

DUMFRIES HOUSE
ENGINEERING CENTRE & OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Boswell Children's Festival

Illustration: David Habben

Sat 9 & Sun 10 May

*Don't miss this festival of performances, walks
and talks with storytellers, illustrators,
authors and more...*



WITH
FREE
ACTIVITIES

www.boswellbookfestival.co.uk



Boswell Children's Festival

Supported by **Scottish Friendly**

Saturday 9 May

**ENGINEERING CENTRE
& OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**
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What to Expect ✓

The Engineering Centre is a large, enclosed room with seats. The speaker will be at the front talking about their books in a fun, interactive way with pictures or live drawing. Festival volunteers can let you in or out for comfort breaks.

- **Browse an exciting range of books in the Waterstones bookshop**
- **Duration and age guidance is given for each event**
- **Children must be accompanied by an adult**
- **Under 2s are FREE!**
- **Tickets £3.50 Special price for postcode KA18 addresses: £2.00**

➤ The meeting point for the **OUTDOOR EVENTS** is the Children's Festival Box Office at the Engineering Centre.



Drawing on Nature with Illustrator in Residence Helen Kellock

09:45 - 10:45 / £3.50 / 8+yrs

Join Illustrator-in-Residence Helen Kellock for an inspiring outdoor drawing adventure in the beautiful grounds of Dumfries House. Explore colour, texture and composition, gather natural materials, and experiment with sketching techniques inspired by Helen's own nature-filled sketchbooks.

The Catventures of Sparky and George: Alan Windram

11:15 - 12:15 / £3.50 / 5+yrs

In this highly interactive event Alan shares this exuberantly funny story of the imagined adventures of his two cats, Sparky and George, as they journey out through the cat flap and into the big bad world of forest encounters, tasty treats and some explosive poo. There will be sing-along songs, some dress up games and quizzes and lots of fun.



TICKETS: www.boswellbookfestival.co.uk

Poochie Pete and His Very Big Feet: Dougie Payne

13:00 - 13:45 / £3.50 / 3+yrs

Join Dougie Payne, the bass player with multi-platinum-selling Scottish indie band, Travis, as he introduces his debut picture book about Poochie Pete and the chaos he causes with his big feet! With stories, specially written songs and live drawing this is the perfect event for dog lovers young and old.



Make Your Own Concertina Book: Vivian French & Helen Kellock

14:15 - 15:15 / £3.50 / 5+yrs

Create your very own concertina book in this hands-on workshop with acclaimed author Vivian French and Illustrator-in-Residence Helen Kellock. Combining storytelling, drawing and simple bookmaking skills, children will leave with a handmade book and plenty of creative inspiration.



How to Write a Graphic Novel:

Gary Chudleigh

15.45 - 16.45
£3.50 / 7+yrs

Ever wanted to create your own comic? Join Gary Chudleigh author of graphic novel, *Secret Agent Nessie*

for a practical, high-energy session exploring how to build characters, plot thrilling adventures and bring stories to life and, of course, discover more about Scotland's favourite secret agent, Nessie!



OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Woodland Walk & Tales of Critters and Creatures with Allison Galbraith

11:00 - 12.30 £3.50 /5+yrs

Meeting Point: Children's Festival Box Office

Visit the pond, river, and woodlands of Dumfries House with storyteller and folklorist, Allison Galbraith and join in with funny nature tales along the way. Finish at the Outdoor Classroom to make your own pine-cone creatures – perhaps inspired by nature or your own imagination! Dress for the weather.

Forest Bathing with Allison Galbraith

14:00 - 15:30 £3.50 /8+yrs

Meeting Point: Children's Festival Box Office

Forest Bathing: Shinrin-yoku guide, Allison Galbraith, will lead you through the magnificent and magical woodlands of Dumfries House. By walking slowly and enjoying our five senses, we experience mindfulness. Sitting amongst the trees brings us to a place of restorative calm. An art activity is included for older children who wish to join the Forest Bathing. Bring something to sit on - a foam garden kneeling pad is perfect.

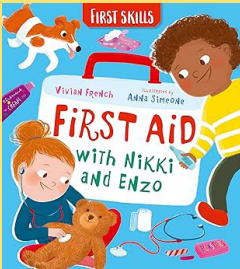
Boswell Children's Festival

Supported by



Sunday 10 May

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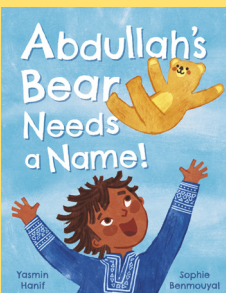


Bumps, Bruises & Brilliant First Aid: *Vivian French*

09:45 - 10:30
£3.50 / Ages 4+

Join master storyteller Vivian French for a warm and playful event based

on her charming new picture book about first aid. When Nikki and Enzo's games lead to lots of accidents, they discover the basics of caring for bumps and bruises. A joyful, reassuring session full of storytelling and useful learning.



Abdullah's Bear Needs a Name: *Yasmin Hanif*

11:00 - 11:45
£3.50 / Ages 4+

How do you pick a name for a new cuddly toy? Join Yasmin Hanif to explore her new picture book,

Abdullah's Bear Needs a Name. When Abdullah receives a teddy bear that once belonged to his abba, everyone has ideas for its name - but none feel quite right. A gentle, joyful event exploring heritage, imagination and the stories that shape who we are.

A Perfect Day:

Ross Mackay

12:30 - 13:15 / £3.50 / Ages 3+

Spend a day in Scotland eating tattie scones for breakfast, hopping on the train to visit Granny, and counting the highland coos. Join author Ross MacKay to hear about his latest book *Our World, Scotland* and create your own "perfect Scottish day." A playful, celebration of Scotland, language, and everyday adventures.



All in the Mind - A Guide to Your Brilliant Brain: *Gill Arbutnott*

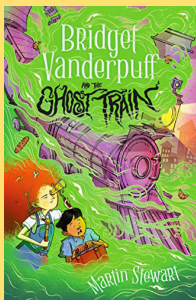
13:45 - 14:45 / £3.50 / Ages 7+



Discover how your brilliant brain works in this lively, science-filled session with Gill Arbutnott. Packed with fascinating facts, interactive moments and mind-bending insights, this event will spark curiosity and help young

readers understand what's going on inside their heads.

Illustration: David Habben



Writing Your World: Martin Stewart

15:15 - 16:15
£3.50 / Ages 7+

Martin is the author of the brilliant adventure stories such as those featuring Bridget Vanderpuff and Sandy Finn but where do

his ideas come from? Come and hear how Martin turns everyday ideas into unforgettable tales. Discover how real life shapes characters and stories and pick up top tips for writing your own adventures.



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