

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



## Genre: Realistic Fiction

## Year 7

## Year 8

## Year 9



### Boy, Everywhere by A.M. Dassu

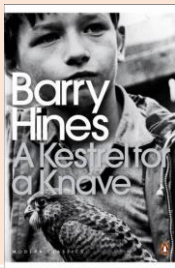
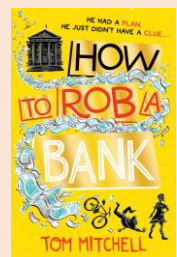
This debut middle-grade novel chronicles the harrowing journey taken by Sami and his family from privilege to poverty, across countries and continents, from a comfortable life in Damascus, via a smuggler's den in Turkey, to a prison in Manchester. A story of survival, family and bravery.

### The Blue Book of Nebo by Manon Ros

Written in alternating diary entries between Dylan and Rowenna, this is a deeply personal and intimate look at the inner thoughts and emotions of a family surviving after a nuclear apocalypse. All in all it is a thoughtful, grounded look at what life might be like for a child growing up in the wake of a terrible disaster.

### Liddle Bit by Alex Wheatle

This book will excite the urban young because their world is brought alive on these pages. Dealing with the unfortunate reality of gangs and gang wars in local estates, Liddle Bit offers an insight into how easily a child's life can take a turn for the worst through a simple interaction with a gang leader.



### The Wrong Shoes by Tom Percival

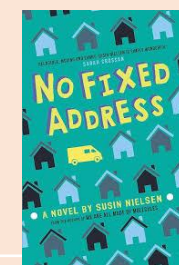
A beautiful and urgent exploration of the experience of child poverty. A story for the moment, definitely. Will can't afford to get a haircut, can't get his broken, cheap shoe replaced. His family live out of food banks. He stands out, he's mocked for being poor. Join Will on a journey of courage and resilience in the face of great odds.

### How To Rob A Bank by Tom Mitchell

When fifteen-year-old Dylan accidentally burns down the house of the girl he's trying to impress, he feels that only a bold gesture can make it up to her. A gesture like robbing a bank to pay for her new home. A fast-paced crime-caper by a hilarious new voice in middle-grade fiction.

### A Kestrel for a Knave by Barry Hines

This book is a modern classic, telling the tale of Billy Casper, a young boy alienated from school and living in poverty, who develops a self-taught skill of falconry, and finds one thing in his life to love. A Kestrel, savage, wild and beautiful that lifts Billy's soul out of the wasteland of his everyday existence.



### No Fixed Address by Susin Nielsen

Susin Nielsen tackles real issues in this novel surrounding homeless children, depressive parenting and the relatable struggles young people face with unrelenting resilience.

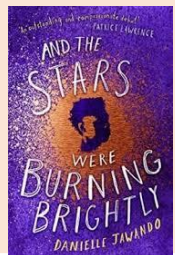
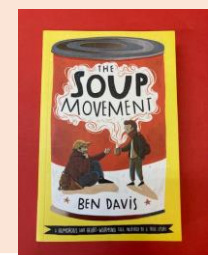
It's also a great portrait of a mother-son relationship, and the truthful observation that your parent may in fact be a deeply flawed individual.

### The Bunker Diary by Kevin Brooks

Six people, all from different backgrounds mysteriously find themselves in an underground bunker where there are no windows and no way to escape. The book is the diary that the main character, Linus Weems, keeps in his time trapped in the bunker. In his diary, we witness the arrival of the other "inmates", their struggles, and their fight to figure out where they are.

### The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

An African-American teenager, faces pressure from various communities and tries to stand up for what is right after witnessing the shooting of her best friend by the police. THUG encompasses race, violence, family and growing up and will surely be remembered as a defining YA book of our time.



### The Soup Movement by Ben Davis

When Jordan, a cancer sufferer in remission, meets a homeless man and gives him some home-made soup, it is the start of an unlikely friendship. Soon the two of them begin giving soup to the other homeless people around town. This is how the Soup Movement begins- and it makes the national news!

### Looking for JJ by Anne Cassidy

A young adult thriller about a British teen struggling to piece together her life despite a dark secret: As a child, she murdered another child. Narrated from the offender's perspective, the novel explores themes of guilt, justice and forgiveness.

### And The Stars Were Burning Brightly by Danielle Jawando

This story of teen suicide is brutal and frank. It explores the difficulties young people, particularly men, have with expressing their feelings openly and asking for help. It also highlights the dark side of the Internet and social media as vehicles for bullying.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books

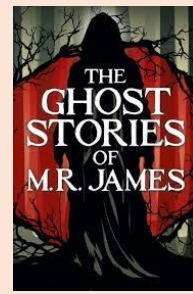
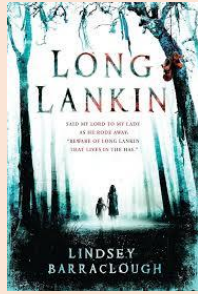


## Genre: Horror

### Year 7

### Year 8

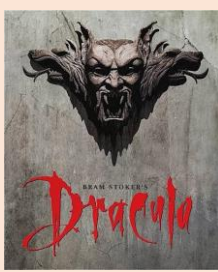
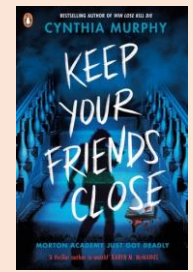
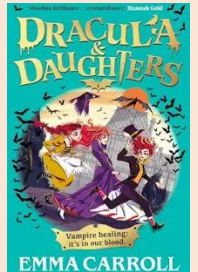
### Year 9



**Long Lankin**  
by Lindsey Barraclough  
This is a deeply eerie tale of rural folklore. It tells the story of two girls in the 1950s who are sent from the East End to live with an estranged aunt in the country and discover that their family is haunted by a terrible curse.

**Fir** by Sharon Gosling  
A family are cut off from civilisation in an isolated old pine plantation house in the middle of winter in northern Sweden. But there is something dangerous and horrible lurking in the house which is going to come for them.  
A really creepy old-school horror.

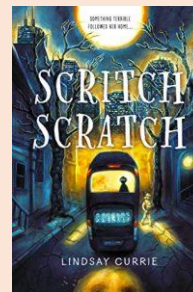
**Ghost Stories** by M.R. James  
M.R. James laid the foundations of the modern ghost story with the emphasis on mood and atmosphere rather than shock tactics. His ghosts are inevitably disquieting and appear in malevolent forms. These stories- pervasively disquieting- exquisitely chill the blood.



**Dracula & Daughters** by Emma Carroll  
Strange happenings are afoot in town. Vampires are to blame and the townsfolk have their stakes at the ready. A spellbinding Gothic adventure in which three unusual cousins learn of a family secret.

**Keep Your Friends Close**  
by Cynthia Murphy  
An addictive killer-thriller with a horror twist set in an elite boarding school. Mean-girl antics, shifting alliances and a growing web of secrets keep the tension sky-high in this cloistered world of dark academia.

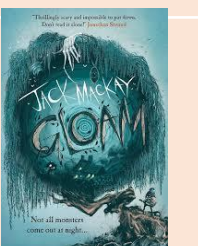
**Dracula** by Bram Stoker  
Dracula is an 1897 Gothic horror novel famous for introducing the character of the vampire Count Dracula, into literature. Poetic, romantic and horrifying, Dracula defines the horror genre.



**The Spook's Apprentice**  
by Joseph Delaney  
Thomas Ward, the seventh son of a seventh son, must prove himself capable of facing ghosts and witches if he is to take on the mantle of The Spook, the people who keep the county safe from the darkness.

**Scratch Scratch** by Lindsay Currie  
A chilling ghost story based on real Chicago history about a malevolent spirit, an unlucky girl, and a haunting mystery. Claire is being haunted, but tries to be scientific and rational about it. But then the scratching starts and voices whisper to her in the dark.

**Dark Matter** by Michelle Paver  
A beautiful and haunting story. An Arctic expedition and a dreadful and vengeful spirit roaming the icy wilderness. The desolation of finding yourself in a world without light. The absence of life. A man confronted with the ultimate primal fear of darkness and that which roams within.



**Gloom** by Jack Mackay  
A grieving family. A decaying house. A monster that comes out by day!  
Nothing on Gloom Island is quite what it seems...This is a thoroughly chilling Gothic thriller about a babysitter who is not what she seems.

**Nightbooks** by J.A. White  
Hansel and Gretel meets Sheherazade in this engrossing and creepy story.  
A young boy is imprisoned by a witch in a New York apartment and must tell her a new scary story each night in order to stay alive.

**Cirque du Freak** by Darren Shan  
A visit to a travelling circus results in an ordinary schoolboy being plunged into the vampire world. Fast-paced, compelling and satisfyingly macabre the book explores the fascination of the dangerous and unnatural.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books

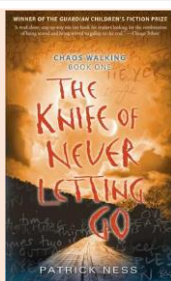
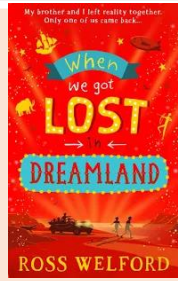
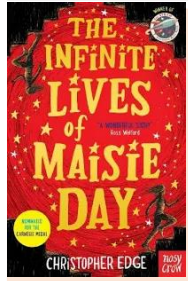


## Genre: Science Fiction

### Year 7

### Year 8

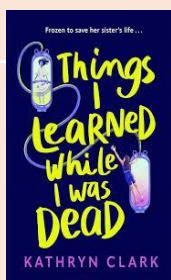
### Year 9



**The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day**  
by Christopher Edge  
A book about philosophy and the eternal dilemma of existence which will make you wonder and question what reality is and how many of them there are! It will make you confront that unresolvable question: what happens after we die and where do we go?

**When We Got Lost In Dreamland**  
By Ross Welford  
When Malky and Seb get a device called a "Dreaminator," they can share dreams, which soon turns dangerous when a dream goes wrong and leaves Seb trapped in a coma.

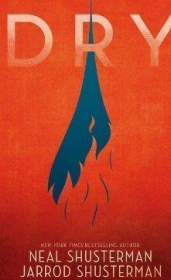
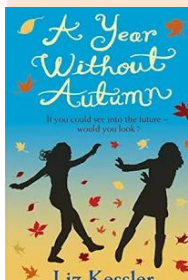
**The Knife of Never Letting Go**  
by Patrick Ness  
Todd lives in a dystopian world where all living creatures can hear each other's thoughts in a stream of images, words, and sounds called Noise. Also a coming-of-age novel about a boy living in an all male society which is hiding a dreadful secret.



**Black Hole Cinema Club**  
by Christopher Edge  
A trip to the cinema for five friends results in them exploring the concepts of virtual reality, time travel, the edge of the universe and the end of the world. The cinema screen quite literally has come alive and drawn them into a fantastical adventure featuring lost cities, prehistoric animals and impossible missions.

**Forever Ends On Friday** by Justin Reynolds  
What if you could bring your best friend back to life – but only for a short time? Q can be reanimated for up to a month before re-dying, giving him extra time to say goodbye to his loved ones. A unique and speculative portrayal of life and death

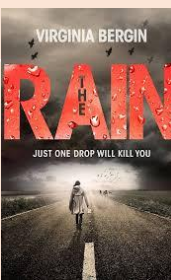
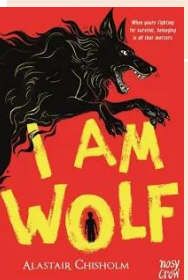
**Things I Learned While I Was Dead**  
By Kathryn Clark  
This story of devoted sisters shines a light on the unspoken impossible ethical dilemmas people sometimes have to face with advancing medical science surrounding the ones we love.



**A Year Without Autumn** by Liz Kessler  
A story of time travel in which Jenni goes on a visit to her friend, Autumn, but arrives a year into the future and finds her friend gone and both families falling apart in the aftermath of an unknown tragedy.

**Across The Universe** by Beth Revis  
Amy has left the life she loves for a world 300 years away Trapped in space and frozen in time, Amy is bound for a new planet. But fifty years before she is due to arrive, she is violently woken, the victim of an attempted murder. Now Amy's lost on board and nothing makes sense - she's never felt so alone.

**Dry** by Neil Shusterman  
What happens in the state of California when drought conditions suddenly give way to no more water? A suburban neighbourhood quickly turns into a warzone with people desperate for water and civilized society begins to break down.



**I Am Wolf** by Alastair Chisholm  
Action-packed and with great appeal for technology fans, this is an exciting story of mechanical beasts and their humans. Set in a futuristic world vast technological "Constructs" battle for territories and supplies.

**Breathe** by Sarah Crossan  
When oxygen levels plunge in a treeless world, a state lottery decides which lucky few will live inside the Pod. Everyone else will slowly suffocate. Rebels are labelled as terrorists and must fight to survive.

**Rain** by Virginia Bergin  
Rain has become toxic- it mustn't fall on your skin and cannot be drunk. How do you survive in a post-apocalyptic world when the very elements are against you?



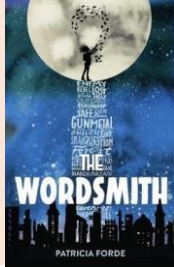
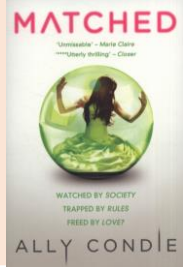
# Recommended KS3 Reading Books

## Genre: Dystopian Fiction

### Year 7

### Year 8

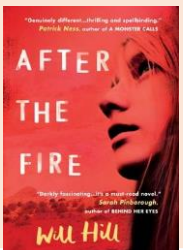
### Year 9



**It's the End of the World and I'm In My Bathing Suit**  
by Reynolds, Justin A.  
A hilarious take on a serious subject- What happens when five unsupervised kids face the apocalypse under outrageously silly circumstances? No power, no adults and a doomsday scenario to manage!

**Matched** by Ally Condie  
A dystopian novel about a tightly controlled society in which young people are "matched" with their life partners at the age of 17. Themes explore constraint versus freedom and isolation versus community.

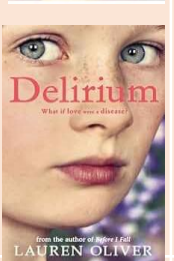
**The Wordsmith** by Patricia Forde  
In a post-apocalyptic society language is rationed and Letta is the Wordsmith charged to do this. What will become of humanity without freedom or language?



**Alone** by Megan E. Freeman  
Alone in a town that has been evacuated and abandoned Maddie has no one to rely on. No power, no working phone lines, no internet access. She must learn to survive on her own. Her only companion is a dog and all the books she can read.

**After the Fire** by Will Hill  
This is a compelling exploration of religious fanaticism and the experience of a young girl growing up in an abusive, coercive community. Leader, Father John, is a controlling, abusive man who must be stopped.

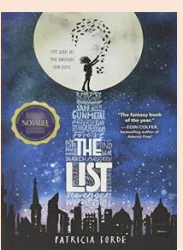
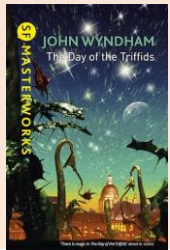
**Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro  
We follow a group of students' lives at an elite yet sinister boarding school. The novel explores themes of friendship, memory, cloning and organ harvesting, and what it ultimately means to be human.



**Internment** by Sahira Ahmed  
In a US dystopia, history repeats itself, and Muslim Americans are sent to internment camps. When 17-year-old Layla and her family are forced into these inhumane conditions, she decides she can still fight back from within the barbed-wire camp.

**Contagion** by Teri Terry  
The first book in the spine-tingling Dark Matter trilogy about the frightening effects of a biological experiment gone wrong. Now, a deadly epidemic is sweeping the country. Almost everyone will die...

**Delirium** by Lauren Oliver  
Lena Haloway falls in love in a society where love is seen as a disease that must be 'cured' when teenagers reach the age of eighteen. To be with her new love Lena must escape the city.



**Day of the Triffids** by John Wyndham  
A 1951 post-apocalyptic novel set in a world where most of the population has been blinded by an apparent meteor shower and an aggressive species of plant starts killing them.

**The List** by Patricia Forde  
Letta is a curator of words in a society that allows everyone a vocabulary of only 500 of them. If being able to express yourself makes you human what happens to us when language is forbidden?

**The Road** by Cormac McCarthy  
The book details the gruelling journey of a father and his young son over several months across a landscape blasted by an unspecified cataclysm that has destroyed industrial civilization and nearly all life.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



Genre: Adventure

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9



**The Guggenheim Mystery**  
by Robin Stevens  
Three children on a big-city adventure to New York find themselves caught up in an art theft at a major museum. Adventure ensues as they follow a trail of clues across the city to recover the missing painting and unmask the thieves.

**Dogs of the Deadlands**  
by Anthony McGowan  
This gripping and unusual tale imagines how life might have evolved for the domestic animals forced to become wild in the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster and the repercussions for their owners. In a land now abandoned by humans, the pets left behind must adapt or die.

**Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys**  
This beautifully written and important novel of the second world war is inspired by the greatest maritime disaster in history. Three disparate friends among ten thousand other passengers must fight for survival in this living nightmare.



**The Island at the End of Everything**  
by Kiran Millwood Hargrave  
Transported from her island home and sick mother when it becomes a leper colony, home-sick Ani must escape and find her way across the water back to everything she loves.

**Buffalo Soldier** by Tanya Landman  
At the end of the American Civil War a young African-American slave from the deep south is ostensibly freed, but left alone in a terrifyingly lawless land, she disguises herself as a man and joins the army to fight for a true freedom.

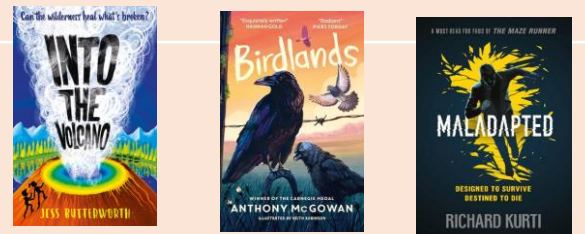
**The Island** by M.A. Bennett  
After a plane crash, victim of bullying, Link, and six classmates are stranded on a remote island. Will roles be reversed as Link breaks free of victimization and re-establishes a new social order in the wilderness?



**The Girl Who Rowed The Ocean**  
By Alastair Humphreys  
Lucy undertakes a life-changing adventure to row 3,000 miles across the Atlantic Ocean. An epic solo voyage full of wonders and danger!

**Orphan Monster Spy-** by Matt Killeen  
Fifteen-year-old Sarah finds herself on the run from the Nazis in Third Reich-ruled Germany. She meets a mysterious man who is part of the secret resistance against the Reich, and he needs her help...

**When The Rain Came**  
by Matthew Eicheldinger  
The rain never stops. The world is drowning. Aurora needs to survive a never-ending storm that swallows cities, drowns forests, and floods the world. A new dystopia awaits.



**Into The Volcano** by Jess Butterworth  
Big themes of grief and trauma are explored alongside the epic adventure undertaken by two grieving children on a quest into the centre of a volcano.

**Birdlands** by Anthony McGowan  
A deeply profound and special book, focusing on nature, and exploring themes of abandonment, disability and love. It speaks of a deep affection for the natural world whilst still recognising its' uncompromising cruelty.

**Maladapted** by Richard Kurti  
A thought-provoking, modern thriller. The ideological clash between the extremes of scientific experimentation and religious fanaticism is powerfully portrayed.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books

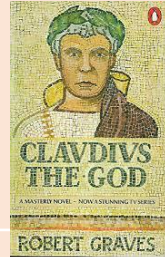
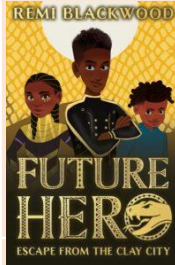


Genre: Mythic Fiction

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9



## Future Hero by Remi Blackwood

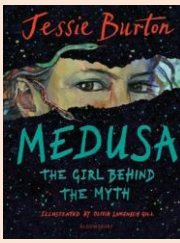
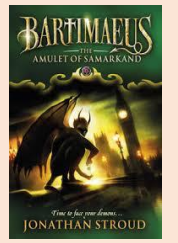
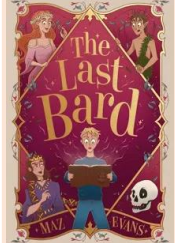
A winning blend of future tech gadgets and a fantasy world inspired by the mythology of Africa and its diaspora. Jarell, a boy who loves to draw, is the chosen one to save the world of Ulfrika. Told in accessible short chapters, filled with action and humour, this is a fun fast-paced adventure.

## Cameron Battle and the Hidden Kingdoms by Jamar J Perry

Inspired by West African and Igbo history, this adventure-filled fantasy introduces readers to Cameron Battle, a boy who slips through a hidden portal into the world of Chidani, a mythological place of darkness and danger.

## I, Claudius by Robert Graves

Graves begins the tumultuous life of the Roman who became Emperor in spite of himself, capturing the vitality, splendour and decadence of the Roman world at the point of its decline.



## The Last Bard by Maz Evans

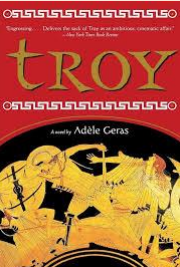
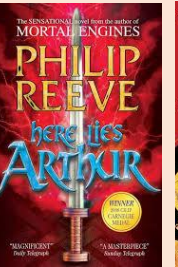
Will inherits a copy of the Complete Works of William Shakespeare, and as the last living relative of Shakespeare himself, he can summon the Bard's heroes from the pages. Now he has some extraordinary new friends to help turn things in his life around.

## The Bartimaeus Trilogy by Jonathan Stroud

Alternate history, fantasy and magic are the themes for these stories which feature a young magician and a five thousand year old genie, Bartimaeus, who adventure across time and world empires

## Medusa by Jessie Burton

Medusa, the snake-headed Gorgon, can kill with a glance. When the handsome warrior Perseus arrives on her lonely island of exile, her initial love for him soon turns dark as she realises the true reason for his presence.



## Auntie Medusa and Me by Marie Basting

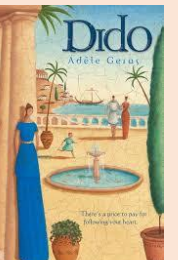
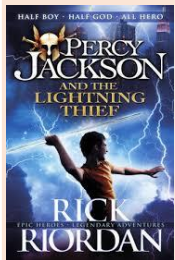
Roman and Greek mythology is the basis for madcap escapades, mixed up with modern situations. This is a humorous time-travel tale which will show you the Romans as you never would have imagined them.

## Here Lies Arthur by Philip Reeve

The brutal realities of life in the Dark Ages are off-set by the magical re-telling of the legend of King Arthur. Full of gritty realism and plenty of sadness, this is a dark tale. It is also satisfyingly full of colour, magic and accurate historical detail.

## Troy by Adele Geras

The Trojan War is brought to life through the eyes of two sisters, one a psychic and one a healer. On a whim, Aphrodite, the Goddess of Love, decides to play with their hearts ... and contrives for them to fall in love with the same young warrior.



## Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson's modern world is turned upside down when he finds out he is descended from Greek gods. Battles with monsters and epic quests follow in an action-packed series that merges Greek mythology with the modern world.

## Dido by Adele Geras

A mythological reimagining of the tragic love affair of Queen Dido of Carthage and the Trojan hero Aeneas. The story highlights the romance between Dido and Aeneas, while detailing the heartbreak of Elissa, a serving maid who shares the same name as the queen, and who also loves the Trojan hero.

## Lore by Alexandra Bracken

"The Greeks created Gods that were in their image; warlike but creative, wise but ferocious, loving but jealous, tender but brutal, compassionate but vengeful." This is their story transported into modern day New York city where nine Greek Gods are forced to walk the Earth as mortals.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



Genre: Fantasy

Year 7

Year 8

Year 9



**Gabriel's Clock by Pashley Hilton**  
A boy who is half angel-half demon must battle evil forces in a small village. With the aid of a group of unlikely new friends, Jonathan races to find the mysterious Gabriel's Clock, which has the power to start a war between Heaven and Hell that could engulf them all.

**The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien**  
The Hobbit is the unforgettable story of Bilbo, a peace-loving hobbit, who embarks on a strange and magical adventure undertaken with a company of dwarves, in search of dragon-guarded gold. A timeless classic.

**Bearmouth by Liz Hyder**  
A devastating, genre breaking novel, strange, uncompromising and innovative, written in dialect, set in a mine where workers are promised riches in the next life but a life of toil and deprivation in this one. Then the young miners rebel...



**The Inkwell Chronicles by J.D. Peabody**  
Everett and Bea's dad mysteriously disappears on his way back from a work trip to Scotland. Convinced he's still alive, the pair embark on a thrilling and dangerous journey to find him, discovering the magic power of Ink as they go.

**The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**  
The figure of Death narrates the story of a young girl, Liesel, living in Nazi Germany, who is fostered out amidst the chaos of war, and whose love of books sets her on a quest to rescue as many of these as she can. She is the Book Thief intent on saving something of beauty out of the ashes.

**Across the Nightingale Floor by Lian Herne**  
Adventure and romance in feudal Japan as a young Samurai warrior is adopted into a noble household and learns to battle against feuding clans. Shadowy assassins lie in wait and love is doomed.



**A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby**  
When her mum falls into a coma, a young teenager uses key objects from her mother's childhood in Kuwait to magically experience key moments from her past that help strengthen their fragile relationship.

**Itch by Simon Mayo**  
Keen amateur scientist, Itch, discovers a new element as part of his Chemistry studies but it isn't long before an unknown thief comes after him to claim it for himself at an price!

**Northern Lights by Phillip Pullman**  
Lyra and her animal daemon live amongst the scholars in Oxford, yet her destiny will take her far from home, to the magical frozen lands of the Arctic, amongst the witch-clans and ice-bears.



**The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis**  
Four siblings step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch.

**Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver**  
Wolf Brother takes place six thousand years ago during the Middle Stone Age, and tells the story of twelve-year-old Torak, a boy who can talk to wolves. The real and the spirit worlds collide.

**The Stuff of Nightmares by Malorie Blackman**  
It begins with a ride on a train, but where it ends is on a precipice of horror - dangling on the border between life and death. It's a moment when Kyle discovers he's not the only one in his class who knows about fear.

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



Genre: Historical	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
  	<p><b>The Bletchley Riddle</b> by Ruta Sepetys It is the summer of 1940. The world is at war. Maths whizz Jakob Novis has been recruited to the secret codebreaking centre at Bletchley Park. His sister Lizzie has a mission of her own- to find their missing mother. Danger abounds!</p>	<p><b>Hell and High Water</b> by Tanya Landman A tale of murder and mystery set in the mid eighteenth century West Country. Caleb tries to clear his father's name after he is transported following criminal charges but discovers secrets concerning his own mixed race heritage.</p>	<p><b>All Fall Down</b> by Sally Nicholls A deadly contagion races through England. Isabel and her family have nowhere to run from a disease that has killed half of Europe. The life she knows is about to end as The Black Death of 1349 lays the world to waste.</p>
  	<p><b>The Austen Girls</b> by Lucy Worsley Anna and Fanny are cousins who have just reached marriageable age. Under pressure to find suitors, they must navigate the pressures of society during the Georgian era. A dark plot unfolds.</p>	<p><b>The Apprentices</b> by Leon Garfield Life in eighteenth-century London was hard and especially so for the city's apprentices. We follow the colourful life stories of the lamplighter, the pawnbroker, the midwife and the clockmaker in a historical pageant.</p>	<p><b>Prisoner of the Inquisition</b> by Theresa Breslin The story of two young people caught up in the dark and often brutal time of the Spanish inquisition and the persecution of their families.</p>
  	<p><b>War Horse</b> by Michael Morpurgo In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. The story recounts his experiences and also the attempts of 15-year-old Albert, his previous owner, to bring him safely home.</p>	<p><b>Sawbones</b> by Catherine Johnson Medical science is flourishing and in London the illegal trade in corpses has never been more...alive. Grave robbing, body switching and murder are the themes in this exciting adventure where two young people search for answers and justice.</p>	<p><b>The Invention of Wings</b> by Sue Monk Kidd Set in the southern states of America during the early 1800s, this is the story of a wealthy landowner and abolitionist and her family's slave, Hetty. Both are courageously fighting for freedom.</p>
  	<p><b>Little House on the Prairie</b> By Laura Ingalls Wilder The classic of autobiographical fiction telling the story of a pioneer family in the American West. Both domestic and wide ranging in aspect, and beautifully detailed in the description of everyday life.</p>	<p><b>The Earth is Singing</b> by Vanessa Curtis Because Hanna is a Jew, her family, her possessions, her home, her dignity and ultimately her life must be forfeit to the Nazi ideology that has invaded her country. But Hanna promised her Papa she would survive to tell their story- the story of the Jews of Riga during World War II.</p>	<p><b>Where the world ends</b> by Geraldine McCaughrean The novel is based on a true story from 1727, where a group of boys and men were stranded on a sea rock in the ocean off the coast of Scotland. They battle to survive and also to overcome their own feelings of isolation and fear.</p>

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



Genre: Post-Apocalypse	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
  	<p><b>The Blue Book of Nebo</b> by Manon Steffan Ros Set in a post-apocalyptic Wales, this quiet, eerie story is told through a little blue diary shared by twelve year old Dylan and his Mum as they survive day to day in a deserted town destroyed by an earlier nuclear disaster.</p>	<p><b>How I live now</b> by Meg Rosoff An unhappy, morose American teenager visits her aunt and cousins in Europe and has to grow up quickly as war explodes around her. A romantic attachment develops between Daisy and one of her cousins but they are made to live apart when war privations increase.</p>	<p><b>A Boy and his Dog at the end of the World</b> by Charlie Fletcher The world is a ruined place, slowly dying. Technology is failing and there are very few people left. A young boy, Griz, survives with only his dogs, but embarks on a quest to find one when it is stolen.</p>
  	<p><b>Mortal Engines</b> by Philip Reeve In a dangerous future, huge motorized cities hunt, attack and fight each other for survival. As London pursues a small town, young apprentice Tom is flung out into the wastelands, where a terrifying cyborg begins to hunt him down.</p>	<p><b>The Enemy</b> by Charlie Higson A worldwide sickness has infected adults, turning them into something akin to voracious, cannibalistic zombies. The surviving children have formed a number of groups to better survive and combat the threat.</p>	<p><b>The Age of Miracles</b> By Karen Thompson Walker A lonely young girl observes the world around her as the planet begins to slow towards its' end-of-days. Thought provoking and sad.</p>
  	<p><b>The Maze Runner</b> by James Dashner An organization called WICKED controls the world politically, seeks a cure to the viral illness, Flare, and uses the youngest generation of civilians who are immune to it as test subjects.</p>	<p><b>Divergent</b> by Veronica Roth In a future dystopian society that is divided into five factions, the trilogy's society defines its members by their social and personality affiliations, with the five different factions removing the threat of anyone exercising independent will and threatening the population's safety.</p>	<p><b>The Hunger Games</b> by Suzanne Collins Set in a dark vision of the near future, a terrifying reality TV show is taking place. Twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed</p>
  	<p><b>The Last Wild</b> by Piers Torday Kester lives in a land in quarantine. A deadly virus has killed all the animals except pests and it's expected to be equally dangerous to humans. Kester embarks on a quest to rescue the last surviving wild creatures.</p>	<p><b>Outwalkers</b> by Fiona Shaw This is England and it's no longer a free country. The Government can track anyone, anywhere, from a chip implanted at birth. But Jake has escaped from his Academy orphanage, and must risk roving gangs, viruses and government agents to get to a place of safety.</p>	<p><b>The Darkest Minds</b> by Alexandra Bracken In a dystopian USA where teenage children with superpowers are imprisoned, Ruby Daly escapes her prison and joins a resistance group to fight for her future.</p>

# Recommended KS3 Reading Books



Genre: Sentimental Classics	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
  	<p><b>Pinocchio</b> by Carlo Collodi The story of the animated puppet is one of the best-loved children's tales of all time. However, the original tale, written in 1883, is a grim cautionary tale rather than a whimsical fairy tale. Instead of an innocent puppet, Pinocchio is inherently malicious, and the book is filled with dark violence, severe poverty, and tragic consequences.</p>	<p><b>Chinese Cinderella</b> by Adeline Yen Mah The unforgettable story of a young Chinese girl's struggle to find acceptance within her own family and her survival amongst siblings and parents who think she represents bad luck. She finds writing a form of relief</p>	<p><b>To kill a Mockingbird</b> by Harper Lee A lawyer defends a black man charged with the rape of a white girl. Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores with exuberant humour the irrationality of adult attitudes to race and class in the Deep South of the thirties. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina of one man's struggle for justice.</p>
  	<p><b>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</b> By C.S. Lewis A classic example of fantasy and Christian literature, the story sees four evacuee children transported through a wardrobe into a magical kingdom of talking animals and mythical creatures falsely ruled over by the White Witch. The land is frozen in perpetual winter by her evil enchantment.</p>	<p><b>Frankenstein</b> by Mary Shelley Published in 1818, this Gothic classic tells the story of Victor Frankenstein, a young scientist in search of the secret of life who creates the monstrous creature in a secret experiment. The tragic tale of Victor Frankenstein and the tortured creation he rejects is a classic fable about the pursuit of knowledge, the nature of beauty and the monstrosity inherent to man.</p>	<p><b>The Diary of Anne Frank</b> In July 1942, 13 year old Anne Frank and her family, fleeing the occupation, went into hiding in an Amsterdam warehouse. Over the next two years Anne vividly describes in her diary the frustrations of living in such close quarters, and her thoughts, feelings and longings as she grows up. Her diary ends abruptly in August 1944, when they were all betrayed and sent to concentration camps.</p>
  	<p><b>Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde</b> Oscar Wilde's fairy tales are celebrated for their lush prose, poignant moral lessons, and brilliant blend of joy and heartbreak. Written both for children and adults, they brilliantly mock self-righteousness while celebrating selfless love, pity, and charity.</p>	<p><b>The Wizard of Oz</b> by Frank L. Baum Lifted from Kansas to the magical Land of Oz, Dorothy meets a Scarecrow, a Tin Woodman, and a cowardly Lion, all of whom set off to find the Wizard and defeat the Wicked Witch of the West.</p>	<p><b>The Great Gatsby</b> by F. Scott Fitzgerald Young, handsome and fabulously rich, Jay Gatsby is the bright star of the Jazz Age, but as writer Nick Carraway is drawn into the decadent orbit of his Long Island mansion, where the party never seems to end, he finds himself faced by the mystery of Gatsby's origins.</p>
  	<p><b>Private Peaceful</b> by Michael Morpurgo Set during World War I and widely considered Morpurgo's most devastating book, to be Michael Morpurgo's most devastating book, it follows a young soldier named Tommo looking back on his life as he waits out the night before his older brother, Charlie, faces a firing squad for alleged cowardice.</p>	<p><b>The War of the Worlds</b> by H.G. Wells We read the story of an attempted invasion of Earth by beings from the planet Mars with much greater intelligence and more advanced weapons than humans. The Martians intend to eliminate mankind and conquer Earth because their own older and smaller world has reached the "last stage of exhaustion".</p>	<p><b>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</b> by Thomas Hardy When Tess Durbeyfield is driven by family poverty to claim kinship with the wealthy D'Urbervilles and seek a portion of their family fortune, meeting her 'cousin' Alec proves to be her downfall. A very different man, Angel Clare, seems to offer her love and salvation, but Tess must choose whether to reveal her past or remain silent in the hope of a peaceful future.</p>