

The World of **GRAPHIC NOVELS**

Explore with 7-11 year olds

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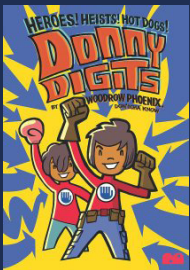
Children's Graphic Novels as recommended by Comics Laureate Bobby Joseph



***Saving Sunshine* by Saadia Farugi and Shazleen Khan**

Relatable, funny, and heart-wrenchingly honest, *Saving Sunshine* is the poignant story of Muslim American siblings learning how to build each other up in a world that is too often unkind.

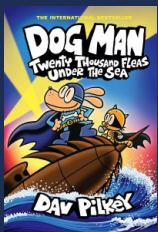
It's even harder when you're constantly fighting your sibling, but when the twins find an ailing turtle on a family holiday to Florida, it presents a rare opportunity for teamwork – if the two can put their differences aside at last.



***Donny Digits: Heroes! Heists! Hot Dogs!* by Woodrow Phoenix**

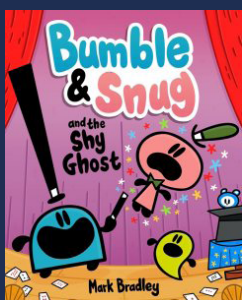
Donny Digits is the fixingest boy alive! Any machine that goes wrong, from a toaster to an ocean liner, anything at all that requires repairing, Donny can do it with the contents of his pockets and whatever is lying around, and his abilities are celebrated across the nation. Everybody loves Donny!

But would they still love him if they knew his secret? Donny has a twin brother, Dylan – and he's a menace! Everything he touches falls to bits! That's right – he is the breakingest boy alive! Can Donny save the day and keep his secret under wraps?



***Dog Man: Twenty Thousand Fleas Under The Sea* by Dav Pilkey**

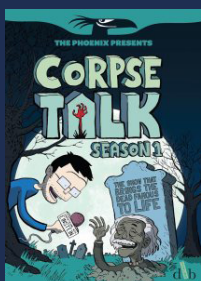
Dog Man and the rest of your favourite characters must join together to face Piggy and his most diabolical plot yet in this heroic and hilarious adventure.



***Bumble and Snug and the Shy Ghost* by Mark Bradley**

Best friends Bumble and Snug are bugbops – little monsters filled with BIG feelings! Bumble and Snug are excited to show off their magic tricks at the Bugbopolis Talent Show together with their new friend, a little ghost.

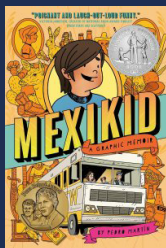
Join them as they go on a thrilling, funny adventure with a shy ghost and learn about the world outside and inside. When the little ghost gets overwhelmed and vanishes before they can begin their act, Bumble and Snug will have to save the show.



***Corpse Talk: Season 1* by Adam and Lisa Murphy**

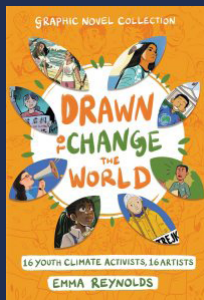
Corpse Talk is the 'show that brings the dead famous to life' in a comic-style history book that introduces the reader to historical figures in a fresh and funny way.

Join your hosts, Adam and Lisa Murphy, as they get the answers to many questions, on *Corpse Talk*, the show that brings the dead famous to life!



Mexikid by Pedro Martín

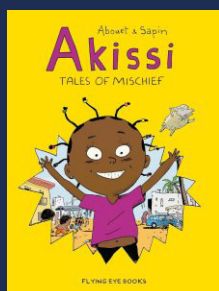
Pedro Martín has grown up hearing stories about his *Abuelito* – his legendary crime-fighting, grandfather who was once a part of the Mexican Revolution! But that doesn't mean Pedro is excited at the news that Abuelito is coming to live with their family. After all, Pedro has eight brothers and sisters, and the house is crowded enough!



Drawn to Change The World Graphic Novel Collection by Emma Reynolds

The climate crisis is reaching a critical tipping point. Emma Reynolds shines a spotlight on sixteen incredible youth activists from around the world who are fighting to protect the planet and all life on Earth and these inspiring true stories highlight the importance of taking charge and creating change.

Drawn to Change the World is for anyone who wants to learn more about the climate and nature crisis and what we can do about it.



Akissi: Tales of Mischief by Marguerite Abouet and Mathieu Sapin

Poor Akissi! The neighbourhood cats are trying to steal her fish, her little monkey Boubou almost ends up in a frying pan and she's nothing but a pest to her older brother Fofana...

But Akissi is a true adventurer full of silliness and mischief, and nothing will scare her for long!



Bunny vs Monkey: Bunny Bonanza! by Jamie Smart

Monkey and the gang are on a hunt to find Bunny, after he mysteriously disappeared... On their search they'll be bamboozled by Old Bunny, Neanderbunny, the mysterious Shadow Bunny and the always-confusing Not Bunny. Will they ever find their faithful friend?

It's a rollicking race to the rightful rabbit in this cornucopia of chuckles!

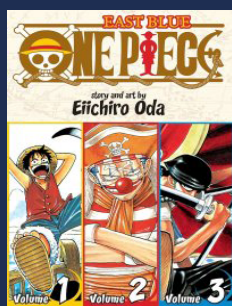


Juniper Mae: Knight of Tykotech City by Sarah Soh

Tykotech City is home to the most incredible technology you've ever seen, but something is going horribly wrong with all of it and there's only one tiny inventor that stands between the city and total darkness... Building her own gadgets in her dad's repair shop, Juniper Mae is a certified kid wonder. But a slight malfunction with one of her latest inventions causes her to crash-land in the dangerous forests around her city, and there she discovers a whole world of mystery

When a catastrophic series of events threaten to destroy her home, it's finally time for Juniper Mae to don her own armour and step into the spotlight.

Manga titles as recommended by Comics Laureate Bobby Joseph



One Piece (Omnibus Edition), Volume 1 by Eiichiro Oda

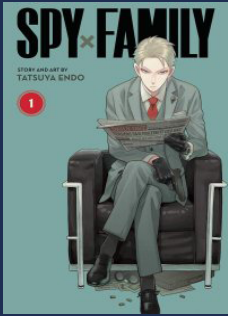
As a child, Monkey D. Luffy dreamed of becoming King of the Pirates. But his life changed when he accidentally ate the Gum-Gum Fruit, an enchanted Devil Fruit that gave him the ability to stretch like rubber. Its only drawback? He'll never be able to swim again—a serious handicap for an aspiring sea dog! Years later, Luffy sets off on his quest to find the 'One Piece,' said to be the greatest treasure in the world... Get ready to set sail and join Luffy and his swashbuckling crew in their search for the ultimate treasure, the One Piece.



***My Hero Academia, Vol 1* by Kohei Horikoshi**

What would the world be like if 80 percent of the population manifested superpowers called 'Quirks'? Heroes and villains would be battling it out everywhere! Being a hero would mean learning to use your power, but where would you go to study? The Hero Academy of course! But what would you do if you were one of the 20 percent who were born Quirkless?

Since the villains have the upper hand, even the president of the United States is considering the unthinkable—capitulating to Tomura. But Mirko, Edgeshot, and Jeanist are still on the scene, holding on for dear life. The heroes' big plan was always to pit Midoriya against Tomura, and when the young hero finally arrives and sees what's happened, all bets are off – Midoriya's ready to face his deadly rival!



***Spy x Family, Volume 1* by Tatsuya Endo**

Master spy Twilight is unparalleled when it comes to going undercover on dangerous missions for the betterment of the world. But when he receives the ultimate assignment—to get married and have a kid—he may finally be in over his head!

Not one to depend on others, Twilight has his work cut out for him procuring both a wife and a child for his mission to infiltrate an elite private school. What he doesn't know is that the wife he's chosen is an assassin and the child he's adopted is a telepath!



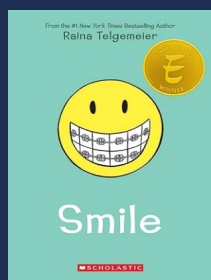
***Naruto (3-in-1 Edition)* by Masashi Kishimoto**

The epic ninja adventure that became a global phenomenon! Naruto is a young shinobi with an incorrigible knack for mischief. He's got a wild sense of humour, but Naruto is completely serious about his mission to be the world's greatest ninja!

No one takes Naruto seriously at Ninja Academy. Especially not the other students, who all are competing to be the best ninja ever and someday lead Konoha, the Village Hidden in the Leaves. Naruto and his classmates are about to embark on an adventure that takes them far beyond Ninja Academy, beyond Konoha, beyond anything they ever imagined. What is Naruto's true destiny?

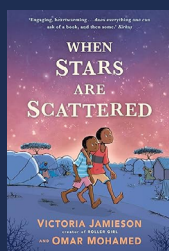
Bobby Joseph is the Comics Laureate 2023–25. He is an acclaimed comic creator whose work has often challenged and inspired its readers. Since the beginning of his career, he has been a vocal advocate for diversity and representation in comic books and he is the first person of colour to become Comics Laureate for the UK. The Comics Laureate is an ambassadorial and educational role for the comics medium and aims to raise awareness of the impact comics can have in terms of increasing literacy and creativity.

Further reading recommendations 7–11 years



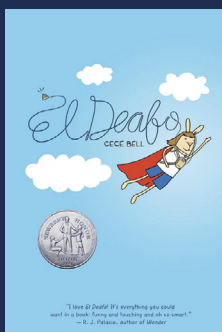
Smile by Raina Telgemeier

Raina just wanted to be a normal girl, but one night after Girl Scouts she trips and falls severely injuring her two front teeth. What follows is a long and frustrating journey with on-again, off-again braces, surgery, embarrassing headgear and even a retainer with fake teeth attached. And on top of all that, there's still more to deal with: a major earthquake, boy confusion and friends who turn out to not be so friendly.



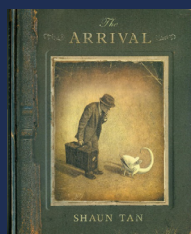
When Stars are Scattered by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed

Omar and his brother Hassan, two Somali boys, have spent a long time in the Dadaab refugee camp. Separated from their mother, they are looked after by a friendly stranger. Life in the camp isn't always easy. The hunger is constant... but there's football to look forward to, and now there's a chance Omar will get to go to school...



El Deafo by Cece Bell

El Deafo chronicles the author's hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with a powerful and very awkward hearing aid called the Phonic Ear. It gives her the ability to hear--sometimes things she shouldn't--but also isolates her from her classmates. She really just wants to fit in and find a true friend, someone who appreciates her, Phonic Ear and all. Finally, she is able to harness the power of the Phonic Ear and become 'El Deafo, Listener for All.' And more importantly, declare a place for herself in the world and find the friend she's longed for.



The Arrival by Shaun Tan

The Arrival is a wordless graphic-novel that tells the tale of an immigrant father who leaves his family in an unsafe place to work in a foreign land. He tries to find a place to live, a job and a handle on a new language. It depicts the hardships and challenges that immigrants experience when moving to a new country with a reunited family at the end looking to a hopeful future.



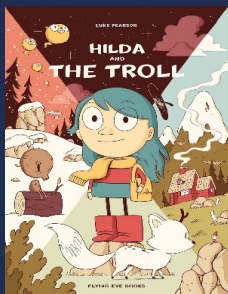
White Bird by R.J. Palacio

Julian is best-known as Auggie Pullman's classroom bully. *White Bird* reveals a new side to Julian's story, as he discovers the moving and powerful tale of his grandmother, who was hidden from the Nazis as a young Jewish girl in occupied France during the Second World War.



Amulet by Kazu Kibushi

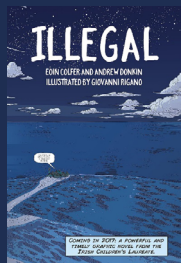
After the tragic death of their father, Emily and Navin move with their mother to the home of her deceased great-grandfather, but the strange house proves to be dangerous. Before long, a sinister creature lures the kids' mom through a door in the basement. Em and Navin, desperate not to lose her, follow her into an underground world inhabited by demons, robots, and talking animals. Eventually, they enlist the help of a small mechanical rabbit named Miskit. Together with Miskit, they face the most terrifying monster of all, and Em finally has the chance to save someone she loves.



***Hilda and the Troll* by Luke Pearson**

Meet Hilda. She can never sit still for long without setting off on another adventure. Join her in discovering a magical new universe!

While on an expedition to seek out the magical creatures of the mountains around her home, Hilda spots a mountain troll. As she draws it the blue-haired explorer starts to nod off... when she wakes, she finds herself lost in a snowstorm and her troll has totally disappeared. On her way home, Hilda ventures deep into the woods, befriends a lonely wooden man and narrowly avoids getting squashed by a lost giant.



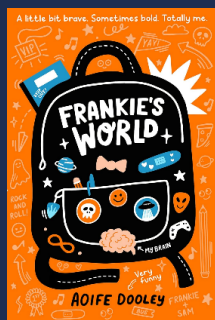
***Illegal* by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin, Illustrated by Giovanni Rigano**

Ebo is alone. His sister left months ago. Now his brother has disappeared too, and Ebo knows it can only be to make the hazardous journey to Europe. Ebo's epic journey takes him across the Sahara Desert to the dangerous streets of Tripoli, and finally out to the merciless sea. But with every step he holds on to his hope for a new life, and a reunion with his sister.



***Miles Morales: Spider-Man Vol. 1* by Saladin Ahmed and Javier Garron**

Balancing a normal life, school, friends, family and super-heroing has never been easy for Miles, but when the rampaging Rhino and a cadre of mysterious criminals start plaguing Brooklyn, things take a dark turn for the young Spider-Man! And Miles doesn't even know the half of it yet. What mystery lurks under the surface of this newest villainous uprising?

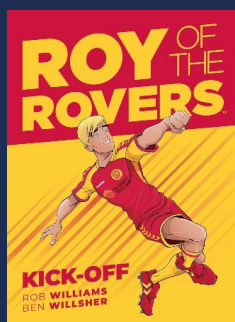


***Frankie's World* by Aoife Dooley**

Frankie knows she's not like anyone else in her class: she's different, but she can't quite figure out why. Is it the new freckle on her nose, or the fact she's small for her age? Or that she has to go to the hospital sometimes? Everyone else seems to think she's weird too, and they make fun of her at school.

Frankie's dad left when she was a baby - maybe he was different too? It would explain why she always feels like an alien. So, she and her best-friend Sam, embark on a mission to track him down.

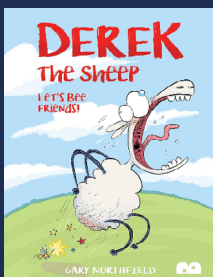
A graphic novel offering a unique perspective on Autism.



***Roy of the Rovers: Kick-Off* by Rob Williams and Ben Willsher**

Times are tough for Melchester Rovers. Languishing at the bottom of League Two, the once-proud powerhouse of British football is out of money and out of luck.

Sixteen-year-old Roy Race always dreamt of playing up front for Rovers. Oozing with natural talent and possessing a powerful left foot, Roy may just be the answer to all of Melchester's prayers. Can Roy break into the Rovers first team and bring back the glory days of old? Or will the pressure of problems on and off the pitch prove too much for the young prospect?



***Derek the Sheep: Let's Bee Friends!* by Gary Northfield**

Grumpy, but loveable sheep, Derek, is always looking for the greener grass in life, but he is constantly thwarted in his plans by the other meddlesome (and tiresome!) animals on his crazy farm!

From singing bees, angry bulls, and telly watching squirrels, Derek hurtles through farm life, destroying barns, battling magical leprechauns and cheating in a haircut competition, all for an easy life!