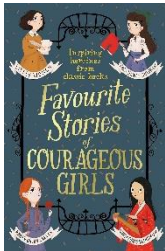


# Women's History

## Upper School

A **selection** of books about women's extraordinary achievements. This list is divided into four sections: poetry and fictional characters; books containing brief biographies of a range of women; books about individual women; suffragette movement.

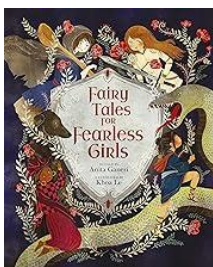
### Poetry and Fiction



#### **Favourite Stories of Courageous Girls: inspiring heroines from classic children's books**

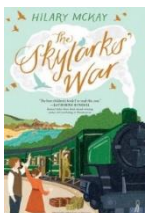
An anthology featuring the stories of some of the best-loved heroines in children's books. From Jo March who sells her hair to raise money for her family, to George's single-minded commitment to protecting her island in *The Famous Five* to Bobbie's quick-thinking action that prevents a train crash in *The Railway Children*, these girls demonstrate courage beyond their years.

Each of the 24 chapters contains an introduction about the courageous girl featured and a satisfying extract from the original book where fictional heroines defy expectations, face fears and overcome obstacles. Classic novels featured include *Little Women*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Five on a Treasure Island*, *The Railway Children*, *Jane Eyre*, *A Little Princess*, *Pollyanna* and *The Wizard of Oz*, as well as beloved fairy tales from diverse cultures such as *The Snow Queen*, *Kate Crackernuts* and *White Chrysanthemum*. (Age 8-11)



#### **Fairy Tales for Fearless Girls by Anita Ganeri**

An inspiring collection of stories from around the world. Showcasing narratives that celebrate strong, independent women, these fairy tales contain heroines that aren't reduced to being wives or witches! Instead they run free and possess self-confidence, strength, wits, courage, fearlessness, and independence. (Age 8-12)



#### **The Skylarks' War by Hilary McKay**

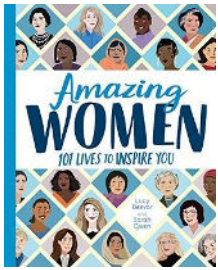
Clarry Penrose longs for independence, but her father doesn't believe in education for girls. When war breaks out and Clarry's beloved cousin is declared missing, she has to step out of her shell and into the wild world. (Age 9+)



### **Adventure Stories for Daring Girls by Samantha Newman**

This beautifully illustrated collection brings together a selection of classic children's stories, retold by Samantha Newman. These narratives from around the world showcase strong, charismatic, independent female protagonists who know their own minds, and make their own decisions. (Age 8-11)

## **Amazing Women: Rebels and Pioneers**



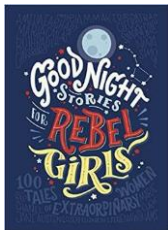
### **Amazing Women. 101 Lives to Inspire You by Lucy Beevor**

The compilers of this volume have used broad categories such as Trailblazer, Creator and Activist to group women together rather than their professions or main area of activity. Young women not generally included in other books like this get a look in, including blogger Zoe Sugg, actor and director Lena Dunham and inventor Kiara Nirghin. (Age 10+)



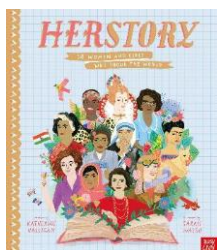
### **Reaching the Stars. Poems about Extraordinary Women & Girls by Jan Dean, Liz Brownlee & Michaela Morgan**

Poems which highlight the lives of many women featured in other books on this list. (Age 9-11)



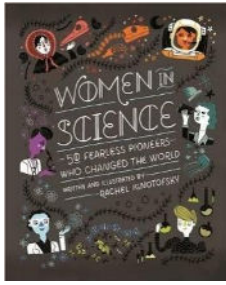
### **Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls (volume 1 and 2) by Elena Favilli & Francesca Cavallo**

Brief biographies of pioneering women across a range of spheres. The focus in the second volume is mainly on the USA and Europe. (Age 8-12)



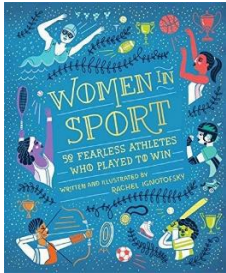
### **Her Story. 50 Women & Girls Who Shook the World by Katherine Halligan**

The biographies of the fifty women in this book are divided into five broad categories: Believe & Lead; Imagine & Create; Help & Heal; Think & Solve; Hope & Overcome. Many of them appear in other similar compilations but here more space is given to each one and the historical context of her life. (Age 9-12)



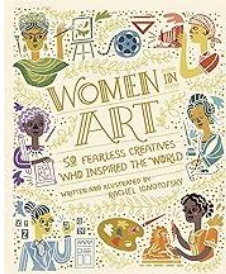
**Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World by Rachel Ignotofsky**

This book highlights the work of women scientists, ranging widely across the globe and through time. Some names will be familiar – Marie Curie, Elizabeth Blackwell, Rosalind Franklin and Katherine Johnson. (Age 9-11)



**Women in Sport: Fifty Fearless Athletes Who Played to Win by Rachel Ignotofsky**

Rachel Ignotofsky again takes a chronological approach in this book which highlights the achievements of women in sport although the timeframe is shorter, beginning with figure-skater Madge Syers, born in 1881, and ending with gymnast Simone Biles, born in 1997. The majority of sportswomen featured are from the USA. A very varied range of sports is included. (Age 9-11)



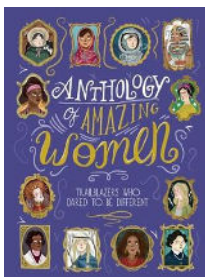
**Women in Art: 50 Fearless Creatives Who Inspired the World by Rachel Ignotofsky (ART)**

From well-known figures such as Frieda Kahlo and Dame Vivienne Westwood to lesser-known artists including Harriet Powers (the nineteenth century African-American quilter) and Yoyoi Kusama (a Japanese sculptor) this charmingly illustrated book highlights the achievements of 50 notable women in the arts. (Age 9-11)



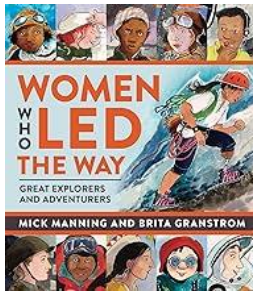
**A Galaxy of Her Own. Amazing Stories of Women in Space by Libby Jackson**

Libby Jackson describes how she became an expert in human space flight and then goes on to describe how fifty women made scientific and practical contributions to the development of space travel. The ways in which they participated are varied and include astronauts, scientists of various kinds, engineers, doctors, nurses and lawyers. (Age 8+)



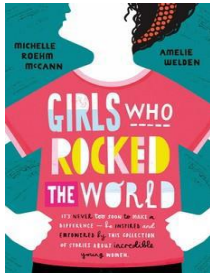
**Anthology of Amazing Women by Sandra Lawrence**

This book is organised thematically, covering women's achievements in art, history, politics, science, sports, music, film & TV, literature and business. Each section begins with brief summaries of six women's lives, then goes on to more in depth descriptions of several women with a double page spread devoted to each one. (Age 9-12)



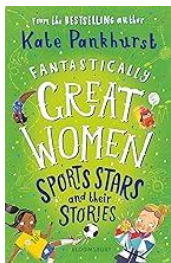
### **Women Who Led The Way: Great Explorers and Adventurers by Mick Manning**

A diverse and inclusive celebration of 21 amazing women explorers and adventurers from all over the world. These women have led the way exploring lands, oceans, mountains, skies and space, but have also made pioneering discoveries in the fields of science, nature, archaeology, ecology and more. (Age 7-9)



### **Girls Who Rocked the World by Michelle Roehm McCann & Amelie Welden**

A compact paperback rather than a highly illustrated volume. The authors have focused on those whose initial achievements happened when they were children or young women hence the use of the word 'Girls' in the title. The majority of the girls included are from the USA, although a number spent at least some of their lives in other parts of the world. (Age 8+)



### **Fantastically Great Women Scientists and Their Stories by Kate Pankhurst**

From football superstars to trailblazing Olympians, women throughout history have fought for the right to take part, win or lose, in sports across the globe. Whether they were the Lionesses on the pitch who won Euro 2022, or behind the scenes setting up rival games when the Olympics said NO to women. This book tells the stories of female sporting heroes. (Age 7-9)



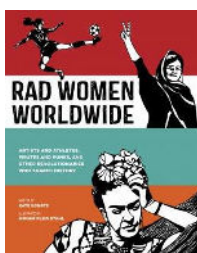
### **Fantastically Great Women Scientists and Their Stories by Kate Pankhurst**

Including comic strips, family trees, maps and more, *Fantastically Great Women Scientists and Their Stories* is a celebration of women who made some of the world's most important scientific breakthroughs. Women featured: Mae Jemison, Marie Curie, Elizabeth Blackwell, Janaki Ammal, Caroline Herschel, Katia Krafft, Tu Youyou and Rosalind Franklin. (Age 7-9)



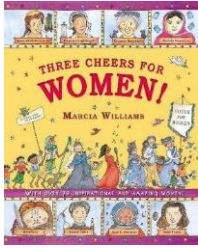
### **Fantastically Great Women Artists and Their Stories by Kate Pankhurst**

A third volume telling the fascinating stories of some of history's most talented female artists. (Age 7-9)



### **Rad Women Worldwide: Artists and Athletes, Pirates and Punks, and Other Revolutionaries Who Shaped History by Kate Schatz**

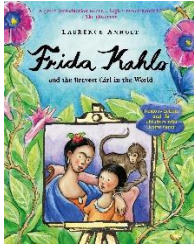
This book has a more even geographical spread than many of the other books listed here, encompassing more representation from Africa and South America. The forty women whose lives are described include Funmilayo Ransome Kuti from Nigeria, Buffy Sainte-Marie from Canada, Faith Bandler from Australia and las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo from Argentina. (Age 10+)



### **Three Cheers for Women! by Marcia Williams**

Marcia Williams' distinctive comic strip style is at the heart of this book. Each woman's life, presented in chronological order, from Cleopatra to Malala Yousafzai is shown in a double page spread. Marcia Williams has taken care to include women from a range of cultures and countries, especially when the 20<sup>th</sup> century is reached. (Age 7-11)

## **Lives of Individual Women**



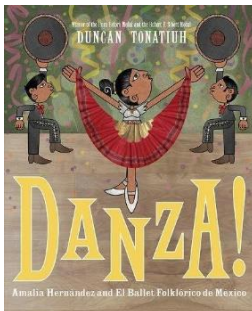
### **Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World** by Laurence Anholt

A picture book in the Anholt's Artists series which gives insights into the life of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo through her friendship with Mariana Morillo Saba, a child whose portrait she painted. (Age 7-9)



### **Amelia Earhart (Graphic Novel)** by Kim Moldofsky

Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She piloted many record-breaking flights, became an author, advised engineers, taught college students, and defended women's rights. And then, somewhere in the South Pacific, she disappeared on an attempted flight around the world. This is her story. (Age 7-10)



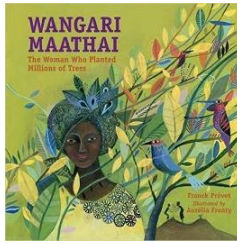
### **Danza! Amalia Hernández and El Ballet Folklórico de México** by Duncan Tonatiuh

This picture book celebrates the life and work of Amalia Hernández, a dancer and choreographer who founded a famous dance company, the Ballet Folklórico de México. The dances she created based on a combination of ballet, modern dance and traditional dances from around Mexico and the variety of costumes used in their performance are depicted in illustrations which make effective use of collage. (Age 7-10)



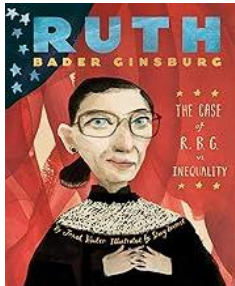
### **The Girl Who Could Fix Anything : Beatrice Shilling, World War II Engineer** by Mara Rockliff

Beatrice Shilling wasn't quite like other children. She could make anything. And when she took a thing apart, she put it back together better than before. When Beatrice left home to study engineering, she knew that as a girl she wouldn't be quite like the other engineers—and she wasn't. She was better. This is the true story of a woman whose brilliance and mechanical expertise helped Britain win World War II. (Age 7-9)



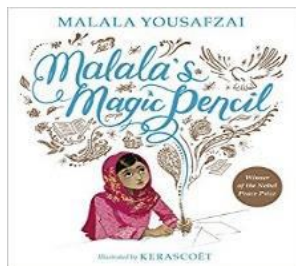
**Wangari Maathai. *The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees* by Franck Prévot**

This picture book describes the life of Wangari Maathai who was the first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize for her work in encouraging the planting of forests in Kenya and creating the Green Belt movement, contributing to sustainable development and democracy. (Age 7-9)



**Ruth Bader Ginsburg. *The Case of R.B.G. vs. Inequality* by Jonah Winter**

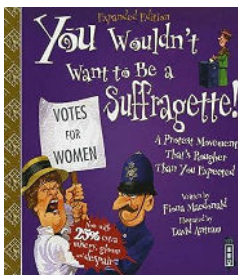
The text of this picture book about Ruth Bader Ginsburg who became only the second woman to serve as a Supreme Court Justice in the USA is skilfully presented as though arguing a court case, assembling all the evidence to prove that she is a symbol of justice in America, while still retaining a friendly tone. It's the inspirational story of the daughter of Jewish migrants who had fled persecution in Europe. Ruth's mother encouraged her to defy prejudice and barriers to train as a lawyer who has become known for supporting civil rights and women's rights in particular. (Age 7-9)



**Malala's Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai**

The picture book refers to Malala's childhood wish for a magic pencil with which she could redraw reality. (Age 8-11)

## Votes for Women



**You Wouldn't Want to Be a Suffragette by Fiona MacDonald**

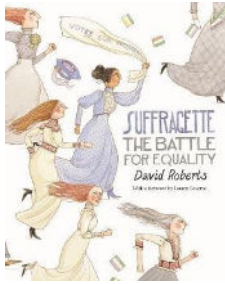
Eyewitnesses tell the story of female suffrage from both sides of the Atlantic using humorous cartoon-style illustrations and narrative. Informative captions, a complete glossary and an index make this title an ideal introduction to the conventions of non-fiction texts for young readers. (Age 8+)



**Secret Suffragette by Barbara Mitchellhill**

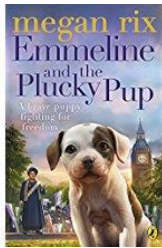
Daisy's hero is Florence Nightingale, and she hopes to one day become a nurse just like her. But as a girl growing up in the East End of London in 1912, it seems like all her future holds is dropping out of school to work a tough job in a factory for very little money.

Then Daisy meets the suffragettes, who are fighting for the rights of women and the poor. They show her that she might be able to achieve her dreams after all. But being a suffragette is dangerous, and Daisy must risk getting in trouble with her dad, neighbours and even the police if she wants to do her bit.



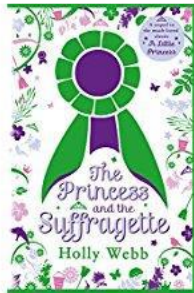
### **Suffragette: The Battle for Equality by David Roberts**

An account of the women's suffrage through illustrations and text. (Age 11+)



### **Emmeline and the Plucky Pup by Megan Rix**

Megan Rix, known for her stories about dogs and their interaction with human beings, skilfully weaves many facts about the women's suffrage campaign and some of the main personalities involved into this tale about a boy plucked from the workhouse to be a messenger for Emmeline Pankhurst along with his dog Rascal. (Age 8-9)



### **The Princess and the Suffragette by Holly Webb**

Holly Webb develops the story of Lottie, a character in France Hodgson Burnett's *A Little Princess* and, like Sara Crewe formerly was, an inmate of Miss Minchin's 'Select Seminary for Young Ladies'. Lottie learns about the suffragettes from a maid Sally and the results for both of them are life-changing in more ways than one. (Age 9+)