

Rockcliffe Reads: December 2023

Look out for all the titles featured in this edition of Rockcliffe Reads in our next **Scholastic Book Club Catalogue**. Remember, all of your purchases earn reward points for our school.

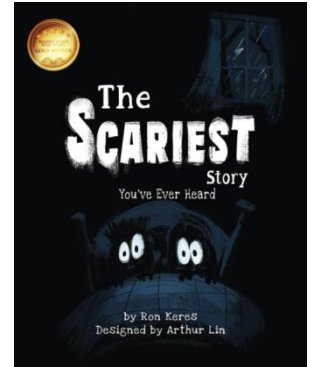
Our Recommended Reads this half term are...

The Scariest Story You've Ever Heard, by Ron Keres (Author), Arthur Lin (Illustrator)

Suitable for 4-8 years

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Aurora Marshall (Class 1)

The book was gloomy and scary. The best bit was the picture at the end. I got scared as the book went on. This book could give you nightmares! It's exciting because you think it's scary but then it isn't. It's the best book I've ever read!

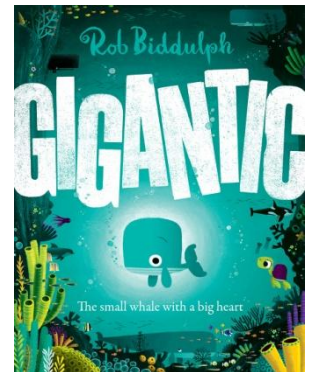


Gigantic, by Rob Biddulph (Author)

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Constance Mitchell (Class 2)

Suitable for 3 years and up

This book is about a whale called Gigantic. He has a small body but a big heart. Gigantic has a big brother who is a bully, but they become friends. I really liked looking at the pictures and finding the hidden things. I would tell my friends to read this book.

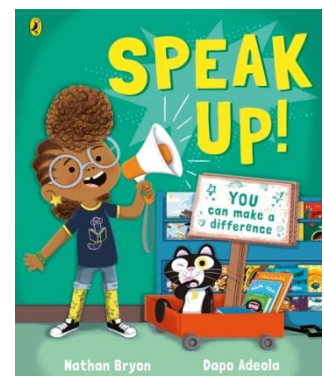


Speak Up!, by Nathan Bryon (Author), Dapo Adeola (Illustrator)

Suitable for 3-8 years

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Lara Derry (Class 3)

The book is about a girl who loves to visit the library. I enjoyed the story and the characters, especially Rocket and her cat. This book will make you feel happy!

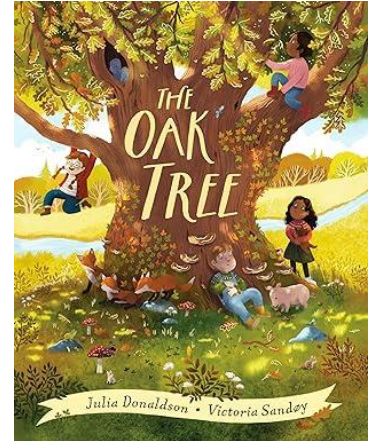


The Oak Tree, by Julia Donaldson (author), Victoria Sandøy (illustrator)

Suitable for 5-8 years

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Addie Manning (Class 4)

I love this book! It's all about the life of an Oak tree that lived for a thousand years. I love the picture of the Acorn starting to grow. I like how much detail she has done on the tree and how the book shows how long an oak tree lives. I thought all the pictures were brilliant. I love how the book rhymes and tells the story of the life of the oak tree and the different times in history the tree kept growing. There was nothing I didn't like about the book, I loved it. I know Ivy and Irena would really like the book because the pictures are brilliant and they would like the rhyming too. I give the book 5 stars but I would give it 10 stars if I could.

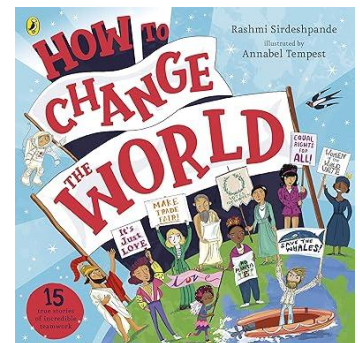


How to Change the World, by Rashmi Sirdeshpande (Author), Annabel Tempest (Illustrator)

Suitable for 6-9 years

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Harriet Darke-Johnson (Class 5)

Good pictures. Interesting and informative. Lots about history.



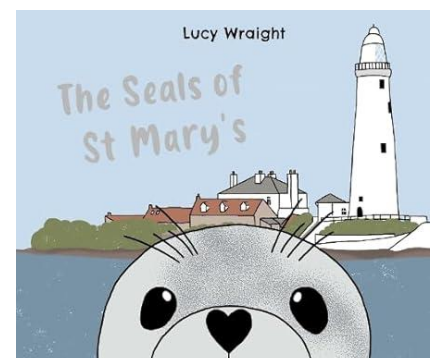
Special Featured Book

The Seals of St. Mary's, by Lucy Wraight (Author)

Suitable for 3-7 years

Rockcliffe Reviewers: Early Years & Key Stage One

Earlier this term, Classes 1-5 were thrilled to have a visit from local author Lucy Wraight, who told us all about her new book. We loved the familiar setting of the story and learning all about how to help protect the seals at St. Mary's Island. We recommend this book to any children who live in or visit Whitley Bay!



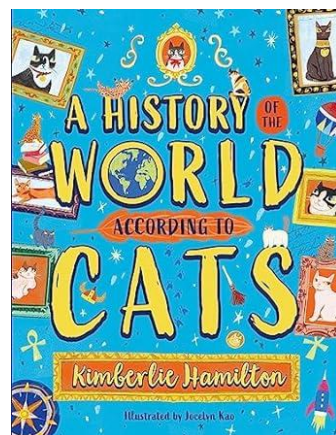
A History of the World According To Cats, by Kimberlie Hamilton (Author), Jocelyn Kao (Illustrator)

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Finna Wilson (Class 6)

This book tells wonderful stories and interesting facts about history's most fascinating felines and each chapter will take you to a different time in history. My favourite chapter is about cats accompanying human explorers and adventurers around the world. Some names of places or people are a little tricky to read but your parents can help with that. I give this book 4.5 stars and recommend it to everyone who loves history or cats, or both!



Suitable for 8-12 years



Title, by Tom McLaughlin (Author)

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Finley Barden (Class 7)

I didn't find the book very interesting, so I found it hard to read all of it. The book was about a boy called Jay who wanted to save the park that his mother worked in and then ended up being Prime Minister.



Suitable for 6-11 years



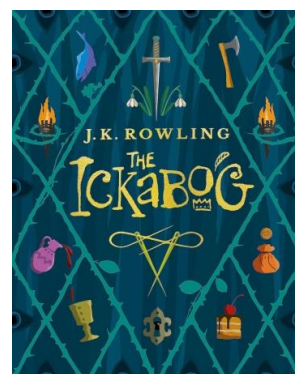
The Ickabog, by J.K. Rowling (Author)

Rockcliffe Reviewer: Ula Davoll (Class 8)

I liked it because it had a bucketful of mystery, but near the middle I did wonder how many deaths there were going to be! Then at the end, I wondered when we were going to figure out how Daisy's mum died. Above all, I really did like it.



Suitable for 7-14



Looking for book recommendations for children who have been hooked by a particular series or author and are ready to branch out? Books for Topics have got it covered with their fantastically helpful **Branching Out** booklists:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/branching-out/>