LEAF Reading List

How to use this list
This list contains a selection of fiction and non-fiction texts that relate to the natural world and forest-based ecosystems. Further recommendations and resources can be found on Scottish Book Trust’s website. Texts are listed by language and reading age (for guidance only).

To go further with this reading list, allow pupils to ask questions when reading / listening to the texts, and hold a discussion afterwards. The following questions could be used as starting points for discussion:

- Did you enjoy the text? What did you enjoy / not enjoy about it?
- Did you learn anything new from the text?
- Are there any new words in the text that you didn’t know before? What do they mean?
- Which animals and plants appeared in the text? What did you learn about them?
- Do you think we need to protect the animals and plants mentioned in the text?
- Would you like to visit any of the places / natural environments mentioned in the text? Why do you want to visit them?
- Fiction
  - Who were the main characters in the story?
  - What happened in the story?
- Non-fiction
  - What were the main points from the text?
  - What in the text was fact and what was opinion? How can you tell which is which?

Curricular links

Early Level
LIT 0-01a-c, 0-04a, 0-07a, 0-11a-b, 0-13-14a, 0-16a, 0-19a / ENG 0-12a, 0-17a
LGL 0-01a, 0-05a, 0-07-08a, 0-11-13a / GAI 0-12a, 0-17a

First Level
LIT 1-01a, 1-04a, 1-07a, 1-11a, 1-13a-14a, 1-16a / ENG 1-12a, 1-17a, 1-19a
LGL 1-01a, 1-05a, 1-07a-11a / GAI 1-12a, 1-17a, 1-19a

Second Level
LIT 2-01a, 2-04a, 2-07a, 2-11a, 2-13a-14a, 2-16a / ENG 2-12a, 2-17a, 2-19a
LGL 2-01a, 2-07a-10a, 2-11a-c / GAI 2-12a, 2-17a, 2-19a

Third Level
LIT 3-01a, 3-04a, 3-07a, 3-11a, 3-13a-14a, 3-16a / ENG 3-12a, 3-17a, 3-19a
LGL 3-01a, 3-07a-10a, 3-11a-b / GAI 3-12a, 3-17a, 3-19a

Forth Level
LIT 4-01a, 4-04a, 4-07a, 4-11a, 4-13a-14a, 4-16a / ENG 4-12a, 4-17a, 4-19a,
LGL 4-01a, 4-07a-11a / GAI 4-12a, 4-17a, 4-19a
English language texts

Nursery
Hike by Pete Oswald
Home of the Wild by Louise Greig and Júlia Moscardó
How many Trees by Barroux
Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert
My Friend Earth by Patricia MacLachlan and Francesca Sanna
Nature Trail by Benjamin Zephaniah and Nila Aye
Somebody Swallowed Stanley by Sarah Roberts
The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson
The Gruffalo’s Child by Julia Donaldson
The Last Wolf by Mini Grey – Visit our Live Lesson Page to watch the story being read aloud and learn more about helping protect forests and fighting climate change.
The Variety of Life by Nicola Davies
Tidy by Emily Gravett
What a Waste: Trash, Recycling, and Protecting Our Planet by Jess French

Lower primary
Catch The Sky by Robert Heldbreder and Emily Dove
Dancing with Trees: Eco-Tales from the British Isles by Allison Galbraith and Alette J. Willis
Forest Folk Tales for Children by Tom Phillips
Leif and the Fall by Allison Sweet Grant and Adam Grant
Let’s Save Our Planet: Forests by Jess French and Alexander Mostov
Nature and Me by The School of Life
One World: 24 Hours on Planet Earth by Nicola Davies
Slow Down: Bring Calm to a Busy World with 50 Nature Stories by Rachel Williams and Freya Hartas
The Last Wolf by Mini Grey – Visit our Live Lesson Page to watch the story being read aloud and learn more about helping protect forests and fighting climate change.
The Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane
The Variety of Life by Nicola Davies
The Willow Wildthing series by Gill Lewis
Where My Wellies Take Me by Michael Morpurgo, Clare Morpurgo and Olivia Lomenech Gill
Wild Child: A Journey Through Nature by Dara McAnulty and Barry Falls
Upper primary
Can You Hear The Trees Talking?: Discovering the Hidden Life of the Forest by Peter Wohlleben
Catch The Sky by Robert Heldbreder and Emily Dove
Crow Wars by Gill Lewis – part of the Astro range of books from Rising Stars Reading Planet, ideal for struggling and reluctant readers.

Other Gill Lewis books including: Song of the River, Run Wild, Eagle Warrior, Swan Song and Sky Dancer
Dancing with Trees: Eco-Tales from the British Isles by Allison Galbraith and Alette J. Willis
Forest Folk Tales for Children by Tom Phillips
Let's Save Our Planet: Forests by Jess French and Alexander Mostov
Nature and Me by The School of Life
Slow Down: Bring Calm to a Busy World with 50 Nature Stories by Rachel Williams and Freya Hartas
The Hobbit by J.R.R Tolkien
The Lost Words by Robert Macfarlane
The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame
We have a Dream by Mya-Rose Craig
Wild Child: A Journey Through Nature by Dara McAnulty and Barry Falls

High school
Birdgirl by Mya-Rose Craig
Dancing with Trees: Eco-Tales from the British Isles by Allison Galbraith and Alette J. Willis
Diary of a Young Naturalist by Dara McAnulty
I Ate Sunshine for Breakfast by Michael Holland and Philip Giordano
Run Wild by Gill Lewis

Other Gill Lewis books including: Song of the River, Eagle Warrior, Swan Song and Sky Dancer
The Great British Tree Biography: 50 legendary trees and the tales behind them by Mark Hooper
The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R Tolkien
The Rise of Wolves by Kerr Thomson
The Summer We Turned Green by William Sutcliffe
When Shadows Fall by Sita Brahmachari
Woodland Folk Tales of Britain and Ireland by Lista Schneidau
Gaelic texts

Nursery
Am Madadh-allaidh mu Dheireadh le Mini Grey
An Gruffalo le Julia Donaldson
Cia Mheud Craobh? le Barroux
Dathan – Saoghal Miorbhaileach le Tim Hopgood
Seall agus Inns: Dè Chi Thu Anns a’ Bhaile le Sebastien Braun
Tè Bheag a’ Ghruffalo le Julia Donaldson

Lower primary
Am Madadh-allaidh mu Dheireadh le Mini Grey
An Cruinniche Meanbh-bhiastagan le Alex G Griffiths
Lachaidh agus an Oidhche largsa le Bridget Bhreatnach
Mo Chiad Leabhar Bheathaichean Coille dealbhan le Zoe Ingram
Mo Chiad Leabhar Eun dealbhan le Zoe Ingram
Seall agus Inns: Dè Chi Thu Anns a’ Bhaile le Sebastien Braun
Sgeulachd an Dà Bhèist le Fiona Robertson

Upper primary
An t-Ubhal Seunta le Mary Beith
Balach na Bonaid (Book & CD) le James Robertson
Gu h-Àrd agus Gu h-Ìosal le Hanako Clulow
Lachaidh agus an Oidhche largsa le Bridget Bhreatnach

High School
Craobhan le C.M. & L. Storey & C. Dillon
Fluraichean le NicIlleathain, M & Dillon, C
Into the Fairy Hill le Michael Newton (English language book with original Scottish Gaelic texts provided in an appendix)
Literature of the Gaelic Landscape – Song, Poem and Tale le John Murray (English language book containing lots of information on Gaelic literature and culture and how these fit into the Scottish landscape)
Reading the Gaelic Landscape le John Murray (English language book containing lots of information on Gaelic naming of the Scottish landscape and ecology)
Saoghal Eile le Mairi E. MacLeod