

The Grove Reads



Reading Recommendations, by the children, for the children. June 2019

Welcome! Keep up to date with what children at The Grove have been reading recently and what they recommend. In today's issue there are some of the Reading Gladiator's favourite books and some of Year 2's recommendations.

Genius Ideas (mostly), by Liz Pichon

Recommended by Austin, Year 2

What's the book about? The book is about a boy called Tom Gates and loves doodling. He absolutely hates doing homework but he is nothing like Alvin from *Alvin and the Chipmunks* or Horrid Henry because he isn't naughty, in fact, he's actually very creative and imaginative. Tom Gates is very intelligent because the author describes and illustrates a 'smart meter' which shows just how smart he is. Also, Tom Gates tells a humorous story about having a family barbeque and his dad gets scared of a paper banger (if you don't know what that is, well, you'll just have to read it to find out (take a look at page 308/9!)).

Who would enjoy reading this? Children at The Grove who are free readers would enjoy reading this book, probably children in KS2. A few people in Flamingo class have read this book, and others in its series, and we have really enjoyed discussing it and all the amusing anecdotes which Tom narrates.

Why did you like it? I like this book because it's very creative. The front cover is pretty jazzy and looks good fun, but don't read a book by its cover, well... actually, the cover pretty much summarises what the book is like. Its colourful and funny and full of cartoons. One of my favourite features of the book is that at the bottom of each of the page's corners, there's a little bug which dances as an animation, like a flip-book. It's so cool.

Mermaids to the Rescue, by Lisa Ann Scott

Recommended by Zari, Year 2

What's the book about? The main character is a beautiful mermaid called Nixie. Nixie works for the Royal Mermaid Rescue and one day finds out some bad news... she ended up having to work with one of the worst sea ponies there was on offer. It was annoying because she knew that the sea pony (called Rip) wouldn't collaborate with her to do a good job. I'm not sure what happens in the end, because I've only read to Chapter 6, but so far it's really entertaining.

Who would enjoy reading this? I think children who like mermaids would enjoy reading this book. Also people who like fictional stories, especially if they like the sea.

Why did you like it? I am enjoying this book because it's a chapter book, so it keeps me reading. I also read books similar to this one, about Nixie the mermaid. Guess what... I learnt that male seahorses can actually give birth to babies (even though it's a fictional book, it's still a fact!) I also like the description of the sea and the shells, which decorate Nixie's home.

Flora & Ulysses; The Illuminated Adventures
by Kate DiCamillo
Recommended by Edmund, Reading Gladiator

Sky Song, by Abi Elphinstone
Recommended by Nathan, Year 4

What's the book about? A young girl called Eska and boy called Flint are from a snowy kingdom called Erkenwald. They go on a quest to defeat an evil Ice Queen who lives in a palace called Winterfang Palace. The young girl is from a one of the tribes, which have to keep hidden so they do not become her prisoners.

Who would enjoy reading this? Both boys and girls would enjoy this book, probably only free readers could understand the vocabulary, although most children would enjoy listening to a parent reading it because it's very magical. It reminds me of Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe, so the Todd brothers would enjoy it too!

Why did you like it? I enjoyed this book because it has very magical vocabulary. It's very descriptive and the story is a huge adventure. The main characters are heroes and very inspiring.

What's the book about? A girl names Flora spotted a squirrel being vacuumed up. She saved the little squirrel. Then squirrel could fly type and threw other animals like dogs. The squirrel's name was Ulysses. Flora's mother was trying to kill him!

Who would enjoy reading this? Children who like funny comical books would enjoy this story. Probably children who find irony funny, so mainly KS2 boys and girls.

Why did you like it? I enjoyed this book because it is a tiny bit ridiculous; it's super imaginative which makes it so great to read. I recommend this book because I really enjoyed reading it independently.



The Story of Black Beauty, by Alan Marks
Recommended by Anastasia, Reading Gladiator

What's the book about? Black Beauty is a horse with a star on her forehead and she lives with her mother horse. Then, one day, a stranger came to take Black Beauty from her home. Black Beauty felt lonely and lost. Following this, Black Beauty goes from home to home, when she finally finds her first owner, who she had missed.

Who would enjoy reading this? Children would enjoy this book. KS1 and KS2 boys and girls would enjoy reading it. There are many thought-provoking themes in the book and you can make links with other books, especially ones to do with family, friendship and loss.

Why did you like it? I enjoyed this book because it was very poignantly written and it raised my spirits.

THANK YOU! As we come to the end of the academic term, the Grove teachers would like to thank you for your continued support with the reading picnics this term. Also, thank you to all the contributors to the Grove Reads monthly leaflet. We look forward to sharing our reading recommendations with the parents and children after the summer holidays, as well as reintroducing the class Reading Cafes after the summer holidays.