**Discussion ideas for …**

**Utterly Me, Clarice Bean by Lauren Child**

* Clarice Bean believes she finds it hard to concentrate because there is too much information in her head. Does this happen to you? Is it just because Clarice is a dreamer? What do you think?
* Clarice wasn’t much of a reader until she got the book “There was a Girl called Ruby”. Is there a book you have read that changed how you felt about reading? Or, do you love reading and there is a book you want to tell everyone about because it was so good?
* Clarice and Betty want to win the book exhibition as there is a prize and their names would go on a special silver cup. Why do you think this made the boring book project more attractive to them? There were many obstacles which got in their way during the project. Talk about the ups and downs of the project and their friendship.
* There are lots of characters, both children and adults, in the book with different personalities. Who did you like or dislike and why?
* Throughout the book the story of Ruby Redfort is running alongside the story of Clarice Bean. Did you like this? How difficult do you think it is for an author to do this? Did you know that there are actually books about Ruby Redfort?