

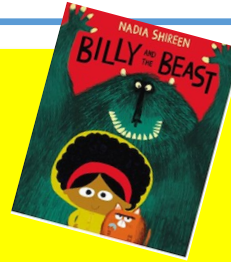
# Pass it on Literacy Project

## The gift of imagination



We would like to introduce an idea that we hope that all our nursery families would like to join in with.

### The idea—Pass it on

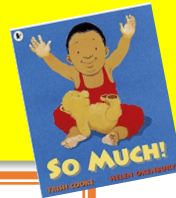


As your child transitions from one room to another they leave behind many happy memories including reading many stories with the staff in their room. We would like to ask you to help us to pass on this love of reading by developing an extensive library reflective of the children and families that make up our Coin Street Community. If you are able to donate a book (new or nearly new) you will not only inspire the next generation of budding readers but you will also leave a legacy of your child's time in that room. To remind new children who donated the book we will include on the back cover a bit about the child that donated the book (see example). As your child moves through each stage of their



learning journey with us they will have the opportunity to **donate 3 books.**

The next generation in each group will be able to not only read the book you donated but also find out a little bit about the child that donated it.



## How to take part...

**Buy a book:** There are plenty of quality story and information books that reflect the fact that the UK is a culturally diverse society  
[www.tamarindbooks.co.uk](http://www.tamarindbooks.co.uk) or [www.letterboxlibrary.com](http://www.letterboxlibrary.com)

**Donate a nearly new book:** as your child grows out of the books they've treasured they can have a whole new life with another child

**Let us know:** Email us at [nursery@coinstreet.org](mailto:nursery@coinstreet.org) to let us know you are interested in taking part and we will email you a form to complete for the book dedication

My Name is Johanna. I am 4 years old



I started Coin Street nursery when: I was a 6mths old baby

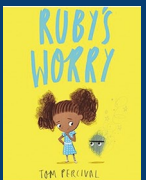
**My favourite things about being in Discoverers were:** playing in the garden, dancing with my friends at Rambert and reading and acting out stories

**Me and my family:** I live with my mum and my grandma. We like to eat spicy food and go on long walks together

**I donated this book because:** I loved reading the story of Handa's surprise when I was in Discoverers and I hope you like it too

**I am leaving to go to:** Charles Dickens Primary School

## Why is it important for children to see themselves reflected in the books they read?



For far too long, children's books that featured culturally diverse characters were hard to come by. But, that has changed significantly in the last few years. It is becoming easier than ever before for parents and children to find diverse titles. It is really essential that we fill our libraries with books featuring characters that look like our children.

### 3 Important reasons:

1. Children benefit from stories with characters who look like them. Children can feel excluded if 'people like me' only appear in books about 'children from other lands'
2. It is just as important that books present children who look different as characters getting on with life – not as problems or special issues.
3. Good illustrated information books for children approach diversity through shared experiences: ways to welcome a new baby, family celebrations, different games or important transitions like going to school

### What is literacy in the Early Years?

In early years this includes talking about books, print in the environment, early mark making and writing, as well as sharing books and reading.

### Why is literacy important in early childhood?

Developing children's love of books and reading is particularly important in the early years as it will give children an essential life skill they will use on a daily basis, as well as preparing them for when they begin school. The development of literacy skills in the Early Years involves encouragement of children's communication skills.

### Why is it important to read books early?

Enjoying books and reading stories from a very early age is crucial in the development of children. It helps with their ability to understand words, use their imagination and develop their speech, as well as being something they really enjoy.

