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# World Book Day 2025

## Early Years and Foundation Stage Resource Bank

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Find more at

[worldbookday.com/celebrate-world-book-day](http://worldbookday.com/celebrate-world-book-day)

**Changing lives through a love of books and reading**

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ILLUSTRATED BY VIVIAN TRUONG

# World Book Day 2025

## Early Years and Foundation Stage Resource Bank

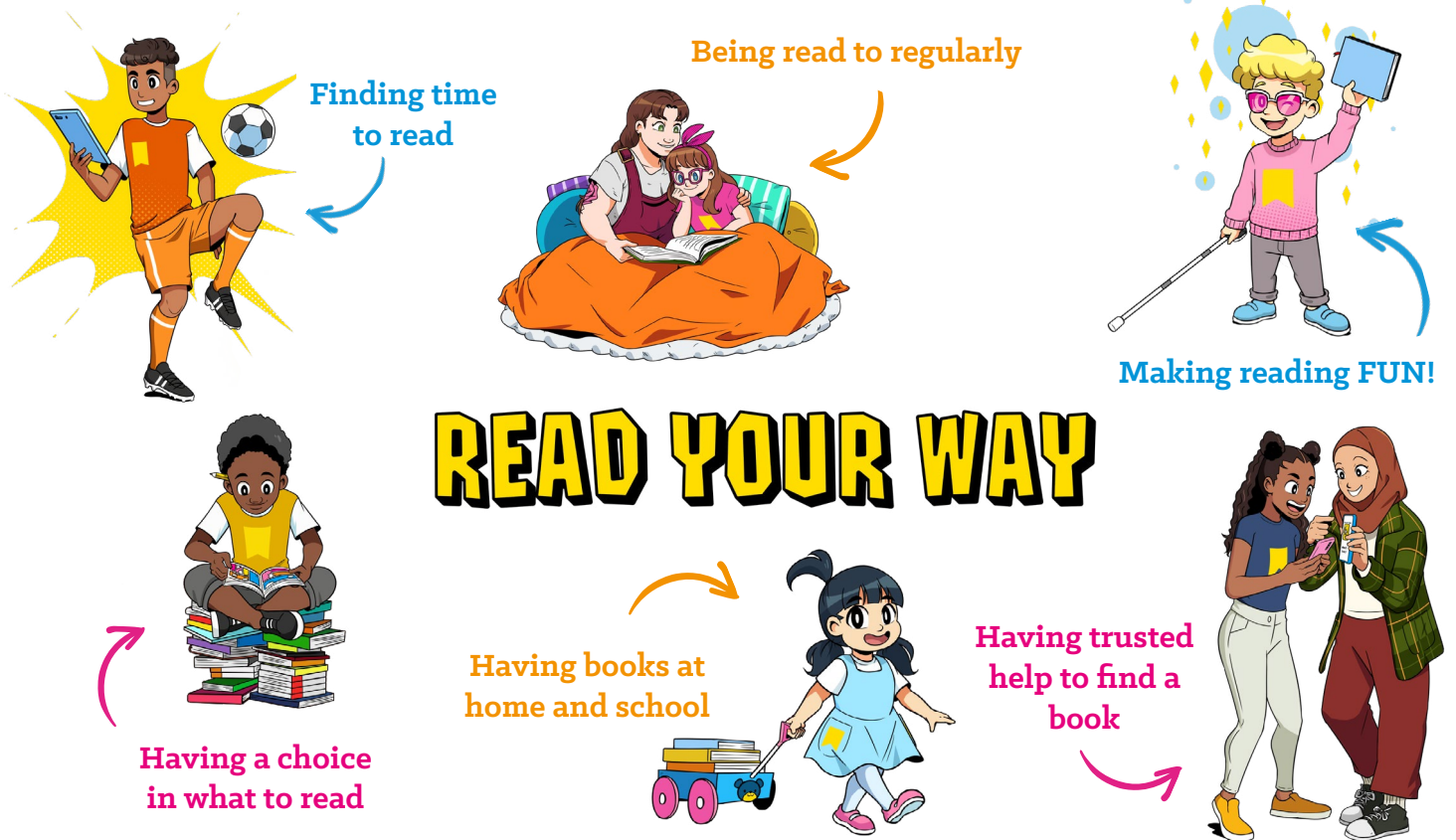
Welcome to World Book Day® 2025! World Book Day champions reading for fun, because it seriously improves children's lives.

### Read Your Way

World Book Day's 2024 research shows that children see reading as something they have to do, rather than something they choose to do. Our Read Your Way campaign encourages everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations, and empowers children to have fun discovering reading on their own terms.

The Early Years are a fantastic time to introduce the six elements that are likely to ensure that children enjoy reading for pleasure – and that it becomes a habit.

For practical information about tokens and World Book Day, see our [Toolkit for Coordinators in Schools and Settings](#).



## Key tasks for coordinators

- Read [World Book Day Toolkit for Coordinators in Schools and Settings](#).
- Arrange planning meeting (PX)
- Plan World Book Day activities (Px-x)
- [Communicate activities](#) to parents and caregivers
- Hand out World Book Day £1/€1.50 book tokens
- Share your ideas using our practitioner [Activity Bank](#).



## Planning

On World Book Day, children's reading becomes a national conversation topic. It's a great opportunity to try new reading routines, or to communicate to your community what you are already doing to encourage children to pursue their own reading interests.

When planning your World Book Day you might want to consider the following questions:

- **What are your key messages?** Take a look at our [Caregivers' Communication Toolkit](#) to find easy-to-share information.
- **Will children dress up?** - Visit our [dressing up page](#) for costume inspiration – as well as alternatives to dressing up.
- **How will you involve caregivers?** Take a look at our [caregiver information toolkit](#) for ways to include caregivers in your celebrations.
- **How will you help your children access the £1/€1.50 books?** Everything you need is [here](#), including links to our digital tokens, which you can share with caregivers.
- **How will you decorate your setting?** Find our downloadable materials [here](#).

When you're planning your activities for the day think about:

- Do our children feel empowered to read their way – making choices about what, when and how to read books they enjoy?
- Are our children being read to regularly at home and in the setting?
- What access to books do they have at home and in the setting?
- How confident are they in choosing books they like?
- How do we recommend books to children and caregivers?
- Are caregivers aware of alternative ways to engage with reading – as well as how to access books for free?
- Do we know about our children's home reading environments? How can we celebrate these?



### For babies

**Talking to caregivers about how to engage with reading is key at this stage.** Discuss how babies start to show enthusiasm for particular books. This is different for every child and setting, but can include:

- Early choice: picking from a small selection or having a favourite book to chew!
- Joining in: touching the pages or responding to a particular moment in a story.
- Responding to texts attached to key routines, such as naptimes.
- Connecting reading to their emerging interests or play schemas.
- Using storytelling and play to reenact stories and early information texts.

**Celebrate what's going on at home.** Invite caregivers to share with you and each other:

- Favourite books or stories, including those in home languages.
- Reading routines
- Funny or touching moments with their child – celebrating the connections reading can make is crucial at this stage.



**What might your celebration look like?**

- Inviting caregivers to bring in favourite books from home.
- Developing play activities around favourite books, stories or rhymes.
- Sharing observations about children's engagement with books and rhymes.
- Finishing the day with a story, and inviting caregivers to listen.
- Sharing your tokens alongside your settings messaging about reading, explaining how to swap their token in your local area.





# For toddlers and preschoolers

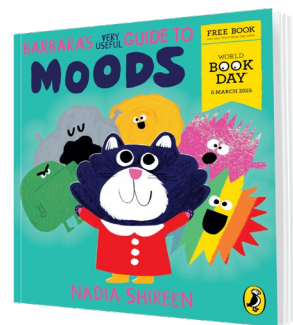
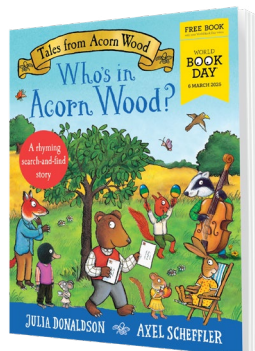


**A big World Book Day welcome:** welcome the children with a display of photographs of their favourite reading in the setting for caregivers to see. Invite children and caregivers to share home stories in response.

**Decorate your setting using World Book Day themes**



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## Creative area

Invite children to design their own hot air balloons to hide around the setting.

During guided time, older children might want to experiment with creating flying balloons by blowing on different materials with a hairdryer and then working together to create a hot-air-balloon shape.

## Construction area

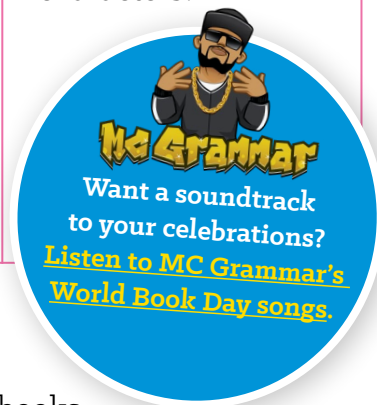
Bluey's family love making dens and other areas to read in. Can the children create their own reading den, inside or outside, with the materials you provide?

## Role-play area

The Acorn Wood characters love visiting each other's houses. Can the children make them somewhere to visit, using small-world materials or role play?

## Group time

Talk to children about how reading makes them feel and about how they would like it to make them feel. Share the image of Barbara – can they create reading-mood characters?



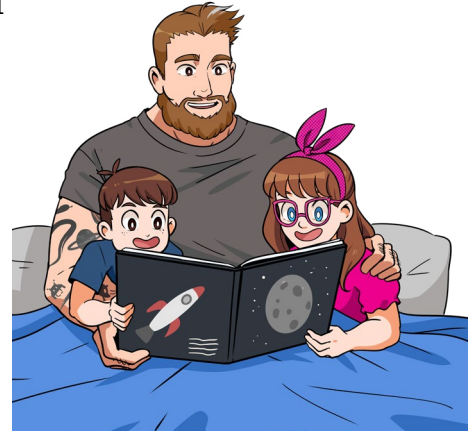
Our **[£1/€1.50 book information sheets](#)** include sensory activities, games and conversation starters to help children find out more about the £1/€1.50 books – and help them choose the one they'd like to spend their book token on.

Our **[low cost dressing-up resources](#)** include costume piece templates for each character in your creative area.

## Involving caregivers

Our [Caregivers' Communication Toolkit](#) includes everything you need to highlight the importance of World Book Day and shared reading. It will help you explain your celebrations, as well as World Book Day's year-round offer of [video picture books](#) and [audiobooks](#).

For many caregivers, this will be the first World Book Day book token their child receives – so don't forget to explain how they can use it in your communications with them.



Find out how your families read their own way by:

- Celebrating home reading – invite caregivers to share photographs and bring in books. Actively encourage dual-coded or home-language books.
- In the run up to World Book Day, collect images of children reading their own way in your setting. Ensure that these include funny and active moments, as well as more traditional reading poses, such as snuggling in a corner. On World Book Day, use your online journal to share pictures of children choosing to read in your setting. You could then ask families to create their own reading images to share with you.
- Talk to families about whether they go to the library or to bookshops, and provide information about local facilities, including storytime sessions for under-fives.

Events you could run to involve caregivers include:

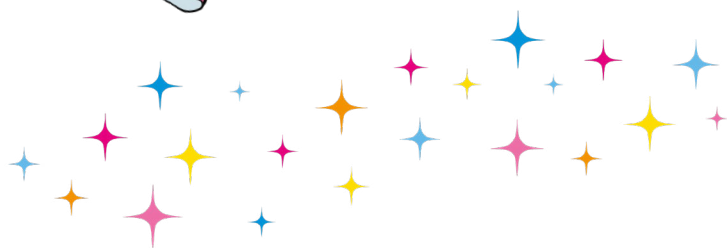
- A bedtime story for children and their caregivers. Show families how to help children choose books based on family interests, and offer tips on how to enjoy these books together as a family. Better still, model this when you read your own bedtime story during the event.
- A book swap
- If your celebrations include dressing up, try a costume swap or a caregiver and child crafting session to create customised t-shirts or small props for the children to wear.
- Hand out the £1/€1.50 book tokens early, and invite the children to bring in their World Book Day books on the day itself. Alternatively, organise a caregiver and child trip to swap tokens for books. Books are available between 13 February and 23 March 2025.
- Share our [PTA letter](#) with your parent committees.



# Your World Book Day all year round

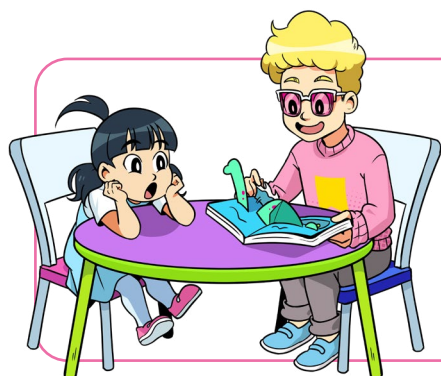
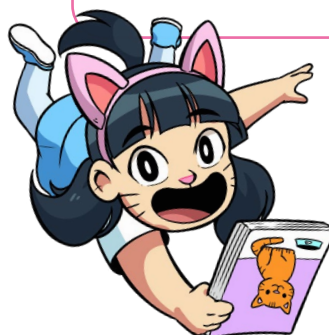
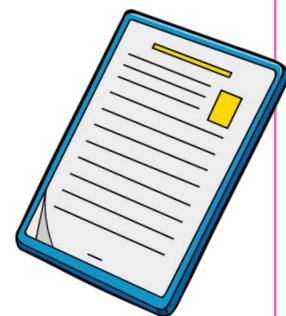


To help children to read for fun all year round, visit our [Resources Hub](#) for ideas.



**Keep sharing your ideas:** submit your favourite activities to our [Activity Bank](#) and help other practitioners encourage children to love reading.

**Start planning for next year:** run a review with staff and children to find out how your World Book Day went, and what you can do next.



**Keep an eye out for our survey:** we want to hear how World Book Day went for you, and find out if there's anything we could have done differently.