

## Storylines Christmas list of recommended books 2018



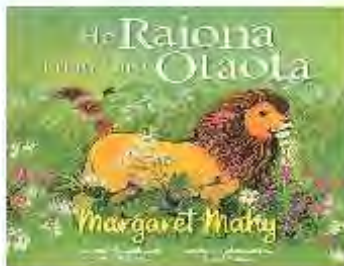
### Picture Books



***Granny McFlitter the Champion Knitter***  
by Heather Haylock, illustrations by Lael Chisholm  
Penguin Random House

This charming picture book was the winner of the 2018 Storylines Gavin Bishop Awards and a finalist for the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. It follows the adventures of Granny McFlitter and her knitting obsession. Written in flawless rhyme with quirky scene depictions, the story opens with Granny's family who have tired of her hobby. "But did Granny stop knitting? Oh no she did not, she went right on knitting ... like it or not!" When penguins get caught in the *Rena*'s oil spill, thank goodness for Granny's determination. She and her nifty needles have a woolly solution!

**Ages 3+**



***He Raiona I roto I nga Otaota (A Lion in the Meadow – Maori edition)***  
by Margaret Mahy, illustrated by Jenny Williams, translated by Puipi Walker

Maori language edition of this much-loved classic.

**Ages 3+**



***Who stole the rainbow?***  
by Vasanti Unka  
Penguin Random House

Just one example (amongst the many 2018 titles that could be chosen) of a picture book which combines the fun of discovery with the fun of a great story. It's simple but with lots of talking points, colourful and entertaining.

**Ages 3+**



***First Words. Ngā tae Colours***  
**by Kitty Brown and Kirsten Parkinson**  
**Reo Pēpi Tāpui**

It has been a great year for embracing te reo Māori in children's books in 2018. If you want to start at the beginning (because you are never too young for books) try the Reo Pēpi bilingual books for whānau sets. They are hard-wearing board books which introduce not just the words but some of the sentence structures in a very simple way.

**Ages 2+**



***Puffin the Architect***  
**by Kimberly Andrews**  
**Penguin Random House**

An ingenious picture book that combines storytelling and endearing animal characters with excursions into architecture, engineering and storage solutions. We will hear more about this talented writer/illustrator, trained in biology and geology, who has made her name as an illustrator in the UK and now lives near Wellington.

**Ages 5+**



***Jurassic World: From DNA to Indominus Rex!***  
**by Caroline Rowlands**  
**Carlton Books**

An augmented reality book which provides information about dinosaurs from the Jurassic World movie and allows the dinosaurs to "come to life" on your mobile device screen. Interactive software for this book (iCarltonAR) is available free as a separate download from the iTunes store or Google play. With this book you make the dinosaurs "come to life" and walk around the room. You can take interactive photos with the dinosaurs and your child.

**Ages 5+**



***Cicada***  
**by Shaun Tann**  
**Lothian**

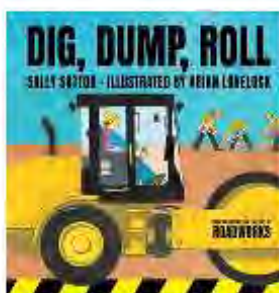
Tan's remarkable title *Cicada* demonstrates the power of the picture book to convey big themes and complex emotional layers. The ill treatment of migrant workers, bullying, poverty and despair are explored through a hard-working insect office worker whose 17-year loyalty to the company goes unrewarded. When he is no longer required, how will he survive in an indifferent world? **All ages**



***I am Jellyfish***  
**by Ruth Paul**  
**Penguin Random House**

Just because you are soft and sweet natured doesn't mean you can't be strong, smart and dependable when it really counts. A beautifully illustrated picture book with an important message about remaining true to yourself and not judging others by appearance alone. With some wonderful glow in the dark illustrations making this the perfect last book at night before lights out

**Ages 3+**



***Dig, Dump, Roll***  
**by Sally Sutton, illustrated by Brian Lovelock**  
**Walker Books Australia**

Toddlers are delighting in the machinery-themed books by this talented duo. This time they have the added delight of guessing which machine is working, with clues given to the machine which is revealed on the following page. And as with the other titles they're all working on a very familiar building. Available in hardback, paperback and board book.

**Ages 2+**



***The Anzac Violin***  
**by Jennifer Beck, illustrated by Robyn Belton.**  
**Scholastic NZ**

"When you are far from home, music is a real connection to what you have left behind." Alexander Aiken, Dux of Otago Boy's High School, was given an unwanted violin in 1915 as he travelled on board a troopship from Dunedin to join the Great War in Europe.

The violin, which he eventually donated to his school, has his written record of the places he passed through. Jennifer and Robyn have meticulously recorded the war experiences of this remarkably gifted young man, and included a selection of research material displayed on the endpapers. This picture book format pays tribute to the courage of these soldiers.

**Ages 4+**



***The Curious Ar-Chew***  
**by Sarah Grundy, illustrations by Ali Teo & John O'Reilly**  
**Scholastic (Comment by Millie, aged 9)**

Three curious little animal friends have a very scary adventure trying to find the Curious Ar-Chew. Winner of the 2016 Storylines Joy Cowley Award.

**Ages 3+**



***Hairy Maclary and Zachary Quack***  
by Lynley Dodd  
Penguin Random House

Who can resist any of Hairy Maclary's friends? This time, the story is about a cheeky duckling and the long suffering Hairy Maclary who just wants some peace and quiet for his afternoon snooze. A delightful, well-loved story which is fun to read aloud

over and over again and was always a favourite in our house.

**Ages 1+**



***Ice Cream and Dinosaurs***  
by Eric Litwin  
Orchard Books Publishers

In this latest picture book by the author of *Pete the Cat*, Groovy Joe is a fun-loving dog with a tub full of ice cream – which he shares with his unexpected dinosaur guests. This celebration of sharing has a refrain for children to join in and shout out. A free reading/singing of the story is also available on-line.

**Ages 3+**



***Do Not Wash This Bear***  
by Sam Hay  
Egmont Publishers

In this hilarious, rhythmic picture book Daddy ignores a washing label and Bear comes alive! Bear has a very clear label sewn under his bottom. It says, “Do not wash this bear!” But when Daddy puts him through a spin cycle anyway, a very naughty Bear comes out – one

who causes mischief and mayhem all around the house! Father and son need Mummy to come home and save the day.

**Ages 3+**



***Bears Don't eat Egg Sandwiches***  
by Julie Fulton  
Maverick Arts Publishing

Jack's visitor, a bear, arrives for lunch and he does not want any of Jack's egg sandwiches. So, what do you give a bear for lunch? Jack just escapes being the lunch! The lyrical repetition throughout will have kids squealing in anticipation of the title line, which is the bear's

response each time Jack politely and patiently offers egg sandwiches. The suspense builds

throughout, but all turns out well after Jack's clever solution, followed by a cute punchline. Bright and cheerful illustrations are a great match for this fun story.

**Ages 5+**



***The Longest Breakfast***

**by Jenny Bornholdt, illustrated by Sarah Wilkins**  
**Gecko Press**

In this delightful picturebook a baby wakes his father with the word Toot. Dad decides breakfast should come before anything else and has to cope with a large number of unexpected guests all with different ideas on what is good for breakfast. In the end everyone gets fed and Toot Bzzz is what the baby wants for breakfast.

**Ages 3+**