

# EK BOOKS

## Catalogue 2023

*Essential children's books for every family,  
library and classroom.*



**INTRODUCING OUR NEW MIDDLE GRADE FICTION  
BOOKS FOR READERS AGED 9–12.**



**Books with Heart on Issues that Matter**

EK Books uses engaging storytelling and beautiful illustrations to help equip children with the tools they need to thrive in today's complex world. We delight in publishing stories from creators in Australia and New Zealand, and exporting those books to the world.

For the first time in 2023 we are expanding our list to include middle grade fiction, including two fresh and exciting new series.

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Gareth St John Thomas

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Teachers' notes and classroom resources available from

**www.ekbooks.org**

All titles, specifications and prices are subject to change.

Cover images from *Milly and the Mulberry Tree* by Vikki Conley and Deb Hudson.

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# EDUCATOR RESOURCES

At the heart of every EK Book is a story to fire the imaginations of children. Nestled alongside are memorable messages to help small people navigate the big world with confidence. All our books are supported by custom-written teacher resources, crafted with the needs of educators in mind and tailored to the age and stage. These resources are free and available for download now from [www.ekbooks.org](http://www.ekbooks.org)

SCAN TO  
SEE MORE



## SCHOOL PACKS

Do you need to fill some gaps in your collection? At EK Books we have a series of custom-curated packs to help children engage with important topics. Each pack includes a **FREE** bonus book.

### BEST THE BULLIES

- A Boy, His Bear and a Bully
- Invisible Jerry
- Turning Cartwheels
- Freddy The Not-Teddy
- The Battle - **FREE**



### EMERGING ENVIRONMENTALISTS

- Harriet's Hungry Worms
- Where the Heart Is
- Tree Beings
- Grub
- Toy Mountain - **FREE**



### EMBRACING DIFFERENCES

- The Incredibly Busy Mind of Bowen Bartholomew Crisp
- Reena's Rainbow
- The Boy in the Big Blue Glasses
- Chalk Rainbow
- The Secret of Sapling Green - **FREE**



### FIND YOUR BRAVE

- What If ... ?
- Courageous Lucy
- Go Away, Worry Monster!
- Upside-Down Friday
- Scaredy Book - **FREE**



### RAISING WRITERS

- The Art of Words
- The Incurable Imagination
- The Leaky Story
- One Book Was All It Took
- Scaredy Book - **FREE**



Contact [sales@exislepublishing.com](mailto:sales@exislepublishing.com) for more information about our school packs.



Books with Heart on Issues that Matter





## Ruby and the Pen

David Lawrence & Cherie Dignam

THE PEN SERIES, BOOK 1

*Ruby buys a pen that gives her the power to fix all of her problems, only to discover that power comes with its own problems.*

*Ruby and the Pen* is the story of a 12-year-old, cartoon-drawing girl who buys a pen from a mysterious market stall. The pen has a magical power: whatever she draws, happens! Initially the pen protects Ruby from the meanest girls at her new school, but over time the pen's power becomes dangerous. Soon Ruby faces a difficult choice - the pen or her best friend.

As Ruby struggles to wean herself off the pen, she's faced with problems galore. Can she foil her headmaster's evil plan, and save an endangered species of bird in the process, relying on her own talents and working as a team with her friends? Or will she succumb to the pen's power?

Featuring hilarious illustrations, and with messages about bullying, teamwork and the environment, this is fast-paced, entertaining middle grade fiction that will resonate with kids everywhere.

THEMES: DRAWING, ENVIRONMENT,  
PERSONAL ETHICS, FAMILY  
BREAKDOWN, RESPONSIBILITY

9781922539380 | Paperback | 280 pp |  
July 23

AGES  
10-12



## Xander and the Pen

David Lawrence & Cherie Dignam

THE PEN SERIES, BOOK 2

*Xander's pen is magic: what he draws, happens! Xander and his pen help improve his family's fortunes — or do they?*

*Xander and the Pen* is the story of a boy who loves to draw superheroes, and the pen he buys from a mysterious market stall. He soon learns that the pen has a magical power: whatever he draws, happens! At first the pen helps Xander improve his family's fortunes, but there are many unintended consequences and soon everybody is angry at him.

Xander sees that the power of the pen has changed him into somebody his sister and his friends despise. But how else to deal with the bullying Bruise Brothers and solve the mystery of the poisoned llamas? Can Xander win back the respect of his sister and friends without using the pen? Or will he succumb to the temptation of an easy fix?



THEMES: DRAWING, ENVIRONMENT,  
PERSONAL ETHICS, FAMILY  
BREAKDOWN, RESPONSIBILITY

9781922539403 | Paperback | 280 pp |  
Nov 23

AGES  
10-12

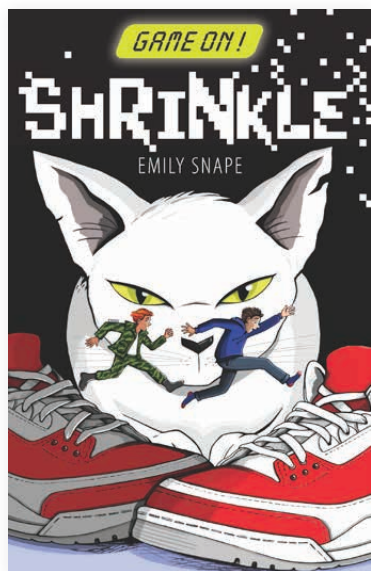


## ABOUT THE CREATORS

Like most children's authors, **David Lawrence** started out as a financial analyst! He went from creating profit-and-loss statements to performing stand-up comedy and TV writing, before penning his first book in 2007. Since then, he has written another 12 fun-filled children's books aimed at engaging reluctant readers. David is passionate about children's literacy and is a proud Ambassador of the Indigenous Literacy Foundation.

**Cherie Dignam** has always loved drawing and works in a variety of mediums. However, she is at her happiest with a good old-fashioned dip pen and ink.





## Game On: Shrinkle

Emily Snape

GAME ON SERIES, BOOK 1

*Gaming-mad Max and his prankster brother are forced to work together to survive epic adventures on a miniscule scale.*

When rebellious Liam starts playing 'Shrinkle' on his babysitter's phone, he has no idea what he's letting himself in for. The app shrinks Liam and his brother Max to the size of a minifigure! Their safe home has suddenly become a treacherous landscape. Can they scale sofa mountain, escape Miss McBoob's snoring mouth and outsmart the now-giant pet cat? And will they stay tiny forever?

THEMES: GAMING, RIDDLES, SIBLING  
RILVARY, PROBLEM SOLVING, HUMOUR

9781922539397 | Paperback | 184 pp |  
May 23

AGES  
8-11



## ABOUT THE CREATOR

**Emily Snape** is a children's author and illustrator living in London. Her work has appeared online, on television, in shops and even on buses! She loves coffee and notebooks, and has three cheeky children, Leo, Fin and Flo, who keep her on her toes and give her lots of inspiration for stories.



## Game On: Glitched

Emily Snape

GAME ON SERIES, BOOK 2

Gaming-obsessed Max and his infuriating younger brother, Liam, are forced to work together when a new game on Miss McBoob's mobile phone sucks them into a time-travelling vortex. The 'Glitched' app transports the brothers to earlier versions of their home town where they find themselves in the Stone Age, in Roman times, in the Middle Ages and in the age of the dinosaurs. To return to their own time they must solve riddles while dodging woolly mammoths, jousting knights and all manner of bodily fluids, both human and animal!

With a clever mix of realism and fantasy and packed with historically accurate settings, crazy scenarios and gross facts, *Game On: Glitched* is perfect for reluctant readers, particularly boys.



THEMES: GAMING, RIDDLES, SIBLING  
RILVARY, PROBLEM SOLVING, HISTORY

9781922539410 | Paperback | 184 pp |  
Sept 23

AGES  
8-11



*Author and illustrator Emily Snape's sons were both reluctant readers, which made her want to write books they could not resist reading!*



*'I love comedy in books, but funny books also have to have heart, believable characters, and a great plot that keeps you reading till the very end' - Emily Snape*



**THEMES:** HUMOUR, LIVING WITH A PET

9781922539359 | Paperback | 192 pp



AGES  
12+

## Oliver Kitten's Diary

*The Journals of a Mischievous Cat's First Year*  
Gareth St John Thomas

A truly innovative book for cat and kitten lovers. Oliver Kitten was born in a firetruck and ends up living with a three-generation multigenerational human family in a four-bedroom house. Here he keeps a diary of his own escapades and the things he sees and hears his family get up to. Cute, funny, and a little naughty, Oliver can sometimes be downright wicked in his precocious observations of the things all the humans do in his house. Elegantly produced with black-and-white line drawings.

*Born in a firetruck, Oliver Kitten lives in a four-bedroom house with his human family and keeps a memorable diary.*



## ABOUT THE CREATOR

**Gareth St John Thomas** is the founder and CEO of Exisle Publishing, based in Australia and New Zealand. He has been involved in the book industry since he was 11 years old, when he started helping his dad at David & Charles. Now, his mission with Exisle is to bring books into the world from voices that otherwise wouldn't have been heard, and to give readers something with heart. Gareth has written other adult and children's books including *Finding True Connections*, *Grandpa's Noises*, and *Cats Work Like This*. He divides his time between the UK, Australia and New Zealand.



## Coolmind

*The Young Person's Guide to a Calmer Life*  
David Keefe

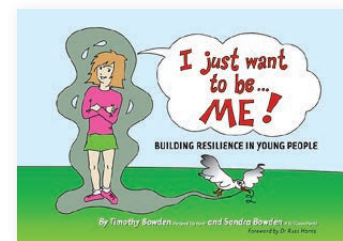
From as little as three minutes a day, author David Keefe will show tweens and teens how to gain mental calm and clarity in any situation.

**THEMES:** SELF-CONTROL, MINDFULNESS



AGES  
10-16

9781921497933 | Paperback |  
120 pp



AGES  
10-16

## I Just Want to Be ... Me!

*Building Resilience in Young People*  
Timothy & Sandra Bowden

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) has been proven to be useful in teaching young people effective, flexible strategies for dealing with the stressors in their life. These principles are now brought to life in this graphic novel.

**THEMES:** SELF-CONTROL, ACCEPTANCE AND COMMITMENT THERAPY

9781921497476 | Paperback | 64 pp |  
AVAILABLE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ONLY

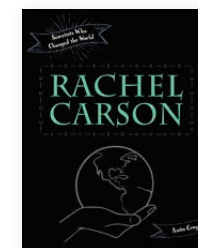
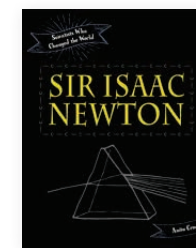
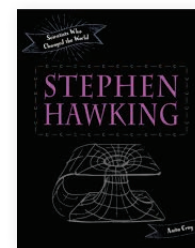
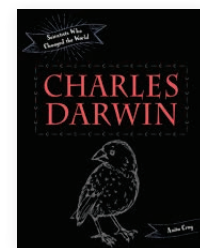
## 'Scientists Who Changed the World' Series

Anita Croy

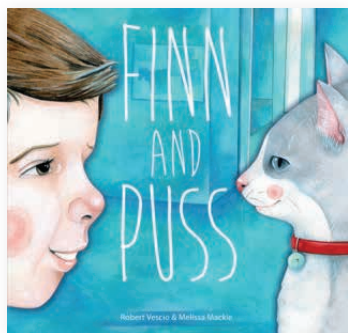
*Discover a series that will get children excited about STEM. An excellent way to introduce children to non-fiction, and to teach them about society in the past, present and future.*

**THEMES:** SCIENCE, BIOGRAPHY

AVAILABLE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND ONLY







## Finn and Puss

Robert Vescio & Melissa Mackie

Finn is lonely, Puss is lost. When Finn finds Puss, he also finds a friend. But Puss's real owners miss their cat. Will Finn do the right thing and take Puss home?

**THEMES:** LONELINESS, FRIENDSHIP, DOING THE RIGHT THING

9781925335507 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Our Dog Benji

Pete Carter & James Henderson

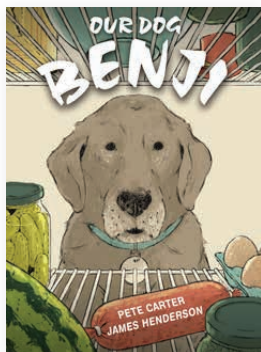
Benji will eat anything. From ice cream to insects, he's eager to try it all! His young owner isn't quite so adventurous. But perhaps Benji can inspire him to be a little less fussy

**THEMES:** FUSSY EATING, THE WILLINGNESS TO TRY NEW THINGS



AGES  
4-8

9781925335330 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



## Saying Goodbye to Barkley

Devon Sillett & Nicky Johnston

Olivia and her dog Barkley are inseparable. He's her sidekick, her partner in crime-fighting. But then, Barkley dies and Olivia is heartbroken. Gradually, she realizes that Barkley wouldn't want her to be unhappy. So she comes up with a clever plan to get her happiness back.

**THEMES:** PETS, LOSS, ANIMAL WELFARE

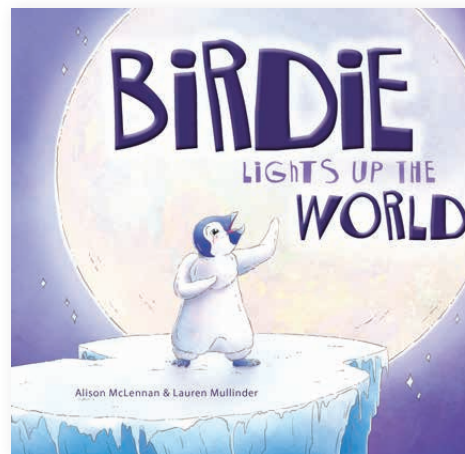


AGES  
4-8

9781925335965 | Hardcover | 32 pp



9781925820447 | Paperback | 32 pp



## Birdie Lights Up the World

Alison McLennan & Lauren Mullinder

*Birdie the penguin has an important job — light up the sky with her song. But what if the sky lights up without her?*

*Birdie Lights Up the World* is a story about the importance of being yourself and sharing your unique gifts with the world. Birdie the penguin believes she is the chosen one who lights up the world every night with her song. When the sky lights up without her one evening, she is left feeling lost and confused — until her friends help her realize her true purpose. Sensitive illustrated, with zoo characters children will love.

**THEMES:** PENGUINS, SINGING, UNIQUE GIFTS, SELF ESTEEM, ZOOS

9781922539489 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp | Jun 23

AGES  
4-8

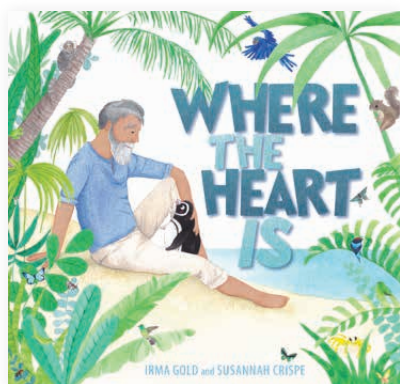


## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Alison McLennan** began writing while raising her family. When not writing, she performs in musical theatre, sings with her children's band and works as a voiceover artist.

**Lauren Mullinder** has loved drawing since she first held a pencil. Lauren lives in Australia and loves spending time in nature.





## Where the Heart Is

Irma Gold & Susannah Crispe

*A moving, funny and heartfelt exploration of a penguin's unlikely friendship and his extraordinary journey home.*

Inspired by an incredible true story, *Where the Heart Is* explores the friendship between Dindim the Magellanic penguin and his rescuer, Joao. Young readers will delight in its beautiful depiction of the intrepid penguin's journey, and the wildlife he meets on the way. Heartfelt and educational, this is a celebration of nature and belonging.

**THEMES:** FRIENDSHIP, ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION

9781925820874 | Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES  
3-8



Scan here to hear Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York reading *Where The Heart Is*

## Paddy O'Melon

The Irish Kangaroo

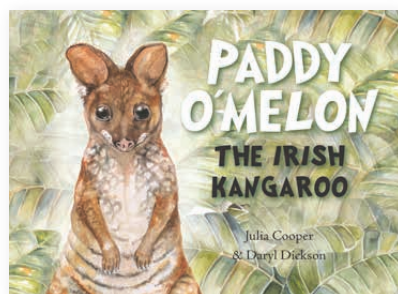
Julia Cooper & Daryl Dickson

*The endearing story of a young rainforest kangaroo and his quest to find his way home.*

Separated from his mother as a joey, Paddy O'Melon tries to find out what he really is from the other rainforest animals. But none of them can help him. It's not until he meets the cassowary that he manages to find out both his identity and the way home.

**THEMES:** AUSTRALIAN NATIVE WILDLIFE, CONSERVATION, IDENTITY, BELONGING

9781925335637 | Paperback | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8



**THEMES:** RECYCLING, COMPOSTING, GARDENING, SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

9781922539472 | Hardcover | 32 pp | May 23

AGES  
4-8



## Harriet's Hungry Worms

Samantha Smith & Melissa Johns

*This funny, engaging eco story invites young readers to follow the adventures of Harriet's ravenous compost worms as they munch their way through the family food scraps.*

Packed with worm facts, *Harriet's Hungry Worms* is the ideal companion for worm warriors and curious composters keen to roll up their sleeves. Before they know it, young readers become equipped with the basic information they need to start putting their own kitchen food scraps to good use!

## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Samantha Smith** lives in Melbourne with nine-hundred and ninety-seven compost worms and an impressive pumpkin vine that's slowly taking over the backyard. As a lover of all things green, she completed doctoral research exploring young people's relationship with the environment and how to encourage positive behaviour change.

**Melissa Johns** is an artist, illustrator, an avid upcycler and a closet poet. She produces artworks predominantly made of recycled materials that lend her work a uniquely whimsical quality.







## Grub

Sandra Severgnini

Far below the rainforest canopy, a grub feels that his body is about to change. Wondering what he will turn into, he looks to his insect friends for answers. With lush illustrations full of realistic detail, *Grub* immerses us in the world of the forest floor as we take a journey of discovery on the way to the final, surprising, metamorphosis.

**THEMES: NATURE, INSECTS, METAMORPHOSIS.**

9781922539267 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



*'An engaging and informative read that will delight the little natural historians in homes around the world. One for both school and home libraries.'* - Magpies Magazine

## Tree Beings

Raymond Huber & Sandra Severgnini  
With foreword by Dr Jane Goodall

*'It's unlikely there's a better book on trees for young readers.'*  
- Buzz Words Magazine

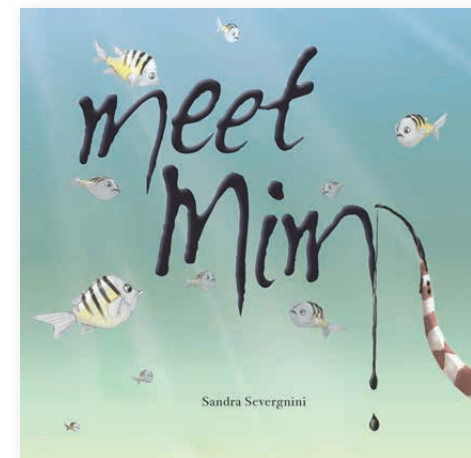
*Tree Beings* takes a fresh look at trees as beings that enrich the whole planet. Get to know trees through the inspiring true stories of people who love them: from a scientist who discovered how trees 'talk'; to a young woman with the world record for living up a tree. Learn about recent tree science, and explore tree wisdom from many cultures.

**THEMES: NATURAL WORLD, PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT**

9781925820539 | Hardcover | 96 pp



AGES  
9-13



## Meet Mim

Sandra Severgnini

*Dive down into the world of the sandy seabed and observe the clever transformations of a very tricky sea creature — the mimic octopus.*

The world of the shallow ocean seabed is brought to life in this story of an amazing animal, the mimic octopus. The illustrations give a realistic picture of the sea creatures in this environment and how perfectly the octopus impersonates and outwits them. For the reader, the fun is in the guessing - what is the real shape of the master of disguise that *Meet Mim* introduces us to?

**THEMES: NATURE, SEA CREATURES, OCTOPUS, CAMOUFLAGE, SHAPE SHIFTER, OCEANS**

9781922539557 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp | Aug 23

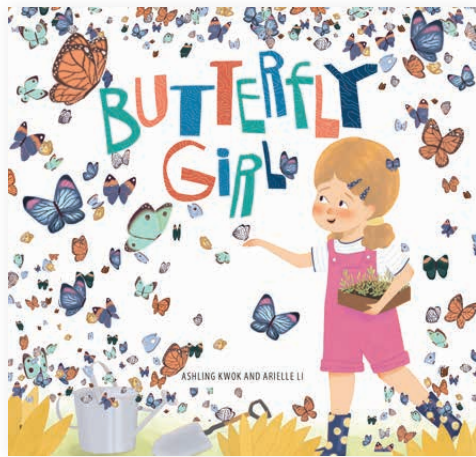
AGES  
4-8



## ABOUT THE CREATOR

**Sandra Severgnini's** fascination for the amazing world around her inspires her and brings sensitivity and humour to her illustrations. Sandra's other books include *Grub*, and the award-winning *Tree Beings*.





## Butterfly Girl

Ashling Kwok & Arielle Li

*Olivia moves to the city and leaves her butterfly friends behind. But with no garden, how will Olivia find new friends?*

When Olivia and her mother move from the countryside into a city apartment, Olivia is sad to leave her fluttering butterfly friends behind. 'You'll make new friends,' her mother reassures her — but when no butterflies visit Olivia's balcony, she realises she needs to transform her bare balcony if she wants her friends to visit — and that turns out to be a great way to meet her new neighbours!

**THEMES:** NATURE, BUTTERFLIES, FRIENDSHIP, ENVIRONMENT. COPING WITH CHANGE

9781922539564 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp | Oct 23

AGES  
4-8



## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Ashling Kwok** is a children's author from Sydney. She is obsessed with children's literature and loves immersing herself in a magical world where anything is possible. She hopes to continue to write stories that take children on a journey and hopefully touch their hearts.

**Arielle Li** is a Taiwanese–Australian illustrator based in Adelaide. She has been passionate about creating art from a young age and has been pursuing illustration as a career since 2019.



## Growing Pains

Alison McLennan & Melissa Johns

When Finn's family plants a tree, he feels responsible for it, worrying that the sapling might be cold or hungry. He tries to share his breakfast with it and offers it his scarf. But when his nightlight goes out, it's time for the tree to inspire Finn, as it stands tall and brave in the moonlight. A touching story of empathy and overcoming fears.

**THEMES:** EMPATHY, KINDNESS, CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

9781925820522 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Tabitha and the Raincloud

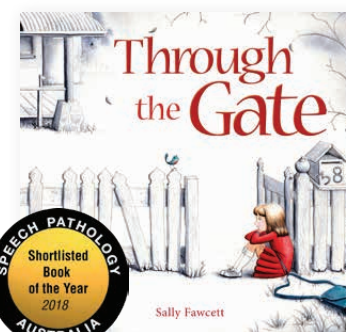
Devon Sillett & Melissa Johns

When you wake up under a raincloud you have a choice: feel soggy and miserable or dance in the rain! An empowering story of resilience and optimism for anyone who's ever had a raincloudy day

**THEMES:** ANGER, EMOTIONAL REGULATION, OPTIMISM

9781925820133 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Through the Gate

Sally Fawcett

Like all changes, moving house can be difficult. A little girl struggles to cope when confronted with a dilapidated house and a new life. But, over time, the renovations to the house parallel a shift in her perspective, as she realises that change can include good things too.

**THEMES:** MOVING HOUSE, COPING WITH CHANGE



9781925335415 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



9781925820096 |  
Paperback |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8





## Cookie

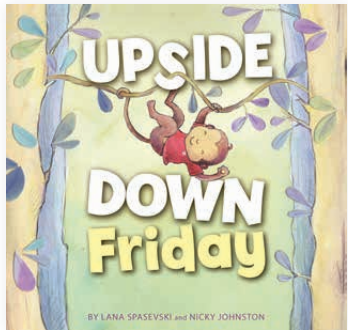
Isabelle Duff & Susannah Crispe

Join Cookie the mischievous pup and his Girl as they play together and make each other happy, even on the days when Cookie is the only one who can make Girl smile. With beautiful words and illustrations, this is a sensitive exploration of childhood depression and anxiety, and a tribute to the love between a pet and their person.

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, DEPRESSION

9781925820959 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-9



## Upside-Down Friday

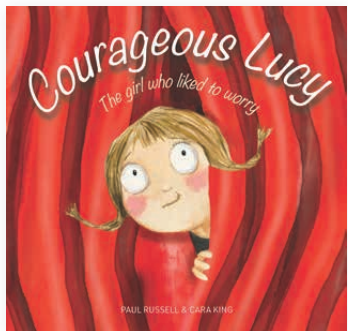
Lana Spasevski & Nicky Johnston

Upside-Down Fridays turn Hugo the monkey's routine into chaos and fill his tummy with butterflies. Find out how he learns to find the fun in change with this story about the power of helping others. With emotive language and unique 'upside-down' illustrations, this is the perfect resource for building emotional resilience in children.

**THEMES:** COPING WITH CHANGE, ANXIETY, SCHOOL

9781925820850 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



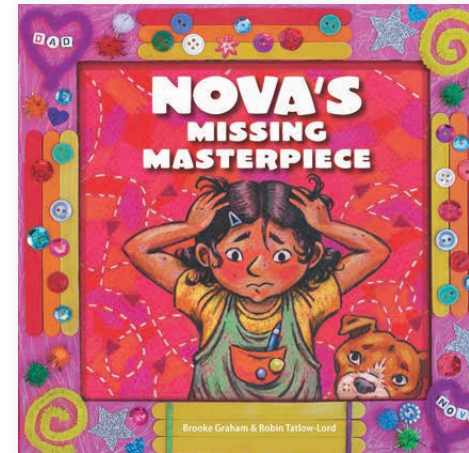
## Courageous Lucy

*The Girl Who Liked to Worry*  
Paul Russell & Cara King

Her knees may knock, her tummy ties in knots and Lucy may worry quite a lot, but with a small sprinkle of courage, Lucy takes tiny steps of bravery to be in the school play and becomes the best tree ever, despite her anxiety.

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, BRAVERY, OVERCOMING FEARS, SCHOOL

9781925820775 | Hardcover | 32 pp



## Nova's Missing Masterpiece

Brooke Graham & Robin Tatlow-Lord

*Nova has lost the gift she made for her Dad's birthday! She's going to need to stay calm if she wants to find it again.*

When Nova realises the artwork she created for Dad's birthday present is missing, her tummy flip flops and her heart ker-thumps. She and her dog, Harley, turn the house upside down, searching absolutely everywhere, but the missing masterpiece is nowhere to be found. Nova loses her temper but Harley remains calm and content. Can Nova learn from her dog, calm herself down and find her Dad's present in time for his birthday party?

**THEMES:** SELF REGULATION, ANGER CONTROL, PROBLEM SOLVING, PETS, LIFE SKILLS

9781922539373 | Hardcover | 32 pp | July 23

AGES  
4-8



**From the award-winning team that brought you *Go Away, Worry Monster!***

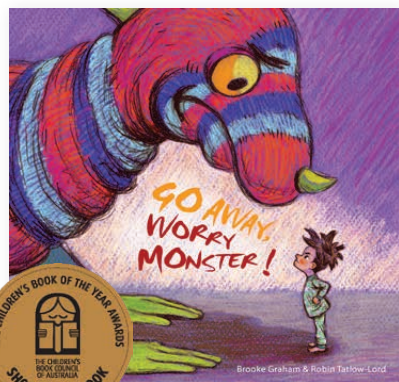
## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Brooke Graham** is a children's author, primary school teacher and mother who enjoys writing picture book stories and YA fiction.

**Robin Tatlow-Lord** is a writer, animator and cartoonist. Having been drawing since she was in nappies, she loves bringing character and emotion to all her pictures.







**CBCA Judges Comments:**  
'The illustrations 'grow' and 'diminish' the worry monster' to reassure children about common night-time fears.'



AGES  
4-8

## Go Away, Worry Monster!

Brooke Graham & Robin Tatlow-Lord

Worry Monster loves 'helping' Archie worry, especially the night before he starts his new school. Archie feels so anxious that his head hurts, his tummy flutters and his heart pounds. He soon realizes that the only way to feel better is to make Worry Monster go away. He does his belly breaths and challenges his inner fears by facing facts. *Go Away, Worry Monster!* gives children useful strategies to cope with their anxieties and stress, showing them how to make their own Worry Monsters leave.

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, RESILIENCE, EMOTIONAL REGULATION

9781925820393 | Hardcover | 32 pp

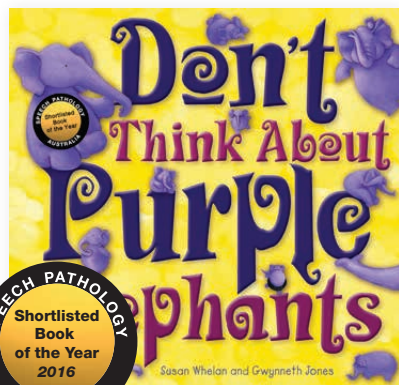


## Don't Think About Purple Elephants

Susan Whelan & Gwynneth Jones

Sophie worries — not during the day when she is busy with family and friends, but at night when everything is calm and quiet. Her family all try to help, but somehow they just make her worries worse. Until her mother thinks of a clever way to take her mind off her troubles, by asking her NOT to think of purple elephants. Whimsical and humorous, this little girl's story of finding a way to ease her worry will resonate with children and parents everywhere.

*'This is a bit of a special book, which is perfect for kids who are perhaps a little sensitive.'* - Mamamia

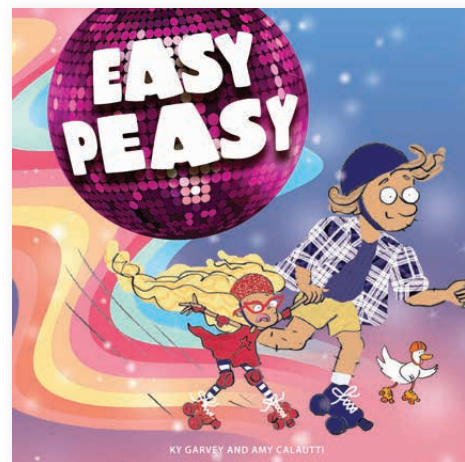


**THEMES:** COPING WITH ANXIETY, WORRY

9781925335484 | Paperback | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8



**THEMES:** ROLLER SKATING, PERSISTENCE, LEARNING NEW SKILLS, ACCEPTING HELP

9781922539441 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp | Feb 23

AGES  
4-8



## Easy Peasy

Ky Garvey & Amy Calautti

*A fun, engaging story, perfect for children learning how to do something new.*

*Easy Peasy* follows Ruby, who has just received sparkly roller skates as a present from her dad. Ruby is convinced it will be easy to learn how to roller skate and dismisses her dad when he offers to help her. But after a few tumbles, Ruby realises it isn't as easy as she thinks and that she might need his help after all! Embracing themes of independence, perseverance, and family relationships, this is a fun, engaging story for children learning how to do something for the first time.

## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Ky Garvey** writes fun and engaging stories that turn challenges into triumphs in a way that is supportive, inclusive and empowering. Ky also writes and hosts the podcast *Totally Lit!*

**Amy Calautti** loved to draw from a young age and made up games based around drawing to entertain her younger relatives.







## The Fix-It Man

Dimity Powell & Nicky Johnston

A young girl believes her father can fix anything, but following the death of her mother, she discovers that broken hearts are not as easy to repair as cracked teapots. A poignant picture book that explores how a child can cope with the loss of a parent.

**THEMES:** GRIEF, DEATH, HOPE, HEALING FROM LOSS

9781925335347 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## What if ... ?

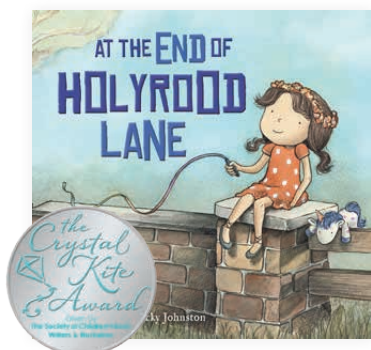
Lynn Jenkins & Kirrili Lonergan

In this colourful adventure, 'what ifs' become springboards for happiness and imagination. Why worry about monsters under the bed when you could wonder what it would be like if the clouds were purple and orange and green? Children will delight in this playful exploration of words and their power to change how we feel, turning anxiety into wonder.

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, IMAGINATION

9781925820973 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## At the End of Holyrood Lane

Dimity Powell & Nicky Johnston

Flick's life is often unpredictable due to the constant storms that plague her home. Visually arresting, emotionally incisive, and ultimately uplifting, this beautifully crafted picture book provides a sensitive glimpse into one aspect of domestic violence and how it can affect young lives.

**THEMES:** DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ABUSE, RESILIENCE, TRUST, HOPE



9781925335767 | Hardcover | 32 pp



9781925820454 | Paperback | 32 pp

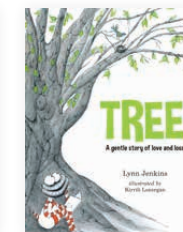
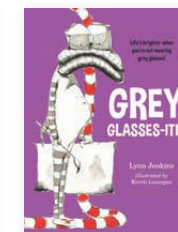
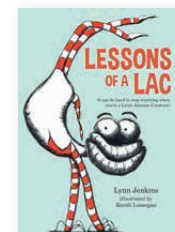
AGES  
4-8

## 'Lessons of a LAC' series

Lynn Jenkins & Kirrili Lonergan

*Written by experienced clinical psychologist, Lynn Jenkins, and illustrated by art therapist and former paediatric nurse Kirrili Lonergan, this popular series gives children tools to help manage their worries.*

AGES  
4-10



### Lessons of a LAC

*It Can Be Hard To Stop Worrying When You're A Little Anxious Creature!*

Learn alongside Loppy the Little Anxious Creature as he finds out how to manage his anxieties, let go of his worries, and above all have fun!

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, WORRY, RESILIENCE

9781925335828 | Paperback | 32 pp



### Brave

Loppy is starting school and he's a little anxious. Can Curly the Calmster show Loppy how to 'find his brave'?

**THEMES:** ANXIETY, WORRY, RESILIENCE, COURAGE

Available Australia and New Zealand only

9781925117844 | Paperback | 32 pp | LITTLE STEPS PUBLISHING



### Perfect Petunias

*The 'Perfect' Book for Little Perfectionists Everywhere!*

Learn that 'perfect' just means trying your best, in the 'perfect' book for kids who find it hard to make mistakes!

**THEMES:** PERFECTIONISM, SELF-ACCEPTANCE, RESILIENCE

9781925335583 | Paperback | 32 pp



### Grey-glasses-itis

*Life's Brighter When You're Not Wearing Grey Glasses!*

When Loppy takes off his grey glasses, life doesn't look so sad! A simple way to teach kids how thoughts influence mood.

**THEMES:** MOODS, FEELINGS, EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

9781925335958 | Paperback | 32 pp



### Tree

*A Gentle Story of Love and Loss*

A gentle story of loss to help children learn how to say goodbye, process grief, and commemorate a loved one's life.

**THEMES:** MOODS, FEELINGS, EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

9781925820126 | Paperback | 32 pp





## Ollie's Treasure

*Happiness is Easy to Find if You Just Know Where to Look!*

Lynn Jenkins & Kirrili Lonergan

Ollie's grandma sends him a treasure map that promises to lead him to 'something that will make him happy always'. Of course, Ollie thinks this 'something' will be a toy of some sort, but he gets both a rude shock and a big surprise when his treasure turns out to be him!

*'Author and clinical psychologist Lynn Jenkins is savvy about the tools for engaging the social and emotional development of children, and Kirrili Lonergan's illustrations are vibrant and energetic, depicting Ollie (a mouse) in constant action.'* - Books+Publishing

**THEMES:** FINDING HAPPINESS THROUGH MINDFULNESS

AGES 4-8



9781925820263 | Paperback | 32 pp



9781925335422 | Hardcover | 32 pp



## Tomorrow Girl

Vikki Conley & Penelope Pratley

Catch up with a girl called Tomorrow — you'd better be quick because she's always in a hurry! 'You'll catch up with the next day if you keep rushing,' says Tomorrow's mother. But when Tomorrow meets Yesterday and trips over Today, her whole world begins to slow down. *Tomorrow Girl* is a timely reminder of what can happen when we allow ourselves time to be in the moment amidst the modern-day rush.

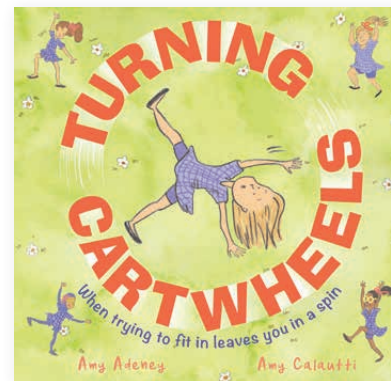
*Encourages kids to be more mindful in their everyday life and to remember to live in the moment*

**THEMES:** MINDFULNESS, FRIENDSHIP

9781925820362 | Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES 4-8



## Turning Cartwheels

*When Trying to Fit In Leaves You in a Spin*

Amy Adeney & Amy Calautti

Emma is desperate to join queen bee Carly's Cartwheel Club. But will being in the club be as much fun as Emma hopes? Bullying is all too common in schools but it's not always physical. Underhanded, manipulative behaviour by so-called 'frenemies' can cause just as much damage. This is a clever exploration of self-esteem, inclusiveness and true friendship.

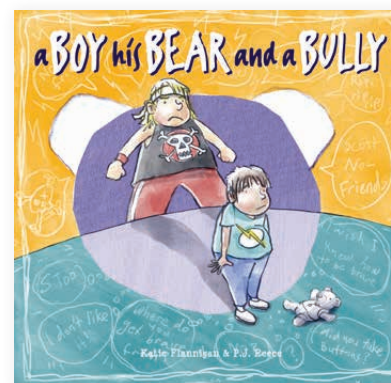
**THEMES:** SOCIAL BULLYING, FRIENDSHIP, PEER PRESSURE, FITTING IN, SCHOOL

AGES 5-9



9781925820515 | Hardcover | 32 pp

*'This book is helpful for primary and intermediate aged school children who are struggling to find a group of friends where they fit in and belong, who need the encouragement to discover their own identity, strengths and to take the initiative to find ways to meet their needs free from peer pressure.'* - NZ Assoc. of Counsellors



## A Boy, His Bear and a Bully

Katie Flannigan & P.J. Reece

Scott takes his bear, Buttons, to school with him every day to help him feel brave. He has to, because every day, Duncan is mean to him. When Buttons goes missing though, Scott has to look elsewhere to find his brave, and much to his surprise, he does. *A Boy, his Bear and a Bully* addresses the global issue of bullying in a hopeful, gentle way. It is an inspiring conversation starter for children, carers, and professionals, providing guidance for anyone who wishes they could be brave.

*An inspiring story of standing up for yourself and your friends that will resonate with any child facing a bully.*

**THEMES:** BULLYING, FRIENDSHIP, BRAVERY, FORGIVENESS, SCHOOL

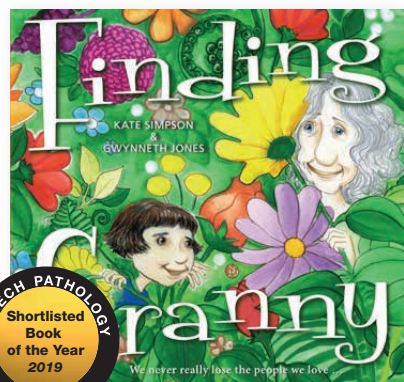


AGES 4-8

9781925820898 | Hardcover | 32 pp







## Finding Granny

*We Never Really Lose the People We Love*  
Kate Simpson & Gwynneth Jones

*'A heart-warming story of changing relationships ... It's also a sensitive exploration of coping with illness and disability that will offer children ages 5 to 6 much-needed comfort. Finding Granny is unique and unreservedly recommended' - Children's Bookwatch*

Every two seconds, someone in the world suffers a stroke. In *Finding Granny*, that someone is Edie's beloved grandmother. At first, Edie is confronted by the physical changes in her grandmother. But when her mother takes Edie to watch one of Granny's art therapy sessions, Edie starts to understand that the Granny she loves is still there.

**THEMES: GRANDPARENTS, ILLNESS, STROKE AWARENESS**

9781925335699 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8

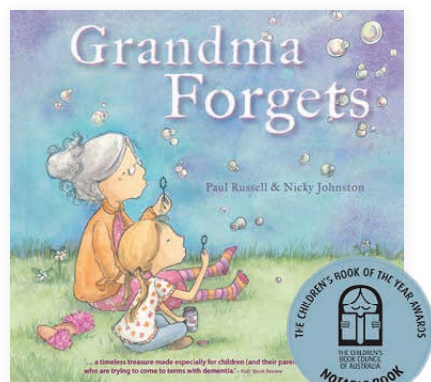


## Grandma Forgets

Paul Russell & Nicky Johnston

The heart-warming story of a family bound by love as they cope with their grandma's dementia. Over the years, the little girl has built up a treasure trove of memories of time spent with Grandma, but now, Grandma can't remember them. Fortunately, her family makes sure that, no matter what else she forgets, she will always know she is loved.

*An award-winning, uplifting picture book about a family bound by love as they cope with their grandmother's dementia.*



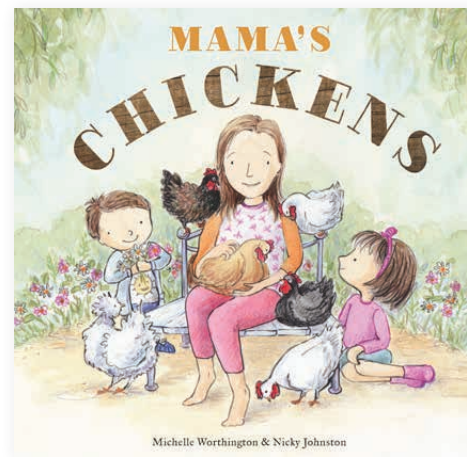
AGES  
4-8

**THEMES: DEMENTIA, AGEING, ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

9781925335811 | Paperback | 24 pp



9781925335477 | Hardcover | 24 pp



## Mama's Chickens

Michelle Worthington & Nicky Johnston

*This sensitive, age-appropriate book uses backyard chickens to tell a story of a mother with early-onset dementia*

Award-winning author Michelle Worthington, uses backyard chickens to give us a child's-eye view of early-onset dementia. As Mama loves and cares for her chickens, her kids learn lessons about disability and acceptance. Children will relate to the endearing chickens, while the author uses her own experience to depict early-onset dementia in a realistic but age-appropriate way. Dementia doesn't only affect the elderly; this story shines a supportive, much-needed light on a reality many families face.

**THEMES: YOUNGER ONSET DEMENTIA, ACCEPTANCE, SUPPORT ANIMALS**

9781922539458 | Hardcover | 32 pp | Mar 23

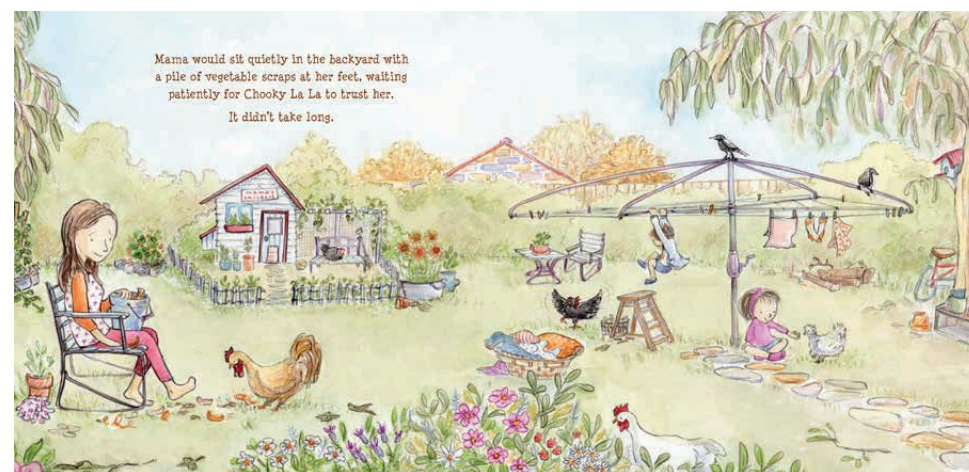
AGES  
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## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Michelle Worthington** is an international award-winning author of empowering picture books for children.

**Nicky Johnston** is an illustrator, teacher and presenter, aiming to inspire young children to use their imagination and develop their own ideas.







## Together Things

*When Her Father Feels Sad, A Little Girl Finds Ways to Keep the Bonds of Love Alive*

Michelle Vasiliu & Gwynneth Jones

Sometimes, when mental health issues arise, a parent can't play like they used to. In *Together Things* a girl faces conflicting feelings toward her depressed father, but her mother soon helps her realize they can do different things together to preserve their relationship while her dad tries to get better.

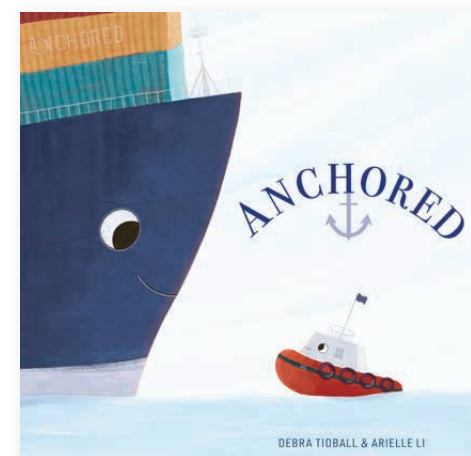
**THEMES:** UNDERSTANDING DEPRESSION, MENTAL HEALTH, PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIPS

*Together Things helps young kids to understand that sometimes they must do different things together while their parent focuses on their mental health.*



9781925820294 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Anchored

Debra Tidball & Arielle Li

*A story about the sustaining power of love and connection, despite being oceans apart.*

In this sensitive tale, Tug and Ship are connected by bonds of love despite being separated by danger and distance. In a world where so many parents are apart from their children for periods of time due to work and/or living arrangements, sometimes the sense of attachment can feel a little vulnerable. *Anchored* is a reassuring book, reminding children that their attachment with those they love can weather the tides of time away from each other: they are firmly anchored in each other's hearts.

**THEMES:** EMOTIONAL BONDS, ATTACHMENTS, TUGBOATS, SEPARATION

9781922539496 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp | Apr 23

AGES  
4-8



## Pear of Hope

Wenda Shurety & Deb Hudson

*Pear of Hope* is the story of a little girl with cancer and her tale of recovery. This is intertwined with the growth of a pear tree, which symbolises the enigmatic concept of hope. Told through sensitive words and gentle, beautiful illustrations, the story is a reminder of the fact that, like Anna, with hope you can face any battle!

**THEMES:** ILLNESS, OVERCOMING CHALLENGES, RESILIENCE, HOPE, CANCER

*'A thoughtful and gentle exploration of the profound impact of childhood illness. ... such a beautiful and hopeful story.'* - *Can you Tell Me A Story*

9781925820867 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp

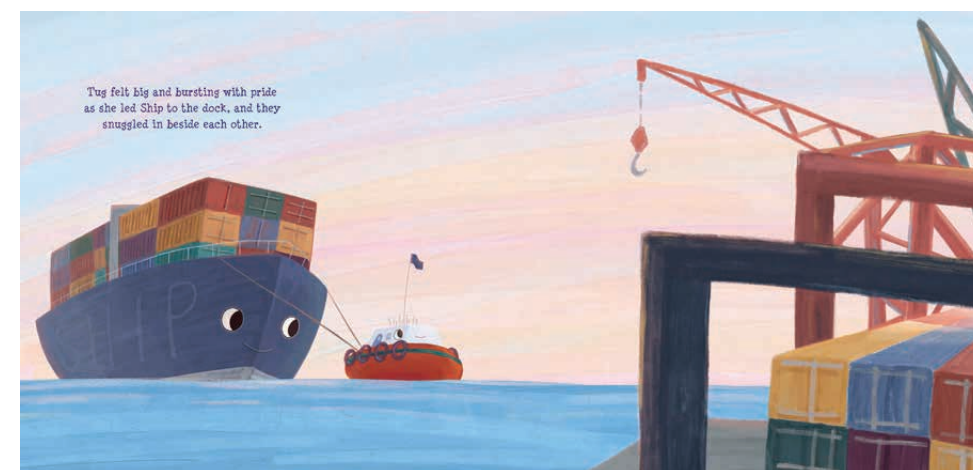
AGES  
4-8



## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Debra Tidball** is an award-winning author for children. With a background in social work and qualifications in children's literature, Debra has a passion for profound way books can touch children's lives.

**Arielle Li** is a Taiwanese-Australian illustrator based in Australia with a compelling new style.





**Milly and the Mulberry Tree**  
Vikki Conley & Deb Hudson

Milly's mulberry tree is the centre of her world; the place where she plays with her Papa, learns about nature, and creates magical potions... until she grows up and finds herself in a faraway land, still dreaming of home. A delightful story about the importance of exploration, appreciating nature, and keeping home close to our hearts.

**THEMES:** HOME, TRAVEL, ADVENTURE, LOVE, CHILDHOOD, OUTDOOR PLAY

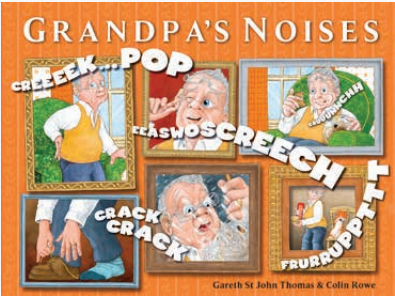


9781922539120 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES 4-8



*Join Milly as she plays, learns and grows in this vibrant story about exploring new worlds and the magic of home.*



**Grandpa's Noises**  
Gareth St John Thomas & Colin Rowe

*A humorous insight into grandparents and the weird and wonderful noises they make from the knees up.*

In *Grandpa's Noises*, a range of sounds and words coming from body and mouth are explained in a warm and funny intergenerational romp. For example, 'Eyenoleessgofurawark' is obviously Grandpa-speak for 'I know, let's go for a walk'. But some sounds — like the 'Fffffffft' that sometimes escapes Grandpa's bottom — need no explanation!

**THEMES:** FAMILY, HUMOUR

Scan to hear the author reading



9781925820461 | Hardcover | 32 pp



9781925335989 | Paperback | 32 pp

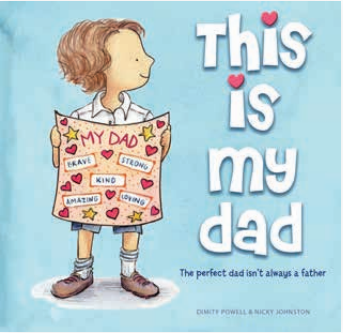
AGES 4-8

**This is My Dad**  
*The Perfect Dad Isn't Always A Father*  
Dimity Powell & Nicky Johnston

Leo has never known a father figure, but that won't stop him from telling his class about someone cool, courageous and clever on Tell Us About Your Dad Day — someone who might not be his dad, but is his everything. A heart-warming story about bravery and modern family dynamics that will resonate with millions of children.

**THEMES:** FAMILY, SINGLE PARENTS, OCCUPATIONS  
9781922539076 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES 4-8



**Up to Something**  
Katrina McKelvey & Kirrili Lonergan

Billy is only allowed to watch as his dad works in the shed, but when Billy decides to use his dad's off-cuts and other items to build his own project, Dad is in for a surprise! *Up to Something* is a beautiful exploration of the father-son relationship, the importance of creativity and the satisfaction to be gained from making things ourselves.

**THEMES:** RECYCLING, IMAGINATION, FATHER-SON BOND  
9781925335705 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES 4-8

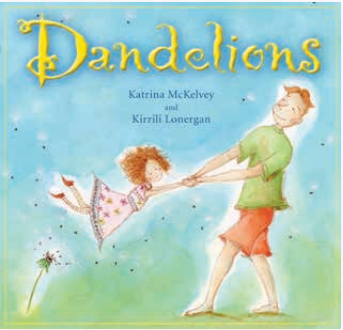


**Dandelions**  
Katrina McKelvey & Kirrili Lonergan

Explores the bond between a father and his daughter. One day, a little girl notices her father mowing the lawn — in the process destroying her favourite flowers. Will she forgive her dad, and will nature surprise her?

**THEMES:** HOPE, RESILIENCE, FATHER-DAUGHTER BOND  
9781925335569 | Paperback | 32 pp

AGES 4-8





## Get Ready, Mama!

Sharon Giltrow & Arielle Li

Getting Mama ready for the day can be a challenge... you'd better watch out that she doesn't sneak back into bed, try to distract you with cuddles, or... wait, is Mama watching TV?! Even the most reluctant risers will find the fun in the morning routine with this playful role-reversal story about a mama who just doesn't want to get ready!

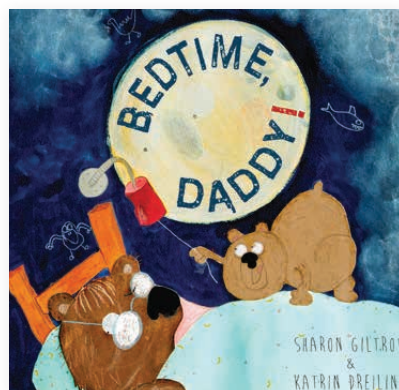
*'Cleverly uses role-reversal to turn the morning routine into a bonding experience for children and parents and carers, filled with giggles and relatable moments.'*  
- The Pregnancy Centre

**THEMES:** FAMILY, ROUTINE, ROLE REVERSAL

9781922539083 |  
Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8



## Bedtime, Daddy!

Sharon Giltrow & Katrin Dreiling

Daddy can be a handful when it's time to go to bed. Especially when he starts crying! This story will show you how to wrestle your daddy into his pyjamas, read just one more bedtime story, battle bedtime excuses and use go-away monster spray until Daddy finally goes to sleep. Full of heart and humour, for anyone who wants to try to put a grown-up to bed.

*Putting Daddy to bed is hard work! Bedtime has never been more fun in this hilarious story with a role-reversal twist.*

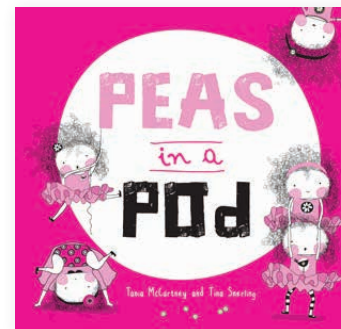


**THEMES:** BEDTIME ROUTINE, FATHER-CHILD BOND

9781925820386 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



AGES  
4-8



## Peas in a Pod

Tania McCartney & Tina Sherling

Pippa, Pia, Poppy, Polly and Peg are quintuplets. Since birth, they've done everything the same, but as they get a little older they want to do things differently — very differently. Can Mum and Dad keep their little girls as matching peas in a pod, or will those five very individual personalities win out in the end?

**THEMES:** DEVELOPING AN INDIVIDUAL IDENTITY AS A MULTIPLE



9781921966712 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



9781925335286 |  
Paperback |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Arabella and the Magic Pencil

Stephanie Ward & Shaney Hyde

Arabella is a beloved only child until her brother arrives. While she loves him, it's hard to like him. One day, she decides drastic action is required and she erases him from her life with her magic pencil. Oops! Can she get him back? *Arabella and the Magic Pencil* will appeal to any child with a new sibling and those with changing family dynamics.

**THEMES:** CREATIVITY, SIBLING RIVALRY



9781925820010 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



9781925820553 |  
Paperback |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Isla's Family Tree

Katrina McKelvey & Prue Pittock

Isla's family is changing and she's not happy! She doesn't want siblings. Her mother explains how families grow by making a family tree with her, but Isla's branch is already full! But once she meets her new brothers, she falls in love and makes room for them after all.

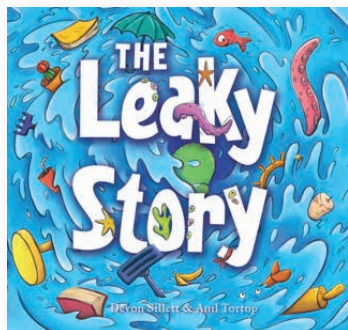
**THEMES:** FAMILY STRUCTURE, SIBLINGS

9781925820379 | Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8





## The Leaky Story

*A Fun-filled Adventure into the Power of Imagination and the Magic of Books!*

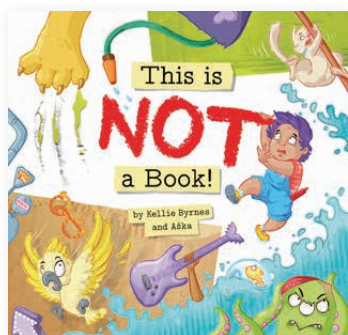
**Devon Sillett & Anil Tortop**

A book sits abandoned on a living room shelf, while the Blossburn family gets on with other things. Slowly it starts to swell, then leak! At first it's only a trickle, but when pirates sail out of the book, the family must band together to reclaim their living room. An action-packed adventure about the magic of books.

**THEMES: IMAGINATION, THE JOY OF READING, FAMILY**

9781925335392 | Hardcover | 24 pp

AGES  
4-8



## This is NOT a Book!

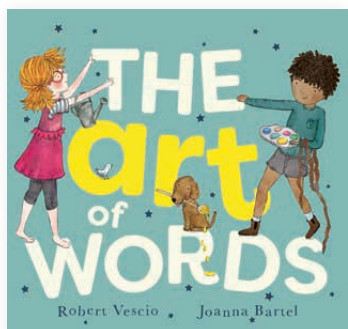
**Kellie Byrnes & Aśka**

In this action-packed picture book, our main character is convinced they're not in a book. After all, if this was a book there'd be pages to turn and problems to solve. But hold on, we've turned the page ... and why are those pirates stealing that treasure? The perfect introduction to storytelling, *This is NOT a Book!* is metafiction made fun!

**THEMES: METAFICTION, STORYTELLING**

9781925820508 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## The Art of Words

**Robert Vescio & Joanna Bartel**

Words are everywhere! In this story about the magic of words, imaginative illustrations show a young boy and girl stretching words, squashing them, colouring them, and sewing them together to reflect their meaning. *The Art of Words* will inspire young readers to appreciate the joy of making stories from words.

**THEMES: WORDS, LANGUAGE, STORYTELLING, CREATIVITY**

9781925820843 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Scaredy Book

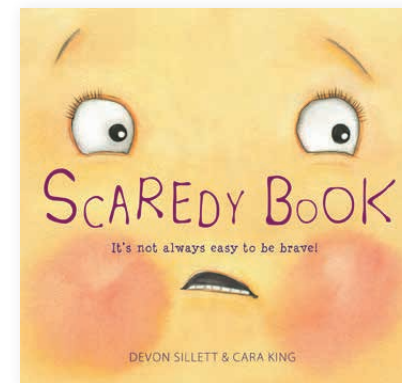
*It's Not Always Easy to Be Brave!*

**Devon Sillett & Cara King**

Book lives at the library and desperately wants to go outside, but is scared of what might happen – he could get splashed, or lose pages! Emma loves visiting the library and delights in the adventures she finds there. They're just what each other needs. Children and parents alike will enjoy this story about being brave and living to tell the tale!

**THEMES: COURAGE, FRIENDSHIP, BOOKS, LIBRARIES**

*Book longs for adventure but is too scared to leave the library. Then Book meets Emma - and learns how to be brave!*

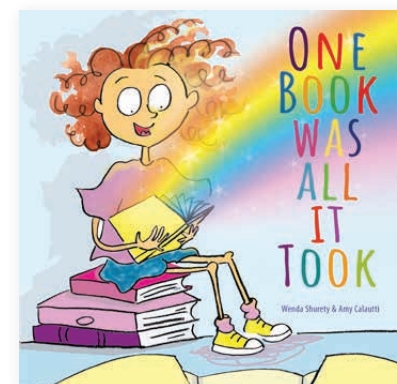


9781925335682 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



9781925820683 | Paperback | 32 pp



## One Book Was All It Took

**Wenda Shurety & Amy Calautti**

Violet longs for a library full of exciting books she's never read before, but on this particular rainy day, the only unfamiliar book she can find is the one propping up the kitchen table. With a CLATTER and a CRASH, Violet's actions set in motion an unstoppable chain of events that soon has the whole town in chaos! Young readers will delight at the playful, colourful illustrations, while learning an important lesson about how actions lead to consequences, and just how valuable libraries are.

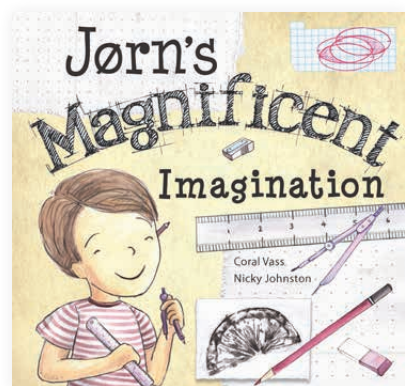
**THEMES: BOOKS, READING, AND LIBRARIES**

9781922539137 | Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8

*'I love that Violet stood up for what she wanted. She actually took action for the library. Sometimes we wish for something, but we never take action. So, it was really good to see Violet writing a letter for what she wanted.'*  
- Bianca, age 9 (Bianca's Book Club)



## Jørn's Magnificent Imagination

Coral Vass and Nicky Johnston

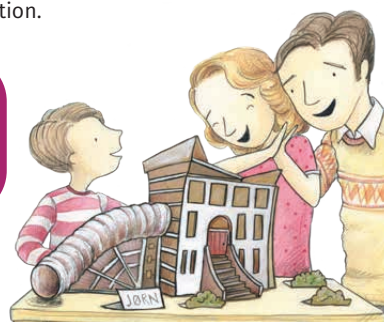
Celebrating new ideas that can make a world of difference, *Jørn's Magnificent Imagination* is the true story of Jørn Utzon, the architect of the world-renowned Sydney Opera House. In this gorgeously illustrated book, we follow Jørn through his life as he discovers his love of building and creating, gathering ideas from everything around himself. Along the way, young readers will be reminded of the importance of taking the time to dream and create, and of the incredible power of the imagination.

*'A moving account of a tumultuous creative career that may well inspire young readers to believe in and forge their own creative connection with the world around them' - Picture Book Parents*



**THEMES: IMAGINATION, CREATIVITY, ARCHITECTURE, AUSTRALIAN HISTORY**  
9781922539144 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## The Incurable Imagination

Paul Russell And Aśka

Audrey has the worst case of 'imaginitis' her teachers have ever seen! While other children paint their families, Audrey paints an ogre who drinks tea. She writes a song about a desk with legs that runs away. What's worse, her condition is contagious and soon the other kids in her class start showing symptoms of an incurable imagination! Before long, parents begin to protest. But perhaps imagination isn't such a bad disease after all? It might even be useful if it makes learning more fun.

**THEMES: EDUCATION, IMAGINATION**



*Audrey has a severe case of 'imaginitis'! And it's contagious. A fun-filled story about the power of the imagination.*

9781925335972 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## The Art Garden

Sowing the Seeds of Creativity  
Penny Harrison & Penelope Pratley

Sadie wants to be a painter, just like her best friend, Tom. But whenever Sadie picks up a paintbrush she makes a big mess. So instead, she spends time working in the garden or playing with Tom. But, one day, Sadie gets a look at things from a different perspective.

**THEMES: CREATIVITY, SELF-BELIEF, FRIENDSHIP**

9781925335590 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Grace & Katie

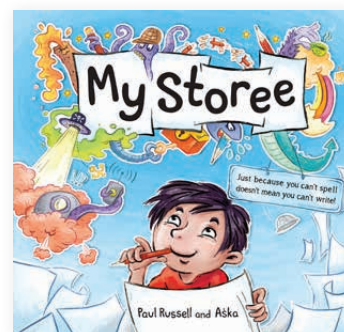
Susanne Merritt & Liz Anelli

Grace and Katie are twins. Grace loves everything to be organised and neat, while Katie loves everything to be bold and messy. Not surprisingly, when they want to draw a map of their home and street, the girls can't agree on how it should be done. An imaginative story of individuality and appreciating each other's strengths.

**THEMES: SIBLING RIVALRY, CREATIVITY, INDIVIDUALITY BETWEEN TWINS**

9781925335545 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## My Storee

*Just Because You Can't Spell, Doesn't Mean You Can't Write!*

Paul Russell And Aśka

An engaging and creatively designed picture book that provides inspiration and support for reluctant writers and dyslexics, and shows the importance of good teachers.

**THEMES: DYSLEXIA, CREATIVITY, RELUCTANT WRITERS**

9781925335774 | Hardcover | 32 pp  
AVAILABLE UK ONLY

AGES  
4-8







## Tottie and Dot

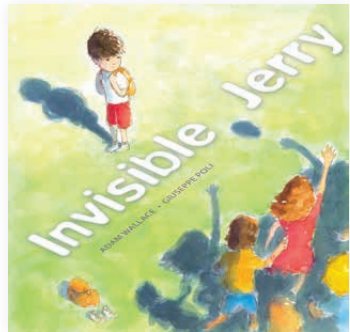
Tania McCartney & Tina Sherling

Tottie and Dot live side by side. All is peaceful until, one day, things begin to change. Who can create the prettiest house? And at what cost?

**THEMES:** COMPETITION, RIVALRY, FRIENDSHIP

9781921966491 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Invisible Jerry

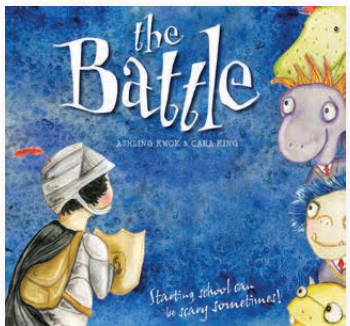
Adam Wallace & Giuseppe Poli

People don't notice Jerry. It's as if he's invisible. Until Molly comes along. This is a picture book with humour and heart for anyone who has ever felt like they're on the outside looking in.

**THEMES:** FRIENDSHIP, LONELINESS, BELONGING, SELF-CONFIDENCE

9781925335781 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## The Battle

Ashling Kwok & Cara King

Starting school is scary. *The Battle* is an imaginative, relatable story, teaching children that maybe things aren't as bad as they might first seem, with magic and fun awaiting if they let their guard down.

**THEMES:** STARTING SCHOOL, FRIENDSHIP

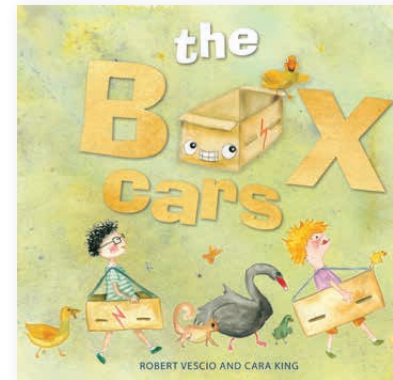


9781925820409 | Hardcover | 32 pp



9781925820904 | Paperback | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



**THEMES:** FRIENDSHIP, CREATIVITY, PROBLEM-SOLVING

9781925335835 | Hardcover | 32 pp



AGES  
4-8

## The Box Cars

Robert Vescio & Cara King

Liam and Kai are the best of friends. Each day in the park they race around in their box cars. One day they notice a little girl watching them — she's keen to join in, but there's only room for two. A fun-filled story of friendship, sharing and creative problem-solving!

*A fun-filled story of friendship, and sharing that will appeal to boys and girls everywhere!*



## Violin and Cello

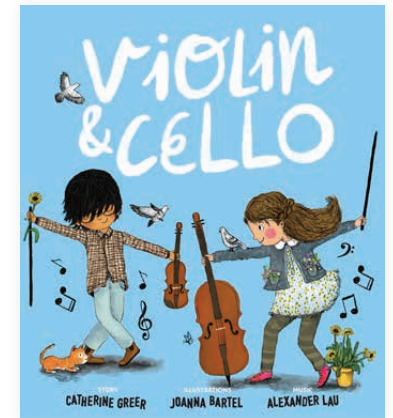
Catherine Greer, Alexander Lau & Joanna Bartel

*'This is a story that will resonate with many young readers and show them that music is indeed a universal language and can indeed act like a magic key, to which the most tightly closed heart opens'*  
- Babara Braxton, award-winning teacher librarian.

For every child practicing their new instrument and the parents and teachers helping them along the way, this book celebrates the joy of unexpected friendship through music. Young readers will love the appealing characters and carefully drawn settings. Two cultures, two instruments, one piece of music; the inclusion of a playable tune is a bonus!

**THEMES:** MUSIC, FRIENDSHIP, COLLABORATION

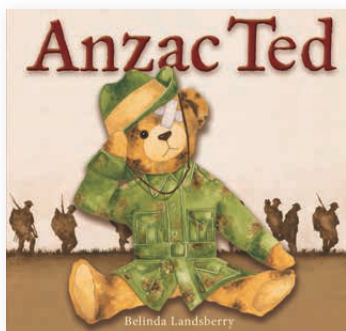
9781922539274 | Hardcover | 32 pp



Scan here to listen to the original music composed for this title.

AGES  
4-8





## Anzac Ted

Belinda Landsberry

The poignant story of a little boy's teddy bear, that was passed down to him from his grandfather. He might look scary now but he's got a great story to tell, for Anzac Ted went to war.

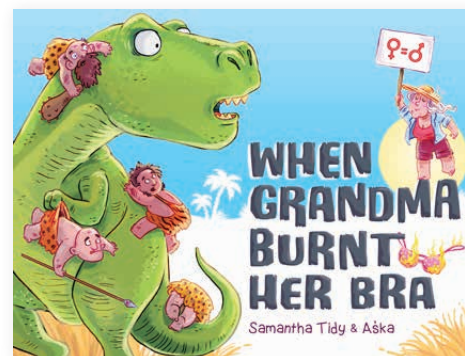
**THEMES:** FAMILY, THE LEGACY OF WAR

9781921966569 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



*'It's easy to see why so many teachers have chosen this book as their preferred ANZAC Day read. Anzac Ted is a beautiful piece of literature and the perfect way to introduce children to the ANZAC Legend.' - RSL WA*



## When Grandma Burnt Her Bra

Samantha Tidy & Aśka

*When Grandma Burnt Her Bra* uses humour to communicate the reality that, throughout history, both men and women have broken down barriers that women should no longer need to come up against. The illustrations help convey, carefully and quirkily, the complex message that things were not always equal — and that they are not yet equal — which means that each generation faces the continued fight for equality. The call to action is to carry the flame forward. And best of all, there are dinosaurs!

**THEMES:** FEMINISM, SOCIAL ATTITUDES, WORLD HISTORY

9781922539465 | Hardcover | 32 pp | Sep 23

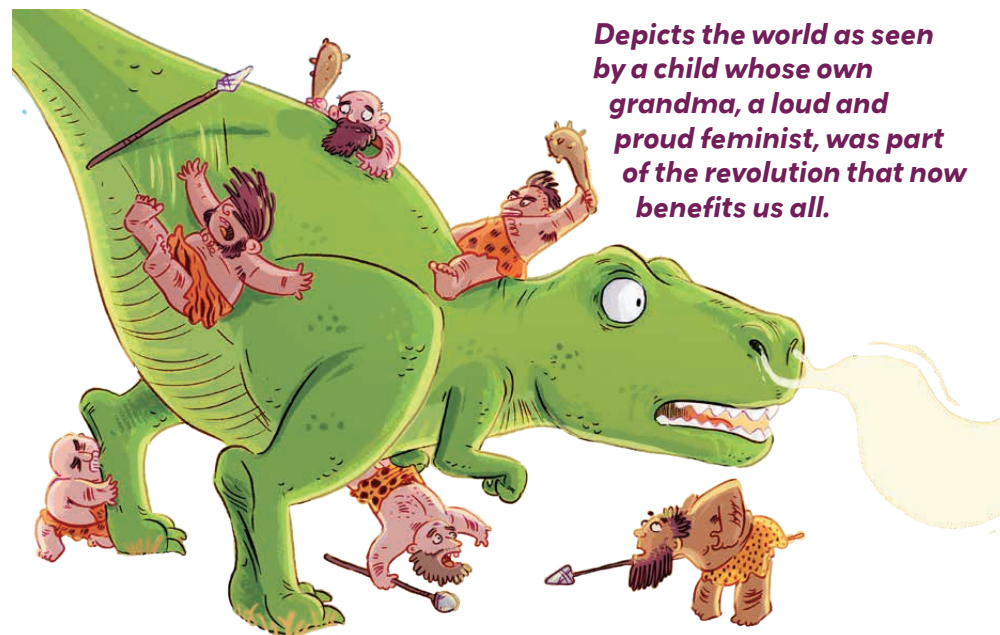
AGES  
6-10



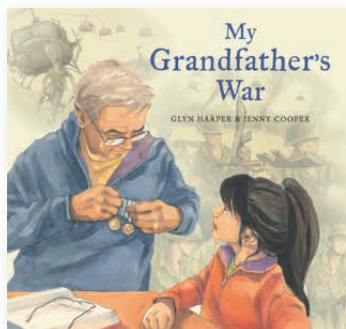
## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Samantha Tidy** is a writer of fiction and non-fiction for both children and adults. She seeks out stories that cultivate connection and resilience and that help build community.

**Aśka** is an award-winning illustrator, artist and scientist who has been telling stories through pictures all of her life.



*Depicts the world as seen by a child whose own grandma, a loud and proud feminist, was part of the revolution that now benefits us all.*



## My Grandfather's War

Glyn Harper & Jenny Cooper

A touching story about a Vietnam veteran and his relationship with his granddaughter. The young girl senses her grandfather's pain and is curious to find out the cause. She discovers her grandfather's sadness is a legacy of the Vietnam War and his experiences there. This is a sensitive exploration of the cost of war on those who serve.

**THEMES:** VIETNAM WAR, PTSD, FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

9781775592990 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## The Tale of the ANZAC Tortoise

Shona Riddell & Matt Gaudie

Matthew and Marama are playing in their back garden when they discover a tortoise with an epic story of soldiers, nurses, war, sacrifice and kindness.

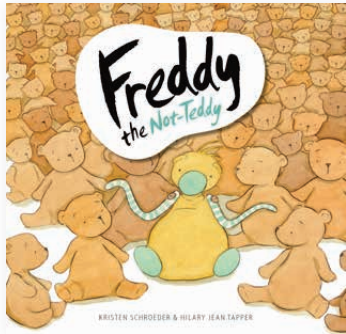
**THEMES:** FAMILY, THE LEGACY OF WAR

9780473318949 | Paperback | 36 pp

AGES  
4-8







## Freddy the Not-Teddy

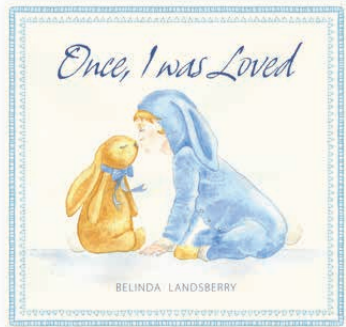
Kristen Schroeder & Hilary Jean Tapper

Freddy looks a little different to other stuffed toys, but thanks to a young boy's courage, that doesn't stop him from being the star of the show in an inspiring story about being true to yourself.

**THEMES:** ACCEPTANCE, STANDING UP FOR OTHERS, INCLUSION, FITTING IN

9781922539090 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
3-8



## Once, I Was Loved

Belinda Landsberry

A celebration of the timeless nature of love set against the backdrop of iconic moments in 20th-century history, this heart-warming picture book will resonate with anyone who has ever cherished a childhood toy.

**THEMES:** HISTORY, CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

9781925820027 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Toy Mountain

Stef Gemmill & Katharine Hall

Join Sam as he finds out the value of looking after our belongings in this whimsically illustrated story about how children can have a part in reducing plastic waste and taking responsibility for the environment.

**THEMES:** RECYCLING, SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT

9781925820966 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
3-8



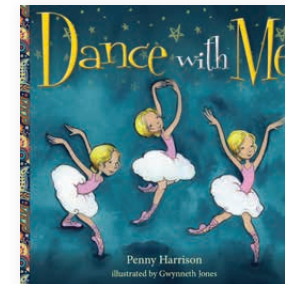
## The Sugar and Spice Collection

*This is a collection that little girls will treasure and families will hand down from generation to generation. Ponies, fairies and ballerinas come out to play in these frolicking picture books.*

3 x Hardbacks in presented in a beautiful slip case



AGES  
4-8



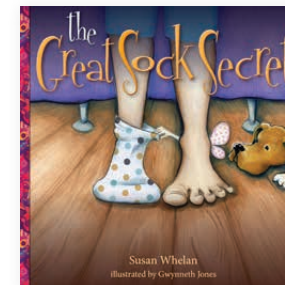
## Dance with Me

Penny Harrison & Gwynneth Jones

A ballerina in a music box loves to dance. A gorgeous story about treasured possessions and the memories they hold.

**THEMES:** CHILDHOOD MEMORIES, TREASURED OBJECTS

9781925335231 | Hardcover | 32 pp



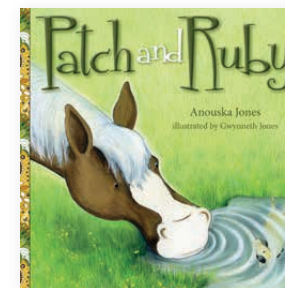
## The Great Sock Secret

Susan Whelan & Gwynneth Jones

Sarah's mother can only find odd socks. Where do all the missing socks go? A fun adventure into a fairy-filled world.

**THEMES:** FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS, THE POWER OF IMAGINATION

9781925335248 | Hardcover | 32 pp



## Patch and Ruby

Anouska Jones & Gwynneth Jones

Will Patch the lonely pony ever feel at home? A wonderful tale about friendship and finding out where you belong.

**THEMES:** FRIENDSHIP, BELONGING

9781925335224 | Hardcover | 32 pp





## Smile Cry

Happy or Sad, Wailing or Glad - How Do You Feel Today?

Tania McCartney & Jess Racklyeft

Follow three adorable characters as they react to a variety of events from everyday life. Young kids will respond to the whimsical illustrations, while older readers will learn more about their emotions — how it's possible to cry with happiness or smile with trepidation. 'Smile' reads from front to back, while 'Cry' reads from back to front, with the narratives meeting in the middle.

*'...a wonderful book about feelings...ideal for use with kindergarten aged children.'*  
- Educating Young People

THEMES: RECOGNISING AND ACCEPTING DIFFERENT EMOTIONS



9781921966989 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp



9781925335378 |  
Paperback |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## See Hear

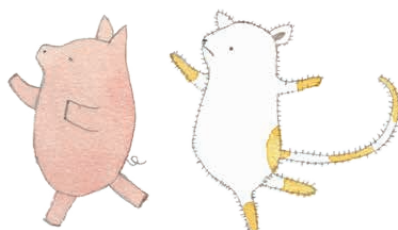
There's Magic All Around You. What Can You See? What Can You Hear?

Tania McCartney & Jess Racklyeft

*In an innovative flip-book format, See Hear invites us to open our eyes and ears to the everyday magic around us!*

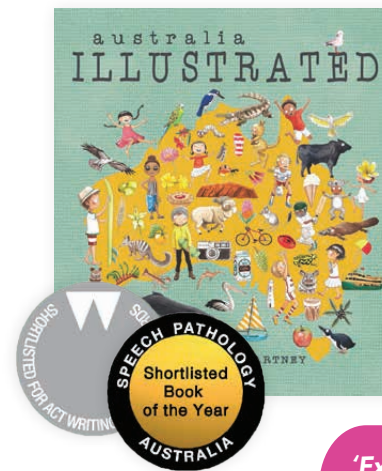
Smile Cry's Piglet, Bunny and Cat return in a sensory adventure. From watching 'squiggly rain' on a window to pointing out 'heavenly horses' in the clouds, to hearing the 'buzzing blossoms' of bees at work, *See Hear* invites us to open our eyes and ears to the everyday magic that surrounds us.

THEMES: SENSES, SENSORY DEVELOPMENT, SIGHT AND HEARING



9781925335675 |  
Hardcover |  
32 pp

AGES  
4-8



## Australia Illustrated (2nd ed.)

Tania McCartney

Australia. Big. Beautiful. Diverse. From the First People to washing lines and crocodiles, football and sunshine, koalas and akubras, skyscrapers and beaches, this is a glorious tribute to this wide brown land and its rich and varied multicultural communities. Vibrantly illustrated with watercolour, ink and mono-printing, it not only celebrates the more 'typical' Australian flora, fauna and landmarks, but also showcases the everyday quirks and idiosyncrasies that make Australia unique.

THEMES: AUSTRALIANA, DIVERSITY, MULTICULTURALISM



9781925335880 |  
Hardcover |  
96 pp

AGES  
4-8

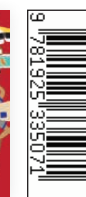
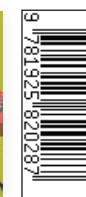
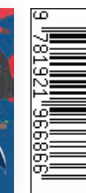
*'Explore Australia with your little one through this beautifully illustrated book covering everything from native Australian animals, Aussie icons and slang words, to multiculturalism, signature foods and all the things that make each state unique.'* - Child Magazine

## 'A Kid's Year' Series

Tania McCartney & Tina Snerling

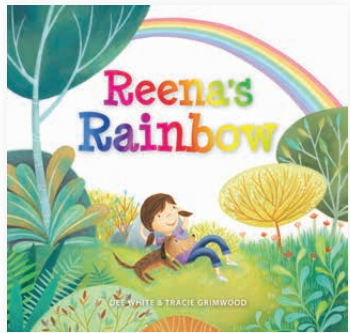
*These are picture books bursting with national pride! Each double-page spread features a month of the year and covers modern-day culture, lifestyle and traditions, as seen through the eyes of five typical children.*

THEMES: MULTICULTURALISM, CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS



AGES  
4-8





### Reena's Rainbow

Dee White & Tracie Grimwood

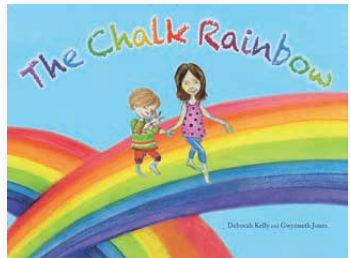
Reena is deaf and Dog is homeless. Sometimes neither of them feels as if they quite fit in. But when Reena and Dog form a unique bond, it's not long before everyone finds out just how special they are. A story of friendship, diversity and acceptance.

**THEMES: HEARING IMPAIRMENT, DIVERSITY, FRIENDSHIP, ACCEPTANCE**

AGES  
4-8



9781925335491 | Hardcover | 32 pp



### The Chalk Rainbow

Deborah Kelly & Gwynneth Jones

Zane is different to other kids. He lines things up, and he's frightened of things that don't seem to bother others — like the colour black. *The Chalk Rainbow* explores difference and diversity through a family living with autism. It's a story of unconditional love and learning to look at the world through the eyes of others.

**THEMES: UNDERSTANDING AUTISM AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS**

9781925335453 | Hardcover | 32 pp

AGES  
4-8



### The Boy in the Big Blue Glasses

Susanne Gervay & Marjorie Crosby-Fairall

Sam's new glasses that the grown-ups say make him look like a superhero, but he just wants to look like himself. Will he ever fit in again?

**THEMES: SELF-ESTEEM, DEALING WITH DIFFERENCE**

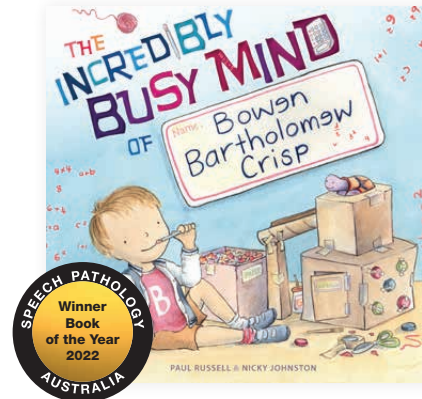


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### The Incredibly Busy Mind of Bowen Bartholomew Crisp

Paul Russell & Nicky Johnston

Most children would say that the ocean is blue, but when Bowen looks at it he sees white where the waves crash, deep black on the ocean floor, and green when there's a storm. Learn how Bowen goes from struggling to fit in with his peers to finding his place in the world in this inspirational story about the power of thinking differently.

**THEMES: NEURODIVERSITY, CURIOSITY, FITTING IN, SCHOOL**



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*'Such a sensitive portrayal of neurodiversity and a celebration of the individualism of each and every child. The illustrations captured the mood and thoughts of the little boy perfectly.'* - Chair of Judges, Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Medals 2021

### The Secret of Sapling Green

Penelope Pratley

Sapling Green has always hidden her green thumbs. But one day the old schoolyard tree is damaged in a storm. Can Sapling be brave enough to show her classmates her secret and save the tree? This story is an important reminder that we should always accept each other for who we are.

*Sapling Green finds the courage to share her secret in this important reminder that our differences are our strengths.*

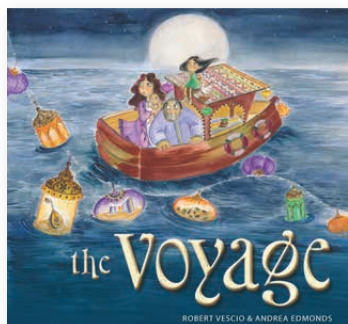


**THEMES: ACCEPTANCE, BEING YOURSELF, FRIENDSHIP, FITTING IN**

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## The Voyage

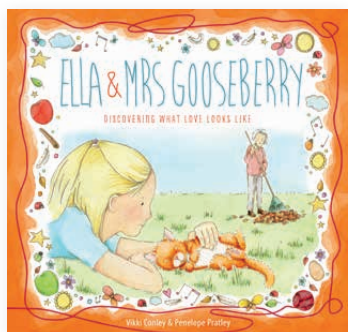
Robert Vescio & Andrea Edmonds

Displaced by war and conflict, a refugee family sets out on a dangerous voyage into the unknown. The sparse text and evocative illustrations combine powerfully to encourage young readers to create their own background story and identify more deeply with the plight of refugees.

**THEMES:** EMPATHY, RESILIENCE, REFUGEES

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## Ella & Mrs Gooseberry

*Discovering What Love Looks Like*

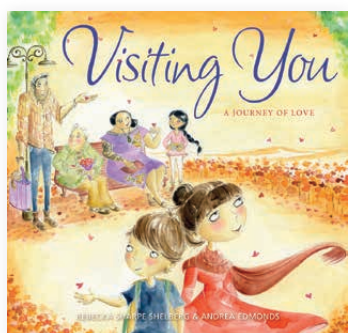
Vikki Conley & Penelope Pratley

Grumpy old Mrs Gooseberry from next door has lost her love, so Ella begins a quest to help Mrs Gooseberry rediscover it. A heartwarming story about the importance of community, love and selfless giving.

**THEMES:** LOVE, KINDNESS, EMPATHY

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## Visiting You

*A Journey of Love*

Rebecka Sharpe Shelberg & Andrea Edmonds

A young child and their mother set out to visit a loved one. Along the way, the child curiously interacts with other commuters and discovers that we all are bound by the common experience of love, and that it's our similarities, not our differences, that matter most.

**THEMES:** COMMUNITY, DIVERSITY, TOLERANCE, LOVE

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## The Welcome Cookies

Kaye Baillie & Hilary Jean Tapper

Mabel loves visiting Miss Plum's Sugar Plum Café and drawing pictures for the arty-smarty wall. But one day, Mabel finds the café under renovation by someone new. She misses her favourite café, and she misses Miss Plum's smiles. One day, the café reopens, and Mabel reluctantly visits there with her mother. Will this new place provide Mabel with the same joy she felt in the old café? And how will Mabel accept its differences?

**THEMES:** BELONGING, CHANGE, KINDNESS

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## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**Kaye Baillie** is an award-winning children's author with eleven fiction and non-fiction books published in Australia and internationally. With a passion for writing about remarkable people or events, Kaye's stories are full of humour and heart.

**Hilary Jean Tapper** is a picture book illustrator, perpetually enchanted by the magic of watercolour and small folk. Hilary also works as a children's arts therapist and teaches dollmaking.

*Everyone enjoys the cosiness and friendliness of their favourite café. But what happens when the place you love suddenly changes?*





Our world is as spectacularly beautiful as it is complex. For us to find a place in it we need stories as varied and rich as the ways we experience it.

A story that is full of warmth, empathy and fun can be as valuable as a friend, showing us that we are understood. A story can make us feel seen and help us to see others. A story can empower us to act, or give us pause to consider our actions. Perhaps most importantly of all, a story is a place in which anything is possible.

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