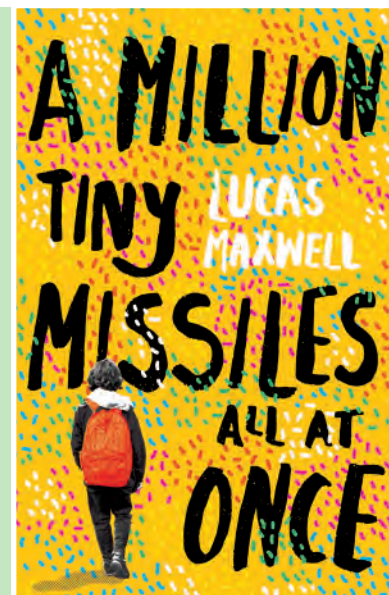
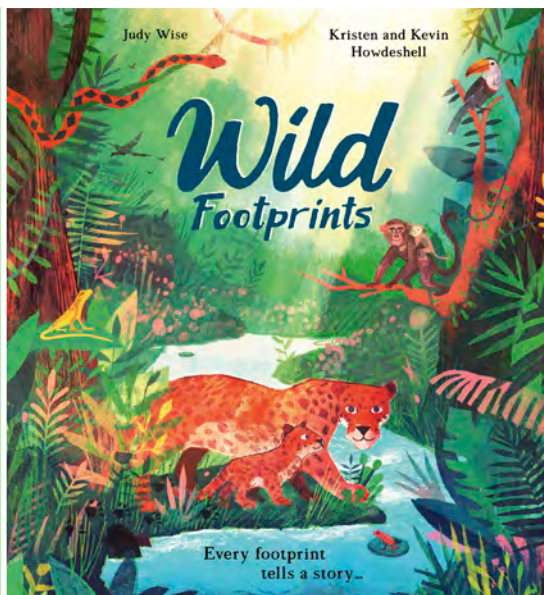


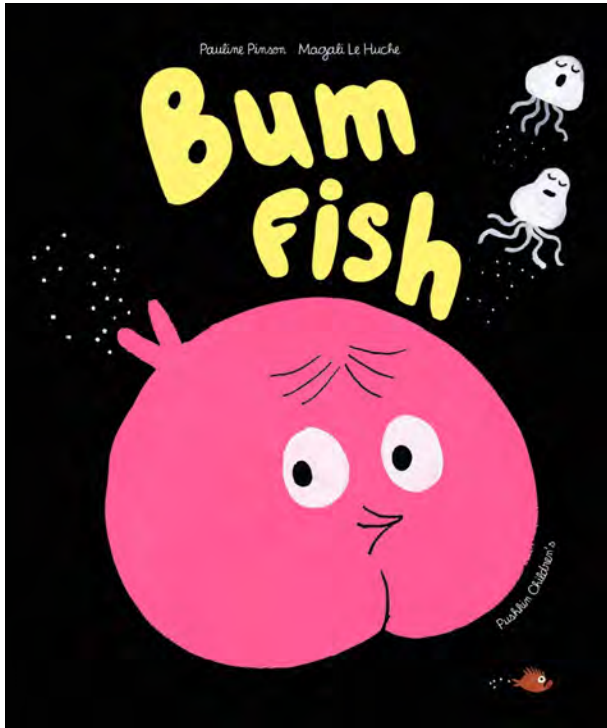
APRIL 2026 NEW TITLES

SCHOLASTIC AND PUSHKIN



Bum Fish

Pauline Pinson, Magali Le Huche



A mischievous picture book about a peculiarly shaped fish and his hilarious adventures

- The hilarious picture book that has outsold *Harry Potter* in France since publication, with over 50,000 copies sold already
- A cheekily humorous picture book, perfect for mischievous readers, about a little fish who looks like a bum
- A funny and moving ode to friendship and fitting in, for readers of Julia Donaldson's *Tiddler* and *Marmalade* by David Walliams

Author Biography

Pauline Pinson is a filmmaker and screen writer for animation. She has directed series for French networks Canal+ and France Télévisions. She is also a writer for children's books.

Magali Le Huche was born near Paris in 1979. After five years at the Arts décoratifs School in Strasbourg, she started working for the press and in publishing. She has written and illustrated many children's books and comic strips and won several literary prizes.

ISBN: 9781782695684

Price: £8.99 | Publication date: April 2026

Binding: Paperback | Format: 250 x 216mm

Extent: 32 pages

Reading Age: 5-7 years

BIC 2.0: Picture Storybooks (YBCS)

CBMC: B3M79

Sales Office:

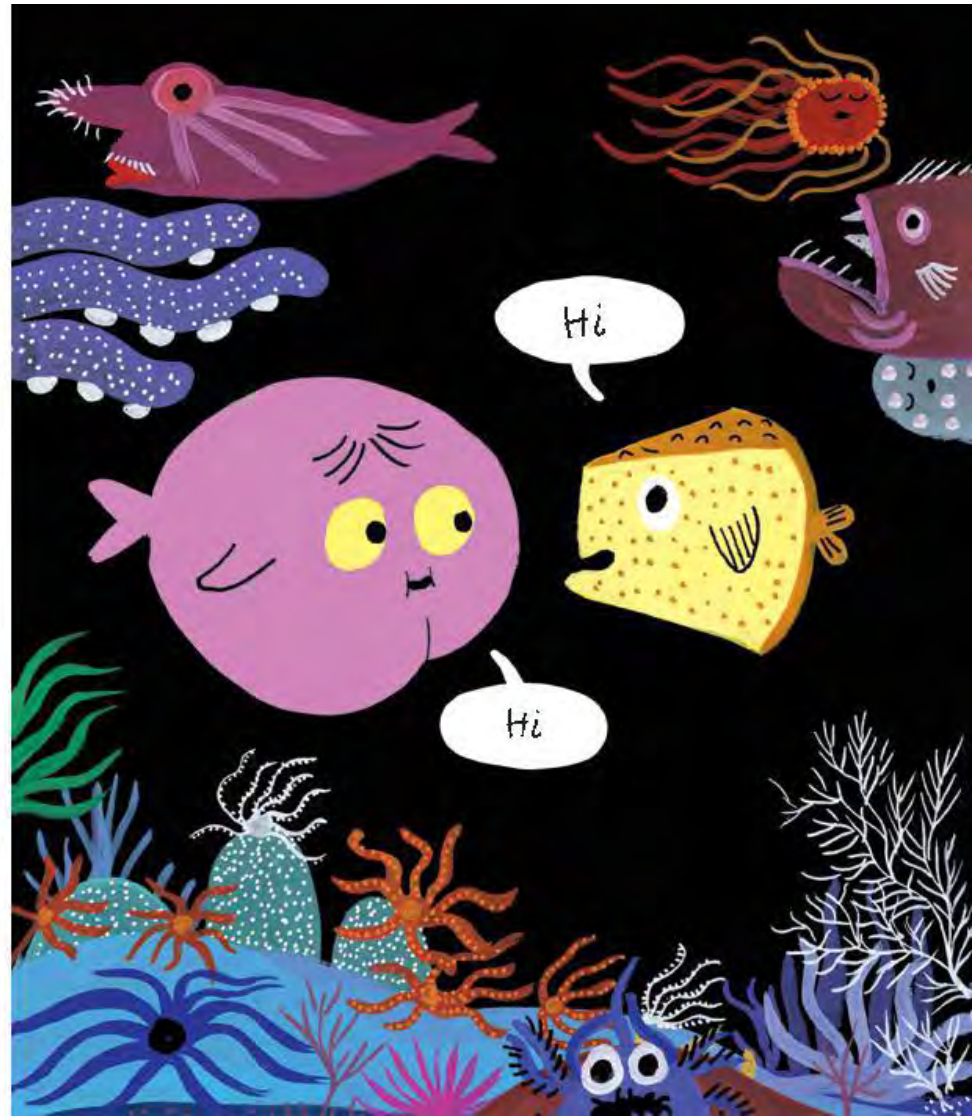
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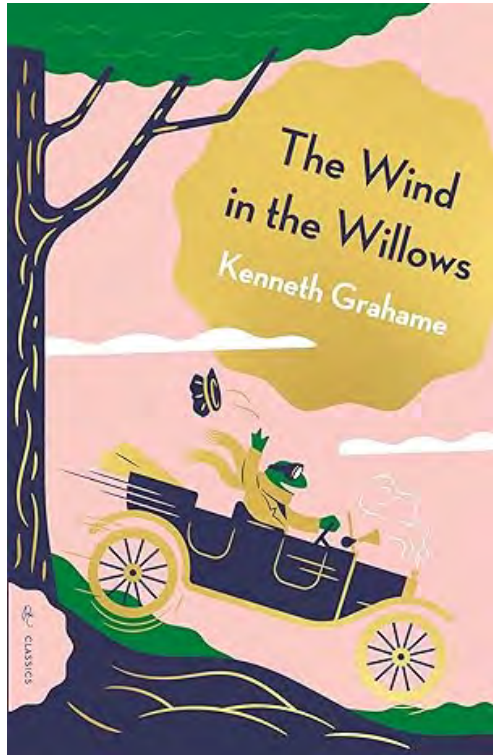
Even further down,
he meets a Cheddar fish.



The Wind in the Willows

Kenneth Grahame

CLASSICS



ISBN: 9781782695486

Price: £10.99 | Publication date: March 2026

Binding: Paperback | Format: 198 x 129mm

Extent: 240 pp

Reading Age: 9-11 years

BIC 2.0: Classic Fiction (Children's/Ya)

(YFA) Animal Stories(Children's/Ya)(YFP)

The classic tale of country life and animal friendship, featuring Ratty, Mole, Badger and Toad.

- A classic full of nostalgic delight, perfect for fans of *Swallows and Amazons*, *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The Jungle Book*
- Stunning flapped paperback in the Deluxe Pushkin Children's Classics series -ideal for gifting
- Part of the new Pushkin Children's Classics list: thrilling, magical and inspiring stories from around the world, carefully selected for our most discerning readers- children

Author Biography

Kenneth Grahame (1859-1932) was born in Scotland but raised in England by his grandmother after his mother's death. He worked at the Bank of England for thirty years, writing books in his spare time. *The Wind in the Willows*, his masterpiece, began as a series of stories told to his son, either at bedtime or in letters sent home from Grahame's solitary boating holidays.

Sales Office: Somerset House, Strand, London, WC2R 1LA

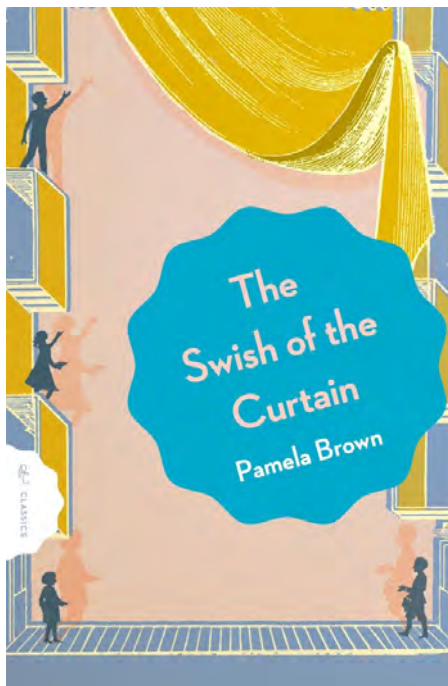
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Tel: + 44 (0) 141 306 3491

The Swish of the Curtain: Book 1

Pamela Brown



The classic story of seven children with a longing to be on stage: the inspiration for actors from Maggie Smith to Eileen Atkins.

- The first in the series of beautiful reissues of these classic children's books, for anyone who loves the theatre or who longs to act
- Without *The Swish of the Curtain*, Maggie Smith might never have acted: 'I wanted to act before I read this book, and afterwards there was no stopping me'
- The books were adapted for television and became a much-loved and well-known BBC series
- For fans of *Ballet Shoes*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and the Erich Kästner books

ISBN: 9781782695356

Price: £9.99 | Publication date: April 2026

Binding: Paperback | Format: 198 x 129mm

Extent: 336 pages

Reading Age: 7-9 years

BIC 2.0: Classic Fiction (Children's/Ya) (YFA)

Reading Age: From C 7 Years (5A H)

CBMC: C3N79

Author Biography

Pamela Brown (1924-1989) was a British writer, actor and television producer. She was just fourteen when she started writing her first book, and the town of Fenchester in the book is inspired by her home town of Colchester. During the Second World War, she went to live in Wales, so *The Swish of the Curtain* was not published until 1941, when she was sixteen.

Wide Eye

Jennifer Liss



A Sarah Odedina book

ISBN: 9781782695400

Price: £8.99 | Publication date: April 2026

Binding: Paperback | Format: 198 x 129mm

Extent: 192 pages

Reading Age: 9-11 years

BIC 2.0: General Fiction (Children's/Ya)(YFB)

Fantasy & Magical Realism

(Children's/Ya) (YFH) Family & Home Stories

(Children's/Ya) (YFN)

CBMC: D3N79

A young girl and her grandfather run a wacky museum dedicated to the local monster, until one summer changes everything

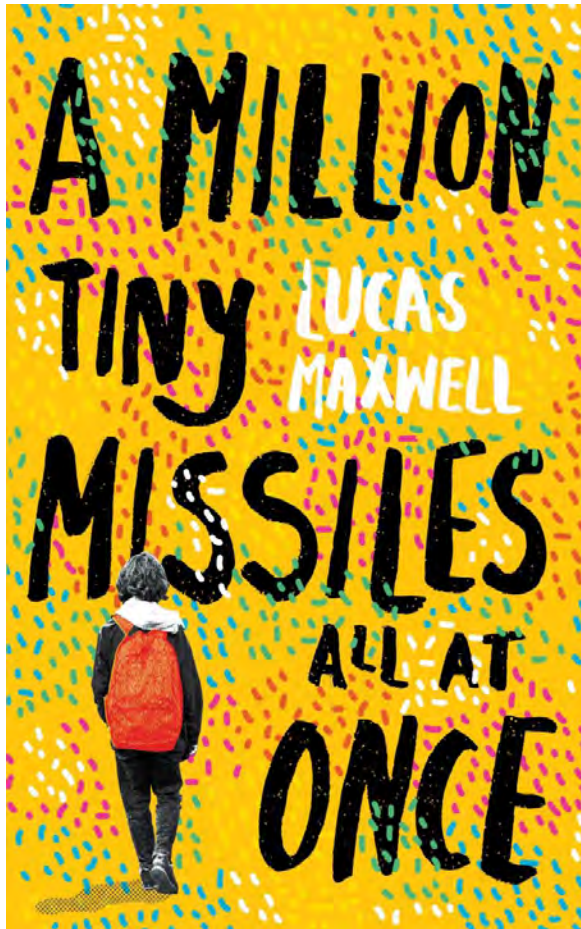
- A joyful family focused middle grade adventure, for lovers of *Riverskin* by Mike Edwards, *Charlie Higson's Worst Holiday Ever* and *Ella on the Outside* by Cath Hower
- A heart-warming story about the power of imagination and the healing nature of friendship

Author Biography

For twenty years, Jennifer Liss has worked in educational publishing. She has written dozen of books for struggling readers, and is the 2022 recipient of the merit-based Highlights Foundation Lee Bennett Hopkins Scholarship. Jennifer lives in California and enjoys spending time in small, out-of-the-way towns like Wide Eye, that harbour lots of secrets.

A MILLION TINY MISSILES ALL AT ONCE

Lucas Maxwell



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BITTERSWEET • FAMILY • DRAMA

Elias's brain is a swamp of fears and bad things. His once-loving brother Bo has become a stranger, and his parents are falling apart. When Bo falls in with dangerous people, Elias decides to bring his family back together – but what begins as a simple pizza-night dream quickly spirals into chaos beyond belief. Will Elias find a way to save them, or will they recognize what's happening before it's too late?

- The debut novel from Lucas Maxwell, MBE award-winning librarian.
- *A Million Tiny Missiles All At Once* was the winner of the *Times/Chicken House Competition* 2024.
- Set in Nova Scotia and inspired by the author's childhood experiences of family addiction and growing up neurodivergent.
- Perfect for fans of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* and *Orbiting Jupiter*.



LUCAS MAXWELL

Originally from a small town in Nova Scotia, Canada, Lucas Maxwell grew up on comic books, Nintendo and Dungeons and Dragons. He's been writing stories ever since he can remember and currently works as a school librarian in South London. In 2024 he was awarded a British Empire Medal for his contribution to libraries and education. He lives in Surrey with his amazing family and the laziest chocolate lab on the planet.

[@lucasjmaxwell](https://twitter.com/lucasjmaxwell)

ISBN: 978-1-917171-39-7
eBook ISBN: 978-1-917171-61-8
Price: £8.99
Pub Date: 9th April 2026
Age: Young Adult (12+)
CBMC code: E3N79
Word count: 55,000 (words approx.)
Binding: Paperback
Dimensions: 198x129 mm
Rights: World
Export: Yes
Illustrations: N/A





A MILLION TINY MISSILES ALL AT ONCE

Read a Sample

Read a letter from Lucas



- Winner of the 2024 Times/Chicken House Competition
- One of The Bookseller's Top 10 Titles Not to Miss
- Highlight of the Season in The Bookseller Buyer's Guide
- LoveReading4Kids - April Debut Author of the Month
- Authorfy - April Book of the Month

9781917171397
PB £8.99

AUTHOR ENDORSEMENTS

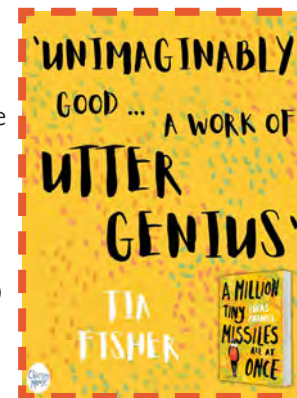
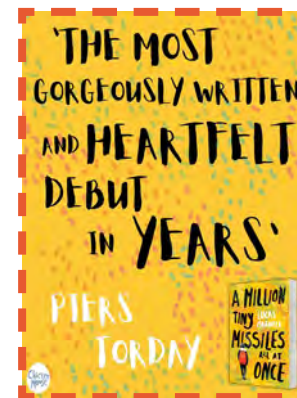
'Extraordinarily tender yet fierce... Brave, gentle and beautiful. I loved this.' **ELLE MCNICOLL**

'I was gripped from the very first line. Wonderful.' **LISA THOMPSON**

'Deeply compelling characterisation a vividly realised setting and a remarkable authorial voice. This is an astonishingly assured debut' **HANNAH GOLD**

'An outstanding debut - it will hit you like a snowstorm and then warm your heart with love. Feels like a classic in the making.' **EVE WERSOCKI MORRIS**

'I loved this gorgeous novel of beautifully observed and nuanced relationships, where love - parental, sibling and neighbourly - ultimately triumphs over fear and anger.' **NICOLA GARRARD**



THE SWARM

Anna February



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9781915947277
PB £8.99

DYSTOPIAN • POLITICAL • MYSTERY

Royal maverick Niko and bodyguard Feldspar have been tasked by their queens to lead a Swarm – an exploration – to find a new world outside of their twisted monarchy. What they find on the other side of the Hive is a paradise, but not all is as it appears to be. When two brutal murders happen on the same night, the royal visitors are the obvious suspects. Niko and Feldspar must fight their feelings for each other as they race to clear their names.

- A heart-stopping sequel to *The Hive*, which brought about international auctions.
- Featuring a stunningly original dystopian world based on the society of bees and a slow-burn romance.
- For fans of Neal Schusterman, Holly Black and Suzanne Collins.
- With themes of ecology, science and politics.



ANNA FEBRUARY

Being a STEM editor by day and a fantasy author by night means that Anna spends the vast majority of her time trying to arrange the right words in the right order, but her other interests include drawing, board games and large amounts of chocolate. She also writes books for older readers under the name A. F. E. Smith.

@afesmith

ISBN:	978-1-917171-60-1
eBook ISBN:	978-1-917171-61-8
Price:	£8.99
Pub Date:	9th April 2026
Age:	Young Adult (14+)
CBMC code:	E3N79
Word count:	90,000 (words approx.)
Binding:	Paperback
Dimensions:	198x129 mm
Rights:	World
Export:	Yes
Illustrations:	N/A



PICTURE & NOVELTY

THE LEAF THIEF SERIES: THE LEAF THIEF - SLIDE AND SPIN

ALICE HEMMING Illustrated by NICOLA SLATER



A fun new slide and spin addition to the NYT bestselling Leaf Thief series with so much to do on every page!

Little ones will love this chunky board book which has sliders to push, pull and spin on every page!

Key selling points

- *The Leaf Thief* has been a NYT bestseller and has been translated into over twenty languages
- Other books in the series include *The Flower Thief*, *The Snow Thief* and *The Sun Thief*
- Younger readers will love the lift-the-flap books *The Leaf Thief – Colours*, *The Leaf Thief – Numbers* and *Where's The Leaf Thief?*

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702339967

RRP: £7.99

Age: 00-04

Binding: Non Standard - board

Extent: 8pp

TPS: 185mm x 185mm

CBMC code: A3J79

Illustrations: Colour

English Language Rights:
World



9780702330001
BB £7.99

About the author: Alice Hemming worked as a librarian, a website editor and an outreach manager for a university before she became a children's book author. Her first book was published in 2013 and since then she's never looked back, writing picture books such as the bestselling *Leaf Thief* series, middle grade and the bestselling *Dark Unicorn* series. In 2022, *The Leaf Thief* became a New York Times bestseller! Alice lives with her family in Hertfordshire, England.

About the illustrator: Nicola Slater is well-known for her distinctive artwork and has illustrated children's books for over 20 years. She has illustrated *Leaping Lemmings!*, *Hello, Zoo* and *A Skunk in My Bunk* as well as many, many others. Nicola lives with her family in Manchester, England.

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PICTURE & NOVELTY

THE LEAF THIEF SERIES: THE LEAF THIEF - SLIDE AND SPIN

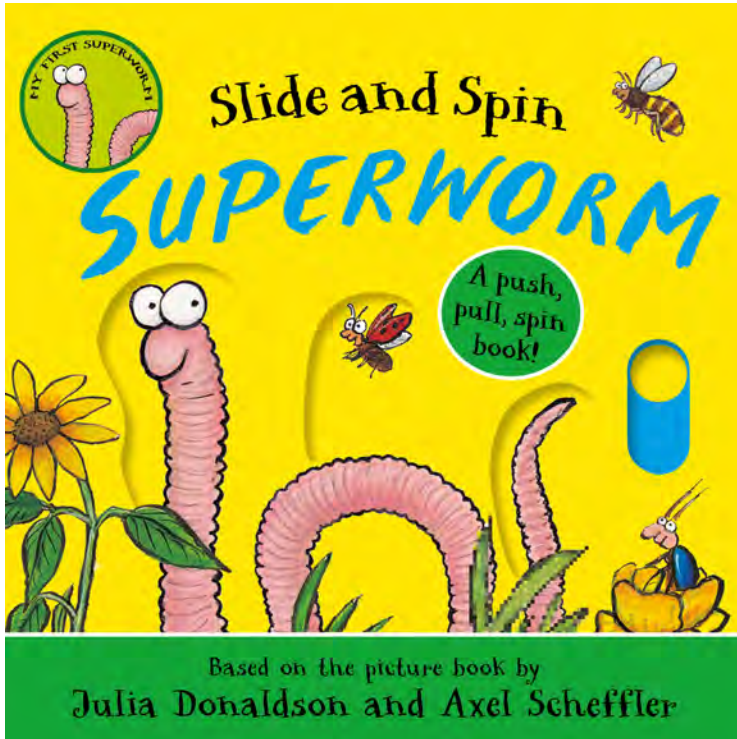
ALICE HEMMING Illustrated by NICOLA SLATER



ALISON GREEN BOOKS

SUPERWORM - SLIDE AND SPIN

JULIA DONALDSON Illustrated by AXEL SCHEFFLER



Slide and spin with SUPERWORM!

*Superworm is super-long Superworm is super-strong.
Watch him wiggle! See him squirm! Hip, hip, hooray for SUPERWORM!*

Based on the bestselling picture book *Superworm* from superstar duo Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

Key selling points

- With sliders to push and pull, plus a wheel to spin, this board book is so much fun for little readers!
- The simple story makes this the perfect introduction to Julia Donaldson's picture books
- Featuring Axel Scheffler's gorgeous illustrations, with so much to spot on every page!
- If you liked this, you'll love *Zog – Slide and Spin*

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702344695

RRP: £7.99

Age: 00-06

Binding: Non Standard - board

Extent: 10pp

TPS: 185mm x 185mm

CBMC code: A3J79

Illustrations: Colour

English Language Rights:

World incl UK & Republic of Ireland. Excl US & Canada.
Unavailable countries to be confirmed



9780702341595
BB £7.99

About the author: Julia Donaldson is the author of many of the best-loved picture books ever written. She has been awarded a CBE for services to literature, and was also a much-praised Children's Laureate.

www.juliadonaldson.co.uk

About the illustrator: Axel Scheffler is one of the most celebrated illustrators in the world. He has brought to life a huge variety of characters, from dragons to gruffalos. Axel lives in London.

www.axelscheffler.com

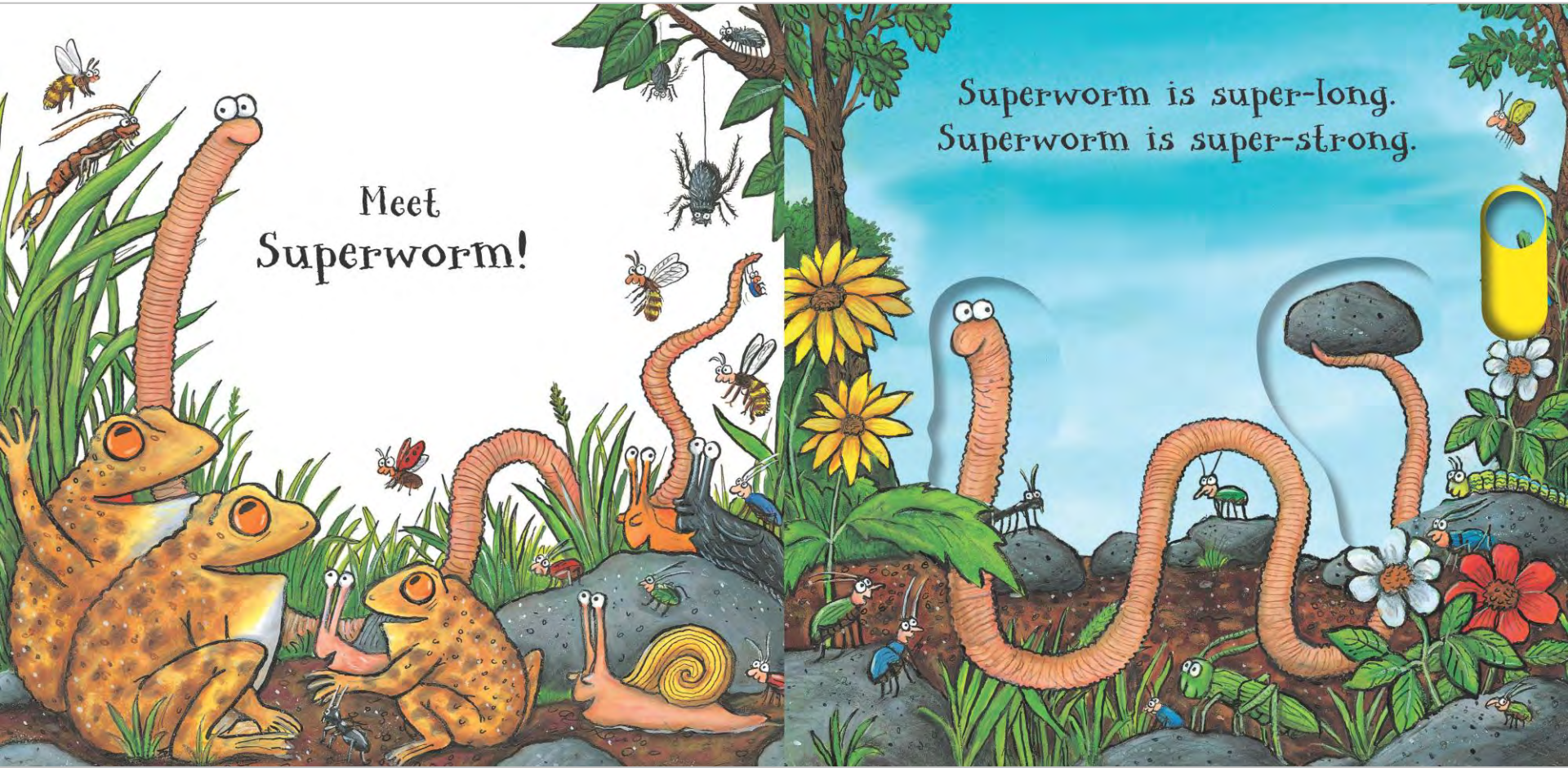
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ALISON GREEN BOOKS

SUPERWORM - SLIDE AND SPIN

JULIA DONALDSON Illustrated by AXEL SCHEFFLER



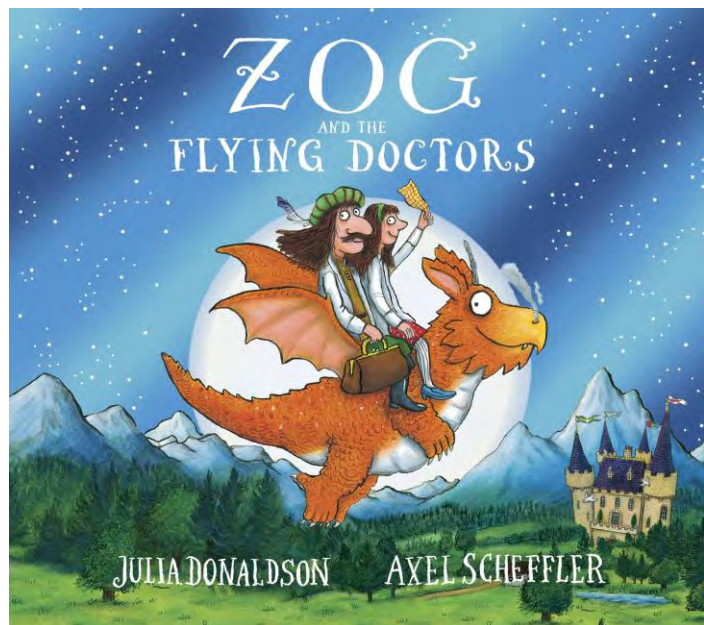
Meet
Superworm!

Superworm is super-long.
Superworm is super-strong.

ALISON GREEN BOOKS

ZOG AND THE FLYING DOCTORS 10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

JULIA DONALDSON Illustrated by AXEL SCHEFFLER



Meet the Flying Doctors: Princess Pearl, Sir Gadabout and, of course, their trusty 'air ambulance', Zog the dragon, in this fabulously original sequel to the bestselling ZOG.

There's much to do, as they fly around tending a sunburnt mermaid, a distressed unicorn and a sneezy lion. But should princesses really be doctors? Pearl's uncle, the King, doesn't think so - until he himself falls ill, and only Pearl knows how to cure him.

Key selling points

- ZOG AND THE FLYING DOCTORS is now available with a super shiny cover to celebrate its 10th anniversary
- From the award-winning superstars of the children's book world, Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler
- ZOG has sold almost a million copies in the UK since publication in 2010

About the author: Julia Donaldson is the author of many of the best-loved picture books ever written. She has been awarded an MBE for services to literature, and was also a much-praised Children's Laureate. www.juliadonaldson.co.uk

About the illustrator: Axel Scheffler is one of the most celebrated illustrators in the world. He has brought to life a huge variety of characters, from dragons to gruffalos. Axel lives in London.

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702343957

RRP: £7.99

Age: 02-06

Binding: Paperback

Extent: 32pp

TPS: 250mm x 280mm

CBMC code: A3M79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World incl UK & Republic of Ireland. Excl US & Canada. Unavailable countries to be confirmed



9781407170763

PB £7.99

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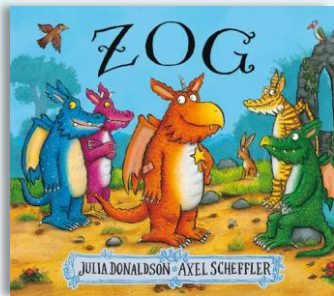
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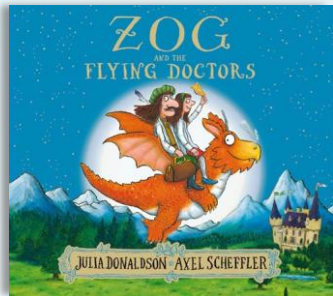
From the award-winning superstars of the children's book world, Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler!

Brand-new ZOG TV series launches in May 2026

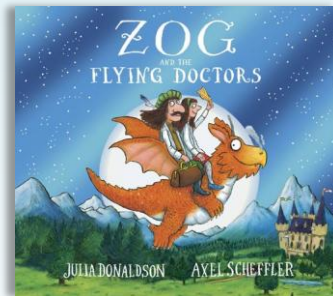
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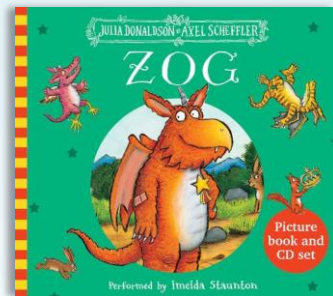
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£7.99 PB



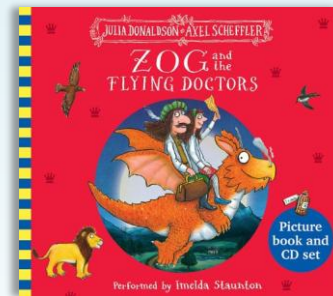
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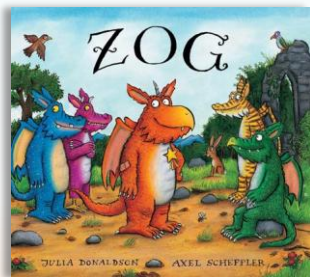
9780702343957
£7.99 PB 09/04/2026



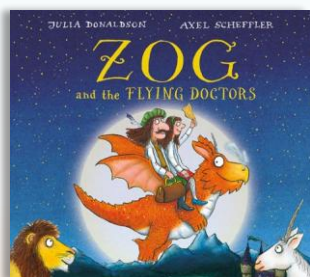
9781407130019
£8.99 BCD



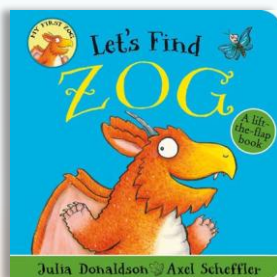
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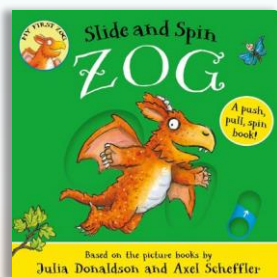
9781407164939
£7.99 CBB



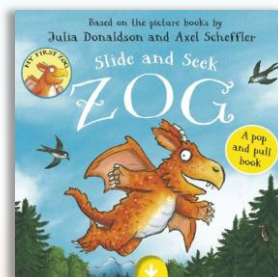
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£6.99 CBB



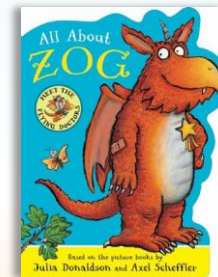
9780702305832
£6.99 CBB



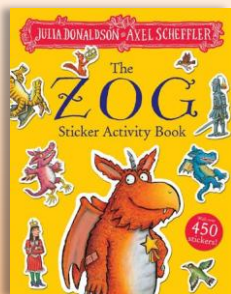
9780702341595
£7.99 CBB



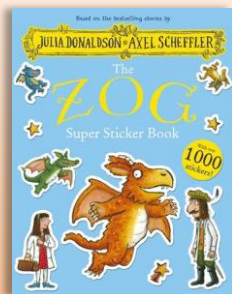
9780702344701
£8.99 CBB 07/05/2026



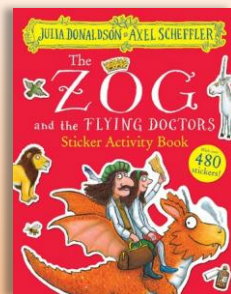
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£7.99 CBB



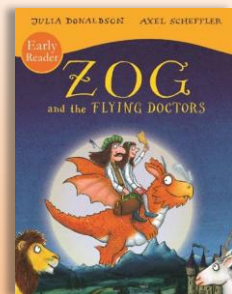
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£6.99 PB



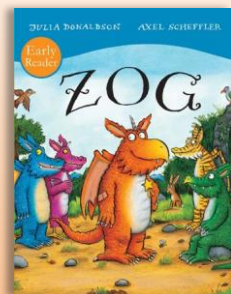
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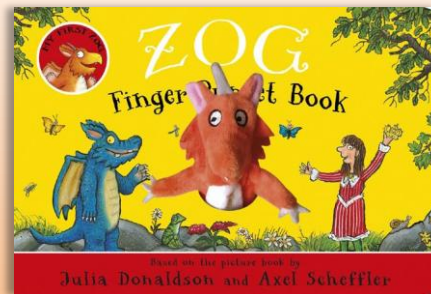
9781407197814
£6.99 PB



9781407189543
£4.99 PB



9781407144627
£4.99 PB

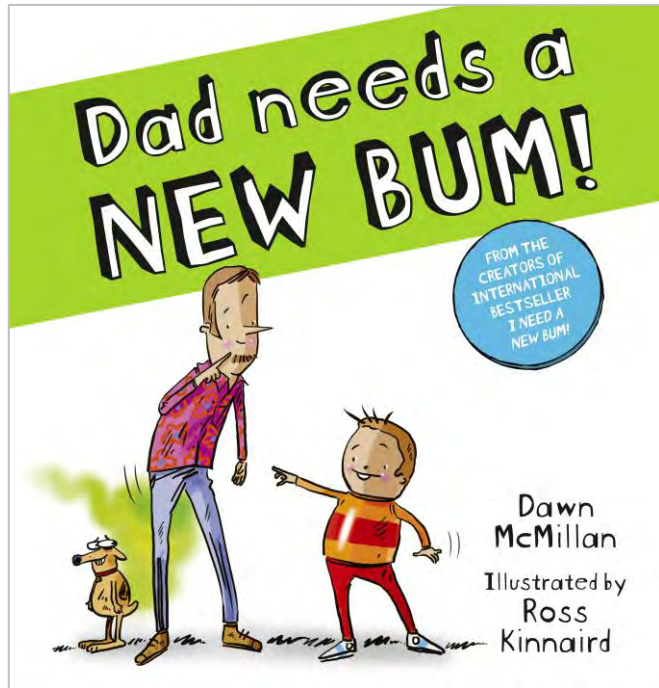


9780702319334
£8.99 CBB

PICTURE & NOVELTY

THE NEW BUM SERIES!: DAD NEEDS A NEW BUM! (PB)

DAWN MCMILLAN Illustrated by ROSS KINNAIRD



Dad is stinking up the whole town! But not to worry, our hero is here to save the day with all his amazing ideas for a new bum.

But when the stink doesn't disappear, he starts to wonder if Dad wasn't the culprit all along . . .

Key selling points

- Dawn McMillan's rhyming text will have children roaring with laughter
- With vibrant and hilarious illustrations by Ross Kinnaird
- Can you find the real stink-maker?
- The next book in the globally bestselling *New Bum* series
- If you liked this, you will love *Dad's Bum is So Smelly*

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702342936

RRP: £7.99

Age: 02-06

Binding: Paperback

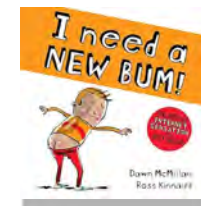
Extent: 32pp

TPS: 250mm x 240mm

CBMC code: A3M79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:
World incl UK & Republic of
Ireland. Excl US & Canada.
Unavailable countries to be
confirmed



9781407196015
PB £6.99

About the author: Award-winning author Dawn McMillan lives with her husband Derek and their cat, Lola, in a small coastal village on the Coromandel Peninsula, New Zealand. Dawn is an author with 20 years' experience. She visits schools regularly to share stories and encourage children to write.

www.dawnmcmillan.co.nz

About the illustrator: Ross Kinnaird used to work in advertising and design. He is now an award-winning children's book illustrator, working from his home studio in Auckland, New Zealand. Ross has been illustrating books by Dawn McMillan for 15 years.

rosskinnaird.blogspot.com

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PICTURE & NOVELTY

THE NEW BUM SERIES!: DAD NEEDS A NEW BUM! (PB)

DAWN MCMILLAN Illustrated by ROSS KINNAIRD



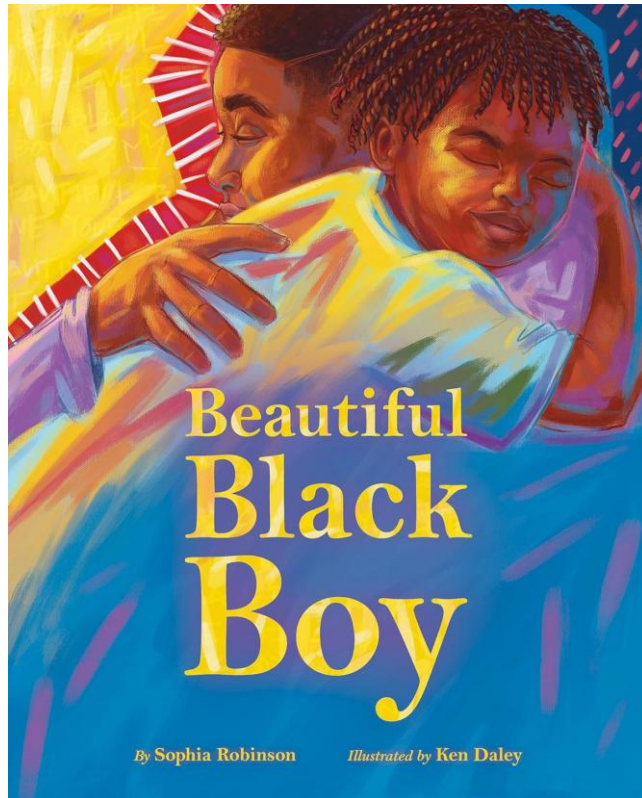
There must be something **wrong**
for him to **pong**
so often during the day.



PICTURE & NOVELTY

BEAUTIFUL BLACK BOY (HB)

SOPHIA ROBINSON Illustrated by KEN DALEY



A powerful celebration of young Black boys.

This uplifting picture book is a gorgeous ode to the power of one's Blackness, instilling self-love and confidence into young males of colour.

Key selling points

- Sophia Robinson's lyrical text highlights strength, bravery and joy
- Ken Daley's vibrant and colourful illustrations inspire Black boys to be whoever they want to be
- With a bright dust jacket to make this the perfect gift book

About the author: Sophia Robinson is a mum and teacher living in Ontario, Canada. When reading as a little girl, she always wished the characters in her favourite books looked like her. Sophia is proud to write stories that allow kids to see themselves on the pages. *Beautiful Black Boy* is her first picture book.

About the illustrator: Ken Daley is an award-winning artist-illustrator living in Tillsonburg, Canada. His art and illustrations are inspired by his African Caribbean heritage. He has illustrated multiple children's books and received an Américas Award Honor and a Kirkus Best Picture Book for *Auntie Luce's Talking Paintings*.

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9781338864649

RRP: £14.99

Age: 02-06

Binding: Hardback

Extent: 40pp

TPS: 254mm x 203mm

CBMC code: A3M79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent

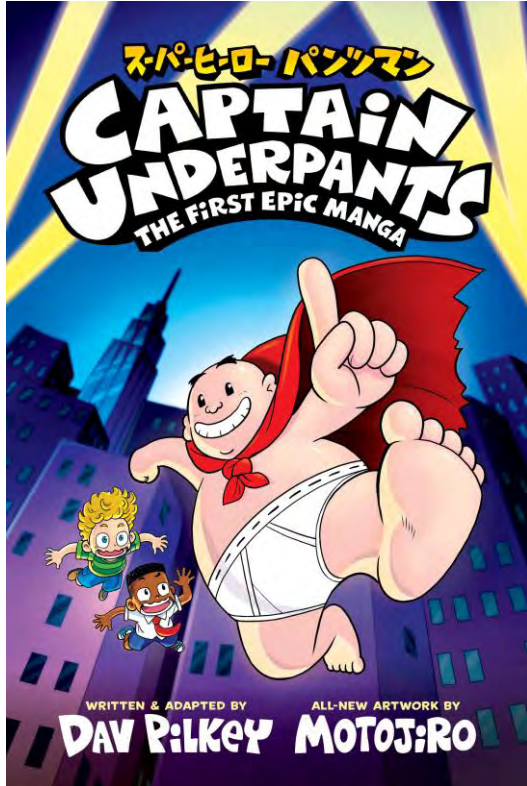
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GRAPHIC NOVEL

CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS: THE FIRST EPIC MANGA

DAV PILKEY Illustrated by MOTOJIRO



The #1 global bestselling Captain Underpants series returns! Based on the first sensational chapter book, it's a reimagined adventure perfectly paired with all-new manga artwork.

He's faster than a speeding waistband, more powerful than boxer shorts, and able to leap tall buildings without getting a wedgie. Night and day, Captain Underpants fights for truth, justice, and all that is pre-shrunk and cottony!

Key selling points

- With dynamic manga artwork by Japanese artist Motojiro, all-new Flip- O-Ramas, and much more, it will captivate existing fans, capture new readers, and appeal to comics, manga, and anime aficionados alike!
- The Captain Underpants series, which was launched over 25 years ago, was instrumental in creating the illustrated children's chapter book category that's still popular today.
- Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie was a major DreamWorks animation.

About the author: When Dav Pilkey was a kid, he was diagnosed with ADHD and dyslexia. He spent his time in the hallway outside class creating his own original comic books - the very first adventures of Dog Man and Captain Underpants. Dav's stories are semi-autobiographical and explore universal themes that celebrate friendship, empathy, and the triumph of the good-hearted.

About the illustrator: Motojiro has been creating manga for over thirty years. His work includes a wide range of stories, including the Time Warp series and the Battle Brave series (Asahi Shimbun Publications). Motojiro also creates manga for educational materials for schools. He is a member of the Japan Cartoonists Association and lives in Japan.

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 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702348426

RRP: £9.99

Age: 07-11

Binding: Non Standard - paperback

Extent: 192pp

TPS: 228mm x 152mm

CBMC code: C3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent

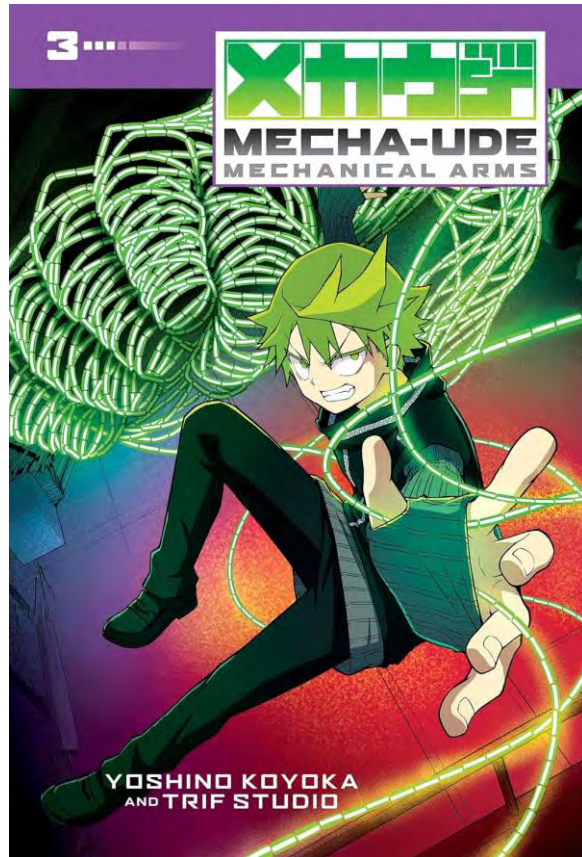


9780702325212
PB £8.99

GRAPHIC NOVEL

MECHA-UDE: MECHANICAL ARMS (VOLUME 3)

YOSHINO KOYOKA



The action continues in volume 3! An ordinary middle-school **student's** life takes a thrilling turn when he encounters a powerful mechanical being in this exciting new manga series for fans of My Hero Academia and Spy x Family.

Now that Hikaru and Alma have been separated, Hikaru is desperate to find the missing Mecha-Ude. He'll need the help of Aki and the whole ARMS team, and perhaps even a bitter rival, if they're to save Alma from the dire fate the Kagami Group has in store.

Key selling points

- An action-packed, gripping manga in full colour
- Perfect for fans of My Hero Academia and Spy x Family
- Translated from the original Japanese!

About the author: Yoshino Koyoka is a manga artist based in Tokyo. Her works include the manga adaptation of *Aria the Scarlet Ammo*. Loves: robots and tokusatsu films. Dislikes: raw eggs and raw fish (despite being Japanese).

SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9781546142614

RRP: £10.99

Age: 08-12

Binding: Paperback

Extent: 208pp

TPS: 127mm x 190mm

CBMC code: C3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent



9781546142553
PB £10.99



9781546142584
PB £10.99

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GRAPHIC NOVEL

GHOST-SPIDER: BROKEN CHORDS (SPIDER-WOMAN GRAPHIC NOVEL)

ROSEANNE A. BROWN



Spider-Verse fan-favourite Ghost-Spider takes on a multi-dimensional conspiracy in this thrilling graphic novel from New York Times bestselling author Roseanne A. Brown!

Gwen Stacy does her best to balance being a student, playing in her punk band and fighting crime as the superhero Ghost-Spider. But when Arachnid, a super villain from a different dimension with similar spider powers, attacks her world, Ghost-Spider will have to team up with a new ally – Spider-Punk!

Can these two get to the truth behind Arachnid's attacks? And just how did Gwen's family history get webbed into this?

Key selling points

- Feature's Hobie Brown aka Spider-Punk - a fan-favourite character from Across the Spider-Verse
- Bright and dynamic artwork by Diobelle Cerna and Nabi Ali
- Perfect for Marvel and comic-book fans

About the author: Roseanne A. Brown was born in Kumasi, Ghana and immigrated to the wild jungles of central Maryland as a child. She graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor's in Journalism and was also a teaching assistant for the school's Jiménez-Porter Writers' House program. Her journalistic work has been featured by Voice of America among other outlets. Rosie currently lives outside Washington D.C., where in her free time she can usually be found wandering the woods, making memes or thinking about Star Wars. Her debut novel, A Song of Wraith and Ruin, was a New York Times bestseller.

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 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9781546122517

RRP: £9.99

Age: 08-12

Binding: Non Standard - paperback

Extent: 128pp

TPS: 229mm x 152mm

CBMC code: D3N69

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent



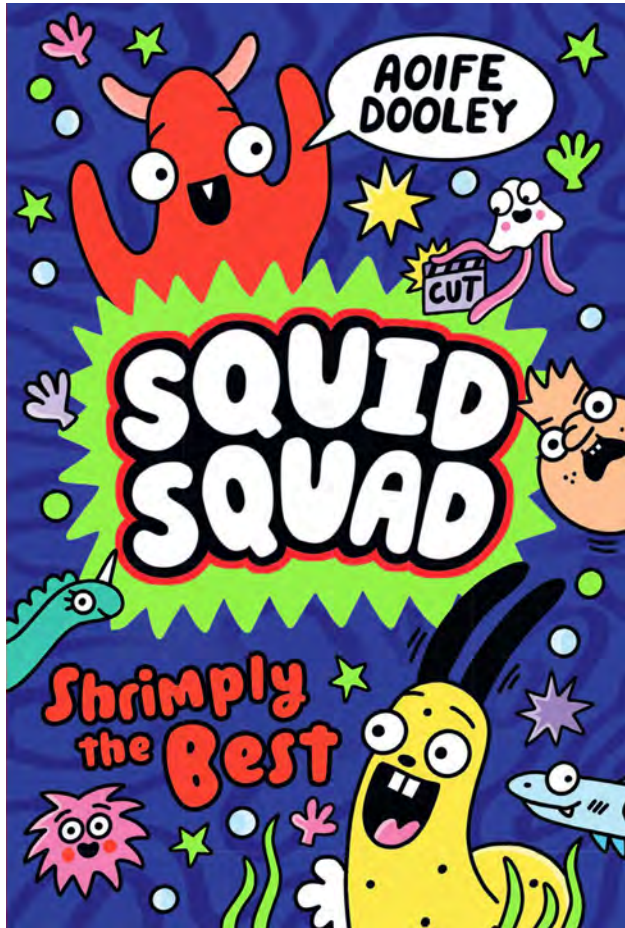
9780702340499

PB £9.99

FICTION

SQUID SQUAD 2: SHRIMPLY THE BEST

AOIFE DOOLEY



Ollie the vampire squid, Zing the sea bunny and the rest of the Squid Squad are back for more hilarious, zany and action-packed adventures in this full-colour graphic novel for readers aged 5-8, perfect for fans of *Bumble and Snug*, *Spongebob Squarepants* and *Bunny vs Monkey*.

Key selling points

- High energy, visual, episodic storytelling is perfect for low attention spans.
- Aoife shows off her wonderfully zany, silly humour that will appeal to kids, and her bold, bright, graphic artwork is perfect for this younger area of the market.
- As always, Aoife brings her neurodivergent perspective to the story, highlighting and celebrating unique characters.
- As well as embracing imaginative creations of her own, many of the characters, including Ollie and Zing themselves, are based on real unusual creatures found in the deep sea, which offers an educational moment.

About the author: Aoife Dooley is an Irish writer, award-winning illustrator, comedian and graphic designer. Aoife openly shares her experiences of being diagnosed as autistic at the age of 27, neurodiversity and how a diagnosis helped her to truly understand herself.

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 23rd April 2026

ISBN: 9780702337116

RRP: £9.99

Age: 05-08

Binding: Demy Octavo - paperback

Extent: 224pp

TPS: 210mm x 140mm

CBMC code: B3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World



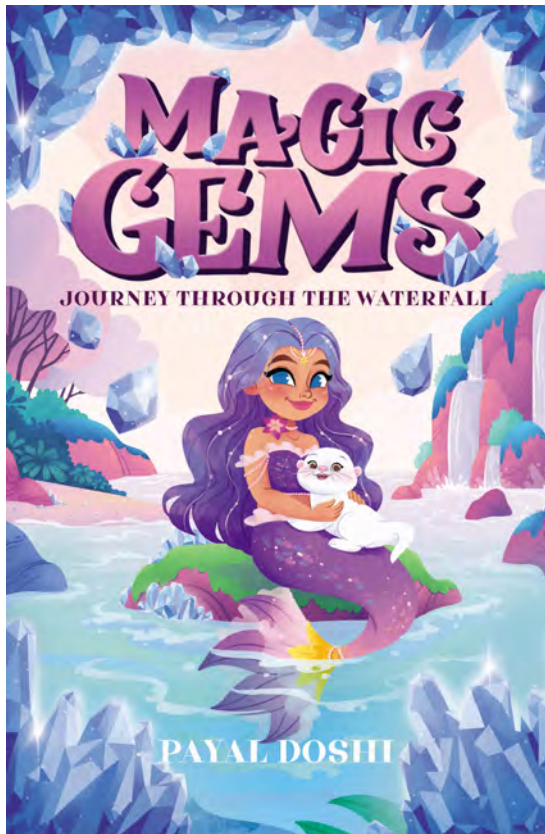
9780702337109

PB £9.99

FICTION

MAGIC GEMS: JOURNEY THROUGH THE WATERFALL

PAYAL DOSHI



Dragon Girls meets Love Puppies in this new chapter book series starring a group of friends who protect animals with magical gemstones!

A little sparkle goes a long way!

Lily the Water Gem helps her family take care of otters who splash around near the lake. When one of the baby otters is injured, Lily rushes to help. It soon becomes clear that the otter needs a special medicine made from flowers that grow beyond a powerful waterfall.

The Gem who goes on the mission to collect the flowers must be brave, strong, and fast - because time is running out. Lily volunteers to make the journey. She'll do anything to save one of her beloved otters!

Key selling points

- A perfect new series for young readers
- Includes stunning illustrations throughout
- Perfect for fans of Dragon Girls and Forever Fairies

About the author: Payal Doshi has a Master's in Creative Writing (Fiction) from The New School, New York. Having lived in the UK and the US, she noticed a lack of Indian protagonists in global children's fiction and one day wrote the opening paragraph to what would become her first children's novel. She was born and raised in Mumbai, India, and currently resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with her husband and four-year-old daughter. When she isn't writing or spending time with her family, you can find her nose deep in a book with a cup of coffee or daydreaming of fantasy realms to send her characters off into. She loves the smell of old, yellowed books. Her debut middle grade fantasy novel, *Rea and the Blood of the Nectar*, is the recipient of the IPPY Gold Award.

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702349140

RRP: £5.99

Age: 05-07

Binding: Paperback

Extent: 144pp

TPS: 198mm x 129mm

CBMC code: B3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent

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FICTION

MAGIC GEMS: LOST IN THE CRYSTAL CAVES

PAYAL DOSHI



Dragon Girls meets Love Puppies in book 2 of this new chapter book series starring a group of friends who protect animals with their magical gemstones!

Rio, an Earth Gem, is eager to earn his first gemstone in order to do more for his animal neighbors. One afternoon, a fox bounds up to Rio, clearly in distress. Another fox is lost inside the nearby Crystal Caves!

Without waiting for his fellow Gems, Rio heads into the caves. Once inside, finding a lost fox proves trickier than Rio thought it would be. He's worried he might get lost himself!

Key selling points

- A perfect new series for young readers
- Includes stunning illustrations throughout
- Perfect for fans of Dragon Girls and Forever Fairies

About the author: Payal Doshi has a Master's in Creative Writing (Fiction) from The New School, New York. Having lived in the UK and the US, she noticed a lack of Indian protagonists in global children's fiction and one day wrote the opening paragraph to what would become her first children's novel. She was born and raised in Mumbai, India, and currently resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with her husband and four-year-old daughter. When she isn't writing or spending time with her family, you can find her nose deep in a book with a cup of coffee or daydreaming of fantasy realms to send her characters off into. She loves the smell of old, yellowed books. Her debut middle grade fantasy novel, *Rea and the Blood of the Nectar*, is the recipient of the IPPY Gold Award.

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702349133

RRP: £5.99

Age: 05-07

Binding: Paperback

Extent: 144pp

TPS: 198mm x 129mm

CBMC code: B3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World excluding USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and part of Indian continent

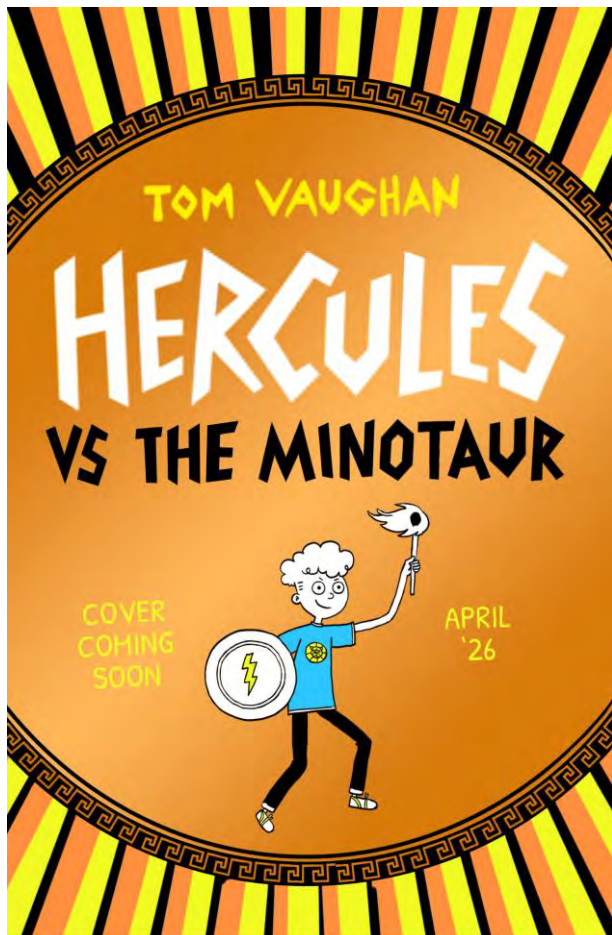
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FICTION

HERCULES: HERCULES VS THE MINOTAUR

TOM VAUGHAN



Hercules Braver, modern-day son of Zeus, is about to face his BIGGEST challenge yet... The epic, hilarious, highly illustrated fourth book in the HERCULES series.

Hercules is ready to start a new school year when, to his surprise, his cousin Theseus suddenly comes to stay! Theseus, son of Poseidon, is a young demigod just like Hercules. But right as Herc was (finally) preparing to be a heroically good role model, infuriating Theseus causes TROUBLE at every turn.

Key selling points

- The epic fourth book in the series following the bestselling Waterstones Book of the Month title
- The story features the Minotaur, one of the most recognisable characters in Greek mythology for schoolchildren, along with three-headed dog Cerberus and lots of Greek gods!
- Breaks out of the series mould by introducing a brand-new boy demigod character and a perilous monster twist (while staying as funny as ever)!

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702340413

RRP: £7.99

Age: 08-11

Binding: B format - paperback

Extent: 272pp

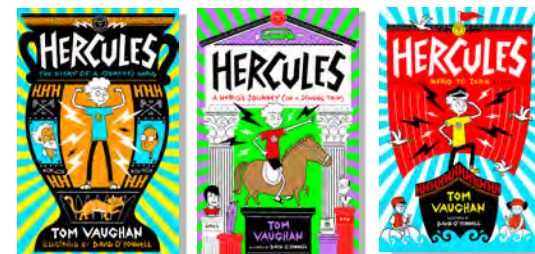
TPS: 198mm x 129mm

CBMC code: D3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:

World



9780702324635
PB £7.99

9780702324628
PB £7.99

9780702340406
PB £7.99

About the Author: Tom Vaughan is a journalist, television producer, and children's author. Despite modest success in those three fields, he'd prefer to be remembered as the man who unsuccessfully tried to invent a meal between supper and breakfast called *supfast*. He lives in Yorkshire with his wife and two small unemployed people, also known as his children.

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FICTION

KAMIZEN: FORTRESS OF LOST MEMORIES

WILLIAM YAMAGUCHI DOBSON



Twelve-year-old Jonty desperately wants an adventure but he knows it's unlikely when he's stuck at home for the entire summer.

But then he meets a talking bonobo in the forest at the back of his house who invites him to enter a magical world behind a Japanese Memory gate. There, he will get to collect wild memories from the time his gramps was a famous primatologist... and soon, his adventure begins.

Key selling points

- A middle-grade fantasy with a future classic feel, that focuses on Japanese folklore.
- An outstanding and original new voice in children's fiction.
- A stunning package - with beautiful inside illustrations by Sawa
- Perfect for fans of studio Ghibli, prepare for the impossible...

 SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702342738

RRP: £8.99

Age: 09-12

Binding: B format - paperback

Extent: 384pp

TPS: 198mm x 129mm

CBMC code: D3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:
World

About the author: William Yamaguchi Dobson was born in Japan, where he developed a love of stories through manga and spent school holidays on his grandparents apple farm nestled in the alpine valleys of Nagano prefecture. He is an alumnus of The London Library's Emerging Writers Programme and was shortlisted for The Bath Children's Novel Award.

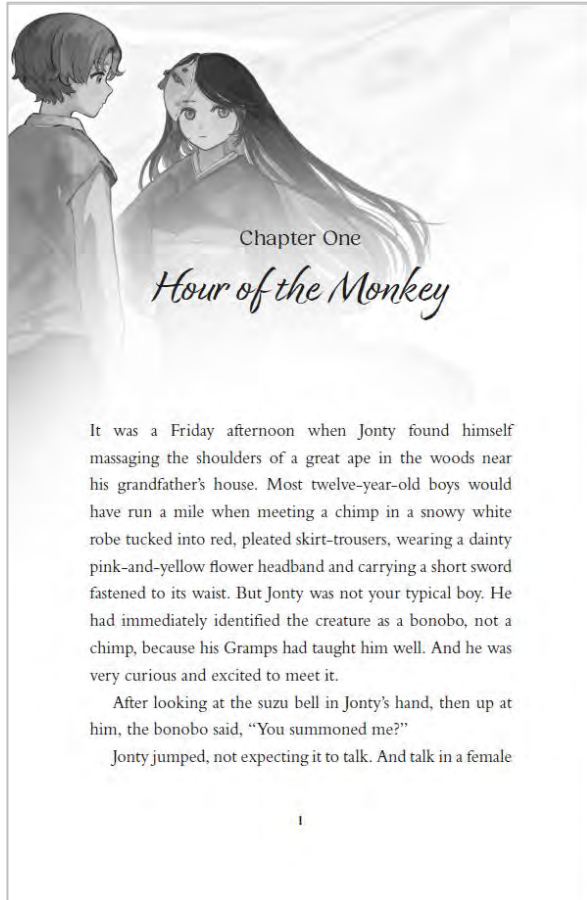
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FICTION

KAMIZEN: FORTRESS OF LOST MEMORIES

WILLIAM YAMAGUCHI DOBSON



WORK IN PROGRESS

YA FICTION

HYO AND THE DEEP-ROOTED DEMON

MINA IKEMOTO GHOSH



A breath-taking YA mystery fantasy, illustrated with stunning Japanese- inspired artwork, perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo, Xiran Jay Zhao and R.F. Kuang.

Meet the Hakai Family Hellmakers: Purveyors of artisan hells and unlucky days to inflict upon your enemies.

Onogoro is in the middle of electing a new chief - but, as the deadline looms, a sword-wielding serial killer comes to town. Hyo, busy trying to solve a kidnapping mystery, soon crosses paths with the serial killer himself, who reveals a murky power struggle that goes all the way up to the gods themselves. Promising vengeance, Hyo embarks on her strangest special commission yet - and learns more about the powers of being a Hellmaker and the epic destiny she has before her...

Key selling points

- The second YA fantasy from author and illustrator Mina Ikemoto Ghosh.
- This beautiful package is highly illustrated with Manga style art.
- Perfect for fans of Six of Crows, Iron Widow and Spirited Away.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Mina Ikemoto Ghosh is a British-Japanese writer who was raised on a diet of Japanese murder- mysteries and British fantasy novels. Her own writing often ends up in the shadowy zone between the two. After studying STEM with a BA in Natural Sciences, she entertained family by embarking on misadventures in writing, illustration and freelance translation. She has an MSc in Japanese Studies from the University of Oxford, with focuses on classical Japanese literature and contemporary anthropology, and uses these as sources of inspiration for her stories. She was shortlisted the two times she entered the *UK Manga Jiman* in 2019 and 2021. Her debut YA, *Hyo The Hellmaker* was published in 2024.

SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702328961

RRP: £10.99

Age: 12-18

Binding: B format - paperback

Extent:

TPS: 198mm x 129mm

CBMC code: E3N79

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:
World



9780702328954
PB £10.99

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NON FICTION

WILD FOOTPRINTS

JUDY WISE Illustrated by KEVIN HOWDESHELL



SCHOLASTIC

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9780702341250

RRP: £12.99

Age: 04-07

Binding: Non Standard - hardback

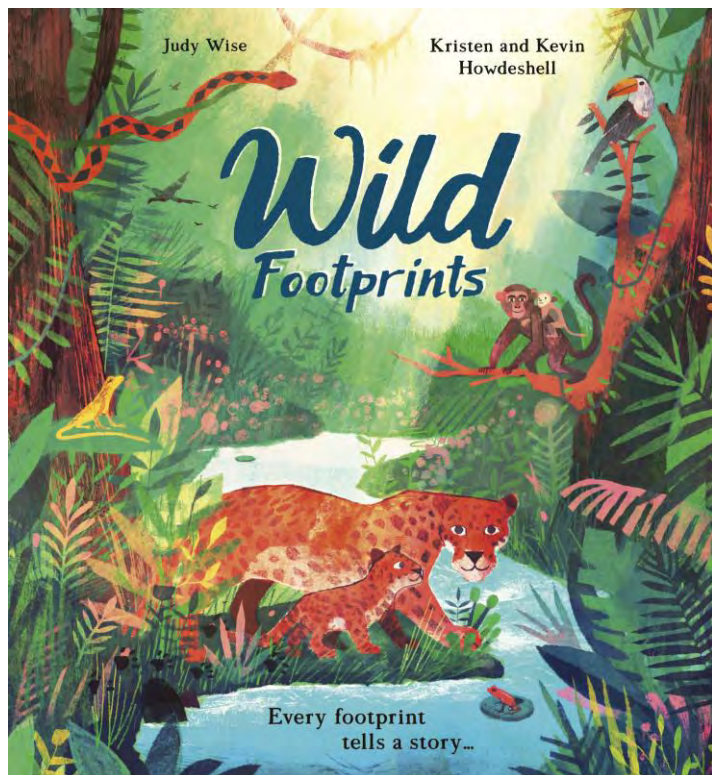
Extent: 32pp

TPS: 275mm x 250mm

CBMC code: B5N79

Illustrations: Colour

English Language Rights: World



Each unique creature leaves a special trail. And each and every one tells an extraordinary tale...

This debut non-fiction picture book from author Judy Wise teaches young readers about the importance of the natural world. Follow in the footprints of some of Earth's most majestic creatures and magnificent minibeasts. Along the way, you'll learn that some footprints are more harmful than others...

Though humans have damaged many ecosystems, we too have the power to change our ways.

Key selling points

- Stunning illustrations by The Brave Union
- Combines notions of conservation and ecology with inclusivity, diversity and empowerment – perfect for young, inquisitive readers
- Lyrical text intertwines with snippets of factual content so readers can learn about the creatures on every page
- A beautiful book to be cherished and reread
- Includes a search-and-find activity and a top tips section for children interested in learning how to help the planet and its inhabitants



9780702328725
HB £14.99

About the author: Whether it's exploring beaches with her own three little wild-things, chasing cheeky guinea pigs Binky and Buttercup around the garden, or finding calm from chronic illness in leafy woodlands, Judy is constantly reminded of how important the natural world is for us all. She hopes her vibrant, life-filled story will inspire the young minds, who themselves inspire the world we live in, every day.

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NON FICTION

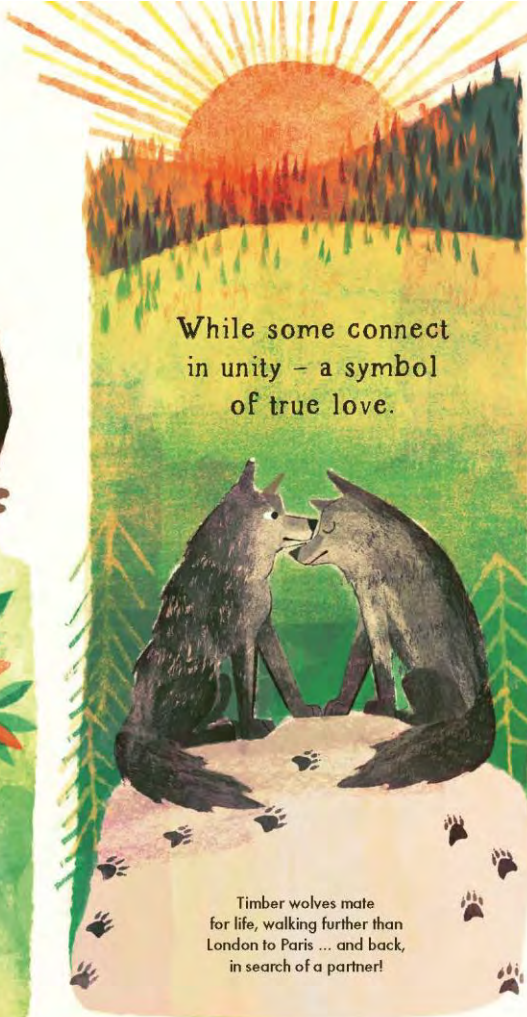
WILD FOOTPRINTS

JUDY WISE Illustrated by KEVIN HOWDESHELL

Some footprints travel
upwards, towards
the sky above.



Koalas have two thumbs
and three fingers on each hand,
giving them super grip!



While some connect
in unity – a symbol
of true love.

Timber wolves mate
for life, walking further than
London to Paris ... and back,
in search of a partner!



Some prints
plummet
downwards,
delving into caves.

Bats' toes lock in place while they rest,
so they don't fall when they nod off!



Others swirl in circles,
beneath the
whirling waves.

A pufferfish makes seabed patterns
that channel fresher water to the
centre – perfect for nests.



D.I.Y. Projects for Besties — with The Baby-sitters Club!

Fans can make and swap bracelets, fortune tellers, friendship pins, bookmarks and more with fun designs inspired by Kristy, Mary Anne, Stacey, Claudia, Dawn, Jessi and Mallory.

The kit includes everything needed to create a variety of friendship crafts—perfect for parties, sleepovers or creative afternoons.

Key selling points

- Encourages creativity and sharing among friends!
- Includes all the materials needed to complete these projects
- A must-have for fans!

Pub Date: 9th April 2026

ISBN: 9798225032838

RRP: £14.99

Age: 08-12

Binding: Non Standard - paperback

Extent: 48pp

TPS: 235mm x 210mm

CBMC code: C5L68

Illustrations:

English Language Rights:
Limited availability.



About the series: The Baby-sitters Club, created by Ann M. Martin, is a beloved and bestselling series that has inspired generations of readers. Featuring Kristy, Mary Anne, Stacey, Claudia, Dawn, Jessi and Mallory, the stories celebrate friendship, creativity and teamwork - values that continue to connect with fans around the world.