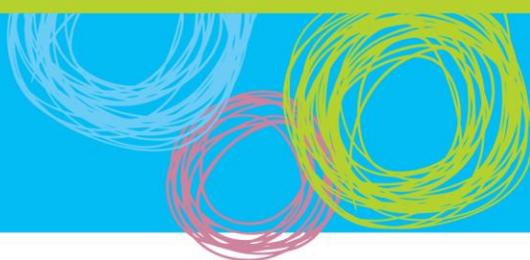


2017 Premier's reading challenge



2017 Premier's Reading Challenge: Year 7 - Year 9 booklist

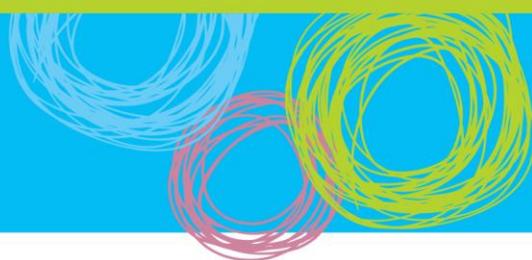
Students, parents, guardians and teachers may choose books from this list or may select any suitable books, including those on previous years' [Premier's Reading Challenge booklists](#).

*QDET – Queensland Department of Education and Training

Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Angus, Sam	A horse called Hero 1940, London. Dodo and her little brother Wolfie have lost their father who has gone missing at Dunkirk. Wolfie finds an orphaned foal, names him Hero and raises him. Together they roam the hills, little suspecting the test that lies in store for them both. (Adapted from publisher)	F	279	War stories; Horses; Courage	9781447235774
Bauer, Michael Gerard	The Pain, my mother, Sir Tiffy, Cyber Boy and me Maggie Butt's world is under siege. Not only is an annoying stranger taking over her mother's life but hers too. There's also Sister Evangelista (aka the Sister-minator), extreme dating disasters, the mysterious Nerd King and the arrival of the Cat of the Walking Dead. (Publisher)	F	263	Single parent families	9781742991504
Caddy, Meg	Waer When Lowell Sencha finds the strange girl lying as if dead on the riverbank, he is startled to find that she is like them: waer. Human, but able to assume the form of a wolf. (Publisher)	F	320	Fantasy; Battles; Werewolves	9781922182210
Carter, Ally	See how they run [Embassy row series] For the past three years, Grace Blakely has been desperate to find out the truth about her mother's murder. She thought it would bring her peace. But the truth has only made her a target. (Publisher)	F	318	Murder; Suspense; Secrecy	9781760153571



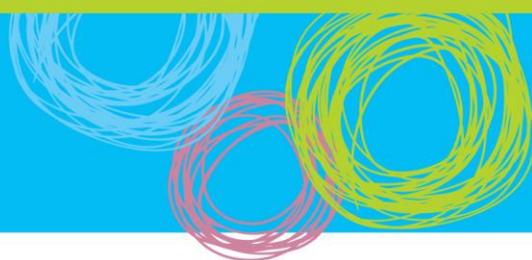
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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Castagna, Felicity	The incredible here and now Michael's older brother dies at the beginning of the summer he turns 15, but this is a tale of wonder, not of tragedy. Presented as a series of vignettes, it tells of Michael's coming of age in a year which brings him grief and romance. (Goodreads)	F	191	Cultural relations; Australian stories; Adolescents	9781922146366
Chan, Crystal	Bird Jewel is 12 and her family still mourn the death of her younger brother, who died the day she was born – and they blame Grandpa for the tragedy. When Jewel meets a mysterious boy in a tree he seems just the thing they need to bring change and forgiveness to their lives. (QDET)	F	295	Family; Death;	9781922147707
Colfer, Eoin	The hangman's revolution [WARP series] The second book of the series. Chevie is being sent to assassinate the man who opened up the time warp, and together with the Thundercats (one a religious fanatic) finds herself back in Victorian England. (The Source)	F	360	Fantasy; Adventure; Time travel	9780141341804
Condon, Bill	All of us together A story of a loving family who stand together through the hardships of unemployment and separation during Australia's Great Depression in the 1930s. (Adapted from publisher)	F	158	Great Depression; Family; Australian history	9780994642806
Crew, Gary; O'Sullivan, Paul (illus)	The visions of Ichabod X Who is Ichabod X? Is it true that he can see visions of the future fate of our endangered planet Earth? (Publisher)	F	36	Exceptional children; Future; Picture book	9781922134547



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Crowley, Cath	Words in deep blue Second-hand bookshops are full of mysteries. This is a love story. It's the story of Henry and Rachel. They were best friends once, before Rachel moved to the sea. Now, she's back, working at the bookstore, grieving for her brother. (Publisher)	F	352	Grief; Letter writing; Adolescents	9781742612386
Cunxin, Li	Mao's last dancer [Young readers edition] The true story of a poor Chinese peasant boy who, plucked at the age of ten from millions of others across the land to be trained as a ballet dancer, turned the situation to his advantage to become one of the world's greatest ballet stars. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	333	Biography; Cultural relations; Resilience	9780143301646
Dolan, Hugh; Threlfall, Adrian	Reg Saunders: an indigenous war hero The little-known story of Reg Saunders, the first Indigenous Australian to become an officer in the Army, retold in graphic format. Reg Saunders not only survived the World War II battlefields, but excelled as a military leader. (Adapted from publisher)	NF	55	WWII; Aboriginal people; Graphic novel	9781742234243
Ferris, Fleur	Black Ebony Marshall can't wait to leave the town where she's known only as "Black". Everyone says Black Marshall is cursed. (Publisher)	F	276	Superstition; Suspense; Romance	9781925324976
Flanagan, John	The Ghostfaces [Brotherband series] The Heron crew are blown off course in a wild storm, barely surviving, but landing on the shores of an unknown land. After earning the friendship of the people there, they help fight off an invasion by the ruthless Ghostface tribe. (Adapted from publisher)	F	386	Adventure; Fantasy	9780857980113



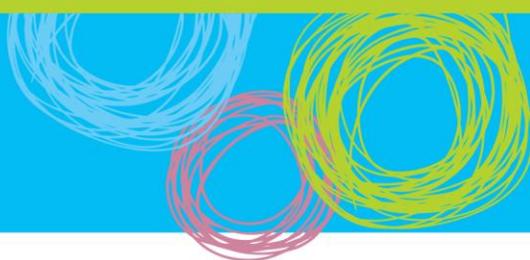
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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Frailon, Zana	The bone sparrow Subhi's imagination is as big as the ocean and wide as the sky, but his world is much smaller: he's spent his whole life in an immigration detention centre... a powerful, heartbreaking, sometimes funny and ultimately uplifting hymn to freedom and love. (Publisher)	F	234	Refugees; Detention centres; Imagination	9780734417138
French, Jackie	If the blood should stain the wattle It's 1972 in Gibber's Creek, and across the nation, the catchcry is, 'It's time'. Jackie French has woven her own experience of that time into a story of a small rural community and a nation swept into the social and political tumult of the early 1970s. (Publisher)	F	544	Historical fiction; Australian history	9781460753118
Gardner, Scot	The way we roll About a friendship between two young men. Their relationship begins with violence but Julian, for all his cursing, tats and anger, is a person who knows how to give and receive love. He rescues Will who has to learn both these things. (The Source)	F	197	Social class; Friendship Homelessness;	9781760290399
Gleitzman, Morris	Snot chocolate and other funny stories Stop your mum picking her nose, read the secret diary of a dog, catch a bus and then let it go... A collection of short stories from one of Australia's favourite authors. (Adapted from publisher)	F	162	Short stories; Humour; Reluctant readers	9780143309222
Goes, Peter	Timeline: a visual history of our world A large format book that starts with the creation of the world and ends with the current decade. Large double-paged spreads cover each era in world history. (QDET)	NF	80	World history; Time	9781776570690



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Gwynne, Phillip	Take a life [The Debt series] The sixth and final book in the series. Dom has the last Herculean task to perform, or lose a pound of flesh. The Debt's orders are clear: take a human life and the debt will be repaid. (Adapted from publisher)	F	480	Quests; Crime; Adventure;	9781742378626
Hawke, Rosanne	Dear Pakistan [Beyond borders series] Jaime Richards has spent most of her life in Pakistan and returning to Australia seems like another planet compared to the country she has left behind. How will she ever know the right things to say or do or wear? (Goodreads)	F	176	Cultural relations; Belonging	9781925139549
Herrick, Steven	Another night in mullet town A verse novel which describes the lives of Jonah and Manx, who live in a small lakeside town and spend most of their time fishing for mullet, dealing with the local bullies and girls they are too scared to talk to. The local real estate salesman is trying to sell off their town to fund his lavish lifestyle. (QDET)	F	216	Adolescents; Friendship	9780702253959
Jacobson, Megan	Yellow Kirra and the ghost make a pact. She'll prove who murdered him almost twenty years ago if he makes her popular, gets her parents back together, and promises not to haunt her. But... Kirra realises that people can be haunted in more ways than one. (Publisher)	F	259	Ghosts; Alcoholism; Mystery	9780143573333



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Jonsberg, Barry	My life as an alphabet Candice Phee is a special child with a gift for words and a family in need. In her own unique way she brings healing to her ailing family, while entertaining us all with her antics along with her friend, and suitor, Douglas Benson (from another dimension). (QDET)	F	256	Family relations; Individuality; Humour	9781743310977
Kane, Kim	When the lyrebird calls Madeleine finds herself transported back to 1900, where she befriends a family of girls and is witness to a family secret and a family tragedy - set against a backdrop of the struggles for emancipation, federation and Aboriginal rights. (Publisher)	F	302	Australian history; Australian federation; Racism	9781741758528
Kostakis, William	The sidekicks The swimmer. The rebel. The nerd. All Ryan, Harley and Miles had in common was Isaac. They lived different lives... But they shared the same best friend. They were sidekicks. And now that Isaac's gone, what does that make them? (Goodreads)	F	255	Death; Friendship; Secrets	9780143309031
Masson, Sophie	Hunter's moon A reimagined Snow White set in the modern day with trains and department stores, a very wicked stepmother and outlaws in the forest instead of dwarves. (QDET)	F	329	Fairy tales; Love; Magic	9780857986030
McKinlay, Meg	A single stone Every girl dreams of being part of the line, the chosen seven who tunnel deep into the mountain to find the harvest. But what happens when one tiny discovery makes Jena question everything she has ever known? (Publisher)	F	271	Child labour; Survival	9781925081701



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Miles, Chris	Spurt: a balls and all story Jack Sprigley isn't just a late-bloomer. He's a no-bloomer. He's about to start the last term of year eight and puberty is still a total no-show. Worse yet, he hasn't heard from his friends all holidays. (Publisher)	F	253	Adolescents; Puberty; Conformity	9781742974651
Millard, Glenda	The stars at Oktober Bend A powerful, captivating story about Alice, who is reaching out to express herself through her beautiful-broken words, and Manny who is running to escape his past. When they meet they find the tender beginnings of love and healing. (Publisher)	F	288	Child abuse; Epilepsy; Poetry	9781743315897
Moloney, James	The beauty is in the walking Jacob O'Leary has cerebral palsy and is overly protected by his parents and friends. When a gruesome crime is committed in his home town he decides to make a stand for another student who is wrongfully accused. His new found strength surprises himself and his friends and family. (QDET)	F	248	Family relations; Friendship; Independence	9780732299941
Morgan, Michelle	Flying through clouds An engaging sequel to "Racing the Moon" in which fourteen-year-old Joe Riley dreams of becoming an aviator. "Flying through Clouds" is a historical novel set mostly in Sydney in the 1930s. (A&R website)	F	246	Historical fiction; Australian history; Great Depression	9780995386501
Morgan, Sally	Sister heart The touching story of a young Aboriginal girl removed from her family and taken far away to live with other stolen children. She meets and befriends Janey and her brother Tim, and they become her new family, but this cannot last. (QDET)	F	250	Stolen Generations; Indigenous story; Verse novel	9781925163131



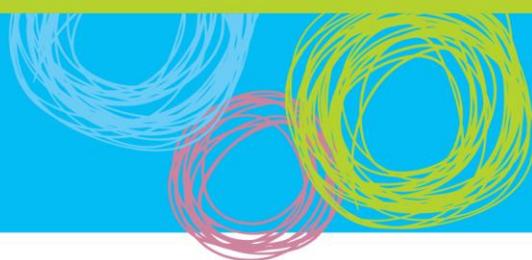
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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Niven, Jennifer	All the bright places The story of Theodore Finch and Violet Markey who meet under unusual circumstances and a unique friendship blooms. Both lives change as a result, but tragedy is never far away. (QDET)	F	388	Grief; Friendship; Loyalty	9780141357034
Pitt, Darrell	A toaster on Mars The year is 2509 and Earth is a rather polluted blue dot that suffers from global warming, overpopulation and not enough people using deodorant. Blake Carter, star agent with the Planetary Bureau of Investigation, isn't having a good day. (Publisher)	F	240	Humour; Science fiction; Detectives	9781922182869
Rodda, Emily	The Hungry Isle [Star of Deltora series] In book four of the series, the shadows that haunt the ship are deepening. Britta and her friends are swept into peril by strange currents. Lives hang in the balance and shock follows as Britta's quest to escape her past reaches its tumultuous climax. (Adapted from publisher)	F	170	Magic; Adventure; Courage	9781742991337
Rowling, J.K.; Thorne, Jack; Tiffany, John	Harry Potter and the cursed child It's always difficult being Harry Potter and it isn't much easier now that he's an employee of the Ministry of Magic, a husband, and father of three children. While Harry grapples with the past, his youngest son Albus struggles with the weight of a family legacy... (Adapted from publisher)	F	350	Magic; Family	9780751565355



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Russell, Rachel Renee	Frenemies forever [Dork diaries series] Nikki is spending a week at North Hampton Hills as part of the school transfer programme, but unfortunately her arch enemy Mackenzie started there two weeks ago! Then she comes face to face with Tiffany, who takes meanness to a whole new level. (Adapted from publisher)	F	310	Friendship; School story; Reluctant readers	9781471158032
Smale, Holly	Head over heels [Geek girl series] Harriet Manners knows almost every fact there is. And for once, Harriet knows exactly how her life should go. She's got it ALL planned out. So when love is in the air, Harriet is determined to make things happen! (Publisher)	F	400	School story; Friendship	9780007574650
Stephens, John	The black reckoning [Books of Beginning series] The final book in the Books of Beginning trilogy. The adventures of siblings Kate, Michael, and Emma come to a conclusion when they must find the last Book of Beginning, the Book of Death before the Dire Magnus does. (Publisher)	F	432	Magic; Adventure; Time travel	9780385755788
Tarakson, Stella; Morden, Richard (illus)	Aliens, ghosts and vanishings: strange and possibly true Australian stories Did a UFO drag a family's car off the road in the middle of the Outback? How did rocks rain from the sky in WA? Explore the strangest tales, most incredible encounters and creepiest urban legends in Australia's history. (Publisher)	NF	282	Mythology; Mysteries; Australian history	9781925324969



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Author	Title and book summary	JF/F/NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Weetman, Nova	Everything is changed Jake and Alex. Best mates. One terrible mistake. Two lives that will never be the same. Told in reverse, this powerful and gritty novel moves through the wreckage of a broken friendship, back to the moment when everything changed. (Publisher)	F	272	Friendship; Guilt; Accidents	9780702254161
Whamhower, Shogun; McKenzie, Heath (illus)	Nerdy ninjas vs the really really scary guys [Nerdy ninjas series] In the second book in the series, Ben finds a troll's cloak, and a mystery ninja from SNOT (Secret Ninja Operational Team) is stalking monsters in the forest. (Adapted from The Source)	F	123	Humour; Adventure; Reluctant readers	9781742830278
Zorn, Claire	One would think the deep Sam has always had things going on in his head that no one else understands, even his mum. And now she's dead, it's worse than ever. Sam goes to live with his aunt and cousins and ghosts of the past catch up with him. (Adapted from publisher)	F	305	Grief; Relationships; Surfing	9780702253942

