

Ready Steady Read Together Book List: RSW and Curriculum Links



Year 2

Year 2	Author	Illustrator	RSW Link	Theme	Curriculum	Reading Breadth	Diverse Representation	Award Winner
The Boy Who Grew Dragons	Andy Shepherd	Sara Ogilvie		Dragons/ Gardening/Family/ Plants and Trees/ Friendship		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy, Adventure, Humour	Author	Shortlist Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2019
Pinocchio	Michael Morpurgo	Emma Chichester Clark		Puppets/Family/Lessons/ Adventure/ Honesty		Classic Story from Italian Folklore with Modern Adaptation		
Illustrated Stories from Aesop	Susanna Davidson	Giuliano Ferri		Morality/Lessons from Animals	PSHE	Traditional Tales, Ancient Greek Fables	Illustrator	
Einstein the Penguin	Iona Rangeley	David Tazzyman		Penguins/Friendship/Adventure/ Environment/London Zoo		Contemporary Fiction, Adventure		Spark Book Award 2023
A Bear Called Paddington	Michael Bond	Peggy Fortnum	Noah's New Home – Migration	Animals/Bears/Family/Belonging/ Adventure/Migration/Peru/ London	PSHE, Geography	Classic Fiction, Adventure, Literary Heritage	Topic	BBC Culture Poll of the Greatest Children's Books of All Time – 2023
Wild Magic: Legend of the Black Lion	Abiola Bello	Emma McCann		Nature/Magic/Belonging/Twins/ Ethiopia/ Communicating with Animals/Shapeshifting		Contemporary Multicultural Fiction	Author/ Character	
A Year Full of Stories	Angela McAllister	Christopher Corr		Global Stories/Seasons/ Nature/Friendship		Story Anthology, Folklore, Traditional Tales	Topic	
Grimwood	Nadia Shireen	Nadia Shireen		Foxes/Friendship/Fantasy/ Country vs City Life/Moving Home/Silly Humour		Modern Fantasy, Humour	Author/ Illustrator	Shortlist Lollies 2023, Shortlist Branford Boase Award 2022
A World Full of Animal Stories	Angela McAllister	Aitch		Animal Stories/Nature/Global Stories	Geography, PSHE	Story Anthology, Folklore, Multicultural Folk Tales	Topic	
Leonora Bolt, Secret Inventor	Lucy Brandt	Gladys Jose	Rosie Revere, Engineer	Invention/Science/Girls in STEM/ Orphans	Science, DT	STEM-themed Fiction	Character	Shortlist Children's Book Award 2023

Secrets of the Forest	Alicia Klepeis	Kristen Adam		Nature/Environment/Ecology	Geography, Science	Contemporary Fiction, Story Anthology		
A Year Full of Celebrations and Festivals	Claire Grace	Christopher Corr		Year-round Global Festivals & Celebrations/ Religion/Culture/ Tradition/History/Seasons	Geography, RE, PSHE	Nonfiction Anthology	Topic	
Never Get Bored Draw and Paint	James Maclaine, Sarah Hull & Lara Bryan	Jacob Souva		Art Skills/Creativity/How To/ Self-expression	Art, DT	Nonfiction Step-by-Step Instructional Text	Illustrator	
101 Great Science Experiments	Neil Ardley	N/A		Practical Science/Experiments/ Enquiry/ Working Scientifically	Science	Nonfiction Step-by-Step Instructional Text		
National Trust: Out and About Bird Spotter	Robyn Swift	Mike Langman		Birdwatching/Nature/Habitats	Science	Educational Nonfiction, Bird Guide		
First Big Book of How	Sally Symes & Saranne Taylor	Kate Slater		Everyday Science/Mechanics/ Curiosity/ Space/Vehicles/ Animals/Buildings/Our Bodies	Science, DT	Nonfiction General Knowledge Reference		
The Wild Life of Animals	Mike Barfield	Paula Bossio		Animal Behaviour/Ecosystems/ Habitats	Science	Nonfiction Fact Collection, Information Text	Illustrator	
Complete Children's Cookbook	DK	N/A		Cooking/Nutrition/Recipes Measurement	DT - Food Technology, PSHE - Healthy Eating	Nonfiction Step-by-Step Instructional Text, Recipe Book		
First Big Book of Why	Sally Symes & Stephanie Warren Drimmer	Kate Slater		Science/Enquiry/Discovery	Science	Nonfiction Fact Collection, Information Text		

Everything Under the Sun	Molly Oldfield	Momoko Abe, Kelsey Buzzell, Beatrice Cerocchi, Alice Courtley, Sandra De La Prada, Grace Easton, Manuela Montoya Escobar, Richard Jones, Lisa Koesterke, Gwen Millward, Sally Mulaney & Laurie Stansfield		Science/Enquiry/Discovery		Nonfiction Fact-a-day Collection	Illustrator	
My Encyclopedia of Very Important Things	DK	N/A	Rosie Revere, Engineer	Earth/Continents/Animals/ Important People	Geography, Science, History	Nonfiction Encyclopaedia		
My Encyclopedia of Very Important Dinosaurs	DK	N/A		Prehistoric Animals/Dinosaurs/ Palaeontology/ Fossils	Science	Nonfiction Encyclopaedia		
Little People, Big Dreams Treasury	Maria Isabel Sanchez Vergara & Lisbeth Kaiser	N/A	Rosie Revere, Engineer	Artists/Scientists/Musicians/ Explorers/ Authors/Athletes/ Activists/Inventors	History	Nonfiction Biographies	Author/ Illustrator/ Individuals	
Poems for Every Season	Enid Blyton	Becky Cameron		Seasons/Nature/Everyday Life		Poetry Anthology with a mix of Classic and Contemporary, Varied forms including rhyme, free verse, acrostic and haiku		
The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems	Selected by June Crebbin	N/A		Family/Animals/Play/Food/ Holidays		Poetry Anthology with a mix of Classic and Contemporary, Varied forms including rhyme, free verse, limerick	Voice	

Words Can Fly	Donna Ashworth	Eirinn McGuinness		Growth Mindset/Emotions/ Identity/ Resilience	PSHE-Empathy, Mental Health	Contemporary Poetry Collection with varied forms including free verse, lyrical and short form		
A Poem for Every Question	Brian Bilston	Joe Berger		General Knowledge/Humour/ Nature/ Curiosity/Non-fiction	History/Sports/ Science/Music/ Geography	Contemporary Poetry Collection with non-fiction facts in poetry form on multiple topics		
A First Book of Nature	Nicola Davies	Mark Hearld		Wildlife/Habitat/Seasons	Science	Illustrated Poetry Collection including free verse and shape poems		
Midnight Feasts	Selected by A. F. Harrold	Katy Riddell		Food/Family/Humour/Night-time Adventure		Poetry Anthology with a mix of Classic and Contemporary, Varied forms including rhyme, free verse and list poems	Voice	Shortlisted - CLIPPA Poetry Award 2020
Jelly Boots, Smelly Boots	Michael Rosen	David Tazzyman		Everyday Life/Humour/Family/Wordplay		Contemporary Poetry Collection including silly rhymes, onomatopoeia and narrative poems		Shortlisted - CLIPPA Poetry Award 2017
The Best Ever Book of Funny Poems	Brian Moses	N/A		Humour/Creatures/School/Pets /Families/ Fantasy/Fairy Tales/Space/Ghosts		Contemporary Poetry Collection including limericks, rhyme and free verse		
The Works 1: Every Kind of Poem You Will Ever Need at School	Paul Cookson	N/A		Family/School/Imagination		Poetry Anthology with a mix of Classic and Contemporary including all poetry forms	Voice	
A First Book of Animals	Nicola Davies	Petr Horáček		Wildlife/Animals/Habitats		Illustrated Poetry Collection including free verse, list and shape poems	Illustrator	Shortlist Greenaway Medal 2018, Shortlist Information Book Award 2017, Shortlist Royal Society Young People's Book Award 2017

50 Ways to Score a Goal	Brian Bilston	N/A		Football/Sport/Humour	PE	Contemporary Poetry Collection including chants, ballads, puns, acrostics and shape poems		
The Shirley Hughes Treasury	Shirley Hughes	Shirley Hughes		Family/Daily Life/Childhood Adventures		Classic Poetry Collection including nursery rhymes, poems and stories		

Year 3

Year 3	Author	Illustrator	RSW Link	Theme	Curriculum	Reading Breadth	Diverse Representation	Award Winner
Charlotte's Web	E. B. White	Garth Williams		Farm Life/Animals/Loyalty/Friendship	Science - Life Cycles, Animals	Classic Fiction with Anthropomorphic Animals		Newbery Honor 1953, Laura Ingalls Wilder Medal 1970, Horn Book Fanfare 1952
The Wild Robot	Peter Brown	Peter Brown	Iron Man	Robots/Animals/Nature/Survival/Identity/Islands	Science - Habitats	Contemporary Science Fiction, Eco-Fable		Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2019
The Last Firefox	Lee Newbery	Laura Catalan	Fox	Foxes/Bravery/LGBTQ+ Family/Adoption/Magical Creatures/Alternate Worlds/Bullying/Friendship	PSHE - Diversity, Acceptance, Bullying	Contemporary Fiction, Portal Fantasy, Adventure	Author/Character	Shortlist Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2023
Varjak Paw	S F Said	Dave McKean		Identity/Belonging/Courage/Self Discovery/Martial Arts		Modern Fantasy, Modern Fiction, Animal Fantasy, Myths and Legends	Author	Nestlé Smarties Book Prize 2003
How to Train Your Dragon	Cressida Cowell	Cressida Cowell		Vikings/Dragons/Adventure/Self Confidence/Heritage	History - Vikings	Modern Classic, Myths and Legends Links,		Former Children's Laureate
The Wonder Brothers	Frank Cottrell-Boyce	Steven Lenton		Magic/Blackpool Tower/Las Vegas/Humour/Family/Brotherhood/Grief		Contemporary Fiction, Humorous Adventure		Current Children's Laureate
Hello, Universe	Erin Entrada Kelly	Isabel Roxas		Hearing Impairment/Neurodiversity/Fate/ Friendship/Destiny/Bullying/Filipino-American Characters/Quests/Guinea Pigs/USA	PSHE - Diversity, Acceptance, Bullying, Empathy	Contemporary Realistic Fiction with Filipino Folklore and Myth Elements	Author, Illustrator, Character, Topic	Newbery Medal 2018
Danny Chung Does Not Do Maths	Maisie Chan	Anh Cao		Chinese Culture/Humour/Cultural Identity/Stereotypes/Drawing/Intergenerational Relationships	PSHE - Respect, Families	Contemporary Realistic Fiction with Diary-style Humour	Author, Illustrator, Character, Topic	Jhalak Children's and YA Prize 2022, The Branford Boase Award 2022, Shortlist Blue Peter Book Awards 2022, Shortlist Diverse Book Award Children's Prize 2022

Harry the Poisonous Centipede	Lynne Reid Banks	Tony Ross	It Fell from the Sky	Insects/Friendship/Danger/Loyalty	Science - Minibeasts	Modern Classic, Animal Adventure with Anthropomorphic Insects		Smarties Silver Medal 1996
The One and Only Ivan	Katherine Applegate	N/A		Gorillas/Elephants/Animal Rights/ Captivity/Empathy/ Friendship/USA	PSHE	Contemporary Realistic Fiction, Adventure with Anthropomorphic Animals based on a true story		Newbery Medal 2013
The Day I Fell into a Fairytale	Ben Miller	Daniela Jaglenka Terrazzini	Into the Forest	Fairy Tales/Imagination/Magic Sibling Dynamics/Family/ Alternate Worlds		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy with Portal, Fairy Tale	Illustrator	
Rumaysa	Radiya Hafiza	Areeba Siddique & Rhaida El Touny	Into the Forest	Fairy Tales/Cultural Identity/ Islam/ Empowerment/Feminism	PSHE - Diversity	Fairy Tales/Mythical Elements	Author/ Illustrator/ Character/ Topic	
The Wonders of Nature	Ben Hoare	Angela Rizza & Daniel Long		Natural World/Animals/Plants/ Rocks and Minerals/Adaptations	Science - Plants, Rocks and Minerals, Animals	Nonfiction Information Text		
Usborne Complete Book of Art Ideas	Fiona Watt	N/A		Art Techniques/Creativity/ Painting/Art Projects	Art	Nonfiction Step-by-step Instructional Text		
An Anthology of Intriguing Animals	Ben Hoare	N/A		Animal Facts/Animal Behaviour/Habitats		Nonfiction Information Text		
Feather Flower Forest Fur	Sarah Walden & Caroline Rowlands	Kelsey Collins, Claire LeFevre, Mary Atwood & Claudine Rose		Textures and Patterns in Nature/ Flowers/ Trees/Animals/ Birds	Art, Science	Nonfiction Artistic Natural History Collection	Illustrator	
Hamza's Wild World	Hamza Yassin	Louise Forshaw		British Wildlife/Conservation/ Outdoor Exploration/Animal Behaviour and Communication/ Biodiversity	Science - Habitats	Nonfiction Autobiography, Nature Writing	Author	Shortlist British Book Awards - Children's Nonfiction 2025

My Encyclopedia of Very Important Science: For Little Learners Who Want to Know How Everything Works	Elizabeth Davey, Jonathan Melmoth & Andrea Mills	Kitty Galvin	The Rhythm of the Rain	Scientific Concepts/Materials/Space/ Forces/Magnets	Science	Nonfiction Encyclopaedia		
My Very Important Human Body Encyclopedia: For Little Learners Who Want to Know About Their Bodies	Bipasha Choudhury, Andrea Mills, Kristina Routh, Sammy Kornhauser & Dominique Lowenthal	N/A		Human Biology/Body Systems/ Senses	Science	Nonfiction Encyclopaedia	Author	
There's No Such Thing as a Silly Question	Mike Rampton	Guilherme Karsten		Curiosity/Critical Thinking/ Scientific Enquiry	Science	Nonfiction Q & A Format, Reference	Illustrator	
The LEGO Ideas Book	Simon Hugo, Tori Kosara, Julia March & Catherine Saunders	N/A		LEGO/STEM/Building	DT - Design and Build	Nonfiction Instruction Text		
Explore	Lizzie Munsey	Kaley McKean	Egyptology (2 of the 5 lessons link)	Discovery/Travel/Environment/ Ancient Egypt/Rocks & Minerals/ Plants	Science - Plants, Rocks and Minerals, Animals, History - Ancient Egypt	Nonfiction Illustrated Reference		
The Funny Life of Football	James Campbell	Rob Jones		Football, Humour, Sport History	PE - Football	Nonfiction, Humorous Facts		Children's Sports Book of the Year 2023, Shortlist Lollies 2024
The Usborne Beginner's Cookbook	Fiona Watt	Kim Lane		Cooking, Nutrition/Recipes	DT - Food Technology	Nonfictional Instruction Text, Step-by-step Recipes		

Cloud Busting	Malorie Blackman	Helen Van Vliet		Friendship/Bullying/Individuality/Change/Empathy/ Allergies/ Mental Health	PSHE - Friendships, Bullying	Modern Verse Novel with varied forms including free verse, haiku and shape poems	Author/ Illustrator/ Topic	Shortlist Nestlé Smarties Book Prize 2004, Former Children's Laureate
Ted Hughes Collected Poems for Children	Ted Hughes	Raymond Briggs	Iron Man (Author Link)	Nature/Seasons/Animals/ Imagination/ Environment		Modern Classic Poetry with varied forms, Literary Heritage		Former Poet Laureate
Hot Like Fire and Other Poems	Valerie Bloom	Debbie Lush		Caribbean Life/Family/Heritage	Geography - Caribbean	Contemporary Illustrated Poetry with varied forms including free verse, narrative, acrostic and dialect	Author/Topic	
Quick, Let's Get Out of Here	Michael Rosen	Quentin Blake		Family/Humour/Daily Routines		Contemporary Poetry with varied forms including free verse, humorous verse and lyric poems,		Former Children's Laureate
A Whale of a Time	Matt Hunt	Lou Peacock		Animals/Humour/Everyday Life		Contemporary Poetry Anthology, A Poem A Day Format with varied forms including rhyme, free verse, haiku and humour	Voices	Shortlist Waterstones Book of the Year 2023, Shortlist The Week Junior Book Awards 2024
When Poems Fall from the Sky	Zaro Weil	Junli Song		Seasons/Nature/ Interconnectedness	Science	Contemporary Illustrated Collection of Poetry and Plays, varied poetry forms include free verse, haiku, rap and rhymes	Author/ Illustrator/ Topic	
Classic Poems	Various Compiled by Miles Kelly	Jo Parry		Humour/Weather/Seasons/Exploration/Animals/Nature/War/Life/ Love/Celebrations		Classic Poetry Anthology with varied forms including literary heritage		
Welcome to My Crazy Life	Joshua Siegal	Chris Piascik		Humour/Fun/Silliness		Contemporary Poetry with varied forms including limerick, acrostic, haiku and wordplay		
A World Full of Poems	DK	Sonny Ross		Nature/Family/Cultures/Sports/ Friendship		Poetry Anthology with a mix of Classic and Contemporary with varied forms	Voices	

Pick and Mix Poetry	Julia Donaldson	Becky Thorns		Family/Nature/Sport/Global Themes		Poetry Anthology with mix of Classic and Contemporary, Varied forms including limerick, riddle, ballad and free verse poems, Literary Heritage	Voices	
I Am the Seed that Grew the Tree	Fiona Waters	Frann Preston-Gannon		Nature/Growth/Environment		Poetry Anthology with mix of Classic and Contemporary, A Poem A Day Format with varied forms including rhyme, free verse and lyrical poems, Literary Heritage	Some Voices	

Year 4

Year 4	Author	Illustrator	RSW Link	Theme	Curriculum	Reading Breadth	Diverse Representation	Award Winner
When Life Gives You Mangoes	Kereen Getten	N/A		Friendship/Grief/Secrets/ Caribbean/ Hurricanes	Geography - Caribbean, PSHE-Grief	Contemporary Fiction, Mystery, Stories from Other Cultures/ Traditions	Author/Character/Topic	Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2022, Shortlist Branford Boase Award 2021, Shortlist Jhalak Children's and YA Prize 2021
Jummy at the River School	Sabine Adeyinka	Hanako Clulow		Friendship/Boarding School/ Nigeria/School Life/Class Prejudice	Geography/PSHE	Contemporary Fiction, Stories from Other Cultures/Traditions	Author/Character/Topic	
The Last Bear	Hannah Gold	Levi Pinfold	Leaf	Polar Bears/Conservation/Global Warming/ Parental Loss/Family Relationships/Arctic	Geography - Arctic (Norway, Svalbard, Tromslo), PSHE- Conservation	Contemporary Realistic Fiction, Adventure		Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2022, Shortlisted British Book Awards- Children's Fiction 2022
The Girl Who Stole an Elephant	Nizrana Farook	N/A		Sri Lanka/Adventure/Elephants/ Justice/ Rebellion/Poverty/Colonial Oppression	Geography - Sri Lanka	Contemporary Fiction, Adventure, Stories from Other Cultures/Traditions	Author/Character/Topic	Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2021, Shortlist Awesome Book Awards 2021
Beowulf	Michael Morpurgo	Michael Foreman	Arthur and the Golden Rope	Anglo Saxons/Beasts/Courage/ Revenge/ Honour/Survival	History - Anglo Saxons Geography - Denmark	Adaptation of Epic Poetry, Myths and Legends, Literary Heritage		Former Children's Laureate
Viking Boy	Tony Bradman	Pierre-Denis Goux	Arthur and the Golden Rope	Vikings/Revenge/Courage/Family/ Survival/ Honour/Norse Traditions	History - Vikings	Historical Fiction, Norse-inspired Fiction, Adventure, Myths and Legends		
African and Caribbean Folktales, Myths and Legends	Wendy Shearer	Andrea Pippins		African Folklore/Myths and Legends/Adventure/Trickster Tales	Geography - Africa	Anthology of African Folk Tales, Stories from Other Cultures/Traditions	Author/Illustrator/ Character/Topic	

Stories from Around the World	Maisie Chan	David Wardle		Global folktales/Wisdom/Community/ Tradition		Folktale Anthology, Traditional Tales, Stories from Other Cultures/Traditions, Myths and Legends		
The Boy at the Back of the Class	Onjali Q. Raúf	Pippa Curnick	The Journey	Refugees/London/Kindness/ Bullying/School	PSHE - Bullying	Contemporary Realistic Fiction	Author/Character/Topic	Blue Peter Book Awards 2019, Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2019, Shortlist Branford Boase 2019
The Song Walker	Zilah Bethell	N/A	The Journey	Journey/Desert Survival/Aboriginal Traditions/ Identity/Secrets	Geography - Australia, PSHE	Contemporary Fiction, Adventure, Mystery	Character/Topic	Shortlist Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing 2024, Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2024
The Legend of Podkin One-Ear	Kieran Larwood	David Wyatt		Rabbits/Anglo-Saxon Links/Family/ Hero's Journey/ Responsibility/ Courage/Good vs Evil	History-Drawn from Anglo-Saxon culture	Contemporary Fiction, Animal Fantasy Series, Anthropomorphic Animal Society		Blue Peter Book Awards 2017, Shortlisted Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2018
The Land of Roar	Jenny McLachlan	Ben Mantle		Dragons/Friendship/Siblings/ Bravery/ Imagination/Fantasy Realms/Magic		Contemporary Fiction, Portal Fantasy		
Make Your Own Magic	Joel M (Joel Mawhinney)	N/A		Magic/Influencers/Positivity/ Confidence	PSHE - Wellbeing	Nonfiction Instructional Magic Tricks, Motivation, Self-Help	Author/Topic	
Quiz Yourself Clever! Animals of the World	DK	Various		Animal Facts/Habitats/Diversity	Science -Animals Including Humans, Living Things	Nonfiction Information Text, Quiz Question Format		
You Can Do Anything	Jonnie Peacock	Ashwin Chacko		Overcoming Obstacles/ Determination/Disability/ Paralympic Sport	PSHE	Nonfiction Autobiography	Author/Individuals/ Topic	Gold-Medal Winning Paralympian Author
Start to Cook	Abigail Wheatley	N/A		Cooking Skills/Healthy Eating	PSHE - Health, DT - Food Technology, Science	Nonfiction, Step-by-step Instructional Text		

42 Artists Everyone Should Know	Alison Baverstock, Brad Finger, Florian Heine, Doris Kutschbach, Bettina Shumann & Angela Wenzel	N/A		Art History/Artists	Art	Nonfiction Information Text, Chronological Text, Artist Biography	Author/Individuals	
A Day in the Life of a Caveman, a Queen, and Everything in Between	Mike Barfield	Jess Bradley		History/Fun Facts	History	Nonfiction Information Text, Comic-strip Style		Shortlist Lollies 2023
Kids vs Adults Ultimate Quiz Book	Joe Fullman	N/A		General Knowledge Quiz/Family Fun		Nonfiction Quiz Question Format		
100 Forest School Activities	Naomi & Dan Walmsley	N/A		Outdoor Learning/Bushcraft /Connecting with Nature		Nonfiction Instructional Text with Step-by-Step Activities		
The Travel Book	Malcolm Croft	Maggie Li		Geography/Tourism/Cultures/Festivals	Geography	Nonfiction Information Text	Illustrator/Topic	
How to Spaghetlify Your Dog	Hiba Noor Khan	Harry Woodgate		Science/Fun Facts/Experiments/Laws of Physics	Science -State of Matter	Nonfiction Science Experiments and Explanations	Author	Shortlist The Week Junior Book Awards 2024
Atlas of Ocean Adventures	Emily Hawkins	Lucy Letherland	Manfish The Whale	Oceans/Marine Life/Exploration/Ecology	Science - Living Things and Their Habitats	Nonfiction Information Text		
F2 Ultimate Footballer	Billy Wingrove & F2 Freestylers	Photographic Images		Football/Sport/Tricks		Nonfiction Instructional Text with Step-by-Step Activities	Author/Individuals	
Over to You	Roger McGough	Jennifer Naalchigar		Humour/Playfulness/Creativity		Contemporary Thematic Poetry using humour and free verse	Illustrator	Shortlist Lollies 2024
Where Zebras Go	Sue Hardy-Dawson	Sue Hardy-Dawson		Nature/Imagination/Childhood		Contemporary Poetry including thematic, free verse, rhyme and shape poems	Author	Shortlist CLIPPA Poetry 2018

And Everything Will Be Glad to See You	Various Compiled by Ella Risbridger	Anna Shepeta		Empowerment/Female Voices/ Inspiration/Positivity/Emotion/ Women's Stories/Diversity		Poetry Anthology with varied forms by a diverse range of female poets	Author/Voices/Topic	
Love that Dog	Sharon Creech	N/A		Grief/Personal Growth/Poetry Writing/School Stories		Contemporary Verse Novel		Shortlist Carnegie Medal 2001
Pocket Book of Pocket Poems	A.F. Harrold	Jack Viant		Humour/Nonsense/Everyday Life		Contemporary Poetry Anthology including thematic, rhyming and free verse poems		
Odder	Katherine Applegate	Charles Santuso	Manfish	Nature/Science/Friendship/Loss/ Empathy/Belonging/Resilience		Anthropomorphic Verse Novel with varied forms		Young Reader's Choice Award 2025, award winner and shortlisted by various US states
The Complete Nonsense of Edward Lear	Edward Lear	Edward Lear		Humour/Childhood/Fun/Fantasy/ Curiosity/Absurdity/Word Play		Poetry Collection including nonsense verse, limericks, alphabet poems, acrostic poems, and narrative poems including Literary Heritage		Faber Children's Classic 2001
The Lost Words	Robert Macfarlane	Jackie Morris	Leaf (Conservation)	Nature/Environmental Awareness & Conservation/Imagination/Loss/ Great Britain		Contemporary Poetry including nature, free verse, lyrical and environmental poems with visual elements		Greenaway Medal 2019, British Book Awards – Children's Fiction 2018
Werewolf Club Rules	Joseph Coelho	John O'Leary		School Life/Imagination/ Belonging/Humour/ Family		Contemporary Poetry including thematic, free verse and rhyming poems	Author	CLiPPA Poetry 2015
Cherry Moon	Zaro Weil	Junli Song		Nature/Environment/Seasons		Contemporary Poetry Including thematic, free verse, concrete and shape poems		CLiPPA Poetry 2020
Gargling with Jelly	Brian Patten	Chris Ridell		Humour/Nonsense/Everyday Life		Poetry Anthology including thematic, humorous and rhyming poems		

Poems from a Green and Blue Planet	Selected by Sabrina Mahfouz	N/A	Manfish	Environment/Global Community/Earth	Science, Geography	Poetry Anthology with varied forms including some Literary Heritage	Author	
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Year 5

Year 5	Author	Illustrator	RSW Link	Theme	Curriculum	Reading Breadth	Diverse Representation	Award Winner
The Storm Keeper's Island	Catherine Doyle	N/A		Ireland/Magic/Loss/Mental Health/Irish Folklore	Geography - Coasts/Islands/Ireland	Contemporary Fiction, Other Culture/Tradition		Books Are My Bag Reader Awards 2018, Shortlist Children's Book Award 2019
October, October	Katya Balen	Angela Harding	The Promise (Environment)	Off Grid Living/Nature/Owls/ Mudlarking/ Split Families		Contemporary Fiction	Character/Topic (neurodiversity)	Carnegie Medal 2022, Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2022
Sky Song	Abi Elphinstone	N/A		Adventure/Courage/Belonging/ Good vs Evil		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy, Adventure		Shortlisted Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards 2018
The Explorer	Katherine Rundell	Hannah Horn	The Lost Book of Adventure FArTHER (links to flight)	Amazon Rainforest/Plane Crash/ Exploration/Children in Care/ Loss/ Survival	Geography - Amazon Rainforest	Contemporary Fiction, Adventure		UKLA Book Awards 2019, Children's Book Award 2018, Costa Children's Book Award 2018, Shortlisted Books Are My Bag Reader Awards 2017
Kick	Mitch Johnson	N/A		Football/Sweatshops/Crime Social Justice/Poverty	Geography - Indonesia	Contemporary Fiction, Other Culture/Tradition	Character/Topic	Branford Boase Award 2018, Shortlist UKLA Book Awards 2019
The Nowhere Emporium	Ross MacKenzie	N/A		Magic/Mystery/Belonging/Scotland		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy		Blue Peter Book Award 2016
Ballet Shoes	Noel Streatfeild	Ruth Gervis		Ballet/Family/Ambition/ Perseverance		Classic Fiction, Literary Heritage		BBC's 100 Novels That Shaped Our World

No Ballet Shoes in Syria	Catherine Bruton	Kathrin Honesta		Ballet/Refugees/Belonging	Geography - Syria, PSHE - Empathy	Modern Fiction	Character/Topic (Refugees)	Books Are My Bag Reader Awards 2019
Between Worlds	Kevin Crossley-Holland	Frances Castle		Folktales/Folklore/Myth		British and Irish Folk Lore, Traditional Tales, Myths and Legends		
Secrets of a Sun King	Emma Carroll	N/A		Ancient Egypt/Howard Carter/Adventure/ Friendship/Belonging	History - Ancient Egypt	Contemporary Fiction, Historical Fiction		
Wonder	R J Palacio	R J Palacio	King Kong (NY, USA setting)	Difference/Bullying/Acceptance/ Friendship	PSHE - Acceptance/Em pathy	Contemporary Fiction	Character/Topic	Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2013, Shortlisted Carnegie Medal 2013
Goldfish Boy	Lisa Thompson	Mike Lowery		Anxiety/Mental Health (OCD)/Death/ Friendship/Bullying/Mystery	PSHE - Mental Health/Anxiety	Contemporary Fiction	Character/Topic	Branford Boase Longlist 2018, Waterstones Children's Book Prize Shortlist 2018, Children's Book Award Shortlist 2018
The Moon	Hannah Pang	Thomas Hegbrook	When We Walked on the Moon	Space exploration/Lunar Science	Science - Space	Nonfiction Information Text		
Knowledge Encyclopedia: Space	Jim Al-Khalili	N/A	When We Walked on the Moon	Astronomy/Planets/Scientific Discovery	Science - Space	Reference/Encyclopaedia	Author	
A Romani Story - A Different Kind of Freedom	Richard O'Neill	Alette Straathof		Romani Culture/Traveller Experiences/Freedom/Football/ Georgians	PSHE - Diversity	Historical Story based on true events and people, Other Culture/Tradition	Author/Individual/Topic	Shortlisted - Diverse Book Award Children's Prize 2024
Magic Your Mind Happy	Richard Wiseman	Luke Newell		Magic Tricks/Self-Acceptance/ Positive thinking/ Happiness	PSHE - Self Esteem/Mental Health	Nonfiction Self Help with Instructional Activities	Topic	
Mythologica	Stephen P. Kershaw	Victoria Topping		Ancient Greeks/Myths/Gods and Goddesses/Fictional Creatures	History - Ancient Greece	Nonfiction Illustrated Collection of Mythical Information		

Windrush Child	Benjamin Zephaniah	Two Dots		Windrush/Migration/Racism/ Identity/ Empire	History- Windrush Generation	Historical story based on the author's and other true experiences, Other Culture/Tradition	Author/Individual/Topic	The Diverse Book Award Children's 2021
Sports Legends	Rick Broadbent	James Davies		Famous Sportspeople/ Achievements/ Perseverance	PE/PSHE- Resilience	Nonfiction Biography Collection	Individual	
The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of 'Ugly' Animals	Sami Bayly	Sami Bayly		Unusual Wildlife/Biodiversity/ Animal Adaptation	Science-Living Things and their Habitats, Animals including Humans	Nonfiction Illustrated Encyclopaedia		
Against the Odds	Alastair Humphreys	Pola Mai	The Lost Book of Adventure	Personal Growth/Exploration/ Overcoming Challenges/ Adventure	History-Key Events and Figures	Nonfiction Biography Collection with Autobiographical Elements	Individual	
Coming to England	Floella Benjamin	Joelle Avelino		Windrush/Migration/Racism/ Belonging/ Identity/Caribbean Culture	History - Windrush Generation	Nonfiction Autobiography, Other Culture/Tradition	Author/Individual/Topic	
Three Lionesses	Ella Toone, Georgia Stanway, Nikita Parrs & Cheryl Rickman	Cat Sims		Football/Teamwork/ Self Belief/ Women in Sport/	PSHE - Self Esteem	Nonfiction Biography Collection	Author/Individual	
A World of Flavour	Gabrielle Langholtz	Tania García		Recipes/Global Traditions/Culture/ Culinary Heritage		Nonfiction Illustrated Information Text, Recipe Book, Other Culture/Tradition	Topic	
We are Family	Oliver Sykes	Ian Morris		Single Parent Families/Belonging/ Family/Working Class Communities	PSHE	Contemporary Poetry- Verse Novel		Shortlisted CLIPPA Poetry Award 2025, Shortlisted The Week Junior Book Awards 2025
A Poem for Every Night of the Year	Selected by Allie Esiri	Zanna Goldhawk		Nighttime/Festivals/Seasons	PSHE	Poetry Anthology including Classic and Modern with varied forms, Includes Literary Heritage	Author/Voices/Topic	

Bright Bursts of Colour	Matt Goodfellow	Aleksei Bitskoff		Identity/Mental Health/School Life/ Personal Struggles	PSHE	Contemporary Poetry mostly free verse	Illustrator/Voices	Shortlisted CLIPPA Poetry Award 2021
Alice in Wonderland & Through the Looking Glass	Lewis Carroll	N/A		Identity/Imagination/Curiosity/ Growing Up/Word Play		Classic Poetry including nonsense verse, limericks, and narrative poems, Links to Literary Heritage		100 Best Children's Books of All Time
The Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry	Selected by Brian Patten	N/A		Humour/Childhood Experiences		Poetry Anthology with varied forms including rhyming, concrete, free verse; includes Literary Heritage	Author/Voices/Topic	
The Barefoot Book of Classic Poems Single Poem used: The Highwayman	Alfred Noyes Collection Compiled by Carol Ann Duffy	Jackie Morris	The Hound of the Baskervilles (Gothic style)	Robbery/Love/Death/Betrayal	History	Classic Poetry including narrative with rhyming verse, Literary Heritage		Moonbeam Awards 2008, NAPPA Gold Award 2006
Fia and the Last Snow Deer	Eilish Fisher	Dermot Flynn	The Promise (Conservation)	Animals/Environment/ Adventure/ Loss and Bereavement/Traditions/ Beliefs		Contemporary Verse Novel, Fantasy	PSHE	Shortlisted The Week Junior Book Awards 2025
100 Best Poems for Children	Selected by Roger McGough	Sheila Moxley		Humour/Family/Animals/ Growing Up		Poetry Anthology with varied forms including rhyming, concrete, free verse; Mix of Contemporary and Classic including Literary Heritage	Author/Voices	Compiled by Poet Laureate of Liverpool
Where My Wellies Take Me	Compiled by Michael Morpurgo & Clare Morpurgo	Olivia Lomenech Gill	The Lost Book of Adventure	Nature/Countryside/Exploration/ Animals		Poetry Anthology with varied forms including thematic and nature poetry; Mix of Contemporary and Classic including Literary Heritage		Greenaway Shortlist 2014, Compiled by former Children's Laureate

Wicked World!	Benjamin Zephaniah	N/A		Global Travel/Traditions/Customs Celebrating Difference/ Justice/ Inequality	Geography/ PSHE	Contemporary Poetry including thematic and free verse poetry	Author/Voices	
Tiger Tiger Burning Bright	Selected by Fiona Waters	Britta Teckentrup		Animals/Nature/Global Awareness/ Wildlife		Poetry Anthology including nature poetry, mostly rhyming	Author/Voices/Topic	Books Are My Bag Readers Award for Poetry 2020, Sunday Times Children's Book of the Week, Shortlisted for Waterstones book of the Year 2020
Inside Out & Back Again	Thanhha Lai	N/A		Immigration & Displacement/ Identity/Resilience/ Prejudice/ Vietnam War	History/PSHE	Contemporary Verse Novel	Author/Voices/Topic	Newbery Honor 2012, National Book Award for Young People's Literature 2011, Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature 2012

Year 6

Year 6	Author	Illustrator	RSW Link	Theme	Curriculum	Reading Breadth	Diverse Representation	Award Winner
Safiyyah's War	Hiba Noor Khan	N/A	Rose Blanche	WW2/Islam/France	History - WW2, RE - Islam	Contemporary Fiction, Historical Fiction, Other Culture/Tradition	Author/Character/Topic (Muslim experience in WW2)	Jhalak Children's and YA Prize 2024, The Week Junior Book Awards 2024, Shortlisted Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2024
When the Sky Falls	Phil Earle	N/A	Rose Blanche	WW2/Courage/Friendship/Grief	History - WW2	Contemporary Fiction, Historical Fiction, Other Culture/Tradition		The British Book Awards 2022, Books Are My Bag Reader Awards 2021, Shortlisted Carnegie Medal 2022
The Boy in the Tower	Polly Ho-Yen	N/A	Paradise Sands (Mental Health & Dystopian Setting)	Survival/Mental Health/Hope/Dystopia		Contemporary Fiction, Dystopian	Author/Character/Topic (Urban Black British)	Shortlisted Blue Peter Book Award 2015, Shortlisted Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2015, Shortlisted Children's Book Award 2016
Refugee	Alan Gratz	N/A	A Story Like the Wind Rose Blanche	Refugees/War/Hunger	History -WW2	Contemporary Fiction, Realistic Fiction	Character/Topic (Refugees)	A New York Times Notable Book, An Amazon Best Book of the Year, A Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year, A Kirkus Best Book of

								the Year, Winner of the Sydney Taylor Book Award, Winner of the National Jewish Book Award
Darwin's Dragons	Lindsay Galvin	N/A	On the Origin of Species	Science/Discovery/Victorians/ Exploration/Survival	Science - Evolution & Inheritance (Fossils), History - Victorian Era	Contemporary Fiction, Historical Fiction, Adventure		Shortlisted Stockport Children's Book Awards 2022
Orphans of the Tide	Struan Murray	Manuel Sumberac		Floods/Identity/Good vs Evil/ Sacrifice		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy		Branford Boase Award 2021, Bath Children's Novel Award 2017
Grimm's Fairy Tales	Jacob & Wilhelm Grimm	George Cruikshank	Potential link to Wolves - The Ways of the Wolf	Good vs Evil/Bravery		Classic Fiction, Traditional Tales, Fairy Tales, Literary Heritage		
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase	Joan Aiken	Pat Marriott	The Ways of the Wolf	Wolves/Adventure/Survival/ Injustice	History - Victorian feel (alternate dystopian history)	Classic Fiction, Historical Fantasy, Literary Heritage		
Asha and the Spirit Bird	Jasbinder Bilan	N/A		Journey/Family/Faith/Courage/ India/Himalayan Mountains/ Poverty	Geography - Himalayas, India	Contemporary Fiction, Adventure, Other Culture/Tradition	Author, Character, Topic (Indian culture)	Costa Children's Book Award 2020, Shortlisted Costa Children's Book Award 2019, Shortlisted Waterstones Children's Book Prize
The Island at the End of Everything	Kiran Millwood Hargrave	N/A		Hansen's Disease (leprosy)/Loss Orphans/Prejudice/Segregation		Contemporary Fiction, Historical Fiction	Author/Character/Topic	Shortlisted Children's Book Award 2018, Shortlisted Blue Peter Book Awards 2018,

								Shortlisted Costa Children's Book Award 2017
The House with Chicken Legs	Sophie Anderson	Elisa Paganelli & Melissa Castrillón	Paradise Sands (Enchantment)	Identity/Life and Death/Belonging		Contemporary Fiction, Fantasy, Slavic Folk Lore, Other Culture/Tradition, Myths and Legends	Shortlisted Carnegie Medal 2019	
Black Beauty	Anna Sewell	Charlotte Hough		Horses/Animal Welfare/Victorians/ Empathy	History - Victorian Era	Classic Fiction, Literary Heritage		
Can You See Me? (Author's Diary and Autism Facts)	Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott	N/A		Autism/Friendship/Being Yourself	PSHE - Neurodiversity	Realistic Fiction with Nonfiction Content (Facts & diary about autism)	Author/Character/Individuals /Topic (Neurodiversity)	Warwickshire Junior Book Award
The Diary of a Young Girl	Anne Frank	N/A	Rose Blanche	WW2/Holocaust/Resilience/Hope	History - WW2	Autobiography, Classic Nonfiction, Literary Heritage	Author/Individuals/Topic (Jewish experience in WW2)	
The Place for Me - Stories about the Windrush Generation	Various	Various	A Story Like the Wind (Migration)	Windrush Generation/Belonging	History - post WW2 Britain/Caribbean Immigration	Anthology of stories based on true experiences with nonfiction fact sections	Author/Individuals/Topic (Jewish experience in WW2)	Shortlisted Jhalak Children's & YA Prize
Rise: extraordinary women of colour who changed the world	Maliha Abidi	Maliha Abidi		Women's achievements/ Inspiration		Nonfiction Inspirational Biography	Author/Individuals/Topic	Shortlisted Jhalak Children's & YA Prize
Can You Get Rainbows in Space	Dr Sheila Kanani	Liz Kay		Colour/Light/Science	Science - Light	Nonfiction STEM	Author	
The story of science: how science and technology changed the world	Robert Winston	Various	On the Origin of Species (Science)	History of Science/Inventions/ Discoveries	Science, History	Nonfiction History	Individuals	

Cheeky Treats: Brilliant Bakes and Cakes	Liam Charles	N/A		Great British Bake Off/Recipes	DT - Food Technology	Instructional Text/Cookbook	Author/Topic (Diverse Recipes)	
The Reading Adventure - 100 Books to Check Out Before You're 12	Katherine Ahmed	Various		Reading for Pleasure/Book Talk/ Author Interviews		Nonfiction Reading Guide	Individuals	
Women in Science	Rachel Ignatofsky	Rachel Ignatofsky		Women in STEM/Breaking Barriers	Science - Scientists	Nonfiction Biography	Author/Individuals	Shortlisted Royal Society Young People's Book Award 2018
Survivors	David Long	Kerry Hyndman	Shackleton's Journey	Real-life Survival Stories/Explorers		Nonfiction Adventure	Individuals	Blue Peter Book Award
Follow your dreams: 100 inspiring and extraordinary jobs	Katherine Mengardon	Rachel Horner		Careers/Aspirations/Job Diversity		Nonfiction Career Information	Individuals	
Marcus Rashford - You Can Do It	Marcus Rashford & Carl Anka	Various		Motivation/Social Justice/Making a Difference	PSHE - Life Skills	Motivational Self-help with autobiographical elements	Author/Individuals/Topic	Shortlisted British Book Awards 2023, Shortlisted Children's Sports Book of the Year 2023
Digging for Victory	Cathy Faulkner	Harry Goldhawk	Rose Blanche	WW2/Life on the Home Front	History - WW2	Historical Verse Novel - narrative and free verse with WW2 focus		Shortlisted The Week Junior Book Awards 2024
Poems from the Second World War	Selected by Gaby Morgan	N/A	Rose Blanche	WW2/Loss/Remembrance/ Courage	History - WW2	Literary Heritage - Historical Poetry - odes, sonnets, free verse		
New & Collected Poems for Children	Carol Ann Duffy	Alice Stevenson		Nature/Childhood/Dreams		Modern Poetry - free verse, narrative and lyric poems	Author/Voices	CLiPPA Poetry Award 2010, Former Poet Laureate

On the Move: Poems about Migration	Michael Rosen	Quentin Blake	A Story Like the Wind Rose Blanche	Migration/Belonging/Empathy	PSHE - Diversity/ Empathy, Geography - Migration	Thematic Poetry - narrative and free verse with migration focus	Author/Voices/Topic	CLiPPA Poetry Award 2021, Former Children's Laureate
My Heart was a Tree	Michael Morpurgo	Yuval Zommer		Love Letter to Trees/Nature/ Seasons	Science - Living Things	Modern Poetry - lyric, nature and ode-like poems	Illustrator	Former Children's Laureate
Stars with Flaming Tails	Valerie Bloom	Ken Wilson-Max		Nature/Family/Jamaican Heritage	PSHE, Geography - Caribbean	Performance Poetry - rhyming verse and free verse with cultural reference	Author/Voices/Topic	CLiPPA Poetry Award 2022
A Child's Garden of Verses	Robert Louis Stevenson	Michael Foreman		Childhood/Play/Imagination		Classic Poetry/Literary Heritage - rhymed verse, couplets and quatrains		
Out There in the Wild	Nicola Davies, James Carter and Dom Conlon	Diana Catchpole		Nature/Wildlife/Environment	Science - Living Things/ Environments	Modern nature poetry - lyric, free verse and odes to nature		
The Final Year	Matt Goodfellow	Joe Todd- Stanton		School Transition/Friendships/ Bullying/Mental Health	PSHE - Mental Health, Bullying	Modern Urban Poetry - Verse Novel		Shortlisted Carnegie Medal
Overheard in a Tower Block	Joseph Coelho	Kate Milner		Urban life/Identity/Family/ Belonging/ Bullying	PSHE - Emotions/Ment al Health/ Relationships	Modern Urban Poetry - narrative and free verse	Author/Voices/Topic	CLiPPA Winner, Former Children's Laureate
Everyone Sang - A Poem for Every Feeling	Selected by William Sieghart	Emily Sutton		Emotions/Resilience/Empathy	PSHE - Emotions	Poetry Anthology with classic and modern poets	Voices	
A Poem for Every Summer Day	Selected by Allie Esiri	N/A		Summer/Seasons/Nature/ Experiences		Poetry Anthology with classic and modern poets	Voices	