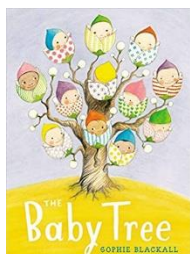


For beginning readers aged 5-6

Please find below a selection of books for you to read with your children over the summer or at bedtime.

Reading aloud to your child kindles their imagination and the rhythm and melody of the language become natural. Do try to read with your child at least once a day and if you have more than one child, try to spend some time reading alone with each child, although it's also fine to read to children at different stages and ages at the same time. When stories are complex, children can still get the idea and can be encouraged to ask questions.

You may go through a period when your child favours one book and wants it read night after night. This can be boring for parents! However, a favourite story may speak to your child's interests or emotional needs. Be patient. Continue to expose your children to a wealth of books and eventually they will be ready for more stories.



***The Baby Tree* by Sophie Blackall**

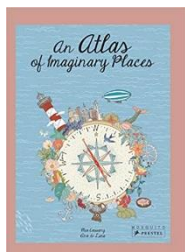
The Baby Tree features a little boy wondering where babies come from. He asks his babysitter, teacher, postman, grandpa and finally his parents, until he finds the right answer. The final page addresses more in-depth questions about adoption, same-sex parents and more.

***The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn**

This book is about the bond between mother and child, to read snuggled up we talk about our feelings, and when your child might have lots of the world and life.



before bed when
questions about

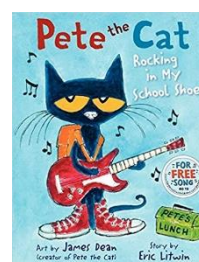


***An Atlas of Imaginary Places* by Mia Cassany**

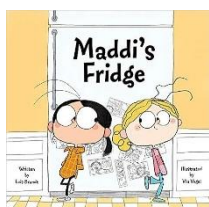
This is great for children who've already experienced big moves in their lives, to show them the adventure of travel and how you can see things in your own way and that things aren't always what they seem and beauty is often hidden just around a corner.

***Pete the Cat: Rocking in My School Shoes* by Eric Litwin**

This is a good book for kids who are a little shy. Changes and new sometimes be really stressful and this book addresses them. The cat in the about going to school alone, but when he gets nervous he focuses on his and they get him through.



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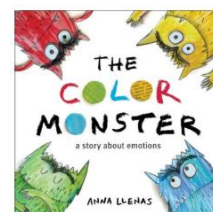


***Maddi's Fridge* by Lois Brandt**

Maddi's Fridge is a book about two friends. One friend doesn't have as much money and is going hungry, so the other friend and her family helps her. The story teaches kids to realise that not everyone may be as fortunate as them and to think about and care for other people.

***The Color Monster* by Anna Llenas**

One day, the Color Monster wakes up feeling very confused; his emotions are all over the place! A little girl shows him what each feeling means through colour. The book supports socio-emotional growth and colour concepts in a simple, friendly way.



For readers aged 7-8

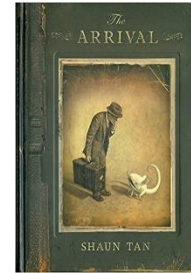


Matilda by Roald Dahl

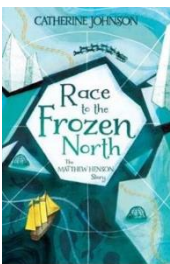
This book needs no introduction, really, as it is a favourite among readers aged 7 and 8. Matilda is a sweet, exceptional young girl, but her parents think she's just a nuisance. She expects school to be different but there she has to face Miss Trunchbull, a kid-hating terror of a headmistress... "Matilda will surely go straight to children's hearts." — *The New York Times Book Review*

The Arrival by Shaun Tan

What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to country, a place without family or friends, where everything is the future is unknown? It may be of interest for our Bilingual students already lived in several different places around the world. This silent is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, to all those who have made the journey.



a mysterious nameless and who have graphic novel and a tribute



Race to the Frozen North by Catherine Johnson

This dyslexia-friendly novel describes the journey undertaken by explorer Matthew Henson. Following an encounter with Commander Robert E. Peary, Henson is inspired to the North Pole but as the first African American to do so, he faces more obstacles than most. Based on a true story, this novel is particularly appropriate for children with dyslexia or those struggling with motivation to read. An inspiring tale, it touches upon prejudice and the whitewashing of history, in a child-appropriate way.

How to Train Your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

This is part of a series of 12 books, so if your child likes it, that's them set for the summer! Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III, the quiet and thoughtful son of the Chief of the Hairy Hooligans, tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan by catching and training a dragon. Join his adventures and misadventures as he finds a new way to train dragons--and becomes a hero. This action-packed, hilarious, and perfectly illustrated novel is a modern classic beloved by millions across the globe.



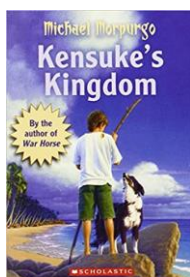
The Secret Explorers and the Rainforest Rangers by SK King

This is one in a series of educational fiction by DK. In this instalment, rainforest expert Ollie takes on an exciting mission to rescue a lost baby orangutan in the steamy rainforest of Borneo. The book is packed with information o animal and plant life, including explanations, quizzes, fun facts and installations. The other books in the series explore other biomes, so take a look at those too!

More suggestions can be found here:

<https://www.readbrihtly.com/50-best-books-7-8-year-olds/>

For readers aged 9-10



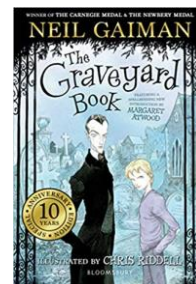
Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

When Michael's father loses his job, he buys a boat and convinces Michael and his mother to sail around the world. It's an ideal trip - even Michael's sheepdog can come along. It starts out as the perfect family adventure - until Michael is swept overboard. He's washed up on an island, where he struggles to survive. Then he discovers that he's not alone. His fellow-castaway, Kensuke, is wary of him. But when Michael's life is threatened, Kensuke slowly lets the boy into his world. The two develop a close understanding in this remote place, but the question of rescue continues to divide them.

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

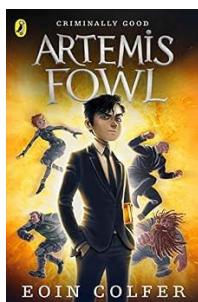
The bewitching classic children's novel has won several medals: winner of Carnegie medal and the 2009 John Newbery medal, winner of the Locus Award, winner of the Hugo medal and finally, prize winner of the Booktrust Award.

Nobody Owens, known to his friends as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be normal if he didn't live in a graveyard, raised and educated by ghosts. There are adventures for Bod in the graveyard. But it is in the land of the living that lurks, for it is there that the man Jack lives ...



the 2010
Young Adult
Teenage

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are dangers
the real danger



Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

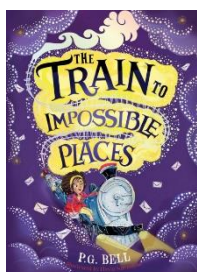
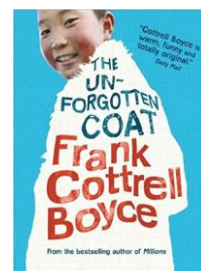
Also exists in graphic novel format. No scheme is too dastardly, no plot too devious. And he's just discovered that fairies are real. Poor fairies. But these are not the cuddly creatures of bedtime stories. They are armed. They are dangerous. And when Artemis captures Captain Holly Short for her fairy gold, he messes with the wrong elf.

Holly isn't armed but she's *incredibly* dangerous, and pretty annoyed with all the kidnapping. Artemis Fowl is about to find out that fairies fight back . . . Let the misadventure begin.

Winner of the WHSmith Children's Book of the Year Award and Children's Book of the Year at the Children's Book Awards. Shortlisted for the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award.

The Unforgotten Coat by Frank Cottrell Boyce

From the award-winning author of Millions comes a story of friendship in the midst of adversity. Winner of the 2012 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, this magical and poignant book is enriched by stunning and atmospheric Polaroid photos. Two refugee brothers from Mongolia are determined to fit in with their Liverpool schoolmates, but bring so much of Mongolia to Bootle that their new friend and guide, Julie, is hard-pressed to know truth from fantasy. Told with the humour, warmth and brilliance of detail which characterizes Frank Cottrell Boyce's writing, readers will be transported from the streets of Liverpool to the steppe of Mongolia.



The Train to Impossible Places by P. G. Bell

It's not every day that a magical train drives through your hallway but that's what happens to Suzy. She discovers it's the Impossible Postal Express, responsible for making deliveries throughout the Union of Impossible Places. Being deeply inquisitive, Suzy climbs aboard. It's not long before she's been deputized as a Postal Operative (by the troll in charge), which in turn embroils her in an even bigger adventure. Fans of magical stories mustn't miss this train!

Other novels of interest:

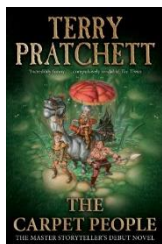
Skellig by David Almond

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver

The Wolf Rider by Katherine Rundell

For readers aged 11-13

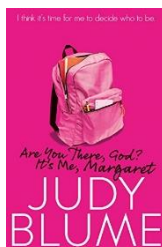
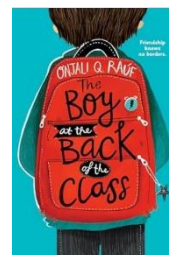


***The Carpet People* by Terry Pratchett**

In the beginning, there was nothing but endless flatness. Then came the Carpet . . . That's the old story everyone knows and loves. But now the Carpet is home to many different tribes and peoples and there's a new story in the making. The story of Fray, sweeping a trail of destruction across the Carpet. The story of power-hungry moults - and of two Munrung brothers, who set out on an amazing adventure. It's a story that will come to a terrible end - if someone doesn't do something about it. If everyone doesn't do something about it . . .

***The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf**

Infused with humour and emotion, this novel presents a very real difficulty – the refugee crisis – in an approachable, child-friendly way. On the third Tuesday of the new school year, a new child arrives. Ahmet, a Syrian refugee, doesn't talk very much. Nor does he smile very often. However, upon learning about Ahmet's backstory, the class hatches a plan: to reunite him with his loved ones. This novel is a sobering and heartwarming reminder of the value of allyship in kindness in a world that isn't always kind.

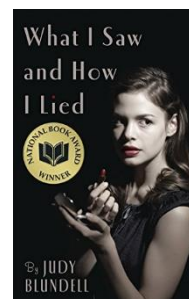


***Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume**

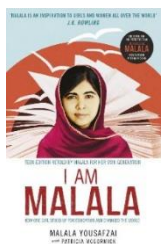
Life isn't easy for Margaret. She's moved away from her childhood home, she's starting a new school, finding new friends – and she's convinced she's not normal. For a start she hasn't got a clue whether she wants to be Jewish like her father or Christian like her mother. Everyone else seems really sure of who they are. And, worst of all, she's a 'late developer'. She just *knows* that all her friends are going to need a bra before she does. It's too embarrassing to talk to her parents about these things. So she talks to God instead – and waits for an answer . . .

***What I Saw and How I Lied* by Judy Blundell**

This National Book Award winner is set during the aftermath of WWII. When returned home from World War II, the family fell back into its normal life pretty much. Joe Spooner brought more back with him than just good war stories. When handsome Peter Coleridge, a young ex-GI who served in Joe's company in Austria, shows up, Evie is suddenly caught in a complicated web of lies that she recognizes. She finds herself falling for Peter, ignoring the secrets that surround tragedy occurs that shatters her family and breaks her life in two.



Evie's father quickly. But movie-star postwar only slowly him... until a



***I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick**

The amazing story of Malala's courage and her fight for the education of girls is well known. Here, in her own voice, she tells of her journey from her early days as a clever schoolgirl to her exceptional life as an international speaker on the rights of girls to get an education. Hearing her tell her story is inspirational.

Also of interest:

A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 ¾ by Sue Townsend

Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens

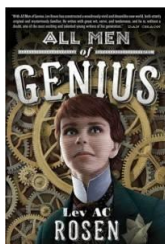
The Time Machine by H.G. Wells

Unhooking the Moon by Gregory Hughes

The Knife of Never Letting Go by Patrick Ness

Wonder by R. J. Palacio

For readers aged 14-15



***All Men of Genius* by Lev AC Rosen**

Violet Adams wants to attend Illyria College, a widely renowned school for the most brilliant up-and-coming scientific minds, founded by the late Duke Illyria, the greatest scientist of the Victorian Age. The school is run by his son, Ernest, but the exclusive college is male-only. Violet disguises herself as her twin brother, Ashton, and gains entry. But keeping the secret of her gender won't be easy, especially not when the duke's young ward, Cecily, starts to develop feelings for Violet's alter ego, 'Ashton'...

***Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* by Benjamin Alire Saenz**

Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. As they start spending time together, they discover that they share a special friendship – the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. It is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.



***Beautiful Creatures* by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl**

Lena Duchannes is unlike anyone the small Southern town of Gatlin has ever seen, and she's struggling to conceal her power, and a curse that has haunted her family for generations. Ethan Wate, who has been counting the months until he can escape from Gatlin, is haunted by dreams of a beautiful girl he has never met. When Lena moves into the town, Ethan is inexplicably drawn to her and determined to uncover the connection between them.

***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbours during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.



***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley**

Since it was first published in 1818, Mary Shelley's seminal novel has generated countless print, stage and screen adaptations, but none has ever matched the power and philosophical resonance of the original. Composed as part of a challenge with Byron and Shelley to conjure up the most terrifying ghost story, Frankenstein narrates the chilling tale of a being created by a bright young scientist and the catastrophic consequences that ensue. Considered by many to be the first science-fiction novel, 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.

Also of interest:

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card (series)

Eragon by Christopher Paolini (series)

Everything, Everything by Nicola Yoon

Falling From Grace by S.L. Naeole

Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell

More book ideas can be found on bookriot.com