

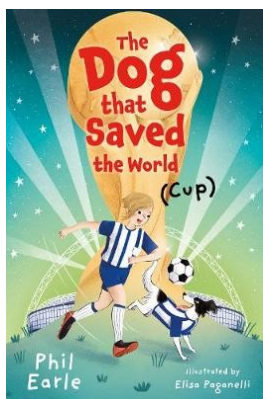
## Education Library Service Recommended Primary Fiction Autumn Term 2021



**Bethell, Zillah      The Shark Caller**

Usborne      Pbk    7.99    9781474966849  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:      9+

On the island of Papua New Guinea, Blue Wing is desperate to become a shark caller to avenge the death of her parents from a shark attack. But instead she is tasked with befriending Maple, a young American girl who is mourning the death of her mother. Maple's father has come to the island to apparently study coral, but the girls are each suspicious of his activities as well as each other. Can the two girls overcome their differences and work together to help Maple's father, and perhaps overcome their own grief and anger? Immersive narrative with a surprising and satisfying conclusion. Would suit a thoughtful reader well.



**Earle, Phil,                      The dog that saved the world (cup)**

Barrington      Pbk    6.99    9781781129685  
Stoke  
Interest age:    8+                      Reading age:      8+

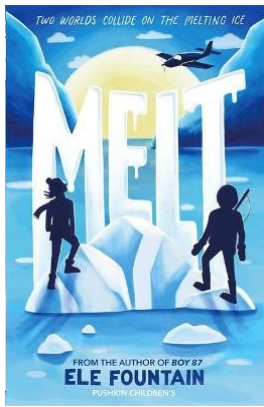
Elsie and her dog Pickles love playing football. When the World Cup is held at Wembley, Elsie's team are picked to play a match at half-time in the final, but her dad is worried how he can afford her new kit. Then the World Cup trophy is stolen and the competition is in jeopardy. Can Pickles find the trophy and save the day? Short easy to read story, narrated by Pickles who makes an engaging character.



**Edge, Christopher      Space Oddity**

Chicken              Pbk    6.99    9781912626861  
House  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:      10+

An exciting adventure involving UFOs, killer robots, space aliens and more but it is also a story of family life and friendship. Simultaneously asking the wider question of 'Are we alone in the Universe?' Written in a very accessible style with black and white illustrations.



**Fountain, Ele Melt**

Pushkin Pbk 7.99 9781782692881  
 press  
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

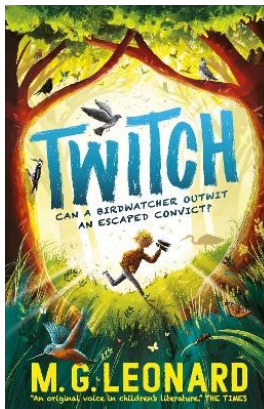
Yutu lives in a remote Arctic village with his grandma, but global warming is causing the snow and ice to melt faster, which threatens their way of life, and finally puts Yutu in danger. Bea is trying, yet again, to adapt to a new school as her family move often with her father's job. But, her father starts to act oddly, so when he invites her to come with him on a business trip to the Arctic she grabs the opportunity. The two children are then thrown together in a race for survival and to uncover what is happening with Bea's Dad. Exciting story with a dual narrative which is very effective, good characters and strong environmental message.



**Fowler, Gemma City of Rust**

Chicken House Pbk 6.99 9781910655436  
 Interest age: 10+ Reading age: 10+

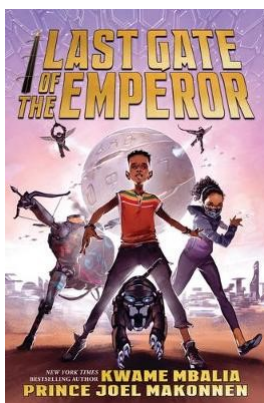
Railey lives a tough life in the city of Boxville with her gran and a bio-robotic gecko called Atti. Railey is determined to win a big drone race, but to do this she needs Atti to illegally pilot the drone. When she is discovered cheating and runs away, she is rescued by Junkers who mine space rubbish. But she soon discovers she is needed in a race against time to save the earth. A gripping dystopian novel with well developed characters which should appeal to both boys and girls.



**Leonard, M. G. Twitch**

Walker Pbk 7.99 9781406389371  
 Interest age: 9 Reading age: 9

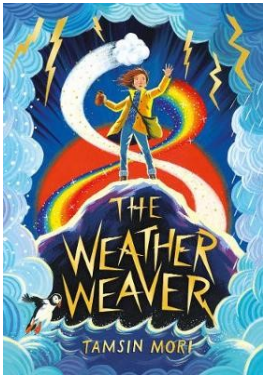
Twitch loves birds and has a passion for bird spotting. He's built a hide at a local nature spot but arrives there one day to find police everywhere. A robber has broken out of prison and is on the run and believed to be hiding in the locality. However, Twitch and his friends soon discover all is not as it seems. Very readable mystery tale.



**Mbalia, Kwame Last gate of the emperor**

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9780702307089  
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

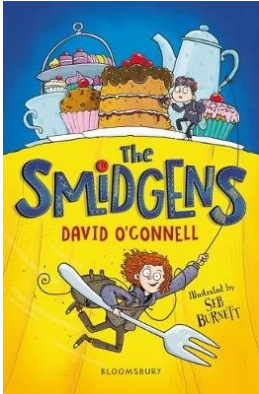
Yared lives on a backwater planet, in the ramshackle city of Addis Prime. His Uncle Moti is always moving them around for security so his only friend is a bionic lioness they built together. He has also filled Yared's head with tales of the intergalactic empire of Axum which is under threat from the sinister forces of the Werari. This all seems like fairy tales until one day when Yared bunks of school to play the underground augmented reality game The Hunt for Kaleb's Obelisk, of which he is a smart-mouthed reckless star, he discovers to his horror the tales he's heard come to life. He then has a race against time with a fellow rival gamer in tow, so save his family and his planet. Fast paced scifi adventure with entertaining central characters. The first person narrative immediately hooks the reader with a sassy style. Good world building and plenty of plot twists to keep the reader engaged. Super leisure fun.



**Mori, Tamsin      The weather weaver**

Uclan                      Pbk    7.99    9781912979455  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:    9+

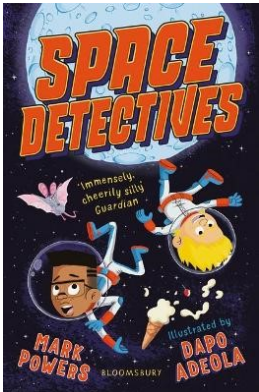
Stella has returned home to Shetland to spend the summer with her Grandpa, but it's nothing like she remembers. Grandpa is lost in his grief for Gran, the island is bleak and Stella feels trapped, until she encounters an old woman, Tamar, who can spin rainbows and call hurricanes. With the help of her very own feisty young storm cloud, Stella begins to learn the craft of weather weaving. But she soon realises that magic comes with big responsibilities, and there is a witch conjuring a storm which will take all Stella's heart and courage to face. Exciting magical adventure with an unusual premise, but a well-drawn central character who is very relatable. Very good world building and good sense of claustrophobia and increasing tension in the plot that keeps the reader hooked.



**O'Connell, David      The Smidgens**

Bloomsbury    Pbk    6.99    9781526607768  
Interest age:    8+                      Reading age:    9+

Gafferty Sprout is a Smidgen. She and her family look exactly like humans but are only 3 inches tall. They live in a quiet corner of a factory, and Gafferty is forbidden to explore outside as it's too dangerous. However, when she finds a map suggesting there are other Smidgens also living in the city, she sets off to explore. But her younger brother is then captured by a witch, and suddenly Gafferty needs the help of other Smidgens, if only she can find them. Modern day "Borrowers" with likeable characters and enough jeopardy to keep the reader interested.



**Powers, Mark      Space Detectives**

Bloomsbury    Pbk    6.99    9781526603180  
Interest age:    8                      Reading age:    8+

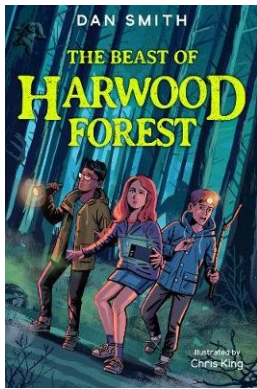
Connor and Ethan are living on the world's first orbiting city, Starville, where celebrities and the mega-rich have their homes. Whilst the boys are working selling ice cream, they fancy themselves as amateur detectives. When they discover the space station is on a collision course with the moon, they have to get involved and try and save the day. A romp of a story set in space which would be great for reading for pleasure. Illustrated by Dapo Adeola.



**Sherrick, Ally      The Queen's Fool**

Chicken                      Pbk    6.99    9781912626151  
House  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:    10+

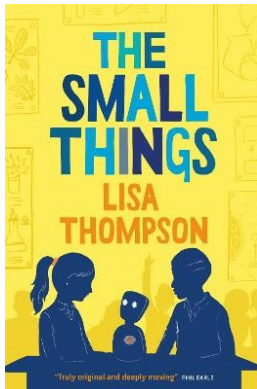
During the reign of King Henry VIII, Cat Sparrow's sister Meg is suddenly whisked away from their convent home by a mysterious man in black and Cat rushes off in to the unknown outside world to find her. But Cat is an innocent with a unique view of the world and vulnerable. Fortunately, she is rapidly befriended by a young Frenchman called Jacques and together they embark on a journey to London, and then to France in search of Meg and are soon plunged in to a dangerous world of intrigue and plotting against the English crown. Excellent historical drama with plenty of exciting plot twists and jeopardy to keep the reader hooked. Sensitive and intelligent portrayal of disability.



**Smith, Dan                      The Beast of Harwood Forest**

Barrington       Pbk    6.99    9781781129876  
Stoke  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:        9+

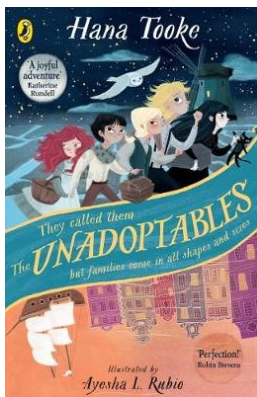
When Pete, Nancy and Krish arrive at Heathland Camp for a school trip, Pete is intrigued by the abandoned Harwood Institute nearby. When he and his friends hear strange screams coming from the surrounding forest at night they go to investigate and make some startling discoveries. Super creepy mild horror tale with relatable characters and a short and pithy plot that would make a good leisure read for either gender.



**Thompson, Lisa                The small things**

Barrington       Pbk    6.99    9781781129647  
Stoke  
Interest age:    8+                      Reading age:        8+

Anna feels she leads a boring life as her parents can't afford for her to do clubs and activities outside school. Anna is then chosen by the teacher to befriend a new classmate, Ellie, who is poorly and cannot physically come to school. Ellie communicates through a robot which can be carried around school. Anna tells lies to Ellie as she thinks this makes her sound interesting, but will she be found out? Well written and easy to read short story which encourages empathy.



**Tooke, Hana                      The Unadoptables**

Puffin                Pbk    7.99    9780241417447  
Interest age:    9+                      Reading age:        9+

In 1886 at the Little Tulip Orphanage in the Netherlands, five babies are each left in very odd circumstances. Twelve years later, the matron is convinced they are 'the unadoptables' as no-one ever wants to adopt them, but they have a strong bond with each other. That is until one night when a most sinister gentleman appears and threatens to tear them apart. The gang decide to make a daring escape, with only a scrap of a clue to guide them to their mysterious new home. Quirky tale with an air of mystery and adventure which could be enjoyed by either gender. The children are relatable, and the mystery and jeopardy keeps the reader's interest.

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