

## Year 6 suggestions for Platinum Reading List

<https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks2-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-for-year-6-pupils-ks2-age-10-11/>

### Nightfall in New York by Katherine Woodfine

The gloriously atmospheric and enigmatic quest story sees young heroines Sophie and Lil cross the Atlantic Ocean to New York in search of their captive friend. However, the dangerous and shadowy Fraternitas have other ideas and will stop at nothing to thwart their rescue attempt. A perfect class reader for year 6 teachers who are looking for a new Titanic era text.

**Historical**



### The Silly Book of Side-Splitting Stuff by Andy Seed

An extremely funny book of facts and true stories which will appeal to reluctant readers. Bright and engaging illustrations. A great book for year 6s to dip into.

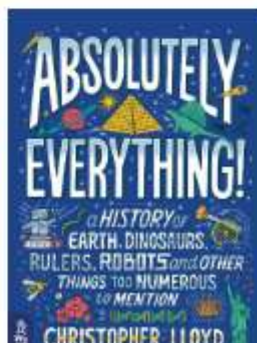
**Funny**



### Absolutely Everything by Christopher Lloyd

"A History of Earth, Dinosaurs, Rulers, Robots and Other Things Too Numerous" – this fantastic and unique non-fiction book is highly recommended to stretch and encourage inquisitive children and encourage critical thinking. This is a brilliant resource for any year 6 classroom or your 10-year old's bookshelf at home. Read our review for more details.

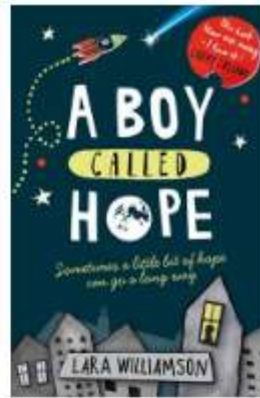
**Encyclopaedia**



## A Boy Called Hope by Lara Williamson

An original and interesting peek into the life of Dan Hope and his dysfunctional family. Touching and thought-provoking, this is an excellent book to read after *Wonder* and a great book to discuss with Year 6 pupils in PSHE. This story is a brilliant study of family relationships and changing friendships.

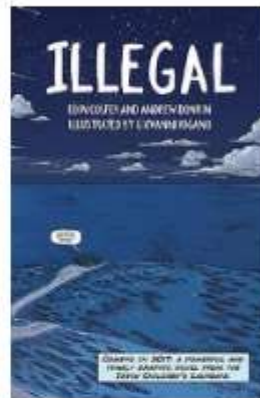
**Family**



## Illegal by Eoin Colfer

A thrilling graphic novel with sparkling text and dialogue. Ebo is left alone when his brother disappears and his sister has already fled. Now he must set out on an epic and dangerous journey across deserts and through dangerous city streets to reach the sea, and a chance to escape and find his family. An accessible and well-written illustrated text, this is an ideal year 6 book for guided reading groups.

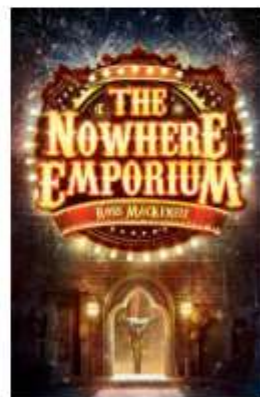
**Adventure**



## The Nowhere Emporium by Ross Mackenzie

When a strange shop appears out of nowhere, Daniel finds himself drawn into the mysterious building and its never-ending passages and surprises. He starts working for the owner – Mr Silver – but when Mr Silver vanishes into thin air, Daniel has to face threats and dark forces to save the Emporium. With rich language and sharply written descriptions, this is a great class reader book for Year 6.

**Fantasy**



## Time Travelling With a Hamster by Ross Welford

A moving and memorable story about time travel. When Al reads a letter it sets off a chain of events in which he races to travel back to 1984 to try and save his late father. A highly imaginative and thought-provoking middle-grade chapter book, this is a must-read novel for 10-year-olds.

**Science fiction**



## Cogheart by Peter Bunzl

When her father goes missing in mysterious circumstances, Lily's life is in sudden danger. Who took her father, and what do they want? A great page-turner book for ten-year-olds set in a steampunk Victorian world of shadowy clockmakers. With relatable characters and an ever twisting plot, this is a compelling book for group reading in year 6.

**Adventure**



## The Girl of Ink and Stars by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Isabella finds herself in a captivating quest to find the mysterious lands her father once mapped. In this beautifully realised adventure story with elements of magic, myth and legend, Isabella finds herself the unlikely heroine tasked with saving her world. With rich language and atmospheric description, this is a high-quality text to underpin a year 6 literacy unit.

**Fantasy**



## SeaBEAN by Sarah Holding

Set on the remote island of St Kilda, this is an interesting fantasy reality story involving a magic black box that can transport 11-year-old Alice and her friends to exotic and far-flung locations. There, they have to work together to safeguard the planet in this, the first of a unique trilogy of eco climate thrillers. A useful book to point year six children who are interested in climate change towards.

**Realistic**



## Eren by Simon P Clark

A deceptively dark story about a boy taken by his mum to live in the country after a family drama. Eren is the strange and magical creature that lives in the attic. The surprising and unpredictable twists will keep year six children reading until the end. With taut plotting and short crisp chapters, this is a good option to read with a year six class that wants something slightly different.

**Horror**



## The Railway Children by E Nesbit

A classic story of adventure and loss. Three children and their mother leave their life in London to live in a small cottage in the country. Will they discover the mystery of their father's disappearance? A classic novel to study in year 6 literacy lessons, this book is a useful resource for teaching empathy, characterisation and inference.

**Classic**



## Abomination by Robert Swindells

Martha lives with a dark secret – the abomination. Can she escape her strict upbringing and reveal the secret or is she better keeping quiet? A more challenging novel for 10-year-olds, this text is a good option for year 6 children who are interested in books with bite and dystopian storylines.

**Dystopia**



## Carrie's War by Nina Bawden

Carrie and her brother Nick are evacuated to Wales to live with the strict Mr Evans. When Carrie visits Hepzibah Green she does perhaps the worst thing imaginable. How can she make things right? This modern classic is an ideal class reader for Year 6 pupils, and there are numerous teaching guides and resources available for this text.

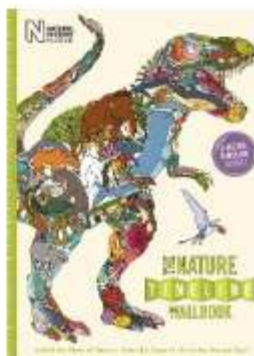
**Historical**



## The What on Earth? Wallbook Timeline of Nature by Christopher Lloyd

A mind-blowing fold out wallchart book that depicts life as we know it from the earliest cells to the present day. Produced in association with the Natural History Museum it is painstakingly illustrated by Andy Forshaw. A perfect research book, extension activity or display resource for Year 6 classrooms.

**Natural history**



Left abandoned as a baby on a farm, Simon Sparrow lives a tough life. However, he has an amazing gift. Every animal he meets understands and trusts him. A more challenging book for 10-year-old pupils, this award-winning children's novel explores farming life, our relationship with animals and what defines friendship and loyalty. This is a great book to discuss with more advanced readers in year 6 books clubs.

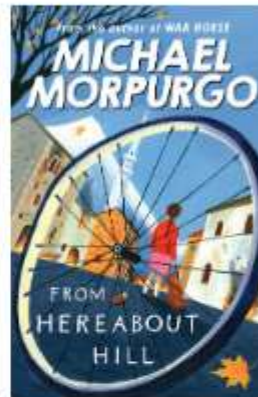
**Animals**



### From Hereabout Hill by Michael Morpurgo

An enchanting collection of nine short stories by the former Children's Laureate. Each with a thought-provoking theme, these stories are perfect to read and discuss in literacy or PSHE with children in year 6, or to use as a guided reader with groups of children who prefer shorter texts.

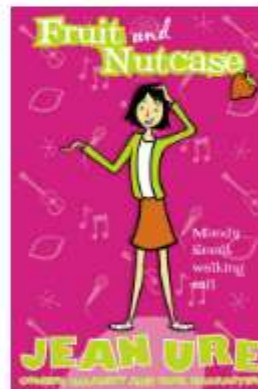
**Short stories**



### Fruit and Nutcase by Jean Ure

A story, told in diary entries, of Mandy's unpredictable life and crazy parents. Mandy has so many things to worry about she starts to wonder if she's going mad. A lively choice to read and model for classes studying autobiographies in year six, this book will appeal to children who enjoy high interest, funny, and shorter texts.

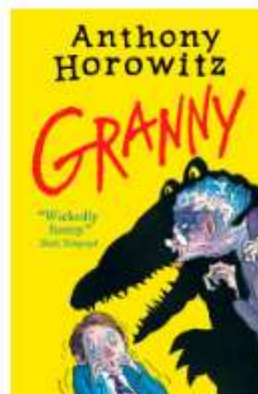
**Family**



### Granny by Anthony Horowitz

Joe is miserable and longs to escape from his huge family mansion. But his dangerous and evil granny has truly horrid plans for him. Can Joe escape her clutches? This darkly humorous tale will appeal to children who want something quirky, with irony, wickedly nasty characters and clever plot twists.

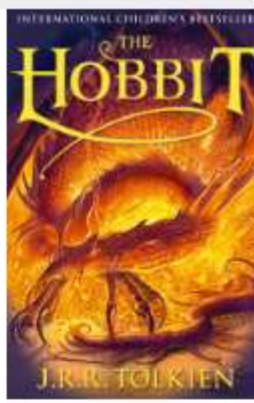
**Funny**



### **The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien**

The classic tale of Bilbo Baggins, a Hobbit, and his quest to travel with Gandalf and a band of dwarves to steal the treasure of a fearsome dragon. A more challenging book for 10-year-olds, The Hobbit will appeal to children who enjoy immersive fantasy worlds and memorable characters.

**Fantasy**



### **Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo**

After a storm, Michael is washed overboard from his parent's yacht and finds himself marooned on a distant island with a Japanese soldier who survived the Hiroshima bombing. Kensuke and Michael become unlikely friends and Kensuke has to make a decision whether to stay on his island home or help Michael complete a dangerous quest to find his mother and father. A great book for year 6 group reading and book clubs.

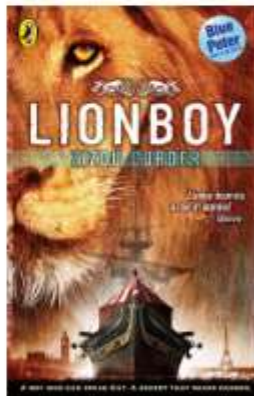
**Historical**



### **Lion Boy by Zizou Corder**

Charlie can speak to cats – and every type of cat – even a lion. He sets out on a perilous journey to find his kidnapped parents who have found a cure for asthma. Can his circus animal friends protect him from being captured before he finds them? A moving and emotive animal story with rich language and evocative descriptions, this is an ideal class reading text for year six.

**Animals**



### **The Machine Gunners by Robert Westall**

Chas has a good collection of wartime bullets, shells and memorabilia. But it's not quite the best collection in Garmouth. That's until he finds a machine gun and 2000 rounds of ammunition, ready to fire. A gripping and fast-paced story with lots of dialogue, this is an ideal addition to Year 6 WW2 topics.

**Historical**



## The Viewer by Gary Crew

An imaginative picture book ideal for older reluctant readers. Tristan finds an old picture viewing device in a rubbish dump and becomes drawn further and further into the places and worlds he sees – until finally, he disappears into one of them. A perfect book for year 6 children who are imaginative, but reluctant readers.

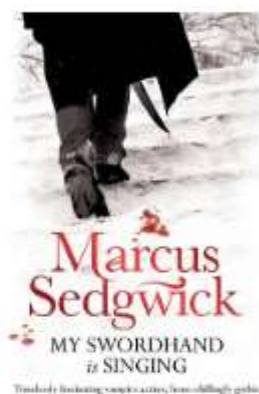
**Picture book**



## My Swordhand is Singing by Marcus Sedgwick

A mystical historical story of travelling gypsies, vampire slayers and a princess. Peter discovers there's more to his father than meets the eye. An ideal book for 10-year-olds interested in historical fiction, this multi-layered story is a useful text to use when analysing and modelling characterisations with pupils who are working at a 'greater depth' level in year 6 literacy lessons.

**Horror**



## Once by Morris Gleitzman

A young Jewish boy is determined to escape from an orphanage to find and rescue his parents from Nazi Germany. The first of a ground-breaking series, this story is an excellent analysis of war from a child's perspective. A moving book to discuss in year 6 books clubs with more able pupils, it is also a good choice to compare and contrast with The Silver Sword by Ian Serraillier.

**Historical**



## The Other Side of the Truth by Beverley Naidoo

Sade and her brother Femi are 'illegals'. They have fled from Nigeria where their father is being persecuted only to find London a harsh and unforgiving environment and not the safe haven they had hoped for. This modern classic is a children's novel that lends itself to character hot seating and discussing different viewpoints in year six literacy lessons.

**Diverse**

