

Suggested reading – fiction and poetry Year 4

As children develop in their reading, providing a wide range of literary styles and genres is important to enrich children’s creative writing and oral skills. We hope you enjoy selecting from the authors and poets below.

Authors	Examples
Aiken, Joan	The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
Applegate, Katherine	The One and Only Ivan; Troofriend
Ardagh, Philip	The Eddie Dickens trilogy or The Secret Diary of John Drawbridge, Medieval Knight in Training
Banks, Lynne Reid	Harry the Poisonous Centipede (series)
Barker, Claire	Knitbone Pepper: Ghost Dog (series)
Bass, Guy	Scrap
Bell, Alex	The Polar Bear Explorer’s Club
Bell, P.G.	The Train to Impossible Places
Bellairs, John	The House with a Clock in the Walls
Biddulph, Rob	Peanut Jones and the illustrated city
Bilan, Jasbinder	Tamarind & the star of Ishta; Calling the whales
Birney, Betty	Humphrey the Hamster (series)
Bishop, Sylvia	The Secret of the Night Train
Blackman, Malorie	Hacker
Blade, Adam	Beast Quest (series); Space Wars (series)
Bond, Michael	A bear called Paddington (series)
Breslin, Theresa	Dream Master (series)
Brooks, Ben	The Impossible Boy
Butchart, Pamela	The Broken Leg of Doom (series)
Butterworth, Jess	Running on the Roof of the World
Callaghan, Chris	The Great Choco-Plot
Carroll, Emma	Secrets of a Sun King
Cattell, Bob	Shine on, Butter-finger (cricket series)
Chapman, Linda	Best Friends Bakery series
Cheung, Sue	Maddy Yip’s Guide to holidays
Child, Lauren	Don’t look now, Clarice Bean (series)
Cleverly, Sophie	Scarlett & Ivy (detective series)
Colfer, Eoin	The Legend of Spud Murphy (series)
Cope, Andrew	Spy Dog (series)
Cottrell-Boyce, Frank	The Wonder Brothers
Cousins, Dave	My Robot’s gone wild!
Cowell, Cressida	How to Train your Dragon (series)
Cuevas, Michelle	The Care and Feeding of a Pet Black Hole
Dahl, Roald	Any, for example: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory; Matilda
Daniels, Lucy	Animal stories (series)
Davies, Katie	The Great Hamster Massacre (funny)
Deary, Terry	Tudor Tales, Greek Tales etc.; Horrible Histories (non-fiction)
Deen, Sophie	Agent Asha: Operation Cyber Chop (series)
Dowd, Siobhan	The London Eye Mystery
DiCamillo, Kate	The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane;
DiTerlizzi, Tony	The Spiderwick Chronicles
Dodd, Amber Lee	The Thirteenth home of Noah Bradley
Doder, Joshua	Grk (series)
Doyle, Catherine	The Miracle on Ebenezer Street
Donaldson, Julia	The Giant and the Joneses

English, Alex	Echo Quickthorn and the Great Beyond
Evans, Maz	The Exploding Life of Scarlett Fife
Farrant, Natasha	The Children of Castle Rock; Voyage of the Sparrowhawk
Farook, Nizrana	The Girl who Stole an Elephant
Fayers, Claire	The Accidental Pirates (series)
Fine, Anne	Any, for example: The More the Merrier
Fletcher, Carrie Hope	Into the Spotlight
Fletcher, Tom	The Danger Gang
Freedman, Dan	The Kick-off (Jamie Johnson series)
Funke, Cornelia	Saving Mississippi
Gaiman, Neil	Fortunately the Milk; The Graveyard Book; Odd and the Frost Giants
Garnett, Eve	The Family at One End Street
Galvin, Lindsay	Darwin's Dragons
Gavin, Jamila	Blackberry Blue and other fairy tales
Getten, Kareen	The Case of the Lighthouse Intruder
Gleitzman, Morris	Give Peas a Chance; Worm Story
Glori, Debi	Witch Baby and Me (series)
Gosling, Sharon	The House of Hidden Wonders
Graham, Kenneth	The Wind in the Willows
Green, Simon James	Sleepover, Takeover
Grossman, Lev	The Silver Arrow
Grylls, Bear	The Spirit of the Jungle from <i>The New Jungle Book Adventures</i> series
Haig, Matt	A Boy called Christmas
Hamilton, Rachel	Louis makes a splash!
Harrold, A.F.	Greta Zargo and the death robots from outer space
Harrison, Michelle	The 13 Treasures (series)
Hawking, Lucy and Hawking, Stephen	George's Secret Key to the Universe (series)
Henry, Lenny	The Boy with wings
Horowitz, Anthony	The Diamond Brothers series
Hughes, Ted	The Iron Man; The Iron Woman
Hunter, Norman	Professor Branestawm (series)
Ibbotson, Eva	Dial a Ghost, The Secret of Platform 13; One Dog and his Boy
Irving, Ellie	The Matilda Effect
Jansson, Tove	Finn Family Moomintroll (series)
John, Lauren St	The White Giraffe (series)
Johnson, Catherine	Race to the Frozen North
Johnson, Pete	How to train your parents (series)
Kastner, Erich	Emil and the Detectives
Kerr, Judith	When Hitler stole pink rabbit (series)
Kessler, Liz	The Tale of Emily Windsnap (series)
Kingfisher, Rupert	Madame Pamplemousse (series)
King-Smith, Dick	Any, for example The Hodgeheg
Kirtley, Sophie	The Wild Way Home
Lapinski, L.D.	The Strangeworlds Travel Agency
Laird, Elizabeth	The Fastest Boy in the World; A House without Walls
Larwood, Kieran	The Legend of Podkin One-Ear (series)
Lawrence, Caroline	Adventure in Athens (The Time Travel Diaries series)
Lean, Sarah	The Good Bear
Leonard, M.G.	Twitch
Lewis, C.S.	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Lewis, Gill	A Story like the Wind; Willow Wildthing and the swamp monster; A Street Dog named Pup

Lindgren, Astrid	Pippy Longstocking
Leonard, M.G.	The Highland Falcoln Thief
Macfarlane, Robert	The Lost Words
Magorian, Michelle	Goodnight Mister Tom
Mayo, Margaret	The Orchard Book of Magical Tales
McCaughrean, Geraldine	The Kite Rider
McDonald, Megan	Judy Moody (series)
McLachlan, Jenny	The Land of Roar; Return to Roar
McLaughlin, Tom	The day I got zapped with super powers
	The Accidental Prime minster (series)
McLeod, The Brothers	Knight Sir Louis and the Dreadful Damsel
Meggitt-Philips, Jack	The Beast and the Bethany
Montgomery, Ross	Max and the Millions
Moore, Jenny	Audrey Orr and the Robot Rage
Morpurgo, Michael	Cool; The Butterfly Lion, Farm Boy, Kensuke's Kingdom
Moss, Helen	The Mystery of the Whistling Caves (series)
Motum, Marcus	Curiosity: The Story of a Mars Rover
Mould, Chris	Something Wickedly Weird (series)
Murphy, Jill	The Worst Witch (series)
Nash, Eryl	The Essential Guide to S.T.E.A.M.
Nimmo, Jenny	The Snow Spider Trilogy
Northfield, Gary	Rumble with the Romans
Norton, Andre	The Borrowers (series)
O'Brien, Robert C.	Mrs Frisby and the rats of NIMH
O'Doherty, David	Danger is Everywhere
Oldfield, Matt	Johnny Ball: Accidental Football Genius
Owen, Lora	The Ten riddles of Eartha Quicksmith
Palacio, R.J.	Wonder
Palmer, Tom	Foul Play; D-Day Dog; After the War
Patel, Serena	Show stoppers!
Pennypacker, Sara	Leeva at Last
Pichon, Liz	The Brilliant World of Tom Gates (series)
Pratchett, Terry	The Witch's Vacuum Cleaner and other stories
Priestley, Chris	Curse of the Werewolf Boy (Maudlin Towers)
Pullman, Philip	Clockwork; The Firework Maker's Daughter
	The Scarecrow and his Servant
Rai, Bali	Now or Never: A Dunkirk Story
Ralleigh, Gita	The Destiny of Minou Moonshine
Rauf, Onjali Q.	The Boy at the Back of the Class; The Night Bus Hero; The Lion above the Door
Rees, Gwyneth	Fairy Treasure (series)
Reeve, Philip	Goblins (series)
Riddell, Chris	Ottoline and the Yellow Cat
Rivers, Holly	Demelza & the spectre detectors
Rowling, J.K.	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (series); The Ickabog; The Christmas Pig
Rundell, Katherine	Rooftoppers; The Wolf Wilder; Impossible Creatures
Sage, Angie	My haunted house (Araminta Spook series)
Said, S.F.	Varjak Paw; The Outlaw Varjak Paw
Saint-Exupery, Antoine de	The Little Prince
Sedgwick, Marcus	The Raven Mysteries (series)

Simmons, Jo	I Swapped my Brother on the Internet; I Stole my Genius Sister's Brain
Small, Charlie	The Amazing Adventures of Charlie Small (series)
Smith, Alex T.	Mr Penguin and the fortress of secrets
Smith, Dodie	The Hundred and One Dalmatians
Snicket, Lemony	A Series of Unfortunate Events
Sorosiak, Carlie	I, Cosmo; My life as a cat
Soundhar, Chitra	Sindhu and Jeet's detective agency
Spangler, Jenni	The Vanishing Trick
Sparkes, Amy	The House at the Edge of Magic
Stachera, Helenka	The Ice Whisperer
Stanton, Matt	Funny Kid stand up
Storr, Catherine	Clever Polly and the Stupid Wolf (series)
Strong, Jeremy	Any, for example: Crazy Cow
Thornton, Nicky	The Last Chance Hotel; The Bad Luck Light House; Cut-Throat Café
Tooke, Hana	The Midnighters
Torday, Piers	The Lost Magician
Umansky, Kaye	Witch for a Week; Pongwiffy; Fairy tales: the Villain's Version
Valente, Dominique	Starfell: Willow Moss and the Lost Day (series)
Walliams, David	The Beast of Buckingham Palace
Welford, Ross	Time travelling with a hamster
White, E.B.	Charlotte's Web
Whybrow, Ian	Little Wolf (series)
Wilder, Linda Ingalls	Little House on the Prairie (series)
Williams, Marcia	The Tudors: kings, queens, scribes and ferrets
Wilson, David Henry	The Castle of Inside Out
Wilson, Jacqueline	Hetty Feather; Dancing the Charlston
Woodfine, Katherine	Peril in Paris

Poetry

Agard, John	The Rainmaker danced
Ahlberg, Allan	Please Mrs Butler
Bertulis, Deborah	Where do wishes go?
Bilston, Brian	50 Ways to score a goal and other football poems
Bloom, Valerie	Hot Like Fire and other poems
Brownlee, Liz	Be the Change: Poems to Help you save the World
Carter, James	Weird, Wild and Wonderful
Coe, Mandy	Belonging Street
Coelho, Joseph	Poems aloud; Courage out loud!
	Poetry Prompts: all sorts of ways to start a poem
Denton, Graham	My cat is in love with the goldfish
Duffy, Carol Ann	New and collected poems for children
Eliot, T.S.	Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats
Esiri, Allie	A Poem for every Winter Day
Goodfellow, Matt	A Chicken on the Roof
Gross, Philip	Dark Sky Park: Poems from the Edge of Nature
Hardy-Dawson, Sue	Where Zebras Go
Hughes, Ted	How the Whale became and other stories
Lear, Edward	The Owl and the Pussycat
McGough, Roger	All the best: The Selected poems of Roger McGough;
	An Imaginary Menagerie;
	Over to You

McLaughlin, Tom	The Accidental
McNaughton, Colin	Making Friends with Frankenstein
Morpurgo, Michael	Carnival of the Animals
	My heart was a tree: poems and stories to celebrate trees
Moses, Brian	Lost Magic: the Very Best of Brian Moses; Olympic Poems
	Selfies with Komodos
Nicholls, Grace	Give yourself a hug
Offen, Hilda	The Song of the Dodo
Rooney, Rachel	The Language of Cat; A Kid in my class
Rosen, Michael & Blake, Quentin	Quick! Let's Get Out of Here!
Seigal, Joshua	I Bet I can Make You Laugh; I don't like poetry;
	Welcome to my crazy life; Who let the Words Out?
Stevens, Roger	Razzmatazz
Stevenson, Robert Louis	A Child's Garden of Verses
Weil, Zoe	Cherry Moon: little poems big ideas mindful of nature
Wharton, Alex	Daydreams and Jellybeans
Woollard, Elli	Perfectly Peculiar Pets
Zetter, Neal	Gorilla Ballerina
	Here come the Superheroes: raps and rhymes to save the galaxy

Poetry Collections:

101 Poems for Children: a laureate's choice	Carol Ann Duffy
An emotional menagerie: an A-Z of poems about feelings	Rachael Saunders (illustrator)
A Whale of a Time: a Funny poem for every day of the year.	Matt Hunt (illustrator) and Lou Peacock (Editor)
Being Me: poems about thoughts, feelings and worries	Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow and Laura Mucha
Christmas Poems	Gaby Morgan (editor)
Cloud Soup	Kate Wakeling
I am the Seed that Grew the Tree: a nature poem for every day of the year.	Waters, Fiona
It's behind you! Monster poems	Paul Cookson and David Harmer
Moonstruck! Poems about our moon	Roger Stevens (ed.)
Michael Rosen's A to Z: The Best Children's Poetry from Agard to Zephaniah	
My heart is a poem: poetry about feelings	
Our Earth is a Poem: poetry about nature	
Out there in the Wild: Poems on nature	Nicola Davies, James Carter and Dom Conlon
The Oxford Book of Story Poems	Michael Harrison & Christopher Stuart-Clark
The Secret Lives of Teachers	Brian Moses (comp.)
The Walker Book of Classic Poetry and Poets	Michael Rosen (selector)
The Works	Series of poetry volumes arranged by subject, theme, season, etc.
This Poem Doesn't Rhyme	Gerard Benson (ed.)
Tiger Tiger, Burning Bright! An animal poem for every day of the year	Teckentrup, Britta (ill.)
Welcome to Wild Town	A F Harrold, Dom Conlon, and Korky Paul (illustrator)
We wish you a merry Christmas and other festive poems	Chris Riddell (compiler & illustrator)