

Reading List for Year 8 students

For students: What an opportunity! A week to lose yourself in a book, watch a documentary with your family on the sofa or pop a podcast in your ears while you go for a walk. Don't worry - the aim is not for you to read all of these! The aim is to enjoy a wide range of resources from a wide range of subjects, so don't limit yourself to your 'favourite' subjects or those in which you are strongest - reading should take you beyond your experience. See where the subjects can take you.

For parents: We want to promote intellectual curiosity and scholarship through independent reading, so please play your part in encouraging your child to read for pleasure. Departments have given you a wide range of resource formats, thus preventing the need to buy anything new (unless your child wants it as a special birthday gift!) - we highly recommend using your local library (you can order books in advance to collect for Reading Week): [Find me a Library!](#) Instructions on how to access our fantastic resources from the LRC are also included at the end.

Art

Explore the department's virtual Art Library at: rdgart.dropmark.com/768899

- *Draw 50 Airplanes, Aircraft, and Spacecraft* by Lee J Ames - available [here](#) (PDF)
- *Draw 50 Vehicles* by Lee J Ames - available [here](#) (PDF)
- *Anatomy for the Manga Artist* by Christopher Hart - available [here](#) (PDF)
- *You Will be Able to Draw by the End of This Book* by Jake Spicer

Biology

- [Catalyst Magazine - Archive \(catalyst-magazine.org\)](http://catalyst-magazine.org) issue 33

Catalyst is an exciting science journal for young people aged 14-19. Covering scientific research and industrial developments, real life STEM stories, career journeys, STEM expeditions and adventure.

- [catalyst-magazine-issue33.pdf](#)

Chemistry

- [Catalyst27_1_microplastics_and_the_oceans.pdf \(stem.org.uk\)](#)
- [Chemistry and art teaching resources | RSC Education](#)
- [Temperature-controlling textiles | Feature | RSC Education](#)
- [Frozen in time | Feature | RSC Education](#)

Classical Civilisations & Ancient History

Ancient History taster - [Extra credits on the Punic wars](#) (there are 4 parts to this)

The Roman Mysteries (2 Series):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8q8dUsXmTW5ruz5VzRqmpA/playlists>

Groovy Greeks Compilation

www.youtube.com/watch?v=XdNHG7QtBsg&ab_channel=HorribleHistories

More Groovy Greeks

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dts9aVdzXYo&ab_channel=HorribleHistories

Read:

Rick Riordan: Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Heroes of Olympus, The Trials of Apollo

Computer Science

A variety of resources to help learn new concepts and skills <https://teachcomputing.org/curriculum/key-stage-3>

Book: Algorithms to Live By: The Computer Science of Human Decisions by Brian Christian, Tom Griffiths - an exploration of the use of computer science in addressing life's problems

Drama

Symbolism Ibsen to Strindberg and the fathers of Modern Theatre.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xiaed3puhY>

A Monster Calls Resource pack 'packed' with Symbolism!

https://readingschoolco.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/ESjpb_2seCpBqVkJELpj6z48Bua3K4a9ob9TdxqzlsjhM2A?e=BXf5jy

Electronics

What is electricity and how a computer works (examples from StoryBots):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ax6bUF_8txM

The power of circuits: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HOFp8bHTN3o>

English

- "Goldfish Boy": Lisa Thompson
- "Murder Most Unladylike": Robin Stevens
- "One of Us is Lying": Karen McManus
- "Detective Stories" chosen by Phillip Pullman
- "The Murder Of Roger Ackroyd": Agatha Christie
- "Hallowe'en Party": Agatha Christie
- "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde": Robert Louis Stevenson, available [here](#)
- "Ghost Stories" chosen by Robert Westall

French

French news <https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/>

French culture <https://www.livescience.com/39149-french-culture.html>

French children's stories <https://www.thefrenchexperiment.com/stories>

Any of the *Astérix* by Goscinny and Uderzo comic books

Any of the *Seuls* by Gazotti comic books

Playlist on French rap

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/oMF1XGKzqqeLoZHeqMrq7R>

Playlist on French pop

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2sk8xNt1IHG9zOgf4mAf2r>

French connections: dive into French culture https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLCUKleZnrIukGGCadSa47-S_ECYovCNwv

An Asterix film: Mission Cléopâtre <https://readingschool.planetestream.com/View.aspx?id=4041~4j~J4Mfk7ut>

An Asterix film: Le Secret de la potion magique

<https://readingschool.planetestream.com/View.aspx?id=5629~4w~xZCsoHiC>

A film: Le Petit Nicolas en vacances <https://readingschool.planetestream.com/View.aspx?id=5581~4t~VoIOjDBC>

A series : *Code Lyoko* (on Netflix)

A series: *Wakfu* (available on Netflix)

Geography

Tim Marshall - Prisoners of Geography - **Available in the LRC**

- o Any chapter apart from 'China' which we will study in class

Hans Rosling - Factfulness - **Available in the LRC**

- o Particularly recommend reading the Introduction, Chapter 6: The Generalisation Instinct and Chapter 11: Factfulness in Practice

Bill Bryson - A Short History of Nearly Everything - **Available in the LRC**

- o Chapter 17: Into the Troposphere

Fred Pearce - Peoplequake: Mass Migration, Ageing Nations and the Coming Population Crash - **Available in the LRC**

History

Read - Black and British by David Olusoga. This chapter looks at the experience of black people during the Victorian period. The full book is available in the LRC or the History department [Black and British by David Olusoga.pdf](#)

Watch - The Amritsar Massacre is a brutal moment in the history of the British Empire. [The Massacre That Shook the Empire - All 4 \(channel4.com\)](#)

The Industrial Revolution [The Industrial Revolution: Crash Course European History #24 - YouTube](#)

See also the historical fiction list here: [Year 7 and 8 Historical fiction reading list from the LRC.docx](#)

Mathematics

[All about Infinity \(maths.org\)](#)

[How are Fibonacci numbers expressed in nature? | HowStuffWorks](#)

[The Mysterious Math of Perfection | Quanta Magazine](#)

[How to Convert Binary Into Decimal \(and Vice Versa\) | HowStuffWorks](#)

[Mathematician Cracks the 33 Problem | HowStuffWorks](#)

[Trillions and Quadrillions: A Short Guide to Absurdly Big Numbers | HowStuffWorks](#)

Mandarin

舒克贝塔和五角飞碟

Shuke, Beta and the Flying Disk

https://www.amazon.co.uk/%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E5%92%8C%E4%BA%94%E8%A7%92%E9%A3%9E%E7%A2%9F-%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%E4%BC%A0%E6%B3%A8%E9%9F%B3%E7%89%88%E6%A1%A5%E6%A2%81%E4%B9%A6-ZONG-DONG-ZHENG/dp/752171699X/ref=sr_1_2?crid=LE8oA4Mo27VO&keywords=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94&qid=1650979393&s=books&sprefix=%E8%88%92%E5%85%8B%E5%92%8C%E8%B4%9D%E5%A1%94%2Cstripbooks%2C57&sr=1-2

Chinese edition (This is one chapter of a fairy tale series, very good for younger children, Year 7 and 8s for example)

西游记

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Monkey-King-Penguin-Clothbound-Classics/dp/0141393440/ref=sr_1_1?crid=24D8TYUBOZA2Q&keywords=journey+to+the+west&qid=1650979278&s=books&srefix=%2Cstripbooks%2C186&sr=1-1

English edition

罗小黑战记

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJazeABl8MQ&list=PLWJWeJT_v21uucMrB6Q_kcBoTg2hBcoV7

Anima series with English subtitles, short and very good for beginners

Music

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Around-World-80-Musical-Instruments/dp/1913519910/ref=sr_1_4?crid=2DSUOoBMHOJOV&keywords=world+music+book&qid=1665126018&qu=eyJxc2MiOiIwLjAwIiwicXNhIjoicMc4wMCIIsInFzcCI6IjAuMDAifO%3D%3D&s=books&srefix=world+music+book%2Cstripbooks%2C78&sr=1-4

<https://songexploder.net/>

[Sonic Academy - YouTube](#); music production tutorials and insights

Physical Education

The Champion Mind: How Great Athletes Think, Train and Thrive

Jim Afremow

Physics

What if? 2 - Randall Monroe (sequel to the one we already recommend in our poster, released last month)

PSHE

Quiet the Mind, Matthew Johnstone

The Everything Kids' Money Book: Earn it, save it, and watch it grow!, J.D. Brette McWhorter Sember

[PSHE4you - Episode 7 - Looking after your mental health - YouTube](#)

The Boy Who Steals Houses by C. G. Drews (Orchard Books)

Spanish

Short stories to learn vocabulary and to practice listening skill

[Turtle's Flute: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)

[The Greatest Treasure: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)

[The Wind and the Sun: Learn Spanish with subtitles - Story for Children "BookBox.com" - YouTube](#)

[El Pájaro y la Ballena - 'The Bird and the Whale' in Spanish \(with English subtitles\) - YouTube](#)

Theology & Philosophy

1. [Euthyphro](#) - Plato

2. [Biology, Belief, and Covid: Can Science and Faith be Reconciled? » The Big Conversation](#)

Hodder Magazine Online Archive (Review Magazines)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Some of these resources require passwords, which are available from the LRC eResources page on SharePoint.

Britannica	An online multimedia encyclopaedia accessible at three different language levels. Includes good quality information on a huge range of different topics.
British Medical Journal	Online version of the weekly medical journal
The Economist Online	Provides insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science and technology.
Hodder Magazine Online Archive (Review Magazines)	Written by board examiners, so is great for A-Level students. Ten titles accessible online, including Economic Review.
Issues Online	Excellent source of information, including statistics, on a wide range of social issues.
Complete Issues	Useful for articles on a wide range of current social issues.
JSTOR	JSTOR is an online archive of core scholarly journals in a wide variety of disciplines.
The Day	Inspiring students and teachers with topical case-studies and real world examples - using the news to bring subjects to life.