



children's
books
ireland
every child a reader

Recommended Reads/ Rogha Leabhar 2019–20

childrensbooksireland.ie



**children's
books
ireland**
every child a reader

**Overall editor and production/
Príomheagarthóir agus
táirgeadh:** Jenny Murray

**Design and layout/
Dearadh agus leagan amach:**
www.fintanwall.com

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Age/Aois 2–4: Louise Gallagher

Age/Aois 5–8: Vita Coleman

Age/Aois 9–11: Becky Long

Age/Aois 12–14: Ruth Concannon

Young adult/Daoine óga fásta:
Kim Harte

Non-fiction/Neamhfhicsean:
Sine Quinn

Poetry/Filíocht: Anne Gannon

Environment/An Comhshaoil:
Juliette Saumande

Eagarthóir Gaelige: Claire M. Dunne

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Louise Gallagher [LG]

Sarah Gallagher [SGa]

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Mel Gibson [MG]

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Kate Harvey [KH]

Claire Hennessy [CH]

Olivia Hope [OH]

Elizabeth Hudson [EH]

Mary Esther Judy [MEJ]

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Joe Kelly [JoeK]

Aideen Kerr [AK]

Linda Kerr [LK]

Tarsila Krúse [TK]

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Cethan Leahy [CL]

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Alison McBain Hudson

[AMcBH]

Jessica McCarry [JMcC]

Aoife McCoglan [AMcC]

Ciara McGurl [CMcG]

Susan McKeever [SMcK]

Brian McManus [BMcM]

Siobhán McNamara [SMcN]

Elizabeth McSkeane [EMcS]

Jane Mitchell [JM]

Cianan Monaghan [CMo]

Kevin Moran [KM]

Frances Moran [FM]

Dee Mulhall [DM]

Carol Mulligan [CMu]

Emer Mulligan [EM]

Alison Mundie [AM]

Emma-Louise Murphy [E-LM]

Keelin Murray [KM]

Laoise Ní Cheallaigh [LNíC]

Aoife Ní Dhubháin [ANíD]

Beití Ní Dhubhair [BNíD]

Niamh Ní Fhainín [NNíF]

Caoimhe Ní Lochlainn [CNíL]

Róisín Ní Mhulláin [RNíM]

Máire Nic an Bhaird

[MNicanB]

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Paula Niclomhair [PNíL]

Alan Nolan [AN]

Annie Ó Breacháin [AO'B]

Elizabeth O'Brien [EO'B]

Tamsin O'Brien [TO'B]

Caitriona Ó Broin [CO'B]

Laura O'Herlihy [LO'H]

Daiden O'Regan [DO'R]

Deanna Oritz [DO]

Amanda Piesse [AP]

Helen Power [HP]

Lis Pringle [LP]

Lindsay Quayle [LQ]

Sine Quinn [SQ]

Lisa Redmond [LR]

Hayley Reynolds [HR]

Andrew Roycroft [AR]

Kate Ryan [KR]

Juliette Saumande [JS]

Jamie Lynn Saunders [JLS]

Elaine Smith [ES]

Molly Smith [MS]

Rachel Sneddy [RSn]

Fiona Snow [FS]

Paul Staunton [PS]

Robin Stewart [RSt]

Margaret Anne Suggs [MAS]

Deirdre Sullivan [DS]

Debbie Thomas [DT]

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Elizabeth Treacy [ET]

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SW [SW]

Children's Books Ireland has made every effort to ensure that all information is correct at the time of print. However, we cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.

Tá gach iarracht déanta ag Leabhair Pháistí Éireann le cinntiú go bhfuil an fhaisnéis sa treoir seo cruinn. Ní féidir le LPÉ a bheith freagach áfach as aon earráid ná easnamh.

Children's Books Ireland are very grateful to all our funders and partners/Tá Leabhair Pháistí Éireann an-bhuíoch dár n-urraitheoirí go léir.



LOTTERY FUNDED

The Arts Council
of Ireland

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Maoinitheoirí, comhpháirtithe agus lucht tacaíochta

We could not produce this guide without the cooperation and support of the publishers, especially those who placed adverts, the time and expertise generously given by our team of editors and their reviewers, and the skill and imagination of both our designer, Fintan Wall, and this year's illustrator, Peter Donnelly.

CBI would like to thank all our partners in libraries and bookshops across Ireland. For more information about events near you and resources to promote reading in your school, library or community, visit childrensbooksireland.ie



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Denotes an Irish author/illustrator/publisher/údar/maisitheoir/foilsitheoir as Éirinn

About Us/Eolas Fúinn

Children's Books Ireland's mission is to make books central to every child's life on the island of Ireland. Our small but committed team truly believe that we can make a difference, and we know that the projects we run have a significant impact on the children who take part in them. As well as being packed full of reviews, this guide tells you everything you need to know about Children's Books Ireland – who we are, what we do and, crucially, how you can support us so we can do more.

We also rely on our Book Clinic team and a number of other friends who make this guide possible. As well as acting as book doctors or Book Clinic administrators, these superheroes sift through over 1,500 submitted books for this guide to find less than 350 that they know will be adored by young readers. Their knowledge of what makes a great children's book is second to none, and we couldn't do this without their hard work.

If you love this guide, do get online and check out previous years' editions on the Children's Books Ireland website – there are plenty more great books to read! And if you believe in what we do and want to support us, please turn to page 11 or visit our website to explore ways to make a difference for everyone and every budget.



Plant a Seed, Grow a Reader.

In September each year, Children's Books Ireland launches our reading guide. Through this guide, we recommend the best books in all genres and age groups, enabling children and young people – with the help of a parent, guardian, grandparent, teacher or librarian – to find the right book *for them*. Within this guide you'll discover almost 350 of the best books out this year, recommended for young readers by our expert reviewers. Each title has a 'read also' attached, so if you find a book you like, you will hopefully like the other recommended title too. In total, that's almost 700 brilliant books to read! The guide is arranged in sections, firstly by age, starting with the babies section, moving all the way up to young adult, followed by poetry, non-fiction and our themed section, which flows from young to older. Books from an Irish author, illustrator or publisher or in the Irish language are highlighted with a shamrock.

This year in the reading guide we've included a specially curated section on the theme of the environment – protecting it, celebrating it and embracing it. Students, teens and primary school children taking to the streets and demanding the end of climate inaction is not something you see every day. In Sweden's capital Stockholm, however, you might actually come across it every Friday afternoon. The movement initiated by sixteen-year-old activist Greta Thunberg has spread across the world and reached Ireland's shores. Many young people are very tuned in to the acuteness of the climate emergency, a crisis they haven't caused but are left to deal with. It's unfair, it's global and it's scary.

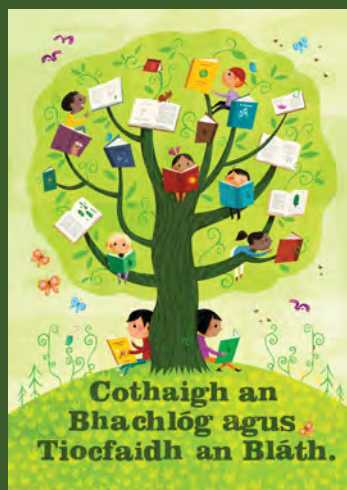
To help children of all ages (and their grown-ups) on their journey to environmental awareness and, maybe, activism, we have gathered a collection of 48 brilliant books published in the last five years. Within their pages, young readers (from babies to older teens) can marvel at the beauty and magic of nature, find tips on how to reduce their carbon footprint and get inspiration from fictional and real-life young heroes who tackle climate change head on. Stories, fact books, poetry, activity books, search-and-find books, how-to books and more: writers, photographers and illustrators use all the tricks of their trades to bring home both the vastness of the problem and the great array of possible solutions, all the while getting readers excited about and wowed by the wonders of our fragile planet.

The world around us is vitally important to us, and we must learn to strike a balance between progress and sustainability in order to survive. From understanding the interconnectedness of the Earth's ecosystems to planting bee-friendly wild flowers, from imagining the worst-case scenario of flooded territories, unbreathable air and hand-pollinated plants to rescuing turtles, repopulating coral reefs and having a polar bear sleepover, readers of all tastes and sensibilities will find something to think about, react to and act on.

They will be informed, they will be moved, they may be alarmed, but they will be equipped with the most important tools in the fight to make a difference: knowledge and hope.

Children's Books Ireland is committed to making books central to every child's life: we want every child on the island of Ireland to know the joy of reading and to have access to excellent books that appeal to them. Our Book Clinics travel the island to meet young readers and 'prescribe' the best books for them, and we hope that this guide will go some way to recommending great books for children and young people to read, enjoy and love. For further recommended reading lists, visit childrensbooksireland.ie.

And once that seed is planted, just watch your reader grow.





Tionscadail Leabhair Pháistí Éireann

Book Gifting – Babies

Establishing a nationwide book-gifting scheme for every child in Ireland is one of our long-term goals. Bookseed is a baby book-gifting initiative that gives babies in Limerick the gift of three books before their first birthday. Bookseed encourages families to enjoy books together, starting children on a lifelong journey with reading and informing parents of not just the benefits but also the joy of reading. Children's Books Ireland runs this project in partnership with the Health Service Executive and Limerick Libraries, and it will be evaluated by a team from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick. Funded by the JP McManus Benevolent Fund and the Social Innovation Fund Ireland.

childrensbooksireland.ie/bookgifting/

Book Gifting – Charity

To ensure that every child can experience the joy of reading, we donate books to a number of children's charities each year, including BUMBLEance; Barnardos; The Society of St Vincent de Paul; Children in Hospital, Ireland; the Dublin Region Homeless Executive (Dublin City Council); and St Michael's House.



Book Gifting – Schools

Children's Books Ireland advocates for well-stocked school libraries with appropriate staff to guide young readers. Unfortunately, many schools lack the support to make this a reality. Our book-gifting projects give children in schools equal opportunities to read brilliant books and bring artists into the classroom to boost their enjoyment of reading. Our projects include Bookbag, the Robert Dunbar Memorial Libraries and various other initiatives delivered with the support of our funders and partners: Brown Bag Films, Citi, the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency, Key Capital, KPMG, McCann Fitzgerald, Smurfit Kappa, William Fry and numerous publishing partners. Find out more about how you can apply for some of these schemes at childrensbooksireland.ie/bookgifting/

CBI Book Lists

Arranged by theme, Children's Books Ireland's book lists are very similar to this guide, but focused on a theme or topic – for example, a list of great reads for those who have just finished the Harry Potter series and don't know where to go next, or books about families of all shapes and sizes. These lists are great for use in the classroom, at book clubs or for those looking for their next good read. They are clearly laid out with age recommendations.

CBI Book Clinics

Since 2012 the Children's Books Ireland Book Clinic has toured all over the island of Ireland, writing reading prescriptions for children of all ages, from young babies to teenagers. The Children's Books Ireland Book Clinic is a free drop-in facility for all families, where children can consult with the book doctor and walk away with their own reading passport full of suggested reads. Check out our website for a short, informative video and to see when the Book Clinic will be near you!

childrensbooksireland.ie/events/



Children's Books Ireland Projects

CBI Book of the Year Awards

These awards are the leading annual children's book awards in Ireland. Going into their thirtieth year, the awards are made annually to identify, honour and promote excellence in books for young people by Irish authors and illustrators. The awards are the most prestigious in Ireland and offer one of the few opportunities for national and international recognition of Irish authors and illustrators. Excellence in children's books is the over-arching criterion and a total of six awards are made:

CBI Book of the Year Award; Honour Award for Fiction; Honour Award for Illustration; Eilís Dillon Award; the Judges' Special Award and the Children's Choice Award.

CBI Book of the Year Awards – Shadowing Scheme

The opinions of young readers are a crucial part of our annual Book of the Year Awards, which is why the Shadowing Scheme has been a key component of the awards since 2005. This scheme gives young people of all ages the opportunity to read and critique the shortlisted books, with the scores submitted by shadowing groups island-wide resulting in the Children's Choice Award winner. Signing up to the scheme is free of charge and each group receives posters, bookmarks and a specially designed resource pack, crammed with quizzes and activities based on the shortlisted books. Shadowing begins when the shortlist is announced in March each year and groups can sign up from January onwards.

childrensbooksireland.ie/cbi-book-of-the-year-awards/





Laureate na nÓg

Laureate na nÓg, the Children's Laureate, is a unique honour that was awarded for the first time in May 2010. Author Siobhán Parkinson was followed by Niamh Sharkey, Eoin Colfer and PJ Lynch. Sarah Crossan is the fifth Laureate na nÓg. Her project, *We Are the Poets*, aims to reignite a love of poetry in young people. Her successor will be announced in Galway, European Capital of Culture 2020, in May 2020. Laureate na nÓg is an initiative of the Arts Council. It is supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Poetry Ireland and is managed by Children's Books Ireland. The honour was established by the Arts Council to engage young people with high quality literature and to underline the importance of children's literature in our cultural and imaginative lives. childrenslaureate.ie

Children's Books Ireland International Conference

Held in September, this is an annual weekend-long celebration of the best in children's books. It is a unique opportunity to critically reflect on the impact and importance of books for young people. Anyone with an interest in and a passion for children's books is welcome to attend and participate in what is always an outward-looking, lively and thought-provoking event. Past speakers include: Lauren Child, Shaun Tan, Kate DiCamillo, Jon Klassen, Hervé Tullet, Oliver Jeffers, Patrick Ness, Derek Landy, Louise O'Neill, David Almond, Eoin Colfer, Lydia Monks and Michael Rosen.

childrensbooksireland.ie/cbi-annual-conference/

Professional Development

Children's Books Ireland supports authors, illustrators, publishers and event programmers, with the ultimate aim of ensuring that access to reading is open to everybody and that there are great Irish books for Irish children to read. Our ProperBook training series, devised in partnership with author and programmer Sarah Webb, addresses everything an artist needs to know about writing, illustrating and publishing children's books. Events for All is our training strand that equips artists and programmers to deliver events for children and young people with autism. Through the New Voices panel at our annual conference, we invite new writers to present their work, often for the first time, to a warm, influential audience. And our new partnership with the Tyrone Guthrie Centre at Annaghmakerrig offers three mid-career artists a week-long residency at the centre.

Working in Partnership

Our long list of partners and supporters is on page 111. As a small organisation, we love to work with others who have similar strategic aims so that we can increase our impact. Children's Books Ireland is a member of EURead, a consortium of European reading promotion organisations. We represent Ireland at the Bologna Children's Book Fair each year by running the joint stand on behalf of publishers and other organisations. We are also a member of Words Ireland, an informal grouping of literature organisations that share a common vision of providing a cohesive and comprehensive literature resource service to the sector and its wider community, both nationally and internationally.



Inis Magazine

Inis magazine is published three times a year and appears in print and online. It is the most important record of the development of Irish children's literature and is a source of regular reviews for Irish authors, illustrators and publishers and Irish-language texts. It serves a diverse audience of writers, illustrators, publishers, teachers, librarians, academics, students and parents in Ireland and abroad. CBI is committed to publishing a minimum number of Irish-language reviews (approximately 10 per cent of the number in English) and a feature in Irish in each issue. Our website is also updated regularly with original reviews and in-depth features. Children's Books Ireland is grateful for the support of our team of volunteer reviewers, writers and interviewers.

Culture Night

On Culture Night venues and public spaces across the island of Ireland open their doors to host a programme of free evening entertainment, as part of an all-island celebration of the arts, heritage and culture. CBI partners with Dublin UNESCO City of Literature and Hodges Figgis to bring children's books and illustration alive in the shop window. Guest illustrators create a large-scale drawing in the window, prompted by the ideas of children and families outside, while indoors a CBI Book Clinic takes place.

childrensbooksireland.ie/events/

Research

Children's Books Ireland recognises the value of and need for all types of research, and we have partnered with a number of third-level institutions to this end. With University College Dublin's School of Information and Communication Studies, we are analysing the current state of school libraries. Our partners at Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, will evaluate Bookseed, our baby book-gifting scheme. And with both Trinity College Dublin and Dublin City University, we are focusing on Irish publishing and children's books.

Book Clubs

Check out the CBI book club in partnership with RTÉjr on rtejr.rte.ie/category/rtejr-blog/book-club-rtejr-blog/ where you can catch up with all our recommended reads. Or join the book club on RTÉjr's Facebook page, [facebook.com/rtejr](https://www.facebook.com/rtejr), for weekly book reviews from our CBI book doctors, book hamper competitions and great reading ideas for your little ones. It is easy to join in and free of charge. Teachers may be particularly interested in CBI's bi-monthly recommended read for primary school children in *InTouch*, the magazine of the Irish National Teacher's Organisation. The magazine is available to read online at into.ie. Check out our recommended reads in WHSmith branches across the country – our selection of twenty books changes four times a year, so next time you're at the airport, take a look!

5,500

books donated to schools and charities in partnership with corporate and publishing partners

4,898

young readers across the country took part in the Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year Awards shadowing scheme

325

participants in professional development training

4

full-time staff and

3

part-time staff



children's books ireland

a year in numbers

50

school visits with authors and illustrators, interacting with

2,860 children

33

CBI Book Clinics nationwide prescribing for

1,090 children and reaching **6,300** young people and their families



2,286 followers



6,944 followers



13,812 followers

26,000

copies of the *Inis Reading Guide* handed out

How Can You Help?/Conas Is Féidir Leat Cabhrú?

Children's Books Ireland is a registered charity, and as well as the support of our funders, we rely on our members, friends and corporate and philanthropic supporters to help us bring the joy of reading to every child in Ireland.

Your ongoing support can help us to do more. As a **friend** of Children's Books Ireland, your monthly gift can help us to get more children reading and to work towards an Ireland where all children and young people have access to excellent books. For information about how to sign up, visit childrensbooksireland.ie/supportus

To become a **member**, and receive *Inis* magazine and *Children's Books Ireland's Recommended Reads* in the post, visit childrensbooksireland.ie/memberships

Members benefit from reduced-rate tickets for Children's Books Ireland's annual conference and can nominate a person or organisation to receive the CBI Award for Outstanding Contribution to Children's Books in Ireland.

Corporate and philanthropic support enables Children's Books Ireland to develop engaging and exciting projects around Ireland that work towards our mission of making books central to every child's life. Each corporate and philanthropic collaboration with Children's Books Ireland is uniquely designed to suit our partners' individual needs and can offer a wide range of exciting opportunities. If you would like to talk with us about supporting Children's Books Ireland, please get in touch with Julie Jones, Marketing & Development Manager, at julie@childrensbooksireland.ie or **01 872 7475**



An illustration of a man and a child sitting together in a space-themed environment. The man, wearing a white t-shirt and dark pants, is reading a large yellow book. The child, wearing a green patterned sweater and dark pants, is holding a brown teddy bear. They are surrounded by various celestial bodies, including a large orange planet with a white ring, a yellow planet, a blue planet, and a red planet. A green rocket is launching from the child's hand. The background is a dark blue space with stars and a white horizon line.

**Discover bedtime
books you'll never
get tired of.**

an post
**IRISH
BOOK
AWARDS**

#READERSWANTED

WINNER

2019 CBI Book of the Year Award

2019 Children's Choice Award

2019 Eilís Dillon Award for a First Children's Book

2019 Northern Ireland Book Award



“Witty
and clever.
This novel
really does
sparkle.”

RODDY DOYLE

“Lots
of heart.”

IRISH
EXAMINER

“Filled with
fantastical
yet real-
feeling joy.”

GUARDIAN

“A warm
hug of
a book.”

IRISH
INDEPENDENT

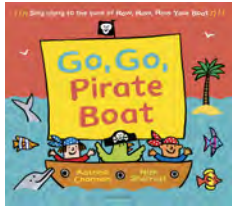
“A delightful read about accepting and embracing
the qualities that make us unique.” SUSIN NIELSEN

“This life-affirming story is one to have
on your shelf for bad days.” BUZZFEED

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WALKER BOOKS

walker.co.uk



KATRINA CHARMAN illustrated by **NICK SHARRATT**
GO, GO, PIRATE BOAT

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP €6.99 ISBN 9781408866344

Come aboard the pirate boat for a fun-filled day and join in the search for treasure. Full of bright colours and simple rhymes, this is a fantastic re-use of a popular nursery rhyme and one that you can't help but sing along to as you read it aloud. [MBT]

READ ALSO: *All Aboard with Ted* by Sophy Henn



illustrated by **AOIFE DOOLEY**
123 IRELAND!

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 13PP €10.00 ISBN 9781912417377

Bright, glossy and (most importantly) sturdy pages introduce the littlest readers to numbers using iconic symbols of Ireland. Only an artist as talented as Dooley could get so much humour into so little text and such simple but vivid illustrations. Numbers 0-10 have never been more Irish or more fun! [SGa]

READ ALSO: *My First Book of GAA* by Joe Butler



JANE FOSTER
JANE FOSTER'S PETS

TEMPLAR BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 24PP €6.99 ISBN 9781787413627

Bright, shiny and super stylish, these pets beg to be petted, traced around and talked to. The colours are fresh and bring heaps of energy to the book. The animals, although static and stylised, retain enough variety and detail to engage very young readers. Foster gets the balance just right! [JS]

READ ALSO: *My Animals* by Xavier Deneux

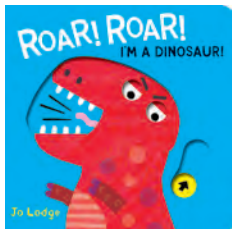


JARVIS
THIS LITTLE PIGGY

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 22PP €6.99 ISBN 9781406385212

A classic nursery rhyme is given a fresh take in this brightly illustrated boardbook. Smallies will love the simple rhythm of the writing, and there's plenty to look at with each re-read, with extra details to notice and laugh at each time. Be prepared to read this over and over! [LP]

READ ALSO: *Mary Had a Little Lamb* by Jarvis

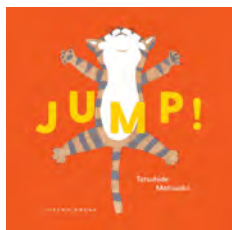


JO LODGE
ROAR! ROAR! I'M A DINOSAUR!

BOXER BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 8PP €6.99 ISBN 9781910716854

Even the youngest reader can join in the dinosaur fun with this interactive boardbook. The striking primary colours please the eye, while the cleverly designed and sturdy moveable tabs suit exploring hands. It's a simple book, but with enough real dinosaur facts to start them off on their dinosaur journey! [AG]

READ ALSO: *1,2,3 Do the Dinosaur* by Michelle Robinson and Rosalind Beardshaw



TATSUHIDE MATSUOKA
JUMP!

GECKO PRESS 2019 (BOARD) 36PP £7.99 ISBN 9781776572311

See how different animals jump, from a frog to a dog and maybe even a snail ... Each vertical spread features a vibrant leaping animal in a comical pose with a funny expression, accompanied by a playful variation of 'Boing!' Little ones will delight in mimicking the actions and sounds. Great fun! [ED]

READ ALSO: *Big Dog, Little Dog* by Élo



SALLY NICHOLLS illustrated by **BETHAN WOOLLVIN**
THE BUTTON BOOK

EDITOR'S CHOICE

ANDERSEN PRESS OCT 2019 (PBK) 24PP £12.99 ISBN 9781783447749

This attractive book encourages co-reading by inviting readers to 'press' virtual buttons of different colours to provoke activities like clapping, bouncing, hugging and blowing raspberries. Populated with charming, vividly drawn cartoon animals, the book's deceptive simplicity gives huge scope for identifying colours, creatures and expressions while encouraging physical participation. [AP]

READ ALSO: *Press Here* by Hervé Tullet



ANNE PARADIS aistrithe ag **TADHG MAC DHONNAGÁIN**
maisithe ag **KARY**
BABAI CATHAL: LÁ NUA 🍀

FUTA FATA 2018 (CRUA) 10LCH €8.95 ISBN 9781910945469

Caithfidh Cathal é féin a réiteach le haghaidh an lae ach tá rudaí éagsúla i bhfolach air agus is faoin bpáiste agus faoin léitheoir atá sé cabhrú le Cathal. Leabhar flapáí tarraingteach a thaitneoidh le páistí óga, neart ábhar plé agus cainte ann ar ghnáthchúrsaí na maidine. [RNÍM]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Babai Cathal: Cén Dath Atá Air?* le Mélanie Rudel-Tessier, Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin agus Pierre Brignand

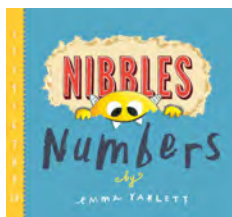


CAMILLA REID illustrated by **NICOLA SLATER**
MEEKOO AND THE BIG RED POTTY

NOSY CROW 2019 (BOARD) 10PP £9.99 ISBN 9781788004237

For Meekoo the bear, it's bye-bye nappies and baby games, and hello big-bear toys and fancy pants! But things are about to get tricky ... This is a bright, chunky and musical (!) potty book to help you and your growing little one navigate this delicate transition. Expect repeat readings. [JS]

READ ALSO: *On My Potty* by Leslie Patricelli



EMMA YARLETT
NIBBLES: NUMBERS

LITTLE TIGER PRESS 2019 (BOARD) 24PP £7.99 ISBN 9781848699212

Beware – Nibbles the book-eating monster is on the loose again! Little hands will love to explore Nibbles's mischief in this counting adventure as our monster munches his way through this hilarious interactive story. A fun-filled rhyming book that is perfect for developing numeracy skills and perfect for little monsters! [RC]

READ ALSO: *This or That?* by Pippa Goodhart

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JON AGEE
THE WALL IN THE MIDDLE OF THE BOOK

SCALLYWAG PRESS 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781912650040

The sensible knight introduces us to the wall, which protects the safe side from the unsafe side – or so it seems. Suddenly, danger begins to mount on his side and he is forced to venture to the other. He quickly realises that things aren't as bad as he thought. In fact, things are much more wonderful! A powerful book that calls divisions in society into question and introduces young readers to the danger of preconceived ideas through humorous dialogue and delightful illustrations. [AMcC]

READ ALSO: *Life on Mars* by John Agee



MARTA ALTÉS
FIVE MORE MINUTES

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781509866021

Did you ever notice that parents treat time very differently from kids? How come five minutes in the morning seems to go by quickly when you want to sleep, but it's a very long time if you leave the kids unattended in the kitchen? This book is a joyous romp through a day with dad and the kids, as our child narrator ponders the vagaries and nuances of perceiving time. Parents and children will find humour and laughs on every page – very relatable! [SGa]

READ ALSO: *Squishy McFluff: Tea with the Queen* by Pip Jones and Ella Okstad

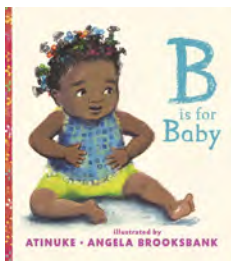


ATINUKE illustrated by ANGELA BROOKSBANK
B IS FOR BABY

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781536201666

Unbeknownst to her big brother, baby has snuck in to the basket that's bicycling to Baba's bungalow for a visit. Be ready for lots of sights and sounds as the siblings make their way to visit their grandfather, with vibrant, richly coloured illustrations giving full scope to the beautiful African landscape of the narrative. Perfect for toddlers learning to recognise words and images, this would make a joyous and comforting bedtime read, celebrating family, love and intergenerational relationships. [SGa]

READ ALSO: *Handa's Noisy Night* by Eileen Browne



MAC BARNETT illustrated by ISABELLE ARSENAULT
JUST BECAUSE

EDITOR'S
 CHOICE

WALKER BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 40PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406388763

Picturebook superstar Mac Barnett returns with a Q and A text that suggests wildly imaginative responses to the kinds of questions kids ask at night time. What is the rain? 'The tears of flying fish.' The answer to why we sleep – 'Because there are some things we can only see with our eyes closed' – serves as thesis statement for the book, ably assisted by dreamy pencil illustrations from Isabelle Arsenault. Celebrating creativity and the general oddness of the world, this is a book to cherish. [CH]

READ ALSO: *Tomorrow Most Likely* by Dave Eggers and Lane Smith





MAC BARNETT illustrated by **JON KLASSEN**
CIRCLE

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406384222

Circle is the final part of the shape trilogy and this time the story revolves around the titular shape. A simple game of hide and seek goes wrong when Triangle tries to be too clever in his hiding place. As with the other parts of the trilogy, Barnett and Klassen's beautifully simple words and pictures create a multifaceted tale. It's a story about three friends playing hide and seek but also about rule breaking and consequences. A book to be read over and over. [LO'H]

READ ALSO: *Triangle* and *Square* by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen



ROB BIDDULPH
SHOW AND TELL

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9780008317911

You are invited to join Class 2L on their favourite school day – show and tell! Strikingly illustrated, *Show and Tell* is beautifully inclusive, with children of different races, cultures, faiths and abilities all good-naturedly striving to win their moustachioed teacher's mystery prize, until an unexpected guest swoops in and quite literally steals the show. Rob Biddulph brings his signature wit and charm to his latest picturebook, an adventure about finding hidden magic that's out of this world. [CÓB]

READ ALSO: *Dinosaur Juniors Wide Awake* by Rob Biddulph

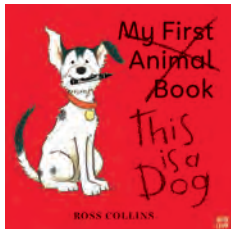


JOSEPH COELHO illustrated by **ROBYN WILSON-OWEN**
NO LONGER ALONE

EGMONT 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781405291293

A shy little girl is the main character of this warm, comforting picturebook. She has experienced a tremendous loss and feels totally isolated, even when surrounded by her closest friends and family. After confiding in her dad and admitting her feelings to him, she discovers she is not alone and that having someone to listen to your feelings is very powerful. Young readers will enjoy the charming, full-colour illustrations, which are perfect when combined with the thoughtful and understanding dialogue. [AMcC]

READ ALSO: *The Hairdo That Got Away* by Joseph Coelho and Fiona Lumbers



ROSS COLLINS
THIS IS A DOG

NOSY CROW 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781788005159

From the award-winning creator of the highly entertaining *There's a Bear on My Chair* comes another marvellous irreverent picturebook. The arresting cover with a cheeky-looking dog with a crayon in his mouth speaks volumes and provides an insight into the mayhem that will follow once you open the book. The title – *My First Animal Book* – is crossed off as the dog makes his mark, claiming the book for himself. Dog lovers rejoice, Ross Collins has created an amusing canine tale (or should that be tail). [SQ]

READ ALSO: *Monty and the Poodles* by Katie Harnett; *Picking Pickle* by Holly Faber and Clare Vuillamy



LORI DEGMAN illustrated by VICTORIA TENTLER-KRYLOV
JUST READ!

STERLING 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781454925729

A glorious celebration of reading in all its forms. The buoyant rhyming text encourages readers to read anything anywhere, at any time and every opportunity. The exuberant watercolour illustrations brilliantly capture the endless possibilities of reading. Some spreads cleverly blur fantasy and reality with marvellous adventures encroaching on everyday scenes. Bookworms are depicted engrossed in paper, tablets and signs, whether on public transport, visiting a shop or playing with friends. Reading is celebrated as both a solitary and shared activity, and diverse readers are represented. [ED]

READ ALSO: *The Bookworm* by Debi Gliori



CORI DOERRFELD
THE RABBIT LISTENED

SCALLYWAG PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781912650095

Taylor has been having fun building things, but then something happens and it all comes crashing down. Taylor is sad and doesn't know quite what to do. All the animals try to help and offer advice or solutions, but only the rabbit listens as Taylor slowly deals with what happened. Full of beautiful illustrations and a simple and sparse text, this is a wonderful and deeply moving story to be read and explored, as the simple lesson of just listening is taught. [MBT]

READ ALSO: *I Don't Want to Be Small* by Laura Ellen Anderson



PETER DONNELLY
THE PRESIDENT'S SURPRISE 🍀

GILL BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP £14.99 ISBN 9780717184811

It's the president's birthday and he's nowhere to be seen! The latest in Peter Donnelly's series depicting a rather familiar head of state continues to provide smiles and a local flavour for Irish readers. Cannily using characters from previous books and his beloved dogs, this book once again presents the president as the adorable one of our imagination. A treat for adults also worth mentioning is a room full of portraits of previous presidents, though Dev is less cuddly than President Michael D. Higgins. [CL]

READ ALSO: *A Dublin Fairytale* by Nicola Colton

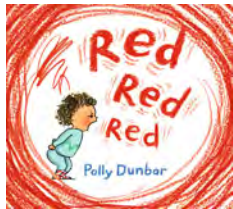


JENNY DUKE
WHERE DID YOU GO TODAY?

CHILD'S PLAY 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781786282002

The cover here does not convey the beauty of what lies within. The illustrations, which marry so well with the text, are sensitive, full of texture and unique. This sweet story tells of a little girl's trip to the playground with her daddy. For a twist, we see the journey through the eyes of the little girl. We see a slide; she sees a mountain. We see a swing; she sees herself soaring through the air. We might only see a playground; she sees magic. [MAS]

READ ALSO: *The Bug Collector* by Alex G. Griffiths



POLLY DUNBAR
RED RED RED

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 30PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406376968

Little One is having a bad day – everything is going wrong in his little world: his socks are down, his pants are twisted, he just can't reach that biscuit ... and before long, it's tantrum time! This book paints a relatable picture of those little things that can cause the red mist to descend, as well as teaching simple, healthy methods of anger management. Great for tiny tots (and older children!) who need help understanding how to deal with overpowering emotions. [LH]

READ ALSO: *Everyone Walks Away* by Eva Lindström



MEL ELLIOTT
THE GIRL WITH TWO DADS

EGMONT 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781405292436

Pearl imagines that her new friend Matilda's two dads must be as fun and permissive as her own father, but she is disappointed to learn that they are just as boring as other parents. Elliott's illustrations make clever use of perspective, only showing the adults' legs (à la *Muppet Babies*) to reinforce the message that Matilda's parents are just like Pearl's. It is wonderful to see a picturebook celebrating different kinds of families. [KH]

READ ALSO: *We Are Family* by Patricia Hegarty and Ryan Wheatcroft



HARRIET EVANS illustrated by JACQUI LEE
THIS IS FROG

CATERPILLAR BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 48PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848578517

Frog is only little, and it's a big world out there. He's going to need your help to keep him safe, fed and out of danger! This interactive book is heaps of fun and just begs to be read aloud with little ones. Bright, vibrant colours make for attractive double-page spreads, and the long portrait format adds to the novelty. Following the instructions, lifting flaps and generally having fun with this book is incredibly easy, and kids are sure to love it! [LP]

READ ALSO: *Tad* by Benji Davies; *This is Owl* by Libby Walden and Jacqui Lee



BARRY FALLS
IT'S YOUR WORLD NOW! 🍀

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781843654100

A collection of parents from all around the world teach important life lessons to their young children. They encourage them to explore the world and have amazing adventures, and remind them how loved and special they all are in their own unique ways. This sweet, earnest picturebook is imaginatively and vibrantly illustrated and will engage young readers with its celebration of parental love and human potential. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *Here We Are* by Oliver Jeffers

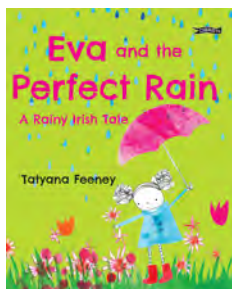


LOUISE FATIO illustrated by ROGER DUVOISIN
THE HAPPY LION

SCALLYWAG PRESS 2019 (Hbk) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781912650064

The eponymous feline is a pleasant, polite fellow, perfectly content to live in a French zoo, where passers-by tip their hats to him in a flurry of *bonjours*. When his enclosure door is left open, it's only natural that he should return the favour. But the townspeople's reaction at the sight of a free-roaming lion isn't quite what our hero expected ... Very funny and with a brilliant sense of timing, this fifty-year-old classic feels fresh and effortlessly timeless. Highly recommended. [JS]

READ ALSO: *Mr Peek and the Misunderstanding at the Zoo* by Kevin Waldron

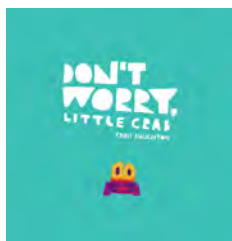


TATYANA FEENEY
EVA AND THE PERFECT RAIN ☘

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (Hbk) 32PP €12.99 ISBN 9781847179784

Eva longs for the perfect rain to test out her new pink umbrella in this celebration of wet weather that will strike a chord with Irish readers of all ages. This book is an entertaining introduction to rainy-day vocabulary: Eva tests several varieties of rain, and the flyleaves offer a further list of rain terminology alongside an Irish rain map. There is excellent attention to character detail in Feeney's minimalist illustrations, which focus the reader's attention on the essentials of Eva's personality and priorities. [KH]

READ ALSO: *Little Cloud* by Anne Booth and Sarah Massini

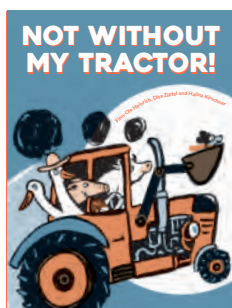


CHRIS HAUGHTON
DON'T WORRY, LITTLE CRAB ☘

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (Hbk) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406385519

Little Crab and Very Big Crab are travelling for a swim in the sea. Little Crab is so excited – that is, until he sees how *enormous* the sea is. The waves are so huge and Little Crab is terrified! However, with the support and reassurance of Very Big Crab, Little Crab bravely swims in. This distinctively illustrated book follows the apprehensive Little Crab as he overcomes fear and anxiety to enjoy a wonderful adventure. [AM]

READ ALSO: *A Little Bit Brave* by Nicola Kinnear

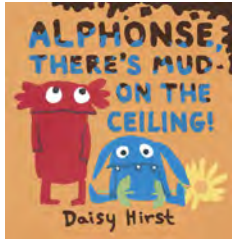


FINN-OLE HEINRICH and DITA ZIPFEL translated by
 SIOBHÁN PARKINSON illustrated by HALINA KIRSCHNER
NOT WITHOUT MY TRACTOR! ☘

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2019 (Pbk) 32PP €10.00 ISBN 9781912417216

The narrator of this visually striking picturebook is engaged in a serious conversation about moving house. One thing is clear – they won't go anywhere without their tractor! Cue a clever examination of the importance of tractors, who seem to rival dogs in their ability to be faithful and loyal friends. Heinrich and Zipfel's text has been skilfully translated by Siobhán Parkinson, losing none of the wit and humour of the original. A delightfully quirky book that will be loved by readers of all ages. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *My New Home* by Marta Altés



DAISY HIRST
ALPHONSE, THERE'S MUD ON THE CEILING!

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781406374759

Alphonse and Natalie love to play imaginative games in their seventh-floor flat, but when they accidentally get mud on the ceiling they begin to wonder if some games are best for outdoors ... Whimsical, witty and sweet, Alphonse and Natalie are two lovable characters whose hilarious playtime shenanigans and sibling banter are sure to appeal to grown-ups and kids alike. Perfect for little readers with big imaginations, this story reminds us that you don't have to live in a big space to have big adventures. [RC]

READ ALSO: *Mummy's Suitcase* by Pip Jones and Laura Hughes



MORAG HOOD
BRENDA IS A SHEEP

TWO HOOTS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781509842964

Brenda is the most popular sheep in the flock (despite some rather lupine features) and she is preparing a not-at-all-suspicious meal for her friends – however, her ovine friends have a surprise for her. Written and illustrated by Morag Hood, this is a very amusing story with a surprise turn in the tale. It also has a fun lesson, showing the positive effects of giving and not eating your friends. Ewe and your little lambs will love it! [CL]

READ ALSO: *The Goat Café* by Francesca Simon and Leo Broadly

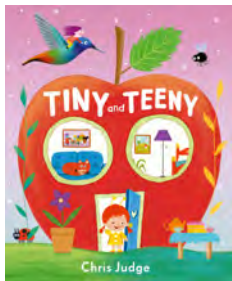


CHRIS JUDGE
THE BABY BEAST 🍀

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781783447763

The bumbling, likeable beast returns for more misadventures when an egg is dropped on his doorstep and he finds himself completely at a loss as to how to take care of this fragile, helpless little thing, although he tries his best and soon finds success. The welcome return of this beloved picturebook character does not disappoint as he stumbles into fatherhood in this witty, touching and agreeably odd sequel. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett



CHRIS JUDGE
TINY AND TEENY 🍀

WALKER BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406370928

This is the story of a kind and creative little girl called Tiny and her loyal and loving pet Teeny and the adventures they have together in their miniature world with their miniature friends, who help and support Tiny and Teeny when disaster strikes their beloved home inside an apple. This endlessly inventive and beautifully drawn picturebook introduces young readers to important ideas about neighbourliness, community and old-fashioned kindness. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *Du Iz Tak?* by Carson Ellis

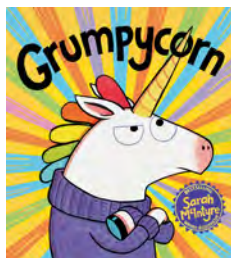


ERIKA MCGANN illustrated by GERRY DALY
WHERE ARE YOU, PUFFLING? 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP €12.99 ISBN 9781788490504

Curious little Puffling lives on Skellig Michael. One day she decides to have an adventure. As her parents look for her, they speak to all the animals she has helped in the course of the day. Erika McGann's story (adapted from an idea by Sean McGann) is perfectly illustrated by Gerry Daly with a colour palette that evokes life on Skellig Michael. A simple, heartwarming story about the power of friendship and how even the littlest someone can make a huge difference to a community. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *The Dinosaur Who Lost Her Voice* by Julie Ballard and Francesca Gambatesa



SARAH MCINTYRE
GRUMPYCORN

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407180830

Unicorn is writing the most fabulous story in the world but, unfortunately, he is also suffering from writer's block, making him a very Grumpycorn. If only inspiration would come knocking at his door instead of his infuriating friends Narwhal, Mermaid and Jellyfish. A warm, funny story of creativity featuring the most dazzling and colourful illustrations and a host of lovable characters. Grumpycorn is sure to be relatable to anyone who has ever tried to write a story of their own and struggled! [RC]

READ ALSO: *Ike's Incredible Ink* by Brianne Farley

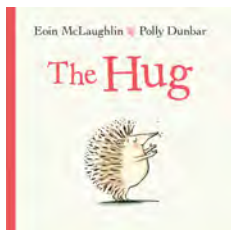


EINO MCLAUGHLIN illustrated by ROSS COLLINS
SECRET AGENT ELEPHANT 🍀

ORCHARD BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781408354230

A bumbling, well-meaning elephant stumbles through his spy training, as he is pitted against the international supervillain Vincent Le Morte and his own insatiable appetite for mini pizzas. This witty parody of espionage thrillers introduces young readers to the adorable would-be secret agent of the title as he enters a world for which he is desperately unsuited, but in which he finally finds an elephant-shaped place. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *Shifty McGifty and Slippery Sam* by Helen Corderoy and Steven Lenton

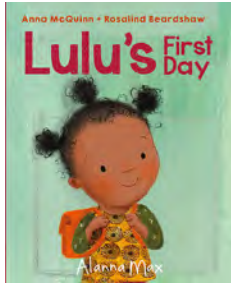


EINO MCLAUGHLIN illustrated by POLLY DUNBAR
THE HUG 🍀

FABER & FABER 2019 (HBK) 56PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571350605

Hedgehog is very sad and lonely. So is Tortoise. Nobody they meet seems to be able to help them. But little do they know that they're slowly working their way towards each other, and to the one thing that'll make them feel better. Polly Dunbar's beautiful illustrations bring Hedgehog, Tortoise and all the animals they encounter on their quests to find someone to hug, from foxes to badgers and rabbits to squirrels, lovingly to life, with a warmth that is genuine and poignant. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *When Grandma Gives You a Lemon Tree* by Jamie L. B. Deenihan and Lorraine Rocha



ANNA MCQUINN illustrated by ROSALIND BEARDSHAW

LULU'S FIRST DAY

ALANNA MAX 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781907825217

The latest in McQuinn's series of picturebooks featuring the book-loving Lulu sees her preparing for her first day of school and thoroughly enjoying the experience. The full-page illustrations are lavish, bright and colourful and the subject matter will appeal greatly to those preparing to start school or kindergarten. Readers can join in the fun as Lulu chooses her clothes, packs her schoolbag and makes new friends. [PNiC]

READ ALSO: *The Pigeon Has to Go to School!* by Mo Willems



CAROLINE MAGERL

MAYA & CAT

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781406383959

When Maya sees Cat up on the roof, she sends out 'a boatful of fish, under a tiny tin sail' and waits patiently for Cat to come down. Then they can try to find Cat's home – asking neighbours if they belong to this cat. With simple language that weaves in some beautiful, lyrical description ('Cat sprang circus-lion style') and striking pencil and watercolour images, this is a quiet and moving story that captures the often-mysterious dynamic between humans and cats perfectly. (Not for dog people!) [CH]

READ ALSO: *Cat & Mouse* by Britta Teckentrup



WENDY MEDDOUR illustrated by DANIEL EGNÉUS

LUBNA AND PEBBLE

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9780192771940

Lubna and her family have travelled across the sea to a world of tents, and she feels lonely and scared. Luckily, she finds the perfect pebble to become her best friend – that is, until a sad little boy called Amir arrives. The undercurrent of refugee crises and war is subtle but poignant in this simple story of friendship and compassion. Egnéus's beautifully evocative illustrations add a slightly dreamy quality to the story, and Meddour's eloquent text allows the images to share the weight of storytelling. [SGa]

READ ALSO: *This Love* by Isabel Otter and Harriet Lynas



WENDY MEDDOUR illustrated by DANIEL EGNÉUS

TIBBLE AND GRANDPA

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9780192771957

A wonderful friendship grows between the determined Tibble and his distant grandpa as the former encourages the latter to embrace everything the world around him has to offer and to remember all of the things that brought him joy before Tibble's grandma died – from jellyfish and sandwiches to trains and the zoo. This beautiful and extraordinarily moving picturebook explores the nature of grief and the joy of childhood. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *Grandad's Island* by Benji Davies

EDITOR'S CHOICE

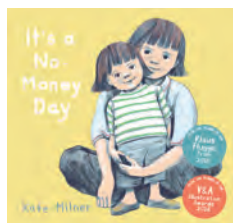


ANNA MILBOURNE illustrated by DANIEL RIELEY
I'M NOT (VERY) AFRAID OF THE DARK

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (Hbk) 24PP £12.99 ISBN 9781474940726

A comforting companion to any young reader who shares the protagonist's fear of the dark. When the lights go out, he gets a funny feeling in his tummy, paralysed with fear about the freaky shapes he can see. However, when he realises that the darkness isn't as scary as it seems, and that without it the stars wouldn't shine, the dark doesn't seem so bad after all. With astonishing illustrations and perfectly placed cut-out details, this is the perfect bedtime read! [AM]

READ ALSO: *Nell and the Circus of Dreams* by Nell Gifford and Briony May Smith



KATE MILNER
IT'S A NO-MONEY DAY

BARRINGTON STOKE OCT 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781128817

Milner is the recent winner of two prestigious illustration awards, and this book is indicative of her work. Her illustrations are layered and delicate with warm, sensitive colour. During a 'no-money' day, a mother and child go to the foodbank and play the 'one day' game. A powerful scene at the foodbank shows how the entire fabric of society has been affected by economic recession. This poignant story shows that even a family affected by poverty can remain hopeful. [MAS]

READ ALSO: *For All the Stars across the Sky* by Karl Newson and Chiaki Okada

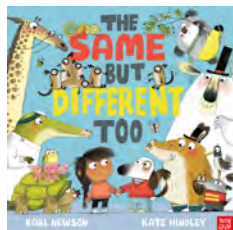


CHRIS NAYLOR-BALLESTEROS
THE SUITCASE

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788004480

The Suitcase is a simple tale with a huge idea. When a stranger arrives in a new land with his suitcase, the doubtful locals have questions. When the answers fail to satisfy, the locals break open the suitcase while the stranger sleeps. After a spell of guilt, the locals understand just what they can do to make the stranger welcome. The loose black line illustrations utilise saturated secondary colour to underscore the message. This is a story of acceptance and understanding. [MAS]

READ ALSO: *When a Dragon Comes to Stay* by Caryl Hart and Rosalind Beardshaw



KARL NEWSON illustrated by KATE HINDLEY
THE SAME BUT DIFFERENT TOO

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788004008

We're all the same but different too is the message in this delightfully simple and highly amusing picturebook. Children and animals fill every tableau that compares all the ways in which we're different and similar. The text is very minimal but masterfully written and packs in the humour when placed alongside the wonderfully dynamic illustrations, which pop with colour. You'll find the rhymes sticking in your mind as you're (undoubtedly) asked to read this book over and over again, but I don't think you'll mind! [LP]

READ ALSO: *Almost an Animal Alphabet* by Katie Viggers



LOU PEACOCK illustrated by **YASMEEN ISMAIL**

NUTS! 🌿

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788004015

Bright colours evocative of autumn trees and fallen leaves make up the playful illustrations that take centre stage in this simple story about sharing and friendship. Two young squirrels collecting nuts for winter just can't seem to get along. They are joined by a supporting cast of expressive woodland creatures who help them learn a valuable lesson. This book would make a great gift for squabbling young siblings. [CÓB]

READ ALSO: *Two for Me, One for You* by Jörg Mühle



TOM PERCIVAL
RAVI'S ROAR

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408892183

A family outing to the park does not go well for Ravi. His disappointment rises as he is too small for the playground rides, but the last straw is when they run out of ice cream. Ravi's temper lets loose in a ROAR! The vivid orange and red splashes as Ravi transforms into Ravi the Tiger are in perfect contrast to the almost monochrome background. The story and illustrations perfectly combine to form a well-developed exploration of a rip-roaring tantrum and its gentle resolution. [AG]

READ ALSO: *The Big Angry Roar* by Jonny Lambert



ROSE ROBBINS
ME AND MY SISTER

SCALLYWAG PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781912650002

Imagine if you had a sister who you loved but didn't quite 'get it'. You do everything together but sometimes it's tricky for her to understand things – or for people to understand her, because 'she doesn't use words but she says a lot!' Simple, brightly coloured pencil and chalk drawings and straightforward text serve this book about living with an autistic sibling well, although its potential benefits extend beyond this focus and invite empathy for anyone who finds the 'norms' of society a tricky thing. [CH]

READ ALSO: *Whatever Happened to My Sister?* by Simona Ciruolo

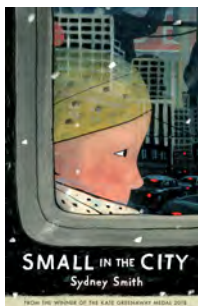


LORNA SCOBIE
COLLECTING CATS

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407185712

Our collector has a plan to collect some cats: first we need some cheese, then we need some mice and then we shall have some cats. But can you ever have *too* many cats? And what happens if some big cats show up? Guaranteed to give readers a giggle, this story is brought to life by the detail of the chaotic and humorous illustrations that perfectly complement this slowly escalating madcap adventure. A perfect tale for cat lovers – or in fact, cheese lovers! [RC]

READ ALSO: *There Are Cats in This Book* by Viviane Schwarz



SYDNEY SMITH
SMALL IN THE CITY

WALKER BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 40PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406388404

Big cities can be scary places, especially when you are small. Sydney Smith's delightful debut as an author-illustrator follows a streetwise child on a journey round a snow-covered big city as they offer solid advice on where to go and things to do when you are small. Smith's beautifully simple words combine perfectly with vivid illustrations of the awesome and sometimes frightening sights and structures of the city. This book offers a wonderfully fresh child's eye view of the urban landscape. [LO'H]

READ ALSO: *Footpath Flowers* by JonArno Lawson and Sydney Smith

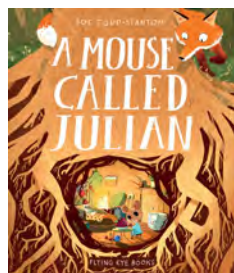


BRITTA TECKENTRUP
KINDNESS GROWS

CATERPILLAR BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848578777

Typical of Teckentrup, this peep-through picturebook promotes themes of love, support and community. The verbal and visual narratives juxtapose a growing crack and a blossoming tree as embodiments of the effects of negative actions versus positive deeds, with a die-cut crack cleverly doubling as a tree on alternating pages. The gentle text resembles a nursery rhyme, with charming couplets and child characters. Teckentrup's signature collage techniques, rustic colours and manipulation of space skilfully capture the contrasting moods and attitudes through seasonal scenes. Inspiring, heartfelt and artfully designed. [ED]

READ ALSO: *All Are Welcome* by Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman



JOE TODD-STANTON
A MOUSE CALLED JULIAN

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781912497065

This absolutely adorable book tells the story of friendship between two unlikely and funny characters. Julian, a mouse, lives alone and likes it. Then one day, Fox gets his head stuck in Julian's front door. Since they can't get Fox loose, mouse and fox share a meal and end up enjoying each other's company. This bit of bonding benefits them both later in unexpected ways. Executed in a rich autumnal palette, the accomplished illustrations are as warm as the message. [MAS]

READ ALSO: *Baz & Benz* by Heidi McKinnon



CLARE HELEN WELSH illustrated by **ASHLING LINDSAY**
THE TIDE 🍀

LITTLE TIGER PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781788810852

Warmly illustrated, this book charts a busy day at the beach for a little girl and her grandad while her interior monologue mulls over her discussions with her mum about her grandad's forgetfulness. Images and text wash in and out of the child's present experience and recent memories, and beautiful colours and shapes combine with an accessible and unsentimental text to create a cleverly comforting, coherent reflection on living and loving with dementia. [AP]

READ ALSO: *If All the World Were ...* by Joseph Coelho and Allison Colpoys

EDITOR'S CHOICE



BRENDAN WENZEL
A STONE SAT STILL

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 56PP £12.99 ISBN 9781452173184

A stone sits still with the water, grass and dirt that make up our world and a story unfolds that encompasses all of nature and the passing of countless years. Brendan Wenzel has produced a picturebook that is as much a meditation on life as it is a beautiful exploration of our environment, the interconnections between the animals that call it home and our ability to perceive beauty in all its forms. A deeply poignant and emotionally satisfying read. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *Tree: A Peek-Through Picture Book* by Britta Teckentrup

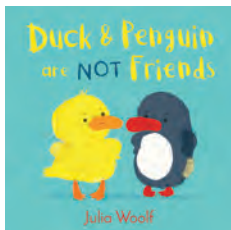


KEN WILSON-MAX
ASTRO GIRL

OTTER-BARRY BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781910959213

Astrid wants to be an astronaut when she grows up. While her mother is away, she and her dad think about the kinds of things that astronauts do and about the way space captivates our imaginations. At the heart of the book is the supportive and loving relationship between Astrid and her dad, a relationship that helps her to believe her dreams will come true. Gorgeously illustrated and beautifully paced, this empowering and heartwarming story delivers a wonderful surprise at the end. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *Interstellar Cinderella* by Deborah Underwood



JULIA WOOLF
DUCK AND PENGUIN ARE NOT FRIENDS

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781783447831

Betty and Maud are simply the best of friends but Betty's favourite toy, Duck, and Maud's favourite toy, Penguin, are absolutely not friends – although the time they spend together playing in sandpits, baking cakes and dressing up may just change their opinion of each other. This charming, colourful picturebook celebrates open-mindedness, solidarity and kindness through the story of two toys who can't seem to get along. [BMcM]

READ ALSO: *The Bear Who Did* by Louise Greig and Laura Hughes



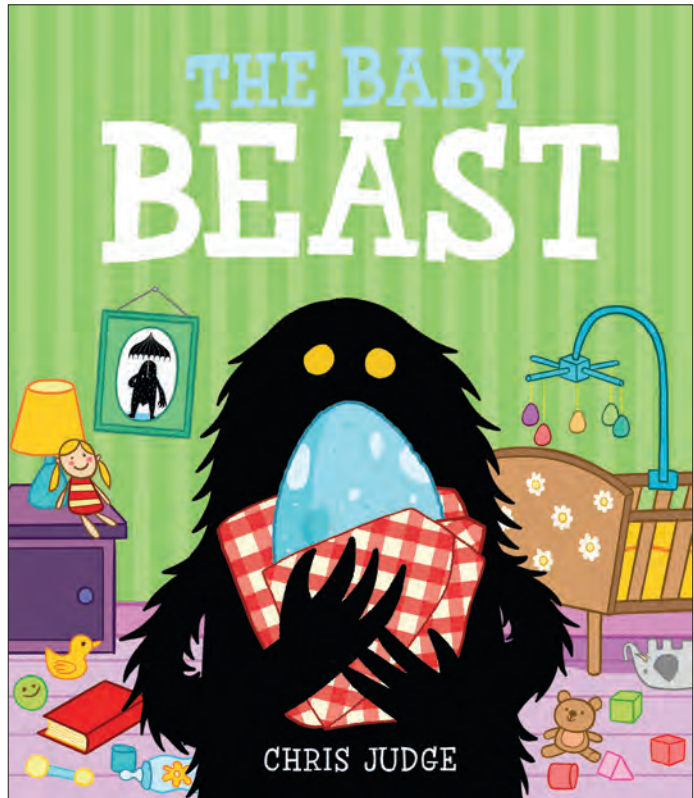
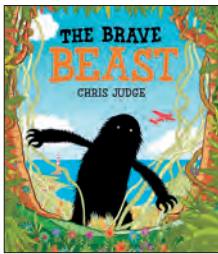
EMMA YARLETT
NIBBLES: THE MONSTER HUNT

LITTLE TIGER 2019 (HBK) 20PP £12.99 ISBN 9781788814003

Curious minds will adore this creative, clever interactive story and it's bound to become a new favourite read. It follows the adventures of Nibbles the book monster as he breaks free and goes on the rampage amongst a little boy's favourite books of facts. There are cut-outs and lift-the-flaps to explore and lots of clever details, like books within books that allow the insertion of fascinating facts. Highly recommended. [PNicI]

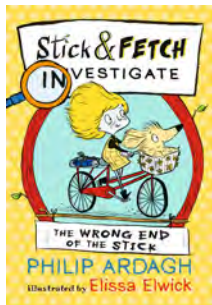
READ ALSO: *The Ultimate Survival Guide to Monsters under the Bed* by Mitch Frost and Daron Parton

The BEAST is back
...and this time he's having a baby!



‘Uncommon style
and verve.’
NEW YORK TIMES
on THE LONELY BEAST



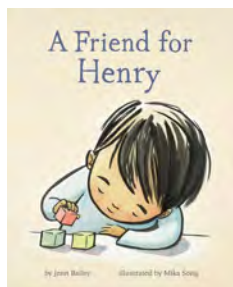


PHILIP ARDAGH illustrated by ELISSA ELWICK
**STICK & FETCH INVESTIGATE:
 THE WRONG END OF THE STICK**

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 144PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406376500

Sally Stick and best friend Fetch are no ordinary girl and dog. They are in fact a top detective duo – or so they think! Temporarily living with artist Uncle Bob, they soon find themselves up to their eyes in cases to solve and criminals to catch. Full of humorous misunderstandings and charming illustrations with visual clues for eagle-eyed readers, Stick and Fetch’s adventures are sure to please young readers who enjoy a bit of detective work. [NMacC]

READ ALSO: *Stick & Fetch Investigate: Barking up the Wrong Tree* by Philip Ardagh and Elissa Elwick



JENN BAILEY illustrated by MIKA SONG
A FRIEND FOR HENRY

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 36PP £11.99 ISBN 9781452167916

In this story the reader is immersed in Henry’s world, a place where it’s difficult to find a like-minded friend. The story shows the daily sensory and interpersonal challenges that a child with autism may need to navigate. It gently guides the reader through these moments and ends with a sweet connection to another person. The illustrations echo the gentle message, with their inky style and simple clarity. [ANíD]

READ ALSO: *The Beach Is Loud!* by Samantha Cotterill

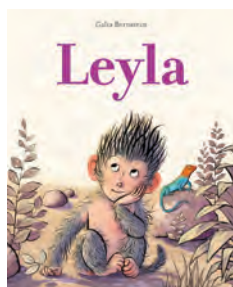


CLAIRE BARKER illustrated by TEEMU JUHANI
**PICKLEWITCH & JACK
 AND THE CUCKOO COUSIN**

FABER & FABER SEPT 2019 (PBK) 208PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571335206

Picklewitch is a brash, unkempt and impulsive young witch. She is also Jack’s best friend and he likes her more than anyone he’s ever met. So, when Picklewitch gets a letter from her cousin to say that he is coming to visit, Jack is understandably worried about losing his best friend. This is a tale of magic, school life and the complicated web of young friendships. An enjoyable romp for the aspiring reader. [CMu]

READ ALSO: *Picklewitch & Jack* by Clare Barker and Teemu Juhani



GALIA BERNSTEIN
LEYLA

ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781419735431

Imagine having nine aunts and twenty-three cousins smothering you in kisses! Leyla’s large baboon family do just that and it can be overwhelming. Seeking solace, she befriends a lizard of the stoic variety. From him she learns to relax and restore her empathy for the noisy bunch. Using skilful language, this book shows how to introduce a child to meditation without planting the notion of anxiety or stress. Glorious illustrations cast a sunset glow on this tribe of baboons. A simple but important message, beautifully told. [HR]

READ ALSO: *Rabbit & Bear: A Pest in the Nest* by Julian Gough and Jim Field

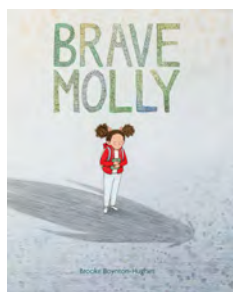


SYLVIA BISHOP illustrated by PADDY DONNELLY
A SEA OF STORIES 🍀

STRIPES OCT 2019 (HBK) 96PP £7.99 ISBN 9781788950817

Our heroine, Roo, hears stories from her grandpa about all the bits and bobs that fill his house by the sea. He tells her stories of his childhood, of the sea and of her grandmother, but he can no longer reach the cove where so many of these memories were made. Can Roo find a way to help her grandpa? The enchanting illustrations do full justice to this lovely tale, told with sweetness and gentle humour. This full colour chapter book is one to treasure. [KR]

READ ALSO: *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies



BROOKE BOYNTON-HUGHES
BRAVE MOLLY

CHRONICLE BOOKS APRIL 2019 48PP £11.99 ISBN 9781452161006

Molly is a reluctant speaker who yearns for friendship. Her story is told almost entirely through the beautiful and evocative illustrations with the narrative arc culminating in one word. The absence of text echoes the absence of chatter in Molly's life and powerfully communicates the loneliness of her world. This book will appeal to anyone who has ever struggled to reach out to make new friends and would make an excellent talking piece for any young readers who are themselves reluctant speakers. [CMu]

READ ALSO: *La La La: A Story of Hope* by Kate DiCamillo

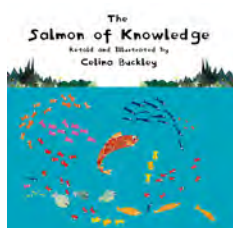


NIALL BRESLIN illustrated by SHEENA DEMPSEY
TAKE FIVE 🍀

GILL BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 32PP €16.99 ISBN 9780717185535

Freddie's excitement turns to trepidation at his best mate's party. Sad and at the mercy of a dark cloud, he can't even be tempted out by cake. Luckily, his kindly nan arrives to whisk him away to the park where she teaches him a game called Take Five. Seeking five positives in his life helps Freddie dissipate his dark cloud. This is Breslin's second book on anxiety and gives a practical take-away for children, prompting after-reading discussion. This is a sweet and virtual gratitude-diary for kids. [HR]

READ ALSO: *The Magic Moment* by Niall Breslin and Sheena Dempsey

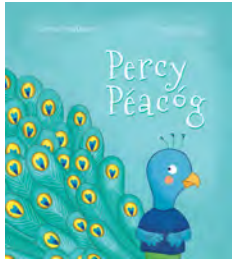


CELINA BUCKLEY
THE SALMON OF KNOWLEDGE 🍀

STARFISH BAY 2019 (HBK) 36PP £9.99 ISBN 9781760360702

A salmon swallows nine hazelnuts from a well of ancient wisdom. The wise elderly poet Finnegas wants to be the first person to taste the salmon and gain the world's knowledge and secrets. Then along comes a young boy, Fionn, who wishes to be a warrior. This utterly charming picturebook is a faithful rendition of the classic Irish legend. The expressive collages shrewdly combine texture with colour and reward repeated contemplation by revealing hidden details. It is an extremely impressive debut from a talented author-illustrator. [HP]

READ ALSO: *Brian and the Vikings* by Chris Judge and Mark Wickham



GEMMA BREATHNACH maisithe ag TARSILA KRÜSE
PERCY PEACÓG 

FUTA FATA 2018 (BOG) 32LCH €9.50 ISBN 9781910945414

Scéal cumhachtach simplí é seo a dhéanann plé ar dheacrachtaí páistí agus iad ag tosú ar scoil. Tugann an scéal teachtaireacht dhearfach do pháistí gur chóir na rudaí atá speisialta fúthu a cheiliúradh. Tá dathanna mealltacha geala in úsáid síos tríd an leabhar. Tá nasc éifeachtach idir an téacs agus na híomhánna; gluaiseann siad le chéile ó thús deireadh an scéil. Leanaimid Percy, carachtar atá faiteach ach a léiríonn crógacht agus féinmhuinín faoi dheireadh an scéil. Beidh sé iontach furasta do pháistí ionbhá a bheith acu leis. [ANicU]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Ná Gabh ar Scoil!* le Máire Zepf agus Tarsila Krüse



EVA BYRNE
ALONG CAME COCO

ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781419734250

This story of the young Coco Chanel, as she learns to be fiercely independent in a world full of rules, weaves together the birth of the little black dress with the life of a fearless fashion pioneer. The joyful ink illustrations are vivacious and coloured with a perfectly restrained palette. A great example of an accessible biography, this book brings to life how individual people can change the world in remarkable ways through design and material culture. [FS]

READ ALSO: *Blazing a Trail: Irish Women Who Changed the World* by Sarah Webb and Lauren O’Neill

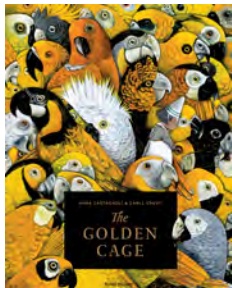


ANNE CARROLL illustrated by DERRY DILLON
AMELIA EARHART: ADVENTURER AND AVIATOR 

POOLBEG PRESS OCT 2019 (PBK) 42PP €4.99 ISBN 9781781998427

Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic. She used her fame to champion women in aviation, ensuring her legacy lives today. This book traces her life from her parents’ marriage in 1895 to her last flight in 1937. Monochrome drawings emphasise key aspects and important moments in each concise chapter. It is an accessible and informative biography of a pioneering queen of the air. The comprehensive maps, glossary, timeline and page of discussion topics make it ideally suited for classroom usage. [HP]

READ ALSO: *The Boole Sisters: A Remarkable Family* by Ann Carroll and Derry Dillon



ANNA CASTAGNOLI translated by LAURA WATKINSON
illustrated by CARLL CNEUT
THE GOLDEN CAGE 

BOOK ISLAND SEPT 2019 (HBK) 56PP £19.99 ISBN 9781911496144

The emperor’s daughter Valentina pouts as her servants fail to satisfy her increasingly irrational demands for exotic birds to fill her one hundred and one birdcages. What’s a princess to do? (Hint: nothing good.) Can anyone find a way to appease Valentina’s impossible whims and call a halt to her bloody reign? The darkness of this deliciously macabre fairy tale is offset by the richly detailed and delicate illustrations, while impishly clever interactions of text and illustration make this a joy to read over and over. [JMcC]

READ ALSO: *Witchfairy* by Brigitte Minne and Carll Cneut



MELISSA CASTRILLON
MIGHTY MIN

ALISON GREEN BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407185316

This is the story of Mighty Min, a tiny girl who lives with her five mighty aunts. She longs to have her own story to tell. One night she realises that despite being small she is mighty. Children will love the big reveal of the ‘monster’. The swirling, colourful illustrations will capture the imaginations of little readers and bring them through Min’s fantastical garden-adventure. [ANiD]

READ ALSO: *Yellow Kayak* by Nina Laden and Melissa Castrillon



BEN CLANTON
NARWHAL: UNICORN OF THE SEA!

EGMONT 2019 (PBK) 64PP £5.99 ISBN 9781405295307

A friendly narwhal and a sceptical jellyfish bond over a mutual love of waffles. These sweet characters make their debut in this first in the series of cute graphic novels, full of puns and jokes. Each book features three stories about Narwhal and friends and features interesting facts about sea creatures. Narwhal is a welcome break for anyone suffering from pink fluffy unicorn overload. [ACh]
READ ALSO: *Narwhal and Jelly* by Ben Clanton; *Charlie and Mouse* by Laurel Snyder



NICOLA COLTON
JASPER & SCRUFF 🍀

STRIPES 2019 (PBK) 96PP £5.99 ISBN 9781788950695

Jasper wants nothing more than to impress the fancy cats and join the Sophisticats – the coolest club in town. But when it all goes horribly wrong, it’s a scrappy, muddy, cheerful agent of chaos called Scruff that saves the day. A light-hearted story about finding the right friends, complemented by jaunty illustrations throughout. There are lots of laughs as the rude and snooty cats get their comeuppance and Jasper finds the courage to stand up to them with the help of the anarchic Scruff. [JMCC]

READ ALSO: *Jasper & Scruff: Hunt for the Golden Bone* by Nicola Colton

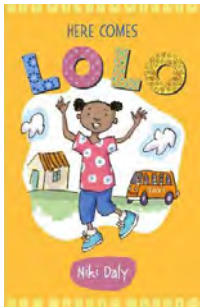


SOPHIE DAHL illustrated by LAUREN O’HARA
MADAME BADOBEDAH 🍀

WALKER BOOKS OCT 2019 (HBK) 56PP £12.00 ISBN 9781406384406

This story’s seaside setting is brought to life by vivid and captivating illustrations. Mabel is an adventurous only child whose playground is her parents’ B&B. She decides to spy upon a mysterious new guest – Madame Badobedah. The two develop a friendship powered by make-believe, as the older lady’s past is gradually revealed. This is a timeless story about the wonder of imagination and the value of intergenerational friendship. [ACh]

READ ALSO: *The Bandit Queen* by Natalia O’Hara and Lauren O’Hara



NIKI DALY
HERE COMES LOLO

OTTER-BARRY BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 80PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910959770

Each Lolo book consists of four short stories, suitable for early readers moving onto chapter books. These sweet, simple stories are set in South Africa and are punctuated by beautiful black and white drawings by the author. The stories show how Lolo deals day-to-day with life's little disappointments, learning good manners and right from wrong, with the help of her mother and Gogo, her grandmother. [ACh]

READ ALSO: *Hooray for Lolo* by Niki Daly

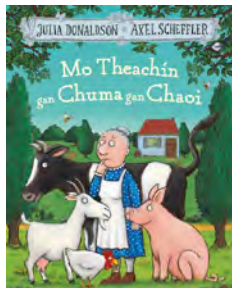


SADHBH DEVLIN maisithe ag **RÓISÍN HAHESSY**
BEAG BIDEACH 🍀

FUTA FATA 2018 (BOG) 32LCH €9.50 ISBN 9781910945407

Scéal faoi na siblí níná agus Jimí is ea *Beag Bideach*. Úsáideann an príomhcharactar, Nína, draíocht chun í féin a dhéanamh beag agus le héalú óna deartháir beag, Jimí, chuig a teach bábóige! Téamaí iad seo atá coitianta i saol an pháiste óig. Úsáidtear na frásaí deasa 'beag bideach' agus 'mór millteach' go minic tríd an scéal, rud a chuidíonn le páistí agus iad ag tosú amach ar an léitheoireacht. Cuireann léaráidí geala tarraingteacha comhaimseartha Róisín Hahessy go mór leis an scéal. [AOB]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Bí ag Spreaí Liom!* le Sadhbh Devlin agus Tarsila Krüse

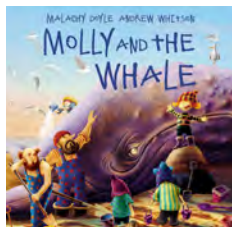


JULIA DONALDSON aistrithe ag **TADHG MAC DHONNAGÁIN** maisithe ag **AXEL SCHEFFLER**
MO THEACHÍN GAN CHUMA GAN CHAOI 🍀

FUTA FATA 2018 (BOG) 32LCH €9.95 ISBN 9781910945377

Is gnáthscéal atá sa leabhar seo ach is teachtaireacht ríthábhachtach atá mar bhunús leis: tábhacht an bhuíochais. Tá an-ghluaiseacht le brath sna léaráidí. Baintear úsáid as frámaí chun an teachín eagraithe slachtmhar a léiriú ag tús an scéil, ach feicimid an scléip á múscailt ar fud an tí go bhfuil na léaráidí saor ó imlínte. Leagtar an-bhéim ar an athrá agus an rím le léitheoirí a mhealladh agus chun iad a spreagadh chun idirghníomhú leis an scéal. [NNÍF]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *An Fathach is Breátha sa Tír* le Julia Donaldson, Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin agus Axel Scheffler



MALACHY DOYLE illustrated by **ANDREW WHITSON**
MOLLY AND THE WHALE 🍀

GRAFFEG JULY 2019 (HBK) 36PP £12.99 ISBN 9781913134044

A young girl named Molly and her brother Dylan wake up one morning to find a blue whale washed up on the beach near their house. Molly's dad and their neighbours instantly spring into action and show Molly and Dylan how to care for the whale until the tide comes in and takes the whale to safety. During the rescue Molly sings to the whale to help keep her calm until the water can bring her away. The beautiful storyline and bright illustrations will delight readers of all ages. [ST]

READ ALSO: *Muireann agus an Míol Mór* le Malachy Doyle agus Andrew Whitson



VIVIAN FRENCH
THE STEAM WHISTLE THEATRE COMPANY

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 297PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406376319

Victorian child-actors Charlie and Rosie Pringle's family theatre company lacks funds. In desperation, the troupe embark on their first railway journey to the northern market town of Uncaster. They lodge with debt-ridden aristocratic widow Arabella Poskett and befriend her remaining servant, workhouse girl Edie Boiler. But a rival performer, the former child escapologist Baby Bubbles, threatens their hopes of fame and fortune. This entertaining story is peppered with hissable ne'er-do-wells and other Victorian melodramatic tropes. A well-crafted read that steams ahead at a satisfactory pace. [HP]

READ ALSO: *Cliffhoppers: The Arrowhead Moore Adventure* by Fleur Hitchcock

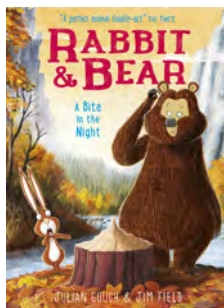


SALLY GARDNER illustrated by NICK MALAND
MR TIGER, BETSY AND THE SEA DRAGON

ZEPHYR 2019 (HBK) 208PP £10.99 ISBN 9781788546584

Captain Calico Kettle and his pirate ship, the *Kettle Black*, are searching for Betsy's island home. He wants the golden apples given by the sea dragon to the island left off the map of the world. Kidnapped pastry chef Septimus Plank is forced to help. This second adventure for Betsy and Mr Tiger is illustrated throughout. Some of the illustrated blue backgrounds engulf the blue or white text, which negates the dyslexia-friendly font. Otherwise, it is a gentle tale that satisfactorily combines whimsy and witty ridiculousness. [HP]

READ ALSO: *Mr Tiger, Betsy and the Blue Moon* by Sally Gardner and Nick Maland



JULIAN GOUGH illustrated by JIM FIELD
RABBIT & BEAR: A BITE IN THE NIGHT 🌿

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 112PP £9.99 ISBN 9781444938180

Fewer forest-dwelling duos delight more than Rabbit and Bear – our fourth visit to their valley is no exception. As Rabbit frets over trees 'flying south for winter', Bear assures him trees can't fly. Woodpecker helps investigate and a friendless, industrious Beaver emerges as engineer of the valley's woes. Their furry community's journey toward a solution will have you grinning like Cheshire Cat. Team work is at the heart of this beautifully illustrated tale but what makes it beat is the joy of friendship. [DO]

READ ALSO: the Rabbit and Bear series by Julian Gough and Jim Field



SWAPNA HADDOW illustrated by SHEENA DEMPSEY
DAVE PIGEON: ROYAL COOL! 🌿

FABER & FABER 2019 (PBK) 160PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571336982

Dave Pigeon is back with his best friend Skipper in London! While taking in the sights of the royal palace, and even snacking on the leftovers from a royal party, the duo comes across Prince Raju Pigeon – the personal bird to the queen and a part of her royal fleet. Dave, being one for adventure, suggests to Raju that they swap places to give the prince a break. But it's not long before living in the lap of luxury goes to Dave's head. [ST]

READ ALSO: *Dave Pigeon (Nuggets!)* by Swapna Haddow and Sheena Dempsey



MATT HAIG illustrated by CHRIS MOULD
THE TRUTH PIXIE GOES TO SCHOOL

CANONGATE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 128PP £9.99 ISBN 9781786898265

Truth Pixie’s back and she’s bringing her brutal honesty to school with Ada. A true friend speaks the truth, even when it’s hard to hear. Ada struggles with many problems at home, not to mention the rollercoaster of self-acceptance. Bold gothic illustrations grace the pages, while spirited rhymes peak and trough at a frenetic pace. The Truth Pixie arms children with a workable philosophy on life. It’s not happy ever after – it’s sometimes happy and sometimes hard and that’s OK. Read out-loud in one sitting. [HR]

READ ALSO: *The Truth Pixie* by Matt Haig and Chris Mould



PAULA HARRISON illustrated by JENNY LØVLIE
KITTY AND THE MOONLIGHT RESCUE

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 128PP £5.99 ISBN 9780192771650

This book has the reader tag along with Kitty and her new cat-pals as she becomes a somewhat unwilling superhero. The story has a good pace to keep readers interested in what happens next. The chapter layout means it can be spaced out over a few bedtimes or all in one go for maximum impact! The illustrations set the mood of the night-time adventure and bring the reader along for the ride. [ANiD]

READ ALSO: *Kitty and the Tiger Treasure* by Paula Harrison and Jenny Løvlie



SHANE HEGARTY illustrated by BEN MANTLE
BOOT: SMALL ROBOT BIG ADVENTURE

HODDER CHILDREN’S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 240PP £6.99 ISBN 9781444949360

A small robot called Boot awakens in a scrapyard with no idea how he got there. He only has a few memories: he knows Beth is his owner and he was loved and this gives him the courage to try and find his way home. This book has some great humour and excitement. It’s a beautiful story accompanied throughout by impressive illustrations that together capture your heart. The beginning of a great new series from Irish author Shane Hegarty. [FM]

READ ALSO: *Planet Omar: Accidental Trouble Magnet* by Zanib Mian and Nasaya Mafaridik



SOPHY HENN
BAD NANA: ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN’S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 192PP £8.99 ISBN 9780008268091

The 7¼-year-old Jeanie returns for another hilarious adventure with Bad Nana. The town fair is on and everyone is busy entering competitions. Bad Nana is officially there to mind Jeanie and her annoying brother, Jack. However, she has her sharp eyes on more than just her grandchildren and is determined to right any injustices in her own special way. Skilfully exploring fairness, competitiveness and the positive bond between child and grandparent, this vibrantly illustrated book is crammed with riotous humour and fun. [NMacC]

READ ALSO: *Bad Nana: Older not Wiser* by Sophy Henn



POLLY HO-YEN illustrated by BINNY TALIB
TWO SIDES

STRIPE PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 96PP £7.99 ISBN 9781788950626

This beautiful story is about two girls, Lulu and Lenka, and the power of friendship. The girls are inseparable until they have a fight. Lulu and Lenka are different, but this is what makes their friendship unique. This heartwarming story is brought to life by spectacular illustrations that will be cherished by any child. The language is very accessible, and the story is written from both children's points of view, explaining the emotions they experience as their friendship becomes stronger than ever. [AK]

READ ALSO: *Little Rabbit's Big Surprise* by Swapna Haddow and Alison Friend



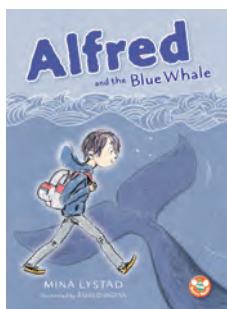
OLIVER JEFFERS
THE FATE OF FAUSTO

EDITOR'S CHOICE

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 96PP £16.99 ISBN 9780008357917

Fausto wants to own everything he sees: the flowers, the trees, the mountains and the sea. Young readers will be drawn to Fausto's silly temper tantrums, but this darkly comic tale will have an enduring depth and resonance for its readers as they age and begin to see Fausto's greed and hubris in the world around them. Less richly detailed than many of Jeffers's other works, but this restraint is used to great effect as the illustrations emphasise scale, status, obsolescence and wisdom. [FS]

READ ALSO: *The Last Tree* by Emily Haworth-Booth; *The Long Island* by Drew Beckmeyer

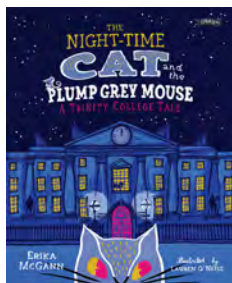


MINA LYSTAD illustrated by ÅSHILD IRGENS
ALFRED AND THE BLUE WHALE

WACKY BEE BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 40PP £6.99 ISBN 9781999903312

Alfred is scared of many things, especially of talking in front of people. When he has to speak to his class about blue whales he just wants to hide. Many children will relate to this story and will appreciate its gentle build up to a positive conclusion. Young readers will welcome the clear type and straightforward yet effective sentences. These are complemented by colour illustrations that capture the range of emotions Alfred goes through. The book also concludes with a blue whale fact list. [NMacC]

READ ALSO: *A Boy Called Bat* by Elana K. Arnold and Charles Santos



ERIKA MCGANN illustrated by LAUREN O'NEILL
THE NIGHT-TIME CAT AND THE PLUMP, GREY MOUSE: A TRINITY COLLEGE TALE

THE O'BRIEN PRESS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP €14.99 ISBN 9781847179456

A colourful romp through the grounds of Trinity College. Follow hungry cat Pangur Bán as she chases her supper, a 'grey and plump and oh so juicy' mouse. Travelling through the famous landmarks of the college, she encounters ghosts from throughout its long history. With eye-catching illustrations and simple text, the book serves as a gentle introduction to one of Dublin's most prominent institutions and some of our most celebrated literary figures. [KR]

READ ALSO: *A Dublin Fairytale* by Nicola Colton; *My Little Album of Dublin* by Juliette Saumande and Tarsila Krüse



ERIKA MCGANN illustrated by VINCE REID
**CASS AND THE BUBBLE STREET GANG:
 SCAVENGER HUNT** 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS (PBK) 224PP €7.99 ISBN 9781788490931

Cass and the Bubble Street Gang return for their fourth adventure. She instigates Operation Stolen Locket when Camilla, a Shady Oaks nursing-home resident, loses her special golden locket. Meanwhile, the gang compete at the pumpkin festival organised by Mr McCall's boyfriend Graham. When the disappearance of a vital weathervane costs them first place, Operation Scavenger Hunt is launched. Lively Cass, a self-confessed genius detective, narrates throughout. A humorous, good-natured tale enhanced by cleverly chosen illustrations and lashings of scavenger-hunt clues to solve. [HP]

READ ALSO: *The Bubble Street Gang: The Clubhouse Mystery* by Erika McGann and Vince Reid



MUIREANN NÍ CHÍOBHÁJN maisithe ag PADDY DONNELLY
SCÚNC AGUS SMÚIRÍN 🍀

FUTA FATA MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2019 (CRUA) 32LCH €10.95 ISBN 9781910945476

Scéal céadfaíoch atá i *Scúnc agus Smúirín* a léiríonn an cion atá ag an bpríomhcharachtar ar bholadh speisialta an teidí is ansa leis. Tugann an boladh sólas agus compord dó ach tar éis scathaimh sa mheaisn níocháin, tá an boladh athraithe ó bhonn! Ar aghaidh le Scúnc ag iarraidh teacht ar fhoirse bholadh uathúil Smúirín. Tá an-mhíoneolas sna léaráidí go háirithe ar aghaidheanna na gearachtar nuair a dhéanann siad iontas den bholadh bréan. Leagann an úsáid de chló difriúil béim ar raidhse mothúchán an príomhcharachtair. [CMD]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Uinseann Donn* le Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin agus Írisz Agócs

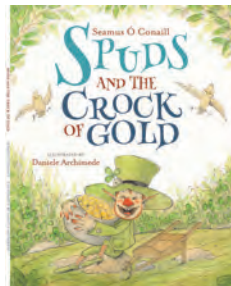


aithriste ag JOHN ÓG HIÚDAÍ NEIDÍ Ó COLLA maisithe ag
 KIM SHARKEY
MÓR AGUS MUILC 🍀

ÉABHLÓID 2019 (CRUA) 28LCH €12.00 ISBN 9780995611993

Scéal béaloidis ó Ghaoth Dobhair atá sa leabhar seo. Pléann an scéal teama teibí an bháis agus iarrachtaí éalú uaidh. Tugann Mór agus Muilc na cosa leo ag cur ceisteanna ar charactair éagsúla eile faoin mbás. Tá reacaireacht chiorclach in insint an scéil leis an léitheoir a mhealladh agus chun go rachaidh na ceisteanna móra i bhfeidhm ar an léitheoir ar libhéil éagsúla. Tá an-tuiscint ann do shuíomh an scéil agus tá an fharraige mar chúlbhrat ag gach eachtra a thiteann amach ó thús deireadh. [CMD]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Oileán na nDraoith* le Proinias Mac a'Bhaird agus Caomhán Ó Scoláí



SEAMUS Ó CONAILL illustrated by DANIELE ARCHIMEDE
SPUDS AND THE CROCK OF GOLD 🍀

GILL BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP €8.99 ISBN 9780717183777

On the first day of summer we are introduced to Spuds and his crock of gold. Quickly we discover that two things have gone very wrong for Spuds. First, while napping in the summer sun, his crock of gold was taken. Second, he can't stop sneezing when his beloved pet mouse is around. Spuds's wife, Rosie, comes up with a way to solve both of Spuds's problems. With the help of two little birds, Rosie finds Spuds's crock of gold and stops him from sneezing. This book has lots of clues and hidden details so make sure you keep an eye out! [ST]



JAYDE PERKIN
MUM'S JUMPER

BOOK ISLAND (Hbk) 2019 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781911496137

A young female protagonist recounts the painful story of the loss of her mother. She begins by relating flashes of memories from the time of her mum's passing before outlining the stages of grief as she experienced them. Detailed, stylised illustrations, heavily influenced by Matisse, accompany her narration and will appeal to adults and children. Poignant and thoughtful, this young girl's story features images of grief that may resonate with recently bereaved children or children who have friends that have recently suffered bereavement. [CMu]

READ ALSO: *Michael Rosen's Sad Book* by Michael Rosen and Quentin Blake

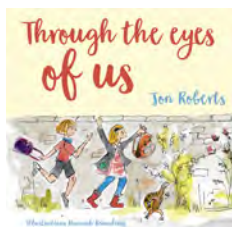


SIBÉAL POUNDER illustrated by JASON COCKCROFT
BAD MERMAIDS: ON THIN ICE 🍀

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 240PP £6.99 ISBN 9781408877166

In the chilly kingdom of Frostopia, a trio of mermaids, Beattie, Mimi and Zelda, have come to save a famous water witch, Maritza Mist. Unfortunately for the mermaids, two bad mermaids have escaped from prison and stolen Maritza's map, which leads to twelve objects that, when together, can create the most powerful water witch ever known! It's up to Beattie, Mimi and Zelda to come together and find the map and objects before the bad mermaids. Along the way they meet a band of trusty spies and helpful sea creatures. [ST]

READ ALSO: *Bad Mermaids* by Sibéal Pounder and Jason Cockcroft



JON ROBERTS illustrated by HANNAH ROUNDING
THROUGH THE EYES OF US

GRAFFEG 2019 (PBK) 36PP £7.99 ISBN 9781912654802

This book is a joy to read, brimming with fun throughout. It gently explains the world of two girls with autism, their similarities and particular differences. The illustrations spill out brightly onto the pages, showing the busy, hilly sensory world of someone with autism. The simplicity of the delivery means that children reading this can learn about autism while also having fun with the story. [ANiD]

READ ALSO: *Through the Eyes of Me* by Jon Roberts and Hannah Rounding



LIZZY STEWART
THE WAY TO TREASURE ISLAND

FRANCES LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (Hbk) 40PP £11.99 ISBN 9781786030245

Matilda and her dad are going on a treasure hunt, but how are they ever going to find the treasure if Dad keeps getting distracted and won't follow Matilda's map? This exuberant picturebook celebrates both the wonders that can be seen with serendipitous chance-taking and the need for some (literal) direction so one doesn't become lost. The riotously colourful cheerful illustrations, with some particularly lovely double-page spreads, and the playful exploration of personality differences make this a fun book to share. [JMcC]

READ ALSO: *Jupiter Juniper* by Lizzy Stewart



LOUIE STOWELL illustrated by **DAVIDE ORTU**
THE DRAGON IN THE LIBRARY

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 224PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788000260

Kit is used to being the average one in her group of friends – but that’s all about to change. A chance meeting with a librarian–wizard (best job ever!) reveals some unexpected magical gifts, and before she knows it, Kit is embroiled in a thrilling adventure to save the library, and the world. The story moves along quickly with lots of whimsical jokes about the nature of magic that keep the narrative light and entertaining to the very end. [JMCC]

READ ALSO: *Grindlebob’s Book of Unpleasant Goblins* by David Ashby



SEAN TAYLOR and **ALEX MORSS** illustrated by **CINYEE CHIU**
WINTER SLEEP: A HIBERNATION STORY

WORDS & PICTURES SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9780711242838

A young boy spends summer taking nature walks with his grandmother. As they explore, she teaches him about the life all around them. When the boy returns in winter the ground is hard, the air is quiet and the trees are bare. During this second trip, the boy learns that the animals are hibernating – passing the winter in a secret and hidden state. A beautiful and educational book that captures what can be learned when we spend time curiously exploring and observing our natural world. [FS]

READ ALSO: *Over and Under the Pond* by Kate Messner and Christopher Silas Neal; *Yucky Worms* by Vivian French and Jessica Ahlberg

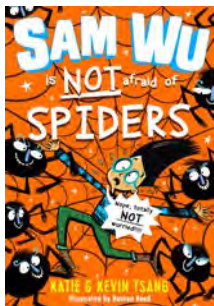


JAMES THORPE illustrated by **ANGUS MACKINNON**
THE BOY WHO KNEW NOTHING

TEMPLAR BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 48PP £7.99 ISBN 9781787411937

There’s no shame in not knowing something, and while this young boy knows nothing yet, he’s not loath to ask. Many individuals would have him believe that the pink long-necked toy he’s holding is a giraffe. Ever-curious and perseverant, he learns that sometimes even grown-ups don’t have the answers. Imagine that! Catchy rhymes make this book a joy to read out loud and psychedelic illustrations using muted tones and hot-pink highlights create a luscious visual treat. A new generation of fact-checkers ensues. [HR]

READ ALSO: *Iggy Peck, Architect* by Andrea Beatty and Dave Roberts



KATIE and **KEVIN TSANG** illustrated by **NATHAN REED**
SAM WU IS NOT AFRAID OF SPIDERS

EGMONT 2019 (PBK) 208PP £5.99 ISBN 9781405294287

This book follows Sam, his best friends and his younger sister as they try to find Tulip the Tarantula who is loose in the school. This is the fourth book in the series, but that didn’t impact my enjoyment. A fun story with cute illustrations – and jokes in Sam’s alliterations – that also teaches a positive lesson about how it’s alright to be afraid of things and the importance of overcoming one’s fears. [PT]

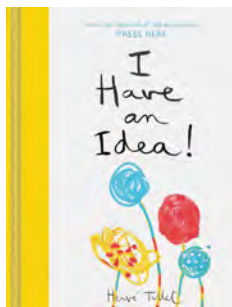
READ ALSO: *Sam Wu Is Not Afraid of the Dark* by Katie and Kevin Tsang and Nathan Reed

HERVÉ TULLET I HAVE AN IDEA!

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 88PP £12.99 ISBN 9781452178585

Where do ideas come from? What are they for? And how do we 'grow' them? In his now-classic interactive style, Tullet uses his pages to draw out and narrate the life cycle of ideas. This colourful, simple and accessible book cleverly illustrates the conditions required for creative thinking. Teaching that ideas are powerful, fun, elusive and worth working for, this book helps us to understand how to cultivate and protect the special conditions needed for really good ideas. [FS]

READ ALSO: *Say ZOOP!* and *Mix it Up* and *Art Workshops for Children* by Hervé Tullet

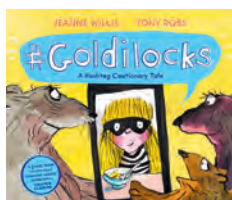


JEANNETTE WILLIS illustrated by TONY ROSS #GOLDILOCKS

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781783447176

This modern-day retelling of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* for the social media generation warns against the negative impact of (over) sharing and seeking validation from online likes and hits. Ross's familiar and funny illustrations give it a classic feel. This title is a good start to begin the necessary conversation with younger readers about the dangers of social media. [ACh]

READ ALSO: *Chicken Clickin'* by Jeanette Willis and Tony Ross



IT'S OFFICIAL
PLASTIC SUCKS!

A ONE-STOP GUIDE TO HELP YOU
TAKE ACTION NOW, CUT DOWN ON YOUR
PLASTIC USE AND HELP SAVE THE PLANET

JOIN DOUGIE POYNTER
ON A MISSION TO
KICK PLASTIC TO THE KERS,
ONCE AND FOR ALL!





LORENA ALVAREZ **EDITOR'S CHOICE**
HICOTEA

NOBROW 2019 (HBK) £14.99 64PP ISBN 9781910620342

Sandy is still struggling to fit in and be just like her friends, and her new adventure is an exploration of the impact we have on the world around us and the nature of our human curiosity about the world. Alvarez's artwork is luminous and stunning, full of detail, evocative and engaging. Just as unsettling and delightful as its predecessor, Lorena Alvarez's new instalment in the Nightlights series is as gorgeous as it is imaginative. [KC]

READ ALSO: *A Mouse Called Julian* by Joe Todd-Stanton

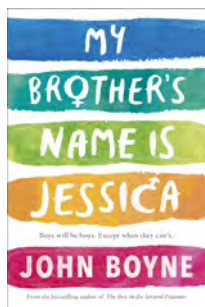


JASBINDER BILAN
ASHA AND THE SPIRIT BIRD

CHICKEN HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 276PP £6.99 ISBN 9781911490197

A warm and heartfelt tale of a girl who travels across the Himalayas to search for her father. When Asha discovers that her papa has not sent any money in months and her family might lose their farm, she sets out on a journey to find him. Along with best friend Jeevan and a bird that Asha is certain is the spirit of her beloved Nanijee, they find adventure, hardship, courage and hope as they travel to bring Papa back home. [LR]

READ ALSO: *The Midnight Hour* by Benjamin Read



JOHN BOYNE
MY BROTHER'S NAME IS JESSICA

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE (PUFFIN) 2019 (PBK) 247PP £11.99 ISBN 9780241376157

The story of Jason's transition to Jessica, seen through the eyes of his brother Sam, may prove to be a good conversation starter for younger readers wanting to understand the difficulties transgender people face. The writing style works well for the 9–11 age group but the novel struggles with its tone and characters. It can be a frustrating read at times, but it ultimately feels like it means well. A flawed take on a difficult topic, it nonetheless contains some touching moments. [SGI]

READ ALSO: *George* by Alex Gino

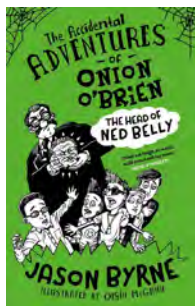


CATHERINE BRUTON **EDITOR'S CHOICE**
NO BALLET SHOES IN SYRIA

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788004503

Aya is a Syrian asylum seeker and a caretaker to her baby brother and traumatised mother. When she happens upon a ballet class in a Manchester community centre, Aya is finally allowed to be a dancer again, finding healing through the pursuit of her dream. Bruton deliberately blends the classic with the modern, and the result is a novel that young readers will stay up all night to finish, smiling through their tears. An unforgettable celebration of art, community and the kindness of strangers. [RSn]

READ ALSO: *A Dangerous Crossing* by Jane Mitchell



JASON BYRNE illustrated by OISÍN MCGANN
THE ACCIDENTAL ADVENTURES OF ONION O'BRIEN: THE HEAD OF NED BELLY 🍀

GILL BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 224PP £12.99 ISBN 9780717179008

Onion O'Brien and the rest of his gang are neck deep in a mystery featuring hidden gold, the misdeeds of Oliver Cromwell and a brilliant thief, all of which is kicked off by the discovery of a head sans a body! Jason Byrne has brought back the Five O's for another fun and twisty adventure and they remain a delightful gang to hang out with. Filled with local characters and Oisín McGann's wonderful illustrations, this is one sequel to get a head of! [CL]

READ ALSO: *Fing* by David Walliams



STEVE COLE illustrated by ORIOL VIDAL
TIN BOY

BARRINGTON STOKES SEPT 2019 (PBK) 115PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781128725

Set amid the dangerous illegal tin mines of Indonesia, this book has the laudable, if occasionally preachy, aim of educating Western readers about the human cost of their cheap electronic goods. When Tono survives an accident in an underwater trench, an unlikely ally convinces him to hire himself out as Tin Boy, a good luck charm for others who risk their lives in the mines. Cole's prose is vivid and visceral, with nuanced characterisation and evocative descriptions that make a global issue feel deeply personal. [KH]

READ ALSO: *Wonderstruck* by Brian Selznick



EINOI COLFER
THE FOWL TWINS 🍀

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS NOV 2019 (HBK) 432PP £14.99 ISBN 9780008324810

Meet Myles and Beckett Fowl, who are about to dive into a world of trouble.

Tiny trolls, interrogating nuns and scheming dukes are just some of the treats awaiting both new and veteran fans. The novel is laugh-out-loud funny and filled with the same inventiveness that made the earlier Fowl books a hit. The great characters and fast pace make it easy to recommend for young readers who love adventure and magic. This book is many things, but it is far from fowl. [SGi]

READ ALSO: Knights of the Borrowed Dark series by Dave Rudden



TIM COLLINS maisithe ag ANDREW PINDER
IS MISE MANCHÁN MAXIMUS 🍀

AN GÚM MEÁN FÓMHAI 2019 (BOG) 194LCH €7.50 ISBN 9781857919509

Dialann an ghaiscigh – nó ar a laghad ar bith, dialann an éilitheora – atá sa leabhar seo! Léiríonn an scéal nach gcruthaítear mar a chéile gach aon ghaiscíoch, ach go bhfuil ról le himirt ag an ngaiscíoch is neamhdhóchúla fiú amháin in am na hanachaine. Foilsítear saol gasúr uasal de chuid na Sean-Róimhe atá ar thairseach a aibíochta agus a dtéann sé dian air ualach an ionchais (nó ualach ar bith eile) a iompar. Trí ghreann nua-aimseartha a thaitneoidh le léitheoirí óga, tugtar gnéithe de shaol sin na Sean-Róimhe chun solais. [LNiC]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Dónall Dána* le Francesca Simon, Máirín Ní Ghadhra agus Tony Ross



FRANK COTTRELL-BOYCE illustrated by **STEVE LENTON**
RUNAWAY ROBOT

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 272PP £12.99 ISBN 9781509851775

Cottrell-Boyce's new book is set in a world run by artificial intelligence and tells the story of Alfie, a young boy who can't clearly remember the accident where he lost his hand. As he tries to adjust to his new bionic prosthetic hand, a number of chance encounters lead to him meeting Eric, a large robot who is missing a leg. This is another heartwarming, original and funny story from Cottrell-Boyce, full of twists that wrap up in a neat and satisfying way in the end. [RdeB]

READ ALSO: *The Wild Robot Escapes* by Peter Brown



JUDI CURTIN
LILY AT LISSADELL 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 288PP €12.99 ISBN 9781788491280

In 1913 County Sligo, thirteen-year-old Kate has to leave school and go into service to help with the family finances. She starts working as a housemaid in Lissadell for the glamorous Gore-Booths and learns more about two very different worlds through her new acquaintances. Another housemaid, the sullen Nellie, makes life difficult for her at first, while carefree Maeve, daughter of the mysterious Countess Markievicz, decides to paint Kate's portrait. A tale that will appeal to fans of this prolific author. [CNiL]

READ ALSO: *The Secret of the Ruby Ring* by Yvonne MacGrory

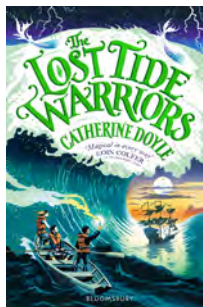


BEN DAVIS illustrated by **JULIA CHRISTIANS**
WHAT'S THAT IN DOG YEARS?

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2019 (PBK) 304PP €6.99 ISBN 9780192749215

Ben Davis's new book with illustrator Julia Christians tells the story of George, a young boy whose best friend is Gizmo the dog. When a trip to the vet confirms George's fear that Gizmo hasn't long left on the planet, the boy creates a bucket list for Gizmo and works hard to make sure the dog has the time of his life – even if Gizmo isn't always the ideal participant. Poignant yet funny, this sensitively told and beautiful tale will resonate with anyone who has ever loved a pet. [RdeB]

READ ALSO: *The Land of Roar* by Jenny McLachlan



CATHERINE DOYLE
THE LOST TIDE WARRIORS 🍀

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 336PP €6.99 ISBN 9781408896907

This sequel to the highly acclaimed *The Storm Keeper's Island* features young Fionn Boyle just six months into being Storm Keeper of Arranmore, when Soulstalkers arrive on the island, intent on raising their awful leader, Morrigan. Fionn must defeat them by joining forces with Dagda's army of merrows, helped by his friends Shelby and Sam. A gripping adventure, brimming with magic and mythological references, which will be adored by fans of the first book. [PNiC]

READ ALSO: *Wildspark* by Vashti Hardy



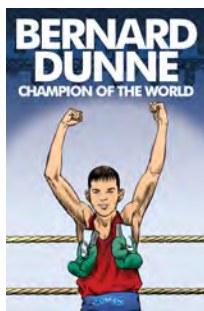
HELENA DUGGAN

A PLACE CALLED PERFECT: THE BATTLE FOR PERFECT

USBORNE PUBLISHING SEPT 2019 (PBK) 352PP £6.99 ISBN 9781474964371

This is the culmination of the Place Called Perfect series. Things have quietened down in the town that used to be Perfect and life rumbles on. But stories of five missing scientists begin to reach Violet and her best friend Boy. When they start to investigate their disappearance, they discover something odd in the forest outside Town ... Twists and turns and one unexpectedly overheard conversation later and suddenly it all falls to Violet and Boy to save their town. A rip-roaring adventure. [DO'R]

READ ALSO: *Running on the Roof of the World* by Jess Butterworth



BERNARD DUNNE

BERNARD DUNNE: CHAMPION OF THE WORLD

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 160PP €9.99 ISBN 9781847179777

Autobiographies for kids? What a great idea! In this one, Bernard Dunne charts his rise from a six-year-old kid in Neilstown, through the ranks of amateur boxing and into the professional arena, culminating in his victory against Ricardo Cordoba, to emerge as world champion. Along the way, he chronicles his highs and lows and the lessons victory and defeat have taught him. With cream paper and a clean font, this title will appeal to reluctant and even dyslexic readers, but especially sporting or boxing enthusiasts. [KF]

READ ALSO: *Gordon's Game* by Gordon D'Arcy, Paul Howard and Alan Nolan



STEWART FOSTER CHECK MATES

SIMON & SCHUSTER 2019 (PBK) 352PP £6.99 ISBN 9781471172236

The constraints that school places on you when you have ADHD make staying out of trouble a daily challenge. On top of that, Felix and his family are grieving the death of his beloved grandmother while trying to deal with the aftermath of the collapse of his dad's business. Despite his protestations, Felix finds himself increasingly drawn into the world of chess through the unorthodox teaching methods of his German grandfather. At times funny and moving, this story may well provide inspiration for others who struggle to concentrate. [JoeK]

READ ALSO: *The Longest Night of Charlie Noon* by Christopher Edge



EMILY GALE maisithe ag JOËLLE DREIDEMY

PÁDRAIGÍN PHLÉASCACH: RAIC AGUS RIBÍNÍ

AN GÚM MEÁN FÓMHAIR 2019 (BOG) 126LCH €7.00 ISBN 9781857919486

Is ceapadóir í Pádraigín a bhfuil déantúis nua i gcónaí á gcumadh aici. Cabhraíonn sí lena Daid a mbíonn spiaireacht idir lámha aige. Bíonn cúnamh á fháil ag Pádraigín óna madra dílis Einstein. Déanann an chuid seo den tsraith cur síos ar an méid a thiteann amach do Phádraigín nuair a thugtar spól scannáin di ar a bhfuil eolas rúnda. Cruthaítear na léaráidí sa leabhar mar úrscéal grafach. Tá an-ghreann le fáil sa leabhar seo ach bíonn an scéal ag déileáil le téamaí dáiríre. [BNÍD]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *An Biliúanaí Beag* le David Walliams, Máirín Ní Mhárta agus Tony Ross

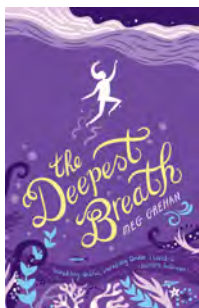


BRIAN GALLAGHER **RESISTANCE** 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 272PP €8.99 ISBN 9781788490801

Cork girl Rachael Clarke lives with her aunt under a new name, Roisin Tierney, fearful of the repercussions of being a Jew in Nazi-occupied Ireland. With her parents in different work camps, Rachel is distrustful of everyone. However, when she discovers her schoolfriends play a part in the Irish resistance, Roisin's fear is replaced with nervous bravery. Perhaps no one would suspect children of working for the Resistance, or even the Nazis, so have Roisin and her pals underestimated the danger they face? [OH]

READ ALSO: *Mollie on the March* by Anna Carey

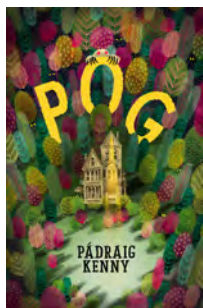


MEG GREHAN **THE DEEPEST BREATH** 🍀

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 180PP €9.00 ISBN 9781912417186

Curious eleven-year-old Stevie is enamoured with the sea and spends much of her time engrossed in reading or delighting in her mother's company. When she begins to develop unfamiliar feelings for classmate Chloe, Stevie finds herself in a crisis, unsure of her identity and even her cherished relationship with her mother. Following her compelling YA debut, Grehan now brings the verse novel to a middle-grade audience. Stevie's voice is authentic and endearing, and her relationships are tenderly drawn. A moving journey of self-exploration and self-acceptance. [ED]

READ ALSO: *Better Nate Than Never* by Tim Federle



PÁDRAIG KENNY **POG** 🍀 **EDITOR'S CHOICE**

CHICKEN HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 280PP €6.99 ISBN 9781911490395

David and Penny have started life afresh after a family tragedy; but their new beginning isn't without its ties to the past. Moving from London to their mother's childhood home in an unusual forest, they find their neighbours are of the magical variety – and not all of them are good. Thankfully, they meet Pog Lumpkin, one of the furry little First Folk and a protective friend. A heartfelt story of loss, loneliness and renewal, populated with tenderly written characters and a healthy dose of hope. [LH]

READ ALSO: *Tin* by Pádraig Kenny



GABRIELLE KENT illustrated by REX CROWLE and Luke Newell **KNIGHTS AND BIKES: REBEL BICYCLE CLUB** 🍀

KNIGHTS OF 2019 (PBK) 227PP €7.99 ISBN 9781999642549

If you like books that keep you on the edge of your seat while making you laugh out loud, you'll love every mad minute of this series (based on the video game of the same name). Nessa and Demelza join forces with the Severed Head of an Ancient Cornish Knight and set off on a quest to return the mysterious Cup of Pendragon to its rightful owner. This involves plenty of midnight bicycling, exploring deserted fairgrounds and battling mythical creatures. Brilliant – and the illustrations are cool too! [AG]

READ ALSO: *Knights and Bikes* by Gabrielle Kent, Rex Crowle and Luke Newell



CELINE KIERNAN

THE WILD MAGIC TRILOGY: THE LITTLE GREY GIRL 🍀

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 224PP ISBN 9781406373929

This latest instalment in the *Wild Magic* series follows Mup and her family as they move into her grandmother's cottage in Witches Borough. But Mup soon realises that all is not what it seems, and she'll have to once again be brave to save those she loves. With a tense, dark atmosphere, Celine Kiernan has written a fantastic second book, well-paced and tightly plotted, and set up the third to conclude that rare thing: a satisfying trilogy. [HC]

READ ALSO: *The Eye of the North* by Sinead O'Hart

GERALD KILLINGWORTH

THE DEAD WORLD OF LANTHORNE GHULES

PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 288PP £7.99 ISBN 9781782692362

A quirky, dark read about sibling rivalry, pen pals and cannibalism, where Edwin must enter the titular Dead World to rescue his baby sister from the clutches of Lanthorne's nefarious Aunt Necra. With shades of *Labyrinth* and *The Melancholy Death of Oyster Boy*, this book is sure to please young readers with a taste for the safely macabre. [DS]

READ ALSO: *Uncle Montague's Tales of Terror* by Chris Priestley**JEFF KINNEY aistriú ag MÁIRÍN NÍ CON IOMAIRÉ**
DIALANN DÚRADÁIN: LEADAÍ NA LEISCE 🍀

FUTA FATA 2019 (CRUA) 214LCH €9.95 ISBN 9781910945353

Ba bhreá le Greg Heffley a shamhradh a chaitheamh os comhair scáileáin ach níl a mhamaí sásta. Tá samhradh iomlán éagsúil beartaithe aici dó. An mbeidh an bua ag mamaí nó ag Greg? Tá pictiúir áille ar gach leathanach den leabhar a chabhraíonn go mór le beocht agus greann a chruthú. Thaitneodh an leabhar seo go mór le páistí i nGaelscoileanna ag am D.E.A.R ach d'fhéadfadh múinteoir an leabhar a úsáid ina rang chun grá don teanga agus spraoi sa teanga a neartú i measc na bpáistí. [MNicanB]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Dialann Dúradáin: Roderick Abú* le Jeff Kinney agus Máirín Ní Mháirta

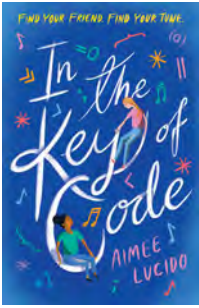
GILL LEWIS

EAGLE WARRIOR

BARRINGTON STOKE 2019 (PBK) 104PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781128749

Bobbie loves her life in the Scottish Highlands, tending her lambs and birdwatching with her granny, but her uncle wants to move her to a fancy school in the city. When she rescues an eagle from a neighbouring gamekeeper threatening local wildlife, she finds that the eagle's need for freedom of movement mirrors her own. This is a simple story that uses straightforward, easily comprehensible language to convey complex emotions and an important message about animal welfare and conservation. [KH]

READ ALSO: *Squirm* by Carl Hiaasen

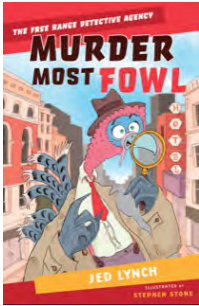


AIMEE LUCIDO
IN THE KEY OF CODE

WALKER BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 408PP €6.99 ISBN 9781406389333

Written through poetry, this book will immerse readers fully in Emmy’s world as she learns to express herself through music and coding. Emmy discovers the importance of being true to yourself and how she belongs. The musicality of this book keeps the reader wanting more, feeling each emotion with Emmy as she finds her place in the world. Friendship and trust are huge themes, expressed beautifully through each stanza of poetry. This book is ideal for pre-teens learning to find their place in the world. [E-LM]

READ ALSO: *Moonrise* by Sarah Crossan



JED LYNCH
THE FREE RANGE DETECTIVE AGENCY: MURDER MOST FOWL

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 120PP €9.00 ISBN 9781912417414

Seamus is a turkey, but more importantly he’s also a private detective. Business is slow and times are tough. When a famous cat lounge singer walks through his door, things start looking up ... but maybe she’s too good to be true. Expect lots of word play, animal puns and dodgy characters getting murdered. This charming noir mash-up shouldn’t work, but Lynch’s evident love for the genre, and his respectful mastery of its tropes, ensure that readers will be looking forward to Seamus’s next case. [RS]

READ ALSO: *Timmy Failure: It’s the End When I Say It’s the End* by Stephan Pastis



KAREN MCCOMBIE
LITTLE BIRD FLIES

NOSY CROW 2019 (PBK) 244PP €6.99 ISBN 9780857639103

‘They say I came too soon, born in a bruising storm,’ Little Bird tells us, explaining an injury that still marks her body but can’t stifle her yearning for adventure. Living on a small Scottish island in the nineteenth century, her life is mostly dull until the arrival of a new laird shakes things up – and not for the better. The power a landlord wields in a small village will resonate with Irish readers, and this atmospheric book is a page-turner with a memorable heroine. [CH]

READ ALSO: *The Clockwork Crow* by Catherine Fisher



GILLIAN MCDUNN
CATERPILLAR SUMMER

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN’S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 304PP €6.99 ISBN 9781526606266

Cat and Chicken’s mum works hard writing children’s books, based on the children, to provide for them after their father’s death. When her summer childcare arrangements break down, she leaves the two children with her parents, from whom she’s been estranged since her marriage to their father. This absorbing, unsentimental account of recognition and reconciliation looks at family, friendship and independence from a whole series of angles, an engaging lightness of touch belying its deep themes and thoughtfulness. [AP]

READ ALSO: *What Lexie Did* by Emma Shevah



OISÍN MCGANN

RACE THE ATLANTIC WIND 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 272PP €8.99 ISBN 9781788491013

When Maggie finds out why everyone is gathering in Newfoundland, she is filled with excitement. Aviators from all over have come to attempt the first transatlantic flight. As they come to terms with the unpredictable weather conditions and learn the new techniques required for the long flight, Maggie will stop at almost nothing to get to see them fly. A fast-paced and thrilling book, perfect for anyone interested in history and adventure. [MBT]

READ ALSO: *The Great Atlantic Air Race* by Gavin Will



BANNIE MCPARTLIN

THE FEARLESS FIVE 🍀

PICCADILLY PRESS 2019 (PBK) 368PP €6.99 ISBN 9781848128033

June 1990. With Ireland gripped by World Cup fever, Jeremy, Johnny J, Walker, Sumo and Charlie are set to have the summer of their lives before they start secondary school. But Johnny J's mam is really ill, so Jeremy comes up with a crazy scheme to get her to America to cure her, and it might just include a robbery. What could possibly go wrong? A madcap adventure full of tears and laughter and the power of friendship. [MBT]

READ ALSO: *Beatrix the Bold and the Curse of the Wobblers* by Simon Mockler



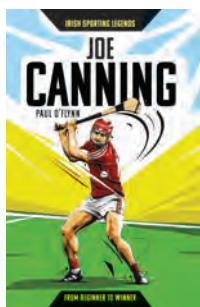
ÁINE NÍ GHLINN

BOSCADÁN 🍀

COIS LIFE 2019 (BOG) 85LCH €8.00 ISBN 9781912133710

Tar éis di teacht ar bhosca cairtchláir, tugann Aoife, príomhcharacthar an téacs seo, faoi róbó cairtchláir a thógáil. Tagann an róbó, a dtugann sí Boscadán air, chun beatha, rud a chuireann sceon ar thuismitheoirí Aoife ar an gcéad dul síos. Ina dhiaidh, titeann go leor eachtraí amach agus Boscadán ag iarraidh rudaí briste timpeall an tí a dheisiú. Ach an mbeidh muinín ag thuismitheoirí Aoife as? Bainfidh páistí os cionn naoi mbliana d'aois taitneamh as an leabhar seo, go háirithe le tacaíocht léitheoireachta óna dtuismitheoirí. [SMacR]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Morf* le hOrna Ní Choileáin



PAUL O'FLYNN

IRISH SPORTING LEGENDS: JOE CANNING 🍀

GILL BOOKS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 176PP €8.99 ISBN 9780717185832

Just what does it take to become an Irish sporting legend? Paul O'Flynn shows us as he charts Joe Canning's rise from a young hurler in school to winning the greatest prize in hurling in 2017. The book recounts Joe's life with a charm and wit that is sure to grab the attention of even the most reluctant readers. It's a story of success that is peppered with setbacks, but Joe shows the determination and skill needed to become an Irish sporting legend. [TM]

READ ALSO: *Irish Sporting Legends: Bernard Brogan* by Paul O'Flynn

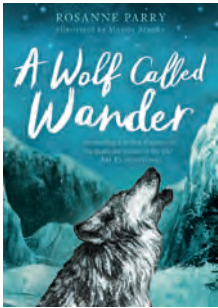


SINEAD O'HART illustrated by **SARA MULVANNY**
THE STAR-SPUN WEB 🍀

STRIPES PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 384PP £6.99 ISBN 9781788950220

This is an excellent tale of mystery and adventure by Irish author Sinead O'Hart. Orphaned Tess de Souza is removed from Ackerbee's Home for Lost Foundlings by Mr Cleat – but who is he, and what does he know about her past? O'Hart's storytelling weaves an enchantment from the very first page with a thrilling plot, an outstanding heroine and, of course, Violet, the pet tarantula. Perfect for fans of mystery and magic. Highly recommended. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *A Pinch of Magic* by Michelle Harrison



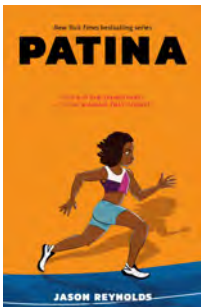
ROSANNE PARRY illustrated by **MÓNICA ARMIÑO**
A WOLF CALLED WANDER

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 256PP £6.99 ISBN 9781783447909

Swift's pack live undisturbed in the mountains until the terrible day when strange wolves attack. Alone, Swift must decide if he should stay in the land he knows or search the unknown for a new home. His quest across a harsh and beautiful landscape has the ring of myth, beautifully illustrated by Mónica Armiño.

Inspired by the true story of a wolf named Journey, this magical, lyrical story of nature and family is as enchanting and mysterious as the wolves who range at its heart. [MS]

READ ALSO: *Pax* by Sara Pennypacker and Jon Klassen



JASON REYNOLDS
PATINA

KNIGHTS OF 2019 (PBK) 256PP £6.99 ISBN 9781999642556

Cared for by loving godparents since her father's sudden death and her mother's incapacitation through diabetes, twelve-year-old Patina still carries too much of the mental load for her younger sister Maddy. But learning teamwork through her out-of-school track relay team is her release and her salvation. Realistic, unsentimental, funny and determinedly upbeat, this book is a hymn to resilience and a gift for anyone who loves to run. [AP]

READ ALSO: *Ella on the Outside* by Cath Howe



CHRIS RIDDELL
THE CLOUD HORSE CHRONICLES:
GUARDIANS OF MAGIC

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 334PP £12.99 ISBN 9781447277996

In the Kingdom of Thynne, fairy tales don't have happy endings and magic is forbidden. This means it is dangerous to Zam, Phoebe and Bathsheba – but they are the ones being called on to protect it against those who would use it for their own ends. Chris Riddell's imaginative prose is matched only by his glorious two-colour illustrations, which bring his characters and their surroundings effortlessly to life. Exhilarating and original, this marks the beginning of an intriguing new fantasy trilogy. [ABu]

READ ALSO: *Warriors: Lost Stars* by Erin Hunter



DANNY RURLANDER
SPYLARK

CHICKEN HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 289PP £6.99 ISBN 9781911490708

Following an accident that has left him with a limp, young Tom Hopkins takes refuge in his aunt's shed to build drones. Exploring his local Lake District from the air, he discovers an assassination plot, but can he stop the terrorists in time? Full of action, this well-written and expertly plotted thriller is a celebration of the natural world and friendship, but most of all, it's a good old-fashioned adventure, which reminded me of the Blyton mysteries I loved as a kid. Brilliant! [KF]

READ ALSO: *Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs



EIMEAR RYAN
GREAT IRISH SPORT STARS: CORA STAUNTON 🇮🇪

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 192PP €8.99 ISBN 9781788491051

Eimear Ryan tells the story of how a football-mad girl became one of the great Irish sport stars. Cora Staunton has won four All-Irelands with Mayo and has played three other codes of football at senior level. From making her debut for the Mayo senior team at thirteen, to playing in an All-Ireland as a teenager, showing the difficulties facing a female sport star and tragedy in her family life, this book will be truly inspirational to all who read it. [TM]

READ ALSO: *Bright Sparks* by Owen O'Doherty

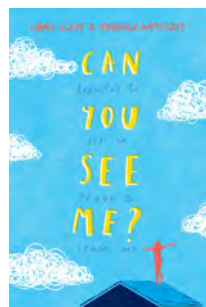


ANNET SCHAAP
LAMPIE AND THE CHILDREN OF THE SEA

PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 336PP £12.99 ISBN 9781782692188

As the lighthouse keeper's daughter, Lampie must light the lanterns to warn ships away from the rocks. But one night the lantern goes out and a ship is wrecked. Disgraced and sent to work in the Admiral's Black House, Lampie quickly finds herself caught up in a mystery of pirates and mermaids. Part fairy tale, part adventure story, Annet Schaap's narrative is magical, imaginative and very inventive. Lampie is a wonderful character, always compelling, drawing the reader into her world effortlessly. [MS]

READ ALSO: *Across the Bright Sea* by Lauren Wolk



LIBBY SCOTT and REBECCA WESTCOTT
CAN YOU SEE ME?

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 368PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407195674

Another one for fans of *Wonder* and *Auggie and Me*, about standing out when you're expected to just fit in. Tally has autism, but she knows it can make her friends and family uncomfortable, so she hides it as much as possible. But sometimes it just bubbles over – she just can't help being who she is. Part real-life diary entries from eleven-year-old Libby and part novel, this moving story will change the way you think about the world and everyone in it. [LC]

READ ALSO: *The Goldfish Boy* by Lisa Thompson

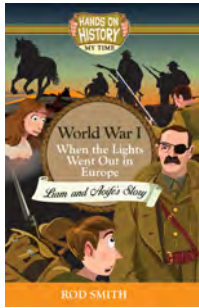


DAN SMITH
SHE WOLF

CHICKEN HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 289PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910655931

An exciting and immediate adventure story with strong female protagonists, *She Wolf* deftly interweaves a fast-paced, uncompromising narrative of escape and survival with the language and lore of the Norse sagas. Challenging and thoughtful, this book will appeal to readers who enjoy Ursula K. Le Guin and Rosemary Sutcliff and will delight those who enjoy immersing themselves in the language and customs of mythology without once taking their eyes off the enemy. [AP]

READ ALSO: *A Darkness of Dragons* by S.A. Patrick



ROD SMITH
WORLD WAR I: WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT IN EUROPE, LIAM AND AOIFE'S STORY 🌱

POOLBEG PRESS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 101PP ISBN 9781781997789

Recovering in hospital after his first adventure, Liam once again slips back into the pages of Irish history. This time Liam and his sister, Aoife, experience the horrors facing Irish soldiers during World War I. With the help of old and new friends, who actually fought in the Great War, they survive to have more adventures in the future. The siblings also learn the importance of context and being informed before jumping to conclusions. This book is a thrilling exploration of Irish history for budding historians. [TM]

READ ALSO: *Faraway Home* by Marilyn Taylor



THOMAS TAYLOR
MALAMANDER

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 304PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406386288

Herbie Lemon is the Lost-and-Founder at an unusual hotel in an eerie seaside town.

This strange town is also home to stories of a legendary creature called the Malamander, unusual beings such as the mechanical mermonkey and just a little bit of magic. When Vi suddenly arrives looking for her lost parents, all of these ingredients combine and we find there's adventure to be had and mysteries to be solved, and who better to help with all of this than Herbie the Lost-and-Founder! [ET]

READ ALSO: *The Last Chance Hotel* by Nicki Thornton



LISA THOMPSON
OWEN AND THE SOLDIER

BARRINGTON STOKE 2019 (PBK) 96PP £6.99 ISBN 9781781128657

Owen just wants someone to listen to him. Things are tough for him and his mum, as his dad isn't around anymore. So each day he goes to the park to share his thoughts with the crumbling, forgotten statue of a soldier. When Owen learns that the monument is to be torn down, he must summon all of his courage to make a stand. A moving testament to the power of poetry and community. [JoeK]

READ ALSO: *The Good Thieves* by Katherine Rundell



ALEXANDER UTIN
TYNA OF THE LAKE

NOBROW 2019 (HBK) 72PP £12.99 ISBN 9781910620519

The prospect of underwater slavery, dangerous sea creatures and a chance meeting that might change the life of two young people forever – this is the latest tale from Gamayun, the human-faced bird from Russian folklore and oral culture who can see the future. Utkin's artwork is visually stunning, using a palette of striking primary colours that matches the boldness of his narrative perfectly. Infusing new life into a traditional Russian folk tale, this latest installment in the Gamayun Tales series is as enthralling and evocative as its predecessors. [ABu]

READ ALSO: *Geis* by Alexis Deacon

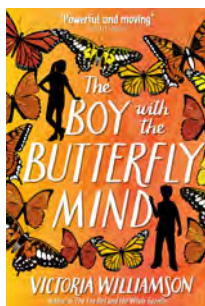


DOMINIQUE VALENTE illustrated by **SARAH WARBURTON**
STARFELL: WILLOW MOSS AND THE LOST DAY

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 287PP £12.99 ISBN 9780008308391

Willow is the youngest in a family of powerful witches. But while her sisters are famous for their explosive powers, Willow's talent is limited to finding things that are lost. Overshadowed by her formidable siblings (there's nothing glamorous about finding your neighbour's pungent socks), Willow is as surprised as anyone when renowned witch Moreg Vaine comes to her seeking help. What follows is a whimsical and exciting quest, complete with grumpy cat-monsters and a lovable dragon. This is a beautifully written book for readers aged 9+. [MD]

READ ALSO: *Nevermoor: The Trials of the Morrigan Crow* by Jessica Smith



VICTORIA WILLIAMSON
THE BOY WITH THE BUTTERFLY MIND

FLORIS BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 264PP £9.99 ISBN 9781782506003

An honest insight into a boy's life with ADHD, with as much heart as *Wonder*, written in dual voices. Jamie and Elin's families have blended together, and while Jamie doesn't like change, he's going to do his best to make everyone happy. Elin refuses to be happy with the situation and works hard to try and undo everything. Soon both Jamie and Elin learn that there's no such thing as normal, that perfect really is just being yourself and that family is family. [LC]

READ ALSO: *Joey Pigza Loses Control* by Jack Gantos



CHRIS WORMELL
THE MAGIC PLACE

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 290PP £11.99 ISBN 9781788450157

Clementine spends her days cooking and cleaning for her cruel aunt and uncle and her nights dreaming of escaping to the Magic Place. With the help of Gilbert, her very clever cat, Clementine makes a daring escape, finding friendship, hope and the way to the place of her dreams. The author's lively illustrations and quirky narrative style make this a thoroughly enjoyable read, dark at times, with a truly ghastly pair of villains, but ultimately filled with light and hope. [LR]

READ ALSO: *A Place Called Perfect* by Helena Duggan



MEGAN WYNNE

THE HOUSE ON HAWTHORN ROAD

THE O'BRIEN PRESS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 304PP €8.99 ISBN 9781788490900

Moving from London to Dublin has not been easy for Beth. Her gran has died, she's missing her friends and her chaotic family makes adjusting to a new life difficult; that is, until the unexplainable happens. When a crack in time allows Beth's life to intertwine with Robbie, a boy from the 1950s, she is not pleased – after all, there's nothing she could learn from a mischievous boy like him. Or is there? A fantastic time-travelling tale of friendship and learning to be brave. [RC]

READ ALSO: *Moondial* by Helen Cresswell



DAMARIS YOUNG

THE SWITCHING HOUR

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 288PP €6.99 ISBN 9781407195049

Every night at twilight, before she goes to sleep, Amaya locks her door to keep the Badako out, the creature that steals children to consume their dreams. Once they are taken, the children are forgotten, and when Amaya's brother is taken, she knows she has to find him before she forgets him completely. Unusual, unsettling and utterly original, this debut retelling of South African folklore is a darkly beautiful tale that will stay with the reader long after the last page has been turned. [MS]

READ ALSO: *The Girl Who Swallowed the Stars* by Kelly Barnhill

Scéalta den scoth

do pháistí agus do dhéagóirí ...



NEW

from CBI
Award Winner
Áine Ní Ghlinn

8+



NEW

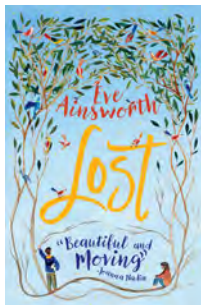
from Children's
Writing Fellow
for NI (2017-19)
Máire Zepf

YA

Teidil eile ar fáil ar www.coislife.ie

Lacáistí do scoileanna/School discounts: 01 219 0223





EVE AINSWORTH
LOST

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407185446

Alfie Turner has lost his mum to cancer and his whole world has been turned upside down. But then he meets Alice, a new girl at school and a force to be reckoned with. The pair's friendship gets off to a rocky start but they soon realise that, while life isn't always simple, having a good friend by your side can make it easier. A brilliantly touching read about loss, grief, hope and finding strength even in the toughest of times. [DM]

READ ALSO: *The Best Medicine* by Christine Hamill

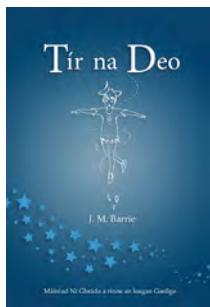


YABA BADOE
WOLF LIGHT

ZEPHYR 2019 (HBK) 288PP £10.99 ISBN 9781786695512

Three girls born in the same magical moment across three countries are destined to protect sacred sites. But when the land they were born to protect is encroached on by those who would plunder and pollute it, the girls must find the strength to protect their homes – even if it means calling on the ancient magic they were born into. Steeped in myth and magic and told in a captivating voice, this is an enthralling tale of sisterhood, ancient duty and the powers that bind. [JLS]

READ ALSO: *The Girl Who Ate the Stars* by Caroline Busher

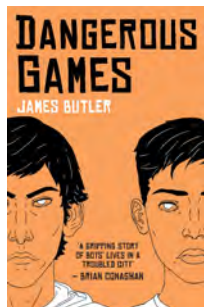


J.M. BARRIE aistrithe ag MÁIRÉAD NÍ GHRÁDA
maisithe ag MABEL LUCIE ATWELL
TÍR NA DEO 🍀

AN GÚM 2019 (BOG) 240LCH €10.00 ISBN 9781857919455

Tagann scéal Pheadairín Pan agus a chairde chugainn den athuir. Meascann a dhomhan, nach dtagann aon lá aoise ar an bpobal ann, leis an bhfíorshaol ina bhfuil síor-imeacht ama. Léiríonn an trasnú seo an teannas a bhaineann le dul in aois. Tugann réamhrá an leabhair an-tuiscint dúinn ar thábhacht an téacs agus ar na ghnéithe speisialta an leagain Ghaeilge de a thagann ó pheann Mháiréad Ní Ghráda. Cuireann léaráidí Mabel Lucie Atwell go mór leis an scéal agus cruthaíonn go rímhaith an saol samhailteach ar gach leathanach. [CMD]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *An Leon, An Bandraoi is An Prios Éadaigh* le C. S. Lewis, Antain Mac Lochlainn agus Pauline Baynes

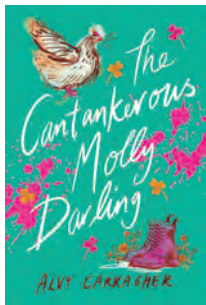


JAMES BUTLER
DANGEROUS GAMES 🍀

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 219PP €10.00 ISBN 9781910411919

Kevin should be glad that his uncle Davy has returned from prison in the UK – but he seems to be leading Kevin's older brother, Adam, even further into trouble. When Adam steals a car, Kevin uncovers a serious crime that he has to stop. A keen examination of the issues facing boys in difficult circumstances, this novel deftly handles class concerns without resorting to stereotypes and should appeal to fans of Brian Conaghan. [EBr]

READ ALSO: *We Come Apart* by Brian Conaghan and Sarah Crossan



ALVY CARRAGHER

THE CANTANKEROUS MOLLY DARLING

EDITOR'S CHOICE

CHICKEN HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 362PP £7.99 ISBN 9781911490548

Molly Darling lives on a chaotic farm in rural Ireland. With an absent father, an attic-bound mother and a soon-to-be-married sister, it's no wonder that Molly is feeling a little cantankerous! The bedlam surrounding Molly only becomes heightened when her reliable and companionable chickens disappear. Can Molly restore some sense of normality into her home? Filled with a laugh per page and an eclectic cast of characters, this story warmly welcomes in the reader. A delightful book! [LL]

READ ALSO: *The Apple Tart of Hope* by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald



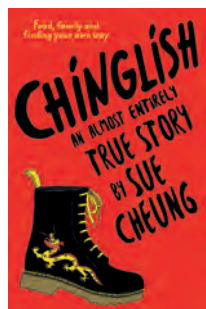
SARAH CARROLL

THE WORDS THAT FLY BETWEEN US

SIMON & SCHUSTER 2019 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9781471160646

Lucy lives on one of Dublin's most exclusive streets and her father enjoys letting everyone know this. During the summer before secondary school, Lucy crawls between the connected attics on her street and discovers secrets in everyone's houses, including her own. Domestic abuse and bullying are excellently depicted and may feel uncomfortably familiar to some readers. A tough but hopeful coming of age story, in which Lucy has to decide what to do about her father's sinister secrets. [EBr]

READ ALSO: *The Way Back Home* by Allan Stratton

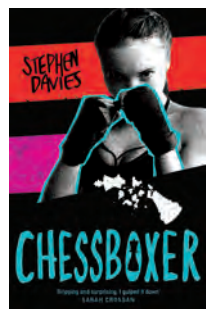


SUE CHEUNG CHINGLISH

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 384PP £7.99 ISBN 9781783448395

Jo's life is 'completely bonkers', though she tries to make the best of it. Her illustrated diary depicts her final years of school living above – and often forced to help out in – her family's takeaway. Communicating at home involves a cobbled-together mix of the children's English and their parents' Chinese, and it's all generally hugely mortifying. This humorous and pitch-perfect teen voice gently edges us into the darker elements of Jo's world while maintaining hope, marking debut author Cheung as a writer to watch. [CH]

READ ALSO: *Wing Jones* by Katherine Webber

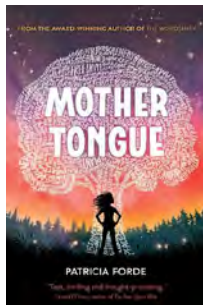


STEPHEN DAVIES CHESSBOXER

ANDERSEN PRESS OCT 2019 (PBK) 320PP £7.99 ISBN 9781783448401

A brilliant chess player – with an even greater talent for self-sabotage – seventeen-year-old Leah Baxter was on the way to being a grandmaster when her father died suddenly. The story of how she recovers her drive through the unusual sports hybrid of chessboxing, a real sport where a round of chess is followed by a round of boxing, is compellingly depicted through a series of blog posts (complete with a bickering comment section). This gritty and heartfelt novel is a real knock-out! [CL]

READ ALSO: *Girls Can't Hit* by T.S. Easton



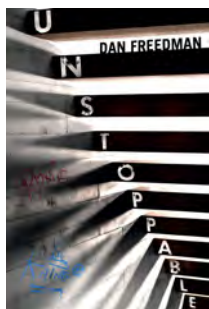
PATRICIA FORDE
MOTHER TONGUE 

EDITOR'S CHOICE

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS SEPT 2019 (PBK) 224PP €9.00 ISBN 9781912417278

There's a new leader in the city of Ark and she's even more vicious than her predecessor: language, once constrained, is now being kept from the newborn generation. Letta, now firmly part of the rebels, finds herself on the run as the resistance comes under attack when the battle for freedom and language comes to a head. Sequel to *The Wordsmith*, this is beautifully written and shows the importance of culture, knowledge and language. [HC]

READ ALSO: *The Wordsmith* by Patricia Forde

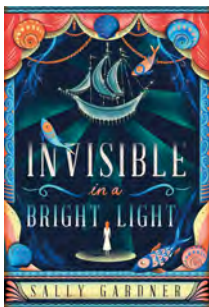


DAN FREEDMAN
UNSTOPPABLE

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 308PP £10.99 ISBN 9781788450492

Brother and sister Kaine and Roxy used to be best friends but now, as teenagers, they've fallen out. Kaine appears to care only about his football and seemingly perfect Roxy spends all her time training for the tennis championship. Pressure mounts at home and at school, but when the local crime boss takes an interest in Kaine, the drama escalates fast. The relationships and consequences in this story are believable – Freedman understands the pressures facing teens and his compassion is clear. [BC]

READ ALSO: *In Your Light* by Annalie Grainger

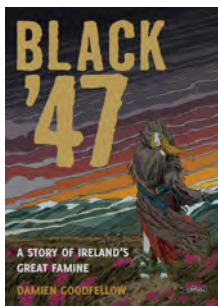


SALLY GARDNER
INVISIBLE IN A BRIGHT LIGHT

ZEPHYR NOV 2019 (HBK) 352PP £10.99 ISBN 9781786695222

Prize-winning author Sally Gardner returns to her favourite setting, the theatre, for her new novel. In this story, part fantasy, part historical fiction – think *Alice in Wonderland* meets a virtual reality game – first Maria, then Celeste, is forced to play the sinister game 'The Reckoning', where the stakes are high, with their own and their families' lives hanging in the balance. Gardner's writing is atmospheric, almost cinematic, as the action moves through parallel realities. The story takes time to reveal itself, but it's absolutely worth it! [AG]

READ ALSO: *Maggot Moon* by Sally Gardner



DAMIEN GOODFELLOW
**BLACK '47:
A STORY OF IRELAND'S GREAT FAMINE** 

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 96PP €14.99 ISBN 9781847173652

It's 1847, the third year of potato blight and famine in Ireland. Jack Óg and his family risk dying of starvation if they don't get a ticket to America, but many hurdles stand in their way. This graphic novel brings history to life with its haunting illustrations, capturing the stark reality of poverty and hunger. The setting may be bleak, but their ticket to America offers hope to the family and readers. [ZF]

READ ALSO: *Big Jim* by Rory McConville and Paddy Lynch



EMILY ILETT

THE GIRL WHO LOST HER SHADOW

KELPIES SEPT 2019 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9781782506072

Gail used to swim in the Scottish sea with her big sister, Kay, but after their father leaves, Kay sinks into depression, leaving Gail feeling alone. When Gail and Kay lose their shadows, Gail must find her courage and her identity in order to get them back, and along the way, she finds friends who can help. Combining fantasy and realism, this is a beautifully written, gripping tale full of danger, loss, hope, friendship and the strength of sisterhood. [AMcBH]

READ ALSO: *Out of the Blue* by Sophie Cameron



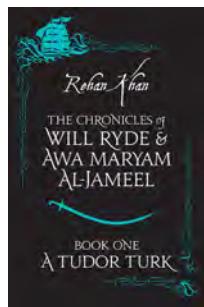
LAUREN JAMES

THE STARLIGHT WATCHMAKER

BARRINGTON STOKE 2019 (PBK) 128PP £7.99 ISBN 9781781128954

A watchmaking android boy and an amphibious alien, Duke, embark on a mission across their school campus when it's discovered that someone has stolen the powerful quantum energy from time-travelling watches, but for what purpose? This fantastic story is about forging new friendships, facing fears and stepping out of comfort zones. The setting is both familiar and unique, with wonderfully imaginative twists. The great humour, quick pace and twisting plot are sure to appeal to readers and it is published in dyslexia-friendly format. [JLS]

READ ALSO: *The Disconnect* by Karen David



REHAN KHAN

A TUDOR TURK: THE CHRONICLES OF WILL RYDE & AWA MARYAM AL-JAMEEL

HOPEROAD 2019 (PBK) 285PP £7.99 ISBN 9781908446978

In this first book in a planned trilogy set in the last decade of the sixteenth century, Will and Awa are part of an elite band of warriors tasked with recovering the stolen Staff of Moses. With lots of plot twists, excitement and particularly strong historical detail, this story is perfect reading for those interested in history – a fantastic fast-paced adventure story featuring a multicultural and diverse cast of characters. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *In the Shadow of Heroes* by Nicholas Bowling



DEREK LANDY

SKULDUGGERY PLESANT: BEDLAM

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 584PP £12.99 ISBN 9780008295646

Valkyrie Cain goes up against the High Sanctuary in order to reclaim her sister's soul, in this latest instalment in Landy's popular Skulduggery Pleasant series. Omen Darkly gets a chance to prove his mettle, as it is up to him to foil Abyssinia's plan to spread terror and war. The writing is sharp and darkly humorous and the action is fast paced, making this a gripping page-turner and a must-read for all Skulduggery Pleasant fans. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *Demon Road* by Derek Landy

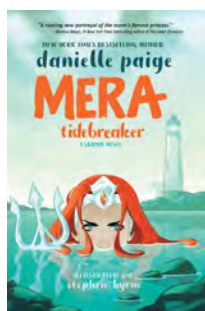


MOLLY MENDOZA
SKIP

NOBROW 2019 (HBK) 168PP £16.99 ISBN 9781910620427

Brought together in the strangest of circumstances, Bloom and Gloopy quickly realise that, despite their differences, they're kindred spirits. Molly Mendoza's intense and evocative artwork perfectly captures the strangeness of the worlds the friends find themselves negotiating as they struggle to find their ways home. A beautiful and surreal exploration of identity, friendship, creativity and what it means to belong, this graphic novel pushes the boundaries of the genre, even as Bloom and Gloop push at the boundaries of their respective universes. [KC]

READ ALSO: *Kingdom* by Jon McNaught



DANIELLE PAIGE illustrated by **STEPHEN BYRNE**
MERA: TIDEBREAKER 🍀

DC INK 2019 (PBK) 192PP £12.99 ISBN 9781401283391

In an underwater country riven by tension, warrior princess Mera is torn over accepting a strategic political marriage. However, upon overhearing a discussion between her future betrothed and her father, she becomes determined to take control of her future and the throne. This action-romance comic from DC Ink, a new imprint for young readers, effectively explores female independence, parental expectations and life choices. Despite the adventure elements, this graphic novel is about emotions, relationships and reconciliation between families and people. [MG]

READ ALSO: *Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson

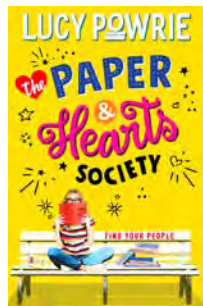


SIOBHÁN PARKINSON
GRÁINNE: GAISCÍOCH GAEL 🍀

COIS LIFE 2019 (BOG) 230LCH €12.00 ISBN 9781907494970

Úrscéal faoi Ghráinne Ní Mháille (Granuaile), ina bhfuil an príomhcharachtar suimiúil éirimiúil, agus thar a bheith cumasach. Bunaithe ar an stair, tugann an scéal léargas ar an bpolaitíocht i measc na dtaoiseach, an aicme lenar bhain Gráinne Ní Mháille, agus ar rialtas Shasana chomh maith. Scéal ficseanach tarraingteach é a mheallann an léitheoir isteach i saol na hÉireann sa séú haois, agus a thugann don léitheoir carachtar daonna, ina bhfuil cineálta agus féith an ghrinn, le hais clisteachta agus cumhachta. Oiriúnach do dhéagóirí. [ACI]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Grace O'Malley: Pirate Queen* by Tony Lee and Sam Hart

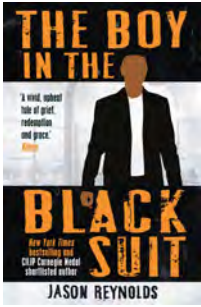


LUCY POWRIE
THE PAPER & HEARTS SOCIETY

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781444949230

The first book in Lucy Powrie's debut series follows Tabby, a self-confessed book worm, who has moved town and is set on discovering a new group of friends. A beautiful coming of age story about finding your true identity as a young person and speaking loud about what you are passionate about, *The Paper & Hearts Society* encompasses a powerful theme in which the effects that social media can have on us all are explored along with ways to maintain your mental health. [CMcG]

READ ALSO: *The Switch Up* by Katy Cannon



JASON REYNOLDS
THE BOY IN THE BLACK SUIT

FABER & FABER 2019 (PBK) 272PP £7.99 ISBN 9780571356126

After the death of his mum, Matthew Miller feels like his world is falling apart. That is, until he puts on a black suit and starts working in the local funeral home. Who'd have thought Matty would actually enjoy sitting through the funerals? While the grief in this story is palpable, it's mixed with humour, a lot of life lessons and a little bit of love. This story describes a journey to feel more accepted and less alone that everyone can relate to. [ZF]

READ ALSO: *How to Rob a Bank* by Tom Mitchell



GABRIEL ROSENSTOCK maisithe ag **BRIAN FITZGERALD**
AN EALA ÓRGA AGUS SCÉALTA EILE ÓN INDIA 

AN GÚM MEÁN FOMHÁIR 2019 (BOG) 75LCH €9.00 ISBN 9781857919493

Scéalta beaga cliste atá sa chnuasach seo a thugann blaiseadh beag dúinn ar shaíocht na hIndia trí shárbhua liteartha Gabriel Rosenstock. Scéalta is ea iad a thagann chugainn ó chultúr agus ó thréimhse eile ar fad, agus a lorg sainiúil sin orthu, ach a bhfuil a dteachtaireacht chomh luachmhar le haon scéal atá nendaithe in Éirinn. Cuirfear intinní óga ag machnamh agus ag ceistiú. Idir insint sheoigh fhileata Rosenstock agus an dea-mhaisiú atá ar fud an leabhar, tugtar an léitheoir ar thuras samhlaíochta go críocha i gcéin. [LNiC]
 LÉIGH FREISIN: *Óro na Circíní agus Scéalta Eile ón Afraic* le Gabriel Rosenstock agus Brian Fitzgerald

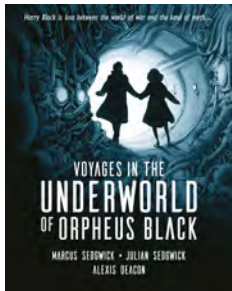


PENNI RUSSON illustrated by **SANDRA ETEROVIĆ**
THE ENDSISTER

ALLEN & UNWIN 2019 (PBK) 242PP €6.99 ISBN 9781911631101

When the Outhwaite family inherit a London mansion, they must jump on a plane to the other side of the world, leaving their Australian home behind. This beautiful and moving story brings us a chaotic family of seven adapting to ghostly and mysterious elements in their new house. Russon's writing is captivating and readers will delve into each chapter gaining a different perspective from various characters. Troubled Else, charming Sibbi and animal-loving Clancy will remain in readers' hearts long after the book is closed. [EM]

READ ALSO: *Flying Tips for Flightless Birds* by Kelly McCaughrain



MARCUS SEDGWICK and **JULIAN SEDGWICK**
 illustrated by **ALEXIS DEACON**
VOYAGES IN THE UNDERWORLD OF ORPHEUS BLACK

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) £12.99 370PP ISBN 9781406357929

An astonishing mix of poetry, prose and illustration, this amazing collaborative work takes the myth of Orpheus and applies it to World War II, focusing on the relationship between two brothers: one a poet, one an artist. Dark and evocative images underpin the anti-war poetry and prose, allowing the mythology, history and mixture of artistic forms to stand out and perfectly complement each other. A stunning book that serves as a timely reminder of the horrors of war. [PNiC]

READ ALSO: *A Song for Ella Grey* by David Almond



ALEXANDRA SHEPPARD
OH MY GODS

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 352PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407188737

Helen is forced to move in with the dad she barely knows as her grandmother can no longer look after her – the only problem is her father is Zeus, king of the Ancient Greek gods! Hilarity ensues, as Greek gods have very different values to Helen. The letters that Helen writes to her mother, who died years before, provide a poignancy that greatly adds to the story. A quirky, funny and heart-warming novel perfect for middle-grade readers wishing to advance to teen books. [AD]

READ ALSO: *The Potion Diaries* by Amy Aylward



DARREN SIMPSON
SCAVENGERS

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 336PP £6.99 ISBN 9781474956024

Landfill is a boy who has lived his whole life in the care of the eccentric Babagoo, scavenging for his next meal in a vast rubbish dump that is the only home he's ever known. Like *Stig of the Dump*, but on a much grander scale, this story combines dystopian themes with complex characters and surprising twists. The book begins with a light, playful tone but soon develops some darker notes. A thoroughly entertaining and intriguing read. [MD]

READ ALSO: *The Boy Who Flew* by Fleur Hitchcock



HOLLY SMALE
HAPPY GIRL LUCKY

HARPERCOLLINS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 471PP £7.99 ISBN 9780008254148

From the author of the Geek Girl series comes the bright, shiny world of the Valentines, the famous family everyone thinks they know inside out. But what about Hope, the youngest of the bunch, still hidden from the public eye? At fifteen (and eight months), our Hollywood-obsessed heroine's life isn't quite the rom-com she'd like it to be ... Handling complicated family dynamics, self-discovery and loneliness with sensitivity and unlikely realism, this is a hilarious, touching adventure-filled story you won't want to end. [LH]

READ ALSO: *The Summer of No Regrets* by Kate Mallinder

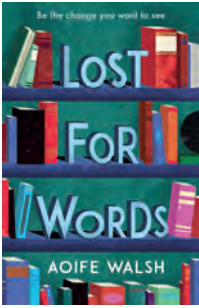


SANDY STARK-MCGINNIS
EXTRAORDINARY BIRDS

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 224PP £6.99 ISBN 9781526603159

A unique book about a lone bird who eventually allows herself to be loved. December believes she is a bird and has a scar on her back from which she believes her wings will one day sprout. She lives her life remaining distant, as she plans to fly away as soon as she can. Yet when she meets the wonderful Eleanor, she allows her story to change. Readers will enjoy the defiant, confident voice of December and the flowing, compassionate prose. A strange, wonderful read. [AMcC]

READ ALSO: *The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender* by Lesley Walton



AOIFE WALSH
LOST FOR WORDS

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9781783448340

The local library is closing down and Dallas (protagonist, not place) is not taking it well. Dealing with the combined stress of a dead mother, the possibility of moving continents and two friends with their own problems, Dallas has a lot on her plate aside from trying to stop the library's closure. With these issues complicating the plot in interesting ways, this is more than the usual 'Save the -!' story. Funny and wistful, with believable kids, readers will certainly not be lost for praise. [CL]

READ ALSO: *The Butterfly Shell* by Maureen White



ELIZABETH WEIN
WHITE EAGLES

BARRINGTON STOKES SEPT 2019 (PBK) 144PP £7.99 ISBN 9781781128961

It's summer 1939, and Europe is on the brink of war. When Kristina Tomiak and her twin brother join the White Eagles, Poland's air force, they soon come face-to-face with the brutal reality of war. As Kristina flees after the air force's swift destruction, she is forced to decide what she will do – and how far she'll go – to survive. A compelling story of the opening weeks of World War II, its language and format are also suitable for dyslexic and reluctant readers. [HC]

READ ALSO: *Tilly's Promise* by Linda Newbury



LINDSEY WHITLOCK
THE COLLECTIVE

PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 256PP £7.99 ISBN 9781782692171

Elwyn is restless with his forest-living people and longs for a brighter life among the wealthier townfolk. But the communities remain hostile and separate, meaning Elwyn must make difficult choices. Following the well-trodden route of restless youth rebuffing the traditions of home, the story takes place in America, but the setting is indecisive. Historical references are fictional, while old-fashioned traditions jar with the presence of trucks, trains and cars. With strong descriptions and a well-paced plot, this book should appeal to readers of alternative history. [JM]

READ ALSO: *The Beginning Woods* by Malcolm McNeill



TAMSIN WINTERS
JEMIMA SMALL VERSUS THE UNIVERSE

USBORNE 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781474927284

Jemima is smart, sensitive and easily annoyed by her brother, and she has an attitude that cannot be matched. She is also big, which is the cause of horrible bullying. When she is given the chance to appear on the TV show *Brainiacs*, will she be brave enough to take it? This book addresses the difficulties being overweight can cause and emphasises how good support systems combined with a positive outlook on life can help you overcome any challenge. [RE]

READ ALSO: *Big Bones* by Laura Dockrill

There is no compass for the human heart.

The spellbinding new novel from DEIRDRE SULLIVAN



Illustrations © Elsa Klever 2019

NEW FROM IRISH BOOK AWARD-WINNER BRIAN CONAGHAN

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DAVID ALMOND illustrated by **DAVE MCKEAN**
JOE QUINN'S POLTERGEIST

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 80PP £10.99 ISBN 9781406363197

In this short story, and now graphic novel, Almond once again leaves the door to the otherworldly ajar and invites the reader to peer through and, if not accept what is seen as real, then at least question 'what if?' McKean's images mirror the moods of the characters and places, sometimes moving, sometimes disturbing. The combination of drawn images and photographs, like the story itself, blur the lines between the tangible and a sense that cannot be defined. Read this book and question, believe, doubt and feel. [JoeK]

READ ALSO: *Mouse Bird Snake Wolf* by David Almond and Dave McKean



DEAN ATTA illustrated by **ANSHIKA KHULLAR**
THE BLACK FLAMINGO

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 176PP £12.99 ISBN 9781444948585

This novel in verse follows Michael, a gay black drag artist, from childhood to university, as he faces the reality of being marginalised in modern Britain. Michael's appealing voice keeps this a readable, enjoyable novel, even as the text delves into difficult topics around racism, homophobia and consent. Khullar's illustrations are subtle but effective, often incorporating the feathers with which Michael identifies. A deep, thoughtful book perfect for fans of Sarah Crossan and Meg Grehan. [EBr]

READ ALSO: *The Port X* by Elizabeth Acevedo



LAURA BATES
THE BURNING

SIMON & SCHUSTER 2019 (PBK) 352PP £7.99 ISBN 9781471170201

When Anna and her mum trade city life and half-healed hurt for a ramshackle cottage in a blustery Scottish fishing village, there is hope in the whistling wind. Her project on a local witch reveals, in uncanny solidarity across 400 years, public persecution for a girl's personal life. Panic creeps in, a chance encounter makes an enemy, a chance comment unearths her past and Anna's renewal becomes a journey to reclaim both their narratives from those who would use a woman's choices to control her. [EO'B]

READ ALSO: *The Exact Opposite of Okay* and *A Girl Called Shameless* by Lauren Steven



HOLLY BOURNE
THE PLACES I'VE CRIED IN PUBLIC

USBORNE PUBLISHING OCT 2019 (PBK) 368PP £7.99 ISBN 9781474949521

Amelie is a singer-songwriter who is forced to move to a new town after her father loses his job. Isolated and overwhelmed by the move, she soon falls into a relationship with the charismatic but controlling Reese. This book begins after their break-up, as Amelie reflects on their relationship and the toll it has taken on her life. A challenging but worthwhile exploration of an unhealthy relationship that will resonate with many YA readers. [NG]

READ ALSO: *I Hold Your Heart* by Karen Gregory



SAVANNAH BROWN
THE TRUTH ABOUT KEEPING SECRETS

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE (PENGUIN BOOKS) 2019 (PBK) 336PP £7.99 ISBN 9780241346303

Sydney's father was a therapist in their small town before he was killed in a car accident. She discovers that one of her father's clients was the school homecoming queen, June, and the two strike up an unlikely friendship. However, she begins to suspect that her father's death was not an accident and that June's sudden interest in her life is no coincidence. This book is both a raw exploration of grief and a gripping mystery that leaves the reader guessing until the end. [NG]

READ ALSO: *Two Can Keep a Secret* by Karen McManus



CAT CLARKE
LETTING GO

BARRINGTON STOKE 2019 (PBK) 96PP £7.99 ISBN 9781781128381

'Never make a promise at a funeral.' From the opening line, there is great drama and suspense in this novella. Aggie, the jilted lover, accompanies her ex up Ben Venachar to scatter her mother's ashes. Things get nasty when rain turns to sleet, visibility is almost nil and the accompanying new boyfriend goes off in a huff down the mountain solo. This well-paced story is told with great dialogue, interior monologue and spot-on humour. [JoaK]

READ ALSO: *What Magic Is This?* by Holly Bourne

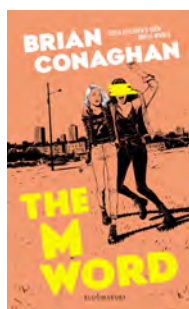


ORLAGH COLLINS
ALL THE INVISIBLE THINGS 🍀

BLOOMSBURY YA 2019 (PBK) 368PP £7.99 ISBN 9781408888339

Helvetica, three years after losing her mother and moving away, returns to her former home and reconnects with Pez, her childhood best friend. This book tenderly and respectfully takes on several complex themes (coming out, exploring your sexuality, porn addiction) and guides the reader through them with a deft and compassionate touch. Vetty's mixture of vulnerability and strength rings very true and her growing confidence in articulating her truth and supporting those around her makes her easy to root for and difficult to forget. [DS]

READ ALSO: *Call It What You Want* by Brigid Kemmerer

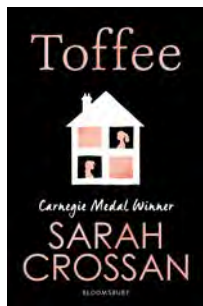


BRIAN CONAGHAN
THE M WORD 🍀

BLOOMSBURY YA SEPT 2019 (HBK) 352PP £12.99 ISBN 9781408871560

Maggie has just started art college, which unfortunately has coincided with her mother becoming unemployed and slipping into a funk. Conaghan has written yet another sensitive, gripping account of a teen struggling with the unfair pressures that life throws at her. He deftly juggles several tricky areas including self-harming, depression and the toxic role of social media without being preachy. Caution may be required for readers affected by the issues depicted, but no one will read it without their heart feeling full. [CL]

READ ALSO: *History Is All You Left Me* by Adam Silvera



SARAH CROSSAN

TOFFEE 🍀

BLOOMSBURY YA 2019 (HBK) 416PP £12.99 ISBN 9781408868126

Laureate na nÓg Sarah Crossan brings her trademark style of narrative poetry to the story of Allison, a teenage girl escaping her violent father. Running out of options, she moves in with Marla, an elderly woman with dementia, who sometimes thinks that Allison is her long-lost friend Toffee. This is a tense read, as two vulnerable characters struggle to maintain their autonomy in a precarious world. There are no happy endings, but the reader feels that Allison/Toffee's commitment to education will be her salvation. [ABe]

READ ALSO: *We Come Apart* by Brian Conaghan and Sarah Crossan



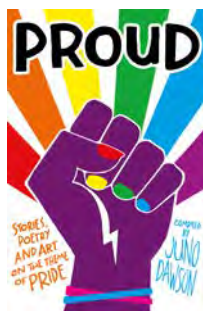
JUNO DAWSON

MEAT MARKET

QUERCUS CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 416PP £7.99 ISBN 9781786540386

Teenager Jana Novak is scouted by a modelling agency on a school trip. Having had no previous interest in fashion, Jana is lured in by the promise of money that could help to support her family. Almost instantly she is subjected to the uglier sides of the fashion industry and Dawson weaves timeliness through Jana's tale. She is exposed to predatory behaviour that echoes the #MeToo movement and learns, amongst other things, of the harmful effects of fast fashion on factory workers. An engrossing and enlightening read. [LL]

READ ALSO: *Only Ever Yours* by Louise O'Neill



compiled by **JUNO DAWSON**

PROUD 🍀

STRIPES PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 352PP £7.99 ISBN 9781788950602

Unique in its format and entertaining in its content, this book is significant in its ordinariness. Full of disruptively normal stories, poems and art on the theme of pride in LGBTQ+ life and truly revolutionary in their unfazed assertion that life is neither easy nor is it a disaster, *Proud* speaks to lives lived in happy, stressful, scary, silly tones, delivered in digestible units. Written with clarity, depth and appreciation, aware of past tragedy but not regretful, this compilation is both useful and very good. [EO'B]

READ ALSO: *Here I Stand: Stories That Speak for Freedom* by various authors



KIT DE WAAL

BECOMING DINAH 🍀

EDITOR'S CHOICE

ORION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 240PP £7.99 ISBN 9781510105706

Kit De Waal's Young Adult debut is an assured and character-driven retelling of *Moby Dick*, in which Ishmael is Dinah, a seventeen-year-old girl struggling with complicated family dynamics, her sexuality and the challenges her unique upbringing in a commune has presented her with. The cast of characters that Dinah encounters in the commune, in school and on her road trip are compellingly complex in their own right, and this skilful story of a young woman diving into her confidence and power is sure to resonate with many. [DS]

READ ALSO: *And the Ocean Was Our Sky* by Patrick Ness and Rovina Cai



SHARON DOGAR
MONSTERS

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 451PP £12.99 ISBN 978178448029

A biographically based story of the life of Mary Shelley, creator of the classic novel *Frankenstein*, *Monsters* begins in Mary’s childhood, where the reader is given a glimpse of her wild side, and charts the ups and downs of her life. It is also a testament to her feminist mother, Mary Wollstonecraft, and how parents do not have to be around for long to make an impact on our lives. Fans of historical fiction will tear through this novel at speed. [AD]

READ ALSO: *Spare and Found Parts* by Sarah Maria Griffin



JENNIFER DONNELLY
STEP SISTER

HOT KEY BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 480PP £7.99 ISBN 9781471407970

Readers will think they recognise the story of the Cinderella in this novel but that quickly changes. It is a tale woven around the ideas of what is good and bad, and what is beautiful and ugly, and how these attributes influence reality and perception. The story is engaging and exciting, with plot twists at every turn.

This insightful feminist retelling of the classic fairy tale is best suited to readers in the upper end of the age group. [JB]

READ ALSO: *Stain* by A.G. Howard



JENNY DOWNHAM
FURIOUS THING

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 378PP £10.99 ISBN 9781788451307

Lexi is fifteen, in love with her stepbrother and beginning to suspect that her often violent anger isn’t the problem in her family – it might be the man who makes her angry, whom her mother is about to marry. Lexi’s bullying stepfather is brilliantly drawn, seemingly reasonable until provoked. This novel doesn’t shy away from the consequences of Lexi’s anger, but fully explores them in the context of emotional abuse. A tough but powerful read that interrogates happy endings. [EBr]

READ ALSO: *Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell



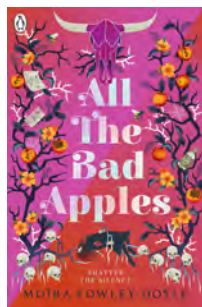
AKWAEKE EMEZI
PET

EDITOR'S CHOICE

FABER & FABER NOV 2019 (PBK) 208PP £7.99 ISBN 9780571355112

Jam is sheltered from the evils committed by monsters before the revolution, knowing only what her kind parents and restricted education allow her to know. Then she accidentally summons Pet, a being from another world, who is hunting a monster just like those supposedly vanquished before she was born. This novel takes on an original style and delivers a lot of food for thought. A world that can’t decide between dystopia and utopia like this one easily makes a compelling read. [SW]

READ ALSO: *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi



MOIRA FOWLEY-DOYLE
ALL THE BAD APPLES 🍀

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE 2019 (PBK) 346PP £7.99 ISBN 9780241333969

All the Bad Apples is an unflinching feminist novel, telling the story of Deena and her family. In dealing with challenging themes like physical, mental and religious abuse and Ireland's twisted linkage of church and state, Fowley-Doyle's writing is suitably dark, suitably angry. While this isn't an easy read, it is a worthwhile and necessary book, aiding teenagers in understanding the realities of life for women in Ireland before the repeal of the eighth amendment. A solid story told in parts through magic realism. [RSt]

READ ALSO: *The Price Guide to the Occult* by Leslye Walton

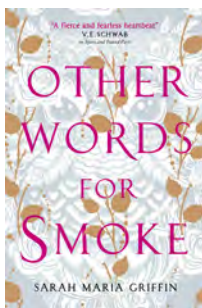


SIMON JAMES GREEN
ALEX IN WONDERLAND

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781407194240

Aimless and suddenly friendless, Alex is facing a long summer alone in the town of Newsands, until he unexpectedly finds himself working in a run-down amusement arcade called Wonderland. As Alex starts to feel like he's one of Wonderland's tribe of misfits, he begins to develop feelings for Ben, who just so happens to have a girlfriend. Wonderfully funny, beautifully observed and genuinely heartwarming, this romance novel is full of depth and essential reading for anyone who has ever felt like they don't fit in. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda* by Becky Albertalli



SARAH MARIA GRIFFIN
OTHER WORDS FOR SMOKE 🍀

TITAN BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 336PP £8.99 ISBN 9781789090086

Mae and Rossa are twins beginning to unravel from one another as they come to terms with who they are. Sent to their aunt's house for the summer, they meet the enthralling Bevan and a talking cat named Bobby Dear. As the story simultaneously unravels, we learn that supernatural forces live within the walls of the house, bent on manipulation and power, feeding on fear. This beautifully odd coming-of-age tale is woven with layers of magical realism and dark Irish history. It is stunning. [DL]

READ ALSO: *Music and Malice in Hurricane Town* by Alex Bell

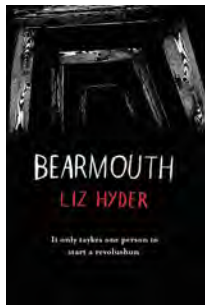


KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE
THE DEATHLESS GIRLS

ORION CHILDREN'S BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 400PP £12.99 ISBN 9781510106741

On the eve of her divining day, the day on which she will discover her fate, Lil and her twin sister Kizzy are kidnapped by Lord Valcar. Even as her growing connection to fellow slave Mira begins to make life bearable, Lil learns about the Dragon, a mythical figure who takes girls as gifts. A darkly gothic reimaging of the tale of the bride of Dracula, this latest work from Kiran Millwood Hargrave gives passionate voice to a character silenced for so long by the weight of tradition. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *The Raven's Tale* by Cat Winters

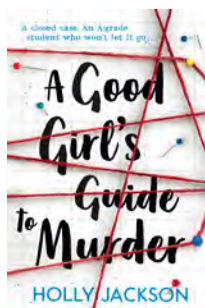


LIZ HYDER
BEARMOUTH

PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 320PP £12.99 ISBN 9781782692423

Newt's been working down Bearmouth Mine all his life, unquestioning, rigidly disciplined. Change is dangerous, and change is what's coming ... Written in Newt's pidgin dialect (which takes a little while to settle in to), *Bearmouth* represents the arrival of a genuinely fresh new voice in YA fiction. A memorable, atmospheric story, lyrically told, this dystopian thriller, exploring themes of social injustice and the cruel realities of Victorian life for all but the very few, will be read and re-read for many years to come. [RSt]

READ ALSO: *Maggot Moon* by Sally Gardner



HOLLY JACKSON
A GOOD GIRL'S GUIDE TO MURDER

ELECTRIC MONKEY 2019 (PBK) 448PP £7.99 ISBN 9781405293181

Everyone in Little Kilton knows what happened to Andie Bell. Everyone knows it was Sal Singh that killed her. But everyone has yet to convince Pippa Fitz-Amobi. Using her final-year project as an excuse to do some investigating, Pip is convinced she will uncover some secrets. However, someone wants those secrets to remain hidden and at any cost. Jackson brings a fresh approach to murder mystery stories in her complex and at times humorous debut, a multi-layered thriller for those who love a puzzle. [RC]

READ ALSO: the Garvie Smith mysteries by Simon Mason



LAUREN JAMES
THE QUIET AT THE END OF THE WORLD

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 352PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406375510

Lowrie and Shen live in London as the two youngest people on earth. What will happen when they're left all alone? This book presents a thoughtful take on how we use our planet and the definition of humanity. Young adult readers will enjoy Lowrie and Shen's discovering treasures from a lost society and learning what happened to the human race. James uses a mix of narrative prose and blog posts to relate to her audience in an engaging way that should create discussion. [LK]

READ ALSO: *The Loneliest Girl in the Universe* by Lauren James



VANESSA JONES
SING LIKE NO ONE'S LISTENING

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 314PP £7.99 ISBN 9781529010916

Nettie's always loved to sing, but its emotional demands – 'turning yourself inside out and letting people get to the core of you' – prove too much after her mother's death. Terrified of being hurled out of her prestigious performing arts academy, she tries to find her voice again, alongside making new friends, falling in love and coping with her mean-girl rivals. There's real emotional depth beneath the seemingly glamorous setting here, and the cultural references throughout will appeal to the serious musical lover. A real treat. [CH]

READ ALSO: *Dear Evan Hansen* by Val Emmick, Steven Levenson, Benj Pasek, and Justin Paul



MUHAMMAD KHAN illustrated by **AMRIT BIRDI**
KICK THE MOON

MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 320PP £7.99 ISBN 9781509874071

Ilyas is under pressure from his friends to be someone he's not and from his dad to work in the family shop instead of drawing comics. He finds a true friend in Kelly, a girl who is done with trying to fit in a box, but when she gets involved with Ilyas's toxic friend, he has to step up like the heroes in his comics. This is a powerful story of standing up and standing out, defying toxic masculinity and embracing your individuality. A fast-paced, thrilling read. [DL]

READ ALSO: *Run, Riot* by Nikesh Shukla

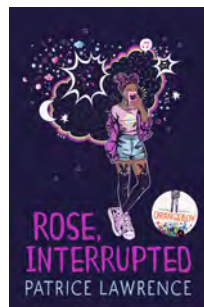


TANYA LANDMAN
ONE SHOT

BARRINGTON STOKE 2019 (PBK) 120PP £7.99 ISBN 9781781128510

Inspired by the early life of Annie Oakley, this tale of survival follows Maggie as she is thrown unexpectedly into a life of destitution. Equipped with just her wits and the belief that her father is guiding her, she must endure the most difficult circumstances to find a life worth living. This is an accessible read that is very powerful but bleak, with a shimmer of hope surfacing at the very end. Recommended for older readers. [KB]

READ ALSO: *Rebel of the Sands* by Alwyn Hamilton



PATRICE LAWRENCE
ROSE, INTERRUPTED

HODDER CHILDRENS BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781444940657

Modern life is difficult to navigate for a teenage girl; it's even more difficult for a girl like Rose who until recently was a very sheltered member of a strict religious community. Through the characters of Rose and her younger brother Rudder, Lawrence depicts very real teenagers – Rose doing everything she can to distance herself from her past and Rudder trying so hard to cling to the things he has learnt. This novel deals brilliantly with issues of consent, peer pressure and families. [LO'H]

READ ALSO: *Devoted* by Jennifer Mathieu



KATE ALICE MARSHALL
RULES FOR VANISHING

WALKER BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406390599

This mystery with supernatural overtones is gripping from the very first page. A year ago, Sara's sister disappeared. Unlike everyone else, Sara does not believe Becca ran away but instead that she is trapped on The Road, which, according to local legend, appears once a year in the woods. Sara and her closest friends are determined to find the mysterious road and save her ... or die trying. A tale that has as many twists and turns as the road it follows – thoroughly enjoyable. [BC]

READ ALSO: *What She Found in the Woods* by Josephine Angelini



SHIRLEY-ANNE MCMILLAN
EVERY SPARROW FALLING 🍀

ATOM SEPT 2019 (PBK) 288PP €8.99 ISBN 9780349003313

'Don't get too involved': these are the words sixteen-year-old Ciarad lives by. She's just been placed in yet another foster home, this time with an elderly Christian couple in a small town off the coast of Northern Ireland. She knows how to play this game. She'll toe the line *just* enough so that no one asks questions. But when a boy at school disappears – presumed dead – and no one seems to care, it really bothers her. Is she about to break her own rules? [DOR]

READ ALSO: *Far from the Tree* by Robin Benway



SARAH MOORE FITZGERALD
A STRANGE KIND OF BRAVE 🍀

ORION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 240PP €7.99 ISBN 9781510104129

The town of Clanfedden has been living under the shadow of the bully Jake McCormack for years. Enter Luca Spinelli – a victim of bullying in his previous school – with his mum, Ariana. They open a restaurant with delicious food, but the premises was formerly Jake's shop and that does not augur well for the success of the Spinelli business. A tale of food, fear and love from the author of *The Apple Tart of Hope*. [JoaK]

READ ALSO: *The Apple Tart of Hope* by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald



BRITTNEY MORRIS
SLAY

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS OCT 2019 (PBK) 352PP €7.99 ISBN 9781444951721

As one of only four black students in her prestigious high school, Kiera learns to cope with constant racism and stereotyping by building an online virtual reality game in which she and thousands of others can be themselves. But when someone is murdered due to an in-game dispute, a massive controversy arises. *SLAY* is a fast-paced and thought-provoking novel that focuses on conflicts faced by the marginalised in the modern world. [SW]

READ ALSO: *Warcross* by Marie Lu



ORNA NÍ CHOILEÁIN
SPÉIRLING 🍀

COIS LIFE 2019 (BOG) 204LCH €10.00 ISBN 9781912133727

Leanann an scéal seo saol beirt chairde, Manon agus Líosá, a bhfuil cónaí orthu ar oiléan Aruba. Casann siad le cáilín óg aisteach mistéireach a bhfuil tréithe duine ón 'saol eile' aici. Is scéal corraitheach é seo ina gceanglaítear síscéalta, scéalta uafáis faoi vaimpíirí, agus béaloideas na hÉireann. Tá dhá scéal, scéal Spéirlinge agus scéal carachtair ón am atá caite darb ainm Cuan, fite fuaithe go hoilte sa leabhar. Tarraingíonn gluaiseacht an scéil an léitheoir go buaicphointe tubaisteach eachtrach nach mbeidh an léitheoir ag súil leis. [BNÍD]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *An Uaigh* le Laoise Ní Chléirigh



JO O'DONOGHUE TRIÚR AMIGOS

COIS LIFE 2019 (BOG) 114LCH €10.00 ISBN 9781912133703

Scéal é seo faoi chairdeas, chúrsa samhraidh agus chúrsaí saoil daoine óga. Imíonn Eoin, Jeaic agus Ciara chun na Spáinne le freastal ar chúrsa samhraidh, chun teanga nua a fhoghlaim agus saol neamhspleách a bhlaiseadh. Gné thaitneamhach is ea struchtúr nua-aimseartha an scéil, tugtar cuntais agus cuir síos éagsúla ar gach duine den triúr, ar bhealaí éagsúla: ríomhphoist agus sraith téacsanna. Insítear an scéal i gcúig chuid, tréimhí ama ó Aibreán go Lúnasa, agus pléann sé le suíomhanna éagsúla ó Bhaile Átha Cliath go Cádiz sa Spáinn. [RNÍM]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Taithí Oibre* le Jo O'Donoghue



ALICE OSEMAN HEARTSTOPPER

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 262PP £10.99 ISBN 9781444951387

Oseman's powerfully expressive graphic art dominates this sweet love story, which is part of a YA LGBTQ+ comic series about Charlie and Nick, students at the same all-boys school. Charlie is out and has experienced bullying in the past. He works up the courage to break up with Ben, his overbearing boyfriend who is ashamed of his sexuality, and things are looking up. When he meets Nick, friendship sparks, but can it develop into something more? A heartwarming queer love story – Oseman's characterisation is brilliant and her artwork speaks volumes. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *The Music of What Happens* by Bill Konigsberg

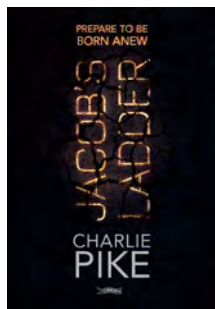


MAL PEET illustrated by EMMA SHOARD GOOD BOY

BARRINGTON STOKES 2019 (PBK) 88PP £7.99 ISBN 9781781128527

The black dog has stalked Sandie all her life, taunting malevolently ... *Good Boy* may be a short book, but it's far from short on ideas and emotional impact. A gripping insight into the all-consuming darkness of fear itself, Peet pulls no punches in exploring the life and mind of a teen suffering from anxiety. The engaging, sparsely written narrative is suspenseful and keeps the reader guessing all the way. Shoard's haunting, murky illustrations work perfectly. A super-readable, unnerving work that stands with the late Peet's best. [RSt]

READ ALSO: *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green



CHARLIE PIKE JACOB'S LADDER

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 320PP €14.99 ISBN 9781788490405

Leon lives in a world where civilisation is crumbling, where the only salvation to be found is via messages dispatched by an alien species vowing to rescue those deemed worthy. As an Initiate about to Rise as a warrior of the True Path, Leon must take a life to prove the worth of his own. But when the mission goes awry, the outside world causes Leon to question everything he has ever believed. A complex, thrilling and oftentimes gory sci-fi fantasy debut. [RC]

READ ALSO: *We Are Blood and Thunder* by Kesia Lupo



TOM POLLOCK
HEARTSTREAM

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 352PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406378184

Amy became internet-famous by broadcasting the pain of her mother's death on an app that literally shares emotions, and now her fans are invading her real life. Cat found friendship and community in obsessive boyband fandom, but she has a secret that would blow the community apart. A twisty, frightening story, which masterfully ratchets up the tension as it switches between narratives, as much about the difference between possessiveness and genuine connection as it is about the dangers of our digital future. [RSn]

READ ALSO: *All the Lonely People* by David Owen



PAULA RAWSTHORNE
THE NEW BOY

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 384PP £7.99 ISBN 9781407180267

This book follows Zoe from her first day of college, handling the ups and downs of friends, parents, college work and the seemingly perfect new boy from out of town. A mystery with twists and turns that will keep you guessing until the very end, this book is a great guide to what not to do when you're unsure about someone's character. [JB]

READ ALSO: *My Secret Lies with You* by Faye Bird



RANDY RIBAY
PATRON SAINTS OF NOTHING

STRIPES PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 384PP £7.99 ISBN 9781788951548

A touching story of one boy's determined quest for truth and justice after the death of his cousin, supposedly as part of the brutal war on drugs in his home country. Jay leaves the comfort of the American suburbs on an eye-opening journey to the Philippines, from the home of his uncle, a wealthy policeman, to the slums of Manila. People are complex and nuanced, and Ribay is outstanding in the wisdom and compassion of his portrayal of families, the privileged and the deprived. [BC]

READ ALSO: *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds and Chris Priestley



MEREDITH RUSSO
BIRTHDAY

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 304PP £7.99 ISBN 9781474967419

Eric and Morgan are bonded together after being born at the same time in a freak snowstorm in Thebes, Tennessee. We check in with Eric and Morgan each year on their shared birthday and see their struggles to find their place in the world. This very powerful book deals with multiple complex emotional topics in an accessible and relatable way. *Birthday* is relevant to any young adult looking to better understand their own feelings or the feelings of those around them. [KB]

READ ALSO: *The Art of Being Normal* by Lisa Williamson



NIKESH SHUKLA
THE BOXER

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 288PP £7.99 ISBN 9781444940695

A fantastic and much needed tale that is as much about overcoming fear as it is about standing up for what is right. When shy teenager Sunny is beaten in a racially fuelled attack, he takes up boxing to ensure he never feels so vulnerable again. Taken under the wing of boxing Olympian Shobu, things start to improve. However, racial tensions grow in the city and Sunny's new friend, Keir, is caught up in it. A timely look at belonging and the effects of racism. [BC]

READ ALSO: *I Am Thunder* by Muhammad Khan

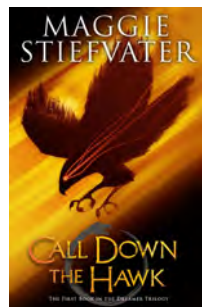


SIF SIGMARSDÓTTIR
THE SHARP EDGE OF A SNOWFLAKE

HODDER CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 292PP £7.99 ISBN 9781444935301

This YA Scandi-noir flips between the perspectives of two young girls, Hannah and Imogen, both of whom have arrived in Iceland from Britain for very different reasons. A highly readable thriller, this book also explores issues such as sexual assault and the ability of social media to present false versions of reality. Well-written and suspenseful, this has universal appeal and makes many pertinent points. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *Whiteout* by Gabriel Dylan



MAGGIE STIEFVATER
CALL DOWN THE HAWK

SCHOLASTIC NOV 2019 (HBK) 480PP £7.99 ISBN 9781338188325

The Raven Cycle, a series of four books by Stiefvater, features a character called Ronan Lynch – ‘more raven than boy’ – who, along with his brothers, appears in this book, the first in the Dreamer trilogy, a companion series to the Raven Cycle. One of the most anticipated contemporary fantasy releases of the year, this book has been surrounded by hype. While it will certainly appeal to fans of Stiefvater's earlier work, it doesn't preclude the newcomer. Recommended for fantasy fans. [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *A Curse So Dark and Lonely* by Brigid Kemmerer



DEIRDRE SULLIVAN
PERFECTLY PREVENTABLE DEATHS



HOT KEY BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 368PP £7.99 ISBN 9781471408236

When twins Maddy and Catlin move to Ballyfran, a village that has seen teenage girls vanish for generations, they think they are prepared for its peculiarities. But in a village with more than its fair share of secrets, can the twins' relationship survive when their lives begin to sharply diverge? Another unmissable read from Sullivan, whose work goes from strength to strength, this is a gothic, gripping and darkly funny tale of sisterhood and sacrifice that will have you instantly spellbound. [RC]

READ ALSO: *The Hazel Wood* by Melissa Albert



WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE
THE GIFTED, THE TALENTED AND ME

BLOOMSBURY YA 2019 (PBK) 336PP £7.99 ISBN 9781408890219

Sam is a pretty ordinary kid, which suits him fine, until one day his family becomes flush with cash. Suddenly he finds himself in a fancy London school for creative young people and sticks out like a sore thumb. Sutcliffe perfectly captures feeling out of step with the crowd with a clever wit. Sam's daily interactions with his family and new school are very amusing and feel true to life. Fans of Adrian Mole will find a welcome place on their shelves for this book. [CL]

READ ALSO: *Spud* by John van de Ruit



ANGIE THOMAS
ON THE COME UP

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 448PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406372168

Angie Thomas's much anticipated second novel keeps the hits coming, as readers follow the journey of Bri Jackson from high school student to teenage rapper. When she finally gets her big break, will she have to sacrifice too much? Just as in *The Hate U Give*, Thomas seamlessly blends family and relationship drama with larger societal issues of institutional racism, sexism and poverty. This well-crafted and difficult-to-put-down book brims with quiet intensity, the sparkling potential of its young protagonists leaping from every page. [LG]

READ ALSO: *Piecing Me Together* by Renée Watson



MARY WASTON
THE WICKERLIGHT

BLOOMSBURY YA 2019 (PBK) 432PP £7.99 ISBN 9781408884911

Zara is trying to find out why her sister died and to keep her parents together in the little village of Kilshamble. While following her sister's trail, she stumbles into a magical war that has something to do with her neighbour David. This book brings Irish folklore to life in a gripping struggle for survival. Watson has created a new world that will draw young adults in and keep them on the edge of their seats in this sequel to *The Wren Hunt*. [LK]

READ ALSO: *The Disappearances* by Emily Bain Murphy



RENÉE WATSON and ELLEN HAGAN
WATCH US RISE

BLOOMSBURY YA 2019 (PBK) 368PP £7.99 ISBN 9781526600868

Chelsea and Jasmine are 'artists'. They want to promote social justice through their writing but feel stifled, even at their hyper-liberal New York high school. To make their voices heard, they'll have to break some rules. Jasmine is an engaging narrator, particularly when describing the slow fallout from a tragic family illness, while Chelsea's poems perfectly capture the emotion and frustration of a developing teenage writer. Readers who avidly follow American cultural politics will find much here to provoke and inspire. [RSn]

READ ALSO: *Moxie* by Jennifer Mathieu



LISA WILLIAMSON **PAPER AVALANCHE**

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS 2019 (Hbk) 384PP £10.99 ISBN 9781910989968

Ro Snow lives a strictly regimented life. She has no friends, certainly no boyfriends and never any visitors. It's the only way she knows to keep her secret. But when Tanvi Shah comes back into her life, Ro quickly begins to lose control. And if she's losing control, there's no one to look after Bonnie, her mother. Williamson writes with an insight and a compassion that is as refreshing as it is compelling. Ro stands at the centre of the story, vulnerable, captivating and utterly relatable. [BL0]

READ ALSO: *No Fixed Address* by Susin Nielsen

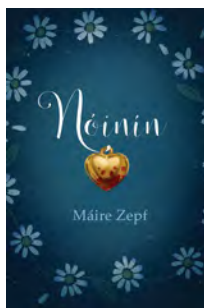


DAVID YOON **FRANKLY IN LOVE**

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE SEPT 2019 (PBK) 432PP £7.99 ISBN 9780241373439

Frank Li is a high school senior trying to navigate the minefield of dating. His parents have traditional Korean expectations for him that don't always fit the societal expectations of his southern Californian home. They believe that Frank should only date Korean girls. Brit Means is the girl that Frank falls for, even though he knows that his parents won't approve. This story looks at race and negotiating cultural differences with great charm and wit. It's a must read! [LL]

READ ALSO: *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* by Jenny Han



MÁIRE ZEPF **NÓINÍN**

ROGHA AN EAGARTHÓRA

COIS LIFE 2019 (BOG) 273LCH €10.00 ISBN 9781907494949

Déanann Zepf ceist na sábháilteachta agus an chairdis ar líne a chíoradh go híogair agus go healaíonta sa saothar saorvéarsaíochta seo. Déantar beirt phríomhcharachtar, Nóinín agus a cara dílis Eimear, a leanúint agus pléitear ceisteanna a bhaineann leis an ré dhigiteach i rith an scéil. Léirítear dhá thaobh an scéil le linn an leabhair, rud a chuireann go mór leis an reacaireacht. Bainfidh idir dhéagóirí agus léitheoirí fásta taitneamh as an leabhar seo go háirithe as an gcur chuige turgnamhach a chuirtear i bhfeidhm lena linn. [SMacR]

LÉIGH FREISIN: *Aisling nó Iníon* a le hEilís Ní Dhuibhne



JEFF ZENTNER **RAYNE & DELILAH'S MIDNITE MATINEE**

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 400PP £7.99 ISBN 9781783447992

Josie and Delia are best friends who host a public access TV show about bad low-budget horror films. Delia desperately seeks the father who disappeared when she was eight. She lives in a trailer with her mother, who has dark days and does tarot readings for extra cash. Josie wants to be a TV star. With a lot of hope to make it big, they head to ShiverCon Horror Festival where everything comes to a head. This is a coming-of-age story with a lot of heart. [Joak]

READ ALSO: *My So-Called Bollywood Life* by Nisha Sharma

DISCOVER THE WONDERS OF NATURE, HISTORY AND CULTURE



9781788001366



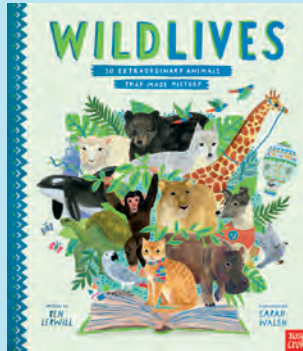
9781788001359



9781788004756



9781788001014



9781788005098



9781788004770



9781788004824



9781788004220



9781788004404

From exploring the natural world to unearthing ancient civilisations, delve into fascinating and fun non-fiction.

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crow**



LON LEE **FIRST EXPLORERS: MOON LANDING**

CAMPBELL BOOKS 2019 (BOARD) 10PP £5.99 ISBN 9781529003819

From the rocket launch, to the landing, to exploring the moon and to the return home, *First Explorers: Moon Landing* by the talented Lon Lee is comprehensive and engaging. It helps identify key vocabulary, great trivia points and questions for the reader throughout. The moving pieces are well produced, from changing the TV channels to helping the astronauts make a safe landing. *Moon Landing* is a perfect board book for small hands and young space lovers from the wonderful First Explorers series. (Age 0–2) [RE]

READ ALSO: First Explorers series by Campbell Books

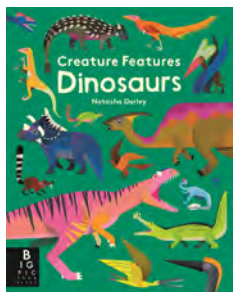


MY FIRST BOOK OF IRISH VEHICLES

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (BOARD) 18PP €8.99 ISBN 9781788491266

It's never too early for young readers to see their lives reflected in books. *My First Book of Irish Vehicles* from The O'Brien Press shows babies and toddlers the vehicles on the road, rails, sea and in the air all around them. The second in the My First Book of ... series, it will be a welcome addition to the libraries of young Irish children who have been looking at red buses in board books for too long. (Age 0–4) [BLa]

READ ALSO: *My First Book of GAA* by Joe Butler



NATASHA DURLEY **CREATURE FEATURES: DINOSAURS**

BIG PICTURE PRESS 2019 (HBK) 24PP £10.99 ISBN 9781787413818

Natasha Durley's *Creature Features: Dinosaurs* is bright, bold and tremendous fun. This entertaining and informative fact book by Big Picture Press will captivate very young readers and have them longing for more! Dinosaurs are grouped by their amazing features, whether it's long necks, very sharp teeth or creepy claws. Natasha Durley's bright primary-coloured illustrations and engaging text bring a long forgotten age back to life. An ideal gift for dinosaur fans both young and old. (Age 0–4) [EBy]

READ ALSO: *Creature Features* by Natasha Durley



KATIE DAYNES illustrated by CHRISTINE PYM **WHAT ARE FEELINGS?**

EDITOR'S CHOICE

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (BOARD) 12PP £9.99 ISBN 9781474948180

What Are Feelings? An excellent question! This book explores our emotions, from anger and sadness to fear and happiness. It is designed with plenty of flaps with questions about feelings, waiting for you to discover the answers underneath. This book explains not only what feelings appear like, but also how we can cope with them, why we feel them and how they can help us. An excellent reference point for all occasions, this book is one you will be reading again and again. (Age 2–4) [RE]

READ ALSO: *Ruby's Worry* by Tom Percival



NICOLA EDWARDS illustrated by HANNAH TOLSON
GOODNIGHT WORLD

CATERPILLAR BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848578043

This bedtime book is an absolute delight to read aloud! The beautiful soft, detailed illustrations by Hannah Tolson perfectly complement the lilting rhythm and rhyme, as each child in the story is wished 'Good night' in their own language. From Finnish to Swahili, you and your little one will have journeyed around the world, and back again, just before they nod off ... An ideal read for bedtime. (Age 2–6) [VLu]

READ ALSO: *Under the Love Umbrella* by Davina Bell and Allison Colpoys

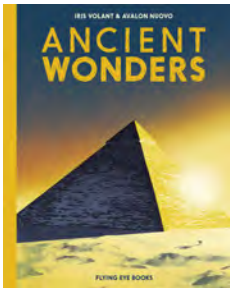


JULIETTE SAUMANDE illustrated by TARSILA KRÜSE **EDITOR'S CHOICE**
**MY LITTLE ALBUM OF DUBLIN:
 AN ENGLISH/IRISH WORDBOOK** 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS 2019 (HBK) 32PP €12.99 ISBN 9781847179982

Readers will delight in this beautifully illustrated picturebook as it transports us around Dublin. It incorporates popular sites like Dublin Zoo, the River Liffey and Croke Park. Each detailed page of the adventure combines both culture and language for a rich learning experience. The map to help readers visualise the layout of the city, combined with the vivid pictures, will likely make the book easy for anyone to understand, regardless of language proficiency. Fit for curious minds and design-savvy parents alike. (Age 4+) [AM]

READ ALSO: *Foclóirópedia* by John Burke and Fatti Burke



IRIS VOLANT and AVALON NUOVO
ANCIENT WONDERS

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 64PP £12.99 ISBN 9781912497140

This wonderful book takes the reader on a journey of discovery throughout the ancient world. It explores the Seven Wonders, of which the Great Pyramid at Giza is the only one still standing, in depth, including information on the ancient technologies that built them. But it also explores some other wonders of that ancient world that we can still visit today – for example, Stonehenge. Full of stunning illustrations and fascinating facts, this book is sure to delight history lovers of all ages. (Age 4+) [MBT]

READ ALSO: *Ancient Warriors* by Iris Volant and Joe Lillington

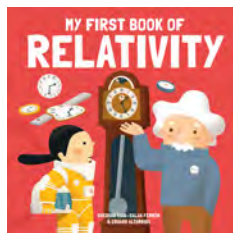


JOHN BURKE illustrated by FATTI BURKE
BRIAN BORU: THE WARRIOR KING 🍀

GILL BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP €9.99 ISBN 9780717184569

This second book in the Little Library series of inspirational Irish lives describes the life and times of warrior king Brian Boru. Brian's biography is effectively condensed into picturebook form with charming spreads dominated by bold, graphic illustrations in earthy tones. The brief but engaging text charts Brian's journey from son to warrior, chieftain and king, retelling exciting events and funny episodes. Expect pacts and feuds, raids and battles, Vikings and invasions. The backmatter also contains further interesting facts and an overall timeline. (Age 5+) [ED]

READ ALSO: *Constance Markievicz: The Rebel Countess* and *Granuaile: The Pirate Queen* by John Burke and Fatti Burke



SHEDDAD KAID-SALAH FERRON illustrated by **EDUARD ALTARRIBA**
MY FIRST BOOK OF RELATIVITY

BUTTON BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781787080324

This slim volume takes on some pretty big ideas as it delves into the key theories of Albert Einstein. Taking the premise that it is never too early to start exploring science, the book offers young children complex science presented through amusing text and big, bright illustrations. The mind-boggling theories dealt with here are condensed and simplified very well. The secrets of time, speed and space are revealed with fascinating examples. *My First Book of Relativity* is a wonderful reference book and introduction to science. (Age 5+) [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *My First Book of Quantum Physics* by Sheddad Kaid-Salah Ferron and Eduard Altarriba



BEX SHELFORD
BE AN IRISH EXPLORER:
AN ART JOURNAL AROUND IRELAND 🍀

GILL BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 64PP €9.99 ISBN 9780717183487

You don't even have to leave home to be an Irish explorer with Bex Shelford's wonderful interactive art journal. From Newgrange to Bunnratty, the Giant's Causeway to the Cliffs of Moher, curious and creative minds will be engaged in tasks such as drawing secret gardens, learning county colours through a doodle game and creating comics. Highlighting Ireland's landmarks, the book also provides lots of fascinating facts. Warning: even though recommended for rainy days, the spirit of adventure sparked may lead to wanting to book a trip once they're finished reading! (Age 5+) [AM]

READ ALSO: *My Ireland Activity Book* series by Natasha Mac a'Bháird and Alan Nolan

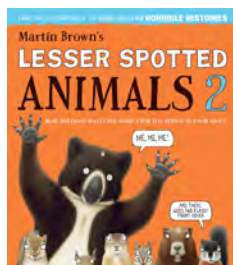


illustrated by **FATTI BURKE**
FIND TOM IN TIME, ANCIENT EGYPT 🍀

NOSY CROW 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781788001014

Our own Fatti Burke brings us this clever *Where's Wally*-style book with a historical theme. Granny Bea's grandson, Tom, is magically transported to Ancient Egypt where the adventure begins. Burke guides our tour through Egypt and hides a list of items and characters to be found in each scene. Burke's signature style shines and the reader will be so engaged with the pictures that they might not realise how much they've learned. This is a fun book for budding Egyptologists. (Age 5–8) [MAS]

READ ALSO: *So You Think You've Got It Bad? A Kid's Life in Ancient Egypt* by Chae Strathie and Marisa Morea



MARTIN BROWN
LESSER SPOTTED ANIMALS 2

DAVID FICKLING BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 56PP £12.99 ISBN 9781788450393

Do you know about the Yellow Bellied Glider, Blainville's Beaked Whale or Least Weasel? If not (which is most likely), Martin Brown's sequel, *Lesser Spotted Animals 2*, is the book for you. Filled with his trademark illustrations made famous by *Horrible Histories*, this is a tour of some of the animal kingdom's more obscure creatures. Packed with interesting facts and amusing jokes, this book also serves as a convincing plea for the conservation of endangered species. A must for any young zoologist. (Age 5–8) [CL]

READ ALSO: *Lesser Spotted Animals* by Martin Brown



OWEN DAVEY
FANATICAL ABOUT FROGS

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2019 (Hbk) 40PP £12.99 ISBN 9781912497058

Who knew frogs were so cool and interesting? The latest in writer–illustrator Owen Davey’s animal series, this is a gorgeous and comprehensive nature book. Written in a friendly and engaging style, Davey covers everything you need to know about our amphibian friends, from anatomy to mythology to croaking styles. The book is a pleasure to read and hold, sumptuously illustrated with rich colours printed on thick paper. There’s even an index that includes the Latin species names. Readers of all ages will enjoy. (Age 5–8) [EH]

READ ALSO: *Bonkers about Beetles* by Owen Davey



CLÉMENCE DUPONT
A BRIEF HISTORY OF LIFE ON EARTH

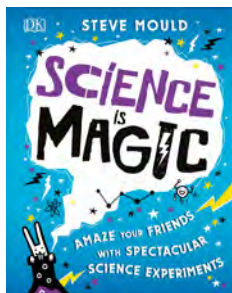
PRESTEL 2019 (Hbk) 76PP £17.99 ISBN 9783791373737

EDITOR'S CHOICE

Tracing the origins of life on earth, this book takes the reader on a journey through time. Page by page, the evolution of the world’s animals is revealed, with simple, striking illustrations making it all the more engaging. The entire book unfolds into a timeline chart that vividly illustrates the history of the planet, with humans only on earth for a small fraction of its existence. The issue of climate change is touched upon in a light but effective way. A beautifully produced, fascinating book.

(Age 5–8) [NMaca'B]

READ ALSO: *When the Whales Walked: And Other Incredible Evolutionary Journeys* by Dougal Dixon and Hannah Bailey



STEVE MOULD
SCIENCE IS MAGIC

DK 2019 (Hbk) 96PP £12.99 ISBN 9870241358269

An easy to follow collection of 28 science experiment, including fun projects such as ‘the floating paperclip’ and ‘the pepper repelling finger’. The book is accompanied by clear instructions, colourful diagrams and bright photography as to how to perform the optical illusions and tricks. *Science Is Magic* is also jam packed with fun facts, as well as profiles of magicians like Harry Houdini. *Science Is Magic* is sure to delight any aspiring young scientist! (Age 5–8) [GG]

READ ALSO: *The Bacteria Book* by Steve Mould

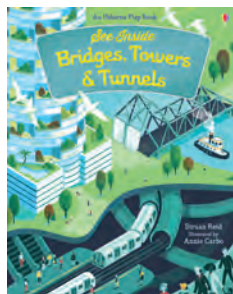


ISABEL OTTER illustrated by **CLOVER ROBIN**
TOGETHER

CATERPILLAR BOOKS OCT 2019 (Hbk) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848578661

Together by Isabel Otter, illustrated by Clover Robin, is a beautiful book of great depth and intrigue. This information picturebook explores the relationships between different animal groups and how they help each other in the great dance of nature. A clever die-cut follows the lead characters, cranes, on their migratory path by land and sea throughout the book as they observe all before them. The text is in haiku, traditionally written to celebrate the natural world. (Age 5–8) [EBy]

READ ALSO: *Migrations: Incredible Animal Journeys* by Mike Unwin and Jenni Desmond

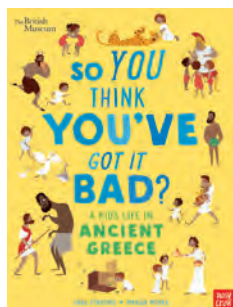


STRUAN REID illustrated by ANNIE CARBO
SEE INSIDE: BRIDGES, TOWERS & TUNNELS

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (BOARD) 16PP €9.99 ISBN 9781474922500

Do you understand how bridges and towers stay up or how a tunnel doesn't fill with water? The information here is distilled to the most interesting bits about this trio of engineering feats. Infographics, illustrations, flaps and large fold-outs make reading this book engaging. Clear explanations of how these bridges, towers and tunnels are built and function are offered along with ground-breaking and famous examples of each from around the world. It is the perfect book for a future engineer. (Age 5–8) [MAS]

READ ALSO: *See inside Rubbish and Recycling* by Alex Frith and Peter Allen



CHAE STRATHIE illustrated by MARISA MOREA
**SO YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT IT BAD?
 A KID'S LIFE IN ANCIENT GREECE**

NOSY CROW 2019 (HBK) 64PP €12.99 ISBN 9781788001366

There's a lot going on in this packed and rather breathless tour of Ancient Greek culture and customs, all written under the premise that, while modern life is absolutely horrible for children, ancient life was worse. As such, it will appeal more to kids than to their parents! The illustrations are colourful, using a two-dimensional child-like style. My eight-year-old Horrible Histories fan loved its irreverence and rudeness and absorbed the key information like a sponge. (Age 5–8) [EH]

READ ALSO: *Horrible History: Groovy Greeks* by Terry Deary and Martin Brown



NORAH PATTEN illustrated by JENNIFER FARLEY
**SHOOTING FOR THE STARS: MY JOURNEY TO
 BECOME IRELAND'S FIRST ASTRONAUT**

THE O'BRIEN PRESS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 44PP €16.99 ISBN 9781788491006

Ballina-born Dr Norah Patten is an aeronautical engineer and dedicated astronaut candidate. Shooting for the Stars follows her fascinating path to become Ireland's first astronaut and offers plenty of fun and interesting facts along the way. Be inspired by Norah's early life, aspirations, higher education and ongoing training, while also gaining insights into astronomy, astronaut training, space travel and life in space. The concise and accessible text offers facts, anecdotes and advice, balanced by attractive spreads of photographs and animated, yet informative, illustrations. (Age 5–8) [ED]

READ ALSO: *Balloon to the Moon* by Gill Arbuthnott and Chris Nielsen

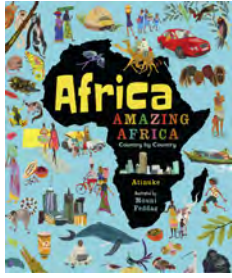


EDUARD ALTARRIBA illustrated by BERTA BARDI I MILA
DISCOVERING ARCHITECTURE

BUTTON BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 48PP €12.99 ISBN 9781787080287

From the blueprint endpapers, to the eight most iconic domes, to the importance of World's Fairs, this survey of architecture is flawless. Though 'world' architecture is a sizeable subject (from the pyramids to Mars), the text here is elegantly simplified and visually equalled by clean and engaging illustrations, diagrams and graphics. The intriguing content covers trends in architecture, iconic buildings, key movements and notable architects. As a mother and design historian, I recommend *Discovering Architecture* to all young builders. (Age 5–8, 8–11) [MAS]

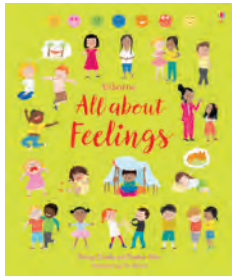
READ ALSO: *Iggy Peck Architect* by Andrea Beaty and David Roberts



ATINUKE illustrated by MOUNI FEDDAG
AFRICA, AMAZING AFRICA: COUNTRY BY COUNTRY
 WALKER BOOKS OCT 2019 (HBK) 80PP £14.99 ISBN 9781406376586

This beautiful book celebrates the people, culture and nature of the amazing continent of Africa. Atinuke, author of the popular Anna Hibiscus series, packs it with fascinating information – for example, Africa is as big as Europe, the USA, Mexico, India and Japan all put together! The illustrations are gorgeous – brightly coloured and full of movement. Each country gets one page – just enough to whet your appetite for reading more – and luckily the author includes a list of handy websites, so you can do just that. (Age 5–8, 9–11) [AG]

READ ALSO: *Knowledge Encyclopedia Animal!: The Animal Kingdom as You've Never Seen It Before* by DK

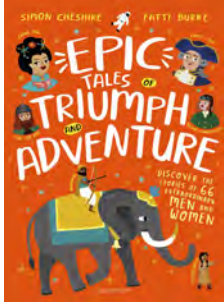


FELICITY BROOKS illustrated by MAR FERRERO
ALL ABOUT FEELINGS

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 32PP £9.99 ISBN 9781474937115

Everyone has feelings – and everyone feels overwhelmed by them sometimes. This exploration of emotions aims to give readers the words and images they need to talk about how they're feeling. Lively illustrations make the information being disseminated very accessible, accompanying the more complex concepts in a way that enriches the impact of the book. Interactive and informational, this book is timely and important. Essential reading for anyone who has ever wondered where their feelings come from and how to understand them. (Age 5–8, 9–11) [BL0]

READ ALSO: *All about Families* by Felicity Brooks and Mar Ferrero



SIMON CHESHIRE illustrated by FATTI BURKE
EPIC TALES OF TRIUMPH AND ADVENTURE

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 128PP £12.99 ISBN 9781526601124

Fatti Burke's distinctive illustrations will be familiar to many readers from *Irelandopedia*. Here, she applies her talents to accompany highly engaging text from prolific author Simon Cheshire focusing on a wide range of explorers and adventurers. With a two-page spread for each of the sixty-six figures, this book is a pleasure to dip into or to read straight through, and there's a satisfying mix of familiar names (Neil Armstrong, Amelia Earhart, Captain James Cook) with lesser-known figures, both recent and ancient. (Age 5–8, 9–11) [CH]

READ ALSO: *Bright Sparks* by Owen O'Doherty



SARAH CRUDDAS
**THE SPACE RACE:
 THE JOURNEY TO THE MOON AND BEYOND**

DK 2019 (HBK) 192PP £16.99 ISBN 9780241343777

As the fiftieth anniversary of the Apollo moon landing is upon us, this book is timely. *The Space Race* is written by Cruddas, a respected journalist and astrophysicist. The wide-ranging information is divided into three sections: To the Moon, After Apollo 11 and the New Space Race. The addition of Mark Ruffle's amazingly crisp illustrations and graphics, along with a plethora of historical photographs, make this fabulous book about space a delight. (Age 5–8, 9–11, 12–14) [MAS]

READ ALSO: *The Race to Space: From Sputnik to the Moon Landing and Beyond* by Clive Gifford and Paul Daviz



ANNA DOHERTY

THE BRONTËS: THE FANTASTICALLY FEMINIST (AND TOTALLY TRUE) STORY OF THE ASTONISHING AUTHORS

WREN & ROOK 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781526361066

This beautifully illustrated book combines prose, labelled diagrams and timelines to tell the fascinating story of the Brontës and their books. From their childhood in Yorkshire, to working as governesses, to the publication of *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*, this book catalogues the lives of Emily, Anne and Charlotte in great detail, all with approachable language and fun bite-sized chunks of text. Combine this with the charming and original illustrations, and Anna Doherty's book is the ideal gift for the young feminist and bookworm! (Age 6+) [GG]

READ ALSO: *Michelle Obama: The Fantastically Feminist (and Totally True) Story of the Inspirational Activist and Campaigner* by Anna Doherty



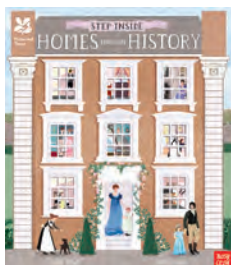
NATASHA SLEE illustrated by CYNTHIA KITTLER

PLANET FASHION: 100 YEARS OF FASHION HISTORY

WIDE EYED EDITIONS 2019 (HBK) 64PP £14.99 ISBN 9781786031945

Wow, what an unexpected journey I took when I sat down to read this incredible book detailing a hundred years of fashion history! From the Hollywood red carpet in the 1930s to the Swinging Sixties in London, right up to the more recent Decaro-style in Japan, this is definitely a book to be savoured. Cynthia Kittler's intricately detailed, vibrant illustrations bring each era to life. A must-read for the child in your life who loves the dressing-up box more than anything! (Age 6–12) [VLu]

READ ALSO: *How to Be a Fashion Designer* by Lesley Ward and Tiki Papier



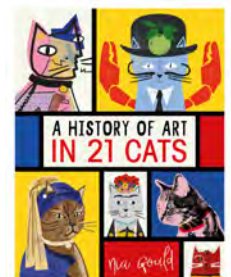
GOLDIE HAWK illustrated by SARAH GIBB

STEP INSIDE: HOMES THROUGH HISTORY

NOSY CROW SEPT 2019 (HBK) 48PP £14.99 ISBN 9781788004091

From the Late Middle Ages (1250–1500) right up to the present day, *Homes through History* provides a fascinating insight into how people live and have lived. This book is a winning combination of Sarah Gibb's bright detailed double-page spreads with clever cut-outs (mainly windows) and six pages of clear information for each period by Goldie Hawk, covering architecture, fashion, furniture and landscape gardening as well as names, occupations and games. Anyone with an interest in history will enjoy peering into the various homes, from castles to eco houses. (Age 7+) [MB]

READ ALSO: *Wonders: Then & Now* by Stuart Hill and Lindsey Spinks



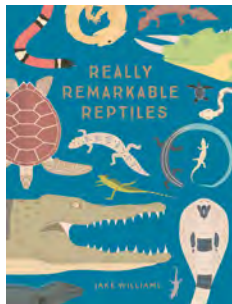
NIA GOULD

A HISTORY OF ART IN 21 CATS

LOM ART 2019 (HBK) 96PP £12.99 ISBN 9781910552902

Like cats? Like art? In this quirky illustrated introduction to art history, artist Nia Gould has compiled a cat-ologue (cat puns abound!) of twenty-one feline portraits, each one inspired by a movement in art. From Ancient Egyptian to Impressionism, from Cubism to Pop Art, each one features a cat portraying all the key styles, followed by bite-sized nuggets on notable artists and motifs. Concise text delivers illuminating facts in a fun, unstuffy way. Purr-fect for mugging up before a gallery visit. (Age 7+) [SMcK]

READ ALSO: *The Book of the Cat: Cats in Art* by Caroline Roberts



JAKE WILLIAMS
REALLY REMARKABLE REPTILES

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 96PP £12.99 ISBN 9781843653721

Wonderfully illustrated, this super fact-filled book is a must for any child interested in the science of herpetology. There are charts of the various types of reptiles and pages full of fascinating facts. Chapters deal with the reptilian life cycle and timeline through history and the different types of reptiles – from lizard to snake, turtle to crocodile – ending with a reminder of how we all have an important part to play in protecting natural habitats and keeping the planet bio-diverse. (Age 7+) [PNic] READ ALSO: *Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor: The Woman Who Loved Reptiles* by Patricia Valdez

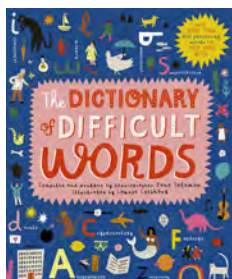


ANNE BLANCHARD illustrated by **TINO**
SUPER SCIENTISTS: 40 INSPIRING ICONS

WIDE EYED EDITIONS 2019 (HBK) 96PP £9.99 ISBN 9781786034731

This reference book, bright and informed, chronologically explores the people of history who endeavoured to enlighten us as to how our planet works. From Thales (600 BC) and his fellow Greeks' earliest quests for information on all things scientific right up to the New York Planetarium's director, Neil deGrasse Tyson, no major brain has been left out – including the women who made contributions to the field and the quirky minds of Einstein and Hawking. Every young scientist and school library needs this volume on their shelf. (Age 7–10) [EBK]

READ ALSO: *Odd Science: Spectacular Space* by James Olstein

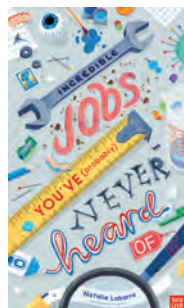


JANE SOLOMON illustrated by **LOUISE LOCKHART**
THE DICTIONARY OF DIFFICULT WORDS

FRANCES LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 112PP £17.99 ISBN 9781786038104

'Words are wonderful': so this book's intro proclaims, and without words this magnificent book wouldn't exist. This informative title would be perfect for young bookworms trying to extend their vocabulary. With words such as *triskaidekaphobia* (fear of the number thirteen), which happens to be the longest word in the book, it paints a brilliant picture of the language we use daily. The amazing illustrations, including some full-page ones, by Louise Lockhart help to bring these complex words alive. (Age 7–11, 12–15) [DB]

READ ALSO: *What a Wonderful Word* by Nicola Edwards and Luise Uribe

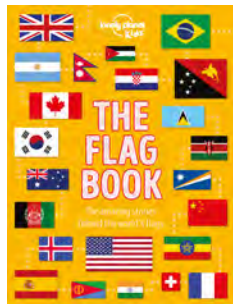


NATALIE LABARRE
INCREDIBLE JOBS YOU'VE (PROBABLY) NEVER HEARD OF

NOSY CROW OCT 2019 (HBK) 48PP £14.99 ISBN 9781788004770

This stunning picturebook is ideal for any child with a wild imagination. The author takes us on a tour of some of the world's weirdest jobs, from the gruesome (corpse farming) to the awesome (water-slide tester). Beautifully illustrated, it draws your eye around the page, begging you to explore every inch to uncover its secrets, puzzles and challenges. A celebration of every child's uniqueness and potential, this jam-packed and fascinating book is bound to have something for everyone. (Age 8+) [KM]

READ ALSO: *What People Do All Day* by Richard Scarry



THE FLAG BOOK

LONELY PLANET KIDS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 184PP £14.99 ISBN 9781788683098

Flags are all around us, from the iconic images of Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong planting the American flag on the moon to our pride as a nation when we saw Katie Taylor winning gold with the tricolour fluttering around her. Not only does this book tell the story of the flags we know, but the smallest nations' flags are given equal attention here too. It's also full of information on flags used for sports, semaphore flags and even pirate flags. It will appeal to budding vexillologists everywhere! (Age 8–12) [BLA]

READ ALSO: *Raise the Flag* by Clive Gifford and Tim Bradford

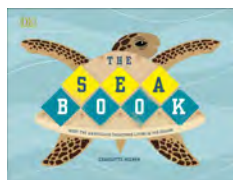


LUKE O'NEILL illustrated by LINDA FÄHRLIN THE GREAT IRISH SCIENCE BOOK

GILL BOOKS OCT 2019 (HBK) 96PP €24.99 ISBN 9780717185580

The Great Irish Science Book is a must-read for any young scientist in Ireland, packed full of interesting things to learn and do for anyone aged 8–12. It is designed to create budding scientists and incite wonder in any young reader. The book explains various topics using experiments, Linda Fährlin's bright illustrations and jokes to keep the reader engaged. Best of all, Luke O'Neill highlights Irish connections to these topics and tells us about famous Irish scientists and the discoveries they made. (Age 8–12) [NG]

READ ALSO: *Science Lab* by Robert Winston



CHARLOTTE MILNER THE SEA BOOK

DK 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9780241355374

This book is a wonderful celebration of our seas. It is timely – given planet – and explores all aspects of marine life, from the cold seas under ice floes to the warm environs of colourful coral reefs and underwater forests. It also looks at how this world is changing, is in danger and what we can do to help, but this is handled in a subtle, non-preachy way, with beautiful, warm illustrations. Charlotte Milner's *The Sea Book* is a must read. (Age 9–11) [EBy]

READ ALSO: *The Sea: Exploring Our Blue Planet* by Miranda Krestovnikoff and Jill Calder



ISABEL THOMAS illustrated by PAOLA ESCOBAR LITTLE GUIDES TO GREAT LIVES: ANNE FRANK

LAURENCE KING PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 64PP £8.99 ISBN 9781786274755

Anne Frank's wartime diary is one of the most famous diaries in the world. It seems strange that so many millions of people should have read her most personal thoughts, dreams and memories, but her words have taught generations about the realities of war and persecution and how, even in the darkest of times, love, friendship and family can make a difference. Beautifully presented and illustrated this guide gives insight and context to one of the most important writers ever to put pen to paper. (Age 9–11) [BL0]

READ ALSO: *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank

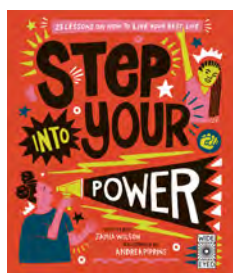


SARAH WEBB illustrated by GRAHAM CORCORAN
DARE TO DREAM: IRISH PEOPLE WHO TOOK ON THE WORLD (AND WON!) 🍀

THE O'BRIEN PRESS OCT 2019 (HBK) 64PP €16.99 ISBN 9781788491273

It's not just the obvious people, like James Joyce, that are covered in this engaging compendium – I have learnt about amazing individuals I'd never heard of before. My favourite, Albert DJ Cashier, was a girl called Jennie who lived her life as a male soldier and fought in the American Civil War! The vivid portraits by Graham Corcoran illustrate each character 'in action', while Sarah Webb's accessible prose delivers key and fun facts. A great addition to home and school bookshelves. (Age 9–11) [SMcK]

READ ALSO: *Dream Big: Heroes Who Dared to Be Bold* by Sarah Morgan and James Rey Sanchez



JAMIA WILSON illustrated by ANDREA PIPPINS
**STEP INTO YOUR POWER:
 23 LESSONS TO LIVE YOUR BEST LIFE**

WIDE EYED EDITIONS 2019 HBK 64PP £14.99 ISBN 9781786035851

In a world that so often wants girls to be meek and quiet, this book advises facing your fears, pursuing your goals, standing up for yourself and against injustice, and not listening to the many voices insisting that you're 'not good enough'. Wilson draws on personal experience and quotes from women she admires to support a self-help guide that is encouraging without being too cutesy, reminding readers that we are all 'perfectly imperfect'. Pippins's bright illustrations are the icing on this empowering cake. (Age 9–11, 12–14) [CH]

READ ALSO: *All the Ways to Be Smart* by Davina Bell and Allison Colpoys

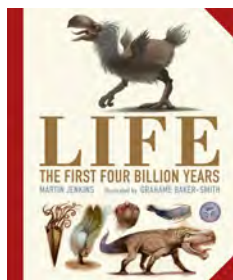


HENRY CARROLL illustrated by MATT JOHNSTONE
**BE A SUPER AWESOME PHOTOGRAPHER:
 20 PHOTO CHALLENGES INSPIRED BY THE MASTERS**

LAURENCE KING PUBLISHING 2019 (HBK) 58PP €9.99 ISBN 9781786275578

With simple guides to using a camera and clear explanations of photography concepts, this is an entertaining book for anyone with even a passing interest in taking memorable pictures. *Be a Super Awesome Photographer* uses twenty striking photographs to demonstrate the power of perspective, lighting, composition and so on. The reader is challenged to experiment to create masterpieces of their own. This practical photography guide book would be appreciated best by 9–14 year olds, but all ages can learn something from this accessible book. (Age 9–14) [NG]

READ ALSO: *The Camera Book* by John Davis



MARTIN JENKINS illustrated by GRAHAME BAKER-SMITH
LIFE: THE FIRST FOUR BILLION YEARS

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 80PP £16.99 ISBN 9781406372700

This book explores life on Earth from the big bang to the ice age, all the way up to the beginning of early man. Short chapters provide comprehensive but accessible information on the age of dinosaurs, aquatic life and much more, all accompanied by full colour sketches and diagrams. Fold-out timelines and diagrams make this book approachable and fun to dip in and out of. Well researched and completed with a glossary, this visually stunning book is absolutely outstanding, and an ideal gift. (Age 10–12, 12–14) [GG]

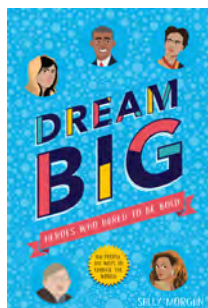
READ ALSO: *The Birth of the Earth* by Jacqui Bailey



LEIVISON WOOD illustrated by SAM BREWSTER
INCREDIBLE JOURNEYS: DISCOVERY, ADVENTURE, DANGER, ENDURANCE

WREN & ROOK 2019 (HBK) 64PP £14.99 ISBN 9781526360434

Journeys can be as simple as getting from A to B or as dramatic as discovering an entire new continent, as this book demonstrates. With a global focus that explores voyages throughout the world, this book grabs readers' attention and provides them with plenty of information not based around Eurocentric perspectives. Every child is taught how Columbus 'discovered' America, but for those who are also interested in the voyages of Alexander the Great, the Vikings and Ibn Battuta, this book is for you. (Age 10–14) [BB]
 READ ALSO: *Amazing Expeditions: Journeys That Changed the World* by Anita Ganeri and Michael Mullen



SALLY MORGAN illustrated by JAMES REY SANCHEZ
DREAM BIG: HEROES WHO DARED TO BE BOLD

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 208PP £8.99 ISBN 9781407189031

Activist, artist, athlete, ecologist, entrepreneur, journalist, politician, scientist, writer ... how would you like to make a difference in this world? You'll get plenty of ideas from this book, as it contains a hundred portraits and short biographies of people who dared to act. From a variety of countries and backgrounds, some still only in their teens, each one is an inspiration. With a suggestion of one thing you can do accompanying each profile, this lovely book might help you start transforming your dreams into reality. (Age 11–14) [SMcN]

READ ALSO: *Blazing a Trail: Irish Women Who Changed the World* by Sarah Webb and Lauren O'Neill



RIYADH KHALAF illustrated by MELISSA MCFEETERS
YAY! YOU'RE GAY! NOW WHAT?: A GAY BOY'S GUIDE TO LIFE

FRANCES LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 224PP £9.99 ISBN 9781786031914

Full of information and tips about coming out, first crushes, puberty and body image, along with advice on break-ups, bullying and safety, this book is an entertaining and reassuring read, not only for teens but also for their families, friends and teachers. Even though it covers some serious topics, it's written with a light touch and has lots of humour, memorable stories and beautiful illustrations. With a central message of self-acceptance and tolerance, this book is a must for any secondary school or public library. (Age 12+) [SMcN]

READ ALSO: *This Book Is Gay* by Juno Dawson



editors of Teen Breathe
TEEN BREATHE: BE KIND

AMMONITE PRESS 2019 (HBK) 128PP £9.99 ISBN 9781781453896

A comprehensive, accessible guide for young people, which includes tips on making friends, conflict management, self-care and cultivating a positive body image. It promotes the importance of kindness and how it shapes not only the individual but also the world around us. The digestible chapters and beautiful full-colour illustrations are very appealing. The content is relevant and approachable for teenagers, without being cliché or patronising. It also touches on topical issues: handling prejudice and promoting cultural diversity and acceptance. An ideal gift for someone starting secondary school. (Age 12+) [GG]

READ ALSO: Teen Breathe Series by editors of Teen Breathe



ANNA WILLIAMSON illustrated by SOPHIE BEER
HOW NOT TO LOSE IT: MENTAL HEALTH SORTED

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 176PP £9.99 ISBN 9781407193144

A wonderful book that will help readers to understand and look after their mental health. Covering topics such as anxiety, depression, stress, friendships, romantic relationships, family, phobias and self-care, this book is full of helpful information and hints, all presented using clear language and excellent illustrations and graphics. Readers of all ages will benefit from the book's central messages: everyone is the boss of their own mental health, and it is so important to talk and ask for help if you are struggling. (Age 12+) [SMcN]

READ ALSO: *Positively Teenage: A Positively Brilliant Guide to Teenage Well-Being* by Nicola Morgan



MICHAEL ROBB
**BIOGRAPHIC: DICKENS,
 GRAPHIC LIVES IN GRAPHIC FORM**

AMMONITE PRESS 2019 (HBK) 96PP £9.99 ISBN 9781781453643

Charles Dickens was one of England's most socially conscientious writers. Covering everything from phrases Dickens used throughout his books to his inspiration for some of his most famous stories, as well as information about the world and society in which he lived, this graphic novel offers the reader an essential window into life in Victorian England. Full of facts, context and historical intrigue, this biographic graphic novel is endlessly interesting and provides genuine insight into one of the world's most famous and prolific writers. (Age 12–14) [BL0]

READ ALSO: the Little Guides to Great Lives series



JANE BINGHAM and HOLLY BATHIE
 illustrated by NANCY LESCHNIKOFF and FREYA HARRISON
MANAGING YOUR MONEY

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 208PP £6.99 ISBN 9781474951265

Any young reader who is interested in learning how to take control of their money should pick up this book. It is an accessible and clear guide to savings, spending and banking. *Managing Your Money* covers everything from first employment to pensions and keeps the reader engaged throughout with clear illustrations, quizzes and examples. By the end, young readers should be able to create a simple budget and savings plan. Everyone could learn something from this book! (Age YA) [NG]

READ ALSO: *All about Money* by Alvin Hall



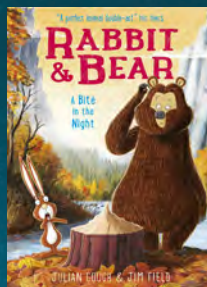
GAL-DEM illustrated by JESS NASH
"I WILL NOT BE ERASED"

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 176PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406386370

An uplifting collection of personal coming-of-age stories by people of colour, this book touches on many tough topics that all teenagers grapple with – body issues, drugs, sexuality, relationships, gender identity. This is a must-read for anyone aged 15–18 who feels that they don't see themselves reflected in the media around them. It is a celebration of identity and will inspire many to begin that rewarding journey to self-acceptance. Reading this book will give any reader hope for their future and the motivation to follow their dreams. (Age YA) [NG]

READ ALSO: *Rise Up! The Art of Protest* by Jo Rippon

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edited by **RACHEL WILLIAMS**
 illustrated by **CHLOE GIORDANO**
READ TO YOUR BABY EVERY DAY

FRANCES LINCOLN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 64PP £12.99 ISBN 9781786037701

This collection of thirty classic nursery rhymes has been prettily illustrated with embroidered pictures. It has all the big hits: 'Wheels on the Bus', 'Hickory Dickory Dock', 'Pop Goes the Weasel' and so on. If you don't have a book of nursery rhymes already this one is a nice option. The layout is one rhyme per page, perfect for when you have to read it again and again to your toddler! It makes good bedtime reading for babies and children up to age five or a little more. (Age 0–6) [TO'B]

READ ALSO: *A Sailor Went to Sea, Sea, Sea* by Sarah Webb and Steve McCarthy



JAMES CARTER illustrated by **VALERIO VIDALI**
ONCE UPON A RHYTHM: THE STORY OF MUSIC

CATERPILLAR BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848578449

Boom! This glorious book traces the story of music from its origins in Africa up to the present day. The use of rhyme is very effectively employed to explore instruments, song, notation and musical styles in a child-friendly way. Indeed, the book is best read aloud, as the words have a musical rhythm to them. With Vidali's bold and striking graphic illustrations, this book is a wonderful introduction to music for the very young. (Age 2–5) [LB]

READ ALSO: *All Join In!* by Quentin Blake



JAMES CARTER illustrated by **AARON CUSHLEY** 🍀
THE BIG BEYOND: THE STORY OF SPACE TRAVEL

CATERPILLAR BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781848577978

A brief poetic account of the history of space travel, from star gazing to Earth orbiting to Moon landing, ending with an informative acrostic on rockets. Cushley's illustrations, including a beautifully detailed drawing of the International Space Station, complement and frame Carter's verse. As we mark the fiftieth anniversary of the moon landings, this timely book inspires even the very young to look skyward. (Age 2–4, 5–8) [CMo]

READ ALSO: *The World's Greatest Space Cadet Poems* by James Carter

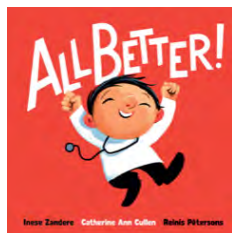


LORNA GUTIERREZ illustrated by **POLLY NOAKES**
DARE

TINY OWL 2019 (PBK) 28PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910328422

Filled with messages and images of empowerment, *Dare* is a richly diverse and charming story seeking to inspire young readers to embrace their true selves. Daring the reader to dream, trust and aspire to do their best, the book reminds us of the importance of reaching out, speaking out and being a shining light in the darkness. Accompanied by playful illustrations that capture the way a child's imagination moulds the world around them, this story is a mantra to be embraced by readers of all ages. (Age 2–4, 5–8) [RC]

READ ALSO: *I'm a Girl!* by Yasmeen Ismail



INESE ZANDERE illustrated by **REINIS PĒTERSONS**
 translated by **CATHERINE ANN CULLEN**
ALL BETTER! 🌱

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP €10.00 ISBN 9781910411858

All Better is a collection of poems about being sick. If a child gets a temperature, has to take medicine or go to the hospital, there is a poem to cover it and take the fear away. With light-hearted rhymes and colourful illustrations, this collection is a useful resource for parents to help children understand what is happening. It is also a good resource in a library for children to borrow. Originally written in Latvian, the poems have been beautifully reimaged by Catherine Ann Cullen. (Age 3–7) [TO'B]

READ ALSO: *A Great Big Cuddle* by Michael Rosen and Chris Riddell



NICOLA DAVIES illustrated by **MARC MARTIN**
EVERY CHILD A SONG

WREN & ROOK 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781526361417

This beautiful book is a celebration of children's rights, as enshrined in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Nicola Davies's poetic text celebrates of the uniqueness of every child. Her words are perfectly complemented by Marc Martin's gorgeous watercolours. A timely reminder that many children around the world continue to be let down by those in authority and that 'together, we must do better, so that every child can grow up with a song in their heart'. Highly recommended. (Age 5–8) [ABe]

READ ALSO: *Declaration of the Rights of Boys and Girls* by Élisabeth Brami and Estelle Billon-Spagnol



JEFFERY ALAN LOVE
THE HERO'S QUEST

WALKER STUDIO NOV 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781406387889

This is the story of every hero and every quest in modern stories and ancient myths, written in verse and depicted through bold atmospheric images by Jeffery Alan Love. The reader is taken on a journey past dragons, wolves, elves and gods, using vivid prints that fill the page and the heart. This book is a work of art, immersing the reader in another mythical world. A book to be enjoyed by children and adults alike, with something new to be discovered with each reading. (Age 6+) [BLa]

READ ALSO: *Quest* by Aaron Becker



TED HUGHES illustrated by **Andy Lovell** **EDITOR'S CHOICE**
COLLECTED ANIMAL POEMS VOL 1: THE IRON WOLF

FABER & FABER 2019 (HBK) 112PP £10.00 ISBN 9780571349395

Faber's ninetieth year sees the reissue of Hughes's nature poems for children in four volumes, each one more challenging than the last. The first bursts with seventy works, from a whale 'wild as a hand / Among harp strings / And plunging through all the seas' to a shrimp who has 'the surf as a rocking chair'. Together they remind us that Hughes remains essential for all ages. Riddell's ink drawings and the lone wolf cover and endpapers by Andy Lovell are captivating. Read all four! (Age 7–10) [CAC]

READ ALSO: *Collected Animal Poems Vol 2: What Is the Truth?* by Ted Hughes and Mark Heard

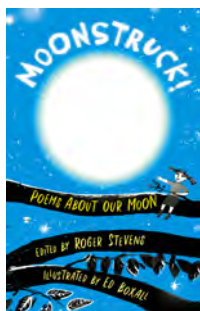


edited by **RICHARD O'BRIEN**
illustrated by **EMMA DAI'AN WRIGHT**
**DRAGONS OF THE PRIME:
POEMS ABOUT DINOSAURS**

THE EMMA PRESS 2019 (PBK) 128PP £10.99 ISBN 9781912915057

'We don't know how the tide has turned to leave them cold and docile. There's still plenty to be learned from this exquisite fossil.' *Dragons of the Prime: Poems about Dinosaurs* is a fantastic and fierce anthology of diverse poetry from a range of thirty-seven poets, focusing on the remarkable dinosaurs that lived during the Mesozoic era. With interesting notes from Will Tattersdill, including glossary terms and fascinating facts, this book is sure to please readers young and old, especially budding poets and palaeontologists. (Age 8+) [SQ]

READ ALSO: *Dinosaur Poems* compiled by Paul Cookson

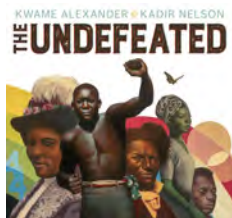


edited by **ROGER STEVENS** illustrated by **ED BOXALL**
MOONSTRUCK! POEMS ABOUT OUR MOON

OTTER-BARRY BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 96PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910959657

A collection of poems from a variety of ages, eras and imaginations. Stevens imagines Neil Armstrong's view of the Sea of Tranquility in 'The Eagle Has Landed', while nine-year-old Sam Decie imagines climbing a million elephants stacked high in 'Eight Ways to Get to the Moon'. 'The Moon Speaks!' creatively renders a concrete poem of the moon, shadow and all, while Percy Bysshe Shelley considers the lonely journey of its eternal orbit. Boxall's accompanying ink drawings breathe beauty into these lunar musings and fantastical truths. (Age 9–11) [CMO]

READ ALSO: *Spaced Out! Space Poems* by Brian Moses and James Carter

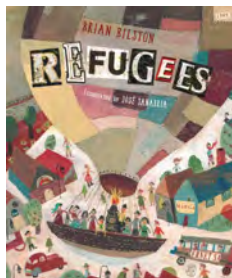


KWAME ALEXANDER illustrated by **KADIR NELSON**
THE UNDEFEATED

ANDERSEN PRESS OCT 2019 (PBK) 36PP £12.99 ISBN 9781783449293

This long poem and dramatic full-page illustrations celebrate the history of the struggles and survival of African Americans. These are 'dreamers and doers' who overcame prejudice and oppression to achieve great things in politics, literature, music and sport. Supported by a helpful glossary, we meet Martin Luther King Jr, Billie Holliday, Jesse Owens and many others. This book has broad appeal. The advanced vocabulary is suitable for children 11+ but younger readers will enjoy hearing and reading along with the poem, images and stories. (Age 9–11, 12–14) [EMcS]

READ ALSO: *Young, Gifted and Black* by Jamia Wilson and Andrea Pippins



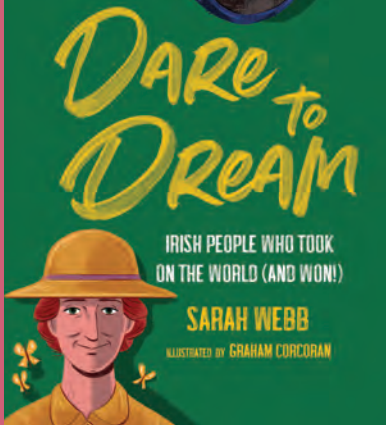
BRIAN BILSTON illustrated by **JOSÉ SANABRIA**
REFUGEES

PALAZZO OCT 2019 (PBK) 32PP £10.99 ISBN 9781786750723

This long poem describes in words and colourful images the plight of refugees, seen from two different points of view. It starts with the idea that these newcomers are 'layabouts and loungers'. But then we see things in a different way – by turning the book upside down! From this new viewpoint, refugees are 'people just like us' who need our help. Young readers of 9+ will love the rhythm and easy rhymes. The different perspectives promote critical thinking for readers of all ages. (Age 9–11, 12–14) [EMcS]

READ ALSO: *The Journey* by Francesca Sanna

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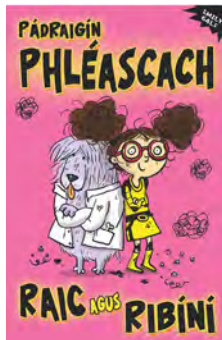
AN GÚM

FÓMHAR FAIRSING

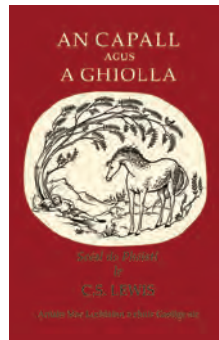
4 new books this autumn



Is mise Manchán Maximus
Tim Collins
ISBN 9781857919509 €7.50 Bog



Pádraigín Phléascach - Raic agus Ribíní
Emily Gale
ISBN 9781857919486 €7 Bog



An Capall agus a Ghiolla
C.S. Lewis, Aistrithe ag A. Mac Lochlainn
ISBN 9781857919516 €12 Bog



An Eala Órga
Gabriel Rosenstock / Brian Fitzgerald
ISBN 9781857919493 €9 Bog

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Foras na Gaeilge



selected by **FIONA WATERS**

illustrated by **FRANN PRESTON-GANNON**

I AM THE SEED THAT GREW THE TREE: A NATURE POEM FOR EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR

NOSY CROW 2018 (HBK) 336PP £25.00 ISBN 9780857637703

This is a stunning anthology of 365 nature poems that deserves pride of place in every home, school and library. Waters has selected deservedly well-loved classic and contemporary poems, and they are beautifully illustrated by Preston-Gannon's gorgeous, colourful double-page spreads, so that every page invites. The book is laid out month by month, with a contents list at the beginning of each section, and is meticulously indexed by poem, poet and first line. A book that will be treasured throughout childhood and beyond. (Poetry, All Ages) [ABe]
 READ ALSO: *A Year of Nature Poems* by Joseph Coelho and Kelly Louise Judd



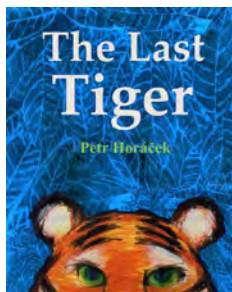
BARROUX

WHERE'S THE STARFISH?

EGMONT 2016 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781405271394

Beyond the plea to find particular sea creatures in each page, there aren't many words in this book. However, illustrations speak volumes: as the reader increasingly struggles to find the hiding starfish, clownfish and jellyfish amongst a growing pile of detritus, Barroux's illustrations deliver a powerful message about mankind's relationship to the environment. The use of colour – from the rich hues of the sea to the greys of pollution, back to multicolour spreads – complements this ultimately hopeful and clever reinterpretation of the search-and-find book. (Age 0–4) [VLe]

READ ALSO: *Where's the Elephant?* by Barroux



PETR HORÁČEK

THE LAST TIGER

OTTER-BARRY BOOKS SEPT 2019 (HBK) 32PP £11.99 ISBN 9781910959718

The last tiger lives happily in the woods before hunters steal him away and imprison him in a zoo for everyone to gawk at him. While the story is very simple, it more than makes up for it with the beautiful illustrations. The contrast between the green and blue environment and the bright orange tiger is stunning. The use of watercolours in the backgrounds is lovely. The message is important, inviting the reader to think about the life of animals on the other side of the cages. (Age 0–4) [RE]

READ ALSO: *Shh! We Have a Plan* by Chris Haughton



OLIVER JEFFERS aistrithe ag **MÁIRE ZEPF**

ANSEO ATÁ MUID

FUTA FATA 2018 (CRUA) 36LCH €16.95 ISBN 9871910945391

Is buntreoir atá sa leabhar seo a scríobh Jeffers dá mhac chun an domhan agus an cine daonna a mhíniú dó. Príomhtheachtairacht an leabhair seo ná go bhfuil spás dúinn uilig ar an domhan seo. Cuirtear é sin in iúl le léaráidí sonracha a leathnaíonn amach go minic thar chúpla leathanach. (Aois 0–4) [NNÍF]

LÉIGH FRESIN: *A Leithéid!* le Gillian Lobel, Gabriel Rosenstock agus Adrienne Geoghegan

ROGHAN EAGARTHÓRA

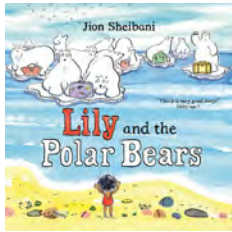


KATIE COTTLE
THE GREEN GIANT

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781843654001

Bea is going on a holiday, away from the city, to see her grandad, who owns a lovely greenhouse that is home to more than a few exotic plants . . . A charming book that highlights the benefits of involving nature in your life. The typography is fun to play with, especially when reading aloud, and the illustrations are lovely. It is a sweet story that will inspire any reader to appreciate nature and ends on an optimistic note: the world looks best when green. (Age 2–4) [RE]

READ ALSO: *The Blue Giant* by Katie Cottle

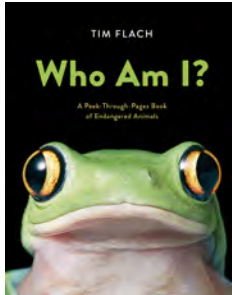


JION SHEIBANI
LILY AND THE POLAR BEARS

FABER & FABER 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571337767

On the beach with Grandpa one day, Lily is surprised to see lots of polar bears floating to shore. Their homes have all melted. What will they do? Lily invites them to her house for a dinner of fish fingers and ice cream and to stay. And they have so much fun! It turns out that polar bears are good at many things, and they're very helpful. Before long, everyone is welcoming them! A funny brightly illustrated story about our responsibility to each other and the planet. (Age 2–4) [MEJ]

READ ALSO: *Leaf* by Sandra Dieckmann

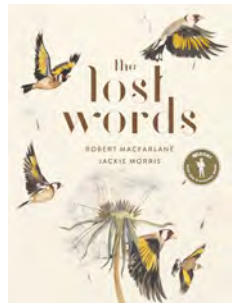


TIM FLACH
WHO AM I? A PEEK-THROUGH-PAGES BOOK OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS

ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS NOV 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781419736469

Peep through the windows on each page and answer a riddle to discover some of the rarest creatures on planet Earth. A selection of beautifully captured pictures by internationally acclaimed wildlife photographer Tim Flach shows the animals in exquisite detail, from the yellow-eyed tree frog to the crowned sifaka. Shot with striking definition, the images feature well-known animals, but also some that are less familiar. This book answers big questions about why a species is endangered and also suggests how we can help. (Non-fiction, Age 2–4, 5–8) [OH]

READ ALSO: *Hello Hello* by Brendan Wenzel

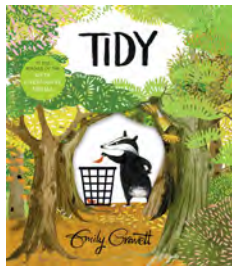


ROBERT MACFARLANE illustrated by **JACKIE MORRIS**
THE LOST WORDS

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE 2017 (HBK) 128PP £20.00 ISBN 9780241341018

It is difficult to adequately convey the sheer beauty of this book. Digging deep into those things that are all too often ignored, MacFarlane and Morris capture the splendour of the natural world with images and words that celebrate the flare of the kingfisher, ring out the rasp of the raven and reflect the dazzle of the dandelion. The illustrations are detailed and vivid and the words hit the high notes of our glorious natural world. (Poetry, Age 2–4, 5–8, 8–10) [AR]

READ ALSO: *Adder*, *Bluebell*, *Lobster* by Chrissie Gittins and Paul Bommer



EMILY GRAVETT
TIDY

TWO HOOTS 2017 (PBK) 40PP £6.99 ISBN 9781447273998

Pete the Badger loves to keep things tidy. He begins a campaign to clean up the forest, but when he ends up going too far, Pete realises that sometimes things are best left as nature intended, no matter how messy that might be. Emily Gravett's rhyming tale is warm, witty and perfect to read aloud. It also conveys an environmental message about respecting the natural world with its falling leaves, grubby animals and muddy surfaces, all of which are beautifully depicted in Gravett's glorious illustrations. (Age 3–6) [BF]

READ ALSO: *The Only Way Is Badger* by Stella J. Jones and Carmen Saldaña

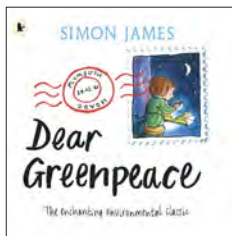


GILLIAN HIBBS
ERROL'S GARDEN

CHILD'S PLAY 2018 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781786280848

Errol loves gardening but doesn't have enough space in his city apartment. Can a chance discovery make his garden dream come true? This sweetly positive story highlights the importance of community. Lovely illustrations celebrate diversity, and, with its simple text, this book is sure to appeal to younger children and be read again and again. (Age 3–6) [PS]

READ ALSO: *Anywhere Farm* by Phyllis Root and G. Brian Karas



SIMON JAMES
DEAR GREENPEACE

WALKER BOOKS 2016 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406367409

Emily is terribly worried that the whale in her pond might be ill or hurt. So she writes to Greenpeace. They write back! Offering the best advice, Greenpeace firmly insists that a whale could not possibly be living in her pond. But Emily persists, determined to give Arthur (the whale) the very best care until she can finally set him free. Chock-full of information, this gentle, fancifully illustrated story creates a heartwarming space for children to explore their concerns for wildlife. Simply beautiful! (Age 3–6) [MEJ]

READ ALSO: *The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies



SARAH ROBERTS illustrated by **HANNAH PECK**
SOMEBODY SWALLOWED STANLEY

SCHOLASTIC 2019 (PBK) 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781407195100

The strong cover and funny title set the tone for this fun and pacey read. Stanley is an ordinary plastic bag with incredible expression and character. This cheerful story, written in rhyme, follows poor Stanley, who is mistaken for a delicate dancing jellyfish, as he encounters a succession of sea and coastal creatures until he is finally recycled. It is a beautifully illustrated book that cleverly hints at responsible use of plastic. (Age 3–6) [MAS]

READ ALSO: *Alba the Hundred-Year-Old Fish* by Lara Hawthorne



PHILIP BUNTING
HOW DID I GET HERE?
FROM THE BIG BANG TO YOUR BIRTHDAY

WREN & ROOK NOV 2019 (HBK) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781526361721

A macro answer to a big question, *How Did I Get Here?* brings us on a wildly entertaining journey from the Big Bang through human evolution to your arrival here on this Earth. Bunting is an extraordinary illustrator, and the diagrams are both richly informative and completely hilarious (especially the picture of our ‘great, great, great – times a trillion, zillion, squillion – granny’!). A note at the end reminds us of the importance of taking care of our one beautiful planet. (Non-fiction, Age 5–8) [VC]

READ ALSO: *The Story of Life: A First Book about Evolution* by Catherine Barr and Steve Williams



PHILIPPE COUSTEAU and DEBORAH HOPKINSON
 illustrated by **MEILO SO**
FOLLOW THE MOON HOME

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2016 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781452112411

Viv and her family have a new home by the sea. On Viv’s first day at her new school the teacher challenges the class to find a problem to solve. What follows is a plan of action that helps bring together a whole community to save the Loggerhead sea turtles of the South Carolina coast. This simple but stirring story shows how an individual, no matter how young, can effect positive change on the world around them with one good idea and a lot of determination. (Age 5–8) [BF]

READ ALSO: *Pip and the Bamboo Path* by Jesse Hodgson

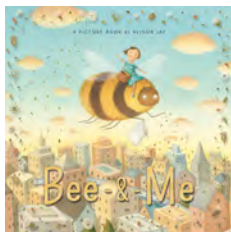


NICOLA DAVIES illustrated by **LORNA SCOBIE**
THE WONDER OF TREES

HODDER CHILDREN’S BOOKS 2019 (HBK) 64PP £14.99 ISBN 9781444938197

This big, bright and beautiful book covers topics from ‘why leaves change colour’ to ‘how trees affect a community’. Davies, a popular nature writer, gives concise and clear information on all aspects of the lives of trees. Over-sized spreads are decorated with exuberant watercolour illustrations showing not just the ‘huge green beings’, but also the amazing flora and unusual fauna surrounding them. I highly recommend this book as a gift for everyone on your list. It is a treasure. (Non-fiction, Age 5–8) [MAS]

READ ALSO: *Into the Forest* by Christiane Dorion and Jane McGuinness



ALISON JAY
BEE AND ME

OLD BARN BOOKS 2017 (PBK) 32PP £7.99 ISBN 9781910646199

When a bumblebee flies into the open window of a bookish girl’s apartment, an unexpected but delightful friendship is born. The girl and the bee play, eat and grow together. But when bee yearns to return to work in her natural habitat, their real journey begins. This wordless tale has a dreamlike quality. The rich illustrations, presented through a blend of storyboards, burst and full-page spreads, give structure to a wonderful celebration of ecology and the role even the youngest children can play in conservation. (Age 5–8) [LQ]

READ ALSO: *The Bee Book* by Charlotte Milner

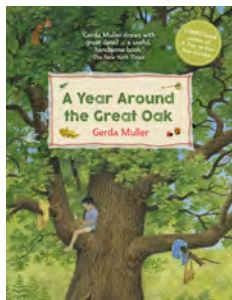


KATE MESSNER illustrated by **MATTHEW FORSYTHE**
THE BRILLIANT DEEP, REBUILDING THE WORLD'S CORAL REEFS

CHRONICLE BOOKS 2018 (Hbk) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9781452133508

This empowering and uplifting true story of environmentalist Ken Nedimyer tells the story of how one curious person can make an enormous difference. Luminous illustrations bring the underwater world to life, as we watch the reefs thrive, bleach and slowly recover. *The Brilliant Deep* is enriched by a glossary and a further-reading section at the back that highlights ways for kids to help too. An uplifting call to action, beautifully told and brimming with facts and info. Just the ticket! (Non-fiction, Age 5–8) [VC]

READ ALSO: *Sounds of Nature: World of Oceans* by Claire Grace and Rob Hunter



GERDA MULLER
A YEAR AROUND THE GREAT OAK

FLORIS BOOKS SEPT 2019 (Hbk) 40PP £12.99 ISBN 9781782506027

A grand oak stands tall at the centre of this enchanting book. Children visit with family through the seasons of the year, revelling in the steadfastness of a 300-year-old tree and the changing seasons, flowers and animal life all around it. Gerda Muller writes with a lightness of touch that beautifully offsets her detailed and warmly realised illustrations. A beautiful book about discovering the wonder of the woodland and finding profound enjoyment in it. (Age 5–8) [AR]

READ ALSO: *The Bug Collector* by Alex Griffiths



JO SCHOFIELD and **FIONA DANKS**
**WILD THINGS:
 OVER 100 MAGICAL OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

LONELY PLANET KIDS 2019 (Hbk) 176PP £12.99 ISBN 9781787017719

If you've ever wanted to track dragons, make friends with fairies, brew magic potions or find a unicorn, this book is for you! Encouraging children to observe the natural world very closely, it ignites the senses, imagination and creativity at the same time. While searching forests and meadows, combing beaches and back gardens and all the while creating the most enchanting items to aid exploration and excitement, it will seem the adventure never stops throughout the year. Discover the magical mysteries of nature. Just perfect! (Non-fiction, Age 5–8) [MEJ]

READ ALSO: *The Stick Book: Loads of Things You Can Make or Do with a Stick* by Jo Schofield and Fiona Danks

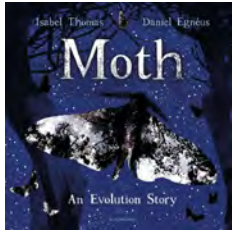


JAMES SELLICK illustrated by **FRANN PRESTON-GANNON**
THERE'S A RANG-TAN IN MY BEDROOM

WREN & ROOK 2019 (Hbk) 32PP £12.99 ISBN 9781526362087

When a little girl finds a naughty orangutan in her bedroom and is about to send her away, she discovers how humans are destroying Rang-tan's rainforest home. Told through verse, the story teaches children how they can help to bring about change. It's beautifully illustrated, especially Rang-tan's soft orange fur. The result is an optimistic and practical picturebook, and it is a good way to introduce children to environmental issues. (Age 5–8) [PS]

READ ALSO: *How to Help a Hedgehog and Protect a Polar Bear* by Jess French and Angela Keoghan



ISABEL THOMAS illustrated by DANIEL EGNÉUS
MOTH: AN EVOLUTION STORY

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS 2018 (Hbk) 48pp £12.99 ISBN 9781408889756

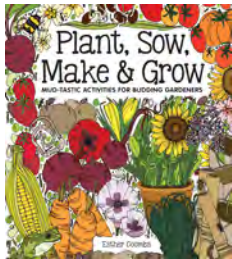
Science meets poetry in this wondrous account of the peppered moth – a much-celebrated example of natural selection. The narrative is factual but emotive: moths, depicted as both super-sized and tiny, navigate natural dangers ('Watch out! Hungry predators ...') as well as the continually shifting landscape. The use of dark and light as a metaphor for the environmental impact of industrial revolution and an illustrative style is hugely effective. The story of these 'speckled, freckled' beauties will stay with you long after the book closes. (Non-fiction, Age 5–8) [LQ]
 READ ALSO: *A Brief History of Life on Earth* by Clémence Dupont



PETER BROWN
THE WILD ROBOT

PICADILLY PRESS 2018 (Pbk) 288pp £6.99 ISBN 9781848127272

When a cargo ship sinks in a raging storm, Roz, a friendly robot, finds herself marooned on a remote island full of trees, mountains and wildlife. Fabricated from man-made parts, the very un-natural Roz learns to adapt to her new all-natural environment, making friends with the animals and eventually making the island her home, complete with her very own family. This touching book, wonderfully written and illustrated by Caldecott Honor winner Peter Brown, shows that even a metal and plastic robot can have a big beating, loving heart. (Age 5–8, 9–11) [AN]
 READ ALSO: *The Wild Robot Escapes* by Peter Brown



ESTHER COOMBS
PLANT, SOW, MAKE & GROW: MUD-TASTIC ACTIVITIES FOR BUDDING GARDENERS

BUTTON BOOKS 2019 (Hbk) 48pp £12.99 ISBN 9781787080249

Inspired by her experimentations at the gardening club in her daughter's school (a club she founded herself), illustrator Esther Coombs has created the beautifully illustrated *Plant, Sow, Make & Grow*. It is a very practical book with projects divided by the seasons, filled with useful and interesting information on nature, sustainability and healthy living, as well as how-to instructions on planting, growing and harvesting your crops and fun crafts. Recommended for big and little gardeners (even those just starting out). (Non-fiction, Age 5–8, 9–11) [TK]
 READ ALSO: *A Day in Nature* by Debbie Powell



NICOLA DAVIES illustrated by MAX LOW
BEE BOY AND THE MOONFLOWERS

GRAFFEG 2018 (Hbk) 40pp £8.99 ISBN 9781910862513

When Azin's family become sick, responsibility falls to the young boy to guide himself and their precious bees in search of the magical Moonflowers. Azin's journey into the mountains is perilous. Nature's forces are at work and he must make crucial decisions that test his inner beliefs and judgement. Davies's prose perfectly captures the volatility of the natural world and human emotion, and the scale of the desert and Azin's sense of solitude within it is beautifully conveyed through Low's vivid illustrations. (Age 5–8, 9–11) [LQ]
 READ ALSO: *Elias Martin* by Nicola Davies and Fran Shum

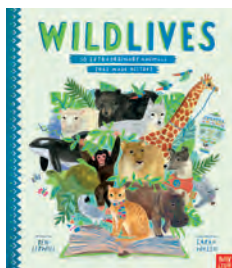


EMILY HAWORTH-BOOTH
THE LAST TREE

PAVILION CHILDREN'S BOOKS FEB 2020 32PP £6.99 ISBN 9781843654377

In *The Last Tree*, we meet a community of adults who, in their quest for greater comfort, destroy the world around them, becoming jealous and mistrustful of each other. Fortunately, the children of the village rebel. Through their connection with the natural world and each other, the future is saved, and the last tree becomes the first. A parable of our times, this beautifully illustrated book will appeal to all eco-conscious primary school children and will undoubtedly lead to great dinner table discussions! (Age 5–8, 9–11) [VC]

READ ALSO: *The Promise* by Nicola Davies and Laura Carlin



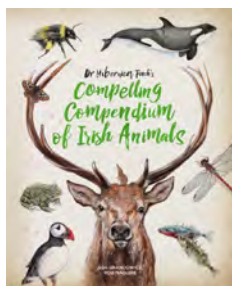
BEN LERWILL illustrated by SARAH WALSH
WIDLIVES: 50 EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS THAT MADE HISTORY

NOSY CROW SEPT 2019 (HBK) 112PP £16.99 ISBN 9781788005098

WildLives comprises real-life stories of remarkable animals that led extraordinary lives. Children and grown-ups will be fascinated by the origin story of Laika and how she ended up becoming an astronaut; which animal inspired the creation of the Boy Scouts of America; how a very special pigeon flew through bullets to become a war hero; and much more. Plenty of illustrations and some photos accompany these incredible stories. It is a lovely book to learn from and share.

(Non-fiction, Age 5–8, 9–11) [TK]

READ ALSO: *Heroes: Incredible True Stories of Courageous Animals* by David Long and Kerry Hyndman

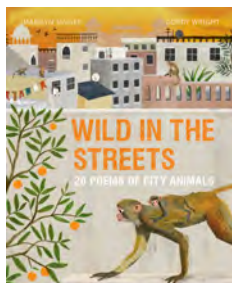


ROB MAGUIRE illustrated by AGA GRANDOWICZ
DR HIBERNICA FINCH'S COMPELLING COMPENDIUM OF IRISH ANIMALS

LITTLE ISLAND BOOKS 2018 (HBK) 64PP €25.00 ISBN 9781910411940

Dr Hibernica is on a mission to educate people about the wonderful creatures that inhabit this island, whether on land, sea or air. Taking us on a journey through some of the best known, and some more unusual, animals found in Ireland, the fictional zoologist leaves no rock unturned, blending facts and humour with magnificent drawings to create a non-fiction book like no other. Maguire's authoritative yet gently humorous tone strikes just the right balance, and Grandowicz's exceptional illustrations elevate the text beautifully. (Non-fiction, Age 5–8, 9–11) [LG]

READ ALSO: *Naturama* by Michael Fewer and Melissa Doran



MARILYN SINGER illustrated by GORDY WRIGHT
WILD IN THE STREETS: POEMS FROM THE URBAN JUNGLE

WORDS & PICTURES SEPT 2019 (HBK) 48PP £12.99 ISBN 9780711241695

For wild animals, survival can be difficult in hostile environments, none more so than those created by humans. This incredible collection of poems celebrates the urban-dwelling creatures of over twenty cities, from pythons in Singapore's sewers to river crabs in Rome. Singer also expands on the poems, detailing how animals have adapted and survived. Wright's lavish atmospheric illustrations truly set the scene, from coyotes in Chicago to wild boars in Berlin, inspiring readers to look for the wild in their own town too. (Poetry, Non-fiction, Age 5–8, 9–11) [OH]

READ ALSO: *Run Wild* by Gill Lewis

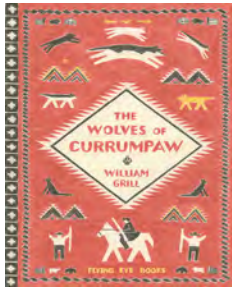


MARTIN DOREY illustrated by **TIM WESSON**
KIDS FIGHT PLASTIC

WALKER BOOKS 2019 (PBK) 128PP £7.99 ISBN 9781406390650

We have a plastic problem, and it's poisoning our oceans. With the help of this brightly coloured guide, you and your friends can transform into the plastic-fighting superheroes that our planet needs. There's great information, fun illustrations and suggested actions that range from simple changes to ambitious projects requiring planning and parental support. For more sensitive readers, I'd recommend an adult read along too, to reiterate the line between personal empowerment and taking on the full weight of a collective burden. (Non-fiction, Age 7–9) [RSn]

READ ALSO: *What a Waste* by Jess French



WILLIAM GRILL
THE WOLVES OF CURRUMPAW

FLYING EYE BOOKS 2016 (HBK) 80PP £14.99 ISBN 9781909263833

In 1893, when America's wolves faced possible extinction, one grey wolf still reigned over the plains of New Mexico. But even the legendary King of Currumpaw could not withstand the march of 'civilisation' forever. Grill's eye for detail brings the frontier to life and humanises even supposed villains. Every page is a delight, hitting you in the gut and rewarding careful study. Stunningly illustrated and brilliantly told, this is an essential story about human hubris and our capacity to learn from our mistakes. (Non-fiction, Age 7–12) [RSn]

READ ALSO: *Shackleton's Journey*

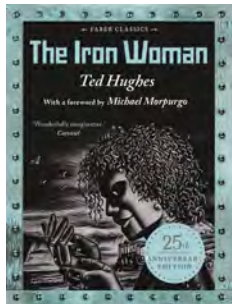


MANDY ARCHER illustrated by **KATIE ABEY**
BE GREEN! MINDFUL KIDS, GLOBAL CITIZENS

STUDIO PRESS 2019 (PBK) 96PP £8.99 ISBN 9781787414624

This fantastic activity book encourages a mindful approach to being a responsible citizen of the planet. It can be read in any order, doodled in and dipped into. There are facts about the environment mixed with fun games and charts that encourage readers to incorporate the three Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) in their everyday lives. It highlights the importance of maintaining natural habitats, and how we can all reduce our carbon footprint, in an engaging, straightforward and entertaining way. (Non-fiction, Age 8–10, 10–12) [PNicI]

READ ALSO: *Guardians of the Planet: How to Be an Eco-Hero* by Clive Gifford and Jonathan Woodward

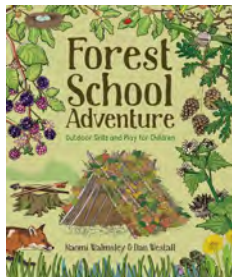


TED HUGHES illustrated by **ANDREW DAVIDSON**
THE IRON WOMAN

FABER & FABER 2018 (PBK) 160PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571348589

Walking home, Lucy feels the bridge beneath her shake. A giant head emerges from the river, then a body covered in tar ... and the iron woman rises, bent on revenge for the human pollution that is destroying her home. Written in 1993, the sequel to *The Iron Man* is a chilling prophecy of today's climate crisis. Delicate black-and-white woodcuts in this twenty-fifth-anniversary edition capture both the brutality of humans' assault on the Earth and the tenderness of the children and their mighty friends. (Age 8–10, 10–12) [DT]

READ ALSO: *Under the Weather: Stories about Climate Change* edited by Tony Bradman

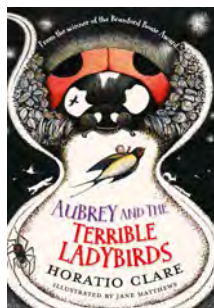


NAOMI WALMSLEY and DAN WESTALL
**FOREST SCHOOL ADVENTURE:
 OUTDOORS SKILLS AND PLAY FOR CHILDREN**

GMC 2018 (PBK) 175PP £16.99 ISBN 9781784944032

Forest School Adventure demonstrates just how much fulfilment awaits those who venture outdoors and engage with their world. Part manual for parents, part guidebook for kids, it covers an astonishing variety of activities, from the basic bushcraft of building shelters, making fires and collecting water to more unfamiliar territory such as foraging for food in the wild. With excellent photography and an attractive and accessible style, this comes highly recommended. (Non-fiction, Age 8–10, 10–12, 12–14) [AR]

READ ALSO: *The Lost Book of Adventure* by Teddy Keen



HORATIO CLARE illustrated by JANE MATTHEWS
AUBREY AND THE TERRIBLE LADYBIRDS

FIREFLY PRESS 2017 (PBK) 244PP £7.99 ISBN 9781910080504

It's the start of the holidays and Aubrey, who can talk to and understand the animals, wishes himself down to the size of an earwig with no idea how he'll become normal-sized again. A spider friend pleads with him to help save the planet. As they set off on a whirlwind road trip, the ladybirds have arrived in Rushing Wood, but they are not wanted. Rumours abound, the animals begin to flee and only Aubrey can end this madness. A cracking adventure with an environmental message. (Age 9–11) [MEJ]

READ ALSO: *Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot* by Horatio Clare and Jane Matthews



CHLOE DAYKIN
FIRE GIRL, FOREST BOY

FABER & FABER 2019 (PBK) 320PP £6.99 ISBN 9780571349432

When Maya's father disappears in Peru, she finds herself running for her life through the rainforest. Raul has grown up in Ollayntaytambo, land of the Incas, where the jungle was part of his life until he was forced to leave. As Maya and Raul's worlds collide, they must work together to salvage the rainforest with help from Maya's fiery secret. This magical adventure captures the unique importance of the nature and wildlife of the rainforest, reminding us why we must protect it. (Age 9–11) [RC]

READ ALSO: *Journey to the River Sea* by Eva Ibbotson



M.G. LEONARD
BATTLE OF THE BEETLES

CHICKEN HOUSE 2018 (PBK) 300PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910002780

In the third and ultimate instalment of the Beetle series, Darkus, Virginia and Bertolt face Lucretia Cutter for a final battle and attempt to foil her wicked plans once and for all. Building on the promise and intrigue of the first two books, M.G. Leonard pulls out all the stops for this last adventure. Fast-paced and exhilarating, this is a timely meditation on the connections between humanity and the world we live in and marks a satisfying conclusion to a thought-provoking trilogy. (Age 9–11) [BL0]

READ ALSO: *Beetle Boy* and *Beetle Queen* by M.G. Leonard

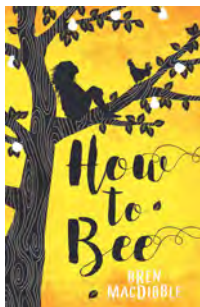


GILL LEWIS **SKY DANCER**

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS 2017 (PBK) 272PP £6.99 ISBN 9780192749253

Lewis brings her usual gripping style to this evocative tale of rural life, where residents are divided over the fate of hen harriers nesting in the grouse moors. Joe, who has recently lost his father, is forced to make a difficult choice and to decide where his loyalties lie. A brilliant exploration of the ethical issues behind conservation and sustainability, this book is thought-provoking and contains wonderful descriptions of landscape and wildlife, with extra information and references at the end. (Age 9–11) [PNiCl]

READ ALSO: *The Rise of Wolves* by Kerr Thompson



BREN MACDIBBLE **HOW TO BEE**

OLD BARN BOOKS 2018 (PBK) 213PP £6.99 ISBN 9781910646441

How will the world survive in a future without bees? Nine-year-old Peony works hard to become the best 'bee' she can by hand-pollinating fruit. However, her mother wants more for their lives, and Peony is taken from everything she's ever known. Peony is an enchanting and remarkable girl and one of the best characters I've read all year. The story is incredibly inventive and brilliantly fast paced. MacDibble's writing is considered and poignant. A truly brilliant read. (Age 9–11) [RE]

READ ALSO: *The Dog Runner* by Bren MacDibble

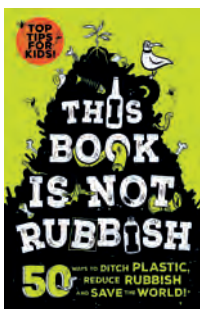


SABINA RADEVA **CHARLES DARWIN'S ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES**

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE (PUFFIN) 2019 (HBK) 64PP £12.99 ISBN 9780141388502

It is no small feat by Radeva to make Darwin's seminal text accessible to all. Radeva's prose mixes direct quotes from the original work and simple vocabulary that explains key concepts in an in-depth, yet clear, way. Most of all, it is the colourful, life-brimming illustrations of our planet's flora and fauna that will delight readers. Radeva makes of a rather serious text an awe-inspiring exploration of nature's workings and her illustrations create a symphony of shades and shapes. A real sensory treat! (Non-fiction, Age 9–11) [VLe]

READ ALSO: *Amazing Evolution: The Journey of Life* by Anna Claybourne and Wesley Robins



ISABEL THOMAS illustrated by ALEX PATTERSON **THIS BOOK IS NOT RUBBISH: 50 WAYS TO DITCH PLASTIC, REDUCE RUBBISH AND SAVE THE WORLD!**

WREN & ROOK SEPT 2019 (PBK) 208PP £6.99 ISBN 9781526361530

The world as we know it is in jeopardy! But the good news is that there are so many new ways to reduce, reuse and recycle. This book gives you fifty tips to make a difference and help save our phenomenal planet, from planting a tree to banning glitter or hosting your very own 'swish' clothes-swapping party. Tackling issues like global warming, pollution and single-use plastics, there is something for everyone in the family to begin making a difference. It's time to start taking control and ditch all this rubbish! (Non-fiction, Age 9–11) [CMcG]

READ ALSO: *Caring for the Environment* by Georgia Amson-Bradshaw and David Broadbent



SAM GAYTON
THE LAST ZOO **EDITOR'S CHOICE**

ANDERSEN PRESS 2019 (PBK) 320PP €6.99 ISBN 9781783447701

In an only-slightly-skewed alternate near-future where misguided scientists have detonated a reality bomb, Pia lives on an ocean-bound ark filled with musical hippos, unicorns, hummingdragons, genies, ghosts and, most importantly, angels. A strange situation, to be sure, but things get even weirder when the angels go missing. Can Pia solve the mystery of their disappearance and avoid potential catastrophe for her world? This is a funny, moving and timely book, dealing with *our* world's biggest problem, climate change, in an inspiring and hopeful way. (Age 9–11, 12–14) [AN]

READ ALSO: *Swimming against the Storm* by Jess Butterworth



RACHEL IGNOTOFSKY
THE INCREDIBLE ECOSYSTEMS OF PLANET EARTH

WREN & ROOK 2019 (HBK) 128PP €12.99 ISBN 9781526361745

The world is made up of countless ecosystems, from rivers to deserts and forests to bogs. Packed to the brim with detail and information, this encyclopaedia of the planet is intricately outlined through graphs, maps, infographics and beautiful images. From the mountains of Europe to the savannahs of Australia, no stone is left unturned, no leaf left unexplored. Informative, engaging and endlessly interesting, this book is the perfect guide for anyone eager to explore and understand the planet we call home. (Non-fiction, Age 9–11, 12–14) [BL0]

READ ALSO: *Bird's Eye View: The Natural World* by John Farndon and Paul Boston



LYNNE KELLY
SONG FOR A WHALE

PICCADILLY PRESS 2019 (PBK) 320PP €6.99 ISBN 9781848126916

As the only deaf girl in her school, twelve-year-old Iris knows what it is like to feel alone. Then she hears about Blue 55, a whale that is unable to communicate with other whales. Luckily, Iris is something of a tech genius, and she composes a song for Blue 55 before embarking on the biggest trip of her life in this heartwarming story that is sure to resonate with anyone who has ever felt as though they were alone in the world. (Age 9–11, 12–14) [TF]

READ ALSO: *Song of the Dolphin Boy* by Elizabeth Laird

GRETA THUNBERG

GRETA THUNBERG
NO ONE IS TOO SMALL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE (PENGUIN BOOKS) 2019 (PBK) 80PP €2.99 ISBN 9780141991740

'We are now standing at a crossroads in history. We are failing but we have not yet failed. We can still fix this. It's up to us.' As a young activist with a massive platform, Greta has a simple message and no time for excuses or political posturing. This collection presents her most powerful and provocative speeches, delivered to world leaders on behalf of the young. A rallying cry, a warning and an insistence that we can do better. A book of our times.

(Non-fiction, Age 9–11, 12–14, YA) [RSn]

READ ALSO: *We Are All Greta: Be Inspired to Save the World* by Valentina Giannella and Manuela Marazzi





FRANCESCA AMOUR-CHELU
FENN HALFLIN AND THE FEARZERO

WALKER BOOKS 2016 (PBK) 304PP £6.99 ISBN 9781406363128

Fenn Halflin and the Fearzero follows the journey of a young sea-borne orphan who is desperately trying to escape the domination of Terra Firma and its cold-blooded leader, Chilstone. The expedition involves a deadly struggle across a ferocious sea and a time in the shanties, where Fenn has to fend for his life among the metal structures and rodent epidemic. Set in a world destroyed by floods, this compelling story of a grandfather's devotion to his grandson would suit Eoin Colfer and Rick Riordan fans. (Age 12–14) [CMcG]

READ ALSO: *FloodWorld* by Tom Huddleston

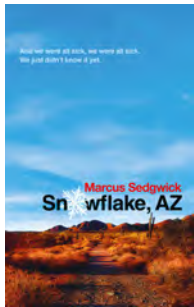


SARAH GOVETT
THE TERRITORY

FIREFLY PRESS 2015 (PBK) 208PP £7.99 ISBN 9781910080184

Though at times Sarah Govett's *The Territory* comes to rely heavily on the clichés of dystopian teen fiction, it still manages to tell a compelling story about preserving our humanity even as we struggle to survive. Following Noa as she prepares to take a test that will determine her future in an almost entirely flooded world, this first instalment of the Territory trilogy is an engaging read that asks the reader what they'd be willing to sacrifice in the name of what is right. (Age 12–14, YA) [ES]

READ ALSO: *Breathe* by Sarah Crossan

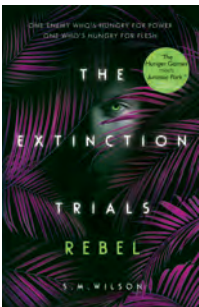


MARCUS SEDGWICK
SNOWFLAKE, AZ

ZEPHYR SEPT 2019 (HBK) 352PP £12.99 ISBN 9781788542333

On the outskirts of the desert is a small community of people suffering from a difficult-to-define disease, as if they are becoming allergic to modern existence. In this serious and wistful novel, Marcus Sedgwick shows us how a group of misfits, including our main character, Ash, can come together in a world that is literally rejecting them. Deliberately paced with many fascinating by-roads, this is a thoughtful read for readers curious about the future health of our planet. (Age YA) [CL]

READ ALSO: *The Quiet at the End of the World* by Lauren James



S.M. WILSON
THE EXTINCTION TRIALS: REBEL

USBORNE PUBLISHING 2019 (PBK) 384PP £7.99 ISBN 9781474954860

In this third entry in the Extinction Trials series, the people of Earthasia are forced to abandon their city and set up home in the hostile environment of Pilonia, where dinosaurs roam the jungle. Storm and Lincoln must work together to keep people alive in this exciting story of survival against all odds. With its incredible pace and compelling characters, readers will devour this book even faster than one of its ravenous dinosaurs! (Age YA) [TF]

READ ALSO: *The Extinction Trials* and *The Extinction Trials: Exile* by S.M. Wilson

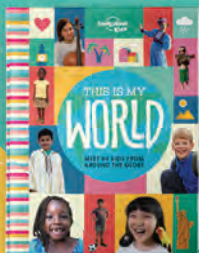


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LEABHAIR DO PHÁISTÍ A FOILSÍODH IN ÉIRINN 2019

Tá sé ar cheann d'aidhmeanna straitéiseacha CBI ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar údair, maisitheoirí agus pobal leabhair pháistí na hÉireann, agus táimid an-bhródúil as an tacaíocht a thugaimid d'fhoilsitheoirí Éireannacha. Seo a leanas liosta cuimsitheach de gach leabhar a foilsíodh in Éirinn in 2019, ó phictiúrleabhair go ficsean do dhaoine óga fásta.

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One of CBI's strategic aims is to celebrate Irish authors, Irish illustrators and the children's book community in Ireland, and we are very proud to support Irish publishers. The following is a comprehensive listing of every book published in Ireland in 2019, from picturebooks to young adult fiction.

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