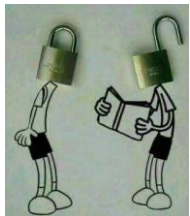


75 Teachable Picture Books



Collated by Anne Mackey, March 2024



Blog
Sarah Balcazar
2019

[How Picture Books Help Develop Literacy Skills](#)

Five important benefits picture books bring to children who are learning to read.



Article

Marilyn Blakeney-Williams and Nicola Daly
2013

[How do teachers use picture books to draw on the cultural and linguistic diversity in their classrooms?](#)

“Teachers use picture books in the classroom for drawing on cultural and linguistic diversity by choosing books they love in order to capture children’s minds and engage reluctant learners; to expand, enrich and challenge learners’ knowledge of the world. Picture books give purpose to language processes by using the oral/aural/visual elements. They provide opportunities to explore and experience informal and formal language structures and vocabulary. Teachers help children make connections between the ideas in picture books and their own world.”

Click on the below TOPIC links to see a selection of thematic picture books.



[ANZAC](#)



[Aotearoa New Zealand Histories](#)



[Famous New Zealanders](#)



[Punctuation and Grammar](#)



[Cyber Safety](#)



[Matariki](#)



[Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#)

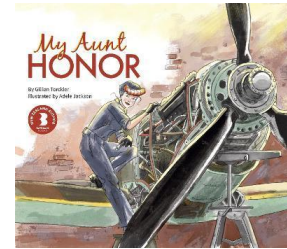
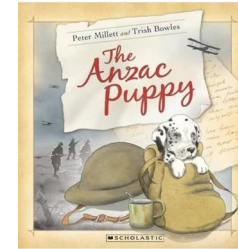
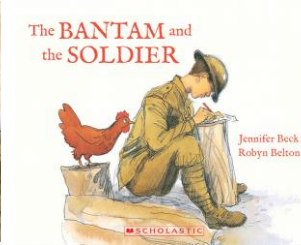
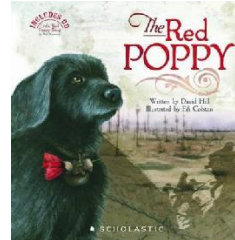
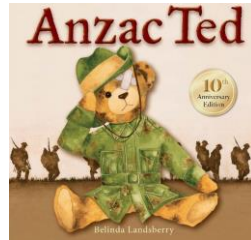
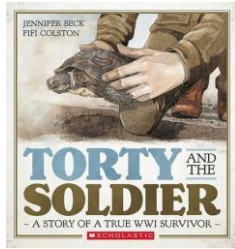
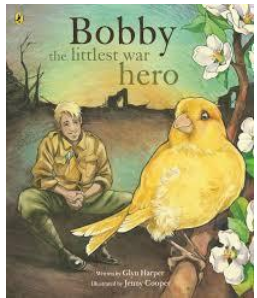
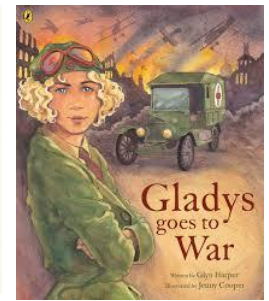
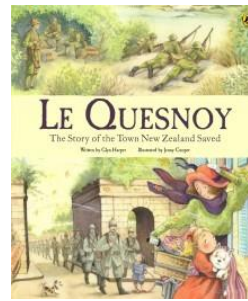
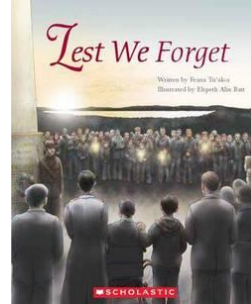
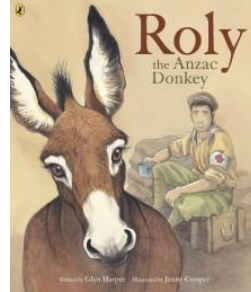
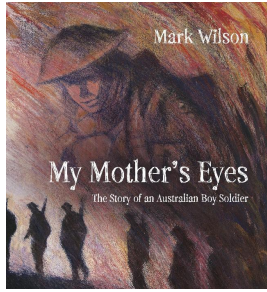
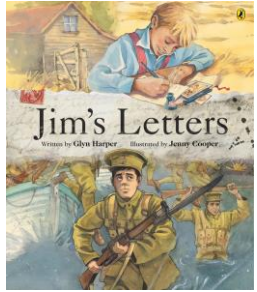


[Virtues and Values](#)

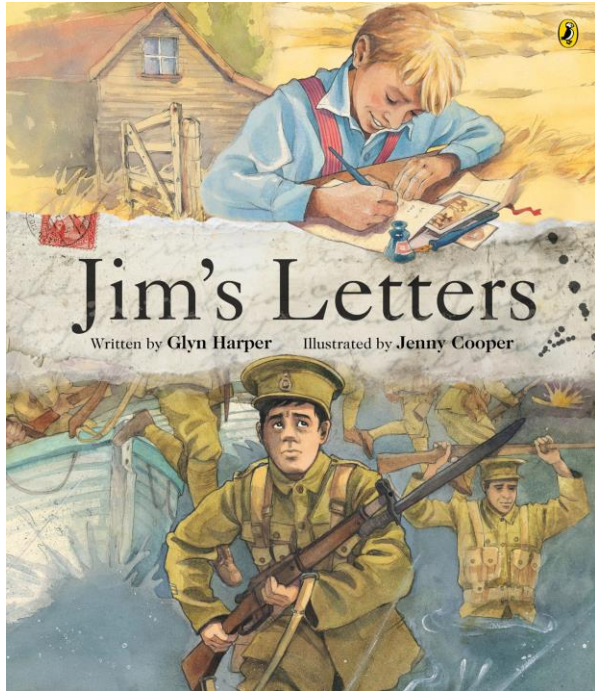


ANZAC

Click on the book below to find out more.



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Blurb

Dear Jim, Your postcard arrived today. I showed it to the family. Mum misses you ...Between December 1914 and August 1915 Tom and Jim write to each other whenever they get a chance. Tom talks about life at home on the farm while Jim writes from Egypt and then from the trenches of the Gallipoli peninsula. From the author and illustrator of Le Quesnoy comes a moving story of two brothers separated by war. It is based on the thousands of letters sent by and to Anzac soldiers fighting at Gallipoli, one of the most significant campaigns of the First World War.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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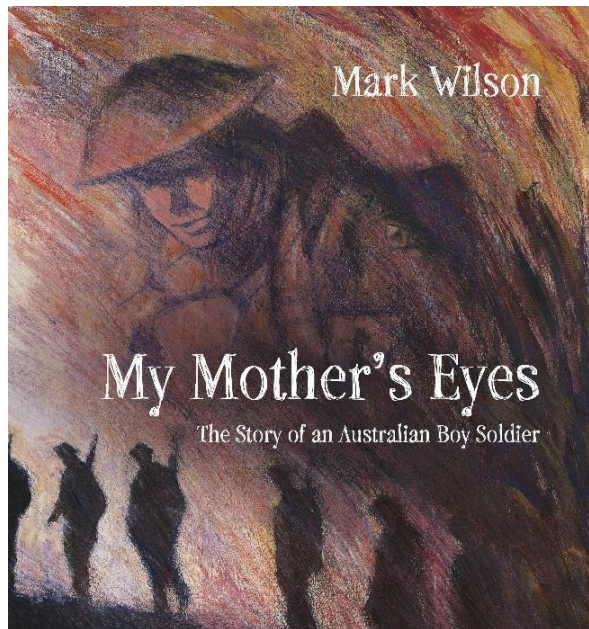
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Blurb

A fifteen-year-old Australian farm boy lies about his age to enlist to war and is caught up in the horrors of World War I in Egypt and on the Western Front, where 5,500 Australian troops were lost in two days at Fromelles alone. This boy's story in this unique, stirring picture book is based on true stories of the 23 teenage soldiers - one only fourteen - who fought with the Australian army in World War I, as recorded at the Australian War Memorial (their names among a list of 60,000 Australian soldiers killed in that war). The author's grandfather was a boy soldier who, unlike the hero of the book, did survive to return home. Told in the boy's own simple language and with extracts from his letters home, the story is extremely moving and evocative of the real tragedy of that worst of all wars.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

[Weblinks, Resources](#)

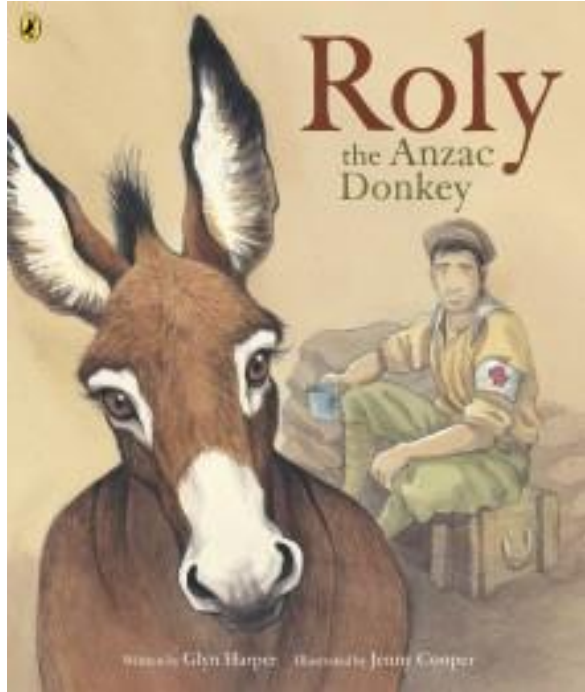
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Blurb

My name is Roly. I'm a donkey. Let me tell you about the time during the First World War when I worked at a place called Gallipoli. I met a man there from New Zealand who was very special. He and I worked as a team to help rescue soldiers who had been hurt in battle. Based on real people and events, this is the heartwarming story of Richard Alexander Henderson, a soldier in the New Zealand Medical Corps, and the donkey he discovers wandering and hungry on a Gallipoli road. Richard and Roly form a strong friendship and, working together, they courageously save the lives of many wounded soldiers. But now the army has received top-secret orders to leave Gallipoli - and quickly. All the donkeys must be left behind. Richard is heartbroken. What will become of his dear friend Roly?

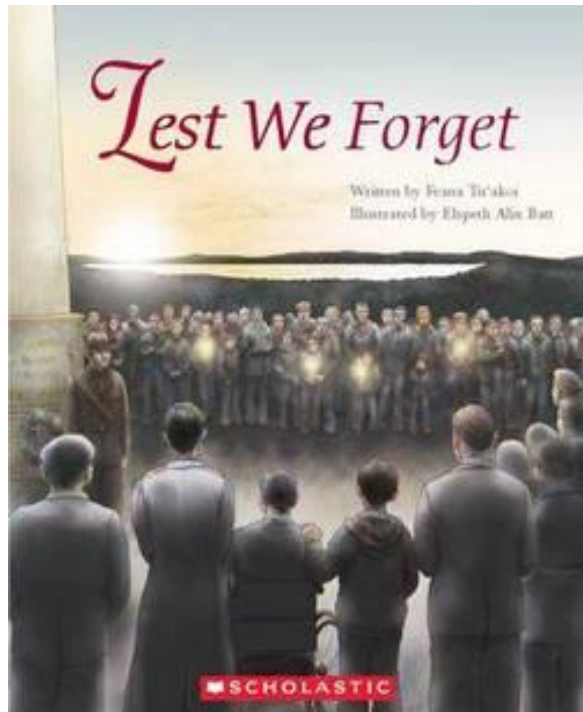
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Blurb

Tyson doesn't understand why Mum and Poppa would want to go to the Anzac Dawn Parade. Why celebrate anything as stupid as war? But then he hears stories about the soldiers in his family and decides perhaps he should go to the Dawn Parade after all.

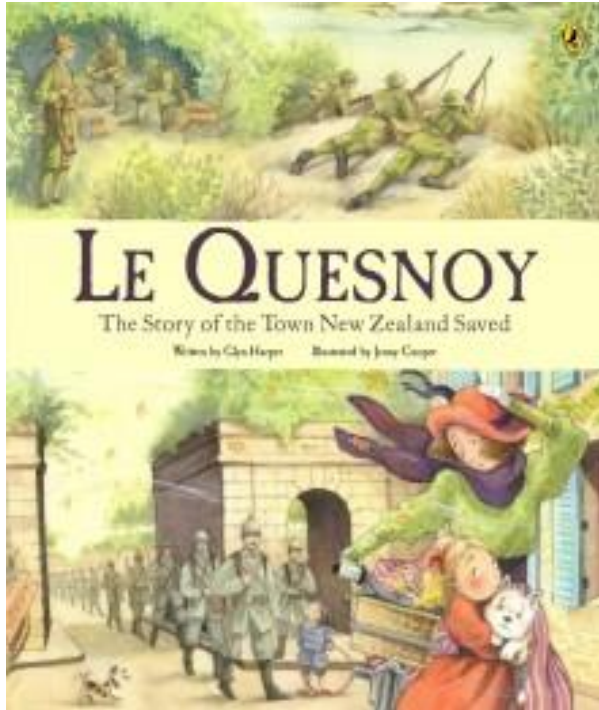
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Blurb

Le Quesnoy (pronounced Leck con wah) is a town in northern France. It is surrounded by high walls and deep trenches. In World War I it was occupied by the German army for four long years. In November 1918 the town was liberated by soldiers from far-away New Zealand. Because these men used a bit of kiwi ingenuity they were able to take the town back without a single civilian life being lost. This has become one of the most famous stories in New Zealand military history and the relationship between Le Quesnoy and New Zealand continues to this day. This book tells the story of Le Quesnoy's liberation through the eyes of a child living in the town at the time. Stunning watercolour illustrations and simple language make this an ANZAC picture book that young readers will be able to imaginatively engage with.

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Blurb

This book is a simple tale of an eight-year-old school girl living on a farm on the outskirts of Riverton in 1915. Violet's class was asked by a visiting Red Cross worker to contribute something for the soldiers serving overseas. Violet had one brother George who had already volunteered for WW1, and two more brothers were to follow in his footsteps. Over the course of the next month or so, Violet knitted a scarf for a NZ soldier. It was wrapped; her name went on a tag attached to the parcel; and along with thousands of other parcels, it was shipped to France. It took over a year to get there. Hundreds of parcels were loaded onto the back of a wagon and hauled by horses into a New Zealand Camp near the frontline in France. Two soldiers randomly threw parcels out to the eagerly awaiting men. Extraordinarily, Violet's brother George caught her parcel as it flew past. George brought the scarf and the tag home. The tag is now in the Hocken Library in Dunedin.

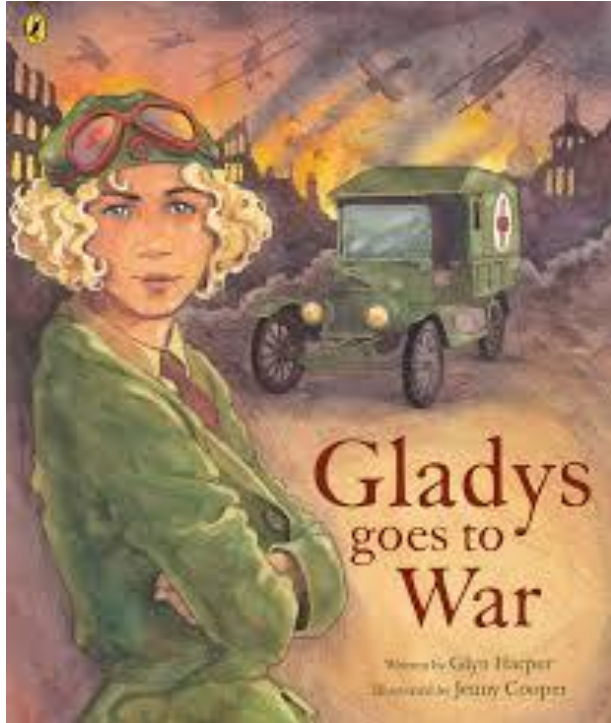
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Blurb

The incredible true story of Gladys Sandford – mechanic, First World War ambulance driver, New Zealand's first woman pilot and a trailblazer ahead of her time . . . Gladys loves nothing better than tinkering with car engines and driving at top speed. She also dreams of learning to fly a plane. But it's 1914 and people, especially her mother, keep reminding her that women are not supposed to be adventurous. When war comes, Gladys offers her services at the front as an ambulance driver. She receives an infuriating response from the War Office: 'This will be a short war and women will not be needed. If you want to help the war effort you should stay at home and knit socks and balaclavas.' But Gladys is not the kind of person who stays home and knits. She is determined to go to war.

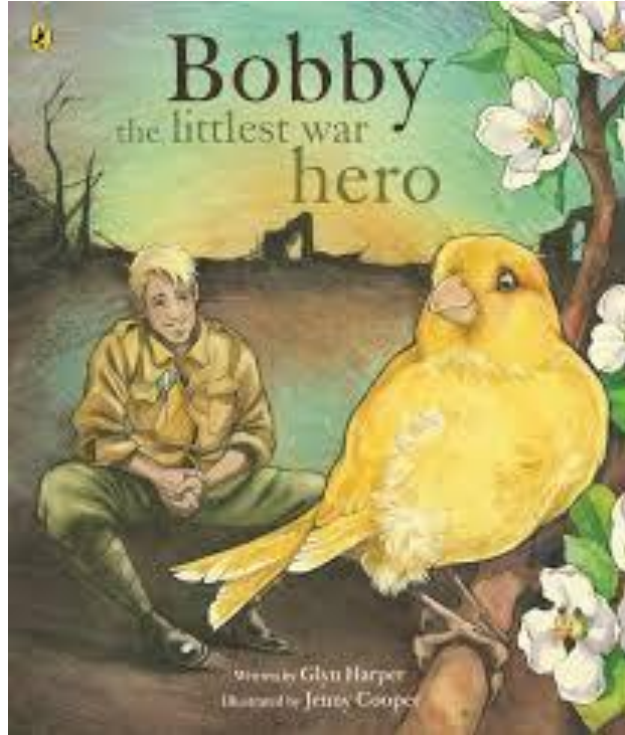
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Blurb

This is the story of Bobby - the littlest hero in a very big war. Bobby is a tiny canary. His best friend is Jack, a soldier in one of the tunnelling companies of the Royal Engineers. Together they go deep into the tunnels under no-man's-land. Jack's job is to dig, while Bobby's job is to warn the men to get out quickly when there's dangerous gas. Bobby's warnings save the tunnellers' lives again and again. But Jack worries that it's a hard life for a little bird. Will Bobby ever be free to fly again?

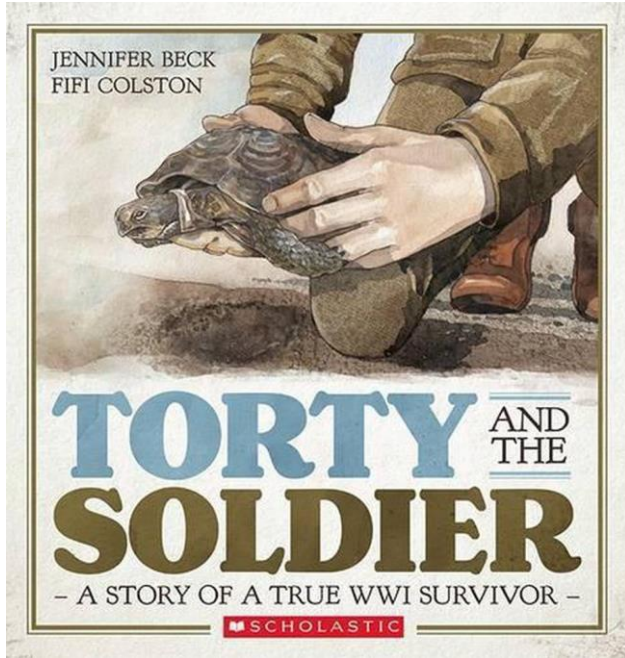
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Blurb

Torty and the Soldier is the heartwarming story of one plucky tortoise's incredible survival against all odds. Kiwi soldiers brought a number of souvenirs home from World War One, but Torty was perhaps the most unique. Already estimated to be 100 years old at the time she was found, injured, in Greece, the little tortoise was rescued and looked after by Stewart Little, who brought her home to New Zealand on board the Marama, a hospital ship. Towards the end of the voyage she went into hibernation and was brought ashore in a kitbag. Torty lived in Dunedin in Stewart's care until his death 60 years later when her care passed on to Stewart's family. And now, 100 years since her arrival in New Zealand, Torty remarkably lives on, a true World War One survivor. This is her story.

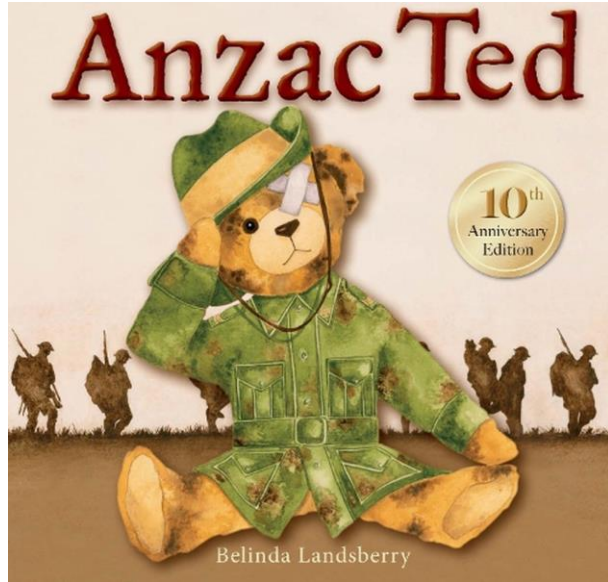
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Blurb

Anzac Ted is no ordinary bear. He's got worn patches, frayed threads, missing parts and more... but that's because he's got an incredible story to tell. Long ago, **Anzac Ted** went to war alongside Grandpa Jack. He kept the soldiers company and gave them courage, becoming a mascot who reassured them that they would make it through. While **Anzac Ted** never won a medal, and now doesn't even attract a single vote at classroom Show and Tell, if only everyone looked a little deeper: 'They'd see a hero, plain as day, Who sits upon my bed. A hero, who saved me and you. His name ... is **Anzac Ted**.'

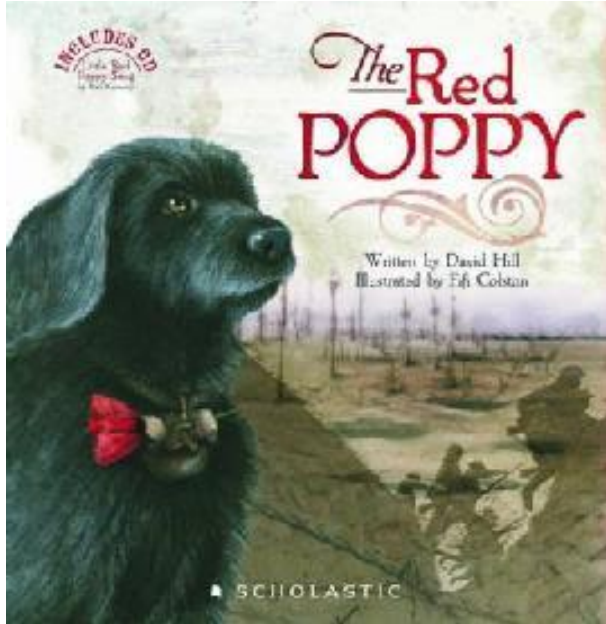
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[Anzac Ted Before, During and After Reading Activities](#)

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Blurb

Young soldier Jim McLeod waits in the trenches of World War I for the order to attack the enemy. With him are his friends, and Nipper, the messenger dog. When they charge across no-man's-land, Jim is shot . . . and finds himself face to face with an enemy soldier.

Audio/Video Link

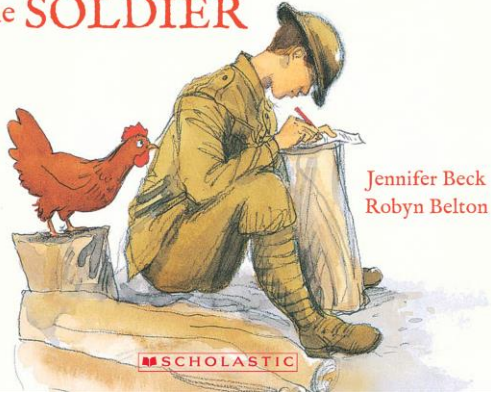
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The **BANTAM** and
the **SOLDIER**



Jennifer Beck
Robyn Belton

Blurb

It is wartime. In the midst of the fighting and devastation, an unusual friendship is formed. A delightful and poignant story that touches on humanity and unexpected friendship in times of war. At the heart of the story is a little bantam—a character children will instantly warm to.

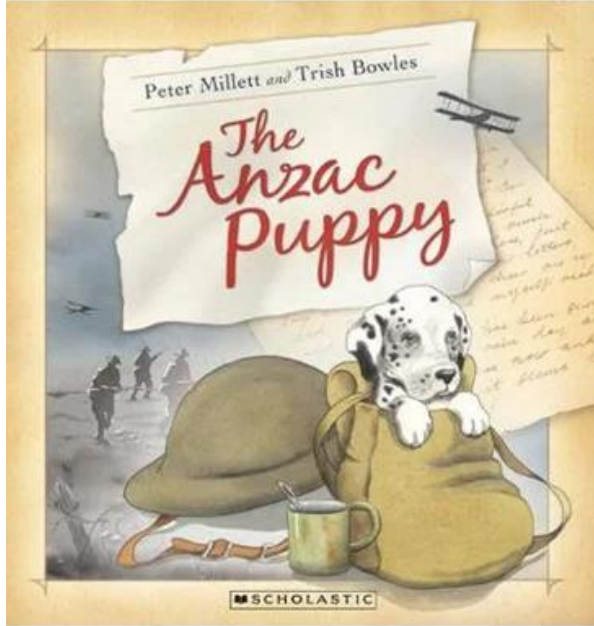
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Blurb

'In the middle of the night, in the middle of the winter, in the middle of a war, a puppy was born.' This fictional story was inspired by the story of Freda, a Harlequin Great Dane and mascot of the NZ Rifle Brigade during World War 1. **The ANZAC Puppy** is a simple story about the reality of war, hardship, friendship and love.

Audio/Video Link

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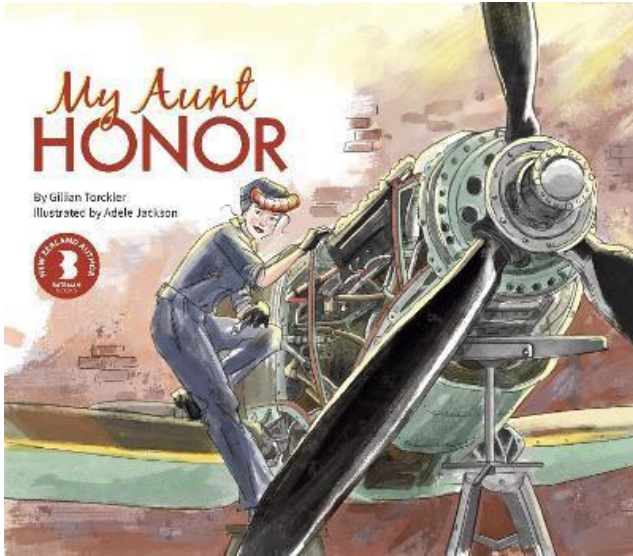
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Blurb

My Aunt Honor was far from ordinary. She was extraordinary. She was inspirational. She was brave. During the Second World War Honor Hasset joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force, defying the expectations of her family and friends to become one of the first female aircraft engineers. Follow Honor's courageous journey as one of the many women who served in wartime as told by her grand-niece Gillian Torckler.



Audio/Video Link

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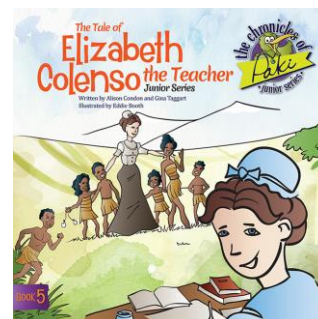
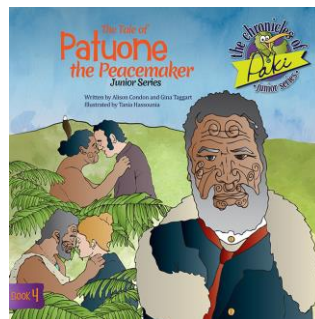
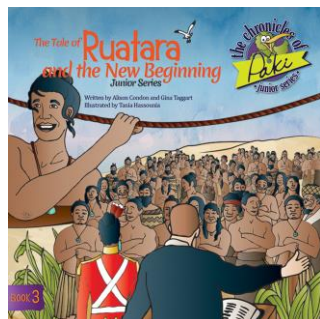
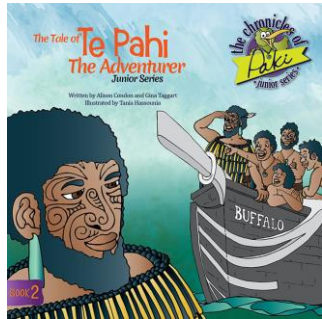
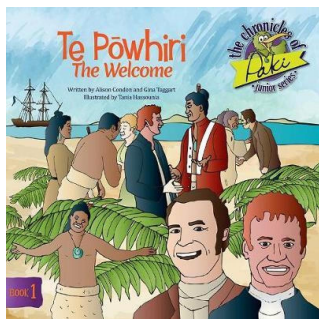
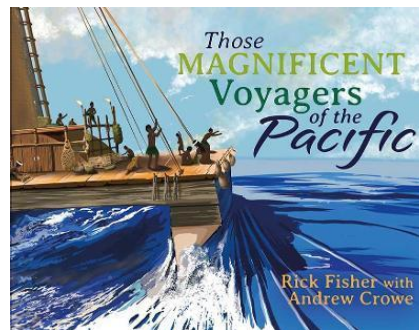
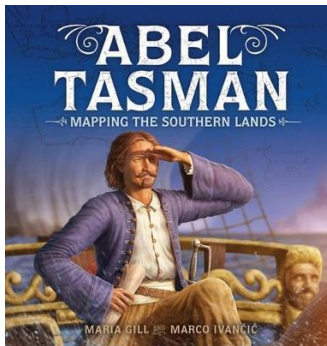
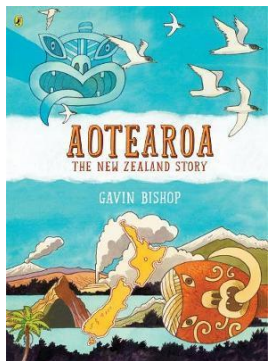
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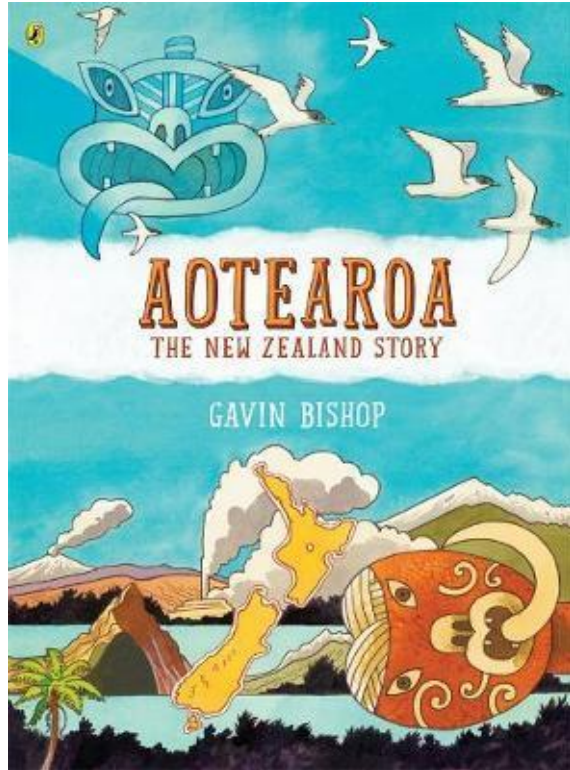
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Aotearoa New Zealand Histories

Click on the book below to find out more.





Blurb

Over a thousand years ago, the wind, sea currents and stars brought people to the islands that became known as Aotearoa, the land of the long white cloud. Navigate your way through this sumptuously illustrated story of New Zealand. Explore the defining moments of our history, captured by celebrated children's book creator Gavin Bishop, from the Big Bang right through to what might happen tomorrow. Discover Maori legends, layers of meaning and lesser-known facts. A truly special book, Aotearoa.

Audio/Video Link

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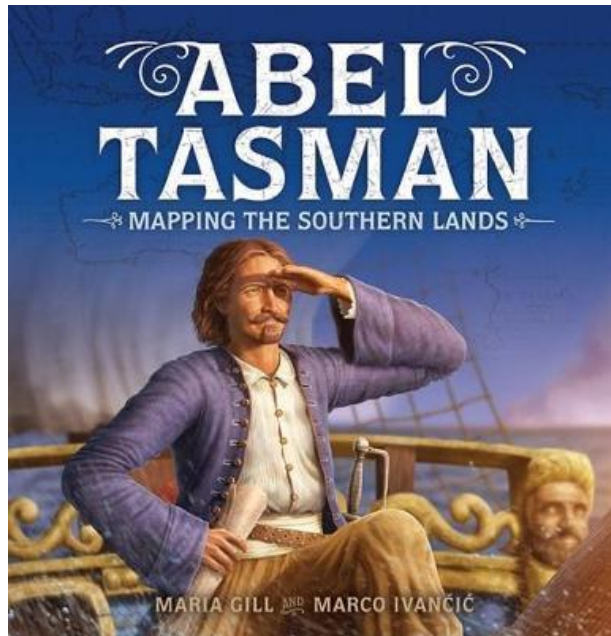
The House that Jack Built is a book with two strands. The main rhythmic text, based on the well-known rhyme, tells the story of Jack Bull, who travels to New Zealand from London as a new settler in 1798. The illustrations tell the story from a Maori perspective—beginning with the creation story of Papatuanuku and Ranginui and showing the changing environment and cultural impact. The juxtaposition tells a poignant and thought-provoking story of colonisation.

Audio/Video Link

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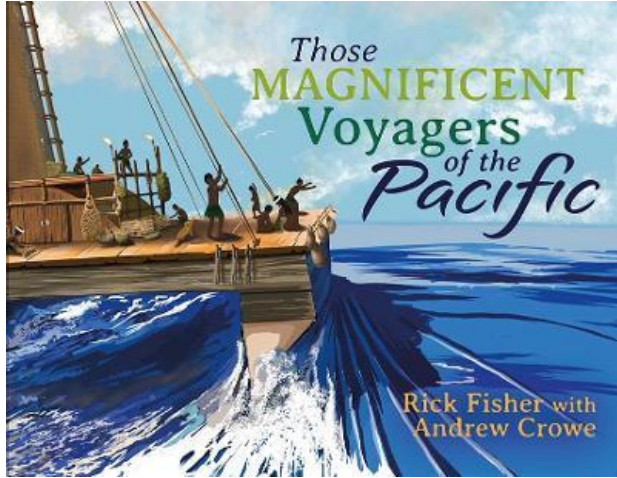
A creative non-fiction story about Abel Tasman's journey to Tasmania, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. MORE THAN 300 YEARS AGO, a young Dutch sailor named ABEL TASMAN stood on the prow of a ship that he and his crew had sailed across wild, uncharted waters. In the distance, through a shroud of mist, the rugged outline of steep hills rose from the ocean waves. COULD THIS BE TERRA AUSTRALIS – THE GREAT SOUTHERN LAND? Abel Tasman and his crew were most likely the first Europeans the Aboriginal people of Australia and the Maori of New Zealand had ever seen. JOIN THE JOURNEY and DISCOVER THE LEGACY left behind.

Audio/Video Link

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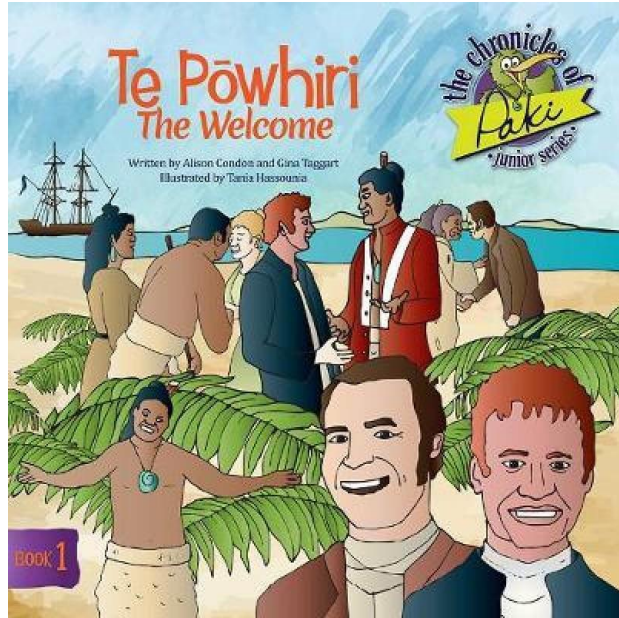
This epic story begins 5000 years ago, when the ancestors of Polynesians discovered ways to 'see' over the horizon to find and settle new islands. As their landfinding skills grew, these people took ever bigger strides across the vast Pacific until they reached South America. It was not until almost every habitable island scattered across the world's largest ocean was discovered and settled, that others would gain the skills and courage to head far from shore, allowing two great voyaging traditions to meet.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

“Land ahoy!” shouts Nicholas Young.
Learn about Aotearoa New Zealand’s history from the time of Captain Cook’s arrival in 1769 through until Māori invite missionary settlers to come and live alongside them in 1814.

Audio/Video Link

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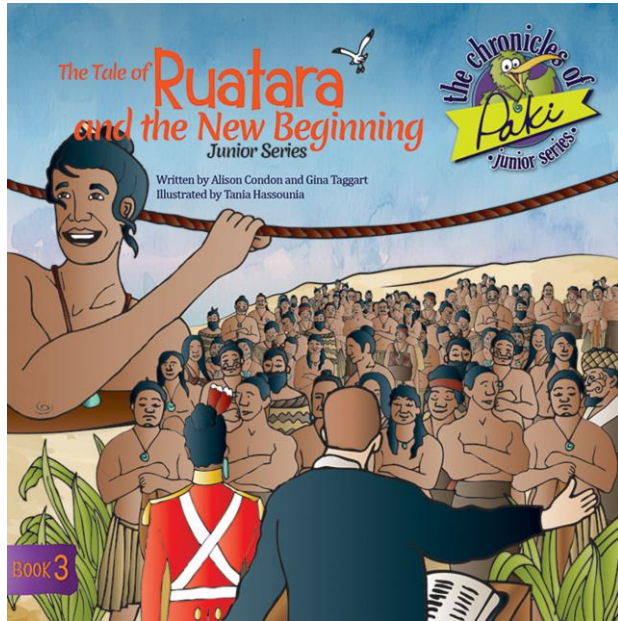
When Chief Te Pahi travels to Australia in 1805 he meets Governor Phillip King and the Reverend Samuel Marsden. This opens the way for new friendships and also for trade. Te Pahi is impressed with all the things he learns, but one day he hears something he thinks is very wrong. He must speak up.

Audio/Video Link

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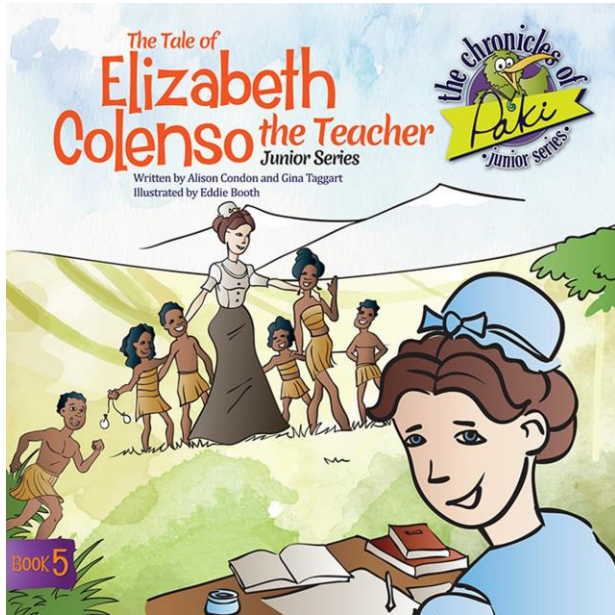
Ruatara loves adventure. The young man from the chiefly line of Ngāpuhi can't wait to sail for England to meet the King. It's an adventure that will nearly cost him his life, and will bring about enormous changes in his country.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Six year old Elizabeth screams as her young Māori friend is taken from the classroom by an enemy warrior. She soon learns that she will never see him again. This frightening moment causes Elizabeth to want to be a missionary like her parents and spread the message of forgiveness and peace. It will be a life of hardship, sacrifice and challenging adventures.

Audio/Video Link

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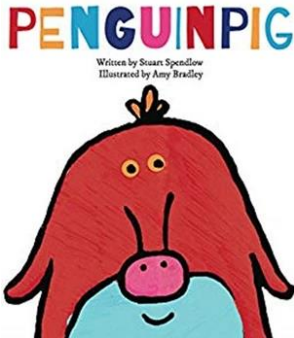
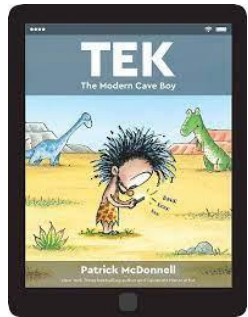
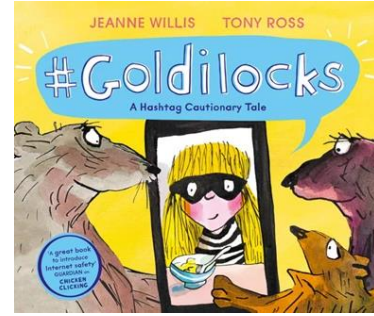
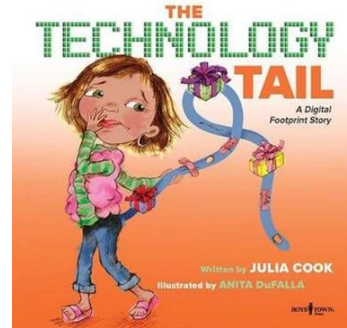
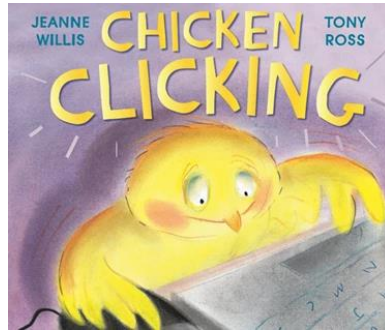
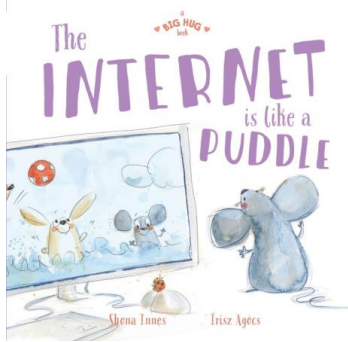
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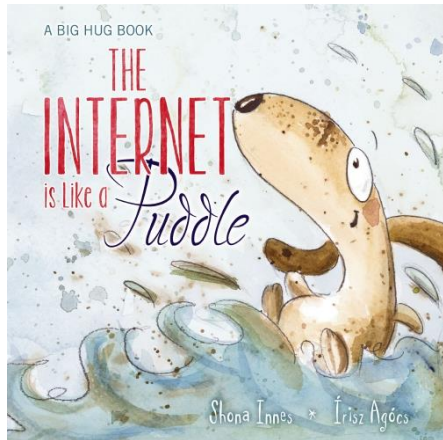
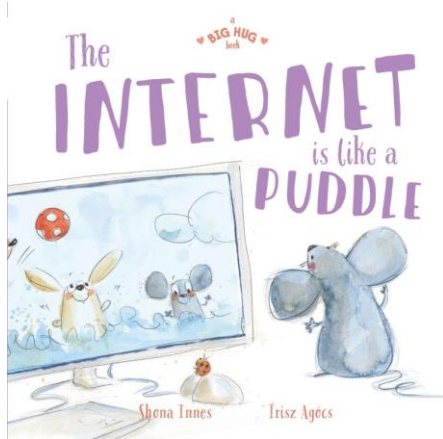


Cyber Safety

Click on the book below to find out more.



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Blurb

The internet can be an amazing tool and a fun place to be. But the internet can be a bit like a great big puddle. Some puddles look shallow on top, but they are actually really deep underneath.

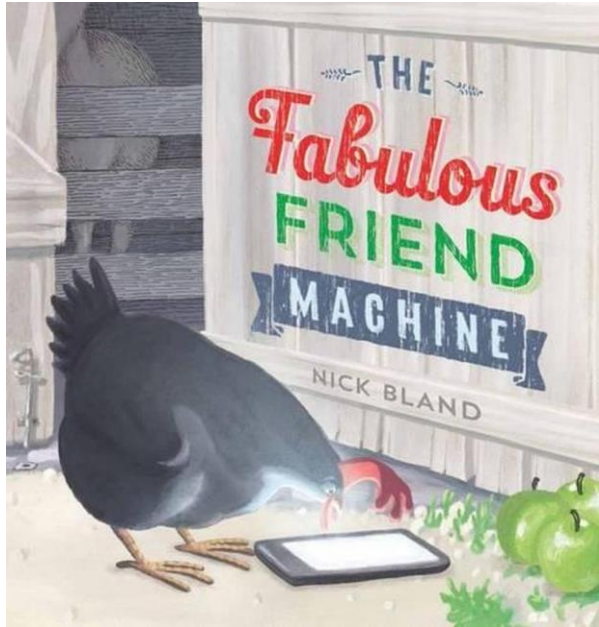
The Internet is Like a Puddle attends to the wonderful aspects of electronic communication, as well as gently discussing some of the possible pitfalls of sharing, chatting and using data. There is a need to be mindful of those who are naive to the potential problems, without denying them the wonderful opportunities the internet brings. The Internet is Like a Puddle describes ways to stay safe and enjoy learning and chatting time on the Internet—and to keep life balanced.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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Blurb

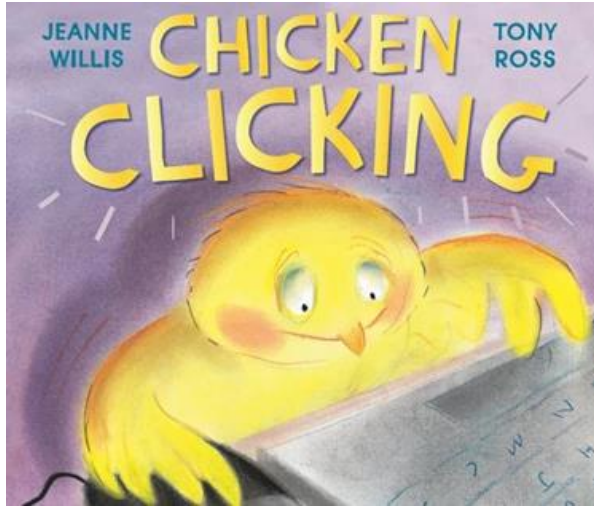
Popcorn is, quite simply, the friendliest chicken at Fiddlesticks farm! When she finds a Fabulous Friend Machine in the barn, she sets about making some brand new friends. But behind the screen of the Fabulous Friend Machine, maybe her new friends are not so friendly after all...

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

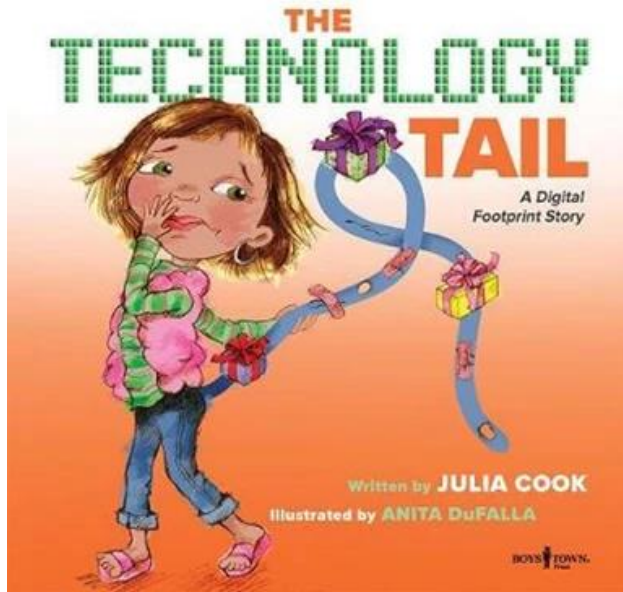
One night Chick hops onto the farmer's house and has a browse on his computer - CLICK - soon she's shopping online for the whole farm! But when she arranges to meet up with a friend she's made online, she discovers all is not as it seems...Little Red Riding Hood for the iPad generation, this is the perfect book for teaching children how to stay safe online.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

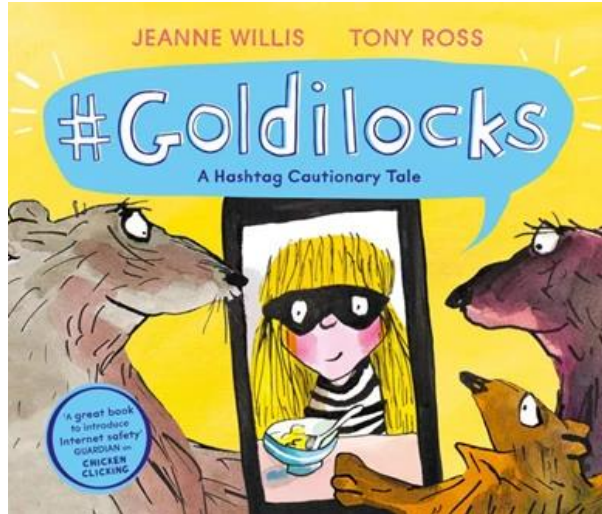
Don't be mean! That's the wise, straight-to-the-point advice "Screen" has for young readers who are active on social media. Whether tapping out messages on their computers, tablets or phones, Screen wants kids to know their words will follow them for life or at least a very, very long time. Every post creates a digital trail that can't be erased. So any snarky putdown or unkind comment can come back to bite them, bury their relationships and batter their reputations! THE TECHNOLOGY TAIL offers a timeless message to a new generation just learning how to navigate the fast-changing digital age. This storybook uses rhymes and colourful illustrations to grab children's attention. There are, also, tips for parents and teachers who want to reinforce kindness and respect in a high-tech world.

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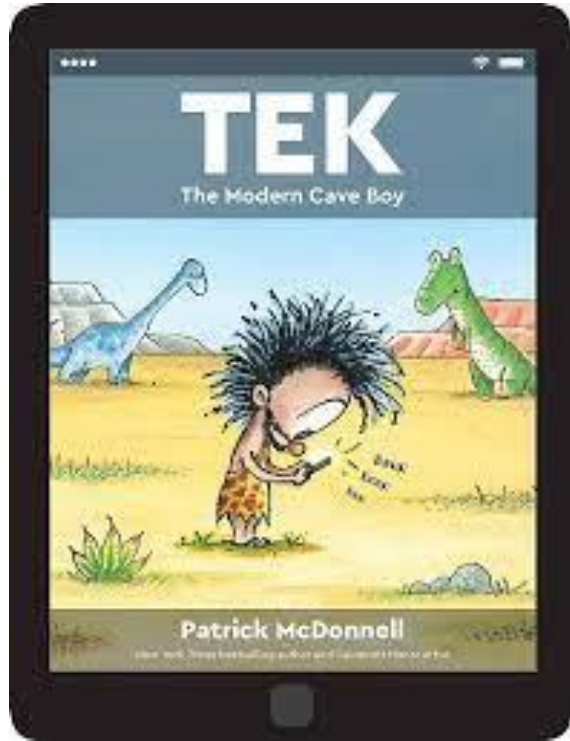
Everyone loves Goldilocks' hilarious online videos, but in her quest to get more likes, more laughs and more hits, she tries something a little more daring: stealing porridge #pipinghot, breaking chairs #fun, and using someone else's bed #sleep. What will Daddy Bear do when he sees that online? A hilarious cautionary tale for a new generation of internet-users.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Tek is a cave boy in love with tech: his tablet, videogames, phone, and TV keep him deep in his cave, glued to his devices, day in and day out. He never sees his friends or family anymore - and his ability to communicate has devolved to just one word: "UGH"! Can anyone in the village convince Tek to unplug and come outside into the big, beautiful world?

Audio/Video Link

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PENGUINPIG

Written by Stuart Spendlow
Illustrated by Amy Bradley



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Blurb

PENGUINPIG is the story of a little girl who reads of an exciting creature known as a penguinpig on the Internet. Filled with delight and intrigue, she decides that she must go and find one.

However, her parents are far too busy to take her and so she decides that she will sneak out and find the adorable penguinpig all on her own. Carefully, she follows the instructions from the website - but does she find her delightful penguinpig?

[Audio/Video Link](#)

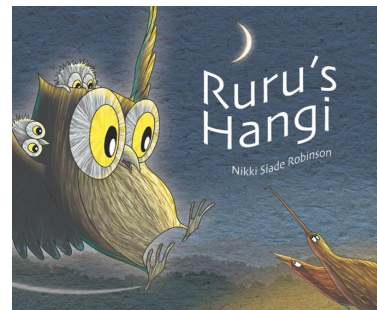
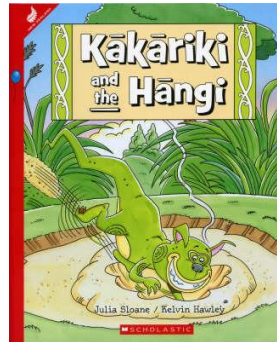
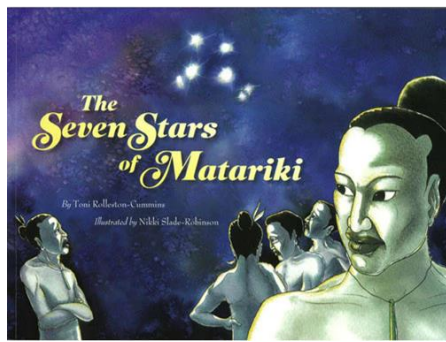
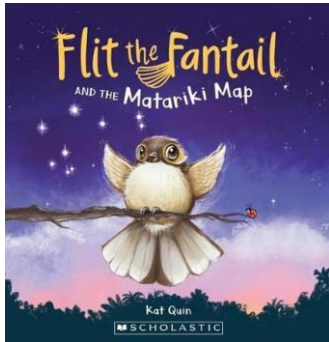
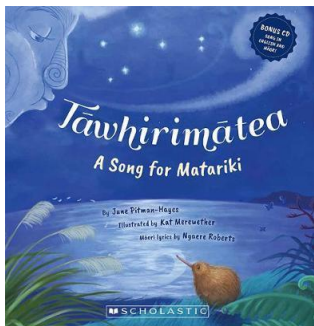
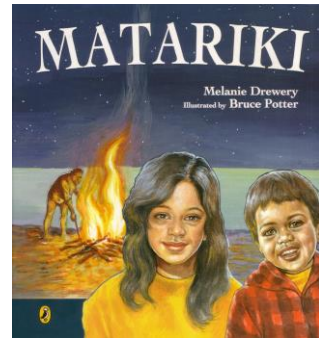
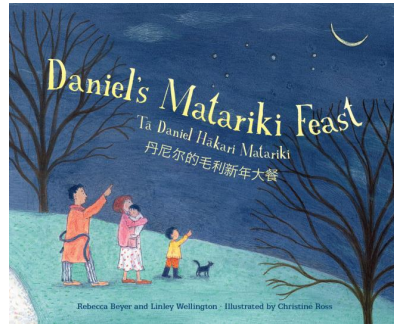
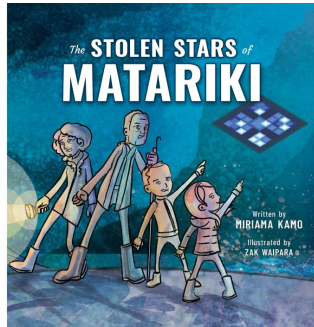
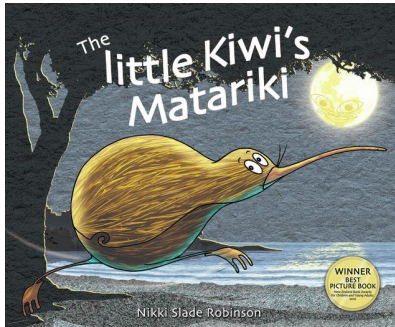
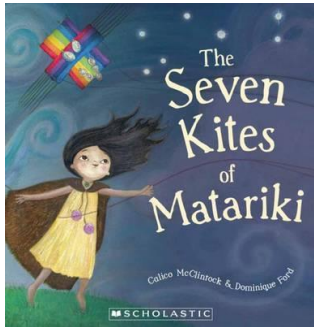
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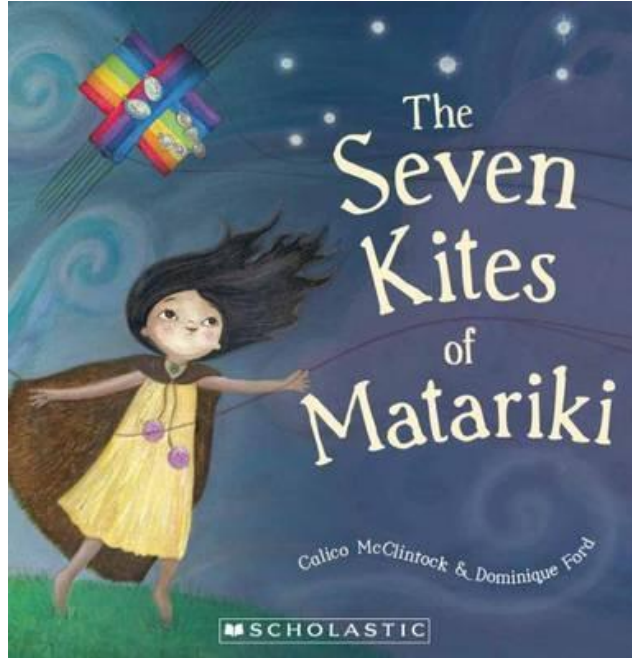


Matariki

Click on the book below to find out more.



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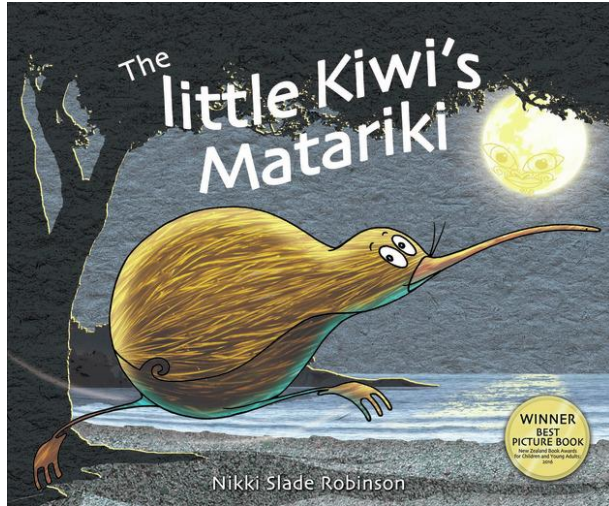
It was deep mid-winter and all through the village preparations were being made to farewell the old year and greet the new. For the first time ever, the seventh little sister, Ururangi, was big enough to make her own celebration kite. But when the seven sisters take the finished kites to fly them, the east wind whips them all away into the sky ...where they now appear as the stars of Matariki to welcome the Maori new year.

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Blurb

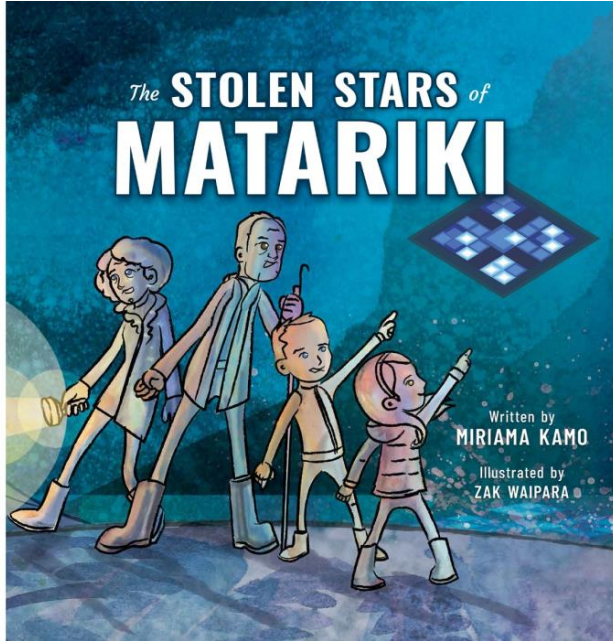
This gentle tale about celebrating Matariki, the Māori New Year, also includes an explanation of Matariki – its origins, traditions and how it is celebrated today. The constellation is also shown, with the Māori names for each star. The text contains some simple words in Te Reo Māori alongside the English equivalent.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

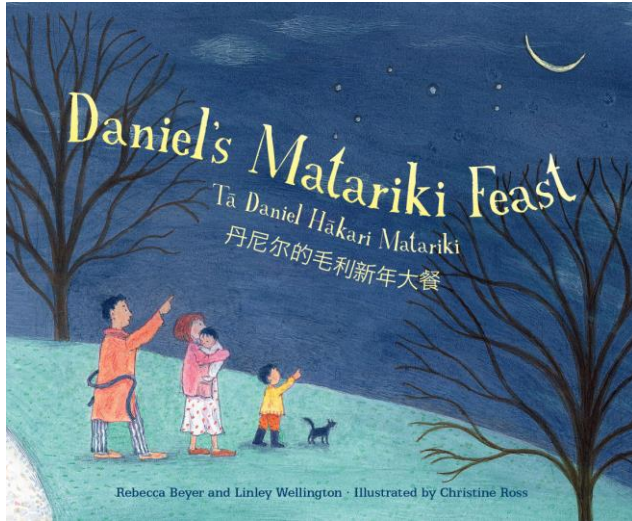
Behind dusty orange hills, where the sky stretches down to the sea, there's a magical, wild, windy place called Te Mata Hapuku. Sam and Te Rerehua love to visit their Grandma and Poua at Te Mata Hapuku (aka Birdlings Flat). They like to listen to the stories, with a backdrop of whipping wind, flashing torchlight, and the splash of Poua's gaff in the water. But one night, Grandma notices something mysterious. Someone has stolen some stars from the sky. And then the patupaiarehe come out to play on the beach ... Can Sam and Te Rerehua rescue the Matariki stars?

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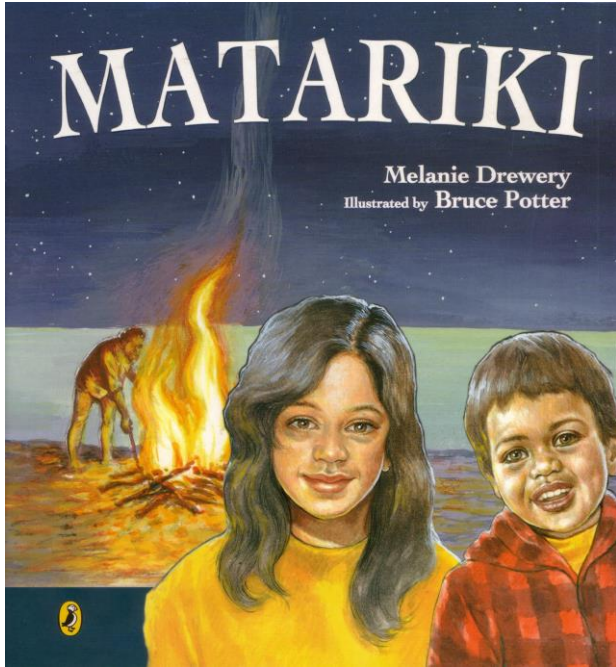
Daniel is nervous on his first day at school but through the class activities that mark the Matariki Festival he learns that it is a time of remembering, of sharing and beginning new friendships. He learns the true importance of Maori New Year.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

A family celebrate the Maori New Year and talk about what Matariki means to different people. 'Tonight we have to go to bed really early,' said Mum. 'Tomorrow morning we are going to have a surprise.' But what event would be so special to get you up in the middle of a cold New Zealand winter?

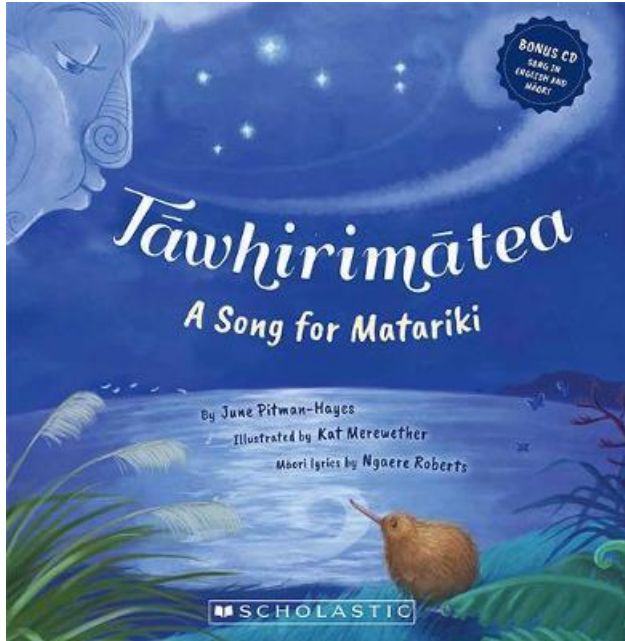
Matariki is rising and the New Year is on its way.

Audio/Video Link

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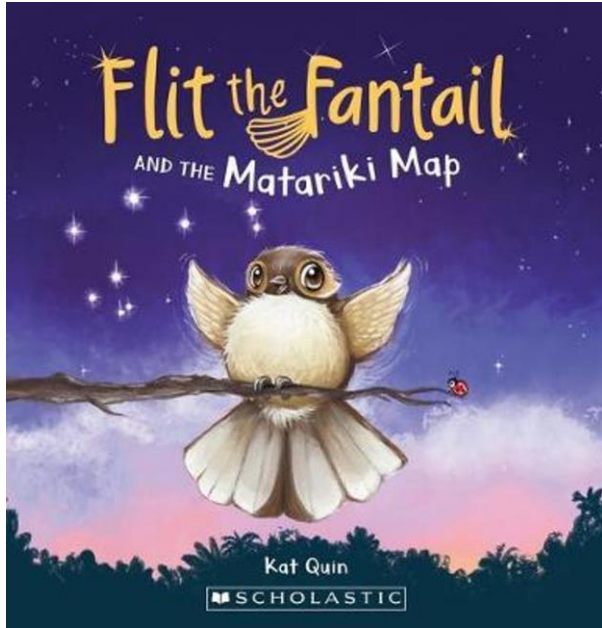
Tawhirimatea, blow winds blow,
Ra, warm us up with your sunshine glow.
Papatuanuku, we plant seeds in you.
Ua, rain, helps new life come through . . .
Sing along to this catchy Matariki song celebrating Earth, sky, seasons and
whanau. It's our very own
Aotearoa, from forest to seashore, dawn light to starry night.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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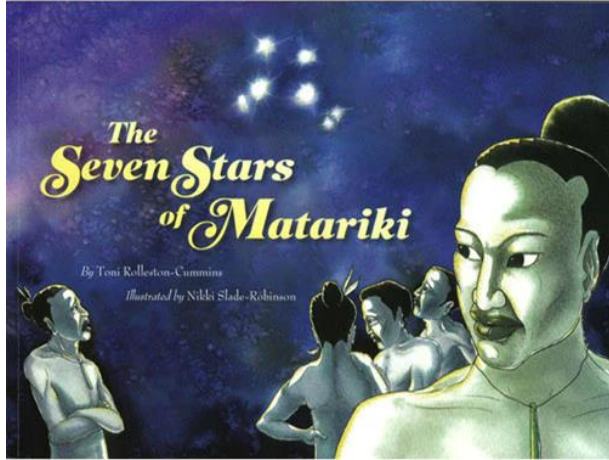
Join Flit the fantail and his forest friends on a nighttime adventure, this time to capture a star shining brightly on the horizon. It is one of a cluster of nine stars and Flit is determined to explore! But when he gets lost, wise Ruru swoops down and Flit learns about Matariki stars and navigation.

Audio/Video Link

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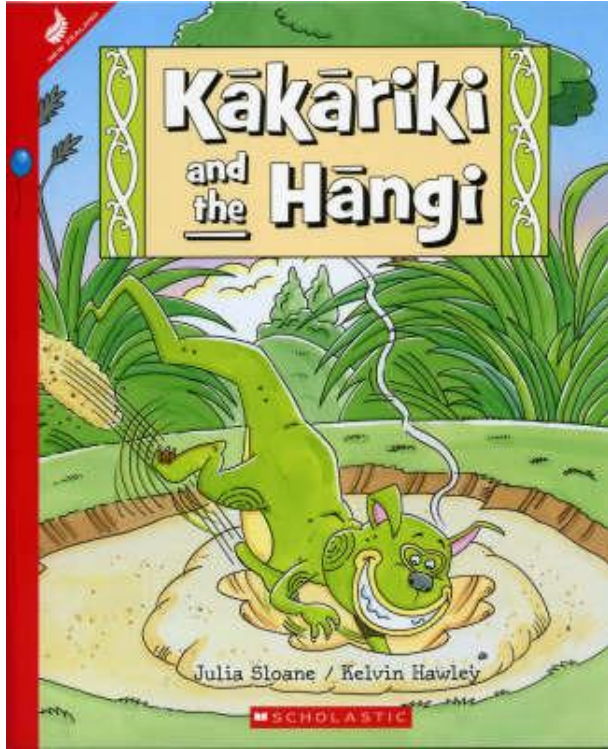
An adventurous young man called Mitai lives with his seven handsome brothers in the village of Maketu. Mitai watches his brothers become bewitched by seven beautiful women. The spell the brothers were under meant they could no longer eat, work or hunt. Realising the women are patupaiarehe, fairy women, he knows they must be cast far away. They are given to Urutengangana, the god of the stars, who places them in the heavens farthest from the earth. Only once a year, at winter solstice, he allows their beauty to shine in the eastern sky as the seven stars of Matariki.

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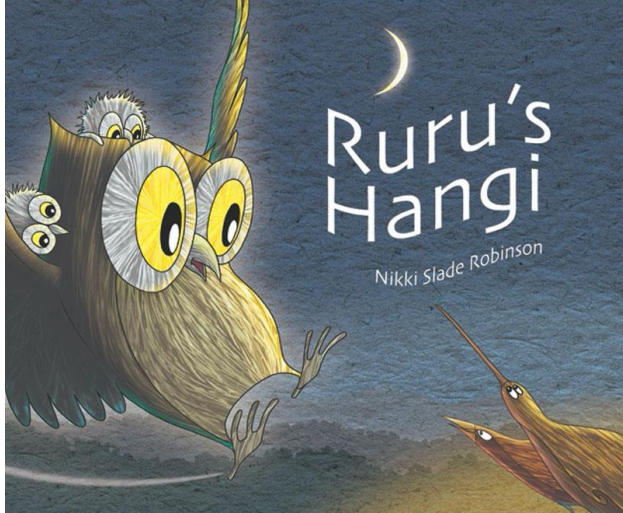
That naughty taniwha, Karariki, causes trouble when he starts digging up a hāngi at the local marae! Includes some common Maori words and phrases.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Auē! Ruru's babies have hatched! In this delightful sequel to the award-winning 'The little Kiwi's Matariki', the loveable little Kiwi and friends welcome Ruru's babies with a very special surprise celebration. Shhh! Don't tell Ruru.

The little Kiwi has a great idea to celebrate the arrival of Ruru's babies and Weka, Tūi, and Katipo all join in to make it happen. Instructions on preparing a hangi are also included in the book.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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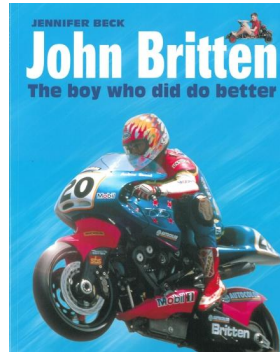
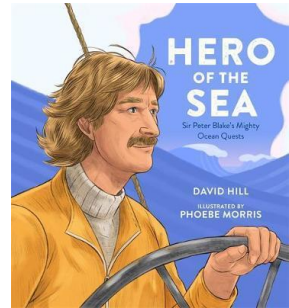
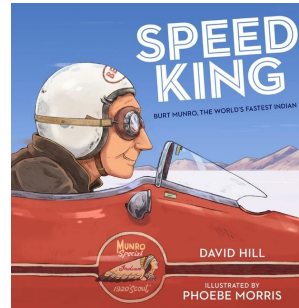
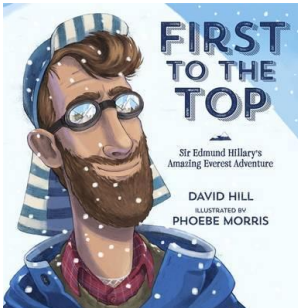
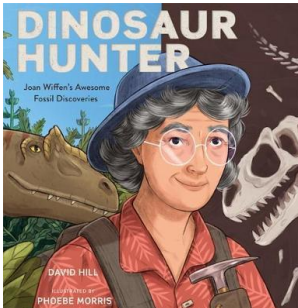
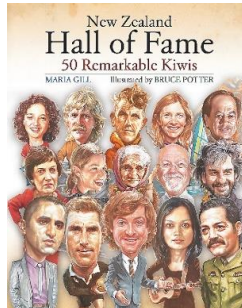
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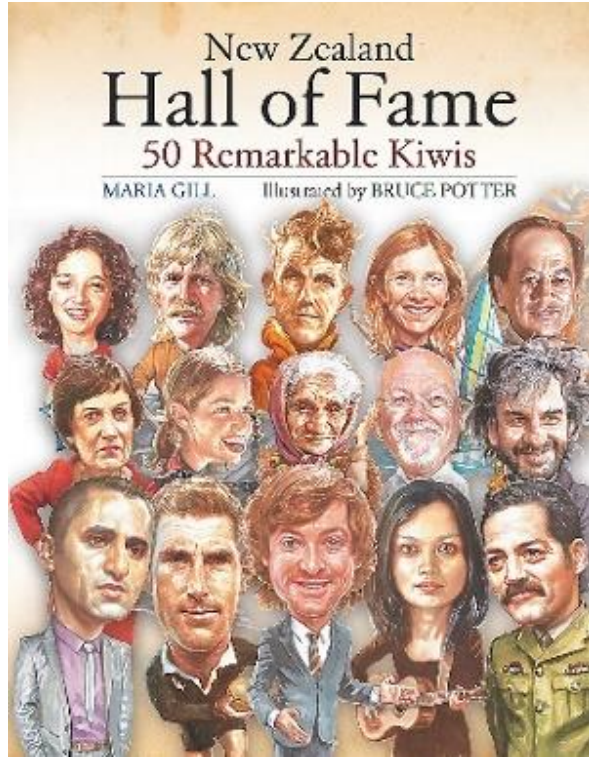


Famous New Zealanders

Click on the book below to find out more.



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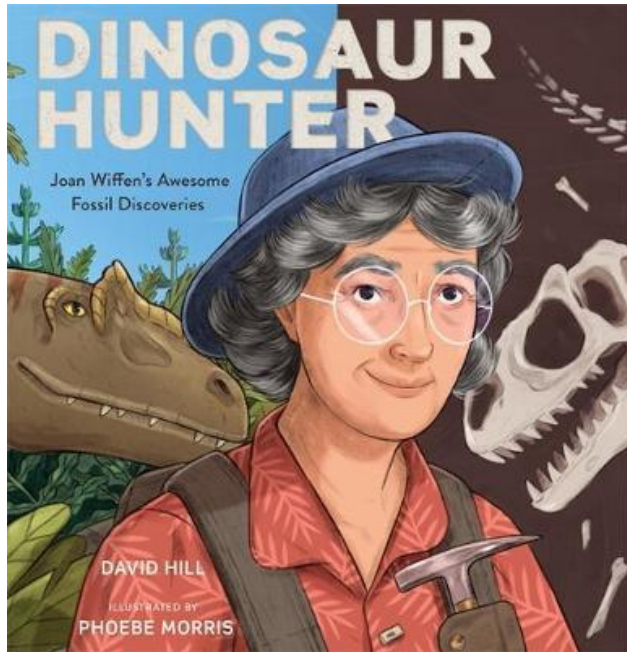
Walk down New Zealand's HALL of FAME and discover 50 remarkable kiwi. Find out who told his Intermediate class he was going to be Prime Minister one day, declared they were going to be Olympic champions when they grew up, had second sight, used to go camping in the bush by himself from seven years old, saved three birds from extinction, was the first person to rear squid in captivity, has been sailing since she was a baby, designed his own hydro dam at 13 years, made up her own poems from four years old, wrote stories on his bedroom wall, began filming from seven years, was selected to be a master carver from 15 years and lots more fascinating tales about some of New Zealand's most remarkable people. See film stills of their lives, tally up the trophy boards, and be inspired by their quotes.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Meet Joan Wiffen, a super-determined, self-taught palaeontologist, and join her on the hunt for the fossils that will prove New Zealand once had dinosaurs. The award-winning true story of science superstar Joan Wiffen, whose fossil discoveries proved that dinosaurs lived in ancient New Zealand. Once there was a clever girl who liked searching for interesting things on the ground. She wanted to know why shells could be found in rocks so far away from the sea. But her father thought education was no use to a girl, so Joan had to leave school. Many years later, she bought an old map. To her amazement, she saw that it marked a treasure hoard. Not of gold and jewels, but of dinosaur bones. Nobody had ever found dinosaur fossils in New Zealand before - in fact, top scientists had said it was impossible. But Joan was intrigued. She decided to learn everything she could about palaeontology and hunt for these dinosaur fossils.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Meet Jean Batten, the brave, trail-blazing and glamorous aviator, who strove to set new records in death-defying solo flights across the world. Brave, trail-blazing and glamorous, this stunning picture book tells the true story of how Jean Batten became an international superstar for her solo flights across the world. The little plane has been flying across the sea for eight hours. Huge black clouds surround it. Rain pours in. Wind slams. The aircraft is tossed around like a leaf. The pilot stares into the darkness. How much fuel is left? Is she flying in the right direction? How long till she reaches land? In 1934, Jean Batten set a world record for the fastest flight from England to Australia. Just two years later, she made the first-ever solo flight from England to New Zealand. Jean's fearless determination and flying skills helped her survive storms and crashes, as she crossed great oceans and lonely deserts in her tiny plane.

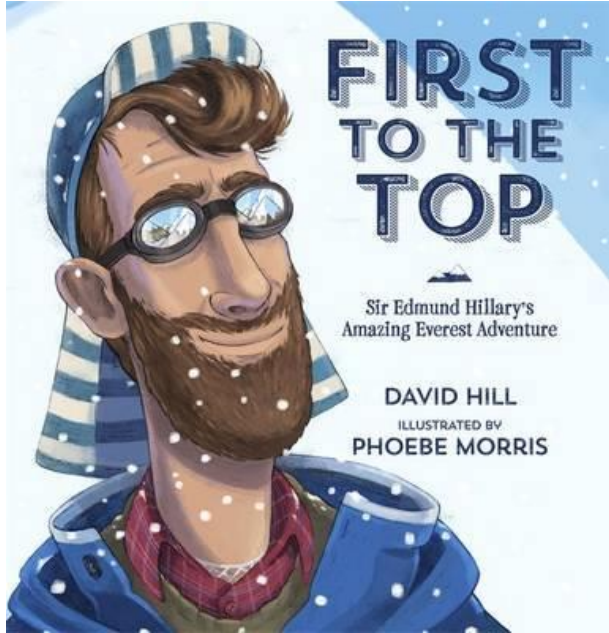
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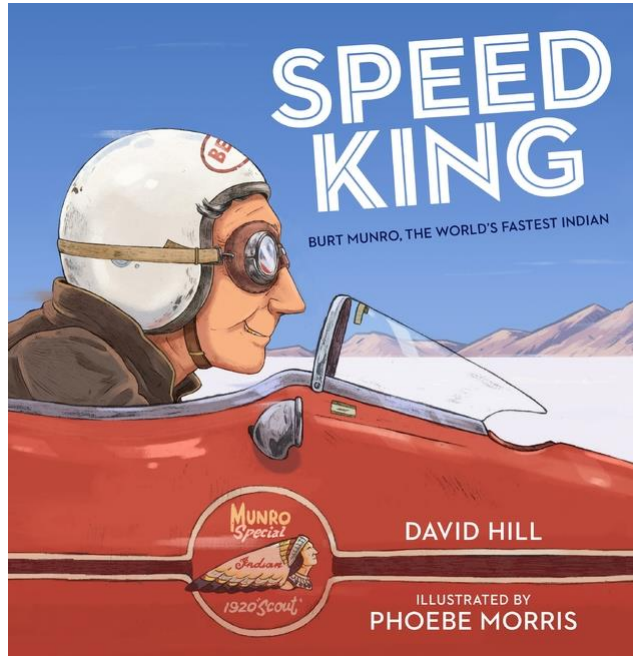
Up on the world's highest mountain, the sky is tinged the black colour of space and the air is almost too thin to breathe. How did Ed, a small, shy boy from the tiny town of Tuakau in New Zealand, grow up to become the world's most famous mountaineer and adventurer? How did he climb Everest and do so many other astonishing things? This exceptional picture book, written by internationally acclaimed children's author David Hill and illustrated by Phoebe Morris, tells the story of Sir Ed and his climb to the top of Mt Everest. It's a story about courage, skill and determination, and an inspiration to anyone who dreams of reaching the top.

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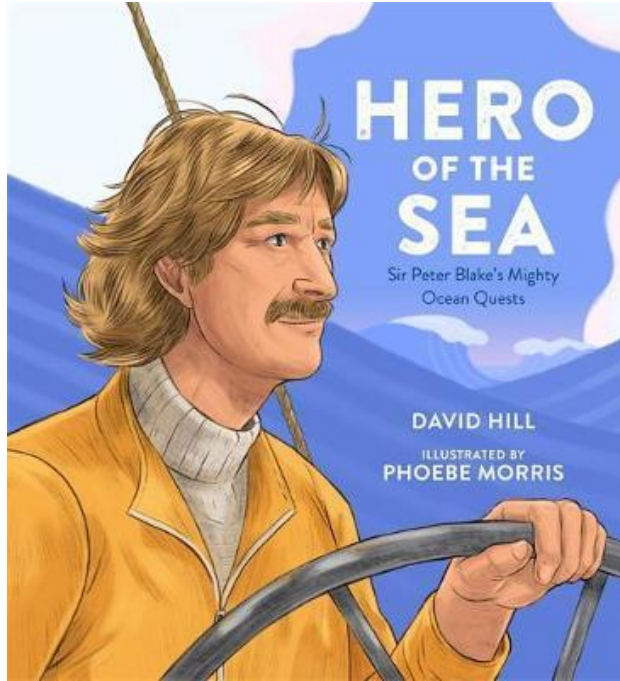
Meet Burt Munro, an unknown, elderly New Zealander whose obsession with setting a world land-speed record at Bonneville on his ancient Indian motorcycle made him a Kiwi legend. In 1967 an unknown, elderly New Zealander and his ancient Indian motorcycle set a world land-speed record at Bonneville. The man was Burt Munro, and he became a Kiwi legend. How did he do it? His amazing true story is now a stunning picture book. A crowd of people stand on a flat white plain. In the distance, a snarling, roaring dark speck is hurtling towards them. It's a motorbike. The rider is inside the shell, lying almost flat. 'Go, Burt!' The red bike blurs past. Fingers click stop-watches. How fast has Burt Munro gone this time? The moment young Burt Munro saw a motorbike chugging down a quiet Invercargill street, he was hooked. More than fifty years later, he and his ancient Indian motorcycle would amaze the world by setting a land-speed record - one that remains unbroken to this day. Burt didn't have much money. He wasn't young. But he was determined. And he became a Kiwi legend.

Audio/Video Link

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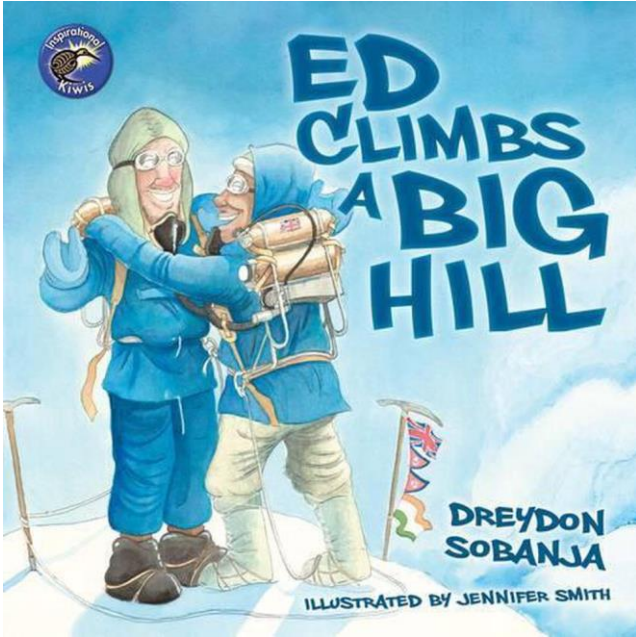
Meet Peter Blake, the famous New Zealand yachtsman, who won the world's most famous yacht races and worked to help save the world's precious waterways. A stunning biographical picture book for young readers about Sir Peter Blake, world-renowned New Zealand yachtsman, adventurer and environmentalist. "Remember," he wrote, "this is the most beautiful world, and it's the only one we've got." Sir Peter Blake's life was filled with amazing adventures. During his 30-year career on the ocean, he sailed around the globe, won the world's most famous races and broke records. Even his red socks became a national sensation. But no matter how many trophies Peter won, he always knew the survival of our planet was more important.

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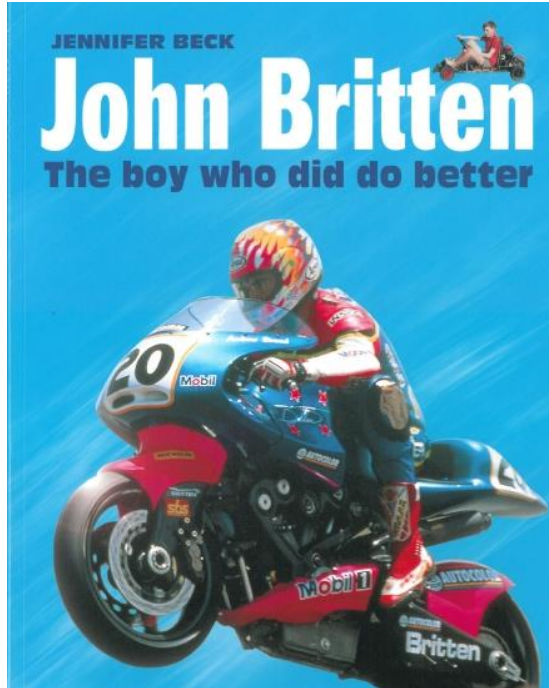
Follow the incredible journey of Sir Edmund Hillary from a normal kiwi boy all the way through to conquering the biggest mountain.

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Blurb

John Britten struggled through his early school life. Marked as a boy who 'could do better', his learning difficulties did not stop him from following his passion and realising his dream. This is the inspirational story of a design and engineering genius, creator of the Britten motorcycle.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Jean was just a normal New Zealand girl who dreamed that she was a bird that could fly high, high up in the sky and far, far away. Most people thought Jean's daydreams were silly. But one day she met someone who showed her the most fantastical machine, and Jean's dreams took flight.

Follow the inspiring journey of Jean Batten... from a normal kiwi girl all the way through to becoming the first woman to fly all the way from England to Australia and back again.

Audio/Video Link

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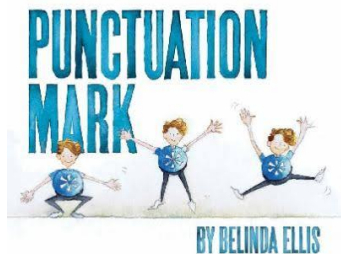
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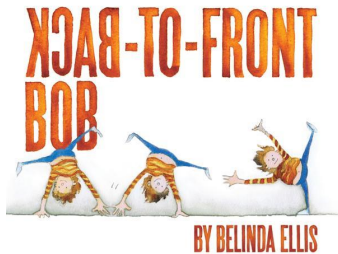
Punctuation and Grammar

Click on the book below to find out more.



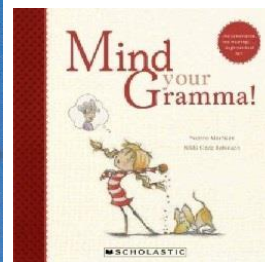
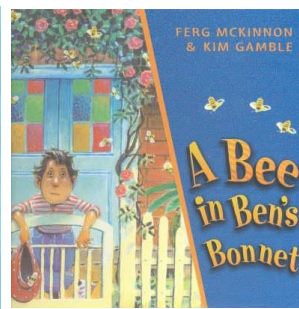
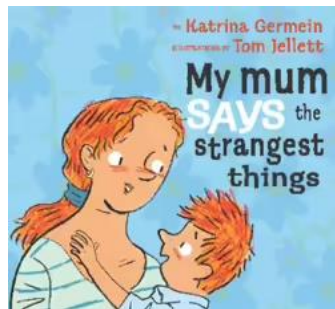
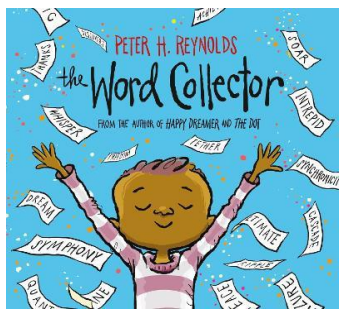
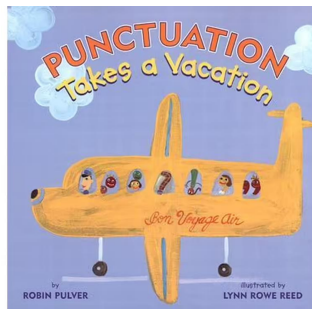
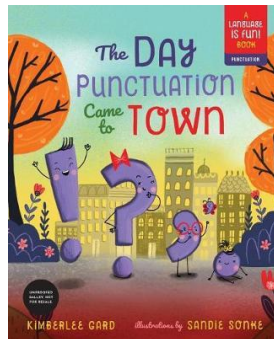
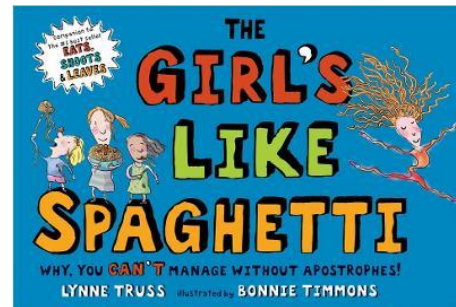
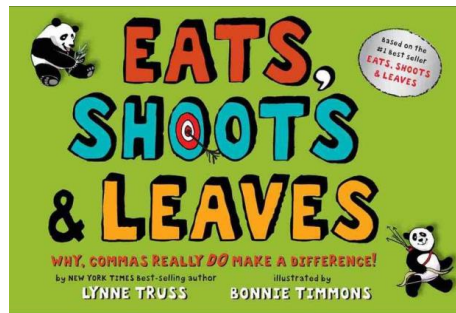
BY BELINDA ELLIS

SCHOLASTIC

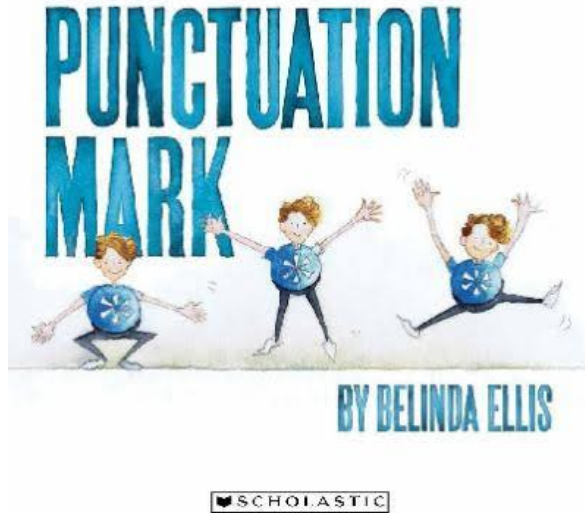


BY BELINDA ELLIS

SCHOLASTIC



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Blurb

'Mark loved punctuation. For starters, it looked funky, and its symbols are understood in all languages. There's a sign for an exclamation and a question, a dollar, brackets, an AND, an AT and an ASTERISK, as well as one for an ELLIPSIS...a dot, dot, dot.' This special picture book cleverly combines words and visuals for a delightful dose of wordplay and fabulous fun with grammar.

Audio/Video Link

Weblinks, Resources

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BOB-TO-FRONT BOB



BY BELINDA ELLIS

SCHOLASTIC

Blurb

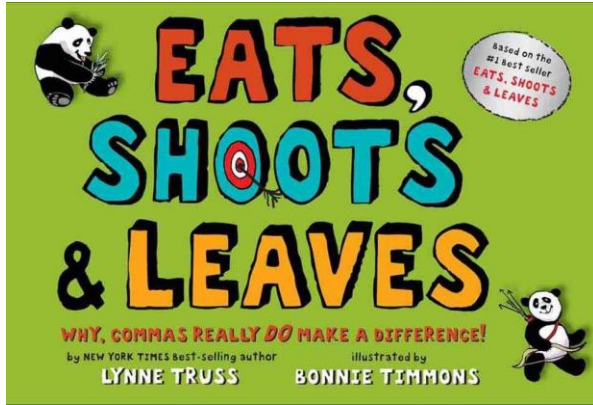
Bob flips out over words. In fact, he's head-over-heels crazy about them. Especially the ones that read the same forwards and backwards ... like BOB! Palindromes.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

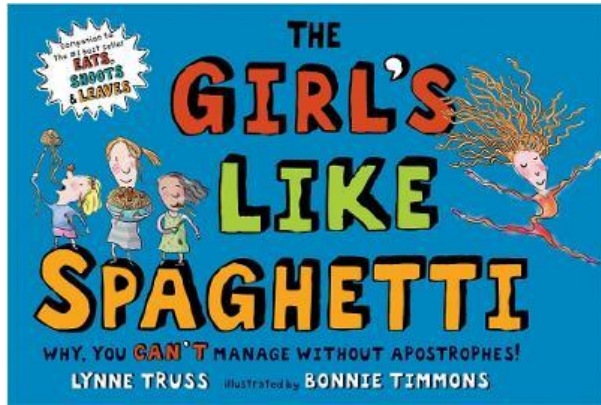
Illuminating the comical confusion the lowly comma can cause, this new edition uses lively, subversive illustrations to show how misplacing or leaving out a comma can change the meaning of a sentence completely.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

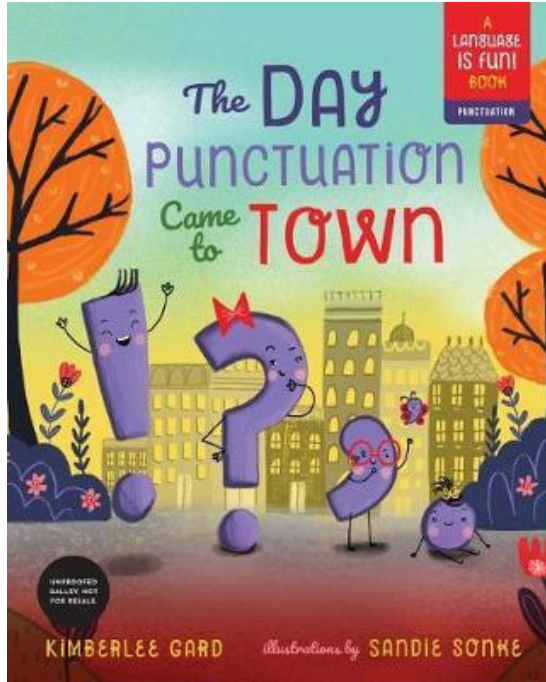
Just as the #1 "New York Times" bestseller "Eats, Shoots & Leaves" hilariously demystified the comma, this companion book does the same for apostrophes. Silly scenes throughout show how apostrophes make a difference, too, in proper punctuation.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

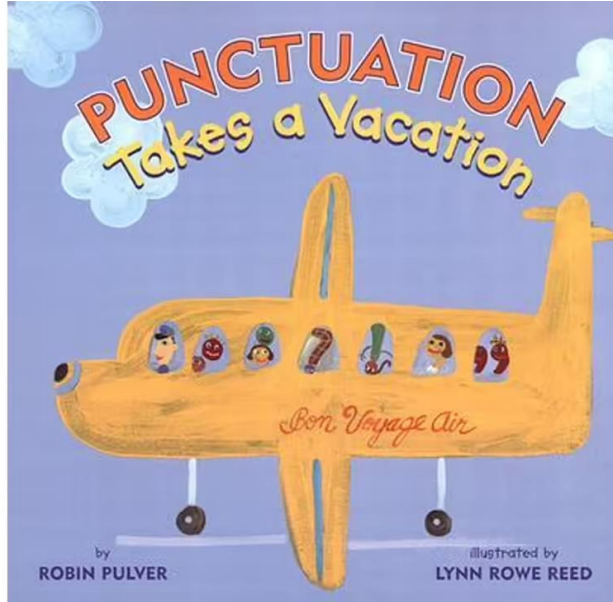
There's a new family in town: the Punctuations! When Exclamation Point, Question Mark, Period, and Comma join the letters at school, they form words like Wow! and Why? and Yes. But Comma isn't sure where he belongs. He just seems to get in the way. Is he really important?

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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Blurb

Oh, no! Mr. Wright's class can't believe it. All the punctuation marks in the classroom have disappeared. Where can they be? What will the class do without them?

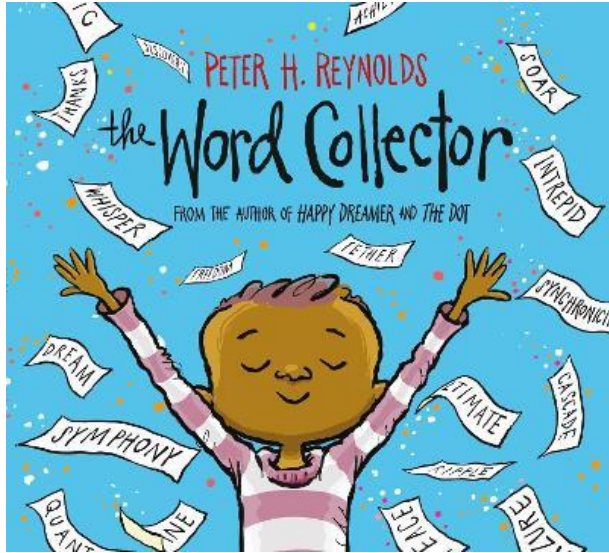
After a lesson goes awry on the hottest, stickiest day of the year, Punctuation decides to go on vacation. Maybe if the kids have to live without punctuation for a while, they'll appreciate all the hard work commas, apostrophes, exclamation points, and question marks do! Chaos erupts! The class can't read their book, and the letters they write to ask punctuation to come back home are a mess.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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Blurb

A little boy discovers the magic of the words all around him -- short and sweet words, complicated words, words that stand out.

But one day his carefully curated collection of words gets messy, and that's when Jerome discovers that words that connect, transform and empower. So Jerome starts using his words, and that's when they become powerful.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

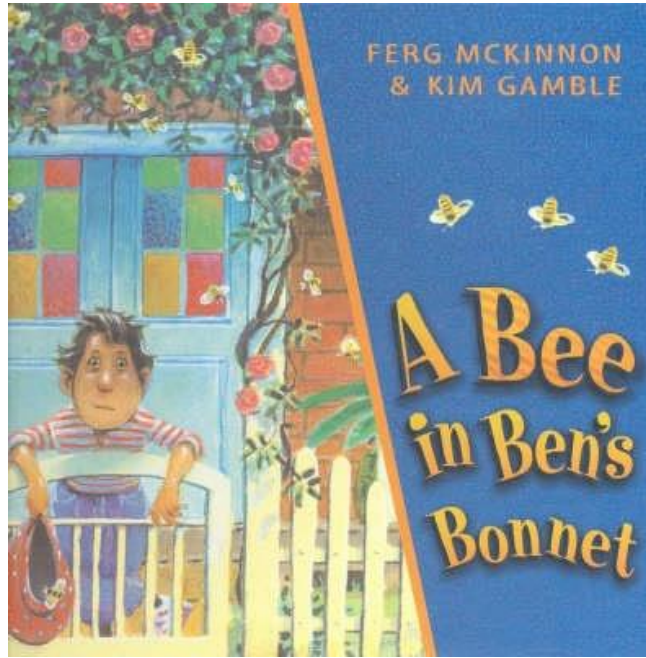
When Mum's busy she says she's run off her feet. When I dawdle, Mum tells me to shake a leg. When I say, "I'm coming," Mum says, "So is Christmas." My mum says the STRANGEST things.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

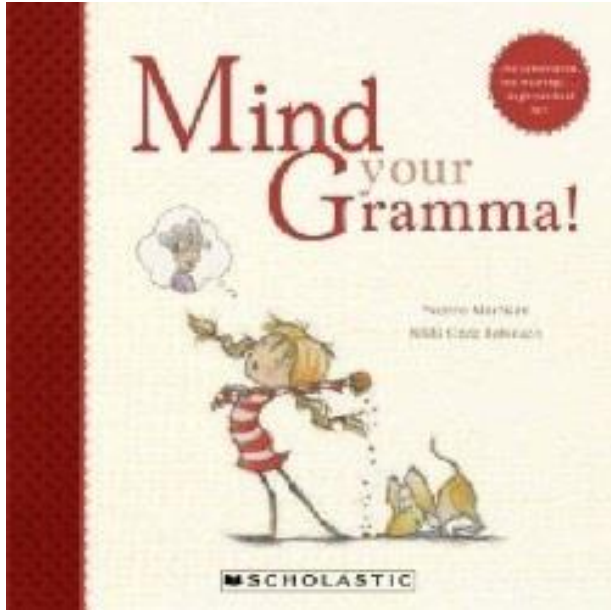
"Ben lived in a very large house with his very large family. But Ben had a bee in his bonnet. All Ben really wanted was his very large family to celebrate his birthday. So Ben left his room to ask them, one by one. BUT ..." And so begins this delightful new picture book story. Ben feels that his birthday has been forgotten and that everyone is too busy to give him any attention. Until he gets a surprise at the end! This picture book uses popular cliches or expressions to keep the text moving at a fast and interesting pace.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Grandma asks me about my day, and I say, "Me and my friend played soccer." She says, "My friend and I played soccer." I say, "At your age?" Kids and adults alike will laugh aloud at this series of hilarious misconstructions between a child and her grandmother as Grandma corrects the child's grammar!

Audio/Video Link

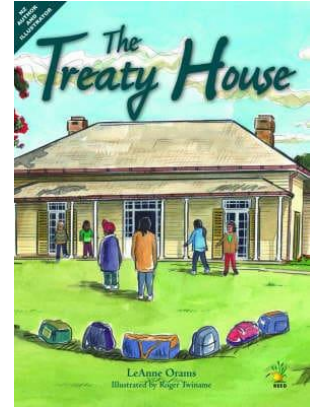
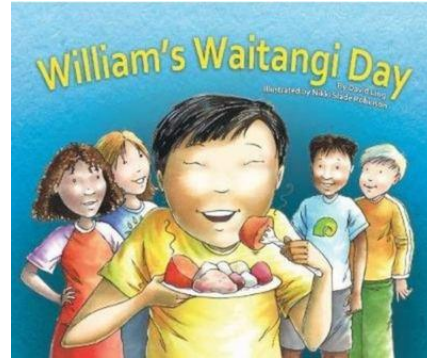
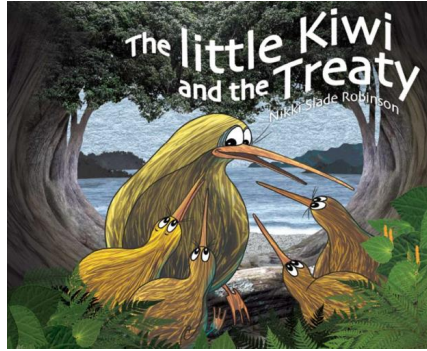
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Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Click on the book below to find out more.



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Blurb

Four children decide to create a treaty outlining the use of their tree hut. Introduces the concepts behind the Treaty of Waitangi, and includes a facsimile of the Treaty.

Two sided book - one in English, one in Te Reo Māori.

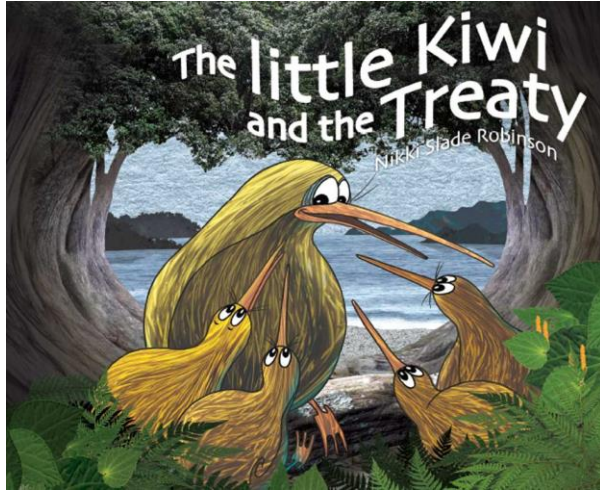
[Audio/Video Link - English Version](#)

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[Higher Order Thinking Activity](#)
[The Tree Hut Treaty HOT Grid](#)

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Blurb

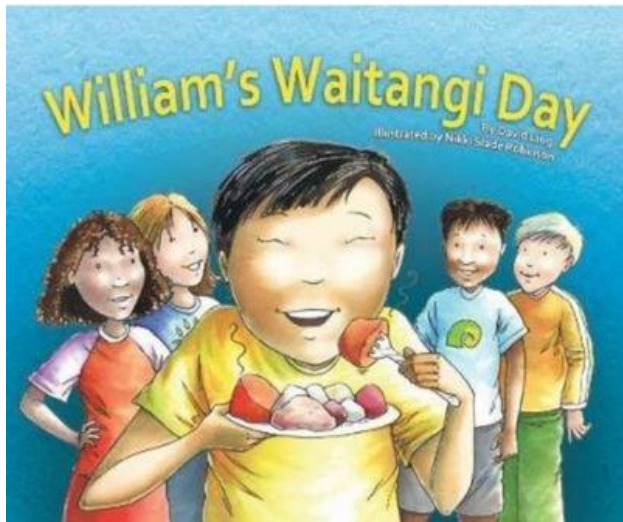
Years ago a group of kiwi travelled to find a place to settle. Much later another group arrived and wanted to settle there too. Both wondered who these strangers were and they began to fight each other, until eventually they made a treaty and agreed to share and to live together. Listening to Koro's story the little Kiwi learns about identity, family history, treaties and living alongside other groups.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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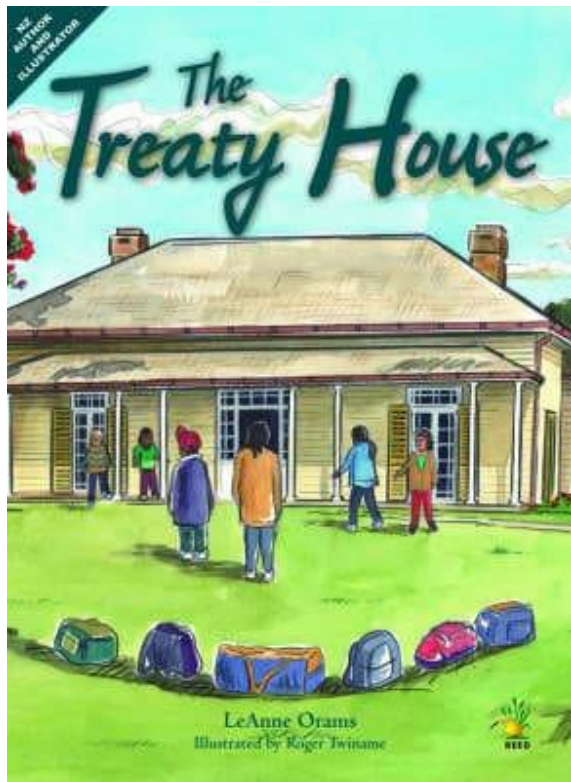
Blurb

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

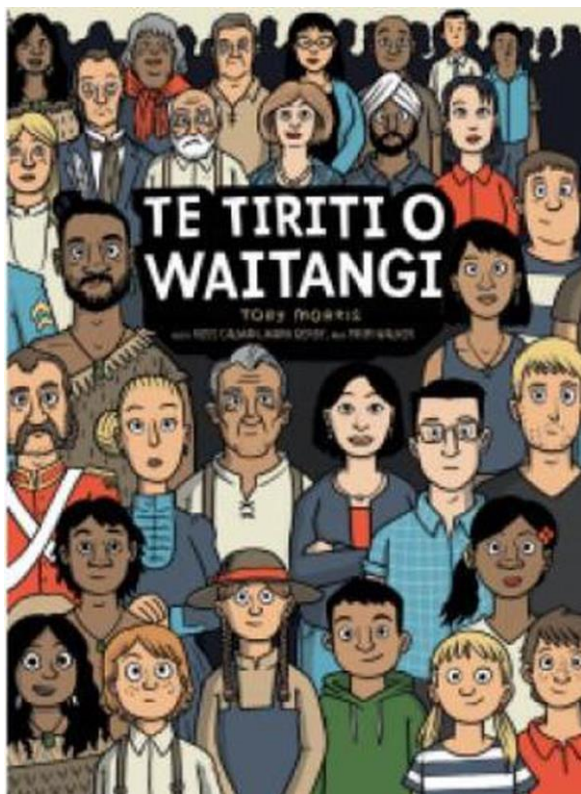
"Journey with Olley as he learns not only is the Treaty House special, but so are the events that have happened in and around it, events that have shaped New Zealand to become the nation Olley is part of today."

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

A reorua (bilingual) graphic-novel-style flip book that offers an innovative and fresh look at our founding treaty.

Audio/Video Link

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[Link to TKI Literacy Online Resources](#)

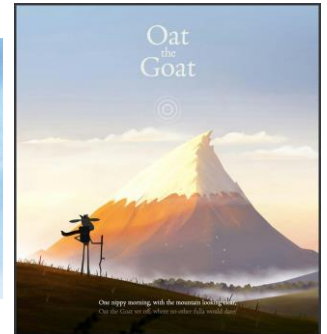
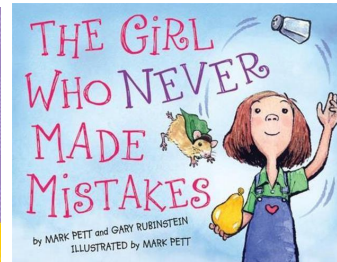
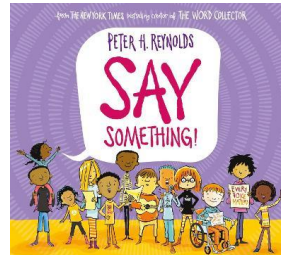
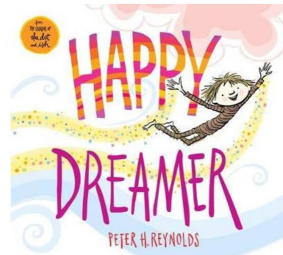
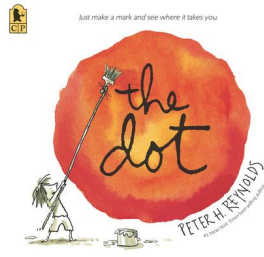
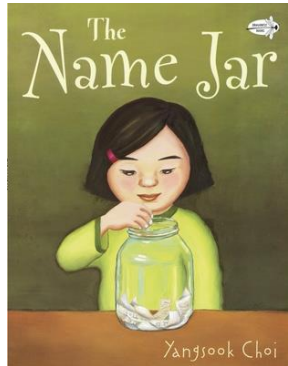
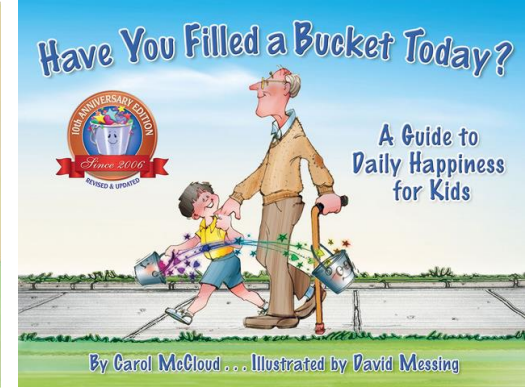
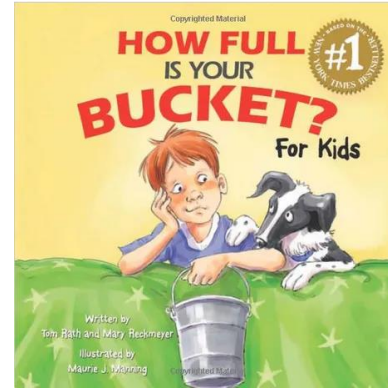
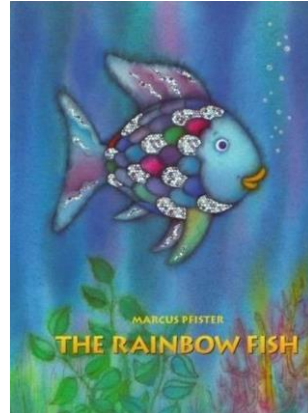
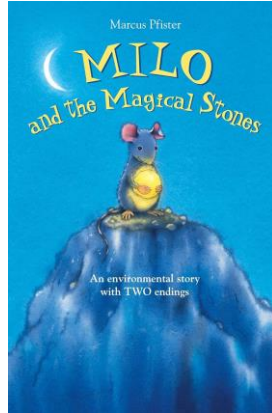
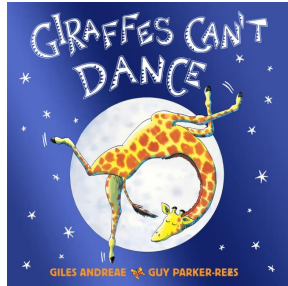
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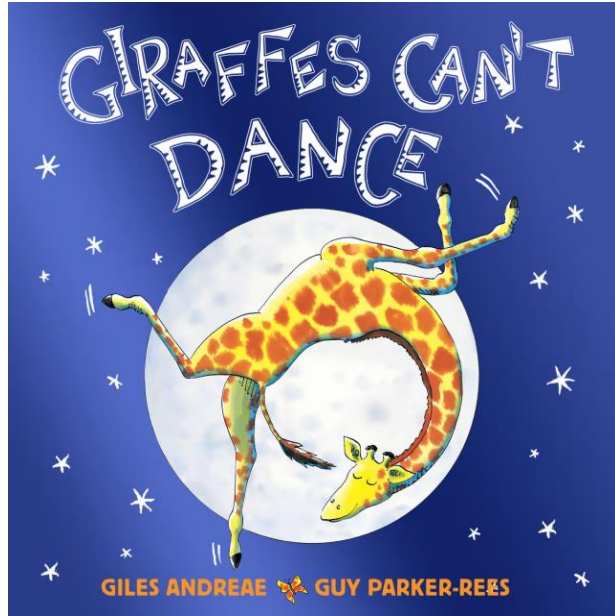


Virtues and Values

Click on the book below to find out more.



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Blurb

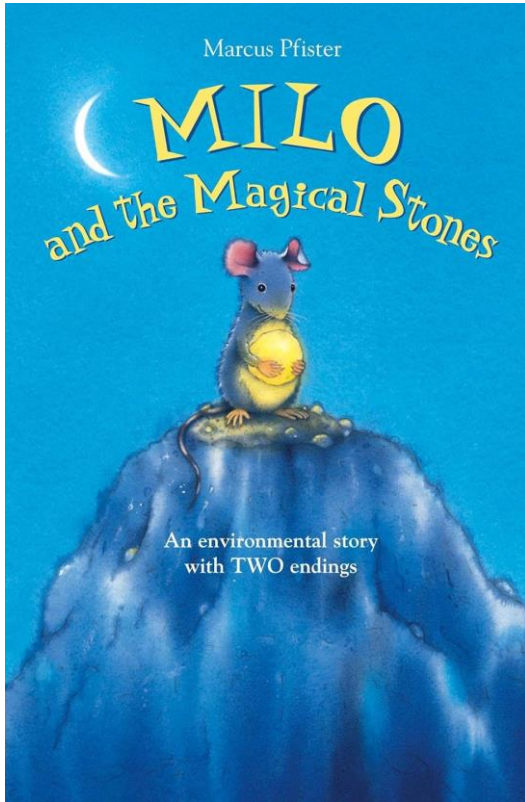
Gerald, the giraffe longs to go to the great Jungle Dance, but how can he join in when he doesn't know how to tango or two-step? Everyone knows that giraffes can't dance or can they? A funny, touching and triumphant story about being yourself and finding your own tune.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

On a small island in the middle of the sea, a mouse named Milo makes an extraordinary discovery: a magical stone that gives both light and warmth. How will this discovery change the lives of Milo and the other mice? Will it bring delight or environmental disaster? The reader must decide. Halfway through the story, the book splits into two sections, each offering a different ending.

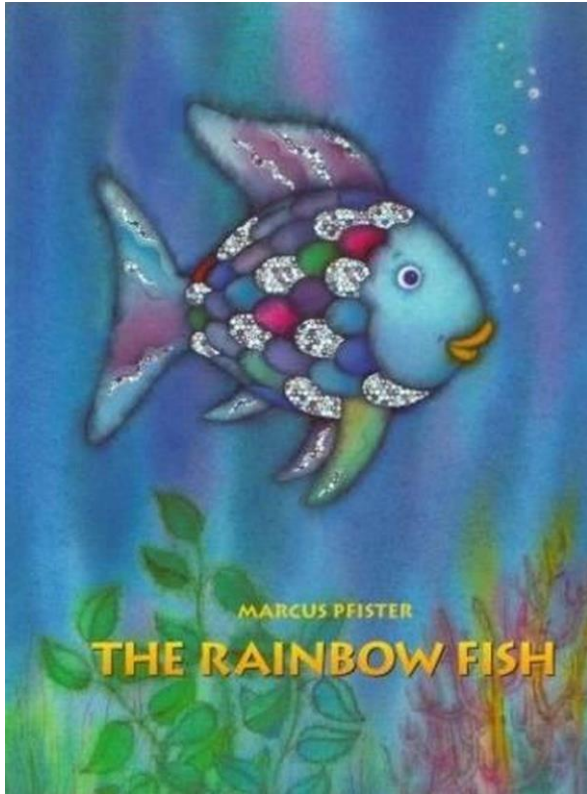
This unique format actively involves children in the decision-making process, showing them not only the effect today's environmental choices can have on the future of our planet, but also the consequences inherent in all decisions.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

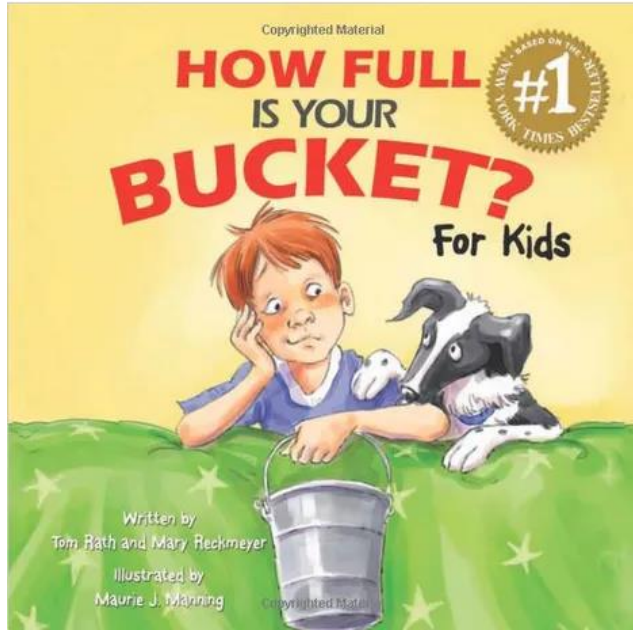
The Rainbow Fish, with his shimmering scales, is the most beautiful fish in the ocean but he is proud and vain and none of the other fish want to be his friend - until he learns to give away some of his most prized possessions.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

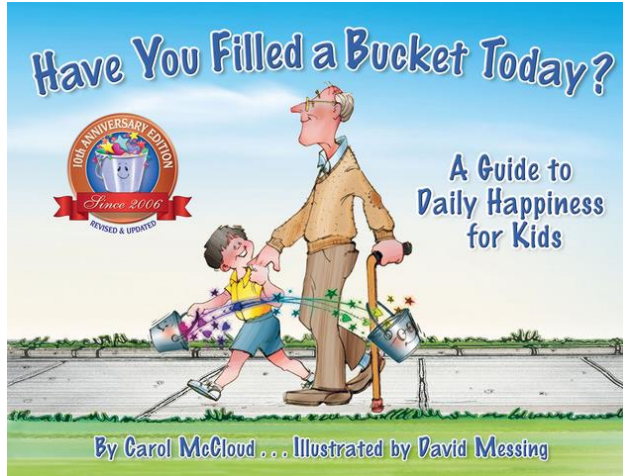
Through the story of a little boy named Felix, this charming book explains to children how being kind not only helps others, it helps them, too.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

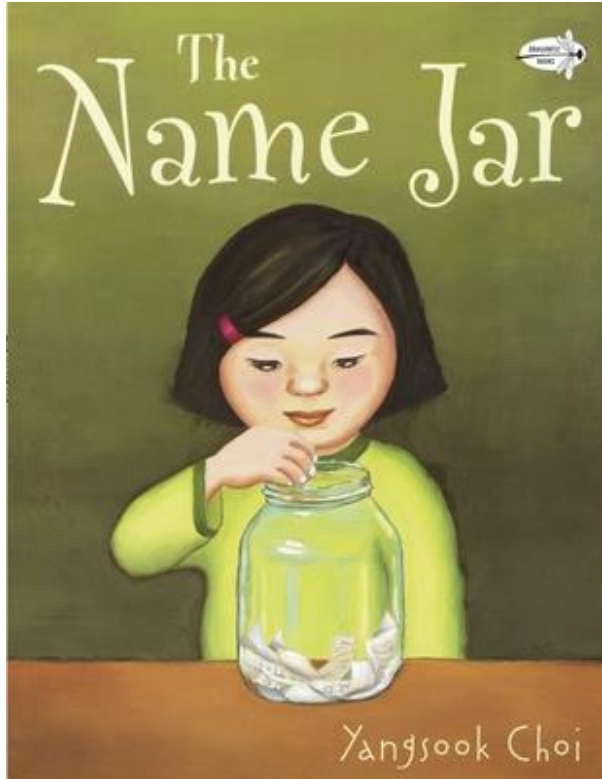
A book that encourages kindness towards others. It encourages positive behaviour by using the concrete concept of an 'invisible bucket' that holds your good thoughts and feelings. When you do something kind, you fill someone's bucket; when you do something mean, you dip into someone's bucket and remove some good thoughts and feelings. This book focuses on how our social interactions positively or negatively affect others and encourages all to be kind.

Audio/Video Link

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Blurb

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighbourhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce it—Yoon-Hey.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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[Name Jar Activities For Personal Reflection & Community-Building My Name Confirms My Identity](#)

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Just make a mark and see where it takes you.



Blurb

Her teacher smiled. "Just make a mark and see where it takes you."

Art class is over, but Vashti is sitting glued to her chair in front of a blank piece of paper. The words of her teacher are a gentle invitation to express herself. But Vashti can't draw - she's no artist. To prove her point, Vashti jabs at a blank sheet of paper to make an unremarkable and angry mark. "There!" she says.

That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of surprise and self-discovery.

[Audio/Video Link](#)

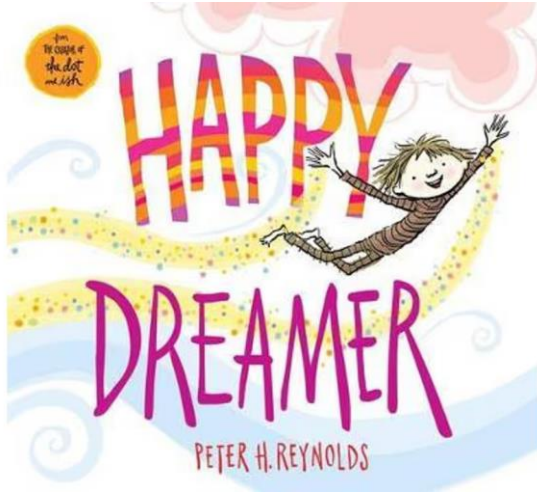
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[Children's Library Lady - The Dot Activities](#)

[We Are Teachers - The Dot Activities](#)

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Blurb

While the world tells us to sit still, to follow the rules, and to colour inside the lines, Happy Dreamer celebrates all those moments in between when the mind and spirit soar and we are free to become our own true dreamer maximus!

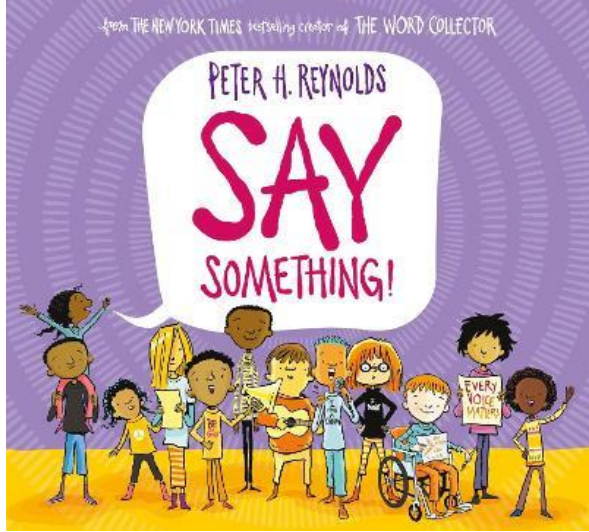
Audio/Video Link

Weblinks, Resources

[Scholastic - Happy Dreamer Kit](#)

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Blurb

The world needs your voice.
If you have a brilliant idea... say something!
If you see an injustice... say something!

In this empowering new picture book, beloved author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference. Each of us, each and every day, have the chance to say something: with our actions, our words, and our voices.

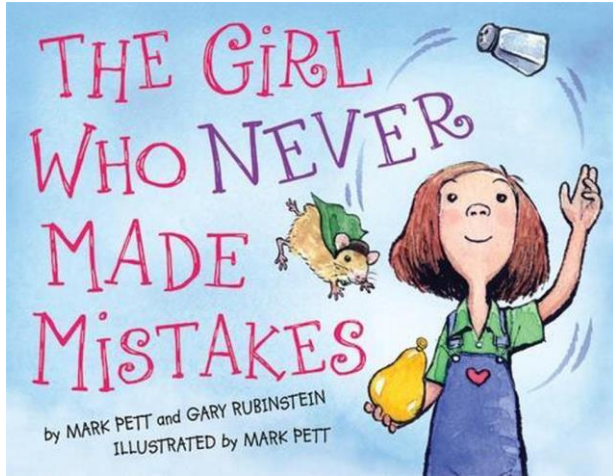
Audio/Video Link

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[Scholastic - Say Something Activity Pack](#)

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Blurb

Meet Beatrice Bottomwell: a nine-year-old girl who has never (not once!) made a mistake. She never forgets her math homework, she never wears mismatched socks, and she ALWAYS wins the yearly talent show at school. In fact, Beatrice holds the record of perfection in her hometown, where she is known as The Girl Who Never Makes Mistakes. Life for Beatrice is sailing along pretty smoothly until she does the unthinkable—she makes her first mistake. And in a very public way!

[Audio/Video Link](#)

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[Discussion Questions](#)

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Blurb

Oat the Goat is an online digital animated story book which helps children see the surprising power of kindness. You don't need to use the word 'bullying' to begin to teach young children prosocial skills that will prevent bullying behaviour. The focus is on learning how to get on with each other.

Note: Now available in hardcopy, published in English, Te Reo Māori, Samoan and Tongan

Ministry of Education Resource

[Audio/Video Link - English Version](#)

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[Bully Free NZ - Oat the Goat Activities](#)

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