

Hello

BookTrust is so excited to be working with your school to give away FREE copies of **The Runaway Pea** by Kjartan Poskitt and Alex Willmore to your Primary One classes.

Why are we doing this?

Reading together for just ten minutes a day improves children's imagination, language, emotional well-being and curiosity. And these benefits continue for every child past Primary One.

This year especially, children might need a little extra help settling into Primary One following the coronavirus outbreak. Reading together is a great source of comfort that increases bonding time. It often becomes less of a priority for families as homework begins, children start to read for themselves and life becomes more hectic. Our **Time to Read** packs aim to give families a helping hand, showing them just how quick, easy and fun it can be to read together.

Why schools?

School is where children spend most of their week, and as a teacher you are one of their biggest influencers. With your help, we'd love for children to come home raving about the great time they had exploring the story of *The Runaway Pea* and to be excited about having their very own copy.



You'll find ideas on how to get your class excited about the book on the other side of this letter.

How it works


- It's best to give these packs out to your class at the start of the autumn term as children are settling into their new school life.
- If you haven't received enough packs for all your Primary One pupils, please contact the Education Authority.
- Inside the box you'll find a classroom copy of the pack to help introduce pupils to *The Runaway Pea* - a hilarious story that follows a pea's escape from the dinner plate.
- Find out more about this story and check out our reading tips inside the cover of the book.



BookTrust is the UK's largest children's reading charity. We are dedicated to getting children reading. [booktrust.org.uk](https://www.booktrust.org.uk)

Ideas for using *The Runaway Pea* in your classroom

Get your pupils excited about reading *The Runaway Pea* by theming a lesson around the book.



Use the book to talk to your class about how vegetables grow

In the book a tinned pea flourishes into a plant. In reality this isn't how peas grow, so talk your class through this process. You could even tie this in with a cress growing session.



Messages on a fridge

Mix up some magnetic letters on a white board and ask your class to form words. They could even be related to vegetables or reading.

Maths

Introduce peas into your maths lessons. How many peas are in a pod? Design a pea maths tree and get your class to count along with you.

Poetry

This book uses lots of rhyming words. You can use them to explore simple rhymes with your class.

Join in online

We'd love to see how your lessons turn out. Share your ideas, find inspiration from other teachers and join in the conversation by using **#TimeToRead** on social media.

Thank you for supporting Time to Read

Muscle memory for learning how to grip a pen

Put out two bowls: one filled with 'peas' (green paper balls), and one completely empty. Ask your class to team up and use chopsticks to put as many 'peas' into the empty bowl as possible! Time this and turn it into a class competition.



Creative writing

Ask your class to design their own adventure. What would your class do if they had a whole day to do whatever they liked?



Create a display

Stick a big dinner plate on the wall and ask each child to add their favourite food to the plate. This could lead to a discussion about healthy eating and getting your five-a-day.