



Salford Schools' Library Service

SCHOOLS' BULLETIN

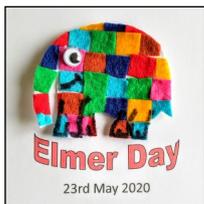
18th May 2020: Welcome to our latest bulletin. The Schools' Library Service is currently closed but our staff are working from home. We have been thinking about new ways to support schools during these unusual times. If you have any questions or need to find resources for schools, pupils, parents or home educators, we may be able to help! Contact us by e-mail: Schools.Library-Service@scll.co.uk or visit our website: www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk/libraries/sls to see previous bulletins and other useful resources/booklists.

Make life brighter with Elmer

David McKee's character celebrates online on 23rd May.

Elmer Day is being celebrated online this year on Saturday 23rd May. Download a free [2020 Elmer Day 2020 Activity Pack](#), full of home learning activities suitable for EY/KS1/KS2 children and parents/carers. More activities, simple Makaton sign language for 2 Elmer stories and teachers' notes (designed in partnership with [CLPE](#)) for FS/KS1/KS2 are available on the [activities page of elmer.co.uk](#).

Watch David McKee read *Elmer the Patchwork Elephant* on the [Andersen Press YouTube channel](#), where children can also watch/join in/sing the "[Be a Rainbow](#)" song from the "[Elmer the Patchwork Elephant](#)" stage show.



Read about David McKee's inspiration for the Elmer stories in these articles from the Guardian on: [Elmer's 25th birthday \(2014\)](#) and [Elmer's 30th birthday \(2019\)](#) and in [this interview from BookTrust](#).

Build Your Pupils' Literacy, Empathy and Social Skills with Empathy Lab



[Empathy Lab](#) work to build children's literacy, empathy and social skills using high quality literature. They work with schools, authors, publishers and booksellers and promote an annual [Empathy Day](#). This year, [Empathy Day activities and events](#) are online and the fun takes place on Tuesday 9th June 2020. The "Countdown Fortnight" to Empathy Day starts on 25th May. To prepare for the day, EY settings and primary/secondary schools can access an EY/Schools' Toolkit. These Toolkits are supported by videos of authors reading stories and poems on the [Empathy Read Aloud page](#). Access the Empathy Day Toolkits early by sending an e-mail to Empathy Lab ([using the contact details on the Read Aloud page](#)). From 18th May, families will be able to access a free [Family Activities Pack](#) with daily home learning activities for the days which lead up to Empathy Day on Tues 9th June.

More Home Learning Resources from organisations that promote a love of reading

[National Literacy Trust Family Zone](#): Home-learning ideas for EY/KS1/KS2+11/12 yr-olds and parents/carers
[National Literacy Trust: Zone In](#): Boredom-busting ideas and challenges for KS3/KS4 students aged 13+
[The Poetry Society](#): Poetry database, home learning ideas and poetry competitions for KS1-KS5 and adults
[The Reading Agency](#): Home-learning resources from a range of Reading Agency programmes
[Scottish Book Trust](#): Home-learning hub with links to a range of activities for EY/6-11 yr-olds and teens aged 12+

Home Learning Resources from Publishers

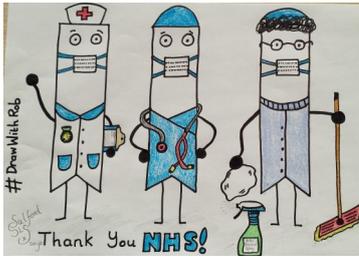
Walker Books: [Stay home with the Walker Bear Playlist](#): This [YouTube playlist](#) is the place to find full readings of Walker Books to support home-learning activities for EY/KS1/KS2. Recent additions include [Marcia Williams re-telling "Romeo and Juliet" from Tales From Shakespeare](#) and [Jarvis reading his picture book "Follow me, Flo"](#). This [menu of other Walker Bear Playlists](#) has a wide range of book-related videos with some for KS3/KS4 readers. The [Stay Home with the Walker Bear website](#) has more useful activity sheets and teachers' notes for EY/KS1/KS2.

Harper Collins: Skulduggery Bites: For Skulduggery Pleasant fans, old and new, an audio-book version of *Skulduggery Pleasant Book 1*, written by [Derek Landy](#) and read by [Rupert Degas](#), has been serialised for everyone to enjoy! Suitable for KS3/4 readers, this book was originally published in 2007, won the Red House Children's Book Award in 2008 and the series now includes several stories. [New episodes available every weekday from Monday 27th April to Friday May 22nd](#). Don't worry if you miss any episodes! Catch up on any missed chapters on the [Skulduggery Bites "Catch Up" page](#). Readers can start listening at any time and the full book will be available to listen to over the half term break.

Read/listen to the other Skulduggery Pleasant stories for free using [Salford Community Libraries](#) online e-book service: [BorrowBox](#).

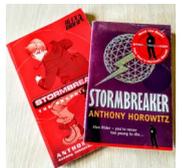
More Authors and Illustrators Online:

Break a Guinness World Record with Rob Biddulph! Join [Rob Biddulph](#) for a record-breaking attempt to host the world's largest art lesson and raise money for charities working to stop the spread of the Covid-19 virus, support people suffering and prevent future pandemics. When his regular "[Draw with Rob](#)" videos went viral, Rob Biddulph decided to try to beat the record for the largest online art lesson (currently 10,000 students) and help to beat the virus at the same time. He will lead the lesson at **4.00pm on Thursday May 21st 2020** and artists, of all ages can join in. Help Rob beat the world record and [sign up for the lesson](#).



Celebrate Alex Rider's 20th anniversary as Anthony Horowitz reads Stormbreaker online: The online reading started on April 20th 2020 and you can hear a new chapter (and catch up with any chapters you have missed) every week on the [Alex Rider YouTube channel](#).

Read more Alex Rider books for free with [Salford Community Libraries](#) e-book service: [BorrowBox](#)



Watch Sarah McIntyre draw her characters on the #DrawingWithSarah YouTube Playlist: Writer-illustrator [Sarah McIntyre](#), creator of books for children in KS1/KS2, has gone online. She has created some [#DrawingWithSarah videos](#), with animated versions of her characters. You can learn to draw Narwhal on the Unicorn Space Station, design your own cafe menu and there's a "how-to-draw" video for [Pugs of the Frozen North](#), with a guest appearance from Philip Reeve (her co-author). There's lots more to draw and watch. Go to Sarah's website: [jabberworks.co.uk](#) for plenty of other downloadable activities to support her books.



Share Your Stories of Teaching English Online

The English Association are curating a series of stories from researchers, teachers, and education experts about their experience of teaching English during the pandemic. You can get your story included too.... Read the collection of stories [on this page of the English Association website](#). You can share stories on Twitter or by e-mail (contact details are on the "[Education in English during COVID-19: your stories](#)" page)

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for free. You can browse, borrow and download books anywhere. There is a wide range of fiction and non-fiction for all ages so you will never run out of reading choices and there is something for everyone. It's easy to use. Titles simply expire from your device when they are

due back so there are no overdue charges either! You can cancel books whenever you want and simply download more. Access to BorrowBox can be found [here](#). Just sign up using your library card number and PIN. If you know of anyone who isn't a library member but would like to use these services they can find more information on the [Salford Community Libraries website](#) and join instantly [here](#). If you require any help with these services please email info@sccl.co.uk

Keep in Touch - we'd love to hear from you!

Contact the SLS by e-mail: Schools.Library-Service@sccl.co.uk

Visit the SLS website: www.salfordcommunityleisure.co.uk/libraries/sls for previous bulletins and useful booklists.

You can also find ideas and information on the Salford Community Libraries social media channels:

[Salford Community Libraries](#) on Facebook and [@SalfordLibrary](#) on Twitter.