

Text Overview: Tutor Reading Programme



Year 7		
Text & Study Link	Short Summary	Key Themes
Alice's Adventures In Wonderland Lewis Carroll (1865) http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/alice/	Alice's Adventures in Wonderland tells the story of Alice, a young, curious girl who follows a white rabbit down a rabbit hole and into Wonderland.	<i>time & space, abandonment, nonsense, animals</i>
The Diary of a Young Girl Anne Frank (1947) http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/annefrank/	Anne Frank's remarkable diary has become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit. In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period.	<i>isolation, adolescence, youth, mortality, family, war, love, fear, religion</i>
Wonder Rael J. Palacio (2012) http://www.gradesaver.com/wonder	August (Auggie) Pullman was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to a mainstream school—until now. Can he convince his new classmates that he's just like them, despite appearances?	<i>inclusion, inner beauty, bullying, death (pet)</i>
Coram Boy Jamila Gavin (2000) https://www.enotes.com/topics/coram-boy	In the late 1700s your circumstance of birth meant everything. Toby and Aaron may both find themselves living at Captain Thomas Coram's Hospital for parentless children, but their histories are as far apart as they could possibly be. Toby has been rescued from a life of slave labour in a faraway country; Aaron is the illegitimate son of the heir to a large country estate. They are watched over by Mish—a simple soul who has been with them since their arrival. His devotion to them is absolute, but his motives are not altogether straightforward. Could this curious man really be Meshak, the son of a wicked child-killer who was hanged at the gallows for his crimes?	<i>the treatment of children, social acceptance, music, history</i>
Tins Alex Shearer (2006) https://www.panmacmillan.com/authors/alex-shearer/tins	Fergal is a self-confessed nerd with an eccentric hobby: tin collecting. He likes the lucky dip aspect of buying tins that have their labels missing - after all, you never know what might be inside. It's Fergal's idea of living dangerously. That is, until the day he innocently opens up a tin to find . . . a bloodied human finger. Everyone thinks it's a joke. But not Fergal - and when his next tin discovery is a note with the word 'Help' scribbled on it, he feels compelled to track down the factory responsible for these mysterious and macabre products. Fergal might be hungry to play detective, but has he opened a can of worms . . . ?	<i>forced child labour, friendship, evil adults</i>
Counting Stars David Almond (2000) https://www.hachettechildrens.co.uk/books/detail.ppt?isbn=9781444934243	David Almond's extraordinary novels have established him as an author of unique insight and skill. These stories encapsulate his endless sense of mystery and wonderment, as they weave a tangible tapestry of growing up in a large, loving family. Here are the kernels of his novels—joy and fear, darkness and light, the healing power of love and imagination in overcoming the wounds of ignorance and prejudice. These stories merge memory and dream, the real and the imagined, in a collection of exquisite tenderness.	<i>joy, darkness, love, death, identity</i>

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<p>The Phantom Tollbooth <i>Norton Juster (1961)</i> https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/tollbooth/</p>	<p>For Milo, everything's a bore. When a tollbooth mysteriously appears in his room, he drives through only because he's got nothing better to do. But on the other side, things seem different. Milo visits the Island of Conclusions (you get there by jumping), learns about time from a ticking watchdog named Tock, and even embarks on a quest to rescue Rhyme and Reason! Somewhere along the way, Milo realizes something astonishing. Life is far from dull. In fact, it's exciting beyond his wildest dreams. . .</p>	<p><i>the importance of learning, open-mindedness, perseverance, friendship</i></p>
<p>War Horse <i>Michael Morpurgo (2016)</i> https://www.michaelmorpurgo.com/</p>	<p>Narrated from an unusual perspective, Michael Morpurgo's <i>War Horse</i> tells a powerful story of humanity and friendship that touches people of all ages. In 1914, Joey, a young farm horse, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges towards the enemy, witnessing the horror of the frontline. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him.</p>	