

Recommended Reading List: Year 4

Author	Title	Blurb
Anna Hibiscus	Atinuke	Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2008. Original and understated, this charming depiction of modern-day family life in west Africa is the debut from a fresh, new storytelling voice. Pacy and engaging Anna Hibiscus is perfect for the newly independent reader and extensively illustrated to build reader confidence.
Kevin Crossley-Holland	Beowulf	This is the story of a young man who travelled far across the sea to fight two terrifying monsters-one who could rip a man apart and drink his blood, the other who lived like a sea-wolf at the bottom of a dark, blood-stained lake. His name was Beowulf, and his story was written down in Anglo-Saxon in the eighth century. Kevin Crossley-Holland retells the story for children in strong, rhythmical prose, with striking illustrations by Charles Keeping. The paperback edition is now reissued with a new cover.
Erich Kastner	Emil And The Detectives	<p>One of Philip Pullman's favourites: "A great political story: democracy in action."</p> <p>If his mother had known the amazing adventures Emil was going to have in Berlin, she would never have let him go. But when his money goes missing on the train, Emil's determination to get it back leads him to team up with the detectives he meets in Berlin - and that was just the start.</p>
Andre Maurois, Raymond Briggs, Fritz Wegner	Fattypuffs and Thinifers	Edmund was fat and loved food - just like his mother. His brother Terry was thin - just like his father. The boys were amazed when they found themselves on opposite sides in a battle between the warring nations of the Fattypuffs and Thinifers.
Salman Rushdie	Haroun And The Sea Of Stories	Haroun's father is the greatest of all storyletters. His magical stories bring laughter to the sad city of Alifbay. But one day something goes wrong and his father runs out of stories to tell. Haroun is determined to return the storyteller's gift to his father. So he flies off on the back of the Hoopie bird to the Sea of Stories - and a fantastic adventure begins.

Cressida Cowell	Hiccup: How to Train Your Dragon	<p>Jokes flow thick and fast from this most original and inventive Viking adventure, which launched the career of a Viking with a difference. Hiccup Horrendous Haddock grew up at a time of dragons but he was not always a hero. He had to learn to fight them. To do so he had to pass the Dragon Initiation Programme, an awesome schedule run by Gobber the Belch, idiot in charge of initiation on the Isle of Berk. Hiccup was by no means a natural high achiever when it came to dragon training but after many hilarious mishaps, he soon got the hang of it and was on the way to becoming a Hero</p>
Philip Pullman	I Was A Rat!	<p>Acclaimed author Philip Pullman turns his hand to a stunning and original story for younger readers. Who is Roger? He says he was a rat - and some of the time he behaves like a rat. But, he is also a small boy. Or, he could be the Monster of the sewers...Everyone has a view - including The Daily Scourge - who tells their own version in screaming newspaper headlines. There is just one person who really knows who Roger is. And she's the princess....</p>
Marcus Sedgwick	Raven Mysteries 3: Lunatics and Luck	<p>Winner of the Blue Peter Book Award 2011: Most Fun Story with Pictures*.</p> <p>As told by a raven, this Gothic horror richly laced in humour is a delicious read - especially when the moon is full! Castle Otherhand is beset by problems. There are the usual ones of money troubles but this time there is a horrible new teacher who smells like a wet dog to contend with and Solstice and Cudweed are at his mercy. Enjoy all the usual - and decidedly unusual - happenings in this richly created world.</p>
David Almond	Mouse Bird Snake Wolf	<p>Shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal 2014</p> <p>Award-winning David Almond is at his most lyrical and imaginative in this story of how three children fill up the gaps the gods have left when creating their world. First they create a mouse, a soft squeaky thing, then a flying thing to fill up all the space above them. They are pleased with what they do. But are they brave enough to create a wolf? And what will happen when they do? Dave McKean's illustrations bring the children and the creatures they create vividly to life.</p>

Daren King	Mouse Noses on Toast	<p>Shortlisted for the Nestle Children's Award 2006 in the 6-8 category.</p> <p>When you are a mouse hearing that mouse noses on toast is being served at a local restaurant can be quite disturbing. Perhaps it's a joke or a myth.</p> <p>So begins an adventure to find the truth involving mouse activists, the prime minister and cheese addicts. But will they survive with their whiskers intact?</p>
David Walliams	Mr Stink	<p>Shortlisted for the Blue Peter Best Book of the Decade. A World Book Day 'Recommended Read' for 2011. Shortlisted for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize 2010. Galaxy Children's Book Award shortlist 2010. The second original, touching, twisted, and most of all hilarious novel for children by David Walliams and beautifully illustrated by Quentin Blake. "Mr Stink stank. He also stunk. And if it was correct English to say he stinked, then he stinked as well..." It all starts when Chloe makes friends with Mr Stink, the local tramp. Yes, he smells a bit. But when it looks like he might be driven out of town, Chloe decides to hide him in the garden shed. Now Chloe's got to make sure no one finds out her secret. And speaking of secrets, there just might be more to Mr Stink than meets the eye... or the nose.</p>
Philip Reeve	Oliver and the Seawigs	<p>Shortlisted for the Blue Peter Book of the Year 2014 - Best Story</p> <p>Award-winning Philip Reeve spins a hugely original yarn encompassing moving islands, a short sighted mermaid, a stuck-up boy by the name of Stacey de Lacey and his private army of cheeky, smelly green sea monkeys and a charming hero Oliver whose search for his parents brings him into contact with all of the above. Sarah McIntyre's ebullient illustrations capture the quirky nature of this adventure perfectly.</p>
Chris Riddell	Ottoline And The Yellow Cat	<p>Shortlisted for the prestigious 2008 Kate Greenaway Medal. A glorious adventure fantasy told in words and loads of Chris Riddell's fabulous pictures, this tells how Ottoline, who loves solving puzzles, and her friend Mr Munro, a cat with a distinct personality and a number of foibles, set out to resolve the mystery of the lapdogs who are being stolen from all over town.</p>

Stephen Davies	Sophie And The Albino Camel	Winner of the Glen Dimplex Children's Book award 2006. Sophie is a wonderfully adventurous young girl who now lives with her father in a town in the Sahara desert. Her love of camels and a chance meeting with a young boy brings her into all manner of danger, fear and excitement all in one.
Arthur Ransome	Swallows and Amazons	John, Susan, Titty and Roger sail their boat, Swallow, to a deserted island for a summer camping trip. Exploring and playing sailors is an adventure in itself but the island holds more excitement in store. Two fierce Amazon Pirates, Nancy and Peggy, challenge them to war and a summer of battles and alliances ensues.
Philippa Pearce	Battle Of Bubble And Squeak	Sid, Penny and Amy adore the two gerbils, Bubble and Squeak, but their mother detests them. A major family battle results, and it's clear life is never going to be quite the same again.
Michael Morpurgo	The Dancing Bear	High in the mountains, in a tiny village, an abandoned bear cub is adopted by a lonely orphan child. Soon they are the best of friends, beloved by the whole village - safe, until the arrival of a glamorous film crew who need a dancing bear...
Philip Pullman	The Firework-maker's Daughter	<p>What Lila wants to be more than anything else in the world is . . . a Firework-Maker!</p> <p>But firework-making is not just about being able to make Crackle-Dragons and Golden Sneezes. There is also one special secret: every Firework-Maker must make a perilous journey to face the terrifying Fire-Fiend!</p> <p>Not knowing that she needs special protection to survive the Fire-Fiend's flames, Lila sets off alone. Her friends, Chulak and Hamlet - the King's white elephant - race after her. But can they possibly reach her in time?</p>
Katie Davies	The Great Hamster Massacre	<p>Winner of the Waterstone's Book Award 2010. Galaxy Children's Book Award shortlist 2010. Shortlisted for the prestigious Sheffield Children's Book Award 2011.</p> <p>An entertaining behind-the-scenes look at family life</p>

		<p>in all its intricacies as it revolves around pet ownership and the drama that surrounds it. Nine year old Anna tells how she and her younger brother Tom win the battle to be allowed to own a hamster each, survive the ups and downs of ownership and then, when the great hamster massacre takes places, set about finding the culprit! Anna's view of her world will amuse all.</p>
Philip Ardagh	The Grunts In Trouble	<p>Meet the Grunts! Mr and Mrs, their cat Ginger Biscuit, two donkeys Clip and Clop and Sunny, a child Mr Grunt stole off a washing line as a present for Mrs Grunt. The Grunts roam the land in a ramshackle and unlikely looking home on wheels. Their adventures are as unsavoury, unlikely and entertaining as they are as Axel Scheffler's illustrations wittily show; fans of Andy Stanton's Mr Gum and Roald Dahl's The Twits will delight in this disgusting but amiable pair their terrible antics...</p>
Eve Bunting and David Wiesner	Night of the Gargoyles	
Adele Geras	Lizzie's Wish	
Berlie Doherty	Street Child	
Jill Murphy	The Worst Witch Collection	