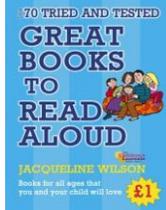


## Reading with your child: further reading

### About Books and Reading

Here are a few useful pointers to get you started.



#### Great Books to Read Aloud: over 70 tried and tested by Jacqueline Wilson

- With hints and tips on reading to your child.
- Split into age ranges as a guide: 0-5 years, 5-8 years and 8-11 years.
- Gives a synopsis of the story and reasons why it's a good book to read aloud.

If you can't get hold of the original printed book, you can find the whole thing at:

<http://www.randomhousesites.co.uk/childrens/GreatBookstoReadAloud/Great%20Books.pdf>

North Watford and Central libraries have a copy at 028.162/Caring for children. We also have a copy for you to look at in the *Reading With Your Child* box near the fish tank/ signing in area.

**Booktrust** <http://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

booktrust

**For children:** Book finder; Book of the month; Books we like; Booklists; Best Book Guide; Authors; Illustrated books; Books from around the world; Poetry; How to share books; Bookmark: Books and Disability; Children's Book Week; Children's Laureate; Have some fun; Blog.

**For adults:** Books and reading; Book finder; Books we like; Booklists; Interviews; Online Writer in Residence; Poetry; Short stories; Translated fiction; Young adults; Reading links; For teens.

**Love reading4kids** <http://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

Love reading

Although a commercial website, this offers excellent guidance on choosing the right books for your children. Amongst the sections to browse through you can find: Top 10 Books; Children's Classics; For Parents; Picture Book Picnic; Books by Age Group; Books for Boys; Dyslexia-friendly; Fascinating Facts; Poetry; Reluctant Readers.



**Words for Life** <http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/>

From the National Literacy Trust, this is a microwebsite with lots of information, advice and activities, including a free activity booklet for families "I spy a picture book!" Sections on Why reading is good for talking; Recommended reads; Downloadable activities; Milestones for speech and language for different age groups; Fun stuff including activities and audio and video stories. The site is also split into separate age groups.

**Booktime** <http://www.booktime.org.uk/schools/reading-with-your-child>

The Reading with your Child hints and tips booklet produced by Booktime can be downloaded translated into multiple languages, from Albanian to Welsh. There is a copy of this in several languages in the *Reading With Your Child* box near the fish tank / signing in area.



**Mrs Mad's Book-a-Rama!** <http://www.mrsmad.com/>

Perhaps not the easiest website to work your way around but still one of the best for children's stories and books. Search for books by age group and interest. There are also some fun jokes, stories and games.



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**Word Pool** <http://www.wordpool.co.uk/> Children's book site for parents, teachers and writers. Sections on Choosing Children's Books, Reluctant Readers, Author Profiles and Resources.

**UK Children's Books** <http://www.ukchildrensbooks.co.uk/pubs.html> This is a Word Pool website and is a good guide to the online world of children's books. With information on authors, illustrators, publishers and other book-related information.

**Cbeebies Stories** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/stories/atoz> Story time with Cbeebies. Although Cbeebies is generally aimed at pre-school and foundation aged children, there are some lovely stories on here which older children will also enjoy.



### Publisher's websites

Some publishers have very good websites, providing information about their books, authors and illustrators. Many also have a section for children – this may include games, activities and printables – which support their reading and listening to books.

**Scholastic**



[http://www5.scholastic.co.uk/storytime/story\\_home.htm](http://www5.scholastic.co.uk/storytime/story_home.htm)

Storytime from Scholastic is intended to help parents, teachers and carers who are reading with children. Each printable sheet focuses on one book published by Scholastic, and provides a simple guide to the story and its themes, with page specific ideas. Packed with hints, tips and activities, these sheets will make sharing stories even more fun, and reading even more appealing! There's also a section with hints and tips on sharing books with your children. Storytime is one of several 'Book Zones' (Fun, Reading, Author, Competition, Book, for example). For all age ranges.

Andersen Press <http://www.andersenpress.co.uk/books>  
Hachette <https://www.hachettechildrens.co.uk>  
Random House [www.randomhouse.co.uk/browse/children](http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/browse/children)  
Egmont [www.egmont.co.uk/kids-websites](http://www.egmont.co.uk/kids-websites)

Usborne Books [www.usborne.com](http://www.usborne.com)  
Puffin Books [www.puffin.co.uk](http://www.puffin.co.uk)  
Hodder & Stoughton [www.hodderchildrens.co.uk](http://www.hodderchildrens.co.uk)  
Walker Books [www.walker.co.uk](http://www.walker.co.uk)

Also look out for individual 'character' or author websites, like the Horrid Henry series or Julia Donaldson ones for example. A simple Google search will help you with this. If you don't have access to the Internet at home, the public libraries have a good number of computers you can use for free and staff happy to help.

**And don't forget our local public libraries!** <http://m.hertsdirect.org/services/libraries>

Hertfordshire libraries give children of all ages lots of opportunities to enjoy the library, from borrowing books, to listening to Baby Rhyme Times and Toddler Tales, to taking part in the national Summer Reading Challenge, to other holiday activities. The libraries also have a very good selection of 'dual language' books – picture story books which are written both English and another language.

*There are many more places to find information on books and reading with your child but hopefully the above will help you on your way. Happy reading together!*

