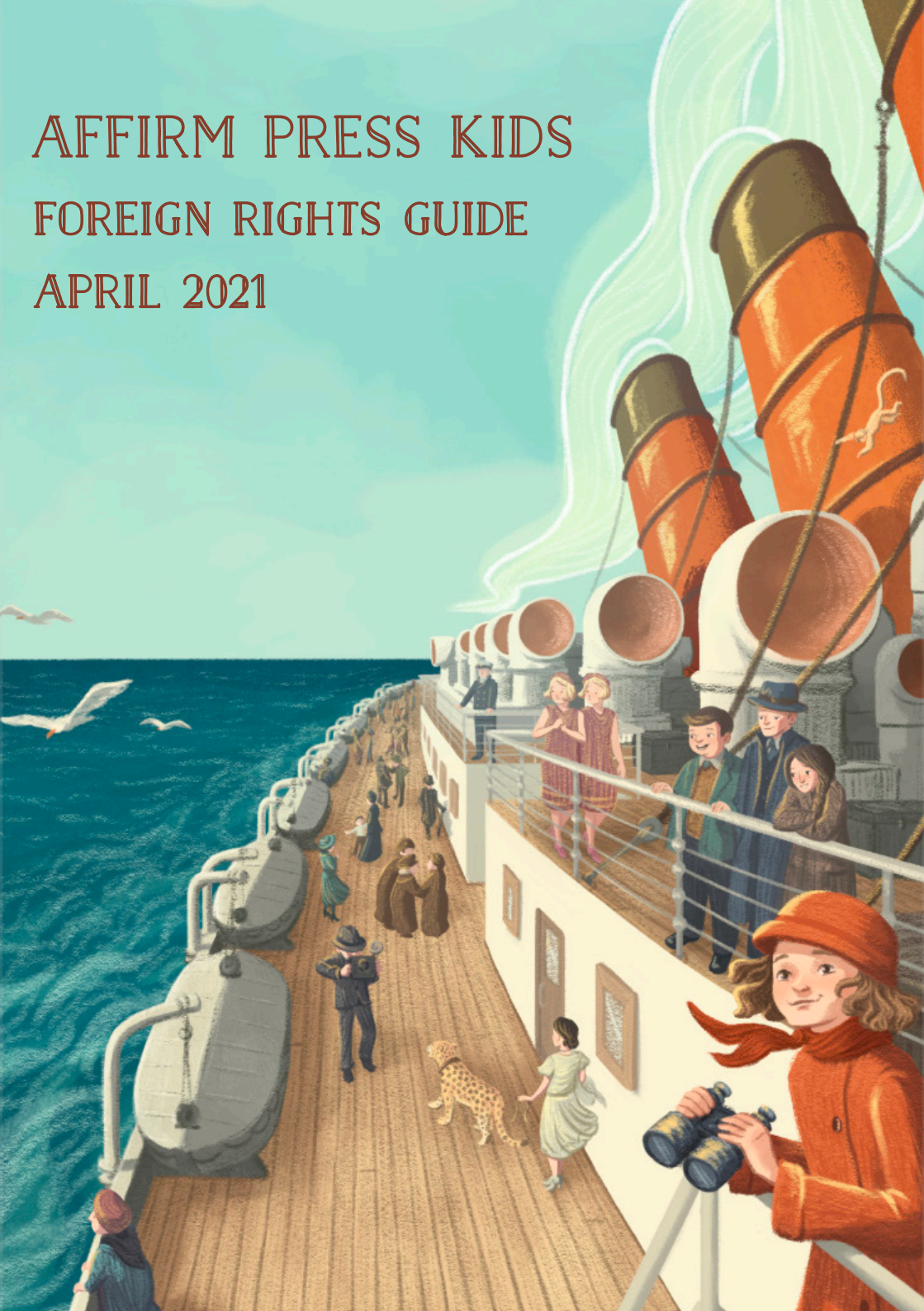


AFFIRM PRESS KIDS  
FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE  
APRIL 2021



# About Us



Affirm Press is one of Australia's fastest-growing publishers, and our recent rapid growth has been boosted by the addition of our award-winning kids list.

Our first ever picture book, *A Walk in the Bush* by debut author and illustrator Gwyn Perkins, won the Children's Book Council of Australia's Picture Book of the Year in 2018, and *Tricky's Bad Day* by Alison Lester, Australia's most-loved picture book creator, won the Early Childhood Book of the Year in 2019.

That, in a nutshell, sums up the Affirm Press kids list: a combination of the best emerging talent and some of the industry's most-loved creators with a dedication to publishing great stories and big ideas. Our aim is to influence by delight, based on our strong belief that the books we read shape the people we want to be.

We're interested in building relationships, not one-offs, and we're driven by finding creative ways of publishing and promoting each of our titles. We're a close-knit and supportive team, which means each Affirm Press book is lovingly chaperoned through every step of the publishing process.

As well as being one of Australia's fastest growing publishers, we also like to think we're the most optimistic. We see opportunities in the changing publishing industry and distinguish ourselves through editorial commitment and a strong focus on sales and marketing.

Our in-house sales staff are supported by the dynamic team at Hachette Australia and New Zealand and our titles are distributed by Alliance Distribution Services.

Affirm Press acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of Australia, and the people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional custodians of the place we now live and work called Melbourne.



## Contents

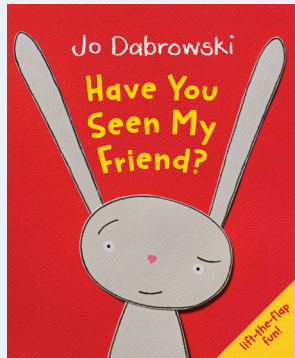
2021 Lead Titles: Picture books .....	4
2021 Lead Titles: Middle grade .....	19
Backlist Picture books .....	22
Backlist Fiction.....	42
Australia-specific titles .....	50

### Contact

Tash Besliev, Kids Publisher

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## Lead Title



Click the cover  
for files!

## Have You Seen My Friend?

By Jo Dabrowski

HUMOUR

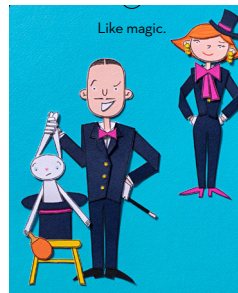
*Have you seen my friend?*

*He was sitting right there. And then he disappeared.*

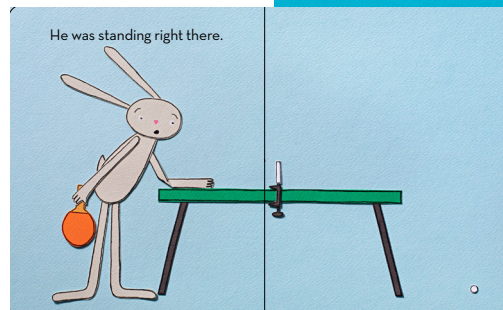
*Like magic.*

From an exciting new talent comes a hilarious, cheeky and surprising story about friendship, determination and the importance of always having a trick up your sleeve.

July 2021 | 10 spreads + 3 flap board book  
180 x 220 mm | Ages: 3+ | Rights available: World



**LIFT-THE-FLAP FUN!**



## Lead Title

## Follow Your Feelings series

By Kitty Black and Jess Rose

EMOTIONS

A touching, funny and charming new series about getting to know and love our emotions, from emotional acceptance champion Kitty Black and emerging illustrator Jess Rose.

### Lucy and Sad

When Lucy has a hard time making friends, she's joined by someone new: Sad.

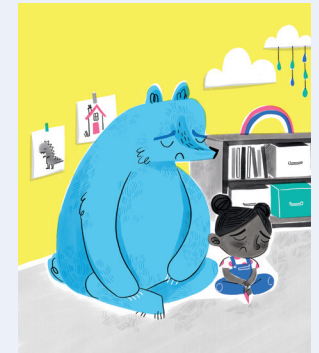
But Sad isn't the company Lucy had hoped for. It feels like Sad will never leave, even when Lucy tries hiding, distraction and fast running! But with the help of some flowers, cookies, a bedtime story and a big hug, Lucy can say goodbye for now to Sad and hello to someone new ...

### Max and Worry

When Max has a hard time starting his maths work, he's joined by someone new: Worry.

But Worry doesn't give Max the help he needs. It feels like Worry will never leave, even when Max does what Worry tells him to! But with the help of some deep breaths and a vow to just try his best, Max can say goodbye for now to Worry, and hello to someone new ...

September 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback  
260 x 215 mm | Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World



Click through  
for files!



## Lead Title

Draft cover



Click the cover for files!

### The Book for Happy Hearts

By Maggie Hutchings and Jess Racklyeft

TREASURY

*The sun is up and so are we! Let's spend each day filling our hearts with things that make us happy.*

This wondrous, uplifting and hope-filled treasury from Maggie Hutchings and Jess Racklyeft contains 26 stories and 21 poems that are perfect for reading aloud or independently, and 22 arts, craft and mindfulness activities for keeping little hands busy. This collection is themed Morning, Noon and Night but it can be dipped into any time of day, with special notes for parents at the end to reflect on. A beautiful celebration of our imaginations, this is a book of joy that will fill your heart with happiness.

October 2021 | 120 pages | Hardback

Ages: 3+ | Rights available: World



## Lead Title

### Our Family Pledge

By Emmaline Carroll Southwell and Vivian Mineker

VALUES

*This is our family pledge, a story I give to you,  
Allow it to evolve, so to you it's always true.  
And let's try to make this world a better place to be,*

*A place where we can all feel happier and free.*

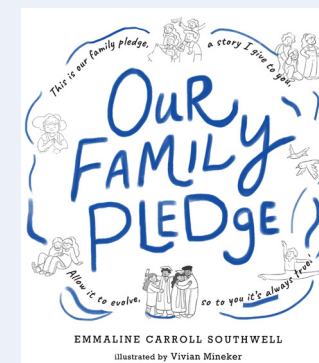
This is the perfect book for any family that wants to teach their children compassion for themselves, others and the planet. Featuring messages of kindness woven into memorable verses, *Our Family Pledge* is a universal set of promises designed to be practised and passed down through generations.

October 2021 | 24 pages | Hardback | Ages: 3+

Rights available: World



Draft cover



Click the cover for files!

**THIS BOOK ORIGINATED AS A POEM READ ALOUD BY EMMALINE AND HER CHILDREN ON TIKTOK.**

**THE VIDEO RECEIVED ALMOST 4 MILLION VIEWS WITHIN A WEEK.**

TikTok sensation!



## Lead Title

### Enough Love?

By Maggie Hutchings and Evie Barrow

BLENDED  
FAMILY

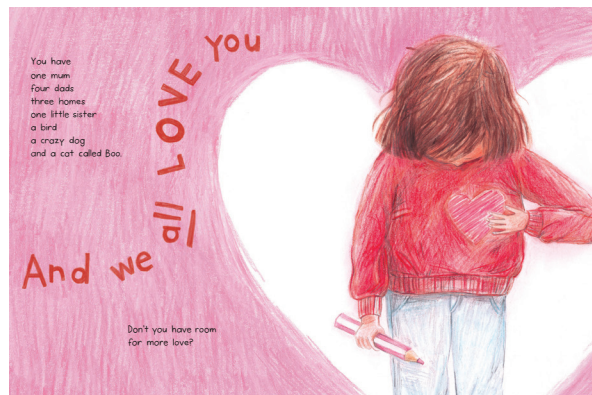
Willa had  
one dad  
one mum  
one home  
and a bird.

And that was enough.

So when Willa's parents split up, she's pretty sad. But at least they are still all hers. Until Dad meets Kevin and Willa's family starts to grow ... and keeps on growing. When will enough be enough? Or is there always room for more love?

Full of heart and bursting with warmth, *Enough Love?* is the funny and moving new picture book from the creative team behind *I Saw Pete and Pete Saw Me*.

July 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | 280 x 210 mm  
Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World



## Lead Title

### I'm Fabulous Crab!

By Nicki Greenberg

IDENTITY

Henry the hermit crab is simply *done* with dull life on the dim ocean floor. He wants glamour and drama! He wants dazzle and splash! He wants to be known as Fabulous Crab!

But when Fab bedazzles himself in a bit too much bling from shipwreck treasures, he might have landed himself in deep water ...

*I'm Fabulous Crab* is a sparkling spectacle of a story about embracing who you are and wearing your true colours (and a touch of glitter) with pride.

May 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | 287 x 222 mm  
Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World



## Lead Title



Click the cover for files!

### Little One

By Jane Godwin and Gabriel Evans

RESILIENCE

Pippi loves her special Little One: she's soft like mist and always warm, and Pippi takes her everywhere.

Together, they wonder at the world. Until one day ...

Can Pippi learn to wonder at the world without Little One by her side?

From a glorious new pairing of Jane Godwin and Gabriel Evans comes a timeless story that reminds us nothing is ever truly lost.

August 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | 270 x 220 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World



## Lead Title

### Bedtime Sorted!

By Jimmy Rees and Briony Stewart

FAMILY HUMOUR

Who said parenting was hard?  
Dad's got bedtime sorted! Lenny and the twins have a bath without water spilling over, brush their teeth without toothpaste spraying onto the mirror, and go to sleep straight after their story. Perfect! Dad can finally settle down to his dinner. But then –

*My pyjamas don't match!*

*I'm too cold! I'm too hot!*

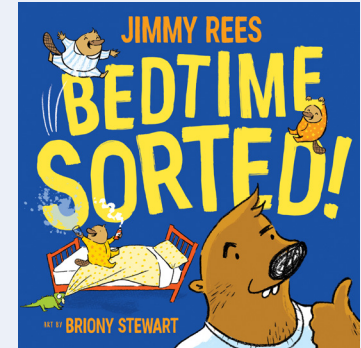
*The window is making funny noises!*

*I'm not tired!*

From one of Australia's best-loved comedians and children's entertainers Jimmy Rees comes a story about the bedtime excuses that families everywhere will know all too well.

August 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | Ages: 3-7

Rights available: World



Click the cover for files



## Lead Title



Click through for files!

**Your School is the BEST!**

By Maggie Hutchings  
and Felicity Sala

HUMOUR

Everyone's favourite cockroach is BACK in this delightful new picture book!

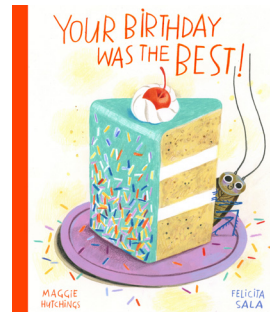
*Your School is the BEST!* follows a plucky young cockroach and its family on their first day at school. But not everyone is thrilled to see them there ...

Funny, silly and surprisingly cute, this is the perfect blend of downright gross and delightfully entertaining.

January 2022 | 32 pages | Hardback | 265 x 255 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding North America

Can be read alone or as a follow-up to *Your Birthday Was the BEST!* See page 26.



Shortlisted for the  
Children's Book  
Council of Australia  
Picture Book of the  
Year award, 2021!



## Lead Title

**The Greatest Mistakes That Went Right**

By Maddy Mara and Cheryl Orsini

TRUE  
STORIES

*Are you in a hurry to wonder and worry  
That new things you try won't go right?  
When they simply don't work, don't go all  
berserk!*

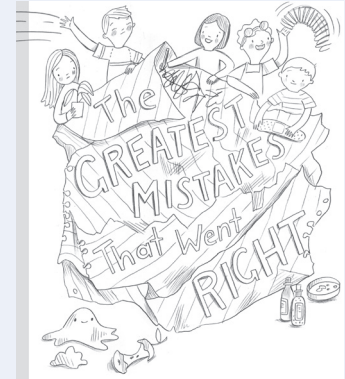
*Mistakes can grow wings and take flight.*

Where would we be without big blunders? From Play Doh to penicillin, the Slinky to the Granny Smith apple, some of the best inventions started out as gigantic slip-ups.

From exciting new talent Maddy Mara comes a blooper reel with amazing consequences and a reminder to all kids scared of trying something new: even the greatest mistakes can go right.

November 2021 | 24 pages | Hardback | Ages: 3-7

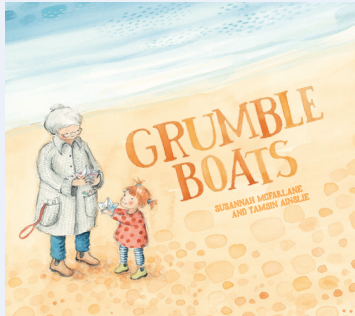
Rights available: World



Click through for files!



## Lead Title



Click the cover for files!

**Grumble Boats**

By Susannah McFarlane  
and Tamsin Ainslie

GRAND-  
PARENTS

Emma is very grumpy. Why should she have to visit Grandma while her brother goes to a pirate party? Harumph! Fortunately, Grandma knows exactly how to send Emma's bad mood away ...

*Grumble Boats* is a gorgeous reminder of the power of nature and the special magic of grandmas to make us feel better.

June 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | 230 x 270 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



Emma stopped drawing. She looked at her paper and smiled.  
'Now what?' she asked.  
'We make our boats,' said Grandma.

## Lead Title

**Fairy!**

By Maggie Hutchings and Cheryl Orsini

FRIENDSHIP

When Daisy was born  
Luka's heart burst  
with big sister love.

Luka adores her baby sister Daisy, even though Daisy keeps Luka awake all night long. How can Lena help Daisy (and Luka!) to get some sleep? Maybe they need something fluttery, floaty and sparkly, with a wand full of wishes ...

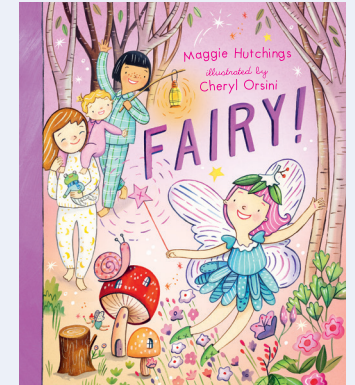
From the author and illustrator team behind the much loved *Unicorn!*, *Mermaid!* and *Dragon!* comes a dreamy new adventure perfect for bedtime.

June 2021 | 32 pages | Hardback | 275 x 240 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World



In a wisp of starshine  
something sparkly  
with a pocketful  
of dreams  
fluttered through  
the window.

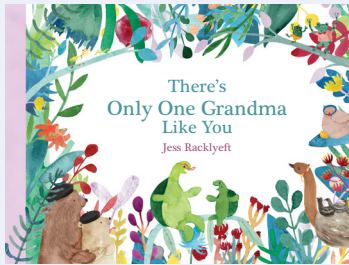


Click the cover for files!

See more of the Magic! series on  
pages 26 and 27.



## Lead Title



Click the cover for files!



Click the cover for files!

### There's Only One Grandma Like You

By Jess Racklyeft

*Grannies are all different – omas, yiayias or nans. There's only one like you, unique of all the grans.*

From grans who cheer us up with cuddles, to nannies who send us letters from across the world and nonnas who bake us scrumptious treats – and let us lick the spoon! – each has her own special place in our hearts. *There's Only One Grandma Like You* celebrates the joy of knowing a grandma.

April 2021 | 24 pages | Hardback | 210 x 290 mm

Ages: 3+ | Rights available: World

### There's Only One Grandpa Like You

By Jess Racklyeft

*Grandpas come in lots of forms – Gramps, Opa or Poppy.*

*But there's only one like you, impossible to copy!*

From grandads who fill our days with laughter, to nonnos who teach us gardening and grandpops who take us camping – and share a cup of cocoa after – each is special in his own way.

*There's Only One Grandpa Like You* is a warm, joyful and energetic tribute to grandfathers and their place in our hearts.

August 2021 | 24 pages | Hardback | 210 x 290 mm

Ages: 3+ | Rights available: World

## Lead Title

JESS  
RACKLYEFT

### There's Only One ... Board Books

By Jess Racklyeft

Jess Racklyeft's *There's Only One ...* board books celebrate mums and dads, and their unique and important role in our lives.

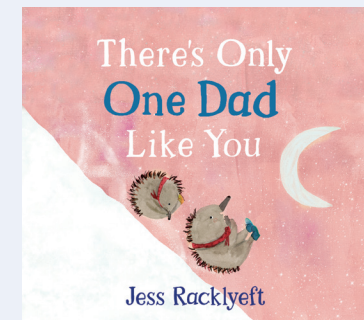
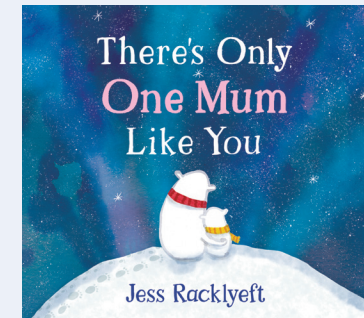
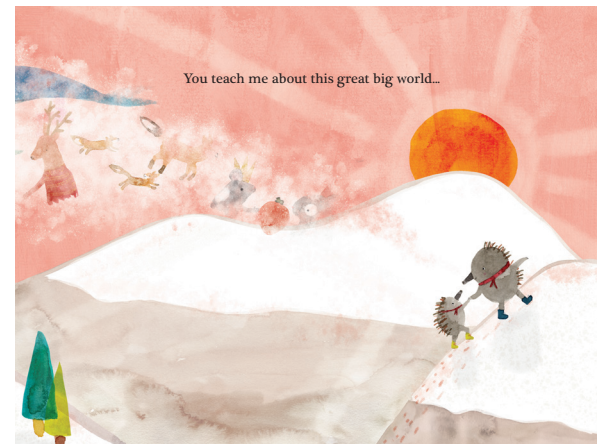
This bestselling picture book series has been transformed into board books for the first time. Featuring stunning watercolour art, they shine a light on the beautiful and precious moments we share with the special people in our lives.

There's Only One Mum Like You: April 2021

There's Only One Dad Like You: August 2021

20 pages | Cased board books | 190.5 x 171.5 mm

Ages: 3+ | Rights available: World



Click the covers for files!



PICTURE BOOKS:

## Lead Title

### Sing Me the Summer

By Jane Godwin and Alison Lester

ALISON  
LESTER

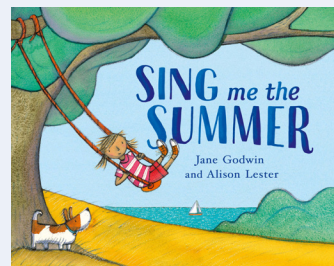
*Sing Me the Summer* combines Jane Godwin's lyrical text with Alison Lester's lively watercolours to delight in the distinct joys that each season brings. The book cherishes family togetherness in the natural world and the small moments spent outside that often become our lasting memories of childhood.

Children's Book Council of Australia Notable  
(Picture Book of the Year), 2021

Longlisted for the Australian Book Industry  
Award for Picture Book of the Year, 2021

November 2020 | 32 pages | Hardback | 230 x 285 mm

Ages: 3-6 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



Click the cover for files!

MIDDLE GRADE

## Lead Title

### Seven Wherewithal Way

By Samantha Ellen Bound

NEW  
SERIES

*Ferdinand fell out of the sky on the hottest day of the year, while Celeste and Esmerelda Barden were on the front porch eating ice-cream.*

Celeste is having the worst summer ever. Her parents are off on an adventure and she's stuck at Gran's house with her annoying little sister, Esme, and strict instructions to *be responsible*. Or, as Esme says, *boring*. So when their eccentric cousin Ferd crash-lands a flying bus in the yard, what choice does Celeste have but to follow Ferd back home to Seven Wherewithal Way?

Wherewithal – the waypoint between the many magical realms unreachable from Earth – is bursting with interesting people and ideas. It is Celeste's favourite place in any world, even if she does feel rather dull compared to all who live there. But when someone tries to break in through the portal in the pantry – the doorway to the mystical Realm of Forests – Celeste learns that both Wherewithal and her beloved cousin are under threat. If Celeste wants to save her cousin, their home, its inhabitants and possibly even all the realms, she is going to have to find her adventurous side. And she needs to find it *fast*.

Full of heart-in-your-mouth action, unconventional families and fascinating magic that works ... most of the time, this is the first book in an epic portal fantasy series from exciting new talent Samantha Ellen Bound.

October 2021 | Hardback | 304 pages

Ages: 9-12 | Rights available: World




Click through for files!



MIDDLE GRADE

## Lead Title



 Click the cover for files!

'[Pepper is] the kind of protagonist that young readers cheer for, learn from and remember for a long time.'

*Books + Publishing Australia*

'The perfect book for readers who have worked through Robin Stevens's *Murder Most Unladylike* series and Nancy Springer's *Enola Holmes Mysteries*, and are on the lookout for something new. Funny and charming, this is a good, fun mystery with a very satisfying conclusion.'

*Dani Solomon, Readings Bookshop*

### The Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel

By Nicki Greenberg

MYSTERY

For as long as she can remember, Pepper Stark has wanted one thing: to join her father, the Captain, aboard the magnificent RMS *Aquitania* on a voyage to New York. She has never even been allowed to set foot on her father's ship – until now.

*Aquitania* is every bit as glamorous as Pepper imagined, filled to bursting with rich and famous passengers, including stage star Perdita West. But Pepper's first ocean crossing turns out to be far more dramatic than she ever expected when Perdita's priceless Saffron Diamond disappears mid-voyage and Pepper finds herself entangled in the crime. With the Captain's reputation at stake, Pepper and her new friends set out to solve the mystery. But finding a missing jewel isn't so easy on *Aquitania*, where everyone has something to hide ...

A thrilling adventure from award-winning author Nicki Greenberg, *The Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel* is perfect for fans of *Murder Most Unladylike* and *The Good Thieves*.

March 2021 | Paperback | 272 pages

Ages: 9-12 | Rights available: World

MIDDLE GRADE

## Lead Title

### The Good Times of Pelican Rise: Save the Joeys

By Samone Amba

NEW  
SERIES

UGH! After-school care, again?

Grade sixers Sunday Moon and her besties Ockie, Kirra and Lottie are MAROONED in after-school care at Club Koala with the karaoke-loving grade twos and nit-infested preppies for company. It's not exactly the way these legends thought they'd be ending their time at Pelican Rise Primary!

But after the worst summer of bushfires ever, Sunday is determined to use her last year at Club Koala to make a difference: OUT with the headstand competitions and IN with knitting pouches for injured wildlife !

And when Mr Guclu tells the grade sixers to build a legacy project for their final year of primary, Sunday and her friends decide to keep the good times rolling with a website that will spread the word about their pouch project.

With the help of her friends, a radio station, a whole bunch of wool from the op shop, a LOT of animal memes and their legacy project, The Good Times, Sunday is going to save as many joeys as she can.


Welcome to The Good Times of Pelican Rise ... a fun series that explores growing up, finding community spirit, and using your voice to Be the Change.

August 2021 | Paperback | 272 pages

Ages: 9-12 | Rights available: World

Draft cover



 Click through for files!



PICTURE BOOKS

Backlist

There's Only One . . . series

By Jess Racklyeft

FAMILY

Our There's Only One . . . series celebrates mums, dads, grandmothers, grandfathers and friends, and their unique and important roles in our lives.

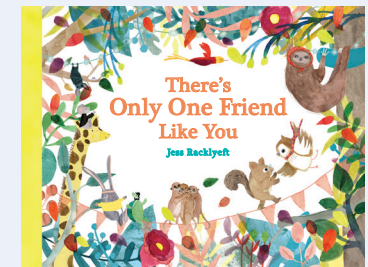
This bestselling series features stunning watercolour artwork that shines a light on the beautiful and precious moments we share with the special people in our lives.

24 pages | Hardback | 210 x 290 mm | Ages: 3+

Rights available: World, excluding South Korea, for *There's Only One Mum* and *There's Only One Dad Like You* | World, excluding South Korea and Italy for *There's Only One Friend Like You*



See the newest titles in the series on page 16!



Click the covers for files!

Illustration from *I Saw Pete and Pete Saw Me*  
by Maggie Hutchings and Evie Barrow. See page 27



## Backlist

### Welcome, Baby, to This World

By Jess Racklyeft

FAMILY

This warm, modern and heartfelt book is a love letter between parent and child. Filled with joy, hope and possibility, here is the perfect gift for new babies everywhere from one of Australia's brightest picture book stars.

24 pages | Hardback | 289 x 238 mm

Ages: 0-3 | Rights available: World, excluding Italy



## Backlist

### The Very Noisy Baby

By Alison Lester

BEST-SELLING CREATOR

*Here is the story of a very noisy baby.  
She could bellow like a buffalo  
And roar like a lion  
And howl like a wolf for a very long time.*

The baby loves to make all kinds of sounds.  
She's really very loud.

But when some animals in the town go missing,  
can the very noisy baby help?

A wonderfully boisterous story from a master storyteller and illustrator.

Children's Book Council of Australia Honour  
Book for Early Childhood, 2018.



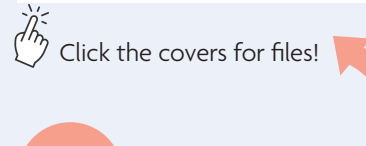
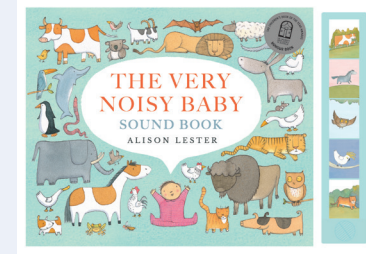
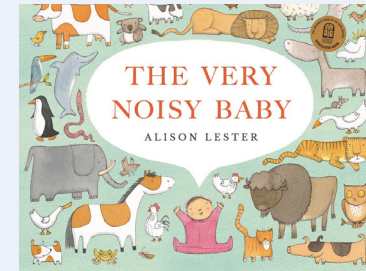
32 pages | Hardback | 231 x 292 mm

Ages: 2+ | Rights available: World, excluding Italy and Turkey

NEIGH!



'We just have a very noisy baby.'

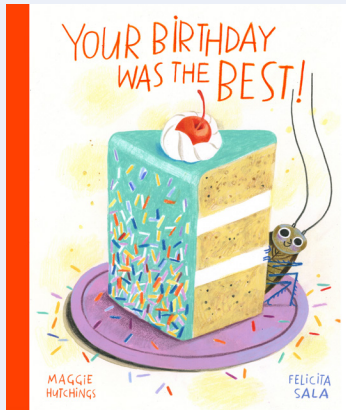


'Alison Lester never disappoints. Five stars.'

Books + Publishing magazine



## Backlist



Click the cover for files!

**Your Birthday Was the BEST!**

By Maggie Hutchings and Felicity Sala

HUMOUR

From the author of the best-selling *Mermaid!* and *Unicorn!* and one of the world's hottest new picture-book illustrators comes the story of a plucky young cockroach who gate-crashes a birthday party – with hilarious results.

Funny, silly and surprisingly cute, *Your Birthday Was the BEST!* is the perfect blend of downright gross and delightfully entertaining.

Shortlisted for the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year award, 2021!



32 pages | Hardback | 265 x 255 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey and North America



'Maggie Hutchings perfectly depicts the blithe, unconcerned tone of a guest oblivious to social cues and the mayhem they are causing, while Felicity Sala's pencil and crayon drawings are a screaming delight.'

Readings Bookshop

## Backlist

**I Saw Pete and Pete Saw Me**

By Maggie Hutchings and Evie Barrow

EMPATHY

When you are small you can see things that grown-ups are too busy to notice ...

Everyone walks right past Pete – except for one little boy. He notices Pete's drawings and big smile, and soon he has a new friend. When Pete gets sick, the boy wants to help. But how do you help someone get better when they don't have a home?

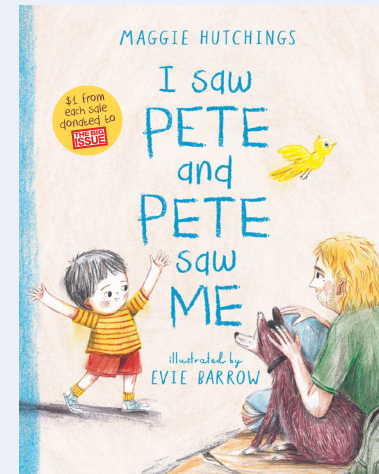
A heartfelt, moving story about the importance of really seeing the world around us and the power in tiny acts of kindness.

32 pages | Hardback | 280 x 210 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding South Korea

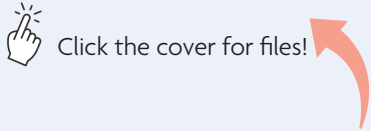


Click the cover for files!



'A lovely tale about empathy, care and paying attention.'

The Big Issue



## Unicorn!

By Maggie Hutchings and Cheryl Orsini

Luka's best friend Lena would do anything for her, but when Luka wishes for a unicorn, what is a best friend supposed to do?! This is a story of hope, persistence and the magical power of friendship (and unicorns).

32 pages | Hardback | 275 x 240 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Hebrew



## Mermaid!

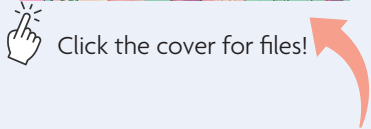
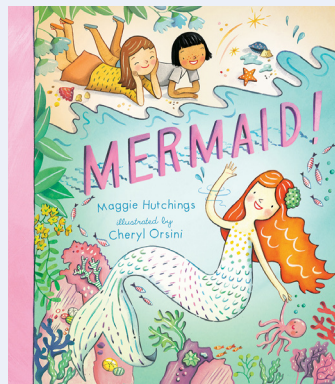
By Maggie Hutchings and Cheryl Orsini

When a day at the beach reveals Lena's secret worries, her smile goes away. Even ice cream doesn't make it better! So Luka sets out to find something – or someone – to help . . .

An adventure about friendship, the wonders of the sea and how the ocean can seem a little scary sometimes – until you go swimming with a mermaid.

32 pages | Hardback | 275 x 240 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Hebrew



## Dragon!

By Maggie Hutchings and Cheryl Orsini

Lena and Luka's friend Sam is as chirpy as a songbird in sunshine. But one day, Sam's smile turns upside down. He's moving far away! Lena and Luka promise to visit, but flying is expensive. Will they ever see Sam again? Maybe they need something scaly and wide-winged, with room enough for three . . . A story about friends who can overcome anything.

November 2020 | 32 pages | Hardback | 275 x 240 mm

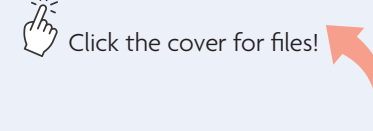
Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Hebrew



## Fairy!

By Maggie Hutchings and Cheryl Orsini

Lena and Luka returned to their adventures in 2021. See page 15.



'Bright, colourful and relatable, these books will have young readers engaged and wanting more.'

Great Escape Books

'Unicorn! is a timeless, moving and beautiful book about the power of friendship.'

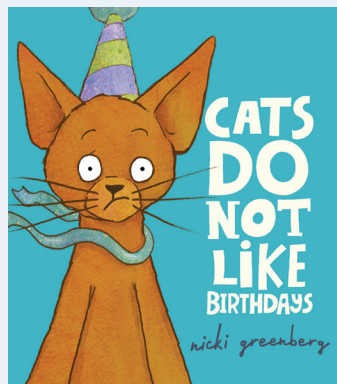
Alice Pung

'[Unicorn! is] a starry, rainbow-bright story of friendship, belief and determination.'

The Sunday Telegraph



## Backlist



Click the cover for files!

### Cats Do Not Like Birthdays

By Nicki Greenberg

SHYNESS

Presents! Games! Cake! Everyone loves a party, right? Well, not everyone. And definitely not Kit.

*THE CHAOS. THE CHILDREN. THE CHASEY!*

All Kit wants is a quiet place to hide away from the noise. And maybe he's not the only one . . .

A shout-out (whisper) to the not-so-loud and a celebration of all the different ways to celebrate.

32 pages | Hardback | 280 x 240 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



'A sweet message about the power of kindness.'

*The Weekend West*

'Nicki Greenberg delivers a perfect tale for cats – and kids – who aren't really party animals.'

*The Herald-Sun*

## Backlist

### The Ultimate Survival Guide to Monsters Under the Bed

By Mitch Frost and Daron Parton

HUMOUR

Do you lie awake at night worrying about monsters?

Donut monsters?

Blue monsters?

DANCING ROBOT MONSTERS!?

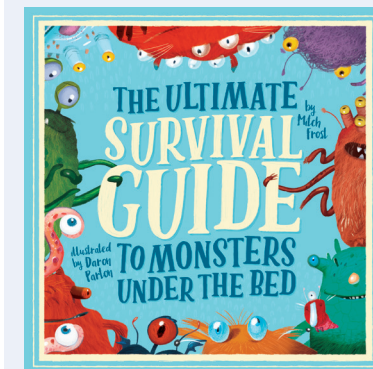
Then this is the book for you! Follow these ten easy steps and you'll never be bothered by monsters again. Not even carrot monsters.

Perfect for anyone, big or small, who's ever been afraid of what might be lurking under the bed.

32 pages | Hardback | 270 x 280 mm

Ages: 3-6 | Rights available:

World, excluding North America, UK, Turkey, Portugese (World)



Click the cover for files!



'[A] fantastic and funny picture book.

Packed with real strategies to help extinguish night-time fears, it's a book that helps while it entertains.'

*Readings Bookshop*



## Backlist



### The Lion in Our Living Room

By Emma Middleton and Briony Stewart

FAMILY

Tom and Tilly wish and wonder, will the lion come? Will he visit them for lots of lion fun? Here is a lovely story about dads, the kings of the living room, and the special moments families share.

32 pages | Hardback | 245 x 245 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



### The Bear in Our Back Yard

By Emma Middleton and Briony Stewart

Tom and Tilly search for the bear who lives in their backyard. Will she come out and play?

A rare tribute to the small and magical moments that mums create every day. Particularly perfect for families expecting a new baby bear.

32 pages | Hardback | 245 x 245 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



Click through for files!

Click through for files!

## Backlist

### Tricky's Bad Day

By Alison Lester

BEST-SELLING  
CERATOR

Poor Tricky! Nothing is going right for him. Milk spills, pyjama buttons won't work, his little sister wrecks their game, and when he tries to help out, everything gets worse.

Tricky's having a very bad day!

Then Dad has an idea. Outside it's wild, but there's a lot to explore...

From Australia's favourite picture-book creator comes a warm and funny story about the very recognisable mess, muddle and love that is the life of a young family – and the freedom of an outside adventure.

Children's Book Council of Australia  
Early Childhood Book of the Year, 2019

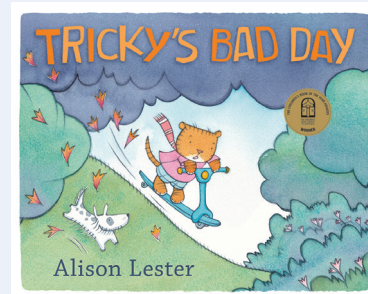


32 pages | Hardback | 275 x 220 mm

Ages: 0-3 | Rights available: World



He wanted a lolly, but Dad said, 'No way!'  
Tricky grizzled and cried. It was such a bad day.

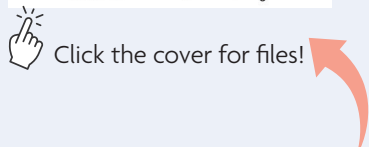


Click the cover for files!

'This tale is sure to ring true for youngsters frustrated by the confines of the great indoors.'

The Herald-Sun

## Backlist



*By Jane Godwin and Jane Reiseger*

Bold and bright, it's the perfect book for reading aloud and sharing with young children as they learn to identify the colours of their world.

Children's Council of Australia Notable  
(Early Childhood) Book of the Year, 2018.

Available in picture book and board book editions.

Picture book: 32 pages | Hardback | 270 x 240 mm  
Ages: 2+ | Rights available: World, excluding US and Turkey

Board book: 32 pages | 220 x 180 mm  
Ages 0+ | Rights available: World, excluding US and Turkey



## Backlist





*By Jane Godwin and Jane Reiseger*

Share, laugh and learn in this bright and joyful exploration of counting and number concepts. (Oh, and look out for the other shoe!)

24 pages | Hardback | 240 x 210 mm

Ages: 0+ | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



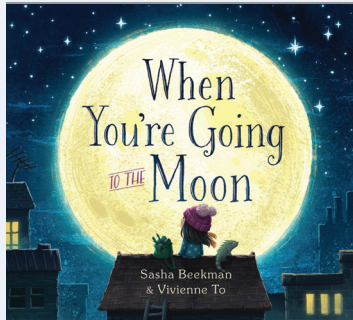
 Click through for files! 



'A fun beginner's guide to learning numbers and counting. The cartoon-like pictures are sure to get a few giggles.'



## Backlist



Click the cover for files!

### When You're Going to The Moon

By Sasha Beekman and Vivienne To

Your pet iguana, tap-dancing shoes, an inflatable moose ... What else might you need when you're going to the moon?

A heartfelt story about dreaming your biggest dream and taking it to the stars.

Children's Book Council of Australia Notable (Pictre Book), 2019.

32 pages | Hardback | 280 x 250 mm

Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World

IMAGINATION



'Fun and engaging, and infused with subtle encouragement to always reach for the stars, *When You're Going to the Moon* is a picture book adventure you don't want to miss.'

Kids' Book Review

## Backlist

### Mica the Star Sailor

By Bertie Blackman

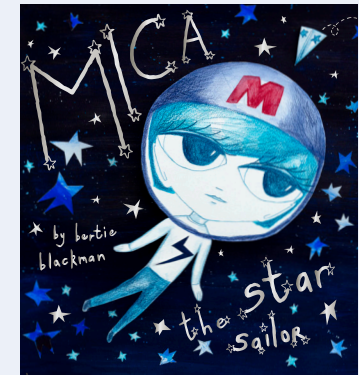
LOSS

Mica dreams of being an astronaut, just like her father. But waiting for him to come home can feel endless. So one night, when a shooting star streams through her window, Mica follows it and steps into a magical adventure ...

A meteoric exploration of love, loss and the power of the imagination, *Mica the Star Sailor* is an exquisite picture book debut from the endlessly talented Bertie Blackman in dedication to her father, the late artist Charles Blackman.

32 pages | Hardback | 301 x 562 mm

Ages: 6+ | Rights available: World



Click the cover for files!

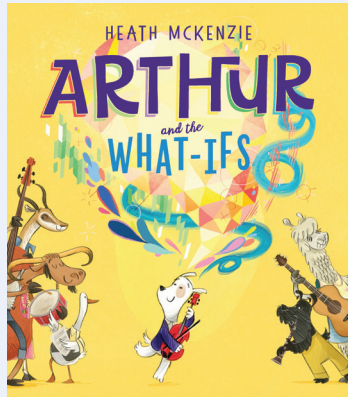


'Powerful, with poetic flare. *Mica the Star Sailor* is a book you'll remember and a book you'll get more from with every read-through.'

Kids' Book Review



## Backlist



Click the cover for files!

### Arthur and the What-ifs

By Heath McKenzie

SHYNESS

Arthur is a dog with a secret. More than anything in the world he loves to play his violin, but he's too scared to do it in public because, well, what if he's bad? What if people laugh? What if he makes a fool of himself? WHAT IF?

But the song in his head and the dream in his heart just won't stay quiet. So, when he's invited to take part in a jam session, he creates the ultimate disguise – a post box costume! And when it falls apart, Arthur doesn't.

32 pages | Hardback | 273 x 237 mm

Ages: 2-6 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey

It's not that he didn't think his tune was any good.  
He liked it quite a lot, but there was just one problem.



WHAT IF no one else liked it?

WHAT IF he made a mistake?!



WHAT IF someone laughed at him?!

## Backlist

### How To Be a Giraffe

By Thea Baker

IDENTITY

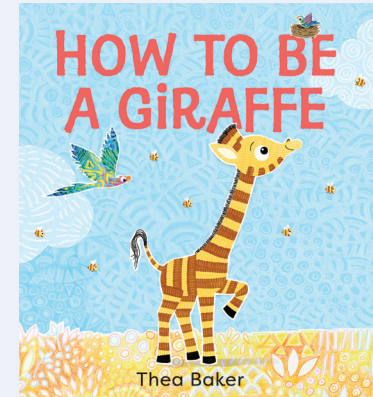
Joffrey might have horns, a tail and a long neck, but his stripy fur is causing quite the stir.

Everyone knows that giraffes have spots! But if Joffrey isn't a giraffe, what could he be?

Lots of fun to read aloud, this charming and heartfelt picture book celebrates the joy of embracing who we are.

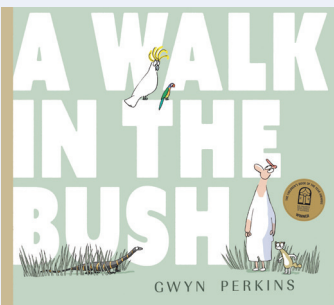
32 pages | Hardback | 265 x 255 mm


Ages: 3-7 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey, North America, and South Korea



Click through for files!

## Backlist



 Click the cover for files!

**A Walk in the Bush**

*By Gwyn Perkins*

Little Iggy doesn't want to leave the house, but Grandad insists – they always have fun together.

What follows is a wonderful journey in the great Australian outdoors with singing birds, wallaby surprises, secret caterpillar messages and oodles of grandad humour.

Here is a story about the wonders of nature, the funny side of life and spending time with the ones we love.

CBCA Picture Book of the Year, 2018.

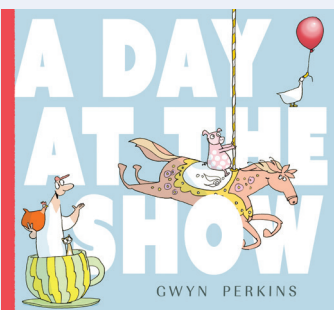
**A Day at the Show**


*By Gwyn Perkins*

Doreen the hen has laid another perfect egg! Little Iggy and Grandad think she deserves a prize.

What follows is a family trip to the colourful chaos of the Show, filled with spinning tea cups, merry-go-rounds, lots of animals and some healthy competition.

Here is a story about family adventures, the magic of the show, and the joy of running one tiny car into another.



 Click the cover for files!

**A Trip to the Beach**

*By Gwyn Perkins*

Today's the day – Iggy's going to catch a wave without any help! Or at least that's what Grandad thinks. Iggy isn't quite so sure.

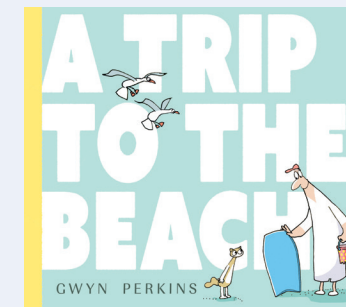
What follows is an unforgettable beach adventure that involves the best sandcastle ever built, fish and chips for lunch, lots of boats and a few perfect waves.


Here is a story about the unique beauty of the Australian coast, the universal magic of the ocean and the importance of finding your own way. The last adventure in the award-winning Iggy and Grandad series.



Each book is 32 pages | Hardback | 250 x 280 mm  
Ages: 0-3 | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey

GWYN  
PERKINS



 Click the cover for files!

'[A Trip to the Beach is] the complete picture book package. Highly recommended.'

*Daily Telegraph*

A Walk in the Bush: 'Readers join little Iggy and Grandad on an immersive, sensory experience of the world.'

*South Sydney Herald*



MIDDLE GRADE

## Backlist

**The Secret Library of Hummingbird House***By Julianne Negri*TIME  
TRAVEL

Hattie Maxwell is trying to make sense of her life since the Big Split. It used to be the four of them – Mum, Dad, Ivy and Hattie – against the universe. But lately it feels like she's a lone star in a big galaxy. Her one escape is Hummingbird House, an old mansion with a giant mulberry tree just perfect for climbing to hide from the world.


So when Hattie learns that the house is going to be demolished, she is determined to save it. A midnight visit becomes a step back in time, and Hummingbird House reveals its secrets: a hidden library, a mysterious new friend, and a lost treasure that could help stop the development. Can the past help Hattie to fix her present?

A brilliant time-slip novel with a contemporary twist, *The Secret Library of Hummingbird House* celebrates standing up, speaking out and letting go of the past.

Paperback | 272 pages | Ages: 9-12

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 Click the cover for files!

'A really beautiful middle-grade novel ... a time-slip adventure with a lovely contemporary spin ... the narrative explores some really weighty themes but with plenty of lightness and humour woven throughout.'

Karys McEwen, Children's Book Council of Australia Victoria Branch President

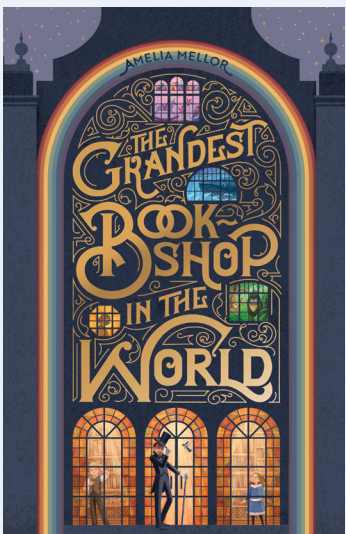
'A really addictive read full of compelling and quirky characters.'

One More Page Podcast

'A highly imaginative mystery.'

Sunday Telegraph





Click the cover for files!

'[Mellor's] story telling is just perfect ... Bravo!  
A highly recommended read.'

*South Australia Book Review*

'Fans of movies such as Jumanji will revel in the  
imaginative exploits and time-trip.'

*Better Reading*

'This is one of the best middle-grade readers  
that I have read in many years, and there have  
been many thousands. An amazing setting,  
magical trickery, feisty and courageous  
children, and their desire to do good in the face  
of evil ... it just doesn't get any better!'

*Lamont Bookshop*

'Edge-of-your-seat tension ... Full of action,  
magical scenes and twists and turns, this  
fabulous read is for everyone who loves clever  
language, mind-bending suspense and a  
sizzling storyline.'

*Kids' Book Review*

MIDDLE GRADE

## Australian Children's Book of the Year!

ADVENTURE

### The Grandest Bookshop in the World

By Amelia Mellor

Pearl and Vally Cole live in a bookshop. And not just any bookshop. In 1893, Cole's Book Arcade in Melbourne is the grandest bookshop in the world, brimming with every curiosity imaginable. Each day brings fresh delights for the siblings: voice-changing sweets, talking parrots, a new story written just for them by their eccentric father.

When Pearl and Vally learn that Pa has risked the Arcade – and himself – in a shocking deal with the mysterious Obscurosmith, the siblings hatch a plan. Soon they are swept into a dangerous game with impossibly high stakes: defeat seven challenges by the stroke of midnight and both the Arcade and their father will be restored. But if they fail Pearl and Vally won't just lose Pa – they'll forget that he and the Arcade ever existed.

This action-packed race against time adventure is full of high-octane thrills but set in a magical and whimsical historical setting so richly drawn the reader will feel immediately at home.

Australian Independent Booksellers' Children's  
Book of the Year, 2021



CBCA Notable: Books for Younger Readers, 2021



Longlisted for the Australian Book Industry Award  
for Younger Readers, 2021



Hardback + Paperback | 304 pages | Ages: 9-12

Rights available: World, excluding Russia, Turkey and  
Arabic (World)

MIDDLE GRADE

## Backlist

CREATIVITY+  
MYSTERY

### How to Make a Movie in 12 Days

By Fiona Hardy

Twelve days.

Five kids.

Many special effects.

One giant mystery.

Hayley Whelan has spent her whole life dreaming of making a horror movie – and not just the type of movie that kids make on their dodgy second-hand iPhones. When her grandma passes away, she inherits the money for a proper, grown-up camera. But before Hayley even calls 'Action!', strange things start happening ... Someone is sabotaging Hayley's movie – but who? Why? And can Hayley finish her movie in time for the premiere?

From Australia's brightest new middle-grade talent comes this love song to movies, friendship and the summer holidays.

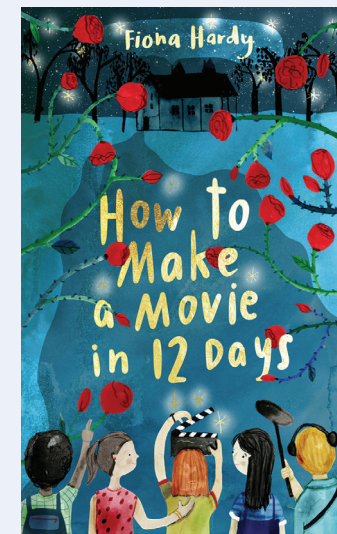
A CBCA Notable Book of the Year, 2020

Longlisted for the Australian Book Industry Award  
for Younger Children, 2020



Paperback | 336 pages | Ages: 9-12

Rights managed by author agent. Contact us for  
further information



Click the cover for files!

'A cracker of a story ... Budding filmmakers, scriptwriters, or any readers with annoying siblings and a sense of humour will enjoy this book.'

*Books + Publishing*



## Backlist



### How to Write the Soundtrack to Your Life

By Fiona Hardy

CREATIVITY+  
MYSTERY

Murphy Parker is going to be a songwriter – if she can ever find the courage to let anyone hear her music. When Murphy dares to play one of her songs in a music class, she's shocked by how much her classmates love it. And her. That is, until the next day, when they hear a suspiciously similar tune and accuse Murphy of stealing.

Someone is playing Murphy's music and claiming it as their own. But who? And why? Desperate to clear her name and reclaim her songs, Murphy makes an unlikely alliance. But it turns out that friendship might be even more complicated than tracking down a song thief ...

From the brilliant new talent behind *How to Make a Movie in 12 Days* comes a funny, moving and unforgettable mystery about finding your voice.

Paperback | 272 pages | Ages: 9-12

Rights managed by author agent. Contact us for further information


 Click the cover for files!

'Hardy skilfully depicts an ensemble cast without ever making any single character feel like a cut-out, and her exploration of difficult themes, including mental illness ... feels gentle and authentic. She's also very funny, and I think perhaps a genius when it comes to writing dialogue.'

Bronte Coates

'Full of heart and humour. Highly recommended.'

Sunday Telegraph

'This sweet and inclusive mystery is a wonderful choice for the young reader that likes funny and heartfelt stories.'

Readings Bookshop

## Backlist



### Take the Shot

By Sue White

GROWING  
UP

Bug has a secret. Actually, he has a lot of secrets ...

NUMBER ONE: he's formed a basketball team at his new school based on a giant lie.

NUMBER TWO: his parents don't know he's playing basketball again.

NUMBER THREE: his new team-mates have no idea he isn't allowed to play, and they definitely don't know why.

Bug will do ANYTHING to keep his secrets, keep his new team and keep his life from falling apart. Because no one can know THE BIGGEST SECRET OF ALL ... Bug risks his life every time he steps out onto the basketball court.

Shortlisted for the Readings Young Adult Book Prize, 2020

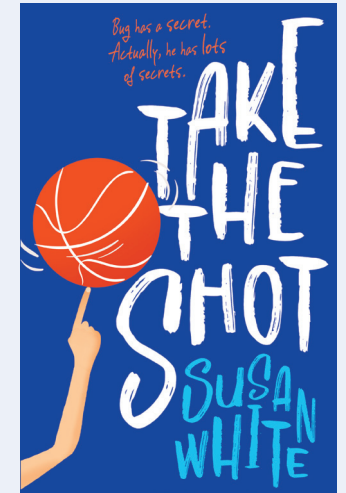


Longlisted for an Australian Book Design Award (Young Adult category).



Paperback | 320 pages | Ages: 11-14

Rights available: World, excluding UK audio


 Click the cover for files!

## Backlist



Click the cover for series files!

## Starring Olive Black series

By Alex Miles

HUMOUR

Meet Olive Black, ten-year-old superstar!

She's loyal, funny and just a little over the top.

Olive is a loveable, funny protagonist who learns from her mistakes and cares for those around her.

Set against the backdrop of fame and superstardom, Olive encounters all the usual trials and tribulations of ten-year-olds.

## Also in Starring Olive Black



Each book: 160 pages

Ages: 8-11 | Rights available: World

## Backlist

## Stella the Unstoppable series

By Richard Newsome

HUMOUR

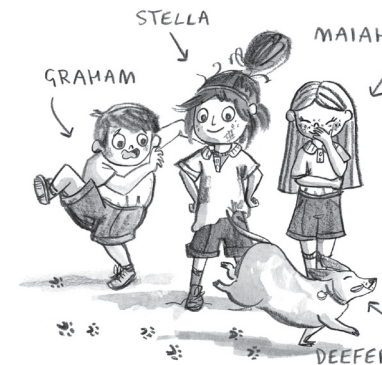
This hilarious junior fiction series is *Dork Diaries* with a dash of *Matilda* from the best-selling author of the *Billionaire* series.

*Stella the Unstoppable and the Talent Show Fiasco* was shortlisted for the 2019 Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year for 8-10 year-olds.



Each book: 144 pages

Ages: 7+ | Rights available: World, excluding Turkey



Click the cover for files!

## Books 2 &amp; 3



'Readers will love Olive, who is feisty, flawed and down to earth.'

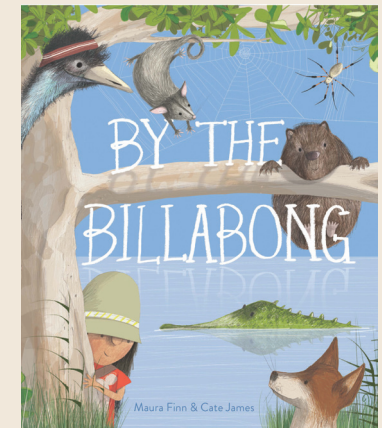
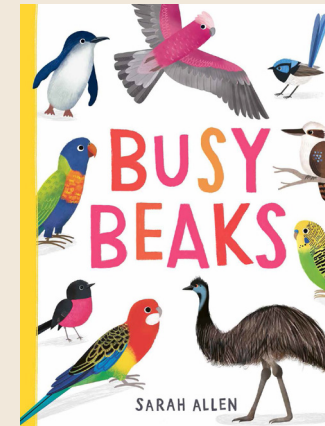
*Junior Books + Publishing Magazine*



## AUSTRALIA-SPECIFIC TITLES



Illustration from *By the Billabong*, by Maura Finn and Cate James; see page 51



DRAFT  
COVER



DRAFT  
COVER



DRAFT  
COVER





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