

**READING
WELL**

Recommended by
young people and health experts.



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**THE
READING
AGENCY**



SHELF HELP




Reading Well can help you cope with the pressures of life, **feel better** about yourself and **boost** your confidence using books.

The **Reading Well** books have been chosen by young people and health experts to **help** you with **difficult feelings and experiences** that can affect your wellbeing.

The books have **information** and **advice** as well as personal stories about dealing with feelings such as anxiety, depression or **stress** and experiences such as bullying.

Look out for the books in your local library – they're free to borrow. Take one home today.



Find out more at: reading-well.org.uk/shelfhelp



CO-CREATED BY **YOUNG PEOPLE** |
SUPPORTED BY **YOUNGMINDS** |

HOW CAN BOOKS HELP?

The books on the **Reading Well** list offer tips and ideas to help you understand and manage your emotions as well as cope with difficult situations.

Some of the recommended books suggest useful self-help techniques. There are also **personal stories**, **graphic novels** and **fiction**. Reading about other people's experiences and feelings can sometimes **help you understand your own**.

You can use the books on their own, although self-help reading often works best with support from a health professional. Your **doctor** can **advise** you on the support that's available. There are more suggestions about useful fiction at:

reading-well.org.uk/shelfhelp

HOW DO I JOIN THE LIBRARY?

It's **easy and free** to join your local library. Some libraries may need **proof of your name and address** and may require permission from an adult if you're under 16. A member of library staff will help you join – and once you have a library card, **you can take out any of the books there**.

ALSO AT YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

FIND OTHER BOOKS

You might also find our **reading list for adults useful**. Ask in the library for **Reading Well Books on Prescription** or visit:

reading-well.org.uk

JOIN A READING GROUP

Make friends and have fun while enjoying a good book in a reading group. Ask about local groups in your library or visit:

readinggroups.org

TAKE PART IN READING HACK

Reading Hack turns reading on its head. Create your own hacks, meet new people, get new **skills** and **inspire** others to read. Volunteering can also help you build **confidence** and wellbeing. To find out more go to:

readinghack.org.uk

➤ **Reading Well** has been developed by The Reading Agency in partnership with the Society of Chief Librarians and Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians. The scheme is funded by Arts Council England and the Wellcome Trust.



WHAT IF I NEED MORE HELP?

You don't need to struggle on your own. Your GP will be able to offer help and advice. You might also find it helpful to talk things through with people you trust such as your parents, a friend or a teacher, or a school nurse or counsellor if you're still at school.

For support [mycamhschoices.org](https://www.mycamhschoices.org) has information and short films on mental health services or visit [youngminds.org.uk](https://www.youngminds.org.uk), a national charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of young people. The following organisations offer support and counselling:

Childline

[childline.org.uk](https://www.childline.org.uk)

☎ 0800 1111

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

The Samaritans

[samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)

☎ 116 123

24 hours a day, 7 days a week

> TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Find out more about the books or share your reviews at:
reading-well.org.uk/shelfhelp

Reading Well is supported by the British Association for Behavioural and Cognitive Psychotherapies, The British Psychological Society, Mental Health Foundation, Mind, NAPC, NHS England (Children and Young People's Mental Health), PHE, Royal College of General Practitioners, Royal College of Nursing, Royal College of Psychiatrists and YoungMinds.

RECOMMENDED READING

GENERAL

☀ GRAPHIC NOVEL
✨ MEMOIR
✨ FICTION

WELLBEING - MENTAL HEALTH - COPING FEELING FINE - SELF-ESTEEM - LEARNING ABOUT LIFE

- **Blame My Brain**
Nicola Morgan
Walker Books
- **Mind Your Head**
Juno Dawson
Hot Key Books
- **Stuff That Sucks**
Ben Sedley
Robinson
- **The Self-Esteem Team's Guide to Sex, Drugs and WTFs?!!**
Self-Esteem Team
John Blake Publishing
- **Every Day**
David Levithan
✨ *Electric Monkey*
- **House of Windows**
Alexia Casale
✨ *Faber & Faber*
- **I'll Give You the Sun**
✨ Jandy Nelson
Walker Books
- **Kite Spirit**
✨ Sita Brahmachari
Macmillan Children's Books
- **Quiet the Mind**
✨ Matthew Johnstone
Robinson

ADHD Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

- **Putting on the Brakes: Understanding and Taking Control of Your ADD or ADHD**
Patricia Quinn and Judith Stern
Magination Press

ANXIETY, WORRY AND PANIC

- **My Anxious Mind**
Michael Tompkins and Katherine Martinez
Magination Press
- **The Shyness and Social Anxiety Workbook for Teens**
Jennifer Shannon
New Harbinger
- **The Anxiety Survival Guide for Teens**
Jennifer Shannon
New Harbinger
- **The Perks of Being a Wallflower**
✨ Stephen Chbosky
Simon & Schuster

AUTISM AND ASPERGER SYNDROME

- **Freaks, Geeks and Asperger Syndrome**
Luke Jackson
Jessica Kingsley
- **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**
✨ Mark Haddon
Vintage
- **The Reason I Jump**
✨ Naoki Higashida
Sceptre

BODY IMAGE AND EATING DISORDERS

- **Can I Tell You About Eating Disorders?**
Bryan Lask and Lucy Watson
Jessica Kingsley
- **Banish Your Body Image Thief**
Kate Collins-Donnelly
Jessica Kingsley
- **Tyranny**
✨ Lesley Fairfield
Walker Books



BULLYING

Bullies, Cyberbullies and Frenemies

Michele Elliott
Wayland

Vicious

True Stories by Teens About Bullying
Ed. Hope Vanderberg
Free Spirit

☀ GRAPHIC NOVEL
☀ MEMOIR
☀ FICTION

CONFIDENCE AND SELF-ESTEEM

Banish Your Self-Esteem Thief

Kate Collins-Donnelly
Jessica Kingsley

Self-Esteem and Being You

Anita Naik
Wayland

Face

Benjamin Zephaniah
Bloomsbury

DEPRESSION

Am I Depressed and What Can I Do About It?

Shirley Reynolds and
Monika Parkinson
Robinson

Can I Tell You About Depression?

Christopher Dowrick
and Susan Martin
Jessica Kingsley

I Had a Black Dog

Matthew Johnstone
Robinson

MOOD SWINGS

Don't Let Your Emotions Run Your Life for Teens

Sheri Van Dijk
New Harbinger

SELF-HARM

The Truth About Self-Harm

Celia Richardson
Mental Health Foundation

OCD Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

Breaking Free from OCD

Jo Derisley and others
Jessica Kingsley

The Unlikely Hero of Room 13B

Teresa Toten
Walker Books

Touch and Go Joe

Joe Wells
Jessica Kingsley

STRESS

Fighting Invisible Tigers

Earl Hipp
Free Spirit

The Teenage Guide to Stress

Nicola Morgan
Walker Books

Prescriber's further information or additional recommendations:

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Prescriber's signature:

