

PiXL Reading

READING FOR PLEASURE



As the spring term moves on, reading often starts to look a little different. Some children get hooked on a particular book or series. Others read in shorter bursts, or move between stories and information depending on what has caught their interest.

Reading doesn't always sit neatly in routines. It shows up in different ways at different points in the year, sometimes quietly, sometimes more obviously, and often alongside everything else that family life brings.

There isn't one right way for reading to look at home. Families have different rhythms and priorities, and children respond to books in their own ways. That's all part of how reading develops over time.

This newsletter simply shares a small number of books that might be of interest over the coming weeks. They're offered as possibilities, not recommendations, and you'll know best what feels right for your child.

Please note that the following texts are suitable from the age group stated, but please do research the books before selecting them to ensure that they are appropriate for your child.

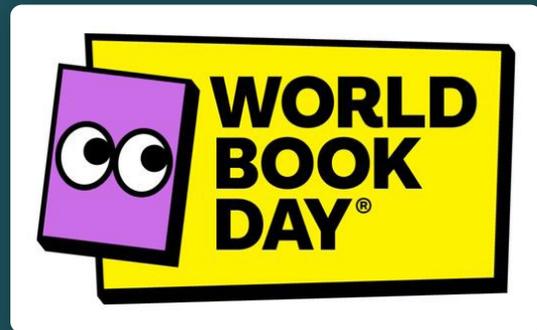


MOMENTS TO CELEBRATE THIS HALF TERM

WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 5 MARCH

World Book Day comes around each spring and, for many families, it's already a familiar part of the year. The £1 book token is often at the heart of it, giving children the chance to choose a book for themselves, whether from the special selection or as money off a book or audiobook they've had their eye on.

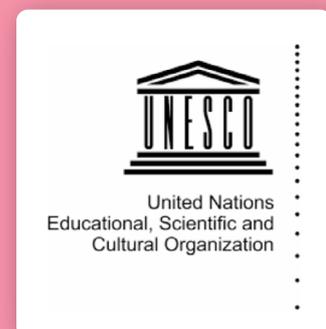
That act of choosing can be surprisingly powerful. For some children, it's a small but meaningful step towards seeing reading as something that belongs to them. World Book Day books are also available in braille, large print and audio, helping more children take part in ways that work for them.



UNESCO WORLD POETRY DAY - FRIDAY 21 MARCH

Poetry often finds its way into children's lives quietly. Through rhythm, repetition or a line that sticks, poems are sometimes remembered long before they are fully understood.

World Poetry Day is a chance to notice that. For some families, poetry is shared aloud or remembered from school. For others, it might be a poem spotted on a page or heard in passing. Poetry can be playful or reflective, comforting or surprising, and there is no right way to enjoy it.



SHAKESPEARE WEEK - 23 TO 29 MARCH

Shakespeare Week is designed with primary-aged children in mind and focuses on introducing Shakespeare in ways that feel welcoming rather than daunting.

Most children first meet Shakespeare through stories, retellings, picturebooks or performances rather than full plays. This week is about sparking interest and enjoyment, showing that these stories and characters still have something to offer young readers today.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK - 6 TO 15 MARCH

British Science Week celebrates curiosity, questions and the urge to find things out. Reading plays a quiet but important role here, through information books, diagrams, explanations and the language of wondering how things work.

Some children are drawn to science through facts and experiments. Others through stories, pictures or big questions. This week offers a reminder that reading supports curiosity in many different ways, and that all of those routes are valid.



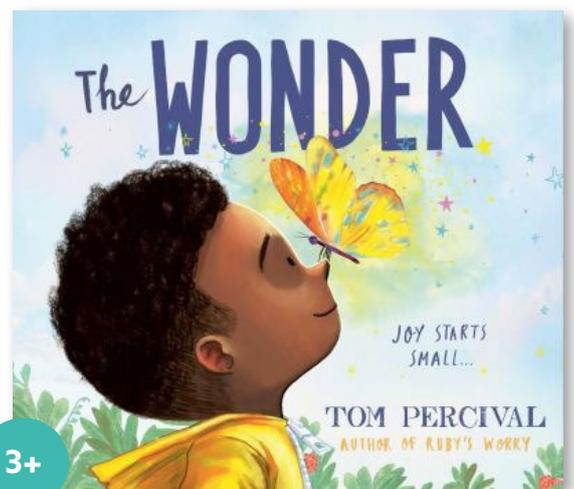
Books you may enjoy at home

Picturebooks to enjoy together

THE WONDER

TOM PERCIVAL

Daniel is having a terrible day. From the rain that tumbles down from the dark, grey skies to the puddles that soak his shoes, Daniel's convinced that nothing will lift his mood. But everything changes when he hears the sweet, delicate sound of music, barely audible beneath the rain. Perhaps, if he looks carefully enough, Daniel might find that there are moments of joy and wonder that can brighten even the darkest of days...

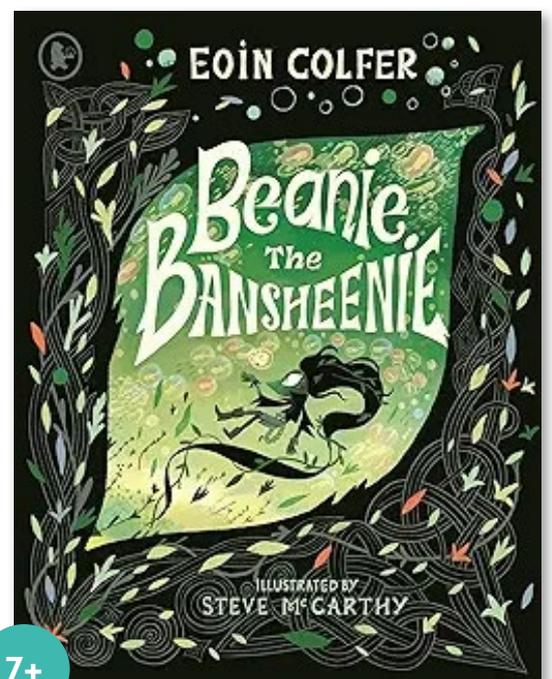


BEANIE AND THE BANSHEENIE

EOIN COLFER

Banshees are supernatural Irish harbingers of doom, but ... where do they come from? The answer: they grow in pods on the prickly gorse bush. The sole job of a baby banshee, a "bansheenie" as they are called, is to bond with a human. Once bonded, they know everything about that person. Most importantly ... when they will die.

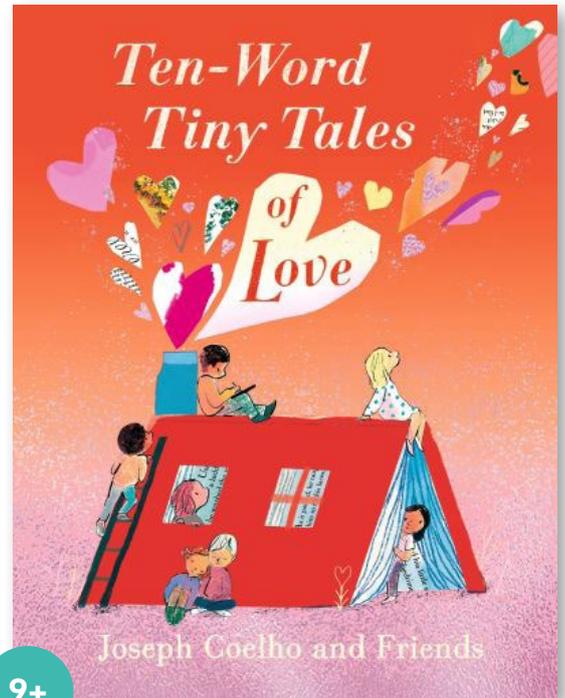
Our bansheenie, named Beanie, is no ordinary herald of death. When she sees her person, a little girl called Rose, she decides to change her own - and Rose's - fate, and instead of delivering bad news, Beanie wants to protect Rose and her family. When her banshee's howl of doom won't work, she must draw power and strength from the ancient secrets and hidden networks of the natural world around her. She must create a brand-new sound, a new way of being in the world that will change ... everything.



TEN-WORD TINY TALES OF LOVE

COELHO AND FRIENDS

In this unique and magnificent compendium designed to spark the imagination, Joseph Coelho brings us cherished moments between siblings, worlds where nature blooms and heals, and touching tales of beloved pets ... all in just ten words! Each tale has been paired with one of the finest illustrators working today - and, together, the words and pictures will create a space for creativity as young readers imagine how the story might unravel. They might even be inspired to pen a ten-word tiny tale of their own!

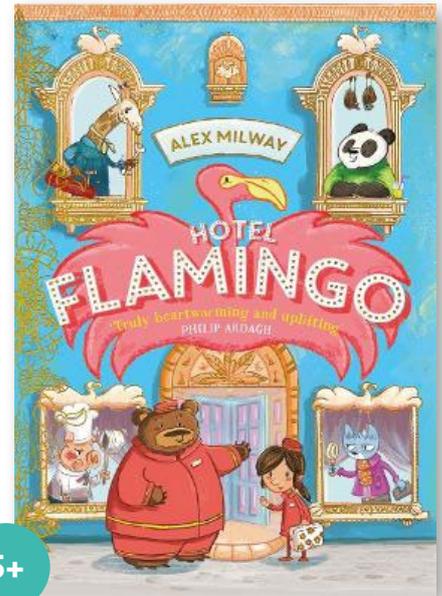


Chapter books to get lost in

HOTEL FLAMINGO

ALEX MILWAY

When young Anna inherits a dilapidated once-grand hotel from her Great Aunt Mathilde, she's determined to restore it to its former glory. But this is no ordinary hotel - all of her staff and guests are animals! Anna soon rises to the challenge. Whether it's a flamingo, a penguin or a hippo knocking at the door, Anna is ready to welcome them all - with the help of her trusty sidekicks T Bear the doorman, Squeak the friendly elevator mouse, and Lemmy the lemur receptionist ... As she soon finds out, though, running an animal hotel is no easy task. Can Anna make Hotel Flamingo a success once more?

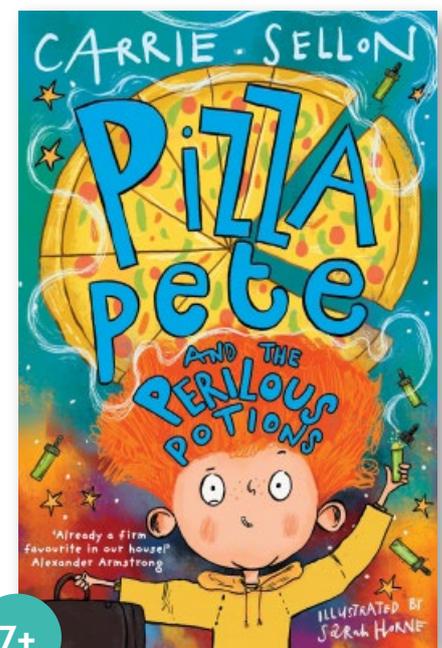


PIZZA PETE AND THE PERILOUS POTIONS

CARRIE SELLON

Twenty-five days ago, something awful happened, and I made a promise to myself. Never to leave home again.

Pete loves the pizza shop, where he lives with his dad, and is terrified of the outside world. But when a new restaurant steals their customers, Pete and his friend Anna have to come up with an **INGENIOUS** plan to sell more pizzas, otherwise he'll be forced to move. When they find a mysterious briefcase in the attic, they create the most extraordinary magical pizzas, and soon a queue of customers snakes down the road. But can they make enough money in four days to save Pete's home?



THE NOT-SO GREAT ESCAPE

EMMA GREEN

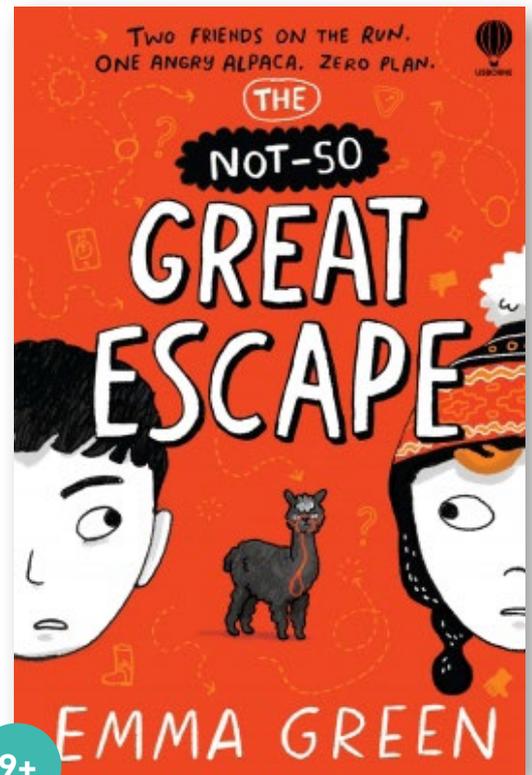
Hedley has always played it safe, especially since the night that changed his life for ever. But when his friend Aiden steals an alpaca, Hedley is dragged on a runaway road trip that he did NOT sign up for:

An accidental robbery.

A night in a haunted wood.

And becoming internet famous #AlpacaBandit.

As the chaos builds, Hedley finds he isn't just running from the police, he's also running from the truth. And as his world comes crashing down, will Hedley play it safe, or take his biggest risk yet?



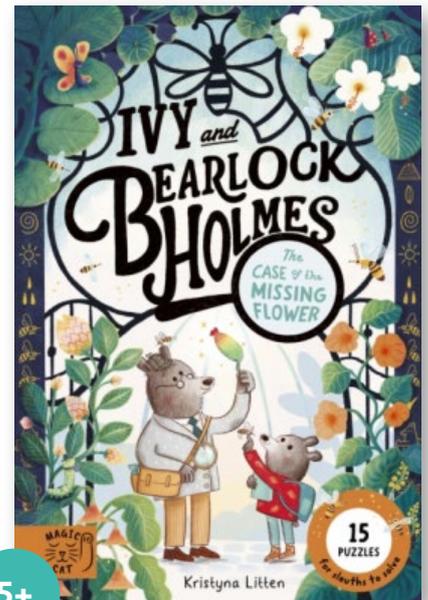
Graphic Novels

IVY AND BEARLOCK HOLMES: THE CASE OF THE MISSING FLOWER

KRISTYNA LITTEN

When the rare Agave flower goes missing from Bearona's botanic gardens, it's up to super-sleuth Ivy and her grandpa Bearlock Holmes to crack the case. But with multiple suspects and a trail that's starting to run cold, can they catch the culprit before the flower is lost forever?

The first book in a brand-new mystery fiction series, this interactive book features 15 puzzles that are woven into the action, so readers can feel immersed in the exciting detective plot.

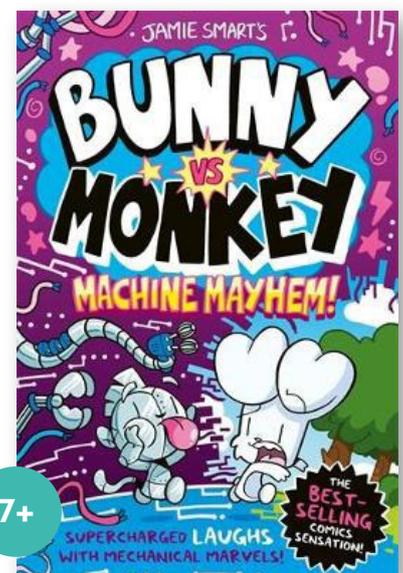


5+

BUNNY VS MONKEY: MACHINE MAYHEM!

JAMIE SMART

Genius inventor Skunky has just designed a brand-new creation . . . a robot called Metal Eve! She needs to learn everything there is to know about life, so it's probably not the best idea that she's surrounded by Bunny, Monkey, Weenie, Pig and the gang. The only thing she's going to learn from them is that life in the Woods is very, very silly indeed!



7+

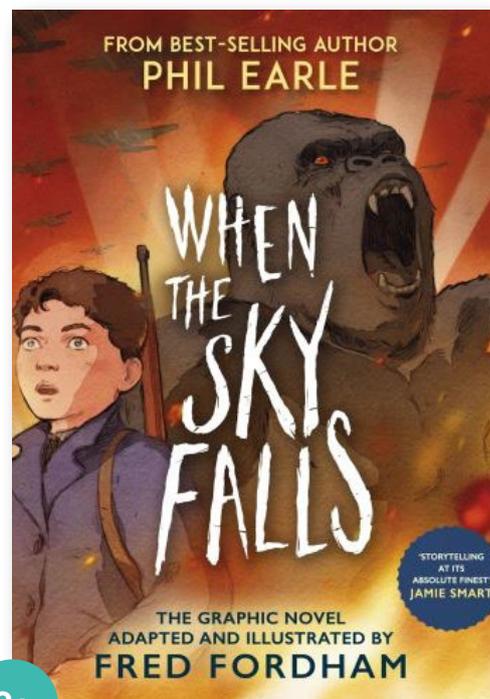
WHEN THE SKY FALLS

FRED FORDHAM AND PHIL EARLE

1941.

War is raging. And Joseph has been sent to live in the city, where bombers rule the skies. There, he will live with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no fondness for children. Her only loves are the rundown zoo she owns and its mighty silverback gorilla, Adonis.

As the weeks pass, Joseph and Adonis become friends, but what will happen when the bombers set him rampaging free?



9+

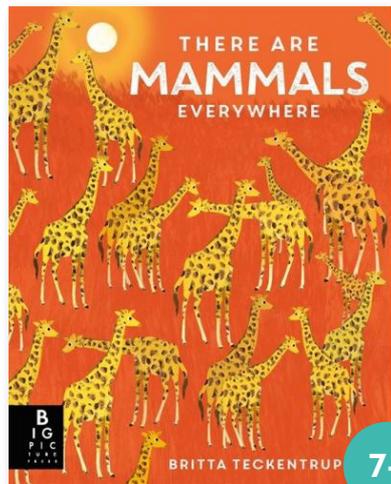
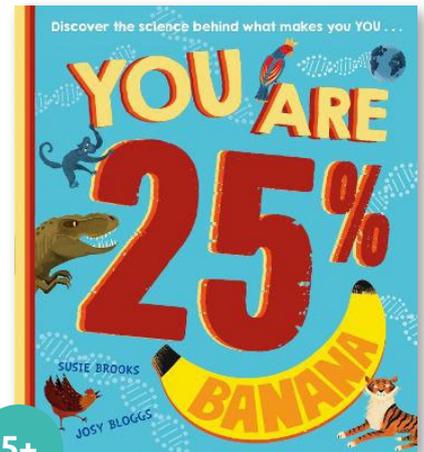


Non-fiction reads

YOU ARE 25% BANANA

SUSIE BROOKS

This stunningly illustrated book will boggle your brain with astonishing facts, as it shows how we're all related to every living thing on the planet. Did you know that a grain of rice has more genes than you? Or that you're related to dogs, dung beetles and even daffodils? Luckily, even though you're 99.9% like a chimpanzee, you're still 100% YOU!



THERE ARE MAMMALS EVERYWHERE

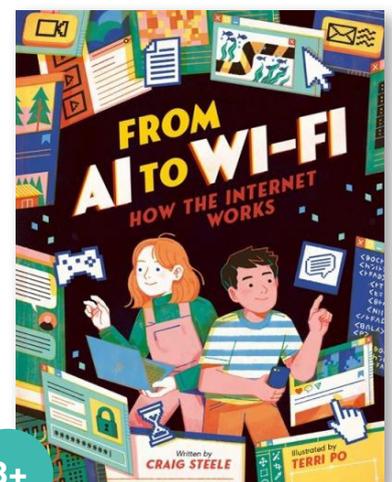
CAMILLE DE LA BÉDOYÈRE AND BRITTA TECKENTRUP

There are Mammals Everywhere is the fifth in a series of non-fiction books from best-selling illustrator Britta Teckentrup. Young readers will learn where in the world all sorts of mammals can be found and the weird and wonderful things about them that they never imagined were true!

FROM AI TO WI-FI

CRAIG STEELE

Everyone uses the internet! But do we understand how it really works? *Inside Story: How the Internet Works* is a guide for 8-12-year-olds that takes readers behind the scenes and gives them the inside scoop on this ever-relevant topic.



PiXL Reading

DISCLAIMER © The PiXL Club Ltd. 2026

This resource is strictly for the use of The PiXL Club Ltd member schools during the life of the membership only. It may NOT be copied, sold, or transferred or made available by whatever means to a third party non-member during or after membership. Until such time it may be freely used within the PiXL member school by their teachers and authorized staff and any other use or sale thereof is strictly prohibited.

All opinions and contributions are those of the authors. The contents of this resource are not connected with, or endorsed by, any other company, organisation or institution.

PiXL Club Ltd endeavour to trace and contact copyright owners. If there are any inadvertent omissions or errors in the acknowledgements or usage, this is unintended and PiXL will remedy these on written notification.