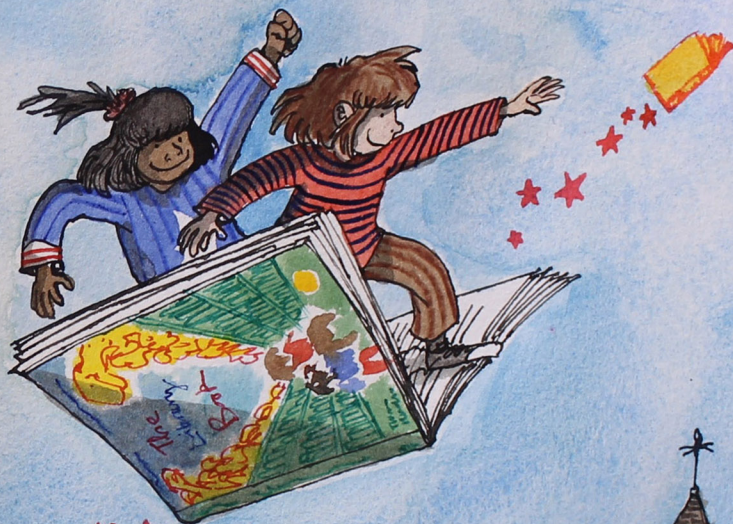


# Wythenshawe Park Story Trail



Join the characters  
from *The Library Book*  
by Gabby Dawney &  
Ian Morris to explore  
Wythenshawe Park,  
collect clues & solve  
puzzles at each point  
on your map



# Welcome

Read Manchester is led in partnership with Manchester City Council and engages local families with books and stories, and inspires them to make reading a priority in their everyday lives. With a focus on the area of Wythenshawe, we work with children and young people as they reach each milestone in their education, helping to end the vicious cycle of illiteracy.

This trail was kindly sponsored by Mantec Engineering, a precision engineering manufacturer based in Manchester, to help support literacy-led community and family activities.

Thank you to Wythenshawe Park for hosting our Walk and Talk trail. Manchester's parks and green spaces have been described by residents as the 'heart, lungs and soul' of the city. The parks are regularly used to play and connect with nature, look after physical and mental health, relax and to take a break.

The Little Free Library was created by a local community group and forms part of the Manchester Little Library trail. Special thanks to Laura Myles for the amazing Little Library design based on Wythenshawe Hall. Find out more about Little Libraries at [www.manchesterlibrarytrail.com](http://www.manchesterlibrarytrail.com).

# Top Tips

Chat with your child about what you see on the trail. Ask open-ended questions to avoid "yes" or "no" answers and stimulate conversation. Introduce new words into the conversation.

When you use a new word, explain what it means. If your child is interested, encourage them to do some research about the word when they get home.

Talk about the day on your way home, ask your child which part of the trail they enjoyed the most and what their favourite new word is.

Don't forget to share your photos of the trail on social media!

You can tag us on

Facebook  
@ReadManchester  
@NationalLiteracyTrust and  
@manclibraries

Twitter  
@Literacy\_Trust  
@manclibraries  
@parks\_great  
@Southmanctrail

Make sure to use the hashtag #ReadMCR



"Illustrations (c) 2021 Ian Morris, taken from The Library Book written by Gabby Dawney & published by Thames & Hudson."

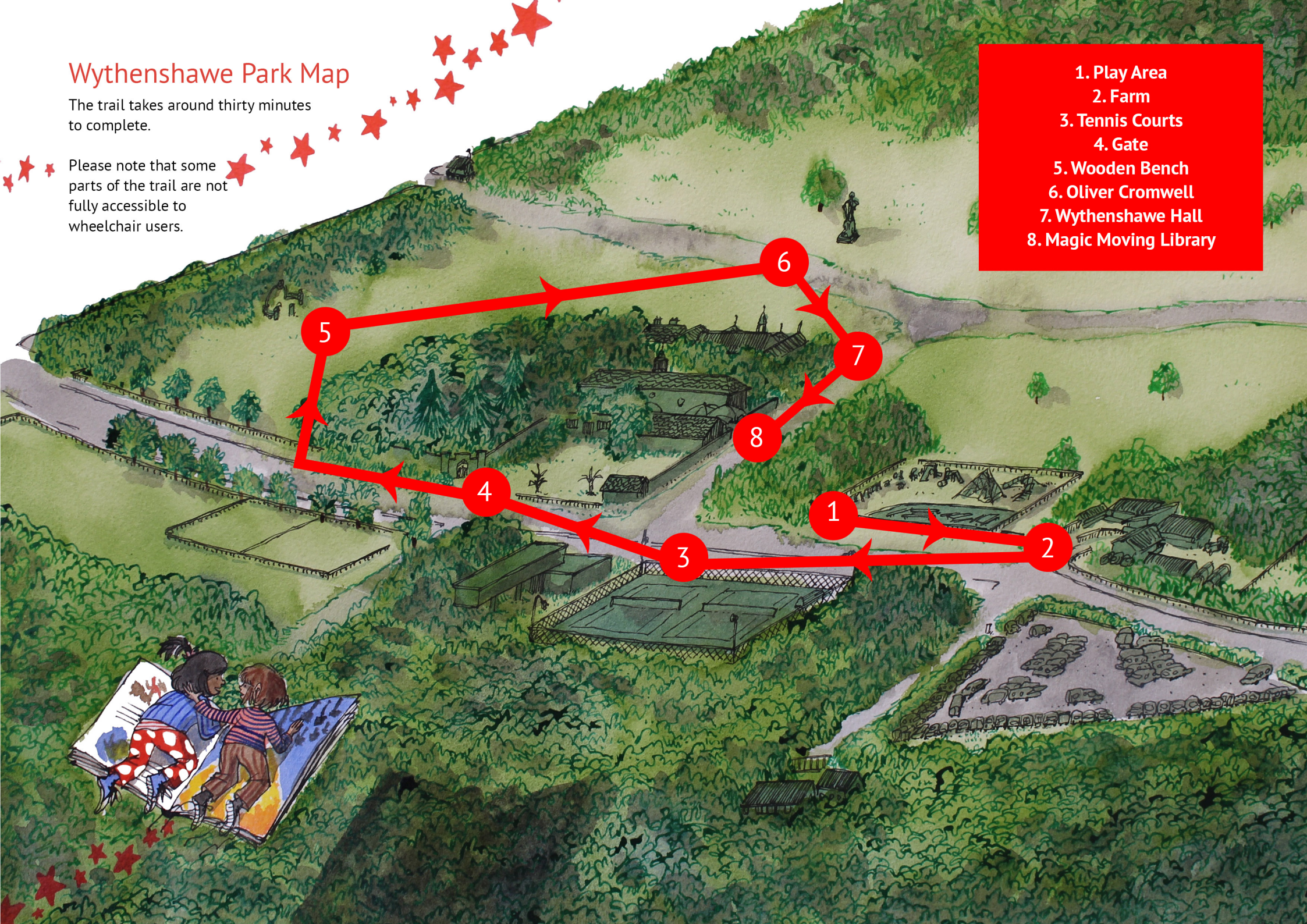


# Wythenshawe Park Map

The trail takes around thirty minutes to complete.

Please note that some parts of the trail are not fully accessible to wheelchair users.

1. Play Area
2. Farm
3. Tennis Courts
4. Gate
5. Wooden Bench
6. Oliver Cromwell
7. Wythenshawe Hall
8. Magic Moving Library







## Play Area

Zach and Ro were having fun shooting down the slide in the play area.

Suddenly, Ro noticed something flutter past her.

"Hey Zach, look a book!" she exclaimed.

"Wow! It's flying around in circles, Ro," said Zach.

"It seems lost. Oh no! It's heading towards the farm. Let's chase after it" suggested Ro.



## Farm

"It's very smelly around here, Ro," said Zach.

"No worse than your room," joked Ro. "Now, where has that little book got to?"

A chorus of farmyard animal noises broke out. Zach and Ro raced towards the outcry, wondering what was happening.

The little book dipped and dived like a bothersome bee at the farm animals.

"Stop that!" shouted Ro. "You're scaring them."

"What is it you're after?" asked Zach, but the book flew over the farm's fence.



## Tennis Court

"Down here," said Zach. "We need to follow the trail of stars."

"Out of the way!" shouted one angry tennis player. They aimed their tennis ball at the little book.

The little book dodged the flurry of tennis balls being fired at it by the angry tennis player.

"Over here, little book!"

The little book, dazed from the barrage of tennis balls, aimlessly floated off in another direction.







## Gate

Up ahead they spotted an old gate. It was set into a reddish-brown brick wall.

“I wonder if it went through here?” asked Zach.

Ro tried to open the gate but it was locked.

“Maybe there are monsters lurking in there. That’s why it must be closed,” said Zach.

“Oh no, I hope that little book hasn’t been eaten by one,” Ro said concerned.

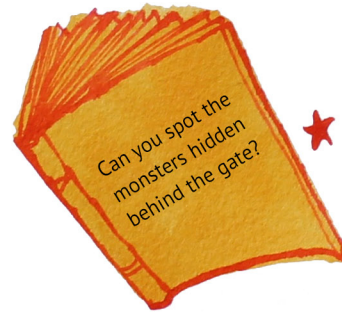
Then, they both felt a pitter-patter hit their heads. It wasn’t raining though. As they looked up they spotted the little book perched on the brick wall. It was crying starry tears.

Zach and Ro clambered up the wall and sat either side of the book.

“There, there little book,” Ro said in a comforting voice.

“What’s the matter, little book?” asked Zach.

The little book fluttered in front of



Zach and Ro. To their amazement, it began to speak.

“I’m lost. So, so lost and afraid,” said the little book. “I’m trying to find my way back to the Magic Moving Library.”

“A magic, moving library? That sounds wonderful,” said Ro. “Though, I’ve never heard of such a library.”

“We’d be happy to help find it though!” Zach chimed in.

“Where do we even begin looking?” asked the little book.

Suddenly, their thoughts were interrupted. A tiny voice piped up from below them.

“I know someone who knows most things. Follow me!”

It was a strange, tiny wooden being that looked slightly like a robot. The wooden creature set off with Zach, Ro and the little book following behind.



## The Wooden Bench

The wooden robot led them to a weathered, wooden bench. Then, it lept up onto the bench and hurried up the timber arch in the middle. Other tiny, wooden beings began to appear along the bench, watching on.

Below the robot was a carved sun face, with eyes, a nose and a mouth. It looked asleep. The wooden robot then knocked on the timber arch. The sun face opened its tired eyes and peered at Zach, Ro and the little book.

“Tiny Tatton, Why have you awoken me?” yawned the sun face.

“Apologies, Sunny. I thought you may be able to help. This little book is lost,” said Tiny Tatton.

“We are looking for the Magic Moving Library,” explained Ro.

“Do you know anything about it Sunny?” asked Zach.

“Hmm... Yes I have heard about it. Though I’m afraid I do not know its location.”

If you travel further up ahead, speak to Oliver. He sees far and wide above his rock.” said Sunny.





# Oliver Cromwell

"Ah ha!" bellowed a voice. "I already see you approaching. Are you here to speak to me?" asked the statue. Only its mouth was moving.

"We are," said Ro "We are looking for the Magical Moving Library. Do you know where it is?"

"I know where everything is," said Oliver Cromwell. "I see all above my rock. I use to look out across Manchester once. Now I watch this park, where many magical things take place."

# Wythenshawe Hall

Zach, Ro and the little book stood before the medieval timber frame hall. They peered through its large windows, trying to spot any sign of the library. Nothing.

"Oliver said we would find a trail, but there is nothing here," said Zach.

"We have to keep looking Zach, we can't give up," said Ro.

"You're right! Sorry little book. We will find it!" cheered Zach.

The little book flapped with delight after seeing how determined Zach and Ro were. Suddenly, the little book

"Magical? So you must have seen the Magic Moving Library?" asked Zach.

"I have indeed. There at the hall you will find the trail that leads you to the Magic Moving Library," stated Oliver Cromwell.

the little book began to glow brighter and brighter. Its flapping became desperate.

"Help! I'm being pulled towards something," cried the little book as it drifted over the roof of Wythenshawe Hall.

Zach and Ro followed in pursuit.



# Magic Moving Library

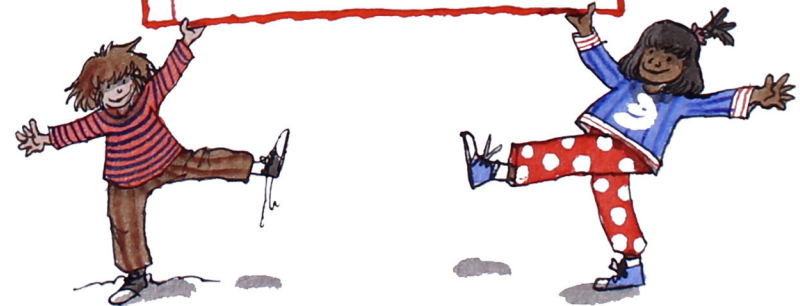
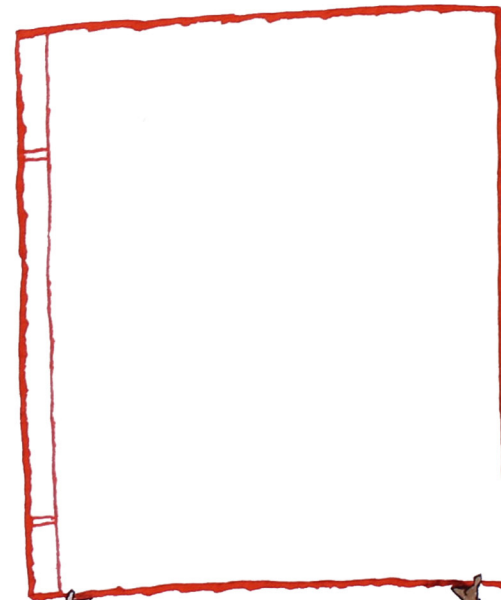
Zach and Ro raced along. As Zach and Ro turned the corner they were blinded by the most glorious light coming from the Courtyard area.

As their eyes adjusted they saw the little book was surrounded by other golden glowing books in front of the Magic Moving Library!

"I'm home, I'm home!" shouted the little book gleefully. "Zach and Ro, please come inside. There is so much for you to enjoy in here."

Zach and Ro spent the rest of the day enjoying many more adventures through the many magical books at the Magic Moving Library!

Draw the magical book you picked out from the Magic Moving Library.







Changing life stories



Manchester  
Little Library  
Trail



Manchester

