



SUGGESTED READING LIST FOR YEAR 4



Genre	Title	Author
Historical	Little House on The Prairie	Ingalls Wilder , Laura
	The Apprentices	Garfield , Leon
	The Reluctant Dragon	Graham , Kenneth
	The Egyptian Cinderella	Climo , Shirley
	The Thieves of Ostia	Lawrence , Caroline
	The Wooden Horse	McCaughrean , Geraldine
	Why the Sea is Salt	Mayo , Margaret
	The Wind on the Moon	Linklater , Eric
	The Toby Man	King-Smith , Dick
	The Wreck of the Zanzibar	Morpurgo , Michael
Contemporary	How to Train Your Parents	Johnson , Pete
	Kit	Gardam , Jane
	Blabbermouth	Gleitzman , Morris
	Charlie's Eye	Horgan , Dorothy
	Flow	Goodheart , Pippa
	Fatbag: The Demon Vacuum Cleaner	Strong , Jeremy
	There's a Viking in My Bed	Strong , Jeremy
	The Mum Trap	Symes , Ruth
	Mr Bear and the Bear	Thomas / Brown , Francis/Ruth
	Tamworth Pig	Kemp , Gene
	The sheep-pig	King-Smith , Dick
	The Great Piratical Rumbustification	Mahy , Margaret
	The Dead Letter Box	Mark , Jan
	The Quigleys	Mason , Simon
	Fattypuffs and Thinifers	Maurois , Andre
The Battle of Bubble and Squeak	Pearce , Phillipa	
Shorter Stories	Tales of the Early World	Hughes , Ted
	The dream Fighter and Other Creation Tales	Hughes , Ted
	The Fairy Doll and Other Tales from the Dolls House	Godden , Rumer
	Fairy Tales	Jones , Terry
	Smart Girls	Leeson , Robert
Poetry	Spaceways (Anthology)	Foster , J
	Dragon Poems	Foster / Paul , J/Korky
	Shades of Green	Harvey , A
	Are we Nearly there Yet?	Phinn , Gervais
	Aliens Stole My Underpants	Moses , Brian
Genre	Title	Author
Fantasy	Harvey Angell	Hendry , Diana
	The Finders	Hinton , Nigel
	The Fabulous Fantova Files	Geras , Adele

	The Last Vampire	Hall, Willis
	The Sword in the Grotto (Araminta Spook)	Sage, Angie
	Groosham Grange	Horowitz, Anthony
	Enchantment in the Garden	Hughes, Shirley
	Robi Dobi	Jaffrey, Madhur
	The Chocolate Touch	Skene Caitling, Patrick
	Pongwiffy	Umansky, Kaye
	Ice Palace	Swindells, Robert
	The Magic Fountain	McGough, Roger
	Dragonboy	King-Smith, Dick
	Kasper in the Glitter	Ridley, Philip
Picture Texts	Way Home	Hathorn, Libby
Graphic Novels	Chips and Jessie	Hughes, Shirley
	Little Stowaway	Tomlinson, Theresa
	The Paperbag Prince	Thompson, Colin
	Mr William Shakespeares Plays	Williams, Marcia
	The Frog Ballet	McCardie, Amanda
	The dog Who Could Dig	Long / Paul, Jonathan/Korky
Classics	Emil and the Detectives	Kastner, Erich
	Heidi	Spyri, Johanna
	The Little Prince	de St Exupery, Antoine
	Mary Poppins	Travers, P.L.
	101 Dalmatians	Smith, Dodie
	Dr Doolittle	Lofting, Hugh
	Just William (Series)	Crompton, Richmal
	Swallows and Amazons	Ransom, Arthur

Below is a selection of books selected by **Love4Reading** for children in **Year 4 (8 - 9 year olds)**.

If your child is a competent reader or has read all these titles then try the books from the Year 5 list. Alternatively if these books are a little challenging try books from the Year 3 list.



A Boy and a Bear in a Boat
Dave Shelton

A boy and a bear go to sea, equipped with a suitcase, a comic book and a ukulele. They are only travelling a short distance and it really shouldn't take long. But their journey doesn't quite go to plan...Faced with turbulent storms, a terrifying sea monster and the rank remains of a very dangerous sandwich, the odds are against our unlikely heroes. Will the Harriet, their trusted vessel, withstand the violent lashings of the salty waves? And will anyone ever answer their message in a bottle? Brilliantly funny and tender, this beautiful book maps the growth of a truly memorable friendship and explores how, when all else is lost, the most unexpected joys can be found.



Annie
Thomas Meehan

'Annie' began in 1924 as the heroine of a comic strip cartoon called Little Orphan Annie. Her adventures ran in newspapers in America for over 40 years before it was turned into a Broadway musical. It's 1933 and for as long as she can remember, 11 year old Annie has believed that her mother and father would come back to her New York City orphanage to get her. But mean Miss Hannigan the headmistress is making Annie's life a misery. So she runs away to find her parents - and along the way she rescues a friendly dog, meets millionaire Oliver Warbucks, and has a many scary and exciting adventures. Will kind-hearted Annie find a way to escape her hard-knock life?



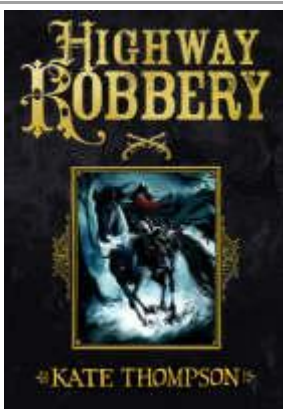
Charlotte's Web
E. B. White

Charlotte's Web: A Puffin Book by E B White. A Puffin Book series brings together some of the best-loved stories ever written. This is the story of a little girl named Fern who loved a little pig named Wilbur and of Wilbur's dear friend, Charlotte A. Cavatica, a beautiful large grey spider. With the unlikely help of Templeton the rat, and a wonderfully clever plan of her own, Charlotte saves the life of Wilbur, who by this time has grown up to be quite a pig. A time-honoured classic favourite. E. B. White was born in New York in 1899 and died in 1985. He kept animals on his farm in Maine and some of these creatures crept into his books, such as STUART LITTLE which was made into a blockbusting film in 2000. He received many awards including the Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal in 1970, an award given every five years to authors who have 'made a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children'. Also by E B White and available in A PUFFIN BOOK: Charlotte's Web; Stuart Little; and, The Trumpet of the Swan.



Gobbolino the Witch's Cat
Ursula Moray Williams

Gobbolino by Ursula Moray Williams is the charming tale of a witch's cat who would rather be a kitchen cat. Gobbolino has one white paw and blue eyes and isn't wicked at all, so his mother doesn't like him. He escapes to look for a kitchen home but is distrusted everywhere he goes and blamed for mysterious happenings, such as the farmer's milk turning sour and the orphanage children's gruel turning into chocolate. A perfect story for A Puffin Book with charming black and white illustrations by the author, Ursula Moray Williams. Ursula Moray Williams was born on 19 April 1911 at Petersfield, Hampshire, ten minutes after her twin sister, Barbara. She wrote and illustrated over sixty books for children with the most notable being Gobbolino the Witch's Cat and The Adventures of the Little Wooden Horse.



Highway Robbery
Kate Thompson

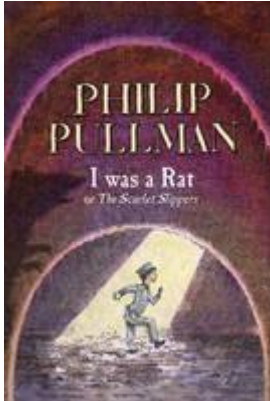
'Hold the mare for me, lad. And when I come back I'll give you a golden guinea.' It's more money than the street urchin has ever dreamt of. But who is the rider, and why is there so much interest in his big black horse? And will the boy ever see the money he has been promised? There's highway robbery in the air, but it isn't always entirely clear just who is trying to rob who.



How to Train Your Dragon
Cressida Cowell

Read the books that inspired the How to Train Your Dragon films! This book will be a hit with children and adults alike. THE STORY BEGINS in the first volume of Hiccup's How to Train Your Dragon memoirs...Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an awesome sword-fighter, a dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking Hero who ever lived. But it wasn't always like that. In fact, in the beginning, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was the most put upon Viking you'd ever seen. Not loud enough to make himself heard at dinner with his father, Stoick the Vast; not hard enough to beat his chief rival, Snotlout, at Bashyball, the number one school sport and CERTAINLY not stupid enough to go into a cave full of dragons to find a pet...It's time for Hiccup to learn how to be a Hero. How to Train Your Dragon is now a major DreamWorks franchise starring Gerard Butler, Cate Blanchett and Jonah Hill and the TV series, Riders of Berk, can be seen on CBeebies and Cartoon Network. Read all of Hiccup's exploits in the How to Train Your Dragon series: How to Train Your Dragon, How to Be a Pirate, How to Speak Dragonese, How to Cheat a Dragon's Curse, How to Twist a Dragon's Tale, A Hero's Guide to Deadly Dragons, How to Ride a Dragon's Storm, How to Break a Dragon's Heart, How to Steal

a Dragon's Sword, How to Seize a Dragon's Jewel and How to Betray a Dragon's Hero. Check out the brilliant website at www.howtotrainyourdragonbooks.com It's the place to go for games, downloads, activities and sneak peeks!



I Was a Rat! Or, the Scarlet slippers
Philip Pullman

I WAS A RAT!' So insists Roger. Maybe it's true. But what is he NOW? A terrifying monster rampaging in the sewers? The Daily Scourge is sure of it. A money-spinning fairground freak? He is to Mr Tapscrew. A champion wriggler and a downy card? That's what Billy hopes. Or just an ordinary small boy, though a little ratty in his habits? Only three people believe this version of the story. Only one of them knows who Roger really is. And luckily a story about her can sell even more newspapers than one about a rat-boy ...



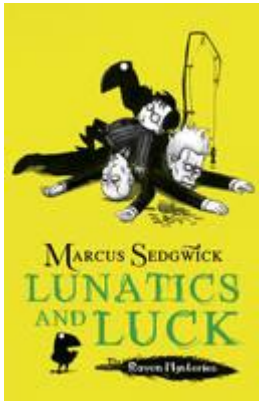
Lost! The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog
Jeremy Strong

From The Hundred-Mile-an-Hour Dog to karate princesses and hot cross bottoms, there's a Jeremy Strong story to suit every child's sense of humour. Jeremy's readers range from 7 to teen, perfect for fans of Roald Dahl and Andy Stanton. Streaker the dog is lost. And not just a bit lost, but really lost. It wasn't even her fault! She wanted to protect some pies from the PIE ROBBER and suddenly she's miles from home and two-legged Trevor AND she has to make friends with a cat. A CAT! But it gets a lot HAIRIER when they find themselves face-to-face with a baboon...Will Streaker ever see her beloved pups again? And more importantly, will she ever eat another donut again? Award-winning Jeremy Strong has written many wacky books for children aged 7-teen, including My Dad's Got an Alligator and My Brother's Famous Bottom . Most of which are illustrated by Nick Sharratt, who also illustrates for Jacqueline Wilson! The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog is back causing more chaos and getting into more trouble in The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog , Lost! The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog , Wanted! The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog , Christmas Chaos for the Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog and The Hundred-Mile-An-Hour Dog Goes for Gold - guaranteed to have you laughing your socks off!



Lucky
Chris Hill

When lost red squirrel Lucky finds himself in Albion Park, the native squirrels all around him are bigger, tougher, and much more \. grey. He needs all the luck he can find to fit in, and even more to pass the Squirrel Trial that will give him a permanent place in the park. But when Lucky discovers a plot that threatens their home, he'll need more than just good fortune on his side \.



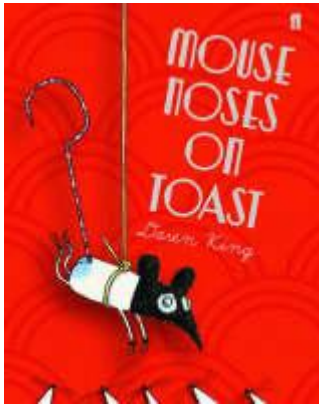
Lunatics and Luck
Marcus Sedgwick

Join the wonderfully weird Otherhand family and their faithful guardian, Edgar the raven, and discover the dark secrets of Castle Otherhand. Solstice and Cudweed are appalled to find their father has appointed a new school master. But things get even worse when the grumpy, viciously mean teacher actually arrives. The Otherhand children are sure there's something more to him than meets the eye - the trouble is, who will believe them? No one it seems. Except, perhaps, Edgar. Winner of the 2011 Blue Peter Book Award for Most Fun Story With Pictures, LUNATICS AND LUCK is the third story in this hilarious six book mystery series (with a touch of goth-froth) for 9 year olds from bestselling author, Marcus Sedgwick with quirky black and white line illustrations from new talent, Pete Williamson. Dedicated website on Raven Mysteries: www.ravenmysteries.co.uk



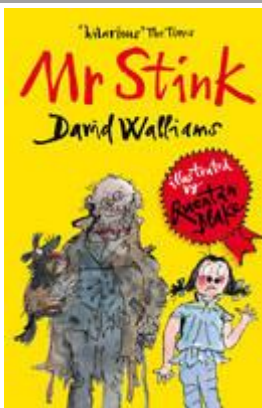
Mouse Bird Snake Wolf
David Almond

The dream team of David Almond and Dave McKean bring us a complete story set in an incomplete world. The gods have created a world - they've built mountains, a sea and a sky - and now their days are filled with long naps in the clouds (and tea and cake). That's until Harry, Sue and Little Ben begin to fill the gaps of the world: with a mousy thing, a chirpy thing and a twisty legless thing. As the children's ideas take shape, the power of their visions proves to be greater than they, or the gods, could ever have imagined. This is a genius retelling of creation from an award-winning duo, fully illustrated in colour.



Mouse Noses on Toast
Daren King

'I will have the colourful parrot soup,' the lady said, 'with extra beaky bits.' 'And I,' said her husband, 'will have mouse noses on toast.' The waiter flipped open his notebook and wrote this down. 'Would that be with whiskers, Sir, or without?' Hiding on the restaurant table, Paul Mouse's world has just turned upside down. Surely the man is making a joke? Isn't mouse noses on toast just a big myth? Gathering his friends - Sandra the Christmas tree decoration, Rowley Barker Hobbs, the sheepdog, and the Tinby, a kind of monster - Paul becomes determined to find the truth. So begins an adventure involving mouse activists, the prime minister, cheese addicts and a wildly insane Tinby.



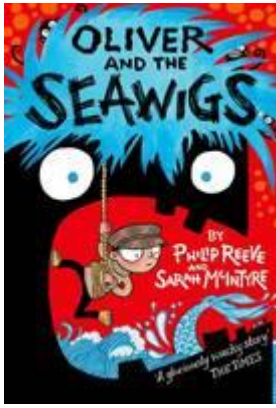
Mr Stink
David Walliams

The second original, touching, twisted, and most of all hilarious novel for children from David Walliams, number one bestseller and fastest growing children's author in the country - beautifully illustrated by Quentin Blake. Mr Stink stank. He also stunk. And if it was correct English to say he stinked, then he stinked as well... It all starts when Chloe makes friends with Mr Stink, the local tramp. Yes, he smells a bit. But when it looks like he might be driven out of town, Chloe decides to hide him in the garden shed. Now Chloe's got to make sure no one finds out her secret. And speaking of secrets, there just might be more to Mr Stink than meets the eye...or the nose.



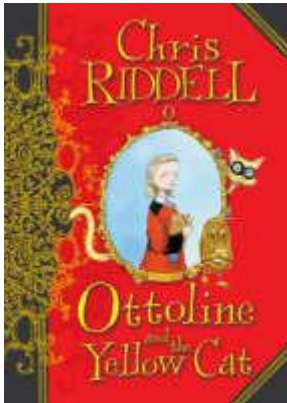
My Life as a Goldfish And Other Poems
Rachel Rooney

Magic slips between the cracks in real life. One day you will step on it. A monster's lunch, a wolf boy, Monday mornings, monkeys, headlice, Christmas, making friends, goldfish - and lots more. Full of jokes, surprises and puzzles, but also sensitive and thought-provoking, this is a spellbinding new collection from the winner of the CLPE Poetry Award.



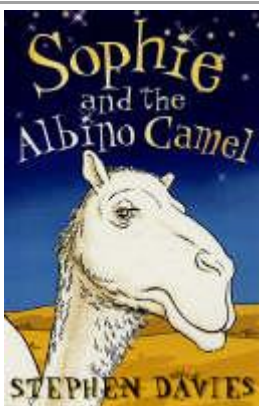
Oliver and the Seawigs
Philip Reeve

A lively, gorgeously illustrated story from Dynamic Duo, Reeve and McIntyre! Along with his new friends, a grumpy old albatross, a short-sighted mermaid, and a friendly island called Cliff, Oliver goes off in search of his missing parents. But before he can put his rescue plan into action there's the evil Stacey de Lacey and an army of greasy, green sea monkeys to contend with ...



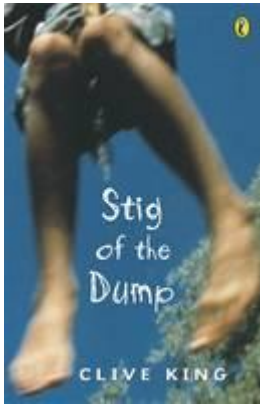
Ottoline and the Yellow Cat
Chris Riddell

This work introduces Miss Ottoline Brown, an exceptionally inquisitive Mistress of Disguise, and her partner in crime, Mr Munroe. No puzzle is ever too tricky for the two of them to solve ...Ottoline lives in a stylish apartment in Big City with a small hairy creature called Mr Munroe. Together they look after the Brown family's eclectic collections - and dabble in a spot of detective work. So they are the first to the scene of the crime when a string of high society dog-nappings and jewel thefts hits Big City. Ottoline (who luckily has a diploma from the Who-R-U Academy of Disguise) and Mr Munroe go undercover - and expose an ingenious scam masterminded by furry feline crook, the Yellow Cat. This is a quirky mystery - adventure which is perfectly packaged and highly collectable.



Sophie and the Albino Camel
Stephen Davies

Sophie lives in Gorom-Gorom with her carnivorous-plant obsessed dad. Despite living there for two years and speaking the local language, Sophie finds it difficult to make friends. So when she meets Gidaado, a young griot (story-teller) she agrees to join him and his albino camel, Chobbal, on a journey to his village. It is not until they have set off that Sophie begins to realise just how dangerous the desert is - it's full of djinns that creep up behind you and jump on your head and make you go mad, not to mention the infamous Moussa ag Litni, a ruthless bandit who steals camels...



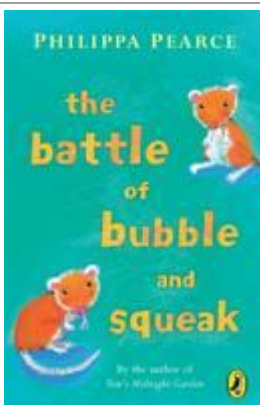
Stig of the Dump
Clive King

Stig of the Dump by Clive King is 50 years old and the story of Barney and his best friend, cave-man Stig, is as fresh today as it was when first published. 'Stig's nice. He's my friend' Nobody believes Barney when he says he's discovered a boy living wild in the dump. But for Barney, Stig is totally real. They become great friends, learn each other's ways and embark on a series of exciting adventures. This story has wonderful appeal. (Guardian). Clive King was born in Richmond, Surrey in 1924. When he was a baby his family moved to a village called Ash, near Sevenoaks in Kent, which is the setting for Stig of the Dump.



Stuart Little
E. B. White

Stuart Little is the enchanting tale of the mouse who is small in size but enormous in spirit by E. B. White, author of Charlotte's Web. Stuart Little is no ordinary mouse. Born to a family of humans he lives in New York City with his parents, his older brother George and Snowball the cat. He's an adventurous and heroic little mouse. When his best friend, a beautiful little bird called Margalo disappears from her nest, Stuart is determined to track her down. He ventures away from home for the very first time in his life and finds himself embroiled in one exciting adventure after another, making new friends and meeting old ones along the way.



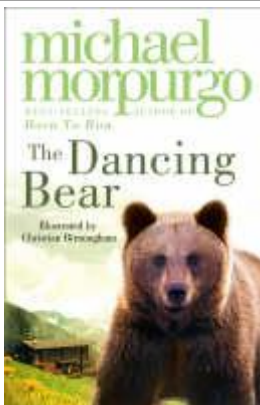
The Battle of Bubble and Squeak
Philippa Pearce

Sid, Peggy and Amy adore the two gerbils, Bubble and Squeak, but their mother detests them. A major family battle results, and it's clear life is never going to be quite the same again. But after a near fatal encounter between Bubble and Ginger the cat, Mrs Sparrow begins to see that life with 2 gerbils might not be so bad after all.



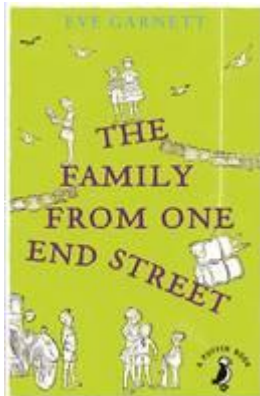
The Boy in the Dress
David Walliams

NEW BOOK AND CD PACK - The sparkling debut children's novel from David Walliams, number one bestseller and fastest growing children's author in the country. Combo pack of paperback and CD read by David Walliams and Matt Lucas! Dennis was different. Why was he different, you ask? Well, a small clue might be in the title of this book...Charming, surprising and hilarious - The Boy in the Dress is everything you would expect from the King of Funny. David Walliams's beautiful first novel will touch the hearts (and funny bones) of children and adults alike.



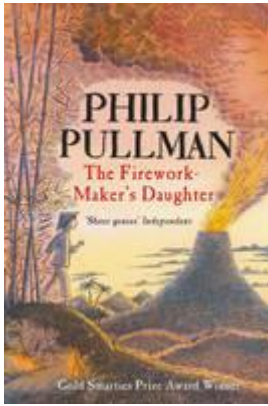
The Dancing Bear
Michael, M.B.E. Morpurgo

A gentle and deeply moving story of a young girl and her bear, told with great charm by a master storyteller. High in the mountains, in a tiny village, an abandoned bear cub is adopted by a lonely orphan child. Soon they are inseparable, beloved by the whole village - safe, until the arrival of a glamorous film crew who need a dancing bear...



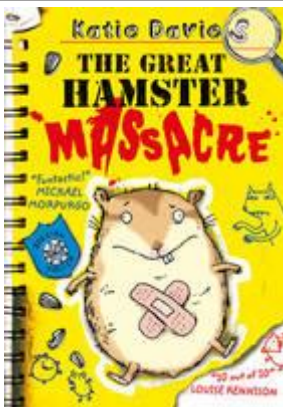
The Family from One End Street
Eve Garnett

A Puffin Book - stories that last a lifetime. Puffin Modern Classics are relaunched under a new logo: A Puffin Book. There are 20 titles to collect in the series, listed below, all with exciting new covers and fun-filled endnotes. The Family from One End Street by Eve Garnett is the story of everyday life in the big, happy Ruggles family who live in the small town of Otwell. Father is a dustman and Mother a washerwoman. Then there's all the children - practical Lily Rose, clever Kate, mischievous twins James and John, followed by Jo, who loves films, little Peg and finally baby William. This is a truly classic book awarded the Carnegie Medal as the best children's book of 1937. Eve Garnett was born in 1900 in Worcestershire, and studied art at Chelsea Polytechnic and the Royal Academy School of Art. Whilst a student, she sketched the people of the East End slums and was haunted by the poverty she had witnessed, resolving to do something to bring the plight of the working-class family to people's attention. The Family from One End Street was originally published by Frederick Muller in 1937, followed by The Further Adventures of the Family from One End Street in 1956, and Holiday at Dew Drop Inn in 1962.



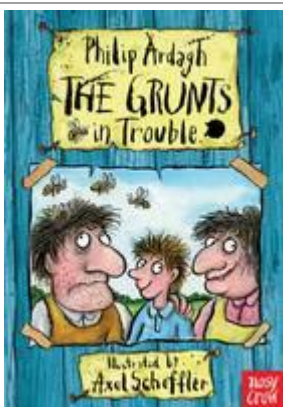
The Firework-maker's Daughter
Philip Pullman

What Lila wants to be more than anything else in the world is ...a Firework-Maker! But firework-making is not just about being able to make Crackle-Dragons and Golden Sneezes. There is also one special secret: every Firework-Maker must make a perilous journey to face the terrifying Fire-Fiend! Not knowing that she needs special protection to survive the Fire-Fiend's flames, Lila sets off alone. Her friends, Chulak and Hamlet - the King's white elephant - race after her. But can they possibly reach her in time?



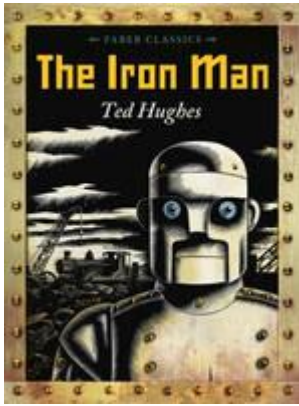
The Great Hamster Massacre
Katie Davies

A very natural and honest version of life's events from the perspective of a young girl - from her suspicions about her neighbours, to her rocky friendship with the girl next door; from the sudden death of her beloved granny to her relentless quest for a pet hamster, only to then find it mysteriously slaughtered - which kickstarts a local investigation of 'suspects'. This is the first in a proposed series of short novels featuring the same characters and setting - with the themes of pets and detective work holding them together.



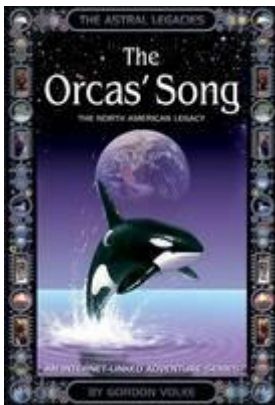
The Grunts In Trouble
Philip Ardagh

Meet Mr and Mrs Grunt. Oh, go on. They're not that bad. No, actually, they ARE. Maybe worse, even. But Sunny, their sort-of son, is okay. They stole him from a washing line as a baby. He was hanging by his ears, which probably explains why they're so wonky (but not why he has sticky-up hair that NEVER lies flat, even if you pour glue into it or try taping it in place). Sticky around and you'll also meet Lord Bigg of Bigg Manor, Bigg-hater Larry Smalls, Mimi the Bigg Manor boot boy (yup, she's a girl) and...Well, you'll have to READ the book to find that out. But I should mention the bees. Did I warn you about the bees?!



The Iron Man
Ted Hughes

Mankind must put a stop to the dreadful destruction by the Iron Man and set a trap for him, but he cannot be kept down. Then, when a terrible monster from outer space threatens to lay waste to the planet, it is the Iron Man who finds a way to save the world.

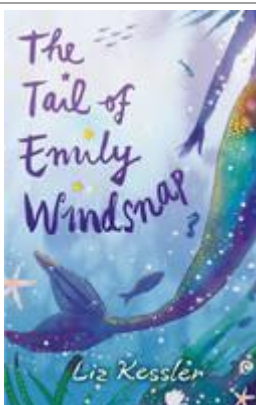


The Orca's Song
Volke Gordon



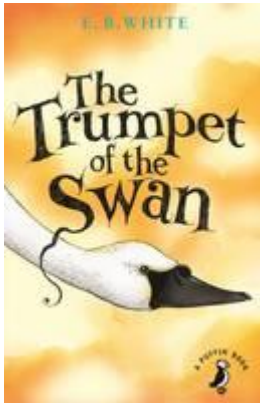
The Savage
David Almond

Imagine you wrote a story and that story came true. This is exactly what happens to Blue Baker when he writes about a savage living alone in the woods near his home. After his dad's death, Blue finds comfort in dreaming of a wild kid who survives on a diet of berries and the occasional hapless passer-by. But when the savage pays a night-time visit to the local bully, boundaries become blurred and Blue begins to wonder where he ends and the savage begins. Part novel, part graphic novel, this moving story features striking art from the award-winning Dave McKean.



The Tail of Emily Windsnap
Liz Kessler

Emily Windsnap lives on a boat, but her mother has always been oddly anxious to keep her out of the water. It is only when Emily has her first school swimming lesson that she discovers why: as soon as she gets into the water, she grows a tail! Soon Emily discovers a glorious underwater world of fishes, coral, shipwrecks and mermaids, and, best of all, she finds a best friend! With mermaid Shona Silkfin by her side, Emily uncovers a surprising family secret and embarks on a quest to reunite her mum and dad. This enchanting fantasy deals with universal themes of family, friendship, love and justice.



The Trumpet of the Swan
E. B. White

The Trumpet Of The Swan is an uplifting story by E. B. White, author of Charlotte's Web in which wildlife and nature blend with fantasy to make a tender, humorous and unforgettable animal tale. Unlike other cygnets, Louis, the trumpeter swan, cannot utter a sound. But with the encouragement of his father, Louis sets out to overcome his problem. One way of doing this Louis decides, is to learn to read and write and so he sets off to Montana to find his friend Sam Beaver. Louis goes to school with him and learns to read and write, but when he returns to the lakes and falls in love with the beautiful Serena, he is upset that Serena can't read his sign, which says 'I love you'. Once again his parents are determined to help him find a new way of expressing himself and it is his father who dreams up the brilliant solution that will put Louis firmly on the path to success and fulfilment.



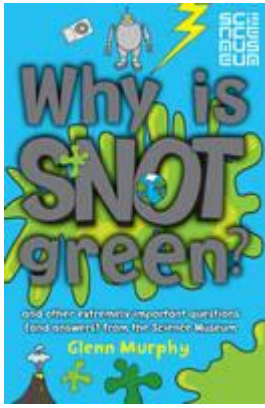
Timmy Failure Mistakes Were Made
Stephan Pastis

Meet Timmy Failure, founder of the best detective agency in town - Total Failure, Inc. With the help of his polar bear, Total, the clueless, comically self-confident Timmy already has plans for world domination. Plans that will make his mother rich and unpaid bills a thing of the past. And plans that will defeat Corrina Corrina, The One Whose Name Shall Not Be Uttered . But she's not going away. Riotously funny, Timmy Failure is sure to have readers in stitches.



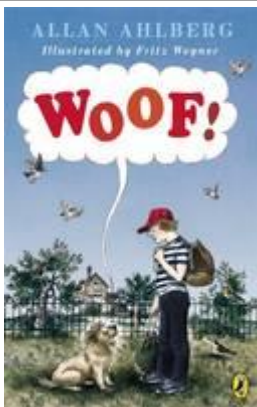
Whale Boy
Nicola Davies

Michael, a young boy growing up on the tropical island of Rose Town, has been saving up for his own fishing boat for years. But when a terrible storm wrecks his home, Michael is forced to take a job working for a rich, mysterious newcomer named Spargo. Spargo asks Michael to search for one thing in the deep waters around Rose Town - whales...



Why is Snot Green? The Science Museum Question and Answer Book
Glenn Murphy

Why is snot is green? Do rabbits fart? What is space made of? Where does all the water go at low tide? Can animals talk? What are scabs for? Will computers ever be cleverer than people? Discover the answers to these and an awful lot of other brilliant questions frequently asked at the Science Museum in this wonderfully funny and informative book. It is divided into five sections which cover everything from the Big Bang to bodily functions and cool gadgets: Lost in Space; The Angry Planet; Animal Answers; Being Human; and Fantastic Futures.



Woof!
Allan Ahlberg

He felt a curious tingling in his hands and feet. He felt his nose becoming cold and wet, his ears becoming flappy. The thought in his mind was: 'I'm turning into a dog!' Eric is a perfectly ordinary boy. Perfectly ordinary that is, until the night when, in fifteen seconds flat, he turns into a dog! Eric and his best friend are determined to sniff out the truth - what makes an ordinary boy go 'woof'?