



Reading List suitable for 8-9-year-olds

This list is only a **guide** and a **starting point**.

There are lots of ways to find new and exciting books for your children to read:

1

Go and browse in bookshops and libraries. Your children can look at the cover, look at the blurb and have a look inside to see if it is going to be the right book for them. Ask the librarians or shop assistants for recommendations.

2

Speak to other parents and children. Many of the books on this list have been recommended by pupils in the school.

3

Speak to teachers. If you are still struggling to find books that will suit your child then speak to the teachers.

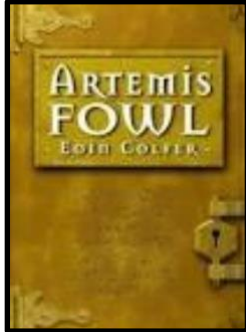
4

Use the internet. There are lots of websites that have suggestions for young readers. One website which is particularly helpful is www.whonextguide.com. This website allows you to type in the name of an author and then it gives you suggestions about who you can read next.

This list has not included any **poetry** or **non-fiction**.

It is not hard to find age-appropriate **poetry** in shops and libraries. Look for an anthology that appeals to your child. **Nonsense poems** and **funny poems** can often be a good place to start.

In terms of non-fiction then it is often good to start with newspapers, like **First News**. They can also look for magazines and books about **topics that interest them**. There are good reference sections in bookshops and libraries.

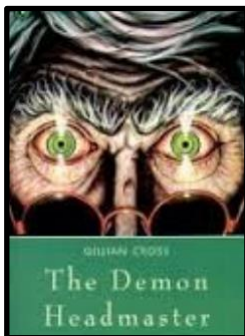
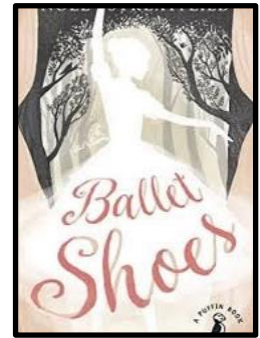


Artemis Fowl by Eoin Colfer

Twelve-year-old Artemis Fowl is a millionaire, a genius—and, above all, a criminal mastermind. But even Artemis doesn't know what he's taken on when he kidnaps a fairy, Captain Holly Short of the LEPrecon Unit. These aren't the fairies of bedtime stories—they're dangerous! Full of unexpected twists and turns, Artemis Fowl is a riveting, magical adventure.

Ballet Shoes by Noel Streatfield

Ballet Shoes tells the story of three adopted orphans – Pauline, Petrova and Posy Fossil. Brought to 1930s London as babies by an eccentric explorer (Great Uncle Matthew, otherwise known as Gum), the girls have a comfortable life until the family begin to run out of money. Luckily they are all given places at the Children's Academy of Dancing and Stage Training and soon start to earn their own way as child performers on the stage.

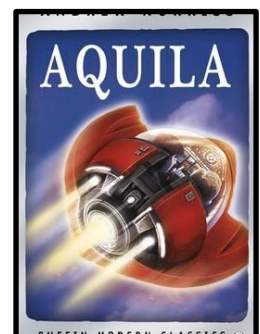


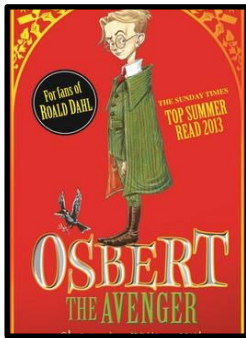
The Demon Head Master by Gillian Cross

Dinah moves in with a new family and begins to go to school with her foster brothers Lloyd and Harvey. Dinah thinks that the school is rather strange and out of the ordinary: pupils suddenly talk like robots and do weird things. She's sure the headmaster has some kind of power over them and is determined to find out more. But the Demon Headmaster is equally determined to stop her.

Aquila by Andrew Norriss

On a boring school trip, Tom and Geoff discover an ancient flying machine. Determined to find out more about it but also desperate to keep their find a secret, the boys return to the spot and, having mastered how to fly the thing, are soon off on incredible travels in a ship with strange powers including the ability to make them invisible.



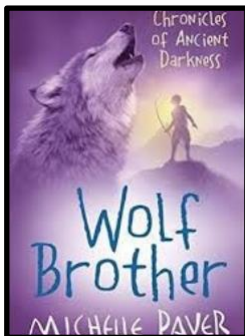
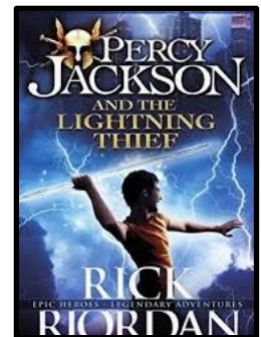


Osbert The Avenger by Christopher William Hill

Macabre and gruesome and wickedly funny, this is a dark story of one boy's determined quest to destroy those who have hurt him and his family. When Osbert wins a coveted place at the prestigious Institute he uncovers every kind of cruelty and corruption imaginable where many children and their families have suffered in silence over the years. Osbert is made of sterner stuff; his revenge is deliberate and severe.

Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Percy Jackson's life gets a lot more complicated when he learns he's the son of the Greek god Poseidon. At a training ground for the children of deities, Percy learns to harness his divine powers and prepare for the adventure of a lifetime: he must prevent a feud among the Olympians from erupting into a devastating war on Earth, and rescue his mother from the clutches of Hades, god of the underworld.



Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver

In pre-agricultural Europe, the hunter gatherers of the Forest live in clans, each represented by a particular animal or life form. Torak and his father, of Wolf Clan, live together in the forest. During Torak's twelfth year, his father ("Fa") is killed by a bear which has been possessed by a demon.

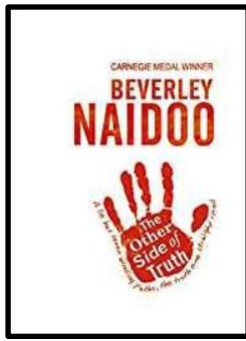
Arrival by Shaun Tan

The Arrival is a migrant story told as a series of wordless images that might seem to come from a long forgotten time. A man leaves his wife and child in an impoverished town, seeking better prospects in an unknown country on the other side of a vast ocean. He is helped along the way by sympathetic strangers, each carrying their own unspoken history: stories of struggle and survival in a world of incomprehensible violence, upheaval and hope.





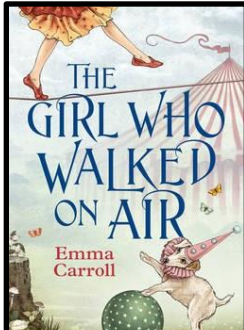
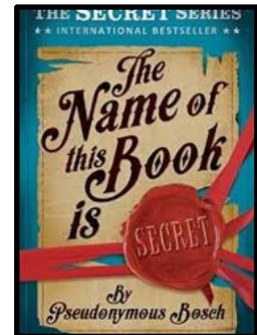
The Other Side of Truth by Beverley Naidoo



This is the story of 12-year-old Sade and her brother Femi who flee to Britain from Nigeria. Their father is a political journalist who refuses to stop criticising the military rulers in Nigeria. Their mother is killed and they are sent to London, with their father promising to follow. Abandoned at Victoria Station by the woman paid to bring them to England as her children, Sade and Femi find themselves alone in a new, often hostile, environment.

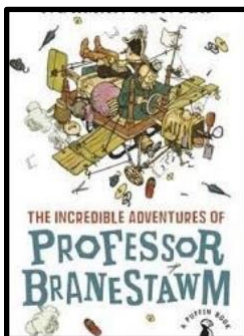
The Name Of This Book by Pseudonymous Bosch

When intrepid friends Cass and Max-Ernest set out to discover the history behind the mysterious Symphony of Smells, they become embroiled in an experiment to discover the secret of eternal youth. Together they must come up with a plan to rescue their classmate from a hideous fate and escape the eerie pyramid of dastardly villains The Midnight Sun.



The Girl Who Walked On Air by Emma Carroll

All the excitement of the circus is captured in this exciting story about one girl's exceptional talent and tenacity as she does everything she can to become the new star of the show. Everyone knows 'the bigger the danger, the bigger the crowd' so it is no surprise that Monsieur Mercury, the most daring of trapeze artists, will bring in a huge crowd. When Jasper has a terrible accident Louie begs for a chance to show off her amazing tightrope walking skills. But will anyone allow her to perform?



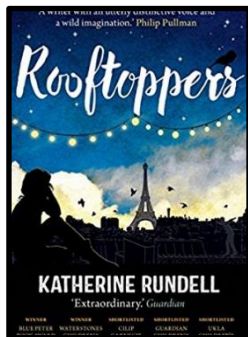
The Incredible Adventures Of Professor Branestawm by Norman Hunter

The wonderfully nutty, fabulously entertaining mishaps of Professor Branestawm. He's madly sane and cleverly dotty. Professor Branestawm is the most absent-minded inventor you'll ever meet and no matter how hard he tries his brilliant ideas never seem to keep him out of crazy scrapes.



H.I.V.E by Mark Walden

Otto Malpense may only be thirteen years old, but so far he has managed to run the orphanage where he lives, and he has come up with a plan clever enough to trick the most powerful man in the country. He is the perfect candidate to become the world's next supervillain. That is why he ends up at H.I.V.E, a school where he can be trained, along with other children, to become a master criminal.

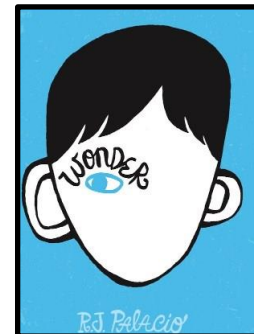


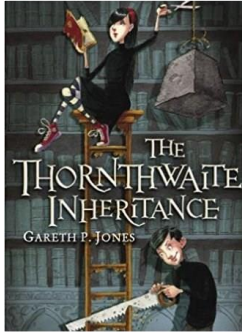
Rooftoppers by Katherine Rundell

Everyone thinks that Sophie is an orphan. Found floating in a cello case she is the only recorded female survivor of a shipwreck on the English Channel. But Sophie remembers seeing her mother wave for help. Sophie, and her eccentric guardian Charles, travel to Victorian Paris and there she meets other in- trepid orphans. Here they encounter suspense and adventure on the roofs of the city.

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to a mainstream school - until now. He's about to start 5th grade at Beecher Prep, and if you've ever been the new kid then you know how hard that can be. The thing is Auggie's just an ordinary kid, with an extraordinary face. But can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, despite appearances?





The Thornthwaite Inheritance by Gareth P Jones

Ovid and Lorelli Thornthwaite have been trying to kill each other for so long that neither twin can remember which act of attempted murder came first. But whoever struck first, trying to take each other's lives is simply what they do. Until one day a lawyer arrives at their house to take stock of its contents, and his accompanying son attracts their attention. Soon a new battle evolves - one in which the twins have to work together to solve the mystery of their parents' deaths