

Reading with Joy

2007 revised edition

Picture books to share with children
from birth to eight years old



Compiled by

Storylines

Children's Literature Charitable Trust
of New Zealand



www.storylines.org.nz

Reading with Joy

Revised edition 2007

Reading books is a great way to spend time with your child. From the smallest baby until they are grown, they will love to share books with you and listen to you read.

Here are some starting points for you and your child to begin enjoying books together. The picture books suggested are suitable for children from birth to eight years old, and we hope you will enjoy them too. These books allow you and your child(ren) to step into fantastical imaginary worlds, or read about the equally amazing realm of reality through the pictures and stories.

We hope you have many happy hours sharing at least some of these books. Read the stories and look at the pictures, there are often hidden treasures in the illustrations that your child will love to find. Enjoy and talk about the books together, it will be fun and rewarding for everyone.

One of the best ways to ensure your child's success in reading at school is through listening to and sharing books with parents, or grandparents, or older brothers and sisters, aunties, uncles or cousins - once your child has discovered books they will want to share them with everyone. You will be amazed at how quickly they start to enjoy the language and the stories, to start telling the story with you as you read, and to tell their own stories too.

All these books are by New Zealand authors and illustrators and can be found in your local bookshop or library. Many of the authors have written more books so, if you like the ones listed here, ask for other books by the same author. There are also many excellent books by other authors (from New Zealand and overseas) that you and your child will enjoy.

We hope this booklet helps to start you on the journey of sharing books with your family. This is simply a taster for the many wonderful hours you can enjoy together, getting lost in the magical world of books.

ISBN: 978-0-473-12592-9

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Dedicated to Joy Cowley

This reading resource was originally produced by Storylines Children's Literature Charitable Trust in 2006 and was dedicated to Joy Cowley to celebrate her 70th birthday.

Storylines is delighted to bring you, again thanks to SkyCity Auckland Community Trust and in conjunction with New Zealand Book Month, a revised edition of ***Reading with Joy - Picture books to share with children from birth to eight years old***, and a companion guide - ***Reading On Up - Books to share with children from eight to twelve years old***.

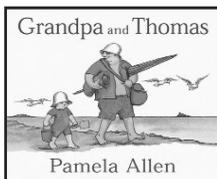


Ten reasons to read to your child

- ◆ So you have a great excuse to cuddle up together at any time of the day
- ◆ So you can both enjoy the sound and rhythm of language, the taste of words and the way words join together to create magic through stories
- ◆ To open doors to knowledge, as well as fantasy
- ◆ So you can encourage their imagination to run where it wants to, into other worlds
- ◆ To continue age-old storytelling traditions
- ◆ To grow their vocabulary, so they can communicate with you and others
- ◆ To set them on the road to becoming a life-long reader
- ◆ To create memories that last for a lifetime
- ◆ Because one day they will read to you
- ◆ Just because it's fun!



Allen, Pamela



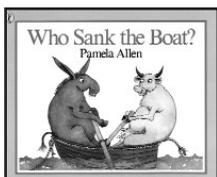
Grandpa and Thomas

Penguin Viking

Grandpa and Thomas enjoy a day at the beach picnicking, making sandcastles and listening to the sea. Australian CBC Book of the Year Award 2004 (early childhood), IBBY Honour Book 2006.

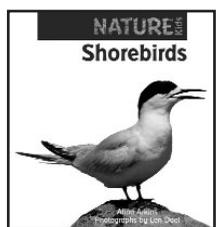
Who Sank the Boat?

Penguin



One by one, a cow, a donkey, a sheep, and a little mouse climb aboard a boat to go for a row in the bay. Just who did sink the boat? Australian CBC Picture Book of the Year 1983. Gaelyn Gordon Much-Loved Book Award 2001.

There are dozens more books by **Pamela Allen** in your library or bookshop. If you liked these you could try ***Fancy That!***, ***Waddle Giggle Gargle*** and all the books about Mr McGee such as ***Mr McGee and the Big Bag of Bread***.



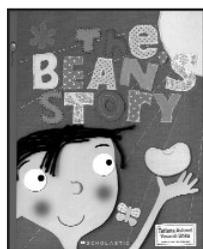
Arkins, Alina

Shorebirds

Photographs by Len Doel

Reed

An introduction to New Zealand shorebirds, including their habitat, feeding, breeding, conservation and migration. One of the Nature Kids series. Also read others in the series such as ***Bats***.



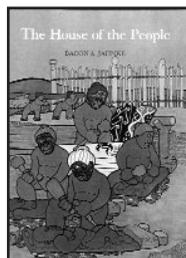
Aslund, Tatiana

The Bean's Story

Illustrated by Vasanti Unka

Scholastic

The life cycle of a bean told in the style of *The House that Jack Built*, and illustrated with embroidery.



Bacon, Ron

The House of the People

Illustrated by Robert Jahnke

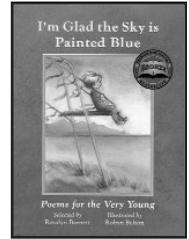
Waiatarua Publishing

Winner of the inaugural Russell Clark Award for illustration in 1978, this book describes the building of a meeting house. Ron Bacon has also written many books based on Maori myths and legends that you might enjoy.

Barnett, Rosalyn (Editor)
I'm Glad the Sky is Painted Blue

Illustrated by Robyn Belton
Mallinson Rendel

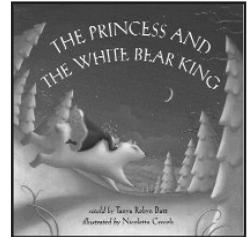
A collection of poems for the very young, from New Zealand, Australia, Britain, USA and Canada.



Batt, Tanya
The Princess and the White Bear King

Illustrated by Nicoletta Ceccoli
Barefoot Books

A young princess is taken away by a white bear to live in his castle, until she ignores his warning and must journey to find happiness.



Baynton, Martin
Jane and the Dragon

Walker Books

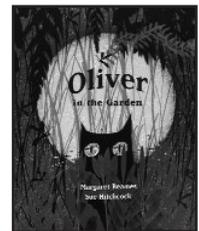
Jane wants to be a knight, but is laughed at. Only her father's jester understands and he gives her his suit of armour. Now well-equipped, Jane sets out to defeat the dragon who has captured the prince. Jane's adventures continue in ***The Dragon's Purpose*** and ***Jane and the Magician***. See the TV series about Jane and her dragon, created at Weta Workshop.



Beames, Margaret
Oliver in the Garden

Illustrated by Sue Hitchcock
Scholastic

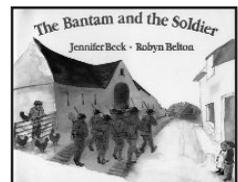
Oliver the cat meets all sorts of interesting things as he explores the garden one dark, wet, windy night. Sue Hitchcock's computer-generated illustrations capture the ambience of a mysterious, yet familiar, world. NZ Post Children's Choice Award and Picture Book of the Year 2001. Also read Margaret's new book ***The Mouse that Danced***.



Beck, Jennifer
The Bantam and the Soldier

Illustrated by Robyn Belton
Scholastic

Arthur, a young soldier in the trenches of WW1, finds a bantam hen he names Bertha, after his niece. NZ Post Picture Book of the Year 1997.





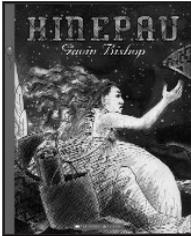
The Choosing Day

Illustrated by Robyn Belton

Scholastic

Briar is allowed to choose what she and her mother wear and do on her special birthday.

There are many other books by Jennifer that you will enjoy such as ***Nobody's Dog***, illustrated by Lindy Fisher, and look for other books illustrated by Robyn Belton too.

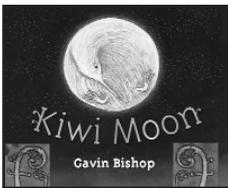


Bishop, Gavin

Hinepau

Scholastic

Hinepau is outcast by her tribe because her differences make them believe she is a witch. but it is her abilities which can save them. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



Kiwi Moon

Random House

Te Marama looks down as a white kiwi is born. Little Kiwi finds his mother, but he doesn't blend in and wants to live with Te Marama. In the background the land wars begin. Russell Clark Award for illustration 2006.



Mrs McGinty and the Bizarre Plant

Random House

Poor Mrs McGinty finds life a burden until one day a mysterious plant begins to grow... Russell Clark Award for illustration 1982. New edition 2007.

Look for the many other books written and illustrated by **Gavin Bishop**, particularly his Maori myths and legends and traditional fairy tales.



Brown, Ben

A Booming in the Night

Illustrated by Helen Taylor

Reed

When Kakapo starts booming in the night Pukeko worries that he is lonely so sets off to find someone to keep Kakapo company. A gentle introduction to creatures found in the New Zealand forest. NZ Post Picture Book of the Year 2006.

Butler, Dorothy

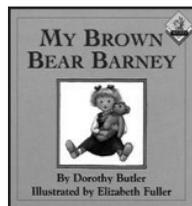
My Brown Bear Barney

Illustrated by Elizabeth Fuller

Reed

Wherever the little girl goes, Brown Bear Barney goes too. A reassuring story of warm family life with illustrations that catalogue all of the familiar accoutrements of a small child's everyday activities.

Look for more books in this series, and other books by **Dorothy Butler** such as her **Stories of Old New Zealand** for older children.



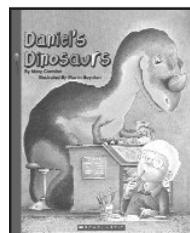
Carmine, Mary

Daniel's Dinosaurs

Illustrated by Martin Baynton

Scholastic

Daniel is so passionate about dinosaurs that he can see them all around, and then he visits the aquarium. Martin Baynton has used coloured pencils to record all the dinosaurs in Daniel's neighbourhood.



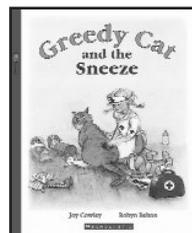
Cowley, Joy

Greedy Cat and the Sneeze

Illustrated by Robyn Belton

Scholastic

When Greedy Cat sneezes Katie worries that he is sick, so she keeps feeding him, hoping it will make him strong, but she gives him so much food that soon he really does feel sick.

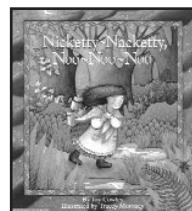


Nicketty-nacketty-noo-noo-noo

Illustrated by Tracey Moroney

Scholastic

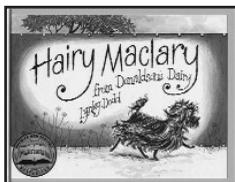
A little woman in an apron of blue outwits an ogre with her pot of glue.



Look in your library or bookshop for many more books written by **Joy Cowley** including **Mrs Wishy-Washy** books illustrated by **Elizabeth Fuller**, more stories about **Greedy Cat** with illustrations by **Robyn Belton**, and the new **Snake and Lizard** collection of stories from Gecko Press, illustrated by **Gavin Bishop**.

Dodd, Lynley

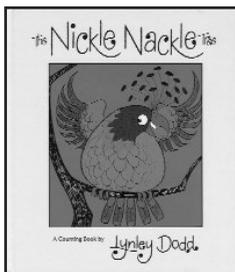
Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy



Mallinson Rendel

This lively cumulative tale of an inquisitive dog and all his motley friends who are confronted by the toughest tom in town has become an outstanding favourite of very young children. Even under twos delight in joining in the catchy verse and yowling cat noises. NZ Picture Book of the Year 1984.

The Nickle Nackle Tree



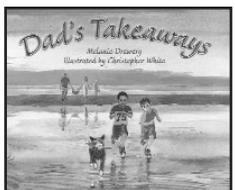
Mallinson Rendel

The Nickle Nackle tree becomes steadily packed with an amazing array of extraordinary birds, until finally there are just too many for its slender branches to support. A zany counting book that has delighted a generation of children. Gaelyn Gordon Much-Loved Book Award 2006.

There are many more books about **Hairy Maclary** and his friends, including the new ***Hairy Maclary Hat Tricks***, plus lots of other books by **Lynley Dodd**.

Drewery, Melanie

Dad's Takeaways

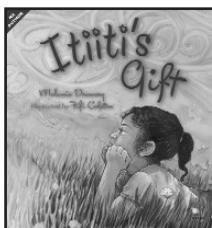


Illustrated by Christopher White

Mallinson Rendel

Dad promises them takeaways, but where are they going with all those odd things? A lovely story about enjoying summer kai moana on the beach. Also available in **te reo Maori**.

Itiiti's Gift

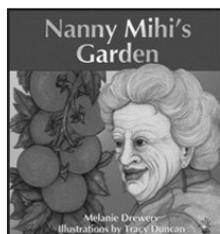


Illustrated by Fifi Colston

Reed

Itiiti feels small, clumsy and shy next to her big, jumbly family. They are all loud and tall and good at things. Her mum tells Itiiti that she has her own gift and Itiiti sets out to find it. Also available in **te reo Maori**.

Nanny Mihi's Garden



Nanny Mihi's Garden

Illustrated by Tracy Duncan

Reed

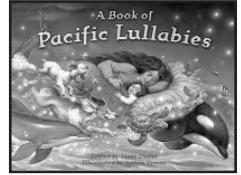
Nanny Mihi's children help her plant her garden in the holidays, and as the crops are harvested for use throughout the year. This is just one of the many stories about Nanny Mihi.

Duder, Tessa (Editor)
A Book of Pacific Lullabies

Illustrated by Anton Petrov

HarperCollins

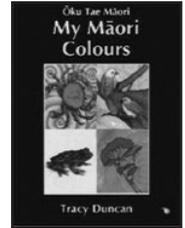
A beautifully illustrated collection of lullabies from New Zealand, Australia and the Pacific Islands. Well-known authors express the happenings and beauty of nights in the South Pacific. Russell Clark Award for illustration 2002.



Duncan, Tracy
My Maori Colours

Reed

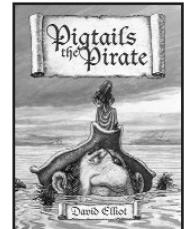
A simple introduction to colours in New Zealand wildlife with large clear text in both English and **te reo Maori**. Tracy Duncan also has Maori books about numbers, colours and shapes.



Elliot, David
Pigtails the Pirate

Random House

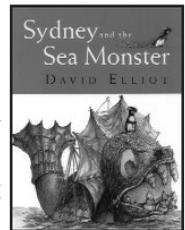
When Jess sets sail to find her lost father she runs into a problem of truly gigantic proportions. On a stormy, wreck-strewn island a giant pirate called Pigtails holds her father captive and Jess must call upon all her courage and inventiveness to set him free. NZ Post Picture Book of the Year 2003.



Sydney and the Sea Monster

Random House

Long, long ago, when sealers sailed southern oceans with harpoons and clubs, an inquisitive penguin inventor nearly brings disaster to his icy community. Sydney, the penguin, enlists the help of a friendly whale in his ingenious plan to thwart the boat load of hunters. Read ***Sydney and the Whalebird*** too.



Gabel, Ngareta
Oh Hogwash, Sweetpea!

Illustrated by Ali Teo

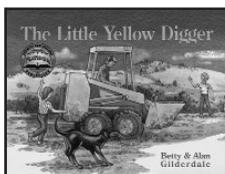
Huia

Sweetpea is always losing her shoes but she has some very inventive reasons as to why they are missing. On Monday ants use them as canoes, see what happens on the other days of the week. NZ Post Children's Choice Award 2004, IBBY Honour Book 2006. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



Gilderdale, Betty

The Little Yellow Digger



Illustrated by Alan Gilderdale

Scholastic

The little yellow digger is pulled out of the mud by all the bigger diggers. A great favourite with small children, along with the other little yellow digger adventures. Gaelyn Gordon Most-Loved Book Award 2003.

Gill, Maria

Bird's-eye View



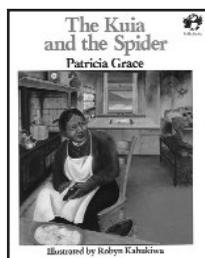
Photographs by Darryl Torckler and Geoff Moon

Penguin

Discover what 13 New Zealand birds see in their natural habitats, using the latest avian-vision research to show various bird's-eye views in a series of panoramic images.

Grace, Patricia

The Kuia and the Spider



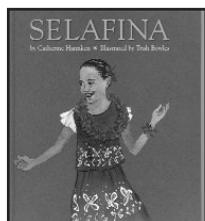
Illustrated by Robyn Kahukiwa

Puffin

An old woman and a spider argue about their weaving, but their grandchildren are not in the least interested in deciding which weaving is best. For them, it is perfect. NZ Picture Book of the Year 1982. Also available in **te reo Maori**.

Hannken, Catherine

Selafina



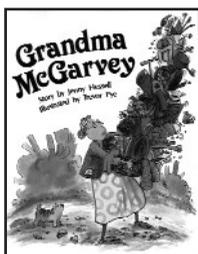
Illustrated by Trish Bowles

Mallinson Rendel

Nana is coming from Samoa especially for Selafina's birthday and as a special welcome Selafina wants to dance the siva. Can she learn the dance and overcome her shyness in time? Read Catherine's new book, **Fiapule**, also about a Samoan family.

Hessell, Jenny

Grandma McGarvey



Illustrated by Trevor Pye

Scholastic

An amusing rhyming tale of Grandma McGarvey and the immense pile of junk she collects to take to the dump. This is the first in a series of Grandma's astonishing adventures.

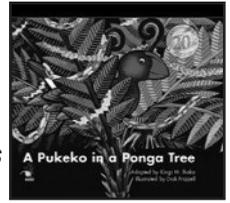
Ihaka, Kingi

A Pukeko in a Ponga Tree

Illustrated by Dick Frizzell

Reed

A very New Zealand version of the *Twelve Days of Christmas* featuring kumara, flax kits, huhu grubs, pipi and puha.

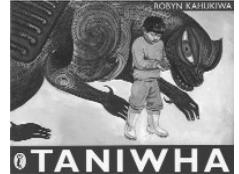


Kahukiwa, Robyn

Taniwha

Penguin

A little boy is transported by the taniwha that lives in his river, to collect the treasures he shares with his koro. Russell Clark Award for illustration and NZ Children's Picture Book of the Year 1987. Available in **te reo Maori**, as is Robyn's recent book *Matatuhi*.



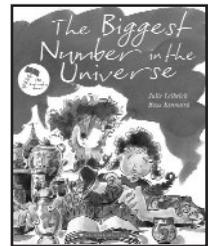
Leibrich, Julie

The Biggest Number in the Universe

Illustrated by Ross Kinnaird

Scholastic

Nesta needs a really big number so she visits grumpy Mr Abacus, the mathematician, who doesn't want to help her at first, but then he lends her 8,888,888,888 on the condition that she looks after it. Joy Cowley Award 2003. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



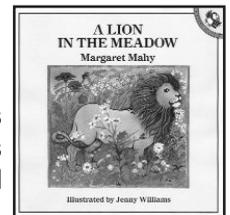
Mahy, Margaret

A Lion in the Meadow

Illustrated by Jenny Williams

Penguin

The little boy is quite sure there is a lion in the meadow so his mother gives him a dragon in a matchbox to scare it off. This wonderful story celebrating a child's imagination was awarded the Esther Glen Award in 1970.

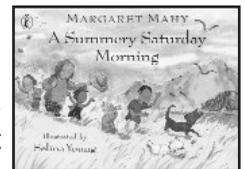


A Summery Saturday Morning

Illustrated by Selina Young

Penguin

A rhyming story about a family walk down the hills to the beach that turns into a wild romp when two bad dogs chase everything in sight until they confront a family of geese. NZ Post Picture Book of the Year 1999.





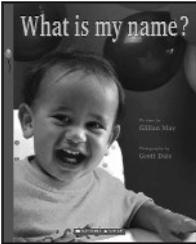
Down the Back of the Chair

Illustrated by Polly Dunbar

Frances Lincoln

Dad loses his car keys and young Mary tells him to look down the back of the chair. An astonishing array of things come out of the chair, all illustrated in a suitably wacky style.

You will find dozens of other books by **Margaret Mahy** in your local library or bookshop. She writes great stories for all ages.



May, Gillian

What is My Name?

Photographs by Geoff Dale

Scholastic

On his first birthday a child is greeted by a different pet name by every member of his family. Beautiful colour photographs.

Also available in **te reo Maori**.



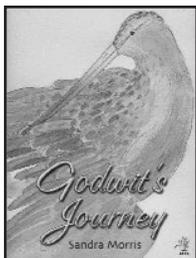
Mewburn, Kyle

Kiss! Kiss! Yuck! Yuck!

Illustrated by Ali Teo & John O'Reilly

Scholastic

Andy hates being kissed by ANYONE let alone his Auntie Elsie and her sloppy kisses. He tries hiding from her but she finds him no matter where. Joy Cowley Award 2005. NZ Post Children's Choice and Picture Book of the Year 2007.

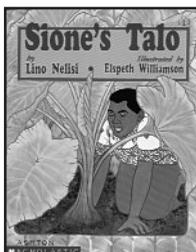


Morris, Sandra

Godwit's Journey

Reed

Godwit and his flockmates travel from New Zealand to the Alaskan tundra to breed. If you enjoy this bird book you will also enjoy **One Lonely Kakapo**, also by **Sandra Morris**.



Nelisi, Lino

Sione's Talo

Illustrated by Elspeth Williamson

Scholastic

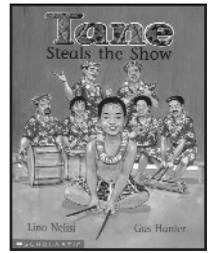
No matter how hard Sione pulls, the huge talo will not come out of the ground. A Pacific Island version of a traditional English tale. Also available in **te reo Maori**, **Samoan** and **Niuean**.

Tane Steals the Show

Illustrated by Gus Hunter

Scholastic

A small boy keeps being told that he is too little to join in the performances at his Uncle Kokela's wedding. But Tane is determined and secretly prepares to surprise everyone. A celebration of Pacific Island ceremony. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



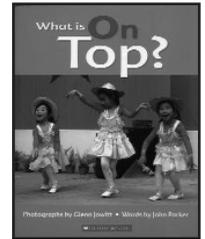
Parker, John

What is on Top?

Photographs by Glen Jowitt

Scholastic

Photographs and simple text introduce hats and head-dresses from a range of cultures including Greece, Turkey, Tonga, Fiji and Australia. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



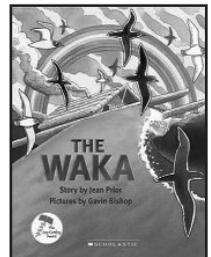
Prior, Jean

The Waka

Illustrated by Gavin Bishop

Scholastic

A wonderfully rich New Zealand version of Noah's Ark, rendered in rhyming couplets and vividly illustrated by Gavin Bishop. Joy Cowley Award 2004. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



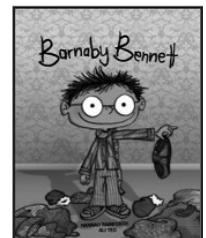
Rainforth, Hannah

Barnaby Bennett

Illustrated by Ali Teo

Huia

Barnaby loves wearing red so much he wears it everywhere, every day. What will convince him to change his clothes? Zany collage illustrations and fun rhyming text.



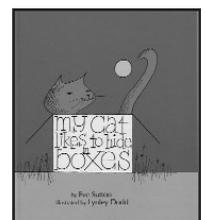
Sutton, Eve

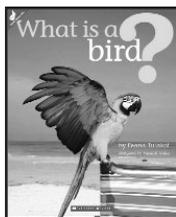
My Cat Likes to Hide in Boxes

Illustrated by Lynley Dodd

Mallinson Rendel (Hardback) Penguin (Paperback)

The cat from France can sing and dance, the cat from Spain can fly an aeroplane but my cat likes to hide in boxes. This was the first picture book illustrated by Lynley Dodd. Esther Glen Award 1975.

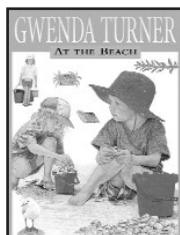




Tu'Akoi, Feana
What is a Bird?

Scholastic

Fish, mammals, amphibians and reptiles also each have a title in this vibrant series which introduces children to different types of animals by a process of elimination and comparison.



Turner, Gwenda
At the Beach

Penguin

Young children delight in their explorations of the beach. Children who have spent some time at the beach will recognise many of the activities illustrated here. Look for the other great books by **Gwenda Turner** such as ***Over on the Farm***.

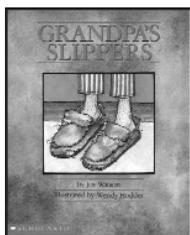


Wairama, Moira
The Puppet Box

Illustrated by Bruce Potter

Scholastic

When Rua begins kindergarten the teacher uses puppets to help give him confidence to join in. At the end of the week he introduces a shy new girl to the delights of the puppet box. Joy Cowley Award 2006. Also available in **te reo Maori**.



Watson, Joy
Grandpa's Slippers

Illustrated by Wendy Hodder

Scholastic

Grandpa refuses to wear his new slippers; he'd rather wear the old favourite ones but Grandma keeps trying to throw them out. There are other great stories about Grandpa too. Gaelyn Gordon Most-Loved Book Award 2000. Also available in **te reo Maori**.

Books for adults about children and books

Dorothy Butler, ***Babies Need Books***, Penguin

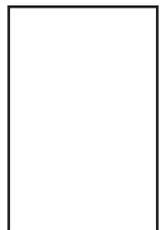
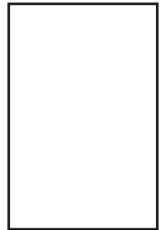
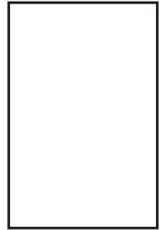
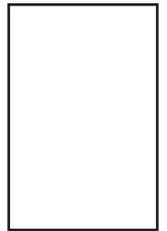
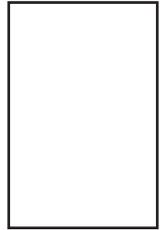
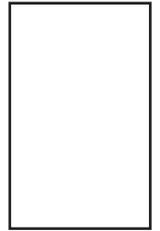
Paul Jennings, ***The Reading Bug***, Penguin

Jackie French, ***Rocket your Child into Reading***, HarperCollins

Mem Fox, ***Reading Magic***, Pan

James Moloney, ***Boys and Books***, ABC Books

Bernice E. Cullen, ***Read to Me: Raising Kids Who Love to Read***, Scholastic



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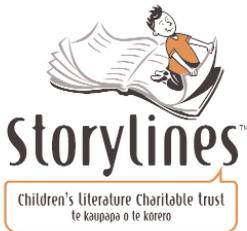
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ISBN 978-0-473-12592-9