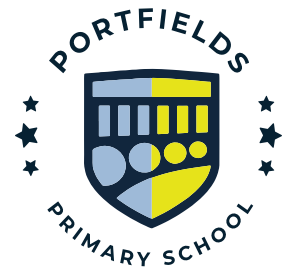


PORTFIELDS BIG READS



'Great books build the imagination. The more we read aloud expressively, and the more children are able to savour, discuss and reinterpret literature through the arts, the more memorable the characters, places and events become, building an inner world. Each great book develops the imagination and equips the reader with language. Great books also build our language because around seventy five per cent of our vocabulary comes from our reading'. Pie Corbett

Through our Portfields Big Reads, children are deliberately exposed to a whole school reading spine that combines classics and essential reads to build a common bank of stories that binds the Portfields' reading community together.

The books that have been selected include themes of diversity, inclusion and tolerance. They provide children with the opportunity to learn about all aspects of diversity and feel empowered to discuss what makes all of us unique, valued and respected in terms of culture, race, ethnicity, gender, education, disability, identity, nationality, religion, neurodiversity, social background, and beliefs.

During their time at Portfields, each year, every child will be read to, enjoy, discuss and work with a selection of books for their specific year group. By the end of their Portfields' journey the children will have been exposed to over 56 core reading books.

Portfields Big Reads is a central part of our book stock, but it is also supplemented by many other books that are used within English and other curriculum lessons.

The books in EYFS are picture books that encourage children to value difference, to be aware of differing ways of seeing the world and to be sensitive to the needs of others.

The picture books in year 1 offer deeper exploration of emotions and wonder. They expose them to a rich vocabulary and help them learn how to express and understand how they feel.

Year 2 is a transition year so it is important to move from sharing picture books into sharing chapter books. These will not only provide a more substantial read, but also encourage children to use their imagination.

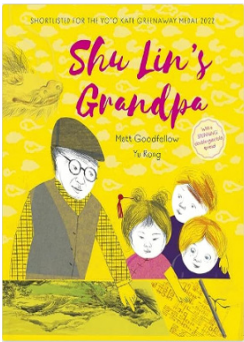
In year 3, children need a great storyline, but should also be experiencing deep and rich books. These stories feature a diverse range of characters to help children to develop empathy and inclusion, providing a more realistic understanding of the world around us.

The selection of books in year 4 include: humour, history and fantasy. These books provide children with the opportunity to develop their imagination, understand difficult topics and explore emotions.

In year 5, the books include classic and contemporary fiction which will provide many opportunities for rich discussion of language and vocabulary.

In year 6, the books cover a range of subject matter and different historical periods. They are intriguing, challenging books that intend to develop engagement and the ability to read critically, deepening understanding and therefore a greater appreciation of the text.

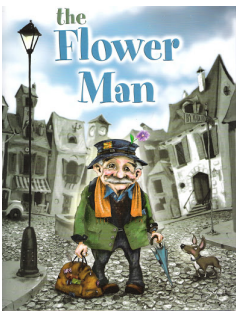
In addition to these reading books, our Portfields Big Reads also includes a selection of poetry books which ensure that each term children become familiar with at least one key poet.



Shu Lin's Grandpa

Matt Goodfellow

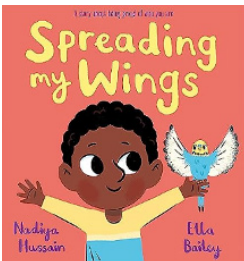
When Shu Lin starts at her new school, she wears yellow rain boots and a pink coat. At recess, she stands alone in the playground. At lunchtime, she eats by herself from little boxes of brightly coloured food. Her classmates aren't sure what to make of her. But one day, when Shu Lin's grandpa comes to school to share his amazing artwork, everything changes. With a stunning double-gatefold spread revealing a beautiful Chinese painting, this uplifting story shows the transformative power of art and imagination in developing cultural understanding and empathy.



The Flower Man

Mark Ludy

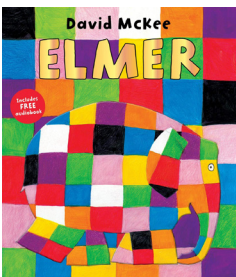
This beautiful, wordless story told visually from beginning to end features a small, meek man who transforms a small town through simple moral principles. The characters' stories are woven together to create a tale that spans borders and nationalities and will refresh the human spirit with principles of compassion, honesty, integrity, and generosity.



Spreading my Wings

Nadiya Hussain

A touching story about being proud of who we are and embracing our differences. On his first day of holiday camp, a little boy arrives with his bird best friend perched proudly on his shoulder, but he soon discovers that he is different from everyone else - no one else has a bird. He hides Rayf away to try and fit in but it's hard to pretend to be someone else for long. This is a touching story about being proud of who we are and embracing our differences.

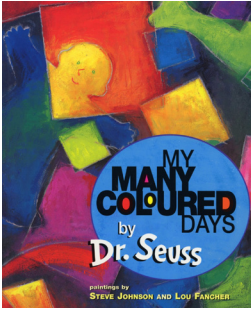


Elmer

David McKee

A tale about an elephant who sticks out, both with his patchwork skin and his sense of humour, and how he and his community learn to accept and value his unique characteristics. The story promotes a sense of identity, self-awareness, acceptance and open-mindedness.

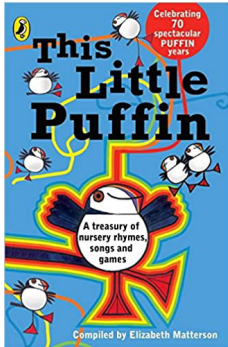




My Many Coloured Days

Dr. Seuss

The book utilises rhythm to link colours to emotion. The illustrations are magical, expressive paintings saturated with emotions. They take you on an amazing journey through the many different ways we can feel.



This Little Puffin

Elizabeth Matterson

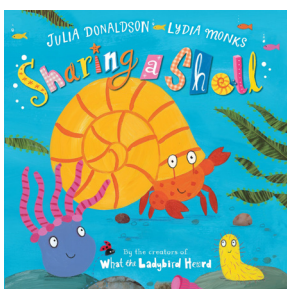
This book includes songs, rhymes and games for every occasion, all chosen for their proven popularity with young children. Collected from all over Britain, the contents reflect the cultural diversity of the nation, making it an outstandingly rich and stimulating collection.



A Treasury of Songs

Julia Donaldson

A Treasury of Songs contains over twenty of her songs, including fun-filled action rhymes, Aesop's fables, and songs based on Julia Donaldson's best-loved picture books.

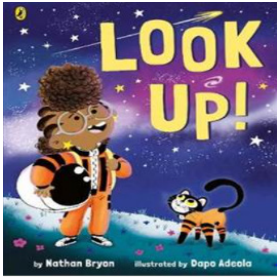


Sharing a Shell

Julia Donaldson

Sharing a Shell is a charming underwater tale of friendship and fun with brilliant rhythmic verse and bright, distinctive illustrations.

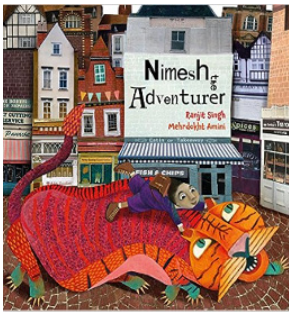




Look Up!

Nathan Bryon

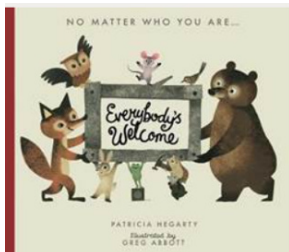
Look Up! by Nathan Bryon is a story all about career aspirations and space travel featuring the science-mad main character, Rocket. She wants to be the greatest astronaut, star-catcher and space-traveller who has ever lived, just like Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space. Sprinkled with facts about meteors and space, this charming picture book is also a positive representation of family, sibling relationships and one girl's infectious enthusiasm.



Nimesh the Adventurer

Ranjit Singh

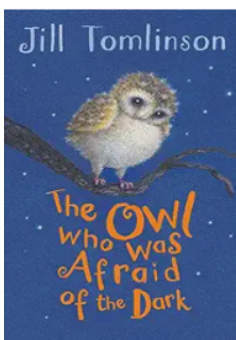
As Nimesh journeys home from school, his vivid imagination transforms the everyday environment into a thrilling world of adventure. His classroom is an ancient cave, home to a sleeping dragon. The corridor displaying pictures of sea creatures is transformed into the ocean depths, where Nimesh swims among sharks. Written by a British author of East Indian heritage and illustrated by an Iranian-born artist living in the UK, this wonderful picture book celebrates diversity and inclusion in Britain in a fresh, creative way.



Everybody's Welcome

Patricia Hegarty

Everybody's Welcome is a story about a mouse and other woodland friends embarking on a journey to build a home together. Thoughtful rhyming text and the repetitive chant of 'everybody's welcome' reinforces the poignant message of tolerance and inclusivity, which is integral to this heart-warming tale of love, friendship and hope.

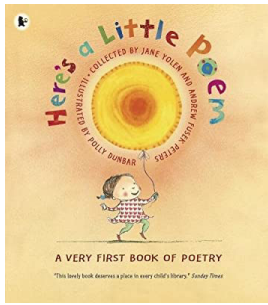


The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark

Jill Tomlinson

Plop, the baby owl, is like every barn owl there ever was, except for one thing - he is afraid of the dark! But the dark is brimming with excitement and magic. As Plop ventures into the night, he meets a boy who shows him fireworks and a black cat who takes him exploring. This story is about learning to overcome fears.





Here's a Little Poem

Collected by Jane Yolen and Andrew Fusek Peters

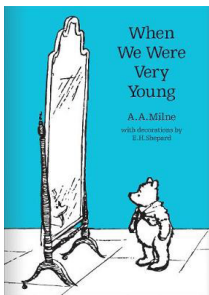
A collection of more than sixty poems by a wide range of talented writers, from Margaret Wise Brown to Gertrude Stein, Langston Hughes to A. A. Milne.



Hey Little Bug

James Carter

Caterpillars, dinosaurs, trains, boats and the naughty step feature in this engaging collection of over fifty simple verses, designed to help young readers discover the delights of poetry.



When We Were Very Young

A. A. Milne

A collection of poetry by A. A. Milne published in 1924. While dated, most of the poems remain magical and relevant to today's children, as they are both simple and humorous.

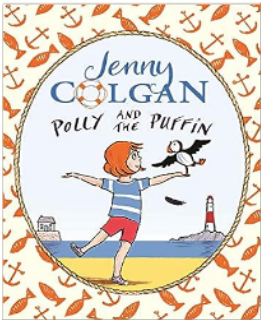


The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems

Edited by June Crebbin

A magical celebration of poetry for very young children, acting as a stepping stone from nursery rhyme to poetry. This book provides a unique mix of funny, unusual and exciting work from a wide range of poets.





Polly and the Puffin

Jenny Colgan

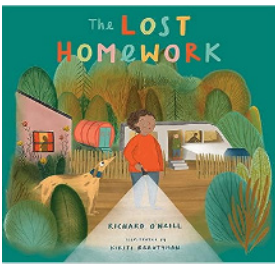
Polly isn't particularly looking forward to starting Big School. When she gets to school she doesn't really feel like joining in any of the games: she's the lonely little figure on the edge of everything. Her teacher suggests that she and Ronita become friends. Polly and Ronita don't make friends - they end up shouting at each other. Polly and the Puffin is a story about the difficulties of transitioning from home to school and making friends.



The Tear Thief

Carol Ann Duffy

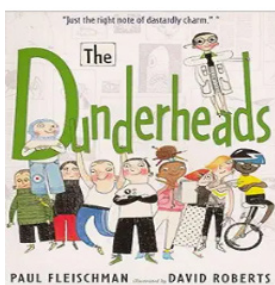
Each night, in the hours between supper and bedtime the Tear Thief carries her waterproof, silvery sack over her shoulder as she soundlessly steals the tears of every child who cries. But what does she do with all of those tears? This tale illustrates a message to teach children to value true feelings.



The Lost Homework

Richard O'Neil

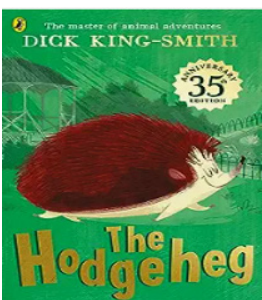
Sonny devotes his weekend to helping his neighbours and fellow Travellers with a variety of tasks. He uses many skills, from calculating the amount of fuel needed for a journey, to restoring a caravan. In fact, the only thing he doesn't do over the weekend is his homework. This picture book by Richard O'Neil champions the idea that many skills learned at home are as important as those learned at school.



The Dunderheads

Paul Fleischman

Miss Breakbone hates kids. Especially the time-squandering, mind-wandering, doodling, dozing dunderheads in her class. But each kid's special talent is crucial to a spectacular display of teamwork that teaches Miss Breakbone a lesson she won't soon forget. This story is a celebration of multiple intelligences and teamwork.

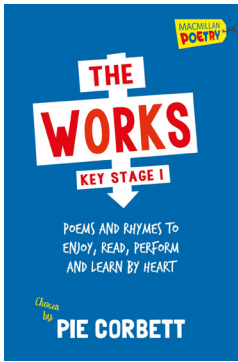


The Hodgeheg

Dick King-Smith

A hedgehog bumps his head after an attempt to cross the road. As a result he begins to jumble up his words when talking to others and loses sense of direction. The story deals with road safety, determination, rules and caring for animals.

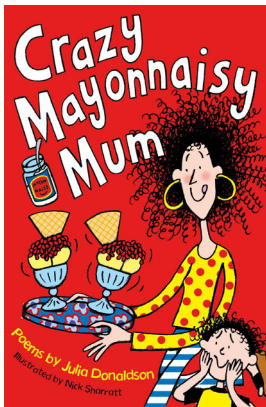




The Works Key Stage 1

Chosen by *Pie Corbett*

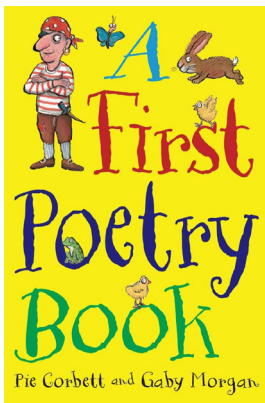
The Works Key Stage 1 contains a wide range of contemporary and classic poems and rhymes to enjoy, read, perform and learn by heart - perfect for children in year 2.



Crazy Mayonnaisy Mum

Julia Donaldson

A collection of poems including nonsense rhymes, number rhymes, poems about everyday life and reflective poems, all illustrated with Nick Sharratt's appealing black and white drawings.



A First Poetry Book

Pie Corbett and Gaby Morgan

This collection features brand-new poems on a variety of topics including: feelings, school, space, transport, nature and the senses. The poems are written by a variety of authors allowing children to experience different poetic styles.



Heard it in the Playground

Allan Ahlberg

This poetry book is based on Alan Ahlberg's experiences as a teacher. It is an illustrated collection of amusing poems and songs celebrating primary school life.

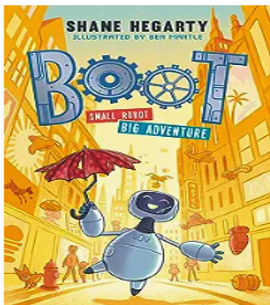




When Life Gives You Mangoes

Kereen Getten

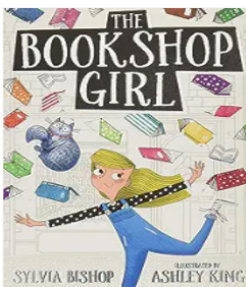
When Life Gives You Mangoes is a charming debut set in Jamaica. Kereen Getten's novel follows hot-headed Clara as she negotiates friendships, frustrations and a lost summer: I remember that my name is Clara Dee-Henson, and I remember I am twelve years old. I know I live on a small island that tourists call exotic.



Boot Small Robot Big Adventure

Shane Hegarty

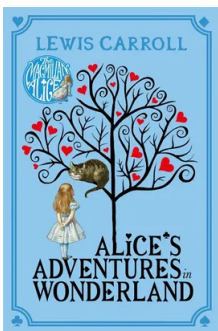
Boot: Small Robot, Big Adventure is a futuristic read with themes of community, loyalty, acceptance and inclusion. Boot is a toy who wakes up in a junkyard with only two and a half memories. Confused, he sets off to find his owner Beth, but immediately finds himself in danger as Flint, the junkyard keeper, attempts to destroy him. Boot makes a narrow escape but the world is not as he remembers, as robots everywhere appear hypnotised and strange.



The Bookshop Girl

Sylvia Bishop

Property Jones was abandoned in a bookshop when she was five, but the family that took her in have always treated her as one of their own. When they win the amazing opportunity to take over a huge bookshop in London, they can't wait to move. The Book Shop Girl explores themes of family, identity, and mystery while weaving an entertaining tale filled with quirky, memorable characters.

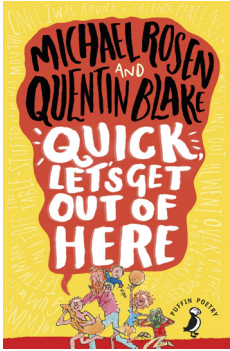


Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Lewis Carroll

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll is a story about Alice who falls down a rabbit hole and lands into a fantasy world that is full of weird, wonderful people and animals.

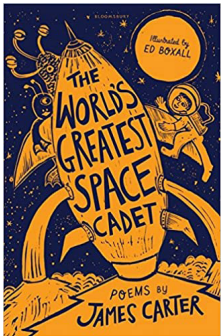




Quick Let's Get Out of Here

Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake

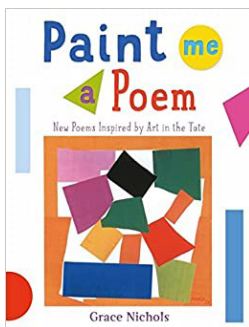
A much-loved classic of family life from the brilliant Michael Rosen & Quentin Blake. The yucky things your brother does, the annoying things your parents say, the funny things you feel. Michael Rosen knows all about YOU!



The World's Greatest Space Cadet

James Carter

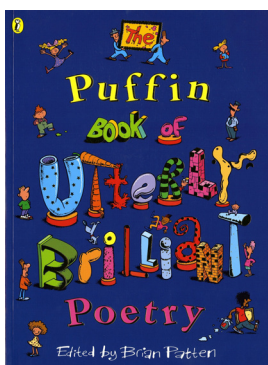
Join poet James Carter on a journey through space and time: meet everyone from a Viking warrior to a crazed cat - and travel from planet Earth to the very edges of the universe.



Paint me a Poem

Grace Nichols

'Paint Me a Poem' combines pictures of either paintings or sculptures displayed at the Tate, with a poem written by Grace, and other poems written by children who were inspired at workshops to write their own versions.

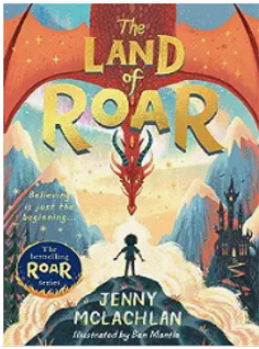


The Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry

Edited by Brian Patten

A celebratory anthology of the best of Puffin poetry publishing, including poems by Roger McGough, Michael Rosen, Charles Causley, Benjamin Zephaniah, Jackie Kay, Spike Milligan, John Agard, Brian Patten, Allan Ahlberg and Kit Wright. Each poet's work is illustrated by a different artist such as Emma Chichester Clark, Fritz Wegner and Korky Paul.

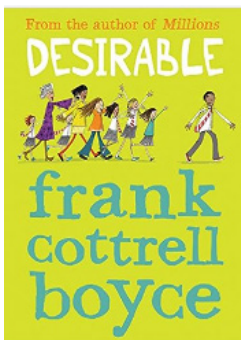




The Land of Roar

Jenny McLachlan

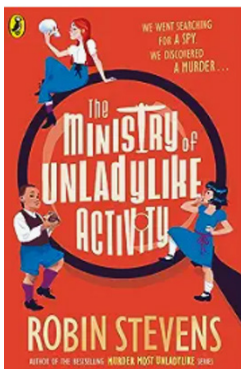
Distant memories of the Land of Roar, an imaginary world filled with dragons, ninjas and unicorns, flicker through the minds of twins, Rose and Arthur, as they clear their grandad's attic. After climbing through a folding bed, we're whisked away on an action-packed adventure, through a rich tapestry of landscapes, keeping the magic of Roar alive. The Land of Roar is a journey of adventure, courage and self-belief.



Desirable

Frank-Cottrell Boyce

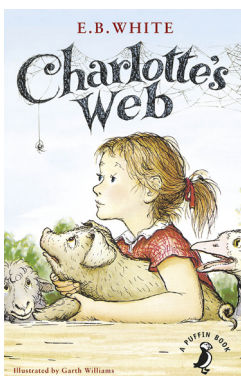
Desirable is a hilarious comedy from award-winning Frank Cottrell Boyce. George is so unpopular that even his own grandad won't come to his birthday party. Instead, his grandad sends him a bottle of aftershave that expired years ago. But the aftershave seems to have developed extra properties since its sell-by date... Now George is irresistible to all the girls in school - and even the teachers can't get enough of him!



The Ministry of Unladylike Activity

Robin Stevens

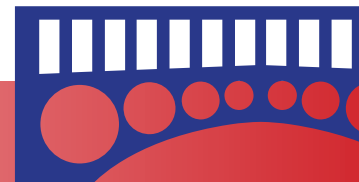
The world is at war, and a secret arm of the British government called the Ministry of Unladylike Activity is training up spies. Enter May Wong: courageous, stubborn, and desperate to help end the war so that she can go home to Hong Kong (and leave her annoying school, Deepdean, behind forever).

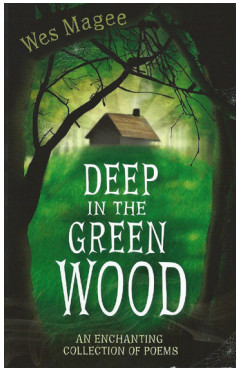


Charlotte's Web

E.B. White

This story is about a pig named Wilbur who is born as a runt. A girl named Fern lived with her family, and the day Wilbur was born she stopped her dad from killing him and decided to adopt him. Fern and Wilbur did everything together until Fern's family told her that they were going to sell him. The book's themes of friendship and perseverance show in the relationships between the characters and in their determination.

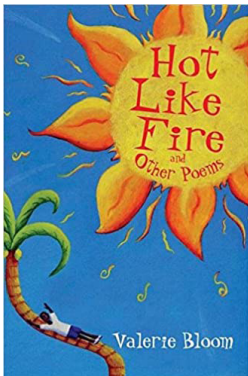




Deep in the Green Wood

Wes Magee

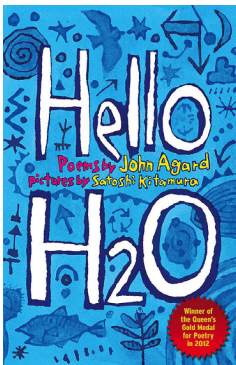
In Wes Magee's book of enchanting poems, you'll find tempting treats and spooky scenes. You can explore an abandoned mansion, meet Mr. Grimm and of course, discover who lives deep in the green wood.



Hot Like Fire and Other Poems

Valerie Bloom

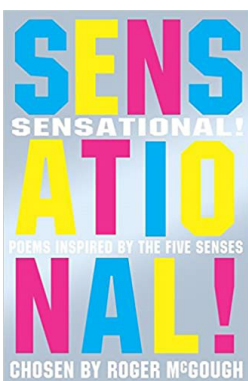
A brilliant collection from this wonderful performance poet. Her poetry is beautifully crafted yet full of energy and fun - her subjects range from global pollution to problems with maths homework and to the sad demise of pet frogs.



Hello H2O

John Agard

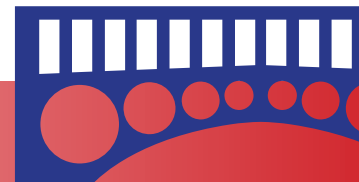
Full of wonder and excitement at the discoveries of science, this is a highly original collection of poems from one of Britain's leading poets, uniquely complemented by the witty and entertaining illustrations of Satoshi Kitamura.

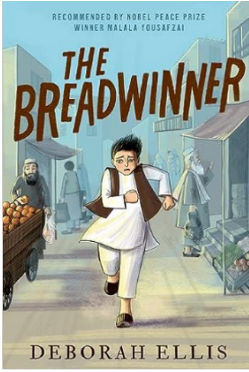


Sensational

Roger McGough

Roger McGough has drawn together a stunning collection of poems inspired by the five senses. Gems from the very best classic and contemporary poets such as Carol Ann Duffy, Ian McMillan, John Hegley, William Wordsworth, Vernon Scannell and Michael Rosen.

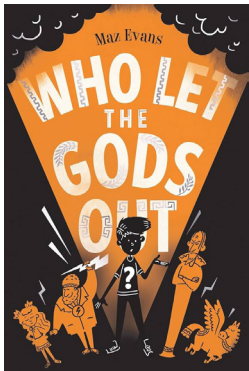




The Breadwinner

Deborah Ellis

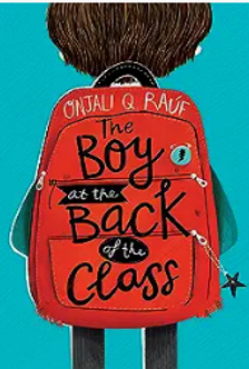
The book is set in Afghanistan and describes events in the life of its protagonist, 11 year-old Parvana, an Afghani girl who must disguise herself as a boy in order to become her family's breadwinner after her father is arrested by the Taliban. This award-winning novel explores loyalty, survival, family and friendship under extraordinary circumstances.



Who Let the Gods Out

Maz Evans

When a shooting star crashes to earth, it lands Eliot smack bang in the path of Virgo - a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But when the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, they've got nowhere to turn for help but to the old Olympian gods.



The Boy at the Back of Class

Onjali Q. Rauf

The Boy at the Back of Class, is a story about acceptance, friendship, kindness and refugees. When a new boy joins their class, a group of children try to befriend him. They soon learn that Ahmet is a refugee and has been separated from his family. None of the grown-ups seem to be able to help him, so the friends come up with a daring plan, embarking on an extraordinary adventure.

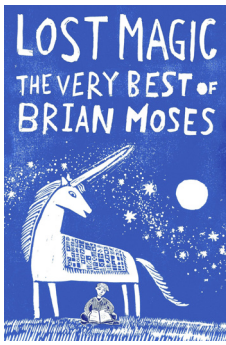


The Secret Garden

Frances Hodgson Burnett

Follow young Mary Lennox as she embarks on a captivating journey that will unlock the secrets of her own heart and the hidden wonders of a long-forgotten garden. "The Secret Garden" is a captivating tale that will transport readers of all ages to a world where hope blossoms and dreams take root. Filled with rich descriptions, memorable characters, and a profound message of resilience and renewal, this timeless classic continues to inspire and delight generations.

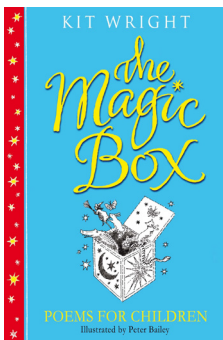




Lost Magic

Brian Moses

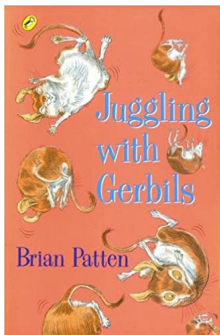
A dazzling collection from one of the UK's best-loved children's poets. The verse of Brian Moses is absolutely brimming with magic and wonder. Which makes it the perfect place to discover the special magic of poetry.



The Magic Box

Kit Wright

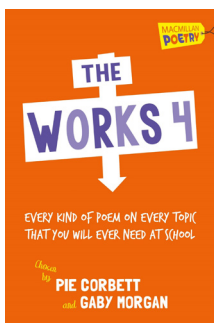
These poems by Kit Wright are both clever and witty, covering a wide range of familiar childhood settings and topics, such as poems about dreams, animals and football.



Juggling with Gerbils

Brian Patten

A great collection of poetry, wide-ranging in both form and subject matter. Full of Brian Patten's wonderful wit and moments of beauty.

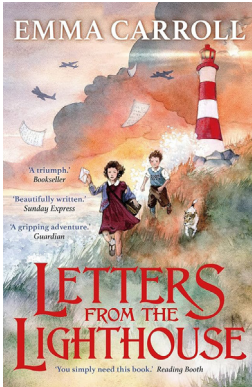


The Works 4

Pie Corbett and Gaby Morgan

The Works 4 contains poems that are divided into twenty-six alphabetical sections featuring poems about a variety of subjects such as: celebrations and festivals, elements, seasons, the natural world and many more.

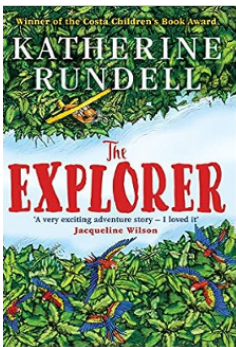




Letters from the Lighthouse

Emma Carroll

After Suki's disappearance, Olive's mother fears for her children's safety and evacuates them to Devon where they stay in a lighthouse. Even though Olive is in Devon, she is determined to find out what really happened to her sister. Olive is still convinced that she is still alive somewhere.



The Explorer

Katherine Rundell

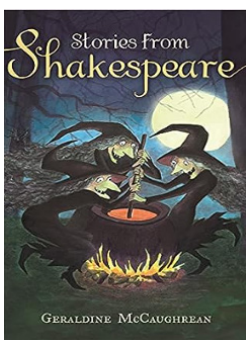
The Explorer is an adventurous, survival tale of four youngsters who are stranded in the Amazon jungle after a plane crash. The book includes themes about friendship, the environment and survival.



The Kingdom Over the Sea

Zohra Nabi

When twelve-year-old Yara's mother passes away, she leaves behind a letter and a strange set of instructions. Yara must travel from the home she has always known to a place that is not on any map - Zehaira, a world of sorcerers, alchemists, and simmering magic. But Zehaira is not the land it used to be.

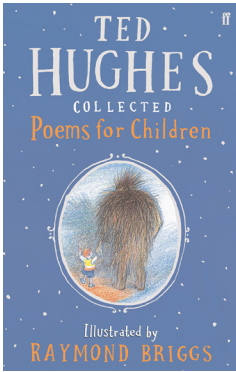


Stories from Shakespeare

Geraldine McCaughrean

From love, jealousy, greed and betrayal to mad kings, magic and murder, Geraldine McCaughrean retells some of Shakespeare's best-known stories, including Romeo and Juliet, Henry the Fifth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Julius Caesar, Hamlet, Twelfth Night, Othello, King Lear, Macbeth and The Tempest.

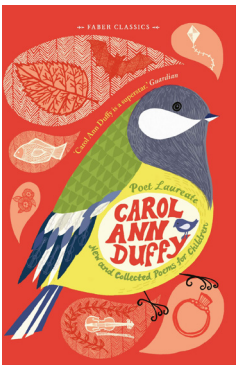




Ted Hughes: Collected Poems for Children

Ted Hughes

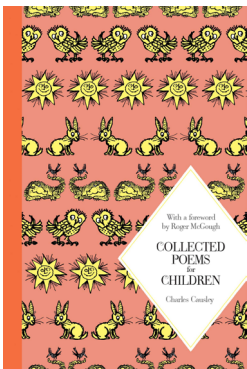
This collection brings together more than 250 children's poems Ted Hughes wrote throughout his career. They are arranged by volume, beginning with those published for younger readers and progressing to more complex and sophisticated poems that he felt were written within hearing of children.



Carol Ann Duffy: New and Collected Poems for Children

Carol Ann Duffy

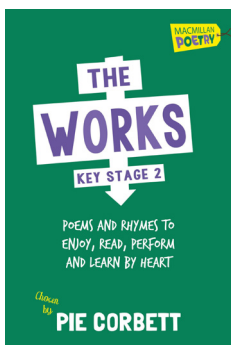
Carol Ann Duffy, the Poet Laureate, is one of our most read and best-loved poets both in and out of the classroom. This edition of her poems brings together work from her four award-winning collections for children. The poems allow children to extend their vocabulary and lend themselves beautifully to in depth discussions on all aspects of life.



Charles Causley: Collected Poems for Children

Charles Causley

Charles Causley's poetry combines a traditional lyrical element with a knowledge of children and their lives, loves, fears and games that is totally up to date. There are 228 poems divided into eleven sections such as Charm and Flower; Season & Festival, Myth and Fable.



The Works Key Stage 2

Chosen by Pie Corbett

This bumper collection has over 270 pages of incredible poetry from best-loved poets, covering favourite topics from animals to seasons, people and places. It includes an index of poem types and advice for writing poems.

