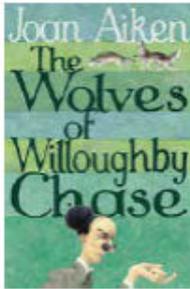


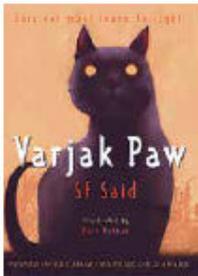
Year Five reading list – books to share:



The Wolves of Willoughby Chase

Joan Aiken (Red Fox)

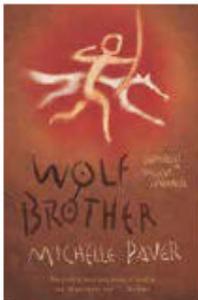
There are 12 novels in this series (the 'Wolves Chronicles') and 'The Wolves' is the first, set in Joan Aiken's own historical world (1832) where wolves have travelled through the Channel Tunnel! Begin by researching some information about wolves. There is a good film that can be used to compare with the book (though it has a PG certificate so get parental permission). Try reading the book chapter-by-chapter and watching the film alongside, section-by-section. With the class list difficult vocabulary for discussion and create a glossary of historical terms. At the end, discuss what should happen to Miss Slighcarp and Mr Grimshaw. Check out Joan Aiken's website where you can download a bookmark for the book. (<http://www.joanaiken.com/pages/books.html>)



Varjak Paw **READ&RESPOND**

SF Said (Random House)

After reading the book, ask children to paint dark city landscapes and skylines. Then together draw role-on-the-wall for Varjak, collecting clues and quotes about his developing character. Ask: *Why is Varjak rejected and yet why does he return?* Explain the difference between Varjak, the Elder Paw and the other cats. Can the children contrast the inside of the house with outside in the city? Together invent a 'Jalal tale' and explain 'the way'. Invite the children to write a night adventure for Varjak – for example, a story in which he nearly gets caught by Sally Bones. Encourage them to write a sequel adventure and then read *The Outlaw Varjak Paw* (Random House).



Wolf Brother

Michelle Paver (Orion)

Before reading draw a map and during the story, mark where events occur. With the class make a list of the words or phrases that Wolf uses instead of human terms and give their definitions, such as *'Tall Tailless, Bright White Eye, thundering Wolf'*. Encourage them to try inventing other phrases for everyday things and try writing a scene from the book from Wolf's viewpoint using his language. The story is set 6,000 years ago and imagines what life might have been like. Together describe the main settings – the Raven camp, the ice river, the wide water, the cave and the forest. Draw and discuss as a class the significance of the main events – Torak's father's death, meeting Wolf, fighting Hord, discovering the prophecy and defeating the bear. Compare this book to other 'quests' – typical characters, events and plot patterns.

Malamander by Thomas Taylor

When Violet teams up with Herbie to help her find out what happened to her long lost parents, little does she realise how her life will become entangled with the Malamander monster of Eerie-on-Sea. A fascinating story that captures a uniquely quirky and fantastical atmosphere. An ideal whole class reading book for year 5 children. The first of a series.

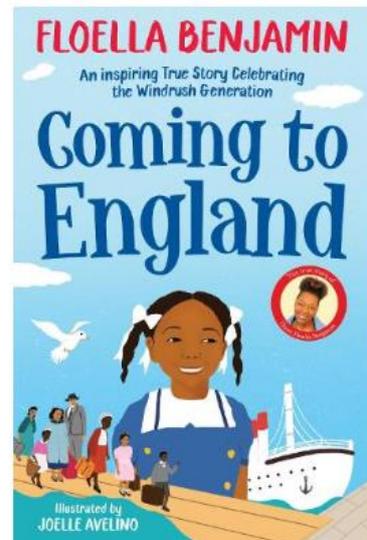
Fantasy



Coming to England by Floella Benjamin

This inspiring autobiography sensitively and revealingly chronicles the Windrush experience of a young girl travelling from Trinidad to a new life in England in 1960. A powerful read, Floella Benjamin's childhood account is one that will resonate with KS2 children and one they will be able to empathise with. This text will be a useful resource for autobiographical writing in year 5 literacy lessons.

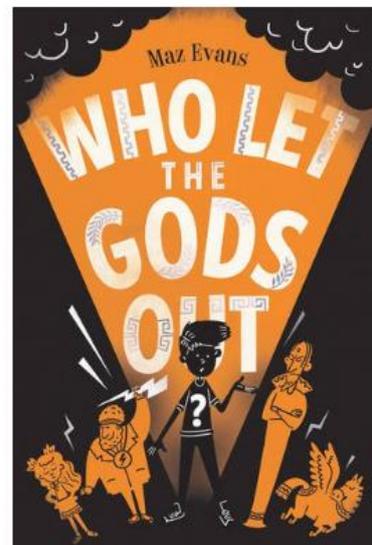
Diverse



Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans

An anarchic laugh-out-loud story about a boy, Elliot, who spots a shooting star one night which turns out to be a deity with a lot on her mind; and something unexpected and very nasty lurking under Stonehenge. The pair call on the Gods of Greek myths to save the world and Elliot's mum. The outrageously funny language will appeal to reluctant readers. This must-read book is probably a cult series in the making.

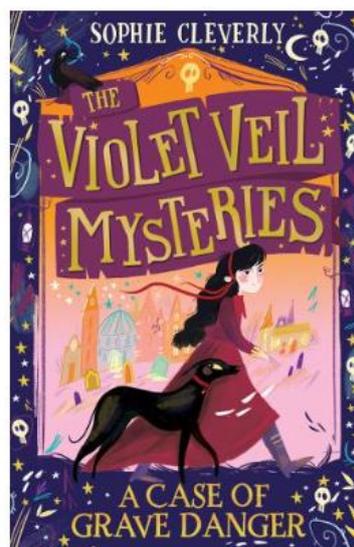
Funny



The Violet Veil Mysteries by Sophie Cleverly

When Violet's father is arrested for crimes he did not commit, she is thrust into a world of intrigue and ghostly goings-on in this, the first of a new series. Set in the world of undertakers Veil & Son's, Violet is determined to walk in her father's footsteps and one day run the family firm. With fast-paced plotting, short chapters and a strong female protagonist, this story is ideal for upper KS2 murder mystery fans and would make a good year 5 book for reading group discussion.

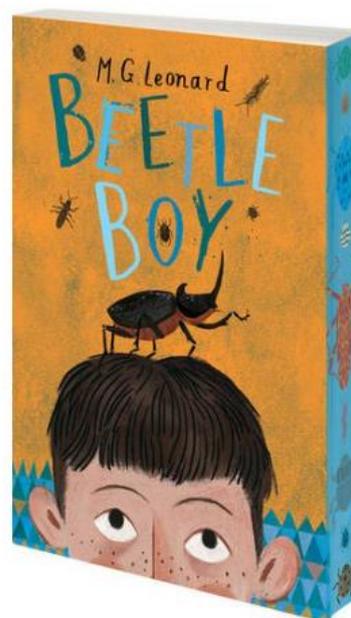
Mystery



Beetle Boy by MG Leonard

When Darkus' dad vanishes he finds himself living next to the neighbours from hell. When things seemingly can't get any worse, a super-intelligent talking beetle comes to the rescue. Anarchic, funny, and at times completely mad – with a hint of Roald Dahl. This is a gripping storytime read-aloud that pupils will look forward to each day.

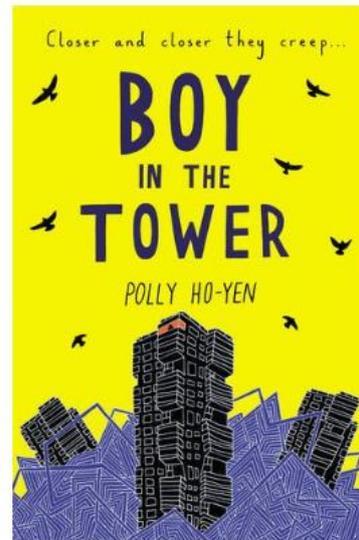
Adventure



Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

A boy who lives in a tower block sees the whole world below him. But one day the tower begins to crumble and fall. The world around him collapses amongst peculiar and menacing plants. Is all hope lost or can he find a way out? This multi-award-winning book with high-quality text is ideal for teaching in year 5 literacy units, and perfect to use when modelling tension, descriptive writing and settings.

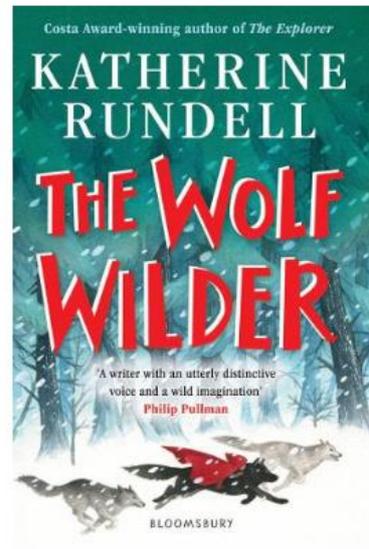
Dystopia | **Diverse**



The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell

Set in revolution-era Russia, a snowbound mother and daughter live in fear of the encroaching Red Army. But Feodora and her mother have a unique talent – they can turn tame wolves into suspicious and wild beasts fit to fend for themselves. With sparkling prose and rich in figurative language, this is a memorable story for freedom and independence that will keep a class of year five children entranced.

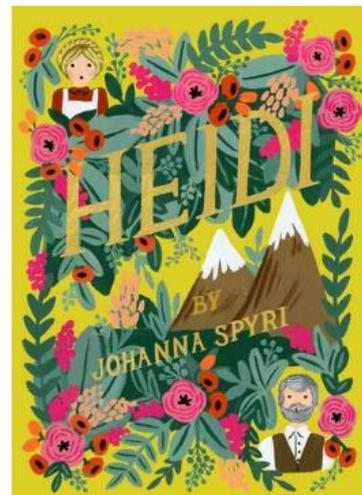
Historical



Heidi by Johanna Spyri

Heidi is an orphan left heartbroken when she has to leave her grandfather and home in the mountains to live in the city. This classic children's literature novel both inspires and delights and will appeal to children who yearn for the great outdoors. The text is also a useful resource for year 5 teachers looking to explore descriptive settings and use landscapes to create atmospheric narrative writing.

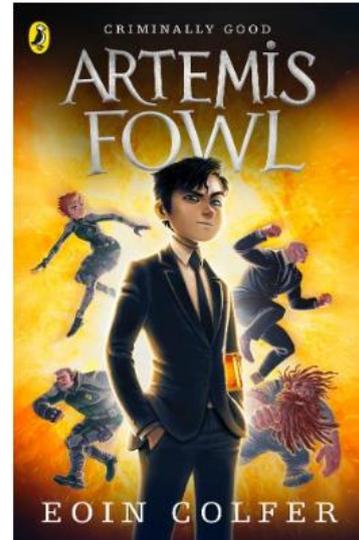
Classic



Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

Artemis Fowl is the twelve-year-old son of an Irish crime lord. After significant research, Artemis believes that he has confirmed the existence of fairies, and he intends to track them down. A more advanced book for year 5 book clubs.

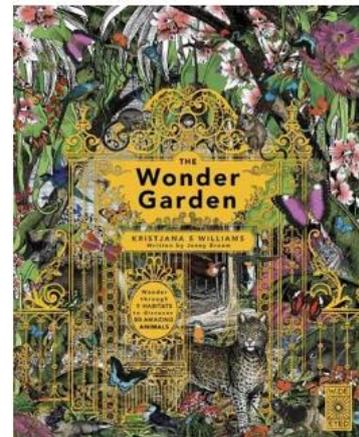
Fantasy



The Wonder Garden by Jenny Bloom and Kristjana Williams

A beautifully realised illustrated exploration of five incredible habitats – each meticulously detailed in colourful pictures and snappy labels. Journey through the Great Barrier Reef and the Amazon in this visual masterpiece. Great for sparking off imaginative 9-year-old young minds.

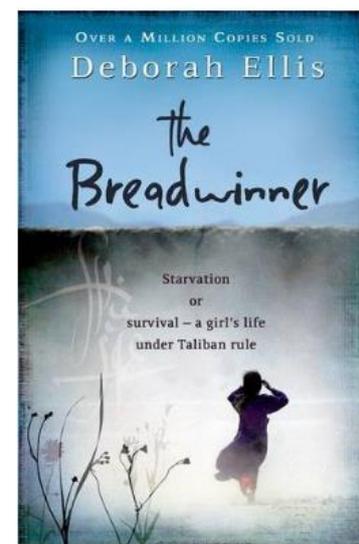
Natural history



The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis

11-year-old Parvana is forced by circumstances to become the breadwinner for her family in a war-torn Taliban ruled Afghanistan. This complex issue-based story is a masterpiece of empathy and will not only grip children in year five, but allow them to empathise, hot-seat, and compare how different their lives are to Parvana's experiences. Highly recommended for year 5 book clubs and topic-based teaching.

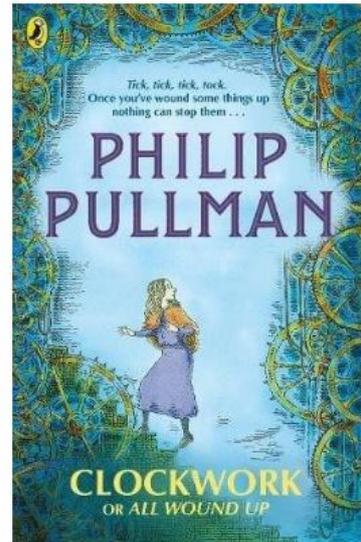
Diverse



Clockwork by Philip Pullman

A tormented apprentice clock-maker, a deadly mechanical knight in armour – and the sinister Dr Kalmenius, who some say is the devil. A great modern fairy tale, this short chapter book contains sparkling writing, rich figurative language and evocative descriptions. It's a gift for creative writing teachers looking to develop pupils' storytelling skills in year 5.

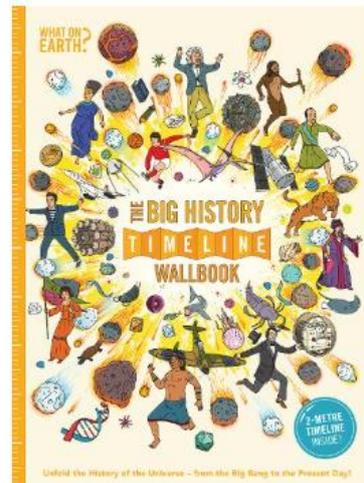
Fantasy



The What on Earth? Wallbook Timeline of Big History by Christopher Lloyd

An incredible history book that spans the dawn of time to the present day, in a five-metre long fold-out book timeline which can be laid out on a table, floor or wall. Unique and very engaging, children can walk around the book and dip into different time periods. Thought-provoking and inspiring, this book and wallchart combination is great for reluctant readers and it's perfect for year 5 pupils who are interested in facts, history and non-fiction texts.

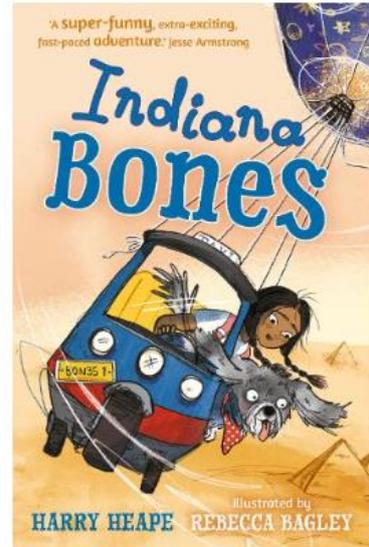
History



Indiana Bones by Harry Heape

With the perfect blend of humour and history, Indiana Bones, a dog detective with Aisha as his owner and sidekick, set out to fathom centuries-old crimes from Castile to Casablanca. This gripping and pacey mystery is cleverly set in highly legible and doubled spaced type to appeal to reluctant readers in UKS2. It's also a useful text to help less able readers develop language and vocabulary, both in terms of reading, and when modelling creative writing.

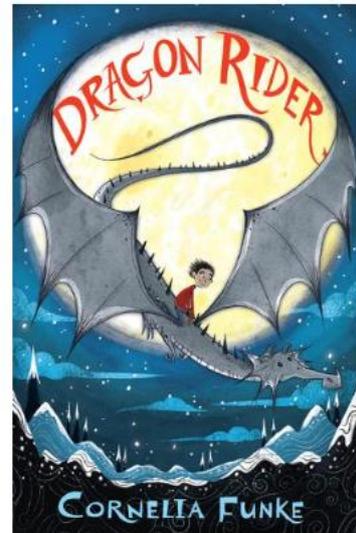
Mystery



Dragon Rider by Cornelia Funke

A silver dragon named Firedrake, the Brownie Sorrel, and Ben, a boy, search for the mythical mountain range called the Rim of Heaven to escape persecution from humans. Friendship, loyalty, good and evil are some of the key themes in this epic quest. The first in a series of bestselling spellbinding fantasy novels, Dragon Rider will transfix many of the 9-year-olds that read it.

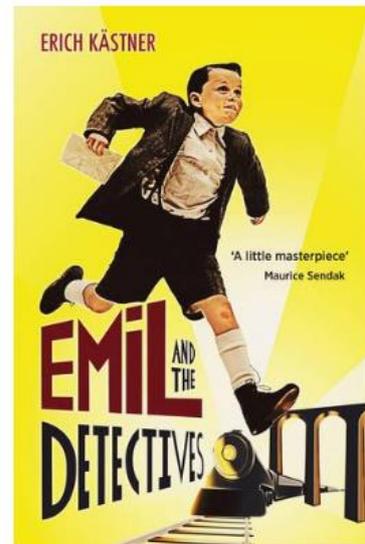
Fantasy



Emil and the Detectives by Erich Kästner

On the train to Berlin, Emil meets a mysterious man who introduces himself as Max Grundeis. This man gives Emil mysterious chocolate and Emil falls asleep. When he wakes up, the money and Herr Grundeis are gone. A classic of twentieth-century children's literature, and a gripping mystery, this is a surefire addition to your year five classroom library.

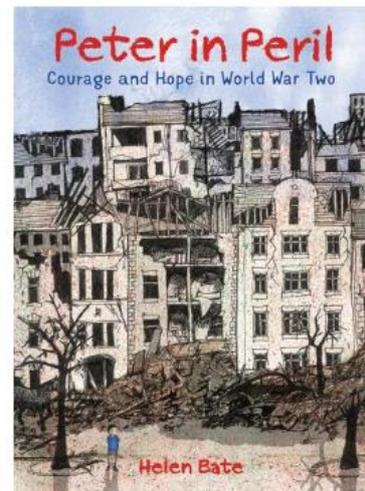
Classic



Peter in Peril by Helen Bate

Peter's life is turned upside down when his family have to go into hiding to escape persecution in WW2 Hungary. This easy to read graphic novel is accessible, highly visual and ideal for reluctant readers in year five. It's also ideal to read in conjunction with When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr.

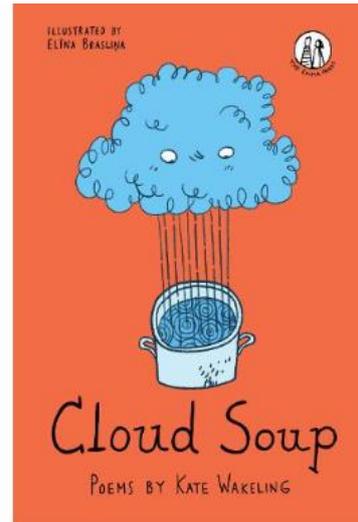
Historical



Cloud Soup by Kate Wakeling

This new collection from the creators of the award-winning Moon Juice contains 35 inventive, quirky and humorous poems for 9-11-year-olds. Full of imagery and great to read aloud, this is a good pick for year 5&6 classrooms. This highly imaginative poetry collection is also ideal for sparking ideas for children's writing in upper KS2.

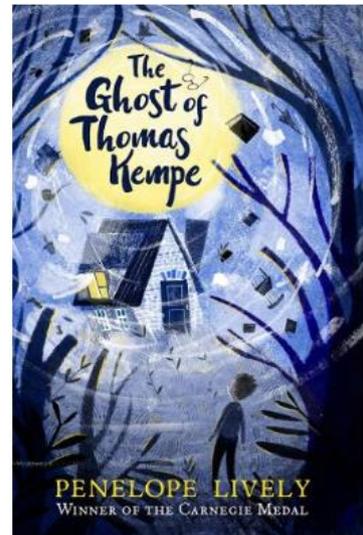
Poetry



The Ghost of Thomas Kempe by Penelope Lively

James Harrison and his family move into a cottage in Ledsham and from day one they are bothered by a ghost called Thomas Kempe. An atmospheric and slightly scary book for group-reading with more confident readers in Year 5. It's perfect if you want to set up an after-school ghost story writing activity for nine-year-olds.

Horror



Harry Potter series by J. K. Rowling

The publishing phenomenon and bestselling middle-grade series starring Harry, Ron and Hermione is perfect for independent reading, whole-class novel studies, and group reading. Also, Harry Potter might well be the series of books that gets your child hooked on reading for pleasure and energised to start reading more often. A highly recommended series of books for year 5.

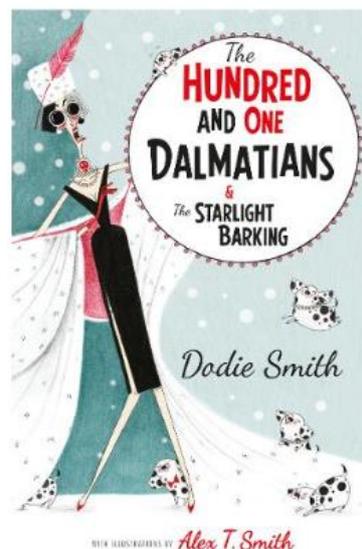
Fantasy



The Hundred and One Dalmatians by Dodie Smith

Cruella de Vil has 97 Dalmatian puppies. She needs 101 to make a new fur coat. Can anyone stop her before it's too late? This classic children's novel has been turned into a number of films and audiobook adaptations, making it a highly accessible option for year five guided reading groups.

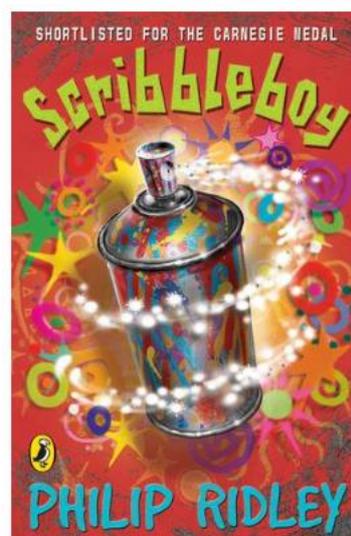
Classic



Scribbleboy by Philip Ridley

Bailey arrives in a new neighbourhood with his unusual family. He has no friends but receives a strange invitation to join the Scribbleboy Fan Club. With exciting vocabulary, wacky, larger than life characters, vivid descriptions, lively illustrations and laugh out loud moments, this is a great book to encourage reluctant readers in year 5.

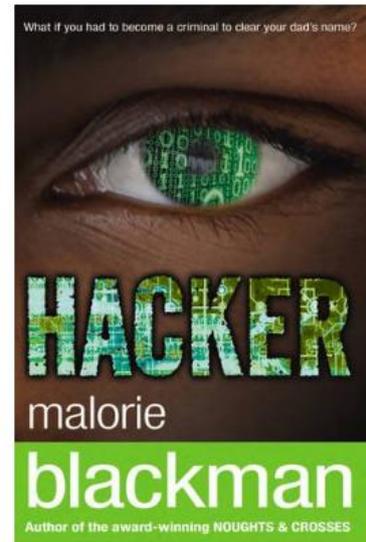
Family



Hacker by Malorie Blackman

Vicky's father is accused of stealing over a million pounds from the bank where he works. How can she prove his innocence? A more mature independent reading book for year 5 pupils, this novel will appeal to children who have a strong sense of right and wrong, or who are interested in computers and coding.

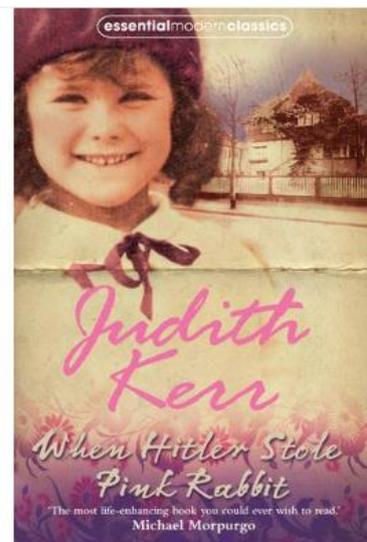
Mystery | **Diverse**



When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit by Judith Kerr

The powerful story of a young Jewish girl who is forced to flee her home in Germany in 1933. A masterpiece of historical fiction, this is a moving novel that is ideal for both year five book clubs and for teaching as a whole class text in a WW2 topic.

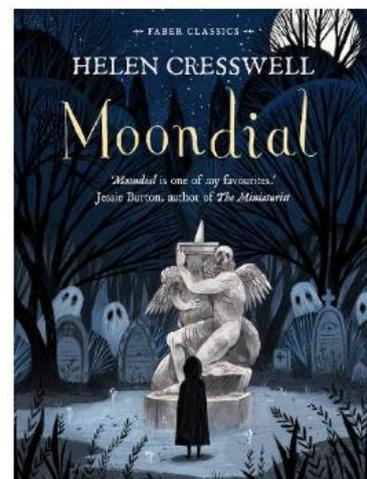
Historical



Moondial by Helen Cresswell

A girl discovers a tunnel through time and tries to help two children from the past, in this story of ghosts, friendship and trying to right wrongs. A vividly told story, this classic children's novel is filled with evocative and atmospheric descriptions, rich characterisation and complex sentences – making it a useful teaching resource for more able pupils working at greater depth in year 5.

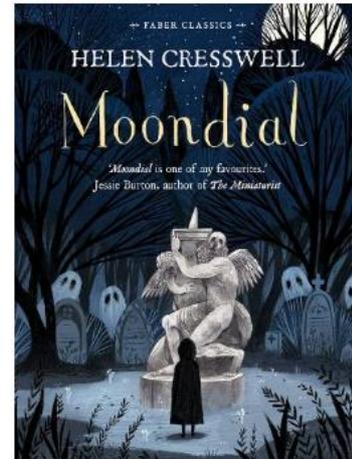
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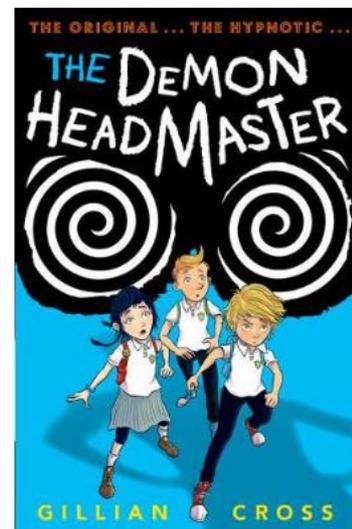
Classic



The Demon Headmaster by Gillian Cross

Dinah Glass discovers that her new school Headmaster is very strange. It's almost as if he's controlling what all the pupils say and think. Something is very wrong, and Dinah wants to know what it is. A fast-paced school-based dystopia for nine-year-olds, this is a thought-provoking read that will linger in the imagination.

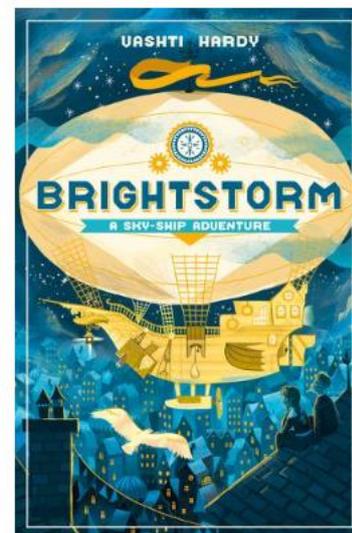
Realistic fiction



Brightstorm: A Sky-Ship Adventure by Vashti Hardy

A gripping fantasy story that is perfectly suited for class reading. Arthur and Maudie Brightstorm set off on a dangerous voyage to find their father and save the family reputation. The first of a stunning series and an ideal year 5 book to inspire readers.

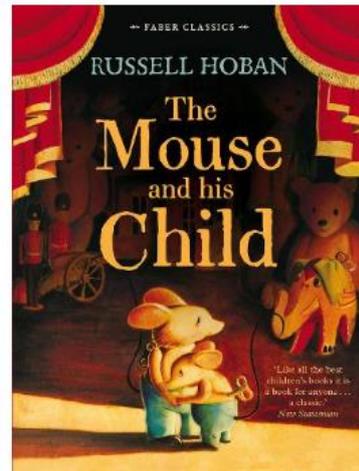
Fantasy



The Mouse and His Child by Russell Hoban

The spellbinding story of a tin father and son who dance under a Christmas tree until they break the ancient clockwork rules and are themselves broken. A spellbinding and memorable story book to read aloud to a year five at the end of the day, this children's novel is a must-have for the classroom bookshelf.

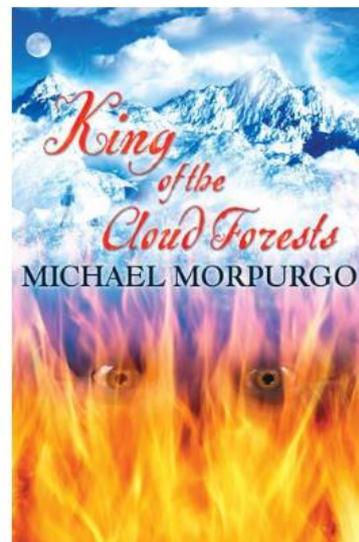
Classic



King of the Cloud Forests by Michael Morpurgo

When Japan invades China, Ashley and his Uncle are forced to flee across the Himalayas. When Ashley is captured by a group of strange creatures, they revere him as their king. But why? This surprising and memorable story is ideal for group reading in year five and is also a worthwhile addition to any upper KS2 classroom library.

Adventure



The Phoenix and the Carpet by E. Nesbit

A group of children find out their new carpet is magical. An egg in the carpet hatches into a talking Phoenix which explains that the carpet is magical and will grant them three wishes every day. This classic of children's literature is a more challenging book for year 5 readers.

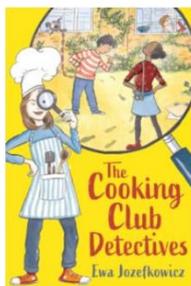
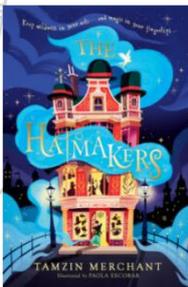
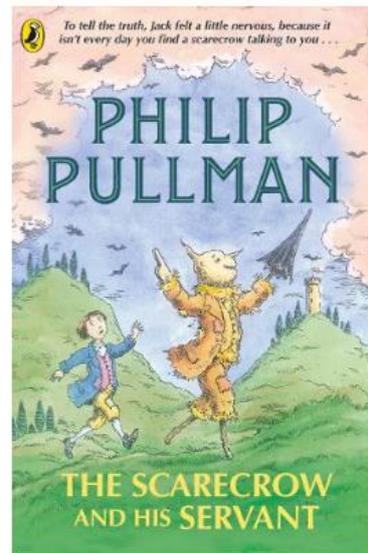
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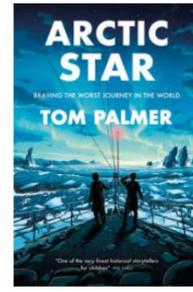
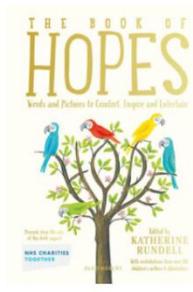


The Scarecrow and his Servant by Philip Pullman

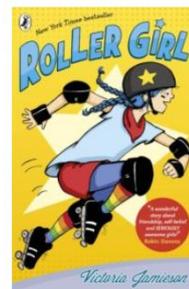
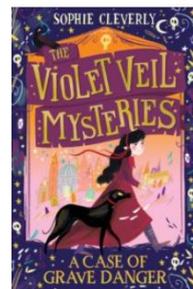
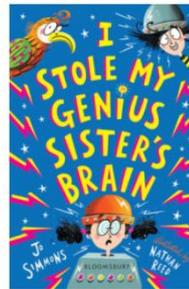
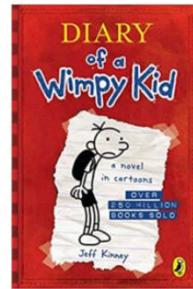
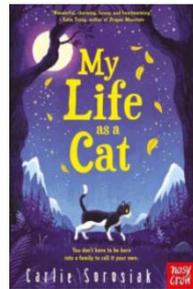
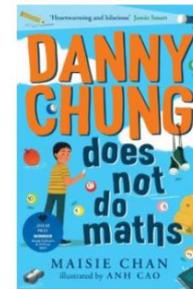
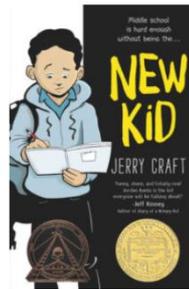
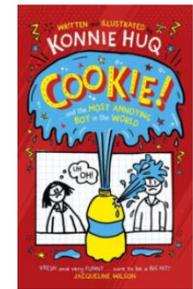
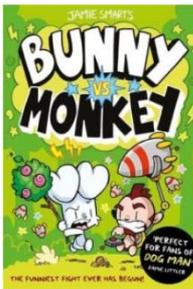
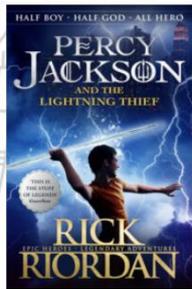
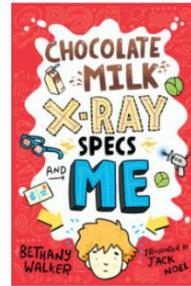
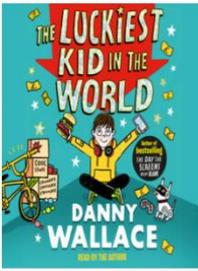
A scarecrow comes alive after being struck by lightning and sets out on a spectacular quest with Jack, an orphan who is his servant. Brilliantly told, this lyrical and beautifully woven tale will keep year five children engrossed from start to finish. A marvellous class reader for teachers who want a text with rich language and characterisation.

Adventure

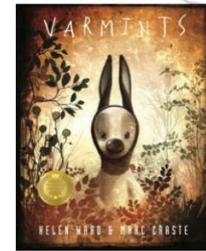
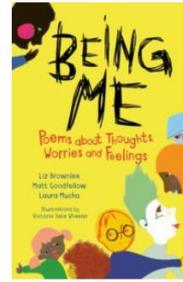
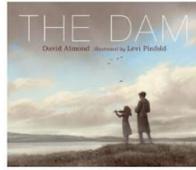
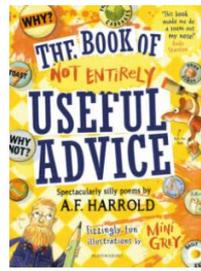
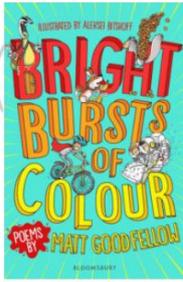




Popular Independent Reads for Year 5



Recommended Picturebooks and Poetry for Year 5



Recommended Non-Fiction Books for Year 5

