

2021-22 Recommended Reads Year 5

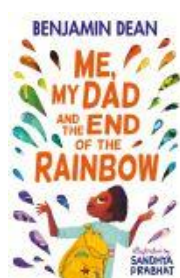


**Bethell,
Zillah**

**The Shark
Caller**

Set in Papua New Guinea, this novel has a wonderful sense of place. It mixes traditional and modern life and values, and includes Papuan Pidgin English words. A story of friendship as two girls explore the grief and guilt they feel about a parent's death.

CF



**Dean,
Benjamin**

**Me, My Dad
and the End
of the
Rainbow**

A thought provoking, heartfelt and amusing story about a family coming to terms with one parent's need to follow their true path. When Archie discovers his dad is gay, he tries to fix the awkwardness between them whilst not quite knowing if their relationship will ever be the same again.

CF



**Earle,
Phil**

**The Dog
That Saved
the World
(Cup)**

Pickles the dog observes that the joy of playing and watching football sustains his beloved owner, Elsie, even when everything else in her life is very hard. When the world cup goes missing, Pickles is determined to save the day.

CF



**Edge,
Christopher**

**Space
Oddity**

Jake's Dad is lovable but very embarrassing, even more so on a local camping trip. But once Jake realises 'where his Dad is coming from' he knows he has to do everything he can to rescue him.

CF

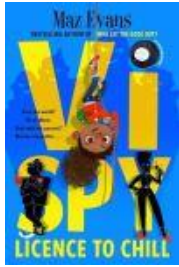


**Elphinstone,
Abi**

**The
Crackledawn
Dragon**

Zeb is lonely and fed up with adults who always seem to let him down. Sheltering in a disused theatre having run away from his latest Children's home, two very different futures present themselves. During this page turning adventure he discovers the importance of friendship and trust. The pages are brimming with wonderful mythical creatures and a page turning plot. Part of the Unmapped Kingdom series but this can be read first or last!

CF



**Evans,
Maz**

**Licence to
Chill**

A brand-new series full of adventure, jokes and supervillains! Vi wants to be a spy and while her parents are too busy concentrating on their divorce, Vi is left to save the world!

CF



**Foster,
Stewart**

**The Perfect
Parent
Project**

Sam has decided, with the help of his friend Leah, to advertise for his 'forever' family. He is determined to be in school production of Bugsy Malone and does not want to be moved again but he can see the signs that this family are thinking about asking him to go. By chance he spies his perfect family and sets out to join them. On his road of discovery, he unearths lots of surprises. A heart-warming read.

CF



**Fountain,
Ele**

Melt

This is a tale of survival as two children battle against the elements and a corrupt corporation to escape from the Arctic. Told by Yutu who lives in the Arctic with his grandmother following a traditional lifestyle and Bea who has accompanied her father, a geologist, on his work trip. It all starts to go wrong when Bea's father is attacked. Great suspense and adventure.

CF



**Fowler,
Gemma**

City of Rust

For any Star War fans this is a nail-biting adventure set in the future. Earth has so much rubbish it has launched it into space and in a fight for power, this now threatens the Earth's safety. A dystopian sci fi story packed with action which keeps the reader gripped to the last page.

CF



**Galvin,
Lindsay**

**Darwin's
Dragons**

Syms Covington makes a huge discovery when sailing with Charles Darwin and then goes to extraordinary lengths to preserve it. A fantastic historical adventure that spans land, sea, and a lifetime. Do you dare to believe in dragons?

CF



Gibbons, Francesca

A Clock of Stars: The Shadow Moth

Never has a visit to a tearoom been so exciting! Two sisters discover a door which opens into a magical kingdom where a Prince is desperate for friends and monsters come out to kill at night. The sisters piece together parts of the puzzle which also helps them to get back to mum. This is the first in the trilogy. A great adventure story which also reveals hidden bravery and greater empathy skills as the family reunites.

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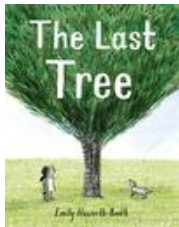


Hafiza, Radiya

Rumaysa: A Fairytale

An empowering spin on three traditional fairytales. Rumaysa is a feisty Muslim hero who refuses to conform to expectations and, whilst forging a new path for herself, inspires others to do the same.

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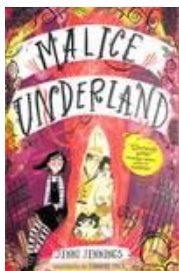


Haworth-Booth, Emily

The Last Tree

The children in a community act to affect change as their parents squabble and squander the precious natural resources around them. A though provoking, environmental fable for our times.

P



Jennings, Jenni

Malice in Underland

Malice Malign is at odds with her family who like to cause magical mischief amongst the Topsiders. When her lovely grandad ghost goes missing, she uses her quick thinking wit to rescue him.

CF



Leonard, M. G

Murder on the Safari Star

A fabulous mystery set on a train travelling through South Africa. Can Harrison and his friend Winston solve the mystery of a dead body in a locked compartment? If you have enjoyed this, do try the other titles in the series.

CF



Mbalia, Kwame

The Last Gate of the Emperor

Yared's uncle is forever reminding him of battles and warring nations, but Yared does not believe any of it and thinks his uncle is delusional. This all changes when the monsters finally make an appearance, and guess who they are after - Yared! A great sci fi adventure but also a look at keeping alive family history even when you have been exiled from your country of birth, Ethiopia.

CF



**Parr,
Lesley**

**The Valley of
Lost Secrets**

A great mystery set in 1939. Jimmy and his brother have been evacuated to a rural village in Wales. His brother appears to adapt quickly but Jimmy is desperate to return home and the order he knows well. Here things seem to have been turned on its head - new friendships blossom and the discovery of the skull helps heal the community. The author has hidden visual clues as well as other clues which the reader is encouraged to discover. Look out for more from this new author.

CF



**Pearson,
Jenny**

**The
Incredible
Record
Smashers**

Lucy loves fixing things and so decides she knows exactly how to fix her mum. This involves her having to break a world record so she can appear on Record Smashers. Full of laugh out loud moments as well as a deeper understanding about mental health, this is a fantastic read. It does carry a health warning - do not try any of Lucy's antics at home!

CF

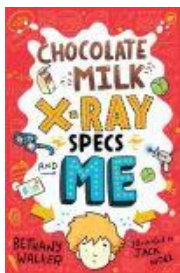


**Stead,
Rebecca**

**The List of
Things That
Will Not
Change**

It finally looks like Bea will get her wish of having a sister when her dad announces he is marrying his partner, Jesse. But family life is complicated and made more so as her new sister lives miles away from her. A wonderful family read looking at the impact of divorce and LGBTQ+ relationships, as BEA charts the last few years of her life. It is bursting with memories and worries and the joy of being loved.

CF



**Walker,
Bethany**

**Chocolate
Milk, X-ray
Specs & Me!**

10-year-old Freddie writes letters to his parents who are away working on a Brussel sprout farm. Really? The truth is even more bizarre, they are spies. Full of laughs read on to discover how Freddie and his grandfather are all involved. Accompanied by great illustrations and doodles which add to the overall enjoyment of this book.

CF



**Yang,
Kelly**

Front Desk

Mia Tang has immigrated to California with her parents from China with the hope of living the 'American Dream'. After gaining employment from the owner of a motel, Mia and her parents work hard to manage the property and get to know the people who stay there. Living as an immigrant in the US is not always easy, but with the help of her friends, family and own resourcefulness Mia discovers how to live her dream.

CF

Y = Picture Book/ P = KS2 Picture Book
M = Beginner Readers / N = Developing Readers
CF = Children's Fiction
T = Younger Teen Reads/T+ = Older Teen Reads



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