

Sydney Writers' Festival

Primary Schools Day 2025

Authors included:

Katrina Nannestad

Terri Libenson

Jacqueline Harvey

Joel McKerrow

Jared Thomas



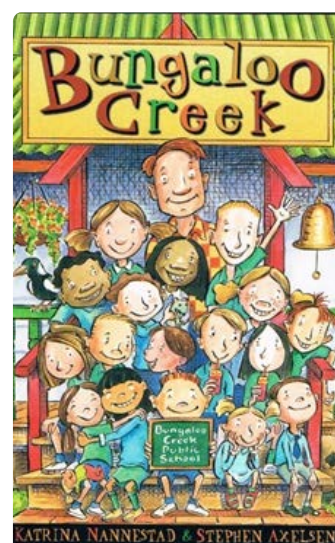
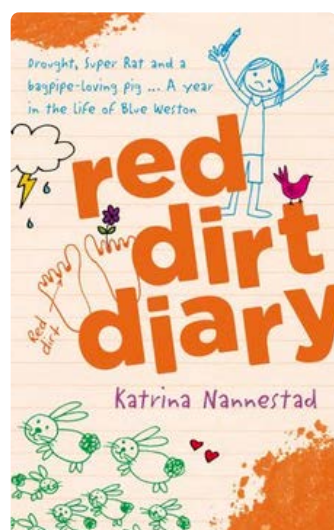
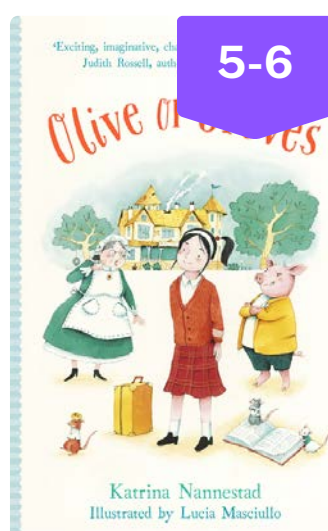
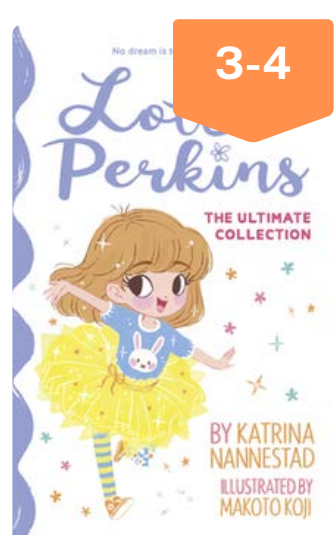
The NSW Premier's Reading Challenge is proudly supported by

Sydney Writers' Festival

Primary Schools Day 2025

Interview with

Katrina Nannestad



Katrina Nannestad

Learning activities



Amreen from Caddies Creek Public School interviews Katrina Nannestad at the SWF Primary Schools Day 2025

Reflecting

1. Katrina Nannestad said that her childhood memories inspired the character of Lottie Perkins
 - a. Can you think of a memory from your own childhood that could be turned into a funny or interesting story?
 - b. What made-up details would you include to help bring it to life?
2. Katrina enjoys writing stories with a mystery. What genre do you enjoy reading the most - funny stories, historical tales, mysteries or something else? Why?
3. In *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief*, the main character Sasha shows kindness during a time of war.
 - a. Think about a time when someone showed you kindness. How did it make you feel?
 - b. Why do you think kindness can be especially powerful during hard times?
4. Look through the resource page with Katrina Nannestad's books and blurbs. What would you most prefer to read and why?

Creating

1. Katrina Nannestad based Lottie Perkins around some of her own childhood memories.
 - a. Create your own fictional character inspired by you or someone you know.
 - b. Give them a name, describe their personality, and write a short story about one of their adventures
2. If you have read one or more of Katrina Nannestad's books, research and create a poster suggesting similar books to read next.
3. Choose your favourite Katrina Nannestad book and draw or digitally create a new book cover with image/s that captures the mood of the book and includes the book title and author.
4. Create a short, 30-60 second book trailer to promote your favourite Katrina Nannestad book.



All the Beautiful Things

Genre/s: Historical fiction

The Nazis want everyone to be the same. If you're different, you don't belong.

Not belonging is dangerous...

Anna's little sister, Eva, is frail and needs time to learn new things. She has a huge heart and a gift for loving, but Hitler doesn't value such riches. And so she's hidden away. Safe for now, but with the threat of discovery always near.

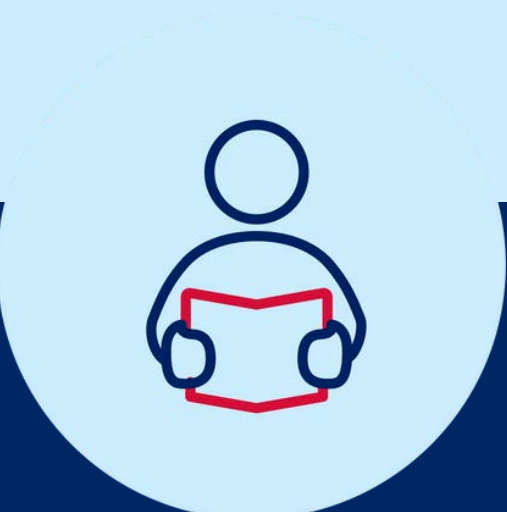
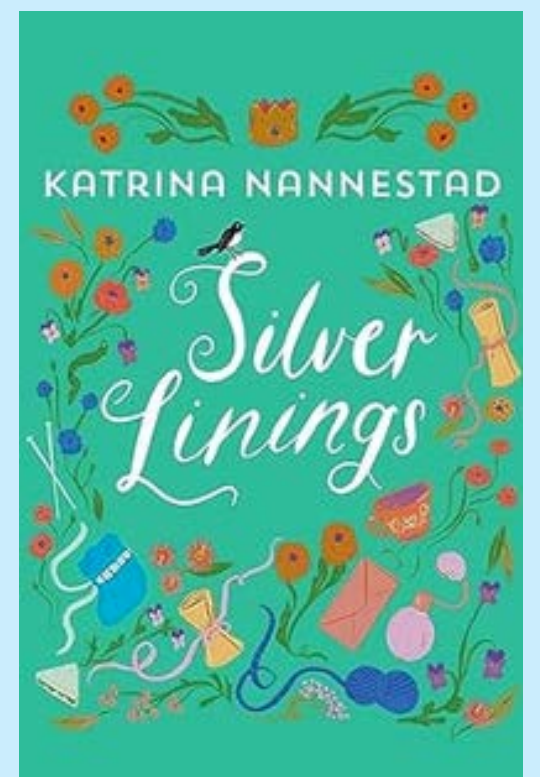
Anna does her best to bring joy and light to Eva's small life with stories, trinkets and treasures from the outside world. But soon, more children need hiding. Risks are taken - by Anna, by her best friend Udo, by a Nazi seamstress and feisty Brunhilde. Until Anna wonders if any of them will make it through the war...

Silver Linings

Genre/s: Historical fiction

Nettie Sweeney has a dad, three big sisters, a farm full of cows and a cat called Mittens. But it's not enough. She longs for a mother. One with a gentle touch and sparkles in her eyes. Instead, she has Aunty Edith with slappy hands, a sharp tongue and the disturbing belief that peas are proper food.

When Dad marries Alice, all Nettie's dreams come true. The Sweeney home overflows with laughter, love and, in time, a baby brother. Billy. The light of Nettie's life. Then tragedy strikes. The Sweeney family crumbles. Nettie tries to make things right, but has she made everything so much worse?



Titles to explore by
Katrina Nannestad



Waiting for the Storks

Genre/s: Historical fiction

I don't want to remember the truck, or the night I was taken, or the family I left behind. I am not a sad Polish girl. I am a good and happy German girl.

I am. I am. I am.

It's the Second World War and Himmler's Lebensborn Program is in full flight when eight-year-old Zofia Ulinski is kidnapped by the Germans. She has blonde hair and blue eyes, just like the other Polish children taken from their families and robbed of their names, their language, their heritage.

But when Zofia is adopted into a wealthy and loving German family, it is easier, it is safer to bury her past, deep down, so everything is forgotten. Until the Polish boy arrives.

And the past comes back to haunt her.

Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief

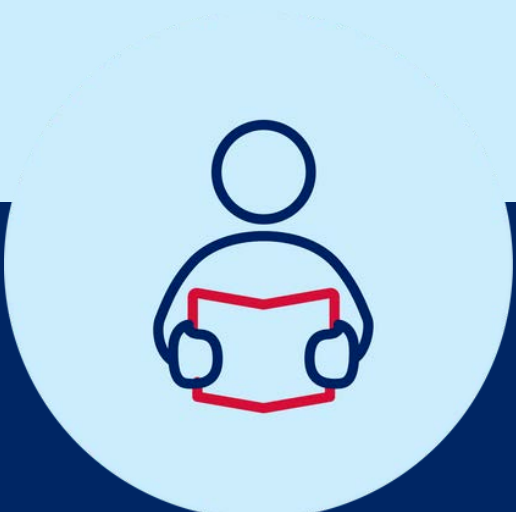
Genre/s: Historical fiction

Wood splinters and Mama screams and the nearest soldier seizes her roughly by the arms. My sister pokes her bruised face out from beneath the table and shouts, 'Run, Sasha! Run!'

So I run. I run like a rabbit.

It's spring, 1942. The sky is blue, the air is warm and sweet. And then everything is gone. The flowers, the proud geese, the pretty wooden houses, the friendly neighbours. Only Sasha remains.

But one small boy, alone in war-torn Russia, cannot survive. One small boy without a family cannot survive. One small boy without his home cannot survive. What that small boy needs is an army.



Titles to explore by
Katrina Nannestad

We are Wolves

Genre/s: Historical fiction

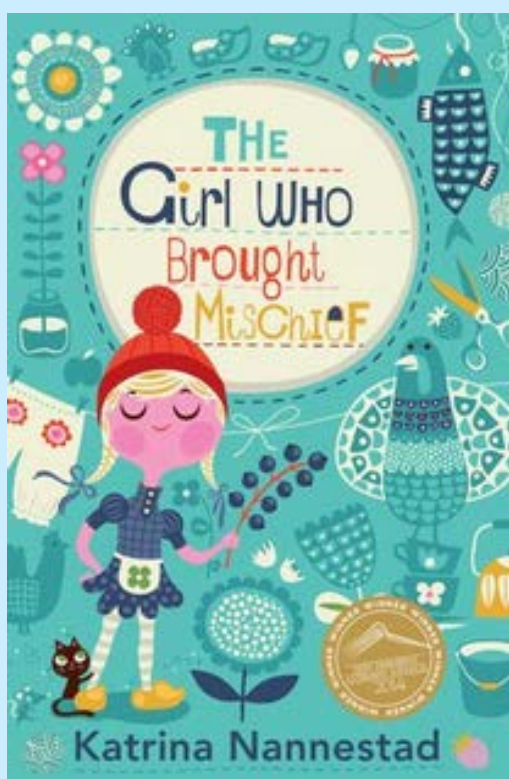
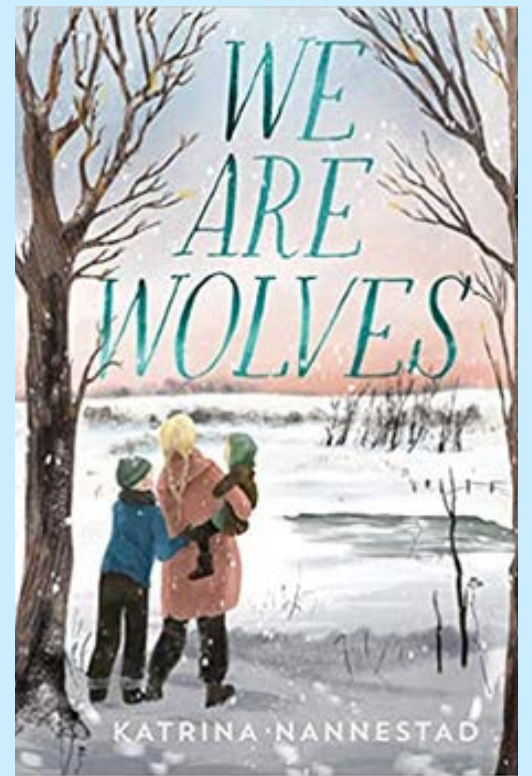
Sometimes it's good to be wild.

Sometimes you have to be wild.

When the Russian Army marches into East Prussia at the end of the war, the Wolf family must flee. Liesl, Otto and their baby sister Mia find themselves lost and alone, in a blizzard, in the middle of a war zone. Liesl has promised Mama that she will keep her brother and sister safe.

But sometimes, to survive, you have to do bad things. Dangerous things. Wild things.

Sometimes to survive, you must become a wolf.



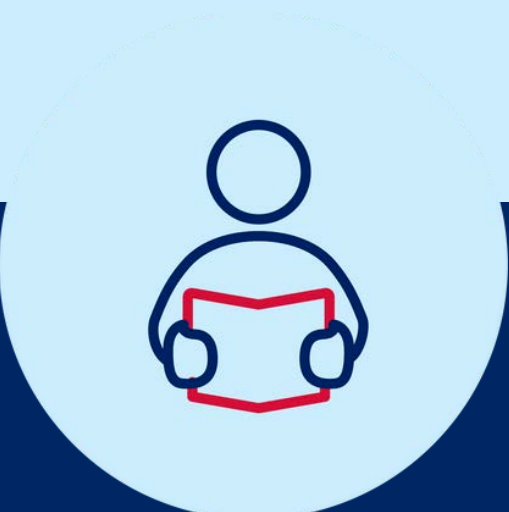
The Girl Who Brought Mischief

Genre/s: Historical fiction

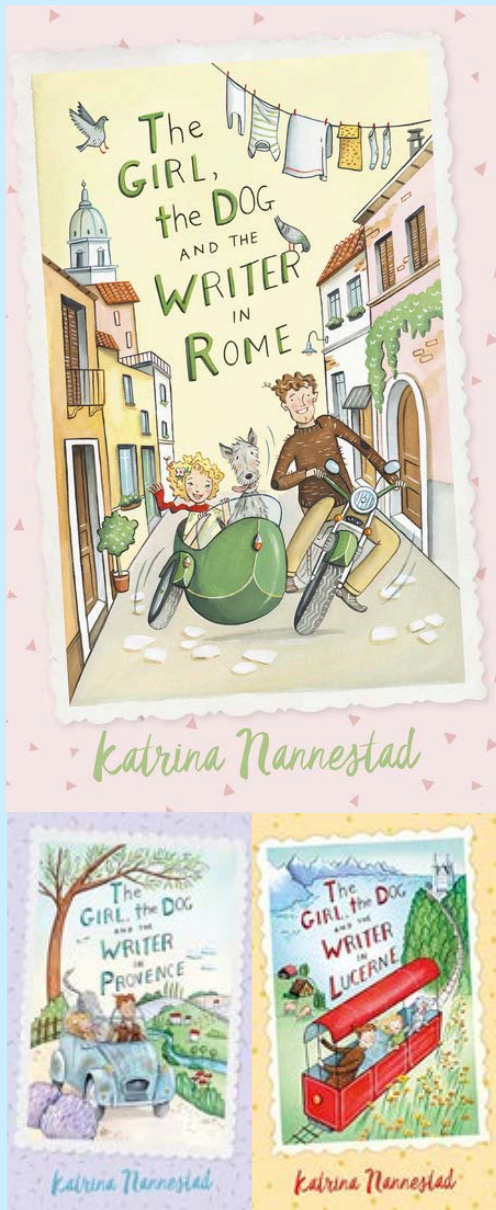
When Inge Maria arrives on the tiny island of Bornholm in Denmark to live with her grandmother, she's not sure what to expect.

Her grandmother is stern, the people on the island are strange, and children are not allowed to run wild or express themselves the way they did back in Copenhagen -- especially if you are a girl.

Inge Maria tries not to feel sorry for herself, but she misses her mama. And on top of everything else, mischief seems to have a way of finding her no matter how hard she tries to be good ... But could it be that a bit of mischief is exactly what Grandmother and the people of Bornholm need?



Titles to explore by
Katrina Nannestad



Freja Peachtree series

Genre/s: Adventure, mystery

Book 1 in series: *The Girl, the Dog and the Writer in Rome*

For the first ten years of her life, Freja and her mother, Clementine have roamed the Arctic in search of zoological wonders. Happy, content, together. Freja and Clem. Clem and Freja. But now, everything is changing, and Clementine must send Freja away to live with her old friend Tobias, a bestselling crime writer and, quite possibly, the most absent-minded man on earth. Tobias is not used to life with a child, and Freja isn't used to people at all, but together they stumble into an Italian adventure so big that it will change things forever.

Olive of Groves series

Genre/s: Humour, school stories

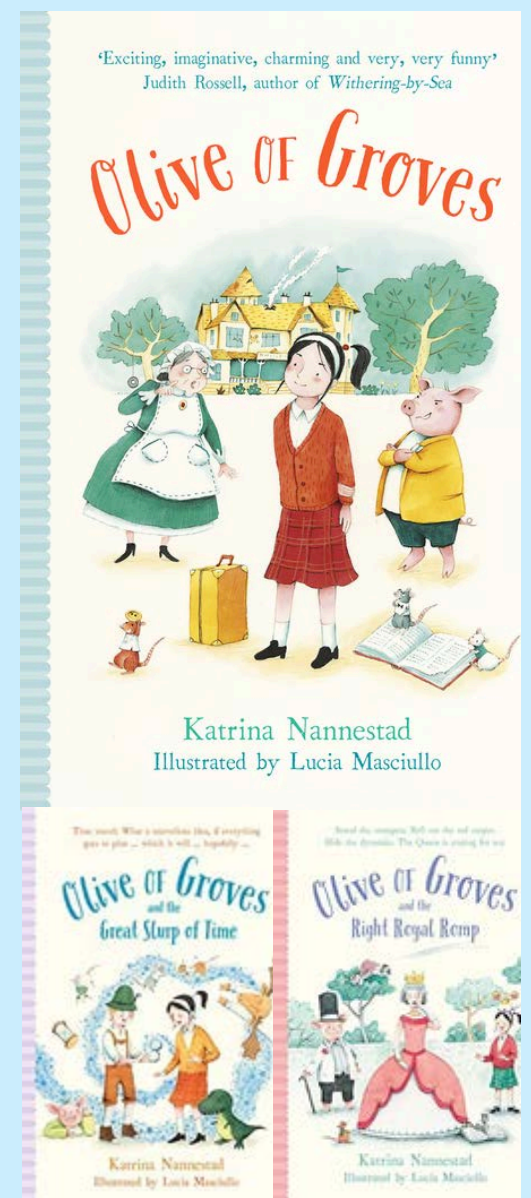
Book 1 in series: *Olive of Groves*

Olive has always dreamed of attending boarding school, but Mrs Groves' Boarding School for Naughty Boys, Talking Animals and Circus Performers is not what she expected. To tell the truth, dear reader, it is not what anyone expected!

The headmistress is completely bonkers and Pig McKenzie, school bully and all-round nasty swine, is determined to make Olive's life unbearable.

Olive, however, is clever, sweet and kind, and soon gains the loyalty and devotion of three rats, a short-sighted moose, a compulsive liar and a goose who faints at the sight of cherries.

But will friendship and wits be enough when Pig McKenzie puts his Truly Wicked Plan into gear? Or will Olive be cast out of Groves forever?



Titles to explore by
Katrina Nannestad



The Travelling Bookshop series

Genre/s: Fantasy, adventure

Book 1 in series: *Mim and the Baffling Bully*

Mim Cohen roams the world in a travelling bookshop, with her dad and brother and a horse called Flossy. Flossy leads them where she will, to the place where they're needed most ... the place where the perfect book will find its way home.

Now Mim has arrived in a pretty Dutch village where she meets Willemina, a kind and gentle child, who is being bullied by a girl named Gerda.

Mim knows they're here to help Willemina. To change her life. To make her strong and brave and happy.

If only Dad would find her the right book. If only he would stop giving everyone else the wrong book!

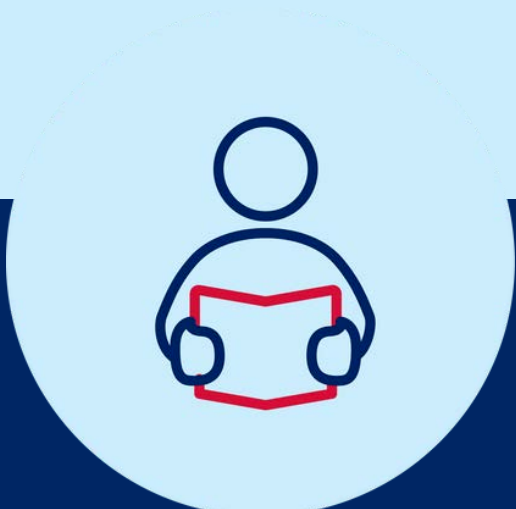
Lottie Perkins series

Genre/s: Early reader contemporary fiction

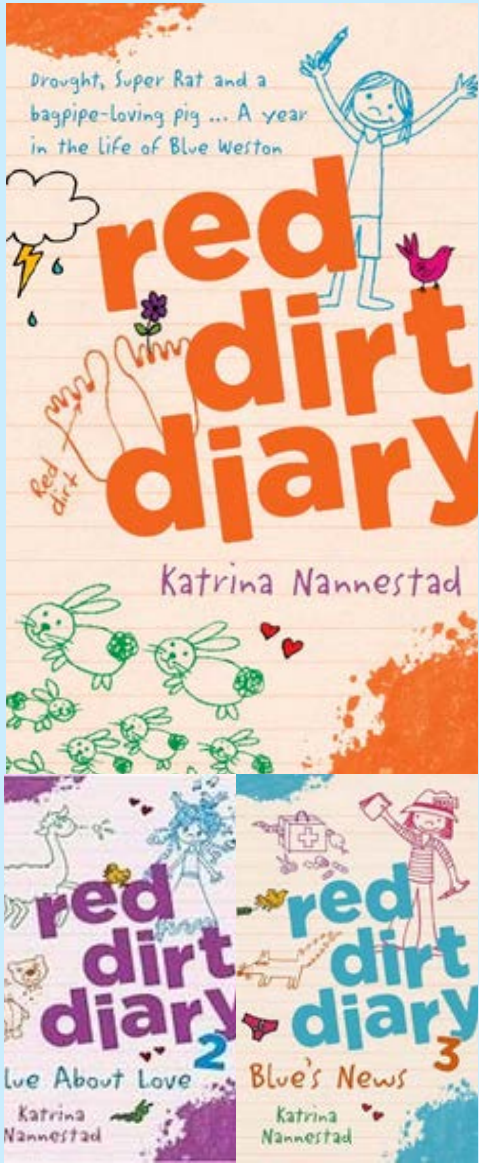
Book 1 in series: *Lottie Perkins, Movie Star*

Lights! Camera! Action! That's my cue. My name is Charlotte, but you can call me Lottie. I'm a movie star. At least, that's my thing this week.

Charlotte Perkins is seven years old and can't wait to grow up, if only she could decide what she wanted to be! Luckily, no dream is too big for little Lottie Perkins!



Titles to explore by
Katrina Nannestad



Red Dirt Diary series

Genre/s: Realistic fiction

Book 1 in series: *Red Dirt Diary*

Blue Weston's life is spiralling out of control.

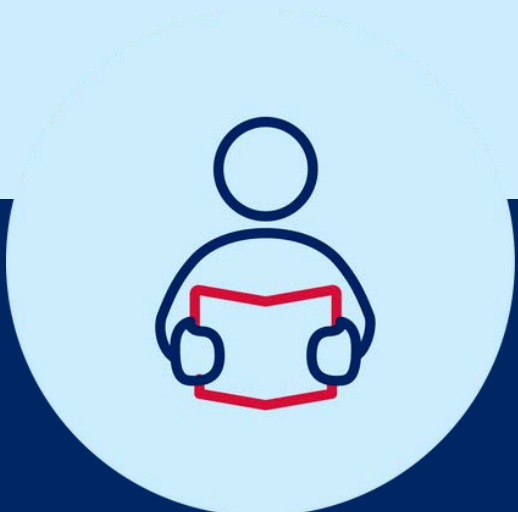
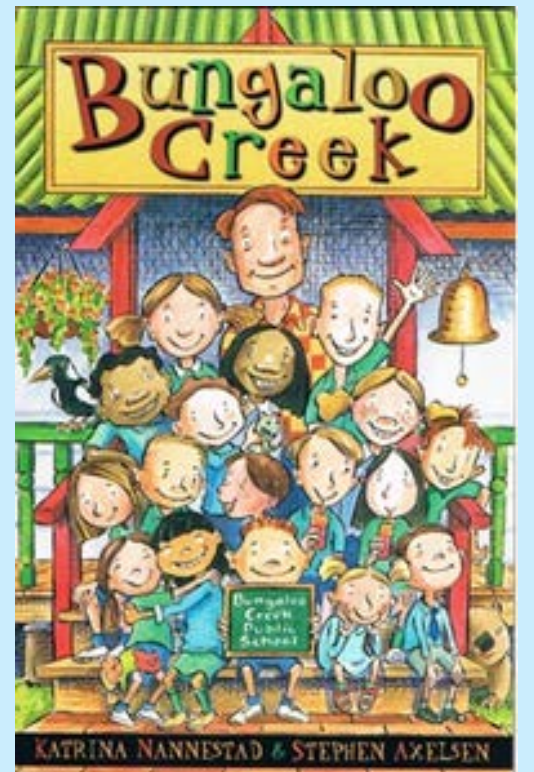
Her parents are sending her to boarding school next year. Her mad twin brothers are building pig chariots in the back shed. Her best friend has been abducted by zombies and replaced with a boy-crazy tween. And then there's the drought that's showing no signs of ending soon ...

It's New Year's Day, and Blue has resolved to keep a diary of the year's events. It will be another hard year of dust storms and drought on her family's farm - with the odd leech attack and bagpipe-loving pig thrown in for good measure!

Bungaloo Creek

Genre/s: Humour, school stories

Bungaloo Creek Public School is a one-room school that is, says teacher Mr G, "unique". From the lambs' tails that are brought in for Show and Tell (which, sadly, are eaten by Milly Smith's dog at recess!), to the sow and her piglets who have taken up residence on the soccer field, this quirky look at school life in the bush is a delight.



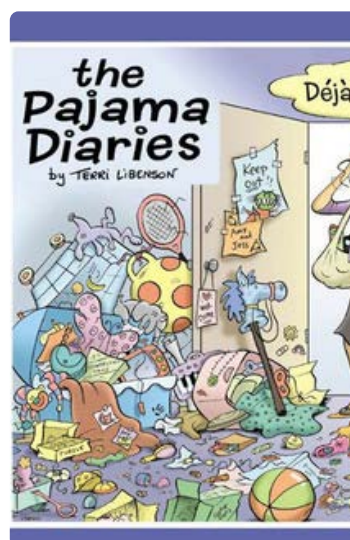
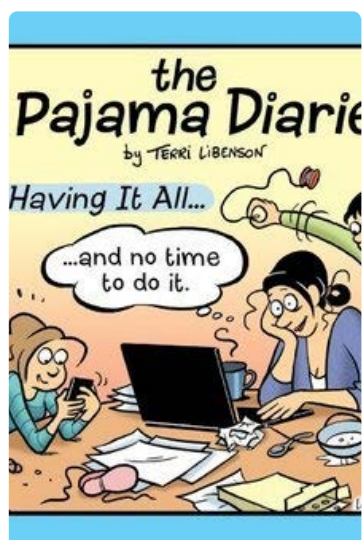
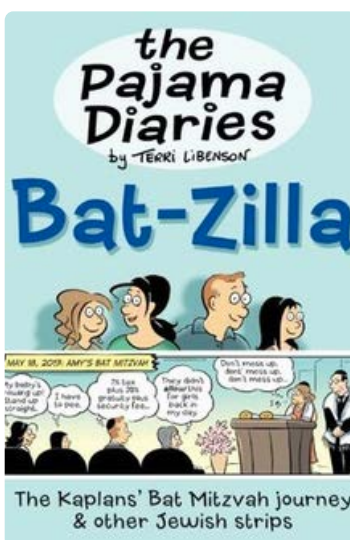
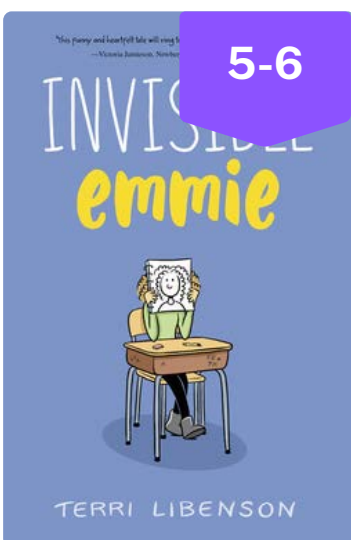
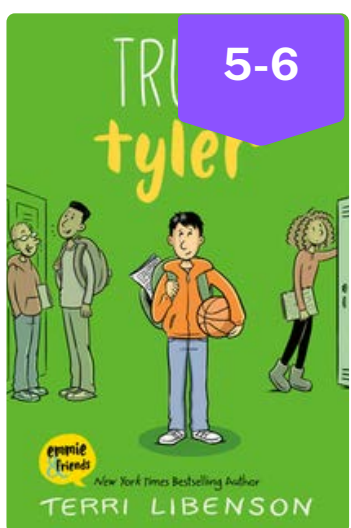
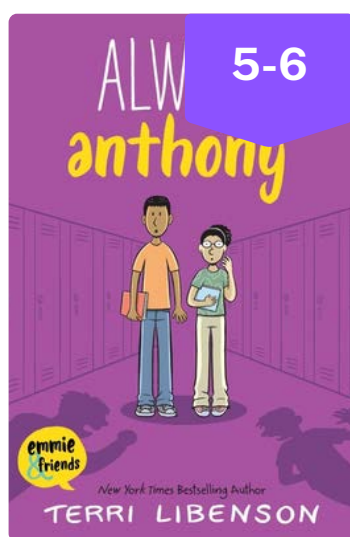
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Katrina Nannestad

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Interview with

Terri Libenson



Terri Libenson

Learning activities



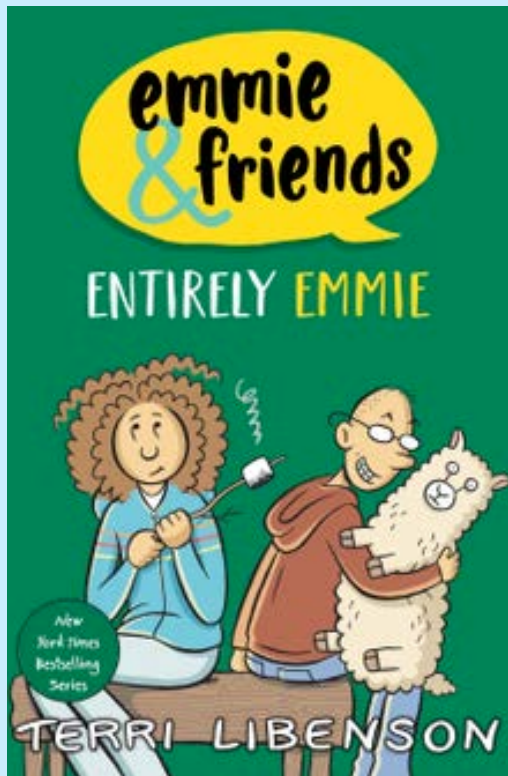
Gloria from Caddies Creek Public School interviews Terri Libenson at the SWF Primary Schools Day 2025

Reflecting

1. Each book in the *Emmie and Friends* focuses on a different character. Why do you think this makes the series interesting for readers?
2. In *Entirely Emmie*, Terri Libenson talks about turning class clown and bully Joe into a character who changes for the better. Have you ever read a book where a character surprised you like that? What changed your view of them?
3. Terri Libenson says graphic novels are a great way to get into reading. Do you agree? How do graphic novels help you enjoy or understand a story?
4. Look through the resource page with Terri Libenson's books and blurbs. What would you most prefer to read next and why?

Creating

1. Design a new character who could appear in the *Emmie and Friends* world. Draw them in a comic-style panel and write a short description of their personality, strengths, and a challenge they might face at school
2. Create a short graphic novel scene (4-8 panels) based on something from your own life - like a funny moment at school or a time you felt nervous or excited. Use both pictures and words to show how you felt.
3. Terri Libenson defends graphic novels as "real reading". Create a poster, short speech, or comic strip that explains why you think graphic novels are valuable and fun to read. Convince others to give it a try!
4. Create a short, 30-60 second book trailer to promote your favourite Terri Libenson book, or the whole *Emmie and Friends* series.

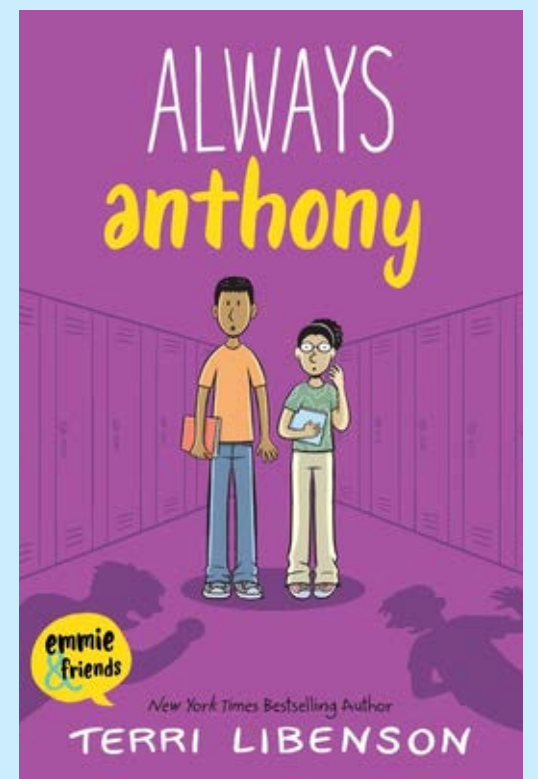


Entirely Emmie

Emmie doesn't feel invisible anymore - not with her best friends or her crush, Tyler. Meanwhile, class clown Joe's jokes are falling flat, and his friends barely notice him. When a school camping trip forces Emmie and Joe together, they brace for the worst - but what unfolds is completely unexpected.

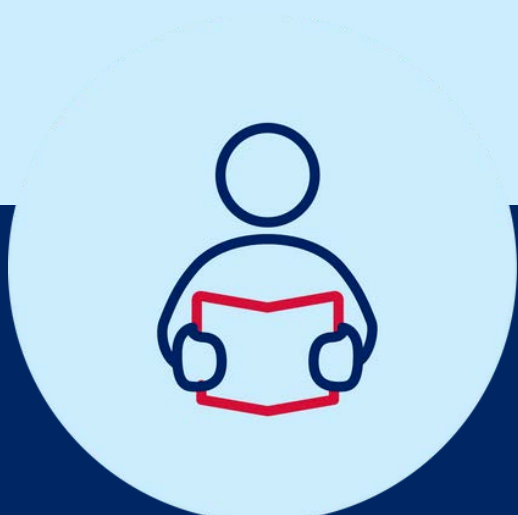
Always Anthony

Friends. Bullies. MIDDLE SCHOOL. Anthony is too popular for words, loves science, hates writing. Leah is a super-shy nerd who's finally making friends of her own. What could they have in common? A lot more than they thought, as it turns out! But then one day they witness Anthony's teammates bullying a sixth grader. What happens next could cement their new friendship-or blow it up forever.

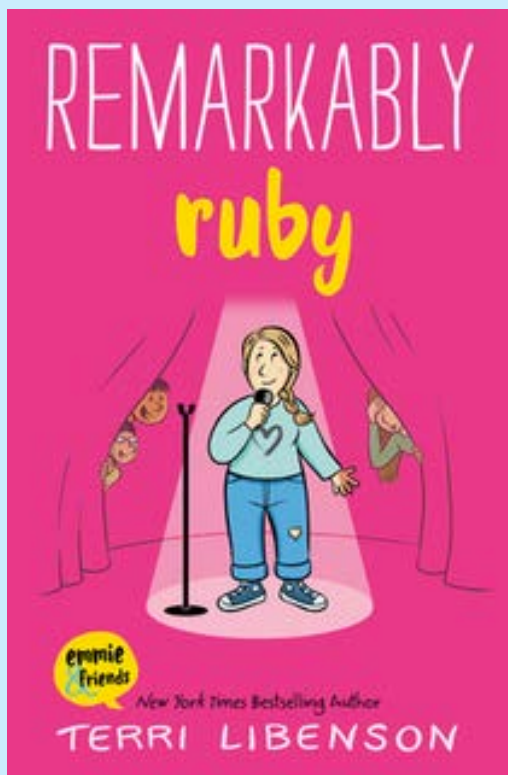


Surprisingly Sarah

Secrets. Surprises. MIDDLE SCHOOL. Sarah and Leo have been BFFs since they were little. They share everything... until Sarah starts crushing on Leo's friend Ben. Then one day Sarah is suddenly faced with a big choice; ask Ben to the school dance or chicken out. Either way, Sarah and Leo's friendship will be put to the test. Which one would you choose?



Titles to explore by
Terri Libenson



Remarkably Ruby

Ruby and Mia are total opposites.

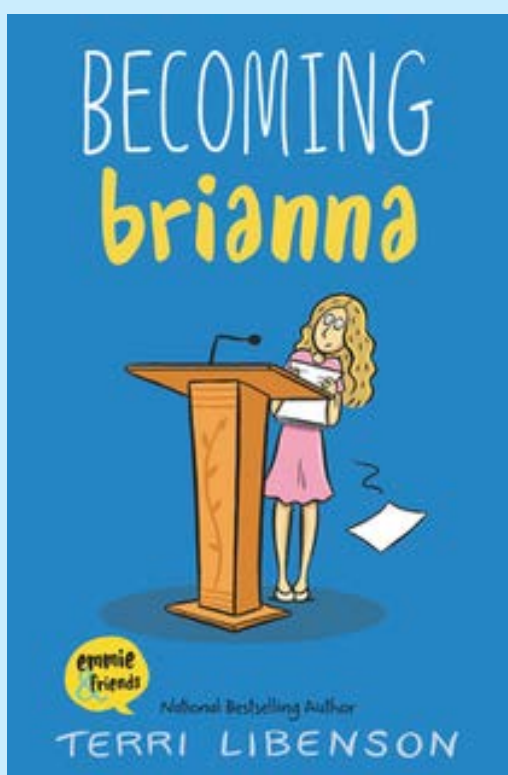
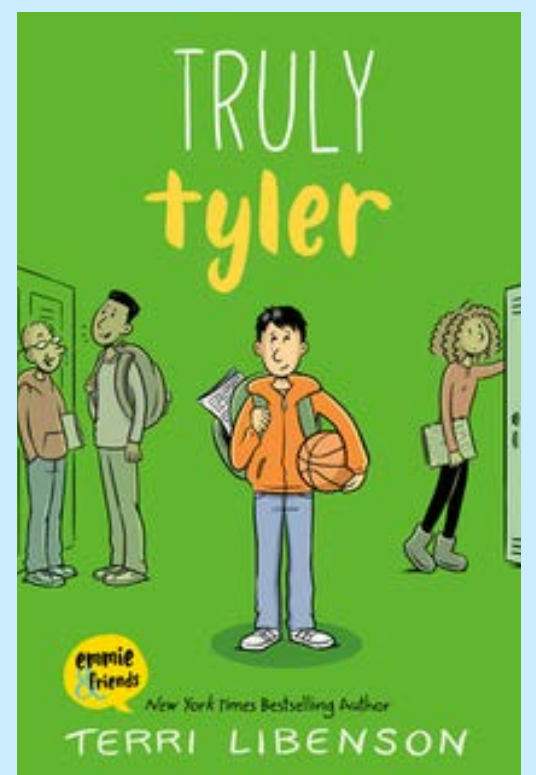
RUBY: A little awkward. Not a “joiner”. Loves to write poetry.

MIA: Type A. Popular. Wants to be class president.

They used to be friends. But now they have nothing in common anymore... Or do they? REMARKABLY RUBY is a story about how there's more to everyone than meets the eye.

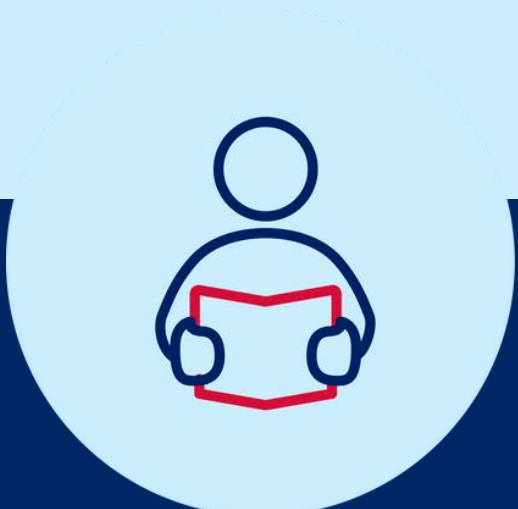
Truly Tyler

Cliques. Crushes. Comics. Middle school. Ever since Tyler started getting into art and hanging out with Emmie, his friends and teammates have been giving him a hard time. He wonders why can't he nerd out on drawing and play ball. Emmie is psyched that she gets to work on a comics project with her crush, Tyler. But she gets the feeling that his friends don't think she's cool enough. Maybe it's time for a total reinvention...

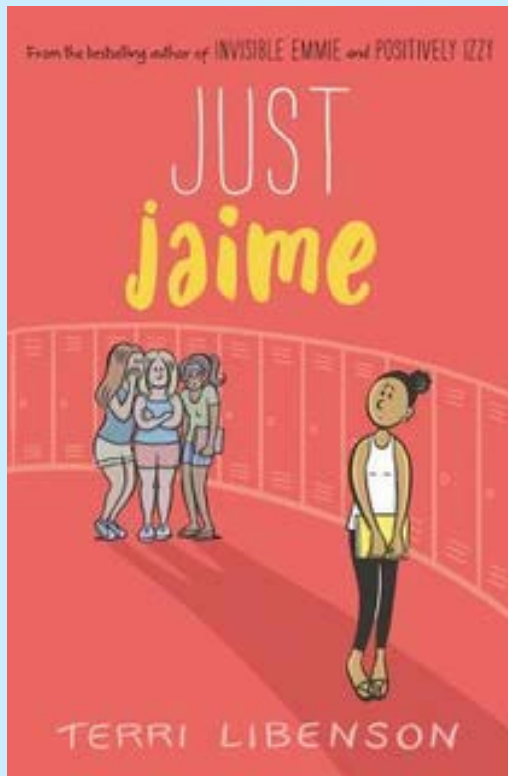


Becoming Brianna

Everyone knows how much brainy Bri likes the spotlight (not!). So why did she ever agree to something that forces her to learn a new language, give a speech, help organise a party, and juggle drama at school and home? As the big event inches closer, Bri wonders if it's all worth it...



Titles to explore by
Terri Libenson

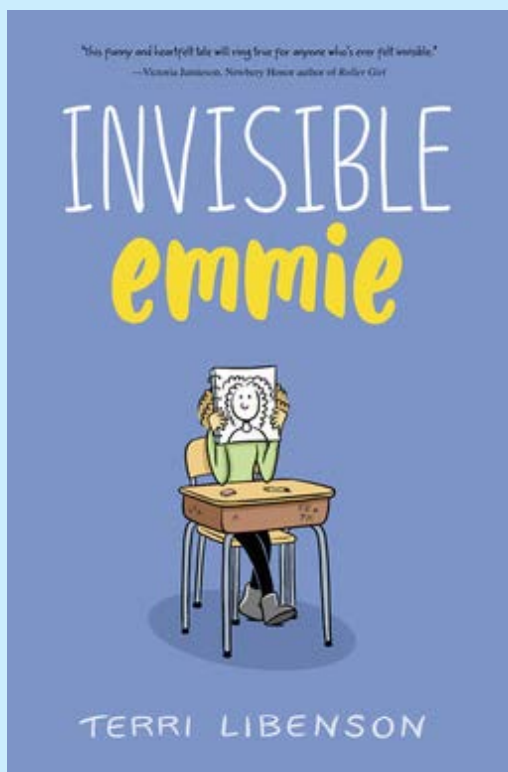
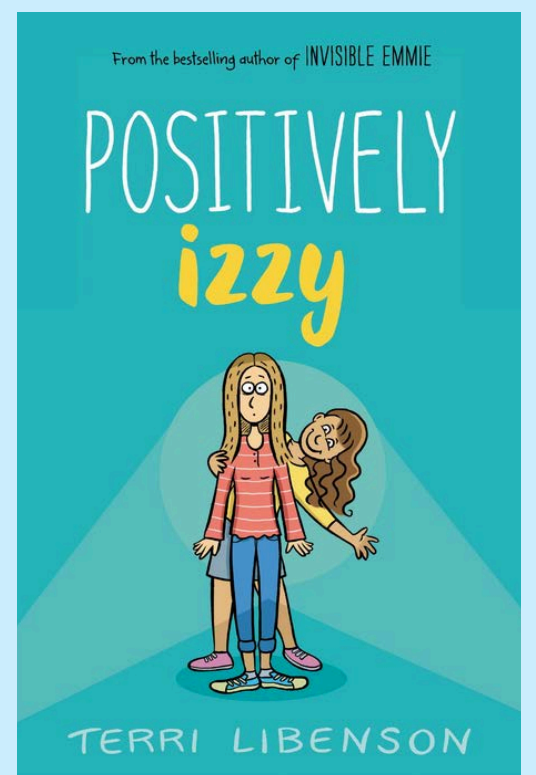


Just Jaime

The last day of seventh grade has Jaime and Maya wondering who their read friends are. Jaime knows something is off with her friend group. They've started to exclude her and make fun of the way she dressed and the things she likes. At least she can count on her BFF Maya... right? Maya feels more and more annoyed with Jaime, who seems babyish compared to the other girls in their group. It's like she has nothing in common with Jai anymore. Are their days as BFFs numbered?

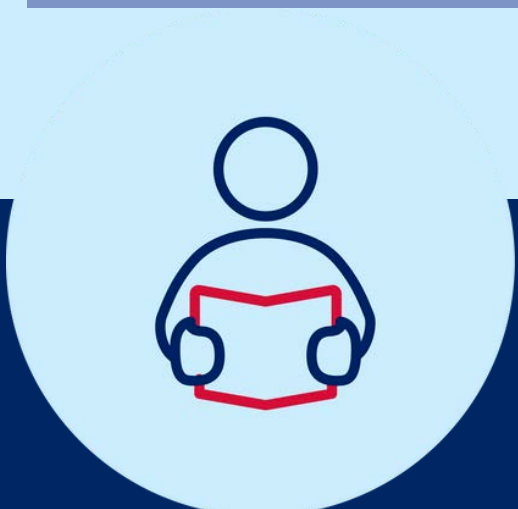
Positively Izzy

Izzy is the dreamer. She loves acting and making up funny stories. The downside? She can't quite focus on schoolwork. Bri is the brain. But she wants people to see there's more to her than just straight As. The girls' lives converge in unexpected ways on the day of the school talent show, which turns out to be even more dramatic than either Bri or Izzy could have imagined.



Invisible Emmie

Crushes. Humiliation. Drama. Middle school. This is the story of two totally different girls - quiet, shy, artistic Emmie and popular, outgoing, athletic Katie - and how their lives unexpectedly intersect one day, when an embarrassing note falls into the wrong hands...



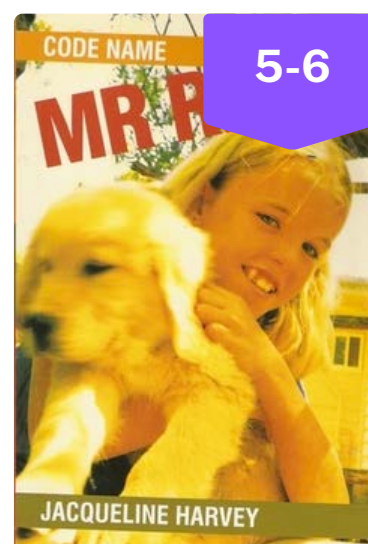
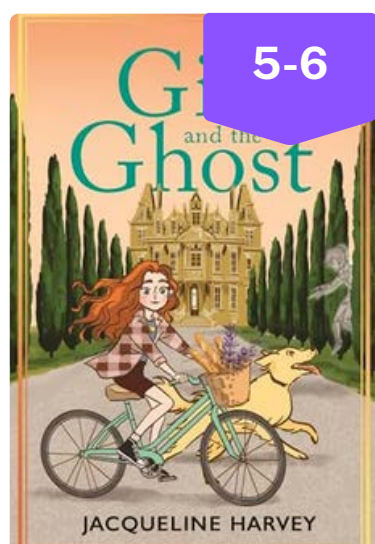
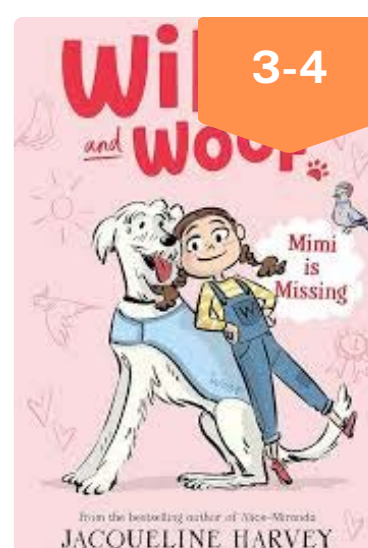
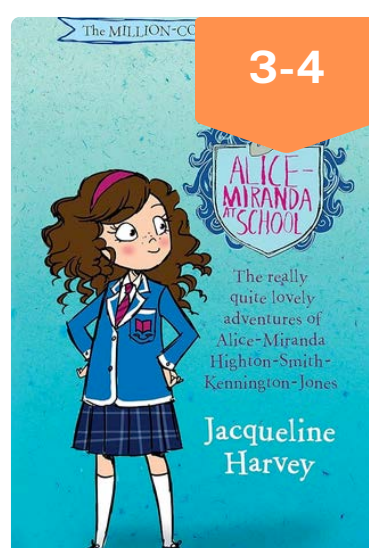
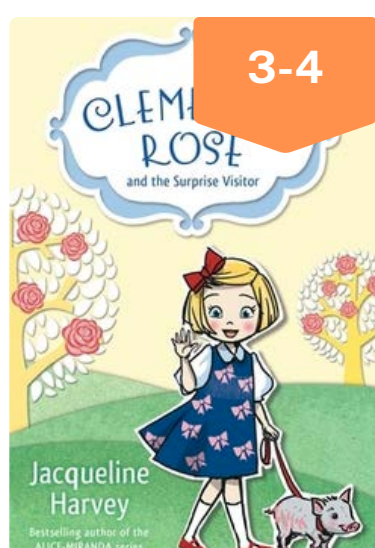
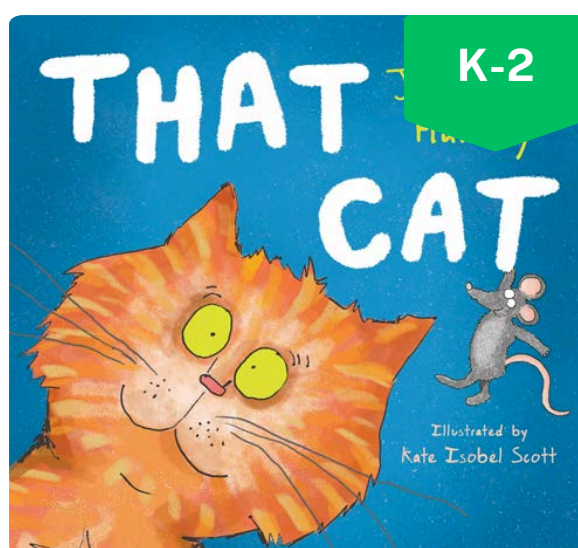
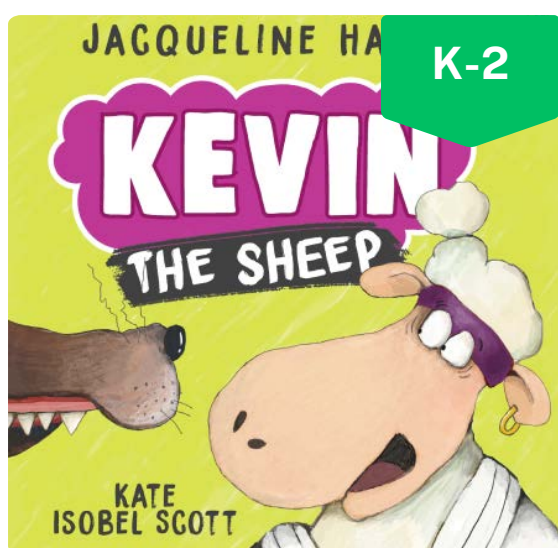
Titles to explore by
Terri Libenson

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Interview with

Jacqueline Harvey



Jacqueline Harvey

Learning activities



Amreen from Caddies Creek Public School interviews Jacqueline Harvey at the SWF Primary Schools Day 2025

Reflecting

1. Jacqueline Harvey says that all her stories are inspired by a love of mystery and adventure. Think about your favourite kinds of stories. What elements (e.g. mystery, humour, friendship, magic) do they usually include?
2. Jacqueline Harvey set *Alice-Miranda in Egypt* without ever visiting the country. What's a place you'd like to write a story about? How could you research if you couldn't travel there?
3. Jacqueline Harvey was asked which *Kensey and Max* character she'd be. Think about your favourite book. If you could swap places with one of the characters for a day, who would it be and why? What would you do in their world?
4. Look through the resource page with Jacqueline Harvey books and blurbs. What would you most prefer to read next and why?

Creating

1. Choose a character from one of Jacqueline Harvey's books. Create a passport for them that includes their name, an image or illustration, places they've travelled, special skills and a "top secret" fact.
2. Choose one of the locations that Jacqueline Harvey has used in her stories (or create your own). Write a postcard from that character's point of view that:
 - a. Describes the setting
 - b. Describes what they've seen
 - c. Outlines a clue they've just discovered
3. In *The Girl and the Ghost*, a Josephine discovers a locket that contains a ghost. Imagine you are in Josephine's position. Write a diary entry reflecting on your discovery and how you are feeling.
4. Create a short, 30-60 second book trailer to promote your favourite Jacqueline Harvey book.

Willa and Woof series

Genre/s: Mystery, adventure

Book 1 in series: *Mimi is Missing*

Willa's in trouble... Frank's prized racing pigeon, Mimi, is missing, and Willa's pretty sure she left the cage open. With help from her best friend Tae and her sidekick Woof, she must use all her creativity to find Mimi before Frank finds out!



Alice-Miranda series

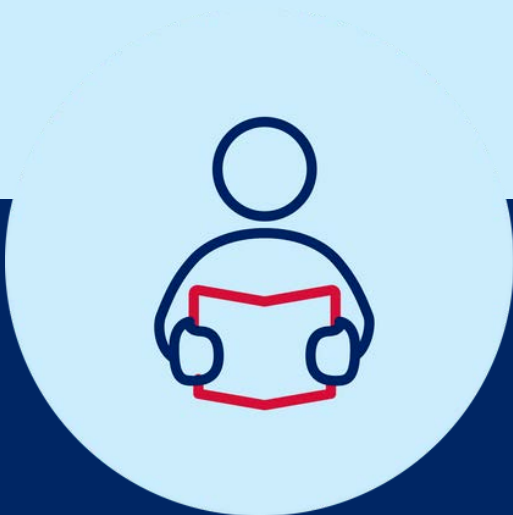
Genre/s: Mystery, adventure

Book 1 in series: *Alice-Miranda at School*

Can one tiny girl change a very big school? Alice-Miranda Highton-Smith-Kennington-Jones is waving goodbye to her weeping parents and starting her first day at boarding school. But something is wrong at Winchesterfield-Downsfordvale Academy for Proper Young Ladies.

The headmistress, Miss Grimm, hasn't been seen for ten years. The prize-winning flowers are gone. And a mysterious stranger is camping in the greenhouse. Alice-Miranda must complete a series of impossible tests. Can she really beat the meanest, most spoilt girl at school in a solo sailing mission?

Could she camp in the forest all on her own for five whole days and nights? Well, of course. This is Alice-Miranda, after all.



Titles to explore by
Jacqueline Harvey

Clementine Rose series

Genre/s: Realistic fiction, adventure

Book 1 in series: *Clementine Rose and the Surprise Visitor*

Clementine Rose was delivered not in the usual way, at a hospital, but in the back of a mini-van, in a basket of dinner rolls. So begins the story of a lovely little girl who lives in Penberthy Floss in a large ramshackle house with her mother, Lady Clarissa, Digby Pertwhistle the butler and a very sweet teacup pig called Lavender. When her scary Aunt Violet arrives unexpectedly, the household is thrown into disarray. What is it that Aunt Violet really wants and what is she carrying in her mysterious black bag?



Kensy and Max series

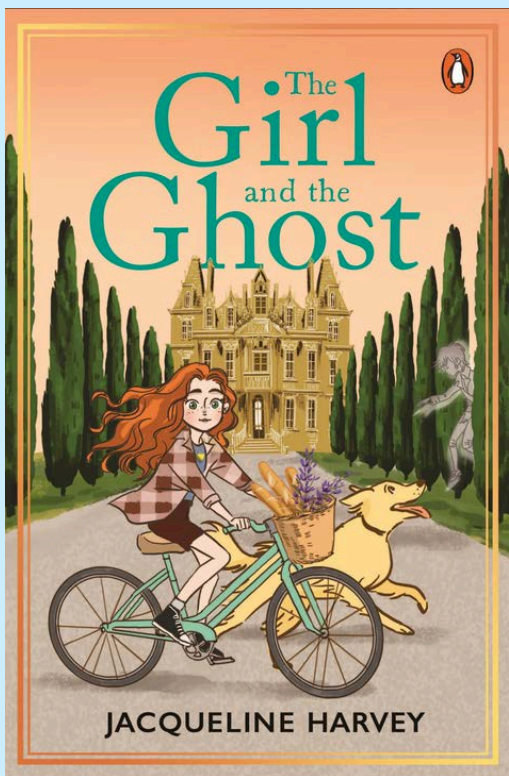
Genre/s: Mystery, adventure

Book 1 in series: *Breaking News*

What would you do if you woke up in a strange place? If your whole life changed in the blink of an eye and you had no idea what was going on? Twins Kensy and Max Grey's lives are turned upside down when they are whisked off to London, and discover their parents are missing. As the situation unfolds, so many things don't add up: their strange new school, the bizarre grannies on their street, the coded messages they keep finding and the feeling that, all around them, adults are keeping secrets . . . Things can never go back to the way they were, but the twins are determined to uncover the truth!



Titles to explore by
Jacqueline Harvey



The Girl and the Ghost

Genre/s: Mystery, adventure, romance

When almost-thirteen-year-old Josephine Eloise Thomas moves from Sydney to a chateau in the southwest of France, she expects many things – adventures, inspiration for the stories she loves to write and maybe finding out more about her French mother, who tragically died when she was a toddler. What she doesn't expect is to find a beautiful gold locket with the ghost of Louis XVII trapped inside!

After being accidentally released into the twenty-first century, the young prince proves to be annoying, strange and obviously from another time. He also believes that Josephine is not who she says she is.

Then, there's Gabriel. The grandson of the local baker – French, beautiful, an artist and definitely not a ghost.

When Josephine and Gabriel venture to the shadowy Chateau Du Lac next door to her home, the secrets become more sinister. With Louis's help, can Josephine and Gabriel discover what her neighbours are really up to and solve the mystery of Louis and the locket too?

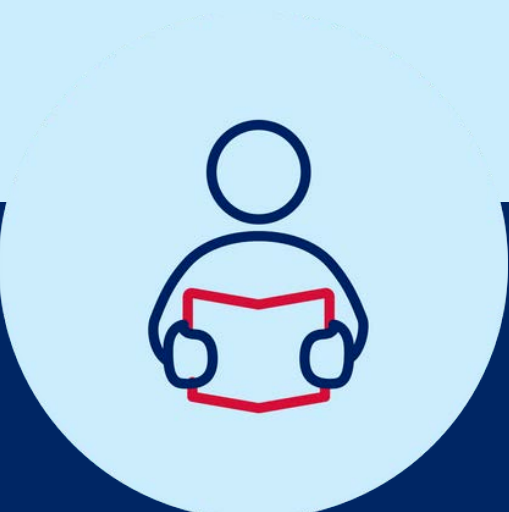
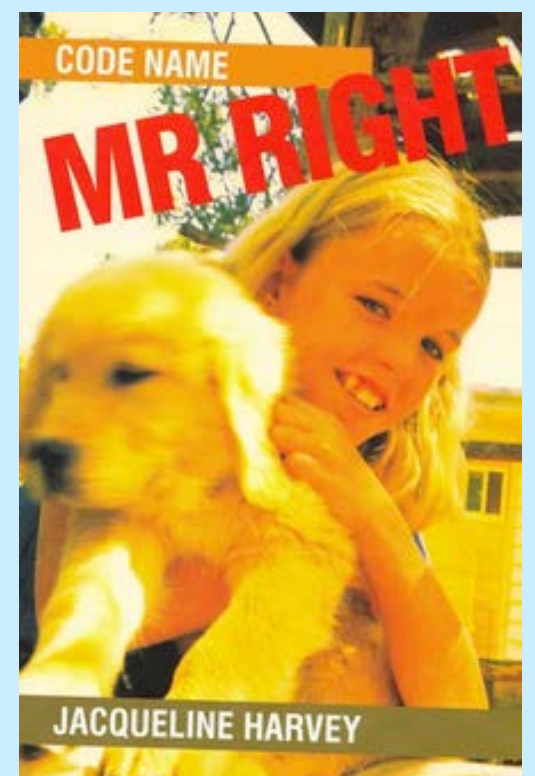
Code Name: Mr Right series

Genre/s: Realistic fiction

Book 1 in series: *Serrano Legacy*

What do you do when your parents are divorced, your dad has a new girlfriend and your mum is destined for a life of loneliness?

Penelope Estella Grace Scott, also known as 'Snot', can't imagine living in boring Dophin Shores for the rest of her life just to keep her mum company. The thought of playing 'Grandma's Undies' together in thirty years time just isn't funny. Some extreme matchmaking must be done - and soon - before her mum becomes really ancient and all hope of true love disappears.



Titles to explore by
Jacqueline Harvey



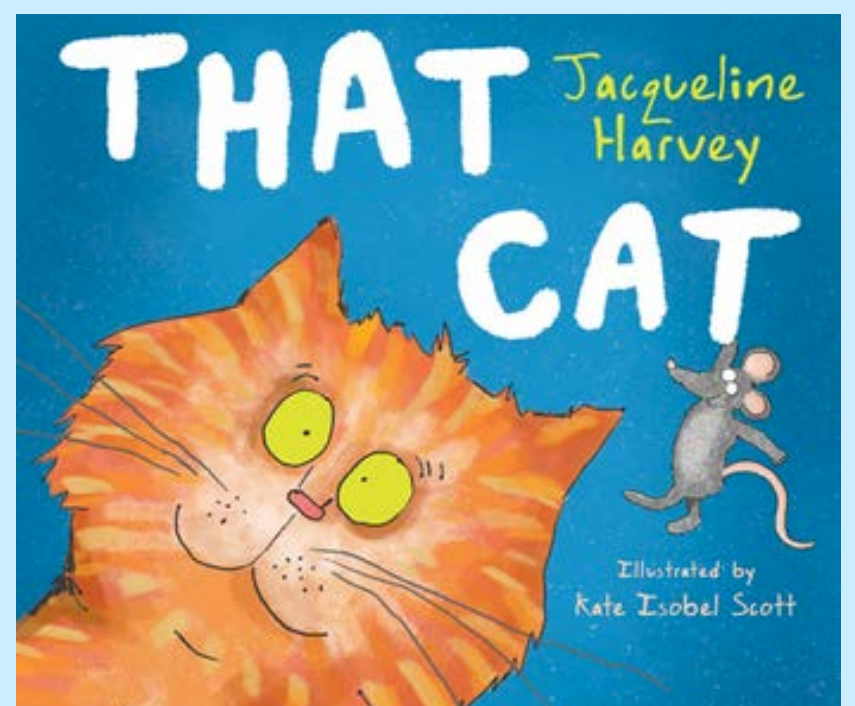
Kevin the Sheep series

Why can't Kevin be more like the flock?!

Kevin the Sheep is unusual,
he does things his own way.
But will being different help him save the day?

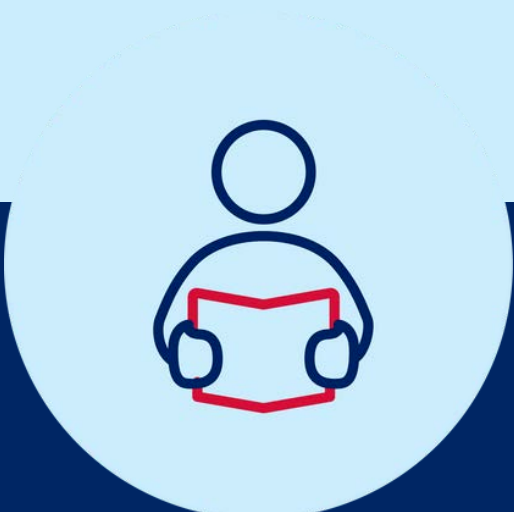
That Cat

Nothing is quite like a cat.
There are brat cats and fat cats, rat cats and
mat cats... but if there's one cat everyone
knows, it's THAT CAT.



The Daring Tale of Gloria the Great

Gloria the Great is not like the rest of her brood. She gets in your face, and she runs her own race. But then one day POOF! She disappears without a trace. The other chooks in the brood then decide she was not so bad because they miss her and her antics. They feel guilty for being mean sometimes. Will Gloria be found? Gloria is a one-of-a-kind chicken.



Titles to explore by
Jacqueline Harvey

Sydney Writers' Festival

Primary Schools Day 2025

Interview with

Joel McKerrrow



Joel McKerrow

Learning activities



Atharv from Caddies Creek Public School interviews Joel McKerrow at the SWF Primary Schools Day 2025

Reflecting

1. Joel McKerrow shared how a cranky neighbour inspired a spooky character in *Urban Legend Hunters*. Have you ever met someone who could be a great book character? What made them memorable?
2. Joel talked about what it felt like to see his writing turned into illustrations. How do you think pictures can change or add to a story? Have you read a graphic novel where the images helped you understand the characters or mood?
3. Joel McKerrow states that poetry shapes all his writing. What kinds of stories or poems do **you** enjoy writing? What makes your writing style special or different?
4. Look through the resource page with Joel McKerrow books and blurbs. What would you most prefer to read next and why?

Creating

1. Invent a spooky or mysterious urban legend inspired by someone from your neighbourhood - or entirely from your own imagination! Write a short description of the legend and draw that the character looks like.
2. Choose a strong emotion (e.g. joy, fear, anger, excitement). Write a short poem that expresses it. Try using unusual words, comparison or line breaks to show how the emotion feels. Remember: not all poems rhyme!
3. Imagine you're one of the student heroes from *The Great Chocolate Caper*. Plan your own heist! What's the mission? Who is on your team? Where are the traps or secret passages? Create a floorplan or comic strip of the adventure.
4. Set a 10-minute timer and write the *worst* story you can think of - bad grammar, wild plot holes, silly twists - anything goes! Then reflect: What made it so bad... and what made it secretly fun?



Urban Legend Hunters: The Dreaded Mr Snipe

Genre/s: Horror, mystery, graphic novel

There is something sinister stirring in the town of Shadow Grove. It's a problem that requires the talent, training and dedication of professional urban legend (aka monster) hunters. It's a shame there are none of these in this graphic novel ...

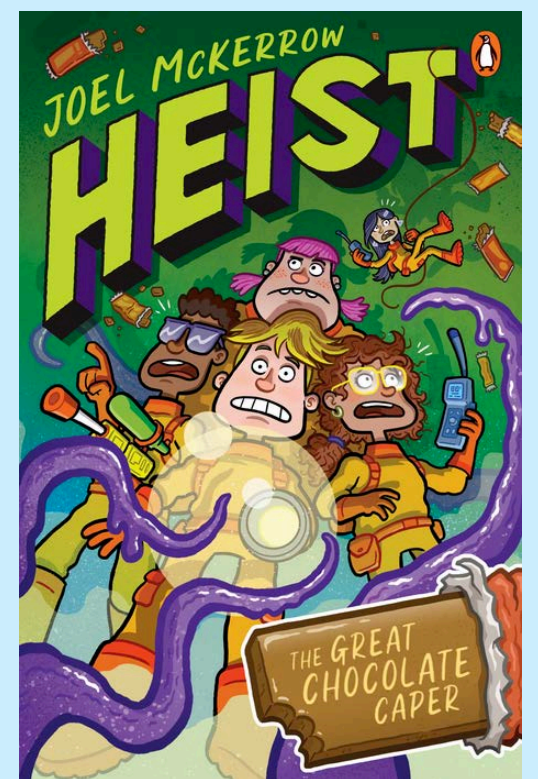
Meet Jeremy Jubaya who loves telling tales that make your blood curdle, fearless Samantha Small who takes no nonsense and Bad Boris, who is, well... anything but bad!

This is not a fairytale. This is a hair-raising, spine-tingling, heart-pounding, hilarious adventure that is sure to scare everyone (except Samathan Small).

The Great Chocolate Caper

Genre/s: Mystery, adventure

Meet the Heist squad. AKA a motley crew of hot-headed misfits who HATE each other but LOVE chocolate. But then they discover a sinister chocolatey plot, right in the bowels of their high school, that will threaten the entire human race with utter annihilation. Can they put aside their differences to achieve the most audacious chocolate heist EVER and save the world?

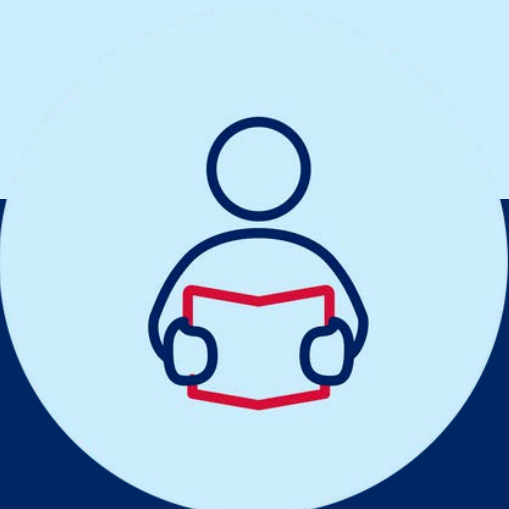


The Remarkable Robot Robbery

Genre/s: Mystery, adventure

When Andy McGee and his crew make it to the finals of the National Robot Battle in Sydney, they find themselves exactly where they need to be to join the alien Resistance and do what they do best - orchestrate a daring, audacious, high-stakes heist that will go down in the history books.

Magic tricks and misdirection, with a sideshow of clever robot trickery amidst secret tunnels in Sydney's iconic harbour, make this heist especially spectacular!

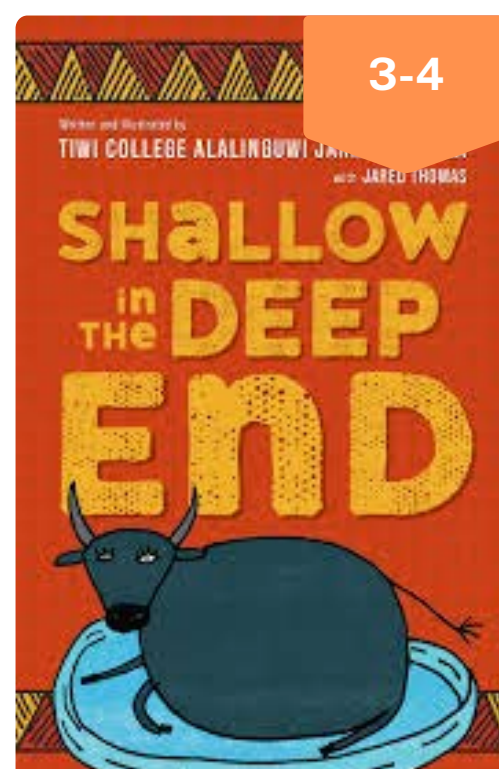
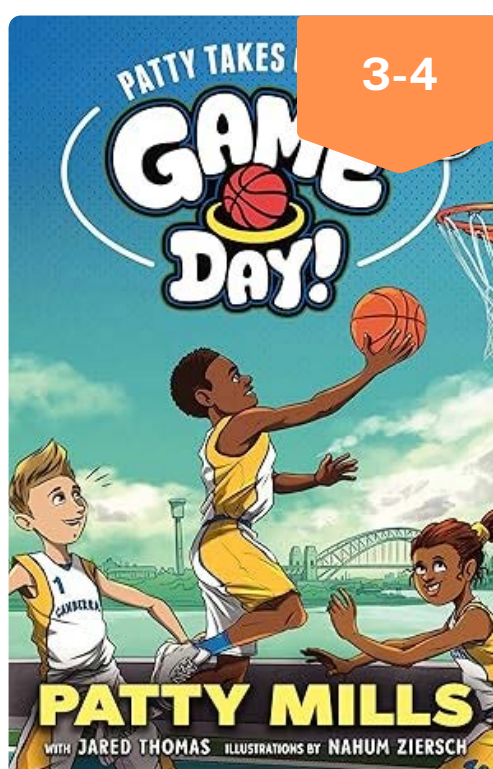
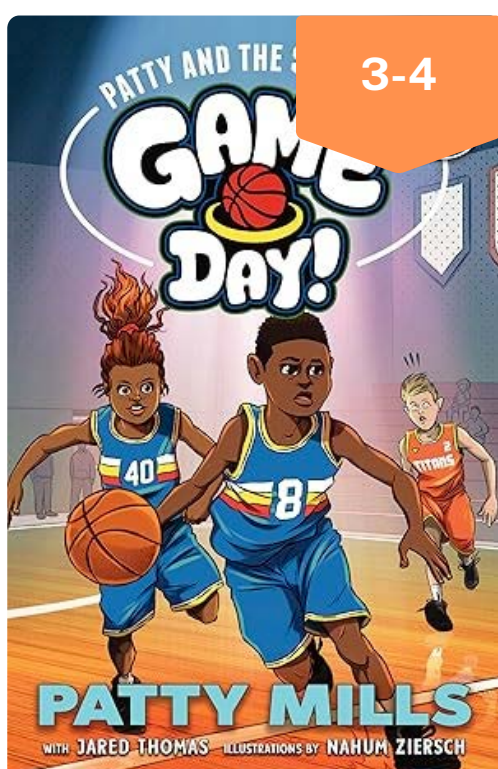
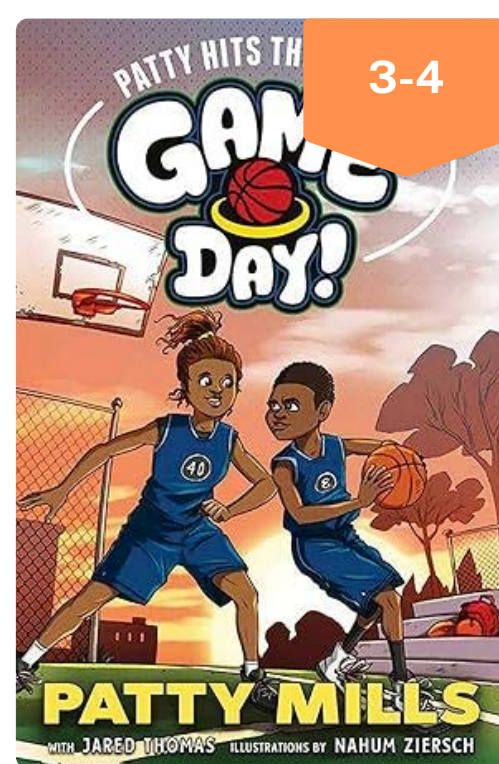
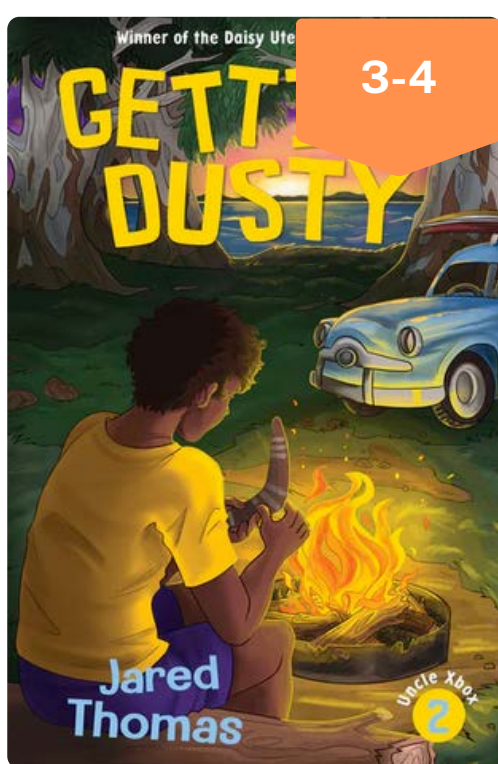


Titles to explore by
Joel McKerrrow

Sydney Writers' Festival

Primary Schools Day 2025

Interview with
Jared Thomas



Jared Thomas

Learning activities



Kingshuck from Caddies Creek Public School interviews Jared Thomas at the SWF Primary Schools Day 2025

Reflecting

1. Jared Thomas shared how his uncles and family helped both him and his stories. Think about someone in your family or community who has taught you something important. What did you learn from them?
2. Jared Thomas says it's important to write stories grounded in your own experience. Why do you think that makes a story feel more real or powerful? Have you ever written something inspired by your own life?
3. Jared Thomas writes for both younger and older readers. What do you think would be different about writing for kids your age compared to writing for teenagers?
4. Look through the resource page with Jared Thomas's books and blurbs. What would you most prefer to read next and why?

Creating

1. Jared Thomas likes starting stories with a "what if" question. Come up with your own (e.g. *what if my pet could talk?* *What if my classroom turned into a spaceship?*). Answer these questions, then use these answers to write a short story outline.
2. Write a persuasive letter to Jared Thomas asking him to write a story about cricket. Include ideas for the plot, setting, characters, and why you think it would be a great read for young people.
3. Think about a tradition, culture or custom that is important to you or your family. Create a short comic, story or poem that includes this cultural element and shows why it matters.
4. Create a short, 30-60 second book trailer to promote one of Jared Thomas's books.

Uncle Xbox series

Genre/s: Realistic fiction

Book 1 in series: *Uncle Xbox*

Dusty spends a lot of time playing games online, and usually with his stepdad, Marcus. One Saturday morning, Marcus loads his things into his car and leaves. He takes his Xbox. Dusty is determined to buy an Xbox of his own and tries odd jobs that don't quite work out. That is until cool Uncle Rick turns up. Uncle Rick introduces Dusty to surfing and teaches him about culture and Country. Dusty swiftly discovers that there is more to life than gaming.



Patty Mills: Game Day! series

Book 1 in series: *Patty hits the Court*

Genre/s: Sport stories

Sport-mad Patty Mills is a star on the footy field, an ace at athletics, a ripper at rugby.

So when he tries out for basketball, it should be a breeze ...

Patty expects to be a great basketballer straight away, just like his uncle Danny. But he soon discovers there's whole lot more to the game than just shooting hoops.

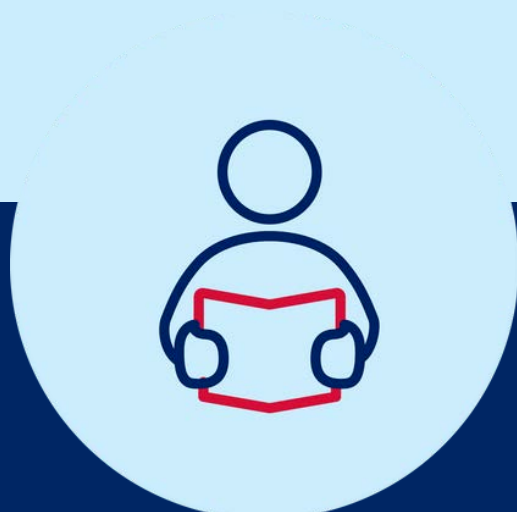
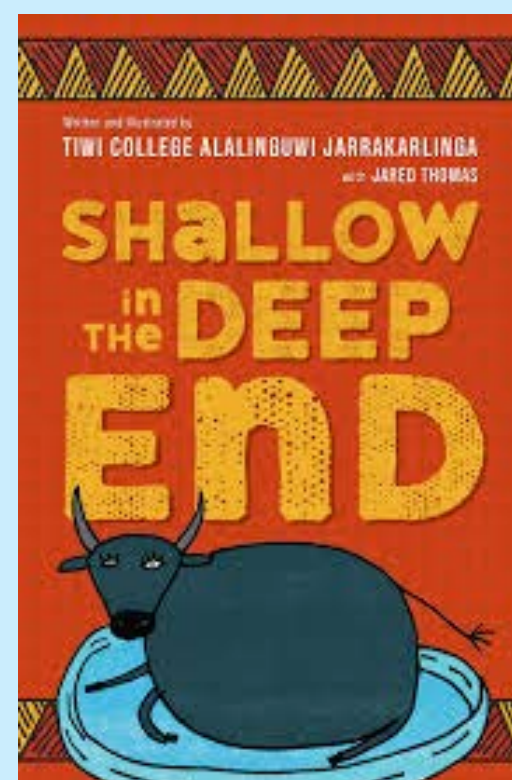
He's got a lot to learn, on and off the court - and it's going to take plenty of practice.

Will he and his school team be good enough to get into the finals?

Shallow in the Deep End

Genre/s: Realistic fiction

When a young girl on the Tiwi Islands asks her parents for a dog, the last thing she expects is a pet buffalo! This page-turner tells the story of an unlikely friendship between a dog and a water buffalo and all of the trouble they get themselves into.



Titles to explore by
Jared Thomas