

Books to 'hook' reluctant readers

(especially boys but lots for girls too)

A list compiled by Maggie Dent and friends
for shared and independent reading

Phil Kettle – *Too Cool series, Boyz Rule, Get Real, Girlz Rule series*

Dr Seuss books

- *The Cat in the Hat*
- *Green Eggs and Ham*
- *Oh the Places You'll Go*
- *Fox in Socks*
- *The Lorax*
- *Hop on Pop.*

Magic Tricks Books – *101 Cool Magic Tricks Book, Great Big Book of Magic Tricks*

John Flanagan – *Rangers Apprentice Series*

Steve Backshall – *Deadly 60 books*

Helen Moss – *Adventure Island Series*

Dav Pilkey – **Captain Underpants series:**

Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver – **Hank Zipzer series, including:**

- *Niagara Falls, or Does It?*
- *I Got a "D" in Salami*
- *Day of the Iguana*
- *The Zippity Zinger*
- *The Night I Flunked My Field Trip*
- *Help! Somebody Get me out of Fourth Grade!*
- *Summer School? What Genius thought That Up?*
- *My Secret Life as a Ping-Pong Wizard*
- *My Dog's a Scaredy-Cat: A Halloween Tail*
- *The Curtain Went Up, My Pants Fell Down*
- *Barfing in the Backseat: How I Survived My Family Road Trip*
- *Who Ordered This Baby? Definitely Not Me!*
- *Life of Me*
- *A Tail of Two Tails*
- *Dump Trucks and Dogsleds: I'm on My Way, Mom!*
- *A Brand-New Me!*

Morris Gleitzman

- *The Other Facts of Life*

- *Two Weeks with the Queen*
- *Misery Guts*
- *Worry Warts (sequel to Misery Guts)*
- *Puppy Fat (sequel to Worry Warts)*
- *Blabber Mouth*
- *Sticky Beak (sequel to Blabber Mouth)*
- *Gift of the Gab (sequel to Sticky Beak)*
- *Second Childhood*
- *Belly Flop*
- *Water Wings (sequel to Belly Flop)*
- *Loose (sequel to Water Wings)*
- *Bumface*
- *Wicked! (co-written with Paul Jennings)*
- *Toad Rage*
- *Toad Heaven (sequel to Toad Rage)*
- *Toad Away (sequel to Toad Heaven)*
- *Toad Surprise (sequel to Toad Away)*
- *Self Helpless*
- *Adults Only*
- *Deadly (co-written with Paul Jennings)*
- *Boy Overboard*
- *Girl Underground (sequel to Boy Overboard)*
- *Worm Story*
- *Aristotle's Nostril*
- *Teacher's Pet*
- *Once*
- *Then (sequel to Once)*
- *Now (sequel to Then)*
- *After (sequel to Now)*
- *Grace*
- *Doubting Thomas*
- *Give Peas a Chance (short story collection featuring characters from many of his other books)*
- *Tickled Onions (more short stories, including some from Give Peas a Chance)*
- *Pizza Cake (more short stories, including some from Tickled Onions)*
- *Too Small to Fail*
- *Extra Time*

James Clancy Phelan – *The Last 13* series for teens (for those who loved Zac Power)

Zac Power series of books

Jeff Kinney's *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series

J K Rowling's Harry Potter Books

Philip Ardagh

- *Awful End*
- *Dreadful Acts [The Eddie Dickens Trilogy] (2001)*
- *Terrible Times [The Eddie Dickens Trilogy] (2002)*
- *Dubious Deeds [The Further Adventures of Eddie Dickens]*

- *Horrendous Habits [The Further Adventures of Eddie Dickens]*
- *Final Curtain [The Further Adventures of Eddie Dickens]*
- *The Fall of Fergal [Unlikely Exploits]*
- *Heir of Mystery [Unlikely Exploits]*
- *The Rise of the House of McNally [Unlikely Exploits]*
- *Stinking Rich and Just Plain Stinky [Grubtown Tales]*
- *The Far From Great Escape [Grubtown Tales]*
- *The Year That It Rained Cows [Grubtown Tales]*
- *Trick Eggs and Rubber Chickens [Grubtown Tales]*
- *The great pasta disaster [Grubtown Tales]*

Paul Jennings

- *Unreal*
- *Unbelievable*
- *Uncanny*
- *Unseen*
- *Unmentionable*
- *Uncanny*
- *Undone*
- *Uncovered*
- *Unbearable*
- *Quirky Tales*
- *Tongue Tied*
- *Funniest Stories*
- *Spookiest Stories*
- *Weirdest Stories*
- *Trickiest Stories.*

Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton – the *Tree House* series - lots of laughs (and sniggers)! the *BAD BOOKS*, the *JUST!* Series, the *FLAT CAT & BIG FAT COW* series... a huge catalogue that can be viewed at www.andygriffiths.com.au/books.htm

James Patterson – *Middle School* series

David Walliams

- *Raj's Shop*
- *The Boy in the Dress*
- *Mr Stink*
- *Billionaire Boy*
- *A Granny's Blog*
- *Ratburger*

Bindi Irwin – *Wildlife Adventure* series and *Behind the Scenes* series

Go Girl! series

Michael Sedunary – *AFL Kids* series

Frances Ann Ladd – *Scooby Doo Phonics* series

Lego books (these are readers for reluctant reader boys yr 1- 4) including *Ready for Takeoff* by Sonia Sander

Joanna Cole and Bruce Degen – *Magic School Bus* books

Shamini Flint books, especially:

- *Diary of a Champ*
- *Diary of a Taekwondo Master*
- *Diary of a Soccer Star*

Geronimo Stilton series of book (loved by kids everywhere, especially those who hate reading)

Judy Blume – great books for the middle years

Felice Arena – *Andy Roid* series

Rick Riordan – *The 39 Clues* series

Pamela Graham – *A Crocodile Ate my Homework*

Steve Barlow – *Crime Team* series (You crack the case books)

Kyle Mewburn and Donovan Bixley – *Dinosaur Rescue* series

Mates: Great Australian Yarns series by various authors (funny chapter books for newly independent readers)

David Orme – *Boffin Boy* books

Goosebumps series

After Dark series

Duncan Ball – *Selby* series (Selby is a talking dog)

Mac Park – *Boy vs Beast* series

Gary Paulsen – *Hatchet (Brian's Saga)* Series (a little harder)

The Rip Rap series of novels by Judy Keen (for students in Grades 4-9 with lower than average reading ability). www.cumquatmay.com.au

Paul McNeil and Barry Divola – *M is for Metal: The Loudest Alphabet Book on Earth*

Ahn Do

- *WeirDo series*
- *Hot Dog series*

Puffin Pixels series of known classics

Kate Forsyth – *The Impossible Quest* series

Russell Robinson – *Diary of a Minecraft Zombie*

Kazu Kibuishi – *Amulet* series

Herge – *Tin Tin* series

R J Palacio – *Wonder*

Sally Rippen – *Hey Jack*

Pat Flynn – *Stuff Happens* series

Elena Favilli – *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls*

Aaron Blabey – *Bad Guys* series

Stephan Pastis – *Timmy Failure* series (for those who like the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *Bad Guys* series).

Other reading inspirations

Comics, surf magazines, Farmers' Weekly, motor bike magazines, car/truck magazines, fishing magazines, pet magazines, horse magazines, craft magazines, National Geographic, Sports Illustrated Kids magazine

A teacher's tip on audio books

One of the parents in our Facebook community told us that her son's Year 5 teacher had suggested that they get an audio book and hard copy version of the same book. She then let her son listen to the first chapter of the audio book, and then he had to read the next chapter from the printed book, and so on. He is apparently now 'hooked' on reading!

Many libraries offer free audio book lending facilities, using apps like BorrowBox, so it need not cost a cent.

Happy reading!

