## Books about Books \& Libraries



This book just ate my dog! by Richard Byrne
Oxford University Press 9780192737298

A clever use of the physical format of the printed book to tell a story. First a dog and then successive people and vehicles disappear into the gutter of each double page spread, apparently swallowed up by the book itself. An interactive element means that the reader is involved in effecting their rescue.
Also by Richard Byrne: We're in the wrong book!
9780192743183
This book is out of control! 9780192746306
There Are Cats in This Book by Viviane Schwarz
Walker 9781406324990

An inventive interactive book in which three playful cats directly address the readers, imploring them to keep turning the pages to make new discoveries, winding them in like a strand of a ball of wool which is a strong motif in the book.
Also: There Are No Cats in This Book 9781406331028

Is There a Dog in This Book? by Viviane Schwarz
Walker 9781406360905

The playful cats Viviane Schwarz introduced in two earlier books reappear for further face to face interaction with us, their readers. They suspect that there may be a dog close by and they implore us to hide them from him. Do they really need to be afraid? And who is really the scaredy cat?


Help! We Need a Title! by Hervé Tullet
Walker 9781406351644

Open this book and find a group of perturbed characters looking out at you because the book isn't quite ready yet! They try various ideas to fill out the contents and then hit on the idea that what they really need is ... an author! They locate him but will he be able to come to the rescue?

Lulu Loves the Library by Anna McQuinn and Rosalind Beardshaw
Alanna Books 9780955199820

A simple story featuring a small black girl which celebrates adults and children sharing books together. Lulu and her mum visit the library every Tuesday. They change their books, listen to stories being read and join in with songs and rhymes. At bedtime they enjoy the books they have chosen, stories old and new. A multilingual CD is included, featuring parents reading the book in their own language. Lulu's life and her family's love of books continue to be reflected in:
Lulu Loves Stories 9781907825002
Lulu Reads to Zeki 9781907825040


Luna Loves Library Day by Joseph Coelho and Fiona Lumbers Andersen Press 9781783445486

Like Anna McQuinn's Lulu, Luna also loves visiting the library. She and her dad enjoy browsing and choosing a variety of books and checking them out. On this occasion they find books about dinosaurs, bugs, performing magic tricks and about the place where dad grew up. They sit in the big library chair and read a fairy tale together about a troll king and a mermaid queen and there's a bonus that the story they read is inserted for us to share and enjoy too.


Bonny Becker uluwtrated b, Kady MacDonald Denton

Curious George Visits the Library by Margaret and H.A.
Rey
Walker 9781406314076

There's a lovely retro feel to this story about George, a little monkey whose visit to the library causes chaos. However, his wild enthusiasm does more good than harm and children discover books that they might not otherwise have noticed, thanks to his antics.

Otto the Book Bear by Katie Cleminson
Jonathan Cape 9781780080031

Otto's secret is shared with his readers. He can step out of the story book in which he lives and explore the house around him. When the family he belongs to move and accidently leave him behind, this tiny bear has to venture into an unwelcoming world and find a new place to live. In this picture book which celebrates imagination, books and stories, he finds the perfect place where there are others like him and his story can be shared by many children.

A Library Book for Bear by Bonny Becker and Kady MacDonald Denton
Walker 9781406360936

Bear thinks that the seven books he has at home are quite sufficient for his reading needs. So when his friend Mouse drags him off to the library, initially he is outside his comfort zone due to the array of books available and the imposing building that contains them. Joining in with the librarian's storytime enables him to make a connection with something he already knows about and begin to extend and broaden his range of interests.


The Bear in the Book by Kate Banks and Georg Hallensleben Andersen Press 9781849397612

A boy and his mother share his favourite book about a bear hibernating for the winter. As they discuss the story and the pictures, they link the contents of the book with their own world, and a variety of senses are evoked.

## Bears Don't Read! By Emma Chichester Clark

HarperCollins 9780007425198
Bears don't read but George is a bear who desperately desires to do so. Finding a book beneath a tree in the forest, he heads for the town, determined to find someone who will teach him. At first he encounters fear and prejudice, but eventually he finds the perfect person. The dénouement is very satisfying, with its feeling of having come full circle, as George claims ownership of his story, suggested by a bookplate at the beginning of the book.

No Bears by Meg McKinlay and Leila Rudge
Walker 9781406349306

Those pesky bears get in everywhere, don't they? But Ruby's not having them in her book - oh no. Her story unravels, set out on pages which simulate a spiral bound book, incorporating many traditional story elements. And, of course, bears don't play any part, now do they?!

* Library Lion


Library Lion by Michelle Knudsen and Kevin Hawkes Walker 9781406305678

One day a lion arrives at the library and makes himself at home. He is allowed to stay provided he does not break any rules and he quickly becomes a valued helper, much loved by the children who visit. Then one day, the lion finds he is compelled to break a rule...

Homer the Library Cat by Reeve Lindbergh and Anne Wilsdorf

Walker 9781406338584

Where does the quiet lady who lives with Homer the cat disappear to every day? Some unexpected noise causes him to quit his quiet home. Eventually he discovers the lovely lively place full of books and children where she goes.

Wolves by Emily Gravett
Macmillan 9781509836666

A rabbit goes to the West Bucks Public Burrowing library to seek out a book about wolves. As he reads and finds out information about wolves, a wolf transcends the boundaries of the book and becomes larger than life with potential threat to the rabbit. A distinctively designed postmodern picture book which plays on the interaction of books with real life in various ways including the use of envelopes and library tickets and labels.


Use Your Imagination by Nicola O'Byrne
Nosy Crow 9780857633354
Wolf claims to be a librarian who can liven up Rabbit's life by writing a story together. Rabbit asks lots of questions and contributes ideas while Wolf tries to nudge the story in the direction he would like it to go... However, clever trickster Rabbit has cottoned on to the notion that he must use his imagination and turns the tables in an unexpected way.

Also by Nicola O'Byrne: The Last Book Before Bedtime Nosy Crow 9780857635983
Open Very Carefully. A Book with Bite Nosy Crow 9780857630841 (with Nick Bromley) What's Next Door? Nosy Crow 9780857638328

Wanted! Ralfy Rabbit, Book Burglar by Emily MacKenzie Bloomsbury 9781408843130

Ralfy Rabbit loves books. He just can't get enough of them. When he resorts to removing them from the shelves of fellow book lover Arthur, it can only lead to trouble. Will Ralfy resort to a life of crime to feed his passion for print? Or can a solution be found? Lots of language to explore in the pictures from lists of books with comic titles to labelled objects required for detection.


The Incredible Book Eating Boy by Oliver Jeffers
HarperCollins 9780007182312

Henry loves to consume books, quite literally. By an amazing quirk of his digestive system, he absorbs the information from them into his brain. Ultimately, however, the number and speed with which he scoffs the books leads to indigestion and Henry needs to change his culinary habits. The innovative illustrations incorporate different kinds of print and paper into their design.

The Best Book in the World! by Rilla
Flying Eye Books 9781909263307

A picture book that shows how being immersed in a book can take readers to diverse places. A small girl, picked out in red, traverses the pages, her nose continually in a book. Are the worlds she's exploring in her imagination, linked to her engagement with the book? Or is she literally travelling the world, squeezed into spaces on the tube or on an airport luggage carrier, sliding downhill on a sledge, using the book as a shield against the desert sun? Readers can debate and decide. Most of the minimal text is linked to book language.


How the Library (NOT the Prince) Saved Rapunzel by Wendy
Meddour and Rebecca Ashdown
Frances Lincoln 9781847806628

Rapunzel is transposed to a modern urban setting, gazing out of her window as a variety of tradespeople call to her from the foot of the tower block where she lives. Unimpressed by the prince who roars up on a motor scooter, Rapunzel's life is changed by the arrival of a letter offering her a job in the library.


How to Live Forever by Colin Thompson
Red Fox 9780099461814
One volume is missing from the world's most comprehensive library - a book called 'How to Live Forever'. Peter is determined to find it and makes this his quest but when he reaches his journey's end he has acquired enough wisdom to make an important choice. The illustrations can be pored over time and time again and reveal discoveries with each new reading as books take the form of buildings and landscapes and the words on their spines play with linguistic and literary knowledge.

Willy's Stories by Anthony Browne
Walker 9781406360899
Anthony Browne's well-loved character Willy the chimp travels through many literary adventures. Each page opens on to a different classic story and readers are invited, having been given both visual and textual clues, to guess which one it is. A picture book that demands knowledge of children's classics and encourages readers to have fun finding out about them.

The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy and Jane Ray Bloomsbury 9780747581062

Jub has the important job of ensuring all the Happy Endings of stories are in the right part of the forest when bedtime arrives. She scatters the golden words into the air from a sack. Then one night as Jub traverses the forest, a scary woman snatches the sack from her. How will Jub restore the Happy Endings to their rightful place?


## It's a Book by Lane Smith

Macmillan 9780330544023
Technology has taken over as far as Jackass is concerned and he can't understand how his friend monkey manipulates the printed book he is reading. This humorous picture book consists of a clipped conversation between the two in which the features of print and screen reading are demonstrated. The design of the book, incorporating different colours and styles of font to indicate the characters and their preferred reading medium, is an integral part of how events unfold.

Dot. by Randi Zuckerberg and Joe Berger Picture Corgi 9780552571524

Dot is a child who knows all about communicating through modern media. She can tap, touch, tweet and tag, surf, swipe, share and search. And when she's flat on the floor after so much screen time, she can pick herself up and go outside and these same words take on different meanings. However, this refreshing and funny picture book is far from being anti-technology. In the final pages this lively little girl in her dotty dress is depicted with her friends enjoying integrated lives that can encompass playing on a swing and painting a picture alongside tapping on a tablet and snapping a photo on a phone.

A Book is a Book by Jenny Bornholdt, illustrated by Sarah


Gecko Press 9781877579929
A neat little volume that celebrates books and reading in sometimes quirky and unexpected ways. 'A book smells kind of dry, like cauliflower.' However, 'A book can never run out of power.'


My Name Is Book by John Agard, illustrated by Neil Packer Walker 9781406368987

John Agard has personified the book in prose which is lyrical and polemical, whilst also being chatty and informative. Book speaks to us across the ages describing its own history from the birth of writing on clay tablets to a modern day meeting with a young eBook. At the heart of Book is its love affair with the codex form. The personalised approach allows for eclecticism in what is emphasised, drawing out aspects that appeal such as the aroma of printed books. As befits the subject matter, this is a compact beautifully designed volume with quotations, poems and pictures permeating the prose.

Books, Books, Books by Mick Manning and Brita Granström Otter-Barry Books 9781910959985

Readers are invited into the British Library to explore some of its treasures from early handwritten and printed books to sheet music and newspapers. Famous names from literary history leap from the pages including Geoffrey Chaucer, William Shakespeare, Jane Austen and Charles Dickens. Cookery and medical books are also highlighted, demonstrating the range of material collected, conserved and showcased where possible. Brita Granström's collage style here merges cut out figures with photographic images of the books.

And then go on from here to discover novels such as:
I Believe in Unicorns by Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by Gary Blythe (Walker 9781406366402) in which people in a war torn land rescue the books in their town library.

The Legend of Spud Murphy by Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Tony Ross (Puffin 9780141317083) which features a ninja-like librarian.

Matilda by Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake (Puffin 9780141365466) in which five year old Matilda's voracious reading is encouraged by the local children's librarian.

The Imaginary by A.F. Harrold, illustrated by Emily Gravett (Bloomsbury 9781408850169) which features a library in which real and imaginary people co-exist without interacting with one another.

Inkheart by Cornelia Funke (Chicken House 9781908435118) in which the boundaries between the real and the storybook worlds become blurred.

The Forbidden Library by Django Wexler (Doubleday 9780552568678) in which orphaned Alice seeks to understand the purpose of a mysterious library.

