

# 2018 Premier's reading challenge



## Year 5 – 7 booklist

This booklist is a guide only to help students, parents, guardians and teachers select age appropriate reading material. Students may select any suitable books, and may also wish to consider books from previous years' [Premier's Reading Challenge booklists](#).

\*QDoE – Queensland Department of Education

Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Arena, Felice	<b>The boy and the spy</b> A World War II story set in Sicily. Antonio's life has never been easy, but everything is turned upside down when he meets an injured American spy and decides to help him. (QDoE)	F	264	War; resilience; belonging	9780143309284
Banks, Tristan	<b>My life and other exploding chickens [My Life series]</b> My name is Tom Weekly and my life is an exploding chicken. No chickens were harmed in the making of this book. A book of crazy stories. (QDoE)	F	178	Humour; short stories	9780857985316
Balchin, Lance	<b>Mechanica: a beginner's guide</b> A fantastical, futuristic 'story' where mechanical animals and insects have replaced the real ones. (QDoE)	F	32	Future; inventions	9781760401085
Beikoff, Katrina	<b>May Tang: a new Australian</b> May Tang is a dreamer, she will never be sensible and obedient like her elder sister or clever like her brother. Her parents are worried by rumoured events in China, and May finds herself on her way to Australia. (Adapted from publisher)	F	211	Immigration; resilience	9781742990743
Carnavas, Peter	<b>The elephant</b> Olive's father is very sad, and Olive sees a big, grey elephant following him around. With the help of her grandfather and her best friend she tries to chase the elephant away. (QDoE)	F	169	Family; friendship; self-confidence	9780702259616



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Dubosarsky, Ursula	<b>The blue cat</b> Sydney 1942, the war is coming. A new boy from far away arrives at Columba's school, and a mysterious blue cat appears in the neighbourhood. (QDoE)	F	161	War; Australian history; refugees	9781760292294
Elliott, Mick	<b>The Turners: fully doomed [The Turners Trilogy]</b> This time it's global! Can Leo Lennox save the world's Turners from destruction? A deranged scientist is threatening to expose their secret world and destroy them all. (Publisher)	F	253	Adventure; fantasy	9780734416629
Flanagan, John	<b>The Caldera [Brotherband Chronicles series]</b> The Herons take to the high seas to fend off pirates and rescue the heir to an empire in the newest adventure in the series. (Adapted from publisher)	F	424	Adventure; heroes; historical fiction	9780857980137
French, Jackie	<b>Barney and the secret of the French spies [The Secret History series]</b> In 1798, orphaned Barney Bean now has a flourishing farm in the NSW colony and everything he ever dreamed. But when his love, Elsie, falls ill and Barney rushes to her side, he finally learns her deadly secret. (Adapted from publisher).	F	118	Australian history; historical fiction; colonial life; secrets	9781408857274
Galligan, Gale; Martin, Ann M.	<b>Dawn and the impossible three [The Baby-Sitters Club series]</b> Dawn is still adjusting to life in Stoneybrook, and she's eager to accept her first big job. But taking care of the three Barrett kids would be too much for any baby-sitter. (Adapted from publisher)	F	149	Children; family life	9781338067118
Gardiner, Kelly	<b>Australia's Great War 1917</b> The war in France rages in the skies. Alex flies high above the trenches of the Western Front, while his sister Maggie finds herself in the midst of political upheaval. Somehow, both must find the courage to fight on. (Adapted from publisher)	F	272	War; courage; resilience,	9781743622506

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Gleitzman, Morris	<b>Maybe [Once Series]</b> It's now 1946 and Felix is 14 years old. He travels to Australia to make a new life with Anya. (QDoE)	F	192	War; refugees; immigration	9780670079377
Green, Susan	<b>Verity Sparks and the scarlet hand [Verity Sparks series]</b> Verity is on holidays when a shocking crime is committed and Verity investigates. Terrible secrets are revealed and Verity needs to use all of her courage and skill to save her friend. (QDoE)	F	328	Mystery; detective story	9781922244895
Griffiths, Andy	<b>The 91-storey treehouse [Treehouse series]</b> Join Andy and Terry in their now 91-storey spectacular treehouse. They've added thirteen new levels, including the world's most powerful whirlpool, a mashed-potato-and-gravy train and a human pinball machine. (Publisher)	F	362	Reluctant readers; humour	9781743549926
Harris, Tim	<b>Mr Bambuckle's Remarkables</b> The students of room 12B have a new and mysterious teacher, and he sings, performs magic and many other amazing things. (QDoE)	F	232	School; humour	9780143785859
Harris, Tim	<b>Mr Bambuckle's Remarkables fight back</b> Miss Frost says discipline is the new order, but the students in room 12B have other ideas. And where is Mr Bambuckle anyway? (QDoE)	F	234	School; humour	9780143785873
Harvey, Jacqueline	<b>Alice-Miranda in Hollywood [Alice-Miranda series]</b> Alice-Miranda and her friends are in Hollywood to take part in a new movie, but mystery follows. Alice-Miranda is there to get to the bottom of it all before mayhem erupts. (QDoE)	F	368	Friendship; mystery	9780143780618

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Hawke, Rosanne	<b>Jehan and the quest of the lost dog</b> Jehan has a happy life in Pakistan. But when the monsoon unleashes a flood, Jehan is swept away and trapped in a tree. Then Jehan rescues a lost dog, but the dog keeps wanting to swim away. Should he follow? (Publisher)	F	176	Pakistan; floods; disasters	9780702259609
Heath, Jack	<b>Countdown to danger: Bullet train disaster [Countdown to Danger series]</b> Thirty minutes of reading with thirty possible paths. The reader chooses the path. Will you survive or will disaster strike? (QDoE)	F	139	Adventure; danger; reluctant readers	9781760159627
Helliar, Peter	<b>Best ever pranks and more!</b> Do you know how to prank your friends, your family or even your whole class – AND get away with it? Frankie Fish and Drew Bird can show you how! (Publisher)	NF	135	Humour	9781760500771
Ivanoff, George	<b>City of robots [You choose series]</b> A chance encounter with an escaped mini-bot leads you to a military science facility filled with giant robots ready to unleash destruction. Can you overpower the mighty machines or will you be crushed beneath their marching feet? (Adapted from publisher)	F	160	Adventure; future	9780143783008
Janu, Tamsin	<b>Blossom</b> Lottie is excited when a lost little girl arrives on her doorstep. Lottie has always wanted a sister but Blossom isn't like other kids. She doesn't speak and is obsessed with her flower. But everything changes when Blossom gets sick. (Publisher)	F	179	Friendship; tolerance	9781742991641
Jennings, Paul	<b>A different dog</b> The gripping and surprising story of a boy, a dog and a daring rescue. The forest is dense and dark. And the trail full of unexpected perils. The dog can't move. The boy can't talk. (Publisher)	F	82	Pets; love; bullying; courage	9781760296469

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Jennings, Paul; Craig Smith (ill.)	<b>The unforgettable what's his name</b> I had never been like the other kids. I tried not to be seen. If I hid, no one could find me. 'Where's What's His Name?' they'd say. One day I started to blend in with things. (Adapted from publisher)	F	213	Reluctant readers; humour	9781760290856
Moss, Tamara	<b>Lintang and the pirate queen [Lintang series]</b> Incredibly exciting adventure on the high seas, filled with deadly creatures, impossible tasks, dangerous quests, nail-biting battles . . . and two friends determined to make their way in the world. (Publisher)	F	323	Adventure; pirates; mythical creatures	9780143783435
Murray, Martine	<b>Marsh and me</b> Joey longs to stand out. When someone builds a treehouse in his favourite place on the hill, he isn't happy. But he decides to win over this wild, strange girl, and discovers a lot about himself on the way. (QDoE)	F	205	Self-confidence; friendship	9781760290245
Nilsson, Frida	<b>The ice sea pirates</b> Siri often tells her sister Miki the story of Captain Whitehead, a pirate who steals small children and makes them work in his diamond mine, but she never expected the story to come true. (QDoE)	F	359	Pirates; adventure; arctic regions	9781776571468
Pelosi, Catherine	<b>Quark's Academy</b> Junior science geniuses can't believe their luck when they're accepted into an elite and mysterious science academy summer camp. (Publisher)	F	231	Science; inventions	9780734417800
Rodda, Emily	<b>The shop at Hoopers Bend</b> A story about coming home when you didn't even know that was where you belonged. (Publisher)	F	245	Friendship; Australian stories	9781460753668

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Roxburgh, Richard	<b>Artie and the grime wave</b> Artie and his best friend Bumshoe have stumbled upon a cave-of-possibly-stolen-stuff, and along with it a gang of shady characters including Scary Mary, fang-toothed Funnel Web and the devious Mayor Grime. (Publisher)	F	221	Adventure; humour	9781760292140
Sandhu, Jo	<b>Tarin of the Mammoths: the exile (Book 1)</b> Tarin longs to be a hunter, but his twisted leg means he is feared and bullied. After a disastrous mishap, Tarin is forced to leave his family and travel across wild, unknown land to save the Mammoth Clan. (Publisher)	F	288	Survival; resilience	9780143309376
Townsend, Jessica	<b>Nevermoor: the trials of Morrigan Crow [Nevermoor series]</b> Morrigan Crow is cursed and blamed for anything bad that happens. She is also meant to die at midnight on Eventide. As she awaits her fate, Jupiter North appears and takes her to the magical city of Nevermoor. (QDoE)	F	451	Fantasy	9780734418074
Wang, Gabrielle	<b>The beast of Hushing Wood</b> Ziggy lives in a tiny town deep in Hushing Wood, where strange things are happening, and she keeps having the same dream – that she will drown on her 12th birthday. (Adapted from publisher)	F	181	Belonging; mythical animals	9780143309178
Webb, Holly	<b>Return to the secret garden</b> A sequel to the book by Frances Hodgson Burnett, set many years later when the children are grown and a new group of children come to the manor. (QDoE)	F	227	Orphans; war; secrets	9781407164458
Wheeler, Samantha	<b>Wombat warriors</b> When Mouse has to stay with her Aunt Evie for a while, she is not sure what to think. Then she makes friends with a wombat called Miss Pearl and discovers that not all people love wombats like she does. (QDoE)	F	185	Australian animals; self-confidence; family	9780702259586

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Wilkinson, Carole	<p><b>Bronze bird tower [Dragonkeeper Series]</b></p> <p>Tao and Kai's journey has been long and at last they have arrived at the Dragon Haven – but what they find is not the sanctuary Kai has described. (Publisher)</p>	F	357	Mythical animals	9781922179586
Wilkinson, Carole	<p><b>Ten pound Pom [Our Stories series]</b></p> <p>In the 1950s and 60s, Australia welcomed thousands of British immigrants as part of the Assisted Passage Migration Scheme. <i>Ten Pound Pom</i> is the true story of author Carole Wilkinson's immigration to Australia. (Publisher)</p>	NF	31	Immigration; Australian history	9781925381214
Woods, Matilda	<p><b>The boy, the bird and the coffin maker</b></p> <p>A magical story about Alberto, a kind but lonely coffin maker, who helps a frightened boy and his magical bird which changes both their lives. (QDoE)</p>	F	185	Loneliness; kindness	9781407178691
Yeager, Jackie	<p><b>Spin the golden light bulb [The Crimson Five series]</b></p> <p>It's 2071 and inventor Kia is determined to win the Golden Light Bulb in the Piedmont Challenge. She has a list of 67 inventions she wants to create. (Publisher)</p>	F	280	Science; inventions	9781944995447