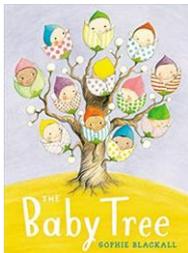


**For beginning readers aged 5-6**

Please find below a selection of books for you to read with your children over the summer or at bedtime.

Reading aloud to your child kindles their imagination and the rhythm and melody of the language become natural. Do try to read with your child at least once a day and if you have more than one child, try to spend some time reading alone with each child, although it's also fine to read to children at different stages and ages at the same time. When stories are complex, children can still get the idea and can be encouraged to ask questions.

You may go through a period when your child favours one book and wants it read night after night. This can be boring for parents! However, a favourite story may speak to your child's interests or emotional needs. Be patient. Continue to expose your children to a wealth of books and eventually they will be ready for more stories.

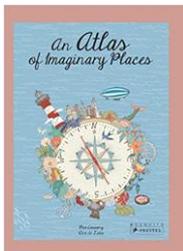
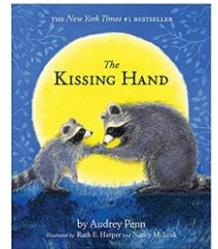


***The Baby Tree* by Sophie Blackall**

The Baby Tree features a little boy wondering where babies come from. He asks his babysitter, teacher, postman, grandpa and finally his parents, until he finds the right answer. The final page addresses more in-depth questions about adoption, same-sex parents and more.

***The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn**

This book is about the bond between mother and child, to read snuggled up before bed when we talk about our feelings, and when your child might have lots of questions about the world and life.

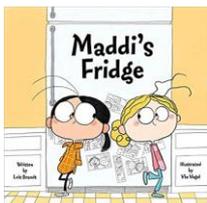
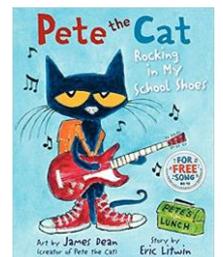


***An Atlas of Imaginary Places* by Mia Cassany**

This is great for children who've already experienced big moves in their lives, to show them the adventure of travel and how you can see things in your own way and that things aren't always what they seem and beauty is often hidden just around a corner.

***Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes* by Eric Litwin**

This is a good book for kids who are a little shy. Changes and new experiences can sometimes be really stressful and this book addresses them. The cat in the book is nervous about going to school alone, but when he gets nervous he focuses on his 'school shoes,' and they get him through.



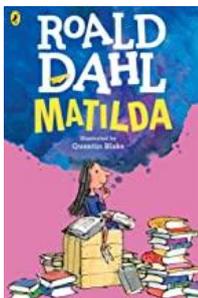
***Maddi's Fridge* by Lois Brandt**

Maddi's Fridge is a book about two friends. One friend doesn't have as much money and is going hungry, so the other friend and her family helps her. The story teaches kids to realise that not everyone may be as fortunate as them and to think about and care for other people.

Selection taken from *The Strategist*, New York Magazine.

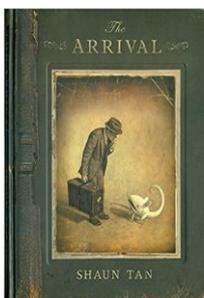
All of the above are available from Amazon or you can order through WHSmith, 248 Rue de Rivoli, metro Concorde. tel. 01 53 45 84 40

## For readers aged 7-8



### **Matilda by Roald Dahl**

This book needs no introduction, really, as it is a favourite among readers aged 7 and 8. Matilda is a sweet, exceptional young girl, but her parents think she's just a nuisance. She expects school to be different but there she has to face Miss Trunchbull, a kid-hating terror of a headmistress... "Matilda will surely go straight to children's hearts." —*The New York Times Book Review*

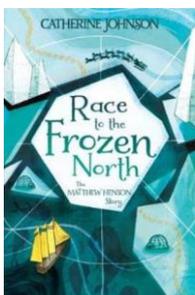


### **The Arrival by Shaun Tan**

What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown? It may be of interest for our Bilingual students who have already lived in several different places around the world. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.

Read more about The Arrival at [www.thearrival.com.au](http://www.thearrival.com.au)

Find out more about Shaun Tan at <http://www.shauntan.net>



### **Race to the Frozen North by Catherine Johnson**

This dyslexia-friendly novel describes the journey undertaken by explorer Matthew Henson. Following an encounter with Commander Robert E. Peary, Henson is inspired to the North Pole but as the first African American to do so, he faces more obstacles than most. Based on a true story, this novel is particularly appropriate for children with dyslexia or those struggling with motivation to read. An inspiring tale, it touches upon prejudice and the whitewashing of history, in a child-appropriate way. It is an eye-opening novel that recounts a story oft left untold.



### **How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell**

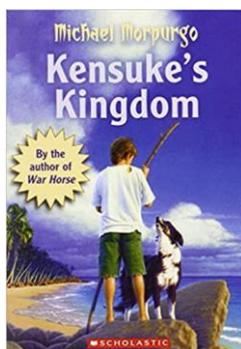
You'll be glad to know this is part of a series of 12 books, so if your child likes it, that's them set for the summer! Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, the quiet and thoughtful son of the Chief of the Hairy Hooligans, tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan by catching and training a dragon. Can Hiccup do it without being torn limb from limb? Join his adventures and misadventures as he finds a new way to train dragons--and becomes a hero. This action-packed, hilarious, and perfectly illustrated novel is a modern classic beloved by millions across the globe.

More suggestions can be found here:

<https://www.readbrightly.com/50-best-books-7-8-year-olds/>

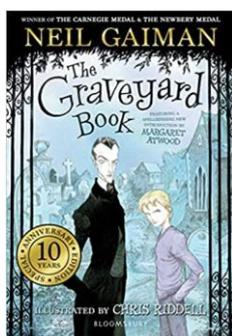
These books are available from Amazon and/or you can order through WHSmith, 248 Rue de Rivoli, metro Concorde. tel. 01 53 45 84 40 .

## For readers aged 9-10



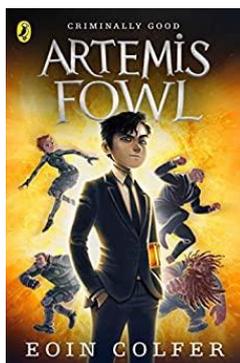
### **Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo**

When Michael's father loses his job, he buys a boat and convinces Michael and his mother to sail around the world. It's an ideal trip - even Michael's sheepdog can come along. It starts out as the perfect family adventure - until Michael is swept overboard. He's washed up on an island, where he struggles to survive. Then he discovers that he's not alone. His fellow-castaway, Kensuke, is wary of him. But when Michael's life is threatened, Kensuke slowly lets the boy into his world. The two develop a close understanding in this remote place, but the question of rescue continues to divide them.



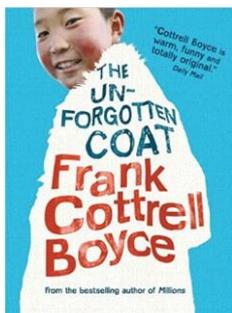
### **The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman**

The bewitching classic children's novel has won several medals: winner of the 2010 Carnegie medal and the 2009 John Newbery medal, winner of the Locus Young Adult Award, winner of the Hugo medal and finally, prize winner of the Booktrust Teenage Award. Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a graveyard, raised and educated by ghosts. There are dangers and adventures for Bod in the graveyard. But it is in the land of the living that the real danger lurks, for it is there that the man Jack lives ...



### **Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer**

Also exists in graphic novel format. No scheme is too dastardly, no plot too devious. And he's just discovered that fairies are real. Poor fairies. But these are not the cuddly creatures of bedtime stories. They are armed. They are dangerous. And when Artemis captures Captain Holly Short for her fairy gold, he messes with the wrong elf. Holly isn't armed but she's *incredibly* dangerous, and pretty annoyed with all the kidnapping. Artemis Fowl is about to find out that fairies fight back . . . Let the misadventure begin. Winner of the WHSmith Children's Book of the Year Award and Children's Book of the Year at the Children's Book Awards. Shortlisted for the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award.



### **The Unforgotten Coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce**

From the award-winning author of Millions comes a story of friendship in the midst of adversity. Winner of the 2012 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, this magical and poignant book is enriched by stunning and atmospheric Polaroid photos. Two refugee brothers from Mongolia are determined to fit in with their Liverpool schoolmates, but bring so much of Mongolia to Bootle that their new friend and guide, Julie, is hard-pressed to know truth from fantasy. Told with the humour, warmth and brilliance of detail which characterizes Frank Cottrell Boyce's writing, readers will be transported from the streets of Liverpool to the steppe of Mongolia.

#### **Other novels of interest:**

*Skellig* by David Almond

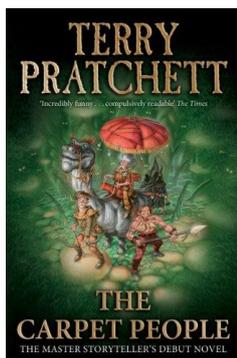
*Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz

*Wolf Brother* by Michelle Paver

*The Train to Impossible Places* by P G Bell

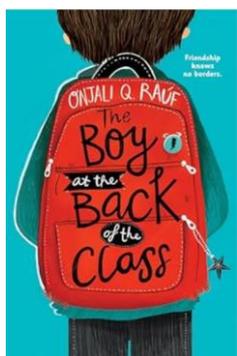
All of the above are available from Amazon or you can order through WHSmith, 248 Rue de Rivoli, metro Concorde. tel. 01 53 45 84 40

## For readers aged 11-13



### ***The Carpet People* by Terry Pratchett**

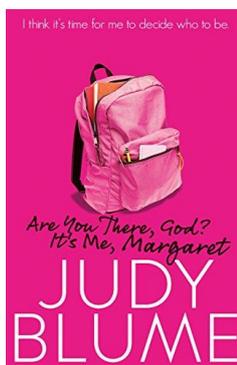
In the beginning, there was nothing but endless flatness. Then came the Carpet . . . That's the old story everyone knows and loves. But now the Carpet is home to many different tribes and peoples and there's a new story in the making. The story of Fray, sweeping a trail of destruction across the Carpet. The story of power-hungry mounds - and of two Munrung brothers, who set out on an amazing adventure. It's a story that will come to a terrible end - if someone doesn't do something about it. If everyone doesn't do something about it . . .



### ***The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q Rauf**

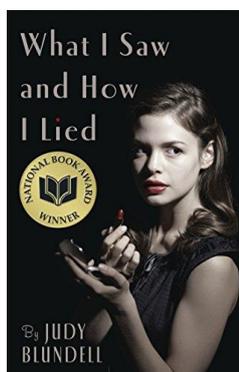
Everyone deserves a place to call home.

Infused with humour and emotion, this novel presents a very real difficulty – the refugee crisis – in an approachable, child-friendly way. On the third Tuesday of the new school year, a new child arrives. Ahmet, a Syrian refugee, doesn't talk very much. Nor does he smile very often. However, upon learning about Ahmet's backstory, the class hatches a plan: to reunite him with his loved ones. This novel is a sobering and heartwarming reminder of the value of allyship in kindness in a world that isn't always kind.



### ***Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume**

Life isn't easy for Margaret. She's moved away from her childhood home, she's starting a new school, finding new friends – and she's convinced she's not normal. For a start she hasn't got a clue whether she wants to be Jewish like her father or Christian like her mother. Everyone else seems really sure of who they are. And, worst of all, she's a 'late developer'. She just *knows* that all her friends are going to need a bra before she does. It's too embarrassing to talk to her parents about these things. So she talks to God instead – and waits for an answer . . .



### ***What I Saw and How I Lied* by Judy Blundell**

This National Book Award winner is set during the aftermath of WWII. When Evie's father returned home from World War II, the family fell back into its normal life pretty quickly. But Joe Spooner brought more back with him than just good war stories. When movie-star handsome Peter Coleridge, a young ex-GI who served in Joe's company in postwar Austria, shows up, Evie is suddenly caught in a complicated web of lies that she only slowly recognizes. She finds herself falling for Peter, ignoring the secrets that surround him . . . until a tragedy occurs that shatters her family and breaks her life in two.

#### **Also of interest:**

*A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness

*The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾* by Sue Townsend

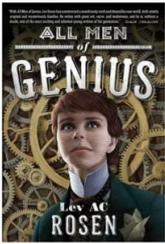
*Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

*The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells

*Unhooking the Moon* by Gregory Hughes

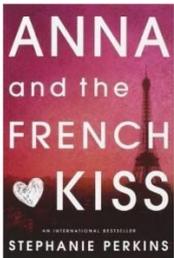
*The Knife of Never Letting Go* by Patrick Ness

## For readers aged 14-15



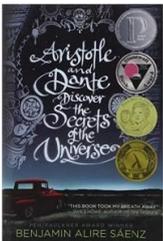
### **All Men of Genius by Lev AC Rosen**

Violet Adams wants to attend Illyria College, a widely renowned school for the most brilliant up-and-coming scientific minds, founded by the late Duke Illyria, the greatest scientist of the Victorian Age. The school is run by his son, Ernest, but the exclusive college is male-only. Violet disguises herself as her twin brother, Ashton, and gains entry. But keeping the secret of her gender won't be easy, especially not when the duke's young ward, Cecily, starts to develop feelings for Violet's alter ego, 'Ashton'...



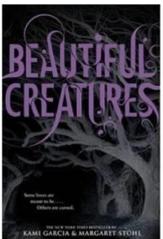
### **Anna and the French Kiss by Stephanie Perkins**

Anna can't wait for her senior year in Atlanta, where she has a good job, a loyal best friend, and a crush on the verge of becoming more. So she's not too thrilled when her father unexpectedly ships her off to boarding school in Paris – until she meets Etienne St. Clair, the perfect boy. The only problem? He's taken... Will a year of romantic near misses end in the French kiss Anna awaits?



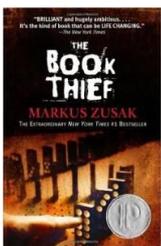
### **Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz**

Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. As the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship—the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. It is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.



### **Beautiful Creatures by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl**

Lena Duchannes is unlike anyone the small Southern town of Gatlin has ever seen, and she's struggling to conceal her power, and a curse that has haunted her family for generations. Ethan Wate, who has been counting the months until he can escape from Gatlin, is haunted by dreams of a beautiful girl he has never met. When Lena moves into the town, Ethan is inexplicably drawn to her and determined to uncover the connection between them.



### **The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbours during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

#### **Also of interest:**

*Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card (series)

*Eragon* by Christopher Paolini (series)

*Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon

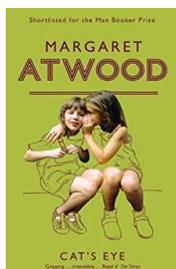
*Falling From Grace* by S.L. Naeole

*Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell

More book ideas can be found on [bookriot.com](http://bookriot.com)

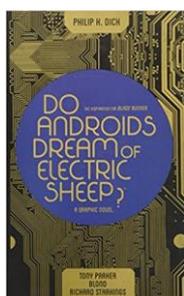
All of the above are available from **Amazon** or you can order through **WHSmith**, 248 Rue de Rivoli, metro Concorde. tel. 01 53 45 84 40

## For readers aged 16+



### **Cat's Eye by Margaret Atwood**

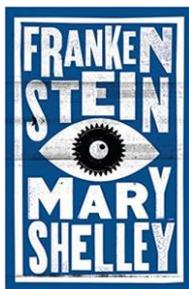
Presumably everyone's heard of Margaret Atwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale*. Elaine Risley, a painter, returns to Toronto to find herself overwhelmed by her past. Memories of childhood - unbearable betrayals and cruelties - surface relentlessly, forcing her to confront the spectre of Cordelia, once her best friend and tormentor, who has haunted her for forty years. "Not since Graham Greene has a novelist captured so forcefully the relationship between school bully and victim...Atwood's games are played, exquisitely, by little girls" *The Listener*



### **Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep? By Philip K. Dick**

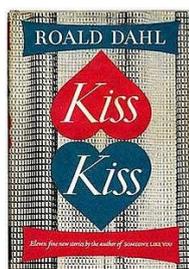
Also known as the film *Blade Runner*

San Francisco lies under a cloud of radioactive dust. The World War has killed millions, driving entire species to extinction and sending mankind off-planet. Those who remain covet any living creature, and for people who can't afford one, companies build incredibly realistic fakes: horses, birds, cats, sheep...even humans. Rick Deckard is an officially sanctioned bounty hunter tasked to find six rogue androids. They're machines, but look, sound, and think like humans-and infinitely more dangerous.



### **Frankenstein by Mary Shelley**

Since it was first published in 1818, Mary Shelley's seminal novel has generated countless print, stage and screen adaptations, but none has ever matched the power and philosophical resonance of the original. Composed as part of a challenge with Byron and Shelley to conjure up the most terrifying ghost story, *Frankenstein* narrates the chilling tale of a being created by a bright young scientist and the catastrophic consequences that ensue. Considered by many to be the first science-fiction novel, the tragic tale of Victor Frankenstein and the tortured creation he rejects is a classic fable about the pursuit of knowledge, the nature of beauty and the monstrosity inherent to man.



### **Kiss Kiss by Roald Dahl**

These are some of Dahl's most macabre short stories. Delicately, the naive punish the wicked, but also the other way around. Most of the stories are presented as typical narratives, albeit with imaginative characters. The horror of each story is built around implication, and many horrific endings, involving death or unpleasant situations, can only be inferred, since nothing is directly stated.

#### **Also of interest:**

*The Invisible Man* by H.G. Wells

*Call of the Wild* by Jack London

*The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams

*I, Robot* by Isaac Asimov

*Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

All of the above are available from **Amazon** or you can order through **WHSmith**, 248 Rue de Rivoli, metro Concorde. tel. 01 53 45 84 40