, Susan, Titty and Roger sail their boat, Swallow, to a deserted island for a summer camping trip. Exploring and playing sailors is an adventure in itself but the island holds more excitement in store. Two fierce Amazon pirates, Nancy and Peggy, challenge them to war and a summer of battles and alliances ensues. 'My childhood simply would not have been the same without this book. It created a whole world to explore, one that lasted long in the imagination after the final page had been read' - Marcus Sedgwick.



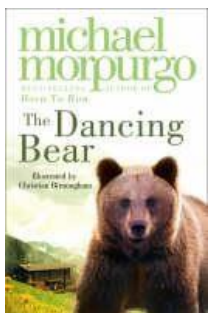
The Battle of Bubble and Squeak
Philippa Pearce

Sid, Peggy and Amy adore the two gerbils, Bubble and Squeak, but their mother detests them. A major family battle results, and it's clear life is never going to be quite the same again. But after a near fatal encounter between Bubble and Ginger the cat, Mrs Sparrow begins to see that life with 2 gerbils might not be so bad after all.



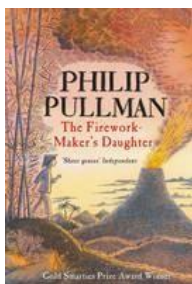
The Butterfly Lion
Michael Morpurgo

ILLUSTRATED BY CHRISTIAN BIRMINGHAM. A lyrical and moving tale of a young boy growing up in Africa, and his lifelong friendship with a white lion. All my life I'll think you you, I promise I will. I won't ever forget you. Bertie rescues an orphaned white lion cub from the African veld. They are inseparable until Bertie is sent to boarding school far away in England and the lion is sold to a circus. Bertie swears that one day they will see one another again, but it is the butterfly lion which ensures that their friendship will never be forgotten.



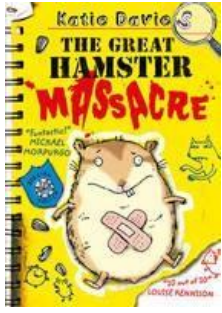
The Dancing Bear
Michael Morpurgo

A gentle and deeply moving story of a young girl and her bear, told with great charm by a master storyteller. High in the mountains, in a tiny village, an abandoned bear cub is adopted by a lonely orphan child. Soon they are inseparable, beloved by the whole village -- safe, until the arrival of a glamorous film crew who need a dancing bear!



The Firework-maker's Daughter
Philip Pullman

More than anything else in the world, Lila wants to be a Firework-Maker. But every Firework-Maker must make a perilous journey to face the terrifying Fire-Fiend! Can Lila possibly survive? Especially when she doesn't know she needs special protection to survive his flames...The exciting and heart-warming story of Lila's journey to face the fearful fire demon fizzles with fun and drama.



The Great Hamster Massacre
Katie Davies

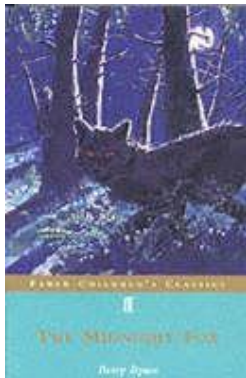
A very natural and honest version of life's events from the perspective of a young girl - from her suspicions about her neighbours, to her rocky friendship with the girl next door; from the sudden death of her beloved granny to her relentless quest for a pet hamster, only to then find it mysteriously slaughtered - which kickstarts a local investigation of 'suspects'. This is the first in a proposed series of short novels featuring the same characters and setting - with the themes of pets and detective work holding them together.



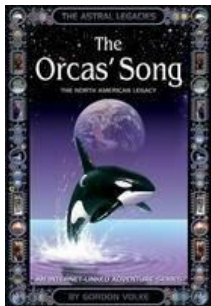
The Iron Man
Ted Hughes



The Little Prince
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry



The Midnight Fox
Betsy Byars



The Orca's Song
Volke Gordon



The Outlaw Varjak Paw
S. F. Said

Having saved the city cats from a fate worse than death, Varjak Paw finds himself the elected and popular leader of a new gang - a gang that supports freedom and kindness for all. But will the pressure take its toll on this brave, yet sometimes naive cat? Soon, the city erupts in an all-out gang war as the evil Sally Bones attempts to control the lives of all cats. Horrified and outnumbered, Varjak and the others must fight for their freedom or die trying; can Jalal's Way really be the best way? This is another thrilling adventure, eagerly awaited by all Varjak fans, both young and old.



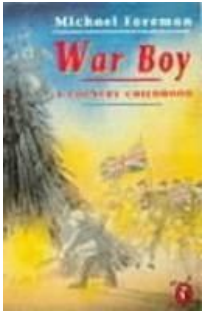
**The
Savage**
David
Almond

Imagine you wrote a story and that story came true. This is exactly what happens to Blue Baker when he writes about a savage living alone in the woods near his home. After his dad's death, Blue finds comfort in dreaming of a wild kid who survives on a diet of berries and the occasional hapless passer-by. But when the savage pays a night-time visit to the local bully, boundaries become blurred and Blue begins to wonder where he ends and the savage begins. Part novel, part graphic novel, this moving story features striking art from the award-winning Dave McKean.



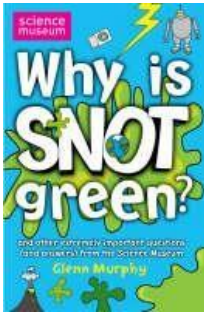
The Sheep-pig
Dick King-Smith

When Babe, the little orphaned piglet, is won at a fair by Farmer Hogget, he is adopted by Fly, the kind-hearted sheep-dog. Babe is determined to learn everything he can from Fly. He knows he can't be a sheep-dog. But maybe, just maybe, he might be a sheep-pig.



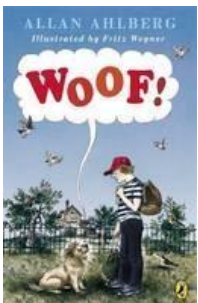
War Boy A Country Childhood
Michael Foreman

Michael Foreman woke up when an incendiary bomb dropped through the roof of his Lowestoft home. Luckily, it missed his bed by inches, bounced off the floor and exploded up the chimney. So begins Michael's fascinating, brilliantly illustrated tale of growing up on the Suffolk frontline during World War II. He tells how he and his friends and family coped with bombing raids and deadly doodlebugs, how gas masks were great for making rude noises, and how nothing could beat rabbit pie! '...vivid, humorous and touching' - Guardian .



Why is Snot Green? The Science Museum Question and Answer Book Glenn
Murphy

Why is snot is green? Do rabbits fart? What is space made of? Where does all the water go at low tide? Can animals talk? What are scabs for? Will computers ever be cleverer than people? Discover the answers to these and an awful lot of other brilliant questions frequently asked at the Science Museum in this wonderfully funny and informative book. It is divided into five sections which cover everything from the Big Bang to bodily functions and cool gadgets: Lost in Space; The Angry Planet; Animal Answers; Being Human; and Fantastic Futures. Two million people visit the Science Museum every year to see the extraordinary selection of exhibits and objects exploring the past, present and future of human invention and discovery. We are delighted to be publishing this brilliant book in association with the museum, where children of all ages can learn about science in a fresh, fun and interactive way.



Woof!
Allan Ahlberg

He felt a curious tingling in his hands and feet. He felt his nose becoming cold and wet, his ears becoming flappy. The thought in his mind was: 'I'm turning into a dog!' Eric is a perfectly ordinary boy. Perfectly ordinary that is, until the night when, in fifteen seconds flat, he turns into a dog! Eric and his best friend are determined to sniff out the truth - what makes an ordinary boy go 'woof'?

Year 5- Suggested reading list



A Christmas Carol
Charles Dickens



A Wizard of Earthsea
Ursula Le Guin

The first book of Earthsea is a tale of wizards, dragons and terrifying shadows. The island of Gont is a land famous for wizards. Of these, some say the greatest - and surely the greatest voyager - is the man called Sparrowhawk. As a reckless, awkward boy, he discovered the great power that was in him - with terrifying consequences. Tempted by pride to try spells beyond his means, Sparrowhawk lets loose an evil shadow-beast in his land. Only he can destroy it, and the quest leads him to the farthest corner of Earthsea.



Blood Fever
Charlie Higson

File Note: Strictly Confidential - Authorised Personnel Only. Subject: James Bond. Description: Age 13. Dark hair; blue eyes; tall for age; surprisingly strong; fluent French, good German. Essential components: A Mediterranean mystery. One kidnapped girl - feisty, blond, superfit Amy Goodenough, sister of James' best friend Mark. One villainous pirate - Zoltan Magyr. Mysterious Latin-speaking men lurking near Eton. One fast car.



Connor's Eco Den
Pippa Goodhart

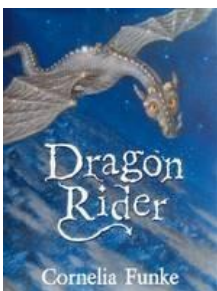
The Hogg family are bursting out of their small house so Mr. Hogg challenges his three sons to build an extra bedroom themselves. Who will come up with the best design? Barrington Stoke specialises in books for reluctant, struggling and dyslexic readers.



Cosmic
Frank Cottrell Boyce

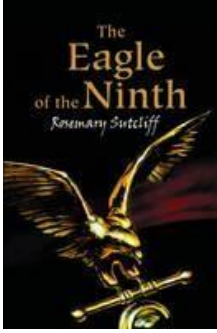
Liam is too big for his boots. And his football strip. And his school blazer. But being super-sized height-wise has its advantages: he's the only eleven-year-old to ever ride the G-force defying Cosmic rollercoaster or be offered the chance to drive a Porsche. Long-legged Liam makes a giant leap for boy-kind by competing with a group of adults for the chance to go into space. Is Liam the best boy for the job?

Sometimes being big isn't all about being a grown-up.



Dragon Rider
Cornelia Funke

A dragon. A boy. A journey. Firedrake, a brave young dragon, his loyal brownie friend Sorrel and a lonely boy called Ben are united as if by destiny. Together, they embark on a magical journey to find the legendary place where silver dragons can live in peace for ever. With only a curious map and the whispered memories of an old dragon to guide them, they fly across moonlit lands and seas to reach the highest mountains in the world. Along the way, they discover extraordinary new friends in unlikely places and a courage they never knew they had. Just as well, for the greatest enemy of all is never far behind them - a heartless monster from the past who's been waiting a very long time to destroy the last dragons on earth.



Eagle of The Ninth
Rosemary Sutcliff

The Ninth Legion marched into the mists of northern Britain - and they were never seen again. Four thousand men disappeared and their eagle standard was lost. It's a mystery that's never been solved, until now ...Marcus has to find out what happened to his father, who led the legion. So he sets out into the unknown, on a quest so dangerous that nobody expects him to return. The Eagle of the Ninth is heralded as one of the most outstanding children's books of the twentieth century and has sold over a million copies worldwide. Rosemary Sutcliff writes with such passion and attention to detail that Roman Britain is instantly brought to life and stays with the reader long after the last page has been turned. The book is also now the subject of a major film.



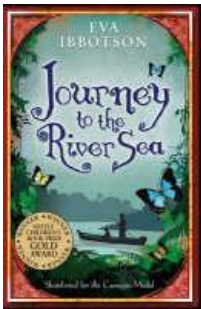
Fire, Bed and Bone
Henrietta Branford

Stylish reissue of a multi-award-winning, dramatic tale of the Peasants' Revolt. The narrator of this unforgettable tale is an old hunting dog. Living with the lowly Rufus and Comfort and their children, she has all a dog could ask for - fire, bed and bone. But this is 1381 and unrest is spreading like plague among the peasants of southern England, who are tired of the hardship and injustice they suffer at the hands of oppressive landlords. Rebellion is in the air, stirred up by men like John Ball and Wat Tyler, and life for man - and dog - is about to change dramatically...



Gideon the Cutpurse
Linda Buckley-Archer

An encounter with an anti-gravity machine catapults Peter Schock and Kate Dyer back to the 18th century and sets in motion a calamitous chain of events. While a massive police hunt gets underway to find the missing children in the 21st century - in 1763 a hardened criminal, the Tar Man, steals the anti-gravity machine and disappears into the London underworld. Stranded in another time and forced to chase the Tar Man to his lair, Peter and Kate find a friend and guide in reformed cutpurse, Gideon Seymour. Gideon does every thing he can to help them, but will his dark past catch up with him before the machine is recovered?



Journey to the River Sea
Eva Ibbotson

It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at 13, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences in this highly colourful, joyous and award-winning adventure.



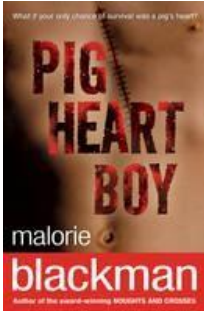
Krindlekrax
Philip Ridley

Ruskin Splinter is small and thin, with knock-knees, thick glasses and a squeaky voice, and the idea of him taming a dragon makes the whole class laugh. Big, strong Elvis is stupid but he looks like a hero. So who is more likely to get the big part in the school play? But when the mysterious beast, Krindlekrax, threatens Lizard Street and everyone who lives there, it is Ruskin who saves the day and proves he is the stuff that heros are made of after all.



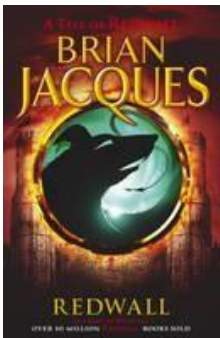
Matilda
Roald Dahl, Julia Eccleshare

Matilda is a brilliant and sensitive child, but her parents think of her only as a nuisance. Even before she is five years old, she has read Dickens and Hemingway and still her parents think of her as a pest. So she decides to get back at them. Her platinum-haired mother and car salesman father are no match for her sharp genius, and neither is the cruel headmistress Miss Trunchbull. And then the child prodigy discovers she has an extraordinary psychic power that can save her school and especially the lovely kindergarten teacher, Miss Honey.



Pig Heart Boy
Malorie Blackman

You're thirteen. All you want is a normal life. But most normal kids don't need heart transplants. So there's this doctor. He says there's a chance for you. But he also says it's experimental, controversial and risky. And it's never been done before. Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, this is a powerful, thought-provoking story from the award-winning Malorie Blackman.



Redwall
Brian Jacques

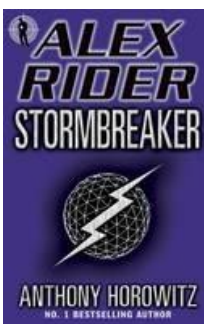
Redwall Abbey, tranquil home to a community of peace-loving mice is threatened by Cluny, the Scourge - the evil-one-eyed rat warlord - and his battle-hardened horde of predators. Cluny is certain that Redwall will fall easily to his fearsome army, but he hasn't bargained for the courage and strength of the combined forces of the Redwall mice and their loyal woodland friends...

Format: Paperback



Skulduggery Pleasant: Playing with Fire
Derek Landy

Just when you think you've saved the world! You will kill her? the Torment asked. Skulduggery sagged. Yes. He hesitated, then took his gun from his jacket. I'm sorry, Valkyrie, he said softly. Don't talk to me, Valkyrie said. Just do what you have to do. Valkyrie parted her tunic, and Skulduggery pointed the gun at the vest beneath. Please forgive me, Skulduggery said, then aimed the gun at the girl and pulled the trigger. With Serpine dead, the world is safe once more. At least, that's what Valkyrie and Skulduggery think, until the notorious Baron Vengeous makes a bloody escape from prison, and dead bodies and vampires start showing up all over Ireland. With Baron Vengeous after the deadly armour of Lord Vile, and pretty much everyone out to kill Valkyrie, the daring detective duo face their biggest challenge yet. But what if the greatest threat to Valkyrie is just a little closer to home!?



Stormbreaker
Anthony Horowitz

When his guardian dies in suspicious circumstances, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider finds his world turned upside down. Forcibly recruited into MI6, Alex has to take part in gruelling SAS training exercises. Then, armed with his own special set of secret gadgets, he's off on his first mission to Cornwall, where Middle- Eastern multi-billionaire Herod Sayle is producing his state-of-the-art Stormbreaker computers. Sayle has offered to give one free to every school in the country - but there's more to the gift than meets the eye.

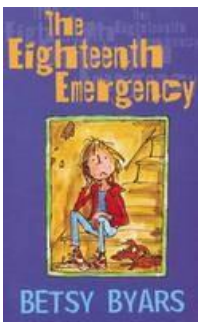
The Bursting Balloons Mystery
Alexander McCall Smith

Max and Maddy are on the trail of a criminal who'll stop at nothing to sabotage Mr Helium's trans-American hot-air balloon race. The prize is a gold balloon worth one million and one dollars, and all the money raised by the race is to go towards the Home for Children Whose Parents Have Disappeared in Balloons - so there's a lot at stake! They take to the skies on board Mr Helium's very own balloon in order to catch the cheat. But will the detectives become victim to the dastardly villain's dangerous schemes and dirty tricks, or will they blow his plot sky-high?

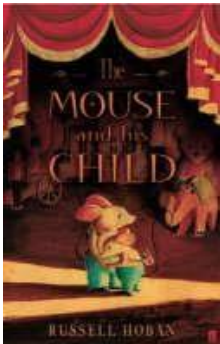


The Dark is Rising
Susan Cooper

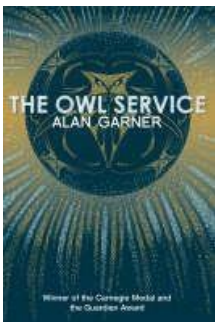
This night will be bad and tomorrow will be beyond imagining. It's Midwinter's Eve, the day before Will's eleventh birthday. But there is an atmosphere of fear in the familiar countryside around him. This will be a birthday like no other. Will discovers that he has the power of the Old Ones, and that he must embark on a quest to vanquish the terrifyingly evil magic of the Dark.



The Eighteenth Emergency
Betsy Byars



The Mouse and His Child
Russell Hoban

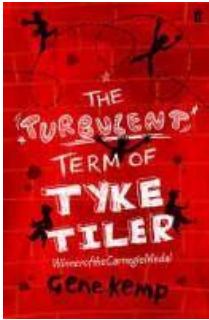


The Owl Service
Alan Garner

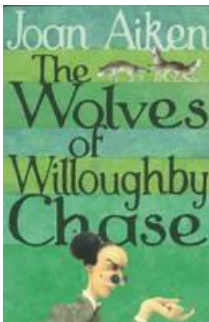
Winner of both the Guardian Award and the Carnegie Medal, this is an all-time classic, combining mystery, adventure, history and a complex set of human relationships. It all begins with the scratching in the ceiling. From the moment Alison discovers the dinner service in the attic, with its curious pattern of floral owls, a chain of events is set in progress that is to effect everybody's lives. Relentlessly, Alison, her step-brother Roger and Welsh boy Gwyn are drawn into the replay of a tragic Welsh legend -- a modern drama played out against a background of ancient jealousies. As the tension mounts, it becomes apparent that only by accepting and facing the situation can it be resolved.

The Red Necklace
Sally Gardner

The story of a remarkable boy called Yann Margoza; Tetu the dwarf, his friend and mentor; Sido, unloved daughter of a foolish Marquis; and Count Kalliovski, Grand Master of a secret society, who has half the aristocracy in thrall to him, and wants Yann dead. Yann is spirited away to London but three years later, when Paris is gripped by the bloody horrors of the Revolution, he returns, charged with two missions: to find out Kalliovski's darkest deeds and to save Sido from the guillotine. With a tangle of secrets, a thread of magic and a touch of humour, the follies of the aristocracy and the sufferings of ordinary people are unfolded as their lives move relentlessly towards the tragic and horrific days of the Terror. THE RED NECKLACE is not only a tremendous adventure story but a vibrant and passionate picture of Paris in turmoil and of a large cast of memorable characters.

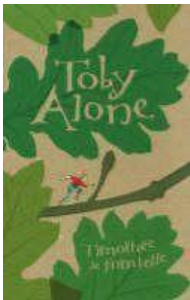


The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tiler
Gene Kemp



The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
Joan Aiken

1832 - a period of English History that never happened. Good King James III is on the throne and the country is ravaged by wolves which have migrated through the newly-opened Channel Tunnel. When Sylvia and Bonnie (both orphans) fall into the hands of evil Miss Slighcarp, they must use all their wits to escape unscathed - for the governess is more cruel and merciless than the wolves that surround the great house of Willoughby Chase.



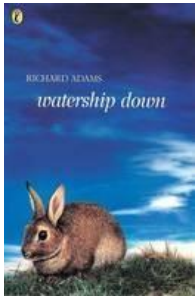
Toby Alone
Timothee de Fombelle

Toby Lolness is just one and a half millimetres tall, and he's the most wanted person in his world, the great oak Tree. When Toby's father makes a ground-breaking discovery, tapping into the very heart of the Tree's energy, he also realises that exploiting it could do permanent damage to their world. Refusing to reveal the secret of his invention to an enraged community, the family is exiled. But one man is determined to get hold of the forbidden knowledge...and his plan is to destroy the Tree. Now Toby's parents have been imprisoned and sentenced to death. Only Toby has managed to escape, but for how long?



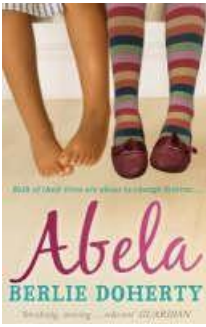
Two Weeks with the Queen
Morris Gleitzman

When Colin's brother Luke becomes seriously ill with leukemia, he is determined to get the best help possible. He's sent to stay with relatives in London and works to go to the very top - the Queen first and, failing her, the best cancer doctor in the world. He is helped by a young man whose partner is dying of Aids - the ending cannot be happy, but is joyous in a way because it offers comfort and truth. The story is told with a wonderfully humorous touch.



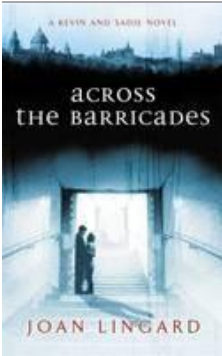
Watership Down
Richard Adams

Fiver could sense danger. Something terrible was going to happen to the warren - he felt sure of it. So did his brother Hazel, for Fiver's sixth sense was never wrong. They had to leave immediately, and they had to persuade the other rabbits to join them. And so begins a long and perilous journey of a small band of rabbits in search of a safe home. Fiver's vision finally leads them to Watership Down, but here they face their most difficult challenge of all...Published in 1972, Watership Down is an epic journey, a stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival against the odds.



Abela The Girl Who Saw Lions
Berlie Doherty

Be strong, my Abela. These are the last words of Abela's mother in their HIV/Aids stricken African village, where it seems that to live or to die, to be sick or to be healthy, is just a matter of chance. It takes all Abela's strength to survive her Uncle Thomas's scheming to get to Europe, but what will be her fate as an illegal immigrant? I don't want a sister or brother, thinks Rosa in England, when her mother tells her that she wants to adopt a child. Could these two girls ever become sisters? Is there room in Rosa's family for an African orphan haunted by lions? Is there room in their hearts? Abela is a powerful and moving story influenced by a visit to Africa, from the Carnegie Medal-winning author Berlie Doherty writing at her very best.



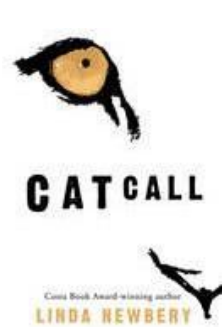
Across the Barricades A Kevin and Sadie Story
Joan Lingard

Kevin and Sadie just want to be together, but it's not that simple. Things are bad in Belfast. Soldiers walk the streets and the city is divided. No Catholic boy and Protestant girl can go out together - not without dangerous consequences...This is the second of Joan Lingard's ground-breaking Kevin and Sadie books.



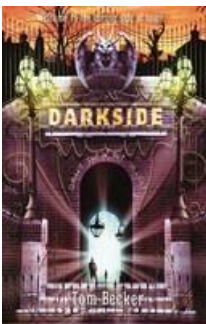
Carrie's War
Nina Bawden, Julia Eccleshare

Albert, Carrie and young Nick are war-time evacuees whose lives get so tangled up with the people they've come to live among that the war and their real families seem to belong to another world. Carrie and Nick are billeted in Wales with old Mr Evans, who is so mean and cold, and his timid mouse of a sister, Lou, who suddenly starts having secrets. Their friend Albert is luckier, living in Druid's Bottom with warm-hearted Hepzibah Green and the strange Mister Johnny, who can talk to animals but not to human beings. Carrie and Nick visit him there whenever they can for Hepzibah makes life exciting and enticing with her stories and delicious cooking. Gradually they begin to feel more at ease in their war-time home, but then, in trying to heal the rift between Mr Evans and his estranged sister, and save Druid's Bottom, Carrie does a terrible thing which is to haunt her for years to come. Carrie revisits Wales as an adult and tells the story to her own children.



Catcall
Linda Newbery

It's a time of change for Josh. He has a relatively new stepdad and a brand new baby sister. But for Josh's younger brother, Jamie, the family upheaval has deeply disturbing consequences: he refuses to speak, and after a vivid, frightening dream develops an obsession with wild cats. With his parents so preoccupied, it's up to Josh - who's always been the quiet one - to keep the family together and find a cure for his brother's strange behaviour. And in helping Jamie to recover his voice, Josh discovers an unexpectedly resonant one of his own. CATCALL is a tense, gripping and atmospheric novel, full of powerful ideas, and blending deep psychological tension with fast-paced action - highly-acclaimed author Linda Newbery at her most compelling and insightful.



Darkside
Tom Becker

Your home's been attacked. Your dad's in an asylum. You're running for your life. And there's nowhere to hide. You've stumbled on the city's greatest secret: Darkside. Incredibly dangerous and unimaginably exciting. Darkside is ruled by Jack the Ripper's children - a place where nightmares walk the streets. You think you're in trouble now, but your problems have just begun...

Gideon the Cutpurse
Linda Buckley-Archer

An encounter with an anti-gravity machine catapults Peter Schock and Kate Dyer back to the 18th century and sets in motion a calamitous chain of events. While a massive police hunt gets underway to find the missing children in the 21st century - in 1763 a hardened criminal, the Tar Man, steals the anti-gravity machine and disappears into the London underworld. Stranded in another time and forced to chase the Tar Man to his lair, Peter and Kate find a friend and guide in reformed cutpurse, Gideon Seymour. Gideon does every thing he can to help them, but will his dark past catch up with him before the machine is recovered?



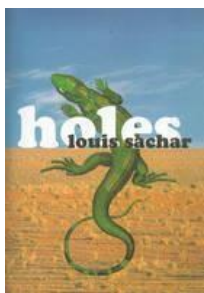
Goodnight Mister Tom
Michelle Magorian

Young Willie Beech is evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of WW2. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the care of old Tom Oakley - but his new-found happiness is shattered by a summons from his mother back in London...This title is winner of the Guardian Children's Fiction Award.



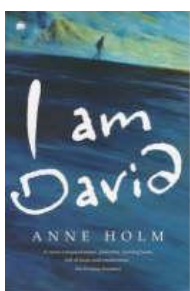
Here Lies Arthur
Philip Reeve

Gwyna is just a small girl, a mouse, when she is bound in service to Myrddin the bard - a traveller and spinner of tales. But Myrddin transforms her - into a lady goddess, a boy warrior, and a spy. Without Gwyna, Myrddin will not be able to work the most glorious transformation of all - and turn the leader of a raggle-taggle war-band into King Arthur, the greatest hero of all time.

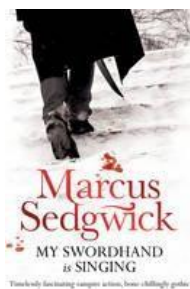


Holes
Louis Sachar

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck going back generations, so he is not too surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre. Nor is he very surprised when he is told that his daily labour at the camp is to dig a hole, five foot wide by five foot deep, and report anything that he finds in that hole. The warden claims that it is character building, but this is a lie and Stanley must dig up the truth. In this wonderfully inventive, compelling novel that is both serious and funny, Louis Sachar has created a masterpiece that will leave all readers amazed and delighted by the author's narrative flair and brilliantly handled plot.

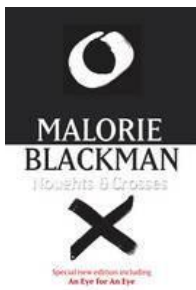


I am David
Anne Holm



My Swordhand is Singing
Marcus Sedgwick

In the bitter cold of an unrelenting winter Tomas and his son, Peter, arrive in Chust and despite the inhospitability of the villagers settle there as woodcutters. Tomas digs a channel of fast-flowing waters around their hut so they have their own little island kingdom. Peter doesn't understand why his father has done this, nor why his father carries a long battered box everywhere they go, and why he is forbidden to know its contents. But when a band of gypsies comes to the village Peter's drab existence is turned upside down. He is infatuated by the beautiful gypsy princess, Sofia, intoxicated by their love of life and drawn into their deadly quest. For these travellers are Vampire Slayers and Chust is a dying community - where the dead come back to wreak revenge on the living. Amidst the terrifying events that follow, Peter is stunned to see his father change from a disillusioned man to the warrior hero he once was. Marcus draws on his extensive research of the vampire legend and sets his story in the forbidding and remote landscapes of the 17th century. Written in his usual distinctive voice, this is also the story of a father and his son, of loss, redemption and resolution.



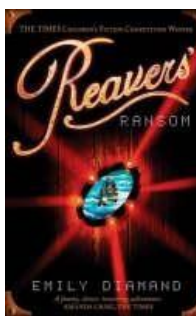
Noughts and Crosses
Malorie Blackman

Sephy is a Cross - a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought - a 'colourless' member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood. But that's as far as it can go. Until the first steps are taken towards more social equality and a limited number of Noughts are allowed into Cross schools...Against a background of prejudice and distrust, intensely highlighted by violent terrorist activity by Noughts, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum - a romance that is to lead both of them into terrible danger...



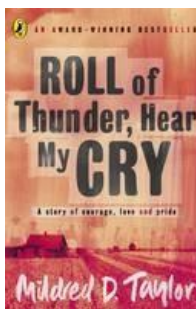
Private Peaceful
Michael Morpurgo

Heroism or cowardice? A stunning story of the First World War from a master storyteller. Told in the voice of a young soldier, the story follows 24 hours in his life at the front during WW1, and captures his memories as he looks back over his life. Full of stunningly researched detail and engrossing atmosphere, the book leads to a dramatic and moving conclusion. Both a love story and a deeply moving account of the horrors of the First World War, this book will reach everyone from 9 to 90.



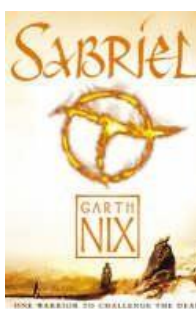
Reavers' Ransom
Emily Diamand

Lilly Melkun is out fishing with her sea-cat when the bloodthirsty Reavers come raiding and steal the Prime Minister's daughter. Her village blamed, Lilly decides to find the girl. Off she sails in secret with a ransom - an extraordinary talking jewel. But nothing can prepare her for what happens next...



Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
Mildred D. Taylor

The Mississippi of the 1930s was a hard place for a black child to grow up in, but still Cassie didn't understand why farming his own land meant so much to her father. During that year, though, when the night riders were carrying hatred and destruction among her people, she learned about the great differences that divided them, and when it was worth fighting for a principle even if it brought even worse hardships.



Sabriel
Garth Nix

Who will guard the living when the dead arise? Sabriel is sent as a child across the Wall to the safety of a school in Ancelstierre. Away from magic; away from the Dead. After receiving a cryptic message from her father, 18-year-old Sabriel leaves her ordinary school and returns across the Wall into the Old Kingdom. Fraught with peril and deadly trickery, her journey takes her to a world filled with parasitical spirits, Mordicants, and Shadow Hands -- for her father is none other than The Abhorson. His task is to lay the disturbed dead back to rest. This obliges him -- and now Sabriel, who has taken on her father's title and duties -- to slip over the border into the icy river of Death, sometimes battling the evil forces that lurk there, waiting for an opportunity to escape into the realm of the living. Desperate to find her father, and grimly determined to help save the Old Kingdom from destruction by the horrible forces of the evil undead, Sabriel endures almost impossible challenges whilst discovering her own supernatural abilities -- and her destiny.

Skulduggery Pleasant: Playing with Fire
Derek Landy

Just when you think you've saved the world! You will kill her? the Torment asked. Skulduggery sagged. Yes. He hesitated, then took his gun from his jacket. I'm sorry, Valkyrie, he said softly. Don't talk to me, Valkyrie said. Just do what you have to do. Valkyrie parted her tunic, and Skulduggery pointed the gun at the vest beneath. Please forgive me, Skulduggery said, then aimed the gun at the girl and pulled the trigger. With Serpine dead, the world is safe once more. At least, that's what Valkyrie and Skulduggery think, until the notorious Baron Vengeous makes a bloody escape from prison, and dead bodies and vampires start showing up all over Ireland. With Baron Vengeous after the deadly armour of Lord Vile, and pretty much everyone out to kill Valkyrie, the daring detective duo face their biggest challenge yet. But what if the greatest threat to Valkyrie is just a little closer to home!?



Smith
Kenny McKendry, Leon Garfield

Young Smith was a pickpocket - a very accomplished one. But one day his pick-pocketing was to lead him into a sinister and dangerous web of murder, intrigue and betrayal.



Stoneheart
Charlie Fletcher

Deep in the City something had been woken, so old that people had been walking past it for centuries without giving it a second look...! When George breaks the dragon's head outside the Natural History Museum he awakes an ancient power. This prehistoric beast, sentry-still for centuries, hunts him down with a terrifying wrath. And this is just the beginning...The taints and spits - statues with opposing natures - are warring forces; wreaking deadly havoc on the city landscape. The World War One gunner offers protection of sorts; and the wisdom of the Sphinx is legendary. But George and his companion Edie are trapped in a world of danger. And worse - they are quite alone. The rest of London is oblivious to their plight. This epic adventure exposes forces long-layered in the fabric of London. After entering its richly original and breathtaking world, the city streets and skyline will never again seem the same!



The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents
Terry Pratchett

Maurice, a streetwise tomcat, has come up with the perfect scam. Inspired by the Pied Piper tale, cat and kid lead a band of rats from town to town to fake invasions of vermin. The rewards to get the rats out of town are plentiful. It works perfectly - until their little con game is sussed.



The Little Soldier
Bernard Ashley

When Kaninda survives a brutal attack on his village in East Africa he joins the rebel army, where he's trained to carry weapons, and use them. But aid workers take him to London, to a new family and a comprehensive school. Clan and tribal conflicts are everywhere, and on the streets it's estate versus estate, urban tribe against urban tribe. All Kaninda wants it to get back to his own war and take revenge on his enemies. But together with Laura Rose, the daughter of his new family, he is drawn into a dangerous local conflict that is spiraling out of control.

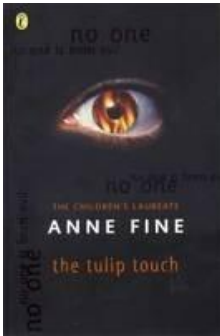


The Machine Gunners
Robert Westall

'Some bright kid's got a gun and 2000 rounds of live ammo. And that gun's no peashooter. It'll go through a brick wall at a quarter of a mile.' Chas McGill has the second-best collection of war souvenirs in Garmouth, and he desperately wants it to be the best. When he stumbles across the remains of a German bomber crashed in the woods - its shiny, black machine-gun still intact - he grabs his chance. Soon he's masterminding his own war effort with dangerous and unexpected results. not just the best book so far written for children about the Second World War, but also a metaphor for now. - Aidan Chambers, Times Literary Supplement .

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4 Sue Townsend

At thirteen years old, Adrian Mole has more than his fair share of problems - spots, ill-health, parents threatening to divorce, rejection of his poetry and much more - all recorded with brilliant humour in his diary.



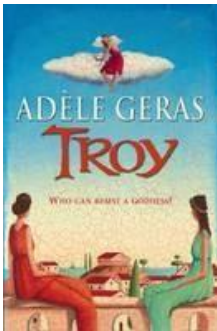
The Tulip Touch Anne Fine

Nobody wants Tulip in their gang. She skives off school, cheats the teachers and makes herself unpopular with her classmates by telling awful lies. None of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip exciting. At first she doesn't care that other people are upset and unnerved by Tulip's bizarre games, but as the games become increasingly sinister and dangerous, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far, much too far, racing, in fact, to the novel's shocking ending.



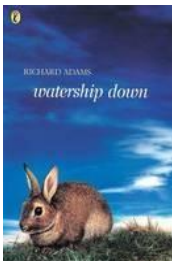
Treasure Island Robert Louis Stevenson, Michael Morpurgo

Yo-ho-ho, and a bottle of rum! When Jim Hawkins discovers a map in the old sea chest he little guesses of the danger and excitement which lie a head. Joining the crew of the Hispaniola, Jim sets sail for Treasure Island in search of Captain Flint's treasure. but with a slippery crew, and the infamous Long John Silver as ship's cook mutiny is in the air and Jim must draw on all his resources to survive...published in 1883, Treasure Island is a swashbuckling tale, and a true children's classic.



Troy Adele Geras

Who can resist a goddess? The most famous war in history is brought to life through the eyes of two sisters. Marpessa is gifted with God-sight, Xanthe has the healing touch. But then Aphrodite, Goddess of Love, decides to play with their hearts...and contrives for them to fall in love with the same young warrior.



Watership Down Richard Adams

Fiver could sense danger. Something terrible was going to happen to the warren - he felt sure of it. So did his brother Hazel, for Fiver's sixth sense was never wrong. They had to leave immediately, and they had to persuade the other rabbits to join them. And so begins a long and perilous journey of a small band of rabbits in search of a safe home. Fiver's vision finally leads them to Watership Down, but here they face their most difficult challenge of all...Published in 1972, Watership Down is an epic journey, a stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival against the odds.