

### Text We Like in Year 4: recommended by Literacy Leaders of Kent

| Year 4 | Book Title                                  | Author if known                        | Good text for...  |
|--------|---|--|---|
|        | The Water Horse                             | Dick King Smith                        | Fairly short novel for children but with some old-fashioned language; cross-curricular; engaging story which has been made into a film; inverted commas; fronted adverbials; descriptive language; metaphors and similes; question marks, ellipsis, singular to plural; present to past tense; possessive apostrophes; paragraphs |
|        | Beast Quest                                 | Adam Blade                             | Appeals to boys; sci-fi fantasy writing; strong plots   |
|        | Diary of a Wimpy Kid                        | Jeff Kinney                            | Diary writing; emotive writing;   |
|        | Stig of the Dump                            | Clive King                             | Character development; setting  |
|        | The Devil and his Boy                       | Anthony Horowitz                       | Complex characters developed through plot   |
|        | Danny Champion of the World                 | Roald Dahl                             | Non-fiction persuasive writing about poaching; narrative writing; description;  |
|        | Usborne Shakespeare Series                  | Usborne (publisher)                    | Great for all year groups to introduce classic texts  |
|        | The Field Guide (Spiderwick chronicles)     | Tony Di Terlizzi                       | Fantasy; suspense; description of setting; characters and dialogue  |
|        | The Iron Man                                | Ted Hughes                             | Settings; character study; links with D.T.; short sentences to create effect; longer sentences to create an image; onomatopoeia; use of CL for effect; fronted adverbials; sub clauses; similes; questioning; commas in lists; balanced dialogue; hyphens; exclamation marks; inverted commas                                     |
|        | How to Train your Viking                    | Cressida Cowell                        | Descriptive language; feelings; instructions  |
|        | Leon and the Place in between               | Grahame Baher-Smith                    | Adverbial phrases; noun phrases   |
|        | Beowulf (also Beowulf Young Reading Series) | Morpurgo or version by Rob Lloyd Jones | Building tension; short sentences; character and setting; story writing   |
|        | The Wolves in the Walls                     | Neil Gaiman                            | Excellent for most aspects of grammar and punctuation; hyphens, inverted commas; modal verbs and past tense; spelling rules (beware one or two American spellings e.g. colored and practiced); fronted adverbials; questions. Spooky and full of suspense.  |
|        | The Great Kapok Tree                        | Lynne Cherry                           | Discursive text; variety of genres; beautiful to look at  |
|        | Tracks of a Panda                           | Nick Dowson                            | Fronted adverbials  |
|        | Caterpillar Butterfly                       | Vivian French                          | Inverted commas and rules of dialogue   |

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|  | Voices in the Park  | Anthony Browne                  | Characters; viewpoint; speech   |
|  | The BFG   | Roald Dahl                      | Descriptive writing; character  |
|  | Coraline  | Neil Gaiman                     | Quirky story about a girl with a huge imagination; quite dark and scary; settings; suspense; prediction   |
|  | Operation Gadgetman!                                      | Malorie Blackman                | Crosses gender stereotypes; good story  |
|  | Journey to Jo'burg  | Beverley Naidoo                 | Issues and dilemmas; postcard writing; continuation of chapter 10   |
|  | Varjak Paw  | S.F. Said                       | Variation and comparison of characters; atmosphere and mood in setting; description;  |
|  | The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane                   | Kate Di Camillo                 | A sometimes sad story about a vain rabbit who goes on an adventure when he is washed overboard; several changes of event; lovely prose; change of character, when the rabbit learns to love |
|  | Classic Fairy Tales                                       | Jane Roy / Berlie Doherty       | Dialogue / writing own version  |
|  | Born to Run   | Michael Morpurgo                | Word classes; relative clauses; embedded clauses; prefixes and suffixes   |
|  | Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf                                  | David Almond and Dave McKean    | Descriptive writing e.g. design own creature; inference;  |
|  | The Butterfly Lion  | Michael Morpurgo                | Short read-aloud text; character sketches; inference; prediction; write own endings   |
|  | Cloud Busting   | Malorie Blackman                | Story told in first person verse  |
|  | Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat-Dragon           | Sarah Courtauld                 | Empathy; prediction; retelling; drama   |
|  | Any picture books by David Weisner e.g. Tuesday / Flotsam | David Weisner                   | Prediction and inference; Wordless texts; writing next part; discussion around the text; group reading and conversation   |
|  | Krindlekrax   | Philip Ridley                   |   |
|  | The Drop in my Drink; the Story of Water on our Planet    | Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady | Non-fiction; Water cycle; changes in condition of water;  |
|  | The Dancing Bear  | Michael Morpurgo                | Very short paperback;   |
|  | Way Home  | Libby Hathorn                   | Setting; style of language; prediction; discussing character's motivation; issues and dilemmas  |
|  | The Firework Maker's Daughter                             | Philip Pullman                  | Adventure quest story; humour for older readers; about working hard to fulfil your dreams; possible to get the playscript version too   |
|  | The Green Children  | Kevin Crossley-Holland          | Picture book. Role-play; issues about people who are different; new viewpoint; author's choice of language; powerful verbs; descriptive setting   |
|  | Tales Told in Tents: from Central Asia                    | Sally Pomme Clayton             | Stories from other cultures; some poetry / riddles  |