

Claire Linney's Inclusive Library hit list: top book recommendations for ages 6+



"I think we need to make sure we curate and recommend inclusive books within all genres and topics, meeting children's passion points and interests. That's why I've pulled these recommendations together – to highlight diverse experiences and identities in books across many different areas. I hope there are some new titles in here for you to explore."

📷 @claire_linney

clairelinney.com



***Aliya to the Infinite City* by Laila Rifaat (Age 9+)**

An Egyptian-inspired time travelling magic school and a dangerous hidden legacy.



***Almost Sunset* by Wahab Algarmi (Age 9+)**

A story about balancing friendships, football and Ramadan, brought to life with bold illustrations.



***Alyssa and the Spell Garden* by Alexandra Sheppard (Age 9+)**

A heartwarming magical story celebrating community, dangers of gentrification and the power of nature.



***Anzu and the Realm of Darkness* by Mai K. Nguyen (Age 9+)**

A dark and thrilling graphic novel of one girl's journey through the spirit world.



***Bobby Bains Plays a Blinder* by Bali Rai (Age 9+, Dyslexia Friendly)**

Football-focused drama looking at intergenerational relationships, equality and the Sikh religion.



***City of Stolen Magic* by Nazneen Ahmed Pathak (Age 9+)**

A stunning fantasy adventure blending magic, colonialism and Victorian history.



***Cosmic Cadets and the Universal Uni-Korn* by Ryan Crawford; illustrated by Rochelle Falconer (Age 6+)**

A space adventure packed with aliens, gadgets, glitter and mayhem. And a wonderfully unapologetic protagonist, space cadet Gloria.



***Dead Yard: Seeds of Doom* by P.J. Kilburn; illustrated by Markus Jenai (Age 9+)**

A spooky tale inspired by Caribbean folklore as ancient terrors come to West London.



***Fable House* by E. L. Norry (Age 9+)**

A group of mixed-race orphans find themselves on magical quests against the changelings invading their village with the help of a Black Arthurian knight.



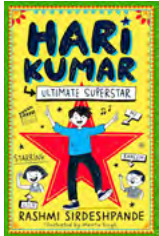
***Go-Man: Champion of Earth* by Hamish Steele (Age 6+)**

A lonely autistic boy searches for friendship while developing powers to battle giant monsters threatening his city.



***Guardians of the New Moon: Ming and Miaow's Great Race* by Eric Huang; illustrated by Phung Nguyen Quang (Age 6+)**

A fun adventure inspired by Chinese mythology and the origins of the lunar years.



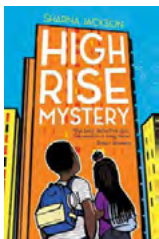
***Hari Kumar: Ultimate Superstar* by Rashmi Sirdeshpande; illustrated by Mamta Singh (Age 8+)**

An action-packed doodle diary full of Bollywood dreams, friendship and chaotic fun.



***Helping Hero: Stableheart #1* by Nicci Johnson (Age 8+)**

A warm-hearted story of a girl leaving foster care to move in with her aunt and finding friendship and courage with the help of a rescue pony.



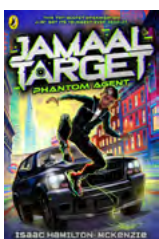
***High-Rise Mystery* by Sharna Jackson (Age 9+)**

A murder mystery starring two detective sisters living in a tower block community.



***Ice Apprentices* by Jacob North (Age 9+)**

An ice-bound fantasy filled with terrible beasts, strange magic, and family secrets. Great queer representation woven in throughout.



***Jamaal Target: Phantom Agent* by Isaac Hamilton McKenzie (Age 9+)**

A high-octane adventure featuring a super-powered boy recruited to join a top-secret agency.



***Jaz Santos Against the World* by Priscilla Mante (Age 9+)**

A funny and warm-hearted story exploring sexism in girls' football and the challenges of separated parents.



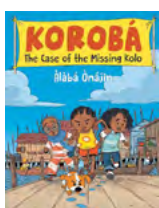
***Kicked Out* by A.M. Dassu (Age 9+)**

A powerful and inspiring story of hope, football, and overcoming prejudice and racism.



***Kofi and the Rap Battle Summer* by Jeffrey Boakye (Age 9+)**

A joyous story of friendship, rapping and nineties music.



***Korobá: The Case of the Missing Kolo* by Àlábá Ònájì (Age 6+)**

A graphic novel mystery featuring children solving clues in the fishing community of Makoko, Nigeria.



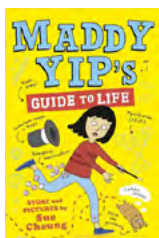
***Land of the Last Wildcat* by Lui Sit; illustrated by David Dean (Age 8+)**

A charming adventure following Puffin as she tries to return a wildcat to its home on a remote island.



***Lunar Boy* by Jes and Cin Wibowo (Age 9+)**

A heartwarming, gorgeously illustrated sci-fi graphic novel about a trans boy from the moon and his search for home. Set in a futuristic Indonesia.



***Maddy Yip's Guide to Life* by Sue Cheung (Age 8+)**

One girl's hilarious mission to discover her true talent.



***Major and Mynah* by Karen Owen; illustrated by Louie Forshaw (Age 7+)**

A girl adjusts to hearing aids and discovers they allow her to understand a Mynah bird who can help her and her friends solve a mystery.



***Marv and the Dino Attack* by Alex Falase-Koya; illustrated by Paula Bowles (Age 6+)**

Engaging illustrated series featuring a boy superhero fighting off villains with his robot sidekick.



***Murder for Two* by Niyila Farouk (Age 9+)**

A twist-filled mystery featuring a neurodivergent twins who don't get along but must team up to solve a mystery.



***Nate Yu's Blast from the Past* by Maisie Chan (Age 9+)**

A story of forgotten history, ghosts, ant farms and one boy's journey to connect with his Chinese heritage.



***Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun* by Tolá Okogwu (Age 9+)**

An African futurist story about a girl whose afro hair is her superpower and the Nigerian secret organisation she joins.



***Relic Hamilton: Genie Hunter* by Joseph Coelho (Age 9+)**

An action-packed adventure involving hidden societies, time travel into London's history and vengeful genies.



***Rex Power: Invasion of the Fear Bugs* by Ramzee; illustrated by Claude TC (Age 8+)**

A madcap alien adventure packed with dinosaur bounty hunters, evil plots and daring plans, centred on two foster brothers looking out for each other.



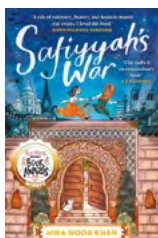
***Robot Girl* by Malorie Blackman (Age 9+, Dyslexia Friendly)**

An intriguing sci-fi story about a father-daughter relationship with an unforgettable plot twist.



***Running My Own Race* by Abena Eyeson (Age 9+)**

A joyful exploration of Black British identity, self-discovery, family, and following your dreams of being a track superstar.



***Safiyyah's War* by Hiba Noor Khan (Age 9+)**

A beautifully written World War II story about a mosque helping Jewish families escaping the Nazis. Full of family, courage, friendship and kindness.



***Silverbrook: Yumna and the Golden Horse* by Yasmin Abdel-Magied (Age 9+)**

A twist-filled mystery about a brave Muslim girl determined to uncover what's happening in her village.



***Supa Nova* by Chante Timothy (Age 6+)**

The story of a self-proclaimed 'genius scientist' Supa Nova, and the chaos caused by the plastic-eating monster she creates.



***Ten: Children Who Changed the World* by Paterson Joseph; illustrated by Rumbidzai Savanhu (Age 9+)**

Explores the lives of children who lived during a time when slavery was legal across much of the world. Written in diary extracts and letters.



***The Adventures of Team Pom: Squid Happens* by Isobel Roxas (Age 8+)**

Madcap adventure about escapee squids, a synchronised swimming team and the peanut butter mafia. Weird and very wonderful.



***The Boy to Beat the Gods* by Ashley Thorpe (Age 9+)**

A thrilling African-based adventure featuring vengeful Orishas, forbidden powers, a talking goat, epic battles, friendship and courage.



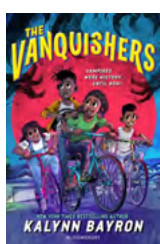
***The Cheat Book Vol 1* by Ramzee (Age 9+)**

A funny and entertaining illustrated book about the ill-advised pursuit of popularity as one boy finds a mysterious book that will tell him how to become cool.



***The Summer I Saved the Wild* by Rachel Fatureti (Age 9+)**

A story about activism, freedom, family relationships and the importance of nature.



***The Vanquishers* by Kalynn Bayron (Age 9+)**

A suspenseful adventure, with a great cast of inclusive families, in which a group of friends takes on a vampire threat.



***Transcendent* by Patrick Gallagher (Age 9+)**

A fast-paced sci-fi adventure about twin mixed-race geniuses trying to save the world in a near-future Uganda. Series includes strong themes on climate activism.



***Wild Magic: Legend of the Black Lion* by Abiola Bello; illustrated by Emma McCann (Age 6+)**

Twins with magical powers – to talk to, and shapeshift into animals – embark on an adventure in Ethiopia while their dad searches for the elusive Black Lion.



***Yomi and the Ninki Nanka* by Davinia Tijani; illustrated by Adam Douglas-Bagley (Age 7+)**

An action-packed fantasy adventure that explores creatures from West African mythology as a brother and sister fight against the Sacred Beast League.