

# **Reading is an important part of everyday life. The more our children read, the better readers they will be and the better writers they will become.**

Read a selection of books from the recommended book list attached. These have been organised by genre to help your child choose something that interests them.

Parents and family members play an important role in building successful readers. Hearing your child read is vital to your child retaining and building on the skills he or she has learned in school. But most importantly, this is a time for children to engage their imaginations, find amusement in books, and to learn to love reading. We ask that your child read for at least 15 minutes a day. Books can be of any genre or on any subject that is of interest to your child.

Here are some quick tips to encourage your child's love for reading.

- READ! READ! READ! Make reading important. Be a role-model for reading. Let your child see you reading throughout the day and use daily routines as reading opportunities. Cooking, reading TV listings, looking for information on-line, reading directions, or following a map all provide authentic reading experiences.
- Give your child the power of choice. Having reading materials available, such as: books, magazines, comics, etc... is key to helping children love to read, and the reading materials they choose themselves are best. Help your child find texts that appeal to his or her interests, yet are age appropriate and 'just right' in difficulty.
- Find opportunities to read aloud to your child. Read your favourite childhood book aloud, read signs while driving in the car, read at stores, and read while you're on holiday!
- Take frequent trips to the library or use <https://www.borrowbox.com/> where you can download books and audiobooks for free. These are great for keeping children entertained on long car journeys.
- Read a great story repeatedly to help your child with fluency and reading with expression.
- Talk it up. Talking about books during and after reading helps improve comprehension. Encourage your child to share their ideas and opinions by asking open-ended questions. Talk about what you read to let them know that reading is an important part of your life. Tell them why you liked a book, what you learned from it, or how it helped you— soon they might start doing the same.

Enjoy and come and share with us some of your recommendations!

## **Traditional Tales - Legends**

Sir Galvain and the Loathly Lady - Selina Hastings

Don Quixote - Marcia Williams

Arthur: The Seeing Stone, Kevin Crossley-Holland

Beowulf - K. Crossley-Holland

The Story of Robin Hood - R. Leeson

Athur, High King of Britain - Michael Morpurgo

The Tale of Tales - Tony Mitton

Myths and Legends - Anthony Horowitz

Arion and the Dolphin - Vikram Seth

Just So Stories - Rudyard Kipling

## **Suspense and Mystery**

Snow horse and other stories - Joan Aiken

Snaggletooth's mystery - Gene Kemp

Shock forest and other stories - Margaret Mahy

Room 13 - Robert Swindells

The London Eye Mystery - Siobhan Dowd

No Such Thing as Dragons - Written and illustrated by Philip Reeve

Cosmic - Written by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Flood Child - Written by Emily Diamand

## **Fiction from our Literary Heritage**

Narnia Stories - CS Lewis

Harry Potter series - JK Rowling

Billy the Kid - Michael Morpurgo

Why the Whales Came - Michael Morpurgo

Oliver Twist - Charles Dickens

Kensuke's Kingdom - Michael Morpurgo

A Christmas Carol - Charles Dickens

Stig of the Dump - Clive King

Snow Spider - Jenny Nimmo

Macbeth for Kids, Louis Burdett

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase - Joan Aiken

Peter Pan - J. M. Barrie

A Christmas Carol (Eyewitness classics) - Charles Dickens

The Hound of the Baskervilles - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (adapted by Chris Mould)

The Wind in the Willows - Kenneth Grahame  
The Jungle Book - Rudyard Kipling  
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland - Lewis Carroll  
Mary Poppins - P.L. Travers  
Stories from Dickens (ed Blishen)  
Stories from Shakespeare (ed. Geraldine McCaughrean)  
Tom's Midnight Garden - Philippa Pearce

## **Fiction Genres**

### **Fantasy**

Skellig - David Almond  
The Various - Steve Augarde  
Artemis Fowl - Eoin Colfer  
The Bag of Bones - Vivian French  
Inkheart trilogy - Cornelia Funke  
Coraline - Neil Gaiman  
The Weirdestone of Brisingamen - Alan Garner  
Pure Dead Magic - Debi Gliori  
Wolf Brother - Michelle Paver  
Truckers - Terry Pratchett  
The Spiderwick Chronicles - Lynne Reid Banks  
Goblins series - Philip Reeve  
Wonderstruck - Brian Selznick  
The Amulet of Samarkand - Jonathon Stroud  
The Hobbit - J.R.R. Tolkien  
The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making -  
Catherynne M. Valente  
Tanglewreck - Jeanette Winterson

### **Science Fiction**

Supernaturalist - Eoin Colfer  
Grinny: Grinny and You Remember Me - Nicholas Fisk  
Among the Hidden - Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Double Identity - Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Maphead - Lesley Howarth  
The Giver - Lois Lowry  
Other Worlds: 10 Amazing Sci Fi Stories - Rick Riordan ed.  
Timesnatch - Robert Swindells  
Hydra - Robert Swindells



### **Chilling Stories**

The Graveyard Book - Neil Gaiman  
Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror - Chris Priestley  
Horowitz Horror - Anthony Horowitz  
Breathe - Cliff McNish  
At the Firefly Gate - Linda Newberry  
Chill - Alex Nye  
Tales from the Tunnel's Mouth - Chris Priestley  
Tales of Terror From the Black Ship - Chris Priestley  
Marianne Dreams - Catherine Storr

### **Real Life**

Pig Heart Boy - Malorie Blackman (science/ethics)  
Tangerine - Edward Bloor (blindness)  
The Eighteenth Emergency - Betsy Byars (bullying)  
The 10PM Question - Kate De Gold (worry/anxiety)  
Running on Cracks - Julia Donaldson (running from home - mature themes)  
Step By Wicked Step - Anne Fine (step parenting)  
Dead End in Norvelt - Jack Gantos (boredom, friendship)  
Love, Aubrey - Suzanne LaFleur (family)  
Hangman - Julia Jarman (bullying)  
The View from Saturday - E.L. Konisburg (friendship)  
The Other Side of Truth - Beverly Naidoo (refugee)  
Wonder - R.J. Palacio (appearance)

### **Adventure**

Noah Barleywater Runs Away - John Boyne  
Ruby Holler - Sharon Creech  
Danny: the champion of the world - Roald Dahl  
The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane - Kate DiCamillo  
Stormbreaker - Anthony Horowitz  
The Devil and his Boy - Anthony Horowitz  
Journey to the River Sea - Eva Ibbotson  
From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler - E. L. Konigsburg

Outlaw: the Legend of Robin Hood - Tony Lee  
The Ghost of Thomas Kempe - Penelope Lively  
Mortal Engines - Phillip Reeves  
Varjak Paw - S. F. Said  
The Invention of Hugo Cabret - Brian Selznick  
Wonderstruck - Brian Selznick



### **War**

Warboy - Michael Foreman  
Once/Now/Then/After - Morris Gleitzman  
Goodnight, Mr Tom - Michelle Magorian  
War Horse - Michael Morpurgo  
At the Firefly Gate - Linda Newberry  
Johnny and the bomb - Terry Pratchett  
My Friend the Enemy - Dan Smith  
The Machine Gunners - Robert Westall  
Carrie's War - Nina Bawden  
Doodlebug Summer - Alison Price  
Soldier Dog - Sam Angus

### **Mysteries**

Chasing Vermeer - Blue Bailliett  
The Crossroads - Chris Grabenstein  
Silver Fin - Charlie Higson  
The Case of the London Dragonfish - Joan Lennon  
The Sign of the Black Dagger - Joan Lingard  
Magnus Finn and the Selkie Secret - Janis Mackay  
Out of the Depths - Cathy MacPhail  
Flood and Fang - Marcus Sedgwick

### **Humour**

How to Train Your Dragon - Cressida Cowell  
How to speak dragonese - Cressida Cowell  
The Meanwhile Adventures - Roddy Doyle  
Boom! - Mark Haddon  
Ribblestrop - Andy Mulligan

Goblins series - Philip Reeve  
Holes - Louis Sachar  
There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom - Louis Sachar  
A Boy and a Bear in a Boat - Dave Shelton  
Gangsta Granny - David Walliams  
Ratburger - David Walliams

### **Animals**

The Midnight Fox - Betsy Byars  
The Tale of Despereaux - Kate DiCamillo  
Charlotte's Web - E.B.White  
Flush - Carl Hiaasen  
One Boy and His Dog - Eva Ibbotson  
A Coyote in the House - Elmore Leonard  
The Call of the Wild - Jack London  
Going Home -Cliff McNish  
Why the Whales Came - Michael Morpurgo  
The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips - Michael Morpurgo  
War Horse - Michael Morpurgo  
Catscape - Mike Nicholson  
Wolf Brother - Michelle Paver  
The Outlaw Varjack Paw - S.F. Said  
Black Beauty - Anna Sewell