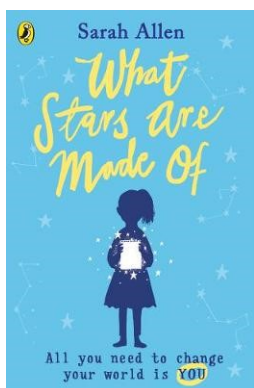


Education Library Service Recommended Primary Fiction Spring Term 2021

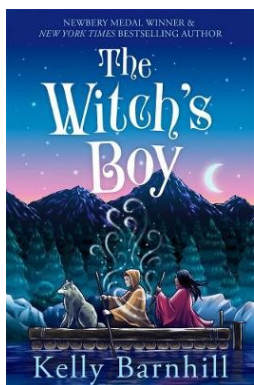


Allen, Sarah

What stars are made of

Penguin	Pbk	6.99	9780241427965	
Interest age:	9+		Reading age:	9+

Libby is a 12 year old American girl who has Turner Syndrome. Libby is interested in science and her hero is Cecilia Payne, an underrated astronomer, who she uses as her inspiration when she enters a competition to win the prize money to help her sister. A wonderful story set in the USA. Libby's character is warm and thoughtful, and she shows perseverance and resilience as well as a positive view of her disability.

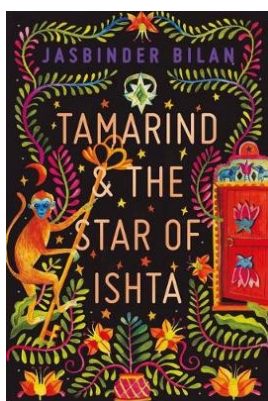


Barnhill, Kelly

The witch's boy

Piccadilly	Pbk	6.99	9781848129351	
Interest age:	10+		Reading age:	10+

When Ned and his twin brother tumble from their raft into a raging river, only Ned survives. The villagers are convinced the wrong boy lived. But when a Bandit King comes to steal the magic Ned's mother, a witch, is meant to protect, it's Ned who safeguards the magic and summons the strength to protect his family and community. Meanwhile, across the enchanted forest that borders Ned's village lives Aine, the resourceful and pragmatic daughter of the Bandit King, who believes she can save him from himself and turn him back to good. When Ned and Aine's paths cross, can they trust each other long enough to stop the war that's about to boil over between their two kingdoms? Excellent and compelling fantasy adventure, with very good believable world building, and superb relatable characters. A very enjoyable read for either gender, but requires some emotional maturity as there are character deaths, some age-appropriate violence and some exploration of loss.

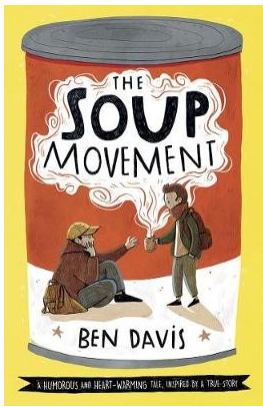


Bilan, Jasbinder

Tamarind & the star of Ishta

Chicken House	Pbk	6.99	9781913322175	
Interest age:	9+		Reading age:	9+

Tamarind grew up in England and never knew her Indian mum, Chinty, who died soon after she was born. So when her dad sends her to stay at her ancestral home, a huge mansion in the Himalayas surrounded by luxuriant gardens, she's full of questions for her extended family who she's never met before. But instead of answers, she finds an ominous silence - and a trickle of intriguing clues: an abandoned hut, a friendly monkey, a glowing star ring, and a strange girl in the garden who calls herself Ishta. Slowly, Tamarind unravels a mystery at the heart of who she is. This is a compelling family story with a strong sense of place covering themes of belonging, loss and reconciliation.

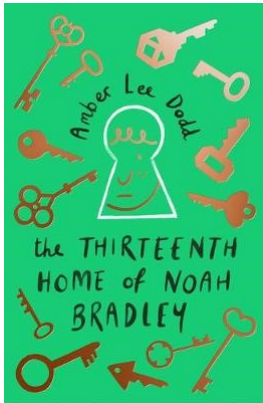


Davis, Ben

The soup movement

OUP Pbk 6.99 9780192749239
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

Jordan has recently recovered from Cancer and moved to a small town. He has found the move hard and it is difficult to make new friends at school. He doesn't want tell anyone about his illness, but still has very vivid memories of his time in hospital and his friendship with Rio, another Cancer patient. Whilst he was in hospital, Jordan makes a pact with Rio to perform 'mitzvahs' (good deeds) wherever possible. This is how the 'Soup Movement' starts, with one small act of kindness. A very moving, inspiring, intensely emotional, spiritual, heart-warming and also humorous story.

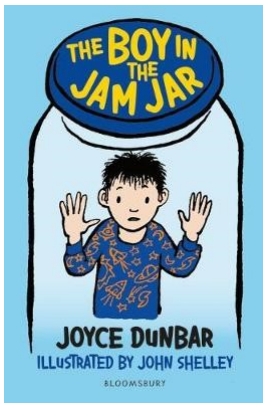


Dodd, Amber Lee

The thirteenth home of Noah Bradley

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9781407189444
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

The Bradley family are under a centuries old curse which keeps them moving home and Noah moving school. They have just moved to their thirteenth house and Noah desperately wants this one to work out as he has some good friends at school and wants himself and his deaf brother Billy to put down roots. But the curse returns, so can Noah find a way to break it? A fast paced, mystery, family and adventure story. Good characterisation and deals well with contemporary issues of friendship, bullying and resilience.



Dunbar, Joyce

The boy in the jam jar

Bloomsbury Pbk 6.99 9781472973931
 Interest age: 7+ Reading age: 7+

Dylan's hearing deteriorates and he feels excluded and different, which he doesn't like. However, he learns to cope with his disability and even becomes a hero. A simple story which encourages empathy.

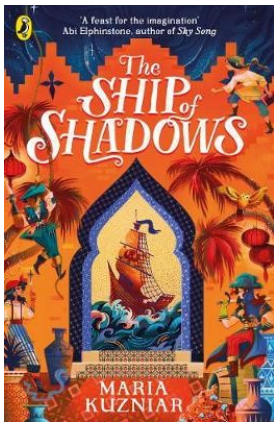


Green, Julia

The children of Swallow Fell

OUP Pbk 6.99 9780192771582
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

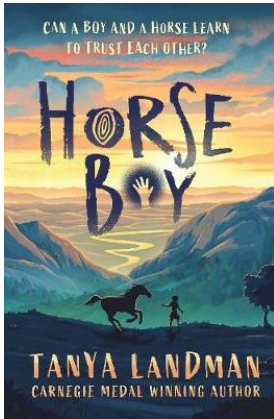
Isabella lives with her family in an Italian city, but everything changes when they are bombed and it seems war is coming. She and her father travel to the house where he grew up in the north of England, where life is wild and she must adapt to a very different way with no electricity, shops or phone signal. There she meets Rowan and Kelda who are survivors of a sickness which has swept the land, and so live hidden from the world, looking after themselves and surviving off the land. When Isabella's Dad fails to return from a shopping trip, the children have to learn to survive together. A compelling, well-written story which may resonate particularly at this time.



Kuzniar, Maria The ship of shadows

Penguin Pbk 7.99 9780241372913
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

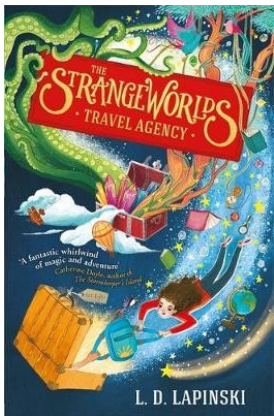
Aleja lives in the Spanish port of Seville and dreams of being an explorer, but of course girls can't do that. But her life is changed forever when the pirate captain of the fabled Ship of Shadows rescues Aleja from being wrongly accused of being a thief. Once on board the Ship Aleja meets the band of ruthless women who are it's crew, but also begins to discover that there is magic and mystery here, and soon is embroiled in a quest to North Africa to search for clues to a lost city in the Sahara and a magical map which will point to untold riches. Will Aleja want to become part of the crew or return home to Spain? Super swashbuckling adventure tale with engaging characters, easy to read with plenty of chases and scrapes to keep the reader's interest. Some violence alluded to, but age appropriate.



Landman, Tanya Horse boy

Walker Pbk 6.99 9781406377583
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

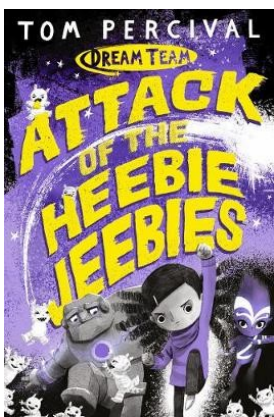
Oak, son of the Deer clan chief, hopes that this summer he will finally be allowed to join the hunt and make his father proud. When the clan finally go hunting a strange new creature, horse, Oak accidentally ends up pitching over the waterfall with a young stallion, and so begins an unlikely friendship and a dangerous journey to find home and herd. Compelling easy to read story told in short chapters which has excellent world building. Oak is a very well drawn relatable character. Very good evocation of early Neolithic times and fans of Michelle Paver will enjoy it. Some violence associated with hunting but age appropriate.



Lapinski, L D The strange worlds travel agency

Orion Pbk 6.99 9781510105942
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

When 12-year-old Flick Hudson accidentally ends up in the Strangeworlds Travel Agency, she uncovers a fantastic secret that there are hundreds of other worlds just steps away from ours. All you have to do to visit them is jump into the right suitcase. Then Flick is invited to join this magical travel society and go exploring. A fantastic fantasy, magical adventure story , reminiscent of many children's classics such as Enid Blyton, E Nesbit and J K Rowling.



Percival, Tom Attack of the Heebie Jeebies

Macmillan Pbk 6.99 9781529029154
 Interest age: 8+ Reading age: 8+

Erika is fed up with her parents fussing over her baby brother and gets so angry one night that she falls asleep still feeling angry. This means she is targeted by an Angermare in the Dreamscape. She is helped by the Dream Team, an odd assortment of strange characters, who help her manage her anger and defeat the Angermare. Accompanied by black and purple illustrations throughout, this is an adventure with a good underlyingly message.

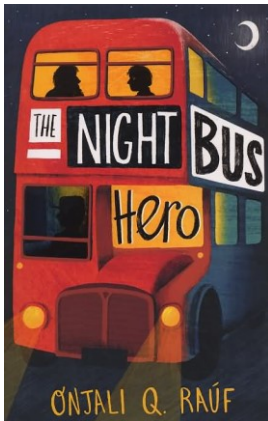


Rai, Bali

Mohinder's war

Bloomsbury	Pbk	6.99	9781472958372	
Interest age:	10		Reading age:	9

Set in occupied France in WW2, Joelle's parents are part of the French Resistance. One day she discovers Mohinder Singh, an injured RAF pilot after his plane has crashed and who is being hunted by the Nazis. Her parents hide him but they are betrayed and killed. So, Joelle and Mo are now on their own and must try to keep safe and help each other. A moving and action-packed story with great characters.

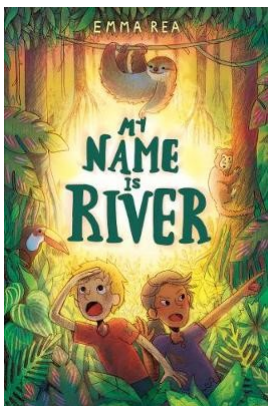


Rauf, Onjali Q

The night bus hero

Hachette	Pbk	6.99	9781510106772	
Interest age:	9		Reading age:	9

Hector is a bully and always gets the blame at his school, even when he's innocent, as the teacher's think he's a lost cause. One day he goes to the park and picks on a homeless man but gets more than he bargained for. Gradually Hector begins to feel remorse as he learns about the plight of the homeless, and soon discovers a way to be a hero and show he has changed and put things right. Well written and compelling story which is uplifting as it shows that everyone has the potential to change.



Rea, Emma

My name is river

Firefly	Pbk	6.99	9781913102142	
Interest age:	9+		Reading age:	9+

Dylan loves living on his family's farm, but overhears his parents saying they will have to leave as it's been sold to a global company. He decides to travel to the company HQ in Brazil with his friend Floyd to try to change their mind. The boys travel into the Amazon accompanied by Lucia, a street child they befriend and uncover dark and dangerous secrets. A romp of an adventure into the rainforest, which is totally implausible but great leisure reading.

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