



## Group Readers for Year 3 and Year 4

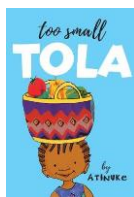
### Fiction



**ASHLEY Chris: Wasim in the Deep End**

**AR: 4.0 LY**

A clever, sensitive and humorous tale, seemingly simple but skilfully woven with some of the complex issues surrounding **ethnic minorities**.



**ATINUKE: Too Small Tola**

**AR: 3.6 LY**

Three stories about Tola, a young girl Nigerian who, though small, is very determined. **Multicultural** & gives a great insight to inner city life & community in Nigeria.



**BECKER Aaron: Journey**

A **wordless picture book** about a lonely girl who one day draws a door on her wall and through it escapes into a world where wonder, adventure and danger abound. When she is captured by a sinister emperor, only an act of tremendous courage and kindness can set her free.



**BRADMAN Tony: Arthur and the King's Sword**  
**Gold**

**AR: 5.1 MY**

A lively retelling of how the boy Arthur pulls Excalibur from the stone and becomes King of England. This book, from the Orchard Crunchies series, is enriched by **wonderful line drawings** from favourite illustrator Tony Ross.



**BROWNE Anthony: Tunnel**

**White**

**AR: 2.7 LY**

An excellent book to **develop inference and to discuss sibling rivalry** which can be used at a range of levels. Classic Anthony Browne in which the pictures tell us more than the text.



**BROWNE Anthony: Voices in the Park**  
**Dark Red**

**AR: 2.8 LY**

This visit to the park is told from the point of view of four characters. Their thoughts and feelings cleverly overlap and ask the reader questions about how we interact with each other, and who we include or exclude from our world. There are lots of **visual clues to how the characters feel**, including a typeface for each voice.

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**CHAMBERS John: The Seven Deadly Finns**

“It all started with the snowman and ended with the snowman too. The stuff that happened in the middle wasn’t Mickey’s fault, whatever anybody said afterwards.” Each chapter is told from the viewpoint of a different member of the family until the chaotic and farcical finale. The **slapstick humour** will particularly appeal to boys.

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**CHILD Lauren: Beware the Storybook Wolves**

**AR: 4.5 LY**

Herb has to do some quick thinking when two wolves escape from his bedtime story intent on gobbling him up. This is a unique take on the traditional tale told in typical Lauren Child style with illustrations and text that are both lively and great fun.

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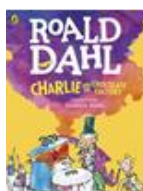


**CREBBIN June: Hal the Highwayman**

**AR: 2.9 MY**

Hal goes to Dick Turpin’s school to improve his skills as a highwayman! Text types used in this fun early read include **letters, adverts, maps and a school report**. Could appeal to older, less able readers.

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**DAHL Roald: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory**  
**Dark Blue**

**AR: 4.8 MY**

Charlie Bucket can't believe his luck when he finds a Golden Ticket and wins the chance of a lifetime: a magical day witnessing the miraculous creation of the most delectable eatables ever made. A modern classic.

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**DAHL Roald: The Magic Finger**  
**Grey**

**AR: 3.1 LY**

Our heroine's magic, flashing finger wreaks vengeance on anyone who crosses her path with fantastic results. **Good for discussion** about the consequences of one's actions.

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**DOLAN Elys: Weasels**

I bet you thought weasels were furry little creatures that hid in holes or frolicked in the leaves? Well you couldn’t be more wrong! The weasels in this story are plotting to take over the world until their computer goes wrong. The illustrations provide endless details to pore over and require sophisticated **visual literacy skills** to follow the narrative.

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**DUFFY Carol Ann and RAY Jane: The Lost Happy Endings**

**AR: 4.8 LY**

A vivid and memorable tale about what happens when, one night, a wicked witch steals the happy endings to bedtime stories. It is up to Jub, the keeper of the happy endings, to save the day and ensure sweet dreams everywhere in this lyrical story about storytelling. As you might expect from a Poet laureate and an acclaimed illustrator, the traditional story themes and structure are explored through **rich language and atmospheric illustrations**.

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**EDWARDS Gareth: The Disgusting Sandwich**

**AR: 3.1 LY**

A hungry badger finds a discarded sandwich but fate keeps conspiring against him whenever he tries to eat it. Plenty of opportunities to explore **sentence construction** but within a cumulative story which will have wide appeal, not least because of Hannah Shaw's illustrations.

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**FARDELL John: Manfred the Baddie**

Manfred is the baddest baddie of all but can he ever change his ways? A humorous picture book with a strong message which will have particular appeal to boys. **A good model of complex sentences and the power of three**.

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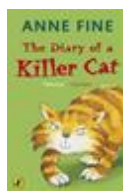
**FINE Anne: Bill's New Frock**

**Grey**

**AR: 4.3 MY**

A stylishly-written and very funny book about **gender issues**, sure to stimulate a lot of **discussion**.

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**FINE Anne: The Diary of a Killer Cat**

**Brown**

**AR: 3.3 MY**

Tuffy the cat narrates this hilarious tale in his own inimitable style. The essence of feline mischief is captured in **short sentences, good dialogue and witty illustrations**.

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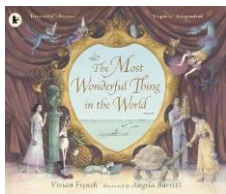


**FOREMAN, Michael: Mia's Story**

**AR: 3.4 LY**

Subtitled "A sketchbook of hopes and dreams", this beautifully told and illustrated story is based on a real life encounter by the author with a young South American child. A lovely read as well as a **great picture book for discussion**.

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**FRENCH Vivien: The Most Wonderful Thing in the World**

**AR: 3.6 LY**

A king and queen set out to find a suitable husband for their daughter by setting a task in which suitors are asked to show them the most wonderful thing in the world.

A beautifully illustrated traditional tale about wanting something only to find it right under your nose. The **language is rich** and the **story pattern ideal for playing around with**.

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**FUNKE Cornelia: Moonshine Dragon**

**AR: 3.7 MY**

When the moonlight hits the pages of the book Patrick has left open by his bed he is woken by a dragon emerging from between the pages. Soon a knight on a white horse is hot on his heels. It isn't long before Patrick is under attack as well as his new fire-breathing friend. This title is in the Little Gems series by Barrington Stoke designed to be **dyslexia friendly**.

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**GRAHAM Bob: A Bus called Heaven**

**AR: 3.1 LY**

One morning it appeared out of nowhere, a broken down bus! The normally shy Stella spots the potential of the bus and announces "This bus could be ours". This is the start of a community working together and what happens when that community is threatened. A picture book with **rich opportunities for discussion**.

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**GRAVETT Emily: Meerkat Mail**

Sunny the Meerkat decides he wants to try a different home and way of life so goes on his travels, but soon discovers that home is best! Full of humorous illustrations which incorporate Sunny's postcards home. Good for **exploring points of view**.

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**GREATHEAD Helen: Spooky Devon**

Prepare to be scared by these six ghost stories set in and around Devon.

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**GREEN Julie: Beowulf the Brave**

**Brown**

**AR: 4.4 LY**

A great, short retelling of this classic Anglo-Saxon legend. Told in the first person using rich language which engages the reader and provides an **excellent model for children's own writing**.

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**GREY Mini: Hermelin**

**AR: 3.8 LY**

Offley Street is a hive of activity amongst its population of eccentric characters. Suddenly everybody is losing things from teddy bears to diamond bracelets and it isn't long before the local noticeboard is full of scribbled notes from owners seeking their lost property. When Hermelin the mouse wakes up in his cheesebox in the attic he soon discovers he has some rather remarkable talents and puts them to good use as a detective. Lots of **visual clues** to spot in the detailed illustrations.

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**GREY Mini: The Pea and the Princess**  
**Lime**

This is an alternative version of the traditional tale told by the pea (hence the title). There is a lot to look at and discuss in this beautifully produced picture book, including a very familiar looking queen!

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**GREY Mini: Traction Man is Here**  
**White**

**AR: 3.6 LY**

Traction man is the ultimate cool superhero until Granny knits him a green woollen romper suit for Christmas. Can he overcome his humiliation and rediscover the action man within? This book is packed with wonderfully detailed illustrations to talk about and to **stimulate imaginative writing**.

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**HUGHES Shirley: The Lion and the Unicorn**  
**Dark Red**

A longer picture book dealing with the realities of evacuation during World War II. The description of the period is detailed, **using powerful vocabulary**, and is complemented by the atmospheric illustrations.

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**LACEY Josh: The Dragon Sitter**  
**Brown**

**AR:4.3 MY**

When Edward and his family agree to look after Uncle Morton's pet dragon for a week whilst he is on holiday they don't realise quite what they are letting themselves in for! This humorous story is told in **emails** between Edward and his Uncle.

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**LAWSON Jon Arno: Footpath Flowers**

In this touching, **wordless picture book** a little girl collects wild flowers and distributes them to various people and animals in contrast to her distracted father who pays her and their surroundings little attention. Each flower the little girl gathers becomes a gift for a person or animal, and whether the gift is noticed or ignored, both giver and recipient are transformed by their encounter. Shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway medal in 2016, this is an example of a resistant text which provides opportunities to explore **inference**.

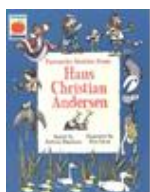
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**MADDERN Eric: Rainbow Bird**

The World is being born and Bird Woman steals fire to give heat and light to the land. Vivid colour illustrations add atmosphere to this Aboriginal folk tale from northern Australia.

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**MATTHEWS Andrew: Favourite Stories from Hans Christian Andersen**

Fresh retellings of some favourite tales, with jolly illustrations.

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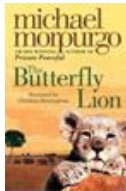
**MITCHELL Pratima: Bamba Beach**

**Dark Blue**

**AR: 4.6 MY**

Hari is a warm hearted boy and is helpful to both his family and feuding neighbours. This charming, contemporary story set in India, follows his efforts to raise enough money to save his family from poverty.

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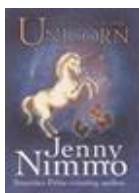
**MORPURGO Michael: The Butterfly Lion**

**Grey**

**AR: 4.6 MY**

Morpurgo at his best. A magical, sensitive story of the wonderful relationship of a boy and a lion cub, with a superb twist at the end. Smarties Gold Medal winner 1996.

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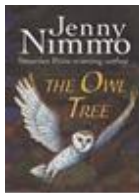
**NIMMO Jenny: The Night of the Unicorn**

**AR: 4.1 MY**

Amber's class have to write a project about their pets – she's delighted as she has a very special pet hen, but why is the new boy Luke so set on finding a unicorn?

Jenny Nimmo's wonderful use of **evocative language** draws the reader into this charming, fantasy tale.

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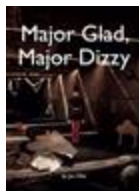
**NIMMO Jenny: The Owl Tree**

**Grey**

**ARL: 4.0 MY**

Atmospheric and haunting story of a very special tree and young Joe's efforts to save it from his grandma's nasty-seeming neighbour.

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**OKE Jan: Major Glad, Major Dizzy**

Photographic picture book based on the true story of two toy soldiers lost beneath the floorboards of an old house for over a hundred years. The **detail and passage of the milestones** of history will reward much exploration.

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**PINKNEY Jerry: The Lion and Mouse**

This classic Aesop fable is a wordless picture book that will allow children to create their own text. The detail in the pictures will support children who need to add more **detail to their writing**.

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**RAYNER Shoo: How the Leopard got his Spots**

**Gold**

**AR: 4.1 LY**

This retelling of one of Kipling's *Just So* stories captures the essence of the original text in an accessible format for young readers. The text is interspersed with lots of black and white illustrations and 4 separate pages of brief facts about elements mentioned in the story.

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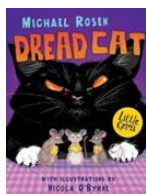
**REEVE PHILIP: Pugs of the Frozen North**

**Grey**

**AR 5.4 LY**

Shen and Sika take part in a race to the Arctic with a sledge pulled by 66 pug dogs. Great adventure with bags of humour and weird and wonderful characters.

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**ROSEN Michael: Dread Cat**

**AR: 3.4 LY**

This title in the Little Gems, dyslexia friendly, series lives up to its name in every respect. All the mice scarpers, skedaddle and scoot back to their hidey-holes when Dread Cat's about! Now he's decided to turn over a new leaf and instead of chasing mice, he promises to feed them cheese. Can the mice trust a word he says?

Nicola O'Byrne's wonderful illustrations bring the furry villain and his endearing little victims to life. A cleverly crafted story full of **delicious language play** and good use of key vocabulary.

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**SOUNDAR Chitra: A Dollop of Ghee and a Pot of Wisdom**

**Grey**

In these four short stories follow young Prince Veera as he tries to help his father the king solve some of the problems he is having with his subjects. These trickster tales are based on traditional Indian folktales.

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**SOUHAMI Jessica: King Pom and the Fox**

This colourful picture book tells the Chinese version of the story which later became famous in the West as Puss in Boots. Clever Fox helps Li Ming to change his fortune and live happily ever after.

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**STEWART Diane: The Gift of the Sun**

**Gold**

**AR: 3.4 LY**

A colourful and vibrant tale from South Africa. Beautifully illustrated, it relates how Thulani exchanges his animals for some sunflower seeds resulting in him receiving good fortune – the gift of the sun!

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**SWINDELLS Robert: Ice Palace**

**Dark Blue**

**AR: 5.0 MY**

A gripping story, in the style of a traditional tale, which demonstrates the power of good over evil. Rich use of language.

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**SYMMES Sally and ROBERTSON Mark: Pet Dragon**

All you need to know to cope with the challenge of keeping a dragon as a pet, from selecting the right sort of egg thief, to rearing your dragon, together with important cautionary notes.

Stunning illustrations from M. P. Robertson, combined with witty and amusing text make this a perfect guide for any child who's ever dreamed of having a dragon in their life.

**Information is organised in sections using different forms**, eg. Labelled diagrams, captioned illustrations, fact files, prose.

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**TRIVIZAS Eugene: The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig**

**AR: 4.6 LY**

An excellent example of a well-known fairy tale turned on its head. Helen Oxenbury's wonderful illustrations add an extra dimension.

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**WIESNER David: The Three Pigs**

With David Wiesner's picture books you need to keep your wits about you and this is no exception! When the wolf comes huffing and puffing along he blows the pigs clean out of their traditional story and into a whole other world of dragons and cats playing fiddles.

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## Non-Fiction



### ARLON Penelope: Penguins

A wonderful opportunity to meet all the different penguin species in this non-chronological report. Uses an **interesting layout** and **great photographs** to explore the facts.

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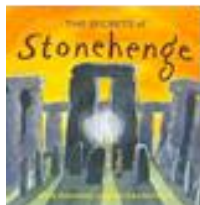


### JACKSON Tom: A Fierce Lion

**AR: 4.4 LY**

Follow the lifecycle of a lion from birth to finding a mate to old age. Vibrant photographs bring the book alive with a varied layout, fact boxes and a quiz at the end. **Speech bubbles and text boxes are written in first person narrative.**

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### MANNING Mick: The Secrets of Stonehenge

The fascinating history of this World Heritage site is explored through words and drawings, mixing narrative with explanation. The book attempts to answer questions like "How did our Stone-age ancestors bring such massive stones to the site from so far away?" and "What was Stonehenge used for?"

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### MASON Paul: Rainforest Rough Guide

**Dark Red**

**AR: 5.3 MY**

**Letters and diary entries** are used to explain the many sights, sounds and wonders discovered on this amazing trip through the Amazon rainforest.

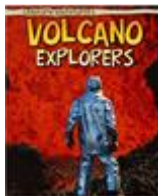
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### NICHOLSON, Sue: World Art

Step-by-step photographs and useful website addresses for children to research examples of the art techniques mentioned in the text. Clear, simple examples of an **instructional text** for children to use **as models for their own writing**. The text provides examples of **sequenced imperative statements** and **presentational features** such as numbering.

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### ROSENBURG Pam: Volcano Explorers

**Purple**

**AR: 3.8 LY**

An unusual career option which should capture children's interest. This non-chronological text is enhanced by **fabulous photographs, labelled maps and diagrams**.

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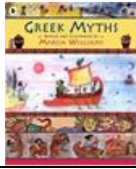
### ROYSTON Angela: Diary of a Pilot

**Purple**

**AR: 4.1 LY**

This book looks at a typical week in the life of a helicopter pilot. It is written in the form of a first-person diary and discusses how the narrator became a pilot and some of the key skills he needed. At the end of the book, a concluding chapter gives suggestions for how readers can start diaries of their own.

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**WILLIAMS Marcia: Greek Myths for Young Children**

Comic strip pictures and a simple narrative - an attractive format that encourages shared reading and discussion.

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**WILLIAMS Marcia: The Romans: Gods, Emperors and Dormice**

**Dark Blue**

**AR: 4.4 LY**

A fascinating and humorous account of the rise and fall of the Roman empire told in comic strip pictures.

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## Poetry



**AHLBERG Allan: Heard it in the Playground**

**Grey**

Everyone's favourite collection of primary school poems, demanding to be read or sung aloud, peppered with revealing black & white line drawings.

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**HENDERSON Kathy: The Dragon with the Big Nose**

The settings and themes for these poems will all be familiar to children but the poet plays with language, form and style to create a rich and varied collection to explore.

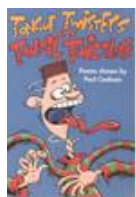
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**Madtail, Miniwhale and other Shape Poems**

In this collection, pictures become poems and poems become pictures. It will provide endless inspiration for children to try their hand at creating their own word paintings.

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**Tongue Twisters and Tonsil Twizzlers (ed P Cookson)**

Poems that will tie tongues in knots and tire out tonsils. Beware - children may well be inspired to write lots of their own!

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**Twinkle Twinkle Chocolate Bar (ed. J Foster)**

An attractive, accessible collection of rhymes, useful for whole class involvement as well as small group performance

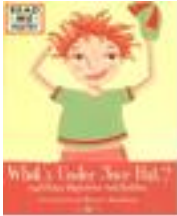
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**Walking the Bridge of your Nose (ed M Rosen)**

Wonderful games with language - wordplay, riddles, tongue-twisters, puns - enhanced by Chloe Cheese's exuberant, humorous artwork.

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**What's Under your Hat?**

**And Other Mysteries and Riddles; selected by Myra Barrs and Sue Ellis**

This is an accessible collection of mysteries and riddles from the popular 'Read me Poetry' series. The poems are an entertaining mixture of traditional and modern, with illustrations that complement the clearly laid out text.

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