EYFS

Contemporary Fiction



Aliens Love Underpants
Clare Freedman

This zany, hilarious tale is delightfully brought to life by Ben Cort's vibrant illustrations. With a madcap, rhyming text by award-winning Claire Freedman, this is sure to enchant and amuse the whole family! Perfect for joining in, this story is fantastically fresh and funny - you'll laugh your pants off!

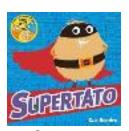
- Great maths linkssuperb for exploring pattern
- First in a series including Pirates, Monsters and Dinosaurs
- Rhyming narrative



Ssh! We Have a Plan Chris Haughton

A picture book about a beautiful bird, four friends and plans gone wrong... The friends are out for a walk. Suddenly, they spot it – a beautiful bird perched high in a tree! They simply must have it and – ssh! – they have a plan. But, at the turn of the page, we find a ridiculous bunch of very tangled characters and a blissfully oblivious bird, flying away. One hilarious foiled plan after another and it's clear that this goofy gang cannot catch that elusive birdie!

- Simple story with repetitive structure and language- great for children to learn by heart
- Good teaching point for capital letters and full stops- as they're often missing in this text
- Good for early inference



SupertatoSue Hendra

Meet Supertato! He's always there for you when the chips are down. He's the superhero with eyes everywhere - but now there's a pea on the loose. A very, very naughty pea.

Has Supertato finally met his match?

- Superhero theme with a strong structure
- Problem solving
- Sequels available: 'Veggies Assemble', 'Run Veggies, Run', 'Evil Pea Rules' and 'Veggies in the valley of Doom'
- Lots of writing opportunities



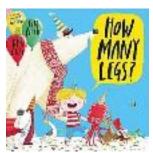
The Foggy, Foggy Forest Nick Sharratt

Who's lurking in the foggy forest? Look through the trees and guess the shapes to find out!

What can that be in the foggy, foggy forest?

Take a trip through the mysterious misty landscape – hilarious fairytale fun lies around every corner.

- Good for visual literacyencourages young children to look and make sense of silhouettes they can see
- Good for developing early prediction skills
- Repetitive question throughout for children to join in with.

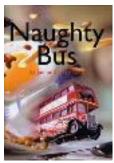


How Many Legs? Kes Gray

From the award winning creators of *Oi Frog!* comes a hilarious counting picture book about our four-legged - and two-legged and eight-legged - friends!

How many legs would there be if a polar bear came for tea? How high would the leg count go if a squid rode in on a buffalo? As more and more animals join in the fun, count along if you can!

- Great Maths links –
 excellent for counting
 and addition- you could
 support with
 manipulatives too
- Rhyming text
- Links to a topic on animals

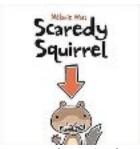


Naughty Bus
Jan and Jerry Oke

A young boy receives a toy bus as a present and has great fun exploring the world with his new toy which turns out to be quite a naughty bus – or is it the boy being naughty?

This is a very unusual picture book with a story told through close up photography and mainly narrated by the toy bus.

- Photographs rather than illustrations
- Playful font types that help to show the meaning of words
- Good for early inference



Scaredy Squirrel Melanie Watt

The first book in the Scaredy Squirrel series is a comical story of an endearing squirrel who learns what can happen when he's brave enough to take a risk. Scaredy Squirrel never leaves his nut tree. It's way too dangerous out there. He remains prepared with an emergency kit which includes antibacterial soap, Band-Aids and a parachute. But one day, his worst nightmare comes true!

- Challenging vocabulary
- Links to PSED
- Models lists very well
- Links with Maths through days of the week and time
- Routine
- Simple instructions
- Rich in humour



1 to 20, Animals Aplenty Katie Viggers

Fun to read and educational, 1 to 20,
Animals Aplenty shows each number both
numerically and as a quantity, which is the
key to teaching children not only to count
but also the building blocks of mathematical
skills. All this education is disguised by
Katie's adorable, detailed creatures, who
romp through the numbers with
unexpected and frequently silly props--and
it all rhymes!

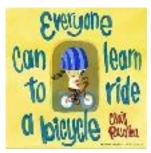
- A simple yet stunning counting book which
- Rhyming text
- Clear layout for counting



The Queen's Knickers
Nicholas Allan

It's a busy year for the Queen - she has lots of important events to attend. Meanwhile, a little girl is wondering what knickers Her Majesty will choose to wear on a school visit! Will they be her 'at home' knickers - adorned with corgis - or her 'garden party' knickers, or perhaps her woolly Balmoral ones...?

- Rich in humour
- Good for vocabulary
- Simplistic text written mostly in present, rather than past tense.



to Ride a Bicycle
Chris Raschka

In this simple yet emotionally rich "guide," a father takes his daughter through all the steps in the process--from choosing the perfect bicycle to that triumphant first successful ride. Using very few words and lots of expressive pictures, here is a picture book that not only shows kids how to learn to ride, but captures what it *feels* like to fall . . . get up . . . fall again . . . and finally "by luck, grace, and determination" ride a bicycle!

- Growth Mindset
- Resilience
- Minimal words
- Evocative illustrations
- Good as a stimulus for writing simple instructions and/or lists

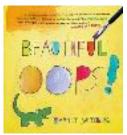


Lost and Found Oliver Jeffers

There once was a boy and one day a penguin arrives on his doorstep. The boy decides the penguin must be lost and tries to return him. But no one seems to be missing a penguin. So the boy decides to take the penguin home himself, and they set out in his row boat on a journey to the South Pole.

But when they get there, the boy discovers that maybe home wasn't what the penguin was looking for after all.

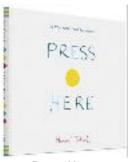
- Ideal for Mantle of the Expert
- Explores themes of friendship and belonging
- Simple storyline about amending mistakes
- One of four stories with the boy as the central character
- Links to homes/habitats



Beautiful Oops!Barney Saltzberg

Every mistake can lead to a beautiful new adventure: That's the lovely life lesson behind this inspiring board book full of popups, pull-the-flaps, and pretty amazing not to mention surprising feats of paper engineering.

- Growth Mindset
- Links to Expressive Arts and Design
- Teaches resilience when mistakes are made
- Helps develop imagination
- Lift the flaps book

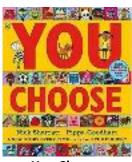


Press Here Herve Tulle

Press Here is an award winning invitation to push the yellow button on the cover and trigger a magical journey of colour, imagination, and virtual interactivity. All the more remarkable that this adventure has all occured on the flat surface of the simple, printed page, especially in today s digital age.

Simple instructions are given on each page for the child to follow and interact with the book.

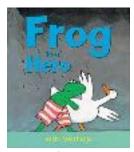
- Not a story, but a series of fun commands/instructions
- Great for colour recognition, positional language and following instructions
- One of four interactive books by the same author
- Some opportunity to practice 1:1 correspondence



You Choose Pippa Goodhart

Imagine you could go anywhere, meet anyone and do anything. Where would you live? Where would you sleep? Who would be your friends? What games would you play? Go on . . . you choose! With the help of Nick Sharratt's wonderfully detailed illustrations, Pippa Goodhart explores a whole range of scenarios where choosing is made fun! This is a timeless classic which children will love to return to again and again - and there's something new to find on every read!

- Recommended for Reception
- Not a book to read- but a book to discuss
- Illustrations provide prompts
- Great for oracy and vocabulary development
- Can be used as stimulus for writing.
- PSED links



Frog is a Hero Max Velthuijs

When the rains come and the river bursts its banks, Frog, Duck, Pig and Hare are stranded. It is Frog who is a hero when he risks his life to help his friends.

- Well placed in Reception
- Good for vocabulary development
- A good starting point for children to rework a plot to create their own simple story with a big problem.
- PSHE links



SuperkidClaire Freedman

There's a boy quite ordinary, He looks like me or you, But in secret... he is SUPERKID - There's nothing he can't do! With x-ray vision, super speed and bravery by the bagload, Superkid is always on hand to save the day! He can spot bullies trying to steal your bubblegum, he knows just what to do with a plateful of broccoli, and he can make even pirates surrender. An encouraging message about every child's potential to be a hero.

- Recommended for Reception
- Rhyming text
- Familiar setting of classroom
- Superhero theme



Room on the Broom
Julia Donaldson

The witch and her cat fly happily over forests, rivers and mountains on their broomstick until a stormy wind blows away the witch's hat, bow and wand. Luckily, they are retrieved by a dog, a bird and a frog, who are all keen for a ride on the broom. A very funny story of quick wits and friendship, *The Room on the Broom* is another smash hit from the unparalleled picture-book partnership of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler, creators of *The Gruffalo*.

- Rhyming text with repetitive language patterns
- Enticing illustrationsanimation available
- We also recommend 'The Gruffalo', 'Squash and a Squeeze' and 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' by the same author.

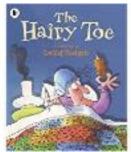


Marvin Wanted More Joseph Theobald

Marvin is not happy. Why are the other sheep bigger than him? And why are they faster than him? And WHY can they jump higher than him?

Something has to change, and Marvin knows exactly how to change it . . . by EATING! Because if he's bigger than the other sheep, then surely he will be better, too. A brilliantly funny picture book about a brilliantly greedy sheep!

- Recommended for Nursery
- Great for PSED and understanding the world
- Promotes sharing
- Cultural aspects
- Tactile versions available

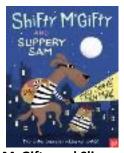


The Hairy ToeDaniel Postgate

In this spine-tickling traditional tale, an old woman finds a hairy toe – and soon the owner comes looking for it!

While out picking beans an old woman finds a hairy toe – and soon wishes she hadn't – especially when its owner comes looking for it... Humorously illustrated by Daniel Postgate, this spine-tickling traditional tale is perfect for halloween and shouts to be read out loud!

- Spooky story- good for exploring atmosphere
- Encourages anticipation
- Simplistic text
- Engaging cartoon-style illustrations
- Good for vocabulary development
- Repetitive elements to join in with
- Ideal to write a class sequel



Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam Tracey Corderoy

Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam are robbers. The trouble is they are not very good at it and keep coming away empty handed. The two hapless robbers, realising the error of their ways, decide to turn away from their life of crime and find a new career as café owners as their cake making proves such a hit. An amusing story with appealing characters and wonderfully detailed illustrations. The rhyming text makes it memorable and easy to join in with.

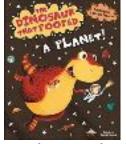
- Links to PSED
- Use to discuss stereotypes
- Excellent for vocabulary development
- Writing opportunitiesparticularly descriptions
- Rhyming text
- Other books with same characters are available



Where's My Teddy Jez Alborough

Yikes! Eddie's in for the surprise of his life when he discovers that his teddy bear has grown much too big to cuddle! But there's fun in store when Eddie meets up with a real bear who's got just the opposite problem--his lost teddy bear has shrunk to a size that's much too small for such an enormous bear to cuddle. Could it be a case of mistaken identity? This fast-paced comedy of errors, illustrated with Jez Alborough's quirky artwork, is guaranteed to have children--and bears alike--reaching for their teddies!

- Rhyming text
- Links to Maths through size, measures and ordering
- Engaging illustrations which encourage anticipation



Dinosaur who Pooped a Planet
Tom Fletcher

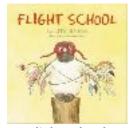
Danny and Dinosaur are back, and this time they are going to space!

But when Danny realises he's forgotten Dino's lunch box, the very hungry dinosaur eats everything in sight, including their only way home: the rocket!

How will Dino get them back home?

There's poop, planets and pandemonium in this supersonic space adventure!

- Rhyming text
- Space adventure
- Good for vocabulary development
- Lengthy text compared to some others
- Gruesome elements that children will love
- Lots of writing opportunities



Flight School Lita Judge

A persevering penguin is determined to fly in this adorably inspiring picture book from the creator of *Red Hat* and *Red Sled*.

Although little Penguin has the soul of an eagle, his body wasn't built to soar. But Penguin has an irrepressible spirit, and he adamantly follows his dreams to flip, flap, fly! Even if he needs a little help with the technical parts, this penguin is ready to live on the wind.

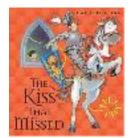
- Growth mindest
- Themes of perseverance, resilience, friendship and recognising achievement
- Simple storyline with some challenging vocabulary to explore



Little Rabbit Foo Foo Michael Rosen

He's wild, he's wicked, he's Little Rabbit Foo Foo! In this read-aloud romp by the incomparable Michael Rosen, author of We're Going on a Bear Hunt, the bully-boy bunny likes nothing better than to ride through the forest bopping everyone on the head. Wriggly worms, tigers, no one is safe. But here comes the Good Fairy — and she is not amused!

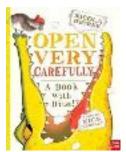
- Enjoyable tale with fairy godmother and a naughty rabbit
- Repetitive language for children to join in with/learn by heart
- Surprising open endinggreat to explore with children what might happen next?



The Kiss that Missed David Melling

The king is in a hurry and blows his son a bedtime kiss... but it misses. The kiss flies out of the window and a brave knight is sent on a fairytale quest to bring it back. Since this classic picturebook was published over 10 years ago, it has sold over 300,000 copies and become a favourite bedtime story for boys and girls everywhere.

- Knight fantasy adventure
- Good for vocabulary development
- Good for sequencing events
- Good to compare settings within the text



Open Very Carefully: A Book With Bite Nick Bromley

This very grumpy crocodile has ended up in totally the wrong book, so he proceeds to eat his way out. He tries to escape a storybook that is all wrong for him, but is great fun for the reader! "What is he doing now? He's chewing the pictures! And he's eating the letters too! I think his favourites are O and S."

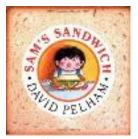
- Begins as a very ordinary looking fairytale but soon becomes something different!
- Actual bite holes in pages which help bring the story to life
- Rich in humour
- Instructions for children to follow
- Identification of letters



On Sudden Hill Linda Sarah

Birt and Etho are best friends, they play on Sudden Hill, making marvellous contraptionsout of cardboard boxes. But then a new boy, Shu, wants to join in too. Birt isn't sure that he wants Shu to join them. Eaten up with jealousy, he goes home and refuses to come out to play. Until Etho and Shu come to his house with the most marvellous cardboard contraption so far...

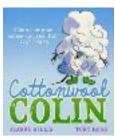
- PSED links- jealousy in friendship and how to overcome it
- Bright, summery images
- Great for early inference
- Non-rhyming story book about the joy of imagination



Sam's Sandwich
David Pelham

When Samantha wants a really special sandwich, her brother Sam offers to make her an unforgettable treat, filled with everything she wants ... and a few not-so-delicious extras. Unfold the lettuce, tomato and cheese fillings in this sandwich-shaped book and guess which creepy-crawly rhyming surprise Sam has added to each layer for his greedy sister.

- Lift the flap book
- Full of humour
- Rhyming text
- We also recommend 'Sam's Hamburger' by the same author



Cottonwool Colin
Jeanne Willis

Colin is small, even for a mouse. His mother refuses to let him play outside with his brothers and sisters unless he is wrapped in a big fluffy ball of cotton wool. But instead of keeping him safe, the cotton wool attracts the attention of every fierce creature imaginable - little boys, ducks, even foxes! After a day of being flung, pecked and chased, Colin returns home without his cotton wool, but feeling much BIGGER, and ready to tell his mother that he can look after himself.

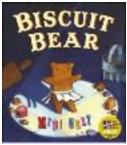
- Great for promoting independence
- Non-rhyming picture book



Shhh! Sally Grindley

Shhh! You are about to enter a giant's castle. Can you get through the book without waking up the enormous scary giant? What will you do if he wakes up? Why shut the book of course! An interactive retelling of a classic fairy tale with flaps and peepholes that will keep children hooked! 'This book is FANTASTIC for storytime with a group of children. It's great to read it with inflection, pretending to be scared of the giant and telling the kids to SHHH!'

- A lift the flap book
- Book takes a route through a giant's castle
- A scary but enjoyable adventure
- Text encourages children to be quiet throughout
- The reader has to close the book to keep the giant from escaping!



Biscuit Bear Mini Grey

When Horace bakes a biscuit in the shape of a bear, little does he know that his edible treat is going to turn into Biscuit Bear! For in the middle of the night, when all is quiet, that is exactly what happens, and Biscuit Bear decides that it is time he made some friends of his own. So, with flour, sugar and butter he does just that. In fact, he makes a whole circus of friends and the fun begins . . .

- Detailed illustrations with lots to talk about
- Ideal as a class focus text
- Good as a prompt for writing lists/ instructions
- A lovely excuse to make some biscuits!



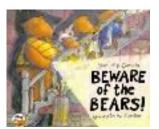
Not a Stick
Antoinette Portis

A beautifully designed book, celebrating the power of the imagination to transform even the most ordinary of objects into something magical.

A stick is just a stick... unless it's not a stick. From fishing rod to dragon-taming sword a small pig shows that a stick will go as far as the imagination allows.

Antoinette Portis captures the thrill of when pretend feels so real that it actually becomes reality. Her simple, spare text and illustrations show that seeing truly depends on the ability to believe in the possibilities.

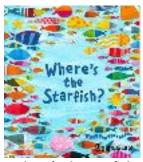
- We also recommend 'Not a Box' by the same author
- This is not a story- more of a list book
- Great insight for adults about how children play
- Relatable for childrenpromotes open-ended play
- Links well with 'Sudden Hill'



Beware of the Bears Alan MacDonald

When the three bears' house is wrecked, there is only one suspect, Goldilocks. The three bears take revenge by going to Goldilock's cottage and causing havoc. But when Goldilocks returns, the three bears find they have made a terrible mistake.

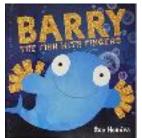
- An alternative version of Goldilocks and the three Bears
- Links to PSED- through character dilemmas and choices
- Link to drama and role play/small world settings in continuous provision



Where's the Starfish
Barroux

Find the whale, the clownfish and the starfish on every page - until the piles of rubbish start to make it much too difficult. Both a Where's Wally-style spotting game and a striking work of art, this almost wordless tale puts the power back in the hands (or fins) of the natural world, with a boldly beautiful twist ending.

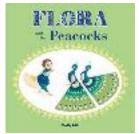
- Wordless picture book
- Covers prominent current topic of ocean plastic
- Look and find book
- Great for vocabulary development
- Great to share in a small group or 1:1



Barry the Fish with Fingers
Sue Hendra

Fish come from all over the ocean to see Puffy the Puffer Fish's amazing bubbles. Big bubbles, small bubbles, square bubbles . . . they've never seen anything quite so amazing, that is until Barry arrives on the scene. Barry is a fish with fingers and he's going to put them to good use. The fish are amazed. Life under the sea will never be the same again . . .

- Themes of differences, friendship and cooperation
- PSED links- Dealing with jealousy
- Fits with an 'Under the Sea' topic
- Great to share as a whole class
- Non-rhyming narrative
- A short read

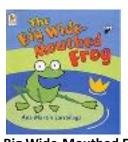


Flora and the Peacocks Molly Idle

Dancing Flora is back, and this time she's found two new friends: a pair of peacocks!
Flora realises that the push-and-pull between three friends can be a delicate dance. Will this trio find a way to get back in step?

In the third book featuring Flora and her feathered friends, Molly Idle's gorgeous art combines with clever flaps to reveal that no matter the challenges, true friends will always find a way to dance, leap, and soar—together.

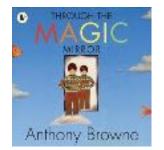
- Completely wordless book which allows children themselves to provide the narrative/explain what's happening
- Lift the flap book
- We also recommend the other Flora books in the series; flamingo, ostrich, penguin



The Big Wide-Mouthed Frog Ana Martín Larrañaga

"I'm a big wide-mouthed frog and I eat flies," says the chirpy big wide-mouthed frog to the kangaroo, the koala, the possum and the emu. "Who are you, and what do you eat?" Then the big wide-mouthed frog meets a crocodile - and finds out that sometimes it's better to keep your big wide mouth closed! Fortunately this is a lesson he learns quickly and says, "I'm just a small narrow-mouthed frog and I'm off!" And away he hops.

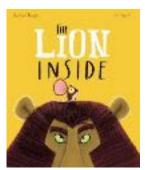
- Traditional Tale/fable
- Good for mathematical vocabulary
- Links to animals- and what they eat.



Through the Magic Mirror Anthony Browne

Toby is fed up. Fed up with books, fed up with toys, fed up with everything. But when he walks through the magic mirror, things are amazingly different. Toby can hardly believe his eyes! Anthony Browne's first book is full of the surreal details and visual humour that have made him one of the world's most popular and acclaimed picture book artists.

- book which helps to teach children to look for hidden clues in the images
- Explores fantasy and surrealism in a familiar setting
- Non-rhyming narrative



The Lion Inside Rachel Bright

A mouse feels small and insecure and determines that what he needs to do is learn how to roar like a lion. He knows he has to act brave when he approaches a lion to learn how. In a hilarious turn of events, the lion is afraid of mice! The mouse comforts the lion, they become friends, and we learn that there's a lion and a mouse inside all of us.

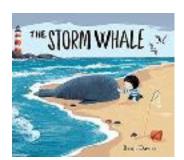
- Story about bravery
- Great for vocabulary development
- Links to Aesop's fable 'The Lion and the Mouse'
- Rhyming text



Shapes at Play Sylvia Borando

Meet the red triangles, the yellow squares and the blue circles, who have a great idea for a game: together, they want to see if they can make a brand new shape! Hopping and bouncing and – bump! – sometimes colliding, they soon realize that they can be anything they want to be! A little house or a speedy car, an apple tree or a runaway train, the possibilities are endless ... they might even be out of this world!

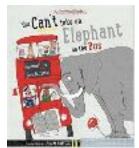
- We also recommend 'Shapes Reshape' by the same author.
- Maths in the environment
- Exploring how triangles, squares and circles can be found all around us.



The Storm Whale Benji Davies

Noi and his father live in a house by the sea, his father works hard as a fisherman and Noi often has only their six cats for company. So when, one day, he finds a baby whale washed up on the beach after a storm, Noi is excited and takes it home to care for it. He tries to keep his new friend a secret, but but there's only so long you can keep a whale in the bath without your dad finding out.

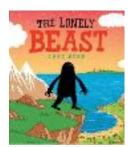
- Non-rhyming narrative
- Beautiful illustrations
- Link to 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers
- Simplistic language
- Short read



You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus

You can't take an elephant on the bus ...
It would simply cause a terrible fuss!
Never put a camel in a sailing boat, or a tiger on a train, and don't even THINK about asking a whale to ride a bike ... This riotous picture book is filled with animals causing total disaster as they try to travel in the most unsuitable vehicles. A real romp of a book, with hilarious rhyming text and spectacular illustrations.

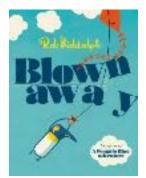
- Rhyming text
- Will appeal to children who like transport/vehicles and animals
- Full of humour
- Fun and a little bit sillychildren will love it
- Advice-like in it's style.



The Lonely Beast Chris Judge

Have you heard of the Beasts? No, not many people have. That's because they are very rare. This is the tale of one such Beast, whose determination to overcome his loneliness leads him to undertake a daring and dangerous quest to find others like him...

- A slightly longer read than most picture books
- Themes of loneliness, friendship and bravery
- Non-rhyming narrative
- 'The Brave Beast' and 'The Snow Beast' are also available by the same author



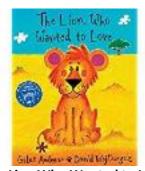
Blown Away Rob Biddulph

Come on an unexpected journey with a fearless blue penguin.

It's a windy day, and he has a brand new kite – but where's he going on this maiden flight?

Penguin Blue and his friends go on a gloriously illustrated adventure full of good ideas, homesickness and the perils of kites.

- Rhyming text
- Themes of adventure and friendship
- Explore Antarctica and the Jungle
- We also recommend
 'Odd Dog Out',
 'GRRRRR', 'Sunk!' and
 'Kevin' by the same
 author



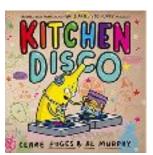
The Lion Who Wanted to Love Giles Andreae

Leo isn't like other lion cubs. Instead of chasing zebras and antelopes, he wants to make friends with them. But can a lion who's so different ever fit in with the rest of his pride?

Learn how Leo's kindness brings happiness to the jungle in this colourful picture book story. Winner of the Red House Children's Book Award.

(Same author as 'Giraffe's Can't Dance')

- Rhyming text
- Good for language development- some challenging vocabulary
- **PSED links**
- Themes of difference, individuality and kindness

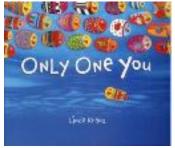


Kitchen Disco Clare Foges

At night when you are sleeping There's a party in your house, It's a pumping, jumping, funky bash When all the lights go out . . . When the sun goes down, the Kitchen Disco

starts up - and all the fruit in the fruit bowl come out to play. There are lemons who break-dance, tangerines who twirl and some very over-excited apples.

- Rhyming text
- Rich in humour
- Holographic foil spread in middle of book
- We also recommend 'Bathroom Boogie' by the same author.



Only One You Linda Kranz

There's only one you in this great big world. Make it a better place. Adri's mama and papa share some of the wisdom they have gained through the years with their eager son. Their words, simple and powerful, are meant to comfort and guide him as he goes about exploring the world. This exquisitely illustrated book explodes with color and honest insights.

- Ideal for transition
- Shows that every individual is unique
- Lovely artwork that can be imitated by children easily
- Teaches acceptance



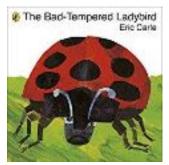
Oliver's Vegetables Vivian French

Do you like chips? Oliver does. In fact, he won't eat anything else - until he plays a game with his grandpa.

Whatever vegetable Oliver finds in the garden, he must eat. On Monday, he pulls up carrots, on Tuesday, it is spinach . . . An excellent book for parents with slightly fussy children, which also introduces the days of the week.

- Great for getting children to think about where their food comes from
- Non-rhyming text
- 'Oliver's Milkshake' and 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' by the same author

Literary Heritage



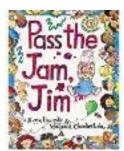
The Bad-Tempered Ladybird
Eric Carle

A classic picture book by Eric Carle: *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird*.
The bad-tempered ladybird picks fights with

The bad-tempered ladybird picks fights with every animal he meets, but soon learns the importance of friends and turns into a far nicer, happier bug.

The beautifully illustrated pages of this entertaining book demonstrate the sizes of the different animals and the sun's path across the sky as time passes.

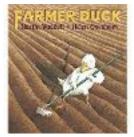
- Non-rhyming text with lots of character dialogue
- Different sized pages within for children to explore
- Time sequencing using o'clock
- Links beautifully with a minibeast topic
- PSED links- sharing



Pass the Jam, Jim Kaye Umansky

A rhyming picture book in which a group of children prepare for a party. The bright, action-packed illustrations feature all kinds of delicious food.

- Rhyming text with a repeated pattern the children can join in with
- Strong rhythm in the language
- Great for modelling expression and intonation
- Links with celebration theme



Farmer Duck Martin Wadell

A hardworking duck is rescued from life with a lazy farmer in this award-winning picture book classic. This book tells the story of a hardworking duck, who has the very bad luck of living with a lazy farmer. The duck cooks and cleans, tends the fields and cares for the other animals on the farm – and all while the famer lies in bed! That is until the day the animals decide to take action ... and come to the rescue with a simple, but heroic plan

- Non-rhyming narrative
- Themes of roles and responsibilities.
- Great for role play



Meanies Joy Cowley

In this classic silly book we meet the Meanies who have some very odd habits like drinking bath water and mud and sleeping in rubbish bins.

Lots of opportunity for interaction and an excellent choice for emergent readers and read aloud lesson.

- Great for language learners as there is lots of repetition in the text.
- We also recommend 'The Meanies Came to School One Day' as a sequel and 'Don't Open this Book' by the same author

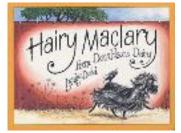


We're Going on a Bear Hunt Michael Rosen

We're going on a bear hunt. We're going to catch a big one. Will you come too? For a quarter of a century, readers have been swishy-swashying and splash-sploshing through this award-winning favourite.

Follow and join in the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river and squelch through the mud in search of a bear. What a surprise awaits them in the cave on the other side of the dark forest!

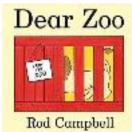
- Ideal text for children to learn by heart using actions
- Repetitive language throughout
- Strong rhythm- no rhyme.



Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy Lynley Dodd

Hairy Maclary goes off for a walk in town, followed by a few friends. All is uneventful until they meet Scarface Claw, the toughest tom in town, and run for home. The story is told by a brilliant, cumulative rhyming text and terrific pictures.

- Strong example of rhythm in language
- First in a series of books by the same author
- Great illustrations to use as a stimulus for exploring describing words



Dear Zoo Rod Campbell

Rod Campbell's classic lift-the-flap book Dear Zoo has been a firm favourite with toddlers and parents alike ever since it was first published in 1982.

Young children will love lifting the flaps to discover the animals the zoo has sent - a monkey, a lion and even an elephant! But will they ever manage to send the perfect pet?

- Recommended for Nursery
- Lift the flap book
- Ideal for children to join in with
- Repetitive language



There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly Pam Adams

Forty years after its first publication this much-loved Child's Play classic is as popular as ever. Ingenious die-cut holes bring this iconic nursery rhyme to life, and Pam Adams' fabulous illustrations lend humour and vibrancy to the proceedings. Bouncy images, innovative die cutting and favourite rhymes make Books with Holes a must for every child. Available in three formats, suitable for babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and the nursery or classroom.

- Great for singing along to the traditional tune.
- Lovely, colourful engaging illustrations
- Peep-holes through to the next page to spy the animals she has swallowed!

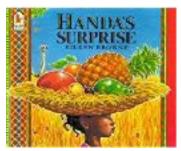


The Little Red Hen
Debra Messing

The lazy rooster and mischievous mouse can't be bothered to help the Little Red Hen tend her ear of wheat. They can't be bothered to help her take it to the miller either, or bake it into bread. But when her loaf of warm, fragrant bread is ready, the Little Red Hen is not at all inclined to share it with them. The rooster and the mouse soon mend their ways!

This is a modern retelling of a traditional tale.

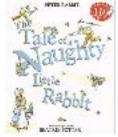
- A lovely repetitive text for children to join in with or learn by heart.
- Non-rhyming
- Good for vocabulary development
- Engaging illustrations that would be lovely to inspire children to make their own pictures in a similar collage style



Handa's Surprise Eileen Browne

A modern classic named one of the best culturally diverse picture books in the UK, this is the story of Handa, who's part of the Luo tribe in south-west Kenya. Handa decides to take seven pieces of delicious fruit to her friend, Akeyo, who lives in the neighbouring village. But as Akeyo wonders, I wonder what fruit Akeyo will like best?, a series of sneaky animals steal something from Handa's basket, which she's carrying on her head... In the best pantomime spirit, children will long to tell Handa what's happening right behind her!

- Lovely story in an African setting
- Great for vocabulary development- link to fruit tasting and sensory descriptions
- Works well when linked to countingmathematical language of more/less
- Lovely animated version to compare on YouTube



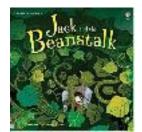
The Tale of a Naughty little Rabbit

Beatrix Potter

There aren't many stories about naughty rabbits. That's because rabbits usually know how to behave themselves. But not this one. This is the story of a very naughty little rabbit who becomes quite poorly after sneaking under a gate, and stumbling into a huge vegetable patch.

This lovely picture book introduces a new generation of readers to the escapades of the most famous rabbit ever! There is so much fun to be had reading this book, with lots of giggles and surprises for 1-5 year olds.

- A beautiful retelling of Beatrix Potter's original tale.
- Exquisite illustrations that will captivate young readers
- Links well to growingyou may want to grow some of your own vegetables for Peter to eat and make signs for your veg patch.



Jack and the Beanstalk
Anna Milbourne

Jack and his mother are so poor that they don't have anything to eat. Their hope is fading, until Jack meets a strange little man with a handful of magic beans. But what will be the price that Jack must pay? This classic fairytale is retold for young children and illustrated throughout with the bright artwork of Lorena Alvarez.

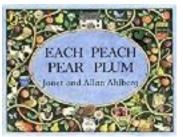
- Read as many different versions of this as possible. Nick Sharratt's lift-the-flap version is also recommended
- Links to measures in maths



The Very Hungry Caterpillar
Eric Carle

The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Eric Carle's world-famous simple, hopeful story has become the most read children's book in Britain. Its vivid and colourful collage illustrations are iconic, and it is a must have picture book for children. The bright and bold paperback makes it the ideal bedtime book for toddlers, with its die-cut pages and finger-sized holes, children can play and read along.

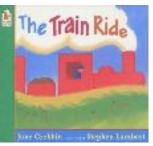
- A beautiful text which illustrates beautifully the change from caterpillar to butterly.
- Link with 'Tadpole's Promise' by Jeanne Willis
- Days of the Week and counting can be explored through this text.
- We recommend other texts by this author.



Each Peach, Pear Plum Janet and Allan Ahlberg

Each Peach Pear Plum is a timeless picture book classic. Each beautifully illustrated page encourages young children to interact with the picture to find the next fairy tale and nursery rhyme character. This board book edition is perfect for little hands.

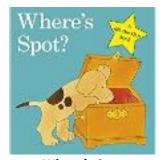
- An excellent choice for dialogic book talk-detailed good quality illustrations to explore
- I Spy game throughout the text to develop children's visual literacy
- Children may be able to learn this text by heart
- Rhyming text
- Familiar characters



The Train RideJune Crebbin

Climb aboard for a rhythmic train ride through the country. There's lots to see and someone very special waiting at the end! A little girl and her mother board the train in town and set off on a journey through the countryside. As they travel, the girl looks out of the window, asking "What shall I see? What shall I see?" And what does she see? Sheep, cows, horses and much more!

- Great for exploring rhythm in language
- Try introducing instruments or creating a soundscape as you read this book with the children
- Musical accompaniment versions available on YouTube for children to sing along with



Where's Spot Eric Hill

In Spot's first adventure children can join in the search for the mischievous puppy by lifting the flaps on every page to see where he is hiding. The simple text and colourful pictures will engage a whole new generation of pre-readers as they lift the picture flaps in search of Spot. A No.1 bestseller since it was first published in 1980, this interactive favourite has stayed in the charts ever since.

- Recommended for Nursery
- Lift-the-flap text
- Explore the characterslook closely- can your children tell the difference between Spot and Sally.
- Watch the author read this text online.



Owl BabiesMartin Waddell

Three baby owls, Sarah, Percy and Bill, wake up one night in their hole in a tree to find that their mother has gone. So they sit on a branch and wait... Darkness gathers and the owls grow anxious, wondering when their mother will return. But, at last, she does and they bounce up and down with joy, welcoming her home.

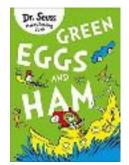
- Useful during transition periods to reassure children that their parents will return at the end of the day.
- Beautiful illustrations



FunnyBones
Janet and Allan Ahlberg

In this, the first ever *Funnybones* book of all, we are introduced to the wonderful humour and fun of the much-loved series. The Funnybones books are a must for children just starting to learn to read - these funny skeletons are definitely not the scary sort!

- Good for exploring how suspense can be created
- Lots of repetition
- Learn and perform the skeleton song too
- Humorous book your class will find funny
- Longer text than most aimed at this age group



Green Eggs and Ham Dr Seuss

The much-loved Dr. Seuss classic about the charmingly persistent Sam-I-Am gets a brand new look, introducing his rhyming fun to a new generation of readers. The classic story from the one and only Dr. Seuss, now with a brand new look! When Sam-I-am persists in pestering a grumpy grouch to eat a plate of green eggs and ham, perseverance wins the day, teaching us all that we cannot know what we like until we have tried it! The perfect book for early readers, the new style brings an old favourite to a whole new generation.

- A ridiculously fun textwritten by Dr Seuss as a result of a challenge to write a book using no more than 50 words.
- Tongue-twister qualities when reading aloud
- Encourages children to try new thingsespecially fussy eaters

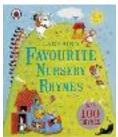


Illustrated Traditional Stories
Sara Gianassi

This wonderful collection contains seventeen beautifully illustrated tales from around the world - thrilling stories of giants and genies, witches and fairies and a little gingerbread man running for his life.

- A lovely compilation of stories from around the world.
- Ideal for sharing together as a class over the year.

Poetry



Ladybird Favourite
Nursery Rhymes
Julia Patton

This beautiful hardback Ladybird treasury of favourite nursery rhymes is a beautifully illustrated introduction to many well-loved rhymes that are perfect for sharing with young children from 3+.

With more than 100 rhymes including favourites such as Three Blind Mice, The Owl and the Pussy-cat, Humpty Dumpty and Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes, there is a rhyme for everyone in this collection of animal, action, story, food, counting and bedtime rhymes.

- Anthology of nursery rhymes
- Build in 'Rhyme Time' into your daily routine and explore one rhyme each day.



The Wheels on the Bus Paul Ozelinsky

In this novelty book of a favourite children's song, the music of the song is also included at the end.

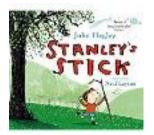
- Pop-up book which will engage children straight away
- Sing words along to the traditional tune.
- Link to role play



Lavender's Blue Kathleen Lines

A definitive collection of nursery rhymes, beautifully designed and illustrated by the influential artist, Harold Jones. This facsimile edition has been lovingly produced to recreate the look and feel of the first printing of this much-loved book, which was originally published in 1954.

- An anthology of classic poems and nursery rhymes
- Very traditional, old fashioned feel- nice links to the past/history
- Hardback book

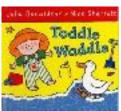


Stanley's Stick Neal Layton

Stanley's Stick is a teaming-up of hefty talents - glorious poet John Hegley and award-winning illustrator Neal Layton.

Stanley's stick is not just a stick. With a stick in hand, Stanley's options are endless - he flies to the moon, writes in the sand, goes fishing, plays a whistle and rides a dinosaur - and his imagination takes over and the magic begins.

- One simple poem written across the book/rhyming text
- Lovely to use as a compare/contrast with 'Not A Stick' by Antoinette Portis



Toddle WaddleJulia Donaldson

Follow-the-leader has never been so much fun! There's a hullabaloo at the seaside when wobbly toddler takes a walk and is soon joined by a joyful troop of human and animal friends. They wander happily along with aclip clop, hurry scurry, flip flop, toddle waddle, but where will they go and who else will they meet along the way? Jaunty rhymes and bright, bold pictures ensure that even the youngest child will love this simple, playful story, a wonderful introduction to onomatopoeia.

- A good choice for children to join in with and even learn by heart
- One simple poem written across the book
- Great for exploring onomatopoeia



Animal BoogieDebbie Harter

Can you boogie? Down in the Indian jungle, the children and animals are learning about actions like leaping, stomping, shaking and flapping while meeting different jungle creatures. The accompanying enhanced animated singalong CD continues the interactive fun!

- Anthology of songs to perform
- CD included
- Links beautifully to an animals or jungle theme

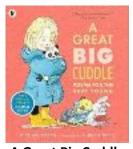


What I Like Gervase Phinn

This entertaining volume of verse for the very young is the perfect introduction to poetry. It includes poems about everything that is important to children: animals, family, food - and some very good jokes.

Jane Eccles' humorous and wacky illustrations perfectly complement this lively and amusing collection.

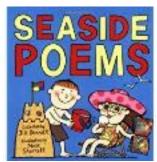
- Anthology of poems
- Some jokes included



A Great Big Cuddle Michael Rosen

In this exuberant compilation, Michael Rosen invites children to joyfully celebrate sounds and the infinite possibilities of language. Nonsense verses with the feel of classic nursery rhymes tickle the ear and set feet tapping while expressive illustrations by Chris Riddell illuminate the larger-thanlife characters. With subject matter that runs the gamut of a child's emotional range from hungry and angry to wiggly and giggly, these thirty-six clever poems will delight little listeners.

- Anthology of poems
- A chunky and beautifully illustrated book that is a joy to hold
- Hardback book

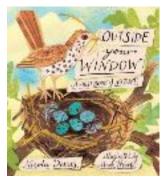


Seaside Poems Jill Bennett

Let's do the flip-flop frolic and splash into the sea! Playing on the sand, looking at starfish, going to the funfair, imagining mermaids, or listening to the wind and waves-this book is full of poems about what children love to do at the seaside.

Illustrated charmingly by Nick Sharratt, the collection includes poems by Judith Nicholls, Margaret Mahy, and Richard Edwards.

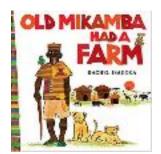
- Anthology of poems about the seaside
- Fully illustrated colour pages
- 'Tasty Poems' is also available by the same author



Outside Your Window Nicola Davies Mark Hearld

The buzz of bees in summertime. The tracks of a bird in the winter snow. This beautiful book captures all the sights and sounds of a child's interactions with nature, from planting acorns or biting into crisp apples to studying tide pools or lying back and watching the birds overhead. No matter what's outside their windows — city streets or country meadows — kids will be inspired to explore the world around them.

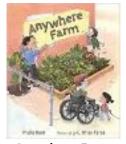
- Hardback book
- Poetry with a sprinkling of facts and fun things to do
- Lovely to dip in to all year as the seasons change.



Old Mikamba Had a Farm Rachel Isadora

Old Mikamba had a farm, E-I-E-I-O. And on this farm he had a giraffe, a baboon and an elephant! The classic children's song 'Old MacDonald' is set on the plains of Africa, where Old Mikamba watches over a variety of animals on his game farm - from roaring lions and chirping ostriches to bellowing rhinos and honking wildebeests. Providing a wonderful introduction to African wildlife, this truly unique rendition of a much loved song gives children a whole new set of fun animal sounds to try out as they enjoy the collage-style artwork.

- Retelling of the traditional 'Old Macdonald has a Farm' but in an African setting.
- Great for phase 1
 phonics work linked to environmental/animal sounds



Anywhere Farm Phyllis Root

When a little girl decides to create an "anywhere farm", she tenderly plants a seed in a tiny patch of soil in an empty yard.

As the seedling grows, so does the community. Her neighbours are inspired to plant their own seeds. Rhyming text and warm illustrations create an uplifting tale that celebrates the joys and pleasures of growing not just food and flowers, but also friendships and communities.

- Rhyming text with a narrative- as much information as a poem
- Links beautifully to growing theme
- Presents advice on how to grow anywhere
- Plant an anywhere farm in school together
- Vocab- minibeasts

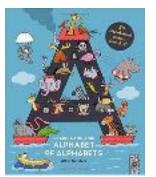
Non-Fiction



SpidersLaura Marsh

You don't have to look far to see a spider's web – in the corner of the window, on a fence, or in a bush – spiders make their homes everywhere. And there are so many kinds of spiders! Some red, some blue, yellow, and more...all fascinating. Amazing photography and easy-to-understand text

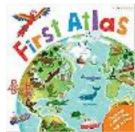
- A National Geographic book
- Ideal to read aloud to and discuss with children or to leave in continuous provision for the children to pore over themselves
- Superb up-close photography to enthrall



An Alphabet of Alphabets
Allan Sanders

Take a ride through 26 fully-illustrated alphabets, each one an A to Z of things to spot. From an A to Z of Birds (A is for Albatross, B is for Bluebird), to an A to Z of Zoo (A is for Aardvark, B is for Baboon), this is an alphabet of alphabets. Jam-packed full of funny things to spot and plenty of Where's Wally-style humour, this the best way to learn your ABCs and lots of new words as well!

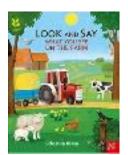
- Look and find book, with gorgeous colourful illustrations.
- Brilliant for vocabulary development around a particular topic, eg. vehicles, birds, home
- Great for visual literacy
- Good for capital letter recognition
- Useful for alphabetical order
- Hardback book



First Atlas Phillip Steele

This brightly illustrated atlas, containing over 20 maps, provides a perfect introduction to world geography, enabling young readers to explore and discover with the help of appealing, contemporary artwork. Each spread covers a particular region of the world and contains a clearly labelled, colourful map.

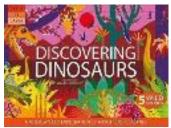
- Simple, engaging illustrations that are a perfect introduction to maps and atlas for very young children.
- Animals and landmarks are placed onto maps in a larger-than-life way



National Trust: Look and Say What You See on the Farm

From clucking hens in the henhouse to apples and pears in the orchard and lots of farm scenes in-between, this look-and-say book for little ones is a great way to start learning about nature on a farm. The spotand-find aspect is perfect for the youngest of readers to become absorbed in the fascinating nature details. What can you see in the pig sty? Can you find the rake in the toolshed? There's so much to recognise in each landscape in this beautiful interactive book for the very young.

- Also available: in the City, in the Country
- Ideal for reading with a grown up or an older reading buddy to generate conversation and vocabulary

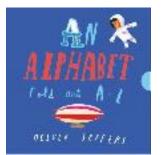


Discovering Dinosaurs (Layer by Layer) Anne Rooney

From early dinosaurs to creatures of the deep, land dinosaurs to wetland dinosaurs and prehistoric flying creatures, learn about how dinosaurs lived in the Mesozoic era.

Lift the flaps, layer by layer, to discover everything you ever wanted to know about dinosaurs - and hear how the different dinosaurs sounded! Listen to the sounds of the prehistoric world as you lift the final flap on each page to activate the sound effect and bring each scene to vivid life!

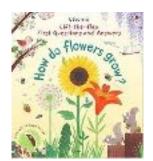
- A noisy lift-the-flap book
- Also available: Under the Sea, Into the Wild



An Alphabet Fold-out A-Z
Oliver Jeffers

Exquisitely illustrated by award-winning, bestselling picture book creator, Oliver Jeffers, this irresistible board book gloriously brings the alphabet to life.

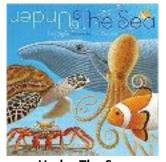
- Great for children to expand out and explore the letters of the alphabet
- Use as a frieze for children to develop mark marking/letter formation
- Useful for developing awareness/recognition of capital letters



How do Flowers Grow? Katie Daynes

This stylish, highly illustrated, interactive book is perfect for sharing with little children, and introduces nature and science using a friendly lift-the-flap format. Text is kept to a minimum. A brilliant introduction to one of the fundamental themes of biology, perfect for curious young minds.

- We also recommend 'What is sleep?' and 'Why Do We Need Bees?' from the same author
- Lift the flap format to engage children



Under The Sea Kate Riggs

Sneaking an early grammar lesson into a book about animals, *Under the Sea* offers up a fun, foundational introduction to both sea life and pairs of directional words.

Simple, rhythmical text introduces creatures and their surroundings by placing them in relative positions to each other. Detailed illustrations, meanwhile, provide a colourful backdrop of the developing ocean scene.

- Great for early prepositional language
- Board book



I Read Signs Tana Hoban

WALK. EXIT. STOP. Many young children recognise these words long before they learn to read. Why? Because they see them over and over again as they walk and ride around town. And now they can "read" these same words - and more - right here in this book.

- The images within this book are of American road signs- even so, this is a great stimulus to get children reading environmental print and get them asking questions about road signs in their locality.
- Pair with DVLA road sign book in CP

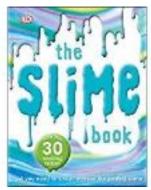


Little Kids' First Book of Things that Go Karen de Seve

This charming reference book takes a closer look at the different ways people move from place to place, whether it is in a car, subway, hang glider, or submarine.

More than 100 colourful photos are paired with text that explains how race cars, bicycles, rockets, and so many other modes of transportation work. This book inspires kids to be curious, ask questions, and explore the world around them.

- Great photographs for the children to examine independently or with friends.
- Full of facts for an adult/able reader to share with others
- Includes a vast array of different transport



The Slime Book

Play, poke, push, pull, and pop awesome easy-to-follow slime recipes, all of which use inexpensive, accessible, and safe everyday products. Create Monster Slime with googly eyes, tuck in to some yummy edible chocolate slime and see the rainbow with unicorn slime! All projects in The Slime Book are shown with clear step-by-step images and a vibrant final image of the slimy stuff. Learn the science behind these slime creations with amazing fact boxes and carry on the fun with recipe variations.

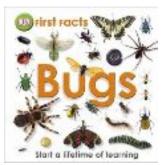
- Text may be too advanced for children to read independently but this is a good book to look at for layout of instructions
- Some great recipes for malleable play where children could work with an adult to follow the instructions



Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colours Hena Khan

With breathtaking illustrations and informative text, Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns magnificently captures the world of Islam, celebrating its beauty and traditions for even the youngest readers. Sure to inspire questions and observations about world religions and cultures, this entrancing volume is equally at home in the classroom as it is being read to a child on a parent's lap.

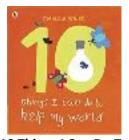
- Rhyming text that explores the significance of colours and different elements of Islam
- Beautifully illustrated



First Facts Bugs

Find out facts about the incredible world of creepy crawlies in this first children's book about bugs. Discover why bees make honey, how ants work as a team, and how some beetles actually glow in the dark! Then see what insects eat, and how they help to keep our planet healthy.

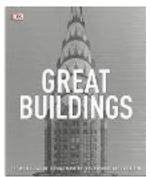
- Simple text
- Short entries
- Clear, detailed photographs
- Other titles available in the 'First Facts' series include:



10 Things I Can Do To Help My World Melanie Walsh

A beautifully simple book for small children where transforming pages reveal ten things that everyone can do to help conserve their world. Many of them, such as turning off the television properly, walking to school and turning off lights when leaving a room, are about conserving energy. Others, such as feeding the birds in winter and growing plants from seed, will encourage an understanding of nature and conservation.

- Clear, simple images for children to share
- Helps develop good global citizens in the sense of helping to care for their environment



Great BuildingsDorling Kindersley

Great Buildings gives you an overview of the history of architecture from the ancient world to the present day. It takes you on guided tours of more than 50 masterpieces of every architectural style, from the Great Pyramid of Giza to Chartres Cathedral, Sydney Opera House, and the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. Each building is analysed visually. CGI cutaway artworks peel away roofs and walls to reveal the bones of the building, and close-up photographs home in on details of style.

- This book, and ones like it, are a great addition to your block play area.
- Text level is aimed at much older children but the photographs, illustrations and diagrams should inspire your young architects and builders.



A Collaboration with Nature Andy Goldsworthy

Illustrates outdoor sculptures created with a range of natural materials, including snow, ice, leaves, rock, clay, stones, feathers, and twigs.

- A coffee-table book full of the art/photography of Andy Goldsworthy
- Ideal to inspire children to create works of art using natural materials around them