



One Hundred Books To Share With Your Child Before They Are Eight!

Reading is a wonderful pleasure, as well as a cornerstone of learning. This is not a reading list: it is a list of books for parents and children to enjoy and it has been put together in consultation with teachers across Moor Park School.

Many of these books are their choices! Some books will be ideal for children to read independently, others will be perfect for reading together. As ever with reading, what matters is what you enjoy. We hope this list provides some help for you in making your choices.

Of course, if you read something wonderful not on this list, let us know and we will add it to the next version!

It's a particularly wonderful thing to encourage your child to return to the picture books they enjoyed when they were little. Picture books are often rich in imagery, subtext and sometimes even metaphor and the best reward re-reading at any age.

Classics to Read With/To Your Child:

These books will be too difficult for many under 8s to read alone but are perfect as bedtime story books.

Winnie the Pooh – AA Milne

The House at Pooh Corner – AA Milne

The Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Grahame (the original is long and beautiful, but very challenging. There are many edited versions around)

Alice in Wonderland – Lewis Carroll (as with the above book, this is difficult for a child to read alone)

Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling

Cautionary Tales – Hilaire Belloc

The Borrowers – Mary Norton

Five Children and It – E Nesbit

Stig of the Dump – Clive King (recommended by a number of Moor Park teachers, who loved this book as children)

The Secret Garden – Frances Hodgson Burnett

The Railway Children – E Nesbit

Charlotte's Web – EB White

The Faraway Tree - Enid Blyton

What Katy Did - Susan Coolidge

Angelina Ballerina – Katharine Holabird and Helen Craig

Peter Rabbit (series) – Beatrix Potter

Thomas the Tank Engine (series) – Rev W Awdry.

Mr Men and Little Miss (series) – Roger Hargreaves (These are a bit harder to read than you think. They are great to read with children because you can act parts of them out and do different voices!)

Books Recommended by EYFS children and teachers (and particularly suitable for 0-5 readers):

Secret in the Mist – Margaret Nash and Stephen Lambert

Just Like You – Jan Fearnley

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? - Bill Martin Jnr

The Little Red Hen - Byron Barton

The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Eric Carle

Owl Babies - Martin Waddell and Patrick Benson

Stone Soup - Marcia Brown

Not Now Bernard - David McKee

There was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly - Pam Adams

The Tiger Who Came to Tea - Jill Tomlinson

Winnie the Witch - Valerie Thomas & Korky Paul

The Elephant and the Bad Baby - Elfrida Vipont & Raymond Briggs
We're Going on a Bear Hunt – Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
Handa's Surprise - Eileen Browne
Rosie's Walk - Pat and Laurence Hutchins
Dear Zoo - Rod Campbell
The Rainbow Fish - Marcus Pfister
Farmer Duck - Martin Waddell
Room on the Broom - Julia Donaldson
Days With Frog and Toad – Arnold Lobel
Nobot – Sue Hendra
George and the Dragon – Chris Wormell
Mr Seahorse – Eric Carle
This is Not My Hat *and* I Want My Hat Back – Jon Klassen
Patrick - Quentin Blake
Harry and the Dinosaurs and Harry and the Buckeftul of Dinosaurs – Ian Whybrow
Supertato – Sue Hendra (in fact all of Sue Hendra's picture books are brilliant and funny)
Aliens Love Underpants – Claire Freedman and Ben Cort
The Dirty Great Dinosaur – Martin Waddell and Leonie Lord

Books Recommended by Year One Teachers and Children:

The Cat in the Hat - Dr Seuss
Hairy Maclary - Lynley Dodd
The Large Family Collection - Jill Murphy
Charlie and Lola - Lauren Child
The Smartest Giant in Town - Julia Donaldson
The Gruffalo's Child - Julia Donaldson
The Gigantic Turnip - Aleksei Tolstoy

The Whisperer - Nick Butterworth
Mrs Armitage on Wheels - Quentin Blake
The Trouble with Jack - Shirley Hughes
My Friend Bear - Jez Alborough
Avocado Baby - John Burningham
Funnybones - Allan Ahlberg
This Moose Belongs to Me– Oliver Jeffers
The Jolly Postman - Allan Ahlberg
Mister Magnolia - Quentin Blake
The Princess and the Pea - Minnie Grey
Amazing Grace - Mary Hoffman
Don't Forget the Bacon - Pat Hutchins
Dogger – Shirley Hughes
Halibut Jackson – David Lucas
The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig –Eugene Trivizas and Helen Oxenbury
Green Eggs and Ham – Dr Seuss

Books Recommended by Year Two Teachers and Children:

The Cat Who Lost His Purr - Michelle Coxon
Frightened Fred - Peta Coplans
Mog Stories - Judith Kerr
Mr Wolf's Pancakes - Jan Fearnley
The Adventures of Captain Underpants - Dav Pilkey
The Diary of a Killer Cat - Anne Fine
Mrs Wobble the Waitress - Allan Ahlberg
George's Marvellous Medicine - Roald Dahl

The Giraffe, Pelly and Me - Roald Dahl
The Worst Witch – Jill Murphy
The Hundred Mile-an-hour Dog – Jeremy Strong
Cosmo and the Magic Sneeze – Gwyneth Rees
Fungus the Bogeyman – Raymond Briggs
Into the Forest – Anthony Browne
Sam’s Duck – Michael Morpurgo
The Sheep Pig – Dick King-Smith
Revolting Rhymes – Roald Dahl
Horrid Henry’s Big Bad Book – Francesca Simon
Aladdin and the Enchanted Lamp – Philip Pullman
Pippi Longstocking – Astrid Lindgren and Tony Ross
The Ice-Cream Dragon - Jenni Fleetwood
Whatever Next?! - Jill Murphy
The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark - Jill Tomlinson
Pongwiffy by Kaye Umansky

Some Picture Books to Make You Think (but which are suitable for 4-8 year olds)

These books reward re-reading and are perfect for discussion as they raise important issues.

The Flower – John Light
The Big Ugly Monster and the Little Stone Rabbit– Chris Wormell (This is really quite sad)
Window – Jeannie Baker (there are no words in this story)
Angry Arthur – Hiawyn Oram
Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak
Black Dog – Levi Pinfold
Voices in the Park – Anthony Browne

Bog Baby – Jeanne Willis and Gwen Millward

Changes – Anthony Browne

The Boy Who Grew Flowers – Jen Wojtowicz and Steve Adams (This is quite a challenging book in many different ways and is about difference)

K Gedye

K Donnelly

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