

lead you on an adventure of discovery through some of the most fascinating things in our world. For example did you know that at this moment there are 2 billion people sleeping?

**Pop Up Facts – Human Body** by Richard Dungworth  
*Templar ISBN 9781840117202*

Science can be wonderful in so many ways but when it is displayed in such an exciting, clever way there can be no doubt that it can just jump off the page at you. In this book the facts really do jump off the page and from the outset you are dragged into the fascinating world of the human body. Whether you're interested in the intestines and the digestive system or how the heart pumps blood through your veins this book has it all.

**Really Really Big Questions** by Dr Stephen Law,  
illustrated by Nishant Choksi  
*Kingfisher ISBN 9780753417812*

Have you ever wondered about the really big questions in life? If so this is definitely the book for you. Packed with 100 of life's important but unanswered questions the book explores the answers in an unusual and fun way. Split into 4 comprehensive sections including The Great Big Universe Puzzle and The Good the Bad and the Ugly.

**Science: Sorted! Evolution, Nature and Stuff** by Glenn Murphy  
*Macmillan ISBN 9780330508940*

Evolution is reflected as a time line explaining exactly how we have got to where we are and the reasons for it. It is like a diagram of every living thing, a map that helps you understand, for example, the extraordinary links between poodles and polar bears.

**The Story of Britain** by Patrick Dillon, illustrated by Martha Dillon  
*Walker ISBN 9781406311921*

This wonderfully produced book chronicles the story of two islands, Britain and Ireland, and all the people that have lived there. So whether you're after a bit of information on the Magna Carta or perhaps The Great Fire of London then The Story of Britain has it all.

**Talk, Talk, Squawk!: How and Why Animals Communicate**  
by Nicola Morgan, illustrated by Neal Layton  
*Walker ISBN 9781406321180*

Have you ever thought what animals get up to when humans aren't paying them any attention? Well according to this book the answer is simple, they talk to each other! This book gives you the low down on all sorts of animals and how they communicate. So whether its the territorial dog, the wise old elephant or the monkey bearing a grudge this book looks at all the different ways animals talk to each other and communicate.

**Totally Bizarre!: Ripley's Believe it or Not** by Sheri Bell-Rehwooldt  
*Miles Kelly ISBN 9781893951303*

Ripley has cornered the market in the most strange, bizarre and down right weird facts. This book is the accumulation of some of the strangest and weirdest of all on nearly any subject you can think of. The thing that makes this book the weirdest and most bizarre is that if you can believe it, all the stories and facts are completely true!

**Warrior vs Warrior** by Hannah Wilson  
*Kingfisher ISBN 9780753419083*

Throughout history there have been warriors that have stood out for their ferocious fighting styles. Whether they be the famous Japanese Samurai or the formidable Gladiator, each deserves their place in the history of



ultimate fighters. But... which one can truly be called the greatest? This book pits all the different warriors against one another to find out the best fighter throughout history.

**What's the Point of being Green?** by Jacqui Bailey,  
illustrated by Jan McCafferty  
*Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749693176*

Being green is one of the most important things we need to think about in creating a sustainable world for future generations to live in. This book takes a look at the issues surrounding being green, and will entertain even the most reluctant reader. It is also packed with eco tips, cartoons and quizzes.

**Who am I?** by Anthony Adolph  
*Quercus ISBN 9781847245090*

Have you ever wondered where you came from and who your relatives were? This book is packed with facts, history and activities that will inspire you to create your own family tree and discover all about your relatives. Remember, to know where you're going you have to know where you've been!

**Why Eating Bogeys is Good for you** by Mitchell Symons  
*Red Fox ISBN 9781862301849*

This book contains an accumulation of some of the most fabulous facts ever thought of from why the sky is blue to whether there is any cream in cream crackers. Mitchell Symons makes the world of trivia fascinating!

**The Worst Jobs in History** by Tony Robinson  
*Pan Macmillan ISBN 978-0330438575*

Can you imagine some of the worst imaginable jobs throughout history? What about collecting human waste for gunpowder or being on board HMS Victory where you would most likely end up with cannonballs in your hammock being pushed overboard? Tony Robinson tells us about those jobs you'd rather not think about let alone do, from Roman times to Queen Victoria.

**Wow!: The Visual Encyclopaedia of Everything** by Dorling Kindersley  
*Dorling Kindersley ISBN 9781405322485*

Dorling Kindersley has produced one of the best visually stunning information books that will have you pouring over the pictures for hours. This isn't just an encyclopaedia but a piece of art that entertains and educates along the way.



The Federation strives to bring children and books together for enjoyment and fun. For more information and copies of our other booklists, contact the Federation at:

2 Bridge Wood View, Horsforth, Leeds, West Yorkshire LS18 5PE  
Tel: 0113 2588910 E: [info@fcbg.org.uk](mailto:info@fcbg.org.uk) Web: [www.fcbg.org.uk](http://www.fcbg.org.uk)

We would like to thank the following for their financial assistance in the production of this booklist  
The White Horse Bookshop, Marlborough, Wilts  
Victoria Park Books, Hackney, London  
Aldbourne Children's Book Group

Illustration © 2011 Neal Layton

From TALK, TALK, SQUAWK! by Nicola Davies & illustrated by Neal Layton  
Reproduced by permission of Walker Books Ltd, London SE11 5HJ  
[www.walker.co.uk](http://www.walker.co.uk)



**The Federation of Children's Book Groups**  
Registered Charity No. 268289

**“It's A Fact”**



Compiled by Adam Lancaster for  
The Federation of Children's Book Groups

From TALK, TALK, SQUAWK! by Nicola Davies  
& illustrated by Neal Layton  
Reproduced by permission of Walker Books Ltd



Non Fiction has always been seen as a poor relation to fiction books, never quite getting the attention it deserves. Even its name hinders it leading us to believe it is somehow less in every department compared to other types of books. This, however, couldn't be further from the truth. Non Fiction provides us with some of the best stories and characters throughout time, sometimes more amazing than fiction books because they are entirely true. Non Fiction books also provide us with just as much pleasure and enjoyment than any other type of books, something that is quite often overlooked. We are living in a golden age of children's books and children's non fiction shines just as bright.

Through National Non-Fiction Day the Federation of Children's Book Groups aims to show just how fun and exciting non fiction books can be and this list, although not exhaustive, is a guide to help you discover some of the most interesting facts and stories ever written. We hope you will use it as a guide to open the door to a fascinating world of facts at your fingertips.

## Adam Lancaster

**2nd Book of Know How (Usborne Know-how)** by Struan Reid (ed)  
*Usborne ISBN 9781409505020*

This book is a whole collection of projects with loads of activities to make and do. If you've ever fancied yourself as a games maker or dabble in the sciences then this book sets out a whole host of things to do with easy to follow guides. So whether you want to build a spycraft or have some fun with paper this book provides you with a 'one stop shop.'

**A Really Short History of Nearly Everything** by Bill Bryson  
*Corgi ISBN 9780552562966*

Covering a large amount of information from the wonders of time and space to accidental discoveries, this book sets topics out in such a way that you actually understand them. For instance after reading the section on astro-physics you actually come away knowing more and not feeling utterly confused.

**Bad Kids: The Worst Behaved Children in History** by Tony Robinson  
*Macmillan's ISBN 9780230737877*

You think being a kid nowadays is bad? Well if that's the case then maybe just having a browse over this book will change your opinion completely. If

you think writing lines is one of the worst punishments you could think of then spare a thought for those children who used to get beaten or have their ears nailed to a pillory.

**Beastly Body Experiments (Horrible Science)** by Nick Arnold, illustrated by Dave Smith  
*Scholastic ISBN 9781407112152*

This book is described as being about 'experiments with the squishy bits left in' which is a little bit of an understatement. Anyone of a nervous or squeamish disposition should definitely not look at this book, for everyone else though this has some of the best experiments that you can think of including popping eyeballs and an experiment to make shrunken heads. You will definitely come away knowing more about how your body works after reading this book.

**The Blitz, A Very Peculiar History** by David Arscott  
*Salariya ISBN 9781907184185*

If you've ever wanted to know about the Blitz but had a thirst for strange tid-bits and knowledge then this is the book for you. Not just dealing with the usual facts it also answers some of the weirder questions such as 'Were German paratroopers really dropped disguised as nuns?'

**The Book of...Why** by Various  
*Kingfisher ISBN 9780753419571*

This book is great for any inquisitive child. If you've ever had such weird and wonderful questions such as why your legs look shorter under water, or why football was once banned, this book has the answer.

**The Boys' Book of Adventure** by Steve Martin  
*Buster Books ISBN 9781906082871*

The Boys' Book of Adventure is jam packed with all the kinds of information any boy needs about survival. Whether you want to read it in one sitting or keep coming back for more this is a great fun book for any boys looking to substitute their TV's and computers for something a little more exciting.

**Cool Stuff Exploded** by Chris Woodford  
*Dorling Kindersley ISBN 9781405318778*

If you've ever wondered how some of the most up-to-date technologies actually function this is the book for you. Jammed with all sorts of information, this book boasts it 'explores, explains and explodes' modern technology.

**Creepy-crawlies (Henry's House)** by Philip Ardagh,  
illustrated by Mike Gordon

*Scholastic ISBN 9781407107189*

In Henry's House there is a whole world of fascinating things that could happen. In this book Henry and caretaker Jaggars discover all about creepy-crawlies. The more Henry finds out the more we do until there is nothing we don't know about these little creatures.

**Do Try This At Home!** by Punk Science  
*Macmillan ISBN 9780330508063*

This is one of the most comprehensive guides to exploring the wonderful world of science in your own home. You can do all types of experiments set out in full colour, with jokes, facts and ideas interspersed with fascinating projects.

**The Girls' Book: How to Be the Best at Everything** by Juliana Foster  
*Buster Books ISBN 9781905158799*

This is certainly a book that no girl should be without. Instead of switching on your TV or sitting down at your computer, this book will make you get up and experience the world. Filled with all types of must have information, it will make sure that girls really are the best at everything!

**How Nearly Everything Was Invented by the Brainwaves**  
by Ralph Lazar

*Dorling Kindersley ISBN 9781405329781*

Through this book you will see how over 300 of the world's most important inventions came about. With hilarious characters, the brainwaves, as a guide, you learn how these inventions have changed and shaped the world we live in.

**How the World Works** by Christiane Dorion, illustrated by Beverley Young  
*Templar ISBN 9781848771895*

This brilliantly interactive book gives a great insight to all the fascinating things that makes our world work. From pull outs, pop ups and some amazing pictures this is a treasure trove of information produced in a fun, exciting way.

**Insiders Alive – Earthquakes and Volcanoes** by Anita Ganeri  
*Templar ISBN 9781840117486*

When books are tactile and have interesting pull-outs and pop-ups it makes the subject they are talking about literally jump off the page and into our imaginations. The Insiders Alive series is a great example of this and especially the Earthquake and Volcanoes title. If you've ever imagined what an erupting volcano looks like then upon opening the pages of this book you will be immediately contented in the knowledge of understanding this wonderful and violent act of nature.

**The Life and Times of William Shakespeare** by Ari Berk  
*Templar ISBN 9781840111583*

This is isn't just a beautifully produced book all about William Shakespeare it is much, much more than that. If you've ever been interested in one of history's greatest ever writers this book set outs his life, his plays and everything else in between. From the moment you pick up this book you are transported back to Shakespearian times and with delightful pull-outs and illustrations this is a great place to learn all about the man and his work.

**The Murderous Maths of Everything** by Kjartan Poskitt,  
illustrated by Rob Davis

*Scholastic ISBN 9781407103679*

Anyone who has an interest in numbers of any kind will love this book. If you ever thought maths lacked that certain humour then Kjartan Poskitt provides buckets full in this book. You will never look at algebra or numbers in the same light!

**National Geographic Kids Infopedia** by National Geographical  
*National Geographic Society ISBN 9781426307973*

The Kids Infopedia from National Geographic is a 'one stop shop' for fun packed information. Covering subjects such as Amazing Animals to History Happens and everything in between, there is something for absolutely everyone in this book. If you want facts this is a must to read!

**Physics: Why Matter Matters** by Dan Green, illustrated by Simon Basher  
*Kingfisher ISBN 9780753416822*

Science should definitely be one of the most amazing and fascinating subjects to read about. It is the glue that holds our world together and through this series Dan Green reignites our passion for science making it accessible to everyone.

**Pick Me Up: Stuff You Need to Know...** by Jeremy Leslie  
*Dorling Kindersley ISBN 9781405332682*

Probably one of the most random encyclopaedias ever but also one of the most interesting. Although titled Pick Me Up you will have trouble putting it down as you flit from one amazing fact to another. In its own unique way it will