

2021-22 Recommended Reads Year 6



Anderson, Sophie

The Castle of Tangled Magic

Olia's castle home is mysteriously threatened. To rescue it, she is drawn into a land full of tangled magic with a 'domovoi' fox for company. In this magical mixture of fairytales and Russian folklore, Olia learns to believe in magic and in her own courage and wisdom.

CF



Applebaum, Kirsty

The Life and Time of Lonny Quicke

This novel skilfully weaves mythology and modern life. Lonny is a 'Lifeling' - he can heal living creatures but by doing so shortens his own life. His father realises his power and hides him in the forest but Lonny is desperate to be part of the town. He takes his chance and goes and then realises all his father's fears are confirmed as humans will do anything to save the people they love. This is a thought provoking read and great for a group discussion.

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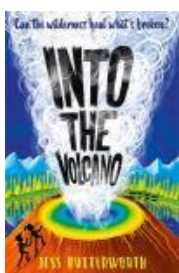


Bailey, Susanna

Otters' Moon

A disparate city boy and an independent island girl become unlikely allies as they try to rescue an otter pup and wrestle with the difficulties in their individual families on a remote Scottish island.

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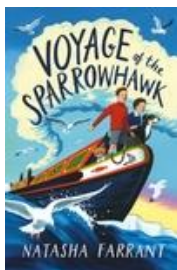


Butterworth, Jess

Into the volcano

Seb is feeling lost after his best friend was gravely injured in a shooting. He believes the only way to heal his friend is to reach the rainbow pool in Yellowstone National Park. Vivi has travelled to the US to grieve her grandmother who was killed in the same shooting. After a chance meeting, the two travel together across Yellowstone to reach the rainbow pool but first they must survive! A gripping adventure through wild habitats filled with resilience, survival and, above all, healing.

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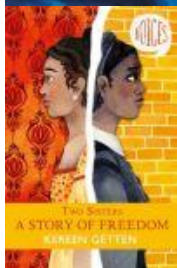


Farrant, Natasha

Voyage of the Sparrowhawk

In the aftermath of the First World War two isolated children join forces and decide to cross the Channel in a barge, in search of lost family. A heartfelt yet joyful story of love and loss, the kindness of strangers and the importance of belonging.

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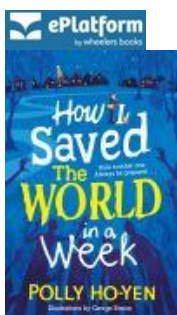


Getten, Kereen

Two Sisters: A Story of Freedom

Two half-sisters have different experiences of racism and prejudice, in a novel about slavery and society set in Jamaica and London in 1781 and based on real life events and people.

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Ho-Yen, Polly

How I Saved the World in a Week

Billy's Mum is always teaching Billy survival skills, but he has no idea when he will need to use them. When his Mum goes into hospital, and Billy goes to live with his Dad, he realises that something strange is happening and he needs all of his skills to save himself and others. Will he be able to do it?

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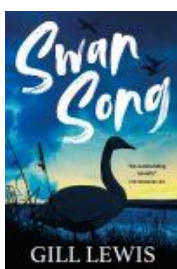


Jamieson, Victoria

When Stars Are Scattered

Based on a true story this graphic novel is set in a refugee camp in Kenya. A story of bravery, resilience and hope as the two brothers look to the future.

CF



Lewis, Gill

Swan Song

Following an unhappy exclusion from school, Dylan moves back to a remote village in Wales. His Grandfather's gentle introduction to the landscape and nature around him restores his soul and gives him a renewed interest in life.

T



McKay, Hilary

The Time of Green Magic

Abi is struggling with all the change - a new family with step brothers, a new house and now it appears there are magical forces at work. Realising the danger can she overcome her differences with her step brothers to save them all?

T





McNicoll, Elle

Show Us Who You Are

When progressive organisation Pomegranate researches creating holograms of the recently departed it seems like a wonderful idea. But Cora and her friend Adrien, both neurodivergent, become suspicious of the company's ethos and motives and must fight to make their voices heard.

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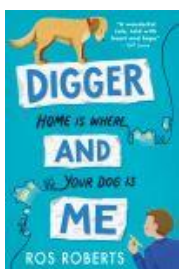


Noel, Jack

Treasure Island

Jim Hawkins lives with his mum, bored and craving adventure. But when an old sea captain appears, Jim finds himself on an adventure bigger than he could have dreamed of. Will Jim find the treasure and escape the pirates, or will he end up walking the plank? The original (abridged) text is presented with lots of two-colour cartoons, diagrams, fact boxes and snippets of modern text which make this version of the classic adventure visually appealing and much more accessible.

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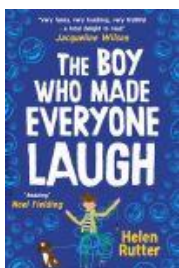


Roberts, Ros

Digger and Me

James is struggling to adapt to living between two households. When his beloved dog Digger falls ill, the gentle encouragement by a new teacher to write poetry, somehow seems to help.

T



Rutter, Helen

The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh

Billy has a dream to be a comedian but there is something that stands in his way - his stammer. He hates it and how it complicates making friends and opens him up to bullying. At his new secondary school he begins to understand that everyone has their challenges. As the school term comes to an end, will he be brave enough to enter the Talent Show?

CF



Sherrick, Ally

The Queen's Fool

An adventure set during the Tudor reign of Henry VIII. Cat is heart broken when her sister Meg disappears from their convent home. Determined to find her she sets out on her trail and is joined by Jacques out to avenge his father's death. Cat has learning difficulties but this does not stop her seeing through the treachery of the Tudor court nor in foiling a plot to kill the Queen. A powerful tale including a note from the author on the historical setting and the main character Cat.

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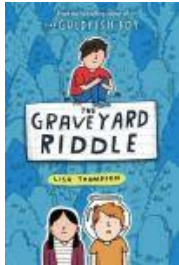


Strange, Lucy

The Ghost of Gosswater

A devastating start to this gothic style story. Everything Agatha knows has been taken away from her and she is sent to live with a man she does not know but is her father. Then the ghost appears and Agatha must try to piece her past together so she can face her future. Wonderfully atmospheric setting in the Lake District.

CF



Thompson, Lisa

The Graveyard Riddle

The stories and lives of people in a local community are woven together as Melody Bird tries to solve the mystery of the boy in the graveyard whilst coming to terms with her own changing family situation. A story full of endearing characters and genuine neighbourliness that deals deftly with some big issues.

CF



Traore, Efun

Children of the Quicksands

Great storytelling which weaves modern and traditional Nigeria in this gripping and highly believable tale as Simi discovers her family's history. A captivating tale with a mesmerising front cover, this is the author's first novel. It all starts with Simi having to stay with her grandmother in a remote location with no phone or internet coverage...

CF



Wolk, Lauren

Echo Mountain

Set in 1930's post-depression America. As Ellie's family struggle to survive in extreme hardship, Ellie learns to live, thrive and heal on the mountain. A beautifully written novel.

CF



Zephaniah, Benjamin

Windrush Child

Leonard's father takes the opportunity to go to the UK on the Windrush ship from Jamaica to build a better life for his wife and child. Ten years later they follow him to England. Life in England is hard for Leonard, the food is awful, it's cold and wet and he misses his grandmother and on top of that not everyone in Manchester is happy to see a black face in their city.

T



Page, Louise

Great People Who Reached for the Stars

An empowering collection of 26 biographies who have not let disability or long-term illness affect their dreams. Historical and contemporary people are featured from a range of backgrounds. Good for inspiring everyone on their 'next steps' journey.

920

Y = Picture Book/ P = KS2 Picture Book
M = Beginner Readers / N = Developing Readers
CF = Children's Fiction
T = Younger Teen Reads/T+ = Older Teen Reads



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