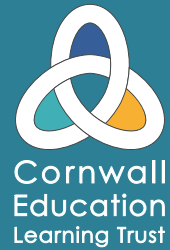


April 2026

READING TOGETHER NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents/carers

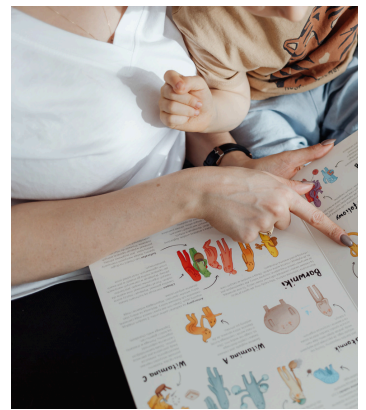
May is **Share a Story** Month This May we're celebrating Share a Story Month as part of the National Year of Reading. It's all about the joy of reading aloud and the power of stories to bring people together.

Why does sharing stories matter?

Research from Book Trust shows: Shared reading helps nurture vital connections between adults and children .For young children especially, reading together supports literacy, bonding, emotional regulation and communication. —

It's the emotional quality of shared reading that supports strong attachment – not the adult's reading skill .

You don't need to be a confident reader yourself to share stories with your child. What matters most is spending that time together, enjoying the experience, and following your child's interests.



THE 10-MINUTE CHALLENGE

Can your family read together for just 10 minutes every day? That's all it takes!

Why 10 minutes?

It fits into the busiest lives

Children look forward to it when it's part of the routine .Over an hour each week adds up!

It shows reading is important AND enjoyable.



Go All in: Stories are everywhere

This month, try finding stories in different places



At the dinner table: Tell stories about your day, or make up adventures together



On screens: Watch shows together and talk about characters, feelings, and what might happen next



Before bed: Make up stories featuring your child as the hero •



At the library: Let children choose their own books, even if it's the same one again! As the weather warms up, try reading outdoors! Here are some spring reading ideas:



Into gardening? Read seed packets together, plant guides, books about nature



Love the outdoors? Take a book to the park, beach, or garden



Enjoy Easter? Read stories about spring, new beginnings, adventure



**GO
ALL
IN.**

Simple ideas for reading at home

Educator and parent **Bennie Kara** shares practical ways families can weave stories into everyday life



Bedtimes are Story Time

No evening needs to end without a book or story. Use voices, react to the pictures, let children turn the pages. It's wonderful to drift off into imagination and be soothed into sleep.



The Library is Your Friend

Libraries let children choose their own books. Pull out books, fill up bags, explore them together. Choice is powerful, books are about loving what you love.



Stories All Day

Make up stories at dinner, in the car, before sleep. Simple adventures featuring characters a bit like your child. Let them tell stories too, even if there's no plot yet!

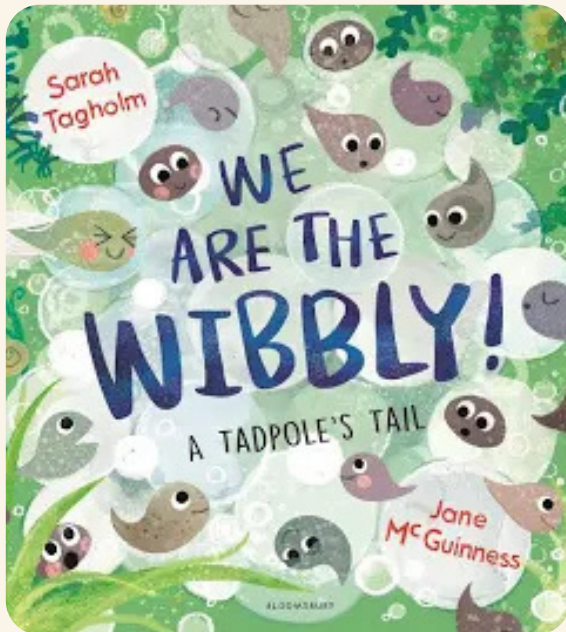
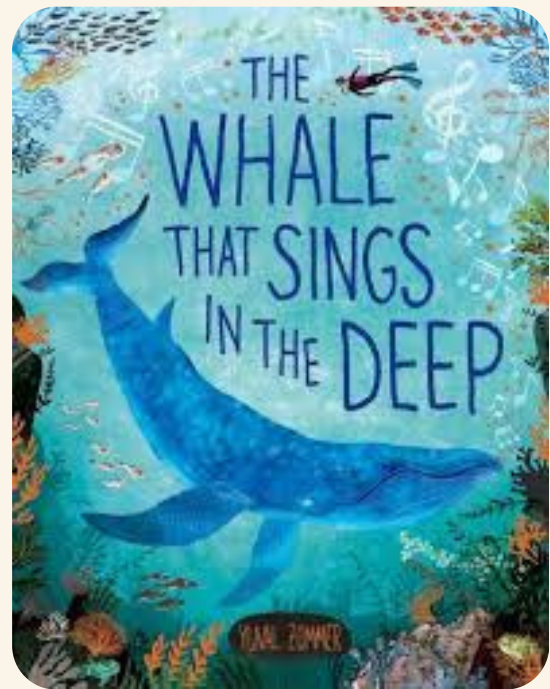
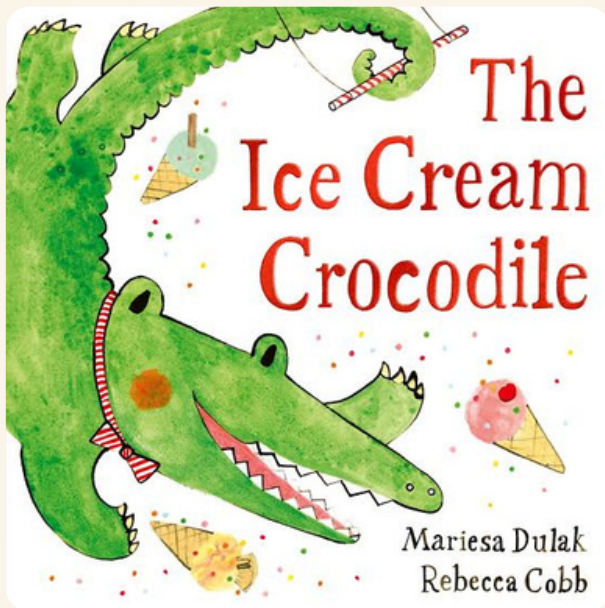


Reading as Something

We Do Let children see you reading. Sit down with your own book after dinner. Say "Shhh, I'm reading and this is a really good bit". Show them what loving reading looks like.



[Read here for full article by Bennie Kara](#)



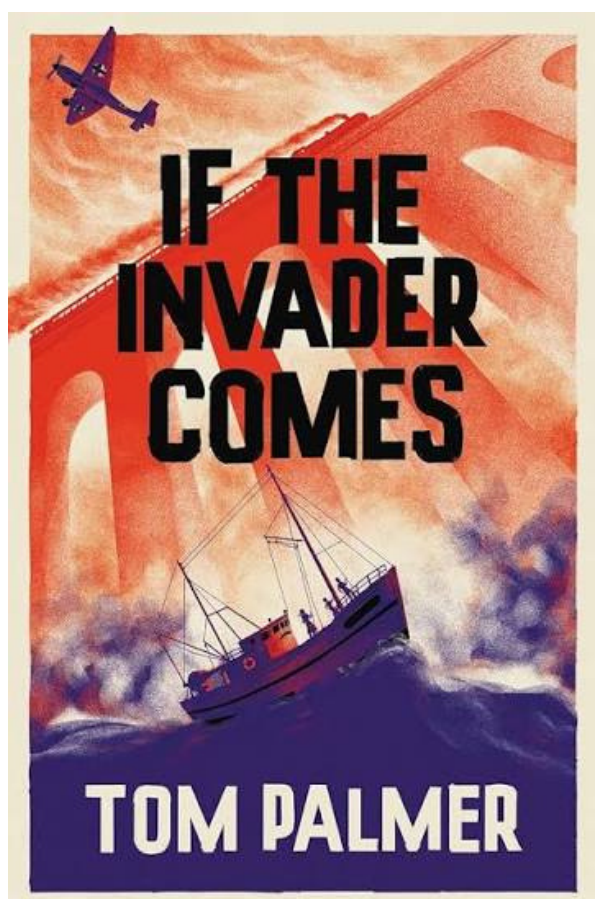
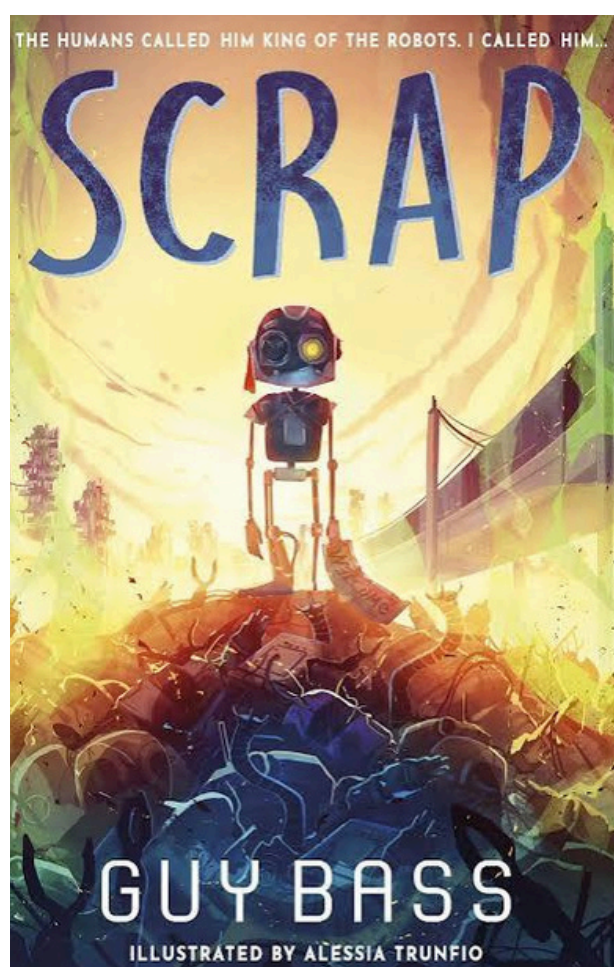
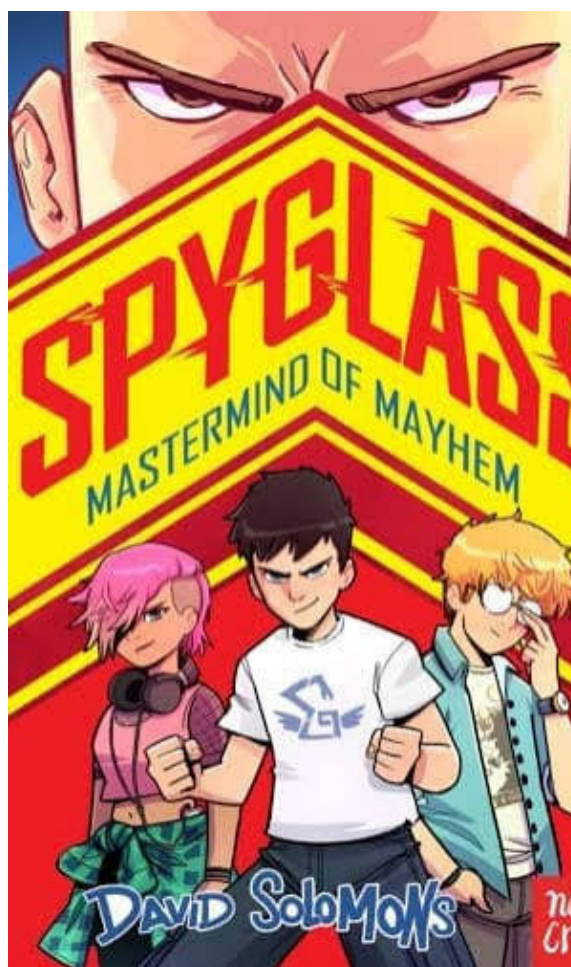
The Ice-Cream Crocodile illustrated by Rebecca Cobb - A charming story about a crocodile who won't be sidelined, perfect for reading aloud with voices!

The Whale that Sings in the Deep by Yuval Zommer - Follow a blue whale's incredible journey with stunning illustrations.

We Are the Wibbly! by Sarah Tagholm - A hilarious story about frogspawn growing up

Book Recommendations





SPYGLASS- Mastermind of Mayhem by David Solomons
- A laugh-out-loud spy adventure with gadgets, villains, and plenty of action.

SCRAP by Guy Bass - A sci-fi adventure about a robot and two human sisters on a dangerous planet.

If the Invader Comes by Tom Palmer - A gripping wartime tale set in Cornwall during World War Two.