

Diversity, Empathy, PSHE

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service

These booklists for schools include a range of fiction, non-fiction, picture books and poetry that will support PSHE/Citizenship topics and discussions relating to: Empathy/Diversity. Some books are useful across Key Stages so it's worth having a look through all the lists.

The Schools' Library Service would love to hear from you with any questions about this booklist, other enquiries or ideas of how we can support schools and teachers at this time. Contact us at schools.library-service@scll.co.uk

Free E-books/E-audiobooks from Salford Community Libraries

Pupils can read free E-books/E-audiobooks from [Salford Community Libraries](#) using the [BorrowBox](#) app.

Some of the books suitable for KS2 pupils are available as e-books/e-audiobooks from Salford Libraries using the [BorrowBox](#) app. Access to [BorrowBox](#) can be found [here](#). Children/teachers/parents/carers can sign up using their library membership number and PIN. The service is completely free and has something for everyone! If you are not a library member, find out more about using e-books with [Salford Community Libraries](#) and [join online](#). Children will need permission from parents/carers and must supply a parent/carer's e-mail address. If you require any help with these services please email info@scll.co.uk.

Recent Research on Diversity/Empathy in Children's Books/Resources to Support Work on Diversity, Empathy, PSHE

Diversity in Children's Literature: Recent Research

- Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE): [Reflecting Realities Research](#): In 2017, the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (with funding from the Arts Council) commenced a research study to “quantify and evaluate the extent and quality of ethnic representation in children's publishing in the UK”. The work has resulted in the publication of 2 reports: [Reflecting Realities: Survey of Ethnic Representation within UK Children's Literature 2017](#) (published July 2018) and [Reflecting Realities: Survey of Ethnic Representation within UK Children's Literature 2018](#) (published Sept 2019)
- BookTrust: [BookTrust Represents](#): a project to “promote and improve the representation of people of colour in children's books so that all children read a range of books that reflect them and their wider communities”. BookTrust worked with University College London to evaluate the representation of children's authors/illustrators of colour in books published between 2007-2017. The research report was published April 2019: [Ramdarshan Bold; Melanie \(2019\) Representation of People of Colour Among Children's Book Authors and Illustrators](#). The BookTrust Represents project also includes:
 - [Support for Schools](#): book suggestions (all age groups); [Breaking New Ground](#): a guide to help schools discover new authors/illustrators of colour
 - [Support for authors and illustrators of colour](#)
- The Library and Information Association (CILIP): [Pen&inc.](#): a new, twice-yearly journal/guide to diversity in publishing: [Read the Autumn/Winter 2019 edition free](#). Subsequent editions available with subscription (2 issues £8; 4 issues £16)

- The Library and Information Association (CILIP): Carnegie/Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards: A [Diversity Review of the CILIP Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards](#) was carried out (2017-2019) to create and promote opportunities for improvement in diversity, representation and inclusion in children's books. [Read the final report.](#)

Diversity in Children's Literature: Book Awards

- [FAB Prize](#): Book prize established in 2017, awarded to new children's writers/illustrators from a BAME background that *"aims to discover and showcase new talent, closing the gap between what is currently published and the reality for many families"*. Award winners for 2020 FAB prize to be announced on 16th Sept 2020. See [FAB Prizewinners from 2017-2019](#).

Empathy/PSHE

- [Empathy Lab](#): was founded in 2014 to *"build children's empathy, literacy and social activism through a systematic use of high quality literature"*. Empathy Lab's work is based on scientific evidence which shows that reading good quality literature is a good way to build: children's social skills; their capacity to show empathy and their ability to understand the viewpoints of people in different situations to themselves. Empathy Lab work with publishers, booksellers, authors and illustrators on:
 - [Schools' Programme](#)
 - [Annual Empathy Day](#) (in June): The 2020 Empathy Day author/illustrator activities are available to watch again on [Empath Day LIVE!](#)
 - [Read for Empathy Book Collections](#)
- You can read the research, background reading and thinking that informs the work of Empathy Lab in: [Empathy Lab Research Bank](#)

Publishers/Booksellers of Diverse Books

- [Letterbox Library](#) Booksellers
- [Knights Of](#) Publishers and [RoundTableBooks](#) (Bookseller/Bookshop: Brixton)
- [Barefoot Books](#) Publishers

Other Booklists/Book Recommendations

- National Literacy Trust: have created [booklists for children and young people to share black stories and promote black voices](#).
 - **NB:** Free PDF booklists for children aged 0-4yrs; 5-8yrs; 13-16yrs are available on the National Literacy Trust website.
 - Booklists for children aged 9-12 yrs and 16+ yrs require a National Literacy Trust member subscription

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service

- [Empathy Lab](#): compile annual [Read for Empathy book collections](#), containing books selected by a panel of judges from submissions from all major publishers. The book collections aim to enable children/young people to “*gain insights into other people’s experiences and perspectives*”. Download free Teacher Guides for:
 - [2020 Read for Empathy Book Collections](#)
 - [2019 Read for Empathy Book Collections](#)
 - [2018 Read for Empathy Book Collections](#)
 - [2017 Read for Empathy Book Collections](#)
- BookTrust Represents: book recommendations:
 - [Picture Books](#)
 - [Books for 6-12 year olds](#)
 - [Books for teens/young people](#)
- Love Reading4Kids:
 - [PSHE Racism/MultiCulturalism](#)
 - [PSHE Family Issues](#)
- Guardian Books: [“No reader is too young to start” anti-racist books for children and teens](#) [published 04/06/2020]

Further Reading/News Reports

- BookTrust: [‘I didn’t see myself in children’s books’: Olympian Ibtihaj Muhammad on writing for kids](#) [Feature, published online: 12/05/2020]
- The Guardian: [#Publishingpaidme: authors share advances to expose racial disparities](#): Fantasy author LL McKinney sets off trend for authors to reveal the amounts paid for their work, pointing to stark differences between ethnicities[published: 08/06/2020]

Early Years Foundation Stage

Early Years Foundation Stage: Diversity, Empathy, PSHE

Many of the authors/illustrators have websites with resources linked to their work. Explore the author/illustrator links for further information on the writers and artists. Links in the **NOTES** go to information on teaching resources (where available) and other information (e.g. prize-winning books/how the illustrations were created etc.)

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
The truth about old people	Ellis, Elina	Diversity Empathy	Beautifully illustrates the “special” relationship between children/grandparents. Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab	EY/FS Years 1-2	9781509882267Hbk 9781509882274 Pbk
How do you dance?	Heder, Thyra	Diversity Empathy	Dynamic illustrations that are easy for little ones to copy. Explores the fun and creativity of dance. See some illustrations from the book here	EY/FS Years 1-2	9781419734182 Hbk
Playtime with Ted (and other “Ted” titles)	Henn, Sophy	Diversity	A firm favourite in any EY book corner. Familiar, everyday situations portrayed with appealing illustrations/durable flaps. Other similar board books by the author are available in a series (9 titles altogether). Great for little ones to browse alone or to develop imaginative language in small groups. Watch Sophie talk about books on the World Book Day website	EY/FS	9781408880791 Board 9781408880807 Board
Colin and Lee, carrot and pea	Hood, Morag	Diversity Empathy PSHE: Friendship	Explains diversity/friendship in a uniquely simple way for EY with limited text and clear, brightly coloured illustrations. Printable teaching notes/activity sheets for more of Morag’s books are available on her website	EY/FS Year 1	9781509808946 Hbk 9781509831449 Pbk 9781509813995 Board
Happy in our skin	Manushkin, Fran (author) Tobia, Lauren (illustrator)	Diversity Empathy	Rhyming text and interesting illustrations with lots to discuss and count. A multi-cultural celebration of the diversity of family life. Read about the author here . Read about the illustrator on her website and on the Walker Books site.	EY/FS Years 1-2	9781406378887 Pbk
The same but different too	Karl Newson	Diversity Empathy	This jaunty, rhyming text is great for reading aloud to illustrate difference and extend vocabulary/language skills in EY. Author Q+A’s, poems and videos on the author website .	EY/FS Years 1-2	9781788004008 Pbk
Karate Kids	Holly Sterling	Diversity PSHE: Friendship	Useful to initiate discussions on friendship and kind, caring behaviour. Sweet, simple, comic-style, illustrations too! Read about Holly on her agent’s website. See more of Holly’s work here .	EY/FS Year 1	9781406386233 Hbk

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service: Early Years Foundation Stage

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
100 dogs 100 cats	Whaite, Michael	Diversity Stories in Rhyme	Cheerful rhymes are great for reading aloud to groups. Illustrations are full of character- a fun way to extend vocabulary and develop language. "100 dogs" was winner of the Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards (2018)(Picture Books category) and shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize in 2019. Follow-up title "100 Cats" published Aug 2019. Try a "What type of cat are You?" quiz on the Penguin website .	EY/FS Years 1-2	100 dogs: 9780241349816 Board 9780241347812 Pbk 100 cats: 9780241347836 Pbk

Key Stage 1

Key Stage 1: Diversity, Empathy, PSHE

Many of the authors/illustrators have websites with resources linked to their work. Explore the author/illustrator links for further information on the writers and artists. Links in the **NOTES** go to information on teaching resources (where available) and other information (e.g. prize-winning books/how the illustrations were created etc.)

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
Odd Dog Out	Rob Biddulph	PSHE Stories in Rhyme	Odd Dog Out goes on a journey to find her place in the world and learns how to be herself. Watch/draw characters from Rob's books on his "Draw with Rob" page. Printable activities linked to Rob's books available to download here	Year R Years 1-2	9780007594153 Hbk 9780008184780 Pbk
The Extraordinary Gardener	Sam Boughton	Diversity	Joe's world is dull and boring until he plants a seed and transforms his neighbourhood. Included on the 2019 Klaus Flugge Prize Shortlist . Judges commended the "exuberant artwork" and "wonderful" illustrations	Year R Years 1-2	9781849766890 Pbk
If all the world were...	Joseph Coelho (author) Allison Colpoys (illustrator)	PSHE Diversity	Included in: Longlist for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal (2019) Longlist for the UKLA Book Award (2020) Shortlist for the Booktrust Storytime Book Prize (2019) Watch Joseph Coelho play "Empathy Charades" on the 2020 Empathy DayLIVE! website or Empathy Lab YouTube [NB: "Empathy Charades" is suitable for KS1/KS2 children. Joseph Coelho recommends a book by Shaun Tan: <i>The Arrival</i> which is more suitable for KS2 children]. KS1/2 Poetry Classroom and videos on the author's website	Year R Years 1-2	9781786036513 Pbk
The Day War Came	Nicola Davies (author) Rebecca Cobb (illustrator)	Diversity PSHE	Illustrated poem inspired by the refugee crisis in 2016. Useful to support refugees and the communities they arrive in. The illustrator talks about the book here . Read the whole poem, as published in The Guardian (28/04/16). You might be interested in the #3000chairs project in which children's illustrators were inspired by the book to draw pictures of empty chairs in classrooms. Included in: Shortlist for CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal (2019); Longlist for the UKLA Book Award (2020)	Years 1-2	9781406382938 Pbk

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service: Key Stage 1

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
Cyril and Pat	Emily Gravett	PSHE Diversity Empathy Stories in Rhyme	Find pages and pages of downloadable activities for all Emily's books on her website . WINNER of the Booktrust Storytime Book Prize (2019) Included in the Longlist for the UKLA Book Award (2020)	Year R Years 1-2	9781509857272 Hbk 9781509857289 Pbk
Super duper you	Henn, Sophy	PSHE Diversity Empathy Stories in Rhyme	Illustrated, rhyming story told by an older sibling to a younger family member. Lovely way to illustrate that we are all different, unique individuals. Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab . Watch Sophie talk about books on the World Book Day website	Year R Years 1-2	9780141385488 Pbk
I can't can fly	Fifi Kuo	PSHE	Lovely story about a penguin who wants to learn to fly! Great for discussion with groups about being yourself and how to find your own strengths/talents. Shortlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize (2019) . Beautiful, dynamic illustrations-the Klaus Flugge judges said: " the story has been done before but she's transformed it; fantastic drawing skills ". Included in the Longlist for the UKLA Book Award (2020)	Year R Years 1-2	9781910716434 Hbk 9781912757619 Pbk
Julian is a Mermaid	Jessica Love	Diversity	Distinctive illustrations and a simple story which challenges ideas about gender. WINNER of the 2019 Klaus Flugge Prize : Read about how Jessica created her prize winning illustrations here . Included in: Shortlist for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal (2019) Shortlist for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize (2019) Longlist for the UKLA Book Award (2020) . Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab .	Year R Years 1-2	9781406386424 Pbk
My name is not refugee	Kate Milner	PSHE: Refugees	Written to help children understand the refugee crisis. Kate Milner was the winner of the V&A Illustration Awards : Student Illustrator of the Year in 2016 for " My Name is not Refugee " and the winner of the 2018 Klaus Flugge Prize . Read about Kate's inspiration for the book in The Independent (27/05/16)	Years 1-2 Years 3-4	9781911370062 Pbk

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service: Key Stage 1

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
It's a no-money day	Kate Milner	Citizenship and SMSC Development PSHE: Poverty	Simply illustrated picture book gives a child's eye view of poverty/hardship. Useful for introducing the sensitive subject of the increasing reliance on foodbanks across the country. Good for developing empathy in young children. Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab	Years 1-2 Years 3-4	9781781128817 Pbk
I am Josephine (and I am a living thing)	Jan Thornhill	Diversity	Lovely picture book, can be used for work on classification, similarities/differences or discussions of diversity	Year R Years 1-2 Years 3-4	9781445152240 Hbk 9781445158570 Pbk
Astro Girl	Ken Wilson-Max	Diversity PSHE: Gender Equality	Lovely story book about a little girl who wants to be an astronaut. Will inspire discussion of gender equality/celebration of women's achievements.	Year R Years 1-2	9781910959213 Hbk

Key Stage 2

Key Stage 2: Diversity, Empathy, PSHE

Many of the authors/illustrators have websites with resources linked to their work. Explore the author/illustrator links for further information on the writers and artists. Links in the **NOTES** go to information on teaching resources (where available) and other information (e.g. prize-winning books/how the illustrations were created etc.)

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
The Space We're In	Katya Balen (author) Laura Carlin (illustrator)	Diversity Empathy	Debut novel from a new author. Well-written tale of Frank and his family and how they deal with the challenges of daily life with Max, aged five, who has autism. Using the voice of the child, accessible style/language and an interesting layout, the book sensitively portrays the story in a way that will develop empathy in older KS2 readers. Most suitable for Upper KS2 pupils. Shortlisted: Branford Boase Award (2020); See the 2020 Branford Boase shortlist . E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox]. Follow links to: The Space We're In and BorrowBox Catalogue	Years 5/6	9781526601940 Hbk 9781526601971 Pbk [Pub Date: Sep2020] E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox]. Follow links to: The Space We're In and BorrowBox Catalogue
Boy Underwater	Adam Baron	Empathy Families Mental Health Swimming Accidents Debut Author	Debut fiction title from a new author. A funny book that will make children laugh out loud but will also develop their empathy skills with its sensitive portrayal of the impact mental health can have on individuals and their families. Longlisted for the Branford Boase Award (2019). See the 2019 Branford Boase longlist here . E-books available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox]. Follow links to: Boy Underwater (E-audiobook) You Won't Believe This (sequel)(E-book) You Won't Believe This (E-audiobook) and BorrowBox Catalogue	Years 3-6	9780008267018 Pbk E-books available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox]. Follow links to: Boy Underwater (E-audiobook) You Won't Believe This (sequel)(E-book) You Won't Believe This (E-audiobook) and BorrowBox Catalogue
All About Feelings	Felicity Brooks; Frankie Allen	PSHE Empathy	A non-fiction title that introduces KS1 and lower KS2 pupils to emotions and feelings. Good for children to browse and the varied illustrations put the simple information into context. Also useful for 1:1/small group discussion.	Years 1-4	9781474937115 Hbk

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service: Key Stage 2

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
No Ballet Shoes in Syria	Catherine Bruton	Diversity	Catherine Bruton talks about the inspiration for the book here and you can read the opening chapters here . Included in: 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox] . Follow links to: No Ballet Shoes in Syria and BorrowBox Catalogue	Years 5/6	9781788004503 Pbk E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox] . Follow links to: No Ballet Shoes in Syria and BorrowBox Catalogue
The Unforgotten Coat	Frank Cottrell Boyce	Empathy PSHE Diversity	2 brothers from Mongolia come to Liverpool as refugees and try to fit in with their classmates. Frank Cottrell Boyce worked with 2 photographers to create this book in the city of Liverpool, as part of the Liverpool Reads project. Read more about the author's inspiration for the book and how the story won the Guardian Children's Book Prize (2012) in this article from The Guardian (published: 24/10/12) E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox] . Follow links to: The Unforgotten Coat (E-book) The Unforgotten Coat (E-audiobook) and BorrowBox Catalogue	Year 6	9780198305125 Pbk E-book available from Salford Community Libraries [BorrowBox] . Follow links to: The Unforgotten Coat (E-book) The Unforgotten Coat (E-audiobook) and BorrowBox Catalogue
Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet	Zanib Mian	Diversity Empathy	First in the <i>Planet Omar</i> series of "Wimpy Kid" style stories about a Muslim boy and his family and friends. Included in: 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab . Other titles in the series: #2: Unexpected Super Spy (Pub Date: Feb 2020) [ISBN: 9781444951271Pbk] and #3: Incredible Rescue Mission (Pub Date: July 2020) [ISBN: 9781444951295 Pbk]	Years 3-6	9781444951226 Pbk
The Boy at the Back of the Class	Onjali Q. Rauf (author) Pippa Curnick (illustrator)	PSHE Diversity	Excellent novel about a refugee fitting into a new school, in a new country. Told from the perspective of an eager child in the refugee's class, it's a sweet tale of friendship and learning. Winner of the Blue Peter Book Awards (2019) and the Waterstones Children's Book Prize (2019) Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award (2019) Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards (2020) Watch an interview with Onjali Q. Rauf here [Waterstones] and listen to her reading from the book here [BookTrust]. Listen to her TED talk Why children are our most powerful hope for change .	Years 5/6	9781510105010 Pbk

Book recommendations from Salford Schools' Library Service: Key Stage 2

TITLE	AUTHOR	THEME/GENRE	NOTES	Suitable for:	ISBN NUMBERS
Ghost	Jason Reynolds	Diversity Empathy	First in the <i>Run</i> series, about a diverse group of characters from very different backgrounds, all members of an elite middle school running team. From Knights Of publishers. Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab . Longlisted for the UKLA Book Award (2020)	Years 5/6	9781999642525 Pbk
Owen and the Soldier	Lisa Thompson	Empathy Dyslexia-friendly	<p>This title from Barrington Stoke is particularly suitable for reluctant or dyslexic readers with a reading age of 8+. To read more about why Barrington Stoke books support dyslexic readers/reluctant readers and how to match the right book to the right child, click here.</p> <p>The Barrington Stoke Teachers and Librarians page has a range of teaching resources to support titles published by Barrington Stoke and booklists of Barrington Stoke books to support pupils in different age groups.</p> <p>Teaching resources to support home-learning activities for Owen and the soldier are available here or here.</p> <p>Barrington Stoke has collected a wide range of home-learning activities to support pupils during the current situation here.</p> <p><i>Owen and the Soldier</i> has been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortlisted for the Blue Peter Book Awards(2020)[Follow the link on the Blue Peter awards page to read chapter 1 of <i>Owen and the Soldier</i>] • Shortlisted for the Children's Book Award (2020) by the Federation of Children's Book Groups • Included in the 2020 Read for Empathy Book Collection from Empathy Lab <p>Although “<i>Owen and the Soldier</i>” is not yet available on BorrowBox, other titles by Lisa Thompson are available on BorrowBox.</p>	Years 5/6	9781781128657 Pbk

