

READING LIST -YEAR 8

Year 8 Suggestions

Going Solo Roald Dahl. Here is the action-packed sequel to *Boy*, a tale of Dahl's exploits as a World War II pilot. Told with the same irresistible appeal that has made Roald Dahl one of the world's best-loved writers, *Going Solo* brings you directly into the action and into the mind of this fascinating man.

The Jungle Book Rudyard Kipling. A collection of beautifully written tales.

A Little Love Song Michelle Magorian. A magical summer of love and war is the catalyst that changes Rose from an uncertain, gawky school-girl into a confident and assured woman. This love story is written by the author of "Goodnight Mister Tom".

Stargirl Jerry Spinelli. A celebration of nonconformity; a tense, emotional tale about the fleeting, cruel nature of popularity--and the thrill and inspiration of first love.

Gullstruck Island Frances Hardinge. Discover a dazzling world, a breathtaking heroine . . . and an incredible adventure

Lydia the Wild Girl of Pride & Prejudice Natasha Farrant. A spirited, witty and fresh reimagining of Jane Austen's 'Pride and Prejudice'

The Day of the Triffids John Wyndham. In 1951 John Wyndham published his novel *The Day of the Triffids* to moderate acclaim. Fifty-two years later, this horrifying story is a science fiction classic, with all the reality of a vividly realized nightmare.

Around the World in Eighty Days Jules Verne. One ill-fated evening at the Reform Club, Phileas Fogg rashly bets his companions £20,000 that he can travel around the entire globe in just eighty days - and he is determined not to lose.

Not the End of the World Geraldine McCaughrean. The end of the world is a busy time if you mean to outlive it. So says Timna—sole daughter of Noah—as she and her family pre-

pare to face the flood that will cleanse the Earth. But during the forty days and nights before the waters recede, the inhabitants of the Ark experience more than just a simple boat ride.

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas John Boyne. When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance.

Watership Down Richard Adams. Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home.

Out of Bounds Beverley Naidoo. For almost fifty years, apartheid forced the young people of South Africa to live apart as Blacks, Whites, Indians, and "Coloreds." This dramatic collection of stories is about young people's choices in a beautiful country made ugly by injustice.

Clay David Almond. Fourteen-year-old Davie and his best friend, Geordie, are altar boys at their local Catholic Church. They're full of mischief, but that all changes when Stephen Rose comes to town. Father O'Mahoney thinks it would be a good idea for Davie and Geordie to befriend him—maybe some of their good nature will rub off on this unhappy soul. But it's Stephen who sees something special in Davie.

The Hobbit J R Tolkien. This is a timeless classic, in which we meet the hobbit Bilbo Baggins, the wizard Gandalf, Gollum, and the spectacular world of Middle-earth and its dangers.

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Boy in the Tower Polly Ho-Yen. Ade loves living at the top of a tower block. From his window, he feels like he can see the whole world stretching out beneath him.

His mum doesn't really like looking outside - but it's going outside that she hates. She's happier sleeping all day inside their tower, where it's safe.

My Family and Other Animals Gerald Durrell. When the unconventional Durrell family can no longer endure the damp, grey English climate, they do what any sensible family would do: sell their house and relocate to the sunny Greek isle of Corfu.

Chinese Cinderella Adeline Yen Mah. A Chinese proverb says, "Falling leaves return to their roots." In Chinese Cinderella, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair.

The Sword in the Stone T H White. The extraordinary story of a boy called the Wart - ignored by everyone except his tutor, Merlin - who goes on to become King Arthur.

Rani and Sukh Bali Rai. A powerful and gripping novel that sweeps the reader from modern-day Britain to the Punjab in the 1960s and back again in a ceaseless cycle of tragedy and conflict.

I Am David Ann Holm. David's entire twelve-year life has been spent in a grisly prison camp in Eastern Europe. He knows nothing of the outside world. But when he is given the chance to escape, he seizes it. With his vengeful enemies hot on his heels, David struggles to cope in this strange new world, where his only resources are a compass, a few crusts of bread, his two aching feet, and some vague advice to seek refuge in Denmark. Is that enough to survive?

The Child's Elephant Rachel Campbell-Johnston. When Bat, a young African herd-boy, stumbles upon an orphaned baby elephant, he takes her home and pledges to look after her. As Meya grows and learns, she becomes part of Bat's family, and is soon the joy of the entire village. But she can't stay with Bat for ever.

Coram Boy Jamila Gavin. Eighteenth-century England is the setting for Jamila Gavin's sweeping saga of growing-up, struggle, tradition and corruption.

Company of Ghosts Berlie Doherty. It was a seascape, moody with rocks and cliffs and wild showers of spray. Ellie's own reflection was drawn into it, like a ghost image among the lights and shadows. "That's our island," Morag said. "It looks mysterious." "It is. That's where we're going tomorrow."

Road of Bones Anne Fine. Yuri grows up in a country where no freedom of thought is encouraged. But it is still a shock when a few careless words lead him to a virtual death-sentence - sent on a nightmare journey up north to a camp amidst the frozen wastes.

Long Lankin Lindsey Barraclough. Beware of Long Lankin, that lives in the moss. . . .When Cora and her younger sister, Mimi, are sent to stay with their elderly aunt in the isolated village of Byers Guerdon, they receive a less than warm welcome. Auntie Ida is eccentric and rigid, and the girls are desperate to go back to London.

Apocalypse Tim Bowler. After a dramatic accident, Kit and his parents find themselves washed up on a small island. But there is no sanctuary here. The local community is hostile and menacing and soon Kit's life is in danger. In his struggle to stay alive he is forced to confront good and evil in unexpected forms.