

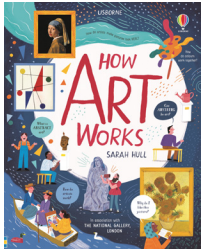
# National Year of Reading Children's Book Recommendations for Primary Schools

2026 is the UK National Year of Reading. At Usborne, we're supporting the Go All In campaign, encouraging the nation to get reading by connecting books with the things they love. This selection aims to help booksellers pair every child with a book that sparks their interest.



For more Usborne books, activities and resources for the National Year of Reading, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2997u](http://qr.usborne.com/2997u).

## Books That Don't Feel Like "Books"



An inspiring introduction to art, artists and creative techniques, filled with colourful illustrations and ideas to explore. A great choice for creative minds, encouraging children to discover more through books.

Age 9+ | Apr 2020 |  
9781409598893 | £12.99



A creative activity book packed with imaginative things to make and do using a simple cardboard box. Perfect for hands-on children, it keeps them engaged with books through play and creativity.

Age 6+ | Jul 2023 |  
9781805310037 | £7.99



For more colouring, activity and sticker books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2xbj8](http://qr.usborne.com/2xbj8).

## Spooky Reads



A fast-paced mystery full of secrets, twists and spooky surprises. Keeps readers hooked with a story they'll want to race through.

Age 9+ | Sep 2025 |  
9781835400999 | £7.99



A chilling, atmospheric ghost story packed with mystery and suspense. Perfect for spooky story fans, it draws readers in with a book they won't want to put down.

Age 9+ | Sept 2020 |  
9781474972147 | £7.99



A gripping school-based mystery filled with secrets, suspense and dark discoveries. Keeps readers engaged with a story full of intrigue and tension.

Age 9+ | Feb 2024 |  
9781805314905 | £7.99



For more spooky books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/24xu6](http://qr.usborne.com/24xu6).

## Books for Curious Minds



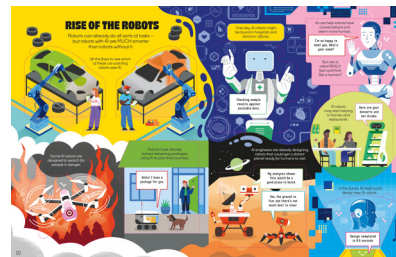
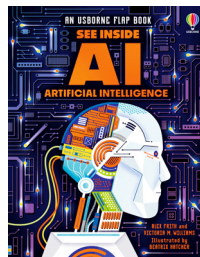
A fascinating collection of surprising facts about mysteries, unexplained events and strange discoveries. Perfect for curious readers, it keeps children turning the pages to find out more.

Age 8+ | Jun 2023 |  
9781803705286 | £9.99



An accessible introduction to politics, power and how decisions are made, brought to life with illustrations and clear explanations. Encourages children to explore big ideas through engaging, real-world reading.

Age 10+ | Feb 2018 |  
9781474922524 | £9.99



An interactive flap book exploring how artificial intelligence works and how it's shaping the world around us. A great way to engage students through hands-on discovery and real-world topics.

Age 7+ | Mar 2025 |  
9781805074502 | £10.99



A powerful story about friendship, identity and standing up for what you believe in, inspired by real LGBTQ+ history. Thought-provoking and deeply relatable, it keeps readers engaged with characters and stories that feel real.

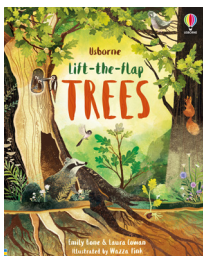
Age 10+ | Feb 2024 |  
9781801315791 | £7.99



A clear and engaging guide to money, packed with bite-sized facts and helpful explanations. Keeps children interested by linking reading to real-life topics they're curious about.

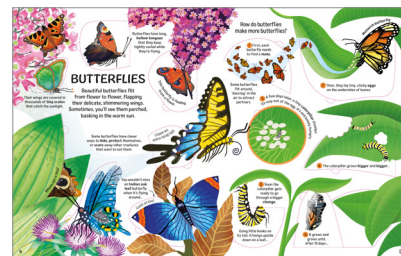
Age 9+ | Feb 2025 |  
9781805076407 | £9.99

## Books for Outdoor Explorers



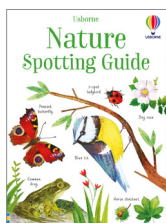
A beautifully illustrated flap book introducing children to different trees and amazing tree facts. Perfect for curious explorers, it encourages children to discover more about the natural world through books.

Age 6+ | Feb 2022 |  
9781474986137 | £9.99



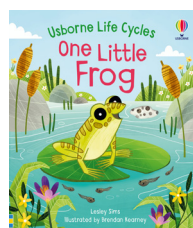
An interactive flap book packed with fascinating facts about insects, butterflies and mini-beasts. Perfect for nature-loving children, it keeps them engaged through hands-on discovery.

Age 6+ | Feb 2026 |  
9781836044420 | £10.99



A practical guide filled with things to spot, identify and explore outdoors. A great companion for adventures outside, encouraging children to connect reading with real-world discovery.

Age 6+ | Mar 2024 |  
9781805315858 | £8.99



An inventive information book showing how a little blob floating in jelly becomes a hopping, croaking frog. With interactive holes and a simple nature theme, it's a lovely first step into non-fiction for very young readers.

Age 2+ | Apr 2022 |  
9781474998819 | £6.99



For more nature and outdoor books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2a6kc](https://qr.usborne.com/2a6kc).

## Books for Mini Sleuths



A diary-style mystery set aboard a cruise ship, packed with twists, adventure and hilarious doodles. It keeps readers hooked with a thrilling story they won't want to put down.

Age 8+ | Mar 2026 | 9781835409961 | £7.99



A puzzle-packed book full of codes to crack, ciphers to solve and messages to uncover. Ideal for problem-solvers, it keeps children coming back to the page through interactive fun.

Age 7+ | Aug 2025 | 9781835408568 | £6.99



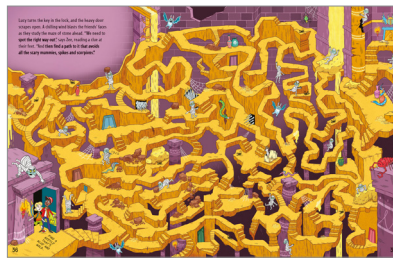
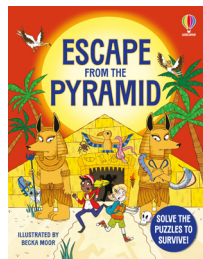
For more spy books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2873e](http://qr.usborne.com/2873e).

## Fun Reads with Puzzles and Games



A fast-paced puzzle adventure packed with clues, codes and mysteries to solve. Perfect for problem-solvers, it keeps children turning the pages as they race to crack the case.

Age 9+ | Jul 2021 | 9781474960489 | £7.99



A puzzle-filled adventure inside an ancient pyramid, packed with clues to crack. Keeps children engaged as they work their way through the story.

Age 6+ | Apr 2026 | 9781835408582 | £6.99



A spooky adventure set in a dark forest, with puzzles and paths to explore. Draws readers in by putting them at the centre of the story.

Age 7+ | Sept 2025 | 9781836041030 | £9.99



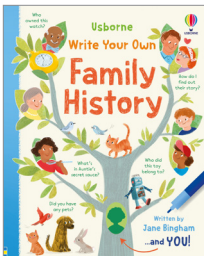
An interactive adventure where readers face mythical monsters and solve puzzles to escape. Keeps them coming back as they tackle each new challenge.

Age 7+ | Feb 2026 | 9781836040293 | £6.99



For more puzzle and game books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2ywy7](http://qr.usborne.com/2ywy7).

## Books for Budding Writers



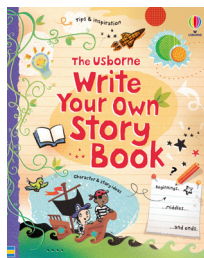
A guided journal full of prompts to explore family stories, memories and local history. A great way to connect reading and writing to real life and make a lovely keep-sake.

Age 7+ | Feb 2026 | 9781835408872 | £12.99



A fun, hands-on book packed with tips, prompts and space to create your own comic strips. Perfect for creative children, it keeps them engaged as they bring their own stories to life.

Age 7+ | Mar 2024 | 9781805074854 | £9.99



A creative write-in book packed with ideas, prompts and tips to help children build their own stories. Encourages imagination and keeps children coming back to books as they create something of their own.

Age 7+ | June 2011 | 9781409523352 | £8.99



For more creative writing books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2q4km](http://qr.usborne.com/2q4km).

# Books for Football Fans



An award-winning football story set in Indonesia, exploring hope, friendship and life beyond the pitch. A powerful choice for football fans ready for a story with real-world depth.

Age 10+ | Sep 2017 | 9781474928151 | £7.99



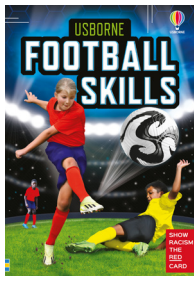
An action-packed, football story full of tension, teamwork and big-match drama. A brilliant choice for sports lovers, it draws readers in through the thrill of the game.

Age 10+ | June 2026 | 9781836045670 | £8.99



A laugh-out-loud adventure where Billy and his mischievous monsters take on football in their own chaotic way. Combining humour and sport, it's perfect for early and reluctant readers.

Age 5+ | May 2026 | 9781836042723 | £6.99



An essential guide packed with expert tips, drills and techniques to build confidence on the pitch. Perfect for fans, it turns a passion for football into a reason to keep reading.

Age 6+ | June 2025 | 9781836040965 | £7.99

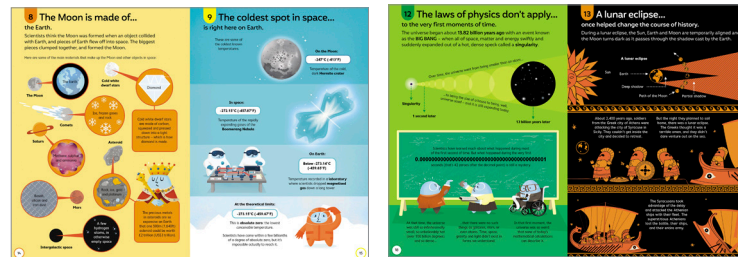
For more football books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2jwfb](http://qr.usborne.com/2jwfb).

# Space Books to Explore



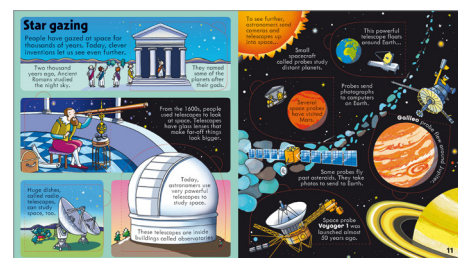
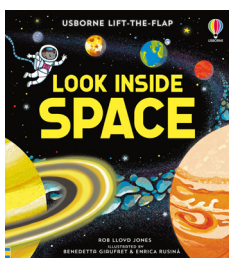
An interactive flap book revealing the wonders of space, from rockets to distant planets. Ideal for younger readers, it makes exploring books fun and engaging from the very first page.

Age 3+ | Aug 2016 | 9781409599142 | £8.99



A fascinating introduction to space, packed with bite-sized facts and striking illustrations. Perfect for curious readers, it keeps children turning the pages through a subject they love.

Age 8+ | Apr 2016 | 9781409593928 | £9.99

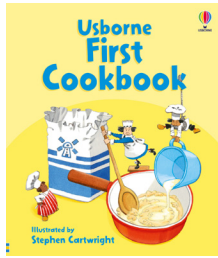


A detailed flap book exploring space, packed with facts, diagrams and things to discover. A great choice for inquisitive minds, it encourages children to spend longer with books through hands-on exploration.

Age 5+ | Aug 2025 | 9781836044604 | £9.99

For more space books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2d7pp](http://qr.usborne.com/2d7pp).

# Books for Cooks



Age 7+ | Oct 2025 | 9781836042402 | £12.99



A bright and friendly cookbook with simple, step-by-step recipes for beginner cooks. A great way to build confidence and provide another reason to read.



Age 7+ | Aug 2023 | 9781474998628 | £9.99

A personal collection of recipes from around the world, introducing children to new flavours and cultures. Colourful illustrations and bite-size text engage the reader.



Age 7+ | Sep 2025 | 9781805318415 | £9.99



A vibrant, highly illustrated cookbook featuring dishes from global celebrations and festivals. A great way to build a love of books through food and culture.

For more cooking books, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2sp4q](https://qr.usborne.com/2sp4q).

# Fiction They'll Want to Finish



Age 7+ | May 2025 | 9781805312437 | £7.99

A warm, illustrated story about friendship and caring for a mischievous puppy. Perfect for animal lovers, it keeps children engaged with a story they'll enjoy returning to.



Age 9+ | Jan 2026 | 9781836045663 | £7.99

A funny, fast-paced adventure full of mishaps, surprises and unlikely heroes. Keeps children turning the pages with humour and plenty of action.



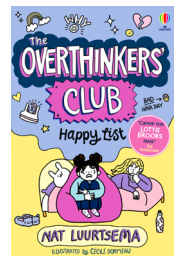
Age 8+ | May 2026 | 9781836046929 | £8.99

An exciting and highly illustrated fantasy adventure filled with dragons, danger and powerful secrets. Perfect for fantasy fans, it draws readers in with a thrilling story and puzzles to solve.



Age 9+ | Aug 2024 | 9781474999908 | £7.99

Three kids face shipwrecks, survival and pirates in this adventure from the Queen of heart and humour. Keeps readers engaged with a hilarious adventure, full of excitement.



Age 9+ | Mar 2026 | 9781835409978 | £7.99

A funny, diary-style story about friendship, worries and finding ways to feel happier. A great choice for relatable reading, encouraging children to keep turning the pages.



Age 9+ | Feb 2026 | 9781803708072 | £7.99

A powerful novel about second chances, friendship and finding the courage to rewrite your story. Relatable characters and a strong hero will keep readers engaged.



Age 9+ | June 2017 | 9781474927277 | £8.99

A heartfelt story about friendship, confidence and finding your voice. With relatable characters and plenty of humour, it keeps readers hooked from the very first page.



Age 9+ | Aug 2025 | 9781805318286 | £7.99

A funny, magical story about fitting in, standing out and the unexpected consequences of getting exactly what you wish for. Perfect for readers who enjoy humour and heart, it keeps the pages turning with friendship drama and magic.

For more engaging fiction, scan the QR code or go to [qr.usborne.com/2uutc](https://qr.usborne.com/2uutc).