

Dear Parents/Carers,

Reading is an important part of everyday life. The more our children read, the better readers they will be and the better writers they will become.



Read a selection of books from the recommended book list attached:

[Best Books for Year 1: Recommended Booklist for Ages 5-6](#)

[\(booksfortopics.com\)](#)

[Best Books for Year 2: Recommended Booklist for Ages 6-7](#)

[\(booksfortopics.com\)](#)

Parents and family members play an important role in building successful readers. Hearing your child read helps your child to retain and build on the skills he or she has learned in school. But most importantly, this is a time for children to engage their imaginations, find amusement in books, and to learn to love reading. We ask that you hear your child read for at least 10 minutes a day, a minimum of 4 times a week. Books can be of any subject that is of interest to your child.

Your child will bring home every day a reading book from school that is suited to their level of reading. We have also attached a reading list of books for your convenience which have been recommended by Books for Topics and Herts County Literacy Advisors, based on some of the English units of work that your child may be learning in Year 1 and 2. We don't expect your child to read all of the books on the list but you may find some useful suggestions here to help when you are choosing books together.

Here are some quick tips to encourage your child's love for reading.

- READ! READ! READ! Make reading important. Be a role-model for reading. Let your child see you reading throughout the day and use daily routines as reading opportunities.

Cooking, reading TV listings, looking for information on-line, reading directions, or following a map all provide authentic reading experiences.



- Give your child the power of choice. Having reading materials available, such as: books, magazines, comics, etc... is key to helping children love to read, and the reading materials they choose themselves are best. Help your child find texts that appeal to his or her interests, yet are age appropriate and 'just right' in difficulty.
- Find opportunities to read aloud to your child. Read your favourite childhood book aloud, read signs while driving in the car, read at stores, and read while you're on holiday!
- Take frequent trips to the library.
- Read a great story over and over again to help your child with fluency and reading with expression.
- Talk it up. Talking about books during and after reading helps improve comprehension. Encourage your child to share their ideas and opinions by asking open-ended questions. Talk about what you read to let them know that reading is an important part of your life. Tell them why you liked a book, what you learned from it, or how it helped you— soon they might start doing the same.

We hope you and your family will read many stories and reap all of the wonderful benefits that reading has to offer!

**We look forward to hearing all about the exciting books you have read.**

Happy reading!

Kind Regards

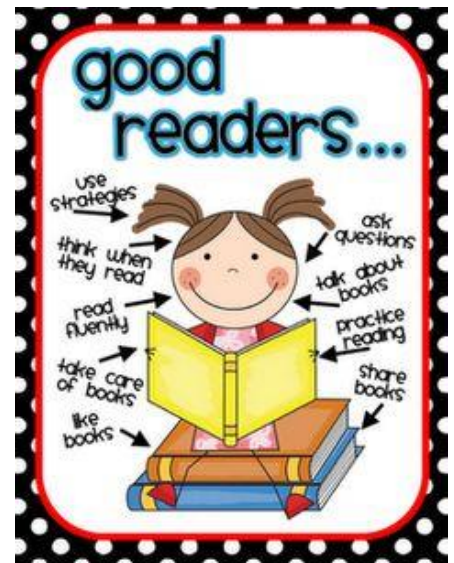
Colney Heath Primary School



# Recommended Crackingly Good Reads

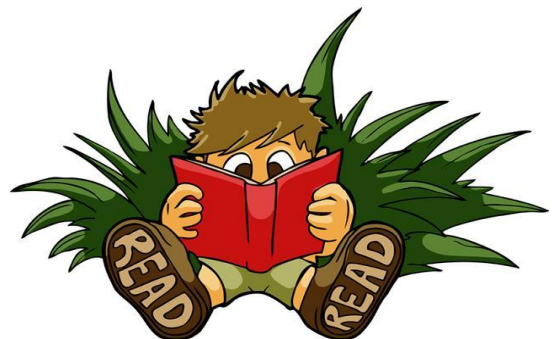
## Stories with Predictable Phrasing

Wolf Won't Bite - Emily Gravett  
Click Clack Moo - Cows That Type, Doreen Cronin & Betsy Lewin  
Penguin - Polly Dunbar  
Handa's Surprise - Eileen Browne  
Fortunately, Unfortunately - Michael Foreman  
My Granny Went To Market : A round - the - world  
counting rhyme, Stella Blackstone  
We All Went On Safari : A Counting Journey through  
Tanzania - Laurie Krebs and Julia Cairns  
Handa's Hen - Eileen Browne  
One Smiling Grandma: Caribbean Counting Book - Ann  
Marie Linden and Lynne Russell  
This Is the Tree - Miriam Moss  
Unfortunately - Alan Durant and Simon Rickerty  
Monkey and Me - Emily Gravett  
We're Going on a Bear Hunt - Michael Rosen  
We're Going on a Lion Hunt - David Axtell  
Over on the Farm - Christopher Gunson

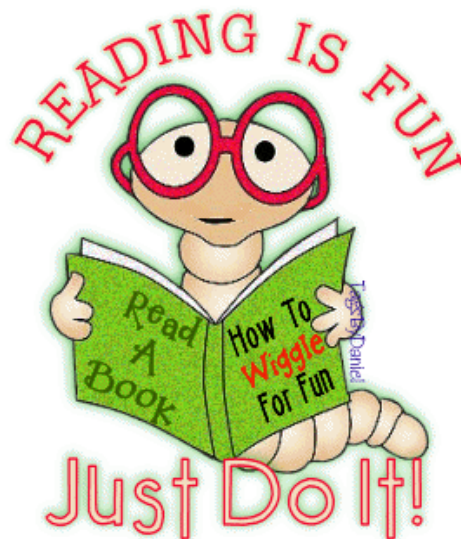


## Contemporary Fiction - Stories Reflecting Children's Own Experience

Billy's Bucket - Kes Gray  
Where's My Teddy? - Jez Alborough  
Owl Babies - Martin Waddell  
Knuffle Bunny - Mo Willems  
Six Dinner Sid - Inga Moore  
Naughty Bus - Jan and Jerry Oke  
Do You Know What Grandad Did? - Brian Smith  
Mr Davies and the Baby - Charlotte Voake  
I Don't Want To (and others) - Bel Mooney  
Something Special - Nicola Moon  
The Most Obedient Dog In The World - Anita Jeram  
Nothing - Mick Inkpen  
Tales of Trotter Street (and others) - Shirley Hughes



Dogger - Shirley Hughes  
Amazing Grace - Mary Hoffman  
Clever Sticks - Bernard Ashley  
Bens Baby - Michael Foreman

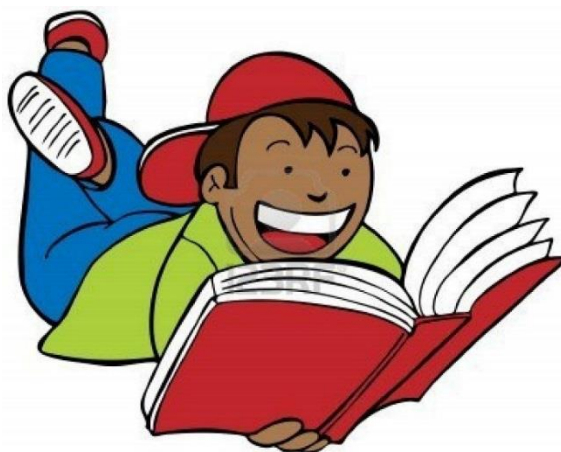


### Traditional tales - Fairy Tales

The Gingerbread Boy - Ian Beck  
Goldilocks and the Three Bears - Ian Beck  
Little Red Riding Hood - Ian Beck  
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters - John Steptoe  
Jamil's Clever Cat: a folktale from Bengal - Fiona French  
The Willow Pattern Story - Alan Drummond  
Once Upon a Time - Nick Sharratt  
The Three Billy Goats Gruff - Nick Sharratt and Stephen Tucker  
The Teddy Robber - Ian Beck  
The Ugly Duckling - Ian Beck  
Twice Upon a Time Series - Rose Impey  
The Great Big Enormous Turnip - Alexei Tolstoy and Helen Oxenbury  
The Tiger Child: A folk tale from India - Joanna Troughton  
The Jolly Postman - Janet and Allan Ahlberg  
The Paper Bag Princess - Robert Munsch  
The Boy Who Cried Wolf - Tony Ross  
Into the Forest - Anthony Browne  
Guess who's coming for dinner? - John Kelly  
Little Red - A fizzingly good yarn - Lynne Roberts  
Little Chicken Chicken - David Martin  
Jasper's Beanstalk - Nick Butterworth

### Stories with Recurring Literary Language

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown - Cressida Cowell  
Meerkat Mail - Emily Gravett  
Scaredy Squirrel - Melanie Watt  
On the Way Home - Jill Murphy  
Once There Were Giants - Martin Waddell  
Stars of Mine - Kevin Crossley-Holland





Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! - Mo Willems  
The smartest giant in town - Julia Donaldson  
Traction Man is here - Mini Grey  
A Dark, Dark Tale - Ruth Brown  
Oi! Get Off Our Train - John Burningham

### Traditional Tales - Myths (Creation Stories)

Just So Stories: How the Leopard Got his Spots (and others in the series) - Shoo Rayner  
How the Whale Became - Ted Hughes (Note: this is a challenging text for year 2)  
Tiddalick the Frog - Susan Nunes  
Ahmed and the Feather Girl - Jane Ray  
How the zebra got its stripes - Justine & Ron Fontes  
How the camel got its hump - Justine & Ron Fontes  
How the turtle got its shell - Justine & Ron Fontes  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why giraffe has a long neck  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why lion ROARRRS!  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why monkeys swing in the trees  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why leopard has spots  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why chameleon changes colour  
Tinga Tinga Tales: why elephant has a trunk  
Aesop's Funky Fables - Vivian French and Korky Paul

