



7-9 Booklist by Title - Full

When using this booklist, please be aware of the need for guidance to ensure students select texts considered appropriate for their age, interest and maturity levels.

⦿ This title is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 950450 | Play the game Weetman, Nova | Hardie Grant Children's Publishing | 2024 | 9781760121754 | Edie and Tess are best friends. Edie enjoys playing netball but also loves drama. Tess is obsessed with netball and with making it into the State representative team. But when Edie scores a role in the school play and makes it into the rep netball team she faces some difficult decisions which could cost her her friendship with Tess. |
| 5638 | 1000-year-old boy, The Welford, Ross | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2018 | 9780008256944 | Alfie Monk is like any other pre-teen, except he's 1000 years old and can remember when Vikings invaded his village and he and his family had to run for their lives. When he loses everything he loves in a tragic fire and the modern world finally catches up with him, Alfie embarks on a mission to change everything by finally trusting Aidan and Roxy enough to share his story, and enlisting their help to find a way to, eventually, make sure he will eventually die. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 22034 | 13 days of midnight Hunt, Leo | Orchard Books | 2015 | 9781408337462 | Luke Manchett is 16 years old with a place on the rugby team and the prettiest girl in Year 11 in his sights. Then his estranged father suddenly dies and he finds out that he is to inherit six million dollars! But if he wants the cash, he must accept the Host. A collection of malignant ghosts who his Necromancer father had trapped and enslaved! Now the Host is angry, the Host is strong, and the Host is out for revenge! Has Luke got what it takes to fight these horrifying spirits and save himself and his world? |
| 570824 | 13th reality, The: Blade of shattered hope Dashner, James | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781742998381 | Tick and his friends are still trying to work out how to defeat Mistress Jane, but when there are 13 realities from which to draw trouble, the battle is 13 times as hard. |
| 569157 | 13th reality, The: Hunt for dark infinity Dashner, James | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781742998190 | Tick, Sophia and Paul have agreed to work with Master George as realitants, protecting the 12 realities from Reginald Chu and his desire for total domination of all the realities. But Mistress Jane, in her warped 13th reality, has other ideas. And when Chu decides he needs either Tick or Jane to fulfill his plans, the unlikely duo find themselves having to work together for the greater good. But what is it about Tick that has everyone, even Master George, determined to stop him? |
| 24577 | 13th reality, The: Journal of curious letters Dashner, James | Scholastic Australia | 2008 | 9781742994789 | Early in the twentieth century, scientists interested in quantum physics made a momentous discovery. Now, 13 year old Tick has received a letter that invites him to solve twelve clues in order to stop reality from 'splitting at the seams'. Along the way, Tick has to face up to some of his biggest fears and suspend his disbelief. The obvious reward might be saving many lives, but the unexpected rewards include seeing how awesome his dad really is and making some real friends for the first time in his life. |
| 7562 | 47 degrees D'Ath, Justin | Penguin Books Australia | 2019 | 9780143789079 | Zeelie wonders if they're in danger. When temperatures soar to 47 degrees one hot summer day, 12-year-old Zeelie hopes the nearby bushfires everyones talking about aren't heading towards her family's new home. What will they do if the wind changes direction? What about their belongings and their beloved pets? And why hasn't her mum and brother returned from Melbourne? Nothing can prepare Zeelie for what's to come. |
| 23006 | 48 hours: The Medusa curse Lord, Gabrielle | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781743629765 | International antiquities fraud and Computer Crime come together in Sydney. Can Jazz and Phoenix save their friend's father and themselves from some very dangerous people? |

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|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 44497 | 48 hours: The vanishing Lord, Gabrielle | Scholastic Australia | 2017 | 9781743629758 | Jazz always wanted to be a detective, and now she has no choice! Her best friend Anika has been kidnapped over a 20 year old mystery. Can the annoying school rebel help her link the clues, within the first 48 hours? |
| 14780 | 60 classic Australian poems Cheng, Christopher (ed) & Rogers, Gregory (ill) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741664140 | Australian poets have a wonderful way with words and their poems bring to life the iconic Aussie characters and unforgettable landscapes that are part of our Australian heritage. This is a collection of ballads and poems by some familiar, and not so familiar, poets, accompanied by attractive pen and ink sketches. Includes an index of poets and first lines, as well as interesting notes about the writers. |
| 33477 | 9/11 report, The: a graphic adaptation Jacobson, Sid & Colon, Ernie (ill) | Hill & Wang | 2006 | 9780809057399 | The United States was completely unprepared for the shocking act of terrorism when hijacked planes flew into New York's twin towers on 11 September 2001. This ia a graphic representation of The 9/11 Report, which gives the background to the attack and analyses the response of the federal agencies involved. |
| 7917 | A-Z of convicts in Van Diemen's Land Barnard, Simon | Text Publishing Co | 2014 | 9781922079343 | In the first half of the nineteenth century, seventy-three thousand convicts were transported to the British penal colony of Van Diemen's Land. This is an enthralling journey through the personal histories and daily lives of the men, women and children who played a vital role in the building of the settlements, as well as the running of the newly established colony. |
| 8086 | Abundance of Katherines, An Green, John | Penguin USA | 2012 | 9780141346090 | Colin has an IQ around 200 and no social skills and Hassan understands people and social etiquette stuff so their friendship is the perfect balance. When the nineteenth of Colin's girlfriends (all called Katherine) breaks up with him, the boys decide a road trip is in order. When they end up in Gutshot, Tennessee, they meet a mother and daughter who provide all of the necessary ingredients for some problem solving to occur. |
| 15540 | Across the wall Nix, Garth | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2005 | 9781741147018 | A collection of thirteen short stories providing an eclectic mix of Garth Nix's writing spanning several years. Included are an Old Kingdom story, an Arthurian legend, a war story, a western, a traditional tale with a twist and a very funny, choose-your-own-adventure spoof. |
| 1058 | Act of faith Gardiner, Kelly | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2011 | 9780732292805 | In 1960 England, Isabella is forced to flee her home when her father's strong opinions lead to take a stand against the army. She takes refuge in Amsterdam with an elderly printer, who is brave enough to print topics which stir religious intolerance. This results in a dangerous journey to help him escape certain death for his books. |

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|---------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 11356 | Adam Spencer's world of numbers Spencer, Adam | Xoum Publishing | 2015 | 9781921134869 | If you love numbers and like to laugh, then you'll enjoy finding out the crucial role that numbers play in our understanding of sport, space, computers, cooking, and a whole lot in between. This book decodes barcodes, explains why we say 'as sixes and sevens' when we're discombobulated, shows how many people you need in a room before there'll be a birthday in common, and why the number seventy is weird and what can be done about it. A whole lot more weird and wonderful stuff. |
| 2277 | Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, The Twain, Mark | Oxford University Press | 1999 | 9780192824417 | A classic story of slavery and a runaway boy's exploits. Huckleberry Finn had a tough life with his drunken father until an adventure with Tom Sawyer changed everything. When Huck's dad returns and kidnaps him, he must escape down the Mississippi River with a runaway slave, Jim. They face trouble at every turn, from floods and gunfights to armed bandits and the long arm of the law. Through it all, the friends stick together. |
| 55890 | Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, The Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141034355 | Out of his smoke-filled rooms in Baker Street stalks a figure who causes criminals to quake in their boots and rush from their dens of iniquity. This collection of twelve mysteries reveals the clever mind of the brilliant consulting detective, Sherlock Holmes, as he works with his sidekick, Dr Watson. |
| 2444 | Adventures of Sir Roderick the not-very brave, The O'Loghlin, James | Pan MacMillan | 2014 | 9781742614038 | Roderick doesn't want to be a knight. When Queen Emily sends her knights on a grand quest, Sir Roderick wants to stay behind. Reluctantly, he ventures forth beyond the Forest of Gilderang (filled with fearsome creatures) to the Circle of Mountains, home to giant cockroaches. En route, he meets an invisible girl, a talking bear and the most famous sorcerer in the land. |
| 562 | Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The Twain, Mark & Peck, Richard (intr) | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141321103 | On the banks of the Mississippi, Tom Sawyer and his friends seek out adventure at every turn. One fateful night, they witness a murder and the boys swear never to reveal their secret. They run away to be pirates and search for hidden treasure. But, Tom gets trapped in a cave with the murderer. |
| 1233647 | After Kenny, Padraig & McCarthy, Steve (ill) | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781529517804 | Ariel, lives in a settlement called New Horizon. His community is heavily controlled, with strict rules and a constant emphasis on obedience and loyalty. The residents are told that the world outside is dangerous, filled with threats like the Hollow Ones, which are emotionless, masked humanoids that once were people but now serve a mysterious power. Ariel is a loyal follower of the settlement's ideology until a tragic event forces him to flee. He embarks on a dangerous journey across a devastated landscape, where he meets other children who are also on the run. |

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|--------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 55251 | After Lawson, Sue | Black Dog Books | 2009 | 9781742031125 | CJ was one of the popular, cool kids at his old school. Now, everything has changed. He is known as Callum, banished to the country to live with grandparents he has never met and who don't seem to want him there. Things are no better at school but worse still is the secret that Callum carries with him night and day. |
| 8076 | After January Earls, Nick | University of Queensland Press | 2009 | 9780702237652 | School is over for Alex Delaney and he's waiting for his tertiary offer which is only seventeen days away. The waiting is killing him. He's not expecting much from January, just bodysurfing and TV, but mainly waiting. So, he's not ready for the girl who cuts past him on a wave. January is about to change. |
| 903076 | Against all odds young readers edition Challen, Craig & Harris, Richard & Ellis, Henican | Puffin Australia | 2022 | 9780143778202 | In June 2018 the Thai soccer team the Wild Boars went on a walk into a cave after practice. After unexpected rains, they became trapped deep in the cave system, unable to escape, with no communication to the outside world, no food and no fresh water. For 17 days they remained in the caves as an international cave diving team, including the authors, Australians Richard Harris and Craig Challen worked on a plan to rescue the team. With the lives of the soccer team and the rescuers in danger, they built trust and showed incredible resilience to rescue each member of the team. |
| | Agatha Christie graphic novel series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Airborn series Oppel, Kenneth | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 49473 | Airman Colfer, Eoin | Puffin UK | 2008 | 9780141383354 | Conor Broekhart was born to fly. In an age when many dreamed of flying, it became his destiny. When a cruel and cunning betrayal destroys his family, Conor must win the race for flight to save his family and right a terrible wrong. |

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| 5216 | Akarnae Noni, Lynette | Pantera Press | 2015 | 9781921997501 | Sixteen-year-old Alexandra Jennings is thrust into the fantasy world of Medora after walking through a mysterious doorway on her first day at a new school. Stranded and desperate to return home, she learns only the missing Professor Marselle can help. While waiting, Alex enrolls at Akarnae Academy, a school for gifted teens, where she begins to adapt and make friends. But dark forces stir, and Alex finds herself at the centre of a dangerous mystery. As the fate of the Medorans rests on her shoulders, she must decide: will she risk everything, including her way home to save a world she's just begun to love? |
| 58907 | Al Capone shines my shoes Choldenko, Gennifer | Bloomsbury | 2009 | 9781408801550 | Matthew (Moose) Flanagan lives on the island of Alcatraz. His father is one of the guards. His older sister, Natalie, is autistic and, in an effort to protect her, Moose now owes prisoner 85, Al Capone, who has managed to secure her a place at a special school. The price Moose might have to pay reveals itself quite spectacularly. |
| 47239 | Alex & Eliza de la Cruz, Melissa | Pan MacMillan | 2017 | 9781509869978 | As battle cries of the American Revolution echo in the distance, servants flutter about preparing for one of New York society's biggest events: the Schuylers' grand ball. Eliza can barely contain her excitement when she hears of the arrival of one Alexander Hamilton, a mysterious young colonel and General George Washington's right-hand man. When Alex and Eliza meet that fateful night, so begins an epic love story that would forever change the course of American history. A fictionalised version of what might have been, featuring figures from the Tony winning Broadway musical. |
| | Alex Rider graphic novels series Various | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
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| 5 | Aliens in the family Mahy, Margaret | Scholastic US | 1994 | 9780590448987 | Jake helps her new step-sister and step-brother to protect an alien from another dimension. |

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|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 7573 | Aliens, ghosts and vanishings: strange and possibly true Australian stories Tarakson, Stella & Morden, Richard (ill) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9781925324969 | Have you heard these most bizarre tales from around Australia? Did a UFO drag a family's car off the road in the middle of the outback? How did rocks rain from the sky in WA? And what became of the prime minister who went into the surf and was never seen again? Explore the strangest tales, most incredible encounters and creepiest urban legends in Australia's history. Read about the investigations and weigh up the facts, do you believe the official explanations for these weird and wonderful events? |
| 1286592 | All better now Shusterman, Neal | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781529517590 | A new virus is spreading through a world still weary from the last pandemic. This virus is different. For the survivors of this deadly new virus, a new way of seeing the world and a soul unburdened by jealousies and selfishness. Survivors are treated with contempt or worse because happiness is bad for big business. Three characters from very different backgrounds find themselves on a collision course as the world is split between those aggressively seeking a cure and those willing to stop a cure at all cost. |
| 7 | All creatures great and small Herriot, James | St Martin's | 1998 | 9780330250498 | The life of an English country vet is revealed in the funny and sad situations that James Herriot finds on his rounds. |
| 113863 | All fall down Geason, Susan | Little Hare Books | 2005 | 9781877003868 | Christobel, fourteen and heiress to a fortune, is bored and lonely until she decides to dress as a boy and rescue her servant's son who has been kidnapped. It becomes a dangerous game set in the crime and disease-ridden slums of The Rocks. |
| 774242 | All our hidden gifts ODonoghue, Caroline | Walker Books | 2021 | 9781406393095 | Maeve Chambers does not have any special gifts. That is, until she finds a dusty old pack of tarot cards. She finds herself able to give readings with uncanny accuracy. When she reads for an ex-friend, a strange card appears and begins a series of events that ensure Maeve faces her inner demons and a power much older and more powerful than even the cards have proven to be. |
| 9 | All we know French, Simon | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 1987 | 9780207153594 | All Arkie knows is that things are changing, the vacant block of land is being built on and everyone is talking about going to high school. |

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|---------|---|---------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1424093 | All your wishes Sieveking, Laura | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761646867 | Fall in love with Two Hearts-romantic fiction for young hearts. Piper is the daughter of two famous Hollywood actors and is sick of being followed by the paparazzi everywhere they go. So when she gets the opportunity to spend six months attending a regular high school, something she's never done before, she grabs it with both hands. Piper moves in with her childhood friends, twins Chloe and Cooper, and they all agree to keep Piper's true identity a secret. Piper finds herself in a confusing new world. The cutest boy at school, Cruz, takes an interest in her, and the coolest girl suddenly wants to become friends. But why? Despite Chloe and Cooper's warnings, Piper is drawn to Cruz and his friends, who she's adamant are not as shallow as they may appear. |
| 1232868 | Almost sunset Algami, Wahab | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781761601088 | Navigating a month of school and an upcoming soccer championship while fasting for Ramadan can be tough. Luckily Hassan has a winning combo of family, friends and faith and his goals in sight! |
| 660782 | Always and forever, Lara Jean Han, Jenny | Scholastic Australia | 2017 | 9781481430487 | Lara Jean is having the best senior year. And there's still so much to look forward to: a class trip to New York City, prom with her boyfriend Peter, Beach Week after graduation, and her dad's wedding to Ms. Rothschild. Then she'll be off to college with Peter, at a school close enough for her to come home and bake chocolate chip cookies on the weekends. Life couldn't be more perfect! At least, that's what Lara Jean thinks... until she gets some unexpected news. Now the girl who dreads change must rethink all her plans -- but when your heart and your head are saying two different things, which one should you listen to? |
| 42 | Amazing and bizarre - ten wonderfully weird stories Matthews, Penny (comp) | Yearling | 1992 | 9780440407058 | A collection of ten, strange stories, including one about a person who swam so much, he grew fins. |
| 825483 | Amazing Edie Eckhart, The Jones, Rosie & Smillie, Natalie (ill) | Hachette Children's Books | 2022 | 9781444958348 | Edie is a little bit different. She has a disability called cerebral palsy, so she talks slowly and falls over a lot. Edie is Excited with a capital E to star secondary school with best friend Oscar who is the fish to her chips or the banana to her custard. So, when they are put in different classes and Oscar makes new friends, Edie is devastated. But her shaky world is about to change. Edie gets an unusual part in the school play which sets off a series of events that change her life forever. Following her dreams to become an actress will result in a year that is Amazing with a capital A. |

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|--------|--|-------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Amazing facts series Parish, Steve & Cox, Karin | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 114273 | Amazing Maurice and his educated rodents, The Pratchett, Terry | Corgi Books | 2004 | 9780552552028 | Maurice the cat and his friends, a motley group of rats, have gained super intelligence overnight and quickly start scamming human villages with a Pied Piper of Hamelin ruse. |
| 78434 | Amazing mind of Alice Makin, The Shea, Alan | Chicken House | 2008 | 9781904442325 | Twelve year old Alice Makin is living in a tiny flat in post-war London where many people's homes have been destroyed. Reggie and the man he calls his grandfather come to live upstairs. Alice and Reggie become friends and realise that they share a special talent for making things that they think happen. This is not their only connection and as the story unfolds Alice learns about who she really is. |
| 9267 | Among ants, between bees McFarlane, Peter | Pan MacMillan | 1998 | 9780732948412 | An anthology covering a wide range of human experiences. |
| 4601 | Among believers: Pictorial journey, A Osborne, Christine | World religions photo library | 2016 | 9780992324018 | Among Believers explores the richness and diversity of the world's mainstream religions: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism and Sikhism. More than 350 remarkable photographs document worship and the rites of passage rooted in a country's culture, religious festivals, feasts and fasts, meditation, education, sacred foods and places of pilgrimage. |
| 616969 | Amundsen's way: The race to the South Pole Grochowicz, Joanna | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781760637668 | Bold, secretive and utterly uncompromising, renowned Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen will stop at nothing to execute his latest plan - to be the first to reach the southernmost point on the globe. Haunted by the prospect of his rival Captain Scott scooping the prize, Amundsen pushes himself and his men beyond the bounds of human experience and ever deeper into the Antarctic unknown. Can Amundsen count on the loyalty of his men to the very end? How will history view Roald Amundsen? |

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|--------|--|---|------|---------------|--|
| 8316 | Ancestry: Stories of multicultural ANZACS Siers, Robyn & Walker, Carlie | Dept of Veterans' Affairs & Australian War Memorial | 2015 | 9780992583927 | Australians from a wide range of cultural backgrounds served together during the First World War. They wore the same uniform and experienced the same conditions and hardships. For many, wartime service gave them the equality that was not available in Australian society, either before or after the war. These stories about multicultural ANZACS draw on the Australian War Memorial's diverse collection, and include private records, photographs, works of art and relics. |
| 3018 | And the band played Waltzing Matilda Bogle, Eric & Whatley, Bruce (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781743317051 | Eric Bogle's famous but depressing anti-war song about the Battle of Gallipoli was written in 1971, inspired by the Vietnam War and the lukewarm response of the Australian public to the returning soldiers. It explores the futility of war with haunting power. The accompanying illustrations are graphic and certainly do not glorify war. A timely story for every generation. |
| 581488 | And the ocean was our sky Ness, Patrick & Cai, Rovina (ill) | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406383560 | "Call me Bathsheba." The whales of Bathsheba's pod live for the hunt. Led by the formidable Captain Alexandra, they fight a never-ending war against men. Then the whales attack a man ship, and instead of easy prey they find the trail of a myth, a monster, perhaps the devil himself... With their relentless Captain leading the chase, they embark on the final hunt, one that will forever change the worlds of whales and men. |
| 53254 | Angel of Kokoda Wilson, Mark | Hachette Children's Books | 2010 | 9780734411280 | Kari knows a lot about his jungle home but he doesn't know why there is fighting in the village of Kokoda. When Kari finds a wounded Australian soldier, he knows he cannot leave him. They must retreat along the Kokoda Track with the enemy following. |
| 13 | Angela and Diabola Banks, Lynne Reid | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1998 | 9780006753001 | Angela is the angelic twin and Diabola is the opposite, a pair of twins who can drive their normal parents, the Cuthbertson-Joneses, to distraction. Angela is perfect but, that Diabola, she could just be wicked or she may be a genius. |
| 581502 | Anger of angels, The Jordan, Sherryl | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781760650605 | Giovanna's father is the Jester in Duke Ubertini's palace. When, at the Duke's insistence, Giovanna's dad performs a new play, a play in which he mocks the Prince of the neighbouring land, he sets in motion a series of events that puts the lives of Giovanna and her new friend, Raffaele, in grave danger. In this alternate reality Renaissance Italy, we learn that words have a powerful and long-lasting impact. |
| 5234 | Anila's journey Finn, Mary | Walker Books | 2008 | 9781406306590 | Menace and mystery lie in wait for Anila Tandy who secures a job drawing birds for an English naturalist, travelling on a river boat up the Ganges River. Anila will use this journey to search for her father, missing for years and presumed dead. Anila must test herself in the man's world of India, in the late 1700s. |

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| 916641 | Animal facts: By the numbers Jenkins, Steve | Clarion Books | 2022 | 9780358470168 | In the by the Numbers series, we dive deep into the world of animals and insects. From the smallest known species of snake to the sleepest mammals, Animal Facts By the Numbers provides readers of all ages with the ultimate animal trivia knowledge. |
| 5318 | Animal heroes Hill, Anthony | Penguin | 2005 | 9780143003809 | Short stories about animals involved in Australian armed conflicts, from WWI to more recent times. The animals display bravery under fire, mateship and loyalty, the same attributes shown by the ANZACs. |
| | Animal stars series French, Jackie | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 7690 | Animals Robert Scott saw: an adventure in Antarctica Markle, Sandra | Chronicle Books | 2008 | 9780811849180 | In 1901, Robert Scott made his first trip to Antarctica. This is the incredible story of Scott's adventures and the animals he saw along the way. |
| 667362 | Anna at war Peters, Helen | Nosy Crow Ltd | 2019 | 9781788004718 | As life for German Jews becomes ever more dangerous, Anna's parents make the desperate decision to send her to England. But the war follows her to Kent, and soon Anna finds herself caught up in a web of secrecy and betrayal. How can she prove whose side she's on when she can't tell anyone the truth? But actions speak louder than words, and Anna has a risky plan. |
| 15 | Anna the goanna and other poems McDougall, Jill & Taylor, Jenny (ill) | Aboriginal Studies Press | 2000 | 9780855753443 | A colourful, engaging picture book containing a collection of poems about living in an Aboriginal community. |
| 90623 | Anne Frank Poole, J & Barrett, A (ill) | Red Fox | 2007 | 9780099409762 | Anne Frank is a young Jewish girl in Germany when Adolf Hitler rose to power and began his program to eradicate Jewish people. Anne and her family are forced to take refuge in a small annexe for two years. |
| 19375 | Another night in Mullet Town Herrick, Steven | University of Queensland Press | 2016 | 9780702253959 | Life for Jonah and Manx means fishing for mullet at the lake, watching their school mates party on Friday night and wishing they had the courage to talk to Ella and Rachel. But, their lakeside town is being sold off and, now, life doesn't seem so simple. Manx holds a grudge against the wealthy blow-ins from the city and Jonah just wants his parents to stop arguing. One memorable night at the lake will change everything. A verse novel. |
| 1141624 | Anti-racism kit Kim, Jinyoung & Patawaran, Sabina | Hardie Grant Children's Publishing | 2024 | 9781761211171 | Do you want to understand racism and racial justice in Australia? Then this book is for you. Created especially for Australian high school students, it covers three actionable, tangible areas for change - Self, School and Society. |

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|--------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 18 | Antonio S and the mystery of Theodore Guzman Hirsch, Odo | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1997 | 9781864484090 | Antonio lives with his parents in the tower of an old house. In the same area lives a recluse actor called Theodore Guzman. Antonio draws him out by presenting a play. In turn, Guzman leads Antonio into the magical world of theatre. |
| 46892 | Anzac tale, An Starke, Ruth & Holfeld, Greg (ill) | Working Title Press | 2013 | 9781921504532 | What the friends first thought would be an adventure soon turns to disaster. The day after landing at Anzac Cove on 25 April 1915, more than 2000 Anzacs are dead. As the campaign drags on, life for Wally and Roy becomes a battle of endurance against a plucky enemy, a hostile landscape, flies, fleas, cold and disease. |
| 13872 | Apple tart of hope, The Fitzgerald, Sarah Moore | Orion | 2014 | 9781444011159 | Oscar Dunleavy, who used to make the world's most perfect apple tarts, is missing, presumed dead. No one seems too surprised, except for Meg, his best friend, and his little brother Stevie. Surrounded by grief and confusion, Meg and Stevie are determined to find out what happened to Oscar, and together they learn about loyalty and friendship and the power of never giving up hope. |
| 10056 | Archie's war Williams, Marcia | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406304275 | Archie's first hand experience of being in London during the Great War of 1914-1918 is told through his scrapbook. |
| 2511 | Are you seeing me Groth, Darren | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780857984739 | Nineteen-year-old twins, Justine and Perry, embark on a holiday to North America. Perry has a brain condition that can cause him to become distressed and behave in inappropriate ways, and after the death of their father, Justine has become his sole carer. This trip will mark a shift in their relationship, towards independence, and an opportunity for their absent mother to atone for past mistakes. |

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|--------|--|---------------|------|---------------|--|
| 804346 | Are you there, Buddha? Harry, Pip | Lothian Books | 2021 | 9780734420305 | <p>Bee Ballentine is starting her first year of high school at beachside Crescent Bay. Still reeling from the departure of her mother who left for an ashram in India, Bee talks to Buddha and begs for her first period not to arrive. She's not ready to become a woman yet, whatever that means.</p> <p>Although Bee has yet to find her group at school, her best friend forever is Leon Mckay, the hottest boy in Year 8. As long as Leon has her back Bee can survive the mean girls, her meddling step-mum Kath, her swimming nemesis, The Piranha.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Pip Harry read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#are-you-there-buddha-pip-harry</p> |
| 820475 | Are you there, God? It's me, Margaret Blume, Judy | Pan MacMillan | 1970 | 9781447286813 | <p>Margaret Simon, almost twelve, likes long hair, tuna fish, the smell of rain, and things that are pink. She's just moved from New York City to Farbook, New Jersey, and is anxious to fit in with her new friends -- Nancy, Gretchen, and Janie. When they form a secret club to talk about private subjects like boys, bras, and getting their first periods, Margaret is happy to belong.</p> <p>But none of them can believe Margaret doesn't have religion, and that she isn't going to the Y or the Jewish Community Center. What they don't know is Margaret has her own very special relationship with God. She can talk to God about everything -- family, friends, even Moose Freed, her secret crush.</p> <p>Margaret is funny and real, and her thoughts and feelings are oh-so-relatable -- you'll feel like she's talking right to you, sharing her secrets with a friend.</p> |
| 660770 | Are you watching? Ralph, Vincent | Penguin | 2020 | 9780241367421 | <p>Jessica has been accepted to star in a YouTube reality program where one day a week, she is filmed from wake up until midnight. She and four other applicants are chosen and allocated their days, Monday-Friday. Jess is the Monday star. Her 'hook' is that her mother was the first of 13 women murdered by a serial killer dubbed the The Magpie Man and Jess has vowed to catch him. This show is just the exposure she needs.</p> |

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|--------|---|------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 22 | Ariel, Zed and the secret of life Fienberg, Anna & Gamble, Kim (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9781865082639 | Ariel's writer mother sends misbehaving characters to an island school for Rebellious Characters. This summer, she sends Ariel and Zed. A cast of eccentric characters includes an insomniac Sleeping Beauty. A tale of action and self-discovery. |
| 13953 | Arnie Avery Walker, Sue | Walker Books | 2010 | 9781921529726 | Lately, nothing is going right for thirteen year old Arnie. Ever since it happened, his family, especially his mother, has been behaving strangely. At school, he is accused of cheating and now Jacko has challenged him to a fight. He has to get his life sorted out and deal with what happened. |
| 673 | Around the world in 80 days Verne, Jules | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141035871 | One evening, while relaxing at his gentleman's club, Phileas Fogg rashly bets that he can travel the entire globe in 80 days. The unflappable Englishman is determined not to lose this extraordinary wager as he sets off for Dover with his not so cool-headed, French manservant, Passepartout. |
| 8120 | Arrival, The Tan, Shaun | Hachette Children's Books | 2006 | 9780734406941 | The Arrival gives us great insight into the process of leaving your homeland and trying to find a new place in the world. The journey can be frightening, inspiring and emotional for all displaced persons. Many stories are told through Tan's illustrations. |
| | Artemis Fowl series Various | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 628092 | As happy as here Godwin, Jane | Hachette Children's Books | 2019 | 9780734419231 | Evie, Lucy and Gemma are all in hospital for different reasons, and find themselves in a ward together. Despite a rocky start, they gradually become friends. When one of them witnesses a crime from the window, all three band together to solve the mystery and help build each others happiness while doing so. A coming of age novel for anyone in that space between childhood and adolescence. |
| 985522 | Ask no questions Collins, Eva | Puncher & Wattmann | 2022 | 9781922571342 | With a third of Australians born and around half with one parent born overseas, migration stories are a crucial part of our national experience. In her verse novel, Ask No Questions, Eva Collins writes spare affecting lines about her own experience as a teenager when her parents decided to emigrate from Poland to Australia. She captures the loss and gain, grief and celebration with great poignancy. Simply written but deeply moving, Ask No Questions is accessible poetry that is particularly suited for young adult readers. |

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|--------|--|------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 587812 | Assassination of Brangwain Spurge, The Anderson, M.T. & Yelchin, Eugene | Candlewick Press | 2018 | 9780763698225 | The universal understanding is that goblins are blood thirsty, uncivilised monsters, and elves are artistically refined and polite. Be prepared for a confrontational truth as Brangwain Spurge, elfin emissary, is catapulted across the Bonecruel Mountains into the goblin territory of Tenebrion. His mission is to infiltrate and spy on the evil goblin government under the pretence of delivering a gift, and return alive. |
| 14405 | At the sign of the sugared plum Hooper, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2003 | 9780747561248 | It is 1665 and Hannah has come from the country to assist her sister in sweet making at the Sugared Plum sweet shop. The plague has also come to London so Hannah's life is now full of dangers as well as the sights and sounds of the crowded city. |
| 903249 | Atlas of abandoned places Smith, Oliver | Octopus | 2022 | 9781784726928 | From rusting rocket ships to crumbling opulent palaces belonging to former dictators, this atlas journeys across fifty remarkable sites across the world. No longer in their heyday, these sites are abandoned and eerily different to what they once were. Each site has its own story to share. |
| 15898 | Atmospheric Wilkinson, Carole | Black Dog Books | 2016 | 9781925126372 | Talking about the weather used to be small talk. Now, it's the hottest topic on Earth. We can't survive without Earth's atmosphere yet, most of the time, we ignore it. Our atmosphere is treated as a rubbish dump for our greenhouse gas emissions. Slowly but surely, what we are doing is changing the Earth's climate. In small chunks, this book cuts through the many voices raised around climate change to tell the story of our atmosphere, what is putting our climate at risk and what we can do about it. |
| | Aurora cycle series Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Australia's great war series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 14109 | Australia's greatest inventions & innovations Cheng, Christopher & Knight, Lindsay | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781742755649 | Imagine a world without wi-fi or clothes lines or lawnmowers or Vegemite or dual-flush toilets or even mousetraps. Weird, huh? These are just a few of the many inventions that have been created by clever Australians to solve some of life's difficult problems. Suitable for Stage 2 and Stage 3. |
| 45305 | Australian backyard explorer Macinnis, Peter | National Library of Australia | 2009 | 9780642276841 | Australian history joins with science to bring the world of the explorer to life. Each chapter contains an historical section plus a related project and some quirky but interesting facts. Trying to stay alive and keeping an eye on the weather are just as applicable today as they were two hundred years ago. Tales of tragedy, conflict and death, loyalty, amazing perseverance and wonderment. |
| 5053 | Australian backyard naturalist Macinnis, Peter | National Library of Australia | 2012 | 9780642277428 | Ever wondered what all those tiny bugs are that you see when you look very closely at a rosebud on a rosebush? Ever wanted to be able to identify a bird just from hearing its song? Want to learn how to keep a pet ant lion? All that and more is to be found within this informative book. Features personal accounts from the author's experiences with many of the species mentioned. |
| 26 | Australian bushrangers Coupe, Robert | New Holland Australia | 1998 | 9781864362848 | This history of bushranging in Australia gives details about many bushrangers. |
| 962076 | Australian dinosaurs and mega beasts Mollard, Myke | Woodslane Press | 2022 | 9781922800060 | This book captures the range and diversity of the wondrous Australian wildlife from prehistory. The book includes over 70 animals that lived in Australia at various times during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras (i.e from 250 million years ago), from sea creatures to amphibians, dinosaurs, reptiles, birds and mammals. With meticulous attention to the environment and flora of each period, the book presents a succession of the huge animals that marched, flew and swam across our landscape, from the terrifying Daspletosaurus to the more sedentary Diprotodon. |
| 30283 | Avalon High Cabot, Meg | MacMillan | 2005 | 9780330438322 | Ellie is not looking forward to a year in a new home or attending a new school, Avalon High, whose students are not as they appear to be. |
| 9317 | Awesome, Australian art for contemporary kids Cree, Laura Murray | Craftsman House | 2003 | 9781877004209 | Describing contemporary artworks and the intentions of the artists. The relevance of these works for today's kids is revealed. |

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|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 660704 | Azaria: A true history Coote, Maree | Walker Books | 2020 | 9780648568407 | What happens when the truth gets lost? Where wild animals and people meet, tragedy can strike. But when a tiny baby is stolen by a dingo, people simply cannot accept such a thing. Prejudice and gossip grip the nation, and the tragedy transforms into a fight for the truth. This is a true Australian story of innocence, ignorance, and the perils of mob thinking. |
| 992270 | Bad Influence Winter, Tamsin | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2023 | 9781474979078 | Navigating school is difficult at the best of times, but Amelia has found herself branded with the worst nickname, Maggot. In her attempt to prove her classmates wrong and get away from her nickname and become popular, Amelia makes an even worse blunder. |
| 5107 | Bakehouse, The Cowley, Joy | Gecko Press | 2015 | 9781776570072 | In New Zealand during World War II, eleven year old Bert desperately wants the war to continue so that he can join up and use guns. An abandoned derelict bakery becomes a prospective bomb shelter for the family and Bert enjoys his role in setting it up. But, when the shelter becomes home to a deserter, Bert soon learns that the secrets and danger of war don't always stay at the front line. |
| 13230 | Ballad of Cauldron Bay, The Honey, Elizabeth | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781741142556 | Henni is looking forward to the Easter holiday at Cauldron Bay with her best friend, Zev, and some of the younger kids from Stella Street. She becomes jealous when her beach holiday is invaded by troubled teenager, Tara. |
| 71599 | Ballad of Les Darcy, The FitzSimons, Peter | HarperCollins Australia | 2007 | 9780732286361 | Les Darcy, who lived from 31 October 1895 - 24 May 1917, was an Australian boxer. Though he was a middleweight, he held both the Australian Heavyweight and the Middleweight Championship titles in 1916 and has passed into Australian folk lore. |
| 30 | Ballad of Lucy Whipple, The Cushman, Karen | HarperTrophy | 1998 | 9780064406840 | Reluctantly taken to the diggings in California during the goldrush, Lucy wants to go back home to New England. |
| 903304 | Barefoot kids Pape, Scott & Watson, Richard | HarperCollins Australia | 2022 | 9781460763650 | Do you want to be the boss and earn your own money? Get ready to go on an epic money adventure. Full of great ideas, tips and real life examples from kids who have set up their own business, you will learn fast easy ways to put money in your pocket and be a real life superhero. |
| | Barnaby Grimes series Stewart, Paul & Riddell, Chris (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|--------|--|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 9326 | Barrumbi kids, The Norrington, Leonie | Scholastic Australia | 2007 | 9781862914964 | Dale and Tomias, live in the outback. They have a deep love for the wild, ancient land that is their home and move easily between their Aboriginal and white cultures, until someone turns up to spoil their last year at the community school. |
| | Bartlett series Hirsch, Odo | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 9352 | Basketball Mullin, Chris | Dorling Kindersley | 2000 | 9780751328059 | Indiana Pacer, Chris Mullin, introduces this fascinating new guide to basketball. He draws on his wealth of experience in America's National Basketball Association to show beginners all aspects of the game. |
| 599677 | Batman: Nightwalker Lu, Marie | Penguin | 2018 | 9780141386836 | Returning home from his lavish eighteenth birthday party, Bruce Wayne stops a criminal's getaway - disobeying the police and crashing his car during the chase. Sentenced to community service in Gotham City's Arkham Asylum, he encounters some of the the city's most dangerous and mentally disturbed criminals. Among these, Bruce meets the intriguing Madeleine who has ties to the Nightwalker gang that is terrorizing Gotham City. She's a mystery Bruce has to unravel but can he trust her? The Nightwalkers target the rich, and Bruce's name is next on their list. |
| 4174 | Battle fatigue Kurlansky, Mark | Bloomsbury | 2011 | 9781408826911 | A teenager is conscripted into the Vietnam War. He has to decide whether he will go, or whether he will dodge the draft by seeking asylum in Canada. The story also considers the effects of earlier wars on other members of the family and their influence on the younger characters. |
| 20752 | Battlefield: one boy's war Tucker, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2010 | 9781741695519 | Barry Blacker is desperate to join the army like his older brother Jack, who is in a Japanese POW camp. He practises drills on the family farm in Cowra and spies on the Japanese prisoners in the camp nearby. When some of the prisoners escape, Barry's attempt to be a hero has devastating consequences. |

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|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 643335 | Be prepared Brosgol, Vera | First Second | 2018 | 9781626724457 | Her friends live in fancy houses and their parents can afford to send them to the best summer camps. Vera's single mother can't afford that sort of luxury, but there's one summer camp in her price range - Russian summer camp. Vera is sure she's found the one place she can fit in, but camp is far from what she imagined. And nothing could prepare her for all the "cool girl" drama, endless Russian history lessons, and outhouses straight out of nightmares! |
| 1209930 | Bear Lightfoot, Kiri | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781991006936 | Jasper Robinson-Woods is not okay - his name is too long, his mum has an annoying boyfriend, he never sees his dad, and he can't sleep because of a terrifying nightmare. Oh, and to top it off, his goldfish is dying. Jasper is overwhelmed with bad thoughts. Are they a sign of disaster to come? The only place he feels safe is in the tree in his front yard. But then the unimaginable happens: his nightmare comes to life and everything spirals out of control. Jasper decides it's finally time to face his nightmare. |
| 8012 | Beast child Chandler, Ben | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781864719796 | Twins Lenis and Missy Clemens have found their freedom aboard the airship, Hiryu. In their search for the mercenary Karasu, Missy must decide whether the safety of an entire nation is more important than her own sense of right and wrong. The bizarre connection that binds the twins begins to unravel and, when they meet a young boy from the past, the twins must decide to embrace their destiny or be torn forever apart. |
| 1209856 | Beasts and beauty: Dangerous tales Chainani, Soman & Iredale, Julia (ill) | 4th Estate | 2024 | 9780008224523 | You might think you know these stories, but you are wrong. You don't know them at all. Twelve fairytales have been re-imagined with a modern twist - imagine if Red Riding Hood was the hunter, not the hunted. What if Sleeping Beauty was a Prince instead of a Princess? These twelve dangerous tales reveal truths full of triumph and warning and truths that explore life and death. |
| 28764 | Beautiful lie, A Master, Irfan | Bloomsbury | 2011 | 9781408805756 | In 1947, Bilal shields his dying father from the truth about the violence that is threatening India and their formerly peaceful community. With determination and help from friends, Bilal persuades others to collude with him in this deception, even printing false pages of the local newspaper. Bilal just wants his father to die in peace but that means Bilal has a complicated relationship with the truth. |

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|---------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 3904 | Because you'll never meet me Thomas, Leah | Bloomsbury | 2015 | 9781408862629 | There are truths you can only tell a stranger, and this friendship is the strangest. Ollie and Moritz are best friends, but they can never meet, because if they ever did, one of them will most certainly die. As recluses from society, they develop a fierce bond through letters that become a lifeline. But when Moritz reveals the key to their shared, disturbing past, their friendship faces a test neither one of them expected. |
| 15405 | Becoming Billy Dare Murray, Kirsty | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781865087351 | When his mother dies, Paddy runs away from school and stows on a ship sailing to Australia. In his new land, Paddy is willing to try anything and has many jobs until he finally discovers what he really wants to do. |
| 15136 | Becoming Buddha: the story of Siddhartha Stewart, Whitney & Rippin, Sally (ill) | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2005 | 9780734407726 | Find out how Prince Siddhartha grew in knowledge and enlightenment to become Buddha, one of the greatest religious influences on the world. |
| 4095 | Becoming Kirrali Lewis Harrison, Jane | Magabala Books | 2015 | 9781922142801 | In 1985, Kirrali Lewis, a young Aboriginal teenager, leaves her home town in rural Victoria to begin a law degree in Melbourne. Adopted at birth by a white family, Kirrali doesn't question her cultural roots until a series of life-changing events force her to face up to her true identity. Her decision to search for her biological parents sparks off a political awakening that no one sees coming, least of all Kirrali. |
| 15299 | Bee-man of Orn, The Stockton, Frank R & Lynch, P J (ill) | Walker Books | 2004 | 9781844285068 | The Bee-man is happy with his lot until he learns from a Junior Sorcerer that he was once something else and has been transformed. But what was he? The Bee-man sets out on a quest to discover the answer. |
| 750999 | Before the beginning Morgan, Anna | Hachette Australia | 2020 | 9780734419651 | Grace was supposed to be spending schoolies with her friends, but they have become a little too judgemental for her liking, so she tags along with her brother Casper and his friends, Noah and Elsie. On their first night away, they meet Sierra, a mysterious girl with an interesting idea. She thinks that they should go and camp on an uninhabited island. The gang agrees, and the island time is one of interesting discoveries for all of them. |
| 1019760 | Begin again Jeffers, Oliver | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9780008579593 | It all begins with a question: Where did we begin? Oliver Jeffers explores fire first, and the early humans who controlled that fire and grew brains and started to do things with them. A thought provoking look at what guides us and where we came from. |

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|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 4150 | Begin, end, begin: A #loveOzYA anthology Binks, Danielle (ed) | HarperCollins Australia | 2017 | 9781460752319 | Bestsellers. Award-winners. Superstars. This anthology has them all. With brilliantly entertaining short stories from beloved young adult authors Amie Kaufman, Melissa Keil, Will Kostakis, Ellie Marney, Jaclyn Moriarty, Michael Pryor, Alice Pung, Gabrielle Tozer, Lili Wilkinson and Danielle Binks, this all-new collection will show the world exactly how much there is to love about Aussie YA. |
| 1424078 | Behind the screens: How the internet works and how to make it work for you LaI, Niraj & Aska (ill) | University of Queensland Press | 2026 | 9780702268946 | Getting your first phone is a big moment - this illustrated guide empowers young people aged 9-13 to navigate the online world with awareness, responsibility and confidence. |
| 130800 | Being Bee Bateson, Catherine | University of Queensland Press | 2006 | 9780702235665 | Bee isn't about to change just because her dad is going to remarry. However, when Jazz starts living with dad earlier than expected, Bee knows things will change whether she likes it or not. An unlikely source helps her come to terms with the situation. |
| 41498 | Being Miss Nobody Winter, Tamsin | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2017 | 9781474927277 | Rosalind wants to talk, she really does, but the only place she can is home. At school or anywhere in public, no matter how badly she wants to, her words get stuck and refuse to come out. Unsurprisingly, this has had a big impact on her life and as a consequence, she has no friends. You can imagine how tough it is for her, then, when she starts in Year 7 at Manor High. Pretty much instantly she is the target of bullies and her life becomes even more miserable than it already was. But a new therapist, and her little brother's total faith in her, lead Rosalind to becoming Miss Nobody - an online voice for the nobodies, the victims, the sad kids. And, at first, this seems to be a real step forward in her fight to be 'normal'. But then Miss Nobody's fame starts to morph into something more sinister. Is Miss Nobody actually just as much of a bully as the real bullies? |
| | Beka Cooper series Pierce, Tamora | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|---------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 723931 | Belles, The Clayton, Dhonielle | Orion | 2018 | 9781473223974 | Camellia Beauregard is a Belle. In the opulent world of Orleans, Belles are revered, for they control Beauty, and Beauty is a commodity coveted above all else. In Orleans, the people are born gray, they are born damned, and only with the help of a Belle and her talents can they transform and be made beautiful. But it's not enough for Camellia to be just a Belle. She wants to be the favourite, the Belle chosen by the Queen of Orleans to live in the royal palace, to tend to the royal family and their court, to be recognised as the most talented Belle in the land. But once Camellia and her Belle sisters arrive at court, it becomes clear that being the favourite is not everything she always dreamed it would be. Behind the gilded palace walls live dark secrets, and Camellia soon learns that the very essence of her existence is a lie, that her powers are far greater, and could be more dangerous, than she ever imagined. |
| 8804 | Bend it like Beckham Dhami, Narinder | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340860946 | A novelisation of the film screen play in which a young Indian girl's talent for soccer is discovered. The issues, of cultural expectations of girls and the problems of living between two cultures, are raised. |
| 7076 | Benny & Babe Colfer, Eoin | Penguin | 2005 | 9780143300564 | Benny and Babe are unlikely friends who decide to go into business together, but they need to avoid the bullying of Furty Howlin. Their business of scavenging fishing tackle leads to a very dangerous encounter. |
| 66698 | Best ballgirl, The Flynn, Pat | Puffin Australia | 2011 | 9780143305743 | When Kristen discovers that her tennis hero, Maggie Stephenson, is playing in a tournament at her tennis club, she is desperate to be chosen as one of the ballgirls. But, her arch rival, Sally, looks set to sabotage Kristen's chances of appearing on centre court and to steal the guy that she likes a lot. |
| 1096784 | Best of Story Factory, The: Volume 2 (older readers edition) Keenan, Catherine (ed) & Short, Richard (ed) | Sydney Story Factory | 2024 | 9781922719119 | Short, succinct prose writing by 16 to 20 year olds that are culturally rich, authentic anthems of youth searching their lives through people, places and events around them, conversations clicking between the now and then of lives and the world they know. |
| 700326 | Betrothed, The Cass, Kiera | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9780008158835 | When King Jameson declares his love for Lady Hollis Brite, Hollis is shocked -- and thrilled. After all, she's grown up at Keresken Castle, vying for the king's attention alongside other daughters of the nobility. Capturing his heart is a dream come true. |

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|--------|--|---------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 5900 | Better Nate than ever Federle, Tim | Walker Books | 2015 | 9781406361537 | Thirteen year old Nate Foster doesn't enjoy his life. He is nothing like his sporty brother, his strict parents seem to be close to divorce and he's bullied about his weight and sexuality (Nate is currently undecided). With his love of Broadway musicals, Nate grabs a chance to escape when he hears about an audition. As his naive plan disintegrates, Nate stays just one step ahead of disaster while keeping his sense of humour. |
| 660810 | Between, The Hofmeyr, David | Penguin | 2020 | 9780141354484 | Ana Moon's best friend Bea has been taken by someone or something. Ana's world has changed. Her house looks different and her parents are acting weird. This is not her world, she has fallen into another universe. The only person who knows her, the real her, is Malik, a boy she met on the train a few hours ago. The mysterious Malik and his Pathfinder friends offer to help Ana travel across seven different versions of Earth to get Bea back. But it won't be easy as Ana finds herself at the centre of a war to control the multiverse and unlock the seventh world and all of its power. |
| 695636 | Beyond belief White, Dee | Omnibus Books | 2020 | 9781760662516 | Inspired by the true story of Muslims who saved the lives of Jewish children in the Second World War. in 1942, in the Grand Mosque in Paris, 11-year-old Ruben is hiding from the Nazis. Already thousands of Jewish children have disappeared. But when the Mosque is raided, Ruben is forced to flee. |
| 1662 | Big book of numbers Spencer, Adam | Xoum Publishing | 2014 | 9781921134326 | If you love numbers, want to love numbers or just love to laugh and learn about the wonderful life we live, then this numbers book is for you. Discover primes, Pi, perfect numbers and how many ribs an elephant has. |
| 30218 | Big game Smith, Dan | Chicken House | 2015 | 9781909489943 | Thirteen year old Oskari is sent into the Finnish wilderness, armed only with a bow and arrow, to survive in an ancient test of manhood. But, he stumbles upon an escape pod from a burning airliner. Terrorists have shot down the President of the United States. To survive, this improbable duo must trust each other and become a team capable of overcoming the danger that is imminent. |
| 12936 | Bill Gates: computer legend Barton-Wood, Sara | White-Thomson Publishing Ltd | 2001 | 9780750238830 | In 1995, Bill Gates launched Microsoft Windows, a computer program now used by people at work and at play all around the world. As head of Microsoft, he is the richest man in the world and aims to be the largest benefactor in history. |
| 9287 | Billy the kid Morpurgo, Michael | Collins | 2002 | 9780007105472 | Billy doesn't think or act his age. His memories of his days as a Chelsea striker and his interests keep him younger than he seems. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 39 | Billy Thunder and the night gate Carmody, Isobelle | Penguin | 2000 | 9781740933971 | Rage is desperate to find the healing magic that will save her mother. Her quest leads her to Valley, a strange, dark place where witches and wizards lurk. |
| 40 | Binna Binna man, The McDonald, Meme & Pryor, Boori | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9781865080710 | A young Aboriginal boy is travelling back to his home on the mission to attend the funeral of a cousin. |
| 1366541 | Biology for beginners Cope, Lizzie & Lacey, Minna & Li, Hannah (ill) & Hallmann, Anton (ill) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2025 | 9781805076612 | A guide to everything that biology is about, from things we know, to things we don't know yet. This book explores the fascinating world of biology - the study of all life, from tiny bacteria to plants, animals and entire ecosystems. Discover how living things behave and interact, and the amazing ways they adapt to the world around them. Find out how life on Earth began, how it has changed, and what living things might look like in millennia to come. Take a closer look at cells - the building blocks of life itself - and the vital role they play. Through a mix of diagrams, infographics, comic strips and clear, engaging text, this book shows readers what the study of biology is about, how much it covers, and why you might want to study it further yourself. It investigates some of the big issues that biologists are grappling with today, from preventing the spread of ever-evolving diseases to saving animals and plants from extinction. |
| 6494 | Birdie in the sky Mason, Prue | Puffin Australia | 2011 | 9780143305903 | Birdie and her dad love being up in the sky in their Tiger Moth plane, Peggybelle. That is, until a terrible accident makes it a matter of life and death, and Birdie finds herself flying the plane alone. |
| 41 | Birds of a feather Masson, Sophie | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1996 | 9781863304726 | Year 6 schoolgirls must deal with issues of bullying. |
| 68366 | Bitter chocolate Grindley, Sally | Bloomsbury | 2010 | 9780747595021 | A gripping story of two boys whose lives are anything but carefree. Pascal and Kojo work on a cocoa plantation in West Africa and they desperately want to get back to their homes to see if their families are still alive. Global social issues of child soldiers and child labour are sensitively and realistically portrayed. |
| 9214 | Blabber mouth: the play Morris, Mary | Currency Press | 2004 | 9780868194219 | This stage adaptation of Gleitzman's novel explores disabilities, friendship and families. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 39649 | Black Ferris, Fleur | Penguin Books Australia | 2016 | 9781925324976 | Ebony Marshall is in her final year of high school. She can't wait to leave quiet, little Dainsfield, where she's known only as Black due to her name. But, there's another reason. Everyone says Black is cursed. Three friends have died in tragic accidents. Now, it's easier to be on her own. When her formal date ends up in intensive care, the gibes and rejection escalate. Black is in danger. She has to fight for her life, find help when uncertain of who to trust, and strike out at the superstition and hysteria. |
| 44 | Black Beauty Sewell, Anna | Puffin UK | 2008 | 9780141321035 | Black Beauty is a handsome, sweet-tempered colt with a strong spirit. As a young colt, he is free to gallop in the fresh meadows with his beloved mother and their kind master. But, when his owners are forced to sell him, Black Beauty goes from a life of comfort and kindness to one of hard labour and cruelty. But, Black Beauty is brave, with an unbreakable spirit and will. |
| 36184 | Black dog gang, The Newton, Robert | Penguin Books Australia | 2007 | 9780143302148 | Set in The Rocks, Sydney, in the early 20th century. When Frankie first meets his new neighbour, Mickey Collins, he's not sure what to make of the scruffy, tough-talking ratbag. But, when he forms a gang, Mickey soon proves he's quick on his feet and good in a fight. |
| 50708 | Black dress, The: Mary MacKillop's early years Freeman, Pamela | Black Dog Books | 2010 | 9781742031637 | The story of Mother Mary MacKillop told from the perspective of MacKillop reminiscing on her death bed. The book details her life, from growing up in poverty in the Australian outback and the inspirations behind her decision to join the Convent and establish the Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph. |
| 9320 | Black snake: the daring of Ned Kelly Wilkinson, Carole | Black Dog Books | 2005 | 9781876372934 | Offers historical insights, without glorification, into the life of the outlaw as told by characters present at the various events in Ned's life. Supported by archival photographs, press clippings and quotes from correspondence and other documents. |
| 20139 | Blackthorn's betrayal: honouring a warrior's pledge Pulford, Elizabeth | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781921529030 | Blackthorn's greatest desire, to become a Trahern warrior, is dangling within her reach. But, she must embark on a treacherous mission, deep into enemy territory, to infiltrate the Doane camp. She must locate the stolen daughter of Esil but the stakes are higher than she could ever imagine. As the mission takes a sinister twist, Blackthorn's instincts are put to the ultimate test. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 3906 | Blackthorn: becoming a forest warrior Pulford, Elizabeth | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781921529443 | Alyana is determined, despite being female, despite being so young, to become a great Trahern warrior. When her father dies, leaving her orphaned, she flees the constraints of her religious uncle's household and lives rough and wild, hunting and fighting in the great forest. Then her worst fears are realised. It is far worse to be captured by her enemies, the Doane, than endure her previous loneliness and isolation. |
| 751105 | Blazewrath games Ortiz, Amparo | Pan MacMillan | 2020 | 9781645670797 | Lana Torres has always dreamt of playing for her native Puerto Rico in the Blazewrath Games, a dangerous relay of dragon riders fighting and racing for glory. When the cup is jeopardised by the Sire, a legendary dragon cursed into human form, Lana finds herself navigating an International conspiracy and a world that's deadlier than her beloved sport. |
| 4296 | Blitz Orme, David | Evans Bros | 2007 | 9780237534448 | London is being bombed and children are evacuated to the country. Since his parents died, Martin can't stand being mothered and so he heads back to the city. But, London is not what he remembers, it's in flames and Martin is in danger. |
| 9420 | Blood on the microphone Bone, Ian | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780734401700 | Saffie Grundig decides to find out about her older sister, Ruby, and the secrets she is keeping. What's really going on at the sleazy Comedy House where Ruby has a cleaning job. Saffie, assisted by retired TV actor, Sarge, begins her investigations. |
| 6807 | Blood sports: Fletcher Smith, sports P I Harlen, Jonathan | Scholastic Australia | 2008 | 9781741690200 | Fourteen year old Fletcher Smith is a sports private Investigator, working out of the Institute in Canberra. With his adult side-kick, Frank, he takes on a case to solve the kidnap of football coach, Kelvin Hunt. |
| 3326 | Blue cat, The Dubosarsky, Ursula | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760292294 | It is the 1940s and for Columba and Hilda the war seems a long way away until Ellery appears at their school, unable to speak any English. Curiosity spurs Columba's search for knowledge and understanding counterbalancing Hilda's unquestioning nationalism as the war edges ever closer to Australia's shores. The sudden appearance of the blue cat brings with it an aura of mystery and uncertainty culminating in a dramatic journey to Luna Park. |
| 9220 | Blue death, The Allen, Judy | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340805718 | A doctor turns detective to solve a mystery around the cholera epidemic in London, 1854. |
| 46 | Blue fin Thiele, Colin | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9780734401311 | Snook joins his father on a tuna fishing expedition and disaster strikes. |
| 32473 | Blue noise Oswald, Debra | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741663754 | Ash is drooling over a guitar when he meets Charlie Novak. One jam session later and Charlie convinces Ash to play in his band and Erin to be the keyboard player. Erin thinks Charlie is a fruit loop, with his weird hair and hyperactive rantings. Besides, she's a classical pianist and it'll never work. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 15303 | Blue so blue, A Dumont, Jean-Francois | Sterling Publishing Co | 2005 | 9781402721397 | A sophisticated picture book in which a young artist goes in search of a particular shade of blue, the blue of his dreams. |
| 47 | Blue sword, The McKinley, Robin | Penguin Putnam | 2002 | 9780141309750 | Living in the desert country of Damar, shared by the Homelanders and the secretive magical Hillfolk, orphaned Harry Crewe is kidnapped by Corlath, the Hillfolk king. He intends to train her in the arts of war until she is a match for any of his men. |
| 21202 | Blue window Gewirtz, Adina Rische | Candlewick Press | 2018 | 9780763660369 | Five siblings find themselves in a dizzying new world after falling through a mysterious cobalt window one December morning. Can it be real? Or are the group stuck in a bizarre collective dream? |
| 48 | Blueback Winton, Tim | Pan MacMillan | 1999 | 9780330361620 | Abel Jackson is passionate about diving and is a natural in the water. Every day, he helps his mother earn their living from the sea and the land. It's hard work but Abel has the bush and the sky and the bay to himself. Until the day he meets Blueback, the fish that changes his life. |
| 15135 | Body: bones, muscle, blood and other body bits Walker, Richard & Murphy, Gabrielle Dr | Dorling Kindersley | 2001 | 9780751330786 | Highly informative, pocket-sized fact book on human anatomy and physiology. Contains an index, glossary, websites and reference section. |
| 14661 | Boggle hunters: Game on Masson, Sophie | Scholastic Australia | 2012 | 9781741698510 | Sam comes from a family of boggle hunters, although he is unaware of this when he is sent to stay with his English relatives. Computer games are Sam's passion and he cannot believe his eyes when he receives an invitation to become part of the role-playing game, 'Grim's castle'. Parallel stories ensue with Sam being led through a dangerous game and cousin Jenny searching for her missing parents. Fantasy and magic weave throughout this exciting quest. |
| 50 | Bone hunters: on the trail of the dinosaurs Dedman, Stephen | Scholastic Australia | 1998 | 9781862913592 | There is a wealth of dinosaur information in this book, as well as accounts of the palaeontologists who made many of the famous discoveries. |
| 5991 | Bone witch, The Chupeco, Rin | Sourcebooks Inc | 2017 | 9781492652786 | When Tea accidentally resurrects her brother from the dead, she learns she is different from the other witches in her family. Her gift for necromancy means that she's a bone witch. She puts all her energy into becoming an asha. But dark forces are encroaching, and in the face of danger, Tea will have to make a difficult choice about how to use her power. |
| 12545 | Book of absolutely useless lists Ardagh, Philip | MacMillan | 2007 | 9780230700505 | A chunky book, jammed full of fascinating, whacky and absurd facts and information, with a list for every day of the year. Useful information like seven objects to use as a paperweight; twenty characters more famous than their inventors; and, four runners-up who became more famous than the person who won. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--|------|---------------|---|
| 9285 | Book of dragons, A Green, Roger Lancelyn | Lioncrest | 1990 | 9780816728794 | Fantasy tales of make-believe appear before your eyes. |
| 51 | Book of the banshee, The Fine, Anne | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 1993 | 9780140347043 | Will's sister, Estelle, has turned into a teenager and transformed the house into a war zone. |
| 9264 | Book to write poems by, A Harris, Rory & McFarlane, Peter | Australian Association for the Teaching of English | 1983 | 9780909955427 | Inspiration for poets of all ages lies within these pages. |
| 9783 | Boom Haddon, Mark | David Fickling Books | 2009 | 9780385616294 | Jimbo and his friend, Charlie, suspect there is something not right about two of their teachers. They get too close to the truth when Charlie is abducted. Jimbo enlists the help of his death-metal music loving, dark eyeliner-wearing sister to track Charlie down and discover the truth. |
| 1089029 | Borderlands: Riding the slipstream Collins, Paul (ed) & Ryan, Anne (ill) | Ford Street Publishing | 2024 | 9781922696403 | Borderlands- Riding te Slipstream is an anthology for readers young and old. It features over forty short stories and poems by some of Australia's best-loved authors, including Ursula Dubosarsky, Steven Herrick, Leigh Hobbs, Barry Jonsberg, Sophie Masson and Shaun Tan. Illustrated by quirky artist Anne Ryan, this unique collection spans a kaleidoscope of genres and themes. |
| 5075 | Boy and the spy, The Arena, Felice | Penguin | 2017 | 9780143309284 | Things have never been easy for Antonio, but now it seems like the war will never end. So when Antonio is caught up in the dangerous world of freedom fighters and spies, will it change his life or destroy him? |
| 4812 | Boy at the top of mountain, The Boyne, John | Corgi Books | 2015 | 9780552573542 | When Pierrot becomes an orphan, he must leave Paris to live with Aunt Beatrix, a servant in a household at the top of the German mountains. This is no ordinary time. It is 1935 and the Second World War is fast approaching. And, this is no ordinary house, it is the Berghof, Adolf Hitler's home. Pierrot is thrown into an increasingly dangerous world of terror, secrets and betrayal, from which he may never be able to escape. |
| 42791 | Boy called Hope, A Williamson, Lara | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2014 | 9781409570318 | Eleven year old Dan Hope has a list of things he wants to come true. He wants his sister, Ninja Grace, to go to university at the North Pole and only come back once a year. He wants his dog, Charles Scalleybones the First, to stop eating the planets from his solar system mobile and throwing them up on the carpet. He want to help Sherlock Holmes solve his most daring mystery yet. But, most of all, he wants his dad to love him. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 4596 | Boy on the wooden box, The Leyson, Leon | Simon & Schuster | 2013 | 9781471119675 | Beginning in rural Poland, Leon Leyson's family's horrendous journey was similar to thousands of others, but what set his fate apart was his father's chance employment in the factory of Oskar Schindler, who is credited with saving up to 1200 Jews. The youngest person on Schindler's list, Leon describes how, despite the deprivation of food, clothing and general living conditions, this provided a small flicker of hope. |
| 567944 | Boy underwater Baron, Adam | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9780008267018 | Cymbeline Igloo doesn't know how to swim. He has NEVER been swimming. Ever. His mother won't let him near the water and he doesn't know why. After he tries (and fails) to swim on his own, he realises there is a bigger mystery to be solved. Cymbeline and his friends work together to find out why his mum has never taken him near the water. |
| 18449 | Boy who disappeared, The Milton, Wendy | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9780734408921 | Rodney has powers to be a 'switcher' who can travel between parallel worlds. One world is highly developed and the other is almost medieval. The story follows the adventures across both worlds. |
| 7345 | Boy with two lives, The Kazerooni, Abbas | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781743314838 | Having fled conscription and survived time alone in Istanbul, ten year old Abbas arrives in England to start a new life. His troubles have only just begun. Abbas' violent cousin sends him to boarding school, where he blossoms. But, Abbas is threatened with deportation and forced to work at night to repay his cousin. At thirteen, Abbas is homeless. But, he is determined to survive and continue his education. Based on true events. |
| 12419 | Boy, the bear, the baron and the bard, The Rogers, Gregory | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781865087221 | A dramatic tale, told in pictures, about a London boy who goes through a window to get back his soccer ball only to find himself in the middle of a Shakespearian production. In his efforts to escape, he is chased by the bard and joined by a bear. |
| 55 | Boy: tales of childhood Dahl, Roald | Puffin UK | 1999 | 9780141303055 | Roald Dahl recounts his life as a child, growing up in England. |
| 90432 | Brain full of holes, The Chatterton, Martin | Little Hare Books | 2008 | 9781921272288 | Theo Brain is the world's youngest super sleuth and he is on the trail of a missing truck driver who has driven into a mountain tunnel and completely disappeared. Theo lives in Switzerland where holes are going missing from the cheese and cows are starting to fly. Strange creatures appear from alternative universes and Theo is forced to intervene to stop a total outbreak of silliness. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 43525 | Brainjack Falkner, Brian | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781921150951 | It would take a very special person to crack the computer systems of the White House. Someone like Sam Wilson, brilliant teenage computer hacker. But, Sam's obsession is about to lead him into a world of espionage and intrigue, of cybercrime and imminent war. |
| 2724 | Brave heart: lessons learnt from life Kirk, Brett & Kirk, Hayley S | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781742753256 | After playing two hundred and forty-one games for his beloved Sydney Swans, Brett Kirk played his final game of AFL in 2010. Many know him as the courageous co-captain who helped his team win the grand final in 2005. What many people don't know is how he came to be such a tireless captain, honest teammate and admired role model, in both life and sport. Brett with his wife, Hayley, speaks about his life, and the challenges and triumphs that made him. |
| 871665 | Bravest word, The Foster, Kate | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781760654719 | Matt is having trouble on the football field. Real trouble. All the enjoyment has been sucked out of the game that was once his whole life and now his body seems to be seizing up. He is tired all the time and overwhelmed by thoughts that leave him sure he's second rate. Which is when Matt meets Cliff, an abandoned puppy that needs saving. Perhaps together, they can help each other discover how to be brave. |
| 56 | Bravo, Mr William Shakespeare Williams, Marcia | Walker Books | 2001 | 9780744582376 | The Globe Theatre is delighted to announce a new season of Mr. William Shakespeare's plays. See As You Like It, Antony and Cleopatra, Richard III, Twelfth Night, King Lear, The Merchant of Venice and Much Ado About Nothing. Each play is presented in dramatic comic-strip form, including Mr Shakespeare's own dialogue and the riotous remarks of the audience. |
| 5568 | Break your chains: The freedom finders Conolan, Emily | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760294915 | To find freedom, you must leave behind everything you've ever known. It is 1825. You and Ma have survived on the streets of London ever since the soldiers took Da away and you fled Ireland. Now, with Ma gone too, you find yourself facing life-and-death choices at every turn. Can you carry a secret treasure across the ocean and finally be reunited with Da? You'll be asked to betray your friends, survive storms at sea and attacks by bushrangers, and trust thieves. At every turn, the choice is yours. How far will you go for freedom? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 846090 | Break, The Gwynne, Phillip | Penguin Books Australia | 2021 | 9780143789383 | Growing up with the famous Bali surf at his back door, sixteen year old Taj had an idyllic childhood, until ten years ago when his father was arrested for smuggling drugs. He's been on death row in Bali's infamous Kerobokan Prison ever since, leaving Taj in a weird limbo. When an execution date is set, Taj is left with one course of action, bust his dad out of jail and hightail it back to Australia. What follows is the desperate, dangerous rid of a father and son on the run. As events unravel and time runs out, Taj uncovers startling truths about his family, his girlfriend and the stranger he is rapidly falling for. |
| 57 | Bridge to Terabithia Paterson, Katherine | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2003 | 9780064401845 | Jessie and Leslie are close friends who create a magical world for themselves, until a tragedy happens. |
| 5273 | Brigadista year, My Paterson, Katherine | Candlewick Press | 2018 | 9780763695088 | When thirteen-year-old Lora tells her parents that she wants to join Premier Castro's army of young literacy teachers, her mother screeches to high heaven, and her father roars like a lion. Lora has barely been outside of Havana - why would she throw away her life in a remote shack with no electricity, sleeping on a hammock in somebody's kitchen? But Lora is stubborn: didn't her parents teach her to share what she has with someone in need? Surprisingly, Lora's abuela takes her side, even as she makes Lora promise to come home if things get too hard. But how will Lora know for sure when that time has come? |
| 5204 | Brilliant fall of Gianna Z., The Messner, Kate | Bloomsbury | 2018 | 9781681195476 | All Gianna Zales wants to do is compete at the cross-country finals, but there is something standing in her way- a science project. She has less than a week to collect and document twenty-five leaves, and she'll lose her spot on the team if she can't pull it off. With a forgetful grandmother, a hearse-driving father, a mean-girl running rival, and new feelings toward her best friend, Gianna wishes life would just leave her alone to finish the project. Can Gianna Z get the stroke of brilliance she needs to make it all work out? |
| 1019795 | Britannica's encyclopedia infographica Pettie, Andrew & Quilty-Harper, Conrad & D'Efilippo, Valentina (ill) | Britanica Books | 2024 | 9781913750459 | 1000's of Facts & Figures about Earth, space animals, the body, technology & more revealed in pictures. |
| 12717 | Broken glass Grindley, Sally | Bloomsbury | 2008 | 9780747586159 | Brothers, Suresh and Sandeep, end up as street kids in a city far from their home village. They become glass collectors, searching through the rubbish dumps and dirty alleys to find glass to sell in order to survive. But, when Suresh realises his younger brother isn't coping as well as he thought, he must find a way to save Sandeep and himself from a terrible fate. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 6003 | Brooding YA Hero: Becoming a main character (almost) as awesome as me DiRisio, Carrie & Gear, Linnea (ill) | Sky Pony Press | 2017 | 9781510726666 | Broody McHottiepants is our brooding YA hero and he has decided to write a book about how to become a main character. He certainly seems to know every trick in the YA novelist's trade. But his evil ex-girlfriend, Blondie DeMeani, has sneakily added her own two cents worth within the pages of his book to keep him honest. This is part guide book, part clever exploration of all the YA tropes. |
| | Brotherband series Flanagan, John | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 622507 | Bruiser Shusterman, Neal | Harper | 2010 | 9780061134104 | The twins, Tennyson and Bronte, are very different in how they approach the world. This is best seen by the different reactions both have to the large, brooding and mysterious Brewster. While many in the school believe he is a dark and dangerous menace, Bronte befriends him and they begin dating. This is how both siblings notice the horrible scars on Brewster and suspect he is being abused at home. The truth is far stranger. |
| 9449 | Bruno Trask and the dark lady's jewels Pryor, Michael | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780733614415 | In a world where humans live alongside elves, dwarves, werewolves and ogres, Bruno Trask accidentally gets hold of one of the Dark Lady's jewels. He finds himself on the run from the world's most famous, rich and influential Elf. Fast and satirical. |
| 61 | Bumface Gleitzman, Morris | Puffin Australia | 1998 | 9780140387971 | While his irresponsible, actress mother lives a jolly life, Angus is literally left holding the babies, his younger siblings. It's a bit much for an eleven year old. Humour masks the adult themes in this story that is suitable for mature readers. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 614652 | Buried moon, The: And other tales of bright young women Forsyth, Kate & Carrington, Lorena (ill) | Serenity Press | 2019 | 9780648400004 | All of the seven tales in this collection have one thing in common. They are stories of young women who face darkness and danger, but who prevail against the odds because of the brightness of their spirit and the strength of their resolve. The Moon is saved from the bog by the courage of those who love her bright light... Fenella stays silent for seven years and weaves cloth from nettles to save her brothers... Nastia must learn to survive alone in the land of the midnight sun... Jiayang, daughter of the Emperor of China, devises an impossible quest for her unwanted suitors... Jennet holds fast to her beloved, despite the cruel enchantments the Faery Queen casts upon him... Sofiya outwits the Tsar and so wins his love and respect... Molly Whuppie outwits a giant and saves her sisters... These stories of bright young women will remind readers of their own inner radiance, which gives them power to illuminate the whole world. |
| 62 | Buried secrets Harris, Christine | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1996 | 9780091827489 | Fourteen very different stories in this collection cover topics such as x-ray vision, senility and coping with braces. |
| 704535 | Button war, The Avi | Walker Books | 2019 | 9781406380835 | The boys of a small Polish village are used to the occupying Russian soldiers, but this fragile peace is shattered when a German plane drops a bomb on the school house and signals the coming invasion. The discovery of a soldier's discarded button begins a contest between the friends to get the best button and become king. This contest gets more and more daring as the intensity of battle for the village increases. |
| 1019913 | Buzzing Sattin, Samuel & Hickman, Rye (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2023 | 9780316628419 | Isaac Itkin can't get away from his thoughts. As a lonely twelve-year-old kid with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), everything from studying to looking in the mirror becomes a battle between him and a swarm of unhelpful thoughts. The strict therapy his mother insists on doesn't seem to be working, but when a group of friends invites him to join their after-school role-playing game, the thoughts feel a little less loud, and the world feels a little brighter. But Isaac's therapist says that exposure to games can have negative effects on kids with OCD, and when his grades slip, his helicopter mother won't let him play anymore. Now Isaac needs to find a way to prove to himself, to his mother, and to the world that the way to quiet the noise in his head may have been inside him all along. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 9266 | By heart, 101 poems and how to remember them Hughes, Ted | Faber & Faber | 1997 | 9780140867497 | An anthology for reciters of poetry. |
| 32219 | By royal command Hooper, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2008 | 9780747588856 | Lucy works as a serving maid for Dr Dee, court magician and consultant to Queen Elizabeth 1. In return for saving the Queen's life, Lucy is told that she is to work as a spy for Her Grace. When Lucy hears unexplained cries in the house, she suspects Dr Dee of foul deeds to make money and curry favour with the Queen. |
| 6378 | Cabinet of curiosities, The Dowsell, Paul | Bloomsbury | 2010 | 9781408800461 | When fourteen year old Lukas de Boedt is orphaned, his uncle takes him as an apprentice in Prague, a refuge for Europe's greatest alchemists and natural philosophers. The uncle is court physician to the reclusive, unstable Emperor, and also curator of his bizarre Cabinet of Curiosities, four halls full of wonders and scientific marvels. When Lucas learns of a sinister plot, his life is in great danger. |
| 653169 | Caesar's last breath Kean, Sam | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2017 | 9781784162931 | Each moment, we inhale and exhale sextillions of different molecules. Some of these molecules are undoubtedly the same molecules exhaled by Julius Caesar, the long extinct dinosaurs, and even some of the perfume molecules from Cleopatra. This book tells the story of our atmosphere, what it is made of, and how it came to be this way. Even though the science can be incredibly complex, the author clearly explains just enough and in an entertaining way. |
| 66 | Call of the wild London, Jack | University of Queensland Press | 2008 | 9780192728012 | Buck is a family pet and life is good in Santa Clara Valley, where he spends his days eating and sleeping in the golden sunshine. But, one day, a treacherous act of betrayal leads to his kidnap, and he is forced into a life of toil and danger as a sledge dog in the harsh and freezing cold Yukon, Buck must fight for his survival. This is a classic story of cruelty, kindness and survival in a harsh environment. |
| 5752 | Can I touch your hair? Latham, Irene & Walters, Charles & Allko, Selina & Qualls, Sean | Carolrhoda Books | 2018 | 9781512404425 | Two young children from different racial and cultural backgrounds are asked to collaborate on a set of poems. They write about lots of different subjects showing their very different perspectives on issues such as religion, identity and friendship, finally coming to some kind of understanding of each other and the world they live in. |
| 13193 | Candles at dawn Ural, Serpil | Limelight Press | 2004 | 9780956935274 | An in-depth study of Gallipoli and what it meant to Australia, New Zealand and Turkey. A lesson in how futile war can be and the improbability of war if people from both sides really knew each other. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 124556 | Candyfloss Wilson, Jacqueline | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9780385608374 | Floss has a special bond with her penniless father with whom she shares a humorous relationship. By ignoring the teasing from her peers, she is able to discover true friendship. |
| 29511 | Cardboard palace, A Webster, Allayne L. | MidnightSun Publishing | 2017 | 9781925227253 | Jorge is from Romania. When he was very young, his parents sold him to Bill, a controller, who keeps Jorge in a small hut in a shanty town on the outskirts of Paris with other children. Jorge is forced to steal to stay alive and to give everything to Bill. When Jorge meets Australian chef Ricky, he finally has hope of redemption. But he must also save his friends Ada and Gino, before Bill finds out. |
| 59956 | Cardturner, The Sachar, Louis | Bloomsbury | 2011 | 9781408808511 | Alton's girlfriend has dumped him, he has no money and no job, so it looks like a long summer holiday ahead. Then he is asked to drive his old, blind and sick uncle to play bridge. His parents are desperate for him to get in his uncle's good books, but Alton soon finds himself enjoying his uncle's company, as well as playing bridge. |
| 23038 | Caro was here Farrelly, Elizabeth | Walker Books | 2014 | 9781922244833 | One match, one chance, she thinks. Make it count. Skipping school to lead a group of friends - and enemies - on an adult-free excursion to an island in Sydney Harbour is Caro's idea of a twelfth birthday outing. Marooned overnight? She can handle that too. But the challenges multiply. They're not alone on the island, and Caro must save her friends from life-threatening danger. |
| 73 | Carrie's war Bawden, Nina | Oxford University Press | 1997 | 9780198312956 | Carrie is evacuated to a Welsh mining town during the bombing raids on British cities in World War II. |
| 82640 | Case of the diamond shadow, The Masson, Sophie | ABC Books | 2008 | 9780733323300 | Daisy and George find themselves caught up in a world of mystery and glamour when they try to unmask the jewel thief before it's too late. |
| | Casson family series McKay, Hilary | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 803481 | Cast away: poems for our time Nye, Naomi Shihab | Greenwillow | 2021 | 9780062907707 | This collection of trash-inspired poems will have you thinking about what you use, what you re-use, what you throw out and how your choices about refuse impact you and the world around you. Lost buttons. Buried treasure. Wanton filth. Are we taking enough responsibility for our choices? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 4738 | Cat at the wall, The Ellis, Deborah | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781760112448 | On Israeli's West Bank, a cat sneaks into a small Palestinian house that has just been commandeered by two Israeli soldiers. The house seems empty until the cat realises that a little boy is hiding beneath the floorboards. This is no ordinary cat and she wonders what to do. When the boy's teacher comes looking for him, tensions rise quickly and, as Israeli tanks approach, the cat realises she must diffuse the situation. |
| 16757 | Cat kin, The Green, Nick | Faber & Faber | 2007 | 9780571234813 | Ben and Tiffany overcome their own problems when they take on the human vermin of London using their amazing martial arts skills. These skills, learnt from the unnervingly cat-like and unlikely Mrs Powell, come from an age of cat-worship. |
| 102559 | Cat on the island Crew, Gary & Warden, Gillian (ill) | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2008 | 9780207200700 | The true story of David and his father who came to Stephens Island, a remote and pristine New Zealand island, in 1894. They built a lighthouse to protect ships, chopping down the trees and demolishing the habitat of the birds. But worse than that, they also brought their pregnant cat and the island's tiny flightless wrens were wiped out in less than two years. |
| 587871 | Catch a falling star McKinlay, Meg | Walker Books | 2019 | 9781925381207 | It's 1979 and the sky is falling. Skylab, that is. Somewhere high above Frankie Avery, one of the world's first space stations is tumbling to Earth. And rushing back with it are old memories. Things twelve-year-old Frankie thought she'd forgotten. Things her mum won't talk about, and which her little brother Newt never knew. Only ... did he? Does he? Because as Skylab circles closer, Newt starts acting strangely. And while the world watches the sky, Frankie keeps her own eyes on Newt. Because if anyone's going to keep him safe, it's her. It always has been. But maybe this is something bigger than splinters and spiders and sleepwalking. Maybe a space station isn't the only thing heading straight for calamity. |
| 74 | Catherine, called Birdy Cushman, Karen | Pan MacMillan | 2001 | 9780330397797 | Set in the Middle Ages, Catherine objects to marrying the rich suitors her father has arranged for her to meet. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|-------------------------------------|------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1192360 | Cave, The Kelleher, Victor | Eagle Books | 2024 | 9780645378863 | Irian, Ulana and their Clan have made the cave their home ever since they used fire to drive off the Beast, a sabre-toothed tiger that had been preying on them. Protected by an ongoing fire at the cave mouth, they continue to keep the Beast at bay until one fateful night when the fire goes out! What happens next shatters the Clan and leaves Ulana badly injured and Irian too traumatised even to speak. Alone and adrift in their dangerous prehistoric world, they have little hope of survival. What saves them is a chance meeting with a prickly old woman called Trug. Grudgingly, she takes them on a strange, unexpected journey of discovery, flinging them into the many wonders and hard realities of ancient times. And that hazardous journey will eventually lead them full circle: back to the challenge of the cave, and the enduring reality of the Beast. |
| 1112 | Cay, The Taylor, Theodore | Puffin Australia | 1995 | 9780140366204 | A classic story of race relations, shipwrecks and survival when a young boy and an older man find themselves stranded on an isolated cay in the middle of the ocean. |
| 1303684 | Celestial monsters Thomas, Aiden | Pan MacMillan | 2024 | 9781035057191 | Teo never thought he could be a Hero. Now, he doesn't have a choice. The sun is gone, the Obsidian gods have been released from their prison, and chaos and destruction are wreaking havoc on Reino del Sol. All because Teo refused to sacrifice a fellow semidis during the Sunbearer Trials. With the world plunged into perpetual night, Teo, his crush Aurelio, and his best friend Niya must journey to the dark wilderness of Los Restos, battling vicious monsters while dealing with guilt, trauma, and a (very distracting) burgeoning romance between Teo and Aurelio. Determined to rescue the captured semidioses and retrieve the Sol Stone, the trio races against the clock to return Sol and their protective light so order can be restored. Now the future of the whole world is in their hands. |
| 728798 | Challenger deep Shusterman, Neal | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781406396119 | Caden is both a high school student finding it harder and harder to fit in at school and keep friendships, and a member of an unusual crew aboard a ship headed to the Marianas Trench under the command of a captain who may or may not be trying to destroy them all. As these two narratives come together, Caden must make decisions with very real and substantial consequences. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1017746 | Champion: a memoir of tennis and teamwork Barty, Ash | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9781460762738 | This is a tennis story. It is a family story. It is a teamwork story. It is the story of how Ash Barty got to be who she is today. It is her story about the power and joy of doing that thing you love and seeing where it can take you. This book reflects on her whole tennis journey, from the first time she picked up a racquet to packing her bag after winning the Australian Open in 2022. It explains how she worked through self-doubt, homesickness and a break from the sport to realise her tennis dreams, winning Wimbledon and ranking number 1 in the world. Ash is hoping her story will inspire you to follow your dreams. |
| 660194 | Change of heart Weetman, Nova | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2019 | 9781760502522 | Talented Mack loves being in her band at her city high school. She lives between houses - either with her dad and his annoying girlfriend or her easygoing mum. During the holidays, she also loves spending time with her beloved grandmother, riding horses and baking at her country farm. In this pick a path story, you get to make Mack's decisions for her. Potential romance and friendship, break-ups and make-ups lie in store - you have the power to choose, and then choose again! |
| 78 | Change the locks French, Simon | Penguin | 2005 | 9780143301721 | Steven has to assume much of the responsibility for his little brother when his young mother can't cope. Steven's fears, and the memories that accompany them, are explained as he becomes closer to his mother. Some strong language in context. |
| 9347 | Changing stories Mellor, Bronwyn & Hemming, Judith & Leggett, Jane | Chalkface Press | 1990 | 9781875136018 | A collection of different versions of folk and fairy stories designed to encourage secondary students to consider different points of view and the ways stories can change over time. |
| 1141 | Charmed life Jones, Diana Wynne | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2001 | 9780007118519 | Everyone says that Gwendolyn Chant is a gifted witch with astonishing powers, so it suits her enormously when she is taken to live in Chrestomanci Castle. Her brother, Eric, better known as Cat, is not so keen for he has no talent for magic at all. |
| 18616 | Chasing Charlie Duskin Crowley, Cath | Pan MacMillan | 2005 | 9781760784294 | Charlie Duskin is fleeing from failures, friends and running towards a father who won't 'see' her. Rose is suffocating in her small town, trapped by parents who couldn't chase their own dreams. When they get the chance to get to know each other their lives will change forever. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Chasing the valley series Melki-Wegner, Skye | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 83 | Child of the May Tomlinson, Theresa | Yearling | 2000 | 9780440415770 | A revolt against King John's rule, with characters including Robin Hood and his men. |
| 36871 | Children of the lost, The Whitley, David | Penguin | 2010 | 9780141330129 | Mark and Lily have been banished from Agora, the ancient city-state where everything is for sale, memories, emotions and even children. Lost and alone they discover Giseth, a seemingly perfect land where everyone is equal and possessions are unknown. Lily believes they will find the secret of their entwined destiny. But paradise comes at a price. |
| 43449 | Children of Willesden lane, The: A true story of hope and survival during World War II Golabek, Mona & Cohen, Lee | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760630805 | A story about the strength of one young girl separated from her family during the 2nd World War and sent to live with strangers in England. While the war drags on over years and Lisa dreams of seeing her family again she clings to the one gift her mother told her to never loose, her music. Lisa's piano playing would go on and brighten the lives of all those around her in the darkest of times and her story reminds us not just of the power of music, but of the amazing resilience and humbling kindness of the human spirit. For anyone who enjoyed The Diary of Anne Frank. |
| 86 | China coin, The Baillie, Allan | Penguin | 1999 | 9780140347531 | The horror of Tiannaman Square confronts Leah when she is searching for her ancient links in China. |
| 54490 | China: land of dragons and emperors Mah, Adeline Yen | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741754674 | Paper, gunpowder, silk, porcelain, stirrups for riding horses and many other wonderful and extraordinary things were first used in China. Read about the rise and fall of dynasties, the superstitions and beliefs of the people and the famous people who are part of the great story of China. |
| 1173 | Chinese Cinderella Mah, Adeline Yen | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141304878 | The plight of a young girl who, because of traditional Chinese beliefs, is rejected by her family at birth. |
| 14255 | Chinese Cinderella and the secret dragon society Mah, Adeline Yen | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781865088655 | A young girl is thrown out of her home by her cruel stepmother onto the dangerous streets of Shanghai. She takes refuge in a Martial Arts Academy and becomes part of a new family. A secret mission changes her life dramatically. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 7787 | Chinese Cinderella: the mystery of the Song Dynasty painting Mah, Adeline Yen | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741146363 | Following a fall, and in hospital where Chinese Cinderella sees a copy of an ancient painting. She is haunted by vivid dreams that seem strange, yet somehow familiar, recalling a life lived eight hundred years ago during the Song Dynasty. Hypnosis is used, leaving open the concept of reincarnation. |
| 20551 | Christmas carol, A Dickens, Charles | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2007 | 9780141031736 | It is the 24th of December and mean, old Ebenezer Scrooge sits in his freezing office, refusing to acknowledge that it's Christmas. But, that night, the miser has a terrifying visitor, his dead business partner, Marley, who comes to warn that the ghosts from Scrooge's past, present and future are about to arrive. |
| | Chronicles of ancient darkness series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 569144 | Cicada Tan, Shaun | Lothian Books | 2018 | 9780734418630 | Cicada tell story. Story good. Story simple. Story even human can understand. Tok Tok Tok! |
| 753972 | Cinderella is dead Bayron, Kalynn | Bloomsbury | 2020 | 9781526621979 | It's 200 years since Cinderella found her prince, but the fairytale is over. Sophia knows the story though, off by heart. Because every girl has to recite it daily, from when she's tiny until the night she's sent to the royal ball for choosing. And every girl knows that she has only one chance. For the lives of those not chosen by a man at the ball are forfeit. But Sophia doesn't want to be chosen - she's in love with her best friend, Erin, and hates the idea of being traded like cattle. And when Sophia's night at the ball goes horribly wrong, she must run for her life. Alone and terrified, she finds herself hiding in Cinderella's tomb. And there she meets someone who will show her that she has the power to remake her world ... |
| | City of orphans trilogy series Jinks, Catherine | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 12451 | Clair de lune Golds, Cassandra | Penguin | 2004 | 9780143300007 | Clair-de-Lune has lived with her grandmother since her mother died. She lives a sheltered life until she meets Bonaventure, a brave talking mouse, who takes Clair-de-Lune on adventures of which she had only dreamed. |
| 728137 | Clementine and Rudy Curham, Siobhan | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781406390230 | A celebration of friendship and following dreams. When Clementine and Rudy meet they forge a friendship that inspires them both. Clementine and Rudy may be from different backgrounds but together they tackle the difficulties each of them face. |
| 846272 | Climb Barker, Philip | self-published | 2021 | 9780645252002 | Deserted by her father and kept in the dark about her brother's accident, high schooler Ashley Davies has her own secrets. When she enters a forbidden rock climbing contest to teach her bully a lesson, she ends up uncovering old wounds about her family's connection to another's heartache. Climb is a coming of age story of resilience, grit, and self-discovery. |
| 89 | Climb a lonely hill Norman, Liliith | HarperCollins Australia | 1984 | 9780006715962 | A prospecting holiday turns into a struggle for survival for two children when their car crashes in an isolated place in the bush, killing their uncle. |
| 642932 | Clockill and the thief, The Ward, Gareth | Walker Books | 2019 | 9781760651206 | Sin is dying. He has been poisoned by his blue blood. The traitor who poisoned him has escaped and is set on revenge. The Covert Operations Group (COG) tasks Sin, his friend Zonda Chubb and their frenemy Velvet Von Darque with recapturing the traitor WHATEVER THE COST. They must battle skypirates and the terrifying CLOCKILL to complete their mission. Can Sin survive long enough to save his friends, himself and the day? |
| 8621 | Close to the wind Walter, Jon | David Fickling Books | 2015 | 9781910200179 | A war torn country, a town that is burning. Ten year old Malik's mother has been missing for days, his home has become unrecognisable and the grandfather he hardly knows is insisting they leave on the final ship, to a country promising safety and a new life. When Papa meets two old friends, he makes a deal that could save them. But, this is only the beginning of the journey for Malik. If he is to escape, he will need all his courage, his sense of right and wrong, and a magic trick that he must practice until it's perfect. |
| 4055 | Cloudwish Wood, Fiona | Pan MacMillan | 2015 | 9781743533123 | For sixteen year old scholarship student Van Uoc Phan, magic has never been part of the plan. She is all work and no play; responsible and rational; quiet on the outside, the noise of her tumbling private thoughts kept neatly within. So, when she makes a wish about golden boy rower, Billy Gardiner, and it seems to come true, her sense of rationality as well as her sense of self are thrown into a state of flux. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|---|------|---------------|--|
| 1238 | Cold iron Masson, Sophie | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1998 | 9780733605833 | Tattercoat's only friends include Pug, the gooseherd, and Malkin, the serving maid. They devise a way to smuggle Tattercoat in to a birthday ball from which her grandfather has excluded her. |
| 91 | Colour of sunshine, The Metzenthien, David | Penguin | 2000 | 9780141310510 | Following the death of his older sister in a car accident, a nine year old boy is surrounded by the grief of his family. |
| 92 | Come sing, Jimmy Jo Paterson, Katherine | Puffin UK | 1995 | 9780140373974 | Jimmy Jo becomes a great country and western singer and finds his family is not what it seems. |
| 885974 | Comedienne's guide to Pride, The Thomson, Hayli | HarperCollins Australia | 2022 | 9781460762325 | When Taylor is accepted as a finalist for a diverse writers' internship at Saturday Night Live, it turns her life upside down. And if Taylor wants a shot at winning, she'll have to come out about both of her secrets- being a comedienne and a lesbian. The only thing keeping Taylor from self-combusting is her pining for Salem's most bewitching actress - out and proud classmate, Charlotte Grey. So when Taylor finds herself sitting opposite Charlotte to discuss a school project, Taylor's simmering need to tell everyone exactly who she is and what she wants burns hotter than ever . |
| | Completely Cassidy series Murray, Tamsyn & Miller, Antonia (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 33127 | Comradeship: stories of friendship and recreation in wartime Cusack, Kathleen & Hatherley, Brett (des) | Dept of Veterans' Affairs & Australian War Memorial | 2017 | 9780987615107 | Millions of Australians have been affected by war. Many servicemen and servicewomen have faced extraordinary dangers, while their loved ones waiting at home suffered months, and even years, of uncertainty. Yet, despite the difficulties, a strong sense of shared experience, friendship, and camaraderie often developed. |
| 1262274 | Concealed Gonzalez, Christina Diaz | Scholastic US | 2021 | 9781338647204 | Eva and her family are constantly on the run from a Mexican drug cartel. They are regularly moving locations, changing identities and always looking over their shoulders. The reasons for this are unclear to Eva. She just knows that her scientist father did something to make the cartel want him dead. One day, the people they are hiding from track them down, a life and death chase begins and Eva discovers there is a lot more to the story... |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Conspiracy 365 series Lord, Gabrielle | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 43461 | Cool coding Hansen, Robert | Pavilion | 2017 | 9781843653233 | This book is the perfect addition to any home or school. Coding is a subject we all have questions about, and this handy little book is beautifully laid out to dip into - either to find the answer to a question or to browse. Written in neat little chunks with fun facts, colourful illustrations and careful definitions. There are even links and exercises to continue with once you've finished reading the book. |
| 877869 | Cop & robber Bancks, Tristan | Penguin | 2022 | 9781761045943 | Nash finds himself pulled between his two parents after their divorce. This is not uncommon, however his mum is the local police officer and his dad is a retired boxer and former prisoner who finds himself needing to come up with a large amount of money very quickly. Nash finds his love and loyalty to his father tested as he is involved in his father's past mistakes and present schemes. LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Tristan Bancks read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website! Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/5-6-book-list#cop-and-robber-tristan-bancks |
| 7604 | Coral island, The Ballantyne, R M | Wordsworth Editions Ltd | 2002 | 9781853261701 | A classic story of three young sailors, sole survivors of a wreck, who discover the enchanting beauties of the South Pacific. They learn how to live on their tropical paradise but then they are swept into adventures with bloodthirsty pirates. |
| 41664 | Corn field Crew, Gary & Hill, Aaron (ill) | Windy Hollow Books | 2014 | 9781922081377 | Something drew the boys into the corn field that day, boredom, bravado, who knows. That kid who went in years before went in and was never the same again. Enter the corn field at your own risk. |
| 18414 | Corydon and the island of monsters Druitt, Tobias | Simon & Schuster | 2006 | 9780689875380 | The first book in a trilogy retelling the Greek myth of Medusa. Young Corydon is driven out of his village because of his unusual appearance and put on display as a monster, with other classical beasts, in a travelling freak show. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 35114 | Counting by 7s Goldberg Sloan, Holly | Scholastic US | 2013 | 9781743626535 | Willow Chance is a twelve year old genius, obsessed with nature, diagnosing medical conditions and counting by 7s. It has never been easy for Willow to connect with anyone other than her adoptive parents. Willow has led a quietly happy life until her parents die in a car crash, leaving her alone in a baffling world. |
| 1100195 | Courage be my friend: The Vivian Bullwinkel story Davis, Jenny | Fremantle Press | 2024 | 9781760993726 | Based on the true story of Australian nurse, Sister Vivian Bullwinkel, who was the sole survivor of a massacre by Japanese troops after the fall of Singapore. Vivian was subsequently interned in a prisoner of war camp where she formed a friendship with a lonely teenager. Together they survived for over 3 years through starvation, sickness, ill-treatment and neglect and formed an unbreakable bond. |
| 93311 | Cracker: the best dog on the battlefield Kadohata, Cynthia | Simon & Schuster | 2007 | 9781847380609 | Cracker works for the US army and the fate of the entire platoon rests on her senses to detect bombs, traps and the enemy. |
| 94 | Crash: the search for the Stinson Beck, Jennifer & Blacklock, Dyan | Scholastic Australia | 1999 | 9781862913783 | In 1937, a Stinson aircraft crashed, leaving two survivors to be rescued. |
| 1103087 | Cross my heart and never lie Dasnes, Nora | Farshore | 2024 | 9781662640544 | Tuva is in 7th grade and she is navigating friendships and pre-teen emotions. It is a coming of age graphic novel that explores friendships old and new! |
| 4806 | Cruisin' Caswell, Brian | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741663440 | Jules' mother wins a cruise and, on board, he discovers it's full of older passengers. There's little choice of companionship other than Adrian, his dancing-obsessed cousin, the very beautiful Jenna, wheelchair-bound Suzi Q and bully, Barry Barnes. Falling madly in love with the unobtainable Jenna, Jules develops a strong friendship with Suzi as she steers him through his unrequited love, with unexpected results. |
| 751197 | Cruising through calamity: Handling anxiety in anxious times Aisbett, Bev | HarperCollins Australia | 2021 | 9781460759752 | A book for anyone and everyone who finds themselves going through big change, hard times, bad luck or tough stuff. A book for right now, as it turns out. Cruising Through Calamity is a much-needed new book about helping people manage their emotions through big changes, hard times and big challenges. |
| 27687 | Cry blue murder Kane, Kim & Roberts, Marion | University of Queensland Press | 2013 | 9780702239267 | Celia and Alice share their secrets, hopes and increasing horror via email about the killer on the loose, abducting schoolgirls just like Celia. As the police scramble to investigate, who can the teenage girls trust. |
| 1291 | Cry of the karri Broome, Errol | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9781865084015 | When Aiden is lost in the forest, he is drawn into the mystery of a boy who disappeared in the same forest two years before. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 9312 | Cry of the wolf, The Burgess, Melvin | Puffin UK | 1995 | 9780140373189 | Ben learns about extinction and survival when he changes from helping the hunter to saving the wolves. The hunter becomes the hunted in this story of the sole surviving grey wolf cub. |
| 774231 | Cuckoo's flight Orr, Wendy | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760524913 | Clio's family were potters, although her father came from another land and worked with horses. Clio only left the kiln for a short time, to check on her horse, but the consequences of what she saw would change her and her village forever. When raiders are spotted just off the coast, the Goddess asks for the unthinkable. Clio must face many obstacles, deal with grief, find new friends and save a village. Her grandmother creates a statue to save Clio's life, but will it be enough? |
| 2494 | Cuckoo, The Crew, Gary & Turvey, Naomi (ill) | Ford Street Publishing | 2014 | 9781925000184 | Martin is the runt of his family. Without a mother to protect him, his overbearing father and brothers reject him. Martin finds the courage to fight for personal fulfilment. |
| 96 | Cue for treason Trease, Geoffrey | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 1973 | 9780140302318 | A simple but courageous boy and his friend resist treason and are loyal to their Queen and country. They are exposed to the real dangers of the streets of Elizabethan London. |
| 6289 | Curse of ash & embers, A Spurrier, Jo | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9781460756331 | Gyssa Blackbone, the evil witch of Black Oak Cottage, is dead, killed by her kin, Aleida Blackbone. She has left behind a curse, and the evil monsters she constructed still lurk amongst the trees. A young servant girl unwittingly has been called into service of Aleida only to discover a cursed mistress and an angry warlock who are more powerful than Elodie could ever have imagined. But who sent the letter offering the position to Elodie, and now that she's here, is danger and power better than the home she left where her step father terrorised her and treated her as a slave? All Elodie knows is that her new mistress needs her, Aleida is weak from the curse and the warlock will destroy them both if they do not repay the dead witch's debt. It is not long before Elodie is battling terrors that she could never have imagined existed, both her and Aleida standing together against unspeakable evil that only they can stop. |
| 1143 | Curse of kings Barclay, Alex | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2013 | 9780007335770 | Oland is a lowly servant who lives in fear for life, until one day he finds a letter from a long-dead king, warning him to run for his life and accept a quest to restore a shattered kingdom. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 611360 | Curse so dark and lonely, A Kemmerer, Brigid | Bloomsbury | 2019 | 9781408884614 | It's a tale as old as time, but not quite as we know it...Prince Rhen of Emberfall has been cursed to repeat the autumn of his eighteenth year until a girl falls in love with him- a challenge made all the more difficult when he transforms into a bloodthirsty monster hell-bent on destruction. Harper's life has been far from a fairytale- her mother is dying, her father has disappeared and she and her brother have resorted to a life of crime in Washington, DC to try to repay the debts their father created. Despite her intelligence and determination, she's used to being overlooked because of her cerebral palsy. When she's pulled into the magical world of Emberfall, she's quick to ensure she's taken seriously- but will she be willing to help break the curse in this modern retelling of Beauty and the Beast? |
| 5460 | Cut out, The Heath, Jack | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781760111984 | Fero isn't a spy. But, he looks exactly like Troy Maschenov, a ruthless enemy agent. What starts out as mistaken identity quickly turns into a complicated and dangerous plan. Fero is recruited to fight for his country. He has to impersonate Troy, enter enemy territory, hunt down a missing agent and bring her home in time to prevent a devastating terror attack. Hastily trained, loaded up with gadgets and smuggled across the border, Fero discovers the truth about espionage. Getting in is easy. Getting out alive is hard. |
| 15841 | Cyber riddles, The Garnsworthy, Penny | Dragonwick Publishing | 2007 | 9780977522491 | Josh hates his life. He's had to move towns, his new school doesn't have computers, the footy team's already selected and nobody seems to want to talk to him. Reluctantly, Josh befriends classmate, Caitlin, and together they play the Internet game 'Cyberhunt' which promises them one wish, if they can solve five virtual riddles. |
| 6024 | Damon Crew, Gary & Hill, Aaron (ill) | Lothian Books | 2011 | 9780734410276 | On holiday with his parents, fifteen year old Damon is bored. He is coerced into visiting an art gallery but nothing looks like anything in Damon's life. His reality is made up of TV and gaming, so Damon returns to the hotel to play his gameboy. Soon, it, too, is dull and repetitive, and Damon falls asleep. In his dreams, the artwork he ignored comes to life and, far off, a tiger roars. |
| 19209 | Dancing in the dark Bavati, Robyn | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780143202363 | Ditty was born to dance but she was also born Jewish. When her strictly religious parents won't let her take ballet lessons, Ditty starts to dance in secret. Keeping her two worlds apart will come at a huge personal cost. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 27702 | Dandelion fire Wilson, N D | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741664218 | Henry York discovers that he is a seventh son with the gift of second sight, an ability to tune into the hidden nature of people and objects. He will use this gift to combat the rising strength of the witch of Endor whose evil is all encompassing. |
| 1344938 | Danger Road Tait, A.L | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761646270 | Everyone's talking about Corey Armstrong... Twenty-five years ago, on a dark winter's night, teenager Corey Armstrong was left to die by a hit and run driver on Danger Road. Now Corey's the subject of a podcast that's putting his hometown on the map, but with the series almost over, the case remains unsolved. When brothers Alex and Leo decide to try to find out what happened to Corey, they learn more about his world than they could have imagined. Everyone's talking about the popular footballer, but the question remains: did anyone really know him? As Alex and Leo sink deeper into the past, they uncover old secrets, ready to resurface, and realise that someone in town must know something which means someone they know might be the killer. Will bringing up the past jeopardise the brothers' own futures? And could bringing a cold case back to life prove fatal? |
| 62378 | Dangerous days of Daniel X, The Patterson, James & Ledwidge, Michael (cont) | Corgi Books | 2008 | 9780552558488 | Fifteen year old alien hunter, Daniel X, is on a mission to finish the job that killed his parents. He wants to wipe out the world's most bloodthirsty aliens on The List. With telepathy and the ability to transform and create, Daniel's got more than a few tricks up his sleeve. But, as he battles towards his top target, Daniel can't forget that, on their lists, there's only one name at the top, and that's his. |
| 96287 | Dangerous days: the true story of a digger's great escape Brough, Ernest | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2009 | 9780732287511 | At nineteen, Ern signs up for the army to fight with the ANZACs. By twenty two, he is a prisoner of war. Ern and his mates are determined to escape and join their comrades in war. |
| 76333 | Dangerous games: Fletcher Smith, sports P I Harlen, Jonathan | Scholastic Australia | 2008 | 9781741691443 | Fourteen year old Fletcher Smith is a private investigator, working for the Institute of Sport. Trouble has found Fletcher since his father died in mysterious circumstances. Hired by rising cricket star Tom Baker to retrieve a lucky pig's foot, given to him by Don Bradman, Fletcher finds himself fighting for his life in the dangerous underworld of Australian sport. To crack this case, he'll need to battle killer sea wasps, a ruthless hitman and a deranged tennis prodigy. |
| 127069 | Dangerous places Charlton, Ann | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781741750881 | Will Kerwan is kidnapped in London during 1852. He is held hostage on a boat where he is made to work as a servant. He meets Runt and finds a best friend for life. They escape in Australia and make their way to the goldfields. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 97 | Dangerous spaces Mahy, Margaret | Puffin NZ | 1993 | 9780140363623 | Athena finds a box covered with green material. Inside it, she sees a dream world which draws her and her cousins in. |
| 9336 | Dangerous waters Blake, Bronwyn | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780734404671 | Joshua and his cousin, Zoe, see two men fighting and hear a gunshot. The police believe the murder is linked to armed robberies in the area. The cousins decision to investigate places them in danger. |
| 11266 | Daniel X: watch the skies Patterson, James & Rust, Ned | Doubleday | 2009 | 9780385614634 | Daniel X has his work cut out for him. A teenage alien hunter, he has a deadly list of evil predators to eliminate and, while he's made it all look easy so far, much darker days await him. Next on his list is Number Five, an unsightly and terrifying alien, who is watching Daniel as intently as Daniel has been tracking him. |
| 1423832 | Dare you, I Winter, Tamsin | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2025 | 9781805075721 | Willow and Alma are best friends, sharing a love of the spotlight. All they want is fame and fortune, and Willow is determined that the best way to get it is to go viral. So they start filming dares. Okay, so getting stuck in a basketball hoop doesn't get them the sort of attention they were hoping for, but as their challenges get more extreme, their fan base grows. Duct-taping themselves to a wall? No-brainer. Eating super-hot chillis? Of course! Waxing an eyebrow off? Super funny! And if they get in a bit of trouble, it's worth it. But if they really want to prove themselves, they have to go all-out. So they come up with the perfect idea. An idea that causes more than just a bit of trouble. An idea that might destroy not just their ambitions but their entire friendship for good. |
| 45280 | Dark angels Langrish, Katherine | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2009 | 9780007214891 | Thirteen year old Wolf is escaping from the abbey which has been his home and prison for the last eight years. Scrambling up over the wild and haunted ridge known as Devil's Edge, he has a strange encounter and the creature he discovers will change his life for ever. |
| | Dark is rising series Cooper, Susan | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Dark materials series Pullman, Philip | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 693055 | Dark tide, The Jasinska, Alicia | Penguin | 2020 | 9781760894726 | Lina lives in a world where her city must give a sacrifice each year to the neighbouring witches. This year Lina's sweetheart has been selected and will die in the sacrifice. In an attempt to save him Lina offers herself instead. What follows is a race against time to convince the witches to find another sacrifice. Will Lina succeed and what happens when Lina's starts to question her love? |
| 1209920 | Darkest night, brightest star Jonsberg, Barry | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781761180385 | <p>Thirteen year old Morgan lives with his Dad and his older brother Mitch. He hasn't seen his Mum since she left when he was two. He spends his time practicing his soccer skills in order to meet his father's high expectations about what it is to be a man. Then Morgan becomes friends with Gray at school, gets injured in a game of soccer, finds his long-lost Mum and everything changes. Morgan must decide what kind of man he wants to be. A story that ultimately asks, How do you find your light when you're stuck in the dark?</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Barry Jonsberg read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#darkest-night-brightest-star-barry-jonsberg</p> |
| 18495 | Darwin's tortoise Stewart, Robin | Black Inc | 2005 | 9781863953733 | Harriet, a giant Galapagos Island tortoise, is looked after and observed by Charles Darwin in his development of his daring theory of evolution and his book, the Origin of the Species. Cleverly written from Harriet's perspective. |
| 1185783 | Daughter of Auschwitz, The: The girl who lived to tell her story Friedman, Tova & Sumberac, Manuel (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2024 | 9781526366658 | The memoir of holocaust survivor Tova Friedman who was only 5 years old when she was sent to Auschwitz. She recounts her childhood experiences during World War Two - from living in a Jewish ghetto in Poland, to a Nazi labour camp and then to Auschwitz - Birkenau. A powerful story of resilience, survival and hope. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|---|------|---------------|---|
| 1346 | David Copperfield Dickens, Charles | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2007 | 9780141031750 | For David Copperfield, orphaned and with a cruel stepfather, the future looks bleak. But, a new start beckons, first with the magnificent Mr Micawber and then with his eccentric aunt, Betsey Trotwood. David encounters a range of people who will change his fortunes in very different ways, and his life forever. |
| 751161 | Day one Devos, Kelly | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9781867209874 | Jinx and MacKenna are thrown into survival mode as they fight their way across a war-torn country to rescue their little brother Charles. They will question themselves, their ideas and the integrity of everyone around them, before they get to the bottom of the political conspiracy that caused the civil war. Their only hope for survival, and rescuing Charles, might be following Dr. Doomsday's Guide. |
| 1423339 | Day the bridge fell, The Vass, Coral | Wombat Books | 2025 | 9781761112799 | Ray Johnston is proud that his dad is working on the new West Gate Bridge in Melbourne. It is 1970 and Ray is itching to be part of the grown up world. When he hears whispers that something might be wrong with the construction, Ray attempts to share the news but nobody wants to know. When the accident happens, Ray has to grow up fast. |
| 15174 | Dead famous: William Shakespeare and his dramatic acts Donkin, Andrew & Goddard, Clive (ill) | Scholastic UK | 2004 | 9780439982696 | Even though he's dead, William is still full of surprises. Get the inside story from his secret diary and the news of the day from the Shakespearean Sun. Be amazed as the curtain is raised on Shakespeare's most dramatic acts. |
| 32975 | Decision: Stories of leadership in the services Cole-Adams, Jennet & Gauld, Judy, Hatherley, Brett (des) | Dept of Veterans' Affairs & Australian War Memorial | 2017 | 9780994477569 | We all make decisions every day that shape the lives we lead. In times of war, decision-making can take on a greater significance. Many Australians over the past century of service have demonstrated leadership with the decisions they have made. |
| 21106 | Deep secret Doherty, Berlie | Andersen Press Ltd | 2020 | 9781783449026 | Deep in a Derbyshire valley live two girls, twins, so alike that even their family can't tell them apart. But tragedy is waiting. When the valley is sold to be flooded for a huge dam, the villagers are forced to leave their homes and the twins' lives change for ever. Deep secrets are uncovered and desires, love and grief rise to the surface. |
| 665700 | Deep water Epstein, Sarah | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760877286 | It's been three months since Henry disappeared and Chloe wants answers as badly as Mason wants her to just back off and leave him alone. The evidence mounts and friendships are tested in this gripping YA thriller set in the Southern Highlands of NSW. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 6493 | Deep water Hersey, Lu | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2015 | 9781409586104 | When her mum suddenly disappears, Danni moves to a tiny Cornish fishing village with her Dad, where the locals treat her like a monster. As the village's dark, disturbing past bubbles to the surface, Danni discovers that she's not who, or what, she thought she was. And, the only way to save her family from a bitter curse is to embrace her incredible, new gift, however impossible it seems. |
| 660474 | Deeplight Hardinge, Frances | Pan MacMillan | 2019 | 9781529014570 | On the jumbled streets of the island of Lady's Crave live Hark and his best friend Jelt. They are scavengers: living off their wits, diving for relics of the gods, desperate for anything they can sell. But now there is something restless stirring beneath the waves, calling to someone brave enough to retrieve it. Something valuable. Something dangerous... |
| 4054 | Defy the stars Gray, Claudia | Hot Key Books | 2017 | 9781471406362 | What does it mean to be human? Genesis soldier Noemi is confident she knows, and has no hesitations when it comes to destroying the mechs sent from Earth to take over her planet. But when she encounters Abel, a prototype designed to perfectly imitate and surpass the ability of humans, she begins to question her assumptions. Noemi soon realises Abel holds the key to protecting Genesis from the all-consuming powers on earth, which sends her on a heart-stopping journey across galaxies. |
| 9437 | Desert cowboy Lowe, Pat & Pike, Jimmy (ill) | Magabala Books | 2000 | 9781875641574 | Yinti travels from one outback place to another. He is a Desert Cowboy who experiences a series of firsts: learning the kartiya language (English), his first pay, seeing kartiyas (whitefellas), cars, cows and horses and trousers made from flour bags. |
| 1418 | Desert dog Lowe, Pat & Pike, Jimmy (ill) | Magabala Books | 1997 | 9781875641352 | Spinifex, a dingo pup, is adopted by a family living in the traditional way, moving from waterhole to waterhole. Based on an incident in his childhood, the pup encountering station life shares the experience of Jimmy Pike's own people. |
| 1286602 | Desert tracks Wells, Marly & Wells, Linda | Magabala Books | 2025 | 9781922777669 | Entranced in the world of a mysterious old story, Millie is sucked up by a willy-willy and transported to Alice Springs in 1924 where she meets a crew of oddly familiar young people. As the group continue to find each other in time, they realise that Alice Springs of the past and the future are not as different as they seem. |
| 2339 | Destiny's right hand Wagner, Michael | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780143304210 | While stumbling through a harsh world of hopes and expectations, teenage journalist, Eddie Innocent, meets the stunning but strange Destiny. As they work together to solve a painful mystery, Eddie wonders if he's finally discovered the front page news story he's been looking for. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 876201 | Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel, The Greenberg, Nikki | Affirm Press | 2021 | 9781922400673 | For as long as she can remember, Pepper Stark has wanted one thing: to join her father, the Captain, aboard the magnificent RMS Aquitania on a voyage to New York. She has never been allowed to set foot on her father's ship - until now. From the decadent food to the star-studded passenger list, travelling First Class on Aquitania is every bit as glamorous as Pepper had imagined. And most dazzling of all is American stage sensation Perdita West, wearing the world-famous Saffron Diamond around her neck. When the priceless jewel disappears mid-voyage, Pepper unexpectedly finds herself entangled in the crime. |
| | Diamond Brothers series Horowitz, Anthony | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 750991 | Diamonds Greder, Armin | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760877040 | Mama, if I was to dig a hole in our garden, would I find a diamond? No, darling, there are no diamonds here. Where are diamonds, then? Oh, in other countries. In Africa for example ... A powerful parable that explores how the desire for endless riches perpetuates chains of inequality and corruption. |
| 104 | Diary of a young girl, The Frank, Anne | Penguin | 2002 | 9780141315188 | During the persecution of the Jewish people in the Netherlands in World War II, Anne wrote in her diary of how her family hid for two years in a few rooms. |
| 720735 | Diary of a young naturalist McAnulty, Dara | Text Publishing Co | 2020 | 9781922330000 | About a teenager, for teenagers. Dara's is an extraordinary voice and vision, a celebration of beauty and wonder with a powerful connection wot the natural world. Spring light and warmth are spreading across the mountains and into me. I have embraced the darkness but now this feeling of light is intoxicating, explosive and alive. |
| 18407 | Diary of Ma Yan: the life of a Chinese schoolgirl, The Haski, Pierre | Virago Press | 2005 | 9781844081806 | An incredible story of survival and spirit. In Zhangjiahu, China, fourteen year old Ma Yan struggles to escape poverty through persistent, sometimes desperate, attempts to continue her education. Her diary details a world few of us can imagine. |
| 105 | Diary Z McCarthy, Stephanie | Scholastic Australia | 1998 | 9781862913790 | Red Liston entertains the reader with diary entries about his teenage exploits. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 17360 | Dig 3ft NW: the legendary journey of Burke and Wills Murgatroyd, Sarah | Text Publishing Co | 2008 | 9781921351723 | In 1860, Robert Burke, accompanied by William Wills and a party of explorers, was prepared to risk everything to become the first European to cross the Australian continent from south to north. A few months later, a tree bore a strange carving, Dig under 3 ft NW. Burke, Wills and five other men were dead. A compelling account of a journey that was in trouble even before it began. |
| 29133 | Disgrace of Kitty Grey, The Hooper, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2013 | 9781408827611 | Kitty has a comfortable life as a country milkmaid, working for a rich family in a great house. Life changes when her handsome man vanishes, leaving her with his 5-year-old sister. She is sent on an errand to London, where she is determined to track her man down, but her fate is literally snatched out of her hands and things spiral out of control. |
| 785299 | Displaced Sanders, Cristina | Walker Books | 2021 | 9781760653347 | Eloise and her family leave Cornwall for a new life in colonial New Zealand. They leave in the hope of a better life but find that expectation does not meet reality and that things do not always go to plan. Eloise is torn leaving the past behind and forging a new life in New Zealand. She struggles with the expectations of her position in society and following her heart. An enthralling historical novel focussing on love, loss, and hope for the future. |
| | Divergent series Roth, Veronica | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 599692 | Doctor Who: Thirteen doctors 13 stories Various | Puffin UK | 2019 | 9780241356173 | A new version of this much-loved anthology features an exclusive, new tale - written by Naomi Alderman, author of The Power - that will star the Thirteenth Doctor, as she battles to save the universe with her three close and trusted friends. Other authors featured are: Eoin Colfer, Michael Scott, Marcus Sedgwick, Philip Reeve, Patrick Ness, Richelle Mead, Malorie Blackman, Alex Scarrow, Charlie Higson, Derek Landy, Neil Gaiman, and Holly Black. |
| 110 | Dodger Gleeson, Libby | Penguin | 1996 | 9780140383751 | Mick's life at high school changes when he is chosen to play the Artful Dodger. His unresolved grief, misplaced guilt over his mother's death and alienation from his father erode his confidence. Will he let the others down? Strong language in context. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1209954 | Dog trouble Varner, Kristin | First Second | 2024 | 9781250225900 | Ash is a good kid at heart. But his grades are slipping, and when he gets caught vandalizing an old building, it's the last straw. It's decided: Ash will spend some time away from the city, at his dad's place on Ferncliff Island. It's bad enough that Ash has no friends on the island (just an annoying little stepsister), but his parents are also making him do community service. He volunteers at the local animal shelter, even though he's not really a dog person. |
| 579475 | Dog with seven names, The Wolfer, Dianne | Penguin Random House Australia | 2018 | 9780143787457 | A tiny dog is born on a remote cattle station. She should have died but for Elsie finding her, saving her, and naming her Princess. Elsie and Princess have a wonderful life until the War arrives. With Japanese air strikes coming closer, Elsie and her family leave the Pilbara for safety down south, but they can't take Princess. The little dog begins her adventures when she is taken by stockman Dave, who calls her Dog. She witnesses wonderful and terrible things, and gives courage and support to many humans. But through all her amazing adventures she never forgets her beloved Elsie...will she ever find her again? |
| 772330 | Dog's purpose, A Cameron, W Bruce | Pan MacMillan | 2016 | 9781760551452 | This story follows one dog's quest to understand his mission in life when he finds himself reborn as a new puppy after living a short, previous existence. When he is introduced to his new owner, eight year old Ethan, the two are immediately inseparable and Bailey lives an adventurous full life with his boy learning how to be a good dog. However, just when he thinks he has life figured out, he again finds himself reborn as another puppy. Bailey is very confused and wonders - what is his purpose? |
| 18685 | Dogboy Kelleher, Victor | Penguin | 2005 | 9780143003571 | Dogboy is born and abandoned as a gift to the mountains. Raised by a dog, he is shunned by the village he lives in. His extraordinary gifts must be used for him to realise his dreams. |
| 27577 | Dogs, The Stratton, Allan | Penguin | 2015 | 9780143572596 | Cameron and his mum have been on the run for five years. His father is hunting them. At least, that's what Cameron has been told. When they settle in an isolated farmhouse, in the middle of nowhere, Cameron starts to see and hear things that aren't possible. Soon, he's questioning everything he thought he knew and, even, his sanity. Cameron must uncover the dark secrets buried in the past, before they tear him apart. |
| 42862 | Don Quixote de Cervantes, Miguel & Jenkins, Martin (retell) & Riddell, Chris (ill) | Walker Books | 2010 | 9781406324303 | The mad Don Quixote wanders 16th century Spain looking for chivalrous deeds to do and wrongs to right. Lots of adventures with interesting characters, a barber, monks, shepherds, inn keepers, all of whom involve humour and misunderstandings. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 660549 | Double dangerous book for boys, The Iggulden, Conn & Iggulden, Hal | HarperCollins Australia | 2019 | 9780008332983 | Read this book if you like short chapters, facts, activities and quizzes. Whether it is building a flying machine, discovering the world's greatest speeches, doing maths puzzles, learning sign language, reading quotes from Shakespeare or mastering the Rubik's cube, this book has it all and more. |
| 1501 | Dougy Moloney, James | University of Queensland Press | 2004 | 9780702224997 | Dougy's sister, Gracey, is chosen for the State Athletics Championships but it leads to violence. It is up to Dougy to save his family from the racist war that ensues and the mysterious Moodagudda. The first book in a trilogy. |
| 23199 | Dr Huxley's bequest: A history of medicine in thirteen objects Cooper, Michelle | FitzOsborne Press | 2018 | 9780648165132 | A mysterious bequest sends Rosy and Jaz on a race against time to identify thirteen strange and wonderful objects - which turn out to tell the story of medicine, from the superstitions of ancient Egypt to the modern-day ethical dilemmas of genetic testing. Can unicorns cure leprosy? What secrets of the brain did Michelangelo conceal in his Sistine Chapel paintings? Did a zombie discover the cure for scurvy? Does homeopathy actually work? Why did an Australian scientist decide to drink dangerous bacteria? Is grapefruit evil? Did the bumps on Ned Kelly's head predict his fate? And how exactly did parachuting cats save a village from the plague? |
| 1506 | Dr Jeekyll and Mr Hyde Stevenson, Robert Louis | Scholastic Australia | 2002 | 9780439295758 | In one of the four stories in this book of Stevenson's classic horror stories, the cursed Dr Jekyll finds himself transformed by a scientific experiment into the evil Mr Hyde. |
| 774375 | Dr Karl's little book of climate change science Kruszelnicki, Dr Karl | ABC Books | 2021 | 9780733341298 | How is carbon dioxide related to climate change and what can we do to help the Earth? Dr Karl explains how we can help to reduce emissions and who the major players are in the changes taking place in our world. Companies and governments have known about the impacts of carbon dioxide on our planet for years, but what steps have they taken to reduce the carbon our atmosphere holds? The answers to these questions and many more can be found in this easy to read text giving us insight into climate change science! |
| 13752 | Dr Karl's short back & science Kruszelnicki, Dr Karl | Pan MacMillan | 2015 | 9781743533345 | Settle in for some cutting-edge scientific snippets and comb through some of the greatest scientific conundrums of our age. Find out what's killing half the bacteria on Earth every two days, why mole rats don't get cancer, why scientists are running around naked in the Antarctic, how a toilet seat helped to end the First World War, and lots, lots more. |
| 9209 | Dracula Calcutt, David | Oxford University Press | 1999 | 9780198314561 | A stage adaptation of Bram Stoker's famous novel. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1507 | Dracula Stoker, Bram & Humphries, Tudor (ill) | Dorling Kindersley | 1997 | 9780751370706 | Jonathan Harker is travelling to Castle Dracula to see the Transylvanian noble, Count Dracula. The locals beg him not to go because, on the eve of St George's Day when the clock strikes midnight, all the evil things in the world will come out. But, Jonathan goes to the Castle and his nightmare begins. A retelling of the classic story with striking, coloured illustrations and detailed, historical background information. |
| 772963 | Dragon and her boy, The Chrimes, Penny & Szabo, Levente (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2021 | 9781510107120 | Stick lives in the city of London with his other gutterling friends, performing on the streets for food and money. When children start disappearing, including some of Stick's friends, he starts to investigate. Unexpectedly, this leads him to discover a grumpy dragon trapped in a tunnel underneath London. Will helping her escape and find a new home cause him to disappear, too? Or can the dragon help him to find his friends? |
| 2999 | Dragon dawn Wilkinson, Carole | Black Dog Books | 2008 | 9781742030623 | At less than 1000 years old, Danzi is a young dragon. He should be hibernating for winter but has an obligation to deliver an inheritance to the family of his old Dragonkeeper's family. His duty is interrupted when he rescues a man from some brutal soldiers. It is a dangerous time for a dragon to be without a keeper. |
| 29477 | Dragon horse Ward, Peter | Corgi Books | 2009 | 9780552553544 | Aeons ago, dragons spread terror across the Chinese empire. Their descendants became magnificent horses, which are now drawn into a battle, caused by an ancient evil and the destiny of two brothers. |
| 833197 | Dragon skin Foxlee, Karen | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526108 | How to save a dragon: 1) Assemble equipment. Water, Weet-Bix, sugar, syringe, sticky tape, scissors. 2) Believe in everything. Pip never wants to go home. She likes to sit at the waterhole at dusk and remember Mika, her best friend. At home her mother's not the same since her boyfriend moved in. They don't laugh anymore and Pip has to go to bed early, turn off her light and pretend she doesn't exist. When she finds a half-dead creature at the waterhole, everything changes. She knows she has to save this small dragon and return it to where it comes from. But how? |
| 84950 | Dragonfly Golding, Julia | Oxford University Press | 2008 | 9780192727602 | When the uptight Fourth Crown Princess of the Blue Crescent Islands is sent to marry the uncouth Prince Ramil ac Burinholt, heir to the throne of Gerfal, in order to unite their lands, they are both horrified. They hate each other on sight and their lives have been very different. But, their countries are under threat and the only chance of peace is for them to form an alliance. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1102 | Dragonfly pool, The Ibbotson, Eva | Pan MacMillan | 2014 | 9781447265658 | Twelve-year-old Tally, a thoughtful child, deeply loved by her father and two aunts, attends Delderton, a progressive boarding school. At the cinema, Tally learns about the small country of Bergania, whose King refuses to bend to Hitler's demands. So, when Delderton is invited to Bergania, Tally insists they attend. In Bergania, the children witness the king's assassination and must help young prince Karil escape to safety. |
| 9138 | Drama Telgemeier, Raina | Graphix | 2012 | 9780545326995 | Callie loves theatre. But, she can't really sing. Instead, she's the set designer for the drama department's stage crew and, this year, she's determined to create a set worthy of Broadway, on a school budget. But, Callie will need to learn about carpentry, try and sell tickets and help the crew work well together. But, once the actors are chosen, the offstage dramas don't help, and the two cute brothers who enter the picture just make things crazier. Graphic novel. |
| 18123 | Draw buildings and cityscapes Schwarz, Hans | A & C Black | 2004 | 9780713669718 | This book offers an exciting and interesting approach to drawing buildings and cityscapes. It includes detailed, step-by-step instructions and useful advice on composition and drawing techniques. |
| 18124 | Draw wild animals Brown, David | A & C Black | 2005 | 9780713669640 | Specialist instruction book that will appeal to students interested in art and drawing. Step-by-step instructions and examples included. |
| 1019881 | Drawn to change the world: Graphic novel collection Reynolds, Emma & Donovan, Natasha & 15 others | HarperCollins US | 2024 | 9780063084216 | Emma Reynolds shines a spotlight on sixteen incredible youth activists from around the world who are fighting to protect the planet and all life on Earth. From Autumn Peltier campaigning for clean water to Edgar Edmund Tarimo turning plastic waste into building materials-and many more-these inspiring true stories highlight the importance of taking charge and creating change. |
| 1000114 | Drawn Together Le, Minh & Santat, Dan (ill) | Little Brown | 2018 | 9781484767603 | When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens-with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---|------|---------------|---|
| 17612 | Dream land Hyde, Lily | Walker Books | 2008 | 9781406307658 | All her life, Safina's parents have dreamed of returning to Grandpa's native village in Crimea. But, exchanging their sunny Uzbekistan house for a squalid camp is more like a nightmare for twelve year old Safi. She wonders whether this strange land can ever become home. A compelling story about the Crimean Tatars' struggle to reclaim the land from which they were exiled in the Second World War. |
| 886448 | Dreaming by starlight Curham, Siobhan | Walker Books | 2022 | 9781529504019 | What happens when a dream is impossible to achieve? Jazz, Hope, Allegra and Portia seem an unlikely group of friends but they are determined and smart and, together, the Moonlight Dreamers help one another to believe in themselves and make their dreams come true. |
| 1414783 | Dreaming, The: Volume 1 Chan, Queenie | FWG Publishing International/IPI Comics | 2023 | 9781922856395 | Twin sisters Amber and Jeanie are accepted into an exclusive boarding school - as long as they don't tell anyone, including the vice principal that they are twins. As they get to know the school, they quickly realise it is a mansion of secrets and danger - students in the past have vanished without a trace! |
| 1414799 | Dreaming, The: Volume 2 Chan, Queenie | FWG Publishing International/IPI Comics | 2024 | 9781922856456 | After the discovery of Millie's body, Greenwich Private College grinds to a complete halt as gloom and despair sets in. As students begin to leave the school, Jeanie continues to investigate more into the school's dark past, while Amber's dreams reveal a dark, namless entity. |
| 14686 | Dreamtime at the 'G Hayes, Alinta & Nelson, Andrew | Indij Readers | 2007 | 9780975686195 | A Year 8 student and a Year 10 student meet with Aboriginal AFL players at the Melbourne Cricket Ground to interview them about their profession as elite footballers. Topics include training, racism in sport, rewards and coaching. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1286620 | Drift Harry, Pip | Hachette Australia | 2025 | 9780734423900 | <p>Fourteen-year-old Nate has just moved back to Australia and is finding it hard to navigate a new city, school and changed home life. His next-door neighbour, Luna, is dealing with her own issues: a viral video, friends who have dropped her, and a subsequent anxiety disorder. When a swarm of 20,000 bees unexpectedly settle in the walls of Nate's family's house, Nate and Luna come together to save the hive, befriending local beekeeper Tyler. Over the course of one summer, their loyalties will be tested and their lives will be forever changed.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Pip Harry read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#drift-pip-harry</p> |
| 1216886 | Drop of golden sun, A Saunders, Kate | Faber & Faber | 2024 | 9780571310982 | <p>It's 1973, and 12-year-old Jenny is in shock. She's just been cast as one of the lead roles in a feature film. She's going to be a child actor! Soon she must jet off to France, to the idyllic Chateau Mouchotte, where she will join her film family: three other children and two renowned actors. The glitz and glamour of being on set is a million miles away from Jenny's normal life, but showbiz is never straight-forward and there's one fierce and famous actor that threatens the whole shoot. It's up to Jenny and her friends to keep the peace and save the film. Jenny is about to experience a life-changing summer in the spotlight!</p> |
| 5554 | Drowned maiden's hair, A Schlitz, Laura Amy | Candlewick Press | 2008 | 9780763638122 | <p>When fiery Maud Mary Flynn is adopted, she leaves Barbary Asylum with high hopes of being cherished. Little does she know that the sisters who have adopted her require her for their family business, a shadowy extortion racket of the early 19th century that uses spiritualism to fleece the susceptible and tragic. Into this web stumbles Mrs Lambert, grieving mother of a drowned child.</p> |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 751268 | Dry Shusterman, Neal & Shusterman, Jarrod | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406386851 | When the California drought escalates to catastrophic proportions, a group of teens is forced to make life and death decisions in this harrowing story of survival. The drought -- nor the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it -- has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't take long showers, don't panic. Until the taps run dry. Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbours and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return, she and her younger brother must team up with an unlikely group in search of water. Each of them will need to make impossible choices to survive. |
| 18821 | Duck, death and the tulip Eribuch, Wolf | Gecko Press | 2007 | 9781877467172 | A duck strikes up an unusual and unlikely friendship with Death. |
| 1209957 | Duel Bagley, Jessixa & Bagley, Aaron (ill) | Simon & Schuster | 2023 | 9781534496545 | Sixth grader Lucy is brand-new to middle school, and when her older sister GiGi - the undisputed queen bee of eighth grade - humiliates her in the cafeteria, Lucy snaps and challenges her to a fencing duel. |
| 1019917 | Dungeons and drama Boyce, Kristy | Delacorte Press | 2024 | 9780593647011 | Musical lover Riley has big aspirations to become a director on Broadway. Crucial to this plan is to bring back her high school's spring musical, but when Riley takes her mom's car without permission, she's grounded and stuck with the worst punishment: spending her after-school hours working at her dad's game shop. Riley can't waste her time working when she has a musical to save, so she convinces Nathan - a nerdy teen employee - to cover her shifts and, in exchange, she'll flirt with him to make his gamer-girl crush jealous. But Riley didn't realize that meant joining Nathan's Dungeons & Dragons game... or that role playing would be so fun. Soon, Riley starts to think that flirting with Nathan doesn't require as much acting as she would've thought... |
| 130954 | Dust Thompson, Colin & various illustrators | ABC Books | 2007 | 9780733320736 | Shows the reality and horror of children dying of starvation. Fourteen artists focus on different aspects of the suffering, deprivation and starkness of the life and death of a starving child. Proceeds go to 'Save the Children'. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1425825 | e-Revolution, The McKeown, Catriona | Rhiza Press | 2026 | 9781761112867 | Jolie and her friends Charlotte, Bronwyn and Hayley are at war with three boys in Year 9 at school. It's a love/hate relationship, where they set each other up with dares and the losers have consequences. When the boys win a bet, the girls cry 'Unfair!' However, their plan for revenge backfires and leads to the principal banning all e-scooters from school premises and insisting students must follow government regulations, which means they can only ride a scooter with an adult. How can they get to school? To their jobs? Jolie and her friends want to fix things, but what can they achieve on their own? Is the only person who can help the one person Jolie doesn't want to turn to? |
| | Eager series Fox, Helen | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 113 | Eagle of the Ninth, The Sutcliff, Rosemary | Oxford University Press | 2000 | 9780192750457 | A young officer in Roman Britain sets off to discover what happened to the Ninth Legion, a legion that disappeared in the mists. |
| | Earthsea series, The Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1551 | Earthsong Kelleher, Victor | Penguin | 1997 | 9780140380026 | The earth appears safe again and must be recolonised but strange relationships have evolved and our futuristic Adam and Eve face many new dangers. Their computerised companions are wonderful. inspiring, resourceful and very funny. |
| | Eddie Dickens series Ardagh, Philip | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 3044 | Edge of extinction Martin, Laura | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2016 | 9780008152895 | The age of man is over, reintroducing dinosaurs to Earth was an unsurprisingly bad idea. While the Survivors rebuild a society in underground bunkers, some wonder if there is more to what's left than this? Sky Munday breaks free from her compound to face the surface, the dinosaurs and maybe even to find her missing father. Who will kill her first, her former compound community, or the reptilian predators above? |
| 751211 | Edge of thirteen, The Weetman, Nova | University of Queensland Press | 2021 | 9780702263125 | Clem is thirteen years old, and her whole world is changing whether she likes it or not. From Santa, to boyfriends, her body, and her complicated relationship with her parents. Normally she would rely on her best friend Bridge to help steer her through, but it seems like even that friendship is changing too. As a new school year starts, and Clem and her friends head off on school camp, Clem finds herself in lots of tricky new situations. |
| 9228 | Education of Little Tree, The Carter, Forrest | Vintage/Ebury (Random House) | 2000 | 9780712672696 | A classic story set in the 1930s about an orphaned boy who goes to live with his Cherokee grandparents in the mountains of Tennessee. His education is not formal but an ancient native wisdom and way of life. |
| 5205 | Egg and spoon Maguire, Gregory | Candlewick Press | 2014 | 9780763672201 | Elena Rudina lives with her dying mother in the impoverished Russian countryside. One day, a train arrives carrying untold wealth, a cornucopia of food, and Ekaterina, a girl of Elena's age. When the two girls' lives collide, an adventure begins that includes mistaken identity, a monk locked in a tower, a prince travelling incognito and a wise-cracking Baba Yaga, a witch who lives in a house perched on chicken legs. |
| 9338 | Eglantine: a ghost story Jinks, Catherine | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741146585 | Allie and her family move into a new home. The last thing they expect is an unwanted guest. But Bethan's room seems to be inhabited by a ghost who writes on the walls. Layers of paint, experts on psychic phenomena and Feng Shui don't help. |
| 21660 | Eight keys LaFleur, Suzanne | Penguin | 2011 | 9780141342030 | Elise's life takes a turn for the worse. She's bullied at school and now feels embarrassed by her best friend, Franklin, who's decidedly uncool, and she's struggling to cope with new arrivals in her home. Elise receives a mysterious key left for her by her father. A key that unlocks one of the eight doors upstairs in the barn. As Elise begins to unlock her past, she starts to realise that she can take control of her future. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1149664 | Eleanor Jones can't keep a secret Doak, Amy | Penguin Books Australia | 2024 | 9781761342424 | Eleanor Jones stirs up more mystery and danger in this fast-paced YA mystery. Things have settled down in Cooinda and Eleanor Jones is getting used to her new normal - spending time with her friends, going to school, and working on a project at the local old age home. But just as things start to feel calm, a series of events once again rock Eleanor's world- Troy's ex-girlfriend is back in town and, during a visit to the old age home, Eleanor's buddy Nance admits to witnessing a murder, swearing Eleanor to secrecy. In an effort to definitely not be concerned about Troy's ex, Eleanor throws herself into solving the mystery of the murder Nance spoke about. Enlisting the help of new friend and genealogy expert Jem to research Nance's past, Eleanor soon realises that digging into old secrets can sometimes be incredibly dangerous indeed. |
| 1019863 | Eleanor Jones is not a murderer Doak, Amy | Penguin | 2023 | 9781761342417 | Eleanor Jones has just started at her ninth high school in less than five years. Since she and her mum are always moving on, Eleanor likes to stay on the outer, to stay invisible. So maybe it's just bad luck that the very first person she talks to at Cooinda Secondary College, Angus Marshall, is stabbed and left for dead the same day. The last message on Angus's phone is from Eleanor Jones. After being interviewed by the police, Eleanor realises they don't have all the facts and decides to investigate. In trying to understand what happened to Angus, Eleanor inadvertently becomes involved with an eclectic group of fellow students - all of whom have their own reasons to want to solve the mystery. As they slowly unravel Angus's secrets, Eleanor discovers the true meaning of friendship - and uncovers a danger lurking at the heart of the town... |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1356597 | Eleanor Jones is playing with fire Doak, Amy | Penguin | 2025 | 9781761350634 | Eleanor Jones isn't looking for trouble. But someone is starting fires in Cooina - and the first one looks like a murder. Eleanor is determined not to get involved, but when she receives a note warning her to 'keep quiet' she can't help but work out who sent it. Who had motive to murder Eleanor's neighbour? Could it really be one of her classmates? And are the fires connected to the car thefts in town? The more Eleanor tries to do the right thing, the more danger she finds herself in... |
| 29754 | Eli the good House, Silas | Candlewick Press | 2011 | 9780763652883 | For ten year old Eli Book, the summer of 1976 threatens to tear his family apart. There's his distant mother, his traumatised Vietnam vet dad, his rebellious sister, his anti-war protesting aunt, and his tough, yet troubled, best friend, Edie. As tempers flare and his father's nightmares rage, Eli watches from the sidelines. But, soon, even he cannot escape the current of conflict. |
| 14445 | Elvis and his pelvis Cox, Michael & Reeve, Philip (ill) | Scholastic UK | 2001 | 9780439997560 | Not quite the full life story of Elvis Presley, told in chronological order and with humour, including some of his 'lost diary'. |
| 15336 | Elvis Presley: the king of rock 'n' roll Gogerly, Liz | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2003 | 9780750244947 | With great photos and information, this book tells of the journey of a shy country boy who became the undisputed king of rock 'n' roll. |
| 1359339 | Embrace the serpent Mara, Sunya | HarperCollins Australia | 2025 | 9781444983067 | Saphira has spent her life trying to remain invisible. Despite her rare gift for harnessing the magic in gemstones, she lets a corrupt jewellsmith take credit for her impressive work. But when the king sends his handsome huntsman to find the best jewellsmith of all, Saphira's powers are exposed. Now she must choose between falling in the grasp of the Empire that made her an orphan, or marrying a monster - the ever feared Serpent King. |
| 660711 | Emergency rescue angel Whittle, Cate | Omnibus Books | 2020 | 9781760669263 | Life has returned to routine for Mitch. Mostly. He's had to find a new kind of normal after his dad drowned saving a local kid. But now there's a new girl in Mitch's class and she's stirring things up. Her name is Max and she dresses a bit like a goth, and suddenly seems to be everywhere. One night Mitch sees Max and she looks different. She has ... big feathery wings. It turns out Max is an angel, but not quite how you'd imagine one. She is Mitch's emergency rescue angel, and just the kind of friend you want on your side when life gets tricky. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 23413 | Empire of the waves: Voyage of the Moon Child Richardson, Christopher | Penguin Books Australia | 2015 | 9780143307549 | Pel Narine is on the edge of war and Anni Tidechild's world is on the brink of change. Uncertain about her past and fearful of the future, Anni lives a life of evasion, avoiding both her guardian, Wavelord Filip Able, and the voice that calls to her from the sea. When she meets Duck Knifetooth, the new friends are catapulted into unforeseen dangers - pirates, a giant, a mysterious ship and ancient creatures of the deep. |
| 117 | Enchanted island: stories from Shakespeare, The Serrailier, Ian | Heinemann | 1981 | 9780435121006 | Excerpts from some of the most well-known Shakespearean plays are compiled in this book. |
| 19548 | Endgame: The complete training diaries Frey, James | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2015 | 9780007585342 | Before they were Players. Before the Calling. They trained to be selected as the one to save their ancient bloodline and win Endgame. In this collection of Training Diaries novellas, follow the Twelve (Marcus, Chiyoko, Sarah, Alice, Aisling, Baitsakhan, Jago, An, Shari, Kala, Maccabee and Hilal) through sacrifices and betrayals, broken hearts and broken bones, as they shed their normal lives and transform into the Players they were meant to be. |
| 118 | Endless steppe: growing up in Siberia, The Hautzig, Esther | HarperTrophy | 1995 | 9780064405775 | It is 1942 and Ester and her family are arrested as capitalists by Stalin. For the next five years, they live in exile in the endless wasteland of Siberia. |
| | Enola Holmes series Springer, Nancy | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| 5159 | Erebos Poznanski, Ursula & Pattinson, Judith (trans) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781742379531 | Nick finds himself caught between two worlds, playing a game on the computer that depends on his actions in real life. |
| 12455 | Erika's story Vander Zee, Ruth & Innocenti, Roberto (ill) | Creative Editions | 2003 | 9781568461762 | A beautiful, haunting picture book portraying the true story of a survivor of the holocaust. In 1944, Erika is thrown by her mother from a cattle train on the way to a concentration camp. She is found by a German woman who risks her life to raise Erika. |
| 121 | Ernie Dingo: King of the kids, an Australian story Dingo, Sally | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9781740517102 | The story of Sally Dingo's husband, Ernie, and his mob written for children. |
| 5781 | Escape to Eaglehawk Farrer, Vashti | Otto Books, www.vashtifarrer.com | 2002 | 9780958016407 | Overseers, superintendents and gaol bullies make the lives of boys transported to Van Diemen's Land in the 1830s miserable, even dangerous. Determined not to be stuck at Point Puer, Sam and Jemmy find plans can so easily go wrong. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--|------|---------------|--|
| 752347 | Eternity's wheel Reaves, Michael and Reaves, Mallory | HarperCollins Australia | 2015 | 9780007523504 | The heart-pounding conclusion to the InterWorld series, by award-winning writers Neil Gaiman, Michael Reaves and Mallory Reaves. As the threat of FrostNight looms ever closer, Joey Harker seeks out more of his fellow Walkers across the Altiverse, training them as fast as he can. But even a solid team of recruits can't prepare Joey for the ultimate showdown with InterWorld's enemies, old and new. Joey never wanted to be in charge. But he's the one everyone is looking to now, and he'll have to step up if he has any hope of saving InterWorld, the Multiverse, and everything in between. |
| 1278 | Every picture tells a story Ross, John & Booth, Anne | Thames and Hudson (Australia) Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9780980354034 | Artworks from the National Gallery of Australia convey the history and development of Australian culture. Each double page spread features an aspect of our heritage, including the first Australians, convicts, the gold rush, explorers, a love of the beach and the diversity of the land. |
| 579251 | Everything all at once: School, heaven, hell, waiting for the bell Camden, Steven | Pan MacMillan | 2018 | 9781509880034 | A week of high school gossip, dread, embarrassment, loneliness, connections and even love are all collected in this book of short narrative poems. Confessions and conversations cover a large range of events and feelings found in any high school, but the common ground is that everyone is feeling the same things all at once. Unfortunately, no one seems to know it. |
| 6416 | Everything is changed Weetman, Nova | University of Queensland Press | 2016 | 9780702254161 | Jake and Alex. Best mates. One terrible mistake. Two lives that will never be the same. Told in reverse, this powerful and gritty novel moves through the wreckage of a broken friendship, back to the moment when everything changed. |
| 9759 | Extreme pets Harrington, Jane | Scholastic US | 2006 | 9780439829489 | Fascinating facts about some very unusual animals and insects in a magazine style book. Each animal has its own report card with a rating out of ten on the animal's coolness, friendliness and ease of care. |
| 31148 | Extreme planet: exploring the most extreme stuff on Earth Dubois, Michael & Hilden, Katri | Lonely Planet Publications | 2012 | 9781743214107 | A whirlwind tour of the globe, seeking out the highest, deepest, widest, thinnest, coolest, scariest, smelliest things on the planet. It's all here! |
| 9223 | Faeries Froud, Brian & Lee, Alan | Chrysalis Books Group | 2000 | 9781862055582 | A finely illustrated presentation of myths and legends of the world of faerie magic. |
| 4337 | Fail safe, The Heath, Jack | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9781925266078 | Everyone seems to know who Fero is, except Fero. He's either a ruthless boy soldier from Besmar or an innocent teen recruit from Kamau. Whatever, he's running out of time to decide. If he doesn't help a renegade spy steal a politician's briefcase, his two countries could end up in a full blown nuclear war, the kind that no one wins. Sequel to The cut out. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019752 | Faint of heart, The Wilson, Kerilynn | Greenwillow | 2023 | 9780063116221 | <p>Not that long ago, the Scientist discovered that all sadness, anxiety, and anger disappeared when you removed your heart. And that's all it took. Soon enough, the hospital had lines out the door - even though the procedure numbed the good feelings, too.</p> <p>Everyone did it. Everyone except high school student June. But now the pressure, loneliness, and heartache are mounting, and it's becoming harder and harder to be the only one with a heart.</p> <p>One day, June comes across an abandoned heart in a jar. The heart in the jar intrigues her, it baffles her, and it brings her hope. But the heart also brings her Max, a classmate with a secret of his own.</p> <p>And it may rip June's own heart in two.</p> |
| | Fairyland series Valente, Catherynne. M. & Juan, Ana (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 41986 | Falconer's knot, The Hoffman, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2007 | 9780747589006 | Chiara's family can no longer afford to keep her so she is given to the Poor Clare's nunnery. Silvano has been accused of a brutal murder and must take refuge in the nearby friary. When two more murders occur, Chiara and Silvano attempt to solve the crimes. |
| 123 | Fall, The (The seventh tower 1) Nix, Garth | Scholastic Australia | 2000 | 9780439176828 | In a land where sunstones provide the only light, Tal tries to save his family from social oblivion. |
| 660434 | Family tree, The Peet, Mal & Shoard, Emma (ill) | Barrington Stoke | 2018 | 9781781128053 | The Nest was the best thing my dad ever built, and he built it for me. He built it when we moved into the new house - him, me and Mum. I thought it was wonderful. Outrageous. But then Dad went there to hide from the world, and from Mum, and everything started to go wrong... |
| 3109 | Far from fair Arnold, Elana. K. | Houghton Mifflin | 2016 | 9780544602274 | When Odette starts her list of things that aren't fair, living on the road with her parents and her exasperating younger brother is at the very top. But hundreds of miles later at her grandma's house, Odette discovers just how unfair life can really be. With so much that is out of her control, Odette tries to make things right again. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--|------|---------------|--|
| 14842 | Farm kid Clark, Sherryl | Penguin | 2004 | 9780143301301 | An anthology of poems that creates the story of a farm boy and the journey he experiences leading up to the selling of the farm. |
| 1656 | Fascinating history of your lunch, The French, Jackie | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2001 | 9780207197505 | An entertaining book about food origins, which covers the development of sandwiches and other familiar lunchbox items including soft drinks and chocolate. |
| 1664 | Fate Barnes, Jennifer Lynn | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741663044 | Bailey Morgan is a high school student by day, ancient mystical being by night. As the third Fate, Bailey literally controls the fate of the world but, as plain old Bailey, her life is falling apart. Then, she meets the rest of the Sidhe, an ancient race defined by their power, beauty and a sinister habit of getting what they want at any cost. Before long, Bailey is being drawn into a complicated, otherworldly web. |
| 75057 | Father's day Brooksbank, Anne | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780143305682 | Sam has been saving his paper-round money for years to buy a boat. When a mysterious person doubles the money in his bank account, Sam could never imagine the trouble it would cause. |
| 15382 | Favourite classic writers Gamble, Nikki | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2003 | 9780750242851 | Find out what inspired writers such as J R R Tolkien, C S Lewis and Louisa May Alcott to write their classics. |
| 881 | Fearless Funke, Cornelia | The Five Mile Press Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781906427269 | The second gothic novel in the Mirrorworld series sees Jacob Reckless facing death from the fairy's curse on the other side of the mirror. |
| 23177 | Fearless Frederic Arena, Felice | Penguin Books Australia | 2018 | 9780143786757 | When the river rises and the city of Paris begins to disappear under water, Frederic decides to help those who can't help themselves. But as his heroic acts escalate, so does the danger. Frederic will have to battle an escaped zoo animal and fight off pickpockets and looters, but as the waters subside, can he find justice for his father and find out what courage really means? |
| | Felix series Gleitzman, Morris | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 35557 | Fenn Halflin and the seaborne Armour-Chelu, Francesca | Walker Books | 2017 | 9781406366181 | Fenn Halflin is on the run. Having survived the explosion of the lock in the earlier book, Fenn Halflin is now on the run from Terra Firma and attempts to find members of the resistance to shelter with. With only his wits and his pet mongoose, Tikki Fenn struggles to travel across the waterlogged lands. To unite all Seaborne people and overthrow Terra Firma is his mission while the water levels rise. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1423913 | Fern's school for Wayward Fae: The grim adventure Forgettable, Fern | Walker Books | 2025 | 9780593810507 | Just before her thirteenth birthday, Rosemary and her friends return to Fern's School for Wayward Fae, where she uncovers a sinister force threatening the school, with Death itself targeting the students and their magical gifts. |
| 9444 | Fever 1793 Anderson, Laurie Halse | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340854099 | In 1793, fourteen year old Mattie hates getting out of bed and being nagged by her mum. Her friend, Polly, comes down with yellow fever. The disease starts to spread through the city, and even Mattie has to get serious as the panic spreads. |
| | Fever Crumb series Reeve, Philip | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 12943 | Fidel Castro: leader of Cuba's revolution Gibb, Tom | White-Thomson Publishing Ltd | 2001 | 9780750228626 | As a young man, Fidel Castro dreamt of a free and independent Cuba. He led a band of guerilla fighters to overthrow Cuba's dictator. His new government made sure all the people could read and write. |
| 15864 | Finding Audrey Kinsella, Sophie | Doubleday | 2015 | 9780857534590 | Following a bullying incident at school, Audrey can't leave the house. She can't even take off her dark glasses inside the house. When her brother's friend, Linus, stumbles into her life, his friendly smile and funny notes gradually entice Audrey outside the house. With therapy and Linus' help, Audrey begins to feel she can do the things she'd thought were too scary. Finding her way back to the real world might just be achievable. |
| 105136 | Finding Darcy Lawson, Sue | Black Dog Books | 2008 | 9781742030234 | When Darcy Abbott is sent to live with her surly grandmother and her silent great-grandmother, she finds the silences and secrets at home, and the name calling and bullying at school, hard to endure. A school project sets her on a search for the truth about her great-grandfather, Darcy Charles Fletcher, one of hundreds of prisoners of war who died when the Montevideo Maru was sunk in World War II. |
| 1161 | Finding home Crew, Gary & Boyer, Susy (ill) | Ford Street Publishing | 2009 | 9781876462871 | A family relocates to Australia after a family tragedy. The parents are focussed on creating a farm and do not value the environment or interdependence of nature. Their young son is lonely and alienated, and misses his home in London. When the parents cut down a tree causing a flock of birds to die, their son makes a huge decision. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 871675 | Finding Jupiter Rowe, Kelis | Walker Books | 2022 | 9781529500639 | Ray has no time for romance. She's queen of the roller rink, writes found poetry, and has her eyes firmly set on her own independent future. Orion looks like the jock his father wants him to be, but really he's a hopeless romantic. When he spots Ray, it feels like the stars have aligned. But could the past stand in the way of love, and cross their stars forever. |
| 6116 | Finn and the big guy Metzenthien, David | Penguin | 1997 | 9780140382679 | Finn comes to the city for his first big break as a stablehand at a large racetrack. Working with the horses he loves, Finn feels valuable for the first time in his life. But there's trouble at the track, and Finn finds it difficult to know who to trust. |
| 18579 | Fire in my soul Corbet-Singleton, Paul | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9780734408648 | Running is everything to James who considers winning the only option. However, fierce competition from a new student and the threat of bushfires may help James to see there is more to life than wanting to win. |
| 1434 | Fire song Hathorn, Libby | ABC Books | 2009 | 9780733324208 | It's 1954 and Ingrid's family has hit hard times. Her father has gone, her two brothers have been fostered out and there's no money. When her mother asks her to do something she knows is wrong, something completely against her principles, Ingrid is desperate for help to make her own decisions and fight for what she believes in. |
| 132 | Fire, bed and bone Branford, Henrietta | Walker Books | 2002 | 9780744590494 | Set in England in 1381, this story of political and emotional unrest is seen through the eyes of an old farm dog. |
| 812784 | Fireborn: Twelve and the frozen forest Fowler, Aisling | HarperCollins Australia | 2021 | 9780008394158 | Twelve has lost so much. So she has spoken the pledge and now she is a Huntling. She has even given up her name to train in the art of fighting monsters and keeping the peace. She will not get to choose a new name until she has earned it. During training she finds it hard to make friends and feels like an outsider. But by following her instincts to do what she thinks is right when the one person who showed her kindness is taken by Goblins, she may lose everything. |
| 133 | Firebug Harris, David | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141306636 | David has been accused of being a firebug since he started a fire at the age of six that resulted in tragedy. He experiences a horrifying ordeal, at the hands of a real firebug, when fires break out in his local area. |
| 129383 | Fires: ten tales of dramatic blazes in history Lloyd Kyi, Tanya | Penguin | 2004 | 9780143302186 | Ten short stories about some of the worst fires in history, two with a strong environmental content. They include fires from the great fire in London in 1666 to the fire of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in 1986. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 28813 | Fireshadow Eaton, Anthony | University of Queensland Press | 2013 | 9780702233814 | A German teenager is sent to a prisoner of war camp in the bush near Perth. From a position of pride and resistance he finds a new sense of self. Sixty years later another adolescent is escaping from the tragedy of a dead sibling and finds the ruins of the camp. As he reflects on his guilt he meets a girl and her grandfather on a pilgrimage back to the site of the POW camp. |
| 8607 | Firestorm Carr, Roger Vaughan | Penguin | 1989 | 9780140341010 | Ben watched in horror as the firestorm approached on Ash Wednesday in 1983. |
| 8425 | First book of Samuel, The Dubosarsky, Ursula | Puffin Australia | 1998 | 9780140369953 | Samuel is missing on his twelfth birthday, and his sister must delve into family history to find out why. |
| 1445 | First third, The Kostakis, Will | Penguin Books Australia | 2013 | 9780143568179 | Bill's traditional Greek grandmother is very ill and leaning on him to resolve some family problems that are worrying her. Bill walks the family tightrope to clear the family of some problems. |
| 1019829 | First time for everything, A Santat, Dan | First Second | 2023 | 9781626724150 | Dan has a happy and mostly uneventful primary school experience. He is happy and comfortable. And then he goes to year seven. High school is very different. Kids can be rough, loud, and even a little cruel. At the end of the year he gets the chance to go on a school trip to Europe. Dan meets several other young people similar to himself and has a summer to remember. This autobiographical graphic novel celebrates being true to yourself and finding your tribe. |
| 23394 | First voyage, The Baillie, Allan | Puffin Australia | 2014 | 9780143307679 | The ferocious Crocodile warriors have already killed Bent Beak's pa, and now they seem determined to take out his whole tribe. The only way to survive is to flee the island. As the Yam tribe brave the perils of the sea, will they survive the voyage into the unknown, and what awaits them just over the horizon. An enthralling story about the plight of the very first boat people, of their desperation, bravery and hope. |
| 1704 | Fisherman and the theefyspray, The Jennings, Paul | Puffin Australia | 1995 | 9780140377262 | The theefyspray is a mythical and nearly extinct creature whose fate is in the hands of the fisherman. A beautifully illustrated and complicated story about issues of conservation, age and youth. |
| | Five ancestors series Stone, Jeff | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--|------|---------------|---|
| 5668 | Flamingo boy Morpurgo, Michael | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2018 | 9780008134648 | Lorenzo is special. He seems to be able to communicate with animals. Which is odd, because he sometimes has problems communicating with people. Lorenzo has a particular bond with the flamingos that live in huge flocks on the marshes around his home in the Camargue. Lorenzo also loves music, and routine, and every week he visits the local town market with his mother. That's where he meets Kezia, whose parents own and run the wonderful carousel that captures his attention. Kezia shows Lorenzo how to ride the wooden horse, or cheval, as her mother plays the organ and in time they become firm friends. Life is good. But then the war intrudes, the Germans finally arrive and everything that Lorenzo and Kezia hold dear is threatened, even the flamingos. Yet, where there is life, there is hope and even amongst the occupying soldiers there are kind souls. |
| 11827 | Flip Bedford, Martyn | Walker Books | 2011 | 9781406329896 | One December night, fourteen year old Alex goes to bed. He wakes up to find himself in the wrong bedroom, in an unfamiliar house, in a different part of the country and it's the middle of June. Six months have disappeared overnight. At breakfast, he doesn't know the family and, in the mirror, another face stares back at him. A boy named Flip. Unless Alex finds out what's happened and how to get back to his own life, he may be trapped forever inside another person's body. |
| 1423342 | Flip Fraser, Rebecca | Wombat Books | 2025 | 9781761112898 | Denim Davis wishes he could flip his life, just like the vintage items he sells online. He and his Dad have spent a year moving from town to town and Denim feels like he's drifting through life without an anchor. |
| 29027 | Flyaway Christopher, Lucy | Chicken House | 2010 | 9781905294763 | One cold, winter morning, dad gets sick and goes into hospital. It's there that I meet Harry, with his scruffy hair and firefly eyes. From his window, we watch a wild swan on the frozen lake outside. There's something different about her, almost magical. Perhaps, if we can help her, everything else will begin to make sense. |
| 18454 | Flying a flag for Hitler Emmerich, Elsbeth | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2005 | 9780340902684 | True story of an eleven year old girl growing up in Nazi Germany who despite her youth is aware of the evils of propaganda and is proud of her family's survival skills and resilience. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 5105 | Flying through Clouds Morgan, Michelle | Griffin Press | 2017 | 9780995386501 | It's not easy being a teenage boy growing up in the tough neighbourhood of Glebe in the 1930s. It's even harder when your dream is to become an aviator, your parents are dead against it, and your girlfriend's father is the School Principal. But Joe has even bigger challenges he must face and obstacles to overcome in order to achieve his dream. He has come up with a plan and won't let anyone stand in his way. |
| 9346 | Foot in the grave Aiken, Joan | Viking Children's | 1992 | 9780670841691 | Eight handsome, ambiguous pictures provide inspiration for eight creepy ghost and horror stories. Includes a cautionary tale for anyone who has been unkind to a younger sibling. |
| 751247 | Footprints on the moon Marwood, Lorraine | University of Queensland Press | 2021 | 9780702262838 | 1969. While astronauts are navigating to the moon, Sharnie is navigating her way through her first year in high school (just). She wonders if the world will change when man walks on the moon. However much Sharnie wishes things would stay the same, change is coming. She feels less included in the life of her older sister, Cas, who is growing up and growing away from her. Family life gets rocky as her patriotic dad discovers Cas has met a returned soldier and is intent on making a stand about conscription and Australia's involvement in the Vietnam war. At school, Sharnie's only friend Mia is also drifting away from her towards her nemesis, Ellie. She usually finds comfort at her grandma's but Grandma is becoming forgetful lately and Sharnie is worried. Although it is hard, will Sharnie be courageous enough to moonwalk, to find her own way? |
| 12590 | Footy dreaming Hyde, Michael | Ford Street Publishing | 2015 | 9781925000993 | Ben and Noah play in opposing teams in a footy-obsessed town. They each dream of playing on 'The G' and this is their make or break season. When an ugly sledging incident occurs in a match, Ben and Noah's worlds intersect and a fledgling friendship develops. But, their friendship seems impossible as Noah faces racial prejudice and Ben must decide whether to reject the racism, which is even coming from his own family. |
| 9369 | Footy Lady, The: The trailblazing story of Susan Alberti Asher, Stephanie | Melbourne Press | 2017 | 9780522872576 | No tragedy and no challenge has proved too hard for Susan Alberti. The woman from the working-class suburbs has battled boardrooms, courts, lymphoma and adult diabetes; and, was one of the driving forces behind the AFL's move into women's football. This is a story of passion, generosity and a woman who will inspire you to take on the seemingly impossible and triumph. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 660617 | For cap and country Hogan, Jesse & Auteri, Simon & Faulkner, Andrew | HarperCollins Australia | 2019 | 9781460752517 | 22 Australian Test players , past and present , talk about the road from their backyards to the baggy green. More than just a chat with the game's best players, (male and female), this is a conversation about Australian cricket. At the heart is the baggy green. This book is about the importance of generosity, sportsmanship, perseverance and community to help achieve personal goals in life, as much as sport. |
| 17397 | For the forest of a bird Saliba, Sue | Penguin Books Australia | 2015 | 9780143571780 | Nella is a nature loving, fifteen year old, grieving her father's estrangement and her mother's mental illness. In a bid to restore the family, Nella goes to Phillip Island to bring her Dad home. But, she discovers he has a new partner, whom he plans to marry. Nella also discovers the friendship of an older girl, also with an intense love of nature, who helps Nella understand her relationship with her father. |
| 846054 | Foreverland Kear, Nicole C | Imprint Publishing | 2020 | 9781250763334 | Margaret is running away to Foreverland. She hopes she can escape all the changes in her life by living in this amusement park. It's tricky but how else do you get to sleep in a Haunted House? She meets another runaway, Jaime, who is just like her and teaches her how to live in Foreverland. But their secrets and true lives are slowly shared, and they need to make some big decisions. |
| 42760 | Forge Anderson, Laurie Halse | Bloomsbury | 2011 | 9781408803806 | Curzon joins the American army, fighting for independence against the British. As well as the hardships of soldiering, Curzon lives with the fear of discovery, for he is an escaped slave, passing for free. Then there is Isabel, who is also at Valley Forge against her will. They have to sort out the tangled threads of their friendship while figuring out what stands between the two of them and true freedom. Includes some violence. |
| 10495 | Forgetting Foster Touchell, Dianne | Lothian Books | 2016 | 9781760110796 | Seven year old Foster Sumner likes toy soldiers, tadpole hunting, going to school and the beach. Best of all, he likes listening to his dad's stories. But, when Foster's dad starts forgetting things. No one is too worried at first. Foster and Dad giggle about it. But, the forgetting gets worse and, suddenly, no one is laughing anymore. |
| 141 | Fortress Harris, David | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141303239 | Survival, fraud, violence, mystery and suspense are included in this story which is part of the Cliffhanger series. |
| 142 | Fortunate life, A Facey, A B | Penguin | 1995 | 9780140320091 | The uplifting, classic story of A B Facey's life growing up at the time of Federation, going to Gallipoli and later, living in rural Western Australia. |
| 144 | Foxspell Rubinstein, Gillian | Hyland House | 1996 | 9781875657728 | A boy finds that he is drawn to the lives of foxes that live near his grandmother's home. |

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|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 2235 | Fracture Miranda, Megan | Bloomsbury | 2012 | 9781408817391 | Eleven minutes passed before Delaney Maxwell was pulled from the icy waters by her best friend, Decker. By then, her heart had stopped beating and her brain had stopped working. Delaney is declared officially dead. Then, she starts breathing and the doctors are mystified. Outwardly, Delaney has completely recovered but she knows something is wrong. Delaney finds herself drawn to the dying. |
| 145 | Fracture zone Harlen, Jonathan | Scholastic Australia | 1994 | 9781862912250 | A story of a mother pining for her homeland, an eccentric old lady and a very sensitive, teenage boy. |
| 23253 | Free: stories celebrating human rights Amnesty International | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781406318302 | Celebrating the 60th anniversary of Amnesty International, this engaging book contains a great collection of entertaining and thought-provoking stories. Each story relates directly to one of the thirty articles about individual rights and responsibilities that make up the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. |
| 8981 | Freedom ride Lawson, Sue | Black Dog Books | 2015 | 9781925126365 | Fifteen year old Robbie knows bad things happen in Walgaree. But, it's nothing to do with him. The Aborigines have always been treated this way. In 1965, racial tensions are at boiling point and something is headed to Walgaree that will blow things apart. Robbie must take a stand. Nothing will ever be the same. Based on true events in Australia when university students drew attention to racism and segregation. |
| 9237 | Freedom swimmer Chim, Wai | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9781760113414 | During China's 'Great Leap Forward', Ming survived the famine that killed his parents. He now lives a hard but adequate life, working in the fields. As part of a Communist Party re-education program, a group of city boys arrives, unused to hard labour and village life. Despite his reservations and their differences, Ming befriends a boy called Li and, slowly, they form a bond over evening swims and shared dreams. As the bitterness of life under the Party begins to take its toll, Ming and Li begin to imagine the impossible, freedom. |
| | Friday Barnes series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|---------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1470706 | Friendship paradox, The Aska | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2026 | 9781761181689 | <p>Note to self: no matter how messy or confusing, the universe is an orderly place with physics to guide you.</p> <p>High school is over. Dash is excited to spend their gap year working for the local science museum, travelling and teaching kids about physics. Maybe they'll even make a friend. People are part of the universe, so the laws of physics should also apply to them, right?</p> <p>Except Dash discovers the workplace is just as challenging as school - relationships are confusing, students don't follow the rules and co-workers aren't what they expect. Then Dash meets Kay. Can opposites really attract? Or will Dash's attempts to use physics to understand their world repel a potential friend?</p> <p>A heartfelt YA graphic novel about friendship and finding your place in a puzzling world by the highly acclaimed comic artist of the CBCA Notable graphic novel Stars in Their Eyes.</p> |
| 6675 | From Kinglake to Kabul Grant, Neil (ed) & Williams, David (ed) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742375304 | In this collective anthology created by students from two different countries, students show empathy and compassion. Kinglake had one day of fire disaster and Kabul has endured thirty years of war, but the students find common courage and hope. |
| 750985 | From Stella Street to Amsterdam Honey, Elizabeth | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781865084541 | <p>When Henni's stubborn old neighbour Willa insists on returning to her childhood home in the Netherlands for a wedding, Henni leaps at the chance to be her travelling companion. 'Lucky duck! Fantastic opportunity!' That's what everyone in Stella Street said. 'Oh boy, chance of a lifetime.'</p> <p>But during the long flight to Amsterdam, Willa reveals to Henni the real reason for her journey: a terrible family secret stretching back to the Second World War. As Henni makes friends with more and more of Willa's relatives, she must decide if they should know the truth. And is that the only mystery?</p> |
| 147 | Front runner Carroll, Jane | Scholastic Australia | 1995 | 9781862912748 | This is a story about families and Robbie, who loves to run. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 903254 | Furthermoor Simpson, Darren & Kuptsova, Anna (ill) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2022 | 9781474976701 | A Monster Calls meets Coraline, in this spellbinding story about the power of the imagination. The real world is a hostile place for twelve-year-old Bren, his schooldays stalked by vicious bully, Shaun, and his family life fractured at home. Ever since his sister Evie died in an accident, Bren's only safe space is Furthermoor, an imagined world of mechanised trees and clockwork animals, where Evie is still alive. In Furthermoor, no one can hurt Bren...until the mysterious Featherly arrives. Now Bren is forced to confront his deepest fears and decide if his place in the real world is worth fighting for. Enter a world as vast and dark as your imagination, in this unforgettable coming-of-age story about courage, friendship and finding your voice. |
| 751069 | Future girl Asphyxia | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760294373 | Set in a Melbourne in the near future we meet Piper who is a deaf teenager who's mother is determined that she pass a 'normal'. Piper starts to realise her isolation and lack of belonging due to her mother's beliefs. Climate change has left people unable to afford to drive their cars or buy tickets on public transport. Planes no longer fly. Due to corporate control, fresh food is hardly available and most people eat genetically modified foo. Piper has to navigate the usual teenage concerns, whilst discovering who she is as a young adult, experiencing her fist love and standing up to corporate greed. |
| 149 | Future trap, The Jinks, Catherine | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141305097 | Paula is kidnapped and taken five thousand years into the future where humans are referred to as ""it"" and reduced to the status of laboratory rats. |
| 1174829 | Fyrebirds Armstrong, Kate J | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781761066252 | A stunning sequel to Nightbirds. No longer a secret, the Nightbirds have transformed into the very powerful Fyrebirds. Together they can perform magic that nobody has seen in centuries, but fate seems intent on keeping them apart. Everyone seems to wants to control them or destroy them - no girl with magic is safe. The Fyrebirds must find their way back together and overcome their differences for the greater good. |
| 1827 | Galax-Arena Rubinstein, Gillian | Puffin Australia | 2001 | 9780141310244 | A gripping read that tells the tale of children kidnapped and forced to become participants in a bizarre circus. |
| 12371 | Gallipoli story, The Carlyon, Patrick | Penguin | 2003 | 9780143001430 | At Gallipoli, in 1915, the courageous ANZACs faced the brave Turks in the First World War. Instead of adventure and glory, they meet the sheer brutality of war. Emotional quotes about separation from family, harrowing experiences and loss of friends. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1790 | Gallipoli: The landing Dolan, Hugh & Gardiner, Mal | NewSouth Publishing | 2014 | 9781742231570 | In graphic novel format, the truth about the assault on Gallipoli in 1915 is revealed. Rather than being a botched attack, planned by indifferent British generals, the Gallipoli campaign was carefully thought out and included an amphibious attack on the beach by ANZAC officers. |
| 150 | Game of the goose, The Dubosarsky, Ursula | Penguin | 2000 | 9780670894383 | Three children pool their resources to buy a strange looking board game. As they begin the game, each child disappears inside it. |
| 978866 | Game over girl Naomi Gibson | Chicken House | 2023 | 9781913322021 | Lola's been selected to play a new virtual reality game, but she breaks the one rule: not to recreate people or places from real life. Soon she's skipping school to play. But Lolal's secrets begin to surface inside her game; how is she going to play her way out of this? |
| 90186 | Gamers' quest Ivanoff, George | Ford Street Publishing | 2009 | 9781876462864 | Inhabitants of a video game world, Tark and Zyra, are plunged into adventures involving dragons, princelings, magic, robots and laser weapons. Outside, as teenagers John and Tina, their lives are almost as exciting as they must help to save their world. |
| 151 | Ganesh Bosse, Malcolm J | HarperCollins Australia | 1981 | 9780690041033 | A boy tries to fit into American society after he has grown up in India. The story concerns the death of a parent and details a traditional Indian cremation. |
| 35597 | Gap year in Ghost Town Pryor, Michael | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760292768 | Let's get this straight - ghosts are everywhere. And they're dangerous. This is why my family has hunted them for hundreds of years. The Marin family run a two-man operation in inner-city Melbourne. Anton has the ghost-sight, but his father does not. Theirs is a gentle approach to ghost hunting. Rani Cross, combat-skilled ghost hunter from the Company of the Righteous, is all about the slashing. Anton and Rani don't see eye to eye - but with a massive spike in violent ghost manifestations, they must find a way to work together. And what with all the blindingly terrifying brushes with death, Anton must use his gap year to decide if he really wants in on the whole ghost-hunting biz... |
| 1424096 | Gaslit Davidhizar, Megan | Harper Fire | 2026 | 9780008617035 | Ella wishes she could have gone to a NYE party with her friend; instead, she arrives at her aunt's house to find that something isn't right. At all. Ella is determined to find out what really happened, but she has more than a few obstacles in her way. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Gatekeeper series Blackburn, Richard | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 2851 | Geis: A matter of life & death Deacon, Alexis | Nobrow | 2016 | 9781910620038 | The great chief matriarch is dying and has no heir. Drawing her last breath, she gives a final decree that, upon her death, there will be a contest to decide the one truly worthy to rule in her place. The rich, the strong, the wise and the powerful put forward their names in the hope of being chosen. When the night comes, only fifty souls are summoned. Fifty souls bound to the same fate. But, this is no ordinary trial. And, so begins the first task. Graphic novel. |
| 981 | Genius: a photobiography of Albert Einstein Ferguson Delano, Marfe | Myriad Books Limited | 2005 | 9781426302947 | Trace the journey of genius Albert Einstein, from his birth, through his schooling, his research and going to America. Find out about his major scientific discoveries including his theory of relativity, which won him the Nobel Prize. |
| 1856 | Gentleman Jim Briggs, Raymond | Jonathan Cape | 2008 | 9780224085243 | Jim Bloggs, a lavatory assistant, is dissatisfied with his life and wishes to rise above his station, if only he had more education. Encouraged by his wife, Hilda, he explores options such as being a cowboy. He finally settles on being a highwayman but not everyone sees his trusty steed, and his quest to rob the rich and give to the poor, in a positive light. |
| | George's secret key to the universe series Hawking, Lucy & Stephen | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 6044 | Get coding 2! Build five computer games with HTML and JavaScript Whitney, David & Beedie, Duncan (ill) | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406382495 | Learn to code five fun computer games in this essential beginner's guide for kids using the popular programming languages HTML and JavaScript. From Mario to Minecraft, discover the basic concepts behind computer games such as loops, ticks, scores, graphics and AI. Then follow the easy step-by-step Game Builds, and learn how to code five ground-breaking games, including Noughts and Crosses, Snake and Table Tennis. Short and simple explanations are given alongside examples of code and there is a supporting website if you get stuck. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 688974 | Get even McNeil, Gretchen | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9780062260857 | Get even follows four high school students , Bree, Olivia, Kitty and Margot who have nothing in common however someone wants to get revenge on them. This fast pace revenge story has lots of twists and turns and chapter cliffhangers. |
| 152 | Getting of wisdom, The Richardson, Henry Handel | Text Publishing Co | 2001 | 9781876485955 | In this classic story, a young girl is exploring how to lead the life she wishes while she is expected to conform in a Melbourne, all girls' school of the 1880s. |
| 7046 | Ghost boy Pulman, Felicity | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9781740519892 | Froggy traces his family history with the ghostly help of Tad, who perished in the smallpox epidemic of 1881. |
| 1424051 | Ghost boys: The graphic novel Parker Rhodes, Jewell & Fiadzigbey, Setor (ill) | Little Brown | 2025 | 9780316279796 | Twelve-year-old Jerome is shot by a police officer who mistakes his toy gun for a real threat. As a ghost, he observes the devastation that's been unleashed on his family and community in the wake of what they see as an unjust and brutal killing. Soon Jerome meets another ghost: Emmett Till, a boy from a very different time but similar circumstances. Emmett helps Jerome process what has happened, on a journey towards recognizing how historical racism may have led to the events that ended his life. Jerome also meets Sarah, the daughter of the police officer, who grapples with her father's actions |
| 153 | Ghost of a chance, A Hilton, Nette | Penguin | 1992 | 9780140387957 | Ann-Marie has to move to rural England and leave her dog, Maudie, behind. As she frets for her dog, Ann -Marie becomes involved with a ghostly story involving a sad child, separated from her dog too. |
| 46918 | Ghost's child, The Hartnett, Sonya | Viking Children's | 2007 | 9780670029457 | This is the life story of Matilda. Her isolated childhood and her quest with her father to find the most beautiful thing in the world; her unusual marriage to Feather, part sprite part wild man, that promised true happiness and the loss that she suffered when she had to let him go. This book is part enchanting fable and part love story. |
| 1898 | Gift horse, The Elks, Wendy | Scholastic Australia | 2001 | 9781862914704 | The story of a girl and a horse. Callie has always wanted a pony of her own, when she is asked to look after Oscar she is delighted. But Oscar bites and kicks and is difficult to ride. Then, one day Callie meets Sarah who knows all about horses. |
| 12367 | Gil's quest Morgan, Damian & Whatley, Bruce (ill) | Koala Books | 2003 | 9780864615527 | Gilgamesh's story retold by Gil, himself, is a gripping blend of narrative, fantasy, history and myth, dating from around 2000 BC. It follows his quest for everlasting life which pits him against Enki the Shag and takes him to the end of the world. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 593722 | Gilded wolves, The Chokshi, Roshani | Wednesday Books | 2018 | 9781250226204 | Paris, 1889: The world is on the cusp of industry and power, and the Exposition Universelle has breathed new life into the streets and dredged up ancient secrets. In this city, no one keeps tabs on secrets better than treasure-hunter and wealthy hotelier, Severin Montagnet-Alarie. But when the all-powerful society, the Order of Babel, seeks him out for help, Severin is offered a treasure that he never imagined: his true inheritance. To find the ancient artifact the Order seeks, Severin will need help from a band of experts: an engineer with a debt to pay, a historian who can't yet go home, a dancer with a sinister past and a brother in all but blood, who might care too much. Together, they'll have to use their wits and knowledge to hunt the artefact through the dark and glittering heart of Paris. What they find might change the world, but only if they can stay alive. |
| 846148 | Girl (in real life) Winter, Tamsin | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2021 | 9781474978484 | Eva has been famous since before she was born. Every milestone, her first word, her first tantrum are all recorded and uploaded online for the whole world to see. All because her parents overshare her entire life on their super successful internet channel. And now they have posted about her first period. She has had enough. Enough of the stupid outfits, constant teasing at school and no privacy ever. She is taking back control of her life, even if it means taking down her own parents. |
| 21630 | Girl from the Great Sandy Desert, The Chuguna, Jukuna Mona & Lowe, Pat & Street, Mervyn (ill) | Magabala Books | 2015 | 9781922142054 | Twenty short stories that tell the story of Mana, a young Walmajarri girl growing up in the Great Sandy Desert. The harshness of the landscape, the importance of water, how hunting was carried out, the complexity of family relationships and the obligations of kinship are captured at a time before European settlement dramatically changed the traditional way of life. Includes a Walmajarri pronunciation guide and language glossary. |
| 5033 | Girl hearts girl Sutcliffe, Lucy | Scholastic Australia | 2016 | 9781407154152 | Lucy always knew that her idea of Prince Charming was different to that of other girls. And then she meets Kaelyn online and everything starts to make sense. Maybe her Prince Charming is a girl. An inspiring and uplifting memoir about falling in love and finding yourself. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--|------|---------------|--|
| 1019892 | Girl who touched the stars, The Hancock, Bonnie | ABC Books | 2024 | 9780733343353 | <p>254 days, 12,700 kilometres, sea sickness, sharks, crocodiles and ocean. Bonnie Hancock broke numerous records on her fastest ever circumnavigation by paddle around Australia but that wasn't the achievement she is most proud of. Testing the limits of her mental and physical toughness, she learned what it means to overcome adversity and how important teamwork and perspective truly are. What looks distressing from the rocky shore or storm-tossed waves can be inspiring when you look to the heavens.</p> <p>The Girl Who Touched the Stars is a love story, a travelogue and an exhilarating exploration of human ambition coming face to face with the beauty and power of nature. But most of all it's a lesson in overcoming self-doubt, trusting others and finding your true self. Bonnie demonstrates vividly and honestly the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of reaching for the stars.</p> |
| 1380606 | Girl who wasn't there, The Wilson, Jacqueline | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2025 | 9780241684054 | Luna is reserved and fearful when the family moves to a new place that dad is keen to restore. It happens to be a crumbling tower and her younger sister loves it because it is a fairy tale castle. When Aurora begins a friendship with a girl, Tansy who lived in the past according to a local legend, emotions build between them all because of the wretched tower. Can Luna, mum or dad make things better for the way Aurora is behaving? |
| 1910 | Girl with no name, The Lowe, Pat | Penguin | 1994 | 9780140369533 | Matthew sets off alone to find Aboriginal rock paintings that he knows are hidden in Goanna Gorge. When Matthew realises he is lost, the strange, wild country seems to mock him with its secrets until he meets the girl with no name. |
| 23779 | Girl with the butterfly tattoo, The Miller, Dannielle | Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group Inc | 2012 | 9781742752556 | The butterfly is a symbol of transformation. It reminds us that we are all able to change. We can make choices and we are in control. We can choose to replace the messages that shout 'You are not enough' - not hot enough, thin enough, talented enough, popular enough. This story encourages girls to question the limiting messages our culture keeps pushing: that a girl's greatest worth is her looks, and beauty comes in only one size and shape. It inspires and empowers girls to find their strength and be true to their own hearts and minds. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 751187 | Girl. Boy. Sea. Vick, Chris | Zephyr | 2019 | 9781789541380 | A young British boy called Bill narrowly survives the sinking of his yacht in a huge storm off the coast of Morocco. After many days alone at sea in a small boat he rescues another survivor, clinging for her life to a barrel. She is a girl called Aya, from the nomadic Berber tribe, whose migrant ship was destroyed by the same storm. Through endless days, a mere speck on the vast, empty sea - hungry, sunburned, and with no idea what will happen next - Aya recounts the tales of Shahrazad of the Arabian Nights, who told 1001 stories to quell the murderous desire of the Persian King. As hope of rescue begins to fade, from Aya's tales of magic, brave heroes, wily thieves, greedy kings and cruel sultans, they find the strength they need to stay alive. |
| 580938 | Girling up: how to be strong, smart and spectacular Bialik, Mayim | Penguin | 2017 | 9780399548604 | Mayim Bialik talks about what it means to grow up - puberty, friends, education, stress - no topic is off limits. In her friendly voice, she talks about what her tween and teen years were like and how to handle your own struggles through these changes. |
| 11564 | Girls are best Toksvig, Sandi | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9780385615242 | For as long as history has been recorded, girls haven't had much of a look in amongst all the great men we remember. But that doesn't mean they weren't there. And it doesn't mean that they didn't achieve great things, come up with wonderful inventions or win battles. Read the history of her-story. |
| 763456 | Girls Change the Game Gabrielle Gloury | Ford Street Publishing | 2020 | 9781925804492 | The first Scorpions Under 14 Girls team from the Westpark Football Club has just been announced and this is their very first game. The Scorpions are up against the match-ready competition, the Eastvale Ravens. You can steer the Scorpions to victory by choosing what happens in the game in this choose your own adventure story! |
| 1019629 | Girls change the game: First Game back Gloury, Gabrielle & Hyde, Michael | Ford Street Publishing | 2023 | 9781922696304 | The Westpark Scorpions are back for a second season. They have a new coach and some new players. Will they be victorious this year? In this choose-your-own adventure, it's up to you! |
| 156 | Giver, The Lowry, Lois | HarperCollins US | 2003 | 9780007141425 | The haunting story centers on twelve-year-old Jonas, who lives in a seemingly ideal, if colorless, world of conformity and contentment. Not until he is given his life assignment as the Receiver of Memory does he begin to understand the dark, complex secrets behind his fragile community. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 723922 | Go with the flow Williams, Lily & Schneemann, Karen | First Second | 2020 | 9781250143174 | After a somewhat disastrous first day in a new high school, Sasha finds herself in the tight and caring friendship circle with Abby, Brit and Christine. Together they form a tight and supportive unit. The girls become united in their frustration at the lack of sanitary products in their school bathrooms, and the lack of interest in their call for support. Rallied by Abby, the girls try to get their cause noticed, but it might go a little too far. |
| 113949 | Goal: how football conquered the world Chambers, Catherine | Black Dog Books | 2010 | 9781742031576 | Football can be traced to ancient times. Read how the rules have changed, when football was banned and where football was played. The index will help you find when world cups were held and who played and about FIFA and famous players. |
| 159 | Goggle-eyes Fine, Anne | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2001 | 9780141307541 | Kitty hates her mum's boyfriend, whom she calls Goggle-eyes. Yet, when he leaves, Kitty finds that she misses him. |
| 91928 | Golden day, The Dubosarsky, Ursula | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742374710 | Eleven little school girls are taken on an unexpected field trip to the gardens and they meet a poet. What follows is inexplicable and a shocking scandal. Will they tell what they know. |
| 689108 | Good dog Leaver, Kate | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9781460758892 | This is a book for anyone who has loved a dog and known their love in return. It uses real life situations to show how a dog can improve our mental and physical health as well as our quality of life. With each story, it becomes more and more obvious how dogs can support us, comfort us and even save our lives. Drawing on science, research and in depth personal interviews, this book demonstrates that the dog-human bond is the most extraordinary cross-species friendship on the planet. |
| 660659 | Good hawk, The Elliott, Joseph | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781406385854 | Agatha has always been made to feel different because of the condition she was born with. Despite this, she patrols the sea wall with pride, even though there are some in her clan who question her right to be there. Jaimie is selected to be different. The clan choose a life path for him that may make him an outcast. He is a reluctant Angler, full of self doubt and afraid of the sea. When disaster strikes, the pair must embark on a terrifying journey to a land where forgotten magic and dark secrets lurk in every shadow. Everything has been taken from them What will they do to get it back? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1209900 | Good kind of trouble, A Blurton, Brooke & Saward, Melanie | HarperCollins Australia | 2025 | 9781460761496 | Life is changing for Jamie. She used to worry about football and whether her first kiss would be with a boy or a girl. But when the new girl, Stella, arrives at school Jamie starts questioning more than just her love life. Suddenly, history class feels wrong. Why aren't they learning the full truth and why are First Nations voices missing from the curriculum? When Jamie finds the courage to challenge their teacher she is surprised when Stella stands with her. Together, they walk out in protest, sparking something bigger than either of them imagined. A story of friendship, love, football and finding your voice. |
| 4431 | Good night stories for rebel girls Favilli, Elena & Cavallo, Francesca | Penguin | 2017 | 9780141986005 | Good night stories for rebel girls reinvents fairy tales, inspiring children with the stories of 100 heroic women from Elizabeth I to Serena Williams. |
| 628182 | Good son, The Ober, Pierre-Jacques & Ober, Jules (ill) & Coonan, Felicity (ill) | Candlewick Press | 2019 | 9781536204827 | Pierre wanted to be a good son. He wanted to be a good soldier. But the whole world was at war, and he couldn't be both. |
| 6936 | Goodbye stranger Stead, Rebecca | Text Publishing Co | 2015 | 9781925240320 | Two years ago, Bridge, Tabitha and Emily made a pact never to fight, ever. Now, in high school, they are still friends but things are changing. Bridge meets Sherm, Emily is getting lots of attention from Patrick and Tab wants to save the world. A plan that quickly spirals out of control threatens their friendship. |
| 163 | Goodnight Mister Tom Magorian, Michelle | Puffin UK | 2010 | 9780141329703 | William is evacuated to the countryside during the bombing of English cities in World War II. Mr Tom takes him in and turns his sad life around. |
| 24569 | Goose Road, The House, Rowena | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406371673 | With news of the death of her father on a distant battlefield, 14-year-old Angelique Lacroix must grow up very quickly to take care of her mother and her farm so that her brother who is also away fighting, has something to return to. The only way to do that however, is to travel across war-torn France with her flock of Toulouse geese. She learns heartbreaking but valuable lessons along the way about the nature of human beings when pushed to the brink of survival, and what she is prepared to personally sacrifice to save the ones she loves. |
| 49135 | Gotta B Carmichael, Claire | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741662986 | In the near future, all communication devices are linked to individual users, no-one can use an electronic item belonging to someone else. The worst possible fate is to lose that link and become a disconnect. If you can't connect with your friends, you might as well cease to exist. |
| 936337 | Grace notes Comer, Karen | Hachette Australia | 2023 | 9780734421722 | A debut YA verse novel about what happens when the paths of a young busking violinist and an aspiring street artist collide during a pandemic. Set in one of the most locked-down cities in the world - Melbourne, 2020. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 4924 | Gracefully Grayson Polonsky, Ami | Disney Press | 2014 | 9781423185277 | Raised as a boy, twelve year old Grayson has never felt comfortable in her own skin and longs to be able to express her true gender identity. She is a loner, eating her lunch in the library, trying to avoid the class bullies. Home is not much better. Although she has lived with her aunt, uncle and two cousins for years, she isn't close to them. They don't know the real Grayson. No one does. But, when Grayson impulsively signs up for school play tryouts and then auditions for the leading role, things begin to change. |
| 35270 | Gracie Faltrain takes control Crowley, Cath | Pan MacMillan | 2006 | 9781760784270 | Gracie Faltrain is back and she couldn't be happier. Her team won the Championships, she scored a few goals and a boyfriend, as well. Just as she's settling down to a new season of soccer, the stakes are raised. Coach has entered the team in the Firsts - a boys only league. To prove herself, Gracie has to fight harder than ever before. The other teams will do anything to keep her out of the game, and if she makes it, they'll do anything to see her lose. But Gracie is sick of losing. She's sick of seeing friends, like Martin and Alyce, unhappy. Gracie decides it's time to take control and even the score for everyone, on and off the field. |
| 165 | Graffiti on the fence Forrestal, Elaine | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141305196 | Three friends seem to be on the verge of juvenile delinquency, terrorising an old woman who then comes to their aid when one of them is threatened. |
| 754380 | Grandest Bookshop in the World, The Mellor, Amelia | Affirm Press | 2021 | 9781922419347 | Pearl and Vally Cole live in a bookshop. And not just any bookshop. In 1893, Cole's Book Arcade in Melbourne is the grandest bookshop in the world, brimming with every curiosity imaginable. Each day brings fresh delights for the siblings: voice-changing sweets, talking parrots, a new story written just for them by their eccentric father. When Pearl and Vally learn that Pa has risked the Arcade - and himself - in a shocking deal with the mysterious Obscurosmith, the siblings hatch a plan. Soon they are swept into a dangerous game with impossibly high stakes: defeat seven challenges by the stroke of midnight and both the Arcade and their father will be restored. But if they fail Pearl and Vally won't just lose Pa - they'll forget that he and the Arcade ever existed. |
| 168 | Granny was a buffer girl Doherty, Berlie | Puffin Australia | 2004 | 9780141318059 | Jess is intrigued with her grandmother's life as a buffer girl in a cutlery shop in Sheffield. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 643273 | Graveyard shift in ghost town Pryor, Michael | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781760523930 | So many ghosts are haunting the streets of Melbourne. When a plague of Lingerers, Moaners, Thugs and Weepers descend, Anton Marin and Rani need to work overtime to keep the people safe and send the ghosts on their way. When his long lost Aunt reappears through a portal to the Elsewhere, Anton is unsure if he can trust her, even more so when he realises her connection to the blood thirsty Trespassers, The ragged Sisters. |
| 169 | Great Australian girls Geason, Susan | ABC Books | 1999 | 9780733307584 | The biographies of twenty-three remarkable and diverse women who started on the paths to their exceptional lives while they were still girls. |
| 803503 | Great Barrier Reef, The Scales, Helen & Feng, Lisk | Flying Eye Books | 2021 | 9781912497812 | In the waters where Australia meets the vast Pacific Ocean, grows the world's most famous reef. Schools of fish dart among the colourful corals, octopuses hide in dark corners and sharks patrol the clear waters above. Welcome to the Great Barrier Reef. In this stunning, illustrated guide, discover the plants and animals that live in this vast underwater trove. |
| 587855 | Great escape, A Arena, Felice | Penguin Books Australia | 2019 | 9780143794042 | It's a great escape, but will Peter survive it? When Peter's family leaves for a trip across the border, he stays behind. So when the government builds a wall through the city, guarded by soldiers, tanks and ferocious dogs, he's trapped. Everyone says he might never see his family again. But Peter has a courageous plan |
| 2946 | Greatest Gatsby, The: a visual book of grammar Riddle, Tohby | Viking Children's | 2015 | 9780670078684 | Grammar comes alive with stylistic images and typography. A visual journey through the world of grammar, with explanations of the rules and structures we use every day. |
| 12954 | Greek gazette Fleming, Fergus & Tomlins, Karen (des.) & Dowsell, Paul (ed.) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 1997 | 9780746027554 | Very funny and historically accurate look at life in ancient Greece, set out in a newspaper layout. |
| 27638 | Grief girl: my true story Vincent, Erin | Pan MacMillan | 2007 | 9780330422987 | Erin Vincent's parents are killed in a terrible car crash when she is just fourteen. The book recollects how Erin, her seventeen year old sister and three year old brother are left to cope on their own. A really powerful book that gives an honest account of being a teenager, and dealing with usual teenage concerns and real emotions in the aftermath of losing both parents. |
| 176 | Gripping war stories Bradman, Tony | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9780552545266 | This is a compilation of ten stories about the human response to war, with settings such as the Falklands, Sarajevo and Jerusalem. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 3761 | Gris Grimly's tales from the Brothers Grimm Grimm, Jacob & Grimm, Wilhelm (collected) & Grimly, Gris (ill) | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2016 | 9780062352330 | A beautifully bound and illustrated collection of some of the more unusual tales from The Brothers Grimm alongside the much-loved classics. With a translation by Margaret Hunt that pulls no punches, these retellings are as original as you will find, opening a magical world of fairy tales and folk lore to inspire imaginations and readers of all ages and generations. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above. |
| 1329962 | Grumpy darling Moody, Alexandra | electric monkey | 2025 | 9780008762261 | Paige has ticked off everything on her senior year bucket list except for one thing - she's never kissed anyone. And she thinks her best friend, Grayson Darling, is to blame. Grayson is the school hockey team's enforcer, and he's been scaring off any eligible bachelors. With time running out, Paige demands that Grayson stop defending her honour. Instead she asks him to become her dating coach, training her to win the guy of her dreams. But Grayson has plans of his own. He's been in love with Paige since they were kids. Perhaps coaching Paige will be his last chance to show her how good they'd be together. |
| 20172 | Guarding Eden Hart, Deborah | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781760112356 | The personal stories of twelve ordinary people, so concerned about climate change that they altered their lives to do something about it. Some were involved behind the scenes, researching or writing, while others decided to go public in campaigns, blockades, rallies and a hunger strike. They come from all walks of life. There's a nurse, a musician, an insurance broker, a teacher, a lawyer and a vet. |
| 36630 | Gulliver's travels Swift, Jonathan | Dorling Kindersley | 2000 | 9780751372458 | A country boy becomes a ship's doctor travelling to strange lands like Lilliput, the land of midgets. First published in 1726, captions explain historical facts to help modern readers. Also see, Jonathan Swift's Gulliver by Martin Jenkins, PRC ID 2055. |
| 177 | Hairs in the palm of the hand Mark, Jan | Viking Children's | 1981 | 9780722657287 | A story that features civil rights for women. |
| 812781 | Half my luck Kamaledine, Samera | HarperCollins Australia | 2021 | 9781460760222 | Layla Karimi has been cursed by the evil eye. Well, that's what Layla's superstitious grandmother tells her. And Layla reckons it makes sense as she's sort of Australian and sort of Lebanese: a 'halfie' who doesn't really fit into either world. And when all hell breaks loose at the first beach party of the summer, Layla finds herself caught between her friends and the Lebanese kids who call themselves 'the Cedar Army' (of which her cousin Sufia is the Queen Bee). One group has been wrongfully accused and Layla knows the truth that would clear their name. But will she speak up? |
| 36907 | Half the battle Henderson, Don | Omnibus Books | 2006 | 9781862916777 | AFL at Port Road High is off to a shaky start. The hardest thing to do is organise a bunch of misfits into a cohesive team. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|---------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 977765 | Hamlet is not OK Spratt, RA | Penguin | 2023 | 9780143779278 | Selby has mastered the art of going unnoticed and seems happy avoiding most school work and friendship dramas in this way. All goes well until her school contacts Selby's parents and they are not happy. With the help of her tutor, Selby finds herself not just reading Hamlet, but trying to help him understand his misery and murderous inclinations. |
| 2083 | Happy prince, The and other stories Wilde, Oscar | Wordsworth Editions Ltd | 2002 | 9781853261237 | A collection of Wilde's classic stories that include The Selfish Giant and The Happy Prince. The story of the statue of a once pleasure-loving Prince who, with the help of a once selfish swallow, helps the poor and suffering people in their distress. |
| 2094 | Haroun and the sea of stories Rushdie, Salman | Puffin Australia | 1993 | 9780140366501 | Haroun's father is the greatest of all storytellers. His magical stories bring laughter to the sad city of Alifbay. One terrible day, everything goes wrong and his father runs out of stories to tell. Haroun is determined to return the storyteller's gift. |
| 2095 | Harp at midnight, The Mor, Caiseal | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9780091838751 | When thirteen year old Andrew Ferguson goes to stay in an old house in Ireland, he is immediately plunged into the mysteries of Irish legend. |
| 18470 | Harriet's ghost Crowley, Bridget | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2005 | 9780340881569 | Harriet's best friend at the ballet academy is suffering from an eating disorder. The ghost of a ballerina who died tragically young attempts to contact the girls to save Marianne from death. |
| | Harry Potter series Rowling, J K | | | | Any two titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Harry Potter universe series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 182 | Hatchet Paulsen, Gary | Simon & Schuster | 1999 | 9780689826993 | The only survivor of a light plane crash in the Canadian wilderness, Brian must learn to exist among wild animals and find a way back to civilisation. |
| 183 | Hatchet: the truth Paulsen, Gary | Macmillan Education Australia Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780330483629 | Gary Paulsen has used his experience, learning the secrets of survival in the remote northern wilderness, to write the Hatchet novels, in which a man crash lands and has to struggle to stay alive. The true-life experiences behind his books. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 38238 | Hatshepsut: the lost Pharaoh of Egypt Wilkinson, Carole | Black Dog Books | 2008 | 9781742030135 | Hatshepsut was the eldest daughter of Tuthmosis I, a pharaoh who ruled Egypt. Her mother was Queen Ahmose. Explore the mystery surrounding her life and her reign. You can decide if she was a strong ruling pharaoh or a power-hungry princess. |
| 2333 | Haunting of Lily Frost, The Weetman, Nova | University of Queensland Press | 2014 | 9780702250156 | When Lily Frost's parents move to a country town called Gideon, things are dire. Lily has left her best friend and knows no one. But, someone seems to know her and it isn't exactly welcoming. Lily is thrown into the path of cute local boy, Danny, but he's not giving anything away. It's up to Lily to make sense of the watery footprints on her floor and the cold air that constantly seeps into her bones. |
| 185 | Haunting, The Mahy, Margaret | Penguin | 2000 | 9780140363258 | A child begins to receive strange messages and learns about a family legacy. |
| 665705 | Haywire Saxby, Claire | Scholastic Australia | 2020 | 9781742769196 | Life in Germany in 1939 is not safe for 13 year old Max Gruber so he is sent to his Uncle Ferdy in London, only to find himself sent to Australia aboard the famous ship Dunera. Arriving in rural Hay, and housed in an internment camp, he meets local boy Tom. The two new friends become allies, as their lives are affected by the growing conflict in far away Europe. |
| 1209798 | Heartbreak is the national anthem Sheffield, Rob | Hachette Australia | 2024 | 9780008652715 | Dive into the world of Taylor Swift in this intimate, one of a kind look at her life, lore and legacy. Mega-stars like Taylor Swift don't come around often. She hasn't just shaped music and culture - she's redefined what it means to be an icon in the music industry. A book for both fans and sceptics, who may gain a new appreciation of the icon that is Taylor Swift. |
| 2137 | Heartland: coming home Brooke, Lauren | Scholastic Australia | 2000 | 9780439997959 | Endurance overcoming grief and the importance of family and friends. Heartland is a recovery centre for horses that have been rescued from neglect and physical cruelty. Amy and her mum try to rescue an abandoned stallion but disaster strikes. |
| 1019856 | Heavy as a mountain Connolly, Vincent | Booktopia Editions | 2020 | 9781925995114 | A WWII Japanese airman in the two greatest battles fought on Australian soil, shamed by his capture, faces a dilemma - uphold the honour of his family or risk the life of his young wife? Duty is heavy as a mountain, death as light as a feather. He conceals his true name to protect his family. Suicide is a possibility, but he's drawn away from his military indoctrination by experiences with ordinary Australians, drawn towards living out his own individuality. But the young bride he left behind had vowed she would kill herself if he died. He could write to tell her he lives, but would that reveal his cowardice, shame his family? A tale of the Australian WWII experience, seen through the eyes of this deeply troubled man. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 39587 | Hell and high water Landman, Tanya | Walker Books | 2016 | 9781406366914 | In eighteenth century Devon, Caleb, travels with his father, living off the earnings from their Punch and Judy show. When his father is wrongly arrested for stealing and transported to the Colonies, Caleb is left alone. After a desperate journey in search of an aunt he's never met, he receives a strange, cold welcome. Then, a body washes up on the nearby beach and Caleb is caught up in a terrifying net of lies and intrigue. Soon, he and his new family are in mortal danger. |
| 958039 | Henna wars, The Jaigirdar, Adiba | | 2022 | 9781645675730 | When Nishat comes out to her parents, they say she can be anyone she wants - as long as she isn't herself. Because Muslim girls don't like other girls. Nishat doesn't want to hide who she is, but she also doesn't want to lose her relationship with her family. And her life only gets harder once a childhood friend walks back into her life. Flavia is beautiful and charismatic and Nishat falls for her instantly. But when a school competition invites students to create their own businesses, both Flavia and Nishat choose to do henna, even though Flavia is appropriating Nishat's culture. Amidst sabotage and school stress, their lives get more tangled - but Nishat can't quite get rid of her crush on Flavia, and realizes there might be more to her than she realized. |
| 8902 | Henry Lawson Treasury Lawson, Henry & Davis, Oslo (ill) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780857985132 | Henry Lawson, one of Australia's most famous writers, was known as the 'Poet of the People', Lawson's writing captures life in the Australian bush and the hardships and everyday lives of ordinary Australians in the 1800s. Lawson's stories and poems are full of the drama and often absurd humour that characterised life in the Australian outback in the early years of our nation. |
| 2166 | Hero of Little Street, The Rogers, Gregory | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741145243 | Escaping from some bullies, Boy slips into a grand, old gallery full of treasures, paintings and mystery. When he is befriended by a little dog, they venture into a famous Dutch painting and are transported to seventeenth century Holland where the streets are dangerous places for a dog. This wordless picture book is part of the Boy Bear series, which includes The Boy, the Bear, the Baron, the Bard and Midsummer Knight. |
| 9221 | Heroes: Australians at their best Baillie, Allan | Phoenix Education | 2001 | 9781876580131 | Australia's great heroes at their most decisive moments. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1304567 | Heroines of the ancient world Gargill-Martin, Honor & Carpenter, Margaux (ill) | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781529507522 | Celebrate the stories of incredible women from the ancient world in this beautifully illustrated gift book. Featuring powerful retellings of courageous women, including the ruler Cleopatra, Mary Hebraea the first known alchemist and the warrior queen Boudica, this stunning collection of epic stories will get children fascinated by ancient history. |
| 3067 | Hexenhaus McWatters, Nikki | University of Queensland Press | 2016 | 9780702254253 | In 1628, Veronica and her brother flee for their lives into the German woods after their father is burned at the stake. At the dawn of the eighteenth century, Scottish maid Katherine is lured into political dissent after her parents are butchered for their beliefs. In present-day Australia, Paisley navigates her way through the burning torches of small-town gossip after her mother's new-age shop comes under scrutiny. A powerful historical novel about three young women caught in the hysteria of their own times. |
| 28706 | Hidden figures Shetterly, Margot Lee | HarperCollins Australia | 2016 | 9780008201326 | Before Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of professionals worked as 'Human Computers', calculating the flight paths that would enable these historic achievements. Among these were a coterie of bright, talented African-American women. Segregated from their white counterparts, these women used pencil and paper to write the equations that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. Moving from World War II through NASA's golden age, touching on the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the women's rights movement, 'Hidden Figures' interweaves a rich history of mankind's greatest adventure with the intimate stories of five courageous women whose work forever changed the world. |
| 846082 | Hidden knife, The Marr, Melissa | Penguin | 2021 | 9780593406007 | Vicky was the daughter of a great warrior, Kathleen, who had escaped the clutches of the queen. She was protected by gargoyles and the people who loved her mother. After an unexpected turn, she needs the help of those people more than ever. She is sent to the school her mother went to: Corvis, and finds new friends and secrets to her past. Can she repair the wrongs that have been made in the past and will she have to do it all alone? |
| 2957 | Highwayman's curse, The Morgan, Nicola | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406303124 | On the run from the redcoats, the two young highwaymen, Will and Bess, find themselves in Scotland, blamed for a murder they did not commit. They are captured by smugglers and become embroiled in religious hatred and revenge that goes back for generations. Will and Bess will have to make decisions and choices that will test their courage to the limit. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 16462 | Highwayman's footsteps, The Morgan, Nicola | Walker Books | 2006 | 9781406303117 | William de Lacy, the high born son of a gentleman, is on the run for stealing money and a horse. These are hanging offences and Will and the mysterious Bess must be resourceful and brave enough to survive an eighteenth century highwayman's life. |
| 188 | Highwayman, The Noyes, Alfred | Oxford University Press | 1999 | 9780192723703 | A classic adventure and tragic love story told in verse, about the betrayal of heroic Bess and her dashing highwayman. |
| 13708 | Hired girl, The Schlitz, Laura Amy | Walker Books | 2015 | 9781406361407 | Fourteen year old Joan Skraggs yearns for real life and true love, just like the heroines in her beloved novels. But, there is little hope for adventure, beauty or art on a farm in Pennsylvania, where the work never ends, looking after her father and three brothers. When she can't take any more, Joan escapes to the city, finding a kitchen maid's position in a Jewish household. Here, she grows as a person and her strict religious upbringing is tempered, as she learns more about her employers' beliefs and world events. |
| 582769 | His name was Walter Rodda, Emily | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2018 | 9781460756188 | Once upon a time, in a dark city far away, there lived a boy called Walter, who had nothing but his name to call his own...' The handwritten book, with its strangely vivid illustrations, has been hidden in the old house for a long, long time. Tonight, four kids and their teacher will find it. Tonight, at last, the haunting story of Walter and the mysterious, tragic girl called Sparrow will be read - right to the very end... |
| 18050 | History of cricket, A Chambers, Catherine | Black Dog Books | 2009 | 9781742030586 | Cricket is a worldwide sport, which is even played on ice. Discover where it began, how the rules were created, who was the man behind the famous Lords ground in England and how Australia was the country to invent one day internationals. |
| 4822 | History of fashion, A Bone, Emily & Cowan, Laura | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2017 | 9781474924931 | A beautifully illustrated book that tells the story of how fashion has changed and evolved over thousands of years. From animal skins worn by the very first people, to flapper dresses, flares and other modern fashions in the 20th century. |
| 567919 | Hive Betts, A.J. | Pan MacMillan | 2018 | 9781760556433 | Hayley tends to her bees and follows the rules in the only world she has ever known. Until she witnesses the impossible: a drip from the ceiling. A drip? It doesn't make sense. Yet she hears it, catches it. Tastes it. Curiosity is a hook. What starts as a drip leads to a lie, a death, a boy, a beast, and too many awful questions. |
| 190 | Hobbit, The Tolkien, J R R | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1999 | 9780006754022 | In this classic story, hobbits are small but heroic people who live in The Shire in Middle Earth. Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit who lives in Bag End, goes on a quest with the wizard, Gandalf. |
| 191 | Hold my hand or else Clark, Margaret | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1993 | 9780091827083 | A story about the relationships between young people and their parents in a seaside community. It's about starting high school, first love and difficult sisters. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 192 | Holes Sachar, Louis | Bloomsbury | 2003 | 9780747563662 | Stanley is not surprised when a miscarriage of justice sends him to Camp Green Lake Juvenile Detention Centre. Nor is he surprised when he is told that his daily labour is to dig a hole, five foot wide and five foot deep, and report anything he finds in it. |
| 9114 | Home and away Marsden, John & Ottley, Matt (ill) | Lothian Books | 2008 | 9780734410566 | Everyone wants a safe place, a place to share with people they love and to call home. Torn from everything they know and love, a young boy and his family struggle to survive the harsh realities of living life as refugees. A harrowing read for refugees from other lands, a disturbingly thought-provoking read for those of us who have always lived in peace and with plenty. |
| 9333 | Homeless bird Whelan, Gloria | Frances Lincoln | 2009 | 9781845079772 | At thirteen, Koly enters a traditional Indian, arranged marriage and is widowed in months. She is imprisoned in her husband's home until abandoned to spend her days in worship with other widows. Koly discovers opportunities and savage crimes among those who would help her and those who would exploit her. |
| 37948 | Hope in a ballet shoe DePrince, Michaela & Elaine | Faber & Faber | 2014 | 9780571314461 | Michaela DePrince grew up in war-torn Sierra Leone, witnessing shocking atrocities. When her father is killed and her mother dies of famine, Michaela is sent to an orphanage. She is adopted by an American couple but life isn't without difficulties. When Michaela begins ballet lessons, she faces racism and prejudice, and has to fight for a place amongst the ballet elite to become an international ballet star. |
| 3972 | Horizon Westerfeld, Scott | Scholastic Australia | 2017 | 9781743817605 | When a plane crash-lands in the arctic, eight young survivors step from the wreckage expecting to see nothing but ice and snow. Instead they find themselves lost in a strange jungle with no way to get home and little hope of rescue. Food is running out. Water is scarce. And the jungle is full of threats unlike anything the survivors have ever seen before- from razor-beaked shredder birds to carnivorous vines and much, much worse. With danger at every turn, these eight kids must learn to work together to survive. But cliques and rivalries threaten to tear them apart. And not everyone will make it out of the jungle alive. |
| 196 | Horned helmet Treece, Henry | | 1996 | 9781855493582 | A novel set in Viking Britain. Beorn, a fugitive from Iceland, is adopted by a powerful Viking warrior. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|---------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Horowitz horror series Horowitz, Anthony | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Horrible histories series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 4946 | Horror handbook, The van Loon, Paul & Scheffler, Axel (ill) | Alma Books Ltd | 2016 | 9781846884177 | A humorous guide to the world of vampires, witches and monsters. What happens to a vampire when he dies? How does somebody become a werewolf? How can you protect yourself from witches? All of these questions and more are answered in this book, which will finally give you all the information you ever wanted to know about ghosts, zombies, monsters and all kinds of creepy-crawly creatures. Full of tips, anecdotes and trivia, and delightfully illustrated by Axel Scheffler. Paul van Loon's book is a fun and fascinating reference book for all fans of scary stories and things that go bump in the night. |
| 14680 | Horse road, The Harrison, Troon | Bloomsbury | 2012 | 9781408819357 | In Ferghana, Central Asia, in 102 BC, thirteen year old Kallisto is an excellent horsewoman. One day, while racing her horses in the mountains, Kallisto sees the Chinese army approaching her city. On reaching home, she finds a deserted city, and her favourite horse and others missing. Kallisto is determined to get the horses back, even if this means being challenged to a duel of horsemanship and skill. |
| 42398 | Hot cold summer, A Weetman, Nova | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2014 | 9781742977737 | It's the summer holidays and thirteen year old Frankie Jones has a dilemma: she can go to London with her mum, but that means seeing Jack again, an old crush who has hurt her in the past; or she can go on a beach holiday with her dad, but that would involve hanging out with Dad's new girlfriend as well. In this pick a path story, you get to make Frankie's decisions for her. Make or break the rules and find romance or heartbreak along the way. When you get to the end you can go back and choose again! |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 4042 | Hotaka: a novel Heffernan, John | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760113766 | When the tsunami strikes the Japanese coastal town of Omori-wan, the effects are utterly devastating. Three years later, much of what happened on that day is still a mystery and Hotaka finds himself increasingly haunted by memories of his best friend, Takeshi. When strong-willed Sakura initiates a controversial anti-seawall movement, there is danger at every turn for Hotaka and his friends. As the town and its people struggle to rebuild their lives, can Hotaka help Omori-wan look to the future- and can he let go of his past? A powerful and moving story about one boy caught up in the Japanese earthquake and tsunami of 2011. |
| 6266 | Hound of the Baskervilles, The: Usborne Graphic Sherlock Holmes Punter, Russell & Da Rold, Andrea (ill) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2018 | 9781474938082 | Following the mysterious death of Sir Charles Baskerville, Sherlock Holmes is on the case, intent on finding out the truth behind the family's curse and the existence of the terrifying Hound of the Baskervilles. The new heir, Henry Baskerville, has already been warned against claiming his inheritance, will he be the next to fall prey to the family's curse or will Holmes be able to crack the case before there is more death? Based on the most famous of all Holmes' cases this graphic novel captures the terror and suspense surrounding the Hound and the curse that continues to hunt the Baskervilles. |
| 4164 | Hour of the bees Eagar, Lindsay | Walker Books | 2016 | 9781406368154 | While her friends are enjoying their summer holidays, twelve year old Carol is helping her parents move the grandfather she's never met into a home for people with dementia. At first, Carol avoids prickly Grandpa Serge. But, his crazy stories, about a healing tree, a green-glass lake and the bees that will bring back the rain and end a hundred years drought, begin to fascinate her. As the thin line between magic and reality starts to blur, Carol must decide for herself what is possible and what it means to be true to her roots. |
| 846265 | House in the woods, The (Ghost hunter chronicles 1) Fielding, Yvette | Andersen Press Ltd | 2021 | 9781839131141 | Clovis, Eve and Tom decide to play with a Ouija board in an abandoned house on Halloween night. What they encounter sends them on a race to discover who the ghost is and why it needs their help. |
| 198 | House of many rooms, The Pryor, Michael | Louis Braille Audio | 2000 | 9780732024208 | When the Princess and her band of followers are pursued by the Hollow Men, Saul is drawn into their conflict. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 587747 | House with a clock in its walls, The Bellairs, John | Piccadilly Press | 2018 | 9781848127715 | Lewis Barnavelt discovers there is a wizard in his family when he comes to live with his Uncle Jonathan. Experimenting with Uncle Jonathan's spells Lewis uncovers the mystery behind the ticking that can be heard throughout the house, sometimes loud sometimes quiet, sometimes slow, sometimes fast. It's an evil clock and it could destroy humankind. It is up to the Barnavelts to find where the clock is hidden in the walls - and stop it. Tick tock, a deadly clock... a terrifying race against time... |
| 34996 | How animals work Burnie, David | Dorling Kindersley | 2010 | 9781405351928 | Burrow underground with a mole rat, join a brown bear on a fishing expedition, witness a honeybee dance and take flight with a flock of flamingos. Explore the incredible animal kingdom and find out how animals move, communicate, hunt and feed in their natural habitats. |
| 12535 | How to be a world explorer: your all-terrain training manual Levy, Joel & Hancock, James Gulliver | Lonely Planet Publications | 2012 | 9781743214091 | This book will teach you everything you need to know to venture through all the landscapes on Earth as well as through the air, over the seas and under the waves. Soon you'll have no excuses - get out there and explore! |
| 4668 | How to bee MacDibble, Bren | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760294335 | In a world where bees are extinct, the quickest, bravest kids climb fruit trees and pollinate the flowers by hand. All Peony wants to be is a bee - dancing along the high branches and helping her gramps and sister scratch out a living. Life on the farm is a scramble, but there is enough to eat and a place to sleep, and there is love. Then Peony's mother arrives to take her away from everything she has ever known. Will Peony's grit and quick thinking be enough to keep her safe? |
| 5194 | How to cook children: a grisly recipe book Howard, Martin & Stimpson, Colin (ill) | ABC Books | 2008 | 9780733323843 | A witty, tongue in cheek cooking manual for witches, with recipes collected from around the world. Each witch presents her method with kids as an ingredient, lots of word play, and cultural and linguistic humour. |
| 5207 | How to hang a witch Mather, Adriana | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406378795 | The trials of high school start to feel like modern day witch hunt for Samantha Mather, who has all the wrong connections to Salem's past. To say Sam is unwelcome in Salem would be an understatement. She is the target of the Descendants, a mysterious group of girls whose ancestors were persecuted in the Witch Trials. Complicating her life further is Elijah, an inconveniently handsome resident ghost, and her cute new neighbour, Jaxon. When a centuries old curse is rekindled, Sam finds herself in the centre of it. Can she stop history repeating itself? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 846198 | How to pick a fight Kaminoff, Lara | Penguin Random House Australia | 2021 | 9781910620786 | Jimmy might be small, but he knows what he wants and that is to be a world champion wrestler. His family are much too busy in their own lives to really hear what Jimmy has to say, and when he sets off on his journey to chase his dreams, it takes a while for people to notice. Jimmy certainly has his share of adventures and learns a lot of hard lessons before he finds his way. |
| 5864 | Hunchback of Notre-Dame, The Hugo, Victor | Penguin Putnam | 2001 | 9780450152788 | The original splendid classic with detailed historical information and beautiful illustrations. The story of Esmeralda, the dark-eyed gypsy beauty and Quasimodo, the hunchbacked, bell-ringer of Notre-Dame. |
| 16608 | Hungry ghosts Heinrich, Sally | Lothian Books | 2007 | 9780734409805 | Sarah is experiencing prejudice. She resents fitting in with the Aussie ways while honouring her Chinese traditions. Things become really complicated when Sarah starts hearing the voice of a ghost. Contains language that may offend some readers. |
| 5848 | Hunter's moon Townsend, John | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237535247 | Neil is a young gamekeeper. When his boss is mysteriously hurt, Neil is left to look after the woods and pheasants on his own. There have been rumours of a panther on the loose and Neil has to survive nights alone, before the truth is revealed by the light of the hunter's moon. |
| 7004 | Hunting elephants Roy, James | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741663266 | Harry and his family head out to the country for Uncle Frank's fourth wedding. Family tensions are high and there is mystery about his uncle's experiences in the Vietnam War. Harry also has his own scars and issues to deal with around the death of his brother. A story about finding truth in unlikely places and moving on. |
| 18077 | Hush, The Melki-Wegner, Skye | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9780857985668 | Chester is searching for clues about his father and why he disappeared. But, when he's caught illegally connecting with the Song as he plays his beloved fiddle, Chester is sentenced to death. Only a licensed Songshaper can bend music to their will. Susannah knows the secrets of The Hush, where there is no music, only deadly Echoes that will steal your soul, and she has plans for Chester. |
| 2290 | I am David Holm, Anne | Egmont Childrens | 1989 | 9780749701369 | A young boy's journey of survival across Europe following his assisted escape from a concentration camp. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 20077 | I am Juliet French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2014 | 9780732297985 | This is the well-known story of Juliet Capulet and her love for Romeo, and the increasing helplessness Juliet feels as she realises that unlike young men her age, her life will effectively be determined and controlled by others, who see her having an arranged marriage of alliance and becoming a breeder of sons. I am Juliet closely follows the well-known and loved plot of the play, and also Rob, the 13-year-old boy who is the first to play the role of Juliet on the Elizabethan stage. He is overwhelmed by 'all those words' that Shakespeare wrote. But Rob realises that the story of love and tragedy is a somewhat simple one and the words are there for their extraordinary beauty and meaning. He will be Juliet and let the power of the words sing. |
| 4041 | I am Malala Yousafzai, Malala & Lamb, Christina | Little, Brown & Co | 2013 | 9780316322409 | When the Taliban took control in Pakistan, Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On her way home from school, fifteen year old Malala was shot in the head by a member of the Taliban. She survived and began her extraordinary journey. Malala has become a global symbol of peaceful protest, the youngest-ever Nobel Peace Prize laureate and a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize. |
| 1209901 | I am not Jessica Chen Liang, Ann | HQ | 2025 | 9781038900388 | Jenna Chen and Jessica Chen are cousins. Jessica is smart and beautiful, She is perfect in every way that Jenna is not. When Jessica is accepted into Harvard and Jenna is not, Jenna makes a desperate wish on a shooting star to become her cousin, literally. She finds herself in Jessica's body, but with her own thoughts and soul intact. Suddenly she gets the life and approval she's always dreamt of. But she must decide if trading everything she loves - her artistic talent, her home, even her crush - to be Jessica is worth it? |
| 13089 | I am Thomas Gleeson, Libby & Greder, Armin (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742373331 | Thomas is isolated in a crowd. His story is punctuated by the words adults, such as parents, teachers, politicians, recruitment officers and churchgoers, have said to him throughout his journey from childhood to adulthood. As the voices in his life crowd in on him, Thomas looks for another way. |
| 202 | I can jump puddles Marshall, Alan | Penguin | 2004 | 9780143003045 | Alan Marshall's classic autobiography shows how someone who contracted polio at the age of six, in 1908, and was permanently crippled can still lead a fulfilling life. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1446680 | I know what you're hiding Heath, Jack | Scholastic Australia | 2026 | 9781761526794 | <p>A deadly blaze. A desperate girl. Three days to crack the case.</p> <p>Everyone knows the story. Jamie George was the golden child. Her sister, Morgan, was nothing but trouble. When their house mysteriously burned down, Jamie barely survived. Morgan wasn't so lucky.</p> <p>Three years later, teen podcaster Zoe Gale receives an urgent message. Jamie needs help. She's received a threat written in blood and a demand for cash. Instead of paying up, Jamie wants Zoe to unmask the blackmailer.</p> <p>Zoe's tangled with dangerous people before. And there's something about Jamie she just doesn't trust. But soon she's digging up secrets someone would kill to keep buried ...</p> |
| 788 | I lost my mobile at the mall Harmer, Wendy | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741663716 | <p>This is the story of how Elly Pickering's life falls apart, piece by piece, after the catastrophic loss of her mobile phone. She simply can't survive. If it wasn't for FacePlace, she might as well be stranded on a desert island.</p> |
| 204 | I love you, Jason Delaney Kidd, Diana | HarperCollins Australia | 1996 | 9780207189876 | <p>Alison finds herself dealing with the death of her Auntie Mim and the change in her relationship with her best friend, Katie. When she falls in love with Jason, life begins to get very complex.</p> |
| 4074 | I made lattes for a love god Harmer, Wendy | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781742379913 | <p>Elly Pickering has a juicy secret. A secret her PR mum won't let her tell anyone because if the kids at Oldcastle High knew that mega-star Jake Blake (yes, THE Jake Blake, teen sensation and all round heart-throb) was coming to Oldcastle to film his latest movie, they might just explode with excitement.</p> <p>Elly is determined to get on set and to get more than a glimpse of her Hollywood crush. But now thanks to an unfortunate incident involving a car, a red handbag and the paparazzi, it looks like Elly's lost a lot more than her opportunity to be close to Hollywood royalty. She's lost her dignity, her job and her best friend. How can she get everything back to normal?</p> |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 846191 | I must betray you Sepetys, Ruta | Hodder & Stoughton | 2022 | 9781444967630 | Cristian has lived his entire life in the grip of a repressive dictatorship. The country is governed by fear. When the secret police blackmail him, Cristian has an impossible choice. Save the life of his sick grandfather by informing on his family, or risk his life - and all of theirs - by resisting? At 17, Cristian dreams of being free but doesn't know where to turn. In this climate of constant suspicion, can he trust his best friend, his girlfriend or even his family? Closely based on the real events of the Romanian Revolution of 1989, this is a powerful, heart-breaking thriller from the author of Salt to the Sea, winner of the Carnegie Medal. |
| 205 | I own the racecourse Wrightson, Patricia | Penguin | 1994 | 9780140368345 | Andy buys a racecourse from a tramp for three dollars. |
| 2266 | I was only nineteen Schumann, John & Smith, Craig (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743317235 | The unforgettable lyrics about the Vietnam War are etched in our memories and brought to life in this picture book. |
| 493 | I'm being stalked by a moon shadow MacLeod, Doug | Penguin | 2006 | 9780143301981 | Seth Parrot lives in a dung-covered house with his brother and not so ex-hippy parents. Seth dreams of muscular girls and knows lots of quirky facts, more from reading teenage girls' magazines than from listening to his eccentric dad. |
| 1339552 | Identikill Alexander, K.R | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761720314 | Chelsea knows that her sister is dead. But she also knows that Angelica never really went away. Ever since that tragic day, Angelica has been around. Talking to her. Listening to her. Being her truest friend. No one else can see Angelica, and Chelsea has learned to lie about her existence, because nobody else would believe it. It's their secret... until Chelsea makes a new friend and Angelica becomes jealous. Jealous enough to hurt someone. Chelsea's biggest secret has become her biggest fear. |
| 1019845 | If I Have To Be Haunted Sun, Miranda | HarperCollins US | 2023 | 9780008612412 | Ghosts are always trouble, so Cara pretends she didn't inherit the ability to see and speak to them. She ignores their problems in favour of diligently completing homework and preparing for college. When she discovers the body of the school golden boy and her personal arch nemesis, she realises she can no longer pretend. Cara has to own up to her powers and set out on a journey that could be deadly. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1019639 | If our world were 100 days McCann, Jackie & Cushley, Aaron (ill) | Farshore | 2023 | 9780008599287 | <p>A thought-provoking way of looking at world history and our place within it.</p> <p>About 10,000 years ago marks a major turning point in the history of life on Earth for humankind as people settled down and built towns and cities. Importantly, during this period, they began to record their activities and achievements.</p> <p>But 10,000 years ago is difficult to imagine - what if our calendar were condensed into just 100 days, where each day equals 100 years? How many days ago were the first cities built? When did the population explosion happen? When did we decide to write things down and when did books appear? Did writing change the way we share ideas?</p> <p>This book asks questions big and small, leaving readers wondering if all the changes have been for the better, and what does it mean for our future.</p> |
| 1019857 | If you tell anyone, you're next Heath, Jack | Scholastic Australia | 2023 | 9781761292019 | <p>Jayden Jones is missing. Everyone thinks he ran away. His best friend, Zoe Gale, knows they're wrong. Zoe's search leads her to The 17 - a secret group chat, used by anonymous teens to blackmail the powerless. To join, you have to put on a mask and record yourself completing a challenge. The challenges are always illegal. Sometimes dangerous. Maybe deadly. Who are The 17? What have they done to Jayden? And what will they do to silence Zoe? A rollercoaster of suspense and twists from the author of the Liars series.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Jack Heath read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#if-you-tell-anyone-you-re-next-jack-heath</p> |
| 21166 | Illegal Colfer, Eoin & Donkin, Andrew & Rigano, Giovanni (ill) | Hachette Children's Books | 2017 | 9781444941982 | <p>Ebo: alone. His sister left months ago. Now his brother has disappeared too, and Ebo knows it can only be to make the hazardous journey to Europe. Ebo's epic journey takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. But with every step he holds on to his hope for a new life, and a reunion with his sister.</p> |

| PRC | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|-------------|---|---------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| ID 16601 | In hollow lands Masson, Sophie | Hodder Children's Books (UK) | 2004 | 9780340854426 | A group of teens are abducted into the land of the Korrigans. The human world continues to search for the group, who have now been separated into the two worlds. The heroic journeys of all the characters are akin to those journeys of the literature of old. |
| 1019764 | In my blood it runs Hoosan, Dajuan & Anderson, Margaret & Turner, Carol & Douglas, Blak (ill) | Pan MacMillan | 2023 | 9781761263774 | This is the story of Dajuan Hoosan, a 10-year-old Arrernte and Garawa boy. A wise, funny, cheeky boy. A healer. Out bush, his healing power (Ngangkere) is calm and straight. But in town, it's wobbly and wild, like a snake. He's in trouble at school, and with the police. He thinks there's something wrong with him. Dajuan's family knows what to do: they send him to live out bush, to learn the ways of the old people, and the history that runs straight into all Aboriginal people. So he can be proud of himself. |
| 4465 | In the beech forest Crew, Gary & Scheer, Den (ill) | Ford Street Publishing | 2012 | 9781921665578 | Take the journey with an ordinary boy on a path leading him from the safety of his home into a dark forest. His head is full of the fearful images of his computer games, the ones that excite, yet terrify him, battles between heroes and dreadful beasts that may hunt this primal landscape. |
| 21095 | In the dark spaces Black, Cally | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2017 | 9781760128647 | Tamara has been living on a freighter in deep space, and her kidnapers are terrifying Crowpeople - the only aliens humanity has ever encountered. No-one has ever survived a Crowpeople attack, until now - and Tamara must use everything she has just to stay alive. But survival always comes at a price, and there's no handbook for this hostage crisis. As Tamara comes to know the Crowpeople's way of life, and the threats they face from humanity's exploration into deep space, she realises she has an impossible choice to make. Should she stay as the only human among the Crows, knowing she'll never see her family again - or inevitably betray her new community if she wants to escape? |
| 18505 | In the monkey forest Meehan, Kierin | Puffin Australia | 2005 | 9780143302162 | Miki is entrusted to return a piece of embroidered fabric and a silk ribbon to Aiko and inherits a bossy little pixie called Nameless. Miki must unravel clues from the past to save the day. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019843 | In the secret place Crew, Gary | | 2023 | 9780645714937 | What does a teenage boy do when he has no friends? When everyone who knows him sneers? When he is laughed at to his face? The answer is simple. That boy chooses his own path. That boy makes his own way in life. That boy grows stronger. He finds his secret place and there-alone, in the dark- he grows even stronger. Ben Gardner is such a boy. Ben Gardner could be you... |
| 973 | In the wings Edgar, Elsbeth | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2013 | 9781922077325 | Ella has been a regular member of the backstage crew for plays, she dreams of acting, but suffers from stage fright. She soon learns that some of her friends have much more serious problems to overcome. |
| 1019631 | In times of bushfires and billy buttons Herrick, Steven | Ford Street Publishing | 2023 | 9781922696366 | Ethan's parents are in jail, his aunt works too hard, the new kid, Joshua, has a scar on his arm, a firestorm threatens the suburb, while wildflowers bloom along the school fence. For Ethan, Audrey and their friends, it's time to choose what's important and what to leave behind. |
| 1371152 | In utero Gooch, Chris | Top Shelf Productions | 2024 | 9781603095341 | Twelve years after a disastrous explosion, young Hailey is dropped off by her mum at a holiday camp in a dilapidated shopping mall. Alienated from the other kids, she connects with an eerie older teen named Jen -- but soon dark horrors awaken, and the two new friends are caught up in a cataclysmic battle between two terrifying creatures who have been lying dormant for years. |
| 1424054 | In want of a suspect Price, Tirzah | HarperTeen | 2025 | 9780063278035 | It is a truth universally acknowledged, that London's first female solicitor in possession of the details of a deadly crime, must be in want of a suspect. The tenacious Lizzie Bennet has earned her place at Longbourn, her father's law firm. Her work keeps her busy, but luckily it gives her plenty of reasons to consult (and steal occasional kisses) with Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, a stern but secretly softhearted solicitor at Pemberley. Lizzie is hired to investigate a deadly warehouse fire and to find the mysterious woman who was spotted at the scene moments before the flames took hold. But when the case leads to the sitting room of a woman Darcy once proposed marriage to, the delicate balance between personal and professional in their relationship is threatened. Questions of the future are cast aside when the prime suspect is murdered and Lizzie's own life is threatened. As the body count rises and their suspicions about what was really going on in the warehouse grow, the pressure is on for Lizzie and Darcy to uncover the truth. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 574267 | In your light Grainger, Annalie | Simon & Schuster | 2018 | 9781471122941 | Lil and her sister Mella have always been close. But one day, after a fight, Mella goes missing. Four months later, and no sign of Mella, a mysterious girl named Alice turns up in Lil's life. In the midst of the worst storm in Welsh history, Alice and Lil work together to bring Mella home. |
| 18689 | Inconvenient truth, An Gore, Al | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9780747590965 | Exposes global warming and the effects and dangers we face from climate changes. Photographs depicting victims of natural disasters may be distressing to some. |
| 1338014 | Incorruptibles, The Magaziner, Lauren | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761722561 | Fiora Barrowling lives in a world where sorcerers have taken over. After her parents are murdered by sorcerers when she was little she is sent to live and work with her Uncle who is a tailor. One day, two sorcerers go to steal from her Uncle's shop and Fiora impulsively decides to stand up to them. This sparks her journey in joining the underground resistance - The Incorruptibles. |
| 9397 | Incredible body (Stephen Biesty's) Biesty, Stephen & Platt, Richard (ill) | Dorling Kindersley | 1998 | 9780751358414 | An exciting and adventurous way to find out how the body works by following two tiny explorers through arteries, veins, bones and organs. |
| 2348 | Incredible here and now, The Castagna, Felicity | Giramondo | 2013 | 9781459670839 | Michael turns fifteen and his brother dies. He copes with mourning in his hometown of Western Sydney, a region subject to harsh and suspicious perceptions, and filled with cultural and ethnic diversity. Through a powerful poetic experience, Michael grows by seeing deeply into the values that surround him and he rises above the distress of poverty and families under stress. |
| 18381 | Incredible science University of Auckland (pub) | Penguin NZ | 2005 | 9780413519993 | A friendly science book depicting simple experiments for all sorts of scientific facts and figures. |
| 2720 | India dark Murray, Kirsty | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2010 | 9781741758580 | In 1910, thirteen year old Poesy Swift has the opportunity to join a travelling performance troupe, she's excited about seeing the world and leaving her drab life in Melbourne. But, the trip heads to India instead of America and, as India simmers with the tension of a crumbling Empire, the troupe is gradually torn apart by ill fortune, sickness and tension. Based on the true story of the Lilliputian Opera Company. |
| 820793 | Indigo Owl Archbold, Charlie | Wakefield Press | 2020 | 9781743057322 | As Scarlet Bergen leaves her home to be trained in her psychic Solitaire abilities at the Arcadia Institute she can't foresee how much her life will change. As she delves into the mystery surrounding her mother, more truths and conspiracies will be uncovered. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 22306 | Inferior, The O Guilin, Peadar | Corgi Books | 2008 | 9780552555272 | There is but one law, eat or be eaten. Stopmouth and his family know of no other life than the daily battle to survive. For Stopmouth, considered slow-witted hunt-fodder by his tribe, the future looks especially bleak. Then, on the day he is callously betrayed by his brother, a strange and beautiful woman falls from the sky. |
| 581428 | Inheritance Wilkinson, Carole | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781760650360 | Forced to live with her grandfather at the remote family property that has been in her family for generations, Nic wonders how she will survive without mobile reception or Wi-Fi. She begins to explore the family home, finding cryptic clues that she hopes will lead to information about her mother who died on the day she was born. Nic finds something even better, a way to travel back in time, a way to find out about her ancestors. What she discovers though is a dark secret that still haunts the land and the people who live there. Can she change the terrible events of the past, is there some way to undo the atrocities of her ancestors? |
| | Inheritance Cycle series Paolini, Christopher | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 846238 | Inheritance, The Greder, Armin | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526788 | All this will soon be yours, respect what I have built and make it prosper.' These are the last words of the old industrialist before dying. While the three brothers discuss how to fulfil their father's wishes, the sister lists for them the disastrous consequences that would follow: disease; marine pollution; deforestation; the destruction of the landscape; pollution of skies and rivers... The Inheritance tells of the greed of those who hold economic power, and reminds us that silence and inaction amount to complicity. With minimal text, this powerful story is told primarily through Armin Greder's distinctive illustrations that challenge the reader to question the status quo and fight for the future. |
| 1019912 | Inheritance: A visual poem Acevedo, Elizabeth & Pippins, Andrea (ill) | Quill Tree Books | 2022 | 9780062931948 | A beautiful adaptation of Elizabeth Acevedo's famous spoken-word poem with captivating illustrations. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1019775 | Ink girls Nijkamp, Marieke & Bi, Sylvia (ill) | HarperCollins US | 2023 | 9780063027107 | A beautiful illustrated graphic novel that follows Cinzia - a printer's apprentice - as she tries to prove her mentor, Mestra Aronne, has been wrongfully imprisoned. She crosses paths with Elena, the daughter of nobles who force her to remain hidden away, and the two become unexpected allies. This is a powerful story of friendship and explores the power of individuals making a change to make the world a better place. |
| 4869 | Instructions for a second-hand heart Murray, Tamsyn | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2016 | 9781474906500 | Jonny has a faulty heart and his time is running out. Niamh has just lost her twin brother in a tragic accident. As their fates collide, soon Jonny is on the mend, but desperate to know more about his donor. When he tracks down Niamh, he only intends to find out about her brother, the first owner of his heart; but he doesn't plan on falling in love...A stunning, tear-jerking novel about grief, guilt, and the unpredictability of love. |
| 1209972 | Internment Ahmed, Samira | Atom Publishing | 2019 | 9780349003344 | Set in a horrifying 'fifteen minutes in the future' United States, seventeen-year-old Layla Amin is forced into an internment camp for Muslim-Americans along with her parents. With the help of newly-made friends also trapped within the camp, her boyfriend on the outside, and an unexpected alliance, Layla begins a journey to fight for freedom, leading a revolution against the internment camp's Director and his guards. Heart-racing and emotional, Internment questions the imaginary boundaries that separate us and challenges readers to fight the complicit silence that exists in our society today. |
| 660635 | Into the crooked place Christo, Alexandra | Bonnier Publishing Australia | 2019 | 9781471408441 | The Crooked place is Creije, a city built on the black market trade of magic, where buskers sell their charms and potions to customers yearning for the true magic that no longer exists because of the murder of Crafters. Tavia is one such busker, and along with Wesley, second only to the Kingpin, they must save their city from a sinister magic that has hit the streets. They team up with two other crooks, Karam and Saxony, and together they must defeat the Kingpin who will plunge their city into chaos and darkness. And perhaps new magic exists after all, perhaps Crafters are closer than they think. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1096544 | Into the mouth of the wolf Gough, Erin | Hardie Grant Children's Publishing | 2024 | 9781760507558 | Dear Iris, If all goes well I will be in touch by this evening. If you hear nothing, contact Glassy Bay International Travellers' Hostel and ask after me. Use our real names. Your Mama xxx Missing people. Mysterious deaths. A growing attraction between two girls caught up in the search for the truth. Somehow, they're all connected. But in order to find out how - and in order to even meet each other - Iris and Lena will have to go into the mouth of the wolf... LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Erin Gough read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website! Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#into-the-mouth-of-the-wolf-erin-gough |
| 8009 | Into the volcano O'Meara, Donna | Kids can press | 2005 | 9781553376934 | Volcano researcher and photographer Donna O'Meara describes what it is like to be right there when a volcano erupts and hot lava, scalding steam and acidic ash are falling all around you. |
| 4706 | Into the white: Scott's Antarctic odyssey Grochowicz, Joanna | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760293659 | This is the story of Robert Falcon Scott's Terra Nova expedition to Antarctica and the memorable characters, who with a band of shaggy ponies and savage dogs, follow a man they trust into the unknown. Battling storms at sea, impenetrable pack ice, man-eating whales, crevasses, blizzards, bad food, extreme temperatures, and equal measures of hunger, agony and snow blindness, the team pushes on against all odds. But will the weather hold? Will their rations be adequate? How will they know when they get there? And who invited the Norwegians? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1217606 | Into the wild Lawrence, Hayley | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761522116 | There are places in the world so remote, that if you get lost, you may never be found. Olive, Ted, Knox, Birdie and Silas enter a challenge to survive in the wild, without technology. Their stage? The majestic Blue Mountains. Working as a team, they must read maps, build fires, camp and trek through the most dangerous of terrain, in subzero temperatures. But when the teenagers are split over a decision to climb a dangerous rock, disaster strikes. And in their quest for survival, one of them makes an unforgivable choice. With catastrophic consequences. Nobody is blameless. And they may not all make it home. But those who do, may never forgive each other. |
| 46876 | Into white silence Eaton, Anthony | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741663259 | During the winter of 1922, the Exploration Vessel, Raven, became trapped in the Antarctic icepack, entombing the twenty-eight men aboard. The book tells their story of living on the ice, their ambition, courage, madness and, ultimately, their hope. It captures the terrible, fascinating beauty of Antarctica, both as it was then and as it is today. |
| 4305 | Intruder Bongers, Christine | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780857983763 | Fourteen year old Kat Jones' life has been on hold since the death of her mother. When Kat is woken by an intruder looming over her bed, she is saved by her neighbour, Edwina, whom she believes betrayed her dying mother. And Kat certainly doesn't want Hercules, the world's ugliest guard dog, in her life. But, to stop the prowler, Kat will need to accept Edwina's help, develop friendships and learn to trust again. |
| 40871 | Invention of Hugo Cabret, The Selznick, Brian | Scholastic US | 2007 | 9780439813785 | Hugo is an orphan, clock keeper and thief, living in a Parisian railway station at the turn of the nineteenth century. The story, in words and pictures, includes the invention of the earliest moving pictures and automatons. A hidden message from a dead father is the key to this spellbinding mystery. |
| 20526 | Invisible hero, The Fensham, Elizabeth | University of Queensland Press | 2011 | 9780702238901 | Philip has spent his whole life feeling invisible. Macca is a good all rounder, a sportsman and scholar who strives to be like his father. When their class is asked to keep diaries about heroes and villains, his class learn they are close to home and come in many disguises. |
| 3923 | Invisible war, the Wild, Ailsa & Hutchings, Ben (ill) | Scale free network | 2016 | 9780992587253 | While treating a patient with dysentery, Sister Annie Barnaby encounters a strain of lethal bacteria. As the invaders journey deep into her gut, the resident microbes must fight to survive and Annie's life hangs in the balance. Enter the phage, a deadly viral predator, ready to wage war to protect their host. Created by an expert team of scientists, artists, educators, writers and historians, The Invisible war is a story like no other. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 9319 | Iron in the blood: convicts and commandants in colonial Australia Tucker, Alan | Omnibus Books | 2002 | 9781862914247 | Australia's colourful, violent convict past vividly recreated to show that prison settlements were some of the most brutal places in the world. The darker side of our history raises many questions about crime, punishment, use and abuse of power. |
| 774372 | Iron raven, The Kagawa, Julie | Harlequin | 2021 | 9781867208327 | Robin Goodfellow. Puck. Prankster, joker, raven, fool, King Oberon's right-hand jester from A Midsummer Night's Dream. The legends are many, but the truth will now be known as never before, as Puck finally tells his own story and faces a threat to the lands of Faery and the human world unlike any before. With the Iron Queen Meghan Chase and her prince consort, Puck's longtime rival Ash, and allies old and new by his side, Puck begins a fantastical and dangerous adventure not to be missed or forgotten. Filled with myths and faery lore, romance and unfathomable dangers, |
| 1174896 | Is my phone reading my mind? Agnew, Dr. Matt & Thomson, Hana Kinoshita (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781761180446 | When you think of artificial intelligence, you might imagine a walking, talking robot..or you might think of a giant computer that wants to take over the world. But the reality is that AI is a brilliant human invention found in nearly every modern device from our computers to our cars. Find out more and about the pros and cons of an AI world. |
| 213 | Island of the blue dolphins O'Dell, Scott | Puffin Australia | 1966 | 9780140302684 | Set in the 1800s, this is a story of a girl's survival on a deserted island. |
| 95507 | Island, The Greder, Armin | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741752663 | One morning, a man is found on the beach by the people of an island. Although the islanders fear the outsider and want to send him back into the ocean, the fisherman convinces them that they have a responsibility to save him from death. A powerful look at how people cope with differences and the notion of a group mentality in dealing with a situation. |
| 2353 | Islands of Chaldea, The Jones, Diana Wynne | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2014 | 9780007549207 | Aileen is convinced she'll never become as magical as her Aunt Beck. But when her wise woman aunt is set a seemingly impossible rescue mission, Aileen soon realises she might be more special than she thought. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 676551 | It sounded better in my head Kenwood, Nina | Text Publishing Co | 2019 | 9781925773910 | When her parents announce their impending separation, Natalie can't understand why no one is fighting or at least mildly upset. And now that Zach and Lucy, her two best friends, have fallen in love, she's feeling slightly miffed and decidedly awkward. Where does she fit in now? And what has happened to the version of her life that played out like a TV show - with just the right amount of banter, pining and meaningful looks? Nothing is going according to plan. But then an unexpected romance comes along and shakes things up even further. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above. |
| 5896 | It's elementary: putting the crackle into chemistry Winston, Robert | Dorling Kindersley | 2007 | 9781405318570 | Everything you see and touch is made of one or more of the over ninety discovered elements like oxygen, platinum and ytterbium. This book is packed with things to learn and explore and the extraordinary ways in which the elements affect our lives. |
| 846177 | It's not you, it's me Williams, Gabrielle | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526078 | Holly Fitzgerald has inexplicably woken up inside the body of an LA teenager called trinity Byrne in 1980 - trapping Trinity in Holly's forty year old body back in Melbourne 2020. Mind. Officially. Blown. Holly finds herself navigating a brand new body, family and cute boy next door - not to mention rock band that might just make it, and potential kidnapper. Meanwhile, lies intersect with truth, hurtling both Holly and Trinity towards a dangerous fate as the connections between them grow deeper and stranger than either of them could have ever imagined. " |
| 864867 | Jack of spades Masson, Sophie | Eagle Books | 2017 | 9780994528001 | It's May 1910 and 16 year old Linda Duke has just received a strange message: a playing card, the Jack of Spades, in an envelope that was sent from Paris, where her widowed father, Professor Charles Duke, a noted but impractical Shakespearean scholar, has gone on a research trip. In the code devised by her late French mother Madeleine, who was a dedicated card-player, 'Jack of Spades' means treachery and danger. Her father knows that. But it is not his handwriting on the envelope. Linda is convinced he is in great danger, and being both brave and determined, decides to set out immediately to Paris to look for him. |
| 846119 | Jacqueline: A soldier's daughter Ober, Pierre-Jacques & Ober, Jules | Ford Street Publishing | 2021 | 9781925804911 | When Jacqueline was a little girl living in France, World War 2 began. Her father is sent to fight while her mother becomes brave and fierce. She protects her little girl and tries to keep the family together and strong. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 40633 | Jaguar warrior Fussell, Sandy | Walker Books | 2010 | 9781921529290 | Atl has been a Temple slave for six years but now he is imprisoned in a box, waiting to be sacrificed to the Serpent-Sun god. When the Spanish lords attack the temple, Ichtaca releases Atl to run to the next town to ask for help. Now he is free, Atl must decide whether to deliver the message or save himself. |
| 11438 | Jake and Lily Spinelli, Jerry | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2012 | 9780060281359 | A story told from two points of view: Jake, then Lily, telling two sides to similar events. They know that together they are a powerful force, but that they have to learn how to stand alone as well. |
| 5462 | Jake Atlas and the hunt for the feathered god Jones, Rob Lloyd & Antonsson, Petur (ill) | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406377712 | Jake Atlas and his family are on the run. They're on a mission to stop the mysterious People of the Snake from hiding the secret of humankind. But the international police are chasing Jake and his family through one of the jungles of Honduras - one of the most dangerous places in the world. Can they make it out alive and discover the hidden mystery of human kind? |
| 9323 | Jake's orphan Brooke, Peggy | Simon & Schuster | 2001 | 9780743427036 | Young orphan, Tree, fervently wishes to set up a home for himself and his brother away from the orphanage in this story about identity, belonging and the transfiguring power of love. |
| 53291 | Jameela Khan, Rukhsana | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2010 | 9781742372594 | Jameela lives with her family in a war-torn village in Afghanistan. Life is hard but when her mother dies and her father remarries, Jameela has to face a greater horror. To survive she draws on the strong sense of self that her mother gave her. Based on the story of an actual devout Muslim girl and life in post-Taliban Afghanistan. |
| 1304854 | Jane Austen's Pride and prejudice: Abridged for young readers Landman, Tanya & Austen, Jane | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781529501322 | When two wealthy young men move to the neighbourhood, Mrs Bennet -- mother to five unmarried daughters -- is thrilled. Surely it is only a matter of time before one of her girls is snapped up! But the course of love does not always run smooth. While Jane and Mr Bingley seem destined for one another, there are those who would wish it otherwise; while Elizabeth and Mr Darcy do not seem destined for one another, somehow their paths must always cross. Then there are Lydia and Kitty, the silliest and vainest of the Bennet sisters, keen to attract the wickedly attractive Mr Wickham and his military comrades. Love is in the air - but where will it all end?? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 592795 | Jane Doe and the cradle of all worlds Lachlan, Jeremy | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2018 | 9781760501815 | When a fierce quake strikes the remote island of Bluehaven, and her father disappears, Jane Doe is thrown headfirst into an epic quest to bring him home. But this ain't no ordinary rescue mission. Her father is lost in a place between worlds; a dangerous labyrinth of shifting rooms, infernal booby traps and secret gateways. And Jane has to find him fast, because someone else is searching for him, too. A man who knows her father's secrets. A man who has an army. With a pyromaniac named Violet and the enigmatic Hickory by her side, Jane is about to discover that this adventure is even bigger on the inside than it looks .. |
| 215 | Jane Eyre Bronte, Charlotte | Penguin | 2002 | 9780140439304 | Only nine when she is orphaned and sent to live with an unloving aunt, Jane spends miserable, lonely years at boarding school before becoming a governess in the home of a mysterious man. A classic story. |
| 4002 | Jane, the fox and me Britt, Fanny & Arsenault, Isabelle (ill) & Morelli, Christelle (trans) & Ouriou, Susan (trans) | Walker Books | 2014 | 9781406353044 | Helene has been inextricably ostracised by the girls who were once her friends. Her school life is full of whispers and lies. Her loving mother is too tired to help. Helene has one consolation, Charlotte Bronte's Jayne Eyre, where she can identify with Jane's tribulations and ignore her tormentors. On school camp, an encounter with a fox brings hope for Helene, and then comes Geraldine. |
| 669447 | January stars, The Constable, Kate | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760525026 | When twelve-year-old Clancy and her fourteen-year-old sister, Tash, kidnap their grandfather from his aged-care home, it's almost by accident. But they soon set out on an intrepid adventure, in search of a better place for Pa to live. Along the way they face many challenges, and Clancy becomes increasingly sure that their journey is being guided. Is the ghost of their grandmother accompanying them on their quest? |
| 58097 | Jarvis 24 Metzenthen, David | Penguin Books Australia | 2009 | 9780143010043 | We first meet Marc Jarvis and his best mate, Travis, as stereotypical sports-playing, girl-ogling sixteen year olds. As the book unfolds, we see beyond the exterior as Marc makes sense of his feelings and attitudes. His views about people, loyalty, friendship, love and its loss are challenged. |
| 8623 | Jatta Hale, Jenny | Scholastic Australia | 2009 | 9781741693126 | Jatta is a princess in the kingdom of Alteeda but her life is no fairytale. When Jatta was three, her mother was slain by werewolves and, now, at fourteen, she has discovered that the werewolves left their curse on her and she will transform into a wolf on the full moon. With her brother, she bravely resists a dark lord and grows in confidence, resourcefulness and bravery to overcome the evil. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 18803 | Joan of Arc: the story of Jehanne Darc Wilkinson, Lili | Black Dog Books | 2006 | 9781921167003 | Through a mixture of narrative and historical sources, the extraordinary life of Joan of Arc is detailed from her childhood in the small village of Doremy to her eventual burning at the stake, at the tender age of 18. The story follows Joan's quest to have the Dauphin crowned as the true King of France and the English invaders defeated. |
| | Joel Billings series Hawke, Rosanne | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 216 | Josh Southall, Ivan | University of Queensland Press | 2006 | 9780702235634 | Josh, a poet, visits his great aunt for a week in a rural town and has to endure some strange treatment. |
| 46385 | Journey to Eureka, A Greenwood, Kerry | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2005 | 9780733617676 | Llewelyn Jones is a twelve year old boy who journeys to Australia to find his convict mother and uncle. He ends up on the goldfields at the time of The Eureka Stockade. Some strong language used in context. |
| 8000 | Journey to the centre of the earth Verne, Jules | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141321042 | An ancient book is opened by the eccentric Professor Lidenbrock and his life, and that of his nephew, Axel, is changed for ever. An old piece of paper has tumbled from the book, a priceless parchment that will lead them on a terrifying journey to find what lies at the centre of the Earth. |
| 2421 | Journey to the River Sea Ibbotson, Eva | Pan MacMillan | 2001 | 9780330397155 | Miss Minton and Maia are sailing to the city of Manaus, a thousand miles up the mighty Amazon river. Maia, a lonely orphan, is excited to be starting a new life with relatives she's never met. Mysterious Miss Minton has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. But years of living in the jungle have sent Maia's uncle and aunt slightly mad and their twin daughters are definitely not like normal children. |
| 1183 | Joyous and Moonbeam Yaxley, Richard | Omnibus Books | 2013 | 9781862919877 | Ashleigh is fifteen and her life makes her angry. Through a school project she meets Joyous, whose positive take on life helps to teach her to 'work things round a little'. |
| 657280 | JT: The making of a total legend: YA edition Thurston, Jonathan & Phelps, James | HarperCollins Australia | 2019 | 9781460758618 | As a young Brisbane kid, Johnathan Thurston was written off as too skinny, too slow and too wild to play rugby league professionally. But he defied the odds to become one of the game's greatest players. In this young readers' edition of his bestselling autobiography, follow his journey from his debut with the Canterbury Bulldogs in 2003, to State of Origin star, and to total legend of the game. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 21518 | Julius & the soul-catcher Hehir, Tim | Text Publishing Co | 2016 | 9781925240177 | It's 1838 and London is gripped by orchid fever. Charles Darwin's diary turns up in Higgins's bookshop, closely followed by two ex-body snatchers and a peculiar fellow with small teeth. Julius wonders what's in the diary and whether it has something to do with the terrifying painting of an orchid it contains. Before he knows it, Julius is spinning through time and parallel realms in a race to rid London of the soul-catcher and a future too horrible to imagine. |
| 2364 | Julius & the watchmaker Hehir, Tim | Text Publishing Co | 2013 | 9781922079732 | When Julius Higgins isn't running from Crimper McCreedy and his gang of bullies, he's working in his grandfather's bookshop in Ironmonger Lane. That is, until Jack Springheel, a mysterious clock collector, appears looking for the fabled diary of John Harrison, the greatest watchmaker of all time. Julius becomes a thief and a runaway, and makes a deal with Springheel that he will live to regret. And, all before he finds out that Harrison's diary is really an instruction manual for making a time machine. |
| | Jumpman series Valentine, James | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 218 | Jungle book, The Kipling, Rudyard | Wordsworth Editions Ltd | 2002 | 9781853261190 | In this classic story, Mowgli, the human child lost in the jungle, escapes the vicious jaws of the growling tiger, Shere Khan, and is adopted by Father Wolf and the pack. Lovable old Baloo the Bear and Bagheera the Panther teach Mowgli the law of the jungle and his extraordinary adventures begin. |
| 587817 | Just a girl French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9781460753095 | Set in Judea in 71 AD, this is the story of 14 year old Judith who lives a simple life in her rural village. But one night the Roman army invades, stealing food, killing and enslaving the villagers and destroying her home. Saved by the foresight of her great grandmother, Rabba, the pair escape along with her younger sister and a stubborn goat. They hide in a cave and Judith must use all her skills to provide for her remaining family during the long, icy winter to come. Rabba has much wisdom and many stories to share, but the one Judith and her surprise guest, Caius, want to learn more about is the story of Maryiam, Rabba's extraordinary friend and mother of Jesus. Like Judith, Maryiam of Nazareth was never 'just a girl'. |

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|--------|---|--|------|---------------|---|
| | Just a girl series series Caro, Jane | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 2456 | Just Henry Magorian, Michelle | Egmont Childrens | 2008 | 9781405227575 | Set in post-war Britain in 1949, fourteen year old Henry has no friends and misses his war-hero father. He resents his stepfather and stepsister, and escapes by going to the cinema, his passion. When Henry develops an old camera film, he uncovers a mystery and events spiral until Henry's life resembles the drama of the big screen. |
| 992258 | Just like everyone else Hagger-Holt, Sarah | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2023 | 9781801315784 | Thirteen-year-old Aidan can't breathe in his crowded family home. Running is his only respite from four loud sisters and involved, touchy-feely parents. Then his mum makes an announcement: she's having another baby. Only, this time it's not for her; she will be a surrogate for gay couple Justin and Atif. Aidan is incensed. As if his family wasn't embarrassing - or big - enough already. But he's also scared. Aidan thinks he might be gay, and he's really struggling to accept this possibility. He's definitely not ready to come out, but what if being around Justin and Atif exposes him as gay? If only he was just like everyone else. |
| 129366 | Just soldiers Kelly, Darryl | ANZAC Day Commemoration Committee QLD Incorporated | 2004 | 9780958162548 | Stories of ordinary Australians doing extraordinary things during the Great War, 1914-1918. In 1914, Australia had a population of fewer than 5 million, yet 300,000 from all walks of life volunteered to fight. Through these stories, based on fact, the author has endeavoured to capture the essence of those who served Australia. As in life, not all were heroes. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 656010 | Kat Wolfe investigates St John, Lauren & Guo, Beidi (ill) | Pan MacMillan | 2018 | 9781509871223 | After a break-in at their London home, Kat Wolfe and her veterinary-surgeon mum decide it's time to move to the country. Dr Wolfe's new job in idyllic Bluebell Bay comes with a condition: they have to adopt Tiny, a huge, near-wild Savannah, who resists Kat's best attempts at cat whispering. When she starts a pet-sitting agency to make pocket money, her troubles escalate. The owner of her first client, an Amazon parrot, vanishes from his fortified, gadget-filled mansion, leaving a half-packed suitcase and a mysterious parcel. The only person who shares Kat's conviction that he's the victim of foul play is Harper Lamb, the American daughter of a palaeontology professor. A language and coding whizz, Harper is laid up with two broken legs thanks to her racehorse. What starts out as mystery-solving holiday fun quickly turns deadly for Wolfe and Lamb. When all clues point to an army base, can they count on their unruly animal friends to save the day - and their lives? |
| 617008 | Kat Wolfe takes the case St John, Lauren & Deamo, Daniel (ill) | MacMillan | 2019 | 9781509874217 | When a landslide on the Jurassic Coast reveals a rare 'dragon' dinosaur, best friends Kat Wolfe and Harper Lamb are thrilled, especially when stars and scientists come flocking to sleepy Bluebell Bay. But after they begin investigating a suspicious death, events spiral quickly out of control for detectives Wolfe and Lamb. Worse still, Kat's wild cat is in trouble. Can they solve the mystery - and save the cat's life - before it's too late? |
| 48010 | Keep your hair on Vercoe, Elizabeth | Black Dog Books | 2003 | 9781876372187 | Drawn from the author's life experiences, this is the story of sixteen year old Vess who is returning to school after her cancer treatment. She is trying to stay positive under very difficult circumstances. |
| 1209700 | Keeper of the archives Stringer, Lynne | Rhiza Press | 2024 | 9781761111563 | After their home in Sendirian City burns to cinders, Eden gets a job working in the government's archives to try and support her family and protect them from her abusive, alcoholic father. But the city is threatened by crime boss Kore and his henchman Izrod who is targeting government employees. Is anywhere safe for Eden and her family and what does the future hold for the city itself? |
| 9277 | Keeper of the Isis light, The Hughes, Monica | Aladdin Publishing | 2000 | 9780689833908 | A contemporary love story between an Earthling and a resident of the planet Isis. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Keeper of the Lost Cities series (NEW series 2026) Messenger, Shannon | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to 10 more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 64569 | Keepers' daughter, The Arbuthnott, Gill | Chicken House | 2009 | 9781905294947 | Ten years ago, the leader of the Shadowmen killed many of the Keepers, the teachers and bearers of ancient knowledge threatening his barbaric rule. Rebellion is flaring again and Nyssa and her uncle, descendants of the Keepers, must flee in search of the other half of a strange tattoo on Nyssa's skull. |
| 2488 | Keepinitreal Henderson, Don | Scholastic Australia | 2009 | 9781862917705 | When Kid Kabula decides to ride his bike at top speed through the centre of the local mall, he doesn't realise how dangerous that's going to be. Fats Charvetto, leader of the meanest bikie gang in town, wants to know exactly who knocked him flying. Stevie, the local refundable collector, dobs in the Kid and a turf war starts. |
| 15741 | Kevin the troll MacLeod, Doug | Puffin Australia | 2007 | 9780143302698 | Kevin, the troll, is crafty and cranky, mysterious and moody and he wants children pie for his seven-hundredth birthday. When trolls and humans make contact, amazing events occur. |
| 1332955 | Key to Rome, The Masson, Sophie | Eagle Books | 2023 | 9780645378856 | Ancient Roman province of Britannia, AD 84. Twelve-year-old orphan Livia has to keep a promise made to her late father: to take a mysterious key to her estranged uncle Marcus. She sets out with the key, her old horse Pegasus and her father's doctoring kit, only to learn that her uncle has left for a town further north. By the time she reaches it, her uncle has gone, and she can't find out where-until a boy named Mato informs her that he knows. But he refuses to tell her unless she takes him with her. As the two young people journey on the trail of Livia's uncle, they start to suspect that the key holds a very dangerous secret. And now Livia and Mato must keep their wits about them, in a deadly game of cat and mouse. But figuring out who is friend, and who is foe, is the greatest challenge of all... |
| | Keys to the kingdom series Nix, Garth | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1337859 | Kick flip vol. 1 Lapinski, L.D & Hanning, Logan (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2025 | 9781510112537 | At school, Elliot gets bullied for being 'different to other girls' whereas at the skate park, everyone welcomes Elliot - presuming they're male - but neither label feels right. As Eliot's love of skateboarding and friendships grow, their worlds collide at a sports expo where the school netball team and skate crew are competing. Can Elliot find the courage to share what they've learned about non-binary identity? Will best friend Jess or the skateboarding crew accept Elliot for who they are? And what about Ryan, the skater who Elliot has been feeling increasingly close to? |
| 37663 | Kidnapped Stevenson, Robert Louis | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2009 | 9780141326023 | When young David Balfour's father dies and leaves him in poverty, he tracks down his Uncle Ebenezer to seek his inheritance. But, his uncle is a mean, nasty man with a dark family secret. David finds himself in terrible danger when he is kidnapped and taken prisoner on board a ship bound for slavery. |
| 581516 | Killer T Muchamore, Robert | Hot Key Books | 2018 | 9781471407505 | Harry and Charlie are teenagers whose lives are shaped by a society that's shifting around them. He is a lonely Brit in his first term at a Las Vegas high school. She is an unlikely friend, who gets accused of mixing a batch of explosives that blew up a football player. The two of them are drawn together at a time when gene editing technology is starting to explode. With a lab in the garage anyone can beat cancer, enhance their brain to pass exams, or tweak a few genes for that year-round tan and perfect beach body. But in the wrong hands, cheap gene editing is the most deadly weapon in history. Killer T is a synthetic virus with a ninety per-cent mortality rate, and the terrorists who created it want a billion dollars before they'll release a vaccine. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1359349 | Killing at the box office, A Westmoreland, Paul | Penguin | 2025 | 9780241732793 | Solve the puzzle. Save the world. Simple, right? Step into the shoes of Arlo Banks, and return to a world of secrets and spies. This time, he's on the trail of a shadowy group determined to stop the young sleuth in his tracks. From the bright lights of Hollywood to the snowy alps, from prison breaks to car chases, Arlo must use all his skill and cunning to solve murders, catch killers and - just maybe - stop the end of the world. You choose what path you take, what puzzles you solve, and what answers you choose in this interactive high-stakes mystery. |
| 750732 | Killings at Kingfisher Hill, The Hannah, Sophie | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2020 | 9780008264536 | Renowned detective Hercule Poirot has been secretly summoned to an exclusive estate to solve the mystery of who killed Frank Devonport. With 2 confessions and an unexpected second body, Poirot will have to piece together a tangled web of clues before the real killer can be identified. |
| 220 | Kim Kipling, Rudyard | Penguin | 2000 | 9780141183633 | Kim is an eleven year old Irish boy who is orphaned and lives amongst the poor on the streets in India. |
| 221 | Kimberley warrior: the story of Jandamurra Nicholson, John | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1997 | 9781863738613 | The story of Jandamurra and the struggle for justice by the Bunuba peoples in the late 19th century. |
| 45678 | King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table Green, Roger Lancelyn | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141321011 | When Arthur releases the sword in the stone, he and his brave knights undertake many quests, including the search for the Holy Grail. Lots of adventures involving damsels in distress, fierce jousts, sword fights, battles, tournaments and miracles. |
| 9260 | King Arthur and the knights of the round table Williams, Marcia | Walker Books | 1997 | 9780744547924 | The segments cover the classic tales of King Arthur and his origin; Excalibur and the Lady of the Lake; Morgan le Fay; Guinevere and the round table; Sir Lancelot of the Lake; Sir Lancelot's First Quest thwarting a dragon; Princess Elaine; Sir Galahad, the son of Sir Lancelot; 'Camelot; and the Grail Quests of Sir Lancelot, Sir Percival and Sir Galahad. |
| 222 | King of shadows Cooper, Susan | Penguin | 2000 | 9780141307992 | Nat joins a Shakespearean theatre troupe and is transported back in time to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. |
| 2114 | King's fool, The Holohan, Amanda | ABC Books | 2006 | 9780733318863 | Perry Brightfield discovers her true heritage as the saviour of a threatened fantasy realm, and is groomed for her role by becoming a court jester. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 2508 | Kingdom by the sea, The Westall, Robert | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2009 | 9780007301416 | A sensitive and well-told story set in WW2 about a boy who's home is bombed by the Germans. Thinking his family is dead he runs away, and in what becomes a desperate journey of survival, Harry must use wisdom and instinct to survive. |
| 48626 | Kiss the dust Laird, Elizabeth | Pan MacMillan | 2017 | 9781509826728 | Kiss the Dust is the compelling story of the flight of a Kurdish family fleeing Iraq. Twelve year old Tara tells the tale as her family rush into the mountains carrying everything they can. As refugees, they struggle through camps always wondering what will come next, where will they go and how they will settle as a family again. Tara's life is turned upside down as she struggles with the pressures of helping manage a myriad of problems. |
| 17120 | Knightley & son Gavin, Rohan | Bloomsbury | 2014 | 9781408838914 | Darkus Knightley's father was London's top private detective until he went into a coma four years ago. Now, he has woken up to discover his thirteen year old son has inherited the family talent. With a bestselling book seemingly making people do terrible things, and clues pointing to the involvement of a shadowy organisation known as the Combination, Alan needs the help of his tweed-wearing, brainiac son to investigate. |
| 22067 | Know it all Baines, Francesca (ed) | Dorling Kindersley | 2010 | 9781405355339 | If you love facts, information, records and trivia, this book will tell you everything you ever wanted to know, with its lists of the weirdest beetles, the fastest jet aircraft, the scariest sharks, the least intelligent dinosaurs and much more. |
| 91827 | Kokoda track: 101 days Macinnis, Peter | Black Dog Books | 2007 | 9781876372965 | A fascinating account of the battle for the Kokoda Track in 1942 where 550 men of the 39th Militia Battalion slowed, and eventually stopped, the advance of 6000 experienced Japanese troops across the massive Owen Stanley Ranges. |
| 127398 | Kokoda: Teen edition FitzSimons, Peter | Hachette Children's Books | 2016 | 9780734417435 | Conditions on the track were hellish - rain was constant, the terrain close to impassable, food and ammunition supplies were practically non-existent and the men constantly battled malaria and dysentery, as well as the enemy. Kokoda was a defining battle for Australia, in which a small force of young, ill-equipped Australians engaged a highly experienced and hitherto unstoppable Japanese force on a narrow, precarious jungle track - and defeated them. |
| 223 | Kon-Tiki expedition, The Heyerdahl, Thor | Simon & Schuster | 1990 | 9780671726522 | The story of a four thousand, three hundred nautical mile expedition by raft across the Pacific Ocean. |
| 9254 | Kraken, The Crew, Gary & McBride, Marc (ill) | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780734401823 | Through his determination and imagination, Christopher, who is blind, defeats the Kraken, the beast of doubt, and helps his cynical sister who is unwilling to see how things can be. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 17476 | Kurs of Atlantis, The Brooks, Karen R | Lothian Books | 2004 | 9780734407269 | Caz and Simon are on a quest to find the lost city of Atlantis. They encounter many perils and adventures. When they think they have survived the very worst that could happen, they realise that an even greater danger awaits them. |
| 49045 | Lab, The Heath, Jack | Pan MacMillan | 2007 | 9780330422314 | Agent Six, the strongest, fastest, most invincible agent in the Deck, is about to live his worst nightmare. Six is the product of an illegal genetic experiment of the Lab's some sixteen years ago. When the Deck begins investigating the Lab, he walks a tightrope between his two worlds. Life spirals out of control and leads to capture, possible torture and revelation. |
| 9270 | Lady of Shalott, The Tennyson, Alfred Lord | Oxford University Press | 1999 | 9780192723710 | This poem inspired many great writers and artists. |
| 224 | Lake at the end of the world, The MacDonald, Caroline | Penguin | 1995 | 9780140379389 | Two children are living in a community in an underground cave because The Counsellor has dropped toxic waste on the earth above. |
| 18096 | Landscape with invisible hand Anderson, M. T | Walker Books | 2017 | 9780763699505 | When the vuvv first landed, it came as a surprise to aspiring artist Adam and the rest of planet Earth, but not necessarily an unwelcome one. Can it really be called an invasion when the vuvv generously offered free advanced technology and cures for every illness imaginable? As it turns out, yes. With his parents' jobs replaced by alien tech and no money for food, clean water, or the vuvv's miraculous medicine, Adam and his girlfriend, Chloe, have to get creative to survive. And since the vuvv crave anything they deem "classic" Earth culture (doo-wop music, still-life paintings of fruit, true love), recording 1950s-style dates for the vuvv to watch in a pay-per-minute format seems like a brilliant idea. But it's hard for Adam and Chloe to sell true love when they hate each other more with every passing episode. Soon enough, Adam must decide how far he's willing to go - and what he's willing to sacrifice - to give the vuvv what they want. |
| 1209855 | Language of dragons, A Williamson, S.F | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2025 | 9780008652296 | Set in London in 1923, in a class-based society where dragons and humans have co-existed since the Peace Agreement of 1866. Seventeen-year-old Vivien is intent on gaining an internship to study dragon languages. However, as protests erupt on the streets of London and Vivien's parents are suddenly arrested, Vivien finds herself in the middle of a civil war. So when she is offered a mysterious job in order to save her family, she grabs it, only to discover she has been recruited to uncover the secrets of a hidden dragon language. If she succeeds she will save her family. If she doesn't they will die. However, as she learns more about the society she lives in, Vivien must first decide which side she wants to fight for. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 18477 | Lantern, The Crew, Gary & Whatley, Bruce (ill) | Hachette Children's Books | 2005 | 9780733613005 | Aidan's father goes missing at sea. Aidan lights a lantern every night to help his father home. In the light of the lantern, Aidan sees what has happened in the past and this gives him hope for his father. |
| 3529 | Last Anzacs, The: lest we forget Stephens, Tony & Siewat, Steven | Intl Specialised Book Services | 2003 | 9781920731366 | The personal stories of the last eighteen surviving veterans of the Gallipoli campaign. Almost ninety years after the commencement of World War I, we still support a march in honour of the ANZACs and respect their spirit. |
| 846247 | Last beekeeper, The Turabi, Siya | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2021 | 9780008509552 | Pakistan 1974: The secret-wreathed trees of Harikaya have always called to Hassan. He knows if he doesn't find the last beekeeper and salvage a precious jar of his mythical black honey before the floods come, his mother will lose her sight. A historical novel of family, friendship and self-discovery exploring the power of choice in a changing world and love in communion with nature. |
| 1423333 | Last chance Joey Resce, Meredith | Wombat Books | 2025 | 9781761112614 | No phone, no wi-fi, no friends and no options. Expelled from three schools, Joey is sent to the country to live with his aunt. She asks him to help an old man recovering from an accident, and now he has a choice. It sounds like a crazy idea, but he chooses to help. What else is there to do, a million miles from anywhere? But when Joey meets Harry, he finds in him a friend - even if he's eighty-five. Maybe life when people trust you might be a good thing. As Joey's desire for acceptance grows, break-ins threaten the community and Joey's past starts to catch up with him. How can Joey turn his life around when his mistakes follow him everywhere he goes? And will he be there for Harry when he needs him? |
| 1089071 | Last comics on earth: Too many villains! Brallier, Max & Pruett, Joshua & Cooper, Jay (ill) & Holgate, Douglas (ill) | Farshore | 2024 | 9780008588274 | Jack, June, Quint, and Dirk have forgotten to write a promised sequel to their first Last Kids on earth Graphic Novel. While they hurriedly get to work, their superhero alter-egos make a startling discovery - supervillains do not come up with their own evil plans! Every supervillain scheme comes from the mind of a single, mysterious bad guy. Now, Jack, June, Quint, and Dirk's BIGGEST SEQUEL IN HISTORY has our superheroes in a mad-dash, puzzle-filled race across Apocalyptia to stop the BIGGEST EVIL PLAN IN HISTORY! How will they defeat the never-ending stream of villains and figure out who is behind the chaos? And will the sequel be finished in time? Join them and find out! |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1209800 | Last kids on Earth, The: the graphic novel Brallier, Max & Churilla, Brian (ill) | Farshore | 2024 | 9780008720292 | Jack is a 13 year old who is trying to survive the end of the world with zombie-monsters apocalypses. With the help from Jack and his mates you will be amazed by the adventure they will have! |
| 750981 | Last paper crane, The: A tale from Hiroshima Drewery, Kerry & Seki, Natsko (ill) | Hot Key Books | 2021 | 9781471408472 | 1945, Hiroshima: Ichiro is a teenage boy relaxing at home with his friend Hiro. Moments later they witness the blinding flash as the first nuclear bomb of WWII is dropped. Despite their wounds, the two boys set out to find Hiro's five-year-old sister Keiko in the devastated and blasted landscape. When Hiro is no longer able to continue, Ichiro promises Hiro he will take care of Keiko and get her to safety. But in the chaos, Ichiro loses her after setting off to find help. Seventy years later, this broken promise to his dying friend haunts the old man's fading years. Mizuki, his granddaughter, is determined to help him. As the Japanese legend goes, if you have the patience to fold 1,000 paper cranes, you will find your heart's desire; and it turns out her grandfather has only one more origami crane to fold... |
| 225 | Last shot, The Baillie, Allan | Scholastic Australia | 1997 | 9781862913165 | Steve is a brilliant basketball player with a conflict to solve involving family and his achievements. |
| 1446670 | Last word, The Tait, A.L. | Scholastic Australia | 2026 | 9781761646874 | There are two things Matilda Bell can count on: her best friend, Gemma, and being top of every class. But it's year 8, and everything has changed. Gemma has moved away, leaving Matilda all alone at school, and Will O'Connor has moved to town. Not only does Will disrupt every lesson - Matilda's pet hate - but he's somehow matching her grades with zero effort. If only Matilda could ignore him ... but Will gets under her skin in a way that no-one else ever has. When Will is forced to join the debating team, he and Matilda spend more time arguing with each other than winning debates. With their team losses mounting up, Gemma ignoring her calls and old enemies getting up to new tricks, Matilda feels like her life is out of control. Can Matilda find a way to work with Will so they can win as a team? Or will they end up hating each other in the process? |
| 14234 | Laurinda Pung, Alice | Black Inc | 2014 | 9781863956925 | Laurinda is an exclusive school for girls. At its secret core is the Cabinet, a trio of girls who wield power over their classmates and some of their teachers. Entering this world of wealth and secrets is fifteen year old Lucy Lam, a scholarship girl, who has sharp eyes and a shaky sense of self. As she watches the Cabinet at work, and is courted by them, Lucy finds herself in a battle for her identity and integrity. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Laws of magic, The series Pryor, Michael | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 9936 | Leaving home Michael, Jan | Andersen Press Ltd | 2008 | 9781842707784 | Set in South Africa, orphaned Sam has to leave his affluent life in the city, his computer, his trendy clothing and his pride, to live with his aunt in a village at the back of beyond. He has to sleep on the floor in a one-roomed hut, sharing with his aunt and cousins. Sam must work out where he belongs. |
| 23552 | Lee Raven: boy thief Corder, Zizou | Penguin | 2008 | 9780141383644 | Lee Raven, boy thief, has stolen something he really didn't mean to. Now he faces a perilous flight through London and the murky sewers below as he tries to escape capture. Lee has stolen the Book of Nebo, a book that has existed for thousands of years and tells every story and legend known to man. |
| 7059 | Legends of Moonie Jarl, The Jarls, Moonie (Wilf Reeves) & Wandi (Miller, Olga) (ill) | Indigenous Literacy Foundation | 2014 | 9780992478049 | The book tells the stories of the Butchulla people, the Indigenous people of Fraser Island and the Fraser Coast, Queensland. Published in 1964, it was the first Aboriginal children's book to be published and was written and designed by Butchulla siblings Moonie Jarl (Wilf Reeves) and Wandi (Olga Miller), both of whom have since passed away. The Legends of Moonie Jarl gives a deeper understanding and appreciation of Butchulla culture among the broader community, and contributes to community pride locally. |
| 92094 | Legends: battles and quests Horowitz, Anthony | MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330510165 | Some cultures believe there was a time when monsters and dragons roamed the earth and the gods walked among us. A time of blood, swords and furious battles, of legends, heroes, darkness and death, including human sacrifice. Myths and legends from around the world are told in gory and bloody detail. |
| 63528 | Legends: beasts and monsters Horowitz, Anthony | MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330510158 | In the cold, dead eyes of the Banshee, and the hissing, spitting fangs of the Gorgon, in the fiery breath of the dragon and the razor sharp claws of the Sphinx, there is a thirst for blood and a murderous hunger. But, it is a time of heroes and the teeth and claws of these beasts are no match for their lethal blades. |
| 855840 | Leonardo Da Vinci's life of invention Williams, Jake | Pavilion | 2022 | 9781843654988 | Discover the fascinating life of Leonardo Da Vinci and his many interests and talents. From the Mona Lisa to his flying machines, Da Vinci's work includes some of the most famous, and quirky, pieces in history. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 9202 | Leopard trail Laird, Elizabeth | Pan MacMillan | 1999 | 9780330371483 | when his family moves to Africa, Tom has mixed emotions until he spots a regal leopard outside his house. He quickly joins his new friends as they try to save the animal from being shot. |
| 655994 | Let me fix that for you Erlbaum, Janice | Farrar, Straus and Giroux | 2019 | 9780374308100 | Twelve-year-old Gladys Rand may not have many friends, but at least she has her empire. From her table at the back of the cafeteria, Glad arranges favors for her classmates in exchange for their friendship. She solves every problem, handles every situation, and saves every butt. But the jobs keep getting harder, and when Glad decides the problem that most needs fixing is her parents' relationship, she finds herself in way over her head. She'll have to call in all her favors and use all her skills to help the person who most needs it- herself- in this quirky, touching, and laugh-out-loud novel from Janice Erlbaum. |
| 9923 | Let me whisper you my story Simons, Moya | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2010 | 9780732288587 | Rachel is German and Jewish. With the outbreak of World War II, her life is changed. The family is forced to move from their comfortable home into cramped housing and, when the Nazis arrive, they don't know what is to become of them. But, Rachel's father gives her instructions that save her life. He also tells her not to speak. |
| 226 | Let the balloon go Southall, Ivan | Methuen | 1967 | 9780749703998 | John Sumner is a young boy crippled after contracting polio and growing up during World War I. He learns about taking risks and letting go to experience life. |
| 1019798 | Let's never speak of this again Williams, Megan | Text Publishing Co | 2023 | 9781922790392 | Life is pretty good for sixteen-year-old Abby. Okay, her grandma has dementia and she accidentally kissed her cousin's cousin on the weekend, so not everything is perfect. But everything is manageable with her best friend Ella by her side. The arrival of new girl Chloe and her inclusion in the friendship group throws up some challenges for established relationships but when tragedy strikes Ella's family, Abby has to re-evaluate her own feelings and work out what friendship really means. |
| 660619 | Letters to the Earth Morris, Jackie | HarperCollins US | 2020 | 9780008374440 | We are facing a global emergency. Temperatures are rising. Mass species extinction has begun. The time for denial is over. It is time to act. This book contains letters from all of us: parents and children; politicians and poets; actors and activists; songwriters and scientists. They are letters of love, loss, hope and action to a planet in crisis. They are the beginning of a new story. They are an invitation to act. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Liars series Heath, Jack | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 660613 | Library of lost things, The Namey, Laura Taylor | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2019 | 9781489287182 | Darcy Wells is a literary genius who has spent most of her time living in the world of her books. There, she escapes the real world of her mother's hoarding and pretends her life is simple and ordinary. When a new property manager becomes more active in the upkeep of their apartment complex suddenly her home hangs in the balance. While Darcy is struggling to survive beneath the weight of her mother's compulsive shopping, Asher Fleet, a former teen pilot with an unexpectedly shattered future, walks into the bookstore where she works and straight into her heart. After spending her whole life trying to keep people out, something about Asher makes Darcy want to open up. Securing her own happily-ever-after will mean she'll need to stop hiding and start living her own truth - even when it's messy. |
| 16445 | Life and times of Gracie Faltrain, The Crowley, Cath | Pan MacMillan | 2004 | 9781760784263 | Goal-kicking, super-girl, soccer star. Gracie Faltrain is on her way. To the National Championships. To Nick. To everything she's ever wanted. Or so she thinks. Gracie's about to find out that life is messy. And hard. And beautiful. There's a shadow falling across her mum and dad. Her best friend is about to leave town. She's trying desperately to be with the right boy, on the edge of falling in love with the wrong boy. She's rushing headlong into screwing up, making up, trying to keep it all together. Welcome to the life and times of Gracie Faltrain. |
| 9281 | Life bytes Evans, Alwyn (ed.) | Fremantle Press | 2002 | 9781863683821 | A compilation of prize-winning stories from the annual "'Tim Winton Young Writers Competition'". |
| 864492 | Life doesn't frighten me Angelou, Maya & Basquiat, Jean-Michel (ill) | Harry N Abrams Inc | 2017 | 9781419727481 | Maya Angelou's brave, defiant poem celebrates the courage within each of us, young and old. From the scary thought of panthers in the park to the unsettling scene of a new classroom, fearsome images are summoned and dispelled by the power of faith in ourselves. Angelou's strong words are matched by the daring vision of artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, whose childlike style reveals the powerful emotions and fanciful imaginings of childhood. Together, Angelou's words and Basquiat's paintings create a place where everyone may experience their own fearlessness. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 846196 | Life on our planet, A Attenborough, David | Penguin | 2020 | 9781529108279 | The Earth is the most remarkable life-support system imaginable, constructed over millions of years. As biodiversity has declined the planet's stability has also. To restore our planet, we must restore biodiversity. We must rewind the world. |
| 660512 | Life-changing manga of tidying up, The Kondo, Marie & Uramoto, Yuko (ill) | Pan Macmillan London | 2017 | 9781529028355 | Marie Kondo presents the fictional story of Chiaki, a young woman in Tokyo who struggles with a cluttered apartment, messy love life, and lack of direction. After receiving a complaint from her attractive next-door neighbor about the sad state of her balcony, Chiaki gets Kondo to take her on as a client. Through a series of entertaining and insightful lessons, Kondo helps Chiaki get her home, and life, in order. This insightful, illustrated case study is perfect for people looking for a fun introduction to the KonMari Method of tidying up, as well as tried-and-true fans of Marie Kondo eager for a new way to think about what sparks joy. Featuring illustrations by award-winning manga artist Yuko Uramoto, this book also makes a great read for manga and graphic novel lovers of all ages. |
| 3391 | Lifespan of starlight Kalkipsakis, Thalia | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2015 | 9781742978710 | In a world where everything is monitored and controlled, the ability to time travel intrigues three teenagers. As they experiment to enhance the ability within themselves, they discover a few limitations. They can only go into the future and then must return to exactly the same spot. Perfecting their skill places them and others in extreme danger, the least of which is being discovered by the authorities. |
| 1423353 | Like, comment, subscribe? Ost, Kat | Wombat Books | 2025 | 9781761112577 | When her online baking platform starts to lose popularity and instead attracts critical comments about her appearance and age, fifteen-year-old kidfluencer, Becca starts to question the influencer life that has supported her family since she was a cute toddler. Can an unexpected friendship in an online writing community help her find the words and courage to find a path out from behind the camera and into real life? |
| 578075 | Limelight Raphael, Solli | Penguin Random House Australia | 2018 | 9780143793762 | Age is no barrier to creating poetry that inspires social change and positive action. Thirteen-year-old award-winning slam poet Solli Raphael is taking on the world - one word at a time. The future needs you and me to create equality across all levels of humanity - Solli. |

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|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Lintang series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Lionboy series Corder, Zizou | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 9225 | Lionheart: a journey of the human spirit Martin, Jesse | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9781865085708 | The inspirational sailing adventure of Jesse Martin's solo voyage around the world. |
| 230 | Lisdalia Caswell, Brian | Penguin | 1995 | 9780702226670 | A companion story to Mike, Lisdalia tells her own story which focuses on her Italian family relationships, racism, bullying and rebellion. |
| 3331 | Lisette's Paris notebook Bateson, Catherine | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760293635 | Lisette's gap year after high school begins with a three month trip to Paris. Lisette has never known her father who left before she was born, and knows how much her mother has done for her, so this trip is fulfilling one of her mother's dreams. But is it hers? Should she study art history as her mother wants, when vintage clothing is really her passion? Plus there is the hope that the city of love will weave its magic. When it does there are many hard decisions to make. |
| 9238 | Little lower than the angels, A McCaughrean, Geraldine | Oxford University Press | 1998 | 9780192717801 | Gabriel is apprenticed to a stonemason, a cruel master. When the opportunity presents itself, he runs away to join a troupe of travelling mystery players. |
| 803716 | Little secrets: Playing with fire Blake, Emily | Scholastic Australia | 2006 | 9780439810531 | Her mother's in jail. Her best friend betrayed her. Who can Alison trust? Hidden pasts, Unexpected betrayals, twisted friendships, sweet revenge, Let the drama begin... |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 901557 | Little spark, A Jonsberg, Barry | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781760526924 | Caitlyn is, in many ways, a normal thirteen year old girl with friends, teachers, and divorced parents. Caitlyn also has a spark. This comes out in her exceptional writing. Her dad probably does more than anyone to nurture this spark by creating fun and unexpected events for them on their weekends together. The balance she has found in spending time with both parents is threatened when her mum's boyfriend is offered a dream job in London. Caitlyn must fight to have a say in whether she stays in Melbourne with her dad or moves overseas with her mum. |
| 3554 | Little white duck: Childhood in China, A Liu, Na & Martinez, Andres Vera (ill) | Graphic Universe | 2012 | 9780716381150 | The world is changing for two girls in China in the 1970s. Da Qin and her sister live in the city of Wuhan with their parents. When their country's leader, Chairman Mao, dies, new opportunities begin to emerge. The sisters soon learn that their childhood will be much different than the upbringing their parents experienced. Eight short stories-based on the author's own life- give readers a unique look at what it was like to grow up in China during this important time in history. |
| | Little women series Alcott, Louisa May | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 3939 | Littlest Bigfoot, The Weiner, Jennifer | Aladdin Publishing | 2016 | 9781481470742 | How would it feel to find out that there was another world out there, a world beneath the world, hidden away like the secret caramel centre of a chocolate or a pearl tucked in an oyster's shell? A world where Alice could be accepted, even loved? To know that the world existed, but that she could never go there, that the doors would always be locked against her...Millie didn't want to think about it. |
| 2650 | Lives of Christopher Chant, The Jones, Diana Wynne | HarperCollins US | 1998 | 9780688163655 | Christopher's destiny, by virtue of his possession of nine lives, is to be the next Chrestomanci, a position of awesome magical responsibility, but he rebels against it. |
| 233 | Load of unicorn, The Harnett, Cynthia | Egmont Childrens | 2001 | 9780749746964 | Bendy, whose family runs a scrivener's shop, solves the mystery when the master printer, William Caxton, fails to receive the paper shipped to him aboard the cargo ship, Madalena. A classic about the Caxton printing press. |
| 51865 | Lobster boy Philbrick, Rodman | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2008 | 9780746090824 | Skiff Beaman needs to fix his family's fishing boat but, to do this, he needs money. With his Dad spending his days on the TV couch since his mother died, Skiff decides that fishing for Bluefin tuna is his only solution. |

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|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1417287 | Locked room, The Cece, Adam | Penguin | 2025 | 9781761351068 | The clock is ticking... Andy and three other kids wake up in a locked room. The room has no windows, but it has a locked door, with a countdown clock above it. They have less than an hour to figure out how to get out of this room. But when they do...? There's another locked room, and more locked doors. And they can't go back. |
| | Lockie Leonard series Winton, Tim | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 9212 | Lockie Leonard, human torpedo: the play Gibbs, Paige | Currency Press | 1996 | 9780868194783 | When Lockie moves to a coastal town where his dad is the new police officer, he has trouble settling in. Live each agonising, embarrassing adolescent moment as he makes friends and has a torrid love affair with Vickie, prettiest girl in town. |
| | Lockwood & Co series Stroud, Jonathan | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 27495 | Loneliness of distant beings, The Ling, Kate | Little, Brown & Co | 2016 | 9781510200166 | Seren longs to have the sunshine on her skin. But, when you're floating through space at thousands of kilometres an hour, you have to accept there are things you cannot change. But, when Dom arrives in her life, he changes everything and, for a while, he becomes the Sun for her. Being with him flaunts every rule designed to keep their home in order but to lose him would be like losing herself. In the end, they must decide what is most important, loyalty to the only home they've ever known or to each other. |
| 12345 | Long walk, The Greenwood, Kerry | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9780733617669 | In 1931, a family's mother falls ill and their only hope is to reach their father working on the Great Ocean Road. The children set off on a long journey, with only a pram filled with their belongings, meeting all types of people on the way. |
| 235 | Long way from Verona, A Gardam, Jane | Time Warner | 2001 | 9780349114057 | Jessica dreams of becoming a writer but the English private school that she attends does nothing to foster her talent. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019866 | Look me in the eye Godwin, Jane | Lothian Books | 2024 | 9780734420794 | Bella and Connie have been close friends for years and they continue to support each other as they start high school and come out of the lockdowns imposed due to the pandemic. Connie's cousin, Mish, has shown up under some mysterious circumstances and the girls are forced to welcome the older girl into their friendship. Mish is not a good fit and does not want to be a good fit. Bella and Connie need to find the balance between doing what they think is right, while trying not to attract the wrath of Mish. |
| 1211974 | Look on the bright side Williams, Lily & Schneemann, Karen | First Second | 2023 | 9781250834102 | Old friends. New Loves. The future is looking bright. A new year of school is starting, and Brit finds herself struggling with feelings for a seemingly rude boy from class who might have a soft side. Meanwhile, Christine can't deny that she likes her best friend Abby...as more than just a friend. The only question is, does Abby have feelings for Christine, too? And will their feelings for each other mess things up in their friend group? Misunderstandings, betrayal, and jealousy are bound to get in the way. But hey! Look on the bright side: They're in this together. Always. |
| | Lord of the rings series Tolkien, J R R | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 916596 | Lorikeet tree, The Jennings, Paul | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781761180095 | <p>Emily loves the bush and the native animals on her family's reforested property, particularly the beautiful rainbow lorikeets that nest in one of the tallest trees. But then her father is diagnosed with a terminal illness, and Emily's world enters a tailspin.</p> <p>Her twin brother, Alex, refuses to accept the truth. His coping mechanism is to build elaborate additions to his treehouse in the superstitious belief that it will avert disaster - leaving Emily to deal with harsh reality on her own.</p> <p>When Alex secretly adopts a feral kitten, going against everything that's important to Emily, the siblings' emotions reach boiling point - with potentially dangerous consequences for them all.</p> |
| 30755 | Loser list, The Kowitt, H N | Scholastic US | 2011 | 9780545240048 | Danny Shine is in year seven. He isn't the most popular guy at school but he manages to stay out of trouble. That is, until Danny discover his name is on the Loser List in the girls' bathroom. When he gets caught trying to cross his name off the loser, Danny is sent to detention. He thought he had problems before but detention places him in a whole new world of trouble. |
| 5369 | Lost rainforest, The Schrefer, Eliot | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9780062839596 | Not for the fainted-hearted! The creatures of the magical rainforest of Caldera needs the help of a young panther cub, Mez. With the help of a brave young bat, a knowledgeable frog and a somewhat nervous monkey, Mez travels through the rainforest to combat a dangerous and reawakened evil. This is a suspenseful and exciting novel. |
| 1289196 | Lost saint, The Craw, Rachel | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781991142290 | Recently dumped, heart-broken Ana struggles to put the past behind her on a post-graduation summer holiday. When a catastrophic earthquake hits, Ana and the other survivors emerge in a world they don't recognise, stumbling into a 14th century battle. The students flee and Ana is chased off a cliff by one of the soldiers, Leon, who is badly injured in the fall. Sparks fly between Ana and Leon: to survive, they need to rely on each other and as their trust grows, so does romance. Together they must endure a treacherous journey and find the legendary mystic everyone calls 'The Saint' who is said to have the power to send Ana home... until an unexpected twist changes everything. |

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|---------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 720733 | Lost soul atlas, The Fraillon, Zana | Hachette Australia | 2020 | 9780734419934 | Twig is all alone after his dad goes missing. But when he meets Flea, a cheerful pickpocket, the pair become fast friends. Together, Twig and Flea raise themselves on the crime-ridden streets, taking what they need and giving the rest to the even-poorer. Life is good, as long as they have each other. But then Twig wakes up in the Afterlife. With just a handful of vague memories, a key, a raven, and a mysterious atlas to guide him, he tries to piece together what happened, and to find his way home . . . |
| 2557 | Lost thing, The Tan, Shaun | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780734403889 | An allegory of responsibility, conformity and courageous social isolation told with humour. |
| 1019827 | Lost year, The Marsh, Katherine | Roaring Book Press | 2023 | 9781250313607 | Thirteen-year-old Matthew is miserable. His journalist dad is stuck overseas and his mom has moved in his one-hundred-year-old great-grandmother to ride out the Covid pandemic. But when Matthew finds a tattered black-and-white photo in his great-grandmother's belongings, he discovers a clue to a hidden chapter of her past - one that will lead to a life-shattering family secret. Set in alternating times that connect the present day to the 1930s and the US to the USSR and the Holodomor - the horrific famine that killed millions of Ukrainians, which the Soviet government covered up for decades. |
| 681154 | Love & Gelato Welch, Jenna Evans | Walker Books | 2017 | 9781406372328 | The dying wish of 16-year-old Lina's mother was for her daughter to live in Tuscany and get to know her father Howard, whom Lina has never met. Why did her mother wait so long to tell her about him? Waiting for her at Howard's home is a journal kept by her mother while she was a photography student in Florence. With the help of her mother's journal and her neighbour Ren, Lina uncovers a magical world full of secret romances, art and hidden bakeries. But she also learning more about her mother than ever before, following in her footsteps, and finding out the truth about her father. But mostly she finds out about herself. |
| 669478 | Love Frankie Wilson, Jacqueline | Doubleday | 2020 | 9780857535900 | Everyone expects that Frankie and her childhood friend, Sam, will become boyfriend and girlfriend, Even Sam seems to think this. Frankie is surrounded by loving family and friends, but it is Sally who fascinates Frankie and takes up all her time. Sally seems to like being adored, but is she actually interested in Frankie's affections? |
| 239 | Love me, love me not Gleeson, Libby | Penguin | 1995 | 9780140368208 | This is a collection of short stories about the ups and downs of adolescence. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 567938 | Love scene, take two Evansley, Alex | Swoon Reads | 2018 | 9781250135704 | Teddy Sharpe is Hollywood famous. But he's just been dumped by his girlfriend and is stuck in an airport far from home. He accepts an invitation from Bennett Caldwell to stay at her house. Teddy has just auditioned for the movie adaptation of Bennett's book and is hoping to get the lead role. What he didn't expect was the fall in love with Bennet and her family. If only the internet would stay out of their relationship, things might go smoothly for the two of them. |
| 5880 | Love that I have, The Moloney, James | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9781460754634 | Margot Baumann has left school to take up her sister's job in the mailroom of a large prison. But this is Germany in 1944, and the prison is Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin. Margot is shielded from the camp's brutality as she has no contact with prisoners. But she does handle their mail and, when given a cigarette lighter and told to burn the letters, she is horrified by the callous act that she must carry out with her own hands. This is especially painful since her brother was taken prisoner at Stalingrad and her family have had no letters from him. So Margot steals a few letters, intending to send them in secret, only to find herself drawn to their heartrending words of hope, of despair, and of love. This is how Margot comes to know Dieter Kleinschmidt - through the beauty and the passion of his letters to his girlfriend. And since his girlfriend is also named Margot, it is like reading love letters written for her. |
| 15603 | Love, Simon/ Simon vs the homosapiens agenda Albertalli, Becky | Penguin | 2018 | 9780241330135 | 16year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now Simon is actually being blackmailed: if he doesn't play wingman for class clown Martin, his sexual identity will become everyone's business. Worse, the privacy of Blue, the pen name of the boy he's been emailing, will be compromised. With some messy dynamics emerging in his once tight-knit group of friends, and his email correspondence with Blue growing more flirtatious every day, Simon's junior year has suddenly gotten all kinds of complicated. Now, change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out - without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met. Also published under the title "Simon vs the homosapiens agenda". |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 23781 | Loveability: An empowered girls guide to dating and relationships Miller, Dannielle & Funnell, Nina | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2014 | 9780732296469 | Not into you? Too into you? What happens when feelings aren't mutual? When to stay and when to go? Can't handle the heartbreak? Or maybe just sick of being single? In this guide, Dannielle Miller and Nina Funnell will help you navigate your way through the often complex world of relationships. Their combination of professional expertise and personal stories delivers a book that is like the best chat you could ever have with your friends, filled with good advice that is smart, but also warm, funny and never judgemental. And determine your love-ability with the help of quizzes, Q&As, compatibility tests and true love checklist. |
| 2304 | Loyal creatures Gleitzman, Morris | Penguin | 2014 | 9780670077427 | They were loyal creatures, the men and horses of the Australian Light Horse. But war doesn't always pay heed to loyalty. This is the powerful story of a young man's journey towards his own kind of bravery. |
| 46537 | Lucy Zeezou's glamour game Deep-Jones, Liz | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2010 | 9781864719734 | Not all is froth and bubble in Lucy's celebrity world. Her parents are on the verge of breaking up over some earth-shattering rumours and Lucy must come to terms with their fallibility and her own. Lucy juggles the cat walk, the soccer pitch, the high life and the good life as she learns the value of relationships. |
| 49022 | Lucy Zeezou's goal Deep-Jones, Liz | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741662771 | Lucy appears to have everything, looks, brains, her parents are an international sports star and owners of a successful fashion label. All they want is for her to be a top fashion model, even more successful than her mother. But Lucy has the soccer gene and all she wants is to be as successful as her father who plays for Milan. |
| 5307 | Lucy's dawn Blair, Juliet | National Library of Australia | 2018 | 9780642279170 | Fourteen-year-old Lucy cannot believe her luck when she starts working in Louisa Lawson's female printery. But it is the 1880s and male printers everywhere think this type of work should be left to the men. When the union too decides to make life difficult for Lucy and her printer friends, Lucy knows she has many battles ahead. Along the way she will realise who her real friends are, and find first love. |
| | Lunar Chronicles series Meyer, Marissa | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 113164 | Lurkers, The Butler, Charles | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2006 | 9780746070659 | A disturbing tale of strange and dangerous beings beyond the physical world. When fourteen year old Verity sees a weird, semi-visible figure, her brother tells her it is a harmless Lurker. But Lurkers feed on human imagination and this one is using her brother to become more solid and independent. Verity must fight to save her brother's mind. |
| 241 | Lyddie Paterson, Katherine | Puffin USA | 1995 | 9780140373899 | Lyddie is a survivor of hard times in a nineteenth century American cotton mill. |
| 7699 | Mac Slater cool hunter: I love NY Bancks, Tristan | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741663006 | Mac has become a coolhunter for a popular webspace and won an all-expenses-paid trip to New York. His job is to find the Next Big Thing or be sent home. Mac gets taken to The Hive, where innovative kids are creating things way more cutting edge than anything you can buy. And, they're about to test an invention that could change the world. Mac has found the coolest thing in NYC but he's not allowed to tell a soul. |
| 36937 | Mac Slater cool hunter: rules of cool Bancks, Tristan | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741662993 | Mac's just crashed the latest prototype of his flying bike in front of the whole school. So, when the creators of Coolhunters tell him he's an Innovator, Mac thinks they're crazy. He lives in an old bus and doesn't have a TV, let alone a mobile. But, Tony and Speed suggest he compete to become the Australian coolhunter. But, hunting cool isn't easy and Mac's opponent will do just about anything to get the gig. |
| 18704 | Macbeth and son French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2006 | 9780207200342 | Luke lives in Australia with his mother and stepfather, Sam. Lulach lives in 9th century Scotland with his mother and stepfather, Macbeth. Knowing Macbeth to be a peaceful king, Luke wonders why Shakespeare made him a villain. |
| 23021 | Macbeth: No fear Shakespeare graphic novels SparkNotes | Spark Publishing | 2008 | 9781411498716 | |
| 242 | Machine gunners, The Westall, Robert | Pan Macmillan London | 2001 | 9780330397858 | Chas finds a crashed German bomber plane with a machine gun intact. During 1941, he and his friends believe that they can help the war effort in England. |
| 243 | Madame Doubtfire Fine, Anne | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 1996 | 9780140373554 | An estranged father applies for the job of housekeeper to his children. |
| 244 | Maddie Caswell, Brian | University of Queensland Press | 1995 | 9780702227356 | Like Mike and Lisdalia, this book deals with the issues of adolescence with the added complication of living within two cultures. Maddie is a Vietnamese Australian. |
| 9310 | Maddie Finn Disher, Garry | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780733612237 | Maddie and her mother are to be evicted from their home in the grounds of the Delamore's big house. Maddie and Delia Delamore take the dog for a walk. They enter an alley to find a gang of kidnappers waiting, with surprising results. |
| 9278 | Magician Baillie, Allan | Penguin | 1994 | 9780140361278 | In a futuristic Tasmania, where our sun is dying, an alien appears who may be able to help. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 13720 | Magisterium: The bronze key Black, Holly & Clare, Cassandra | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2016 | 9780552567701 | Students at the Magisterium are supposed to be safe. Under the watchful eyes of the mages, they are taught to use magic to bring order to a chaotic world. But, now, the chaos is fighting back. After the shocking death of one of their classmates, Call, Tamara and Aaron must use the powerful magic they've been taught and risk their lives to track down the killer. But, magic is dangerous. In the wrong hands, it could bring terrible destruction and reveal the deadliest secret of all. |
| 5915 | Magisterium: The copper gauntlet Black, Holly & Clare, Cassandra | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9780552567718 | Callum Hunt's summer break isn't typical, especially when he discovers that his dad might be trying to destroy both him and his companion, Havoc, a wolf. Call escapes to the magical world of the Magisterium but the Alkahest, a copper gauntlet capable of separating magicians from their magic, has been stolen. In their search, Call and his friends attract some dangerous foes and discover an even more dangerous truth. |
| 585776 | Magisterium: The golden tower Black, Holly & Clare, Cassandra | Scholastic US | 2018 | 9780552567756 | Think you know magic? Think again. The final instalment of the epic series from bestselling authors Holly Black and Cassandra Clare. A generation ago, powerful mage Constantine Madden came close to achieving what no magician had ever achieved: the ability to bring back the dead. He didn't succeed . . . but he did find a way to keep himself alive, inside a young child named Callum Hunt. Facing up to what he is, Callum has battled chaos and evil across four years of magical training at the Magisterium, eventually defeating the armies of chaos in an epic battle. It came at a cost. Now, triumphant and heartbroken, Callum Hunt has just about had enough, and is ready to complete his training. But the evil Callum faced has not given up just yet . . . |
| 2633 | Magisterium: The iron trial Black, Holly & Clare, Cassandra | Doubleday | 2014 | 9780857532503 | Most people would do anything to get into the Magisterium and learn about the world of magic. But, not Callum. He's been told his whole life that he should never trust a magician, so he tries his best to do his worst - but fails at failing. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 585771 | Magisterium: The silver mask Black, Holly & Clare, Cassandra | Scholastic US | 2017 | 9780545522380 | A generation ago, Constantine Madden came close to achieving what no magician had ever achieved: the ability to bring back the dead. He didn't succeed . . . but he did find a way to keep himself alive, inside a young child named Callum Hunt. Now Call is one of the most feared and reviled students in the history of the Magisterium, thought to be responsible for a devastating death and an ever-present threat of war. As a result, Call has been imprisoned and interrogated. Everyone wants to know what Constantine was up to -- and how he lives on. But Call has no idea. It is only when he's broken out of prison that the full potential of Constantine's plan is suddenly in his hands . . . and he must decide what to do with his power. In this spellbinding fourth book of the Magisterium, bestselling authors Holly Black and Cassandra Clare take us beyond the realm of the living, and into the dangers of the dead. |
| 660427 | Magnolia sword, The Thomas, Sherry | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781760876685 | Mulan has been drilled in martial arts to fight the duel of her life - but what if her sworn enemy is also her secret love? A heart-thumping retelling that brings a much-loved heroine to life. |
| 3293 | Mahtab's story Gleeson, Libby | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741753349 | Mahtab's family live in Herat in Afghanistan amongst the ever present Taliban. They decide to leave everything they hold dear behind and journey secretly to Australia via Pakistan and Indonesia. This is an amazing story of struggle and hope for a better future. |
| 11935 | Make up or break up Welshman, Kate | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2014 | 9781742977768 | Ally and Cat have been friends for ever. Each girl plays their part in the friendship, but when Ally wants to make decisions to pursue interests different to Cat, problems arise. In the pick-a-path format, you make decisions for Ally and follow the story from one storyline to the next. |
| 798533 | Making friends Gudsnuik, Kristen | Scholastic Australia | 2022 | 9781338139211 | Sixth grade was so much easier for Danielle. All her friends were in the same room and she knew what to expect from her life. But now that she's in seventh grade, she's in a new middle school, her friends are in different classes and forming new cliques and she is completely lost. When Danielle inherits a magical sketchbook from her eccentric great aunt Elma, she draws Madison, an ideal best friend that springs to life right off the page! But even when you create a best friend, it's not easy navigating the ups and downs of relationships and before long Danielle and Madison are not exactly seeing eye-to-eye. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 14518 | Malice: you can't escape Wooding, Chris & Chernett, Dan (ill) | Scholastic UK | 2009 | 9781407103945 | When Luke goes missing, his friends are dragged into the terrifying world of Malice, the underground comic. The evil Tall Jake takes children into a fantasy world where they can really die. It takes heroes like Seth and the loyalty of Kady to survive the violent, brutal comic-book pages. Be prepared to be very scared. |
| 246 | Man called possum, A Harris, David & Jones, Max | Penguin | 1998 | 9780140382686 | Max Jones, country detective, is determined to uncover the truth about Possum, the town hermit. |
| | Manga Shakespeare series Shakespeare, William & Appignanesi, Richard (adapt) & Kutsuwada, Chie (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1244701 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Manslaughter Park Price, Tirzah | HarperTeen | 2024 | 9780062889874 | Fanny Price, a talented but unwanted guest at Mansfield Park, relies on her uncle Sir Thomas' protection to avoid being cast out by her cruel relatives. When Sir Thomas dies in a suspicious accident, Fanny discovers evidence of murder, but revealing it could cost her everything. Pressured by her friend and secret love Edmund to stay quiet, Fanny chooses instead to seek justice. Her investigation pulls her into the Bertram family's shadowy art business and the dazzling world of London society, complicated further by the arrival of the charming Crawfords and their bold proposal. With unexpected help from Lizzie Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy, Fanny uncovers secrets that change everything, about the family, the murder, and herself. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above. |
| 12815 | Mao's last dancer (young readers' edition) Cunxin, Li | Puffin Australia | 2005 | 9780143301646 | Engaging biography of a young, Chinese peasant boy who, at the age of eleven, was taken from his school and family to be trained as a classical dancer in Beijing. |
| 249 | Maphead Howarth, Lesley | Walker Books | 2001 | 9780744577716 | Maphead, an alien boy, has the ability to produce maps of anywhere across his face. |
| 1814 | Maralinga's long shadow Matteringley, Christobel | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9781760290177 | Yvonne Edwards, a highly respected Aboriginal artist and community leader, was just six years old when the first bombs of the nuclear tests at Maralinga were detonated in Australia in 1956. The tests continued until 1963 and their consequences profoundly affected her family and the community. |

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|---------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 871655 | Mars awakens Waugh, H M | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781760526979 | Raised on rival colonies on Mars, each long ago abandoned by Earth, Dee and Holt have been brought up to hate even the idea of each other. But when a mysterious object crash lands on a far flung plain, they both set out to investigate. Stranded in a hostile landscape, Dee and Holt must work together to survive while unpicking the web of lies they have both been told about their planet. |
| 579247 | Mars One Maberry, Jonathan | Simon & Schuster | 2017 | 9781481461627 | Tristan is heading to Mars, part of the colonising first fleet from Earth. He and his girlfriend, Izzy, are reality television stars for a reason - like their namesakes, Tristan and Isolde, their love story is destined for heartache. But it is the mysterious sabotage, aboard the spaceships hurtling towards Mars, that offers the most captivating aspect of the plot. |
| 4019 | Marvels, The Selznick, Brian | Scholastic US | 2015 | 9780545448680 | After surviving a shipwreck in 1766, Billy Marvel finds work in a London theatre. His family flourishes for generations as brilliant actors until 1900, when young Leontes Marvel is banished from the stage. Nearly a century later, Joseph Jarvis runs away from school and seeks refuge with an eccentric uncle in London. A gripping adventure and an intriguing invitation to decipher how the two narratives interconnect. |
| 12652 | Matched Condie, Ally | Penguin | 2010 | 9780141333052 | Cassia believes that Society provides only the best for its citizens. Everything and everyone is regulated, allocated and sharing is not permitted. Cassia is seventeen and excited about attending her Match Banquet, where she will learn the identity of her perfect Match. But, Cassia falls in love with another and is determined to make her own choices. |
| 1373958 | Matched up Ireland, Jenny | Penguin | 2025 | 9780241720950 | When Lexie sees Shane for the first time, she's blown away. Not only by the way he plays football (although that is great), but by his looks, and how he's not like the other boys. Best of all, he feels the same way about her. Electricity at first sight. |
| 251 | Mates and other stories Baillie, Allan | Scholastic Australia | 1992 | 9781862911420 | A collection of short stories about friendship. |
| | Matilda saga series French, Jackie | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1124599 | Mawson in Antarctica: To the ends of the earth Grochowicz, Joanna | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781761180590 | Mawson is seen undeniably for his leadership in this exciting and dramatic set of events that take place over a year when he and 18 others embark on a scientific expedition of observations measuring meteorological conditions mapping routes discovering new lands, learning valuable lessons for survival against the howling blasting winds of Cape Denison on the Antarctic continent. They are punished to within an inch of their lives. After months hunkered in their huts built as diligently as their ubiquitous penguins building their nests, until after a winter that nothing prepares them for sledging can begin. In 5 separate sledging parties they suffer blizzard and subzero temperatures forging into the unknown Magnetic south. Displaying skills of inventiveness, repurposing and rejigging, keeping safe and a sense of humour they face the ancient land whose willful and unpredictable character was determined long ago. |
| | Maximum Ride series Patterson, James | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | Maze Runner series Dashner, James | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1165724 | Medici heist Schneiderhan, Caitlin | Atom Publishing | 2024 | 9780349125411 | Welcome to Florence, 1517, a world of intrigue, opulence, secrets, and murder. The Medici family rules the city from their seat of wealth, but the people of Florence remember the few decades they spent as a Republic, free from the Medicis and their puppet Pope, Leo X. Sharp-witted seventeen-year-old con-woman Rosa Cellini has plans for the Pope and the Medicis - and, more specifically, the mountain of indulgence money they've been extorting from the people of Tuscany. To pull off the Renaissance's greatest robbery, she'll recruit a team of capable misfits. Old secrets resurface and tensions in the gang flare as the authorities draw closer and the Medicis' noose pulls tighter around Tuscany itself. What began as a robbery becomes a bid to save Florence from certain destruction - if Rosa and company don't destroy each other first. |
| 12951 | Medieval Messenger, The Fleming, Fergus & Tomlins, Karen (des) & Dowsell, Paul (ed) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 1996 | 9780746027493 | Mystery plague rocks Europe' and 'Beckett kicks bucket' are feature articles in this wonderful newspaper crammed full of historically accurate references. Homestores catalogue, spot the difference competitions and a personal column also included. |
| 5892 | Mediterranean, The Greder, Armin | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760630959 | A lifeless body. One of many in the waters of the Mediterranean. Precarious boats navigate the waters of the sea, from south to north. And more often than not, it is not only hope that drowns. With eloquent and devastating imagery, the creator of the multi-award-winning book The Island again asks us to examine our responses to the plight of refugees. How long will we remain silent witnesses? |
| 613981 | Meet the sky Hoyle, McCall | HarperCollins US | 2018 | 9780310765707 | Sophie lives with her mum and sister on a horse stud and we immediately discover that her life has been dramatically impacted by an accident involving her sister and dad a year earlier. Then a boy gets added to the narrative mix and a hurricane gives us the perfect setting for tension and adventure in this coming of age story. |
| 14232 | Melting stones Pierce, Tamora | Omnibus Books | 2008 | 9781862918030 | Four years have passed since Evvy left the streets of Chammur to begin her training as a stone mage. At fourteen, she's unhappy to be on a new journey with her mentor, prickly green mage Rosethorn, who has been called to the Battle Islands to determine why the plants and animals there are dying. |
| 254 | Memorial Crew, Gary | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780734405456 | A new perspective on the ANZAC tradition and the implications of war on different generations. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 56115 | Merchant of Venice, The Shakespeare, William & Hinds, Gareth (adapt) | Candlewick Press | 2008 | 9780763630256 | A tale of young Bassanio, who, in order to win the love of fair Portia, entangles his dearest friend, Antonio, in a dangerous bargain with the moneylender, Shylock. Only Bassanio's heartfelt efforts and a clever intervention by Portia will save Antonio from paying Shylock 'a pound of flesh'. Graphic novel with authentic Shakespearean text. |
| 40705 | Messenger bird, The Hawke, Rosanne | University of Queensland Press | 2012 | 9780702238826 | Tanmar's older brother is dead, her mum's gone away and her dad avoids talking about the things that really matter. Plagued by nightmares about her brother, Tamar has no interest in school or friends. When she discovers an old handwritten sheet of music and plays the tune, Tamar meets gifted violinist, Nathaniel, a man from her house's past. She is unwittingly drawn into a journey through time and music. |
| 7226 | Messenger, The Townsend, John | Evans Bros | 2012 | 9780237543358 | When a piece of glass angel smashes in front of him, Chris doesn't take any notice. Not even when a stranger tells him it's a warning. But, when Chris and his girlfriend are trapped on the moors, strange things start to happen. |
| 2164 | Messenger: the legend of Joan of Arc Lee, Tony & Hart, Sam (ill) | Walker Books | 2014 | 9781406336153 | You may have heard of Joan of Arc. She had a short but inspirational life, fighting for freedom during the One Hundred Years War between France and England. She was a farm girl who became the leader of an army of men. Joan had an unflinching faith in God and in herself, and was prepared to risk everything for freedom and independence. She became the patron saint of France. |
| 6144 | Metro winds Carmody, Isobelle | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781865084442 | Includes five long stories and a novella. A girl is sent across the world to discover her destiny in the dark tunnels of the Metro. Another seeks a lost sister in a park where winter lasts forever. A young man fulfils a dying wish. A mother works magic to summon a princess for her son. A man seeks an ending to his story. An old man goes in search of his shadow. This is a world of desire and transformation, the real and the not real. |
| 1409468 | Michael Rosen's pocket Shakespeare: A beginner's guide to the best bits of the bard Rosen, Michael & Riddell, Chris (ill) | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781844287628 | Enjoy Shakespeare without the hard work! Two former Children's Laureates bring Shakespeare to life in this accessible and handy guide to the best bits of the bard. |
| 18690 | Michael Rosen's sad book Rosen, Michael & Blake, Quentin (ill) | Walker Books | 2004 | 9780744598988 | A very personal story about the loss of a loved one. It speaks to everyone whether they have experienced grief or not. |

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|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Middle School series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 5873 | Midnight Greenwood, Mark & Lessac, Frane (ill) | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781921977718 | This is the story from World War I of Guy Haydon and his horse, Midnight, as they enlist with the army, travel across the world and play a starring role in a great cavalry charge. |
| 95396 | Midnight charter, The Whitley, David | Puffin UK | 2009 | 9780141323718 | In the city of Agora, anything can be bought and sold. Even children are possessions until their twelfth birthday. Mark has been sold by his father, and Lily, an orphan from birth, has bartered for her life. Thrown together, they face an existence of poverty and servitude, unless they can find a way to break free. But, unbeknown to Mark and Lily, they are being watched by the ruler of the city. |
| 10321 | Midnight zoo, The Hartnett, Sonya | Viking Children's | 2010 | 9780670074051 | Two gypsy boys, carrying a secret bundle, are fleeing through a war-ravaged countryside during the night and come across a small zoo, untouched by the war. The animals are in need of hope, as are the boys. |
| 54303 | Midsummer knight Rogers, Gregory | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741754827 | A courageous bear and a bold boy find themselves in a magical forest full of faeries. Unfortunately, the bear ends up in a dungeon but he devises a clever escape, and goes into battle to save the monarch. This wordless picture book, a companion to The boy, the bear, the baron, the bard, is loosely based on Shakespeare's play, A midsummer night's dream. |
| 258 | Midwife's apprentice, The Cushman, Karen | MacMillan | 2002 | 9780330398312 | In 14th century England, Alyce is taken from a life on the streets to be an apprentice to a village midwife. |
| 9318 | Mighty Murray, The Nicholson, John | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9781865085654 | Australia's greatest river system now and then, with many stories about the people who lived on or in the Murray Valley. Includes archaeological finds, Aboriginal legends, riverboat traders and dam engineers. |
| 2872 | Mike Caswell, Brian | University of Queensland Press | 1993 | 9780702225277 | Mike and his mother have moved from Melbourne to live in Sydney's west. Mike soon wishes they had never left. At school, he becomes the victim of a bully, Shane and meets Riny, a neighbour with a secret success story. |
| 15357 | Millie and the night heron Bateson, Catherine | University of Queensland Press | 2005 | 9780702235269 | Millie's artist mum needs a change but Millie isn't so keen. When they move, Millie must start Year 7 in a new school. Fitting in and making friends is hard but Millie is a very special girl and mum's love interest, the new boyfriend, helps. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 28875 | Million shades of grey, A Kadohata, Cynthia | Simon & Schuster | 2010 | 9781847388230 | Thirteen year old Y-Tin is an elephant trainer. His life revolves around Lady and the other elephants in their small herd. But, this is Vietnam in 1975 and, now that the American forces are gone, the North Vietnamese threaten the Dega people of the Central Highlands. When the feared attack comes, Y-Tin is captured. He must risk his life and save his elephants by fleeing into the jungle. |
| | Minecraft series Lore, Danny | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 25505 | Ministry of pandemonium Westwood, Chris | Frances Lincoln | 2011 | 9781847801906 | Ben Harvester doesn't make friends easily, preferring to spend his time and his talent for drawing in graveyards. It is in one such cemetery that Ben discovers another of his gifts, the ability to see the newly-dead. He is drawn into a battle of good against evil, with grotesque creatures seemingly gaining the ascendancy, while Ben is both the cause of the trouble and also its solution. |
| 6828 | Minna's quest Peyton, K M | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2007 | 9780746078815 | Men and women prove their worth in this exciting adventure. Minna, a Briton and a blacksmith's daughter, raises a sickly foal, commandeered by her brother, Cerdic, when he joins the soldiers. As bloodthirsty pirates plan to waylay the tiny Roman outpost, Cerdic and Minna risk all so that she can find reinforcements to save all their lives and that of her beloved defender, Theo. |
| | Minutes of danger series Heath, Jack | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1151565 | Mirror of Beasts, The Bracken, Alexandra | Quercus Children's Books | 2024 | 9781786541758 | Tamsin must travel to the mysterious world of Avalon where she survives. Tamsin makes her way back into the mortal world however she discovers that she is cursed. Tamsin must break the curse before it breaks her. |
| 259 | Misery guts Gleitzman, Morris | Pan MacMillan | 1991 | 9780330272315 | Keith's parents have become morose because of the grey, English weather. Keith intends to cheer them up with a trip to tropical, northern Australia. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1362585 | Mismatched: A graphic novel Camlin, Anne & Zeferino, Isadora (ill) | Andersen Press Ltd | 2025 | 9781839136047 | A queer retelling of Jane Austin's Emma. This novel is a mix of if Emma and Clueless had a queer cousin. Evan Horowitz is obsessed with three things in life: makeup, social media, and matchmaking! When shy new girl, Natalia, starts at his school, Evan begins work on his newest and most ambitious matchmaking project yet. Who better than him to give her a push in the right direction? With so many matches to choose from and Natalia hopelessly clueless when it comes to love, it's not long before Evan sets his plan into motion (much against the better judgment of his best friend, Davi). But he takes things too far, creating a web of drama that spirals out of his control. Can he learn to put the people closest to him before his misguided ambition? Or will he lose them, and his chance at romance, too? |
| 5456 | Missing Whiting, Sue | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781760650032 | Mackenzie's world has been turned upside down with the disappearance of her mother following a scientific journey photographing bats in Panama. Her father's sudden and rash decision for Mackenzie to join him in searching for Maggie where she was last seen becomes even more unsettling when he becomes ill and Mackenzie must decide what to do when she comes across some potentially helpful information. |
| 16798 | Mister Creecher Priestley, Chris | Bloomsbury | 2011 | 9781408827987 | Suitable for mature readers. We follow the growing relationship between a young pickpocket and 'the creature', as together they pursue the elusive Dr Frankenstein. Set in 1800s London. |
| 260 | Mistress Masham's repose White, T H | Antique Collectors Club | 2001 | 9781851497003 | Maria discovers a group of Lilliputians and must protect them from her governess and a cunning vicar. |
| 846181 | Monarchs, The Morgan, Kass & Paige, Danielle | Hodder & Stoughton | 2022 | 9781529363883 | The Ravens sorority are witches. They need to protect themselves and their secret. After the last semester's disaster, they are determined to restore the balance and get back to being the ruling sorority on campus. When magic starts to go wrong, and a rival sorority is gaining power, their future could be in jeopardy. Scarlett, Vivi and their sisters need to protect their coven and Westerly from an unknown evil. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1308094 | Mondays are murder Guron, Ravena | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2025 | 9781805075707 | Seventeen-year-old Kay left her sleepy hometown after the devastating death of her friend, Ivy. But when her parents go on holiday without her, Kay is forced to come back to stay with her cousin. And her return comes with a bang. Because when Kay arrives, it's to find an anonymous letter on her bed. The letter tells her that there will be a thrill on Tuesday, a wreckage on Wednesday, treachery on Thursday, a fire on Friday, sabotage on Saturday, a stabbing on Sunday and her murder on Monday. And if Kay can't figure out who is behind the threats, the worst day of the week is about to get deadly. |
| 941510 | Monkey who fell from the future, The Welford, Ross | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9780008544744 | The year is 2425. Centuries after a catastrophic meteor collision, nature has retaken the earth. In a small town in what was once England, young Ocean Mooney and the monkey-owning Duke Smiff have just dug up a 400 year-old tablet computer. Meanwhile, in the present day, Thomas Reeve and his genius cousin Kylie create the Time Tablet - a device which they hope will allow them to communicate with the future. But when the Time Tablet malfunctions live on television, Thomas and Kylie are sucked into the year 2425 - and have only 24 hours to return home, and save the future of humanity... |
| | Monster Blood Tattoo series Cornish, D M | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1153332 | Monster calls, A: The play Peck, Adam & Dowd, Siobhan & Ness, Patrick | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781406387131 | Conor has the same dream every night, ever since his mother first fell ill. But tonight is different. Tonight when he wakes, there is a monster at his window. it wants something from Conor. It wants the truth. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 803484 | Monster of her age, The Binks, Danielle | Lothian Books | 2021 | 9780734419736 | <p>Ellie Marsden was born into the legendary Lovinger acting dynasty. Grandmother of the infamous Lottie Lovinger as a child Ellie shared the screen with Lottie playing the child monster in a cult indie horror movie. The experience left her traumatised and estranged from family members.</p> <p>Now 17, Ellie has returned home to Hobart as Lottie is dying and Ellie wants to make peace with her before it's too late.</p> <p>Ellie meets Riya, a young film buff who leads a feminist horror film club. Is this someone she could show her true self to and at last come to terms with her family's legacy.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Danielle Binks read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#the-monster-of-her-age-danielle-binks</p> |
| 773 | Monster republic Horton, Ben | Corgi Books | 2010 | 9780552560573 | <p>On a school visit to a nuclear power plant, Cameron Reilly and other students are killed by an explosion, created by a mad scientist to gather more subjects for genetic experimentation. Cameron and the others are physically altered, with scavenged body parts and bionic implants, to create an army of superhuman soldiers.</p> |
| 587847 | Monuments Kostakis, Will | Hachette Children's Books | 2019 | 9780734419224 | <p>All 16-year-old Connor is trying to do is avoid his ex-best friend when he stumbles upon a trapdoor to a secret chamber under his school. But when Sally Rodgers breaks into the same secret chamber looking for an ancient being, things take an unexpected turn and Connor's life will never be the same again.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p> |
| 69236 | Moon over Manifest Vanderpool, Clare | Delacorte Press | 2010 | 9780385738835 | <p>It's the Great Depression, and Abilene and her dad have moved around a lot, just trying to survive. Abilene is sent to stay in Manifest, a small town in Kansas, where her dad lived as a boy. When Abilene discovers a box of mementos under the floorboards, she begins to solve many mysteries about her Dad's past and the town of Manifest, and to come to terms with her own personal questions.</p> |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 76640 | Moon: Apollo 11 and beyond Stewart, Ross | Oxford University Press | 2009 | 9780199116911 | The Moon is the only natural satellite of the Earth and, since prehistoric times, it has been an object of fascination. Even after man has walked on the moon, it has retained its romantic appeal. The fortieth anniversary of the Moon landing provides an opportunity to look at that historic journey and to view the Moon from historic, scientific, artistic, literary and musical angles. |
| 689227 | More than a kick Harris, Tayla & Castles, Jennifer | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760525804 | AFLW player Tayla Harris was at work on the footy field when she kicked a goal. A photo of the kick, taken by Michael Wilson, showcased her incredible ability and was posted online. What happened next was an extraordinary turning point in Tayla's life. The photo quickly became iconic as Tayla stood strong against the online trolls. This is the inspiring story of Tayla's stellar sporting career and her hard-earned advice for navigating the ups and downs of social media. |
| 2937 | More than gold Heffernan, John | Margaret Hamilton | 2000 | 9781876289478 | As thirteen year old Bosnian refugee, Raiko, trains with an Aboriginal mate, Jay, his Olympic dream quickly draws both the local doctor and soccer coach to his side. |
| 6162 | Mozart question, The Morpurgo, Michael | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406306484 | A moving tale of secrets and survival bound together by the power of music. When Lesley is sent to interview world-renowned violinist Paulo Levi, she is told that she can ask him anything at all -- except the Mozart question and that presents no problem at all because she has no idea of what that means. |
| 59668 | Mr William Shakespeare's plays Williams, Marcia | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781406323344 | Take your place in the Globe Theatre of Shakespeare's day to see seven of his best-loved plays in performance. Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Macbeth, Julius Caesar, The Winter's Tale and The Tempest are all brought life in comic-strip versions, which include the bard's own dialogue and the rowdy remarks of the audience. |
| 2883 | Much ado about Shakespeare Bixley, Donovan | John Reed Books | 2016 | 9781927262023 | Shakespeare has never been out of fashion. In his lifetime, he was incredibly successful and, after his death, Shakespeare's works were published to the world. This is a new interpretation of Shakespeare's stages, a play on words, which sheds light on the colourful and exuberant world of Shakespeare's life and times. You won't find the sainted genius, solemn with quill and ink-stained hand. High of brow he may have been, but never high-brow. Shakespeare was in the thick of it. |
| 12368 | Muddle Earth Stewart, Paul & Riddell, Chris | Pan MacMillan | 2003 | 9780333947999 | The Baron of Muddle Earth's only hope is an incompetent wizard, a boy, his dog, a cynical budgerigar, a not-very -big ogre and an intrepid silver teaspoon. Anything could happen in the land of pink, stinky hogs and exploding gas frogs. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 12422 | Mudlark Stephens, Michael | HarperCollins Australia | 2003 | 9780207199806 | Jim Liddell is different from other thirteen year old boys, living in a world of imagination. He takes home the class pet, a mudlark called Mudlark. Its escape teaches Jim some lessons and helps him come to terms with his mother's death. |
| 717578 | Mummy smugglers of Crumblin Castle, The Rushby, Pamela & Pierce, Nelle May (ill) | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781760651930 | Orphaned twelve-year-old Hattie travels to the remote and mist-shrouded Fens to live with her Egypt-obsessed aunt and uncle. It is 1873 in England. Her aunt hosts ancient Egyptian mummy-unwrapping parties in London, aided by the mysterious and sinister Ravens. When the mummy supply unexpectedly runs out, the family embarks on a perilous and illegal search for more, a thousand miles up the Nile. |
| 1019626 | Murder in velvet Wynne, Sarah & Barrett, Laura (ill) | New Frontier Publishing | 2023 | 9781922326836 | 13 year old Grace loves her new charity shop coat. It is perfect! Except for one tiny thing. When she wears it, she sees visions of the previous owner's life....and their murder! Grace and her best friend, Suzy, decide to investigate but digging up the past reveals secrets some people want kept hidden. Can Grace solve a fifty-year-old murder or will she become the killer's next victim? |
| 1423971 | Murder is going down, A Emery, Kate | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781761182211 | This is what happens when you put a pair of unemployed teenagers in charge of a murder investigation. What we lack in investigative skills we make up for in free time. Heidi's meant to be having the time of her life on exchange in Switzerland, but instead she's cold, alone and on an involuntary dairy-free diet. So when she hears the news of her brother Felix's death, she's quick to jump on the first plane home to Perth. To be completely honest, Felix wasn't that much of a brother, so Heidi's not that sad - but she's not exactly happy either. Thanks to an epic betrayal by her (ex) best friend and (ex) boyfriend, Heidi has absolutely nothing to do and no one to talk to. No one, that is, except Patrick, the wisecracking younger brother of Felix's widow, who convinces her that they need to investigate her brother's mysterious demise. Can Heidi and Patrick get to the bottom of Felix's death - and do they really want to? |
| 120138 | Murder of crows, A Bates, Penny | Evans Bros | 2007 | 9780237534455 | When Ben's Dad leaves home, Ben and his Mum move to the country to find a better life. Their neighbour, Luke, bullies Ben remorselessly about his city ways and his pet crow, Joe. When Luke threatens to hurt Joe, the crows take their own revenge. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 23346 | Murderer's ape, The Wegelius, Jakob | Pushkin Press | 2017 | 9781782691617 | Sally Jones is not only a loyal friend, she's an extraordinary individual. In overalls or in a maharaja's turban, this unique gorilla moves among humans without speaking but understanding everything. She and the Chief are devoted comrades who operate a cargo boat. A job they are offered pays big bucks, but the deal ends badly, and the Chief is falsely convicted of murder. For Sally Jones this is the start of a harrowing quest for survival and to clear the Chief's name. Powerful forces are working against her, and they will do anything to protect their secrets. |
| 84867 | Museum of Mary Child, The Golds, Cassandra | Puffin Australia | 2009 | 9780143304142 | Heloise lives with her godmother in an isolated cottage and, next door, is a sinister museum dedicated to the memory of Mary Child. Visitors enter it with a smile but depart with fear in their eyes. When Heloise finds a doll under the floorboards, she keeps it against her godmother's advice. That's when the delicate truce between Heloise and her godmother begins to unravel. |
| 33 | My Australian story: A banner bold, The diary of Rosa Aarons, Ballarat Goldfield, 1854 Wheatley, Nadia | Scholastic Australia | 2000 | 9781865042640 | Rosa goes to the Ballarat goldfields with her parents in 1854, during the lead up to the Eureka Stockade. She keeps a daily journal of her experiences - a fresh and interesting minutiae of daily life on the goldfields. |
| 1436 | My Australian story: A different sort of real, The diary of Charlotte McKenzie, Melbourne, 1918-1919 Greenwood, Kerry | Scholastic Australia | 2001 | 9781865043838 | As the horrors of the First World War are drawing to a close, an influenza pandemic has arisen that will kill more people around the world than the Great War. Charlotte McKenzie, assisting the doctor, finds herself experiencing first hand the effects of this devastating disease. This is Charlotte's diary, written in post World War I Melbourne in 1918. |
| 36214 | My Australian story: Claw of the dragon, The diary of Billy Shanghai Hamilton, Broome, Western Australia, 1899-1900 Bernard, Patricia | Scholastic Australia | 2008 | 9781865048611 | Billy Shanghai Hamilton has been snatched by pirates in the Torres Strait and forced to work on a pearling boat. Greed for pearls drives men mad and the seas are full of danger. Soon Billy is fighting for survival in a dangerous world of assassins, treasure hunters, deep-sea diving, underworld crime and mutiny. |
| 60043 | My Australian story: Cyclone Tracy, The diary of Ryan Turner, Darwin, 1974 Tucker, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2006 | 9781865049168 | A fictionalised account of the devastation wrought by Cyclone Tracy on Christmas Eve, 1974. Fourteen year old Ryan shares his perspective of life in Darwin with stories of his family life, his friendships and his first girlfriend. |
| 12450 | My Australian story: Fords and flying machines, The diary of Jack McLaren, Longreach, 1919-1921 Bernard, Patricia | Scholastic Australia | 2003 | 9781865045627 | Jack McLaren, a fourteen year old, is offered a mechanics apprenticeship in Longreach, Queensland. He gets to travel north with two World War 1 pilots in a model T Ford, finding the best route for an air race. The beginning of QANTAS. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 52241 | My Australian story: Gallipoli Tucker, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2013 | 9781742836935 | Victor March is 14 years old and looking for adventure. He lies about his age and enlists in the 10th Battalion to fight in the Great War. He is among the first soldiers to land at Anzac Cove in 1915 and his world will forever change. |
| 25287 | My Australian story: Kokoda Tucker, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2014 | 9781743622056 | During World War II, Archie's two brothers are fighting the Japanese in the jungles of New Guinea. In his diary, Archie records how Townsville becomes a base for the pacific campaign, as the Australian coastline reels under Japanese bombs. Archie also records his own battle against the local bully. |
| 9240 | My Australian story: On board the Boussole, The diary of Julienne Fulbert, Laperouse's Voyage of discovery, 1785-1788 Edwards, Christine | Scholastic Australia | 2002 | 9781865044354 | Adventures on the high seas for an accidental stowaway with a mysterious and frightening past. But, it is yet to be established if the stowaway is Jules, or Julienne. |
| 316 | My Australian story: Plagues and federation, The diary of Kitty Barnes, The Rocks, Sydney 1900 Farrer, Vashti | Scholastic Australia | 2001 | 9781865042664 | Kitty wrote her diary living in the slums of the Rocks in 1900. She describes the harsh experiences of her surroundings and details of life in early twentieth century Sydney. |
| 58992 | My Australian story: Refugee, The diary of Ali Ismail, Woomera, 2001-2002 Sunderland, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2006 | 9781865049199 | The Taliban in Afghanistan are seeking out young boys to become fighters. Fourteen year old Ali is smuggled out on a small boat. After a gruelling journey, Ali is rescued and transferred to Woomera Detention Centre in the Australian desert. |
| 3046 | My Australian story: Surviving Sydney Cove, The diary of Elizabeth Harvey, Sydney, 1790 Alexander, Goldie | Scholastic Australia | 2000 | 9781865042671 | Life in the early days at Sydney Cove is told through the diary of a young girl. |
| 3731 | My Australian story: The rum rebellion, the diary of David Bellamy, Sydney Town, 1807-1809 Gleeson, Libby | Scholastic Australia | 2001 | 9781865043623 | David Bellamy is afraid. He fears the strange new land of New South Wales, its inhabitants and its wild creatures. He fears his relatives who have taken him in and the swearing, cursing Governor Bligh. And then, on Anniversary Day, 26th January, 1808, David and his new friends, Kitty and Ralph, are on the streets of Sydney Town when the military march on Government House. |
| 461 | My Australian story: Who am I, The diary of Mary Talence, Sydney 1937 Heiss, Anita | Scholastic Australia | 2006 | 9781865043616 | Mary is ten when she begins to write in her diary. She documents her life as an Aboriginal child who was taken from her natural parents and raised by a non-Aboriginal foster family. Mary doesn't fit in and starts to question why. |
| 264 | My family and other animals Durrell, Gerald | Penguin | 1964 | 9780140013993 | The author's life on the island of Corfu with his family and an assortment of animals. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1209730 | My family and other suspects Emery, Kate | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781760529215 | <p>"What happens when your closest family are the prime suspects in a murder mystery? Spending a weekend visiting her step-grandmother and hanging out with relatives at the family farm isn't 14 year-old Ruth's idea of fun, especially when there is no internet or phone reception, and there is the added complication of trying to suppress her crush on her sort-of-cousin 15 year-old Dylan. But when the sudden and suspicious death of step-grandmother GG keeps the extended family trapped at the farmhouse, it gives Ruth and Dylan a chance to solve the murder mystery themselves."</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Kate Emery read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#my-family-and-other-suspects-kate-emery</p> |
| 2941 | My Gallipoli Starke, Ruth & Hannaford, Robert (ill) | Working Title Press | 2015 | 9781921504761 | From the shores of Anzac Cove and beyond, the Gallipoli peninsula was the place where thousands of men fought, suffered, endured or died during the eight months of occupation in 1915. For each of them, their nurses and their families, Gallipoli means something different. |
| 266 | My girragundji McDonald, Meme & Pryor, Boori Monty | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1998 | 9781864488180 | When a boy has bullies, a scary monster lurking about at night, and a strange noise outside his window to contend with, the last thing he expects is for a little green tree frog to be his saviour. But he names the frog Girragundji and together they learn how to be brave and face the world together. |
| 34300 | My name is Mina and I love the night Almond, David | Hodder Children's Books (UK) | 2010 | 9780340997253 | Mina empties her thoughts, stories and dreams into her notebook, creating an extraordinary journal of her transition from school to homeschool and of life in her neighbourhood. Prequel to Skellig, also on 7-9 booklist, |
| 91222 | My name is Will Thompson Newton, Robert | Penguin | 2008 | 9780143303343 | Will Thompson is a bit of a misfit. He verges on dyslexia, provokes numerous family problems and has something of a bizarre view of life. He rises to a degree of fame, if not notoriety, when he and two of his friends take on the state to stop the closing of the Goongara Learning Centre. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 588173 | My polar dream Hameister, Jade | Pan MacMillan | 2018 | 9781760554774 | Jade Hameister is a truly remarkable Australian. At fourteen she decided on a goal: To be the youngest person in history to complete the Polar Hat-Trick. In this book you will be taken on her journey as she travels through polar lands hostile to human life and accomplishes something truly remarkable. An inspirational true story that might very well change your perspective on the limits on what is possible. |
| | My side of the story series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 6321 | My sister lives on the mantelpiece Pitcher, Annabel | Orion | 2011 | 9781444001839 | Since the death of his sister, Rose, in a terrorist attack, life for ten year old Jamie has been torn apart. A move to the country with his dad and older sister only increases Jamie's torment. His father mourns through alcohol and a wild rage against the killers. Jamie is bullied at his new school and yearns for his absent mother. Jamie knows he should feel sadder but he barely remembers his sister. |
| 1228289 | My so-called family Gordon, Gia | MacMillan | 2024 | 9780374392055 | Sixth-grader artist Ash, who has been in foster care most of her life, struggles with an ancestral tree assignment, but soon discovers the true meaning of family. |
| 13399 | My story: Agincourt, Jenkin Lloyd, France 1415 Cox, Michael | Scholastic UK | 2003 | 9780439982665 | Jenkin Lloyd is fourteen and about to embark on the adventure of his life when he goes off to war, as an archer, for King Henry V to fight against the 60,000 strong French troupes at Agincourt. Jenkin knows there is not much chance of surviving the day. |
| 9316 | My story: flying ace, the story of Amelia Earhart Bull, Angela & Forsey, Chris | Dorling Kindersley | 2000 | 9781740330770 | Amelia Earhart was the first female aviator to cross the Atlantic. This courageous pilot disappeared in terrible weather conditions after flying out of Australia. She believed women must attempt the same challenges as men. |
| 4393 | My story: hunger, the diary of Phyllis McCormack, Ireland 1845-1847, The Drinkwater, Carol | Scholastic UK | 2001 | 9780439997409 | When the potato blight strikes Ireland, fourteen year old Phyllis McCormack goes into service to help feed her family. |
| 17388 | My story: Spy smuggler, Paul Lelaud France 1942-1944 Eldridge, Jim | Scholastic UK | 2004 | 9780439968843 | Now Paul Lelaud has turned fourteen years old, he can escape from his Nazi sympathising teacher, Monsieur Armignac. He desperately wants to do something to free France of the Germans so his Uncle Maurice takes him into the French Resistance. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 3048 | My story: the Yankee whaler, the diary of Thomas Morris Lisson, Deborah | Scholastic Australia | 2001 | 9781865044385 | Thomas Morris thinks something mysterious is going on in Bunbury. The telegrams he delivers carry cryptic messages and strangers are acting in odd ways. Tom writes down his exciting adventures as he becomes part of a mysterious and amazing plot. |
| 102917 | My story: U-boat hunter, Peter Rogers, HMS Arum 1939-1945 Perrett, Bryan | Scholastic UK | 2005 | 9780439959384 | Peter is the son of a merchant sailor during the Second World War whose father survives a bombing by a German U-Boat. This motivates Peter to be more actively involved in the English war effort. |
| 104760 | My story: war nurse, the diary of Kitty Langley, 1939-1940 Reid, Sue | Scholastic UK | 2005 | 9780439959025 | Kitty is a VAD (Voluntary Aid Detachment) nurse stationed at Standhaven military hospital. She doesn't know if she has it in her to nurse the young wounded soldiers coming in from France but they desperately need her help. |
| 272 | Mysterious ruins: lost cities and buried treasure Prior, Natalie Jane | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1996 | 9781864482478 | From the True Stories series, here are tales of hidden treasure and lost temples deep in the rainforests. |
| 17147 | Mystery of Eilean Mor, The Crew, Gary & Geddes, Jeremy (ill) | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2005 | 9780734407955 | The keepers of the Eilean Mor lighthouse all disappeared without a trace. Find out what secrets the lighthouse hides in this picture book for older readers. |
| 567942 | Mystery of the colour thief, The Jozefkowicz, Ewa | Zephyr | 2018 | 9781788546492 | After a frightening car accident, Izzy's mum is in a coma. Her family is in pieces. Her best friend at school has dumped her. And her nightmares are haunted by a shadowy man stealing all the colours from her world. She's trying so hard to be brave, but Izzy thinks everything is her fault. Then she meets her new neighbour, Toby, paralysed after a skateboarding accident, and together they find a nest of cygnets who need rescuing. Particularly the odd one out, called Spike. Will saving Spike save Izzy? Will she and Toby solve the mystery of the colour thief and bring hope and happiness back to Izzy's life? Written with insight, compassion and empathy - an authentic story about real life and how to survive it. |
| 16271 | Mystery of the ruby glasses, The Cripps, Lindsay | Lothian Books | 2007 | 9780734408044 | They can't resist exploring the locked room in Uncle Ruben's house. Looking through a pair of antique opera glasses, She is transported to a strange land depicted in one of Ruben's paintings where there are lots of clues to be followed. |
| 9356 | Natalie Imbruglia Gott, Robert | Reed Library | 2000 | 9781863919371 | Natalie Imbruglia is an internationally renowned singer and songwriter, who has won many music industry awards. |
| 274 | Nature of the beast, The Howker, Janni | Walker Books | 1996 | 9780744543506 | A community in Yorkshire, England, devastated by unemployment, has another problem to contend with. An unknown beast is roaming the moors. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 16844 | Ned Kelly's secret Masson, Sophie | Scholastic Australia | 2012 | 9781742830322 | Hugo and his father have come to Australia to research life in the gold fields. When the coach they are travelling on is bailed up by a bushranger, they decide to find out all they can about bushrangers. Little does Hugo know that when he befriends fifteen year old Ned Kelly, he is much closer to bushrangers that he expected. His comfortable travels with his father are about to lead to exciting and dangerous places. |
| 23016 | Ned Kelly: The man behind the mask Dolan, Hugh | NewSouth Publishing | 2016 | 9781742234496 | The tale of Ned Kelly told as never before. Readers will enjoy not only the tale of the Kelly Gang and those who sought to imprison them but the faithful recreation of historical landscape on which this most amazing of stories was played out. Beautiful full colour illustrations bring the story to life and the addition of period newspaper clips make this a valuable study for readers of all ages with an interest in bushrangers or Australian history. |
| 587815 | Ned's circus of marvels: The darkening king Fisher, Justin | HarperCollins Australia | 2018 | 9780008124588 | The Armstrongs are both predator and prey, hunting for clues to help them fight the Darkening-King, while constantly watching their backs. This time it's not just the world of the Hidden searching for them: the Josser world is intent on capturing the family too. Leading the search is the curious Mr Fox and his agents in grey, and they've found an ally who knows Ned's every move. As the world of the Hidden begins to fall apart, its horde of Demons and Darklings threatens to spill out of the shadows at any moment. With his trusty mouse and Familiar, Lucy and George, Ned must travel from the snow-swept forests of Siberia to the cliffs of Dover in a desperate attempt to rally allies for a final stand. Fearsome enemies will become allies and old allies enemies, as Ned prepares himself for the final battle. |
| 25466 | Ned's Circus of Marvels: The gold thief Fisher, Justin | HarperCollins Australia | 2017 | 9780008124557 | Ned and his family are trying to be ordinary - except they aren't. When the world's gold goes missing and a thief appears at his house, Ned is forced to slip back behind the veil. Reunited with his old friends, they must uncover the villain and a secret which could end the world. |
| 15151 | Nelson Mandela: father of freedom Adi, Hakim | White-Thomson Publishing Ltd | 2001 | 9780750233200 | South Africa's famous freedom-fighter struggled for race equality all his life and won. He became president of the people he helped to free and, in so doing, earned love and respect worldwide. It concludes with his life in retirement. |
| 3116 | Netball or nothing Hellard, Bernadette & Gibbs, Lisa | HarperCollins Australia | 2000 | 9780207199608 | Rachel's goal is to play netball for Australia but she has a lot to learn about being a team player. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1017883 | Never a hero Len, Vanessa | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781760878351 | Despite all of the odds, Joan achieved the impossible. She reset the timeline, saved her family--and destroyed the hero, Nick. But her success has come at a terrible cost. She alone remembers what happened. Now, Aaron, her hard-won friend--and maybe more--is an enemy, trying to kill her. And Nick, the boy she loved, is a stranger who doesn't even know her name. Only Joan remembers that a greater and more dangerous enemy is still out there. When a deadly attack forces Joan back into the monster world, she finds herself on the run with Nick--as Aaron closes in. Torn between love and family and monstrous choices, Joan must find a way to re-gather her old allies to face down the deadliest of enemies, and to save the timeline itself |
| 1263721 | Never thought I'd end up here Liang, Ann | Penguin Books Australia | 2025 | 9781761351495 | After an incident at a cousin's wedding, Leah's parents realise she has forgotten how to speak Mandarin and send her on a travel program to immerse herself in the language and culture. Unfortunately for Leah, her childhood nemesis Cyrus is also on the trip and is annoyingly more handsome than the last time she saw him. Leah quickly plots to seek her revenge on Cyrus while on this trip, surely he won't suspect a thing. |
| | Nevermoor series Townsend, Jessica | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1209872 | New girl, The Calin, Cassandra | Graphix | 2024 | 9781761527654 | Lia and her family are waiting to board a flight across the Atlantic, leaving behind family, friends and Romania - the only home Lia has ever known. But Lia's heartache is overshadowed by the discomfort of her first period. As if things weren't difficult enough! Now Lia is thrust into a world where everything is different: her home, her language and even her body. With so many changes happening at once, Lia struggles with her schoolwork, has trouble communicating with classmates and has no idea how to manage her unpleasant periods. Will she ever feel like herself again? |
| 654 | New Guinea moon Constable, Kate | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2013 | 9781743315033 | For 16 year old Julie these Christmas holidays become life changing. Her parents separated when she was three and she is meeting her father, a pilot in New Guinea, for the first time since then. In addition, spending time away from her mother is something Julie is looking forward to - a time to decide her own path. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 9819 | Newt's emerald Nix, Garth | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781760112653 | After the Newington Emerald is stolen at the height of a conjured storm, eighteen year old Lady Truthful Newington goes to London to search for the magical heirloom. But, as a well-bred young lady cannot hunt the metropolis for a stolen jewel, she has to disguise herself as a man. Lady Truthful is soon caught up in a dangerous adventure where she must risk her life, her reputation and her heart. Her father's life and even the fate of England may depend upon her recovering the Newington Emerald. |
| 21238 | Nganga: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander words and phrases Muir, Aunty Fay & Lawson, Sue | Black Dog Books | 2018 | 9781921977015 | Written by Aunty Fay Muir, an Elder and Traditional Owner of Boon Wurrung Country. She is the senior linguist at the Victorian Aboriginal Corporation for Languages in Melbourne. This collection of definitions, words and phrases is titled Nganga, which is defined on page 84 as "a word from Boon Wurrung language, meaning to see and understand". |
| 638653 | Nice girls don't play footy Helidoniotis, Kathy | Scholastic Australia | 2019 | 9781742769226 | More than anything Devi Sharma wants to win the upcoming BollyOz competition for her mum. Then she'll be on her way to becoming Bollywood's first ever Australian half-Indian, sort of Kiwi, quarter Scottish, Vaisnavi vegan superstar! Then Devi starts AFL lessons at school and she's surprised to find she has talent...and a feeling she hasn't had in a long time. Can Devi convince her family to let her play AFL when nice girls don't play this football and her mum thinks it will risk her winning BollyOz? With the help of her best friend in the whole entire universe, Josie, Devi needs to come up with a plan so she can play footy like she wants and light the fire in her belly once again. |
| 9331 | Nicola and the viscount Cabot, Meg | Pan Macmillan US | 2002 | 9780330415170 | London, 1810: Miss Nicola Sparks, independent husband-hunting orphan meets the fabulously rich, breathtakingly handsome cad and bounder, Lord Sebastian. She is involved in a kidnapping and a very romantic rescue. |
| 570822 | Night flights Reeve, Philip & McQue, Ian (ill) | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781742997674 | Anna Fang is a spy. An aviatrix. An escaped slave. No one knows the whole story of Anna...till now. In the dangerous world of Mortal Engines, where huge motorised cities hunt and devour each other Anna Fang wages war against them. These three original, and beautifully illustrated, stories bring the city-eat-city world alive and flesh out the brave, bold and rebellious Anna Fang. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 13023 | Night of the burning Press Wulf, Linda | Bloomsbury | 2007 | 9780747590514 | Sisters, Devorah and Nechama, are two of Isaac Ochberg's orphans who have survived the Night of the Burning in Domachevo, Poland, in 1920. With courage and hope, the sisters travel to South Africa for a better life and a desire to find safety and a family that might love them. |
| 9325 | Night singing Meehan, Kierin | Penguin | 2003 | 9780143300601 | A funny and fascinating story of contemporary Australia with a moving tale of survival in Hiroshima at the end of the Second World War. When Josh breaks his leg, he is rescued by his kind but mysterious neighbour, Mrs Murakami. |
| 20769 | Night vision West, Ella | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743317662 | Viola can't go out in the sun. If she does, it will kill her. Even fluorescent lights can do her harm. So, her parents invest in night vision goggles and let her roam the nearby forest at night for fun. When Viola sees something that she will not ignore, she has a choice to make. But, choices come with consequences and hers may have dangerous implications. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above. |
| 941519 | Nightbirds Armstrong, Kate J | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781760526900 | In a dazzling new fantasy world full of whispered secrets and political intrigue, the magic of women is outlawed but three girls with unusual gifts have the chance to change it all. |
| 3157 | Nightfall Halpern, Jake & Kujawinski, Peter | Hot Key Books | 2016 | 9781471405730 | On Marin's island, sunrise doesn't come every twenty-four hours - it comes every twenty-eight years. Now the sun is just a sliver of light on the horizon. The weather is turning cold. The shadows are growing long. The dark is rising. And soon it will be Night. Because Night is falling. Their island is changing. And something is stirring in the dark. |
| 1423835 | Nightmare house, The Allen, Sarah | MacMillan | 2023 | 9781250869869 | Penny Hope used to be brave, but that was before she met the Fear Maker. Years later, he still haunts her nightmares -- a tall, thin man with red eyes, in a haunted house in the woods, who devours human souls and leaves their eyes hollow and empty. Penny's beloved grandma tells her to write down these nightmares as poems in her notebook. But then Penny starts seeing blank-eyed people in the waking world, too. She's the only one who notices. As more people around her fall prey to the Fear Maker, Penny must gather her courage once and for all to save the souls of those she loves. With the help of a magic garden and a new friend, she ventures to the Fear Maker's house. But the house is a labyrinth of shadows and tricks -- and the Fear Maker's fun is just beginning. Can a pocketful of sunflower seeds and a notebook filled with poems be enough to defeat a master of nightmares? And if Penny sets foot in the Fear Maker's house, will she ever leave? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 822824 | Nimona Stevenson, Noelle | HarperCollins US | 2015 | 9780062278227 | Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and Heroics aren't the heroes everyone thinks they are. But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona's powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit. |
| 1124940 | Nine girls Gregg, Stacy | Penguin NZ | 2024 | 9781776958146 | Set in New Zealand in the late 1970's to early 1980's, the main character Titch is 12 years old when her father goes bankrupt, causing her family to move from the predominantly white city suburb of Remuera to the small, predominantly Maori, town of Ngaruawahia, to be close to her mothers family. In Ngaruawahia Titch and her cousins hear about a stash of gold buried on their family land and they become determined to find it. Titch also meets an unusual creature who guides her through the stories of her ancestors. As Titch learns about her heritage she must navigate feeling like an outsider in her own world. |
| 2135 | Nine open arms Lindelauf, Benny & Nieuwenhuizen, John (trans) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743315859 | The Boons, a large, motherless family, are always on the move. Their father, a dreamer, takes risks that never pay off. When the family moves to an isolated house, Fing and her sisters sense the house and adjacent cemetery have a macabre past. They defy their strong-tongued grandmother to explore the cellar and a curious hole in the hedge. The house has its secrets and, somehow, they are linked to the family. |
| 9368 | Nips go national Starke, Ruth | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780734404749 | Flushed with their multicultural cricketing success in NIPS XI, the team goes interstate to watch the Aussie team practise on the holiest turf in cricket, the MCG. They are also invited to an important cricket carnival. |
| 277 | Nips XI Starke, Ruth | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9780734401137 | The boys at North Illaba Primary School form a cricket team. The team includes students from different cultures and they combine to celebrate their common interests, not their diversities. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1423330 | No dress, no idea Stephens, R.A | Wombat Books | 2025 | 9781761112485 | Graduation is just over a year away, but all Tarni can think about is her Year 12 formal. The shoes, the makeup, the car, the photos and most importantly, the dress! But Tarni's perfect dress is a whopping \$950, and she will have to save every cent to get it. Tarni checks each item off her list, one by one, but by the time she's saved enough money, the dress has disappeared! Can she find her perfect dress-and in the right size? And what will she do when she graduates? |
| 278 | No gun for Asmir Mattingley, Christobel & Honey, Elizabeth (ill) | Puffin Australia | 1993 | 9780140367294 | Asmir and his family are trying to escape from the war in Sarajevo. |
| 11853 | No regrets Bell, Krista | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780734404305 | Julia, a gifted student, musically and academically, is accelerated to high school. She feels socially isolated and desperately wants to fit in with the other students. Julia's life changes in many ways when the school band travels to Hobart. |
| 37387 | No tears Bell, Krista | Lothian Books | 2006 | 9780734406958 | Xanthe and Julia are best friends. They are both very talented. Xanthe dreams of winning a medal at the National Diving Championships and Julia is a talented musician. Both girls have to deal with some serious challenges to realise their dreams. |
| 32309 | Noah Barleywater runs away Boyne, John | David Fickling Books | 2010 | 9780385618953 | Eight year old Noah is running away from his problems, or at least that's what he thinks, the day he takes the untrodden path through the forest. When he comes across a very unusual toyshop and meets the even more unusual toymaker, he's not sure what to expect. But, the toymaker has a story to tell, a story full of adventure and wonder and broken promises. |
| 16880 | Noah's law Abdel-Fattah, Randa | Pan MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330426183 | Sixteen year old Noah is a troublemaker. His father is a hotshot barrister. This is not a good combination. When Noah gets caught misbehaving at school, his dad sends him to work at his aunt's law firm, during the holidays, to learn responsibility and fix his attitude. Noah discovers Law & Order TV shows differ from reality big time. |
| 1228279 | Normal women: Making history for 900 years Gregory, Philippa & Snell, Alexis (ill) | HarperCollins Australia | 2025 | 9780008725075 | This book is a radical retelling of the story of Britain--not of the rise and fall of kings and the occasional queen, but of social and cultural change, powered by the determination, persistence and effectiveness of women, from 1066 to modern times. |
| 10718 | Norman and Brenda Thompson, Colin & Lissiat, Amy (ill) | Lothian Books | 2006 | 9780734409560 | Norman and Brenda lead separate, unfulfilled lives until finally their worlds converge and they discover true happiness, thanks to chance. Gentle humour, economy of words and complex visuals. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 62065 | North child Pattou, Edith | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2012 | 9781409540540 | Rose is a North Child and superstition says that she will travel far from home and meet a lonely, icy death. Unaware of her fate, she makes a bargain with a mysterious white bear and is carried to a distant castle. But, once there, Rose unleashes a terrible curse and must embark on an epic journey to save the stranger who has stolen her heart. |
| 846273 | Northwind Paulsen, Gary | Pan MacMillan | 2022 | 9781529069327 | The journey of a boy on the knife-edge between life and death, where the raging seas meet a coastal wilderness. When a deadly plague reaches the small fishing camp where he lives, an orphan named Leif is forced to take to the water in a cedar canoe. He flees northward, following a wild, fjord-riven shore. The deeper into his journey, the closer Leif comes to his truest self as he connects to the heartbeat of the ocean ... the pulse of the sea.' |
| 92217 | Nostradamus prophecy, The Breslin, Theresa | Corgi Books | 2008 | 9780552557214 | When Nostradamus prophesises a great massacre, only Catherine de' Medici, mother of the young French King, Charles, pays heed to the dire warning. But, the soothsayer also has a message for Melisande, the minstrel's daughter. Upon his death, Nostradamus entrusts her with fulfilling his final prophecy. |
| 1999 | Not if I save you first Carter, Ally | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781742765945 | Maddie thought she and Logan would be friends forever. But when your dad is a Secret Service agent and your best friend is the president's son, sometimes life has other plans. Before she knows it, Maddie is dragged off to the middle of the Alaskan wilderness, where there is no phone, no internet, and not a single word from Logan. Six years later Logan lands on her doorstep, and an assailant is not far behind. Maddie wants to kill Logan, but she has to save him first. |
| 40095 | Not-for-parents: The travel book Dubois, Michael, Hilden, Katri & Price, Jane | Lonely Planet Publications | 2011 | 9781742204963 | The world is a very large place and this book concentrates on the really interesting bits to create a snapshot of what each country is like. In this book there are the epic events, amazing animals, hideous histories, funky foods and crazy facts that make the world's 200 countries so fascinating. |
| 283 | Number the stars Lowry, Lois | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1994 | 9780732250911 | A story of the determination of the people of Denmark to protect their Jewish friends from the Nazis in World War II. |
| 3174 | Nutcracker, The Hoffman, Ernst | Dorling Kindersley | 1999 | 9780751371772 | Written in 1816, this is the basis of Tchaikovsky's ballet. In this edition, the classic story of a sinister toymaker and a boy and a girl doll that come to life is presented with beautiful illustrations and detailed historical information. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 2282 | Nymph Alexandra, Tonya | Walker Books | 2014 | 9781922077240 | An idyllic Greek island. Obsessed demigods. A fallen nymph. A mortal boy. Merope, a beautiful but faded star nymph, is banished to Earth for displeasing the gods. She tries to fit in, go to school and live a normal 'human' life. And then she meets Lukas - but relationships between men and goddesses are forbidden. Will their love grow or will Merope and Lukas feel the wrath of the gods. |
| 660731 | Oasis De Becerra, Katya | Imprint Publishing | 2020 | 9781250124265 | Alif had exciting summer plans: working on her father's archaeological dig site in the desert with four close friends ... and a very cute research assistant. Then the sandstorm hit. With their camp wiped away, Alif and the others find themselves lost on the sands, seemingly doomed, until they discover the oasis. It has everything they need: food, water, shade and mysterious ruins that hide a deadly secret. As reality starts to shift around them, they question what's real and what's a mirage. The answers turn Alif and her friends against each other and they start to wonder if they are really saved. While it was easy to walk into the oasis, it might be impossible to leave. A supernatural thriller. |
| | Obernewtyn Chronicles series Carmody, Isobelle | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1013504 | Occasionally happy family, An Burke, Cliff | HarperCollins US | 2021 | 9780063286672 | There are zero reasons for Theo Ripley to look forward to his family vacation. Not only are he, sister Laura, and nature-obsessed Dad going to Big Bend, the least popular National Park, but once there, the family will be camping. And Theo is an indoor animal. It doesn't help that this will be the first vacation they're taking since Mom passed away. Once there, the family contends with 110 degree days, wild bears, and an annoying amateur ornithologist and his awful teenage vlogger son. Then, Theo's dad hits him with a whopper of a surprise: the whole trip is just a trick to introduce his secret new girlfriend. Theo tries to squash down the pain in his chest. But when it becomes clear that this is an auditioning-to-be-his-stepmom girlfriend, Theo must find a way to face his grief and talk to his dad before his family is forever changed. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Octavius O'Malley series Sunderland, Alan & Redlich, Ben (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 707956 | Odd 1s out, The: The first sequel Rallison, James | Scholastic Australia | 2020 | 9781760973377 | An original collection of stories from YouTube sensation James Rallison, filled with funny stories including: - The upside of the robot uprising - Questionable pizza toppings - Strange yet completely reasonable fears - Inventions that don't exist, but should |
| 285 | Odyssey, The Homer | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780553897777 | Following the fortunes of Odysseus as he returns from the Trojan Wars, this classic tale from Greek mythology was written almost three thousand years ago. |
| 98756 | Off to war: soldier's children speak Ellis, Deborah | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741756791 | The collected voices of children with a parent who is a soldier. Their stories are sad, scared, funny, angry and loving as they speak about how war has shaped their lives, and their feelings and experiences when a parent is away for long periods of time. |
| 286 | Ogre downstairs, The Jones, Diana Wynne | HarperTrophy | 2002 | 9780064473507 | When a new stepfather, the ogre to the stepchildren, gives chemistry sets to both sets of children in the house, magic things start to happen. |
| 287 | Old curiosity shop, The Dickens, Charles | Penguin | 2001 | 9780140437423 | Written in 1840, this is the classic story of Little Nell and her grandfather who inhabit a shadowy world. |
| | Old kingdom series Nix, Garth | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 9340 | Old Ridley Crew, Gary & McBride Marc (ill) | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780733613104 | Intriguing fantasy about a solitary teenage boy fascinated by the very old, reputedly mad inventor in the mysterious mansion next door. Based on the myth of Eos and Tithonus who, by a trick of the gods, were granted immortality but not eternal youth. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Oliver Nocturne series Emerson, Kevin | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 288 | Oliver Twist Dickens, Charles | Penguin | 2002 | 9780140435221 | When orphan, Oliver Twist, asks nasty Mr Bumble for more food, he has to flee the workhouse for the streets of London. There, he meets the Artful Dodger, who leads him to Fagin and his gang of pickpockets. When a thieving mission goes wrong, Oliver narrowly avoids prison and finds himself in the care of kind Mr Brownlow. But Fagin and the brutal Bill Sikes are determined to drag Oliver back. |
| 89536 | Oliver Twist and other great Dickens stories Williams, Marcia (retell) | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406305630 | A picture book retelling the classic tales by Charles Dickens. Stories included are Oliver Twist, Great Expectations, A Tale of Two Cities, David Copperfield and A Christmas Carol. |
| 687398 | On hope Jeffrey, Daisy | Hachette Australia | 2020 | 9780733644665 | In On Hope, one of the lead organisers of the Australian Climate strike, 17-year-old Daisy Jeffrey shows how ordinary people are fighting back and demanding we address climate change to help save our planet. Daisy was at the centre of a movement that joined people together to drive change. She reveals what prompted the action, what she and her friends believe and why she is choosing hope over indifference and standing up to speak truth to power. |
| 1066669 | On silver tides Bishop, Sylvia | Andersen Press Ltd | 2024 | 9781839133589 | Kelda and her family are silvermen, a hidden people who swim like fish and breathe through their skin. When Isla, Kelda's little sister, is born without these abilities, her life and the lives of her whole family is at risk and she must be protected from the suspicions of their community. When betrayal comes, Kelda and Isla escape on a desperate journey across Britian's waterways. |
| 916616 | On the Horizon Lowry, Lois | Clarion Books | 2020 | 9780358668077 | Based on the lives of soldiers at Pearl Harbor and civilians in Hiroshima, this verse novel contemplates humanity and war. Lois Lowry draws from her own memories as a child in Hawaii and Japan to look back at history through a personal lens. It contains poems about individual sailors who lost their lives on the USS Arizona and about the citizens of Hiroshima who experienced unfathomable horror. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 19277 | On two feet and wings Kazerooni, Abbas | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781743311059 | It is the time of the Iran Iraq war and nine year old Abbas must urgently leave Tehran, because the army has lowered the recruiting age to eight. With his parents forced to remain in Iran, Abbas is alone in Istanbul, with minimal funds and no Turkish language, waiting for a visa to England. He relies on his intelligence, gut instincts and resilience to survive his dire circumstances. A memoir. |
| 289 | Once and future king White, T H | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1996 | 9780006483014 | A legend of King Arthur set in the 13th century. |
| 587123 | Once upon a time: Regina rising Toliver, Wendy | Titan Books | 2018 | 9781785659539 | Sixteen-year-old Regina seeks romance, adventure, and approval. Of course, getting approval from a mother like Cora is next to impossible. For Regina, friendships have always been a rare commodity. Could it be that Regina has finally found a true friend? Or is it too good to be true? As Regina struggles to find her own identity and create her own destiny, she discovers that her fate might just be to become everything she despises. |
| 803568 | Once, at the edge of the sea Saliba, Sue & Shenfield, Ann | self-published | 2021 | 9780648919001 | Alice has always been devoted to the natural world. But one day she inadvertently betrays what matters most to her and so she leaves her island home, planning to begin again, to be the person she thinks she should be. Clinging to a mysterious wooden box, Alice begins a new life in Melbourne where she meets Esmerelda. As their friendship deepens, Alice is forced to choose between living a comforting lie or accepting a more difficult truth. |
| 5028 | One Crossan, Sarah | Bloomsbury | 2015 | 9781408863114 | Sixteen year old Grace and Tippi are sisters, best friends and conjoined at the hip. As if life isn't difficult enough, they must leave their sheltered home schooling and go into a world of curious students, constant stares and whispers. But, a heart-wrenching decision lies ahead, one that could tear Grace and Tippi apart and change their lives even more than they ever imagined. |
| 628180 | One careless night Booth, Christina | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781925381856 | Where the mist swallows mountains and winds whisper through ancient trees, a mother and her pup run wild and free. They hunt, but they are also hunted. Carted away. Sold for bounty. And then, one careless night...The last thylacine is gone. The beautiful but heartbreaking story of Australia's last thylacine (Tasmanian tiger), which died in captivity. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 5987 | One dark throne Blake, Kendare | MacMillan | 2017 | 9781509807734 | The battle for the crown has begun, but which of the three sisters will prevail? With the unforgettable events of the Quickening behind them and the Ascension Year underway, all bets are off. Katharine, once the weak and feeble sister, is stronger than ever before. Arsinoe, after discovering the truth about her powers, must figure out how to make her secret talent work in her favour without anyone finding out. And Mirabella, once thought to be the strongest sister of all and the certain Queen Crowned, faces attacks like never before- ones that put those around her in danger that she can't seem to prevent. |
| 2777 | One half from the East Hashimi, Nadia | HarperCollins US | 2016 | 9780062572196 | When Obayda's father loses a leg in a bomb explosion, the family is forced to move from Kabul to a small village. Life is very different and her father rarely leaves his room. To bring luck to the family, Obayda's aunt suggests dressing her as a boy, a bacha posh. Now, she is Obayd. Life in this in-between place is confusing until Obayd meets Rahim, another bacha posh. They can explore on their own, climb trees and play sports. But, their transformation and newfound freedoms can't last forever. |
| 45432 | One minute's silence Metzenthén, David & Camilleri, Michael (ill) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743316245 | In one minute of silence, you can imagine a war long gone. You can share what the soldiers saw and felt as they fought. And if you try, you might be able to imagine the enemy and see that he is not so different from you. |
| 845528 | One red shoe Gruss, Karin & Krejtschi, Tobias (ill) | Wilkins Farago Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780987109965 | You're about to go to a place where thousands, even millions, of kids live every day. You're about to enter a war zone. There's been an attack. Grabbing his camera, a newspaper photographer rushes to the nearest clinic. What he finds there will change the way he thinks forever. Inspired by real events in the Middle East, events you might see any day on the TV news, this groundbreaking and acclaimed picture book for older readers will take you to a place far from comfort and safety. What could you possibly have in common with the kids who live there? You're about to find out... |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1905 | One thousand hills Roy, James & Zihabamwe, Noel | Scholastic Australia | 2016 | 9781742990750 | Agabande, Rwanda, April 1994. Pascal and the children in his small village play with the toys they make, go to school and church, and do their chores. But, there are whispers and looks, messages of hate on the radio, and people are leaving. Pascal's simple but happy world is about to change forever. As a ten year old, co-author Noel Zihabamwe actually lived through these atrocities. |
| 18654 | One whole and perfect day Clarke, Judith | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9781741148565 | Lily, the sensible one in her family, wants to be like other teenagers, fall in love and not be responsible for everyone. She wants to bring her freakish family together for just one whole and perfect day. |
| 1067080 | One wrong turn Marrapodi, Chenee | Fremantle Press | 2023 | 9781760992439 | If I wanted the lead role, Valentina had to go. A contemporary Ballet Shoes set in an elite dance academy, this compelling coming-of-age novel is all about overcoming pressure, standing up for yourself and the joy of ballet! The perfect gift for all young dancers. Amelia is a ballerina on the rise - she's talented, dedicated and set to star in the lead role of the annual production. But when Valentina arrives from Italy and joins the ballet academy, the competition gets fierce. Can Amelia outshine Valentina and keep her place in the spotlight? |
| 290 | One-eyed cat Fox, Paula | Aladdin Publishing | 2000 | 9780689839702 | Ned fired just one shot from the forbidden gun. But someone was watching. When a one-eyed cat turns up in an elderly neighbour's yard, Ned is caught in a web of guilt, fear, and shame when he fears his shot wounded the one-eyed cat. |
| 291 | Onion tears Kidd, Diana | HarperCollins Australia | 1990 | 9780207170287 | Nam-Huong escaped from Vietnam and lost her grandfather on the long terrible voyage. She finds it hard to release her pent up grief, until her teacher falls ill. |
| 860995 | Only a monster Len, Vanessa | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781760878313 | Every family has its secrets, the summer Joan Chang-Hunt goes to stay with her gran in London, she learns hers is bigger than most. The Hunts are one of twelve families in London with terrifying hidden powers. Joan is half-monster. And what's more, her summer crush Nick isn't just a cute boy - he's hiding a secret as well; a secret that places Joan in terrible danger. |
| 37083 | Ophelia: Queen of Denmark French, Jackie | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2015 | 9780732298524 | Ophelia, daughter of Denmark's Lord Chancellor and loved by Prince Hamlet, is the girl who will be queen. While Hamlet's family stab, poison or haunt one another, feisty, intelligent and ambitious Ophelia plans a sensible rule, filled with justice and the making of delicious cheeses. Even if she has to pretend to be mad to make it happen, Ophelia will not let anything, not even howling ghosts, stand in her way. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 26330 | Oracle of the Morrigan Trent, Tiffany & Crilley, Paul | Mirrorstone | 2008 | 9780786949748 | Sixteen year old Siobhan has travelled back in time to medieval Scotland, before fairies and humans were at war. Her task is to bring back one of the scattered rath stones so that the bloodshed can finally end. Watching the beginnings of the hostility between the Fey and humans, Siobhan breaks free of her own timidity and galvanises those around her to create alliances, rescue captives and recover the rath stone. |
| 1174716 | Oscar vs the grand old dude named York Curnow, Ross | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781760657819 | <p>Oscar has more going on than a kid in year 7 should have to deal with. His neighbour is out to get him, the police don't believe him and at school he is in love with Tiffany, the most popular girl who does not know he is alive. Oscar hopes to win her affection by giving her a necklace that his grandfather left him, but this necklace may be more valuable than Oscar realizes. Tiffany will not be the only one interested in such a valuable necklace which may put Oscar and all his friends in danger. Life is definitely a challenge for this teenage boy.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Ross Curnow read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#oscar-vs-the-grand-old-dude-named-york-ross-curnow</p> |
| 783578 | Other side of perfect, The Turk, Mariko | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526252 | Alina has always dreamed of a career as a ballet dancer but in a blink of an eye, her dreams and leg are left shattered. Alina recovers from her physical injury but must now learn who she is when she is no longer able to define herself as a dancer. Alina joins the high school musical in the hope that it will help her forge a new identity and purpose. She struggles to adapt but with the help of Jude, attractive, optimistic and supportive she begins to find a new purpose and interest in her life. Alina loved being a ballet dancer but stepping aside highlights some of the negative aspects of a sport she once loved. Will she be able to forgive her dance teacher for her racist treatment? Will she get the guy? and most importantly, will she be able to find out who she really is? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 750972 | Other side of the sky, The Kaufman, Amie & Spooker, Meagan | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9780062893338 | On a planet with two moons there is the Below and the Skyland. Goddess of the Below is Nimhara and Prince of the Skyland is North. When North loses control of his glider and falls from Alciel to the Below, he is sure he will die. However, for Nimh, his arrival sparks certainty that he represents her destiny. And did we mention the cat? You're going to love the cat. |
| 876985 | Other Side of Tomorrow, The Lawrence, Hayley | Scholastic Australia | 2022 | 9781760976453 | What if you thought you had forever... To live your life. To tell your story. But what if forever was taken from you? When your tomorrows are counted, all you have is this moment. And this story you wish was never yours to tell. When Abby traded her life in the city for a wholesome new life on the coast, it was meant to be a fresh start for her family. Behind them was the sickness and sadness of the past. But sickness doesn't always play by the rules. And as Abby's past threatens to swallow her future, she is forced to decide what is most important. What she will fight for. And she will fight. For however many days she has left. |
| 294 | Outcast, The Bernard, Patricia | HarperCollins Australia | 1997 | 9780732257682 | First in the Outcast Trilogy, this story introduces the chip-enhanced city dwellers of the future. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above. |
| 83493 | Outlaw son: the story of Ned Kelly Hunt, Paula | Black Dog Books | 2009 | 9781742030784 | Described as a kind and gentle man, who was also a bank robber, thief and murderer, Ned Kelly is Australia's most famous bush ranger. |
| 296 | Oxford book of story poems, The Harrison, Michael & Stuart-Clark, Christopher | Oxford University Press | 2002 | 9780192762122 | With the common theme of narrative verse, this collection of poems contains humorous and serious verse for children and adults. |
| 9265 | Oxford treasury of classic poems Harrison, Michael & Stuart-Clark, Christopher | Oxford University Press | 2004 | 9780192762894 | An anthology for middle years' students for all times. |
| 12937 | Pablo Picasso: master of modern art Gogerly, Liz | White-Thomson Publishing Ltd | 2003 | 9780750243247 | Throughout his life, Picasso took risks, experimented and pushed the boundaries. Like his art, his life was full of passion. Whether painting, producing sculptures or working with ceramics, he produced some of the greatest art of the twentieth century. |
| 18691 | Paddy McCann, time shifter Blake, Bronwyn | Lothian Books | 2005 | 9780734407832 | A humorous, futuristic tale of irrepressible Paddy, a Year 8 student. Due to a series of mishaps, Paddy is seen as a troublemaker and his teacher has it in for him. His mission in 3005 AD is to get through life without losing the plot or anything else. |
| 298 | Pagan's crusade Jinks, Catherine | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9781741752311 | Set in 1187, Pagan is the young squire for a knight in Jerusalem, fighting in the Crusades. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 12605 | Pain, my mother, Sir Tiffy, cyber boy & me, The Bauer, Michael Gerard | Omnibus Books | 2016 | 9781742991504 | Maggie Butt's world is under siege. Not only is a stranger taking over her mother's life but her own as well, and Maggie is not going to let that happen. But, then, there's Sister Evangelina, the one-eyed, snaggle-toothed cat, senior subject choices, the dream date and Cyber Boy, the geek in the library, to contend with as well. |
| 4980 | Paladero: The riders of thunder realm Lochran, Steven | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2016 | 9781760124700 | Joss, a mysterious boy with a tragic past, has only ever dreamed of being a Paladero. A cowboy knight of the Thunder Realm. Will he be able to complete his quest of crossing the savage lands to the doomed Ghost City of Vaal? With his fellow questors and his Raptor mount, Joss must complete this traditional rite of passage or die trying. |
| 68097 | Paladin Lockett, Dave | Omnibus Books | 2010 | 9781862918672 | Sam could never have imagined how one good deed would change his world. Finny knows a lot more about changing worlds than she has let on. Together, these two strange friends will find their true calling in a land far from their own, one where danger and magic go hand-in-hand. |
| 45928 | Pan's whisper Lawson, Sue | Black Dog Books | 2011 | 9781742032061 | Pan Harris is brash, loud and damaged. Ordered into foster care, Pan is full of anger at her mother who abandoned her and her older sister who kept her from her father. Pan is certain that she knows the reality of her past until she meets Hunter, the boy who understands her story better than anyone else. He may be the key to unlocking the truth of Pan's memories but that would mean breaking her most important rule. Never. Trust. Anyone. |
| 9226 | Papunya School book of country and history Wheatley, Nadia & staff & students of Papunya School | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9781865085258 | A unique and fascinating account, from an Indigenous perspective, of the history of Western Desert communities. |
| 884072 | Paradise on fire Rhodes, Parker Jewell | Orion | 2021 | 9781510109858 | Addy, a young Black girl goes on a wilderness camp to discover herself and to deal with past trauma. She comes face to face with challenges, getting to know herself better and facing the dangers brought on by climate change. |
| 3878 | Paradise trap, The Jinks, Catherine | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742375748 | When Marcus goes on a boring holiday to the beach, things quickly become much more interesting when he discovers his smelly old caravan has a hidden cellar, filled with amazing fantasy worlds. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 6638 | Paruku: the desert brumby Blackadder, Jesse | ABC Books | 2014 | 9780733331794 | A middle eastern sheik wants to capture wild brumbies roaming the Kimberley Ranges and train them to become race horses. A horse vet and his daughter Rachel go into the outback to round up some horses with the help of local aborigines. Rachel finds her feelings divided between wanting freedom for the horses and serving her father. |
| | Parvana series Ellis, Deborah | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 302 | Parzival: the quest of the Grail Knight Paterson, Katherine | Penguin USA | 2000 | 9780141305738 | Parzival meets three mounted men in armour and is determined to have adventures in the court of King Arthur. |
| 17268 | Pasta detectives, The Steinhofel, Andreas & Wells, Steve (ill) | Chicken House | 2010 | 9781906427276 | Rico is unusual. His head gets mixed up but Rico is brilliant at noticing little things - like the strange goings-on in the next apartment block. When his new and only friend, the gifted, anxious Oscar is kidnapped, Rico gets a chance to put all his special skills to the test in a violent, dangerous adventure. |
| 303 | Pastures of the blue crane Brinsmead, Hesba | University of Queensland Press | 2004 | 9780702234620 | A lonely girl discovers that she has inherited a property in northern Queensland. The grandfather she has never known goes with her to this unfamiliar, rural community. |
| 305 | Pattern of islands, A Grimble, Arthur | | 1965 | 9780719505652 | The colonial governor gives his account of life on Kirabati and Tuvalu, two islands in the Pacific. |
| 810 | Peculiar, The Bachmann, Stefan | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2012 | 9780007498857 | Don't get yourself noticed and you won't get yourself hanged. Bartholomew Kettle and his sister live by these words. They are Peculiars, half-human, half-faery, and hated by both. But, one day, when a mysterious lady magically whisks away a little boy, Bartholomew forgets the rules. And gets himself noticed. |
| 41228 | Peony lantern, The Watts, Frances | ABC Books | 2015 | 9780733332920 | When Kasumi leaves her remote village for the teeming city of Edo, her life is transformed. She has been chosen by a samurai to become a lady-in-waiting to his new wife. Kasumi is surprised as she has no skills for this role and, worst of all, she is always in trouble for speaking her mind. Surely, this will get her into trouble with her new mistress. When Kasumi learns of a secret that puts them both in danger, she must solve the mystery, behind the danger they face, in order to save herself and her mistress. |
| 307 | Peopling of Australia, The Trezise, Percy | HarperCollins Australia | 1990 | 9780207170379 | From the very early days of Australia, the people shared the land with dangerous beasts and began to develop a culture and traditions. |

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|---------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Percy Jackson series Riordan, Rick | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to ten more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 699083 | Perfectly imperfect stories Potion, Leo & Strumpf, Ana | Magic Cat Publishing | 2020 | 9781916180536 | Meet 29 icons, including pop star Ariana Grande, Hollywood icon The Rock, sporting hero Serena Williams, and even royalty - Prince Harry - and discover how they have dealt with mental health issues to live inspiring lives. Whatever you are going through, learn why it is ok to not be ok with these perfectly imperfect stories. |
| 855807 | Perfectly weird perfectly you Pang, Camilla & Boglio, Laurene (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2022 | 9781526364326 | Camilla Pang grew up with autism and loved lists, numbers and science. As an adult, she has used this love of science to help explain the hows and whys of growing up. In her unique style she links big ideas like confidence, friendships and finding out who you really are to fun scientific concepts. This is a celebration of what makes us all unique, or perfectly weird. |
| 1209698 | Periodic tale, A Kruszelnicki, Dr Karl | HarperCollins Australia | 2024 | 9780733340345 | The only child of Holocaust survivors who fled to Australia in 1950, Karl has always forged his own destiny in an idiosyncratic way. Before he became one of the world's favourite scientific storytellers, he ambled through a convoluted cacophony of a career. In Dr Karl's memoir, you will learn that it's okay to not take a linear path through life, and that by following our curiosities and our passions, we can bend the universe to our liking. |
| 309 | Personal best Duder, Tessa & McFarlane, Peter | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1997 | 9781863307741 | An anthology of stories about a range of sports written by two authors from Australia and New Zealand. |
| 15118 | Peter and the starcatchers Barry, Dave & Pearson, Ridley & Call, Greg (ill) | Disney Press | 2004 | 9780786856831 | In a fast-paced adventure on the high seas and on a faraway island, an orphan boy named Peter and his mysterious new friend, Molly, overcome bands of pirates and thieves in their quest to keep a secret safe and save the world from evil. |
| 1144 | Phantom of Terawhiti Hunt, Des | HarperCollins NZ | 2013 | 9781869509545 | Staying with his father on New Zealand's wild remote coast, Zac finds some animal pawprints on the beach. What is the exotic animal that is being hunted and what does the Russian billionaire have to do with this mystery. |
| 6987 | Pharaoh: the boy who conquered the Nile French, Jackie | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2007 | 9780207200823 | Prince Narmer is fourteen, clever and handsome and, as his father's favourite, destined to be King of Thinis one day. But, when he is involved in a terrible accident that leaves him lame and horribly scarred, Narmer decides to leave his home to travel with the Trader, whose healing skills saved his life. |

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|---------|--|---------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 84290 | Pip: the story of Olive Kane, Kim | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741751192 | Olive Garnaut is in Year 7 and likes things in pairs. But, even with her own perfectly symmetrical family, birthday and bedroom, Olive has only ever felt half. How extraordinary, then, that her twin sister, Pip, appears one day. But, Pip is visible only to Olive. |
| 314 | Pipe, The Moloney, James | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 1996 | 9780850917871 | A skateboarding story with a twist. |
| 596795 | Pirate boy of Sydney Town French, Jackie | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781460754795 | When 12 year old Ben's father loses their ancestral home in 1809 as payment for a gambling debt, Ben reluctantly joins him in a desperate venture to win it back, capturing enemy trading ships off the west Australian coast. While at sea, Ben must face not just the giant waves of the Southern Ocean but also the guns of a Dutch ship, along with unexpected treachery. And only the friendships of the mysterious convict Higgins and the young Indigenous sailor Guwara will help Ben survive, as well as show him the true meaning of loyalty and riches. |
| 782120 | Place inside of me, A: A poem to heal the heart Elliott, Zetta & Denmon, Noa (ill) | Farrar, Straus and Giroux | 2020 | 9780374307417 | There is a place inside of me a space deep down inside of me where all my feelings hide. In this powerful, affirming poem by award-winning author Zetta Elliott, a Black child explores his shifting emotions throughout the year. Summertime is filled with joy-skateboarding and playing basketball-until his community is deeply wounded by a police shooting. As fall turns to winter and then spring, fear grows into anger, then pride and peace. |
| 955 | Plague Orme, David | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237535223 | The year is 1665 and the plague has come to the city of London. For apprentice Henry Harper, life will never be the same. His father has died of the plague, and his mother and brother have fled to the country. Now Henry is alone and he must find a way to escape from the city he loves, before he, too, is struck down. |
| 1263569 | Plantabulous!: More A to Z of Australian plants Clowes, Catherine & Gyan, Rachel (ill) | CSIRO | 2024 | 9781486317202 | Did you know that there are plants that can survive fire? Plants with seed pods that explode, shooting seeds far and wide? Plants that can help clean up pollution? Or that Australia is home to the most 'venomous' plant in the world? This book presents 26 iconic and unique native plants for you to discover in your local park, bushland or even your own backyard. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 775547 | Plantastic! A to Z of Australian plants Clowes, Catherine & Gyan, Rachel (ill) | CSIRO | 2021 | 9781486313211 | Plantastic! presents 26 of Australia's most unique and incredible native plants. Discover and identify native plants found in your local park, bushland or even your own backyard. With its perfect balance of fun facts, activities, adventurous ideas and gorgeous illustrations Plastic! will prove just how fantastic Australia's native plants really are. |
| 317 | Playing Beatie Bow Park, Ruth | Penguin | 1998 | 9780140314601 | Fourteen year old Abigail finds herself transported back to Sydney's Rocks area in the nineteenth century when she follows a mysterious girl, who appeared during a scary game with other children in the neighbourhood. |
| 846266 | PM's daughter, The Costain, Meredith | Penguin | 2022 | 9781761046704 | Catalina Parkes Perez is used to living a normal life. But when her mum becomes Prime Minister her whole life changes. Life at The Lodge means having every moment scheduled and every outfit preapproved. But Cat and her mother disagree on practically everything, especially the government's climate policy. Now someone is trying to sabotage the new PM, putting Cat and everything she loves, in danger. Will she, with the help of some new friends, be able to make things right for her family and the country? |
| 44283 | Pocketful of eyes, A Wilkinson, Lili | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742376196 | Beatrice May Ross, otherwise known as Bee, is in her element working at the taxidermy department at the Museum of Natural History. But, her summer job is full of surprises. For starters, there's a dead body, a mysterious benefactor, a large stuffed tiger and a pocketful of glass eyes. Bee must sift through the clues to discover whether a murder has been committed. |
| 35549 | POE: Stories and poems Hinds, Gareth | Candlewick Press | 2017 | 9780763681128 | Seven of Edgar Allan Poe's most famous and best love stories and poems are collected here in one handsomely illustrated graphic novel for young readers. Poe's classic works have been skilfully adapted to the graphic format in a way that will entrance and terrify a young generation of horror fans without losing their original atmosphere and thought provoking depth. Poems including The Raven are presented in their entirety. |

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|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 723432 | Poet X, The Acevedo, Elizabeth | HarperCollins US | 2018 | 9781405291460 | Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers - especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. With Mami's determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself. So when she is invited to join her school's slam poetry club, she doesn't know how she could ever attend without her Mami finding out. But she still can't stop thinking about performing her poems. Because in the face of a world that may not want to hear her, Xiomara refuses to be silent. |
| 1995 | Poppy Hooper, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2014 | 9781408827628 | Poppy is fifteen, beautiful and clever but, in 1914, society has already carved out her destiny. She will become a servant at the big house. But, Poppy's life is thrown dramatically off course, through a forbidden love then her decision to tend the wounds of injured soldiers at war. As she experiences the best and very worst of humanity, Poppy will find an unexpected freedom and discover how to be truly her own person. |
| 5532 | Poppy in the field Hooper, Mary | Bloomsbury | 2015 | 9781408827635 | When Poppy learns that the love of her life is marrying someone else, she is devastated and volunteers her nursing skills overseas. But, the journey to Flanders is full of horrors, the hospital's Ward Sister is spiteful and the nurses are unfriendly. The dangers of frontline warfare soon make Poppy forget her own troubles and she finds that comfort for a broken heart can be found in the most unexpected places. |
| | Power of Five series Horowitz, Anthony | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 3481 | Power to burn Fienberg, Anna | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9781865080918 | When Roberto arrives in Italy from Australia, he discovers dark family secrets, la magia, the power that is feared and suppressed, a tragic story of love and icy revenge. He and Angelica must stop the curse spreading beyond their family into the world. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1463 | Prehistoric giants: the megafauna of Australia Clode, Danielle | Museum Victoria | 2009 | 9780980381320 | Step back to a time when giant goannas and marsupial lions stalked the Australian bush. Imagine herds of two-tonne animals roaming the plains and flocks of flightless ducks, bigger than emus, striding across the shallow, inland sea. This book reveals an Australia when humans shared the land with giants. |
| 660722 | Pretty funny Elliott, Rebecca | Penguin | 2020 | 9780241374627 | Hayley, or Pig to her school mates, is a curvy, funny girl in a world of skinny, pretty girls. She wants to be a stand up comic, her friends want to find the right mascara and hot boyfriends. |
| 35587 | Pretty girls don't eat Salamon, Winnie | Ford Street Publishing | 2017 | 9781925272772 | Sixteen-year-old Winter Mae Jones knows exactly what she wants. A career in fashion design. There's only one thing standing in her way. She's fat. And fat girls don't work in the fashion industry. So Winter decides to take matters into her own hands. She goes on a diet, which at first makes her feel fab and in control. It's only when things get out of hand that she comes to realise that, not only has she less control than she thought, but also that her weight has nothing to do with what's holding her back. |
| 919357 | Pride and premeditation Price, Tirzah | HarperTeen | 2020 | 9780062889829 | When a scandalous murder shocks London high society, seventeen-year-old aspiring lawyer Lizzie Bennet seizes the opportunity to prove herself, despite the interference of Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy, the stern young heir to the prestigious firm Pemberley Associates. Convinced the authorities have imprisoned the wrong person, Lizzie vows to solve the murder on her own. But as the case - and her feelings for Darcy - become more complicated, Lizzie discovers that her dream job could make her happy, but it might also get her killed. |
| 9275 | Prince in waiting, The Christopher, John | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1983 | 9780003300109 | Luke does not adequately anticipate the future changes to his primitive society. |
| 3497 | Princess diaries, The: Take two Cabot, Meg | MacMillan | 2000 | 9780330482066 | Nothing is simple for the new princess of Genovia. With her mother dating her Algebra teacher, a secret admirer sending her emails and a bad case of the hots for her friend Lilly's brother, Michael, life as Princess Amelia Mignonette Grimaldi Thermopolis Renaldo can be just as bad as Mia Thermopolis's. Mia might have to sacrifice Michael for someone more appropriate like Prince William, not the biggest sacrifice. |
| 45873 | Princess plot, The Boie, Kirsten | Chicken House | 2009 | 9781905294541 | Jenna is excited to be chosen to act in a movie about a princess, amazed when her mother gives her permission to fly off for the filming and confused when she realises she is the spitting image of the missing Princess of Scandia. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 21060 | Prisoner B-3087 Gratz, Alan | Scholastic US | 2013 | 9780545459013 | Survive at any cost. Ten concentration camps. It's something no one could imagine surviving. However, based on a true story, it's what Yanek Gruener has to face. As a Jewish boy during WWII, he is at the mercy of the Nazis who have taken control of everything. |
| 43482 | Prisoner of ice and snow Lauren, Ruth | Bloomsbury | 2017 | 9781408872758 | Valor is under arrest for the attempted murder of the crown prince. Her parents are outcasts from the royal court, her sister is banished for theft of a national treasure, and now Valor has been sentenced to life imprisonment at Demidova, a prison built from stone and ice. But that's exactly where she wants to be. For her sister was sent there too, and Valor embarks on an epic plan to break her out from the inside. No one has escaped from Demidova in over three hundred years, and if Valor is to succeed she will need all of her strength, courage and love. If the plan fails, she faces a chilling fate worse than any prison. |
| 941471 | Project Nought Furedi, Chelsey | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9780358381693 | Ren Mittal's last memory in the year 1996 is getting on a bus to visit his mystery pen pal Georgia. When he wakes up in 2122, he thinks he might be hallucinating...he's not!Tech conglomerate Chronotech sponsors a time-travel program to help students in 2122 learn what history was really like...from real-life subjects who've been transported into the future...and Ren is one of them.In 2122, Ren's life in the 1990s is practically ancient history-and Ren's not sure how to feel about that. On top of it all, he learns that his memory will be wiped of all things 2122 before he's sent back to the '90s. Adding to Ren's complicated feels, he's forming a crush on his student guide, Mars.And when he crosses paths with the absolute last person he expected to see in the future, he has a bigger problem on his hands: What if Chronotech isn't the benevolent organization they claim to be, and he and his fellow subjects are in great danger. |
| 870185 | Prometheus High: How to make a monster Wilson, Stuart | Puffin Australia | 2022 | 9781761042256 | Athena Strange's first semester at Prometheus High starts with a bang. But when her lessons in reanimation, robotics and skulkers move too slowly and she has trouble making friends, Athena decides to take matters into her own hands. On a ship where science and magic collide, and the monster under your bed is probably very real ... will Athena be able to hold her head above water? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 901451 | Prometheus High: The books of the dead Wilson, Stuart | Penguin | 2022 | 9781761042263 | A frantic rooftop race, alchemy lessons on the zeppelin, a booby-trapped pyramid ... just the start of semester two at Prometheus High. Join Athena and Marceline on their mission to unearth Marceline's past. Does it have anything to do with the ancient monster on the airship and how far are they willing to go to reach their answers? |
| 31116 | Promise horse, The Merchant, Jackie | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781760650568 | Harry is tired of being the tall new kid with red hair, big feet, and freckles. The one with the dead sister who's voice follows her everywhere she goes. People tell her she's imagining Sissy, but they are wrong, surely she wouldn't be such a pain if Harry was making her up? When Harry's wish for a horse comes true and Marksman comes into her life she wonders if she should have wished so hard, because Marksman is big, huge even, and Harry wonders if she has taken on more than she can deal with. But could this challenge be just what she needs to learn the difference between standing out and standing up? |
| 1409487 | Promises and other lies Whiting, Sue | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781760658649 | One year on from a devastating bushfire, the small coastal town of Wangaroo Bay is still reeling. Fletch's family lost their home, and his best friend Immie lost her beloved dad, a volunteer firefighter. Throughout it all, Fletch and Immie have had each other. Immie's grandparents push for the Bayfire investigation to be reopened, but Fletch's mum, dad and elder brother Cooper want to put the past behind them. And when a local, one of their own, is charged with arson, emotions flare, sides are taken, and promises - and secrets - are at stake. The fire has already destroyed Wangaroo Bay, now its aftermath threatens to destroy Fletch and Immie and their families too. |
| 27421 | Promising Azra Thurloe, Helen | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9781760113278 | Azra is sixteen, smart and enthusiastic. When she wins a place in a national science competition, Azra thinks her biggest problem will be getting her parents' permission to go. But, she doesn't know that they're busy arranging her marriage to an older cousin she's never met, in Pakistan, in just three months time. Azra's dreams of finishing high school with her friends then studying science are suddenly overshadowed. Her dreams and ambitions do not include marriage. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Protector of the small series Pierce, Tamora | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 660781 | PS I still love you Han, Jenny | Scholastic Australia | 2014 | 9781442426733 | They were just pretending. Until they weren't. And now Lara Jean has to learn what it's like to be in a real relationship and not just a make-believe one. But when another boy from her past returns to her life, Lara Jean's feelings for him suddenly return too. Can a girl be in love with two boys at once? |
| 1316525 | Pull of the moon, The Smith, Pip | University of Western Australia Press | 2025 | 9781760803032 | Coralie threw the life jackets one by one, as hard as she could, and watched them catch on the wind and blow into the sea. Coralie is thirteen years old and lives on Christmas Island, where sea birds circle the sky and the seasons are marked by the migratory patterns of crabs. But life on the island isn't always paradise. During a fierce tropical storm, a fishing boat carrying eighty-nine asylum seekers crashes into the island's cliffs. Coralie locks eyes with Ali, an eleven-year-old Iranian boy, as his mother pulls her life jacket over his head. But soon Ali disappears beneath the waves and when his body isn't recovered, Coralie resolves to do everything she can to find him. |
| 9996 | Pup Heffernan, John | Five Senses Publications | 2015 | 9781876289652 | Against a background of domestic violence and animal cruelty, the strong friendship between a boy and a dog provides a positive outcome for the characters in the story. |
| 24261 | Pureheart Golds, Cassandra | Penguin Books Australia | 2013 | 9780143204275 | When her grandmother dies, Deirdre is left alone in a crumbling block of flats. Looking out the window one misty night, she sees a boy who seems familiar. Together, he and Deirdre must discover the secret of the old building, before it collapses and the secret is lost forever. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 13032 | Queen of hearts Oakes, Colleen | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2016 | 9780008175399 | This is not a story of happily ever after. Beneath each smile lies a secret, and Alice has not tumbled down the rabbit hole into Wonderland. Not yet... Princess Dinah will one day become the Queen of Hearts. She longs for her father's approval and a future with the boy she loves. But when betrayal breaks her heart and threatens her throne, she is launched into danger. Dinah must stay one step ahead of her enemies or she'll lose not just the crown - it will be off with her head. |
| 5633 | Queen's rising, The Ross, Rebecca | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2018 | 9780008245986 | Brienna has lived her whole life in the shadow of her dual heritage. Her Mother was Valenian, a society based around politeness, formality, and academic pursuits, while her father whose name she has never been told to protect her identity hails from the Queen's Realm of Maevana that values strength, bravery and battle prowess. Determined to escape the stigma of her heritage, Brienna strives to master her passion at the prestigious Magnalia House in Valenia and be chosen by a patron to secure her future. But Maevana has long suffered under the rule of a cruel king with no claim to the throne and Brienna's heritage holds the key to unseating this cruel despot. |
| | Quentaris chronicles series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 9247 | Quetta Crew, Gary | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780734402400 | An emotionally charged picture book based on the facts surrounding the shipwreck of the Quetta in Torres Strait in 1890. |
| 7310 | Quiet at the end of the world, The James, Lauren | Walker Books | 2019 | 9781406375510 | After a virus caused global infertility, Lowrie and Shen are the youngest people on the planet. Now spending their days in a small, ageing community in London mudlarking and looking for treasure, they suddenly uncover a secret that threatens humankind. Lowrie and Shen must decide what they are willing to sacrifice to save the human race. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 57876 | Quillblade Chandler, Ben | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2010 | 9781864719789 | Twins, Lenis and Missy, are slaves aboard the powerful airship, the Hiryu. Relentlessly pursued, they fly over the perilous Wasteland, where corrupted Demons lie in wait. When Lenis dreams of Apsilla, the Blue Dragon of the East, the airship captain decides to help the twins find Apsilla's daughter. The survival of the last Totem may be their only hope, if they find the dragon's egg in time. |
| 320 | Rabbits, The Marsden, John & Tan, Shaun (ill) | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9780734402219 | A sophisticated picture book depicting the invasion and multiplying of the rabbits. The threat that this poses is symbolic of the coming of white civilisation to Australia. |
| 3558 | Race to the pole Hooper, Meredith | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340785058 | An exciting retelling for younger readers of the desperate Antarctic bids, by Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen, to be first to the South Pole. |
| 886256 | Raiko's run Heffernan, John | Five Senses Publications | 2022 | 9781760324438 | Previously published as "More than Gold" As thirteen year old Bosnian refugee, Raiko, trains with an Aboriginal mate, Jay, his Olympic dream quickly draws both the local doctor and soccer coach to his side. |
| 5410 | Rain fall West, Ella | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760296834 | A missing neighbour, a mysterious boy, a murder? Fifteen year old Annie is off to her basketball game in her sleepy New Zealand town when she sees a raincoat floating down the river. This starts a chain of events that will rock Annie's world. Police want to investigate her neighbour for murder, but before they can, he blows up his own house and goes on the run. Strangers come to town, including a dark-haired cowboy with the most amazing horse Annie has ever seen. As her world begins to crumble around her, Annie sets out to uncover the secret that could rip her small community apart. |
| 322 | Rain stones French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 1992 | 9780207171246 | A collection of five inspiring and thought-provoking stories. Two stories have a fantasy theme and the others have a more conventional approach. |
| | Ranger's apprentice series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 2324 | Raps 4 big fullas Ross, Monkey Mark | Indij Readers | 2004 | 9780975686027 | Raps and chants that are written by Indigenous Australians and use Aboriginal English will appeal to Aboriginal children. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 12521 | Rapunzel dilemma, The Kloester, Jennifer | Penguin | 2014 | 9780143571087 | Lily's had a charmed life and is off to London to pursue her dream of becoming a great actor. But, Lily finds that things don't always go her way at the London Drama Academy. Lily's got a secret that she's not sure how to handle. A room in one of the deserted towers makes a perfect refuge but Lily can't stay locked away forever. When she meets the mysterious Ronan Carver, everything starts to change. |
| 855832 | Rat-catcher's apprentice, The Jankuloska, Maggie | MidnightSun Publishing | 2022 | 9781925227949 | It's 1665. Rats have infested homes and alleys in Marie Perrin's provincial French town. Twelve-year-old Marie is set to become a maid, although she hungers for adventure. However, one mistake alters her fate and as punishment she is forced to apprentice for an intimidating rat-catcher. Away from her parents and twin brother, and handling gnarly rat traps under Gustave Renard's unusual mentorship, Marie must overcome a new set of challenges which come after a plague enters her town. Are rats responsible for the spread of the illness? Can Marie find a way out of the bubbling danger around her? |
| 5921 | Ratcatcher's daughter, The Rushby, Pamela | HarperCollins Australia | 2014 | 9780732297138 | In 1900, thirteen year old Issy McKelvie reluctantly leaves school to start her first job in an undertakers. She hates it but there's worse to come. Issy becomes an unwilling rat-catcher when the plague, the Black Death, arrives in Australia. She loathes the rats and her father's four yappy, snappy, hyperactive rat-killing terriers. But, when her dad becomes ill, Issy must join the battle to rid the city of the plague-carrying rats. |
| 9337 | Rats of Wolfe Island, The Horsfield, Alan | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780734404411 | In this eerie mystery, Eddie Haite becomes involved in monitoring the behaviour of radiation-affected rats on a remote tropical South Pacific island. Their roles appear reversed and the man who runs the lab seems to be going slowly mad. |
| 2133 | Ratwhiskers and me Marwood, Lorraine | Walker Books | 2008 | 9781921150395 | A prose-verse novel, set amidst the chaos and brutality of the Victorian goldfields in the 1800s. The narrator, traumatised by a fire in which her family died, and her mangy dog, Ratwhiskers, are befriended by a Chinese boy. Posing as a boy, she flees to the Chinese camp, pretending to be Chinese and taking a new name. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 903258 | Raven's song, The Fraillon, Zana & MacDibble, Bren | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781761065798 | Shelby and her best friend Davey live quiet low-tech lives in a closed community, in a world healing itself after a global pandemic that had an unimaginable impact on humanity. When they climb through a hole in the perimeter fence to venture into the surrounding jungle, they find the past and the present about to collide to threaten the future. It will take all of Shelby's daring and determination to ensure the past does not repeat itself. |
| 751113 | Ravens, The Morgan, Kass & Paige, Danielle | Hodder & Stoughton | 2020 | 9781529363838 | At first glance, The Ravens seem like typical sorority sisters. These girls are the most admired at Westerly College. Looks can be deceiving, and these are not just girls but a coven of witches. With a new intake of Littles and a painful secret returning to haunt them, the girls will need to put rivalry aside to save a fellow sister. |
| 1153 | Reaching out, messages of hope Kennedy, Mariah (ed) | HarperCollins Australia | 2013 | 9780733331923 | Children around the world have very different experiences of family and potential. Through poems, illustrations, novel excerpts and short stories 28 of the very best children's authors convey the obstacles that many face and strive to overcome with varying levels of success. Conceived and edited by a fifteen year old Australian school girl, this book demonstrates the power of the individual in making a difference. |
| 46080 | Really short history of nearly everything, A Bryson, Bill | Doubleday | 2008 | 9780385614801 | An entertaining and accessible look at the how and who of scientific discovery; the wonder and mysteries of time and space; the frequently bizarre and often obsessive scientists and the methods they used; the crackpot theories which held sway and the extraordinary, accidental discoveries which advanced whole areas of science. |
| 750997 | Rebel gods Kostakis, Will | Hachette Australia | 2020 | 9780734419262 | Newbie gods Connor, Sally and Locky want to change the world, no biggie. When their first attempted miracle doesn't quite go to plan, they find themselves at odds with their families, the media and each other. To make matters worse, they're drawn into a centuries old conflict between the gods of Love and Fear that just might destroy the world they're striving to make better. |
| | Reconciliation - for older students series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 660698 | Red day Fussell, Sandy | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781760651886 | Set in a modern-day small town among the remnants of a Japanese POW camp, this is the story of Charlie. Charlie has synaesthesia and hence sees and hears differently: people have auras; days of the week are coloured; numbers and letters have attitudes. But when Charlie meets Japanese exchange student Kenichi, her senses intensify and she experiences flashbacks, nausea, and hears unfamiliar voices in her head pulling her back to the town's violent past. |
| 1337892 | Red flags Jo, Sophie | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781761721120 | Neither Poppy nor Cam want it to work ... until it does. Poppy is known for her high standards. Why bother with relationships when boys don't ever seem to live up to her expectations? One red flag and she's out. Cam is known for quickly developing the ick. He's never dated anyone for long - a week here, a month there, but he always spooks. When Poppy's friends challenge her to give someone a chance for two whole months, Poppy decides that Cam (her mysterious bus crush) could be the best of an underwhelming bunch. But Cam's been set his own challenge: he's banned from ending things in his next relationship... and that means he's ready to do whatever he can to put Poppy off. Two skeptics. Two months. And this time, neither of them can disappear the moment they spot something they don't like. |
| 3617 | Red sand, blue sky Applegate, Cathy | Feminist Press | 2002 | 9781558612785 | When young Amy goes to stay with her aunt in the central outback, she befriends Lana. Together, they must overcome racial and cultural barriers and join forces to foil a criminal who is stealing artefacts. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1424127 | Red star rebels Kaufman, Amie | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2026 | 9781761182556 | <p>Eight hours to stop an explosion ... Eight hours to fall in love.</p> <p>It's 2067, and the Graves family has transformed Mars from a lifeless rock into a chaotic patchwork of settlements. You can buy a one-way ticket to a new life - if you're rich. Enter Hunter Graves: handsome, ambitious, and with spectacularly bad timing.</p> <p>He shows up unannounced at the United Nations base just as an emergency evacuation sends everyone scurrying for safety. And he's left behind. Uh-oh. Also stranded: Cleo, a sharp-tongued stowaway with no intention of dying today, and even less patience for overconfident trust fund boys. But the enemy of your enemy is the jerk who might just help you survive, so here we are. Now, Hunter and Cleo have one shot to stop the explosion, escape alive, and deal with the inconvenient fact that they're falling for each other.</p> |
| 3618 | Red tree, The Tan, Shaun | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780734401724 | Stunning artwork and minimal text tell the story of a young girl drifting through landscapes which reflect feelings of sorrow and helplessness, until she comes across a sign of hope. Deeply thoughtful. |
| 325 | Redback leftovers, The Oswald, Debra | Penguin | 2000 | 9780141304946 | Imagine the worst soccer team that you can think of and then triple it. This is a description of the debut of the Redback Leftovers, one of the most unlikely and inspiring soccer teams you are ever going to meet. |
| | Redwall series Jacques, Brian | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1671 | Refuge French, Jackie | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2013 | 9780732296179 | When a boat carrying a group of asylum seekers is sunk by a freak wave, Faris wakes from the shipwreck in an Australia he's always dreamed of. There are kangaroos grazing under orange trees and the sky is always blue. On a nearby beach, Faris meets a group of young people who have come from far different times and places. |
| 3619 | Refuge Gleeson, Libby | Penguin | 1998 | 9780140389852 | A family is tested when asked to hide a Timorese refugee. They must take some personal responsibility for a global issue. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 660790 | Refugee Gratz, Alan | Scholastic US | 2018 | 9781742997681 | Three different kids. One mission in common: escape. Joseph is a Jewish boy living in 1930s Nazi Germany. Isabel is a Cuban girl in 1994 with riots and unrest plaguing her country. Mahmoud is a Syrian boy in 2015 with his homeland torn apart by violence and destruction. All three go on harrowing journeys in search of refuge. |
| 1773 | Reg Saunders: An indigenous war hero Dolan, Hugh & Threlfall, Adrian | NewSouth Publishing | 2015 | 9781742234243 | The little-known story of Reg Saunders, the first indigenous Australian to become an officer in the Army. He survived the World War II battlefields in the Middle East, North Africa, Greece, Crete and New Guinea, and excelled as a military leader. Find out how war transformed a determined young man, born in 1920 from country Victoria, into a war hero. Reg went on to serve with distinction in the Korean War and become a pioneering figure for indigenous rights. He died in 1990. A graphic novel. |
| 574205 | Rejected princesses: tales of history's boldest heroines, hellions and heretics Porath, Jason | HarperCollins US | 2016 | 9780062405371 | Well-behaved women seldom make history. Good thing these women are far from well behaved . . . Rejected Princesses pays homage to an awesome collection of strong, fierce, and yes, sometimes weird, women: warrior queens, soldiers, villains, spies, revolutionaries, and more who refused to behave and meekly accept their place. An entertaining mix of biography, imagery, and humor, this thoroughly researched exploration salutes these awesome women drawn from both historical and fantastical realms, including real life, literature, mythology, and folklore. Each profile features an eye-catching image of both heroic and villainous women in command from across history and around the world, from a princess pirate in fifth century Denmark, to a rebel preacher in 1630s Boston, to a bloodthirsty Hungarian countess, and a former prostitute who commanded a fleet of more than 70,000 men on China's seas. |
| 4927 | Remind me how this ends Tozer, Gabrielle | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2017 | 9781460751688 | Milo and Layla run into each other after an extended separation. As kids, they shared everything, but five years apart has taken their lives in different directions. Layla is dealing with the death of her mother, and Milo is feeling trapped, his life on hold since he finished year 12. Deals with the decisions that people make about their relationships, and the directions their lives will take. A moving, powerful story. |
| 27721 | Return of the Word Spy Dubosarsky, Ursula & Riddle, Toby (ill) | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780670073542 | The Word Spy returns to take you on a dazzling journey through the strange and wonderful world of words. Discover hidden and silent languages, the secrets of grammar, dying and newborn words, and crack a code along the way. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 941473 | Revelle Smith, Lyssa Mia | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9780063323360 | <p>Luxe Revelle, star of her family's fantastical show, knows the splendor is just an illusion. With Prohibition threatening their livelihood, her family struggles to make a living, watering down champagne and patching holes in their sequined costumes. So when the son of Charmant's wealthiest family makes her an offer - everything the Revelles need to stay in business, in exchange for posing as his girl and helping him become mayor - she can't refuse.</p> <p>The moment Jamison Port sets foot in Charmant, he can't shake the feeling of familiarity. An orphan with as few memories as gemstones, he's desperate to learn what happened to his parents. But as he delves into the island's secrets, he risks angering the wrong person and discovering a truth that just might break his heart.</p> <p>When Luxe and Jamison accidentally meet, the sparks that fly are more than her magical enchantments. But keeping secrets from powerful people is a dangerous game . . . one that could destroy them both.</p> |
| 91550 | Revolution is not a dinner party Compestine, Ying Chang | Puffin Australia | 2007 | 9780143303855 | Ling lived a comfortable life with her parents until Comrade Li moved into their apartment. Her life changed dramatically at home and at school, and Ling soon feared for the lives of her family and friends. She endured extreme hardship just to survive, as she struggled to understand the Chinese cultural revolution. Her love for Chairman Mao and his teaching was tested to the limit. |
| 2066 | Rhyming boy Herrick, Steven | University of Queensland Press | 2008 | 9780702236730 | Growing up can be problematic but, for Jayden Hayden, life is extremely difficult. He has to cope with a very embarrassing name and a football obsessed mother. When a school father-son day is announced, Jayden's quest for his biological father becomes a puzzle he needs to solve, and quickly. |
| 3656 | Ride the wild wind: the golden pony and other stories French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2002 | 9780207198304 | Stories about horses with some told by the horse. The collection includes the story of the first horse tamed by a young girl, King Arthur's horse and the special relationship between a boy and stallion. |
| 9456 | Riding the rough Brassi, G | Scholastic New Zealand | 1990 | 9781869434427 | Angie is an excellent judge of character and a very patient person. She has to be. As major babysitter to her two younger siblings, her stamina is tested to the limit. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 22312 | Ring of Solomon, The: A Bartimaeus novel Stroud, Jonathan | Doubleday | 2010 | 9780385619165 | This prequel to the Bartimaeus trilogy sees the return of the sarcastic, chatty and mischievous djinni. Now, Bartimaeus is in Jerusalem and the court of King Solomon in 950s BC. The great Bartimaeus may have finally met his match. He'll have to contend with an unpleasant master and his sinister servant, and he runs into a fair bit of bother with King Solomon's magic ring. |
| 51083 | Ring through time, A Pulman, Felicity | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2013 | 9780732294885 | Alice's family is proud of their historical links to Norfolk Island and are amazed to find out when they move there that their ancestor is considered to have been a tyrant. Trying to prove them wrong, Alice unearths a previously unknown diary which provides an insight into the way of life in the penal colony during the 1840s including the conflicting attitudes towards the treatment of convicts. |
| 751024 | Rise of the Remarkables, The: Brasswitch and Bot Ward, Gareth | Walker Books | 2020 | 9781760652210 | Victorian York is a prejudice society with a vendetta against aberrations. Wrench is a burgeoning Brasswitch. As she discovers her powers, she also discovers that being a Brasswitch can get you killed. When recruited by the department of Regulators, Wrench is drawn into a dangerously deceitful and deadly world. |
| 587852 | Rise: The Sam Thaiday story Thaiday, Sam & Colley, James | Penguin Books Australia | 2018 | 9780143790419 | For sixteen years, Sam Thaiday has entertained Broncos, Queensland Origin and Australian fans, both on and off the field. This book tells his story. With his trademark humour and honesty, Sam reveals his roots as a Townsville boy and a die-hard Cowboys fan, his family connections to the Torres Strait, how his Mum taught him to pass and tackle, and all the ups and downs of a career playing the game he loves. Including advice for setting and reaching goals, handling setbacks, and finding what really matters in life, Rise: The Sam Thaiday Story (Young Readers' Edition) is a must-read for any young league fan, regardless who they barrack for. |
| 29815 | Risk Ferris, Fleur | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9780857986474 | Taylor and Sierra have been best friends their whole lives. But, Taylor's fed up because Sierra always gets what and who she wants. So, when Sierra asks her friends to cover for her while she meets Jacob, a guy she's chatted to online, Taylor 's refuses to show any interest. But, Sierra doesn't come back for one, two, three days. When Taylor finally tells Sierra's mum that her daughter is missing, Taylor and her friends are thrown into a dark world they never even knew existed. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 2790 | River and the book, The Croggon, Alison & Harnett, Katie (ill) | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781925081725 | In Simbala's village, they have two treasures. There is the River, which is their road and their god, and the Book, which contains their history, their oracle and their soul. Simbala is a Keeper of the Book, the latest in a long line of women who can use it to find answers to the villager's questions. As developers begin to poison the River on which the villagers rely, the Book predicts change. But, this does not come in the form that they expect. |
| 9436 | Road to Camelot, The Masson, Sophie (ed.) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9781740518017 | Short stories from a range of authors using characters from the life and times of the legendary King Arthur. Each tells the story of a turning point or magical moment in the early life of that character and the consequence for the future. |
| 10350 | Roald Dahl: the storyteller Hook, Jason | Hodder & Stoughton | 2004 | 9780750244916 | The fascinating life story of the famous author, Roald Dahl, who has thrilled young readers with his fanciful and imaginative books. Timelines, websites and further reading help paint a complete portrait of the writer, his successes and tragedies. |
| 1081685 | Robert runs Sweetman, Mariah | Magabala Books | 2023 | 9781922613387 | Two boys from the Ugarapul tribe of Green Tree Frog are focused on winning the mission's biggest race. Will the boys be strong enough to win the race? |
| 693048 | Robin Hood: Hacking, heists and flaming arrows Muchamore, Robert | Hot Key Books | 2020 | 9781471408618 | Robin is a skilled archer but when his archery gets him in trouble with the leader of the town gangsters, he heads for the Sherwood Forest to stay alive. However, unlike his classic counterpart, this twenty-first century Robin uses his computer hacking skills to steal from the rich and give to the poor. |
| 331 | Robinson Crusoe Defoe, Daniel | Penguin | 2002 | 9780140439359 | The classic story of an English sailor marooned on a desert island for nearly thirty years. |
| 635011 | Rogue Betts, A J | MacMillan | 2019 | 9781760556440 | There was no going back; there was no choice, anymore. I'd chosen out and this was it: hot-cold, dry-wet, bright-dark and lonely. Hayley has gone rogue. She's left everything she's ever known - her friends, her bees, her whole world - all because her curiosity was too big to fit within the walls of the underwater home she was forced to flee. But what is this new world she's come to? Has Hayley finally found where she can belong? Or will she have to keep running? |
| 333 | Roll of thunder, hear my cry Taylor, Mildred D | Puffin UK | 1994 | 9780140371741 | Being a coloured girl in America's South during the 1930s, teaches Cassie much about prejudice and hatred. |
| 12952 | Roman record, The Fleming, Fergus & Tomlins, Karen (des.) & Dowsell, Paul (ed.) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 1997 | 9780746027530 | An historical consultant has helped provide accuracy in this wonderfully funny account of Roman times in newspaper layout. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 12360 | Rome in spectacular cross-section Biesty, Stephen & Solway, Andrew | Scholastic Australia | 2003 | 9780439455466 | Titus Cotta Maximus, a young boy, travels through the city of ancient Rome. Stephen Biesty's wonderfully detailed cutaway drawings convey daily life in these times with a touch of humour. |
| 23020 | Romeo & Juliet: No fear Shakespeare graphic novels SparkNotes | Spark Publishing | 2008 | 9781411498747 | |
| 9550 | Ropemaker, The Dickinson, Peter | Pan MacMillan | 2002 | 9780330397131 | The people of the Valley have been protected for twenty generations by a magic force. The spell is weakening, enemies are waiting. Tilja, her companions and an obstinate horse seek a man who can control the rope of time, the Ropemaker. |
| 45397 | Rose for the ANZAC boys, A French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2008 | 9780732285401 | War is being fought on an horrific scale in the trenches of France. It is a world away from sixteen year old Midge Macpherson, at school in England learning to be a young lady. Desperate to do their bit and avoid the boredom of school, Midge and her friends start a canteen in France, caring for the endless flow of wounded soldiers returning from the front. Midge is thrust into carnage and scenes of courage she could never have imagined. |
| | Royal diaries series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1424128 | Ruby's web Neerven, Ellen van | Magabala Books | 2026 | 9781922864017 | Ruby is starting year 7 at a new school. Her cousin Amber used to be her best friend, but she has started hanging out with the cool kids and pretends she doesn't know Ruby anymore. Ruby dreads school every day. Ruby's Web is about how to seek help when dealing with online bullying and racism, the connections that the internet makes possible, and the power of using your voice. |
| 17169 | Runner Newton, Robert | Penguin | 2005 | 9780143302070 | A gritty, compelling book, set in Melbourne in the early 1900s. Charlie becomes a runner for an underworld crim, Squizzy Taylor, to support his mother and train to become a professional athlete. Some coarse language used in context. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1067 | Running wild Morpurgo, Michael | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2009 | 9780007317202 | For ten year old Will and his mother, going to Indonesia isn't just a holiday, it's a chance to put things behind them. At first, it seems just what they both need but, then, the tsunami comes crashing in. Oona, the elephant, that Will is riding on the beach, begins to run. When the tsunami has gone, Oona keeps on running. With only a bottle of water to sustain him, Will must learn to survive deep in the jungle. |
| 903379 | Running with Ivan Leal, Suzanne | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2023 | 9781460761335 | Thirteen year-old Leo hates his new house, his new school and his new step-brothers. He wants to be somewhere else, far away. When he uncovers an old music box and turns its key, he is finds himself in Prague, amid whispers and fears of a second world war. But that war ended decades ago. There Leo meets Ivan, a Czech boy, and the two become friends. But when the war does come, the boys are imprisoned and have to frantically search for an escape. The search sends them running. Running against time. Running for their lives. |
| 7819 | Rust: a collection of short stories Maekivi, Charles | Futuretrack Australia | 2005 | 9781876603014 | Twelve short, engaging stories send readers on some humorous, tough and thought provoking journeys. The stories suit a wide range of reading abilities. |
| 928 | Sachiko: A Nagasaki bomb survivor's story Stelson, Caren | Carolrhoda Books | 2016 | 9781467789035 | August 9, 1945, began like any other day for 6 year old Sachiko. Her country was at war, she didn't have enough to eat. At 11:01 am, she was playing outdoors with four other children. Moments later, those children were all dead. An atomic bomb had exploded just a half mile away. A true story of a young girl who survived the atomic bomb and her long journey to find peace. |
| 338 | Sadako and the thousand paper cranes Coerr, Eleanor | Scholastic Australia | 1999 | 9781876289485 | In the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima, Sadako's dying wish is to make one thousand paper cranes in accordance with the Japanese legend that says that the gods will grant the maker's wish to be well again. |
| 6509 | Sally's story Morgan, Sally | Fremantle Press | 2003 | 9780949206787 | The first part of Sally Morgan's My Place, presented as Sally's story of her school days, her family, growing up, going to university and trying to discover her place. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1019690 | Samosa rebellion, The Sekaran, Shanthi | HarperCollins US | 2021 | 9780063051546 | Before his grandmother moved from India to the island of Mariposa, Muki Krishnan's life was pretty good. He hung out with his friends, stayed under the radar at school, and slept as late as he could. But now? He has to share his bedroom with Paati, his grandmother, who snores all night then wakes him at dawn to do yoga. Paati's arrival coincides with bigger challenges in Mariposa as the once peaceful island is fracturing. The president divides the people into those who have lived here for 3 or more generations (Butterflies) or more recent immigrants like Muki's family (Moths). Muki and his friends find the camp that is being built to imprison Moths and then Paati is taken away. A rebellion is under way but can Muki save Paati and his family in time and what can one school boy do against a whole government? |
| 10177 | Santa Claus in Baghdad and other stories about teens in the Arab world Marston, Ella | Indiana University Press | 2008 | 9780253220042 | Eight short stories that provide a window into the little known world of teenagers growing up in different parts of the Arab world, including Iraq, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. |
| 1209853 | Save our forest! Dasnes, Nora & Byrn, Lisa Laerdral | Farshore | 2024 | 9780008653781 | After being leader of 'girls-who-never-fall-in-love" in Cross My Heart and Never Lie, Tuva's best friend, Bao, faces a challenge unlike any she's faced before: the PTA wants to raze down the students' beloved forest, removing the space where Bao and other student have always played and integral to both Bao and other students' lives and the environment they call home. When the adults are too apathetic, too cynical, or too preoccupied to see the importance of the forest, Bao and the others will have to stop playing nice and take matters into their own hands. But Bao and her classmates are only twelve years old--how can they get the adults in power to see this crisis for what it is? |
| 2107 | Saving Thanehaven Jinks, Catherine | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743317747 | Imagine if you discovered your whole world was actually in a computer. Noble is a knight who must fight everything he encounters in his quest to reach the castle and free the princess. But he's tired. Rufus comes along and turns his world upside down with his own ideas about how to get ahead: don't play by the rules. Suddenly, life is more interesting - and less painful - than ever before. But the new rules are harder to live by than the old ones. |
| 18554 | Scarecrow army: the Anzacs at Gallipoli Davidson, Leon | Black Dog Books | 2005 | 9781876372606 | Part of the ANZAC story. Factual historical recollections are combined with a fiction to reveal the thoughts and feelings of the young soldiers and the horrendous conditions they endured and survived. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1424039 | Scaring and daring Horror Writers Association | Harper | 2025 | 9780063372474 | Get ready for a terrifying spin on some of literature's most beloved tales—no story is safe! From Captain Hook's run-in with dark magic to Sherlock Holmes narrowly escaping graveyard spirits to a happily never after for Cinderella, this horror anthology is anything but a bedtime story. In this terrifying new collection for young readers, the best-loved stories from the literary canon are revisited and reimagined with a deadly twist by some of the top authors working in middle grade today. Featuring tales from authors Jonathan Maberry and Kelley Armstrong, Carlos Hernandez, Lisa Morton, Maurice Broaddus, and many others, this collection will haunt you long after you turn the last page. |
| 700331 | Schoolmaster's daughter, The French, Jackie | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2020 | 9781460757710 | When Hannah and her family are shipwrecked they are rescued by a Pacific Islander boy named Jamie. Hannah's family then begin a new life in Port Harris, which at first seems a paradise for the schoolmaster's daughter. But local fortunes are built on slavery and the whip. As the new Federal Parliament passes the law that will force Pacific Islanders from their homes, Hannah and her mother risk everything to run a secret school, while Hannah and Jamie must fight for their rights to education and equality. Can friendship and love win against prejudice and power? |
| | Scientists who changed the world series Croy, Anita | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 7276 | Scream: The haunted book Heath, Jack | Scholastic Australia | 2025 | 9781760152109 | Dale lives in Axe Falls, a town of mysterious disappearances, terrifying visions and unusual events. A family trip turns spooky when Dale finds an old handwritten book, starting with the words: Do not stop reading; my life depends on it. But when ghosts from the book start stalking him through the forest, Dale starts to wonder... |
| 5856 | Scrimshaw Anhar, Nazam | Scholastic Australia | 2009 | 9781741693386 | Young Nathan is taken hostage by Captain Graham and his pirates. Nathan must decide whether to succumb to pressure and join the murderous crew or fight for his freedom. |
| 3343 | Sea fever Philip, Gillian | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237537289 | Saul loves the water but his dad hates it. Saul's mum walked into the sea and drowned. Now Saul's dad has moved him far away and Saul yearns for the sea. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|---------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1142158 | Sea prayer Hosseini, Khaled & Williams, Dan (ill) | Bloomsbury | 2018 | 9781526602718 | On a moonlit beach a father cradles his sleeping son as they wait for dawn to break and a boat to arrive. He speaks to his boy of the long summer of his childhood, recalling his grandfather's house in Syria, the stirring of olive trees in the breeze, the bleating of his grandmother's goat, the clanking of the cooking pots. When the sun rises they and those around them will gather their possessions and embark on a perilous sea journey in search of a new home. |
| 16954 | Sea secrets Wadds, Gillian M | Lothian Books | 2007 | 9780734409782 | Young Zena and her Year 7 school friends investigate a mystery that seems to indicate the presence of abalone poachers in her coastal town, a declared marine sanctuary. When a new boy at school goes missing, events unravel and interlink, causing Zena to grow up fast. She gains new understanding of her parents, her friends, and herself. |
| 2884 | Sea singer, The Dasgupta, Shome | Accent Press | 2016 | 9781910939215 | March was born in April, just as the sun set. She is a singing baby, who never sleeps. The town of Kolkaper is on edge and the Town Council orders scientists to take her away to the Cave Forest, a place to study freaks like her. Acting quickly, March's parents send her to safety in a distant town. But, March's destiny lies in the town of her birth and she must return to save the city from itself. |
| | Sebastian Darke series Caveney, Philip | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 7695 | Secret of Nightingale Wood, The Strange, Lucy | Chicken House | 2016 | 9781910655030 | This is the tale of story-loving Henrietta and her family who are struggling with illness in their new house by Nightingale Wood. Worse, Henrietta is starting to see mysterious figures and strange cats that seem to be calling her into the woods and beyond. What does it all mean and is it true what they say, does a witch really live in Nightingale Wood? |
| | Secret series Bosch, Pseudonymous | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019621 | Secret sparrow French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2023 | 9781460760468 | It's 1916 and sixteen-year-old Jean McLain is working in a Post Office in a quiet village in England. Jean wins the national Morse code competition and that sets her on an adventure to help the British army as a secret signaller in France. Jean begins her time in France on a British army base as part of an all-female signaller team, sending and decoding messages to and from the battle front. Soon she finds herself right on the battlefields in a trench as the British army begins to make the final push towards Germany. Based on true events, this story of adventure, courage and unshakable loyalty restores women and girls to their place in history that the British authorities have tried to erase. |
| 345 | Secrets in the fire Mankell, Henning | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9781865081816 | Based on a true account of a young refugee girl's determination to overcome the loss of her legs in a Mozambique landmine accident. A deeply moving and unforgettable story. |
| | Secrets of the immortal Nicholas Flamel series Scott, Michael | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 18326 | Secrets of the Sphinx Giblin, James Cross & Ibatoulline, Bagram (ill) | Scholastic US | 2005 | 9780590098472 | Large, well-illustrated book with historical information and intriguing facts about the sphinx, the origin of its craftsmen, the Rosetta Stone and Atlantis. |
| 346 | See how they run McRobbie, David | Penguin | 1999 | 9780141303338 | A British family is forced to flee to Australia to escape criminals in England. This six-part thriller is exciting and suspenseful. |
| 51535 | Send Simon Savage Measday, Stephen | Little Hare Books | 2010 | 9781921541339 | After his father mysteriously goes missing, thirteen year old Simon is invited to follow in his father's footsteps by joining a team that experiments with time travel. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019627 | Sense and second-degree murder Price, Tirzah | HarperTeen | 2023 | 9780062889843 | <p>When eighteen-year-old aspiring scientist Elinor Dashwood discovers her beloved father slumped over the desk of his office study, she knows his death means dire straits for the Dashwood women. To make matters worse, an outdated will entails his estate-including Norland & Company, the private investigation firm where her younger sister Marianne worked as her father's partner and protégé-to their half-brother and his haughty wife, who waste no time in forcing the Dashwoods out of their home and into a cramped apartment on London's Barton Street.</p> <p>But before they go, the Dashwood sisters make a startling discovery that points to foul play, and the killer might be family.</p> <p>Obviously, the girls must investigate. It could be dangerous; it could ruin their reputations; and most importantly, it won't bring back their father. But if the Dashwood sisters can combine their talents and bring their father's murderer to justice, it may bring them all some comfort-and it might even lead to love.</p> |
| 3015 | Sequin star, The Murrell, Belinda | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780857982056 | <p>When Claire finds an old star-shaped brooch covered in sequins, it hurtles her back in time to 1932, when Australia was in the grip of the Great Depression. When she gets a job in a circus, Claire makes friends with Rosina, Jem and a boy called Kit. When Kit is kidnapped, the others must try to save him. But, Claire is wondering just who Kit and Rosina really are. One is escaping poverty and the other is escaping wealth.</p> |
| 1423822 | Serpent sea Ibrahim, Maiya | Hodder & Stoughton | 2024 | 9781399702096 | <p>Once, Imani swore to protect her home from the monsters roaming the desert. But now an even worse enemy threatens the Sahir, and as the Harrowlanders march south with their stolen magic, it is only a matter of time before the invasion begins. The only chance for survival is a dangerous alliance with Qayn, a djinni king. If Imani journeys with him on a quest beyond the sands to restore his lost powers, he will summon a supernatural army to save her people. Meanwhile, her rival, Taha, has been captured and is on a dangerous mission of his own. One wrong move could cost them their lives and everyone they love. But they may find that there is more than meets the eye crossing the Serpent Sea... and betrayal cuts deeper than any dagger.</p> |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 76517 | Serpent's tale, The Crew, Gary & Ottley, Matt (ill) | Lothian Books | 2010 | 9780734410283 | At a market, a boy discovers an intriguing amulet and pleads with his mother to buy it. The amulet is shaped like a snake swallowing its own tail. The mother thinks it's ugly but the boy thinks it's beautiful and that it holds a story he wants to write. The vendor will not accept payment and seems happy to be rid of the amulet. The boy finds he cannot write and, when he falls asleep, he has vivid dreams, full of many emotions. |
| 15523 | Serpents of Arakesh, The Jones, V M | HarperCollins Australia | 2004 | 9781869504779 | Abandoned as a baby, Adam feels there is nowhere he really belongs. When he wins the chance to test-drive a top-secret computer game, his luck changes. But, in the world he enters, the boundary between fantasy and reality breaks down. |
| 1019848 | Seven days Shaid, Rebeka | Walker Books | 2024 | 9781529513967 | Noori has it all figured out. She may be only sixteen, but she knows a thing or two about life and its messy heartaches. Aamir is trying to escape a painful past. The last thing he needs is more complications. Yet after his world collides with Noori's, he can't forget her. Their lives are connected by invisible threads. |
| | Seven wonders series Lerangis, Peter | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 846200 | Seventh grade vs the galaxy Levy, Joshua S | Carolrhoda Books | 2019 | 9781728423098 | PSS 118 is just your typical school, except that it is a rickety old spaceship orbiting Ganymede, a moon of Jupiter. Jack's dad used to be the science teacher, until he got fired for tinkering with the ship. Now Jack wants to get through the last day of school without anything going wrong. But when the school is mysteriously attacked, Jack discovers that his dad has built humanity's first light speed engine and given Jack control of it. Jack catapults it hundreds of light years away and right into the clutches of the first aliens humans have ever seen. School hasn't just got out, it has gone clear across the galaxy. Now it is up to Jack and his friends to get everyone home. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 871491 | Seventh most important thing, The Pearsall, Shelley | Random House Children's Books | 2015 | 9780553497311 | <p>Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge-he is ready to send Arthur to juvie forever. Amazingly, it's the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service... working for him.</p> <p>Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart and a list of the Seven Most Important Things: glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. He can't believe it-is he really supposed to rummage through people's trash? But it isn't long before Arthur realizes there's more to the Junk Man than meets the eye, and the "trash" he's collecting is being transformed into something more precious than anyone could imagine. . . .</p> |
| 783567 | Shackleton's endurance: An Antarctic survival story Grochowicz, Joanna | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526092 | <p>In 1914, Shackleton set out to chart the Antarctic continent. It was a journey fraught with setbacks and challenges. The ship, Endurance, becomes locked in the ice and when it begins to sink the men are forced to make camp on the ice floes. These are unstable subject to cracking and separating. The crew must journey through perilous conditions to find safety and the security of land.</p> <p>Battling hunger, exhaustion and fluctuating weather conditions the crew finally make it to Elephant Island where the crew separate in the hope of bringing help to rescue them. But with WW1 raging this proves challenging.</p> <p>An inspiring journey of perseverance, hope and courage.</p> |
| 3960 | Shadow Waite, Judy | Walker Books | 2002 | 9780744590050 | <p>Premonition is a band hoping to make it big but they need somewhere to practise. Tom suggests the old warehouse but Billy has a bad feeling about it. Tom is angry, thinking Billy is putting it on but, as anger grows, a shadow falls over the band.</p> |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1227707 | Shadow and tide Greenlaw, Rachel | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2025 | 9780008642617 | A magical bargain always comes at a cost. On Rosevear, Mira is plagued by nightmares. She is lost and untethered and then the watch strike, burning her home. The attack ignites a spark within her, and Mira knows its time to call in her bargain with Elijah, and tear down Captain Renshaw and the watch. But she must find allies to help her unlock her siren abilities, and the witches arent all on Miras side. In Coven Septern, Brielle has always believed in her work as a hunter, is proud to slay the monsters plaguing their world. Shes a trained weapon, a sharpened blade, a nocked arrow. She knows the blood she drains will be used for good, and yet her next assignment is a human girl. For in the eyes of the council, Mira is a monster, and monstrous creatures must be tamed... |
| 3080 | Shadow bright and burning, A Cluess, Jessica | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9780143784739 | Henrietta can burst into flames. Forced to reveal her power to save a friend, she's shocked when, instead of being executed, she's invited to train as one of Her Majesty's royal sorcerers. Thrust into the glamour of Victorian London, Henrietta is declared the girl who will defeat the Ancients, bloodthirsty demons terrorising humanity. Her fellow trainees are handsome young men, eager to test her power and her heart. One will challenge her. One will fight for her. One will betray her. But Henrietta Howel is not the chosen one. As she plays a dangerous game of deception, she discovers the sorcerers have their own secrets to protect. With battle looming, how much will she risk to save the city - and the one she loves? |
| 12374 | Shadow dog, The Hill, Anthony | Penguin | 2003 | 9780670041138 | From the moment Sebastian is rescued as an abandoned pup, this passionate, feisty dog proves irresistible, even when he fails Obedience School. The story of the mutual devotion of a boy and his dog. |
| 1423978 | Shadow thieves Burns, Peter | Farshore | 2025 | 9780008667818 | 13-year-old Tom scrapes a living as a pick-pocket on the street of London until the day his friends are caught and sent to a brutal workhouse. Frantic to save them, Tom takes up an offer from the enigmatic Corsair to train at an elite boarding school for thieves. Tom is swept into the world of the Shadow League where his street smarts give him an edge - and make him dangerous enemies. But the more he learns about this place, the harder it is for him to leave and rescue his friends. Dark forces are at work. And Tom is the only one who knows it. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1080643 | Shadow world, The Randall, Caity & Ford, Craig & Perring, M.K. (ill) | Sassey Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781922851284 | Sometimes when we do not know what we are looking at or dealing with, it can be overwhelming and potentially dangerous. We are here to help you navigate your way around this online world, arming you with your very own knowledge torch. This book is the creation of experts who share their experience and knowledge with you, so your world is less at risk of slipping into The Shadow World beyond your device screens. |
| 657229 | Shadowblack De Castell, Sebastien | Hot Key Books | 2017 | 9781471406133 | Four months after fleeing his own people, Kellen has discovered he's an even worse outlaw than he is a mage. It doesn't help that his only allies are a swaggering card player and a thieving squirrel cat. Then he meets Seneira, a blindfolded girl who isn't blind. Her secrets pull them into a conspiracy of magic, blackmail and murder. |
| 76089 | Shadows in the mirror Nunn, Cameron | Black Dog Books | 2006 | 9781742030029 | Set in Hamilton College, the story is presented through the eyes of David and follows his realisation that there are dark forces at work in his school. David befriends a newcomer, Simon, who doesn't fit in and faces bullying and intimidation. When David and Simon discover that bullying resulted in the death of a student a number of years earlier, they set out on a quest for justice. |
| 349 | Shadows of time Wrightson, Patricia | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1994 | 9780091829506 | An orphaned girl and an outcast Aboriginal boy become involved in a spiritual journey at the time of European settlement in Australia. |
| 855820 | Shakespeare for everyone Roberts, Emma & Tanat Jones, Sarah (ill) | Magic Cat Publishing | 2022 | 9781913520465 | Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.' William Shakespeare. Meet William Shakespeare and understand how he became the world's greatest playwright. This step-by-step journey through his plays and poetry makes the genius of his writing accessible to readers everywhere. |
| | Shakespeare original plays mature reads Shakespeare, William & Huddleston, Elizabeth (ed) & Innes, Sheila (ed) | | | | Any two books from this series may be read as Challenge books and up to five more can be read as personal choice books. Go to the online booklists for the PRC ID of the individual books in this series. |
| 350 | Shakespeare stealer, The Blackwood, Gary | Penguin | 2000 | 9780141305950 | Set in and around London in the mid 1600s, Widge is ordered by his master to go to the Globe Theatre and copy Shakespeare's Hamlet. |
| 351 | Shakespeare stories Garfield, Leon | Puffin Australia | 1997 | 9780140389388 | Twelve of William Shakespeare's most famous plays are presented in narrative form. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| | Shalott series Pulman, Felicity | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 35609 | Shaozhen Chim, Wai | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781760113797 | Shaozhen has no intention of staying in his remote and poor village in Henan and becoming a poor farmer. But when the worst drought in over sixty years threatens the entire village, he realises he must come up with a plan. And better yet, he needs the people of the village to support his plan if it is going to succeed! |
| 2347 | Shark caller, The Wolfer, Dianne | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2016 | 9780143780557 | Fourteen year old Isabel is returning to her birthplace in Papua New Guinea. She's eager to see her family again but there's a tragic reason for the trip. Izzy's twin brother, Ray, has died in a freak diving accident. Things have changed since their last visit. Logging threatens the community's way of life and sharks no longer answer the ancestral song of the shark callers. The clan needs someone to undertake a traditional and perilous diving ritual. It must be a twin from the shark calling lineage. Izzy is the last twin. |
| 9879 | Shark girl Bingham, Kelly | Candlewick Press | 2010 | 9780763646271 | Everything changed after Jane went for a swim at the beach. Now, she is returning to school with her fake arm and the kids whisper about the shark girl and stare. Jane wonders why this happened and what it will mean for her, and her love of art. |
| 20294 | Shield maiden Hill, Stuart | Bloomsbury | 2016 | 9781472918628 | No enemy may find this place; we hide it in mist and shadow...When King Alfred's great hall is destroyed by the Vikings, the king must flee with his family. But his daughter Aethelflaed knows that hiding in the marshes, far away from the battlefield, is the last thing she wants to do; can she fulfill her destiny and become a warrior princess, a shield maiden? |
| 353 | Shiloh Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds | Aladdin Publishing | 2003 | 9780689862229 | Shiloh, a beagle, is owned by a violent, angry man. Shiloh's rescue comes when Marty appears. |
| 17516 | Shimmer Deans, Kathryn | Pan MacMillan | 2005 | 9780330421744 | Accompanied by a talking possum and a tracker gnome, Colin and Grieve set out on a mad-cap and thrilling adventure to rescue the Shimmer. It is part of the stone of creation and has been stolen by power-mad, completely evil fairies. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 23699 | Shine Mountain Hunt, Julie | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760291501 | Before her grandfather dies he shares a tiny concertina button box with the family. The box changes everything; crops die, flowers wilt, a drought spreads over the land and Oma, her grandma, becomes very ill. Ellie decides to get rid the box to save her grandmother. Her journey takes her with a horse and the family goat into the Gleam country. Ellie learns the truth about her gifts and her family. |
| | Ship kings series McGahan, Andrew | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 18625 | Shirt front: a short and amazing history of Aussie Rules Hunt, Paula | Black Dog Books | 2005 | 9781876372668 | From the first bounce to a future timeline and everything in between, including the tallest, the shortest, the best and fairest, this book covers just about everything you would ever want to know about the game of Aussie Rules. |
| 40086 | Shiver Stiefvater, Maggie | Scholastic US | 2009 | 9780545123266 | Sam and Grace come together one Autumn having loved each other for years at a distance. Now they must fight to keep each other as Sam is drawn back to being a wolf. |
| 50775 | Shiverton Hall Fennell, Emerald | Bloomsbury | 2013 | 9781408827789 | Arthur has been unexpectedly offered a scholarship to attend Shiverton Hall, a school steeped in tales of curses and evil. He has his reasons for wanting a fresh start, but upon arriving at the school, with its hidden labyrinth and scares hiding in the shadows, he would rather return home. |
| 22815 | Short Wilkinson, Lili (ed) | Black Dog Books | 2008 | 9781742030340 | A collection of short stories and poems in which to dip in and out. Some of Australia and New Zealand's best known writers and illustrators for children are featured as well as contributions from young people. |
| 22754 | Short and scary Tayleur, Karen (ed) | Black Dog Books | 2010 | 9781742031330 | A range of authors and illustrators, both well known or not, present stories, poems and illustrations on the huge range of things which scare them, from freaky fairies to technology taking over. |
| 13106 | Shouting at the stars Belbin, David | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237535230 | Layla is a young singer who is just hitting the big time. But, with all of the excitement of her growing fame comes the eerie presence of an unknown heckler who begins to follow all her performances. She doesn't know who he is or why he's doing it. And, she just wants it to stop. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 4427 | Shrapnel Swindells, Robert | Corgi Books | 2009 | 9780552559300 | Gordon is growing up in World War II London. His older brother, Raymond, leaves home and becomes involved in secretive war work, or so he leads Gordon to believe. When Gordon finds a revolver hidden in his parent's house, he decides to track his brother down. But finding Raymond leads to much more than Gordon had bargained for as Raymond lures him into danger. |
| 355 | Sick as: bloody moments in the history of medicine Jennings, Gael & Harvey, Roland | Roland Harvey Books | 2000 | 9780949714688 | Fascinating historical aspects of medicine presented in an unusual and exciting format. |
| 356 | Side by side Tucker, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 1998 | 9781862913110 | Investigates the relationship between Aboriginal people, British colonists and European missionaries. |
| 1259027 | Signed sealed dead Murphy, Cynthia | Scholastic Australia | 2024 | 9780702318528 | After years living in Britain, Paige and her mum move to the small American town where Paige's dad is from. They find a big, though rundown, home waiting for them and some friendly townsfolk. Yet, the house has secrets which are revealed to Paige through handwritten letters in the mailbox. A serial killer ravaged the town 28 years ago and then disappeared. It seems that the house, the killer, and Paige have a connection! |
| 846204 | Silent stars go by, The Nichols, Sally | Andersen Press Ltd | 2020 | 9781839131134 | When Margot's fiance, Harry, went missing in action, she found herself left with a secret which could ruin her life and her family's reputation. Three years later, Harry has returned. Can Margot deal with her devastating secret and reveal the truth to a man she still loves? |
| 4274 | Silver blade, The Gardner, Sally | Orion | 2009 | 9781842555972 | France is in the dark days of the guillotine where the innocent and guilty are killed daily. Yann and his compatriots rescue French aristocrats from the guillotine and get them safely away to England. Count Kalliovski, supposedly dead, is plotting Yann's death. Against this terrible background, Yann yearns for his love, Sidonie, whom he believes is safe in London. |
| 21225 | Silver hand, The Deary, Terry | Bloomsbury | 2018 | 9781472961440 | "We can't wait three days. There is a man coming to kill us." A Man with a silver hand. It's 1918 and the Great War is entering its final phase. In Northern France, young Aimee has just found out that her mother is part of a spy network working with the British. After reluctantly befriending Marius, a young German boy who has been left behind by his countrymen, she must try and help him get back behind German lines while they evade a traitor she helped to discover. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 2240 | Silver people: A tale from the Panama Canal Engle, Margarita | University of Queensland Press | 2014 | 9780702253294 | One hundred years ago, the world celebrated the opening of the Panama Canal, connecting the world's two largest oceans. Creating a path of water where a mountain had stood is one of the largest and most difficult engineering projects ever undertaken. But, thousands lost their lives, and those who survived worked under the harshest conditions for only a few silver coins a day. |
| 357 | Silver sword, The Serrailier, Ian | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9780099439493 | The night the Nazis come to take their mother away, three children escape in a terrifying scramble across the rooftops. In the chaos of Warsaw, they have to learn to survive on their own. Their father's paperknife becomes their symbol of hope. |
| 1302647 | Silverborn: The mystery of Morrigan Crow Townsend, Jessica | Lothian Books | 2025 | 9780734421012 | When Morrigan is invited into Nevermoor's wealthy Silver District, she discovers a world of extravagance and a family mystery she's eager to unravel. She could never imagine where it will lead: a white wedding, a golden dragon and a red pool of blood. Embroiled in suspicion and danger, Morrigan leaps headfirst into a murder investigation, while also grappling with her ever-growing Wundersmith powers. And although her friends are there to help, she fears that could change if they learn she's keeping a terrible secret of her own. As shadowy forces awaken in Nevermoor, can Morrigan find a killer and solve the mystery in her own past... before the clock strikes midnight? |
| | Silvermay trilogy series Moloney, James | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 4231 | Sing a rebel song Rushby, Pamela | Scholastic Australia | 2015 | 9781742991344 | Twelve year old Maggie McAllister and her family are caught up in one of the most dramatic events in Australia's history, the Shearers' Strike. In 1891, trouble erupted between the Shearers' Union, the pastoralists and the government. Through her writing, Maggie plays her part in the Union's struggle although her friends do not see things the same way. Singing a rebel song may have heartbreaking consequences for Maggie. |
| 7055 | Singing bones, The Tan, Shaun & Pullman, Philip (foreword) & Zipes, Jack (intro) | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781760111038 | Seventy five fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm are wonderfully evoked by Shaun Tan's extraordinary sculptural works. Wicked stepsisters, greedy kings, honourable peasants, ruthless witches, and tales of love, betrayal and magical transformation provide the inspiration for the stunning sculptural works. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 11353 | Singing for Mrs Pettigrew, a story-maker's journey Morpurgo, Michael | Walker Books | 2006 | 9781406300765 | A number of Michael Morpurgo's beautifully written short stories, each one preceded by insights from the author relating to the background of the story and how he came to write it. |
| 4987 | Single stone, A McKinlay, Meg | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9781925081701 | Jena's life as leader of the line, gathering mica from deep inside the mountain, is hard. But, it is all she knows, accepting everything that her community leaders tell her. After an unfortunate accident, Jena discovers a small polished stone, which brings forth buried memories from her past. These memories disrupt everything and everyone around her. |
| 6190 | Sister heart Morgan, Sally | Fremantle Press | 2015 | 9781925163131 | Annie, young Aboriginal girl, is taken from her family in the north of Australia and sent to an institution in the distant south. Away from everything she knows and everyone she loves, Annie must make a new life in a strange world. A sister-friend brings fresh hope. |
| 803518 | Sister of the Bollywood bride Bajpai, Nandini | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760526825 | <p>Mini's big sister is getting married. Their mom passed away seven years ago and between Dad's new start-up and Vinnie's medical residency, there's no one but Mini to plan the wedding. Dad raised her to know more about computers, calculus and cars than Desi weddings but from the moment Mini held the jewelry Mom left them, she wanted her sister to have the wedding Mom would've planned.</p> <p>Now Mini has only two months to get it done and she's not going to let anything distract her, not even the persistent, mysterious and smoking-hot Vir Mirchandani. Flower garlands, decorations, music, even a white wedding horse - everything is in place.</p> <p>That is, until a monster cyclone heads for Boston that could ruin everything. Will Mini come through as sister of the bride and save the day?</p> |
| 846122 | Sister secrets Campbell, Cate & Campbell, Bronte | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760525910 | Follow the highs and lows of Cate and Bronte Campbell's long journey towards Olympic glory. Gain insight into their motivation, mental toughness, and the balance between life and elite-level swimming. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1106572 | Sisters of sword and song Ross, Rebecca | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2024 | 9780008699291 | Evadne is finally going to be reunited with her older sister, Halcyon, who has been serving in the queen's army for eight long years. But when Halcyon unexpectedly appears a day early, Evadne knows something is gravely wrong. Halcyon has been charged with a heinous crime and though her life is spared, she has been sentenced to fifteen years of punishment -- five years of hard labour, five years of imprisonment and five years serving the house that she has wronged. Suspicious of the charges, as well as the details of the crime, Evadne volunteers to take part of her sister's terms. If there's a way to clear Halcyon's name, she'll find it. But as the sisters begin their sentences, they quickly learn that there are fates worse than death. |
| 903302 | Sisters of the snake Nanua, Sasha & Sarena | HarperCollins Australia | 2021 | 9780062985606 | Princess Rani longs for a chance to escape her gilded cage and prove herself. Ria is a street urchin, stealing just to keep herself alive. When these two lives collide, everything turns on its head: because Ria and Rani, orphan and royal, are unmistakably identical. A deal is struck to switch places -- but danger lurks in both worlds, and to save their home, thief and princess must work together. Or watch it all fall into ruin. |
| 803554 | Six crimson cranes Lim, Elizabeth | Hachette Australia | 2021 | 9781529356755 | Shiori, the only princess of Kiata, does not want to marry an oafish lord from the North whom she has never met, just because her father wills it. Distraught on the morning of her betrothal ceremony she loses control and accidentally reveals the forbidden magic that coursing through her veins which catches the attention of her stepmother Raikama, a sorceress in her own right. Raikama banishes Shiori and turns her six brothers into cranes warning that she should speak of this to no-one; for every word that escapes her lips one of her brothers will die. Penniless, voiceless and alone, Shiori searches for her brothers and uncovers a dark plot to seize her father's throne. |
| 69153 | Six impossible things Wood, Fiona | Pan MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330426060 | Fourteen year old Dan Cereill is not quite coping with moving house, new school hell, a mother with a failing wedding cake business, a just-out gay dad and an impossible crush on Estelle, the girl next door. His life is a mess but, for now, he's narrowed it down to just six things to achieve. Dan thinks they may be impossible. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 13853 | Sixth Grade style queen (not) Clark, Sherryl & Christian, Elissa (ill) | Puffin Australia | 2007 | 9780143303008 | Dawn knows that she is not popular at school and is not a style queen. While she acknowledges that style queens are the popular ones at school, she has nothing in common with them. Dawn is having problems dealing with things at home too and wonders how she'll be able to sort out her problems. |
| 360 | Skellig Almond, David | Hodder & Stoughton | 1999 | 9780340716007 | Michael and Mina care for an extraordinary being when it seems to have given up on life. |
| 15397 | Skellig: the play Almond, David | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2003 | 9780340854334 | In the dark and derelict garage, Michael discovers a strange creature. His life is in turmoil with his baby's illness and his new found friendship with 'a girl'. The strange creature affects his life. Michael wonders if it could possibly be an angel. |
| 1366503 | Skin Deborah, Kelly | Rhiza Press | 2025 | 9781761112454 | When a tiny freckle on Lexie Collins's cheek turns out to be a rare kind of melanoma that requires surgery, she is left with a big, ugly scar across one cheek. She had just earned a spot in the state finals for public speaking, but with the scar, her confidence has vanished. She doesn't even recognise herself anymore. Mum and Dad keep reminding Lexie how lucky she is that she didn't need further treatment. But Lexie doesn't feel lucky at all. She suddenly feels ugly, unsure of herself and different from all her friends. She doesn't want to be seen, let alone speak, in public ever again. But when a chance encounter turns into an unexpected friendship, Lexie's feelings about her scar and herself slowly begin to change. |
| 837031 | Skin deep Lawrence, Hayley | Scholastic Australia | 2021 | 9781760976446 | This inspirational story follows Scarlett who is burnt 40% of her body in a fire. It follows Scarlett's journey of self acceptance and self love and highlights. It is not always the end journey that is important it is how you get to the end that matters. |
| | Skulduggery Pleasant series Landy, Derek | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 3749 | Slave girl Moses, Alexa | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2012 | 9780732294984 | Exchange student Jenna has managed to get an appointment at New York's coolest hair salon, but when her teacher insists she stays at the boring Metropolitan Museum she stumbles into ancient Egypt. |
| 4048 | Slightly true story of Cedar B Hartley, The Murray, Martine | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9781865086231 | Cedar hangs out on the edges of the neighbourhood social circuit with her dog and best friend. Things change when she meets a boy called Kite and finds they have a lot in common. Together they form a circus troupe and put on a performance. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 11327 | Slog's dad Almond, David & McKean, Dave (ill) | Walker Books | 2010 | 9781406322903 | Slog's father is dead and he knows it. But, when he sees the scruffy man outside the butcher shop, Slog knows that it's his father who has returned to see him, just as he promised. But, Davie, his best friend, is just as convinced that this man is a fake. |
| 6543 | Small free kiss in the dark, A Millard, Glenda | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2009 | 9781741756586 | Skip is an outsider, a quiet observer, who draws pictures to make sense of the world. When war grips the city in which Skip and his mismatched family are surviving, they are forced to shelter in an empty fun fair, scavenge for food and live on their imaginations. |
| 1701 | Smart Slater, Kim | MacMillan | 2014 | 9781447272762 | Kieran finds the body of a homeless person floating in the Thames River. The police regard the death as an unfortunate accident but Kieran is obsessed with CSI and determined to find the murderer. Kieran's methodical note taking, his outstanding artistic abilities and unshakeable perseverance eventually provide many answers, not only to the murder but also to secrets in his own family. |
| 9854 | Smile Telgemeier, Raina | Graphix | 2010 | 9780545132060 | Raina just wants to be a normal sixth grader. But, one night after Girl Scouts, she trips and falls, severely injuring her front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery and embarrassing headgear. And, on top of all that, there's a major earthquake, boy confusion and friends who turn out to be not so friendly. A graphic novel. |
| 362 | Snake man, The Moloney, James | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9780850918991 | Terry and Liam are concerned about the contents of the box they helped carry into the derelict house of the taxidermist. Liam feels their concerns were warranted when Terry disappears. |
| 4065 | Snake-stone, The Doherty, Berlie | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1997 | 9780006740223 | Although close to his adoptive parents, James has always wondered about his natural mother. Armed with only a small stone and a note scribbled on the back of an envelope as clues to her identity, James sets off to find his past. |
| 15858 | Snow angel, The St John, Lauren | Zephyr | 2017 | 9781786695895 | Growing up in vibrant, crowded Nairobi to loving parents, Makena's driving dream is to accompany her wonderful mountain guide father climbing Mt Kenya. But when her beautiful world is shattered she is plunged into the darkness of the city, with a thousand ways to fall, each more deadly than any crevasse. In a world full of strangers should she trust Snow, whose ballet dreams are haunted by a past she is still running from? And is the sparkling fox a friend or a figment of her imagination? After a fresh start in the Scottish Highlands turns bad, Makena flees to the mountains. But will that end her or be the making of her? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 9330 | Snow White in New York French, Fiona | Oxford University Press | 1989 | 9780192722102 | An innovative retelling of a fairy tale set in the jazz and gangster era of New York in the 1920s. Snow White lives in New York, known as the Big Apple. The wicked stepmother, a classy socialite, looks for herself in the Mirror newspaper. |
| 6004 | Snow White: a graphic novel Phelan, Matt | Candlewick Press | 2016 | 9780763672331 | It's 1928 and the glitz and glam of show business in pre-Depression era New York City is in full swing. The lights are bright for financiers and those who entertain them, and life seems good in the big city. But, in one house, a little girl is sent away by her cold, ruthless stepmother. She does not return until it's too late. The market has crashed, her father is gone and her stepmother is even more desperate for wealth and attention. |
| 903331 | Social media survival guide Bathie, Holly | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2022 | 9781474999267 | Packed with entertaining illustrations alongside practical information, the Social Media Survival Guide answers questions about all aspects of social media. Managing life, relationships and mental health on any social media platform is important. Empower yourself to stay safe online with this fun, comprehensive guide. |
| 803711 | Sofa surfer Duffy, Malcolm | Head of Zeus | 2021 | 9781786697684 | 15-year-old Tyler's teenage angst turns into outright rebellion when his family leave London for a new life in Yorkshire. Angry with his parents about the upheaval and with only the dog to confide in, Tyler has no idea that a chance meeting with a skinny girl called Spider will lead him into a world he never even knew existed. Spider is living on the streets and Tyler finds himself spinning a tangled web of lies in his efforts to help her escape from this dark and dangerous place. |
| 6096 | Soldier boy Rooney, Anne | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237537272 | Drew isn't worried when his little brother, Martin, digs up a bone in the garden. Bu, Martin finds more bones in the shape of a hand, which then starts leaving spooky messages for Drew. |
| 366 | Soldier boy : the true story of Jim Martin the youngest Anzac Hill, Anthony | Penguin | 2001 | 9780141003306 | This is the story of Jim Martin who enlisted in the Australian army at the age of fourteen to fight in World War I. |
| 367 | Soldier on the hill French, Jackie | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1997 | 9780207196379 | A story about life in country Australia in World War II. Joey finds a Japanese soldier but no-one believes him. |
| 369 | Someone like me Forrestal, Elaine | Penguin | 1997 | 9780140380927 | Tas is an ordinary school boy, but Enya, new from Northern Ireland, has experienced danger and terror. The plot reveals an extraordinary fact about Tas in the final paragraph. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|---------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 611375 | Song of the curlew Zigomanis, Lazaros | Busybird Publishing | 2017 | 9780648478935 | Luke Miggs wants more than small town life: the grind of chores on the family farm, playing lacklustre footy, beers with mates. Like maybe doing something about his crush on Amanda Hunt, a barmaid at the local pub who's smart, funny and ambitious. Or maybe playing footy in the big league. At eighteen it can't be too late, can it? There's his place in the Curlews, at least, although the team's little more than a bunch of battlers who play for the beers afterwards. If only they could take their footy seriously, like the reigning champions, the Little Reach Scorpions, who have dominated the competition for ten years. By the looks of this season, nothing is going to change. But when Adam Pride emerges from the night and tells the Curlews he wants to play for them, everything begins to change. A story of friendship, family, and coming of age, and how the choices of our past can come back to shape our future. |
| | Song of the lioness series Pierce, Tamora | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 5714 | Song only I can hear, A Jonsberg, Barry | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760630836 | Introducing Rob Fitzgerald: thirteen years old and determined to impress the new girl at school, but it's a difficult task for a super-shy kid who is prone to panic attacks that include vomit, and genuine terror that can last all day. An anonymous texter is sending Rob challenges and they might just help. Or not. |
| 8249 | Songs of a war boy Adut, Deng Thiak & McKelvey, Ben | Hachette Children's Books | 2016 | 9780733636523 | From the family farm at the age of 6, to the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army, to Law school in Western Sydney, Deng Adut has undertaken a remarkable journey. Songs of A War Boy is his story, filled with adventure, heart break, and bloodshed, but also with resilience, compassion, and persistence. Deng recounts his experiences as a child soldier in Sudan, and his fight for education and for justice in Australia. A powerful, important book, this memoir is a must read for every Australian. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1355845 | Sonny & Tess Weetman, Nova | University of Queensland Press | 2025 | 9780702268427 | It's the end of year 7 and Tess wants a summer job. She's keen to earn her own money and buy her own clothes. But her mum has other ideas: it looks like Tess will be stuck at home babysitting her twin brothers. Thirteen-year-old Sonny is tired of moving around. With his dad up north, he's staying with his uncle and aunt above their fish and chip shop. And it just so happens his uncle is hiring extra staff for the holidays. When Sonny and Tess crash into each other outside the shop, sparks and dim sims fly. Soon they're both wondering if the other feels the same way, but, as Sonny loves to say, it's complicated. Over hot chips and chicken salt, can these two work out what they really want? |
| 12373 | Soraya the storyteller Hawke, Rosanne | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2004 | 9780734407092 | Soraya, the storyteller, keeps her memories of Afghanistan alive while living in uncertainty under temporary protection in Australia. An ebony horse flies through her dreams helping her to find a strange land where she can be safe. |
| 3628 | Sound of colors, The: a journey of the imagination Liao, Jimmy | Time Warner | 2006 | 9780316939928 | A young girl who is going blind sets out on a journey determined to beat the loss of her sight. In her imagination she does amazing things and goes to fabulous places in her quest to gain what she has lost. |
| 1078784 | Sound the gong He, Joan | Text Publishing Co | 2024 | 9781922790682 | All her life Zephyr has tried to rise above her humble origins as a no-name orphan. Now she is a god in a warrior's body , and she has never felt more powerless. Her lordess, Xin Ren, holds the Westlands, but her position is tenuous. In the north, the empress remains under Miasma's thumb. In the south, the alliance with Cicada is in pieces. Fate also seems to have a different plan in mind for the three kingdoms, but Zephyr has no intention of respecting it. |
| 371 | Souder Armstrong, William H | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2002 | 9780064400206 | A poor, African-American family living in the South in the 1800s find their lives change forever when the father is arrested. |
| 1019751 | Space between here & now, The Suk, Sarah | HarperCollins US | 2023 | 9780063373129 | The space between here and now follows Aimee on her search to find her estranged mother through a fascinating tale of time travel. The story explores family, self identity and acceptance. |
| 372 | Space demons Rubinstein, Gillian | Scholastic Australia | 1997 | 9781862912878 | Four children battle the space demons in a dangerous computer game. |
| 9218 | Space demons: the play Tulloch, Richard | Currency Press | 2003 | 9780868193298 | Stage adaptation of Rubenstein's novel in which a computer forces children to face their own demons. |
| 373 | Spaghetti legs Larkin, John | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1993 | 9780091827472 | A funny story about Eric, who is a "loser" and has no luck with girlfriends. |
| 374 | Spangled drongo, The Herrick, Steven | University of Queensland Press | 1999 | 9780702230950 | Eleven year old Sam Slater is orphaned and lives in a small house with Ronaldo, the soccer dog, Parrot, the parrot and eccentric Aunt Ashmara. He is soccer mad and a poet. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 6486 | Special forces cadets: Missing Ryan, Chris | Hot Key Books | 2019 | 9781471407826 | The Special Forces Cadets are tough, smart, and brave as well as being young and all alone in the world. A British secret agent has gone missing in North Korea, where unfamiliar adults would attract suspicion. So the cadets, disguised as a tour group, are sent to investigate. But they forget the key rule: Trust Nobody - and soon they are betrayed to the authorities. Can the cadets locate the missing agent and make it out of the country alive? |
| 1395136 | Spick and the span, The Van Martin, Pii | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2025 | 9780008724788 | Thanks to many generations of careless magicians, the city of Helm is overflowing with magic, which has made it a very dangerous place to live. Leave anything alone for too long and it will transform into something else: your house will turn to gingerbread, your teapot will start pouring pond water or - if you're really unlucky - your floor will turn to lava. The magicians liked to pretend it's them who keep the worst magical hiccups in check, but the real heroes of the whole sorry situation are of a wholly different occupation: equally well known but decidedly less respected. The heroes of the city of Helm are the cleaners. Ward, an ambitious twelve-year-old cleaner, wants nothing more than to belong to the League of Cleaners, who will grant him the prestige and popularity he's been looking for all his life - if only he can pass three near-impossible tests. Struggling toward this goal with a team he doesn't trust, Ward's world is upended when his friend disappears and mysterious magic-eating monsters appear all over the city and start tearing holes in the fabric of reality. Suddenly his ambitions are the least of his problems... |
| 15025 | Spilled water Grindley, Sally | Bloomsbury | 2004 | 9780747571469 | One frightening day, everything changes in Lu Si-Yan's life. A country Chinese girl whose father dies, Lu Si-Yan is sold by her uncle to work for a family in the big city. She refuses to spend her life in servitude, determined to be reunited with her family. |
| 1209701 | Spirals and stars Gordon, Kate | Wombat Books | 2024 | 9781761111709 | Set in the nineties Spirals and Stars is a timeless story of friendship loss and gain, finding your place in the world, and finding the confidence to break free from expectations. Set on a backdrop of small town life, "nerd culture" and the big life moments and discoveries in our bodies and our souls, Spirals and Stars features a cast of diverse characters, a found family, a protagonist on the cusp of self-discovery, and a wealth of nineties era fun. |
| 18548 | Spirit of the deep Beames, Margaret | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2006 | 9780734408570 | When Jess goes to stay with her unknown grandmother, she learns of her family's secrets that are about to be repeated with devastating results. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 120067 | Sprite Downberry Hilton, Nette | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2008 | 9780732285487 | Sprite's life is tough. Her Mum is moody, Dad is away a lot and her little brother should be starting school soon but can barely talk properly. When her Dad leaves, Sprite has to make decisions in order to reunite herself and her brother with their dad. |
| 1209793 | Spy academy: Doomsday Heath, Jack | Scholastic Australia | 2024 | 9781761290480 | Nolan Hawker has been training at The Peak, a secret spy school that dispatches elite operatives to protect the innocent. His first mission is to go undercover at Blu Xpanse, an oceanic lab where a brilliant geneticist is making super-sized cockroach-like creatures that may have the potential to save the world. But Nolan isn't the only one with a secret identity - a Swarm agent has also infiltrated Blu Xpanse and Nolan has only days to uncover their identity and stop their doomsday plan. |
| 1019910 | Spy academy: The peak Heath, Jack | Scholastic Australia | 2024 | 9781761290473 | Nolan Hawker is invited to attend the Peak, the world's most dangerous school. There he learns to crack codes, fly planes and deceive enemies so he can someday infiltrate the deadly anarchist group, Swarm. But Swarm is already inside the Peak, and they have a plan - the kind that no-one walks away from. Does Nolan have what it takes to save his friends, his school, the world? LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Jack Heath read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website! Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#spy-academy-1-the-peak-jack-heath |
| 4156 | Spy babies Bone, Ian | Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9780734401052 | Imagine finding yourself in the body of a baby, with all the disadvantages that would bring. |
| 1209873 | Squad, The Soontornvat, Christina & Cacao, Joanna (ill) | Graphix | 2024 | 9781761640971 | It's eighth grade and Christina and her besties, Megan and Leanne, are once again going through the brutal trials of cheerleading tryouts. This year, Christina feels more confident: She dresses in her own style and has amazing friends, even her first crush. But what if the girls don't all make the squad? Worse than that, Christina learns her parents' marriage is collapsing. Suddenly, her family, her future, and her identity seem in total freefall. Can she keep it together and still make her cheerleading dreams come true? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 587875 | Squid, the vibrio & the moon, The Wild, Ailsa & Barr, Briony & Crocetti, Gregory | Scale free network | 2019 | 9781486309894 | When he hatches from his egg, Sepio, a baby bobtail squid, is not able to glow. His dark shape is too obvious in the moonlit water and all kinds of predators lurk nearby. Ali, an intrepid Vibrio fischeri bacterium, is determined to reach safety too. A picture book about the symbiotic relationship between a bobtail squid and a bacterium. |
| 4172 | Staircase cat, The Thompson, Colin & Pignataro Anna (ill) | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2000 | 9780733610059 | Oskar's loyalty knows no bounds as he waits in an empty war-torn house, surrounded by ghosts, waiting for his family to return. |
| 587899 | Stand up for the future: A celebration of inspirational young Australians Various | Penguin Books Australia | 2019 | 9780143794394 | Let's stand up and applaud the young Aussies who are using their voices and talents to change our world for the better. From soccer star Sam Kerr, conservationist Bindi Irwin, entertainer Jessica Mauboy to gender equality advocate Caitlin Figueiredo, this is a book about young people, for everyone. Through activism, innovation, giving back and leading by example, these inspirational young Australians are building a brighter tomorrow for us all. Brought to life by colourful portrait illustrations, from local artists, this book showcases emerging Aussie talent, motivates with inspirational praise and encourages readers to take action to create positive social change. The future is bright! |
| 26760 | Star Wars: Leia, Princess of Alderaan Gray, Claudia | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2017 | 9781405288903 | A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away, there was a princess who became a legend. Sixteen-year-old Princess Leia Organa is taking survival courses, practicing politics, and spearheading relief missions to worlds under Imperial control. But Leia has worries beyond her claim to the crown. Her parents, Brea and Bail, aren't acting like themselves lately, and determined to uncover her parents' secrets, Leia starts down an increasingly dangerous path that puts her right under the watchful eye of the Empire. When Leia discovers what her parents and their allies are planning behind closed doors, she finds herself facing what seems like an impossible choice; dedicate herself to the people of Alderaan - including the make she loves - or the galaxy at large, which is in desperate need of a rebel hero. |
| 377 | Stargirl Spinelli, Jerry | Watts Publishing Group | 2002 | 9781841219264 | From the moment Stargirl arrives at Mica High School, the students are enchanted but, then, they turn on her because she is so extraordinary. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------|------|---------------|--|
| 941694 | Stars did wander darkling, The Meloy, Colin | Walker Books | 2023 | 9781760657192 | Maybe Archie Coombes has been watching too many horror movies. All of a sudden, the most ordinary things have taken on a sinister edge: a penny on a doormat. A man in a brown suit under a streetlamp. the persistent sound of an axe chopping in the middle of the night. He keeps telling himself hat this is Seaham, a sleepy seaside town where nothing ever happens. Or at least nothing did, until his dad's construction company opened up the cliff beneath the old - some say cursed - Langdon Place. Soon, though, he and his friends can't deny it: More and more of the adults in town are acting strangely. An ancient, long-buried evil has been unleashed upon the community, and it's up to the kids to stop it before it's too late... |
| 846235 | Stars in their eyes Walton, Jessica & Aska (ill) | Fremantle Press | 2021 | 9781760990718 | Pop culture-obsessed Maisie can't wait to get to her first Fancon. But being a queer, disabled teenager with chronic pain comes with challenges. Can Maisie make it through the day without falling over, falling in love or accidentally inspiring anyone? Maisie has always dreamed of meeting her hero, Kara Bufano, an amputee actor who plays a kick-arse amputee character in her favourite show. Fancon is big and exciting and exhausting. Then she meets Ollie, a cute volunteer who she has a lot in common with. Could this be the start of something, or will her mum, who doesn't seem to know what boundaries are, embarrass her before she and Ollie have a chance? |
| 4145 | Stay where you are and then leave Boyne, John | Doubleday | 2013 | 9780857532947 | Alfie's birthday is one he cannot forget, because it is the day World War I is announced. His life changes as his father enlists. Letters come, eagerly read between his mother, granny and himself. As the letters' cheerful tone changes, mother hides the letters and tells Alfie rather than reads what they contain. Then the letters stop and Alfie begins a mission of his own to find out the truth. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1209890 | Steady for this Lessore, Nathanael | Hot Key Books | 2023 | 9781471413223 | Shaun (aka MC Growls) is ready to drop his best bars and smash the competition at Raptology. That way, he's convinced Tanisha, his crush, will finally give him a chance. But when a livestream practice goes epically wrong, Growls's dirty laundry is literally exposed. He's finally achieved his dreams of going viral, just not in a good way. Now Tanisha won't look at him, he's the joke of the school and there's no way he can show his face at the competition. Will he ever catch a break? Then a new girl on the block appears who might be just the friend Growls needs. Especially when she points out that Raptology could be the answer to his problems after all. It's MC Growls and he's ready for this. He's steady for this. It's comeback season and they call him comeback king for a reason. |
| 15399 | Stegosaur stone Bernard, Patricia | Scholastic Australia | 2004 | 9781865046204 | Three loyal teenagers witness a murder and theft of a priceless dinosaur fossil. They are not supposed to be in the National Park at night and are in great danger. An international crime gang is not going to let them get in its way. |
| 8206 | Stella Austen, Jenna | ABC Books | 2013 | 9780733331534 | Fletcher has it all, with her inherited million-dollar magazine company, hanging with celebrities and servants to cater to her every wish. But money doesn't solve boyfriend, and family issues, so she secretly travels to a quiet island to sort her feelings out. |
| 1209704 | Stepping sideways: Worlds of steampunk and dystopia Larkin, Emily (ed) & Stringer Lynne (ed) | Rhiza Press | 2024 | 9781761111785 | An anthology of twelve short stories from diverging worlds, some are steampunk and others dystopian, written by Australian authors. Be transported into complex worlds of fog and mist, dystopian civilisations, time travel, slavery, steam engines, airships, clockwork devices and very bad food. |
| | Sterling biographies series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 10712 | Steve Jobs: Insanely great Hartland, Jessie | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2015 | 9780857988560 | Steve Jobs was a tinkerer. He was also rebellious, did not follow rules and dropped out of college after one semester. At twenty one, he started Apple Computer in his parents' garage and it became the world's most valuable company. Jobs became the tastemaker of a generation, creating products that we now can't live without, while revolutionising the music, phone and tablet computer industries in the process. A graphic biography. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 380 | Sticky beak Gleitzman, Morris | Pan MacMillan | 1993 | 9780330274067 | A sequel to Blabbermouth, this book continues the story of Rowena's chaotic life as a teenager who cannot speak aloud yet converses with the reader with her 'voice'. |
| 383 | Stoked real life, real surf Parry, Glyn | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1994 | 9781863737111 | A lightweight but informative and accurate book comprising chapters that alternate between a humorous history of surfing and sensible advice from Dr Stoke. Excellent illustrations by Jeff Raglus further emphasise the humour. |
| 12955 | Stone age sentinel Fleming, Fergus & Tomlins, Karen (des.) & Dowsell, Paul (ed.) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 1998 | 9780746029596 | Very funny newspaper full of articles about the stone age. Humour and historical accuracy combined. |
| 4201 | Stone in my hand, A Clinton, Cathryn | Candlewick Press | 2010 | 9780763647728 | Eleven year old Malaak is a Palestinian living in Gaza. She endures the hardships of living in an occupied territory, with soldiers and dangers ever present. Her father has disappeared and her mother raises the family, and keeps their Islamic faith. Malaak has a tame dove which helps her to deal with her sadness. Hamid, her brother, has his own, dangerous way to cope with repression and uncertainty. |
| | Stoneheart series Fletcher, Charlie | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 26541 | Stories for boys who dare to be different Brooks, Ben & Winter, Quinton (ill) | Quercus Children's Books | 2018 | 9781787471986 | 100 stories, with fun illustrations, about men and boys who have done something unusual or unexpected to make the world a better place. A beautiful and inspiring collection of stories about boys who changed the world without killing a single dragon or saving a single princess. |
| 6121 | Stories for kids who dare to be different: True tales of boys and girls who stood up and stood out Brooks, Ben | Quercus Children's Books | 2018 | 9781787476523 | Boys will be boys and girls will be girls? Not in this book. More extraordinary true stories of amazing Boys and Girls, Women and Men, who broke the mould and changed the world for the better. Have the courage to be yourself, and your dreams might come true.... |
| 120064 | Storm callers Mackay, Duncan | Fremantle Press | 2007 | 9781863682763 | In tiny Miller's Flat, Mike is stuck at the caravan park helping his mum when he'd rather be with mates. One day, he meets feisty, city girl, Kirsty, who is trying to run away. Together, they escape their boredom and create their own world on a remote beach, beachcombing for treasures and imagining stories about pirates and washed up bodies. |
| 9258 | Stormy night Lemieux, Michele | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2000 | 9781876631031 | While a storm rages outside, a young girl ponders some of life's big questions. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 34682 | Story like the wind, A Lewis, Gill | Oxford University Press | 2017 | 9780192758958 | A small boat drifts on the sea. Far from home, the people inside have lost everything. But as their boat spins slowly on the rising sea, they share a song and a story. A song that keeps their hope alive in their hearts. A song of freedom and a story like the wind. |
| 120063 | Story of inventions, The Claybourne, Anna & Larkin, Adam (ill) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2007 | 9780746070093 | Find out the real-life stories of the bright sparks behind dozens of ideas and inventions. Includes a glossary of terms and a timeline. |
| 43456 | Story of Titania and Oberon, The Manton, Jo & Bray, Phyllis (ill) | Pavilion | 2017 | 9781843653295 | Titania, the Fairy Queen, and Oberon, King of Fairies, fall into a quarrel about who should have charge of a little changeling boy. Oberon and his servant, Puck, cast a spell which causes Titania to fall magically in love with Nick Bottom, a weaver who has been given the head of a donkey. Oberon sees the error of his ways and seeks a way to reverse the spell and restore harmony. |
| | Storytellers series series Schow, Betsy | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 389 | Stradbroke dreamtime Nunukul, Oodgeroo (Walker, Kath) | HarperCollins Australia | 1999 | 9780207198656 | The two halves of this book combine to bring together a collection of Dreaming stories and stories reminiscent of the author's childhood on Stradbroke Island. |
| 641256 | Stressless Johnstone, Matthew & Player, Dr Michael | Pan MacMillan | 2019 | 9781760554224 | Fully illustrated, easy to follow and based on the latest medical science, StressLess is your go-to guide to identify and reduce your own stress and help others do the same. You will learn how to: Recognise the thinking patterns that lead to stress, Disentangle yourself from stressful activities, Relax using breathing, stretching, meditation and mindfulness, Do more with your time, Problem solve, and Nurture relationships. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above. |
| 390 | Strike Harris, Christine | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9780091829179 | Set in Port Adelaide during the Depression, two friends are affected by the `wharfies' strike of 1928. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 903269 | Strike the zither He, Joan | Text Publishing Co | 2022 | 9781911231417 | The year is 414 of the Xin Dynasty, and chaos abounds. A puppet empress is on the throne. The realm has fractured into three factions and three warlordesses hoping to claim the continent for themselves. But Zephyr knows it's no contest. Orphaned at a young age, Zephyr took control of her fate by becoming the best strategist of the land and serving under Xin Ren, a warlordess whose loyalty to the empress is double-edged; while Ren's honor draws Zephyr to her cause, it also jeopardizes their survival in a war where one must betray or be betrayed. When Zephyr is forced to infiltrate an enemy camp to keep Ren's followers from being slaughtered, she encounters the enigmatic Crow, an opposing strategist who is finally her match. But there are more enemies than one - and not all of them are human. |
| 1019781 | Stuck up & stupid Rice, Angourie & Rice, Kate | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781760658281 | The story explores Lily a teenager who attends a party at Pippi Beach and meets Dorian Khan. The story highlights the importance of first impressions and how sometimes they can be deceiving. A modern take on the classic Jane Austin's Pride and prejudice. |
| 1728 | Sultan's eyes, The Gardiner, Kelly | HarperCollins Australia | 2013 | 9780732294809 | The year is 1648 and life in Venice is serene for Isabella and her friends Willem, Al-Qasim and Signora Contarini. Together they publish fine books like the controversial encyclopaedia, The Sum of All Knowledge. When a new Inquisitor declares war on free speech, they are forced to flee across the seas to the wondrous capital of the Ottoman Empire, Constantinople. |
| 18053 | Summer I turned pretty, The Han, Jenny | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780141330532 | Every year, Isabel spends a perfect summer at her family friends' house. There's the swimming pool at night, the private stretch of sandy beach and the two boys - unavailable, aloof Conrad and friendly, relaxed Jeremiah. But this year, something is different. They seem to have noticed her for the first time. |
| 11377 | Summer of kicks, The Hackett, Dave | University of Queensland Press | 2015 | 9780702253362 | Starrphyre is your average, dorky sixteen year old, with one difference. He has a very weird name, thanks to his hippy parents, a radio sex therapist mum and a bass player dad, from a tragic one-hit-wonder 1980s metal band. All Starrphyre wants is one date with his dream girl, Candace McAllister, but so does every other high school guy. Perhaps starting a band with his video-game obsessed pals will do the trick. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 983946 | Sunbearer Trials, The Thomas, Aiden | Feiwei and Friends | 2024 | 9781250822741 | Teo, the seventeen-year-old trans son of the goddess of birds, isn't worried. As a Jade, it is unlikely he'll be chosen to compete in the Trials, and even if his best friend Niya competes, she's a born and bred Gold semidios with unparalleled abilities. But for the first time in over a century, Sol chooses not one, but two Jade competitors: Teo - and Xio, the thirteen-year-old child of the god of bad luck. With the odds stacked against them, Teo is determined to get himself and his friends through the trials unscathed. |
| 751032 | Sunflower Laguna, Ingrid | Text Publishing Co | 2023 | 9781922268754 | Jamila has moved to Australia from her home in Iraq and has adapted well to life there and has made good friends. When she learns that her best friend, Mina, from Iraq will be coming to Australia, Jamila is very excited to introduce Mina to her Australian friends. However, when Mina arrives she is not quite ready to jump into the life Jamila has created. Jamila feels pressure to find a way to manage old friends and new friends and understand the sadness which Mina has taken with her from Iraq. |
| 785084 | Sunny side up Holm, Jennifer L. & Holm, Matthew | Graphix | 2022 | 9780545741668 | When is a summer vacation not really a summer vacation? 10-year-old Sunny Lewin has been packed off to Florida to live with her grandfather for the summer. At first she thought Florida might be fun - it is the home of Disney World, after all. But the place where Gramps lives is no amusement park. In fact, it's an aged care home full of old people. Luckily, Sunny isn't the only kid around. She meets Buzz, a boy who is completely obsessed with comic books, and soon they're having adventures of their own. But the question remains - why is Sunny down in Florida in the first place? The answer lies in a family secret that won't be secret to Sunny much longer. |
| 587856 | Superman: Dawnbreaker De La Pena, Matt | Penguin Books Australia | 2019 | 9780141386867 | Clark Kent has always been faster, stronger, better than everyone around him. But he wasn't raised to show off, and drawing attention to himself could be dangerous. Plus, it's not like he's earned his powers . . . yet. Lately it's difficult to hold back and keep his heroics in the shadows. When Clark follows the sound of a girl crying, he discovers a dark secret lurking in Smallville. Teaming up with his best friend, Lana Lang, he throws himself into the pursuit of the truth. What evil lies below the surface of his small town? And what will it cost Clark to step into the light to become the future Man of Steel? |
| 392 | Surf's up Chase, Diana | Fremantle Press | 1999 | 9781863682503 | Brad teaches disabled Matt how to surf and finds himself in a life-threatening situation. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 393 | Surfing Mr. Petrovic Bowles, Colin | Penguin | 1997 | 9780140386417 | While this story appears to be about the activities of a rebellious boy, there are underlying themes of anger and sadness over the break-up of a family. |
| 644938 | Surprising power of a good dumpling, The Chin, Wai | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781760631581 | Anna Chiu has her hands pretty full looking after her brother and sister and helping out at her dad's restaurant, all while her mum stays in bed. Dad's new delivery boy, Rory, is a welcome distraction and even though she knows that things aren't right at home, she's starting to feel like she could just be a normal teen. But when Mum finally gets out of bed, things go from bad to worse. And as Mum's condition worsens, Anna and her family question everything they understand about themselves and each other. A nourishing tale about the crevices of culture, mental wellness and family. |
| 569189 | Survival game, The Singer, Nicky | Hachette Children's Books | 2018 | 9781444944525 | Mhairi is walking to Scotland. She has to get there, has to find safety in her grandmother's house. But all she has is a gun with no bullets and her precious identity papers. In this dystopian new world, the journey from the African continent to the top of the UK is fraught with danger. When Mhairi comes across a lone, mute boy she finds kindness within her to help him to safety as well, even though this could jeopardise everything she is working towards. |
| 568091 | Swallow's dance Orr, Wendy | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760297879 | The noise throws us from our beds. It's too huge to be heard; it bombards us. It's the sound of the end of the world. Leira is about to start her initiation as a priestess when her world is turned upside down. A violent earthquake leaves her home - and her family - in pieces. And the goddess hasn't finished with the island yet. With her family, Leira flees across the sea to Crete, expecting sanctuary. But a volcanic eruption throws the entire world into darkness. After the resulting tsunami, society descends into chaos; the status and privilege of being noble-born reduced to nothing. With her injured mother and elderly nurse, Leira has only the strength and resourcefulness within herself to find safety. |
| 13524 | Swan lake Spudvilas, Anne | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9781743318454 | The iconic ballet Swan Lake, the tragic love story of a princess transformed into a swan by an evil sorcerer, has been revered for more than a century. In this atmospheric adaptation, Anne Spudvilas reimagines the classic tale of passion, betrayal and heartbreak in the dramatic riverscape of the Murray-Darling. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 855834 | Swift and Hawk: Cyberspies Macx, Logan | Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd | 2022 | 9781406394931 | When their families mysteriously disappear, Swift and Hawk, teen experts in AI and robotics, are recruited into the top-secret Mobius Programme. Plunged into a life-and-death rescue mission, Swift and Hawk race from London to an isolated, sinister island in the North Atlantic, straight into the hands of a deadly enemy... |
| 69527 | Swiss family Robinson, The Wyss, Johann | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2009 | 9780141325309 | Following a wild and raging storm, the Swiss family Robinson is stranded at sea. The thundering waves have swept them off to a tropical island, where a new life, with many dangers and delights, awaits them. |
| 660433 | Switchback Stone, Danika | St Martin's | 2019 | 9781250221650 | A two-day hiking trip through the Canadian Rockies sounds like hell to best friends Ashton and Vale for two very different reasons. Ashton, the class clown, would rather be gaming in his basement and eating junk food than hiking. Vale, a straight-A student who hikes in her own time, shudders at the thought of spending two days stuck with classmates who have relentlessly bullied her for the past few years. But when the two are separated from their classmates and an unexpected snowstorm hits, Ash and Vale find themselves with dwindling supplies and fighting for survival against bears, wolves, and the elements. |
| 398 | Sword and the circle, The Sutcliff, Rosemary | Puffin UK | 1994 | 9780140371499 | The beautifully written retelling of the legend of King Arthur and his knights of the round table. |
| 7251 | Sword in the stone, The White, T H | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 1999 | 9780006753995 | A mythical story of Arthur and his quest led by Merlin, the sorcerer. |
| 720985 | Sword of kings Cornwell, Bernard | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2019 | 9780008183929 | An oath, the protagonist that pushes Uhtred of Bebbanburg from his Northumbrian home into the battle between two brothers. When King Edward dies he splits his kingdom between his two heirs. In a land fraught with battles between Saxons, Danes, and now two kings, the kingdom cannot be born without bloodshed and death of one heir. |
| 399 | Sydney through time Heimann, Rolf | Roland Harvey Books | 1999 | 9780949714671 | A puzzling, historical account of Sydney's history to the year 2000. |
| 16753 | Sylvie and the songman Binding, Tim & Barrett, Angela (ill) | David Fickling Books | 2008 | 9780385611213 | Sylvie's beloved dog, Mr Jackson, has lost his bark. The birds have stopped singing. In the growing silence, her dad, her dear music-making dad, has disappeared. Sylvie and her best friend, George, are drawn into the nightmare world of the songman. Only they can save the earth from its terrible, voiceless fate. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 653180 | Take the shot White, Susan | Affirm Press | 2019 | 9781925712957 | Bug has a secret. Actually, he has lots of secrets. Number one: He has formed a basketball team at his new school based on a giant lie. Number two: his parents do not know he is playing basketball again. Number three: his new team mates have no idea he isn't allowed to play and they definitely do not know why. Bug will do anything to keep his secrets, keep his new team and keep his life from falling apart. No one can know the biggest secret of all..... |
| 6124 | Tales from the inner city Tan, Shaun | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760523534 | World-renowned artist Shaun Tan applies his unique imagination to a reflection on the nature of humans and animals, and our urban coexistence. From crocodile to frog, tiger to bee, this is a dark and surreal exploration of the perennial love and destruction we feel and inflict - of how animals can save us, and how our lives are forever entwined, for better or for worse. |
| 9234 | Tales from the perilous realm Tolkien, J R R | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2002 | 9780007149124 | Four classic tales from the author of 'The Lord of the Rings'. |
| 9286 | Tales of ancient Egypt Green, Roger Lancelyn | Puffin UK | 1995 | 9780140367164 | These stories, legends from ancient Egypt, are of gods, magic and adventure, including the great myths of Amen-Ra of Isis. |
| 31983 | Tales of Jahani, The: Daughter of nomads Hawke, Rosanne & Cornish, D M (ill) | University of Queensland Press | 2016 | 9780702253935 | Fourteen year old Jahani lives a peaceful life in her village in Pakistan. But, havoc is brewing in the Mughal Empire, with tyrants and war lords burning villages in their quest to rule. After an assassin strikes in a bazaar, Jahani discovers her life is not as it seems. With her mysterious protector, Azhar, she flees over treacherous terrain towards the fabled Qurraqoram Mountains. Surrounded by deceit and danger, Jahani does not know who to trust or what their destination will reveal. The story concludes in book 2, The Leopard Princess. |
| 4580 | Tales of Jahani, The: The leopard princess Hawke, Rosanne & Cornish, D M (ill) | University of Queensland Press | 2016 | 9780702254222 | First Moon of Autumn, 1662. After reuniting with the nomads, fourteen year old Jahani is finally home. With her red hair dyed black, she can travel through the Qurraqoram Mountains without fear of being captured. But, the tyrants and war lords who pursue Jahani will not rest in their battle for power. Before long, the nomads are attacked. To fulfil her true destiny, Jahani must try to discover a pathway to peace in the northern kingdoms. Sequel to Daughter of nomads and the conclusion to The Tales of Jahani. |
| 18471 | Talisman: the tears of Isis Jones, Allan Frewin | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2005 | 9780340882245 | Olly and Josh are travelling in Egypt with Olly's father, Professor Christie, in search of the precious talismans of the moon. Danger, however, lurks in the shadows. Josh and Olly must outwit whoever is trying to get there first. |

| PRC | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|-------|---|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| ID | | | | | |
| 16414 | Talk under water Lomer, Kathryn | University of Queensland Press | 2015 | 9780702253690 | Will and Summer meet online and strike up a friendship based on a coincidence. Both are missing a parent and need a friend. Summer lives in Will's old hometown, a small community on Tasmania's coast. But, Summer isn't telling the whole truth about herself. She figures it doesn't matter, if they never see each other. But, when Will returns and they meet, Summer can no longer hide her secret. |
| 18641 | Tanglewreck Winterson, Jeanette | Bloomsbury | 2006 | 9780747583554 | Clever, eleven year old heroine, Silver, is on a modern day quest to get time right. She must escape the villainous Abel Darkwater and find the timekeeper to save the people of London from the disasters caused by time tornadoes and time traps. |
| 16071 | Tank boys Dando-Collins, Stephen | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9780857981301 | As many others had done, Australian 16 year-olds Frankie and Taz lied about their ages to enlist for WWI, one envisaging the adventure of a lifetime, the other to assuage guilt about staying at home when his brothers have died in the war. On the German side, Richard, also 16, finds himself assigned in one of the first German tanks. The three are destined to meet in the same shelled out crater during history's first tank battle. |
| 11376 | Tape Camden, Steven | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2014 | 9780007523511 | In 1993, Ryan records a diary on an old tape. He talks about his mother's death, about his dreams, about his love for a girl at school who doesn't even know he exists. In 2013, Ameliah moves in with her grandmother after her parents die. There, she finds a tape in the spare room, with a boy's voice on it - a voice she can't quite hear, but which seems to be speaking to her. |
| 4341 | Tarzan of the apes Burroughs, Edgar Rice | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 2008 | 9780141036533 | Abandoned to his fate when his English parents die in the African jungle, a baby boy is rescued and reared by a loving ape, foster mother. Tarzan grows into a mighty warrior, becoming leader of his tribe of apes, until he encounters humans for the first time. |
| 21415 | Tattoo Barnes, Jennifer Lynn | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741662214 | Bailey Morgan and her friends, Delia, Annabelle and Zo, apply strange, temporary tattoos picked up from a small booth at the mall. The tattoos will, supposedly, last for three days and the girls are sure they will absolutely kill at the school dance. Unfortunately, killing is just what someone has in mind. Along with the tattoo, each girl receives a gift, a supernatural power to help in the fight for their lives. |
| 405 | Tea for three Fatchen, Max & Thiele, Colin | Moondrake | 1994 | 9781863912433 | A compilation of the two authors' favourite poems are illustrated in this Australian poetry book. |
| 406 | Tearaways Klein, Robin | Penguin | 1992 | 9780670832125 | Ten stories of different people who might be best avoided! Conniving characters that come in all shapes, sizes and disguises. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 9049 | Tears of a friend Kenrick, Joanna | Evans Bros | 2008 | 9780237535254 | Cassie and Claire are best friends and do everything together. But, Claire always likes things her way. Cassie's fed up and now they've fallen out. They must find a way to mend the rift. |
| 9295 | Technology in the time of ancient Egypt Crosher, Judith | Raintree | 1998 | 9780817248758 | Explores the use of technology in ancient Egypt including technology used in architecture, crafts, hobbies, transportation and ancient inventions. |
| 9344 | Tee Dee and the collectors or how it all began Caswell, Brian | University of Queensland Press | 1998 | 9780702229886 | Tee Dee is alone, stranded on a backward planet called Earth but help is at hand. The Zone Commandos may be primitive but they make a great team. Tee Dee could do with some friends. |
| 35562 | Teenage guide to friends, The Morgan, Nicola | Walker Books | 2017 | 9781406369779 | Friendships and peer groups can cause problems and upsets in your teenage years. People can be confusing- until you understand how different personality traits, stresses and emotions affect their behaviours. Yours too! This book is for anyone who wants to know how friendships work and what to do when they don't. You'll find positive advice on how to make and keep friends, as well as positive strategies to help you through the tough times and make you feel more confident. |
| 41508 | Teens Mack, Louise | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2016 | 9781460750797 | Lennie is leaving the security of life at home to attend a day school in Sydney. She is full of excitement but life outside her secure house with her younger sisters throws up all sorts of challenges, She finds a best friend in Mabel Jones, a fellow pupil and begins to develop her talents as a writer. A charming tale of life as a teenage girl in Sydney in the late 1800's. |
| 682606 | Tell, The Chatterton, Martin | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760895945 | Rey Tanic is not like other 14 year olds. His dad is a mafia boss. His dad also in jail. When Rey's life explodes, every decision he makes will shape the rest of his life. How far does the apple really fall from the tree? |
| 1153630 | Tempus Imperium, The Paine, Juliet A. | Rhiza Press | 2024 | 9781761111648 | When Charlie's grandmother dies in mysterious circumstances, Charlie inherits her beautiful watch, the Tempus Imperium. She also discovers the world of the Temporal Sinistrum, a secretive organisation of time-travellers. Their task is to maintain the historical timeline. Charlie never knew her grandmother was one of their agents, but now, in order to solve the mystery of her grandmothers death, she must follow in her footsteps on an adventure travelling through time - back to Australia of the 1960's and to the future post-apocalyptic wasteland that is Los Angeles in 2120. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 15613 | Ten things I hate about me Abdel-Fattah, Randa | Pan MacMillan | 2006 | 9780330422741 | Jamie hates lot of things about her life, her dark hair, her dad's Charter of Curfew Rights and her real name. Jamie has hidden her Lebanese background from everyone at school and it's only with her email friend, John, that she can really be herself. But, things are getting complicated. The most popular boy in school is interested in her, she keeps thinking about Timothy, the school loner, and the school formal is coming up. |
| 35546 | That stubborn seed of hope Falkner, Brian | University of Queensland Press | 2017 | 9780702259692 | A collection of ten gripping short stories about fear and hope. A boy helps his sister by disguising her birthmark on her first day of school. A seventeen-year-old awakens to find himself trapped in an elderly body. A teenage girl discovers her boyfriend has a life-threatening virus the day after they share their first kiss. A high school student tries to communicate to his hospitalised brother who is in a vegetative state. Brian Falkner serves up bite-sized tales of fear - fear of rejection, fear of dying, fear of disease, fear of the unknown, fear of exclusion, fear of being caught and fear of embarrassment - showing how that stubborn seed of hope hungers our darkest moments. |
| | The Apothecary trilogy series Meloy, Maile | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Bartimaeus trilogy series Stroud, Jonathan | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The children of the lamp series Kerr, P B | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------|------|------|---|
| | The Chronicles of Prydain series Alexander, Lloyd | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The debt series Gwynne, Phillip | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Edge chronicles series Stewart, Paul & Riddell, Chris (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Gallagher girls series Carter, Ally | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Guild trilogy series Mowll, Joshua | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Hitler trilogy series French, Jackie | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|---------------|------|---------------|---|
| | The Kane Chronicles series Riordan, Rick | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Mapmaker Chronicles series Various | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| | The Montmaray Journals series Cooper, Michelle | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Seven signs series Adams, Michael | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | The Thickety series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 833219 | Theft of sunlight, The Khanani, Intisar | Hot Key Books | 2021 | 9781471410376 | When her best friend's sister is snatched, Rae is determined to find answers. She travels to the royal court and unexpectedly begins serving the new princess. This alliance draws her deep into a dangerous quest for answers about the Snatchers. As each strand of the web is unravelled, Rae slips further into danger. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Theodore Boone series Grisham, John | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1302 | Theodork Green, Jessica | Scholastic Australia | 2009 | 9781741693256 | It is Theodore's first year at high school. After a successful primary school career, he now finds himself considered a dork, amongst other things. Through some spectacularly unfortunate experiences, Theodore learns a lot about friendship and himself. |
| 120061 | They called me the Wildman Hollingworth, Robert | Murdoch Books Australia | 2008 | 9781741960679 | In 1880, Henricke Nelsen, a Swedish migrant, was put on trial and gaoled for vagrancy after hiding for fourteen years in the mountain ranges of Victoria. While in gaol, Nelson wrote his diary describing his life in Sweden, his migration to Australia and the personalities he met along the way. This is a captivating reconstruction of Nelsen's solitary life as told in his prison diary. |
| 770858 | They called us enemy Takei, George & Eisinger, Justin & Scott, Steven (ill) | Penguin | 2019 | 9781603094504 | In 1942, at the order of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, every person of Japanese descent on the west coast was rounded up and shipped to one of ten "relocation centers," hundreds or thousands of miles from home, where they would be held for years under armed guard. They Called Us Enemy is George Takei's firsthand account of those years behind barbed wire, the joys and terrors of growing up under legalized racism, his mother's hard choices, his father's faith in democracy, and the way those experiences planted the seeds for his astonishing future. What does it mean to be American? Who gets to decide? When the world is against you, what can one person do? |
| 24609 | They told me I had to write this Miller, Kim | Ford Street Publishing | 2009 | 9781876462840 | Blamed for the death of his mother, carrying a terrible secret from Grade 5 and in trouble with the police, Clem is now in a school for toxic teenagers. Encouraged to write Clem goes deep into the trauma that has defined his life. Issues of bullying, child abuse, family dysfunction, drugs, grief. Street language used in context. |
| 10100 | Thief lord, The Funke, Cornelia | Chicken House | 2006 | 9781905294213 | Two orphaned children head for Venice, the place of their mother's wondrous stories. They team up with a gang of homeless children and end up on a quest for a magical roundabout. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1209797 | Thief of the heights Son, M & Yao, Robin (ill) | HarperAlley | 2024 | 9780063067325 | Lifelong friends Basem, Mustafa and Aarfah dream of using their inventing skills to transport them from the disease infested place where they live to the highest echelons of society. Their dream is to help all people of Muqadas but once they reach the upper tiers they discover there are dangerous and dark secrets- ones which will challenge their very beliefs and test their bonds of friendship. |
| 3829 | Thing about jellyfish, The Benjamin, Ali | Little, Brown & Co | 2015 | 9780316380867 | After her best friend, Franny, dies in a drowning accident, Suzy is convinced that the true cause of the tragedy must have been a rare jellyfish sting. Franny was a strong swimmer and there must be a reason. Retreating into a silent world of grief and imagination, Suzy crafts a plan to prove her theory, even if it means traveling the globe alone. Suzy's achingly heartfelt journey explores life, death, the astonishing wonder of the universe, and the potential for love and hope right next door. |
| 982996 | Third daughter, The Tooley, Adrienne | Hachette Australia | 2023 | 9781399713948 | For centuries, the citizens of Velle have waited for their New Maiden to return. The prophecy states she will appear as the third daughter of a third daughter. When the fabled child is finally born to Velle's reigning queen all rejoice except for Elodie, the queen's eldest child, who has lost her claim to the crown. The only way for Elodie to protect Velle is to retake the throne. To do so, she must debilitate the Third Daughter - her youngest sister, Brianne. Desperate, Elodie purchases a sleeping potion from Sabine, who sells sadness. But the apothecary mistakenly sends the princess away with a vial of tears instead of a harmless sleeping brew. Sabine's sadness is dangerously powerful, and Brianne slips into a slumber from which she will not wake. With the fates of their families and country hanging in the balance, Sabine and Elodie hurry to revive the Third Daughter while a slow-burning attraction between the two girls erupts in full force. |
| | Third Pig Detective Agency, The series Burke, Bob | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|---------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 27161 | Thirst Wilcock, Lizzie | Scholastic Australia | 2015 | 9781742839660 | Fourteen year old Karanda Hooke doesn't need anybody or anything. On her way to her sixth foster home, a crash leaves her stranded in the outback, with only a backpack, a bottle of water and a stained picture of the mother she hasn't seen in years. This is her chance to escape her old life. There's only one thing in her way. Eight year old Solomon, a fellow foster child, who was also in the car. |
| 9903 | Thirteen McLay, John (ed) | Orchard Books | 2005 | 9781843628354 | Thirteen short stories about being thirteen years old written by thirteen different authors. Includes spoilt birthday parties, peer pressure, embarrassing parents, finding your identity and being true to yourself. |
| 1096788 | This book thinks ya deadly! Tutt, Corey & Hunt, Molly (ill) | Hardie Grant Children's Publishing | 2023 | 9781741178159 | Written by Corey Tutt, author of The First Scientists, this book features the profiles of 80 Blakfellas who are doing deadly things across sport, art, activism and science, through to politics, education and literature. It showcases the careers and Corey's personal stories of First Nations People who have done great things in their respective fields, including Professor Marcia Langton, Miranda Tapsell, Tony Armstrong, Dr Anita Heiss, Danzal Baker (Baker Boy), Adam Goodes and Blak Douglas. |
| 993817 | This camp is doomed: A Dennith Grange misadventure Zobel, Anna | Penguin | 2023 | 9781761047565 | A run-down camp in the woods with no phone reception and 10 students with untested powers- what could possibly go wrong? Something is definitely not right at Camp Buttress and who is the ghost that keeps appearing and what is he trying to tell them? Fionn, Celine and their friends together with their teachers try to solve the mystery- and survive. |
| 1289197 | This dream will devour us Clancey, Emma | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2025 | 9781761181221 | Nora is the opposite of lucky. She's still wrangling her dead dad's debts when a mysterious illness lands her brother in hospital. But her fortunes take an unexpected turn when she wins the lottery to attend the Lamour family's exclusive magical Dream Gala. If Nora can win over the Lamour heirs, she'll get a coveted spot in their magical training program - and the money she needs to save her brother. There's just one problem: Nora never bought a lottery ticket. Determined to discover who wants her at the Gala - and why - Nora plunges headfirst into magical high society. Caught up in a decadent world of brutal billionaires and cutthroat celebrities, Nora is soon in over her head. When her search for answers uncovers a sinister conspiracy, will Nora stay silent or risk the wrath of a family powerful enough to get away with murder? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1409590 | This fatal kiss Jasinska, Alicia | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781760659158 | Cursed to haunt the river running through the magical spa town where she drowned, water nymph Gisela dreams of returning to the living world and the family she left behind. All it takes to regain her humanity is a kiss from a mortal ... if only others didn't see her as monster. Kazik, the brooding, interfering, spirit-hunting grandson of a local witch is determined to rid the world of unholy creatures like Gisela, but his plans go awry. Gisela strikes up a deal: she won't tell the other spirits that he's losing his magic, if he agrees to play matchmaker. But trouble arises when both she and Kazik set their sights on the same, devilishly handsome, young man ... |
| 625618 | This monstrous thing Lee, Mackenzi | HarperCollins US | 2015 | 9780062382788 | In 1818 Geneva, men built with clockwork parts live hidden away from society, cared for only by illegal mechanics called Shadow Boys. Two years ago, Shadow Boy Alasdair Finch's life shattered to bits. His brother, Oliver - dead. His sweetheart, Mary - gone. His chance to break free of Geneva -lost. Heart-broken and desperate, Alasdair does the unthinkable: He brings Oliver back from the dead. But putting back together a broken life is more difficult than mending bones and adding clockwork pieces. Oliver returns more monster than man, and Alasdair's horror further damages the already troubled relationship. Then comes the publication of Frankenstein and the city intensifies its search for Shadow Boys, aiming to discover the real life doctor and his monster. Alasdair finds refuge with his idol, the brilliant Dr. Geisler, who may offer him a way to escape the dangerous present and his guilt-ridden past, but at a horrible price only Oliver can pay... |
| 750938 | This one is ours O'Donnell, Kate | University of Queensland Press | 2020 | 9780702260285 | Sixteen-year-old Sofie is a dreamer, an artist and a romantic. So when she goes on exchange to Paris, she is expecting magnificent adventures of the heart and mind. Yet France isn't what she imagined. Her host sister, Delphine and fellow artist Olivier show her a different side of Paris and Sofie starts to question her ideas of art, beauty and meaning. What can one girl do? Will Sofie be able to find the courage to fight for change? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 862082 | This Poison Heart Bayron, Kalynn | Bloomsbury | 2021 | 9781547603909 | When Briseis's aunt dies and wills her a dilapidated estate in rural New York, Bri and her parents decide to leave Brooklyn behind for the summer. Hopefully there, surrounded by plants and flowers, Bri will finally learn to control her gift. But their new home is sinister in ways they could never have imagined - it comes with a specific set of instructions, an old-school apothecary, and a walled garden filled with the deadliest botanicals in the world that can only be entered by those who share Bri's unique family lineage. |
| 1209895 | This tale is forbidden Crosby, Polly | Scholastic Australia | 2024 | 9780702325601 | Once upon a time Fairy tales were real and the women in them strong and powerful. The Authorities want you to forget those stories and the lives of the women in them. In fact they want you to forget that magic ever existed. Now the fairy tales depict weak women who rely on the protection of men, wear long tight dresses and always tie their hair back in tight braids. Nesta didn't grow up in the city and Nesta knows the truth. That truth makes her dangerous, but does she have what it takes to rescue her grandmother and bring down the authorities? |
| 4845 | Three D'Ath, Justin | Ford Street Publishing | 2016 | 9781925272277 | Sixteen year old Sunday Balewo is next in line for the presidency of Zantuga. When his father and mother are killed in an explosion, Sunday finds himself on the run from the unlikeliest of assassins, a baboon with a bomb. |
| 798307 | Three Dark Crowns Blake Kendare | VIZ Media | 2016 | 9780062385437 | In every generation on the island of Fennbirn, a set of triplets is born: three queens, all equal heirs to the crown and each possessor of a coveted magic. Mirabella is a fierce elemental, able to spark hungry flames or vicious storms at the snap of her fingers. Katharine is a poisoner, one who can ingest the deadliest poisons without so much as a stomachache. Arsinoe, a naturalist, is said to have the ability to bloom the reddest rose and control the fiercest of lions. But becoming the Queen Crowned isn't solely a matter of royal birth. Each sister has to fight for it. And it's not just a game of win or lose - it's life or death. The night the sisters turn sixteen, the battle begins. |
| | Through my eyes series Various | | | | Any two books from this series may be read as Challenge books and up to five more can be read as personal choice books. Go to the online booklists for the PRC ID of the individual books in this series. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 12355 | Through the tiger's eye O'Connor, Kerrie | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9781865085388 | Lucy, her little brother and their puppy follow a golden-eyed Tiger into a secret tunnel to a country where strange, bizarre and violent things happen. They try to help the enslaved children of the evil military junta without falling victim to it too. |
| 412 | Thunderfish Higgins, Simon | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9780091839536 | A combat submarine is the secret weapon used by the heir to a shipping empire to rescue refugees in the Coral Sea when they are attacked by pirates. |
| 1209765 | Thunderhead Beer, Sophie | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2024 | 9781761180958 | Thunderhead is awkward, obsessed with music, and prone to bad luck. Their favourite things are hanging with their best (only) friend, Moonflower, and listening to records. When Moonflower moves schools, Thunderhead must navigate the challenges of high school alone. This task is made all the more challenging because she also has a big secret. Thunderhead uses playlists and online diary entries to try to make sense of her changing world, and to find the courage to embrace her future. |
| 413 | Thunderwith Hathorn, Libby | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1998 | 9780733610592 | Lara is devastated over the loss of her mother and escapes to the hills to meet her only friend, a wild dog, called Thunderwith. |
| | Thursday Next series Fforde, Jasper | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 768333 | Tiger daughter Lim, Rebecca | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2021 | 9781760877644 | Wen Zhou is told she's lucky. Lucky to be living in Australia. Wen doesn't feel lucky when her dad doesn't let her go to birthday parties and controls everything she and her mum do. Her salvation is her close friend Henry. However when tragedy strikes Henry's family, how will Wen find a way to support him, whilst still achieving her own dreams. |
| 660565 | Tiger heart Chrimes, Penny | Hachette Children's Books | 2020 | 9781510107045 | A Magical story about a brave young chimney sweep and a majestic tiger. A story about a mesmerising ruby and a magical land across an ocean. A story about discovering your destiny and what it means to be free. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 2580 | Tiger stone Mansell, Deryn | Black Dog Books | 2014 | 9781742032399 | In Java in the fourteenth century, the villagers are fearful of Mbah Merapi, the rumbling volcano that overshadows their lives. Kancil, the lowliest kitchen servant, knows the real danger is human but she is fatherless and mute. She will lose everything if her identity is revealed. But, Kancil must warn the villagers of the danger they are facing. |
| 415 | Tiger, The Masson, Sophie | HarperCollins Australia | 1998 | 9780207196355 | Java is the setting for this story about an Indonesian family and an old mystery surrounding Nick's grandmother. |
| 3406 | Tigerboy, The Hughes, Ted | Faber & Faber | 1979 | 9780571320622 | A very ordinary boy. Nobody noticed him, he was just like everyone else. But Fred knew he was different. He just didn't know quite how different. And when he did.... Well, what then? |
| 2361 | Tigers on the beach Macleod, Doug | Puffin Australia | 2014 | 9780143568520 | Adam is assistant manager at his parents holiday park, where, after the death of his grandfather, his grandmother has started scaring off the visitors and his parents have started fighting. Once he stops getting into embarrassing situations involving public nudity and work out what's so funny about two tigers on a beach, then maybe he can hope to figure out Samantha. |
| 2765 | Time catcher Peters, Cheree | Ford Street Publishing | 2016 | 9781925272215 | In a post-apocalyptic world of rigid rules, Althea's luxurious life is turned upside-down when she is kidnapped by the dreaded Variants, genetically evolved mutants who can travel through space at will. Betrayed by those she trusts most, Althea is forced to question everything she thought she knew, including who she is and what she's capable of. Althea must separate deception from truth to claim her own power. |
| 4457 | Time stops for no mouse Hoeye, Michael | Penguin | 2003 | 9780141315126 | Hermux, a watchmaker and an unlikely hero, finds himself in a world of danger and intrigue. |
| 6516 | Time travelling with a hamster Welford, Ross | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2016 | 9780008156312 | My dad died twice. Once when he was thirty nine and again, four years later, when he was twelve. The first time had nothing to do with me. The second time definitely did. When Al Chaudhury discovers his late dad's time machine, he finds that going back to the 1980s requires daring and imagination. It also requires lies, theft, burglary and setting his school on fire. All without losing his pet hamster, Alan Shearer. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1075094 | Time travelling with a tortoise Welford, Ross | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2024 | 9780008544775 | Exciting, funny, heartwarming, and mind-bendingly clever, Time Travelling with a Tortoise is the extraordinary, adventure-packed sequel to Ross Welford's beloved, bestselling debut, Time Travelling with a Hamster. Al Chaudhury travelled back in time to save his father's life. And it worked - Al's dad is alive again and life is back to the way it should be. At least, that's what Al thinks. Because when an accident nearly kills Al's beloved Grandpa Byron, and forces Al back in time again, this time he leaves someone behind, trapped in another dimension forever. And now Al is forced to travel through time once more, not just to rescue his friend from the past, but also to save his Grandpa Byron's life... and to make sure that there will be a future waiting for them all. It turns out time travel isn't as simple as Al thought. |
| 992290 | Timefire McKenzie, Nean | MidnightSun Publishing | 2023 | 9781922858030 | Rebecca Tobler 09/23 In the scorching summer of 2033, Gilbert Black is accused of being a firebug, just like his mother was thirteen years previously. That night a fire starts on his family's farm. A fire with a tunnel in the centre of it. And that's when things start to get really weird. Pulled repeatedly back and forth through time, Gil finds himself at all the big Australian bushfires from the last two centuries. He searches across the years, determined to unlock the secret to his family's legacy. Gil can't change the past, but can he learn from it in time to return home and save his family from the biggest inferno ever known. |
| | TimeRiders series Scarrow, Alex | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 7053 | Tiwi girl College, Tiwi & Jarrakarlinga, Alalinguwi | Indigenous Literacy Foundation | 2007 | 9780994465405 | Mia is an ordinary Tiwi girl living at Purnalli outstation with her family - her little tribe. When she tries to fit in with the wrong kids at school, she ends up suspended. Mia's nanna helps her see how to choose what's best for her future. What will the future bring for Mia? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 660780 | To all the boys I've loved before Han, Jenny | Scholastic Australia | 2014 | 9781442426702 | Sixteen-year-old Lara Jean Song keeps her love letters in a hatbox her mother gave her. They aren't love letters that anyone else wrote for her; these are ones she's written. One for every boy she's ever loved -- five in total. When she writes, she pours out her heart and soul and says all the things she would never say in real life, because her letters are for her eyes only. Until the day her secret letters are mailed, and suddenly, Lara Jean's love life goes from imaginary to out of control. |
| 6396 | To brave the seas McRobbie, David | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2013 | 9781743313077 | Adam hears the tales of bravery even before the war broke out. As many did in that time he wanted to be a part of the war, not for the glory but as part of the Merchant Navy. The sea is his home and thus contains the highs and lows of any home. We follow Adam through real storms at sea along with political ones not of his making. Tempered by the sea he learns the value of trust and the friends that trust is found in and through. |
| 30246 | To hope and back Kacer, Kathy | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2012 | 9781743310632 | As Lisa and Sol board the luxury ship MS St Louis in Hamburg Germany, they know they are heading for a safer place; a place where Jews don't have to wear a star or sit on a yellow bench. The passengers are optimistic for their fresh start in Cuba, but Hitler's propaganda has reached the country before them. The mood of the passengers darkens as their fate becomes less certain. |
| 4942 | To see the world Forrestal, Elaine | National Library of Australia | 2014 | 9780642278494 | All his life, Jose has seen the tall ships sailing into Port Louis on the island of Mauritius, where he was born. As he watches them leave again, disappearing below the horizon, he dreams of one day sailing away with them - to see the world. He thinks about all the adventures he would have, the ships he would capture and the buried treasure he would find on faraway islands. But, when the Uranie arrives in 1817, Jose's life changes in ways that he had never imagined. Pirates, cannibals, storms and shipwrecks become harsh realities and Jose is forced to muster all his courage and intelligence to survive the dangers of shipboard life. |
| 18378 | To the top: The story of Everest Venables, Stephen | Walker Books | 2004 | 9781844287253 | Contains historical and informative stories of various expeditions to Mount Everest. Many colour prints are incorporated into this rewarding and fascinating book. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 825533 | Tokyo ever after Jean, Emiko | MacMillan | 2021 | 9781509899999 | Izumi Tanaka has never really felt like she fit in--it isn't easy being Japanese American in her small, mostly white, northern California town. Raised by a single mother, it's always been Izumi--or Izzy, because "It's easier this way"--and her mom (and her trusty terrier sidekick, Tamagotchi) against the world. But then Izzy discovers a clue to her previously unknown father's identity...and he's none other than the Crown Prince of Japan. Which means outspoken, irreverent Izzy is literally a princess. |
| 9222 | Tolkien bestiary Day, David | Bounty | 2001 | 9780753704592 | An exciting resource for fans seeking the inspirational source of Tolkien's beasts, flora and fauna. |
| 9447 | Tolpuddle boy Brown, Alan | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340852033 | In 1834, six Dorset farm labourers were sentenced to seven years transportation to Australia. Their crime, setting up a friendly society to bargain for better wages to escape appalling poverty. The true story of the youngest Tolpuddle martyr, James Brine. |
| 15162 | Tom Appleby, convict boy French, Jackie | HarperCollins Australia | 2004 | 9780207199424 | Chimney sweep, Tom Appleby, eight, is convicted of stealing and deported to Botany Bay on The First Fleet. The country seems to have little to offer. Set between the harsh early Sydney life of 1788 and the 19th century impoverishment of 1868. |
| 9341 | Tom Jones saves the world Herrick, Steven | University of Queensland Press | 2002 | 9780702233364 | Dumb things become important when you're old, that's what Tom reckons. While living in a guarded, gated community, he meets Cleo, the snake charmer. They break out together to discover things such as a bull that hasn't yet become a hamburger. |
| 418 | Tom's midnight garden Pearce, Philippa | Oxford University Press | 1998 | 9780192717771 | Tom finds a wonderful garden that only appears when the clock strikes thirteen. |
| 5539 | Tomorrow code, The Falkner, Brian | Walker Books | 2008 | 9781921150340 | Three young New Zealanders discover a series of coded transmissions from their own future selves - a set of lottery numbers, circuit diagrams for a transmitter and ominous warnings about a 'Chimera Project'. This project is a scientific experiment gone wrong that produces deadly organisms designed to detect and kill all human life. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1209707 | Too tall tales of Alma T. Best, the: Out of bounds Collette, Katherine | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2024 | 9781460765388 | Twelve years old and six feet tall Alma was about to venture into a new school after winning a scholarship to Holy Grace. The problem for Alma was not that she wore size 11 shoes but that she came from Shellsville and that students from Holy Grace did not like Shellsville. So Alma embarks on her very own plan to save face by her will to maintain a life, built out of her imagination like a house of cards. It was an adventure and a tricky game to follow till the end for her family and friends. The Mother's Day Stall assignment was getting closer as worse became worse. |
| 9239 | Toro Toro Morpurgo, Michael | HarperCollins US | 2002 | 9780007107186 | The suffering, loss and futility of war are shown through the intensity of one child's experiences of the outbreak of the Spanish civil war when grandfather, Antonito, recalls his life. |
| 6636 | Tortall and other lands: a collection of tales Pierce, Tamora | Omnibus Books | 2011 | 9781862919167 | A collection of eleven tales from the land of Tortall, featuring both previously unknown characters and old friends. |
| 5576 | Touch the sun: The freedom finders Conolan, Emily | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2018 | 9781760294922 | To find freedom, you must leave behind everything you've ever known. It is 2011. You want nothing more than to be a journalist in Somalia like your aunty. But the truth can be dangerous - and when you and your little sister are left alone, you find yourself facing life-and-death choices at every turn. Can you escape a terrorist organisation and find a safe place to call home? You'll be asked to cross a desert on foot, hide below deck in a leaky boat, and put your life in the hands of people smugglers. At every turn, the choice is yours. How far will you go for freedom? |
| 7468 | Tough stuff Murray, Kirsty | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9781864489293 | Stories of children famous for their talent, fortunes, protests, rebellion, prayers, heroism or just for hanging on through oppression and war, such as a young Genghis Khan, a seventeen year old maths professor, the wolf girls and a chess genius. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 35559 | Traitor and the Thief, The Ward, Gareth | Walker Books | 2017 | 9781925381504 | <p>Discovered picking pockets at Coxford Corn Market, fourteen year old Sin is hunted across the city. Caught by the enigmatic Eldritch Moons, Sin is offered a way out of his life of crime: join the Covert Operations Group (COG) and train to become a spy. At Lenheim Palace, Sin learns spy craft while trying not to break the Cast-Iron Rules of the school. Befriended by eccentric Zonda Chubb, together they endeavour to unmask a traitor causing havoc within the palace. After an assassination attempt on the founder of COG, Sin realises that someone closest to him could be the traitor. With no other option, Sin is forced into an uneasy alliance with the school bully, Velvet Von Darque.</p> <p>But can he trust her? And will COG try to bury him with the secrets he discovers? Secrets, spies and steampunk gadgets abound in this fantastic adventure story.</p> |
| 1424040 | Trapped!: The entombed miner of Bonnie Vale Lawrinson, Julia | Fremantle Press | 2025 | 9781760994990 | In 1907, the mining town of Bonnie Vale experiences a sudden deluge of rain that floods a gold mine while miners are still at work down the shaft. Joe's dad is one of them. And it soon becomes clear that he's the only one who hasn't made it back out yet. Where is he? Why didn't he escape with the others? And more importantly, how will they rescue him? Inspired by the true story of the trapped miner of Bonnie Vale and told in verse, Julia Lawrinson weaves a tale that will beckon readers down into the gold mine with Joe's dad to find out how the rescue unfolded. |
| 75918 | Trash Mulligan, Andy | David Fickling Books | 2010 | 9780385619028 | Three friends are living on a heap of trash, a lifetime of sifting rubbish. One day they find something extraordinary. From that moment on they are hunted without mercy. But they can't run forever. The reality of a slum society in the modern world combined with an action packed mystery. |
| 4547 | Treasure hunters Baillie, Allan | Penguin | 2002 | 9780143300076 | A young boy is rescued from a disaster at sea and joins his father searching for treasure near an Indonesian island. His story is interwoven with that of Diego who is travelling on a 16th century Portuguese treasure ship. |
| | Tripods series Christopher, John | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 422 | Truckers Pratchett, Terry | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1991 | 9780552525954 | Under the floorboards of the Store is a world of four-inch-tall nomes that humans never see. It is commonly known among these nomes that Arnold Bros. created the Store for them to live in, and he declared: "Everything Under One Roof." Therefore there can be no such thing as Outside. It just makes sense. That is, until the day a group of nomes arrives on a truck, claiming to be from Outside, talking about Day and Night and Snow and other crazy legends. And they soon uncover devastating news: The Store is about to be demolished. It's up to Masklin, one of the Outside nomes, to devise a daring escape plan that will forever change the nomes' vision of the world. . . |
| 33466 | True (...sort of) Hannigan, Katherine | Greenwillow | 2011 | 9780061968754 | Suitable for mature readers. Deals with selective mutism as a result of violence which is never shown directly. Handled well. Three unique and very different children learn to appreciate one another and the abilities each possesses, which leads to them being able to deal with a frighteningly adult issue. |
| 804756 | True colour of a little white lie, The Bergmoser, Gabriel | Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins) | 2021 | 9781460759097 | After a catastrophic attempt to ask out his crush, Nelson is desperate for any chance to escape the daily humiliations of his small-town high school. And with his parents taking over a nearby ski lodge, that chance seems to have arrived. At the snow, Nelson discovers a whole new freedom in a world where nobody knows he's a loser. Now he can be whoever he wants to be... But reinvention is complicated, especially when a few white lies land Nelson in the middle of an unexpected love triangle and on a path towards certain embarrassment. |
| 11351 | True colours, young readers' edition Gilchrist, Adam | Pan MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330426206 | Adam Gilchrist is one of the greatest wicketkeepers in cricket history. He grew up in NSW, played State cricket for Perth, loved the Adelaide oval the most and finished his cricket career in India. |
| 62610 | Trust me Collins, Paul (ed) | Ford Street Publishing | 2008 | 9781876462574 | An assortment of short stories and poems from 50 Australian authors, poets and illustrators. The contents are sorted by genre so, as the mood takes you, dip into adventure, horror, romance, crime, thriller, fantasy, science fiction, humour, historical or poetry. Try something new and discover an author, poet or writing style that you may not have considered before. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 903358 | Truth detective, the Harford, Tim & Mann, Ollie (ill) | Hachette Australia | 2023 | 9781526364579 | Did you know that a toy spaceship can teach you about why prices keep rising? Or that a pooping cow can show you how to invest your pocket money? In a world of bamboozling headlines and dodgy data, it's hard to work out what's really going on. This book will show you how to develop your own truth detective skills by using the power of numbers and your own brilliant brain, asking questions and always being curious. |
| 1169502 | Tryout, The Soontornvat, Christina & Cacao, Joanna (ill) | Graphix | 2022 | 9781338741261 | When cheerleading tryouts are announced, Christina and her best friend, Megan, literally jump at the chance to join the squad. As two of the only kids of colour in the school, they have always yearned to fit in - and the middle school cheerleaders are popular and accepted by everyone. But will the girls survive the terrifying tryouts, with their whole grade watching? And will their friendship withstand the pressures of competition? |
| 14376 | Tumble turn MacLeod, Doug | Puffin Australia | 2003 | 9780143300632 | At an embarrassing stage of life, Dominic is burdened with a worrying mother, a father who fancies his teacher, an annoying sister and an embarrassing friend. Dominic is practising Buddhism and resorts to emailing his estranged uncle for support. |
| 916593 | Tumbleglass Constable, Kate | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781760526962 | When Rowan discovers a mysterious ring in Ash's room, it transports the sisters back to party in 1999 being held in the same house, and it's their mother's birthday party! While Ash dances, Rowan unwittingly disrupts the laws of time and, when she returns to the present day, Ash is missing. With the help of their mysterious neighbour Verity, Rowan travels back through time to gather the magic needed to rescue Ash before her sister disappears forever. |
| 4578 | Tunnel, The Browne, Anthony | Walker Books | 1997 | 9780744555295 | Jack disappears down a tunnel and is turned to stone. Fairytale-loving Rose has to restore him to flesh and blood. A dark, but ultimately, liberating fantasy about sibling rivalry, stereotyping, fear and the power of love. |
| 15617 | Tutankhamun Harvey, Gill & McNee, Ian (ill) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2006 | 9780746060179 | Howard Carter had spent five long years in the hot, dry desert, searching for the tomb of the Ancient Egyptian boy-king, Tutankhamun. But what he found when he ventured deeper and deeper into the tomb was gold and treasure beyond his wildest dreams. |
| 12366 | Tutankhamun's tomb MacDonald, Alan | Scholastic Australia | 2003 | 9780439982382 | Two very different men share an ambition to discover a tomb that nobody else believes is there. It takes many years to locate the burial place of the boy king and many more to uncover the treasures hidden therein. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-----------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 91635 | Twilight zone, The: The midnight sun Serling, Rod & Kneece, Mark (adapt) & Spay, Anthony (ill) | Bloomsbury | 2009 | 9780747587859 | Set in a New York of the not-too-distant future, the sweltering, thirsty citizens attempt to cope with the extreme heat as the end of the world approaches. A female artist and her neighbour are helpless against the elements and the armed looters. But, in the Twilight Zone, there's always a twist. |
| 916557 | Two Can Play That Game Yong, Leanne | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781761063374 | <p>Sam Khoo has one goal in life: create cool indie games. She's willing to do anything to make her dream come true - even throw away a scholarship to university. All she needs is a super-rare ticket to a game design workshop and she can kickstart her career.</p> <p>So when Jay Chua, aka Jerky McJerkface, sneakily grabs the last ticket, it's war. Knowing how their Australian-Malaysian community works, Sam issues him an ultimatum: put the ticket on the line in a 1v1 competition of classic video games, or she'll broadcast his duplicity to everyone. Thank you, Asian Gossip Network.</p> <p>Meeting in neutral locations, away from the eyes and ears of nosy aunties and uncles, Sam and Jay connect despite themselves. It's a puzzle that Sam's not sure she wants to solve. But when her dream is under threat, will she discover that there is more than one way to win?</p> |
| 915992 | Two degrees Gratz, Alan | Scholastic US | 2022 | 9781338735673 | As climate change threatens, more and more natural disasters are occurring around the world. Three groups of children are facing the problem of climate change and the disasters it causes. A wildfire in California, melting ice in the Canadian north and hurricanes in Florida. Through their experiences the children must find a way to make the adults make changes to save the Earth. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 1013554 | Two sparrowhawks in a lonely sky Lim, Rebecca | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781761180224 | <p>What if you were forced to set sail for a country that didn't want you, to meet a father you couldn't remember?</p> <p>Thirteen-year-old Fu, his younger sister, Pei, and their mother live in a small rural community in Southern China that is already enduring harsh conditions when it is collectivised as part of Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward campaign that ultimately led to economic disaster, widespread famine and millions of deaths.</p> <p>After tragedy strikes, and threatened with separation, Fu and Pei set out on a perilous journey across countries and oceans to find their father, who left for Australia almost a decade ago. With nothing to guide them but a photograph and some documents in a language they cannot read, they must draw on all their courage and tenacity just to survive - and perhaps forge a better life for themselves.</p> |
| 9215 | Two weeks with the queen: the play Morris, Mary | Currency Press | 2004 | 9780868194011 | A script which is as funny as the book, covering the same issues of death, cancer, AIDS and love. |
| | Ubbys Underdogs series McKenna, Brenton E | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | UFO series Hackett, Dave | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|---------|---|------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1019696 | Ultrawild: An audacious plan to rewild every city on Earth Mushin, Steve | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2023 | 9781760292812 | Join maverick inventor Steve Mushin as he tackles climate change with an avalanche of mind-bending, scientifically plausible inventions to rewild cities and save the planet. Jump into his brain as he designs habitat-printing robot birds and water-filtering sewer submarines, calculates how far compost cannons can blast seed bombs (over a kilometer), brainstorms bio-materials with scientists and engineers, studies ecosystems, and develops a deadly serious plan for future cities. A tour-de-force of extreme problem solving for anyone who loves big ideas. |
| 1424049 | Under a fire-red sky McCaughrean, Geraldine | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2025 | 9781836040774 | With World War II looming, four young people sit on a train waiting to be evacuated to a safer place - but they don't want to go. They climb out of the carriage window and head back to Greenwich, forming an unlikely friendship. They spend their days trying to be useful. Laurence is building a secret machine. Gemmy searches bombed-out homes for things of value - only to find an adorable mutt she can't even give away. Franklin wants to join the Fire Service, although it means lying about his age. Olive looks after her father, who is broken by the deaths of his fellow firefighters. And together, the four roam the streets of London, discovering their resilience amongst the secrets of the city. But as the Blitz unleashes a barrage of bombs on London, turning the sky ragged with flame, can the friends keep each other safe and survive? |
| 660693 | Under the broken sky Nagai, Mariko | Pan MacMillan | 2019 | 9781250159212 | This verse novel tells the beautiful and tragic story of the lives of Japanese settlers in Manchuria during World War II through the eyes of twelve-year-old Natsu. After her father is conscripted into the Japanese army, Natsu and her little sister, Asa, are left orphaned and destitute, and her whole village is forced to flee the Soviet Army. Living in a constant state of fear and hunger, Natsu and Asa are left adrift in a hostile and unforgiving world, with nothing but their tenacious will to survive. |
| 435 | Under the hawthorne tree Conlon-McKenna, Marita | O'Brien Press | 2001 | 9780862782061 | Ireland in the 1840s is devastated by famine. Three children are left to fend for themselves when tragedy strikes their family. They must find <u>their great aunts</u> . |
| 437 | Underrunners Mahy, Margaret | Viking UK | 1992 | 9780670841790 | Kidnapping and suspense highlight this story of two children who have to rely on courage and resourcefulness to escape from a bleak house. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 4070 | Understudy's revenge, The Masson, Sophie | Scholastic Australia | 2011 | 9781741698138 | Millie Osborne is an errand girl for King's company, the famous troupe of actors who, beset by misfortune, have decided to put on a spectacular performance of Hamlet to announce their comeback. When mysterious Oliver Parry arrives to audition for Hamlet, Millie is intrigued and wonders why he is so secretive. She investigates and Millie uncovers secret identities, betrayal, lies, revenge and, perhaps, even murder. |
| 846242 | Unexpected tale of Bastien Bon Livre, The Povey, Clare | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2021 | 9781474986489 | Bastien Bonlivre is a boy with a big imagination, determined to finish the story his parents started. Olivier Odieux and his villainous brothers are masterminding their greatest plot yet. What connects these two stories is a dangerous secret, a hidden mystery and an unexpected race across Paris for the truth. Can Bastien and his friends, Alice, Theo and Sami, be brave enough to stop Olivier stealing the ending they deserve? |
| 660769 | Unmasked Pitt, Turia & Corbett, Bryce | Penguin | 2018 | 9780143790396 | Turia Pitt is living proof that, with the right mindset, we truly can achieve anything. This is her story. Told against the backdrop of a never-ending series of impressive physical feats, not least her incredible recovery after the fire - this book unmaskes the real Turia: funny, fierce, intelligent, flawed. Featuring new material about confidence, goal-setting, happiness and her latest challenge, motherhood. The novel shines a light on the grace, humour and inner-stell that gets Turia through each day |
| 581495 | Unpacking Harper Holt Walker, Di | Walker Books | 2018 | 9781760650599 | Harper Holt has just about had it with moving. Every six months or even less, Harper's family moves to a different place, and she can hardly ever settle down. However, when something devastating happens, Harper's life is tipped upside down and she realises what she had and how much she wishes to go back to the way things always were. |
| 1423998 | Unstoppable Rodgers-Healey, Diann | An Imaginarium for Whimsy | 2025 | 9781763635869 | When a girl's hair grows outrageously, one would simply know that a haircut is needed badly. But this option is out for Princess Melina, even though her hair grows unstoppably. Her father, King Fartysand commands that her hair is never to be cut. So, her mother, Queen Laviniya, and her loyal followers take care of the Princess' billowing metres of hair. When they and the Princess defy Fartysand's command in small ways, he unleashes his windy revenge to ensure their obedience. But on her nineteenth birthday, when Fartysand declares the Princess is to be married off against her wishes, what will she do? Will she find a way to stop the madness and assert herself, free her people, take control of her massive hair, and live happily ever after? Or will she accept her ridiculous fate? |

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|--------|---|---------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 4216 | Upside of unrequited, The Albertalli, Becky | Penguin | 2017 | 9780141356112 | Seventeen-year-old Molly Peskin-Suso knows all about unrequited love - she's lived through it twenty-six times. She crushes hard and crushes often, but always in secret. Because no matter how many times her twin sister, Cassie, tells her to woman up, Molly can't stomach the idea of rejection. So she's careful. Fat girls always have to be careful. Then a cute new girl enters Cassie's orbit, and for the first time ever, Molly's cynical twin is a lovesick mess. Meanwhile, Molly's totally not dying of loneliness - except for the part where she is. Luckily, Cassie's new girlfriend comes with a cute hipster-boy sidekick. Will is funny, flirtatious, and just might be perfect crush material. Maybe more than crush material. And if Molly can win him over, she'll get her first kiss and she'll get her twin back. There's only one problem: Molly's coworker, Reid. He's an awkward Tolkien super-fan, and there's absolutely no way Molly could fall for him. Right? |
| 925934 | Upwelling, The Rose, Lystra | Lothian Books | 2022 | 9780734420251 | A young adult fantasy with three misfits, two warring spirits and one chance to save the world. When death threatens all life, can a short-sighted surfer, a laidback dolphin caller and a feisty language unweaver work together to salvage our future? |
| 18372 | Usborne art ideas: drawing cartoons Milbourne, Anna & McCafferty, Jan & MacKinnon, Catherine-Anne | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2002 | 9780746048429 | Excellent book outlining the tips and techniques involved in creating cartoons. Includes links to a website for extra information, pictures and templates. Written in an easy to follow manner allowing even lesser artistic types to gain skills. |
| | Usborne for beginners Various | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen. |
| | Usborne true stories series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|--------|--|----------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 3396 | Valentine McAlister, Jodi | Penguin Books Australia | 2017 | 9780143574163 | Four teenagers who are all born on the same Valentine's Day begin to disappear. As the bodies mount up, Pearl Linford has to work out what is happening before it happens to her. Finn Blacklin also shares a Valentines birthday and is the sworn enemy of Pearl. Finn is also the Valentine and a Seelie fairy changeling swapped for a human boy at birth. The Unseelie have come to kill the Valentine but they do not know who it is. Pearl must use all her wits to protect herself. Finn must come to terms with his newfound heritage. There is explosive chemistry too between them that must be dealt with. |
| 2409 | Vango: a prince without a kingdom de Fombelle, Timothee Ardizzone, Sarah (trans) | Walker Books | 2014 | 9781406331509 | Fleeing from the police and more sinister forces on his trail, Vango must race against time to prove his innocence. His journey will take him to the furthest reaches of distant lands, and even into the sky where he will find refuge on board the Graf Zeppelin. But the threat of war is getting closer, and Vango must uncover the secrets of his past before everything is lost. |
| 2402 | Vango: between sky and Earth de Fombelle, Timothee & Ardizzone, Sarah (trans) | Walker Books | 2013 | 9781406354010 | Vango is about to enter the priesthood when he suddenly finds himself trying to avoid arrest and escape an assassin. Vango is no ordinary boy with an ordinary life - he has had all kinds of adventures since he was found washed ashore as a toddler on a tiny island off Sicily. Now on the run across Europe, will Vango discover the secrets of his mysterious past in time to figure out who is trying to have him killed - and why. |
| 660745 | Vanishing deep, The Scholte, Astrid | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2020 | 9781760525576 | A world of water is all seventeen-year-old Tempe has ever known. When the Great Waves destroyed her planet, its people had to learn to survive living on the water. Relics of the old world hold great value, so Tempe spends her days diving through drowned cities to scavenge anything of value to trade for notes. But it's not food or riches Tempe is after, but the chance to buy back her dead sister's life for 24 hours. But it's not a heartfelt reunion Tempe is after. Her sister died keeping a terrible secret, and she wants answers. |
| 3760 | Vanishing island, The: The chronicles of the black tulip Wolverton, Barry | HarperCollins US | 2015 | 9780062221919 | Bren Own was born and bred in a small port town. Map may appear to be dull and unadventurous to young Bren in 1599 before the arrival of a Dutch ship. A dying sailor and strange gift change his life forever. Bren will travel far and make new friends. There will be challenges and mysteries. There are codes and legends to unravel and danger in all corners. This is an adventure story set during the Age of Discovery. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 24918 | Vasilisa the wise and other tales of brave young women Forsyth, Kate | Serenity Press | 2018 | 9780648103066 | Meet the brave young women from tales of yore...Vasilisa who must try to outwit the fearsome witch Baba-Yaga. Katie Crackernuts who sets out to save her sister from dark magic. Flora, the gardener's daughter, who marries a giant serpent to save a prince. Fairer-Than-A-Fairy, a princess who is kidnapped by an evil one-eyed enchantress. Lullala, in love with a prince cursed to be a lion by day and a man by night. Rosemary, a Scottish lass whose baby is stolen by the wicked faery folk of the Sidhe. Ursula, a princess replaced by a walking, talking automaton. These are not your usual passive princess, waiting forlornly for their prince to come. |
| 751202 | Verindon alliance, The Stringer, Lynne | Rhiza Press | 2020 | 9781925563993 | The Vendel and Verindal are enemies. So as Princess Vashta of the Vendel finishes her combat training, she hopes she will lead their forces into battle against her race's deadly enemy, The Verindal. But when Brandonin, the heir to the Verindal throne, comes to see her father, it's clear he desires peace not war. When a new enemy arises, striking at all who call their planet home, each race blames the other as they have been enemies for so long. Vashta seeks Brandonin's help in fighting this menace. But the Vendel and Verindal refuse to work together. Can they defeat this deadly threat themselves or will it mean the end of Verindon? |
| 12953 | Viking invader, The Fleming, Fergus & Tomlins, Karen (des.) & Dowsell, Paul (ed.) | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 1997 | 9780746029572 | Wonderful headline stories, amusing advertisements in a crazy newspaper format. Historical accuracy blended with zany humour and colourful illustrations and layout. |
| 440 | Village by the sea, The Desai, Anita | Penguin | 2001 | 9780141312712 | This story is set in a fishing village near Bombay, India, and tells of the two oldest children and their struggle to keep the family together. |
| 12313 | Violin man, The Thompson, Colin | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2003 | 9780733614002 | A lyrical tale of love, loss and music. An emotionally charged story and exquisite illustrations that beautifully portray the sadness of a bereaved father and the consolation he finds in solitude and in his musical gift. |
| 9283 | Virtual realities Carmichael, Claire | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1995 | 9780091834678 | Andy Tremain has a terrifying ability. Using virtual reality, he can create monsters from his unconscious mind and he's obsessed with dinosaurs. |
| 12375 | Voice of her own, A: the story of Phillis Wheatley, slave poet Lasky, Kathryn & Lee, Paul (ill) | Candlewick Press | | 9780763628789 | Born in Africa around 1753, Phillis Wheatley was kidnapped and shipped as a slave to America. Her family, her name and her language were taken from her. Phillis's first poem was published when she was fourteen years old. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 3036 | Waer Caddy, Meg | Text Publishing Co | 2016 | 9781922182210 | When Lowell Sencha finds the strange girl lying, as if dead. on the riverbank, he is startled to find that she is like them, waer. Human but able to assume the form of a wolf. The Sencha family's small community has kept itself sequestered and unnoticed, and free from persecution. The arrival of a fellow traveller, and a hunted one at that, threatens their very survival. When the soldiers of the blood-purist Daeman Leldh descend on the village, searching for her, Lowell and the mysterious stranger are among the few to escape. |
| 901579 | Waiting for the storks Nannestad, Katrina | ABC Books | 2022 | 9780733342271 | It's the Second World War and Himmler's Lebensborn Program is in full flight when eight-year-old Zofia Ulinski is kidnapped by the Germans. She has blonde hair and blue eyes, just like the other Polish children taken from their families and robbed of their names, their language, their heritage. But when Zofia is adopted into a wealthy and loving German family, it is easier, it is safer to bury her past, deep down, so everything is forgotten. Until the Polish boy arrives. And the past comes back to haunt her. LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Katrina Nannestad read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website! Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/7-9-book-list#waiting-for-the-storks-katrina-nannestad |
| 901578 | Walk in the dark, A Godwin, Jane | Hachette Australia | 2022 | 9780734420770 | Its just a walk in the dark. Nothing to worry about. That's what the leader, Johan says about the overnight hike in the dark with no adults. But does he know that a storm is coming? Five teenagers head into the bush but none are aware of what the night will bring. Each will have to find the strength to survive. They have to face the unknown, battle the elements and their own demons. Its a night that will change everything. |
| 441 | Walk twenty, run twenty Disher, Garry | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780733614644 | After the death of his parents, Rick goes to live with his cousins in the outback. He finds it very hard to adjust and his cousins have difficulty relating to his grief. A dangerous adventure changes everything. Some strong language in context. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 442 | Walk two moons Creech, Sharon | HarperTrophy | 1996 | 9780064405171 | Sal is coping with loss and change and is helped by her unusual friend, Phoebe, and her wise, loving grandparents. |
| 444 | Wanderer, The Creech, Sharon | Pan Macmillan London | 2001 | 9780330392921 | In this story about sailing, Sophie travels from Nova Scotia to England to visit the grandfather that she has never met. |
| 445 | Wandering girl Ward, Glenyse | Magabala Books | 1996 | 9781875641246 | Glenyse, an aboriginal Australian, is forcibly taken from her parents and raised in a strict Catholic institution. At seventeen, she's sent to work as a domestic on a rich, West Australian farm where she's treated very harshly. Housed in a dirty garage, fed inferior food after cooking sumptuous meals for the family to eat in their luxurious dining room, given unfamiliar tasks with no instruction, Glenyse is debased and humiliated. |
| 1289185 | Wandering wild Noni, Lynette | Penguin | 2025 | 9781761345470 | Zander Rune was the darling of Hollywood until he fell from glory and was labelled a problematic bad boy. His public image needs fixing-fast-or he'll lose the role of a lifetime, and all his dreams with it. Charlie Hart is a regular teenage girl who despises everything Zander represents. But thanks to her scheming best friend and an ill-timed social media competition, Charlie finds herself pretending to be Zander's biggest fan on a four-day reality TV adventure led by renowned survivalist Rykon Hawke. When their trip goes horribly wrong, Charlie and Zander are left stranded in the wilderness. No Rykon, no film crew, no rescue. The only way they'll survive is if they trust each other. But in order to do so, both will have to let go of the ghosts of their pasts, and just maybe find themselves-and one another-in the process. |
| 9231 | Wanderings of Odysseus, The Sutcliff, Rosemary | Frances Lincoln | 1995 | 9780711208629 | Homer's magnificent epic poem, 'The Odyssey', brought to vivid life in an enthralling traveller's tale of the greatest voyage ever, with a spectacular cast of men, magicians and monsters. |
| 587904 | War and resistance Masson, Sophie | Scholastic Australia | 2019 | 9781742769219 | In joining the Hitler Youth, Dieter finds belonging with other young men, and escape from his proud step father. Sasha and her family, having moved with her family from Sydney to France so her father can report on the war, find themselves under rule by the surging German army. Both have secrets to keep on the complex playing field of war and resistance, but as these two characters circle closer to each other, they need to decide if trust is possible. |
| 8712 | War's end Bowen, Victoria | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2008 | 9781741663662 | Dad is finally on his way home from The Great War. Everyone, especially Mum, is excited and full of plans for the homecoming and the future. Twelve year old Nell barely remembers Dad but when Spanish Influenza hits Perth, delaying his return, Nell begins to understand the gap in the family his absence has created. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| | Wardstone chronicles series Various | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| | WARP series Colfer, Eoin | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 446 | Warrior Scarlet Sutcliff, Rosemary | Farrar, Straus and Giroux | 1994 | 9780374482442 | In Bronze Age Britain, Drem must overcome his disability in order to pass the tribe's test to become a warrior. |
| | Warriors graphic novels series Hunter, Erin | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1423944 | Warriors: A starless clan: Star Hunter, Erin | HarperCollins US | 2025 | 9780063050419 | Can a Clan that has turned on itself ever truly recover? The fate of all Clanhood hangs in the balance. After killing Harelight and pronouncing himself leader of RiverClan, Splashtail's thirst for power has only grown. Soon his greed threatens the safety of not only RiverClan but all Clans. Yet Splashtail's trickery knows no bounds, and the Clans find themselves in more danger than they could have imagined. Only one thing is certain: They will have to work as one to defeat Splashtail before he tears them apart. |
| 781524 | Watch that ends the night, The: Voices of the Titanic Wolf, Allan | Candlewick Press | 2013 | 9780763663315 | While the fateful first voyage of the RMS Titanic is a well known event in history, Allan Wolf tells this story through the voices of dozens of real passengers and also creatively created imagined voices. This book gives you insight into the thoughts and actions of everyone from the captain of the Titanic to the world's richest man to the stokers forever shovelling coal in the giant furnaces which powered the unsinkable ship! |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 7421 | Water Havel, Geoff | Scholastic Australia | 2010 | 9781741695601 | Thirteen year old Tully discovers she has had her DNA artificially manipulated by her father. Tully and her father are kidnapped and taken to the research facility where she learns she is part of a much larger human DNA experiment aimed at creating humans capable of surviving in underwater environments for the purpose of mining. |
| 447 | Watership down Adams, Richard | Oxford University Press | 2001 | 9780060935450 | A warren of rabbits is being chased from its home by a land developer. The rabbits have their own language and culture which is as complex and fascinating as human society. |
| 448 | Watertower, The Crew, Gary | Era Publications | 1997 | 9781863743204 | A mysterious watertower becomes more than a place to cool off for two outback youths. The suspense is powerful. |
| 7496 | Waxing with Wayne McRobbie, David | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 1991 | 9781863300933 | More adventures of Wayne Wilson. Wayne's sister is engaged, his hideous young cousin and wonderfully eccentric grandfather come to stay and his best mate seems to upstage him on every occasion, leaving Wayne's love life in tatters. |
| 449 | Way home Hathorn, Libby & Rogers, Gregory (ill) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1995 | 9780091829186 | The story of homelessness and the city and the need for a boy and a cat to belong and to be safe. |
| 35027 | Way we work, The Macaulay, David | Walker Books | 2009 | 9781406322224 | Explore the human body from head to toe. Lots of interesting facts and details about how our bodies works for us. |
| 660734 | We are all Greta Giannella, Valentina & Marazzi, Manuela (ill) | Laurence King Publishers | 2019 | 9781786276131 | Follow in Greta Thunberg's footsteps and join the global mission to save our planet from the effects of climate change. |
| 5203 | We are the rebels Wright, Clare | Text Publishing Co | 2015 | 9781922182784 | Stories about The Eureka Stockade usually feature men and their roles in the rebellion. This book provides a whole new perspective, featuring the remarkable, vibrant women of Eureka, whose sheer determination shaped our national consciousness. This is their story and the story of the thousands of men, women and children who risked everything in their quest for gold. |
| 579471 | Weapons of math destruction: How big data increases inequality and threatens democracy O'Neil, Cathy | Penguin | 2017 | 9780141985411 | Even though you may not see them, our world is filled with algorithms. Algorithms that decide what advertisements you will see, what opportunities you will be presented with, and what costs you will have to face during your lifetime. Education, insurance, loans, health, and justice, are all at the mercy of these opaque lines of code. Mathematician and former finance industry worker, Cathy O'Neil has lifted the lid to show what is going on beneath the surface of big data. A fascinating, and frightening, insight into powerful forces that shape our lives everyday. |
| 8596 | Web watchers Clark, Margaret | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 1999 | 9780091834883 | Set inside a virtual internet world, two friends attempt to save earth's internet from evil. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 10235 | Wee free men, The Pratchett, Terry & Player, Stephen (ill) | Random House Children's Books | 2008 | 9780385612548 | The trouble on the Aching farm - monsters in the river, headless horsemen in the lane - climaxes when Tiffany's little brother is stolen away. Fortunately, the Nac Mac Feegle - the fighting, thieving, wee free men - will assist in his rescue. Tiffany will have a witty, inventive, sumptuous tale to tell. |
| 846222 | Weekend with Oscar, A Bavati, Robyn | Walker Books | 2021 | 9781760653002 | Sixteen-year-old Jamie lives with his mum and his younger brother Oscar, who has Down syndrome. Though Jamie is still grieving the loss of his dad, life starts to look up when he meets Zara, the new girl at school. When their mum goes away for the weekend, Jamie volunteers to look after Oscar. But when the weekend is over and their mother doesn't return, Jamie faces the toughest challenge of his life. |
| 6482 | Weight of water, The Crossan, Sarah | Bloomsbury | 2012 | 9781408823002 | When Kasienka starts her new school in her new country, she is lonely and unhappy; everything is strange and her halting English sets her apart from the other students. Her mother is obsessed with finding Kasienka's father who has deserted them. Eventually, Kasienka discovers something that she excels at and the good life begins again. |
| 1289022 | Weirdo Weaver Jr, Tony & Wibowo, Jes & Chin (ill) | First Second | 2024 | 9781250772862 | Eleven-year-old Tony Weaver, Jr. loves comic books, anime, and video games, and idolizes the heroic, larger-than-life characters he finds there. But his new classmates all think he's a weirdo. Bullied by his peers, Tony struggles with the hurt of not being accepted and tries to conform to other people's expectations. After a traumatic event shakes him to his core, he embarks on a journey of self love that will require him to become the hero of his own story. Weirdo is a triumphant, witty, and comedic story for any kid who's ever felt awkward, left out, or like they don't belong. An adolescence survival guide that will give every reader the confidence to make it to the other side. |
| 8595 | Weirdstone of Brisingamen, The Garner, Alan | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2002 | 9780007127887 | Two children, Susan and Colin, are sent to rural England, where they encounter a frightening local woman and an ancient wizard, named Cadellin. They find themselves on the run through abandoned mine tunnels, aided by a pair of heroic dwarfs. |
| 10698 | Whale's child, The Rubinstein, Gillian | Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd | 2002 | 9780733614453 | Ken has been having problems with his training for squad swimming. The unexpected discovery of a Japanese relative and her tales of the migrating whales help him to succeed. |
| 9213 | Whale: the play Holman, David | Heinemann | 1996 | 9780413630902 | A play focusing on the combined rescue of these gentle animals by US and Soviet forces. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 903293 | What Do YOU Think?: How to agree to disagree and still be friends Syed, Matthew & Weeks, Kathy | Wren and Rook Books | 2022 | 9781526364937 | If you are the kind of person who... -Avoids disagreements because you don't want to fall out -Gets too embarrassed to say that you've changed your mind -Feels so overwhelmed that you don't know what to think ...then this book is for you. What do YOU think? will help young readers to discover what is influencing their ideas, from peer pressure to fake news. They'll learn how to form and change opinions, and how to debate their views with empathy. Readers will see how debates and disagreements can give you new ideas, stronger friendships, and help change the world for the better. I know you have loads of incredible thoughts and ideas and the world deserves to hear your voice. I want to know... what do you think? |
| 22119 | What goes on in my head Winston, Robert | Dorling Kindersley | 2010 | 9781405353731 | Your brain is the most complicated and mysterious part of your body. It contains more than a billion cells and, every second, billions of electrical signals dart between these cells, at speeds of more than four hundred kilometres per hour. Find out why you laugh, why your parents can read your mind and why you have strange or scary dreams. |
| 6646 | What if it's us? Albertalli, Becky & Silvera, Adam | Simon & Schuster | 2018 | 9781471176395 | Arthur is only in New York for the summer, but if Broadway has taught him anything, it's that the universe can deliver a showstopping romance when you least expect it. Ben thinks the universe needs to mind its business. If the universe had his back, he wouldn't be on his way to the post office carrying a box of his ex-boyfriend's things. But when Arthur and Ben meet at the post office, what exactly does the universe have in store for them? Maybe nothing. After all, they get separated. Maybe everything. After all, they get reunited. But what if they can't quite nail a first date . . . or a second first date . . . or a third? What if Arthur tries too hard to make it work . . . and Ben doesn't try hard enough? What if life really isn't like a Broadway play? But what if it is? |
| 4764 | What Katy did Coolidge, Susan | Wordsworth Editions Ltd | 2002 | 9781853261312 | Katy Carr is untidy, tall and gangling, planning for the day when she will be beautiful and beloved. She is also very disobedient resulting in a terrible accident that threatens her daydreams and hopes for the future. Katy courageously overcomes her difficulties. |
| 2609 | What makes you you Arbuthnott, Gill | A & C Black | 2013 | 9781408194065 | Find out what is DNA, why it is important and what we can do with it. Track it's discovery from Darwin's theory on evolution, to Mendel's experiments with pea plants, to modern gene research to treat blindness. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 871664 | What we all saw Lucas, Mike | Penguin | 2022 | 9781761045936 | Witches only exist in stories. Everyone knows that. But when four friends are caught in the woods at dusk, their worst nightmare may just become their reality. |
| 30305 | What you need to know now Fullman, J & Graham, I & Regan, S & Thomas, I | Dorling Kindersley | 2010 | 9781405353717 | If you've got a question, find out the answer. Lots of facts, stats and graphics about your world. |
| 40834 | What's Biology all about? Maskell, Hazel et al | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2009 | 9781409547068 | Discover what life is, how it works and why Biology is more exciting today than ever before... |
| 4082 | What's Chemistry all about? Frith, Alex & Gillespie, Lisa Jane | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2009 | 9781409547075 | Discover how the universe is made up of tiny atoms, how they work and why chemistry is vital to our everyday lives. |
| 18049 | What's Science all about? Frith, Alex & Gillespie, Lisa Jane | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2010 | 9781409547082 | Discover what's around you and how it works, from the tiniest particles to stars and planets, and even life itself. |
| 14725 | What's so special about Dickens Rosen, Michael | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406302035 | Charles Dickens is one of the world's greatest novelists whose stories have been translated and adapted into plays, films, cartoons, musicals and television dramas. An engaging and witty exploration of the man behind the pen, what inspired him and four of his best-known novels; Oliver Twist, A Christmas Carol, Great Expectations and David Copperfield. |
| 67757 | What's so special about Shakespeare Rosen, Michael | Walker Books | 2007 | 9781406300369 | Someone somewhere in the world is reading, writing or quoting Shakespeare, acting in or watching his plays. An engaging and witty exploration of Shakespeare's life, the tumultuous times in which he lived and four of his plays, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Macbeth, King Lear and The Tempest. |
| 890 | Whatnot, The Bachmann, Stefan | HarperCollins Children's Books | 2013 | 9780007530243 | In this sequel to 'The Peculiar', twelve year old Pikey Thomas is missing an eye, a family and friends of any sort. He doesn't seem to have a great deal going for him and he feels it. But, Pikey sees things and people worth knowing that others don't. When he finds out that faeries are real and the past is both a guide and a trap, Pikey begins an adventure that will lead him to know himself and face his fears. |
| 950209 | When clouds touch us Lai, Thanhha | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2023 | 9780063047006 | It's been two years since Ha and her family arrived in Alabama as refugees from the Viet Nam War. They have worked hard to make a life for themselves in America, but it hasn't come easy. Ha has only just begun to feel settled when Mother decides that the family will move to Texas for a new job. Ha knows how hard starting over is and does not want to do it again. But sometimes even an unwanted change can bring opportunity, new friends and a place to call home. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|---------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 992470 | When dark roots hunt Shapter, Zena | MidnightSun Publishing | 2023 | 9781922858061 | Sala's village survives at the edge of a lake, hidden by poison ivy, to keep them safe from giant water-ants and wyann trees, which spear passing prey with their roots. Everyone is safe as long as no-one goes out on the lake. The unexpected appearance of a space ship puts everyone in danger, stirring rivalries into a terrifying conflict set to change the world. Sala and her pet pointer must do whatever it takes to face the truth of who she is, to save her village, to save her family, to save herself. |
| 1307692 | When dark waters burn Shapter, Zena | MidnightSun Publishing | 2025 | 9781922858627 | Stay out of sight. Stay hidden under the lake. Even as giant water-ants scout the surface, and deadly trees slop their hungry roots along the shoreline. For unrest surges in the swamps, getting closer and closer...Sala will only be safe for as long as their ship's location remains a secret. But when a horrifying threat ignites close to home, and the lakeside hillfarms are forced to reveal a desperate truth, it unleashes a wreckage of terror and destruction on the world of Palude. What Sala fears most becomes irrelevant. All she can do is run, and make one irrevocable choice after another. If she's to have any kind of future, she must fight to accept the collapse of her past. Hiding from it was never an option. |
| 1209705 | When Haru was here Thao, Dustin | Pan MacMillan | 2024 | 9781761264511 | After the death of his best friend, Eric Ly creates imaginary scenarios in his head to deal with his grief. Until one of them becomes real when a boy he met last summer in Japan finds his way back into his life. When he least expects it, Haru Tanaka walks into the coffee shop and sits down next to him. The only thing is, nobody else can see him. In a magical turn of events, Eric suddenly has someone to connect with, making him feel less alone in the world. But as they spend more and more time together, he begins to question what is real. When he starts losing control of the very thing that is holding him together, Eric must finally confront his reality. Even if it means losing Haru forever. |
| 9257 | When Jessie came across the sea Hest, Amy | Walker Books | 1998 | 9780744540871 | Beautifully depicts the migration of Jewish people to the United States. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 705676 | When rain turns to snow Godwin, Jane | Lothian Books | 2020 | 9780734420053 | Lissa finds herself without her best friend, with a brother who is talking less and less to her, on the outside of a friendship group she is not so sure she wants to be in, and without her mum who is spending more and more time with a new boyfriend. One winter night a stranger shows up with a baby in his arms and asking all sorts of questions about a part of Lissa's life she knows nothing about. It is only as people come together that any sense can be made of the situation and crises averted. |
| 4786 | When the wind blows Briggs, Raymond | Penguin Books Ltd, UK | 1993 | 9780140094190 | Gentle cartoon pictures belie the hard hitting message as an elderly couple prepare for the nuclear holocaust with typically British, stiff upper lips. |
| 20836 | When we were two Newton, Robert | Penguin | 2011 | 9780143566830 | Dan and his brother, Eddie, take off for the coast, in search of their lost mother, in search of a better life. But, it's a long road they face and Dan must use all his wits to get them there in one piece. When they are taken under the wing of a group of would-be soldiers, marching over the mountains to join up for the Great War, Dan and Eddie's journey becomes something quite unexpected. |
| 2230 | When words take flight The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer competition | D Publishing | 2012 | 9781743350492 | A collection of short stories by the 2012 finalists of The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer competition. |
| 7121 | Where in the world French, Simon | Little Hare Books | 2002 | 9781877003035 | Set in Sydney, this heart-warming, first person narrative of a boy's love for his family and his enjoyment of soccer and music is told by eleven year old, German born, Ari. |
| 3142 | Where the streets had a name Abdel-Fattah, Randa | Pan MacMillan | 2008 | 9780330424202 | Thirteen year old Hayaat is on a mission. She believes that a handful of soil from her grandmother's ancestral home in Jerusalem will save her life. The problem is the impenetrable wall that divides the West Bank, as well as the checkpoints, the curfews, the permit system and Haany's best friend, Samy, who always manages to attract trouble. |
| 456 | Where the whales sing Kelleher, Victor | Penguin | 1997 | 9780140344936 | Claire and her father encounter a storm in which a whale overturns their boat and Claire, with an injured knee, is left to fend for herself. |
| 628520 | Whisper Perry, Chrissie | Hardie Grant Egmont | 2019 | 9781760503499 | Being a teenager is hard enough. But after losing her hearing, Demi's life is even harder. After all, how do you know what people are saying about you when you can't even hear them whisper? Demi is struggling with losing her hearing and trying to fit in at a new school while trying to bridge the gap between her old friends and her family who don't seem to understand how shut out she feels from everything and everyone around her. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|--|------|---------------|---|
| 4602 | Whistling in the dark Hughes, Shirley | Walker Books | 2015 | 9781406360295 | Thirteen year old Joan's home in Liverpool is under threat from the Nazi's terrifying nightly air-raids. It is not an easy time to be a teenager, with sweet rationing, curfews and blackouts. When Joan encounters an army deserter lurking near their home, he seems to think she can help him. As the Blitz worsens, Joan and her friends make a discovery that will tear the whole community apart. |
| 460 | White guinea pig, The Dubosarsky, Ursula | Penguin | 1993 | 9780140366327 | Geraldine has a guinea pig thrust upon her by a school acquaintance, to be minded during the holidays. The guinea pig disappears and and that's just the beginning of the problems. |
| 1175656 | White noise Grimmer, Raelke | NewSouth Publishing | 2024 | 9781760802851 | Fifteen-year-old Emma is woken up by her dad's nightmares. Again. On Friday evenings they go running at East Point Reserve to escape. Escape the ripples of grief that still chase them three years after her mum's death; escape Emma's autism diagnosis; escape her dad's work as an emergency room doctor. At school, Emma has won a spot on the beach volleyball Sports Institute program. The spot that her best friend Summer desperately wanted. And Summer's family are moving away to the other side of town. Their friendship has kept Emma going since her mum's death but now things are changing between them -- and change isn't something Emma can outrun. Set in tropical Darwin, White Noise is an achingly true portrayal of girlhood, grief, and autism. |
| 5363 | Wicked warriors and evil emperors Lloyd, Alison & Denton, Terry (ill) | Penguin Books Australia | 2010 | 9780143304340 | Imagine that you're made a king at twelve. You have tons of gold, a network of spies and a million soldiers. You also have plenty of enemies. This is the incredible story of Zheng Ying, who in 221BC conquered all the states, unified them under one banner and declared himself the first Emperor. He was brilliant and brutal, and his legend has lived on for thousands of years. Includes cartoon style illustrations. |
| 462 | Wiggy & Boa Fienberg, Anna & James, Ann | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1994 | 9781863736145 | Boa is really Boadicea and her grandfather is a retired admiral, who has a chequered past involving pirates. |
| 9208 | Wild girl, wild boy: a play Almond, David | Hodder & Stoughton | 2002 | 9780340854310 | Following the death of her father, a young girl attempts to regain her grip on life. |
| 18485 | Wild, The Whyman, Matt | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2005 | 9780340884539 | A poignant, sad story of the bond between two brothers, Alexi and Misha, who salvage and sell Soviet space junk. When Misha suffers seizures, Alexi takes his young brother to Moscow for proper treatment, leaving behind their family and livelihood. |
| 9253 | Wildheart Carmody, Isobelle | Scholastic Australia | 2002 | 9781862914056 | A young boy, who can communicate with animals, has a strong link to a wild falcon. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-------------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 1295 | Wildkin's curse, The Forsyth, Kate | Pan MacMillan | 2010 | 9780330426053 | Merry, Zed and Liliana are on a perilous quest to the Palace of Zarissa. Amid the splendour and treachery of court, they watch and wait, planning the rescue of Princess Rosalina, held captive in the dazzling Tower of Stars. The excesses of the banquet table platters are described in sickening and disturbing detail. |
| 114052 | Wildlife of the world Packham, Chris (forward) & Dorling Kindersley | Dorling Kindersley | 2015 | 9780241186008 | Spectacular photographs and interesting facts bring you face to face with some of the most fascinating animals on Earth. Journey through scenic and rich animal habitats, from the Amazon rainforest to the Himalayas, the Sahara to the South Pole. Discover how these diverse and fascinating creatures feed, interact, mate, play and survive, and why it is important for them to survive. |
| 463 | William Shakespeare & the globe Aliko | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2000 | 9780064437226 | This is an introduction to Shakespeare's life and work, and his theatre, The Globe, which was reconstructed in London. |
| 15381 | William Shakespeare: poet and playwright Ross, Stewart | Hodder Children's Books (Australia) | 2004 | 9780750244930 | An overview of the life and plays of this famous poet and playwright. |
| 465 | Wind in the willows, The Grahame, Kenneth & Ward, Helen (ill) | Gary Allen Pty Ltd | 2003 | 9781877082160 | In this timeless classic, Rat, Mole, Badger and Mr Toad of Toad Hall have rollicking adventures along the riverbank and in the Wild Wood. |
| 38191 | Wings Pike, Aprilynne | HarperCollins US | 2009 | 9780007319732 | In a new city and new school, Laurel is apprehensive about how she will fit in. When something blooms in the middle of her back, Laurel discovers that she is a faerie and was placed with human parents as a child. As Laurel learns about her true background and the dangers that face the faerie realm, she struggles to find her place in both worlds. |
| 689512 | Wink Harrell, Rob | HarperCollins Australia | 2020 | 9781460758878 | Ross Maloy just wants to fit in. But after he is diagnosed with a rare eye cancer in Year 7, he suddenly becomes the 'cancer kid' of his school. Now he has to deal with weird hats, a squinty eye and hardest of all, disappearing friends, social media bullies and the threat of losing his eyesight. Wink is a heartbreaking and hilarious story of survival. A story of finding music and laughter in all of life's weirdness. |
| 4879 | Winning Forrestal, Elaine | Penguin | 2002 | 9780141313788 | The most important thing in the boys' lives was running. Every day they raced each other. But when Yosef, the quiet Egyptian boy, starts to beat the champion, their lives begin to change and besides, the school gardener is acting very suspiciously. |
| 108285 | Wipe out Thebo, Mimi | HarperCollins Australia | 2003 | 9780007142767 | Billy's mother, champion surfer, Kitten Brown, has died and he has to spend time with his Aunty Mary who he barely knows. He is very surprised to find he can make a difference to Mary's life. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|-------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 3503 | Wish kin, The Hedley, Joss | Pan MacMillan | 2009 | 9780330423724 | Fourteen year old, Colm Bell, and his younger sister, Lydia, wake to the smell of smoke and the sound of gunfire as raiders attack their home and their father. They flee to the hills, alone in a hostile landscape, a land without rain and empty cities, where small groups of people live in suspicion. They hear of the Wish Kin, people who may have the power to heal the earth. But, the sinister Clan are tracking the children. |
| 755133 | Witch Hawkins, Finbar | Head of Zeus | 2020 | 9781800245907 | Evey and her sister have to escape when they witness their mother being accused of witchcraft. Left in a state of bewilderment, who can they trust and where can they turn for help? Their journey unexpectedly shows them the resilience of family, and helps them to learn to trust again. But can they ever reveal their own witch craft leanings? |
| 835531 | Witch Boy, The Ostertag, Molly Knox | Scholastic US | 2017 | 9781338089516 | In thirteen-year-old Aster's family, all the girls are raised to be witches, while boys grow up to be shapeshifters. Anyone who dares cross those lines is exiled. Unfortunately for Aster, he still hasn't shifted . . . and he's still fascinated by witchery, no matter how forbidden it might be. When a mysterious danger threatens the other boys, Aster knows he can help -- as a witch. It will take the encouragement of a new friend, the non-magical and non-conforming Charlie, to convince Aster to try practicing his skills. And it will require even more courage to save his family . . . and be truly himself. |
| 3147 | Witch's boy, The Barnhill, Kelly | Algonquin young readers | 2015 | 9781616205485 | When Ned and his identical twin tumble from their raft into a raging river, only Ned survives. Villagers are convinced the wrong boy lived. Across the forest that borders Ned's village, Aine, the daughter of the Bandit King, is haunted by her mother's last words: "The wrong boy will save your life and you will save his." When the Bandit King comes to steal the magic Ned's mother, a witch, is meant to protect, Aine and Ned meet. Can they trust each other long enough to cross a dangerous enchanted forest and stop the war about to boil over between their two kingdoms? |
| 9402 | Witches, The: Plays for children Wood, David | Puffin Australia | 2001 | 9780141310848 | Seven short plays explore interesting ways of portraying characters to excite and shock audiences, with lots of guidance on delivery and stage directions. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|---------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 3866 | Within these walls Bavati, Robyn | Scholastic Australia | 2016 | 9781760152857 | For Miri and her family, life in Warsaw is full of simple joys. The smell of freshly baked challah, the pink flowers that bloom in their courtyard and Fridays, when everyone comes together to celebrate Shabbat. But, the Nazis have a hold on Europe and have stepped up their discrimination and attacks on Jews. Miri's world closes in on her as she and her family are forced into the ghetto, where they must try to survive, against impossible odds. Based on true events. |
| 10917 | Without looking back Suzuma, Tabitha | Corgi Books | 2009 | 9780552560009 | Louis and his siblings are abducted from Paris by their father and taken to England. They have to change their names and their looks. Louis and his siblings face a choice, either to stay with their Dad and take on new identities or return to Paris. |
| 47372 | Witness Cassidy, Anne | Evans Bros | 2005 | 9780237529246 | Todd is running late for school when he witnesses a ruthless attack and robbery on Mr Wilson, a local shopkeeper. Something is vaguely familiar about the attacker and, when Todd finally recognises him, Todd's life and that of his friends are in danger. |
| 1304819 | Wizard of Earthsea, A: A graphic novel Le Guin, Ursula K & Fordham, Fred (ill) | Walker Books | 2025 | 9781529526264 | Ged, the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, was called Sparrowhawk in his reckless youth. Hungry for power and knowledge, Sparrowhawk tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance. |
| | Wizards of once series Cowell, Cressida | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 628128 | Wizards of once, The: Knock three times Cowell, Cressida | Hachette Children's Books | 2019 | 9781444941449 | Wish and Xar are outlaws on the run, hunted by Warriors, Wizards and worst of all by WITCHES ... Can they find the ingredients for the spell to get rid of Witches before the Kingwitch gets his talons on the Magic-that-Works-on-Iron? Their next Quest is the most terrifying and treacherous of all ... and someone is going to betray them. Are you ready to KNOCK THREE TIMES? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 2850 | Wolf Hollow Wolk, Lauren | Corgi Books | 2016 | 9780552574297 | All her life, twelve year old Annabelle has lived in Wolf Hollow, a quiet, small Pennsylvania town, still scarred by two world wars. But, when cruel and manipulative Betty Glengarry arrives in class, Annabelle's calm world is shattered, along with everything she's ever known about right and wrong. When Betty disappears, suspicion falls on strange, gentle loner, Toby. As the community turns against him, Annabelle must do everything in her power to protect Toby and find Betty, before it's too late. |
| 469 | Wolves of Willoughby Chase, The Aiken, Joan | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2001 | 9780099411864 | Two cousins who live in Willoughby Chase are left in the care of a cruel governess. |
| 470 | Women in medieval times MacDonald, Fiona | McGraw Hill | 1999 | 9780872265691 | A study of the role of women in Roman and medieval periods in history. |
| 471 | Women of Camelot: queens & enchantresses at the Court of King Arthur Hoffman, Mary | Orchard Books | 2000 | 9780864154095 | The stories of nine women of Camelot are illustrated and written in modern language. |
| 7883 | Wonder Woman: Warbringer Bardugo, Leigh | Penguin | 2017 | 9780141387376 | Diana longs to prove herself to her legendary warrior sisters. But when the opportunity finally comes, she throws away her chance at glory and breaks Amazon law, risking exile, to save a mere mortal. Even worse, Alia Keralis is no ordinary girl and with this single brave act, Diana may have doomed the world. Alia just wanted to escape her overprotective brother with a semester at sea. She doesn't know she is being hunted. When a bomb detonates aboard her ship, Alia is rescued by a mysterious girl of extraordinary strength and forced to confront a horrible truth: Alia is a Warbringer - a direct descendant of the infamous Helen of Troy, fated to bring about an age of bloodshed and misery. Together, Diana and Alia will face an army of enemies, mortal and divine. determined to either destroy or possess the Warbringer. If they have any hope of saving both their worlds, they will have to stand side by side against the tide of war. |
| 6620 | Wood angel Bow, Erin | Chicken House | 2011 | 9781906427603 | Plain Kate lives in a time afraid of magic. She has a gift for carving 'lucky' wooden-charms and is known as Witch-Blade. Her unusual gift attracts dangerous attention in a place where witches are burned. When her village falls on bad times, suspicion falls on Kate and, scared for her life, she seeks the help of a mysterious stranger. In exchange for her shadow, the stranger will assist her, but Kate becomes part of a terrifying plan, darker than she ever dreamed. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|---|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 18694 | Woolvs in the sitee Wild, Margaret & Spudvilas, Anne (ill) | Penguin | 2006 | 9780670041671 | A boy living alone must face his greatest fear, the woolvs (wolves). A dark, brooding story with strong illustrations. Ideal for visual literacy. |
| | Word hunters series Earls, Nick & Whidborne, Terry (ill) | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 14611 | Word spy, The Dubosarsky, Ursula & Riddle, Tohby (ill) | Penguin Books Australia | 2008 | 9780670072279 | Come with the Word Spy on an entertaining journey through the English language. Find out where the alphabet came from and what anagrams stand for. Make up your own palindromes and impress your friends by speaking Pig Latin. Includes cartoons, riddles and special codes to solve along the way. Lots of information that's fun to read. |
| 1396273 | Wormwood Abbey Baehr, Christina | Christina Baehr | 2023 | 9798868395758 | As a Victorian clergyman's daughter, Edith Worms has seen everything--until a mythical salamander tumbles out of the fireplace into her lap. When a letter arrives from estranged relatives, Edith is swept away to a crumbling gothic Abbey in the wilds of Yorkshire. Wormwood Abbey isn't just full of curious beasts and ancient family secrets: there's also a tall, dark, and entirely too handsome neighbour who is strangely reluctant for her to leave. An unexpected bond with her prickly cousin Gwendolyn gives Edith a reason to stay in this strange world--especially when it turns out that Edith herself may have a role in guarding her family's legacy. But not all of the mysteries of Ormdale are small enough to fit in her lap ... and some of them have teeth. |
| 474 | Wreck Baillie, Allan | Penguin | 2003 | 9780140387964 | A story of survival about two children who discover a rusty freighter on their beach after a cyclone. It appears to be calling them but it could just be a trap. |
| 4459 | Wreck Ferris, Fleur | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2017 | 9780143784319 | Tamara Bennett is going to be the first journalist to strictly report only good news. Finished with high school, Tamara is ready to say goodbye to her sleepy little town and part-time job at the local paper. But things take an unexpected turn when Tamara arrives home to find her house ransacked and her life in danger. What is the mysterious note her attacker wants - and why is he willing to kill for it? A tragic boating accident five years ago holds the clue that could keep Tamara alive. But how can she find the truth when she can't tell who's lying? |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|---|----------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 9294 | Wrecked: mysteries and disasters at sea Bassett, Jan | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 1996 | 9781864480894 | True stories about mysteries and disasters at sea. |
| 41815 | Wreckers Hearn, Julie | Oxford University Press | 2011 | 9780192729293 | In 1732, a mysterious box is taken from the Cornish sea and hidden in the wall of the nearby cliff-top manor house. A century from now, sixteen years after London is destroyed in an apocalyptic attack, five teenagers spend the night in the abandoned house. They discover the box and take it home. What lay within is only dormant, waiting for the time when it would be released upon the world. And that time is now. |
| 614686 | Wreckers' revenge, The Jorgensen, Norman | Fremantle Press | 2019 | 9781925815450 | Red Read never sets out to find trouble, but trouble sure has a way of finding him. After a disagreement with his cruel schoolteachers, Red is expelled and sentenced to a horrifying punishment. However, he is whisked to safety by the infamous smuggler Captain Black Bowen, who will take him on an adventure involving crazed wreckers, killer diseases and lost treasure. |
| 9200 | Wringer Spinelli, Jerry | HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK | 2003 | 9780007156016 | The violence of the pigeon shoot disturbs Palmer and contrasts with his reaction to bullies and to pets. |
| 587895 | Yahoo creek: An Australian mystery Riddle, Tohby | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2019 | 9781760631451 | Throughout the first century or more of Australian settlement by Europeans, the pages of colonial newspapers were haunted by reports of a bewildering phenomenon: the mysterious yahoo or hairy man... |
| 18411 | Yankee girl Rodman, Mary Ann | Usborne Publishing Ltd | 2005 | 9780746067499 | Alice Anne Moxley has moved to Mississippi in the deep South of America. The 'Yankee Girl' is taunted by the other girls at school but the first black student suffers much more. Alice wants to stand up for her but, at first, finds it is easier not to. |
| 1262 | Year it all ended, The Murray, Kirsty | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2014 | 9781743319413 | Armistice Day, 11 November, 1918 is also Tiney's 17th birthday and heralds a change for all. The family eagerly awaits the return of their only son and brother and mourns with friends and relatives of those who will not return. Life in Adelaide during the war has not been easy for families, but for those returning life will never be the same. The following years bring the Spanish flu epidemic, broken families and the beginnings of new ones. |
| 3603 | Year my life broke, The Marsden, John | Pan MacMillan | 2014 | 9781742613352 | Josh and his family have moved from a nice city house, to a boring street in the country. There are dangerous strangers in his backyard and bullets flying past his ears. At his new school everyone thinks he is hopeless and he has no clue about sport, like cricket, but they are in for the shock of their lives. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|--|
| 574235 | Year of living awkwardly, The: Chloe Snow's diary Chastain, Emma | Simon & Schuster | 2018 | 9781471160486 | Chloe Snow is back again, this time in year 10. Her life is just as awkward and disorganized as it was last year. Her mother has run off to Mexico to write a novel and her dad is dating her English teacher. On top of all this, Chloe has missed out on both a date with the boy she has a crush on and a major part in the school musical. Through her diary entries we get a glimpse into her mind and how she deals with the challenges of being a teenager. |
| 8521 | Yellow star Roy, Jennifer | Frances Lincoln | 2009 | 9781845079086 | In 1939, Sylvia is four years old when the Germans invade Poland and her family is forced into the Lodz ghetto, with more than a quarter of a million other Jews. Only twelve children survived the ghetto, and Sylvia was one of them. Her niece, the author, writes Sylvia's story in non-rhyming verse, using Sylvia's voice and perspectives. |
| 4728 | Yellowcake Lanagan, Margo | Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd | 2011 | 9781742374789 | Ten fanciful short stories offer vibrant snapshots of life. Each story is unique, covering a range of time periods and places, with weird and wonderful characters. |
| 62251 | Yoko's diary Ham, Paul (ed) & Edwards, Debbie (trans) | ABC Books | 2013 | 9780733331176 | A moving account of a young girl's life in Hiroshima in 1945. Through her diary, 13 year old Yoko documents life in Japan, a country on the brink of defeat at the end of the Second World War. Yoko is keen to do her duty and her daily accounts of life reveal the austerity and hardship, the extreme food shortages and rationing. It also shows the courage of those who died and survived the war and bombing of Hiroshima. |
| 6020 | You are awesome: Find your confidence and dare to be brilliant at (almost) anything Syed, Matthew | Wren and Rook Books | 2018 | 9781526361158 | This is a book for people who want to be awesome at something, but aren't sure how. Written by a two-time Olympian, who admits he wasn't born sporty, this book explains how to become successful at anything, it doesn't matter where you start or who you are. This is an exciting, uplifting, encouraging, inspiring, and amusing book that every student will enjoy. What are your dreams? What do you want to be awesome at? Read this book and discover how you can be the best version of yourself. |
| 855850 | You can live on the bright side: The kids' guide to optimism Bell, Lucy & Hicks, Astred (ill) | | | 9780648677031 | This book contains amazing tips, tricks, and strategies to gently encourage and explain how to rise above and find hope and support when things are tough. Feel lighter and optimistic about the future, and more confident, empowered, and inspired to live a happy and healthy life. |
| 15905 | You must be skidding: the biggest losers of the car world Davis, Tony & Nagle, Shane (ill) | Random House Australia Pty Ltd | 2007 | 9781741661675 | Whether it's a car with two, three or six wheels, with a motor scooter engine or a nuclear reactor, with the most stupid name or the most dodgy design, this book will tell you all you need to know about it. Featuring the lemons of the car world. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|---------|--|-------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 756904 | You should see me in a crown Johnson, Leah | Scholastic US | 2020 | 9781761121753 | Liz Lighty has always believed she's too black, too poor, too awkward to shine in her small, rich, prom-obsessed midwestern town. But it's okay - Liz has a plan that will get her out of Campbell, Indiana, forever: attend the uber-elite Pennington College, play in their world-famous orchestra, and become a doctor. But when the financial aid she was counting on falls through, Liz's plans come crashing down . . . until she's reminded of her school's scholarship for prom king and queen. There's nothing Liz wants to do less than endure a this whole horrific process, but despite her devastating fear of the spotlight she's willing to do whatever it takes to get to Pennington. The only thing that makes it halfway bearable is the new girl in school, Mack. She's smart, funny, and just as much of an outsider as Liz. But Mack is also in the running for queen. Will falling for the competition keep Liz from her dreams . . . or make them come true? |
| 1423799 | You've found Oliver Thao, Dustin | Pan MacMillan | 2025 | 9781761563492 | It's been a year since his best friend, Sam, died. Even though Oliver knows he won't get a response, he can't stop texting Sam's number, especially as the anniversary of his death approaches. Then one day, he accidentally hits the call button, and someone picks up. |
| 620084 | Young dark emu: A truer history Pascoe, Bruce | Magabala Books | 2019 | 9781925360844 | Using the accounts of early European explorers, colonists and farmers, Bruce Pascoe compellingly argues for a reconsideration of the hunter-gatherer label for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians. He allows the reader to see Australia as it was before Europeans arrived - a land of cultivated farming areas, productive fisheries, permanent homes, and an understanding of the environment and its natural resources that supported thriving villages across the continent. Young Dark Emu - A Truer History asks young readers to consider a different version of Australia's history pre-European colonisation. |
| 9282 | Young Oxford book of aliens, The Pepper, Dennis | Oxford University Press | 2000 | 9780192781772 | An excellent collection of classic and modern stories which speculate about the nature of aliens. |
| | Young samurai series Bradford, Chris | | | | Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to 10 more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |

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|---------|--|--|------|---------------|---|
| 95784 | Young Thomas Edison North, Sterling | Puffin USA | 2009 | 9780142412107 | Tells of the life of Thomas Edison, one of the greatest inventors, responsible for the phonograph, the first medium for recording music, motion pictures and the light bulb. Edison's life and work are of interest, especially as he was profoundly deaf. |
| 9245 | Young unicorns, The L'Engle, Madeleine | Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group Inc | 1980 | 9780440999195 | The Austin family find themselves endangered by the Alphas gang's evil use of lasers. |
| 22377 | Young vikings, The Moloney, James | Scholastic Australia | 2018 | 9781743811191 | When his village is attacked, Hauk Johanson has no choice but to step up and lead the young Vikings on a quest for revenge. But there is one problem the young Vikings have never fought in battle. Can Hauk and his friends master the skills of sword and axe in time? Will the Gods be on their side? And does Hauk have what it takes to lead when the fate of an entire village lies in his hands? |
| | Youngest Templar series Spradlin, Michael P | | | | Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen. |
| 1209842 | Yours from the tower Nicholls, Sally | Andersen Press Ltd | 2023 | 9781839133190 | 1896. Tirzah, Louisa and Polly are best friends who've left boarding school and gone back to very different lives. Polly is teaching in an orphanage. Louisa is looking for a rich husband at the parties of the London Season. And Tirzah is stuck acting as an unpaid companion to her grandmother. In a series of letters, they share their hopes, their frustrations, their dramas and their romances. Can these three very different young women find happiness? |
| 480 | Z for Zachariah O'Brien, Robert | Puffin Australia | 1998 | 9780141300313 | Set in the future after a nuclear war, a young girl believes that she is the last person left on earth. A deadly stranger proves her wrong. |
| 22694 | Zac & Mia Betts, A J | Text Publishing Co | 2013 | 9781922147257 | Zac is a country boy who's in hospital with leukaemia. In the room next door is an angry teenager who wants to seize a lot of emotional space. In the real world, Zac wouldn't, couldn't, be friends with her. But, in hospital, different rules apply and courage is needed. It begins with a knock on the wall. |

| PRC ID | Title/Author | Publisher | Year | ISBN | Annotations |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|------|---------------|---|
| 8787 | Zenna Dare Hawke, Rosanne | Rhiza Press | 2014 | 9781925139037 | A secret spans five generations from Cornwall to Australia. When Jenefer moves to the old family home, she uncovers a secret from the past. She begins to wonder whether her great, great, great grandmother, a mother of nine, led a double life and what connection she had to Zenna Dare, the glamorous, young singer. Zenna Dare brings reconciliation in more ways than Jenefer could ever have imagined. |
| 835422 | Zenobia Durr, Morten & Horneman, Lars (ill) | University of Queensland Press | 2018 | 9780702260254 | Zenobia was once a great warrior queen of Syria whose reign reached from Egypt to Turkey. She was courageous. No-one gave her orders. Once she even went to war against the emperor of Rome. When things feel overwhelming for Amina, her mother reminds her to think of Zenobia and be strong. Amina is a Syrian girl caught up in a war that reaches her village. To escape the war she boards a small boat crammed with other refugees. The boat is rickety and the turbulent seas send Amina overboard. In the dark water Amina remembers playing hide and seek with her mother and making dolmas and the journey she had to undertake with her uncle to escape. And she thinks of the brave warrior Zenobia. |
| 481 | Zlata's diary Filipovic, Zlata | Penguin | 1995 | 9780140374636 | In 1991, just before her eleventh birthday, Zlata began keeping her diary and it becomes a mirror of the war in Sarajevo. |