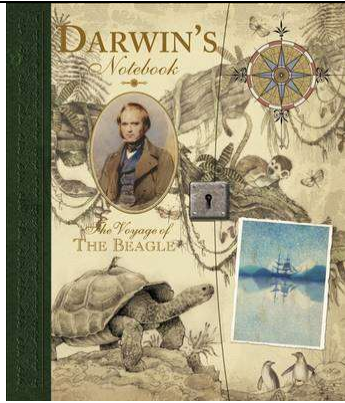
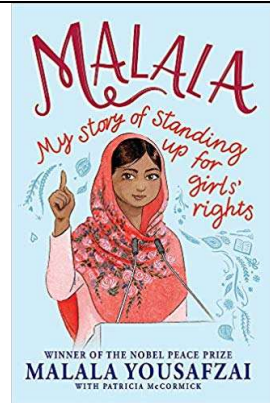



Rich Texts for Writing Genres Year 6

Genre	Newspaper	Recount (eg. Diary/ Memoir)	Information Texts/ Explanations etc	Biography	Letter
Picture Book	 <p>Illegal by Eoin Colfer (A fantastic Graphic novel where images and dialogue can be used to build in newsworthy events about the difficult situation of asylum seeking)</p> <p>This is a powerful and timely story about one boy's epic journey across Africa to Europe, a graphic novel for all children with glorious colour artwork throughout.</p>	 <p>The Lion and the Unicorn by Shirley Hughes (World War 2 theme, opportunities for personal recount with biographical links, a picture story)</p> <p>When Lenny's father goes to fight in the Second World War he gives his son a brass badge with two animals engraved on it: a lion for bravery and a unicorn for courage. Then, Lenny himself must go away, evacuated from his home and family to escape the bombing. Staying in a strange new place, Lenny gathers all his lion bravery, all his unicorn courage, and discovers that magic <i>can</i> happen, even in the most desperate of times.</p>	 <p>The Pebble in my Pocket (Great non-chronological writing, use of all features including several diagrams linked to Evolution, earth formation scientific research and lots of technical vocabulary)</p> <p>Where do pebbles come from? How were they made? This book tells the story of a pebble, from its origins in a fiery volcano 480 million years ago to a busy, modern landscape. Readers follow the processes of rock formation and erosion that create new pebbles all over the world.</p>	 <p>Hidden Figures by Margot Shetterly (Strong themes of race, gender discrimination and classism. Lots of non-fictional genres overlapping including timelines, information texts, factual recounts)</p> <p>This is the incredibly inspiring true story of four black women who helped NASA launch men into space. Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden were good at math...<i>really</i> good. They participated in some of NASA's greatest successes, like providing the calculations for America's first journeys into space.</p>	 <p>This Morning I Met a Whale by Michael Morpurgo (There are loads of writing opportunities, from environmental information pamphlets, persuasive letters and news reports.)</p> <p>A fictional account of the day a whale swam up the Thames, in which the whale makes an environmental plea to the boy who first sees him. At sunrise, young Michael spots a whale on the shores of the Thames and thinks he must be dreaming. But the creature is real and it has a message for him – one that only an open-minded child can deliver to the rest of the world.</p>

Genre	Newspaper	Recount (eg. Diary/ Memoir)	Information Texts/ Explanations etc	Biography	Letter
Novel/ Text	<p>Journey to Jo'Burg by Beverley Naido (Other cultures, themes of racism, justice and equality with several examples of newspaper quotes, structured language for information, diagrams etc)</p> <p>This is the story of love, commitment and the flowering of the human spirit against the background of South Africa's apartheid. Frightened that their baby sister Dineo will die, thirteen-year-old Naledi and her younger brother Tiro run away from their grandmother to Johannesburg to find their mother, who works there as a maid. Their journey illustrates at every turn the grim realities of apartheid - the pass laws, bantustans, racism, the breakdown of family life.</p>	 <p>Charles Darwin and the Beagle Adventure by Amanda Wood (Great links to evolution as well as recount writing of the full range. The vocabulary is rich with lots of opportunities to teach etymology through Latin)</p> <p>This lavish account of Darwin's life and of the voyage of the Beagle from 1831 to 1836 provides the most detailed but accessible account for children about Darwin, his discoveries and a part of his life that was so important to our understanding of evolution. Through straightforward text and extracts from his diary together with pull-out charts of the Beagle route, fact flaps, envelopes with letters and lots more it is sure to keep any reader, child or adult amused for hours and provides a personal and scientific account of the experiences that shaped and sharpened Darwin's mind including the plants, the people and the animals he encountered.</p>	 <p>Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman (Challenging vocabulary – a good opportunity to explore tier 3 technical vocabulary , science research focused on heart transplants)</p> <p>You're thirteen. All you want is a normal life. But most normal kids don't need heart transplants. So there's this doctor. He says there's a chance for you. But he also says it's experimental, controversial and risky. And it's never been done before.</p>	 <p>Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights by Malala Yousafzai (Filled with good vocabulary, links to other cultures, and good opportunity to debate about gender issues in another context, good for one sided arguments and biographical writing)</p> <p>The remarkable story of a teenage girl who risked her life for the right to go to school. Raised in a changing Pakistan by an enlightened father from a poor background and a beautiful, illiterate mother, Malala was taught to stand up for her beliefs. When terrorists took control of her region and declared that girls were forbidden from going to school, Malala refused to sacrifice her education.</p>	 <p>Bloom by Nicola Skinner (A humorous look at puberty and the challenges it brings – this book has several writing opportunities that overlap including newspaper writing, a letter to the headteacher to change the rules and has a lot of cynicism/ sarcasm that will appeal to year 6 end of the year post-SATs)</p> <p>Sorrel Fallowfield is growing up – in a REALLY surprising way... Sorrel Fallowfield is so good at being good that teachers come to her when they need help remembering the school rules – and there are LOTS. Luckily, Sorrel doesn't have any trouble following them, until the day she discovers a faded packet of Surprising Seeds buried under a tree in her backyard.</p>

Genre	Poetry	Argument	Narrative	Descriptive Writing
Picture Book/ light reads	 <p>The Harmonica by Tony Johnston (Biographical poetry, non rhyming with rich images, Holocaust theme)</p> <p>This powerful story, inspired by the life of a Holocaust survivor, is a testament to the human spirit and the transcendent power of music. When the Nazis invaded Poland, a family is split apart. The parents are sent to one concentration camp, their son to another. Only his father's gift, a harmonica, keeps the boy's hopes alive and, miraculously, ensures his survival. When an officer discovers his talent, he makes the boy play each night. Through music the boy invokes his parents and brings comfort to the other prisoners, lifting their spirits if only for a moment at time.</p>	 <p>The Island by Armin Greder (Strong themes of alienation, slavery, migration and brilliant for debates on social responsibility, citizenship and political reactions to immigrants, good for balanced arguments)</p> <p>When the people of the Island discover a man and a tattered raft on their beach, they are reluctant to take him in. He doesn't look like them. But they cannot send him back to the sea where he will surely perish. Instead, they put him aside but even that doesn't solve their problem. The Island is an astonishing and powerful picture book about refugees, xenophobia, multiculturalism, social politics and human rights. It tackles big themes in subtle ways with a fable-like text and stunning artwork that will provoke discussion.</p>	 <p>The Arrival by Shaun Tan (Themes of migration/ refugees/ empathy, wordless picture book)</p> <p>What drives so many to leave everything behind and journey alone to a mysterious country, a place without family or friends, where everything is nameless and the future is unknown. This silent graphic novel is the story of every migrant, every refugee, every displaced person, and a tribute to all those who have made the journey.</p>	 <p>The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes (Excellent links to poetry- very descriptive and challenging vocabulary, strong metaphorical language)</p> <p>In Alfred Noyes's thrilling poem, charged with drama and tension, we ride with the highwayman and recoil from the terrible fate that befalls him and his sweetheart Bess, the landlord's daughter.</p>

Genre	Poetry	Argument	Narrative	Descriptive Writing
<p>Novel/ Text</p>	 <p>The Colour Thief by Andrew Fusek Peters & Polly Peters (This picture book is bursting with rich language that would be perfect for writing poetry) The Colour Thief is a tender tale of a father's struggle with depression and the distance it drives between him and his family. But this is a story of hope and love and the journey towards getting a life back on track.</p>	 <p>Skellig by David Almond (This is a story that hinges on the choices the characters make. Should Michael tell people about Skellig? Will Michael help Skellig? Can Mina be trusted? And many more opportunities for discussing the pros and cons involved. Extend this to written work by exploring the issue of home schooling versus attending school. What are the advantages?) When a move to a new house coincides with his baby sister's illness, Michael's world seems suddenly lonely and uncertain. Then, one Sunday afternoon, he stumbles into the old, ramshackle garage of his new home, and finds something magical. A strange creature - part owl, part angel, a being who needs Michael's help if he is to survive. With his new friend Mina, Michael nourishes Skellig back to health, while his baby sister languishes in the hospital.</p>	 <p>The Explorer by Katherine Rundell (Great for varied openers including 'ing' openers, links to Amazon rainforest so could easily influence a non-chronological report) From his seat in the tiny aeroplane, Fred watches as the mysteries of the Amazon jungle pass by below him. He has always dreamed of becoming an explorer, of making history and of reading his name amongst the lists of great discoveries. If only he could land and look about him. As the plane crashes into the canopy, Fred is suddenly left without a choice. He and the three other children may be alive, but the jungle is a vast, untamed place. With no hope of rescue, the chance of getting home feels impossibly small. Except, it seems, someone has been there before them...</p>	 <p>The Amazing Tale of Ali Pasha (Set up a news room, write letters home from the trenches and look at maps of the war to give children a global perspective.) On 6th May 1915, Henry Friston, a 21-year-old seaman, re-joined his battleship after ten days in Hell. Hell was just 180 metres long and seven metres wide and was otherwise known only as 'X Beach', Gallipoli. Henry, ferrying the wounded from the battlefield, had not eaten or slept for three days. Then, somehow, in the midst of the bombardments, he met an unlikely companion - a tortoise.</p>