

# Hi- Lo Readers

These are books with a high interest age but a low reading age. An interest age denotes a child's actual age. For struggling and reluctant readers, this is usually substantially higher than their reading age. Hi-Lo readers mean a child can read titles that are age appropriate for them, but also simple to read. There can be many reasons why a child doesn't develop good literacy skills and would find hi-lo readers useful.

- **Dyslexia**, which can make it hard to recognise and remember words and letters. A lot of hi-lo readers use a font which gives each letter a distinct shape and encourages the eye onwards.
- **Irlen Syndrome**, where words and letters can seem to jump around, it is a problem with the brain's ability to process visual information.
- **Short attention spans, hyperactivity and simple reluctance** can stop kids picking up a book.
- **Low self-esteem** can impact heavily on reading confidence. Hi-Lo readers match content and design appropriate to a reader's actual age with language at a younger level.
- **EAL learners** can find complex language confusing. Most hi-lo titles have lots of speech and illustration to help with understanding.



## Barrington Stoke

- Barrington Stoke are the most popular publishers of hi – lo books. It is an award winning publisher that specialises in books for reluctant, dyslexic and under-confident readers.
- The Barrington Stoke readers are suitable for dyslexic readers.
- Suitable for those using English as a foreign language.
- Written with a reading age of 8+ for students ranging in age from 8-13 years old.
- Uses high quality cream or off-white paper with good clear layout and typefaces
- Specially modified font to encourage a smooth read with well-spaced text and short chapters
- Clear and direct text with familiar vocabulary
- There is a lot of humour, sport and action and fast-moving openings and cliffhangers to reel children in and keep them reading.
- The layout makes sure there's no crowding. Thick paper minimises confusing show-through. Tinted pages reduce glare and visual stress, and can be used with coloured overlays. Coloured overlays help people with dyslexia and Irlen Syndrome by making text visually clearer and more comfortable to see.
- Authors are the mainstream bestsellers their peers are also reading such as Jeremy Strong, Michael Morpurgo and Malorie Blackman.

Interest age 8 - 13 years | Reading 8 years

# PIG

Meet Peter Ian Green – PIG for short. All his friends and family call him Pig. These engaging stories – all written by Pig himself – will appeal to all readers who have experienced being a child in a world that is sometimes a bit too much for them.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 8 – 9 years



## Boffin Boy

One of Ransom's best-selling series, Boffin Boy is great for getting boys reading. These books are action-packed comic-style page turners, with plenty of humour. But the books are carefully designed with good fonts, lower case text, speech bubbles and captions to make them accessible to pupils with a lower reading age. Rising Stars Publishers.

Interest age 8 – 12 years | Reading age 6 – 8 years.



## Goal!

Goal! is ideal for children who are struggling to develop the basics of reading and who need structured books with a higher-interest age. There are 48 fiction and non-fiction titles, covering a wide variety of football-related topics and stories including books written by leading professional football players (both male and female). Rising Stars Publishers.

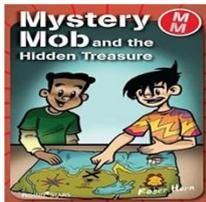
Interest age 9– 12 years | Reading age 6 – 8 years



## The Jags

This 12-part series of short-chapter fiction uses an involving story of a junior football team to engage reluctant boy readers. The stories are told in an amusing and slightly irreverent style that boys will love, with appropriately leveled language. Includes non-fiction pages – quizzes, character cards and facts. Rising Stars Publishers.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Mystery Mob

Laugh out loud stories to engage your reluctant boy readers featuring a gang of six boys getting into scrapes as they investigate strange mysteries. Includes non-fiction pages – quizzes, character cards and facts. Rising Stars Publishers.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Spook Squad

The Spook Squad are Roxy, Leena, Nita, Emma and (whether they want him or not) Rattle the poltergeist. And they have a job to do: to protect humans from ghouls, ghosts, long-legged beasts and things that go bump in the night. The books have fantastic black and white line drawings and full of jokes, 'facts' about the Spook Squad, maps of locations, these books are ideal for girls who want a fun read. This series is a good starting point for getting girls into chapter books. Rising Stars Publishers.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years

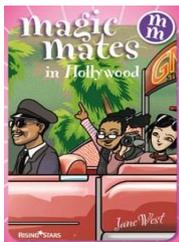


## GirlFriendZ

Exciting action-packed stories that will appeal to particularly girls aged 8 to 12.

Meet Liv, Kelly, Eve, Charlotte and Yaz. They are GirlFriendZ – the number one band in the world. But now the evil Zargons are in control. Their MIB (Music is Banned) agents are hunting down musicians. The girls go on the run, determined to keep music alive by playing secret gigs for their fans and staying one step ahead of their enemy! Rising Stars Publishers.

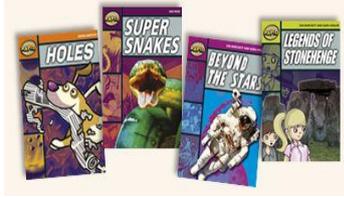
Interest age 9 – 12 years | Reading age 9 - 10 years



## Magic Mates

The Magic Mates series of high interest age, low reading age books has been created to encourage girls to get reading. The series features a group of six girls doing girls stuff hanging out, keeping each other out of mischief and having some spooky adventures. Includes 12 stories, each featuring two girls from the Magic Mates. Text is presented in a play script style ideal for paired or guided reading. Includes non-fiction pages, quizzes, character cards, jokes and facts.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Rapid Reading

These books are designed for one-to-one reading sessions and are very specifically graded by reading age.

With over 112 print books to choose from, there's plenty in each fine level to give repeat practice to children who may move on to the next level slowly - and there's a wide variety of highly engaging topics from animals to space travel to hook in even the most reluctant boys. Each book contains two different texts - fiction and non-fiction - around a single theme special dyslexic-friendly font.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Gigglers

Gigglers are humorous stories to motivate even your most reluctant reader. Full-colour illustrations bring these funny stories to life. The first set of the Gigglers series has very short, easy-to-read stories and the length and complexity of the stories grows as you progress up the levels of Gigglers. Additional features include a character page and illustrated glossary.

Interest age 7 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Sparklers

Sparklers are high interest, well-written and often quirky stories of people in unusual situations. These hi-lo readers have short, manageable chapters which help pupils stay in the reading experience.

Interest age 8 – 12 years | Reading age 8 years



## **Wolf Hill**

Wolf Hill is from Roderick Hunt and Alex Brychta, creators of the Oxford Reading Tree. The stories deal with the real-world adventures of a group of friends who live in an area called Wolf Hill. The children experience lively, amusing adventures and the stories also deal with issues about friendship, school and life in a modern urban environment.

The books are designed to look like popular novels for older children with a spine and chapters, boosting confidence and interest of those who may have been stuck on reading scheme books aimed at younger children.

Books are available from Level 1 to 5 and are carefully graded through the levels.

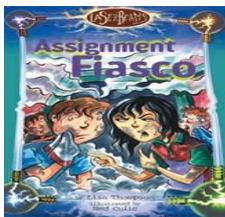
Interest age 7 - 11 years | Reading age 5 - 8 years



## **Library of Doom**

Meet the mysterious Librarian. Keeper of the world's most dangerous books, sworn enemy of monsters made of paper and ink, crusader of young people threatened by ancient curses. Enter the Library of Doom, where the Librarian's exploits merge heart-pounding tales with startling artwork. There are 6 titles in this set.

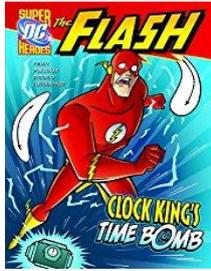
Interest age 10 – 14 years | Reading age 7 to 9 years



## **Laser Beams**

The Laser Beams series tackles issues relevant to 8-12 year olds- values are questioned and ethical dilemmas highlighted throughout the series. Laser Beams have all the good qualities of Sparklers but with a look and appeal for older readers. Each title is 80 pages long and highly illustrated. They are designed to inspire children who find reading a chore.

Interest age 9 + years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## DC Heroes

These DC comics chapter books feature the world's greatest superheroes: Superman, Batman and Wonder Woman. These full colour chapter books, with original art by DC illustrators will captivate young readers and give them glowing examples of bravery, loyalty, and true heroism.

Interest age 8 – 12 years | Reading age 7 to 8 years



## Trailblazers Series

The Trailblazers series is written for older children and young adults with a reading age of 5 to 8. Each book is on a popular topic, with a colourful layout, combining fiction and non-fiction. The fiction story appears in two formats – one with simple texts for struggling readers; the facing pages contain an illustrated “speech bubble” version of the same story, for those who are just starting to learn to read. The vocabulary of each book is carefully limited, with simple sentences.

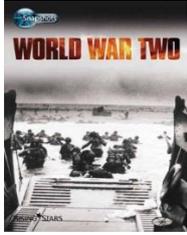
Interest age 8 – 12 years | Reading age 5 - 8 years



## Dark Man

This is by far the most successful series of books for engaging older, very reluctant readers including teenagers. It's been acclaimed around the world and has acquired a well-deserved reputation for succeeding where other series have failed. The stories are each between 200 and 400 words in length (36 pages). Dark Man are simple horror books with atmospheric storylines combined with powerful black and white illustrations.

Interest age 11– 14 years | Reading age 5 – 8 years



## Snapshots

The Snapshots series of colourful and visually appealing Books is designed to engage 9 to 14 year old reluctant readers. With their bold design and familiar subject matter – from battles to Batman – these books are perfect for guided reading and for encouraging less able readers to enjoy reading alone.

- High interest, low reading age books to entice students back to reading
- Covers a range of interesting topics including comics, graphic novels and animation

In association with NASEN, the National Association for Special Educational Needs

Interest age 9 – 14 + years | Reading age 6- 7 years

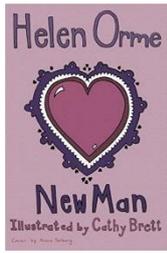


## Thunderbolts

By David and Helen Orme

A series of levelled reading books covering popular non-fiction topics, with particular appeal to older readers. These books combine a non-fiction section with a fiction story on the same topic. With strong, colourful photographs and illustrations throughout, these books are ideal for engaging older, struggling readers and building their confidence in reading. Accompanying workbooks are available. Set 1 has no words, allowing readers with the greatest difficulty to engage.

Interest age 7 – 14 years | Reading age 5 – 7 years



## **Siti's Sisters**

A series of fast-moving, perfectly pitched stories about a group of girls who call themselves 'The Sisters'. These popular stories cover all sorts of real-life issues that readers will eagerly relate to. Illustrated with contemporary black and white illustrations throughout, each fast-moving story offers simple sentences, controlled vocabulary and low word counts.

Interest age 10 – 14 years | Reading age 7 – 8 years

### **Graphic Novels and Comics**

Graphic novels can be a great starting point for reluctant readers. Visually exciting with exciting narratives, they can tell gripping stories without too many words.

### **Publishers of Hi-Lo books**

Barrington Stoke

Heinemann Raintree

Ransom

Franklin Watts Edge