



Image credit: Sketches for *The Gruffalo*, 1999 © Axel Scheffler 1999. Photo by Joseph Turp

Discovering Children's Books: a brand new resource from the British Library

The British Library has just launched a brand new website – [Discovering Children's Books](https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books). It's completely free to access and full of creative activities to do at home. Aimed at primary school children, teachers and book-lovers of all ages, the site explores the history and rich variety of children's literature, through treasures from the British Library, Seven Stories, Bodleian Libraries and the V & A.

Explore over 100 fascinating items, from one-of-a-kind manuscripts to illustrations and printed books. Go down the rabbit hole with Lewis Carroll's original manuscript of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Rifle through Roald Dahl's drafts, John Agard's poetry notebooks or sketches by Judith Kerr, Axel Scheffler and Liz Pichon.

For the writers and artists of the future, there's a gallery of free [activities](#) to spark children's creativity and inspire their own stories, poems, illustrations and more.

- Learn how to draw a Gruffalo
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/videos/axel-scheffler-how-to-draw-a-gruffalo>
- Create your own characters
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/videos/viviane-schwarz-how-to-develop-a-character#>
- Try Joseph Coelho's poetry prompts
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/activities/poetry-prompts>
- Make a miniature book
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/activities/make-a-miniature-book>
- Make your own comic strips
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/activities/make-your-own-comic-strip-stories>
- Invent your own superhero
<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books/activities/what-makes-a-hero-super>

Dive in here and spread the word!



@BL_Learning Share your work and tag us, and we'll do our best to re-tweet!

Or get in touch with Andrea.Varney@bl.uk. She'd love to hear from you.

<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books>.