



Ever feel like you've missed a book that everyone else seems to have read? Have you had a book on your TBR list for a while and need reminding as to why you picked it in the first place? Some of our publisher partners have picked books from their backlist to share great reads for book clubs to enjoy that you may have missed.

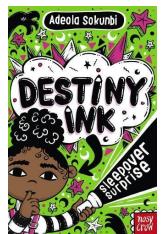
This booklist ranges from imaginative adventures and heartwarming tales for younger children to bold, inspiring reads for older children. For young people, there are picks where you can dive into a good mystery or books that have supernatural twists. Finally, adults can discover thought-provoking fiction and nonfiction exploring grief. Discover the publisher picks below and pick a book for your club to try.

This booklist has been collated from publisher picks and has not been endorsed by The Reading Agency as it has not followed our Book Selection Framework applied to programme content. You can see previous themed booklists <u>here</u>.



Younger Children

Destiny Ink: Sleepover Surprise by Adeola Sokunbi, Nosy Crow, ISBN: 9781805132318 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Highly-illustrated, Imaginative, Reassuring

Destiny can't wait to go for her first ever sleepover, it's going to be INK-TASTIC!

But she can't help feeling a little worried - they're going to camp outside in the garden in the dark! Destiny uses her trusty sketchbook to doodle her ideas and work through her worries. She even builds a blanket tent in her bedroom to practise.

When she goes to bed, she hears some noises from the tent and finds a monster... But he isn't frightening. He's come for a sleepover but he's not sure he's ready. Can Destiny help him? Maybe there's nothing to be worried about after all!

Tiger, It's Snowing! by Naomi Daishu Ma, Post Wave Publishing, ISBN: 9781836270355 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Friendship, Playful, Adventure

Find your way with Tiger and Mei!

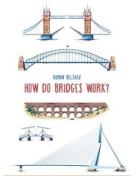
Say hello to Tiger and Mei – two adorable best friends learning to navigate the big, wide world around them! From frolicking in the winter snow to unpacking big emotions, join the duo on a series of exciting adventures before returning home to the warm embrace of their family. Mei's cautious, curious nature is perfectly balanced by Tiger's boundless energy, inspiring little ones to try new things and seize the day!

In *Tiger, It's Snowing!* follow the duo on a joyful winter adventure, tasting snowflakes and enjoying a snowball fight for the very first time – but will they make it back in time for tea?



Older Children

How Do Bridges Work? by Roman Belyaev, b small, ISBN: 9781911509899 – Non-Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Elegant, STEM, Fascinating

Why were bridges invented? What did the first bridges look like? How do they stay up and why are there so many different designs?

From architecture to engineering (and other STEM subjects!), scale new heights on an enchanting journey with the school children in this book to discover answers to these questions along with other fascinating facts about bridges and how they work.

Kick by Mitch Johnson, Usborne, ISBN: 9781474928151 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Timely, Dreams, Hope

Budi's plan is simple. He's going to be a star.

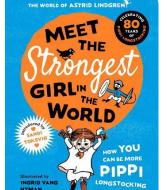
Budi's going to play for the greatest team on earth, instead of sweating over each stitch he sews, each football boot he makes.

But one unlucky kick brings Budi's world crashing down. Now he owes the Dragon, the most dangerous man in Jakarta. Soon it isn't only Budi's dreams at stake, but his life.

Content warnings outlined by the publisher: Sweatshop scenes, poverty / fear of violence from criminals.

Meet the Strongest Girl in the World by Astrid Lindgren (author) and Ingrid Vang Nyman (illustrator),





Publisher three-word description: Empowering, Fun, Inspiring

Be more Pippi Longstocking with this empowering book celebrating 80 years of Astrid Lindgren's best-loved character.

Enter a world of adventures that reveal Pippi Longstocking's unique personality, introduced by Pippi super-fan, Sandi Toksvig. Discover how Pippi meets every challenge she faces with courage and positivity, and be inspired by the fun, practical activities to help you achieve your goals, believe in yourself, and live your best life!



Stitch Head by Guy Bass (author) and Pete Williamson (illustrator), Little Tiger Press, ISBN: 9781847151834 – Fiction

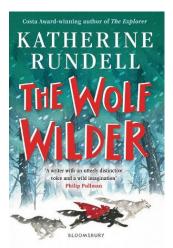


Publisher three-word description: Monstrously, Funny, Adventure

Enter the darkly funny world of Stitch Head, as he steps out of the shadows into the adventure of an almost-lifetime.

Deep in the maze-like dungeons of Castle Grotteskew, insane Professor Erasmus created Stitch Head, a small, almost-human creature. His experiments continued, filling the castle with creations so fabulously monstrous that Stitch Head was long forgotten. Until a travelling circus ringmaster knocks at the castle door, promising to make Stitch Head a star. Is this Stitch Head's chance to venture beyond the castle walls? Or could he be making a terrible mistake?

The Wolf Wilder by Katherine Rundell, Bloomsbury Children's Books, ISBN: 9781526605511 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Adventure, Friendship, Revolution

Feodora and her mother live in the snowbound woods of Russia, in a house full of food and fireplaces. Ten minutes away, in a ruined chapel, lives a pack of wolves. Feodora's mother is a wolf wilder, and Feo is a wolf wilder in training. A wolf wilder is the opposite of an animal tamer: it is a person who teaches tamed animals to fend for themselves, and to fight and to run, and to be wary of humans.

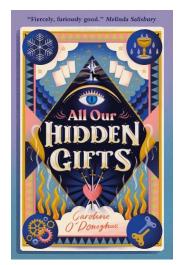
When the murderous hostility of the Russian Army threatens her very existence, Feo is left with no option but to go on the run. What follows is a story of revolution and adventure, about standing up for the things you love and fighting back. And, of course, wolves.





Young and new adult books – please note these may have mature themes and you can find more specific age ratings on publisher websites including more content warnings.

All Our Hidden Gifts by Caroline O'Donoghue, Walker Books, ISBN: 9781406393095 - Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Supernatural, Mystery, Friendship

Maeve Chambers doesn't have much going for her. Not only does she feel like the sole idiot in a family of geniuses, she managed to drive away her best friend Lily a year ago. But when she finds a pack of dusty old tarot cards at school, and begins to give scarily accurate readings to the girls in her class, she realizes she's found her gift at last.

Things are looking up - until she discovers a strange card in the deck that definitely shouldn't be there. And two days after she convinces her ex-best friend to have a reading, Lily disappears.

Can Maeve, her new friend Fiona and Lily's brother Roe find her? And will Maeve's new gift be enough to bring Lily back, before she's gone for good?

Enola Holmes: The Case of the Missing Marquess by Nancy Springer, Bonnier Books (Hot Key Books), ISBN: 9781471411014 – Fiction



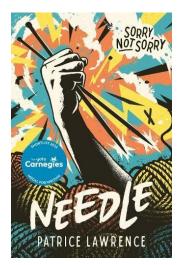
Publisher three-word description: Mystery, Detective, Heroine

When Enola Holmes, sister to the detective Sherlock Holmes, discovers her mother has disappeared, she quickly embarks on a journey to London in search of her. But nothing can prepare her for what awaits.

Because when she arrives, she finds herself involved in the kidnapping of a young marquess, fleeing murderous villains, and trying to elude her shrewd older brothers - all while attempting to piece together clues to her mother's strange disappearance. Amid all the mayhem, will Enola be able to decode the necessary clues and find her mother?



Needle by Patrice Lawrence, Barrington Stoke, ISBN: 9781800901018 – Fiction



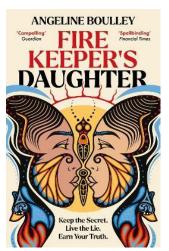
Publisher three-word description: Powerful, Remorse, Justice

Charlene is a demon knitter. It's the only thing she enjoys and the only thing she believes she's really good at.

So when her foster mum's son destroys her latest creation, Charlene loses it and stabs him in the hand with her knitting needle. It damages a nerve, and she gets sucked into the criminal justice system for assault.

Charlene's not sorry and she's never apologised to anyone in her life. But people keep telling her that if she says sorry, they'll go easier on her. Can she bring herself to say it and not mean it when her freedom's at stake?

Firekeepers Daughter by Angeline Boulley, Rock the Boat, ISBN: 9781786079060 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Identity, Justice, Resilience

Keep the Secret. Live the Lie. Earn your Truth.

Eighteen-year-old Daunis' mixed heritage has always made her feel like an outsider, both in her hometown and on the nearby Ojibwe reservation. When she witnesses a shocking murder, she reluctantly agrees to be part of a covert FBI operation into a series of drug-related deaths.

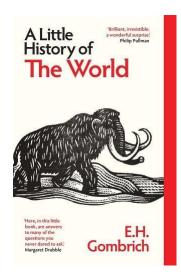
But the deceptions - and deaths - keep piling up and soon the threat strikes too close to home. Now Daunis must decide what it means to be a strong Anishinaabe kwe (Ojibwe woman) and how far she'll go to protect her community, even if it tears apart the only world she's ever known.

Content warnings outlined by the publisher: Drugs, abuse, addiction and violence; death, sexual assault with some details; sexual references, sex scenes; coarse language.



Adult

A Little History of the World by E. H. Gombrich (author) and Clifford Harper (illustrator), Yale University Press, ISBN: 9780300283259 – Non-Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Timeless, Engrossing, Magical

The world has existed for over 4 billion years, but humanity arrived much more recently. Here E. H. Gombrich brings to life the full story of human experience on Earth. He paints a colourful picture of remarkable people and events, from Confucius to Catherine the Great, from the invention of art to the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

This is a book dominated not by dates and facts but by the sweep of mankind's experience across the centuries. It is both a guide to humanity's achievements and an acute witness to its frailties. The product of a generous and humane sensibility, this is a timeless account of our shared history.

Free Food for Millionaires by Min Jin Lee, Head of Zeus, ISBN: 9781035921126 – Fiction



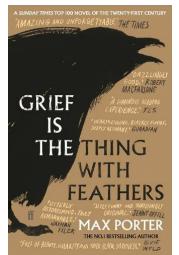
Publisher three-word description: Immigration, Community, Generations

Casey Han is a strong-willed, Queens-bred daughter of Korean immigrants immersed in a glamorous Manhattan lifestyle she can't afford. When a chance encounter with an old friend lands her a new opportunity, she's determined to make her way in a glittering world of privilege, power, and wealth – but at what cost?

This sharp-eyed epic exposes the intricate layers of a community clinging to its old ways – a portrait of intergenerational strife, immigrant struggle, and social and economic mobility – set against the glimmering backdrop of late-twentieth-century New York City.



Grief Is the Thing with Feathers by Max Porter, Faber & Faber, ISBN: 9780571327232 - Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Groundbreaking, Inventive, Moving

In the midst of grief, he comes. He comes with a crackling of feathers and a smell of decay. He comes like the worst thing you could ever imagine, like something you should never have to imagine, he comes when you need him. He is a reminder, a companion, a harbinger, a scruffy homeless layabout, a friend. He is Crow.

In a London flat, two young boys face the unbearable sadness of their mother's sudden death. Their father, a Ted Hughes scholar and scruffy romantic, imagines a future of well-meaning visitors and emptiness. In this moment of despair, they are visited by Crow - antagonist, trickster, healer, babysitter.

This sentimental bird is drawn to the grieving family becoming the mouthpiece for their sorrow, an echo of what cannot be said. Slowly, as the months pass, they become familiar with Crow and his odd companionship and almost imperceptibly, they begin to heal.

Content warnings outlined by the publisher: Bereavement; losing a parent at a young age, losing a partner.

My Sister, the Serial Killer by Oyinkan Braithwaite, Atlantic Books, ISBN: 9781786495983 – Fiction



Publisher three-word description: Riveting, Blackly Comic, Sharp

When Korede's dinner is interrupted one night by a distress call from her sister, Ayoola, she knows what's expected of her: bleach, rubber gloves, nerves of steel and a strong stomach. This'll be the third boyfriend Ayoola's dispatched in "self-defence" and the third mess that her lethal little sibling has left Korede to clear away. She should probably go to the police for the good of the menfolk of Nigeria, but she loves her sister and, as they say, family always comes first.

Until, that is, Ayoola starts dating the doctor where Korede works as a nurse. Korede's long been in love with him, and isn't prepared to see him wind up with a knife in his back: but to save one would mean sacrificing the other...