

Crich Junior School

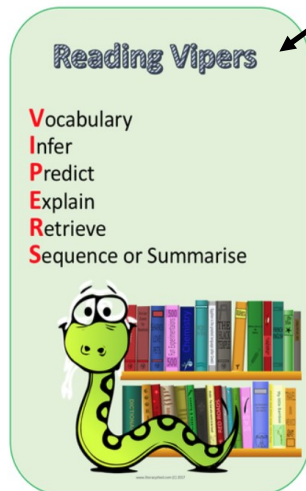


Reading

Whole class reading comprehension lessons – Reading VIPERS

During our reading comprehension lessons, we use reading VIPERS (based on materials from ‘The Literacy Shed’) to help support our pupils to understand what a good reader looks like and how to approach answering reading questions.

VIPERS is an acronym which stands for:



All children work on VIPERS during class reading, whether this is reading as a class, in a small group or one to one with an adult. We encourage children to orally talk through their answers before formally recording their answers. Children do this in a variety of ways such as discussing the answer first with their peers and/or an adult and then writing their best answer.

VIPERS question stems

It would be excellent if, as parents, you could also refer to these VIPERS regularly when you are listening to your child read at home. VIPERS questions can be applied to any text that a child is reading as well as with pictures, picture books and films! When any adult is listening to a child read, all they have to do is think of questions about the book, picture or film that cover some of the VIPERS and there are some great examples on the following pages of how you can create your own questions using the question openers provided. If you have any questions or are struggling with this, please contact your child’s class teacher and they will provide some additional support materials to use at home.

Reading in school

At Crich Junior School, all children will read a book from our new reading scheme from Collins. It begins with Little Wandle (phonics) and progresses on to Big Cat. Within this scheme, the children are assessed each term to check that they are reading a book best suited to their level of reading fluency. We aim to hear each child read at least once each week by a combination of teachers, teaching assistants and reading volunteers. Sometimes this will be more, depending on the fluency of the child. Some children are given extra help with phonics, reading skills and comprehension and this may be individual or in small groups.

We will provide feedback in your child’s reading diary, and more specific information at parents’ meetings. If you have any concerns about your child’s reading please don’t hesitate to make an appointment with your child’s teacher using the school office.

Reading at home

Reading at home is an essential part of learning to read. Our children are encouraged to read daily (minimum 3 times each week) at home for at least 10 minutes with an adult to develop fluency and should be encouraged to discuss their texts using the VIPERS question stems (see below for further information, and subsequent pages for examples). We encourage our parents to be fully active and engaged with us in this in order to support their child's ongoing development. Please feel free to comment in your child's reading diary.

KS2 Reading Vipers

Vipers is a range of reading prompts based on the 2016 reading content domains found in the National Curriculum Test Framework documents which can be found online here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-2-english-reading-test-framework>

Vipers heading	Content Domain reference	Content Domain Description
Vocabulary	2a	Give/explain the meaning of words in context
Infer	2d	Make inference from the text/ explain and justify using evidence from the text.
Predict	2e	Predict what might happen from the details stated and implied.
Explain	2f, 2g, 2h,	Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole. Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases. Make comparisons within the text
Retrieve	2b	Retrieve and record key information/key details from fiction and non-fiction
Summarise	2c	Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph



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Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



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KS2 Reading Vipers

Vocabulary

Find and explain the meaning of words in context

Example questions

- What do the words and suggest about the character, setting and mood?
- Which word tells you that....?
- Which keyword tells you about the character/setting/mood?
- Find one word in the text which means.....
- Find and highlight the word that is closest in meaning to.....
- Find a word or phrase which shows/suggests that.....



KS2 Reading Vipers

Infer

Make and justify inferences using evidence from the text.

Example questions

- Find and copy a group of words which show that...
- How do these words make the reader feel? How does this paragraph suggest this?
- How do the descriptions of show that they are
- How can you tell that.....
- What impression of do you get from these paragraphs?
- What voice might these characters use?
- What was thinking when.....
- Who is telling the story?



KS2 Reading Vipers

Predict

Predict what might happen from the details given and implied.

Example questions

- From the cover what do you think this text is going to be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before this? What will happen after?
- What does this paragraph suggest will happen next? What makes you think this?
- Do you think the choice of setting will influence how the plot develops?
- Do you think... will happen? Yes, no or maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.



KS2 Reading Vipers

Explain

- Explain how content is related and contributes to the meaning as a whole.
- Explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of language.
- Explain the themes and patterns that develop across the text.
- Explain how information contributes to the overall experience.

Example questions

- Why is the text arranged in this way?
- What structures has the author used?
- What is the purpose of this text feature?
- Is the use of effective?
- The mood of the character changes throughout the text. Find and copy the phrases which show this.
- What is the author's point of view?
- What affect does have on the audience?
- How does the author engage the reader here?
- Which words and phrases did effectively?
- Which section was the most interesting/exciting part?
- How are these sections linked?



KS2 Reading Vipers

Retrieve

Retrieve and record information and identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.

Example questions

- How would you describe this story/text? What genre is it? How do you know?
- How did...?
- How often...?
- Who had...? Who is...? Who did....?
- What happened to...?
- What does.... do?
- How is?
- What can you learn from from this section?
- Give one example of.....
- The story is told from whose perspective?



KS2 Reading Vipers

Summarise

Summarise the main ideas from more than one paragraph

Example questions

- Can you number these events 1-5 in the order that they happened?
- What happened after?
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Can you summarise in a sentence the opening/middle/end of the story?
- In what order do these chapter headings come in the story?



An example of the types of questions you could ask, to make sure your child understands the text they have read.

I

Is a ships horn loud or quiet?

E

Explain what you would do if you found a penguin on your doorstep

S

In what order did they ask these people for directions?

He ran down to the harbour and asked a big ship to take them to the South Pole. But his voice was much too small to be heard over the ship's horn.

V

Which word is a place where ships 'park?'

R

How did they get down to the harbour?

P

Who do you think they ask next?

Reading Fluency Checklist For your Child

Accuracy	I don't miss out words or word endings.
	I don't add words where they don't belong.
Expression	I don't sound like a robot.
	I avoid being an over dramatic actor.
Punctuation	I look for commas, dialogue and full stops.
	I emphasise words in bold or <i>italics</i> .
Pace	I am not in a speed reading competition.
	I sound like I am having a natural conversation.
Comprehension	I am always checking for understanding.
	I am learning when I read.

Other things you can do at home to help with your child's reading fluency:

1. Read aloud to your child every day.

There just isn't anything comparable to the impact of reading to your child every day. If you aren't the sort to enjoy this, then spread it out and read to them every few days. In between, try to encourage other family members to read to your child. (Think partner, aunts and uncles, siblings, grandparents, etc.) You can read aloud to your child at any age. It doesn't have to stop once they leave their primary education.

2. Repeat, repeat, repeat. Read stories over, and over, and over again. Children LOVE to hear their favorite stories multiple times. Go ahead and indulge them in this one thing. Really, it's great for them to hear their beloved stories with well-known characters over and over each day.

Why? Because it teaches them to LOVE storytime. Reading the same story repeatedly solidifies new words and increases vocabulary, and it teaches expression with sentence structure as they watch you read.

3. Have your child imitate you as you read. (Echo Reading)

Practice makes perfect! Simply having your child imitate you a little bit at a time can go a long way in teaching your child how to read quickly and with expression. Read a sentence or two using great expression and then ask your child to repeat the reading. If you need to practice more than once, that is okay! Try to choose passages with lots of expression. The sentence might call for whispering, speaking loud, emphasizing certain words, or even using dramatic pauses when called for.

4. Choose audio books for those "in-between" times. A great option for car journeys or even bathtime. Try Amazon's Audible or YouTube videos. Try searching for Jackanory as a starting point.

One good place to listen to books on tape would be your local public library! Download the 'Libby, by OverDrive' app onto your phone and have a go at it. It is a free service. You may need to head to your local library (Belper, Wirksworth, Alfreton) with a form of ID to set up a digital library card, but you can then borrow books and magazines on your phone or tablet.

5. Record your child as they read

One great technique is to record your child reading a short passage. When they play the tape or recording back, they can really hear what they sound like and take corrective measures to make it sound better. This is great for adding expression and making sure that they don't read like a robot.

The following are for ideas only. There are many websites with reading lists like these ones.

The most important thing is that your child reads a book that they enjoy (and that you can enjoy together).

Guidance: About the Year 6 Reading

At the very centre of inspiring reading for pleasure in Year 6 is the element of choice. Readers who are motivated to choose to read are often the ones who are best able to exercise agency over where, when, what and how, knowing that they can read at their own pace in their own way. Key to this is providing a wide range of appealing and age-appropriate texts for readers to explore. Being exposed to different styles, formats and genres helps children to define themselves as readers, to have a range of alternatives to choose next if something they read is not for them and to make choices about the books that will give them the reading buzz. This process is crucial for children to develop the intrinsic motivation to read and to lay the foundations of a lifelong love of reading.

At the ages of 10 and 11, most children are able to read chapter books and to think critically about what they read. They begin to enjoy multi-layered stories that present different characters' viewpoints about key issues, and to think deeply about books that explore relevant social issues. Also popular with this age group are graphic novels, funny books and illustrated non-fiction that delves deeply into a particular topic of interest. Storytime with adults continues to be important and enjoyed at this age - despite the high level of independence at the ages of 10 and 11, nothing can replicate the magic of a shared reading experience.

With these factors in mind, our team has carefully selected a list of books designed to encourage reading for pleasure in Year 6. Some of the books cater well for children who love to laugh, like Jenny Pearson's *The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates* or David Solomon's action-packed *My Brother is a Superhero* series. Other stories on the list are designed to leave readers on the edge of their seats, from Jennifer Killick's super-spooky *Dread Wood* to dystopian thrillers like *Orphans of the Tide*. Graphic novels are also very popular with many children in Year 6, and we recommend trying the fun and whacky *Lookshin* series or Cece Bell's *El Deafo*.

Many children at this age are ready to engage with stories that explore social issues or offer insights into a diversity of ways of seeing the world. Catherine Bruton's award-winning *No Ballet Shoes in Syria* charts the experience of a young refugee finding her feet in a new country and *Boy in the Tower* hauntingly explores the experience of isolation when it does not feel safe to go outside, as well as the topics of parental mental health and the coming together of community in the face of a crisis. Other stories in our collection give insight into what life is like for those who feel like they don't quite fit in, from a would-be comedian with a stutter in *The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh*, to the gruelling tale of bullying and OCD in *All the Things that Could Go Wrong*, to Elle McNicoll's neurodivergent main duo in the superbly gripping *Show Us Who You Are*.

If you are looking for classic stories suitable for 10-11 year olds, we recommend Tom's *Midnight Garden* or Judith Kerr's *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit*. Poetry collections offer a wealth of enjoyment for reading for pleasure at this age too, from Mandy Coe's upbeat *Belonging Street* or Benjamin Zephaniah's *Funky Chickens*, which is always a hit with Year 6.

For those without the time or reading stamina to pick up a longer read, try one of the shorter chapter books included in our Y6 reading list, like Dan Smith's *The Invasion of Crooked Oak* or David Long's *Survival in Space*, both of which are specially formatted to be accessible to dyslexic readers. For excellent picture books suitable for Year 6, we recommend the super-intriguing *The Viewer* by Gary Crew and Shaun Tan, or the beautifully illustrated exploration of being introverted in *I Go Quiet*.

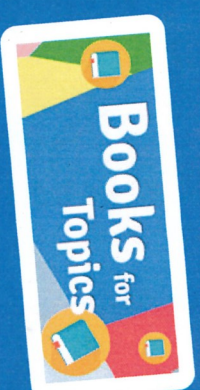
High-quality non-fiction is a brilliant option for reading for pleasure in Year 6. We recommend the inspirational mountain-set recount of peril and resilience in *Everest*, the intricately presented *Oceanarium* and Dr Ranj's super-helpful guidebook to all things brain-related in *Brain Power*.















50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 6

(ages 10-11)

Which ones have you read?

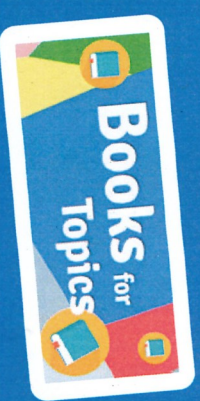





	<input type="checkbox"/> When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit Judith Kerr		<input type="checkbox"/> The Arrival Shaun Tan
	<input type="checkbox"/> Head Kid David Baddiel		<input type="checkbox"/> Love That Dog Sharon Creech
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Lost Whale Hannah Gold		<input type="checkbox"/> Dread Wood Jennifer Killick
	<input type="checkbox"/> Murderer Most Unladylike Robin Stevens		<input type="checkbox"/> My Brother Is A Superhero David Solomons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom's Midnight Garden Philippa Pearce		<input type="checkbox"/> Amari And The Night Brothers BB Alston
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emmy Levels Up Helen Harvey		<input type="checkbox"/> Malamander Thomas Taylor
	<input type="checkbox"/> Funky Chickens Benjamin Zephaniah		<input type="checkbox"/> Holes Louis Sachar
	<input type="checkbox"/> Kay's Anatomy Adam Kay		<input type="checkbox"/> The Explorer Katherine Rundell
	<input type="checkbox"/> Boy In The Tower Polly Ho-Yen		<input type="checkbox"/> El Deafo Cece Bell
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh Helen Rutter	<input type="checkbox"/> All the Things that could go Wrong Stewart Foster	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fly High Crew Ashley Banjo and Jordan Banjo	<input type="checkbox"/> The Shark Caller Zillah Bethell	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Frankie's World Aoife Doolley	<input type="checkbox"/> The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates Jenny Pearson	
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Viewer Gary Crew and Shaun Tan	<input type="checkbox"/> The Thief who Sang Storms Sophie Anderson	

50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 6

(ages 10-11)



	<input type="checkbox"/> Mystery of the Night Watchers A M Howell		<input type="checkbox"/> No Ballet Shoes in Syria Catherine Bruton
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Trials of Morrigan Crow Jessica Townsend		<input type="checkbox"/> How to be Me Cath Howe
	<input type="checkbox"/> Brain Power Ranj Singh and David O'Connell		<input type="checkbox"/> Goddess Dr Janina Ramirez and Sarah Walsh
	<input type="checkbox"/> Everest Alexandra Stewart and Joe Todd-Stanton		<input type="checkbox"/> Power Up Neill Cameron
	<input type="checkbox"/> You Are A Champion Marcus Rashford		<input type="checkbox"/> Looshkin Jamie Smart
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Island Armin Greder		<input type="checkbox"/> Stick Boy Paul Coomey
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Invasion Of Crooked Oak Dan Smith		<input type="checkbox"/> Tales Of Ancient Worlds Stefan Milosavljevic and Sam Caldwell
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survival In Space David Long and Stefano Tambellini		<input type="checkbox"/> The Girl Who Lost a Leopard Nizrana Farook
	<input type="checkbox"/> When The Sky Falls Phil Earle		<input type="checkbox"/> Space Maps Lara Albanese and Tommaso Vidus Rosin
	<input type="checkbox"/> I Go Quiet David Quimet		<input type="checkbox"/> Belonging Street Mandy Coe
	<input type="checkbox"/> Oceanarium Teagan White and Loveday Trinick		<input type="checkbox"/> Front Desk Kelly Yang
	<input type="checkbox"/> Locomotion Alastair Steele and Ryo Takemasa		<input type="checkbox"/> Show Us Who You Are Elle McNICOLL

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Guidance: About the Year 5 Reading

Helping children in Year 5 discover a love of reading is most successfully achieved when a wide range of appealing and age-appropriate books are available. Research on reading for pleasure shows that children who choose to read for enjoyment are more likely to achieve higher academic outcomes, to have improved mental health and to gain economic success later in life. What's more, when children choose to open a book to read, they are able to discover new worlds beyond their own experiences, to learn about different people and to develop critical thinking and crucial empathy skills, as well as advancing their language and vocabulary.

Getting the right book into the right child's hands at the right time is absolutely key to sparking a love of reading. At the ages of 9 and 10, most children are able to read longer chapter books and handle stories with an increasing complexity of themes. Popular with this age group are thought-provoking books about relevant social issues, as well as laugh-out-loud funny books, graphic novels and non-fiction that covers topics of interest. As well as having a wide range of styles and formats to choose from for independent reading, an essential ingredient in developing a lifelong love of books at this age is when adults protect shared reading experiences and continue to read aloud at storytime well beyond the age that children can read for themselves.

With this in mind, we have carefully selected a range of books to help to encourage reading for pleasure in Year 5. Some of the books in the collection are picked especially for making children laugh out loud, like the hilarious *I Stole My Genius Sister's Brain* or Danny Wallace's *The Luckiest Kid in the World*. Other stories have been picked especially for readers who appreciate a high image-to-text ratio, like Konnie Huq's *Cookie* series or the action-packed *Iguana Boy* stories, which features lively, comic-style illustrations. Graphic novels are also popular with many children in Year 5, and we recommend trying *Bunny Vs Monkey* or *Roller Girl*.

Many children at this age start to enjoy stories that encourage thinking and discussion around social issues. Hannah Gold's *The Last Bear* is a beautiful story that highlights the plight of polar bears affected by global warming, and Onjali Q Rauf's *The Great (Food) Bank Heist* explores the topic of food poverty. Historical fiction also becomes popular around this age, with children able to draw on their increasing knowledge of history from their curriculum learning in Key Stage 2. We recommend A.M. Howell's post-war adventure in the fens *The Secret of the Treasure Keepers*, or Emma Carroll's *Secrets of a Sun King*, which is set at the time of Howard Carter's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Many children at this age enjoy fantasy stories to spark the imagination. Fantasy adventures like *Rumblestar* and *Dragon Mountain* are popular choices, as are stories of perilous expeditions like *Asha & the Spirit Bird*. Some stories in the collection explore the themes of technology and innovation, like Vashti Hardy's wonderful sky ship adventure *Brightstorm* or while others accentuate the benefits of sport, like the celebration of girls' football in *Jaz Santos vs the World*.

If you are looking for classic stories suitable for 9-10 year olds, try *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* or *The Silver Sword*. Popular poetry books to browse for pleasure are included in our Year 5 selection too, like Matt Goodfellow's *Bright Bursts of Colour* or A.F. Harrold's imaginative and slightly bonkers *The Book of Not Entirely Useful Advice*, which is delightfully illustrated in colour by Mini Grey.

Longer reads are not for everyone, and we've included a number of shorter texts in the selection too. For children looking for shorter chapter books, try Tom Palmers's *Arctic Star* or David Long's *Tragedy at Sea*, both of which are specially formatted to be accessible to dyslexic readers. For recommended picture books suitable for Year 5, we recommend Helen Ward's *Varmints* or David Almond and Levi Penfold's *The Dam*, which is a lyrical captivating ode to creativity.

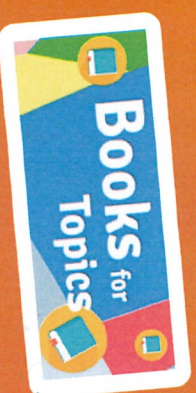
We've also included a super selection of non-fiction to appeal to children in Year 5, from the intriguing exploration of the world of plants in *Green Planet* to the inspiring real-life stories in *Old Enough to Save the Planet*, to the incredible visual history of *Music*, which folds out into an impressive 8-foot-long timeline.























50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 5

(ages 9-10)

Which ones have you read?

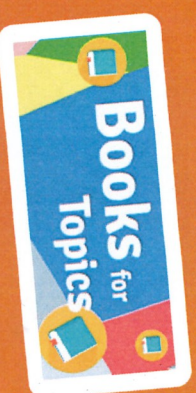


	<input type="checkbox"/> Tilly And The Bookwanderers Anna James		<input type="checkbox"/> Chocolate Milk, X-ray Specs & Me! Bethany Walker and Jack Noel
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Case Of Grave Danger Sophie Cleverly		<input type="checkbox"/> The Green Planet Leisa Stewart-Sharpe and Kim Smith
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Last Bear Hannah Gold		<input type="checkbox"/> The Dam David Almond and Levi Pinfold
	<input type="checkbox"/> New Kid Jerry Craft		<input type="checkbox"/> Football School Alex Bellos
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Wolves of Willoughby Chase Joan Aiken		<input type="checkbox"/> Twitch M G Leonard
	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary of a Wimpy Kid Jeff Kinney		<input type="checkbox"/> Brightstorm Vashti Hardy
	<input type="checkbox"/> Percy Jackson and the lightning thief Rick Riordan		<input type="checkbox"/> Kid Normal Greg James and Chris Smith
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Silver Sword Ian Serrailier		<input type="checkbox"/> Iguana Boy Saves The World With A Triple Cheese Pizza James Bishop and Rikin Parekh
	<input type="checkbox"/> Roller Girl Victoria Jamieson		<input type="checkbox"/> Rumblestar Abi Elphinstone
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Bacteria Book Steve Mould		<input type="checkbox"/> Dragon Mountain Katie and Kevin Tsang
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Hatmakers Tamzin Merchant		<input type="checkbox"/> The Luckiest Kid in the World Danny Wallace and Gemma Correll
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jaz Santos vs The World Priscilla Mante		<input type="checkbox"/> Bright Bursts Of Colour Matt Goodfellow
	<input type="checkbox"/> Secrets of a Sun King Emma Carroll		<input type="checkbox"/> The House With Chicken Legs Sophie Anderson

50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 5

(ages 9-10)



	<input type="checkbox"/> The Haunting of Aveline Jones Phil Hickes		<input type="checkbox"/> On Your Marks, Get Set, Gold! Scott Allen and Antoine Corbineau
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Secret of the Treasure Keepers A M Howell		<input type="checkbox"/> Bunny vs Monkey Jamie Smart
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Book Of Not Entirely Useful Advice A F Harrold		<input type="checkbox"/> The Cooking Club Detectives Ewa Jozefkovicz
	<input type="checkbox"/> I Stole My Genius Sister's Brain Jo Simmons		<input type="checkbox"/> Danny Chung does not do maths Maisie Chan
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Book of Hopes		<input type="checkbox"/> Cookie! ...and the Most Annoying Boy in the World Konnie Hug
	<input type="checkbox"/> Epic Adventures Sam Sedgman and Sam Brewster		<input type="checkbox"/> Varmints Helen Ward
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Great (Food) Bank Heist Onjali Q Rauf		<input type="checkbox"/> Asha & The Spirit Bird Jaspinder Bilan
	<input type="checkbox"/> The dog that Saved the World (Cup) Phil Earle		<input type="checkbox"/> Amazon River Sangma Francis and Romolo D'Hippolito
	<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Star Tom Palmer		<input type="checkbox"/> FACTopia! Kate Hale and Andy Smith
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ella on the Outside Cath Howe		<input type="checkbox"/> Being Me Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow and Laura Mucha
	<input type="checkbox"/> Herstory Katherine Halligan and Sarah Walsh		<input type="checkbox"/> Old Enough to Save the Planet Loll Kirby and Adelina Lirius
	<input type="checkbox"/> My Life As A Cat Carlie Sorosiak		<input type="checkbox"/> Music Susan Hayes, Nicholas O'Neill and Ruby Taylor

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Guidance: About the Year 4 Reading

The growing range of excellent books for this age group makes the task of encouraging reading for pleasure in Year 4 as delightful as it is essential. It is indeed an essential task - as children's laureate Cressida Cowell puts it, 'Decades of research show a reader for pleasure is more likely to be happier, healthier, to do better at school, and to vote – all irrespective of background'. When children choose to read, they gain access to a host of exciting ideas and worlds and this helps to flex the muscles of the imagination, develop empathy and better understand the lives of others, as well boosting language skills, vocabulary and comprehension.

In order to facilitate the enjoyment of reading, the provision of books that are age-appropriate, high quality and appealing is key. At the ages of 8 and 9, many children have learned to read short chapter books by themselves and have gained enough experience of books to articulate preferences about styles, themes and formats. Animal tales, fantasy adventures, funny stories, comic-style books and illustrated chapter books are popular at this age, as are non-fiction texts covering topics of interest like science or history. In addition to a wide choice of independent reads, stories being read aloud by adults continue to be an important - and much-enjoyed - aspect of the reading for pleasure journey at this age.

With these factors in mind, our team has carefully selected a range of recommended books for reading for pleasure in Year 4. Many of the books in the collection are well-known for getting children hooked on reading due to their humorous style and highly illustrated elements, like the comic-style Dog Man books, the pie-chart filled Planet Stan and Liz Pichon's fabulously relatable Tom Gates series. Other stories featured in the Y4 collection have been chosen especially for making children laugh out loud, like the gag-filled Alien Invaded My Talent Show or Nadia Shireen's Grimwood

Many children at this age have developed the ability to make connections within a story and spot finer details in the text, and this enables them to enjoy a good mystery story. For a cracking mystery adventure, we recommend the Highland Falcon Thief, the Anisha: Accidental Detective series or, for an interactive, head-scratching mystery that puts the reader in control, try Solve Your Own Mystery: The Monster Maker. Animal rescue stories also remain popular with Year 4, with Jess Butterworth's exciting Himalayan adventure When the Mountains Roared or Elizabeth Laird's poignant story telling of the dangers of ocean pollution in Song of the Dolphin Boy being excellent choices. Dragons feature heavily in the Y4 collection too, and readers looking for fantasy adventures will be happy to let their imaginations feed on The Land of Roar, the spellbinding Starfell series or Cressida Cowell's hugely popular How to Train Your Dragon books.

Not all of the stories on the list are longer reads. For readers looking for shorter texts, try Jennifer Gray's short chapter book Magicat (specially formatted for reluctant and dyslexic readers), Catherine Johnson's thought-provoking Race to the Frozen North or dip into the graphic novel style information book Children Who Changed the World. For picture books suitable for Year 4, we recommend I Talk Like a River, Colin Thompson's playful How to Live Forever or the thought-provoking The Barnabus Project, which is stunningly illustrated by the Fan Brothers.

If you are looking for classic stories suitable for 8-9 year olds, you'll find among the collection some favourites that have been entertaining children for generations, like The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe or Dick King Smith's The Queen's Nose. Poetry books that are proven hits with Year 4 are well represented in the collection too, and in particular we love the alphabet of shape poems in Apes to Zebras, Josh Seigal's humorous collection Welcome to my Crazy Life and the beautifully illustrated nature poems in The Lost Words.

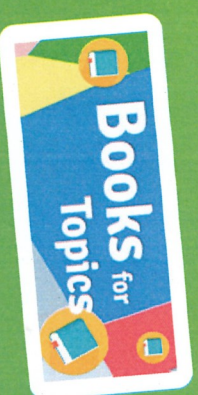
We've also included a handful of favourite non-fiction books for Year 4, from printmaker James Brown's visually appealing global tour in A World of Cities, to William Grill's fascinating illustrated retelling of Shackleton's Journey, to the wonderfully interactive illumanatomy, which comes with a magic lens to help readers delve deeper into the different systems that make up the human body.

50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 4

(ages 8-9)

Which ones have you read?

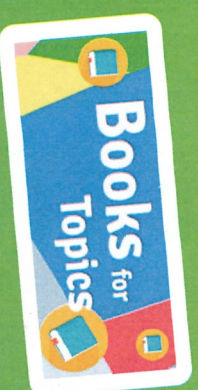


















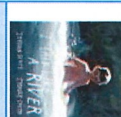







	<input type="checkbox"/> The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe C.S. Lewis		<input type="checkbox"/> The Land of Roar Jenny McLachlan and Ben Mantle
	<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Moss and the Lost Day Dominique Valente		<input type="checkbox"/> Rainbow Grey Laura Ellen Anderson
	<input type="checkbox"/> How To Live Forever Colin Thompson		<input type="checkbox"/> A World Of Cities Lily Murray and James Brown
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Queen's Nose Dick King-Smith		<input type="checkbox"/> Children who Changed The World Marcia Williams
	<input type="checkbox"/> Planet Stan Elaine Wickson and Chris Judge		<input type="checkbox"/> Brand New Boy David Almond and Marta Altes
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Lost Words Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris		<input type="checkbox"/> Dog Man Dav Pilkey
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Big Book of the UK Imogen Russell Williams and Louise Lockhart		<input type="checkbox"/> The Brilliant World of Tom Gates Liz Pichon
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Street Through Time Steve Noon		<input type="checkbox"/> The Story of Tutankhamun Patricia Cleveland-Peck and Isabel Greenberg
	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientists Isabel Thomas and Jessamy Hawke		<input type="checkbox"/> Grimwood Nadia Shireen
	<input type="checkbox"/> It's A Wonderful World Jess French		<input type="checkbox"/> Apes To Zebras Liz Brownlee, Sue Hardy-Dawson and Roger Stevens
	<input type="checkbox"/> How To Train Your Dragon Cressida Cowell		<input type="checkbox"/> Welcome To My Crazy Life Joshua Seigel
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Barnabus Project The Fan Brothers		<input type="checkbox"/> Aliens Invaded My Talent Show Matt Brown
	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Pigeons Fight Crime Andrew McDonald and Ben Wood		<input type="checkbox"/> Anisha Accidental Detective Serena Patel

50 Recommended Reads for ...

Year 4

(ages 8-9)



	<input type="checkbox"/> Grandpa Frank's Great Big Bucket List Jenny Pearson		<input type="checkbox"/> Illumanatomy Kate Davies and Carnovsky
	<input type="checkbox"/> Song of the Dolphin Boy Elizabeth Laird		<input type="checkbox"/> Viking Voyagers Jack Tite
	<input type="checkbox"/> When The Mountains Roared Jess Butterworth		<input type="checkbox"/> The Girl Who Stole an Elephant Nizrana Farook
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Boy at the Back of the Class Onjali Q Rauf		<input type="checkbox"/> A Monster Ate My Packed Lunch! Pamela Butchart and Thomas Fintham
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Highland Falcon Thief M G Leonard		<input type="checkbox"/> The Monster Maker Gareth P Jones
	<input type="checkbox"/> Peanut Jones and the Illustrated City Rob Biddulph		<input type="checkbox"/> Sky Holly Webb
	<input type="checkbox"/> Olympic Poems Brian Moses and Roger Stevens		<input type="checkbox"/> Earth Heroes Lily Dyu and Amy Blackwell
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Dinosaur Ate My Sister Pooja Puri		<input type="checkbox"/> Shackleton's Journey William Grill
	<input type="checkbox"/> I Talk Like A River Jordan Scott and Sydney Smith		<input type="checkbox"/> The Great Chocoplot Chris Callaghan
	<input type="checkbox"/> Race to the Frozen North Catherine Johnson		<input type="checkbox"/> Earth is Big Steve Tomecek and Marcos Farina
	<input type="checkbox"/> Magical Jennifer Gray and Amanda Swift		<input type="checkbox"/> Amazing Animals Sabrina Weiss and Paul Daviz
	<input type="checkbox"/> Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor Patricia Valdez and Felicitia Sala		<input type="checkbox"/> Mayhem Mission Burhana Islam

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Guidance: About the Year 3 Reading

Reading for pleasure in Year 3 can provide entertainment and delight as well as opening up a host of new worlds to children. Books provide children of this age group with opportunities to stretch the imagination as well as to consider what life might be like in a myriad of different settings and situations. Stories about the lives of others can help children to develop empathy and understand emotions, while at the same time increasing children's language skills and vocabulary. Furthermore, research shows that reading for pleasure in childhood is a more powerful indicator of future educational attainment than parental socioeconomic status. In order to facilitate the enjoyment of reading, getting the right book into the right child's hands at the right time is the key. At the age of 7-8, many children have learned to read short books by themselves and begin to exercise a greater freedom of choice over their independent reads at school and home. Funny books are very popular with this age group, as are short chapter books with illustrated elements and visually appealing non-fiction texts. In addition to independent reading, story time with adults remains important and treasured in Year 3, too - both at home and in the classroom.

With these factors in mind, our team has carefully selected a range of books especially picked for encouraging reading for pleasure in Year 3, both as independent book choices and for texts to be read aloud by an adult. Some of the stories in the collection will be especially appealing to children looking for an illustrated chapterbook series, such as the Nothing to See Here Hotel series, the giggle-worthy SAM WU series and the very popular 13-Storey Treehouse books, which all have memorable characters and frequent visual elements to break up the text. A number of stories in the collection are brilliant choices for making children laugh out loud, like the storytime favourite Charlie Changes into a Chicken.

Other stories chosen for our Year 3 booklist are more tender-hearted and thought-provoking. We love Andy Shepherd's story The Boy Who Grew Dragons, all about a young boy who finds a baby dragon hatching from a 'dragon-fruit' tree in the garden, or Peter Brown's popular storytime choice The Wild Robot, which explores themes of technology and nature. Animal lovers will be drawn towards the feline world of Varjak Paw or to Michael Morpurgo's poignant story of life changing animal-to-human friendship in The Puffin Keeper. Not all of the stories on the list are longer reads - for excellent picturebook choices suitable for Year 3, we recommend the completely magical Leon and the Place Between or the stunningly-illustrated Oceans Meets Sky .

If you are looking for classic stories, you'll find on our list some real favourites suitable for children aged 7-8, like Ted Hughes' thrilling and mysterious story of The Iron Man or the poignant farmyard tale of friendship, courage and loss in Charlotte's Web. Other stories in the collection are brand new for 2022, such as the eco-mystery in which we find STEM-loving Leonora Bolt, or Jo Clarke's macaron-filled mystery Libby and the Parisian Puzzle.

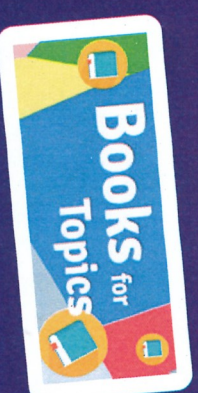
You'll find a variety of genres and formats included on our recommended Year 3 reading list, from poetry collections like Joshua Seigal's giggle-worthy Yapping Away to the impressive nature poetry anthology Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright, which contains a poem for every day of the year. We've also included some graphic novel style stories, such as Arthur and the Golden Rope and Agent Moose. If you are looking for a short chapter book for an ideal first step into independent reading, try Holly Webb's sausage-dog seaside story The Beach Puppy or Jion Sheibani 's The Worries or for more ideas, be sure to check out our separate booklist listing recommended First Chapter Books.



























We have also selected a handful of illustrated non-fiction texts that are particularly well-suited to readers aged 7 and 8, from the comic-style fact book Caveman, a Queen and Everything In Between (which was voted Lower KS2 winner in our Books of the Year Award), to DK's inspiring Encyclopedia of Very Important Sport, to Yuval Zommer's beautifully illustrated The Street Beneath My Feet, which provides a real wow-factor to shared reading experiences with its 2.5 metre fold-out spread.

50 Recommended Reads for ... Year 3

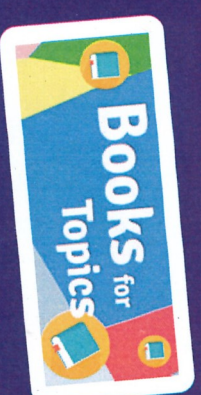
(ages 7-8)

























Which ones have you read?



	<input type="checkbox"/> The Mammoth Adventure Philippa Gregory		<input type="checkbox"/> Varjak Paw S F Said
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Worst Witch Jill Murphy		<input type="checkbox"/> The Iron Man Ted Hughes and Chris Mould
	<input type="checkbox"/> Charlotte's Web E B White		<input type="checkbox"/> Agent Moose Mo O'Hara and Jess Bradley
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Creakers Tom Fletcher		<input type="checkbox"/> Sam Wu is Not afraid of Sharks Katie and Kevin Tsang
	<input type="checkbox"/> Me And Mister P Maria Farrer		<input type="checkbox"/> Nano Jess Wade and Melissa Castrillon
	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor Bunny's Chocolate Town Elys Dolan		<input type="checkbox"/> The Bad Guys Aaron Blabey
	<input type="checkbox"/> Charlie Changes Into A Chicken Sam Copeland and Sarah Horne		<input type="checkbox"/> Jelly Boots, Smelly Boots Michael Rosen and David Tazzyman
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Book of Brilliant Bugs Jess French and Claire McElfratrick		<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Penguin And The Lost Treasure Alex T Smith
	<input type="checkbox"/> My Encyclopedia of Very Important Sport		<input type="checkbox"/> Toto the Ninja Cat And The Great Snake Escape Dermot O'Leary
	<input type="checkbox"/> Leonora Bolt Lucy Brandt		<input type="checkbox"/> The 13-Storey Treehouse Andy Griffiths and Terry Denton
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sohal Finds a Friend Jion Sheibani		<input type="checkbox"/> The Nothing to See Here Hotel Steven Butler and Steven Lenton
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Puffin Keeper Michael Morpurgo		<input type="checkbox"/> Yapping Away Joshua Seigal and Sarah Horne
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Mystery of the Stolen Treasure Megan Rix		<input type="checkbox"/> Red Panda Rescue Jess Butterworth

50 Recommended Reads for ... Year 3 (ages 7-8)



	<input type="checkbox"/> The Worst Class In The World Joanna Nadin and Rikin Parekh		<input type="checkbox"/> The Talkative Tiger Amelia Cobb and Sophy Williams
	<input type="checkbox"/> A Day in the Life of a Caveman, a Queen and Everything in Between Mike Barfield and Jess Bradley		<input type="checkbox"/> Professor Astro Cat's Frontiers Of Space Dominic Walliman and Ben Newman
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Beach Puppy Holly Webb		<input type="checkbox"/> Tomas and Ironskin Alastair Chisholm
	<input type="checkbox"/> Salah Rules Simon Mugford and Dan Green		<input type="checkbox"/> Leon And The Place Between Angela McAllister and Grahame Baker-Smith
	<input type="checkbox"/> Interview with a Shark & Other Ocean Giants Too Andy Seed and Nick East		<input type="checkbox"/> Ferno Adam Blade
	<input type="checkbox"/> After The Fall Dan Santat		<input type="checkbox"/> Atlas Of Adventures Rachel Williams and Lucy Letherland
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Street Beneath My Feet Charlotte Gullian and Yuval Zommer		<input type="checkbox"/> The Boy Who Grew Dragons Andy Shepherd and Sara Ogilvie
	<input type="checkbox"/> Egypt Magnified David Long and Harry Bloom		<input type="checkbox"/> The Wild Robot Peter Brown
	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Meets Sky The Fan Brothers		<input type="checkbox"/> Arthur and the Golden Rope Joe Todd-Stanton
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Dragon Machine Helen Ward and Wayne Anderson		<input type="checkbox"/> Amazing Islands Sabrina Weiss and Kerry Hyndman
	<input type="checkbox"/> The Night Flower Lara Hawthorne		<input type="checkbox"/> Libby And The Parisian Puzzle Jo Clarke
	<input type="checkbox"/> Tiger, Tiger, Burning Bright! Britta Teckentrup		<input type="checkbox"/> Antarctica Mario Cuesta Hernandez and Raquel Martin

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