

# Supporting your child's reading: Years 5 & 6



**Leading  
Learning Trust**

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**Selwyn** PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS  
PRIMARY SCHOOL 

## Question and discussion points to further develop reading:

There is more to being a good reader than just being able to read the words accurately. It is very important that children understand what they are reading. Thinking and talking to your child about what they are reading will help to develop their understanding and enjoyment. Here are a few pointers:

- When and where does the story take place?
- What has happened so far in the story? Has there been anything that has surprised you?
- What do you predict will happen next? Why?
- What does.... mean?
- What does the word... imply about....?
- What do phrases such as.... tell you?
- How has the choice of words created a feeling of....?
- Why did the author choose to...?
- Does the author give any clues about...?
- How was... different after...?
- Describe the author's style of writing.
- Can you identify any words, phrases or descriptions which you feel are particularly effective? Why are they effective?
- How does the author develop the characters?
- Which is your favourite character and why?
- What do you like or dislike about this book?

### Suggested reading lists for Year 5 and 6 children:

Please remember that all children learn to read! By the end of Key Stage 2, some children are already very fluent readers, whilst others are still developing their skills.

The listing below is a starting point, with suggested titles for this age group. Any time spent reading will be of benefit to your child – if they find some of these titles difficult, please support their efforts or encourage them to look at less challenging titles. At all stages of their literacy development, children need to enjoy what they are reading – this is the first step on the path to developing a love for books and reading.

### List of suggested titles for Year 5 children, including 'top ten':

## Ten Top Titles

Blitz Cat by Robert Westall  
War Horse by Michael Morpurgo  
Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz  
The Demon Headmaster by Gillian Cross  
The Lady Grace Mysteries by Patricia Finney  
Among the Hidden by Margaret Haddix  
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke  
The Terrible Thing That Happened To Barnaby Brocket by John Boyne  
Dead Man's Cove by Lauren St John  
Mill Girl - a Victorian Girl's Diary 1842 - 1843 by Sue Reid

## Other recommended reads

Tribe by TM Alexander  
Skellig by David Almond  
The Lost Island of Tamarind by Nadia Augier  
Carrie's War by Nina Bawden  
Noah Barleywater Runs Away by John Boyne  
[The Peppermint Pig](#) by Nina Bawden  
The Penderwicks by Jeanne Birdsall

Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman  
The Mystery of Wickworth Manor by Eden Caldecot  
Driftwood by Cathy Cassidy  
Ruby Redfort Look into my Eyes by Lauren Child  
The Windvale Sprites by Mackenzie Crook  
The Little Prince by Antoine De Saint-Exupery  
The Fire Thief by Terry Deary  
Ingo by Helen Dunmore  
Gansta Granny by David Walliams  
The Little Bookroom by Elenor Farjeon  
The Tulip Touch by Anne Fine  
Dragon Rider by Cornelia Funke  
Madame Pamplemousse and the Enchanted  
Jennie by Paul Gallico  
Shadow of the Minotaur by Alan Gibbons  
Pure Dead Magic by Debi Gliori  
Diamond of Drury Lane by Julia Golding  
The Little White Horse by Elizabeth Goudge  
The Thirteen Treasures by Michelle Harrison  
Double or Die Charlie Higson  
The Falcon's Malteser by [Anthony Horowitz](#)  
The Dragonfly Pool by Eva Ibbotson  
Shadow of the Silver Screen by Christopher Edge  
Cloud Busting by Malorie Blackman  
The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster  
Sabine by Tim Kennemore  
Stig of the Dump by Clive King  
[Sky Hawk](#) by Gill Lewis  
A Stitch in Time by Penelope Lively  
Wildwood by Colin Meloy



### List of suggested titles for Year 6 children:

The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

The Spiderwick Chronicles by Black and Di Terlizzi

A Beautiful Lie by Irfan Master

The Child's Elephant by Rachel Campbell-Johnston

The Nowhere Emporium by Ross Mackenzie

Liar & Spy by Rebecca Stead

Roof Toppers by Katherine Rundell

The Boy in The Tower by Polly Ho-Yen

Beetle Boy by M.G Leonard

The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell

Eragon by Christopher Paolini

The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank

Charlotte's Web by E B White

The Silver Sword by Ian Serraillier

Shakespeare Stories by Leon Garfield

Ballet Shoes by Noel Streatfield

Shadow of the Minotaur by Alan Gibbons

The Doomspell by Cliff McNish

Amongst the Hidden by Margaret Haddix

Framed by Frank Cottrell Boyce

Looking at the titles together, and looking up reviews online, is a lovely way to talk about books and reading with your child.

### Useful websites:

<http://www.kids-bookreview.com>

<http://www.spaghettabookclub.org>

<http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk>



