

## Year 4 Text Recommendations

Module Title	Additional details about the module
Traditional tales – quests (myths)	<p>Taken from the NLS text type documents:</p> <p><i>Myths use quests, journeys and trials as themes. The hero or heroine often has to undergo some kind of test (the trials of Hercules) or set off on a long and difficult journey where dangers arise at each stage (the Odyssey)... The plot of a myth usually includes incredible or miraculous events, where characters behave in superhuman ways using unusual powers or with the help of superhuman beings.</i></p> <p>These can focus on Greek myths, or on more generic 'quest' style narratives.</p>

### Key Texts:

The Orchard Book of Greek Myths, Geraldine McCaughrean  
 Greek Myths - Marcia Williams  
 Blackberry Blue and other fairy tales - Jamila Gavin  
 The Boy and the Cloth of Dreams - Jenny Koralek  
 East O the Sun and West O the Moon - PJ Lynch

### Further suggestions:

The Firework Maker's Daughter - Phillip Pullman  
 The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien  
 Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone – J.K. Rowling  
 The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe – C.S. Lewis  
 Peter Pan in Scarlet - Geraldine McCaughrean  
 The Wooden Horse - Geraldine McCaughrean  
 Mission to marathon – Geoffrey Trease  
 Secret History of Tom Trueheart – Ian Beck (book trailer -[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q\\_BkZZI8Vn4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_BkZZI8Vn4))

The Saga of Biorn <http://www.literacyshed.com/the-myths-and-legends-shed.html>

King Midas <http://www.literacyshed.com/the-myths-and-legends-shed.html>

Arachne <http://www.literacyshed.com/the-myths-and-legends-shed.html>

George and the dragon animation

[http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/learning/inspired-by-the-collection/3d-animation/\\*/chooseMedia/3/](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/learning/inspired-by-the-collection/3d-animation/*/chooseMedia/3/)

Journeys and quests - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/journeys-and-quests/>

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Story settings	The children should read a complete narrative (or several shorter narratives) with strong description of setting and then, having explored the text at various levels, explore in detail how an author effectively creates settings. Stories set in other countries, or in unfamiliar places and times, can provide detailed and evocative descriptions of settings.

### Key Texts:

Cloud Tea Monkeys (set in another country) - Mal Peet  
The Butterfly Lion (historical setting) - Michael Morpurgo  
Children of Winter (historical setting) - Berlie Doherty  
The Ice Palace (imaginary worlds) - Robert Swindells

### Further Suggestions:

#### Stories set in imaginary worlds

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - C S Lewis  
The Dream Master - Theresa Breslin  
Aquila (science-fiction) - Andrew Norriss  
The Widow's Broom - Chris Van Allsburg  
Dragon's Child - Jenny Nimmo  
Seth and the Strangers - Jenny Nimmo

#### Set in other countries

Jane & Lewis Kurtz E.B. Mamo on the mountain – (Ethopia)  
The true story of Balto - Natalie Staniford (Arctic)  
Anna Hibiscus – Atinuke (Nigeria)  
The Big Book of Betsey Biggalow - Malorie Blackman (West Indies)  
Sophie and the Albino Camel - Stephen Davies (Sahara Desert)

Elephant child – Mary Ellis (African savannah)  
Grandpa’s Indian Summer - Jamila Gavin (India)  
The Colour of Home – Mary Hoffman (Somalia)  
A fistful of pearls and other tales from Iraq – Elizabeth Laird

### **Historical settings**

Street Child - Berlie Doherty  
Across the Roman Wall - Theresa Breslin  
The Time Travelling Cat - Julia Jarman  
The Roman Eagle - Julia Jarman  
The Tudor Treasure - Julia Jarman  
The Egyptian Goddess - Julia Jarman  
The Aztec Sacrifice - Julia Jarman  
The Viking Terror - Julia Jarman  
Roger’s War - Robert Swindells  
Meet me by the steelmen - Teresa Tomlinson

Books with historical settings - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/books-with-a-historical-setting/>

Visual story starters - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/visual-story-starters/>

Story settings - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/story-settings/>

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A story/stories with a theme	Take from the NLS text type documents: <i>The strength of the story often depends on a character facing a difficult (or seemingly impossible) dilemma, with a limited choice of actions. A strong, simple story structure usually leads the character to the dilemma quite quickly and then makes the reader wait to find out how it is dealt with.</i>

### **Key Texts:**

Bill's New Frock (gender stereotypes) - Anne Fine  
 Cloud Busting (friendship/bullying) - Malorie Blackman  
 Journey to Jo'burg (segregation) - Beverley Naidoo  
 Frog Belly Rat Bone (protecting the environment) - Timothy Basil

### **Further suggestions:**

The Angel of Nitshill Road (bullying) – Anne Fine  
 Secret Friends (bullying/peer pressure) - Elizabeth Laird  
 The Forbidden Game (bullying) – Malorie Blackman  
 The Widow's Broom (prejudice - being different/misunderstood) - Chris Van Allsburg  
 Prosper's Mountain (prejudice - being different/misunderstood) - Henrietta Branford  
 Rat heaven - Jeanne Willis (different points of view)  
 Voices in the Park – Anthony Browne (different points of view)  
 Dear Mrs LaRue; Letters from Obedience School (being misunderstood/different points of view) - Mark Teague  
 Big Ben - Rachel Anderson (disability)  
 Fred (bereavement) – Posy Simmonds  
 Winter theme - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/winter-theme/>  
 Sports theme - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/sports-themed/>  
 Forbidden food - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/forbidden-food/>  
 Books with wishes - <http://www.pinterest.com/PrimaryEngEd/books-with-wishes/>