



## Children's non-fiction on environmental issues

*There are many non-fiction books available on the environment. These are just a few suggestions to get you going.*

### Key Stage 1

Frith, A & Allen, P(2010) **Rubbish and Recycling** Usborne ISBN: 1409507416 Usborne Publishing Ltd Offering information on rubbish and recycling, this flap book includes double page spreads on where rubbish comes from, how glass, metal, plastics and paper can be remade into new things and what happens to everything that isn't recycled.

Hachette Children's Books (2013) **Be An Eco Hero: At School** ISBN: 1445107171 Franklin Watts An introduction to environmental issues such as pollution, saving energy and recycling, set in a familiar environment.

Hachette Children's Books (2010) **Be An Eco Hero: On the Move** ISBN: 0749693371 Franklin Watts Find out how you can be an eco hero on the move! Learn why we should cut down using fossil fuels, how to be an eco shopper and all about the best ways to get around. This colourful book features large photographs and engaging superhero characters.

Manning, M & Granström, B (2014) **Wonderwise: What If?: A book about recycling** ISBN: 1445128977 Franklin Watts What happens to an empty bottle? It can be left on the ground where it might become a trap for small animals, or smashed into dangerous pieces of sharp glass. But what if the bottle was put into a recycling bin...? What if you had an empty bottle? What would you do with it? The Wonderwise series presents facts in a way that will inspire young children's imaginations about the world around them.

### Key Stage 2

Bowden R. (2003) **Sustainable World: Transport** ISBN: ISBN-10: 0750239867 This book explains how transport must change and evolve in the future. Many countries and individuals are now choosing to create more sustainable transport: that is, transport that does not cause harm to others or to the environment, both now and in the future. It looks at current developments in transport design and use that could make it more sustainable.

Hewitt, S (2010) **Starting Geography: Transport** ISBN-10: 0749689048 Learn about science through an exciting combination of information and step-by-step activities including a chapter on planet-friendly travel.

Manning, M & Granström, B (2014) **Wonderwise: What If?: A book about recycling** ISBN: 1445128977 Franklin Watts What happens to an empty bottle? It can be left on the ground where it might become a trap for small animals, or smashed into dangerous pieces of sharp glass. But what if the bottle was put into a recycling bin...? What if you had an empty bottle? What would you do with it? Facts presented to inspire young children's imaginations.

Royston, A (2008) **Travel of the Future (Eco-action)** ISBN-10: 043102992X "Eco-Action" looks at the new technologies that will help to save our way of life on the planet, with a particular focus on reducing dependency on fossil fuels and output of carbon dioxide. This title looks at pros and cons of alternative energies and lifestyle choices so students can make up their own minds. (KS2)

Senker, C. (2009) **How Can We Save Our World? Sustainable Transport** Franklin Watts ISBN: 0749682140 This series examines the environmental damage caused by modern life and discusses ways in which society can progress towards a more sustainable future.



## Children's fiction on environmental issues: Key Stage 1 & 2

*These books can be used as part of literacy work as well as science. The story and text can be used with young children, while older pupils can study the books with a view to using them as a model to write their own version.*

Anholt, A (2002) **Seriously Silly Stories: Ecowolf and The Three Pigs** Laurence & Robins ISBN: 1841213942 Eco-Wolf knows it's important to give Mother Nature RESPECT. Unlike the three big bad pigs, and their pesky polluting plans... KS1

Inches, A & Garofoli, V (2008) **I Can Save the Earth!: One Little Monster Learns to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** Little Green Books ISBN: 1416967893 I Can Save the Earth! Max is a little monster who likes to litter and never, ever recycles. Then the electricity goes out and he sees how exciting and beautiful the Earth is, and that it will need his help to stay that way. KS1

Readman, Dr J & Honor Roberts, L (2006) **George Saves The World By Lunchtime** Eden Project Books ISBN: 1903919509 George is determined to save the world by lunchtime, but he's not quite sure how. Grandpa suggests they start by recycling the yoghurt pot from his breakfast, putting his banana peel in the compost pile, and hanging the washing to dry in the sun. A bike trip to the recycling bank, charity shop and local farmers' market show how recycling and re-using materials, and using less petrol and local produce can really help save the world. George even gets a favourite toy fixed! KS1

Hempel, LK & Dotson, K (2005) **Have Fries, Will Travell!**: The Adventures of a Veggie-Powered Car and an Eco-Rap Star ISBN: 0865715491 is an adventure story for children of all ages. It features 'Rock', an eco-rap singer, who buys 'Tiny', a smelly diesel car, at a used car lot. Rock converts Tiny to run on biodiesel, usually made from soybean oil. Soon, Tiny is powered by biodiesel, his exhaust smelling like yummy French fries. The two set off on a road trip to encourage others to use biodiesel in their cars and to meet Senator Slade Twist in Washington DC. KS2

Burningham J. (1991) **Oi! Get off our Train** Red Fox ISBN: 009985340X A little boy goes to bed and dreams of going on his toy train. Each time the train stops another endangered animal climbs on board having explained why it must leave its own habitat. The elephant wants a ride because someone wants to cut off its tusks, the stork because the marshland is being drained, and so on. KS1&2

Burningham J. (1999) **Whatdayamean** Jonathan Cape ISBN: 0099266687 is a story that encourages children to use their imagination and believe that they too can 'make a difference'. The story starts when God returns to the beautiful Earth we have misused and two small children are instructed to find a way of bringing people to their senses. KS1

Baker J. (2002) **Window** Walker Books ISBN: 0744594863 At the beginning a mother and baby look through a window at a view of wilderness. With each page, the boy grows and the scene changes. By the time the boy is twenty, the village has developed into a city. There is no narrative, the story is told using detailed collage constructions. KS1&2

Baker J. (1989) **Where the Forest Meets the Sea** Walker Books ISBN: 0744513057 This book is illustrated by excellent life-like collages. It raises issues about the environment, conservation, and responsibilities for the future. A boy travels with his father to a tropical rain forest. He imagines the forest as it might have been in the past, with now-extinct creatures and aboriginal children inhabiting it. How much longer, the boy wonders, will the forest remain? It is available in both standard and big book formats making it very accessible to children across KS1&2

# English



Curry J. (1990) **The Last Rabbit** Mammoth ISBN 0749702524. Poems about environmental issues written by poets and children from 5 years old. KS1&2

Durrant A. (2004) **Angus Rides and Goods Train** Corgi ISBN: 0552548898: When the goods train, laden with milk, honey, and rice, speeds away across land and sea, Angus is full of excitement as he stands beside the driver but has to decide what to do when the train wont stop for those who are hungry and thirsty. KS1&2

Foreman M. (1993) **Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish** Puffin ISBN: 014055260X One day, when man had set out for a distant star, the dinosaurs come back to life and tidy up the barren wastes he had left behind him. Man is only allowed back when he agrees that the earth should be shared and enjoyed by everyone. KS1&2

Hedderwick M (1993) **Katie Morag and the New Pier** Red Fox ISBN: 0099220822 This book examines conflicts of interest that arise in a community about the building of a new pier. The book explores the different points of view of those involved including planners, businesses and residents, young and old. KS1&2

Keeping C. (1989) **Adam & Paradise Island** Oxford ISBN 0192798421 tells how Adam and his friends fight their local council in order to stop them from knocking down the old shops and warehouses on Paradise Island to build a motorway. KS2

Snell G. (1996) **Lottie's Letter** Orion ISBN: 1858811872 Lottie and Max are so incensed by the damage done to animals by people and pollution that they decide to send a letter of protest to the Queen of the World. The letter is signed and delivered by all the animals, with paw-marks, claw-marks, wing-marks, sting-marks, scale-marks, tail-marks, leg-marks and even egg-marks. KS1&2

Trivizas E. (1993) **The 3 Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig** Puffin 1860210414 The big bad pig comes along and when huffing and puffing fails to work, he uses a sledgehammer to bring the house down. Next the wolves build a home of concrete. The pig demolishes it with his pneumatic drill. The three little wolves erect a house made of steel, barbed wire armour plates and video entry system, but the pig blows it up with dynamite. It is only when the wolves construct a fragile house made of flowers that the pig pauses to smell the lovely scent and has a change of heart. KS1&2

With thanks for input from: Resources to Support Citizenship and Sustainability Key Stages 1-4, Tina Jarvis, University of Leicester. Accessed from [http://www.ase.org.uk/sci-tutors/professional\\_issues/](http://www.ase.org.uk/sci-tutors/professional_issues/) date created Aug 2004