



Earth Shattering Events: Volcanoes, Earthquakes, Cyclones, Tsunamis and Other Natural Disasters

Author: Robin Jacobs **Illustrator:** Sophie Williams

In any given year, there may be hundreds of large-scale geological or meteorological disasters on earth – and they're becoming more frequent because of climate change. This colourful and fascinating guide explains why they happen.



In the Key of Code

Author: Aimee Lucido

Emmy is in a new city and new school and has just discovered computer coding. But why are people in class keeping secrets? This verse novel brilliantly combines poetry, music and coding with a coming-of-age story and a celebration of girls in STEM.

[Read more about In the Key of Code](#)

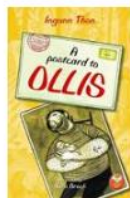


Katherine Johnson: A Life Story

Author: Leila Rasheed **Illustrator:** Sarah Papworth

An accessible, compelling and inspiring biography of Katherine Johnson: a brilliant, black, female mathematician who helped make NASA's space programme and moon landing possible.

[Read more about Katherine Johnson: A Life Story](#)



A Postcard to Ollis

Author: Ingunn Thon **Illustrator:** Nora Brech

Ollis's mum has a new boyfriend and now she has a new baby brother. She feels lonely but luckily her best friend lives next door and they know each other inside out. Or do they? A charming and quirky illustrated story about the importance of family.



A Girl, A Raccoon and the Midnight Moon

Author: Karen Romano Young **Illustrator:** Jessixa Bagley

When the statue at her beloved library is vandalised, Pearl is determined to find the culprit - but she'll discover a lot more along the way, too. A highly inventive, satisfying read.



Alien Superstar

Author: Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver **Illustrator:** Ethan Nicolle

What better place for an alien to go unnoticed than the backlot of Universal Studios? Full of humour and with an appealing plot, this book shows that, human or alien, we all need kindness and understanding to achieve our dreams and flourish.

Looking for reading inspiration?
Here are this month's 8 to 12 year-old recommendations from the Book Trust.



<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/best-new-books/>



The Pearl in the Ice

Author: Cathryn Constable

Marina can't bear being sent to boarding school, so she stows away on her father's ship instead. But her father has dangerous secrets. With evocative, powerful writing and a great sense of building suspense, this is an entrancing read.



The Girl Who Stole an Elephant

Author: Nizrana Farook

Against the backdrop of a stunning South Asian landscape, three youngsters are on the run from the King's guards – on an elephant! With themes of morality, friendship, teamwork and loyalty, this exciting adventure book also has lots of tension and jeopardy.

[Read more about The Girl Who Stole an](#)



The Land of Roar

Author: Jenny McLachlan **Illustrator:** Ben Mantle

Is the Land of Roar real or imaginary? You'll have to make up your own mind in this exciting and tense coming-of-age adventure that has echoes of Jumanji and *Peter Pan*.

[Read more about The Land of Roar](#)



The Missing: The True Story of My Family in World War II

Author: Michael Rosen

A fascinating family memoir and a very personal story about terrible loss, *The Missing* describes the impact of the Holocaust on one family, which provides a relatable pathway into this overwhelming event for young readers.



Look Both Ways

Author: Jason Reynolds **Illustrator:** Selom Sunu

Ten short stories about that strange time when school finishes and children of a certain age (usually around ten years old) get to walk home without adult supervision. Jason Reynolds' writing is gripping, direct, exciting and incredibly readable.



Nothing Ever Happens Here

Author: Sarah Hagger-Holt

Nothing ever happens in Littlehaven... at least, that is, until Izzy's Dad comes out as trans. A gentle, timely and warm story about identity, friendship and standing up for what's right.

[Read more about Nothing Ever Happens](#)



Scoop McLaren: Detective Editor

Author: Helen Castles

Who's publishing bad news before it happens? Scoop McLaren is determined to find out, before the town of Higgity Harbour is destroyed forever. Pitched somewhere between Nancy Drew and Scooby Doo, this is a light-hearted and fast-paced adventure mystery.