

Early Years Foundation Stage Learning Resource

A curiosity box is a visual resource for younger learners, stimulating their thoughts and ideas and allowing them to express themselves through communication and language. Being able to practice taking it in turns to talk, and listening to other people's thoughts plays a key role help develop their own conceptualisations. Whatever is inside the box, children will have questions to ask, let's encourage our children to be curious.

You will need:
Acrylic box or transparent container.
Trash bin or black bin
Recycling bin (green if possible)
A variety of materials and rubbish*
Green cloth (for grass)
Recycling logo
Thought bubbles (x6)
Key vocabulary
Tuff tray



The activity will firstly start with the teacher taking out the recycling bin and the trash bin, placing them so the children can see. Also take out any rubbish that is loose or has fallen from the trash bin.

Next, generate a discussion with the children around the **recycling** logo. Firstly, asking if any of the children recognise the logo, where they might have seen it and if they know what it means? From this the children could generate ideas or questions which can be written on the thought bubbles and placed around the curiosity box. The thought bubbles can be displayed on the walls after the discussion as part of an enquiry investigation for children to find out during continuous provision using IT or books to help them.



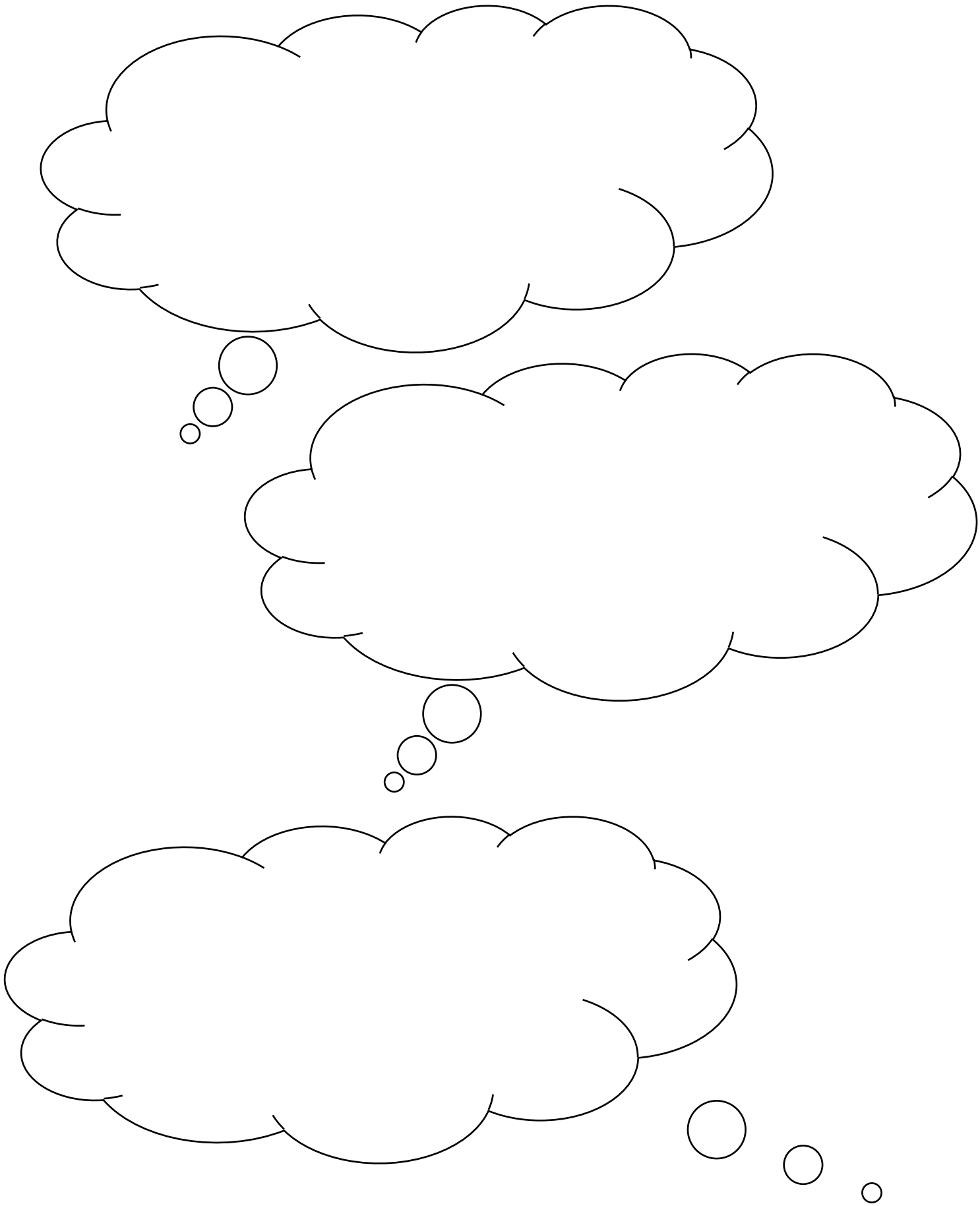
Next the teacher should use a tuff tray on the floor, to empty all the materials and rubbish into for the children to explore. Can the children identify any of the items that could be recycled? To help children with this activity, recycling symbols could be added to the items to make it easier to spot. When the children spot an item to recycle, they can put the item into the recycling bin. Alternatively, you could use sorting rings to organise the rubbish into recycling and general waste.

Finally, the activity can be finished with evaluating and talking about the importance of recycling, and maybe touch on **landfill**.

Early years foundation framework			
Personal, social and emotional	Communication and language	Literacy	Understanding the world
✓	✓	✓	✓

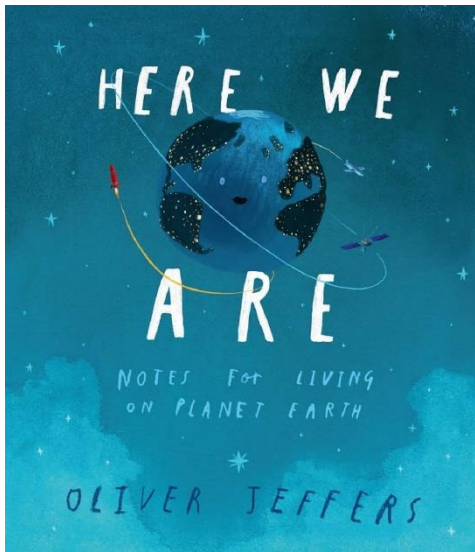
*All rubbish should be washed where possible and instructions on how to keep safe should be shared with the children. We recommend all children to wash their hands after this activity.

Authors Izzy McGarry and Jordan Cross



Book ideas

Here We Are



This story is a lovely story to share with young children. It offers them the opportunity to explore many aspects of life as we know it.

From the author of classics such as "The Day the Crayons Quit" and "The Way Back Home", this book is filled with a variety of vocabulary and pictures to expose the children to and get them talking and excited about the planet we live on.

This book recognises the criticality of educating young children about this world we all share and the importance of nurturing a love for it.

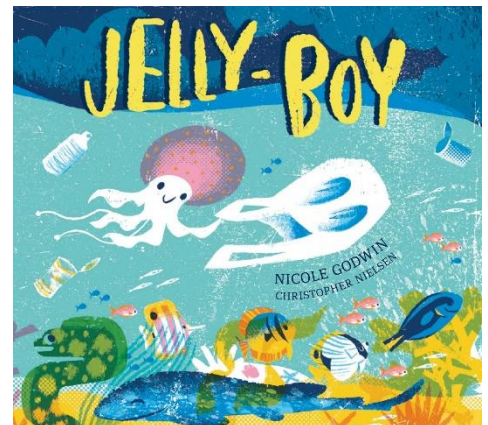
(Jeffers, 2017)

The book is currently available as a movie free on Apple TV+, so if a copy of the book is not available to you, this could be an alternative option.

Jelly-Boy

This book inspires the next generation of readers to protect the ocean from plastic waste. *Jelly-Boy* uses quirky pictures to promote the strong message behind the story, in ensuring that children understand the dangers that plastic brings to animals in the ocean.

The book conveys the strong message in a child-friendly manner and humour, encouraging discussion and dialogue about this important issue.



(Godwin and Nielsen, 2020)

These books are well known and often used in Early years to promote conversation about climate issues. Quirky pictures and rich vocabulary help support children's understanding and promote strong messages, which will support their own ideas and inspire them to make a difference.

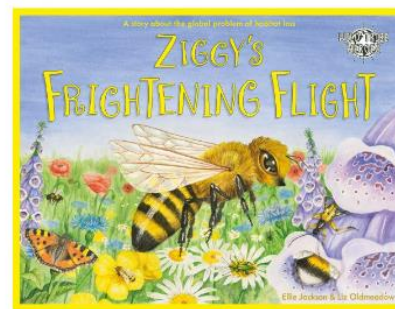
Early years foundation framework			
Personal, social and emotional	Communication and language	Literacy	Understanding the world
✓	✓	✓	✓

Authors Izzy McGarry and Jordan Cross

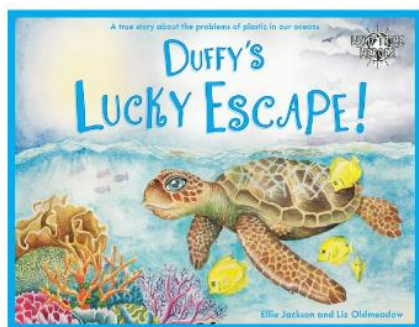
Book ideas

Schools will need to have a copy of the book to share with the class.

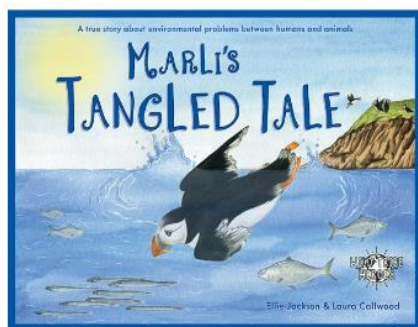
[Teaching Resources Home Page - Wild Tribe Heroes](#)



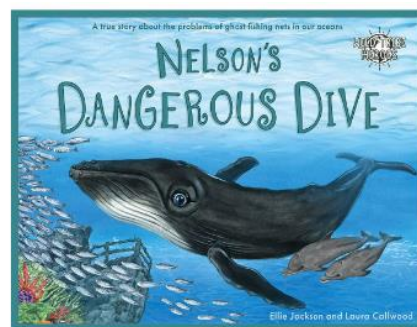
(Jackson and Oldmeadow, 2022)



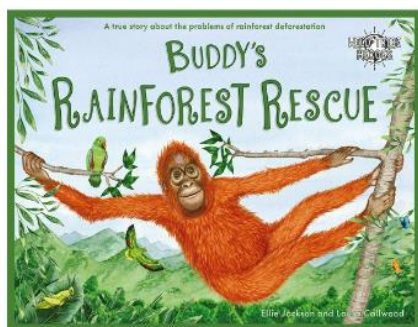
(Jackson and Oldmeadow, 2017)



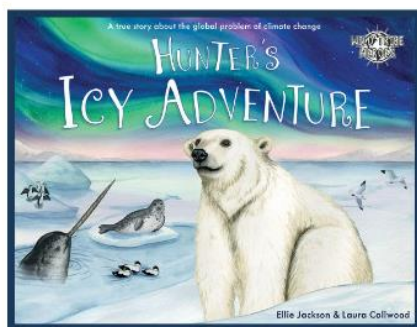
(Jackson and Callwood, 2017)



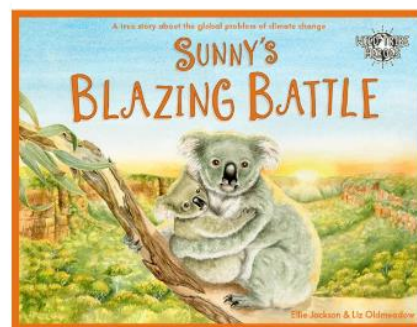
(Jackson and Callwood, 2018)



(Jackson and Callwood, 2019)



(Jackson and Callwood, 2020)



(Jackson and Oldmeadow, 2019)

On the website you can access these book for free, “click on a book cover to access the relevant curriculum map for each story and each key stage. The curriculum maps have been written by teacher and author of the National Curriculum Outdoors books, Deborah Lambert” (Wild Tribe Heroes, 2018).

“Registration and usage of all teaching resources are free to use, you can add your own ideas to the specific areas to help you teach and inspire the next generation” about climate issues without upsetting or overwhelming them.

Each story is a “true and gentle story to teach children about environmental issues in a positive and inspiring way with a happy ending and ideas for the future” (Wild Tribe Heroes, 2018).

Early years foundation framework				
Personal, social and emotional	Communication and language	Literacy	Understanding the world	Expressive art and design
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Godwin, N and Nielsen, C (2020) *Jelly-Boy*. Walker Books Australia, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Callwood, L (2017) *Marli's Tangled Tale*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Callwood, L (2018) *Nelson's Dangerous Dive*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Callwood, L (2019) *Buddy's Rainforest Rescue*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Callwood, L (2020) *Hunter's Icy Adventure*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Oldmeadow, L (2017) *Duffy's Lucky Escape*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Oldmeadow, L (2019) *Sunny's Blazing Battle*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jackson, E and Oldmeadow, L (2022) *Ziggy's Frightening Flight*. Ellie Jackson, p1. illus.

Jeffers, O (2017) *Here We Are*. Philomel & HarperCollins, p1. illus.

Wild Tribe Heroes (2018) *Teaching Resources Home page*. Available at: <https://wildtribeheroes.com/teaching-resources-home-page/> (Accessed: 26 October 2022).