

Non-fiction book list for early years

A National Literacy Trust membership resource

Use this booklist to find non-fiction books to add to your collection to support children's interests, and help them develop new interests and knowledge about the world around them.

Please also download the "Non-fiction in the early years guidance". The guidance identifies some of the benefits of using non-fiction books and texts within the early years and provides some suggestions of how to enhance your current provision and use of non-fiction books.

Books for babies and toddlers:

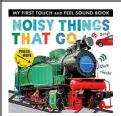


Animal Families: River by Jane Ormes (Author, Illustrator) (Nosy Cro) Find out the different names for mummy and daddy animals by the river - and then lift the big, sturdy flaps to find the babies, with a double flap and peekaboo holes on the final spread!

Other titles in the series include: Farm, Safari, Jungle, Forest and Snow

ISBN: 1839941456

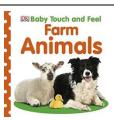
This book is available as a board book.



Noisy Things That Go (My first touch and feel sound book) by Libby Walden (Little Tiger Kids) Touch, feel and hear the noisy vehicles of the road, rails, sea and sky in this interactive board book. It's packed with appealing photographs, fun facts, tactile textures and exciting vehicle sounds.

ISBN: 1848699913

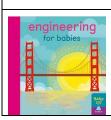
This book is available as a board book.



Baby Touch and Feel Farm Animals by DK (Author, Illustrator) (DK Children) Introduce your baby to farm animals with this touchand-feel baby board book. Tickle and stroke each tactile texture together with your baby and watch them discover their favourite farm friends, from a velvety cow to a woolly sheep, a fluffy chick, and more.

ISBN: 1405392576

This book is available as a board book.



Engineering for Babies (Baby 101) by Jonathon Litton, illustrated by Thomas Elliott (Caterpillar Books)

This board book will help your baby learn how all kinds of things are made, from bridges to buildings and rockets to robots. Engineering is presented in a simple way to bring maths and science to life!

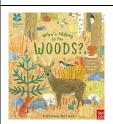
© National Literacy Trust 2022

T: 020 7587 1842 W: literacytrust.org.uk Twitter: @Literacy_Trust Facebook: nationalliteracytrust

The National Literacy Trust is a registered charity no. 1116260 and a company limited by guarantee no. 5836486 registered in England and Wales and a registered charity in Scotland no. SC042944. Registered address: 68 South Lambeth Road, London SW8 1RL.

ISBN: 1848578865

This book is available as a board book.



National Trust: Who's Hiding in the Woods? by Katherine McEwen (Author, Illustrator) (Nosy Crow)

ISBN: 1788001419

There are lots of animals in the woods, but where are they hiding and what are they doing? In this charming lift-the-flap book, little ones can pore over the beautiful collaged pages and explore under leaves, logs and tree trunks to find out interesting facts about woodland wildlife.

Other titles in the series include: Seaside, Farm, River, Jungle, Safari and Snow

This book is available as a board book.

Books for 2 to 5-year-olds:



This or That? What will you choose at the museum? by Pippa Goodhart (Nosy Crow)

ISBN: 1788002598

Would you like to wear a toga or trousers? Would you play with a doll or dice? Would you live in a tent or tree? This fascinating picture book encourages children to make their own choices on every page. Written by Pippa Goodhart, the author of the much-loved *You Choose!* series, and with questions to inspire children to spot extra details throughout, this book makes it irresistibly fun to choose between this or that.

This book is available as a hard cover and paperback.

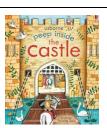


National Trust Out and About Bird Spotter – A children's guide to over 100 different birds by Robyn Swift, illustrated by Mike Langman (Nosy Crow)

ISBN: 1788004221

Ideal for any budding birdwatchers, this book encourages children to get outside and spot birds in the wild! It is packed with useful information about how to get started, as well as a comprehensive field guide section full of expert tips on how to identify a species when they're out and about.

This book comes as a hardcover.



Peep Inside the Castle:1
By Anna Milbourne,
illustrated by Felicita Sala
(Usborne Publishing Ltd)

lift the flaps and peep through the holes in the pages to explore various rooms, what they were used for and who by.

This simple non-fiction book for very young children is

filled with facts about life in a castle. Little children can

This book is available as a hard cover.



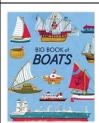




The Bee Book by Charlotte Milner (DK Children) The perfect introduction to bee conservation for little ones. Learn all about the beautiful world of bees and their adventure from flower to flower. You'll find out just how much they matter, why they are declining, and what we can do to help in this book.

ISBN: 9780241305188

This book is available as a hard cover and Kindle edition.



Big Book of Boats by Luogo Comune (b small publishing) From vast floating cities to tiny one-person water transporters, the boats celebrated here by Italian creator Luogo comune will have children dreaming of setting sail. An inspiring read!

ISBN: 1913918394

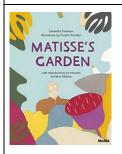
This book is available as a hard cover.



Peep Inside How a Plane Works: 1 by Lara Bryan, illustrated by Caroline Attia (Usborne Publishing Ltd) Follow a plane on a journey around the world in this little book, and peep inside its cockpit, engine and even its wings to find out how it works. With colourful illustrations, flaps to lift and holes to peep through, there's so much to discover in this fascinating introduction to planes and how they fly.

This book is available as a board book.

ISBN: 1474953026



Matisse's Garden by Samantha Friedman (The Museum of Modern Art, New York) Matisse's Garden is the inspiring story of how the artist's never-ending curiosity and continuous process of trying new things helped turn a small experiment into a radical new form of art. Children will see how Matisse used nothing but paper and scissors to create simple shapes like squares, leaves and birds, and experimented with scraps of leftover paper and new colour combinations to create lush gardens on his studio walls.

ISBN: 0870709100

This book is available as a hard cover.

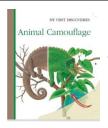


How It Works Rocket
by Amanda Hepworth,
illustrated by David Semple
(Little Tiger
Press)

Follow the speeding rocket up to the moon and back in this super simple first introduction to space travel. With layered die-cuts, fun facts and a mouse to spot on every spread!

ISBN: 1788818407

This book is available as a board book.



Animal Camouflage: 43 My first discoveries by Rene Mettler (Author, Illustrator) (Moonlight Publishing Ltd) What exactly is camouflage? Discover animals that can change their shape and their colour depending upon their surroundings. Learn about animals that are very good at pretending to be other animals.

ISBN: 1851034269

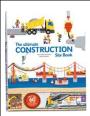
This book is available as a spiral bound book.



Mighty Machines (First facts and flaps, 6) by Campbell Books, Illustrated by Lon Lee (Campbell Books) This book is jam-packed with fun information, incorporating STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) topics. Find out about all kinds of machines from seesaws and ramps to machines that can deliver your pizza or explore outer space!

ISBN: 1529025273

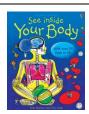
This book is available as a board book.



The Ultimate Construction Site Book: From Around the World 2: (Ultimate Book) Illustrated by Didier Balicevic, created by Anne-Sophie Baumann, (Twirl) The sounds, sights, and activity of a construction site provide for endless fascination. it's packed with more than 60 tabbed moving parts to pull, lift, and explore, and crammed with meticulous detail of vehicles, buildings, and techniques. Here's a book that will satisfy even the most curious of kids.

ISBN: 2848019840

This book is available as a hard cover.



See Inside Your Body
by Katie Daynes and Colin King
(Usborne)

Bright, original colour illustrations and diagrams display all the major organs of the human body and are accompanied by witty, clear and informative factual text. It contains over 50 flaps, which children can lift to reveal extra detail.

This beautiful book provides the answers to many fishy

including sea turtles, whales, sharks, and rays. It will be

devoured by children eager to find out about the most

questions. Quirky illustrations show off all kinds of

slippery, shimmery, and surprising sea creatures,

This book is available as a board book.

ISBN: 0746070055



The Big Book of the Blue
By Yuval Zommer (Author,
Illustrator) (Thames and
Hudson Ltd)

This book is available as a hard cover.

exciting creatures from the deep blue.

ISBN: 0500651191



National Geographic Kids
Everything Reptiles: Snap up
all the photos, facts and fun by
National Geographic Kids
(National Geographic Kids)

Scaly, slithery, toothy, or shelled, reptiles have been around for a long time. Readers won't stop until they've learned everything there is to know about reptiles in this bold, bright book, packed with photos, facts, and fun.

ISBN: 1426325266

This book is available as a paperback.



A Seed is Sleepy (Family
Treasure Nature
Encyclopaedias) by Diana
Huttaston, illustrated by Sylvia
Long (Chronicle Books)

A gorgeous and informative introduction to seeds. Poetic in voice and elegant in design, the book introduces children to a fascinating array of seed and plant facts.

ISBN: 1452131473

This book is available as a paperback, hard cover and Kindle edition.



Nic Bishop: Spiders by Nic Bishop (Author, Illustrator) (Scholastic) Amazing images show the beauty and otherworldliness of spiders. Simple, engaging text conveys basic information about spiders as well as cool and quirky facts. One stop-action montage shows a spider leaping twenty times its body length!

This book is available as a hardcover.

ISBN: 0439877563

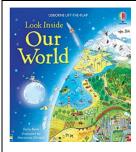


The Tree Book: Discover the amazing world of trees with incredible SEE-THROUGH pages! by Hannah Alice (Author, Illustrator) (Nosy Crow) Have you ever thought about all the amazing things that trees can do? How do they grow and why do they change through the seasons? How do trees help us and how can we help trees? With labelled acetate diagrams of a tree throughout the year, alongside minibeasts and animals that live in trees, this is a fantastic first look at nature for curious children everywhere.

Other books in the series: The Body Book

ISBN: 1839941197

This book is available as a board book.



Look Inside Our World (Look inside Board Books): 1 by Emily Bone, illustrated by Marianna Oklejak (Usborne Publishing Ltd) Take a trip around the world in this fascinating lift-theflap book. Intrepid explorers can discover our world, from the layers that make up planet Earth to the tiniest insects in the rainforest and the creatures who live at the very bottom of the sea. Includes pages about the hottest and coldest parts of the world, and a map with lift-the-flap details about each continent.

ISBN: 1409563944

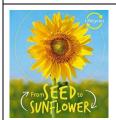
This book is available as a board book.



One Little Seed by Becky Davies, illustrated by Charlotte Pepper (Little Tiger Press) This fact-packed lift-the-flap book encourages young children to head out into nature and EXPLORE! Little ones will love learning how different flowers grow, where to find them, and even how to plant a seed of their very own.

ISBN: 1801041865

This book is available as a board book.



Lifecycles: Seed to Sunflower by Camilla De La Bedoyere (QED Publishing) Packed with amazing photographs of every stage, labelled diagrams to explain growth and development, fascinating facts, and discussion points for further learning.

ISBN: 1786036207

This book is available as a paperback and kindle edition.



RSPB: My First Book of Garden Bugs by Mike Unwin (A & C Black Publishers) Journey through the garden and discover the bugs that are living there. The beautiful illustrations create the world of the garden, combined with text that leads young readers to the hiding places of various bugs. The perfect introduction to the names of some common garden insects, along with interesting facts about them.

ISBN: 9781408114155

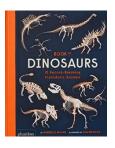
This book is available as a hardcover and kindle edition.



Lift the Flap Questions and Answers Weatherby Katie Daynes, illustrated by Marie-Eve Tremblay (Usborne Publishing Ltd) What are rainbows made of? How hot is the sun? When do hurricanes happen? Discover the answers to these questions and many more in this fascinating information book, with over 60 flaps to lift.

This book is available as a board book.

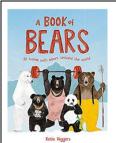
ISBN: 1474953034



Book of Dinosaurs: 10 Record Breaking Prehistoric Animals by Gabrielle Balkan, illustrated by Sam Brewster In this interactive book 10 record-breaking dinosaurs are introduced through a guessing game with clues. Readers examine the prehistoric skeletons and guess and read a series of boastful hints to guess the mystery dinosaur. The answers are uncovered in stunning pageturn reveals, featuring vibrant scenic habitats and a few reasons why each dinosaur is so special.

ISBN: 1838664254

This book is available as a hardcover.

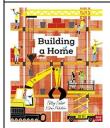


A Book of Bears: At Home with Bears Around the World by Katie Viggers (Laurence King Publishing)

Learn all about the eight different bears of the world, their likes, their homes and more. Who is the best climber and who is the fastest at catching fish?

ISBN: 1786272903

This book is available as a hardcover and paperback.



Building a Home
by Polly Faber, illustrated by
Klas Fahlen (Nosy Crow)

Find out all about the people, machines, processes, and tools involved in breathing new life into an old building. Packed with builders, cranes, diggers, cement mixers and a host of other exciting tools and machinery, follow a crumbling old factory on the edge of town as it goes from being an empty shell to a new home.

ISBN: 1788007034

This book is available as a hardcover and paperback.



Awesome Engineering
Skyscrapers by Sally Spray
(Capstone Press)

Follow the development of skyscrapers, as they have grown taller and taller, and more fantastical through engineering skill, design, and ambition.

ISBN: 1543513395

This book is available as a hardcover and paperback.

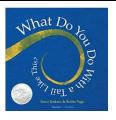


How Does My Home Work? (Exploring the every day) by Chris Butterworth, illustrated by Lucia Gagiotti (Candlewick Press) How does flipping a switch on the wall make the lights come on? Where does the clean water that flows out of the faucet come from? Travel beyond the walls and under the floors of a house to find out more about the electricity, water, and natural gas that make your home work — and find out how you can do your part to save energy and preserve these resources.

ISBN: 1536215945

This book is available as a hardcover and paperback.

Non-fiction themes told through a story



What Do You Do With A Tail Like This? by Steve Jenkins (Houghton Stifflin) A nose for digging? Ears for seeing? Eyes that squirt blood? Turn the page to find out which marvellous animal these attributes belong to. Readers will learn about species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish, mammals, and arthropods.

ISBN: 061899713X

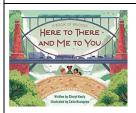
This book is available as a hardcover, paperback, and kindle edition. In this bold and humorous picture book, children can My Map Book (Rise and examine their place in the world around them through Shine) by Sara Finelli detailed and engaging maps drawn from a child's (Harper Collins Kids Books) perspective. Twelve beautifully illustrated maps, such as Map of My Day and Map of My Family, will fascinate and teach about both mapping and telling one's story. ISBN: 0060264551 This book is available as a hard cover and paperback. Learn how a tadpole becomes a frog with Eric Carle's How Does a Tadpole Grow?: classic artwork! In this non-fiction story, young readers HOW DOES *Life cycles with the Very* A TADPOLE explore the transformation of a tadpole into a frog. Hungry Caterpillar (The world of Eric Carle) by Eric Carle (Author, Illustrator) (Penguin USA) This book is available as a board book and Kindle. ISBN: 0593386256 Children all over the world are very different, but they Welcome to Our World: A also have much in common. In this beautifully celebration of children illustrated book, young children can learn all about everywhere by Moira what people in other countries eat, wear and play, and Butterfield, illustrated by how they speak and celebrate. This delightful book Harriet Lynas (Nosy Crow) teaches us that despite different languages, customs, and traditions, it really is a small world, after all. ISBN: 1788007123 This book is available as a hardcover and paperback. Lots: The diversity of life on There are living things everywhere: the more we look, earth, by Nicola Davies, the more we find. So how many different kinds are illustrated by Emily Sutton there? One, two, three ... lots! A beautifully illustrated (Walker Books) introduction to the concept of biodiversity for younger readers. This book is available as a paperback and hard cover. ISBN: 1406378895 If you come to Earth, there are a few things you need to If You Come know... To Earth by Sophie Blackall We live in all kinds of places. In all kinds of homes. In all (Chronicle Books) kinds of families. Each of us is different. But all of us are

amazing. And, together, we share one beautiful planet. This masterful and moving picture book is a visually

ISBN: 145213779X

comprehensive guide to the earth, imbued with warmth and humour.

This book is available as a hardcover and kindle edition.



A Book of Bridges: Here to there and me to you by Cheryl Keely, illustrated by Celia Kampien (Sleeping Bear Press) Bridges are some of the most fascinating structures in our landscape, and they come in all forms. From towering suspension bridges to humble stone crossings, this book visits them all in sweet, bouncing text with expository sidebars. But while bridges can be quite grand, this reminds us that their main purpose is bringing people together. This is perfect for budding architects, as well as readers who can relate to having loved ones who live far away.

ISBN: 1585369969

This book is available as a hardcover and kindle edition.



The Blue Whale by Jenni Desmond (Enchanted Lion Books) The Blue Whale draws children into the life and world of this enormous whale by situating facts within a familiar context that is fun and engaging. Readers are given the actual size of an eye right on the page, and we are informed how to understand this whale's body size in relation to trucks, cars, milk bottles, and hippos! With an accurate and engaging text, fully vetted by a blue whale expert, and lyrically lovely illustrations.

This book is available as a hardcover.

ISBN: 1592701655