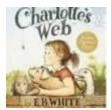
Charlotte's Web by E.B White



This classic novel for children, first published in 1952, retains its appeal for modern children. It is the story of Fern, a little girl who saves a pig on the family farm from being killed, and the pig's friendship with a spider who lives alongside him in a barn with the other farm animals. Their lives are woven into the cycle of the seasons and farm life.

Fly Eagle Fly by Christopher Gregorowski



An African parable, originating in Ghana and interpreted by a South African author and illustrator, about recognising your potential – 'that we are all born to be eagles who are lifted up with the might of the Spirit – like the wind-borne flight of an eagle' (from the author's note). A farmer raises a baby eagle as though it were a chicken.

I was a Rat by Phillip Pullman



In this humorous adventure story we follow Roger as he unwittingly goes from minor to major predicaments, meeting a host of interesting characters along the way. The book has strong links with fairy tales; particularly Cinderella and it can be enjoyed at several levels.

Ice Palace by Robert Swindells



The language and landscape of this story evoke the atmosphere of Russian folk tales. Ivan's quest to rescue his little brother from the evil Starjik calls to mind other stories such as Hans Christian Andersen's The Snow Queen. It is a tale of mystery and illusion, on the cusp between life and death.



An action-packed story in which the weedy central character, Ruskin Splinter, becomes a hero. He outwits the monster Krindlekrax which has been terrorising Lizard Street and tames Elvis, the local bully.

Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf by David Almond



A powerful and thought-provoking text, illustrated in graphic novel-style, which will enable children to explore the beauty and dangers of nature as well as the importance of boundaries and self-restraint.

Noah Barleywater Runs Away by John Boyne



Noah is leaving home ostensibly because he wants to have adventures and make his way in the world. But something is troubling him, a situation from which he seeks escape. He has not travelled far before he finds himself in a world that seems somehow off kilter, where a dachshund and a donkey can speak, and time runs freely and is difficult to measure.

Oliver and the Seawigs by Phillip Reeve



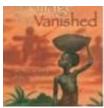
Along with his new friends, a grumpy old albatross, a short-sighted mermaid and a friendly island called Cliff, Oliver goes off in search of his missing parents. But before he can put his rescue plan into action there's the evil Stacey de Lacey and an army of greasy, green sea monkeys to contend with ... A short novel with words and pictures that work integrally.

The Mousehole Cat by Antonia Barber



This is a magical retelling of an ancient Cornish legend told from the cat's perspective. It tells the story of Mowser the cat and her pet man Tom. She saves him from drowning, and the village of Mousehole from starvation, by calming the Great Storm-Cat with her song.

The Village that Vanished by Ann Grialconi



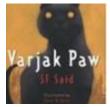
The story of how the inhabitants of a West African village thwart capture by slave traders, thanks to the wisdom, courage and faith of three generations of women: the child Abikanile, her mother Njemile and her grandmother Chimwala.

The Wild Robot by Peter Brown



A robot is accidentally activated, having been washed up on a remote island when a cargo ship sinks. At first the animals that inhabit the island fear Roz but she soon becomes a significant member of their community, adopting an orphaned gosling and providing shelter for them during the winter.

Varjak Paw by SF Said



Varjak Paw is descended from a proud line of Mesopotamian Blue cats. Now the Paws are in danger and only Varjak understands enough to go Outside and seek help.

The Explorer by Katherine Rundell



Fred, Con, Lila, and Max are on their way back to England from Manaus when the plane they're on crashes and the pilot dies upon landing. For days they survive alone, until Fred finds a map that leads them to a ruined city, and to a secret.

The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell



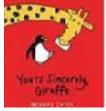
Feo's life is extraordinary. Her mother trains domesticated wolves to be able to fend for themselves in the snowy wilderness of Russia, and Feo is following in her footsteps to become a wolf wilder. She loves taking care of the wolves, especially the three who stay at the house because they refuse to leave Feo, even though they've already been wilded. But not everyone is enamored with the wolves, or with the fact that Feo and her mother are turning them wild.

The White Fox by Jackie Morris



The day the fox came things began to change for Sol. Lost, alone and far away from home, Sol feels a deep connection with the little Arctic fox he discovers down at the Seattle docks – he too feels lost in the big city. Dad is always busy working and Sol misses the grandparents they have left behind. So Sol decides to take the little fox back home, reuniting his own family in the process.

Yours sincerely, Giraffe by Megumi Iwasa



Giraffe, who lives on the African savanna, is bored and lonely so decides to send a letter to an unknown animal on the other side of the horizon. The letter ends up with an inquisitive penguin who is studying at Whale Point School, almost completely surrounded by sea.

Recommended Reading List for Years 3 and 4

The Street Beneath my Feet by Charlotte Guillian



This double-sided foldout book takes you on a fascinating journey deep underground. One side of the foldout shows the ground beneath the city, whilst the reverse side shows the ground beneath the countryside.