

Year 5 Suggested Reading 2023-24

This list contains suggestions of books to encourage children in year 5 to explore a variety of fiction, myths and legends, and poetry. Suggestions for graphic novels and information books are available on request.

Novels

ADAMS, Richard	Watership Down
AIKEN, Joan	Any, for example: The Wolves of Willoughby Chase
ALMOND, David	The boy who swam with piranhas; Paper Boat, Paper Bird
ANGUS, Sam	The House on Hummingbird Island; School for Skylarks
APPLEBAUM, Kirsty	The Middler
BACKSHALL, Steve	Tiger Wars
BARNHILL, Kelly	The Girl who Drank the Moon
BELL, Alex	The Polar Bear Explorer's Club (series)
BELL, Jennifer	The Crooked Sixpence (The Uncommoners Series)
BELL, P.G.	The Train to impossible places
BILAN, Jasbinder	Asha & the Spirit Bird; Tamarind and the Star of Ishta
BLACKMAN, Malorie	Hacker
BOWLING, Dusty	The Canyon's Edge
BOYCE, Frank Cottrell	The Runaway Robot
BRADFORD, Chris	Bodyguard series Young Samurai series
BRESLIN, Theresa	Dream Master series
BROOKS, Ben	The Greatest Inventor
BROWNE, Anthony	King Kong
BOWER, Susie	The Three Impossibles
BUNZL, Peter	Cogheart (series: Moonlocket; Skycircus; Shadowsea) Magicborn; Glassborn
BURNETT, Frances Hodgson	The Secret Garden
BUTTERWORTH, Jess	Running on the Roof of the World; Into the Volcano; Lost on Gibbon Island
CALDECOTT, Elen	The Marsh Road Mysteries; The Blackthorn Branch

CARROLL, Emma	Escape to the River Sea The Week at World's End Letters from the Lighthouse Secrets of a Sun King
CARROLL, Lewis	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland
COLFER, Eoin	Airman The Artemis Fowl series and The Fowl Twins series
COOPER, Susan	'The Dark is Rising' sequence
COPELAND, Sam	Charlie changes into a chicken
CORDER, Zizou	Lionboy (series)
CREECH, Sharon	Love that Dog
CRESSWELL, Helen	Moondial
CROSS, Gillian	The Demon Headmaster (series)
CROSSLEY-HOLLAND, Kevin	Arthur trilogy, Gatty's Tale
DAHL, Roald	Boy; Going Solo
DAY, Susie	Max Kowalski didn't mean it
DAYKIN, Chloe	Fire Girl, Forest Boy
DESAI, Anita	Village by the sea
DiCAMILLO, Kate	Raymie Nightingale; Louisiana's Way Home
DOHERTY, Berlie	Children of Winter Spellhorn
DOWD, Siobahn	The London Eye Mystery; The Guggenheim Mystery
DOYLE, Catherine	The Storm-keeper's Island; The Miracle on Ebenezer Street
DURRANT, S. E.	Talking to the Moon
EDGE, Christopher	The Infinite lives of Maisie Day; Escape Room
ELLIS, Deborah	The Breadwinner
ELPHINSTONE, Abi	Sky Song; Rumblestar
EVANS, Maz	Who let the Gods out (series)
FARGHER, Anna	The Umbrella Mouse
FAROOK, Nizrana	The Girl who stole an elephant

FARRANT, Natasha	The Children of Castle Rock; The Voyage of the Sparrowhawk
FINE, Anne	Any, for example: Charm School
FLETCHER, Tom	The Christmasaurus
FUNKE, Cornelia	Dragon Rider; Inkheart trilogy
GAIMAN, Neil	The Graveyard Book
GALVIN, Lindsay	Darwin's Dragons; My Friend the Octopus
GAMBLE, Luke	The secret animal society
GARDNER, Lyn	Into the Woods
GARFIELD, Leon	Any, for example: The December Rose
GARNER, Alan	Elidor; The Stone Book Quartet; The Weirdstone of Brisingamen
GAVIN, Jamila	The Blood Stone; Blackberry Blue
GLEITZMAN, Morris	Toad heaven (series)
GLIORI, Debbi	Pure dead magic, and sequels
GOUDGE, Elizabeth	The Little White Horse
GOURLAY, Candy	Tall Story
GRAHAME, Kenneth	The Wind in the Willows
GRAY, Annelise	Circus Maximus (series)
GREEN, Roger Lancelyn	Any, e.g. The Adventures of Robin Hood
GREEN, Simon James	The life of Riley: beginner's luck
GRILL, William	Shackleton's Journey
GRYLLS, Bear	The Hunt; Mission Survival series
HARDY, VASHTI	Brightstorm; Wildspark
HARGRAVE, Kiran	Girl of Ink and Stars
Millwood	
HARRISON, Michelle	A Pinch of Magic
HOLM, Anne	I am David
HOPE, Lucy	Fledgling
HOROWITZ, Anthony	The Diamond Brothers mysteries Alex Rider series
HO-YEN, Polly	The Boy in the Tower; How I saved the world in a week

HUQ, Connie	Cookie and the Most Annoying Boy in the World
HUTTON, Sam	Special Agent series
IBBOTSON, Eva	The Secret of Platform 13 Journey to the River Sea The Star of Kazan
JACKSON, Sharna	High Rise Mystery; Mic Drop
JAMIESON, Victoria	Roller Girl
JANSSON, Tove	Finn Family Moomintroll (series)
JOHNSON, Jamie	The Kick Off
JOHNSON, Pete	How to train your parents (series)
JONES, Diana Wynne	A Charmed Life
KASTNER, Erich	Emil and the Detectives
KEMP, Gene	Jason Bodger and the Priory Ghost The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tiler
KERR, Judith	When Hitler stole pink rabbit
KING-SMITH, Dick	Any, for example The Sheep-Pig
KINNEY, Jeff	Diary of a Wimpy Kid
KIRTLEY, Sophie	The Way to Impossible Island
LAIRD, Elizabeth	Welcome to nowhere; A House without Walls
LEONARD, M.G.	Beetle Boy (series); The Highland Falcon Thief (Adventures on Trains series); Twitch (series)
LEWIS, C S	The Narnia series, beginning with The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
LEWIS, Gill	Sky Hawk; Willow Wildthing series
LI, Amanda	Rise Up: Ordinary Kids with Extraordinary Stories
LIVELY, Penelope	The Ghost of Thomas Kemp
LOWERY, Mark	Charlie and Me; Eating chips with monkey
MACFARLANE, Robert	The Lost Words
MACKENZIE, Ross	Evernight
MAGORIAN, Michelle	Goodnight, Mr Tom
MANN, Michael	Ghostcloud

MCCAUGHREAN, Geraldine	The Kite Rider
McKAY, Hilary	The Time of Green Magic
MCNICOLL, Elle	A Kind of Spark
MONTGOMERY, L M	Anne of Green Gables, etc.
MONTGOMERY, Ross	Rock Bottom; The Midnight Guardians
MOORHOUSE, Tom	The River singers
MORPURGO, Michael	Any, for example: Alone on a wide, wide sea; An Eagle in the Snow; Shadow
MY STORY	Series of fictional diaries set in different historical periods, published by Scholastic
NAIDOO, Beverley	Children of the Stone City
NANNESTAD, Katrina	We are Wolves
NESBIT, E	The Railway Children
NICHOLSON, William	The Wind on Fire series, beginning with The Wind Singer
NIMMO, Jenny	The Snow Spider Trilogy Children of the Red King series, beginning with Midnight for Charlie Bone
NORTON, Mary	The Borrowers, etc.
OLDFIELD, Matt & Tom	England's heroes (Ultimate football heroes)
PALACIO, R J	Wonder; Auggie & Me
PALMER, Tom	Foul Play (first in Football Detective series) D-Day Dog; Armistice Runner; After the War
PARR, Lesley	The Valley of Lost Secrets
PATEL, Serena	Anisha Accidental Detective: School's Cancelled!
PATRICK, S A	A Darkness of Dragons
PEAK, Tim & COLE, Steve	Swarm rising
PEARCE, Philippa	Tom's Midnight Garden
PENNYPACKER, Sara	Leeva at Last
PULLMAN, Philip	Clockwork; The Firework-makers daughter The Ruby in the Smoke
RAI, Bali	Now or never: A Dunkirk story (Voices series)

RANSOME, Arthur	Swallows and Amazons
RAUF, Onjali Q	The Boy at the back of the class; The Night Bus Hero
REEVE, Philip	Goblinz
REYNOLDS, Jason	Look both ways
RIDLEY, Philip	Scribbleboy
RIORDAN, Rick	Percy Jackson series; The Heroes of Olympus series; The Kane Chronicles beginning with The Red Pyramid
RIVERS, Holly	Demelza & the spectre detectors
ROWLING, J K	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, etc.
RUNDELL, Katherine	Rooftoppers; The Explorer, Impossible creatures
SACHAR, Louis	There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom, Holes
SAID, S F	Tyger
SAUNDERS, Kate	Five Children on the Western Front The Land of Neverendings
SCHAAP, Annet	Lampie and the Children of the Sea
SEDGWICK, Marcus	Flood and Fang (series)
SERRAILLER, Ian	The Silver Sword
SEWELL, Anna	Black Beauty
SHELTON, Dave	A Boy and a Bear in a Boat
SKINNER, Nicola	Bloom
SMITH, Dodie	A Hundred and One Dalmatians
SMITH, Jamie	Frostfire
SNICKET, Lemony	A Series of Unfortunate Events; All the Wrong Questions series beginning with 'Who could that be at this hour?'
SPANGLER, Jenni	The Vanishing Trick; The Incredible Talking Machine
SPYRI, Johanna	Heidi
ST. JOHN, Lauren	The White Giraffe (first in series); Dead Man's Cove (Laura Marlin mysteries) Kat Wolfe Investigates series
STRANGE, Lucy	The Secret of Nightingale Wood; Our Castle by the Sea
SUTCLIFFE, Rosemary	The Eagle of the Ninth
TAN, Shaun	The Lost Thing

TAYLOR, Thomas	Malamander; Gargantis
THOMPSON, Lisa	Goldfish Boy; Owen and the Soldier
THORNTON, Niki	Last chance hotel
TOLKEIN, J R R	The Hobbit
TOWNSEND, Jessica	Nevermoor: The trials of Morrigan Crow
UMANSKY, Kaye	Clover Twig Pongwiffy
WALLIAMS, David	Any, e.g. Spaceboy, The Blunders
WELFORD, Ross	Any, e.g. When we got lost in dreamland; The Monkey who fell from the Future
WESTALL, Robert	The Machine Gunners
WEZE, Claire	The Storm Swimmer
WHYBROW, Ian	Little Wolf's Book of Badness (series); Sniff
WHITE, E B	Charlotte's Web
WILDER, Laura Ingalls	Little House on the Prairie
WILLIAMS, Eloise	Gaslight
WILLIAMSON, Lara	The boy who sailed the ocean in an armchair
WILLS, Sophie	The Orphans of St Halibut's
WILSON, Jacqueline	Dancing the Charlston The Story of Tracy Beaker
WIND, Lee & ZELINSKY, Paul	Red and green and blue and white
WOLK, Lauren	Echo Mountain
WOODFINE, Katherine	The Clockwork Sparrow (series)
YOUSAFZAI, Malala	I am Malala
ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin	Windrush Child

Poetry and verse

Title

Caribbean Dozen: Poems from 13 Caribbean poets
 The Rainmaker Danced
 Please Mrs Butler
 The Undefeated
 Reasons to write rhyme
 The Same Inside
 Collected poems for children
 Fire Burn, Cauldron Bubble: Magical poems
 This rock, that rock: poems between you, me and the moon
 Poems for a green and blue planet
 Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats
 Bright bursts of colour
 The Oxford Book of Story Poems
 The Oxford Treasury of Classic Poems
 The Book of (Not Entirely) Useful Advice
 Silly Verse for Kids
 Spaced Out
 Dear Ugly Sisters
 The Highwayman

 The Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry
 The Head that Wears the Crown: poems about Kings and Queens
 The Hunting of the Snark; Gods and Monsters: Mythological poems
 A Kid in My Class
 The Language of Cat
 Quick! Let's get out of here
 You wait till I'm older than you
 An Emotional Menagerie: An A – Z of poems about feelings
 Welcome to my crazy life
 Who let the words out?
 Tiger, tiger, burning bright
 The Lady of Shalott

 Perfectly Peculiar Pets
 Apes to Zebras: an A-Z of shape poems
 Funky Chickens
 Talking Turkeys
 The Works
 Series of anthologies for young people e.g.
 The Works 2: Poems on every subject and for every occasion
 The Works 3: a poet a week

Author/poet

AGARD, John & NICHOLS, Grace
 AGARD, John
 AHLBERG, Allan
 ALEXANDER, Kwame
 BRADLEY, Rob
 BROWNLEE, Liz
 CAUSLEY, Charles
 COOKSON, Paul (ed.)
 CONLON, Dom
 CUSHLEY, Aaron
 ELLIOTT, T S
 GOODFELLOW, Matt
 HARRISON, M & STUART-CLARK, C

 HARROLD, A F
 MILLIGAN, Spike
 MOSES, Brian
 MUCHA, Laura
 NOYES, Alfred (illustrated by Charles Keeping)
 PATTEN, Brian (ed.)
 PIERCY, Rachel & D'AN-WRIGHT, Emma
 RIDDELL, Chris

 ROONEY, Rachel

 ROSEN, Michael

 SAUNDERS, Rachael
 SEIGAL, Joseph

 TECKENTRUPP, Britta
 TENNYSON, Alfred (illustrated by Charles Keeping)
 WOOLLARD, Ellie

 ZEPHANIAH, Benjamin

 MOSES, Brian & CORBETT, Pie (editors)
 COOKSON, Paul (editor)