



CUSP Early Foundations

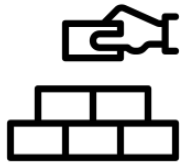
EYFS Literature Spine

Core texts

Academic year 2023 - 24

CUSP EYFS offer

The **CUSP Early Foundations** offer is presented in three parts:



1. Foundational knowledge: what pupils should know and be able to do throughout the EYFS and how this will support their development and prepare them for Key Stage 1



2. Opportunities and experiences: how this foundational knowledge can be learnt through play and through guided activities that will allow pupils to explore, experiment with and think hard about new and important concepts



3. Structured Story Time: core texts that will introduce key language, ideas and themes that pupils will need to access the foundational knowledge, built into a framework that uses all that we know about effective literacy instruction

Principles of Structured Story Time

We understand the fundamental importance of all pupils having access to rich language from the earliest possible stage. We also understand that great Early Years practice responds to pupils' needs, talents and interests. For this reason, the *CUSP EYFS Core Literature Spine* sets out twenty-five core texts that have been carefully selected for each of the following three age ranges:

- 2 – 3 years
- 3 – 4 years
- 4 – 5 years.

These core texts contain key themes, ideas and language that we believe are fundamental for laying strong foundations in the EYFS and beyond. This leaves space in the academic year for schools to select key texts based on the cohorts that they are teaching. Each core text will be presented with a *Structured Story Time* plan, outlining how teachers can use these texts across the course of a week to best effect. This includes vocabulary instruction, fluency and oracy opportunities and *Thinking Hard* questions.

Further opportunities to explore these texts will be planned directly into the *Opportunities and experiences* aspect of the **CUSP Early Foundations** offer.

Key themes



Revisiting authors

such as Oliver Jeffers – *Lost and Found* (2 – 3) and *The Way Back Home* (3 – 4)



Heritage texts / traditional tales / classics

such as *Ladybird Favourite Nursery Rhymes* (2 – 3 and 3 – 4) and *Winnie-the-Pooh Helps the Bees* (4 – 5)



Diversity of representation – author or protagonist

such as *My Hair* (3 – 4) and *Shu Lin's Grandpa* (4 – 5)



Strong female role model

such as *Meg and Mog* (2 – 3) and *Astro Girl* (3 – 4)



Specific social, ethical, moral issues / PSED







































such as *Home* (3 – 4) and *Luna Loves Art* (4 – 5)



Curriculum links

such as *The Extraordinary Gardener* (3 – 4) and *Martha Maps It Out* (4 – 5)






























Age 2 – 3

I Want To Be ... Becky Davies 	Favourite Nursery Rhymes Ladybird  	Ravi's Roar Tom Percival 	Dear Zoo Rod Campbell 	Billy And The Beast Nadia Shireen  
Oi Frog! Kes Gray 	Nurse? Not today! Rebecca Patterson 	Oliver's Vegetables Vivian French  	Hey, Water! Antoinette Portis  	Rain Before Rainbows Smriti Halls  
The Big Book Of Kindness Pat-a-Cake 	My First Heroes series Campbell Books 	Goldilocks and the Three Bears Mara Alperin 	Lost and Found Oliver Jeffers  	Meg and Mog Helen Nicoll 
Funnybones Janet & Allan Ahlberg 	You Choose Pippa Goodhart 	People Need People Benjamin Zephaniah  	In Every House, on Every Street Jess Hitchman  	Who Are You? Smriti Halls   
Elephant in my Kitchen! Smriti Halls  	Come Over To My House Eliza Hull and Sally Rippin 	I Want My Hat Back Jon Klassen  	Wow! Said The Owl Tim Hopgood 	Mabel and the Mountain Kim Hillyard  
Favourite Nursery Rhymes (Ladybird) <i>Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes; Incy Wincy Spider; Humpty Dumpty; Twinkle, Twinkle; Row, Row, Row Your Boat; Wheels on the Bus</i>				

Key themes

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-  Heritage texts / traditional tales / classics
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Age 3 – 4

The Dot Peter H Reynolds 	Favourite Nursery Rhymes Ladybird 	All through the night Polly Faber 	The Same But Different Too Karl Newson 	The Extraordinary Gardener Sam Boughton  
I Am Nefertiti Annemarie Anang  	What Happened to You? James Catchpole 	Splash Claire Cashmore  	The Good Egg Jory John 	Astro Girl Ken Wilson-Max  
The Worrysaurus Rachel Bright  	Tidy Emily Gravett 	Errol's Garden Gillian Hibbs  	A Great Big Cuddle Michael Rosen 	The Queen's Hat Steve Antony 
The Three Little Pigs Mara Alperin 	The Body Book Hannah Alice  	My Hair Hannah Lee  	Tiddler Julia Donaldson 	The Suitcase Chris Naylor-Ballesteros
Home is Where the Birds Sing Cynthia Rylant 	Do Baby Elephants Suck Their Trunks? Ben Lerwill  	My Family and Other Families Richard and Lewis Edwards-Middleton 	The Way Back Home Oliver Jeffers 	You Choose Fairy Tales Pippa Goodhart
Favourite Nursery Rhymes (Ladybird) <i>Hey Diddle Larwill; Five Little Ducks; Hickory Dickory Dock; Five Currant Buns; Miss Polly</i>				

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Age 4 – 5

Bear Shaped Dawn Coulter-Cruttenden 	The Invisible Tom Percival 	The Squirrels Who Squabbled Rachel Bright  	Each Peach Pear Plum Allan and Janet Ahlberg 	What Makes me a Me? Matt Goodfellow 
Shu Lin's Grandpa Ben Faulks  	Pumpkin Soup Helen Cooper 	Mrs Noah's Garden Jackie Morris 	Winnie-the-Pooh Helps the Bees! Catherine Shoolbred  	The Dark Lemony Snicket 
Luna Loves Art Joseph Coelho  	It's a No-Money Day Kate Milner 	I'm (almost) Always Kind Anna Milbourne 	The Story Orchestra Katy Flint 	Standing Up to Racism Dr Pragya Agarwal  
The Gingerbread Man Mara Alperin 	Anansi and the Golden Pot Taiye Selasi  	Celebrations Around The World Katy Halford 	William Bee's Things That Go! William Bee 	Tad Benji Davies  
Clean Up! Nathan Bryon   	Mr Wolf's Pancakes Jan Fearnley 	Martha Maps It Out Leigh Hodgkinson  	The Wonder Faye Hanson 	Chicken Clicking Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross 
Favourite Nursery Rhymes (Ladybird) - woven in throughout the core spine units <i>Ten Green Bottles; Hot Cross Buns; 1 Potato ...; Old Mother Hubbard; Jack and Jill</i>				

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