

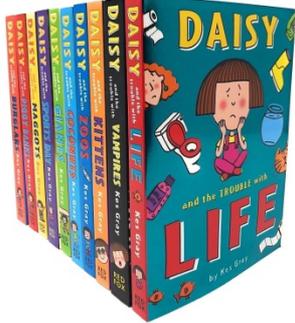
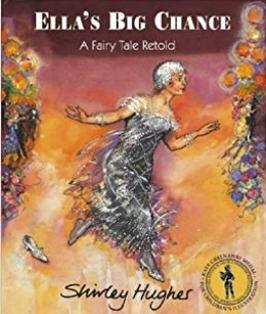
Book suggestions for 7-11 year olds

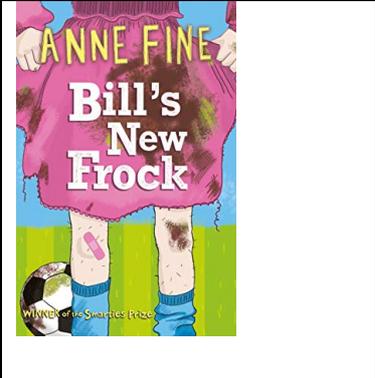
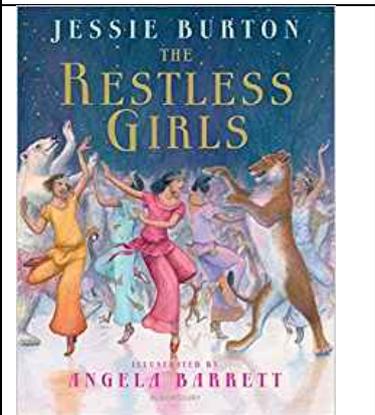
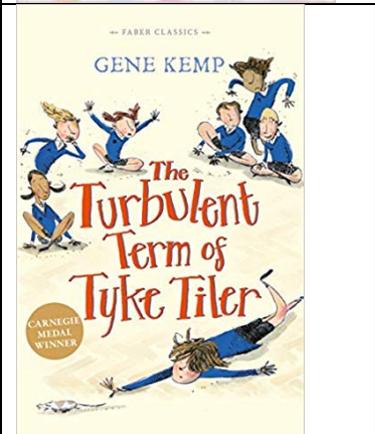
Once children are reading chapter books and reading on their own, there is a huge range of books for them to choose from. We have therefore put a very small selection here of our current favourites, and put links to more extensive lists.

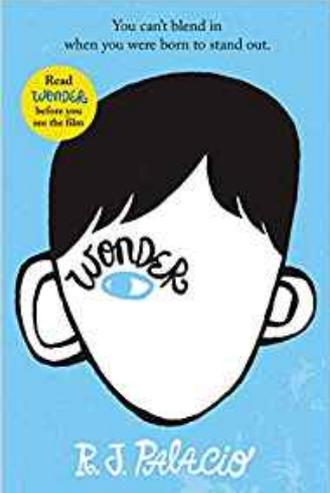
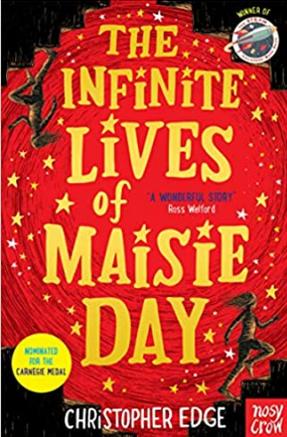
Some of the ‘classics’ may reinforce gender stereotypes but that doesn’t mean children shouldn’t read them: it’s good to think about when a book was written and if some of the gender roles were more acceptable then, or if an author was being bold to include stereotype-busting male or female characters in their books. e.g. the Narnia books, by CS Lewis; any Enid Blyton books; the Swallows and Amazons books by Arthur Ransome.

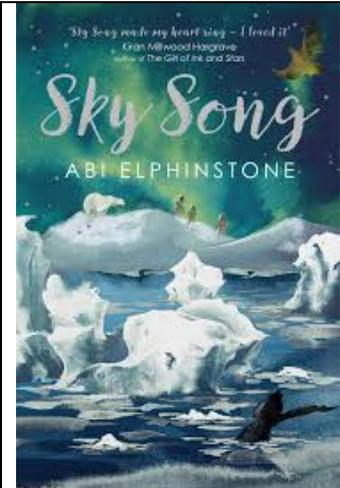
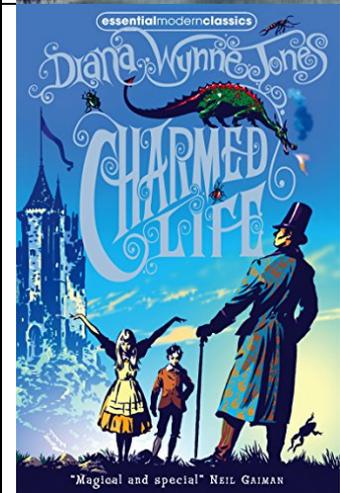
Books written more recently that have become ‘modern classics’, such as the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling, the Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan, and authors such as David Walliams and Jacqueline Wilson, as well as still popular authors such as Roald Dahl, have examples of gender stereotypes but also strong female leads, caring boys, and boys and girls being friends and adventuring together.

The books we have chosen are listed in age order, so books for younger readers first.

	<p><i>Daisy and the Trouble with... series</i> by Kes Gray – age guide 5+</p>	<p>Pre-schoolers may know her as ‘Super Daisy’. In this series of chapter books Daisy has all sorts of hilarious adventures...</p>
	<p><i>Ella's Big Chance</i> by Shirley Hughes – age guide 6+</p>	<p>A re-telling of Cinderella set in the 1920s, with a twist to inspire girls to be true to themselves</p>

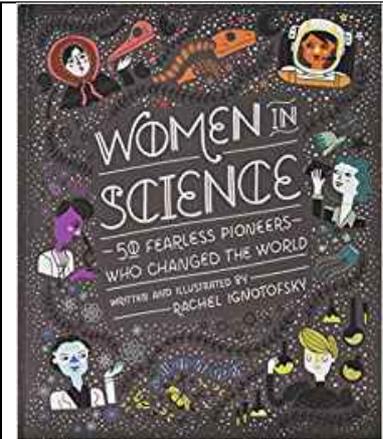
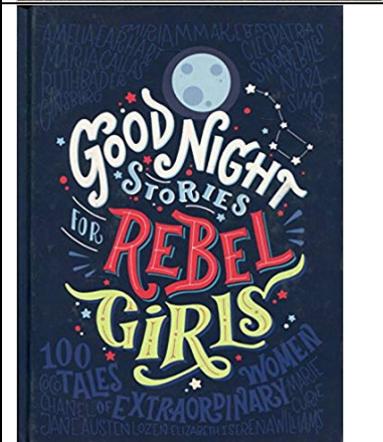
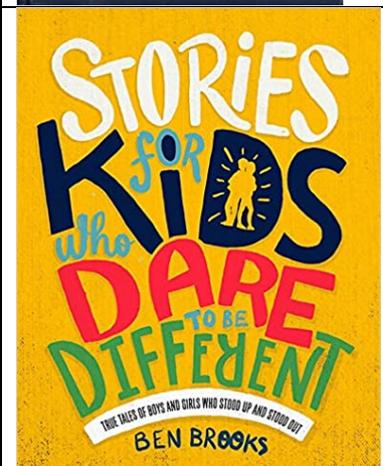
	<p><i>Bill's New Frock</i> by Anne Fine – age 7+</p>	<p>Bill wakes up one day to find that he's a girl. His parents send him to school in a pink frilly dress, where he realises how differently girls are treated. A thought-provoking modern classic.</p>
	<p><i>The Restless Girls</i> by Jessie Burton – age guide 8+</p>	<p>When their mother dies in a car accident, the 12 restless girls of the title find their father cannot bear the idea of them ever being in danger and decides his daughters must be kept safe at all costs. But Princess Frida and her sisters begin their fight to be allowed to <i>live</i>.</p>
	<p><i>Turbulent Term of Tyke Tiler</i> by Gene Kemp – chapter book age 9+</p>	<p>Tyke and best friend Danny have a tendency to get into trouble...</p>

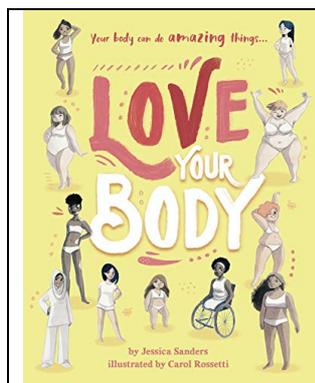
	<p><i>The Sally Lockhart Mysteries Collection</i>, by Philip Pullman – age guide 9+</p>	<p>Beginning with <i>The Ruby in the Smoke</i>, Sally Lockhart is a brilliant female lead: she defies all Victorian conventions, having a child out of wedlock, running her own financial advisory business and taking complete charge of her own destiny.</p>
	<p><i>Wonder</i> by R. J. Palacio – age guide 9+</p> <p><i>Auggie and Me: Three Wonder Stories</i> is the sequel, and tells Auggie’s story from the perspective of Julian, the bully; Christopher, Auggie's oldest friend; and Charlotte, Auggie's new friend at school.</p>	<p>Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he’s being sent to a real school – and he’s dreading it. All he wants is to be accepted – but can he convince his new classmates that he’s just like them, underneath it all?</p>
	<p><i>The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day</i> by Christopher Edge – age guide 9+</p> <p>Christopher Edge has also written <i>The Jamie Drake Equation</i> and <i>The Many Worlds of Albie Bright</i></p>	<p>For her birthday, Maisie’s hoping for the things she needs to build her own nuclear reactor. But she wakes to an empty house and a terrifying, all-consuming blackness. Trapped in an ever-shifting reality, Maisie knows that she will have to use the laws of the universe and the love of her family to survive...</p>

	<p><i>Sky Song</i> by Abi Elphinstone – age guide 9+</p>	<p>In the snowy kingdom of Erkenwald, join Eska, a girl who breaks free from a cursed music box, and Flint, a boy whose inventions could change the fate of Erkenwald forever, as they journey to the Never Cliffs and beyond in search of an ancient, almost forgotten, song with the power to force the Ice Queen back.</p>
	<p><i>Charmed Life</i> by Diana Wynne Jones (Book 1 in the Chronicles of Chrestomanci Series) – age guide 9+</p>	<p>Meet Gwendolyn Chant and her brother Cat. Gwendolyn is a gifted witch with astonishing powers, so it suits her enormously when she is taken to live in Chrestomanci Castle. Cat is not so keen, for he has no talent for magic at all...</p>
	<p><i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L'Engle – age guide 9+</p>	<p>Charles and Meg, and their friend Calvin, travel through 'a wrinkle in time' in search of their missing father. But can they beat the evil forces they meet on their dangerous journey through time and space?</p>

Non-fiction

Often non-fiction books are dominated by men and their achievements, especially when it comes to biographies of scientists, inventors, sportspeople and historical figures. Books that show the achievements of women, or men in non-traditional roles are great to seek out, as well as books that promote positive body image for boys and girls.

	<p><i>Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World</i> by Rachel Ignotofsky – age guide 5+</p> <p>There is also <i>Women in Sport</i> and <i>Women in Art</i> Talk about why we need books that focus on only women scientists</p>	<p>Illustrated book of 50 women scientists, some well-known, some often overlooked, showing all children the importance of women’s contribution to science</p>
	<p><i>Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls</i> by Elena Favilli and Francesca Cavallo – age guide 6+</p> <p>Talk about the title – the stories are about influential and high-achieving women, isn’t that something boys and girls can read about?</p>	<p>Illustrated by 60 female artists from every corner of the globe, find out about 100 remarkable women and their extraordinary lives, from Ada Lovelace to Malala, Amelia Earhart to Michelle Obama.</p>
	<p><i>Stories for Kids who Dare to be Different</i>, by Ben Brooks, illustrated by Quinton Winter – age guide 6+</p>	<p>Boys will be boys and girls will be girls - or so the meaningless saying goes. Because what if you're a girl and you like cage fighting? Or you're a boy and you love ballet? This is the book for children who want to know about the lives of those heroes who have led the way, changing the world for the better as they go.</p>



Love Your Body by Jessica Sanders, illustrated by Carol Rossetti – age guide 6+

Love Your Body encourages girls to admire and celebrate their bodies for all the amazing things they can do (like laugh, cry, hug and feel). Bodies come in all different forms and abilities. What makes you different makes you, you – and you are amazing!