

# Get your daily dose of nature at school

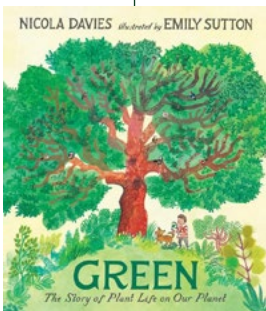


## Book recommendations

WWF is delighted to have worked with The Reading Agency to curate this fantastic nature and wellbeing reading list for primary school pupils. These books were chosen to inspire young people to connect with and learn more about nature to benefit their own wellbeing and mental health.

The list includes fiction, non-fiction, poetry and picture books for all primary ages and reading levels. Find out how you can help protect our planet, explore how animals have adapted to live in unexpected places and experience the joys of connecting with nature through a young naturalist's eyes.

It's time for us all to get our daily dose of nature!



### **Green: The Story of Plant Life on Our Planet**

**Nicola Davies and Emily Sutton** | Walker Books

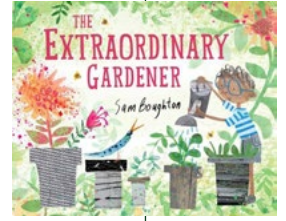
Picture Books / Non-fiction

This tree doesn't look like it's doing very much: it just stands there in the sunlight, big and GREEN. But this tree is busy... Starting with the secret workings of a tree, this book transports readers billions of years into the past; back to the moment when plant life first appeared on our planet. Covering its evolution, the steady emergence of fossil fuels and the extraordinary communities of plants around the world today, Nicola Davies and Emily Sutton combine essential biology with a powerful message – a call to protect the most precious colour on Earth ... GREEN.



## The Extraordinary Gardener

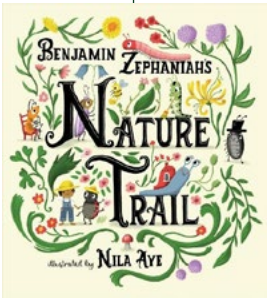
Sam Boughton | Tate  
Picture Books / Fiction



Joe is a boy just like any other, but Joe loves to imagine. Joe lives in a pretty ordinary tower block, in a rather ordinary city. His world is rather grey. However, he spends his time imagining a wonderful world filled with exotic plants and unusual animals. One day Joe decides to plant a seed on his balcony, he waits and waits but nothing happens! Joe gives up and goes back to his daily life, but one day when he least expects it he spots that the seed has turned into the most beautiful tree. Joe begins caring for the tree and growing lots of other plants on his balcony and soon everyone in the neighbourhood is getting involved.

## Nature Trail

Benjamin Zephaniah and Nila Aye | Orchard Books  
Picture Books / Poetry



At the bottom of my garden, there's a hedgehog and a frog, And a lot of creepy-crawlies living underneath a log... All around us, from parks to gardens and flowerpots to pavements, there's a world of wonder just waiting to be discovered. Why not look a little closer and see what you find? This joyful celebration of nature reminds us all to take a closer look at the world around us, and enjoy the wonder of nature wherever we find it. Packed with animals and minibeasts galore, this imaginative rhyming text is perfect for reading aloud.

## National Trust: Look What I Found in the Woods

Moira Butterfield and Jesús Verona | Nosy Crow  
Early Readers / Non-fiction



Discover a world of wonder on a woodland walk, as you set off on an outdoor adventure to find natural treasure, from prickly pine cones to swirly snail's shells, then learn more about the found object with irresistibly illustrated and informative nature notes. Packed full of fascinating facts alongside a gentle rhyming narrative and encouraging children to get outside and explore their surroundings, this is a nature treasure hunt series to truly treasure.



## Lottie Loves Nature: Bee-Ware

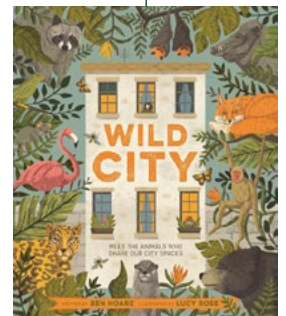
Jane Clarke and James Brown | Five Quills  
Early Readers / Fiction

Lottie has been reading about the decline in the number of insects in nature. With the help of her tech neighbour Noah, she decides to build a bug-hotel to encourage their return. But buzzing-mayhem, they are interrupted by a swarm of bees invading Mr. Parfitt's garden next door. Can Lottie help save the bees before the exterminator arrives?

## Wild City: Meet the animals who share our city spaces

Ben Hoare and Lucy Rose | Macmillan  
Middle grade / Non-fiction

Wild City travels the globe, exploring how animals have adapted to live alongside humans, in busy cities including New York, Rio de Janeiro, Berlin, Stockholm, London, Alexandria, Singapore, and Mumbai. Discover hawks by a world-famous shopping street, snakes slithering through city sewers, and penguins waiting patiently to cross the road. We meet wildlife heroes from around the world—ordinary people doing extraordinary things to make our wild neighbours feel welcome.



## Guardians of the Planet

Clive Gifford | Buster Books  
Middle Grade / Non-fiction

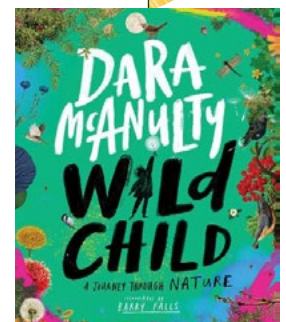
This environmentally positive book contains everything children need to become guardians of the planet. Kids can learn how to become keepers of the coasts, friends of the forests, home heroes and much more through a mix of compelling facts, creative activities and proactive tips.

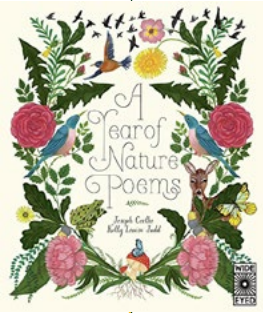


## Wild Child: A Journey Through Nature

Dara McAnulty and Barry Falls | Macmillan  
Middle Grade / Non-fiction

Join brilliant young naturalist Dara McAnulty on a nature walk and experience the joy of connecting with the natural world on your multi sensory journey. Divided into five sections: looking out of the window, venturing out into the garden, walking in the woods, investigating heathland and wandering on the river bank.





## A Year of Nature Poems

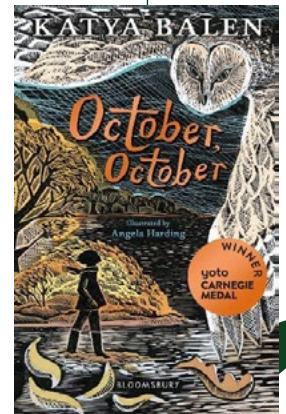
Joseph Coelho and Kelly Louise Judd | Wide Eyed Editions  
Middle grade / Upper KS2 / Poetry

See how animals behave through the seasons, and the cycle of trees and plants, from the first blossoms of spring through to the stark winter wonderland in December. Twelve inspiring poems from Joseph Coelho, one for each month of the year, paired with folk art from Kelly Louise Judd give this book year-round appeal. A beautiful book for your bookshelf, to spark an idea for your own poem, or to teach a love for nature and to help children foster a love for the natural world.

## October, October

Katya Balen, Angela Harding | Bloomsbury  
Middle grade/ Upper KS2 / Fiction

October and her dad live in the woods. They know the trees and the rocks and the lake and stars like best friends. They live in the woods, and they are wild. And that's the way it is. Until the year October turns eleven. That's the year October rescues a baby owl. It's the year Dad falls out of the biggest tree in their woods. The year the woman who calls herself October's mother comes back. The year everything changes.



## Butterflies for Grandpa Joe

Nicola Davies | Barrington Stoke  
Middle grade/ upper KS2 / Fiction

Grandpa Joe is butterfly bonkers. There's nothing he loves more than photographing the fluttering, colourful creatures in his garden. But since Ben's granny passed away, Grandpa Joe has changed. He doesn't want to go outside or talk or smile. It's like he's a completely different person and it feels like time is running out to help him. If only Ben could find a way to bring the butterflies to his Grandpa. Maybe seeing them again could help bring back his smile... A heart-warming tale of empathy, affection and dealing with grief across generations, from award-winning author Nicola Davies. Particularly suitable for struggling, reluctant or dyslexic readers aged 8+







The Reading Agency is a UK charity that tackles life's big challenges through the proven power of reading. We work closely with partners to develop and deliver programmes for people of all ages and backgrounds; our vision is for a world where everyone is reading their way to a better life. We help 1.9 million people benefit from reading every year, through our programmes, our tireless campaigning, our excellent networks and our power to influence, challenge and make change happen.

[www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)



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