The Priory Parish CE Primary School



Book Spine



This document is a suggested reading list for the school. It has been collated, with staff and research based recommendations, to deliberately expose the children to inspirational authors, a range of genres and key texts that we would want them to have encountered by the time they leave primary education.

We want this spine to promote and instil a love of reading in all of our pupils and have ensured the range is vast, inspirational, challenging and enjoyable.

Certain books have been included to fit with the appropriate Literacy Counts units for each year group. Reading with each class, whether in the English lesson or at class novel time/ snack time should occur daily. Nothing is more important than sharing and enjoying stories with our children.



Our book spine should always remain a working document - excellent new books are always been written and discovered and so may change year on year.

To be reviewed July 2021.

**Research**

***The 5 Plagues of the Developing Reader*** *(source: Reading Reconsidered by Doug Lemov)* There are five types of texts that children should have access to in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence.

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| Archaic Language | The vocabulary, usage, syntax and context for cultural reference of texts over 50 or 100 years old are vastly different and typically more complex than texts written today. Students need to be exposed to and develop proficiency with antiquated forms of expression to be able to hope to read James Madison, Frederick Douglass and Edmund Spenser when they move on to secondary school and beyond. |
| Non-linear time sequences | In passages written exclusively for students-or more specifically for student assessments— time tends to unfold with consistency. A story is narrated in a given style with a given cadence and that cadence endures and remains consistent, but in the best books, books where every aspect of the narration is nuanced to create an exact image, time moves in fits and starts. It doubles back. The only way to master such books is to have read them time and again and to be carefully introduced to them by a teacher or adult. |
| Narratively complex | Books are sometimes narrated by an unreliable narrator. Scout, for example, who doesn’t understand and misperceives some of what happened to her. Or the narrator in Edgar Allan Poe’s “The Tell-Tale Heart” who is a madman out of touch with reality. Other books have multiple narrators such as Faulkner’s As I Lay Dying. Others have non-human narrators such as the horse that tells the story in Black Beauty. Some books have multiple intertwined and apparently (for a time) unrelated plot lines. These are far harder to read than books with a single plot line and students need to experience these as well. |
| Figurative/Symbolic text | Texts which happen on an allegorical or symbolic level. Not reflected in Lexiles; critical forms of text complexity that students must experience. |
| Resistant texts | Texts written to deliberately resist easy meaning-making by readers. Perhaps half of the poems ever written fall into this category. You have to assemble meaning around nuances, hints, uncertainties and clues. |

**Pre-School**

The Gruffalo- Julia Donaldson

Kind- Alison Green

We’re going on a bear hunt- Michael Rosen

The Very Hungry Caterpillar- Eric Carle

Each Peach Pear Plum- Allan and Janet Ahlberg

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?- Bill Martin Jnr and Eric Carle

Dear Zoo- Rod Campbell

Sharing a Shell- Julia Donaldson

The Tiger who came to Tea- Judith Kerr

Avocado Baby- John Burningham

Guess how much I love you- Sam McBratney

That’s not my... collection- Fiona Watt

What the Ladybird Heard- Julia Donaldson

Traditional Tales: Jack and the beanstalk, Three little pigs, Three Billy Goats Gruff, Goldilocks and the three bears.

A Little Bit Brave-Nicola Kinnear

A Treasury of songs- Julia Donaldson

Plus a rich diet of nursery rhymes and rhyming stories.

**F2**



Meerkat Mail-Emily Gravett

Be Gentle- Virginia Miller

Funnybones- Janet and Allan Ahlberg

Dear Greenpeace- Simon James

Peace at last- Jill Murphy

Superworm- Julia Donaldson

Supertato- Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet

Rainbow Fish-Marcus Pfister

The star that fell- Karen Hayles

How to catch a star- Oliver Jeffers

Lost and Found- Oliver Jeffers

The Boy who Unplugged the Sea-Paul Brown

Tiddler- Julia Donaldson

The Enormous Turnip-Irene Yates

Nobot Robot- Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet

Handa’s Surprise- Eileen Browne

The Something- Rebecca Cobb

Little Red-Bethan Woolvin

Juniper Jupiter-Lizzy Stewart

The Storm Whale- Benji Davies

The Extraordinary Gardener-Sam Boughton

Mr Grumpy’s Outing- John Burningham

**Y1**



Hermelin-Mini Grey

Where the Wild Things are- Maurice Sendak

Rapunzel- Bethan Woolvin

The secret of Black Rock-Joe Todd Stanton

Dogger -Shirley Hughes

Elmer - David McKee

Lost and Found - Oliver Jeffers

Peter Rabbit- Beatrix Potter

Flat Stanley- Jeff Brown

A children’s treasury of Milligan- classic stories and poems by Spike Milligan

Owl Babies- Martin Waddell

Hansel and Gretel- Anthony Browne

Gorilla- Anthony Browne

The Snail and the Whale- Julia Donaldson

The Gingerbread man

Shark in the Park-Nick Sharratt

The Lighthouse Keeper’s Lunch- Ronda and David Armitage

Beegu- Alexis Deacon

Paper Planes-Jim Helmore

The Last Wolf- Mini Grey

There’s a Tiger in the Garden-Lizzy Stewart

**Y2**



Rosie Revere Engineer-Andrea Beaty

Grandad’s Island- Benji Davies

The Bog Baby-Jeanne Willis

Night Gardener-The Fan Brothers

When the rain comes-Malika Favre

The Flower- John Light

The Scarecrow’s wedding- Julia Donaldson

Can you catch a mermaid?- Jane Ray

The Tear Thief- Carol Ann Duffy

Traction Man is Here-Mini Grey

On Sudden Hill- Linda Sarah and Benji Davies

The Last Wolf- Mini Grey

George’s Marvellous Medicine- Roald Dahl

Jabberwocky- Lewis Carroll

Revolting Rhymes- Roald Dahl

Ocean meets sky- The Fan Brothers

The Day the Crayons Quit- Oliver Jeffers

Spells- Emily Gravett

The rhythm of the rain- Grahame Baker Smith

Jack and the Baked Beanstalk- Colin Stimpson

Leon and the Place Between- Angela McAllister

A River- Marc Martin

The King who banned the dark-Emily Haworth-Booth

**Y3**



Seen and not heard- Katie May Green

Jemmy Button- Valerio Vidali

Into the Forest- Anthony Browne

Return- Aaron Becker

Fox- Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks

The Iron Man- Chris Mould and Ted Hughes

Stone Age Boy- Satoshi Kitamura

The Egyptian Cinderella- Shirley Climo

The Vanishing Rainforest- Richard Platt

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory- Roald Dahl

The Wolves in the Walls- Neil Gaiman

Starbird- Sharon King Chai

Ted Hughes- Collected Poems for Children

**Y4**



The Whale- Vita Murrow

The Journey- Francesca Senna

Leaf- Sandra Dieckmann

Manfish- Jennifer Berne

Arthur and the Golden Rope- Joe Todd- Stanton

Lost Happy Endings- Carol Ann Duffy

Wisp- A story of hope

Escape from Pompeii- Christina Balit

Aesop’s Fables- Don Daily

Greek Myths- Marcia Williams

Whale Boy- Nicola Davies

Why the Whales came- Michael Morpurgo

Stories for boys who dare to be different- Ben Brooks

Goodnight stories for rebel girls-Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo

Carol Ann Duffy-New and Collected Poems for Children

**Y5**



Henry’s Freedom Box- Ellen Levine and Kadir Nelson

The Errand- Leo LaFleur and Adam Oehlers

King Kong- Anthony Browne

The Promise- Nicola Davies

Farther- Graham Baker Smith

The Lost Book of Adventure- Unknown adventurer

The Highway Man- Alfred Noyes

Running Wild- Michael Morpurgo

Journey to the River Sea- Eva Ibbotson

Kensuke’s Kingdom- Michael Morpurgo

A Monster Calls- Patrick Ness

The Island- Armin Greder

Our castle by the sea- Lucy Strange

Where once we stood- Christopher Riley and Martin Impey

**Y6**



Hansel and Gretel- Neil Gaiman

A story like the wind- Gill Lewis

Shackleton’s Journey- William Grill

Dreams of Freedom- Amnesty International

Rose Blanche- Roberto Innocenti and Ian McEwan

The Ways of the Wolf- Smith Prasadam- Halls and Jonathan Woodward

Wonder- R.J. Palacio

Holes- Louis Sachar

In Flander’s Fields- John McCrae

The Eagle- Alfred Lord Tennyson

The Arrival- Shaun Tan

Skellig- David Almond

Northern Lights- Philip Pullman

The Biy who sailed the ocean in an arm chair- Lara Williamson

The Hobbit- JRR Tolkien

On the Origin of Species- Sabina Radeva