Gaelic Children’s Books

Advice and Recommendations for Parents with children in Gaelic medium education
For parents of children starting Gaelic Medium Education, it can be a struggle to know where to find books and other resources in the language.

The Gaelic Books Council sells every Gaelic book in print at our shop in Partick and through our website, www.gaelicbooks.org (as well as children’s DVDs, CDs and t-shirts). We are always happy to provide parents with advice and recommendations for all age ranges - just pop in to the shop or get in touch by phone or email.

In this leaflet, you will find an overview of books for each age group, from babies to young adults, with a focus on titles which are particularly appropriate for non-Gaelic speaking parents. These books are suggested only as a starting-off point: there are many more titles available for each age range.

Make sure and use the voucher on the back of the leaflet, which gives you a 10% discount on all children’s books!

Once a month, we hold fun-filled Gaelic reading sessions full of stories, songs and games, with Linda MacLeod, star of the new BBC Alba children’s show ‘Leugh le Linda’ (Read With Linda). All sessions are held in the Gaelic bookshop from 1-2pm. All welcome, including non-Gaelic speakers!

2017 session dates:
Saturday 2nd September
Saturday 23rd September
Saturday 21st October
Saturday 25th November
Saturday 16th December (Christmas Party)

Useful Resources

The Gaelic Books Council
The lead organisation for Gaelic literature in Scotland. Sells every Gaelic book in print in store and online as well as providing a wide range of events, competitions and initiatives for all ages.
Shop: 32 Mansfield Street, Glasgow G11 5QP
Phone: 0141 337 6211
www.gaelicbooks.org
Email: brath@gaelicbooks.org (general enquiries)
      shelagh@gaelicbooks.org (advice & info on reading sessions)

Gaelic4Parents
Loads of Gaelic educational resources to support parents and children, including games, stories, audiobooks, interactive exercises and help with homework
www.gaelic4parents.com

Comann nam Pàrant (“Parents’ Organisation”)
The national organisation offering advice and support on Gaelic medium education and representing the interests of parents.
www.parant.org.uk

Bòrd na Gàidhlig
The principal public body in Scotland responsible for promoting and developing the Gaelic language. They provide information and advice on Gaelic medium education for parents.
www.gaidhlig.scot

LearnGaelic
A wide range of online courses and resources for Gaelic learners, including details of all local classes.
www.learngaelic.net

Sabhal Mòr Ostaig
The Gaelic college based in Skye, offering distance learning courses and short courses for adults and families during school holidays.
www.smo.uhi.ac.uk
Let's Start at the Very Beginning...

There is a wide range of Gaelic board books available for babies and toddlers. The following titles have accompanying audio files on Gaelic4Parents:

- A Chiad Lebah Dubh agus Geal do Naoidhein (Baby’s First Black & White Book)
- A Shutha Chòir (Dear Zoo)
- An e Seo Mo Shròin? (Is This My Nose?)
- An Leanabh Seo (This Little Baby)
- Aodainn Annasach (Funny Face)
- Aon, Dhà, Trì, Ruith! (One, Two, Three, Run!)
- Bèibidh Beag Biodach (It’s a Little Baby)
- Bèibidh Sona – Tiugainn a Chluich! (Happy Baby: Playtime)
- Blàth (Snug)
- Bròg is Ad – Cò Leis a Tha Iad? (A Boot, A Hat, Now Who is That?)
- Calum Cadalach (Bedtime Baby)
- Cò Tha Slud? (Who’s That?)
- Fàin is Fairich (What Can I Feel)
- Fior Chiad Lebah nam Bèibidhean Beaga (Little Book of Little Babies)

How Do I Say That?

Gaelic words don’t always look how they sound! Luckily, there are a range of picture books for younger children with phonetics and English translations to help you read aloud:

- A’ Chiad Latha (The First Day)
- Air Chuairt (On a Trip)
- Latha Trang (A Busy Day)
- A-Staigh ‘s A-Muigh (Inside and Outside)
- Anns an Dùthaich (In the Countryside)
- Aig na Bùthain (At the Shops)

Nursery Language Links
(Ideal for children starting nursery school)

- MacNis Beag (Wee MacNessie)
- Càlte a Bheil MacNis Beag? (Where is Wee MacNessie?)
- An Sionnach agus na Dearcan-Fionna (The Fox and The Grapes)
- Fios is Faireachdaimn (Feeling Great!)
- Giog ort – Air an Tuathanas (Peekaboo Farm)
- Giog ort sa Cholile (Peekaboo Jungle)
- Giog ort sa Phàirc (Peekaboo Park)
- Luchag Bheag (Mouse is Small)
- Lùb agus Lorg: Luchd-Togail (Flip and Find: Builders)
- Patrain (Patterns)
- Rannan is Rabhdan (Nursery Rhymes)
- Splois! (Splash!)
Moving On Up With Some Familiar Faces...

A large number of Gaelic picture books are translations of familiar English stories. The following titles have accompanying audio files on Gaelic4Parents:

- **A’ Bhana-Phrionnsa Màiri agus a’ Phiseag** (Princess Penelope and the Runaway Kitten)
- **Acrachan (Jumblebum)**
- **Air do Bheatha Bhuan na Diogail Tigear (Never Tickle a Tiger)**
- **Am Peata Bàn (The White Pet)**
- **An Ceapaire Sgreamhail (The Disgusting Sandwich)**
- **An Crogall Nach Iarradh gu Uisge (The Crocodile Who Didn’t Like Water)**
- **An Gille Bragail (The Bold Boy)**
- **An Gruffalo (The Gruffalo)**
- **An Latha a dh’Ith iad Louis (The Day Louis Got Eaten)**
- **An t-Isean Glas (The Ugly Duckling)**
- **Bheil Thu Idir Gu Math, Sam (Don’t You Feel Well, Sam?)**
- **Biorachan Beag agus Biorachan Mòr (Big Tappietoorie an Wee Tappietoorie)**
- **Bioran (Stick Man)**
- **Can Halò Mar Seo (Say Hello Like This)**
- **Cearbhan air an Allaban air Latha Fiadhach (Shark in the Park on a Windy Day)**
- **Colla Mo Rùn (Bunny My Honey)**
- **Cric Crac Crùbag (Tip Tap Went the Crab)**
- **Dè an Uair a Tha e, a Mhgr Madadh? (What’s the Time, Mr Wolf?)**
- **Dineasair Ràn (Dinosaur Roar)**
- **Drathaisean (Pants)**
- **Feum air Facail (Lost for Words)**
- **Geàrr agus Sligeanach (The Hare and the Tortoise)**
- **Gurmòrosaurus (Gigantosaurus)**
- **Hoigh Cait! (Cats Ahoy!)**
- **Isaean Calileach Oldhche (Owl Babies)**
- **Lasair Dhearg (Red Flame)**
- **Latha Mòr na Glaodhaich (My Big Shouting Day)**

**Title with audiobook included:**

- **Balach na Bonaid (The Boy In The Bunnet)**
- **Leum Suas air an Sguaib (Room on the Broom)**
- **Luchag Bheag aig Sgoil Sholais na Gealaich (Mouse’s First Night at Moonlight School)**
- **M’eudail air an Iasg (Hooray for Fish)**
- **Mach is Dhachaigh (Lost and Found)**
- **Mìcheal agus Niall a’ Cuideachadh Peigi (Michael and Neil Help Peggy)**
- **Mo Sheanmhair an Spùinneadair (My Granny is a Pirate)**
- **Montaidh agus Milsean (Monty and the Pudding)**
- **Montaidh an Cù Glic (Monty’s Big Surprise)**
- **Na Caraidean (The Paper Dolls)**
- **Na Deich Spùinnich Beaga (Ten Little Pirates)**
- **Na Deich Spùinnich Beaga (Ten Little Pirates)**
- **“Nì Siud a’ Chùis,” Thuirt na Creidheanan (The Day the Crayons Quit)**
- **Nora (Nora)**
- **Oldhche Mhath, Tractar (Goodnight, Tractor)**
- **Ralfaíd Rabaid: Mèirleach nan Leabhraichean (Wanted! Ralfy Rabbit, Book Burgler)**
- **Rudeigin (The Something)**
- **Seòcan agus Craobh nam Flamag (Jack and the Flumflum Tree)**
- **Seòras Sionnach agus Seonaidh Sleamhainn (Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam)**
- **Solumh an Crogall (Solomon Crocodile)**
- **Tha Màrtainn MacMhuirich Ùr dhan Sgoil Againn (Marshall Armstrong is New to Our School)**
- **Tha Mathan air Mo Chathair (There’s a Bear on My Chair)**
- **Thèid Sinn air a’ Bhus! (The Bus is For Us!)**
- **Úpraid nan Ròbot (Robot Rumpus)**
- **Wow! Thuir a’ Chaileach-oidheche (Wow! Said the Owl)**
- **Wow! Said the Owl)**

**Title with audiobook included:**

- **Balach na Bonaid (The Boy In The Bunnet)**
Once you’re ready to read for yourself, these chapter books and short story collections are the perfect place to start!

_Ceilidh sa Chidsin_ (Katy in the Kitchen)
Katy’s mum has baked a cake and Katy can’t resist trying a wee taste of the icing...then another, and another!

_Dalinni Dineosor_ (Daphne Dinosaur)
Niall and Conner love playing tricks, especially on their mum. But will she believe them when they tell her that there’s a dinosaur upstairs?

_Fiaclan Granaidh_ (Granny’s Teeth)
Where have Granny’s teeth gone? They’re in Danny’s schoolbag! He had fun playing with them at school, but what’ll happen once he gets home?

_Muncaidh Dana_ (Monkey Dana)
After visiting the zoo, Calum won’t stop acting like a monkey. His mum has a plan to make him behave, but it doesn’t have the result she expected!

_Sgeulachdan Eagalach_ (Scary Stories)
If you thought witches and dwarves only existed in fairy tales, then think again. A collection of scary stories brought to life by weird and wonderful illustrations.

_An Cù Beag, an Rùda Mòr is an Croilear Crosda_ (The Wee Dog, the Big Ram & the Grumpy Farmer)
It was hard for the wee dog and the big ram to be as well-behaved as the grumpy farmer wanted, but things went from bad to worse when Catriona the vain chicken came along!

_Daonan ann an Trioblaid_ (Always in Trouble)
Mark and Paul only want a bit of peace to play football, but when they start investigating what their neighbour has hidden in his garage, they soon get into trouble again.

_Seo Agaibh Morse_ (Here’s Morse!)
Morse is given everything a cat could possibly want, but he still thinks that he deserves more - he just needs to work out how to get it!

If comics or graphic novels are more your thing, there are plenty available in Gaelic, from classics like Tintin and Asterix to new favourites such as Saltire, Scotland’s first superhero.

_Raspar an Ruagaire_  
A series of comics for younger children about Raspar, the mischievous dog!

_Cuir Stad air an Stoirm Sneachda_ (Stop the Snowstorm)
Two stories based on ancient Siberian folktales. In the first, two druids try to save the Chukchi people from fierce snow storms which are being orchestrated by mysterious forces. The second tells how a tiny bird was responsible for the world we live in.

_An Turas Siar_ (Journey to the West)
When Aldan goes into a prehistoric cave and doesn’t return, his sister, Alda, has to travel to the mysterious Isle of the Blessed to rescue him.

_Saltire: Ionnsaigh_  
When a peaceful land is faced with the might of all-conquering Rome, its legendary guardians must stand as one or kneel before an oppressive empire.

_Fo Bhruid_ (Kidnapped)
When a peaceful land is faced with the might of all-conquering Rome, its legendary guardians must stand as one or kneel before an oppressive empire.

_Gnothach Annasach An Dr Jekyll is Mhgr Hyde_ (The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde)
More confident readers will love to curl up with these stories, some of which they may already be familiar with in English.

Cèit agus an Caiptean  
(Kate and the Captain, Michael Morpurgo)

Kaspar: Prionnsa nan Cat  
(Kaspar: Prince of Cats, Michael Morpurgo)

Dànaidh, Laoch an t-Saoghail  
(Danny, Champion of the World, Roald Dahl)

Sgòrnagair  
(Grubbslyme, Jacqueline Wilson)

Eachdraidh Ealasaid ann an Tìr nan Iongantas  
(Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll)

Am Prionnsa Beag  
(The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint-Exupery)

Granaidh Afraga  
(Granny Africa, Morag Anna MacNeil)

Nas Gile na Sneachd  
(Whiter Than Snow)

Luasganach? Mise?  
(A humorous novel about Sarah and her friends, who have discovered that boys are much more interesting than their school subjects!)

Ecstasy  

Punk  

Two collections of short stories dealing with contemporary and hard-hitting social issues such as drugs, unemployment and AIDS.

Leabhar-latha Caomhín  
(Caoimhe’s Diary)

Aofíe finds it difficult to understand why her mother is so hard on her, so when she discovers her teenage diary she can’t resist reading it to see what she was like at the same age.

Sneachd air Druim Uachdair  
(Snow on Drumochdar)

Eilidh’s sister phones her to tell her she’s been in an accident, but why is her voice so strange and why does she sound so scared?

Uirsgeul Uilleim Dhona  
(Wicked Willi’s Saga, John Lorne Campbell)

Stories based on the life of a real cat, ‘Wicked Willi’, who was born in the shop at Lochboisdale Pier and adopted by folklorist and song collector Margaret Fay Shaw.

Where To Next?

Titles for readers who find themselves armed with a bookmark in between the children’s and adults’ sections.

Lasag Series  

A series of 12 novellas aimed at young adults and adult learners, with English chapter summaries and glossaries. A range of genres is covered, from romance, comedy and fantasy to murder, mystery and history. To view the whole series, search for ‘Lasag’ on www.gaelicbooks.org.

Ecstasy

Punk

Nas Gile na Sneachd

(Whiter Than Snow)

It’s 1905 and Eilidh is growing up in a community where Christianity is of huge importance. She’s a gentle, kind girl but she finds it difficult to forgive the two boys who bullied and hurt both her and other members of the community.

Fo Bhruaid (Kidnapped)

A modern retelling of Robert Louis Stevenson’s classic tale. After his parents’ death, Khaleel is left completely alone in the world. That is, until he discovers that he has an uncle. Why was he never told about this before and what other family secrets have been kept from him?
A is for Apple / Ubhal

You’ll never know every Gaelic word, but these dictionaries contain the most useful ones for all age ranges. Check out www.learngaelic.net/dictionary for an excellent online dictionary. To save you time, ‘book’ is ‘leabhar’ (lyaw -ur).

Facail agus Dealbh (Words and Pictures)
Gaelic version of Usborne’s First Hundred Words.

Dealbh is Facal (Picture and Word)
Gaelic version of Usborne’s First Thousand Words.

An Aibideil Annasach (The Quirky Alphabet)
Explore the letters of the Gaelic alphabet through eyecatching illustrations. A wall frieze is also available.

Oxford Children’s Scottish Gaelic/English Visual Dictionary
Over a thousand words with a picture for every word, arranged in a wide range of themes.

Gaelic Gold (Steaphan MacRisnidh)
A pocket-sized dictionary and phrasebook with pronunciation guides and useful hints.

Essential Gaelic Dictionary (Boyd Robertson & Ian MacDonald)
The bestselling dictionary from Teach Yourself, including grammar and learning tips.

The Gaelic-English Dictionary (Colin Mark)
A comprehensive dictionary with hundreds of examples of usage and idiom. Includes guidance on grammar, expressing time, direction, numerals and more.

The Essential Gaelic-English/English-Gaelic Dictionary (Angus Watson)
A larger hardback dictionary, ideal as a reference on desks.

The Illustrated Gaelic-English Dictionary (Edward Dwelly)
Edward Dwelly’s classic dictionary, compiled more than a hundred years ago. A marvellous source of words with a special place in the Gaelic world.

Keeping Up...

Children’s brains soak new words up like sponges... unfortunately, adults aren’t so lucky. However, there are plenty of learning materials to help you keep up:

Speaking Our Language
Get to grips with the basics of Gaelic conversation and grammar with this range of books and DVDs. Packed with lessons, exercises and resources.

Complete Gaelic
Learn everyday, useful Gaelic through real-life situations that make grammar and vocabulary easy and memorable. Book and CDs available.

Verbots: Learn 101 Gaelic Verbs
A handy guide to the most commonly used Gaelic verbs, with colour-coded tables

Cothrom Ionnsachaidh (A Chance to Learn)
A step-by-step guide to grammar, with plenty of exercises.

Scottish Gaelic in 12 Weeks
An ideal introduction to the language, covering essential points of grammar and pronunciation and containing model sentences, key phrases, exercises and a mini dictionary.

Colloquial Scottish Gaelic
An easy-to-follow course which will improve learners’ speaking, reading and writing skills. CDs also available.
Leum dhan Leabhar (Jump Into the Book) is the Gaelic Books Council’s school book club.

We know how difficult it can be for schools and parents in more remote areas to source a wide range of Gaelic books and the club was established to provide Gaelic Medium schools with the latest titles and to encourage reading for pleasure amongst pupils.

Leum dhan Leabhar works in a similar way to other school book clubs – teachers or parents groups can request a selection of new and bestselling Gaelic books to display and sell at special events such as book fairs, parents’ evenings or open days. We provide a range of fiction and non-fiction titles aimed at all age groups, from early years up to high-school pupils. The school takes orders for books from parents and pupils, the Books Council uplifts the inspection boxes and returns ordered books to the school.

If your school or group would be interested in receiving inspection boxes to display at an event, we ask that you contact us at least a month before the event.

For more information about Leum dhan Leabhar or to place an order for boxes of books, please contact Shelagh Campbell, Sales and Marketing Officer:

shelagh@gaelicbooks.org
0141 337 6211

Handy Words & Phrases for Bookworms

Practice makes perfect - why not try some of these out on us next time you visit the bookshop!

| Leugh / a’ Leughadh (layv, a layvugh) | Read / Reading |
| Leabhar (lyaw-ur) | Book |
| Caibideil (cap-i-tchal) | Chapter |
| Ficsean (fik-shun) / Neo-ficsean (nyo-ik-shun) | Fiction / Non-fiction |
| Úghdar (oo-dar) | Author |
| Bùth-leabhrachean (boo-lyawreechun) | Bookshop |
| Leabharlan (lyaw-ln) | Library |

Dè an leabhar a tha thu a’ leughadh?
Jay un lyaw-ur a ha oo a layvugh?

Tha mi a’ leughadh...an-dràsta
Ha mee a layvugh...an drasta

A bheil e a’ còrdadh riu?
A vayl e a kawrd-ugh root?

Tha / Chan eil e a’ còrdadh rium
Ha / Chan yel e a kawrd-ugh room

Dè an leabhar is theàrr leat?
Jay an lyaw-ur i-shar lett?

’S e ... an leabhar is theàrr leam.
Shay ... an lyaw-ur i-shar yrum

An do leugh thu...?
An doh layv oo...?

A bheil...agad anns a’ bhùth? Chuala mi gu bheil e math.
A vayl...ackat awns a voo? Hoo-alla mee guo vayl e ma.

Dè an leabhar a mholadh tu do neach-ionnsachaidh?
Jay an lyaw-ur a vail-ugh too doh nyach-yoonsuchay?
10% off children’s books
when you present this voucher in the Gaelic bookshop
or use code PARANT17 on www.gaelicbooks.org

**valid until 25th September 2017**

Special Offer:
Buy ‘Montaidh an Cù Glic’ or ‘Montaidh agus Mìlsean’ in Gaelic and get the English version for only £3.50 to help you read along with your young Gaelic speaker!

(Gaelic audio is also available on Gaelic4Parents)

Search “Montaidh” on gaelicbooks.org!

www.gaelicbooks.org