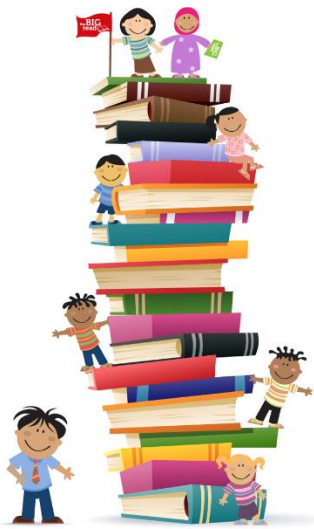


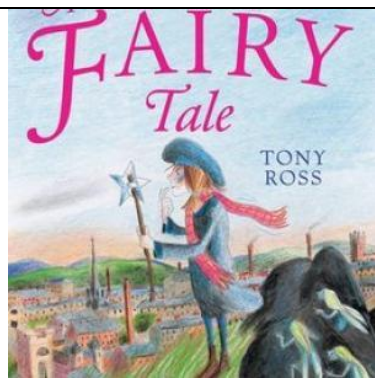
Innsworth Junior School: Recommended Reads



A Child of Books

A picture book which celebrates the power of stories and imagination.

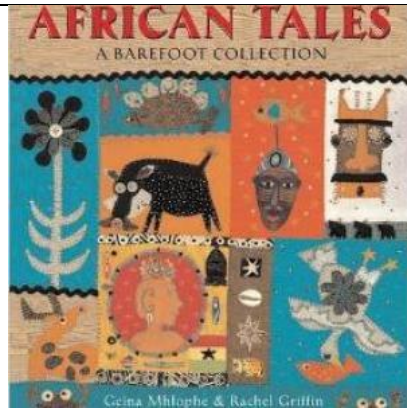
on. Years 3
and 4



A Fairy Tale

By Tony Ross

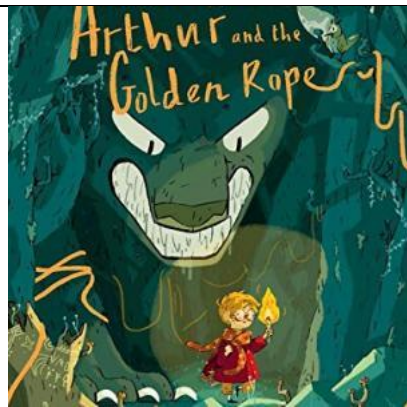
Bess, a young girl, befriends an old lady who tries to convince her to believe in fairies. Over the years they almost imperceptibly change places until old Bess, widowed in World War 2, walks down the street with a youthful Daisy.



African Tales

By Gcina Mhlophe

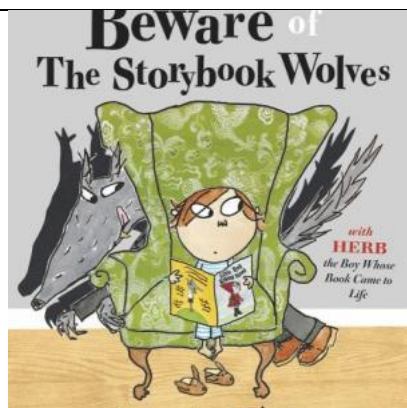
These traditional stories from the length and breadth of Africa are retold by a renowned South African storyteller.



Arthur and the Golden Rope

By Joe Todd-Stanton

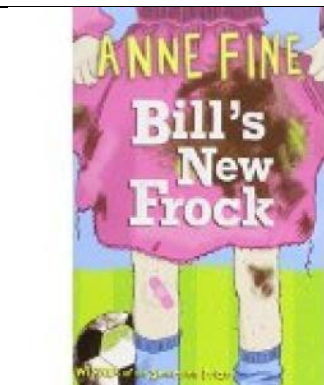
Arthur Brownstone often ventures from the small Icelandic town where he was born into the nearby forest where his curiosity leads him to collect objects and forge friendships that will later be useful.



Beware of the Storybook Wolves

By Lauren Child

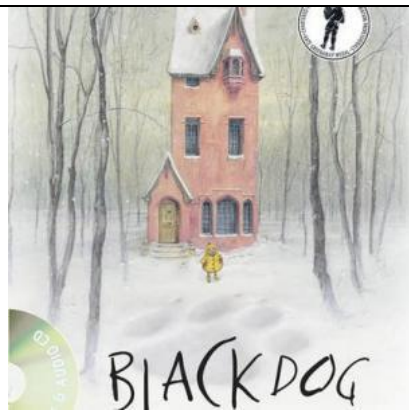
When it's time to go to sleep, Herb insists that his mother removes the book containing his bedtime story because it has a wolf in it.



Bill's New Frock

By Anne Fine

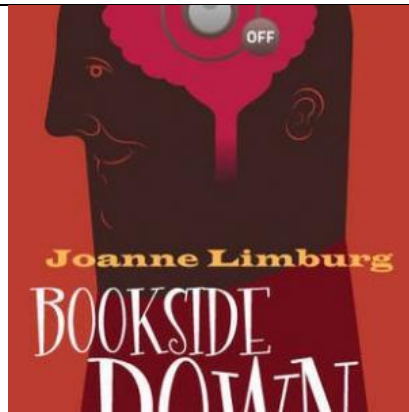
Bill wakes up one morning and finds that he is a girl...



Black Dog

By Levi Pinfold

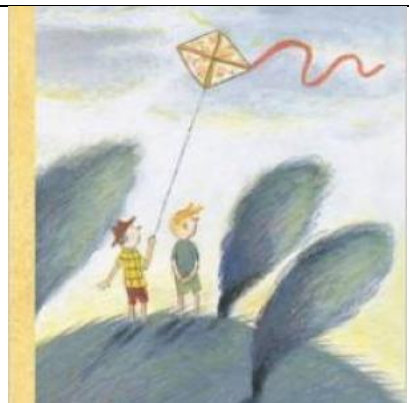
The Hope family lives in a tall narrow house in a snowy wood, the interior of which is depicted in detailed pictures full of the paraphernalia of playful & imaginative life.



Bookside Down

By Joanne Limburg

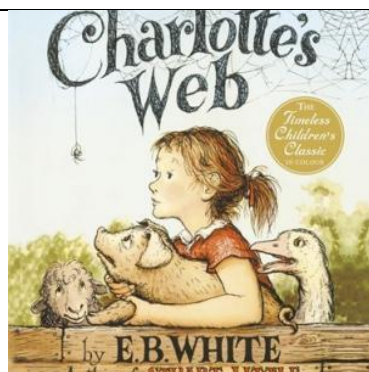
What happens if you read a book while standing on your head?



Can You Whistle, Johanna?

By Ulf Stark

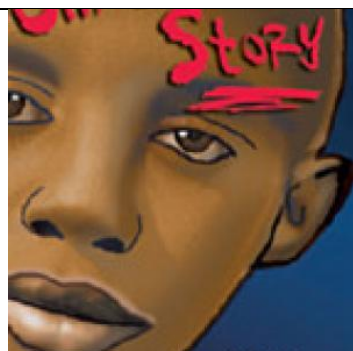
Chatting with his friend, Berra realises that he is lacking a grandfather, so the pair visit the old people's home so that he can adopt one. A delightful story dealing with friendship, loss and bereavement.



Charlotte's Web

By E. B. White

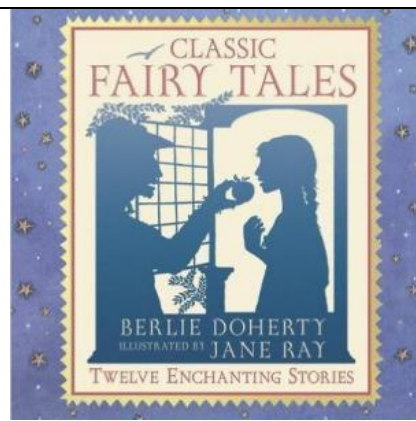
Wilbur is the runt of the litter of piglets, saved at first by Fern the farmer's daughter and then by Charlotte the spider who weaves wonderful statements about him into her web.



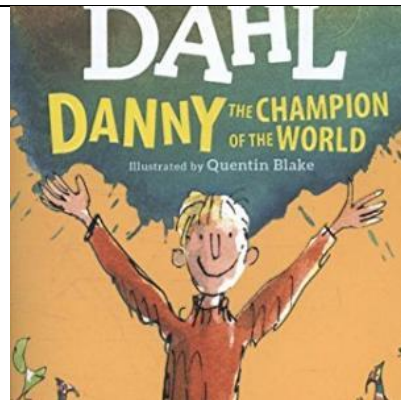
Christophe's Story

By Nicki Cornwell

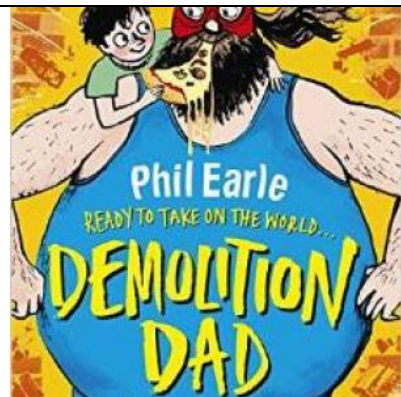
A young Rwandan refugee has a hard time when he first arrives in a British primary school. His culture shock is exacerbated by his strong belief, learned from his absent grandfather that stories should not be written down.



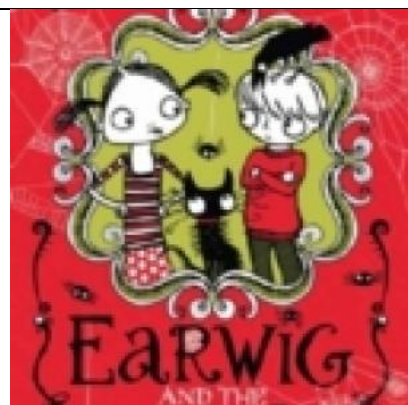
Classic Fairy Tales
By Berlie Doherty
In compiling this collection of fairy tales, mostly taken from Western European tradition, Berlie Doherty has used several sources and shaped her own retellings.



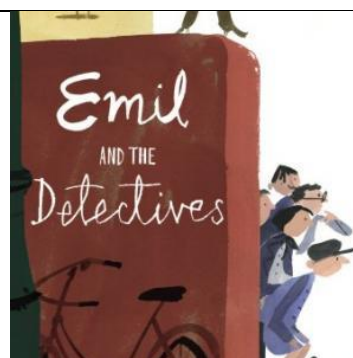
Danny the Champion of the World
By Roald Dahl
Danny discovers the 'deep dark secrets' of the adults around him, the chief of which is that most of them, including his father, the doctor, the policeman and the vicar's wife all belong to a circle of poachers.



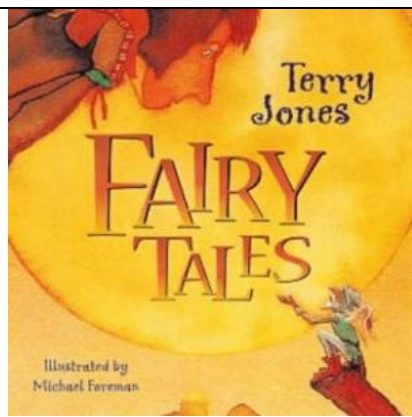
Demolition Dad
By Phil Earle
Jake's dad works on a demolition site but his ambition is to be a full time wrestler.



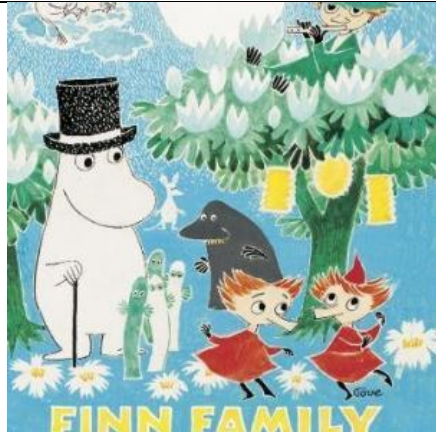
Earwig and the Witch
By Diana Wynne Jones
Earwig has a knack of making everyone in the orphanage do what she wants. But is this about to come to an end when she is fostered by a nine-foot man and a witch called Bella Yaga?



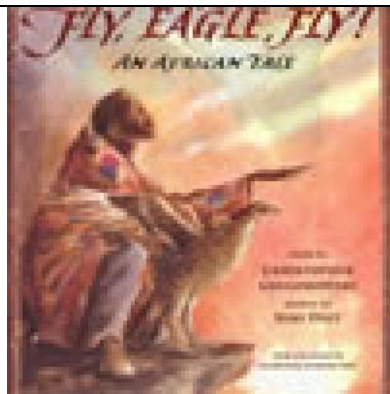
Emil and the Detectives
By Erich Kästner
Emil is robbed on the train on his way to Berlin to visit his grandmother. He joins up with a gang of children and they work together to apprehend the thief.



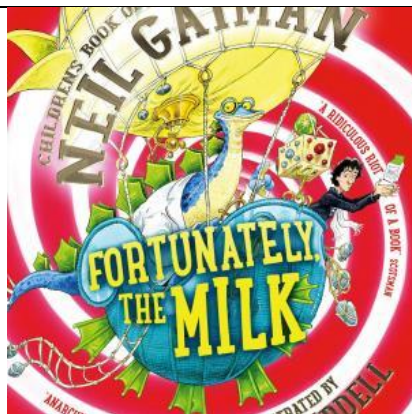
Fairy Tales
By Terry Jones
An essential read aloud collection of original stories which have the magical qualities of fairy tales.



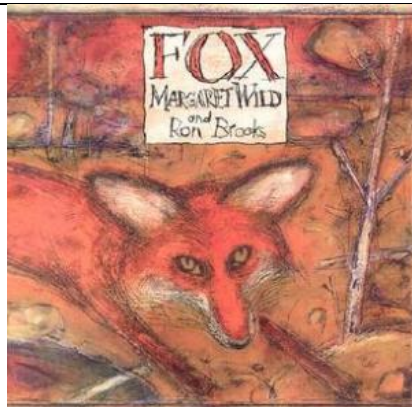
Finn Family Moomintroll
By Tove Jansson
The Moomins are charming creatures who live in Moomin Valley. They hibernate in winter and in this book, one of several, we follow their adventures through spring and summer.



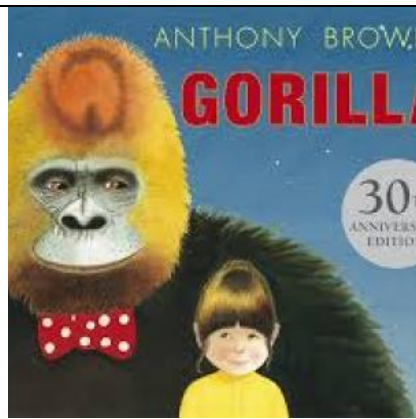
Fly, Eagle, Fly!
By Christopher Gregorowski
An African parable, originating in Ghana and interpreted by a South African author and illustrator, about recognising your potential – ‘that we are all born to be eagles who are lifted up with the might of the Spirit



Fortunately the Milk ...
By Neil Gaiman
A dad goes out to buy some milk and is gone for some time... When he eventually returns, he regales his children with tales of how he has been lost in space and time. His adventures are creatively and comically captured by Chris Riddell.



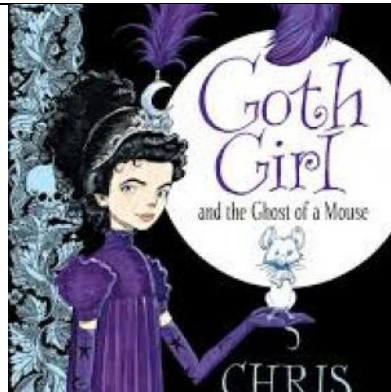
Fox
By Margaret Wild
A dark tale set against the background of the burning Australian desert. A one-eyed Dog and a flightless Magpie make a life together, Magpie declaring ‘I will be your missing eye, and you will be my wings.’ This book was the centre of our 'Inspiring Writing' Course. Click 'read more' to download the teaching sequence that accompanies this book.



Gorilla

By Anthony Browne

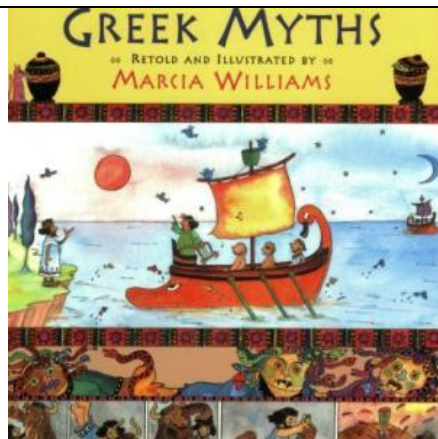
Hannah's father never seems to have time to spend with her. Disappointed with receiving a toy gorilla for her birthday instead of the real one she hoped for.



Goth Girl and the Ghost of a Mouse

By Chris Riddell

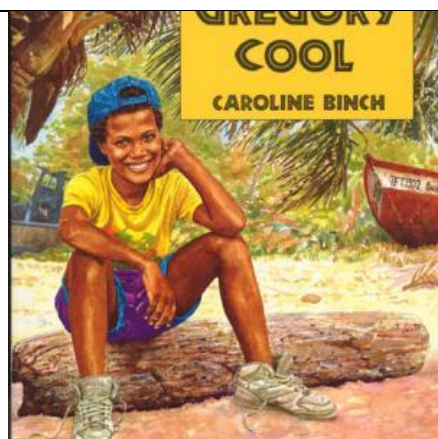
This ghostly tale places the emphasis on humour rather than horror. It features a host of gothic elements including an historic house Ghastly-Gorm Hall which has a broken wing as well as west and east wings and is complete with a ghostly white nun, a black monk and a beige curate.



Greek Myths

By Marcia Williams

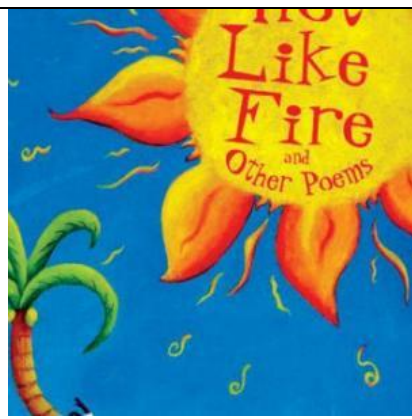
Many teachers have found this comic strip approach to Greek mythology has stimulated children's own writing and led to further exploration of these important stories.



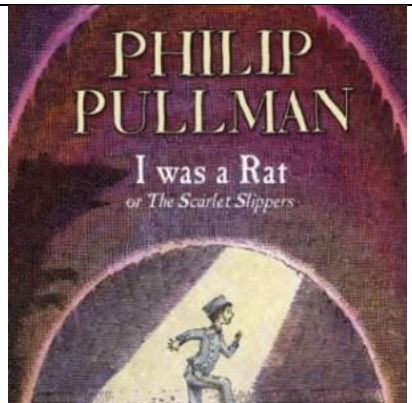
Gregory Cool

By Caroline Binch

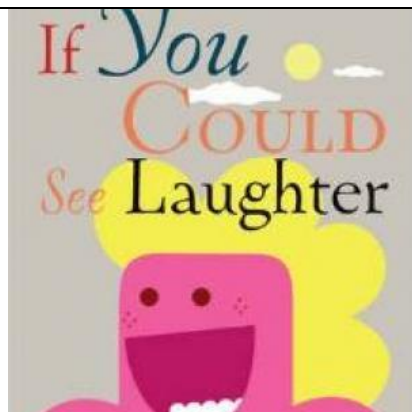
Gregory travels to Tobago to visit his grandparents and initially finds it hard to adjust to a contrasting way of life.



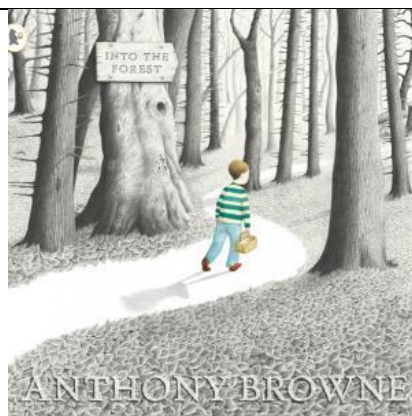
Hot Like Fire and other poems
By Valerie Bloom
Valerie Bloom's sizzling poems, some in Jamaican Creole, some in standard English, bring light and life to diverse aspects of everyday life.



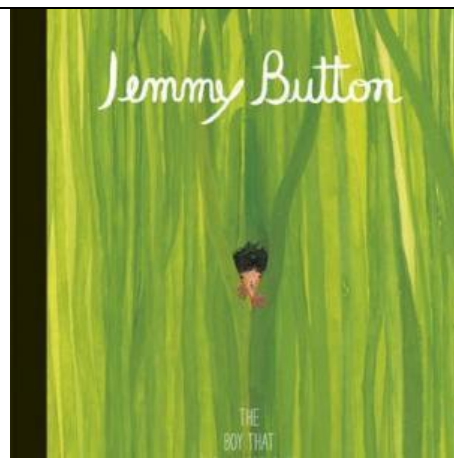
I Was a Rat! or The Scarlet Slippers
By Philip Pullman
A boy turns up on the doorstep of an elderly childless couple claiming that he was a rat. An adventure in which humour is conveyed through the use of language and characterisation, but which also has a darker side.



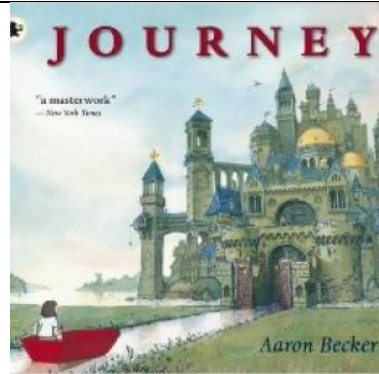
If You Could See Laughter
By Mandy Coe
The title of this collection conveys how the poet employs all the senses and in the first poem we're urged to 'taste every sound'.



Into the Forest
By Anthony Browne
A boy is asked by his mother to take a basket containing a cake to Grandma which entails following a path through the forest. Experienced readers will recognise the many intertextual links with several fairy tales, most notably Little Red Riding Hood.



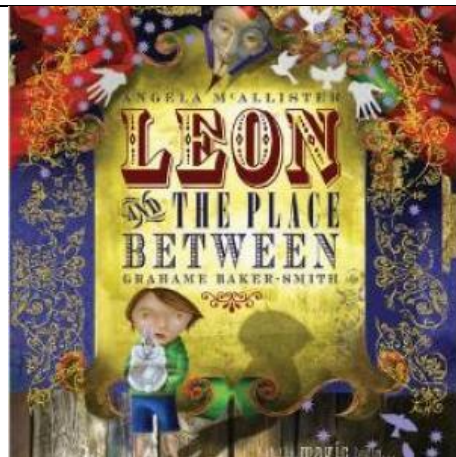
Jemmy Button
By Jennifer Uman
Inspired by the true story of a native boy from Tierra del Fuego, brought to England to be 'civilised', Jemmy Button is a touching story about the wonder of being somewhere new and different.



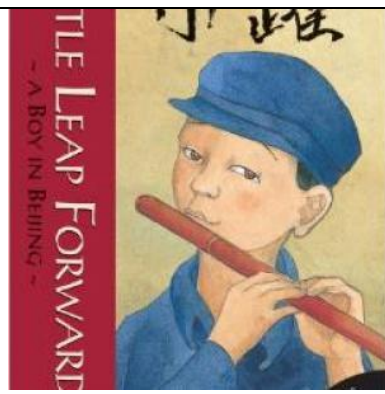
Journey
By Aaron Becker
This is a wordless book told beautifully through the illustrations. A girl sits forlornly in a sepia world, ignored by her busy family. Spying a spot of colour in the shape of a red crayon, she draws a door through which she escapes to a green forest....



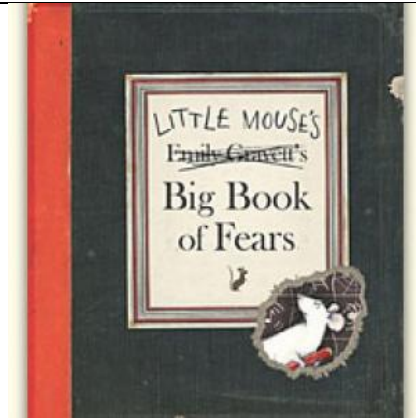
Krindlekrax
By Philip Ridley
An action-packed story in which the weedy central character, Ruskin Splinter, becomes a hero. He outwits the monster Krindlekrax which has been terrorising Lizard Street and tames Elvis, the local bully.



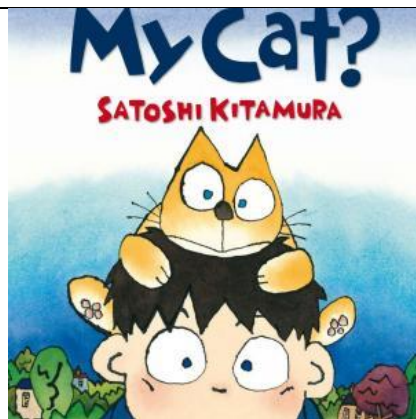
Leon and the Place Between
By Angela McAllister
Do you dare to step into the place between? Leon is a boy who believes in magic. This exciting and beautifully illustrated picture book follows Leon beyond the realm of the circus big-top into the place where the magic sends you....



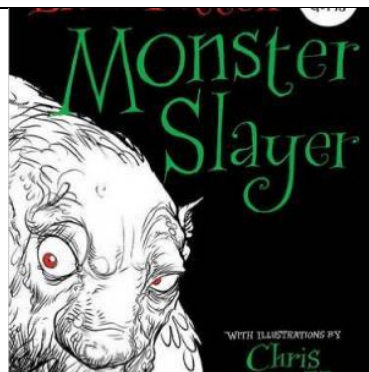
Little Leap Forward. A Boy in Beijing
 Musician Guo Yue draws upon his own childhood experiences to create this short novel set in China in the 1960s.



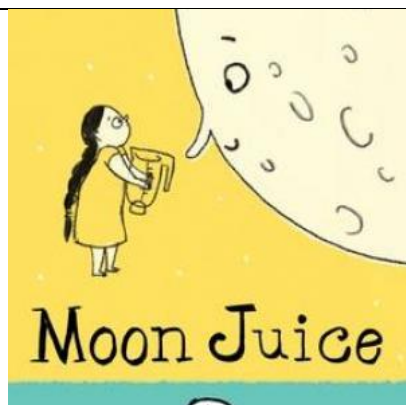
Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears
 By Emily Gravett
 A very unusual picture book which expresses a catalogue of possible fears. Using great imaginative flair, Emily Gravett plays with multi-faceted ideas around this.



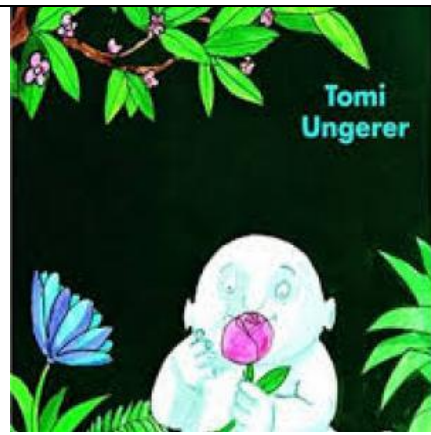
Me and My Cat?
 By Satoshi Kitamura
 Following a night time visit from 'an old woman in a pointed hat' (which interestingly takes place before the title page), Nicholas and his cat Leonardo find that they have changed places.



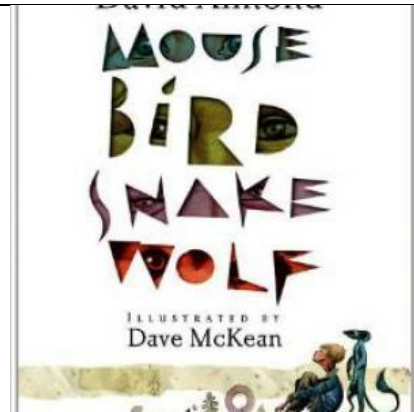
Monster Slayer
 By Brian Patten
 Poet Brian Patten retells the legend of Beowulf for a young audience, published in the Little Gems series which is aimed at 6-8 year olds.



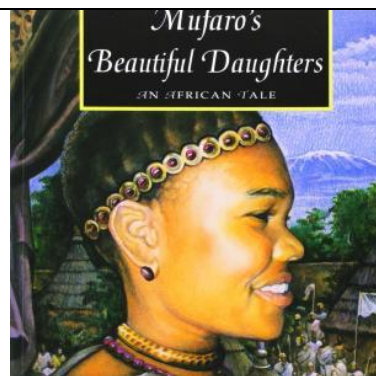
Moon Juice
 By Kate Wakeling
 A debut collection of poetry that presents magical, strange and unlikely events in a confident and persuasive way.



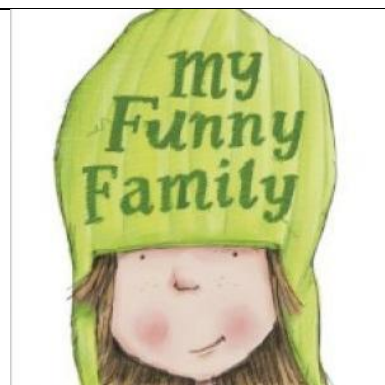
Moon Man
By Tomi Ungerer
Moon Man crash lands on Earth and is imprisoned by the authorities who fear his strangeness. His unique qualities (i.e. the ability to wax and wane) enable him to escape and he leads a fugitive existence until he meets Doktor van der Dunkel.



Mouse Bird Snake Wolf
By David Almond
A powerful and thought-provoking text, illustrated in graphic novel-style, which will enable children to explore the beauty and dangers of nature as well as the importance of boundaries.



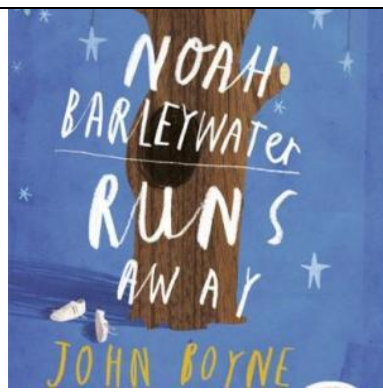
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters
By John Steptoe
A beautifully illustrated story set in Zimbabwe which, whilst being very much located within its culture and context, finds echoes in folk tales well-known in Europe, such as Diamonds and Toads, Mother Holle and Cinderella.



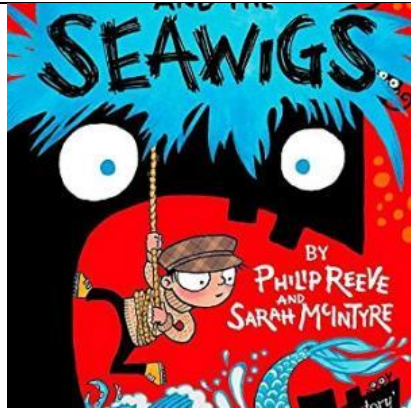
My Funny Family
By Chris Higgins
The endearing Butterfield family is seen through the mind of nine year old Mattie who is an eternal worrier. She is anxious about whether seeds can grow if concealed in a cupboard and her mum's visits to the doctor.



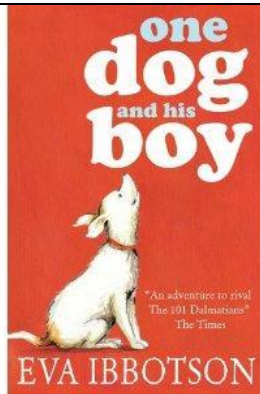
My Life as a Goldfish and other poems
By Rachel Rooney
Download the FREE teaching sequence:
<https://www.clpe.org.uk/poetryline/teaching-sequences/my-life-goldfish-and-other-poems>



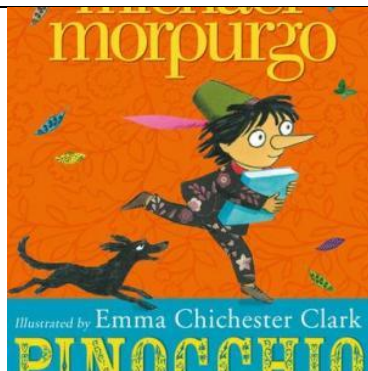
Noah Barleywater Runs Away
By John Boyne
Noah is leaving home ostensibly because he wants to have adventures and make his way in the world. But something is troubling him, a situation from which he seeks escape.



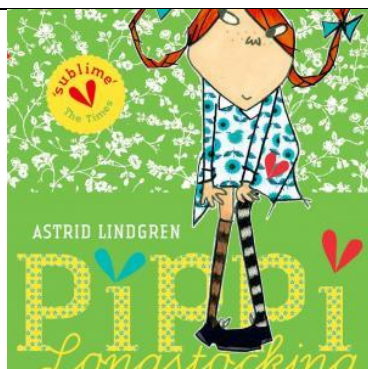
Oliver and the Seawigs
By Philip Reeve
A short, funny novel with words and pictures that work integrally follows the adventure of Oliver who is searching for his missing explorer parents.



One Dog and his Boy
By Eva Ibbotson
Hal is denied the one thing he wants by his upwardly mobile parents – his own dog.



Pinocchio
By Michael Morpurgo
An adaptation of the classic Italian story of the puppet Pinocchio that acknowledges his origins in Carlo Collodi's novel and his subsequent claim to fame through the Disney film.



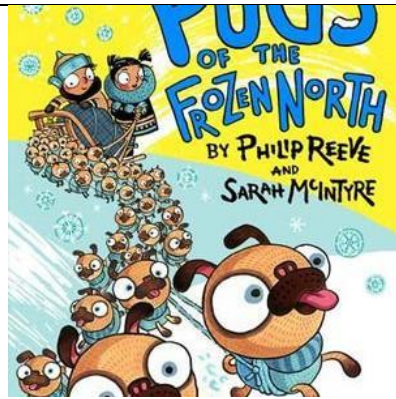
Pippi Longstocking
By Astrid Lindgren
A modern classic about the strongest girl in the world who lives in Villekula Cottage with only her horse and the monkey Mr Nelson for company.



Poetry Pie

By Roger McGough

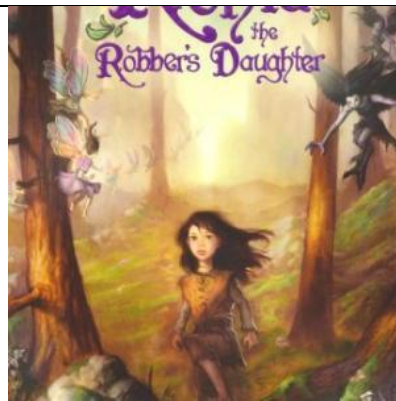
Roger McGough's collection is an invitation to be excited about poetry and not be limited by the world: 'Let your imagination/Feed on the fantastic/Let it move like quicksilver.



Pugs of the Frozen North

By Philip Reeve

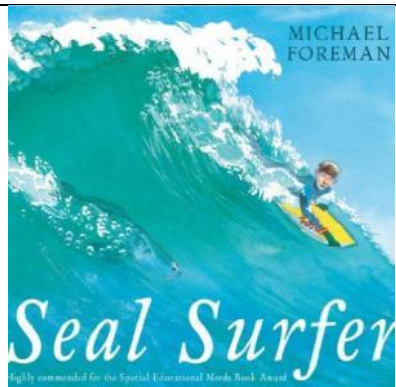
When True Winter comes, once in a lifetime, teams on sledges pulled by animals take part in the Great Northern Race across the snow, of which there are fifty kinds, to the Snowfather's palace.



Ronia the Robber's Daughter

By Astrid Lindgren

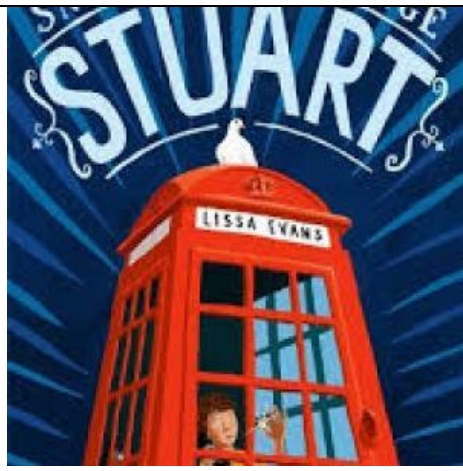
Ronia, the much loved only child of robber chieftain Matt, is encouraged to be independent and learn the ways of their woodland home. Her expeditions lead to a meeting with Birk, only child of Borka who heads a rival robber band.



Seal Surfer

By Michael Foreman

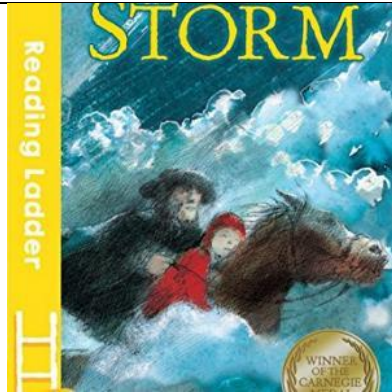
A boy and his grandfather watch as a baby seal is born on the rocks near their home and from that day a special friendship is created between them. Despite his disability, the boy is a keen surfer, and he enjoys many afternoons surfing with the seals. One day, however, he gets into trouble in rough seas, and the young seal saves him. Their friendship brings happiness and meaning at the important stages of the boy's life.



Small Change for Stuart

By Lissa Evans

Magic and reality blend beautifully in this novel in which Stuart Horten, aged ten but small for his age, aided and abetted by triplets April, May and June, gets caught up in the mystery of what happened to his great-uncle 'Teeny-Tiny' Tony Horten.



Storm

By Kevin Crossley-Holland

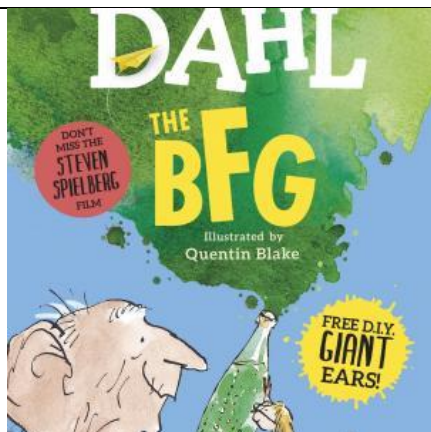
A faultless novella in the popular genre of the ghost story, set in a powerfully evoked marshland. The word storm contains many meanings.



Tales of Hans Christian Andersen

By Hans Christian Andersen

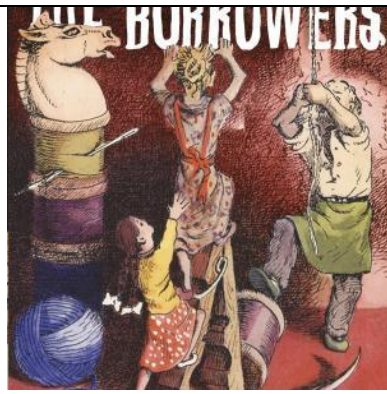
A delightful compendium of thirteen of Andersen's fairy tales, including most of the best known, such as Gerda's search for her lost playmate in The Snow Queen and the circular journey of The Steadfast Tin Soldier.



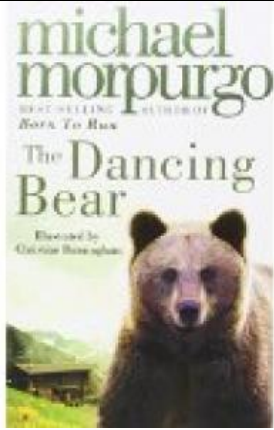
The BFG

By Roald Dahl

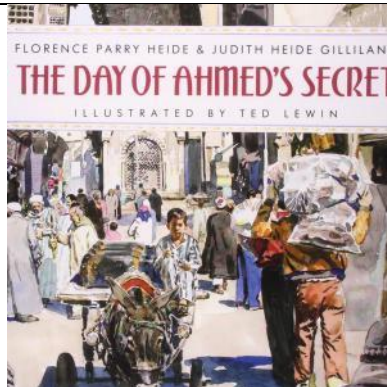
One of Dahl's best loved books, combining irreverent humour with some blood-curdling moments and telling the story of Sophie who is taken to the land of the giants by the BFG.



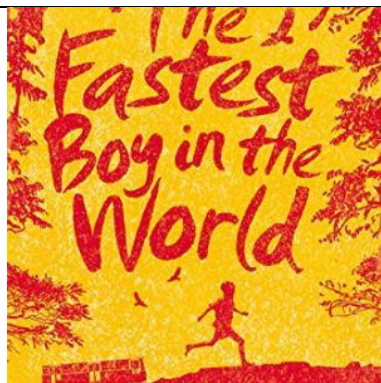
The Borrowers
By Mary Norton
Arrietty and her parents are miniature beings who live under the floorboards. They survive by 'borrowing' items from the home under which they live.



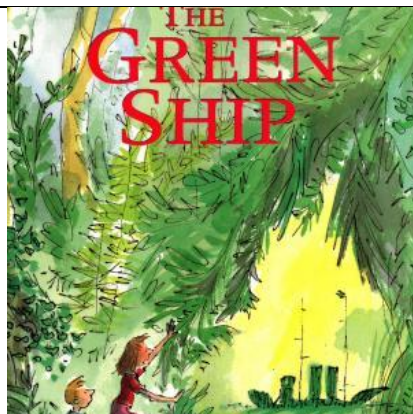
The Dancing Bear
By Michael Morpurgo
Set in a quiet mountain village, this story shows the effects brought about by the arrival of a film crew. The focus is on Roxanne, who has raised a bear cub throughout her own childhood, and the consequences of her departure for a life in the wider world.



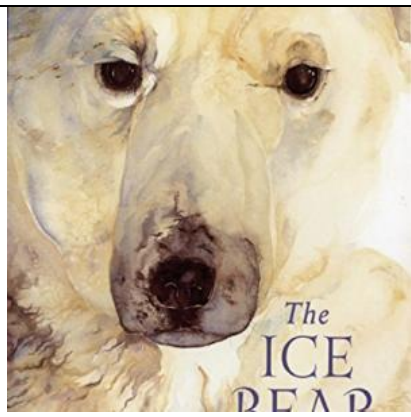
The Day of Ahmed's Secret
By Florence Parry Heide
Like many children the world over, Ahmed must work to help his family as well as go to school. He delivers butagaz in the city of Cairo and on this particular day he carries with him a secret which he will reveal to his family only when his day's work is done.



The Fastest Boy in the World
By Elizabeth Laird
Eleven year old Solomon lives in an Ethiopian village.



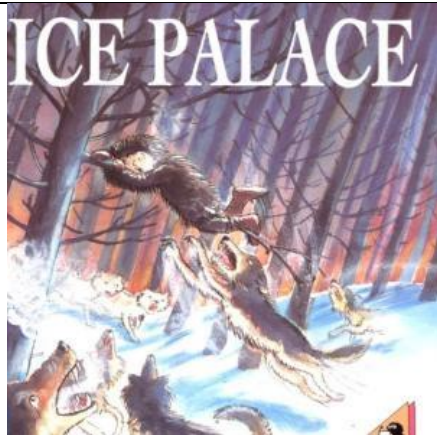
The Green Ship
By Quentin Blake
Two children discover a ship made out of trees and bushes. On climbing aboard they enter their own fantasy world, which they share with two equally imaginative adults.



The Ice Bear

By Jackie Morris

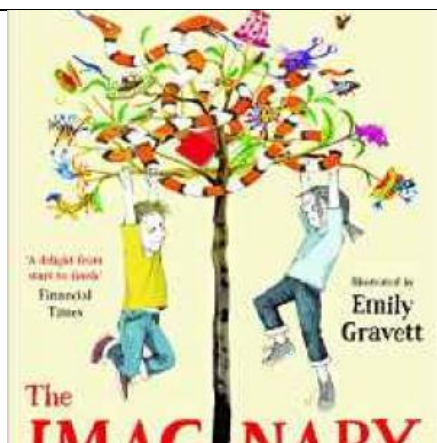
Jackie Morris's stunning and distinctive paintings of the natural world illustrate this powerful story which draws on myth and folk tale.



The Ice Palace

By Robert Swindells

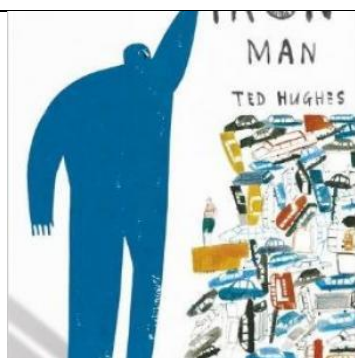
The language and landscape of this story evoke the atmosphere of Russian folk tales. Ivan's quest to rescue his little brother from the evil Starjik calls to mind other stories such as Hans Christian Andersen's The Snow Queen.



The Imaginary

By A F Harrold

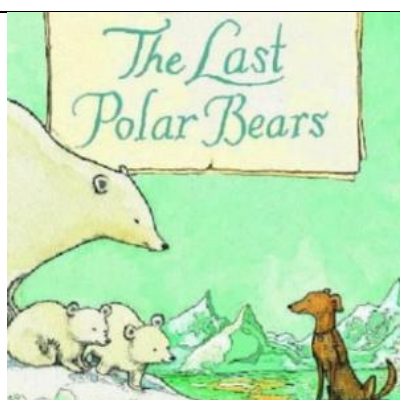
When Rudger appears one day in Amanda's wardrobe, he quickly becomes her best friend even though no-one else can see him.



The Iron Man (Illustrated by Laura Carlin)

By Ted Hughes

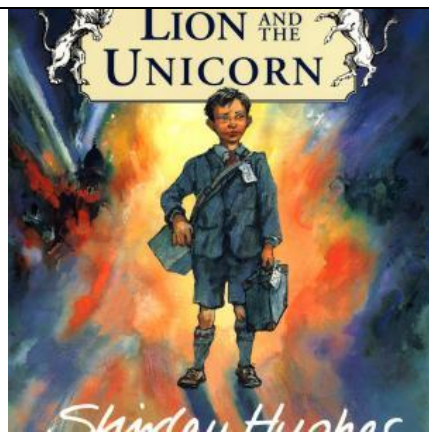
The first chapter of this modern classic novella seizes the imagination of readers (or listeners) as the gigantic Iron Man crashes over the cliff, is dismembered, and then re-assembles himself.



The Last Polar Bears

By Harry Horse

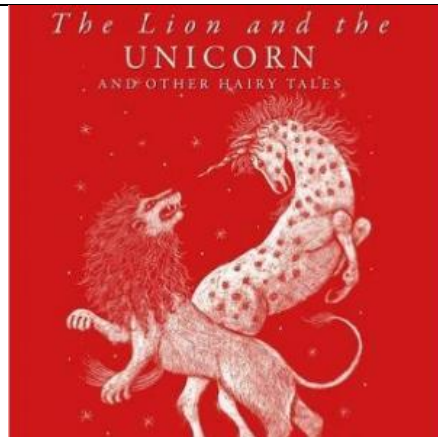
A short novel related entirely in the form of letters to his grandchild from an old man on an expedition to the Arctic to see the polar bears during his lifetime and before the snow-caps melt and they become extinct.



The Lion and the Unicorn

By Shirley Hughes

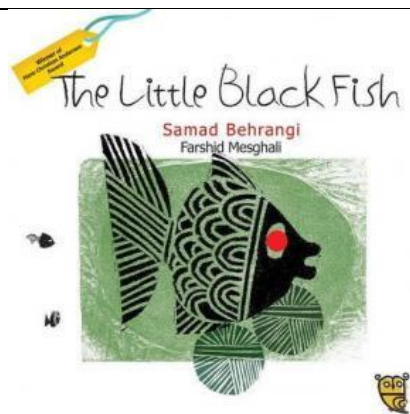
Readers will gain insight into the life of an evacuee in World War II through this picture book about Lenny, a young Jewish boy sent to the countryside, where he learns that there are 'different kinds of courage'...



The Lion and the Unicorn and other Hairy Tales

By Jane Ray

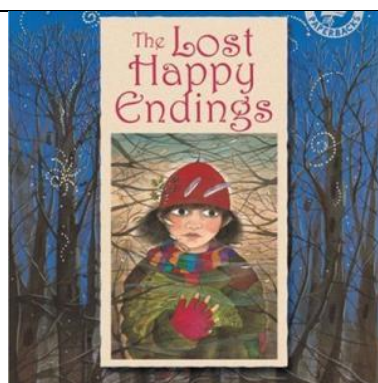
In Jane Ray's third exquisite collection of beastly tales she has inhabited and interpreted several stories and expressed the retellings in words and pictures.



The Little Black Fish

By Samad Behrangi

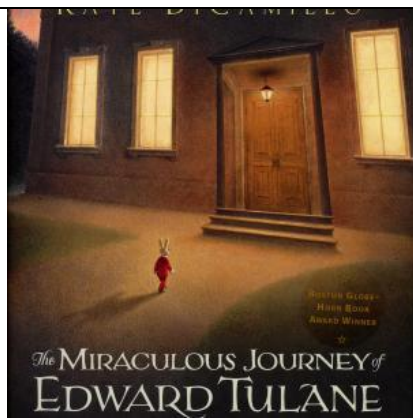
In this classic story from Iran, the Little Black Fish may be small, but he has big questions and a determination to find answers to them. While his fellow fish are too scared to do anything different from their set routine, Little Black Fish swims over the edge of the pool, into the stream and river which will show him much more of the world. He meets wonders and adventures, dangers and beauty. He makes it all the way to the sea, and finds his answers.



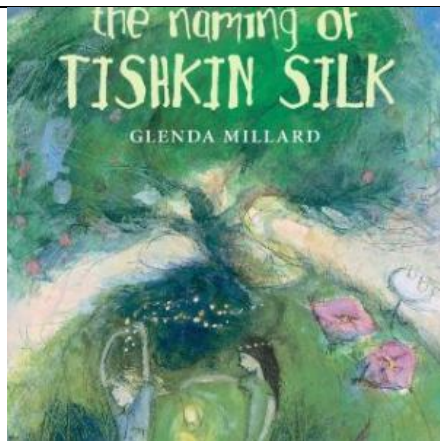
The Lost Happy Endings

By Carol Ann Duffy

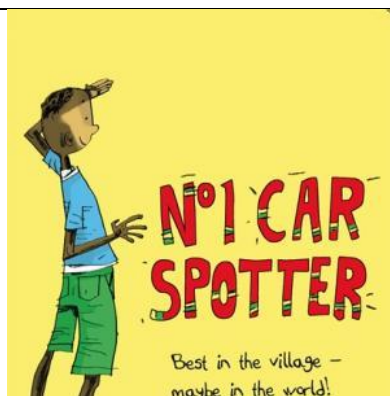
Jub has the important job of ensuring all the Happy Endings of stories are in the right part of the forest when bedtime arrives. She scatters the golden words into the air from a sack.



The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
By Kate DiCamillo
Edward Tulane is a much-loved china rabbit who falls overboard on a sea voyage, and there follows a picaresque narrative in which our hero falls into many different hands, learning to love as well as be loved on the way.



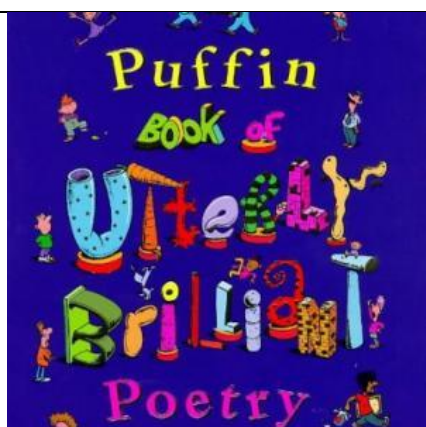
The Naming of Tishkin Silk
By Glenda Millard
The first title in a series of short novels known as the Kingdom of Silk by Australian writer Glenda Millard. The stories deal with emotional subjects in ways which touch the heartstrings but avoid false sentimentality.



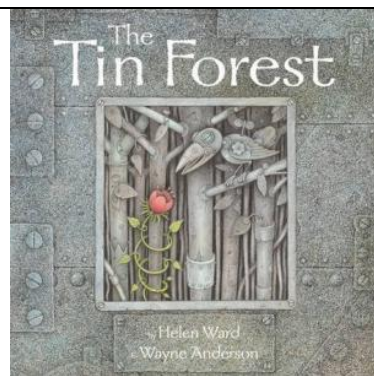
The No 1 Car Spotter
By Atinuke
Atinuke doesn't name the African country in which she sets her short fiction although she draws on her Nigerian cultural background for her lively comic creations.



The Ogress and the Snake
By Elizabeth Laird
A lively collection of folk tales told to the author by people living in the Somali region of Ethiopia.



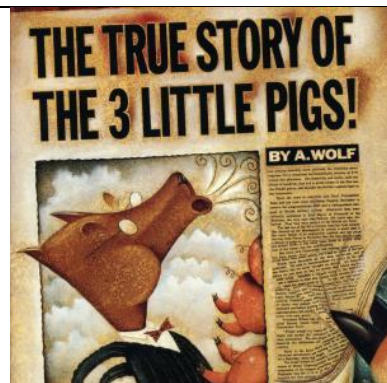
The Puffin Book of Utterly Brilliant Poetry
By Brian Patten
A big colourful book celebrating ten modern poets, including Charles Causley, Jackie Kay, Roger McGough and Benjamin Zephaniah.



The Tin Forest

By Helen Ward

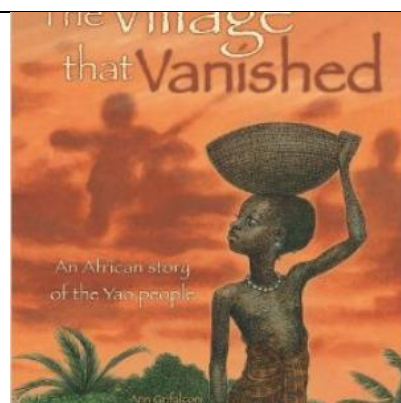
A tale of transformation. An old man lives in a grey and forsaken place 'that looked out on other people's rubbish and bad weather'.



The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by A. Wolf

By Jon Scieszka

History is always open to interpretation, depending on whose point of view is being put forward! This retelling of the classic three little pigs yields many unexpected pleasures.



The Village That Vanished

By Ann Grifalconi

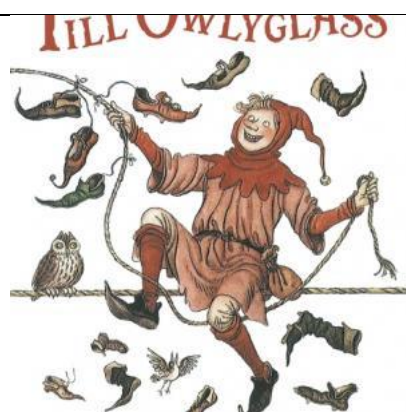
The story of how the inhabitants of a West African village thwart capture by slave traders, thanks to the wisdom, courage and faith of three generations of women.



The White Fox

By Jackie Morris

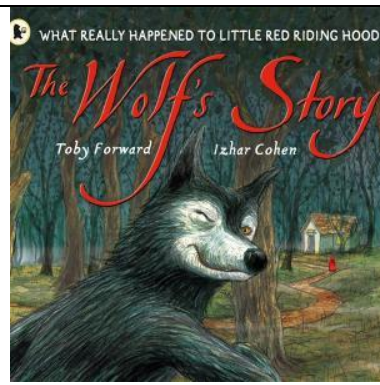
When his father tells him he has seen a white Arctic fox down at the Seattle dockside, Sol seeks out the animal for himself.



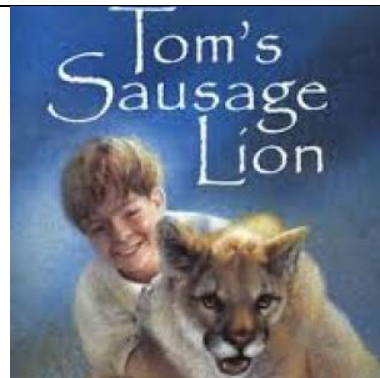
The Wicked Tricks of Till Owlyglass

By Michael Rosen

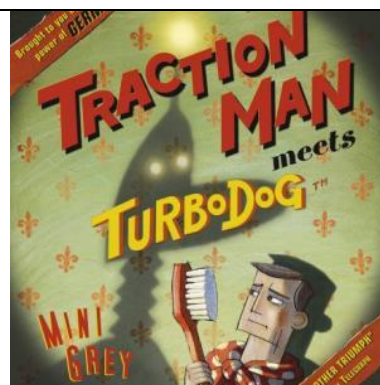
The traditional stories about Till Eulenspiegel are set within a modern day framework about two boys on holiday in Germany, who hear the tales from an elderly man who has been asked to keep them out of mischief.



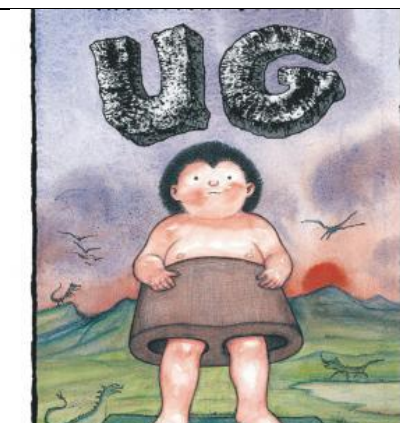
The Wolf's Story
 By Toby Forward
 Subtitled 'What Really Happened to Little Red Riding Hood', this is the well-known fairy tale told from the viewpoint of the wolf who is determined to convince readers that the version we all know is mistaken.



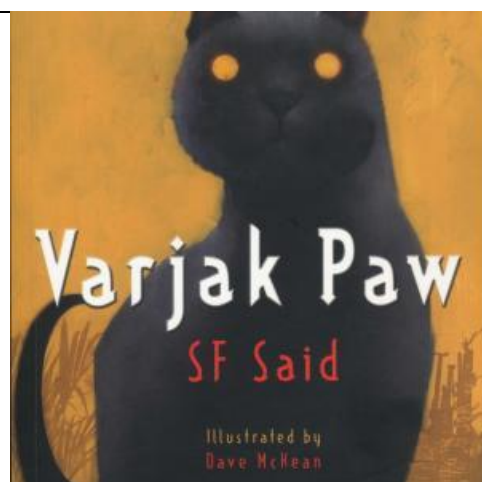
Tom's Sausage Lion
 By Michael Morpurgo
 When Tom goes out to fetch some logs on Christmas Eve he sees a lion with a string of sausages hanging from its mouth.



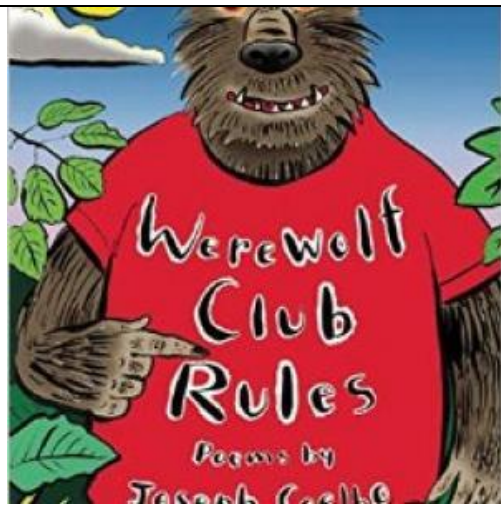
Traction Man meets TurboDog
 By Mini Grey
 In this second outing for Traction Man Mini Grey continues to extend and develop the use of comic book conventions, in terms of theme as well as page layout and use of speech balloons.



Ug: Boy Genius of the Stone Age
 By Raymond Briggs
 Ug is a stone age boy who longs for soft trousers instead of those made of stone. In this comic strip version of the prehistoric period, everything is made of stone – clothes, the sheets and even Ug's football.



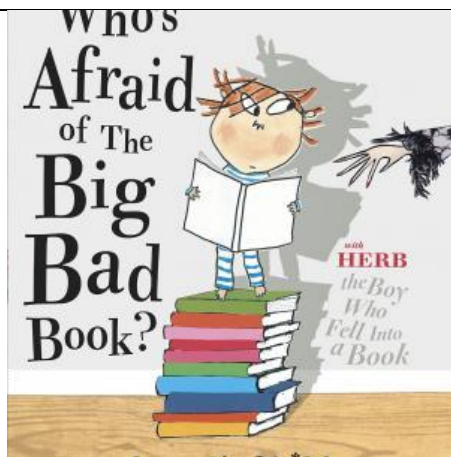
Varjak Paw
 By S. F. Said
 Varjak Paw is descended from a proud line of Mesopotamian Blue cats. Now the Paws are in danger and only Varjak understands enough to go Outside and seek help.



Werewolf Club Rules

By Joseph Coelho

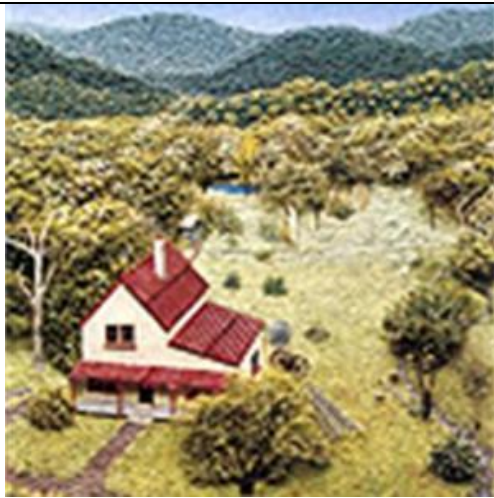
Joseph Coelho's first collection ranges around school and family life and demonstrates a delight in language and an ambitious use of words.



Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?

By Lauren Child

In this post-modern picture book, Herb falls asleep on the open pages of his book of fairy tales, and finds himself in a topsy-turvy world which he gradually discovers he has participated in making.



Window

By Jeannie Baker

A wordless picture book which provokes much discussion about the effects of humanity on the environment.