

2022 Premier's reading challenge



Years 8-9 Book List

#	Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
1	Arnold, David	The Electric Kingdom (2021) <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author serves up a genre-smashing story of survival, hope and love amid a ravaged Earth. (Adapted from publisher)	F	368	Mythical Postapocalyptic Hope	9781922 330925
2	Aviva	Self/less (2021) Teddy, a young girl who wants to be heard, escapes to a new society in search of a voice. (QDoE)	F	416	Dystopian Identity	9781760 984892
3	Bajpai, Nandini	Sister of the Bollywood bride (2021) A feel-good novel about family and romance. Mini has one goal over summer – to design her sister's wedding. (QDoE)	F	304	Family Goals Romance	9781760 526825
4	Turk, Mariko	The other side of perfect (2021) Alina's ballet career is over and she must face going back to a 'normal' life. (QDoE)	F	336	Romance Identity	9781760 526252
5	Bavati, Robyn	A weekend with Oscar (2021) A moving #LoveOzYA novel about loss, first love and being there for your family, no matter what. (Adapted from publisher)	F	208	Coming of age Resilience	9781760 653002

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6	Miller, Declan	<p>Mixed feelings (2021)</p> <p>This story is set in Alice Springs / Mparntwe where Pam lives with her Uncle Graham. Although her uncle strives to give Pam the skills to survive in a challenging world, she still struggles to fit in. Some of the other students make life difficult for her but she has an ally in fellow student, Ross. (QDoE)</p>	F	44	Graphic novel Fantasy Emotions Fitting in Acceptance Peer pressure	9780648 741381
7	Braken, Alexandra	<p>Brightly woven (2021)</p> <p>From the No.1 <i>New York Times</i> bestselling author of <i>The Darkest Minds</i> comes this extraordinary graphic novel.</p> <p>A mysterious young wizard named Wayland North needs Sydelle's help. While Sydelle and North race against the clock, she realizes that the fate of the kingdom may rest in her fingertips. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	GN	176	Magic Friendship Discovery	9781786 541567
8	Brown, Don	<p>Shot in the arm! Big ideas that changed the world #3 (2021)</p> <p>A graphic novel series that celebrates the hard-won succession of ideas that ultimately changed the world. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	GN	144	History Science	9781419 750014
9	Comber, Clayton Zane	<p>100 remarkable feats of Xander Maze (2021)</p> <p>Xander loves making lists. On the top of his list at #1 is his grandmother. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	F	304	Beating the odds Hope	9781460 759455
10	Dolan, Hugh	<p>Holocaust: a chronicle of history and hope (2021)</p> <p>This historical and beautifully illustrated graphic book opens shutters, windows and doors to the internal working of Hitler's master plan. (QDoE)</p>	GN	80	Resilience Compassion	9781742 996202

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11	Dreise, Gregg	Common wealth (2021) The importance of moving forward together as a nation, with truth and respect for our history and Traditional Custodians. (Adapted from publisher)	PB	32	Indigenous history Australian history Australia Day Australian anthem Unity	9781760 975166
12	Gardner, Scot	Off the map (2021) Powerful and honest short stories about what it means to be young in today's world. (QDoE)	F	192	Australian landscape Exploring the world	9781760 877101
13	Gleitzman, Morris	Always: The Felix series book 7 (2022) Enjoy the final journey in the story of Felix, a Jewish boy who grew up in Poland in World War II. (Adapted from publisher)	F	320	Bravery Hope	9780143 793243
14	Gordon, Kate	Aster's good, right things (2020) Aster lives with her father in Tasmania. Her mother has left and Aster strives to always do the 'good, right thing' in the hope that she will return. Aster struggles with school until the day she, by chance, meets Xavier. (QDoE)	F	183	Mental health Friendship	9780648 492573
15	Greder, Armin	The inheritance (2021) With minimal text, this powerful story challenges the reader to question the status quo and fight for the future. (Adapted from publisher)	PB	36	Protecting the planet	9781760 526788
16	Gwynne, Phillip	The break (2021) A desperate, dangerous ride of a father and son on the run. (QDoE)	F	384	Right of passage Mythical	9780143 789383

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17	Haghoosti, Sara	Sunburnt veils (2021) Exploration of Islamophobia. After a fellow student calls in a bomb threat on her first day of university, Tara needs to decide if she is ready to stop reading about heroes and step up. (QDoE)	F	272	Love story Courage	9781743 057766
18	Harvey-Smith, Lisa	Under the stars: astrophysics for bedtime (2019) Explore our solar system from the comfort of your cozy bedroom. Find out why the sky is blue. Fly around a black hole and peer inside! Learn why Jupiter has stripes. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	192	Astrophysics Exploration	9780522 876086
19	Herrick, Steven	How to repaint a life (2021) A powerful prose novel from one of Australia's most awarded authors. Isaac is running from his old life when he steps off the bus in a small town. Then Isaac meets Sophie and learns he's not the only one wanting to repaint his life. (QDoE)	F	248	Taking control Opportunities	9780702 263156
20	Kadariusman, Michelle	Girl of the Southern Sea (2021) Nia dreams of becoming a writer but her family can't even afford food. Nia is gifted with good luck magic. Could this allow her to write her own future? (Adapted from publisher)	F	216	Courage Storytelling	9780702 262937
21	Kamaleddine, Samera	Half my luck (2021) Layla is caught between two cultures. Someone has been wrongly accused and Layla knows the truth. Will she speak up? (Adapted from publisher)	F	272	Coming of age Growing up in Australia	9781460 760222
22	Master, Maryam; Hicks, Astred (illus.)	Exit through the gift shop (2021) Ana is dying and has been told she has a year to live. Ana's story is uplifting as she takes us through the highs and lows of her life, grounded by best friend AI, and tormented by school bully, Alyssa. (QDoE)	F	207	Friendship Death	9781760 983512

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23	Lawrence, Hayley	Skin deep (2021) The age old saying, 'beauty is only skin deep' resounds through this powerful journey of self-affirmation. (QDoE)	F	288	Friendship Self-acceptance	9781760 976446
24	Madden, Tobias	Anything but fine (2021) A rollercoaster of a story about identity and grief. (Adapted from publisher)	F	352	Identity	9781761 042027
25	Boyle, Lauren; Mason, Alyssa (illus.)	Storm warning (2021) This story entangles natural and human-made disasters – from the British nuclear tests at Maralinga to a massively destructive storm in the present day. Two teenage friends are left to outwit 'mutants' who have been unwittingly released through a chain of catastrophic and unheeded events. (Adapted from publisher)	F	48	Graphic novel Climate change Natural disasters Fantasy Speculative fiction Action and adventure <i>Note: some supernatural themes and stylised violence</i>	9780648 928003
26	Masson, Sophie	Ghost squad (2021) This novel will keep you guessing with lots of twists and turns. Would appeal to fans of <i>Stranger Things</i> . (QDoE)	F	448	Mystery Thriller	9781925 227772
27	Meddings, Lize	Sad ghost club (2022) If you have ever felt alone or invisible, this heart-warming tale of belonging is for you. (Adapted from publisher)	GN	208	Acceptance Identity	9781444 957358
28	Nix, Garth	Terciel and Elinor (2021) Bestselling novelist Garth Nix returns to the Old Kingdom for the never-before-told love story of Sabriel's parents, Terciel and Elinor. A long-awaited prequel to a classic fantasy series. (QDoE)	F	416	Fantasy	9781760 878818

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29	Smither, Alex; Smithers, Shane	Wraith (2018) James can fly, though his landings need some work. But that's the least of his problems when he crash-lands into a city in the clouds. Soon James is drawn into a race against time to find the Saffire, a new technology designed to save the city from the effects of climate change. (Adapted from publisher)	F	462	Fantasy Speculative fiction Flight Imaginary places Action and adventure	9781925 360950
30	Nunn, Cameron	Echo in the memory (2021) As two stories unfold, nearly two hundred years apart, two boys exiled to what feels like the end of the Earth struggle to find their identities and voices in the face of abandonment and tragedy. (Adapted from publisher)	F	272	Personal growth	9781760 653088
31	Okine, Matt	Being black 'n chicken and chips (2019) Mike Amon is a regular teenager. All he wants is to fit in. He strives to reach his dreams hoping it will give his mother the strength to beat an incurable disease. (QDoE)	F	288	Coming of age	9780733 641688
32	Nannestad, Katrina	Rabbit, soldier, angel, thief (2021) Sasha is 6 when he loses his family in the war. Rescued and cared for by a group of soldiers, Sasha becomes one of their 'family'. He wants to help and, offers hope and love in these darkest times. (QDoE)	F	298	World War II Historical fiction	9780733 341465
33	Pung, Alice	One hundred days (2021) A humorous fractured fairy tale. This mother and daughter drama explores love and control. (Adapted from publisher)	F	256	Independence Relationships	9781760 641832
34	Saliba, Sue	Once, at the edge of the sea (2021) A beautifully poetic novel about finding what you treasure. (QDoE)	F	166	Belonging Friendship	9780648 919001

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35	Sanders, Cristina	Displaced (2021) In the 1870s, Eloise leaves Cornwall on a tumultuous journey across the sea to start a new life in New Zealand. (Adapted from publisher)	F	304	Historical fiction	9781760653347
36	Smith, Mark	If not us (2021) A powerful plea for climate change action that is truly inspiring. (QDoE)	F	272	Courage	9781922330796
37	Spurr, Emily	A million things (2021) When Rae's mum dies she is alone in the world with her dog Splinter. She forms a friendship based on secrets. How long will it last? (Adapted from publisher)	F	288	Grief Friendship Standing up	9781922330505
38	Stalenhag, Simon	Tales from the loop, 1 (2020) These are the tales of an extraordinary journey: from the small towns of Sweden to the deserts of Nevada to the bitter chill of Siberia. A journey where children make friends with abandoned robots... in a world where dinosaurs roam freely. (Adapted from publisher)	PB	128	Technology Nature	9781471194412
39	Stanton, Brandon	Little humans (2014) Author of the #1 <i>New York Times</i> bestseller <i>Humans of New York</i> . A look at the diverse children of New York City. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	40	Feel good	9780374374563
40	Tan, Shaun	Dog (2020) A reflection on the relationship between dogs and humans. (Adapted from publisher)	PB	40	Feel good	9781760526139
41	Novak, B.J	Book with no pictures (2014) Everything written on the page has to be said by the person reading it aloud. Even if the words say ... 'blook' or 'bluurf'. (Adapted from publisher)	PB	48	Humorous	9780803741713