

BEST BOOKS!

Children's Book Festival Reading Guide



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The Library Association of Ireland
Youth Library Group

Introduction

Welcome to Best Books, the recommended reading guide of the Children's Book Festival. The Festival has many events in bookshops, libraries and Arts Centres, as usual, with lots and lots of reading too! The Children's Book Festival is run by Children's Books Ireland, with the support of the Youth Library Group, the Bookseller's Association and the Irish publishers.

Best Books is bigger and brighter than ever, with reviews of the best books that were published in the last year, including those coming out in the Autumn. The starred books in each section are our pick of the bunch. There are also prize winners lists, best-seller lists, quizzes and a competition to win £1,000 of books for your primary or secondary school. We would like to thank Mary Murphy for the wonderful cover illustration. Look out for her new book 'Caterpillar's Wish', soon to be published.

Best Books is edited by Children's Books Ireland and the Youth Library Group and the reviewers are members of the organisations. We would like to thank the following people for reviewing for Best Books, without their effort and enthusiasm, this

guide would not be possible:

Irene Barber
Helen Carr
Suzanne Coghlan
Adrienne Gilmartin
Rosemary
Hetherington
Liz Morris
Lucy O'Dea
Larry O'Loughlin
Aislinn O'Loughlin
Karen O'Shea
Claire Ranson
Bried Ryan
Kieran Swords
Sarah Webb
Gerard Whelan

The editors for each section were:

0-4	Adrienne Gilmartin
5-7	Bried Ryan
8-11	Maeve Friel
11 plus	Sarah Webb
Information	Sarah Webb
Poetry	Claire Ranson

Overall Editors: Claire Ranson and Sarah Webb.

We hope you enjoy Best Books and the Festival,
Happy Reading!

The Editors.

Cover characters appear courtesy of Methuen.

Quizzes appear courtesy of Poolbeg.

Bisto Award Winners

Bisto Book of the Year

Gerard Whelan
Dream Invader
O'Brien Press

Éilís Dillon Award

Ed Miliano
It's a Jungle Out There
Wolfhound Press

Merit Awards

Siobhán Parkinson
Four Kids, Three Cats, Two Cows, One Witch (maybe)
O'Brien Press

Soinbhe Lally
The Hungry Wind
Poolbeg Press

Illustrator - P.J. Lynch
When Jessie Came Across the Sea
Walker/Poolbeg

Shortlisted:

Mark O'Sullivan
Angels Without Wings
Wolfhound Press

Larry O'Loughlin
and
John Leonard
The Gobán Saor
Blackwater Press

Dan Kissane
Jimmy's Leprechaun Trap
O'Brien Press

Mark O'Sullivan,
White Lies
Wolfhound Press

Mairéad Ashe-FitzGerald
and
Stephen Hall
The World of Colmcille Also Known as Columba
O'Brien Press

Prize-Winning Books 1997-8

The Carnegie Medal

Tim Bowler

River Boy

Oxford University Press

The Children's Book Award

Overall:

Jeremy Strong

The One Hundred Mile an

Hour Dog

Puffin

Guardian Children's Fiction Awards

Henrietta Branford

Fire, Bed and Bone

Walker

Kate Greenaway Medal

P.J. Lynch

When Jessie Came Across the

Sea

Walker/Poolbeg

Signal Poetry Award

Roger McGough

Bad, Bad Cats

Penguin

The Newbery Medal (US)

Karen Hesse

Out of the Dust

Scholastic

The Caldecott Award

P.O. Zelinsky

Rapunzel

Dutton

The Smarties Prize

0-5:

Charlotte Voake

Ginger

Walker

6-8:

Jenny Nimmo

The Owl Tree

Walker

9-11:

J.K. Rowlings

**Harry Potter and the
Philosopher's Stone**

Bloomsbury

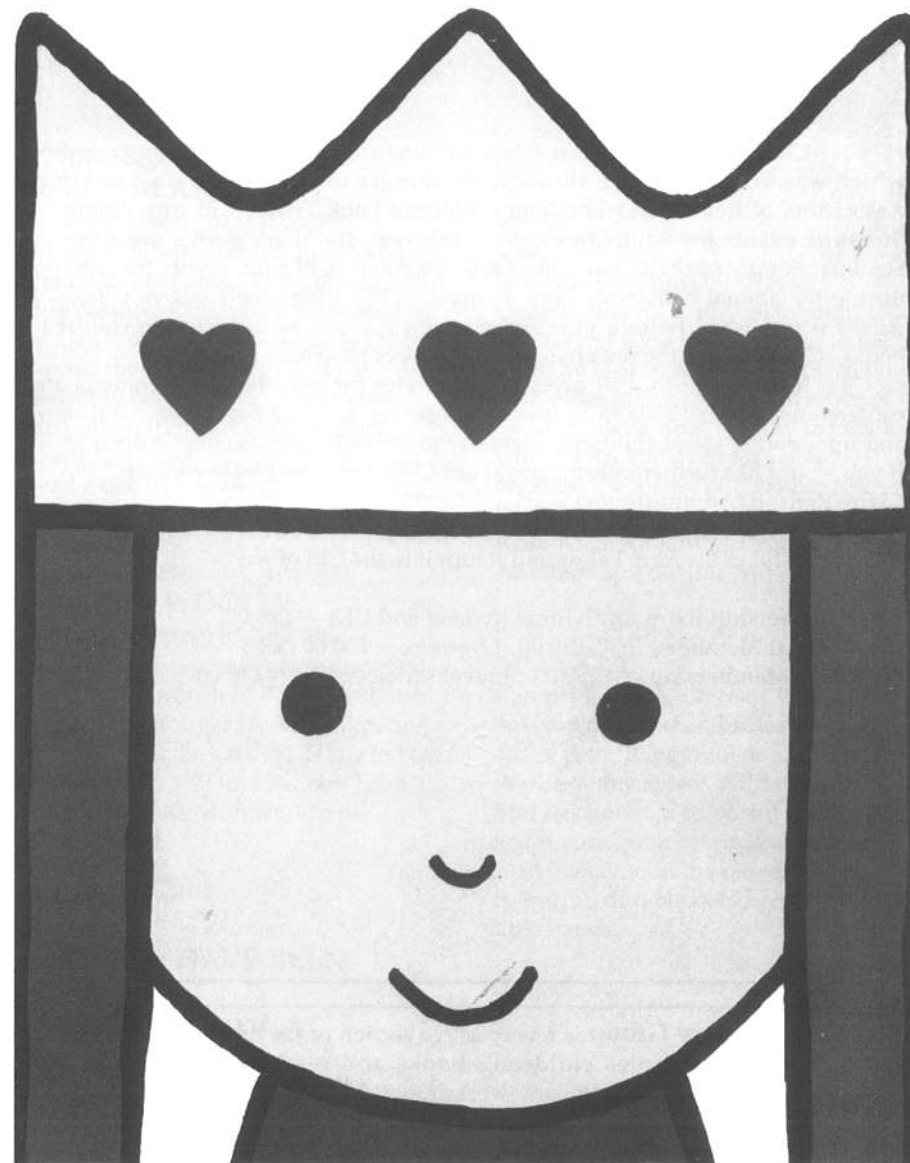


Illustration by Melanie Walsh from 'My Firefighter's Helmet'

Childrens Books Ireland - Membership Form

Children's Books Ireland is a national children's literature organisation which was created in 1996 through the merger of the Children's Literature Association of Ireland and The Irish Children's Book Trust. CBI runs children's literature events for adults throughout the year, the main events are a Spring Seminar, Summer School and Autumn Conference. CBI runs events for children during the annual Children's Book Festival. CBI's magazine *Children's Books in Ireland* is published twice a year and contains reviews and articles on children's books. CBI also runs the prestigious Bisto Book of the Year awards.

Membership of CBI gives reduced rates for attendance at seminars and conferences, *Children's Books in Ireland* magazine, the *Best Books Guide* and news and information about children's literature in Ireland. Membership is open to all. If you would like further information about CBI's activities please contact:

Claire Ranson (Administrator),

CBI, The Irish Writers' Centre, 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Telephone: 01-8725854, or fill in the form below and return it to the CBI office.

1998 Membership Rates: Individual (Ireland and UK) — £15.00,
Institutional Membership — £20.00, Overseas — £30.00 (\$35)
Corporate Membership — £250.00, Student Membership — £10.00

Name

Address

Institution

The Youth Library Group is a very active section of the Library Association of Ireland, which promotes children's books and reading through planned programmes. It organises seminars, workshops and lectures on topics relating to children's books, activities and children's libraries. New members and fresh ideas are always welcome. Details of membership of the YLG are available from the Secretary, Library Association of Ireland, 53 Upper Mount St, Dublin 2.

Age 0-4

A-Z by Author

Jez Alborough

HELLO BEAKY!

Walker, £4.99stg, 0744554861

An egg falls onto the rain forest floor and lands near Frog. Out pops a fluffy little creature who has no idea what he is. Can Frog help him? Together they explore the rain forest to find the answer to his problem. A charming story about friendship for the very young.

Read Also: It's the Bear

Heather Amery

Illustrated by Stephen Cartwright

WHERE'S WOOLLY?

Usborne, £3.99stg, 0746030126

Woolly the sheep has gone wandering around the farm. Join Poppy and Sam in the search for her. Lift the flaps and see if she is in the garden. Is she in the kennel? Who will find her first? An entertaining tale with wonderful illustrations.

A.H. Benjamin

Illustrated by Tim Warnes

IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE

Magi, £3.99stg, 1854304461

Mouse is on his way home after visiting his town cousin when he meets with many accidents. He gets wet, he falls and gets stung but as we know, it could have been worse. A hilarious tale of a mouse who successfully navigates many hidden dangers on his

journey home.

Quentin Blake

CLOWN

Red Fox, £4.99stg, 0099493616

Quentin Blake's lively illustrations tell the story of Clown, who comes to life when he is dumped in the rubbish bin with other toys. Clown has a series of exciting adventures, is lucky to escape with his life and even manages to organise the rescue of the other toys.

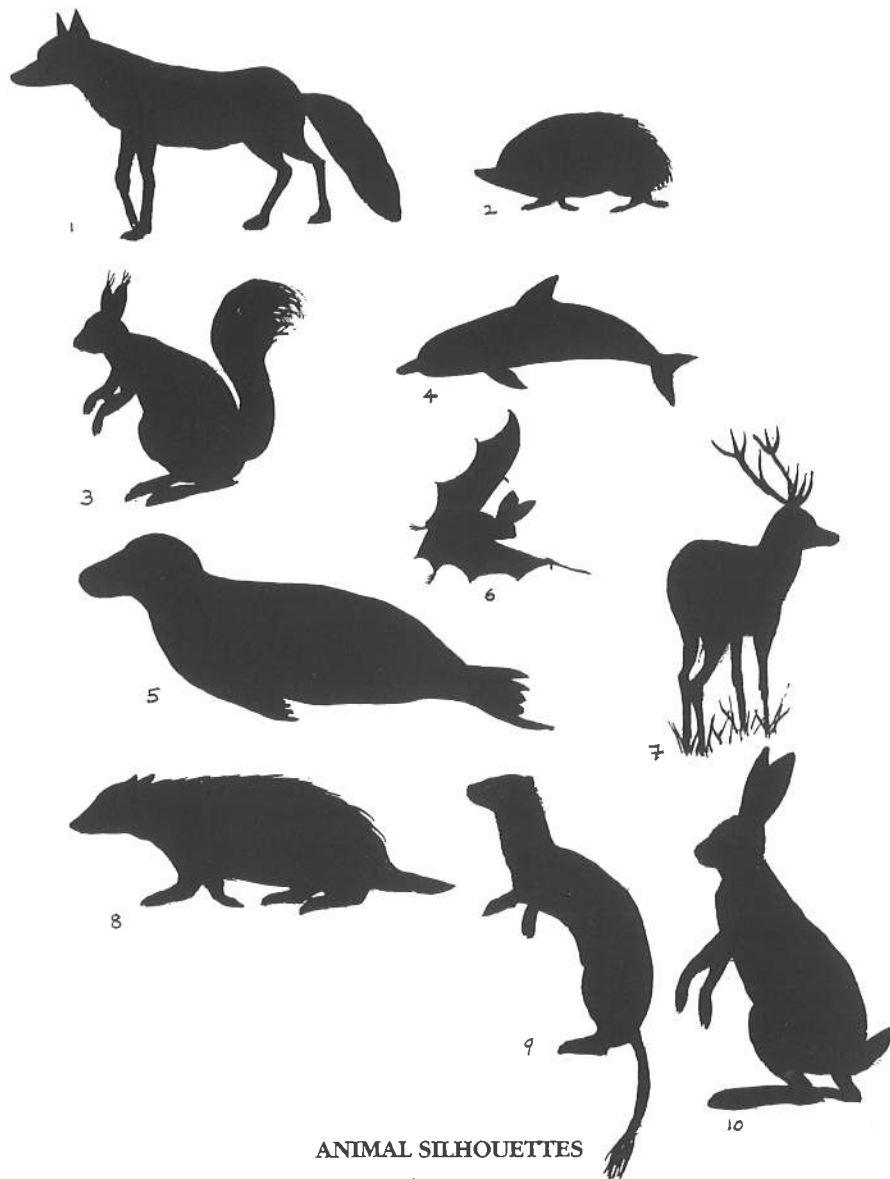
Winner of the Bologna Ragazzi Award.

Read Also: All Join In; Cockatoos; Mrs Armitage and the Big Wave; Simpkin.

Illustrated by Emily Bolam

MONKEY

Campbell Books, £2.99stg, 0333720032
Are you a baby that throws your books out of your buggy, cot or high-chair? Well, not any more. With Buggy Buddies Books, a colourful plastic strap keeps your book safe and allows you to read in bed or on the move. Bright, colourful, durable books just right for little hands.



ANIMAL SILHOUETTES

Can you identify these animals?

Answers: 1. Red Fox 2. Hedgehog 3. Red Squirrel 4. Common Dolphin 5. Grey Seal 6. Long-eared Bat 7. Red Deer 8. Badger 9. Stoat 10. Hare

Photographs by Tim Booth

KNOCK, KNOCK

Campbell Books, £3.99stg, 0333722574

Jack is having a party and he has invited lots of his friends. Knock, knock who's there? Lift the flaps, open the door and let the party begin. A perfect introduction to colours for young children.

Alison Boyle

Illustrated by Tania Hurt-Newton

MEG'S BIRTHDAY

Little Hippo, £3.99stg, 0590198971

It's Meg's birthday and she wakes very early. She has lots to do before her friends arrive. Help Meg plan her day from 6am until she goes to bed at 8pm. Bold, brightly illustrated and with special stickers, this book will help young children to learn the time in a

fun and imaginative way.

Marc Brown

ARTHUR'S REALLY HELPFUL WORD BOOK

Red Fox, £6.99stg, 0099263920

Another gem about Arthur, his crazy sister D.W. and their family and friends. Join them in their everyday adventures and learn lots of new words in this fun picture dictionary. With puzzles, games and ideas there is something here for everyone. How many words do you already know? **Read Also:** Arthur's Reading Race; Arthur's Holiday.



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 Broomhill Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24.
Telephone: 01 451 5311 **Fax:** 01 451 5306

Nick Butterworth

**PERCY THE PARK-KEEPER
GAMES BOOK**

Collins, £3.99stg, 0006646654

Percy the Park-Keeper loves to play games with his animal friends. Now you can join in too. With titles such as 'Catch the Balloons', 'Tea with Percy' and 'The Great Maze Game', there is surely something here for all tastes. Eight board games and tales from our favourite Park-Keeper.

Read Also: The Treasure Hunt.

Eric Carle

FROM HEAD TO TOE *

Hamish Hamilton, £11.99stg,
0241139260

Can you bend your neck like a giraffe? Wave your hands like a monkey? Arch your back like a cat? With the help of this book you can. With plenty of participation and game-playing, this book introduces young children to simple movements and encourages pleasure in them.

Read Also: The Bad Tempered Ladybird

Sally Chambers

BARTY'S SCARF

Piccadilly Press, £4.99stg, 1853405019
Barty the sheep loved his woolly scarf which Granny had knitted him for Christmas. He wore it everywhere. His friends laughed at him, his parents worried about him but when an accident happened who saved the day? An amusing tale to delight toddlers everywhere.

Joyce Dunbar

Illustrated by Debi Gliori

**TELL ME SOMETHING
HAPPY BEFORE I GO TO
SLEEP ***

Doubleday, £9.99stg, 0385407912
Willa Bunny can't sleep because she's afraid of bad dreams. Her big brother Willoughby helps her to imagine all the happy things waiting for her in the morning. A gentle reassuring story beautifully illustrated, this book is a real treat to snuggle up with.

Read Also: This is the Star.

Pippa Goodhart

Illustrated by Stephen Lambert

ROW YOUR BOAT

Mammoth, £4.99stg, 0749731591

'Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream.' Join two little friends as they go on an imaginative journey to play with the animals who live on an enchanted island. An innovative interpretation of this familiar rhyme. Perfect for singing in playgroup or school.

Amy Hest

Illustrated by Jill Barton

**BABY DUCK AND THE NEW
EYEGLASSES**

Walker, £4.99stg, 0744552206

Baby Duck is not happy. She does not like wearing her new glasses. She thinks she looks ugly. What are Mr. and Mrs. Duck going to do? In the park Baby hides behind a tree until Grandpa arrives. With some gentle encouragement he shows her that wearing glasses can be fun after all.



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Jane Hissey

HOOT *

Red Fox, £4.99stg, 0099694212

It is the middle of the night. Little Bear hears a funny noise. He wakes the other toys and they meet Hoot, a little owl who has difficulty building a nest. Does Little Bear have the solution to her predicament? A charming story with well-loved characters. Ideal for bed-time reading.

Read Also: Old Bear

Pat Hutchins

ROSIE'S WALK *

Bodley Head, £3.99stg, 0370324463
New Edition

Rosie the hen goes for a walk across the yard, around the pond, under the beehives and home in time for dinner. Join in the squeals, shrieks and roars as toddlers watch the mayhem following

Rosie. This special thirtieth anniversary new edition of this classic story is now available in a board book for even the youngest child to enjoy.

Read Also: Titch

Deborah Inkpen

HARRIET

Hodder, £4.99stg, 0340672595

Harriet the little hamster has escaped from her cage. She scampers into the garden but discovers it can be a bewildering place full of strange sounds, smells and unfriendly creatures. How is she going to find her way home? Wonderfully illustrated by the author, this is a story for children who love pets.

Lisa Kopper

DAISY IS A MUMMY

Puffin, £4.99stg, 014055565

Daisy is back in another delightful story. Meet her new family, Morris, Dolores and Little Daisy. Follow the daily routine as Mum and Daisy look after their children. A brightly illustrated picture book with a simple text. Toddlers will enjoy the fun and games with Daisy and her babies.

Steve Lavis

COCK-A-DOODLE-DOO

Puffin, £4.99stg, 0140559426

Join one noisy cockerel in waking up the farm. With plenty of quacking, oinking, miaowing and squeaking, the animals wake up and start another noisy day. With plenty of scope for participation, toddlers will enjoy this colourful and crazy introduction to numbers.

David McKee

CHARLOTTE'S PIGGY BANK

Red Fox, £4.99stg, 0099721813

Charlotte thinks Aunt Jane's gift of a piggy bank is a silly one. But something makes her change her mind. She saves really hard but does her saving pay off? A quirky tale with an unexpected ending. Amusingly illustrated, children will love the many other stories unfolding on every page.
Read Also: Elmer; Not Now Bernard.

Sue Mongredien

Illustrated by Roy Bugden

THE TIPPS FAMILY HOLIDAY

Red Fox, £2.50stg, 0099264285

The Tipps Family are going on holiday. They are looking forward to sun, beach and picnics. But with Kevin and Cousin Fred in tow will it really be as relaxing as they think? A perfect holiday read for the whole family.

Read Also: Kevin's Birthday; Adventureland Fun.

Barbara Mossmann

I'VE LOST MY TEDDY!

Puffin, £4.99stg, 0140562109

Lola has lost her teddy. Her family search everywhere but there is no sign of him. 'Let's play a game until Teddy turns up' says Lola's Aunt and that's what everyone does until Lola eventually spots her Teddy. Can you find Teddy before Lola does? An entertaining story with lively illustrations.

John Prater

OH WHERE, OH WHERE?

Bodley Head, £6.99stg, 0370322967

A charming depiction of this well-loved game. John Prater's warm and happy illustrations bring to life the excitement on little bear's face as he plays hide and seek. Join in the fun and frolics. Ideal for sharing and reading aloud.

Jane Simmons

COME ON DAISY

O'Brien, £9.99, 0862785529

'You must stay close Daisy' said Mama Duck to her little duckling. But of course Daisy didn't listen. She was much too busy having fun and exploring until ... Mama wasn't there any more. Suddenly the pond becomes a frightening place for her. A simple tale beautifully illustrated by the author.

Francesca Simon

Illustrated by David Melling

WHERE ARE YOU?

Hodder, £4.99stg, 0340714573

One day Harry and Grandpa go to the supermarket. It is Harry's first time and he can't wait to explore up and down the aisles and follow all the

delicious smells. But it's so easy to lose your Grandad ... A delightful story with humorous illustrations and, thankfully, a happy ending.
Read Also: What's That Noise.

Lisa Stubbs

ED AND MR. ELEPHANT - THE BIG SURPRISE

Piccadilly Press, £4.99stg, 1853405655

Ed has a very big surprise for Mr. Elephant and he is very impatient to get going. Mr. Elephant is very excited but things slow them down. Where is Ed in such a hurry to get to? Well, you'll just have to wait and see. A story to keep you guessing right to the end.

Read Also: Sonny's Wonderful Wellies; Sonny's Birthday Prize.

CATALÓG

Leabhair do dhaoine óga

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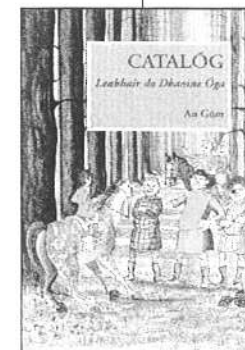
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An Gúm

Melanie Walsh

MY FIREFIGHTER'S HELMET

Dorling Kindersley, £3.99stg,
0751371394

A nurse, a sailor, a firefighter. What do you want to be today? Play funny faces with this delightful, sturdy board book. A book that can be played with, chewed on or dribbled on. What more could a baby need?

Nick Ward

DON'T EAT THE TEACHER

Scholastic, £7.99stg, 0590543210

It is Sammy the Shark's first day at school and he is very excited. The trouble is when Sammy gets excited he eats things. How will his first day go? Will his new schoolfriends survive? And why is his teacher so nervous? Young children will love this school story with a difference.

Various

Illustrated by Sam Williams

TODDLER BEDTIME *

HarperCollins, £4.99stg, 000664659
Make bedtime special with these new stories and poems written especially for toddlers by various popular children's authors, including Vivian French and Tony Bradman. A perfect way to end the day.



0-4 Best Seller List

1. Giles Andrae, **Rumble in the Jungle** O'Brien, £4.99
2. Sam McBratney, **Guess How Much I Love You** Walker, £3.99stg - Board Book
3. Eric Carle, **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** Puffin, £4.99stg
4. Janet and Allan Ahlberg, **The Baby's Catalogue** Puffin, £4.99stg
5. Ludwig Benelmans, **Madeline** Scholastic, £5.99stg
6. Shirley Hughes, **The Big Alfie Out of Doors Storybook** Red Fox, £5.99stg
7. Buggy Buddies, **Lamb** Campbell Books, £2.99stg - Board Book
8. Various, **Stories and Fun for the Very Young** Walker, £10.99stg
9. Dyan Sheldon, **The Whale's Song** Red Fox, £1.25stg
10. Pat Hutchins, **Rosie's Walk** Bodley Head, £3.99stg - Board Book

Age 5-7

A-Z by Author

Terence Blacker

Illustrated by Tony Ross

MS. WIZ SUPERMODEL

Macmillan, £2.99stg, 0330353128

Katrina's screwball parents want her to become a model. Class Three seek the help of wacky Ms. Wiz. Problems start when the top designer turns Ms. Wiz into the star of his Fashion Parade. Will she forget her promise to help Katrina? An original and humorous story for young readers.

Read Also: Ms. Wiz Loves Dracula; Power-Crazy Ms. Wiz; You're Kidding, Ms. Wiz.

Peta Blackwell

WOOLLY JUMPERS

Puffin, £3.99stg, 014038703X

Mabel Cablestitch loves to knit. When she replaces her broken knitting needles with an old wooden pair, woolly animals begin to appear. Find out what's happening while enjoying the author's colourful illustrations.

Pat Boran

Illustrated by Stewart Curry

ALL THE WAY FROM CHINA

Poolbeg, £3.99, 185371853X

Shelley decides to tell a few white lies when she writes back to her penpal from China. But will her lies get her into trouble? A delightful story with vivid illustrations, perfect for reading aloud.

Tony Bradman

Illustrated by Peter Kavanagh

THE FRANKENSTEIN TEACHER

Corgi Pups, £3.50stg, 0552545511

A delightfully spooky tale about a very unusual teacher. Class 3 don't like their new teacher Mr. Frankenstein because he is so ugly. When he brings their dead hamster back to life, with a little help from The Doctor, Class 3 quickly realise that it doesn't matter how you look.

Read Also: Dilly and the Goody-Goody.

Brianog Brady-Dawson

Illustrated by Michael Connor

GRANNY'S TEETH

O'Brien, £3.99, 0862785707

When Granny comes to stay at Danny's house her teeth go missing. Danny decides to have fun with them at school. His tricks land him in trouble and he has to pay the price. Is his prank worth it? An amusing story with hilarious illustrations.

Harriet Castor

Illustrated by Christyan Fox

MILLY'S GOLDEN GOAL

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140384782

Bestonerrf FC hope to raise money by selling their Golden Goal trophy. Disaster strikes when the trophy is stolen. Now they will have to sell their star player, Darren Dangerfoot, instead. Can Milly Hawkins, their number one fan, find the trophy in time to save Darren? Fast-paced and funny.

Read Also: Fatpuss and Friends; Fatpuss and Slimpup; Milly of the Rovers.

Margaret Connolly

Illustrated by Rosita Manahan

IT ISN'T EASY

Oxford University Press, £8.99stg, 0192799169

The gentle and moving story of a little boy whose older brother, Ross, is killed in an accident. The little boy describes his feelings of disbelief, anger and grief, feelings he shares with his parents as, together, they remember Ross and try to come to terms with his loss. Sensitively written with delicate watercolour illustrations.

Don Conroy

WHAT THE OWL SAW

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718637

Owls usually sleep by day and stay awake at night. But Hushy the baby owl is too excited by a world waiting to be discovered. Share his sense of wonder as he encounters various creatures for the very first time. A story of simple charm with appealing illustrations.

Read Also: Elephant at the Door.

Helen Cowcher

JAGUAR

Hippo, £4.99stg, 059011123X

A hunter tracks a jaguar through the jungle, but is unable to kill it when faced with the majestic beauty of the animal. He realises that man must learn to co-exist with the jaguar, rather than hunting it to extinction. Vivid illustrations evoke the lush colours and sights of the jungle.

Read Also: Antarctica.

Stephanie J. Dagg

Illustrated by Kim Shaw

OH MUM!

Mentor Press, £3.99, 1902586018

Colin's mum embarrasses him. She wears baggy jumpers, stripy leggings and Doc Martens. But when Mum saves the school tour from disaster, while the other sensible mums stand helplessly by, Colin is very proud of her. A lively story for anyone who's ever been embarrassed by their mum.

Read Also: The Witch's Dog.

Anna Donovan

Illustrated by Susan Cooper

SINEAD THE DANCER

O'Brien, £3.99, 0862785715

Sinead wants to learn dancing but of course, with Sinead nothing is simple. Is it Riverdance, ballet or gym? None of these. It is, of course, Sinead's own style. But who else in her family has exceptional talent? And is he better than Sinead? A story for budding dancers everywhere.

Read Also: Fireman Sinead!

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Wolfhound Press, 68 Mountjoy Square, Dublin 1

Tel: 01 8740354 Fax 01 8720207

Anne Fine

Illustrated by Kate Aldous

LOUDMOUTH LOUIS

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0141302054

When Loudmouth Louis plans a sponsored silence to raise funds for the school library everyone agrees to sponsor him. Usually, he can't keep quiet for five minutes, so how will he manage seven whole hours? A humorous and entertaining story for young readers.

Read Also: Care of Henry; The Diary of a Killer Cat; Jennifer's Diary.

Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick

THE SLEEPING GIANT *

Wolfhound Press, £4.99,

0863276431 New Edition

A legend comes to life when a giant, who has lain asleep off the coast of Kerry for several hundred years, wakes up. Panic ensues when he takes a walk. Who can persuade him to return to the sea? An imaginative story with beautiful watercolour illustrations. Winner of the Bisto Picture Book Award in 1990.

Sally Grindley

Illustrated by Susan Varley

WHY IS THE SKY BLUE?

Hodder, £4.99stg, 0340698438

The antics of Rabbit, who cannot sit still for five seconds without bouncing and running and rolling about, make Donkey a little bit cross. Donkey is very wise and Rabbit really wants to

learn new things. But Rabbit teaches Donkey something too. A fun story about friendship, with cheeky and colourful illustrations.

Read Also: Kitten Tales; Little Elephant Thunderfoot; Polar Star.

Bob Hartman

Illustrated by Susie Poole

THE LION STORYTELLER BEDTIME BOOK

Lion, £9.99stg, 0745936261

The Mouse and the Lion, Silly Jack, Tiger and Rabbit, and the Clever Baker are just some of the characters waiting to be discovered in this varied collection of forty folk tales from around the world. The rhythmic, flowing text is complemented by attractive colour illustrations. Ideal for reading aloud.

Mairi Hedderwick

THE SECOND KATIE MORAG STORYBOOK *

Bodley Head, £9.99stg, 0370323270

A second collection of stories and poems based on the everyday events of Katie Morag's life. Meet the McColl family; eccentric Uncle Matthew, a hermit; the boy cousins and other inhabitants of the Isle of Struay. These stories and poems are supported by lively colourful illustrations.

Read Also: The Big Katie Morag Storybook.

Author Info

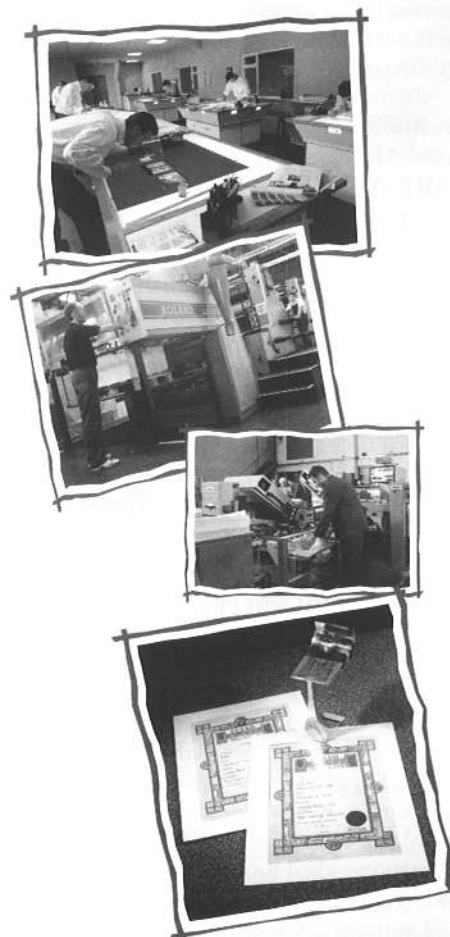
Mairi Hedderwick threw her Teddy into the sea, just as Katie Morag does.

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IRISH PRINT AWARDS
PRINT OF THE YEAR AWARD
1995

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Shirley Hughes

OVER THE MOON, A BOOK OF SAYINGS

Faber and Faber, £5.99stg, 0571194389

A bull in a china shop. Raining cats and dogs. Do we all know what these sayings really mean? This book explains the true meaning of these metaphors alongside their literal image. With unforgettable illustrations by the author, this is a book for all ages to share and enjoy together.

Read Also: Make Hay While the Sun Shines.

Dick King-Smith

Illustrated by Mike Terry

SMASHER

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140377972

Smasher, the freak of the litter, is a big, bumbling, ugly puppy with a talent for getting into trouble. His future looks bleak after his latest escapade. But every dog has its day, and Smasher gets his chance to redeem himself when a burglar pays a visit.

Read Also: Animal Stories; Henry Pond the Poet; Hogsel and Gruntel; The Jenius.

Una Leavy

Illustrated by Margaret Suggs

A GARDEN FOR TOM

O'Brien, £3.99, 0862785685

Tom loves helping his dad in the garden and longs for one of his own. But he soon finds out that a garden is a lot of worry and hard work. Feeling very fed up, he forgets about his garden until something wonderful happens. An encouraging tale for all lovers of nature.

Read Also: No Shoes for Tom!

Jane Mitchell

Illustrated by Anne O'Hara

OLIVIA'S COLLECTION

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853717029

When Olivia moves to a new house, she is too shy to play with the other children. Instead, she collects sunshine to brighten her room. But she soon discovers that a room full of sunshine is no fun if you have no-one to share it with. Original and imaginative.

Clare Maloney

Illustrated by Jeanette Dunne

MORE ALIVE-O STORIES AND POEMS

Veritas, £4.95, 1853903388

Zany tales populated by goldfish, bears, a scarecrow, crazy cats, robots, roosters, mice and a buzzy fly. You can even meet the 'Cutlery Family'. It's a funny world in which Jemima the scarecrow and Bertie the crow are friends. A good book to read aloud, with bright, magical illustrations.

Jonathan Meres

Illustrated by Liz Pyle

SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, COULD THERE BE LIFE IN SPACE? *

Hutchinson, £9.99stg, 0091766389

When the 'lots of colours' ball lands in his paddling pool, Hamish longs to keep it but knows he can't. This is a magical tale of wonder and imagination - ideal too for reading aloud. The soft-toned illustrations are full of atmosphere which adds to the power of the story.

Colmán Ó Raghallaigh

Maisithe ag Anne Marie Carroll

RUAIRÍ SA ZÚ

Cló Mhaigh Eo, £4.95, 1899922024

Téann Ruairí agus a rang ar turas scoile go dtí an Zú. Ceapann an múinteoir bocht go mbeidh na páistí ag obair, ach tá rudaí eile ar intinn ag Ruairí!

Teacher thinks that the children will be working while on their school outing to the Zoo. Ruairí has other notions!

Read Also: Ceol na gCat; Drochlá Ruairí; Róisín ar Strae.

James Sage

Illustrated by Pierre Pratt

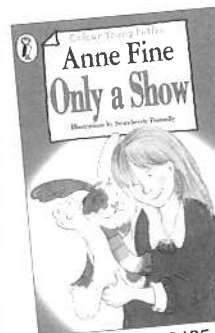
SASSY GRACE *

Macmillan, £4.99stg, 0333684281

Sassy Grace is just like her name - strong, larger than life and full of fun. In her big red shoes she feels like dancing all day long. It makes her very hungry. One day an important guest is expected for dinner ... Lots of repetition, together with warm and colourful illustrations. A great story for sharing.

Colour Young Puffin

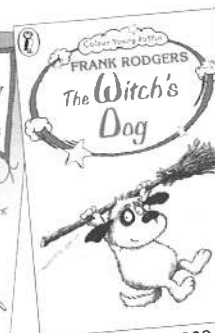
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Best Books! 1998-99

Francesca Simon

Illustrated by Tony Ross

HORRID HENRY STRIKES IT RICH

Orion, £3.50stg, 185881572X

Look out! Horrid Henry is back in a new collection of outrageous stories, and he's just as horrid as ever. He causes mayhem at the school sports day, sells Perfect Peter into slavery, and switches the labels so that he gets Stuck-up Steve's brilliant Christmas presents. Wonderfully wicked! **Read Also:** Horrid Henry; Horrid Henry's Nits; Horrid Henry and the Secret Club; Horrid Henry and the Tooth Fairy.

Paul Stewart

Illustrated by Tony Ross

DOGBIRD

Corgi Pups, £3.50stg, 0552546011

Alice's budgie is driving everyone crazy. He barks day and night, and when the family's three dogs join in the noise is unbearable. Now Dad says that Dogbird has got to go. But who wants a budgie that barks? A quirky tale with suitably cheeky illustrations.

Kathy Still

Illustrated by Merida Woodford

THE BOGWATER WITCHES

Orion, £3.99stg, 1858815797

When the Wind sisters find Hetty on their doorstep they set about turning her into a powerful witch. But Hetty wants to be ordinary. Light-hearted and enjoyable, this book is perfect for sharing at bedtime. Well-written and crammed with drawings, mirror writing, spells, recipes, rhymes and wacky jokes.

Read Also: The Tractor Princess.

Jeremy Strong

Illustrated by Nick Sharratt

THE INDOOR PIRATES ON TREASURE ISLAND

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140386378

Captain Backpatch decides to lead his pirate crew on a treasure hunt to an island in the middle of a lake. Unfortunately, they are all indoor pirates who hate water! Fast moving and entertaining with Nick Sharratt's comical black and white drawings adding considerably to the fun. Newly independent readers should enjoy this one.

Read Also: The Desperate Adventures of Sir Rupert and Rosie Gusset.

Karen Wallace

Illustrated by Mike Bostock

IMAGINE YOU ARE A DOLPHIN

Hodder, £4.99stg, 034067833X

Imagine you are a dolphin, how different would your life be? Imagine roaming the ocean, diving into canyons, riding the storm waves and soaring above the sparkling water crests. Join in life under water and discover the wonderful rich adventures there. A warm evocative book with glowing illustrations which complement the text.

Read Also: Imagine You are a Crocodile.

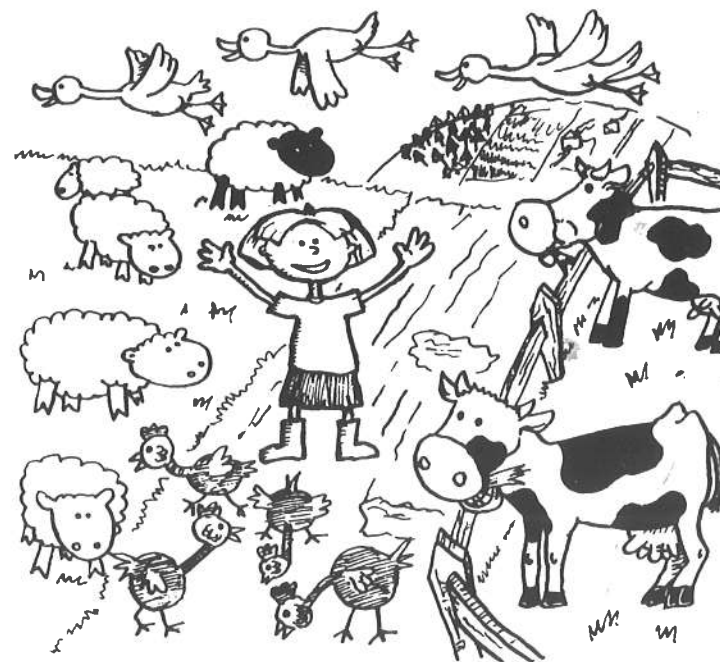


Illustration by Stewart Curry from 'All the Way from China'.

Various

Illustrated by Steve Cox

THE PUFFIN BOOK OF FIVE-MINUTE STORIES *

Viking, £12.99stg, 0670876801

In this beautifully presented collection of nineteen five-minute stories, stories by well-loved authors such as Michael Rosen, Allen Ahlberg and Margaret Mahy, are included with favourite classics such as 'Little Red Riding Hood' and 'The Gingerbread Man'. A well-chosen selection with lively colour illustrations.

Author Info

Gordon Snell was born in Singapore and he wrote his first play, a war saga, at eight!

Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick spent a month in America researching her new book 'The Long March'.

5-7 Best Seller List

1. Gordon Snell, **Amy's Wonderful Nest** O'Brien, £3.99
2. Satoshi Kitamura, **Sheep in Wolve's Clothing** Red Fox, £4.50stg
3. Yvonne Carroll, **Irish Legends for Children** Gill and Macmillan, £7.99
4. Dr. Seuss, **Cat in the Hat** HarperCollins, £3.99stg
5. Marc Brown, **Arthur's Reading Race** Red Fox, £2.50stg
6. Jill Murphy, **The Worst Witch** Puffin, £4.99stg
7. Jeremy Strong, **The One Hundred Mile an Hour Dog** Puffin, £3.99stg
8. Peter Clover, **Sheltie the Hero** Puffin, £2.99stg
9. Dick King-Smith, **Sophie is Seven** Walker, £3.99stg
10. Lucy Daniels, **Doggy Dare** Hodder, £2.99stg



Age 8-11

A-Z by Author

Jenny Alexander

HAUNTING FOR BEGINNERS

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140375805

How do you give someone a present when you're dead? Miss Fischer's ghostly attempts to lead young Hannah to her diamond brooch are amusingly told in this novel for younger readers, which at the same time has some cleverly implied comments on human relationships, materialism and growing up. Dead good!

Margot Bosonnet

RED BELLY, YELLOW BELLY

Wolfhound, £4.50, 0863276407

A welcome return for the gang from 'Up the Red Belly'. This time there's two gangs up two trees and something like a state of war between them: grand material to let Margot Bosonnet loose on! A pleasure for old fans, and a maker of new ones.

Read Also: Up the Red Belly.

Ann Coburn

WORM SONG

Red Fox, £2.99stg, 0099643111

When Alice breaches the Borderland between past and present she meets Martha, a 17th century herbalist, due to be burnt as a witch. It is a crime she is

innocent of but as she waits her fate, Martha has one concern - will her daughter survive? Only Alice can find the answer to that question.

Read Also: Web Weaver; Dark Water.

Eoin Colfer

BENNY AND OMAR

O'Brien, £4.50, 0862785677

In this debut novel, lippy, hurling-mad Benny moves to Tunisia with his family where he finds it very difficult to settle down in the expatriate community. Then he meets Omar, a homeless orphan, who communicates with him in a mixture of telly-speak, jingles and catchphrases. Their friendship shows Benny what is really important in life.

Bill Condon and Robert Hood

GHOUL MAN

Wolfhound, £2.99, 0863276504

When Creeper sets The International Network of the Supernatural on the internet, it's supposed to be a joke. But when he and his friends, Nat and Boris, find themselves battling against a haunted computer in the spooky house in the middle of the cemetery, it doesn't seem funny any more.

Read Also: Slime Zone; Bone Screamer.

JACQUELINE WILSON SUPER-STAR



For further details or a full catalogue please contact
Children's Publicity Department, Transworld Publishers, 61-63 Uxbridge Road, London, W5 5SA Tel: 0181 579 2652 Fax: 0181 231 6727

Kevin Crossley-Holland SHORT! A BOOK OF VERY SHORT STORIES

Oxford University Press, £3.99stg,
0192781480

A collection of curious, teasing, spooky and wondrous tales - all very short, one just one sentence long - drawn from a well of storytelling that included myths, animal fables, modern ghost stories and jokes. Deceptively simple, some of these stories will come back to haunt you, to make you laugh and to make you think.

Stephanie Dagg ESCAPE THE VOLCANO

Mentor Press, £4.50, 1902586026
An explosive first novel in a new series. Tom and his family are staying in a French gîte exploring the range of dormant volcanoes, when the inevitable happens. A well-paced story, with everything you wanted to know about volcanoes and romance for Mum too!

Ursula Dubosarsky THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL

Puffin, £4.99stg, 0140369953
Samuel Cass lives with his parents, in the shadow of his more out-going half sister Theodora, near his beloved grandfather Elias. On his twelfth birthday Samuel disappears and his life

is at risk. An absorbing story of a young boy, at the mercy of actions and decisions of others, in search of his own identity.

Edited by Robert Dunbar Illustrated by Aileen Johnston SECRET LANDS; THE WORLD OF PATRICIA LYNCH

O'Brien Press, £8.99, 0862785758

Patricia Lynch's career spanned over forty years. In seventeen excerpts, Dunbar sets Lynch in her historical context in an Ireland that has all but disappeared. In among the whimsy, her sympathy for emigrants, for uprooted children and for the poor is evident. Nostalgic adults and new readers will enjoy this book.



Author Info

Patricia Lynch was born in Cork in 1898, 100 years ago this year. She is best known for her book 'The TurfCutter's Donkey'.

Eileen Dunlop

WARRIOR'S BRIDE: A STORY OF CÚ CHULAINN'S WIFE

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718238

Heroic larger-than-life figures stride across the pages of this epic tale of Eimhear and her love for Cú Chulainn. Their tragedy unfolds amid great feats of courage, magic spells, spiteful curses, acts of cruel treachery and the clash of spears.

Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick

THE LONG MARCH

Wolfhound, £9.99, 086327644

In 1847 the Choctaw Indians raised 170 dollars for famine relief in Ireland. This superbly illustrated book tells the moving story of that tribe's own dispossession and enforced exile. Young Choona struggles to understand

why his people would care about white men dying on the other side of the world as he learns the history of the Choctaw's tragic Long March to freedom.

Arthur Flynn

ACHILL ADVENTURE

Mentor Press, £4.99, 0947548971

When streetwise and soccer-mad Barry moves to Achill, his initial excitement soon turns to misery; the locals are unfriendly and the teacher is a bully. His only mate is Dennis the diabetic. When an accident occurs up on the mountain and Dennis falls into a coma, Barry is accused of abandoning him ...

Read Also: Luke's Heroes.

Morris Gleitzman

WATER WINGS

Macmillan, £3.99stg, 0330350145

Gleitzman at his best: wickedly funny but dealing with profound emotions and here returning to the theme of 'Two Weeks with the Queen', i.e. dying. He pulls no punches, yet Pearl's relationships with her mother, her guinea pig and her adopted gran are hilarious and heart-warming rather than depressing.

Ann Halam

CRYING IN THE DARK

Dolphin, £4.50stg, 1858813948

Part ghost story, part time slip tale. Elinor, an orphan, is the poor relation. On holidays, with her cousins, she is forced to sleep in a bedroom in an unused part of the house. In her nightmares Elinor 'becomes' Nelly, an 18th century nursemaid. Nelly gets the blame when Diccon, her charge, disappears. Can Elinor solve a two hundred year old mystery and at the same time find happiness beyond her own imaginings?

Jim Halligan and John Newman

FOWL PLAY

Wolfhound, £3.99, 0863276393

Take a ruthless celebrity chef and his sneaky accomplice, Biddle. Throw in the twins from the poultry farm. Combine with a reclusive scientist who has secretly been breeding dodos. Add a dash of slapstick and a few good puns and you have an original recipe for a good laugh.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison

JAKE'S TREASURE

Red Fox, £3.50stg, 0099256258

Jake is in India and determined to find the treasure that his late grandfather hid from the invading Japanese army in World War Two and return it to its rightful owners. He not only succeeds in his quest but, with the aid of native tribesmen, drives out a camp of illegal loggers.

Cora Harrison

THE FAMINE SECRET

Wolfhound, £3.99, 0863276490

Having lost their potato crop to the blight and their parents to the black fever, the McMahon children are placed in the workhouse. Through the resourcefulness of Deirdre they escape and make their way back to Drumshee where, once again, the townland holds the secret to survival.

Read Also: Titanic: Voyage from Drumshee

Diana Hendry

HARVEY ANGELL AND THE GHOST CHILD

Red Fox, £3.99stg, 0099220520

The pleasantly demented household from Harvey Angell mixes it with a spook while on holiday. A sequel that leaves you gagging to get hold of the original. Imagination, wit and love of language are a winning combination in a writer in any field; Diana Hendry has them all in spades.

Author Info

Michael Scott has written over 60 books for children and adults.

**REDISCOVER THE MAGIC OF NARNIA
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To celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of C.S. Lewis, Collins Children's Books are proud to present new editions of the Chronicles of Narnia.

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Illustration by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick from 'The Long March'.

James Heneghan

WISH ME LUCK

Orion, £4.50stg, 1858816106

An authentic sounding picture of World War Two Liverpool, which climaxes in a tale of torpedoed British evacuees. This book is based on a genuine incident that ultimately reflected well on neither side. A brilliantly constructed book, which is a good read, as well as conveying a message.

Amy Hest

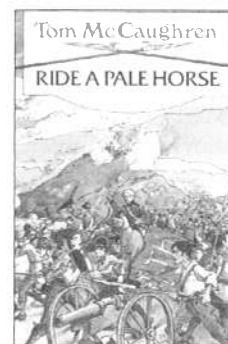
Illustrated by P.J. Lynch

**WHEN JESSIE CAME
ACROSS THE SEA ***

Walker, £10.99stg, 0744540879

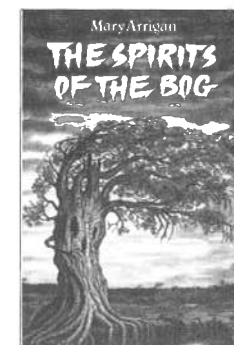
Jessie's grandmother teaches her to make lace and Jessie teaches her grandmother to read and write, neither of them realising how appreciated these skills will be when Jessie is given a ticket to start a new life in America. Beautifully written and illustrated, this is a book to treasure.

The Children's Press

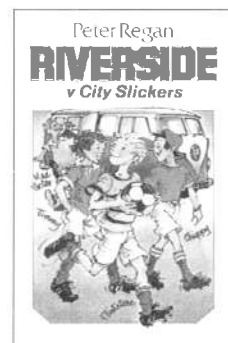


Tom McCaughren
Ride a Pale Horse
144pp. Illustrated. H/b £6.99

Mary Arrigan
The Spirits of the Bog
128pp. P/b £3.99



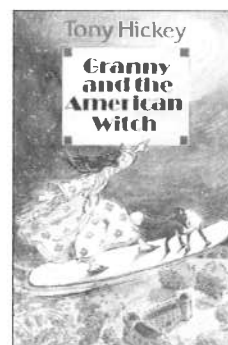
Peter Regan
**Riverside
v City Slickers**
128pp. Illustrated. P/b £3.50



Peter Regan
**Riverside:
The London Trip**
112pp. Illustrated. P/b £3.50

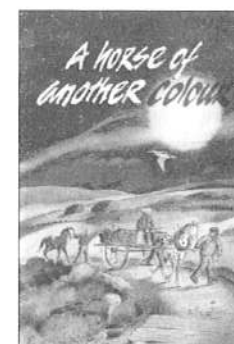


Tony Hickey
**Granny and the
American Witch**
112pp. Illustrated. P/b £3.50



Kate McMahon
**A Horse of Another
Colour**

96pp. Illustrated. P/b £3.99



Mary Hoffman

Illustrated by Jane Ray

SUN, MOON AND STARS

Orion, £12.99stg, 1858814138

Myths and legends from a wide range of cultures explain the ancient mysteries of the sun, moon and stars. Information pages on starlore, moonlore and sunlore accompany the beautifully told stories. Rich and vibrant illustrations make this a truly magical book, one to share and treasure.

Brian Keaney

FAMILY SECRETS

Orchard, £4.99stg, 1860395406

Kate and her mother, Anne make the journey to Ireland to visit Anne's mother who is seriously ill. Anne has not been in contact with her mother since before Kate was born. Kate has a lot of unanswered questions about the past and in particular, her father. Kate gets an opportunity to meet him. Does she dare take it?

Patricia Lynch

THE TURF-CUTTER'S DONKEY

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718084

New Edition

A reprint of an Irish classic for Lynch's centenary. Eileen and Seamus adopt a runaway donkey and are instantly launched into a magical world of leprechauns, tinkers and tea-drinking pigs, where Firbolgs and Danaans tumble out of an enchanted story-book bought at the fair. Anything can happen in the magical world of Patricia Lynch's books!

Yvonne MacGrory

Illustrated by Terry Myler

THE QUEST FOR THE RUBY RING

Children's Press, £3.99, 1901737152

The third in the Ruby Ring series, this time-slip story transports Emma to the workhouse at the time of the famine. She helps the pauper Maria, who was switched at birth to claim her rightful inheritance as daughter of Lady Faringdon of Glenmore Castle.

Sam McBratney

Illustrated by Stephen Player

CELTIC MYTHS

Macdonald Young Books, £12.99stg, 0750018135

Fifteen tales from the folklore of Scotland, England, Wales and Ireland. McBratney's evocative and compelling narrative brings the stories to life and captures the essence of the oral tradition. Player's delicate artwork blends unobtrusively with the text to recreate a mystical and enchanted world. A beautiful book for children and adults alike.



Tom McCaughren

Illustrated by Terry Myler

RIDE A PALE HORSE

Anvil Books, £6.99, 190173708

A rich cast of characters, factual and fictional, transport the reader back to 1798 and the battlefields of Wicklow and Kildare as the United Irishmen's rebellion collapses. A defence correspondent's eye for telling detail brings the battles, camp councils and spy-infested alleyways of Dublin's Liberties convincingly to life.

Kate McMahon

Illustrated by Terry Myler

A HORSE OF ANOTHER COLOUR

Children's Press, £3.99, 1901737179

Sam's family are horse mad but he prefers fishing. On a fishing trip to an isolated lake in Connemara, Sam and his friend discover an old man trapped under a pony and cart that has fallen into a bog hole. In the long night that follows, while Sam waits for help to come, his sympathies take a surprising turn.



Lynne Markham

FINDING BILLY

Mammoth, £2.99stg, 0749730943

No one ever mentioned John Ivanchuck's Uncle Billy or why John's mother Iris and her sister Madge had such a strained relationship. It's only when John chooses Aunt Madge for his 'Person I Most Admire' that he hears about the day Billy got lost on the moors and the impact on the lives of Madge and her family.

Margaret Mahy

Illustrated by Patricia MacCarthy

THE FIVE SISTERS

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140382356

Nana cuts out five paper dolls for Sally but the breeze carries them off before she can colour them. But paper has all the stories in the world hidden in it and these five little sisters, all holding hands, blow away to discover their own stories and to capture hearts and minds. A perfectly crafted fantasy.



Illustration by Aileen Johnston from 'Enchanted Journeys'

Michael Morpurgo
ESCAPE FROM
SHANGRI-LA *

Heinemann, £12.99stg, 0434801534
 Cessie's grandfather, Popsicle, appears on the doorstep from nowhere. He loses his memory and it is difficult to look after him. A home, Shangri-La, is the only solution. Cessie is determined to find the clue to enable Popsicle to rediscover his past. Popsicle's story takes the reader to the beaches of Dunkirk on a night in 1940. Now Popsicle and Cessie make the voyage again aboard the *Lucie Alice* to find the real Lucie Alice. Can Popsicle's story have a happy ending? A poignant story of love, betrayal and guilt across the years.

Read Also: Waiting for Anya; The Wreck of the Zanzibar.

Michael Morpurgo
Illustrated by Michael Foreman
FARM BOY

Pavilion, £9.99stg, 1857938747
 A winning team of author and illustrator vividly portray the relationship between a boy and his farmer grandfather in this lyrical story which spans the century on a Devon farm, from World War One to the present. Technologies may change but love is timeless. Great story-telling and stunning illustration.

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 adult and childrens books!**
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Jenny Oldfield
ANIMAL ALERT: GREVIOUS
BODILY HARM

Hodder, £3.50, 0340708751
 Animal lovers will enjoy the latest well-paced adventure set in the Beech Hill Animal Rescue Centre as Carly and her vet dad investigate an outbreak of cruelty to cats, while coping with a never-ending stream of abandoned scorpions, boisterous collies and injured badgers.

Siobhán Parkinson
THE MOON KING

O'Brien, £4.99, 0862785731
 Ricky seldom speaks and is nervous and afraid. Through flashbacks, the reader learns about Ricky's sad, dysfunctional homelife. Fostered with Mammy Kelly, he finds refuge in 'a

moon chair' hidden in the attic. When his security is threatened Ricky must decide where he really belongs. A sensitive portrayal of a child's struggle to rebuild his life.

Peter Regan
Illustrated by Terry Myler
RIVERSIDE - THE LONDON
TRIP

Children's Press, £3.50, 1901737160
 An exuberant, affectionate account of the teenage footballers from Bray: Growler, Chippy, Mad Victor, Jimmy et al, planning their trip to London in the teeth of setbacks, lack of money and an incompetent manager. Their resourcefulness and cheerfulness shine through - a good read and not just for the football-mad.

Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
SHILOH SEASON *

Macmillan, £3.99stg, 0330353330
Sequel to 'Shiloh', winner of the Newbery Medal, this most accomplished book is a treat. Marty has rescued Shiloh from the violent drunk, Judd Travers. Now as the hunting season approaches in West Virginia, Travers is out to get Marty and his dog. Strong, convincing storytelling.

Adapted by James Riordan
Illustrated by Victor G. Ambrus
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS *

Oxford University Press, £7.99stg, 0192741780
This new adaptation of Gulliver's fantastic adventures in the South Seas is a real treat. Lavish full-page illustrations recreate the lost worlds of Lilliput and Brobdinag. This retelling is well-paced and accessible for the modern reader, yet manages to preserve the tone of Swift's classic, with his swipes at man's vanity, the fecklessness of kings and the absurdity of war.

George Sands
Translated by Philippa Pearce
Illustrated by Hilary Abrahams
WINGS OF COURAGE

Hodder, £3.99stg, 0340715103
Little lame Clopinet dreams of going to sea but his bullying father has other plans. He runs away and lives alone in a cave by the seashore, developing his 'wings of courage' and a love and knowledge of seabirds that eventually takes him all over the world as a renowned ornithologist.

Gordon Snell
THE CASE OF THE MYSTERY GRAVES

Poolbeg, £3.99, 185371898
The Ballygandon gang are hot on the case of the awesome ghost of Sailor Jack who haunts the local graveyard. The names on the tombstones are changing and weird visions are sighted - can the gang crack the code and find the treasure that will allow them to make their longed-for trip to Hollywood? Gripping stuff.

Kate Thompson
MIDNIGHT'S CHOICE
Bodley Head, £9.9stg, 0370324951
Tess looks out of her window and realises her friend Kevin has returned -

in the shape of a phoenix! Tess and Kevin share the ability to switch to any animal form. The phoenix is captured by zoo officials and Tess must think of a way to release it. She enlists the help of another switcher, Martin. Is Martin prepared to help or does he use his ability to 'switch' for more sinister and blood thirsty purposes?
Read Also: Switchers.

Gerard Whelan
A WINTER OF SPIES *

O'Brien, £4.99, 0862785669
An exciting adventure story with a spirited heroine. Sarah Conway sees participation in the War of Independence as 'glorious'. When she is confronted on Sackville Street with the reality of death, she begins to question the purpose of evil from which good may come and her part in the 'clockwork of war'. A story which will linger in the mind.
Read Also: The Guns of Easter.



Author Info

Marita Conlon-McKenna is Ireland's best-selling children's author. She was inspired to write her Famine trilogy after listening to a radio programme about a Famine child's unmarked grave under a hawthorne tree.

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8-11 Best Seller List

1. Roald Dahl, **Matilda** Puffin, £5.99stg
2. Editor - Robert Dunbar, **The Enchanted Journey** O'Brien, £8.99
3. Larry O'Loughlin, **The King's Secret** Blackwater, £3.99
4. Maeve Friel, **Distant Voices** Poolbeg, £3.99
5. Jacqueline Wilson, **The Lottie Project** Transworld, £3.99stg
6. R.L.Stine, **Cry of the Cat** Scholastic, £0.99stg
7. K.A. Applegate, **Animorphs - The Invasion** Scholastic, £3.99stg
8. Lucy Daniels, **Whale in the Waves** Hodder, £3.99stg
9. J.K. Rowling, **Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone** Bloomsbury, £4.99stg
10. Marita Conlon-McKenna, **Fields of Home** O'Brien, £4.99

Jacqueline Wilson

Illustrated by Nick Sharratt

BURIED ALIVE

Doubleday, £9.99stg, 0385407041

Timid Tim and his friend, Biscuit team up again. Their holiday in Wales is almost spoilt by encounters with Prickle-Head and his mate Pinch-Face. The arrival of Tim's girlfriend Kelly helps but it takes a landslide to prove that there is more than one way of becoming a hero. A funny, yet perceptive novel.

Read Also: Bad Girls.



Age 11 Plus

A-Z by Author

Nick Arnold

Illustrated by Tony De Saulles

SOUNDS DREADFUL

Scholastic, £3.99stg, 0590198106

This is one of the award winning books in the 'Horrible Science' series. Detailed, accurate and sophisticated information is transmitted through 'fantastic fact files, quirky quizzes, teacher tests and crazy cartoons'. So if you would like to know why farts are so noisy or if decibels can kill and much, much more, then read on.

Mary Arrigan

THE SPIRITS OF THE BOG

Children's Press, £3.99, 1901737101

Cousins Arty and Suzy are staying at Grandma Kate's. One stormy night the lights black out and Arty sees ghostly shapes outside. Has the old tree from his grandmother's latest painting come alive? Are they all in mortal danger? A gripping read from this popular author.

John Bauer

THWONK

Dolphin, £3.99stg, 1858815444

A smart, funny book, closer to 'Clueless' than to 'Sweet Valley High', telling the story of A.J. and her quest to find a devoted boyfriend (with a little help from Jonathon the cupid). Teen angst, witty one-liners and the discovery that it's best to be yourself.

Annie Campling

AND THE STARS WERE GOLDEN

Dolphin, £3.99stg, 1858814812

A poignant and thoughtful story of the friendship between the elderly Stefan Wassilewska and fourteen year old Richard, the narrator. Stefan has many regrets about his teenage rebellion, which caused him to forfeit his mother and younger brother after the family had been decimated by the Second World War. Richard learns to escape from the cages of the past as Stefan has not been able to. A thought-provoking book.

Sharon Creech

CHASING REDBIRD *

Macmillan, £3.99stg, 0330342134

'Chasing Redbird' tells the story of Zinny Taylor, a young woman who is coming to terms with growing up and the death of her Aunt Jessie, the 'Redbird' of the title. Zinny decides to clear an old trail which has long been forgotten, discovering more than she bargained for along the way. An enthralling tale of love, loss and finding yourself.

Michael Cronin

AGAINST THE DAY

Oxford University Press, £5.99stg, 019271760

A convincing alternative history in which England forms part of the Third Reich; people carry on with their daily lives in what is now an occupied country, but an underground resistance is forming and even schoolchildren can play a part in the fight for freedom.

Irene Discher

BETWEEN TWO SEASONS OF HAPPINESS

Bloomsbury, £10.99stg, 0747540292
World War 2 provides a background to this novel set in Berlin and Budapest, but the main focus of the story is Peter's relationship with his irresponsible and charming father and with his grandfather. An engaging and poignant book with lively illustration by Daniel Pudles.

Berlie Doherty

Illustrated by Sian Bailey

DAUGHTER OF THE SEA

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140379517
This is a magical tale, woven from ancient sea tales of Iceland, Scotland and Ireland. Gioga is a gift from the sea to a childless couple but she cannot withstand her deep longing to return to her own real home. The language is wonderfully poetic and the story has the power of the sea itself but the real hook of the novel is the strength of human emotion.

Nancy Farmer

A GIRL NAMED DISASTER

Dolphin, £4.50stg, 185881622
At twelve, Nhamo leaves her village, alone, to escape marriage. The resilient Nhamo is a convincing and likeable heroine, and her world, peopled by the spirits of the dead, is a fascinating one. The book includes a glossary and a brief history of Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Carlo Gebler

FROZEN OUT *

Mammoth, £4.99stg, 0749728744
Phoebe Rogers hates the idea of leaving her safe and familiar London home to move to the Fermanagh countryside. Gebler explores human nature and relationships as the members of the Rogers family begin to adapt to their new environment. An appealing story especially for young teenagers trying to negotiate the complexities of friendship.

Peter Gunning

KICK THE CAN

Blackwater, £3.99, 0861219198
A gritty and realistic urban story. Tanker faces turmoil as his father is released from prison. His relationship with the girl-next-door starts to develop and his best friend becomes embroiled in drugs. With adventure too, this book deals with many important teenage issues.

Author Info

Peter Gunning is a teacher who lives in Co. Cork.

Edited by Gene Kemp

REBEL REBEL *

Faber and Faber, £10.99stg, 0571178839
This book is an anthology which celebrates female non-conformists. With Maggie Tulliver, Jane Eyre and Becky Sharp rubbing shoulders with Lizzie Dripping, this is a collection to treasure. Jenny's Joseph's wonderful poem 'Warning' is also included, a poem that was voted Britain's favourite in 1998.

Rosalyn Kendrick

BRIDE OF THE NILE

Wolfhound Press, £4.99, 0863276229
As amateur Egyptologist Rosanna tours in that strange and mysterious land, she unlocks hidden secrets of the past and present. Figures from history have a powerful influence on events of the present, not least Rosanna's turbulent relationship with Finbar the guide. A gripping and eventful thriller with an interesting collection of characters.

Author Info

When Maeve Friel was eleven she had 'flu and while recovering read all of 'Dickens' books and to this day she can't tell 'Bleak House' from 'The Old Curiosity Shop'!



Bright Sparks ARE BACK!

Bright Sparks are back in the bookshops this Autumn, brighter, fresher and more original than ever!

4 Ever Friends by best-selling author Bernadette Leach catches up with the life of sixteen year old Anna Fielding. This is Anna's second attempt at diary keeping, brilliantly capturing the highs and lows of family life. £4.95

Manor Spirits by Tony Foster is a good, old fashioned ghost story, superbly written, full of surprises and genuinely spooky! £4.95

Attic Press Ltd., Crawford Business Park, Crosses Green, Cork.
Tel: 021 321725, Fax: 021 315329, e-mail: brightsparks@ucc.ie

E.L. Konigsburg
THE VIEW FROM
SATURDAY *

Aladdin (U.S.A.), £3.99stg, 0689817215
 Winner of the Newbery Medal, this book is a must for any young person or adult. It tells the tale of 'The Souls', four friends who come together to win the sixth grade Academic Bowl. Under the watchful eye of their teacher Mrs. Olinski, the four friends find the answers to more than just the Academic Bowl questions. A touching and compelling book about life, love and the nature of friendship. Don't miss it!

Elizabeth Laird
FORBIDDEN GROUND

Puffin, £3.99stg, 0140385886
 Hannah has recently moved from a small village to a city in North Africa. She finds it difficult to make friends and the price for popularity is disregard for the wishes of her family. Then she meets Sami and experiences the sweet intensity of first love. Is Hannah prepared for the type of commitment Sami desires? A moving story of a young girl at a cross roads in her life.

Bernadette Leach
4-EVER FRIENDS

Attic Press, £4.95, 1855941899
 Aspiring novelist Anna Fielding charts the happenings of her family in a diary. With Dad losing his job, Mum becoming pregnant, troublesome brothers and fights with best friends, she has plenty to write about. A bright and breezy book dealing lightly with serious topics.

Joan Lingard
A SECRET PLACE

Hodder, £10.99stg, 0340716614
 A new hardback from Joan Lingard is always worth waiting for. In 'A Secret Place' Antonio kidnaps his son and daughter from their school playground and steals them away to Spain. But soon Charlie is homesick and Maria begins to question her father's motives. A strong and topical read.

Jane Mitchell
MAKING WAVES

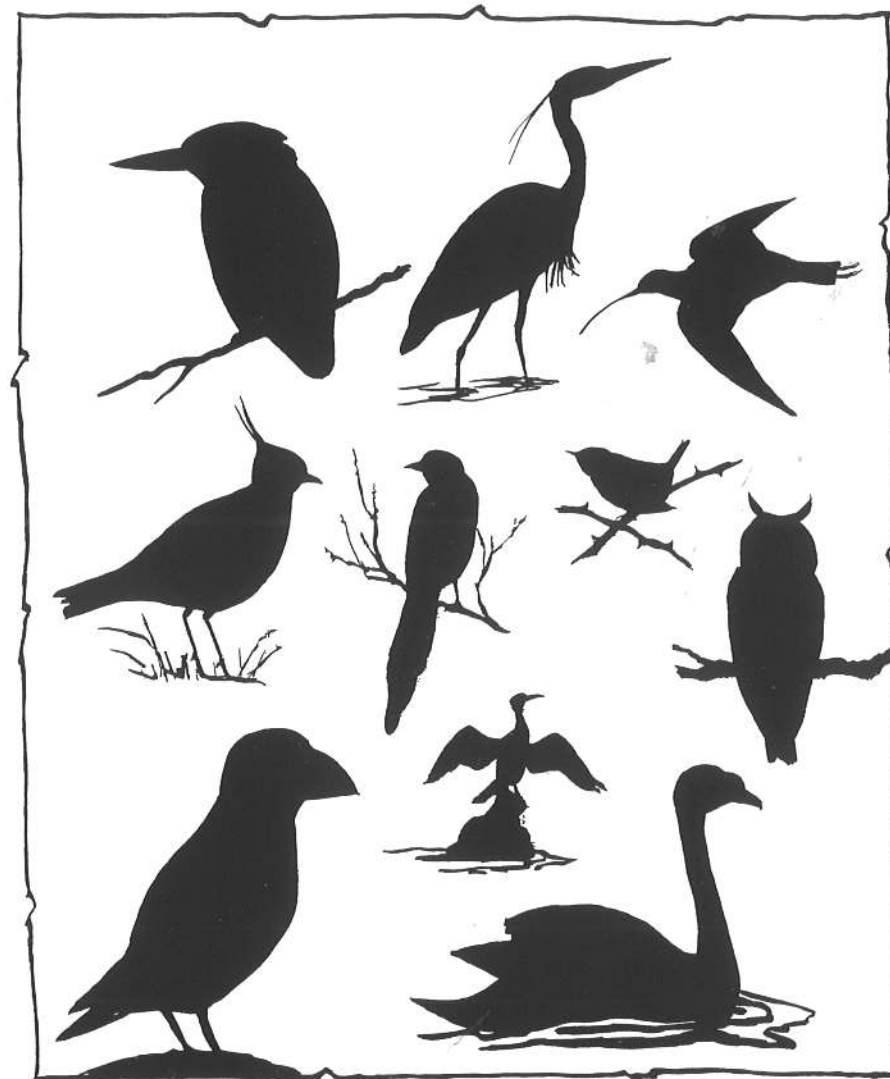
Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718289
 Ciara is passionate about swimming, has a punishing training schedule and total commitment to the sport. Her sister, Sorcha's interest wanes as she discovers there is more to life than swimming. As their paths diverge, both sisters face trauma of very different kinds. Their story is told with sympathy and optimism. Jane Mitchell is an award-winning author who writes with great insight and sensitivity about teenage lives.

Read Also: When Stars Stop Spinning

Martina Murphy
FAST CAR

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718483
 April has been sent to stay with distant cousins in Dublin while her parents are working abroad for nine months. Her new 'family' are easy-going and soccer-mad and April finds it hard to fit in. But when she meets bad-boy Luke her life begins to take an unexpected turn for the best, or perhaps, the worst. Compelling, fast-paced reading for young teenagers.

Read Also: Livewire



BIRD SILHOUETTES

Can you identify these birds?

Answers: 1. Kingfisher 2. Grey Heron 3. Curlew 4. Lapwing 5. Magpie 6. Wren 7. Long-eared Owl 8. Puffin 9. Cormorant 10. Mute Swan



BISTO BOOK OF THE YEAR

GERARD WHELAN

Dream Invader
O'Brien Press

THE EILÍS DILLON BISTO AWARD

FOR A FIRST CHILDREN'S BOOK

ED MILLIANO

It's a Jungle Out There
Wolfhound Press

BISTO BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS 1997/98

BISTO MERIT AWARDS

SOINBHE LALLY

The Hungry Wind
Poolbeg Press

P.J. LYNCH

When Jessie Came Across The Sea
Walker Books; Irish Rights Poolbeg Press

SIOBHÁN PARKINSON

Four Kids - Three Cats - Two Cows

- One Witch (Maybe)
O'Brien Press

Siobhán Parkinson FOUR KIDS, THREE CATS, TWO COWS, ONE WITCH (MAYBE)

O'Brien, £4.50, 0862785154

Four young people and a cat make their way to an uninhabited island, in true Famous Five style, complete with food, matches and First Aid kit. But things are not quite what they seem on the island. Are they being watched or is the island haunted? Each youngster tells a story, revealing much about their lives. An interesting and highly recommended book. Shortlisted for the 1998 Bisto Awards.

Read Also: *Sisters ... No Way.*

Author Info

'Sisters ... No Way' is a modern retelling of the Cinderella story.

Philip Pullman THE SUBTLE KNIFE

Scholastic, £5.99stg, 0590112899

The eagerly awaited second volume in the 'His Dark Materials' trilogy. Will is twelve and he's just killed the man who threatened his mother. He goes on the run, determined to discover the truth about his father's strange disappearance. Will meets the intriguing wild girl Lyra and together they search for his father and the most valuable and secret object in the world. A brilliantly plotted fantasy adventure story.

Tatiana Strelkoff ALLISON - A STORY OF FIRST LOVE

O'Brien, £4.99, 0862785596

Karen is sixteen and suffering from first love. An added problem is that the person she has fallen in love with is another girl, the beautiful and confident Allison. The book charts Karen's difficulty in coming to terms with her own sexuality and the reactions of her family and friends.

Author Info

Marilyn Taylor takes her research very seriously. She knows all the latest fashions, trends, music and video games, gleaned from chats with teenagers!



Allison

A Story of First Love

TATIANA STRELKOFF

THE RED FOX READING GANG

The National Year of Reading, Literacy Hour, the National Literacy Project - there's no doubt that reading is a high priority for everyone working with children's books at the moment.

To tie-in with the many initiatives supporting reading, but particularly with the National Year of Reading, Random House Children's Books are launching Red Fox Reading Gangs in September 1998. Red Fox Reading Gangs are a flexible way of introducing children to a wide range of books. The Red Fox Reading Gangs will enable children to make informed choices about their reading, to open a book with confidence, anticipation and enjoyment.

How do Red Fox Reading Gangs work?

Random House will supply you with a booklet full of activities and photocopiable resources written by Lindsey Fraser, Executive Director of the Scottish Book Trust. Plus there's bookmarks, stickers and



posters that tie-in with a range of Red Fox books, all for absolutely no charge! You can organise your gang in the way which suits you best - as part of a special holiday reading promotion, in local schools and libraries, or in a bookshop.

Who can join?

The activities are divided into two sections - the first for pre-readers and new readers and the second for fluent and confident readers. Younger children will enjoy activities based around favourite book characters, Elmer, Alfie, Arthur, Old Bear, Titch and Katie Morag. Older children can escape into specially selected Reading Worlds - Redwall, Fantasy, Funny, Past, Adventure, and Family and Friends.

How do I get involved?

To receive a Red Fox Reading Gang Leaders' Notes booklet which contains everything you need to know to run your gang, please send a postcard with your name and address to: Red Fox Reading Gang, P.O. Box 1375, London, SW1V 2SA.

Don't delay sign up now!

Random House Children's Books

RED FOX

www.randomhouse.co.uk

Robert Swindells ABOMINATION *

Doubleday, £9.99stg 0385408544
The gripping story of Martha, a child brought up within a strict religious group and her growing friendship with Scott, a new boy at her school. The tension mounts as the two children grow closer, leading them both to question the status quo of their lives. Scott's friendship, which grows into love, enables Martha to break free from the near incestuous family situation and free the 'Abomination' of the title. A haunting tale.

Various SCREAM! A GATHERING OF GORY STORIES

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718785
A collection of stories ranging from eerie ghost stories to terrifying horror stories. Authors include Gordon Snell, Maeve Friel, Michael Scott and Don Conroy. Billed as 'the essential sleepover accessory', 'Scream' is not for the faint-hearted.
Read Also: Shiver; Chiller; Nightmares.

James Watson JUSTICE OF THE DAGGER

Puffin, £4.99stg, 0141300078
An exciting political novel dealing with culture-clash, environmentalism and human rights as The Forest People and a Western conservationist must unite against the timber companies in a bid to save their homeland from destruction.

Sue Welford STARLIGHT CITY

Oxford University Press, £5.99stg, 019271791
A fast paced adventure story set in the near future. Kari leaves her home in the country and becomes embroiled in the dangerous underworld of the City. She discovers not only her own strength but also the similarities that exist between the most different people, no matter where they come from.



Robert Westall

VOICES IN THE WIND

Macmillan, £3.99stg, 0330352180

This is a collection of ten short stories, each one beautifully written by this award-winning author. The stories begin in the ordinary but skillfully lure you into the chilling and macabre. These stories will haunt you! If you haven't already read Westall, you are in for a treat.



11 Plus Best Seller List

1. Siobhán Parkinson, **Sisters ... No Way** O'Brien, £4.50
2. Ann Frank, **The Diary of a Young Girl** Puffin, £4.99stg
3. Gerard Whelan, **Dream Invader** O'Brien, £3.99
4. Ré Ó Laighléis, **Gafa** Comhar, £4.00
5. Melvin Burgess, **Junk** Puffin, £4.99stg
6. Aubrey Flegg, **Katie's War** O'Brien, £4.50
7. Mark O'Sullivan, **White Lies** Wolfhound, £3.99
8. Robert Cormier, **Tenderness** HarperCollins, £4.99stg
9. M.D. Taylor, **Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry** Puffin, £3.99stg
10. Kate Thompson, **Switchers** Red Fox, £3.99stg

Poetry

A-Z by Author

Edited by John Agard

WHY IS THE SKY? *

Faber, £3.99stg, 0571179428

This little book, illustrated by Andrzej Klimowski and edited by poet John Agard is a must for every school and library. A truly international collection, with poems from many countries and many well-known poets, including Shel Silverstein (USA), Nanao Sakaki (Japan), Jon Milos (Romania/Serbo-Croatia), Pablo Neruda (Chile) and Federico García Lorca (Spain). A truly varied and unusual collection.

Faustin Charles

ONCE UPON AN ANIMAL

Bloomsbury, £3.99stg, 0747538654

There must surely be a poem for every animal in this zoological collection, with apes beating their chests, blackbirds partying and sparrows twittering! An enjoyable collection that would surely inspire any class to write a wide range of animal poems. A bright and breezy poetry book, with a particularly attractive and colourful cover.

Jennifer and Graeme Curry

THE COMPLETE SCHOOL VERSE

Red Fox, £2.99stg, 0099917904

Combining two volumes of popular verse, 'School Verse' and 'More School Verse', this book contains every poem you could think of about every child's favourite topic - school! The chapters feature various aspects of school life, including the dreaded 'School Dinners' and also include some poems by children. Definitely a book to pass around at play-time.

Edited by Berlie Doherty

THE FORSAKEN MERMAN AND OTHER STORY POEMS *

Hodder, £11.99stg, 0340689978

This collection of longer narrative verse has been thoughtfully selected and contains many lesser known poems. The handsome hard-back edition, illustrated by Nick Maland, would make an ideal gift for any child who is fond of poetry and has the appetite for longer poems. Poems such as 'Kapakona - Seal-Woman' by Anne Born and 'The Red Headed Ann' by Micky McConnell share the pages with the more familiar classics, such as 'The Wreck of the Hesperus' by Longfellow and 'The Dong with a Luminous Nose' by Edward Lear.

Gabriel Fitzmaurice

PUPPY AND THE SAUSAGE

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718580

A new collection from Ireland's favourite poet for children. Poems like 'What's in a Name?', 'Daddy's Belly' and 'A Goodnight Kiss' are sure to become classics, repeated in the playground and at home - you have been warned! Light-hearted and amusing, this is a collection you shouldn't miss!

Edited by Michael Harrison and Christopher Stuart-Clark
THE OXFORD TREASURY OF CLASSIC POEMS *

Oxford University Press, £9.99stg, 0192761870

A book that truly lives up to its title, a treasure, brim-full of classics, and superbly illustrated as well. Ten different illustrators are included in the book, so that each poem has an artistic style that matches and enhances it. This book gathers such classics as 'Fern Hill', 'Jabberwocky', 'The Tiger', 'Cargoes' and 'Lochinvar' all together. One for all children to enjoy and adults to reminisce over, remembering the childhood joys of verse.

Adrian Henri
ROBOCAT

Bloomsbury, £3.99stg, 0747538638
In a new series by Bloomsbury, this collection by Adrian Henri is light and enjoyable for younger readers. Of special note is the poem 'What Are Little Girls ...', a delightful re-working of the old homily -

I'm

a

slugs and snails

girl

a puppy-dog's tails

girl

a climbing trees

dirty knees

hole-in-sock

love-to-shock

girl

Just right for the tomboy!

Russell Hoban

THE LAST OF THE WALLENDAS AND OTHER POEMS

Hodder, £10.99stg, 0340667664

By the author of the renowned 'The Mouse and his Child', the topics of these poems range from King Kong to Insomnia. The book is illustrated by Patrick Benson, with detailed line drawings, which contribute to the old-world feel of the book. A varied collection, surely a must for all Hoban fans.

Elizabeth Jennings

A SPELL OF WORDS

Macmillan, £4.99stg, 0330354221

A gentle, warm selection of poems, which concentrate on the natural world. A beautifully designed and created book, full of the quietness of the peaceful soul. Elizabeth Jennings is a masterful poet who often speaks directly to the child reader to pose questions and encourage. As Charles Causley recommends on the front cover 'a book to treasure'.

Do ye remember these three great tales from Blackwater Press last year,
Fionn and the Scots Giant,

The King's Secret and The Gobán Saor
(which was shortlisted for the

BISTO BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD)?!

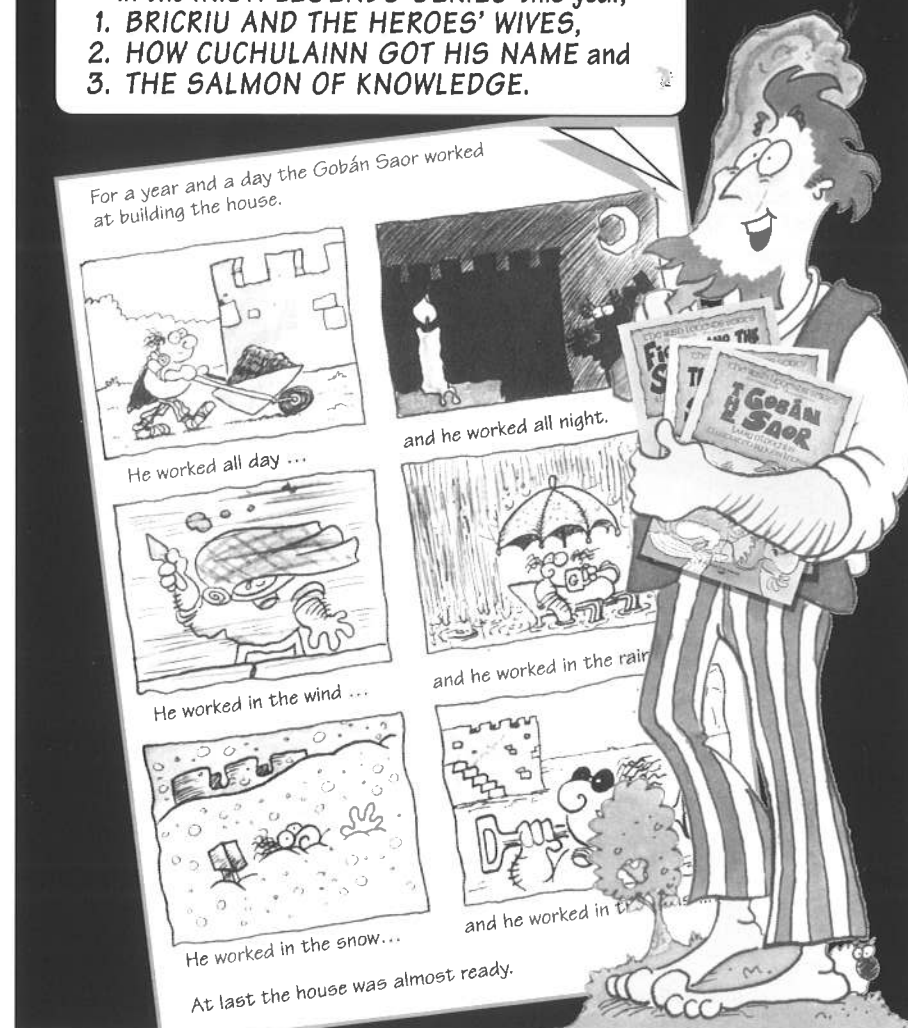
Well, listen to this, announcin' **THREE NEW TITLES** in the **IRISH LEGENDS SERIES** this year,

1. **BRICRIU AND THE HEROES' WIVES,**
2. **HOW CUCHULAINN GOT HIS NAME** and
3. **THE SALMON OF KNOWLEDGE.**

BLACKWATER PRESS

C/O Folens Publishers,
Unit 7/8
Broomhill Business Park,
Broomhill Road,
Tallaght, Dublin 24.

Tel: 01 451 5311



I SEE THE MOON

I see the moon,
And the moon sees me;
God bless the moon,
And God bless me.



Illustration from 'The Puffin Baby and Toddler Treasury'

Edited by Tom Mullins
**RUNNING LIGHTLY ...
POEMS FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE ***

Mercier, £7.99, 1856351939

An interesting collection featuring many old favourites. The collection also contains the work of a number of children in the chapter 'Young Voices', which should give inspiration to any aspiring poet. Poems by Charles Causley, Seamus Heaney and Matthew Sweeney combine with Shakespeare, Yeats, Tennyson, and De La Mare to give a pleasurable read.

Michael Rosen
**MICHAEL ROSEN'S BOOK
OF NONSENSE ***

MacDonald Young Books, £9.99stg, 0750021926

A zany collection of snippets of rhyme and snatches of verse from the master of daft verse that really gets under your skin, Michael Rosen. The illustrations by Clare Mackie add to the book, bringing to life the poems and characters, including the dinosaurs in 'When Dinosaurs Fooled the Earth'. We meet the 'Shut-the-Daurus', and the 'Flat-On-The-Flaurus' among others. Guaranteed fun and giggles for younger children.

Nick Toczek
DRAGONS EVERYWHERE

MacMillan, £3.50stg, 0330367927

A wonderful, though slim, volume of verse about dragons, from the lonely Blubberbelly Wobblewalk Stumbebum Smith to Ivan the Wyvern, we have dragons of all

shapes, sizes and persuasions. Fun, fast and furious, a must for all dragon fans!

Read also: Dragons

Illustrated by Justin Todd
**RING-A-RING O' ROSES, A
COLLECTION OF NURSERY
RHYMES AND STORIES**

Viking, £14.99stg, 0670873020

An ideal gift book of nursery rhymes, beautifully illustrated by award-winning illustrator Justin Todd. The classic nursery rhymes and tales are vibrantly brought to life by Todd's clear and colourful pictures. Look out for the illustration of 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and the venomous blue monster with red eyes!

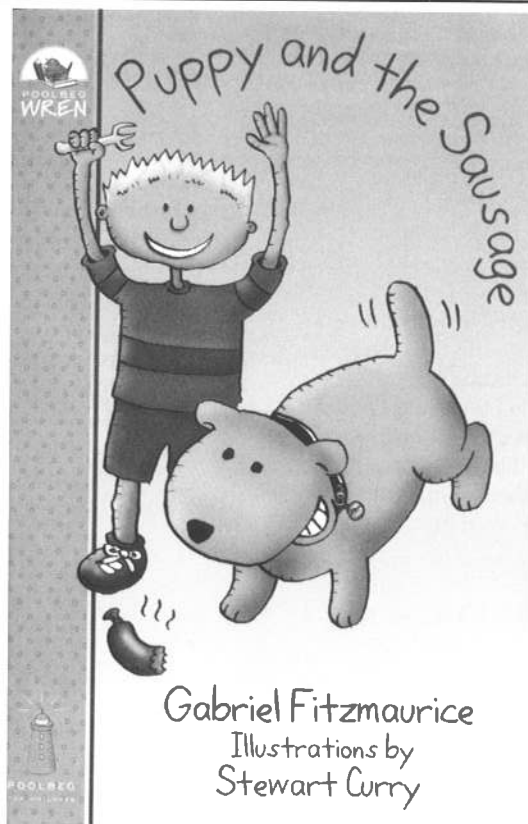
**THE PUFFIN BABY AND
TODDLER TREASURY**

Puffin, £14.99stg, 0670878324

The perfect gift for any new baby or young child. This book is crammed with poems, rhymes and verses which will appeal to younger children. A distinguished array of illustrators have garnished this collection with varied and colourful pictures. With several stories as well, this book will be a well-used ornament to any child's collection.

Poetry Best Seller List

1. Editor - Alison Sage, **The Hutchinson Treasury of Poetry** Hutchinson, £19.99stg
2. Editor - Fiona Waters, **The Poetry Book** Orion, £5.99stg
3. Editor - Liz Attenborough, **The Children's Book of Poems, Prayers and Meditations** Element, £12.99stg
4. Faustin Charles, **Once Upon an Animal** Bloomsbury, £3.99stg
5. Editor - Roger McGough, **The Kingfisher Book of Poems About Love** Kingfisher, £4.99stg



Information

A-Z by Author

Edited by Pat Alexander

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

Lion, £14.99stg, 0745938310

A delightful collection of stories, fables, myths and poems with a gently religious slant. The theme of the book is creation, celebrating the world and all its animals. Each extract or complete piece is carefully chosen, from 'The Founding of Narnia' by C.S. Lewis and 'Noah's Tale' retold by Avril Rowlands to 'The Black Fox' by Betsy Byars and 'Sam and the Hacker' by Russell Stannard. Quality writing collected in a handsome book, illustrated with black and white line drawings. Age six plus.

Kathleen Berton Murrell

RUSSIA *

Dorling Kindersley, £9.99stg, 0751361240

'Russia' is in the excellent 'Eyewitness' series, and combines informative text with stunning visuals - photographs, maps and illustrations. From samovars to Matryoshka ('Russian dolls'), the Romanov Dynasty to Gorbachev, it makes fascinating reading and is a great book for dipping into. For readers of eight plus.

Stephen Biesty

STEPHEN BIESTY'S INCREDIBLE BODY

Dorling Kindersley, £12.99stg, 075135841

A new book by the illustrator of 'Incredible Cross-sections'. Find out what your body looks like from the inside by following two tiny explorers through the labyrinth of arteries, veins and bones. Fun for seven plus.

Dianna Boullier

EXPLORING IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE

O'Brien, £7.99, 0862785588

Aptly described as 'the perfect introduction to Irish music and dance', this handsome hardback will please any Irish music or dance enthusiast. Packed full of stories, songs, folk history and biographies and illustrated with atmospheric line-drawings by Julian Friers. The perfect gift for a child of nine plus.

100 Eyewitness is 10 years old!

DK EYEWITNESS GUIDES DK



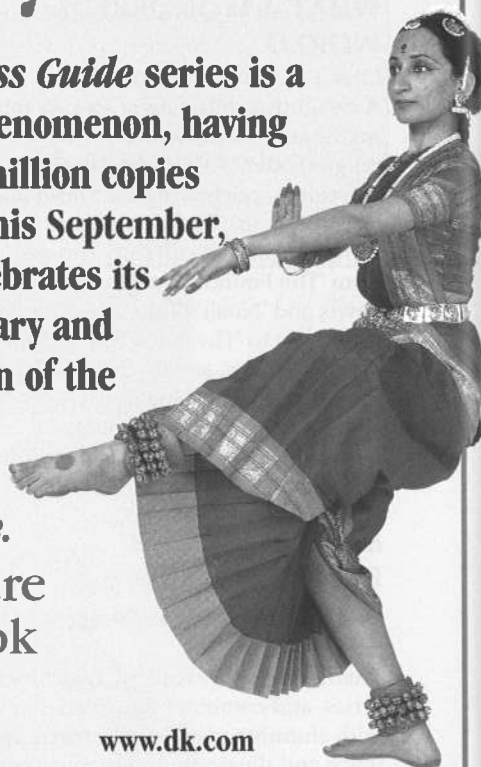
0 7513 6128 3 £9.99

The *Eyewitness Guide* series is a publishing phenomenon, having sold over 38 million copies worldwide. This September, the series celebrates its 10th anniversary and the publication of the 100th title, *Eyewitness Guide: Future*.

"The fact book that are more tempting to look at than television"

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

www.dk.com



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	EYEWITNESS GUIDES	FOSSIL		DK
	EYEWITNESS GUIDES	FLAG		DK
	EYEWITNESS GUIDES	SHARK		DK
	EYEWITNESS GUIDES	DANCE		DK
	EYEWITNESS GUIDES	SPACE EXPLORATION		DK

Michael Coleman TOP TEN BIBLE STORIES *

Scholastic, £3.99stg, 0590192574
The Top Ten series is brilliant! From the publishers of the 'Horrible Histories' and 'The Knowledge' comes another success. This book makes the Bible come to life in all its strange and wonderful glory. Focusing on the most interesting and bizarre characters from Moses to Jezebel, it proves that the old stories really are the best. Complete with cartoons, diagrams, lists and letters, including 'Daniel's Death Warrent', this book is highly recommended.

Read Also: Greek Legends; Shakespeare Stories.

Don Conroy THE DON CONROY WILDLIFE COLOURING AND ACTIVITY BOOK *

Poolbeg, £4.99, 1853718386
Don Conroy is Ireland's favourite wildlife expert, loved by adults and children alike. In this new book he brings together colouring sheets, nature quizzes and craft activities, bound to keep any young animal enthusiast busy for hours. Don's drawings are expertly executed and full of detail. Age five plus.

Mary Dobson VILE VIKINGS

Oxford University Press, £4.99stg, 0199104948

'Vile Vikings' comes carefully shrink-wrapped, for good reason! Open the book and watch your nose and your stomach. This book is part of the 'Smelly Old History' series, with lots of scratch and sniff panels, giving you a taste (or smell) of history. Read about Viking meals and smell the food, read about Viking churches and smell the incense. Lots of fascinating facts and great full-colour illustrations make this much more than a novelty book. Age seven plus.

Robert Duffy THE BUZZ QUIZ BOOK

Poolbeg, £3.99, 1853718939

A quiz book with a difference. All sorts of questions (with answers!) on 'weirdos, blunders, the high-up, the low-down'. This attractively produced volume is sure to please anyone from seven to seventy.

Read Also: Quizbook 2,000.

Michelle Elliot BULLYING

Hodder, £3.99stg, 0340714832

A responsible and highly readable book on this topical subject. Written in an accessible manner, with cartoon style illustrations, quizzes and 'true life tales', 'Bullying' is a useful book for parents and teachers as well as its intended readers of ten plus.

Read Also: Drugs; Periods; Sex.

Michael Fox

SMASHIN' FASHION

Scholastic, £3.99stg, 0590197193

Another excellent title in the 'Knowledge' series, 'Smashin' Fashion' is both entertaining and informative. Packed with details about clothes through the ages, from hennins (15th century head-dresses!) to denim jeans, complete with nifty cartoon drawings by Philip Reeve. Learn all about world famous style gurus, fashion icons and how to become a top designer in this fun book. A must for any budding Chaneels or Armanis!

Ray Gibson

I CAN COUNT

Usborne, £3.99stg, 0746029470

This book in the Usborne Playtime series combines art with education in a simple and attractive manner. Each number is given its own page, and is combined with an animal, fish or insect to 'print' using directions on the facing page. For 'eight' you can try potato printing eight jaunty red crabs. Good fun for three and a half to five year olds.

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Dorling Kindersley, £9.99stg, 0751371459

A new twist to an old tale. The story of King Arthur is brought to vivid life in this lavish, full colour re-telling. Complete with explanatory notes on everything from weapons, to the Holy Grail and Morgan le Fay and other fascinating things from Arthur's magical age. Age eight plus.

Andrew Langley

OXFORD FIRST ENCYCLOPEDIA *

Oxford University Press, £14.99stg, 0199100918

A useful reference book for younger children of five plus. The encyclopedia is divided into themed sections, from 'My Body' to 'The Universe', covering subjects that really interest younger readers. The writing is clear, easy to read and fun and the text is accompanied by lots of colour illustrations, making this a very attractive book to both children and parents. This 'First Encyclopedia' is a real winner! Highly recommended.

Ann Marie O'Grady

EVERYTHING IRISH

O'Brien, £4.99, 086278557

A wide ranging book collecting together, as the title aptly puts it 'everything Irish', for children of five plus. Included are snippets of Irish history, from the Famine to Saint Brendan, lots of things to make with an 'Irish' theme, such as Irish Dancers and Irish Flags; stories, poems and songs, and much, much more. A good introduction to Ireland and a must for any young American relations!

Martin Oliver

WORLD EXPLORER ATLAS

Dorling Kindersley, £9.99stg, 0751356697

An atlas for younger children (age seven plus) with a difference! Each double page spread features a particular region and is packed full of distinctive illustrations by Tim Hutchinson. Northern Eurasia is filled

with wonderful 'Russian' clusters of houses and tiny reindeer, sheep, helicopters, ships and mountains. On each page you must find, for example 'Reindeer' or a 'Snowy owl', giving the atlas an interactive, 'Where's Wally' touch. Wonderful fun for all the family!

Lesley Sims

PUZZLE JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD

Usborne, £4.50stg, 074602682X

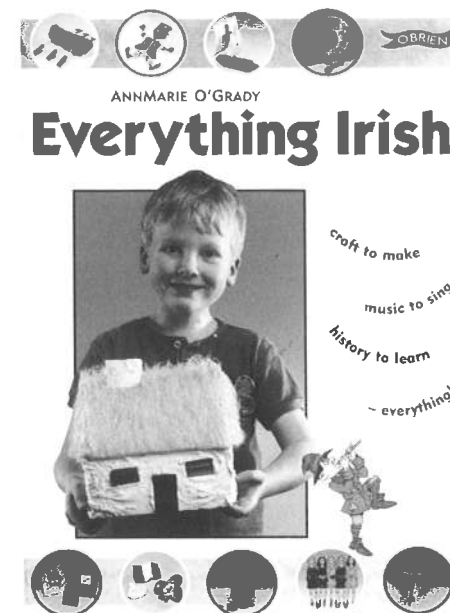
An interesting blend of fact and fiction, this Usborne Young Puzzle Book is just the thing for rainy days! Three children find themselves on the adventure of a lifetime when they find a magic globe in an old junk shop. The reader must help the children on their travels all over the world. Great fun and educational too! Age seven plus.

Russell Stannard

ASK UNCLE ALBERT *

Faber, £4.99stg, 0571194362

Russell Stannard is a Professor of physics, who makes science accessible to children through his clever and funny Uncle Albert books, which have been shortlisted for the Science Award and the Whitbread Award. This book answers many tricky questions, such as 'Why is water wet?' and 'Who invented talking?' A lively and entertaining read. Age eight plus.





THE COVE OF CORK

Bill Wall

ISBN: 1 85635 225 0 / £4.99 / Publication: September 1998

The third book in the historical seafaring trilogy that began with *The Powder Monkey* and continued with *The Slave Coast*. Dónal and his shipmates are made prisoners of war after a sea battle with a British ship and brought back to Ireland. But Dónal's past, in the shape of some vicious old enemies, is waiting in the wings to catch up with him. An exciting adventure story for older children.

HUMOROUS IRISH TALES FOR CHILDREN

Eddie Lenihan

ISBN: 1 85635 238 2 / £4.99 / Publication: September 1998

The Ireland of Finn MacCumhail and the Fianna was a land of heroic deeds and deep magic. But without a sense of humour Finn and his army could not possibly have dealt with a world infested by monsters, ogres, foreign invaders and the other evil beings that lurk and crawl throughout the pages of Lenihan's wonderful tales. These stories tell of the fun had by the evil beings and heroes alike. For children aged 8 - 12.



Judy Tatchell

HOW DO YOUR SENSES WORK?

Usborne, £3.99stg, 1 0746025068

An introduction to the senses for younger children (aged 6 to 8). The text is well written and accompanied throughout by attractive cartoon style illustrations. Each page has a flap to be lifted which makes the book more 'interactive' for children. Also in this useful series 'What Happens To Your Food?' and 'How Are Babies Made?'

Sarah Webb

Illustrated by Terry Myler

CHILDREN'S PARTIES - THE FUN AND EASY WAY

Children's Press, £4.99, 1901737187

A practical and fun guide to running children's parties. If you ever wondered what on earth to do to amuse a pack of six year olds then this is the book for you. With ideas for all ages and a contact list for venues, this book is a must for all parents.

Author Info

Sarah Webb, author of 'Children's Parties the Fun and Easy Way' is one of the editors of Best Books!

Animal Jigsaws

WILD ANIMALS ON SAFARI

Macmillan, £4.99stg, 0333716310

A novel idea - a book and a set of jigsaws combined, five in total. Each jigsaw is accompanied by text explaining the picture on the jigsaw, for example an ostrich and her chicks. A question is then posed, encouraging the child to examine the picture closely. The animal photographs are beautifully coloured and attractive to the eye. A good introduction to information books and 'real' jigsaws for children of five plus.



Illustration by Tim Hutchinson
from 'World Explorer Atlas'

Information Best Seller List

1. Kate Petty, *The Terrific Times Tables Book* Bodley Head, £12.99stg
2. Lane Smith, *Maths Curse* Puffin, £4.99stg
3. Terry Deary, *Bloody Scotland* Scholastic, £7.99stg
4. Zoom in on *Amazing Nature* Kingfisher, £4.99stg
5. Don Conroy, *The Don Conroy Wildlife Colouring and Activity Book* Poolbeg, £4.99

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Primary School

1. Name two books by Marita Conlon-McKenna

Answer
.....
.....

2. Who visited a chocolate factory?

Answer
.....

School Name:

School Address:

Contact Name:

Tel:

Send to: Best Books! Competition,
CBI, 19 Parnell Square,
Dublin 1.

Secondary School

1. Who won the 1998 Bisto Book of the Year Award?

Answer
.....

2. Name two of the sisters in 'Sisters ... No Way'

Answer
.....

School Name:

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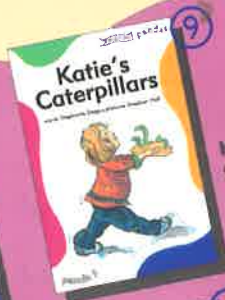
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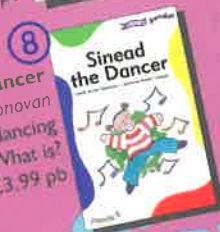
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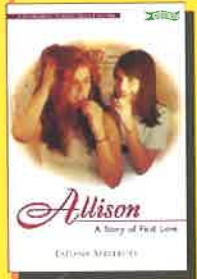
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