

KS2 Good Quality Reads:

One off books/classics

Author	Title	Genre
Charles and Mary Lamb	Tales from Shakespeare	Tells of the tales of Shakespeare in a short, child friendly version. You could read one, or all. Also useful if you're going to see the plays!
Catherine Storr	Marianne Dreams	Ghostly story of a child convalescing and how her dreams about another ill child become a dream story. Beautifully written.
Philippa Pearce	Tom's Midnight Garden	Tom is staying with elderly relatives due to illness. He is very bored. One night he hears the grandfather clock strike 13. He sets off to investigate and meets the ghost Hatty.
Franz Kafka	Metamorphosis	Gregor Samsor wakes up to find he has turned into a cockroach in his flat. It is actually about an analogy about a nervous breakdown but you possibly wouldn't know from reading it. Would probably need to discuss with an adult after. However it is a classic and worth attempting for advanced readers.
Judith Kerr	When Hitler stole Pink rabbit	Semi autobiographical from the author of Mog. Tells of her escape from Nazi Germany through Switzerland, France and finally London.
Anna Sewell	Black Beauty	Classic narrated by the horse itself. Sad but a great tale.
Lewis Carroll	Alice in Wonderland Alice through the	2 lovely adventure stories. Some have beautiful illustrations.

	looking glass.	
Susan Coolidge	What Katy did What Katy did next	A classic about the adventures of Katy.
Louisa May Alcott	Little Women	Adventures of sisters. Set in America. Funny and sad.
Nina Bawden	Carrie's war	Child evacuated during world war 2. A little scary.
Anne Frank	Diary of Anne Frank	Suitable for upper ks2.
Kenneth Graham	Wind in the Willows	Some of the books also have excellent illustrations.
Frank Baum	Wizard of Oz	Well written
J.M. Barrie	Peter Pan	Language has dated but still a modern classic
Richard Adams	Watership Down	A challenging read but very well written.
William Goldman	The Princess Bride	A classic.
Eva Ibbotson	Journey to the river sea	Beautifully written. A girl goes to live with spoilt cousins in the Amazon.
Tony Robinson	Kings and Queens	Lovely book which tells, in child friendly language, the history of British Kings and Queens. From Alfred the Great to the bloody Plantagenets, crafty Tudors, to present day.
J.R. Tolkein	Lord of the Rings trilogy The Hobbit	A challenging read. Maybe read the Hobbit first? It's much shorter and simpler. However a classic-might appeal to boys as a great adventure story.
William Golding	Lord of the Flies	A classic. Children stranded on a desert island quickly become tribal.

Good quality authors who have written several books or series

Author	Title of series	Genre
Michael Morpurgo	various	All of his books are fabulous. Check out "Kensuke's Kingdom" or "War Horse." Has written 20+ books. Some are about world war 1 and 2. All fantastic.
Philip Pullman	His Dark Materials Other various	Challenging books but well worth the effort. Check out "The Firework maker's daughter" (Y4 or 5) or any of the trilogy from his dark materials. First book is the film "Golden Compass" (book called Northern Lights)
Michael Rosen	Great poetry	All his poetry books are fantastic. Story about Eddie is very sad, about his own son dying at 18.
Roald Dahl	Various	Read them all!! Include "Going solo" which is autobiographical.
Anthony Horowitz	Spy books-Alex Rider Diamond brother series. Various others	Very witty, challenging. Boys esp will love them. Girls will like them too!
Eoin Colfer	Artemis Fowl series.	Very witty, challenging. Boys esp will love them. Girls will like them too! Much wittier than Harry Potter, little bit dark but beautifully written.
Derek Landy	Skulduggery Pleasant.	New to the market. A smart detective and his cunning sidekick have adventures in a magic world.
Erin Hunter	Cat warrior series	Numerous adventures amongst different clans of cats. Set in

		the New Forest. Would appeal to girls esp.
Michael Bond	Olga da Polga series	Trilogy of a guinea-pig and her adventures with her friends. Laugh out loud funny.
Terry Deary	Horrible histories, geography, science etc.	Fabulous series with all the gory bits left in. Often linked to what children are learning at school.
Jamilla Gavin	3 Princesses Coram Boy	Beautifully written stories. 3 Princesses is 3 different stories about Rama and Sita. Very clever.
Alan Garner	The Owl service	Bit scary but clever stories.
Caroline Lawrence	Roman mysteries series	Set in Ostia in Roman times. Really well written books. Exciting and clever.
Michelle Paver	Series of ancient darkness	Australian writer. Set in Aboriginal times. Torak goes on a mission to save his forest.
C. S. Lewis	Narnia Chronicles	Don't dismiss the other books. The Lion the Witch and the wardrobe is only one. Read all the other books (the Voyage of the Dawn Treader is my favourite.)
Various	How to be the best...	Various fun books on how to be the best girl, boy, most glamorous, adventurous etc. Good fun and light hearted!