

# Best books for 9-11 year olds



We've put together a list of the 100 best books for children from the last 100 years.

The books below are ones suitable for children aged 9 to 11.

How many have you read?

- See our best books for other age groups
- Looking for NEW books? See the ones we love this month



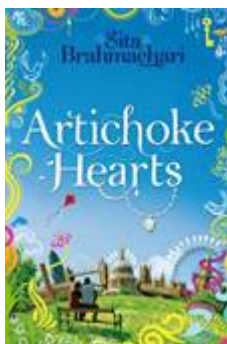
## Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret

**Author:** Judy Blume

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

All the girls in Margaret's new neighbourhood are interested in boys, wearing makeup, and getting their period - but Margaret hasn't...



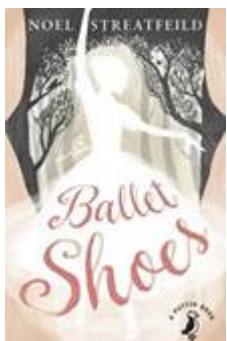
## Artichoke Hearts

**Author:** Sita Brahmachari

**Interest level:** 11+

**Reading age:** 11+

This empathetic account of the process of bereavement, a month's diary, reassures readers that we grow from our experiences,...



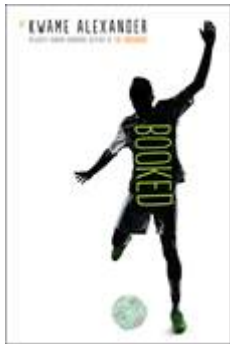
## Ballet Shoes

**Author:** Noel Streatfeild

**Interest level:** 8+

**Reading age:** 9+

First published in the 1930s, this classic story of three very different girls who work hard to master their talents has captivate...



## **Booked**

**Author:** Kwame Alexander

**Interest level:** 12-16

**Reading age:** 12+

From fast-paced football matches to school and family drama, this novel written in verse has something for everyone and will grip ...



## **Carrie's War**

**Author:** Nina Bawden

**Interest level:** 9+

**Reading age:** 10+

Inspired by Nina Bawden's own experiences of living as an evacuee in a Welsh mining valley as a child, *Carrie's War* is n...



## **Coming to England**

**Author:** Floella Benjamin **Illustrator:** Michael Frith

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

This moving and insightful memoir from much-loved writer and presenter Floella Benjamin documents her childhood, from her birth in...



## **Flour Babies**

**Author:** Anne Fine

**Interest level:** 9-12

**Reading age:** 9+

A classic, touching and very funny coming-of-age story about an unusual science project that teaches the boys in 4C so much more t...



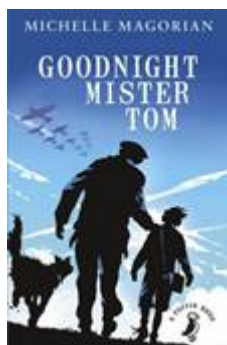
## **Freedom (1783)**

**Author:** Catherine Johnson

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

This is a brilliant adventure story that manages to give young readers a really important insight into slavery without being so up...



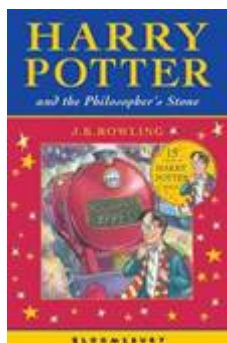
## **Goodnight Mister Tom**

**Author:** Michelle Magorian

**Interest level:** 9+

**Reading age:** 10+

Willie Beech, a lonely and deprived child, is evacuated to a tiny English village just before the Second World War, and find...



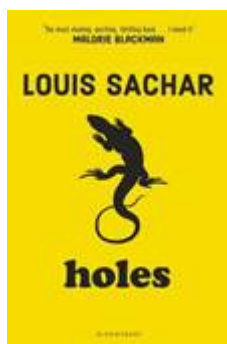
## **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone**

**Author:** J K Rowling

**Interest level:** 9-14

**Reading age:** 9+

After the misery of life with his ghastly aunt and uncle, Harry Potter is delighted to have the chance to embark on an exciting ne...



## **Holes**

**Author:** Louis Sachar

**Interest level:** 10+

**Reading age:** 10+

Stanley Yelnats' family has a history of bad luck, so he is not entirely surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to the ...



## **Kensuke's Kingdom**

**Author:** Michael Morpurgo **Illustrator:** Michael Foreman

**Interest level:** 10+

**Reading age:** 10+

This is a beautifully written tale of an exceptional friendship which survives beyond the boundaries of culture and language.



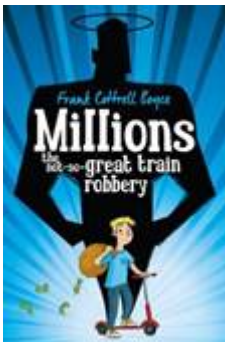
## **Melissa (formerly published as George)**

**Author:** Alex Gino

**Interest level:** 10+

**Reading age:** 10+

To everyone around her, George is a boy - but George longs to be like Charlotte, the wise and gentle hero of Charlotte's Web. This...



## **Millions**

**Author:** Frank Cottrell Boyce **Illustrator:** Steven Lenton

**Interest level:** 9+

**Reading age:** 9+

One night, a bag containing £229,370 falls from the sky and flattens the hermitage. Damian is convinced it is a gift from Go...



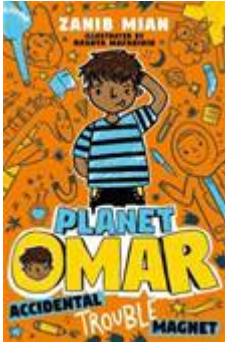
## **Once**

**Author:** Morris Gleitzman

**Interest level:** 10+

**Reading age:** 9+

Morris Gleitzman brings heart and humour to the difficult subject of the Holocaust in this ground-breaking children's book.



### **Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet**

**Author:** Zanib Mian **Illustrator:** Nasaya Mafaridik

**Interest level:** 8-11

**Reading age:** 8+

*Planet Omar* has all of the everyday life family drama and silly humour of Tom Gates and Sam Wu, and it's wonderful to read a ...



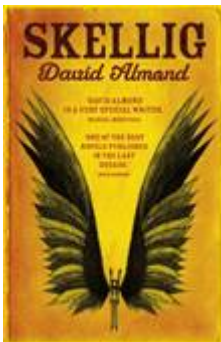
### **Planetarium**

**Author:** Raman Prinja **Illustrator:** Chris Wormell

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

Written by an astrophysicist and illustrated by the phenomenally talented Chris Wormell, *Planetarium* explores the solar ...



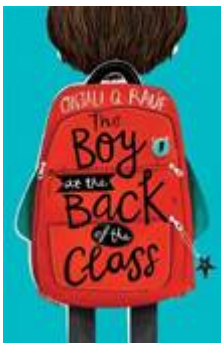
### **Skellig**

**Author:** David Almond

**Interest level:** 10+

**Reading age:** 11+

Exploring a ramshackle garage with his new-found friend Mina, Michael discovers a strange, magical creature who needs his help.&nb...



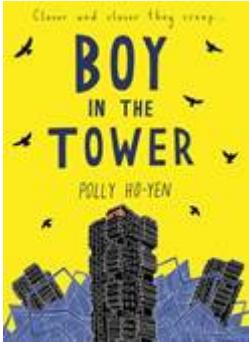
### **The Boy at the Back of the Class**

**Author:** Onjali Q Rauf

**Interest level:** 7-11

**Reading age:** 10+

This is the story about how four classmates have a massive impact on the life of Ahmet, a boy that comes to their school as a refu...



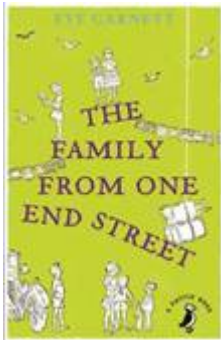
## **The Boy in the Tower**

**Author:** Polly Ho-Yen

**Interest level:** 9-10

**Reading age:** 9+

Taking place in a believable urban, multicultural environment that will be familiar to many young readers, Polly Ho-Yen's debut is...



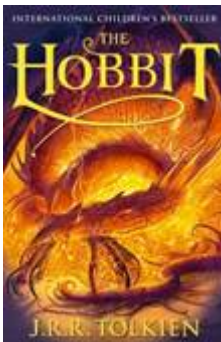
## **The Family From One End Street**

**Author:** Eve Garnett

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

Eve Garnett's brilliant depiction of a large, close-knit family and their hilarious escapades is every bit as funny and charming t...



## **The Hobbit**

**Author:** JRR Tolkien

**Interest level:** 8+

**Reading age:** 10+

This well-loved fantasy story has delighted readers ever since its first publication in 1937.



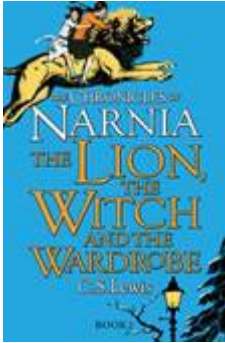
## **The Illustrated Mum**

**Author:** Jacqueline Wilson **Illustrator:** Nick Sharratt

**Interest level:** 10-14

**Reading age:** 10+

This is a moving yet unsentimental account of two children coming to terms with their mother's depression, mental instability and ...



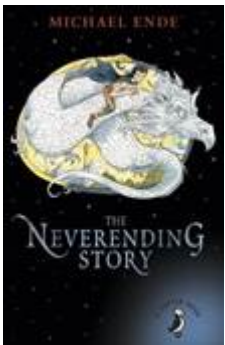
## **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe**

**Author:** C S Lewis

**Interest level:** 9+

**Reading age:** 9+

When Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy - step through a wardrobe door in the strange country house where they are staying, they find t...



## **The Neverending Story**

**Author:** Michael Ende **Translator:** Ralph Manheim

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

When Bastian hides in an antique bookshop to escape bullies, he stumbles across a mysterious leatherbound book which carries him i...



## **The Silver Sword**

**Author:** Ian Serraillier

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 9+

In the chaos of World War II, Ruth, Edek and Bronia are separated from their parents, and left alone to fend for themselves, hidin...



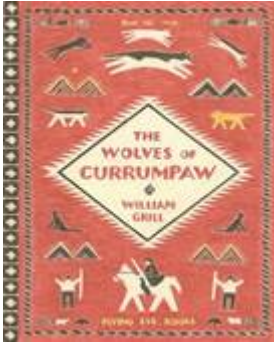
## **The Wheel of Surya**

**Author:** Jamila Gavin

**Interest level:** 10-14

**Reading age:** 9+

A story of adventure, trauma and courage set in India and England against a backdrop of imperialism, a world war and the violent u...



## **The Wolves of Currumpaw**

**Author:** William Grill

**Interest level:** 8+

**Reading age:** 10+

In New Mexico in the late 1800s, the wolves that had once roamed the landscape of the Old West were becoming scarce because of the...



## **Varjak Paw**

**Author:** SF Said

**Interest level:** 9-11

**Reading age:** 8+

Pedigree cat Varjak Paw lives in a luxurious mansion with his family, but when trouble comes to their door, he's forced to escape ...