

Text We Like in Year 5: recommended by Literacy Leaders of Kent

Year 5	Book Title	Author if known	Good text for ...
	Zoo	Anthony Browne	Persuasive writing; inference; character
	Varmints	Helen Ward	Newspaper reports; dialogue
	The Highwayman	Alfred Noyes	Similar/metaphor; narrative writing; description; suspense and tension
	Stig of the Dump	Clive King	Character development; setting
	Artemis Fowl	Eoin Colfer	Imaginative writing; figurative language
	Orchard book of Greek Myths	Geraldine McCaughrean	Rich language and vocabulary; cross-curricular links
	The Devil and his Boy	Anthony Horowitz	Complex characters developed through plot
	The Princess' Blankets	Carol Ann Duffy	Description; complex sentences, embedded clauses and fronted adverbials
	Street Child	Berlie Doherty	Topic links; character study
	The Tempest	Lois Childs	Description; newspaper report; persuasion
	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl	Description; character and point of view; encourages all genres of writing
	Kaspar Prince of Cats	Michael Morpurgo	
	Kensuke's Kingdom	Michael Morpurgo	Link to History topic; lots of grammar development; letter writing; diary; expanded noun phrases
	War Horse	Michael Morpurgo	Link to History topic; lots of grammar development
	Beowulf (Also look on Youtube at the animated version narrated by Derek Jacobi)	Morpurgo	Links to Anglo-Saxon topic; Building tension; short sentences; character and setting; story writing; rich extended vocab; descriptive passages; hyphenated adjectives;
	The Star of Kazan	Eva Ibbotson	Discussion and inference
	Journey to the River Sea	Eva Ibbotson	Broadening of vocabulary; use of language
	Wolf Brother	Michelle Paver	Description; inspires a variety of writing genres; cross-curricular links to topic; personification; powerful language and imagery; suspense; can be used in group reading; wide range of rich vocabulary
	Goodnight Mr Tom	Michelle Magorian	WW2 theme; apostrophes, missing letters, colloquialisms; text types include letters; build a shelter in DT
	Window	Jeannie Baker	Wordless text; issues and dilemmas in the environment; inference and understanding the pictures
	Coraline	Neil Gaiman	Quirky story about a girl with a huge imagination; quite dark and scary; settings; suspense; prediction
	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;

	Ghostly Shocks and the Three Scares	Anholt and Robbins	Adapting a story
	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	J.K.Rowling Audio Book	Playscripts; introduce a new chapter
	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;
	Cloud Busting	Malorie Blackman	Story told in first person verse
	Cosmic	Frank Cottrell Boyce	Long-legged Liam makes a giant leap for boy-kind by competing with a group of adults for the chance to go into space. Funny and engaging. Appeals to boys and girls.
	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
	The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett	Different types of sentences; word classes e.g. prepositions; suspense; emotive writing; conscience alley
	The 100 mile an hour dog	Jeremy Strong	biographies
	Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters	John Steptoe	Lovely illustrations; accessible; great for raising questions
	Way Home	Libby Hathorn	Setting; style of language; prediction; discussing character's motivation; issues and dilemmas; dialogue; present tense
	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
	Ice Bear	Nichola Davies	ellipses
	Tigers	Nichola Davies	Building suspense
	I love guinea pigs	Dick King Smith	hyphens
	Moonbird	Joyce Dunbar	Dilemmas and issues – story of a deaf boy; discrimination; communication
	The London Eye Mystery	Siobhan Dowd	Characterisation; (autistic narrator); monologues (dashes and ellipsis); adventure story
	Shadow	Morpurgo	Story about a dog in war-torn Afghanistan
	The 3 pigs (e-book)	Davis Weisner	
	The Mysteries of Harris Burdick	Chris Van Allsburg	Story ideas; other genres
	Tuesday	David Weisner	Inference; prediction; wordless text
	Shackleton's Journey	William Grill	Highly visual and appealing
	Rooftoppers	Katherine Rundell	Poetic language; imagination; prize-winning book
	The Viewer	Shaun Tann and Gary Crew	Picture book; metaphors and symbols; inference
	The Silver Swan	Michael Morpurgo	Setting and description

	The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe	C.S. Lewis	Setting; character and motivation; rich vocabulary
	Gravity	Jason Chin	Earth and space topic; recounts
	UFO Diary	Satoshi Kitamura	Earth and Space topic; explanation texts
	The Arrival	Shaun Tan	Wordless text; mystery; dilemmas for discussion; fantasy; all genres of writing; belonging
	The Rabbits	Shaun Tan	Inference
	Holes	Louis Sacher	Range of cross-curricular work; fiction and non-fiction;
	The Hobbit (for most able readers)	Tolkein	Ethics, character discussion
	The Hero Twins	Dan Jolley and David Witt	Graphic novel; appeals to boys
	The Indian in the Cupboard	Lynne Reid Banks	Modern classic; imagination; prediction; narrative writing; description
	Tales told in Tents Stories from Central Asia	Sally Pomme Clayton and Sophie Herxheimer	Stories from other cultures and lands; picture book; different verb forms such as modal, past perfect, simple past; symbolism
	The Endurance and The Wolves of Currumpaw	William Grill	Used as a whole KS2 text