



# RESOURCES



# Reading Lists



You can read whatever book you like for the My Book Review Competition. You can choose a picture book or a chapter book, poetry, fairy tales, stories or fact books. We don't mind!

If you just can't decide what to read have a look at the list below where we've suggested some titles. They are from a list we've created at Paper Plus called Favourites.

TITLE	AUTHOR	SUGGESTED AGE GROUP
AOTEAROA: THE NEW ZEALAND STORY	Gavin Bishop	All
WILDLIFE OF AOTEAROA	Gavin Bishop	All
AMAZING AOTEAROA ACTIVITY BOOK	Gavin Bishop	All
IN THE GARDEN	Ned Barraud & Gillian Candler	All
WHERE IS IT?	Ned Barraud	All
ROCK POOLS	Ned Barraud	All
NEW ZEALAND BACKYARD BEASTS	Ned Barraud	All
THE DOG MAN SERIES	Dav Pilkey	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
THE SHOWTYM ADVENTURES SERIES	Kelly Wilson	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
THE 13-STOREY TREEHOUSE SERIES	Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
THE CAT IN THE HAT	Dr. Seuss	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
TE POTI RO POTAE	Dr. Seuss	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
GREEN EGGS & HAM	Dr. Seuss	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!	Dr. Seuss	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
ONE FISH TWO FISH RED FISH BLUE FISH	Dr. Seuss	7-8 years (School Years 3-4)
THE BFG	Roald Dahl	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
MATILDA	Roald Dahl	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY	Roald Dahl	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE BOY IN THE DRESS	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
MR STINK	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)



*A favourite book is a treasured friend*

# Reading Lists - continued



TITLE	AUTHOR	SUGGESTED AGE GROUP
BILLIONAIRE BOY	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
GANGSTA GRANNY	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
RATBURGER	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
DEMON DENTIST	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
AWFUL AUNTIE	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 2	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE WORLD'S WORST CHILDREN 3	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE WORLD'S WORST PARENTS	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE MIDNIGHT GANG	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
GRANDPA'S GREAT ESCAPE	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
BAD DAD	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE ICE MONSTER	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
FING	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE WORLD'S WORST TEACHERS	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
SLIME	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE BEAST OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
CODENAME BANANAS	David Walliams	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
NEVERMOOR: THE TRIALS OF MORRIGAN CROW	Jessica Townsend	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
WUNDERSMITH: THE CALLING OF MORRIGAN CROW	Jessica Townsend	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
HOLLOWPOX THE HUNT FOR MORRIGAN CROW	Jessica Townsend	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
CHARLOTTE'S WEB	E. B. White	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE DIARY OF A WIMPY KID SERIES (INCLUDING TE REO MAORI EDITIONS)	Jeff Kinney	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)



*A favourite book is a treasured friend*

# Reading Lists - continued



TITLE	AUTHOR	SUGGESTED AGE GROUP
THE DIARY OF AN AWESOME FRIENDLY KID SERIES	Jeff Kinney	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
MYSTIC AND THE MIDNIGHT RIDE	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
BLAZE AND THE DARK RIDER	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE FOREVER HORSE	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE PRINCE OF PONIES	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE PRINCESS AND THE FOAL	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE ISLAND OF LOST HORSES	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE GIRL WHO RODE THE WIND	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THUNDERBOLT PONY	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE FIRE STALLION	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE DIAMOND HORSE	Stacy Gregg	9-10 years (School Years 5-6)
THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS	John Boyne	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
WONDER	R. J. Palacio	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
WINK	Rob Harrell	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
HOLES	Louis Sachar	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
THE HOBBIT	J. R. R. Tolkien	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
THE PERCY JACKSON SERIES	Rick Riordan	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
THE HEROES OF OLYMPUS SERIES	Rick Riordan	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
THE TRIALS OF APOLLO SERIES	Rick Riordan	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)
THE HARRY POTTER SERIES	J. K. Rowling	11-12 years (School Years 7-8)



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# How to write a Book Review



A good book review is more than just telling people what happened in the story. It's a way to share your thoughts about a book with other people and help them decide whether or not they would like to read it.

Here are some tips to get you started on your book review.

## HOW TO BEGIN

A lot of book reviews start by explaining a little bit about the book's plot, or storyline. But don't give away too much! You don't want to tell readers so much they think there isn't any point in reading the book, and you definitely don't want to include any spoilers by telling people how the story ends.

There are other ways you could start your book review:

## QUOTE A MEMORABLE LINE FROM THE BOOK

This is a great way to show the style of writing and provide a "flavour" of the book.

*"George and Harold were usually responsible kids. Whenever anything bad happened, George and Harold were usually responsible."*

*"In his dreams, he would be a hero. In his life, he felt like a zero."*

## PROVIDE AN INTERESTING FACT FROM THE BOOK

This can work particularly well if you are reviewing a non-fiction title and want to show readers how interesting the book is.

*Matariki is the Māori name for a cluster of seven stars also known as the Pleiades. In winter, when the stars appear in the sky it heralds the start of the Māori new year.*

## PROVIDE SOME BACKGROUND ABOUT THE BOOK

Is the author famous? Is it the latest title in a series? Is it based on a true story? Is it the author's first book?

*The Top Secret Undercover Notes of Buttons McGinty is the first-even children's book by Kiwi comedian Rhys Darby.*

## WHAT TO WRITE ABOUT

### General and background information

There are some bits of general information that would be useful to tell readers about the book:

- What kind of book is it? For example, a picture book, fantasy, adventure, animal story.
- Is it part of a series?
- Has the author written other books? What are the other titles? Is this one as good/better/worse?
- What age group would enjoy reading this book?



## THE PLOT

The plot is the sequence of events that make up the story. This is a tricky one to write about in a review. You want the readers to understand what the story is about without giving too much away.

**HINT: NEVER GIVE AWAY THE ENDING OR ANY SURPRISES IN THE STORY!**

One way to give an idea of the plot is to give a little bit of information and then ask a question:

*Petey, the World's Most Evil Cat, is determined to destroy Dog Man once and for all. Can Dog Man's nose for justice and Li'l Petey's heart of gold finally convince the conniving kitty to do good?*

Another way is to give a hint about a problem, conflict or challenge in the story:

*Wilbur the pig is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte, a beautiful grey spider. They become best friends and, when Wilbur is faced with the usual fate of fat little pigs, Charlotte must find a clever way to save him.*

## THE CHARACTERS

The characters are the people in the story. They might be humans, aliens, animals, creatures or even things. The characters are involved in the action and the talking and keep the story moving along. Some questions to think about in your review are:

- Who are the main characters?
- Are they good or evil?
- Are they believable?
- Do they change through the story?

## THE SETTING

This is the time and the place of the story.

- Does the story happen in the present, the past or the future?
- Where does the story happen – is it somewhere on earth or is it a made-up place?
- Is there just one setting or does the story move around different times or places?
- Did the setting make a big impact the way you felt about the book?

## YOUR OPINION

This is the bit where you can tell readers how you felt about the book. It is just as important as all the information about the plot, the characters and the setting and you can include your opinions at any point through the book review. Giving your final opinion on the book can be a great way to finish the review.

- Did you enjoy the book or not? Do you think other readers would enjoy it?
- What did you like or dislike about the book? Do you think other readers would feel the same way?
- How did the book make you feel? Did you laugh or cry? Did you keep thinking about it after you finished it?
- How did the book compare to other books by the same author, or other books on a similar subject?
- Would you read the book again? Would you read another book by the same author?

# Animal Antics



There are lots of books with animals as central characters. They might be the hero, or the villain, a best friend or an enemy.

Write down the name of a book where one of these animals is a key character in the story. There could be more than one title that fits. We've suggested some below but you might think of lots more!

ANIMAL	BOOK
Cat	
Crocodile	
Dog	
Fox	
Horse	
Mouse	
Pig	
Pigeon	
Sheep	
Spider	

ANIMAL	BOOK
Cat	The Cat in the Hat by Dr Seuss; Slinky Malinki or Scarface Claw – Hold Tight! by Lynley Dodd; Jennie by Paul Gallico; The Warriors series by Erin Hunter
Crocodile	The Enormous Crocodile by Roald Dahl; The Selfish Crocodile by Faustin Charles; Crocodile Beat by Gail Jorgensen
Dog	Go, Dog, Go! by P.D. Eastman, Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy and other titles by Lynley Dodd; Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo; Dogman series by Dav Pilkey
Fox	Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl; Fox in Sox by Dr Seuss; Fox by Margaret Wild
Horse	Any book by Stacey Gregg; Robert the Rose Horse by Joan Heilbroner
Mouse	The Geronimo Stilton series; The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson; The Tale of Two Bad Mice by Beatrix Potter; Stuart Little by E. B. White; Maisy titles by Lucy Cousins
Pig	The Sheep-Pig by Dick King-Smith; The Three Little Pigs (traditional story); Olivia by Ian Falconer;
Pigeon	Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus and other titles by Mo Willems; Real Pigeons Fight Crime by Andrew McDonald; Peppa Pig titles
Sheep	Baa Baa Smart Sheep by Mark and Rowan Sommerset; Where is the Green Sheep by Mem Fox; Russell the Sheep by Rob Scotton
Spider	Charlotte's Web by E. B. White; The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle

# Friends and Enemies

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BFFs, friends, enemies, frenemies – we meet all sorts of people in the stories we read. We've mixed up some famous pairs of characters below – can you match them up? We've done the first one for you.

Andy

Alberta

Asterix

Ben

Charlie

Dog Man

George

Harold

Greg

Mr Tumnus

Harry

Mr Wonka

Hiccup

Obelix

Lucy

Ron

Petey

Rowley

Raj

Terry

Stella

Toothless

Xar

Wish



# Friends and Enemies

## Answers

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Wish	Xar
Alberta	Stella
Ben	Raj
Dog Man	Petey
Mr Tumnus	Lucy
Toothless	Hiccup
Ron	Harry
Rowley	Greg
Harold	George
Mr Wonka	Charlie
Obelix	Asterix
Terry	Andy

**Andy Griffiths** and his friend **Terry Denton** are the creators and the stars of the *Treehouse* series. The first book was the 13-Storey Treehouse. The Treehouse grows by 13 levels with each new book and now it's up to 130 storeys!

**Asterix** is the hero of the *Asterix* books by Goscinny and Uderzo. He is a small but clever warrior who defends his ancient Gaulish village from the Romans. He can become super-strong by drinking a magic potion. His friend **Obelix** fell into a cauldron of magic potion as a baby and has permanent super-human strength.

**Charlie** is the main character of Roald Dahl's much-loved book *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. When he finds a golden ticket in a bar of chocolate, he wins a visit to the famous chocolate factory owned by the mysterious **Mr Wonka**.

**George** and **Harold** are partners in trouble who create their own comic book series, *Captain Underpants*. Captain Underpants accidentally becomes real when George and Harold hypnotize their bad-tempered principal, Mr. Krupp.

**Greg** is starting out at middle school, a place where undersized weaklings share the hallways with kids who are taller, meaner, and already shaving. In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Greg tries to use his best friend **Rowley's** newfound popularity to his own advantage, kicking off a chain of events that will test their friendship.

# Friends and Enemies

## Answers - continued

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**Harry Potter** must be the biggest star in the book universe! The adventures of the boy wizard at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry are legendary. Along with learning how to be a wizard Harry and his friends **Ron** and Hermione must battle the dark wizard, Lord Voldemort.

**Hiccup** Horrendous Haddock III, star of *How to Train Your Dragon*, tries to pass the important initiation test of his Viking clan by catching and training a dragon. Hiccup finds a rare Seadragonus Giganticus Maximus to train and calls it **Toothless**.

**Lucy** is the youngest of four children sent to stay in a big old house in the book *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. She is playing a game when she slips through the back of a wardrobe to the land of Narnia, where she meets the helpful faun, **Mr Tumnus**.

**Petey** is another creation of George and Harold, of Captain Underpants fame. He is an evil cat that build a bomb to blow up policeman Officer Knight and his police dog, Greg (not to be confused with Greg Heffley, the Wimpy Kid!). The surviving bits of Office Knight and Greg are surgically attached to each other to create a new superhero, **Dog Man**.

**Raj** is the shop owner who features in many of David Walliams' books. He is kind and funny and often gives his customers sweets. In *Gangsta Granny* Raj keeps **Ben** supplied with his beloved *Plumbing Weekly* magazine.

**Stella** Saxby is the sole heir to Saxby Hall. But awful Aunt **Alberta** and her giant owl will stop at nothing to get it from her. Luckily Stella has a secret – and slightly spooky – weapon up her sleeve. *Awful Auntie* is an absolute hoot of an adventure.

**Xar** is a Wizard boy who has no Magic and will do anything to get it. **Wish** is a Warrior girl, but she owns a banned Magical Object, and she will do anything to conceal it. In *The Warriors of Once* Xar and Wish must forget their differences if they're going to make it to the dungeons at Warrior Fort.

# Word Searches

7 - 8 year olds



I	K	G	F	R	N	O	I	J	O	L	C
N	O	I	T	A	R	T	S	U	L	L	I
D	W	H	E	C	F	D	D	R	L	P	T
R	N	R	O	N	E	A	R	E	V	T	K
I	E	V	I	G	L	E	I	H	Y	J	M
K	E	T	A	T	T	R	Q	S	R	T	X
R	O	P	C	P	E	G	O	I	E	O	V
V	I	O	A	A	C	R	A	L	V	F	L
E	A	H	B	R	R	V	D	B	I	W	Z
L	C	O	A	P	W	A	A	U	E	V	F
A	U	T	H	O	R	H	H	P	W	F	A
S	D	R	O	W	J	S	N	C	Q	W	I

**AUTHOR**  
**BOOK**  
**CHAPTER**  
**CHARACTER**

**COVER**  
**ILLUSTRATION**  
**PAGE**  
**PUBLISHER**

**READ**  
**REVIEW**  
**WORDS**  
**WRITER**

# Word Searches

9 - 10 year olds



E	M	Z	M	F	Q	M	N	T	Y	P	Y	I	K	Q
X	R	S	G	U	X	T	I	P	H	U	R	D	F	V
E	R	U	O	K	D	V	E	A	P	B	O	L	I	E
M	R	E	T	P	A	H	C	G	A	L	T	E	F	K
Q	Y	G	V	N	R	Y	D	E	R	I	S	G	I	K
C	Y	T	R	O	E	J	A	R	G	S	I	E	C	O
A	F	E	H	T	C	V	E	B	O	H	H	N	S	T
V	A	Y	C	M	Y	T	D	F	I	E	B	D	H	R
D	N	J	S	L	C	V	X	A	B	R	G	R	E	E
N	O	I	T	A	R	T	S	U	L	L	I	V	C	S
F	A	I	R	Y	T	A	L	E	U	L	I	N	D	I
E	E	A	B	M	B	N	X	Y	L	E	A	R	X	V
V	H	A	K	L	W	J	A	E	W	M	O	F	N	M
C	A	U	T	H	O	R	R	F	O	W	K	U	X	B
R	E	T	I	R	W	T	V	R	B	O	O	K	Z	M

ADVENTURE  
AUTHOR  
BIOGRAPHY  
BOOK  
CHAPTER  
CHARACTER

COVER  
FAIRYTALE  
FANTASY  
HISTORY  
ILLUSTRATION  
LEGEND

MYTH  
PAGE  
PUBLISHER  
READ  
REVIEW  
ROMANCE

SCIFI  
THRILLER  
WORDS  
WRITER

# Word Searches

11 - 12 year olds



A	P	R	L	E	M	P	V	T	O	E	N	N	X	G	H	Z	S	R	Y
R	D	A	E	P	C	J	L	F	V	O	P	T	T	P	G	T	F	F	V
E	C	V	G	H	E	N	A	R	I	B	V	I	Y	R	O	T	S	I	H
A	S	G	E	E	S	N	A	T	J	I	O	A	L	K	C	T	I	V	X
D	P	D	K	N	T	I	C	M	L	O	Z	G	J	O	I	F	I	C	S
Y	J	O	R	A	T	U	L	S	O	G	D	N	D	J	G	I	V	Z	X
J	O	Z	S	O	D	U	H	B	J	R	R	O	B	N	A	U	L	H	E
B	P	Y	U	O	W	L	R	T	U	A	E	I	C	S	N	G	E	T	D
O	A	B	R	V	D	X	M	E	J	P	L	T	G	O	W	L	N	C	N
O	S	T	S	T	Y	G	M	A	T	H	L	A	C	S	Q	F	O	J	I
O	N	Q	Z	C	Q	Q	J	Z	C	Y	I	R	H	D	B	V	T	E	M
I	G	N	A	V	S	W	C	H	O	W	R	T	A	D	E	E	P	A	C
L	E	G	E	N	D	K	A	Z	W	R	H	S	P	R	R	S	R	T	A
B	E	L	A	T	Y	R	I	A	F	I	T	U	T	P	P	O	R	N	Q
R	S	L	X	N	A	M	Y	T	H	T	U	L	E	C	T	O	K	E	T
D	E	D	I	C	A	T	I	O	N	E	F	L	R	A	H	S	K	T	Q
D	L	V	T	F	O	R	E	W	O	R	D	I	R	T	V	V	R	N	Z
G	T	E	I	N	W	N	G	E	K	J	N	R	U	H	Q	I	C	O	D
L	R	C	M	E	M	J	T	N	R	D	A	A	Q	M	Z	T	H	C	E
E	U	Q	F	I	W	W	H	V	V	N	K	O	Q	Y	S	B	W	B	E

ADVENTURE  
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CONTENT  
COVER  
DEDICATION  
EPILOGUE  
FAIRYTALE  
FANTASY

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