



Year 6 book list – challenging texts

Please find below a selection of more challenging texts that will allow the children to develop their vocabulary and reading skills, as well as being enjoyable.

Please note that due to the complexity of these texts, some of them may contain language or themes that you feel may be unsuitable for your child so we do advise you to exercise caution and check the content.

Adventure

Stormbreaker / Anthony Horowitz
Swallows & Amazons / Arthur Ransome
Lion Boy / Zouzou Corder
Cold Tom / Sally Prue
Troy / Adele Geras
The Thief Lord / Cornelia Funke
The Moon Riders / Theresa Tomlinson
Castaways of the Flying Dutchman / Brian Jacques
Alpha Force Series / Chris Ryan

Classics

Little Women / Louisa May Alcott
The Secret Garden / Frances Hodgson Burnett
Heidi / Johanna Spyri
Carrie's War / Nina Bawden
A Christmas Carol / Charles Dickens
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland / Lewis Carroll
The Lost World / Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
The Railway Children / Elizabeth Nesbit
The Hobbit / J R R Tolkien
The Water Babies / Charles Kingsley
Black Beauty / Anna Sewell
Ballet Shoes / Noel Streatfield
The Wizard of Oz / Frank Baum
Pollyanna / Eleanor H. Porter
Anne of Green Gables / L.M. Montgomery
The Little House on the Prairie / Laura Ingalls Wilder
Peter Pan / J. M. Barrie

Science-Fiction

The Day of the Triffids / John Wyndham
Plague 99 / Jean Ure

History

Goodnight Mr Tom / Michelle Magorian (WWII)
The Wheel of Surya / Jamila Gavin (Indian independence)
Kiss the Dust / Elizabeth Laird (Kurdish refugees)
The Ruby in the Smoke / Philip Pullman (first of the Sally Lockhart trilogy set in Victorian London)
Roman Mysteries / Caroline Lawrence
Sweet Clarinet etc / James Riordan (WWII)
The Silver Sword / Ian Serraillier
Carrie's War / Nina Bawden
I Coriander / Sally Gardner

Other Cultures

The Garbage King / Elizabeth Laird
The Other Side of Truth / Beverley Naidoo
Chinese Cinderella / Adeline Yen Mah
Refugee Boy / Benjamin Zephaniah
Journey to the River Sea / Eva Ibbotson

Biography/Autobiography

Diary of Anne Frank
A Child Called 'It' / David Pelzer
When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit / Judith Kerr
Chinese Cinderella / Adeline Yen Mah
My Family & Other Animals / Gerald Durrell
All Creatures Great and Small / James Herriot

Real Life/Teenage

The Princess Diaries / Meg Cabot
Noughts and Crosses / Malorie Blackman
Refugee Boy / Benjamin Zephaniah
Madame Doubtfire / Anne Fine
Plague 99 / Jean Ure
Granny the Pag / Nina Bawden
Step by Wicked Step / Anne Fine
Just Don't Make a Scene Mum! / Rosie Rushton
Mates, Dates & Sole Survivors / Cathy Hopkins
Saffy's Angel / Hilary McKay
Holes / Louis Sachar
Lola Rose / Jacqueline Wilson
Vicky Angel / Jacqueline Wilson
The Story of Tracy Beaker / Jacqueline Wilson
Feeling Sorry for Celia / Jaclyn Moriarty

Life Issues

Walk Two Moons / Sharon Creech
Vicky Angel / Jacqueline Wilson (a girl coping with the death of a friend)
Chandra / Mary Hendry (arranged marriage)

Prize winners

Ruby Holler / Sharon Creech
The Edge / Alan Gibbons
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time / Mark Haddon
Millions / Frank Cottrell Boyce

Fantasy

Moon Riders / Teresa Tomlinson
Northern Lights / Philip Pullman
Stormchasers / Stewart & Riddell
Redwall / Brian Jacques
The Hobbit / JRR Tolkien
The Earthsea Quartet / Ursula Le Guin
The Wolves of Willoughby Chase / Joan Aiken
Stravaganza: City of Masks / Mary Hoffman
Inkheart / Cornelia Funke
Artemis Fowl / Eoin Colfer
A Series of Unfortunate Events / Lemony Snicket
The Spiderwick Chronicles / Tony Di Terlizzi & Holly Black
Cry of the Icemark / Stuart Hill
The Blade of Fire / Stuart Hill
The Wind of Fire Trilogy / William Nicholson
Harry Potter / J.K. Rowling
Narnia / C.S. Lewis
Watership Down / Richard Adams
The Named / Marianne Curley
The Edge Chronicles / Stewart & Riddell

Film/TV Tie-Ins

Ella Enchanted / Gail Carson Levine
Freaky Friday / Mary Rodgers
A Series of Unfortunate Events / Lemony Snicket
Holes / Louis Sachar
The Story of Tracy Beaker / Jacqueline Wilson
Woof! / Allan Ahlberg
Five Children and It / E. Nesbit
The Borrowers / Mary Norton
Matilda / Roald Dahl
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory / Roald Dahl
Millions / Frank Cottrell Boyce
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe / C.S. Lewis
Harry Potter (Books 1 - 4) / J. K. Rowling

Animal Stories

Watership Down / Richard Adams (Rabbits)
The Snowgoose / Paul Gallico
Jennie / Paul Gallico (Cat)
The Sheep Pig / D King-Smith
My Family and Other Animals / Gerald Durrell
Dumb Creatures / Jeanne Willis
The Amazing Story of Adolphus Tips / Michael Morpurgo