

THE GROVE READS

Reading Recommendations, by the children, for the children.



March 2019

Welcome! Keep up to date with what children at The Grove have been reading recently and what they recommend. In today's issue are a few of Reception's, Year 1, 2 and 4's current favourite books. Miss Aurelio and Miss Lee-Fox have recommended a few too!

The Odyssey, retold by Gillian Cross

Recommended by Miss Aurelio

What's the book about? The author, Gillian Cross, retells the Greek myth of Homer's odyssey. The main character is a man called Odysseus, who travels on a perilous journey to return to his home after the Trojan War, facing storms and a shipwreck. He comes into contact with a terrifying man-eating Cyclops, and the sirens (half woman, half bird). He also meets various Greek Gods, including Poseidon, king of the sea.

Who would enjoy reading this? I would recommend this book for children in Year 5 and above. Although it has been retold for children, the vocabulary is still quite demanding and requires a lot of discussion around the meaning of the words. Even just saying the names of characters in the story is quite difficult.

Why did you like it? I liked this book because I wanted to read the well-known Greek myths. I chose this book specifically because the illustrations are vivid and actually quite obscure!



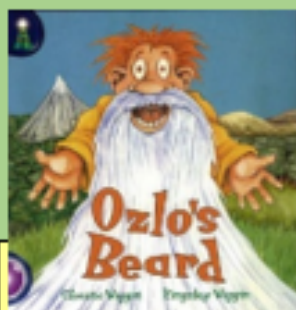
The Way Past Winter, by Kiran Millwood

Recommended by Miss Lee-Fox

What's the book about? The book is about a small family of recently orphaned children. A spell has been cast across the land which means that the people of the country are immersed in Winter. One of the children suddenly vanishes one evening, following a visit from a strange, mysterious man riding a horse. The girls make their way across the barren country, on a mission to find their brother. On their journey, the girls find things about themselves which they never knew, one of them being their resilience and courage from within.

Who would enjoy reading this? Children from year 3 upwards would enjoy this book. Although the descriptions of the settings may be difficult to empathise with, the characters' ever changing emotions through their mission are inspirational.

Why did you like it? I absolutely loved the beautiful descriptions of the settings and the villains which the girls come across through the story.



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Ozlo's Beard, by Christa Wiggin
Recommended by Adele, Year 1

What's the book about? Ozlo's beard is about a boy who wants to grow a beard because his Daddy and his Grandpa have beards. Ozlo doesn't understand why he can't grow a beard. Ozlo finds a rock with a hat on and before he tries to reach the rock with the hat on, the rock stands up. Then, the wizard from the forest takes him to a mountain and they follow his LONG beard to the top of the mountain and he asks 'Why do you want a beard?' and Ozlo explains why. At the end, Ozlo finally gets a beard but he finds it difficult because he keeps tripping over it!

Who would enjoy reading this? Children the same age as me would enjoy reading this book. Children who are 6 years old. Some children in Reception can't recognise the words, so they might not be able to read it.

Why did you like it? I liked this book because I like the part when he drops some pear juice and some got prickles in his beard. I also liked it when he gets in the bath and his beard falls off because he didn't like having it in the end because it was annoying him.

The Big Book of Friendship Stories, by My Little Pony
Recommended by Julia, Year 2

What's the book about? The book is about 5 ponies who are all friends. In the book, there are 5 stories, all about the pony's friendships with one another. An example of one of the stories, is about a My Little Pony called Rarity. Rarity wants to go to a fashion show, but she can't find enough fabric and material to design her own outfit in time. Because she is so sad, her friends help her collect stuff for the show so she can participate and be part of the catwalk. That is one story, but there are 4 other stories, featuring Fluttershy, Rainbow Dash, Twilight Sparkle and Applejack.

Who would enjoy reading this? Girls below Year 4 would enjoy this book if they like My Little Pony. Also, this book could be used for PSHE lessons or circle time for girls, because it's all about being supportive and kind to your friends.

Why did you like this book? I liked this book because it's about girly ponies, who all have strengths in different areas so they help each other and support each other when they find things hard or are feeling down. I like looking at the pictures too, because they are colourful and pretty.

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Thelma the Unicorn, by Aaron Blabey

Recommended by Lyra, Reception

What's the book about? It's about a pony called Thelma, who wanted to be a unicorn. She does actually become a unicorn because she finds a carrot on the lawn and ties it to her nose! She looks a bit silly, but then a truck drives by, and lots of glitter covers her and she becomes beautiful. Otis, her friend, actually thought Thelma was really beautiful before she became a unicorn and so he felt sad. Soon after that, she washed the glitter all off and took off the carrot and then became just a normal pony again. So at the end, she works out that it's just better to be yourself than being a unicorn.

Who would enjoy reading this? My mummy enjoys this book, so probably most adults would too. Reception children would too because I enjoy it, but I don't think boys in my class would because they'd probably be more interested in books with zombies and creepy things like that.

Why did you like it? I like this book because it's about unicorns and unicorns are my favourite animals, even though I know unicorns don't even exist.

If you would like to recommend a book you have read, go and speak to Miss Lee-Fox and you could be featured in the next issue in April!

Demon Dentist, by David Walliams

Recommended by Tyler, Year 4

What's the book about? It's about a boy called Alfie and he doesn't brush his teeth. The school dentist, Mrs Root, takes a look at his teeth which are absolutely disgusting and gives him toothpaste which burns through stone and a toothbrush made of barbed wire! Alfie then meets a girl, who tells him strange stories about children's teeth becoming slugs and creepy crawlies when they put them under their pillows, waiting for the tooth fairy.

Who would enjoy reading this? Year 3 upwards would enjoy reading this book because it's funny and also has a range of different vocabulary, so if you're learning to read, you can learn lots of new words. There aren't many detailed illustrations or pictures, so younger children might become disinterested.

Why did you like it? I like David Walliams as an author because he writes about a range of different things. This book has cliff-hangers at each new chapter, so it makes you want to keep on reading! You just want to keep finding out what will happen next!

We look forward to seeing you at the Reading Cafes on Wednesday 13th March. Adults - please do bring your own book from home to Read for Pleasure alongside us!