



# BOOKLIST

2024



CURATED FOR STUDENTS AGES 3 - 18

**OUR SERVICES** 

READING ACADEMIC ADMISSIONS TEST STEM



### **WHAT WE DO**





**INSPIRED READER &** WRITER



20

5,

**CREATIVE** WRITING



**ADMISSIONS** (KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY, BOARDING & UNIVERSITY)



**INSPIRED STEM** 



**INSPIRED MATH** 



**INSPIRED PROJECTS** 



**INSPIRED INTERNSHIPS** 



**DEBATE & PUBLIC SPEAKING** 



**ACADEMIC** 

**COACHING** 

... AND MORE



### OUR FOUR LEAF APPROACH



Our unique Four-Leaf Approach targets the four key areas that power intellectual and socialemotional growth. These four fields of Language Arts & Communication, Learning to Learn, Creativity, and Leadership & Service prepare our children for fulfilling and productive lives.

The Four Leaves are the four areas that form our core curriculum. We integrate these into all courses but each course targets one field.

### Language Arts & Communication

This field is about the power of language and communication. We teach students to see language as a vehicle for thought, creativity, learning, self-expression, reflection and social interaction.

We offer literature, academic and creative writing, Latin, personal statement writing, interviewing and public speaking

#### Learning to Learn

The courses in this field aim to reveal to students the hidden game of learning.
They acquire skills and strategies that can deepen understanding in multiple subjects.

This field instills a growth mindset that embraces challenges and believes that intelligence grows with effort persistence, and quality teaching.

#### Creativity

This field includes courses that foster students' confidence to be creative.
We help them cultivate habits and techniques to generate ideas, test, develop and implement them.

#### Leadership & Service

Courses in this field expose students to issues of global and moral significance. We nurture their self-awareness and reflection as they grapple with these issues and develop their own sense of value and purpose. We also have courses, such as inspirED Entrepreneurship, which encourage students to gain knowledge, skills and attitudes to make an innovative difference in society.





### WHY READING IS ESSENTIAL

BY MEGAN KWAN-NIXON

#### IF YOU AREN'T READING EVERY DAY, YOU SHOULD.

Reading is good for people of all ages (not just children!) because it improves focus, memory, empathy, and communication skills.

According to research, some additional benefits include: stress reduction, improvement for your mental health, and can even help you live longer.

Reading also allows you to learn new things to help you succeed in your work and relationships. As adults, we are aware of the personal and professional power of having a strong vocabulary. Parents ask us all the time: "How can I boost my child's creativity?" While there is no easy and simple answer, it has been proven time and time again that READING has the potential to boost levels of creativity.

It doesn't matter if the book is fiction or non-fiction. No matter what book you read, the words could spark new ideas or images in your mind. You may also start to find and make meaningful connections between seemingly disparate things. Reading builds one's awareness.



Reading and the ability to read is a gift. So whether you had to work hard to learn to read, or reading came naturally, reading is both a gift and a privilege.

Whether you realize it or not, we read and rely on our ability to decode every single day. From text messages to signs, emails to business documents, and everything in between, it's hard to escape the need to read.



Allow your child to read alone, and read together! For those who need more of a push, model the behaviour you want to see..



Ensure your child is exposed to both fiction and non fiction literature.

Reading opens up doors to new worlds, inspires creativity, provides entertainment, boosts the imagination, opens doors and windows to an assortment of possibilities and best of all, has positive neurological and psychological benefits.

So, if anyone ever asks or challenges you with: "why is reading important?" Just reflect on the importance of reading in your own life!

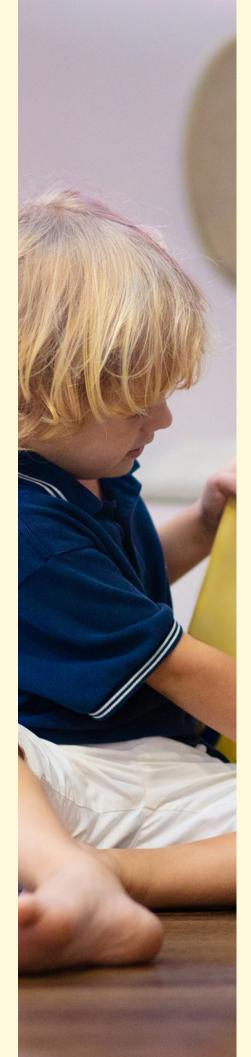
#### Did you know?

Children who read at least 20 minutes a day are exposed to almost 2 million words per year.

Reading fiction can make you a better decision-maker.

Reading increases emotional intelligence, and consequently, your career outlooks.

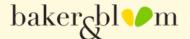
6 additional minutes of reading per day can significantly improve kids' reading performance.



# **AGES 2-3**

- "Goodnight Moon" by Margaret Wise Brown A classic bedtime story with beautiful illustrations and a soothing rhythm.
- "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle This book follows the journey of a hungry caterpillar as it eats its way through various foods.
- "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle - A repetitive and colorful book that introduces different animals and colors.
- "Where's Spot?" by Eric Hill Spot the dog has gone missing, and young readers can join in the search by lifting the flaps to find him.
- "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault - An entertaining alphabet book with vibrant illustrations and a catchy rhyming scheme.
- "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats This book follows a young boy named Peter as he explores the wonders of a snowy day.
- "Peek-A Who?" by Nina Laden A delightful interactive book that encourages children to guess who or what is hiding behind the flaps.
- "Dear Zoo" by Rod Campbell A lift-the-flap book where children discover different animals that are sent by the zoo.
- "Press Here" by Hervé Tullet A highly interactive book that encourages children to press, shake, and tilt the pages to participate in the magic.
- "Giraffes Can't Dance" by Giles Andreae A heartwarming story about Gerald, a giraffe who learns to embrace his uniqueness and find his own rhythm.

These books offer engaging stories, beautiful illustrations, and interactive elements that captivate the attention of your little ones.

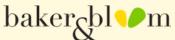




# AGES 4-5

- "The Gruffalo" by Julia Donaldson This rhyming story follows a clever mouse as it encounters various creatures in the deep, dark woods.
- "The Day the Crayons Quit" by Drew Daywalt A humorous tale about a box of crayons that goes on strike, each expressing their grievances through letters.
- "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak This classic book takes readers on a wild adventure with Max, who travels to a land of imaginative creatures.
- "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein A touching story about the enduring friendship between a boy and a tree, teaching lessons about love and selflessness.
- "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs" by Jon Scieszka This twist
  on the traditional fairy tale tells the story from the perspective of
  the Big Bad Wolf.
- "The Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister A beautiful tale about a fish who learns the joy of sharing and friendship.
- "Corduroy" by Don Freeman Follow the adventures of a lovable teddy bear named Corduroy as he searches for his missing button.
- "Strega Nona" by Tomie dePaola Join Strega Nona, a wise old woman with a magic pasta pot, in this charming Italian folktale.
- "The Snowman" by Raymond Briggs This wordless picture book tells the story of a young boy's magical friendship with a snowman.
- "The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss This rhyming classic follows the mischievous Cat in the Hat as he brings chaos and fun into the lives of two children on a rainy day.

At this stage, we always want to encourage students to spark their creativity. These stories all have imaginative illustrations, and valuable life lessons that are suitable for this age group.

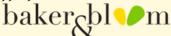


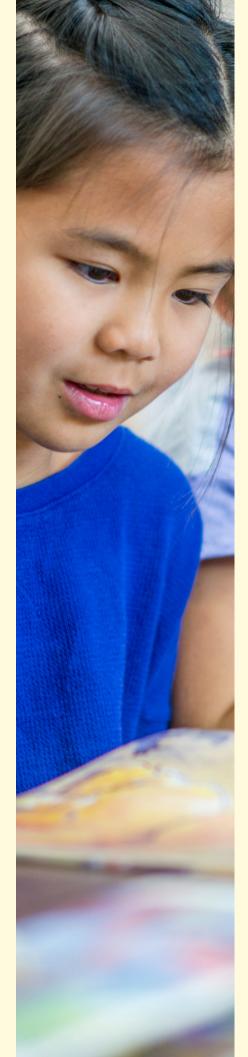


# **AGES 6-7**

- "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White Follow the heartwarming story of a spider named Charlotte and her friendship with a pig named Wilbur.
- "Matilda" by Roald Dahl Join Matilda, a young girl with magical powers, as she outsmarts her mean parents and her tyrannical headmistress.
- "The Magic Tree House" series by Mary Pope Osborne This series follows siblings Jack and Annie as they embark on time-traveling adventures through history.
- "The BFG" by Roald Dahl Enter the world of giants with Sophie and the Big Friendly Giant in this humorous and imaginative tale.
- "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series by Jeff Kinney Join Greg Heffley as
  he navigates the ups and downs of middle school in this popular
  and humorous series.
- "The Chronicles of Narnia" series by C.S. Lewis Step through the wardrobe into the magical land of Narnia, where adventure and enchantment await.
- "Harry Potter" series by J.K. Rowling Follow the journey of Harry Potter, a young wizard, as he attends Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.
- "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett Discover the transformative power of friendship and nature as a young girl named Mary unlocks the mysteries of a hidden garden.
- "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl Enter Willy Wonka's extraordinary chocolate factory with Charlie Bucket in this delightful and whimsical tale.
- "The Phantom Tollbooth" by Norton Juster Join Milo on an imaginative and educational journey through a magical kingdom filled with wordplay and adventure.

All children should have exposure to the classics. The books in this list are engaging stories with memorable characters, and age-appropriate themes.





# **AGES 8-9**

- "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis Enter the enchanting world of Narnia in this timeless fantasy adventure.
- "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" by J.K. Rowling Join Harry
   Potter as he discovers his magical powers and begins his journey
   at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.
- "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio Follow the story of Auggie, a young boy
  with a facial difference, as he navigates the challenges of fitting in
  at a new school.
- "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl Explore Willy Wonka's imaginative chocolate factory with Charlie and experience the magic and mayhem.
- "Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief" by Rick Riordan Join
   Percy Jackson, a demigod son of Poseidon, on an epic quest to
   prevent a war among the gods.
- "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate Meet Ivan, a silverback gorilla, as he reflects on his captivity and forms an extraordinary plan for his freedom.
- "The Secret of the Old Clock" (Nancy Drew Mystery Stories) by Carolyn Keene - Follow teenage detective Nancy Drew as she solves mysteries and uncovers secrets.
- "Holes" by Louis Sachar Join Stanley Yelnats as he is sent to a
  juvenile detention camp and uncovers a hidden history while
  digging holes.
- "The Lightning Thief" (Heroes of Olympus series) by Rick Riordan Dive into Greek mythology as Percy Jackson and his friends
  embark on a new adventure to save the world.
- "The Tale of Despereaux" by Kate DiCamillo Enter the world of a brave mouse named Despereaux as he sets out on a quest to rescue a princess.

The captivating adventures, and relatable characters will capture your child's imagination. Help the discover their interests through the power of literature.





### AGES 10-11

- "The Giver" by Lois Lowry Follow Jonas as he discovers the truth about his seemingly perfect society and makes a decision that will change his life forever.
- "Bridge to Terabithia" by Katherine Paterson Join Jess and Leslie on their imaginative adventures in the magical world they create together.
- "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle Embark on a thrilling journey through space and time with Meg Murry as she searches for her missing father.
- "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien Join Bilbo Baggins on an epic quest to reclaim the dwarf kingdom of Erebor in this prelude to "The Lord of the Rings."
- "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett Discover the transformative power of friendship and nature as Mary unlocks the mysteries of a hidden garden.
- "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen Follow Brian, a young boy stranded in the wilderness, as he learns to survive with only a hatchet and his wits.
- "The Chronicles of Narnia" series by C.S. Lewis Step through the wardrobe into the magical land of Narnia, where adventure and enchantment await.
- "The Westing Game" by Ellen Raskin Solve the mystery of the Westing estate alongside a group of diverse characters in this clever and suspenseful book.
- "Percy Jackson and the Olympians" series by Rick Riordan Dive into Greek mythology with Percy Jackson and his friends as they battle monsters and uncover prophecies.
- "The Phantom Tollbooth" by Norton Juster Join Milo on an imaginative and educational journey through a magical kingdom filled with wordplay and adventure.

Children at this age should be exposed to themes that make them reflect on their own lives, and the world around them. Help your child gain empathy by letting them read stories with rich-worlds and thought-provoking themes.

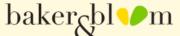




### AGES 12-14

- "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins Enter the dystopian world of Panem and follow Katniss Everdeen as she fights for survival in the annual Hunger Games.
- "Harry Potter" series by J.K. Rowling Continue the magical journey with Harry Potter and his friends as they face new challenges and uncover secrets at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.
- "The Percy Jackson and the Olympians" series by Rick Riordan Dive deeper into Greek mythology as Percy Jackson and his friends
   embark on new quests and face powerful adversaries.
- "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee Explore themes of racial injustice and morality through the eyes of Scout Finch in this classic and powerful novel.
- "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak Witness the power of words and humanity through the eyes of Liesel Meminger during World War II in Nazi Germany.
- "Ender's Game" by Orson Scott Card Join Ender Wiggin as he trains at Battle School to become a military genius and save humanity from an alien threat.
- "The Giver" by Lois Lowry Follow Jonas as he questions the seemingly perfect society he lives in and challenges its rules and restrictions.
- "The Maze Runner" by James Dashner Enter the dangerous maze alongside Thomas and his fellow Gladers as they try to escape and uncover the truth about their existence.
- "The Lightning Thief" (Heroes of Olympus series) by Rick Riordan Continue the adventure with Percy Jackson and his friends as they
   face new challenges and encounter mythological creatures.
- "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio Experience empathy and compassion through the eyes of Auggie, a boy with a facial difference, as he navigates middle school and the complexities of friendship.

It is important to give your child the chance to read stories with complex themes, and relatable characters and problems that may resonate with them.

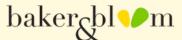




## AGES 15-18

- "The Fault in Our Stars" by John Green Follow the love story of Hazel and Gus, two teenagers who meet and fall in love at a cancer support group.
- "The Perks of Being a Wallflower" by Stephen Chbosky Experience the transformative journey of Charlie as he navigates
   the challenges of high school, friendship, and self-discovery.
- "1984" by George Orwell Enter a dystopian world where Big Brother watches over every move, and follow Winston Smith as he rebels against the totalitarian regime.
- "The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas Explore racial injustice and activism through the eyes of Starr Carter, a teenager who witnesses the fatal shooting of her unarmed friend by a police officer.
- "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger Follow the rebellious
   Holden Caulfield as he navigates the complexities of adolescence
   and seeks meaning in a world he finds phony.
- "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald Enter the glamorous and decadent world of 1920s New York and witness the tragic story of Jay Gatsby and his pursuit of the American Dream.
- "The Alchemist" by Paulo Coelho Embark on a journey of selfdiscovery and the pursuit of dreams with Santiago, a young shepherd who follows his heart's desires.
- "To All the Boys I've Loved Before" by Jenny Han Follow the romantic misadventures of Lara Jean Covey as her secret love letters are unexpectedly sent to her past crushes.
- "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini Dive into the intricacies of friendship, betrayal, and redemption through the story of Amir and Hassan set against the backdrop of Afghanistan.
- "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood Enter a dystopian society where women's rights are severely restricted, and follow Offered as she navigates a life of oppression and resistance.

These are classic books that all teenagers should read before they head off to college. With diverse themes, thought-provoking narratives, and complex characters that can engage and challenge teenagers --these books are a must-read



#### STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

"The skills taught and developed by Baker & Bloom have been applied by my kids to a variety of subjects at school, including English, history, and geography. The structure of the small group classes and the teaching philosophy, which emphasizes and encourages student opinions and participation, give my children a trusted platform to express their views, which in turn has given them invaluable confidence and validation."

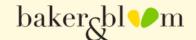
- Parent, Diocesan Boys' School

"My daughter said at school, she often felt like hundreds of different aeroplanes were flying at her from different directions. Sometimes the planes landed safely, sometimes they crashed, but often they flew over her head. In [her Baker & Bloom] class the planes (or information) intentionally fly into her brain. They land safely in the correct place and are not being knocked by other planes."

- Parent, German-Swiss International School

"I chose to enrol my child after understanding Baker & Bloom's educational approach and philosophy. I felt that a lot of thought had been put into what children need to learn and how to motivate them to learn those lessons. I could not have asked for more from his wonderful teacher... and immediately signed up for [another] course."

- Parent of G2 student, Hong Kong International School





#### STUDENT & PARENT TESTIMONIALS

"My children and I love Baker & Bloom. They went to various private educational institutions before but Baker & Bloom makes the experience of learning so different. It is more than a tuition centre. Baker & Bloom helps the students beyond the school work. It is a place for the inquiring minds. Thanks to the stimulating programs and wonderful teachers, my children feel excited to learn and flourish with confidence. Baker & Bloom has enlightened them in a joyful way and helped their intellectual minds in blooming. It is the people that make Baker & Bloom a positive difference."

- Parent, Glenealy School & Oundle School (UK)

"After one term, [my daughter] emerged not just with an acute grasp of word structures and concepts of print, but as a confident word-builder and creative storyteller who loved using her newfound armory of words to construct her own tales."

- Parent, Braemar Hill

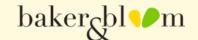
"My kids love coming to Baker & Bloom because teachers here know them and find ways to motivate and help them explore their own potentials. Getting inspired to learn here is why I think my kids find it rewarding coming to Baker & Bloom."

- Parent, St. Paul's Co-Educational College

"[Baker & Bloom's] classes are always well structured, with special attention given to methods and techniques to learn specific knowledge for the task being covered. My daughter has truly gained skills and wisdom that will enable her to face the future with confidence and vigor in the years ahead. Knowledge is boundless, whereas time is limited.

To me, time is always well spent at Baker & Bloom."

- Parent, German Swiss International School







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