

A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 1 (5 - 6 year olds) of average reading ability for the 2021/22 academic year.

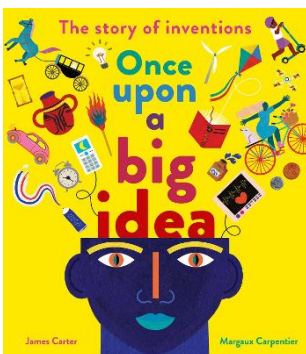
If your child is a competent reader or has read all these titles then try the books from the Year 2 list. Our overall mission is to promote reading for pleasure with quality texts that are perfectly pitched for the age group and the curriculum. We have particularly avoided blockbusters, classic or set texts, known to everyone, so that we can include poetry, stunning information texts and inspirational books in which all children and young people can find themselves reflected.



Flooded

Author: Mariajo Ilustrajo **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 03/05/2022 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

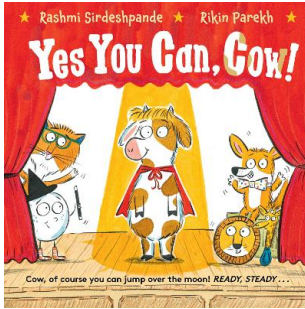
May 2022 Debut of the Month This is a brilliant debut novel from the winner of the World Illustration Awards Overall New Talent winner for 2020. The unnamed city wakes up to a small amount of water everywhere and everybody ignores it and gets on with their lives, except for one small creature who knows it will become a problem, but nobody listens. As life in the city becomes more and more problematic even the large creatures realise they must help the smaller ones, they all become fed up with having to deal with the issues of working in water all the time. Even the excitement of wearing Wellington boots all the time is not enough! It is at this point that everyone realises they must work together to solve the problem and to not let this sort of thing happen ever again. Illustrated in muted colours with a vibrant pantone blue for the water there is much humour in the illustrations and text, with many laugh out loud images before everyone realises that something must be done. The solution is simple when everyone works together. The text is minimal. I recommend this strong new talent in the making. The book has a strong climate change and community message that is vital for everyone now. This is a book that will appeal to all ages even though it is intended for the young. I look forward to seeing much more from Mariajo.



Once Upon a Big Idea: The Story of Inventions

Author: James Carter **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 14/04/2022
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

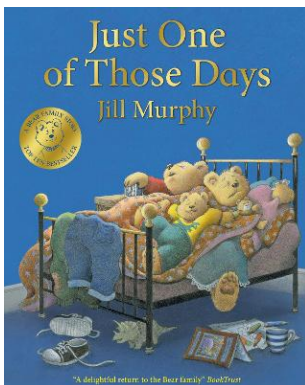
Telescopes and clocks and trains- all big ideas from human brains! From bridges and boats to medicines and mobile phones, this book takes readers on a journey of discovery through all the amazing inventions human beings have come up with. Learn how rocks and stones helped create the pyramids and how modern materials such as concrete and nylon have changed our lives. Lively rhyming text by James Carter and electrifying illustrations by Margaux Carpentier



Yes You Can, Cow

Author: Rashmi Sirdeshpande **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 03/02/2022 **Year Groups:** Early Years, Key Stage 1

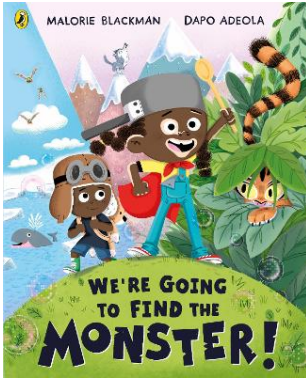
Rehearsals are under way for the big production of Hey Diddle Diddle, but poor Cow has the collywobbles and does not believe she could possibly jump over the moon and indeed there are spectacular failures! Rikin Parekh's witty and lively illustrations will have young readers rolling in the aisles. He captures expressions of frustration, irritation, fear and embarrassment so perfectly. But this is not a story played just for laughs, it has a lovely message. Cow needs the support and encouragement of the troupe to give her the bravery to carry on trying. We will all be rooting for her too and the joy of succeeding at last will be felt by all. It is perhaps one of the most important life lessons for any child to learn. That it is OK to fail because life is a learning curve, but you should not be discouraged from trying again. A model example to use to discuss resilience and how we learn, but a genuinely heart-warming and funny story too.



Just One of Those Days

Author: Jill Murphy **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 16/09/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

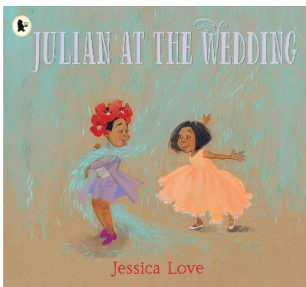
A gorgeously warm and relatable story from the brilliant Jill Murphy, featuring the much-loved Bear Family from classic picture book *Peace at Last*. Mr and Mrs Bear wake up late. It's raining outside, and Baby Bear is late for nursery. Then Mrs Bear sits on her glasses at work and Mr Bear spills his coffee! Oh dear - it seems this is just going to be one of those days! But the loveable Bear family muddle through cheerfully, and there's even a surprise for Baby Bear when Mr Bear gets home from work. With all the hallmarks of an instant firm favourite, *Just One of Those Days* is a big-hearted story about a family day, which parents and children everywhere will relate to. Full of satisfying repetition and rhythm and delightful illustrations, *Just One of Those Days* is a must-have for all Jill Murphy fans, old and new.



We're Going to Find the Monster

Author: Malorie Blackman **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/09/2021 **Year Groups:** Early Years, Key Stage 1

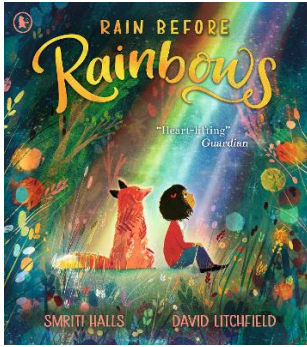
A rip-roaring picture book adventure from superstar pairing Malorie Blackman and Dapo Adeola. Over the shimmering ocean, up the huge, high mountain, through the deep, dark forest . . . WE'RE GOING TO FIND THE MONSTER! Join two intrepid adventurers as their imaginations transform their house into a wild wonderland - and their big brother becomes a mighty monster. A joy to read-aloud with its cumulative refrain, and full of funny, relatable characters, this is a contemporary celebration of creativity, fantasy and family. Written by bestselling author of Noughts & Crosses, Malorie Blackman, this story was originally published as Marty Monster. This new version has been stunningly brought to life by the award-winning illustrator of Look Up!, Dapo Adeola.



Julian at the Wedding

Author: Jessica Love **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 03/06/2021 **Year Groups:** Early Years, Key Stage 1

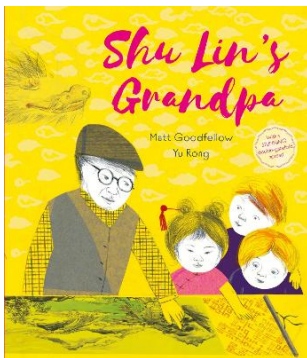
The star of Julian Is a Mermaid makes a joyful return - and finds a new friend - at a wedding to be remembered. Julian and his nana are attending a wedding. Better yet, Julian is in the wedding along with his cousin Marisol. When wedding duties are fulfilled and with a new dog friend in tow, the pair takes off to roam the venue, exploring everywhere from underneath tables to enchanting willow trees to ... muddy puddles? After all, it wouldn't be a wedding without fun, laughter and a little magical mischief. With ingenuity and heart, author-illustrator Jessica Love tells a charming story of friendship, acceptance and celebration.



Rain Before Rainbows

Author: Smriti Halls **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 22/04/2021
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

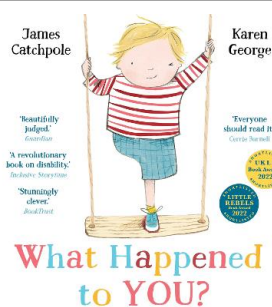
An uplifting, stunningly beautiful book about optimism in the darkest of places. A girl and her companion fox travel together from a place of loss and despair, through uncertain times, towards the hope of colour, light and life. Along the way, they find friends to guide and support them. Together, they build a glorious future and discover there is a way out of the darkness, into the light of the rainbow. A book with immense hope at its heart, this is a positive message for anyone who's ever gone through a tough time.



Shu Lin's Grandpa

Author: Matt Goodfellow **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 08/04/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

Longlisted for the UKLA Book Award ages 3-6 | Shortlisted for the Yoto Kate Greenaway Medal 2022 Shu Lin has just started at a new school. She stands alone in the playground and at lunchtime she eats by herself from little boxes of brightly coloured food. What's up with her? says Barney. But when Shu Lin's grandpa comes to school and shows the class his amazing Chinese paintings, everything changes.... With a stunning double-gatefold spread revealing a beautiful Chinese picture, this uplifting story shows the transformative power of art and imagination in developing cultural understanding and empathy.

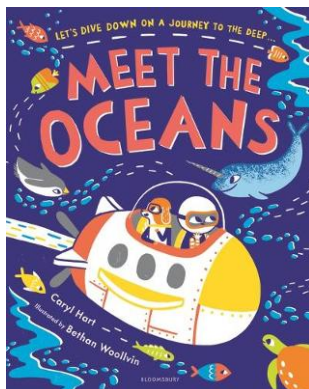


What Happened to You?

Author: James Catchpole **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/04/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Award 2022 ages 3-6 | Imagine what it would feel like to always be asked the same question, to only be seen for your disability? Well Joe is very cross about that- he just wants to play pirates and so he ignores the other children and eventually they become curious and eventually they all join in the imaginative game and great fun is had by all. In a letter to parents and careers at the end of the book the author tells us about losing his own leg and so we have no doubt that this reflects an authentic lived experience. He also gives wonderfully straightforward advice about the conversations parents can have with their own children about disability. This is the very opposite of a "worthy" issues-based book. It is a funny and very enjoyable read that will nevertheless perform an urgently needed task and generate very useful discussion at home and school. An absolute essential purchase for all schools and early years settings. Find more books with Positive

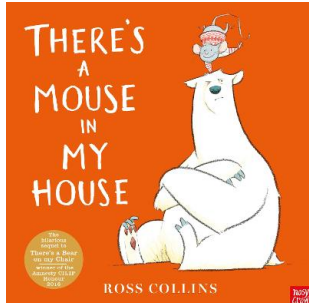
Images of Disability.



Meet the Oceans

Author: Caryl Hart **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 04/03/2021
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

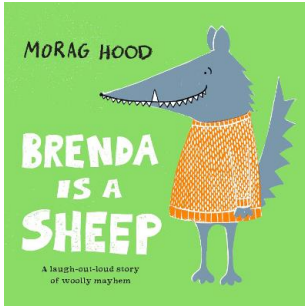
Calling all young Jacques Cousteaus! Here's a book to take them bobbing through the oceans, and to introduce them to some of the amazing creatures that live there, and all from the comfort of a cosy submarine. It starts with a splash as a little girl and her dog set off on an epic submarine adventure that takes them from the freezing Arctic Ocean (the world's smallest), through the breezy Atlantic with its underwater mountains and caves, into the warm Caribbean, across the vast Pacific, and from the busy South China Sea into the Indian Ocean. Caryl Hart's rhyming text provides the perfect introduction to each ocean, slipping in fascinating facts and drawing our attention to life above and below the waves. Bethan Woollvin's illustrations are glorious too, every page vivid and distinctive, and with the help of pairs of smiling eyes, she manages to imbue the oceans with their own particular character. A stylised atlas on the final pages lets little fingers trace the route they've taken. Oceans of fun and information!



There's a Mouse in my House

Author: Ross Collins **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/10/2020
Year Groups: Early Years

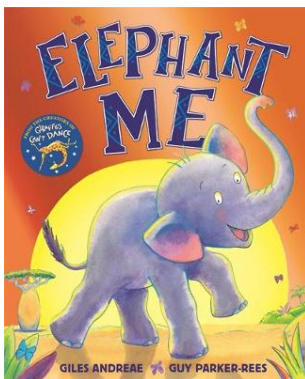
From the inventive author-illustrator of the award-winning *There's a Bear on My Chair* comes this smart sequel, and boy has Ross Collins delivered again. It's a rollicking, rhyming, visually-pleasing treat in which it turns out that Bear isn't terribly keen on getting a taste of his own medicine (to begin with, at least). The cause of Bear's irritation is the presence of Mouse in his house (yes, the very same Mouse on whose chair Bear presumptuously sat in the first book). In Bear's outraged words, "That rodent can't live here, oh no! I'll tell him that he has to go." Of course, Mouse refuses to leave and proceeds to cause chaos in Bear's house, before a mob of partying mice turn up. But then - the twist! - when Bear realises "Hey! These mice are nice!" With wonderful interplay between text, illustration and design, this is excellent for reading aloud - the kind of book that will have toddlers urging for it to be read again, and again (and again) while completing the rhymes before adults have chance to read them.



Brenda Is a Sheep

Author: Morag Hood **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 23/07/2020
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

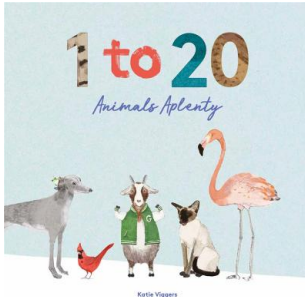
Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2021 Multi- award winning Morag Hood does it again in this stylish and surprisingly heart-warming tale! Every small child will know all about wolves and their interest in sheep and will delight in being able to predict what happens next. They know exactly what Brenda's game is and will fear for the gullible sheep caught up in it. Yet friendship and kindness can conquer even the most carnivorous of hearts. The sheep love the originality and inventiveness that Brenda brings to the flock and the thoughtful feast that they produce for their sleeping heroine (grass lasagne, grass sausages and so on - all accompanied by Brenda's amazing mint sauce conceived for a completely different purpose) convinces Brenda that actually she loves being a sheep. A really positive message beautifully executed in inimitable style with the characteristic limited colour palette and inventive typography and layout that we have come to expect, this will be a firm classroom favourite especially when exploring alternative traditional tales.



Elephant Me

Author: Giles Andreae **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 14/05/2020
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

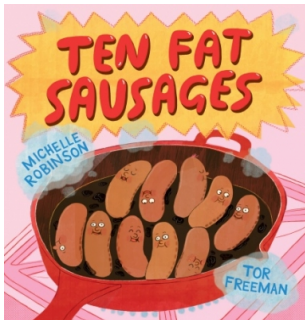
Twenty years after the publication of the book that must be in every nursery and primary school library, we have another vividly colourful jungle tale filled with a perfectly judged rhyming text that is a joy to read aloud and sharing a really positive message about being true to yourself and celebrating all sorts of achievements. Guy Parker-Rees has a very distinctive technicolour palette and has talked about his love of drawing elephants, which really shows in the endearing cast of characters here. It is time for the all -important Elephant games when, one by one, the young elephants compete to impress King Elephant Mighty and earn their Elephant Name. So the loudest becomes Elephant Noisy and the strongest Elephant Strong and so on, but right at the end is little Num-Num who did not know what his talent was and whatever he tried, failed to impress the king. He gets called Elephant Nothing at All and sadly Num- Num decides to leave. But the animal friends he gains at his new watering hole convince him of his own worth and he returns to put the king right. This positive message of affirmation is a really timely one and I can see that this text will be as universally popular as its predecessor and a classic in its own right. Indispensable for every library.



1 to 20 Animals Aplenty

Author: Katie Viggers **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 10/02/2020
Year Groups: Early Years

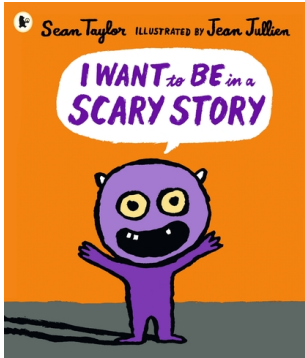
This witty, stylish counting book will catch the attention of adults as well as the imagination of the very young. A rhythmic, rhyming text and eye-catching illustrations present us with one fox in socks, then two gorillas looking in mirrors, followed by three jolly llamas in pyjamas, right up to the twenty birds who have the last words. Along the way we also meet five goats wearing coats, the goats labelled and clearly identifiable under their coats (Nubian, mountain, angora...). Other favourite spreads include the one featuring sixteen chickens reading (and clearly enjoying) Dickens! A wonderfully original counting book that is as handsome as it is effective.



Ten Fat Sausages

Author: Michelle Robinson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/02/2019
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

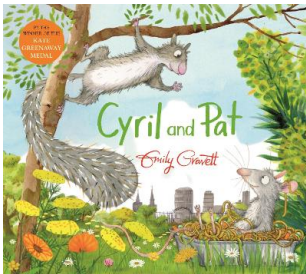
A tale of sausages and their fight for freedom, this rollicking picture book will have everyone laughing. We begin with ten sausages, of course, but as their friends go pop and bang, some of them decide to hop out of the pan, with varying degrees of success. Poor sausage number two ends up down the drain, while there's an even worse fate for sausage number four – the liquidizer. Sausage number eight is eaten by the cat but the silliest sausages of all are numbers nine and ten, who hide themselves in the hot dog roll! Michelle Robinson's energetic storytelling creates something funny or surprising on every page, and it's great fun to read aloud. Tor Freeman gives each sausage its own personality, no mean feat, and makes us sympathise with them even while we're laughing.



I Want to Be in a Scary Story

Author: Sean Taylor **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/09/2018
Year Groups: Early Years, Key Stage 1

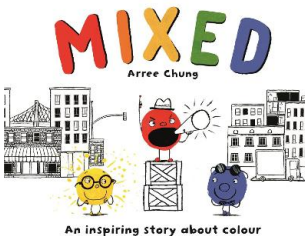
The Little Monster thinks he's brave but we're not so sure! Little Monster really wants to be in a scary story but he won't listen to the narrator who thinks a funny story might be better... But the dark and scary forest is just too dark and scary. And the creepy witch is just too creepy. And the ghost? Oh jeepers creepers! Jean Jullienne's illustrations jump off the page; the Little Monster pulls the most wonderfully expressive faces. A cute, funny and just a little bit scary, picture book perfect for Halloween fun.



Cyril and Pat

Author: Emily Gravett **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 10/07/2018
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

Witty and characterful illustrations and a clever rhyming text tell an inspiring tale of friendship against all odds.

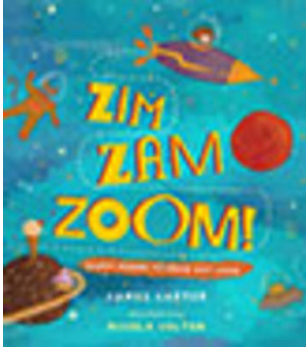


Mixed

Author: Arree Chung **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 14/06/2018
Year Groups: Early Years

Winner of the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the Children's Book Awards 2019, Books for Younger Children

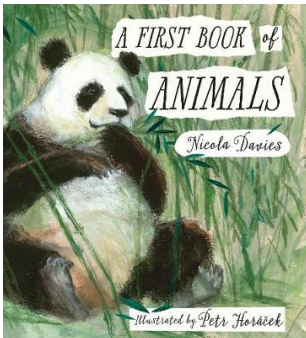
Category The primary colours have got everything sorted out in the city so they live in separate areas and never mix. But, when a Blue and a Yellow fall in love and marry, baby Green is soon born and everyone realises that mixing together makes everyone much happier. A love story in a paint box with an important message for all young readers.



Zim Zam Zoom Zappy Poems to Read Out Loud

Author: James Carter **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/05/2016
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

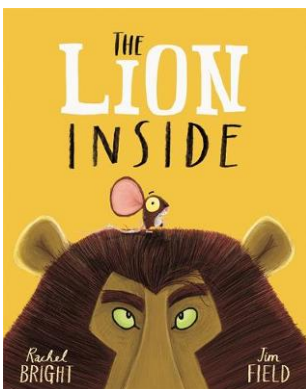
A lovely, lively and varied collection of verse that invites gleeful participation from its intended audience.



A First Book of Animals

Author: Nicola Davies **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 06/10/2016
Year Groups: Key Stage 1

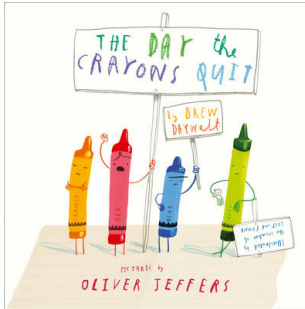
Shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2018 | Longlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award What a wonderful book to give to a child. It's one which will inspire a real interest in nature and the creatures that share our planet, as well as an appreciation of art and poetry. Nicola Davies shares her delight in animals in specially written poems, each of which is illustrated by Petr Horacek across dazzling double pages. Grouped by themes such as colours and shapes, or animals in action, creatures big and small are vividly brought to life, from the whale shark, 'like a piece of fallen starry sky' to a barn owl, 'quiet as the floating moon'. The images are breath-taking, full of movement and colour; the poems too are varied and memorable, sometimes precise, sometimes ethereal. It's a book that recipients will treasure into adulthood.



The Lion Inside

Author: Rachel Bright **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 10/03/2016
Year Groups: Early Years, Key Stage 1

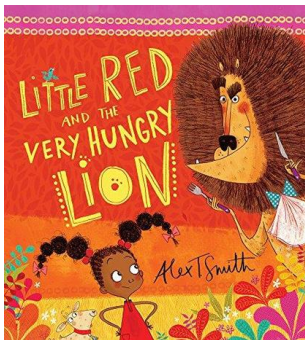
Shortlisted for the UKLA 2017 Book Award Fans of The Gruffalo and Giraffes Can't Dance will love this feelgood rhyming story portraying a positive message about overcoming your fears.



The Day the Crayons Quit

Author: Drew Daywalt **Format:** Board book **Release Date:** 25/02/2016 **Year Groups:** Early Years, Key Stage 1

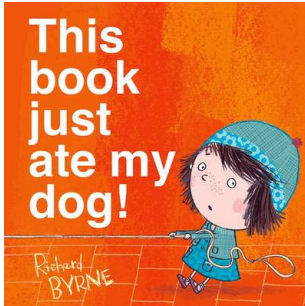
Winner of the UKLA Award 2015 in the 3-6 years category. Winner of the Red House Children's Book of 2015. Shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal 2014 - One of our Books of the Year 2013. Award-winning Oliver Jeffers and Drew Daywalt's highly-entertaining book is now available in board book form. Colouring will never be the same again! When Duncan goes to take out his crayons one day he finds a stack of letters inside. Every crayon has something to say. The red crayon complains he is used too much – too many things such as fire engines and strawberries are red; the purple crayon is a neat minded soul and hates it that so much of Duncan's drawing goes outside the lines; the black crayon hates just to be used for outlines – and so on! Saddest of all, the peach crayon has lost his wrapping – how can he come out of the box naked? In an attempt to satisfy them all, Duncan does a final drawing. Overall, a brilliant book for every age to enjoy.



Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion

Author: Alex T. Smith **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/05/2015 **Year Groups:** Early Years, Key Stage 1

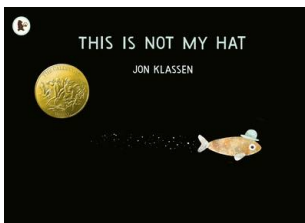
Winner of the UKLA 2016 Book Award in the 3 - 6 year old category. Little Red Riding Hood transposed to an African town setting where a lion is really no match for a clever small girl. The inventive layout of the text and its relationship to the witty, beautifully coloured illustrations really enhance the child friendly storytelling. The empowering portrayal of different cultures and a heroine who is not a naive victim ensure that this will become a classic for the classroom and the nursery. A wonderfully engaging classic fairy tale with a twist by the bestselling Alex T. Smith.



This Book Just Ate My Dog

Author: Richard Byrne **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/01/2015
Year Groups: Early Years, Key Stage 1

Shortlisted for the UKLA 2016 Book Award in the 3 - 6 year old category. Shortlisted for Children's Book Award 2016, Books for Younger Children category - Shortlisted for Oscar's First Book Prize 2015 A little girl, a big dog, and a very badly-behaved book! Bella is taking her dog for a stroll across the page when something odd happens. Her dog disappears and it becomes apparent to Bella, her friend Ben, and the rescue services that peril lurks in the pages of this book. But where the police and fire brigade fail, you - the reader - can help!



This is Not My Hat

Author: Jon Klassen **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 16/06/2014
Year Groups: Early Years, Key Stage 1

Winner of the Kate Greenaway Medal 2014 - Winner of the UKLA Book Awards 3-6yrs 2014 - Winner of the 2013 Caldecott Medal. One of Julia Eccleshare's Stand-out Children's Book of the Year 2012 Best-selling illustrator Jon Klassen follows up his successful I Want My Hat Back in this witty, almost wordless picture book about a tiny fish who steals a hat from a very big fish - and hopes to get away with it. The eloquent but simple illustrations show the audacious behaviour of a hapless fish heading for disaster. Young children will love the joke...and the fact that they know what the little fish doesn't.