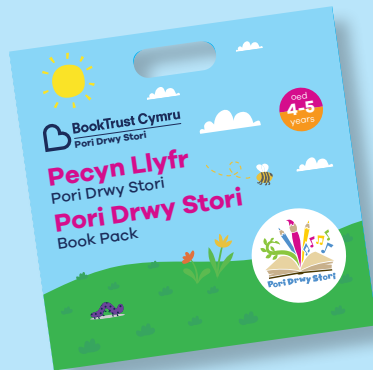


Pori Drwy Stori Book Pack



Reception-aged children in Wales will receive a Pori Drwy Stori Book Pack. You will receive **a pack for every child** in your Reception class. The pack contains a high quality bilingual picture book, an activity magazine based on the book, a library leaflet and access to lots of on-line resources.

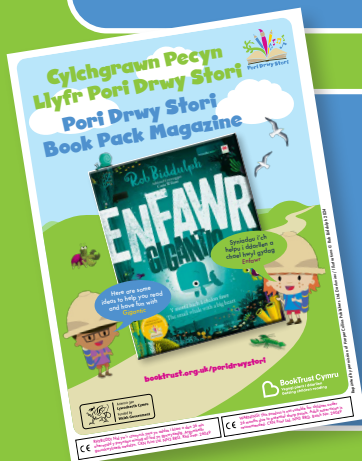
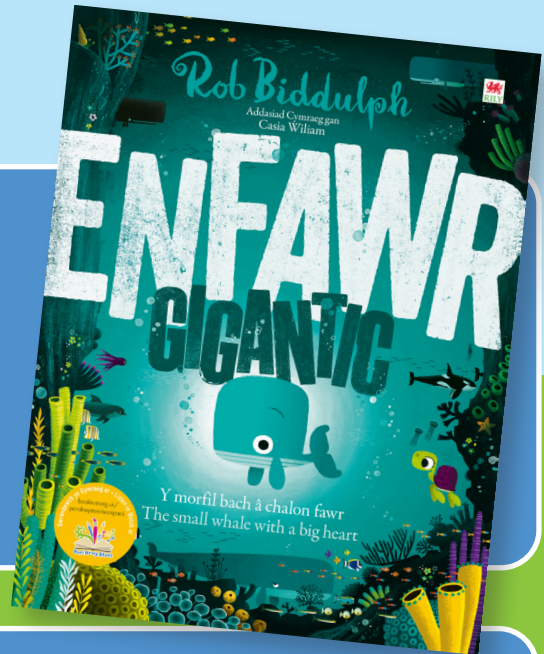
This year's book is:

Gigantic

Rob Biddulph, adapted by Casia Wiliam

A story about a determined little whale called Gigantic from bestselling author and illustrator Rob Biddulph.

When his big brother gets stuck on the sand, Gigantic must save the day with his smallest sea creature friends. Can they show it's possible to be tiny and tough?



Pori Drwy Stori Book Pack magazine for every child

The magazine has lots of fun activities for children and families to complete together. It contains top tips for enjoying books and ideas for ways parents and carers can play an active role in their child's learning.



Library leaflet

Sharing messages about what libraries can offer and the benefits of using them.



booktrust.org.uk/poridrwyystori

A resource for home and school

- Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs have been designed to encourage children to enjoy reading, and to support parents and carers to share books with their children.
- There's strong evidence that reading for pleasure significantly benefits children's literacy and this resource enables you to introduce a high-quality bilingual picture book for the children in your class to enjoy both at school and at home.

'If schools can help families to better support their child's learning during the Foundation Phase then they will be exerting a powerful lever to help children achieve their potential.'

Welsh Government: Family and community engagement toolkit for schools in Wales 2015

To find out more about the Welsh Government's Education Begins at Home campaign,

[Click here](#)

or follow Education Begins at Home on social media.

Sending the packs home

Introduce the packs in whatever way suits your class best. Here are a few ideas:

Invite parents and carers in to tell them about the Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs, and encourage them to use the print and on-line resources to help them get the most out of the books at home.

Introduce the theme of the book to your class in an interactive and creative way to build excitement around the book.

Read the book aloud in class before sending packs home. Try sharing the book in different ways, talk about the pictures and share the book in new and interesting places around the setting.

Use the Pori Drwy Stori Book Pack Toolkit to help you use the book to explore wider AoLEs. Why not send some activities for the children to try at home?

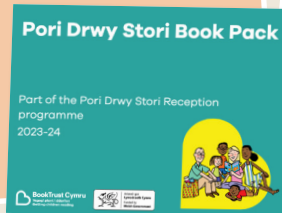


Get families excited about Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs

You'll know the best way to enable families and children to enjoy reading for pleasure with the Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs. It's important to give parents and carers the opportunity to come into school and find out more.

Idea 1

Our **Pori Drwy Stori Book Pack presentation** has been specifically designed for you to use to introduce the resources to parents. Inviting parents/carers into class is also a wonderful opportunity to read and explore the book and magazine together.



Idea 2

Many schools are using the Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs as a **family engagement opportunity**, inviting parents and carers in to school to join in with fun, hands on activities, covering all aspects of the curriculum.



Idea 3

Read *Gigantic* in class first, before the children take them home. This will help increase the children's excitement and help them become familiar with the book. Children's excitement can often rub off on their families! Hearing the books again and again will also help children become familiar and confident with the language.

Idea 4

Before sending the books home, send a letter, leaflet, poster, Twitter post or text to inform parents and carers of what to expect. You could even invite parents and carers to an event online or face to face to introduce the book to them. The more that they know about the resource, what to do and the difference it will make... the more likely they are to get involved!



Using the Book Pack magazine

- The magazine and the book stays at home for each child to keep.
- As a **home-school activity**, children can complete the drawing activity on the back page of the magazine, cut it out and return it to school.
- Parents and carers can also answer the simple questions on the back of the drawing.
- A way of engaging more families is to display the returned drawings where parents can see them or tweet a picture of the drawings that have already been returned.



Explore, excite and engage

BookTrust Cymru has worked with teachers to develop some activities to help you make the most of your Pori Drwy Stori Book Packs and **create a buzz** around the books.

These ready-made activity ideas are to help you get started. We think that they'd work particularly well as part of a family engagement session!

Alternatively, read the books with your class in advance and let the children's imaginations run wild as they come up with activity ideas of their own. This is an excellent opportunity for pupil voice and child-led learning.

Most of all, we hope you have fun!



We'd love to hear and see what your class is doing so do let us know at poridrwystori@booktrust.org.uk or follow us on social media [@BookTrustCymru](https://www.instagram.com/BookTrustCymru)

Gigantic

By Rob Biddulph, adapted by Casia Wiliam



Talking Puppet

Bring Gigantic to life! Promote children's fine motor development and creative skills.

You will need:

- Bowl
- Flour
- Food colouring
- Water
- Drop of oil
- Spoon
- PuppetPals app (free download)
- Story Book Gigantic

Step 1: Ask the children to add the ingredients together into the bowl. Encourage the children to mix with their hands or a spoon. They can add a drop chosen food colouring to the mixture. Shape the dough into their chosen shape to represent 'Gigantic'.

Step 2: Using a spoon, children can use on end to make markings for a mouth and the other end for eyes.

Step 3: Use the PuppetPals app to take a photograph of the finished dough character. Then following the steps on the app, make a line for mouth and add any extras by dragging the pictures to the photograph.

Step 4: Children decided what they would like their character to say. Practise first, then when ready, press record on the screen. The child speaks, once the child has finished, press stop. Listen to the recording. Their characters mouth will move saying what the child told it to say.

Extension:

- Use the dough character and add natural materials to change the way it looks. Go outside and collect leaves; sticks; flowers; acorns; small pebbles etc.

AoLE: Science and Technology; Language and Literacy; Expressive Arts.

Four Purposes: Enterprising, creative contributors.

Tail Spin

This activity supports children's exploratory thinking.

You will need:

- Card
- Paper Plate
- Pencil/pens/paint
- Split Pins
- Blu tac
- Googly Eyes (optional)

Step 1: Children choose a character from the story Gigantic they would like to make. Decorate a plate to look like the character they have chosen. They can be creative and add googly eyes, mark make features of the face, add teeth etc.

Step 2: Using the card, children draw and colour a tail for their Character. Then using the split pin attach the tail to the plate Character using a blob of Blu tac or sponge piece underneath.

Step 3: The child can turn the tail of their character to make a tail spin!

Extension:

- Use the finished character to 'act out' what it might have said at different parts of the story.

AoLE: Science and Technology; Physical Development.

Four Purposes: Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners.



Sea Dance

Promote children's connections with the outdoors and with music and movement.

You will need:

- Musical instruments- drum; triangle; rainmakers etc
- Paper and pen
- Spots (laminated paper or card would work well)
- Access to a space outside
- Pages of the book

Step 1: Read the story and pick out all the actions/ action words they notice. Make a note of them on pieces of paper and add them to a pot/ bag.

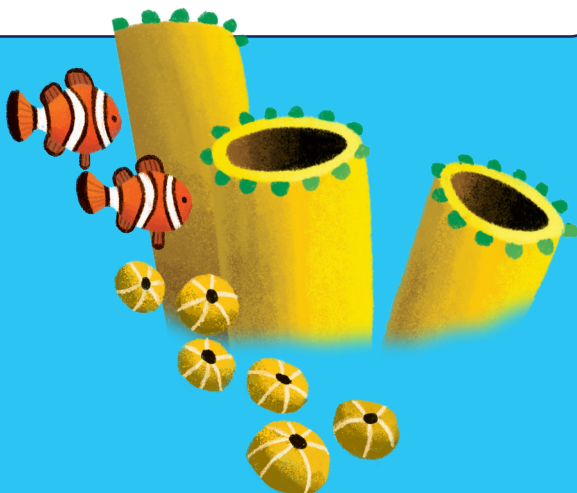
Step 2: Take the children outside and they select a spot to stand on. One child chooses a card. Read the action. When the musical instrument plays they begin moving around the 'ocean' in the style of the action. Adult changes the speed and volume of instrument played so children make their actions faster or slower, bigger or small shapes etc. Repeat until all the cards have been chosen. Each action can have a different instrument played to add variety.

Extension:

- Children make a dance sequence using three or four of the actions they practised. They can work in pairs/groups or individually.
- Record the children's dances for them to see collectively on a large screen to enjoy and discuss.
- Repeat the dances and add in props such as scarves and ribbons.

AoLE: Expressive Arts; Health and Wellbeing; Language and Literacy.

Four Purposes: Healthy, confident individuals; Enterprising, creative contributors.



Fishing Fun

Promoting pupils' connection with the outdoors and learning.

You will need:

- Sticks
- String
- Sellotape or paper clip
- Paper and pens
- Number cards

Step 1: Children make 3 paper fish of different sizes. Encourage them to add eyes, patterns and where able, label the fish 1,2, 3.

Step 2: Take the children outside to collect a stick which will become a fishing rod. Cut a length of string and wind one end around one end of the stick. (Adult can tie a knot). Add either a paper clip or a piece of tape (folded over sticky side out) to the other end of the string. Put 'fishing rods aside'.

Step 3: Children take their three fish and hide them in the outdoor area by placing them on/under/ behind/above things outside.

Step 4: Collect their rod and they go 'fishing'. Can they collect each fish by remembering which one was under/on/behind/inside etc. Encourage them to attach or stick their fish to the end of the rod.

Extension:

- Order the fish according to size, number.
- Make a bigger set up to 5/ 10.
- Look for similarities and difference in the outdoor environment.

AoLE: Science and Technology; Health and Wellbeing; Language and Literacy.

Four Purposes: Ethical, Informed Citizens; Healthy, confident individuals.



Lost in the Ocean

Promote children's language skills and development, cooperative skills and physical skills.

You will need:

- A picture of Gigantic and other character from the story
- Set of arrows labelled 1-10 (these can be simply drawn arrows on paper)
- Device to take photographs of each location.
- Cards with the questions: Where is Gigantic? Ble mae Gigantic?
- Clipboards and a prepared sheet second column blank for pupils to record in

*Prior to starting the search for Gigantic the adult will have set up the arrows, hidden Gigantic in a suitable location outdoors in an arrangement that suits the group and location.

Step 1: Explain to the children that Gigantic has got himself lost in the ocean and he needs our help to find him.

Step 2: Show them the clip boards and explain that there are ten places we need to look for him. Count to ten and point to the numbers as you count. Explain that the empty box next to each number is for us to record/mark make in. (You may want to agree on a rule for this i.e. a tick or cross).

Step 3: Go on a hunt for Gigantic. Adult leads the children to the starting point arrow number 1. They look around in the direction of the arrow. Encourage them to repeat the sentence "Ble mae Gigantic?" "Where is Gigantic?" When they see he's not there, they add a mark next to box number 1 on their sheet. Keep following the arrows around the course until they come to arrow number 10 where they will find Gigantic! They add a tick in the box next to 10 on their sheets. Ask each child to take a photograph of each location the arrows take them to.

Extension:

- The pupils could arrange the arrows for another group of children.
- The arrows can be reduced or increased to suit the learners in repeated activities.
- Children count the steps between each arrow when repeating the activity.
- The last arrow could include a note/letter from Gigantic that leads to description of where he is hiding. The children will be familiar with the key features so that they know where to look.

AoLE: Language and Literacy; Numeracy Development; Humanities.

Four Purposes: Healthy, confident individuals; Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners.

Map my ocean!

Promote children's thinking and language skills and development, physical and creative skills.

You will need:

*This is a following on activity Lost in the Ocean.

- Copy of the Book
- Photographs of the journey they took to find Gigantic in Lost in the Ocean
- Colouring pencils/pens/Glitter
- Plain paper or card
- Samples of basic maps

Step 1: Show the children the sample of map/s. Discuss why and how we can use them. Show how we can draw simple maps using lines; dots; circles and numbers. Remind the children of the journey they took in the activity 'Lost in the Ocean.' Show the children the pictures taken on the walk and together, arrange them in an order of what came first, next last etc.

Step 2: Provide the children with the paper and pencils/pens and number cards and encourage them to make their own map of the journey they took to find Gigantic. Children use the photographs to support they recall of the journey and number cards to support they understanding of order.

Extension:

- Encourage the children to talk about their map using key words.
- Encourage the children to children to make maps for the characters of the story so they can find their way around. They can be as creative as they like.

AoLE: Language and Literacy; Expressive Arts; Mathematical Development.

Four Purposes: Healthy, confident individuals; Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners.





That's Rubbish!

Promote children's understanding of the problem of rubbish in our oceans. Just because they can't see it, it still exists.

You will need:

- Litter pickers and/or gloves
- A large cut out of a Titan or Gigantic
- Bins or Black Bags
- Recycled litter
- Story Book Gigantic

Step 1: Without the children knowing, take the recycled clean rubbish and place it outside and around the accessible areas.

Step 2: Start by talking to the children about litter and how litter dropped on the floor can end up in our oceans. Look at the pictures from the story, can they spot any rubbish? Highlight how happy and colourful the characters are and the environment they live in.

Step 3: Show the children the cut out character and how 'clean' it is.

Step 4: Take the children outside and ask them to collect any rubbish they might find.

Step 5: Bring the collected rubbish to the cut out character and each child places one item on to it. Talk about what he might be feeling now all this litter is around him.

Step 6: Talk to the children about how all this rubbish can end up in oceans and encourage them to be 'Ethical' by always putting rubbish in to the bin.

Extension:

- Remove the rubbish from the cut out and put it in to the water tray so children can see how 'crowded' the water becomes and how difficult it would be for Gigantic and his friends to swim around.
- Show the children a video clip of ocean in our seas.
- Hashtag @keep_Wales_Tidy with a picture of your activity.

AoLE: Science and Technology; Health and Wellbeing; Language and Literacy.

Four Purposes: Ethical, Informed Citizens; Healthy, confident individuals.



Paint my Bubble

Promote children's creative development.

You will need:

- Tray with water
- Straw
- Paper
- Paint or marbling paint
- Washing up liquid

Step 1: Find pictures together in Gigantic that show 'bubbles'. Discuss where they come from. Tell the children that they are going to make bubble pictures.

Step 2: Fill a tray quarter full with water and add some washing up liquid. Swirl it around gently. With a straw, demonstrate how to blow through the straw onto your hand to make the air flow through it. Once the children can do this, each one can have a go at blowing into the water to explore what happens.

Step 3: Add small drops of watered down paint to the water or marbling paint. The children take a turn to blow into the water and see the bubbles turn colourful. Carefully, place the paper onto of the bubbles holding on to it, touch the surface of the bubbles and then lift it off. Children will see the transfer of the colours on to the paper and the shapes they create.

Extension:

- Use the finished prints as a colourful background to a collage. Children make small fish using card to add to their bubble backgrounds. They can add scrunched up tissue paper to make seaweed/seagrass and glue it on to make their picture 3D. Add glitter for a final touch.

AoLE: Expressive Arts; Science and Technology.

Four Purposes: Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners; Enterprising, creative contributors.



Sea Stars Sandwich

This activity promotes mathematical language skills and fine motor development

You will need:

- Star shape
- Bread
- Butter (optional)
- Filling of choice
- Knife
- Plate
- White board and pen

Step 1: Children wash and dry hands. Set out all the items needed on a table.

Step 2: The adult instructs the children to find and use the items in a specific order using first, next, then, now, last.

Step 3: Children follow the instruction to select the bread, butter the bread using the knife to spread it; then they add their chosen filling; next add the top layer of bread and gently press; then using the knife cut the sandwich in half.

Step 4 : Talk about what half looks like and demonstrate using a whiteboard and drawing what half is and what half is not.

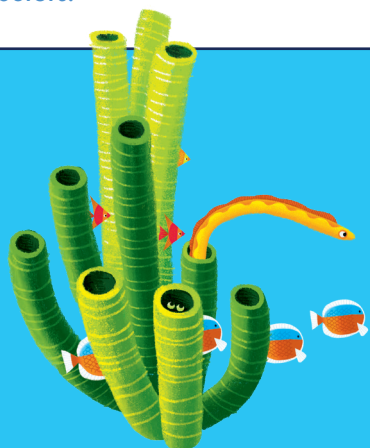
Step 5: Children enjoy their sandwich!

Extension:

- Look at other ways pupils can share and halve with resources in class.
- Gigantic Tea Party: Children plan a tea party for Gigantic and his friends. They ensure that everyone has a fair share by setting up the party with each character having: 1 plate, 1 cup, 1 knife, two sandwich halves, 1 bowl, 1 chair etc.

AoLE: Mathematical Development; Physical Development.

Four Purposes: Ethical, informed citizens: Ambitious, capable learners; Enterprising, creative contributors.



The Size of your Heart

Promote children's empathy and kindness and their understanding of nature in their locality.

You will need:

- Cardboard pieces (recycled where possible)
- Lard
- Bird seed
- String
- Mixing bowls and spoon
- Fridge or cool space.
- Gloves
- Small blob of blu tack or piece of sponge and pen

Step 1: Share the last page of Gigantic and talk about the heart shape and how the characters helped each other. Talk about how we can help all creatures, particularly some that are in our locality... such as birds. Share that they will be making a bird feeder using recycled card.

Step 2: Children draw around a heart template on to their recycled card. They cut (supported when required) out the heart shape. Pierce a hole at the top using a pen and some blue tac or sponge underneath. Cut a length of string and attach to the heart.

Step 3: In a bowl, add pieces of lard, spoon the birdseed into it and mix together. Spread the mixture across the heart back and front. Add the heart to a tray and leave in a fridge to set a little.

Step 4: Take the birdfeeders outside and ask the children to look for suitable locations to hang them.

Extension:

- Bird watching. When the bird feeders have been hung, the children can find a spot either indoors or outdoors but far enough away not to scare the birds. Watch for the birds that come to the feeders and record how many or what type.
- Research the types of birds that use the locality. Make a pictogram using J2E software: <https://hwb.gov.wales/support-centre/hwb-services/just2easy>.

AoLE: Science and Technology; Expressive Arts; Humanities.

Four Purposes: Ethical, informed citizens: Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners; Enterprising, creative contributors.





Gigantic Friends

This activity promotes belonging and fostering kindness.

You will need:

- Pasta tubes and or Cheerios
- String (different colours like the ocean if available)
- Page () showing the characters making a chain

Step 1: Share the picture of the sea characters all making a chain that gets bigger and bigger the more that come to help. Allow time for children to discuss what this means. Think about the more that came to help the easy the job became. What does that tell us?

Step 2: Explain to the children that they are going to make a chain bracelet for a friend using pasta shapes/ cheerios' and string. Adult ties a knot at the end of their chosen colour string. They set about threading them onto their string and as they do they think about each one being a friend that makes a stronger chain. Once finished, tie both ends together and give to a friend as an act of kindness. (To make sure everyone gets one, the children can pull lollipop sticks with each child's name on one out of a bag prior to making or after).

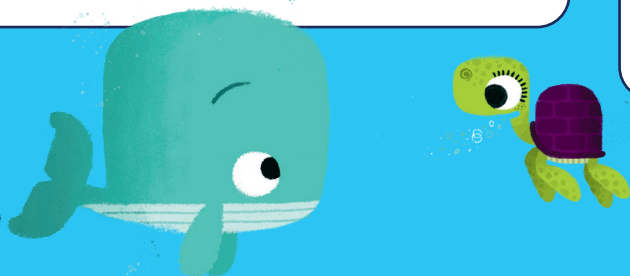
Step 3: With every child wearing or holding their bracelet, make a human chain and connect it into a circle to show how we all belong and are friends together.

Extension:

- Make a long paper chain, each child having a piece of the chain to decorate with a self-portrait and connect them altogether to hang in the class.

AoLE: Health and Wellbeing; Physical Development;

Four Purposes: Ethical, informed citizens: Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners; Enterprising, creative contributors.



Secrets of the Ocean

Promote children's sense of rhythm and music.

You will need:

- Video or sound clip of ocean sounds
- Recycled carton/container with lid.
- Pasta/rice
- Glue
- Sequins/tissue paper for decoration
- Spoons

Step 1: Start by exploring the children's understanding of what is a sound? Do they think that there are sounds underneath the sea? Listen or show the clip of the sounds of the oceans and imagine what sounds Gigantic and Titan might make when they are talking; singing; twirling etc. What sounds the sea grass and sand might make?

Step 2: Explain they will be making their own instrument to make sounds. Using the recycled containers, ask the children to use the spoon or fingers to scoop into the container the rice; pasta; shells; small pebbles etc. attach the lid securely you may wish to tape them on).

Step 3: In a small group, test out the sounds each instrument makes by shaking at different speeds. Then play a sound game where children copy the pattern i.e. the adult shakes the instrument twice, the children copy. Then repeat but shake for four, the children copy. Keep adding and change the pattern. So, two shakes slow followed by three shakes fast. You can add in shakes that are up (children hold their instruments high/low/behind/ in front/next to etc.)

Extension:

- Read the story to the children. As you do, the children use their instruments to create a sound every time you come to an action word in the text.
- Once the children have practised the prior activity, you could give different groups of children a target action word from the text. When that group hears the word, only they play.

AoLE: Expressive Arts; Health and Wellbeing; Language and Literacy.

Four Purposes: Healthy, confident individuals; Enterprising, creative contributors; Ambitious, capable learners.

