

National Non-Fiction November 2022 Communications Booklist

The theme of Communications embraces a very wide range of topics, so it is inevitable that this book list is a long one! To help you find books that match your interests or are relevant to your needs, the list has therefore been divided into 11 sections: words, how we (humans) communicate, signs and signals, codes and cyphers, printing and books, messages in the post, telecommunications and new technologies, the news, art forms, transport networks and the natural world. More than half of the books listed have been published during the last three years and all of them (bar one) are currently in print. Each section is arranged alphabetically by title, with guidance about age suitability.

Words



365 First Words (Little Word Whizz)

Dr Meredith L Rowe & Monika Forsberg, Magic Cat, 2022. ISBN 9781913520366

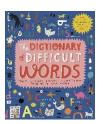
This chunky, colourful visual encyclopaedia for little ones introduces colours, numbers and shapes, as well as parts of the body, things that go, animals and the world around us. **Pre-school**



Britannica's Word of the Day

Britannica, 2022. ISBN 9781913750350

'366 elevating utterances to stretch your cranium and tickle your humerus'. Sprinkled with themed word groups and a zany story featuring all the words learnt each month. **KS2 & 3**



The Dictionary of Difficult Words

Jane Solomon & Louise Lockhart, Lincoln Children's Books, 2019. ISBN 9781786038104

A giant-sized picture book containing more than 400 words to amaze, confuse and inspire budding wordsmiths - young and old alike! A wonderfully whimsical celebration of words to dip in to. **KS2**



Every Word Tells a Story

Tom Read Wilson & Ian Morris, words & pictures, 2022. ISBN 9780711277519

Written by the TV presenter, actor, singer and self-confessed logophile, this illustrated exploration of word origins, is full of funny stories and fascinating facts. **KS2 & 3**



Literally: Amazing Words and Where They Come From

Patrick Skipworth & Nicholas Stevenson, What on Earth Books, 2020. ISBN 9781912920174

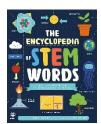
A visually stunning picture book about the global diversity hidden in the English language. **KS1 & 2**



${\it Lost in Translation: An Illustrated Compendium of Untranslatable\ Words}$

Ella Frances Saunders, Square Peg, 2015. ISBN 9780224100809

An illustrated collection of words and their definitions that is full of surprises. **KS3 +**



The STEM Encyclopedia of Words

Jenny Jacoby & Vicky Barker, b small publishing, 2022. ISBN 9781913918286

This engaging book of 100 STEM related words for anyone with a fascination for science, technology, engineering or maths, contains a detailed 5-page combined index and glossary. **KS2 & 3**



What a Wonderful Word: A Collection of Untranslatables from Around the World

Nicola Edwards & Luisa Uribe, 360 Degrees, 2018. ISBN 9781848576452

A beautifully illustrated collection of untranslatable words from around the world with fascinating facts about each word and the culture it comes from. **KS2** & 3



Wise Words: 100 Art Words Explained

Jon Richards, Wayland, 2021. ISBN 9781526317025

Discover the key words and terms from the art world. Each word is presented in a clear, brief and uncomplicated fashion with an illustration or photograph. **KS2**

How We (Humans) Communicate



Helen Keller (DK Life Stories)

Libby Romero & Charlotte Ager, Dorling Kindersley, 2019. ISBN 9780241322932

Learn about Helen Keller's amazing life and achievements – how she learned to read Braille and speak, go to college and write books and ultimately revolutionize the world through her activism on behalf of the deaf and blind. **KS2** & 3



How to Say Hello

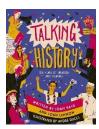
Sophie Beer, Caterpillar Books, 2022. ISBN 9781838914158

A bright and quirky board book which introduces the topic of communication in a positive enjoyable way. **Pre-school & KS1**



Speaking in Tongues: Curious Expressions from Around the World Ella Frances Sanders, Square Peg, 2016. ISBN 9781910931264

An illustrated collection of weird, wonderful and nuanced phrases from around the world. **KS3** +



Talking History: 150 Years of Speakers and Speeches

Joan Haig, Joan Lennon & André Ducci, Templar, 2022. ISBN 9781787417328

Presented in graphic novel style, this captures the inspiring words of 16 speakers who have engaged generations on important issues including war, women's rights, climate change and racism. **KS2, 3 & 4**

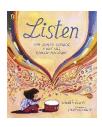


What a Wonderful Phrase: A Collection of Amazing Idioms from Around the World

Nicola Edwards & Manu Montoya, Caterpillar books, 2021. ISBN 9781838913274

This beautifully illustrated and witty book is filled with curious phrases from around the world. Learn about the history behind each idiom and the cultures that shaped them. **KS2 & 3**

Hearing Impairment



Listen: How Evelyn Glennie, a Deaf Girl, Changed Percussion

Shannon Stocker & Devon Holzwarth, Puffin, 2022. ISBN 9780241547687

The inspiring true story of the world-famous percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie. **KS1 & 2**



My First Signs: BSL (Baby Signing)

Annie Kubler, Child's Play International Ltd, 2004. ISBN 9781904550044

Signing guide for hearing and deaf children containing 40 key words. This is one of over 20 endearing board books available from Child's Play which cover everyday activities and songs. **Pre-school**



Proud to be Deaf: Discover My Community and My Language

Ava, Lilli & Nick Beese and Romina Marti, Wayland, 2019. ISBN 9781526302199

This wonderful child-led book celebrates Deaf culture and introduces British Sign Language. **KS1 & 2**

Visual Impairment



Louis Braille (Picture Book Biography)

David Adler, Holiday House, 2020. ISBN 9780823444571

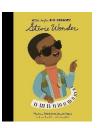
The story of the young Frenchman who, after losing his sight in a tragic accident, went on to invent a writing system of raised dots which is still used today by people around the world. The book contains a page of letters and numerals printed in braille. **KS1 & 2**



On the Move (DK Braille)

Dorling Kindersley, 2016. ISBN 9780241228388

Covers a fascinating selection of vehicles, with entries written in both braille and large print, accompanied by large, embossed, fully annotated illustrations. **KS1 & 2**

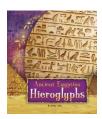


Stevie Wonder (Little People, Big Dreams)

Maria Sanchez Vegara & Melissa Lee Johnson, Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2021. ISBN 9780711257733

The incredible true story of the singer, song writer and multi-instrumentalist who conquered the music world despite losing his sight at the age of 6. **KS 1 & 2**

Signs and Signals



Ancient Egyptian Hieroglyphs (Fact Finders: Ancient Egyptian Civilization)

Kathy Allen & Jen Wegner, Raintree, 2017. ISBN 9781474717328

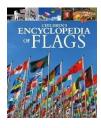
Learn about this ancient form of writing and discover what the ancient Egyptians had to say! **KS2**



The Big Book of Pride Flags

Jessica Kingsley & Jem Milton, Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2022. ISBN 9781839972564

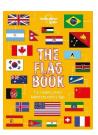
Celebrate and learn about the LGBTQIA+ community with this colourful book of Pride flags, which includes a reading guide and discussion questions, plus a blank flag for children to create their own Pride flag. **KS1 & 2**



Children's Encyclopedia of Flags (Arcturus Children's Reference Library)

Claudia Martin, Arcturus, 2022. ISBN 9781398813960

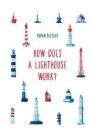
This explores each flag's history, explaining when it was adopted and why it was chosen to represent its nation, while providing a fascinating insight into each nation's history and values. **KS2 & 3**



The Flag Book

Lonely Planet Kids, 2019. ISBN 9781788683098

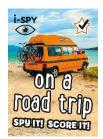
As well as introducing the flags of every country in the world, the book explores the many other ways that flags are used, from semaphore flags to sport flags and more. **KS2 & 3**



How Does a Lighthouse Work?

Roman Belyaev (author/illustrator), Masha Kulikova (translator), b small, 2018. ISBN 9781911509240

A fascinating and beautifully illustrated exploration of lighthouses from around the world.



i-SPY On a Road Trip: Spy it! Score it!

i-SPY, Collins, 2022. ISBN 9780008431747

This perfect activity book for car journeys includes a section on road signs. **KS1 & 2**



The Official Highway Code

DVSA & GBDT, Stationary Office, 2022. ISBN 9780115539954

An essential reference guide for all road users, including cyclists. 13-page guide to road signs. **All**

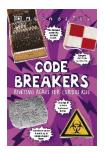
Codes and Cyphers



Code Breaker, Spy Hunter: How Elizebeth Friedman Changed the Course of Two World Wars

Laurie Wallmark & Brooke Smart, Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2021. ISBN 9781419739637

A picture book biography of a brilliant American code breaker who smashed Nazi spy rings, took down gangsters, and created the CIA's first cryptology unit. Also contains general information on cryptography and some secret messages for young readers to decode. **KS2**



Code Breakers: Riveting Reads for Curious Kids (Mega Bites)

Dorling Kindersley Children, 2021. ISBN 9780241526583

This secret history of the greatest code makers and code breakers looks at all types of codes and cyphers, ranging from Egyptian hieroglyphs to the Enigma machine and DNA. **KS2 & 3**



Code Cracking for Kids: Secret Communications Throughout History, with 21 Codes and Ciphers

Jean Daigneau, Chicago Review Press (US), 2019. ISBN 9781641601382

An exploration of the fascinating world of ciphers, spies and secret communications throughout history, from the Rosetta Stone to modern day encryption, plus practical activities. **KS2 & 3**



The Extraordinary Life of Alan Turing (Extraordinary Lives)

Michael Lee Richardson & Freda Chiu, Puffin, 2020. ISBN 9780241434017

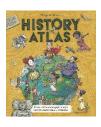
A brilliant biography of the mathematician, scientist and codebreaker who helped defeat the Nazis in the Second World War with his incredible ability to decode secret messages from enemy soldiers. **KS2 & 3**



Spies, Code Breakers and Secret Agents: A World War Two Book for Kids Carole P Roman, Rockridge Press, 2020. ISBN 9781646111015

Covers communication equipment and code breaking, spies and spy craft. **KS2 &** 3

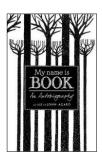
Printing and Books



History Atlas

Thiago de Moraes, Alison Green Books, 2020. ISBN 9781407189239

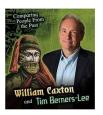
Embark on a global tour through time, during which you can track the development of communication in all its guises, from hieroglyphs to morse code, the silk road to maritime navigation and more. Packed with quirky illustrations, this is fascinating, funny and informative. **KS1**, 2 & 3



My Name is Book

John Agard & Neil Packer, Walker, 2016. ISBN 9781406368987

The story of the book told by none other than ... BOOK! As well as telling the story of development from clay tablets to e-books, Book also muses about such things as libraries, book-burning and blurbs. Sadly, this beautiful little book is out of print, but used copies are still available and well worth seeking out! **KS2 & 3 up**



William Caxton and Tim Berners-Lee (Comparing People from the Past) Nick Hunter, Raintree, 2015. ISBN 9781406289906

Follow Caxton as he introduces the world to the printing press and compare with Berners-Lee and his invention of the internet. **KS2**

Messages in the Post

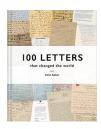
Although most of us probably see our local postman/woman delivering mail every day, it's proved difficult to find child-friendly information books about their work. It may be true that 'posting' letters is a less-common means of communication these days, ut receiving a postcard, letter, greetings card or parcel in the post can still be very exciting! As well as the information books below, we've therefore included a film and a couple of recent stories featuring letters.



Journey of a Letter

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pFd8DLcPIY

6 minutes live-action film which follows a birthday card on its journey from sender to recipient. **All**



100 Letters That Changed the World

Colin Salter, Rizzoli International Publications, 2021. ISBN 9780789341129

The history of the world as witnessed through the most inspiring, heartfelt and impactful letters ever written. **KS3 & 4**+



Special Delivery: A Book's Journey Around the World

Polly Faber & Klas Fahlén, Nosy Crow, 2022

Gorgeous picture book account of a book's journey across the world, from printing press in a country far, far away, across the sea, over land, eventually arriving in a bookshop and finally into the hands of a young boy with the help of the postal service. **KS1**

Stories



Dragon Post

Emma Yarlett, Walker Books, 2018. ISBN 9781406379716

When Alex finds a dragon living in his understairs cupboard, he writes letters to lots of different people to ask for help. There are five envelopes for readers to open! **KS1 &2**



Penpals Forever

Jurg Lindenberger & C K Smouha, Cicada, 2020. ISBN 9781908714718

A picture book story about a mouse and an elephant who become pen pals in spite of some minor size differences! A fun book about acceptance, tolerance and friendship. **KS1 & 2**

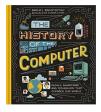
Telecommunications and new technologies



Evolution of Television 1920-2020

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TszSjE_kQwg

A short film which summarises the evolution of television, which demonstrates the rapid development of technology across the decades. **KS2 & 3+**



The History of the Computer

Rachel Ignotofsky, Ten Speed Press, 2022. ISBN 9781984857422

A beautifully illustrated overview of the computing machines that have changed our world and the people who made them. 'You'll never look at your phone in the same way again!' **KS3** +



The Internet (Inventions That Changed the World)

Sara Green, Blastoff! Discovery, 2022. ISBN 9781644876152

The Internet has changed the way more than half the world's population communicates and accesses information. This covers its development, impact on life today and what it may look like in the future. **KS2 & 3**



The Message: The Extraordinary Journey of an Ordinary Text Message

Michael Emberley, Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, 2021. ISBN 9781334452909

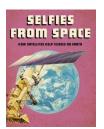
Follow a text message as it travels at near light speed around the world. KS1 & 2



Mr T.V.: The Story of John Logie Baird

Julie Fulton & Patrick Corrigan, Maverick Arts, 2020. ISBN 9781848866461

Picture book account of the life of an incredible Scottish inventor who never gave up trying to develop a working television system. **KS1 & 2**



Selfies From Space: How Satellites Help Science on Earth (Future Space)

Tamra B Orr, Capstone Press, 2019. ISBN 9781543575170

Satellites let us study Earth from the outside looking in. Find out how scientists are using satellites to tackle some of our world's most challenging problems. **KS2** & 3



Social Media and You (Your Mind Matters)

Honor Head & Roberta Terrachio, Franklin Watts, 2019. ISBN 9781445164731

How to navigate the pitfalls of activity on social media and develop good mental health. **KS2**



Social Media Survival Guide (Usborne Life Skills)

Hollie Bathie, Usborne Publishing 2022. ISBN 9781474999267

In-depth coverage of a range of important issues faced by young people on social media, practical tips and links to professionally approved websites. **KS2 & 3**



The Telephone (Inventions That Changed the World)

Sara Green, Blastoff! Discovery, 2022. ISBN 9781644876169

This covers the history, development and use of the telephone today, including its impact on our lives and how it might work in the future. **KS2 & 3**



The Television (Inventions That Changed the World)

Sara Green, Blastoff! Discovery, 2022. ISBN 9781644876176

Created over 100 years ago, this traces the history, development, current use, impact and future of TV. **KS2 & 3**.



Twitter (Tech 2.0 World-Changing Social Media Companies)

Craig Ellenport, Mason Crest Publishers, 2018. ISBN 9781422240656

Social media companies have changed the way that people in every generation communicate. This is one of a series which focuses on the technology that is changing the way we connect, relate and stay informed. Other titles include *Instagram, Reddit, Snapchat, What's App* and *YouTube*. **KS3 & 4**

Stories

A series of hilarious picture book stories which are ideal for introducing internet safety. KS1 &2



Chicken Clicking (Online Safety Picture Books)

Jean Willis & Tony Ross, Andersen Press, 2015. ISBN 9781783441617



Goldilocks: A Hashtag Cautionary Tale (Online Safety Picture Books) Jean Willis & Tony Ross, Andersen Press, 2020. ISBN 9781783448784



Old Macdonald Had a Phone (Online Safety Picture Books)
Jean Willis & Tony Ross, Andersen Press, 2022. ISBN 9781783449538



Troll Stinks (Online Safety Picture Books)

Jean Willis & Tony Ross, Andersen Press, 2017. ISBN 9781783445691

The News



Breaking News: How to Tell What's Real from What's Rubbish

Nick Sheridan, Simon & Schuster, 2021. ISBN 9781398506787

A humorously written guide to the world of journalism, designed to help readers differentiate fact from fiction and provide guidance about what to do if the news becomes overwhelming. **KS2 & 3**



Fake News (What's the Issue?)

Tom Jackson & Cristina Guitian, QED Publishing, 2020. ISBN 9780711250321

This timely title considers the world wide web, tabloid journalism and rolling news as it explores the responsibilities and power of the media and encourages critical thinking. **KS2 & 3**



Question Everything: An Investigator's Toolkit

Susan Martineau & Vicky Barker, b small, 2020. ISBN 9781912909353

An attractive well-constructed book that encourages the development of critical literacy skills, by providing everything a 9-12-year-old needs to know about spotting fake news, discerning facts from fiction, identifying hyperbole and being rational about statistics. **KS2 & 3**



What is Fake News?

Izzi Howell, Wayland, 2018. ISBN 9781526308818

Aimed at tweens and teens, this is a clear factual and accessible explanation of what fake news is and what motivates people to create it. **KS2 &3**



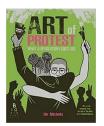
Understanding the News (Cracking the Media Literacy Code)

Pamela Dell, Capstone Press, 2018. ISBN 97815435227124

The easy-to-understand text, simple infographics, quizzes and lots of examples, will help young readers learn how to crack the code of real vs. fake news. **KS2**

Art Forms

Different art forms provide a variety of ways for us (humans) to communicate through creativity – ideas, stories, opinions, emotions, sense of time, sense of place, moods, atmosphere and more.



Art of Protest: What a Revolution Looks Like

De Nichols, Big Picture Press, 2021. ISBN 9781787417663

An inspiring look at the history of protest art with practical suggestions for getting your own voice heard through art. **KS3** +



How to Build an Orchestra

Mary Auld & Elisa Paganelli, Wayland, 2020. ISBN 9781526309839

The book comes with two CD's that contain excerpts from more than thirty pieces of music from the London Symphony Orchestra's repertoire. The text includes listening prompts (for moods etc.), while the beautiful illustrations hint at the pictures and stories being conjured by the music. **KS1 & 2**



How to Make Awesome Comics (The Phoenix Presents)

Neill Cameron, David Fickling Books, 2014. ISBN 9781910200032

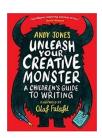
Fantastic practical guide to writing and creating your own comics. KS2 & 3



How to Write Poems

Joseph Coelho & Matt Robertson, Bloomsbury Activity Books, 2017. ISBN 9781408889497

Written by the new Children's Laureate, this is full of useful tips and starting points, designed to make young readers chuckle, make them think, and inspire them to write their own poetry. **KS2**

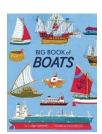


Unleash Your Creative Monster

Andy Jones & Olaf Falafel, Walker Books, 2021. ISBN 9781406396621

A funny and accessible guide to creative writing, packed with practical advice, exciting story prompts and a cast of creative monsters. **KS2 & 3**

Transport networks



Big Book of Boats

Luogo Comune (author/illustrator) & Catherine Bruzzone (translator), b small, 2022. ISBN 9781913918392

Beautifully illustrated large format picture book which explores all kinds of vessels, the diversity of uses and some amazing stories about sea battles, exploration, disasters and more. **KS2 & 3**



Epic Adventures: Explore the World in 12 Amazing Train Journeys

Sam Sedgman & Sam Brewster, Macmillan Children's Books, 2022. ISBN 9781529065657

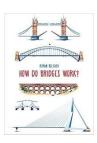
Each of the 12 real train routes covered includes information about the local area, culture, customs, food, festivals, animals and the history of places visited. Includes the Eurostar & the first Transcontinental Railroad. **KS 2**



Exploring Canals

Daniel Nunn, Raintree, 2020. ISBN 9781474774505

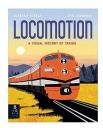
An introduction to the history, building and use of canals in Britain. Full-colour photos throughout. **KS1 & 2**



How Do Bridges Work?

Roman Belyaev (autor/illustrator) & Ruth Ahnedzai Kemp (translator), b small publishing, 2020. ISBN 9781911509899

This beautifully illustrated book covers the invention, history, architecture and engineering of bridges, using examples from all around the world. **KS2 & 3**



Locomotion: A Visual History of Trains

Alistair Steele & Ryo Takemasa, Big Picture Press, 2022. ISBN 9781787417506

From early steam engines through to the modern high-speed trains of today, this is a spectacular look at the history of trains around the world. Includes a section on rail mail. **KS2 & 3**



Planes: From the Wright Brothers to the Supersonic Jet

Jan Van Der Veken, Prestel, 2021. ISBN 9783791374413

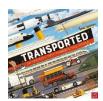
This fascinating encyclopaedic guide to the history and mechanics of flight includes a section on communication systems, runway design and GPS. **KS2 & 3**



TfL: The Story of the London Underground

David Long & Sarah McMenemy, Bloomsbury, 2019. ISBN 9781408889950

A celebration of the underground railway system that has kept the lively city of London on the move since the first passenger train in 1863. **KS2** +



Transported: 50 Vehicles That Changed the World

Matt Ralphs & Rui Ricardo, Nosy Crow, 2022. ISBN 9781839942177

Take a journey through time to discover how these 50 groundbreaking inventions changed the world and how they might even shape our future ... **KS2** &3

The Natural World



Polly Bee Makes Honey (Follow My Food)

Deborah Chancellor & Julia Groves, Scallywag Press, 2021. ISBN 9781912650705

This simple colourful explanation of how bees produce honey, includes a page on the wiggle dance used by worker bees to tell their sisters where to find the best flowers. **Preschool & KS1**



Can You Hear the Trees Talking?

Peter Wohlleben, Greystone Kids, 2020. ISBN 9781771644341

This young readers' edition of *The Hidden Life of Trees*, introduces the wonderful science of the forest through outside activities, quizzes, fun facts, photographs and more. **KS3 & 3**



Cat Chat: How Cats Tell Us How They Feel

Jess French & Penelope Dullaghan, Nosy Crow, 2021. ISBN 9781788008846

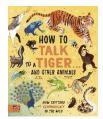
With a charming rhyming text, this board book shows exactly how to read a cat's body language and what they might be trying to tell you through tail waves, ear twitches, meows and more. **Pre-school & KS1**



Puppy Talk: How Dogs Tell Us How They Feel

Jess French & Penelope Dullaghan, Nosy Crow, 2022. ISBN 9781788008853

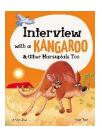
This attractive board book with a rhyming text makes the perfect introduction for youngsters to living with a dog and how to read their dog's body language. **Preschool & KS1**



How to Talk to a Tiger... and Other Animals: How Critters Communicate in the Wild

Jason Bittel & Kelsey Buzzell, Magic Cat Publishing, 2021. ISBN 9781913520076

An entertaining look at how over 100 animals from around the world communicate through sight, sound, smell and taste and electric communication and touch. **KS2 & 3**



Interview With a Kangaroo: and Other Marsupials Too

Andy Seed & Nick East, Welbeck Children's Books, 2022. ISBN 9781783126767

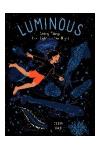
Third book in a colourful rib-tickling series, in which each animal steps up to the mic to share their habits, behaviour, likes and dislikes, favourite foods and more. **KS1 & 2 +**



Invented by Animals: Meet the Creatures Who Inspired Our Everyday Technology

Christian Dorion & Gosia Herba, Wide Eyed Editions, 2021. ISBN 9780711260658

Award winning book about the incredible animal superpowers that inspired our most amazing inventions. Includes the inspiration taken from the way dolphins and bats communicate. **KS2 & 3**



Luminous: Living things That Light Up the Night

Julia Kuo (author/illustrator), Greystone Kids, 2022. ISBN 9781771648882

A mesmerizing introduction to the science of bioluminescence. KS1 & 2



The Magic and Mystery of Trees

Royal Horticultural Society & Dorling Kindersley, 2019. ISBN 97802411355435

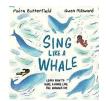
A beautiful book about the amazing science of trees including how they communicate and warn each other of predators. **KS1 & 2**



The Secret Signs of Nature: How to Uncover Hidden Clues in the Sky, Water, Plants, Animals and Weather

Craig Caudill & Carrie Shryock, Magic Cat Publishing, 2022. ISBN 9781913520380

Meet two young navigators as they discover the ancient art of reading outdoor clues. **KS2 & 3**



Sing Like a Whale: Learn How to Make a Noise Like the Animals Do! Moira Butterfield & Gwen Millward, Welbeck Children's Books, 2021. ISBN

9781913519179

Everyone needs to get their message and feelings across, including animals. Younger children will have great fun learning how to hoot like an owl, howl like a wolf and sing like a whale with the help of this engaging interactive book.

Preschool & KS1



2023 Nature-Month-By-Month: A Children's Almanac

Anna Wilson & Elly Jahnz, Nosy Crow, 2022. ISBN 9781839945380

An inspirational journey through the seasons for young nature spotters. KS1 & 2