

From the Publisher

When we launched Otter-Barry Books in 2016 our aim was to publish books that make a difference and challenge boundaries. In our fourth year, we believe we have met that challenge, while always publishing stories and pictures of the highest possible quality. For Spring 2020 we present some of the most distinguished authors and illustrators working today as well as new voices. Famous preschool author Mary Murphy's 'philosophy for young children', Only a Tree Knows How to Be a Tree, has been captivating readers across the world ahead of publication, and Fiona French's Wild Wolf is a stunning picture book inspired by Algonquin legend. Debut author Hollis Kurman teams up with international star Barroux in a refugee story that speaks simply and hopefully to very young children: Hellol A Counting Book of Kindnesses, while Jane Newberry pairs with exciting new illustrator Carolina Rabei in a charming book of original play and action rhymes, Big Green Crocodile.

In April comes a fascinating science information book from Catherine Barr and Anne Wilson, *Invisible Nature*; and finally, in May we present the beautiful *Mrs Noah's Garden* from the brilliant creative partnership of Jackie Morris and James Mayhew: a gorgeous story that combines new beginnings with nurture of the natural world for children of all ages.

I hope you enjoy discovering our new books and reconnecting with our backlist, now 40 titles, and strong in today's themes of inclusivity, diversity and empathy.

Thematic Guide to Contents

ANIMAL STORIES *5,10,13,14,17,19,20,21*BABIES *6,17,20*CONSERVATION *2,13,20*EARLY READERS *9,22*EMPATHY
& UNDERSTANDING *3,4,12,13,16,17,18,19*

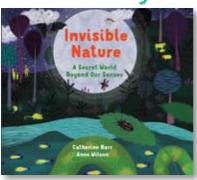
HUMOUR 7,8,11,12,13,15,16,18,21 INFORMATION 1,10,23 TRADITIONAL TALES 5,16,19,20 WAR & MIGRATION 6,15,23 YOUNG READERS 15,22

Invisible Nature

A Secret World Beyond Our Senses

Catherine Barr Illustrated by Anne Wilson

Introducing an extraordinary hidden world!



here are sounds no human can hear, scents no-one can smell, colours our eyes cannot detect, magnetic waves we never feel ... but some animals can. And they are vital to all life on Earth. This is the astonishing secret world revealed in Catherine Barr's latest book.

These hidden forces help cats to catch mice, elephants to find mates, vampire bats to find victims, reindeer to find food under the snow, and let ants 'talk' by exchanging smells. They protect the Earth from harmful radiation – indeed, without "Invisible Nature", life on our planet would not exist.

And humans have learned how to tap these powers. Microwave ovens, cameras that see inside us, doors that open as we approach, radio, TV, even dog whistles ... "Invisible Nature" is truly part of everyday life.

CATHENINE BANN has a special talent for books on "big issues for small people", and is author of the bestselling *The Story of Life*. Most recently she has written *Red Alert!* for Otter-Barry Books. She lives in Hay on Wye, Wales.

ANNE WILSON studied illustration at Central St Martin's College of Art, London. She has illustrated many books, including *Red Alert!* and also creates greetings cards and prints. Her clear, colourful graphic style is perfect for presenting science to young readers. Anne lives in Reading, Berkshire.

See page 10 for Red Alert! in paperback

Mrs Noah's Garden

Jackie Morris Illustrated by James Mayhew



"Mrs Noah touched the earth. It was warm on her fingertips. She looked all round the Ark. On the south side the slope was less steep. A few shrubs and bushes had clung on, despite the flood. Two yew trees stood, ancient and tall. Yes, thought Mrs Noah. Here."

ver-resourceful, ever-surprising, Mrs Noah won a host of admirers with Mrs Noah's Pockets (2016). Now, with the Ark safely grounded, she gives herself a new task, to make a garden in the bare earth. Her famously deep pockets hold flower and plant seeds, and with her children's help she prepares the ground, plants and waters, until on a magical midsummer's morning, the garden is there in full bloom. For Mr Noah, who has watched her sewing in the evenings and thought, 'Ah, curtains at last', there is a special surprise.

Books for Keeps said of Mrs Noah's Pockets: "... must surely become a classic picture book."

JACKIE MORKIS is celebrated both as an author and an artist (illustrator of *The Lost Words* for which she won the Kate Greenaway Medal in 2019). She lives near St Davids, in Wales, maintains a very lively and informative blog, and is much in demand for story and illustration sessions.

JAMES MATHEW illustrator, author, storyteller, concert presenter, is a trustee for Action for Children's Arts, and an ambassador for Side by Side with Refugees. He won the New York Times book illustration award in 1994, and has won many awards and prizes since. He lives in Suffolk, England.

See pages 19 and 20 for other Jackie Morris and James Mayhew titles

Hello! A Counting Book of Kindnesses

Hollis Kurman Illustrated by Barroux



A highly original 1 to 10 counting book that celebrates diversity and encourages empathy in very young children



xploring themes of migration, refuge and acceptance, it gently follows a family's journey to a new home. Along the way, kindness, generosity and sharing are the order of the day!

HOLLIS KURMAN is an innovative poet and writer, and an active participant in social causes on both sides of the Atlantic. Chair of the Ivy Circle Board in the USA, a founder of the Human Rights Watch Netherlands Committee, and a member of the HRW Global Women's Rights Advisory Council, Hollis lives in Amsterdam with her husband and two children.

PEN Award and the Prix Médecins Sans Frontières in 2015, he has won many international honours. Born in Paris, he grew up in Morocco and is author and illustrator of many books, published all over the world. He lives in Paris.

Endorsed by Amnesty International

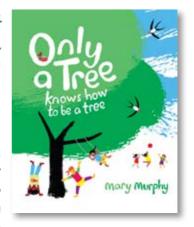
Only a Tree

knows how to be a tree

Written and illustrated by Mary Murphy

Everything and everyone is different, and special - including You!

nly a Tree knows how to be a tree! And trees are just the start - everything and everyone is different and special. Birds, dogs, fishes, people - even our Earth itself. But only you know how to be you! In the simplest, most satisfying way, Mary Murphy shows young children how each of us is unique, yet also part of the wonderful pattern of life.

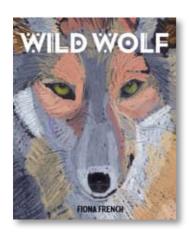




MAXY MURPHY is an Irish author-illustrator famous for colourful, bold and simple images for younger children. Dick Bruna and Tove Jansson are among the authors whom she loved as a child. Published across the world, including Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Taiwan, her many books include *Mouse is Small, Good Night Like This* and the *I Like it When* series. She lives in Dublin, Ireland.

Wild Wolf

Written and illustrated by Fiona French



A magical story inspired by an American First Nation folktale

When beautiful Proud Girl refuses to marry Bravest Warrior, his heart turns to anger. In revenge he makes Ice Man, who leads Proud Girl into great danger. But Wild Wolf, guardian spirit, is watching. Can Proud Girl's pride and Bravest Warrior's anger turn to forgiveness and love? Not only is this powerful story inspired by a traditional Algonquin tale, but its stunning illustrations reflect Fiona French's deep appreciation of Algonquin beadwork, quillwork and embroidery; and the dramatic mountain landscape of their home.



FIGNA FRENCII was born in Bath. She was taught by Charles Keeping at Croydon College of Art and worked as an assistant to the artist Bridget Riley from 1968 to 1973. She has written and illustrated many brilliantly coloured and imaginatively conceived picture-books including the Greenaway Medal winner *Snow White in New York*, and *Anancy and Mr Dry-Bone*. She lives in Norfolk.

Big Green Crocodile

Rhymes to Say and Play

Jane Newberry Illustrated by Carolina Rabei

A new and original action rhyme book, helping creative play with babies and toddlers, and offering lots of fun



pecially devised to entertain and delight very young children (and incidentally to help along their vocabulary and cognitive skills) here are sixteen original play-rhymes with child-friendly illustrations to cover the events of a baby's or toddler's day, and guidance on how to play. They feature jungle animals, farm animals, buzzing bees, big green crocodiles of course, tractors, rockets, aeroplanes – and lots more!





JANE NEWBERRY is an expert in music and rhyme sharing with toddlers and babies. With four children of her own, working for eight years with the National Childbirth Trust gave Jane a special insight into the challenges of 21st century parenting. Passionate about music education, she has published two songbooks, *A Sackful of Songs* and *A Sackful of Christmas*. Jane lives in Cornwall.

CAROLINA RABEL gained a BA in Graphic Design in Moldova and a distinction in Children's Book Illustration at the Cambridge School of Art. Her artwork is a unique mix of traditional and digital techniques. Carolina is also illustrator of *Binky's Time to Fly* for Otter-Barry Books (see page 16). She lives in Cambridge.

The Magic of Mums

Poems by Justin Coe Illustrated by Steve Wells





Perfect for Mother's Day and every day!

Action Man, please move over You're nothing but a plastic poser If there's a job that you need done The one you want is Action Mum

e entranced by Circus Mum, find out what it's like to have a Celebrity Mum, get your boots on with Football Mum, admire Hard-working Mum, School-Run Mum and Stunt Mum - then discover

the pleasures of having Two Mums. There are over forty mums to choose from - maybe one of them is like YOUR mum!

A funny, heart-warming and thoughtful sequel to *The Dictionary of Dads* by a brilliant poet who performs in schools and theatres across the UK.

JUSTIN COE is a performance poet on a mission to reconnect people with poetry and poetry with people. A popular performer in schools, theatres and community settings, he has entertained everywhere from Sheppey to Shanghai and from the Savoy Hotel to street corners, steam trains and a sitting-room made entirely out of newspaper.

Justin lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

children, one cat and a lizard.

STEVE WELLS is a graphic designer with

over 200 book covers to his

credit, and his spontaneous,

Bath with his wife and three

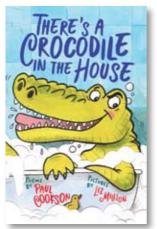
scratchy illustrations have

appeared in more than a

dozen more. He lives in

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm • 96pp • 198 x 129mm • 978-1-910959-64-0 February-20 • Age 6+ There's a Crocodile in the House!

Poems by Paul Cookson Illustrated by Liz Million





Big sharp teeth
Open mouth
There's a crocodile
in the house!

liens from outer space, a monster in the bathroom, a mouse in the classroom.... Funny poems about football, robots, pets, friends, dinosaurs and even Dad's big toe. And watch out for that crocodile!

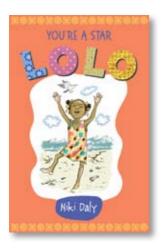
With lots of actions, joining in, jumping up, calling out – and sometimes keeping very quiet – this is a wonderful collection for younger children, by hugely popular performance poet and National Reading Hero Paul Cookson, and with laugh-out-loud illustrations by Liz Million.

PAUL COOKSON has been entertaining and delighting young readers and listeners for four decades. Among his best-known collections are *The Poetry Store, Pants on Fire* and *I'd Rather Be a Footballer.* Paul's work has taken him to Argentina, China, Malaysia, as well as Belgium, France and Germany. He lives in Retford, Nottinghamshire.

LIT MILLION graduated in Illustration at Kingston University, Surrey, and is also an author in her own right. She has done workshops with children all over the world in school and library visits. Liz lives in Darlington, North Yorkshire, with her husband and son.

You're a Star, Lolo!

Written and illustrated by Niki Daly Paperback Original



Four new stories featuring the irrepressible Lolo



olo lives with her Mum and Granny Gogo in South Africa, and her everyday adventures make reading fun for children everywhere. In this third collection Lolo is puzzled by strange noises at night, has to decide between tomatoes and snails in the school garden, and goes on holiday with Granny Gogo. Things don't always go according to plan, but turn out all right in the end! It makes a perfectly pitched first reader for children living in a diverse society.

See page 22 for the other Lolo titles and page 17 for Surprise! Surprise!

NIKI DALY almost became a pop star but instead turned to writing and has become an author and illustrator with a high international reputation. He has received awards from the ALA and IBBY, has been nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award, and is an important influence in today's multicultural South Africa. He is married to fellow-author Jude Daly, and they live in South Africa.

Red Alert!

Fifteen Endangered Animals Fighting to Survive

Catherine Barr Illustrated by Anne Wilson

Inspired and endorsed by the IUCN Red List database of threatened species



"Absolutely beautiful and perfectly targeted for its audience.
We are delighted to be involved."

Dr Craig Hilton-Taylor, Head of Red List Unit, International Union for the Conservation of Nature



"The book is so interactive and flexible and encourages readers to make a choice in how they access the information ... The stories really bring the creatures alive for children"

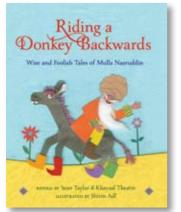
Reading Rocks

ifteen endangered species, six world habitats - the reader picks a place, chooses a creature, discovers its story - and also finds out how to help it survive. Readers love the original, interactive approach which makes them feel they are really making discoveries. Species included range from the Giant Panda to the Peacock Tarantula, and the Panamanian Golden Frog to the Snow Leopard.



Riding a Donkey Backwards

Retold by Sean Taylor and Khayaal Theatre Illustrated by Shirin Adl



Meet one of the world's greatest comic characters

Why is Mulla Nasruddin spooning yoghurt into the river? He has moved into the house of a man who's just just burgled him!

And why is he riding his donkey backwards? Is he crazy,

or is he wiser than he seems?

Loved for centuries in Muslim communities, Nasruddin's comic deeds and escapades are universal in their appeal. Shirin Adl's fabulous illustrations add to the joyous humour of these twenty-one stories. Everyone needs a daily helping of Mulla Nasruddin!



SEAN TATLOR is a writer and storyteller and a lover of humour, who has given talks and workshops in three continents. He lives in Bristol.

SHIRIN ADL Shirin Adl is an Iranian British artist who has written and illustrated numerous books on Muslim and diversity themes.

KHAYAAL THEATNE is a British-based company founded in 1997 and dedicated to creating adaptations of Muslim and interfaith literature and heritage for stage, screen, radio and schools.

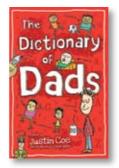


Zim Zam Zoom! Zappy Poems to Read Out Loud James Carter.

illustrated by Nicola Colton Shortisted for CLiPPA Award 2019

"The sort of poetry book that kids can't resist...a true treat." Read it. Daddy!

£6.99 • PB • 275x240mm • 32pp 9781910959053 • Age 4+





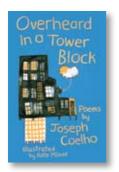
The Dictionary of Dads

Poems by Justin Coe, illustrated by Steve Wells

"A fantastic book that gathers together just about every type of dad you can think of in a brilliant poetry A-Z."

Read It Daddy!

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm • 112pp 9781910959169 • Age 7+



Overheard in a Tower Block

Poems by Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Kate Milner

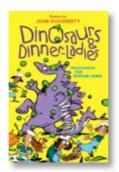
In CLPE Best Books of 2017 CLiPPA shortlist 2018

Carnegie longlist 2018

"A powerful and moving poetic narrative about growing up in the city"

Telegraph

£6.99 • PB • 198x129m 112pp • 9781910959589 Age 8+



Dinosaurs and Dinner-Ladies

Poems by John Dougherty, illustrated by Tom Morgan-Jones

"A brilliant debut collection of laugh out loud poems."

Armadillo

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959565 Age 7+

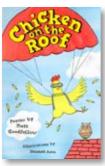


Adder, Bluebell, Lobster

Wild Poems by Chrissie Gittins, illustrated by Paul Bommer

"A sheer delight to read aloud... the vocabulary is superb." Parents in Touch

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959558 Age 7+



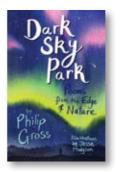
Chicken on the Roof

Poems by Matt Goodfellow, illustrated by Hannah Asen

"Rhythm, rhyme, wordplay and whimsy make up this collection of poems about imagination and play and everyday life. With amusing and inclusive cartoons, its great strengths are its short lines and succinctness."

Nicolette Jones, The Sunday Times

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm • 96pp 9781910959909 • Age 7+



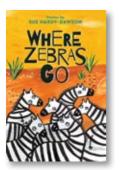
"Another
winning collection from
Otter-Barry Books, who are
building an enviable list of
some of the best of today's
poets for children"
Books for Keeps

Dark Sky Park

Poems from the Edge of Nature by Philip Gross, illustrated by Jesse Hodgson Shortlisted for CLiPPA Award 2019

"This mesmerising anthology had me wondering, learning, looking and so much more. It's a collection that works on so many levels." Reading Zone 5-star review

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm • 96 pages 9781910959886 • Age 9+



Where Zebras Go

Poems and illustrations by Sue Hardy-Dawson

Shortisted for the CLiPPA 2018

"A talent that is very special indeed...quite simply, a triumph."

Teach Primary

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959312 Age 7+



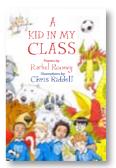
The Waggiest Tails

Poems by dogs, with help from Brian Moses and Roger Stevens, illustrated by Ed Boxall

"All written from the dogs' point of view, this funny and perceptive canine collection will be treasured by dog-lovers of all ages."

Read it, Daddy!

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959893 Age 7+



A Kid in My Class

Poems by Rachel Rooney, illustrated by Chris Riddell Shortlisted for CLiPPA Award 2019

"This moreish collection of poems is beautifully written and illustrated." Nicolette Jones, *The Sunday Times*

£10.99 • HB • 230x150mm 88 pages • 9781910959879 Age 7+



Moonstruck!

Edited by Roger Stevens, illustrated by Ed Boxall

"An inspirational and beautifully illustrated anthology" LoveReading4Kids

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959657 Age 6+



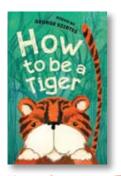


A Child's Garden of Verses

Robert Louis Stevenson, illustrated by Michael Foreman With a foreword by Alexander McCall Smith

"A beautiful gift book stunningly illustrated... here is a wonderful opportunity for a new generation of families to discover these delightful poems." Carousel

£14.99 • HB • 230x180mm • 128pp 9781910959107 • Age 5+



How to be a Tiger

Poems by George Szirtes, illustrated by Tim Archbold

"These are not just great poems for children. They are just great poems. Sometimes five stars seems a bit mean."

Books for Keeps

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959206 Age 5+



Poetry for a Change

A National Poetry
Day Anthology
Poems by National Poetry

Day Ambassadors, illustrated by Chie Hosaka

"Fascinating reading and gives an excellent insight into what lies behind the poems we enjoy and their writers." Parents in Touch

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959503 Age 8+



RISING STARS New Young Voices in Poetry

Shortisted for the CLiPPA 2018

Chosen by EmpathyLab for the 2019 Read for Empathy Guide

"Soulful, inspiring and uplifting."

Achuka Best Books of the Year

£6.99 • PB • 198x129mm 96pp • 9781910959374 Age 10+



Me And Mrs Moon

Written and illustrated by Helen Bate

"One of the most impressive, important and sensitive children's stories about dementia that we've seen so far" *Read It, Daddy*

£12.99 • HB • 250x180mm 48pp • 9781910959947 Age 7+



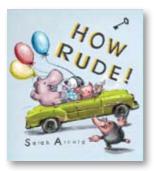


Peter in Peril

Courage and Hope in World War Two Written and illustrated by Helen Bate

"Engrossing, and superbly told in graphic format." Books for Keeps

£8.99 • PB • 250x180mm 48 pages • 9781910959039 Age 8+



How Rude!

Written and Illustrated by Sarah Arnold

"A lively and highly entertaining story about sharing, friendship and good manners, with charming illustrations." Parents in Touch

£11.99 • HB • 240x260mm 32pp • 9781910959350 Age 4+



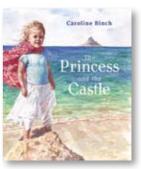
The Creature

Written and illustrated by Helen Bate

"Superbly expressive illustrations show just what the family think of their uninvited guest in this hilarious picture book."

Parents in Touch

£11.99 • HB • 270x215mm 32pp • 9781910959145 Age 3+



The Princess and the Castle

Written and illustrated by Caroline Binch

"Stunningly written and beautifully illustrated." Read It, Daddy

£6.99 • PB • 295x250mm 32pp • 9781910959480 Age 4+



Bruno and Bella The Dance Class

Written and illustrated by Judy Brown

Bruno and Bella are two new storybook characters whose zany, fun adventures children will love.

£6.99 • PB Original 240x240mm • 32pp 9781910959336 • Age 3+



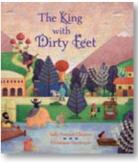
Bruno and Bella

The Scooter

Written and illustrated by Judy Brown

"Gorgeous characters are a sheer delight ... lovely touches of humour" Parents in Touch

£6.99 • PB Original 240x240mm • 32pp 9781910959329 • Age 3+



The King with Dirty Feet

Sally Pomme Clayton, illustrated by Rhiannon Sanderson

"Delightful...beautifully told for reading aloud and engagingly illustrated...comic and suspenseful." Nicolette Jones, The Sunday Times

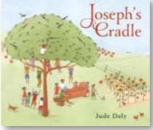
£11.99 • HB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959237 Age 4+



Binky's Time to Fly Sharmila Collins

Illustrated by Carolina Rabei Binky is a butterfly whose wings won't work. But his friends don't desert him, and with their help Binky flies after all. Published in aid of research into epidermolysis bullosa.

£6.99 • PB • 275 x 240mm 32pp • 9781910959688 Age 3+



Joseph's Cradle

Written and illustrated by Jude Daly

"Inspired by a true story ...
It's both moving and a reminder
of the importance of continuity
and renewal"

Red Reading Hub

£11.99 • HB • 235x278mm 32pp • 9781910959794 Age 5+

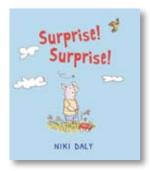


Six Blind Mice and an Elephant

Written and illustrated by Jude Daly "Beautifully told and

imaginatively illustrated, this book should be in all primary schools." Books for Keeps

£11.99 • HB • 240x240mm 32pp • 9781910959428 Age 4+



Surprise!

Written and illustrated by Niki Daly

"Delightful illustrations... funny, engaging, and thought-provoking. Highly recommended for early years." English Association

£11.99 • HB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959992 Age 4+



I Will Not Wear Pink

Joyce Dunbar, illustrated by Polly Dunbar "Whether you are five or fifty you are sure to enjoy reading this exhilarating and amusing story together."

Armadillo

£6.99 • PB • 275 x 240mm 40pp • 9781910959015 Age 3+

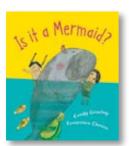


Monster Baby Written and illustrated by Sarah Dyer

"A perfect book to share when a new baby is on the way."

Parents in Touch

£11.99 • HB • 240x240mm 32pp • 9781910959084 Age 3+



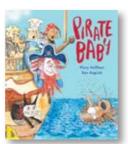
Is it a Mermaid?

Candy Gourlay, illustrated by Francesca Chessa Chosen by EmpathyLab for the 2019 Read for Empathy Guide

"Francesca Chessa's glorious illustrations are full of life and colour, beautiful representations of ocean life that complement the delightful story to perfection."

Parents in Touch

£6.99 • PB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959732 Age 3+



Pirate Baby

Mary Hoffman Illustrated by Ros Asquith

A yo-ho-ho pirate crew find a girl baby on the high seas! "A humorous pirate story that manages to convey some subtle messages about gender and role reversal" Books for Keeps

£6.99 • PB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959664 Age 5+



Fiddle Dee Dee!

Dianne Hofmeyr Illustrated by Piet Grobler Joyful and comic African story – with the power of music Monkey outwits Lion and Cheetah to keep his magic musical bow.

£11.99 • HB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959756 Age 4+

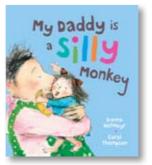


Tiger Walk Dianne Hofmeyr, illustrated by Carol Thompson

"The illustrations are richly coloured and stunning...the language is beautiful with lovely imagery. A perfect story for bedtime reading."

Books for Keeps 5 star review

£11.99 • HB • 240x275mm 32pp • 9781910959411 Age 4+



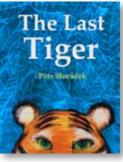
My Daddy is a Silly Monkey

Dianne Hofmeyr,
illustrated by
Carol Thompson
"A joyful celebration of
daddies everywhere with

daddies everywhere with appeal and resonance for children and their parents too."

Books for Keeps

£6.99 • PB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959923 Age 3+

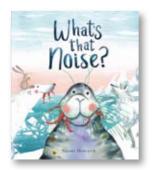


The Last Tiger

Written and illustrated by Petr Horácek

"With beautiful illustrations, this is a moving and thoughtprovoking picture book about animal freedom." Bookseller

£11.99 • HB • 275x240mm 32pp • 9781910959718 Age 5+

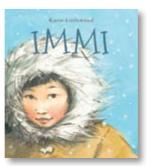


What's That Noise?

Written and illustrated by Naomi Howarth

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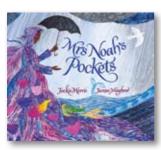


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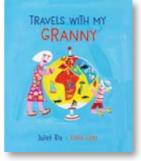
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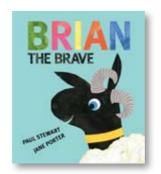


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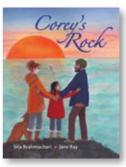
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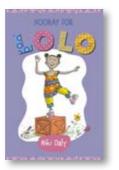
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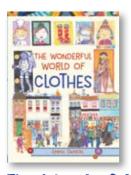
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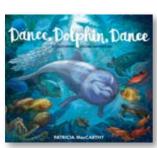


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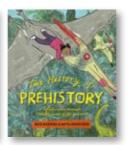
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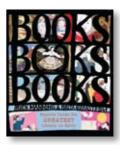
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ISBN 9781913074760

Cover illustration by Barroux from Hello! A Counting Book of Kindnesses by Hollis Kurman

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