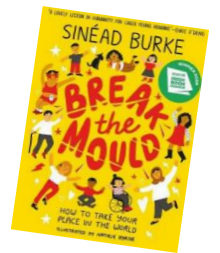
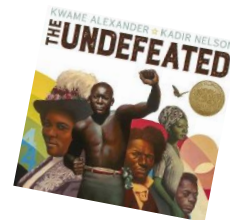


Recommended books for ages 8-12

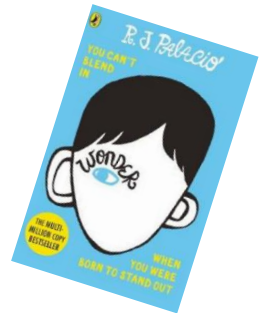
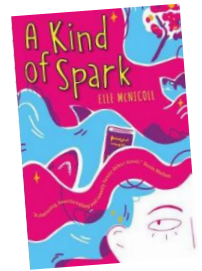
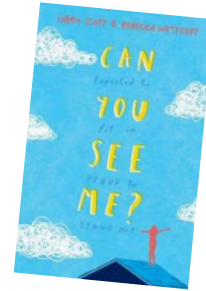
Giving children a wide variety of exciting and engaging new books to choose from is vital to their development as readers and a key part of our Young Readers Programme. Here, we've put together some of our current favourite books for children and young people, as well as some advice for finding books that will excite and engage your children.

Our current favourites for ages 8-12

- *Cyborg Cat and the Night Spider* by Ade Adepitan
- *The Undeclared* by Kwame Alexander
- *Amari and the Night Brothers* by BB Alston
- *The House with Chicken Legs* by Sophie Anderson
- *Little Badman and the Invasion of the Killer Aunties* by Humza Arshad and Henry White
- *Boy Underwater* by Adam Baron
- *El Deafo* by Cece Bell
- *Asha and the Spirit Bird* by Jasbinder Bilan
- *A Dangerous Game* by Malorie Blackman
- *A.N.T.I.D.O.T.E* by Malorie Blackman
- *Where the River Runs Gold* by Sita Brahmachari
- *Gracie Fairshaw and the Mysterious Guest* by Susan Brownrigg
- *Break the Mould* by Sinead Burke
- *I Am Not a Label* by Cerrie Burnell
- *The Somerset Tsunami* by Emma Carroll
- *Marshmallow Skye* by Cathy Cassidy
- *Animals on the Edge: Penguin* by Anna Claybourne
- *Magic Ink* by Steve Cole
- *Ultimate Survival Guide for Kids* by Rob Colson
- *The Pearl in the Ice* by Cathryn Constable
- *The Wizards of Once* by Cressida Cowell
- *Darcy Burdock* by Laura Dockrill
- *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls* by Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo
- *Fortunately, the Milk...* by Neil Gaiman
- *I, Coriander* by Sally Gardner



- *Tall Story* by Candy Gourlay
- *Atticus Claw Breaks the Law* by Jennifer Gray
- *Simpsons Comics Shake Up* by Matt Groening
- *Rumaysa: A Fairytale* by Radiya Hafiza
- *Wildspark* by Vashti Hardy
- *The Mercies* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave
- *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz
- *High Rise Mystery* by Sharna Jackson
- *Wild Boy* by Rob Lloyd Jones
- *Oranges in No Man's Land* by Elizabeth Laird
- *Shine* by Kate Maryon
- *Shouty Kid* by Simon Mayle
- *A Kind of Spark* by Ellie McNicoll
- *The White Fox* by Jackie Morris
- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
- *Lori and Max* by Catherine O'Flynn
- *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
- *Foul Play* by Tom Palmer
- *Tom Gates: Ten Tremendous Tales* by Liz Pichon
- *Black Dog* by Levi Pinfold
- *Oliver & the Seawigs* by Phillip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre
- *Swordswoman!* by Devika Rangachari
- *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf
- *The Night Bus Hero* by Onjali Q. Rauf
- *Look Both Ways* by Jason Reynolds
- *Rooftoppers* by Katherine Rundell
- *Can You See Me?* by Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott
- *The Anti-Boredom Book of Brilliant Things to Do* by Andy Seed
- *Queer Heroes* by Arabelle Sicardi
- *A Series of Unfortunate Events: The Bad Beginning* by Lemony Snicket
- *Murder Most Unladylike* by Robin Stevens
- *My Brother is a Superhero* by David Solomons
- *Malamander* by Thomas Taylor
- *My Best Friend and Other Enemies* by Catherine Wilkins
- *My Mum Tracy Beaker* by Jacqueline Wilson
- *Science and Me* by Ali Winter
- *Vote for Effie* by Laura Wood
- *Funky Chickens* by Benjamin Zephaniah



Finding more books

There are plenty of ways to find books for your children but you do need to know where to look. In addition to the latest Young Readers Programme book lists, these are some great places to check out:

- Awards shortlists
- Websites
- Twitter handles
- Specialist publishers

Awards Shortlists



You can use the latest book award shortlists to find high quality books for your children. Click on the links to see the shortlists and discover more about the awards.

- [The CILIP Carnegie Award](#): awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book written in English for children and young people
- [The CILIP Kate Greenaway Award](#): awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book in terms of illustration for children and young people
- [The Klaus Flugge Prize](#): awarded to the most exciting newcomer to picture book illustration
- [Blue Peter Book Awards](#): two awards, one for best story and one for best story with facts, managed by the Book Trust
- [Children's Book Award](#): the only children's book award voted for solely by children
- [The Branford Boase Award](#): awarded annually to an outstanding first novel, recognising both the author and their editor
- [The UKLA Book Awards](#): celebrates children's books that teachers can use in the classroom



- [Waterstones Children’s Book Prize](#): award with three categories: Picture books, Fiction 5-12, and Teen
- [Lollies](#): award for the funniest children’s book
- [Oscar’s Book Prize](#): annual Prize for the best under-fives’ book of the year
- [Sainsbury’s Children’s Book Award](#): award with seven categories – Activity books, Baby & toddler, Favourite characters, Fiction, Learning and development, Picture book, Children’s classic
- [Costa Children’s Book Award](#): annual prize for children’s book of the year, selected by a nine-member panel
- [Jhalak Prize](#): book of the year from a writer of colour
- [The People’s Book Prize](#): award for new and undiscovered writers, with the winners chosen by the public

Websites



The following websites include reviews and recommendations of children’s books.

- [Toppsta](#): a website dedicated to children’s book reviews by children and their families
- [Scoop](#): a bi-monthly magazine for children aged 7+, which aims to inspire a love of reading and includes children’s book reviews
- [Good Reads](#): reviews of the latest children’s books
- **Love Reading** – [Lovereadng4kids](#) and [Lovereadng4schools](#): book reviews for children and teachers
- [Books For Keeps](#): magazine and website with reviews of the latest children’s books
- [Reading Zone](#): children’s books website with news, extracts and reviews
- [Book Trust](#): includes recommendations of the latest children’s books as well as forgotten classics
- [The School Run](#): website with primary learning resources, including several book lists based on age ranges and themes
- [The School Reading List](#): website containing lots of reading lists based on age and school year



Twitter

If you use Twitter then these hashtags and handles are useful to follow to keep up-to-date with the world of children's books:

- [@_Reading_Rocks_](#)
- [#PrimaryRocks](#)
- [#PrimarySchoolBookClub](#)
- [@bookpenpals](#)
- [@FunnyBookChat](#)
- [@Literacy_Trust](#)
- [#ReadingforPleasure](#)
- [#kidsbooks](#)
- [@WorldBookDayUK](#)
- [@Booktrust](#)

Specialist Publishers

Finally, the following publishers may be helpful:

- [Mantra Lingua](#): for finding dual-language books
- [Barrington Stoke](#): for finding dyslexia-friendly books or books for reluctant readers

