

**Key Area: 2.2.2**

**Level: Core, Silver**

## **Reading Across the Curriculum in Secondary School**

Embedding books in activities across the curriculum is a key part of building and sustaining your reading culture. While devising and co-ordinating cross-curricular projects in the secondary school environment can be a real challenge, books and other reading material contain a wealth of fantastic material to help you inspire creativity and collaboration, and you can choose to start small or aim for a big project straight away, it's totally up to you.

In our work across Scotland, we have collected some fantastic examples of cross-curricular projects to inspire you as you embark on your Reading Schools journey.

### **Raising Money for Syrian Refugees in Perth & Kinross with Home Economics & Modern Studies**

When a book makes an impact on your pupils, it's great to capitalise on that interest and use it to inspire further learning and activities. A great example of this comes from **the book group at Perth Academy Library**. Before reading *Welcome to Nowhere* by Elizabeth Laird, the experience of refugees had felt quite distant for the pupils, but the book made this very real and inspired them to find out more and raise money by organising a cake sale.

### **Entering a World of Zombies in Stirling with Science, Modern Studies & PSHE**

**S1 pupils at McLaren High School** entered an alternative world full of zombies in their S1 Curriculum for Excellence Challenge which was based on *Zom-B* by Darren Shan. So many departments got involved in this project that it felt like the whole school was united to explore the book together. The pupils had to make use of all of their skills to navigate this dangerous environment, including learning first aid and creating survival plans, with links being made to real-life science and discrimination throughout human history and in the modern age.

### **Creating a Graphic Novel in Renfrewshire with History, Art & English**

Renfrew High School organised an ambitious project to help a group of S1 pupils grow in confidence and improve a variety of skills by creating their very own graphic novels. The school worked with their local museum to show pupils the rich history of their area, then collaborated with graphic novel team Magic Torch Comics, who took the pupils from brainstorming and storyboarding their ideas to writing and illustrating their stories based on Renfrew's history.

## **Starting a School Magazine in East Ayrshire with English, Art, Modern Studies & Music**

Your pupils already have a range of interests and talents spanning the curriculum and beyond, and **Doon Academy** found that a great way to take advantage of this and challenge pupils to reach their potential was by creating a school magazine. *The Doon Review* is mainly a platform for creative writing but is also a home for the pupils to showcase other hobbies and interests, including art, opinion pieces and reviews of their favourite music.

## **Getting Creative with Competitions in Angus with Art, Media Studies, IT & English**

Each year, teenagers across Scotland read a shortlist of three books and vote to select the winner of The Scottish Teenage Book Prize. However, the project is not merely about reading and voting, and the graphic novel and book trailer competitions offer a great chance for English classes or book groups to work with departments across the school. **S2 pupils at Forfar Academy** entered both competitions, giving them a great chance to build their skills in storyboarding, illustrating, filming and editing.

## **Responding to a Story in North Lanarkshire with Modern Studies, English, Art & Drama**

The graphic novel *Alpha: Abidjan to Gare du Nord* acted as a great context for learning for **art & design pupils at Greenfaulds High School**. Pupils used the graphic novel to learn more about the journeys migrants take and the obstacles in their path, then looked more closely at the work of artist Barroux and experimented with different materials to mimic his style. This led up to the creation of two banners for the school showing the experience of migrants in Scottish history and in present day Syria. Drama pupils also used the book and the banners to inspire a short performance on the migrant experience.

Keep an eye on our website, **[www.readingschools.scot](http://www.readingschools.scot)** and our Twitter feed throughout the year for more inspiration!