



## Suggested Reading List – for fluent readers in Years 1 - 4

We hope you and your child (ren) find these ideas helpful when choosing books at home, at your library or in shops. We recognise that all children are at different stages and have varying likes and dislikes. Your class teacher will always be able to guide you, especially if your child is at the earlier stage of reading.

We think it is really important that all children are given support to understand what they are reading. This can be done through talking about characters' feelings, asking what they think will happen next, discussing what they would do in a certain situation or looking up unknown words in a dictionary. In order for children to develop as readers, it is a good idea for them to broaden their horizons by varying the subject, format and media.

Children's emotional development is sometimes out of line with their reading ability, especially for able readers in their earlier school years. To support reading development we all need to consider the appropriateness of the subject of the book, along with the level of difficulty.

Below is a list of materials suitable for confident readers in KS1 and lower KS2 but may also be relevant and/or meet the interests of children in Years 5 & 6.

### Non-Fiction

- Cookery books are always fun to explore together – then make and do!
- Instructions for games, gadgets or other household items
- *First News* is a newspaper for children, published weekly.
- *National Geographic Kids* is a monthly magazine available at newsagents or by subscription.
- *Earth Matters* edited by David Rothschild, CEO of Adventure Ecology, is part of Dorling Kindersley's 'Made With Care' series and informs readers about our incredible planet and how to look after it.
- *DK First Reference* series of seven books with titles such as *Nature Encyclopaedia*
- *Usborne See Inside* series, including *Ancient Rome*, *Your Body* and *Space*
- *A Life Like Mine* and *Children Just Like Me*, published by Dorling Kindersley in association with UNICEF
- *I Wonder Why* series published by Kingfisher

### Fiction

- *The Tall Story*, *Rent A Friend* and *The Thing In The Sink* by Frieda Hughes are a series of books with chapters and colourful illustrations
- Books by Jeremy Strong are suitable for this age group - *The Hundred Mile An Hour Dog*, *There's a Viking In My Bed* and *My Mum's Going to Explode*.
- The *Flat Stanley* series by Jeff Brown is funny

- *Mr Gum* series by Andy Stanton is a set of very funny books.
- *Farm Boy, Toro! Toro!, Conker, Mr Skip* or *Billy The Kid* by Michael Morpurgo are suitable for this age group and tackle issues from a young child's point of view.
- *Astrosaurus* series by Steve Cole is a collection of books about space dinosaur characters which would appeal especially to boys. Each book also has collectible cards inside the cover.
- *Arabel and Mortimer* series by Joan Aiken, about the adventures of a little girl and her pet raven.
- *Horrid Henry* series by Francesca Simon
- *The Worst Witch* series by Jill Murphy
- *Judy Moody* series by Megan McDonald are funny, first chapter books
- *The Diamond Brothers Detective Agency Series* by Anthony Horowitz, tells of the adventures of the world's worst private detective
- *Harry the Poisonous Centipede* series by Lynne Reid Banks
- *Captain Underpants* series by Dav Pilkey, part comic book, part novel about two school children who accidentally turn their head teacher into a super hero.
- *Tintin* books by Hergé, featuring the hero of the series, Tintin, a young Belgian reporter.
- *Asterix and Obelix* books by Goscinny and Uderzo, graphic novels.
- *Shakespeare Stories Collection* by Andrew Matthews and Tony Ross is a great early introduction to Shakespeare.

### Poetry

- *You Wait Till I'm Older Than You!* By Michael Rosen
- *I Like This Poem: A Collection of Best-loved Poems Chosen by Children for Other Children in Aid of the International Year of the Child* by Kaye Webb
- *One Hundred Years of Poetry for Children* by Michael Harrison
- *Please, Mrs Butler* by Allan Ahlberg
- *The Day I Fell Down the Toilet and Other Poems* by Steve Turner

### Websites

- Reading Matters Website [www.readingmatters.co.uk/](http://www.readingmatters.co.uk/) helps children in their search for a good book.
- Kids Review website [www.kidsreview.org.uk/](http://www.kidsreview.org.uk/) offers reviews written for children by children.
- Love Reading 4 Kids website [www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/](http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/) offers reviews of books and a search facility.

### Additional Information

Waterstones produces an excellent **Guide to Kids' Books** that is available free in the store. If you have any other titles to add to this list – please do tell us! We appreciate your continued support in listening to your child read each night as we send books from school home.