



## Recommended Reads: Key Stage 3

### Adventure, Mystery & Thrillers

*The Inheritance Games; The Naturals* (+) by JL Barnes\*  
*The Soul Hunters; Bodyguard* (+) by Chris Bradford  
*Dead Time; Looking for JJ; Moth Girls* (+) by A Cassidy\*  
*The Rules; The Truth About Lies* by Tracy Darnton\*  
*Mortal Chaos; Lie, Kill, Walk Away* by Matt Dickinson\*  
*The London Eye Mystery* by Siobhan Dowd  
*Hide and Seeker; Nightmare King* by Daka Hermon  
*Murder at Snowfall; Waiting for Murder* by F Hitchcock  
*A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*(+); *Five Survive*-Jackson\*  
*High Rise Mystery & Mic Drop* by Sharna Jackson  
*I Have No Secrets; Girl Who Wasn't There* by P Joelson\*  
*The Five Clues; Outside Chance* by Anthony Kessel  
*Eight Pieces of Silva; Splinters of Sunshine*-Lawrence\*  
*The Highland Falcon Thief* (+) by MG Leonard  
*Mystery in the Palace at Westminster* by Sarah Lustig  
*Where the World Ends* by Geraldine McCaughrean\*  
*Hide&Secrets; Girl Missing; The Set-Up* (+)- S McKenzie\*  
*Nothing More to Tell; One of Us is Lying*(+)-K McManus\*  
*The Recruit; Robin Hood* (+) - R Muchamore\*  
*Hatchet; Northwind* by Gary Paulsen  
*Below Zero; Big Game* by Dan Smith  
*Murder Most Unladylike* (+) by Robin Stevens  
*The Outlaws Scarlett & Browne* (+) by Jonathon Stroud

### Animal Fiction

*The Travelling Cat Chronicles* by Hiro Arikawa\*  
*The Shark Caller* by Zillah Bethell  
*Calling the Whales* by Jasmin Bilal (SR)  
*The Boy Who Saved a Bear* (+) by Nizrana Farook  
*The Way of the Dog* by Zana Fraillon  
*The Last Bear; The Lost Whale; Finding Bear* by H Gold  
*A Street Dog Named Pup; Gorilla Dawn* by Gill Lewis  
*Dogs of the Deadlands* by Anthony McGowan  
*War Horse; Born to Run; Kaspar* by Michael Morpurgo  
*A Wolf Called Wander; A Horse Named Sky* by R Parry  
*Wolf Brother* (+) by Michelle Paver  
*Pax; Journey Home* Sarah Pennypacker (foxes)  
*Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls (dogs)  
*Tyger; Varjak Paw* (+) by SF Said (cats)  
*Finding Wonder* by Lauren St. John (horses)  
*I, Cosmo* by Carlie Sorosiak (dogs)  
*The Dog Who Saved the World* by Ross Welford  
*Talking to Alaska* by Anna Woltz (dogs)

### Environment & Climate Change

*Exodus* (+) by Julie Bertagna  
*Where the River Runs Gold* by Sita Brahmachari  
*The Drowning Day* by Anne Cassidy  
*Global* by Eoin Colfer & Andrew Donkin (GN)  
*The Song That Sings Us* by Nicola Davies  
*Two Degrees* by Alan Gratz  
*Wild; Melt* by Ele Fountain  
*FloodWorld; DustRoad; StormTide* by Tom Huddleston  
*Green Rising* by Lauren James\*  
*Song of the Dolphin Boy* by Elizabeth Laird  
*The Dog Runner, Across the Risen Sea* - Bren Macdibble  
*Beyond the Frozen Horizon; Between Sea & Sky*-Penfold  
*Big Tree* by Brian Selznick  
*Dry* by Neal & Jarrod Shusterman\*  
*The Summer We Turned Green* by William Sutcliffe\*  
*The Last Whale* by Chris Vick\*

### Dystopia & Science Fiction

*The Infinite* (+) by Patience Agbabi  
*The Middler or Troofriend* by Kirsty Applebaum  
*Noughts & Crosses; (+) Noble Conflict* by M Blackman\*  
*Adam-2; Orion Lost* by Alastair Chisholm  
*City of Rust* by Gemma Fowler  
*How I Saved the World in a Week* by Polly Ho-Yen  
*Nowhere on Earth* by Nick Lake\*  
*Show Us Who You Are* by Elle McNicholl  
*The Knife of Never Letting Go* (+)-P Ness\*  
*Railhead & Mortal Engines* (+) by P Reeve  
*The Blue Book of Nebo* by Manon Ros\*  
*Scythe, Unwind* (+) by Neal Shusterman\*  
*Slick; Six* by M.M. Vaughan  
*The Monkey Who Fell From the Future* by Ross Welford  
*The Partials* (+) by Dan Wells\*  
*The Extinction Trials; The Infinity Files* (+)by SM Wilson\*  
*The 5th Wave* (+) by Rick Yancey\*

### Fantasy, Myths, Magic Realism

*The House With Chicken Legs & Girl/Bear* by S Anderson  
*Six of Crows, Shadow & Bone* (+) by Leigh Bardugo\*  
*Medusa* by Jessie Burton\*  
*City of Brass* (& sequels) by S.A. Chakraborty\*  
*Artemis Fowl* (+) by Eoin Colfer  
*Who Let the Gods Out* (+) by Maz Evans  
*Royal Ranger; The Outcasts* (+)- John Flanagan  
*The Gilded Ones* (+) by Namina Forna\*  
*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman



*Rumaysa: A Fairytale* (+) Radiya Hafiza  
*Girl of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave\*  
*Skulduggery Pleasant* (+) by Derek Landy  
*Rebel Skies* (+) by Ann Sei Lin  
*Mia and the Lightcasters* by Janelle McCurdy  
*Eragon* (+) by Christopher Paolini  
*Northern Lights* (+) by Phillip Pullman\*  
*Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children* (+)- R Riggs  
*Alcatraz & Evil Librarians* (+) by Brandon Sanderson  
*Oh My Gods* by Alexandra Sheppard\*  
*Beyond the Deepwoods* (+) by P Stewart and C Riddell  
*Nic Blake and the Remarkables* (+) by Angie Thomas  
*Greenwild: The World Behind the Door* by Pari Thomson  
*Children of the Quicksands; The House of Shells* -Traore

### Graphic Novels (GN), Verse Novels (VN), Super-Readables (SR), Interactive You Choose (YC)

*Werewolf; Mutant; King Arthur* (+) Barlow&Skidmore (YC)  
*You Save the World (Select Superpower)*-D Blaze (YC)  
*Gamer; Bullet Catcher* (+) by Chris Bradford (SR)  
*Into the Dungeon* (+) by Hari Conner (YC)  
*One; Toffee; Moonrise* by Sarah Crossan (VN)  
*New Kid; Class Act; School Trip* by Jerry Craft (GN)  
*The Disconnect* by Keren David (SR)  
*The Minecraft Zombie Adventure* by John Diary (YC)  
*Gunpoint* by Jim Eldrige (SR)  
*Dungeon of Doom* by P Friend: *You Say Which Way* (SR)  
*The Quest of Theseus Interactive Myths* (+) B Hoena (YC)  
*Roller Girl; All's Faire in Middle School* -V Jamieson (GN)  
*The Monster Maker: Solve Your Mystery* (+)- Jones (YC)  
*Amazons, Abolitionists and Activists* -Mikki Kendall (GN)  
*Amulet: The Stonekeeper* (+) by Kazu Kibuishi (GN)  
*Rat or Needle\** by Patrice Lawrence (SR)  
*I am Minotaur* by Anthony McGowan (SR)  
*The Girl From the Sea* by Molly Knox Ostertag (GN)  
*White Bird* by RJ Palacio (GN)  
*Dog Man; Cat Kid* (+) by Dav Pilkey (GN)  
*Pirate Island: You Say Which Way* (+) - Potter&Polly (YC)  
*The Gun; A Sudden Storm* by Bali Rai (SR)\*  
*Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds (VN, GN)  
*Pumpkin Heads* by Rainbow Rowell (GN)  
*Dark Peak* by Marcus Sedgwick (SR)  
*Escape from the Carnival of Horrors* (+) by RL Stine (YC)  
*Cosmic Conquest: Justice League* (+)- L Sutton (YC)  
*Lost in the Jungle of Doom* (+) by Tracey Turner (YC)

### Humour & Comedy

*Worst Week Ever! Monday* (+) by Amores & Cosgrove  
*Little Badman &[...] Killer Aunties* - Humza Arshad  
*The Terrible Two, Mac B Kid Spy* (+) by Mac Barnett

*The Wonder Brothers, Cosmic or Broccoli Boy* -FC Boyce  
*The Last Kids on Earth* (+) by Max Brallier  
*The 13-Storey Treehouse* (+) by A Griffiths  
*How to Survive Without Grownups* (+) by Larry Hayes  
*Cookie & the Most Annoying Boy* (+) by Konnie Huq  
*Disaster Diaries: Zombies* (+)-R McGeddon  
*The Day That Aliens Ate Our Brains* (+) Tom McLaughlin  
*May Contain Nuts* (+) by Jonathon Meres  
*Accidental Trouble Magnet* (+) by Zanib Mian  
*Mistakes Were Made* (+) by Stephan Pastis  
*Super-Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates*-Pearson  
*The Boy Who Made Everyone Laugh* (+) by Helen Rutter  
*Brilliant World of Tom Gates* (+) by Liz Pichon  
*Something I Said* by Ben Bailey Smith  
*Loki: A Bad God's Guide to Being Good* (+) by L Stowell  
*From the Top: Big Nate* (+) by Lincoln Peirce (SR)

### Horror and Ghost

*Doll Bones* by Holly Black  
*Jon for Short* by Malorie Blackman  
*The House in the Woods* (+) by Yvette Fielding  
*Coraline* by Neil Gaiman (also GN)  
*Spirit Hunters; Haru: Zombie Dog Hero* by Ellen Oh  
*Last One to Die* by Cynthia Murphy  
*Tales of Terror, Mister Creecher* -Chris Priestley  
*The Housetrapped* by Emma Read  
*Zom-B or Cirque du Freak* (& sequels) by D. Shan  
*Full Tilt* by Neal Shusterman\*  
*Thunderstruck* by Ali Sparkes  
*The Screaming Staircase* (+) by Jonathon Stroud  
*Slappy Birthday to You; Party Games* (+) by RL Stine

### Immigrant/Intercultural Experience & Refugees

*No Ballet Shoes in Syria* by Catherine Bruton  
*Efren Divided* by Ernesto Cisneros  
*Boy, Everywhere; Fight Back* by A.M. Dassu  
*The Bone Sparrow* by Zana Fraillion  
*The Island* by Armin Greder (PB for older readers)  
*The Eleventh Trade* by Alyssa Hollingsworth  
*Amina's Voice* (+) by Hena Khan  
*When Stars Are Scattered* by Jamieson & Mohamed (GN)  
*Inside Out and Back Again* by Thanhha Lai (VN)  
*The Crossing* by Manjeet Mann (VN)\*  
*A Long Walk to Water; Prairie Lotus* by Linda Sue Park  
*The Arrival* by Shaun Tan (PB for older readers)  
*Other Words For Home* by Jasmine Warga (VN)  
*Front Desk* (+); *Finally Seen* by Kelly Yang  
*The Windrush Child or Refugee Boy\** -B Zephaniah



## Relationships & Tough Situations

*October, October; Light in Everything* by Katja Balen  
*Boy Underwater* by Adam Baron  
*When Shadows Fall; Artichoke Hearts* -S. Brahmachari\*  
*Danny Chung Does Not Do Maths* by Maisie Chan  
*Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow* by B Dean  
*Truth be Told & Guard Your Heart* by Sue Divin\*  
*Stella By Starlight or Copper Sun* by Sharon Draper  
*Read Between the Lies* by Malcolm Duffy\*  
*Running on Empty; Talking to the Moon* by S.E. Durrant  
*The Many Worlds of Albie Bright* -Chris Edge  
*Mockingbird* by Kathryn Erskine  
*Lenny's Book of Everything* by Karen Foxlee  
*Check Mates; Can You Feel the Noise* by S Foster  
*One Crazy Summer* (+) by Rita Williams-Garcia  
*Focused; Taking Up Space; Braced* by Alyson Gerber  
*When Life Gives You Mangoes; If You Read This* - Getten  
*George; Rick; Alex Austin Lived Here* by Alex Gino  
*Tall Story or Shine* by Candy Gourlay  
*Proud of Me; Just Like Everyone Else* by S Hagger-Holt  
*Julia and the Shark* by KM Hargrave  
*After the Fire* by Will Hill\*  
*Fish in a Tree; Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda M Hunt  
*When Our Worlds Collided* by Danielle Jawando\*  
*Mark My Words* by Muhammed Khan\*  
*How to Look for a Lost Dog; Rain Reign* by Ann Martin  
*Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark* by Anthony McGowan \*  
*A Kind of Spark* by Elle McNicholl  
*A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness  
*No Fixed Address; Tremendous Things* - S Nielsen\*  
*It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime* (YA)—Trevor Noah\*  
*Wonder or Pony* by R.J. Palacio  
*Ellie Pillai is Brown* by Christine Pillainayagam\*  
*The Star Outside My Window* by Onjali Rauf  
*When I Was the Greatest* by Jason Reynolds\*  
*Ghost Boys; Black Brother; Paradise on Fire* JP Rhodes  
*Can You See Me* (+) by Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott  
*The Boxer; Stand Up* by Nikesh Shukla\*  
*Counting by 7's; Elephant in the Room* by H G Sloan  
*Stargirl; Dead Wednesday* by Jerry Spinelli\*  
*Clean Getaway; Dear Justyce* by Nic Stone\*  
*Jemima Small vs the Universe* by Tamsin Winter

## Sports

*Finding Her Feet; Kicking Off* (+) by Eve Ainsworth  
*Booked, Crossover or Rebound* by Kwame Alexander\*  
*Inspirational Sports Stories for Kids* by Ben Bye  
*Unstoppable or The Kick Off* (+) by Dan Freedman

*50 Times Football Changed the World* by G Linneker  
*Ultimate Football Heroes* collection - M&T Oldfield  
*Foul Play; Black Op; Combat Zone* (+) by Tom Palmer  
*Becoming Muhammed Ali* by J Patterson & K Alexander  
*Starting Eleven; Dream On* (+) by Bali Rai  
*You Are a Champion & You Can Do It* by M Rashford  
*Ghost, Patina, Sunny, Lu* (Track series) by J Reynolds  
*Macbeth United: A Football Tragedy* by Michael Rosen  
*Rugby Spirit; Football Fiesta* by Gerald Siggins  
*Striking Out* by Ian Wright & Musa Okwonga

## History, War & Conflict

*The Door of No Return* by Kwame Alexander (VN)\*  
*Rasputin Dagger; Remembrance* by Theresa Breslin\*  
*Brothers of the Buffalo; Code Talker; Geronimo*-Bruchac  
*The Short Knife* by Elen Caldecott\*  
*Wolf Children, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven* -Dowswell  
*Copper Sun; Fire From the Rock* by Sharon Draper\*  
*The Last Paper Crane* by Kerry Drewery  
*When the Sky Falls; Until the Road Ends* --Phil Earle  
*Under a War-Torn Sky; Walls; Suspect Red* - L.M. Elliott\*  
*Hide and Seek; Sweet Skies* by Robin Scott-Elliot  
*Call of the Titanic; Darwin's Dragons* by Lindsay Galvin  
*Never Forget You; Coram Boy* by Jamila Gavin\*  
*Once* (+) by Morris Gleitzman  
*Bone Talk; Wild Song* by Candy Gourlay  
*Grenade, Ground Zero or Allies* - Alan Gratz  
*Journey Back to Freedom; Sawbones* (+) -C Johnson  
*When the World Was Ours* by Liz Kessler\*  
*Orphan Monster Spy; Devil, Darling, Spy* - Matt Killeen\*  
*Buffalo Soldier, Apache; Lightning Strike*- T Landman\*  
*The Skylarks' War; The Swallows' Flight*- Hilary McKay  
*Red Stars* by Davide Morosinotto\*  
*Shadow; In the Mouth of the Wolf* by M Morpurgo  
*Sunrise Over Fallujah* by Walter Dean Myers\*  
*We Are Wolves* by Katrina Nannestad  
*Things A Bright Girl Can Do; All Fall Down* by S Nicholls\*  
*Resist; After the War; Armistice Runner* -Tom Palmer  
*Salt to the Sea; I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys \*  
*Eagle of the Ninth* (+) by Rosemary Sutcliffe  
*The Land; Roll of Thunder* by Mildred D Taylor\*  
*African Town* by Charles Waters & I Latham\* (VN)  
*Code Named Verity* (+); *Last Hawk; Stateless* by E Wein\*  
*Cane Warriors* by Alex Wheatle\*  
*The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak\*

+ = sequels/other books in the series available

\* = content is more mature (12/13+)

