

Reading and Online Book Websites

At a time like this it's important to keep reading (especially for pleasure) even though it's a lot trickier without access to libraries and school. So that your child continues to have a love of reading, here are some useful websites with books and other texts online or stories read to them by authors and other famous people.

General	
All ages (including adults)	Your local library: https://www.librarieswest.org.uk/client/en_GB/default/ All you need is your library card details and pin number to access lots of different online books, comics, magazines, audiobooks, newspapers and more. When accessing this website, please be aware that it is for adults as well as children so make sure you look together to check the appropriateness of the content that you are borrowing.
All ages	Great website for online stories and activities including quizzes and drawing your favourite characters. The website also contains recommendations for different age ranges and books that are similar to ones you like. https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/
All ages 4-5 yrs = Pre-kindergarten 5-6 yrs = Kindergarten 6-7 yrs = 1 st Grade 7-8 yrs = 2 nd Grade 8-9 yrs = 3 rd Grade 9-10 yrs = 4 th Grade 10-11 yrs = 5 th Grade	Full of free eBooks for all ages and across a range of topics including non-fiction. This is an American site so you will need to match up your child's year to their year group. Please note, the website only works for parents during the school hours of 9-3pm. https://www.getepic.com/
4-9 year olds	Another American site but has some lovely picture books read by different actors. https://www.storylineonline.net/
3-11 year olds	A collection of ebooks that can be read for pleasure and also can be focused on the phonics level for Key Stage 1 children. Great variety and texts including non-fiction and audio books. Includes classic stories for older children such as White Fang, Sherlock Holmes and Treasure Island. https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/books/free-ebooks/
Stories that talk through the Coronavirus and its effect	
5-9 years	A free information book to inform primary school children about the coronavirus. https://nosycrow.com/blog/released-today-free-information-book-explaining-coronavirus-children-illustrated-gruffalo-illustrator-axel-scheffler/
Poetry	
All ages	Liz Brownlee is uploading a funny poem a day to the website. It also features lots of other poetry as well as writing tips for writing your own poetry and competitions. https://poetryroundabout.com/
Non-fiction	
All ages	As mentioned above, Get Epic has lots of non-fiction texts on various topics for children across the primary school age. https://www.getepic.com/
7-11 years	Similar to 'Horrible Histories', these web books tell you the gruesome facts about certain jobs now and in History. https://www.youwouldntwantto.be/web-books/
7-14 years	Weekly children's newspaper 'First News' is providing free online issues. Children in Key Stage 2 always love learning about what is happening in the world today and this is always up to date and factual. It also includes activities, puzzles and quizzes. https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/free-downloadable-issue/
8-12 years	Magazine called Aquila which has a 92 page issue including sections on History, Science, Maths, Puzzles and other activities you can do. https://view.joomag.com/aquila-childrens-magazine-magnificentmegamag-92pages/0684174001584550709?short

Audiobooks	
All ages	A large selection of books are free to listen to using Audible. You don't need to subscribe and can enjoy listening to the stories in 6 different languages. From Winnie The Pooh, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland to Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone. https://stories.audible.com/start-listen
4-7 years	Listen to different stories being read by different famous people. https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b00jdlm2/cbeebies-bedtime-stories
7-9 years	Jackanory Junior- watch animated stories read aloud by different famous people. https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007t9wg/clips
Podcasts	
All ages	Story Shed is a children's storytelling podcast for children of all ages. A family friendly podcast which can be used for car journeys, bedtime, anytime! Episodes include retelling of certain stories or reviews of films for children. Listen online or through Spotify, Apple Podcasts or Google Podcasts. http://www.buzzsprout.com/170026
Favourite authors	
<p>Many children's authors are providing free online reading from their stories. Try searching for your favourite author online and have a look at their website to see if they are offering anything. The authors are using different platforms so try searching for them on Google, YouTube, Facebook and Instagram.</p> <p>Below are some favourite authors and what they are providing during the lockdown.</p>	
All ages	Michael Rosen is a well-loved poet and children's story writer. On his website he has videos of him reading and performing his work and they can also be found on his YouTube channel. https://www.michaelrosen.co.uk/ https://www.youtube.com/MichaelRosenOfficial
4-7 years	Oliver Jeffers is a well-loved author and illustrator whose picture books are often found in every home. Here they are read aloud with the picture books shown: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=oliver+jeffers
4-7 years	James Mayhew is doing a Story Time for Home Time where he reads his stories on YouTube including Ella Bella Ballerina and the Katie stories. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqg_Iz_q3pFTkkju-PpVOFA#Storytime4Hometime
7-11 years	Cressida Cowell, author of How To Train Your Dragon, reads a chapter a day of her favourite books. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe01xn13M8q2dslw0mvW9lg
7-11 years	David Walliams reads chapters from his much loved books at 11am every Monday-Friday and you can catch up at weekends too. https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/
7-11 years	Relive the wonderful world of Harry Potter through activities, videos, puzzles and listen to Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone. https://www.wizardingworld.com/
10-11 years	Marcus Sedgwick is reading a chapter each time of his popular book 'Floodland'. https://marcussedgwick.com/floodland/