



Changing life stories

Promoting diversity through literacy – a resource overview (KS3+)

Teaching Resources

Now or Never by Bali Rai (KS2/KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/remembrance/>

Based on real events that took place in the Second World War, *Now or Never* tells the story of 15-year-old, Fazal, from Rawalpindi in India, who lies about his age in order to enlist in the Royal Indian Army Service Corps. This book club pack aims to develop pupils' core reading comprehension skills, whilst reflecting on the theme of Remembrance and its relevance to our lives today.

A River of Stories – Tales and Poems from Across the Commonwealth (KS2/KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/river-stories-tales-and-poems-across-commonwealth/>

Four, free to download, fully illustrated anthologies of poems and stories from around the Commonwealth, along with comprehensive classroom resources. Each volume contains a story or poem from each of the fifty-three countries in the Commonwealth. The pack includes a range of classroom activities exploring cultural identity, places, the natural world and extreme natural events, gender, and political change.

Tales from the Inner City by Shaun Tan – literacy transition project (KS2/KS3 premium resource)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/literacy-transition-tales-from-the-inner-city/>

This rich and evocative sequence of short stories, images and poetry by Shaun Tan, explores our relationship with nature, taking the reader into another world and allowing them to consider the human relationship with nature from different points of view. At the end of the project Year 6 pupils will have and created their own inspirational collection of writing and illustration. The project also includes activities for Year 7 for students to continue to develop their work, but equally suitable for those who have not done the Year 6 element.

Gender, literacy and language: top tips to tackle gender stereotyping (EYFS–KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/gender-literacy-and-language/>

A printable eye-catching poster with easy-to-action ideas to challenge and avoid gender stereotyping through literacy and language in the classroom.

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Game Changers: Fara Williams reading comprehension activity (KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/game-changers-fara-williams-reading-comprehension-activity/>

This resource supports students to develop and practise three core comprehension skills. Using the popular topic of football and an engaging, relatable text, -Matt Oldfield's book *Unbelievable Football*,- students are supported to identify the skills they can use to make meaning, contextualise what they have read, and develop their own opinions.

Rutendo Tavengerwei – inspiration for letter writing (KS1/KS2)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/rutendo-tavengerwei-inspiration-for-letter-writing/>

Rutendo Tavengerwei is the author of the poem 'The Store Full of Magical Things' featured in *The Book of Hopes*. In this video, Rutendo Tavengerwei reads her poem, and sets children a task to write a letter to a friend or family member, sending them "a smile that can never fade". Thanks to Bloomsbury Publishing, [The Book of Hopes](#) is free to read on the National Literacy Trust's website until 31 December 2021.

Becoming by Michelle Obama: supporting literacy & PSHE education (KS3–5)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/michelle-obama-becoming-teaching-resource/>

A resource inspired by Michelle Obama's bestselling memoir, *Becoming*, to boost secondary students' literacy skills, leadership abilities and confidence. Building on the central themes of empowerment through education and the important role of self-belief within the text, it features activities designed to develop reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

The Bone Sparrow Teaching Resource (KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/bone-sparrow-teaching-resource/>

The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon has been described by readers as captivating, powerful, disturbing, necessary, important, touching, enlightening and much more. This resource explores the key themes of the book, and offers a range of activities that have been designed to link these to specific learning spaces, curriculum areas and outcomes.

Great Poetry Through Time: Chaucer to 21st Century Poets (KS3 – premium resource)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/great-poetry-through-time-chaucer-21st-century-poets/>

This resource, originally written as a scheme of learning by Mehwash Kauser, a teacher at Appleton Academy, has been designed as a five-week unit comprising 20 lessons. It aims to foster reading poetry for pleasure and to help students to identify what kinds of poems inspire and delight them.

Holocaust Memorial Day (KS2/KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/holocaust-memorial-day/>

These resources build on themes and characters from Tom's title *After The War*, which follows children liberated from concentration camps arriving in the Lake District. *After The War* has been nominated for the 2021 Carnegie Book Award.

Book Lists

International Women’s Day Booklist (EYFS-KS5)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/international-womens-day-book-list-and-poster/>

Originally created to celebrate International Women’s Day, this book list is brimming with inspiring reads for children and young people aged 3 to 18.

Black Lives Matter Booklists (EYFS-KS4)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/black-lives-matter-book-lists-ages-0-16/>

We have brought together a series of book lists for children and young people of all ages to share black stories and promote black voices. All books featured are by black authors and/or illustrators and exemplify the principles of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Graphic Novels Booklist (KS2/KS3)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/graphic-novels-in-the-classroom/>

This exciting and engaging format covers so many bases. Don’t be fooled into thinking they are just for early-stage readers – everyone should be free to jump into the wonderfully diverse world of graphic novels. This booklist contains a range of varied and exciting graphic novels.

Equality and gender: classroom resources and book list (KS1- KS4)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/equality-and-gender-classroom-resources-and-book-list/>

This learning sequence resource uses the *Letters to the future: on equality and gender* texts by Owen Sheers and Laura Bates, written for Hay Festival 2018, to explore conversations around what true gender equality might look like and the use of gendered language, as well as teaching students about writing for purpose. The book list features titles for a range of ages focused on gender equality and female empowerment.

Young Readers Programme booklists (KS1-KS4)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/yrp-booklists/>

This curated collection of booklists for a wide range of ages and interests. In addition to lists grouped by age, it also includes specific lists covering:

- LGBTQIA+ (ages 5-16)
- Refugee and migrant stories (5-12)
- STEM-themed books.

LGBTQ+ book lists (EYFS–KS5)

Perfect for those looking for texts that explore and celebrate LGBTQ+ stories – past and present, see

- Young Readers lists (above) <https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/yrp-booklists/>
- **EYFS:** <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/pride-month-book-list/>
- **KS5** <https://wordsforlife.org.uk/zone-in/activities/lgbtq-book-list-16/>

Auditing and Subject Leader Tools

Understanding the language and literacy needs of EAL learners (premium resource)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/understanding-language-and-literacy-needs-eal-learners/>

Pupils with English as an additional language now comprise over 20% of the primary school population in England and 16% of the secondary population. These four resources provide teachers with the tools to understand the language and literacy development needs of this significant and varied group: an assessment EAL tool, Whole School Audit tool, a glossary of EAL terms and an EAL reading development overview.

50+ classroom strategies for supporting EAL students (premium resource)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/50-classroom-strategies-supporting-eal-students/>

An EAL toolkit created by Mike Gershon, containing 52 practical teaching and learning strategies. In the accompanying videos, Mike explains how to implement five strategies from the toolkit and support those new to English.

Boy meets world: Addressing the gender gap – research summary (premium resource)

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/boy-meets-world-addressing-gender-gap-research-summary/>

This research map draws together a wide array of research to highlight the strategies that have been shown to be most successful in developing boys' learning, with particular emphasis on two elements: creating the right school culture and excellence in teaching and learning. Why not print out on A3 paper and display on the staff room wall?