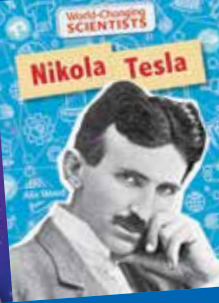
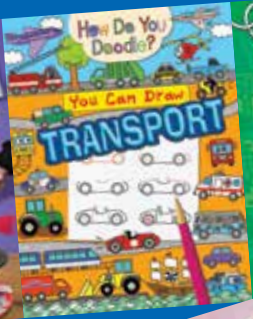


Alix Wood Books

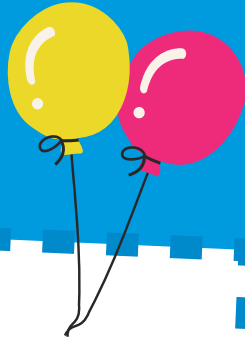
FALL 26



I JUST DROP MY
NEWBORN ONTO
THE FLOOR!

Don't learn parenting skills from these guys!

Alix Wood Books



About Us

We produce superb quality, highly illustrated non-fiction for the 5-11 age range. Alix Wood Books, and our younger imprint, Free-Range Books have together produced over 250 published titles.

Alix is an experienced and imaginative author and designer. Initially training as a primary school teacher, she studied design and illustration while living in California. Alix enjoys travel, and has lived in Virginia, The Netherlands, Germany, and all over the UK. She is currently enjoying exploring the beautiful scenery in Ireland.

Kevin Wood writes and consults on our science and computing titles. In his spare time he handles the company's computer support, accounts and marketing.

Our editor, Eloise Macgragor, has written many of our titles, including our very popular *Virus Warrior* series.

Designer and extreme sports enthusiast, Ben Macgregor, consults on our sports titles, and has created many of our craft series.

Contents

New for 2026

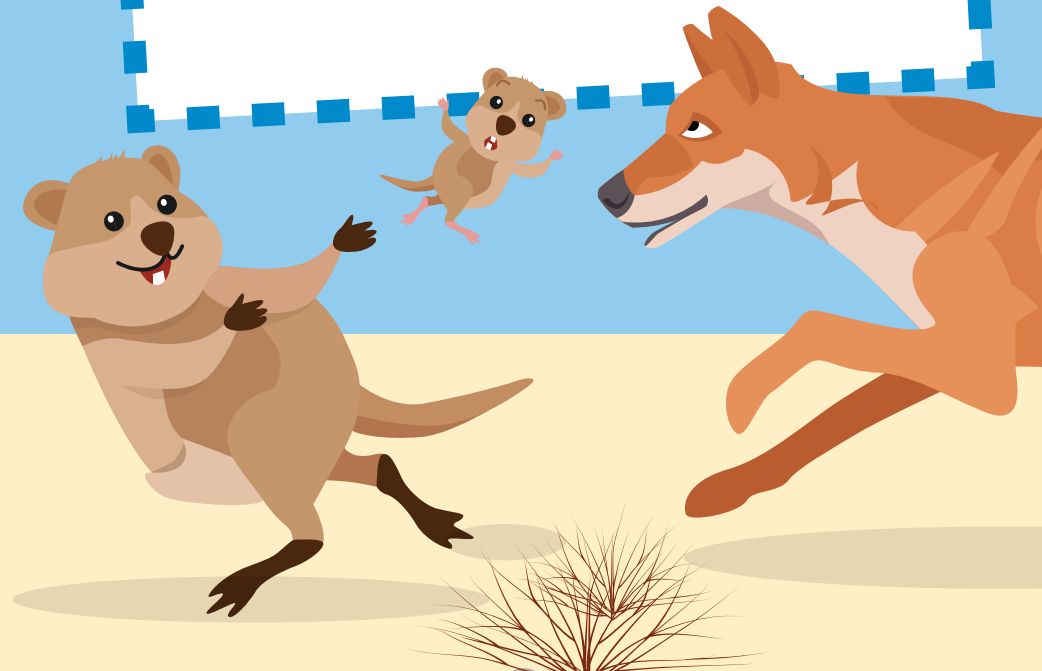
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Titles:
 Beastly Birds
 Irresponsible Insects
 Mean Mammals
 Mindless Marsupials
 Reckless Reptiles
 Shocking Sealife

Trim: 260 x 210 mm
 Pages: 32
 Full colour illustrations
 Reading level: 6-8 years
 Interest level: 6-10 years

It can be tough surviving in the wild. You'd think animal parents would help their young every step of the way. But, there are a lot of truly awful animal parents out there!

Cuckoos lay their eggs in other birds' nests, and then fly off on holiday. Pandas think bringing up twins is too much hard work, so they just pick a favourite child. Storks throw their own chicks out of their nest. If a guppy mum is peckish, she'll happily snack on her own babies! This hilarious, engaging and informative title will appeal to any young reader.

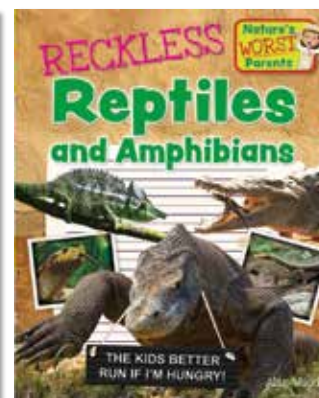
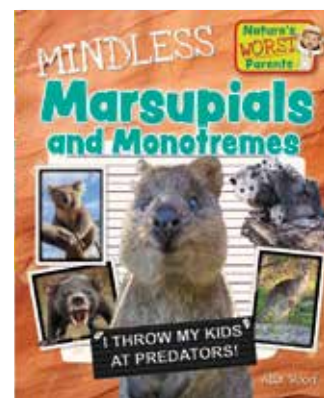
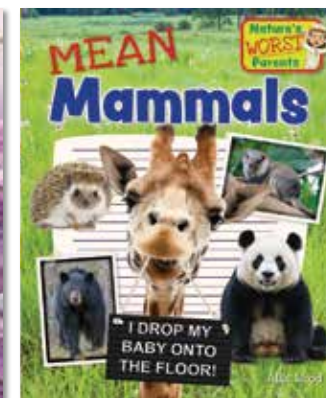
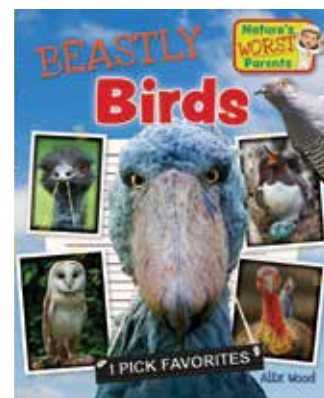


Why Do They Do That?

Nature can be harsh, but there is usually a good reason why these parents are so mean. Fact boxes on each spread explain why the parents act as they do.



I THROW MY KIDS AT PREDATORS



Giraffes

Giraffes are the tallest land mammal. At around 18 feet (5.5 m) their legs are taller than a tall man! So, giraffe moms lie down to have their babies, right? Nope, they stand up.



The baby giraffe falls head first around 6 feet (2 m) onto the ground. Welcome to the world, kid!

WHAT?

It gets worse. After the birth, the mom kicks her baby to make it stand up. Why? Lions, hyenas, leopards, and wild dogs hunt baby giraffes. To keep safe, it needs to be able to stand and run quickly.

Newborn giraffes are born front legs and head first. They fly through the air like a superhero, until they crash to the ground!

Thanks to mom's friendly kicking, baby giraffes can stand in minutes, and run just 10 hours later.

Why Do They Do That?

Giving birth lying down can damage the baby's long neck. The fall helps the baby giraffe burst out of its birth sack. It also shocks the baby into taking its first breath.

World-Changing SCIENTISTS

NEW
FOR
2026

Titles:

Niels Bohr
George Washington Carver
Charles Darwin
Albert Einstein
Ada Lovelace
Nikola Tesla

Trim: 181 x 216 mm

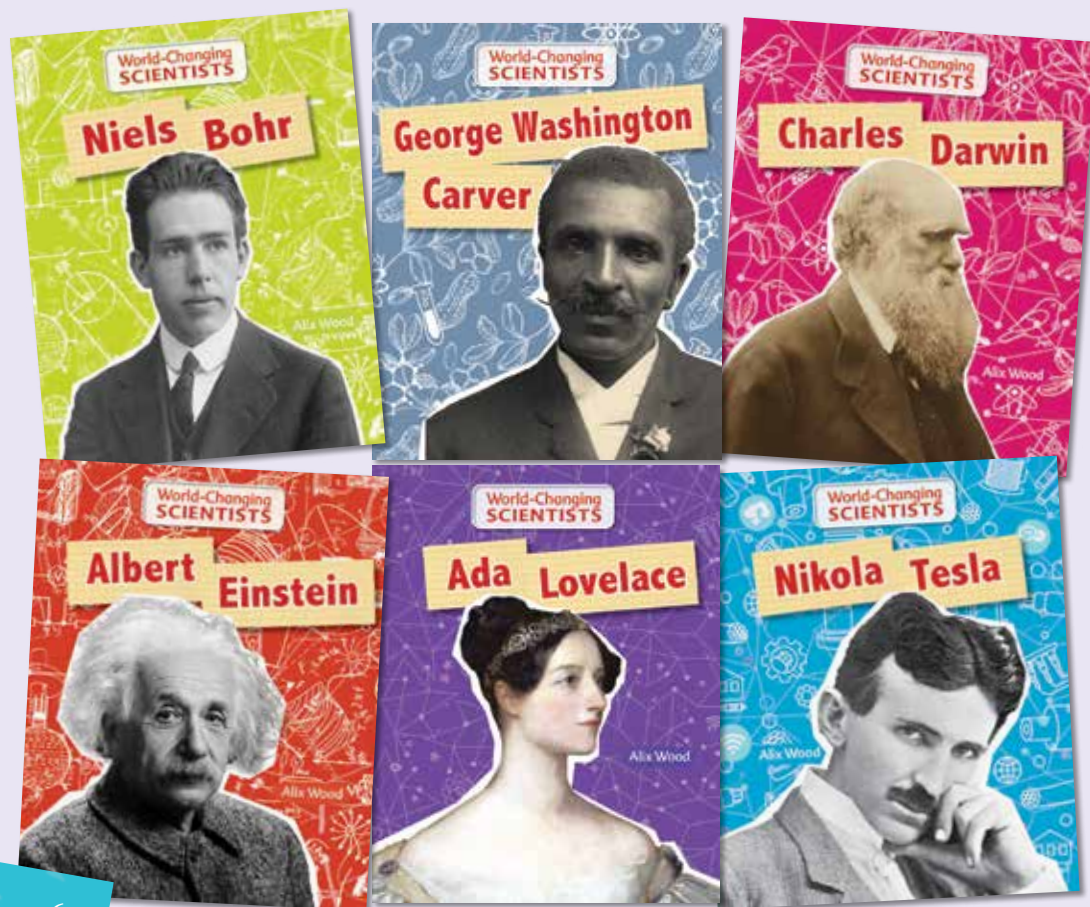
Pages: 32

Photos: Full colour

Interest level: 7-11 years

Reading level: 7-9 years

- Six brand new titles coming next season.
- **World-Changing Scientists** is a popular series of biographies looking at some of the world's most innovative scientists. The books recount the story of their interesting lives, their childhoods, their discoveries, and their final years.
- Science notes stuffed with interesting facts, and straight-forward explanations about each scientist's discoveries. Each book is designed with pull-out quotes and information boxes that add to the text.
- A quiz at the end of each title helps consolidate learning. There is a glossary, a further reading section and an index.



PARTY Planners

Plan your own awesome themed party to entertain your friends! These books are packed with ideas to help you plan the perfect party.

Each title helps you easily create themed invitations, decorations, games and activities, party favours, and most importantly — amazing party food.

Whatever your interests, this series has a title to help you and your friends have the best party ever!

NEW
FOR
2026

Titles:

Plan a Flower Power Party
Plan a Magical Party
Plan a Pirate Party
Plan a Superhero Party
Plan a Rock Star Party
Plan a Unicorn Party

Trim: 260 x 210 mm
Pages: 32

Reading level: 6-8 years
Interest level: 6-10 years



Decorations

City Skyline

This city skyline makes a great backdrop to your party table. It is super cheap and easy to make, too. A cloth or paper tablecloth works best. The tape may pucker a plastic tablecloth.

You will need:

- a dark tablecloth
- masking tape
- scissors

TIP
We cut our disposable tablecloth in half. We used the other half to cover the table.

- Start drawing your skyline by sticking strips of masking tape to the cloth.
- You can create simple rectangles, or you could add more interesting roof details.
- Gradually build up the skyline. Leave the cloth as a photo backdrop.

TIP
Masking tape shouldn't mark your walls. Don't use any other tape. If you pull off the paint!

Roll some strips of masking tape, sticky-side out. Place them along the top of the back of the cloth. Then stick it to the wall.

Try This
Make a superhero photo booth. Once your guests have eaten, lay the cloth on the floor. You can take

Food

Magic Potions

Make these magical drinks for your party. As the ice melts the drinks will change color!

You will need:

- clear soda
- cube kiwi fruit
- ice cube tray
- food coloring
- water
- toothpick
- see-through cups or glasses

- Pour some water into an ice cube tray. Make sure the water stays in the compartments.
- Add a few drops of food color to each compartment.
- Stir the color into the water using a toothpick.
- Place the ice cube tray in the freezer. Be careful not to splash the tray, or the colors will mix and spoil.

TIP
You can mix colors. We added a tiny drop of red to some yellow to make orange.

Pour the clear soda into each guest's glass.

Add a few different color ice cubes to each glass.

Ask an adult to help you cut some kiwi fruit into thick slices. Cut a slit to the center of each slice. Then hang the slices over the edge of the glasses.

Watch as the drinks change color!

Food

Unicorn Cake

Make this cool unicorn cake as a centerpiece for your party table.

You will need:

- a circular cake
- white frosting
- a blunt knife
- red food color
- raspberry honey
- black frosting tube
- yellow candy
- rainbow candy strips

TIP
Wrap some paper around the cake. Then use this circle as a guide to cut the frosting.

Make, or buy, a cake. It can be any kind of cake, as long as it is circular.

Roll the frosting into a circle large enough to cover the top of the cake.

Mold a few drops of red food color into the left-over frosting until it turns pink. Create two pink triangles for the nose and ear, and a circle for the cheek.

Cut a section of cake. Cut that section in half to make the ear and horn.

Put a pink triangle on your cake, as shown. Press and mold it to the right shape.

Put the ear in place. Blend the frosting to the main cake by pressing it using a blunt knife.

Spread a little honey on the horn to make it sticky.

Pour yellow candy onto the horn. Then put the horn in place on the cake.

TIP
If you can't find this candy, use tiny marshmallows or other colored candy for the mane.

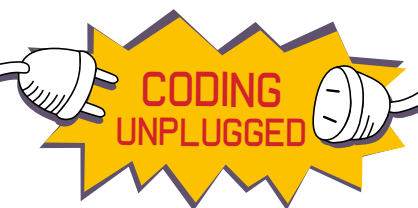
Cut lengths of rainbow candy strips to make the mane.

Add the pink cheek and ear pieces. Carefully draw on the eye using a tube of black frosting.

Gently peel the strips apart at one end, and place them on the cake.

Superhero

Unicorn

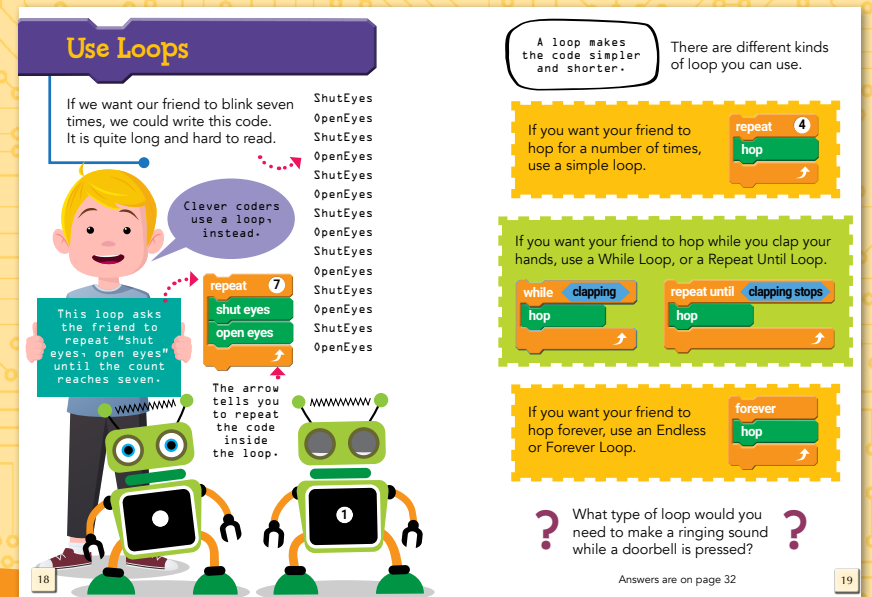
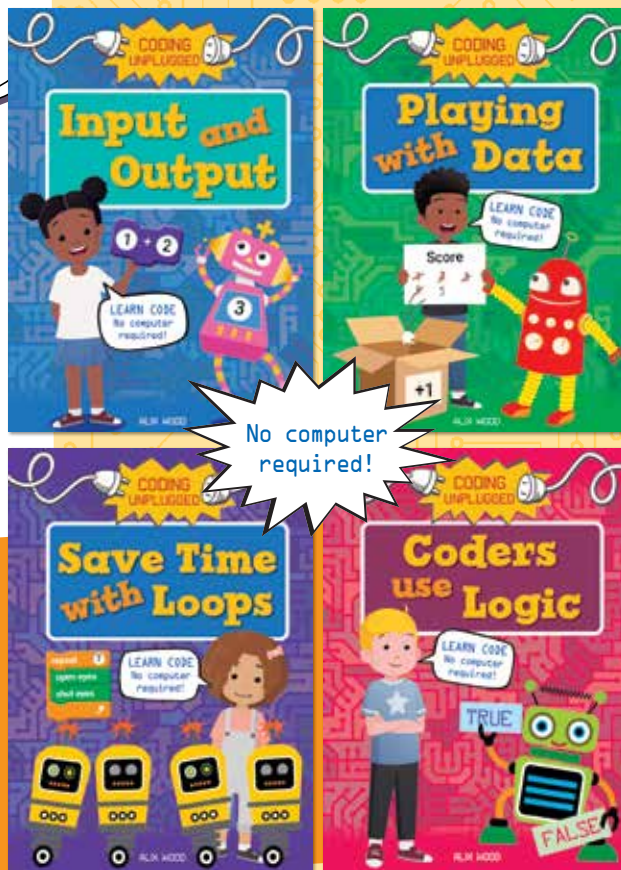


CODING UNPLUGGED

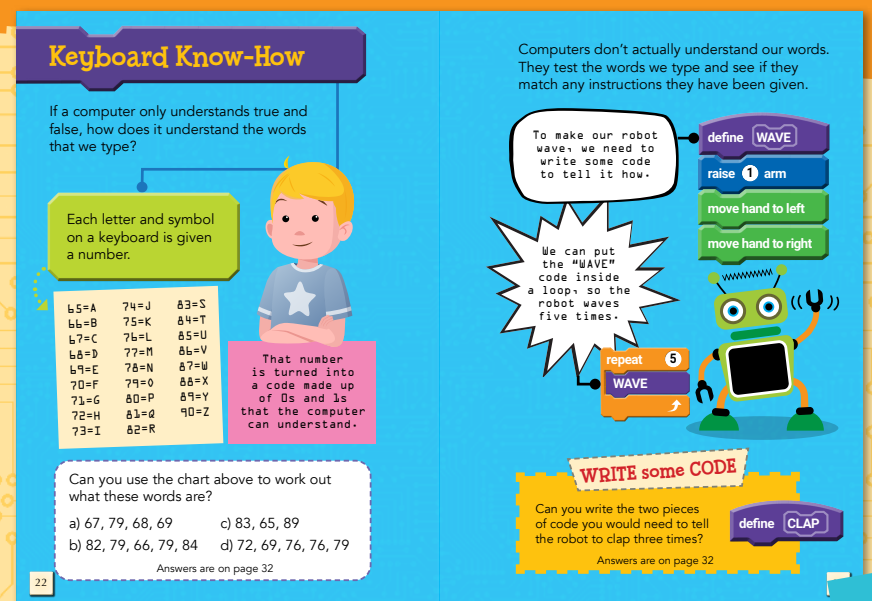
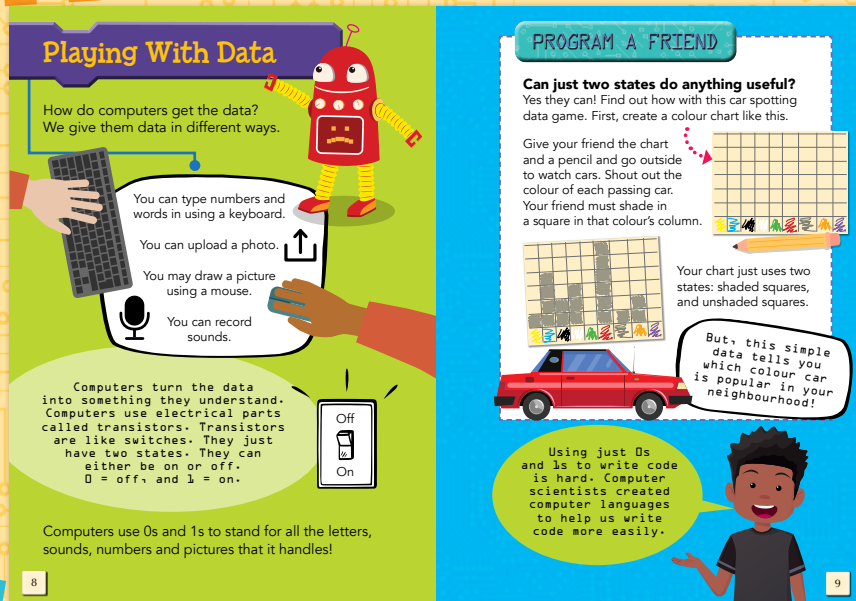
Titles:
 Playing With Data
 Input and Output
 Coders Use Logic
 Save Time With Loops

Trim: 165 x 232 mm
 Pages: 32
 Full colour illustrations
 Reading level: 5-7 years
 Interest level: 5-7 years

Learning to code is now a basic skill for first schools. This accessible series explains the building blocks of coding, using fun, friendly child and robot characters.



Each title gives a hands-on introduction using games, challenges, exercises and tips. A quiz at the end helps consolidate learning. With no need for a computer, or device, or any particular programming language, these titles will stand the test of time and work well with a limited budget.



THROW A MINECRAFT PARTY!

Minecraft fans will love these high-interest titles!

Trim: 203 x 203 mm
Pages: 24
Photos: Full colour
Age Range: 6-10 years

Packed full of achievable, affordable, fun-to-make projects. Craft an amazing Minecraft-themed party and invite your friends.

Dress up as your favourite character, decorate your party room, and make Minecraft food and drink. Then, design some party games, and make some goody bags for your guests to take home.

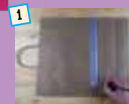


PAPER BAG STEVE

This Steve head looks amazing. It takes time to paint the squares, but it is worth it.

You Will Need:

- a large paper bag that fits over your head
- paint and paint brush
- ruler and pencil
- scissors
- adult help



Use this grid to help you paint

- 1 = black
- 2 = dark brown
- 3 = medium brown
- 4 = light brown
- 5 = tan
- 6 = pink
- 7 = dark pink
- 8 = flesh
- 9 = white

1	2	1	2	2	2	1
2	1	2	3	3	3	2
2	5	4	8	6	8	4
5	8	5	8	4	6	5
8	9	10	6	8	10	9
5	8	4	3	3	6	5
4	5	2	7	7	3	4
5	3	3	2	3	2	5



Write each grid number lightly in pencil in each square. Paint all the number 1 squares black.

Mix a big puddle of the flesh color. Then add a little white to make paler tints.

Continue painting your Steve face until all the squares are painted.



Ask an adult to help cut out two eye holes.

Place the finished bag over your head. Point to your eyes. Mark each spot.

Pop on a blue T-shirt and you are ready to party!



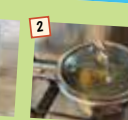
INVENTORY

Make everyone their own food inventory to nibble on during the party.

You Will Need:

- a table mat
- some string
- the food items below
- a knife
- an adult to help you
- a saucepan
- butter
- scallions

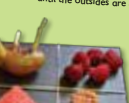
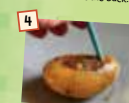
these poisonous potatoes are edible! (see recipe)



Tie four lengths of string around a table mat to create the inventory squares. Tie at the back.

To make the mini baked potatoes, ask an adult to help you fry them in some butter, until the outsides are crisp.

Ask an adult to help you fry them in some butter, until the outsides are crisp.



To make a poisonous potato, pierce it four times with a skewer.

Place a piece of food in each square of your inventory.

You could use some of the food you made in this book, on your inventory, too.



BALLOONS

Decorate your room with these super-simple balloons.

You Will Need:

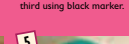
- balloons
- masking tape
- black and purple markers
- string



Blow up a black balloon and tie it closed.

Cut two lengths of masking tape. Color in the center third using black marker.

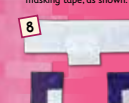
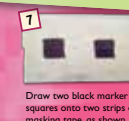
Tape the strips onto your balloon.



Blow up a green balloon and tie it closed.

Draw on a creeper face using black marker, as shown.

Color in your creeper face.



Make the eyebrows using two strips of tape. Make eyes by coloring in three-quarters of two tape squares.

Stick the face onto a brown balloon.

Stick the face onto a brown balloon.



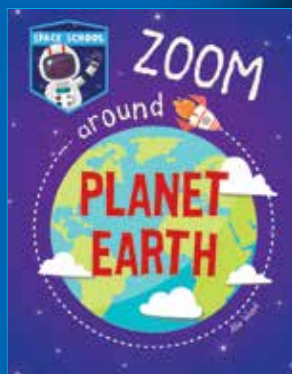
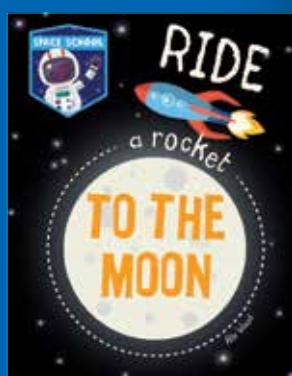
TIP
Try this. Make a ghost balloon by sticking lengths of black tape onto a white balloon.



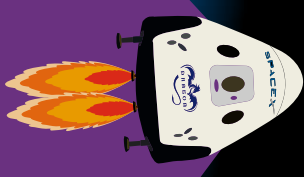


Titles:
Zoom Around Planet Earth
Blast Off to Other Planets
Ride a Rocket to the Moon
Time Travel to Far Galaxies

Trim:
265 x 210mm
Pages: 32
Age Range: 5-7 years



Make sure you enrol at Space School this year! Astronaut training is fun! With so much happening in the world of space exploration, these books are a great way to introduce essential science concepts such as gravity and atmosphere. So, enter the virtual classroom and sign up for the term!



CAN WE LIVE ON THE MOON?

It wouldn't be easy. The Moon isn't protected by a thick atmosphere like Earth is. So, deadly radiation and crashing space objects are a danger! It can also get very hot, and very, very cold.

GROWING FOOD

The soil is dusty and sandy. It's not good for growing food. Scientists have experimented sowing human poo, and earthworms! That makes the soil much better.

We'd need greenhouses to protect plants from the cold and the radiation. It will be difficult to make enough water to keep plants healthy, too.

Poisonous dust make astronauts' eyes water and their throats hurt.

Meteorites make huge craters as they hit the ground.

There is no oxygen for us to breathe.

But, scientists can get oxygen from the soil.

To keep safe, and warm enough, or cool enough, it might be better to live underground.

Plants produce oxygen. We could use oxygen from the greenhouse for us to breathe.

QUESTION 9

Do you think we could live on the Moon?

☐ Yes, with difficulty ☐ No



EXPLORING MARS

Uncrewed orbiters, landers, helicopters and rovers have all been sent to Mars.

Orbiters orbit the planet taking pictures.

Landers land on the surface. They can take photos and get other information.

A tiny helicopter takes aerial photos.

Rovers can be programmed to drive around the planet.

Cameras capture images.

Probes can study the chemicals in rock.

TASK 4

Be a rover operator. Write a list of commands to get a robot to walk safely across your bedroom. It mustn't hit any objects. Write clear commands such as "Walk forwards two steps. Step sideways to the right one step."

QUESTION 5

Before astronauts can go to Mars, which of the things below will they need?

☐ air to breathe
☐ water to drink
☐ shelter
☐ ability to grow food

ADAPTING TO SPACE

Now we are in orbit. As we fall around the Earth everything floats as if there is no gravity. With books, food, and people floating around it's hard to know what ANYTHING will do!

TASK 6

Take two balloons. Place a penny inside one. Inflate both balloons and tie them. Pat each balloon about. Do they behave the same? The one with the coin should act strangely. As the coin moves, it changes the balloon's center of gravity.

An object's center of gravity is the point where the weight is even on all sides.

QUESTION 6

Can you spot some clever things astronauts do to keep objects from floating about?

IS THERE LIFE IN OTHER GALAXIES?

Earth is still the only planet that we know has life on it. But that doesn't mean there isn't life out there. It just means we haven't found it yet!

Earth is the perfect distance from the Sun. It is not too hot and not too cold. Scientists call this distance the "Goldilocks Zone". In other galaxies, planets in their own star's Goldilocks Zone might support life.

To support life as we know it, a planet needs water, too ...

... and air to breathe.

There are billions of other planets in the Universe. Surely one supports life? Maybe the life is very tiny, or hiding underground? Or maybe it doesn't need water, air and warmth?

Scientists are always searching for signs of life in outer space. They use huge telescopes to listen for signals. They use massive telescopes to search the sky. Nothing has been proven - YET!

QUESTION 8

What three important things does a planet need for life as we know it to start there?

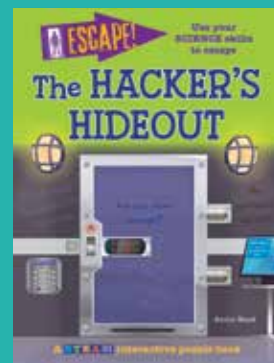
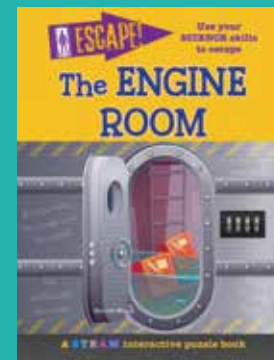
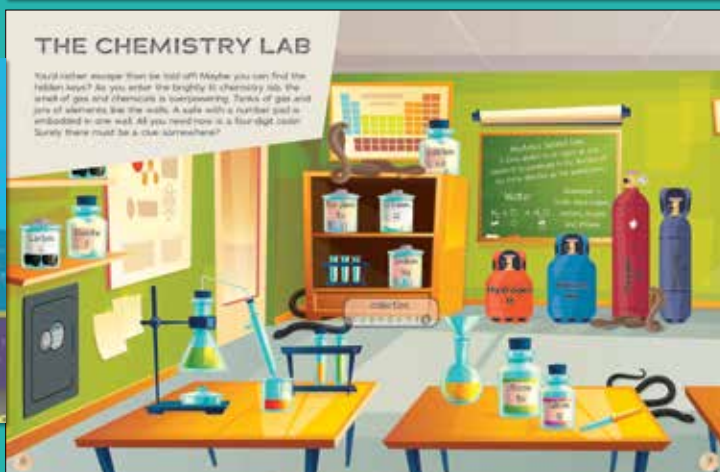
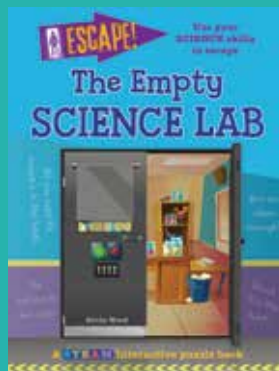
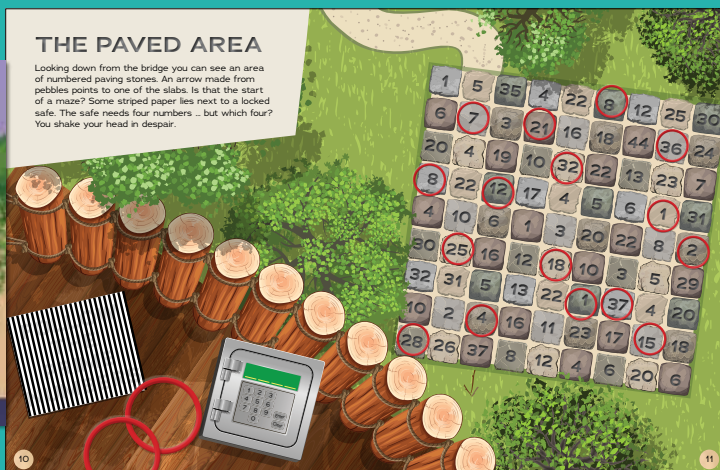
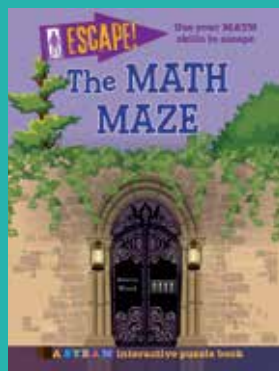


“Exciting clues and colorful spreads make this eye-catching and inescapably interesting.”
—BOOKLIST

Titles:
The Empty Science Lab
The Hacker’s Hideout
The Engine Room
The Artist’s Cabin
The Maths Maze

Trim: 216 x 279 mm
Pages: 32
Age Range: 7-11 years

- Love puzzles and escape rooms? You’ll love these STEAM-themed “Escape!” books. Solve the puzzles on your own, or team up with your friends or family.
- This unique series challenges readers to scan the books for clues to work out the secret escape codes.
- Extra online links to interactive locks allow readers to enter their answers and receive hints to the puzzles, if desired. Challenging and rewarding, these titles link to the STEAM curriculum in a fun and motivating way.



THE SCIENCE BEHIND SPORT

Titles:
The Science Behind:
Basketball
Gymnastics
Martial Arts
Soccer

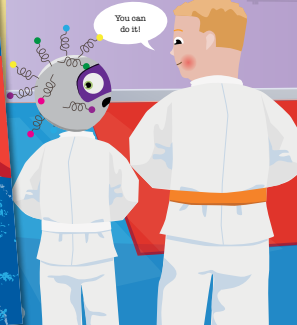
Trim: 165 x 232 mm
Pages: 32
Full colour
Age range: 8-10

These titles are a must for any sports-lover. Interest-based learning helps even the most reluctant student get an understanding of science concepts. You'll be amazed how much science you can learn through these popular sports. Aerodynamics, forces, friction, kinetic energy. It's all there, and it's all easy to learn when you're motivated by the sport you love.



Does mass matter?

The class try some judo holds. The idea is to unbalance their opponent and bring them down. Marsha's partner, Ben, is much bigger than her. She wonders how she will ever pull him down.



THE SKILLS

Using an opponent's mass

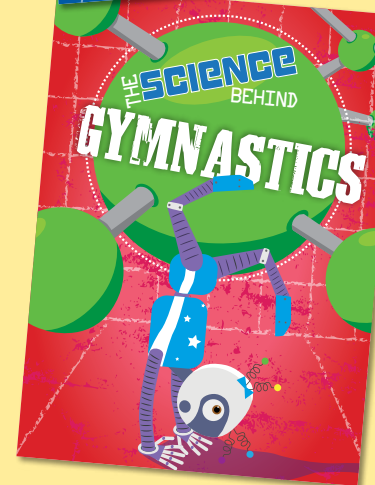
Being smaller doesn't mean you will lose. You may be faster, quicker, and more skilled. You can use the power of a big opponent, too. As they throw a punch, grab their arm. Pull it toward you, but to the other side. They will stumble forward and lose balance. With training, you could even throw them!



THE SCIENCE

People with a greater mass can have an advantage in martial arts. They are harder to push over, and will hit a target with more force. Tall people with long arms and legs have a longer reach when they strike, too.

However, a tall person's center of gravity is higher. That makes them less stable, and easier to take down.



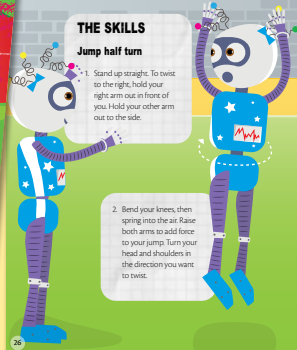
Twisting and flipping

Beepa tries jumping and twisting so she lands facing the other way. It's hard at first. She learns how to move her head and her arms to help her twist around.

THE SKILLS

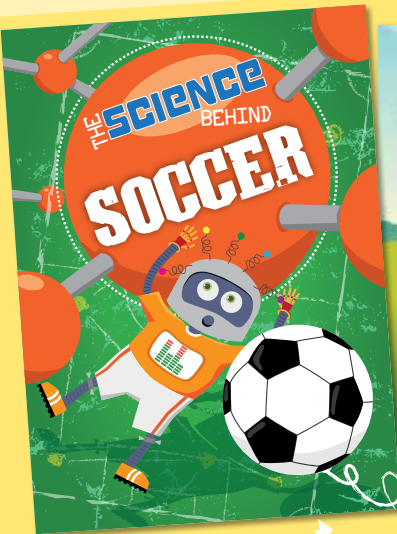
Jump half turn

1. Stand up straight. To twist to the right, hold your right arm out in front of you. Hold your other arm out to the side.
2. Bend your knees, then spring into the air. Raise both arms to add force to your jump. Turn your head and shoulders in the direction you want to twist.
3. Bring your head and shoulders back to the center. Bend your knees as you land.



THE SCIENCE

To perform a flip or a jump you need momentum. Momentum is the force something has when it is moving. When you push off the floor you create this momentum. The springboard adds more momentum. The springboard increases the momentum, too.



Newton helps Zink kick

The team decide Zink should start the game. They place the ball on the ground for him. Tucked, Zink waits over to the left. He kicks at it. He waits. The ball just sits there.

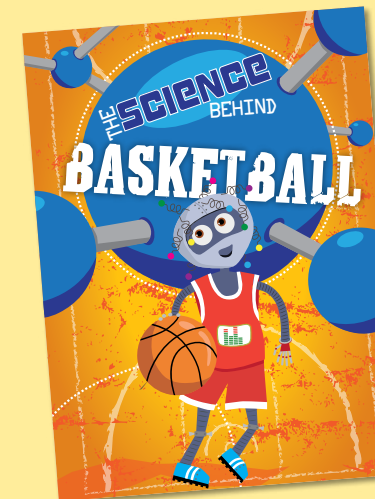
THE SCIENCE

The ball won't move unless a force acts on it. A force, or gravity, or the wind, makes it move. Sometimes forces are pushed or pulled. Sometimes forces are a pull or a push. Sometimes forces are a pull or a push. Sometimes forces are a pull or a push.

THE SKILLS

Kicking

Stand with both feet on the ground. Kick the ball with your right foot. Keep your head down. Watch the ball as it moves. The ball will move in the direction you want it to go.



Defending

Harriet wins the ball and looks like she's about to shoot. Pronk decides to make himself as tall as he can, to stop the shot. He gets on his toes and raises his arms. Harriet dodges to one side. Pronk wobbles as he leans to block her. She scores!

THE SCIENCE

The taller you stand, the higher your center of gravity will be. Your center of gravity is the point where your mass is the same, left to right, and top to bottom.

Pronk's center of gravity is just above his waist. Gravity pulls on his heavy head and upper body, making him wobble when he leans.



THE SKILLS

Closing out

1. When your opponent gets the ball, move quickly toward them. You want to be around an arm's length away.
2. Keep on your toes with your feet shoulder-width apart and your knees slightly bent.
3. Move your arms around and try to steal the ball, knock away their shot, or block their view.



Holiday Makers

Trim: 265 x 210mm
Pages: 32
Age Range: 7-9 years

Titles in the series:
Crafts for Christmas
Crafts for Easter
Crafts for Father's Day
Crafts for Halloween
Crafts for Mother's Day
Crafts for Thanksgiving

This six-book series is packed full of fun and usable seasonal projects to create for the home, or give as gifts. Clear, step-by-step instructions are illustrated with full colour photographs. Each book has an introduction to the season, and useful hints and tips to help create the perfect holiday. The titles feature 13 different projects, with something sure to suit every reader.



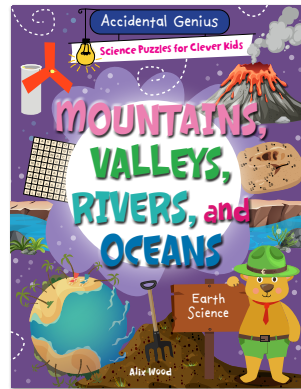
Accidental Genius

Science Puzzles for Clever Kids

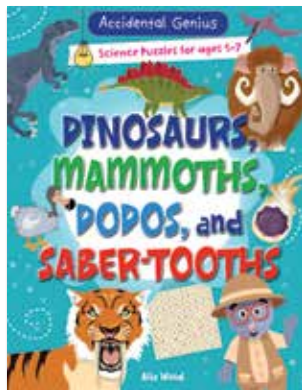
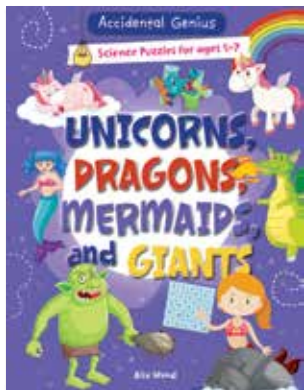
Accidentally learn with these fantastic, fun science-themed activity books. Every page contains carefully thought-out puzzles with educational value. But readers won't notice, because they'll be having too much fun!

Trim: 279.4 x 215.9mm
Pages: 48
Age Range: 5-7 years

Earth Science



These two titles introduce the topics of weather and Earth science.



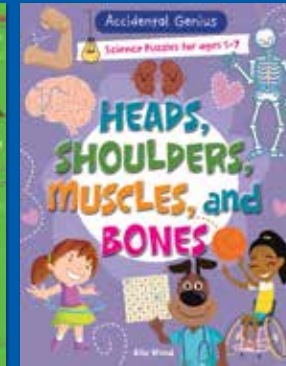
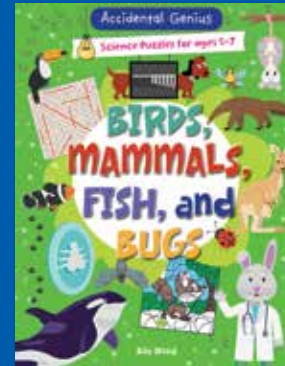
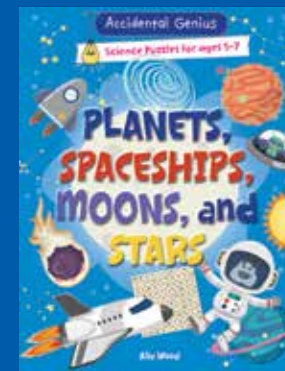
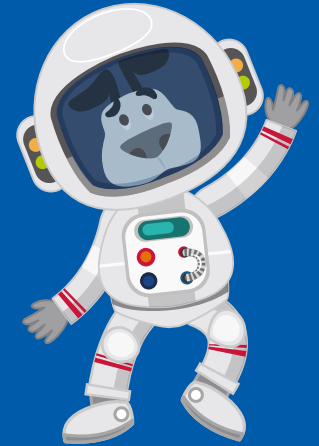
High interest titles like these can contain so many important facts to accidentally learn.

High Interest



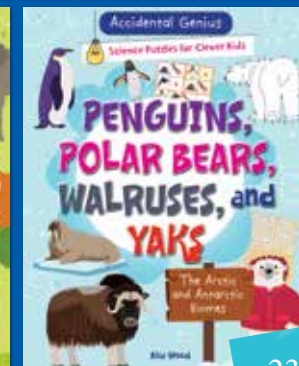
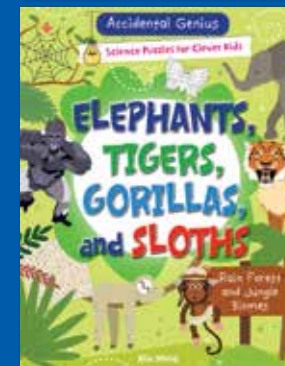
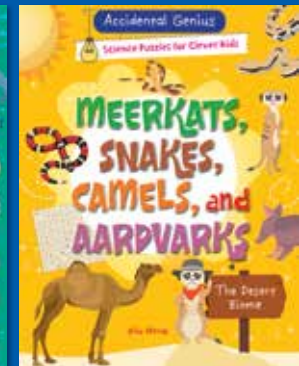
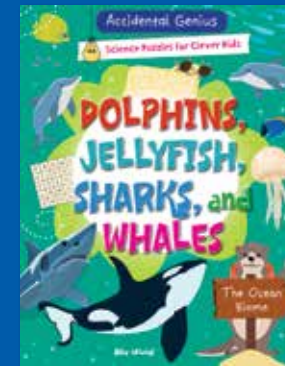
Early Learning

Our four early learning titles cover space science, human biology, animal life and the science behind transport.



Earth's Biomes

Accidentally learn about our planet's biomes with these science-themed activity books.



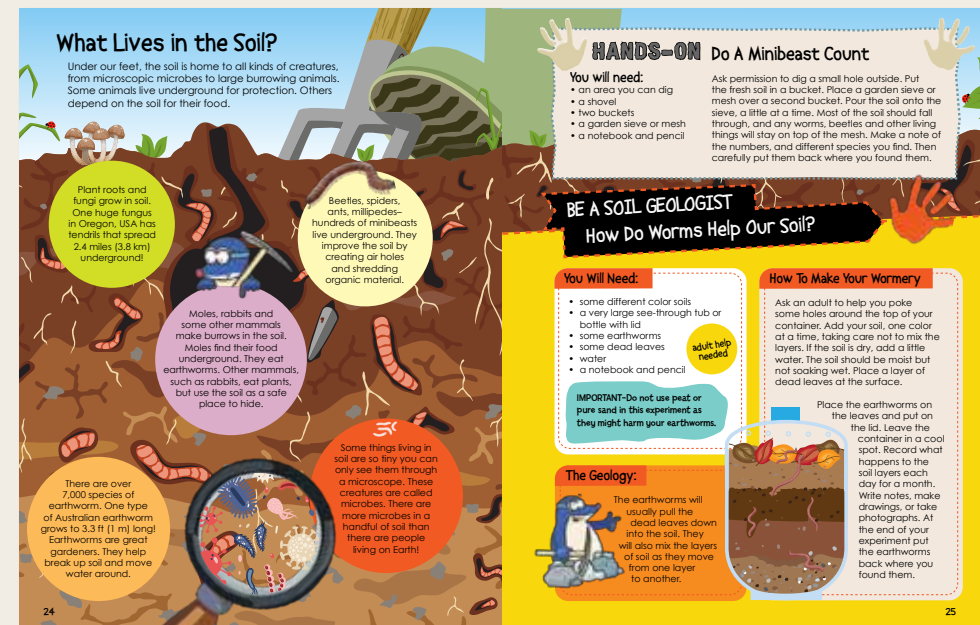
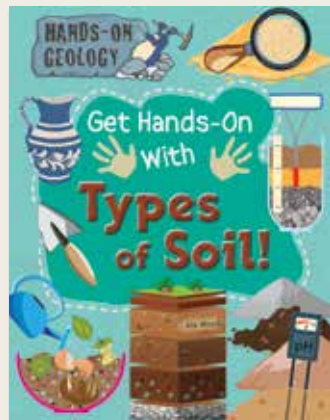
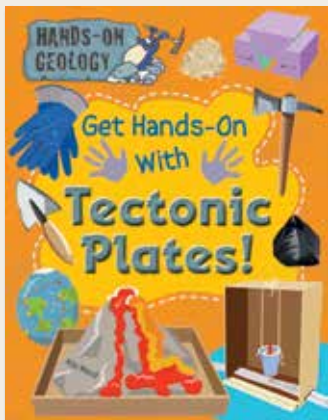
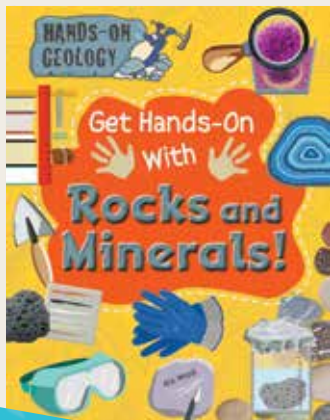
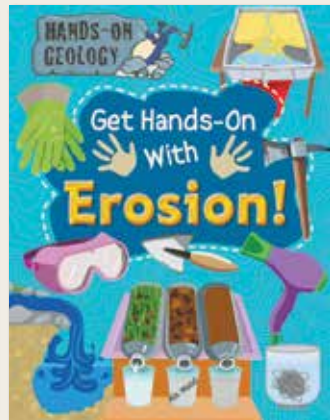
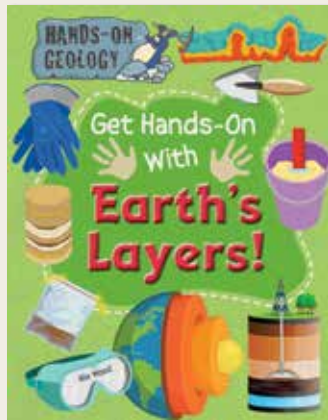
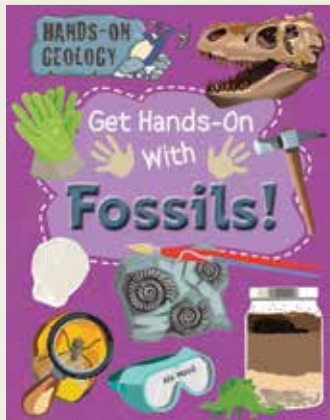


Titles:

- Get Hands-On with Fossils!
- Get Hands-On with Earth's Layers!
- Get Hands-On with Erosion!
- Get Hands-On with Tectonic Plates!
- Get Hands-On with Rocks and Minerals!
- Get Hands-On with Types of Soil!

- Trim: 8.5 x 11"
- Pages: 32
- Photos: Full colour
- Interest level: 9-11 years

These engaging, interactive books give readers a brilliant insight into the science of geology. Conduct experiments and get hands-on. Build a stream table to study erosion. Make a mold-and-cast fossil, and then excavate it like a pro. Make an erupting volcano. Experiment with an earthquake shake table.

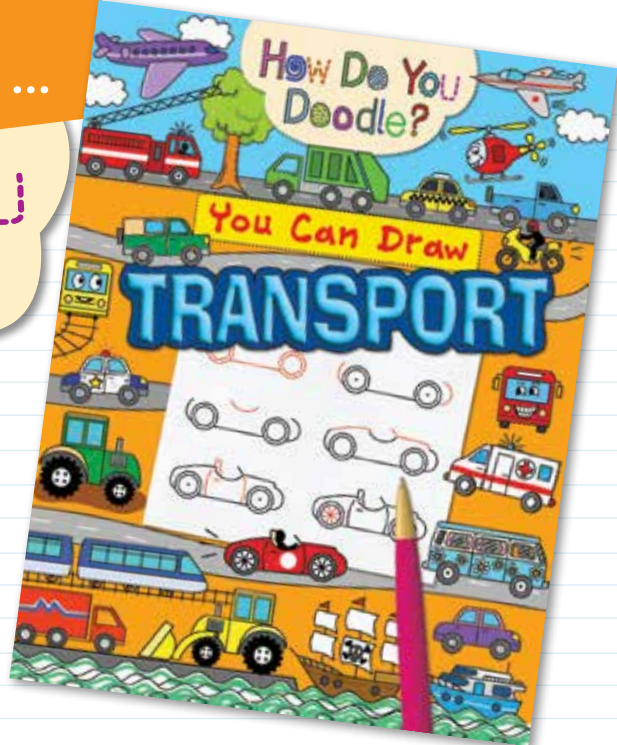


Think About This...
Open-ended questions encourage further thought and study.

Coming Soon ...

How Do You Doodle?

Titles:
Transport
Animals
Dinosaurs
Fashion
People
Monsters



Doodling couldn't be easier. Just follow the step-by-step instructions in these fun, creative books. There are doodle pictures to finish on most spreads, too. Let your doodling imagination go wild!

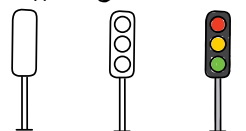
City Scene

Road signs add some fun to your transport doodles. Try these.

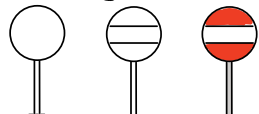
All the signs have the same pole. Draw two parallel lines, with a line along the bottom.

Then add different top parts.

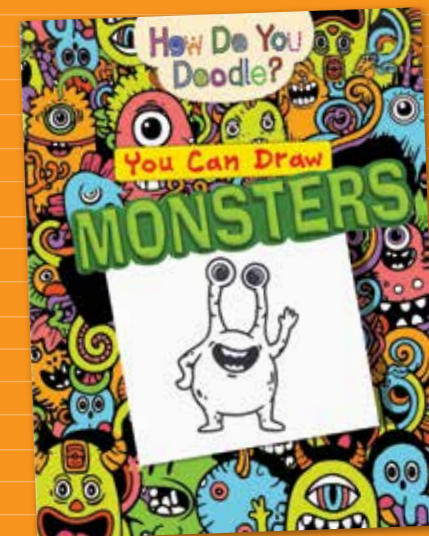
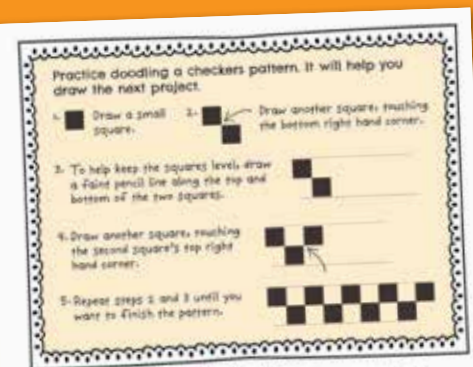
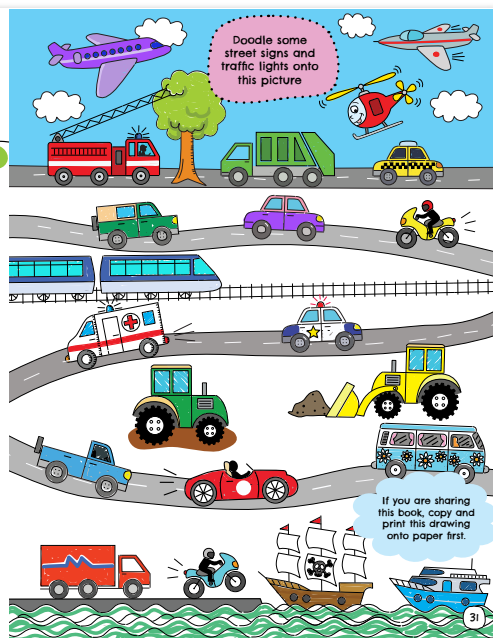
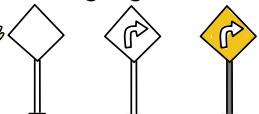
Traffic Lights



No Entry



Warning Signs



Design your own monster. Draw something funny in the back of a truck. Or, have fun decorating a camper van. Readers will love creating their own amazing art.

Trim: 279 x 216 mm
Pages: 48
Full colour illustrations
Reading level: 6-8 years
Interest level: 6-10 years

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