

# PUFFIN VIRTUAL VISITS



Dear teachers, librarians, readers and dreamers,

**We are so excited that you're joining us for a Puffin Virtual Visit this spring.  
Let the adventure begin!**

Puffin authors will be beaming into classrooms all over the country, so that your pupils can hear from wonderful writers and illustrators and gain a behind-the-scenes look at their books, characters and inspiration for writing.

These Virtual Visits are the perfect opportunity to encourage reading for pleasure in your school, introduce new books and authors and inspire a love of reading in even the most reluctant of readers. Taking part will support pupils' literacy, creative writing and encourage the habit of reading widely and often.

It's so easy to join the fun: just make sure you've registered online, installed Zoom before the event and prepared pupils with a pen and some paper at the ready for any challenges the authors set.

Books featured in the show are available from all brilliant bookshops and you can support your local bookshop by ordering from Bookshop.org.

Before the event, you can even submit your pupils' questions for our authors to answer using the submission form on the Puffin Schools website.

We can't wait for you to join us!

Puffin

## What's included in this pack

To help you create long-lasting reading memories, we've put together this pack to give you all the information needed on our Spring Virtual Visits, support pupils during the visit, and prompt further discussion about the authors and books featured.

### This pack contains

- Our Virtual Visits Spring schedule ☐
- A letter to send to parents before the Visits ☐
- A booklist so that you can discover more about the books in this series of Virtual Visits ☐
- A printable 'watch along' page for notes and doodles ☐
- A printable hat for your class to design and wear during the Visits ☐



# PUFFIN VIRTUAL VISITS SCHEDULE



Tune in each Friday at 10:30AM.  
Simply register in advance and install Zoom on your computer.

**FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**10.30AM**



**ADAM HILLS**

**FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**10.30AM**



PaperBoat Photography - by Laura Tindall

**LISETTE AUTON**

**FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**10.30AM**



**LEE NEWBERY**

**FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

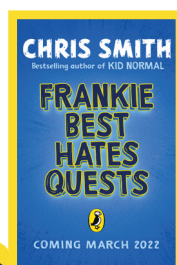
**10.30AM**



**LUCY BRANDT**

**FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**10.30AM**



Photographs © Jenny Smith Photography

**CHRIS SMITH**

Share photos of  
your class watching  
by tagging  
**@PuffinBooks**  
**#VirtualVisits**





Let your school community know that you've arranged a Puffin Virtual Visit for pupils. Here's some wording you could include in letters or emails home. Fill in the blanks with the details of the event.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are taking part in Puffin's Virtual Visits. Authors will be beaming directly into classrooms across the UK via live Zoom sessions, and we're excited to be taking part and tuning in.

Your child will be attending a Puffin Virtual Visit from ....., author of ..... on Friday ..... at 10.30am. The author will be sharing their creative writing secrets and pupils will have a chance to ask questions.

Often pupils are very inspired to read the author's book after such a visit. If you would like to get a copy of the book you can purchase from <https://peters.co.uk/puffin-virtual-visits>.

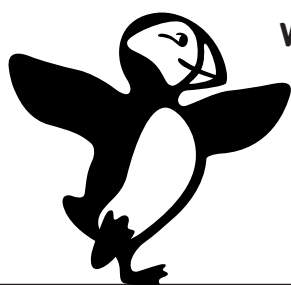
**Research shows that author events in schools inspire children and help them on their journey to a love of reading.**

'The impact of an author visiting shouldn't be underestimated. These are the types of things that people talk about when you ask them what they remember about school.'

*Times Educational Supplement*

'Writers visiting schools can make a significant difference to a child's attitudes to and enjoyment of writing, offering new perspectives on writing and what it can do.'

*The Arts Council*



**We hope your child will enjoy this Visit and come away with a few ideas for stories of their own.**

# PUFFIN VIRTUAL VISITS



## READING LIST

Find out more about the books written by our Virtual Visit Authors!  
To get pupils really excited ahead of the visit, you can download extracts from all the books from the Puffin website.

KS2



### Leonora Bolt: Secret Inventor

**Written by:** Lucy Brandt

**Genre:** adventure

**If you like:** mind-boggling inventions and science

**Great for:** instilling self-belief and confidence

**The story:** Leonora Bolt spends her days creating incredible inventions in her TOP SECRET laboratory, under the watchful eye of her terrifying uncle. Everything changes one day when a strange boy washes up on an inflatable lobster and reveals that Uncle Luther has been stealing her inventions and selling them on the mainland. Leonora must leave Crabby Island for the first time EVER to embark on a journey that will test her brainpower to its limits. With the help of an otter with a special skill, a questionable cook and a singing sea captain, can Leonora dream up an invention that will defeat her evil uncle once and for all?

KS2/3



### The Secret of Haven Point

**Written by:** Lisette Auton

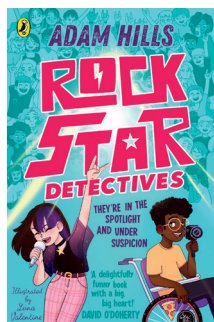
**Genre:** adventure

**If you like:** mystery, mermaids and magic!

**Great for:** supporting learning about inclusion

**The story:** Washed up as a baby beside a remote lighthouse and raised by a mermaid, Alpha Lux was the first founding at Haven Point. Now the lighthouse is a ramshackle home for any disabled person who needs somewhere to belong. Looting from passing ships to make a living, they call themselves the Wrecklings, and for the children of Haven Point life is spent adventuring on the wild shore (and getting into trouble with the grown-ups). But when Alpha spots a strange light up on the headland, she realizes that her beloved family are in danger of being discovered by Outsiders. With their home under threat, the Wrecklings must decide what kind of future they want ... and what they're willing to do to get it.

KS2/3



### Rockstar Detectives

**Written by:** Adam Hills

**Illustrated by:** Luna Valentine

**Genre:** mystery, crime

**If you like:** putting your detective skills to the test!

**Great for:** facing and overcoming obstacles and challenges

**The story:** When a priceless painting goes missing, Charley - a 12-year-old viral singing sensation - and her best friend George - camera whizz and budding comedian - are shocked to discover they're the prime suspects. Now Charley and George have to prove they're not international criminals - all while nailing a stellar European tour and keeping up with their homework! Can they solve these baffling crimes and save themselves, or will their shot for stardom be over almost as soon as it's begun?



### The Last Firefox

**Written by:** Lee Newbery

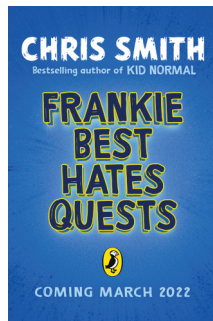
**Illustrated by:** Laura Catalán

**Genre:** adventure, fantasy

**If you like:** magical animals (like Pokémon!)

**Great for:** supporting learning and understanding of families and friendship

**The story:** Between bullies at school and changes at home, Charlie Challinor finds life a bit scary. And when he's made guardian of a furry fox cub called Cadno, things get a whole lot scarier. Because Cadno isn't just any fox: he's a firefox - the only one of his kind - and a sinister hunter from another world is on his trail. Swept up into an unexpected adventure to protect his flammable friend, Charlie's going to need to find the bravery he never thought he had, if he's going to save the last firefox ...



### Frankie Best Hates Quests

**Written by:** Chris Smith

**Genre:** fantasy

**If you like:** gaming, adventure films like Jumanji

**Great for:** exploring world-building through stories

**The story:** Frankie is not happy. Not only is she stuck at Grandad's for a whole week while her parents swan off to the arctic, now she's discovered that there's NO WIFI anywhere in the house! Joel - Frankie's annoying nerd brother who spend all his times playing computer games like Elf-Quest and just generally being really super annoying. Grandad - likes gardening down the allotment and cups of tea. Oh and is also the custodian of a secret fantasy realm called Parallelia. When Grandad is kidnapped by a host of goblins (no that is not spelt incorrectly) it falls to Frankie and Joel to save the day. Frankie did have big plans to watch YouTube and eat pot noodles that Saturday but she guesses she'll just have to go on an epic mega-dangerous quest instead!



## **WATCH ALONG PAGE**

Who was the author/illustrator who virtually visited your school?

.....

What book did they write?

.....

What top tips did the author / illustrator share?

1: .....

2: .....

3: .....

Doodle, draw and write - complete your author challenge here

### **MEMORABLE MOMENT**

What was the most memorable thing the author/illustrator said?

# ACTIVITY: MAKE A READING HAT!



Get the party started with a reading hat to wear whilst you join in the Virtual Visit

Use our template to design and make your hat, decorate it with your favourite book characters, or illustrate your favourite stories. Or design it to show what you love about books and stories!

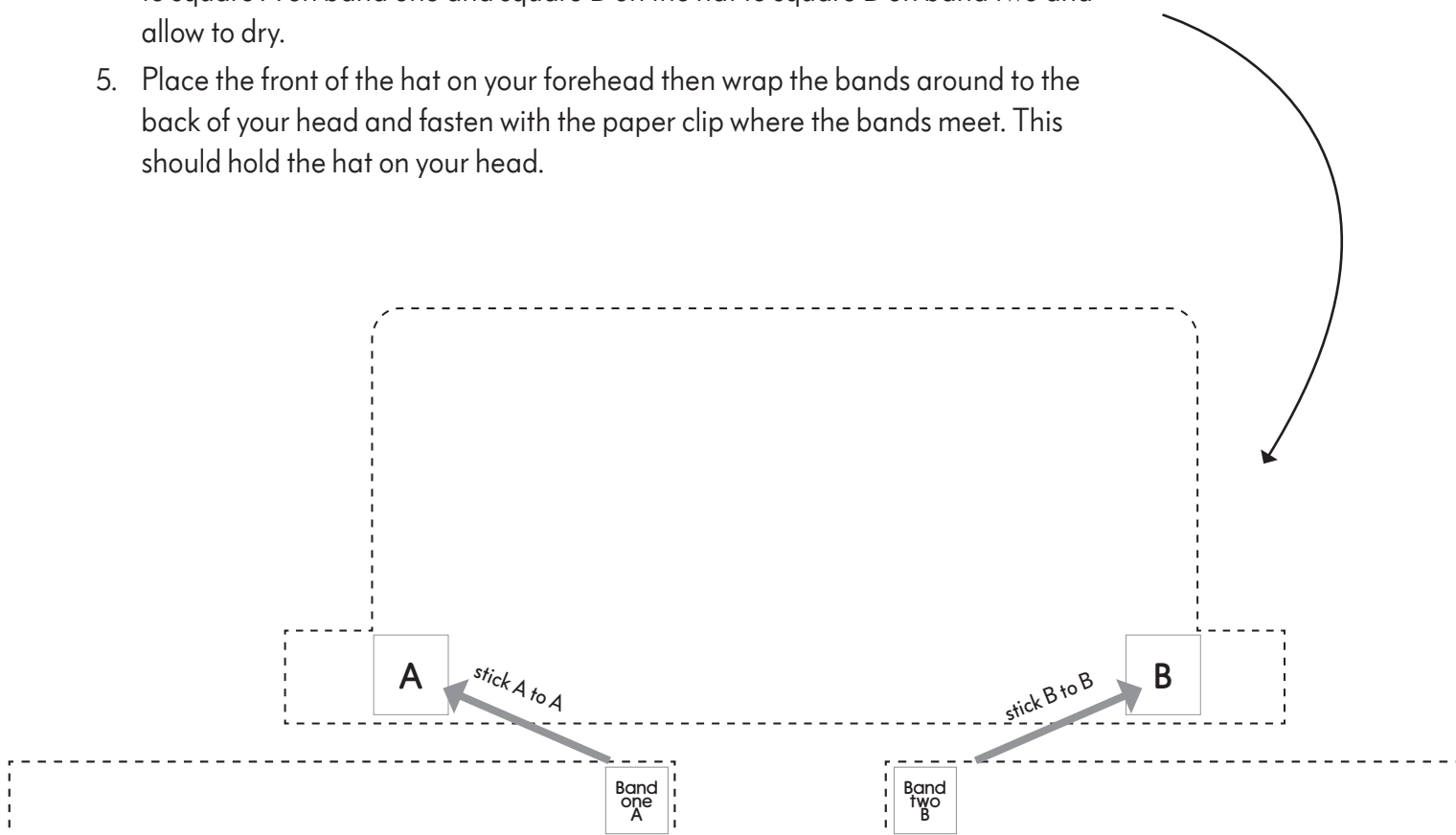
You could even have a reading hat parade and hold a competition for the best hat!

## What you will need:

- Coloured pencils, paints or pens - or collaging materials
- Glue or double sided sticky tape
- Scissors
- Hat template from the next page
- A paper clip or fastener

## Making your hat:

1. Color-in, paint or collage your design on the hat template.
2. Stick the top of the hat onto card if you'd like a firmer hat (don't stick the hatband pieces onto card as these need to stay flexible to wrap around your head!)
3. Ask a grown-up for help cutting out the hat along the dashed lines of the template.
4. Stick the two hatband pieces to the back of the hat matching square A on the hat to square A on band one and square B on the hat to square B on band two and allow to dry.
5. Place the front of the hat on your forehead then wrap the bands around to the back of your head and fasten with the paper clip where the bands meet. This should hold the hat on your head.





A

B

Band  
one  
A

Band  
Two

B