

# Example notes from Summer Term 2019 Reading Update - Primary

## **Fiction**



### Wilson-Max, Ken. Astro girl

Astrid has always loved the stars and space. While Mama is away, Papa and Astrid have fun acting out the challenges an astronaut faces on a space mission. Then it's time to meet Mama at the airbase. But where has Mama been? Includes potted biographies of women astronauts. Lovely expressive Illustrations and a sweet story plus its great to have a female BAME astronaut. R.A. 6-8 Foundation/KS1



#### Powell, James. House of Fear: Attack of the Killer snowmen

Boyle, the creepy caretaker, presents five frightening tales of startling suspense and thrilling adventure. Witness the cold terror of rampaging snow giants set on destroying a local park or a swamp monster that threatens to turn a group of young campers into a midnight snack! These spooky short tales should have boy appeal and would be good for reluctant readers. R.A. 10-12 KS2/3



#### Stowell, Louie. The dragon in the Library

Kit can't stand reading. She'd rather be outside, than stuck inside being quiet with a book. But when she's dragged along to the local library at the start of the school holiday by her two best friends, she makes an incredible discovery: the local library is run by wizards... and she's one too! A fun and entertaining read with a likeable main character and comic moments, ideal for this age group. R.A. 7-9 KS2



# Rundell, Katherine. The good thieves

Vita has a mission. Her grandfather, Jack, has been cheated out of everything he owns by a conman with Mafia connections. Together with a young pickpocket and 2 boys from the circus she devises a plan to outwit his enemies and recover his home. Set in New York during the time of Prohibition this is a well written classic adventure that has a good sense of place and historical period. It would be good for Enid Blyton fans who are ready for something more challenging. R.A. 10-12 KS2/3

## Non-Fiction



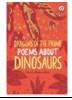
## Hoffman, Mary. The great big book of life

Next in the 'Great big book' series showing a diverse view of modern (human) life from birth to death and everything in between. The lovely comic illustrations from Ros Asquith really complements the thoughtful text. Ideal support for Ourselves and growth/life cycles topics. R.A. 6-8 KS1/2



## Layton, Neal. A planet full of plastic and how you can help

Discover where plastic comes from, why it doesn't biodegrade, and why that's dangerous for animals and humans alike. But there are also ideas for how you can help. Incorporates real photos with illustrations to create a comic feel sure to appeal. Pages vary between little and lots of text. Sure to open eyes to this important message. Great to spark classroom discussion. R.A. 6-8, KS1/2



## Richard O'Brien (Ed.). Dragons of the prime

Collection of poems about dinosaurs in their Jurassic heyday, poems about new discoveries and the latest scientific knowledge, and poems about the history of how humans have imagined these amazing beasts. Also includes scientific notes, an interview with paleontologist and ideas to write your own poems! Classroom use or leisure. R.A. 8-10 KS2/3



#### Havemeyer, Janie. Smallpox

Explore smallpox's gruesome history and find out how scientists successfully defeated this disease. Large text size with lots of photos. "Horrible histories" like appeal. Useful for history of medicine topics and the creation of vaccines. Book banded Dark Blue, AR Book Level 5.3. R.A. 8-10 KS2





# Example notes from Summer Term 2019 Reading Update - Secondary

## **Fiction**



## Thompson, Lisa. Owen and the soldier

Owen and his mum are struggling. It's just the two of them and they're finding it difficult to ask for help. But the crumbling stone soldier in the park listens to Owen's worries, so he can't let the Council remove him as part of their renovations. An emotional and thought-provoking story that brings in themes on grief, depression, young carers and fears. R.A. 8-10 KS2/3



#### Aru shah and the song of death

Sequel to Aru Shah and the End of Time, this continues the story of Anu and her adventures with the Hindu gods. This time she must prove that she hasn't stolen the god of love's bow and arrow and find the real thief before she is banned from the Otherworld for good. This is really good, exciting and humorous adventure series perfect for fans of Percy Jackson. Book banded dark Red R.A. 10-12 KS2/3



# Bramachari, Sita. Where the river runs gold

Kairos City was beautiful before the storm. Now the flowerbeds are built on, the bees are gone, and children are sent to Freedom Fields to pollinate crops by hand. Shifa knows her brother Themba won't survive this harsh existence for long. But then she uncovers a secret which could change everything. Really engaging dystopian fantasy with a strong environmental message and characters you really root for, plus it is a stand-alone rather than a series which is always worth having. R.A. 10-12 KS3



# Lawrence, Patrice. Rose interrupted

Being a teenager is hard enough, but it's even harder in a world you've never known. 17-year-old Rose and little brother Rudder have just escaped a strict religious sect with their mum. But there's loads that Rose and Rudder don't know or understand about their new world. When Rudder gets into trouble Rose must decide whether to sacrifice everything to save the people she loves. By the author or Orangeboy this would appeal to fans of books like After the Fire and Outside. R.A. 12-14 KS4/5

## Non-Fiction



## Abbott, Matt. A hurricane in my head

Humorous and touching poems about school and life, relatable to any teen. Worth promoting to English departments as a good modern and relevant poetry collection which might inspire students in writing their own contemporary poems. R.A. 12-14 KS3/4



# Johnson, Katherine. Reaching for the moon

In the early 1950s, Katherine worked on many of NASA's biggest projects including the Apollo 11 mission that landed the first men on the moon. This is an inspirational autobiography with real photos from her life that could be used to support Civil Rights topics as well as Science and as a way to engage girls in STEM subjects. R.A. 9-11 KS2/3



#### Croucher, Lex. You're crushing it!

Social media star offers advice on growing up, starting work as well as maintaining friends and relationships in the overwhelming world of social media. Funny, accessible and upbeat with words to live by in large font. Useful for PSHE and leisure reading. RA 12-14, KS4/5



# Gates, Stefan. Science you can eat

Looks at the different processes that go on into the growing, cooking and digestion of food, along with fun experiments. From finding out what the world's smelliest fruit tastes like to which incredible food can be used to send secret messages. A great guide with clear explanations and an engagingly enthusiastic tone aided by the 'Lightbulb' character with key facts. Great for topic support and leisure reading. R.A. 8-10 KS2/3

