

## Reading Suggestions

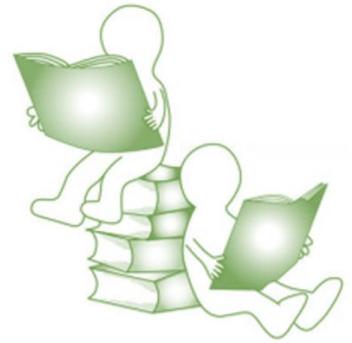
### Key Stage 1

There is a huge range of great fiction for the 5-7 year age range. This lists just a few and many cross year group boundaries. Some may look too young but the length of a book can be deceptive. Some feature more illustration than text: illustration can be as important in the telling of a story as words and will introduce children to key illustrators.

Within class libraries at Queen Edith, KS1 children are banded to allow them to explore both fiction and non-fiction texts at a suitable level. At the core of these bands is the Oxford Reading Tree scheme, but these books have been supplemented by many others (both to provide variety and to avoid an over-reliance on ORT sight words).

There are also plenty of series that are perfect for later KS1 readers, with various good authors writing in the same format, getting children used to books that are not too long but which are of guaranteed quality: *Banana Books*, *Colour Jets* (illustrated here), *Jets*, *Seriously Silly Stories*, *Collins Shivery Storybooks*, *Corgi Pups*, *Books for Boys*, *Sprinters*, *Young Puffins* etc.





# Reading Suggestions

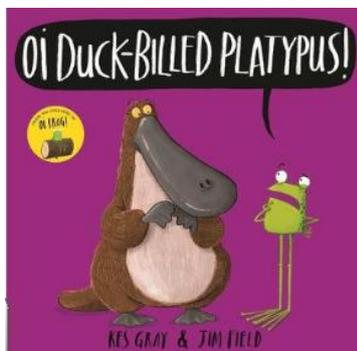
## Key Stage 1 (ages 5-7)

Students in Years 1 and 2 should be picking from our class libraries in order to progress their reading. Children will be placed within a coloured book band. Reading lots of shorter books is very helpful for their creative English, as they experience new vocabulary, characters and places.

Please do share books with your children – the more 'text based' books in this list have been included to be read to, or with your child. They love to hear stories and a focus on listening and comprehension while reading with an adult are important skills to acquire.

If your child is a competent reader or has read all these titles then try the books from the Year 3 list.

**\* Recommended by Queen Edith children**



### **Oi Duck-billed Platypus! \***

**Kes Gray**

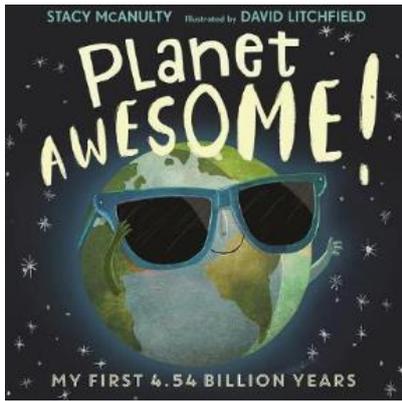
A brilliantly funny, rhyming read-aloud picture book - jam-packed with animals and silliness! From the bestselling, multi-award-winning creators of Oi Frog! Oi! Where are duck-billed platypuses meant to sit? And Kookaburras and hippopotamuses and all the other animals with impossible to rhyme with names... Over to you Frog!



### **A Child of Books**

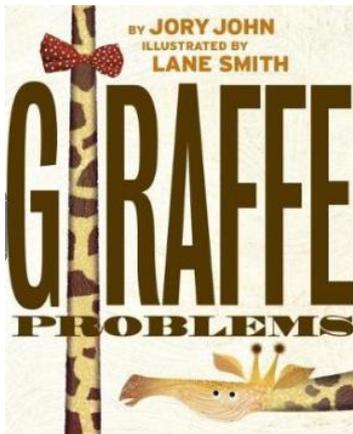
**Oliver Jeffers, Sam Winston**

Award-winning storyteller and artist Oliver Jeffers and typographic fine artist Sam Winston have created an extraordinarily adventurous and original picture book which, through words and pictures, takes children on a journey of discovery through some of the greatest literature of all time. The imaginative eponymous Child of Books floats across a sea of words made from words and lines from classic children's book stories. It is a journey that recreates fairy tales, forests and monsters showing children the importance and power of their imagination in recreating them.



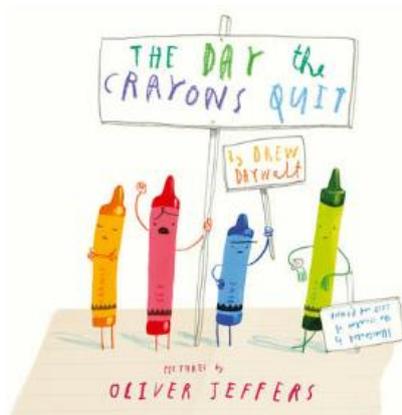
### **Planet Awesome** **Stacy McAnulty**

'Hi, I'm Earth! But you can call me Planet Awesome.' In this hilarious and informative book filled to the brim with eye-opening, kid-friendly facts about our planet, you'll find scientifically accurate information from beloved children's book author Stacy McAnulty and vibrant art by award-winning illustrator David Litchfield.



### **Giraffe Problems** **Jory Johns**

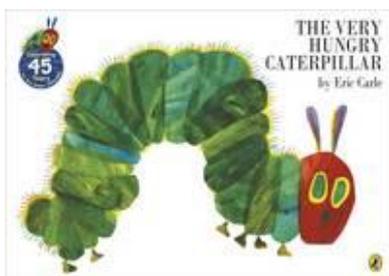
Witty, a bit silly, with irresistible characters, fabulous illustrations and a serious point to make, Giraffe Problems is an outstanding picture book, one that will easily stand repeat readings. Edward the giraffe stresses about his neck, a lot. He compares it unfavourably to all the other necks around and does his best to disguise it (most memorably with a mountain of scarves and bow ties). Only when he meets Cyrus, a creature also frustrated by the size of his neck, does he come to terms with it, making a special friend in the process.



### **The Day the Crayons Quit** \* **Oliver Jeffers**

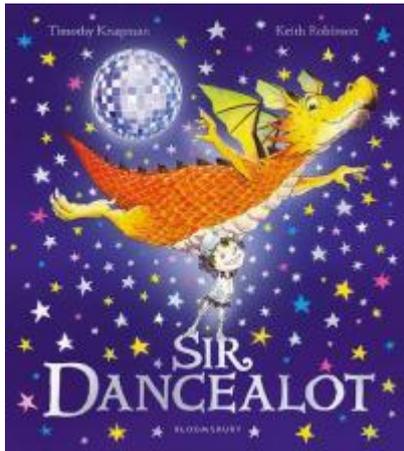
The Number One New York Times Bestseller! Drew Daywalt and international bestseller Oliver Jeffers team up to create a colourful solution to a crayon-based crisis in this playful, imaginative story that will have children laughing and playing with their crayons in a whole new way.

Poor Duncan just wants to colour in. But when he opens his box of crayons, he only finds letters, all saying the same thing: We quit! Beige is tired of playing second fiddle to Brown, Blue needs a break from colouring in all that water, while Pink just wants to be used. Green has no complaints, but Orange and Yellow are no longer speaking to each other. The battle lines have been drawn. What is Duncan to do?



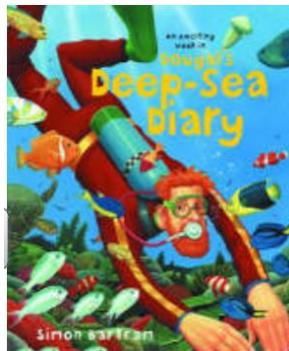
### **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** **Eric Carle**

This is a much-loved classic but as relevant today as it was when first published in 1969!



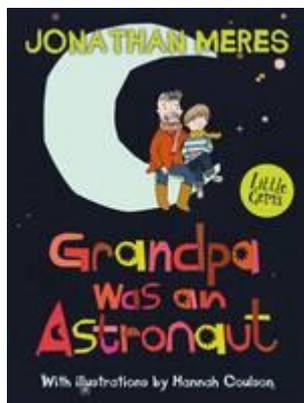
**Sir Dancealot**  
**Timothy Knapman**

Little Sir Dancealot would fit right in on Strictly! This nimble-toed young knight has a novel approach to combat – he *dances* his enemies into submission, waltzing or jiving with them until the words ‘disco lights’ are enough to give any passing monster the frights! Then one day a dancing dragon appears and challenges Sir Dancealot to a competition – on ice. Kids will love the idea of Strictly with dragons, and you’ll be glad to hear that the two combatants are dancing happily together by the end – no blood on the dancefloor here!



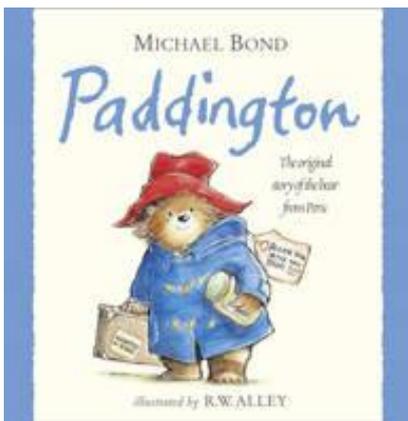
**Dougal’s Deep Sea Diary \***  
**Simon Bartram**

**Shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal.** Meet Dougal, who’s off on holiday doing what he likes best – deep-sea diving. He’d really love to see a mermaid or find the Lost City of Atlantis, and he doesn’t mind helping out with the odd dolphin show. This is his diary . . .



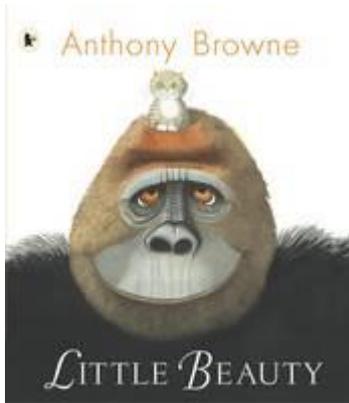
**Grandpa Was an Astronaut**  
**Jonathan Meres**

Best known for his hilarious World of Norm books, Jonathan Meres has here written a very different sort of book. *Grandpa was an Astronaut* is full of fun, indeed, it has a real sense of joy, but it’s also poignant. Grandparents take centre stage in this charming tale as a young boy and his grandfather let their imaginations take flight for an afternoon of space exploration. What Sherman likes to do best is gaze at the moon and play with his grandpa. After an afternoon doing just that, he goes home very happy, particularly when Grandpa gives him his special piece of moon rock.



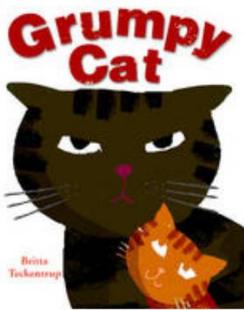
**Paddington**  
**Michael Bond**

Paddington Bear first met the Brown family at a railway station - Paddington Station, in fact. He had travelled all the way from Darkest Peru with only a jar of marmalade, a suitcase and a label reading 'Please look after this bear'. Without further ado, Mr and Mrs Brown welcomed the adventurous bear into their family, and in honour of their meeting place they named him Paddington. The Browns soon discover that Paddington is a most unusual bear, for ordinary things - like having a bath - become quite extraordinary when a bear called Paddington is around!



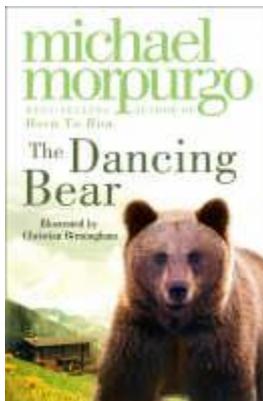
**Little Beauty**  
**Anthony Browne**

This is the heart-warming tale of a gorilla and his tiny friend, from the master picturebook-maker. A very special gorilla is taught a very special skill: sign language. He appears to have everything he needs, but one day he signs that he is said and needs a friend. His keepers bring him a tiny cat called Beauty and the two of them become inseparable. But when the gorilla gets angry and causes damage to the TV, will his keepers think him unfit to be friends with such a small, defenceless animal? Not if Beauty can think fast and prove what a special friendship they share...



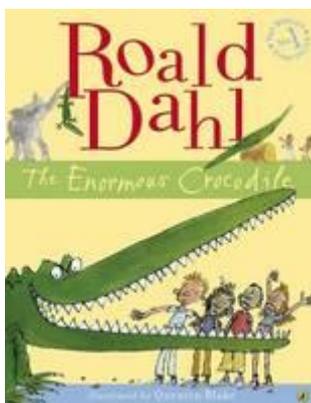
**Grumpy Cat \***  
**Britta Teckentrup**

Grumpy Cat likes being alone, but a cuddly little kitten snuggles up to him and begins to follow him everywhere. Grumpy Cat tries to shake the kitten off, but without much luck. But when the kitten finally disappears, Grumpy Cat is suddenly not grumpy anymore...he's lonely.



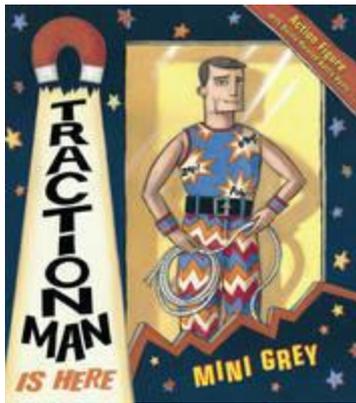
**The Dancing Bear**  
**Michael Morpurgo**

A gentle and deeply moving story of a young girl and her bear, told with great charm by a master storyteller. High in the mountains, in a tiny village, an abandoned bear cub is adopted by a lonely orphan child. Soon they are inseparable, beloved by the whole village - safe, until the arrival of a glamorous film crew who need a dancing bear ...



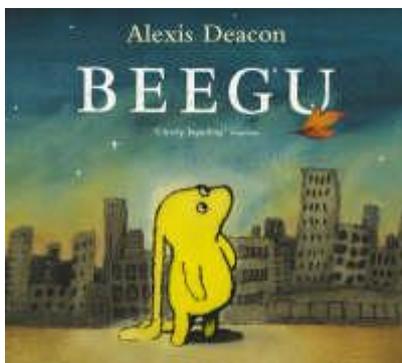
**The Enormous Crocodile \***  
**Roald Dahl**

Roald Dahl's classic and hilarious picture book, The Enormous Crocodile . The Enormous Crocodile is a horrid greedy grumptious brute who loves to guzzle up little boys and girls. But the other animals have had enough of his cunning tricks, so they scheme to get the better of this foul fiend, once and for all!



**Traction Man Is Here**  
**Mini Grey**

With an action outfit for every occasion, Traction Man patrols the house. Whether he is saving toys (in latex space suit and Perspex helmet, teamed with Rocket Boots); searching the sink for the lost wreck of the sieve (in sub-aqua suit, fluorescent flippers and infra-red mask) or rescuing damsels in distress (in jungle pants, camouflage vest and a bandanna), Traction Man is never less than stylishly turned out and expertly accessorised. He is the last word in heroic fashion flair - until, that is, the day that he is presented with an all-in-one knitted green romper suit and matching bonnet by his owner's granny. Can Traction Man overcome the humiliation of his desperately dowdy new look and rediscover the action hero within or will the burden of the knitted green monstrosity be too great?



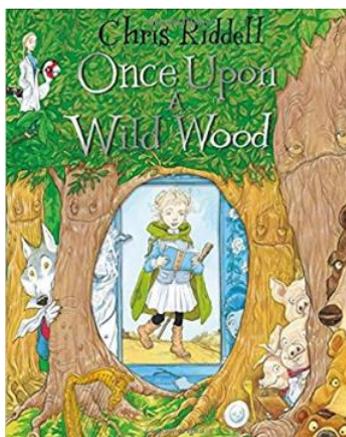
**Beegu**  
**Alexis Deacon**

Beegu is not supposed to be on Earth. She is lost. She is a friendly little creature, but the Earth People don't seem very welcoming at all. However, so far she has only met the BIG ones. The little ones are a different matter ...



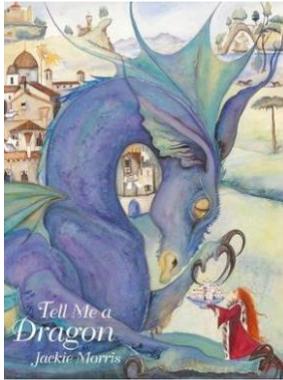
**Welcome \***  
**Barroux**

When Polar Bear and his friends are swept away from their icy home, they hope to find refuge in a new land. But when they are turned away from one new place after another, they start to doubt that they will ever find somewhere they will be made welcome. In this exceptional book, author-illustrator Barroux has crafted a powerful story with a twist ending about hugely important and current issues. A great opportunity for parents to discuss with children the plight of migrants and refugees, as well as global warming, in a gentle, open-ended way. With a reassuring twist, this exceptional and very current book should be read to young children everywhere.



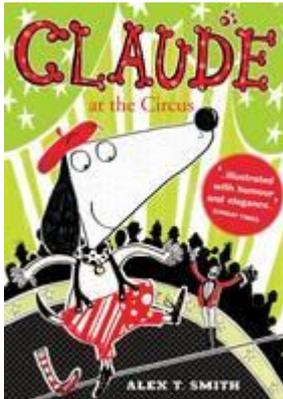
**Once Upon a Wild Wood**  
**Chris Riddell**

Former Children's Laureate Chris Riddell weaves a wonderful fantasy adventure around some of the best loved fairy story characters in this hugely attractive and thoroughly entertaining picture story book. Little Green Cape sets out with a handful of useful things including a strong straight stick, comfortable clumpy boots and an invitation to a party. Once in the wild woods she is in a magical world where even the trees have faces, full of surprising characters. There's a Beast looking for his Beauty, three Bears who are mistrustful of strangers, a talking harp, three little pigs, seven dwarves and many more. Young readers will love both feeling they know the stories being surprised by some of the turns of events.



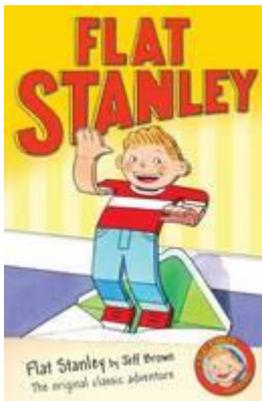
**Tell Me a Dragon**  
**Jackie Morris**

Everyone has their very own dragon, and this book describes many different varieties of the beast, showing in words and stunning pictures exactly why their owners find them so entrancing. They range from a dragon as big as a village to a tiny dragon with whisper-thin wings, from a snaggle-toothed dragon to a sea-dragon which races dolphins on the waves - ending in a page inhabited by every dragon in the book!



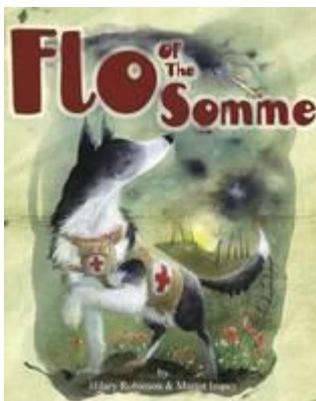
**Claude at the Circus**  
**Alex T. Smith**

A walk in the park leads to a walk on a tightrope when Claude joins a circus, throws custard pies, and becomes the star of the show!



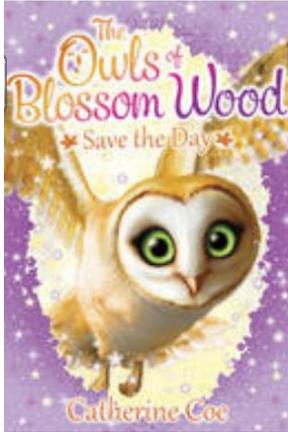
**Flat Stanley**  
**Jeff Brown**

Stanley Lambchop is an ordinary boy with an extraordinary problem. One night, a giant pinboard falls on top of him leaving him completely flat. At first, Stanley enjoys the benefits of his strange predicament - it can be fun going in out of rooms simply by sliding under the door. And it's a hoot being posted to your friends in California for a holiday. But it's not always easy being different, and, once the novelty begins to wear off, Stanley wishes he could be just like everybody else again. But how will he ever fill out? Jeff Brown's world-famous character Flat Stanley continues to charm half a century after he first found his way into print.



**Flo of the Somme**  
**Hilary Robinson**

'Flo Of The Somme' pays tribute to the remarkable bravery of the animals who risked their lives during World War 1. Mercy dog 'Flo' has more to contend with than racing across dangerous battlefields. Can she reach the injured in time with her first aid kit, and can she lead stretcher bearer, Ray, to the stricken. Poignant, poetic text, sensitively written for a young audience with rich illustrations that detail significant landmarks of a battle which is recognised as one of the costliest engagements of World War 1.



### **The Owls of Blossom Wood \***

**Catherine Coe**

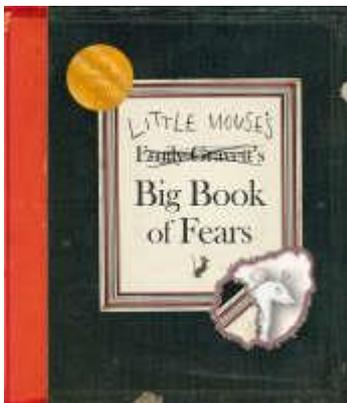
A gorgeous animal series set in the beautiful Blossom Wood - where children turn into magical creatures. Katie, Eva and Alex know a secret - when they hide inside a hollow tree trunk at the bottom of Katie's garden, they find themselves whisked away to a magical woods alive with animals, where they're no longer girls but owls! The friends arrive in the wood to find that the bees are on strike. Not only does this mean no honey, it means the flowers, fruits and nuts of the woodland aren't being pollinated! But there's a hidden reason why the bees are striking, and the girls must work it out - and persuade the bees to work again - if they are to save the wood.



### **I Want My Hat Back**

**Jon Klassen**

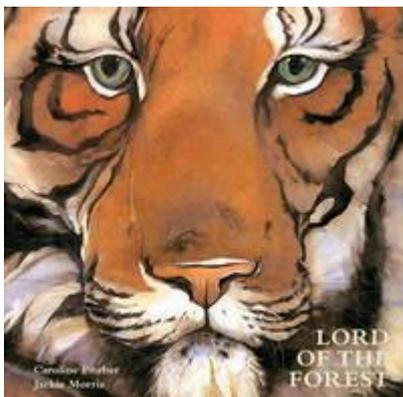
In his bestselling debut picture book, this is the story of a bear who's hat has gone. And he wants it back. Patiently and politely, he asks the animals he comes across, one by one, whether they have seen it. Each animal says no (some more elaborately than others). But just as it he begins to lose hope, lying flat on his back in despair, a deer comes by and asks a rather obvious question that suddenly sparks the bear's memory and renews his search with a vengeance...Told completely in dialogue, this quirky, hilarious, read-aloud tale plays out in sly illustrations brimming with visual humour and winks at the reader who will be thrilled to be in on the joke.



### **Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears**

**Emily Gravett**

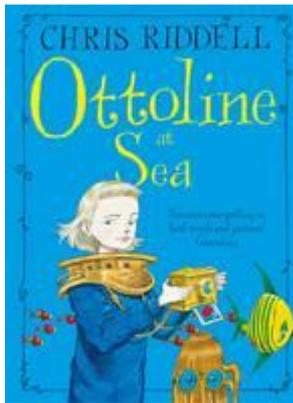
Young children will identify with the little mouse who uses the pages of this book to document his fears - from loud noises and the dark, to being sucked down the plughole. Packed with details and novelty elements including flaps, die-cuts and even a hilarious fold-out map, this is an extraordinary picture book. Winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal 2008 .



### **Lord of the Forest**

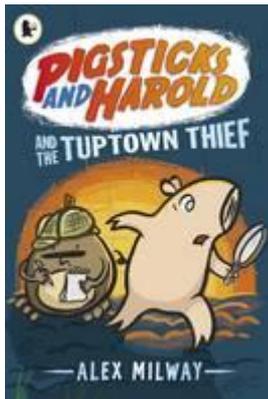
**Caroline Pitcher**

Little Tiger wonders who the Lord of the Forest can be in this miniature gift book edition. Children will want to read the story again and again with Caroline Pitcher's lyrical text and Jackie Morris's superlative portrayal of the forest and its inhabitants.



**Ottoline at Sea**  
**Chris Riddell**

Ottoline and Mr. Munroe do everything and go everywhere together. That is, until the day Mr. Munroe mysteriously disappears, leaving a strange clue written in string ...Armed with her Amateur Roving Collectors' travel pass, Ottoline sets off on a journey over, under and on top of the sea to find her hairy best friend - and bring him back home. Ottoline at Sea is the third enchanting Ottoline adventure from Kate Greenaway award winner, Chris Riddell.



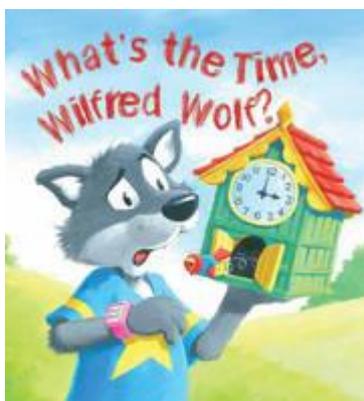
**Pigsticks and Harold and the Tuptown Thief**  
**Alex Milway**

There's a thief on the loose in Tuptown, and the annual Butterfly Ball will be cancelled unless someone is brought to justice. Luckily, Pigsticks has crime-fighting in his blood and a magnifying glass in his hand. Will Detective Pigsticks and his keen-eyed assistant Harold solve the crime? And can they do it in time to save the Butterfly Ball?



**Something About a Bear**  
**Jackie Morris**

Where the water churns with salmon, thick and rich with leaping fishes, there the brown bear stands and catches the wild king of the river. With stunning watercolour paintings, this lyrical picture book - shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal - describes eight bears from all over the world, all shown in their wild habitats: Black Bear, Polar Bear, Sloth Bear, Spectacle Bear, Sunbear, Panda, Moonbear, Brown Bear. But which is the best bear of all? Your own teddy bear of course!



**Storytime: What's the Time, Wilfred Wolf?**  
**Jessica Barrah**

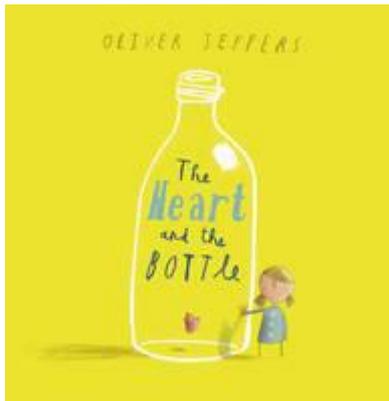
Wilfred Wolf can't tell the time, big hands and little hands are too confusing! Wilfred Wolf can't tell the time, he just eats and sleeps when he feels like it! When Wilfred gets invited to a party, he's faced with a problem - how will he know when it's time to go? This sweet story teaches the importance of time telling and the need for helpful and supportive friends.



## The Adventures of Captain Underpants

Dav Pilkey

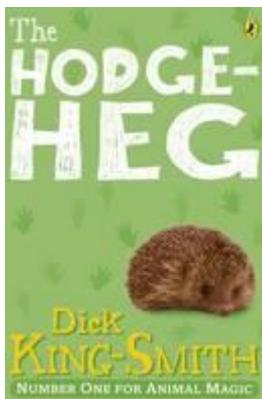
When naughty George and Harold hypnotise their headteacher, they accidentally create the greatest superhero in the history of their school -- Captain Underpants! His true identity is so secret that even HE doesn't know who he is...but he's fighting for truth, justice, and all things pre-shrunk and cottony!! If you're a naughty villain like the diabolical Dr Diaper, watch out! Captain Underpants has wedgie-power on his side, and he's coming your way.



## The Heart and the Bottle

Oliver Jeffers

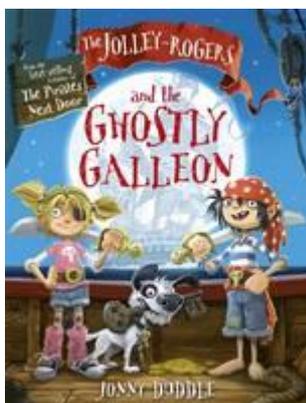
Award-winning picture book star Oliver Jeffers explores themes of love and loss in this life-affirming and uplifting tale. Once there was a girl whose life was filled with wonder at the world around her...Then one day something happened that made the girl take her heart and put it in a safe place. However, after that it seemed that the world was emptier than before. But would she know how to get her heart back? In this deeply moving story, Oliver Jeffers deals with the weighty themes of love and loss with an extraordinary lightness of touch and shows us, ultimately, that there is always hope.



## The Hodgeheg \*

Dick King-Smith

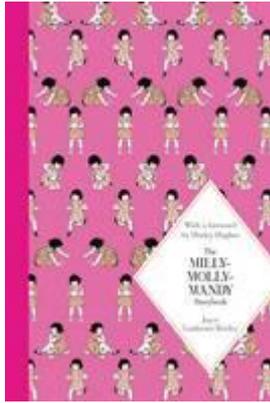
Max is a hedgehog who lives with his family in a nice little home, but unfortunately on the wrong side of the road from the Park, with its beautiful lily pond, and more importantly its juicy slugs, worms and snails! The busy road is a dangerous barrier but Max notices that humans seem to cross it quite easily. If they can, why can't hedgehogs? So Max sets out on a quest to find a safe way to reach the Park. His first attempt ends in a nasty bump on the head, and Max finds when he tries to speak his words are all mixed up. He is now a Hodgeheg, not a hedgehog, but he is still determined to fulfill his mission. After some careful detective work, Max eventually discovers the best way to cross the road - with the help of the lollipop lady, of course!



## The Jolley-Rogers and the Ghostly Galleon

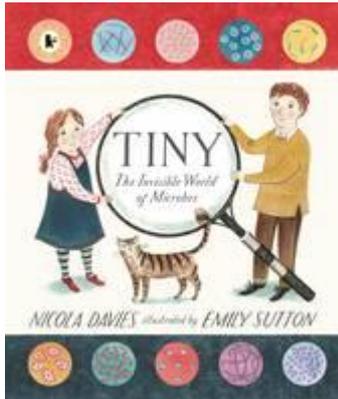
Jonny Duddle

Ahoy there shipmates! Climb aboard with a new fiction series from Jonny Duddle featuring the crew from The Pirates Next Door. Join Jim Lad and Matilda as they sail the seven seas (and the coast of Dull-on-Sea) in search of adventure and pirate loot. Every full moon, a mysterious ship is seen off the coast of Dull-on-Sea. Then, the day after, gold and jewellery are missing from the homes, shops and museums of the town. Matilda needs the Jolley-Rogers' help to investigate. Can Matilda and Jim Lad retrieve the stolen booty from the mysterious ship before the moon fades? Or will they end up stuck on board with ghostly pirates until the next full moon?



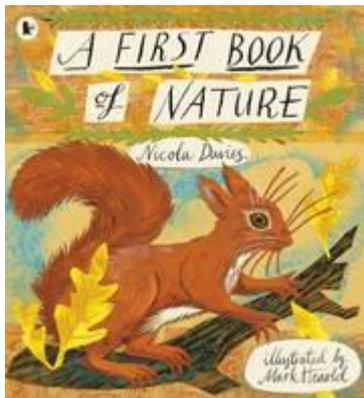
**The Milly-Molly-Mandy Storybook**  
**Joyce Lankester Brisley**

The stories of Milly-Molly-Mandy and her friends have charmed generations of children since their first publication in 1925. Perfect for reading aloud, these twenty-one stories will bring back happy memories for parents and grandparents and introduce younger readers to an enduringly popular heroine and her friends little-friend-Susan and Billy Blunt.



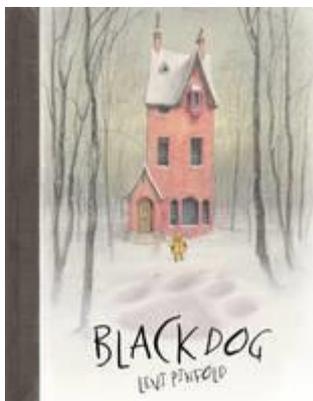
**Tiny The Invisible World of Microbes**  
**Nicola Davies**

There are living things so tiny millions could fit on a dot. Although they are invisible, they are everywhere and they multiply very quickly. They are vital for life on earth, and do all sorts of things - from giving us a cold and making yoghurt to wearing down mountains and helping to make the air we breathe. This friendly, clever book succeeds in conveying the complex science of micro-organisms simply and clearly, and opens up an exciting new avenue for young non-fiction.



**A First Book of Nature**  
**Nicola Davies**

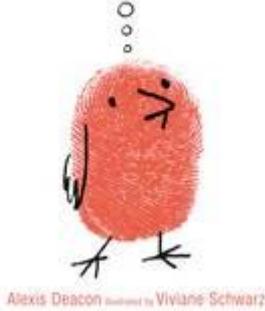
From beachcombing to stargazing, from watching squirrels, ducks and worms to making berry crumble or a winter bird feast, this is a remarkable book - part poetry, part scrapbook of recipes, facts and fragments - and a glorious reminder that the natural world is on our doorstep waiting to be discovered. Mark Hearld's pictures beautifully reproduce the colours of the seasons on woodfree paper, and Nicola Davies' lyrical words capture the simple loveliness that is everywhere, if only we can look.



**Black Dog**  
**Levi Pinfold**

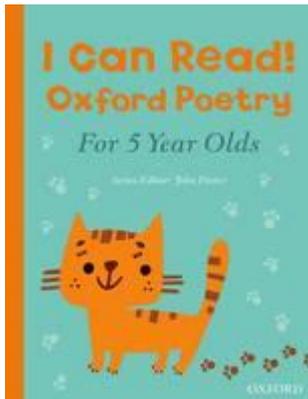
A black dog appears outside the Hope family's home. As each member of the household sees it and hides, the dog grows bigger and bigger. Only Small, the youngest Hope, has the courage to face the Black Dog. When it chases her through the forest she shows no fear, so it grows smaller and smaller. Finally, back to the size of a normal hound, the Black Dog is welcomed into the Hope household as their newest addition.

## I AM HENRY FINCH



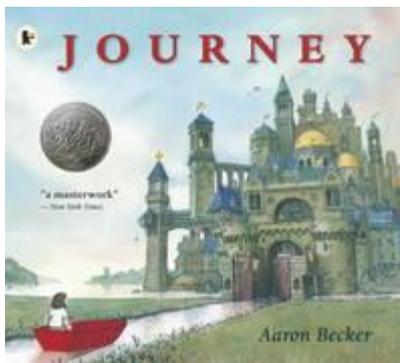
### **I am Henry Finch** **Alexis Deacon, Viviane Schwarz**

From award-winning picture book makers Alexis Deacon and Viviane Schwarz comes an enlightening new story about courage and making a difference. For budding philosophers of all ages, this is the uplifting story of Henry Finch the loveable little bird who strives for greatness, gets it all a bit wrong, then makes it right again in a very surprising way - truly becoming great. Henry Finch is a total inspiration. This is an inspirational book. It is also very funny.



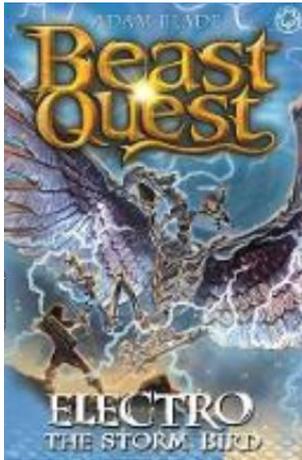
### **I Can Read! Oxford Poetry for 5 Year Olds** **John Foster**

This poetry collection comprises 35 fun, accessible poems to read together at home. Featuring a fantastic range of children's poets and four exciting themes with full-colour illustrations, this is the ideal approach to encourage a love of reading, whilst developing an understanding of poetry, meeting the new requirements of the National Curriculum. Poetry is a fun way for children to enjoy learning to read, developing their vocabulary and understanding of ideas and themes. This collection offers a wide range of poems to appeal to all children, from poems about special days such as Christmas or Chinese New Year to poems that are great to read aloud, like 'The Wuzzy Wasps of Wasperton'. The collection has been carefully selected for children in Year 1 of school and includes helpful parent notes for every poem and a glossary of key terms from the series editor and children's poet, John Foster.



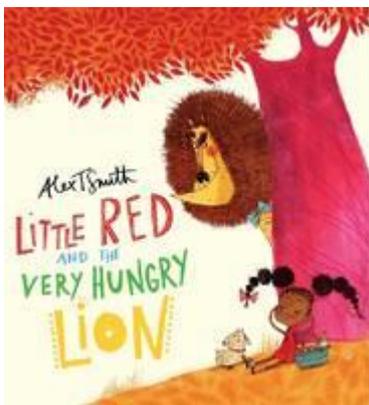
### **Journey** **Aaron Becker**

Aaron Becker's stunning, wordless picture book debut about self-determination and unexpected friendship follows a little girl who draws a magic door on her bedroom wall. Through it she escapes into a world where wonder, adventure and danger abound. Red marker pen in hand, she creates a boat, a balloon and a flying carpet which carry her on a spectacular journey ...who knows where? When she is captured by a sinister emperor, only an act of tremendous courage and kindness can set her free. Can it also guide her home and to happiness? In this exquisitely illustrated book, an ordinary child is launched on an extraordinary, magical journey towards her greatest and most rewarding adventure of all...



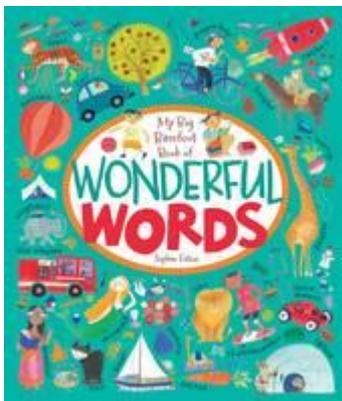
**Beast Quest \***  
**Adam Blade**

Well-known series for reluctant readers. Battle Beasts and fight Evil with Tom and Elenna. A wicked curse has been put on Tom's magical Golden Armour, turning its powers to Evil. Now he has fallen under its enchantment and is being controlled by his pirate enemy, Ria. Tom must battle a terrifying lightning bird - but he will need the help of his loyal companion Elenna more than ever



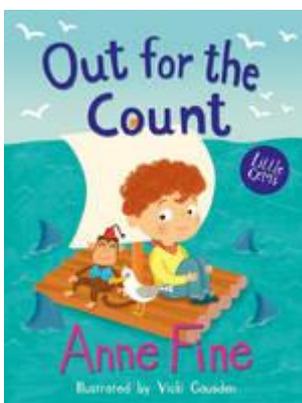
**Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion**  
**Alex T. Smith**

Little Red sets off to visit her auntie who is poorly. She walks under the giraffes, over the sleepy crocodiles, past the enormous elephants and the chattering monkeys. Then a Very Hungry Lion approaches Little Red, wanting to gobble her up. But despite all the cunning plans by Lion, Little Red outsmarts him and soon has him saying sorry and eating doughnuts instead. A classic fairy tale with a twist by the bestselling Alex T. Smith.



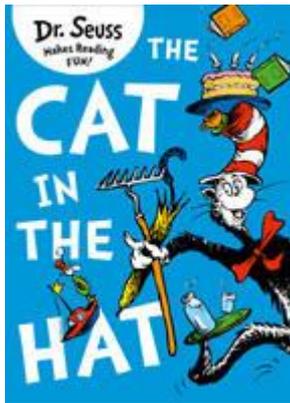
**My Big Barefoot Book of Wonderful Words**  
**Sophie Fatus**

Each scene is teeming with people, places and things. But what makes this book really different is that each of the narrative, real world scenes is followed and further developed by an abstract, interactive one.



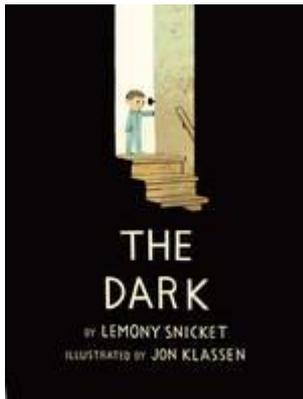
**Out for the Count**  
**Anne Fine**

Hugo wants a gerbil, but his dad says it's cruel to keep an animal in a cage. Hugo doesn't agree, and so Dad challenges him to spend a day cooped up in his room. The countdown has barely begun when Hugo starts to go stir-crazy. Warm, witty and wise to the impatience of childhood, this is Anne Fine on great form, encouraging young readers to develop imagination and empathy.



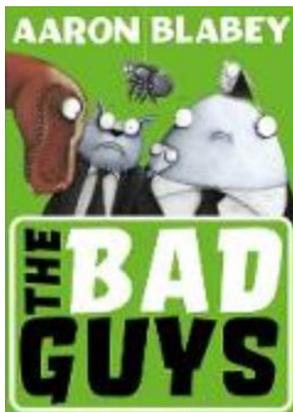
**The Cat in the Hat**  
**Dr. Seuss**

The one and only Cat in the Hat from the iconic Dr. Seuss gets a brand new look, introducing his roller-coaster ride of mayhem to a new generation of readers. When Sally and her brother are left alone, they think they're in for a dull day - until the Cat in the Hat steps in on the mat, bringing with him mayhem and madness!



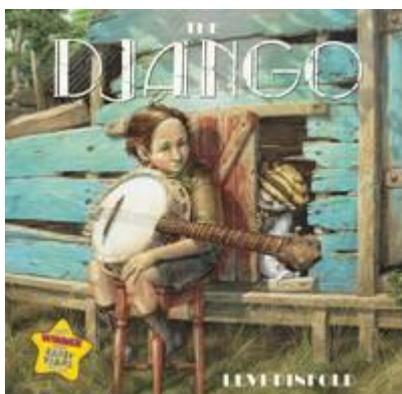
**The Dark**  
**Lemony Snicket**

Laszlo is afraid of the dark. The dark lives in the same house as Laszlo but mostly it spends its time in the basement. It doesn't visit Laszlo in his room. Until one night it does. With emotional insight and poetic economy, Lemony Snicket and Jon Klassen bring to light a universal and empowering story about conquering fear. Join a brave boy on his journey to meet the dark, and see why it will never bother him again.



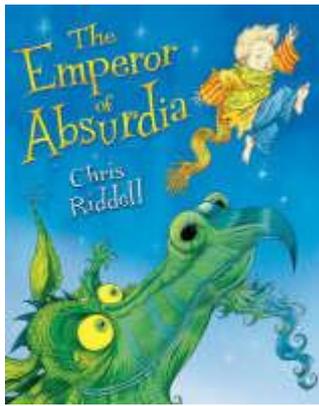
**The Bad Guys** \*  
**Aaron Blabey**

They sound like the Bad Guys, they look like the Bad Guys... and they even smell like the Bad Guys in this fully illustrated, laugh-out-loud adventure. Mr Wolf and his bad, bad buddies are getting ready for an out of this world adventure. Will they come back down to earth? And, if they do, will they survive what's waiting for them? Should you panic? Should you cry? NO! Just sit back and watch the fur fly as the world's baddest good guys take on two new adventures.



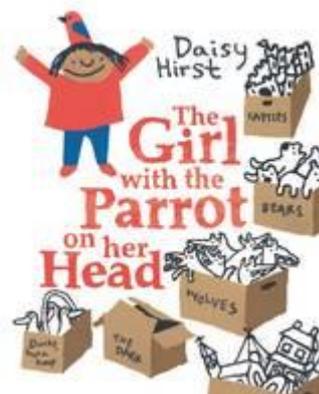
**The Django**  
**Levi Pinfold**

Winner of the prestigious 'Best Emerging Illustrator Award' from Booktrust, Levi Pinfold has created a wonderfully moving story of a young boy dogged by the attentions of his imaginary friend 'Django' who keeps getting him into trouble. Finally, the young boy has to banish his friend, but he misses him terribly. When his father gives Jean a banjo, he rediscovers the infectious enthusiasm for music that was the Django's special gift to him.



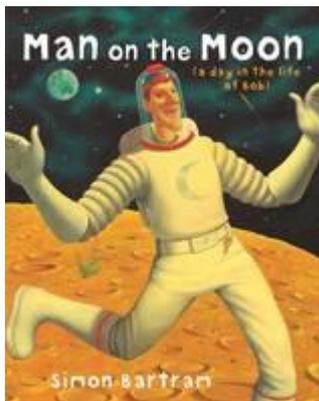
**The Emperor of Absurdia**  
**Chris Riddell**

Welcome to Absurdia: a strange and wonderful land where nothing is quite what it seems. Trees are birds, umbrellas are trees, and the sky is thick with snoring fish. Join one small boy as he tumbles out of bed into a crazy dreamland of wardrobe monsters, dragons -- and amazing adventure.



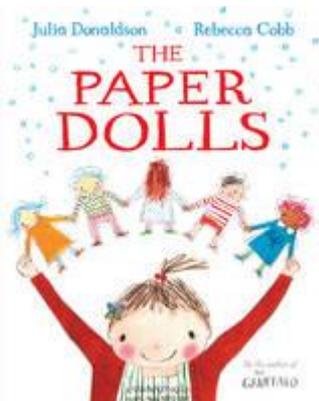
**The Girl with the Parrot on Her Head**  
**Daisy Hirst**

Arresting, resonant and witty The Times A beautifully bold and fresh new picture book, this hopeful and endearing story about moving house, making new friends and playing imaginative games is told with simple wit and charm, and offers a touching exploration of feelings. When Simon moves house, Isabel loses her best friend for ever. She is angry and lonely and decides it's better to be by herself. But after a time she faces a new problem that leads her to make a brilliant new friend...



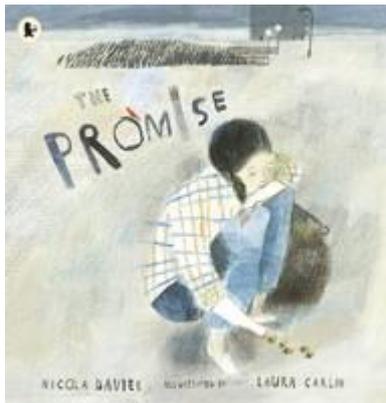
**The Man on the Moon** \*  
**Simon Bartram**

The everyday story of an ordinary man? Well, sort of. Bob is the man on the moon, and he has a very special job, looking after the moon, cleaning it up, showing visitors around and selling souvenirs.



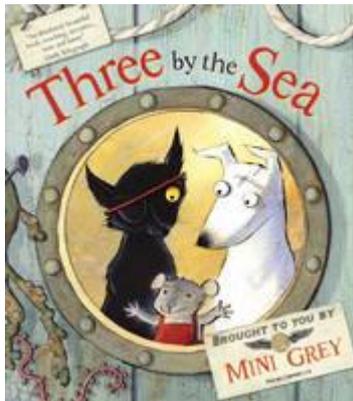
**The Paper Dolls**  
**Julia Donaldson**

A string of paper dolls go on a fantastical adventure through the house and out into the garden. They soon escape the clutches of the toy dinosaur and the snapping jaws of the oven-glove crocodile, but then a very real pair of scissors threatens.



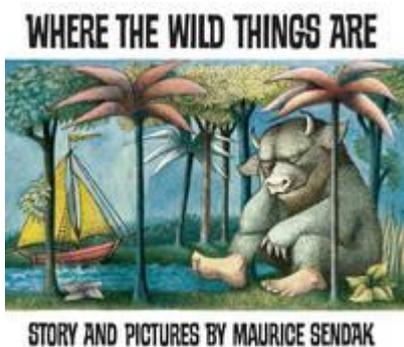
**The Promise**  
**Nicola Davies**

On a mean street in a mean city, a thief tries to snatch an old woman's bag. But she finds she can't have it without promising something in return - to plant them all. When it turns out the bag is full of acorns, the young thief embarks on a journey that changes her own life and the lives of others for generations to come. Inspired by the belief that a relationship with nature is essential to every human being, and that now, more than ever, we need to renew that relationship, *The Promise* is the story of a magical discovery that will touch the heart and imagination of every reader, young and old.



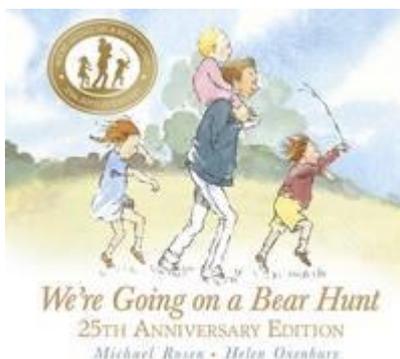
**Three by the Sea**  
**Mini Grey**

In a house by the sea there happily live a dog, a cat and a mouse. Well, happily enough until a stranger knocks on the door one night, offering them each a special free gift. Who is this mysterious salesman blowing into their little world and turning it upside-down? And can their happy home survive his trouble-making gifts?



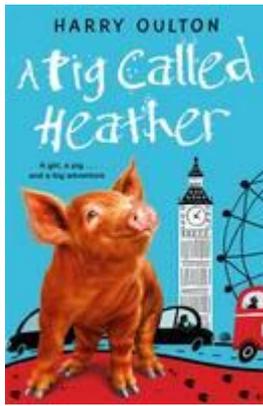
**Where the Wild Things Are**  
**Maurice Sendak**

One night Max puts on his wolf suit and makes mischief of one kind and another, so his mother calls him 'Wild Thing' and sends him to bed without his supper. That night a forest begins to grow in Max's room and an ocean rushes by with a boat to take Max to the place where the wild things are. Max tames the wild things and crowns himself as their king, and then the wild rumpus begins. But when Max has sent the monsters to bed, and everything is quiet, he starts to feel lonely and realises it is time to sail home to the place where someone loves him best of all.



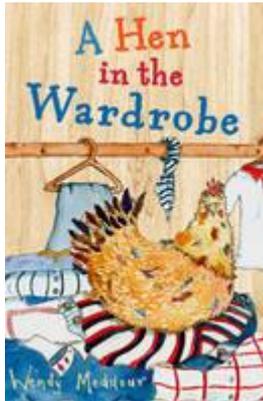
**We're Going on a Bear Hunt**  
**Michael Rosen**

We're going on a bear hunt. We're going to catch a big one. Will you come too? For a quarter of a century, readers have been swishy-swashying and splash-splashing through this award-winning favourite. Follow and join in the family's excitement as they wade through the grass, splash through the river and squelch through the mud in search of a bear. What a surprise awaits them in the cave on the other side of the dark forest!



**A Pig Called Heather**  
**Harry Oulton**

Heather's best friend is a girl called Isla, who lives with her dad on a farm in Scotland. Their idyllic life together is shattered when a thunderstorm destroys the farm and forces Isla's dad to sell up and move to London - leaving Isla and Heather miles apart and utterly miserable. Then fate intervenes, turning Heather from an everyday pig into a national celebrity, and catapulting her to fame, fortune and, most excitingly of all...London. Armed only with her own pig-headedness, Heather embarks on a quest to track down her best friend. After all, how many girls with freckles can there be in London?



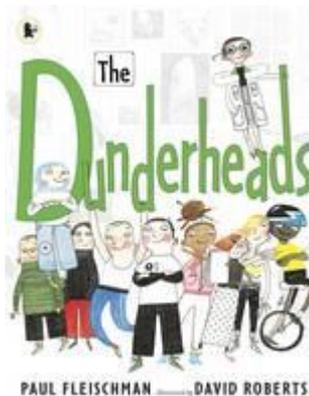
**A Hen in the Wardrobe**  
**Wendy Meddour**

Ramzi's dad is acting very strangely. He climbs trees in the middle of the night, and even goes into Ramzi's wardrobe looking for a hen. The trouble is, he's sleepwalking because he's homesick for his native Algeria. So Ramzi, Dad and Mum go back to Dad's Berber village in the desert region of North Africa, and Ramzi meets his Berber grandmother and cousins, and even braves the scary Sheherazad. But can Ramzi help his dad and what will happen when they get back home again. This is a funny, heart-warming family story by an exciting new author, set in Britain and Algeria, with fascinating glimpses of traditional Berber culture and lots of colourful characters.



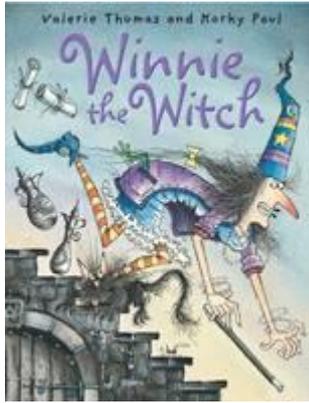
**Beaver Towers Witches Revenge The Witch's Revenge**  
**Nigel Hinton**

This is the second 'Beaver Towers' adventure. Once again Philip has been transported to the island to help his friends the beavers in their fight against the wicked witch, Oyin. But Oyin is planning a terrible revenge on the island's inhabitants.



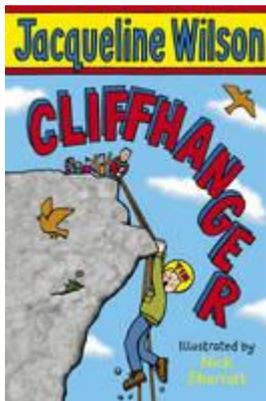
**The Dunderheads**  
**Paul Fleischman**

What's in a name? Meet the Dunderheads, an unlikely band of kids with extraordinary hidden talents! 'Never', shrieked Miss Breakbone, 'have I been asked to teach such a scraping together of fiddling, twiddling, time-squandering, mind-wandering, doodling, dozing, don't-knowing DUNDERHEADS!' Miss Breakbone, the school mistress, hates kids. She shouts, she confiscates, she makes kids cry. But one day she goes too far. She confiscates the one-eyed cat that Junkyard is going to give his mum for her birthday. So the children pool their many weird and wonderful talents to break into Breakbone's house and get Junkyard's cat back for him...



**Winnie the Witch**  
**Valerie Thomas**

Winnie the Witch lives in a black house. She has black chairs and black stairs, black floors and black doors. The trouble is that Winnie's cat, Wilbur, is also black. After sitting on him and tripping over him, Winnie decides to turn Wilbur into a green cat. But then he goes out into the long grass! Winnie is going to need a little magic to make sure she can always see Wilbur ...A beautifully-crafted story with a colourful final twist.



**Cliffhanger**  
**Jacqueline Wilson**

From climbing and abseiling to canoeing and a Crazy Bucket Race, Tim's adventure holiday promises to be full of action. There's just one problem: he is hopeless at sports of any kind. Can Tim survive the horrors of a week absolutely packed with activity? Can his team - the Tigers - be the overall champions? There are some surprises in store for everyone.