

# Reading beyond the classroom

## Geography, Years 7 - 9.

BYRCHALL  
HIGH SCHOOL

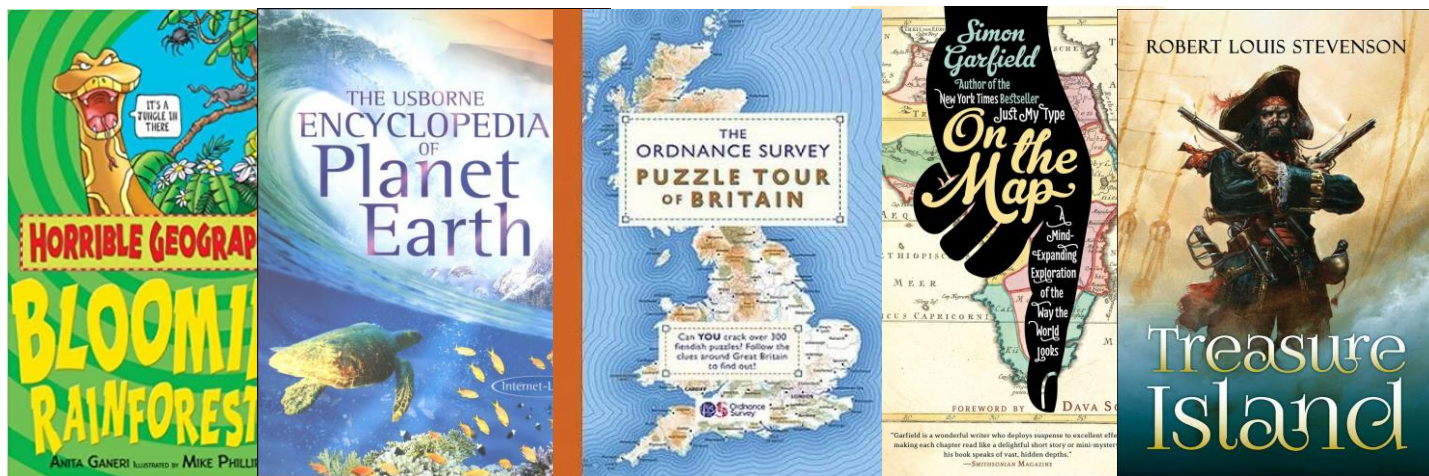
While in Years 7, 8 and 9 students should try and read a wide variety of books. Learning about the world that we live in can make us appreciate Earth as the homeland of humankind and provide insight for wise management decisions about how the planet's resources should be used. It's fascinating learning about basic physical systems that affect everyday life (e.g. earth-sun relationships, water cycles, wind and ocean currents). Let's face it, Geography impacts on all of our lives.

You may find the following websites useful in helping to choose suitable reading material for your child:

<https://www.geosociety.org/>  
<https://www.rgs.org>  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sq>  
<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/>  
<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/gcse/geography>  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk>  
<https://www.natgeokids.com>

These websites will provide you with recommendations from students, parents and critics across the country.

In addition to this, our recommendations follow below. These texts do not form part of our schemes of work so reading them will not spoil students' enjoyment of future lessons. They will most likely complement the work we do.



### Lower School

#### Non-Fiction

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geographies*

A guide to everything you need to know about Geography: Rainforests, Cracking Coasts, Desperate Deserts, Earth-Shattering Earthquakes, Freaky Peaks, Monster Lakes, Odious Oceans, Raging Rivers, Stormy Weather and Violent Volcanoes.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Odious Oceans*

A guide to oceans with the gritty bits left in! Read the reporter's guide to the seabed; uncover the details of the Titanic's last day; see if you're nautical enough to join the Navy; shudder at ships lost in the Bermuda Triangle; and tremble over modern-day pirates who terrorize the seas.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Stormy Weather*

Read about the frozen turtles falling out of the sky, the man struck by lightning seven times who survived, the weather-watchers flying straight into the eye of a hurricane. Or read the weather safety manual, learn how to build a storm shelter or pick up survival tips on a tornado tour.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Violent Volcanoes*

Geography with the gritty bits left in! Where in the world can you: Find red-hot volcanic rocks the size of cars? Visit geysers that could boil you alive? Sniff some stinky sulphur?

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Desperate Deserts*

Geography with the gritty bits left in Does geography grind you down? fed up with miserable maps, rotten rock piles and despicable data? Wave goodbye to boring geography lessons as you step onto the scorching sands of Desperate Deserts... Shudder as you're forced to drink camel pee to stay alive.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Earth-Shattering Earthquakes*

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF HORRIBLE GEOGRAPHY! Discover what it takes to be an earthquake expert, learn how to survive when an earthquake hits, and discover how rats and snakes can predict tremors.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Raging Rivers*

Wave goodbye to boring geography lessons. This book takes us on a turbulent river tour from ice cap to ocean, read the secret diary of a brave river explorer and get to know your watery wildlife with the spotter's guide.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Bloomin' Rainforests*

Discover where in the world you can hide from vicious vampire bats, spot spiders the size of dinner plates and peer down the tallest trees in the planet.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Freaky Peaks*

Freaky Peaks takes the intrepid young explorer on a thrilling tour of the tallest mountains, from Everest to Kilimanjaro, encountering many dangers along the way, including glaciers, yetis and avalanches.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Perishing Poles*

Geography with the gritty bits left in! Wave goodbye to boring geography lessons as you venture into the chilly world of Perishing poles. Find out which polar explorers lost their toes to frostbite, how to make an igloo and all about hidden riches underneath the ice. Geography has never been so horrible!

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Intrepid Explorers*

Does geography grind you down? Fed up with miserable maps, rotten rock piles and tiresome tests? This title helps you to find out how some intrepid explorers found their way without maps, why others always travelled in disguise, and what really happened on the expeditions in their secret diaries.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Wild Islands*

Fly out to far-away shores in Wild Islands. Discover where in the world you can watch an island blow its top, see a brand-new island rising from the sea and smell an island dragon's foul breath. With a brand-new cover design, format and inside look for 2016, it's geography with even more gritty bits left in!

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Monster Lakes*

Monster Lakes sweeps young readers along on a tour of the world's most fascinating lakes. They can explore a volcanic crater lake, meet scuba-diving spiders, and hunt monsters from the deep.

Anita Ganeri

*Horrible Geography: Cracking Coasts*

Monster Lakes sweeps young readers along on a tour of the world's most fascinating lakes. They can explore a volcanic crater lake, meet scuba-diving spiders, and hunt monsters from the deep.

Anita Ganeri *Horrible Geography of the World*

Geography with the gritty bits left in! Inside you'll find out what happens when a volcano turns nasty whether you'd survive at the frozen poles how a frog can help you get a drink in the desert. Hold on tight as you embark on a whistle-stop trip around the globe taking in everything from the perishing poles to desperate deserts, stormy weather to earth-shattering earthquakes. Crammed full of far-out facts, it's the ultimate Horrible Geography guide to the planet. Geography has never been so horrible!

Lisa Watts *The Natural World (Usborne Illustrated Encyclopaedia)*

This book is packed with fascinating information about the plants and animals of our world, and the environment in which we live. Arranged Thematically, the book contains information on more than 600 species of plants and animals.

Corrine Stockley *The Usborne Book of Planet Earth*

From this book we learn how the earth was made and its age, as well as how it is constantly changing. Aspects covered are the seasons; rocks and fossils, caves, earthquakes; and volcanoes.

Encyclopaedia Britannica *Earth's Changing Environment: Crompton by Britannia*

Written for ages 10 to 17, Earth's Changing Environment gives a comprehensive look at the environment focusing on climate, greenhouse effect, global warming, and Kyoto Protocol while exploring the delicate web of life with articles on ecology, biogeography, biodiversity, endangered species, deforestation, and desertification. The effects of environmental pollution and efforts to protect the environment and to conserve its resources are also addressed.

Simon Garfield *On the Map: Mind Expanding Exploration of the Way the World Looks*

This beautiful book is something to treasure, and which will delight fans of Geography, fine art and those who wish to explore the world and study different continents and countries. This book explores our loves for maps and for looking at the world, and which many readers including myself will find not only fascinating and enchanting but something that is to treasure for all-time!

Tim Marshall *Prisoners of Geography*

How did the USA become a superpower? Why do people go to war? And why are some countries rich while others are so poor? The answers to these questions and many more in this eye-opening book, which uses maps to explain how geography has shaped the history of our world. Discover how the choices of world leaders are swayed by mountains, rivers and seas - and why geography means that history is always repeating itself. This remarkable, unique introduction to world affairs will inspire curious young minds everywhere.

Ordnance Survey *The Ordnance Survey Puzzle Tour of Britain*

The Ordnance Survey Puzzle Book was the biggest-selling puzzle book of 2018. And now it is back, with brand new maps, and bigger and better brainteasers! In The Ordnance Survey Puzzle Tour of Britain map your way around Britain in 40 new regional maps, with hundreds of puzzles, mind-boggling brainteasers, navigational tests, word games, code-crackers, anagrams and mathematical conundrums to keep you occupied as you go! With maps covering the 8 areas of South-West England, South-East England, the Midlands, East England, North-West England, North-East England, Wales and Scotland, you'll put your knowledge and skills to the test and become a local - as you discover amazing facts about each region's folklore, famous historical events and the perfect day out from the OS's GetOutside Champions.

Jared Diamond *Guns, Germs and Steel*

Jared Diamond puts the case that geography and biogeography, not race, moulded the contrasting fates of Europeans, Asians, Native Americans, sub-Saharan Africans, and aboriginal Australians.

An ambitious synthesis of history, biology, ecology and linguistics, *Guns, Germs and Steel* is a ground-breaking and humane work of popular science.

Ben Saunders

*Shackleton*

Polar explorer Ben Saunders draws on his own experience of the Antarctic to bring to life the history, dangers and challenges of Shackleton's Endurance expedition. Inside, you'll discover how Shackleton, by successfully bringing all his men home in the face of near insurmountable odds, earned his reputation as one of the greatest leaders in history.

Paul Burleigh

*Solving the Puzzle Under the Sea*

This illustrated biography shares the story of female scientist, Marie Tharp, a pioneering woman scientist and the first person to ever successfully map the ocean floor. Marie Tharp was always fascinated by the ocean. Taught to think big by her father who was a mapmaker, Marie wanted to do something no one had ever done before: map the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. Was it even possible? Not sure if she would succeed, Marie decided to give it a try. Throughout history, others had tried and failed to measure the depths of the oceans. Sailors lowered weighted ropes to take measurements. Even today, scientists are trying to measure the depth by using echo sounder machines to track how long it would take a sound wave sent from a ship to the sea floor to come back. But for Marie, it was like piecing together an immense jigsaw puzzle. Despite past failures and challenges--sometimes Marie would be turned away from a ship because having a woman on board was "bad luck"--Marie was determined to succeed. And she did, becoming the first person to chart the ocean floor, helping us better understand the planet we call home.

Fiction

Joseph Conrad

*Heart of Darkness*

A short novel by Polish novelist Joseph Conrad, written as a frame narrative, about Charles Marlow's experience as an ivory transporter down the Congo River in Central Africa. The river is "a mighty big river, that you could see on the map, resembling an immense snake uncoiled, with its head in the sea, its body at rest curving afar over a vast country, and its tail lost in the depths of the land". In the course of his travel in central Africa, Marlow becomes obsessed with Mr. Kurtz. The story is a complex exploration of the attitudes people hold on what constitutes a barbarian versus a civilized society and the attitudes on colonialism and racism that were part and parcel of European imperialism.

R.L. Stevenson

*Treasure Island*

When young Jim Hawkins finds a packet in Captain Flint's sea chest, he could not know that the map inside it would lead him to unimaginable treasure. Shipping as cabin boy on the *Hispaniola*, he sails with Squire Trelawney, Captain Smollett, Dr Livesey, the sinister Long John Silver and a frightening crew to Treasure Island. There, mutiny, murder and mayhem lead to a thrilling climax. Probably the best adventure story ever written!

Daniel Defoe

*Robinson Crusoe*

The first edition credited the work's protagonist Robinson Crusoe as its author, leading many readers to believe he was a real person, and the book a travelogue of true incidents. Epistolary, confessional, and didactic in form, the book is presented as an autobiography of the title character (whose birth name was Robinson Kreutznaer)—a castaway who spends twenty-eight years, on a remote tropical desert island near Trinidad, encountering cannibals, captives, and mutineers, before ultimately being rescued. The story has since been thought to be based on the life of Alexander Selkirk, a Scottish castaway, who lived for four years on a Pacific island called "Más a Tierra", now part of Chile, which was renamed Robinson Crusoe Island, in 1966.

Alex Garland

*The Beach*

The classic story of paradise found - and lost. Richard lands in East Asia in search of an earthly utopia. In Thailand, he is given a map promising an unknown island, a secluded beach - and a new way of life. What Richard finds when he gets there is breath-taking: more extraordinary, more

frightening than his wildest dreams. But how long can paradise survive here on Earth? And what lengths will Richard go to in order to save it?

Alan Parkinson *The Ice Man*

When a body was discovered by two German hikers walking in the Alps in 1991, little did they realise it had been there for over 5000 years... Who was Ötzi the Ice Man, as he has become known? What did scientists find out by examining his remains? And what further finds from the ancient past might our changing climate reveal?

Alan Parkinson *Extreme Survival*

What would you do to survive? Would you eat frogs, spiders ...or even human flesh? Read the amazing true stories of people who have survived in extreme situations. This book tells the real-life stories of people who have survived in extreme situations from plane crashes to getting lost in the jungle, desert or mountains. Learn the basics of survival and take part in survival quizzes to test your knowledge.

Mike Gould *Race to the Pole*

In 1911 British explorer Robert Falcon Scott hoped to be the first person to reach the South Pole. Little did he know an explorer from Norway had had the same idea. It would be a race to the Pole! Produced in collaboration with the Natural History Museum, this book tells the story of Scott's and Amundsen's epic race and its deadly conclusion. It also explores the scientific legacy of Scott's expedition and looks at the new frontiers of exploration today.

Benjamin Zephaniah *Refugee Boy*

Acclaimed performance poet and novelist Benjamin Zephaniah's honest, wry and poignant story of a young refugee left in London is of even more power and pertinence today than when it was first published. Life is not safe for Alem. His father is Ethiopian, his mother Eritrean. Their countries are at war, and Alem is welcome in neither place. So Alem is excited to spend a holiday in London with his father - until he wakes up to find him gone. What seems like a betrayal is in fact an act of love, but now Alem is alone in a strange country, and he must forge his own path ..

Michael Morpurgo *Running Wild*

For Will and his mother, going to Indonesia isn't just a holiday. It's an escape, a new start, a chance to put things behind them – things like the death of Will's father. And to begin with, it seems to be just what they both needed. But then Oona, the elephant Will is riding on the beach, begins acting strangely, shying away from the sea. And that's when the tsunami comes crashing in, and Oona begins to run. Except that when the tsunami is gone, Oona just keeps on running. With nothing on his back but a shirt and nothing to sustain him but a bottle of water, Will must learn to survive deep in the jungle. Luckily, though, he's not completely alone... He's got Oona.

Mitch Johnson *Kick*

Budi's plan is simple. He's going to be a star. Budi's going to play for the greatest team on earth, instead of sweating over each stitch he sews, each football boot he makes. But one unlucky kick brings Budi's world crashing down. Now he owes the Dragon, the most dangerous man in Jakarta. Soon it isn't only Budi's dreams at stake, but his life. A story about dreaming big, about hope and heroes, and never letting anything stand in your way.

*'Anyone who has read my books will know that I don't tend to use guides when I am travelling. It's not a pride thing, but it is certainly a fact.'*

**Bill Bryson (Author)**