

101 Things to do indoors



This resource is brought to you by [Read Manchester](#), a campaign to inspire a love for reading across the city. Everything in this document is free to access and will encourage children to explore a range of activities and discover diverse authors and creators.



We'd love to see your family getting involved, so please send any pictures to rosa.methol@manchester.gov.uk and we may share them on our Facebook page.

Making

- Watch this [how-to video](#) and make your own mini book
- Write a recipe for your favourite meal and then make it with a grownup. Use our Great British Bake off [resource](#) for inspiration.
- Put a [teddy bear in your window](#) to start a Bear Hunt in your neighbourhood
- Build a [wellbeing box](#) full of positive messages and your favourite items
- Create a multimedia book using the [Book Creator app](#)
- Capture your dreams for The BFG by taking part in our [Roald Dahl challenge](#)
- Draw your own comic strip on the [Words for Life](#) website
- Make a postcard to send to a friend you haven't seen for a while - don't forget to include their address!
- Cut out words from a magazine and use them to make a story
- Paint and hide a [kindness rock](#) to spread positivity in your community
- Learn [how to make a puppet](#) Blue Peter style!

Writing

- Write a [thank you letter](#) for your teacher
- Make up some nonsense words and give them definitions - [Simon Mole](#) can help!
- Watch [this tutorial](#) and then write your own acrostic poem using your favourite word
- Become a [Story Explorer](#) and write a visitors guide, or draw a map, based on your favourite story setting
- Write a book review of a title from the Read Manchester and TfGM's [Reading Map](#)
- Watch [this video](#) and then try to write your own jokes
- Learn to write in a [secret code](#)
- Follow [Rick Riordan's 5 steps](#) to recreate an ancient myth or legend

20. Write a story inspired **by a picture**
21. Make friends in lockdown with **#MyDearNewFriend**
22. Write **a recipe** for a wizard's magic potion
23. Take part **in poetry workshops** with Paul Cookson
24. Learn how to **write a Limerick** using a cup
25. Write a **thank you letter** to a key worker
26. Think of three things that made you happy every day for a week and write them down in our **rainbow diary**



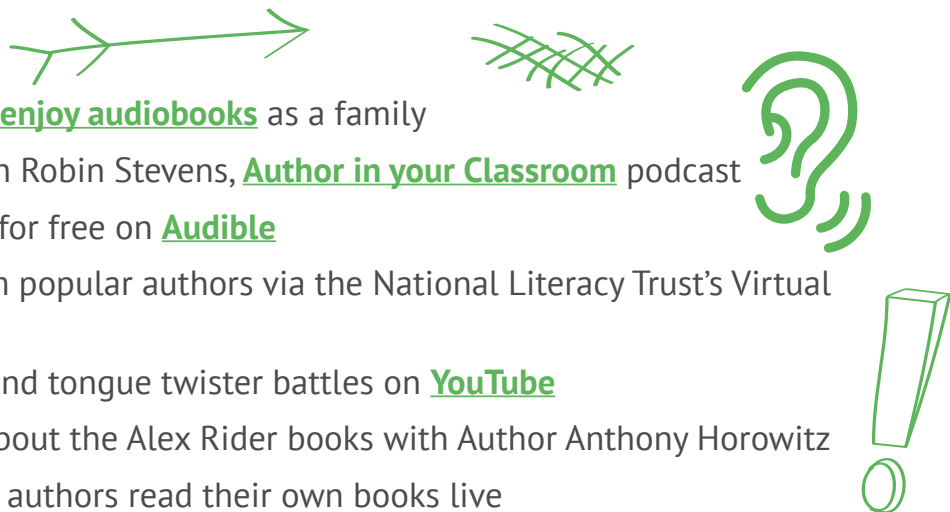
Reading

27. Explore the **Author of the week** on Family Zone and have a go at the resources
28. Choose a book to read from our **Black Lives Matter** reading list
29. Start a reading diary - you can download **this** Matilda one full of Roald Dahl quotes!
30. Download a free ebook from **Oxford Owls**
31. Ask your Grandparents or a family friend to read you a bedtime story on Skype
32. Read a book by an author you haven't heard of before
33. Join your local Manchester library **here**
34. Learn **how to decode** Ancient Egyptian documents
35. Read an autobiography or a book about a **real person**
36. Read **The Book of Hopes**, edited by Katherine Rundell exclusively for the National Literacy Trust
37. When football meets books! Read **The Kick Off**, by Dan Freedman for free on the National Literacy Trust website
38. Bring popular books and stories to life with our **Young Readers at home programme**
39. Download the **Reading Miles Global Challenge**
40. Learn more about lockdown by reading **Coronavirus: a book for children** by Elizabeth Jenner



Listening

41. Discover the best ways to **enjoy audiobooks** as a family
42. Plotting and planning with Robin Stevens, **Author in your Classroom** podcast
43. Listen to children's books for free on **Audible**
44. Get **a free audio book** from popular authors via the National Literacy Trust's Virtual School Library
45. Try some vocal warmups and tongue twister battles on **YouTube**
46. Listen to a **Q&A session** about the Alex Rider books with Author Anthony Horowitz
47. Enjoy **Puffin Story Time** as authors read their own books live

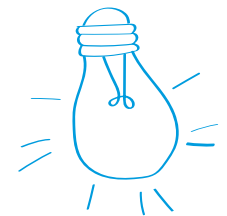
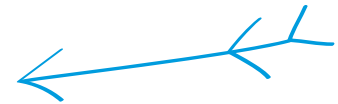


- 48. Listen to [The Railway Children by Edith Nesbit](#) for free on your podcast app
- 49. Humza Arshad presents [Puffin Podcast](#) with the gang
- 50. Enjoy some [dub poetry](#) by Benjamin Zephaniah
- 51. Learn the [adjective song](#) and then download the lyrics
- 52. Discover [Tata time](#), a new online kids show featuring authors from African, Caribbean and African American heritage



Watching

- 53. Explore the [Manchester Libraries YouTube channel](#)
- 54. Watch [Why Black Lives Matter](#) with Ellis Fearon (and watch other TedxYouth talks too)
- 55. Take part in a lesson with [MC Grammar](#)
- 56. Watch filmmaker Taiki Waititi read [James and The Giant Peach](#) with some of his famous friends!
- 57. Watch Blue Peter presenters [give a message about racism](#)
- 58. Learn to doodle with [The Doodle Boy](#)
- 59. Watch this [Malorie Blackman interview](#) about diversity and resilience
- 60. [Watch this video](#) of author Andy Seed reading his book Interview with a Tiger
- 61. Watch Nathan Bryon read [Look Up!](#) with Puffin Storytime
- 62. Draw Donny Dog by following [this](#) tutorial video
- 63. Tune in to an [exclusive video](#) with Greg James and Chris Smith to learn how to create your own superhero
- 64. Explore the [Pop'n'Olly YouTube channel](#) to learn about equality, diversity, and LGBT+ history
- 65. Watch [Charlie and the Chocolate Factory](#) read in British Sign Language
- 66. Explore [kids' poems and stories with Michael Rosen](#)
- 67. Watch [Hannah Lee](#) talk about her book My Hair
- 68. Learn how to draw story characters with local illustrator [Liz Million](#)
- 69. Have you ever wanted to write a story but felt stuck for ideas? Watch [these top tips](#) from Katherine Rundell



Researching

- 70. Like [Read Manchester on Facebook](#) to be the first to hear about fun activities
- 71. Discover Manchester's History on [a 3D tour](#) of the Family Friendly Galleries at the People's History Museum and read their displays
- 72. Interview a Grandparent or relative over the phone. Ask them about their lives and watch [this video](#) for interview tips
- 73. Use our [NewsWise at Home kit](#) to help identify real and fake news articles



74. Complete our [Feelings about news](#) worksheet
75. Learn some simple phrases in a [different language](#)
76. Use [Simple English Wikipedia](#) to research your favourite animal & make a project
77. Discover children's activities on the [British Library](#) website
78. Take part in a [BBC Bitesize](#) daily lesson
79. Explore [Words for Life](#) to try something new
80. Find out about different workplaces and careers with our [Words for Work](#) resources
81. Learn [how to spell your name](#) in British Sign Language
82. Find out about the [Literacy Shed](#)
83. Ask a grownup to download the [myHappyMind](#) app to help you learn about emotions
84. Have a look at [Barrington Stoke](#) for some dyslexic-friendly resources
85. Watch [videos with Onjali Q. Raúf](#), author of *Boy at the Back of the Class*, to find out how you can help refugees

Challenges and competitions

86. Read about Connectedness Through Comics and [complete the exercises](#) in response to the strips
87. Become an intrepid explorer and play [Crystal Explorers](#) on BBC Bitesize
88. Explore [The Great Indoors](#) with Scouts for lots of fun challenges you can do at home
89. Unlock [skills videos](#) to learn freestyle football tricks, beatboxing, and breakdancing
90. Download Scrabble on a device and play against a friend or family member
91. Access [Harry Potter at Home](#) and complete the magical puzzles and quizzes
97. Take part in the [Great Copyright Hunt](#)
93. Take part in the [Summer Reading challenge](#)
94. Choose a mood-boosting book to read from the Shelf Help collection, and borrow it from Manchester Libraries using the links in this [blog post](#)
94. Explore the [courses on offer](#) from Manchester Adult Education
96. Have a go at our [Where's Wally activity pack](#)
96. Take the Premier League's [Create a Character](#) challenge
98. Try the [Premier Stars](#) poetry writing challenge
99. Check out these [10 minute challenge videos](#) from best selling authors
100. Take part in the [Happy News challenge](#)
101. **Take a photo completing one of our 'things' on the list and we might share it on the [Read Manchester Facebook page](#) for Share Saturday!**