



Reading Curriculum Rationale

Our Reading Curriculum

Our reading curriculum is planned out to provide a progression from listening to stories and poems in EYFS to reading classic and more complex texts in Y6. Many of the texts listed are classics, and others have been carefully selected from the Pie Corbett Reading Spine and leading UK and International Children's Literature Awards. Teachers may also add their own enthusiasms and new finds, but they must provide challenge beyond the instructional level, and be worthwhile reads which speak to the reader and promote deep discussion. The learning that takes place beyond reading lessons builds world knowledge and is, therefore, part of the reading curriculum. Our wider curriculum reading offer provides children with exposure to additional quality fiction and non-fiction texts within all subjects and across all year groups.

Year	Term	Rationale	Prior Knowledge/ Connections
Nursery		<p>Where's Spot by Eric Hill</p> <p>Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell</p> <p>You Choose by Pippa Goodhart and Nick Sharratt</p> <p>We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen</p> <p>Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin and Eric Carle</p> <p>Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen</p> <p>The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle</p> <p>Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy by Lynley Dodd</p> <p>Each Peach Pear Plum by Allan and Janet Ahlberg</p> <p>Hug by Jez Alborough</p>	<p>Words from the text that have been identified as having significant consequence or relevance and can be used to help inform instruction.</p> <p>try, naughty, basket, wardrobe, rug, piano, be</p> <p>hard, send, rod, fierce, naughty, perfect, zoo, grumpy, dear, tall</p> <p>front, thick, squelch, tumble, splash, dark, deep, narrow, tiptoe, cave</p> <p>frog, sheep, goldfish, beautiful</p> <p>cone, slice, pickle, leaf, cherry, caterpillar, salami, cocoon, lollipop, butterfly</p> <p>dairy, scatter, bundle, yowl, clatter, bony, skinny</p> <p>peach, pear, plum, spy, cellar, hunting, fast asleep, ditch, den, wood,</p> <p>elephants, snakes, lizards, cheetahs, monkey, giraffes, hippopotamus, mommy</p>



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		<p>The Train Ride by June Crebbin</p> <p>Come on, Daisy! by Jane Simmons</p> <p>These texts are almost all very repetitive and rather like songs. This makes them easier for children to join in with so that the experience of reading becomes interactive and the children begin to learn the story as they are read to. In each book there will be much to discuss so that the children understand the vocabulary as well as what is happening.</p> <p>All of the books have pictures, which support the text but also compliment and add to it. It is important to discuss the pictures and what is happening in them as much as the text. After a while, the children will get to know each story word for word, which can give great confidence to early readers in terms of fluency when reading.</p>	<p>journey, town, meadow, mare, foal, load, ticket collector, tunnel, gaggle of geese, strutting, lighthouse, station</p> <p>quack, try, plop, bouncy, company, splash, riverbank, rustling</p>
Reception		<p>Owl Babies by Martin Waddell</p> <p>The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson</p> <p>Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne</p> <p>Mr Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham</p> <p>Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins</p> <p>Six Dinner Sid by Inga Moore</p>	<p>dial, slice, rumble, owl, underground, tea, tummy, stroll, feast, knobbly</p> <p>ripe, avocado, soft, creamy, banana, juicy, delicious, mango, pineapple, village</p> <p>tease, squabble, bank, muck, calf, trample</p> <p>hen, fox, yard, pond, haystack, mill, flour, beehives</p>



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		<p>Mrs Armitage on Wheels by Quentin Blake</p> <p>Whatever Next by Jill Murphy</p> <p>On the Way Home by Jill Murphy</p> <p>Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell</p> <p>Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown</p> <p>Shhh! Sally Grindley</p> <p>These books build on the Nursery selection. They still mainly use patterned language, but begin to have a stronger emotional connection with the reader. There is also plenty to discuss and wonder about. Many of them lend themselves to re-telling and creating new versions or further adventures featuring the same characters.</p>	<p>rough, tough, liver, lamb, nasty, stew, swanky, appointment, naughty, behave</p> <p>anchor, bargain, mast, crunch, transistor, tarpaulin, clang, oomph, flask, clatter</p> <p>rocket, bath time, chimney, mat, owl, bit, bump, carpet, whoosh, cupboard</p> <p>drag, distant, gracious, plaster, canal, foe, bump, crocodile, woodcutter, wicked</p> <p>press, quack, moo, upset, cluck, weepy, lane, dawn, poor, lazy</p> <p>telephone, young, kittens, mittens, young, comb, mush, nobody</p> <p>disturb, case, snore, enter, peep, tea, peek, quick, whisper, enormous</p>
<p>The picture books in Year 1 offer deeper exploration of emotions and wonder. They are mainly rooted in the everyday crises of life. Again, 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 the careful reading of the books, paying close attention to the detail and entering imagined worlds to experience the stories deeply – then talking it all through.</p>			
Year 1	Autumn 1	<p>The Colour Monster by Anna Llensa</p> <p>The story helps young readers identify emotions and feel more in control</p> <p>The Naughty Bus by Jan Oke</p>	<p>emotions, jumbled up, unfair, courage, calm, swaying, at peace</p> <p>PSHE link to Growing Up History topic - All About Me</p> <p>London, traffic, bus stop, important, passengers, handsome, lonely, rescue, winch, tucked up</p>



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		The story is told through photographs that represent familiar situations in unfamiliar ways, through a challenging array of viewpoints. The voice of the narrator changes throughout, offering further opportunities for meaning making. Naughty Bus also shows that a story can be told in a variety of ways, and that there is always more than one side to a story.	
	Autumn 2	<p>The Weather Girls by Aki Delphine Mach</p> <p>The Weather Girls is a charming, rhyming story with striking illustrations and additional nature facts.</p> <p>The Weather Girls represent a variety of ethnic groups, providing an air of inclusivity.</p> <p>Where The Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak</p> <p>The main theme of the book is surrounded by the strong idea of imagination and the places it can take you. Each of the Wild Things seems to represent a different emotion or feeling that exists within the mind of young Max, and therefore represents a challenge that he must overcome.</p>	<p>Science topic - Seasonal Changes Writing – Animal Fact file</p> <p>rumpus, mischief</p> <p>Y1 The Colour Monster</p>
	Spring 1	<p>Lost in the Toy Museum by David Lucas</p> <p>Introduces adjectives and how they are used to provide description for the reader.</p> <p>Beegu by Alexis Deacon</p> <p>A beautiful picture book on the themes of diversity, friendship and belonging. Beegu can be used to introduce themes of isolation and difference and begin discussions around the idea of empathy for others.</p>	<p>History topic - Toys from the Past Writing – Character Description</p>
	Spring 2	<p>The Tiger Who Came to Tea by Judith Kerr</p> <p>The author creates a great sense of mysteriousness at the end of the story when we are told that the tiger never came back again. We are left wondering where had the tiger come from and where did he go afterwards and why did he not come back. There are great opportunities to discuss these ideas with</p>	<p>tea, grocer, bun, stripy, mummy, supper, milkman, lit, jug, mg Writing – Instructions</p>



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		<p>children or base activities around these ideas after you have read the story with them.</p> <p>Elmer by David Mackee</p> <p>Elmer, the patchwork elephant's story explicitly, yet simplistically weaves themes of identity, diversity and tolerance into its narrative.</p>	<p>decorate, parade, elder, herd, ordinary, helpless, normal</p> <p>Beegu</p>
	Summer 1	<p>Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers</p> <p>Visually engaging and its themes of loneliness and friendship will resonate with children.</p> <p>Cinderella by Ruth Sanderson</p> <p>This retelling of the tale of Cinderella includes many of the traditional details that are usually associated with this story, as well as some less familiar details which may have been left out during multiple oral retellings of this story, for often the unnecessary details are left out.</p>	<p>Writing – Narrative retell</p>
	Summer 2	<p>Handa's Surprise by Eileen Browne</p> <p>Repetitive structure good for oral Storytelling. Young readers are compelled to look closely at the colourful pictures, to talk about the detail of what they see and to make connections with their own lives and experience.</p> <p>I am Rosa Parks by Brad Meltzer</p> <p>A biography told in a simple, conversational, vivacious way, and focusing on the character trait that made the heroine heroic. Depicted as a child throughout, telling her life story in first-person present tense, keeps the book playful and accessible to young children. This story focuses on Rosa Parks and how she always stood up for what's right.</p>	<p>ripe, avocado, soft, creamy, banana, juicy, delicious, mango, pineapple, village</p> <p>Writing – Diary Writing – Non-chronological Report Repetitive language – Y2 Foggy Foggy Forest</p> <p>draft, dip, target, equal, congressional, purse, expect, doubt, politician, sleeve</p>



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<p>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. Many of the chosen books operate on different levels – from the satisfaction of good stories to the exploration of deeper themes.</p>			
Year 2	Autumn 1	<p>The Foggy Foggy Forest by Nick Sharatt</p> <p>This book provides opportunity for children to join in with rhyming repetition, whilst providing opportunity for prediction and showcase the power of illustrations to bring a story to life.</p>	<p>EY and Y1 familiar fairy tale characters Rhyming words Discussing likes and dislikes Year 1 – Simple Narratives, Character Descriptions & Instructions</p>
	Autumn 2	<p>Vlad and the Great Fire of London by Kate Cunningham</p> <p>This book provides an experience of historical fiction in support of finding more about and developing an experience of the Great Fire of London. Also, this first person narrative from the point of view of a character (Vlad the Flea) develops children's awareness of the differences in pronouns and this strategy to draw upon emotion through personal experiences and feelings.</p>	<p>History topic – The Great Fire of London Writing – Character profile in form of wanted poster</p>
	Spring 1	<p>The Hodgeheg by Dick King-Smith</p> <p>The Hodgeheg explores themes such as road safety, family, determination and speech difficulties.</p>	<p>newsagent, saucerful, enquire, resist, straddle, chap, lollipop, instant, bitter, crisp Writing - Provides stimulus for non-chronological report writing about hedgehogs</p>
	Spring 2	<p>Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown</p> <p>Themes of self-belief, overcoming challenges, and making judgements are explored through the adventures of Flat Stanley.</p>	<p>Writing – recount letter from Stanley</p>
	Summer 1	<p>The Twits by Roald Dahl</p> <p>This book is an example of the theme "Always be Kind to Others". Other themes of the novel are morality of The Twits and friendship between the monkeys and the birds.</p> <p>The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl</p>	<p>bitter, sole, pardon, mention, cure, gravy, revive, nailbrush, nibble Writing – Instructions to carry out a trick Stories by the same author</p> <p>quack, tingle, mince, brim, hammer, sack, bit, barley, congratulate, normal</p>



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		The message in the story is that we should be considerate; always put ourselves in someone else's position, to understand how they feel.	
	Summer 2	<p>The Day the Crayons Quit by Drew Daywalt</p> <p>Duncan learns his crayons have different needs when they communicate their problems with the way he treats them. Its themes include: Walk in someone else's shoes; communicate needs and wishes to be understood and respected.</p>	Writing – Letter of complaint
Year 3	Autumn 1	<p>Starbird by Sharon King Chai</p> <p>A tale about freedom and having the courage to stand up for others who may be more helpless than oneself.</p>	<p>Y1 – I'm Rosa Parks Y2 – The Twits (monkeys trapped in the cage and rescued by Roly Poly bird)</p>
	Autumn 2	<p>The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher</p> <p>The book addresses the way that wheelchair users can be treated negatively because of their disability, and the feelings this can evoke like sadness, loneliness and guilt.</p>	<p>prettiness, flue, impressiveness, accent, desire, primary, cheesiest, bitter, harmony, reverse</p> <p>Seasonal</p>
	Spring 1	<p>Leo and the Gorgon's Curse by Joe Todd-Stanton</p> <p>Themes of tolerance, understanding, heroism, friendship, and standing up to abuses of power.</p>	<p>ingenious, distrustful, instant, vault, monocle, ensure, countless, epic, serpent</p> <p>History topic – Myths and Legends</p>
	Spring 2	<p>The Boy Who Grew Dragons</p> <p>Themes of friendship, family, perseverance and love are explored through the characters of this book, providing language for emotions.</p>	<p>contented, dispose, raw, sole, squeal, cone, residence, spiral, imp, initial</p>
	Summer 1	<p>Escape from Pompeii</p> <p>Historical fiction dealing with themes of Disaster, Hope & Healing</p>	<p>churn, pantomime, plaster, archaeologist, pumice, haggling, barren, shady, choppy</p> <p>History topic – Ancient Greece Historical Fiction Y2 Vlad and the Great Fire of London</p>



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	Summer 2	<p>Hansel and Gretel by Anthony Browne</p> <p>Folktale dealing themes of family life and marriage, poverty, greed, abandonment, and 'stranger danger'</p>	
Year 4	Autumn 1	<p>The Great Chocoplot by Chris Callaghan</p> <p>The theme of anxiety is brilliantly handled. A light, bubbly approach to mental-wellbeing is well needed when children are experiencing mental health issues at higher rates than ever.</p>	
	Autumn 2	<p>The Winter Witch by Tom Fletcher</p> <p>The storybook brings together all the joy of Christmas: warmth, happiness and family squabbles. Again, William's wheelchair does not get in the way of any of the fun.</p>	Follow up to The Christmasaurus read in Year 3 Y1 - Cinderella
	Spring 1	<p>The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman</p> <p>The themes of family, friendship and courage are relatable for children.</p>	resist, compound, representation, groom, squeal, paste, chorus, clash, clasp, emerald Stimulus for DT topic
	Spring 2	<p>Anglo-Saxon Boy by Tony Bradman</p> <p>Historical narrative deals with the themes of cross-cultural society within the land of the Saxons. The hardships of life on a long journey and the gore and brutality of battle are accurately portrayed in action-packed scenes. Magnus matures as he learns harsh lessons when he witnesses his father's own ruthlessness at first hand.</p>	History topic – Anglo-Saxons Y2 - Vlad and the Great Fire of London Y3 – Escape from Pompeii
	Summer 1	<p>The Creakers by Tom Fletcher</p> <p>Lucy displays really strength of character in the face of uncertainty and she has many qualities of a good leader and role model that could be explored.</p> <p>More opportunity to engage in the work of Tom Fletcher – one of our children's favourite authors.</p>	intense, odd, gag, channel, bolt, volume, crisp, rottenness, fringe, clog Engagement Links to PSHE topics, looking at differences and understanding others. Book written by the same author as The Christmasaurus (Year 3) and The Winter Witch (Year 4)
	Summer 2	<p>The Saga of Eric the Viking by Terry Jones</p>	History topic – Vikings Historical Fiction – Escape from Pompeii, Vlad and the Great Fire of London, The Saga of Eric the Viking, Anglo-Saxon Boy



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		Historical fiction with themes of courage, perseverance and determination	
Year 5	Autumn 1	<p>Secrets of a Sun King by Emma Carroll</p> <p>Well researched historical fiction supporting learning of the history topic of the Egyptians. The book talks a lot about morals including never giving up and our differences shouldn't actually make a difference.</p>	<p>History topic – Egyptians</p> <p>Historical Fiction – Escape from Pompeii, Vlad and the Great Fire of London, The Saga of Eric the Viking, Anglo-Saxon Boy</p>
	Autumn 2	<p>Varjak Paw by SF Said</p> <p>A modern classic of an adventure story, Varjak Paw also considers what it is to be persecuted for coming from a different culture, and, at the same time, find strength in the wisdom passed down from our ancestors.</p>	<p>contagious, tension, collar, centre, flat, odd, level, break, spine, range</p>
	Spring 1	<p>Malamander by Thomas Taylor</p> <p>The story explores themes of loss, of both people and things.</p>	<p>tense, concentration, odd, stable, register, dispose, dip, boathook, volume, grate</p>
	Spring 2	<p>Wonder by RJ Palacio</p> <p>Bullying affects children and adults, but it's never too late to learn to be kind to others, This story takes us through the different perspectives of each of it's characters, to really explore varying feelings.</p>	<p>concession, intense, volume, odd, register, define, cone, flatted, accent, commencement</p> <p>Y3 Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher (inclusivity)</p>
	Summer 1	<p>Street Child by Bertie Doherty</p> <p>Bertie Doherty takes what little is known about the London urchin and child, Jim Jarvis, reputed to have inspired Dr Barnardo to set up his homes for destitute children, and weaves a riveting fictional account of his possible experiences.</p>	<p>snipe, procession, accent, bruvver, gravy, resist, hollow, chant, carriage, raw</p> <p>History topic – Victorians</p> <p>Y2 Vlad and the Great Fire of London</p> <p>Y3 Escape from Pompeii</p> <p>Y4 The Saga of Eric the Viking</p> <p>Y4 Anglo-Saxon Boy</p>
	Summer 2	<p>Tom's Midnight Garden by Phillipa Pearce</p> <p>Tom's Midnight Garden explores the timeless themes of friendship, loss, aging, and time.</p>	<p>discontented, tenant, convalescence, spatter, volume, resist, unreliable, reverse, confide, link</p> <p>Y2 Vlad and the Great Fire of London</p> <p>Y3 Escape from Pompeii</p> <p>Y4 The Saga of Eric the Viking</p> <p>Y4 Anglo-Saxon Boy</p>



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Year 6	Autumn 1	<p>The Explorer by Katherine Rundell</p> <p>Themes of adventure friendship, the environment and survival, are explored in the continent of South America providing description and experience through expansive vocabulary.</p>	<p>tense, concentration, convent, shade, odd, spine, trace, recover, liable, generous</p> <p>Links to Geography - South America</p>
	Autumn 2	<p>Holes by Louis Sachar</p> <p>Major themes in Holes include the consequence of choices resulting from fate and destiny and the importance of friendship. The flashback style of writing showcases the power of taking the reader through different time periods, whilst still managing to establish a well-connected plot.</p>	<p>stationery, ratio, prospect, canteen, predatory, promissory, burlap, upholstery, intensity, afflict, doe</p> <p>Supporting stimulus for flashback writing</p>
	Spring 1	<p>Darwin's Dragons by Lindsay Galvin</p> <p>A fantasy firmly grounded in historical fact and geographical realism developing the skill of utilizing fact to add to the wonder of fiction writing.</p>	<p>confine, spatter, accent, thirst, raw, inconvenient, grate, drain, survey, farthing</p> <p>Science topic - Evolution</p> <p>Y3 – The Boy Who Grew Dragons Y6 – The Explorer</p>
	Spring 2	<p>Zootropolis: The Official Handbook by Suzanne Francis</p> <p>Themes include you can be anything, but along with that theme is the message that you need to work hard in order to become anything you want to be.</p>	<p>Geography topic - Biomes</p>
	Summer 1	<p>The Nowhere Emporium by Emma Carroll</p> <p>Themes of bullying, life and death, creativity and imagination, friendship, love and courage.</p>	<p>Models description for creative writing Comparisons with JK Rowling stories</p>
	Summer 2		<p>Y3 – Stone-Age Boy (time travel)</p>