

Books for Vocabulary Development

Classic books for younger children:

Hans Christian Anderson – Fairy Tales

In this book there are all 168 of Hans Christian Anderson's famous fairy tales. The stories are reasonably short and the themes appeal to children.

Brothers Grimm – Fairy Tales

This is a collection of the Brothers Grimm works. There are lots of stories here you can focus on those which most appeal to your child. The book contains all the classics (Sleeping Beauty, Hansel and Gretel, Snow White) as well as many more equally good stories.

Enid Blyton

Enid Blyton as a prolific children's author. She wrote lots of series and it is quite normal for children to get into a series and then want to read all the books in it.

Enid Blyton – Malory Towers series – Book collection

Malory Towers follows the adventures of girls in a boarding school in Cornwall. The original Enid Blyton books feature her heroine Darrell Rivers and follows her and her companions from their first year through to their last term in a series of six books.

Enid Blyton – Famous Five series- Book collection

The Famous Five is perhaps Blyton's most popular series. The books follow the adventures of four children and their dog Timmy. Each book focuses on a different adventure.

More advanced Classic Books for children:

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle – The Lost World

The classic story of Ed Malone (journalist) and Professor Challenger (explorer) and their journey deep into South America where a lost world of dinosaurs awaits them.

Frances Hodgson Burnett – The Secret Garden

A true classic of children's literature. The book features Mary Lennox (aged 10) and deals with her life as she moves from India (on the death of her parents) to living with the uncle at Misselthwaite Manor.

Arthur Ransome – Swallows and Amazons

The adventures of two groups of children who learn to sail and take part in numerous adventures in the lake district. Swallows and Amazons is the first in a series of books.

C.S Lewis – Narnia Series

Starting with *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* and continuing for seven books the action is based in the fictional realm of Narnia.

Laura Ingalls Wilder – Little House on the Prairie

Based on Laura's memories of her childhood.

Laura Ingalls Wilder- Little House in the Big Woods

In this book the action takes place in the forests of Wisconsin. Those children who like *Little House on the Prairie* will also like *Little House in the Big Woods*

E. Nesbit – The Railway Children

The adventures of three children who are re-housed during the war. Their father is wrongly accused of being a spy and they join forces with an old man who they befriend to clear his name.

Mark Twain – The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Including Tom's best friends Huck Finn and Joe Harper, this book follows Tom's adventures in Missouri.

Mark Twain – The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Another of Twain's classic books. This one focusses on Huckleberry Finn and his adventures which also includes his friend Tom Sawyer.

Daniel Defoe – Robinson Crusoe

A gripping novel which starts with Crusoe's numerous naval adventures which lead to him being shipwrecked for many years. One of the all-time great adventure stories complete with a happy ending.

Lucy Montgomery – Anne of Green Gables

Anne is an orphan who is sent to a farm to help Mirilla and Cuthbert with the work. They had wanted a boy but Anne works out well. Anne forms a very strong bond with Mirilla and returns to Green Gables to help her towards the end of her life.

E. Nesbit – Five Children and It, The Phoenix and the Carpet and The Story of the Amulet

This is a fantasy trilogy *Five Children and It* (the first in the series) starts with a group of children who discover a sand-fairy (Psammead) who encourages them to make a series of wishes- many of which don't turn out well.

J.R.R Tolkien- The Hobbit

Classic fantasy novel. The hobbit (Bilbo Baggins) sets out to win a share of the treasure held by Smaug the dragon. The story tells of Bilbo's adventures and his growing maturity.

J.R.R Tolkien – The Lord of the Rings

This is Tolkien's epic fantasy trilogy. The Lord of the Rings is published in three volumes:

The Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, The Return of the King

J.M.Barrie – Peter Pan

Robert Louis Stevenson- Treasure Island

Ian Serrailier – The Silver Sword

Other books to develop vocabulary:

Lemony Snicket: A Series of Unfortunate Events (13 books)

Christopher Paolini: Inheritance Cycle series (4 books)

Philip Pullman: His Dark Matericals series (3 books)

Rudyard Kipling: The Jungle Book

Roald Dahl: Boy & Going Solo