

# What's happening in the news this week?



Penguin Random House UK, Colin Wright

**Let's have a look at this week's poster!**

**30th September - 6th October 2024**



# **Mutual Respect & Tolerance**

Life is not the same for everyone.  
By listening carefully to the stories  
of others, we can understand and  
get to know one another better.





# UN Rights of the Child



Children have the right to share their thoughts and experiences freely. Governments must support this freedom of expression for children of all races.



# Protected Characteristics



The stories of Black people have been oversimplified or overlooked in the past. We should always support others to tell their own stories, whatever their race.



Sex



Sexual  
Orientation



Age



Disability



Gender  
Reassignment



Marriage and  
Civil Partnership



Pregnancy  
and Maternity



Race



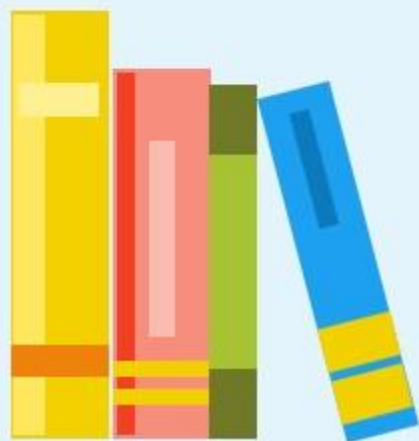
Religion  
or Belief





## Let's look at this week's story

Book publishing company, Penguin Random House UK, has revealed a new book vending machine at Linlithgow Academy, near Edinburgh, Scotland. The machine gives the pupils access to more than seventy different books from Penguin's 'Lit in Colour' reading lists. The reading lists, set up around four years ago, are updated each year and aim to make works by writers of colour more visible and accessible in schools.



Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



**This week's story looks at events related to ...**







**How important is it to know about the author behind the book?**





Read through the information below.

### What is the 'Lit in Colour' campaign?

The Lit in Colour campaign was launched by Penguin Books UK and Runnymede Trust in September 2020. Its goal is finding innovative and practical ways to 'give schools the support and tools they need to introduce more books by people of colour into the classroom, for all ages'.



Jackie Kay, a former poet laureate of Scotland, by the book vending machine at Linlithgow Academy.

**Image:** Penguin Random House UK, Colin Wright.

Books create belonging. They help us see each other and understand one another. They shine a light on the world. It's vital that the books we read in our formative years reflect the rich diversity of the society we live in.

Penguin Random House, UK (the organisation behind the Lit in Colour campaign).



### What is the new book vending machine?

The new vending machine, installed over the summer, is part of the Lit in Colour campaign.

The machine is full of books donated by publishers, including Penguin, and written by authors of colour, allowing pupils to discover new authors and books.

**Do you think the Lit in Colour campaign is a good idea?  
What impact do you think it might have?**





**Look at the resource below, which shares some information about Black History Month and its origins.**

### **When and how did Black History Month start in the UK?**

Black History Month started in the UK in October 1987, inspired by the celebration in the United States, which first took place in February 1926.

A man named Akyaaba Addai-Sebo, who came to the UK from Ghana as a refugee, helped introduce Black History Month as a way for everyone to learn about, share and celebrate important things Black people have done that have shaped the UK and the wider world.

The month was established to address the lack of recognition of Black people in the UK's history and to enable Black British people to share their cultural heritage and histories with others.

**OCT**

### **Is there a theme?**

Each year, the month has a different theme to focus on. This year the theme is 'Reclaiming Narratives', which is all about telling and hearing stories from different perspectives.

### **What are the key goals of Black History Month?**

**Learn about and celebrate Black history and culture.**

**Highlight the achievements of Black people** in fields such as science, politics, the arts, and beyond.

**Understand and respect the experiences of Black people**, be kind to each other, and stand up against discrimination.



**Have you celebrated Black History Month before?  
Share your knowledge and experiences.**





**Look at the resource below, which shares some information about the theme for Black History Month 2024.**

**In the UK, Black History Month happens every October. It provides an opportunity for people to understand, share and celebrate the history of Black heritage and culture and its impact today.**

Reclaiming Narratives is your opportunity to contribute to a collective effort to reshape how Black history is perceived and taught. By participating, you can help ensure that future generations grow up with a richer, more accurate understanding of Black history.

[www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk](http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk)



### **Black History Month 2024**

History is built on facts, but often the person telling it shares their perspective and their interpretation, so it is told through their lens. It may be a social or political lens, and more often than not, the victors or people in positions of power tell the story and write history.

The theme for Black History Month 2024 is 'Reclaiming Narratives'. It is an invitation to all people of the Black community to take ownership of the stories being told, to recognise and correct the narratives of Black history and culture, and to shine a light on the contributions and achievements of Black individuals, who have often been overlooked.

**Have you ever considered who writes history? Can you imagine how it might feel to not share your story or have your achievements recognised?**



# Reflection



People choose to write books for many different reasons. We can learn a lot from researching about the person behind the book, such as why they wrote it, and sometimes, the impact or legacy they'd like it to leave.



Penguin Random House UK, Colin Wright

Picture News

**How important is it to know about the author behind the book?**



## How important is it to know about the author behind the book?



# Useful vocabulary



## Blurb

A short description or summary of a book, usually found on the back cover.

Is it to do with the cover, the **blurb**, the author, something else?

## Formative

Something that helps shape or influence the way a person grows and develops.

It's vital that the books we read in our **formative** years reflect the rich diversity of the society we live in.

## Innovative

Using new and creative ideas to do something in a better or different way.

Its goal is finding **innovative** and practical ways to, 'give schools the support and tools they need [...]'.

## Legacy

Something that a person or group leaves behind after they are gone that continue to influence or impact others.

[...] the impact or **legacy** they'd like it to leave.

## Poet laureate

An official poet chosen by a country, state, or city to write poems for special events and occasions.

Jackie Kay, a former **poet laureate** of Scotland, by the book vending machine at Linlithgow Academy.

## Vital

Very important or necessary.

It's **vital** that the books we read in our formative years reflect the rich diversity of the society we live in.

# Can you use them in your writing this week?



## Picture News



### How important is it to know about the author behind a book?

Book publishing company, Penguin Random House UK, has revealed a new book vending machine at Linlithgow Academy, near Edinburgh, Scotland. The machine gives the pupils access to more than seventy different books from Penguin's 'Lit in Colour' reading lists. The reading lists, set up around four years ago, are updated each year and aim to make works by writers of colour more visible and accessible in schools.



- Look at this week's poster and talk about what you can see. What do you think this week's news story could be about?
- Read through the information found on the assembly resource, explaining more about the Lit in Colour campaign. Do you think it's a good idea? What impact do you think it might have?
- Talk about how you choose the books you read. Is it to do with the cover, the blurb, the author, something else?
- How important is it to you to know about the author? Do you sometimes want to know more before you've read a book, or after?
- Do you think it's important to read books by a variety of authors with different experiences and backgrounds?
- Watch this week's useful video, which explains a bit more about what Black History Month is. Share one or two interesting facts that you will remember.

### Reflection

People choose to write books for many different reasons. We can learn a lot from researching about the person behind the book, such as why they wrote it, and sometimes, the impact or legacy they'd like it to leave.

## Picture News



### KS1 focus

#### When and how did Black History Month start?



- What do you know about Black History Month? Have you ever celebrated it before? How?
- Look at resource 1, which shares some more information about Black History Month and its origins.
- How might you feel if you had done something brilliant, but nobody congratulated you? Black people's achievements weren't always included in history books. Why might this have been the case? Why is this unfair?
- Why do you think Akyaaba brought Black History Month celebrations to the UK?
- Do you think Black History Month is a good way to learn more about Black history and culture? Why?
- History has sometimes only been told from one point of view. Have you ever tried to tell a story or share your ideas, and no one would listen? How did that make you feel? What could you do to make yourself heard?
- Do you have a favourite story? What is it and why do you like it? Share your favourite story with a partner. Do they like the same story or a different one? What do they like about their story?
- Do you think hearing different ideas and stories can help us understand each other better? How?

### Reflection

Every individual's voice matters. We can help everyone feel respected and valued by listening to one another's thoughts and experiences, and celebrating their achievements.

## Picture News



### KS2 focus

#### What is the meaning of this year's Black History Month 'Reclaiming Narratives' theme?



- Share anything you know about Black History Month. Do you know what it is, when it is, and why it matters?
- Explain that this year's theme is 'Reclaiming Narratives'. What is your understanding of this?
- Look at resource 2, which shares some information about the theme for Black History Month 2024. Have you ever considered who writes history? Can you imagine how it might feel to not share your story or have your achievements recognised?
- Have you ever heard the same story/event told from different perspectives? Perhaps a fallout between friends or a trip out with family. What can you learn from this?
- Often the lens we tell our stories through does not always match others because our viewpoint is affected by our beliefs and feelings. Should everyone be able to share their viewpoint and tell their story? What might happen if a person or group of people couldn't?
- Black History Month 2024 also provides an opportunity to celebrate Black authors, poets and playwrights, who have reclaimed their stories. Share some of the books you have read by Black authors. What did you enjoy? What did you learn? Were there any important messages?

### Reflection

Events can be interpreted in different ways and through different lenses. We can listen to others, share different viewpoints and learn about different perspectives to help shape a fair and positive future.





## KS2 follow-up ideas

### Option 1

Look at the books you have in your classroom or school library. For each book, make a note of its author. You may find a tally chart useful to help you keep a record. Once you have completed your tally, think about the following:

- Which author has written the most books?
- Which authors dominate your book collection? Why might this be?
- Are there any authors who have only written one book in your collection? What explanation could there be for this?
- What do you know about the authors?
- Do you believe the authors of your books represent everyone?

Use this opportunity to consider how diverse the books in your collection are.

### Option 2

One of the aims of Black History Month is to shine a light on the contributions and achievements of Black individuals, who have often been overlooked. Read and research to find out about the contributions or achievements of a Black individual.

- Who are they?
- When/where were they born?
- What was their early life like?
- What did they achieve/contribute?
- What barriers did they face?
- What can you learn from them?
- How do you believe they have shaped society today?

You could use your information to write a fact file or biography.



## KS1 follow-up ideas

### Option 1

Can you create a timeline to celebrate Black History Month? You might like to include:

- The first celebrations of Black History Month in different countries.
- Previous themes for Black History Month.
- Famous figures and their achievements e.g., Barack Obama, Lewis Hamilton, Stormzy.

You could display your timelines in your classroom and add to them throughout the year!

### Option 2

Choose some picture books by Black authors to read as a class throughout Black History Month. You could refer to the Penguin 'Lit in Colour' reading list for inspiration!

After listening to the story, draw or write about your favourite part, something you learned or something else you liked about the book. Put all your reviews together and add them to a class collection of book reviews that can be kept in your book corner!



## This week's useful websites

### This week's news story

<https://publishingperspectives.com/2024/08/in-scotland-prh-uk-installs-a-book-vending-machine/>

### This week's useful video

What is Black History Month?

<https://youtu.be/mSmqvX7LrQ0>

### This week's Virtual Picture News

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

### This week's vocabulary

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# Plant Packaging

Companies around the world are working hard to find new ways to reduce plastic waste, and one exciting solution is eco-friendly packaging made from plants! This special packaging can be made from materials like seaweed, cornstarch, or even mushrooms, and it helps keep the planet clean by breaking down quickly in nature. One company, Notpla (short for 'not plastic'), has developed packaging from seaweed that could replace the plastic we use for wrapping food. This eco-friendly packaging is not only biodegradable, but it's also safe to eat! Dr Mark Miodownik, a scientist at University College



**Pictured:** Seaweed growing underwater.  
**Source:** Canva.

London, says, 'These innovations give us hope for a more sustainable future.' By using these smart alternatives, we can help protect animals, oceans, and our planet from plastic pollution. Experts believe that more and more businesses will start using eco-friendly packaging in the future, which is a big step towards a cleaner, healthier world!

# Robo-Scientist!

Exciting news from Africa—scientists are using a robot to help protect endangered animals! This special robot can move around safely without disturbing wildlife, allowing scientists to study animals up close. The robot has cameras and sensors that help it watch over animals like rhinos and elephants, which are often targeted by poachers.

Poachers are people who hunt endangered animals illegally, and scientists hope this robot will help stop them. One of the scientists working on the project said, 'The robot is like

an extra pair of eyes that can keep track of animals and send us important information about where they are and what they need.' This smart robot is already helping conservationists learn more about how to protect endangered animals and keep them safe in the wild.



**Pictured:** A rhinoceros and her calf.  
**Source:** Canva.

## How can photos shape the world?



*Photos can show us the inner beauty of the world that the human eye alone may never see.*

**Chloe S, 10**

Let us know what you think about this week's news



[picture-news.co.uk/discuss](https://picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



[help@picture-news.co.uk](mailto:help@picture-news.co.uk)



[@HelpPicture](https://twitter.com/HelpPicture)



## Crazy Cars!

A very special car museum in Hyderabad, India, has been awarded the world record for the largest collection of wacky vehicles in a museum! Car designer, Sudhakar Kanyaboyina, is fulfilling his childhood dream of hand making fully-working custom cars, designed to look like everyday objects. The museum houses 57 individual vehicles, including a vintage computer, shoe, camera, stiletto, hamburger, handbag, chessboard, wedding dress, sofa, snooker table, cricket bat, many sports balls, and even a toilet! As you might expect, Sudhakar's desk at the museum is also a car!



**Pictured:** Several of the custom cars at Sudha Cars Museum.

**Source:** Guinness World Records on YouTube.

He is working towards having 100 cars for people to go and see. 'What I love most about my work is the attention to detail on each car. I find immense joy in meticulously crafting and perfecting every aspect of my designs, ensuring each vehicle is unique and according to the object we are trying to replicate,' explained Sudhakar. 'I still feel as excited as a young child when I'm working on a new car. That same enthusiasm still drives me!'

**If you were to create a custom car, what object would you choose to base it on?**



**Pictured:** The shuttlecock car.

**Source:** Guinness World Records, on YouTube.

## Community Conservation

Community members in New Orleans have turned a vacant, rubbish-filled 40-acre area into a thriving wetland and haven for people and birds. Local residents are working together with the Sankofa Community Development Corporation (SCDC), which was set up by Rashida Ferdinand, to restore the wildlands she grew up exploring and playing in. The area that had suffered, due to decades of damage and neglect, has been restored to its previous natural glory and is now officially known as the Sankofa Wetland Park and Nature Trail. Wildlife has returned to the site, with the SCDC reporting that there are now over 100 species of songbirds, ducks, near-shore waders, egrets, herons, otters, beavers, and a variety of amphibians and reptiles. It is hoped that restoring the wetlands will also help to protect the residents and



**Pictured:** A Painted Bunting bird can be seen at Sankofa Wetland Park and Nature Trail.

**Source:** Canva.

their properties, as they are known for their ability to absorb stormwater. Rashida said, 'Seeing butterflies, birds, and other pollinators in the park is a sign of a healthy ecosystem. All we had to do was create the right conditions.'

**Do you enjoy bird watching?**

**Are there any community areas close to you?**

### How can photos shape the world?



*I think pictures help to raise awareness, not just what's in the picture, but the story behind the picture.*

**Ethon**



# How does it make me feel?



## sad

despondent  
disconsolate  
dismal  
doleful  
downhearted  
forlorn  
gloomy  
melancholic  
miserable  
woeful  
wretched

## angry

aggrieved  
annoyed  
discontented  
disgruntled  
distressed  
exasperated  
frustrated  
indignant  
offended  
outraged  
resentful  
vexed

## happy

beaming  
buoyant  
cheery  
contented  
delighted  
enraptured  
gleeful  
glowing  
joyful

## confused

addled  
baffled  
bemused  
bewildered  
disorientated  
indistinct  
muddled  
mystified  
perplexed  
puzzled

## excited

animated  
elevated  
enlivened  
enthusiastic  
exhilarated  
exuberant  
thrilled

## worried

agitated  
anxious  
apprehensive  
concerned  
disquieted  
distraught  
distressed  
disturbed  
fretful  
perturbed  
troubled  
uneasy

## overwhelmed

engulfed  
inundated  
overburdened  
overloaded  
saturated  
submerged  
swamped

## afraid

alarmed  
apprehensive  
daunted  
fearful  
frantic  
horrified  
petrified  
terrified

## guilty

ashamed  
compunctious  
contrite  
culpable  
penitent  
responsible  
rueful

## jealous

bitter  
covetous  
desirous  
envious  
envying  
resentful  
wary

## thankful

appreciative  
grateful  
gratified  
indebted  
obliged  
relieved

## shocked

astonished  
astounded  
disconcerted  
distressed  
dumbfounded  
horrified  
staggered  
startled  
stunned  
surprised

## disgusted

affronted  
appalled  
horrified  
repelled  
repulsed  
revolted  
sickened

## inspired

activated  
encouraged  
exhilarated  
galvanised  
influenced  
motivated

## embarrassed

ashamed  
awkward  
chagrined  
demeaned  
discomposd  
humiliated  
self-conscious  
uncomfortable  
uneasy  
unsettled

## interested

absorbed  
captivated  
curious  
engaged  
enthralled  
fascinated  
gripped  
intrigued  
riveted



# TAKEHOME

30th September  
– 6th October



in Random House UK, Colin Wright

## How important is it to know about the author behind the book?



Penguin Random House UK, Colin Wright

## In the news this week

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### Things to talk about at home ...

- > Would you like to see a book vending machine in school? Do you think it would be popular?
- > What types of books do you like to read, and who are some of your favourite authors? Ask others at home about their reading preferences.
- > Do you feel it's important to know about the author of a book you read? Is it important to you to read books by authors from different backgrounds and with different experiences? What do others at home think?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)

