



Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Reading Spine Rationale

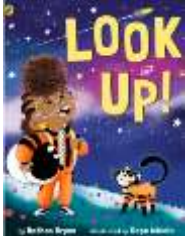
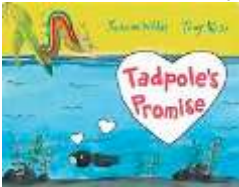
Our Reading Spine has been carefully selected to provide all pupils with access to high-quality, diverse and engaging literature that promotes a love of reading while supporting the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. The texts have been chosen to align with curriculum topics, provide rich vocabulary opportunities, expose pupils to a range of authors, cultures, experiences and perspectives, and act as high-quality models for writing. The spine supports progression from Stage N through to Stage 6, ensuring that pupils encounter a broad range of fiction, non-fiction and poetry while developing increasing confidence as readers, storytellers and writers. Through carefully planned core texts, supporting texts, poetry and non-fiction links, pupils build knowledge, deepen comprehension, develop oracy and acquire the language needed to communicate effectively across the curriculum. The Reading Spine also reflects our commitment to inclusion, representation and reading for pleasure, ensuring that every pupil can see themselves, others and the wider world reflected in the books they experience.

Oak Class (Years 1–3)

Term	Topic	Core Text	Supporting Texts	Poetry Spine	Non-Fiction Link	Writing Outcomes
Autumn 1	Toys	Lost in the Toy Museum – David Lucas 	<i>Dogger</i> (Shirley Hughes), <i>Old Bear</i> (Jane Hissey), <i>The Paper Dolls</i> (Julia Donaldson) 	Michael Rosen – <i>Chocolate Cake</i> and toy-themed poems 	Toys Through Time, Victorian Toys, Old and New Toys	Labels, captions, recounts, instructions

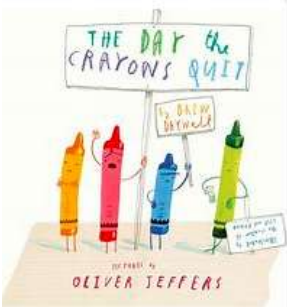
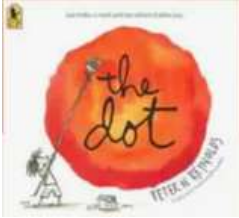


Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Autumn 2	Significant Explorers	Man on the Moon – Simon Bartram 	<i>Look Up!, The Great Explorer, Little People Big Dreams: Neil Armstrong</i> 	James Carter space poems 	Neil Armstrong, Mae Jemison, Tim Peake fact files	Diaries, biographies, letters, adventure stories
Spring 1	Our Local Area	Coming to England (picture book version) 	<i>All Are Welcome, All Kinds of Children, Cool Cuts</i>  	Joseph Coelho poems about home and belonging 	Local maps, aerial photographs, local history books	Descriptions, recounts, information leaflets
Spring 2	What a Wonderful World	Here We Are – Oliver Jeffers 	<i>Tadpole's Promise, Guna's Jar, Jabari Jumps</i>  	The Puffin Book of Fantastic First Poems 	Atlases, continents and oceans texts, world culture books	Information reports, explanations, comparison writing



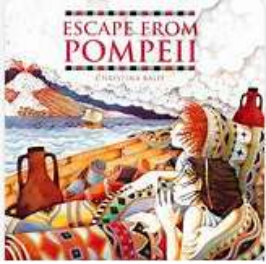
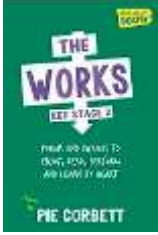
Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Summer 1	Colour Chaos	The Day the Crayons Quit 	<i>The Dot, Mixed, The Colour Monster</i> , Pie Corbett colour poems and selections from <i>Please Mrs Butler</i> (Allan Ahlberg) 	Pie Corbett colour poems	Kandinsky, Mondrian and colour theory texts	Letters, persuasive writing, poetry
Summer 2	Let's Sculpt / Moving Pictures	The Most Magnificent Thing 	<i>Rosie Revere Engineer, Mr Ferris and His Wheel, Not a</i>  Box	A Great Big Cuddle	Inventors, engineers, designers and sculptors	Instructions, explanations, evaluations



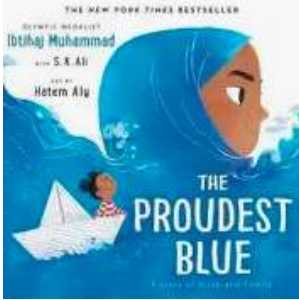
Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Maple Class (Years 4–6)

Term	Topic	Core Text	Supporting Texts	Poetry Spine	Non-Fiction Link	Writing Outcomes
Autumn 1	Romans	Escape from Pompeii 	<i>Romans on the Rampage</i> , <i>Julius Zebra</i> , Roman myths 	Roman-themed poetry (Mick Gowar) and performance poetry from The Works (Pie Corbett) 	Roman Britain, Pompeii and Roman army texts, First News historical newspaper reports	Historical narratives, diaries, newspaper reports
Autumn 2	Egyptians	Cinderella of the Nile 	<i>The Boy Who Stole the Pharaoh's Lunch</i> , <i>Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx</i> , Egyptian myths 	Egyptian-themed poetry (Twinkl) and poems inspired by myths and legends from The Puffin Book of Myths and Legends	Ancient Egypt fact books, archaeology texts	Myths, narratives, reports, newspaper articles

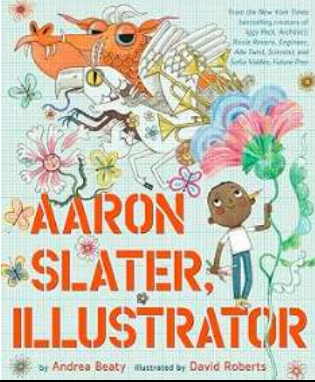
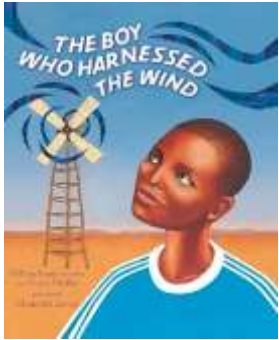
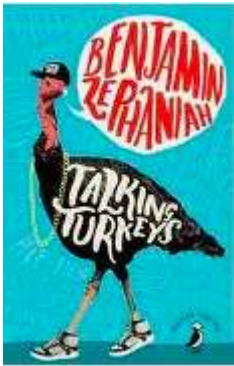


Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Spring 1	United Kingdom	Coming to England 	<i>The Proudest Blue, Young Gifted and Black, The Island</i> 	Benjamin Zephaniah poems about identity and belonging	UK geography, migration and cultural diversity texts	Biographies, reports, persuasive writing
Spring 2	Rivers & Mountains	The Rhythm of the Rain 	<i>Song of the River, Everest, Once Upon a Raindrop</i>  	Joseph Coelho and Valerie Bloom nature poetry and selected poems from <i>Werewolf Club Rules</i> 	Rivers of the UK, mountains and water cycle texts	Explanations, reports, balanced arguments



Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Summer 1	Bodies / Fruit & Vegetables	Pig Heart Boy 	Can You See Me? (Libby Scott), Aaron Slater Illustrator, healthy lifestyle texts, <i>Along Came a Different</i> 	Pie Corbett selections from <i>The Works Key Stage 2</i> and health-themed poetry.	Human body, nutrition and healthy eating texts	Instructions, scientific reports, persuasive campaigns
Summer 2	Battery Operated Light	The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind 	<i>Until I Met Dudley</i>, inventor biographies, <i>Hidden Figures</i> extracts 	John Agard innovation poems and selections from <i>Talking Turkeys</i> (Benjamin Zephaniah) 	Electricity, renewable energy and inventor biographies	Design briefs, explanations, evaluations, speeches



Reading Spine & Long-Term Text Map 2026–2027

Whole-School Poetry Spine

Stage	Poet Focus
Stage N	Traditional Rhymes, Nursery Rhymes, Julia Donaldson
Stage R	Traditional Rhymes, Julia Donaldson
Stage 1	Michael Rosen
Stage 2	Allan Ahlberg
Stage 3	Roger McGough
Stage 4	Joseph Coelho
Stage 5	Pie Corbett
Stage 6	Benjamin Zephaniah & John Agard

Supplementary Core Text Bank

Purpose	Text
Traditional Tale	The Three Little Pigs
Traditional Tale	Little Red Riding Hood
Traditional Tale	Goldilocks and The Three Bears
Poetry Collection (KS1)	A Great Big Cuddle
Poetry Collection (KS1/2)	Please Mrs Butler
Poetry Collection (LKS2)	Werewolf Club Rules
Poetry Collection (UKS2)	Talking Turkeys
Newspaper Models	First News
Discussion Texts	The Island