

Where and when:

Date: 11:00 on Thursday 5 March 2026

Duration: 30 minutes

Location: bbc.co.uk/livelessons

This programme is available to view from home or school, and no sign-up is required.

Simply visit the website on the day and follow the instructions on the page to watch.



Curriculum links for 7-11 year olds:

National Curriculum, England – Key Stage 2 – English

Northern Ireland Curriculum – Key Stage 1 and 2 – Language and Literacy

Curriculum for Excellence, Scotland – 1st and 2nd Level – Literacy and English

Curriculum for Wales – Progression steps 2 and 3 – Languages, Literacy and Communication

Key learning objectives:

- Understand that people enjoy reading in different ways and for different reasons.
- Explore a range of book types and genres.
- Reflect on our own reading preferences and interests.
- Feel confident identifying ourselves as readers and know what reading materials we would like to read next.

Setup:

This Live Lesson can be watched on Thursday 5 March 2026 live at 11:00 on the [Live Lessons website](https://bbc.co.uk/livelessons) and on CBBC/BBC iPlayer. It will remain online afterwards to be used as a teaching resource whenever you need it. We will be running a live commentary page during the broadcast for teachers, parents and carers to share contributions from children watching at home and at school. Email live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or [click here](#) to get in touch.

New resources for 2025/2026

- **Mission Pack:** A collection of challenges for children to work on during the lesson. The pack can be printed easily and folded into booklet form. Digital versions are also provided, or children can use their own paper/notebooks.
- **Mission Poster:** During each lesson, to support adaptive teaching strategies, an illustrator will capture the main learning points in a poster. This will be available as an extra resource to download after the lesson and display in your classroom.

- **Live Lessons Song:** This lesson will include a catchy song to recap key learning. This will be published as an extra resource on the website after the lesson.

Lesson content

In this Live Lesson, developed in partnership with [World Book Day](#), your class are invited on an exciting journey to a reading-themed party, where we'll explore different types of books and discover how books act like all-access travel passes, taking us to a rich variety of destinations.

During the lesson we'll visit three different stops (challenges) that encourage us to talk and learn about how we all have different reading preferences. Pupils are encouraged to find their unique "reading vibes" and to think about the types of books and reading materials they enjoy most.

By the end of the lesson, pupils will have explored their own reading journeys and know how to continue them.

Challenge 1: My Reading Passport

Key learning objective: Understand that people enjoy reading in different ways and for different reasons.

Through an interactive game of charades, we learn that there are many different reasons to read and lots of different reading vibes to have, for example reading as an explorer, a thinker, an escapist, a creator or purely just for comfort. We also learn that your reading vibe can simply change with your mood, or with how you want to feel in a particular moment.

For challenge 1, using their Reading Passport in the Mission Pack, pupils are encouraged to reflect on how they like to read, when they like to read and where they like to read, to help them discover more about their preferred reading vibes.

Challenge 2: Pack your bag

Key learning objective: Reading can make us feel different emotions or moods.

In this section, pupils imagine they are packing a bag for their reading journey. Each item represents how they want their next read to make them feel, for example excited, calm, curious, amused, brave or scared.

To complete Challenge 2, children draw pictures, emojis or write words for the items in their bag, linking emotions to reading choices.

Challenge 3: Plan your route

Key learning objective: Exploring different book types and genres helps us discover what we enjoy reading and encourages us to think about books we might try next.

Using a Reading Journey Map, pupils plan a route to the final destination (our 'Big Book Bash') by circling genre 'stops', such as fantasy forest, mystery mountains, poetry pond, graphic novel garage and laugh-out-loud land. The map includes space for pupils to add their own interests and think about detours on their journey too.

Final Challenge

As a follow-up activity, children are encouraged to think further about the books they have enjoyed and the books they think they might like to read next, plus make a note of the books that they feel aren't for them at the moment. A simple 'traffic light' sheet allows pupils to easily make a note of their choices. This can be found in the Mission Pack:

- green - 'books I've really enjoyed'
- amber - 'books I'd like to try next'
- red - 'books that aren't for me right now'
- 💡 Your traffic lights can change as you grow older (or even when you wake up tomorrow morning, if you like). Red doesn't mean bad, it just means it's not what you enjoy at the moment.

Mission Pack

Download the Mission Pack in preparation for the Live Lesson. There are 3 versions available. Choose the option which best suits your needs.

- [**Digital pack**](#)
Designed to be opened and edited using a tablet. Pupils will be able to type in text boxes and use the pen tool to draw.
- [**Printable booklet**](#)
To be printed double-sided on 2 sheets of A4 paper. Fold in half to create A5 booklet. Pages are numbered and should run from 1 to 8 when one sheet is placed inside the other. Designed to support black-and-white printing.
- [**Printable A4 sheets**](#)
Best option if no double-sided printing capacity. Designed to support black-and-white printing.

Note, pupils are still able to participate without access to the Mission Packs. All instructions will be on screen. We recommend that pupils have a notebook and pen or pencil to hand.

Pre-lesson activity ideas:

- **Class discussion:** what does reading mean to you? Consider all the times you find yourself reading something throughout your whole day, from when you wake up, all the way to when you go to bed.
- **Book talk:** share your current favourite book recommendations with each other.
- **School reading audit:** find out more about your classes favourite places and times to read in school and at home. Ask for their opinions and then seek their help to celebrate and lean further into their answers as a school community.

Follow-up activity ideas:

- **Download our follow-up resources:** Keep the learning going after the lesson with a downloadable poster that sums up the key learning and a catchy song your class can revisit for extra inspiration. These will be available [on this page](#) after the lesson.
- **Reorganise the class book corner by genre or reading vibe:** organise books helpfully based on genres and reading materials identified as popular by your class during the lesson.
- **Class discussion:** discuss and take note of pupils' interests to help them find books to read and to help guide school book stock decisions moving forwards.
- **Create class book reviews linked to journey stops:** collectively create book recommendations and reviews for the most popular stops identified by your class in challenge 3. Help children identify and explore further their preferences by discussing with them which recommended book they might like to try next.
- **Act it out:** Take turns acting out your preferred reading vibes to a friend. See if they can guess which you've chosen!