

STEP 2:

Reading their way to literacy



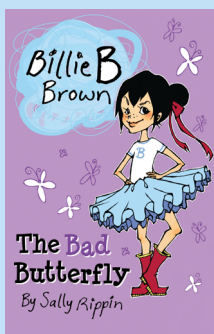
WINNING

20 EARLY CHAPTER BOOKS

FOR 5-8 YEAR OLDS

Not all early chapter books are created equal. It isn't easy delivering a compelling read in a tightly controlled reading environment and because of this many don't deliver on what they claim. Every word is important, every sentence measured for reading success. Here's a list that makes the cut. And the good news is many of them are series fiction, so your growing reader can move through each series and build their confidence and reading ability. It's a win, win!

1

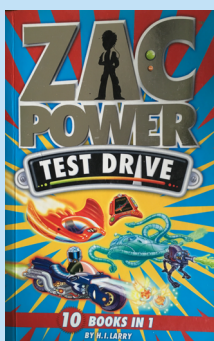


Billie B Brown Series by Sally Rippin, illustrated by Aki Fukuoka

Published: Hardie Grant Publishing

Billie B Brown is brave, brilliant and bold, and the star of her very own super-doooper early-reader series. Whether she's playing soccer, learning ballet with her best friend Jack, or getting used to a new baby brother, fun and feisty Billie B Brown always has a creative way to save the day.

2



Zac Power Test Drives and Spy Recruit Series by H.I. Larry

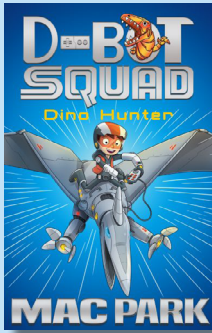
Published: Hardie Grant Publishing

Zac Power is a publishing phenomenon that has taken the reluctant reader market by storm, selling over 3 million books in Australasia alone since launch in 2008.

Zac Power is a boy spy who has 24 hours to save the world (and do his homework!) Now Zac now has a new look for a whole new generation! It's time to meet the boy behind the silhouette. . .

With the Zac Power Test Drives and Spy Recruit series, first readers can now follow Zac Power as he trains for his missions!

3



D Bot Squad Series by Mac Park

Published: Allen & Unwin

Dinosaurs are back and on the loose! It's up to the D-Bot Squad to catch them.

Hunter Marks knows everything there is to know about dinosaurs. But will it be enough to build a d-bot that can catch a real dinosaur?

Dinosaurs are being bred in secret on a far away island. But now some have escaped and D-Bot Squad needs people who can catch them using robotic dinosaurs that are stronger, faster, smarter than the dinosaurs. Hunter is chosen but he will need to think fast and learn about teamwork if he is going to catch them!

4



Boys vs Beasts Series by Mac Park

Published: Scholastic Australia

Kai Masters, 12, is a border guard charged with keeping Earth safe from the beasts of Beastium. Kai and his dogbot battle buddy, B.C., must battle hard if they are to defeat the ever-mutating beasts.

5



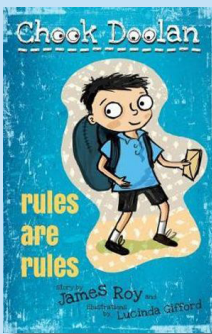
Harriet Clare Series by Louise Park, illustrated by Marlene Monterubbio

Published: Hinkler Books Pty

Harriet's best friend, Indie, won't talk to her any more. It's all because Harriet accidentally ruined Indie's school dress. Soon it will be Indie's birthday and Harriet plans to give Indie a special present to show her that she still wants to be friends – Harriet just needs a chance to show she is sorry.

Become Harriet's newest bestie, help to solve all her problems and complete her notebooks along the way!

6



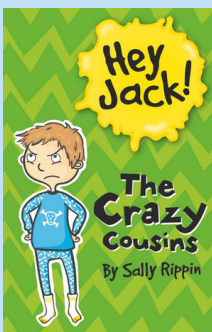
Chook Doolan- Rules are Rules Series by James Roy, illustrated by Lucinda Gifford

Published: Walker Books

Chook Doolan is too much of a chicken to walk to school by himself! But then Dad tells him the special "Walking to School" rule. And RULES ARE RULES.

Walking to school is too scary for Chook - until Dad tells him the special rule for walking to school safely: no talking to anyone until you are inside the school gates. Too easy! But not talking means that he must ignore Mrs Pho from the bakery, Eddie Two-Hats the busker and Mrs Holston the lollipop lady. Chook knows he has hurt their feelings. But what can he do? RULES ARE RULES!

7

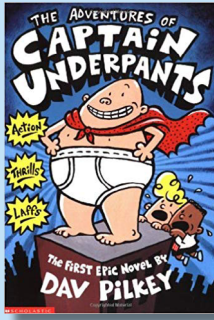


Hey Jack Series by Sally Rippon

Published: Hardie Grant Egmont

Jack's in the mood for mooching around, not playing with his crazy cousins! But will his bad mood spoil the whole day?

8

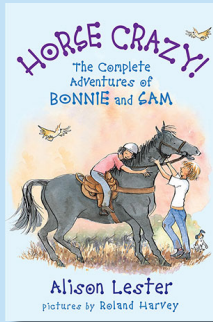


Captain Underpants Series by Dav Pilkey

Published: Scholastic US

George and Harold have created the greatest superhero in the history of their elementary school, and now they're going to bring him to life! Meet Captain Underpants! His true identity is so secret, even he doesn't know who he is.

9

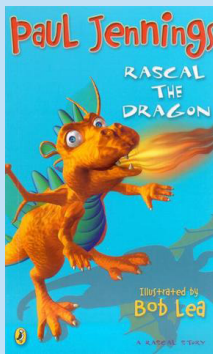


Horse Crazy Series by Alison Lester, illustrated Roland Harvey

Published: Allen & Unwin

Bonnie and Sam are best friends. No one loves horses the way they do. When Bonnie whispers to them, they understand, and Sam always knows if they need a drink, or a hug, or a race around the paddock.

10

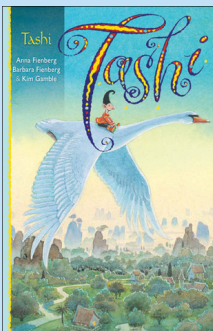


Rascal the Dragon Series by Paul Jennings, illustrated by Bob Lea

Published: Penguin Random House

One day a boy called Ben meets a stray dragon called Rascal. Ben and Rascal want to stay together. Ben's dad says no, but somehow Rascal the dragon always gets what Rascal the dragon wants...

11

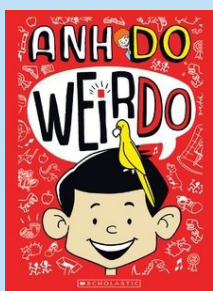


Tashi Series by Anna Fienberg, Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble

Published: Allen & Unwin

Tashi, a gnome-like character from a place far away. Brave Tashi tells adventurous tales of being sold to a warlord and escaping on a swan. This little hero has to be clever to outsmart giants, ghosts, demons, and witches that stand in his way.

12

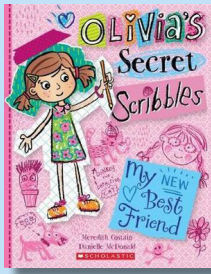


Weir Do Series by Ahn Do, illustrated by Jules Faber

Published: Scholastic Australia

Weir Do's the new kid in school. With an unforgettable name, a crazy family, and some seriously weird habits, fitting in won't be easy . . . but it will be funny!

13

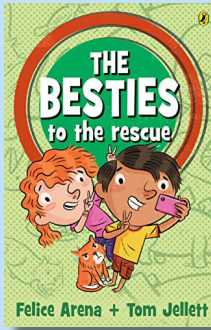


Olivia's Secret Scribbles Series by Meredith Costain

Published: Scholastic Australia

I have so many super-amazing and important things to write about! I'll tell you all about them: I've got a brand-new bedroom - yay! My best friend Lucy moved away last week and I really miss her. I'm planning lots of cool inventions (I'm pretty sure some will work too!) Someone keeps sneaking into my room but I don't know who! There's a new girl at school called Matilda. She looks fun . . . but why does she act so mysteriously all the time??? I'm going to find out exactly what's going on!

14



The Besties to the Rescue Series by Felice Arena, Tom Jellett

Published: Penguin Books

Oliver and Ruby have been besties forever . . . Oliver is trying to record Ruby's awesome trampoline flips in slow-mo, but he captures something else too. Cutie Pie, the cat from next door, is pouncing on a bird's nest! The baby bird is too young to fly. Will the besties be the best bird-parents ever?

15

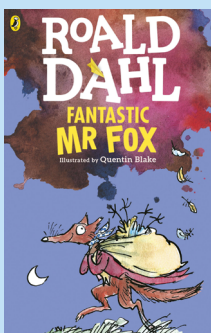


Sporty Kids Series by Felice Arena, Tom Jellett

Published: Penguin Books.

Do you want to give up?' said Vinnie. *'No way!'* Luca said. *'I can beat you.'* But he was starting to wonder if he could . . . Luca never loses at handball.

16



Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl

Published: Penguin Books

'Did you hear that, Mr Fox! It's not over yet! We're not going home till we've strung you up dead as a dingbat!'

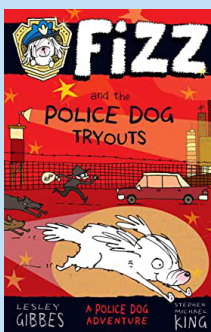
Boggis is an enormously fat chicken farmer who only eats boiled chickens smothered in fat.

Bunce is a duck-and-geese farmer whose dinner gives him a beastly temper.

Bean is a turkey-and-apple farmer who only drinks gallons of strong cider.

Mr Fox is so clever that every evening he creeps down into the valley and helps himself to food from the farms.

17



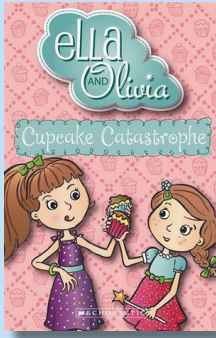
Fizz and the Police Dog Tryouts

by Leslie Gibbs and Stephen Michael King

Published: Harper Collins

Fizz wants to be a police dog. He's brave, clever and super-fast, but Fizz doesn't look like a police dog. His family are show dogs and companion dogs, not working dogs. Fizz longs for adventure, and he's determined to try out at the Sunnyvale City Police Station. There, he is the smallest, fluffiest dog in the line-up, and he meets fierce Amadeus, who definitely wants to be top dog.

18



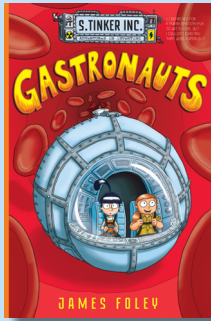
Ella and Olivia by Yvette Poshoglian, illustrated by Danielle McDonald

Published: Scholastic Australia

Ella and Olivia are sisters. Ella is seven years old. Olivia is five-and-a-half years old. They live with their mum and dad and little brother Max.

Ella and Olivia do lots of things together. No matter what, they will always be there for each other!

19

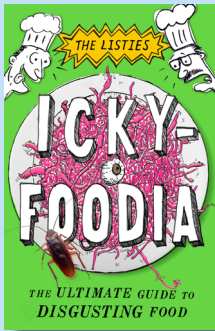


S. Tinker Inc Astronauts by James Foley

Published: Freemantle Press

Sally Tinker – the world’s foremost inventor under the age of twelve – has developed her greatest invention yet. But when Sally’s baby brother Joe swallows it with disastrous (and gaseous) consequences, Sally and her friend Charli must shrink themselves, venture into the very bowels of Joe, and shut down the invention before it’s too late. What could possibly go wrong?

20



Ickyfoodia, The Ultimate Guide Disgusting Food

by Matt Kelly, Richard Higgins

Published: Penguin Random House

This CROOKBOOK is full of INGROSSIENTS to make every kid into a DISASTERCHEF. It contains smelly and just plain disgusting words, scribbles, COOKING DESTRUCTIONS and a guide to the world’s worst RESTAURWRONGS.