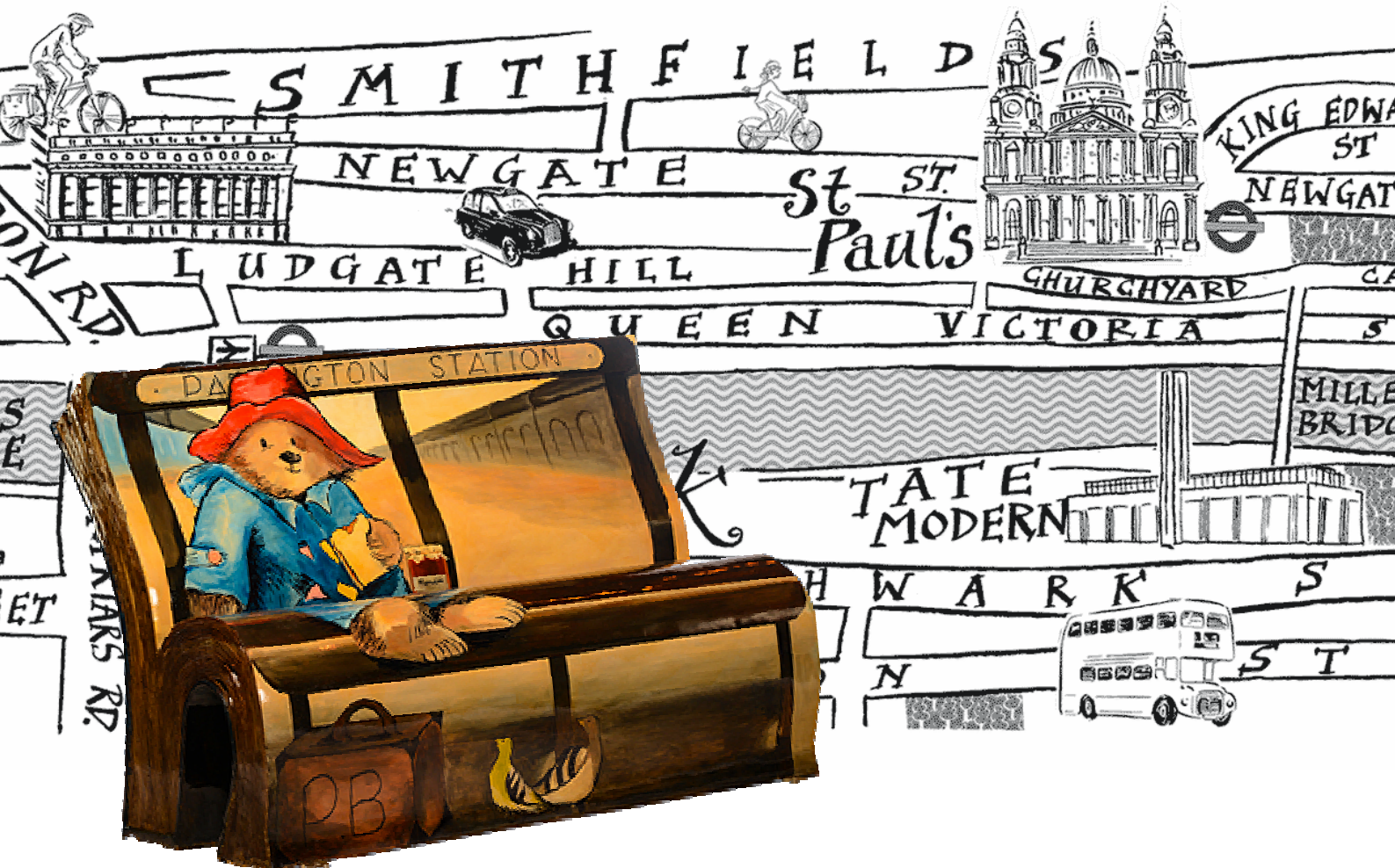


Books about Town

Summer Reading Pack



What is Books about Town?

The National Literacy Trust is working with Wild in Art to bring Books about Town to the streets of London in summer 2014. Trails of benches shaped as open books, decorated by professional illustrators and local artists, are now out for the public to enjoy. It offers a unique opportunity to explore the capital's literary connections, to enjoy art from some of the country's top artists and to celebrate reading for enjoyment.

At the end of summer 2014, all the benches will be auctioned at an exclusive event at the Southbank Centre to raise funds for the National Literacy Trust's vital work to improve literacy levels in the UK.

About the National Literacy Trust

Established in 1993, the National Literacy Trust is an independent charity dedicated to raising literacy levels in the UK. Our Patron is Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall. We work to improve reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in the UK's most disadvantaged areas via community projects, support for schools and campaigning.

So what are you waiting for? Visit www.booksabouttown.org.uk to download the trail maps, quizzes and activity sheets and unlock London's literary heritage! **HAPPY READING!**

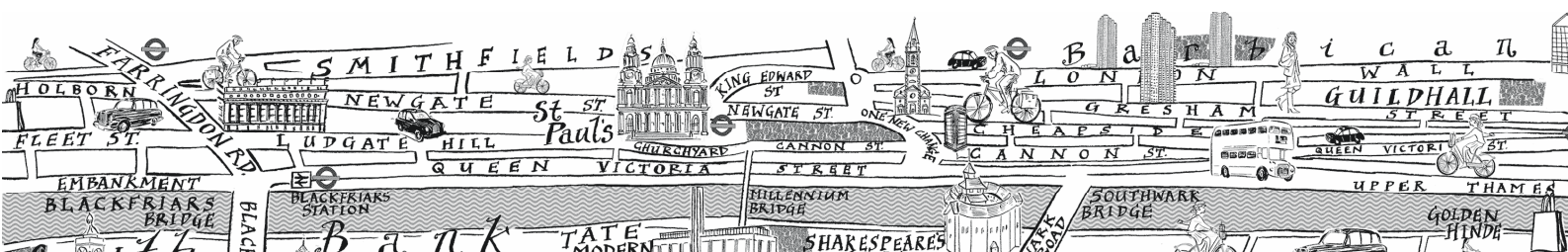
Win brilliant book-themed experiences and prizes

To win great prizes including theatre tickets and signed books and to support the vital work of the National Literacy Trust text **BOOK** to **84222**.

Text entry to the draw costs £1 plus your standard network rate. The charity will receive 56p of this. You will make a further £2 donation (100% goes to the charity) unless you choose to opt out by replying STOP to the first text message you receive from us.

For free entry please send a postcard with your name and contact details to National Literacy Trust, 68 South Lambeth Road, London SW8 1RL.

Draw closes at 11.59pm on 15 October 2014. UK Residents, 18+ only. For full terms and conditions see www.booksabouttown.org.uk/terms.



Reading together

Children of any age love to be read to and to share books together. Below are some simple tips on how you can keep your children reading this summer:

- Pack a book for your child in your bag ready for long waits or whilst travelling
- Make sure your child has access to books they will enjoy - visit your local library or bookshop to explore new titles
- Get your child to read to their siblings, friends, a toy or even a pet
- Point out words in shops and on signs
- Newspapers, comics and magazines all count - why not share a quick news or sports story at breakfast time?
- Ask children to find and read out practical information for you from the internet, manuals, cookery books, etc.
- Ask your child to decide which BookBenches they want to see by reading the blurbs on the Books about Town website and have them plan your trails
- Don't shy away from non-fiction books and fact books; boys and older readers especially might enjoy these



MYTHICAL MAZE

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2014

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays.

You can sign up at your local library, then read six library books of your choice, collecting stickers and other rewards along the way – all FREE.

<http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

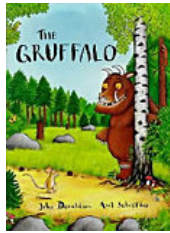


London Booklist

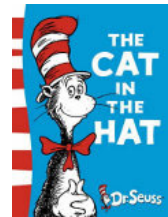
Up to 5 years old



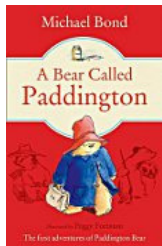
1. *That's not my meerkat* - Fiona Watt
2. *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* - Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury
3. *The Gruffalo* - Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler



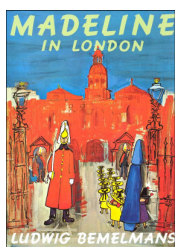
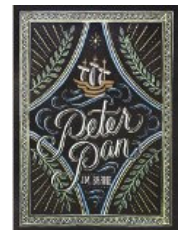
4. *The Cat in the Hat* - Dr Seuss
5. *Elmer the Patchwork Elephant* - David McKee
6. *London ABC* - Ben Hawkes
7. *ABC London* - J. Dunn



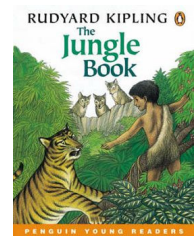
Age 5 to 7



1. *A Bear Called Paddington* - Michael Bond
2. *Katie in London* - James Mayhew
3. *Peter Pan* - J.M. Barrie
4. *The Jungle Book* - Rudyard Kipling
5. *Charlie and Lola: We completely must go to London* - Lauren Child
6. *London for Children* - Matteo Pericoli
7. *Topsy and Tim Visit London* - Jean Adamson
8. *Madeline in London* - Ludwig Bemelmans



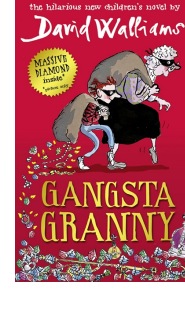
9. *Charlotte in London* - J. Knight
10. *The Boy, the Bear, the Baron & the Bard* - G. Rogers
11. *Midsummer Knight* - G. Rogers
12. *The Queen's Knickers* - N. Allan
13. *Draw it! London* - S. Kindberg
14. *A Walk in London* - Salvatore Rubbino



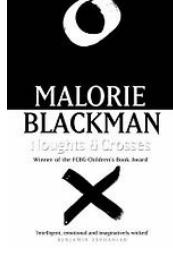
Age 7 to 11



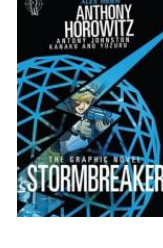
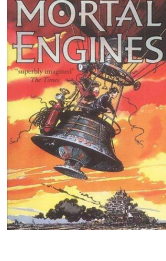
1. *Treasure Island* - Robert Louis Stevenson
2. *Mary Poppins* - P.L. Travers
3. *The Chronicles of Narnia* - C.S. Lewis
4. *How to Train Your Dragon* - Cressida Cowell
5. *The Graveyard Book* - Neil Gaiman
6. *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* - Judith Kerr
7. *Wild Boy* - Rob Lloyd Jones
8. *The London Eye Mystery* - Siobhan O'Dowd
9. *The Ruby in the Smoke* - Philip Pullman
10. *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* - J.K. Rowling
11. *Gangsta Granny* - David Walliams
12. *Archie's War* - Marcia Williams
13. *Stoneheart* - Charlie Fletcher



Age 11 to 15



1. *Stormbreaker* - Anthony Horowitz
2. *Noughts and Crosses* - Malorie Blackman
3. *Coram Boy* - Jamila Gavin
4. *The Recruit* - Robert Muchamore
5. *Tanglewreck* - Jeanette Winterson
6. *Rivers of London* - Ben Aaronovitch
7. *When I Was Joe* - Keren David
8. *The Hound of the Baskervilles* - Sherlock Holmes
9. *Oliver Twist* - Charles Dickens
10. *Neverwhere* - Neil Gaiman
11. *The Enemy* - Charlie Higson
12. *Dodger* - Terry Pratchett
13. *(Un) arranged Marriage* - Bali Rai
14. *Mortal Engines* - Philip Reeve
15. *The Parliament of Blood* - Justin Richards



The Big Book Quiz

On the **Books about Town website** you can download fun trail quizzes that will ask you for details on each of the benches. Post your answer sheet with your name and contact details to Books about Town Trail Quiz, National Literacy Trust, 68 South Lambeth Road, London SW8 1RL to arrive by 21 September 2014 and a lucky winner will receive £100 worth of children's books!

Below we have added a quiz that will test your knowledge of some of London's best loved children's books. How many of these books have you read? Can you answer all the questions below?

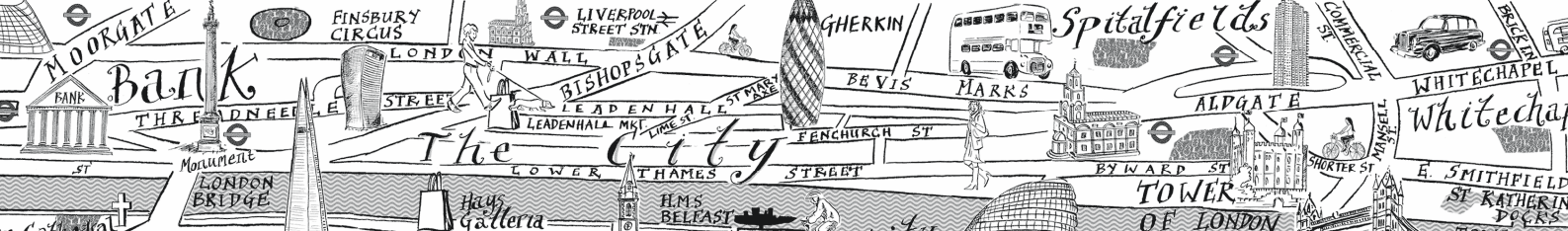
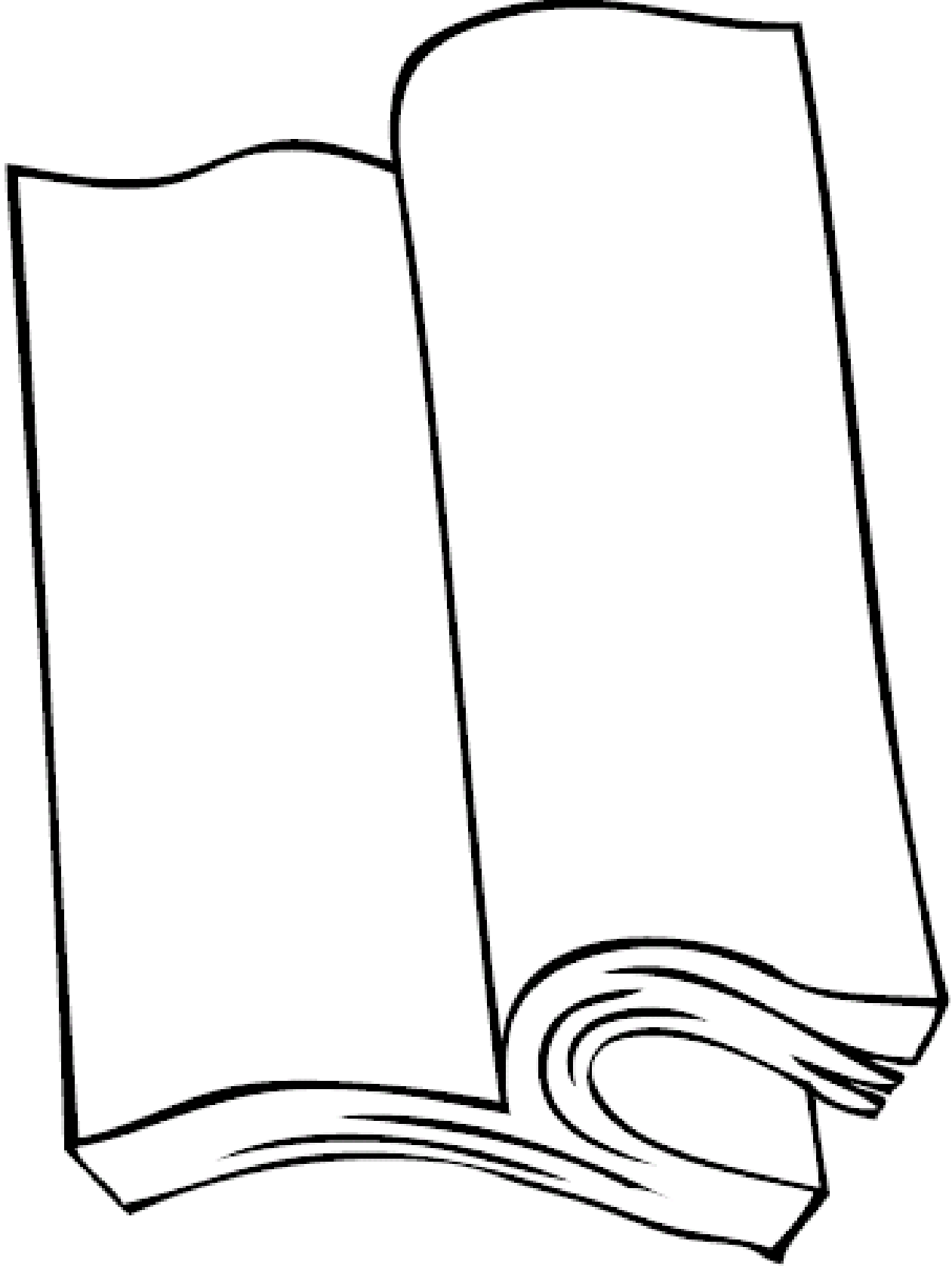
The Big Book Quiz

1. What is Tracy's favourite animal? (*Tracy Beaker*)
2. When are fairies born? (*Peter Pan*)
3. When Lucy first visits Narnia she meets a faun. What is his name? (*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)
4. Where do they find the bear? How many obstacles do they have to go under, over, through? (*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*)
5. In which of Dr Seuss' books can you "have lots of good fun that is funny?"
6. Can you name five other *That's not my ...* books besides *That's Not My Meerkat*?
7. How old does Alice say she is in *Through the Looking Glass*?
8. What do Mary Poppins, Jane and Michael travel around the world with?
9. Which animals does the mouse meet in the forest before running into the Gruffalo?
10. Where is Paddington Bear from?
11. How many colours does Elmer have? (*Elmer the Elephant*)
12. Which flower are most dragons allergic to? (*How to Train Your Dragon*)
13. What does 'Mowgli' mean? (*The Jungle Book*)
14. What is the name of Clarice Bean's best friend?
15. Who takes Katie and Jack on a tour of London? (*Katie in London*)

Answers: 1) Rottweilers dogs 2) When a baby laughs for the first time 3) Tumnus, 4) In a cave, and they have to pass four obstacles (a mountain, grass, mud and a river) 5) The Cat in the Hat 6) There are so many to choose from, have a look here for the full list: <http://www.usborne.com/catalogue/subject/1~B~bbtm/thats-not-my.aspx> 7) Seven and a half 8) a compass 9) A fox, a snake and an owl, 10) (deepest darkest) Peru 11) Nine (including black and white, 12) Blue Oleander 13) frog, 14) Betty Moody 15) A stone lion



Design your own BookBench



Activities for the City Trail



Jacqueline Wilson

Jacqueline Wilson is one of the nation's favourite authors, and her books are loved and cherished by young readers in the UK and all over the world. She is especially well known for her Tracy Beaker series, and for covering topics such as adoption and foster care.

Jacqueline's bench has brought together some of her most popular characters - do you know them all?

Katie in London

Written and illustrated by James Mayhew, Katie's adventures in this book will capture your imagination as Katie and her cousin are led to the sights of London by a stone lion who comes alive and befriends them.

Which famous London landmarks can you find on the bench? Why not visit them while you are in London? Try finding sights like Buckingham Palace, the Tower of London and the London Eye on a map.



Mary Poppins

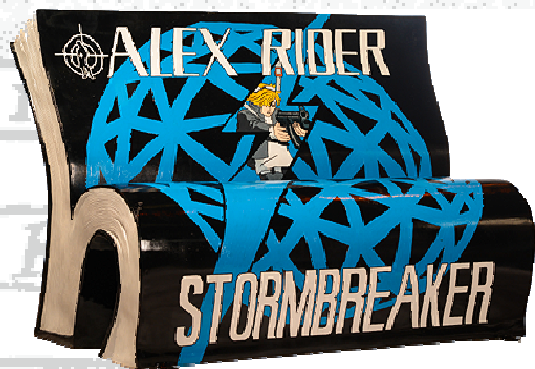
When their new nanny, Mary Poppins, arrives on a gust of the East Wind, greets their mother, and slides up the banister, Jane and Michael's lives are turned magically upside down.

Mary Poppins is famous for her bottomless bag. Put together your own Poppins' bag with a collection of items. At the BookBench ask your child(ren) to come up with a story using the objects in the bag. How might Mary Poppins use them? What magical powers could they have?

The Wind in the Willows

Relive the adventures of Toad, Ratty, Badger and Mole in the idyllic English countryside in this beloved children's classic. Take your place on this beautiful bench and dream yourself away from the hustle and bustle of London.

Have you ever tried making origami figures? You can find examples of all the animals in the story online and then all you will need are squares of coloured paper.



Alex Rider

The *Alex Rider* series by Anthony Horowitz follows the adventures of teenage spy Alex Rider, who is recruited by the British secret service after discovering his uncle's assassination.

Encourage your children to make their own graphic novel based on one of their favourite stories. Or can they come up with their own adventure for Alex?

That's Not My Meerkat

That's Not My Meerkat is part of the bestselling *That's Not My...* series, which also includes *That's Not My Piglet* and *That's Not My Panda*. This bench will be a favourite with younger children.



Visit the [Books about Town website](#) to download a meerkat or panda colouring sheet, or a meerkat mask to wear on the trail.

This BookBench's sponsor, Usborne, is organising several events at this bench, such as a Meerkat flashmob and a photobooth (details on website).

Checklist

- A Brief History of Time
Royal Exchange
- Brick Lane
Postman's Park
- Bridget Jones's Diary
Paternoster Square
- Characters from Jacqueline Wilson books
St Paul's Cathedral
- Dickens in Liverpool
New change
- Fever Pitch
St Paul's Cathedral
- Katie in London
Tower of London
- The Laura Marlin Mysteries
Aldermanbury Gardens
- Mary Poppins
St Paul's Cathedral
- Noughts and Crosses
Fen Court
- Peter Pan
St Paul's Cathedral
- Stormbreaker: The Graphic Novel
Bank of England
- That's not my meerkat
Peter's Hill
- The Wind in the Willows
Bank of England
- Wisden Cricketers' Almanack
Guildhall Courtyard

Activities for the Bloomsbury Trail



James Bond

The only one of our benches with a licence to kill, the James Bond BookBench is proudly sponsored by Ian Fleming Publications. The company keeps the Bond name alive, ensuring the mystery and glamour ripples through to more generations with new stories for different ages.

Sherlock Holmes

One of the most revered and respected characters in literary history, we could not contemplate Books about Town without the inclusion of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's maverick investigator.

Play a simple detective game while you are at the Sherlock Holmes bench. How about a round of *I spy* or *20 questions* to guess who you are thinking of.



The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is C.S. Lewis' most famous and widely read novel. It tells the story of four children who are evacuated from London to a big house in the English countryside during World War II. The youngest of the siblings, Lucy, finds a magical world called Narnia through a wardrobe in a spare room, encountering talking animals and mythical creatures.

Ask your children to imagine a magical world behind their own wardrobe. What would their world look like?

Who would they meet? What adventures would they have? They could spend an afternoon with siblings or friends creating and acting out their new magical world.

Around the World in Eighty Days

Around the World in Eighty Days is a classic adventure novel by the French writer Jules Verne, published in 1873. In the story, Phileas Fogg of London and his newly employed French valet Passepartout attempt to circumnavigate the world in 80 days on a wager set by his friends at the Reform Club in Pall Mall.



Set your older children a challenge to find all the places Phileas Fogg and Passepartout visit on a map.

The story was written at a time when technological innovations had opened the possibility of rapid circumnavigation and the prospect fascinated Verne and his readers. Can you think of similar inventions today? What kind of adventure stories could you write about them?

More young people agree that reading is “cool” in 2013 than in the previous four years (39% in 2013 compared with only 31.9% in 2010).

Checklist

- 1984
UoL Torrington Square
- Around the World in Eighty Days*
Stanfords Travel Bookshop
- The Day of the Triffids*
UoL Senate House
- Hercule Poirot and the Greenshore Folly*
Bloomsbury Square Gardens
- James Bond stories
Bloomsbury Square Gardens
- Jeeves and Wooster* stories
The Brunswick Centre
- Mrs Dalloway*
UoL Gordon Square
- Peter Pan*
Red Lion Square
- Pride and Prejudice*
Queen Square
- Sherlock Holmes stories
UoL Woburn Square
- The Importance of Being Earnest*
Byng Place
- The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*
St George's Square

Activities for the Riverside Trail



Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler

Artist Axel Scheffler and writer Julia Donaldson first teamed up in 1993, and since then they have published 12 books, including *The Gruffalo* (1999). The Gruffalo, one of the world's best-loved monsters, is featured alongside characters from nine of their collective works on this BookBench.

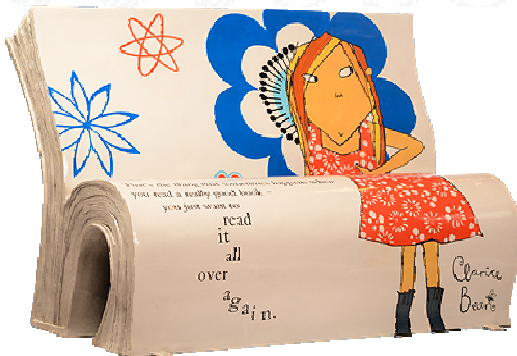
Visit the **Books about Town website** to download fun Gruffalo activities and to see a clip of Axel Scheffler painting the BookBench.

Dr Seuss

Theodor Seuss Geisel, best known as the beloved Dr Seuss, was an American writer and cartoonist. He wrote 46 children's books, including *The Cat in the Hat* (1957). The Cat shows up at the house of Sally and her brother one rainy day when their mother is away. Left alone, they think they're in for a dull day - until the Cat in the Hat steps in on the mat, bringing with him mayhem and madness!



Dr Seuss' books are famous for their rhyming. Can you come up with a rhyme as you make your way along the trails?



Clarice Bean

All Clarice Bean wants is a bit of peace and quiet. But that can be hard to find in a house where your little brother is being utterly annoying, your big brother is in the dark tunnel of adolescence and your grandad is pouring soup on his cornflakes. Clarice introduces us to her life and family in the original book that launched the hugely successful, critically-acclaimed *Clarice Bean* series, written and illustrated by Lauren Child.

Visit the **Books about Town website** to see if you can find all the words that Clarice has hidden in her word search and to complete the maze.

How to Train Your Dragon

This BookBench was designed by the author Cressida Cowell, who took inspiration from her childhood: "As a child I grew up in London and on a remote Scottish island where I was inspired to create my world of dragons and Vikings. Sit on this BookBench and imagine dragons wheeling above you in the skies."

Can you create your own dragon? Where would your dragon live? What would he look like? Would he breathe fire or something else?



To see all the BookBenches on this trail and to download a map, please visit: www.booksabouttown.org.uk



Through the Looking Glass

Everyone knows the story of how Alice fell down a rabbit hole and discovered a strange world of wonder and adventure, where she encountered mad tea parties, cats that disappeared at will and the ill-tempered Queen of Hearts. The British classic written by Lewis Carroll nearly 150 years ago remains a favourite children's story the world over. This summer you can discover Wonderland in a new way with a stunning BookBench based on the sequel, *Through the Looking Glass*, designed by British cartoonist Ralph Steadman.

Wouldn't it be great to have your own mad tea party at this BookBench? Make some wonderfully mad hats before you set off and pack a picnic!

Checklist

- Axel Scheffler and Julia Donaldson books
Hay's Galleria
- Clarice Bean
More London
- Discworld
More London
- Dr Seuss
More London
- Great Expectations
Montague Close
- How to Train Your Dragon
More London
- Paddington Bear
Montague Close
- Shakespeare
The Globe
- Through the Looking Glass
More London
- War Horse
More London
- The World's Biggest Flipbook
Waterloo Station (not shown on map)

Paddington Bear

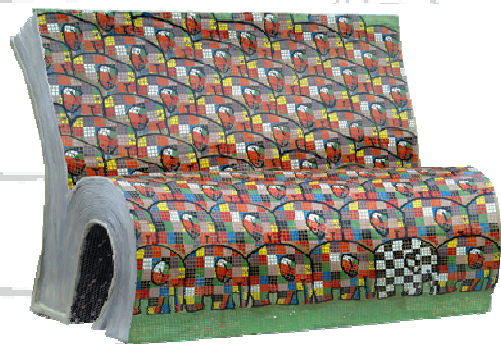
Do you know the story of London's most iconic bear? When Aunt Lucy goes to live in the Home for Retired Bears in Lima she decides to send Paddington to England. Paddington arrives at Paddington Station in London where he is found by Mr and Mrs Brown, sitting on a small suitcase with a label around his neck with the words: "Please Look After This Bear. Thank You." Unable to resist such a simple request, Mr and Mrs Brown take Paddington home to live with them. The stories that followed have delighted children for decades.

Why not join Paddington for a marmalade sandwich on his bench this summer? You can also download a Paddington colouring sheet from the [Books about Town website](#).



Activities for the Greenwich Trail

Elmer the Patchwork Elephant



Elmer the Patchwork Elephant has been a nursery favourite since the series was first published, with over five million copies sold in 40 languages worldwide. David McKee's story of Elmer is about celebrating differences and diversity and accepting one's true colours.

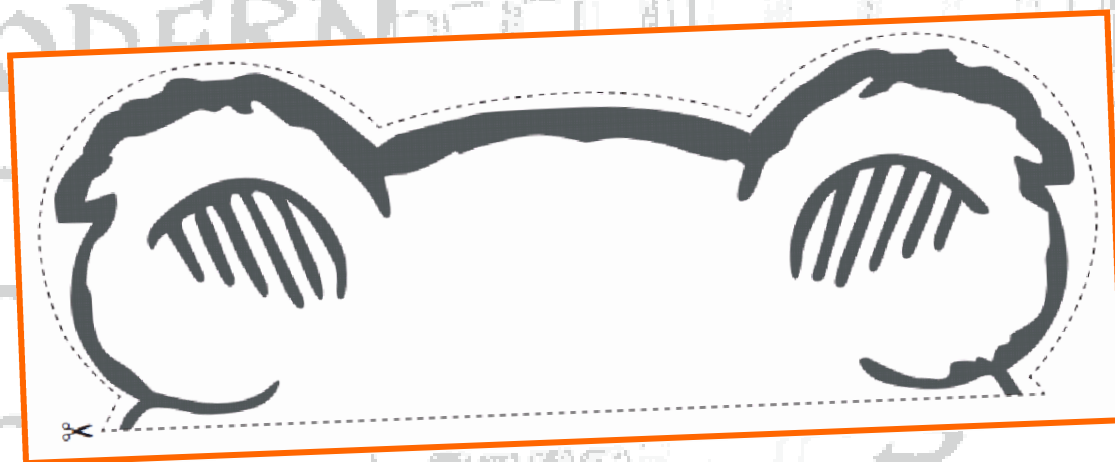
As Elmer is turning 25 this year, Andersen Press has put together a great activity pack with lots of ideas for Elmer-themed games and crafts. They will also be organising several events at Elmer's bench over the summer, so keep an eye on the **Books about Town website** for updates.



We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Swish and swash through the grass, splash and splosh through the river and squelch and squerch through the mud in search of the bear. Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury's family favourite celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, and what better way to join the bear hunt than with a BookBench.

Make sure to download the activity sheets from the **Books about Town website** before heading off. Get the whole family to make a pair of bear ears to wear!





The Jungle Book

Set in magical, mysterious India, these tales of people and animals living together have appealed to children and adults alike since their first appearance more than a century ago.

Can you spot Bagheera, Kaa and Shere Khan? Do you remember what the boy is called? Can you remember the words to the song 'Bare Necessities' from the 1967 Disney film adaptation? Sing the song at the BookBench and see who else joins in!

Time travel, science and adventure

Many of the BookBenches in the Greenwich trail will excite budding adventurers and scientists. Follow in the footsteps of the great explorers Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Charles Darwin. Or delve into London's history with the diary of Samuel Pepys. Encourage your children to keep their own diary over the summer. Who knows, they might be famous one day! Use your imagination and enter the science fiction worlds of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* and *The Time Machine*. What time would you travel back to if you had a time machine?



Why not combine your visit to the Greenwich trail with a visit to the National Maritime Museum or the Royal Observatory? Visit www.rmg.co.uk for more information.



Checklist

- The Canterbury Tales
Old Royal Naval College
- Captain Scott's Autobiography
National Maritime Museum
- Dr Samuel Johnson's Dictionary
Royal Hill/Burney Street
- Elmer the Elephant
Greenwich Park
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Greenwich Station
- The Jungle Book
Greenwich Park
- On the Origin of Species
Greenwich Park
- The Railway Children
Old Royal Naval College
- Samuel Pepys' Diary
Cutty Sark Gardens
- The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole (Girl Engrossed)
At Allge's Church
- The Time Machine
Greenwich Park
- We're Going on a Bear Hunt
Greenwich Park

Get involved

Spread the word about Books about Town

Over the next few weeks the National Literacy Trust wants as many people as possible to visit our BookBenches around London. You can help us by harnessing the power of social media and telling your friends about this fantastic initiative.

- Follow us on Twitter [@BooksaboutTown](https://twitter.com/BooksaboutTown) and Facebook facebook.com/booksabouttown. Use the hashtags #BooksaboutTown, #BookBench, #wildinart
- Tweet about Books about Town. Perhaps there is a BookBench near you that you could post a picture of?
- Get actively involved in an event around a BookBench. Details of events can be found on www.booksabouttown.org.uk

There is also the opportunity to enter into a prize draw, information of how to enter can be found on each of the BookBench plaques.

Fancy a BookBench at home?

The 50 BookBench sculptures will be sold at public auction on **7 October 2014** at an exclusive event at the Southbank Centre. Visit www.booksabouttown.org.uk/auction to place an absentee bid and/or register to bid online during the auction. Any queries, please email auction@literacytrust.org.uk.

All proceeds will go to the National Literacy Trust, a charity dedicated to raising the literacy levels of disadvantaged children and young people across the UK.

Books about Town for Schools

If you have enjoyed the BookBench trails, why not encourage your children's school to sign up to take part in our Books about Town for Schools project in the autumn term? Each school will get their own smaller BookBench to design and decorate. For more information, visit: www.literacytrust.org.uk/books_about_town

Useful Links

- www.booksabouttown.org.uk
- [www.twitter.com/booksabouttown](https://twitter.com/booksabouttown)
- www.facebook.com/booksabouttown
- www.wordsforlife.org.uk/books-about-town
- www.literacytrust.org.uk
- www.wildinart.co.uk
- Children's and Young People's Reading in 2013 report: www.literacytrust.org.uk/research/nlt_research/6078_childrens_and_young_peoples_reading_in_2013
- www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

