

Children's Book Week

BookTrust's Great Books Guide 2016



Books to get kids hooked

booktrust.org.uk



**Time
to read**
BookTrust

Foreword

BookTrust is the UK's leading children's reading charity. You may already know us through our programmes such as Bookstart and Bookbuzz. Every year we reach 2.5 million families across the country with books, resources and support, to inspire a love of reading.

We do this because reading enjoyment matters. It's easy to say, easy to write, but actually making it happen can be a different matter.

We all know that children who enjoy reading do better at school. We also know that children who enjoy reading are happier, healthier, more imaginative, more confident, more resilient, and have better vocabulary. And we know that children who love reading are much more likely to go onto higher education.

But we also know just how difficult it is to engage some children in reading: how to open up the world of possibilities that reading affords, particularly when there is so much competition nowadays from games, TV, social media and school work.

It's why we've developed programmes, used by schools across the country, to help teachers and librarians win over reluctant readers and encourage avid readers to try new genres. It's why we campaign to raise awareness of the importance of reading. It's also why we make sure that no child grows up in a home without books, by giving out 5 million books and resources every year, reaching every baby, toddler and Reception-age child in the country through our fantastic network of local authorities, health visitors, libraries, children's centres and schools.

What we've learned is that finding the right book is the key to turning a child into a reader – the book that connects with them, that makes them realise that reading can transport them, guide them, help them understand their place in the world, or simply entertain them.

But finding the right book takes time, and time is the one thing everyone is short of.

That's why we've produced this guide – to help you inspire children by helping them find the book that really speaks to them. Within these pages you will find 60 brilliant books, all suitable for primary-aged children. They are not the 'best ever' books. Nor are they a list of 'must-reads' – we don't believe in those. Rather, they are books that we think children will love. Books that will make them laugh. Books that might make them cry. Books that will speak to them in language that resonates with them; books that might just make them realise that reading is something they really want to do.

We hope you find the guide useful and we'd love to hear what you think of the books.

Happy reading.

Diana Gerald
Chief Executive
BookTrust

Introduction

The Great Books Guide is just that: 60 books that we at BookTrust think are great. Not 'books every child should read before they are 12'. Just great books that we think will engage and excite children. Books that will appeal to even the most reluctant of readers.

Grouped by age, these books have been selected by BookTrust to help you create a reading for pleasure culture in your school – a culture that is inclusive; a culture in which there is no 'right book' but only the right book for me – because at BookTrust, we believe that the right book is always the book that a child actually wants to read.

We hope that within these pages you'll find a lot of 'right' books. You may find some 'wrong' books too. But that's all part of the fun.

Enjoy (and do let us know how you get on [#childrensbookweek](#))



Books for 4-5s



I Have an Orange Juicy Drink

Written by Andrew Sanders

Published by Fat Fox

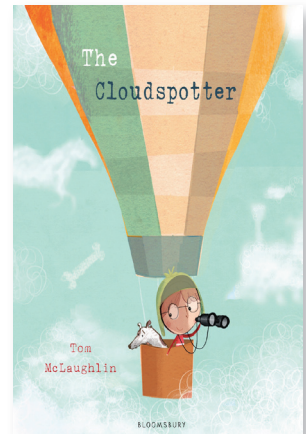
Porker has an orange juicy drink, but there's no chance he's going to get to drink it in peace. Dinosaurs, aliens and elephants all want to steal it - however, when his brother asks for a sip, Porker finally learns to share. A wonderfully vibrant and funny book.

The Cloudspotter

Written by Tom McLaughlin

Published by Bloomsbury

Franklin is 'The Cloudspotter', spotting adventures in the sky. One day, The Scruffy Dog arrives. But The Cloudspotter doesn't want to share his clouds with anyone, so he puts her into a hot-air balloon and lets her fly away. But what happens when Franklin starts to miss his new friend? Humorous illustrations accompany this heartwarming story about friendship and loneliness.





A Beginner's Guide to Bearspotting

Written by Michelle Robinson and David Roberts

Published by Bloomsbury

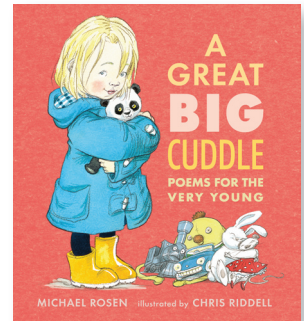
A young child sets off to explore bear country, armed with a guide book. However, when faced with two bears (black and brown: both dangerous), the brave explorer has to use some unusual tactics to avoid being eaten. This frivolous guide combines tongue-in-cheek text with witty, characterful illustrations. The result is a stylish, highly entertaining picture book.

A Great Big Cuddle: Poems for the Very Young

Written by Michael Rosen,
illustrated by Chris Riddell

Published by Walker Books

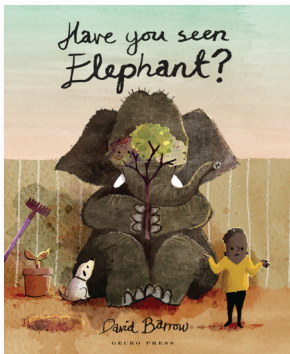
A collection of beautifully illustrated new poems for young children and anyone who loves having fun with words, *A Great Big Cuddle* is a joyous, high energy book with plenty to love. Celebrating the talents of two Children's Laureates, Michael Rosen and Chris Riddell, *A Great Big Cuddle* demonstrates that poetry and illustration is for everyone, even small children.



Have You Seen Elephant?

Written by David Barrow

Published by Gecko Press



Elephant wants to play hide and seek. You can play too, but you'll have to try your best - he's VERY good! Well - as good as an elephant hiding in a lamp can be. This hilarious book will delight children with its offbeat humour and beautiful illustration and is sure to become a favourite.



Hector and Hummingbird

Written by Nicholas John Frith

Published by Alison Green Books

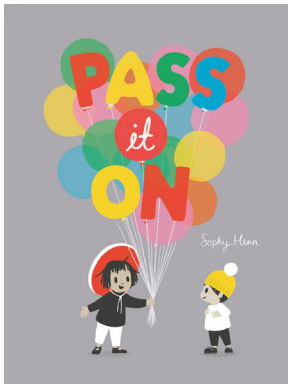
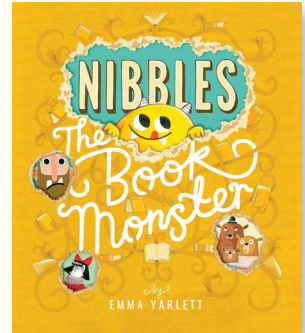
Everything Hector does, Hummingbird wants to do too - but sometimes, Hector just wants a bit of time on his own. But when Hector stomps off into the jungle to find a bit of peace and quiet, he finds that he misses Hummingbird, especially in the dark, noisy forest at night. A lovely story about siblings and friendship, this beautiful book is a great addition to any collection.

Nibbles the Book Monster

Written by Emma Yarlett

Published by Little Tiger Press

Nibbles likes to nibble soap, socks and rubber ducks, but his favourite thing to nibble is books – in fact, he manages to nibble his way right out of his book and into some other favourite fairy tales! This fabulous and fun book has lots of brilliant design features that will enchant young readers – and adults too.



Pass It On

Written by Sophy Henn

Published by Puffin

When you see something terrific, smile a smile and pass it on! The little girl in this bright, happy book embraces the simple act of passing on smiles, laughs, chuckles and whoops to others. A heartwarming and simple message about the power of positivity, this is a lovely book, reassuring that even in lonely times a smile can always help.



The Bumblebear

Written by Nadia Shireen

Published by Jonathan Cape

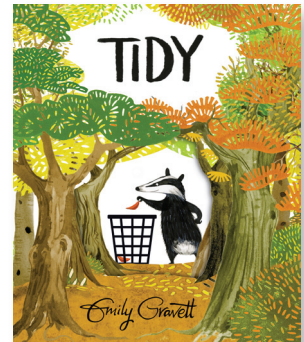
Norman the bear loves honey, and decides that the best way to get his paws on as much as he can eat is to enrol at Bee School. Dressed in a bear-sized bee costume, Norman makes a convincing, if rather large, bee. But clever Amelia isn't convinced... Amusing illustrations add gentle humour to this endearing tale about friendship and loyalty.

Tidy

Written by Emily Gravett

Published by Pan Macmillan (Two Hoots)

Pete the badger likes everything in the forest to be neat and tidy. But when his overzealous tidying begins to have a damaging impact on the forest and its inhabitants, Pete sets about trying to put things right. With warm, rich illustrations, bursting with humorous detail and amusing rhyming text, Tidy is great to read aloud.

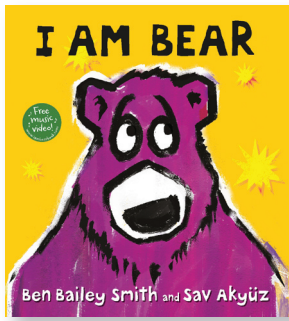


Kitchen Disco

Written by Clare Foges and Al Murphy

Published by Faber & Faber

Did you know that when you go to sleep, all the fruit in the bowl have a fun-filled, all night party? This fruit-tastic disco extravaganza - including a banana DJ and rapping lemons - is full of fun, and the repetitive chorus will ensure even small children will be able to join in the party.



I am Bear

Written Ben Bailey Smith & Sav Akyüz

Published by Walker Books

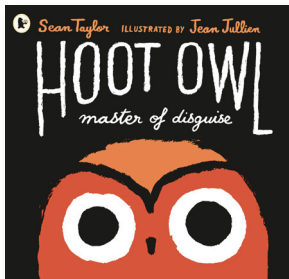
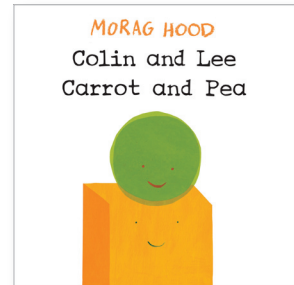
Meet Bear: the rebel hero of the forest. Laugh along as he steals policemen's doughnuts, does some spray-painting, and wows us with his magic tricks. This charming and anarchic picture book celebrates the joys of being mischievous and has a bouncy, irresistible rhythm that children will love.

Colin and Lee: Carrot and Pea

Written by Morag Hood

Published by Two Hoots

Colin is a carrot, and Lee is a pea. Colin isn't at all like Lee and his friends, but he does make a great bridge for them to roll over, a tower for them to sit on and a great slide to roll down. An amusing and deceptively simple look at friendship and difference, this is a lovely book for young readers.

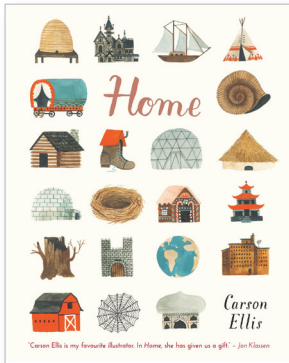


Hoot Owl: Master of Disguise

Written by Sean Taylor
illustrated by Jean Jullien

Published by Walker Books

Hoot Owl sets off on his night-time hunting trip, donning a selection of ingenious disguises. However, despite his best efforts, his prey always manages to escape - leaving him hungrier than ever. Unperturbed by defeat, Hoot Owl perseveres. But will his tenacity be rewarded? This comical night-time adventure is sure to be enjoyed by mischievous young readers.



Home

Written by Carson Ellis

Published by Walker Books

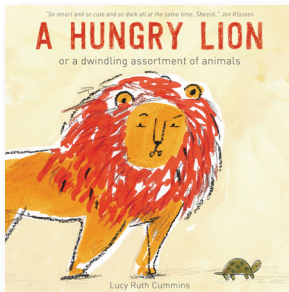
Where is your home? Where are you? Carson Ellis explores wild and wonderful, familiar and extraordinary places that people – real and imaginary – might live. A remarkable and attractive book guaranteed to stir young imaginations, this is also a diverse celebration of something important to us all – home.

Nothing!

Written by Yasmeen Ismail

Published by Bloomsbury

Lila has a fabulous imaginary world: if she's not wrestling an octopus or soaring over a jungle, she's racing in a winged chariot. Visiting Grandpa might not seem as fascinating, but he's just as keen to join her fantasy world. A delightful book that will remind children that it's definitely okay for your imagination to run away with you.



A Hungry Lion

Written by Lucy Ruth Cummins

Published by Simon & Schuster

Once upon a time, there was a hungry lion, and a lot of other animals... until there weren't. The author keeps the surprises coming in this hilarious and quirkily illustrated picture book that proves that while you can never trust a hungry lion, there's always a bigger eater waiting in the wings.



Can I Eat That?

Written by Joshua David Stein,
illustrated by Julia Rothman

Published by Phaidon

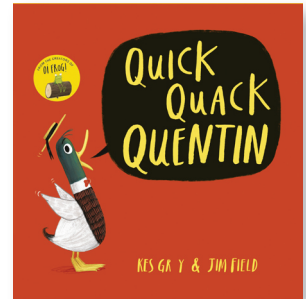
A quirky combination of fact and fun, this distinctive picture book about food poses bizarre yet logical questions that inquisitive children ask, including: 'If I eat jelly and I eat fish, can I eat jellyfish?' and 'If there is ketchup, is there ketchdown?' This wonderfully stylish, funny and informative book is ideal for encouraging children to explore unfamiliar foods from around the world.

Quick Quack Quentin

Written by Kes Gray & Jim Field

Published by Hodder

Quentin the duck has a problem - he's lost the A in his quack. But none of the other animals have any As to spare - the SNAKES don't want to be SNKES and the CAMELS don't want to be CMELS. What will Quentin do? An ideal, fun and phonics-friendly book for any child learning to read.



Bee

Written by Britta Teckentrup

Published by Little Tiger

Celebrating a true wonder of nature and the essential role of the bee in maintaining the plant life of the planet, this bee-autiful and special book takes children on a poetic journey through the bee's day. Featuring a rhyming text, this nonfiction book is a perfect focus for learning about life cycles and the natural world.

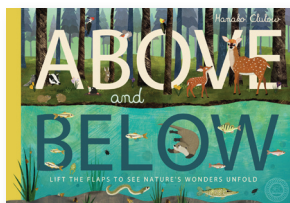
*"Stories make you think and dream;
books make you want to ask questions."*

**Taken from *I Believe in Unicorns* by
bestselling author and BookTrust
President, Michael Morpurgo OBE**



Illustrated by © Aleksei Bitskoff

Books for 6-7s



Above and Below

**Written by Patricia Hegarty,
illustrated by Hanako Clulow**

Published by Little Tiger Press (360 Degrees)

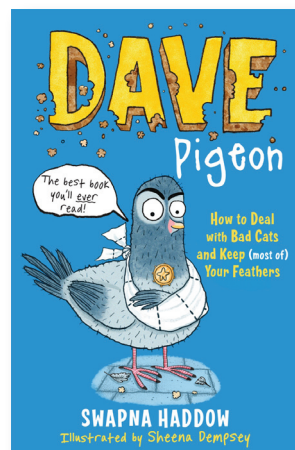
From the Rainforest to the North Pole, this fascinating and stylish picture book explores habitats both above and below the surface, with facts about animals and plants in the skies, underwater, on clifftops and caves. The half-page flaps add another level of interactivity to this wonderful information book that young nature fans will love.

Dave Pigeon

**Written by Swapna Haddow,
illustrated by Sheena Dempsey**

Published by Faber & Faber

Dave Pigeon, the brilliant pigeon mastermind, is determined to find and eat all your biscuits. Aided by Skipper, typing the story as it happens, Dave also aims to defeat his nemesis Mean Cat, even if it means changing his epic plans here and there. Children will laugh themselves silly at Dave, and the expressive illustrations complete a perfect funny book for younger readers.





Evil Emperor Penguin: Book 1

Written by Laura Ellen Anderson

Published by David Fickling Books

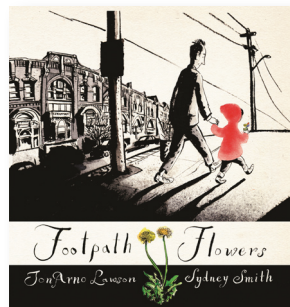
Far away in the icy wastes of Antarctica lives Evil Emperor Penguin - and he wants to take over the world! This hilarious graphic novel for younger readers introduces the ultimate evil-guffawing, cat-stroking penguin villain along with his rather more down to earth hench-creatures in the first of a sniggeringly special series.

Footpath Flowers

Written by JonArno Lawson,
illustrated by Sydney Smith

Published by Walker Books

In this wordless picture book, a girl takes a walk with her father and notices flowers growing in unexpected places; blooming through cracks in the pavement and climbing out of walls. She collects the flowers and hands them out to the people she meets on the rest of the walk home, bringing colour to the world around her. A thoughtful and sensitive story about kindness and community.



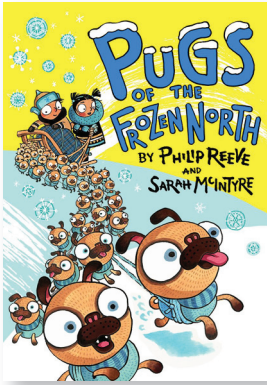
The Jolley-Rogers and the Monster's Gold

Written by Jonny Duddle

Published by Templar

The Jolley-Rogers are just your everyday pirate family, doing everyday pirate family things. So when Jim Lad and his dad go off on a piratey quest to find some treasure, they're super excited... only to be munched up by the feared Pirate Cruncher! This clever series serves up lots of nautical giggles and will be enjoyed by all children.





Pugs of the Frozen North

Written by Philip Reeve & Sarah McIntyre

Published by Oxford University Press

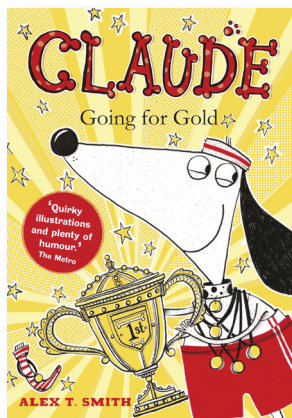
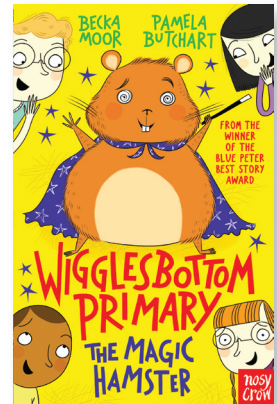
Shen and Sika are desperate to win the Race to the Top of the World, but they'll have to race sea monsters, yetis and snow trolls for the victory! Fortunately, they have a pack of 66 sled-pulling pugs and a lot of determination on their side. A wonderful illustrated story that will delight animal and zany comedy fans alike.

Wigglesbottom Primary: The Magic Hamster

Written by Pamela Butchart,
illustrated by Becka Moor

Published by Nosy Crow

This instalment of the greatly loved Wigglesbottom Primary series sees class 2F puzzling over the great mysteries of their school existence, including the makeup of the mashed potato and what really happens when you eat a fly by accident. With three madcap stories in one book, this is a perfect introduction to chapter books for young readers.

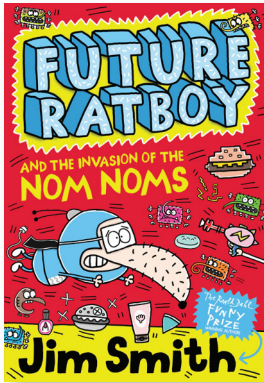


Claude: Going for Gold

Written by Alex T. Smith

Published by Hodder Children's Books

It's The Stonking Great Big Sports Day, and returning hero Claude is itching to take part! The only problem is that he's just not very good at sports. However, when Claude spies a very shifty pair hanging around the trophy, he spots his chance to save the day. Hilarious and beautifully illustrated, Claude's most recent adventure is a gleeful adventure for the sporty and non-sporty alike.



Future Ratboy and the Invasion of the Nom-Noms

Written by Jim Smith

Published by Egmont

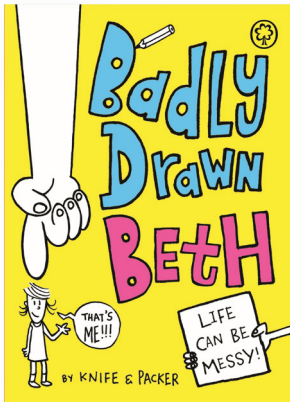
Future Ratboy (A.K.A Colin Lamppost) has been zapped millions of years into the future by a bolt of lightning. As if that's not bad enough, horrible little insects are turning everyone into zombies. Can Future Ratboy and his sidekick Not Bird save Shnozville? And how will they ever find their way home? A brilliantly hilarious superhero comedy adventure, perfect for fans of *Wimpy Kid*.

Harper and the Circus of Dreams

Written by Carrie Burnell,
illustrated by Laura Ellen Anderson

Published by Scholastic

Talented musician Harper lives with her Aunt Sassy after being handed over by her parents in mysterious circumstances. But when a magical girl leads Harper and her friends to The Circus of Dreams in the sky, they begin to realise something about Harper's past. Featuring fortune tellers, a mermaid acrobat and an aerobatic troupe, this magical story also has real heart.

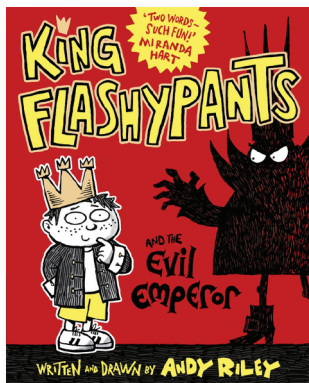


Badly Drawn Beth

Written by Knife & Packer

Published by Orchard

Beth's world isn't so different from anyone else's - the tedium of the first day of term, the trauma of the family barbecue - except that Beth records the joys and trials of her life by drawing them in her diary. There's plenty of fun and anarchic humour to be had in this fish finger- and swamp monster-filled story.



King Flashypants and the Evil Emperor

Written by Andy Riley

Published by Hodder Children's Books

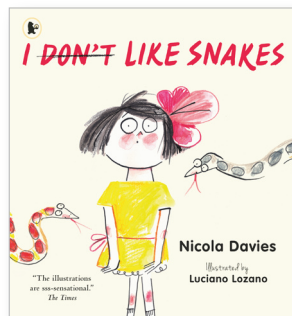
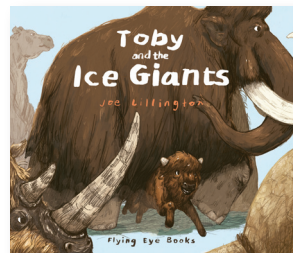
Nine-year-old King Edwin rules his kingdom generously. His subjects are merry, plump and smiley, especially as Edwin gives them free chocolate every Friday. However, when the peasants revolt and elect a new Evil Emperor, chaos ensues... Accompanied by hilarious black-and-white cartoons, this slapstick tale will appeal to those who love something silly.

Toby and the Ice Giants

Written by Joe Lillington

Published by Flying Eye

Set, just after the last Ice Age, this is the story of a baby bison called Toby who decides to explore his surroundings. Toby learns lots of facts about the different animals, and even meets some humans too. A charming story with lively illustrations, this is an interesting fiction/nonfiction mix that will fascinate young fans of the prehistoric.



I Don't Like Snakes

Written by Nicola Davies,
illustrated by Luciano Lozano

Published by Walker Books

The girl in this book doesn't share her family's enthusiasm for snakes. However, as they tell her more about the incredible reptiles, she has a change of heart. This extremely informative book contains a wealth of fascinating facts about snakes as well as sketchy, humorous illustrations. A great book for children who love to absorb factual information alongside a story.



The Princess in Black and the Perfect Princess Party

Written by Shannon Hale & Dean Hale,
illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Published by Candlewick Press

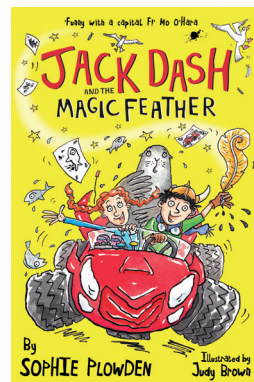
Magnolia seems to be the perfect princess, but she has a secret. Whenever her alarm goes off, she swaps her glitzy gowns for an all-black disguise in order to fight monsters and save the kingdom! A great twist on the traditional princess genre, with a strong female protagonist, this is sure to be a firm favourite with superhero princesses everywhere.

Jack Dash and the Magic Feather

Written by Sophie Plowden,
illustrated by Judy Brown

Published by Catnip Publishing

On the day that Jack's family moves to a new house, he finds a magic feather in the attic that makes whatever he draws real. Problem is, he accidentally draws a sea lion, which is pretty hard to keep secret, not least from Coco, the annoying girl next door. Surreal humour and a page-turning plot will keep boys and girls hooked.

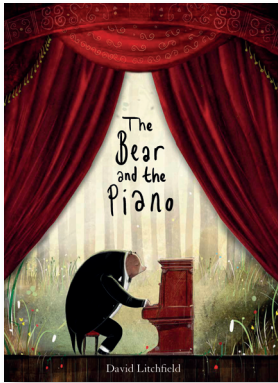


Rabbit & Bear: Rabbit's Bad Habits

Written by Julian Gough,
illustrated by Jim Field

Published by Hodder Children's Books

Gentle Bear wakes up early from hibernation one day and decides to build a snowman. Grumpy, know-it-all, poo-eating Rabbit comes along and lectures Bear on how to do it best. Then, Wolf comes along, hungry for some rabbit pie, and it is Bear that proves she knows best when it comes to friendship. A beautiful modern classic about friends and sharing.



The Bear & The Piano

Written by David Litchfield

Published by Frances Lincoln

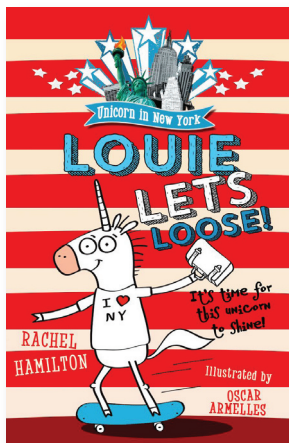
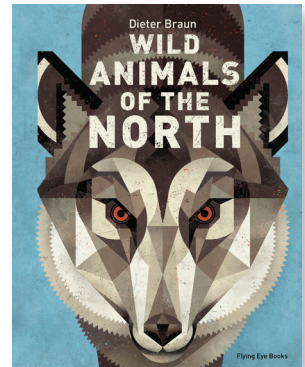
One day in the forest, a young bear stumbles upon a piano and teaches himself to play it. The bear's piano playing makes him a huge star, but he misses the friends and family he has left behind. Could it be that money and celebrity are not everything? A moving tale of exploration and belonging, boasting some beautiful artwork.

Wild Animals of the North

Written by Dieter Braun

Published by Flying Eye

Beginning with Puma and ending with Wolverine, this large hardback takes us on an animal journey through North America, Europe and Asia, detailing a variety of familiar and less familiar animals in vivid colours and stylish design. Ideal for animal-loving children, as well as a beautiful and informative focus for any school animal conservation project.



Unicorn in New York: Louie Lets Loose!

Written by Rachel Hamilton,
illustrated by Oscar Armelles

Published by Oxford University Press

Louie's struggling to fit in at the New York School of Performing Arts, despite having the best roommates ever. But with the help of his new friends, Louie steps up to put on a performance the other students will never forget! A brilliant tale of friendship and adapting to a new school that will keep even the most reluctant reader entertained.

"I believe, strongly, that we are in a quest for the survival of books and readers. It's a quest that we must win and one I have been engaged in with for 18 years."

Author and BookTrust Writer in Residence, Cressida Cowell



Books for 8 and above



The Mystery of the Jewelled Moth

Written by Katherine Woodfine

Published by Egmont

Sophie and Lil work at Sinclair's Department Store, London's fanciest shop. In the second of the series, the girls investigate the mysterious disappearance of the Jewelled Moth, exploring Chinatown and following a trail of terrible secrets that lead straight to The Baron, London's most dangerous criminal mastermind. Fantastic period detail and great characters ensure a page-turning read.

Perijee and Me

Written by Ross Montgomery

Published by Faber & Faber

When 11 year old Caitlin discovers a shrimp-like alien creature on the shores of her island home, she takes responsibility for teaching it about the world. There's only one problem - Perijee won't stop growing. Filled with wonder, joy and adventure, Perijee and Me is a surreal and beautiful modern classic.





Superhero Street

Written by Phil Earle

Published by Hachette Children's

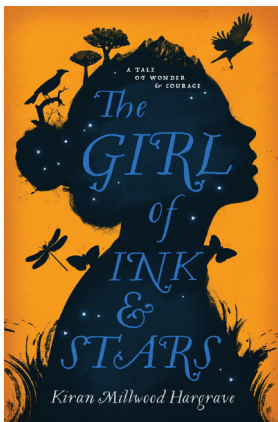
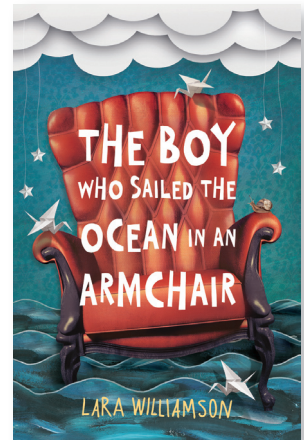
Michael J Mouse is Mouse the Mighty, possibly the greatest swimming goggle-wearing superhero of all time. When a daring jewel heist goes wrong, he and his superhero mum Lady Lollipop (along with a group of very unusual superhero vigilantes) step up and prove that it's not just costumes that make people special. A story with tons of warmth about a very special family.

The Boy Who Sailed the Ocean in an Armchair

Written by Lara Williamson

Published by Usborne

Becket Rumsey has several mysteries to solve: why dad decided they needed to run away in the middle of the night, leaving their sort-of-new-mum Pearl – and how to say a proper, final goodbye to his real mum. Sad and funny, this is a tremendous story about how children cope with family breakups and bereavement that somehow also incorporates a snail called Brian.

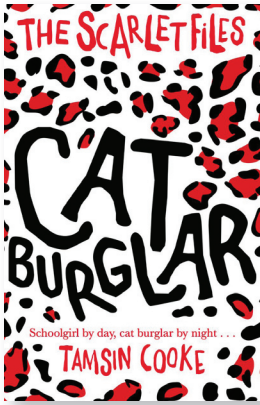


The Girl of Ink and Stars

Written by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

Published by Chicken House

Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her father once mapped. When her closest friend disappears, she volunteers to guide the search. Following her map, her heart and an ancient myth, Isabella discovers the true end of her journey: to save the island itself. Hargrave has created an utterly original world, complete with political intrigue and fascinating myths and beliefs.



The Scarlet Files: Cat Burglar

Written by Tamsin Cooke

Published by Oxford University Press

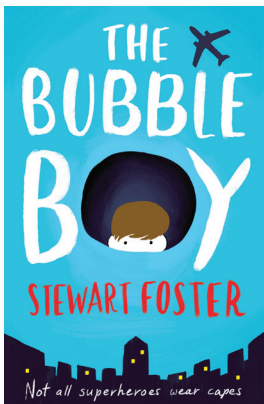
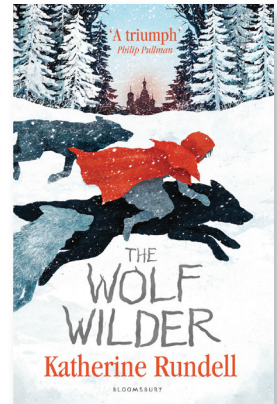
Scar McCall: schoolgirl by day, cat burglar by night, working with her dad to retrieve stolen treasures and return them to their rightful owners. But when her dad goes missing, Scar has to investigate the connection between his disappearance and an ancient Aztec bracelet. Full of action and adventure, there is also a surprising animal conservation theme in this excellent read.

The Wolf Wilder

Written by Katherine Rundell,
illustrated by Gelrev Ongbico

Published by Bloomsbury

Feodora and her mother, a wolf wilder, live in the snowbound woods of Russia. But when the murderous hostility of the Russian Army threatens her existence, Feo is left with no option but to go on the run. What follows is a classic-feeling story of revolution and adventure, about standing up for the things you love and fighting back.



The Bubble Boy

Written by Stewart Foster

Published by Simon & Schuster

Joe is the bubble boy: living in a sterile room in a hospital because of a rare condition that affects his immune system. Like any other child, Joe loves films, superheroes, football and chatting to his friends, but his whole life is lived through a screen. Children will find that it's their similarity to Joe that surprises them, despite his condition.



An Eagle in the Snow

Written by Michael Morpurgo

Published by HarperCollins

Barney is on a train with his mother when the journey grinds to a halt. A stranger in their cabin offers to tell the true story of a World War I soldier, who had a chance to kill a young Adolf Hitler, but let him go. But how does the stranger know so many personal details? A thought-provoking story that young history enthusiasts will welcome.

The Bone Sparrow

Written by Zana Fraillon

Published by Orion

Born in a refugee camp, Subhi has never seen the outside world. At night, he dreams that the sea finds its way to his tent, bringing with it unusual treasures. And one day it brings him Jimmie: an illiterate young girl who lives near the refugee camp. A beautiful, heartbreaking, hopeful and deeply moving novel that explores a tragic and relevant topic with incredible skill.

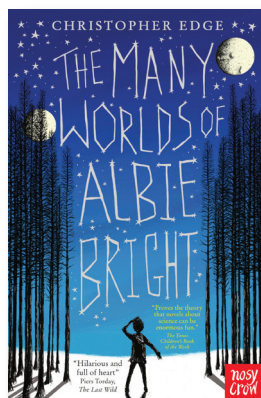


Pax

Written by Sara Pennypacker,
illustrated Jon Klassen

Published by HarperCollins

Peter's dad is joining the war, and Peter must leave his pet fox Pax behind, but Pax has never lived in the wild. Peter can't imagine life without Pax, so despite the danger, they set out to find each other. This is a touching story of the bond between a child and his pet, as well as a depiction of the devastating consequences of war.



The Many Worlds of Albie Bright

Written by Christopher Edge

Published by Nosy Crow

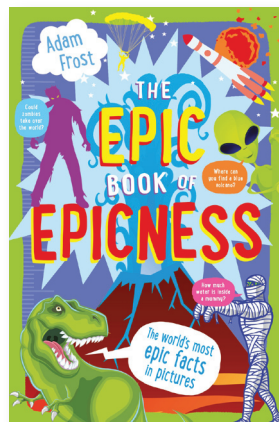
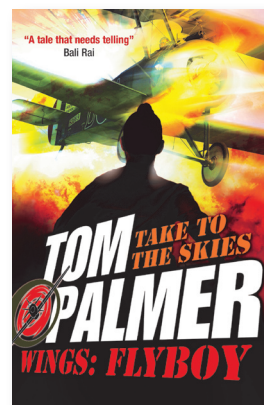
Albie's mum has died, and his dad's busy travelling all over the world, now that he's a famous scientist on TV. Inspired by physics, Albie wonders if his mum might still be alive in a parallel universe. Can he travel through space/time to see her again? An original take on the loss of a parent, this is an entertaining and sensitive book.

Take to the Skies, Wings: Flyboy

Written by Tom Palmer

Published by Barrington Stoke

While at a summer school next to an abandoned airfield, Jatinder reads a book by a World War 1 pilot, Hardit Singh Malik, and finds himself transported into battle inside a Sopwith Camel aeroplane. Did his adventure really happen, or was it a dream? Adventure merges with history in this page-turning read.



The Epic Book of Epicness

Written by Adam Frost

Published by Bloomsbury

Did you know that at Christmas time in Norway, you should leave a bowl of porridge outside your door – otherwise gnomes will play tricks on you? Or that a beach in Hawaii has green sand? In full colour throughout with great, modern design, every page of this book is full of genuinely fascinating and unusual facts.



Mega Robo Bros

Written by Neill Cameron

Published by David Fickling Books (Phoenix Presents)

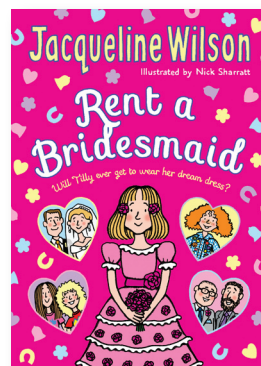
Alex and Freddy are brothers, and they're the most powerful robots in the universe. Wrestling with bullies, babysitters and school trips, the boys also have to take on evil robots in all shapes and sizes. Any story lover will enjoy the balance of everyday home-life struggles and trying to avoid the end of the world.

Rent a Bridesmaid

Written by Jacqueline Wilson

Published by Doubleday (PRH)

Being a bridesmaid is Tilly's idea of heaven, so she puts an advert in the window of her local shop, offering professional bridesmaid services for a very small fee. Jacqueline Wilson weaves a magical tale of love, loss and friendship as Tilly learns that life's realities don't always match our dreams - but can still be worthwhile, happy and rewarding.

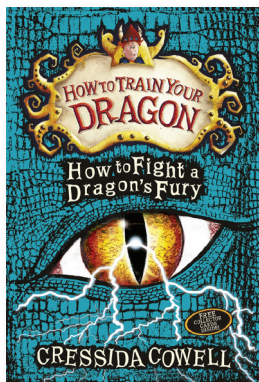


Smart About Sharks

Written by Owen Davey

Published by Flying Eye

Why are sharks such great predators? How do they hunt their food? What are the weirdest looking sharks? And how can we keep the oceans healthy to help sharks? Presenting an ever-popular topic with children in a brilliantly appealing and gender neutral way, this fantastic, high quality illustrated book is fascinating and attractive.



How to Fight a Dragon's Fury

Written by Cressida Cowell

Published by Hachette Children's

The epic finale in the How To Train Your Dragon series sees either humans or dragons facing extinction, and it's down to Hiccup Horrendous Haddock the Third to defeat the Dragon Guardians of Tomorrow and prove he is the rightful king. Stunning illustrations and a dramatic end to a much loved story will enthrall young readers.

Professor Astro Cat's Atomic Adventure

Written by Dominic Walliman & Ben Newman

Published by Flying Eye

Do you want big, bold graphics, jokes and a cat astronaut to help you get your brain around science? What is gravity? How do magnets work? Where does electricity come from? Laid out beautifully, covering a topic on each double-page spread with information in bite-size chunks, this book will give you activities and brain teasers to keep you occupied for hours.



The Sword of Herobrine

Written by Jim Anotsu

Published by Penguin



Arthur's sister Mallu is obsessed with Minecraft. Arthur can't stand it, but when a mysterious code sucks his sister into the Overworld, he has no choice but to follow her. Arthur and Mallu must battle creepers, endermen and zombies if they're ever going to make it home. Set in the world of the game Minecraft, this unofficial fan story will thrill fans of the popular game.

"I believe that we are ALL readers, that there is a story out there for every child, waiting to ignite their imaginations."

Author and former BookTrust Writer in Residence Phil Earle



Illustrated by © Chris Haughton

A programme for school, library and home

Each year, over 2 million children receive books from BookTrust through one of our programmes.

As the UK's leading children's reading charity, it's something we're very proud of but acknowledge there is still work to be done. Our mission is to reach as many children throughout the UK as possible and inspire a love of reading which will last a lifetime.

BookTrust's reading programmes provide books for children at crucial stages of their school life. We've worked closely with schools and libraries to create a whole host of resources; from illustrated posters and guidance sheets to monthly book packs. We hope there's plenty to keep your students engaged.

Here are some programmes we think you might enjoy...

Story Hunters

Primary School: Story Hunters



Story Hunters is our brand new reading initiative for Year 4 children, designed to help struggling or reluctant readers. The aim is to encourage a love of reading so each pupil will get their own personalised pack of books, games and resources once a month, for six months.

Price: £99 per child (inc VAT), each pupil receives six Story Hunters packs.



Primary School: The Ant Club

The Ant Club is an extended offer for eligible primary schools, aimed at pupils in both Reception and Year 1 classes. The programme offers free resources designed to inspire, boost skills and build confidence. The printed and online resources include rhyme, poetry, drama and creative texts to support work with children and parents around communication, language and literacy.

To find out if your school is eligible, email antclub@booktrust.org.uk

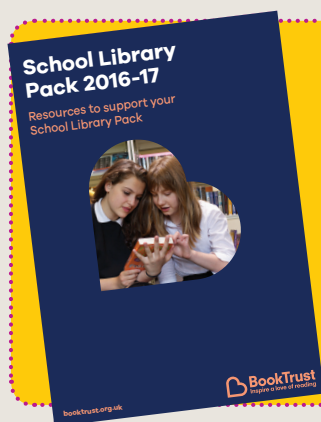
Secondary School: Bookbuzz



Bookbuzz is our reading programme that supports schools to encourage reading for pleasure, independent choice and develop a whole school reading culture. Participating schools give their students the opportunity to choose their own book to keep from a list of 17 titles suitable for 11-13-year-olds and carefully selected by a panel of experts. The programme is aimed primarily at Year 7 and Year 8 students but can be extended to children of other ages.

Price: £3 per student (minimum order of 35 pupil sign-ups).

Sign up now closed for 2016/2017 but keep an eye out for news on 2017/2018.



Secondary School: School Library Pack

The School Library Pack is available free of charge to any school or education provider in England with Year 7 students. The programme aims to support staff and create a fun reading culture which reaches all students. Your pack will include more than 40 books from a range of genres and supporting resources.

Price: Free of charge.

Letterbox Club

Letterbox Club is an award-winning programme which focusses on improving the educational outlook for looked-after children aged 5-13. Each month for six months we provide families a parcel of books, maths activities and educational materials.



Price: £145 per child (including VAT). Sign up for 2017 opens on 1 September 2016.

Sign up to one of our programmes today by visiting
www.booktrust.org.uk/programmes

Top 5 Tips for Encouraging Reading for Pleasure in Schools

1

Offer students the opportunity to read other books from the same genre as the book they selected. A display in the library showing the Children's Book Week books and similar titles would bring this to life.

2

Organise a Children's Book Week fun day – students could come dressed as a character from a book they love or bring a clue to the identity of their character to school with them.

3

Organise a book battle or debate to decide which books are the best – this could be student vs. student, students vs. teachers or even teachers vs. teachers.

4

Encourage the students to interview another student (or teacher) on one of the Children's Book Week books.

5

Have a storytelling session where students reflect on a book they have read and think of different endings, think of other stories involving the characters, or try to write a piece in the same style or genre.

Become a BookTrust Friend

Help us get books and resources to more children and families from as little as £3 a month.

Your kind donation could help us send book parcels to children growing up in care who may not have books of their own; or provide tailored book packs for sight or hearing impaired children who might struggle with mainstream books.

With your support we can break down barriers and ensure that no child misses out on the life-changing benefits that reading can bring.

But being a Friend works both ways. So to say thank you, as a Friend, you'll receive:

- An exclusive Friends booklet
- A BookTrust Friends bookmark and window sticker
- Regular emails telling you all the latest book news

We like to say that a book is not just a book – it's a doorway.



**Join BookTrust Friends online
at booktrust.org.uk/friend**

**"I'm a BookTrust Friend
because I want more
children to experience
the benefits of reading."**

Heidi, London

