

**Top 10 books  
for inspiring  
science for  
reading for 7-  
9 year olds**



**SCIENCE FOR READING**

Created by Rose Edmondson and Kathryn Horan



A picture book celebrating the world of treehouses. Told in a lyrical form the language and illustrations will engage and inspire.

**Science objective link:**

**Y3:** explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant

**Cross curricular links:** Art, Technology, English

**Science activity: Do all plants need soil to grow? (Y3 Observation over time)**

<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/elibrary/resource/314741/do-plants-need-soil-grow>

**Inspiration:** Build your own model treehouse. Darrell Wakelam's pages for inspirational artwork: <https://www.darrellwakelam.com/downloads>

**Title:** Everything you need for a treehouse

**Author:** Carter Higgins & Emily Hughes

**ISBN 10:** 1452142556





A non-fiction text exploring some of the worlds most interesting animal skeletons.

**Science objective link:**

**Y3:** identify that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection and movement

**Cross curricular links:** Geography, History, English

**Science activity: Do all skeletons have the same bones? (Y3 Identifying and classifying)**

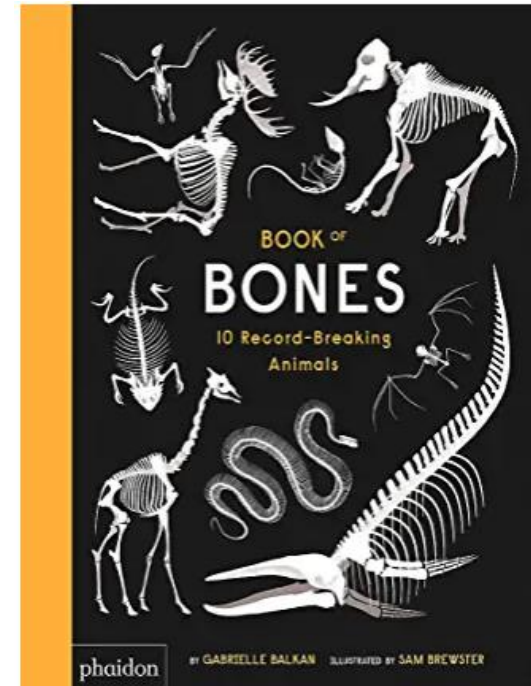
*Use pictures from the book or this link - look for similarities and differences. Which animal do the children think the bones are from?*

<https://www.nagwa.com/en/worksheets/290179391957/>

Model a skeleton from materials you have around the home.

**Inspiration:**

<https://www.education.com/activity/article/make-a-straw-skeleton/>



**Title: Book of Bones**

**Author: Gabrielle Balkan & Sam Brewster**

**ISBN 10: 0714875112**



A non-fiction book detailing what's underground beneath our feet.

**Science objective link:**

**Y3:**

- recognise that soils are made from rocks and organic matter
- compare and group together different kinds of rocks on the basis of their appearance and simple physical properties

**Cross curricular links:** Geography, English

**Science activity:** Investigate the school grounds- is all soil the same? Y3 Identifying and classifying.

<https://www.gardenorganic.org.uk/sites/www.gardenorganic.org.uk/files/Sorting%20out%20Soils%20Activity%20Pack%20KS2.pdf>

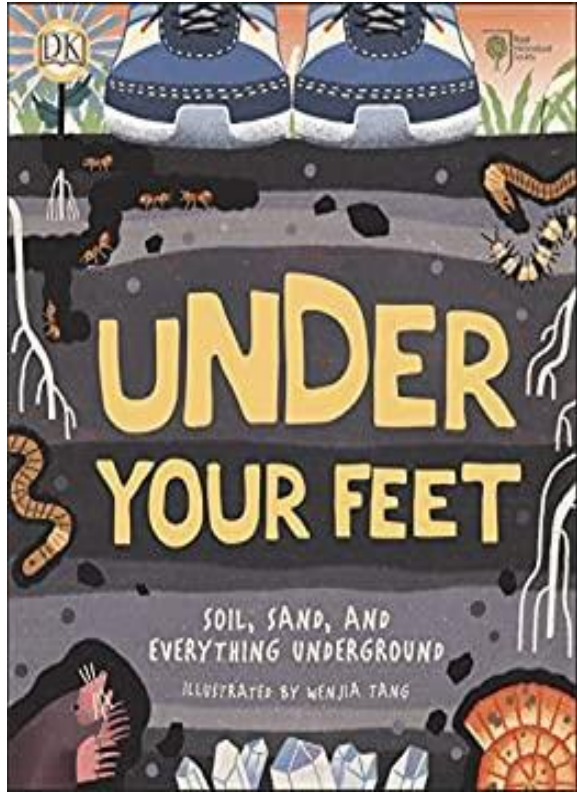
**Inspiration:** Star burst rock cycle

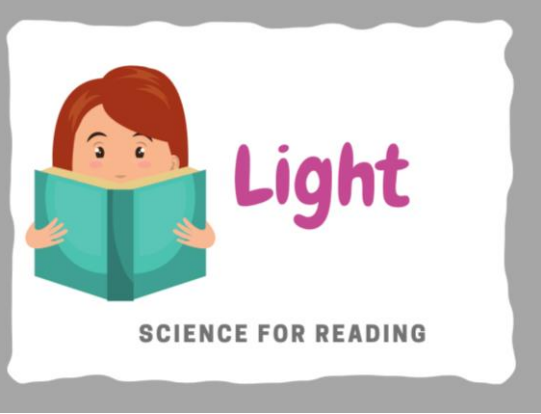
<https://lemonlimeadventures.com/edible-rock-cycle-for-kids/>

**Title:** Under Your Feet

**Author:** The Royal Horticultural Society

**ISBN 10:** 0241412455





A story which will help readers to understand how in appreciating the light it will help us to embrace the dark all the more.

**Science objective link:**

**Y3:** recognise that they need light in order to see things and that dark is the absence of light

**Cross curricular links:** English, Technology and Engineering

**Science activity: Which light sources are best? Y3 Comparative and fair testing.**

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/science-with-a-smartphone-measure-light-with-lux/>

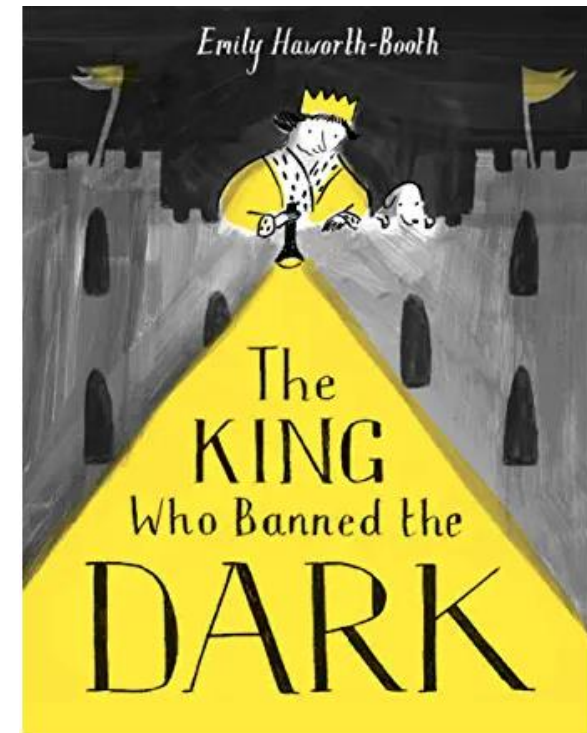
**Inspiration:**

<https://nustem.uk/activity/shadow-tubes/>

**Title: The King Who Banned the dark**

**Author: Emily Hawrth-Booth**

**ISBN 10: 1843653974**





A picture book to introduce forces and how pushes and pulls can cause objects to start and stop moving.

**Science objective link: Y3:**

- compare how things move on different surfaces
- notice that some forces need contact between 2 objects

**Cross curricular links:** English, previous science topics such as Materials

**Science activity: Do all crickets jump to the same height?** This is a Twist on the well-known Rocket Mice investigation. **Y3 Comparative and fair testing.**

<https://learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/rocket-mice/>

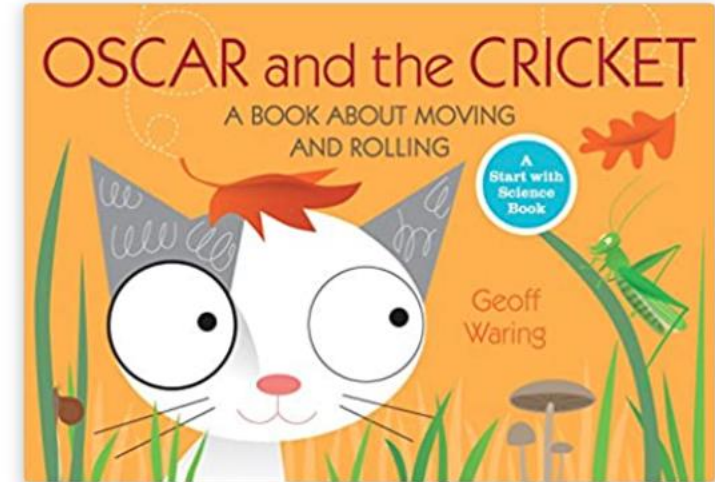
**Inspiration:**

<https://www.science-sparks.com/10-great-ideas-for-learning-about-magnetism/>

**Title: Oscar and the cricket**

**Author: Geoff Waring**

**ISBN 10:  
0763645125**





A book of poetry which beautifully summarises the many ways in which plants and animals all rely on each other.

**Science objective link:**

**Y4:** construct and interpret a variety of food chains, identifying producers, predators and prey

**Cross curricular links:** English, Geography, Art

**Science activity: What food chains can we identify in our area? Y4 Identifying and classifying.**

<https://extension.uga.edu/content/dam/extension/programs-and-services/school-gardens/documents/4-Food-Chain-Garden-Food-Chains.pdf>

**Inspiration:**

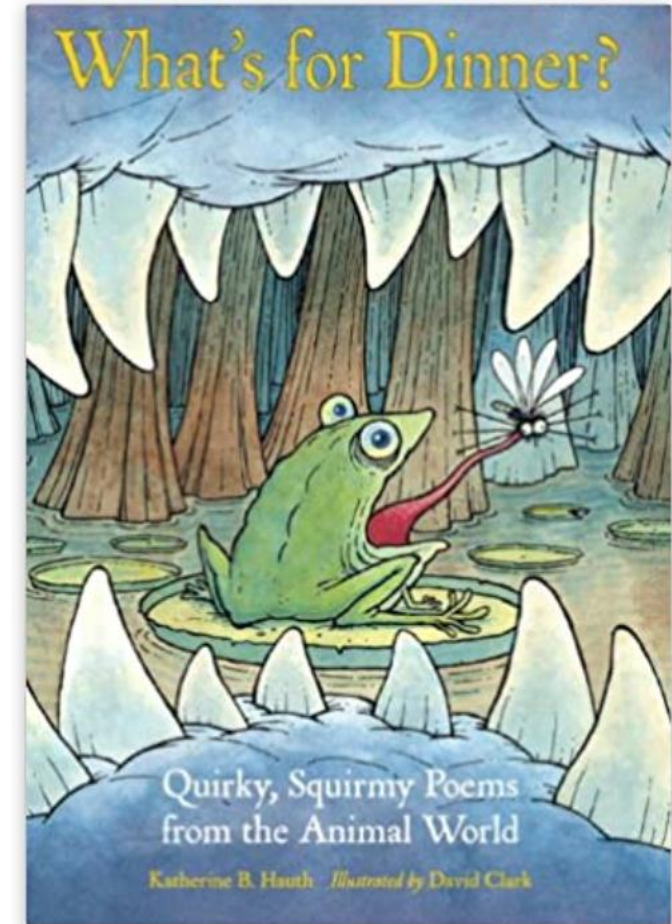
**Food chain cups**

<https://www.sciencefix.co.uk/2020/10/quick-science-idea-make-food-chains-with-stackable-cups/>

**Title: What's for dinner?**

**Author: Katherine B Hauth & David Clark**

**ISBN 10: 1570914729**





Explore the tiny world of microbes in our gut in this non-fiction text. Full of illustrations and interesting facts this book will entice every reader to reconsider just how marvelous our gut truly is.

**Science objective link:**

**Y4:** describe the simple functions of the basic parts of the digestive system in humans

**Cross curricular links:** Art, Technology (food)

**Science activity:** Make a model digestive system. Y4  
Research using secondary resources and Modelling.

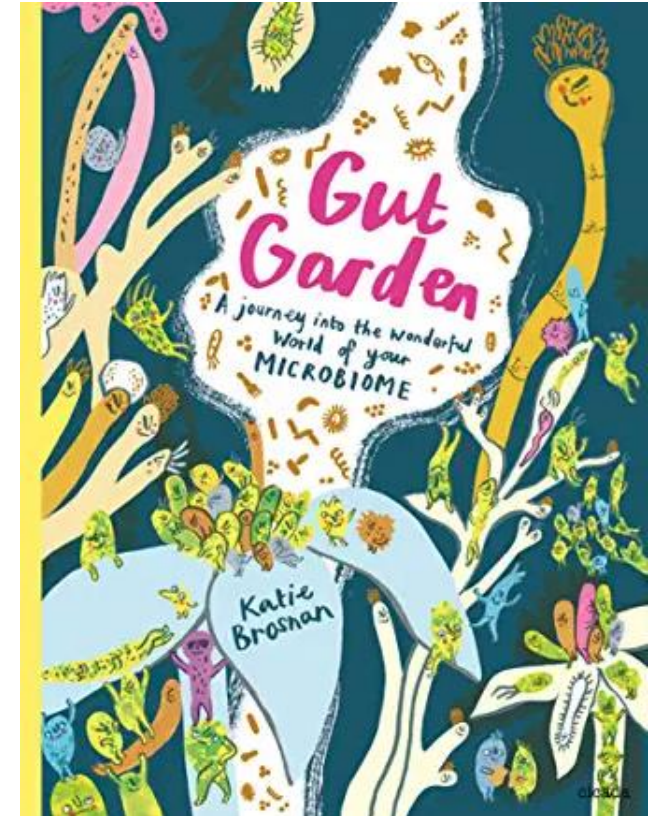
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zf339j6/articles/zrm48mn>

**Inspiration:** <https://royalsociety.org/-/media/grants-schemes-awards/young-peoples-book-prize/2020/young-peoples-book-prize-2020-school-resources.pdf?la=en-GB&hash=C60177E270F96C175C78EBC20F86B435>

**Title:** Gut Garden

**Author:** Katie Brosnan

**ISBN:** 1908714727





A beautiful picture book which explores the water cycle. Charting the journey of water across the globe, readers are given a new found appreciation of just how wonderful a resource water really is.

### Science objective link:

#### Y4:

- observe that some materials change state when they are heated or cooled, and measure or research the temperature at which this happens in degrees Celsius ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- identify the part played by evaporation and condensation in the water cycle and associate the rate of evaporation with temperature

**Cross curricular links:** English, Art, Geography

**Science activity: Water cycle in a jar. Does a bigger jar allow evaporation to happen more quickly? Y4**

**Observation over time/Comparative and fair testing**

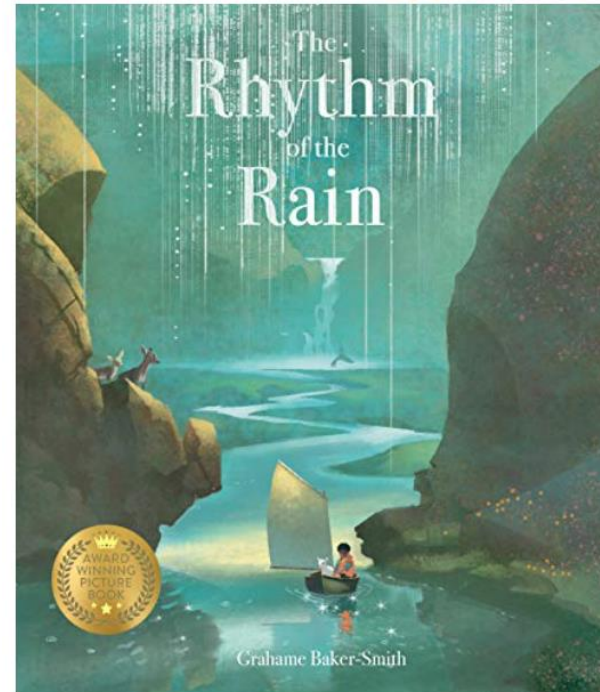
<https://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/make-it-rain/>

**Inspiration:** <https://www.mosps.hants.sch.uk/the-rhythm-of-the-rain/>

**Title: The Rhythm of the Rain**

**Author: Grahame Baker-Smith**

**ISBN 10:**  
9781787410152





A picture book detailing the life of Ernst Chladni, the father of acoustics. The story takes the reader to Germany where we discover Chladni meets Napoleon Bonaparte on his quest to raise funds to collaborate and share his research with other scientists across Europe.

**Science objective link:**

**Y4:** find patterns between the pitch of a sound and features of the object that produced it

**Cross curricular links:** History, Geography, Music, Art

**Science activity:** How can we change the sounds from our musical instrument? Y4 Pattern seeking e.g. length of string etc.

<https://www.exploratorium.edu/snacks/straw-oboe?fbclid=IwAR0rFtv9Bi76rbDrrDcREDD3REbyJaShkahW66X2IK6FRG5XW2lrbCkaiYo>

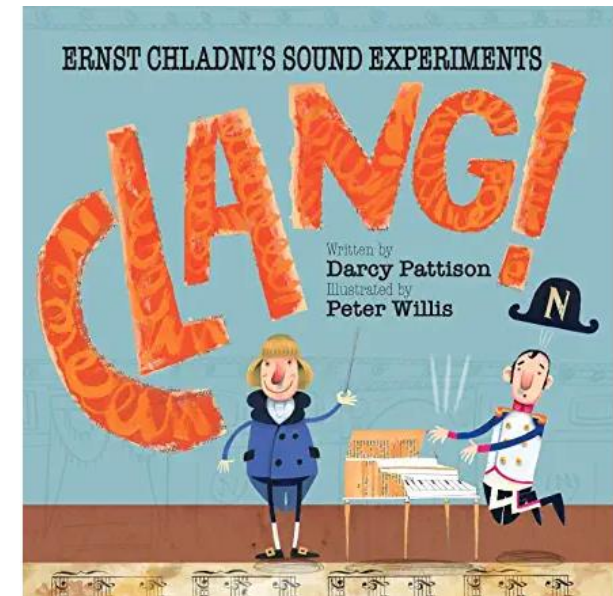
**Inspiration:** Make a variety of musical instruments

<https://redtri.com/homemade-instruments/slide/4>

**Title:** Clang!

**Author:** Darcy Pattison & Peter Willis

**ISBN 10:** 1629440949





A fiction text with an important message for any budding scientist. By the same author of *Ada Twist, Scientist*, Rosie dreams of being an engineer but has a fear of failure- can she overcome it? A fantastic text to use alongside any STEM project- especially with the forces topic in Y4.

**Science objective link:**

**Y3-4:** using results to draw simple conclusions, make predictions for new values, suggest improvements and raise further questions

**Cross curricular links:** History, Art, Geography

**Science activity:** Does a bigger cheesecopter make a better cheesecopter? Working scientifically/Pattern seeking

<https://www.andreabeaty.com/rosie-educational-resources.html>

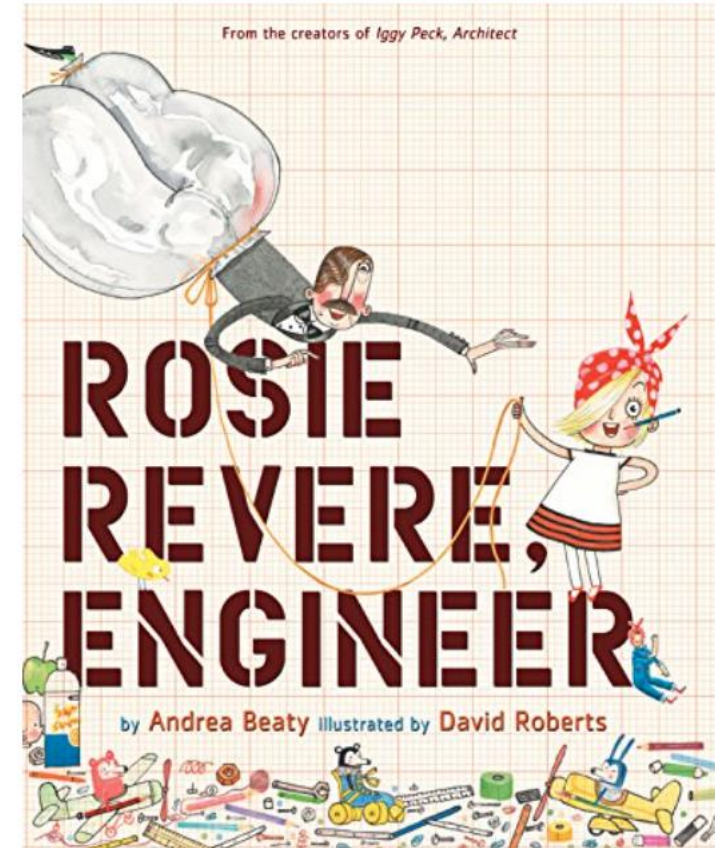
**Inspiration:**

<https://popgoesthepage.princeton.edu/everyones-an-engineer/>

**Title:** Rosie Revere, Engineer

**Author:** Andrea Beaty & David Roberts

**ISBN 10:** 1419708457





For more information and links to science literacy and vocab focused resources visit:

<https://seerih-innovations.org/just-good-stuff/science-for-reading/>

