Books to read ...

A selection of recommended books from different genres that every Dalmain child should read by the end of Year 2!



This is the story of how Mildred Hubble became a trainee at Miss Cackle's Academy for Witches, despite being one of the most clumsy children around - constantly getting her spells wrong and crashing her broomstick...



The first magical story in the Faraway Tree series. It follows Joe, Beth and Frannie as they move to a new home and find an Enchanted Wood on their doorstep...

When they discover the Faraway Tree, they embark on many magical adventures! When young Anna inherits a dilapidated once-grand hotel from her Great Aunt Mathilde, she's determined to restore it to its former glory. But this is no ordinary hotel - all of her staff and guests are animals! Anna soon rises to the challenge. Whether it's a flamingo, a penguin or a hippo knocking at the door, Anna is ready to welcome them all. Can Anna make Hotel



Flamingo a success once more?



Will has four brothers and it's chaos in his house! Even worse, his mother has the brilliant idea of packing Will and Marty off to the library during the holidays. She just doesn't understand! Not only is the library no fun, it's also the habitat of the legendary librarian Spud Murphy. Don't dare to put a foot wrong!



I was a Rat! Roger insists, and insists . . . In fact, when Bob the cobbler and his washerwoman wife, Joan, find the young boy abandoned on their doorstep, these are the only words he says. And he does have ratty behaviour, it's true. Staying with Bob and Joan, however, Roger learns quickly to behave more like a human child. But what is the truth?



As a rule, magic carpets don't turn up in schools, but this is exactly what happens in Class Three when a new teacher turns up! Mr Majeika can behave just like any ordinary teacher if he wants to, but something has to be done about Hamish Bigmore, the class nuisance, and so he uses a little magic to turn him into a frog. But will he remember the spell to change him back?



Have you ever fallen into a book? Well. if you do, just make sure it isn't a fairy tale. Because in every one there's always a wicked this, an evil that or a hungry somebody just waiting to gobble you up. Herb, star of Beware of the Storybook Wolves, returns in this thrilling tale. What will happen when he falls into his book of fairy tales? Read on to find out!



Emily and Stanley find a 'Thing' crying outside their window. They embark on a series of adventures to find everything he needs for a good night's sleep ... but nothing seems to work. What is troubling the Thing, and why can't he get to sleep?



Why are trees so important? How many types are there? How do they benefit the environment and wildlife? This book, by the award-winning author Piotr Socha, answers these questions and more, tracking the history of trees from the time of the dinosaurs to the current day.



You will love dipping into this lively and inspiring collection of poems compiled by Pie Corbett and Gaby Morgan.

It covers a range of topics from the ordinary and everyday themes of food, friends and families to subjects more fantastical and imaginative including monsters, mermaids and dinosaurs.



When Brigg discovers a book in the library labelled Do Not Read . he cannot resist taking it home. In it, he comes upon pictures of bright, vibrant objects called flowers. He cannot find flowers anywhere in the city, but stumbles instead on a packet of seeds. This sets off a chain of events which bring about unexpected results, continuing to grow and bloom even after we have turned the last page.



This story follows ordinary boy Stanley Lambchop as a noticeboard falls on top of him and leaves him flat as a pancake. He loves being flat - it means he can be rolled up, sent in the post and fly like a kite. But it's not all fun and games... Especially when thieves are in town!



Hannah loves gorillas but has never

anything else come to that. For her birthday, Hannah asks her father for a gorilla - but is disappointed when she discovers that the gorilla

seen one. Her father's too busy to

take her to the zoo - or for

she's got is just a toy one. But then something extraordinary happens...the toy turns into a real gorilla, who puts on her father's hat and coat and takes her off for a magical visit to the zoo...



Plop is a baby Barn Owl who hates the dark... but as he meets all the different characters in the book, he overcomes his fears and learns the reasons why darkness is wonderful and important!



When she moves with her parents to a new home far away, Willa is convinced that she'll never have friends again until she meets Old Miss Annie who introduces her to a lonely goat, a forgotten pony, and an orphaned fox.



One day a boy finds an aeroplane in his cupboard. Up, up, up and away he flies, high into the sky. Whizzing past clouds, stars and planets until suddenly, he runs out of petrol!

Miles from earth, the boy crashes into the moon and waits. Just as he is beginning to get cold and lonely, a friendly martian appears from the darkness, also with a broken aircraft. Together they come up with a super plan to float the boy back down to earth to collect his toolbox. Can the boy find his way back home safely and will he ever make it back up to the moon to rescue his friend?



In this ingenious and imaginative - nearly wordless picture book, frogs in a pond lift off on their lily pads and fly to a nearby town where they zoom through a woman's living room, encounter a dog playing in his yard, and distract a bathrobe-clad citizen from his midnight snack. Who knows what will happen next Tuesday?



Billy's biggest wish is to turn a weird old wooden house into a wonderful sweet-shop. But then he finds a giraffe, a pelly and a monkey living inside they're the Ladderless Window-Cleaning Company! Who needs ladders when you've got a giraffe? They become best friends and when they meet the richest man in all of England, there's a chance that Billy's scrumptious-galumptious dream just might come true...