



READING MATTERS Reading Suggestions

Title/Author	Novel	Synopsis
KS3 Suggestions		
Skellig David Almond	SKELLIG David Almond PATIDALISON IS ATEM STOCKA WAITER WHEN PROPERTY POR BOTT PROPERTY POR BOTT POR	Helping others Friendship Magical When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital.
Holes Louis Sachar	LOUIS SACHAR holes	Telling the truth Justice System Loyal Friends Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre (which isn't green and doesn't have a lake) he is not surprised. Every day he and the other inmates are told to dig a hole, five foot wide by five foot deep, reporting anything they find. The evil warden claims that it is character building, but this is a lie and Stanley must dig up the truth.
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time Mark Haddon	WINNER OF THE WHITEREAD BOOK OF THE YEAR MARK HADDEN THE CURIOUS INCIDENT Of THE DOO IN THE NIGHT—TIME OUTSTANDINGa stunningly good read WOLFENDENT	Asperger point of view Murder mystery Growing up Parent separation The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time is a murder mystery novel like no other. The detective, and narrator, is Christopher Boone. Christopher is fifteen and has Asperger's Syndrome. He knows a very great deal about maths and very little about human beings. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour's

dog murdered he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down.

How to Train your Dragon Cressida Cowell

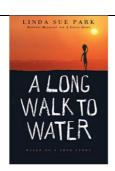


Trying to fit in Standing up to others Mythical creatures

fighter, a dragon-whisperer and the greatest Viking Hero who ever lived. But it wasn't always like that. In fact, in the beginning, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was the most put upon Viking you'd ever seen. Not loud enough to make himself heard at dinner with his father, Stoick the Vast; not hard enough to beat his chief rival, Snotlout, at Bashyball, the number one school sport and CERTAINLY not stupid enough to go into a cave full of dragons to find a pet... It's time for Hiccup to learn how to be a Hero.

Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III was an awesome sword-

A Long Walk to Water Linda Sue Park



Based on a True Story African Refugees Hardship and loneliness

A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about two eleven-year-olds in Sudan, a girl in 2008 and a boy in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.

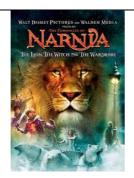
Boy Overboard Morris Gleitzman



Being different Religion Sexism and equality Refugees

Jamal loves playing football, which isn't easy if your goalie only has one leg and you keep having to dodge landmines to get your ball back. Jamal's stubborn little sister Bibi is even better at football than Jamal. But girls playing football is against the law in Afghanistan. When it is discovered that Jamal's mother has been secretly running a school, the family must leave their home immediately and begin a long and dangerous journey to Australia.

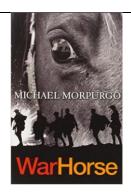
The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe



Adventure Magical Land Good vs Evil

Four adventurous siblings—Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy Pevensie— 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. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change . . . and a great sacrifice.

War Horse Michael Morpurgo



WW1 Suffering and survival Human and Animal friendship

In the deadly chaos of the First World War, one horse witnesses the reality of battle from both sides of the trenches. Bombarded by artillery, with bullets knocking riders from his back, Joey tells a powerful story of the truest friendships surviving in terrible times. One horse has the seen the best and the worst of humanity. The power of war and the beauty of peace. This is his story.

The Diary of a Young Girl Anne Frank



WW2 Diary Jews/Nazis

Anne Frank and her family fled the horrors of Nazi occupation by hiding in the back of a warehouse in Amsterdam for two years with another family and a German dentist. Aged thirteen when she went into the secret annexe, Anne kept a diary. She movingly revealed how the eight people living under these extraordinary conditions coped with hunger, the daily threat of discovery and death and being cut off from the outside world, as well as petty misunderstandings and the unbearable strain of living like prisoners.

Tiger WarsSteve Backshall

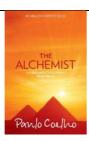


Justice Animal cruelty India

Saker is on the run from the only life he knows. From India to the Himalayas and China he'll be pursued by hunting dogs, mercenaries, spies, thieves and assassins in his quest to set free the most majestic, lethal and valuable of all the predators - the tiger. With him, on every dangerous step of the adventure, is Sinter, a girl who has her own reasons for running away.

KS4 Suggestions

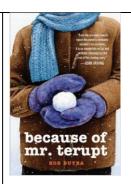
The Alchemist Paulo Coelho



Spirituality Perseverance Helping others

The **Alchemist** follows the journey of an Andalusian shepherd boy named Santiago. Believing a recurring dream to be prophetic, he asks a Gypsy fortune teller in the nearby town about its meaning. The woman interprets the dream as a prophecy telling the boy that he will discover a treasure at the Egyptian pyramids.

Because of Mr TeruptRob Buyea

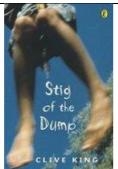


Behaviour Teachers Seven narrators Confronting challenges

It's the start of fifth grade for seven kids at Snow Hill School. There's . . . Jessica, the new girl, smart and perceptive, who's having a hard time fitting in; Alexia, a bully, your friend one second, your enemy the next; Peter, class prankster and troublemaker; Luke, the brain; Danielle, who never stands up for herself; shy Anna, whose home situation makes her an outcast; and Jeffrey, who hates school.

Only Mr. Terupt, their new and energetic teacher, seems to know how to deal with them all. He makes the classroom a fun place, even if he doesn't let them get away with much . . . until the snowy winter day when an accident changes everything—and everyone

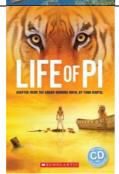
Stig of the Dump Clive King



Making friends Adventure/mystery kindness

Barney is a solitary little boy who often wanders off by himself in the countryside. Exploring an old chalk pit, he finds himself in a cave where he meets a strange boy who wears a rabbit skin and speaks in grunts. His grandparents don't believe Barney when he tells them about his new cave boy friend - but nevertheless, the two enjoy plenty of fun together.

Life of PiBy Yann Martel

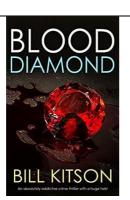


Self discovery Magical adventure Resilience

What it means to be human

A young man who survives a disaster at sea is hurtled into an epic journey of adventure and discovery. While cast away, he forms an unexpected connection with another survivor: a fearsome Bengal tiger. In Canada, a writer visits the Indian storyteller **Pi** Patel and asks him to tell his **life** story.

Blood DiamondBill Kitson

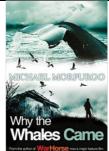


War & conflict Africa

Confronting hardship togetherness

A fisherman, a smuggler, and a syndicate of businessmen match wits over the possession of a priceless **diamond**. A story following Archer, a man tortured by his roots. With a strong survival instinct, he has made himself a key player in the business of **conflict diamonds**.

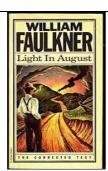
Why the Whales Came Michael Morpurgo



WW1 Friendship Folklore

Gracie and her friend Daniel have always been warned to stay away from the Birdman and his side of the island. But then they find a message in the sand and discover the Birdman is not who they thought. They build up a lovely friendship with him, but when the children get stranded on Samson Island they don't know whether to believe the birdman's story that the island is cursed.

Light in August WilliamFaulkner 14+



Good vs Evil Segregation Early 19th Century

The **novel** is set in the American South in the 1930s, during the time of Prohibition and Jim Crow laws that legalized racial segregation in the South. It begins with the journey of Lena Grove, a young pregnant white woman from Doane's Mill, Alabama, who is trying to find Lucas Burch, the father of her unborn child.

The Pig Heart Boy Malorie



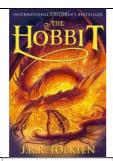
malorie

Organ transplants Friendship Controversial issues

Pig-Heart 'Boy picks up another topical issue, that of xenografts or animal organ transplants. Cameron Kelsey has only a few months to live, and is no longer able to play sport, swim or live a normal life in any way. With no suitable human heart donor available, he agrees to try the revolutionary new process and is given a new heart, from a pig.

Through his tribulations he learns about the meaning of friendship, and how much he loves life and doesn't want to let go.

The Hobbit J. R. R Tolken



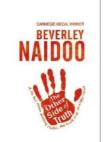
blackman

Fantasy Magic

Monsters vs humans

The Hobbit is set within Tolkien's fictional universe and follows the quest of home-loving Bilbo Baggins, the titular **hobbit**, to win a share of the treasure guarded by Smaug the dragon. Bilbo's journey takes him from his lighthearted, rural surroundings into more sinister territory.

The Other Side of Truth Beverly Naidoo



Refugees Parent death Migrating

This is the story of 12 year-old Sade and her brother Femi who flee to Britain from Nigeria. Their father is a political journalist who refuses to stop criticising the military rulers in Nigeria. Their mother is killed and they are sent to London, with their father promising to follow. Abandoned at Victoria Station by the woman paid to bring them to England as her children, Sade and Femi find themselves alone in a new, often hostile, environment. Seen through the eyes of Sade, the novel explores what it means to be classified as 'illegal' and the difficulties which come with being a refugee.