

2020 Premier's reading challenge



Years 6-7 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	<p>Fearless Frederic (2018)</p> <p>When the river rises and Paris begins to flood, Frederic decides to help those who can't help themselves. As his heroic acts escalate, so does the danger. Can he find justice for his father and discover what courage really means?</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	176	Justice Heroism Courage	9780143786757
Balla, Trace	<p>Rockhopping (2016)</p> <p>The story of an eventful hike in Gariwerd where Clancy and Uncle Egg go on a rambling, rockhopping adventure to find the source of the Glenelg River. A story about following your flow and the unexpected places you may go.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	80	Nature Adventure	9781760112349
Bancks, Tristan	<p>Two Wolves (2019)</p> <p>Ben's always dreamt of becoming a detective. Now his parents are in trouble with the police. What does Ben do when he uncovers what they've done? Does he tell someone? Or does he keep the secret and live life on the run?</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	288	Suspense Action Adventure	9781760892661



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Beasley, Dion (illus) with Bell Johanna	<p>Cheeky Dogs: to Lake Nash and Back (2019)</p> <p>Deaf artist Dion Beasley's extraordinary life is outlined in evocative poetry and action-packed illustrations in this unconventional memoir. We learn about the country he grew up in and meet some of the people he calls family. There is love, there is loss but most of all there are dogs!</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	NF	121	Dogs Family Deafness Physical disability Community	9781760528119
Blabey, Aaron	<p>The Bad Guys: Episode 10: The Baddest Day Ever (2016) [The Bad Guys series]</p> <p>All hail Crown Prince Marmalade! Surrender to his evil magnificence! Or . . . like . . . don't! This is the ultimate battle between Bad and BAAAAAAD! It's season finale time, play!</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	144	Humour	6015042697817
Brian, Janeen	<p>Yong: The Journey of an Unworthy Son (2016)</p> <p>As the firstborn, Yong must leave Guangdong to travel to the goldfields of Australia with his father. On the treacherous journey, Yong strives to be an honourable son. But in his heart he knows his honour is a lie.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	256	Prejudice Change Racism Honour	9781925126297
Constable, Kate	<p>Crow Country (2011)</p> <p>When Sadie is tumbled back in time to view a terrible crime, she is pulled into a strange mystery. Can Sadie, Walter and Lachie figure out a way to right old wrongs or will they be condemned to repeat them?</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	256	Time shift Crime Mystery	9781742373959
Cosgrove, Matt	<p>The Aattack of the Giant Robot Zombie Mermaid (2017) [Epic Fail Tales series]</p> <p>Once upon a slime covered planet, there lived a robot zombie mermaid who would stop at nothing and sacrifice everything in the hilarious intergalactic quest for her one true love...brains.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	128	Tall tales	9781743811702



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Daddo, Andrew; King, Stephen	<p>The Map of Half Maps (2020) [Atticus Van Tasticus 2 series]</p> <p>Having escaped disaster on the high seas, Atticus is on the scent of treasure when the vicious, mean and mighty unclean Bjorn Ironhead sets his sights on Atticus and his crew. Should they stay and fight, or run and hide?</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	240	Pirates Treasure Adventure	9781760892913
Do, Ahn	<p>The Great Escape (2019) [Wolf Girl series]</p> <p>After four years alone in the wild, Gwen is overjoyed to see another person. But then she is kidnapped and things don't look good. How will her pack find her? Luckily, bars and fences are no match for Wolf Girl!</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	224	Adventure Family	9781760876357
Dubosarsky, Ursula; Joyner, Andrew (illus)	<p>Ask Hercules Quick (2019)</p> <p>Earning money has never been so...interesting! This is a very funny story of a boy who tries to earn money for himself by doing strange jobs for his eccentric neighbours.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	64	Humour	9781760296827
Flanagan, John	<p>The Return of the Temujai (2019) [Brotherband series]</p> <p>The Temujai – ruthless warriors from the Eastern Steppes – have never given up on their ambition to claim Skandia for their own...and now they're on the move. Hal and his crew have to brave the treacherous icy river to stop them.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	352	Fantasy Adventure	9780143785941
French, Jackie	<p>Jackie French's Chook Book (2012)</p> <p>If you are interested in chickens, then this book is for you. It contains plenty of advice and ideas for keeping and caring for poultry. There is also a section with recipes so you can enjoy your delicious produce.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	NF	196	Chickens Sustainability Ecology	9780947214593



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
French, Jackie, Whatley, Bruce (illus)	The Beach They Called Gallipoli (2016) A hundred years ago, Australians and New Zealanders landed at Anzac Cove, in Turkey. This is the story of Gallipoli as seen from the cove; the story of that beach, where thousands died and legends were born. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	32	History	9781460752265
Gouldthorp e, Peter	The White Mouse: The Story of Nancy Wake (2015) The Gestapo wanted the white mouse dead or alive. Nancy Wake was an Australian who joined the French Resistance during World War II and became the most wanted woman in France. She was the most decorated Australian woman in any war. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	40	Biography	9781742990910
Greenwood , Mark; Lessac, Frane (illus)	Ned Kelly and the Green Sash (2014) <i>Ned Kelly and the green sash</i> is a window into the character of a poor boy, once honoured with a green silk sash for bravery, who grew up to become Australia's most notorious bushranger. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	40	History Bravery	9781922244598
Griffiths, Andy; Denton, Terry (illus)	The 117 Storey Treehouse (2019) Andy and Terry's treehouse has 13 new storeys, including a pyjama-party room, an Underpants Museum, a Door of Doom, a giant-robot-fighting arena, a water-ski park filled with flesh-eating piranhas, a penguin-powered flying treehouse tour bus and a gift shop. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	384	Humour	9781760559144
Harris, Tim; Hart, James (illus)	Mr Bambuckle's Remarkables on the Lookout (2019) Vex is gone! Mr Bambuckle and the class in room 12B are in trouble. They have to work together to track Vex down. Can they find him before it's too late? (Adapted from publisher)	NF	240	Humour	9780143793144



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Harris, Tim	<p>Australasia and Antarctica (2019) [Wildlife Worlds series]</p> <p>The sixth book in the series that explores some of Earth's iconic landmarks and habitats and the plants and animals that live there. They are illustrated with beautiful photographs and filled with incredible facts and gems of information.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	30	Geography Wildlife Environment	9781445167268
Hartley, Dave; Baldwin, Peter (illus)	<p>TC and the Stinkiest Story Ever (in the History of the Universe) (2019)</p> <p>How do you track a missing dog? By its poo, obviously! Mrs Mucci's dog has been stolen and TC and Lockie are trying to find it and solve a mystery along the way. Mayhem, mischief and misadventure abound in this amusing story.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	107	Mystery Dogs Adventure Friendship	9781742991870
Harvey, Jacqueline	<p>Breaking News (2018) [Kensy and Max series]</p> <p>Kensy and Max Grey's lives are turned upside down when they are whisked off to London and discover their parents are missing. As the situation unfolds, they keep finding and feeling that, all around them, adults are keeping secrets.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	336	Spy adventure	9780143780656
Heath, Jack	<p>The Fail Safe (2016) [The Fero Files series]</p> <p>Fourteen-year-old Fero doesn't know who to trust the country that turned him into a boy soldier or the one that turned him into a spy in this chase to stop a nuclear war. Definitely for those who like action thrillers.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	272	Action thriller	9781925266078
Heiss, Anita with Goodes, Adam and O'Loughlin, Michael	<p>Kicking Goals with Goodsey and Magic (2016)</p> <p>Adam Goodes and Michael O'Loughlin are blood brothers and great mates. They are also two of the best footballers ever to play AFL. They chat with author Anita Heiss and give an insight to their lives, their friendship and their love of sport and AFL.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	NF	83	Sport AFL Friendship Family Role models	9781863958530



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Helliar, Peter; Vamos Lesley (illus)	Frankie Fish and the Sister Shemozzle (2019) Frankie Fish's sister, Saint Lou steals the Sonic Suitcase and heads to Ancient Greece. Frankie and his friend Drew race backwards through time to rescue her and bring her home. However, Lou is determined to stay! (QDoE)	F	243	Humour Adventure Time travel	9781760502867
Hogan, Jesse; Auteri, Simon; Faulkner, Andrew	For Cap and Country: Interviews with Australian Cricketers on the Enduring Spirit of the Baggy Green (2019) Stories behind one of Australia's most beloved sporting icons - the baggy green. <i>For cap and country</i> is about the importance of generosity, sportsmanship, perseverance and community to help us achieve our goals in life as much as in sport. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	304	Sport Persistence Endurance	9781460752517
Kruszelnick i (Dr), Karl; Costabel, Piar	Dr Karl's Random Road Trip Through Science (2019) In this book, Dr Karl answers questions about really important things, like the shape of wombat poo, snapping spaghetti, popping balloons, fat birds and many more weird topics. Be prepared to be enthralled! (QDoE)	NF	192	Science	9780733340321
Darby, Rhys	The top secret interdimensional notes of Buttons McGinty: Book 2 This is the second book in the Buttons McGinty series and is even funnier than the first. Buttons is travelling through space searching for his parents who are presumed missing. He uses Morse code to help solve the mystery of their disappearance. (QDoE)	F	224	Mystery Humour	9781775435587
Miles, Alex	Game on (2019) [Girl Geeks series] Skateboarding and video games are the best things in the world according to Niki. So when the biggest esports tournament announces they will hold a junior competition in her town, Niki is the first to enter. (Adapted from publisher)	F	192	Friendship Stereotyping	9780143795063



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
McKinlay, Meg	<p>A Single Stone (2015)</p> <p>Every girl dreams of being one of the chosen who tunnel into the mountain to find the harvest. Jena is the respected and reliable leader, until, moving a single stone changes everything and makes Jena question the world she knows.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	272	Leadership Community Identity	9781925081701
Merrison, Carl; Hustler, Hakea; Leffler, David (illus)	<p>Black Cockatoo (2018)</p> <p>Set in a small community in the north west Kimberley area, this story is about a young girl caught between her family, her culture and her own destiny. After rescuing a black cockatoo (her totem) that was being harmed by her brother, she begins a journey of self-discovery.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	62	Black cockatoos Totems Family Culture	9781925360707
Moriarty, Jaclyn; Canby, Kelly (illus)	<p>The Extremely Inconvenient Adventures of Bronte Mettlestone (2017)</p> <p>Bronte's parents ran away to have adventures when she was a baby. Their extremely detailed will gives instructions that must be strictly followed. As she journeys, Bronte suspects there is more to her extremely inconvenient quest than meets the eye...</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	512	Adventure Family Quest	9781760297176
Morpurgo, Michael	<p>Flamingo Boy (2019)</p> <p><i>'It's the people who don't fit in who change the world.'</i> In Southern France during WWII, a young autistic boy's idyllic life is destroyed when the German army took over the town. Everything he knew about life changed.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	288	War Adventure Friendship Autism	9780008134655
Pascoe, Bruce	<p>Mrs Whitlam (2016)</p> <p>Marnie Clark can ride but doesn't have a horse. She helps out at the local stables and dreams of owning her own. Then she is gifted Mrs Whitlam, a beautiful, Clydesdale horse – bold, fearless. Together they rescue a small child.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	77	Honesty Horses Racism Privilege	9781925360240



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Pascoe, Bruce	<p>Young Dark Rmu: A Truer History (2019)</p> <p>Using the accounts of early European explorers, colonists and farmers, Bruce Pascoe compellingly argues for a reconsideration of the hunter-gatherer label for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians. Readers are asked to consider a different version of Australia's history pre-European colonisation.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	NF	80	Australian history	9781925360844
Phillips, Craig	<p>The Adventures of Jack Scratch: Curse of the Kraken (2019) [The Adventures of Jack Scratch series]</p> <p>After a mysterious stranger appears at The Crafty Trout, Jack and his friends find themselves entangled in an adventure of monstrous proportions as they set a course for the most fearsome stretch of sea, in search of the legendary Kraken.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	57	Comic Adventure Fantasy	9780473457808
Polyviou, Anna	<p>Kids' Corner (2019)</p> <p>A funky recipe book that is not only fun to read but exciting to use. It is full of delicious and healthy foods to create, especially for children. This book presents easy to follow recipes for all kinds of occasions.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	NF	120	Healthy food Cooking	9781925695939
Proudfoot, Lucas	<p>The Proud Foots: Shaka shaka Hawaii (2017) [Proud Foot series]</p> <p>Three adventurous surfing buddies, a mysterious globe and some technological magic come together to create a riotous, action-packed story. The first book in the Proud Foots series sets the scene for many more adventures.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	46	Adventure Animals Hawaii	9780995393103
Rhodda, Emily	<p>His Name Was Walter (2018)</p> <p>The handwritten book, with its strange illustrations, has lain hidden in the old house. Four kids and their teacher discover it and read the haunting story of Walter and the mysterious, tragic girl called Sparrow ...to the very end.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	288	Mystery History	9781460756188



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Rodda, Emily; McBride, Marc (Illus)	<p>The Glimme (2019)</p> <p>Impressed by his talent, a stranger buys Finn for a handful of gold and then reveals seven extraordinary paintings. Finn soon finds himself slipping into the world of the paintings and plunging into the wonders and perils of The Glimme.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	384	Fantasy Adventure	9781862919570
Spratt, R A	<p>Never Fear (2020) [Friday Barnes Series]</p> <p>Rumours of embezzled gold have Friday Barnes determined to uncover the truth. With implosions and explosions everywhere, Friday has to use her head and get a grip on her beating heart in order to find the gold that lies within.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	288	Mystery Crime Friendship	9780143784203
Thurston, Johnathan; Phelps, James	<p>JT, The Making of a Total Legend (2019)</p> <p>As a young Brisbane kid, Johnathan Thurston was written off as too skinny, too slow and too wild to play rugby league professionally. But he defied the odds to become one of the game's greatest players.</p> <p>(Adapted from publisher)</p>	NF	256	Autobiography	9781460758618
Turner, Ethel	<p>Seven Little Australians (2018, first published 1894)</p> <p>The Woolcots are a family of seven children living in Sydney in the late 1800's. After their mother died, Captain Woolcot remarried Esther. While their father was very strict, the children's stepmother was unable to discipline the mischievous children.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	288	History Family Classical fiction	9780344811104
Weetman, Nova	<p>Sick bay (2019)</p> <p>Meg and Riley meet in the school's sick bay. Initially they think they think they have nothing in common but eventually learn they both have struggles, though different. This lovely story is about friendship, courage and challenge.</p> <p>(QDoE)</p>	F	280	Friendship Family Courage	9780702260322



Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Wild, Ailsa; Reed, Aviva; Crocetti, Gregory, Stock, Patricia; Barr, Briony (illus)	Nema and the Xenos: A Story of Soil Cycles (2019) This is a story about tiny creatures that live in the darkness of the soil. It is a story of co-operation and ancient partnership, about events happening all over the Earth, in the hidden worlds beneath our feet. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	48	Ecology	9781486312160
Wolfer, Dianne	The Dog with Seven Names (2018) Born on a cattle station, life is perfect for a little pup until War arrives. Left behind by her family, the pup becomes a hospital dog and experiences the impact of war on Australia. Will she find her family again? (Adapted from publisher)	F	240	Courage Loyalty Friendship	9780143787457

