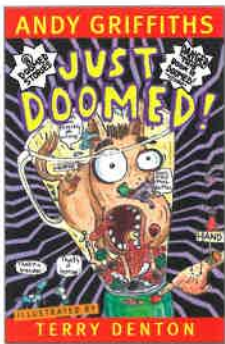


23 MAGIC ANIMAL FRIENDS*Daisy Meadows*

There's a magical world where animals talk and play. This is a great series for young children who like animals - it ticks all the right boxes, and encourages them to keep reading. It's by the author of the phenomenally successful *Rainbow Magic* series.

24 JUST DOOMED!*Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton*

Nine superb stories of mischief and mayhem. Readers can answer a series of questions to determine whether this is the right book for them.....with the resulting scores on a scale between being doomed, fairly doomed or definitely doomed! Great fun, which encourages reading.

**25 HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON***Cressida Cowell*

The book that started the series about Hiccup the Viking's misadventures as he tries to train dragons as pets. There are eleven books in total. Kids adore them!

26 HEY JACK! THE BIG ADVENTURE*Sally Rippin*

Hey Jack! books are full of down to earth, real life stories that boys in particular can enjoy and relate to, and Jack's ginormous imagination injects the series with fun and humour. Each book is carefully worked with word art and illustrations to provide reading breaks, and there are no mountains of text, or super tricky words that could intimidate the early reader.

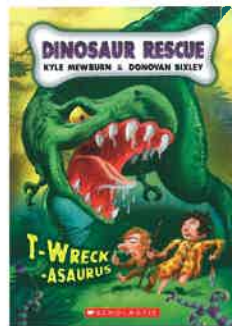
**27 LOST TREASURE OF THE EMERALD EYE***Geronimo Stilton*

The intrepid Geronimo Stilton is the editor of *The Rodent's Gazette*. He is always keen to embark on any adventure that might result in a good story for the paper, but inevitably so much happens that he is obliged to write a book. From chasing diamond thieves to exploring jungles or escaping pirates, Geronimo is the most intrepid mouse hero young readers will ever come across.

28 DINOSAUR RESCUE SERIES*Kyle Mewburn & Donovan Bixley*

A terrific stone age series of dinosaur adventures, with lots

of word play on the dinosaur's names. These are fantastic for reluctant readers and those who like a hint of nonfiction along with their story.

**29 THE ADVENTURES OF CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS***Dav Pilkey*

George and Henry have created the greatest superhero in the history of their school - and they are going to bring him to life. Meet Captain Underpants, a hero so secret even he doesn't know who he is. The highly pictorial style of this book will appeal to reluctant readers who will be thrilled to know there are at least seven more titles in the series, plus some zany spin off titles.

30 BILLIE B BROWN: THE SECOND-BEST FRIEND*Sally Rippin*

Billie B Brown is brave, brilliant and bold. Great for newly confident readers (and with a great role model), they will recognise their own lives reflected in Billie's "real world" adventures of having a sleep-over, playing soccer, learning ballet and more.

Primary
School Children
5-8 Years

Whitcoulls Reading Guides

Books for Primary School Children



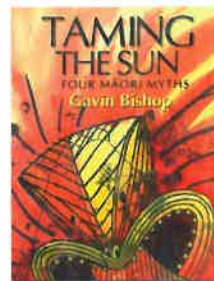
Ready To Read!

Children's reading abilities vary widely at this stage as they move from their first experiences in learning to decipher text, to becoming confident and fluent independent readers.

Picture books are still popular and appropriate at this age, but encourage your child to look out for those with more challenging storylines. Remember that for beginning readers, reading can be hard work and it is easy to get discouraged.

Stories that they can tackle for themselves are usually not as interesting as the ones they can listen to when an adult reads to them. It is important to continue the read-aloud sessions with your child to ensure they don't lose sight of the joy and the delights of storytelling.

This Whitcoulls Reading Guide will help you choose the age appropriate book for your Primary School children, to ensure you have enjoyable and educational reading time together!

**1 TAMING THE SUN***Gavin Bishop*

Maori myths and legends are an important part of our culture. This collection includes the two best-known stories about Maui, as well as two lesser known legends. The strong, yet simple, storylines and bold drawings make this book a favourite in homes and schools.

**2 CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY***Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake*

Charlie Bucket loves chocolate so when he wins the chance to meet Willy Wonka, the most amazing confectionery inventor, and to tour his factory, it is a dream come true. This book deserves to be on every child's bookshelf.

**3 READ ME ANOTHER ONE, PLEASE!***Belynda Smith & Dorothy Dudek Vinicombe*

Much loved old favourites that have been long out of print, together with some exciting new tales, are contained in this lively collection of stories and poems by some of New Zealand's best writers for children.

Fiction

4 ANIMAL TALES

Dick King-Smith

Dick King-Smith writes beautifully about animals for children - and these five stories are warm, entertaining, and, sometimes, very exciting!

5 THE BFG

Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake

The exciting story of a friendship between the Big Friendly Giant and a little girl called Sophie. The unlikely best friends cook up an ingenious plan to rid the world of child-eating giants forever.

Modern Classics

6 CHARLOTTE'S WEB

E B White

One spring morning a little girl called Fern rescues a runt and names him Wilbur. But then Wilbur is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte, a beautiful large grey spider. They become best friends and, when Wilbur is faced with a dreadful fate, Charlotte must find a very clever way to save him. An absolute classic which every child should read.

7 THE VELVETEEN RABBIT

Margery Williams

The Velveteen Rabbit is 'loved to bits' by his young owner, and is tossed away by adults. But then a miracle happens which teaches us all about the power of love.

8 WINNE - THE - POOH and THE HOUSE AT POOH CORNER

A.A.Milne and E.H Shephard

The adventures of Christopher Robin and his teddy bear, Winnie - the - Pooh, and his friends in the Hundred Acre Woods : Piglet, Eeyore, Owl, Rabbit, Kanga and Roo. Tigger doesn't make an appearance until the second book - *The House at Pooh Corner*. The chapters in both books stand alone and can be read as independent stories, and are as much loved today as they were when first written. These characters have an enduring place in literary folklore and in the hearts of millions of readers.

9 CLASSIC TALES OF BABAR

Jean de Brunhoff

This is the story of Babar the Elephant and his travels. When his mother dies, Babar decides to seek his fortune in the big city - in stories which have been adored by young readers for more than 80 years.

10 MILLY-MOLLY-MANDY STORYBOOK

Joyce Lankester Brisley

Twenty one stories about the little girl in the pink and white striped dress who lives in a nice white cottage with a thatched roof on the edge of a village - and her friends Billy Blunt and Little -Friend - Susan. These are tales from a different era, with each chapter well structured to allow for independent reading.

11 ANIMALIA

Graeme Base

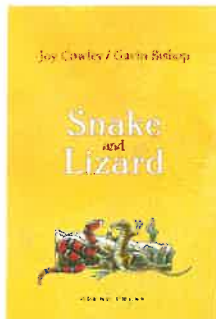
An alliterative alphabet book. Children will be absorbed for hours as they search the extraordinary illustrations for hidden objects - all beginning with the letter for that page. It's fun to read and very interactive..

New Zealand Favourites

12 SNAKE AND LIZARD

Joy Cowley & Gavin Bishop

This is a very gentle story about friendship - Snake and Lizard are an unlikely pair who often disagree but this never lessens their affection for each other. From two of the greatest names in New Zealand children's publishing.



13 ON THE ROAD TO TUAPEKA

Ben Brown & Scott Tulloch

Heka and Reka (both weka) catch Possum Pete's double-decker bus on the road to Tuapeka ...and along the way they pick up Hedgy Hog, Dodgy Dog and Whistling Frog. But when a strange little man in a caravan invites them to share his barbecue - they soon realise they are to BE the barbecue, and skedaddle ...all the way to Tuapeka. This is fun to read, great to listen to, and firmly rooted in New Zealand.

14 THE MARGARET MAHY TREASURY: ELEVEN FAVOURITE STORIES

Margaret Mahy

An outstanding collection of eleven of Margaret Mahy's most loved stories. Includes *The Lion in the Meadow*, *The Man whose Mother was a Pirate* and *The Great White Man Eating Shark*, all with original illustrations. The book contains a CD of Margaret Mahy reading six of her classic stories.

15 LE QUESNOY

Glyn Harper & Jenny Cooper

A slice of New Zealand war history for younger readers. Set in northern France in 1918, this is an ANZAC story with which young readers can imaginatively engage.

16 HERBERT: THE BRAVE SEA DOG

Robyn Belton

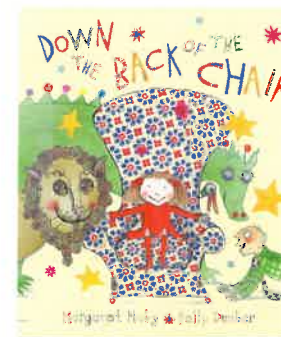
A true story about a small dog who lived by the sea. Everybody loved him, but the person who loved him most was Tim. One fine day, an excited Herbert set off on a boat with Tim's father, heading for the Marlborough Sounds. What no one knew, however, was that the weather would soon turn rough and Herbert would be thrown into the biggest adventure of his life.

17 DOWN THE BACK OF THE CHAIR

Margaret Mahy

When Dad loses his car keys, Mary suggests that they may have ended up down the back of the chair so Dad begins

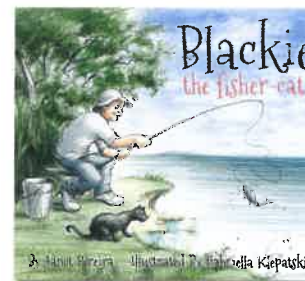
to search. But what an odd assortment of objects are hidden down the back of the chair! This exuberant rhyming story is great fun to read.



18 BLACKIE THE FISHER CAT

Janet Pereira & Gabriella Klepatski

A lovely, gentle story about an unexpected friendship between an adventurous cat and a grandfather who loves to fish - set against a very Kiwi background of fishing, camping and a caravan.



19 THE FISH OF MAUI

Peter Gossage

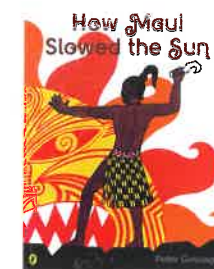
A retelling of the traditional legend of how Maui fished up the North Island of New Zealand (Te Ika a Maui) when he sneaks onto his brothers' canoe after they have refused to take him fishing. Maui is cleverer than they are,

however, and not only does he trick them, but he catches the best fish of all.

20 HOW MAUI SLOWED THE SUN

Peter Gossage

This beautifully illustrated book retells the story of how heroic Maui slowed the sun in order to help his people grow crops successfully.



Series to Grow Up With

21 ZAC POWER SERIES

H.I. Larry

This exciting series is based upon the adventures of Zac Power and his older brother, Leon. Zac is a secret agent for the Government Investigation Bureau and he is frequently called upon to save the world from some dastardly villain or another impending doom.

22 WEIRDO

Anh Do

WeirDo's the new kid in school. With an unforgettable name, a crazy family and some seriously weird habits, fitting in won't be easy. This is the kind of wacky humour that readers of this age group strongly relate to, and helps makes reading fun. First in a series.