

Silverdale Library

Recommended

Books for Y8

Shelves and shelves of books can be overwhelming. Where to start?!

This list is designed to showcase a few recommended books and authors. Please bear in mind that it represents a moment in time, and just a small selection of what we have in the library!

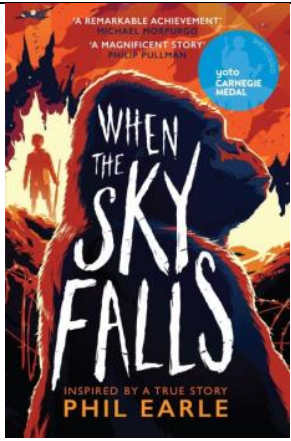
You can see all of the library's books on the Reading Cloud at <https://www.readingcloud.net/?site=U004064>

There, students can log on to their own account with their full Silverdale email address and the password cloud123

There are further book suggestions and inspiration in the [Reading Lists](#) and [Links](#) section.

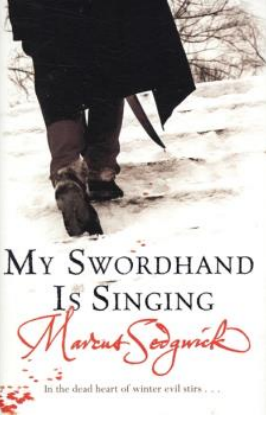
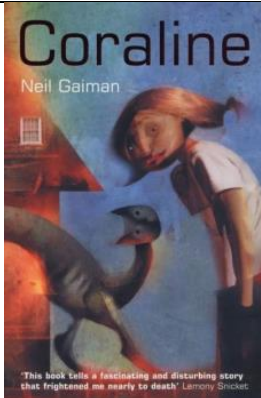
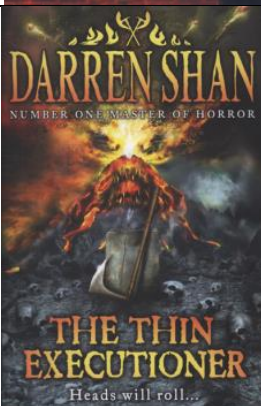
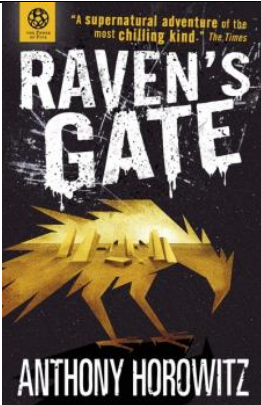
If you're stuck for what to read, we hope that these suggestions will help, and Mrs Senior, our librarian, is always happy to help find just the right book for you!


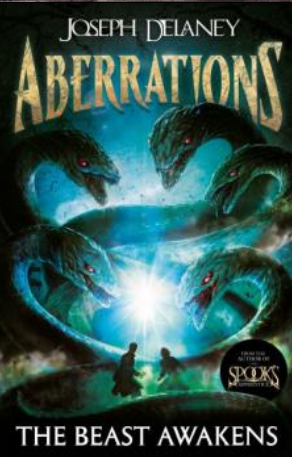
Action & Adventure

	<p>The Recruit by Robert Muchamore</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.5</p>	<p>CHERUB agents are aged between ten and seventeen. They live in the real world, slipping under adult radar and getting information that sends criminals and terrorists to jail. For official purposes, these children do not exist.</p> <p>The first title in the number one bestselling CHERUB series.</p>
	<p>Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.6</p>	<p>Mortal Engines is a gripping adventure story set in a future world where moving cities trawl the globe. As London pursues a small town, young apprentice Tom is flung out into the wastelands, where a terrifying cyborg begins to hunt him down. The first book in the award-winning <i>Mortal Engines</i> quartet.</p>
	<p>When the Sky Falls by Phil Earle</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.4</p>	<p>1941. War is raging. And one angry boy has been sent to the city, where bombers rule the skies. There, Joseph will live with Mrs F, a gruff woman with no fondness for children. Her only loves are the rundown zoo she owns and its mighty silverback gorilla, Adonis. As the weeks pass, bonds deepen and secrets are revealed, but if the bombers set Adonis rampaging free, will either of them be able to end the life of the one thing they truly love? Inspired by a true story.</p>
	<p>Silverfin: the graphic novel by Charlie Higson</p> <p>AR Book Level 2.1</p>	<p>It's James Bond's first day at school, and already he's met his first enemy. This is the start of an adventure that will take him from the school playing fields to the remote shores of Loch Silverfin and a terrifying discovery that threatens to unleash a new breed of warfare.</p>

	<p>Bodyguard: Hostage By Chris Bradford</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.3</p>	<p>In a dangerous world, everyone needs protection.</p> <p><i>Bodyguard: Hostage</i> is the new thriller from Chris Bradford, bestselling author of <i>Young Samurai</i>. <i>Bodyguard</i> is a bulletproof action-adventure series that fans of <i>Cherub</i> and <i>Alex Rider</i> will love. This is Lee Child for younger readers - a teenage Jason Bourne for the next generation.</p>
	<p>Stormbreaker: the graphic novel by Anthony Horowitz</p> <p>AR Book Level 2.4</p>	<p>A bold and stylish reissue of the ground-breaking and hugely popular graphic adaptation of Alex Rider's very first mission.</p> <p>Forcibly recruited into MI6 after the mysterious death of his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex is sent to infiltrate the organization of a sinister billionaire. Within days he's gone from schoolboy to superspy – and it looks like his first assignment may be his last...</p>
	<p>The Medusa Project: The Set-Up by Sophie McKenzie</p> <p>AR Book Level: 4.1</p>	<p>Fourteen years ago, scientist William Fox risked it all to achieve the impossible: he successfully implanted four babies with the Medusa gene, designed to give the recipient psychic abilities.</p> <p>But Fox's experiment had some devastating consequences, so the babies were hidden away for years and the Medusa gene was heard of no more. Now the children are teenagers – and about to have their minds blown as their psychic powers kick in.</p>
	<p>Dead Time By Anne Cassidy</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.5</p>	<p>Rose and Joshua's world turns upside down when their mother and father go out for dinner one evening and never return. With police inquiries going nowhere, Rose is dispatched to live with her chilly, unfriendly grandmother and Joshua is sent to live with his uncle. Then Joshua comes to London to study and Rose is witness to not one, but two murders.... A stylish thriller perfect for aspiring readers of crime</p>

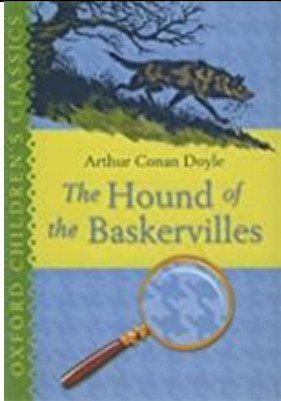
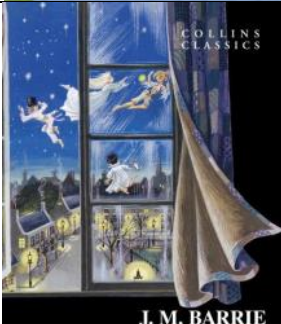
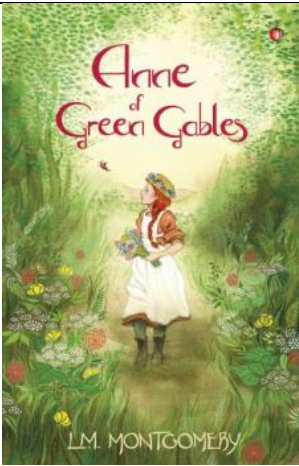

Spooky

	<p>My Swordhand is Singing by Marcus Sedgwick</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.9</p>	<p>Chilling vampire tale set in 17th Century Europe, inspired by the original Transylvanian Vampire folk takes.</p>
	<p>Coraline by Neil Gaiman</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.1</p>	<p>Stunning novel about a warped alternative universe hidden behind a door. Very weird and altogether creepy!</p>
	<p>The Thin Executioner By Darren Shan</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.7</p>	<p>A brilliant story of swords, sand and sorcery from the endless imagination of Darren Shan. New characters – same excitement, action and terror...</p> <p>In a harsh, unforgiving world of slavery and glorified executions, one boy's humiliation leads him to embark on a perilous quest to the faraway lair of a mysterious god. It is a dark, brutal, nightmarish journey which few have ever survived. But to Jebel Rum, the risk is worth it...</p>
	<p>Raven's Gate by Anthony Horowitz</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.4</p>	<p>A sinister story of the supernatural. Matt has always known he has unusual powers. Raised in foster care, he is sent to Yorkshire on a rehabilitation programme, only to find himself in the midst of sinister goings-on. Matt investigates and uncovers a terrible secret – eight guardians are protecting the world from the Old Ones, beings banished long ago by five children. But devil worshippers want to let the Old Ones back in...</p>

	<p>Red Velvet by Carol Hedges</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.6</p>	<p>Elly has always had a strange feeling about the old house - then she hears about the macabre discovery in one of the bedrooms. The skeleton of a girl, dressed in red velvet, was found shut in an old chest. When strange things start happening, Elly decides to solve the ancient mystery.</p>
	<p>Lockwood and Co by Jonathan Stroud</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.1</p>	<p>In the world of Lockwood & Co., only children can see the ghostly spectres that haunt the modern world and so it's down to them to hunt them out. Young hero Lockwood combines an impulsive nature with a genius brain, which make him rather a clever ghost sleuth - if somewhat unlucky in business. Choosing to operate without an adult supervisor, he works instead with ever-hungry assistant George, who is never far from a sugary doughnut, and new employee Lucy. A spooky and enjoyable adventure.</p>
	<p>Darkside By Tom Becker</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.4</p>	<p>Incredibly dangerous and unimaginably exciting. Darkside is ruled by Jack the Ripper's children – a place where nightmares walk the streets. You think you're in trouble now, but your problems have just begun...Fantasy adventure with a dash of gothic horror.</p>
	<p>The Beast Awakens by Joseph Delaney</p> <p>AR Book Level 6</p>	<p>Crafty can't remember a time before the Shole - the terrifying mist that has engulfed most of Britain, leaving those trapped in it to either die or be transformed into terrifying monsters: the aberrations. Joseph Delaney is a master of crafting elementally powerful worlds from fascinating pockets of English folklore.</p>

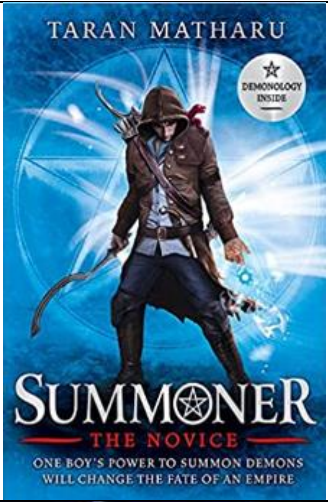
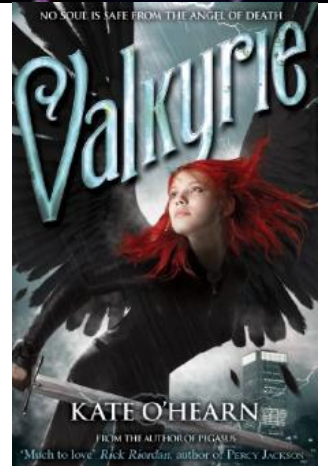
Classics

	<p>A Wizard of Earthsea by Ursula Le Guin</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.7</p>	<p>The first book of Earthsea by Ursula Le Guin is a tale of wizards, dragons and terrifying shadows and a towering pinnacle of fantasy writing.</p>
	<p>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.7</p>	<p>One of America's most important classics, Maya Angelou beautifully evokes her childhood with her grandmother in the American south of the 1930s.</p>
	<p>Holes by Louis Sachar</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.6</p>	<p>When Stanley Yelnats is falsely accused of stealing a pair of trainers, he is sent off to Camp Green Lake which is not a camp, not green and not near a lake but a boys' detention centre in the middle of the desert. An original and funny page-turner with a great plot.</p>
	<p>Northern Lights by Philip Pullman</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.2</p>	<p>Lyra Belacqua and her animal daemon live half-wild and carefree among scholars of Jordan College, Oxford.</p> <p>The destiny that awaits her will take her to the frozen lands of the Arctic, where witch-clans reign and ice-bears fight.</p> <p>Her extraordinary journey will have immeasurable consequences far beyond her own world...</p>

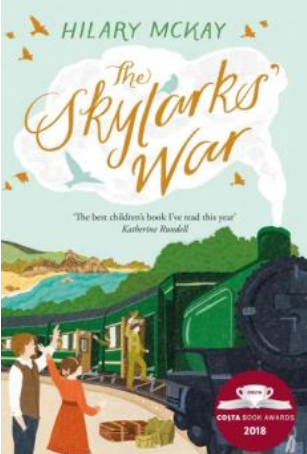
	<p>The Hound of the Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle</p> <p>AR Book Level 8.3</p>	<p>Sherlock Holmes stars in Doyle's most famous detective story of the infamous Sherlock Holmes and Dr Watson as they investigate the mysterious death of Sir Charles Baskerville, whose dead body is found on the misty and desolate Devon moors.</p>
	<p>Peter Pan by J. M. Barrie</p> <p>AR Book Level 7.7</p>	<p>Poignant and unforgettable, J. M. Barrie's classic tale is one of the greatest works of children's literature of the last century. Its imaginative scope, tender humour and vivid characters will enchant adults and children alike.</p>
	<p>Anne of Green Gables by L. M. Montgomery</p> <p>AR Book Level 7.3</p>	<p>This treasured coming-of-age story chronicles the journey of a little red-headed orphan, Anne Shirley, as she struggles to settle into her new life on Prince Edward Island, Canada. Initially published in 1908, Lucy Maud Montgomery brings the quick-witted and vividly imaginative Anne to life incorporating themes of friendship, nature, morality and ambition.</p>
	<p>Finn Family Moomintroll by Tove Jansson</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.2</p>	<p>In case you didn't know, the Moomins are kind, loyal and welcoming creatures with smooth round snouts, who live in a tall blue house shaped like an old stove in a valley in the forests of Finland. They love sunshine and sleep right through the winter, when the snow turns their house into a great snowball. Full of gentle surrealism and wisdom.</p>

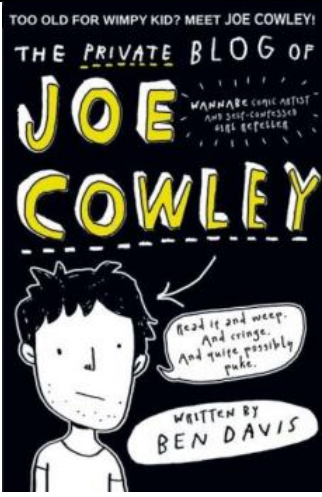
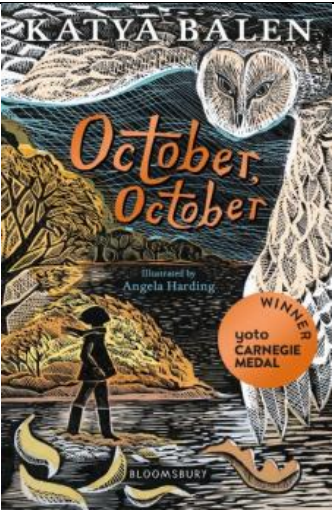
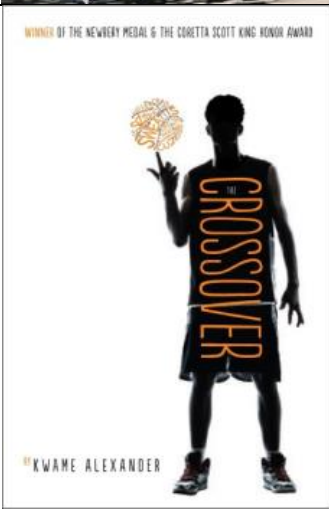

Fantasy

	<p>A Pinch of Magic by Michelle Harrison</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.9</p>	<p>Desperate for an adventure, Betty Widdershins plans a secret outing to neighbouring Marshfoot on her 13th birthday, but is furious when Granny stops her. Granny then breaks the devastating news that all three Widdershins sisters are trapped by an ancient curse and if they ever leave Crowstone, they will die by the following sunrise. A tale of witches, magic and family.</p>
	<p>Magnus Chase and the Sword of Summer by Rick Riordan</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.8</p>	<p>Magnus Chase has always been a troubled kid, surviving by his wits, keeping one step ahead of the law. When he's tracked down by an uncle he's never met - a man his mother claimed was dangerous, he learns an impossible secret: Magnus is the son of a Norse god. The Viking myths are true, and the gods of Asgard are preparing for war...</p>
	<p>The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.3</p>	<p>Set in a dark vision of the near future, the Tributes -twelve boys and twelve girls - are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed. Katniss and fellow District 12 Tribute, Peeta, become pawns in a complex political game in this scarily believable, highly addictive dystopian vision.</p>
	<p>The Wee Free Men by Terry Pratchett</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.7</p>	<p>Now that Granny Aching has gone, there's only young Tiffany Aching left to guard the boundaries. Luckily she has some very unusual help: the local Nac Mac Feegle – aka the Wee Free Men – a clan of fierce, sheep-stealing, sword-wielding, six-inch-high blue men. Together they must face headless horsemen, ferocious grimhounds, terrifying dreams, and ultimately the sinister Queen of the Elves herself . . .</p>

	<p>Eragon by Christopher Paolini</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.6</p>	<p>When poor farm boy Eragon finds a polished stone in the forest, he thinks it's a lucky discovery. Perhaps, he will be able to buy his family food for the winter. But, when a baby dragon hatches out of the stone, Eragon realises he's stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Fans of the Lord of the Rings and Northern Lights will love the magic, power and the storytelling.</p>
	<p>Summoner: The Novice By Taran Matharu</p> <p>AR Book Level 6.5</p>	<p>The Summoner Trilogy is the story of Fletcher, an orphan who lives in the small village of Pelt, not far from the elfen border and the farthest outpost in an on-going war against the orcs. Despite being a skilled hunter and apprentice blacksmith, Fletcher has little status in the village but a chance encounter leads to Fletcher discovering that he has the rare ability to summon demons from another world...</p>
	<p>The Starlight Watchmaker by Lauren James</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.8</p>	<p>The clock is ticking and, with each minute that passes, the whole academy sinks deeper into danger... Can an unlikely friendship between android and student save the day? A wildly imaginative sci-fi adventure from YA star Lauren James.</p>
	<p>Valkyrie by Kate O'Hearn</p> <p>AR Book Level: 4.3</p>	<p>Freya is dreading turning fourteen, which marks the official end of her childhood and when she takes up full duties of a Valkyrie - a collector of souls from humanity's battlefields. She tries to understand what it is to be human: to make friends with people her own age, without the fear of causing their death with one touch. Little does she know that her dreams will soon be realised: on her first battlefield mission.</p>

Real Life

	<p>Jemima Small versus the World by Tamsin Winter</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.8</p>	<p>Jemima Small is funny and super smart. She knows a lot of things. Like the fact that she's made of 206 bones, over 600 muscles and trillions of cells. What she doesn't know is how that can be true and yet she can still feel like nothing... Or how being made to join the school's "special" healthy lifestyle group - A.K.A Fat Club - could feel any less special. Funny and touching, you'll be rooting for Jemima!</p>
	<p>Boy, Everywhere by A. M. Dassu</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.8</p>	<p>Chronicles the harrowing journey taken by Sami and his family from privilege to poverty, across countries and continents, from a comfortable life in Damascus to a prison in Manchester. A story of survival, of family, of bravery... In a world where we are told to see refugees as the 'other', this story will remind readers that 'they' are also 'us'.</p>
	<p>Do You Know Me? by Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.7</p>	<p>Tally used to feel like she had to hide her autism, but now she's determined to show people who she really is. Now Tally has a new worry: her school trip. And that means new places, new people and new challenges.</p>
	<p>The Skylarks War by Hilary McKay</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.1</p>	<p>Both a thrilling family adventure and a truthful, heart-breaking examination of the impact of war. from award-winning author Hilary McKay.</p>

	<p>The Private Blog of Joe Cowley by Ben Davis</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.1</p>	<p>Move over, Wimpy Kid: 14-year-old Joe Cowley didn't think his luck could get any worse. But then he finds out he has to share a bedroom with his new step-brother - wedgie-giving school bully Gav James - and Joe realizes all his worst nightmares are about to come true! Brilliantly funny and packed with doodles, this book will make you cry with laughter.</p>
	<p>October, October by Katya Balen</p> <p>AR Book Level 5.7</p>	<p>October and her Dad live in the woods and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes. Heart-stoppingly beautiful, this book is a feast for the senses.</p>
	<p>The Crossover by Kwame Alexander</p> <p>AR Book Level 4.3</p>	<p>They're kings of the basketball court, star players for their school team. Both on and off the court, there is conflict and hardship which will test Josh's bond with his brother. In this heartfelt novel in verse, the boys find that life doesn't come with a play-book and it's not all about winning.</p>
	<p>The Disconnect by Keren David</p> <p>AR Book Level 4</p>	<p>Could you disconnect from your phone for six weeks? An eccentric entrepreneur has challenged Esther's year group to do just that, and the winners will walk away with £1,000. For Esther, whose dad, sister and baby nephew live thousands of miles away in New York, the prize might be her only chance to afford flights for a visit... But can she really stay disconnected for long enough to win?</p>

