

Education Library Service Primary Best Book List Spring Term 2022



Bishop, Sylvia

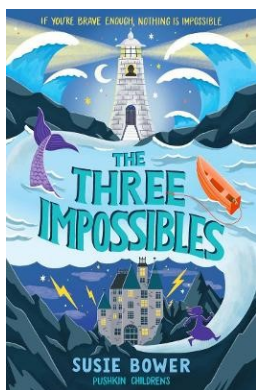
The Midnight Thief

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9780702301483
Interest age: 8+ Reading age: 9+

Freya, the daughter of an explorer finds herself at an exclusive boarding school which has many boring rules, the other girls are mean to her and the head is a frosty character and paragon of virtue.

The story starts with a bat infestation and this is where Freya meets her new friends and partners in 'crime' Daniel and Esmie. The son and daughter of the bat expert. The plot centres around the case of the missing Eldrida Dragons which Freya and her new friends solve.

An exciting and amusing crime, mystery story which is both engaging and satisfying.



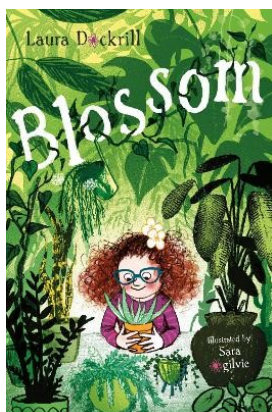
Bower, Susie

The Three Impossible

Pushkin Pbk 7.99 9781782692928
Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

On the day 12 year old Mim was born her mother died, the kingdom was cursed and all the gold turned to lead. Since then she has grown up in her father's castle with only the blacksmith for a friend. Mim has been forbidden from venturing to the Outside, but she has never been able to stop asking questions. When one day her father employs the mysterious and cruel Madame Marionette to train her in the art of being a princess, her curiosity becomes more intense. She soon finds herself on an epic adventure in which she will break all the rules, encounter strange creatures and use all her cunning to solve impossible problems.

Gripping fantasy adventure with a cast of compelling characters. Mim is an irrepressible heroine who reader's will root for, and the twists and turns of the very imaginative plot keep the reader's attention throughout. Very enjoyable roller coaster leisure read. Could be enjoyed by either gender.



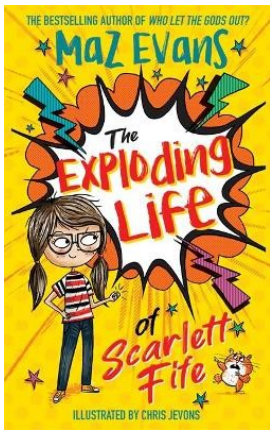
Dockrill, Laura

Blossom

Barrington Pbk 6.99 9781800900233
Stoke
Interest age: 9 Reading age: 9

Blossom lives with her parents who run a plant and flower market stall at the centre of the community, after the death of both her grandparents in the last year. She misses them very much. Her parents are struggling to cope with the stall and have plants from the grandparents' home everywhere! This is getting to Blossom's Mum, who gave up her job to study and do a chemistry degree. Blossom loves all the plants and hopes to run the market stall when she leaves school. She is really worried about her parents splitting up, as she hears them arguing. Blossom helps to find a resolution to the situation.

A lovely warm story which contains themes of family, plants, community and resilience.

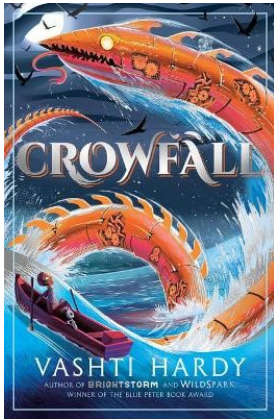


Evans, Maz

The Exploding Life of Scarlett Fife

Hachette Pbk 6.99 9781444957679
 Interest age: 8+ Reading age: 8+

Scarlett Fife struggles to control her anger when things don't go her way at school. No matter how hard she tries to keep her Big Feelings in, they often get her in to big trouble. If she can't get control, she risks missing out on her trip to Mega Awesome Sicky Fun World, the best theme park on the planet. When Scarlett's anger starts to actually make things explode, she begins to see that something must be done. Very feisty character with a good supporting cast of relatable friends and adults. Very well-observed family and school scenarios and a good handling of the issue of anger management whilst maintaining plenty of humour. Would make a fun leisure read, which could also inspire empathy.



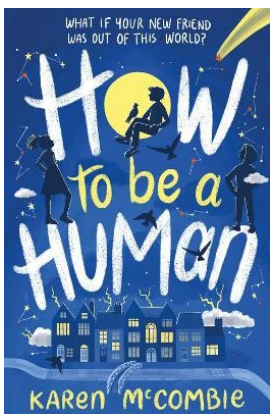
Hardy, Vashti

Crowfall

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9781407197272
 Interest age: 9+ Reading age: 9+

Orin Crowfall has grown up on the island of Ironhold where mechanical technology controls everything, but he has an irrepressible love of nature. When he makes the shock discovery that the Island's leadership are corrupt, he finds himself on the run and adrift in a small boat in the middle of the ocean. But then he and his robot friend Cody reach a green and lush land where people and nature live in harmony. But even here, all is not as it seems, and Orin is desperate to make the dangerous journey home to try and save his family and fellow islanders. Plagued by perilous seas and freak storms, and with a terrifying sea monster on their tail, can Orin and his new friend save his home?

Gripping adventure tale with a strong environmental theme running through it that holds the reader's attention from the first page. Excellent characters that the reader roots for and imaginative interesting world building. Overall would make a super leisure or group read, and could complement discussions about ecology.



McCombie, Karen

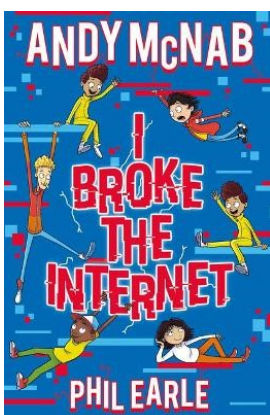
How to be a Human

Little Tiger Pbk 6.99 9781788951098
 Interest age: 10 Reading age: 9

Kiki and Wes are 11 years old. They discover an alien around school and the three become friends. Star Boy's space pod has crashed in the grounds of Fairfield Academy. Here he watches and learns about humans. Star Boy's curiosity grows, and he becomes known to Wes and Kiki and the three become friends and aim to help him not be discovered as an alien at school.

Kiki and Wes come from single parent families and both miss the absent parent. Empathy throughout.

An enjoyable read which is great for Reading for Pleasure.



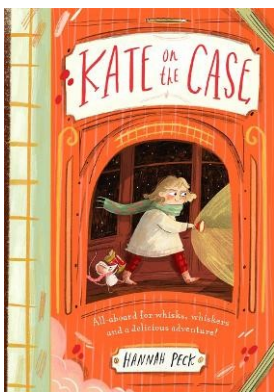
McNab, Andy & Earle, Phil

I Broke the Internet

Scholastic Pbk 6.99 9781407196022
 Interest age: 8+ Reading age: 8+

Follows on from Get me out of here! Perhaps best read in order. This time Danny is the winner of an award celebrating bravery and win a school trip to a holiday resort in Iceland, as he is a celebrity after the class escapades in "Get me out of here" have gone viral. The all-expenses paid holiday is at a luxury hotel and fancy resort with lots of outdoor activities. Danny is suspicious and rightly so, as the owners have ulterior motives.

Style same as previous title, with the odd "F*rt." Humorous light-hearted story and great for reading for pleasure.



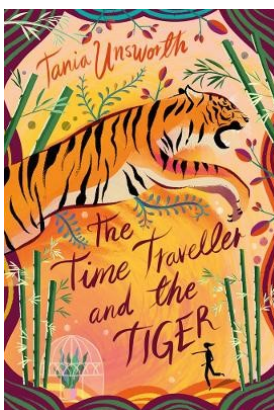
Peck, Hannah

Kate on the Case

Piccadilly Press	Pbk	6.99	9781848129702
Interest age:	6+		Reading age: 7+

Reporter-in-training Kate and her mouse Rupert are on a train to visit Kate's mum in the Arctic. When the train has departed, mysterious things start happening. A packet of ginger nuts, a collection of gymnastics trophies and some ancient scrolls disappear... Who will be the culprit behind the missing things?

Pacey read with lots going on and use of rich language. Characters are very likeable. Illustrations throughout.



Tania Unsworth

The Time Traveller and the Tiger

Zephyr	Pbk	7.99	9781788541718
Interest age:	9+		Reading age: 9+

Elsie is not looking forward to the long summer holidays with her old Uncle John. She wants adventure! The extraordinary happens and Elsie travels back in time to 1940s India and meets her Great Uncle John as a young boy tracking a tiger. Can Elsie save the tiger and change the future?

Thought provoking story. Strong characters with great exchanges between John and Elsie. Good descriptive language. Highlights conservation.



Valentine, Jenny

Love from Joy

Simon and Schuster	Pbk	6.99	9781471196508
Interest age:	9+		Reading age: 9+

Continues from A girl called Joy and perhaps best to have read in order. Continues the story of Joy, age 10, whose family have stopped travelling the world, to move in with her Grandad, as he has been poorly. Joy is a very positive girl who always has a glass half full. In this story she is worried about her new best friend Benny, who seems to not be himself and being bullied by another boy. Joy is a very positive central character. The story is easy to read and well-written. It is based around her school and family life and empathy.

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