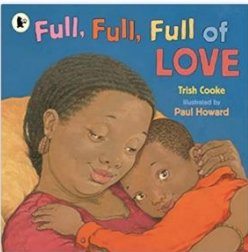
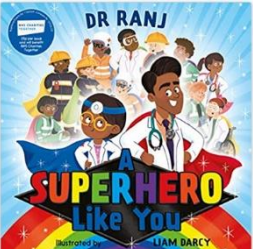
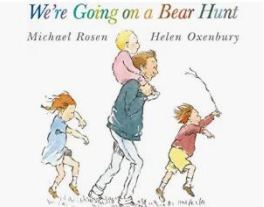
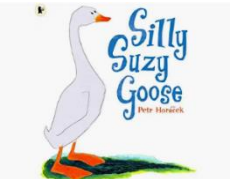
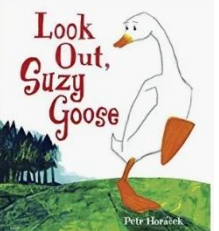
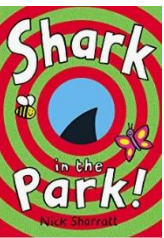


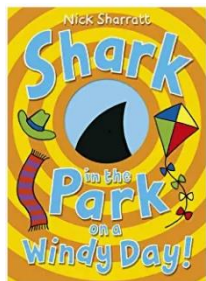
It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading. Reading consists of two dimensions: language comprehension and word reading. Language comprehension (necessary for both reading and writing) starts from birth. It only develops when adults talk with children about the world around them and the books (stories and non-fiction) they read with them, and enjoy rhymes, poems and songs together.

It is our intention that over their 8 year journey at Chestnut Street, children are read to, enjoy discuss and work with a selection of core books.

Each year group are immersed in a wide range of text types and diverse themes. They are inspired by a range of authors and poets and exposed to a balance of new and classic literature, creating a living library inside the child's minds which will give them a good grounding for independent reading in the future. Books which create mirrors and windows that reflect the realities of the children in our classrooms and beyond. This is the Chestnut Street 'Reading Spine'.

EYFS Foundation 1	Theme	Synopsis
This is 'taste' of the books used in EYFS there is a different focus book each week		
<p data-bbox="174 595 439 627">Full, full, full of love</p> 		<p data-bbox="1227 595 2107 667">A celebration of family time, sharing food together, and a Grandma's hug full, full, full of love.</p> <p data-bbox="1227 671 2136 847">For Jay Jay, the youngest member of an exuberant extended family, Sunday dinner at Grannie's can be full indeed — full of hugs and kisses, full of tasty dishes, full to the brim with happy faces, and full, full, full of love. With a special focus on the bond between little Jay Jay and his grannie, Trish Cooke introduces us to a family we are sure to want more, more, more of.</p>
<p data-bbox="165 914 445 946">A Superhero like you</p> 	<p data-bbox="521 914 1155 1054">A celebration of incredible key-workers by Dr Ranj, presenter of CBeebies series Get Well Soon, resident doctor on ITV's This Morning and front line NHS paediatrician.</p> <p data-bbox="521 1098 1196 1198">This uplifting picture book celebrates key-workers, and shows little readers that we all have the potential within us to be superheroes.</p>	<p data-bbox="1227 914 2136 1054">Lily knows exactly what she wants to be when she grows up: a superhero! But she's not interested in being a silly superhero. She doesn't want to wear her pants outside her trousers! Lily wants to be a REAL superhero: the kind who helps people and makes the world a better place.</p> <p data-bbox="1227 1098 2107 1238">Join Lily as she meets the extraordinary superheroes all around us, from doctors, teachers and air ambulance paramedics to scientists, recycling truck drivers and carers. Discover the amazing work these real-life heroes do using their incredible superpowers of kindness, care and love.</p>

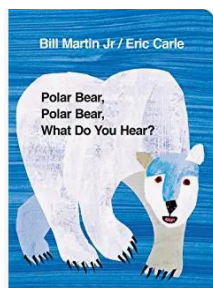
<p>We're going on a bear hunt</p> 		<p>We're going on a bear hunt. We're going to catch a big one. Will you come too? For a quarter of a century, readers have been swishy-swashy and splash-splashing through this award-winning favourite. Follow and join in the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river and squelch through the mud in search of a bear. What a surprise awaits them in the cave on the other side of the dark forest!</p>
<p>Silly Suzy Goose</p> 		<p>Suzy Goose is fed up with being just like the rest of the flock. She wants to be different: to flap like a bat, squawk like a toucan and slide like a penguin. But when she tries to roar like a lion she gets more than she bargained for!</p>
<p>Look out Suzy Goose</p> 		<p>Suzy Goose is fed up with her noisy flock and heads off for a solitary walk in the woods. But Suzy is not alone. Tiptoe, tiptoe, creep, creep – Bear, Wolf and Fox follow her deeper into the woods. They all spy dinner! A narrow escape later, Suzy hurries back to her flock. It's nice to be safely back home.</p>
<p>Shark in the Park</p> 		<p>Timothy Pope, Timothy Pope, what can you see through your telescope? Is there really a shark in the park? Go on, be brave, open the book and see!</p> <p>Timothy Pope has a brand new telescope and he's testing it out in the park. Peep through the die-cut holes in this book to see if you can spy a shark. Is that really a shark? Turn the page and find out . . .</p> <p>A delightful, entertaining story - with its rhyming story and ingenious die-cut pages, this is a book children will want to read again and again.</p>
<p>Shark in the Park on a windy day</p>		<p>Timothy Pope is blown this way and that way in the windy park -- but among the whistling wind and blustering brollies could that be a shark he</p>



spies through his telescope. Peep through the die-cut hole in the pages of the book to find out.

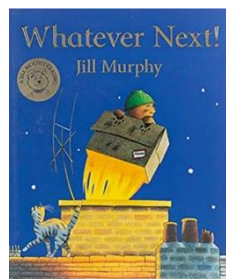
A third book in the bestselling Shark in the Park series -- it's fin-tastic fun!

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, what do you hear?



A sequel to the bestselling Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? Bill Martin's playful story combining animals, colours and sounds, is beautifully illustrated by Eric Carle. A simple rhythmic text introduces the reader to a menagerie of wild animals from a roaring lion to a fluting flamingo and a trumpeting elephant.

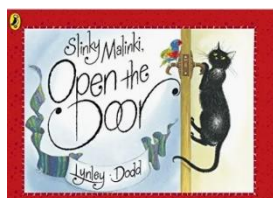
Whatever Next!



The moon and back before bath time? Whatever next!

Baby Bear wants to go on one more adventure before bed – a quick trip to the moon. Mrs Bear isn't pleased, and anyway, she says, Baby Bear doesn't have a rocket. Luckily, there's one under the stairs . . .

Slinky Malinki, Open the door

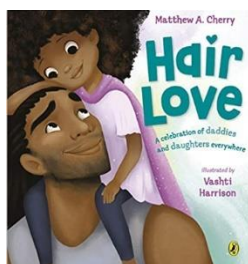


When Slinky Malinki and Stickybeak Sid are left in the house on their own, they cause absolute mayhem by opening all the carefully shut doors in the house - and leave a trail of destruction from bathroom to bedroom to kitchen. But then Slinky Malinki opens the final door and comes face to face with his old adversary - Hairy Maclary!

Traditional tales: The Enormous turnip, The Magic porridge pot, The Gingerbread man

EYFS Foundation 2

Hair love



Tender and empowering, Hair Love is an ode to loving your natural hair - and a celebration of daddies and daughters everywhere.

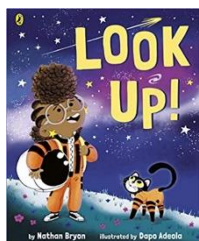
It's up to Daddy to give his daughter an extra-special hair style in this story of self-confidence and the love between fathers and daughters.

Zuri knows her hair is beautiful, but it has a mind of its own!

It kinks, coils, and curls every which way. Mum always does Zuri's hair just the way she likes it - so when Daddy steps in to style it for an extra special occasion, he has a lot to learn.

But he LOVES his Zuri, and he'll do anything to make her - and her hair - happy.

Look up



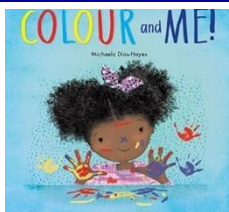
Meet hilarious, science-mad chatterbox, Rocket - she's going to be the greatest astronaut, star-catcher, space-traveller that has ever lived!

But... can she convince her big brother to stop looking down at his phone and start LOOKING UP at the stars?

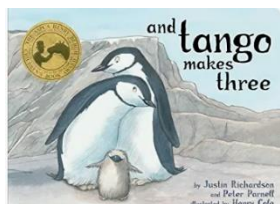
Bursting with energy and passion about science and space, this heart-warming, inspirational picture book will have readers turning off their screens and switching on to the outside world.

Colour of me

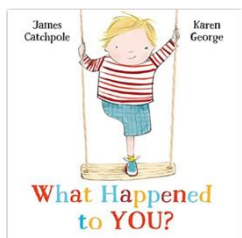
The first in a two-book series that champions and empowers children of colour in beautifully simplistic ways, this is a bright and colourful story, inspired by the author's own son.



Tango and me makes three



What happened to you



'A revolutionary book on disability.' Inclusive Storytime

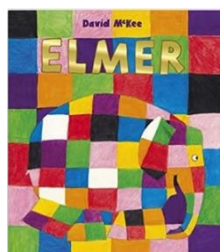
The heartwarming true story of two penguins who create a nontraditional family is now available in a sturdy board book edition. At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own.

What happened to you? Was it a shark? A burglar? A lion? Did it fall off?

Every time Joe goes out the questions are the same . . . what happened to his leg? But is this even a question Joe has to answer?

A ground-breaking, funny story that helps children understand what it might feel like to be seen as different.

Elmer



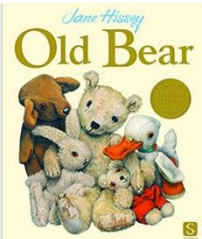
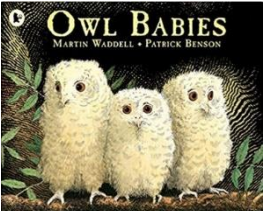
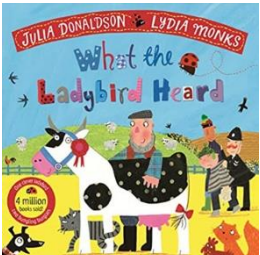
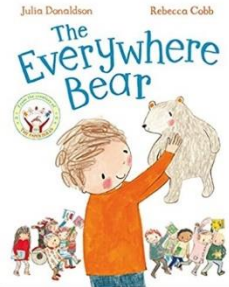
Deservedly a modern classic, with over ten million copies of his books sold worldwide, Elmer's subtle message, that it is OK to be different, resonates with children across the world. Elmer the colourful patchwork elephant has been a nursery favourite since this first book was published in 1989.

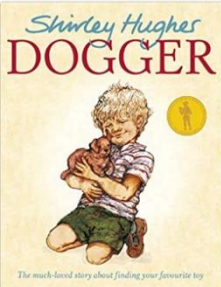
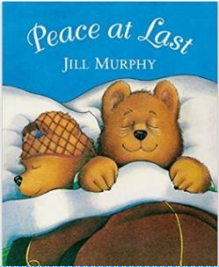
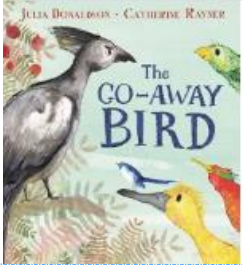
Elmer is different. Elmer is patchwork.

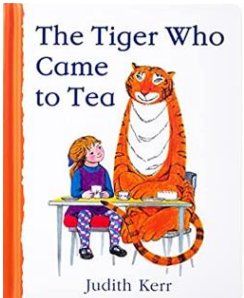
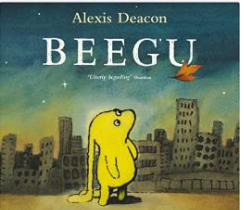
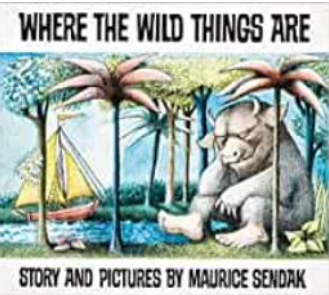
The grey elephants all love him, but he soon starts to wonder what it would be like to be just the same as them...

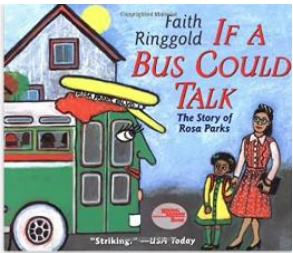
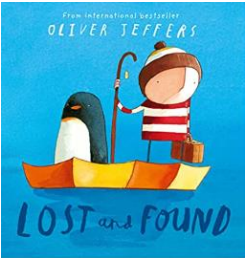

Full of colour, wisdom and pathos, little readers will love this classic tale at bedtime.

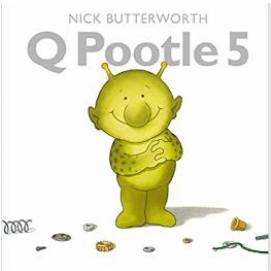
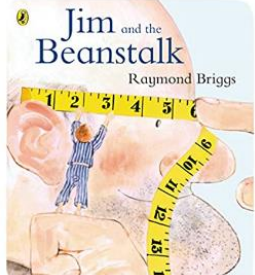
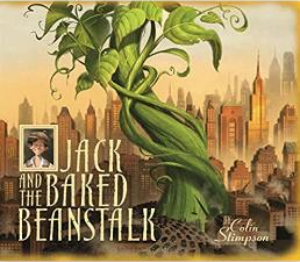
Collect this special 30th birthday edition of David McKee's first book about Elmer, that turned this adorable patchwork elephant into a nursery favourite.


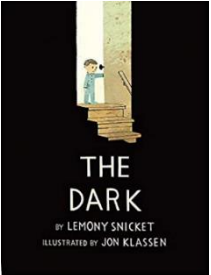
<p>Old Bear</p> 		<p>Jane Hissey's classic picture book tells the familiar story of how a much-loved teddy bear is lost and finally found again. Bramwell Brown and his friends Little Bear, Duck and Rabbit attempt to rescue Old Bear from the attic using a number of ingenious methods.</p>
<p>Owl babies</p> 	<p>A gentle tale of three baby owls reassures young children that Mummy will always come home.</p>	<p>A gentle tale of three baby owls reassures young children that Mummy will always come home. Three baby owls, Sarah, Percy and Bill, wake up one night in their hole in a tree to find that their mother has gone. So they sit on a branch and wait... Darkness gathers and the owls grow anxious, wondering when their mother will return. But, at last, she does and they bounce up and down with joy, welcoming her home.</p>
<p>What the ladybird heard</p> 		<p>Hefty Hugh and Lanky Len are two crafty robbers with a cunning plan to steal the farmer's fine prize cow. But little do they know that the tiniest, quietest creature of all has overheard their plot, and she has a plan of her own . . . With brilliant rhyming verse from Julia Donaldson, author of The Gruffalo, and bright, distinctive illustrations from award-winning illustrator, Lydia Monks, this much-loved modern classic is perfect for reading aloud.</p>
<p>Everywhere bear</p> 	<p>The Everywhere Bear has a home on a shelf But he doesn't spend very much time by himself, For each boy and girl in the class is a friend And he goes home with one of them every weekend.</p>	<p>The Everywhere Bear has a wonderful time with the children in Class One, but one day he gets more than he bargained for when he falls unnoticed from a backpack and embarks on his own big adventure! He's washed down a drain and whooshed out to sea, rescued by a fishing boat, loaded onto a lorry, carried off by a seagull . . . how will he ever make it back to Class One?</p>

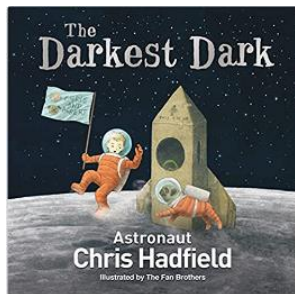
Traditional tales: Red Riding hood, Three Billy Goats Gruff, The hare and the tortoise			
Y1	Theme	Synopsis	NC Ref
Reading for pleasure Dogger 	Themes running throughout the Dogger story include loss, gratitude, friendship, family and kindness.	When Dave loses his favourite toy, Dogger, he is desolate. But then Dogger turns up at the school summer fair, and everything seems all right - until someone else buys him before Dave can get the money!	
Peace at last 	The familiar noises, repetition and beautiful illustrations make Jill Murphy's delightful Peace at Last an all-time favourite bedtime story with children and adults everywhere.	With a snoring Mrs Bear, an excitable Baby Bear and a house full of tapping and dripping and ticking, peace is hard to come by – will Mr Bear ever get a decent night's sleep?	
Go away bird 	story about friendship and working together Rhyming verse	'The Go-Away bird sat up in her nest, With her fine grey wings and her fine grey crest.' One by one, the other birds fly into her tree, wanting to talk or to play, but the Go-Away bird just shakes her head and sends them all away. But then the dangerous Get-You bird comes along, and she soon realizes that she might need some friends after all . .	
The Tiger who came to tea	Complexity of plot/symbol Modern classic	The classic picture book story of Sophie and her extraordinary teatime guest has been loved by millions of children since it was first published more	

 <p>The Tiger Who Came to Tea Judith Kerr</p>		<p>than fifty years ago. Now an award-winning animation!</p> <p>The doorbell rings just as Sophie and her mummy are sitting down to tea. Who could it possibly be? What they certainly don't expect to see at the door is a big furry, stripy tiger!</p>	
<p>Beegu Alexis Deacon</p> 	<p>It deals with themes of hope, kindness, loneliness and being an outsider. Alexis Deacon's simple text and illustrations, with stark empty backgrounds, allow the luminous Beegu to stand out. There is a childlike perspective to this touching tale.</p>	<p>She is lost. She is a friendly little creature, but the Earth People don't seem very welcoming at all. However, so far she has only met the BIG ones. The little ones are a different matter . . .</p>	
<p>Where the wild things are</p> 	<p>The fact that "Where the Wild Things Are" is primarily made up of author Maurice Sendak's illustrations certainly endears it to children but its themes of isolation, growth, and dreams has spoken to adults for years.</p> <p>Archaic texts Complexity of plot/symbol</p>	<p>One night Max puts on his wolf suit and makes mischief of one kind and another, so his mother calls him 'Wild Thing' and sends him to bed without his supper.</p> <p>That night a forest begins to grow in Max's room and an ocean rushes by with a boat to take Max to the place where the wild things are.</p> <p>Max tames the wild things and crowns himself as their king, and then the wild rumpus begins!</p> <p>But when Max has sent the monsters to bed, and everything is quiet, he starts to feel lonely and realises it is time to sail home to the place where someone loves him best of all.</p>	
<p>Model text writing</p>			

<p>If the bus could talk</p>  <p>Black History Month</p>	<p>Ringgold's story does a great job in introducing topics like segregation, racism, and intolerance through a different perspective that depicts Rosa Parks as a leader, activist,</p>	<p>A young girl named Marcie has a magical bus ride where the bus itself tells her the story of the mother of the Civil Rights Movement, Rosa Parks. Because she was black, Rosa had to walk miles to a one-room schoolhouse while white children could take the bus, and as an adult, Rosa could only sit in the back.</p> <p>But when the day came that Rosa refused to give up her seat, she helped set the wheels in motion for black people to sit where they wanted. Marcie learns all this and more then gets a special surprise at the end of her trip</p>	
<p>Lost and found</p> 	<p>Ordinary people from all walks of life dream of making it big, striking it rich, or finding true love. This story combines the excitement of travel with the challenge of figuring out clues and taking on daredevil style stunts to further a team's advantage.</p> <p>Resistant texts</p>	<p>There once was a boy and one day a penguin arrives on his doorstep. The boy decides the penguin must be lost and tries to return him. But no one seems to be missing a penguin. So the boy decides to take the penguin home himself, and they set out in his row boat on a journey to the South Pole.</p> <p>But when they get there, the boy discovers that maybe home wasn't what the penguin was looking for after all.</p>	
<p>Where the poppies now grow</p> 	<p>Hilary Robinson and Martin Impey create a touching tribute to honour all those who sacrificed so much for the cause of peace.</p> <p>Non-fiction Historical</p>	<p>Set in a bygone age, the carefree childhood of Ben and his best friend Ray becomes a distant memory when they join the army to serve their country. But, in the midst of battle can their friendship survive?</p>	
<p>Q Pootle 5</p>	<p>The theme of friendship is central to the show and throughout the series the exploits of the</p>	<p>Q Pootle 5 is on his way to a moon party when his rocket falls to Earth in need of some repairs...</p>	

	<p>characters reveal the importance of being kind, tolerant and ...</p> <p>Science-fiction</p>	<p>Q Pootle 5 thinks he knows what the problem is, in fact he is sure. The problem is that the rocket is broken, it needs a new rocket booster. But where on earth will this little alien find a rocket booster ? A green earthing comes along but he can't help and neither can three birds. Perhaps Colin the Cat might be able to help – when he's finished his dinner that is...</p>	
<p>Jim and the beanstalk</p> 		<p>Jim woke up early one morning to find a plant that was very like a beanstalk growing outside his window. Climbing to the top of the beanstalk, he found a castle and a giant, but with very modern problems that only Jim could help solve. Raymond Briggs brings a new generation to an old tale with humor and imagination.</p>	
<p>Jack and the baked beanstalk</p> 		<p>Colin Stimpson sets his version of Jack and the Beanstalk in a futuristic 1950s America, with skyscrapers surrounding the flyover under which Jack and his mother run a café, and a vintage framing to the illustrations. When the flyover threatens their café, Jack's mother sends him to buy the best coffee beans to attract new customers, but he buys baked beans instead. His mother throws them out, yet after climbing the resulting beanstalk, he finds a giant whose cooking skills save the business. A delightful, comic twist on a traditional tale.</p>	

<p>The selfish giant</p> 		<p>When the Selfish Giant builds a high wall round his lovely garden to keep the children out, the North Wind blows, the Frost comes and the Snow dances through the trees. The Giant wonders why Spring never comes to his cold, white garden. Then one day the Giant looks out to see a most wonderful sight . . .</p> <p>Oscar Wilde's much-loved fairy-tale is brought to life again with beautiful illustrations by Michael Foreman and Freire Wright.</p>	
<p>The Dark</p> 	<p>A universal and empowering story about conquering your fears, from Lemony Snicket and Jon Klassen. A reassuring story for any children who may be afraid of the dark</p>	<p>Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo but mostly it spends its time in the basement. It doesn't visit Laszlo in his room. Until one night it does . . . Join Lazlo on his journey to meet the dark, and find out why it will never bother him again.</p> <p>With emotional insight and poetic economy, two world-renowned talents of children's literature bring to light a powerful story about overcoming fears.</p> <p>The originality of The Dark is breathtaking - The Times</p>	
<p>The Darkest dark</p>		<p>This updated picture book of The Darkest Dark by astronaut Chris Hadfield, celebrates the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing.</p> <p>"While I was growing up, the Moon helped light the path to my dreams. But it was on a hot July night that my dreamy thoughts became real. The brave astronauts of Apollo 11 travelled to that distant</p>	

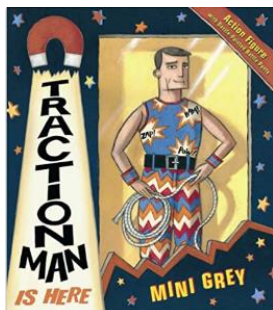


place and stepped out onto its surface, their boots blazing a new trail in the ancient grey dust. Those footprints showed me that impossible things can happen." Chris Hadfield.

Young Chris is a very important astronaut. When Dad says it's time for bed – Sorry, no can do: An astronaut's work is never done. But in the dark lurk all kinds of scary aliens. So Chris doesn't like to sleep, but Mum and Dad do! When he watches in awe at the Apollo 11 Moon Landing, Chris realizes he must overcome his fear of the dark. For in the darkest dark of space lies a power and a mystery that might just help Chris make his dreams come true.

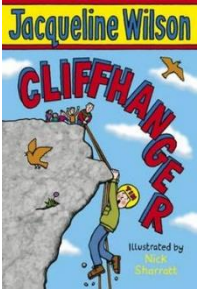
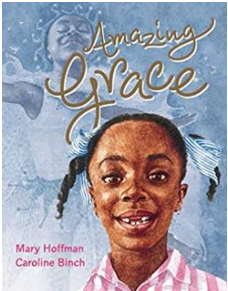
Inspired by the childhood of real-life astronaut, Commander Chris Hadfield, author of An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth. The Darkest Dark is his debut children's book, brought to life by the illustrations of Terry and Eric Fan. The evocative beauty of their pictures brings to life a bedtime story that will encourage children to dream big, think like an astronaut and embrace the unknown.

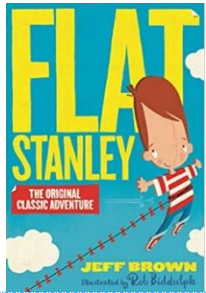
Traction man



Themes: **Fantasy, adventure, kindness and bravery.** Setting: The families house, the bed, the sink, Granny's house.

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

Y2 Reading for pleasure	Theme	Synopsis	NC Ref
<p>Cliffhanger</p> 	<p>Cliffhanger demonstrates the importance of teamwork and accepting that everyone brings different skills to the table</p>	<p>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?</p> <p>A salutary and funny tale about not giving up from Jacqueline Wilson. From climbing and abseiling to canoeing and a Crazy Bucket Race, the adventure holiday promises to be full of action. There's just one problem as far as Tim is concerned: he is hopeless at sports of any kind. Chapters are short and the writing is clear.</p>	
<p>Amazing Grace</p> 	<p>Story from another culture</p>	<p>Grace loves to act out stories. Sometimes she plays the leading part, sometimes she is 'a cast of thousands.' When her school decides to perform Peter Pan , Grace is longing to play Peter, but her classmates say that Peter was a boy, and besides, he wasn't black... But Grace's Ma and Nana tell her she can be anything she wants if she puts her mind to it...</p>	
<p>Flat Stanley</p>	<p>Even though this book has a humorous story line, showing kids that even though Stanley looks different on the outside, he is the same as all of us inwardly. Showing students the overall</p>	<p>Stanley Lambchop was just an ordinary boy – until a noticeboard fell on him. Now he's flat as a pancake!</p>	



theme of **discrimination** in this book will open their eyes to different situations.

Being flat is fantastic – he can be rolled up, sent in the post and even fly like a kite. But it's not all fun and games . . . there are thieves in town. Can Flat Stanley be a hero?

Meerkat Mail



Sunny the meerkat lives with his enormous family in the Kalahari desert. They are all very close . . . so close, in fact, that one day Sunny decides it's just too crowded and packs his bags. He's off to visit his mongoose cousins. But from the watery world of the Marsh Mongoose to the nocturnal lifestyle of the Malagasy Mongoose, Sunny just doesn't fit in. And who's that shadowy figure who seems to be following him around?

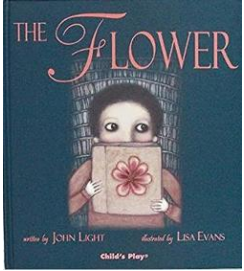

The boy who grew dragons

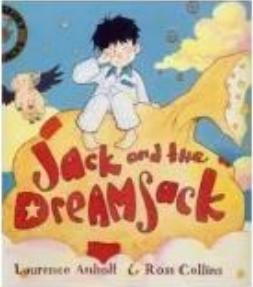
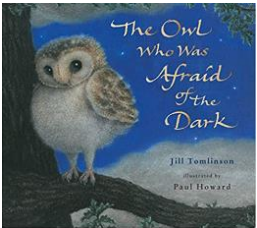


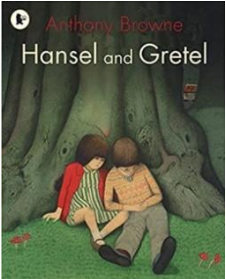
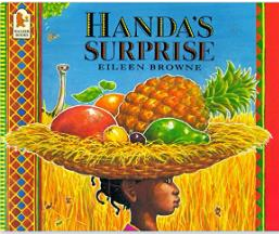
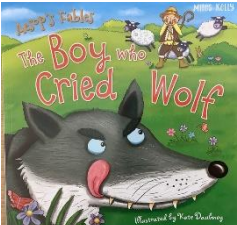
A funny story of Tomas, who finds the most mysterious and magical fruit in his grandad's garden. Imagine finding something so brilliant but you have to keep it a secret! Dragons are not easy to keep hidden. Everyone will want a naughty dragon to sit on their shoulder.

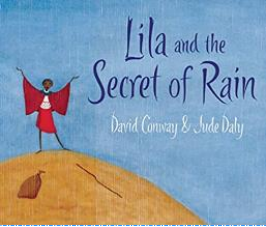
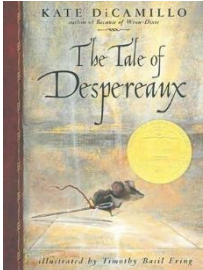
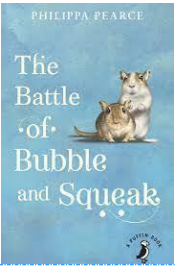
When Tomas discovers a strange old tree at the bottom of his grandad's garden, he doesn't think much of it. But he takes the funny fruit from the tree back into the house - and gets the shock and delight of his life when a tiny dragon hatches! The tree is a dragonfruit tree, and Tomas has got his very own dragon, Flicker ...

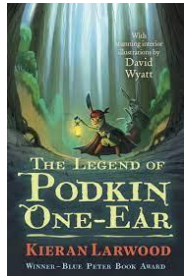
Tomas soon finds out that life with Flicker is great

		<p>fun, but also very ... unpredictable. Yes, dragons are wonderful, but they also set fire to your toothbrush and leave your pants hanging from the TV aerial. Tomas has to learn how to look after Flicker - and quickly. And then something extraordinary happens - more dragon fruits appear on the tree. Tomas is officially growing dragons ...</p>	
<p>The Flower</p> 	<p>Brigg can't change how the city runs, but he can try to grow a flower. The theme of finding a point of happiness when the world seems bleak will resonate with children going through tough times.</p> <p>Picture book</p>	<p>Brigg lives in a small, grey room in a large, grey city. When he finds a book in the library labelled 'Do Not Read', he cannot resist taking it home. In it, he comes upon pictures of bright, vibrant objects called flowers. He cannot find flowers anywhere in the city, but stumbles instead on a packet of seeds. This sets off a chain of events which bring about unexpected results, continuing to grow and bloom even after we have turned the last page.</p>	
<p>Model text writing</p>			
<p>Floella Benjamin – Coming to England</p>  <p>Black History month</p>	<p>A story about the triumph of hope, love, and determination. This powerful story shows little people how courage and determination can always overcome adversity.</p> <p>Coming to England is the inspiring true story of Baroness Floella Benjamin: from Trinidad, to London as part of the Windrush generation, to the House of Lords.</p> <p>Biography</p>	<p>Follow ten-year-old Floella as she and her family set sail from the Caribbean to a new life in London. Alone on a huge ship for two weeks, then tumbled into a cold and unfriendly London, coming to England wasn't at all what Floella had expected . . . What will her new school be like? Will she meet the Queen?</p> <p>Filled with optimism and joy, yet deeply personal and relevant, young children will follow Floella's experiences of moving home and making friends.</p>	
<p>Jack and the dream sack</p>	<p>The Anholt's Artists books are renowned not only for their educational value, but also for their life-affirming themes of aspiration, tolerance and acceptance of those who are different.</p>		

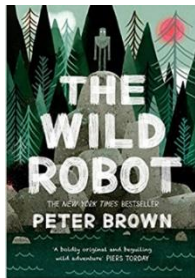
			
<p>The owl who was afraid of the dark</p> 	<p>Themes: self-esteem, respect, appreciating others its message of resilience is as timely as ever!. story about finding the courage to face your fears</p>	<p>Plop, the baby owl, is like every barn owl there ever was, except for one thing – he is afraid of the dark . . . The dark is brimming with excitement and magic. As Plop ventures into the night, he meets a boy who shows him fireworks, a black cat who takes him exploring, a girl who tells him about Father Christmas, among other surprising discoveries.</p>	
<p>The unlucky man</p>			
<p>Hansel and Gretel</p>	<p>Fairy Tales</p>	<p>A retelling of this famous, dark fairytale from award-winning author-illustrator Anthony Browne.</p> <p>Hansel and Gretel is perhaps the darkest and greatest of the fairytales from the Brothers Grimm.</p>	

			
<p>Handa's surprise</p> 	<p>It also introduces the theme of friendship and its importance, which is another positive to this story. The surprise at the end of the story adds a comical ...</p> <p>Stories from another culture</p>	<p>A modern classic named one of the best culturally diverse picture books in the UK, this is the story of Handa, who's part of the Luo tribe in south-west Kenya. Handa decides to take seven pieces of delicious fruit to her friend, Akeyo, who lives in the neighbouring village. But as Handa wonders, I wonder what fruit Akeyo will like best?, a series of sneaky animals steal something from Handa's basket, which she's carrying on her head... When Handa reaches Akeyo, will she have anything left to offer her friend?</p>	
<p>The boy who cried wolf</p> 	<p>Aesop's fables</p>		
<p>Lila and the secret of rain</p>	<p>Stories from another culture</p>	<p>For months the sun has burned down on Lila's Kenyan village. It is too hot to gather firewood, too hot to weed the garden, even too hot to milk the cow. Without rain the well will run dry and the crops will fail. Lila is so worried that when her grandfather whispers to her the secret of rain, she decides to go and talk to the sky herself. How Lila</p>	

		saves the village by telling the sky the saddest thing she knows.		
	Statutory: NC identify themes and conventions in a wide range of books.	Non-statutory: NC Pupils should be taught to recognise themes in what they read, such as the triumph of god over evil or use of magical devices in fairy stories and folk tales		
Y3	Theme	Synopsis	NC Ref	
Reading for pleasure				
<p>The Tale of Despereaux</p> 	<p>Love, Forgiveness, and Absurdity</p> <p>At its heart, The Tale of Despereaux is a love story: that of the love that the mouse Despereaux feels for the human Princess Pea, and the lengths Despereaux's love causes him to go to when the rat Chiaroscuro (Roscuero) imprisons the Pea in the dungeon.</p>	<p>The tale of a tiny, sickly mouse with unusually large ears; a mouse who takes his fate into his own hands. It is the tale of a beautiful, flaxen-haired princess who laughs often and makes everything around her seem brighter. It is the tale of a poor, deaf serving girl who entertains foolish dreams of splendour. It is a tale of impossible love, of bravery and of old-fashioned courage. And, reader, it is a tale of treachery – unlimited treachery...</p>		
<p>The battle of bubble and squeak</p> 		<p>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 a pair of gerbils might not be so bad after all.</p>		
<p>The Legend of Podkin One ear</p>	<p>Complexity of the narrator</p>	<p>Podkin is the son of a warrior chieftain. He knows that one day it will be up to him to lead his warren</p>		



The wild robot



The Wild Robot by Peter Brown opens up a whole new world with themes of **friendship, family, motherhood, nature vs. technology, bullying, helping others**, and more. Dive deep into exploring these themes with Roz. Novel about what happens when nature and technology collide. By turns funny, moving, surprising and dramatic, this is a novel that is as thought-provoking as it is enchanting.

Building reading stamina

and guard it in times of danger. But for now, he's quite happy to laze around annoying his older sister Paz, and playing with his baby brother Pook. Then Podkin's home is brutally attacked, and the young rabbits are forced to flee. The terrifying Gorm are on the rampage, and no one and nowhere is safe. With danger all around them, Podkin must protect his family, uncover his destiny, and attempt to defeat the most horrifying enemy rabbitkind has ever known.

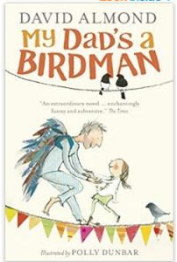
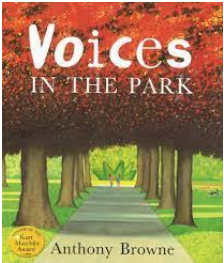
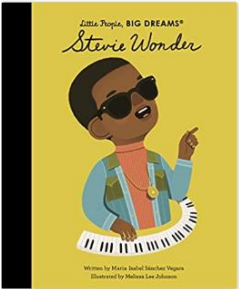
An engaging tale that explores many important themes. We can only hope that Roz serves as the template for all future robots. Peter Brown's illustrations are as marvellous as ever!' Coralie Bickford-Smith, author of THE FOX AND THE STAR

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is - but she knows she needs to survive. After battling a fierce storm and escaping a vicious bear attack, she realises that her only hope for survival is to adapt to her surroundings and learn from the island's unwelcoming animal inhabitants. As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home - until, one day, her mysterious past comes back to haunt her.

My dad's a birdman

Join a father and daughter as they find their wings together and take to the skies in this funny, tender tale from the master of contemporary storytelling.

A warm and wonderfully wacky tale told with heart and hope by the Carnegie award winning author David Almond. Lizzie and Dad live in a rainy town in the north of England. It's just the two of them, and Auntie Doreen, who pops round to check Lizzie's spellings and tell Dad he's daft – and make them nice hot dumplings. But today there's something

		<p>unusual going on: why is Dad building himself a pair of wings and studying the birds to see how they fly? The Great Human Bird Competition of course!</p>	
<p>Voices in the Park</p> 	<p>Voices in the Park uses story and imagery to tell the story of a shared space through the voices of four different characters. The differing perspectives of each very different character give a fascinating depth to this simple story which explores themes such as alienation and anger as well as friendship and hope.</p> <p>Picture book Non-linear time sequence/complexity of the narrator</p>	<p>Four different voices tell their own versions of the same walk in the park. The radically different perspectives give a fascinating depth to this simple story which explores many of the author's key themes, such as alienation, friendship and the bizarre amid the mundane.</p> <p>Anthony Browne's world-renowned artwork is full of expressive gorillas, vibrant colours and numerous nods to Magritte and other artists, while being uniquely Browne's own style.</p>	
Model text for writing			
<p>Stevie Wonder</p>  <p>Black history month</p>	<p>Little People, BIG DREAMS is a bestselling series of books and educational games that explore the lives of outstanding people, from designers and artists to scientists and activists. All of them achieved incredible things, yet each began life as a child with a dream.</p> <p>Biography</p>	<p>At just 8 years old, it was clear that Steveland Judkins was going to be a star. Renamed Stevie Wonder for his astonishing talent on the piano and other instruments, he wrote and performed some of the biggest hits of the 1970s. Stevie became known for his inventiveness, his soulful voice and the social commentary in his lyrics. He is a UN Messenger of Peace and remains one of the music world's most iconic figures. This inspiring book features stylish and quirky illustrations and extra facts at the back, including a biographical timeline with historical photos and a detailed profile of the great musician's life.</p>	

The Rough Faced Girl



The moral of the story is that **good people eventually get their reward just as evil people eventually get their reward**. The two older sisters received pretty clothes, beautiful faces, shoes, and necklaces. However, their beauty was only on the outside.

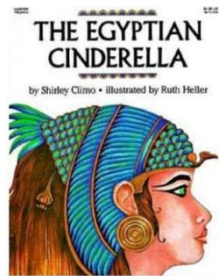
'The Rough-Face Girl' is a Native American tale that teaches the morals of being beautiful inside despite one's outer appearance.

Story from another culture
Cinderella

'The Rough-Face Girl' is a story set in a Native American village that has several **wigwams**, which are houses that people in the village live in. Within the village, there is one wigwam unlike the others. It is decorated with images of the night sky, animals, and scenery of the land that they live on. This wigwam is the home of the Invisible Being, who every young girl admires and would like to marry. His sister also lives there and is the only one who can see him.

Three daughters who live with their father also want to marry the Invisible Being. Two of them treat the youngest as a servant, always wanting her to sit close to the fire, even though it causes her face, arms, and hair to get burned. She is known as the Rough-Face Girl.

The Egyptian Cinderella

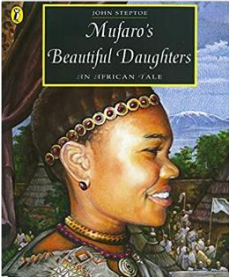
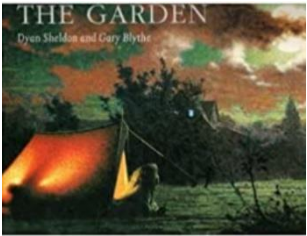
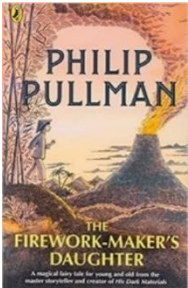



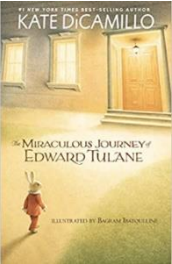
What is the overall theme of the story: The overall theme was that **even a servant can be a queen**. **An inventive twist on the classic tale** This Egyptian spin on the classic Cinderella tale was initially recorded in the first century by a Roman historian and is retold here by folklorist Shirley Climo.

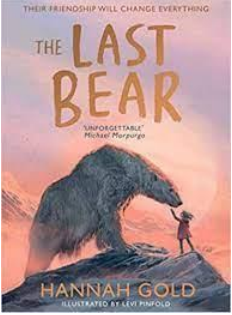

Story from another culture

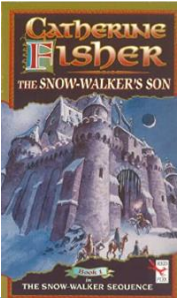
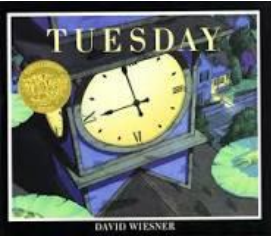
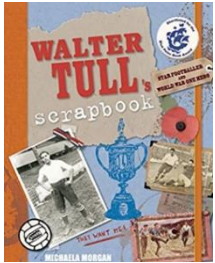
Poor Rhodopis! She has nothing--no mother or father, and no friends. She is a slave, from the far-off country of Greece. Only the beautiful rose-red slippers her master gives her can make Rhodopis smile.

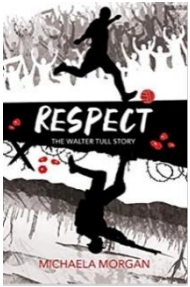
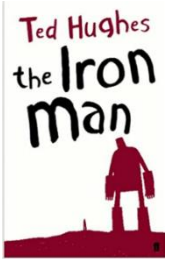
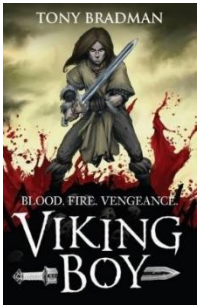
So when a falcon swoops down and snatches one of the slippers away, Rhodopis is heartbroken. For how is she to know that the slipper will land in the lap of the great Pharaoh himself? And who would ever guess that the Pharaoh has promised to find the slipper's owner and make her queen of all Egypt?

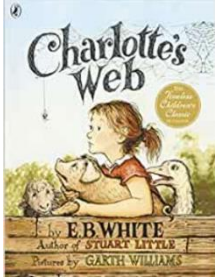
<p>Mufaro's beautiful daughter</p> 	<p>In Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters, one of the themes could be to treat others kindly. The evidence is that Manyara did not treat Nyasha kindly and Manyara became a servant and Nyasha became the queen. In The Stonecutter, one of the themes could be to be careful for what you wish for.</p> <p>Story from another culture</p>	<p>The tale of Mufaro's two daughters, two beautiful girls who react in different ways to the king's search for a wife - one is aggressive and selfish, the other kind and dignified. The king takes on disguises to learn the true nature of both girls and of course chooses Nyasha, the kind and generous daughter, to be his queen.</p>	
<p>The Garden</p> 	<p>Picture book</p> <p>Portal story</p>	<p>When Jenny finds an unusual stone in the garden she thinks at first it is magic. But her mother tells her it is a flint, probably hundreds of years old. Jenny surveys her South Dakota garden. 'What was it like here then' she asks 'Just think' her mother replies. Jenny looks beyond the garden to the skyline and imagines the land so long ago. That night she dreams of the world as it once was - the garden, the houses, and the city skyline all gone, nothing but wilderness and a circle of people talking softly in the firelight. One of the men turns to Jenny and she knows he wants her to return his stone. . . .</p>	
<p>The Firework maker's daughter</p> 	<p>Non-linear time sequence</p> <p>Story from another culture</p>	<p>Lila is a Firework-Maker's daughter, who desperately wants to follow in her father's footsteps. Lalchand is her father, who believes that, despite her talents, it is not a job for a girl. Lila can't accept her father's decision, so she goes off on a quest to face Razvani the Fire-Fiend at Mount Merapi, as all aspirant firework-makers must do to collect the Royal Sulphur she needs to be able to make the finest fireworks.</p> <p>On her journey she encounters pirates, wild animals and rocky mountains. Finally, she has to walk on</p>	<p>Available as a play</p>


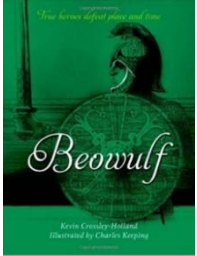
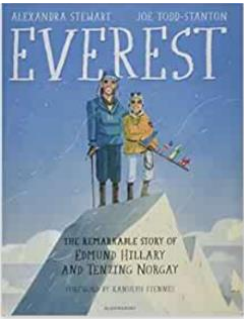
		<p>fire to discover the secrets she needs to follow her passion. Luckily, she is trailed throughout by her friend Chulak, and Hamlet the sometimes billboard, royal elephant, who save her from the flames with magic water. On their return, Lila and Lalchand have to prove that they are the very best firework-makers one more time, in order to save Lalchand from death.</p>	
<p>Secrets of a sun king</p> 	<p>The book has a feeling of a classic adventure book with the theme being Egypt. The heroin/main character is Lillian, whose characteristic is intelligent, adventurous and bold. The story was good vocabulary including names, places, and artefacts that originally come from Egypt. London/Egypt, 1922</p> <p>Historical fiction</p>	<p>When Lilian Kaye finds a parcel on her grandad's doorstep, she is shocked to see who sent it: a famous Egyptologist, found dead that very morning, according to every newspaper in England!</p> <p>The mysterious package holds the key to a story . . . about a king whose tomb archaeologists are desperately hunting for.</p> <p>Lil and her friends must embark on an incredible journey - to return the package to its resting place, to protect those they love, and to break the deadly pharaoh's curse . . .</p>	
<p>Y4 Reading for pleasure</p>	<p>Theme</p>	<p>Synopsis</p>	<p>NC Ref</p>
<p>The miraculous journey of Edward Tulane</p> 	<p>Themes. The novel contains several themes involving loss and recovery, kindness and compassion, and the journey to self-discovery. The main theme can be summarized by a quote from the book: "If you have no intention of loving or being loved, then the whole journey is pointless."</p>	<p>The magical story of the adventures of a lost toy rabbit from a New York Times bestselling author, twice winner of the Newbery Medal. Abilene loves her blue china rabbit, but Edward Tulane is extremely vain and only loves himself. On a voyage from New York to London, Edward falls overboard and from there finds himself on an amazing journey. He travels with tramps, works as a scarecrow, comforts a dying child ... and finally learns what it is to truly love.</p>	

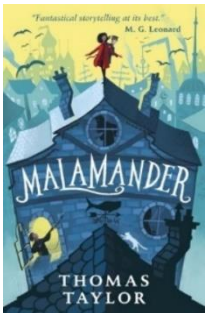
<p>The Last Bear</p> 	<p>This moving story will win the hearts of children the world over and show them that no one is too young or insignificant to make a difference. The Last Bear is a celebration of the love between a child and an animal, a battle cry for our world and an irresistible adventure with a heart as big as a bear's.</p> <p>The Last Bear is a celebration of the love between a child and an animal, a battle cry for our world and an irresistible adventure with a heart as big as a bear's.</p>	<p>“This is an important first novel, important for us, for polar bears, for the planet. It is deeply moving, beautifully told, quite unforgettable.” Michael Morpurgo.</p> <p>There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that’s what April’s father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her life...</p> <p>This moving story will win the hearts of children the world over and show them that no one is too young or insignificant to make a difference.</p>	
<p>The girl who stole an elephant</p> 	<p>With themes of morality, friendship, teamwork and loyalty, this book will have wide appeal to middle grade readers as it incorporates tension and jeopardy in an exciting coming-of-age adventure.</p>	<p>Chaya, a no-nonsense, outspoken hero, leads her friends and a gorgeous elephant on a noisy, fraught, joyous adventure through the jungle where revolution is stirring and leeches lurk. Will stealing the queen's jewels be the beginning or the end of everything for the intrepid gang? With cover illustration by David Dean.</p>	
<p>The snow walker’s son</p>		<p>THE SNOW WALKER'S SON is a book of intrigue; of banishment and sorcery; of an ice cold winter and an unseen evil eye. Jessa and Thorkil are banished by the evil witch Gudrun to the ice kingdom to the North. Here they will be incarcerated with Gudrun's son Kari; about whom there are the most terrible tales. He is rumoured to be half-man, half-beast and is a figure of dread. After an endless journey, Thorkil</p>	

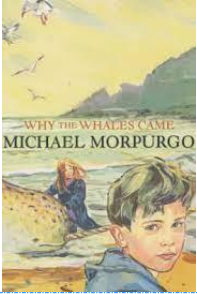
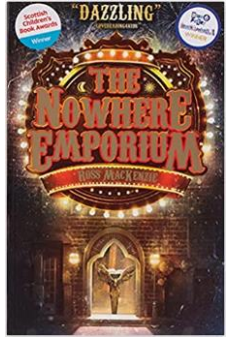
		<p>and Jessa arrive and, at last meet Kari. He is not as they feared but is a slight winsome young man. His only terror is that he, too, has the power. But he is determined to use the magic wisely.</p>	
<p>Tuesday</p> 	<p>The main theme of Tuesday is the idea of using your imagination to create magical situations. Throughout the entire book, magic happens. The situations that occur are completely unrealistic and could not occur in the real world. For example, the frogs are flying on lily pads all over the city.</p> <p>Picture book</p>		
<p>Model text for writing</p>			
<p>Walter Tull</p>  <p>Black History month</p>	<p>The inspirational true story of Walter Tull's life is vividly presented as a scrapbook, drawing on photographs, documents and records of his life. Born in Kent, in 1888, Walter Tull became not just the first black British professional outfield football player – for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town - but also the first black officer in the British Army. His leadership and courage in the trenches of the First World War won him a recommendation for a Military Cross that was never awarded because of his skin colour. Discover his life story, from his childhood in an orphanage, through his footballing years, to his eventual tragic death, aged 29, on the Somme. The legacy of Walter Tull lives on.</p>		

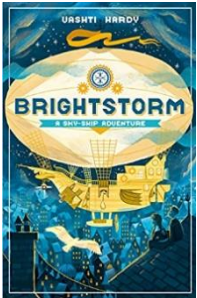
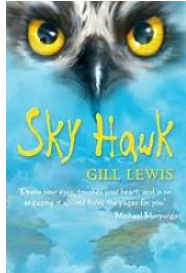
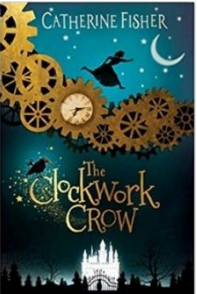
	<p>Historical biography</p> <p>Tully and his brother don't have much. But they do have each other. And Tully has an amazing talent. Football. But when the First World War begins, Tully must fight for respect on the battlefield not the pitch ... Based on the amazing true story of Walter Tull, a First World War hero and one of the first black British professional football players. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers aged 8+</p>		
<p>The Iron Man Fantasy/Sci-fi</p> 	<p>Bravery, prejudice, irrational fear, inclusion, teaching children not to fear people who are different to themselves, but to learn to understand and accept them. It is also critical of warfare and violence, showing how intelligence can succeed where weaponry fails.</p> <p>12 copies of the book in school.</p> <p>Complexity of the plot symbol</p>	<p>Mankind must put a stop to the dreadful destruction by the Iron Man and set a trap for him, but he cannot be kept down. Then, when a terrible monster from outer space threatens to lay waste to the planet, it is the Iron Man who finds a way to save the world.</p>	
<p>Viking Boy</p> 	<p>8 copies of the books in school</p> <p>Historical fiction Story from another culture</p>	<p>Gunnar Bjornsson, a Viking, lives with his parents on their farmstead - an idyllic place to grow up. Gunnar had a happy childhood but everything changed the night the Wolf Men came. They killed his father and Gunnar escaped after watching Valkyries descend from the sky and take the body of his father to the halls of Valhalla. Gunnar swears an oath to avenge his father's death and save his mother</p> <p>Gunnar vowed to avenge this act by travelling to Valhalla to bring back his father so they could kill the leader of the Wolf Men.</p>	

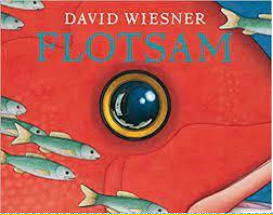
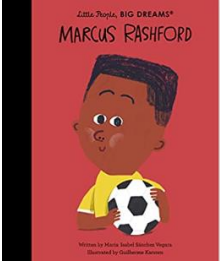
		<p>On his journey, Gunnar was met by setbacks. Being kidnapped and sold into slavery was not part of his plan. However, with the help of some loyal friends he makes his way to the Land of Ice and Fire, across The Rainbow Bridge to Asgard and enters the Hall of Valhalla.</p> <p>Unknown to Gunnar, his life has been foretold, and he finds he has a destiny greater than his own story.</p>	
<p>Charlotte's Web</p> 	<p>Charlotte's Web by E.B. White is the story of Wilbur and Charlotte. The book's themes of friendship and perseverance show in the relationships between characters and in their determination.</p> <p>Archaic text</p>	<p>One spring morning a little girl called Fern rescues a runt and names him Wilbur. But then Wilbur is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte, a very clever and very beautiful large grey spider. They become best friends and, when Wilbur is faced with a dreadful fate - the butcher's chop! - Charlotte must find a very clever way to save him.</p> <p>E. B. White was born in New York in 1899 and died in 1985. He kept animals on his farm in Maine and some of these creatures crept into his books, such as STUART LITTLE which was made into a blockbusting film. He received many awards including the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal in 1970, an award given every five years to authors who have 'made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children'.</p>	
<p>Asha and the spirit bird</p>	<p>Lyrical and vivid, Jasbinder's haunting debut explores themes of faith, friendship and greed while capturing the wild, rich heart of contemporary India. Your book, Asha & the Spirit Bird, is a magical-realist Indian adventure about a young girl who embarks on a journey to find her missing father.</p> <p>Story from another culture</p>	<p>Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he suddenly stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home and her mother talks of leaving.</p> <p>From her den in the mango tree, Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey is dangerous:</p>	

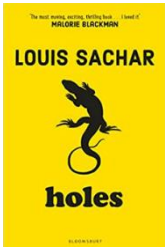

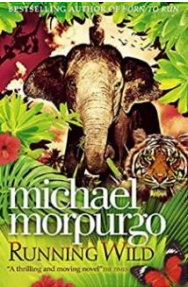
		<p>they must cross the world's highest mountains and face hunger, tiredness – even snow leopards. And yet, Asha has the unshakeable sense that the spirit bird of her grandmother – her nanijee – is watching over her ...</p> <p>A gorgeously original and magical adventure set in India, for children aged 9 and up.</p>	
<p>Beowulf</p> 	<p>There are three main themes found in Beowulf. These themes are the importance of establishing identity, tensions between the heroic code and other value systems, and the difference between a good warrior and a good king</p> <p>Historical text</p>	<p>The story of Beowulf was written down as an epic poem in Anglo-Saxon England. It recounts the heroic struggles of one man against supernatural monsters. Kevin Crossley-Holland's retelling unleashes the excitement in this tale of the triumph of good over evil, while unforgettable illustrations from Charles Keeping capture every brooding moment and explosive episode. This new edition features rescanned artwork to capture the breathtaking detail of Keeping's illustrations and a striking new cover.</p>	
<p>Everest and the remarkable story of Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay</p> 	<p>In the late morning of May 29th 1953, the sun was shining brightly on the roof of the world, a gentle breeze was blowing and two men were there to witness it for the first time ever . Their names were Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay and the roof of the world was Everest.</p> <p>Non-fiction text</p>	<p>This is the breathtaking story of how two very different yet equally determined men battled frost-biting temperatures, tumbling ice rocks, powerful winds and death-defying ridges to climb the world's highest mountain. Join these two unlikely heroes on the most amazing of adventures and discover the impact of hundreds of men and women that helped Hillary and Tenzing achieve their goal. But triumphs can be marred with tragedy as not everyone who climbs Everest survives ...</p> <p>With a beautiful foreword by the greatest living explorer of our time, Sir Ranulph Fiennes, this brilliant book combines fresh and contemporary</p>	

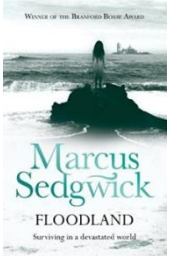
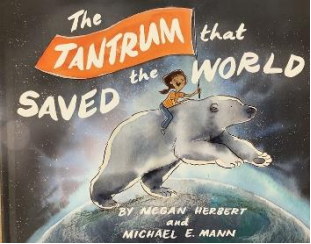
		illustrations by Joe Todd-Stanton with Alexandra Stewart's captivating writing and publishes in time to celebrate the centenary of Edmund Hillary's birth. This unique narrative tells the story of how Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay made their mark on the world from birth right up to their final days and the impact they've had on Nepal today.		
Y5	Theme	Synopsis	NC Ref	
Reading for pleasure				
<p>Malamander</p> 	<p>One of the major themes of Malamander is discovering lost things, whether it's long-lost legends or actual artifacts. How did that lend itself so well to developing and unraveling the mystery components of the story</p> <p>Fantasy fiction</p>	<p>Nobody visits Eerie-on-Sea in the winter. Especially not when darkness falls and the wind howls around Maw Rocks and the wreck of the battleship Leviathan, where even now some swear they have seen the unctuous Malamander creep...</p> <p>Herbert Lemon, Lost-and-Founder at the Grand Nautilus Hotel, knows that returning lost things to their rightful owners is not easy – especially when the lost thing is not a thing at all, but a girl. No one knows what happened to Violet Parma's parents twelve years ago, and when she engages Herbie to help her find them, the pair discover that their disappearance might have something to do with the legendary sea-monster, the Malamander. Eerie-on-Sea has always been a mysteriously chilling place, where strange stories seem to wash up. And it just got stranger...</p>		
Why the whales came	<p>Fear is a dominant or main theme of this book, although I think that friendship and trust are equally dominant in the book. Gracie is fearful of the Birdman and the children are told by the adults to keep away from him and Samson Island. This sounds scary, but in reality it is a gentle story</p>	<p>Gracie and her friend Daniel have always been warned to stay away from the Birdman and his side of the island. But then they find a message in the sand and discover the Birdman is not who they thought. They build up a lovely friendship with him, but when the children get stranded on Samson</p>		


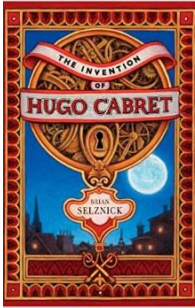
	<p>about trust and friendship. Set against the backdrop of the First World War.</p> <p>14 copies of the book in school</p> <p>An exciting historical adventure</p>	<p>Island they don't know whether to believe the birdman's story that the island is cursed.</p>	
<p>The nowhere emporium</p> 	<p>Bullying, Life and Death, Creativity and Imagination, Friendship, Love and Courage. The Nowhere Emporium travels from the present day back to the Victorian-era, starting in Glasgow and then to Venice and New York.</p>	<p>When the mysterious Nowhere Emporium arrives in Glasgow, orphan Daniel Holmes stumbles upon it quite by accident. Before long, the 'shop from nowhere' -- and its owner, Mr Silver -- draw Daniel into a breathtaking world of magic and enchantment.</p> <p>Recruited as Mr Silver's apprentice, Daniel learns the secrets of the Emporium's vast labyrinth of passageways and rooms -- rooms that contain wonders beyond anything Daniel has ever imagined.</p> <p>But when Mr Silver disappears, and a shadow from the past threatens everything, the Emporium and all its wonders begin to crumble.</p> <p>Can Daniel save his home, and his new friends, before the Nowhere Emporium is destroyed forever?</p>	
<p>Brightstorm</p>	<p>Parental loss was a recurring theme of Brightstorm. Whenever I read the line, 'the mother died at birth' I always give a shudder. I get that a motherless child gives a writer a certain freedom. The child can suddenly participate in an</p>	<p>Twins Arthur and Maudie Brightstorm receive word in Lontown that their famous explorer father has died in a failed attempt to reach the southernmost point in the world. Not only that, but he has been accused of stealing fuel before he died!</p>	

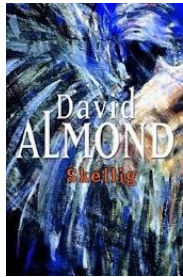
	<p>adventure without the overprotective presence of the chief homemaker.</p>	<p>The twins don't believe the news, and they answer an ad to join a new attempt to reach South Polaris. It's their only hope of learning the truth ... and salvaging their family's reputation. As the winged ship Aurora sets sail, the twins must keep their wits about them and prove themselves worthy of the rest of the crew. But will Arthur and Maudie find the answers they seek?</p>	
<p>Sky Hawk</p> 	<p>From the glittering lochs of Scotland to the mangrove swamps of the Gambia, Sky Hawk is an enthralling tale about a promise between two friends, Callum and Iona, that will change lives forever, and the power of friendship, loyalty, and hope. A book to treasure.</p>	<p>Callum and his friends find Iona poaching on Callum's farm. She is not supposed to be there, but Callum feels bad about chasing her away. He finds her shivering in the woods, refusing to leave. There is a secret hidden in the forest above the dark waters of the loch, and Iona is its guardian. When she decides to trust Callum with it, they form an indestructible bond that will change Callum's world forever...</p>	
<p>The clockwork crow</p> 	<p>The shorter length and easy going style of the narrative makes The Clockwork Crow suitable from year 3/4 right up to year 6 and the themes of grief and loneliness are dealt with very gently.</p> <p>A mysterious gothic Christmas tale set in a frost-bound Victorian country mansion.</p>	<p>When orphaned Seren Rees is given a mysterious package by a strange and frightened man on her way to her new home, she reluctantly takes it with her. But what is in the parcel? Who are the Family who must not be spoken of, and can the Crow help Seren find Tom, before the owner of the parcel finds her? The Clockwork Crow is a gripping Christmas tale of families and belonging set in snowy Wales from a master storyteller.</p>	
<p>Flotsam</p>	<p>Flotsam (2006) by David Wiesner is about the power and mystery of photographs but it also plays with many of the techniques of photography to tell its story and uses them to go beyond the borders of reality and fiction.</p>	<p>A young boy comes to the beach eager to collect and examine flotsam—anything floating that has been washed ashore. But nothing among his usual finds compares with the discovery of a barnacle-encrusted underwater camera with its own secrets to share . . . and to keep. Meet unexpected</p>	

	<p>Picture book</p>	<p>underseas denizens and enter fascinating worlds within worlds in this entrancing celebration of imagination, creativity, and the impulse to share that which delights and amazes us.</p>	
<p>Model text for writing</p>			
<p>Little People Big Dreams Marcus Rashford</p>  <p>Black History month</p>	<p>In this book from the highly acclaimed Little People, BIG DREAMS series, discover the incredible life of Marcus Rashford, the world-famous footballer and campaigner against child hunger.</p> <p>Biography – contemporary</p>	<p>When Marcus was a kid, he had a family that loved him and a talent for football. His mum, Melanie, worked long hours to provide for her family, but sometimes she would go without food herself to make sure that her children had enough to eat.</p> <p>With his mum's support, Marcus pursued his dreams and progressed through the youth academy at Manchester United Football Club. He worked hard and trained for years to reach the top of the game, making his debut in the Premier League in 2016.</p> <p>But no matter how successful he became, he never forgot where he came from and his experience as a hungry child. When schools were closed during the Coronavirus pandemic of 2020, the situation left schoolchildren without free meals that they would have had. And so Marcus took it upon himself to lead a nation-wide campaign to ensure that no child would go without food.</p>	
<p>Holes</p>	<p>Major themes in Holes include the consequence of choices resulting from fate and destiny and the importance of friendship. Sachar never sets out to teach a specific moral or lesson when he writes.</p>	<p>Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre (which isn't green and doesn't have a lake) he is not surprised. Every day he and the other inmates are told to dig a</p>	

	<p>25 copies of the book in school</p> <p>Non-linear time sequence</p>	<p>hole, five foot wide by five foot deep, reporting anything they find. Why? The evil warden claims that it's character building, but this is a lie. It's up to Stanley to dig up the truth.</p> <p>Witty, inventive and completely unique, this is a masterpiece of storytelling that combines sly humour with irresistible, page-turning writing.</p>	
<p>The Island</p> 	<p>The Island is a powerful picture book about refugees, xenophobia, social politics, social contact and human rights. It tackles big themes with a fable-like text and artwork that will provoke discussion for upper primary and secondary school levels about issues that remain so much a part of our national discourse.</p> <p>The Island is an astonishing and powerful picture book about refugees, xenophobia, multiculturalism, social politics and human rights.</p> <p>Picture book</p>	<p>When the people of the Island discover a man and a tattered raft on their beach, they are reluctant to take him in. He doesn't look like them. But they cannot send him back to the sea where he will surely perish. Instead, they put him aside but even that doesn't solve their problem.</p> <p>It tackles big themes in subtle ways with a fable-like text and stunning artwork that will provoke discussion for upper primary and secondary school levels about issues that remain so much a part of our national discourse.</p>	
<p>Running Wild</p> 	<p>Many strong themes run through this moving story – including respect for the environment, the relationship between people and wild animals, and the process of dealing with grief and bereavement. After Will's soldier father dies in the Iraq war, he and his mother decide to visit Indonesia.</p>	<p>For Will and his mother, going to Indonesia isn't just a holiday. It's an escape, a new start, a chance to put things behind them – things like the death of Will's father.</p> <p>And to begin with, it seems to be just what they both needed. But then Oona, the elephant Will is riding on the beach, begins acting strangely, shying away from the sea. And that's when the tsunami comes crashing in, and Oona begins to run. Except that when the tsunami is gone, Oona just keeps on running.</p> <p>With nothing on his back but a shirt and nothing to sustain him but a bottle of water, Will must learn to survive deep in the jungle. Luckily, though, he's not completely alone...</p>	

<p>Floodland</p> 	<p>The belief that she will one day find her parents spurs Zoe on to a dramatic escape in a story of courage and determination that leads to an unexpected and touching conclusion. Floodland has a powerful and emotive theme, handled with warmth and humanity.</p>	<p>He's got Oona.</p> <p>Imagine that a few years from now England is covered by water, and Norwich is an island.</p> <p>Zoe, left behind in the confusion when her parents escaped, survives there as best she can. Alone and desperate among marauding gangs, she manages to dig a derelict boat out of the mud and gets away to Eels Island. But Eels Island, whose raggle-taggle inhabitants are dominated by the strange boy Dooby, is full of danger too.</p> <p>The belief that she will one day find her parents spurs Zoe on to a dramatic escape in a story of courage and determination that is handled with warmth and humanity.</p>	
<p>The Tantrum that saved the world</p> 	<p>Climate change and it's impact Refugees</p>	<p>The story is about a little girl who comes face to face with an enormous challenge, feels all kinds of frustration as she tries to overcome it, and then channels those strong emotions into action, rallying all those around her to do the same. Following this engaging, relatable tale, comes the explanation of the science of climate change in language that children can understand, telling the stories of the climate refugees that appear in the story, and how all their lives are interconnected. An Action Plan then outlines simple and positive steps every person can take to make a real difference and to become the heroes of their own stories.</p> <p>This book is created by professionals in their field. The storytelling is exciting and well-structured. The writing is lyrical and engaging, with the fiction section presented in rollicking rhymes to keep children hooked into the story. The non-fiction</p>	

		section is based on meticulously-researched and peer-reviewed science, tempered and communicated in simple terms that children can understand. The illustrations complement and enhance the text, bringing it all together in a book that your children will want to hear again and again	
Y6	Theme	Synopsis	NC Ref
Reading for pleasure			
The eighteenth emergency 	<p>The 18th Emergency is a well-written story about a boy who makes a mistake, gets threatened by a school bully, then solves his problem in a non-conventional wisdom way</p>	<p>Mouse has a plan for every emergency. He knows how to survive a fall from a plane, what to do in quicksand, and how to bewilder a charging bull. But nohing - nobody - could be prepared for Marv Hammerman. Marv Hammerman, Neanderthal man, is twice as big as anyone else in the class, and when he is out to get someone, he usually succeeds.</p> <p>A timeless, poignant and funny story about bullying from Newbery Medal-Winner Betsy Byars.</p>	
The invention of Hugo Cabret 	<p>Themes- One of the themes of The Invention of Hugo Cabret is of the importance of dreams, and the ability to achieve any goals that the individuals put their mind to. The theme of the novel does not exclude itself to children, the adults in the story also accomplish incredible feats.</p>	<p>ORPHAN, CLOCK KEEPER, AND THIEF. Twelve-year-old Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric girl and her grandfather, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.</p>	<p>Released as a live-action film Hugo in 2011, directed by Martin Scorsase</p>
Skellig	<p>Skellig is an emotive tale revolving around strong themes of nurture, the value of friendship, trust and love (to name but a few). The story centres</p>	<p>The bestselling story about love, loss and hope that launched David Almond as one of the best children's writers of today. Winner of the Carnegie Medal and</p>	



around a 10-year old boy named Michael and the unique discovery he stumbles upon after entering a forbidden garage in his garden.

Complexity plot/symbol

the Whitbread children's book of the Year Award.

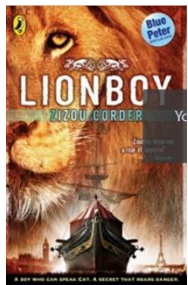
When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain.

Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital.

But Skellig is far more than he at first appears, and as he helps Michael breathe life into his tiny sister, Michael's world changes for ever . . .

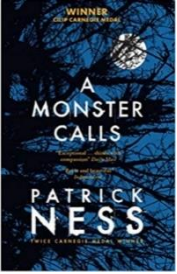
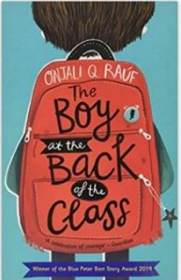
Skellig won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book Award. David Almond is also winner of the 2010 Hans Christian Andersen award.

Lion Boy



A coming-of-age story about **courage, friendship, desire, and faith.**

Charlie Ashanti, the hero of LIONBOY, speaks cat - the language of all cats wild and domestic alike. His unusual talent helps him on his quest to find his kidnapped parents who have discovered a cure for asthma. The local cats of his home town (a futuristic London) start him on his search to solve the mystery of his missing parents, which leads him across the channel on board a circus ship bound for Paris. It is on this wonderful vessel that Charlie establishes a close relationship with the homesick circus lions who become his accomplices. But Charlie is in danger, for close behind him on his trail, is a cphony of the mysterious group who have kidnapped his parents. They want Charlie too.

<p>A monster calls</p> 	<p>The central themes of A Monster Calls are family, grief, and overcoming suffering. Conor's family is broken, which adds to the strain of watching his...</p> <p>Resistant texts Complexity plot/symbol</p>	<p>Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill, ever since she started the treatments that don't quite seem to be working. But tonight is different. Tonight, when he wakes, there's a visitor at his window. It's ancient, elemental, a force of nature. And it wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor. It wants the truth. Patrick Ness takes the final idea of the late, award-winning writer Siobhan Dowd and weaves an extraordinary and heartbreaking tale of mischief, healing and above all, the courage it takes to survive.</p>	
<p>The boy at the back of the class</p> 	<p>Told with heart and humour, The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.</p>	<p>Told with heart and humour, The Boy at the Back of the Class is a child's perspective on the refugee crisis, highlighting the importance of friendship and kindness in a world that doesn't always make sense.</p> <p>There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it.</p> <p>He's nine years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets - not even lemon sherbets, which are my favourite!</p> <p>But then I learned the truth: Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to help.</p> <p>That's where my best friends Josie, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan. . .</p>	
<p>Model text for writing</p>			

Floella Benjamin – Coming to England



Black history month

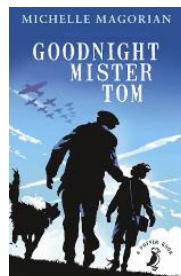
This inspirational story is a powerful reminder of how courage and determination can overcome adversity

The 25th anniversary edition of Baroness Floella Benjamin's classic memoir, *Coming to England*. With a foreword by the author and some additional historical information, this is the incredible story of Floella's journey from Trinidad to London, as part of the Windrush generation, to the House of Lords. It is gloriously illustrated throughout by Joelle Avelino, perfect for readers aged 9+.

Floella Benjamin was just a young girl when she, her sister and two brothers arrived in England in 1960 to join their parents, whom they had not seen for fifteen months. They had left their island home of Trinidad to make a new life in London – part of a whole generation of West Indians who were encouraged to move to Britain and help rebuild the country after the Second World War.

Reunited with her mother, Floella was too overwhelmed at first to care about the cold weather and the noise and dirt from the traffic. But, as her new life began, she was shocked and distressed by the rejection she experienced. She soon realized that the only way to survive was to work twice as hard and be twice as good as anyone else.

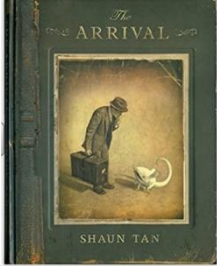
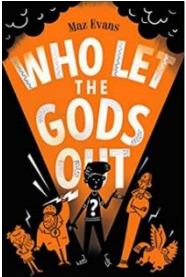

Goodnight Mr Tom

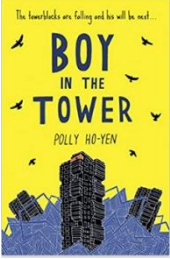
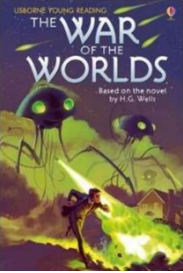


In the book *Good Night Mr. Tom*, there are many themes that are found throughout the book. These themes include: **Friendship, Family, Finding Oneself, Life, Death, Fitting In, Grieving, Motivation, Control, Freedom and Growth.**

Modern classic

Goodnight Mister Tom by Michelle Magorian is the unforgettable story of young Willie Beech, evacuated to the country as Britain stands on the brink of the Second World War. A sad, deprived child, he slowly begins to flourish under the unlikely care of grumpy old Tom Oakley. But then his new-found happiness is shattered by a summons from his mother to return to London. As the weeks pass by Tom begins to worry when William doesn't

		answer his letters, so he goes to London to find him, and there makes a terrible discovery.	
<p>The Arrival</p> 	<p>In Wordless Imagery, An Immigrant's Timeless Tale In his beautifully illustrated book, The Arrival, Shaun Tan depicts the struggle of immigration — without a language barrier. Author Ruta Sepetys explains how a wordless story can say so much.</p> <p>Picture book Resistant text/complexity plot symbol</p>		
<p>Who let the Gods out?</p> 	<p>A rude, witty and irreverent illustrated story in which an orphaned girl tries to escape from her murderous auntie and solve the mystery of her parents' death.</p> <p>Complexity plot symbol</p>	<p>The first book in the hilarious bestselling WHO LET THE GODS OUT series, When Elliot wishes upon a star, he doesn't expect a constellation to crash into a dungheap on his family farm. The star is Virgo. She thinks she's perfect. Elliot doesn't. And together they release Thanatos, evil Daemon of Death ... epic fail. They need the King of the Gods and his noble steed. Instead, they get a chubby Zeus and his high horse Pegasus. Are the Gods really ready to save the world? And is the world really ready for the Gods?</p>	
<p>When the Sky Falls</p> 	<p>When the Sky Falls is a historical fiction middle-grade novel based on a true story. As the war raged around the characters their strengths and weaknesses are brought to the forefront. Joseph is struggling with his life and he reacts the only way he knows by pushing people away and causing mayhem.</p>	<p>A magnificent story ... It deserves every prize going' Philip Pullman 1941. War is raging. And one angry boy has been sent to the city, where bombers rule the skies. There, Joseph will live with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no fondness for children. Her only loves are the rundown zoo she owns and its mighty silverback gorilla, Adonis. As the weeks pass, bonds deepen and secrets are revealed, but if the bombers set Adonis rampaging free, will either of them be able</p>	

		<p>to end the life of the one thing they truly love?</p> <p>Inspired by a true story.</p>	
<p>The boy in the tower</p> 	<p>The plot is a dystopian one - triffid-like plants are consuming and collapsing buildings and their deadly spores are preventing the emergency services performing a search and rescue.</p> <p>Everyone who can get out has got out but narrator Ade is stuck in the last remaining tower block because his mother can't go out.</p>	<p>When they first arrived, they came quietly and stealthily as if they tip-toed into the world when we were all looking the other way.</p> <p>Ade loves living at the top of a tower block. From his window, he feels like he can see the whole world stretching out beneath him.</p> <p>His mum doesn't really like looking outside - but it's going outside that she hates. She prefers to sleep all day inside their tower, where it's safe.</p> <p>Except it isn't any more. Strange plants have started to take over and tower blocks are falling down around them.</p> <p>Now Ade and his mum are trapped and there's no way out . .</p>	
<p>The War of the worlds</p> 	<p>Wells wrote War of the Worlds as a social commentary on the British Empire and how it invaded weaker countries and colonized them.</p> <p>The Martians took the place of the Empire and Britain became the conquered country.</p> <p>Science-fiction</p>	<p>Mysterious explosions on the surface of Mars signal the beginning of an alien invasion. Soon the ruthless creatures are terrorizing Earth with their unstoppable death rays. Can nothing prevent these merciless Martians from taking over the world? H.G. Wells' classic story of Martian invasion, vividly retold for newly independent readers.</p>	

	<p>Africa Amazing Africa country by country</p> <p>Kindlekrax</p> <p>Mysteries of Harris Burdick</p> <p>Cloudbusting – resistant text</p> <p>Jabberwocky</p> <p>Tyger</p>	<p>Archaic texts: Peter Rabbit Paddington Magic Faraway Tree</p> <p>Complexity of narrator Day the crayons quit True story of 3 little pigs</p> <p>Tom’s Midnight Garden Secret Garden FarTHER</p> <p>Windrush Boy</p> <p>Bill’s New Frock</p>	
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