



NEWTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL READING SPINE

YEAR 1 – YEAR 6



Our **School Reading Spine** is a collection of recommended books which are considered to be 'must reads' for everyone.

Some of these books will be read in their entirety; others will be studied in extract form. All will be available for children to enjoy.

Each book has been carefully chosen to stretch vocabulary, expose children to different structures and timeframes, encourage critical thinking and promote a love of reading.

Exposure to a range of text types of various genres will gradually build children's stamina and familiarity with challenging texts. It develops the skills they will need to dissect more complex texts.

This only takes into account narratives and poems. A good balance of topic appropriate non-fiction should also be read to help further develop children's prior knowledge of the subject they are studying.

In addition to our **School Reading Spine**, children should be encouraged to read books from the '**50 Books You'll Love To Read In...**' lists which have been carefully chosen to help children to foster a love of reading.

These texts are based on research by Doug Lemov. In his book 'Reading Reconsidered' he points out that there are five types of texts that children should have access to in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence.

The 5 Plagues of the Developing Reader

1) **Archaic Language**

The vocabulary, usage, syntax and context for cultural reference of texts over 50 or 100 years old are vastly different and typically more complex than texts written today. Students need to be exposed to and develop proficiency with antiquated forms of expression to be able to hope to read more complex texts.

2) **Non-Linear Time Sequences**

Stories where time flows back and forth in a complex manner not just flows in one direction.

3) **Narratively Complex**

Some books have more than one narrator telling the story or non-human narrators such as the horse who tells the story in Black Beauty

4) **Complexity of Story**

Where the plot and symbols used are more complicated for example interwoven plots.

5) **Resistant Texts**

This refers to texts which are difficult to understand, texts that deliberately resist comprehension. You have to assemble meaning around nuances, hints, uncertainties and clues.

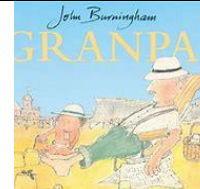
Year 1

Core Texts

Non-linear Time Sequences



When the Rains Come
By Tom Pow

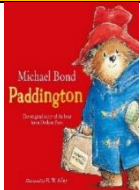


Granpa
By John Burningham



Voices in the Park
By Anthony Browne

Archaic Texts



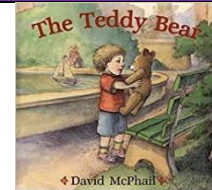
A Bear Called Paddington
By Michael Bond

The More it Snows (Poem)
By A.A. Milne

Traditional Stories
By Various Authors

*e.g. Sleeping Beauty, Rumpelstiltskin, Rapunzel, Puss-in-Boots, The Princess and the Pea, Jack and the Beanstalk)

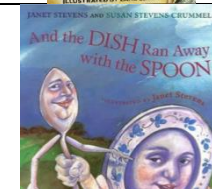
Complexity of the Narrator



The Teddy Bear
By David McPhail



The True Story of the Three Little Pigs
By John Scieszka



And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon
By Janet Stevens

Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	Owl Babies By Martin Waddell
	The Tiger Who Came To Tea By Judith Kerr
	Where The Wild Things Are By Maurice Sendak

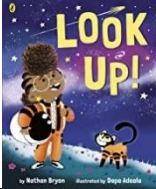
Resistant Texts

	Lost and Found By Oliver Jeffers
	The Colour Monster By Anna Llenas
	Not Now Bernard By David McKee

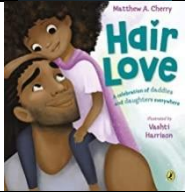
Additional Texts

	We're Going on a Bear Hunt By Michael Rosen *Compare with Going on A Lion Hunt By David Axtell
	Lila and the Secret of Rain By David Conway
	How to Catch a Dragon By Caryl Hart & Ed Eaves
	On the Way Home By Jill Murphy
	Ruby's Worries By Tom Percival
	Superworm By Julia Donaldson

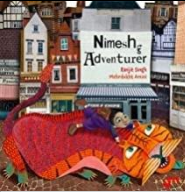
Additional Texts



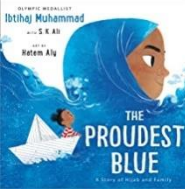
Look Up
By Nathan Byron



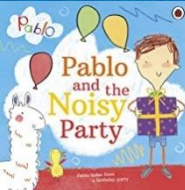
Hair Love
By Matthew A. Cherry



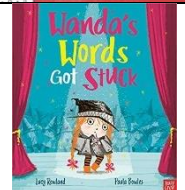
Nimesh the Adventurer
By Ranjit Singh



The Proudest Blue
By Ibthijah Muhammad & S.K. Ali



Pablo and the Noisy Party
By Pablo



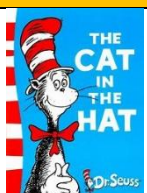

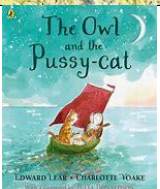
Wanda's Words Got Stuck
By Lucy Rowland

Year 2 Core Texts

Non-linear Time Sequences

	The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales By Jon Scieszka
	The Trouble with Trolls By Jan Brett
	One Candle By Eve Bunting

Archaic Texts

	The Cat in the Hat By Dr. Seuss
	The Magic Faraway Tree By Enid Blyton
	The Owl and the Pussycat (Poem) By Edward Lear

Complexity of the Narrator

	The Wolf's Story: What Really Happened to Little Red Riding Hood By Toby Forward
	Fantastic Mr Fox By Roald Dahl
	The Day The Crayons Quit By Drew Daywalt

Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	Grandad's Island By Benji Davies
	Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish By Michael Foreman
	The Heart and the Bottle By Oliver Jeffers



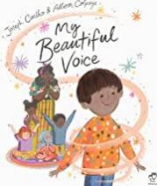
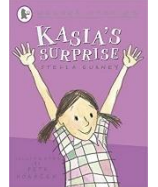

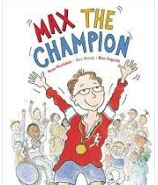
Resistant Texts

	Tadpole's Promise By Jeanne Willis
The Book With No Pictures B.J. Novak	The Book With No Pictures By B.J. Novak
	On the Ning Nang Nong (poem) By Spike Milligan

Additional Texts

	The Invisible By Tom Percival
	Mala's Magic Pencil By Malala Yousafzai
	Window By Jennie Baker
	Chapatti Moon By Pippa Goodhart
	Heard it in the Playground By Allan Ahlberg *Local Author
	Gorilla By Anthony Browne

Additional Texts

	Eyes that Kiss in the Corners By Joanna Ho
	Sulwe By Lupita Nyong'o
	My Beautiful Voice By Joseph Coelho
	Kasia's Surprise By Stella Gurney
	Leo and the Octopus By Isabelle Marinov
	Max the Champion By Sean Stockdale

Year 3 Core Texts

Archaic Texts

	Aesop's Fables By Aesop
	The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe By C.S. Lewis
	The Children of Green Knowe By Lucy M. Boston


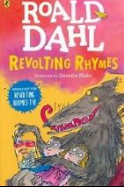

Non-linear Time Sequences

	The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth By Eion Colfer
	The Midnight Fox By Betsy Byers
	Dominic Grows Sweetcorn By Mandy Ross

Complexity of the Narrator

	The Creakers By Tom Fletcher
	The Legend of Podkin One-Ear By Keiran Larwood
	I was a Rat By Phillip Pullman

Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	The Iron Man By Ted Hughes
	Revolting Rhymes (Poem) By Roald Dahl
	The Red Tree By Shaun Tan

Resistant Texts

	The Mysteries of Harris Burdick By Chris Van Allsburg
	Bananas in my Ear By Michael Rosen
	Topsy Turvy World (Poem) By William Brighty Rands

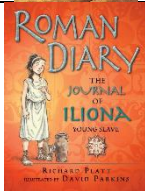
Additional Texts

	The Abominables By Eva Ibbotson
	King of the Cloud Forests By Michael Morpurgo
	The First Drawing By Mordecai Gerstein
	Hansel and Gretel By Anthony Browne
	The Wild Way Home By Sophie Kirtley
	Cinderella of the Nile By Beverley Naidoo

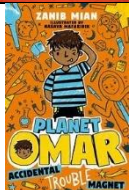
Additional Texts



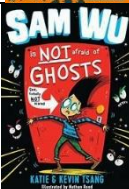
Secrets of the Sun King
By Emma Carrol



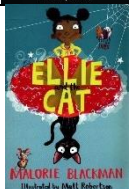
Roman Diary – The Journal of Iliona
By Richard Platt



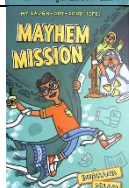
Planet Omar
By Zainab Mian



Sam Wu is NOT afraid of Ghosts
By Katie and Kevin Tsang



Ellie and the Cat
By Malorie Blackman



Mayhem Mission
By Burhanna Islam

Year 4 Core Texts

Non-linear Time Sequences

	The Firework Maker's Daughter By Phillip Pullman
	Fortunately the Milk By Neil Gaiman
	Walk Two Moons By Sharon Creech

Archaic Texts

	Charlotte's Web By E.B. White
	Five Children and It By Edith Nesbit
	Just William By Richmal Crompton


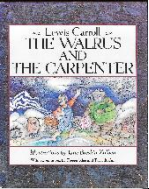
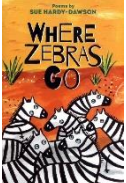
Complexity of the Narrator

	Varjak Paw By S.F. Said
	Edward Tulane By Kate DiCamillo
	The Witches By Roald Dahl

Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	The Tunnel By Anthony Browne
	The Lost Thing By Shaun Tan
	Artemis Fowl By Eoin Colfer

Resistant Texts

	Cloud Busting By Malorie Blackman
	The Walrus and the Carpenter By Lewis Carroll
	Where Zebras Go By Sue Hardy-Dawson

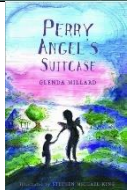
Additional Texts

	The Boy at the Back of the Class By Onjali Q. Rauf
	Lost Happy Endings By Carol Ann Duffy
	Beowulf By Michael Morpurgo *Illustrated version. Extracts only.
	Viking Boy (Blood, Fire, Vengeance) By Tony Bradman
	Escape from Pompeii By Christina Balit
	Greek Myths By Geraldine McCaughrean

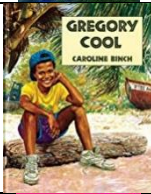
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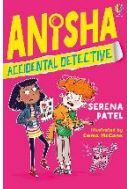
Arthur and The Golden Rope
By Joe Todd Stanton



Perry Angel's Suitcase
By Glenda Millard



Gregory Cool
By Caroline Binch



Anisha: Accidental Detective
By Serena Patel



The Christmasaurus
By Tom Fletcher



Little Badman
By Humza Arshad & Henry White

Year 5 Core Texts

Non-linear Time Sequences

	Holes By Louis Sachar
	The Light Jar By Lisa Thompson
	Time Travelling with a Hamster By Ross Welford

Archaic Texts

	Tom's Midnight Garden By Philippa Pearce
	The Secret Garden By Frances Hodgson Burnett
	The Jungle Book By Rudyard Kipling

Complexity of the Narrator

	Cogheart By Peter Bunzl
	Boy in the Tower By Polly Ho-Yen
	War Horse By Michael Morpurgo




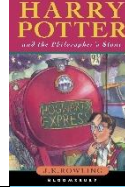
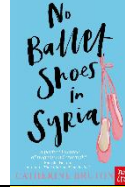

Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	Rooftoppers By Katherine Rundell
	Who Let The Gods Out By Maz Evans
	Northern Lights By Philip Pullman

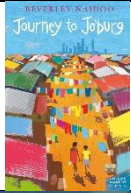
Resistant Texts

	The Lie Tree By Frances Hardinge
	Sky in the Pie (Poem) By Roger McGough
	The Pobble who has no Toes By Edward Lear

Additional Texts

	Street Child By Berlie Doherty
	Windrush Child By Benjamin Zephaniah
	Coming to England By Floella Benjamin
	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone By J.K. Rowling
	No Ballet Shoes in Syria By Catherine Bruton
	Malamander By Thomas Taylor

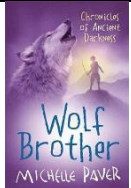
Additional Texts



Journey to Jo'burg
By Beverley Naidoo



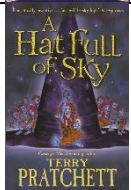
FARThER
By Grahame Baker-Smith



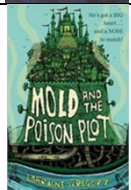
Wolf Brother
By Michelle Paver



The House with Chicken Legs
By Sophie Anderson



A Hat Full of Sky
By Terry Pratchett



Mold and the Poison Plot
By Lorraine Gregory

Year 6 Core Texts

Archaic Texts

	Macbeth – Abridged
	The Wolves of Willoughby Chase By Joan Aiken
	Oliver Twist By Charles Dickens

Non-linear Time Sequences

	The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day By Christopher Edge
	Cosmic By Frank Cottrell-Boyce
	A Long Walk to Water By Linda Sue Park

Complexity of the Narrator

	Wonder By R.J. Palacio
	Kensuke's Kingdom By Michael Morpurgo
	Clockwork By Philip Pullman

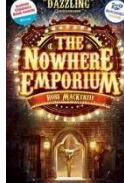
Complexity of Plot/Symbol

	Floodland By Marcus Sedgwick
	Skellig By David Almond
	The Girl of Ink and Stars By Kiran Millwood Hargrave

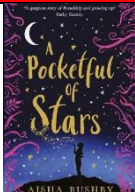
Resistant Texts

	The Arrival By Shaun Tan
	Jabberwocky (Poem) By Lewis Carroll
	A Monster Calls By Patrick Ness

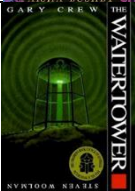
Additional Texts

	Boy By Roald Dahl
	Letters from the Lighthouse By Emma Carroll
	Pig Heart Boy By Malorie Blackman
	The Explorer By Katherine Rundell
	The Nowhere Emporium By Ross MacKenzie
	The Girl Who Stole an Elephant By Nizrana Farook

Additional Texts



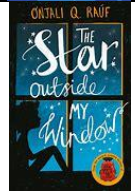
A Pocketful of Stars
By Aisha Busby



The Watertower
By Gary Crew & Steven Woolman



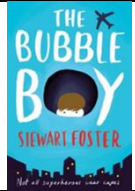
The Dream Snatcher
By Abi Elphinstone



The Star Outside my Window
By Onjali Q Rauf



Pax
By Sara Pennypacker



The Bubble Boy
By Stewart Foster