



“Reading is a way for me to expand my mind, open my eyes, and fill up my heart.” – Oprah Winfrey

Reading Lists

If you're searching for something to read, have a look at these lists for inspiration.

Younger Children

The Worst Princess by Anna Kemp and Sara Ogilvie – This delightful and witty picture book reminds us there is more than one way to be a princess.

Greta and The Giants by Zoe Tucker – Greta is a little girl who lives in a beautiful forest threatened by Giants. When the Giants first came to the forest, they chopped down trees to make houses. Then they chopped down more trees and made even bigger homes. The houses grew into towns and the towns grew into cities, until now there is hardly any forest left. Greta knows she has to help the animals who live in the forest, but how? Luckily, Greta has an idea...

Little People Big Dreams series by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara – These top shelf books are perfect for growing minds with beautiful illustrations, captivating stories and whole lot of inspiration. Explore a whole host of fabulous figures from Rosa Parks to Ada Lovelace and Dolly Parton to Vivienne Westwood.

Key Stage One

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History by Vashti Harrison – Harrison's delightfully illustrated book retells the biographies of 40 trail-blazing Black women, including Mary Seacole, Diane Abbott and Sojourner Truth. A lovely accessible work that can be both dipped into and read out loud at night.

Malala's Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai, illustrated by Kerascoet – This beautifully illustrated picture book tells Malala's story in her own words, and shows children the worldview that allowed her to hold on to hope and to make her voice heard even in the most difficult of times.

Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren – Follow the tale of this fearless 9 year old who lives on her own, has a pet monkey and can lift a horse with one hand, as she tries to navigate the world around her. We should all try and be a bit more Pippi!

The Restless Girls by Jessie Burton – The writer of the best-selling *The Miniaturist* has turned her hand to children's books with this fabulous feminist retelling of the 12 Dancing Princesses. The pictures are amazing too.

Fantastically Great Women Who Saved the Planet by Kate Pankhurst – This is the third of Kate's books on trail-blazing women this time focusing on women who have been making decisions that have helped protect our natural world. Discover their untold stories. Tackle the plastic problem with Isatou Ceesay by recycling waste into beautiful objects. Marvel at the intelligence of chimpanzees with Jane Goodall. Learn why it's important to shop fair trade and cruelty-free with Anita Roddick and The Body Shop. Resist devastating deforestation and plant seeds of change with Wangari Maathai.



Key Stage Two

Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Put Astronauts on The Moon by Helaine Becker – Follow this true inspirational story of NASA Scientist Katherine Johnson of how she helped put astronauts on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission and helped them return safely during Apollo 13 when they were in critical danger.

Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls 1 and 2 by Elena Favelli and Francesca Cavallo – The original potted biography sensation, Favelli and Cavallo's book, which covers everyone from Ada Lovelace to Zaha Hadid, remains the perfect bedtime read for girls and boys everywhere. The second collection published last year, includes Angela Merkel, pirate queen Anne Bonny and Iranian mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani.

Vote for Effie by Laura Woods – Effie Kostas is smart, opinionated and determined to change the world – even if it means taking on the smug Aaron Davis when she's the new girl at school. Wood's versatile latest novel is a laugh-out-loud account of Effie's attempts to become Student Council President, which also serves as a passionate rallying cry for a switched-on generation. Great read for year 6 pupils!

The Making of Mollie and Mollie on the March, both by Anna Carey – Anna Carey brings the not so distant past to life as we follow young Dubliner Mollie Carberry as she joins the battle for women's suffrage in Ireland.

Women in Art: 50 Fearless Creatives Who Inspired the World by Rachel Ignotofsky – Women in Art is an empowering and inspirational celebration of some of the most iconic and fearless women who paved the way for the next generation of artists.

BLOOM: The Surprising Seeds of Sorrel Fallowfield by Nicola Skinner – A beautifully written, incredibly original and wickedly funny novel for readers of 10 and older - BLOOM is for everyone who has ever felt like they didn't fit in, and for anyone who has ever wanted a little more colour and wildness in their lives...

Secondary School

Diary of a Confused Feminist by Kate Weston – Bold, authentic and laugh-out-loud funny, Kat's diary fearlessly navigates mooncups, mental health and #TimesUp - perfect for fans of Geek Girl and Juno Dawson.

Toffee by Sarah Crosson – When Allison runs away from home she doesn't expect to be taken in by Marla, an elderly woman with dementia, who mistakes her for an old friend called Toffee. Allison is used to hiding who she really is, and trying to be what other people want her to be. And so, Toffee is who she becomes. But as her bond with Marla grows, Allison begins to ask herself -where is home? What is a family? And most importantly, who am I, really?

The Burning by Laura Bates – The first novel from the founder of the Everyday Sexism campaign tells the story of teenager Anna, who moves with her mother to a remote part of Scotland in an attempt to escape her past. From that starting point, Bates tackles everything used to shame young women in this well-told story, which looks back to historical witch hunts to draw pertinent parallels with today's world.

Feminists Don't Wear Pink and Other Lies – The perfect introduction for any teenager wanting to engage with feminism, this sparky collection features essays from 52 women, including Emma Watson, Saoirse Ronan and Jameela Jamil, explaining what the F-word means to them.

Gloves Off by Louisa Reid – A page-turning and immersive YA novel in verse, telling the story of Lily who is mercilessly bullied at school and who turns to boxing in an attempt to fight back; a story of hope and resilience breaking through even the most difficult situations.



General Reading List

Girl, Woman, Other by Bernardine Evaristo – Winner of the 2019 Man Booker Prize and one of Barack Obama's 19 Favourite Books of 2019, *Girl, Woman, Other* follows the lives and struggles of 12 interwoven characters over the course of several decades, exploring topics from race, womanhood and gender, to identity and sexuality. A perfect mix of prose and poetry, definitely a must read if you haven't already!

What a Time to be Alone: The Slumflower's Bestselling Guide to Why You Are Already Enough by Chidera Eggerue – Filled with sass, wisdom, charm and some great original artwork, Chidera Eggerue helps you navigate your way to find self-worth in this fun and exciting read. Also, check out Eggerue's **Scribble Yourself Feminist** for a more creative way to empower and inspire yourself.

The Guilty Feminist by Deborah Frances-White – In *The Guilty Feminist*, Deborah Frances-White reassures us that we don't have to be perfect to be a force for meaningful change. Exploring big issues of identity, equality, intersectionality, and the current feminist agenda, she explodes the myth of the model activist and offers a realistic path toward changing the world.

Invisible Women: Exposing Data Bias in a World Designed for Men by Caroline Criado Perez – A Sunday Times bestseller, *Invisible Women* shows us how, in a world largely built for and by men, we are systematically ignoring half the population. It exposes the gender data gap – a gap in our knowledge that is at the root of perpetual, systemic discrimination against women, and that has created a pervasive but invisible bias with a profound effect on women's lives, through a series of case studies, stories and impressive research.

She Speaks: Women's Speeches That Changed the World, from Pankhurst to Thunberg by Yvette Cooper – A treasury of inspirational and motivational speeches by trail-blazing women.

Taking up Space by Chelsea Kwakye, Ore Ogunbiyi – *Taking up Space* explores what it means to be a Black girl within education, from the barriers of entry to the need to diversify university curriculums. It's not only a guide for others setting down the same path as them, but a vibrant and convincing call to arms for how we can reform the education system itself.

Difficult Women by Helen Lewis – One of Britain's foremost feminist writers, Helen Lewis's much-anticipated debut book focuses on the women who changed history, dividing their accomplishments into eleven key battlegrounds, all of which remain relevant today.