

Recommended Reads Year 5

Journey to the River Sea

by Eva Ibbotson

Orphan Maia is thrilled to learn she is to live with relatives in South America & cannot wait to experience the sights, sounds & smells of the Amazon.

Stig of the Dump

by Clive King

Exploring an old chalk pit, Barney meets a strange boy who wears a rabbit skin and speaks in grunts.

Why The Whales Came

by Michael Morpurgo

There are rumours that the Birdman is dangerous. When Gracie & Daniel can't find a place to sail their boats, they come to him...

Percy Jackson

by Rick Riordan

Taking as its hero, the unlikely character of Percy, a troubled kid who has dyslexia & ADHD, the story rapidly moves from a school outing for mortals from the twenty-first century to a quest to reach the gates of the Underworld with a satyr & a daughter of Athena.

Street Child

by Berlie Doherty

Set in Victorian times, this follows the plight of orphan boy Jim, who struggles to survive in the face of poverty & homelessness. This is a classic book about humanity & resilience & is based on a real-life story of the boy who inspired the establishment of Dr. Barnardo's children's homes.

Charlotte's Web

by EB White

Wilbur, the piglet, is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte: a very clever & very beautiful large grey spider. They become the best of friends &, when Wilbur is faced with a dreadful fate - the butcher's chop! Charlotte must come up with a very clever way to try and save him...

A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning

by Lemony Snicket

The Bad Beginning, the 1st book in Lemony Snicket's wonderful and bestselling A Series of Unfortunate Events, introduces readers to the misadventures - and misfortune!

Phoenix

by SF Said

Lucky thinks he's an ordinary Human boy. But one night, he dreams that the stars are singing to him & wakes to find an uncontrollable power rising inside him. Now he's on the run, racing through space, searching for answers.

Whitefang

by Jack London

From cub to sled dog to fighting dog, his journey is long & hard - yet deep down he has memories of love & slowly, after forming a bond with his owner, they start to resurface.

Darkmouth

by Shane Hegarty

Legends (also known as terrifying, human-eating monsters) have invaded the town of Darkmouth & aim to conquer the world. But don't panic! The last remaining Legend Hunter - Finn - will protect us.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

by C S Lewis

When Peter, Susan, Edmund & Lucy - step through a wardrobe door in the strange country house where they are staying, they find themselves in the land of Narnia.

Black Beauty

by Anna Sewell

Black Beauty is a young black colt who loves roaming Farmer Gray's fields with his mother. As he grows into a handsome stallion, he is trained into the use of a saddle & whip & sold to Squire Gordon. Will he ever be able to roam the fields again?

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

by L. Frank Baum

Join Dorothy & her little dog Toto on the yellow brick road, as they set off to explore the magical Land of Oz. Can they find the Wizard, defeat the Wicked Witch of the West, & return to Kansas?

The Wind in The Willows

by Kenneth Grahame

Mole pokes his nose out of his burrow & discovers that the outside world is a very exciting place. On his travels he meets brave Ratty, kind old Badger & the rascally Mr. Toad.

The Ruby in The Smoke

by Philip Pullman

She wants to discover the truth about her father's death, Sally is plunged into a terrifying mystery in the dark heart of Victorian London, at the centre of which lies a deadly blood-soaked jewel.

Inkheart

by Cornelia Funke

Meggie loves stories, but her father hasn't read to her since her mother disappeared. When a stranger knocks at their door, Mo is forced to reveal an extraordinary secret - when he reads aloud, words come alive, & dangerous characters step out of the pages.

Wolf Brother

by Michelle Paver

When his father is killed by a bear that has been taken over by a demon, 12-year-old Torak is left living alone in the forest but he has a quest to follow.

Moribito: Guardian of the Spirit

by Nahoko Uehashi.

Balsa was a wanderer & warrior for hire. Then she rescued a boy flung into a raging river -- & at that moment, her destiny changed. Now Balsa must protect the Prince Chagum. As they travel across the land, they find themselves hunted by two deadly enemies: the monster Rarunga . . . & the prince's own father.

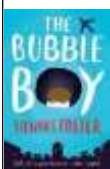
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How to Train Your Dragon

by Cressida Cowell

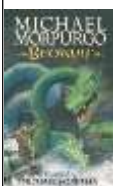
Hiccup may now be considered the greatest Viking hero to have ever lived, but he didn't always have this reputation. As a child, he wasn't popular nor good at sports. But things began to change when he found a Dragon egg.



The Bubble Boy

by Stewart Foster

11-year-old Joe can't remember a life outside of his hospital room, with its beeping machines & view of London's rooftops. His condition means he's not allowed outside, not even for a moment'. But then someone new enters his world & changes it forever.



Beowulf

by Michael Morpurgo

In fifth-century Denmark, a murderous monster stalks the night, & only the great prince of the Geats has the strength and courage to defeat it. Beowulf's terrifying quest to destroy Grendel is the oldest surviving epic in British literature.



The Phantom Tollbooth

by Norton Juster

Milo's extraordinary voyage takes him into such places as the Land of Expectation, the Doldrums, the Mountains of Ignorance & the Castle in the Air. He meets the weirdest & most unexpected characters & once home, can hardly wait to try out the Tollbooth again.



The Jungle Book

by Rudyard Kipling

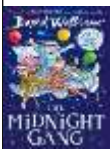
Rudyard Kipling weaves an extraordinary tale of one child's friendship with the animals in the Indian jungle. The characters of Baloo the bear, Bhageera the panther & evil tiger, Shere Khan, roar off the page & will captivate the hearts & minds of readers from 9+.



A Girl Called Owl

by Amy Wilson

When Owl starts seeing strange frost patterns on her skin, she's tempted to just burrow down under the duvet & forget all about it. Could her strange new powers be linked to her mysterious father? And what will happen when she enters the magical world of winter for the first time?



The Midnight Gang

by David Walliams

Although most children are fast asleep by the time the clock strikes 12, the Midnight Gang's adventures are just beginning...



The Highwayman

by Alfred Noyes

In Alfred Noyes's thrilling poem, charged with drama & tension, we ride with the highwayman & recoil from the terrible fate that befalls him & his sweetheart Bess, the landlord's daughter.



Dealing With Dragons

by Patricia C Wrede

Meet Cimorene--a princess who refuses to be proper. And bored. So bored that she runs away to live with a dragon. Of course, Cimorene has a way of hooking up with dangerous characters, and soon she's coping with a witch, a jinn, a death-dealing talking bird, a stone prince, & some very oily wizards.



Boy

by Roald Dahl

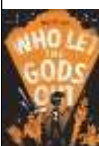
Boy, Roald Dahl's bestselling autobiography, is full of hilarious anecdotes about his childhood and school days; some are funny. Some are painful. Some are unpleasant. All are true.



Bridge to Terabithia

by Katherine Paterson

Jess Aarons wants to be the fastest boy in the class, but when a girl named Leslie Burke moves into the neighbouring farm his life changes forever.



Who Let The Gods Out

by Maz Evans

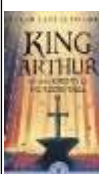
A shooting star crashes to earth and changes Elliot's life forever. The star is Virgo - a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release a death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, & must then turn to the Olympian gods for help.



Clockwork

by Phillip Pullman

A tormented apprentice clock-maker, a deadly mechanical knight in armour - and the sinister Dr Kalmenius,...Wind up these characters, fit them into a story on a cold winter's evening, with the snow swirling down, & suddenly life & the story begin to merge in a peculiarly macabre - and unstoppable - way.



King Arthur & His Knights of the Round Table

by Roger Lancelyn Green

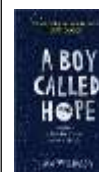
This presents a re-telling of some of Britain's best-loved stories and legends. Aided by the magician Merlin, Arthur draws the sword from the stone to become King of Britain, & Lord of the Knights of the Round Table.



Gulliver's Travels

by Jonathan Swift

Shipwrecked on an unknown island, Gulliver wakes to find himself surrounded by its six-inch- tall natives, the Lilliputians. But this is only the first wonderful discovery, as his adventures take him to the land of the giants; the home of the eternally aging Struldbrugs, & the country of the benevolent talking horses.



A Boy Called Hope

by Lara Williamson

I'm Dan Hope & deep inside my head I keep a list of things I want to come true. For example; I want to help Sherlock Holmes solve his most daring mystery yet. I want my dog to stop eating the planets & throwing them up on the carpet. And finally, the biggest dream of all, I want my dad to love me.



The Iron Man

by Ted Hughes

Mankind must put a stop to the dreadful destruction caused by the Iron Man so decides to set a trap for him - but whatever the population does, he can't be kept down. When a terrible monster from outer space threatens the entire planet, it's the Iron Man who is determined to find a way to solve the world.

