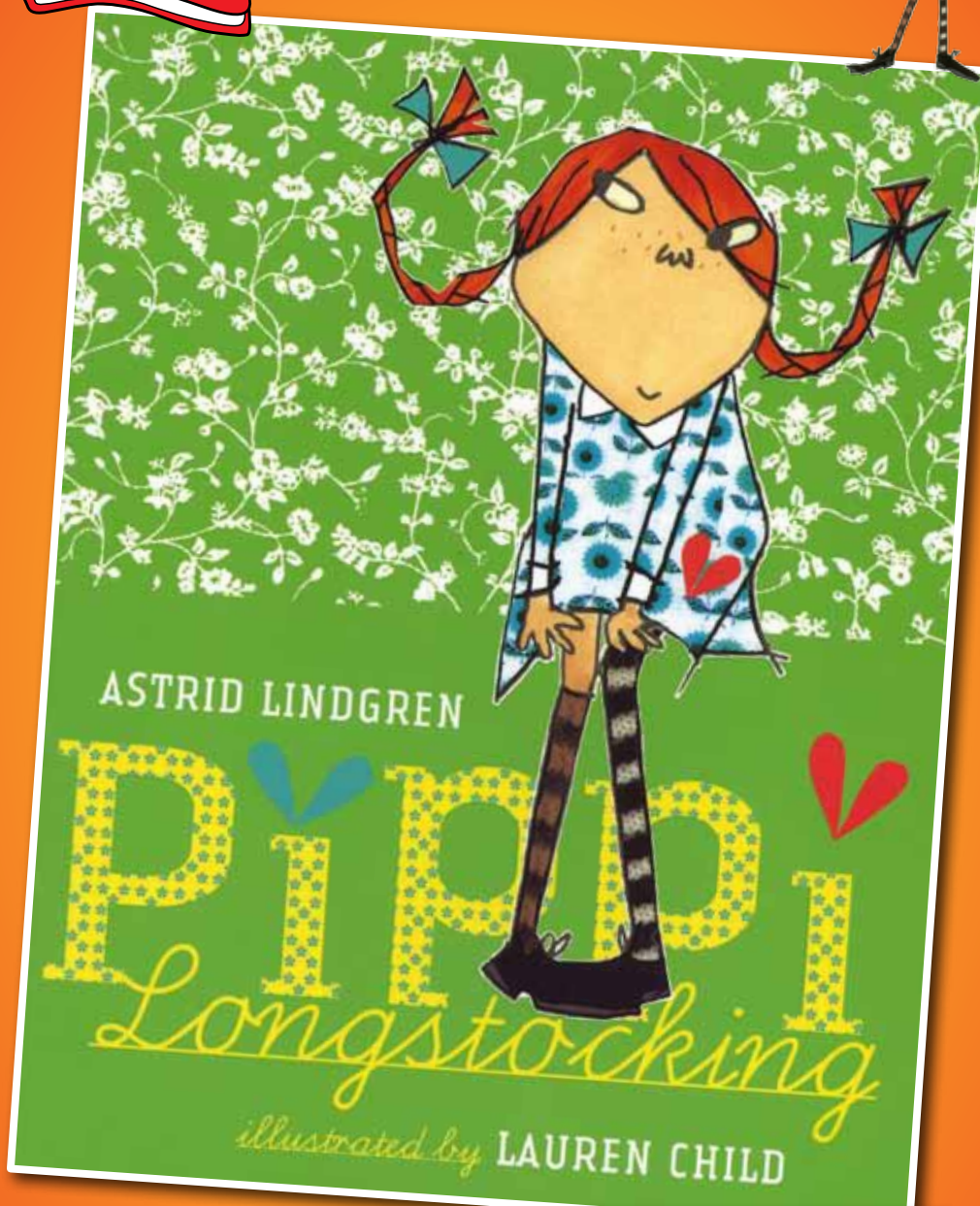


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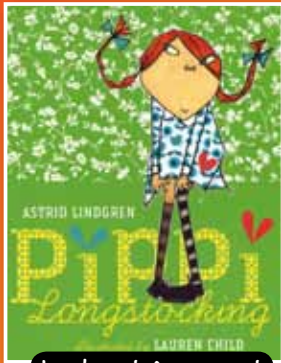
**Book
Talk**



AGES 6+

**Engage and inspire your
pupils with a Book Talk!**

AGES 6+



Look out for me at
your Book Fair!

Price	£6.99 / €8.20
Case	Read Alone
Author	Astrid Lindgren
Illustrator	Lauren Child
Publisher	Oxford University Press

Using this book in your classroom

Themes

A classic of children's literature, this very funny book celebrates **individuality, friendship, courage** and **the ability to stand on one's own two feet!**

Summary

Pippi Longstocking is a very unusual nine-year-old girl. She lives all by herself at Villa Villekulla – well, perhaps not quite all by herself, because she does have her monkey Mr Nilsson and her horse for company. She doesn't have to worry about money, because her father – a sailor – has left her a big chest of gold coins. She is strong enough to lift a horse, and perfectly capable of looking after herself, whatever the grown-ups might say. And there are plenty of advantages to living by herself – for a start, there's no one to tell her when to go to bed, or make her learn her pluttification tables. When Annika and Tommy, the rather straight-laced children next door, discover how much fun life can be with Pippi as their friend, there is no looking back!

Each chapter of this book is a self-contained story about Pippi and her outrageous exploits, whether she's teaching bullies a lesson, coping with an angry bull, defeating burglars or accidentally performing in a circus. Astrid Lindgren's funny and memorable stories are beautifully illustrated by Lauren Child in a distinctive collage style.

Did you know?

- Astrid Lindgren (1907-2002) was one of Sweden's most famous authors. *Pippi Longstocking*, probably her most widely-read children's book, has been translated into over 70 languages since its initial publication in 1945.
- Lauren Child is an award-winning illustrator and writer – she has won the Kate Greenaway Medal and the Smarties Book Prize among other awards. In 2010 she was awarded an MBE for services to literature.

The Story Session

1. Introducing the book

- Show the children the cover of the book and quickly flip through it together, looking at some of the illustrations and the interesting typography. What kind of book do the children think this will be? Share their thoughts and predictions about Pippi herself, based on the pictures.
- Read Chapter 1, 'Pippi Moves Into Villa Villekulla'. Encourage the children to respond to the story. What did they find most surprising about Pippi? Do they think her life sounds like fun? How would they feel if they lived all by themselves, without any adults or any brothers or sisters? What might be the good and the bad things about this? Do the children think they would enjoy having a person like Pippi as a next door neighbour?

2. Reading the story

- Read Chapter 2, 'Pippi is a Thing-Searcher and Gets Into a Fight'. Have the children ever found interesting things by looking on the ground? What kinds of things did they find? Do the children think all the things Pippi found were exciting things to find? Why do the children think Pippi ends up getting into a fight in this story? Was this a good thing to have done? Do the children think the bullies learned their lesson?
- Encourage the children to read the rest of the book independently or as a class. Pause after each chapter to share the children's thoughts about Pippi and about what happens to her. What do they like best about Pippi? Would there be any disadvantages to having Pippi as a friend? Which of her adventures do they think are the funniest?
- At the end of the book, ask the children to vote for their favourite chapter. In pairs, they can take turns to tell their partner their reasons for liking their chosen chapter. When everyone has decided, hold a vote and see which chapter is the most popular.

3. Follow-up

- As a group or a whole class, the children could think of a new adventure for Pippi – for example, perhaps she goes up in a hot air balloon, or becomes a pop star? The children could role-play their ideas in groups before having a go at planning and writing their own story about Pippi. Encourage them to make some collage illustrations to go with it!
- The children could write a poem about Pippi, using a simple short form such as a haiku, a limerick or a kenning. For example, a kenning might start:

Horse-lifter
 Monkey-chatterer
 Burglar-beater
 Bully-basher...

- For more information about Lauren Child and her illustrations, see www.milkmonitor.com.
- There is a fascinating website dedicated to Astrid Lindgren's books: www.astridlindgren.se/en.

YOU TELL US

- Did you use these notes to have a Book Talk in class?
- Were they helpful?
- Are there any changes you'd like to see to make them more useful?

We're always happy to hear your comments, so please email us at bookfairs@scholastic.co.uk (UK) or bookfairs@scholastic.ie (Republic of Ireland).