

Recommended Reads

YEAR 2 • AGES 6–7

A menu of possibilities

Children are becoming more independent, but shared reading remains important. Mix achievable books with richer stories read aloud, and talk about characters, new words and what children predict will happen next. These suggestions are not a reading test or a list to finish, and there is no need to buy the books.

Stories to get lost in

The Last Wolf — Mini Grey

A clever, funny environmental tale that turns a familiar story on its head.

Flat Stanley — Jeff Brown

A humorous early chapter book about the surprising advantages of being flat.

The Dunderheads — Paul Fleischman & David Roberts

A class of underestimated children use their different strengths to outwit a teacher.

The Dragon Machine — Helen Ward & Wayne Anderson

An imaginative adventure about seeing the extraordinary things others overlook.

The Bear and the Piano — David Litchfield

A thoughtful story about following a dream without forgetting where you belong.

The Legend of Spud Murphy — Eoin Colfer

A funny early chapter book about two brothers facing a fearsome librarian.

The Tear Thief — Carol Ann Duffy & Nicoletta Ceccoli

A lyrical picture book exploring sadness, comfort and emotional understanding.

The Giraffe and the Pelly and Me — Roald Dahl

A playful adventure featuring an extraordinary window-cleaning team.

Lila and the Secret of Rain — David Conway & Jude Daly

A beautifully illustrated story inspired by the landscapes and traditions of Kenya.

The Night Gardener — Terry & Eric Fan

Mysterious tree sculptures transform a town in this atmospheric visual story.

The Invisible — Tom Percival

A compassionate picture book about poverty, community and making a difference.

Marv and the Mega Robot — Alex Falase-Koya & Paula Bowles

A fast-moving superhero adventure with short chapters and lively illustrations.

Family tip: Visit the library, read a first page together and let your child decide what they would like to try.



More ways into reading

Pictures, facts, poetry, audio and shorter texts all help children build knowledge, language and a positive reading identity.

Graphic novels & visual storytelling

The Street Beneath My Feet — Charlotte Guillain & Yuval Zommer
A fold-out journey down through layers beneath a busy street.

Hilda and the Troll — Luke Pearson
A graphic adventure full of folklore, curiosity and a fearless young explorer.

The Journey — Aaron Becker
A wordless fantasy that invites children to build the story from pictures.

Mr Wolf's Class — Aron Nels Steinke
A welcoming school-based graphic novel with humour and relatable characters.

Poetry & verse

Quick, Let's Get Out of Here — Michael Rosen & Quentin Blake
Funny, energetic poems about family and childhood.

The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems — June Crebbin (editor)
An inviting anthology covering animals, school, seasons and imagination.

Poems Aloud — Joseph Coelho & Daniel Gray-Barnett
Poems designed to be whispered, shouted, performed and enjoyed together.

The Big Amazing Poetry Book — Gaby Morgan (editor)
A bright selection of poems for discovering different voices and forms.

Fascinating non-fiction

The Big Book of the Blue — Yuval Zommer
Striking illustrations and surprising facts explore ocean life.

Professor Astro Cat's Solar System — Dominic Walliman & Ben Newman
Bold visuals explain planets, space travel and our solar neighbourhood.

Counting on Katherine — Helaine Becker & Dow Phumiruk
The true story of mathematician Katherine Johnson and her work for NASA.

One Day on Our Blue Planet: In the Savannah — Ella Bailey
Follow a lion cub through a day while learning about a rich habitat.

Shorter and super-readable

Press Start! Game Over, Super Rabbit Boy! — Thomas Flinham
A colourful game-style adventure with short chapters and strong visual support.

Dimple and the Boo — Pip Jones & Paula Bowles
A short, warm Barrington Stoke story about friendship and a mysterious creature.

Kitty and the Moonlight Rescue — Paula Harrison & Jenny Løvlie
An accessible illustrated adventure about courage and helping animals.

Sona Sharma, Very Best Big Sister? — Chitra Soundar & Jen Khatun
A lively family story with manageable chapters and expressive illustrations.

More ideas online

[The Reader Teacher – Year 2](#) • a longer, regularly updated list
[BookTrust – Great Books Guide](#) • recommendations grouped by age

HELP YOUR CHILD CHOOSE

- Browse together
- Try audio or read aloud
- Talk about the book
- Stop if it is not working

External websites are offered for further ideas. Great Leighs Primary School is not responsible for their commercial links or changing content.