



Bookbug Training Courses

All Bookbug training is provided free of charge. Please check the eligibility criteria to make sure the course is relevant to your role. If you are unsure or would like some further information please contact bookbug@scottishbooktrust.com.

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Bookbug Session Leader Training

Who's eligible: Staff and volunteers who will be delivering free public Bookbug Sessions in libraries or other community venues for parents and children.

Course duration: 1 full day (6 hours, including lunch break)

About the training: Interactive, activity based and lots of fun, this course provides trainees with a wealth of information covering relevant book sharing, musical and child development topics.

Course content:

- How to lead an effective and engaging Bookbug Session
- Practical singing tips including practice and repetition of a selection of songs
- How to effectively include a book in your Bookbug Session
- Appropriate books for different ages and stages
- Appropriate musical activities for very young children and their parents
- The importance of parent and child bonding and interaction
- The benefits of books for parent and child interaction
- The development of literacy and language and how stories, songs and rhymes support this
- Care and use of the voice
- Effective use of resources

The results: By the end of this course trainees should have gained -

- The ability to be a confident and effective Bookbug Session Leader
- The knowledge to put together an appropriate session for children aged 0 – 3
- Understanding of musical and literacy foundations
- Knowledge and use of appropriate resources and engagement techniques
- Appropriate Bookbug Session presentation, design and structure
- Appropriate interaction with parents and children

Note: This training is sometimes offered locally. If you are not able to attend a National course provided by Scottish Book Trust, please contact your local [Bookbug Co-ordinator](#) to find out more.



Bookbug Session Leader Top-up Training

Who's eligible: Bookbug Session Leaders who have already taken part in Bookbug Session Leader training, delivered either through Scottish Book Trust or by a locally trained professional.

Course duration: 2 ½ hours

About the training: Bookbug Session Leader Top-up Training is designed to help leaders continue to improve their Bookbug Sessions, increase parent and child participation and encourage a welcoming atmosphere where everyone can participate. This is also an opportunity for delegates to share their ideas and best practice with leaders from other local areas.



Bookbug Story Time Training

Who's eligible: Anyone who is currently leading, or will be leading, story time sessions in an early years setting, library or other community venue. It is aimed at practitioners who work with 3-5 year olds.

Course duration: 3 hours

About the training: This training will provide professionals with the knowledge, tools and resources to deliver public Story Time sessions. It combines practical elements with best-practice academic research in storytelling and early years literacy to help current or new leaders develop their skills and further their practice.

Course content:

- Storytelling and reading aloud – what's the difference?
- Introducing your book
- Finding your read aloud style
- Reading aloud tips
- Using your voice
- Props
- Planning a Story Time

The results: The variety of activities included in this course are designed to:

- Boost confidence working with groups of children and adults
- Improve understanding of how voice is used to engage parents and children
- Help trainees consider different kinds of picture books and how these impact on various aspects of a child's language and literacy development
- Encourage trainees to make up, extend or embellish familiar stories



Bookbug for the Home Training

Who's eligible: Professionals and volunteers working with families on a one-to-one basis or in small groups. Suitable for members of the public health nursing teams, family support workers, early years social workers, speech and language therapists and other outreach workers.

Course duration: Two sessions (attendance required at both)
Session one: 3 hours
Session two: 2 months later, 1 ½ hours

About the training: This training provides professionals and volunteers with the knowledge, tools and resources they need to confidently deliver mini Bookbug Sessions and practical activities to encourage bonding and interaction in the homes of families and/or signpost families onto appropriate services and resources in their community. The first session provides the trainee with all of the knowledge and tools they will need to try their first Bookbug Session in a family's home or in a small group. The second allows trainees to share their experiences of using their training and gain advice from their trainer.

Course content:

- Practical activities to engage families
- The role of these activities to support bonding and attachment
- Key messages to pass on to families
- Choosing and introducing books to families

The results: At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Confidently deliver Bookbug Sessions in the home on a one-to-one basis, or with small groups
- Pass on key messages to families about the benefits of singing, rhyming, talking and reading
- Engage families with practical activities and understand how to sensitively approach this in light of barriers that may exist in some families
- Understand the benefits of early interaction and how this contributes to bonding and attachment, as well as brain and language development

[To read the full evaluation report on Bookbug for the Home please click here.](#)



Gifting the Bookbug Bags: awareness sessions for health staff

Who's eligible: All members of public health nursing teams/ health staff or others who gift Bookbug Baby Bags and Bookbug Toddler Bags.

Course duration: 1 hour

About the training: Health staff are integral to the successful delivery of the Bookbug programme, and this session has been designed to support and enthuse them in their bag gifting role.

Scottish Book Trust's Early Years programme Bookbug provides free, high quality, books and resources for every baby, toddler, three and five-year-old in Scotland. This session explores the contents of the Bookbug Bags in-depth and discusses how they support bonding and attachment, language and literacy development and overall good health.

Course content:

- An in-depth look at the Bookbug Bag Contents and how these elements can be used to support bonding, attachment and literacy
- The role and importance of songs and rhymes to encourage bonding and attachment in the home
- Bookbug Programme links to GIRFEC and SHANARRI
- Messages of support from Sir Harry Burns and Dr. Suzanne Zeedyk

The results: The session will ensure members of health visiting teams understand:

- The key messages to pass on to families about the importance of talking, singing and book sharing in the home
- How these behaviours contribute to and support bonding and attachment
- How the bags and resources link to key policies such as GIRFEC, SHANARRI and the Parent Education Core Syllabus



Bookbug Pirate CPD

Who's eligible: Staff from Nurseries and Early Years settings that give out Pirate Bags to three year olds.

Course duration: 1 ½ hours

About the training: The Bookbug Pirate Bag is gifted to every three year old in Scotland in their ante preschool year. The Pirate Bag contains free books and other resources to encourage parent and child interaction. Research shows us that bags are most effective when gifted with parents and children involved in the process.

The Bookbug Pirate CPD offers nurseries ideas on how to make best use of this resource. It can be delivered during in-service days or during twilight hours to ensure all staff are able to attend.

Course content:

- Tips on how to gift the Pirate bag effectively, including how to integrate the bag into the nursery to enthuse children about books, stories and reading
- Background on how the Pirate bag links to the Curriculum for Excellence, including how the bag can be used to support different curricular areas in the nursery
- Key messages to pass on to parents
- A demonstration of a pirate story session

The results: At the end of the course, participants will:

- Have a practical knowledge of themed activities to use when gifting the Pirate Bags
- Understand how the elements of the Pirate Bag support the Curriculum for Excellence and can be used to achieve different Experiences and Outcomes
- Understand the importance of gifting the Pirate Bag with parents present
- Have knowledge and understanding of key messages to pass on to parents



Bookbug Pirate Plus CPD:

Course duration: 3 hours

Who's eligible: Staff from Nurseries and Early Years settings that give out Pirate Bags to three year olds.

About the training: This training combines all of the content of standard Pirate CPD with additional knowledge and resources to help practitioners develop their confidence and skills in reading aloud and to support children's enjoyment and exploration of picture books.

Course content: This course builds on the content of Pirate CPD to also include -

- Storytelling and reading aloud – what's the difference?
- Introducing your book
- Finding your read aloud style
- Reading aloud tips and using your voice
- Props and play
- Planning your Story Time

The results: The variety of activities included in this course are designed to -

- Boost confidence working with groups of children, and working with parents
- Help trainees consider different kinds of picture books and how these impact on various aspects of a child's language and literacy development
- Encourage trainees to make up, extend or embellish familiar stories
- Provide practical examples of different ways to bring books and stories to life by linking them to play and activities



Bookbug Primary 1 Family Bag CPD

Who's eligible: P1 Teachers, School Literacy Co-ordinators and Library Staff who will be involved in gifting the Bookbug Primary 1 Family Bag for Book Week Scotland.

Course duration: 1 ½ hours

About the training: This training is designed to support the gifting of the Bookbug Primary 1 Family Bag for Book Week Scotland. It is only available annually in September/October/November in limited local authorities, but can be delivered during twilight hours to ensure all staff are able to attend.

Course content:

- Fun and practical bag gifting ideas and why these are important
- The 6 key literacy skills that lay the foundations of reading
- How to involve parents in bag gifting events
- Joined up approaches between libraries and schools
- Participating in the Scottish Children's Book Awards and Book Week Scotland

The Results: At the end of the course, participants will:

- Have knowledge of practical ways to use the P1 Family Bag in their classroom
- Understand the value in using these activities
- Know how to take part in the Scottish Children's Book Awards
- Have knowledge of 6 key literacy skills and how to pass this information on to parents

For more information

If you have any questions about any of these training options or would like to find details of upcoming training dates, please get in touch with bookbug@scottishbooktrust.com or 0131 524 0179.