

WEBSITE RESOURCE W5.5

Texts I like

Start keeping a list like this for yourself. You may find it easiest to create an online file so that you can add to it.

Title	Author	Text type	Age range	Ideas for use
<i>Jabari Tries</i>	Gaia Cornwall	Picture book. Jabari needs to try different ideas before he can successfully make his flying machine.	4–6 year olds	Themes: 'My Family'. Lots of opportunities for science experiments.
<i>The Big Book of Bugs</i> And there are lots more in the Big Books series	Yuval Zommer and Barbara Wilson	Information book about how to become a bug spotter and different kinds of bugs and what they do for the ecological system.	5 upwards	Fits with all kinds of science and 'our world' topics and outdoor activities. Illustrations are excellent and good models for careful observational drawing.
<i>The Katha Chest</i>	Radhiah Chowdry Illustrated by Lavanya Naidu	Beautiful picturebook. Asiya loves to look in the katha chest where her Nanu keeps all the quilts she has made out of old saris which hold stories about the women who wore them.	5 upwards	Lots of opportunities for storytelling, particularly by using the wordless double page spreads and for artwork. With older children can be used to discuss gender roles in the family.
<i>Can Bears Ski?</i>	Raymond Antroubus illustrated by Polly Dunbar	Boy Bear can't hear what his father is saying to him until they visit an audiologist and he gets hearing aids.	5 upwards	A really delightful book that supports discussion of disability and what might be done to promote inclusion.
<i>Mirror</i>	Jeannie Baker	Faction picturebook - lives of two boys in Morocco and Australia	5–8 year olds	Themes: 'Our homes' 'People' role play – internet conversation between the two boys.
<i>Africa, Amazing Africa</i>	Atinuke illustrated by Mouni Feddag	Bright, informative illustrations and maps with clear and comprehensive coverage of all African countries.	5 upwards	Lots of themes: places, families, history, geography . . . Just a fabulous book to share and enjoy – as well as getting information

<i>Fly, Eagle, Fly! An African Tale</i> Story from another culture	Christopher Gregorowski and Jude Daly	Picture book with a powerful message/theme: African parable	7–8 year olds	Write descriptive poems. Role play – between the farmer and his friend or other villagers. Write a letter in role as a village elder to the farmer to persuade him to release the eagle.
<i>Last Stop on Market Street</i> <i>Milo Draws the World</i>	Matt de la Peña and Christian Robinson	Both picture books tackle social issues using the images rather than the words. Both very uplifting in their optimism	7–8 and upwards	<i>Last Stop</i> can be used as a discussion text about poverty and hope. <i>Milo</i> is a perfect starting point not only for discussion about disrupted families but for drawing and thinking about people.
<i>Swallow's Kiss – one of Ten Stories to Make a Difference</i>	Sita Bramachari Illustrated by Jane Ray	Short novel about Blessing, who was born with a 'swallow's kiss' on her lip, and who finds friendship through making 'wish birds' and hose wish comes true.	7–8 and upwards	Lots of art work opportunities' to make 'wish birds' and for children's own stories about their wishes but with discussion (PSHE) of what about if what we wish for doesn't happen? .
<i>The Promise</i>	Nicola Davies and Laura Carlin	Picturebook about a thief who takes on a big responsibility to plant all that has been stolen.	8 upwards	Excellent for PSHE as well as environmental topics. Drama/ role play: Why might the thief have been led to crime? Why is it important to keep promises? Write a motivational speech to be presented to other children.
<i>When Stars are Scattered</i>	Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed, coloured by Iman Geddy	Graphic novel about two Somali brothers in a refugee camp.	8 upwards	So much to talk about here. The two brothers love football and have the great opportunity of going to school. The images are crisp and colourful and could lead to discussions of how frames create narrative tension and pace and the possibilities of making graphic sequels to the boys' story.

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<i>Shackleton's Journey</i>	William Grill	Factual – lots of pictures	9 upwards	Masses of ideas – could make a half term cross curricular project. Debating moral issues. Researching on internet and writing information about other journeys.
<i>Trash</i>	Andy Mulligan	Fiction – a boy who makes his living by scavenging in a dumpsite	9 upwards	Different points of view – lots of scope for writing in role, discussing green issues . . . homelessness . . . There's also a film directed by Stephen Daldry
<i>Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf</i>	David Almond and Dave McKean	Graphic novel	10 year olds	Role play conversation between two complacent gods. Make creature from natural materials and website resource on how to make it. Debate/argument are humans responsible for the destruction of the earth?
<i>October, October</i>	Katya Balen	Novel	10–11 year olds	October and her father live in the woods, very happily, until there is an accident and life changes dramatically for October. Lots of opportunities for discussion about nature and about October's particular way of experiencing life.

Children's books

- Almond, David (illustrated by Dave McKean) (2014) *Mouse Bird Snake Wolf*. Walker Books. ISBN 9781406345995.
- Antrobus, Raymond (illustrated by Polly Dunbar) (2022) *Can Bears Ski?* Walker Books. ISBN 9781406394627.
- Atinuke (illustrated by Mouni Feddag) (2019) *Africa, Amazing Africa*. Walker ISBN 9781406376586.
- Baker, Jeannie (2010) *Mirror*. Walker. ISBN 9781406309140.
- Balen, Katya (2022) *October, October*. Bloomsbury Children's Books. ISBN 978152660193.
- Bramachari, Sita (illustrated by Jane Ray) (2021) *Swallow's Kiss* in the 'Ten Stories to Make a Difference' series. Pop Up Projects. ISBN 9781838323509.
- Chowdry, Radhiah (illustrated by Lavanya Naidu) (2021) *The Katha Chest*. Allen & Unwin. ISBN 9781911679141
- Cornwall, Gaia (2020) *Jabari Tries*. Walker Books. ISBN 9781406399844.
- Davies, Nicola (illustrated by Laura Carlin) (2014) *The Promise*. Walker. ISBN 9781406355598.
- de la Peña, Matt (illustrated by Christian Robinson) (2017) *Last Stop on Market Street*. Puffin. ISBN 9780141374185 .
- de la Pena, Matt (illustrated by Christian Robinson) (2022) *Milo Imagines The World*. Two Hoots. ISBN 9781529066326.
- Gregorowski, Christopher (illustrated by Jude Daly) (2003) *Fly Eagle Fly*. Frances Lincoln. ISBN 9780711217300.
- Grill, William (2014) *Shackleton's Journey Flying Eye Books*. ISBN 9781909263109.
- Jamieson, Victoria and Mohamed, Omar (coloured by Iman Geddy) (2020) *When Stars are Scattered*. Faber and Faber. ISBN 9780571363858.
- Mulligan, Andy (2014) *Trash*. Definitions (Young Adult). ISBN 9781909531130.
- Zommer, Yuval and Wilson, Barbara (2016) *The Big Book of Bugs*. Thames and Hudson. ISBN 9780500650677.

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