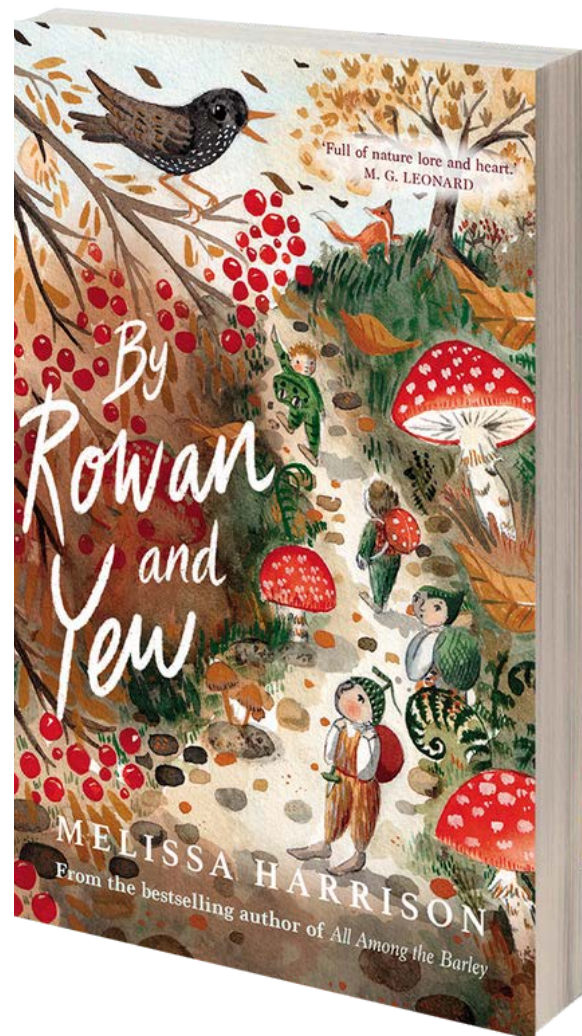
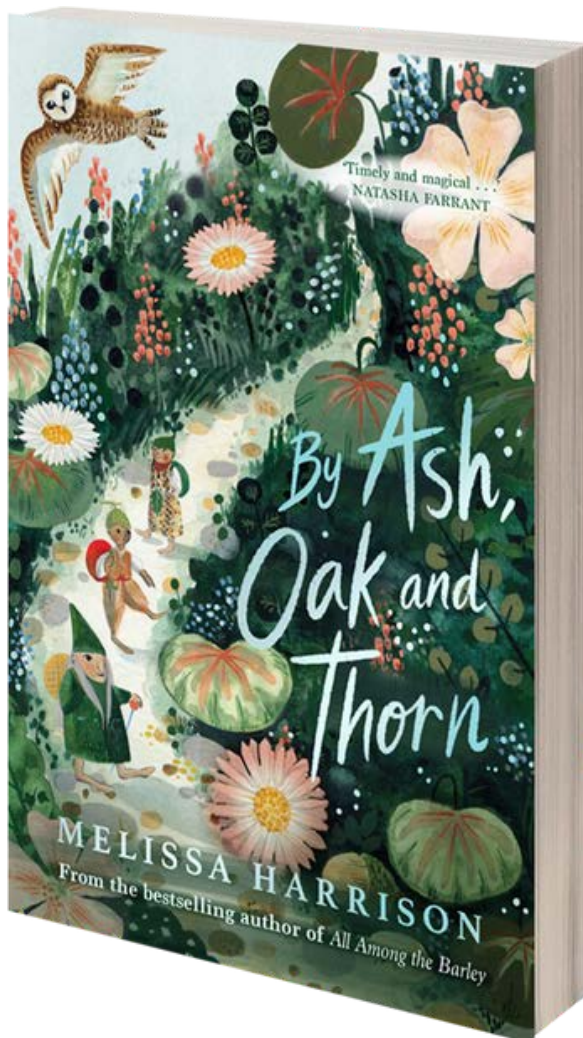


Make your own nature table with

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You will need:

- A smallish table, a tray, or a section of a bigger table
- A few sheets of blank paper to cover the table, or ...
- Something to make labels with: brown tape is good because you can write on it, or you could cut out squares of paper
- Sticky tape or blu-tack if you want to stop your items moving about (optional)
- A pen
- A nature identification book, or access to the internet
- Lots of interesting things you've found outdoors

Everyone loves picking up interesting sticks, leaves and feathers when they're outdoors – but what do you do with your treasures when you get home?

A nature table is a fun way of planning what to collect, and then organising, displaying and learning about all the interesting things you find. Nature tables are easy to make, and anyone can do it. You can even use a tray if all the tables in your house or school have things on them!

The most interesting nature tables have a theme. This could be:

- **Month:** what is growing, changing or happening out in the natural world this month? You could make a new table on the first or last day of each month of the year, telling the story of the seasons as they change.
- **Colour:** for instance, things that are green (easy!), or white. Or you could arrange the finds on your table to create a blend from one colour to another: for example, from yellow things on the left, to orange things in the middle, to red things on the right.
- **Place:** you could make a nature table that tells the story of a place, whether it's your garden, the local park or even your school playground. Try to include examples of all the things that live there, from seeds to bird's feathers.
- **Type:** what about making a nature table that's all about birds? Or one that focuses on trees? Depending on the time of year, flowers make a good theme, as do fruits and seeds.

