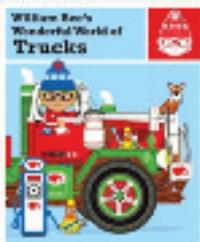


For all the family

## William Bee's Wonderful World of Trucks



Written and illustrated by William Bee  
Pavilion £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1843653257

A bold, colourful information book for the young children who are truck enthusiasts. William Bee tells you all about the many trucks he keeps in his ever-expanding garage – the snow-blowing truck, the truck with a crane, the café truck, the truck that can swim, the jet-powered truck and many, many more. Reminiscent of the Richard Scarry's books with lots of information, interesting detail and full of child-centred facts. Young children will enjoy exploring the clear, meticulous illustrations for details and having the text read to them, whilst slightly older children will enjoy reading it themselves as there are only a few lines of text per page and the font is large. At the end of the book are details of all the essential accessories to ensure the trucks are in good working order - gear oil, anti-freeze, brake fluid, etc., etc. Fascinating and absorbing. (3-7)

Ingrid Fox

## Let's Make Art with Hands and Feet

Written by Susie Brooks  
Wayland £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1526300416

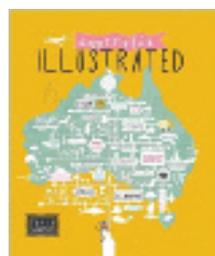
For those creative children, and adults, who enjoy getting messy. This title does just what the title says – shows the reader how to make art from hand and feet prints. The text gives clear, simple, step-by-step instructions on how to turn a handprint or footprint into handy dinosaurs, playful penguins, proud peacocks, together with shapes from the zoo, the sweetshop and the circus, and so much more. Some examples need more complex additions of card or paper, but all are achievable. Children will have great fun making a mess, whilst learning valuable art techniques to develop their own skills. There are templates at the end to help with the design of some of the more difficult shapes, and a glossary to help with jargon. Perfect for entertaining children on those rainy days or during the holidays. (5 – 7)



Nicole Jordan

## Australia Illustrated

Written and illustrated by Tania McCartney  
Exisle £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1925335217



In this gorgeous, whimsical tribute to her homeland, Tania McCartney has created a unique and quirky read that is highly appealing. Split into different states and territories,

*Australia Illustrated* lacks a standard narrative structure whilst still painting a fascinating picture of the country Tania McCartney clearly loves. Watercolours, mono-printing and inks are used to produce vibrant, energetic illustrations throughout. The illustrations are appealing, detailed and, at times, very funny. Perhaps because this book refuses to conform to any specific categorisation, *Australia Illustrated* will appeal to wide range of readers. It is a beautiful book, inside and out, that will make a perfect gift for anyone with an interest in that "big, diverse and beautiful" country portrayed. (5+)

Rebecca Watts

## 10 Minute Origami Crafts

Written by Annalees Lim  
Wayland £7.99  
ISBN: 978-0750297110



A fantastic introduction to the art of origami, this craft book is perfect for using both at home and at school. Bright and colourful, with clearly illustrated instructions, each project is quick and easy to make. There are also QR codes which allow you to watch online videos of some of the projects. The book starts with a brief history of this ancient art and then offers advice, encouraging the reader to experiment with materials and imagination. An appealing range of subjects is covered including a box, a cat, pencil crayons and a panda and there are suggestions for how you might use your finished work. Children often find such instructions too confusing and fiddly, but this title offers easy and satisfying projects which will build confidence, encouraging them to develop their skills and then progress to attempt more challenging designs. (6+)

Sue Wilsher

## Illustrated Compendium of Birds



Written by Virginie Aladjidi  
Illustrated by Emmanuelle Tchoukriel  
Franklin Watts £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1445151311

There are apparently over ten thousand species of birds to be found in our world, and this large format book introduces readers to about eighty of them. Helped by superb illustrations, the author provides lots of information on how to identify each of the birds featured - details about the size of the bird, its wingspan, plumage, diet and habitat are all included. There is even a guide to the bird's song, wherever relevant. The birds are grouped under the scientific name for each order, cuculiformes, strigiformes, anseriformes, etc., and the scientific name for each of the individual birds is also given alongside the common names that we all recognise. These long words may sound rather forbidding, but the text is approachable and very readable. All our favourites are there - robins, woodpeckers, owls, ostriches, penguins and even budgerigars. The exquisite large watercolour and Indian ink illustrations, which are very clear and beautiful, really bring the birds to life. Complete with a detailed glossary and index. (6+)

Jan Lennon

## Refugees and Migrants

Written by Ceri Roberts  
Illustrated by Hanane Kai  
Wayland £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1526300201



The television and the newspapers are full of stories from around the world about conflict, terror and the flight of refugees and migrants from their home countries towards a safer, better life. For young children, the images in the media can evoke fear and insecurity when they don't have the ability to get to grips with the complexity of what is happening. This picture book for primary school children can be read alone, but will be best when read aloud by an adult who uses the carefully researched story and sensitive, expressive illustrations to open discussion. If the syntax and the content is above the level of a young child's language,

then, this book will give parents and carers an excellent opportunity to explain the unfamiliar terms and support them as they struggle to understand what they are seeing and hearing. (7+)

Yvonne Coppard

## Who are Refugees and Migrants?



Written by Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young  
Wayland £13.99  
ISBN: 978-0750299855

Migrants and refugees have been some of the most colourful characters in history. This timely book sets out to dispel the prejudices that often follow people when they leave their homes for another land. Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young bring together their experiences and those of prominent people, like the footballer, Mesut Ozil, the athlete, Mo Farah, and the writer and poet, Benjamin Zephaniah, to illustrate that refugee and migrant status is no bar to achieving great things in your life. "... asylum seekers are human beings with the same feelings, ambitions and dreams as everyone else." The book asks who migrants and refugees are, why they leave their homelands and what rights they have, in a way which encourages the reader to contemplate what it would be like if they were in that same position. A very useful and important resource for our times. Thought-provoking. (9+)

Richard Monte

## Ground Control to Major Tim

Written by Clive Gifford  
Wayland £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1526300959

In 2016 Tim Peake became the first British astronaut to live and work on the International Space Station, which orbits the earth sixteen times each day at a height of four hundred kilometres.

Subtitled *The space adventures of Major Tim Peake*, this cleverly pitched and densely packed introduction to working in space is perfect for any late-primary boy or girl who dreams of becoming an astronaut. The ever-smiling Tim Peake, featured on every page, makes going into space look like the most exciting adventure ever. The book tells of his early interest in space flight and how he became an astronaut. There is some serious science here too, including the deleterious effects of weightlessness on the human body, the need for the fourteen-layer spacesuit for survival outside the space station, microgravity and plant growth. Full of amazing photographs and with a lively format and design this title keeps a well-worn subject fresh. (9+)



Paul Dowsell

## Get the Measure



Written and designed by Rob Colson  
Franklin Watts £12.99  
ISBN: 978-1445149516

Another truly excellent book in the superb *Maths is Everywhere* series – very well-designed and packed full of interesting facts enhanced by fun, colourful graphics. This volume explores many different units of measure and dispels confusion, for example, about weight and mass. It helps the reader to understand why different units are

appropriate and explains the history of units. Its real strength lies in its relevance to real life, coming complete with fascinating facts such as why the Babylonians devised our system of dividing hours and minutes by

sixty. Complete with a contents page, a glossary and an index, there is also an invaluable quiz based on information within the book. The quiz requires considered calculation, with the answers not only included but clearly explained. Really, no school, home or library should be without this whole series. (10+)

Gill Roberts

## 100 Steps for Science

Written by Lisa Jane Gillespie and Yukai Du  
Wide Eyed £14.99  
ISBN: 978-1847808059

Subtitled *Why it Works and How it Happened*, this skilfully-written book enthralled from the first paragraph, informing the reader of such facts as when looking at the stars they are in fact looking back in time. Covering what are reckoned to be our ten most important scientific discoveries this information title does not skip on the hard stuff – even Newton's three laws of motion make an appearance on page thirteen. The whole gamut of science - from gravity to genetics, from navigation to nuclear fission - is explained in easy-to-understand terms and illustrated with entertaining visuals. We're always being reminded that Britain needs more scientists and a copy of this in every school library can only help. (11+)



Paul Dowsell

## Big Business: Manchester United



Written and illustrated by Adam Sutherland  
Wayland £9.99  
ISBN: 978-0750289450

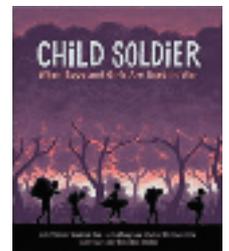
It can be hard to appreciate how massive the business of football is, but Manchester United has a global fan base of almost 10% of the world's population which translates to a yearly revenue of over £500m and a club valuation of £1.8bn. Adam Sutherland looks at the club's formation in 1878 and its chequered history of successes, defeats and near-collapses. On the pitch, he looks at the role of managers like Sir Matt Busby and Sir Ian Ferguson, but he also looks at how Manchester United has been shaped off the pitch. It is a fascinating insight into a real business, whether you're a fan of the game or not, and a great introduction to a range of business-related terminology. Readers can also stretch their creative and business acumen with a challenge to design new merchandise and assess it using SWOT (*Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats*) analysis. Fascinating. (11+)

Benjamin Scott

## Child Soldier

Written by Jessica Dee Humphreys  
and Michel Chikwanine  
Illustrated by Claudia Davila  
Franklin Watts £7.99  
ISBN: 978-1445145655

This extraordinary little book, subtitled *When Boys and Girls are Used in War*, is laid out like a graphic novel. It pairs Claudia Davila's lively illustrations with small text blocks and speech bubbles to tell the story of co-author Michel Chikwanine's happy early life and his forcible recruitment, when only five years old, as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as his escape and the later decision to emigrate to Canada with his mother. The book does not pull any punches when it comes to depicting the horror and brutality to which such children are subjected, including images of violence and death. It makes a fascinating and sobering read for any youngster with an interest in the real world. (12+)



Paul Dowsell