

Playsets for KS1 & 2

You can borrow either 5 sets of Plays from this list or select any combination of 5 sets from the Playsets and Group Reader lists.

Some of the Plays are quite short so we have grouped together some titles to create one set.

The plays are listed first by publisher and then by age.

Cambridge University Press

BROWN Richard	The Midnight Party	6 books in the set
BROWN Richard	Whisked Away	6 books in the set

Poems for more than one voice, written especially for sharing in a pair or group. Suitable for performance, with detailed suggestions included. Recommended for Year 4 and above.

Collins Pathways

The following three titles are packaged as **ONE set** **8 books in the set**

- **RICE Chris/Melanie Little Miss Muffet (2 books)**
A hungry spider approaches the squeamish Miss Muffet. It might help the Year 1 children to take turns when reading dialogue.
- **WADE Ann Red Riding Hood (4 books)**
KS1 readers will enjoy the strong illustrations and can extend the dialogue themselves.
- **WARREN Celia A Fishy Tale (2 books)**
Mum's one sided conversation with Tom will appeal to KS1 children as will the lively, detailed illustrations in the style of Quentin Blake.

DOHERTY Berlie	Morgan's Field	6 books in the set
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For Year 5 confident readers. Although there are 20 speaking parts it is possible to double-up on parts making it suitable for group work.

Garth Publishing Service

Aimed at top juniors, each of these plays has a section of activities which encourage children to work on the script as if they were TV producers, writers, artists, casting directors, programme planners, etc.

JOHN Liz	Fishy Business	6 books in the set
JOHN Liz	Grandad's in Trouble	6 books in the set
JOHN Liz	A New Leader	6 books in the set
JOHN Liz	A Wedding, a Thief and a Stolen Car	6 books in the set

Ginn All Aboard

Most attractively presented and of a consistently high standard. Plays cover a wide range of genres.

JARMAN Julia	The Ghost Next Door Suitable for KS1. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
-----	The Terrific Tale of Jack and the Beanstalk Suitable for KS1. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
The following two titles are packaged as ONE set		8 books in the set
• DONALDSON Julia	Names and Games (4 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 4	
• HENDERSON Kathy	The Old Woman Who Lived in a Vinegar Bottle (4 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 4	
GATES Susan	William's Workshop Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
ROSSELSON Leon	Free the Sunbird Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
SLOAN Carolyn	The Evacuees Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
BARLOW Steve & SKIDMORE Steve	Chips off the old Block Suitable for Year 6 / 7. Characters: 6	6 books in the set

Ginn Primary Impact

Aimed at top juniors these scripts have a lower reading age.

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set		8 books in the set
• BARLOW Steve & SKIDMORE Steve	Starbores (4 books) Characters: 4	
• DONALDSON Julia	Top of the Mops (4 books) Characters: 4	

Ginn Reading 360

A lively and varied range of plays. Attractively presented, they offer children enjoyable material to read or perform.

The following three titles are packaged as ONE set		12 books in the set
• DONALDSON Julia	The Boy Who Cried Wolf (4 books) Suitable for Year 1 / 2. Characters: 4	
• DONALDSON Julia	The Three Billy Goats Gruff (4 books) Suitable for Year 1 / 2. Characters: 4	
• DONALDSON Julia	Turtle Tug (4 books) Suitable for Year 1 / 2. Characters: 4	
DONALDSON Julia	Birthday Surprise Suitable for Year 2 / 3. Characters: 10	6 books in the set
FINE Anne	Stranger Danger Suitable for Year 2 / 3. Characters: 11	6 books in the set
BARLOW Steve & SKIDMORE Steve	The Pied Piper of Hamelin Suitable for Year 2 / 3. Characters: 8	6 books in the set
MARK Jan	The One That Got Away Suitable for Year 2 / 3. Characters: 10	6 books in the set

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set		10 books in the set
• DAPRE Alan	Taking Shelter (3 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 3	
• DONALDSON Julia	The Wonderful Smells (7 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 7	
BARLOW Steve & SKIDMORE Steve McBRATNEY Sam	Thingumybob Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 9	6 books in the set
	Breakfast with Ublob Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 8	6 books in the set
MAGEE Wes	The Working Children Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 12	6 books in the set
FINE Anne	The Angel of Nitshill Road Suitable for Year 5. Characters: 6 main Would work well with a whole class	8 books in the set
DICKENS Charles (adpt Barlow/Skidmore)	Nicholas Nickleby Suitable for Year 6. Characters: 6 main Designed for whole class or small groups	6 books in the set
AGARD John	The Great Snakeskin Suitable for Year 5 / 6 / 7. Characters: 10	6 books in the set
BARLOW Steve & SKIDMORE Steve McBRATNEY Sam	Stone Me! Suitable for Year 5 / 6 / 7. Characters: 9	6 books in the set
	Bananas Suitable for Year 5 / 6 / 7. Characters: 9	6 books in the set

Heinemann Literacy World

Yates Irene (ed.)	The Magic Sticks Suitable for Year 3. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
Three plays, two traditional tales and a fantasy play, for reading aloud in small groups.		

Heinemann Sunshine

Of a variable quality but have proved popular with children. The script is clearly laid out but detailed stage instructions, although generally helpful, do become intrusive in some scripts.

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set		9 books in the set
• CIANTAR George	King of the Beasts (5 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 5	
• CIANTAR George	The Goats and the Troll (4 books) Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 4	

Longman Book Project

EYLES Heather	Changes in the Night Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 8	6 books in the set
An effectively creepy mystery involving a time slip to a Victorian nursery.		
EZRA Mark	Bertie's Uncle Basil Suitable for Year 4 / 5. Characters: 13	7 books in the set
Dahlesque comedy which is fast-moving and very funny.		
FINE Anne	Celebrity Chicken Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 21	10 books in the set
Based on an original story The Chicken Gave it to Me . A humorous but thought provoking novel about battery farming.		

Longman Hits

FINE Anne **Bill's New Frock** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Years 6 / 7. Characters: 9 main

Although there are 30 characters, this title can be used for pupils working in groups of 5 or 6.

ROBINSON Tony **Maid Marian and her Merry Men** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Years 6 / 7. Characters: 6 plus small parts

Although there are 15 parts, this title can be used in groups of 5 or 6.

Longman Reading 2000

The following three titles are packaged as ONE set **13 books in the set**

- ----- **Blondilocks and the Quiet Music (4 books)**

The traditional tale is engagingly retold with the addition of a disco dancing Baby Bear in part-rhyming verse.

- **MURDOCH Helen** **Dick Whittington (4 books)**

Suitable for Year 5

This title is more suited to performance than group reading.

- **MURDOCH Helen** **The Story of Shaheen (5 books)**

Suitable for Year 5

This title is more suited to performance than group reading.

Nelson Thornes Tale and Play

SMITH Annette **The Three Little Pigs** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for KS1. (Orange band) Characters: 6

This popular traditional tale is presented in the first half of the book as a story and then as a play in the second half.

GILES Jenny **Cinderella** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 3. (Gold band)

Characters: 6 plus small parts

Another well-known traditional tale in similar format - story, then play.

Oxford Primary English

Each of the books in this series contains a selection of poems for reading aloud plus one playscript. The poems are imaginatively selected by John Foster and present lots of opportunities for children reading in pairs or small groups to work on poems for recording or performance. The plays cover a variety of genres and Davis William's **The Wolf Who Cried** (in The password) and Irene Yate's **Christmas Present** (in The day the animals talked) are particularly good examples.

FOSTER John (Comp) **It's my Dog** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 7

FOSTER John (Comp) **Whoppers!** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 7

FOSTER John (Comp) **The Secret** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 3 / 4. Characters: 6

FOSTER John (Comp) **Face the Front** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 6

FOSTER John (Comp) **Mr Jones Versus Angela** **6 books in the set**

Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 5

FOSTER John (Comp)	The Password Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 8	6 books in the set
FOSTER John (Comp)	The Day the Animals Talked Suitable for Year 5 / 6. Characters: 9	6 books in the set

Oxford Treetops

MORGAN Michaela	Spooky Suitable for Year 4. Characters: 6	6 books in the set
WARBURTON Nick	Climbing in the Dark Suitable for Year 4. Characters: 6	6 books in the set

Written in the style of a stage play, this can be read in a group or performed as a full play.

SHIPTON Paul	Petey Suitable for Year 5. Characters: 5 plus sound effects	6 books in the set
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This title has been written as a radio play to be heard rather than seen.

Stanley Thornes Spirals

Originally intended for reluctant readers at Key Stage 3 but many of the titles would be a good choice for children at the top of Key Stage 2 because of their humour, layout and line length.

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set **10 books in the set**

- **MITCHELHILL Barbara** **Punchlines (4 books)**
Characters: 4
- **TOWNSEND John** **Hanging by a Fred (6 books)**
Characters: 10

The following three titles are packaged as ONE set **12 books in the set**

- **TOWNSEND John** **Cowboys, Jelly and Custard (5 books)**
Characters: 5
- **WALKE David** **The Good, the Bad and the Bungle (3 books)**
Characters: 3
- **WALKE David** **Package Holiday (4 books)**
Characters: 4

Walker Story Plays

Story plays are dramatised versions of well-known stories suitable for KS1. Each story is told by four voices, each part being denoted by a different colour. A very useful introduction to playscripts.

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set **8 books in the set**

- **FRENCH Vivian** **Farmer Duck (4 books)**
Characters: 4
- **FRENCH Vivian** **Little Rabbit Foo Foo (4 books)**
Characters: 4

The following two titles are packaged as ONE set **8 books in the set**

- **FRENCH Vivian** **This is the Bear (4 books)**
Characters: 4
- **FRENCH Vivian** **We're Going on a Bear Hunt (4 books)**
Characters: 4