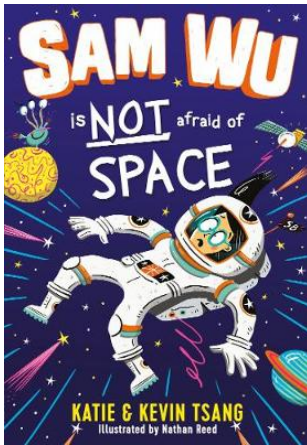


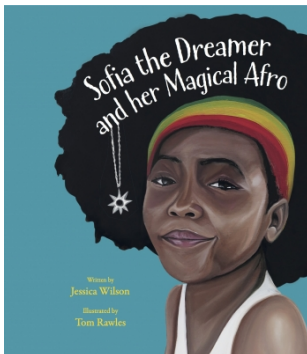
A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 3 (7 - 8 year olds) of average reading ability for the 2020/21 academic year.



Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Space

Author: Katie Tsang, Kevin Tsang **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/08/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

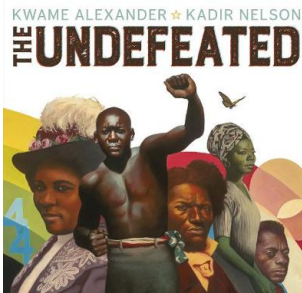
A wonderfully funny and reassuring read for every child staying away from home for the very first time. Common childhood fears dealt with in a hilarious, sensitive and accessible way.



Sofia the Dreamer and her Magical Afro

Author: Jessica Wilson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/06/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

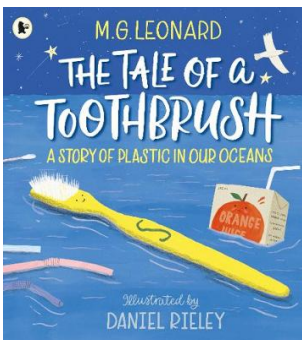
This is a poetic look at the history of natural hairstyles – and, through Sofia, we see children encouraged not to be afraid to be themselves. Every Sunday Sofia dreams as her Mum washes and styles her hair – and every style has a period and a cultural figure as an example of how styles and history sit together. Whilst feeling sleepy as her hair is done Sofia dream-travels to visit a Jamaican Rastafarian, an African ancestor and a Black Panther in Los Angeles. The poem takes on this journey through history and also beyond our world to the realisation that love of one another is the basis of all. The illustrations are bold and the fact that Tom Rawles is best known for album cover shows through his bold contemporary style. The publisher is a British Jamaican independent company – set up to bring to light some of the stories from the Caribbean and its peoples. It was founded in response to the need for diversity in publishing. I hope we see more from these publishers!



The Undeclared

Author: Kwame Alexander **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 20/02/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

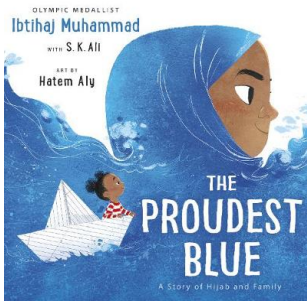
Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2021 | Shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2020 Written for and about “the swift and sweet ones/who hurdled history and opened a world of possible”, for those who “survived America by any means necessary. And the ones who didn’t,” this is an inspiring ode to the author’s forebears and to the world-changing feats of unforgettable Black American figures. Author Kwame Alexander’s initial inspiration for this book came in the year his second daughter was born, the same year Barack Obama became the first African American president of the USA. As a result, Alexander wanted his daughters “to know how we got to this historic moment”, which is exactly what this stirring book does. The chained slaves who kept faith, the elite Olympians, the innovative musicians, the seminal scientists, the courageous activists - people from all walks of life are celebrated in Alexander’s poetically poised words, and gloriously illustrated by Kadir Nelson, with much for young children to ponder and ask questions about. As well as being a wonderful way for parents to explore Black American history with their little ones on a one-to-one basis, this will also work well with older children in a classroom context. Indeed, this is one of those rare and wonderful picture books that defies age boundaries - a radiant, resonant unforgettable tour de force, as befits its theme.



The Tale of a Toothbrush

Author: M.G. Leonard **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/02/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

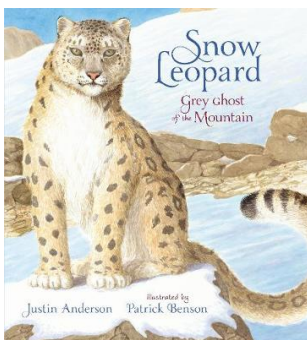
A Story of Plastic in Our Oceans A brilliantly topical and delightfully funny picture book from internationally bestselling author M.G. Leonard, which shows children what happens to their plastic toothbrushes after they're thrown away.



The Proudest Blue

Author: Ibtihaj Muhammad, S. K. Ali **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 02/01/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

This collaboration, between the first American Olympic medallist to compete wearing a hijab and an award-winning Muslim YA author, is a beautiful story of sisterly love as well as a thoughtful depiction of the significance of wearing the hijab. Expressed in terms of family pride and self determination rather than in terms of faith, makes the message particularly accessible to all young readers regardless of their background. Faizah is excited for her first day of school, with her light up shoes and new backpack, but even more excited for her older sister, Asiya with her brand-new blue hijab. As Faizah walks to the school she admires her sister who looks like 'a princess' in her blue head scarf. Their mother has prepared the girls with wise words, which they remember as they encounter different reactions, and these are shown on dreamy spreads of Faiza's thoughts and their mother's words. When the kids in the school bully Asiya, she remembers her mother's advice to not carry hurtful words as "they are not yours to keep. They belong only to those who said them" The bullies are cleverly depicted as faceless, raceless, anonymous shadows thus avoiding apportioning blame to any one sector. The vivid colour and expressive illustration are just as powerful as words in conveying the passionate message of how to be proud of one's culture, individuality, and religion and how to stay strong protected by the armour of family love. This is an excellent book about identity and self-confidence for young readers who can see themselves in Asiya or know someone like her and essential for Empathy collections.

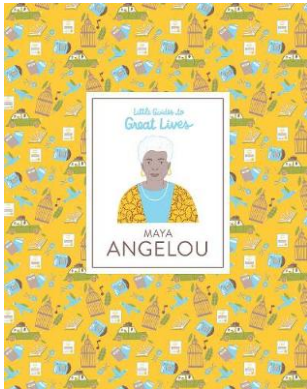


Snow Leopard: Grey Ghost of the Mountain

Author: Justin Anderson **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/11/2019 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

Justin Anderson is a film maker who has been involved in high quality film production for the likes of Planet Earth II in his 18-year career of filming wildlife for the BBC. This book is born from his passion to share his fascination with the snow leopard – one of the creatures on the Red List of endangered species – the snow leopard is listed as 'vulnerable'. This is a very simply told tale of how Anderson went looking for snow leopards and what he saw, but the strength of the book lies in the "footnotes" and the glorious illustrations by Patrick Benson. Benson is a multi-award-winning illustrator, known for the realism of his illustration – the almost photographic detail, rendered in such a simple palette with detail that makes you think you might actually be able to stroke the leopards (If you dare!). The "footnotes" are details about the leopards, in a different font on the relevant page of the book, so that the reader has good quality information to support the simple story – telling us more about the mysterious creature. For instance, I had no idea snow leopards sang in the moonlight – did you? The final spread of the book

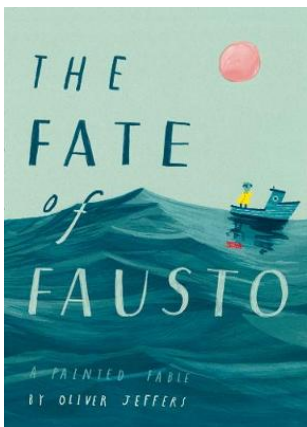
is devoted to a page of information about snow leopards, where you find more information about them and that ever important short index making the book useful and accessible for information retrieval. A useful and beautiful book.



Maya Angelou - Little Guides to Great Lives

Author: Danielle Jawando **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 30/09/2019 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

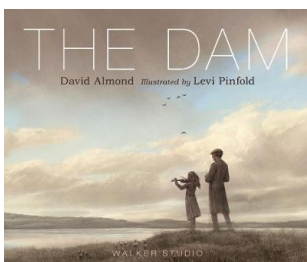
October 2019 Book of the Month A brief guide capturing the courage and creativity of the exceptional African American author, poet, playwright, and civil rights activist. Maya Angelou used her tremendous writing talent to get her voice, and the voice of millions of other African Americans, listened to as she supported many important causes including the Civil Rights Movement.



The Fate of Fausto

Author: Oliver Jeffers **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 17/09/2019 **Year Groups:** Early Years

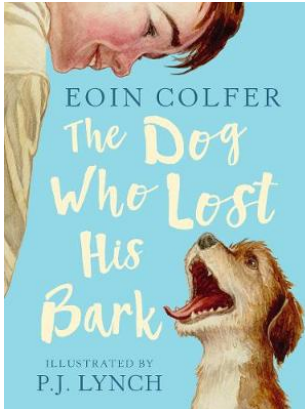
Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2021 Award-winning author-illustrator Oliver Jeffers's simple but unforgettable fable of one man's greed to possess everything is beautifully told in an exquisitely designed book of only a few words complimented by some striking lithographic print images. As ever, Jeffers knows how to use both words and pictures in a way that allows readers to enjoy his story as well as making it their own.



The Dam

Author: David Almond **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2019 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2020 On the day before the valley is to be flooded to form a reservoir, a girl and her father play and dance in the deserted houses, remembering the people who have lived there. This is an exquisite book in which words and pictures interweave to evoke wild beauty and a deep mystery. You'll want to keep this one for ever.

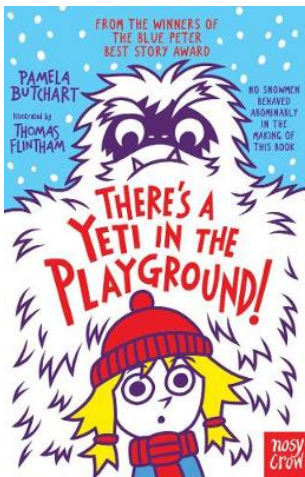


The Dog Who Lost His Bark

Author: Eoin Colfer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2019
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the Children's Book Awards 2019, Books for Younger Readers

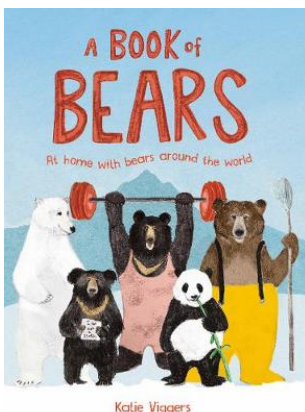
Category Patrick is delighted to go to stay at his grandparents' house, especially when he is told he can choose a rescue puppy. Oz, the puppy has had a terrible start but Patrick is determined to help, until his own life falls apart and he doesn't love his dog. Colfer explores his subject with an empathy which makes the characters and dilemmas very real. A great read.



There's A Yeti In The Playground!

Author: Pamela Butchart **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 04/10/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

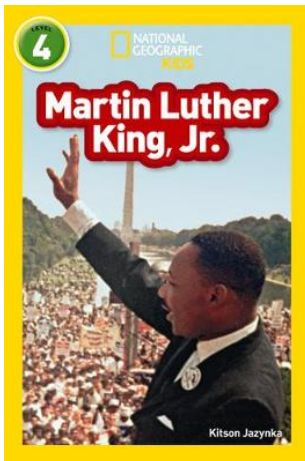
An award winning author with an infallible touch when it comes to humour and familiar settings that all children can relate to and told with a flair for zany and exciting plots like this one!



A Book of Bears At Home with Bears Around the World

Author: Katie Viggers **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/10/2018
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

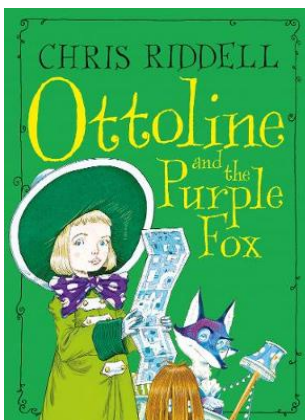
Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 A fascinating guidebook to bears large and less large, this quirky book is packed with information but full of humour too. It introduces readers to the eight different species of bears living in the world, and there's a section on each one, with a very useful illustrated panel showing 'how they size up'. This is followed by pages on things all or most bears do, from eating and swimming (all) to hibernating (not all). There's a mix of text and Katie Viggers' characterful illustrations and alongside the facts, she has lots of fun - sloth bears for example, whose long, shaggy coats mean they often look untidy, are depicted at the bear hair salon. It's comic but memorable too. Even if you didn't love bears at the beginning of the book, you will by the end and either way you'll have learned a great deal.



Martin Luther King, Jr

Author: Kitson Jazynka, National Geographic Kids **Format:** Paperback
Release Date: 03/09/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

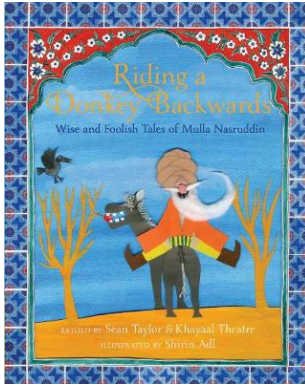
Level 4 - National Geographic Kids Reader Published in the UK by Collins, the National Geographic Kids Readers are a valuable resource for classroom and library collections. Beautifully designed and produced, with clear text boxes and layout, interactive features such as quizzes and benefiting, of course, from the superb photography that the parent magazine is renowned for. Each book has been carefully levelled against Book Bands and all have the key information text features such as index, contents and glossary, making them very useful for guided reading. But their main appeal is in the genuinely engaging writing and the sound research behind every title. Many children prefer to read information books about the real world and with attractive, appealing texts like these it is no wonder!



Ottoline and the Purple Fox

Author: Chris Riddell **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 17/05/2018
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

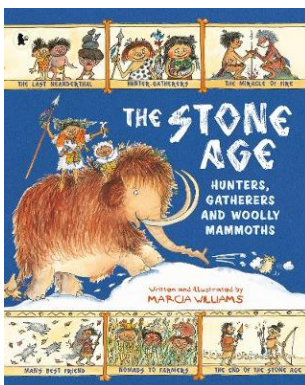
This is the fourth adventure for Ottoline and her best friend Mr Munroe, and it is every bit as enchanting, witty and surprising as the first. The emphasis is on friendship in this story: with her parents still roving the world for interesting items to add to their ever-growing collection of objects, Ottoline holds a dinner party. Guests include the dashing Purple Fox, a new friend, who has introduced Ottoline to some of the city's most exciting inhabitants and hidden secrets. She's able to repay him by drawing his attention to something lovely that he's failed to see. Chris Riddell's illustrations are as dazzling as ever; it's worth lingering over every page to revel in the fluency of his line and to look out for the myriad little details. Ottoline is a delight for readers of all ages.



Riding a Donkey Backwards Wise and Foolish Tales of the Mulla Nasruddin

Author: Sean Taylor, Khayal Theatre **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 05/04/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

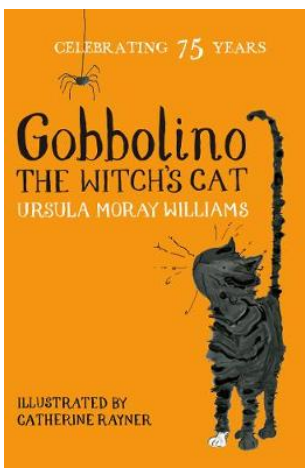
UKLA Longlist Book Awards - 2019 21 wonderful retellings of classic Muslim folktales featuring the character of Mulla Nasruddin with superb and humorous collage style illustrations.



The Stone Age Hunters, Gatherers and Woolly Mammoths

Author: Marcia Williams **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/10/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

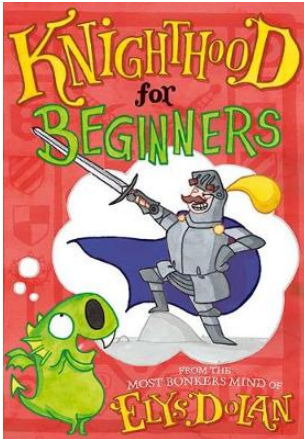
A masterclass in how to make history come to life with trademark cartoon style illustrations and lots of fascinating facts and detail - this is a triumph.



Gobbolino the Witch's Cat

Author: Ursula Moray Williams **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 07/09/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

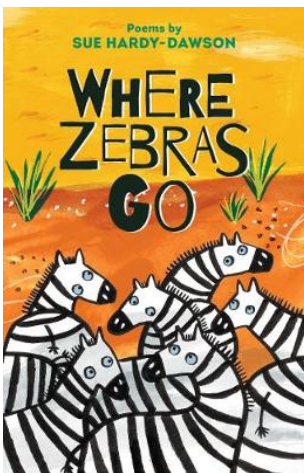
A timeless and always appealing tale getting a well deserved new lease of life with delightful illustrations from award winning Catherine Rayner.



Knighthood for Beginners

Author: Elys Dolan **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/06/2017
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

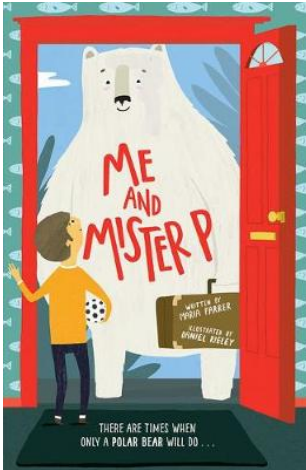
Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2018 | In a nutshell: hilarious courtly adventure from one of our funniest, most inventive writer-illustrators Elys Dolan fills her first adventure story for young readers with the madcap invention and humour that are the trademark of her picture books. Dave is a dragon, but not a typical one: he'd much rather bury his nose in a book than a treasure hoard and when he picks up a second-hand copy of How to be a Knight, he knows he's found his calling. Ably assisted by his trusty steed Albrecht who, though a goat, has all the requisite attributes – attitude, looks, glossiness, not to mention the ability to speak, and a decidedly colourful past – he sets out to win his knighthood. There's something funny on each page either in the text or illustrations and this will have every reader laughing. Underneath the humour is a lovely message about being true to yourself. ~



Where Zebras Go Poems

Author: Sue Hardy-Dawson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/02/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

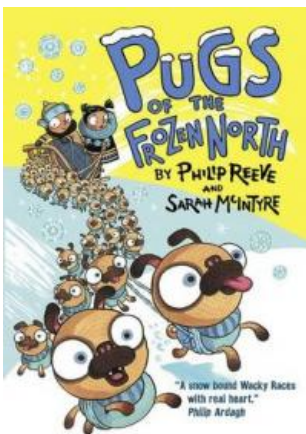
Shortlisted for the Centre for Literacy in Primary Poetry Award 2018 Get ready to join in the Poetry Olympics, question a snake, talk to a toad and learn 20 ways to avoid monsters and mythical beasts. Where Zebras Go will lead you leads you on a magical journey across the savannah, into fairytale realms, back into the playground and through the seasons, introducing a whole host of animals along the way. An exciting debut collection from an up-and-coming poet, covering wide-ranging themes with humour and fun.



Me and Mister P

Author: Maria Farrer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/01/2017
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

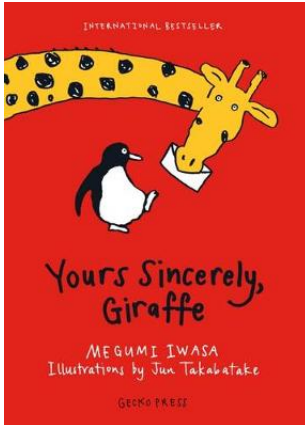
Shortlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award Arthur is understandably surprised when Mr P turns up at his door expecting to stay: Mr P is a huge polar bear with small black eyes, and long sharp teeth. Fortunately for Arthur and his family Mr P is polite and friendly and his stay as a guest brings about all sorts of changes for the better. Having to look after him makes Arthur see things differently while Mr P's uncritical, tolerant presence is a calming influence on Arthur's brother Liam, who finds it difficult to act the way others do. This is all mixed up in a funny, often surreal story about the challenges of managing a polar bear at school, and with a sub-plot concerning a tense football match. Readers will be entertained as well as moved, and there's depth beneath the humour. Readers who enjoy this story would like Lob by Linda Newbery, or The Last Polar Bears by Harry Horse.



Pugs of the Frozen North

Author: Philip Reeve **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2016
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

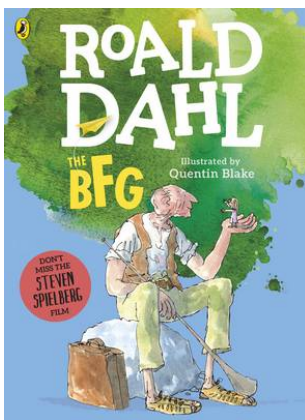
Shortlisted for the UKLA 2017 Book Award Award winning author partners Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre head north for their latest adventure. When the cabin boy is abandoned by his shipmates when their ship is stranded in the ice. He's completely alone, except for 64 little pugs, part of the ship's cargo! He soon teams up with Shika, a girl desperately seeking dogs to pull her grandpa's sled in the Race to the Top of the World, a once in a lifetime contest to win your heart's desire. The eccentric competitors mean there's something of the Wacky Races about all of this, but amongst the crazy – and very entertaining – scenes there are surprising notes of poignancy, as well as some lovely descriptions of the True Winter, fifty types of snow and all.



Yours Sincerely, Giraffe

Author: Megumi Iwasa **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 14/07/2016 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

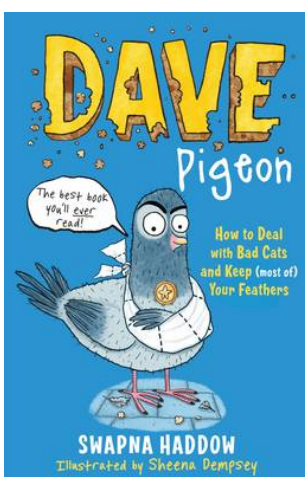
Shortlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award Giraffe is bored, as usual. He'd love a friend to share things with. So he writes a letter and sends it as far as possible across the other side of the horizon. There he finds a pen pal—Penguin. Giraffe knows nothing about penguins and his letters are full of questions. What does a penguin look like? Where is a penguin's neck? And so the letters begin to fly from horizon to horizon.



The BFG

Author: Roald Dahl **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/07/2016 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

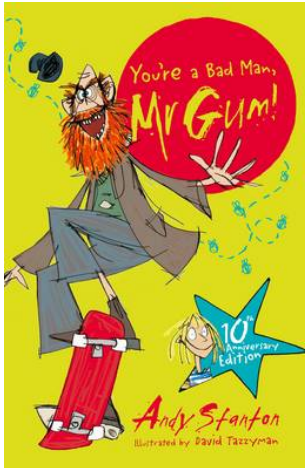
Roald Dahl's BFG in glorious full colour! This is a delightful, funny and exciting story, about a special friendship between two people from different worlds – a giant and a child. As the story develops it shows how trust and love develops between them. It also shows that bullying must not be tolerated and Dahl is at his might best here by eventually ensuring the big bad giants get their comeuppance whilst the big friendly giant wins the day alongside the little girl Sophie. The text is perfectly complemented with colour illustrations by Quentin Blake. ***Note this extract is taken from The BFG with black & white illustrations.



Dave Pigeon

Author: Swapna Hadow **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/04/2016 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

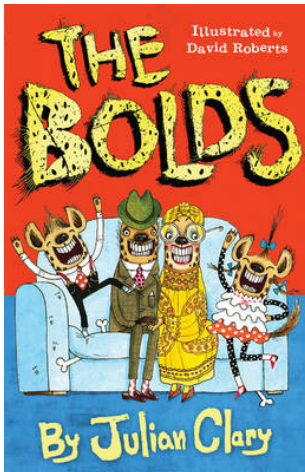
Join Dave Pigeon and his sidekick Skipper on their quest to defeat the most evil cat in town. There will be funny bits, scary bits and biscuity bits. It is perfect for 6+ readers to share with an adult as it has short speech bubbles running with the text for youngsters to read plus there are some brilliant laugh-out-loud black and white illustrations on every page by the superbly talented Sheena Dempsey.



You're a Bad Man, Mr Gum!

Author: Andy Stanton **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 25/02/2016
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

Winner of the Blue Peter Prize 2007 'Most Fun Story with Pictures.' **Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2007 and Joint winner of the Richard and Judy "Developing" 7+ category**
Mr Gum may well be a 'bad man' but rest assured the author Mr Stanton is a 'funny man'. There's a wonderful sense of humour throughout. Fans of Roald Dahl will love it. This special edition comes with lots of stickers, a brand new bonus story and an exclusive introduction from the author.



The Bolds

Author: Julian Clary **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 30/07/2015
Year Groups: Key Stage 2

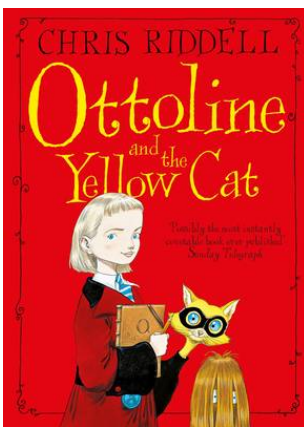
One of our Books of the Year 2015 - A Reader Review Panel Pick of the Year 2015 Comedian, entertainer and 'national trinket' Julian Clary now turns out to be a talented children's writer too. The Bolds, his first book for children, is a real treat – a funny story with a ludicrous but hugely enjoyable plotline, lots of jokes, some nail-biting moments and wonderful characters. The Bolds live happily in Teddington where Mrs Bold sells hats and Mr Bold writes the jokes for Christmas crackers, jobs for which they are perfectly suited. Hardly anyone knows they are actually hyenas! Their secret nearly comes out when they attract the attention of their grumpy next-door neighbour, but maybe he's got things to hide too. David Roberts' illustrations are a joy to behold and perfectly catch the stylishly dressed Bolds' blithe, carefree happiness. A very special book. Books in The Bolds Series: 1. The Bolds 2. The Bolds in Trouble 3. The Bolds to the Rescue 4. The Bolds on Holiday 5. The Bolds' Christmas Cracker 6. The Bolds Go Wild



Dreams of Freedom

Author: Amnesty International **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 05/03/2015 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

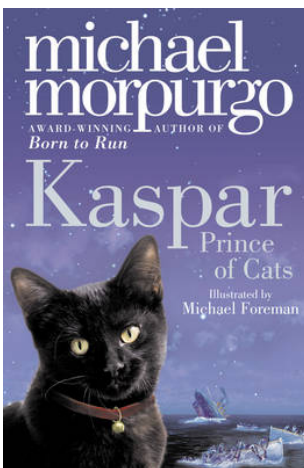
Shortlisted for the English Picture Book Award 2016 Powerful and moving, this collection of some of the most famous quotes about freedom including the words of Aung San Suu Kyi and Nelson Mandela make thoughtful statements about the global fight for human rights. Illustrators including Chris Riddell, Oliver Jeffers and Shane Evans have contributed stunning illustrations capturing the different ways of being free.



Ottoline and the Yellow Cat

Author: Chris Riddell **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 26/02/2015 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

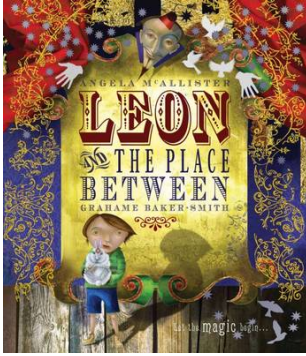
The first book in Chris Riddell's much-loved Ottoline series. Now in paperback for the first time. A glorious adventure fantasy told in words and loads of Chris Riddell's fabulous pictures, this tells how Ottoline, who loves solving puzzles, and her friend Mr Munro, a cat with a distinct personality and a number of foibles, set out to resolve the mystery of the lapdogs who are being stolen from all over town. A beautiful book to read or even just to hold. Shortlisted for the prestigious 2008 Kate Greenaway Medal. Winner of the 2007 Nestle Children's Book Prize Gold Award (6-8 category)



Kaspar Prince of Cats

Author: Michael Morpurgo **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/01/2010 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

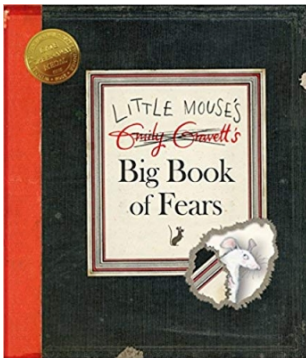
A wonderfully emotional but heart-warming tale from the pen of one of the foremost writers for children. Brilliantly interwoven in historical fact at the time of the sinking of the Titanic is the story of Kaspar the Savoy cat, who we also discover is a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic. The story is utterly compelling and brought to life still further by some really dreamy illustrations by Michael Foreman. A story to read aloud during those cold wintry evenings as much as a story to cuddle up with alone. Wonderful.



Leon and the Place Between

Author: Angela Mcallister **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/09/2008 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

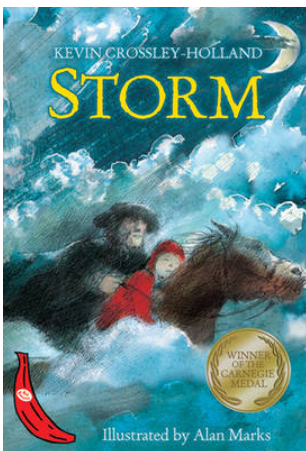
Shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2010. When Leon goes to the magic show, he is the only one who believes. His brothers and sisters are in for a big surprise however: this is no ordinary show and Abdul Kazam is no ordinary magician. Leon is taken on a journey right into the Place Between, where magic becomes really real. CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal SHORTLIST 2010: Judges' comments This is a wonderful production, in different media with fantastic use of sumptuous colour and light throughout. The jacket just invites you to pick it up and you really feel as if you are watching a show as you read it: there is so much for the reader to look at.



Little Mouse's Big Book Of Fears

Author: Emily Gravett **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2008 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

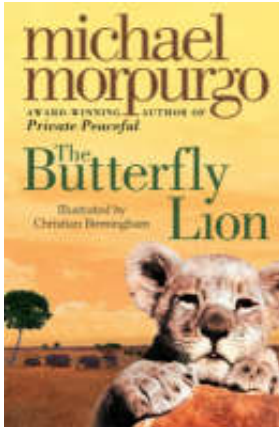
Winner of the 2008 CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal This award winning author-illustrator continues to create some of the most innovative and imaginative illustrated children's books. Through nursery rhyme stories follow Little Mouse as he confronts his many fears including Ablutophobia (Fear of Bathing) and Ligrophobia (Fear of loud noises). You can even make lists of your own fears to overcome! - Winner of the 2007 Nestle Children's Book Prize Bronze Award (6 to 8 category) Click here for a Little Mouse related activity sheet ! Be sure to check out Emily Gravett's other titles by clicking here.



Storm

Author: Kevin Crossley-Holland **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2001 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

Winner of the Carnegie Award in 1985. A wonderful story of drama and adventure that is beautifully unraveled by award-winning author Kevin Crossley-Holland. The characters are superbly drawn and the narrative is simply but lyrically told. And there's a surprise at the end. (7+) To find out more about this book [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Carnegie Greenaway site



The Butterfly Lion

Author: Michael Morpurgo **Format:** Paperback (b Format) **Release Date:** 07/05/1996 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

The inspiring magic of a white lion brings friendship and hope to a lonely ten year old. Miserable at his boarding school, Bertie runs away. He is rescued by a kind old lady who tells him of how another Bertie, a little boy from a long time before, saved an orphaned lion cub in Africa. The symbol of the white lion becomes an emblem of hope as well as a link across generations. Michael Morpurgo is skilful in weaving together magical and real stories. ~ Julia Eccleshare The Lovereading view: One of our 'Must Reads'. We're told by the author that The Butterfly Lion grew from several magical roots: the memories of a small boy who tried to run away from school a long time ago; a book about a pride of white lions discovered by Chris McBride; a chance meeting in a lift with Virginia McKenna, actress and champion of lions and all creatures born free; a true story of a soldier of the First World War who rescued some circus animals in France from certain death; and the sighting from a train of a white horse carved out on a chalky hillside near Westbury in Wiltshire. A book to savour and to read and re-read time and time again. The whole family will be enthralled by its powerful and gripping story and will weep and cheer by turns.
