National Literacy Trust

Change your story

Start Small; Dream Big

Primary careers pilot programme

Start Small; Dream Big

Careers book list



Careers booklists

This booklist, put together by the National Literacy Trust, focuses on lots of different jobs and includes a variety of engaging fiction and non-fiction books to suit children with a range of reading abilities and interests.
You can find a link to this booklist here:

https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/when-i-grow-book-list/



General careers

- 'What Do Grown-Ups Do All Day?' by Virginie Morgand
- 'Qubits and Quiver Trees: Awesome Careers of the Future' by Bryony Mathew
- 'When I Grow Up' by Benjamin Zephaniah
- 'Incredible Jobs You've (Probably) Never Heard Of' by Natalie Labarre
- 'What Jobs Could YOU Do?' by Catherine Barr
- 'When I Grow Up' by Jon Hales
- 'Usborne – Look Inside Jobs: 1' by Lara Bryan
- 'Have You Ever Wondered What You Will Be?' by Junia Wonders
- 'Little Explorers: When I Grow Up' by Dynamo Ltd
- 'When We Grow Up: A First Book of Jobs' by Melanie Walsh
- 'Spending Money (Money Box)' by Ben Hubbard
- 'The Story of Money' by Martin Jenkins
- 'Usborne – Managing Your Money' by Jane Bingham
- 'Usborne – Money for Beginners' by Matthew Oldham and Eddie Reynolds

Scientists

- 'Izzy Gizmo' by Pip Jones
- What Do Scientists Do All Day?' by Jane Wilsher
- 'A Scientist Like Me' by Dr Shini Somara
- 'Marie Curie and Her Daughters' by Imogen Greenberg
- 'Sisters in Science: Marie Curie, Bronia Dluska, and the Atomic Power of Sisterhood' by Linda Elovitz Marshall
- 'DK Life Stories Marie Curie' by Nell Walker
- 'Mario And The Hole In The Sky' by Elizabeth Rusch
- 'Queen of Physics: How Wu Chien Shiung Helped Unlock the Secrets of the Atom' by Teresa Robeson
- 'Never Give Up: Dr Kati Karikó and the Race for the Future of Vaccines' by Debbie Dadey
- 'DK Scientists' by Isabel Thomas

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Engineers

- ‘Engineers Making A Difference’ by Dr Shini Somara
- ‘An Engineer Like Me’ by Dr Shini Somara
- ‘Engineering for Curious Kids: An Illustrated Introduction to Design, Building, Problem Solving, Materials’ by Chris Oxlade
- ‘How Was that Built? by Roma Agrawal
- ‘Who Invented This? Smart People and Their Bright Ideas’ by Anne Ameri-Siemens
- ‘Otis And Will Discover The Deep’ by Barb Rosenstock
- ‘The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind’ by William Kamkwamba
- ‘Secret Engineer: How Emily Roebling Built the Brooklyn Bridge’ by Rachel Dougherty
- ‘The Girl With A Mind For Math: The Story of Raye Montague’ by Julia Finley Mosca
- ‘DK Inventors’ by Robert Winston
- ‘A Story of Inventions’ by Anna Claybourne
- ‘Leonora Bolt: Deep Sea Calamity’ by Lucy Brandt
- ‘Leonora Bolt: Secret inventor’ by Lucy Brandt
- ‘Someone Builds the Dream’ by Lisa Wheeler

Software engineers/computer scientists/mathematicians

- ‘Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain’ by Cheryle Bardoe
- ‘Hello Ruby: Adventures In Coding’ by Linda Liukas
- ‘Grace Hopper Queen Of Computer Code’ by Laurie Wallmark
- ‘Ada Lovelace Poet Of Science’ by Diane Stanley
- ‘Instructions Not Included: How a Team of Women Coded the Future’ by Tami Lewis Brown and Debbie Loren Dunn
- ‘A Mathematician Like Me’ by Dr Shini Somara
- ‘A Coder Like Me’ by Dr Shini Somara

Arts and music

- ‘Music: A Fold Out History’ by Nicholas O’Neill & Susan Hayes
- ‘Listen: How Evelyn Glennie, a Deaf Girl, Changed Percussion’ by Shannon Stocker
- ‘Ella, Queen of Jazz’ by Helen Hancocks
- ‘The Crayon Man: The True Story Of The Invention Of Crayola Crayons’ by Natascha Biebow and Steven Salerno
- ‘The Met – Georgia O'Keeffe: She Saw the World in a Flower (What The Artist Saw)’ by Gabrielle Balkan

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- ‘Henri's Scissors’ by Jeanette Winter
- ‘The Met – Faith Ringgold: Narrating the World in Pattern and Colour (What The Artist Saw)’ by Sharna Jackson
- ‘The Met – Louise Bourgeois: She Saw the World as a Textured Tapestry (What the Artist Saw)’ by Amy Guglielmo
- ‘Pocket Full of Colors: The Magical World of Mary Blair, Disney Artist Extraordinaire’ by Amy Guglielmo

Doctors, dentists and vets

- ‘How to be a Doctor’ by Dr Punam Krishan
- ‘How to be a Vet’ by Jess French
- ‘Danni Binns – Dazzling Dentist’ by Lisa Rajan
- ‘Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors? The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell’ by Tanya Lee Stone
- ‘Dr Jo: How Sara Josephine Baker Saved the Lives of America's Children’ by Monica Kulling
- ‘The Doctor with an Eye for Eyes: the Story of Dr Patricia Bath’ by Julia Finley Mosca

Sustainability

- ‘Seeds of Change: Wangari's Gift to the World’ by Jen Cullerton Johnson
- ‘We are Water Protectors’ by Carole Lindstrom
- ‘Iqbal and his Ingenious Idea’ by Elizabeth Suneby
- ‘Green City’ by Allan Drummond
- ‘Greta and the Giants’ by Zoe Tucker
- ‘Leonora Bolt: Eco Engineer’ by Lucy Brandt
- ‘The Extraordinary Gardener’ by Sam Broughton
- ‘The Mellons Build an Eco-House’ by Robin Jacobs

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