

Literacy Matters at Astley Cooper School

A suggested reading list. Plenty of low or no cost places to get a book. Try the library in school or near you. Try the web sites below as well to find something you enjoy.

ACTION & ADVENTURE

Author	Title	Plot summary
Stephen Cole	The Aztec Code	Exciting thriller about an elite team of thieves who steal valuable historical artefacts.
Eoin Colfer	Airman	Swash-buckling adventure set in a remote part of Ireland, that in the future is independent. Brilliant, alternative future tale!
Francis Hardinge	Gullstruck Island	Absolutely fantastic rip-roaring adventure set on a mysterious and lost island. A completely dazzling adventure.
Jake Highfield	Chaos Unleashed	Jake, schoolboy operative, is expelled from the academy who trained him. High speed action, for fans of Robert Muchamore.
Charlie Higson	Silverfin(Young Bond Series)	Superb novels about the school life of James Bond when he was still at school. Exceptionally entertaining and a deserved hit.
Eva Ibbotson*	One Dog and his Boy	Terrier Fleck arrives on Hal's birthday, but when Hal discovers that his dog must be returned, he runs away.
Andrew Klaven	The Last Thing I Remember Series	Super fast series, billed as "Bourne Identity for Kids", Charlie loses a year of his memory and finds he has been convicted of murder.
Andy McNab	Drop Zone	Fast moving thriller about a teenage skydiver recruited to a secret government anti-terrorist organisation.
Robert Muchamore	CHERUBS Series OR Henderson's Boys Series	Big adventures and excitement as the teenage recruits at CHERUB battle the underworlds of the World. OR Great new series about the original CHERUBS, set during World War 2.
Sophie McKenzie	The Medusa Project Series	Four 14 year-olds realise they have psychic powers in this powerful new adventure series. Great for girls too. 3 books so far!
Gary Paulsen	Hatchet Series	Thrilling adventure about the survival of a 12 year-old boy after a plane crash. Also has great sequels.
Rebecca Promitzer	The Pickle King	Zany comedy adventure about 5 bored kids who turn a long boring summer holiday into an adventure they'll never forget.
Chris Ryan	Code Red Series	Each book deals with a different environment disaster, including flooding, wild fires, plague and tornadoes. <i>Flash Flood</i> is book 1.
Louis Sachar	Small Steps	Very popular novel about a miscarriage of justice that sends Stanley into a juvenile prison and an assignment to dig holes to find, supposedly, lost treasure. Both books are really funny.
Craig Simpson	Special Operations Series	Four thrillers set in World War 2 about the adventures of Wolf Squadron. <i>Dog Fight</i> is book one.
John Smelcer	The Trap	Gripping survival story set in the Alaskan outback.
Eleanor Updale	Montmorency Series	Super-exciting crime thriller series set in Victorian London.
Steve Voake	Fightback	Cool thriller in which Kier learns the ancient art of unarmed combat before embarking on revenge for his father's murder.
Mark Walden	HIVE Series	In this story all the bright kids are sent to the Higher Institute of Villainous Education. Very good fun and born to be bad!

GIRL TALK

Author	Title	Plot summary
Helen Bailey	Life at the Shallow	Electra Brown's family is falling apart and she comes up with a crack-pot scheme to make everything OK again.
Meg Cabot	Jinx	Funny teen-look at a girl struggling to come to terms with her clumsiness.
Cathy Cassidy	Indigo Blue	Indigo's mum has a secret... a reason to leave behind their lovely house and friends.
Belinda Hollyer	River Song	Jessye's tumultuous life flits between her grandmother and her mother in this moving New Zealand set novel.
Cathy Hopkins	Mates, Dates....	Long-running series of Lucy and her friends and their funny

	(series)	experiences of growing up.
Eva Ibbotson	Journey to the River Sea	An orphaned school girl makes a journey to South America with her 'tough-as-old-boots' nanny.
Rose Impey	Scary Fairy Godmother	Funny look at the chaos caused in a family by the odd and eccentric scary Fairy Godmother. A really popular read with girls.
Hayley Long	Lottie Biggs Series	Really funny (2 books so far) about a 15 year-old growing up in Cardiff. A real laugh, touching, and covers real life issues.
Karen McCombie	Ally's World Series	Funny 12 book series looking at Ally, her life, friends and mishaps.
Hilary McKay	Saffy's Angel	One of the best books of recent years. Saffy, when realising she is adopted, travels from America to Italy to trace her family.
Sarah Mlynowski	Gimme a Call	Pretty funny! Devi finds that she can talk to her future-self with her mobile.
Louise Rennison	Georgina Nicholson Series OR Withering Tights	Recently concluded series, hilarious and written in diary form as the accident prone Georgina grows up. 10 books to read! OR Comedy set over a long summer holiday in a drama school.
Liz Rettig	Jumping to Confusions	Funny look at romantic confusion, following the adventures of twin sisters, one more glamorous than the other.
Jerry Spinelli	Star Girl	Brilliant and brave novel about a teenager daring to be different in an American High School. Highly recommended.
Sarah Webb	Amy Green Teen Agony Queen	Amy helps a relative who has taken over an agony aunt page in a teenage magazine with funny consequences.
Rachel Wright	You've Got Blackmail	Comedy thriller that has the whole of the school in a tizzy.

GROWING UP: HEADING TO TEEN LIFE

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Julia Bell	Massive	Thought-provoking look at teenage anorexia.
Elen Caldecott	How Kirsty Jenkins Stole the Elephant	Sensitive and gently humorous treatment of the loss of a grandfather and its effect on a family.
Gregory Hughes	Unhooking the Moon	Great coming-of-age novel as 2 children travel from Canada to New York looking for a long-lost relative. Brave, funny and original.
Ally Kennen	Beast	Stephen is a boy with many secrets, and the Beast is the biggest. Vicious look at exclusion and isolation.
Guus Kuijer	Book of Everything	Thomas sees things and struggles living with his strict and harsh father. The "witch" next door begins to open his eyes in this dreamy and beautiful book.
Meg Rosoff	Just in Case	Quirky and funny follow-up to 'How I Live Now' in which 15 year-old David is obsessed that fate is out to get him.
Rodman Philbeck	Freak the Mighty	Funny and touching about two misfit boys, who when they become friends, unite as Freak the Mighty!
Caroline Plaisted	No Way Am I Living With Her	Well-written and touching story of two step-sisters forced to live together when their parents marry.
Louis Sacher	There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom	Another highly entertaining (and funny) tale from the writer of 'Holes'. Has much to identify with.
Benjamin Zephaniah	Face	Realistic story of how a boy is disfigured in a car accident and has to start living a new life with his disfigurement.

CLASSICS

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Louisa M Alcott	Little Women	First in the series of classic novels of 4 sisters growing up in 1860s America, written from the point of view of Jo, who would dearly like to become a writer.
Frances H Burnett	The Secret Garden	Escapism, innocence and beauty are all features of the secret garden. This book reads like a dream.
Charles Dickens	Oliver Twist	Classic story of the orphan boy, life in crime and his quest to escape it all.
Richard Bach	Jonathan	Uplifting story of a young seagull's bid to live its life as free as

	Livingston Seagull	possible. A beautifully crafted short read.
Charlotte Bronte	Jane Eyre	Jane falls in love with her rich employer, only to find out he has a dark secret.... Classic stuff that has thrilled generations.
Charles Dickens	A Christmas Carol	Read about Scrooge yourself; much better than any film you may have seen of it.
Conan Doyle	Adventures of Sherlock Holmes	This is a great introduction to detective stories. Many of the best Holmes stories are in this collection.
Penelope Farmer	Charlotte Sometimes	Dream-like novel where Charlotte, whilst sleeping, somehow slips back in time to 1919 and becomes Clare... Wonderful.
H Rider Haggard	King Solomon's Mines	An exciting yarn about an explorer who was the inspiration for the Indiana Jones films.
Jack Schaefer	Shane	Definitive western novel of the drifter coming to town. This classic novel is seen through the eyes of a little boy and is a great introduction to a forgotten genre.
Mark Twain	Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	Adventure, freedom and excitement are in abundance in these two novels set in the American deep south during the great depression. Highly recommended.

MULTI-VOLUME FANTASY SEQUENCES

Author	Title	Plot Summary
R J Anderson	Knife and Rebel	Highly entertaining novel set in the faery world of Oak Tree.
Tom Becker	Dark Side Series	Your home's been attacked. Your dad's in an asylum. You're running for your life. And there's nowhere to hide. And that's just the first few pages!
N M Browne	Warriors of Alavna Trilogy	Blistering time-slip novel where Dan and Ursula are whisked back in time to the tough unforgiving world of Alavna in 75AD.
Nancy Farmer	Sea of Trolls Trilogy	A sweeping Viking novel with 2 young children being held captive by the evil half-troll King Ivar the Boneless.
Charlie Fletcher	Stone Heart Trilogy	The great statues of London spring to life in this epic fantasy romp!
John Flanagan	Ranger's Apprentice Series	Superb series set in Castle Redmont, as Will and his friends choose their destinies. Highly, highly recommended.
Alan Gibbons	Shadow of the Minotaur Trilogy	Computer game virtual reality becomes reality in this compulsive read. Highly recommended and has been a top read for some years.
Julia Golding	Companions Quartet	Superbly exciting sequence of 4 books which combines mythology, magic and the last human able to communicate with the mythical beings. For all fans of quality fantasy.
Roderick Gordon	Tunnels Series	Lots of hype went with the release of this book, as 2 boys discover a dark underworld underneath Chester. Really enjoyable.
Derek Landy	Skulduggery Pleasant Series	Fantastic fantasy horror novel, wild, and full of imagination and excitement. Now 5 books. Very, very popular.
CS Lewis	Narnia Series	Perhaps the ultimate battle between Good and Evil? Classic tale of children trying to awaken an animal world from eternal winter.
Sam Llewellyn	The Well Between Worlds Series	Fast-paced tale of a world where demons and monsters inhabit the sea, after many years the peace truce is broken.....
Cliff McNish	Doomspell Trilogy	Powerful fantasy series about children snatched from our world to satisfy the evil of a witch from a different dimension.
William Nicholson	Wind on Fire Trilogy	Breathtaking trilogy about a society governed by exams. But what happens when you rebel? Read to find out.
James Patterson	Maximum Ride Series	Stunning 5 book sequence about a group of teenagers generically engineered to be 1% bird. It's cool to be able to fly!
Philip Pullman	His Dark Materials Trilogy	Staggering dark fantasy trilogy in which Lyra fights for survival in a Godless world. Quite brilliant fantasy series.
Philip Reeve	Mortal Engines Series	Blinding fantasy novel where moving cities trawl the globe. Tom and Hester are thrown from "London" and try to get back on

		board. 2 prequels are also out now.
Rick Riordan	Percy Jackson Series	Entertaining fantasy series in which a teenage boy living in modern-day America finds out he is the son of a God.
Michael Scott	The Alchemyst	2 children stumble upon the secret of immortality when they meet the 700 year old Nicholas Flamel.

SINGLE VOLUME FANTASY NOVELS

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Catherine Banner	Eyes of a King	The main character embarks upon a fantastic journey after finding a book with no words in it, which then begins to guide and help him.
N M Browne	The Spell Grinder's Apprentice	Dark magic abounds as children with special powers are slaves to the powerful Spell Grinder in this gripping tale.
N M Browne	Web of Shadows	Brilliant even by Browne's standards! 2 girls with the same names and dates of birth, swap places and worlds in this great read.
Paul Bryers	Kobal	Gripping fantasy in which science and superstition intertwine to create a fantasy world equal to J K Rowling or Philip Pullman.
Frances Hardinge	Verdigris Deep	Nasty things begin to happen to a group of children who steal coins from a, supposedly, magic well.
Ingrid Law	Savvy	Highly enjoyable, quirky, coming-of-age story where everyone in Mibs' family receives a supernatural power when they turn 13. Charming, and original, fantasy for girls.
China Mieville	Un Lun Dun	Compelling look at a London lost in an alternative reality of broken toys, gadgets and ghosts.
Sally Nicholls	Season of Secrets	Moving tale which entwines the Green Man myth and a lonely child sent to live with her grandparents in the North of England.
Garth Nix	Shade's Children	Dark science fiction fantasy where children are killed off before they reach adult. Those who escape hide under the banner of the mysterious Shade. Nix is one of the best fantasy writers around.
Edith Patou	North Child	This is a beguiling epic of magic, love, loss and betrayal, based on the traditional fairy tale.
Terry Pratchett	Nation	Wild comedy fantasy about the survivors of a tidal wave creating a new world for themselves. Startlingly original Pratchett comedy.
Joanne Owen	Puppet Master	A really creepy fantasy tale of marionettes and mind control.
Rick Riordan	The Red Pyramid	One curse, two heroes and an evil that won't stay buried. New fantasy romp from the creator of Percy Jackson.
Pat Walsh	The Crowfield Curse	Historical fantasy with a magical twist, in which a girl finds the grave with the body of an angel. Combines fantasy and mystery.
David Whitley	The Midnight Charter	Dark fantasy where children are bought and sold, and feelings such as hate and fear are traded as commodities. Highly original.
Chris Wooding	Malice Chaos	Everyone's heard of it... a secret comic about a strange and awful world full of traps and tricks. But if rumours are to be believed, the children and monsters in this comic are real...
Chris Wooding	Storm Thief	One of the best action fantasies I read this year. Fast-paced, exciting and in a fantasy world so well crafted I hope it's a series!
Carlos Ruiz Zafon	The Prince of Mist	A haunting story of magic, mystery, adventure and revenge as an ancient force finds a way to enter our World.

MONSTERS, DEMONS AND VAMPIRES

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Stephen Cole	Wereling Trilogy	Really enjoyable horror series about a family of werewolves and the teenage daughter's fight against her changeover.
Steve Feasey	Changling	Trey is thrown into the world of demons and monsters in this highly original, and scary, fantasy horror novel.
Alan Gibbons	Scared to Death Series	Be prepared to be scared to death, in this clever and well-plotted tension builder. The very scary book 2 is now out.
Simon Holt	Devouring	Holt could be the next Darren Shan – entertaining novel in which demons feed off children's fears.

E E Richardson	Devil's Footsteps OR The Intruders	Wonderful horror novel from the new Queen of fear. Scary, atmospheric, well plotted and believable.... OR More suspense and fear from Richardson in this terrifying haunted house novel. Taste the fear.....
Sebastian Rook	Vampire Plague Series	Juicy series of vampire novels set across the centuries as the vampires battle to take over the world.
Marcus Sedgwick	My Swordhand is Singing	Chilling vampire tale set in 17th century Europe, inspired by the original Transylvanian Vampire folk tales. Scary stuff!
Darren Shan	Cirque du Freak Series(Saga of Darren Shan)	First in the long running vampire horror series. It's so popular.
Justin Stomper	Vampirates Series	Blood thirsty, horror novels set on the high seas.
Chris Wooding	Haunting of Alaizabel Cray	Great atmospheric crossover fantasy novel about two young wych-hunters seeking for a beast that lurks in the sewers of old London. Very exciting and an exceptional read.

GHOST AND CREEPY TALES THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Malorie Blackman	Stuff of Nightmares	Frightening and scary novel which centres on the small, irrational fears that affect us all.
Jeremy de Quidt	The Toymaker	A demonic toymaker takes the hearts from animals and uses them to give life to robotic creatures in this dark fairytale.
Michael Ford	The Poisoned House	Abigail is a maidservant in Greave Hall, an elegant London household governed by the tyrannical housekeeper, Mrs Cotton. In the dead of night, Abi makes a desperate bid for freedom, but is soon captured. A ghostly presence distracts Abi with clues to a deadly secret.
Neil Gaiman	Coraline OR Graveyard Book	Stunning novel about a warped alternative universe hidden behind a door. Very weird and altogether creepy. OR Horror/fantasy take on the Jungle book – a toddler whose family is murdered is raised by the dead in a graveyard.
Alan Kennan	Bedlam	16 year-old Lexi discovers an abandoned mental asylum, and then the scary stuff really begins! A really atmospheric read!
Jon Mayhew	Mortlock	Really creepy, Victorian set, horror novel. Has ghouls, zombies and a really twisted original story. Read it today!
Catherine McPhail	Underworld	Utterly chilling novel set in the underground fear of a collapsed tunnel. This book is really, really scary!
Lazlo Strangolov	Feather & Bone	Really creepy (and quirky) horror novel with the strangest set of characters you've ever seen!
Cliff McNish	Breathe: A ghost Story	A true ghost story. The kind that says its cold fingers on you grips tight and doesn't let you go until the last pages have been turned. Wonderfully spine-chilling.
E E Richardson	The Summoning	Be careful when you play with spirits... they play tricks... and often they want to stay with you forever.
Darren Shan	The Demonata Series OR The Thin Executioner	Brilliant 10 book horror series. OR The King of Fear returns with a new tale of horror and fear.

HAVING A LAUGH: FUNNY BOOKS

Author	Title	Plot Summary
M E Allen	The Bish Bash Bosh	A group of teenage boys discover a lotion which makes them irresistible to girls. Hilarious chaos follows!
Terence Blacker	Missing, Believed Crazy	Funny tale of 5 rich kids who fake the kidnapping of a TV star's child (for charity) and it all goes horribly wrong!
Martin Chatterton	The Brain Finds a Leg	A rip-roaring comedy adventure for lovers of bizarre and fantastic adventure.
F. Cottrell-Boyce	Framed	South Wales and art theft don't normally go together, except in this funny book!
Vanessa Curtis	Zelah Green, Queen of Clean	Funky comedy featuring "cleanaholic" Zelah and her friends.
Jimmy Docherty	Ice Cream Con	Fast and funny story of a boy who cons a group of bullies into believing a new gang are in town!

Sue Limb	Zoe & Chloe Series	Funny series of books about the adventures of 2 teenage girls.
Anthony McGowan	Hell Bent	Hilarious tale of a teenager sent to hell for a misdemeanour.
Terry Pratchett	Johnny Maxwell Trilogy	A brilliant trilogy. Johnny has special powers which help him see the world in a slightly different way from other boys.
E F Smith	When Mum Threw Out the Telly!	Telly-addict Jeff's life is turned upside down when his mum throws out the TV. But his new life is only just beginning.

THRILLERS

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Patricia Carmen	Skeleton Creek	An excellent horror-mystery about 2 children investigating mysterious goings-on in their small town.
Anne Cassidy	Innocent	Great junior novel from Cassidy, as Charlie tries to prove the innocence of her older brother Brad.
Anne Cassidy	Talking to Strangers	Gripping thriller centring around the disappearance of a 10 year-old in a small English town.
Malorie Blackman	Hacker	One of Blackman's most popular books. Two computer whiz-kids try to prove their father is innocent of bank theft.
Eion Colfer	Half Moon Investigations	After completing a dodgy online course, 10 year- old Fletch reckons he's a fully fledged detective! Chaos follows in this great thriller.
Joseph Craig	Jimmy Coates Series	11 year-old Jimmy realises he has super-powers, which his parents have hidden from him, and this leads to an exciting mystery of intrigue and suspense.
Narinder Dhani	Bang Bang You're Dead	When a mysterious gunman takes a class hostage, Mia suspects her brother might be involved in this tense thriller.
J A Henderson	Colony OR Bunker 10	Scary military conspiracy novel linking events of 30 years ago involving a secret army research facility OR Fast thriller set in a top secret military installation about to be hit by a major disaster.
Tanya Landman*	Poison Pen	Seventh in the brilliantly addictive series of murder mysteries.
Gabrielle Lord	Conspiracy 365 Series	12 book series, set over a year, about a teenager on the run from both the Police and a secret government organisation.
Will Peterson	Triskellion	Enticing mystery fantasy novel in which two American children move to the rural village of Triskellion, which is both dark and secretive. Soon sinister things begin to happen...
Marcus Sedgwick	Floodland OR Revolver	Gripping story of global warming and the pockets of survivors who live in the "High Lands" near Norwich. A fast brilliant read. OR Gripping thriller set in the Arctic in 1910, and the vicious search for stolen gold. Dark, scary and deeply atmospheric.
David Selznick	Invention of Hugo Cabret	Wonderful mystery novel set in 1930s Paris. It uses very visual graphics and art, which only add to the mystery.
Alex Shearer	The Stolen	A nail-biting and supernatural tale of old people taking over the bodies of young people. A gripping mystery.
Philip Womack	The Liberators	London is in financial melt-down and Ivo witnesses a murder on the underground, connecting him to a sinister cult who wish to end the world! Truly superb thriller.

SCHOOL STORIES

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Wendy Cooling	Ten of the Best School Stories	Excellent collection of 10 school stories including new stories from Malorie Blackman and Paul Jennings.
Alan Gibbons	Chicken	Tough school story, focusing on bullying.
Pete Johnson	Runaway Teacher	What happens when your teacher becomes a friend and not a teacher? Read this short novel to find out.

SCIENCE FICTION & THE UNEXPLAINED

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Malorie Blackman	Pig Heart Boy	Your heart transplant is from a pig! Find out what difference it makes in this gripping read.
Jason Bradbury	Dot.Robot	Really entertaining adventure which rattles along with many twists and turns, using gadgets, cyber-crime and geeks galore.

John Christopher	Tripods Series	Classic series in which giant robots take over the Earth.
Michael Grant	Gone Trilogy	Super-fast paced and exciting novel set in an area of America where adults disappear into thin area. Anarchy follows!
Ann Halam	Taylor 5	Fascinating novel about human cloning.
A J Healy	Tommy Storm	Very funny, crude, endlessly inventive intergalactic novel set in 2096 for fans of Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy!
Ben Horton	Monster Republic	Science fiction retelling of Frankenstein. A group of children are made into soldier monsters.
Joan Lennon	The Seventh Tide	Soul-sucking demons threatened to take over the world in this multi-dimensional romp.
Keith Mansfield	Johnny Mackintosh and the Saint of London	Loud, brash and flashy fantasy science fiction novel. Alex Ryder meets Dr Who!
Rhiannon Lassiter	Hex Trilogy	Totally believable science fiction set in the far future about mutant genes that can be passed through computers into people.
James Patterson	Dangerous Days of Daniel	Daniel is an Alien Hunter – bent for revenge.
A G Smith	Furnace Series	Vicious fantasy adventure with a boy trapped in a deep underground prison guarded by monsters and demons.
Robert Swindells	Time Snatch	Superb time travel novel by Swindells. Very exciting.
David Thorpe	Hybrids	Hybrids are human victims of a technology virus which infects the nation in this entertaining thriller.
Scott Westerfeld	Leviathan	Amazing, alternative history novel set in 1914. Impossible to describe, new type of science fiction called “steam punk”.
Moria Young*	Blood Red Road	Every step of Saba's journey sizzles with danger in this futuristic thriller, which beats with a powerful, red-blooded heart.

SPORT STORIES

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Neil Arksey	Playing on the Edge	Great futuristic thriller where football has achieved global domination. A wonderful idea!
Theresa Breslin	Divided City	Tough Scottish novel which tackles the religious divide in Glasgow through a look at football.
Ben Bo	Scullcrack	High energy novel about skateboarding.
Chris D'Lacey	Falling 4 Mandy I X Series	Cheating, diving, football, and a beautiful striker called Mandy are all elements in this funny football novel. Murdering his parents. Now a trilogy.
Dan Freedman	Kick Off Trilogy	Funny look at a school football team, with Jamie desperate to be the star, by book 3 he's a teen prodigy!
Peter Hayden	And Smith Must Score	Funny modern take on the football story, with many great characters and enjoyable action sequences.
Kelvin MacGregor	Here We Go!	Football and romance! A great combination!
Robert Rigby	Goal! OR Goal 2!	Live the perfect football dream as Santiago makes his name at Newcastle before moving to Real Madrid in the sequel.

LIVING IN A WARZONE

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Anne Frank	The Diary of Anne Frank	Stunning story of bravery during the Second World War. Essential reading.
Jackie French	Hitler's Daughter	Wonderful time-slip and thought-provoking novel which asks the question, “What if?”
Catherine Forde	Tug of War	In 2012, after terrible terrorist attacks, the Government brings in extreme measures which imprison immigrants.
Maurice Gleitzman	Once Trilogy	Captivating, and moving story, of two child friends growing up in Nazi occupied Poland.
Sonya Hartnett*	The Midnight Zoo	World War II, Eastern Europe: Tomas and his younger brother, Andrej, have fled their Romany encampment which has been besieged by the Germans; they carry Wilma, their baby sister, in a sack. In an abandoned, bombed-out town, the children discover a zoo.
Cathy Kaser	Underground	True story of how a group of Czech children started their own

	Reporters	newspaper whilst being occupied by the Germans in WW2.
Michael Morpurgo	War Horse	Thought-provoking novel of the life of a horse and his thoughts during his numerous battles under different masters.
Andy McNab	Boy Soldier	McNab draws on his own vast SAS experience to write this exciting, part-biographical account of his younger days in the SAS.
James Riordan	The Sniper	Realistic World War 2 adventure tale about young Russian snipers.
Barry Turner	One Small Suitcase	Factual look at the evacuation of 1000s of Jewish children before the outbreak of WW2.

HISTORICAL FICTION

Author	Title	Plot Summary
Philip Ardagh *	When Bunnies Turn Bad	Roald Dahl Funny Prize winner Philip Ardagh is back with the seventh tale of grubbiness and chaos in his hilarious Grubtown Tales series. Perfect for fans of Mr Gum and Horrid Henry.
Lynn Cullen	I Am Rembrandt's Daughter	Haunting look at the fictional life of the daughter of the great Dutch painter, set after most of Cornelia's family has died of the plague.
Michael Ford	Spartan Warrior Series	Swords swing wildly in this fantasy adventure romp based on real Spartan myths.
Mary Hooper	By Royal Command	Lucy is a teenage spy for Elizabeth I. One of several novels about this period by Mary Hooper.
Elizabeth Laird	Crusade	Exciting novel about the cross of faiths in the Holy Land during the Crusades.
Eva Ibbotson	The Secret Countess	A young countess is worked into a secret life as a housemaid In this romantic tale, set against the backdrop of the Russian Revolution
Caroline Lawrence	Roman Mysteries Series	Multi-book series about four amateur child detectives in Ancient Rome. Engaging and historically accurate.
ML Jensen	Between Two Seas	Lovely Victorian set novel about a young girl who leaves Grimsby to find her father in Denmark, after the death of her mother.
Tanya Landman	Apache	Prize winning revenge novel – as Siki vows to become an Apache warrior and revenge the deaths of her dead family.
Philip Reeve	My Name Is Arthur	Both fascinating and exciting retelling of the King Arthur legend, with a strong female twist!

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