# Recommended Reads Y4

# \*Read by yourself or share with an adult

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# The Magic Finger

Roald Dahl

The story of a little girl with magical powers. When someone makes her angry she zaps a punishment on them with her magic flashing finger!



# Walking the Bridge of Your Nose

Michael Rosen

Runner-up for the 1996 Mother Goose Award, this unconventional collection of poetry and rhymes turns the English language on its head, with tongue twisters, puns and nonsense verse.



## Henry King To Be

**Geoffrey Trease** 

Young Will Morland has been chosen by King Henry VII to be a companion for his younger son, Prince Harry. As the younger brother, Harry has no glittering future. However, events unfold to change Harry's prospects and soon we begin to understand why later on as King Henry VIII he had six wives and was so strong willed and sometimes cruel.

## Rumpelstiltskin

Kit Wright

When a miller's daughter boasts that she can spin straw into gold, she is ordered by the king to do so. Based on the story by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm



#### The Julian Stories

Ann Cameron

Six funny and lively tales in which Julian gets into mischief - and out again - and finally makes a special new friend.



#### Wish You Were Here

**Martina Selway** 

At first Rosie doesn't like camp. She would rather have stayed at home with Mum, Granddad and Aunty Mabel. But when the sun begins to shine, camping turns out to be a real adventure, and she's soon writing home with different news.



## Ms. Wiz series

Terence Blacker

Why do we love Ms Wiz? Because she's a teacher with long black hair, bright green eyes and black fingernails, because she's a paranormal operative and because she definitely knows how to liven up a classroom. What's not to love?



# The Tales of Olga da Polga

Michael Bond

Olga da Polga is a guinea-pig with a wild imagination, and from the minute she arrives at her new home, she begins entertaining all the other animals in the garden with her outrageous stories. As well as telling all her tall tales she also has time to get up to all kinds of mischief and have lots of wonderful adventures too.



#### Fair's Fair

Leon Garfield

Jackson is cold and starving. He's looking forward to his steaming hot pie, when a dog comes by and takes half! One bargain soon leads to another- and some unexpected rewards...



### George Speaks

**Dick King-Smith** 

Here is the story of a baby who begins talking -- at the age of 4 weeks! And it's not just the occasional word: George has a large vocabulary and plenty to say. From master storyteller Dick King-Smith, this is the hilarious story of a family turned upside-down by an unusually gifted (and demanding) infant.



Ice Palace

**Robert Swindells** 

Ivan lives in a land where the winter is dark and fearful. Starjik, King of Winter, steals Ivan's little brother and Ivan braves the bitter cold to find him.



#### I Was a Rat

## Phillip Pullman

When a small boy turns up on Bob and Joan's doorstep unable to say much, except 'I was a rat', the kindly couple adopt him. It seems strange but Bob reads about odder things every day in his newspaper. To them, the sunny little chap is Roger, and he's trying hard to adapt to human life.



#### The Sandman and the Turtles

#### Michael Morpurgo

Michael loves summer holidays in Wales, and Dadci's tall stories about the Sandman, the old Russian sea captain and blood-red dragon in his lair. Little cousin Polly believes every word of the magical tales and she's determined to make it all come true.



### Tom's Sausage Lion

### Michael Morpurgo

No-one believes Tom when he says he has seen a lion - padding around the orchard with a string of sausages in its mouth! No-one, that is, except for Clare, the cleverest girl in the class. Together, she and Tom plan to prove his story is true - by catching the lion!



## **Beaver Towers**

#### Nigel Hinton

A magic spell whisks Philip away on his new kite to a far-off island where he meets the beavers - Mr Edgar and his grandson, Baby B. They tell him of the terrible danger that threatens them.

## **Lady Daisy**

## Dick King-Smith

When Ned helps his grandmother clear out her attic, he finds a very unusual Victorian doll - she speaks! Ned and Lady Daisy soon become fast friends, even though he's teased at school for owning a doll. Ned learns to stand up to his father and the school bully in order to protect Lady Daisy. But then the doll is stolen - will Ned ever find her again?

#### **Dimanche Diller**

#### **Henrietta Bradford**

A galloping story of escape and adventure, with wicked guardians, evil plots and a lively young female heroine.



#### Toots Underwater

Toots is transported to the world of the River Fairies - a miraculous world of shimmering water. But there is trouble - the Naiad, the Guardian of the River, is dying - and Toots' help is enlisted.

## **Animal Ark series**

**Lucy Daniels** 

**Carol Shields** 

A wide variety of animal-themed adventures. Including "Sheepdog in the Snow", "Dolphin in the Deep", "Guinea Pig in the Garage" and many others.

## Sheltie series

Peter Clover

Emma doesn't want to move to the country - until she meets Sheltie, a Shetland pony whose sense of fun and mischief leads them into lots of adventures.



#### The Watchers

Helen Cresswell

Katie and Josh run away from a children's home to live at Alton Towers. However, they soon discover that life is not fun when you live rough. Alton Towers is an eerie place after dark - another world of dark shadows and fear.



## The Bongleweed

Helen Cresswell

A hilarious story about the bongleweed, a weird and wonderful plant that's threatening to take over the village. It's up to Becky and Jason to try and stop the wickedly wild weed before it's too late...



### The Battle of Bubble and Squeak

Phillipa Pearce

Sid, Peggy and Amy adore the two gerbils, Bubble and Squeak, but their mother detests them. A major family battle results, and it'nas clear life is never going to be quite the same again.

## Who's Afraid and Other Strange Stories

Eleven stories dealing with the world of the supernatural. Ghosts range from an evil kitchen-boy with a recipe for death to a tiresome invalid at the top of an apple tree.



## Time Stops for No Mouse

Michael Hoeye

Hermux is an ordinary, hard-working mouse, living in an ordinary metropolis. But when adventuress and aviatrix Linka walks into his shop, his life becomes anything but ordinary.



#### The Big Bazoohley

Peter Carey

Sam Kellow is nine. His father is a compulsive gambler, pursuing the 'big bazoohley' - the jackpot to end all jackpots. But it is Sam who sets out to win it - against all the odds, he enters the Perfecto Kiddo Competition



#### 101 Dalmatians

**Dodie Smith** 

When Missis and Pongo's puppies go missing, the two Dalmatian parents know the scary Cruella de Vil has had something to do with it. After all, she adores furs, and the Dalmatians have such beautiful coats...



## The Snow Spider Trilogy

**Jenny Nimmo** 

On his ninth birthday, Gwyn is given a brooch and told to cast it into the wind. Later he discovers the wind has sent something back: the snow spider. So begins Gwyn's journey as a magician. Against the shimmering backdrop of a magical domed city, Gwyn has to battle evil and heal a fractured family.



## Season of Splendour

Madjur Jaffrey

A rich and dazzling collection of mythological tales drawn from Hindu epics. Each story is told in colour yet simple language, and prefaced with some personal anecdote from the author's childhood.



### Grandpa Chatterji

Jamila Gavin

Neeta and her little brother Sanjay have two grandpas, Dad's dad Grandpa Leicester and Mum's dad Grandpa Chatterji, who live in India. One day Grandpa Chatterji comes all the way to visit them, and the two children discover what a wonderful, surprising and magical Grandpa he is.



## The Great Elephant Chase

Gillian Cross

When the elephant came to town, Tad and Cissie went to the show like everyone else. Little did they know it would change their lives forever. Because of the elephant, Tad and Cissie get involved in a chase across America, by train, by flatboat, and steam boat. Close behind is Hannibal Jackson, who is determined to have the elephant for himself. And how do you hide a large Indian elephant?



# The Dolphin Crossing

Jill Paton Walsh

Pat and his friend John both know the risks they are running in taking a boat across the Channel in the spring of 1940. But they also know they have to do something to help the British soldiers stranded in Dunkirk.



#### Hello? Is Anybody There?

Jostein Gardner

In the hours before his baby brother is born, eight year old Joe has an unusual visitor, Mika, who falls out of a spaceship and lands upside down in a tree in Joe's garden. Hens, dinosaurs and a white rabbit all play their part in this magical, mind blowing story in which the encounter between earth boy and alien opens up all the wonders of the universe.



### My Friend Walter

### Michael Morpurgo

Bess Throckmorton meets an old man at a family reunion who tells her that Sir Walter Raleigh is one of her ancestors. Curious to see where he was imprisoned, she visits the Bloody Tower and finds that the old man was none other than Sir Walter himself! The mischievous old ghost sets about restoring the family's fortune, while all the time Bess has to try to keep the presence of a ghost in the house a secret.

## The Adventures of Adolphus Tips

#### Michael Morpurgo

It's the story of Lily Tregenza who, in 1943, lives on the family farm on the coast of Devon with her mum and grandfather. Her dad's away in the army. Lily has a cat called Tips, and when the family are forced to move from their home for several months while the army take over the area as a training ground Lily's beloved Tips runs away and gets left behind...

### Friend of Foe

## Michael Morpurgo

Evacuated from London, David and Tucky feel like the war is a long way away from their new life in the countryside. Then one night the skyline of the moor is lit up with gun flashes, and the distant crump of bombing miles away brings the war back to them and shatters their new-found peace. When a German bomber crashes, the boys feel they should hate the airmen inside. But one of them saves David's life...



# The Starlight Barking

## **Dodie Smith**

In this sequel to "The Hundred and One Dalmatians", strange things are happening. Dogs are the only creatures in the world that are awake, and they can communicate through thought waves. Best of all, they can swoosh through the air. Pongo, Missis and the family swoosh up to London to see if they can help sort out what's going on.



#### The Chronicles of Narnia

# C. S. Lewis

A group of children across multiple generations repeatedly travel to a fantastical world in which they are far more than mere children. In publication order:

"The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe", "Prince Caspian", "The Voyage of the Dawn Treader", "The Silver Chair", "The Horse and His Boy", "The Magicians Nephew", and "The Last Battle".



### The Secret Garden

#### Frances Hodgson Burnett

Mary Lennox was horrid. Selfish and spoilt, she was sent to stay with her hunchback uncle in Yorkshire. She hated it. But when she finds the way into a secret garden and begins to tend it, a change comes over her and her life.



# A Wizard of Earthsea

# Ursula le Guin

The first book of Earthsea is a tale of wizards, dragons and terrifying shadows. The island of Gont is a land famous for wizards. Of these, some say the greatest – and surely the greatest voyager – is the man called Sparrowhawk. As a reckless, awkward boy, he discovered the great power that was in him – with terrifying consequences.