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Take part in a shadowing project. For example, the [Carnegie shadowing project](#). Students 'shadow' the judging process for the CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards; they read, discuss and review the books on each shortlist selected by CILIP's panel of librarian judges and engage in reading related activity online.

2

Use your local university. Many universities run outreach workshops and master classes for secondary school students. Contact the English department and see what they can offer. University students could also visit your school and work with students.

3

Tap into rich local cultures. What culture can communities around your school offer? Contact local cultural centres and see whether they could visit your school or whether you could visit them.

4

Get free books for your school library. [The Book Trust](#) offers a free pack of books to any secondary school. There is also a collection for students with additional needs; registration opens in September. [The Siobhan Dowd Trust](#) offers funding every month for schools to go to a local bookshop to choose books for students.

5

Show free live broadcasts. The [RSC](#) and the [National Theatre](#) offer free live broadcasts of some of their plays to secondary schools.

6

Join a debating challenge or competition. For example, The English-Speaking Union run the [London Debate Challenge](#) for KS3 students in London. Registration opens in January each year.

7

Poetry by Heart. Now open to KS3 students, [Poetry By Heart](#) is an inspiring competition for students in schools and colleges to learn and to recite poems by heart.

8

Get free performance tickets or workshops. Contact your local theatre to see what's on offer. Could your class watch a dress rehearsal for free? Would a local theatre group do a free session? Many bigger theatres regularly offer free tickets to state schools.

9

Use local libraries. Many of these offer free projects (like the summer reading scheme) and workshops that schools can link to. Set students at KS3 a homework task of joining their local library and bringing in their card as evidence.

10

Seek out unusual sources of funding. For example, [The Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies](#) committee gives grants from £50 to £600 to schools promoting the teaching of Latin and Roman studies.

11

Start a film club. [Into Film Clubs](#) offer free films for state schools. They provide you with everything you need to run a film club, including access to a catalogue of over 3,000 free films and resources and support to help students make their own films. They also offer curriculum-linked resources for all key stages.

12

Get an inspiring speaker. The [Speakers for Schools organisation](#) offers free speakers to schools.

13

Get free tickets to the cinema. Many of the larger cinema chains offer free tickets to schools. These offers are sometimes linked to film festivals or film week.

14

Organise a reading spa. Transform your library by adding hammocks, cosy corners and a pop up café. Ask for volunteers from the sixth form, parents or other departments to lead one-to-one sessions with reluctant readers and give them a selection of books to try out.

15

Create mini pop up libraries. Create collections of books outside the main school library. Use donated books and be prepared for them to disappear!

16

Organise a storytelling day. Why should primary schools have all the fun? Most teenagers love to hang out in their pyjamas. Get everyone to bring in a pillow and hand out hot chocolate. Make it cross-curricular and ask teachers from other departments to read their favourite stories.

17

Visit a local archive. Many archives will allow schools to visit for free. Would work well for A-level language projects.

18

Establish a link with a local museum. Launch a creative writing project based in the past with a visit to the local museum, or invite staff to come to you.

19

Establish a writer-in-residence. Are there any local poets or authors who would be willing to have regular links with your school? Local writing or creative writing masters' courses could be a good source.

20

Get your students hooked on book crossing. Book crossing is a movement that involves leaving your book somewhere and seeing where it ends up. You can create your own mini book crossing movement in school by leaving the books around the school site.
