

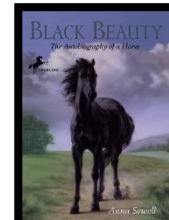
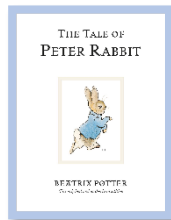


St John's Reading Spine

This reading spine has been designed based on the work by Doug Lemov. In his book 'Reading Reconsidered', Doug Lemov points out that there are five types of texts that children should have access to, in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence. These are complex beyond a lexical level and demand more from the reader than other types of books.

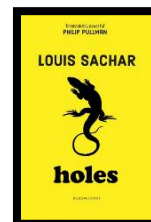
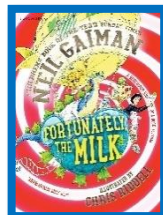
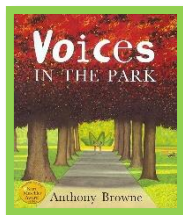
Archaic Language

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.



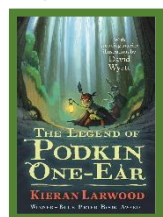
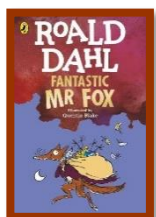
Non-Linear Time Sequences

Introducing children to books where every aspect of the narration is nuanced to create an exact image, where time moves in fits and start. It doubles back. The only way to master such books is to have read them time and again and to be carefully introduced to them by a thoughtful teacher or parent.



Narratively Complex

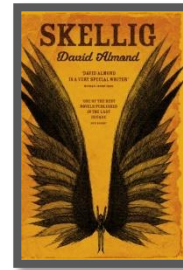
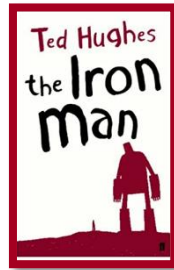
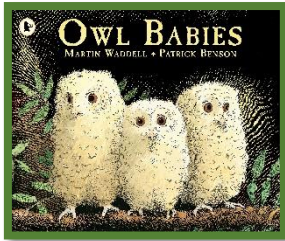
Books are sometimes narrated by an unreliable narrator or a narrator who is out of touch with reality. Other books have multiple narrators or have non-human narrators such as the horse that tells the story in Black Beauty. Some books have multiple intertwined and apparently (for a time) unrelated plot lines. These are far harder to read than books with a single plot line and students need to experience these as well.





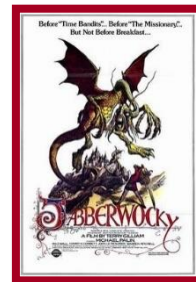
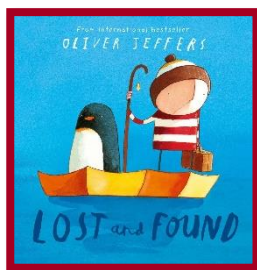
Figurative/Symbolic Text

Texts which happen on an allegorical (a fictional narrative that conveys a meaning not explicitly set forth in the narrative) or symbolic level.



Resistant Texts

Texts written to deliberately resist easy meaning-making by readers. Perhaps half of the poems ever written fall into this category. You have to assemble meaning around nuances, hints, uncertainties and clues



As well as these five categories of texts, as teachers, we have created two further lists: one list of books that don't fit into the above categories, but we believe are valuable to that year group and a list of the novels we cover as our whole class reads.

Please note that this approach applies to Years 1-6; EYFS has a more general reading spine full of books we would like the children to be exposed to over the course of the year.

Aims

The idea is that in each year, a child will cover all 5 plagues of reading so that, by the time they reach year 6 and beyond, they have a good understanding of all of them and are able to access the more complex books expected of them in secondary schools.

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

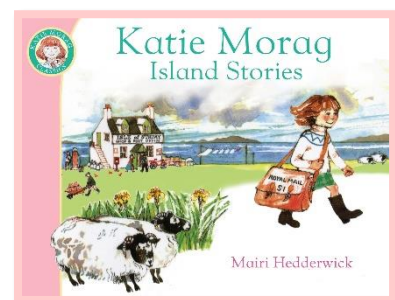
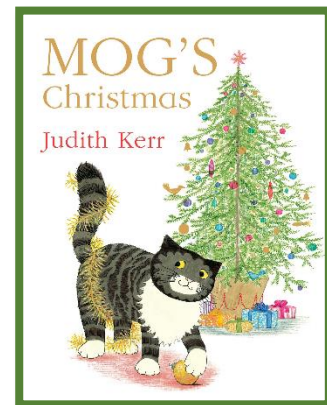
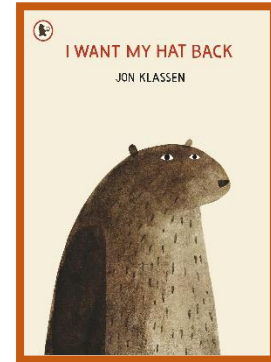


EYFS

Title

Author

The Enormous Turnip	Julia Donaldson
The Gruffalo	Julia Donaldson
We're Going on a Bear Hunt	Michael Rosen
Brown Bear, Brown Bear	Eric Carle
Freddie and the Fairy	Julia Donaldson
The Billy Goats Gruff	N/A
Mog's Christmas	Judith Kerr
Stickman	Julia Donaldson
A Great Big Cuddle	Michael Rosen
I Want My Hat Back	Jon Klassen
Jack and the Beanstalk	N/A
Shark in the Park	Nick Sharrat
Katie Morag	Mairi Hedderwick
The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle
Little Red Riding Hood	N/A
Oi Frog	Kes Gray
Peepo	Allen Ahlberg
The Tiger Who Came to Tea	Judith Kerr
Julian is a Mermaid	Jessica Love
Hairy McClary	Lynley Dodd
Whatever Next	Jill Murphy

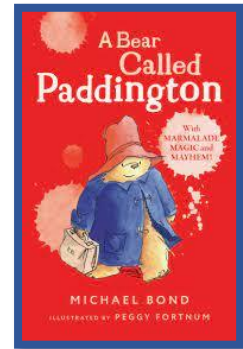




YEAR ONE

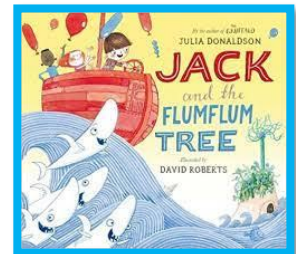
ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title	Author
<i>The Three Billy Goats Gruff</i>	Paul Galdone
<i>The Tale of Peter Rabbit</i>	Beatrix Potter
<i>Goodnight Moon</i>	Margaret Wise Brown
<i>Traditional Stories</i>	Various Authors
<i>The Owl and the Pussycat</i>	Edward Lear
<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>	Maurice Sendak
<i>A Bear Called Paddington</i>	Michael Bond



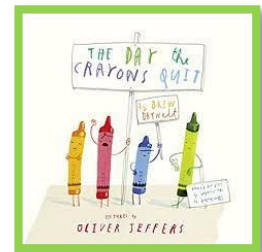
NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title	Author
<i>Voices in the Park</i>	Anthony Brown
<i>Granpa</i>	John Burningham
<i>Jack and the FlumFlum Tree</i>	Julia Donaldson
<i>Meerkat Mail</i>	Emily Gravett



COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title	Author
<i>And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon</i>	Janet Stevens
<i>Funny Bones</i>	Janet & Allan Ahlberg
<i>Each Peach Pear Plum</i>	Janet & Allan Ahlberg
<i>The Day the Crayons Quit</i>	Drew Daywalt
<i>Aliens Love Underpants</i>	Chris Freedman





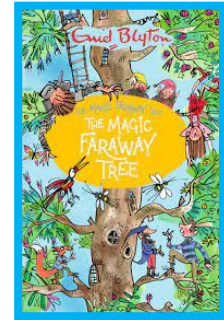
YEAR TWO

ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title

Author

The Magic Faraway Tree	Enid Blyton
The Little House	Virginia Lee Burton
The Cat in the Hat	Dr. Suess
Aesop's Fables	Aesop
The Frog Prince	Brothers Grimm
The Night Before Christmas	Clement Clarke Moore

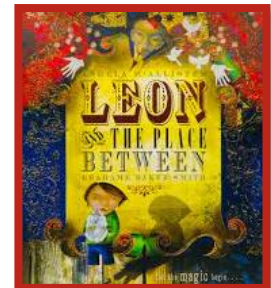


NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title

Author

Leon and the Place Between	Graham Baker-Smith
Stanley's Stick	Neal Layton
Black and White	David Macaulay
One Candle	Eve Bunting

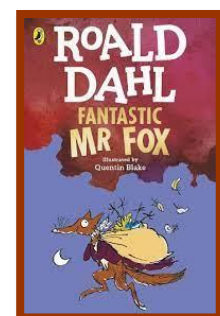


COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title

Author

Chester	Melanie Wat
Fantastic Mr Fox	Roald Dahl
The True Story of the Three Little Pigs	John Scieszka
The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig	Eugene Trivizas
The Tunnel	Anthony Browne





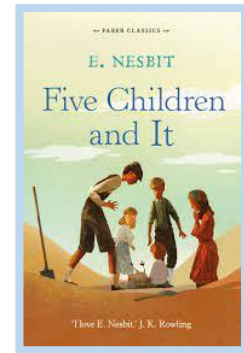
YEAR THREE

ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title

Author

Charlotte's Web	E.B.White
The Railway Children	Edith Nesbit
Five Children and It	Edith Nesbit
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll
Pippi Longstocking	Astrid Lindgren
Winnie-the-Pooh	A.A. Milne
The Velveteen Rabbit	Margery Williams

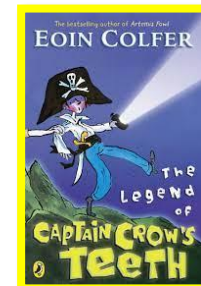


NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title

Author

The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth	Eoin Colfer
Fortunately the Milk	Neil Gaiman
Surf's Up	Kwame Alexander
The Invention of Hugo Cabret	Brian Selznick

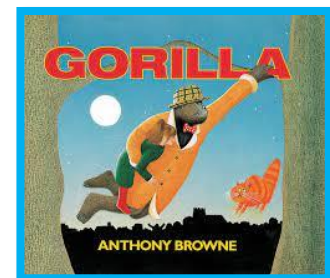


COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title

Author

The World According to Humphrey	Betty G. Bimey
Wolf	Allen Ahlberg
Gorilla	Anthony Browne
The Great Chocoplot	Chris Callaghan
Mr Gum	Andy Stanton
The 13-Storey Treehouse	Andy Griffiths

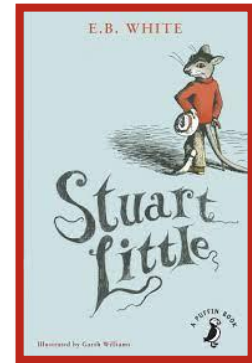




YEAR FOUR

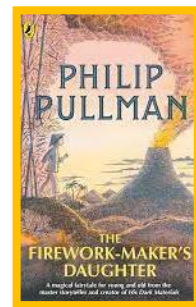
ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title	Author
A Little Princess	Frances Hodgson Burnett
Stuart Little	E.B.White
Mary Poppins	P.L. Travers
Peter Pan	J.M. Barrie
The Emperor's New Clothes	Hans Christian Anderson
The Little Match Girl	Hans Christian Anderson
Professor Branestawm	Norman Hunter



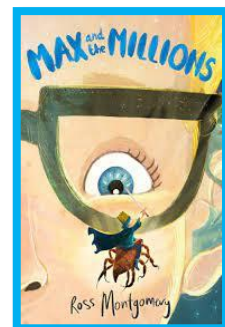
NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title	Author
The Midnight Fox	Betsy Byars
The Firework Maker's Daughter	Phillip Pullman
The Butterfly Lion	Michael Morpurgo
Farm Boy	Michael Morpurgo



COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title	Author
The Witches	Roald Dahl
The Legend of Podkin One-Ear	Keiran Larwood
Max and the Millions	Ross Montgomery
Dragons at Crumbling Castle	Terry Pratchett
Cliffhanger	Jaqueline Wilson
Malkin Moonlight	Emma Cox



YEAR FIVE



ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title

Author

Tom's Midnight Garden Philippa Pearce

Around the World in 80 Days Jules Verne

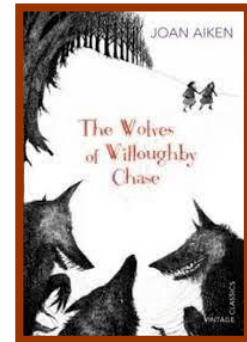
The Highwayman Alfred Noyes

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer Mark Twain

Ballet Shoes Noel Streatfeild

Wind in the Willows Kenneth Grahame

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase Joan Aiken



NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title

Author

Time Travelling with a Hamster Ross Welford

1000 Year Old Boy Ross Welford

Cosmic Frank Cottrell-Boyce

The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day Christopher Edge



COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title

Author

Wonder R.J. Palacio

All the Things That Could Go Wrong Stewart Foster

Sky Song Abi Elphinstone

Clockwork Philip Pullman

A Series of Unfortunate Events Lemony Snicket

The Boy Who Sailed the Ocean in an Armchair Lara Williamson

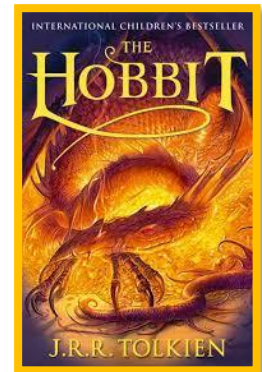




YEAR SIX

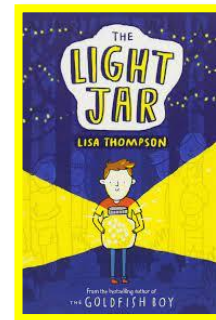
ARCHAIC TEXTS

Title	Author
The Hobbit	J. R. R. Tolkien
The Call of the Wild	Jack London
The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett
Swallows and Amazons	Arthur Ransome
Black Beauty	Anna Sewell
The Jungle Book	Rudyard Kipling
Anne of Green Gables	Lucy Maud Montgomery
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis



NON-LINEAR TIME SEQUENCES

Title	Author
An Eagle in the Snow	Michael Morpurgo
Holes	Louis Sachar
The Eye of the North	Sinead O'Hart
The Light Jar	Lisa Thompson
Below Zero	Dan Smith
The Clockwork Sparrow	Katherine Woodfine



COMPLEXITY OF THE NARRATOR

Title	Author
Cogheart	Peter Bunzl
Tin	Padraig Kenny
How to Fly With Broken Wings	Jane Elson
War Horse	Michael Morpurgo
When My Name Was Keoko	Linda Sue Park
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit	Judith Kerr





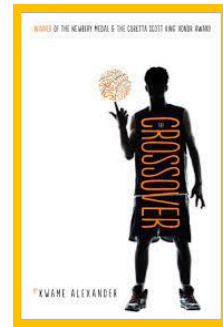
COMPLEXITY OF PLOT/SYMBOL

Title	Author
Northern Lights	Philip Pullman
Skellig	David Almond
A Monster Calls	Patrick Ness
When You Reach Me	Rebecca Stead
The Girl of Ink and Stars	Kiran Millwood Hargrave
The Graveyard Book	Neil Gaiman



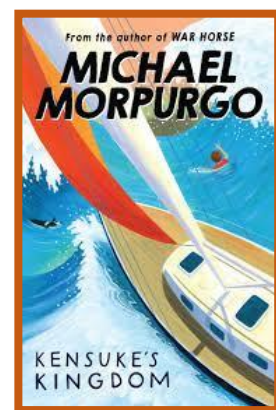
RESISTANT TEXTS

Title	Author
The Lie Tree	Frances Hardinge
The Tyger (poem)	William Blake
The Imaginary	A.F. Harrold
The Crossover	Kwame Alexander



OTHER RECOMMENDED READS

Title	Author
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CLASS NOVELS

<u>Year 3</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Autumn One		
Autumn Two		
Spring One		
Spring Two		
Summer One		
Summer Two		
<u>Year 4</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Autumn One		
Autumn Two		
Spring One		
Spring Two		
Summer One		
Summer Two		
<u>Year 5</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Autumn One		
Autumn Two		
Spring One		
Spring Two		
Summer One		
Summer Two		
<u>Year 6</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Autumn One		
Autumn Two		
Spring One		
Spring Two		
Summer One		
Summer Two		

