

Not everyone enjoys reading fiction but, luckily, there are plenty of **NON-FICTION** books out there to encourage our children to read. Whatever interests your child, there is likely to be a book to match. Whether it's football, Minecraft or science, they can build on the knowledge they already have, or perhaps what they read will spark a new curiosity.



Non-fiction books can be read in a different way to fiction books, and this can help the more reluctant reader.

Although some children will read it from start to finish, others may skim through it to find the pages that interest them the most. There are often illustrations to break up the text, along with subtitles and different sized fonts to make it more appealing. There may be a glossary where children can look up the meaning of new words, and an index to help find particular topics. These are useful skills for future learning.

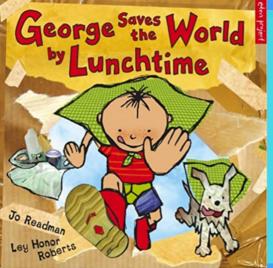
Whilst we would love all our children to become avid readers, often they would rather spend their time doing other things. Reading nonfiction can help change this. Finding books that link to their interests means that reading becomes less about the actual reading for them and more about the topic itself. And, who knows, maybe it will create a love of books after all.

Whilst fiction can help us escape from the real world, non-fiction invites us to marvel at the magic of the world. It builds an understanding of why things are as they are and how things work, as well as helping children to understand other cultures.

# PICTURE BOOKS

In this brilliantly funny book, the bus driver needs to step away from his bus for a while and tells us not to let the pigeon drive the bus. Of course, as soon as the driver has left, the pigeon tries to convince you to let him do just that. In fact, he will try anything to persuade you. Will you stay strong? Lots of child participation during reading makes this a lot of fun.





Waking up one morning, George decides to save the world. With the help of his grandad and his little sister, George realises there is more to saving the world than fighting baddies and monsters. George has a very busy day while we get to learn about the many ways we can help, too, like recycling, repairing toys and composting. This is a great book published in conjunction with The Eden Project.

A beautifully illustrated book about how unicorns got their horn. When June comes across magical horses learning to fly, she meets one sad horse who hasn't yet mastered it. June's mum suggests finding something to cheer him up. In her excitement to bring the horse some ice cream, June trips and the horse ends up with an accidental horn on his head. Perhaps it is June's friendship and the laugher they share together that gives the horse the confidence he didn't think he had, to be able to fly.



# NICHOLAS ALLAN NICHOLAS ALLAN THE QUEEN'S KNICKERS

#### Miss Moss recommends...

This is a new and rewritten edition of The Queen's Knickers, published to celebrate King Charles III's coronation. I like this book because it reminds me of reading The Queen's Knickers as a child. The pictures are brilliant and the story is so funny.

#### CHAPTER BOOKS FOR YOUNGER READERS

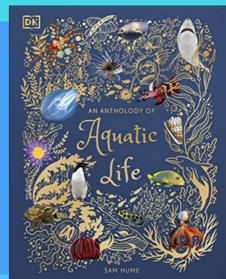
This is a very funny book about the demanding and flamboyant cat, Marshmallow Pie, whose full name is too long to fit on his business card, and too long to write here. Marshmallow loves eating treats, sleeping in the sun and, most of all, annoying Buster the dog who lives downstairs. When his owner, Amelia, enters him into a pet competition, things do not go to plan. Will Marshmallow and Amelia get a chance to make things right?

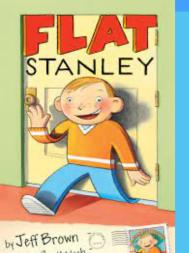




An adventure story filled with dragons, witches, hunters and a gutsy girl called Rowan. Rowan and her mother go to live with her grandfather on the outskirts of The Dark Forest. There, Rowan learns that he is a wildsmith, with magical abilities that he uses to heal animals. When Rowan comes up against hunters trying to capture dragons in the forest she learns the secret of her own identity and must use her own courage and the help of her new friends, to stop them.

This is a stunning book filled with photos and drawings of a huge array of plants, animals and other aquatic life. Perfect for holidays by the sea, pond dipping near home or even to accompany playing with toy animals in a paddling pool. A great book to encourage curiosity in the natural world and part of a series of anthologies that includes dinosaurs, nature and space. [Non-fiction]





### Miss Stopps recommends...

Stanley wakes up one morning to find he is as flat as a pancake. I like this book because the family embrace the change in Stanley after his accident and do funny things like put him in an envelope and mail him to America because they can't afford the airfare for them all to go on holiday! My favourite character is Stanley's brother, George, because he is really small and says really funny things - and I can put on a funny voice when I read what he says.

#### CHAPTER BOOKS FOR OLDER READERS

Ami is excited to try out a new escape room experience. There, she meets four other children with whom she needs to "Find the answer, save the world". They soon discover that this is no ordinary game, and the five must work together to get past a Maya tomb, extinct animals and a spaceship heading to Mars. Each level gets more dangerous as they go on - who will be left at the end, and what final twist awaits them? This is a fast paced and exciting book.





Lily and her mum have moved to a sleepy seaside village.

Getting lost on her way home one day, Lily stumbles across the Museum of Emily, which is filled with a host of everyday objects.

Who is Emily, and why is there a museum for her? Together with her new friends, Lily must work out the answers, as well as keeping herself safe from the mysterious man who seems to be on the same quest. A great book about a group of quirky, curious and brave friends.

This book covers a wide range of topics, such as space and black holes, Al, robots, genetics, conspiracy theories, climate change and many more. It is packed full of facts, figures and fun ideas, curated by Stephen and Lucy Hawkins, and recently updated to include plagues, pandemics and planetary health. A very readable and brilliantly informative book. [Non-fiction]



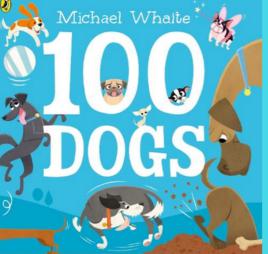


## Mrs Firmin recommends...

This is a really engaging book, full of intriguing and amusing characters. The unlikely crew are thrown together on a magical train that travels through a series of strange worlds inhabited by a variety of weird and wonderful creatures. And it all starts when a girl wakes up to find a magical train track in her hallway!

This is a beautiful picture book that takes you on a journey along a river from its source to the sea, through various landscapes. We have been using this book as inspiration for our Year 5 poetry, and it encourages appreciation for the natural world.





#### Mrs Lee recommends...

This book is packed full of 100 dogs doing all the things dogs usually do - and some things dogs don't usually do. It is written in rhyme, and is funny and full of so many things to spot in the great artwork. This book has been followed up by 100 Cats and 100 Birds, and I love them all! I think children of all ages will love them too.

Phoebe is a sparky but lonely girl, who is granted one wish by a unicorn when she rescues it from a magic spell. Phoebe's wish is for the unicorn to become her best friend. Phoebe is fierce and determined, and the unicorn is vain and sarcastic, but the friendship that develops between the two is sweet and funny as we follow them through the day-to-day trials of a regular schoolgirl with a magical friend. [graphic novel]





Bea lives with her uncle Leo, her best friend Raffy and Raffy's mum Martha in beautiful Ravenwood, surrounded by ancient trees, a lake and a secret cove. When Leo's brothers decide to sell to a developer, it is up to Bea and her friends to save their wonderful home and all the wildlife that lives there. There are difficult family relationships, a daring train chase across Europe, and a wonderful ecological protest in this book full of heart and a love for nature.