

Saint Andrew Society of Colorado

Scottish Reading List for Children, Teens and Adults



www.coloradoscots.org

Following is a suggested reading list of books by Scottish authors or about Scottish themes for children, teens and adults, courtesy of the Saint Andrew Society of Colorado. Some titles are listed in more than one category because reading abilities, maturity levels and interest areas vary among age groups. The list was compiled by Cindy Murphy, Keith Schrum and Ken McIntosh, with input from other Scottish Book Club and Saint Andrew Society of Colorado members. Please contact the SASC at www.coloradoscots.org with any suggestions or questions that you may have. *Happy reading...Aye!*

NOTE: Not all of these books have been read by the list contributors. It is strongly recommended that adults preview these books for suitability before recommending and gifting to family and friends.

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Pre-School and Kindergarten/Read-Aloud Picture Books (for adults to read to children)

- *The Ghosts' Trip to Loch Ness* by Jacques Duquennoy
- *Greyfriars Bobby* by Eleanor Atkinson (NOTE: There are multiple versions of this story including ones by Forbes MacGregor, Betty Kirkpatrick, Ruth Brown, Lavinia Derwent and Martin F. Cottam, Jan Bondeson, and David Ross.) There are also two film versions of this story.
- *Katie in Scotland* by James Mayhew
- *Katie and the British Artists* by James Mayhew
- *Always Room for One More* by Sorche Nic Leodhas and illustrated by Nonny Hogrogian (Winner of the Caldecott Medal)
- *A Child's Garden of Verses* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *An Illustrated Treasury of Scottish Folk and Fairy Tales* by Theresa Breslin and illustrated by Kate Leiper
- *The Wee Scot Book: Scottish Poems and Stories* by Aileen Campbell (illustrated by author; includes Old Scots Doric script with English translation; also available in cassette version in author's Scottish brogue and musical accompaniments)
- *The Very Fine Clock* by Muriel Spark (author of *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* and illustrated by Edward Gorey – out of print; but used copies available)
- *Wee Gillis* by Munro Leaf and illustrated by Robert Lawson

Early Readers (1st to 2nd Grades)

- *Luck of the Loch Ness Monster: A Tale of Picky Eating* by Alice Weaver Flaherty and illustrated by Scott Magoon
- *Scottish Alphabet* by Rickey Pittman and illustrated by Connie McClennan
- *This Is Edinburgh* by Miroslav Sasek (reprint)
- *B is for Bagpipes: A Scotland Alphabet* by Eve Begley Kiehm and illustrated by Alexa Rutherford
- *Nessie the Loch Ness Monster* by Richard Brassey
- *The Giant King* by Kathleen T. Pelley

Elementary School/Independent Young Readers (3rd Grade and Up)

- *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
- *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery
- *The Jungle Book* by Rudyard Macdonald Kipling
- *Peter Pan* by James Matthew Barrie
- *The Story of Scotland* by Richard Brassey
- *Greyfriars Bobby* by Eleanor Atkinson (NOTE: There are multiple versions of this story including ones by Forbes MacGregor, Betty Kirkpatrick, Ruth Brown, Lavinia Derwent and Martin F. Cottam, Jan Bondeson, and David Ross.) There are also two film versions of this story.
- *Stories from Scotland: Oxford Children's Myths and Legends* by Barbara Ker Wilson (grade level 4 and up)
- *The Story of Scotland's Flag and the Lion and Thistle* by David Ross
- *The Story of Scotland* by Richard Brassey and Stewart Ross (written in comic book style; won the Saltire Society ITES Award for Educational Publications and the Scottish Arts Council Children's Book Award)
- *Mary, Queen of Scots: Queen Without a Country, France, 1553* (The Royal Diaries series; some mature content; age level 9 and up)
- *Welcome to Scotland (Welcome to My Country series)* by Graeme Cane and Lise Hull
- *Edinburgh* (Horrible Histories series) by Terry Deary
- *Scotland* (Horrible Histories series) by Terry Deary
- *The Island of Mad Scientists: Being an Excursion to the Wilds of Scotland* by Howard Whitehouse and illustrated by Bill Slavin
- *Favorite Fairy Tales Told in Scotland* by Virginia Haviland and illustrated by Andrea Shine
- *Scotland (Enchantment of the World series)* by R. Conrad Stein (ages 10 and up)
- *The Clue of the Whistling Bagpipes (Nancy Drew Mystery Stories, No. 41)* by Carolyn Keene
- *The Mystery of the Loch Ness Monster (Can Science Solve? series)* by Holly Wallace
- *Find Out About: The Celts: What life was like for the warlike tribes of Ancient Europe* by Fiona Macdonald
- *Scotland (Festivals of the World series)* by Jonathan Griffiths (no reading level listed)

- *Down the Bonny Glen* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *Little House in the Highlands* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *The Far side of the Loch* by Melissa Wiley (from the *Martha Years* series; illustrated by Renée Graef)
- *Hippocrene Children's Illustrated Scottish Gaelic Dictionary: English – Scottish Gaelic/ Scottish Gaelic – English*
- *Children's Atlas of Scotland: Its Geography, People and Places* by Theodore Rowland-Entwist

Middle School/Junior High (Fiction and Non-Fiction)

- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Master of Ballantrae: A Winter's Tale* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Rob Roy* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Marmion* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Duncan's War* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *King's Arrow* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *Rebel's Keep* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *44 Scotland Street* (and any other books by Alexander McCall Smith)
- *The Braid* by Helen Frost
- *Captains Courageous* by Rudyard Macdonald Kipling
- *The Wild Queen: The Days and Nights of Mary, Queen of Scots* (Young Royals series) by Carolyn Meyer (ages 12 and up)
- *How the Scots Invented the Modern World: The True Story of How Western Europe's Poorest Nation Created Our World and Everything In It* by Arthur Herman (hardcover version is best)
- *The Mark of the Scots: Their Astonishing Contributions to History, Science, Democracy, Literature and the Arts* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Scottish 100: Portraits of History's Most Influential Scots* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *A Celebration of Innovation and Achievement: Scottish Firsts* by Elspeth Wills
- *The Emperor's New Kilt: The Two Secret Histories of Scotland* by Jan-Andrew Henderson
- *Great Scots: How the Scots Created Canada* by Matthew Shaw
- *The Farfarers: Before the Norse: Did Ancient Scots Cross the Atlantic Before the Vikings?* by Farley Mowat

- *Selkirk's Island: The True and Strange Adventures of the Real Robinson Crusoe (the Scot, Alexander Selkirk)* by Diana Souhami
- *An Illustrated History of Scotland* by Elisabeth Fraser
- *Ancient Scotland* by Stewart Ross

High School and Adults

Fiction

- *Sherlock Holmes* stories/books by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Kidnapped* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *The Master of Ballantrae: A Winter's Tale* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *Ivanhoe* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Rob Roy* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Marmion* by Sir Walter Scott
- *Duncan's War* by Douglas Bond (book 1, Christian content)
- *King's Arrow* by Douglas Bond (book 2, Christian content)
- *Rebel's Keep* by Douglas Bond (book 3, Christian content)
- *A Place Called Freedom* by Ken Follett (some adult content)
- *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark (also a film)
- *Whisky Galore* by Compton Mackenzie (also a film)
- *44 Scotland Street* by Alexander McCall Smith (and any other books by Smith)
- The *Para Handy* stories by Neil Munro (alias Hugh Foulis), as well as the film *The Maggie* (1954) which is based on the well-known *Para Handy* stories
- The *Inspector Rebus* series by Ian Rankin, and any of his other books
- *The Game of Kings*, *The Lymond Chronicles*, *The House of Niccolo* and *King Hereafter* by Dorothy Dunnett (and any of her other historical fiction books)
- *Poet's Pub* by Eric Linklater
- *MacGregor's Lantern* by Corinne Joy Brown
- *Murder Most Scottish* (a short story collection selected by Stefan Dziemianowicz, Bob Adey, Ed Gorman and Martin Greenberg)
- *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* by Muriel Spark (also watched the film)

- *The Candlemass Road* by George MacDonald Fraser
- *Bone Rattler* by Eliot Pattison
- *Eye of the Raven* by Eliot Pattison
- *Original Death* by Eliot Pattison
- *Scottish Girls About Town (and sixteen other Scottish women authors)* by Jenny Colgan, Isla Dewar and Muriel Gray
- *The Hanging Shed* by Gordon Ferris (and other books by Ferris from *The Douglas Brodie* series and *The Danny McRae* series)
- *No Great Mischief* by Alistair MacLeod
- *Cape Breton Road* by D. R. MacDonald
- *The Outlander* series (aka *Cross Stitch*) (which is also a TV miniseries and a musical). The *Lord John* series (one of which is *The Scottish Prisoner*) by Diana Gabaldon
- *My Heart Lies Here* by Laurie Marr Wasmund

Non-Fiction

- *How the Scots Invented the Modern World: The True Story of How Western Europe's Poorest Nation Created Our World and Everything In It* by Arthur Herman (hardcover version is best)
- *The Mark of the Scots: Their Astonishing Contributions to History, Science, Democracy, Literature and the Arts* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *The Scottish 100: Portraits of History's Most Influential Scots* by Duncan A. Bruce
- *A Celebration of Innovation and Achievement: Scottish Firsts* by Elspeth Wills
- *The Emperor's New Kilt: The Two Secret Histories of Scotland* by Jan-Andrew Henderson
- *Great Scots: How the Scots Created Canada* by Matthew Shaw
- *The Story of Scots in Hawai'i* by Rhoda E. A. Hackler
- *The Scots of Chicago: Quiet Immigrants and Their New Society* by Wayne Rethford and June Skinner Sawyers
- *Crowded with Genius - The Scottish Enlightenment: Edinburgh's Moment of the Mind* by James Buchan
- *On the Make: How the Scots Took Over London* by David Stenhouse
- *The Farfarers: Before the Norse: Did Ancient Scots Cross the Atlantic Before the Vikings?* by Farley Mowat
- *Selkirk's Island: The True and Strange Adventures of the Real Robinson Crusoe (the Scot, Alexander Selkirk)* by Diana Souhami
- *The Scotch-Irish: A Social History* by James G. Leyburn
- *An Illustrated History of Scotland* by Elisabeth Fraser
- *Ancient Scotland* by Stewart Ross
- *Scottish Customs* by Shelia Livingstone
- *Two Years at St. Andrews: At Home on the 18th Hole* by George Peper
- *Folk Lore – Superstitious Beliefs in the West of Scotland within This Century* by James Napier
- *Born Fighting: How the Scots-Irish Shaped America* by James Webb
- *The Healers: A History of Medicine in Scotland* by David Hamilton
- *Scots in the North American West, 1790-1917* by Ferenc Morton Szasz

- *Plaids and Bandanas: From Highland Drover to Wild West Cowboy* by Rob Gibson
- *Scottish Art* by Murdo Macdonald
- *The Scottish Colourists* by Roger Billcliffe
- *Scottish Art and Design: 5,000 Years* edited by Wendy Kaplan
- *Saxons, Vikings and Celts: The Genetic Roots of Britain and Ireland* by Bryan Sykes
- *Scottish Customs: From the Cradle to the Grave* by Margaret Bennett
- *Mountain, Meadow, Moss and Moor: Joseph Denovan Adam, R.S.A., R.S.W. (1841-1896)* by Maria Devaney
- *Before Barbed Wire: L.A. Huffman, Photographer on Horseback* by Mark H. Brown (Author) , W. R. Felton (Author) , L. A. Huffman (Photographer)
- *My Life on the Range* by John Clay
- *When Grass Was King* by Maurice Frink
- *The Drove Roads of Scotland* by A.R.B. Haldane
- *A Dance Called America: The Scottish Highlands, the United States and Canada* by James Hunter
- *Tam Blake & Company: The Story of Scots in North America* by Jim Hewitson
- *British Gentlemen in the Wild West: The Era of the Intensely English Cowboy* by Lawrence M. Woods
- *The Story of South Park* by Virginia Bayou Salado Simmons
- *Ancient Celtic America (with an Appendix on Ancient Astronomy)* by William R. McGlone and Phillip M. Leonard
- *America B.C.: Ancient Settlers in the New World* by Barry Fells
- *Mary Queen of Scots* by Antonia Fraser (also watch the Vanessa Redgrave film version of *Mary Queen of Scots*)
- *Mary Queen of Scots: Truth or Lies* by Rosalind Marshall (also watch the Vanessa Redgrave film version of *Mary Queen of Scots*)
- *A Man Called Peter* by Catherine Marshall (also watched the film)
- *The Steel Bonnets: The Story of The Anglo-Scottish Border Reivers* by George MacDonald Fraser
- *Far Off in Sunlit Places: The Scots in Australia and New Zealand* by Jim Hewitson

- *Scots in Australia: A Study of New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, 1788-1900* by Malcolm D. Prentis
- *The Scots Invasion of South Australia* by John Grant Duncan-Hughes
- *Caledonia Australis: Scottish Highlanders on the Frontier of Australia* by Don Watson
- *The Other Irish: The Scots-Irish Rascals Who Made America* by Karen F. McCarthy

Books by or about Robert Burns - Fiction

A list of Robert Burns's material is so extensive that we have not attempted a "complete" list herein. Following are some suggestions, but please search online for more resources.

- *Robert Burns: Selected Poems* edited by Carol McGuirk (Penguin Classics)
- *The Best of Robert Burns* (in English) by William Curran
- Web site (there are others): *Burns Country*: <http://www.robertburns.org/works/>
- Listening and study materials
- English translations from Scots
- Side by side translations

You should certainly read and recite five must-know works of Burns:

- *A Red, Red Rose*
- *Address to a Haggis*
- *Auld Lang Syne*
- *Selkirk Grace*
- *Tam O' Shanter*

Books by or about John Muir – Non-Fiction

A list of John Muir material is so extensive that we have not attempted a "complete" list herein. Following are some suggestions, but please search online for more resources.

- *John Muir: Nature Writings: The Story of My Boyhood and Youth; My First Summer in the Sierra; The Mountains of California; Stickeen; Essays* (Library of America) by John Muir and edited by William Cronon (1997)
- *A Thousand-mile Walk to the Gulf* (1916) by John Muir and edited by William Frederic Badè
- *The Mountains of California* (1894) by John Muir
- *Travels in Alaska* (1979 ed.) by John Muir
- *The Yosemite* (1920) by John Muir
- *John Muir: His Life and Letters and Other Writings*, by John Muir and edited by Terry Gifford (1996)
- *Studies in the Sierra* (1950 reprint of serials from 1874) by John Muir
- *Picturesque California* (1888–1890) by John Muir
- *Our National Parks* (1901) by John Muir
- *My First Summer in the Sierra* (1911) by John Muir
- *Edward Henry Harriman* (1911) by John Muir
- *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth* (1913) by John Muir
- *Letters to a Friend* (1915) by John Muir
- *The Cruise of the Corwin* (1917) by John Muir
- *Steep Trails* (1919) by John Muir

Gaelic Books

NOTE: We have not attempted to include a Gaelic authors and books list at this time. For information about this area of Scottish literature, please consult the many Web sources, especially **The American Scottish Gaelic Society** at <http://www.acgamerica.org/>

Sláinte mhath! (Slahn cha vah!) (To your good health!)

