

# School Library Service

## Framework for Reading Aloud

*'Pupils are familiar with and enjoy listening to a wide range of stories, poems, rhymes and non-fiction.'*  
*Ofsted 2019*

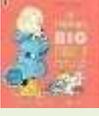
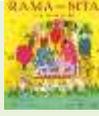
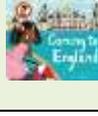
Our aim in producing this document is to provide a resource for Literacy Coordinators to use to promote books to read aloud throughout the school. These books provide a core of excellent read aloud texts for each year group from year 1 to year 6, introducing many key authors at the appropriate age. Following this framework avoids duplication so pupils can be introduced to a wide range of authors, genres and formats by the time they move to Secondary School.

The chosen books should allow opportunities for teachers to meet the statutory requirements of the English National Curriculum. [National curriculum in England: English programmes of study - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk) and fulfils the Government's expectations as outlined in The Reading Framework. [The reading framework: teaching the foundations of literacy - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

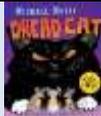
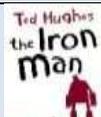
It can be adapted to suit specific school needs, but is intended as a 'Read for Pleasure' tool aimed at building a reading culture throughout the school, and an addition to any topic led reading or teaching sequence.



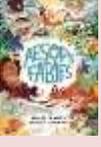
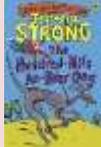
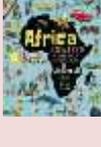
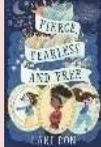
# YEAR 1

<b>Foundations of Literacy</b>	<p>Below are books that contain a range of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elicit a strong response – curiosity, anger, excitement, laughter, empathy.</li> <li>• have a strong narrative that will sustain multiple readings.</li> <li>• extend children’s vocabulary.</li> <li>• have illustrations which are engaging and reflect children from all backgrounds and cultures.</li> <li>• help children connect with who they are.</li> <li>• help children to understand the lives of people whose experiences and perspectives may be different from their own.</li> </ul> <p>They also include a range of stories set in the UK and around the world, both traditional and modern, as well as non-fiction.</p>			
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Learning to appreciate some poems and recite by heart. Joining in with predictable phrases.</p>	<p>Becoming familiar with fairy stories and traditional tales. Becoming familiar with key stories.</p>	<p>Listening to and discussing a wide range of texts, including non-fiction, at a level beyond that at which they can read independently. Discussing word meanings.</p>	<p>Linking what they hear read to their own experiences.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>A Great Big Cuddle by Michael Rosen. Bright and cheery poems, great for joining in.</p>	 <p>Usborne 10 Ten-minute Fairy Tales. Clear retellings of well-known fairy tales edited to take 10 minutes to read aloud.</p>	 <p>Dougal’s Deep-Sea Diary by Simon Bartram. Entertaining longer read in diary format.</p>	 <p>Mr Scruff by Simon James. Heart-warming inclusive tale, discussion points include animal welfare. Rhyming.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>Poems Out Loud! First Poems to Read and Perform. Ideal for reading aloud; a varied, diverse and contemporary collection.</p>	 <p>Rama and Sita by Malachy Doyle. Accessible adaptation of traditional Hindu folktale with vibrant illustrations.</p>	 <p>The Mousehole Cat by Antonia Barber. Set in Cornwall this story’s rich lyrical vocabulary lends itself to discussion.</p>	 <p>Who’s Your Real Mum? by Bernadette Green. Warm and realistic introduction to diverse families.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes A colourfully illustrated collection of nursery rhymes, traditional poems and lullabies.</p>	 <p>Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak. A classic which reads aloud well with repeated refrains.</p>	 <p>Beware of the Crocodile by Martin Jenkins. Atmospherically illustrated, this simple facton has lots of appeal.</p>	 <p>Luna Loves Art by Joseph Coelho. Warm and inclusive story with theme of family and friendship. Introduction to Art.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>Hairy McClary from Donaldson’s Dairy by Lynley Dodd Story in verse with increasing repetition, good for joining in.</p>	 <p>Elmer by David McKee Ever popular character. Explores acceptance of who you are and what you look like.</p>	 <p>Lots by Nicola Davies. An introduction to diversity and classification, beautifully detailed illustrations with simple text.</p>	 <p>It’s a No-Money Day by Kate Milner. Moving insight into this theme tackled with sensitivity and empathy.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>The Owl and the Pussycat by Edward Lear. A classic poem often learnt by heart. Unusual vocabulary to discuss.</p>	 <p>Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion by Alex T Smith, A twist on the classic fairy tale with a feisty heroine.</p>	 <p>Coming to England by Floella Benjamin. A simple picture book autobiography. A focus for Black British history and migration.</p>	 <p>Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall. Gentle tale about overcoming fears.</p>

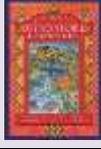
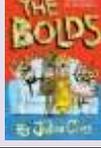
## YEAR 2

<b>Foundations of Literacy</b>	<p>Below are books that contain a range of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elicit a strong response – curiosity, anger, excitement, laughter, empathy.</li> <li>• have a strong narrative that will sustain multiple readings.</li> <li>• extend children’s vocabulary.</li> <li>• have illustrations which are engaging and reflect children from all backgrounds and cultures.</li> <li>• help children connect with who they are.</li> <li>• help children to understand the lives of people whose experiences and perspectives may be different from their own.</li> </ul> <p>They also include a range of stories set in the UK and around the world, both traditional and modern, as well as non-fiction.</p>			
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Pupils should be taught to develop pleasure in reading, motivation to read, vocabulary and understanding by ...</p>			
	Continuing to build up a repertoire of poems learnt by heart, appreciating these and reciting some with appropriate intonation to make the meaning clear. Discussing their favourite words and phrases.	Becoming increasingly familiar with and retelling a wider range of stories, fairy stories and traditional tales. Recognising simple recurring literary language in stories and poetry.	Listening to and discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently. Being introduced to non-fiction books that are structured in different ways.	Discussing the sequence of events in books and how items of information are related, Discussing and clarifying the meanings of word, linking new meanings to known vocabulary.
Title and Author	 <p>Poems Aloud by Joseph Coelho. Fun collection of riddles, tongue twisters and poems with writing and performance tips.</p>	 <p>Dread Cat by Michael Rosen. Clever, suspenseful story from master children’s author and poet that all pupils should know.</p>	 <p>Hermelin: The Detective Mouse by Mini Grey. Told in first person narrative, spot the clues to solve the crime.</p>	 <p>Small in the City by Sydney Smith. Beautiful illustrations and clever storytelling depict how living in a city can be overwhelming.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Jim by Hilaire Belloc. Archaic language, morbid humour and irony. Text enhanced by Mini Gray’s detailed illustrations.</p>	 <p>The Iron Man by Ted Hughes. Classic and powerful story from British literary heritage with rich vocabulary. Many themes to explore.</p>	 <p>Malala’s Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai. Simple autobiography of the life of young activist campaigning for the right of all girls to be educated.</p>	 <p>The Beast of Bramble Woods by Caryl Hart. Fun, relatable story of siblings, more in series for pupils to read for themselves.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Squishy McFluff: On With the Show by Pip Jones. Good rhythm and upbeat rhyme which scans well. Fun story of an imaginary pet.</p>	 <p>Snow White: 4 Beloved Tales by Jessica Gunderson. Retelling of the original dark tale with versions from 4 different countries.</p>	 <p>Zeraffa Giraffa by Dianne Hofmeyr. Evocative text tells this true story of the journey of a giraffe from Africa to Paris.</p>	 <p>The Forgettery by Rachel Ip. Lovely story about finding and reliving lost memories. Deals with old age.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>A First Book of Animals by Nicola Davies. Discover a wide range of animals through poetry and blank verse supported with a few facts.</p>	 <p>The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by Eugene Trivizas. Classic and clever fairy tale twist.</p>	 <p>Lifesize Dinosaurs by Sophie Henn. Interesting and accessible facts that involve the reader in size comparisons bringing the subject to life.</p>	 <p>Polonius the Pit Pony by Richard O’Neill. Featuring the traveller community makes this a must for empathy.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Once Upon A Star: A Poetic Journey Through Space by James Carter. The big bang in verse.</p>	 <p>Pattan’s Pumpkin by Chitra Soundar. Traditional Indian tale with vibrant illustrations.</p>	 <p>My Big Book of Outdoors by Tom Hoggood. Exploration of the seasons with facts, poems and activities.</p>	 <p>Rabbit’s Bad Habits by Julian Gough. Explores mood, friendship and rabbit poo! Laugh out loud humour for a fun, longer classroom read.</p>

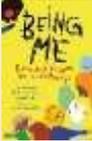
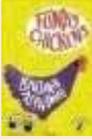
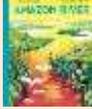
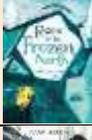
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<b>Foundations of Literacy</b>	<p>Below are books that contain a range of the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• elicit a strong response – curiosity, anger, excitement, laughter, empathy.</li> <li>• have a strong narrative that will sustain multiple readings.</li> <li>• extend children’s vocabulary.</li> <li>• have illustrations which are engaging and reflect children from all backgrounds and cultures.</li> <li>• help children connect with who they are.</li> <li>• help children to understand the lives of people whose experiences and perspectives may be different from their own.</li> </ul> <p>They also include a range of stories set in the UK and around the world, both traditional and modern, as well as non-fiction.</p>			
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Pupils should be taught to develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by ...</p>			
	<p>Preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud. Discussing words and phrases that capture the reader’s interest and imagination. Recognise some different forms of poetry.</p>	<p>Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books including fairy stories myths and legends and retelling some of these orally. Identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books.</p>	<p>Listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks. Reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.</p>	<p>Drawing inferences such as inferring characters’ feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Daydreams and Jellybeans by Alex Wharton. Vivid, bouncing rhythm and keen observation of all aspects of life in these poems to read aloud.</p>	 <p>The Snow Queen by Geraldine McCaughrean. Descriptive language Beautiful silhouetted illustrations.</p>	 <p>The Night Gardener by Terry Fan and Eric Fan. Picture book with a dream-like quality. Thought provoking sparse text is great for inference.</p>	 <p>The No.1 Car Spotter and the Car Thieves by Atinuke. Humorous, warm and an insight into lives around the world.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Firecrackers by Zaro Weil. Raps, poems, haiku and rhyming plays full of imagination with fabulous illustrations by Jo Riddell.</p>	 <p>Let Sleeping Sea Monsters Lie ... by Eva Ibbotson. A collection of short, light-hearted and gruesome cautionary tales.</p>	 <p>Dogs in Space by Vix Southgate. Story and non-fiction combine in this account of the first canine cosmonauts.</p>	 <p>The Boy who Grew Dragons by Andy Shepherd. Popular author that reads aloud well. Great fun.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Aesop’s Fables retold by Elli Woollard. Beautifully presented rhyming fables.</p>	 <p>The Hundred-Mile-an-Hour Dog by Jeremy Strong. Fast-paced, humorous adventure story from established author.</p>	 <p>Africa, Amazing Africa: Country By Country by Atinuke. Enlightening look at this diverse continent.</p>	 <p>Pugs of the Frozen North by Philip Reeve. Hugely entertaining read reinforcing reading for pleasure.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Coyote’s Soundbite by John Agard. Perfect to read aloud, narrative poem discussing human impact on the planet. Good use of language.</p>	 <p>Fierce, Fearless and Free: Girls in Myths and Legends From Around the World by Lari Don. Simple and accessible from established storyteller.</p>	 <p>Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx by Joe Todd-Stanton. Graphic novel with enough text to read aloud well, good introduction to the format.</p>	 <p>This Moose Belongs to Me by Oliver Jeffers. Plenty to discuss and Jeffers quirky style has wide appeal.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>A Kid in My Class by Rachel Rooney A lovely collection of multicultural poems in a variety of styles. Illustrated by Chris Riddell</p>	 <p>Fortunately the Milk ... by Neil Gaiman. Fun to read aloud tale of imagination and adventure, great inspiration for story writing.</p>	 <p>Children Who Changed The World by Marcia Williams. Inspirational, accessible and inclusive.</p>	 <p>The Robot and the Bluebird by David Lucas. Powerful picture book about friendship.</p>

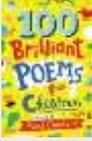
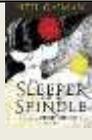
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	<p>Pupils should be taught to develop positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by ...</p>			
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Preparing poems and play scripts to read aloud. Discussing words and phrases that capture the reader’s interest and imagination. Recognise some different forms of poetry.</p>		<p>Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books including fairy stories myths and legends and retelling some of these orally. Identifying themes and conventions in a wide range of books.</p>	
	<p>Listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks. Reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.</p>		<p>Drawing inferences such as inferring characters’ feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.</p>	
Title and Author	 <p>Welcome to my Crazy Life by Joshua Seigal. Good selection of fun to read aloud poems.</p>	 <p>Rumaysa by Radiya Hafiza. Blending 3 well known fairy tales and with an Islamic setting this is a richly descriptive and enjoyable story.</p>	 <p>Beetle Boy by M G Leonard. Compelling and well written mystery story, great to read aloud. More in series for able pupils to read alone.</p>	 <p>Space Oddity by Christopher Edge. Warm and humorous science fiction with themes of family and friendship.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Shaping The World: 40 Historical Heroes In Verse chosen by Liz Brownlee. Facts and shape poem for 40 influential figures.</p>	 <p>The Complete Just So Stories by Rudyard Kipling. A classic collection of 12 imaginative, funny and fantastical tales with wide appeal. Reads aloud well.</p>	 <p>The Journey by Francesca Sanna. Simple picture book format explores plight of migrants fleeing war. Discussion opener.</p>	 <p>The Magic Place by Chris Wormell. Well paced read aloud with slightly Dahlesque tone and illustrations.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Bright Bursts of Colour by Matt Goodfellow. A varied collection of fun and more serious poems by established poet.</p>	 <p>Fairy Tales for Fearless Girls by Anita Ganeri. Folktales selected for bold, inspiring characters. Title provokes discussion but appeal is to all.</p>	 <p>Curious Creatures Glowing in the Dark by Zoe Armstrong. Chatty style and interesting topic with environmental message.</p>	 <p>How The Stars Came To Be by Poonam Mistry. A well told, contemporary creation story with striking gold on black illustrations.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Bombs and Blackberries: A World War Two Play by Julia Donaldson.</p>	 <p>The Midnight Fox by Betsy Byars. A classic with challenging themes suitable for discussion.</p>	 <p>Counting on Katherine by Helaine Becker. Well-presented and readable biography of prominent mathematician. (1960’s NASA).</p>	 <p>The Super-Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates by Jenny Pearson. Award winning, action packed, laugh-out-loud adventure.</p>
Title and Author	 <p>Stars With Flaming Tails by Valerie Bloom. Varied collection from reknown poet</p>	 <p>Little Red: A Howlingly Good Fairy Tale With A Twist; retold by Lynn Roberts-Maloney. A highly imaginative spin set in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p>	 <p>The Bolds by Julian Clary. Charming characters with humour and plot twists. More in series for pupils to read.</p>	 <p>The Taylor Turbochaser by David Baddiel. Fast paced action and far- fetched adventure with a wheel chair user as the plucky main character.</p>

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	<p>Pupils should be taught to maintain positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by...</p>							
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Learning a wider range of poems by heart. Preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform.</p>		<p>Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and from other cultures and traditions. Identifying and discussing themes and conventions across a wide range of books.</p>		<p>Continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks. Reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.</p>			
	<p>Drawing inferences such as inferring characters’ feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.</p>							
<b>Title and Author</b>		Being Me: Poems About Thoughts, Worries and Feelings by Liz Brownlee, Matt Goodfellow & Laura Mucha. Empathy poems.		Ancient Egypt: Gods, Pharaohs and Cats! by Marcia Williams. Myths and wonders of Ancient Egypt cleverly presented in and entertaining fictional biography.		Real-life Mysteries by Susan Martineau. Good selection, well recounted. Won 2018 Blue Peter Award for book with best facts.		The Dam by David Almond. A lyrical story of loss, hope and the power of music. Beautiful Artwork. Good for discussion.
<b>Title and Author</b>		Funky Chickens by Benjamin Zephaniah. Performance poetry at its best and great to read aloud. A British poet pupils should know.		Children of the Quicksands by Efu Traore. Well written and exciting, based on a traditional African tale.		The Lost Thing by Shaun Tan. Clever philosophical and satirical picture book with dreamy and fantastical illustrations.		The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf. Combining humour and a serious message, an excellent read aloud.
<b>Title and Author</b>		Happy Poems chosen by Roger McGough. Fun and cheerful poems from classic and contemporary poets.		The Lost Fairy Tales; retold by Isabel Otter. A collection of fairytales from different cultures with brave and clever heroines.		Amazon River by Sangma Francis. Engaging with fascinating snippets of information which read aloud well.		Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver. Tense fantasy adventure set in distant past. Great to introduce pupils to this popular series.
<b>Title and Author</b>		Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach: the play; adapted by Richard George. A play version by a familiar author.		Who Let the Gods Out? by Maz Evans. Engaging mix of humour and adventure with zany characterisation of the gods.		Race to the Frozen North by Catherine Johnson. Simple recount of story of Matthew Henson. Discussion focus for Black History.		Run Wild by Gill Lewis. This exciting, short, city based adventure has environmental themes.
<b>Title and Author</b>		The Hunting of the Snark by Lewis Carroll. A classic nonsense poem illustrated by Chris Riddell.		Norse Myths by Matt Ralphs. Clear and exciting short stories with well presented pages of facts.		The Wolves of Willoughby Chase by Joan Aiken. A classic that is absolutely gripping. A great read aloud.		A Storm of Strawberries by Jo Cotterill. Appealing characters and sensitive covering of issues including disability and LGBTQ.

## YEAR 6

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<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Pupils should be taught to maintain positive attitudes to reading and understanding of what they read by...</p>			
<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	<p>Learning a wider range of poems by heart. Preparing poems and plays to read aloud and to perform.</p>	<p>Increasing their familiarity with a wide range of books including myths, legends and traditional stories, modern fiction, fiction from our literary heritage, and from other cultures and traditions. Identifying and discussing themes and conventions across a wide range of books.</p>	<p>Continuing to read and discuss an increasingly wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks. Reading books that are structured in different ways and reading for a range of purposes.</p>	<p>Drawing inferences such as inferring characters’ feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>100 Brilliant Poems for Children chosen by Paul Cookson. Well known classics and modern contenders with hints for reading, writing and performing.</p>	 <p>Clockwork by Philip Pullman. Sinister gothic tale, excellent for reading aloud.</p>	 <p>Survivors by David Long. Concise accounts of amazing real-life stories of extreme survival.</p>	 <p>Proud of Me by Sarah Hagger-Holt. Heartfelt drama that deals with strong themes of self-discovery. Suitable for discussion. LGBTQ. Moderate sexist/homophobic lang.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>Love That Dog by Sharon Creech. Excellent and compelling. Brilliant introduction to blank verse format.</p>	 <p>The Sleeper and the Spindle by Neil Gaiman. Beautifully illustrated variation of the fairy tale.</p>	 <p>London on Fire by John C Miles. Comprehensive account of life in London in the 1660’s. Good example of non-fiction layout.</p>	 <p>Danny Chung Does Not Do Maths by Maisie Chan. Challenging racial stereotypes and intergenerational relationships feature. Hilarious.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>Belonging Street by Mandy Coe. Short, punchy and thought provoking poems, riddles and lyrical verse good for discussion.</p>	 <p>Stories From Around the World by Maisie Chan. Diverse collection from world wide story-telling heritage with background information on how the tales have evolved.</p>	 <p>Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah. Story based on true events, timely portrayal of Black British history.</p>	 <p>The Closest Thing to Flying by Gill Lewis. Compelling read and magnificent story of courage, friendship and freedom.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>The Undeclared by Kwame Alexander. A powerful poem with additional information to add depth and context to message.</p>	 <p>Birds and Beasts: Enchanting Tales Of India: A Retelling illustrated by Priyal Mote. Lovely.</p>	 <p>A Long Walk To Water by Linda Sue Park. This dual narrative tells two true stories of hardship. Harrowing in places but ultimately uplifting.</p>	 <p>Max Kowalski Didn't Mean It by Susie Day. Max is left to care for his younger siblings. This angst filled adventure holds attention.</p>
<b>Title and Author</b>	 <p>The Crimes of Grindelwald: the original screenplay by JK Rowling. An enjoyable and easy to read playscript.</p>	 <p>The Hidden Oracle by Rick Riordan. Skilfully written and gripping. Humorous series blending mythology and the modern world.</p>	 <p>The Missing: The True Story of My Family In World War II by Michael Rosen. Accessible, effective, personal account with letters and poems.</p>	 <p>The Rabbits by John Marsden. A thought provoking allegorical tale about colonialism. Quite gloomy but an important topic.</p>

# Notes for the Framework for Reading Aloud

The books have been selected to cover a diverse range of experiences aimed at broadening understanding and developing empathy. Some topics may be challenging and teachers may need to be prepared to discuss issues raised. Teachers should read the books before embarking on reading them to the class.

Non-fiction has been chosen to validate this type of text as reading for pleasure so it is important that they are not linked to topics. Time constraints may mean that they will not be read in their entirety.

Some books would benefit from being shown on a visualiser or similar technology as many of the books chosen have powerful artworks which enhance the text.

Ideally these read aloud collections would be kept separate from book corners as a teacher's resource, additional books by some of the authors could be made available for pupils to read independently.

All books available at time of publication.