

Infants

Last-minute book gift ideas

A variety of books for reading with children (which Miss Pearce enjoyed too!)

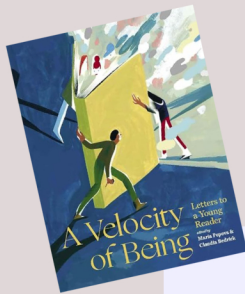
Some thing totally different ...
 Something that you can revisit over the years to come..

A Velocity of Being: Letters to A Young Reader

A Velocity of Being: Letters to A Young Reader

It took Popova 8 years to compile this true masterpiece of collaboration. Within are letters from some of today's most wonderful writers, artists, scientists, entrepreneurs, and philosophers—reflecting on the joys of reading and how this love has formed their character. A linked illustration by a celebrated illustrator is on the page facing each letter.

Contributions from Jane Goodall, Neil Gaiman, Jerome Bruner, Shonda Rhimes, Ursula contributed Le Guin, Yo-Yo Ma, Marianne Dubuc, Sean Qualls, Oliver Jeffers, Maira Kalman, Mo Willems and many more. From age 6 up to Year 6 – selecting new images and letters to dip into as you go – (I have a copy if you would like a look)

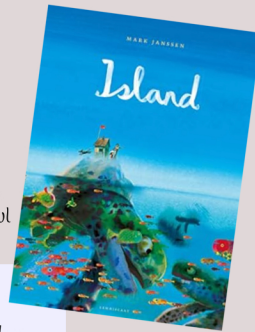


No Words, Thousands of Adventures!

Engaging for all ages in primary school, wordless books ignite discussion and fuel imagination, making it a powerful tool for enhancing vocabulary and comprehension.

Island

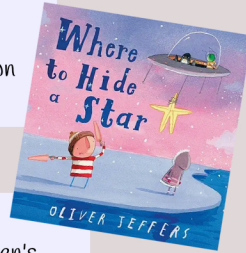
Shipwrecked! A father, daughter, and their dog wash up on a mysterious island. Little do they know, the island holds secrets beyond their imagination. Wordless books are often underappreciated for their role in child development. "Island" tells its story without words, offering numerous opportunities for vocabulary building and inspiring children's own storytelling.



Picture Books (So many to choose from!)

Where to Hide a Star – Oliver Jeffers

He said he would never write another Penguin and Boy book.... but much like Jon Klassen (one of my favourite children's authors) Oliver Jeffers couldn't resist one last delve into the adventures of this dynamic duo 20 years later. A new release in October, this Book brings How to Catch a Star and Lost and Found together, with a hunt to find the star that goes missing! 3– 7 (Loved by all, this, and the whole boy and penguin collection are written fantastically for young children)



Shh! We have a plan – suggested author Chris Haughton.

The joy of a plan that goes wrong in stories with little children is like nothing else. If you enjoy this story, check out Haughton's other works, such as A Bit Lost and Oh No, George!



Arthur and the Golden Rope (Brownstone's Mythical Collection)-Joe Todd Stanton

Aimed at 5 – 7 years, this is a beautiful, immersive first dive into Norse Mythology... Follow the epic journey of Brownstone's earliest ancestor Arthur and travel back to the age of the Vikings, where this bookish young adventurer must find the courage to save his village and defeat the mighty beast Fenrir...



Lenia and the lord of the toadstools – Myriam Dahman

Everyone in the town fears the forest, and only some of the people who go in return again...

When Leina's friend, Oren, doesn't return, she goes on a mission to find him.. could Mr Spadefoot know where he is? I enjoy every book illustrated by Julia Sarda. It is beautiful and gives the feel of old folk tales to the sinister Lord of the toadstools! Brilliant vocabulary expansion, a delve into a different book style and a longer read. (It's worth a read first in the bookshop – a bit like Marmite!)



The Winter Bear – Ruth Craft

Three siblings go out for a walk on a bleak winter day and find a teddy bear stuck in a hedge—an older book by Ruth Craft. The incredible illustrations by Erik Blegvad instantly draw you back to being a child. In every illustration, you can see the joy that comes from playing in the winter, making this genuinely relatable to young children growing up in a rural area.

4–6 years – will find in the used section of Amazon– but worth the hunt!



A chapter book with illustrations (first chapter books)

Ottoline and the Yellow cat

Ottoline Brown lives in Big City with a small hairy Norwegian troll, Mr Munroe. Together, they look after the Brown family's eclectic collections – and dabble in a spot of detective work. When a string of high-society dog nappings and jewel thefts hits Big City, Ottoline and Mr Monrow are on the case! It is a fantastic series full of adventure in each book. Chris Riddle beautifully illustrates this with little details that rest between pages are naturally formed by exploring the imagery. It is great to read together or, when ready, a great place to start on longer reads.



A class favourite:

Throughout the Infants' years, one series that consistently stands out is "Winnie the Witch." In Year R, students explore the illustrations and engage with the repeated elements. By Year 1, they begin to listen with greater recall, and by Year 2, they can revisit and read the stories independently. The great news is there are both picture books and thin chapter books all about Winnie and Wilbur to enjoy!



Poetry : Our Earth is a Poem

Poetry can spark interest in things simply through interesting phrasing. An otter is an 'underwater thunderbolter', and moss is 'a blessing on the forest'. From forests and rivers to gorillas, mollusc shells and even mud. These poems pose questions – Does the butterfly miss being a caterpillar? – allowing the reader to consider nature differently and engage with the words and chosen vocabulary. There are dreamy, beautiful, funny, silly poems, and everything in between. Some rhyme and others don't, and there are various poetic forms, such as couplets and an acrostic.