

The top 50 books children should read:

Must-reads for under 5s

- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle (Puffin)
- *So Much* by Trish Cooke, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury (Walker)
- *Peepo* by Allan Ahlberg and Janet Ahlberg (Puffin)
- *I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato* by Lauren Child (Orchard Books)
- *Barbara Throws A Wobbler* by Nadia Shireen (Jonathan Cape)
- *Where The Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak (Bodley Head)
- *The Smartest Giant In Town* by Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler (Macmillan Children's Books)
- *Look Up* by Nathan Bryon, illustrated by Dapo Adeola (Puffin)
- *We're Going On A Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury (Walker)
- *Ruby's Worry* by Tom Percival (Bloomsbury Children's Books)

Must reads for 5-7 year olds

- *The Missing Piece* by Jordan Stephens, illustrated by Beth Suzanna (Bloomsbury Children's Books)
- *The Greatest Show On Earth* by Mini Grey (Puffin)
- *What Happened To You?* by James Catchpole, illustrated by Karen George (Faber & Faber)
- *Winne-the-Pooh* by A A Milne (Farshore)
- *A Bear Called Paddington* by Michael Bond (HarperCollins Children's Books)
- *Dogger* by Shirley Hughes (Bodley Head)
- *Julian Is A Mermaid* by Jessica Love (Walker)
- *The Worst Witch* by Jill Murphy (Puffin)
- *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane, illustrated by Jackie Morris (Hamish Hamilton)
- *James and The Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake (Puffin)

Must reads for 7-11 year olds

- *Rooftoppers* by Katherine Rundell (Bloomsbury Children's Books)
- *Boy, Everywhere* by A M Dassu (Old Barn Books)
- *How To Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell (Hodder Children's Books)
- *The Brilliant World Of Tom Gates* by Liz Pichon (Scholastic)
- *High-Rise Mystery* by Sharna Jackson (Knights Of)
- *The Breakfast Club Adventures* by Marcus Rashford and Alex Falase-Koya, illustrated by Marta Kissi (Macmillan Children's Books)
- *The Wreck Of The Zanzibar* by Michael Morpurgo (Farshore)
- *The Story Of Tracy Beaker* by Jacqueline Wilson, illustrated by Nick Sharratt (Yearling)
- *The Railway Children* by E Nesbit
- *Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone* by J K Rowling (Bloomsbury Children's Books)

Must reads for 11-13 year olds

- *Wonder* by RJ Palacio (Corgi Childrens)
- *The Dark Is Rising* by Susan Cooper (Puffin Classics)
- *Stormbreaker* by Anthony Horowitz (Walker)
- *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* by Judith Kerr (HarperCollins Children's Books)
- *Northern Lights* by Phillip Pullman (Scholastic)
- *The Girl Who Became A Tree* by Joseph Coelho (Otter-Barry)
- *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson (Macmillan Children's Books)
- *The Skylarks' War* by Hilary McKay (Macmillan Children's Books)
- *Millions* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce and Steven Lenton (Macmillan Children's Books)
- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness (Walker)

Must reads for 14-16 year olds

- *Heartstopper* by Alice Oseman (Hodder Children's Books)
- *Noughts and Crosses* by Malorie Blackman (Penguin)
- *Toffee* by Sarah Crossan (Bloomsbury YA)
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak (Transworld)
- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas (Walker)
- *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins (Scholastic)
- *The Fault In Our Stars* by John Green (Penguin)
- *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi (Vintage)
- *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-time* by Mark Haddon (Vintage)
- *How I Live Now* by Meg Rosoff (Penguin)