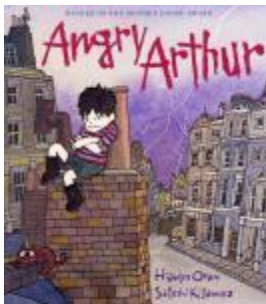


## Learning to Read

At Key Stage Two the 'Learning to Read' collection has been specially chosen to support the reading of children who are still inexperienced readers, or who are having some difficulty in reading. The books chosen include:

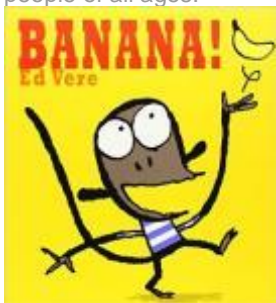
- memorable texts that feature repetition and encourage predictions
- texts within which rhythm and rhyme are important
- texts that allow children to practice and apply their phonic knowledge
- books with strong story shapes and structures
- texts which positively reflect children's interests and backgrounds
- books with supportive illustrations
- books that draw attention to written language and to the ways books work

## Year $\frac{3}{4}$



**Angry Arthur**  
By Oram, Hiawyn

Arthur's frustration at his mother, who won't let him watch TV, makes his anger grow and grow until it causes a 'universequake'. This evocation of strong childhood emotion strikes a chord with young people of all ages.



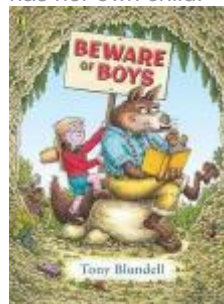
**Banana!**  
By Vere, Ed

Two monkeys argue over a banana and which of them should have it, eventually finding the solution is to share it. The text is totally minimal, consisting only of the words 'Banana' and 'Please'



**Belonging**  
By Jeannie Baker

A companion volume to the illustrator's earlier book Window, this book charts the changes in an urban neighbourhood by viewing it through the same window frame as a baby grows to womanhood and has her own child.



**Beware of Boys**  
By Tony Blundell

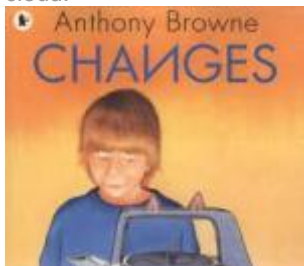
Like Catherine Storr's Clever Polly and its traditional prototype Red Riding Hood, this is a tale of a child outwitting a hungry wolf.



### **Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain**

**By Verna Aardema**

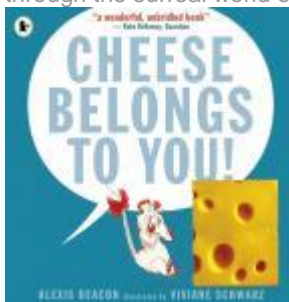
Ki-pat, a young African cowherd rescues the cattle he tends from the drought by shooting down a rain cloud.



### **Changes**

**By Anthony Browne**

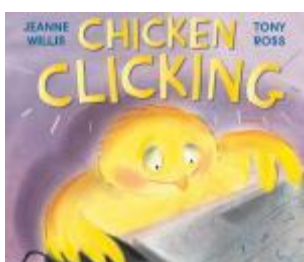
Joseph's father has told him that things are 'going to change' and the pictures, which reveal so much more than the brief but complementary text, take us through the surreal world of his imaginings.



### **Cheese Belongs to You**

**By Alexis Deacon**

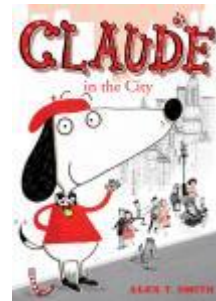
A strong repetitive and cumulative text with support and appeal for older less confident readers. It shows what happens when the greedy, bigger and more powerful rats get control over a lovely bit of holey cheese, depicted prominently and photographically in the multimedia illustrations as rats sketched in red and black aim to claim it.



### **Chicken Clicking**

**By Willis, Jeanne**

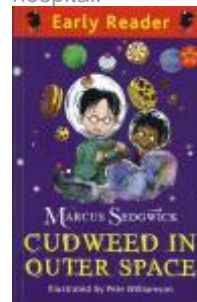
The jolly rhyming text expounds the exploits of a cheery little chick who sneaks into the farmer's house and makes hay by using the computer to order all sorts of extraordinary items on the internet.



### **Claude in the City**

**By Alex T Smith**

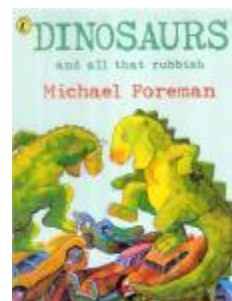
Claude is a small plump dog with a penchant for snazzy berets and a bent for problem solving. Accompanied by his sidekick Sir Bobblysock, he ventures into the city in the first of two episodes, followed by a second involving a visit to the hospital.



### **Cudweed in Outer Space**

**By Marcus Sedgwick**

Excited by the adventures of Rocket Boy that he has read and reread in a comic, Cudweed wants to send off for the Build Your Own Spaceship kit he has seen advertised in the back.

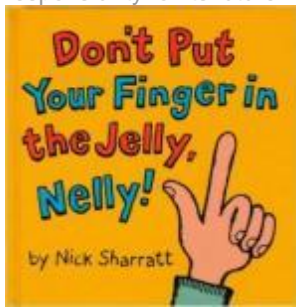


### **Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish**

**By Michael Foreman**

A book with a large theme, an ecological fable whose central message is that the planet is home

for all those who inhabit it and that all have a responsibility for its future.



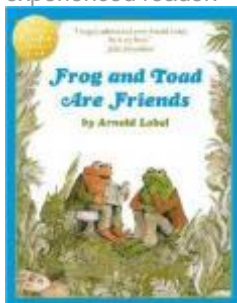
**Don't Put Your Finger in the Jelly, Nelly**  
**By Nick Sharratt**

A hugely enjoyable book which uses rhyme, repetition and wordplay to good effect.



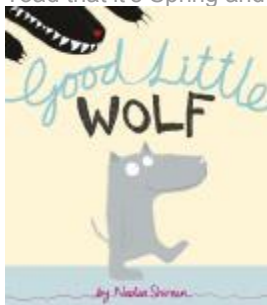
**Emily's Legs**  
**By Dick King-Smith**

A clever idea written in a clear, simple way using humour and pattern that will support the older less experienced reader.



**Frog and Toad Are Friends**  
**By Arnold Lobel**

Gentle humour pervades these short stories about two caring friends – a lugubrious toad and an energetic frog. Frog thinks of a way to convince Toad that it's Spring and time to wake up.



**Good Little Wolf**

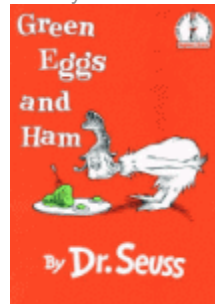
**By Nadia Shireen**

Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and a boy (Peter? The Boy Who Cried Wolf?) sit with awestruck faces alongside Rolf, a good little wolf, to hear the tale unfold.



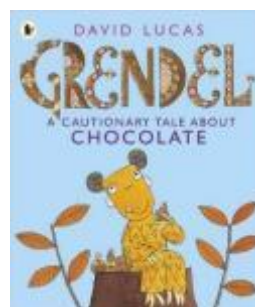
**Grandpa Green**  
**By Lane Smith**

A child movingly tells the story of his great grandfather's life in spare and simple language which still manages to incorporate historical and literary references.



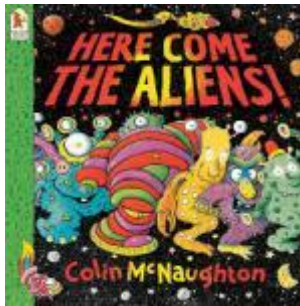
**Green Eggs and Ham**  
**By Dr Seuss**

A fast-paced cumulative rhyme in which the persistent 'Sam-I-am' tries to tempt an older companion to eat the strangely delightful delicacy 'green eggs and ham'.



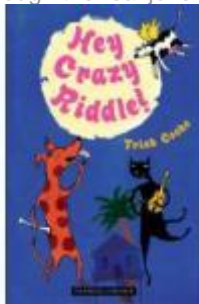
**Grendel. A Cautionary Tale about Chocolate**  
**By David Lucas**

Grendel is a little monster who adores chocolate. So when he is presented with the opportunity of making three wishes – guess what he does? In this new take on the King Midas story, a wish that everything he touches would turn to chocolate has the inevitable consequences.



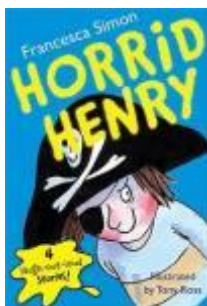
**Here Come the Aliens**  
**By Colin McNaughton**

A very funny picture book about a fleet of spaceships full of aliens approaching earth, although the real joke is saved to the end.



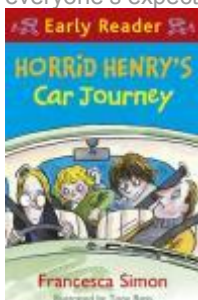
**Hey Crazy Riddle!**  
**By Trish Cooke**

The author draws on the storytelling traditions of her parents' Caribbean homeland Dominica.



**Horrid Henry**  
**By Francesca Simon**

Henry has a well-deserved reputation for being Horrid. So what will the effect be on his brother Perfect Peter when Henry decides to confound everyone's expectations by being perfect himself.



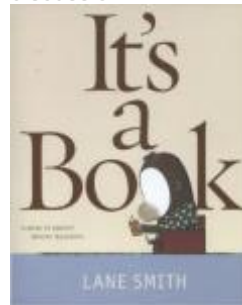
**Horrid Henry's Car Journey**  
**By Francesca Simon**

Here the family is heading off on a journey to a christening but Henry really really does not want to go!



**I have the right to be a child**  
**By Alain Serres**

A picture book which asks questions in child friendly language, based on United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The text and the striking images on each page could lead to much discussion.



**It's a Book**  
**By Lane Smith**

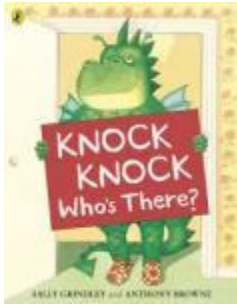
Technology has taken over as far as Jackass is concerned and he can't understand how his friend monkey manipulates the printed book he is reading.

John Patrick Norman  
McHennessy - the boy  
who was always late



**John Patrick Norman McHennessy**  
**By John Burningham**

Every time John Patrick Norman McHennessy 'sets off along the road to learn' he is delayed from reaching his destination by the intervention of wild animals and natural disasters.



### **Knock Knock Who's There?**

**By Sally Grindley**

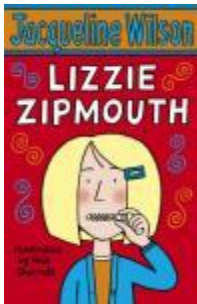
A girl preparing to sleep hears a knock at the bedroom door. 'Who's there?' A succession of scary beings, all mysteriously wearing the same slippers as her dad who appears at the end.



### **Little Red Hood**

**By Marjolaine Leray**

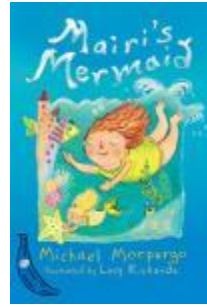
This Little Red Riding Hood is a right little 'Madame'! In this wittily translated French picture book, our cunning heroine turns the tables on a not so wily wolf in a way reminiscent of the guile of Catherine Storr's 'Clever Polly'.



### **Lizzie Zipmouth**

**By Jacqueline Wilson**

Lizzie is unhappy about moving in with her mum's new partner Sam and his two sons and demonstrates it by refusing to speak.



### **Mairi's Mermaid**

**By Michael Morpurgo**

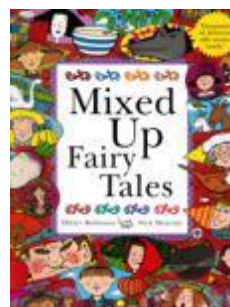
Mairi is frustrated by her inability to learn to swim. Fishing in the rock pools to take her mind off this, she has to rescue a tiny mermaid from a crab's claws.



### **Me and You**

**By Anthony Browne**

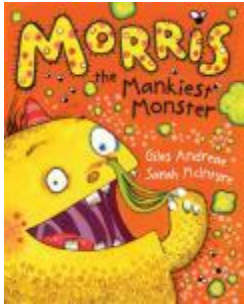
The parallel stories of Goldilocks and of the Three Bears are told partly through words but mostly through pictures. The forest they inhabit is more of an urban jungle, especially for Goldilocks whose environment and journey are portrayed in sepia tones.



### **Mixed Up Fairy Tales**

**By Robinson, Hilary Robinson**

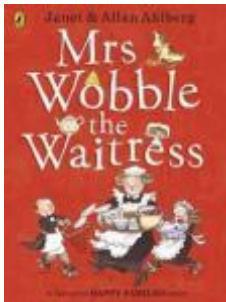
Each page of this book is sliced into four strips, enabling much fun to be had with combining elements of different well-known fairy tales to make a multitude of alternative versions.



### **Morris the Mankiest Monster**

**By Giles Andreae**

Morris is a friendly creature with disgusting habits that most children will revel in reading about.



### **Mrs Wobble the Waitress**

**By Allan Ahlberg**

Mrs Wobble gets the sack from her job as a waitress because she wobbles and spills food over everyone. She and her enterprising family turn their own house into a successful cafe with its 'famous juggling waiters'.



### **On the Way Home**

**By Jill Murphy**

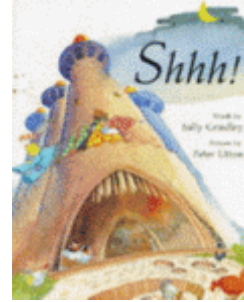
On her way home to tell her Mum about her bad knee, Claire meets assorted friends to whom she tells weird and wonderful stories, involving wolves, dragons, giants and ghosts, about what has happened to her.



### **Rainbow Bird**

**By Eric Maddern**

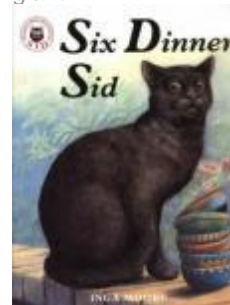
In this Aboriginal folk tale from Northern Australia, selfish Crocodile Man is the only creature to possess the gift of fire, which he refuses to share.



### **Shhh!**

**By Sally Grindley**

A truly interactive book in which we are led by an anonymous guide through a giant's castle, peeking through doors, viewing things from different angles, the whole object being not to wake the sleeping giant.



### **Six Dinner Sid**

**By Inga Moore**

The reader is quickly introduced to the heart and humour of this tale of a cat who has six homes, all in the same street! Sid is eventually 'found out' and finds his own typically feline answer to the problem.



### **Slinky Malinki**

**By Lynley Dodd**

Children will revel in the rhyming and alliterative language describing Slinky Malinki, 'rapsallion cat'.



## **Sophie's Adventures**

**By Dick King-Smith**

Sophie is a small girl who is determined to be a 'lady farmer' when she grows up. She is already practising, using woodlice, worms and snails as livestock.



## **Space Race**

**By Malorie Blackman**

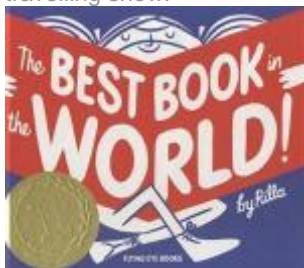
A short book with a science fiction theme to encourage readers tackling their first chapter books. Lizzie challenges the boastful Jake, a fellow inhabitant on the Astra Space Station, to a space ship race to Pluto and back.



## **The Adventures of the Dish and the Spoon**

**By Mini Grey**

A delightfully sophisticated picture book featuring the dish and the spoon of nursery rhyme fame. They sail away to the USA where they perform in a travelling show.



## **The Best Book in the World**

**By Rilla**

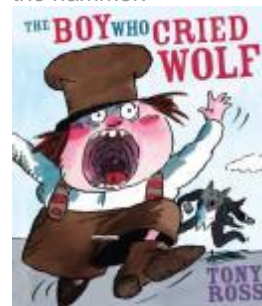
A picture book that shows how being immersed in a book can take readers to diverse places. A small girl, picked out in red, traverses the pages, her nose continually in a book.



## **The Boy Who Cried Ninja**

**By Alex Latimer**

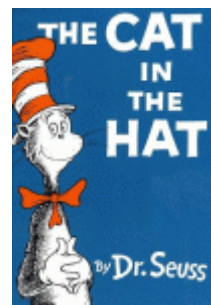
Tim is very truthful and can't understand why his parents don't believe him when he tells them a ninja ate the last slice of cake or an astronaut borrowed the hammer.



## **The Boy Who Cried Wolf**

**By Tony Ross**

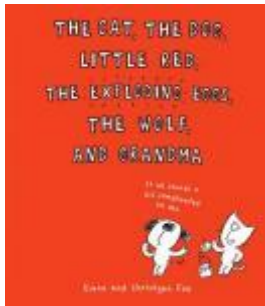
An updated version of the traditional story. There are really plausible reasons why Harry cries 'Wolf!' - he wants to get out of having a bath, or avoid going to a violin lesson. Tony Ross subverts the moral by having the wolf eat the people who chastise the boy for telling lies - however, the wolf then eats Harry as well! An outline knowledge of the original tale will help readers of this book while modernisation will increase its appeal for older children.



## **The Cat in the Hat**

**By Dr Seuss**

The cat wreaks havoc in the house of two children whose mother is away for the day; the proceedings are viewed with horror by a pet fish who plays the role of conscience.



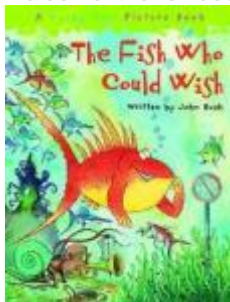
**The Cat, the Dog, Little Red, the Exploding Eggs, the Wolf & Grandma's Wardrobe**  
By Fox, Diane, Christyan

A hilarious dialogue takes place between a dog and a cat which raises questions about how stories work and, more specifically, the role and actions of a hero.



**The Finger-Eater**  
By Dick King-Smith

The tale of a finger-eating troll who gets his comeuppance thanks to the ingenuity of Gudrun, a maiden of the reindeer people.



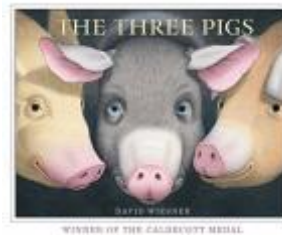
**The Fish Who Could Wish**

A humorous rhyming story about a foolish fish who does not learn to wish with wisdom.



**The Snail and the Whale**  
By Julia Donaldson

A tiny sea snail 'with an itchy foot' has a great desire to see the world and hitches a ride on the tail of a humpback whale.



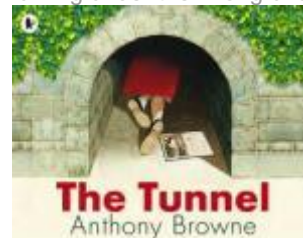
**The Three Pigs**  
By Wiesner, David

This playful postmodern picture book starts out with a conventional retelling of the traditional tale but then the wolf blows the little pigs out of the picture frame, giving them the opportunity to explore other storybook worlds.



**The Troll**  
By Julia Donaldson

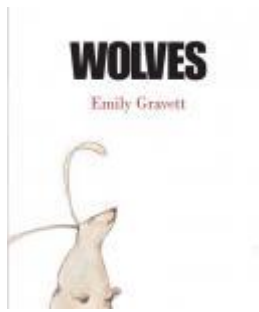
Parallel stories which are destined to eventually converge. A troll seeks goats to eat but is advised by other animals he proposes to devour that he is lurking under the wrong bridge.



**The Tunnel**  
By Anthony Browne

A tale which begins with sibling animosity. A sister rescues her brother, who has been turned to stone, by the warmth of her love. A link with fairy tales comes through the language, from the opening 'Once upon a time...'

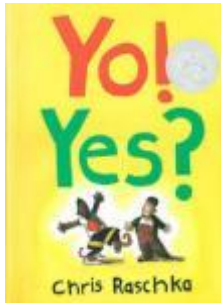




## **Wolves**

**By Emily Gravett**

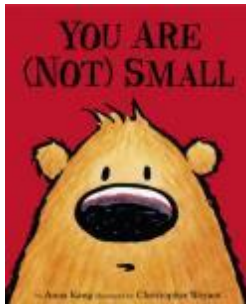
A rabbit goes to the West Bucks Public Burrowing library to seek out a book about wolves. As he reads and finds out information about wolves, a wolf transcends the boundaries of the book and becomes larger than life with potential threat to the rabbit.



## **Yo! Yes?**

**By Chris Raschka**

A minimal text consisting of brief exclamations and questions as two boys meet, greet and make friends.

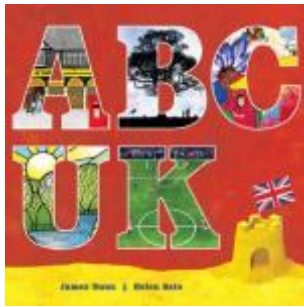


## **You Are (Not) Small**

**By Anna Kang**

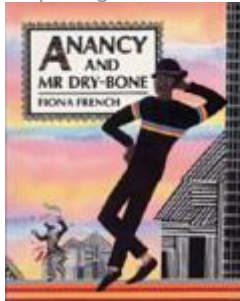
Clever use of repetition and a limited vocabulary combined with a necessity to read the pictures to get the joke make for a hilarious picture book with appeal for a wide age range including older less confident readers.

# Year 5/6



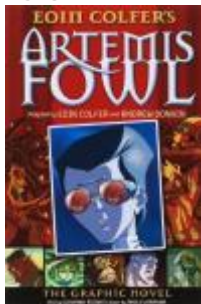
**ABC UK**  
By James Dunn

Helen Bate employs a variety of illustrative styles to depict James Dunn's interesting and sometimes surprising selection of icons to represent the UK.



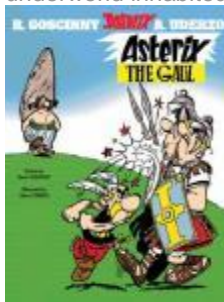
**Anancy and Mr Dry-Bone**  
By Fiona French

Anancy wins the hand of Miss Louise as he can make her laugh, unlike the rich, skeletal Mr Dry-Bone.



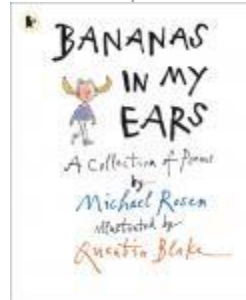
**Artemis Fowl. The Graphic Novel**  
By Eoin Colfer, Andrew Donkin

Artemis Fowl is a twelve year old master criminal in a gothic world. He plots to obtain gold from the underworld inhabited by



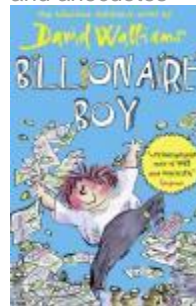
**Asterix the Gaul**  
By Goscinny

The first book about the plucky little Gaul whose village is holding out against the might of the Roman Empire.



**Bananas in My Ears**  
By Michael Rosen

The contents of this book were originally published as four thematic collections, on the topics of breakfast, the seaside, doctors and bedtime. Each follows a similar pattern of rhymes, stories, sayings and anecdotes



**Billionaire Boy**  
By David Walliams

Joe Spud is remarkably rich thanks to his dad's invention of a loo roll which is moist on one side and dry on the other. All he really needs, though, is a true friend.



**Clown**  
By Quentin Blake

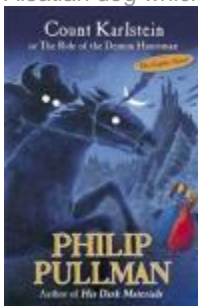
Most children will be familiar with Quentin Blake's distinctive illustrations. This is a wordless book but readers will need to bring their understanding of narrative informed by the conventions of comics to the story which has the cinematic quality of a silent film.



### **Conker**

**By Michael Morpurgo**

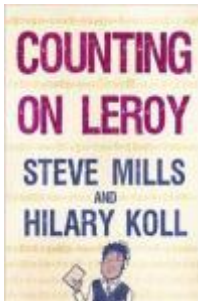
A short chapter book with a satisfying conclusion which will help to build reading confidence. Nick is saddened by the death of his grandmother's Alsatian dog which



### **Count Karlstein**

**By Philip Pullman**

A tongue-in-cheek Gothic tale, told in a blend of conventional text and comic strip. A ripping yarn with a host of interesting features



### **Counting on Leroy**

**By Steve Mills**

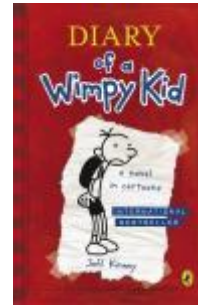
Leroy likes Maths facts, almost to the point of obsession. He relates everything he does to numbers and mathematical puzzles.



### **Daft Jack and the Beanstack**

**By Laurence Anholt**

One of a series of Seriously Silly Stories, retellings of well-known fairy tales given a modern twist.



### **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**

**By Jeff Kinney**

Greg Heffley is at pains to tell his readers that this is a journal not a diary and this book is about surviving in school as a cool kid. Greg is a creator of cartoons which he uses



### **Fantastic Mr Fox**

**By Roald Dahl**

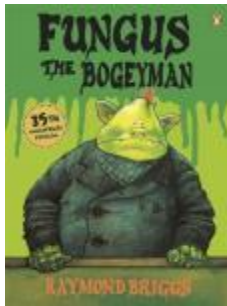
The tale of how Mr Fox outwits three dastardly farmers who would destroy him and the family he is struggling to feed.



### **FArTHER**

**By Grahame Baker-Smith**

A boy pays tribute to his father's dream of flying, a dream he was not able to fulfil in his lifetime as another call claimed him.



**Fungus the Bogeyman**  
**By Raymond Briggs**

The complete guide to Bogeydom, a 'land of eternal dampness' and its inhabitants the Bogeymen who wallow in filth.



**Have You Seen Who's Just Moved In Next Door to Us?**  
**By Colin McNaughton**

Stuffed with intertextual references to literature, nursery rhymes and film and replete with visual and verbal humour, this picture book uses a skilful combination of rhyming text and witty illustration to explore who or what is truly weird!



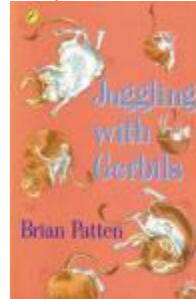
**Hiccup: How to Train Your Dragon**  
**By Cressida Cowell**

First in a comedy series of ten titles about Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III and how he becomes a Viking hero from very unlikely beginnings.



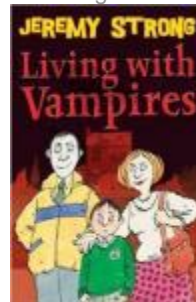
**I Know What You Did Last Wednesday**  
**By Anthony Horowitz**

A suspenseful short novel peppered with plenty of humour as well as dead bodies, which is narrated by Nick Diamond whose clueless older brother Tim is a private detective.



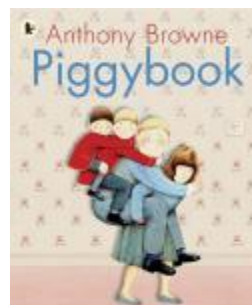
**Juggling with Gerbils**  
**By Brian Patten**

Brian Patten describes animals' lives from the inside, whether it's the rabbit left alone while its owners go on holiday, or a fly on a statue.



**Living with Vampires**  
**By Jeremy Strong**

Kevin is just an ordinary boy but unfortunately his parents are vampires, although only at Grade 3 level. This causes him some embarrassment,



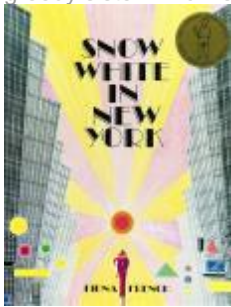
**Piggybook**  
**By Anthony Browne**

A brilliant exposition on the theme of male chauvinism. Mrs Piggott leaves her boorish husband and sons who, unable to cope, quickly sink



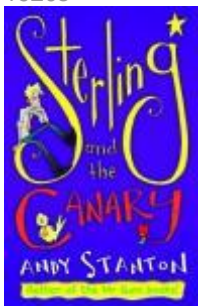
**Sam's Sandwich**  
**By David Pelham**

An inventive lift the flap book. Sam is a boy with a devilish smile who builds up a sandwich for his greedy sister which is chockful of tasty ingredients.



**Snow White in New York**  
**By Fiona French**

One of today's most accomplished illustrators has taken one of the best-known fairy tales and given it a startlingly updated setting in the 'Big Apple' of the 1920s



**Sterling and the Canary**  
**By Andy Stanton**

Sterling has fallen for new girl Lizzie Harris but how can he win her heart? Will teaming up with a bird who has been to Canary University and majored in maths, capital cities and types of flowers do the trick?



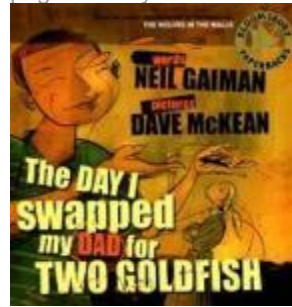
**Stormbreaker. The Graphic Novel**  
**By Anthony Horowitz**

An action-packed adaptation of the first book in a series about Alex Rider, a schoolboy recruited as a spy by MI6 after the death of his uncle.



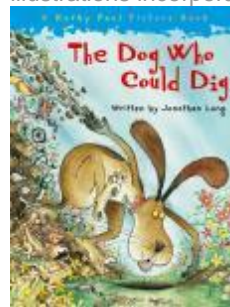
**Talking Turkeys**  
**By Benjamin Zephaniah**

Benjamin Zephaniah is a great performance poet so it is no mean feat to make his poetry leap off the page the way it does in this lively volume.



**The Day I Swapped My Dad for Two Goldfish**  
**By Neil Gaiman**

A picture book which has a layout similar to the graphic novels for which this author and illustrator are well known, with mixed media collage illustrations incorporating speech balloons



**The Dog Who Could Dig**  
**By Jonathan Long**

A dog digs deeper and deeper trying to find a bone he has buried, in the process unearthing a miner, a tube train and finally a mass of dinosaur bones, which he is able to use to bargain

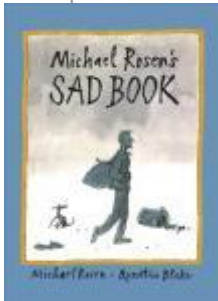


**The House That Jack Built**  
**By Gavin Bishop**

The text is the well known cumulative rhyme. The illustrations give the words a totally new interpretation, depicting in microcosm European colonialism



A powerful allegory depicting the devastating effects of colonialism. The language used is deceptively simple and evokes a strong response as the reader comes to a gradual realisation of the situation and the implications.



**The Sad Book**  
**By Michael Rosen**

In this moving picture book, provoked by his son's death, the poet reveals his own feelings about grief and shows how he deals with them.



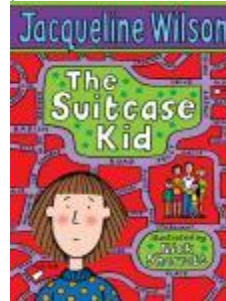
**The Silence Seeker**  
**By Ben Morley**

Joe makes his own sense of what he hears when his mother tells him that the new boy next door is an asylum seeker.



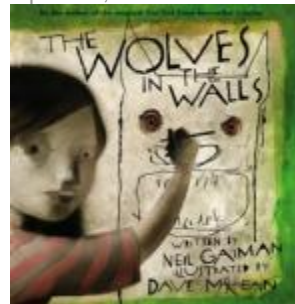
**The Stepsisters' Story**  
**By Kaye Umansky**

A version of the Cinderella story told from the viewpoint of the ugly sisters, each taking an alternate chapter, which owes as much to pantomime as it does to the traditional tale.



**The Suitcase Kid**  
**By Jacqueline Wilson**

The story of a girl who has to divide her time between her divorced parents, told with wit and humour. Each chapter begins with a letter of the alphabet,



**The Wolves in the Walls**  
**By Neil Gaiman**

Two masters of the graphic novel for adults have created this picture book for all ages. Lucy is convinced there are wolves in the walls of her house, but no-one



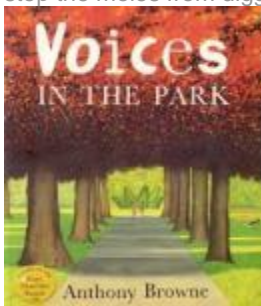
**Thirteen Unpredictable Tales**  
**By Paul Jennings**

Paul Jennings has a genius for capturing the interest of the most reluctant reader. His short stories are funny but also have depth, inviting the emotional engagement of the reader.



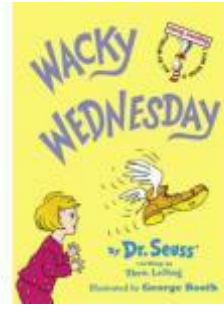
**Vern and Lettuce**  
**By Sarah McIntyre**

The comic strip adventures of a sheep and a rabbit who inhabit a block of flats overlooking Pickle Rye Park where they engage in a fruitless struggle to stop the moles from digging it up.



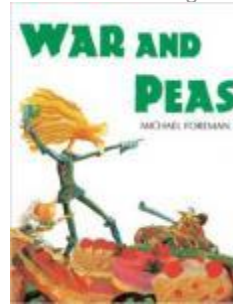
**Voices in the Park**  
**By Anthony Browne**

In Voices in the Park, Anthony Browne revisits territory first explored in one of his earliest books A Walk in the Park. The story is told from the points of view of two adults and their children taking their dogs for a walk in the park.



**Wacky Wednesday**  
**By Dr Seuss**

This story has rhyme, pattern and humour which are key features of the 'Beginner Books'. The child reading the story and the child in the story need to find an increasing number of 'wacky' things



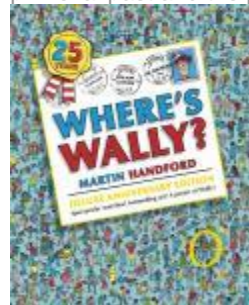
**War and Peas**  
**By Michael Foreman**

The Fat King refuses to help the Lion King's starving country and sends his army to attack them. Instead, they find a novel way of fighting back



**Where the Forest Meets the Sea**  
**By Jeannie Baker**

A boy and his father spend the day in the rainforest of northern Australia and the boy imagines both the primeval past and the possible future for the area.



**Where's Wally?**

**By Martin Handford**

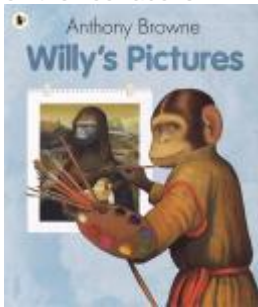
The first in an original series which has had a cult following. Through a series of crowded and crammed pictures, readers search for the real Wally as he goes about his world-wide adventures.



**Who's That Banging on the Ceiling?**

**By Colin McNaughton**

This book subverts convention right from the beginning as we have to turn it on its side to read it. We see into each floor of a tower block as the occupants imagine what or who is making the noise on the floor above.



**Willy's Pictures**

**By Anthony Browne**

Children who know Anthony Browne's books quickly find that he makes frequent references in his pictures to the work of famous painters.



**You're a Bad Man, Mr Gum!**

**By Andy Stanton**

The series of books about Mr Gum, a horrible 'grimsters' old man who hates children and is always up to dastardly deeds, has proved very popular.