

2020 Premier's reading challenge



Years 2-3 Book List

This book list 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' book lists.

*QDoE – Queensland Department of Education

Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Arena, Felice; Jellet, Tom (illus)	<p>The Besties Show and Smell (2020) [The Besties series]</p> <p>Oliver and Ruby have been besties forever. They are excited about school because it is show and tell day. But when their teacher doesn't turn up and is replaced by grumpy Mr Botham (whom the kids nickname Mr Mean Bottom), their day doesn't look like fun.</p> <p>(Adapted from Publisher)</p>	F	80	Friendship	9781760890988
Bauer, Catherine; McGrath, Shane (illus)	<p>Dreaming Soldiers (2019)</p> <p>Jimmy and Johnno were best mates. Growing up in the outback, they shared many adventures together. Their lives were not the same, but when they signed up to go to war, they pledged they would look after each other.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	32	Friendship War Aboriginal peoples	9781925675528
Blabey, Aaron	<p>The Bad Guys Episode 9: The Big Bad Wolf (2019) [The Bad Guys series]</p> <p>Mr Wolf has turned bad, big and bad. The aliens have control of him and are destroying the city. Wolf's friends hatch a plan to help him with Mr Snake risking his life.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	140	Graphic novel Humour	9781742993737



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Cahill, Tim; Gray, Julian; Mckenzie, Heath (illus)	Tiny Timmy: The New Coach! (2019) [Tiny Timmy series] Coach Roach is off on holidays and the Lions have someone different in charge! The new coach has won plenty of trophies but Timmy's not sure about some of his ideas. Hopefully it will all make sense in the end. (Publisher)	F	128	Soccer	9781760666125
Canty, John	Heads and Tails: Insects (2018) [Heads and Tails series] You can only see my tail, what insect am I? Then some clear, simple clues add detail as we learn more about each one. Can you guess the insect that each tail belongs to? (Publisher)	NF	38	Australian insects	9780994384164
Cheng, Christopher, Whatley, Bruce (illus)	One Tree (2019) Grandfather once lived on a farm in the mountains but now lives with his family in the city. Before, he would share stories from his past but now he is silent. Then a single tree sparks a change in everyone. (QDoE)	F	30	Asian culture Families Environment	9780143786733
Cleave, Rohan; Tulloch, Coral (illus)	Bouncing Back: An Eastern Barred Bandicoot Story (2019) The Eastern Barred Bandicoot is one of Australia's most threatened species. Under extreme threat from habitat loss, predators and human development, this captivating true story details their plight and the outstanding efforts that ensured their survival. (Adapted from Publisher)	NF	28	Australian animals Conservation	9781486308279
Costain, Meredith; McDonald, Danielle (illus)	Olivia's Secret Scribbles: The Big Chicken Mystery (2018) [Olivia's Secret Scribbles series] When Olivia's school's chickens needed new homes, their teacher runs a competition for students to design a new hen house. The prize is chickens! Chickens are fun but they are also a lot of trouble. (QDoE)	F	95	Chickens Animal care	9781743817636



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Crumble, P; Rankine, Dean (Illus)	A Funny Thing Happened to Simon Sidebottom (2018) [Simon Sidebottom series] It's the final day of school holidays and Simon Sidebottom wants to enjoy his last hours of freedom. Simon's mum has other plans involving shopping for school shoes with Simons snotty-faced little sister. And then a funny thing happens. (SCIS)	F	191	Humour Choose your own story	9781743810385
Do, Anh; McGuinness, Dan (illus)	Hotdog 7: Show Time! (2019) [Hot Dog series] Hotdog, Izzy and Kev want to win the Toy Town Talent Show and their friends rally to help. But the competition is tough – break-dancing turtles, a sword-swallowing pelican and dare-devil hamsters. Can they come up with a winning performance? (QDoE)	F	128	Humour	9781742997889
Do, Anh; Faber, Jules (illus)	Weirdo 10: Messy Weird! (2018) [Weirdo series] The Do family has a messy new house to clean up! Weir, Bella and Henry decide to do some extra work to earn pocket money. But can they handle wild lawns, dirty dishes and a vacuum cleaner explosion? (Publisher)	F	147	Humour Friendship	9781742768045
Driese, Gregg	Cunning Crow (2019) In the Dreamtime all birds, including Waan the crow, were white. One day they discovered they could take on colour from a rainbow. But Waan, wanting to be the most beautiful bird, devised a plan to catch a rainbow. (QD0E)	F	24	Aboriginal folklore	9781925768862
Driese, Gregg	My Culture and Me (2019) A young Indigenous boy describes what he sees and feels as his people prepare for a corroboree and participate in the ceremony. He has a sense of belonging, a sharing of culture, knowing the importance of keeping traditions alive. (QDoE)	F	30	Aboriginal people Australian poetry	9780143789376



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Dubosarsky, Ursula; Joyner, Andrew (illus)	Ask Hercules Quick (2019) When Hercules decides to earn some money to buy a wonderful box of magic tricks, he advertises for work. His strange neighbours are quick to ask him to do some unusual jobs, but Hercules finds real magic in another way. (QDoE)	F	59	Family Humour	9781760296827
Dubosarsky, Ursula; Joyner, Andrew (illus)	Brindabella (2018) Pender rescues an orphaned joey, Brindabella, from her mother's pouch. He lives a lonely life and soon grows attached to the joey but Brindabella is not like other kangaroos. She longs for the bush and her freedom. (QDoE)	F	208	Animal story Outback life	9781760112042
Elliot, Mick	Squidge Dibley Destroys the School (2019) [Squidge Dibley series] Padman O'Donnell's class is the worst in the school. Teachers can't cope with them. Then Vice Principal Hoovesly, the worst teacher ever takes over the class. Life is painful until the day the strange new kid, Squidge Dibley, changes everything. (QDoE)	F	174	School story Humour	9780734419422
Fox, Mem; Blackwood, Freya (illus)	A Tiny Star (2019) Once upon a time, although this happens all the time, a tiny star fell to earth. This touching and timeless story is about the journey of life, to be cherished and shared for generations to come. (Publisher)	JF	32	Friendship Families Stars Death	9780670078127
Foxlee, Karen; Barrow, Evie (illus)	Horatio Squeak (2019) Shy little Horatio is invited to a party at the top of the stairs. As the party is held by a family of cats, he is very anxious about going. All goes well until a bird appears in the window. (QDoE)	F	40	Fear Self-confidence	9781760650476



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Fussell, Shelly; Metcalfe, Samantha (illus)	Carmichael's Journey (2018) [Eco-Awareness series] Carmichael took his first flight with his parents to their traditional summer feeding ground. Now fully grown, Carmichael returns to his winter breeding ground only to find it destroyed. With no food, water or shelter, what were they to do? (QDoE)	JF	32	Environment Animal story	9781925545692
Griffiths, Andy; Denton, Terry (illus)	The 117-Storey Treehouse (2019) [Treehouse series] Andy and Terry's amazing treehouse now has 13 new storeys, including a tiny-horse level, a pyjama-party room, an Underpants Museum, a photo-bombing booth, a Door of Doom, a giant-fighting-robot arena, a penguin-powered flying treehouse tour bus and more. (Adapted from Publisher)	F	371	Humour	9781760781262
Hilton, Nette; Gifford, Lucinda (illus)	The Second Adventures of Princess Peony In which she doesn't want a prince but gets one anyway. But not for keeps. (2019) [Princess Peony series] Waiting for a Prince to appear, Princess Peony learns from her brother, The Troll, which she would need to kiss a frog. Against Peony's wishes, he sets off to find one with hilarious consequences. (QDoE)	F	76	Humour Siblings Princesses Imagination	9781760650452
Hoopman, Kathy; Montano, Josie; Finn, Ann-Marie (illus)	The Secret Science Society's Spectacular Experiment (2019) Zane's in trouble at school again. He has autism and to focus his attention, his teacher enters him and three other very different classmates into a competition at a science expo. Can they work together to pull this off? (QDoE)	F	84	Science Autism	9781925563764



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Howarth, Kylie	Fish Kid and the Lizard Ninja (2019) [Fish Kid series] Sailing with his marine biologist father and photographer mother, Bodhi suddenly finds himself marooned on a tiny island with his sister. But where are their parents? Bodhi discovers he has special powers but their lives could be in danger. (QDoE)	F	143	Adventure Marine life	9781760650810
Kendell, Sandra	The Only Ones Left (2018) We share our Australian home with an amazing variety of native animals but some of them are in danger of disappearing forever. What would it be like if we were the only ones left? (Publisher)	NF	32	Endangered animals	9781922081742
Laing, Harry; Various illustrators	MoonFish: Poems to make you laugh & think (2019) A collection of fun poems to enjoy with catchy rhymes, interesting characters and creatures, chants and raps. Each poem is illustrated, many by some very well-known illustrators of Australian children's books. (QDoE)	NF	32	Poetry	9781925804256
Lemon- Scott, Candice	Eco Rangers: Pelican in Peril (2019) [Eco Rangers series] Eco rangers, Ebony and Jay, rescue an oil-covered pelican at the beach and help care for it. Determined to find the source of the illegal oil dumping, the pair begin a dangerous trail of discovery to catch the culprits. (Adapted from Publisher)	F	102	Mystery Animals Conservation	9781925594522
Lester, Alison	Poor Tricky! (2018) Tricky is having a bad day, a very bad day. Nothing is going his way and everything seems to be getting worse. His dad tries to help but Tricky is in a mood. What could his dad do? (QDoE)	JF	24	Families Emotions Rhyming story	9781925712513



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McCartney, Tania; Snerling, Tina (illus)	An Aussie Year: Twelve Months in the Life of Australian Kids (2019) [Kid's Year series] Meet five Australian children representing a multicultural blend of culture and race that typifies our country. They take you through a year in the life of Australian kids, from celebrations to traditions to our way of life. They are Australia. (Publisher)	F	28	Children Cultural relations Australia	9781925820270
McDonald, Andrew; Wood, Ben (illus)	Real Pigeons Nest Hard (2019) [Real Pigeons series] Why do pigeons act weird? Because they're chasing bad guys and saving your butts! Someone's been stealing from a vulture. A beastly child is lost and Homey's family has been bird-napped! But to fight crime you need the perfect nest! (Publisher)	F	224	Humour Mystery	9781760501105
McFarlane, Susannah; Huynh, Matt et al (illus)	Bold Tales for Brave-hearted Boys (2019) Boys can be pretty handy at dragon-felling and tower-climbing but there is so much more to them than brawn and bravado as these tilted tales tell. They create their own happily ever after. (Publisher)	F	118	Boys Folklore	9781760524715
McFarlane, Susannah; Norling, Beth et al (illus)	Fairytales for Feisty Girls (2018) Modern-day princesses rescue themselves, thank you very much! Rapunzel, Cinderella, Thumbelina and Little Red Riding Hood get themselves into tricky situations but life's about using your talents and sciencing your way out of trouble - without a prince in sight. (Publisher)	F	118	Girls Folklore	9781760523541
Mackay, Gregory	Anders and the Volcano (2016) [Anders series] Anders and his family set off on holidays to Mt Tremble, an extinct volcano. His friends Bernie and Eden come along too. They quickly make new friends and go exploring together but end up deep inside the rumbling volcano. (QDoE)	F	161	Graphic novel Adventure	9781743366776



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Morgan, Sally; Smith, Craig (illus)	Dog Emergency (2016) Dillon and Ryan find an injured dog. With the owner nowhere to be seen, they are hopeful that they can keep him, especially if they help pay the vet bill. But with only \$7 between them, paying the bill is going to be a challenge! (QDoE)	F	50	Dogs Pets Family	9781742991351
Murray, Martine	Henrietta and the Perfect Night (2017) [The Henrietta series] Henrietta is an adventurer but must learn to be patient. A baby is on its way, a sister Henrietta says, but there's so much to do while waiting – starting school, a sleepover, a trip away. Will Henrietta get her wish? (QDoE)	F	89	Family life	9781760290245
Odgers, Sally; Thomas, Adele K (illus)	Pearl: The Brave Unicorn (2019) [Pearl series] Pearl the magical unicorn and her friend Olive plan a birthday party for their friend Tweet but Olive does not show up. Concerned for her, Pearl and Tweet struggle on an adventure to find her. (QDoE)	F	121	Magic Unicorns	9781760664282
Reid, Janet; Francey, Amanda (illus)	Trouble for Toby (2018) Toby wanted a pet more than anything. His parents said he had to be good at school first but Toby was always in trouble. He and best friend Sam are adventurous but nothing ever seems to go right for them. (QDoE)	F	64	School story Friendship	9781925563351
Saxby, Claire; Harricks, Tanya (illus)	Dingo (2018) [Nature storybooks] Can you see her? There - deep in the stretching shadows - a dingo. Her pointed ears twitch. Her tawny eyes flash in the low-slung sun. Dingo listens. Dusk is a busy time. Dusk is the time for hunting. (Publisher)	NF	30	Australian animals	9781925381283



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Secombe, Titta; Fielding, Grace (illus)	Marngrook: The Long-ago Story of Aussie Rules (2012) A fictionalised story of the origins of Marngrook, the Aboriginal ball game that inspired Aussie Rules Football. This story also comes with a lesson on how important it is to listen to your Elders. (QDoE)	JF	28	Australian Rules Football Games Morals and ethics	9781921248443
Seymour, Jasmine	Baby Business (2019) Nanna and the Aunties gather in the bush around a fire. They are there to ensure a smoking ceremony is done the proper way. They let smoke gently caress the baby to welcome her to country, protect her and let her know she belongs. (QDoE)	JF	24	Ceremony Family Belonging Culture Indigenous language	9781925768671
Speechley, Michael	The All New Must Have Orange 430 (2018) Harvey had been waiting for the all new must have Orange 430 and it was finally here. Scrounging up enough money, Harvey finally purchased it. But what did it do and what could Harvey do with it? (QDoE)	JF	30	Toys Consumerism	9780143788973
Starc, Mitchell; Bunting, Philip (illus)	Mighty Mitch! Day/Night Decider (2019) [Mighty Mitch! series] Mitch Starc is facing his mightiest test yet, an epic day/night decider! But Coach has a surprise in store for the team. What does Mitch have to deal with? Can Mitch and his team end the season on a high? (Adapted from Publisher)	F	134	Cricket	9781742769172
Tanner, Lian; Bentley, Jonathan (illus)	Ella and the Ocean (2019) Ella lives on a drought-affected rural property with her family and longs to see the ocean. Her family tries to help her imagine what it is like until Gran decides to make her dream come true. (QDoE)	JF	32	Outback life Family life	9781760633691



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Walliams, David; Ross, Tony (illus)	<p>Fing (2019)</p> <p>Born to perfect parents, Myrtle was a <i>horror!</i> She demanded everything but still wanted more, more, more! When she demands a Fing, her parents go to great lengths to find one. So begins their bizarre and hilarious adventure.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	264	Humour Families	9780008349080
Wild, Margaret; To, Vivienne (illus)	<p>The Sloth Who Came to Stay (2019)</p> <p>Amy lives in the speediest family in the world; they do everything fast! One afternoon she brings a sloth home to stay and everything in their lives changes.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	JF	32	Families	9781760631024
Black, Jess; Acton, Sara (illus)	<p>The Tales of Mr Walker: a hotel dog with a nose for adventure (2018)</p> <p>Based on a real-life dog, Mr Walker, is Labrador Ambassador for the Park Hyatt hotel in Melbourne. Keen to impress, he strives to fulfill his role but finds himself on many adventures in this collection of four Mr Walker stories.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	179	Adventures Dogs	9780143793076
Cosgrove, Matt	<p>Macca's Makeover (2019) [Macca the Alpaca series]</p> <p>Macca the Alpaca desperately wants to be cool, just like his friends. A new hair-do? Maybe a trip to the gym? Or perhaps he needs the latest accessories? Macca's makeover shows him what it is that makes him truly special.</p> <p>(Publisher)</p>	JF	24	Animals Grooming Humour	9781760669195

