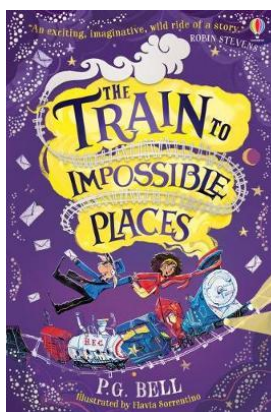


## Education Library Service Recommended Primary Fiction Summer Term 2019



**Bell, P. G.                      The Train to Impossible Places**

Usborne	Pbk	6.99	9781474957410
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

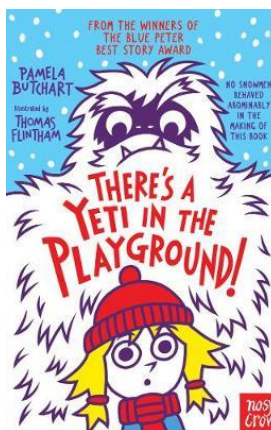
When Suzy hears a strange rattling noise in the middle of the night, she creeps downstairs to find a train roaring through her house. But this is no ordinary train. This is the magical delivery express for The Union of Impossible Places. Whisked onboard by a troll-boy called Wilmot, Suzy's world is turned upside down when she's given the job of delivering a cursed package to the fearsome sorceress, Lady Crepuscula. Then the mysterious package begs not to be delivered! Suzy helps to save the Impossible Places. An adventure with unique plot and characters, baddies and trolls!



**Bilan, Jasbinder                      Asha and the spirit bird**

Chicken house	Pbk	6.99	9781911490197
Interest age:	9+	Reading age:	9+

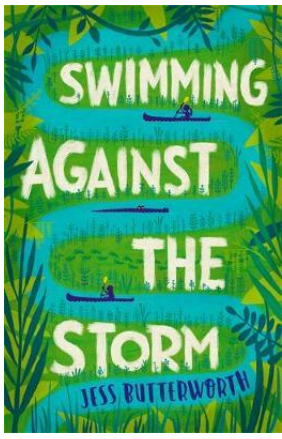
Asha lives in the foothills of the Himalayas. Money is tight and she misses her papa who works in the city. When he stops sending his wages, a ruthless moneylender ransacks their home. Asha makes a pact with her best friend, Jeevan, to find her father and make things right. But the journey to the city is fraught with danger and they face hunger, tiredness, tigers and ruthless people who prey on children. But Asha believes she is guided by her grandmother's spirit in the form of a great eagle which gives her courage. Excellent quest story with very good characterisation that could be enjoyed by either gender. Short chapters and well paced narrative draw the reader along. Lots of detail about Indian culture and life.



**Butchart, Pamela                      There's A Yeti in the Playground**

Nosy Crow	Pbk	6.99	9781788001168
Interest age:	7+	Reading age:	8+

Izzy and her Year 4 friends fear there is a yeti in their playground when they are snowed in at school by the Beast from the East  
A fast paced easy to read humorous story, great for RFP and early readers.

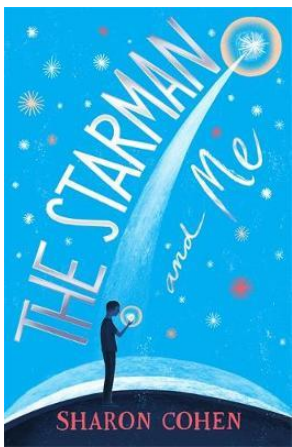


**Butterworth, Jess**      **Swimming against the tide**

Hachette      Pbk      6.99      9781510105485  
Interest age:      9+      Reading age:      9+

Twelve-year-old Eliza and her younger sister Avery live in a small fishing village on the coast of Louisiana, alongside the beautiful habitat and wildlife. But the sea level is rising, and their home is at risk of being swept away. Attempting to save their land Eliza and her younger sister Avery secretly go searching in the swamp for the dangerous, wolf-like loup-garou, believing that if they find his legendary creature the government will have to protect its habitat - and their community. However, Avery goes off on her own just as a tropical storm is approaching ...

Usual Jess Butterworth well-written style with detail to the habitat and animals and a compelling read.

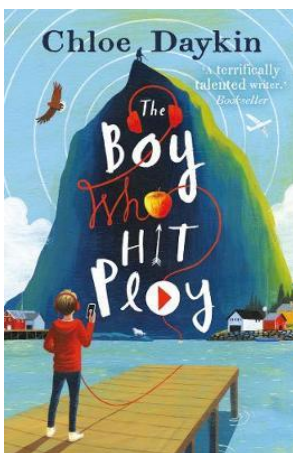


**Cohen, Sharon**      **The Starman and Me**

Quercus      Pbk      6.99      9781786540089  
Interest age:      10+      Reading age:      10+

Twelve-year-old Kofi first spots the prehistoric human on a supermarket roundabout. His name is Rorty Thrutch and he has no memory of how he ended up in the unexceptional village of Bradborough, or why he's being hunted. Rorty has been fitted with a couple of chips which have been developed by Kofi's dad, and are supposed to help people move things using the power of their mind. Rorty seems to have taken this several steps further. He can copy, paste and delete objects completely. This is the discovery of the century and mad, greedy scientists will stop at nothing to track him down. Kofi and his best friend Janie are on a mission. Not only must they protect Rorty, but they have to find his missing girlfriend Pogsy Blue, too. This proves more dangerous than they imagined, as they need to convince the class thug Sumo to help them, while making sure they don't get beaten to a pulp by his scary stepdad.

Good characterisation, although some of the scientific detail may be off-putting.



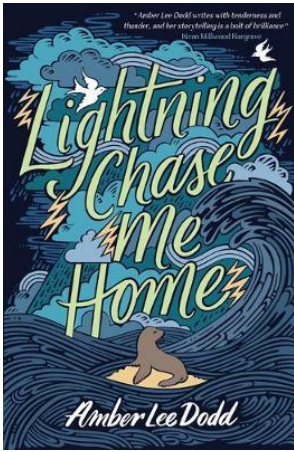
**Daykin, Chloe**      **The Boy who Hit Play**

Faber and      Pbk      6.99      9780571326785  
Faber  
Interest age:      10+      Reading age:      10+

Elvis Crampton Lucas was left at the zoo as a baby. On his twelfth birthday he sets out to discover why.

So begins an epic road trip with his rescuer-now-dad and their apple-loving friend, Lloyd Partington. Together they must venture across a wild, icy land on a journey of cinnamon buns, shadow avoidance and discovery.

An interesting adventure story, slightly different to the norm. Characters are well drawn. Chapters are very short and text quite large, making the book more accessible to the less committed reader, but challenging in concept.



**Dodd, Amber Lee      Lightning chase me home**

Scholastic      Pbk      6.99      9781407191652  
 Interest age:      9+      Reading age:      9+

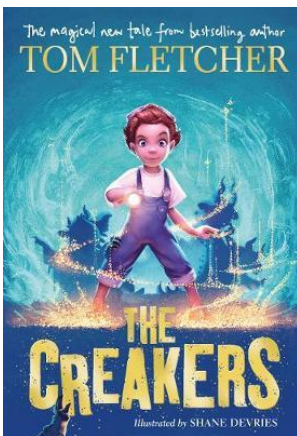
Amelia Hester McLeod is named after two of her mum's favourite explorers. Two amazing, fearless, awesome women: Amelia Earhart and Lady Hester Stanhope. But Amelia herself doesn't always feel very brave or very bright. She lives on the tiny Scottish island of Dark Muir. Her mum has walked out on her, so after years of being home schooled, she's about to start at a whole new, scary school. On her 11th birthday, following island tradition she sails out to the Serpent's Tooth Rock and makes a wish to find her mum. She doesn't realise that every so often, the rock grants a wish, but at a price. The rock keeps making Amelia disappear and then reappearing somewhere close to things that belonged to her mother. Unfortunately, the class bully has seen Amelia disappear and is now making her life miserable, and Amelia's wish is threatening the life of everyone on the island. Is finding her mum worth it?  
 An exciting story which has a convincing main character, and a satisfying ending, which isn't too predictable.



**Fayers, Claire      Storm Hound**

Macmillan      Pbk      6.99      9781509895045  
 Interest age:      8+      Reading age:      9+

Storm of Odin is the latest member of the Wild Hunt which chases storms across the skies, led by the god Odin. On his first hunt, Storm finds he can't keep up with the pack and he falls from the sky. He lands on a Welsh moor full of sheep who let him know in no uncertain terms, that as part of the Wild Hunt he may be scary, but on earth he is nothing more than a cute puppy. Storm is adopted by 12 -year- old Jessie who has just moved to Wales from London after her parents split up. When 3 strange professors come to her school, and also a new boy who isn't quite what he seems, Jessie realises that her new puppy is going to need her protection, but she's not quite sure what from, or why.  
 An amusing story with a very likeable central character and just the right amount of danger and magic.



**Fletcher, Tom      The creakers**

Penguin      Pbk      6.99      9780141388847  
 Interest age:      9+      Reading age:      9+

One morning, Lucy discovers that all the grown-ups in her town have disappeared and the children are causing mayhem. She sets out with her new friend Norman to find out what is going on. In the process she makes the startling discovery that there are monsters under the bed; creakers. The creakers creep out every night to take the town's rubbish, but now they have stolen the adults and taken them to their underground lair. Can Lucy rescue the adults and save the town?  
 Fun fantasy adventure with an engaging central female character. Characterisation and overall narrative quality is good, with a very strong authorial voice that will probably add to the entertainment of children, but some teachers might find tiresome.



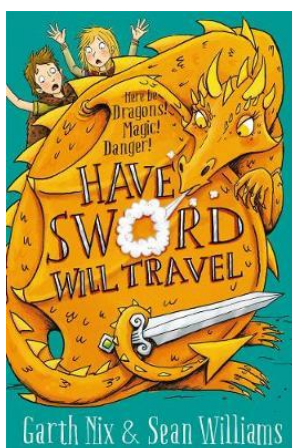
**French, Vivian**

**Tom & Tallulah and the Witches' feast**

Walker Pbk 5.99 9781406371017  
 Interest age: 7+ Reading age: 8+

Tallulah is an apprentice witch. She has been turning up late for meetings and has now been told that if she fails in her task of supplying a feast for all the witches, she will be thrown out of the charmed circle. She wants to become a witch so that she can help her grandmother who seems to be under a spell. With the help of her brother, a witch's crow and a hungry cat, she manages to break the spell on her grandmother and be accepted into the circle as a witch.

Light read with b/w illustrations.



**Nix, Garth & Williams, Sean**

**Have sword will travel**

Piccadilly Pbk 6.99 9781848126527  
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 10+

Eleanor is desperate to be a knight, unlike her best friend Odo. So when they find a talking sword in a dried-up river, Eleanor is ready to be knighted and go on a quest to save the kingdom and defeat the dragon who has dried up the river. But the sword insists that Odo is the knight, and Eleanor his squire, and so their journey begins, where they learn what it means to be a knight, right wrongs and uphold the weak and helpless. Brilliant adventure tale for both boys and girls that would make a super group read. Very well-written narrative with plenty of archaic language, yet is very easy to read. First in series.

NOTE: some mild violence, but appropriate to the reading age and context.



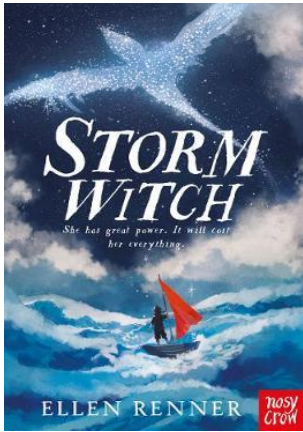
**Oppel, Kenneth**

**Inkling**

Walker Pbk 6.99 9781406380583  
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 10+

When Ethan's class is given the task of creating a graphic novel and magical ink jumps out of his father's sketchbook, a strange series of events is set into motion. To his Down's younger sister, Inkling is Lucy, her beloved dog; to his father, Inkling is a second chance at a dwindling career and a chance to solve his family's money worries. Friends and enemies alike try to use Inkling to ace tests and create bestselling comic books, but to Ethan, Inkling is his friend - and he must do everything in his power save him.

Great characters and a meaty magic story. Lots of humour - Inkling's personality reflects the stories he is devouring to supply him with ink, so he speaks like the BFG or Anne of Green Gables! Loved the idea of reading reflecting knowledge and affecting personality. Good for group reads.



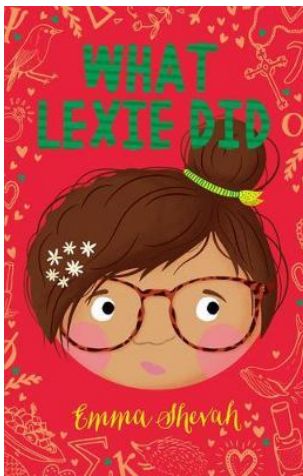
**Renner, Ellen**

**Storm Witch**

Nosy crow	Pbk	6.99	9780857636409
Interest age:	10+	Reading age:	10+

Storm is 13 and has always been different. She has a boy's name, a strange fear of water and everyone says her family is cursed. But her arrows fly so straight and true, it's as if they're helped by great magic. The island Elders decide to train Storm as a Sea Witch after all the Elemental spirits choose Storm for their own at a special initiation ceremony. But can Storm develop her skills to save her people from attack by the Drowned Ones?

Gripping adventure with a magical element for girl readers. Good characterisation and convincing world building. Some violence but not graphically described and appropriate to the reading age. First in a new series.

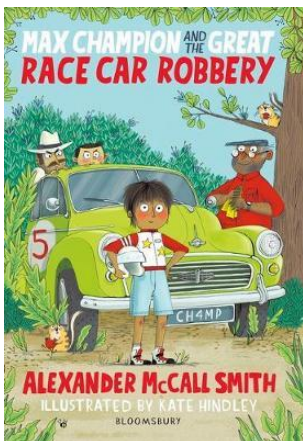


**Shevah, Emma**

**What Lexie Did**

Chicken House	Pbk	6.99	9781910655467
Interest age:	8+	Reading age:	9+

10-year old Lexie is part of a large Greek-Cypriot family living in London. The family is very close, none more so than Lexie and her cousin Eleni who sit next to each other at school and spend most of their free time together. Eleni was born with heart problems, and Lexie has always been protective towards her. However, when a new girl, Anastasia, befriends Eleni, Lexie is extremely jealous and gets Anastasia into trouble. Things get worse when their grandmother dies, and Lexie, albeit with good intentions, lies about a family heirloom. A rift develops in the family and Lexie isn't allowed to talk to Eleni, who has moved to another school. Lexie blames herself for the rift and is determined to find a way to bring the family back together, even if it means getting herself into trouble. Light-hearted multicultural read with a likeable main character. One for the girls.



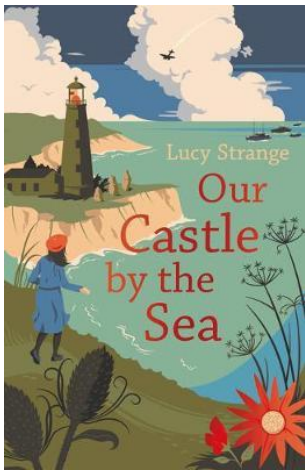
**Smith, Alexander  
McCall**

**Max Champion and the great race car robbery**

Bloomsbury	Pbk	5.99	9781408886120
Interest age:	7+	Reading age:	8

When Max finds an old car that has his last name - Champion - on the bonnet, he learns that his grandfather used to make some of the best cars around - and race them! That is, until his ideas book and his favourite car, Arabella, were stolen by greedy rival Mr Grabber. Can Max find a way to get back what Grandfather Gus lost? And will Arabella ever be seen again?

Simple moral story for young children with likable main character who rights a wrong.



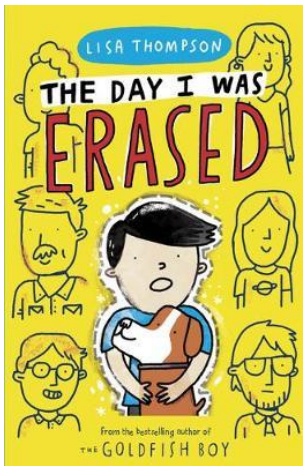
**Strange, Lucy**

**Our Castle by the Sea**

Chicken House Pbk 6.99 9781911077831  
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 10+

Follows the events of Pet's family, who is 12 and lives in a lighthouse on the Kent coast at the outbreak of the Second World War. Mags is her older sister and is feisty, whereas Pet can't move when she is frightened. They live with their lighthouse keeper father and German mother. The war tears the family apart as Pet's Mum is sent to an internment camp. The authorities think she has been passing secrets to the enemy, but Pet and Mags know it is not her and aim to find out the real culprit. But they find out a lot more than they bargained for.

A well-written and compelling story which grabs the reader.



**Thompson, Lisa**

**The Day I was Erased**

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9781407185125  
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Eleven-year-old Maxwell is always in trouble. He's a menace to neighbours and teachers. He was banned from the school ball and turns off the school's electricity. Yet the reader can't help but like him. While visiting an elderly neighbour, Maxwell comes across a mysterious cabinet of curiosities and suddenly finds himself erased from his life: it's as if he's never existed. Now he can walk around anonymously yet comes to realise he misses his old life. Maxwell needs to find a way to reverse his erasure, with the help of his best friend Charlie and his sister Bex, who need persuading that this weird kid they've never clapped eyes on is known to them in his former life.

Appealing concept with the lively main character offering moments of humour and poignancy. Easy to read and well written, useful for reading groups.

NB Page 20 use of word "f\*rt"

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