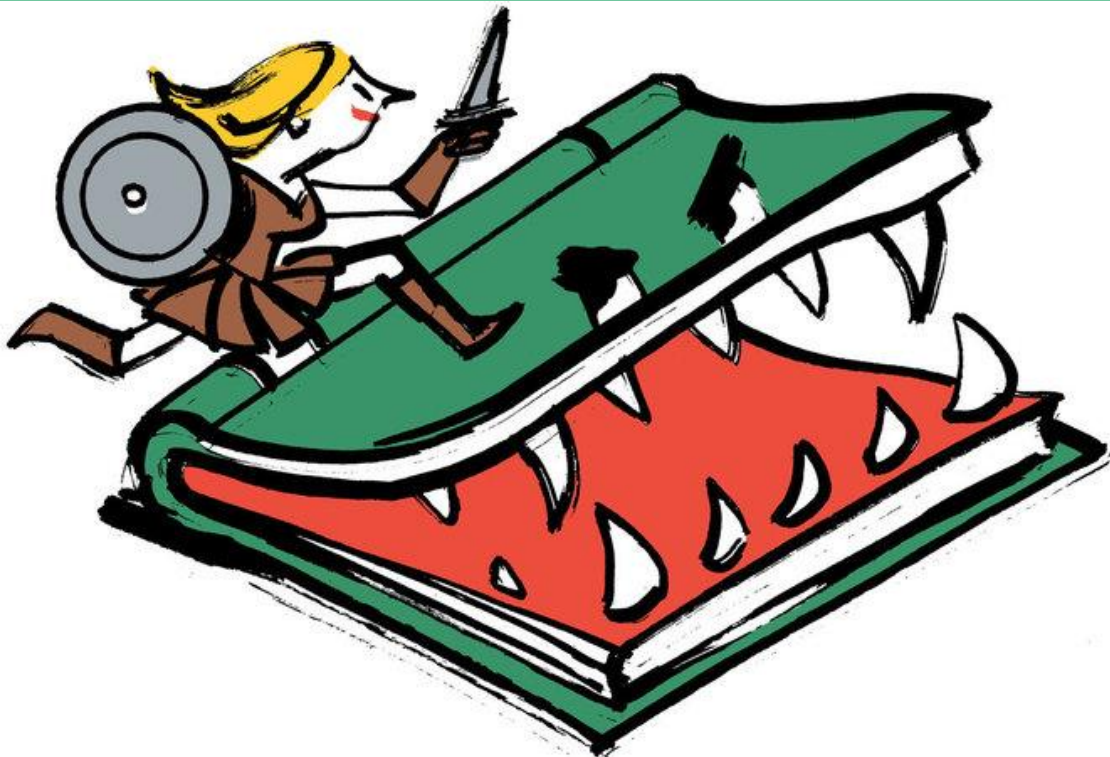


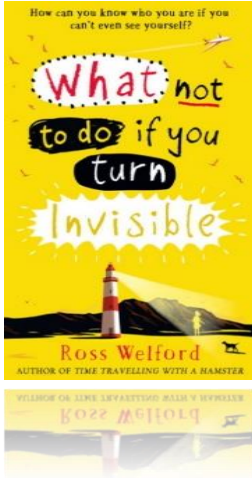
YEAR 8

SUGGESTIONS FOR READING



"IN THE CASE OF GOOD BOOKS, THE POINT IS NOT TO SEE HOW MANY OF THEM YOU CAN GET THROUGH, BUT RATHER HOW MANY CAN GET THROUGH TO YOU."

MORTIMER J ADLER

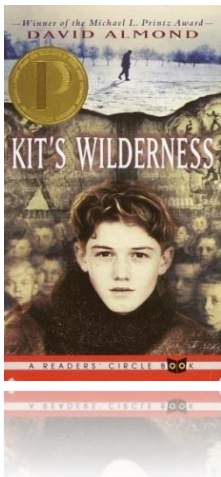


WHAT NOT TO DO IF YOU TURN INVISIBLE

ROSS WELFORD

From the author of the unforgettable bestseller *Time Travelling with a Hamster* comes another surprising, beautiful and funny novel about a child who, by disappearing, will write herself into your heart forever... Turning invisible at will: it's one way of curing your acne. But far more drastic than 13 year-old Ethel Leatherhead intended when she tried a combination of untested medicines and a sunbed. It's fun at first, being invisible. And aided by her friend Boydy, she manages to keep her extraordinary ability secret. Or does she...?

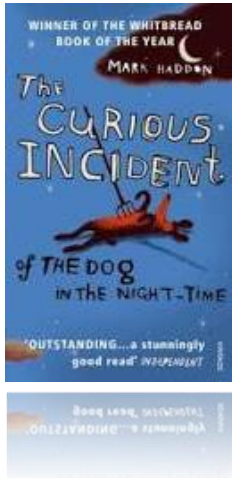
When one day the invisibility fails to wear off, Ethel is thrown into a nightmare of lies and deception as she struggles to keep herself safe, to find the remedy that will make her seen again – and solve the mystery of her own birth...



KIT'S WILDERNESS

DAVID ALMOND

The Watson family moves to Stoneygate, an old coal-mining town, to care for Kit's recently widowed grandfather. When Kit meets John Askew, another boy whose family has both worked and died in the mines, Askew invites Kit to join him in playing a game called *Death*. As Kit's grandfather tells him stories of the mine's past and the history of the Watson family, Askew takes Kit into the mines, where the boys look to find the childhood ghosts of their long-gone ancestors. Written in haunting, lyrical prose, *Kit's Wilderness* examines the bonds of family from one generation to the next, and explores how meaning and beauty can be revealed from the depths of darkness.

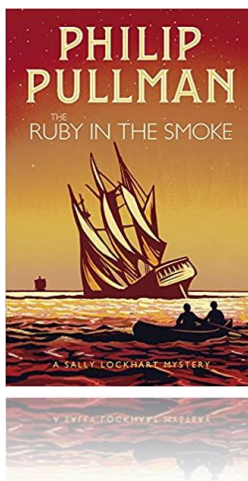


THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

MARK HADDON

Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the colour yellow.

Although gifted with a superbly logical brain, for fifteen-year-old Christopher everyday interactions and admonishments have little meaning. He lives on patterns, rules, and a diagram kept in his pocket. Then one day, a neighbour's dog, Wellington, is killed and his carefully constructive universe is threatened. Christopher sets out to solve the murder in the style of his favourite detective, Sherlock Holmes. What follows makes for a novel that is funny, poignant and fascinating in its portrayal of a person whose curse and blessing are a mind that perceives the world entirely literally.



THE RUBY IN THE SMOKE

PHILIP PULLMAN

Sally is sixteen and uncommonly pretty. Her knowledge of English literature, French, history, art and music is non-existent, but she has a thorough grounding in military tactics, can run a business, ride like a Cossack and shoot straight with a pistol.

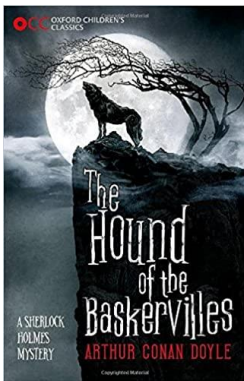
When her dear father is drowned in suspicious circumstances in the South China Sea, Sally is left to fend for herself, an orphan and alone in the smoky fog of Victorian London. Though she doesn't know it, Sally is already in terrible danger. Soon the mystery and the danger will deepen – and at the rotten heart of it all lies the deadly secret of the ruby in the smoke...



THE TULIP TOUCH

ANNE FINE

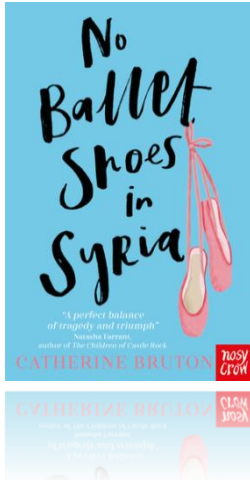
The story of a strange and disturbing friendship seen through the eyes of Natalie as she gets to know Tulip Pierce, a delinquent girl, most others go out of their way to avoid. Nobody wants Tulip in their gang. She bunks off school, is rude to the teachers and makes herself unpopular with her classmates by telling awful lies. But none of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip's behaviour exciting and dangerous. At first she doesn't care that other people are upset by Tulip's bizarre games – but as the games become increasingly dangerous and sinister, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far. Way too far... Tulip becomes even more destructive and after a row with Natalie she commits a terrible crime.



THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

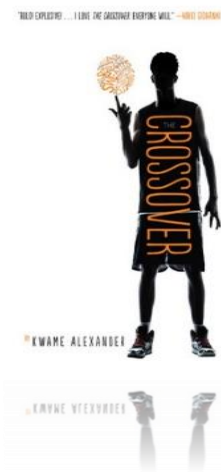
When Sir Charles Baskerville is found dead, his face distorted with shock and horror, Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson are faced with a sinister and difficult puzzle. A fearsome creature stalks the wild and barren hills of Dartmoor. Is it a demon from the spirit world? Will it defeat their skill and courage? Who is the tall, mysterious figure seen lurking on the moor at night? Can Holmes save Sir Henry, the new owner of Baskerville Hall, from the ancient family curse? Or will the terrifying hound claim yet another victim?



NO BALLET SHOES IN SYRIA

CATHERINE BRUTON

Aya is eleven years old and has just arrived in Britain with her mum and baby brother, seeking asylum from war in Syria. When Aya stumbles across a local ballet class, the formidable dance teacher spots her exceptional talent and believes that Aya has the potential to earn a prestigious ballet scholarship. But at the same time, Aya and her family must fight to be allowed to remain in the country, to make a home for themselves, and to find Aya's father – separated from the rest of the family during the journey from Syria.

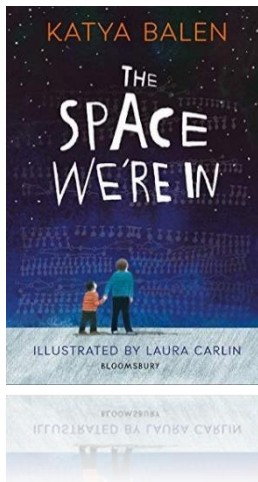


THE CROSSOVER

KWAME ALEXANDER

"With a bolt of lightning on my kicks... the court is SIZZLING. My sweat is DRIZZLING. Stop all that quivering. Cuz tonight I'm delivering", announces dread-locked, 12-year old Josh Bell. He and his twin brother Jordan are awesome on the court. But Josh has more than basketball in his blood – he's got mad beats, too, that tell his family's story in verse, in this fast and furious novel of family and brotherhood.

Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up on and off the court to realise that breaking the rules comes at a terrible price, as their story's heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.



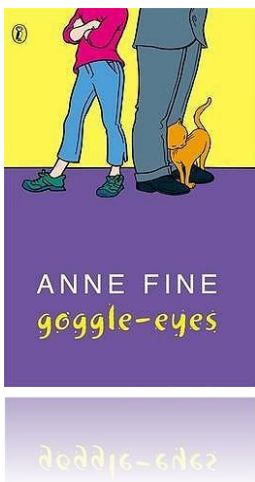
THE SPACE WE'RE IN

KATYA BALEN

Ten-year-old Frank has trouble navigating his relationship with his younger brother Max, who is autistic.

Frank loves soccer, codes, riding his bike, and playing with his friends. His brother Max is five. Max only eats foods that are beige or white, hates baths, and if he has to wear a t-shirt that isn't gray with yellow stripes he melts down down down.

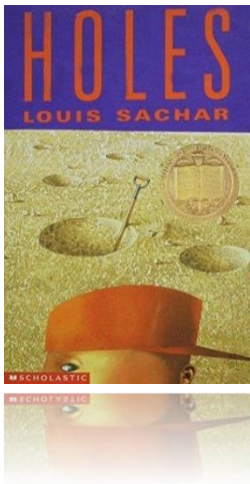
Frank longs for the brother he was promised by his parents before Max was born – someone who was supposed to be his biggest fan, so he could be the best brother in the world. Instead, Frank has trouble dealing with Max's behaviour and their relationship. But when tragedy strikes, Frank finds a way to try and repair their fractured family and in doing so learns to love Max for who he is.



GOGGLE-EYES

ANNE FINE

Killin is not just a brilliant story-teller, but also the World's Great Expert when it comes to mothers having new and unwelcome boyfriends. So, it's no surprise that she's the one chosen to sort out classmate Helly, who's gone into meltdown. Kitty decides to share her story about old Goggle-eyes – possibly one of the worst episodes in her life...

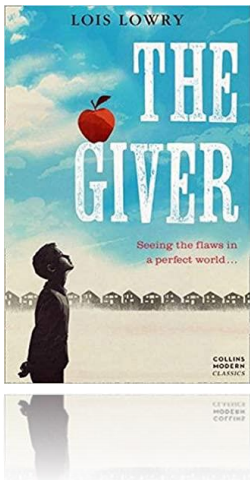


HOLES

LOUIS SACHAR

Stanley tries to dig up the truth in this inventive and darkly humorous tale of crime and punishment -- and redemption.

Stanley Yelnats is under a curse. A curse that began with his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather and has since followed generations of Yelnats. Now Stanley has been unjustly sent to a boys' detention center, Camp Green Lake, where the warden makes the boys "build character" by spending all day, every day, digging holes: five feet wide and five feet deep. It doesn't take long for Stanley to realise there's more than character improvement going on at Camp Green Lake. The boys are digging holes because the warden is looking for something...



THE GIVER

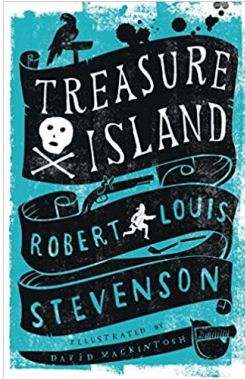
LOIS LOWRY

In a perfect world, Jonas begins to see the flaws...

It is the future. There is no war, no hunger, no pain. No one in the community wants for anything. Everything needed is provided. And at twelve years old, each member of the community has their profession carefully chosen for them by the Committee of Elders.

Twelve-year old Jonas has never thought there was anything wrong with his world. But from the moment he is selected as the Receiver of Memory, Jonas discovers that their community is not as perfect as it seems.

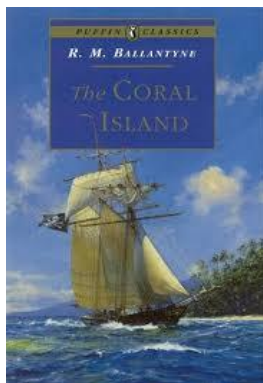
It is only with the help of the Giver, that Jonas can find what has been lost. And it is only through his personal courage that Jonas finds the strength to do what is right...



TREASURE ISLAND

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

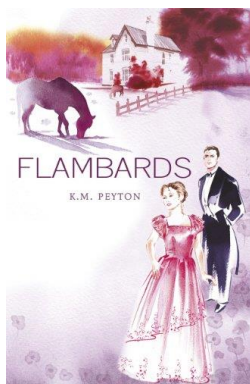
One of the best-loved adventure and coming-of-age stories ever written, *Treasure Island's* timeless tale of pirates, lost treasure maps, mutiny and derring-do has appealed to generations of readers. But more than just a children's classic, the novel is considered to be one of the greatest feats of storytelling in the English language, with characters such as the unforgettable Long John Silver and elements such as treasure maps marked with an "X", schooners, the Black Spot, tropical islands, and one-legged seamen bearing parrots on their shoulders all becoming part of the popular perception of pirates. Avast me hearties!



THE CORAL ISLAND

R M BALLANTYNE

Fifteen-year-old Ralph, mischievous young Peterkin and clever, brave Jack are shipwrecked on a coral reef with only a telescope and a broken pocketknife between them. At first the island seems a paradise, with its plentiful foods and wealth of natural wonders. But then a party of cannibals arrives, and after that a pirate ship... What is to become of them?



FLAMBARDS

K M PEYTON

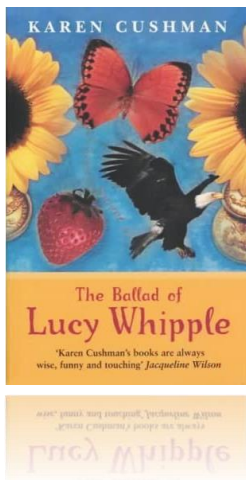
Christina is sent to stay with her fierce uncle and his two sons in their decaying mansion, *Flambards*, a rambling house in the country where riding and hunting are the most prized activities. While everything about the countryside – and her relatives – is new to Christina, she soon discovers a passion for horses and riding. She finds herself, however, to be part of a strange household, divided by emotional undercurrents and cruelty.



HEIDI

JOHANNA SPYRI

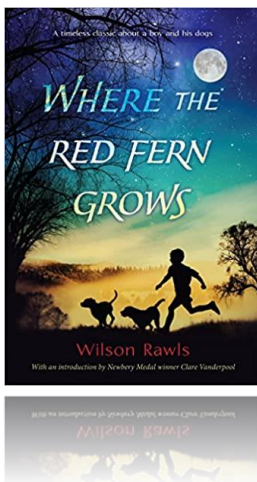
At the age of five, little orphan Heidi is sent to live with her grandfather in the Alps. Everyone in the village is afraid of him, but Heidi is fascinated by his long beard and bushy grey eyebrows. She loves her life in the mountains, playing in the sunshine and growing up amongst the goats and birds. But one terrible day, Heidi is collected by her aunt and is made to live with a new family in town. Heidi can't bear to be away from her grandfather; can she find a way back up the mountain, where she belongs?



THE BALLAD OF LUCY WHIPPLE

KAREN CUSHMAN

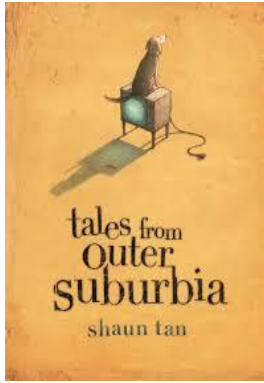
California Whipple hates her name, but she hates the place she's named after even more. She never wanted to leave Massachusetts and travel to this rough land. Now California has only two aims in the world. To change her name, and to find her way home. Somehow, she will achieve both.



WHERE THE RED FERN GROWS

WILSON RAWLS

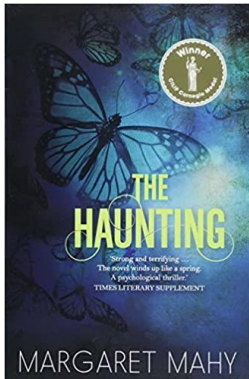
This classic about a ten-year-old boy growing up in the Ozark mountains with his inseparable pair of hunting dogs is a story about poverty, tenacity, love, responsibility, determination, and bravery, and has warmed the hearts of many a young and old reader.



TALES FROM OUTER SUBURBIA

SHAUN TAN

Breathtakingly illustrated and hauntingly written, *Tales from Outer Suburbia* is by turns hilarious and poignant, perceptive and goofy. Through a series of captivating and sophisticated illustrated stories, Tan explores the precious strangeness of our existence. He gives us a portrait of modern suburban life filtered through a wickedly Monty Pythonesque lens. Whether it's discovering that the world really does stop at the end of the city's map book, or a family's lesson in tolerance through an alien cultural exchange student, Tan's deft, sweet social satire brings us face-to-face with the humor and absurdity of modern life.

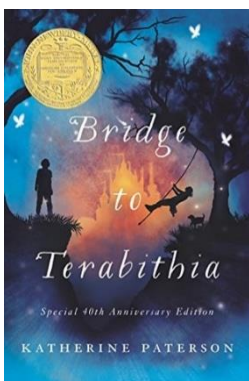


THE HAUNTING

MARGARET MAHY

Eight-year-old Barney has been haunted before. He thought it was something he'd just grow out of, like the imaginary friends his stepmother believes he has. But this time it's different. Footsteps follow him, there's a demanding voice barking orders and Barney begins to feel that sometimes his body is not his own at all...

With the help of his sisters, Tabitha and Troy, Barney sets out to uncover the truth about their family secrets and to find out once and for all who it is who's haunting him.

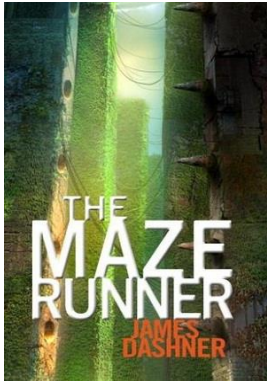


BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

KATHERINE PATERSON

Jess Aarons' greatest ambition is to be the fastest runner in his grade. He's been practising all summer and can't wait to see his classmates' faces when he beats them all. But on the first day of school, a new girl boldly crosses over to the boys' side and outruns everyone.

That's not a very promising beginning for a friendship, but Jess and Leslie Burke become inseparable. Together they create Terabithia, a magical kingdom in the woods where the two of them reign as king and queen, and their imaginations set the only limits.



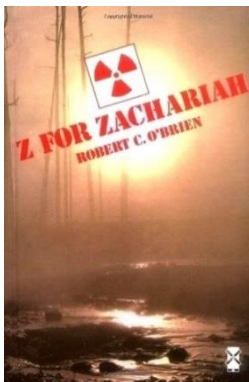
THE MAZE RUNNER

JAMES DASHNER

If you ain't scared, you ain't human. When Thomas wakes up in the lift, the only thing he can remember is his name. He's surrounded by strangers – boys whose memories are also gone.

Nice to meet ya, shank. Welcome to the Glade. Outside the towering stone walls that surround the Glade is a limitless, ever-changing maze. It's the only way out – and no one's ever made it through alive.

Everything is going to change. Then a girl arrives. The first girl ever. And the message she delivers is terrifying. Remember. Survive. Run.



Z FOR ZACHARIAH

ROBERT C O'BRIEN

Is anyone out there?

Ann Burden is sixteen years old and completely alone. The world as she once knew it is gone, ravaged by a nuclear war that has taken everyone from her. For the past year, she has lived in a remote valley with no evidence of any other survivors.

But the smoke from a distant campfire shatters Ann's solitude. Someone else is still alive and making his way toward the valley. Who is this man? What does he want? Can he be trusted? Both excited and terrified, Ann soon realises there may be worse things than being the last person on Earth.

