

July
2020

BOOK BITES

Tasty morsels from your Education Library Service

Resources and help for those educating children at home

This is the fifth newsletter we've produced and we're still keeping an eye out for resources and online help for those currently educating children at home. For previous editions, please visit this special page on our blog ([click link](#))

We'll be sharing anything else we find via twitter, so make sure you take a look or follow us if you have access: www.twitter.com/norfolkels

Don't forget: Summer Reading Challenge 2020– Silly Squad

The 2020 Summer Reading Challenge is here, and ready to motivate your pupils to read from now until the new school year. It's all online, and children and families can find out more and sign-up to take part just here: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

The joining process is a little different this year and a departure from the usual method you'll have encountered in branch but don't worry: if you find yourself struggling, Norfolk Libraries have a useful video which talks you through the whole thing. Find it over on their YouTube page: www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VJSEI4wpe8 and – if you haven't already – do take a look at the new Norfolk Libraries for families Facebook page: www.facebook.com/norfolklibrariesforfamilies

Diversity in children's books

With the recent shocking events and subsequent protests over continued racism of a such a brutal and catastrophic kind, we thought we would share a few websites which give guidance on how to seek out children's books which truly reflect our contemporary diverse society.

Yoopies has resource suggestions and advice for parents; find it here ([click link](#))

EmbraceRace have a brilliant list of book recommendations ([click link](#))

This list from **BookTrust** includes a wide range of title to discuss race and injustice ([click link](#))

Letterbox Library is a well-established online bookshop site which selects only titles which very clearly reflect our diverse culture: www.letterboxlibrary.com/

Norfolk Museums activity sheets

Norfolk Museums have been updating their resource pages over the last few months with a wide range of curriculum and leisure topics for early years right through to KS3.

Norwich Castle in particular have added a whole range of activity and ideas sheets for 3-7 year olds, focusing on animal senses. The **Get Curious** cards share info about a variety of animals and are designed to develop enquiry and questioning skills as well as using things like craft and games to develop children's' imaginations.

Find them here: www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/norwich-castle/learning/learning-at-home



Norfolk County Council

British Library: Discovering Children's Books

The British Library's *Discovering Children's Books* project is a free online resource for children and teachers, exploring stories, poems and illustrations across centuries.

As well as original manuscripts, illustrations and videos, there's also a brilliant archive of activities to inspire children with their own creative output. Many of these are downloadable and printable, perfect for us at home or sharing with children who do not have screen access. For the full activity database, visit: www.bl.uk/childrens-books/themes/all-activities

One of these activities is making miniature books ([guide here](#)), inspired by a video series in which famous authors and illustrators share their own mini-books. It's a wonderful excuse to get creative and listen to some of our favourite writers share their own work, so make sure you take a look (find the full series here): www.bl.uk/childrens-books/activities/miniature-books-by-your-favourite-authors

BBC 500 Words

500 words- the largest story-writing competition for children- have announced a last-minute call for stories inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement. Entries can be submitted until Friday 3rd July, with submissions authored by young writers aged 5-13. For more info, head to <https://500words.me/>

Festival Bridge resource bank

Over the past few months, the Norfolk & Norwich Festival Bridge have sent out a weekly newsletter bringing together some of the best educational resources they've encountered online during this time, from a wide variety of arts and cultural organisations.

If you've not yet signed up, you can do so on this page, where you'll also find their archive of past newsletters: www.nnfestival.org.uk/festival-bridge/schools-education/resource-bank/

Tate Kids: every day art

Here's a lovely activity which anyone can try: the Tate Liverpool website suggests going on 'a colour walk', which can be in your local neighbourhood- or even round your house- looking for different colours.

With a suggested time of 30 minutes, this would be a particularly lovely activity for KS1; find details here: www.tate.org.uk/kids/make/cut-paste/go-on-colour-walk

Where Land and Water Meet:

Norfolk's Rivers, Streams, Brooks and Broads

That beautifully poetic phrase is the title of an exhibition at the Castle Museum which should have opened at the end of March, but which we can all enjoy images from for free on the Art UK website ([click link](#))

Enjoy the pictures and wallow in their atmosphere and evocations of our local landscapes. Let children be inspired by them to write, draw or simply go out and find a little stretch of water for themselves (safely of course!).

We have taken the theme of Water before now to suggest some great titles in our book stock on the blog. Look out for some summer themed resources coming up and of course, make sure you sign up to the latest updates from www.norfolkels.wordpress.com so you don't miss out.

Most of our current suggestions can be also be found free as virtual reads via the Norfolk Libraries eBook catalogue: <https://norfolk.overdrive.com/>

AND: don't forget to visit our blog for news & book reviews!

www.norfolkels.wordpress.com