

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Classic Fiction	Alcott	Louisa May	<u>Jo's Boys</u>	<p><i>Jo's Boys</i> is a beloved classic novel written by Louisa May Alcott. Published in 1886, the book is the final installment in the "Little Women" series, which follows the lives of the March sisters as they grow up and navigate the challenges of adulthood. In <i>Jo's Boys</i>, the focus shifts to the next generation, as readers follow the lives of the students at Jo's Plumfield School.</p> <p>The novel explores themes of friendship, love, and personal growth as the boys navigate their teenage years and discover their passions and paths in life. With its rich and memorable characters, <i>Jo's Boys</i> is a timeless and captivating read that has enchanted generations of readers.</p>	1120
Classic Fiction	Alcott	Louis May	<u>Little Men</u>	With two young sons of her own, and twelve rescued orphan boys filling the unusual school at Plumfield, Jo March - now Mrs Jo Bhaer - couldn't be happier. But the boys have a habit of getting into scrapes, and their mischievous antics call for the warm and affectionate support of the whole March family to help avoid disaster...	1150
Classic Fiction	Alcott	Louisa May	<u>Eight Cousins</u>	<i>Eight Cousins</i> , or <i>The Aunt-Hill</i> was published in 1875 by American novelist Louisa May Alcott. It is the story of Rose Campbell, a lonely and sickly girl who has been recently orphaned and must now reside with her maiden great aunts (yet having a guardian), who are the matriarchs of her wealthy Boston family. Alcott wrote <i>Rose in Bloom</i> as a sequel to this book.	1150
Classic Fiction	Dickens	Charles	<u>A Christmas Carol</u>	<i>A Christmas Carol</i> was first published in London by Chapman & Hall in 1843. It has become a Christmas classic and has been continuously in print since its first release, as well as being made into numerous plays and movies. It tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, an elderly miser who is visited by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come. After their visits, Scrooge is transformed into a kinder, gentler man. It explores themes about the treatment of the poor and the ability of people to reform themselves. It is worth reading every Christmas.	900

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Classic Fiction	Dickens	Charles	<i>Oliver Twist</i>	The story of Oliver Twist - orphaned, and set upon by evil and adversity from his first breath - shocked readers when it was published. After running away from the workhouse and pompous beadle Mr Bumble, Oliver finds himself lured into a den of thieves peopled by vivid and memorable characters - the Artful Dodger, vicious burglar Bill Sikes, his dog Bull's Eye, and prostitute Nancy, all watched over by cunning master-thief Fagin. Combining elements of Gothic Romance, the Newgate Novel and popular melodrama, Dickens created an entirely new kind of fiction, scathing in its indictment of a cruel society, and pervaded by an unforgettable sense of threat and mystery.	1060
Classics	Lamb	Charles and Mary	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>	Discover Shakespeare's best-loved plays These tales are the perfect introduction to Shakespeare's greatest plays. Charles and Mary Lamb vividly bring to life the power of <i>Hamlet</i> and <i>Othello</i> , the fun of <i>As You Like It</i> and the drama of <i>Pericles</i> . They never lose the feel of his beautiful language and humanity and convey all of his wit and wisdom. These tales are classic literature in their own right.	1390
Drama	Rostand	Edmond	<i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i>	<i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i> occupies a unique place in the modern theater. Deliberately disavowing realism and contemporary relevance, Edmond Rostand's masterpiece represents a turning back in both time and spirit to an earlier age of high adventure and soaring idealism. Its magnificent hero, Cyrano—noble of soul and grotesque in appearance, gallant Gascon soldier, brilliant wit, and timid lover, alternately comic, heroic, tragic—represents one of the most challenging of all acting roles in its complexity and mercurial changes of mood. From its original production to the present day, <i>Cyrano de Bergerac</i> has enjoyed a charmed existence on the stage, its unflagging pace of action and eloquence of language enchanting critics and public alike. Here, in a superlative translation, is the ultimate triumph of the great French romantic tradition—a work which, in the words of the French critic Lemaître, “prolongs, unites and blends...three centuries of comic fantasy and moral grace.”	940

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Classics	Sutcliff	Rosemary	<u><i>Black Ships Before Troy</i></u>	<p>As the gods and goddesses of Olympus scheme, the ancient world is thrown into turmoil when Helen, the most beautiful woman in all of Greece, is stolen away by her Trojan love. Inflamed by jealousy, the Greek king seeks lethal vengeance and sends his black war ships to descend on the city of Troy.</p> <p>In the siege that follows, history's greatest heroes, from Ajax to Achilles to Odysseus, are forged in combat, and the brutal costs of passion, pride, and revenge must be paid. In the end, the whims of the gods, the cunning of the warriors, and a great wooden horse will decide who emerges victorious.</p> <p>Homer's epic poem, <i>The Iliad</i>, is one of the greatest adventure stories of all time and Rosemary Sutcliff's retelling of the classic saga embodies all of the astonishing drama, romance, and intrigue of ancient Greece.</p>	1240
Classic Fiction	Swift	Jonathan	<u><i>Gulliver's Travels</i></u>	<p><i>Gulliver's Travels</i>, or <i>Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World</i>, consists of four parts and was initially published in 1726. It satirizes both human nature and the "travellers' tales" literary subgenre. It is Swift's best known full-length work, and a classic of English literature. Swift claimed that he wrote <i>Gulliver's Travels</i> "to vex the world rather than divert it". The book was an immediate success. John Gay remarked "It is universally read, from the cabinet council to the nursery."</p>	1300