

Book Band Chart



This chart shows an approximate correlation between Oxford Reading Levels and children's ages and stages of learning. However, all journeys vary, and children will have different needs at different points. Oxford Reading Levels can be used to support the three key phases of 'becoming a reader.'

English NC Key Stage	Year group	Age range	Oxford reading level	Book band colour	RWI group colour
EYFS	Nursery	Up to 4 years	1	Lilac	
			1+	Pink	
	Reception	4-5 years old	1	Lilac	
			1+	Pink	
			2	Red	
			3	Yellow	Green
	4	Light Blue	Purple		
KS1	Year 1	5-6 years old	5	Green	Pink
			6	Orange	Orange
			7	Turquoise	Yellow
	Year 2	6-7 years old	8*	Purple	Blue
			9	Gold	Grey
			10	White	No longer on RWI
			11	Lime	
			12	Lime +	

English NC Key Stage	Year group	Age range	Oxford reading level	Book band colour	Stage guidance/ Collins Big Cat book conversion	
LKS2	Year 3	7-8 years old	8*	Brown	Brown stages 8-11 (KS2) equivalent to KS1 (Purple, Gold, White, Lime)	
			9			
			10			
				11	Grey	After Stage 12- Lime+ chn move to Stage 12 (Grey)
				12		
				13		
	Year 4	8-9 years old	14	Dark Blue	Ruby (stage 14)- Grey book band.	
			15			
			16			
UKS2	Year 5	9-10 years old	17	Dark Red	Emerald (stage 15) Sapphire (stage 16)- Dark blue book band.	
			18			
				19	Dark Red +	Diamond (stage 17) – Dark red book bands 17 and 18.
		20				
		Year 6	10-11 years old			Pearl (stage 18)- Dark red + book bands 19 and 20.

Phase 1: Oxford Reading Levels 1–7 provide small steps of incremental progress in learning to decode as well as developing other essential reading skills. Working through the books in each of these levels in a rigorous and linear way is critical for building early reading foundations.

Phase 2: Oxford Reading Levels 8–12 support children's transition from learning to read into reading to learn – as they move off a phonics scheme and begin to explore longer stories, chapter books, and more varied non-fiction. Children should be encouraged to make choices, based on their interests, within each level but progressing through these levels sequentially will really help to build their fluency and confidence as readers.

Why do Levels 8–12 overlap?

One unique feature of the Oxford Reading Levels is the overlay between text difficulty and children's emotional maturity in the crucial transition from 'learning to read' to 'reading to learn'. It means that we can provide suitable books for very capable 6–7-year-olds and books that are less challenging but still age-appropriate for older children who are reluctant and/or slower to progress.

Phase 3: Oxford Reading Levels 13–20 support children's onward reading journey by providing a range of sophisticated texts that can be used alongside a rich and varied reading library. It is useful for children to 'work through the levels given the progression built into the texts, but they should also be encouraged to make choices based on their interests and to move up and down the levels more freely if preferred.

St Matthew's Reading offer (Reading books)

Why do we use levelled readers?

For a child to become a successful reader, they need to be presented with the right amount of challenge. Expertly levelled reading books help develop children's fluency, stamina and knowledge of the world.

How do Oxford Reading Levels help children to read?

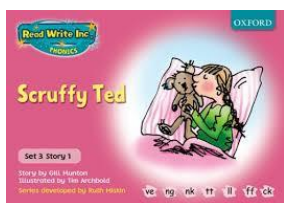
The Oxford Reading Levels progressively build children's reading skills leading to more children becoming successful, life-long readers. The Oxford Reading Levels Teacher's Guide can support teachers in making the right judgements about what text a child should be reading. However, we also encourage children to read for pleasure and have a choice when it comes to reading and so they may also choose their own books in the form of a 'free reader, 'recommended read' or 'shared read.'

What types of stories do the children get to take home?

Take a look below at the shared reads and different genres/types of stories the children can choose from as they work their way through the Oxford Reading tree levelling system in KS1 and KS2.

KS1

Independent Read



Read Write Inc. Phonics resources, published by Oxford University Press, provide essential support to help us teach reading. They include a large range of matched decodable books for both fiction and non-fiction, as well as Book Bag Books for take-home reading.

Read Write Inc. Phonics Books

Read Write Inc. Phonics Storybooks are a series of decodable texts matched to the phonics children are learning. They start with Sound Blending books and move on to Red Ditties all the way up to Grey. Read Write Inc. Phonics includes reading books written using only the letters they have learnt at each level (and a small number of separately taught tricky words). The children will quickly feel confident and successful when reading these texts and developing their comprehension skills.

- Sound blending books for extra practice of blending the Set 1 Speed Sounds (Nursery and Reception)
There are also black and white paper versions of the Core Storybooks (Red Ditty to Grey) which can be sent home – a take home copy of the Storybook read in class.

Read Write Inc. Phonics Book Bag Books

A wide selection of fully decodable reading books for children to take home, to support their Read Write Inc. Phonics learning in the classroom, from Red Ditty through to Grey. All Book Bag Books include notes for parents and carers on how to help their child at home with phonics.

- Full-colour fiction Book Bag Books (Red Ditty to Grey) – carefully matched to the Storybooks to reinforce classroom learning.

Shared Read KS1



Biff, Chip and Kipper Stories

Biff, Chip and Kipper much loved **traditional characters** that are used to encourage children to read. These books include a range of different adventures for children to navigate with a **sense of familiarity and support the wider curriculum.**

Project X Alien Adventures

A decodable reading series for Reception to Year 6 based around an exciting space adventure to **engage boys and ignite a love of reading.**

Project X Hero Academy Non-fiction

An inspiring series of decodable titles for reading practice about **real-life heroes.** Broadens children's subject **knowledge of diversity and inclusion, the wider world and career aspirations.**

Story Sparks/All Stars

Emotionally powerful stories to deepen children's comprehension skills, fire their imaginations, and enjoy the anticipation of a great story.

inFact KS1

A series of distinctive and engaging **non-fiction** titles which are for so much more than fact-finding. Designed to **inspire, inform and intrigue children.**

KS2



Copper to Pearl



TreeTops Reflect

Emotionally powerful fiction and non-fiction to make children think. A thought-provoking series of titles, to develop children's higher-level reading and comprehension skills through books with positive moral values and diverse role-models portrayed.

TreeTops Chucklers

A variety of **funny novels, short-story collections,** comics and anthologies from Series Editor Jeremy Strong. Funny short stories, perfect for **encouraging even the most reluctant children to read for pleasure.**

TreeTops Greatest Stories

A timeless collection to **capture our literary heritage.** It **introduces children to the joy of must-read classics.** Handpicked by world famous author Michael Morpurgo, to develop and **extend their reading experiences.**

Collins Big Cat

Written by popular children's authors, these beautiful books support children on their reading journey and introduce a **variety of different text types** to ensure they have a **good breadth of reading experiences.**

inFact KS2

Non-fiction titles to take KS2 beyond simple fact-finding. Compelling and imaginative non-fiction to **engage children in reading for pleasure.** Child-friendly approaches to **subjects and biographies of significant people from history.**



Project X Alien Adventures/Project X Origins

Action-packed, emotive fiction, and inspiring non-fiction on cross curricular topics motivate all children and broaden reading choices as they can read these all through school in KS1 and KS2.

A decodable reading series for Reception to Year 6 based around an exciting space adventure to **engage boys and ignite a love of reading.**

TreeTops Fiction

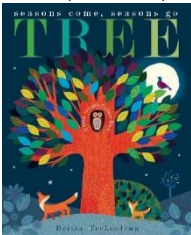
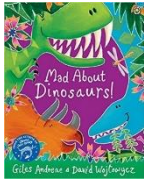
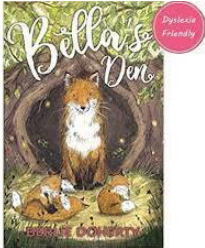
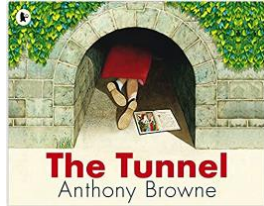
Written and illustrated by best-selling authors such as Michael Morpurgo and Jeremy Strong along with artists Michael Foreman and Ian Beck. Offers a huge variety of genres following a familiar structure. This includes **humour, sci-fi, adventure, mystery and historical fiction.** Introduces children to a wide range of authors and writing style.

Free readers

Children's choice of a 'real book' to read at home. These are written by a range of inspiring authors and can include fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Children can choose a free reader text from their class reading area, book corner, library, the school's recommend reading lists or a book suggested or enjoyed by their teachers. This **encourages independent and expressive readers who are taught to read for pleasure and validate their own choices and experiences.**

Class text (fiction) overview


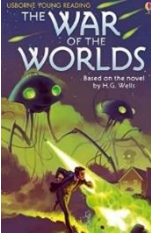
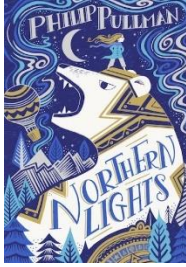
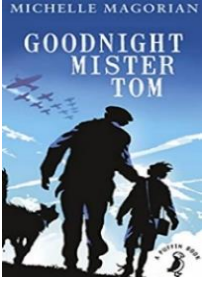
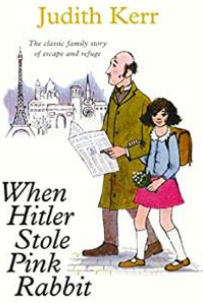
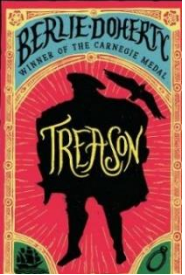
Reception/Key Stage 1

Year R/1		Year 1/2		Year 2	
Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
<p>Tree My Tree and Me Pumpkin Soup</p> 	<p>The Very Hungry Caterpillar Farmer Duck Jasper's Beanstalk Oliver's Fruit Salad The Gigantic Turnip</p> 	<p>Paddington book series/collection.</p> 	<p><u>Traditional tales- exploration of a range of fairy tales</u> Lead story: Red Riding Hood Supporting text Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion.</p> 	<p>The Night Pirates The Pirates Next Door The adventures of Sinbad the sailor</p> 	<p><u>Deeper focus on traditional tales</u> Lead story: The Three Little Pigs Supporting texts: Little Red Riding Hood Jack and the Beanstalk Goldilocks and the three bears.</p> 
Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
<p>The Girl and the Dinosaur Mad about Dinosaurs How to catch a Dinosaur If I had a Dinosaur</p> 	<p>Bella's Den Sally's Secret</p> 	<p>Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge Lost in the Toy Museum: An Adventure Grandad's Island</p> 	<p>Aliens in underpants Beegu</p> 	<p>Toby and the Great Fire of London</p> 	<p>The Tunnel Fantastic Mr Fox</p> 
Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
<p>Alfie and Grandma Old Bear Wonderwise: When I Was Young</p> 	<p>Handa's Surprise</p> 	<p>Lost in the Toy Museum</p> 	<p>Martha Maps It Out</p> 	<p>The Minpins</p> 	<p>Max and Katie's Victorian Adventure</p> 

Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3		Year 3/4		Year 4/5	
Autumn Term		Autumn Term		Autumn Term	
<p>The Firework Maker's Daughter</p> <p>Philip Pullman</p>		<p>Beowulf</p> <p>Michael Morpurgo</p>		<p>The Indian in the cupboard</p> <p>Lynne Reid Banks</p>	
Spring Term		Spring Term		Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
<p>Stig of the Dump</p> <p>Clive King</p>		<p>Greek Myths</p> <p>Usborne books</p>		<p>The Saga of Eric the Viking</p> <p>Terry Jones</p>	
Summer Term		Summer Term		Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
<p>History Hacker's Roman Rescue</p> <p>Twinkl book club</p>		<p>The Time-Travelling Cat and the Egyptian Goddess</p> <p>Julia Jarman</p>		<p>Anglo-Saxon Boy</p> <p>Tony Bradman</p>	

Upper Key Stage 2

Year 5/6		Year 6	
Autumn Term		Autumn Term	
<p>The Secret Garden Frances Hodgson Burnett</p> 	<p>The War of the Worlds Usborne books</p> 	<p>Northern Lights Philip Pulman</p> 	
Spring Term		Spring Term	
<p>Goodnight Mr Tom Michelle Magorian</p> 	<p>When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit Judith Kerr</p> 		
Summer Term		Summer Term	
<p>Treason Berlie Doherty</p> 	<p>The Explorer Katherine Rundell</p> 