



# 50 GREAT READS

FOR AGES 6-8

## 50 GREAT READS FOR CHILDREN AGED 6-8 COMPILED BY DLR LIBRARIES

DLR Libraries invites you to choose from 200 of the best authors and books for children and teenagers. We have divided them into 4 age categories to help you find the right book for you. There are separate lists for each category, so be sure to look out for other leaflets in this series.

Some of the books are old and loved enough to be called classics, and some are by exciting new writers, but they're all on this list because they are the most borrowed and requested books in the library, so really it's you who have chosen them.

Most of these authors have written other books that you can enjoy too, and some also span several age categories, so when you find a book you particularly enjoy, ask about other titles by the author.

Can't find what you're looking for? Ask a member of staff, we're here to help.

You can also share your reading experiences by having your say on our Library Blog. Send your reviews and comments to [libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie), or let us know if we've missed any books you think should be on the list.

Happy reading!

## AS SEEN ON ...

### › Carroll, Lewis (ill. By Helen Oxenbury): Alice's adventures in Wonderland

Abundantly illustrated, this unabridged version is packed with contemporary and accessible interpretations of the kaleidoscope of characters - the White Rabbit, the Mad Hatter, the Cheshire Cat, the Queen of Hearts - who have each captured the imaginations of generations of children.

### › Dahl, Roald: Charlie and the chocolate factory

An unforgettable masterpiece from the legendary Roald Dahl which never fails to delight, thrill and utterly captivate.

### › Goscinny and Uderzo: Asterix and the big fight

In Roman times Gaul was divided into three parts. No, four parts - for one small village of indomitable Gauls still held out against the invaders. In this, the Romans persuade a Gaulish chief to challenge Vitalstatistix to single combat. One of 34 graphic books featuring Asterix the Gaul.

### › Grahame, Kenneth: The Wind in the willows

Far from fading with time, Kenneth Grahame's classic tale of fantasy has attracted a growing audience in each generation. Rat, Mole, Badger and the preposterous Mr. Toad, have brought delight to many through the years with their odd adventures on and by the river, and at the imposing residence of Toad Hall.

### › Hanford, Martin: Where's Wally?

An activity book that features Wally, along with his friends, who are fiendishly hidden in every scene. Obsessively irresistible.

### › Herge: The Black island (Tintin)

A Tintin adventure that sees our young investigative journalist embarking on a journey that takes him to the British Isles and the mystic Black Island in Scotland.



### › King-Smith, Dick: The Sheep pig

When Babe, the little orphaned piglet, is won at a fair by Farmer Hogget, he is adopted by Fly, the kind-hearted sheep-dog. Babe is determined to learn everything he can from Fly. He knows he can't be a sheep-dog. But maybe, just maybe, he might be a sheep-pig.

### › Murphy, Jill: The Worst witch

Mildred Hubble is the worst witch at Miss Cackle's Academy for Witches - she's always getting her spells wrong. But she manages to get by until she turns Ethel, the teacher's pet, into her deadly enemy . . .

### › Simon, Francesca: Horrid Henry rocks!

Henry returns to follow his dreams of endless biscuits, no school and loud music. Can he outwit Perfect Peter? Will he best Moody Margaret? Can he secure a ticket to see the Killer Boy Rats, or will he be forced to go to the Daffy and her Dancing Daisies concert?

## CLASSIC

### › Blyton, Enid: Good work, Secret Seven

The Secret Seven are on the trail of a dangerous gang, and suddenly they don't feel quite so brave...Have the Seven taken on too much this time? Enid Blyton is one of the best-known and best-loved authors of all time, and over a million of her books are borrowed from libraries each year.

### › Bond, Michael: A bear called Paddington

Paddington has joined Pooh as one of the great bears of English children's literature.

### › Briggs, Raymond: Father Christmas

Father Christmas awakes from his dream of summer in the sun, and there it is on the calendar, December 24th, Christmas Eve - the start of his longest night's work of the year! Winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal.

› Conroy, Don: The Tiger who was a roaring success

Who is making strange noises and leaving big footprints in the woods? Barny Owl and his friends decide to investigate, with some very surprising results. A perennial favourite from Don Conroy, well-known artist and TV personality.

› Edwards, Dorothy: My naughty little sister

My naughty little sister is stubborn and greedy and full of mischief. She tries to cut off the cat's tail and eats all the trifle at Harry's party! How much bother can one little sister be?

› Lindgren, Astrid (ill. By Lauren Child): Pippi Longstocking

Pippi Longstocking is nine years old. She has just moved into Villa Villekulla where she lives all by herself with a horse, a monkey, and a big suitcase full of gold coins. A true children's classic, this edition has quirky illustrations by award-winning children's artist, Lauren Child.

› Thompson, Kaye: Eloise

Eloise lives with her nanny at The Plaza Hotel in New York. The daughter of rich parents, she is left daily to her own devices. She knows everything about The Plaza and everyone in it. Henry James would want to study her, and Queen Victoria would recognise her as an equal.

› Webb, Kaye: I like this poem (Poems)

Highwaymen and naughty children, sharks and baboons, the Snitterjipe and the Jabberwocky, all have their part to play. Each and every poem in this treasure chest of family favourites was chosen by a child for other children, for The International Year of the Child.

› White, E.B.: Charlotte's web

The unforgettable story of a girl called Fern, a pig called Wilbur and a spider called Charlotte, and how they save Wilbur from the usual fate of nice fat pigs!





## REAL LIFE

### › Ahlberg, Allan: Everybody was a baby once (Poems)

Always thoughtful, often funny, Ahlberg's poems are a celebration of being young and eager.

### › Colfer, Eoin: The Legend of Spud Murphy

Will's mother has the brilliant idea of packing Will and his brother Marty off to the library during the holidays. Not only is the library no fun, it's also the habitat of the legendary librarian Spud Murphy. If you put a foot wrong, it's rumoured she will use her dreaded gas-powered spud gun. But eventually Will and Marty discover a love of books and that Mrs Murphy isn't so bad after all!

### › Cottin, Menena: The Black book of colours

Our eyes tell us about colour. But what if you are blind? Can you still know colours? Using simple language and beautiful textured art, this book shows you how to "see" without your eyes.

### › McDonald, Megan: Judy Moody goes to college

Judy Moody doesn't want a private maths tutor, until a cool college student changes her mind - and her attitude. Crucial!

### › McKay, Hilary: Charlie and the big birthday bash

Charlie can't believe his big brother Max hates parties and doesn't want to celebrate his birthday. So Charlie sets out to give him a surprise birthday bash that he'll never forget. The 8th book in this hilarious series.

### › Mason, Simon: The Quigleys

Huge fun and reassuring too, this book shows that even families who drive each other bonkers love each other.



› Riddell, Chris: Ottoline at sea

Ottoline and Mr. Munroe do everything and go everywhere together. That is, until the day Mr. Munroe mysteriously disappears leaving a strange clue written in string... Ottoline sets off on a journey to find her hairy best friend – and bring him back home.

› Rosen, Michael: Michael Rosen's big book of bad things (Poems)

A new poetry collection from one of Britain's greatest children's poets, this will delight readers young and old with Michael's famous sense of humour, wonder and pathos.

› Strong, Jeremy: Doctor Bonkers! (Cosmic pyjamas)

Pyjamas are just pyjamas. Right? Not when they're cosmic pyjamas! Something strange has happened to Rosie and her brothers! Rosie's new pyjamas have led them to a dangerous discovery . . .

› Webb, Sarah: Emma the penguin

The school play is Noah's Ark and Emma wants to be a dog. But the teacher said she has to be a penguin. A penguin! Emma is not pleased. But being a penguin turns out to be good fun after all. A Panda book.

› Wilson, Jacqueline: The Cat mummy

The simply sensational Wilson strikes hard and fast with this story of a feisty little girl coping with the death of a much-loved pet. But, as usual, the wily Wilson doesn't just leave it there: instead she goes on to deliver a graceful and poignant exploration of the close-to-the surface emotions of a family who have never truly recovered from the death of a loved one.

## FANTASY

› Cole, Steve: The Twist of time (Astrosaurs)

The 17th title in Steve Cole's brilliantly funny, exciting Astrosaurs series, starring the most intrepid dinosaurs you'll ever meet in space.

› **Cowell, Cressida: How to break a dragon's heart (Hiccup)**

Hiccup must battle Berserks, dodge Scarers, complete the Impossible Task and save Fishlegs from being fed to the Beast! And all while being hunted down by an old enemy with a dark secret about the Lost Throne. What's a Hero to do?

› **Friel, Maeve: Flying lessons (Witch-in-training)**

Jessica thinks she is an ordinary ten-year-old girl but by the end of this first book in a new series by Irish author Maeve Friel, she is on the way to becoming a very bright young witch!

› **Gliori, Debi: Witch baby and me at school**

Lily is 9. Her sister Daisy is 1. And she's no ordinary baby. Somehow, when she was born, something went rather wrong... and now Daisy is a Witch Baby. Sparkling new series from the popular author.

› **Meadows, Daisy: Ruby the red fairy (Rainbow Fairies)**

When Rachel and Kirsty meet on the ferry to Rainspell Island one summer holiday, they have no idea that such incredible adventures with the fairies await them! In this first book in the series, Rachel and Kirsty meet Ruby the Red Fairy at the end of the rainbow...

› **Mongredien, Sue: Oliver Moon and the monster mystery**

Magical mayhem, hi-jinx and hocus-pocus in the illustrated adventures of Oliver Moon, Junior Wizard - full of gruesome details and extraordinary characters.

› **O'Brien, Joe: Alfie Green and the chocolate cosmos**

Will Budsville's chocolate fair be cancelled? No way, Alfie decides. A wise old plant tells him of the Roaring Rainforest in Arcania where he can collect chocolate seeds. But it won't be easy...





### › Peet, Mal & Graham, Elspeth: Cloud tea monkeys

Tashi lives in a tiny village below the tea plantations where her mother earns a living. One day her mother falls ill, and Tashi must pick tea to earn the money for a doctor. But she is too small to reach the tender shoots and the cruel Overseer sends her away empty-handed. Tashi needs a miracle...

### › Rees, Gwyneth: The Magic princess dress

When Ava enters Marietta's dress shop on the hunt for her missing cat, she has no idea how magical it will be – but before she knows it, she's trying on a beautiful princess bridesmaid dress, only to be whisked away to Fairytale Land. An exciting new series that no little girl will be able to resist.

## FUNNY

### › Davies, Katie: The Great hamster massacre

A twisted tale of dead hamsters and detective-style investigations. First in a new series.

### › Doyle, Roddy: The Giggler treatment

A thoroughly silly, occasionally subversive, periodically tender, completely satisfying read – We expect no less from Mr. Doyle!

### › Fine, Anne: The Killer cat's Christmas

A tale of Tuffy, the Superstar Acting Cat and his owner, Ellie, from the award-winning author.

### › Macdonald, Alan: Oi, Caveboy! (Iggy the Urk)

A very funny book, full of Neanderthal nonsense and primitive puns.

### › Morpurgo, Michael: It's a dog's life

An energetic romp through a dog's busy day on a farm. Russ, the sheepdog, herds sheep and cows and plots against Tigger, the farm cat. When Lula, his master's daughter, gets a special birthday present he worries that she might love it more than him...

- › Moorcroft, Christina: Pie in the sky (Twisters Rhymers)  
Has Simon the Pieman spotted a pie in the sky, or does his wiser wife know better? Twisters Rhyming Stories are a great way of introducing young children to stories with the fun factor of rhyme.
- › Ó Raghallaigh, Colmán: Hé, a Ruairi  
Rí-rá, raic agus ruaille buaille. Sin saol Ruairi in aon abairt amháin. An mbeidh deireadh go deo leis? Ta súil againn nach mbeidh! Trí eachtra eile a chuirfidh gliondar ar léitheoirí óga.
- › Pilkey, Dav: The Adventures of Ook and Gluk, kung-fu cavemen from the future  
A subversive take on time-travel told in a simple black-and-white comic strip from the author of the hilarious Captain Underpants.
- › Rix, Jamie: The Incredible luck of Alfie Pluck  
Alfie is a lovable and inventive hero, and his roller-coaster adventure is a hilarious romp with enough dark humour and clever twists and turns to make this a terrific read.
- › Stanton, Andy: Mr Gum and the cherry tree (Mr. Gum)  
Follow Polly and Friday on another crazy adventure on the streets of Lamonic Bibber. Another funny tale in the Mr Gum series.
- › Stewart, Joel: Dexter Bexley and the big blue beastie on the road  
Dexter Bexley and the Big Blue Beastie have been thrown out of town because of their loud hooting and now they're on the road in search of adventure. And what could be more adventurous than a deep, dark forest, a sleeping beauty and a tap-dancing dragon?
- › Stilton, Geronimo: Down and out down under  
Geronimo needs an idea for his new book, and his friend Petunia Pretty Paws knows just where to find one - in Australia! Geronimo's trip down under is turning out to be a lot more dangerous than he thought - Will he ever get to see New Mouse City again?