

Nature Storybooks

Delve into the natural world. Every wonderful word is true.

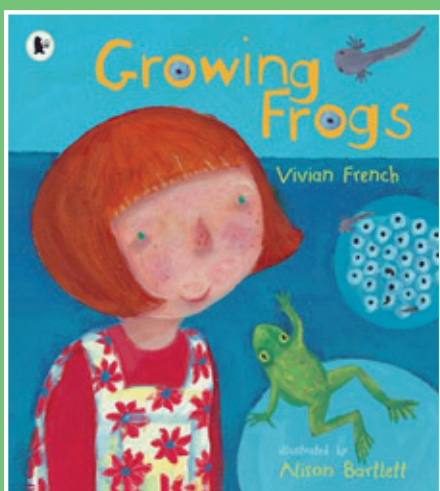
Praise for Nature Storybooks

"As books to engage and delight children, they work superbly. I would certainly want a set in my primary classroom I was working in."

Times Educational Supplement

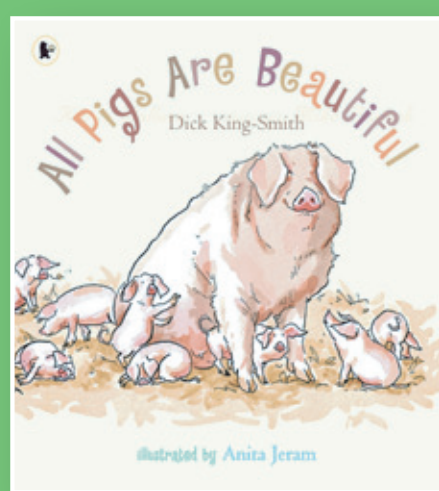
"Here are books that stand out from the crowd, each one real and individual in its own right and the whole lot as different from most other series non-fiction as tasty Lancashire is from processed Cheddar."

Books for Keeps



Growing Frogs

9781406311730 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406312065 • PB • £5.99



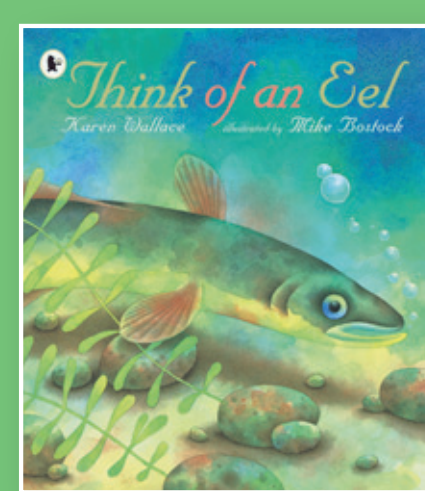
All Pigs are Beautiful

9781406311952 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406311969 • PB • £5.99



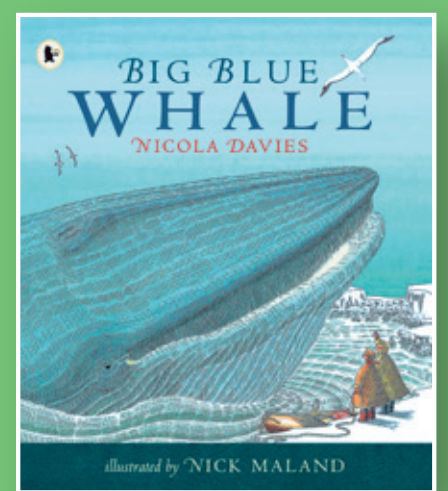
One Tiny Turtle

9781406311976 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406311983 • PB • £5.99



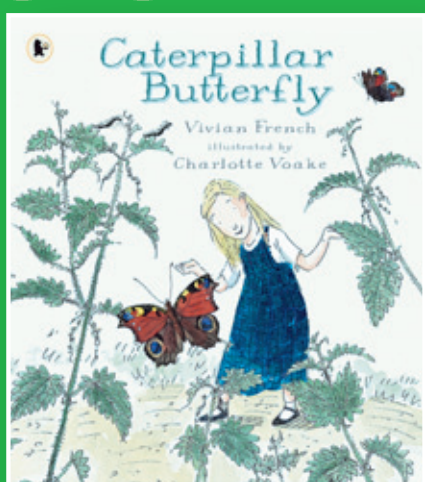
Think of an Eel

9781406312027 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406312010 • PB • £5.99
9780744569308 • Big Book • £12.99



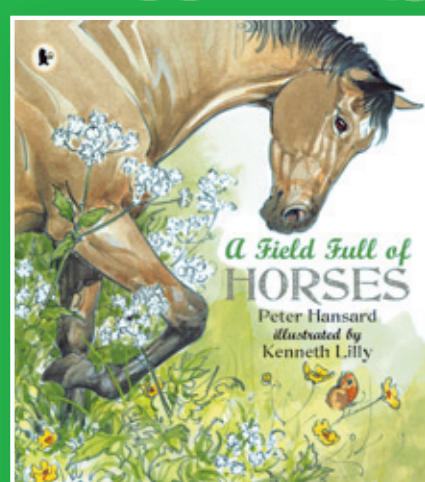
Big Blue Whale

9781406312607 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406312577 • PB • £5.99



Caterpillar Butterfly

9781406311617 • PB + CD • £6.99
9781406312775 • PB • £5.99



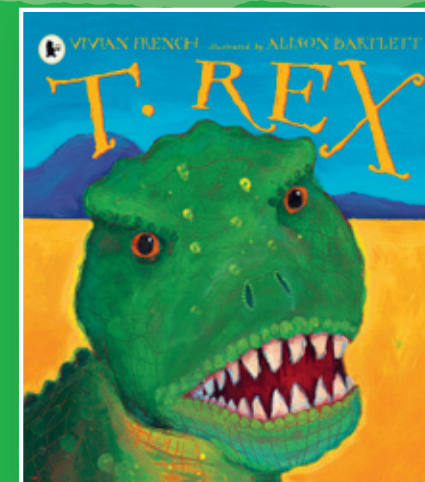
A Field Full of Horses

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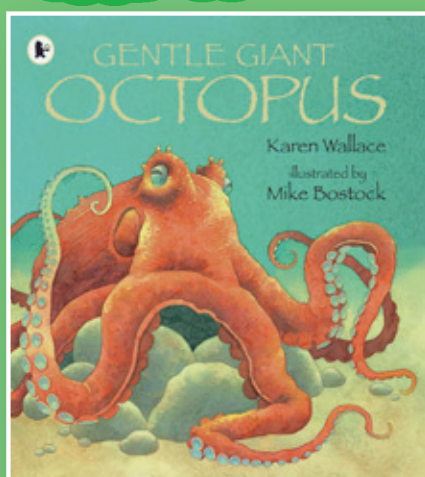
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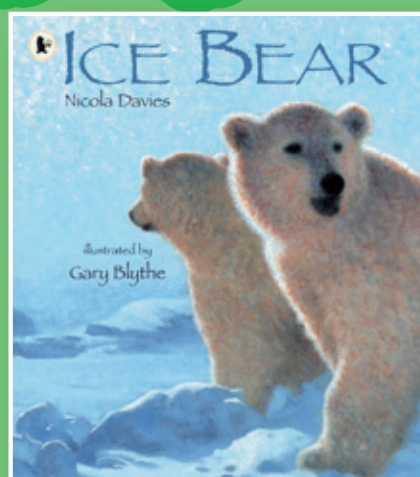
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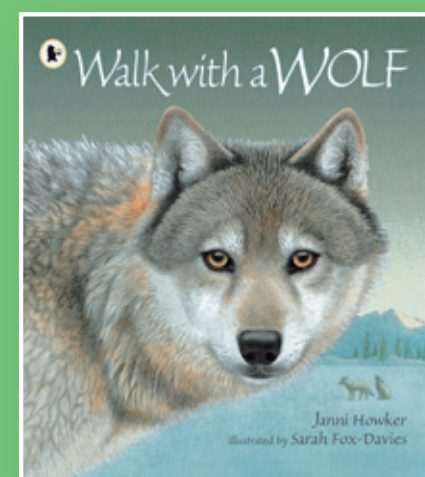
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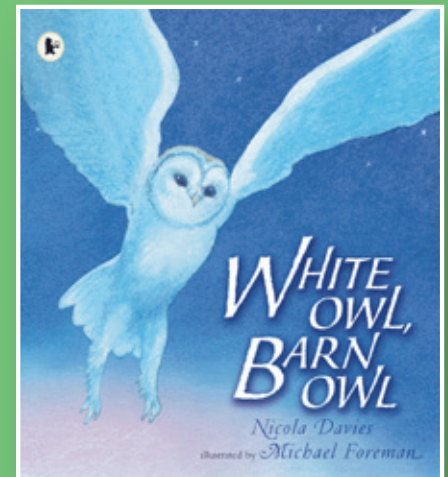
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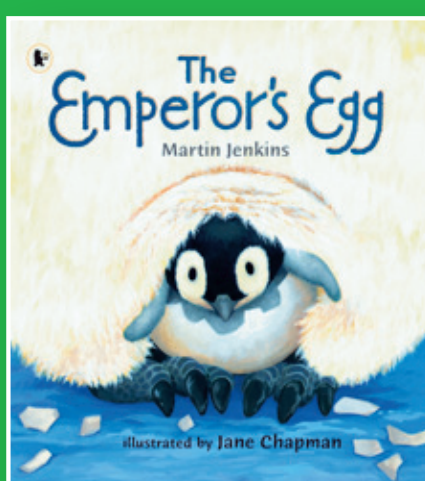
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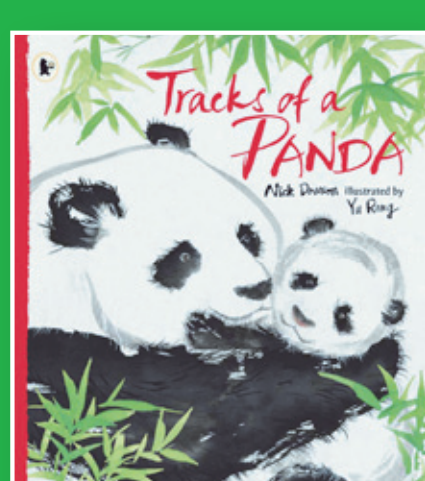
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9781406313116 • PB + CD • £6.99
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The Emperor's Egg

9781406312997 • PB + CD • £6.99
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Tracks of a Panda

9781406318395 • PB + CD • £6.99
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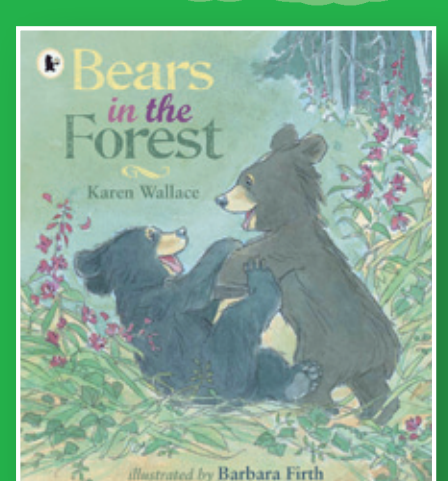
Seahorse: the Shyest Fish in the Sea

9781406318470 • PB + CD • £6.99
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Find notes, written by the CLPE, for teachers about how to use Nature Storybooks in the classroom at www.walker.co.uk/naturestorybooks

Nature Storybooks support KS 1-2 Science

WALKER BOOKS

www.walker.co.uk

Introduction

This beautifully illustrated, award-winning collection of nature stories provides memorable reading experiences for children in Key Stages 1 and 2 (Years 1-4) and an opportunity for them to deepen their experience of the narrative information form.

The focus on animals has strong appeal for children, and the books provide many learning opportunities for exploring the topic, through both the written and visual elements. By working with the stories either individually or together, children can respond to the animal world and experience and develop their understanding through a variety of activities, including drawing and painting, small-world play and role play, talk and writing. The books provide a rich starting point for further research and for developing children’s knowledge of information genres.

Nature Storybooks can support the literacy curriculum in a variety of ways. They can be:

- the focus for a whole class topic
- used as high quality texts for guided reading
- part of the class read-aloud programme
- included in the book provision for developing children’s individual reading interests

The accompanying CDs provide further opportunities for children to explore the subject creatively through the additional information, poetry and songs.

Learning aims

To encourage children to:

- read and discuss an information book
- become familiar with the genre through talk, reading and writing
- develop a deeper understanding of the lives of animals through small-world play, role play and dance
- respond to the meanings through talk, writing and painting

To enable children to:

- read and write for purpose and meaning, using an information book
- read and write independently and creatively for a range of purposes on paper and on screen, combining words with images
- respond imaginatively using different strategies to engage with texts
- read independently for purpose, pleasure and learning



All Pigs are Beautiful

Author: Dick King Smith © 1993 Foxbusters Ltd
Illustrator: Anita Jeram © 1993
ISBN: 9781406311952 (Paperback + CD)
Other editions available: 9781406311969 (Paperback)

Available at all good bookshops, your school and library supplier, and at www.walkerbooks.co.uk

This delightful first person account of keeping pigs, in all their variety, captures the understanding and affection of a farmer towards his animals. The story provides a wealth of knowledge about pigs, their life cycle, habitats and habits, from an expert on the subject who is also a well-loved writer of stories for children.

Activities

• Make a chart

In a chart, list all the ways pigs are similar to humans and how they are different. This can begin as a shared writing activity, for example:

Similar		Different	
People	Pigs	People	Pigs
Mammal – feed their young milk	Mammal – feed their young milk	People usually have 1-4 young	Pigs have 8-12 young at the same time
Like chatting	Like chatting	Babies are born after 9 months	Piglets born after 3-4 months
Intelligent	Intelligent	People have feet and toes	Cloven hooves or trotters
Skin, hair, eyelashes	Skin, hair, eyelashes	No tails	Tails

• Design a poster

Draw and write a poster to convince the audience that pigs are beautiful. Children can draw pictures of pigs, note all the reasons why the author likes them and add in their own.

• Research

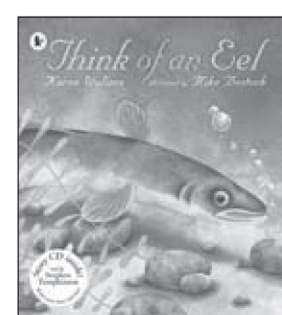
Virtually the whole of a pig can be used for food. Research all the different names for food made from pigs. Are there other things we use from pigs?

• Visit a farm

Visit a farm. Take sketch-pads to describe and draw the pigs that you see.

• Write a shared poem

Write a shared poem about pigs. Start by making a list of ideas, then select favourite ones to develop into one or more lines of the poem, and decide on the best order. You may need to elaborate or redraft the poem together to “polish” it.



Think of an Eel

Author: Karen Wallace © 1993
Illustrator: Mike Bostock © 1993
ISBN: 9781406312027 (Paperback + CD)
Other editions available: 9781406312010 (Paperback) and 9780744569308 (Big Book)

Available at all good bookshops, your school and library supplier, and at www.walkerbooks.co.uk

A wonderfully poetic account of an eel, packed with interesting details about this amazing creature. Children are helped to imagine the mysterious life of an eel through the subtle telling and beautiful illustrations. Together they provide a fascinating account of the remarkable journey of an animal few have encountered.

Activities

• Collect “golden lines”

There are wonderfully vivid descriptions of the eel in the book. Children can comb through the text to find memorable phrases and words that help them to build a good picture of the creature, e.g. “*looks like a shoelace made out of glass*”. They can share their lists in small groups or as a whole class, and use them to create a “*shape poem*” in the form of an eel, perhaps using silvery ink pens on dark blue/green/black background for dramatic effect.

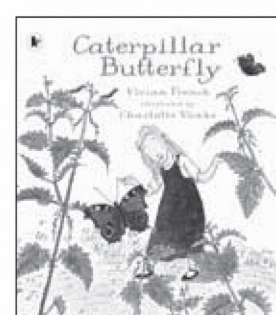
• Reader’s theatre

The language of this book is so rich; it is perfect for presenting aloud as a dramatic reading. Divide the book into natural sections (p6-9, p10-13, p14-17, p18-19, p21-23, p24-26, p29) and the class into the same number of groups (if there are six groups, a group can work on p6-9 and p29 to begin and end the story). Make *one* photocopy of each section and give each group a section of the text to work on.

After reading it through, they can mark up the copy by underlining in different colours the lines or phrases to be read by each group member. They can choose to read some lines in pairs or as a whole group to emphasize particular meanings. They can add percussion or sound effects too. When each group has rehearsed their section, they can take it in turns to perform them seamlessly in sequence.

• Create a PowerPoint presentation or big book

In groups, children can decide on the main stages or events in an eel’s life and create a slide/page for each one, with illustrations and written descriptions. Working on a storyboard as a draft can be a useful way to start. These can be shared with the whole class.



Caterpillar Butterfly

Author: Vivian French © 1993
Illustrator: Charlotte Voake © 1993
ISBN: 9781406311617 (Paperback + CD)
Other editions available: 9781406312775 (Paperback)

Available at all good bookshops, your school and library supplier, and at www.walkerbooks.co.uk

The magical transformation of a tiny egg into a beautiful butterfly is presented through a winning combination of childhood reminiscence and delicate sketchbook observations.

Activities

• Create a pop-up book

The life cycle of a butterfly can be planned as pop-up book, with leaf-flaps opening to reveal the different stages of development.

• Make a poster

Caterpillars and butterflies have many ways of avoiding capture by their prey. Children can work in pairs or small groups to make a “Keep off!” poster explaining, in words and pictures, how they use special powers and disguises to avoid capture.

• Make observational sketches

Using a sketchbook, children can make observational drawings of caterpillars, pupae or butterflies from summer walks, museum artefacts or photographs from the internet.

• Invent and paint a butterfly

Children can invent and design their own butterfly. They could paint a symmetrical picture of their butterfly by painting one wing and folding it to make a print. Then they can create a name, description, habitat and even a story about it.