

# Year 4 Recommended Reading List: Best Books for 8 and 9 Year Olds

## Australian Literature

| Text   | Author         | About   |
|--|----------------|---|
| <b>A Banner Bold: The Diary of Rosa Aarons (My Australian Story)</b> | Nadia Wheatley | <p>This is the story of Rosa Aarons, who travelled to the Ballarat Goldfields in 1854.</p> <p>During this time, she has had to learn a lot about her family and new surroundings.</p> |

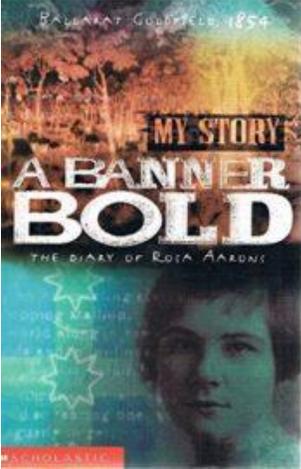


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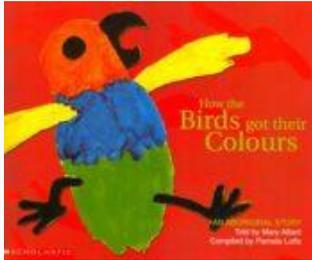
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**How the Birds Got Their Colours**

Mary Albert

This classic Aboriginal picture book uses vibrant colour, Dreamtime storytelling and a moral to explore how birds got their colours.

It also reveals the jealousy that people often feel because of others.



*Image sourced from Goodreads*

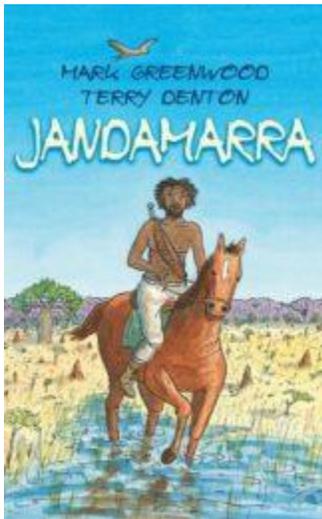
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**Jandamarra**

Mark Greenwood

Jandamarra is the story of an Aboriginal warrior who is deeply respected by the Aboriginal people. However, he is seen as an outlaw by the settlers of Australia.

This simple yet thought-provoking story shows the divided loyalty and courage needed to survive in colonial Australia.

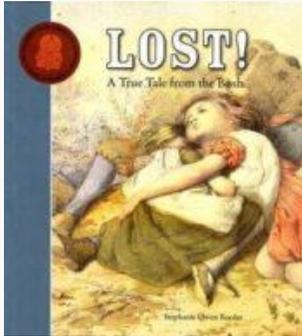


*Image sourced from Goodreads*

**Lost! A True Tale From the Bush**

Stephanie Owen Reeder

Set in 1864, this book follows the story of three young children who become lost in the Australian bush. An emotional depiction explores the perseverance that these children needed to survive.



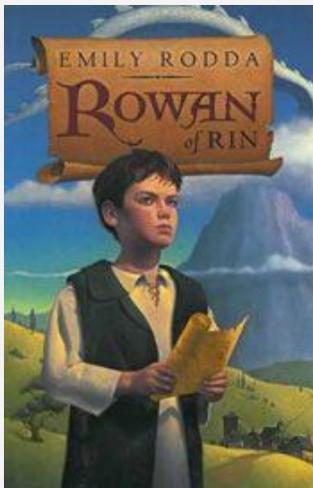
The book is dramatised from true events but includes historical information about what it was like to live in Australia in the late 1800s.

*Image sourced from Goodreads*

**Rowan of Rin**

Emily Rodda

This is the story of a young, timid boy called Rowan who has never thought of himself as a hero.



After the disappearance of villagers, Rowan must make his way up the mountain to investigate. In doing so, he is brought on a journey of self-discovery and adventure.

*Image sourced from Goodreads*

# Literary Texts from Other Countries and Times

| Text  | Author        | About  |
|---|---------------|--|
| <b>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</b>   | Lewis Carroll | <p>Alice is a little girl who follows a White Rabbit down a rabbit hole and begins a series of fantastic and curiosity filled adventures.</p> <p>Alice goes from changing sizes to playing croquet with the Queen of Hearts, and even meets a talking, grinning cat.</p>   |
|   |               |  |
| <i>Image sourced from Penguin Books Australia</i>                                   |               |  |
| <b>Deltora Quest</b>  | Emily Rodda   | <p>Deltora Quest is a childhood favourite for many. Set in a fantasy world called Deltora, it features a timid protagonist called Leif who sets out on a quest with his friends to find the seven lost gems of the Belt of Deltora.</p> <p>Attempting to stop the trio is an array of monsters such as Wenns, Ra-Kacharz and Gorl.</p> |
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| <i>Image sourced from Wikipedia</i>   |               |  |

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## Dragon Rider

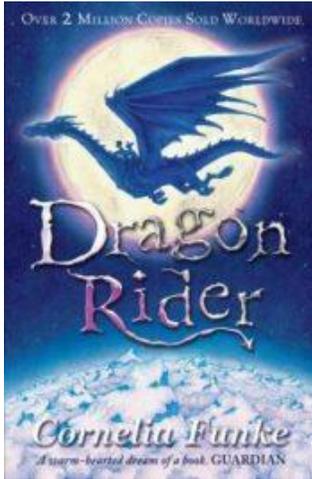


Image sourced from  
[Goodreads](#)

Cornelia  
Funke

Set in Scotland, Dragon Rider is the story of a dragon called Firedrake who discovers that his homeland is going to be flooded by humans.

Determined to stop this, he sets out with an orphan called Ben to find the mysterious Rim of Heaven, a place known to be a sanctuary for all dragons.

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## Frindle

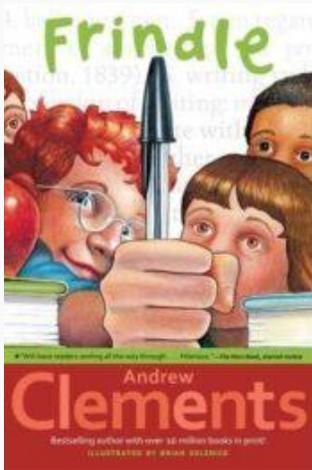


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Andrew  
Clements

Wanting to have some fun at school, Nick Allen decides to make up his own word. A pen is now called a frindle.

This fun, new invention catches on with the students in his class, although his strict teachers and principal try to stop this. Despite this, the frindle is on its way to becoming an official word.

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