



### St. Bernard's Reading Spine

We are determined that every pupil will learn to read, regardless of their background, needs or abilities. All pupils, including the weakest readers, will make sufficient progress to meet or exceed age-related expectations.

At St. Bernard's, we believe that children need experiences of tougher texts, especially those expected of them in secondary school and beyond in order to develop pupils' vocabulary, language comprehension and love of reading.

Doug Lemov points out that there are **five types** of texts that children should have access to in order to successfully navigate reading with confidence. These are complex beyond a lexical level and demand more from the reader than other types of books.

They are as follows:

**Archaic Texts** - The vocabulary, usage, syntax and context for cultural reference of texts over 50 or 100 years old are vastly different and typically more complex than texts written today.

**Non-Linear Time Sequences** - A story narrated in a given style with a given cadence and that cadence endures and remains consistent, but in the best books, books where every aspect of the narration is nuanced to create an exact image, time moves in fits and starts. It doubles back or is non-linear in execution.

**Narratively Complex** - Multiple, unreliable or non-human narrators which often create multiple plot-lines or alternative viewpoints

**Complexity of Plot/Symbol** - Stories which can be steeped in figurative language and often exist on an allegorical or symbolic level, sometimes complex in plot and structure.

**Resistant Texts** - Texts written to deliberately resist easy meaning-making by readers. Perhaps half of the poems ever written fall into this category. You have to assemble meaning around nuances, hints, uncertainties and clues.

## Year 6

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
The Secret Garden (Frances Hodgson Burnett)	An Eagle in the Snow (Michael Morpurgo)	War Horse (Michael Morpurgo)	Skellig (David Almond)	The Lie Tree (Frances Hardinge)
The Happy Prince and other tales (Oscar Wilde)	Around the World in 80 Days (Jules Verne)	Once (Morris Gleitzman)	The Arrival (Shaun Tan)	The Arrival (Shaun Tan)
Treasure Island (Robert Louis Stevenson)	The Light Jar (Lisa Thompson)	All the things that could go wrong (Stewart Foster)	When you reach me (Rebecca Stead)	The Tyger (poem) (William Blake)
The Wizard of Oz (L. Frank Baum)	Cosmic (Frank Cottrell-Boyce)	Tin (Padraig Kenny)	Skydancer (Gill Lewis)	Face by Benjamin Zephaniah
Oliver Twist (Charles Dickens)	Not the end of the World (Kate Atkinson)	Watership Down (Richard Adams)	Fog (poem) (Carl Sandburg)	The London Eye Mystery (Siobhan Dowd)
The Jungle Book (Rudyard Kipling)	A Christmas Carol (Charles Dickens)	Cogheart (Peter Bunzi)	In Flanders Field (poem) (John McCrae)	You Are Awesome (Matthew Syed)
The Call of the Wind (Jack London)	Holes (Louis Sachar)	The Pebble in my pocket (Meredith Hooper)	Where the Mountain meets the moon (Grace Lin)	<b>Go with the Flow</b> (Lily Williams)

## Year 5

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
Just So Stories (Rudyard Kipling)	The Eye of the North (Sinead O'Hart)	Wonder (R.J. Palacio)	Who let the Gods out? (Maz Evans)	Sky in the Pie (poem) (Roger McGough)
Tom's Midnight Garden (Philippa Pearce)	SilverFin (Young Bond) (Charlie Higson)	The Underneath (Kathi Appelt)	Harry Potter (J.K. Rowling)	Jabberwocky (poem) (Lewis Carroll)
The Listeners (poem) (Walter de La Mere)	1000 year old boy (Ross Welford)	Pax (Sara Pennypacker)	The Lost Thing (Shaun Tan)	Michael Rosen's Sad Book by Michael Rosen
Black Beauty (Anna Sewell)	Time travelling with a hamster (Ross Welford)	The Wanderer (Sharon Creech)	Northern Lights (Phillip Pullman)	The Unforgotten Coat (Frank Cottrell-Boyce)
Anne of Green Gables (Lucy Maud Montgomery)	The Clockwork Sparrow (Katherine Woodfine)	Black Beauty (Anna Sewell)	Dreams (poem) (Langston Hughes)	Love that Dog (Sharon Creech)
Journey to the Centre of the Earth (Jules Verne)	Below Zero (Dan Smith)	A Series of Unfortunate Events (Lemony Snicket)	The Storm Keeper's Island (Catherine Doyle)	Harriet the Spy (Louise Fitzhugh)
A Christmas Carol (Charles Dickens)	The Infinite lives of Maisie Day (Christopher Edge)	The Power of Five Series (Anthony Horowitz)	The Jamie Drake Equation (Christopher Edge)	Can You See Me? By Libby Scott and Rebecca Westcott

## Year 4

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (Lewis Carroll)	The Butterfly Lion (Michael Morpurgo)	The Witches (Roald Dahl)	The Tunnel (Anthony Browne)	The Mysteries of Harris Burdick (Chris Van Allsburg)
The Velveteen Rabbit (Margery Williams)	Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech	The Case of the Lost Boy (Dori Hillestad Butler)	Dream Variations (poem) (Langston Hughes)	The Heart and the Bottle (Oliver Jeffers)
The Lion the witch and the wardrobe (C.S. Lewis)	The Firework Maker's Daughter (Philip Pullman)	Nim's Island (Wendy Orr)	Street Child (Berlie Doherty)	One Wave at a Time (Holly Thompson)
The Little House on the Prairie (Laura Ingalls Wilder)	Dominic Grows Sweetcorn (Mandy Ross)	The Five Realms: The Legend of Podkin One-Ear (Keiran Larwood)	The Kingdom Under the Sea (Joan Aiken)	Refugees (Brian Bilston)
The Little Match Girl (Hans Christian Anderson)	The Promise (Nicola Davies)	The Bear and the Piano (David Litchfield)	The Great Paper Caper (Oliver Jeffers)	My Beautiful Birds by Suzanne Del Rizo
Five children and It (Edith Nesbit)	Demon Dentist (David Walliams)	Artemis Fowl (Eoin Colfer)	Running on the Roof of the World (Jess Butterworth)	Flour Babies (Anne Fine)
Charlotte's Web (E.B. White)	Fizzlebert Stump: The Boy Who Ran Away And Joined The Circus (AF Harrold)	The Wind in the Willows (Kenneth Grahame)	Crater Lake (Jennifer Killick)	The Youngest Marcher: The Story of Audrey Faye Hendricks, a Young Civil Rights Activist (Cynthia Levinson)

### Year 3

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
The Railway Children (Edith Nesbit)	The Midnight Fox (Betsy Byars)	Max and the Millions (Ross Montgomery)	The Iron Man (Ted Hughes)	Cloud Busting (Malorie Blackman)
Mary Poppins (P.L Travers)	The Legend of Captain Crow's Teeth (Eoin Culfer)	Toys go out (Emily Jenkins)	Love that Dog (Sharon Creech)	Amazing Grace (Mary Hoffman)
The Emperor's New Clothes (Hans Christian Anderson)	Fortunately the Milk (Neil Gaiman)	The World according to Humphrey (Betty G. Bimey)	Revolting Rhymes (poems) (Roald Dahl)	<b>Grace for President</b> (Kelly DiPucchio)
The Fishermen and his wife (Brothers Grimm)	Farm Boy (Michael Morpurgo)	Woof (Allan Ahlberg)	Red (Michael Hall)	<b>Let the Children March</b> (Monica Clark-Robinson)
Heidi (Johanna Spyri)	The Dam (David Almond)	<b>The Suitcase</b> (Chris Naylor-Ballesteros)	The Wild Robot (Peter Brown)	Bill's New Frock (Anne Fine)
How the camel got his hump (Rudyard Kipling)	The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch (David Armitage and Rhonda Armitage)	Stig Of The Dump (Clive King)	The Dark (Lemony Snicket)	Freddie And The Fairy (Julia Donaldson)
A bear called Paddington (Michael Bond)	Milton The Mighty (Emma Read)	The Tale of Despereaux (Kate DiCamillo)	Winnie The Pooh (AA Milne)	Egg Drop (Mini Grey)

## Year 2

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
The Magic Faraway Tree (Enid Blyton)	The Trouble with Trolls (Jan Brett)	The Fox and the Star (Coralie Bickford-Smith)	Nimesh the Adventurer (Ranjit Singh)	Lubna and Pebble (Wendy Meddour)
Where the wild things are (Maurice Sendak)	Voices in the Park (Anthony Brown)	Voices in the Park (Anthony Brown)	Dinosaurs and all that rubbish (Michael Foreman)	The Colour Monster (Anna Lienas)
The Frog Prince (Brothers Grimm)	One Candle (Eve Bunting)	The Wolf Story: What really happened to Little Red Riding Hood (Toby Forward)	Gorilla (Anthony Browne)	Tadpole's Promise (Jeanne Willis)
Aesop's Fables: for e.g. The Hare and the Tortoise The Boy Who Cries Wolf	When the Rains come (Tom Pow)	The Day the Crayons Quit (Drew Daywalt)	Grandad's Island (Benji Davies)	I want my hat back (Jon Klassen)
Traditional Stories: for e.g. Rumpelstiltskin Pinocchio/ The Pied Piper	The Summer my father was Ten (Pat Brisson)	I Doko, the Tale of the Basket (Ed Young)	The Red Tree (Shaun Tan)	Would you rather... (John Burningham)
Goodnight Moon (M.W Brown)	Who's afraid of the Big Bad Book? (Lauren Child)	Chester (Melanie Watt)	The Chickens Build a Wall (Jean-Francois Dumont)	The Book with no pictures (B.J. Novak)
<b>The Little Prince</b> (Antoine de Saint-Exupéry)		The Very Smart Pea and the Princess to Be (Mini Grey)	The Building Boy (Ross Montgomery)	Mirror (Jeanne Baker)

## Year 1

Archaic	Non-Linear	Complex Narrator	Complexity of Plot	Resistant text
The Three Billy Goats Gruff (Paul Galdone)	Black and White (David Macaulay)	Quill Soup (Alan Durant)	The Tiger who came to Tea (Judith Kerr)	The Giving Tree (Shel Silverstein)
The Tale of Peter Rabbit (Beatrix Potter)	Grandpa (John Burningham)	Pumpkin Soup (Helen Cooper)	Wanted: The Perfect Pet (Fiona Robertson)	The Jolly Postman or Other People's Letters (Allan Ahlberg)
The Ugly Duckling (Hans Christian Anderson)	The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales (Jon Scieszka)	Click Clack Moo: cows that type (Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin)	Slug needs a hug (Jeanne Willis)	Not now, Bernard (David McKee)
The More it Snows (poem) (A.A. Milne)	Three Brave Women (C.L.G. Martin)	The Enormous Crocodile (Roald Dahl)	I do not mind you winter wind (poem) (Jack Prelutsky)	Ning Nang Nong (poem) (Spike Milligan)
The Night Before Christmas (poem) (Clement Clarke Moore)	I will not ever eat a tomato (Lauren Child)	Fantastic Mr. Fox (Roald Dahl)	Red Kite, Blue Kite (Ji-Ji Jiang)	I am Sacagawea (Brad Meltzer)
Aesop's Fables: e.g. The Monkey as King, The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse	The Runaway Dinner (Allan Ahlberg)	The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig (Eugene Trivizas)	The Lotus Seed (Sherry Garland)	Wolves (Emily Gravett)
Traditional Stories: e.g. Sleeping Beauty, The Princess and the Pea, Jack and the Beanstalk etc	<b>Avocado Baby</b> (John Burningham)	The Teddy Bear (David McPhail)	Scissors (poem) (Alien Ahlberg)	<b>Super duper you</b> (Sophy Henn)