



Recommended Reading List for Year 7 and Year 8

Below is a list of suggested titles, categorised according to genre: some are, of course, more accessible than others but please encourage your child to be ambitious in some of their choices. Many more titles could have been added to this list, but we hope it embodies a diversity of literature - and represents a range of reading tastes - as it stands. Please seek guidance from your son / daughter's English teacher as to suitable material, should you require help in this respect.

Classics

- I'm the King of the Castle – Susan Hill
- The Woman in Black – Susan Hill
- Wide Sargasso Sea – Jean Rhys
- The Day of the Triffids – John Wyndham
- Little Women – Louisa May Alcott
- Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens
- Jane Eyre – Charlotte Brontë
- Lord of the Flies – William Golding
- The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien *
- The Lord of the Rings – J.R.R. Tolkien
- The Chronicles of Narnia – C.S. Lewis
- Decline and Fall – Evelyn Waugh
- The 39 Steps – John Buchan
- Cider with Rosie – Laurie Lee *
- To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee *
- The Secret Garden – F.H. Burnett *
- Anne of Green Gables – L.M. Montgomery
- Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain *
- The Hound of the Baskervilles – Arthur Conan Doyle
- Around the World in Eighty Days – Jules Verne
- Watership Down – Richard Adams *
- The Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Grahame *
- The Railway Children – E. Nesbit *
- Mr Frisby and the Rats of Nimh - Robert C. O'Brien *

* texts marked with an asterisk are among the more accessible of the Classics

Real Life Stories

- A Thousand Splendid Suns – Khaled Hosseini
- A Monster Calls – Patrick Ness
- Maggot Moon – Sally Gardner
- The Weight of Water – Sarah Crossan
- Wonder – R J Palacio
- Ketchup Clous – Annabel Pitcher
- In The Sea There Are Crocodiles – Fabio Geda
- Mockingbird – Katheryn Erskine

Adventure Stories

- The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness
- The Vanishing of Katharina Linden – Helen Grant
- The Haunting – Margaret Mahy
- Holes – Louis Sachar
- The Sword in the Stone – T.H. White
- The Ruby in the Smoke – Philip Pullman
- The Solitaire Mystery – Jostein Gardiner
- Silverfin – Charlie Higson
- Ferryman – Clarie McFall
- The Afterworld Series – Barry Hutchinson
- Midwinterblood – Marcus Sedgwick
- The Messenger Bird – Ruth Eastham
- Hatchet – Gary Paulson
- Pax – Sara Pennypacker
- Where the World Ends – Geraldine McCaughrean
- Brother in the Land – Robert Swindells

Fantasy and Science Fiction Stories

- Shadowmancer – GP Taylor
- Z for Zachariah – Robert O'Brien
- Skellig – David Almond
- A Wizard of Earthsea – Ursula LeGuin
- The Discworld Series – Terry Pratchett
- Children of the Lamp Series – P.B. Kerr
- The Seeing – Diana Hendry
- Interworld – Neil Gaiman and Michael Reaves
- Seraphina – Rachel Hartman

Historical Stories

- The Book Thief – Marcus Zusak
- Greek Myths – Geraldine McCaughrean
- The Machine Gunners – Robert Westall
- The Silver Sword – Ian Serraillier

- When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit – Judith Kerr
- Goodnight Mister Tom – Michelle Magorian
- King of Shadows – Susan Cooper
- I Am David – Anne Holm
- The Dark is Rising Series – Susan Cooper
- Carrie’s War – Nina Bawden
- The Red Necklace – Sally Gardner
- Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank

Stories about other Cultures

- The Flame Trees of Thika – Elsbeth Huxley
- Chinese Cinderella – Adeline Yen Mah
- The Village by the Sea – Anita Desai
- Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson
- The Eye of the Horse – Jamila Gavin
- The Kite Rider – Geraldine McCaughrean
- Wolf Brother – Michelle Paver
- The Incredible Journey – Shelia Burnford
- The Breadwinner – Deborah Ellis
- The Thief Lord – Cornelia Funke
- The Wheel of Surya – Jamilia Gavin
- The Lady of the Squire – Terry Jones
- The Life of Pi – Yann Martel
- Falling Leaves – Adeline Yen Mah

Other stories by established authors

- Stars Shall Be Bright – Catherine MacPhail
- Stonebird – Maïke Rvell
- Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman
- I Capture the Castle – Dodie Smith
- Frozen Fire – Tim Bowler
- Feather Boy – Nicky Singer
- The Declaration – Gemma Malley
- The Tulip Touch – Anna Fine
- Zlata’s Diary – Zlata Filipovic
- Boy – Roald Dahl
- The Shakespeare Secret – J.L. Carrell
- Starseeker – Tim Bowler
- Chart Breaker – Gillian Cross
- Coram Boy – Jamilia Gavin