**Text We Like in Year 4: recommended by Literacy Leaders of Kent Summer 2016**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year 4** | Book Title | Author if known | Good text for… |
|  | The Water Horse | Dick King Smith | Fairly short novel for children but with some old-fashioned language; cross-curricular; engaging story which has been made into a film; inverted commas; fronted adverbials; descriptive language; metaphors and similes; question marks, ellipsis, singular to plural; present to past tense; possessive apostrophes; paragraphs |
|  | Beast Quest | Adam Blade | Appeals to boys; sci-fi fantasy writing; strong plots |
|  | Diary of a Wimpy Kid | Jeff Kinney | Diary writing; emotive writing; |
|  | Stig of the Dump | Clive King | Character development; setting |
|  | The Devil and his Boy | Anthony Horowitz | Complex characters developed through plot |
|  | Danny Champion of the World | Roald Dahl | Non-fiction persuasive writing about poaching; narrative writing; description; |
|  | Usborne Shakespeare Series | Usborne (publisher) | Great for all year groups to introduce classic texts |
|  | The Field Guide (Spiderwick chronicles) | Tony Di Terlizzi | Fantasy; suspense; description of setting; characters and dialogue |
|  | The Iron Man | Ted Hughes | Settings; character study; links with D.T.; short sentences to create effect; longer sentences to create an image; onomatopoeia; use of CL for effect; fronted adverbials; sub clauses; similes; questioning; commas in lists; balanced dialogue; hyphens; exclamation marks; inverted commas |
|  | How to Train your Viking | Cressida Cowell | Descriptive language; feelings; instructions |
|  | Leon and the Place in between | Grahame Baher-Smith | Adverbial phrases; noun phrases |
|  | Beowulf (also Beowulf Young Reading Series) | Morpurgo  or version by Rob Lloyd Jones | Building tension; short sentences; character and setting; story writing |
|  | The Wolves in the Walls | Neil Gaiman | Excellent for most aspects of grammar and punctuation; hyphens, inverted commas; modal verbs and past tense; spelling rules (beware one or two American spellings e.g. colored and practiced); fronted adverbials; questions. Spooky and full of suspense. |
|  | The Great Kapok Tree | Lynne Cherry | Discursive text; variety of genres; beautiful to look at |
|  | Tracks of a Panda | Nick Dowson | Fronted adverbials |
|  | Caterpillar Butterfly | Vivian French | Inverted commas and rules of dialogue |
|  | Voices in the Park | Anthony Browne | Characters; viewpoint; speech |
|  | The BFG | Roald Dahl | Descriptive writing; character |
|  | Coraline | Neil Gaiman | Quirky story about a girl with a huge imagination; quite dark and scary; settings; suspense; prediction |
|  | Operation Gadgetman! | Malorie Blackman | Crosses gender stereotypes; good story |
|  | Journey to Jo’burg | Beverley Naidoo | Issues and dilemmas; postcard writing; continuation of chapter 10 |
|  | Varjak Paw | S.F. Said | Variation and comparison of characters; atmosphere and mood in setting; description; |
|  | The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane | Kate Di Camillo | A sometimes sad story about a vain rabbit who goes on an adventure when he is washed overboard; several changes of event; lovely prose; change of character, when the rabbit learns to love |
|  | Classic Fairy Tales | Jane Roy / Berlie Doherty | Dialogue / writing own version |
|  | Born to Run | Michael Morpurgo | Word classes; relative clauses; embedded clauses; prefixes and suffixes |
|  | Mouse, Bird, Snake, Wolf | David Almond and Dave McKean | Descriptive writing e.g. design own creature; inference; |
|  | The Butterfly Lion | Michael Morpurgo | Short read-aloud text; character sketches; inference; prediction; write own endings |
|  | Cloud Busting | Malorie Blackman | Story told in first person verse |
|  | Buckle and Squash and the Monstrous Moat-Dragon | Sarah Courtauld | Empathy; prediction; retelling; drama |
|  | Any picture books by David Weisner e.g. Tuesday / Flotsam | David Weisner | Prediction and inference; Wordless texts; writing next part; discussion around the text; group reading and conversation |
|  | Krindlekrax | Philip Ridley |  |
|  | The Drop in my Drink; the Story of Water on our Planet | Meredith Hooper and Chris Coady | Non-fiction; Water cycle; changes in condition of water; |
|  | The Dancing Bear | Michael Morpurgo | Very short paperback; |
|  | Way Home | Libby Hathorn | Setting; style of language; prediction; discussing character’s motivation; issues and dilemmas |
|  | The Firework Maker’s Daughter | Philip Pullman | Adventure quest story; humour for older readers; about working hard to fulfil your dreams; possible to get the playscript version too |
|  | The Green Children | Kevin Crossley-Holland | Picture book. Role-play; issues about people who are different; new viewpoint; author’s choice of language; powerful verbs; descriptive setting |
|  | Tales Told in Tents: from Central Asia | Sally Pomme Clayton | Stories from other cultures; some poetry / riddles |