

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, including:*

- *The Adventures of Captain Underpants*
- *Captain Underpants and the Attack of the Talking Toilets*
- *Captain Underpants and the Invasion of the Incredibly Naughty Cafeteria Ladies from Outer Space (and the Subsequent Assault of the Equally Evil Lunchroom Zombie Nerds)*
- *Captain Underpants and the Perilous Plot of Professor Poopyants*
- *Captain Underpants and the Wrath of the Wicked Wedgie Woman*
- *Captain Underpants and the Big, Bad Battle of the Bionic Booger Boy, Part 1: The Night of the Nasty Nostril Nuggets*
- *Captain Underpants and the Big, Bad Battle of the Bionic Booger Boy, Part 2: The Revenge of the Ridiculous Robo-Boogers*
- *Captain Underpants and the Preposterous Plight of the Purple Potty People*
- *Captain Underpants and the Terrifying Re-Turn of Tippy Tinkletrousers*
- *Captain Underpants and the Revolting Revenge of the Radioactive Robo-Boxers*
- *Captain Underpants and the Tyrannical Retaliation of the Turbo Toilet 2000*
- *Captain Underpants and the Sensational Saga of Sir Stinks-A-Lot*

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*

Zac Power series of books

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

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

- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Cabin Fever*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Third Wheel*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Hard Luck*
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul*
- *The Wimpy Kid Movie Diary*
- *The Wimpy Kid Do It Yourself Book*

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]*

J K Rowling's Harry Potter Books

- *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*
- *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*
- *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*
- *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*
- *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*
- *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*
- *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*

Paul Jennings series

- *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's *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

DK Readers – *Star Wars* series

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

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

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

Happy reading!

