

Online Reading Resources

All these webpages have been checked to ensure that they do what they say they do underneath the link. Reading for pleasure is so important and we want to ensure that children have access to a variety of material without breaking the bank. I hope they help.

Free eBooks (book publications made available in digital form that children can read by themselves or with an adult). Please read the caveat below the link.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/>

Classic children's stories such as Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy and Owl Babies. Children can watch the stories or join in with the books as they are read aloud. Remember, there is always the option to turn your speaker off so that children can read the book by themselves. Older devices may not be able to support these storybooks.

<https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/teacherlogin.aspx>

Enter the username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk and password: **Parents20!** to access a range of free eBooks. Click on the 'Collins Big Cat' tab to view a selection of fiction and non-fiction eBooks for children in Key Stages 1 and 2. Turn the pages to follow the book as it is read aloud. Remember to pause and mute the eBook if you would like your child to read it themselves. Click on the yellow icon on the right to complete a task linked to the text.

<https://monkeypen.com/pages/free-childrens-books>

Free downloadable children's books in PDF format.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page>

Developed for children aged 3–11 years old. All these eBooks are tablet-friendly although they are not optimised for mobile phones and are best viewed on a computer, laptop, or tablet. Registration is required to start reading. As a school we have moved away from the inflexible and dated approach of the Biff and Chip stories, but there are some good non-fiction books and other stories on here.

<https://readingeggs.co.uk/free-resources/>

Fiction and non-fiction 'Comprehension Student Workbooks' for children in Year 2 to Year 6. Each workbook contains comprehension tasks relating to short extracts. Reading short extracts is not how we approach comprehension at John Donne but there might be some samples which link to topics being covered in class or on the learning platform.

<https://www.risingstars-uk.com/>

You can get samples of stories without registering. If you register, then you can get a 90 day free trial.

<https://sooperbooks.com/>

A collection of illustrated short stories, fairy-tales, rhymes and poems that are free to view online.

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>

This website streams videos featuring actors reading children's books alongside illustrations. There are activity guides to accompany each story. Please bear in mind that this is an American website and centres around 'grades' rather than UK year groups.

<https://www.stornory.com/archives/classic-authors/>

Stories and poems by classic authors such as Lewis Carroll, Oscar Wilde and Charles Dickens. (Absolutely lovely!)

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/home-learning-hub>

You can access the 'Home Learning Hub' part of the Twinkl site without having to register or log-in.

Age 3-5: 'Twinkl Originals Storytime' and 'Share a Story' – eBooks read aloud by teachers. Remember to pause and mute the video if you would like your child to read independently.

Age 5-7: 'Twinkl Originals Storytime' – eBooks read aloud by teachers. '60-Second Reads' – short reading comprehension tasks.

Age 7-9 and age 9-11: 'Guided Reading' – daily reading sessions. No printer needed as children have the option to type onto the sheet or write your answers on a piece of paper. '60-Second Reads' – short reading comprehension tasks.

Free audiobooks (recordings of books being read aloud that children can listen to)

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Instantly stream a collection of stories, including titles across eight different languages. All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/audio-stories/zh3t2sg>

Online audio stories for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 primary school pupils. Stories cover a broad range of primary topics. They are grouped by theme and Key Stage and are typically about 5 minutes long. Ideal for fostering speaking and listening skills and stimulating children's imaginations. New stories added week by week.

<https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/>

Elevenses - daily audio instalments of David Walliams reading one of his books aloud at 11.00am Monday to Friday.

<https://www.harpercollinschildrensbooks.co.uk/listen-for-free/>

Listen to free **samples** of audio books on this site. A small selection of stories for 2 to 9+ year olds.

<https://www.puffinschools.co.uk/resource-categories/videos-storytime/>

A selection of videos featuring some familiar faces reading a collection of popular children's books.

Additional reading resources

<https://authorfy.com/masterclasses/>

Register to find author videos, book extracts and cross-curricular schemes of work based on different children's books. Lots of new titles along with some old favourites. Suitable for children in Key Stages 1 and 2.

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/free-downloadable-issue/>

Enter your email address to receive a free digital copy of First News (an award-winning weekly newspaper for children). UKS2 children access this in school too so are used to the format.

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>

The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain Children in Lockdown. A beautiful book of short stories put together by over 100 British authors and illustrators for children to enjoy during lockdown.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLDe74j1F52zQaZ2YA5xcdyOIR2yH73Rb9>

Storytime with Nick; films of well-loved stories read by Nick Cannon, a trained actor, teacher and storyteller. A new story is added to the YouTube channel at 2pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week. Suitable for Nursery, Reception and KS1 children.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>

Inspiring films, writing tips and creative resources for aspiring authors and illustrators of all ages. Includes workshops run by the writers such as Matt Haig and Cressida Cowell.