

KS3 Reading List

A selection of reading ideas for students Y7-9.

General List

A list of reads that appeal to a wide range of KS3 students; these are organised alphabetically and not according to level of challenge.

My Name is Mina	David Almond
Flip (<i>Set in Ilkley!</i>)	Martyn Bedford
The Astounding Broccoli Boy	Frank Cottrell Boyce
Bodyguard series eg 'Ambush'	Chris Bradford
Young Samurai (Series)	Chris Bradford
The Child's Elephant	Rachel Campbell-Johnston
Stolen	Lucy Christopher
After Tomorrow	Gillian Cross
The Weight of Water	Sarah Crossan
One	Sarah Crossan
The Maze Runner(series)	James Dashner
Ausländer	Paul Dowswell
Sektion 20	Paul Dowswell
A Greyhound of a Girl	Roddy Doyle
A Brighter Fear	Kerry Drewery
Toby Alone	Timothee de Fombelle
Maggot Moon	Sally Gardiner
The Red Necklace	Sally Gardiner
Coram Boy	Jamilla Gavin
Once (series)	Morris Gleitzman
The Vanishing of Katharina Linden	Helen Grant
The Zig-Zag Kid	David Grossman
Echo Boy	Matt Haig
The Midnight Zoo	Sonya Harnett
Across the Nightingale Floor	Lian Hearn
Fallen Grace	Mary Hooper
Thirteen	Tom Hoyle
Skulduggery Pleasant (series)	Derek Landy
I am Number Four (series)	Pittacus Lore
The Crowham Martyrs	Jane McGoughlin
The Knife of Never Letting Go (Chaos Walking series)	Patrick Ness
More than this	Patrick Ness
A Monster Calls	Patrick Ness
Jessica's Ghost	Andrew Norriss
Wonder	R J Palacio
Heroes of Olympus (series)	Rick Riordan
Roof Toppers	Katherine Rundell
The Wolf Wilder	Katherine Rundell

Smart
A Seven Letter Word
Finding Violet Park
No and Me
Gangsta Granny

Kim Slater
Kim Slater
Jenny Valentine
Delphine de Vigan
David Walliams

We would always advise that, when reading for pleasure, students read a range of texts in terms of genre and of difficulty. However, to give you an idea of level of challenge, the following lists suggest reads according to ability. For each, there is a brief explanation of the level.

Developing Reader

Developing readers are perhaps not naturally inclined to pick up a novel for pleasure. The below are a few easy to access texts for more reluctant readers.

Mondays are Murder
Diary of a Wimpy Kid (*series*)
Boy
A Series of Unfortunate Events (*series*)
The Lottie Project
Angel Cake
Dead Ball (*Football Detective series*)
Monster Mission
Jimmy Coates: Killer
Revenge of the Number Two
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
Coraline
Good Dog, Bad Dog (*Graphic Novel*)

Tanya Landman
Jeff Kinney
Roald Dahl
Lemony Snicket
Jacqueline Wilson
Cathy Cassidy
Tom Palmer
Eva Ibbotson
Joe Craig
Bali Rai
C. S. Lewis
Neil Gaiman
Dave Shelton

Competent Reader

Competent readers are much more likely to choose to read for pleasure. The title listed below remain easy to access in terms of content, however, they do provide a little more challenge.

Skulduggery Pleasant
Goodnight Mister Tom
Love, Aubrey
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
The Recruit (*Cherub series*)
The Secret Garden
Stormbreaker (*Alex Rider series*)
Blood Hunters

Derek Landy
Michelle Magorian
Suzanne La Fleur
JK Rowling
Robert Muchamore
Frances Hodgson Burnett
Anthony Horowitz
Steve Voake

Holes
The London Eye Mystery
The Iron Man
The Graveyard Book
Shadow
Artemis Fowl
Trash

Louis Sachar
Siobhan Dowd
Ted Hughes
Neil Gaiman
Michael Morpurgo
Eoin Colfer
Andy Mulligan

Active Reader

Active readers are keen to read for pleasure but may stick to one genre or author- below is a selection of titles from different genres to help students broaden their reading horizons.

Malice
Journey to the River Sea
The Silver Sword
Young Sherlock Holmes: Red Leech
Blood Ties
The Ruby in the Smoke
The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas
I, Coriander
Chinese Cinderella
The Thief Lord
The Hound of the Baskervilles
The Wind Singer
Treasure Island
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
My Swordhand is Singing

Chris Wooding
Eva Ibbotson
Ian Serraillier
Andrew Lane
Sophie McKenzie
Philip Pullman
John Boyne
Sally Gardner
Adeline Yen Mah
Cornelia Funke
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
William Nicholson
Robert Louis Stevenson
Rick Riordan
Marcus Sedgwick

Reflective Reader

Reflective readers are willing to challenge themselves; they think very carefully about what they have read. The below are some thought provoking choices to challenge students' emotional intelligence.

Northern Lights
I Capture the Castle
Revolver
The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole
The Other Side of Truth
Refugee Boy

Philip Pullman
Dodie Smith
Marcus Sedgwick
Sue Townsend
Beverley Naidoo
Benjamin Zephaniah

Private Peaceful
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time
The Knife of Never Letting Go (*Chaos Walking series*)
Diary of a Young Girl
Noughts and Crosses
Eragon
Chains

Michael Morpurgo
Mark Haddon
Patrick Ness
Anne Frank
Malorie Blackman
Christopher Paolini
Laurie R. King

Versatile Reader

Versatile readers are well read and always looking for the next challenge. Below are some challenging choices to stretch and challenge the most able readers at KS3 (and beyond!).

The Book Thief
Bog Child
Rebecca
The Hunger Games
To Kill a Mockingbird
Ausländer
Lord of the Flies
Mort
The Double Life of Cassiel Roadnight
City of Ghosts
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Nineteen Eighty-Four
Pride and Prejudice
Great Expectations

Markus Zusak
Siobhan Dowd
Daphne du Maurier
Suzanne Collins
Harper Lee
Paul Dowsell
William Golding
Terry Pratchett
Jenny Valentine
Bali Rai
Douglas Adams
George Orwell
Jane Austen
Charles Dickens