

## Recommended Reads for Year One

**The Magic Finger by Roald Dahl** When someone makes the girl in this story angry she flashes a punishment on them with her magic finger. Even she does not know what the punishment will be! An anti-hunting story.

**Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown** Stanley Lambchop wakes up one morning to find a notice-board has dropped on him in the night, leaving him happy and healthy, but only half an inch thick. It's a little unusual, but he finds he can fly like a kite, be sent on holiday through the post and can use his special skills to foil a burglary at the local art gallery. Still, he's glad when his brother Arthur has a bright idea to help bring him back to his normal shape.

**A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond** The classic stories about a bear who arrived from Peru with a label reading 'Please look after this bear' tied around his neck. Fun and mayhem ensues when the Brown family adopts him.

**Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman** Grace loves to act out stories. When her school decides to perform Peter Pan, Grace is longing to play Peter, but her classmates say that Peter was a boy, and besides, he wasn't black...But Grace's Ma and Nana tell her she can be anything she wants if she puts her mind to it... Publisher: Frances Lincoln Reading Age 5+ Interest Age 5+

**Winnie-the-Pooh by A A Milne Illustrated by E H Shepherd** The classic stories about Pooh, Christopher Robin and their friends in the Hundred Acre Wood. Whether they are celebrating Eeyore's birthday, meeting a 'Heffalump' or even undertaking an important 'expedition' to the North Pole, children will be charmed by the adventures of Pooh and company, which are huge fun to read aloud.

Publisher: Egmont Books RA 7+ IA 5+

**Willy's Stories by Anthony Browne** Where will Willy's imagination take him next? Once a week, Willy walks through an ordinary-looking set of doors and straight into an adventure. Where will those doors take him today: to a mysterious desert island with footprints in the sand; down a deep, dark rabbit hole full of curious objects; or perhaps on board a pirate ship, face to face with Captain Hook? Wherever he ends up, Willy's journeys begin when he walks through those inviting doors. It features beloved classics of children's literature like Alice in Wonderland, Robinson Crusoe, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz and The Wind in the Willows.

**Funnybones by Allan Ahlberg and Janet Ahlberg** The first book in the classic series. In a cellar in a dark, dark house, in a dark, dark street, lived some skeletons who like to come out to play at night ... in the park, in the zoo and even all the way home, singing songs and scaring each other. Publisher: Puffin RA 6+ IA 4+

**Nixie the Bad, Bad Fairy by Cas Lester Illustrated by Ali Pye** Nixie the bad, bad fairy isn't really that bad . . . at least, she doesn't think she is. But sometimes she has to be a teeny-tiny bit bad because that goody, goody fairy, Adorabella, is just too . . . well . . . just too GOOD. Ideal for children who like the rainbow fairies series. Publisher: Oxford Reading age 5+

**Dear Greenpeace by Simon James** Worried that the whale living in her pond is unhappy, Emily writes to Greenpeace, who, though offering the best of advice, insist that it is impossible for a whale to live in a pond. Undeterred, Emily continues to seek the best course of action for her beloved whale, finally setting him free.

**Dr Xargle's Book of Earthlets by Jeanne Willis** 'Good morning, class. Today we are going to learn about Earthlets.' In this way Dr Xargle, our friendly alien teacher, begins to teach his class about humans and babies. This is a hysterically funny book, with a particularly wry look at the way we bring up babies: look out for the 'egg-mangle' - will you ever want to eat egg again?

**That Rabbit belongs to Emily Brown by Cressida Cowell** Emily and her toy rabbit, Stanley, love to go on adventures together. One day when they are attempting to launch themselves into space from the kitchen, one of the Queen's footmen knocks at the door and demands Emily give Stanley to his mistress in exchange for a brand-new teddy bear.

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Emily refuses but the Queen perseveres, constantly sending her minions to bargain with the girl. In the end the naughty Queen orders for Stanley to be stolen but soon discovers that you can't make someone else's toy your own. Emily rescues Stanley but not before she suggests the Queen has some adventures with a brand-new teddy to make him into a 'real toy of her own'.

**The Flower (Illustrated by Lisa Evans) by John Light** When Brigg discovers a book in the library labelled 'Do Not Read', he cannot resist taking it home. In it, he comes upon pictures of bright, vibrant objects called flowers. He cannot find flowers anywhere in the city, but stumbles instead on a packet of seeds. This sets off a chain of events which bring about unexpected results.

**Where the Wild Things are by Maurice Sendack** One night Max puts on his wolf suit and makes mischief of one kind and another, so his mother calls him 'Wild Thing' and sends him to bed without his supper. That night a forest begins to grow in Max's room and an ocean rushes by with a boat to take Max to the place where the wild things are. Max tames the wild things and crowns himself as their king, and then the wild rumpus begins. But when Max has sent the monsters to bed, and everything is quiet, he starts to feel lonely and realises it is time to sail home to the place where someone loves him best of all.

**A Dark Dark Tale by Ruth Brown** A black cat takes the reader from one dark place to another: from a dark, dark moor to the dark, dark corner of a cupboard...to find what? A story about the dark and the tricks it plays on us. It may be too scary for some very young children. Publisher: Andersen Press Reading Age 5+ Interest Level 5+

**Clarice Bean That's Me by Lauren Child** In the chaotic Bean household, Clarice has difficulty finding any peace. Certainly, there is none in her bedroom, which she has to share with her younger brother Minal. Dad gets to escape to the office, Granddad to his comfy chair and Mum to the bathroom. Only when Clarice openly rebels does she finally succeed in getting the peace and quiet she really wants. Publisher: Orchard Books  
Reading Age 7+ Interest Level 6+

**The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch by Ronda and David Armitage** Every day Mrs Grinling sends her husband, the lighthouse keeper, his lunch on a special wire between their house and the lighthouse; but then the seagulls discover how tasty the lunch is. How can the lighthouse keeper get his lunch safely?

**The Cat in the Hat by Dr Seuss** It's a wet day with nothing to do when the Cat in the Hat arrives with Thing 1 and Thing 2 and causes mayhem. Luckily the mess is cleared up by the time Mum arrives home. A fun rhyming text.  
Reading Age 5+ Interest Level 5+

**Slinky Malinki by Lynley Dodd** Slinky Malinki steals anything from a clothes peg, to a slipper, to a string of sausages, to a clock! Our hero is a BAD cat! This story is told in wonderful rhyme and through pictures full of life and movement. The same author as Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy.

**The Snake Who Came To Stay by Julia Donaldson** Funny story by the author of The Gruffalo. Polly has set up a pets' holiday home for the summer and with a house full of greedy guinea pigs, pesky parrots and slithering snakes, mum is getting more fed up by the day! Especially when Doris the snake goes missing - Can Polly find Doris before the snake finds the guinea pigs? Reading age 6+.

**The Worst Witch by Jill Murphy** Miss Cackle's Academy is no ordinary school. It stands at the top of a high mountain surrounded by a pine forest, and one clear days you can just see the pupils flitting about on their broomsticks above the playground wall. For this is a school for witches and, instead of the usual lessons, the girls there all have to learn about such things as casting spells and making magic potions. Mildred Hubble has a reputation for being the worst pupil in the school - she's always getting her spells wrong. But she manages to get by until she turns Ethel, the teacher's pet, into her deadly enemy... Reading age 7+ Interest Level 5+

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**Mr Magnolia by Quentin Blake** Mr Magnolia has only one boot. He has an old trumpet that goes rooty-toot - and two lovely sisters who play on the flute - but Mr Magnolia has only one boot. A rhyming picture book.

**The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark by Jill Tomlinson** Plop, the Baby Barn Owl, is like every Barn Owl there ever was, except for one thing; he is afraid of the dark. Mrs. Barn Owl sends him down from his nest-hole to ask about the dark and he meets a little boy waiting for the fireworks to begin, an old lady, a scout out camping, a girl who tells him about Father Christmas, a man with a telescope, and a black cat who takes him exploring. He realizes that through these encounters that dark is super after all.

**The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka** In this humorous story, Alexander T. Wolf tells his own outlandish version of what really happened during his encounter with the three pigs and explains why he was not to blame.