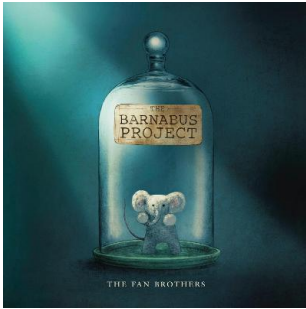


## **A selection of books especially selected for children in Year 3 (7 - 8 year olds) of average reading ability for the 2021/22 academic year.**

If your child is a competent reader or has read all these titles then try the books from the Year 4 list. Alternatively if these books are a little challenging try books from the Year 2 list. Our overall mission is to promote reading for pleasure with quality texts that are perfectly pitched for the age group and the curriculum. We have particularly avoided blockbusters, classic or set texts, known to everyone, so that we can include poetry, stunning information texts and inspirational books in which all children and young people can find themselves reflected.

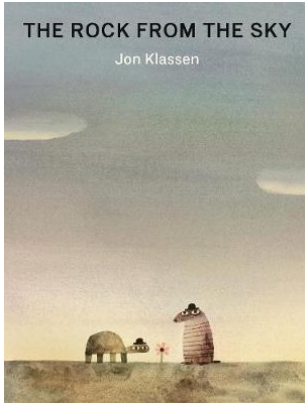


### **The Barnabus Project**

**Author:** Eric Fan, Terry Fan, Devin Fan **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/10/2021 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Longlisted for the UKLA Book Award 2022 ages 7-10** Eric and Terry Fan are renowned author illustrators with such gems as *The Night Gardener* and the Kate Greenaway shortlisted *Ocean Meets Sky*. For this collaboration they have been joined by brother Devin for the first time. Stunningly beautiful images are what we have come to expect, and this is no exception. The enticing, mysterious cover spotlights a little creature in a bell jar. Beneath the jacket the cover looks like a blackboard covered with code, double helixes and creature sketches. The endpapers are design files to start and shelves of completed products at the end. We know then that this is about creating things. We meet our little creature again and we are shown the contrast between the naturalistic world and an ordinary shop - *Perfect Pets*- on an ordinary street, but far below there is an underground world and a laboratory where they make the perfect pets and where they put the Failed Projects like Barnabus. Alerted of impending recycling doom, by his friend Patrick the cockroach, who has been entrancing him with stories of the natural world above, Barnabus and fellow Failed Projects work together on a daring and thrilling escape and find refuge hiding in plain sight in a nearby park. Being a team and supporting each other is crucial to their success. A multi-layered story that will appeal to a wide range of ages and prompt much discussion and debate about ethics and freedom. In a world where young people are constantly bombarded with social media that promotes artificial standards of perfection, this empowering fable has an important message to share.

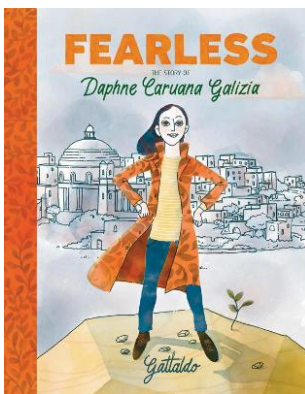
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## The Rock from the Sky

**Author:** Jon Klassen **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 13/04/2021  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

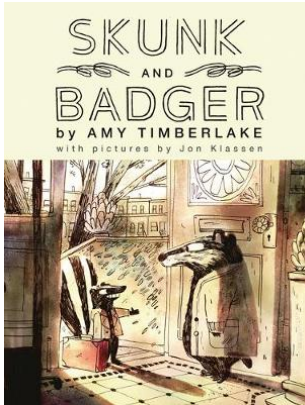
A turtle, an armadillo and a snake – all in signature Klassen hats – ponder the best place to sit. Turtle has his favourite spot, but armadillo has a bad feeling about it... Told entirely in speech – but with colour differentiation so it is easy to see who is talking – three friends escape a deadly fate (which is never mentioned) as they chat and continue their simple lives. The humour and anticipation from the wonderful artwork is never emphasized – it is just there to make you laugh and chortle as the stories unfold. Told in a totally deadpan way this is a huge picture book (90+ pages) that will have fans from Reception classes upwards thoroughly enjoying the completely visual joke. The muted colours only enhance the simplicity, the humour and the musing on life of our three characters – a total gem that will be winning prizes everywhere!



## Fearless The Story of Daphne Caruana Galizia

**Author:** Gattaldo **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 08/10/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

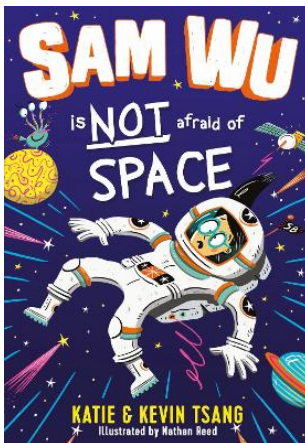
What does it take to be an investigative journalist and discover the truth against all the odds? Daphne Caruana Galizia had a happy childhood with her family on the small island of Malta, loving books, stories and writing. When she succeeded in her ambition to become a journalist, she discovered that there was much to write about in her home country. She found that greedy and corrupt politicians were making themselves rich rather than working for the good of their people. Fearlessly, Daphne exposed criminal and dishonest activities. Her enemies responded with threats and insults to discourage her from revealing more. But nothing could dissuade Daphne from fighting for what she believed in.



## Skunk and Badger

**Author:** Amy Timberlake **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 03/09/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

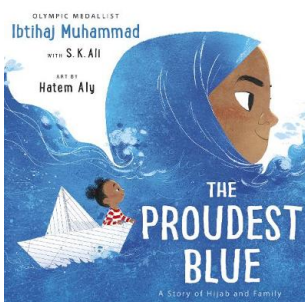
Meet Skunk and Badger. The first time Badger saw Skunk, he thought, 'puny' and shut the front door. There was simply too much slick in this Skunk's stripe. Too much puff in his tail. Also, there'd been that grin, and the way he'd stuck out his paw as if he had been looking forward to meeting Badger. Badger knew what to make of that. He shut the door before the fellow got any ideas . . . But Skunk is Badger's new roommate, and there is nothing Badger can do about it. When Skunk bursts into Badger's life, everything Badger knows is upended. Tails are flipped. The wrong animal is sprayed. And why-oh-why are there so many chickens?



## Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Space

**Author:** Katie Tsang & Kevin Tsang **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 06/08/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

A wonderfully funny and reassuring read for every child staying away from home for the very first time. Common childhood fears dealt with in a hilarious, sensitive and accessible way.

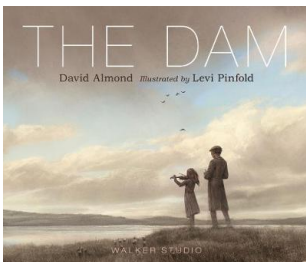


## The Proudest Blue

**Author:** Ibtihaj Muhammad, S. K. Ali **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 02/01/2020 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

This collaboration, between the first American Olympic medallist to compete wearing a hijab and an award-winning Muslim YA author, is a beautiful story of sisterly love as well as a thoughtful depiction of the significance of wearing the hijab. Expressed in terms of family pride and self determination rather than in terms of faith, makes the message particularly accessible to all young readers regardless of their background. Faizah is excited for her first day of school, with her light up shoes and new backpack, but even more excited for her older sister, Asiya with her brand-new blue hijab. As Faizah walks to the school she admires her sister who looks like 'a princess' in her blue head scarf. Their mother has prepared the girls with wise words, which they remember as they encounter different reactions, and these are shown on dreamy spreads of Faiza's thoughts and their mother's words. When the kids in the school bully Asiya, she remembers her mother's advice

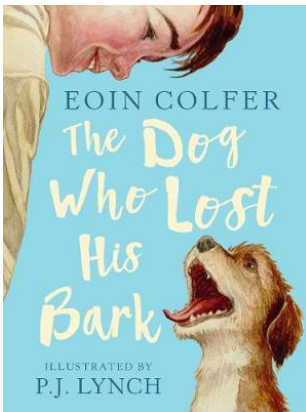
to not carry hurtful words as “they are not yours to keep. They belong only to those who said them” The bullies are cleverly depicted as faceless, raceless, anonymous shadows thus avoiding apportioning blame to any one sector. The vivid colour and expressive illustration are just as powerful as words in conveying the passionate message of how to be proud of one’s culture, individuality, and religion and how to stay strong protected by the armour of family love. This is an excellent book about identity and self-confidence for young readers who can see themselves in Asiya or know someone like her and essential for Empathy collections.



## The Dam

**Author:** David Almond **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2019  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

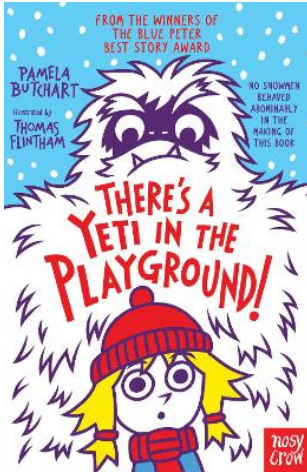
**Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal 2020** On the day before the valley is to be flooded to form a reservoir, a girl and her father play and dance in the deserted houses, remembering the people who have lived there. This is an exquisite book in which words and pictures interweave to evoke wild beauty and a deep mystery. You’ll want to want to keep this one for ever.



## The Dog Who Lost His Bark

**Author:** Eoin Colfer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2019  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

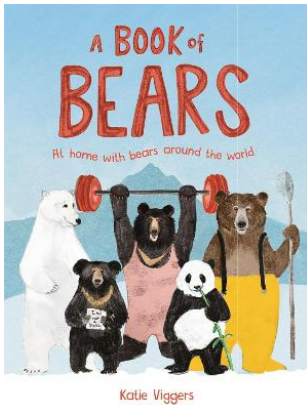
**Longlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020 | Shortlisted for the Children's Book Awards 2019, Books for Younger Readers Category** Patrick is delighted to go to stay at his grandparents’ house, especially when he is told he can choose a rescue puppy. Oz, the puppy has had a terrible start but Patrick is determined to help, until his own life falls apart and he daren’t love his dog. Colfer explores his subject with an empathy which makes the characters and dilemmas very real. A great read.



## There's A Yeti In The Playground!

**Author:** Pamela Butchart **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 04/10/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

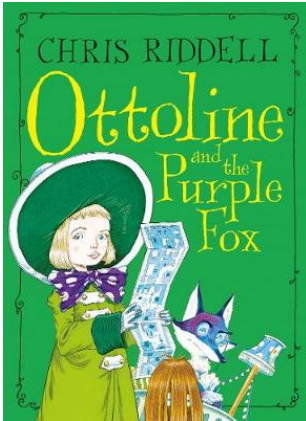
An award winning author with an infallible touch when it comes to humour and familiar settings that all children can relate to and told with a flair for zany and exciting plots like this one!



## A Book of Bears At Home with Bears Around the World

**Author:** Katie Viggers **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 01/10/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

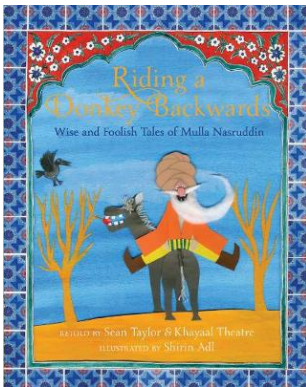
**Shortlisted for the UKLA Book Awards 2020** A fascinating guidebook to bears large and less large, this quirky book is packed with information but full of humour too. It introduces readers to the eight different species of bears living in the world, and there's a section on each one, with a very useful illustrated panel showing 'how they size up'. This is followed by pages on things all or most bears do, from eating and swimming (all) to hibernating (not all). There's a mix of text and Katie Viggers' characterful illustrations and alongside the facts, she has lots of fun - sloth bears for example, whose long, shaggy coats mean they often look untidy, are depicted at the bear hair salon. It's comic but memorable too. Even if you didn't love bears at the beginning of the book, you will by the end and either way you'll have learned a great deal.



## Ottoline and the Purple Fox

**Author:** Chris Riddell **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 17/05/2018  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

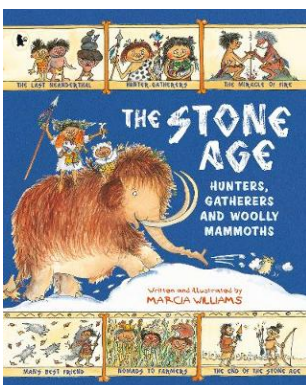
This is the fourth adventure for Ottoline and her best friend Mr Munroe, and it is every bit as enchanting, witty and surprising as the first. The emphasis is on friendship in this story: with her parents still roving the world for interesting items to add to their ever-growing collection of objects, Ottoline holds a dinner party. Guests include the dashing Purple Fox, a new friend, who has introduced Ottoline to some of the city's most exciting inhabitants and hidden secrets. She's able to repay him by drawing his attention to something lovely that he's failed to see. Chris Riddell's illustrations are as dazzling as ever; it's worth lingering over every page to revel in the fluency of his line and to look out for the myriad little details. Ottoline is a delight for readers of all ages.



## Riding a Donkey Backwards Wise and Foolish Tales of the Mulla Nasruddin

**Author:** Sean Taylor, Khayaal Theatre **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 05/04/2018 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

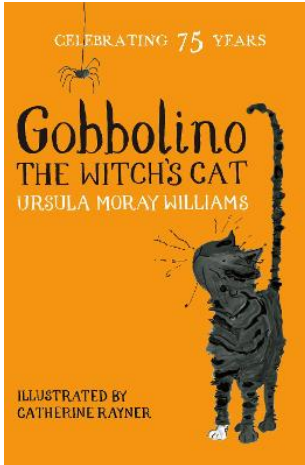
**UKLA Longlist Book Awards - 2019** 21 wonderful retellings of classic Muslim folktales featuring the character of Mulla Nasruddin with superb and humorous collage style illustrations.



## The Stone Age Hunters, Gatherers and Woolly Mammoths

**Author:** Marcia Williams **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/10/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

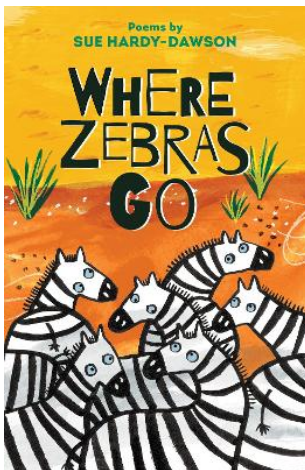
A masterclass in how to make history come to life with trademark cartoon style illustrations and lots of fascinating facts and detail - this is a triumph.



## Gobbolino the Witch's Cat

**Author:** Ursula Moray Williams **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 07/09/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

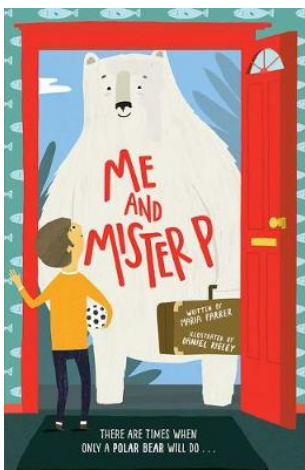
A timeless and always appealing tale getting a well deserved new lease of life with delightful illustrations from award winning Catherine Rayner.



## Where Zebras Go Poems

**Author:** Sue Hardy-Dawson **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 02/02/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

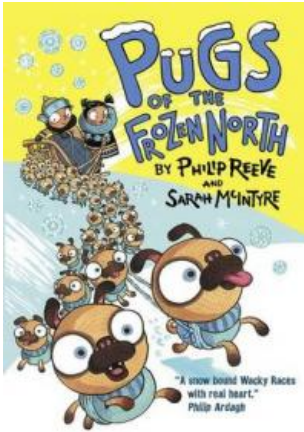
**Shortlisted for the Centre for Literacy in Primary Poetry Award 2018** Get ready to join in the Poetry Olympics, question a snake, talk to a toad and learn 20 ways to avoid monsters and mythical beasts. Where Zebras Go will lead you leads you on a magical journey across the savannah, into fairytale realms, back into the playground and through the seasons, introducing a whole host of animals along the way. An exciting debut collection from an up-and-coming poet, covering wide-ranging themes with humour and fun.



## Me and Mister P

**Author:** Maria Farrer **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 05/01/2017 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

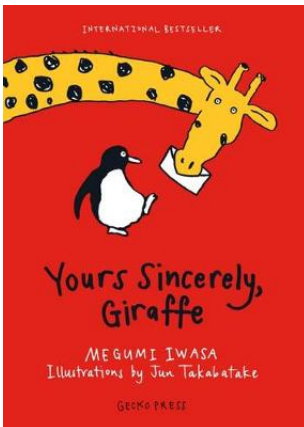
**Shortlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award** Arthur is understandably surprised when Mr P turns up at his door expecting to stay: Mr P is a huge polar bear with small black eyes, and long sharp teeth. Fortunately for Arthur and his family Mr P is polite and friendly and his stay as a guest brings about all sorts of changes for the better. Having to look after him makes Arthur see things differently while Mr P's uncritical, tolerant presence is a calming influence on Arthur's brother Liam, who finds it difficult to act the way others do. This is all mixed up in a funny, often surreal story about the challenges of managing a polar bear at school, and with a sub-plot concerning a tense football match. Readers will be entertained as well as moved, and there's depth beneath the humour. Readers who enjoy this story would like Lob by Linda Newbery, or The Last Polar Bears by Harry Horse.



## Pugs of the Frozen North

**Author:** Philip Reeve **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2016  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

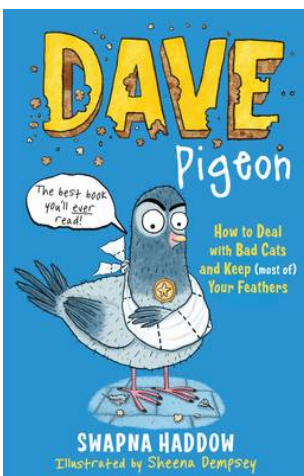
**Shortlisted for the UKLA 2017 Book Award** Award winning author partners Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre head north for their latest adventure. When the cabin boy is abandoned by his shipmates when their ship is stranded in the ice. He's completely alone, except for 64 little pugs, part of the ship's cargo! He soon teams up with Shika, a girl desperately seeking dogs to pull her grandpa's sled in the Race to the Top of the World, a once in a lifetime contest to win your heart's desire. The eccentric competitors mean there's something of the Wacky Races about all of this, but amongst the crazy - and very entertaining - scenes there are surprising notes of poignancy, as well as some lovely descriptions of the True Winter, fifty types of snow and all.



## Yours Sincerely, Giraffe

**Author:** Megumi Iwasa **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 14/07/2016  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

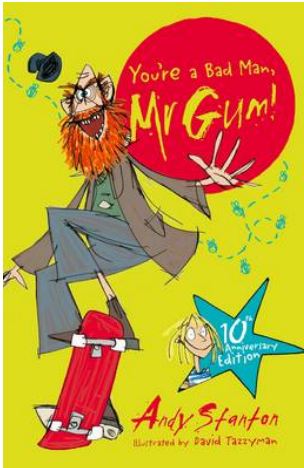
**Shortlisted for the UKLA 2018 Book Award** Giraffe is bored, as usual. He'd love a friend to share things with. So he writes a letter and sends it as far as possible across the other side of the horizon. There he finds a pen pal—Penguin. Giraffe knows nothing about penguins and his letters are full of questions. What does a penguin look like? Where is a penguin's neck? And so the letters begin to fly from horizon to horizon.



## Dave Pigeon

**Author:** Swapna Haddow **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/04/2016  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 1

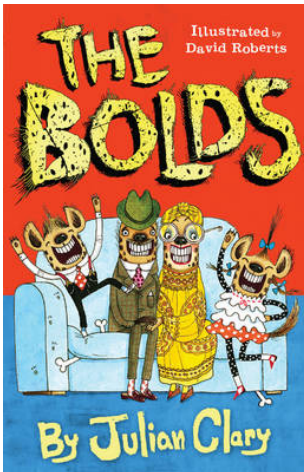
Join Dave Pigeon and his sidekick Skipper on their quest to defeat the most evil cat in town. There will be funny bits, scary bits and biscuity bits. It is perfect for 6+ readers to share with an adult as it has short speech bubbles running with the text for youngsters to read plus there are some brilliant laugh-out-loud black and white illustrations on every page by the superbly talented Sheena Dempsey.



## You're a Bad Man, Mr Gum!

**Author:** Andy Stanton **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 25/02/2016  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Winner of the Blue Peter Prize 2007 'Most Fun Story with Pictures.'** **Shortlisted for the Branford Boase Award 2007 and Joint winner of the Richard and Judy "Developing" 7+ category**  
Mr Gum may well be a 'bad man' but rest assured the author Mr Stanton is a 'funny man'. There's a wonderful sense of humour throughout. Fans of Roald Dahl will love it. This special edition comes with lots of stickers, a brand new bonus story and an exclusive introduction from the author.



## The Bolds

**Author:** Julian Clary **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 30/07/2015  
**Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**One of our Books of the Year 2015 - A Reader Review Panel Pick of the Year 2015** Comedian, entertainer and 'national trinket' Julian Clary now turns out to be a talented children's writer too. The Bolds, his first book for children, is a real treat - a funny story with a ludicrous but hugely enjoyable plotline, lots of jokes, some nail-biting moments and wonderful characters. The Bolds live happily in Teddington where Mrs Bold sells hats and Mr Bold writes the jokes for Christmas crackers, jobs for which they are perfectly suited. Hardly anyone knows they are actually hyenas! Their secret nearly comes out when they attract the attention of their grumpy next-door neighbour, but maybe he's got things to hide too. David Roberts' illustrations are a joy to behold and perfectly catch the stylishly dressed Bolds' blithe, carefree happiness. A very special book. Books in The Bolds Series: 1. The Bolds 2. The Bolds in Trouble 3. The Bolds to the Rescue 4. The Bolds on Holiday 5. The Bolds' Christmas Cracker 6. The Bolds Go Wild 7. The Bolds Go Green

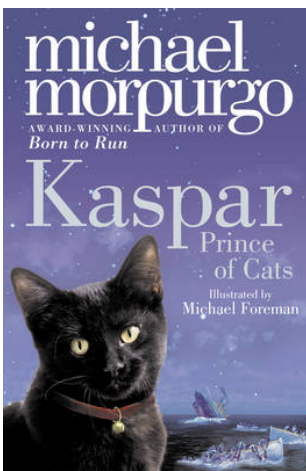
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## Dreams of Freedom

**Author:** Amnesty International **Format:** Hardback **Release Date:** 05/03/2015 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

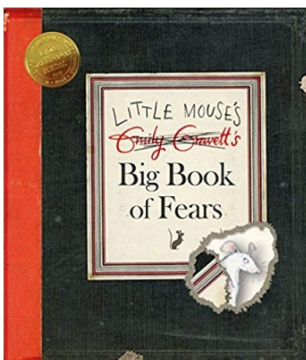
**Shortlisted for the English Picture Book Award 2016** Powerful and moving, this collection of some of the most famous quotes about freedom including the words of Aung San Suu Kyi and Nelson Mandela make thoughtful statements about the global fight for human rights. Illustrators including Chris Riddell, Oliver Jeffers and Shane Evans have contributed stunning illustrations capturing the different ways of being free.



## Kaspar Prince of Cats

**Author:** Michael Morpurgo **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 07/01/2010 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

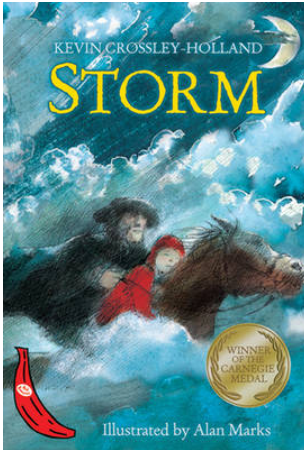
A wonderfully emotional but heart-warming tale from the pen of one of the foremost writers for children. Brilliantly interwoven in historical fact at the time of the sinking of the Titanic is the story of Kaspar the Savoy cat, who we also discover is a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic. The story is utterly compelling and brought to life still further by some really dreamy illustrations by Michael Foreman. A story to read aloud during those cold wintry evenings as much as a story to cuddle up with alone. Wonderful.



## Little Mouse's Big Book Of Fears

**Author:** Emily Gravett **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/08/2008 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2

**Winner of the 2008 CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal** This award winning author-illustrator continues to create some of the most innovative and imaginative illustrated children's books. Through nursery rhyme stories follow Little Mouse as he confronts his many fears including Ablutophobia (Fear of Bathing) and Ligrophobia (Fear of loud noises). You can even make lists of your own fears to overcome! - Winner of the 2007 Nestle Children's Book Prize Bronze Award (6 to 8 category) [Click here for a Little Mouse related activity sheet](#) ! Be sure to check out Emily Gravett's other titles by [clicking here](#).



## Storm

**Author:** Kevin Crossley-Holland **Format:** Paperback **Release Date:** 01/09/2001 **Year Groups:** Key Stage 2

**Winner of the Carnegie Award in 1985.** A wonderful story of drama and adventure that is beautifully unraveled by award-winning author Kevin Crossley-Holland. The characters are superbly drawn and the narrative is simply but lyrically told. And there's a surprise at the end. (7+) To find out more about this book [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Carnegie Greenaway site

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