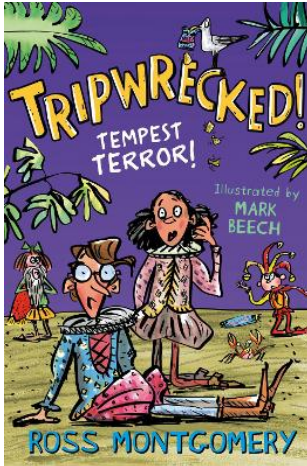


**In this list you'll find a selection of titles specifically written to help dyslexic readers. The age range above (9-12 years) represents the interest age, whilst the reading age for each title is detailed within each title page and ranges from age 6-8.**

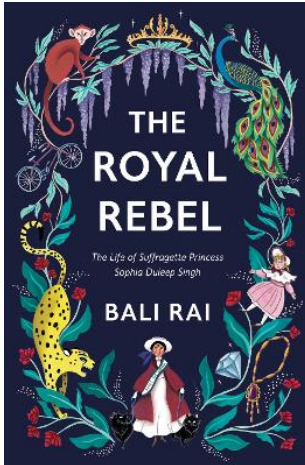
Together with Barrington Stoke, the leader in the field of dyslexia-friendly books and the leading charity Dyslexia Action our aim here at LoveReading4Schools is to help children crack the reading code.



## Tripwrecked! Tempest Terror

**Author:** Ross Montgomery **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/09/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** What a super introduction to Shakespeare and his play The Tempest. The story tells of a group of school children who are on a ferry to perform the play in a festival in Italy. If you know the Tempest, you can probably guess that their ferry capsizes, and the group are shipwrecked. The drama then unfolds! Half of the actors wash up on the beach, the other half and their teacher, Mr Fortune (or not so fortunate) are missing. The characters identities are set out in the first chapter, where the reader is introduced to the confident bossy leader, the shy, but intelligent boy, the thinker, and the clown. What is clever, is that if you know the play, the characters resemble those in Shakespeare's play, but if you don't, it in no way detracts from the enjoyment of the story. The story is lively and fast paced, but still manages to include some lovely description and colour, such as 'the unspooling music like golden ribbon' heard by the children. It is also quite humorous with some lively banter between the group. For those readers who like things explained, and everything rounded up, the final chapter brings all the plots and characters together in true Shakespearean fashion. All is revealed, the poor unfortunate Caliban, why there is a desert island just off the coast of Dover, and why the group were split up! The book is of a good length for all levels of reader and printed on dyslexic friendly paper. I look forward to Hurly-Burly (Macbeth in disguise!).



## The Royal Rebel

**Author:** Bali Rai **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/07/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

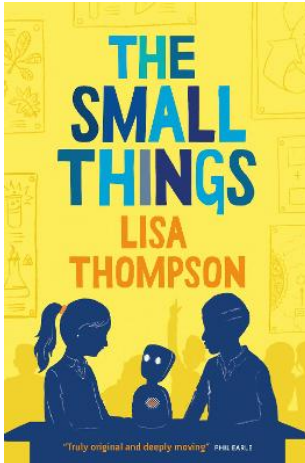
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Animal lover, Suffragette, favourite of Queen Victoria, lifelong campaigner – Princess Sophia Duleep Singh was a truly remarkable person and Bali Rai brings her wonderfully to life in this short, but action-packed biography. He writes it in Sophia's voice as first-person narrative and readers will absolutely feel they are there in the different moments described and will fully understand Sophia's sense of being caught halfway between two worlds – the British aristocracy and her Indian homeland. Everyone should know her story and I'd press this into the hands of all young people to inspire them with the sense that you can make a difference to the world, and to let them see through the eyes of this extraordinary woman. Published by Dyslexia specialists Barrington Stoke, this is super-readable to all.



## Welcome to Trashland

**Author:** Steve Cole **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/07/2021

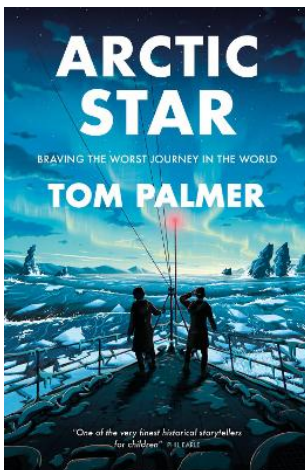
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Steve Cole's gripping treasure hunt story is even more compelling because it is set in a real place, somewhere most of us have never heard of. Theo lives in the world's biggest e-waste dump, Agbogboshie in Ghana. The same age as readers, he makes a living sorting through the junk that people like us throw out – mobile phones, old DVD players, Xbox machines – and salvaging scraps of metal that he sells for cash, earning just enough to pay for food but nothing like what he needs to escape. So when Emanuel turns up asking Theo for help to find his big brother's treasure, Theo is in; this could be his chance to escape Trashland. Their search is even more dangerous than Theo expects. Other people are after the hidden treasure too and Emanuel is anything but trustworthy. The story is tense and exciting, and readers will feel they are there with the boys, digging through the broken electronics, choking on the dump's noxious fumes. Things work out well for Theo in the end – it would be too agonising for the readership if they didn't – but readers will be very aware that there are many real life Theos and Emanuels still digging through the rubbish in Trashland. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 8+



## The Small Things

**Author:** Lisa Thompson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 03/06/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Anna has friends at school, a kind teacher, she's not being bullied, yet still she feels anxious, subdued, and terribly conscious that her friends' lives are much busier than hers, a round of after school lessons, activities and clubs. The arrival in her class of new girl Ellie changes everything however. Ellie is ill and can't come to school, instead she communicates via a special robot, quickly named Ellie-bot by the class. As the two girls become friends, Anna finds herself inventing the kind of home life her friends have, scared that her normal life is too small-scale to impress Ellie. The truth emerges, of course, but Ellie is wise enough to understand that it's the small things in life that are the best. Quiet and gentle as it is, nonetheless this story packs a real punch and is delivered with the warmth, compassion and understanding that mark out Thompson's writing. Published by dyslexia specialist Barrington Stoke, it is accessible to all readers.



## Arctic Star

**Author:** Tom Palmer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/05/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

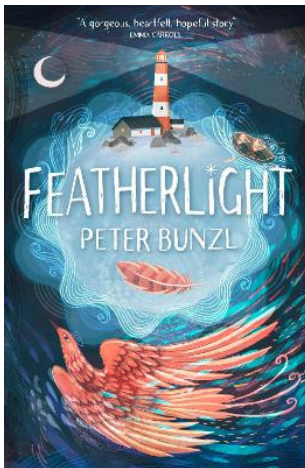
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8 | May 2021 Book of the Month** It wasn't until 2013 that the men who served on the Arctic Convoys in the Second World War were properly honoured for their bravery. But anyone reading Tom Palmer's typically vivid and powerful short novel will understand exactly what they went through, and what kept them going. Arctic Star features three young friends, Royal Navy recruits, and follows them on the perilous journeys they make escorting merchant vessels across the Arctic as they deliver supplies to the Russians. The sea is wild and treacherous, icy cold, and of course, they are hunted through the waters by German battleships, planes and submarines. Palmer packs not just a huge story, but a huge amount of information and atmosphere into this short book, and in Frank, Joseph and Stephen, he creates three young men readers won't forget in a hurry. The climax of the story is the deadly battle between HMS Belfast and the Scharnhorst, and it will leave readers exhausted, but full of compassion and sympathy for all the men caught up in this terrifying field of war. Historical fiction doesn't get much better than this.



## Keeper

**Author:** Alan Gibbons **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/05/2021

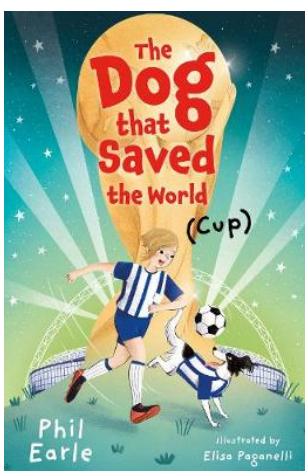
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Shane Logan hits Peter's school like a hurricane. He's big, loud and doesn't like being told what to do. He plays football like he does everything: with lots of energy and very little control. Then Peter suggests that Shane goes in goal, and he turns out to be the best goalie they've ever had. Now the problem is Shane's aggressive stepdad; can Shane control his temper and keep Mick onside too? As with all Alan Gibbons's stories, this feels completely authentic, as it celebrates the boys, their approach to life and their love of football. In between the chapters are facts about famous goal keepers and the goals they saved, or didn't, and these real life stories add to the sense of football as an alternative family. Published by Barrington Stoke, this is dyslexia-friendly and accessible to the most reluctant reader.



## Featherlight

**Author:** Peter Bunzl **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/04/2021  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** From bestselling author Peter Bunzl comes Featherlight – an irresistible tale of family, magic and bravery. An unlikely visitor brings light to the life of the lighthouse keeper's daughter, in this stunning new adventure. Inspired by the story of real heroines like Grace Darling in the Farne Islands and Ida Lewis of Rhode Island, both of whom risked their lives in daring sea rescues in the nineteenth century, Featherlight boasts a strong female protagonist, a touching story of family, and a fantastic mix of myth and history from the award-winning author of the Cogheart series.



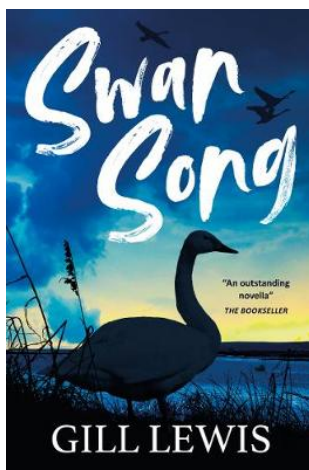
## The Dog that Saved the World (Cup)

**Author:** Phil Earle **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/03/2021  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Two true stories inspire this warm, positive, uplifting story: the real-life adventure of Pickles, the dog who found the World Cup, and the amazing achievements of Fara Williams, the women's football superstar who was winning on the pitch even while she was homeless. Like Fara, Elsie is football mad, as is her dog Pickles, who narrates for us. In the story, the world cup trophy is stolen, which means Elsie will miss her chance to play in a half-time match at Wembley. That opportunity has been sustaining her through difficult times as she and her dad (and Pickles), also like Fara Williams, have lost their home and are living in a noisy, dingy hostel. Fortunately, Pickles is as good a detective as his famous namesake... Publisher Barrington



Stoke specialise in books for dyslexic or reluctant readers, and there's lots of page-turning action packed into a short extent. The book is big on emotions too though, making clear just how devastating it is to lose your home, while showing how love, family and hope can get you through just about anything. It also reminds us that football – playing, watching, being a fan – is life-enhancing. A winner! Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers aged 13+



## Swan Song

**Author:** Gill Lewis **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 04/02/2021  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** Gill Lewis is contemporary children's literature's nature writer par excellence, telling moving stories of human encounters with wild animals that powerfully connect readers with the natural world. *Swan Song* tells the story of Dylan, expelled from his school and struggling with depression until he moves with his mother to her family home in a tiny Welsh village. In the peace and quiet of days on his grandfather's boat, Dylan begins to find himself again, but it is the discovery of an injured Whooper swan that is life-saving, and shown to be literally so. Written for dyslexia specialist Barrington Stoke, this short novel will be accessible to all readers and its message of the healing power of nature and community more important now than it's ever been. The LoveReading LitFest invited Gill Lewis to the festival to talk about *Swan Song*, and green reads for kids with fellow author Konnie Huq. You can view the event by subscribing to the LitFest programme for as little as £6 per month - or you can pay per view. For just £2, go, see them in conversation with Paul Blezard, you won't be disappointed. Check out a preview of the event [here](#)

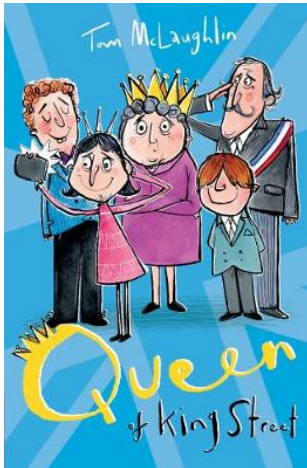


## Everdark

**Author:** Abi Elphinstone **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/01/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**January 2021 Book of the Month** Set in a magical world, this glorious tale of adventure and daring stars the most unlikely heroine because, as the narrator explains, sometimes it takes a story to show that the truly extraordinary people – the ones who defeat monsters and save kingdoms – are often the ones that nobody notices at first. If that statement doesn't make you want to snatch up the book and read it from beginning to end, then you have no heart! Smudge is indeed overlooked – she's clumsy and in her own words 'a bit useless' but somehow, she emerges as the only hope for Crackledown when the evil harpy Morg tries to steal its magic. Fortunately, Smudge is also courageous, inventive and determined – and she has an equally remarkable helper in the shape of tea-drinking, trilby-wearing talking monkey, Bartholomew. Their adventures as they sail beyond the treacherous Northswirl and journey into the heart of the Everdark forest

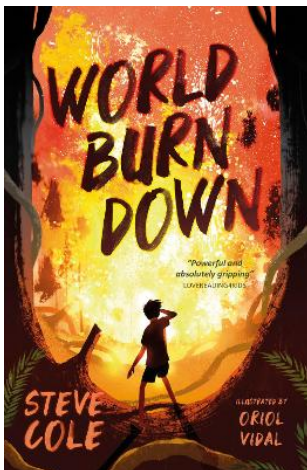
are filled with everything that makes for the best adventures, including magic, drama, narrow escapes, shared laughter and lots of heart. Originally published for World Book Day, Everdark has been reissued in a dyslexia friendly format, which is wonderful news for children like Smudge who struggle with reading and spelling, but everyone should read it. Everdark is a standalone story but part of Abi Elphinstone's The Unmapped Chronicles series, which are also highly recommended.



## Queen of King Street

**Author:** Tom McLaughlin **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/10/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

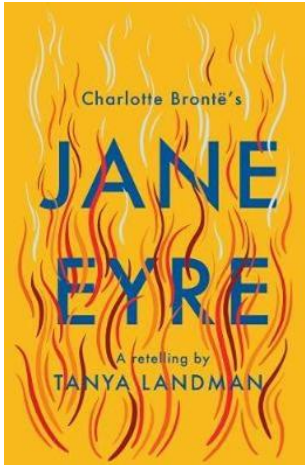
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8 | November 2020 Book of the Month** Tom McLaughlin's new story stars a royal family, but as you've never imagined them before! When hapless Bertie, the Queen's brother, gambles away their entire estate on a game of Happy Families, the whole family are turfed out. It seems no-one is particularly sorry to see them go either, they've been stuck-up, selfish and entitled. Life in their new home in King Street, Windsor takes some getting used to, but mixing with the hoi-polloi, aka their new neighbours, teaches the former royals to be much nicer people (as well as giving them a taste for Pot Noodle). It's delightfully silly and very funny, but actually full of useful life lessons too. Published by Barrington Stoke, this is accessible to all readers including those reluctant, struggling or dyslexic.



## World Burn Down

**Author:** Steve Cole **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/10/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** This gripping story of kidnap and escape burns with outrage at damage being done to the Amazon. Carlos' mother is a member of the Special Forces Group of IBAMA, Brazil's environment agency, which suddenly makes him a target for ruthless men illegally mining in the rainforest. Taken as a hostage to force his mother to turn a blind eye, he manages to escape and survive with the help of a boy his age, whose life has already been devastated by the men's actions, even as the world burns around both of them. Powerful and absolutely gripping, this is both a terrific adventure story and a wake-up call for young readers about the urgent need to protect our world. Published by Barrington Stoke, it's accessible to all readers including those reluctant, struggling or dyslexic.



## Jane Eyre A Retelling

**Author:** Tanya Landman **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/01/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 3

**A Julia Eccleshare Pick of the Month January 2020 | January 2020 Book of the Month | Interest Age Teen Reading Age 9** Award-winning author Tanya Landman captures the high drama and deep romance of Charlotte Brontë's classic novel Jane Eyre in this fresh retelling. While in the setting of the story and the overarching plot and twists that propel it she is faithful to the time and place of the original and to the feel of both, she has given Jane a boldness and independence that is both entirely in keeping with the original and refreshingly modern.



## McTavish on the Move

**Author:** Meg Rosoff **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/11/2019 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**A Julia Eccleshare Pick of the Month November 2019** Full of Meg Rosoff's delightful wit and evident affection for dogs, this is a great return for McTavish the big-hearted rescue dog who is already well-known for the good care he takes of all those around him. This time it is Betty who needs help. When Pa Peachey gets a new job the whole family is upheaved. Everyone is excited about it except for Betty. Not only has she got to move house but she also to say goodbye to her old friends and go to a new school. Betty does not want to be the new girl: she is terrified. Luckily, McTavish thinks of the best possible way to turn her arrival at a new school into a triumph rather than a catastrophe.



## Seven Ghosts

**Author:** Chris Priestley **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/10/2019 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading age 8** Chris Priestley is a superb teller of ghost stories and knows just how to bring the uncanny into the ordinary, or turn the homely suddenly horrifying. A tour for talented young writers round a haunted house is the backdrop for this collection of linked stories. Each of the seven ghosts we meet is a child, each of their stories is different and each is guaranteed to send shivers up the spine or have you nervously checking over your shoulder in the dark. Written for dyslexia-specialists Barrington Stoke, this will enthrall even the most reluctant or struggling reader and concludes with a fantastically chilling twist. It's the season for ghost stories, and this is required reading for fans of the genre.

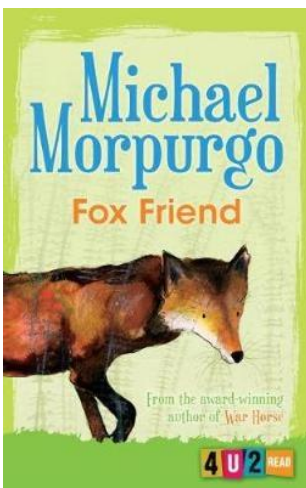




## Tin Boy

**Author:** Steve Cole **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/09/2019  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8 | September 2019 Book of the Month** Short and, in Barrington Stoke style, accessible to all readers, Tin Boy is a powerful and inspiring story, and one that will get children thinking about the world and their place in it. The hero Tono lives in the Indonesian province of Bangka Belitung and, though he's only a boy, goes to work to each day, swimming down to mine tin by hand from deep under sea. It's dangerous work and caught in an accident, he's lucky to survive. That luck, together with something he finds on the seabed, changes his life. It's a gripping story, that both vividly describes Tono's life and plays with the idea of superheroes in a way that will resonate with all readers. Readers who enjoy Tono's story should also look out for Kick by Mitch Johnson.



## Fox Friend (4u2read)

**Author:** Michael Morpurgo **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/11/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3

**Interest Age 7-12 Reading Age 8+** When Christine finds an abandoned fox cub she cares for it herself. But can she keep it secret from her Dad? This is a wonderfully touching and beautifully crafted story about growing up and learning about real life from one of our best-loved authors.



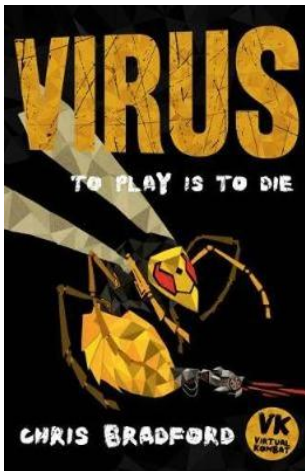
## White Feather

**Author:** Catherine MacPhail, David MacPhail **Format:** Paperback  
**Release Date:** 15/10/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8** The horrors of World War One and the huge demands it made on the young men who fought in it are explored in this thought-provoking and moving ghost story. It's the end of the war but Tony and his mother have no reason to celebrate: Tony's big brother Charlie was killed in France, shot by his own side as a deserter. His mother is heartbroken, but few of their neighbours are sympathetic and indeed, Tony's old teacher presents him with a white feather. Tony can't believe Charlie would run away and when he receives a final coded letter from his brother determines to find out what really happened. Economically told, this is a powerful story that



raises issues of courage and responsibility.



## Virus

**Author:** Chris Bradford **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/10/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 3

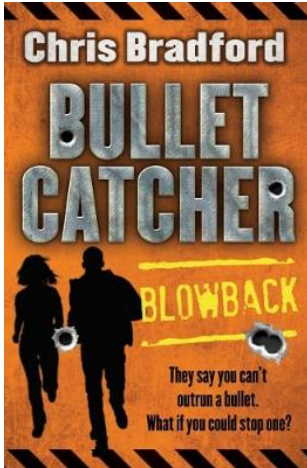
**Interest Age 9+ Reading Age 8** Set in a future world in which kids risk their lives for real playing an online fantasy game, Virus is a nerve-tingling combination of science-fiction and martial arts extravaganza. Scott knows that playing Virtual Kombat will put his life in danger, but the only way to destroy the game is from the inside, and he really wants to avenge the death of his friend. In this he's helped by a group of techno-hackers, but when it comes to the crunch, his tae kwon do skills mean he's on his own against powerful opponents. Chris Bradford is an expert at keeping the tension high and this is page-turning, super-readable adventure.



## Back on Weird Street

**Author:** Anne Fine **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 08/06/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

The three stories in Anne Fine's new Weird Street collection are guaranteed to send delicious shivers down the spine, even on the hottest summer day. In classic Gothic tradition, the narrative is passed from one storyteller to another: three children, neighbours on Weir (aka Weird) Street share local ghost stories. Laila's tale has a happy ending, but is just uncanny enough to unsettle us; Asim's story is both scary and tragic, haunting in every sense; while Tom's is seriously creepy. Anne Fine is a superb writer and knows just how to turn the psychological screw. Highly readable, the stories will deliver their chills on each re-reading too. Perfect to thrill and chill, and particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers aged 8+



## Blowback

**Author:** Chris Bradford **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/06/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 3

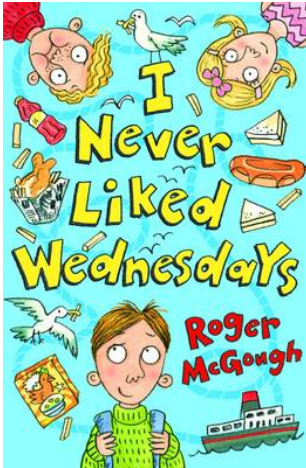
**Interest Age 8+ Reading Age 8 |** As ever, Chris Bradford begins his story explosively, and then keeps the tension super-taut until the very last chapters. Despite his special bullet-catcher ability Troy is at the mercy of The Judge, one of the most ruthless and wicked villains you're likely to encounter, and his friend and colleague Kasia is in a coma: could this be the end for SPEAR's battalion of teenage super spies? Of course not! The fight back offers everything you would expect from this author and this series, nail-biting scenes and confrontations, and the triumph of teamwork and good over evil. It's super satisfying, and super readable. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 9+



## Blue Moon

**Author:** Jenny Oldfield **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/02/2016 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

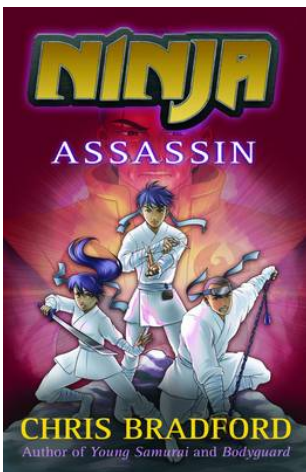
**Interest Age 8-12 Reading Age 8** This thrilling pony story has everything fans of the genre want: a wild, beautiful setting (the Rocky mountains) offering great gallops; a beautiful noble horse; a special bond linking horse to owner, that will be put to the test. When Anna's mum falls ill, her dad tells her they'll have to sell some of the horses to pay for treatment. Terrified he'll sell her own horse, Blue Moon, Anna smuggles him out and hides him in the mountains. It nearly ends in disaster when a frightened Blue Moon runs away. Full of drama, excitement and heartfelt emotion, this is a perfect story for girls who love horses. Beautiful illustrations by Gary Blythe make it even more special. Also published by Barrington Stoke, and therefore specially adapted to be particularly accessible to dyslexic readers, Bright Star is another gorgeous horse story by Jenny Oldfield. ~ Andrea Reece Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 8+ Barrington Stoke is the foremost publisher of dyslexia friendly books and those for reluctant readers. Here on Lovereading4kids we are constantly selecting new titles and refreshing our special dyslexia friendly category. Click here to view our current selection which is broken down by age range.



## I Never Liked Wednesdays

**Author:** Roger McGough **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/04/2015 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

One of our Dyslexia Friendly Books of the Year 2015 - Interest Age 8-12 Reading Age 7 "When I was young, I lived in Liverpool and my best friend was a boy called Midge." In this lovely little book Roger McGough describes a couple of the adventure he had with Midge. They might have taken place back in the 1950s but they are just the kind of thing that children still find exciting today - running away to sea, a bit of secret agent activity around big sister's party. In Barrington Stoke style, they've been written in a way that makes them accessible to all readers. True and funny, the stories are told with a simplicity and directness that makes them as refreshing as the breeze that buffets the ferries on the Mersey. ~ Andrea Reece Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 7+ Barrington Stoke is the foremost publisher of dyslexia friendly books and those for reluctant readers. Here on Lovereading4kids we are constantly selecting new titles and refreshing our special dyslexia friendly category. Click here to view our current selection which is broken down by age range.

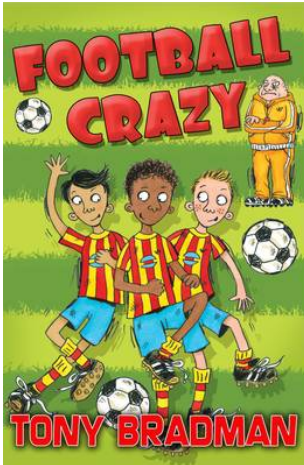


## Ninja: Assassin

**Author:** Chris Bradford **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/06/2014 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Interest Age 8-11 Reading Age 8+** Action-packed and with no holds barred, this is a taut adventure story capturing the themes of revenge and honour that lie at the heart of the Ninja culture. Taka is determined to take revenge on Lord Oda who has killed his mother. Armed with priceless weapons by the Grandmaster, Taka and his two best friends set out on a dangerous mission. Surviving great dangers, they also uncover a very surprising truth. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers aged 8+

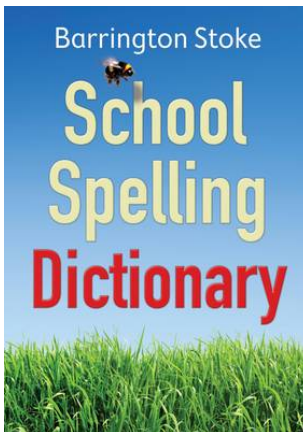




## Football Crazy

**Author:** Tony Bradman **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/08/2013 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

Interest Age 8-12 Reading Age 8+ Light-hearted, fun football story. Danny, Jamil and Lewis are delighted when a football legend agrees to coach their team, but he's not exactly what they expected... Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant and dyslexic readers of 8+ This book is also available to read via the Barrington Stoke 'Tints' App. Find out more [here](#).



## School Spelling Dictionary

**Author:** Christine Maxwell, Julia Rowlandson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 15/08/2012 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

Interest Age 7+ Reading Age 8+ Based on a phonic approach to finding spellings, this schools edition of the best-selling Dictionary of Perfect Spelling gives a fresh way of finding words for those who find matching letters and sounds hard. Users can find words by applying a phonic attack which will lead them to the correct spelling and to irregular plurals, word endings and any word derivatives. For all those who struggle with a regular dictionary, this is an invaluable approach that will unlock ways of improving all written work.