



## School Reading Spine



### Year 6

These selection of books are intense reads and meaty books that are crafted beautifully. It is important as a teacher to read them first before using them to teach.

(See Pie Corbett's Reading Spine for more detailed teaching notes)

Title	Author	Notes for teaching
<b>Holes</b>	Louis Sachar	Keep a diary of the key events as the children are reading it. Draw two timelines to track past and present events. Make a comparison with the PG Film.
<b>Clockwork</b>	Philip Pullman	Explore the meaning of the phrase 'clockwork' – how are our lives like 'clockwork'? How does Philip Pullman create suspense?
<b>The Hobbit</b>	J.R.R. Tolkien	Can the children write their own messages in runic code? Invite children to write letters to Bilbo and write sets of instructions such as 'How To Trap a Troll'. Write riddles and poems about a magical ring. Can they write their own magical quest story?
<b>Skellig</b>	David Almond	Discuss Mina's views on education. Luke to 'The Tyger' by William Blake. Write diary entries from Mina's view and in response to the story – write story from Mina's view.
<b>Fireweed</b>	Jill Paton Walsh	Children would benefit from having prior knowledge of bombing in London in 1940 and the evacuation. Discuss each character's thoughts and feelings. Why is the story called Fireweed?
<b>River Boy</b>	Tim Bowler	Discuss the relationship between the painting and the river boy and Grandpa. By the end of the book, who has changed and how?
<b>The Arrival</b>	Shaun Tan	Picture book. Explore the meaning of immigration and migration – especially migration at the end of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century (Ellis Island). Explore what is happening in the story and how the characters might be



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		feeling. Write diary entries for the characters and explore their feelings.
<b>Other Recommended Books for Year 6</b>		
<b>Title</b>		<b>Author</b>
<b>Around the World in 80 Days (Archaic)</b>		Jules Verne
<b>Journey to the Centre of the Earth (Archaic)</b>		Jules Verne
<b>Oliver Twist (Archaic)</b>		Charles Dickens
<b>Black Beauty (Archaic)</b>		Anna Sewell
<b>The Jungle Book (Archaic)</b>		Rupyard Kipling
<b>The Light Jar</b>		Lisa Thompson
<b>Time Travelling with a Hamster</b>		Ross Welford
<b>The Nowhere Emporium</b>		Ross McKenzie
<b>Silverfin</b>		Charlie Higson
<b>The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day</b>		Christopher Edge
<b>Wonder</b>		R.J. Palacio
<b>Pax</b>		Sara Pennypacker
<b>A Series of Unfortunate Events</b>		Lemony Snicket
<b>Cogheart</b>		Peter Bunzl
<b>Northern Lights</b>		Phillip Pullman
<b>The House with Chicken Legs</b>		Sophie Anderson
<b>The Lost Thing (compare with the Arrival)</b>		Shaun Tan
<b>The Girl of Ink and Stars</b>		Kiran Millwood Grave
<b>The Mysteries of Harris Burdick</b>		Chris Van Allsburg
<b>The Pobble Who Had No Toes</b>		Edward Lear
<b>Check Mates</b>		Steward Foster
<b>Armistice Runner</b>		Tom Palmer
<b>The Dream Snatcher</b>		Abi Elphinstone
<b>A Wrinkle In Time</b>		Madeleine L'Engle
<b>Percy Jackson</b>		Rick Riordan
<b>Storm Breaker</b>		Anthony Horowitz
<b>Nevermoor</b>		Jessica Townsend
<b>Malamander</b>		Thomas Taylor
<b>The Eye of the Wolf (Wordsmith)</b>		Daniel Pennac
<b>Wild Animals of the North</b>		Dieter Braun
<b>Great Adventurers</b>		Alastair Humphreys
<b>Who Let the Gods Out?</b>		Maz Evans
<b>The Island at the End of Everything</b>		Kiran Millwood Grave
<b>Can You See Me?</b>		Libby Scott
<b>Ella on the Outside</b>		Cath Howe
<b>Viking Boy</b>		Tony Bradman
<b>Kick</b>		Mitch Johnson
<b>Kensuke's Kingdom</b>		Michael Morpurgo
<b>No Ballet Shoes in Syria</b>		Catherin Bruton



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Suggested books linked to Themes		
Theme	Title	Author
Yosemite National Park/Plas Gwynant/Warley Woods	Yosemite National Park	Harley McAllister
	My Yosemite	Mike Graf
	Wild Animals of the North	Dieter Braun
	Great Adventurers	Alastair Humphreys
What did the Greeks do for us?	Who Let the Gods Out?	Maz Evans
	Hopeless Heroes: Here Comes Hercules!	Stella Tarakson & Nick Roberts
	Beasts of Olympus: Beast Keeper	Lucy Coats
	The Ancient Greek Mysteries	Saviour Pirotta & Freya Hartas
The First Crusade	The First Crusade: A New History	Thomas Asbridge
	The Crusades	The Way for the Holy Land
Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?	Viking Boy	Tony Bradman
	How to Train Your Dragon	Cressida Cowell
	100 Facts: Vikings	Fiona MacDonald
	The Time-Travelling Cat and the Viking Terror	Julia Jarman