



## Reading Spine

Our reading spine is a core list of books which children will experience as they move through our school. These essential reads for each year group ensure children experience a breadth of literature and different genres. The books may be read aloud to children as part of the daily read, form part of their reading comprehension work or be the basis for a writing unit or topic work.

We aim to engage every child with a selection of picture books, illustrated fiction, chapter books and non-fiction

In his book 'Reading Reconsidered', Doug Lemov points out that there are five types of text that children should have access to in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence. We have used his five types of text as a basis for our reading spine.

**Archaic Texts** - books written include vocabulary, syntax and contexts which are of an earlier period. These include classic children's literature.

**Non-Linear Time Sequences** - In these books children may experience changes in the direction of time e.g. flashbacks, or in the rate of time elapsing; a narrative slows down suddenly or leaps ahead.

**Complexity of the Narrator** - books narrated by an unreliable narrator, or those with multiple narrators. Others have non-human narrators

**Complexity of Plot** - books which may have multiple intertwined and apparently (for a time) unrelated plot lines.

**Resistant Texts** - where the material to be difficult to understand, to deliberately resist easy meaning-making by readers.

As well as the five text types noted above, we have also ensured children at WRPS will read books which reflect the diversity of our society, those books with Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic characters and those which encourage children to explore inclusivity and difference.

Pie Corbett says...

'Great books build the imagination. The more we read aloud expressively, and the more children are able to savour, discuss and reinterpret literature through the arts, the more memorable the characters, places and events become, building an inner world. A child who is read to will have an inner kingdom of unicorns, talking spiders and a knife that cuts into other worlds. The mind is like a 'tardis'; it may seem small but inside there are many mansions. Each great book develops the imagination and equips the reader with language.

Great stories speak to us as individuals and some children will return to certain books again and again. Great stories also build our language because around 75 per cent of our vocabulary comes from our reading. Reading develops the ability to think in the abstract; to follow lines of thought. Schools that have a reading spine, build a common bank of stories that bind the community together. These are shared and deeply imagined common experiences'.

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

EYFS					
Autumn		Spring		Summer	
 <p>The Colour Monster Anna Llenas</p>	 <p>We're Going on a Bear Hunt Michael Rosen</p>	 <p>Mr Gumpy's Outing John Burningham</p>	 <p>Little Glow Katie Sahota</p>	 <p>The Hungry Caterpillar Eric Carle</p>	 <p>Oliver's Vegetables Alison Bartlett Vivian French</p>
Exploring different emotions	Rhyming, adventure and learning by heart	Repetitive structure Encouraging prediction	Cultural diversity	Repetitive structure Developing Vocab	Vocab (days of the week)
 <p>Not Last Night but the Night Before Colin McNaughton</p>	 <p>Dear Santa Rod Campbell</p>	 <p>My Big Book of Transport Moira Butterfield</p>	 <p>Lunar New Year Hannah Elliot</p>	 <p>How Does a Butterfly Grow? DK</p>	 <p>Handa's Surprise Eileen Browne</p>
Rhyming	Prediction, extending vocab	Transport Topic, non-fiction	Thinking about different traditions	Life Cycles	Cultural diversity, participation
 <p>A range of traditional tales</p>	 <p>One Snowy Night Nick Butterworth</p>	 <p>Tough Trucks Tony Mitton / Ant Parker</p>	 <p>Jasper's Beanstalk Nick Butterworth</p>	 <p>Yucky Worms Vivian French</p>	 <p>Amazing Africa Atinuke</p>
A range of traditional tales	Thinking about seasonal changes	Transport Topic, develop vocab / counting	Vocabulary (days of the week)	Exploring habitats - compost	Non-Fiction Exploring another country

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

 <p>Only one you Linda Kranz</p>	 <p>Rama and the Demon King Jessica Souhami</p>	 <p>Mrs Armitage on Wheels Quentin Blake</p>	 <p>My Bean Diary Rhonda Jenkins</p>	 <p>Martha Maps it Out Leigh Hodgkinson</p>	 <p>One Day on our Blue Planet Ella Bailey</p>
<p>Transition Acceptance</p>	<p>Myth, cultural diversity</p>	<p>Humour, developing imagination</p>	<p>Instruction writing</p>	<p>Map reading skills</p>	<p>Cultural diversity</p>
 <p>The Christmas Pine Julia Donaldson</p>	 <p>Elmer David McKee</p>	 <p>Mr Wolf's Pancakes Jan Fearnley</p>	 <p>Juniper Jupiter Lizzy Stewart</p>	 <p>Billy and the Beast Nadia Shireen</p>	 <p>What the Ladybird Heard Julia Donaldson</p>
<p>Poetry</p>	<p>Mutual respect – accepting difference</p>	<p>Encouraging instruction writing</p>	<p>Friendship and valuing what you have</p>	<p>Exploring emotions</p>	<p>Rhyme</p>

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

Year 1					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
 <p>The High Street Alice Melvin</p>	 <p>The Colour Monster Anna Llenas</p>	 <p>The World Came to My Place Today Jo Readman</p>	 <p>Julian is a Mermaid Jessica Love</p>	 <p>Jim Mini Grey</p>	 <p>The Summer My Father Was Ten Pat Brisson</p>
Early prediction	Identify and explore emotions	Awareness of Natural World	Diversity Challenging stereotypes	Set in another time Archaic language Cautionary tale	Non linear time sequence Narrative at a level beyond independence
 <p>Where the Wild Things are Maurice Sendak</p>	 <p>Various titles Beatrix Potter</p>	 <p>Where the Wild Things Are Maurice Sendak</p>	 <p>A First Poetry Book Pie Corbett</p>	 <p>On the Way Home Jill Murphy</p>	 <p>Lady Lollipop Dick King-Smith</p>
Imagination / control of own destiny	Literary heritage Archaic language	Joining in with predictable phrases Complexity of plot	Poetry	Imaginative – themes of love, family and courage	Narrative – self-control

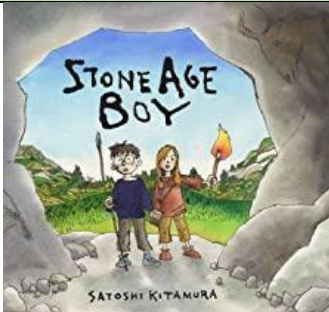
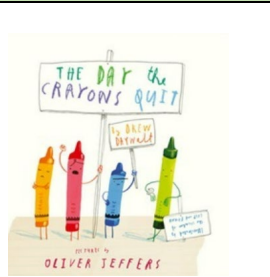
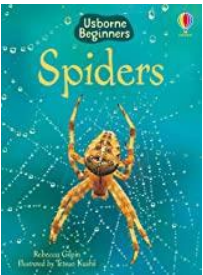

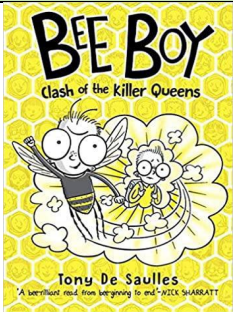
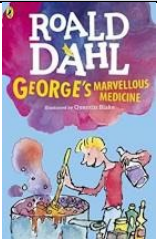

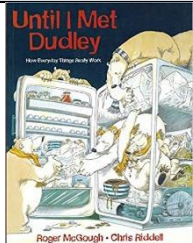
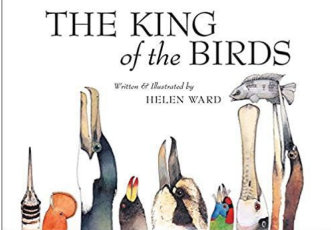
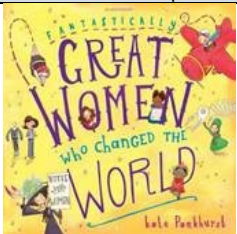
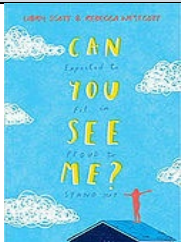
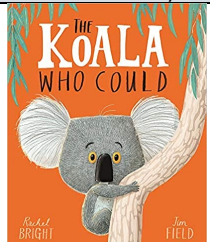
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 <p>Odd Dog Out Rob Biddulph</p>	 <p>Dogger Shirley Hughes</p>	 <p>Town Mouse, Country Mouse Libby Walden</p>	 <p>Fatou, fetch the water Neil Griffiths</p>		 <p>Naughty Bus Jan and Jerry Oke</p>
<p>Celebrating difference Exploring diversity</p>	<p>Link to topic Linking to own experiences</p>	<p>Fable: envy, appreciation</p>	<p>Cultural Diversity / Traditional Tale – (apostrophes)</p>		<p>Playful font types that help to show the meaning of words</p>
	 <p>The Selfish Crocodile Faustin Charles / Michael Terry</p>	 <p>Illustrated Traditional Stories Sara Gianassi</p>	 <p>Dino Dinners Mick Manning</p>		
	<p>Selfishness (gets you nowhere)</p>	<p>Traditional tales</p>	<p>Information text beyond independent reading)</p>		
		 <p>How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth Michelle Robinson</p>			
		<p>Instructions</p>			


Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

Year 2					
Autumn		Spring		Summer	
		 <p>Tell Me a Dragon Jackie Morris</p>	 <p>My Village: Rhymes from Around the World</p>	 <p>Grow your own Lettuce Helen Lanz</p>	 <p>Dear Mother Goose Michael Rosen and Nick Sharratt</p>
Link to topic – Fantasy Archaic Text	Archaic text	Lyrical, figurative language	Poetry, Dual language Diversity	Instructions/ Information Text	Fantasy/Nursery Rhymes/ Letters
 <p>The Ghanaian Goldilocks Dr Tamara Pizzoli</p>	 <p>Look Inside Space Rob Lloyd Jones and Benedetta Giaufret, et al</p>	 <p>Where Is Home, Little Pip? Karma Wilson</p>	 <p>Benji, the bad day and me Sally J Pla</p>	 <p>What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? Steve Jenkins and Robin Page</p>	 <p>Mixed Up Fairy Tales Hilary Robinson and Nick Sharratt</p>
Cultural retelling	Contemporary poetry, topic link	Lyrical, figurative language	Neurodiversity	Questioning Non-Fiction	Fairy Tales/Fantasy
 <p>Amelia Earhart Isabel Sanchez Vegare</p>		 <p>Penguins</p>	 <p>Tusk Tusk Davis McKee</p>	 <p>My Day at the Zoo Joy Dale</p>	 <p>Ruby's Worry Tom's Percival</p>
Historic – 1 <sup>st</sup> hand account, topic link (Biography)		Non-Fiction Topic	Diversity / Acceptance	Information/ Recount	Transition

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

Year 3					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
 <p>Stone Age Boy Satoshi Kitamura</p>	 <p>The Day the Crayons Quit Oliver Seffers</p>	 <p>Spiders. Usborne Beginners Rebecca Gilpin Illustrated by Tricia Kautz</p>	 <p>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe CS Lewis</p>	 <p>BEE BOY Clash of the Killer Queens Tony De Saulles A hilarious read from beginning to end - WICKI SHARRATT</p>	 <p>The Hodgeheg Dick King Smith The master of animal adventures</p>
Adventure, theme of adaptation - topic information	Empathy and Communication	Non Chronological	Mythical/Imaginary	Fantasy, factual – supporting topic	Adventure, theme of resilience
 <p>George's Marvellous Medicine Roald Dahl</p>	Playscripts	 <p>The Boy Who Grew Dragons Andy Shepherd Illustrated by Sue Spence</p>	 <p>Until I Met Dudley Roger McGough • Charlie Riddell</p>	 <p>THE KING of the BIRDS Written &amp; Illustrated by HELEN WARD</p>	Wallace and Gromit Nick Park
Longer Narrative (Instructions)		Theme of Respect and Relationships	Explanation Text	Traditional Tale - lyrical	Adventure Stories - Vocabulary
		 <p>GREAT WOMEN who changed the world Kate Pankhurst</p>	 <p>CAN you see me? Libby Scott</p>	Haikus	 <p>THE KOALA WHO COULD Rachel Bright Jon Field</p>
		Information text – gender norms	Neurodiversity	Poetry	Transition


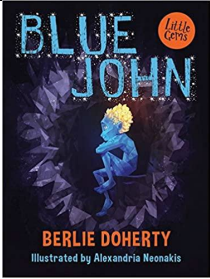
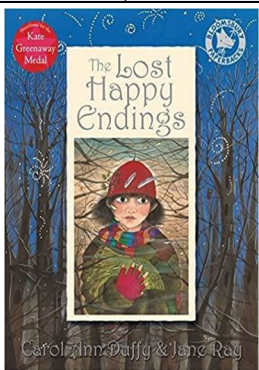
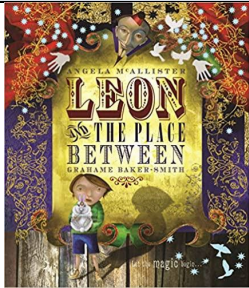
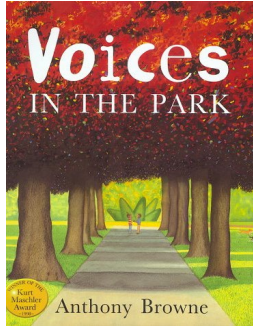
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			Aliens Stole my Underpants Brian Moses Humorous poetry -		



Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

Year 4

 <p>Shine Sarah Asuquo</p>	 <p>Loki - a Bad God's Guide to Being Good Louie Stowell</p>	 <p>The Snow Dragon Abi Elphinstone</p>	 <p>Why the Whales Came Michael Morpurgo</p>		 <p>Blue John Berlie Doherty</p>
<p>Diversity</p>	<p>Longer narrative – relationships, mischief and expectation</p>	<p>Adventure – theme of belonging</p>	<p>Historic Adventure – theme of friendship</p>		<p>Challenging read / vocab</p>
 <p>A - Z Michael Rosen</p>	 <p>The Lost Happy Endings Carol Ann Duffy</p>	 <p>Leon and the Place Between Angela McAllister</p>	 <p>Dreamers Yuyi Morales</p>	 <p>Rama and Sita Anna Milbourne</p>	 <p>Voices in the Park Anthony Browne</p>
<p>Contemporary poetry</p>	<p>Story endings – classic fairy tales</p>	<p>Mystery – vocab and sentence structure</p>	<p>Diversity / Empowerment</p>	<p>Topic and exploring different culture; Diwali</p>	<p>Complexity of plot</p>

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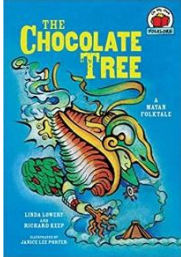
 <p>Danny the Champion of the World</p>	 <p>The Girl Who Stole an Elephant Nizrana Farook</p>	 <p>The Tunnel Anthony Browne</p>		 <p>Cloud Tea Monkeys Mal Peet - Elspeth Graham</p>	 <p>Polar Bears Explorers Club Alex Bell</p>
<p>Society; father / son relationships</p>	<p>Morality, loyalty and friendship</p>	<p>Explores themes – curiosity, cooperation, between siblings</p>		<p>Human rights</p>	<p>Adventure – dynamic dialogue</p>
 <p>The Wizard, the Ugly and the Book of Shame Pablo Bernasconi</p>	 <p>Roman Diary: The Journal of Iliona a Young Slave Richard Platt</p>				
<p>Fairy Tale: courage, self-love</p>	<p>Diary: hope, historic</p>				

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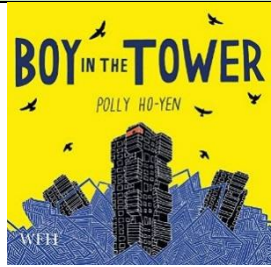
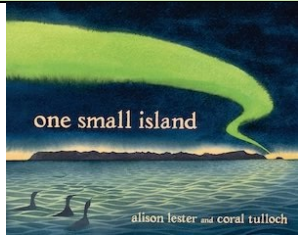
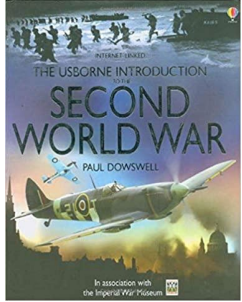
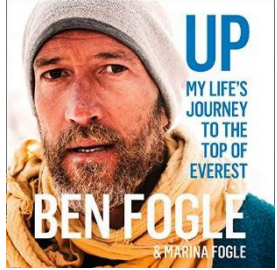


Autumn - Wodenday's Woes (Diary Writing), Prince Sigurd, the Dragon Fafnir, Lambton Worm - Summer - Biomes information text (Non-chron report)

Year 5					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
	 <p>OVERALL WINNER</p>				
	<p>The boy at the back of the class Onjali Q Rauf</p>	<p>Stories of Kids who dare to be different Ben Hibbard</p>	<p>The Tear Thief Carol Ann Duffy</p>	<p>Fair Trade First Sarah Ridley</p>	<p>Paradise Garden Colin Thompson</p>
<p>Topic Link</p>	<p>Diversity</p>	<p>Diversity</p>	<p>Traditional Tales / Read Aloud</p>	<p>Information sustainability and consumerism</p>	<p>Narrative – theme of turbulent home life</p>
					
<p>Viking / Anglo Saxon Boy Tony Bradman</p>	<p>Incredible Edibles Stefan Gates</p>	<p>SLAM You're Gonna Wanna Hear This Nakita Gill</p>	<p>Middleworld J and P Voelkel</p>	<p>Our planet Matt Whyman</p>	<p>Thieves of Ostia Caroline Lawrence</p>
<p>Adventure, myths, topic link</p>	<p>Instruction</p>	<p>Contemporary poetry</p>	<p>Quest – topic link</p>	<p>Environmental awareness</p>	<p>Mystery – acceptance of difference</p>
					
<p>The Sit-in Andrea Davis Pinkney</p>	<p>The Highwayman Alfred Noyes</p>	<p>The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tiler Gene Kemp</p>	<p>Bill Bryson Travel guides - lonely planet Travel writing</p>	<p>The Blue Giant Katie Cottle</p>	<p>You Are Awesome Matthew Syed</p>
<p>Real life events Human rights</p>		<p>Local author / setting Twist ending</p>		<p>Environmental awareness</p>	<p>Transition</p>

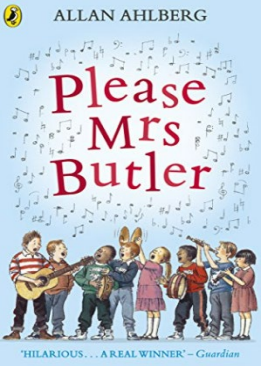
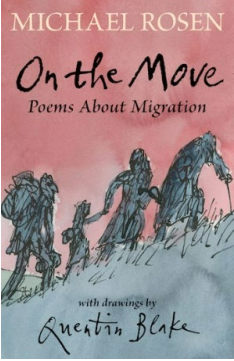
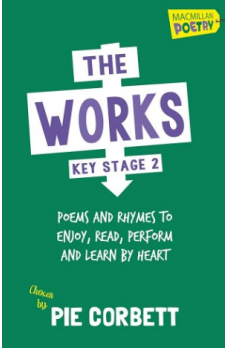
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				The Chocolate Tree Linda Lawery Topic link - myth	

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

Year 6					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
 <p>I Am Cat Jackie Morris</p>	 <p>Cracking Contraptions Dereck Smith</p>	 <p>Kensuke's Kingdom Michael Morpurgo</p>	 <p>The Shadow Cage Philippa Pearce</p>	 <p>Boy in the Tower, Polly Ho-Yen</p>	 <p>One small island Alison Lester</p>
Contemporary poetry	Explanation – sentence structure	Adventure, vocab, topic, accepting difference, friendship	Non-linear, complex narrator, mystery, suspense	Narrative – themes of anxiety, isolation, depression	Non fiction picture book Environmental theme
 <p>Who Let the Gods Out Maz Evans</p>	 <p>Darwin's Voyage of Discovery Jake Williams</p>	 <p>The Little Ships Louise Borden</p>	 <p>Range of Non Fiction</p>	 <p>Alice in Wonderland Lewis Carroll</p>	 <p>Up and Travel Blogs Ben Fogle</p>
Humour, topic link, theme of dementia	Historic adventure fiction / information	Topic first person recount	Formal and informal information texts WW2	Archaic Text	Adventure / memoir
 <p>Beowulf (Kevin Crossley-Holland)</p>	 <p>Various Greek Myths and Legends</p>	 <p>My Secret War Diary Marcia Williams</p>	 <p>The Arrival Sean Tan</p>	 <p>Unspoken Henry Cole</p>	
Legend - language / sentence structure.	Legend – archaic language	Topic link	Wordless book – theme of refugees	Wordless picture book Human rights	

Withycombe Raleigh C of E Primary School - Reading Spine (last reviewed February '24)

 <p>ALLAN AHLBERG <b>Please Mrs Butler</b> "HILARIOUS... A REAL WINNER" - Guardian</p> <p>Please Mrs Butler Allan Ahlberg</p>	 <p>MICHAEL ROSEN <i>On the Move</i> Poems About Migration with drawings by <i>Quentin Blake</i></p> <p>On the Move Michael Rosen</p>	 <p>THE WORKS KEY STAGE 2 POEMS AND RHYMES TO ENJOY, READ, PERFORM AND LEARN BY HEART chosen by <b>PIE CORBETT</b></p> <p>The Works Pie Corbett</p>			
<p>Coming of Age Themes (Self Reliance, disappointment)</p>	<p>Plight of Refugees</p>	<p>Poetry</p>			