



Book Lists for Learning to Read and Write and for Reading for Pleasure

We want our school to be a place where children enjoy, discuss and work with high quality books. Below is an outline of the books which we use to ensure that our children are exposed to a wide-range of books. There are three sets of lists:

1. Pie Corbett's Reading Spine: the essential books to support the "Talk for Writing" framework.
2. Books which celebrate diversity and inclusion: a key area for Saint John's learning
3. Six to get you started: books to encourage children to read different genres and styles

The 'Reading Spine'

Pie Corbett says, "Great books build the imagination. The more we read aloud expressively, and the more children are able to savour, discuss and reinterpret literature through the arts, the more memorable the characters, places and events become, building an inner world... Each great book develops the imagination and equips the reader with language."

Great stories speak to us as individuals and some children will return to certain books again and again. Great stories also build our language because around 75 per cent of our vocabulary comes from our reading. Reading develops the ability to think in the abstract; to follow lines of thought.

Reception Reading Spine

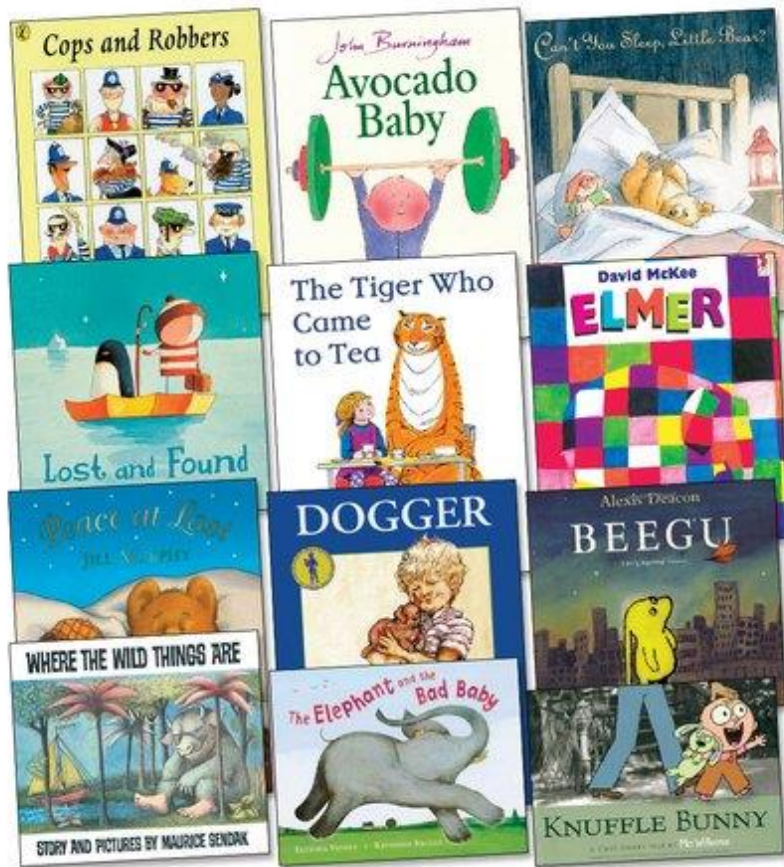


The books for the 4–5 age group mainly use patterned language but begin to have a stronger emotional connection with the reader. There is also plenty to discuss and to wonder about.

Many of them lend themselves to retelling and creating new versions or further adventures featuring the same characters.

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Year 1 Reading Spine



The picture books in Year 1 offer deeper exploration of emotions and wonder. They are mainly rooted in the everyday crises of life.

Most of these books lend themselves to setting up a variety of play situations – using toys, costumes and puppets – but the children also need to be involved in careful reading of the books, paying close attention to the detail and entering imagined worlds to experience the stories deeply – then talking with adults and other children.

Year 2 Reading Spine



In Year 2, it is important to start to move from sharing picture books into sharing chapter books. These will not only provide a meaty read, but also demand that the children use their imagination. Of course, there are also many Reception and Year 1 children who will sit and enjoy a chapter book and this should form part of their reading experience.

Many of the chosen books operate on different levels – from the satisfaction of good stories to the exploration of deeper themes

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Year 3 Reading Spine



Whilst I have selected just one picture book for Year 3, there are many more which will intrigue and provide a challenge for this age group such as *The Day the Crayons Quit* (HarperCollins) or *John Brown, Rose and the Midnight Cat* (Puffin).

Children of this age need a great storyline, but should also be experiencing deep and rich books.

Year 4 Reading Spine



This selection covers a range of stories that extends to fantasy as well as introducing Anne Fine's wonderful books. I came across *Perry Angel's Suitcase* by Glenda Millard in Australia. It is a deeply moving book, both sad, but also full of hope – a lovely book. Read it yourself before reading it with the children to judge whether it is right for your class.

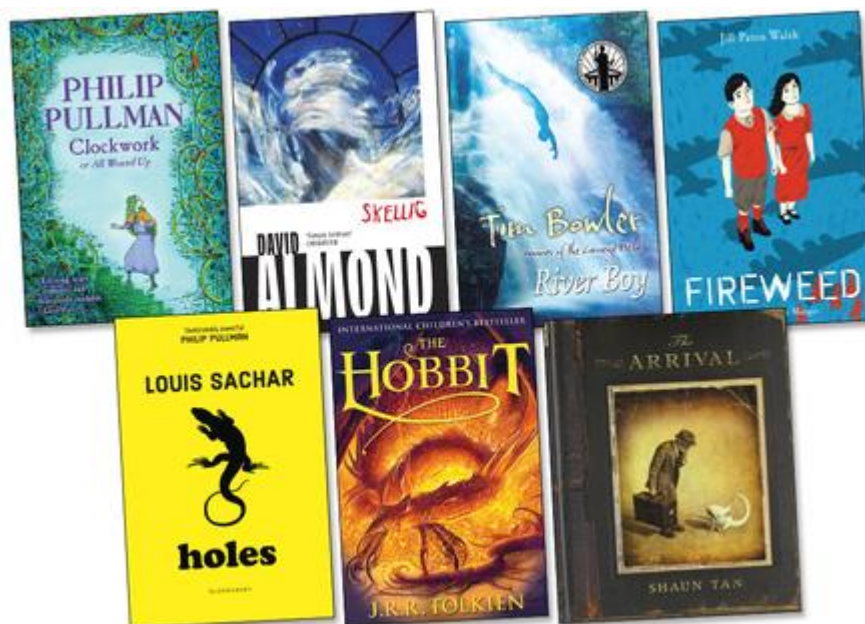
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Year 5 Reading Spine



It was only when I had made my list for Year 5 that I realised how animals feature heavily – cats, wolves and foxes! These are romping reads as well as stories that touch deeply. I have listed them in a suggested order that leads towards what I would say is the greatest novel ever written for children.

Year 6 Reading Spine



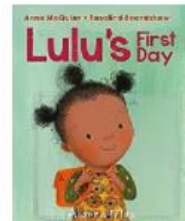
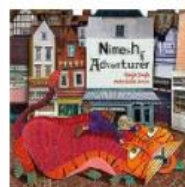
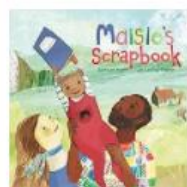
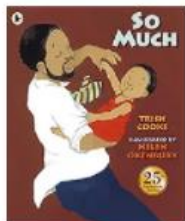
Here is my selection of great novels for Year 6 children. Do also look out for Doris Lessing's *Through the Tunnel* (HarperCollins), which is a fabulous and challenging short story.

These books are the reading rites of passage that pave the way for the great literature that lies ahead. The books are intense reads, meaty books that are crafted beautifully. They will stay with the reader forever. These books are life-changers. Do read them before sharing with the class as some touch on challenging themes.

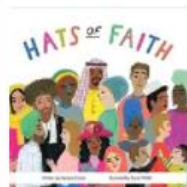
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EYFS Books to celebrate and consider diversity and inclusion

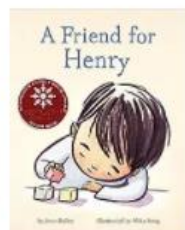
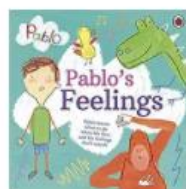
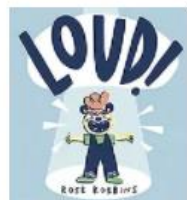
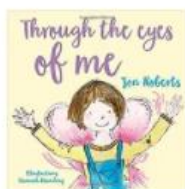
BAME Main Characters



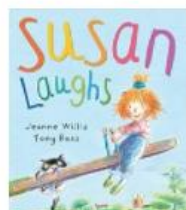
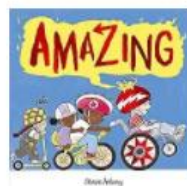
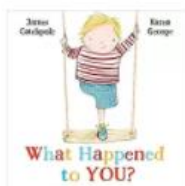
Cultural Diversity



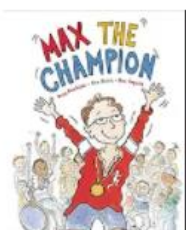
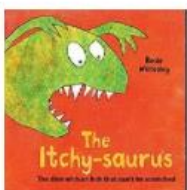
Neurodiversity



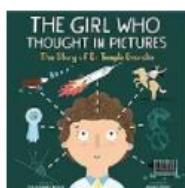
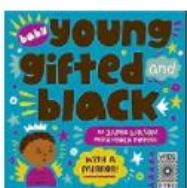
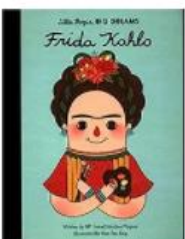
Physical Disabilities



Medical Conditions



Real-life Heroes




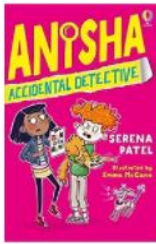

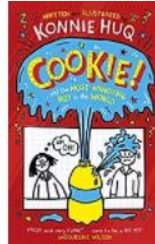



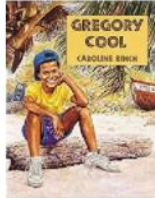

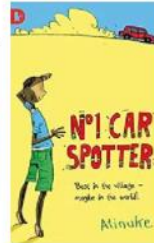

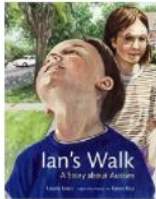
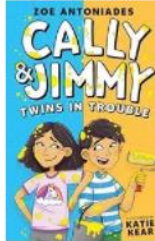







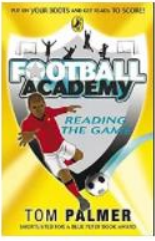
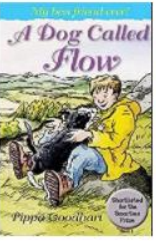

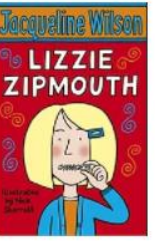

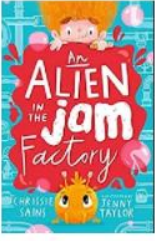

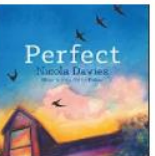
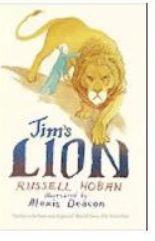

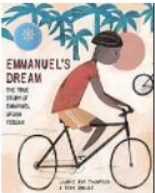
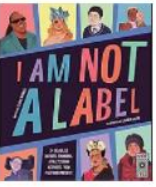

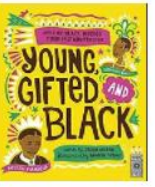

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Key Stage 1 Books to celebrate and consider diversity and inclusion

BAME Main Characters					
Cultural Diversity					
Neurodiversity					
Physical Disabilities					
Medical Conditions					
Real-life Heroes					

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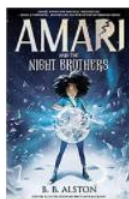
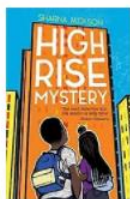
Year 3 and 4 Books to celebrate and consider diversity and inclusion

BAME Main Characters					
Cultural Diversity					
Neurodiversity: Autism, ADHD & OCD					
Physical Disabilities					
Learning Difficulties & Speech Disorders					
Medical Conditions					
Real-life Heroes					

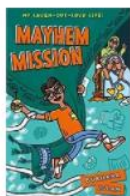
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Year 5 and 6 Books to celebrate and consider diversity and inclusion

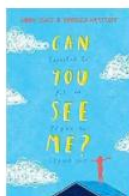
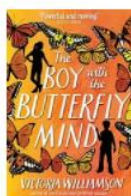
BAME Main Characters



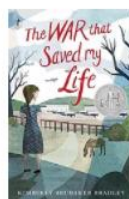
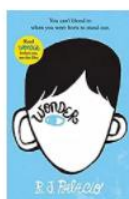
Cultural Diversity



Neurodiversity: Autism, ADHD & OCD



Physical Disabilities



Learning Difficulties & Speech Disorders



Medical Conditions



Real-life Heroes



Book Lists for Learning to Read and Write and for Reading for Pleasure

'Six to get you Started'

These book selections include: a funny book, a classic, a picture book, a poetry book, an adventure book and a non-fiction book.

Reception

The longer one 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year One

The longer one 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year Two

The picture book 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year Three

The picture book 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year Four

The picture book 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year 5

The picture book 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

Year Six

The picture book 	The funny one 	The non-fiction one 
The adventure one 	The poetry one 	The classic one 

6 to get you started @MisterBodd

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