

Culture in Quarantine

A list of lovely stuff to broaden our cultural minds in this time of social distancing

BBC Stuff

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/arts> - new 'Culture in Quarantine' platform from the BBC...



[Home - BBC Arts](#)

Bringing arts and culture to you. How the BBC will keep the arts alive in your home and give British culture an audience that can't be there in person

www.bbc.co.uk

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/wLvhN0VTSkB34Pm36c9qSY/bbc-arts-announces-culture-in-quarantine-programme> - this tells you what sorts of things are coming up like a 3 day online book festival with lots of literary speakers in May...

They are also hooking up with the RSC and showing:

- *Macbeth* (2018), directed by Polly Findlay with Christopher Eccleston and Niamh Cusack
- *Hamlet* (2016), directed by Simon Godwin with Paapa Essiedu
- *Romeo and Juliet* (2018), directed by our Deputy Artistic Director Erica Whyman
- *Much Ado About Nothing* (2014), directed by Christopher Luscombe
- *Othello* (2015), directed by Iqbal Khan with Hugh Quarshie and Lucian Msamati
- *The Merchant of Venice* (2015), directed by Polly Findlay

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/news/bbc-culture-in-quarantine>

What about a BBC podcast?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/podcasts>

BBC Podcasts

Enjoy BBC audio on the move - a wide range of programmes and highlights are available as podcasts for you to download for free.

www.bbc.co.uk

Reading and Literary stuff:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/books-best-greatest-read-before-you-die-classic-novels-literature-austen-orwell-dickens-mantel-a9255191.html>

<https://www.bl.uk/discovering-literature> - this is an absolute treat if you like literature... Patrick Stewart is reading a #ASonnetADay on Twitter - now, who doesn't want that in their life? (It's rhetorical, and not sarcastic).

How about an online Twitter book group with Robert Macfarlane...author of 'Underland' and the very beautiful 'The Lost Words', illustrated by Jackie Morris (two books you should check out!)

← Thread

Robert Macfarlane @RobGMacfarlane

So: I propose that we take Nan Shepherd's slender masterpiece *The Living Mountain* as the first book in the #CoReadingVirus global Twitter Reading Group. It's a beautiful, moving, wise meditation on landscape, love, nature & the nature of being. (thread)

Robert Macfarlane @RobGMacfarlane · Mar 14

I'm thinking of running a Twitter reading-group in coming weeks, as we spend more time indoors/isolated. Build conversations & communities, pass time, think beyond C-19.

1. Would you be interested in joining?
2. What book/books would you recommend?

RT
Hashtag: #CoReadingVirus

8:10 PM · Mar 17, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Do a free course on literature from the Open University!

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/history-the-arts/explore-our-english-literature-free-courses>

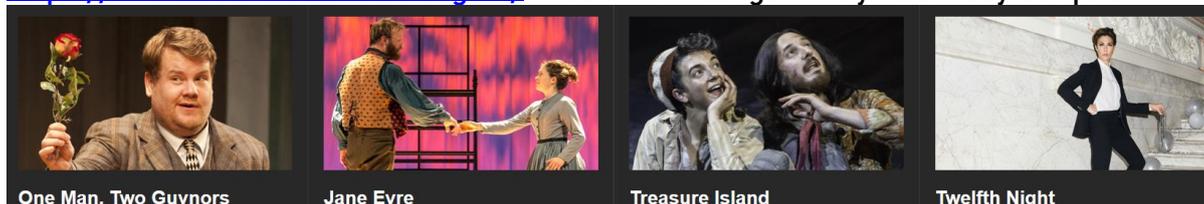
Or on Futurelearn!

<https://www.futurelearn.com/subjects/literature-courses>

Theatre and Drama stuff:

To go alongside the RSC provision (see BBC section) check out:

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/> - free screenings every Thursday at 7pm.



Comedy and Silly Stuff:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_DQ32Vahb1E - the only programme on TV that makes one laugh out loud - and now you can be part of the silliness...Taskmaster Hometasking! Genius.



[#HomeTasking](#)

Alex Horne here, the Taskmaster(s assistant), to make self-isolating and social distancing slightly more bearable with #Home Tasking. Keep an eye out on Twitter for each task, send in your attempts, and you could feature in a highlight reel of all my favourites here on YouTube. -----
Follow the show at <http://www.twitter.com/taskmaster> ...

www.youtube.com

And once you have checked that out, you can get access to all the Taskmasters on UKTV...

YouTube - a lot of cultural outlets are shifting their content onto YouTube so keep an eye out...
OR marvel at people who have the time and patience to do stuff like this! Awesome in so many ways...although I am worried about his laptop!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbNvfx3rYYxEopnRGxfu53Q> -

Musical Stuff:

For those who like their opera and ballet:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/RoyalOperaHouse>

For those who like their classical music:

<https://lso.co.uk/whats-on/2019-20-season/alwaysplaying.html>

[London Symphony Orchestra - Always Playing](#)

The London Symphony Orchestra performs over 120 concerts a year at the Barbican Centre in London and on tour around the world.

lso.co.uk

For those who like their singing:

<https://decca.com/greatbritishhomechorus/> - Gareth Malone bringing together a lot of voices from across the country in social distancing times. Good luck to him!

For those who like 'popular' music:

Some Pop stars are live streaming like 'Christine and the Queens' and 'Yungblud':

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-51924765>

Art and Museum Stuff:

Look at some lovely old stuff...

<https://www.musee-orsay.fr/en/collections/overview.html> - explore their collection online...

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/search-the-collection> - you can look at some amazing art; other museums and galleries have the same online service.

What about some free online art classes?

<https://www.artfactory.com/>

Children's cultural stuff:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/features/iplayer-kids> - brand NEW app for younger children bringing together the best of their children's fare...

How about exploring the British Library's section for children? – You can learn how to draw a Gruffalo for example!

<https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books>



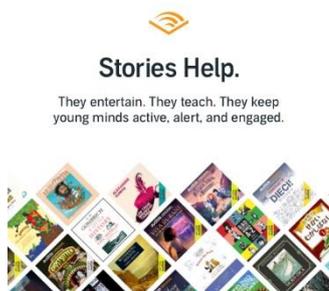
[Discovering Children's Books - The British Library](https://www.bl.uk/childrens-books)

Explore centuries of stories, poems and illustrations with Discovering Children's Books. For children, teachers and book-lovers of all ages. Over 100 treasures are waiting to be found, from one-of-a-kind manuscripts to original illustrations. For the writers and artists of the future, there's a gallery of activities to spark creativity and inspire your own stories, poems, illustrations and more!

www.bl.uk

Take advantage of AUDIBLE for children RIGHT NOW because it is FREE!!!!!!:

<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen> - stories for children for the duration of these strange times



[Audible Stories | Audible.com](https://stories.audible.com)

Free stories for kids of all ages. Audible Stories is a free website where kids of all ages can listen to hundreds of Audible audio titles across six different languages—English, Spanish, French, German, Italian and Japanese—for free, so they can keep learning, dreaming and just being kids.

stories.audible.com

<https://www.instagram.com/oliverjeffers/?hl=en> - stay at home story time with Oliver Jeffers, author of 'Lost and Found'

500 Word Stories website – although the competition is over there are still bedtime stories on there

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02tkm27/episodes/downloads>

AND

All the other resources for any budding authors like this 'live' lesson that is no longer live:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/live-lessons/500-words-2019-live-lesson/z6ydscw>

Appeal to their competitive side - children often like a writing competition...

How about this site which has some great writing competitions for 11-18s? (Check the age ranges as they differ):

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/>

or this one that links film and the celebration of Puffin's 80th anniversary:

<https://www.intofilm.org/news-and-views/articles/puffin-big-dreams-on-screen-competition>

or this one from Go Ape:

<https://goape.co.uk/groups/schools/adventure-stories>

or this one for 14-18 year olds:

<https://rsliterature.org/2019/11/tall-tales-short-stories-competition-for-14-18-year-olds/>

or this one from children's favourite Jacqueline Wilson:

<https://www.jacquelinewilson.co.uk/creativewriting/>

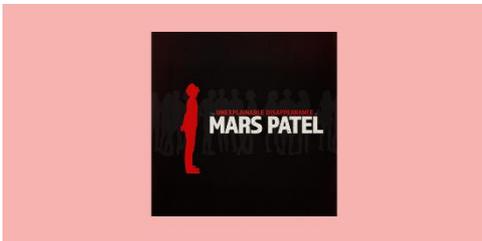
or this one from 'Minimus' where you interpret a myth:

<https://www.primarylatinproject.org/mythology-competition>

Podcasts for children:

<https://www.goodhousekeeping.com/life/entertainment/g31912539/podcasts-for-kids/> -

absolutely no idea if any of these are any good but worth a look maybe?



[20 Best Podcasts for Kids of All Ages - Podcasts for Little Kids and Big Kids](#)

Grown-ups have long been enjoying adult podcasts — but are there great podcasts for kids, too? 100%! These fun kids' podcasts get children off of their screens and thinking about the world in ...

www.goodhousekeeping.com

Futurelearn Stuff:

A range of topics covered like history, media, literature, nature and environment – all free...

<https://www.futurelearn.com>

Languages Stuff:

Learn a foreign language - <https://www.duolingo.com/>