



The #DiscoveryCrew top 5 reads for each class (2026-27)

Our English curriculum is designed to promote high standards of language and literacy by equipping pupils with the skills for understanding and applying spoken and written language, and to develop their love of literature through widespread reading for enjoyment. Our top 5 reads give students the opportunities to familiarise themselves and over learner a range of texts.

ROCKETS

Topics: Memory Box • Team • Paws, Claws & Whiskers • Enchanted Woodland • Rio de Vida • Our Wonderful World

1. **The Everywhere Bear** - Julia Donaldson
Identity, belonging, memory; perfect for "Memory Box".
2. **The Great Pet Sale** - Mick Inkpen
Links to "Paws, Claws & Whiskers" and responsible ownership.
3. **The Gruffalo** - Julia Donaldson
Woodland setting; rich language play.
4. **Julian Is a Mermaid** - Jessica Love
Celebrates identity and self-expression; links to "Our Wonderful World".
5. **Festival of Colours** - Kabir Sehgal
Global celebration culture; supports "Rio de Vida".

COMETS & ASTRO

Topics: Traders & Raiders • Beat, Band & Boogie • Bright Lights, Big City • Our Changing World • Playlist • Blue Abyss

1. **The Rhythm of the Rain** - Grahame Baker-Smith
Beautiful non-fiction narrative for "Our Changing World".
2. **Viking Boy** - Tony Bradman
Strong link to "Traders & Raiders".
3. **The Sea Book** - Charlotte Milner
Accessible science for "Blue Abyss".
4. **Katie in London** - James Mayhew
Perfect for "Bright Lights, Big City".
5. **The Bear and the Piano** - David Litchfield
Music, emotion, performance — ideal for "Beat, Band & Boogie" and "Playlist".



🌙 NOVA & LUNAR

Topics: Moon Zoom • Our Interconnecting World • Ancient Egypt • Tribal Tales • Predator • Urban Pioneers

1. **Man on the Moon (A Day in the Life of Bob)** - Simon Bartram
Humorous, space-linked narrative for "Moon Zoom".
2. **The Street Beneath My Feet** - Charlotte Guillian
Urban geography for "Urban Pioneers".
3. **Egyptology: Search for the Tomb of Osiris** - Dugald Steer
High-interest text for "Ancient Egypt".
4. **Stone Age Boy** - Satoshi Kitamura
Perfect for "Tribal Tales".
5. **I Am the Seed That Grew the Tree** - Fiona Waters
Nature poetry supporting "Predator" and food chains.

★ STARS & TWILIGHT

Topics: Stargazers • 1066 • Peasants, Princes & Pestilence • Heroes & Villains • Scream Machine • Allotment

1. **The Skies Above My Eyes** - Charlotte Guillian
Space exploration for "Stargazers".
2. **Anglo-Saxon Boy** - Tony Bradman
Strong historical link to "1066".
3. **The Viewer** - Shaun Tan
Dark, atmospheric, perfect for "Heroes & Villains".
4. **The Usborne Book of the Human Body** - Various
Science link for "Scream Machine".
5. **The Secret Garden** - Frances Hodgson Burnett
Classic literature supporting "Allotment".



NEBULAR

Topics: *Gods & Mortals* • *Spirit* • *Blood Heart* • *Road Trip USA* • *Tremors* • *I Am Warrior!*

1. **Who Let the Gods Out?** - Maz Evans
Funny, accessible Greek-myth link for "Gods & Mortals".
2. **Ghost** - Jason Reynolds
Sport, diversity, identity — perfect for "Spirit".
3. **Pig-Heart Boy** - Malorie Blackman
Ethics, science, emotion — ideal for "Blood Heart".
4. **Holes** - Louis Sachar
American setting for "Road Trip USA".
5. **Escape from Pompeii** - Christina Balit
Volcanoes and survival for "Tremors" and "I Am Warrior!".

ECLIPSE & ORBIT

Topics: *Macbeth* • *A Christmas Carol* • *Social Divides* • *Power & Conflict* • *Resourcefulness & Resilience* • *Identity*

1. **Macbeth (Graphic Shakespeare Edition)** - Gareth Hinds
Accessible visualisation of the core text.
2. **A Christmas Carol (Oxford Classic Graphic Edition)**
Supports comprehension of Dickens' themes.
3. **The Outsiders** - S. E. Hinton
Social divides, voice, belonging.
4. **Poems from the First World War** - Selected anthology
Links to "Power & Conflict".
5. **The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers Edition)** - William Kamkwamba
Resilience, identity, aspiration.



GALAXY & COSMOS

Topics: Voices of the Real World • Stories That Shape Us • Society Speaks • Investigating Perspectives • Resilience in Action • Becoming the Author of Your Future

1. **Hidden Figures (Young Readers Edition)** - Margot Lee Shetterly
Real-world voices; representation.
2. **The Arrival** - Shaun Tan
Visual storytelling; identity; migration.
3. **The Breadwinner** - Deborah Ellis
Voice, justice, activism — ideal for "Society Speaks".
4. **Factfulness (Young Readers Edition)** - Hans Rosling
Critical thinking for "Investigating Perspectives".
5. **You Are a Champion** - Marcus Rashford
Resilience, aspiration, future pathways.