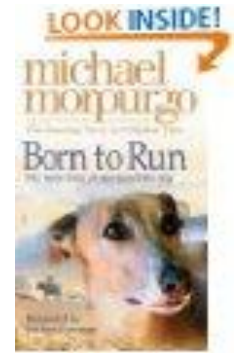


Recommended books – aged 8-10 years

Born to Run, by Michael Morpurgo

Joy and heartbreak combine in this bittersweet tale of a champion greyhound's journey through life from owner to owner!



From the book:

“Best Mate for ever”

Part of Patrick’s walk to school, to St Thomas’ Junior School on Porthcressa Road was along the canal, past the brown sauce factory which somehow smelled both sweet and sour at the same time. That walk along the canal where the barges chugged by, where the ducks dipped and drank, was the only part of going to school that Patrick looked forward to at all. There was so much he was dreading. He sat there on his bed and thought about the school day ahead of him, wishing he didn’t have to live through it. The radio was burbling downstairs as it always was, and his dad had burnt the toast, again.

Patrick thought of Mr Butterworth, his teacher and football coach, whose literacy homework – that stupid story about someone you meet standing in a shopping queue – he still hadn’t finished, and who this time was bound to make him stay in after lunch and finish it. That meant that the head teacher, Mrs Brightwell, would probably find him there, and so he’d be in double trouble. She was always on at Patrick about being untidy or running in the corridors, or daydreaming or using what she called ‘lazy words’, such as ‘cool’ or ‘wicked’, or worst of all, ‘whatever’.

If she ever heard anyone saying ‘whatever’ she’d practically explode, especially if you shrugged your shoulders at the same time. The trouble was that just at the moment and for no good reason, ‘whatever’ happened to be Patrick’s favourite word. He knew it irritated his mum and dad as well, knew how much Mrs Brightwell hated it, but the word would just pop out as if it had a mind of its own, and with it came a shrug. There was nothing he could do to stop himself, and of course all too often Mrs Brightwell would be right there, and she’d blow up. After it was over, everyone would turn round and laugh at him. That was what Patrick dreaded most about school, being laughed at.

More About the Author

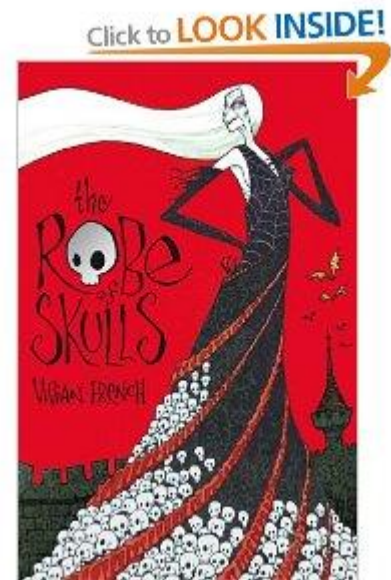


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› [Visit Amazon's Michael Morpurgo Page](#)

Robes of Skulls, Vivian French

All is not well in the crumbling castle high above the mountain village of Fracture. The sorceress Lady Lamorna has her heart set on a new robe. It is a very expensive new robe. To get the cash she will stop at nothing, including kidnapping, blackmail and more than a little black magic. But she reckons without the heroic Gracie Gillypot, not to mention a gallant if rather scruffy prince, two chatty bats, the wickedest stepsister ever, a troll with a grudge - and some very Ancient crones.



Vivian French is a professional storyteller and an acclaimed children's author. She is the author of the Read and Wonder non-fiction books Caterpillar Butterfly (shortlisted for the Kurt Maschler Award) and Growing Frogs, as well as the bestselling Tiara Club series. Vivian lives in Edinburgh.

More About the Author



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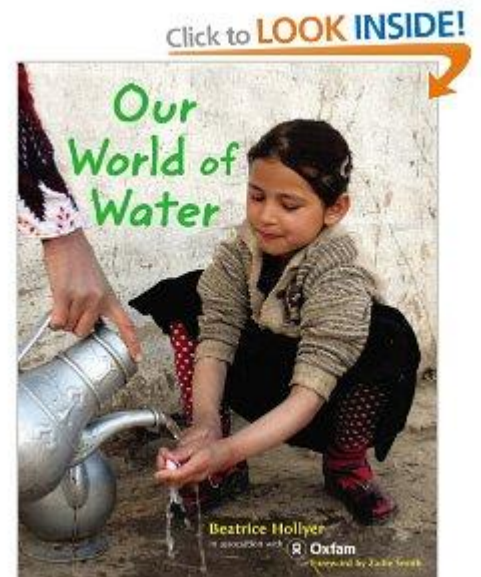
Our Wonderful World of Water, by Beatrice Hollyer

Description

Wherever we live in the world - whether our country is rich or poor - water is vital to our survival on this planet. This book follows the daily lives of six children from Peru, Mauritania, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Tajikistan and California and explores what water means to them. Where does it come from? How do they use it? With the growing threat of floods and droughts occurring throughout the world due to global warming, this book invites discussion on these topics as well as documenting the ways different countries and cultures value this most precious of our planet's natural resources.

Reviewed:

Stunning photographs enhance the high quality of this terrific book, published in association with Oxfam... Global warming and ecological melt-down are topics now being discussed in classrooms up and down the land, and teachers will find this title very useful as it examines the way that different countries of the world value water. Numerous colour photographs show each child helping at home, washing up and brushing teeth, and working in the yard or field, and complement the clearly written text to demonstrate the similarities and differences in these children's lives.



Also you could try:

Title:	Author:
Trolls on Hols	Alan Macdonald
My Hindu Community	Kate Taylor and Henna Perekh
A Farming Almanac	Chris S Stephens
Cleopatra	Adele Geras
Ninnyhammer	Dick King-Smith
Jamie and Angus Together	Anne Fine
My Dad's Birdman	David Almond
Secret Agent Jack Stalwart	Elizabeth Singer Hunt
Operation Ward Ten	Sian Patterden
Poetry	
This is The Blackbird	John Mole