

Children's CHOICE



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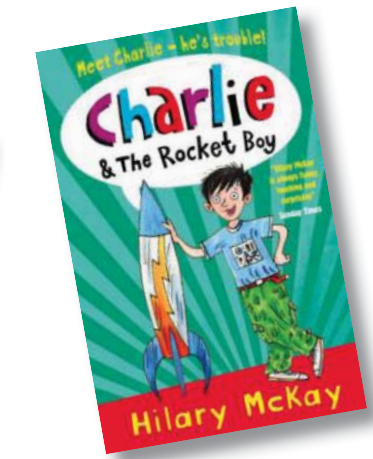
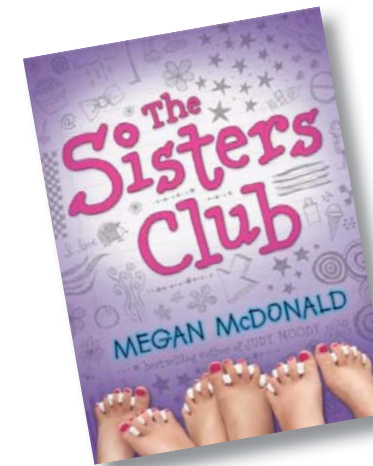
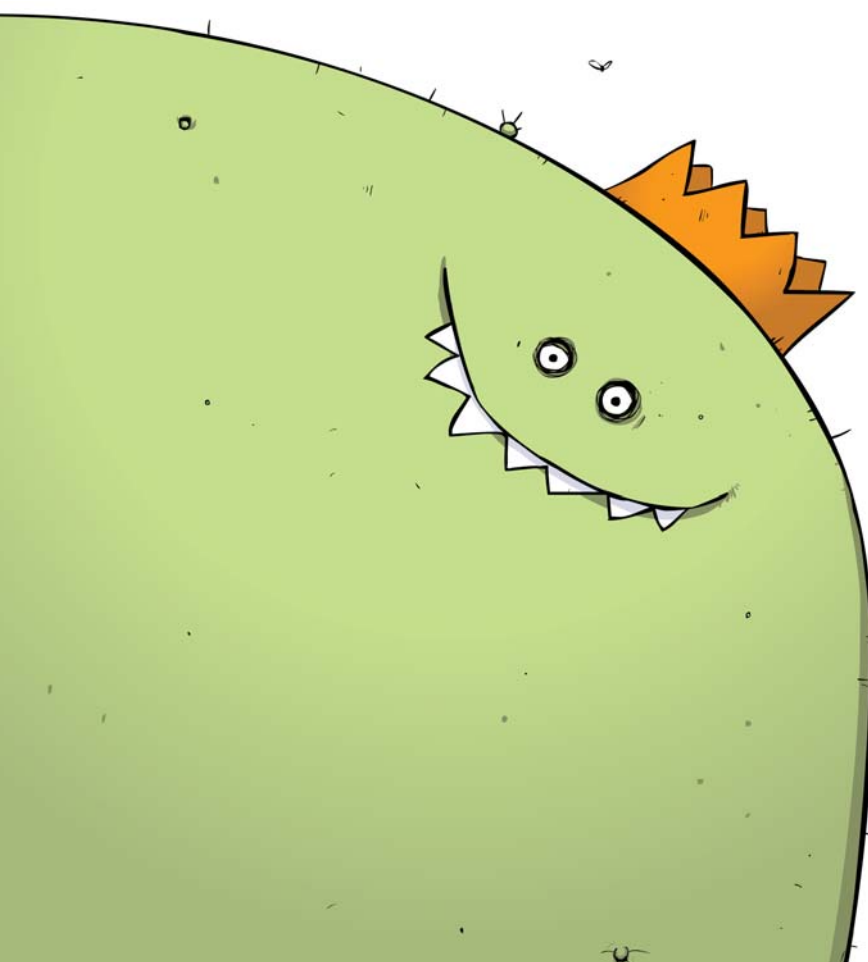
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Children's FICTION



The sisters club. Megan McDonald

Stevie, Alex and Joey are the three members of the Sisters Club. They take it in turn to write this story. Their parents are actors. Sometimes the middle sister, Stevie, would like their family life to be "normal". Then her older sister gets a part in a play too, and nothing Stevie tries seems to turn out right. Between the chapters are notes, poems and short plays.

Space gum. Tania Roxborough

Carl and his father are always playing practical jokes on each other. This complicates things when Carl finds a formula hidden in a book. It is for a chewing gum manufactured for special use in space. It could be worth a lot of money, and there are two groups after it. Carl goes bush to escape from the men who kidnap his father.

The windspinner. Berlie Doherty

Tam's great-grandfather has gone to live in Fairyland and Oban, king of the fairies has come to stay at Tam's house – disguised as a nine-year-old boy. Oban gets into trouble when he goes to school with Tam because he doesn't quite understand human ways. Great-great-aunt California and Tam go to the land of Fairyland to fetch Great-grandpa home.

Charlie and the rocket boy. Hilary McKay

Charlie and Henry have been best friends since they were three years old. They always play, fight and get into trouble together. They are the only people sitting at a special table in the front of the classroom. Until Zachary arrives from America and the teacher seats him with them. Zachary is staying in

England while his father travels to a star in a rocket ship. Some of his other stories seem unbelievable too.

Scratch Kitten goes to sea. Jessica Green and Mitch Vane

Scratch lives on the wharf with his mother, brothers and sisters. One day he climbs onto a sailing ship in search of adventure. At first, Scratch always seems to be doing the wrong thing, climbing the mast and getting underfoot. Then he starts catching mice and gradually Scratch and Peg-leg the cook come to an understanding.

Gully's travels. Tor Seidler

Gulliver's master falls in love with a woman who is allergic to long-haired dogs. Gully is taken from his luxury apartment and finds himself living in a noisy, crowded household on

the other side of the city with three other dogs, a cat and a gerbil. During a trip to the beach a series of accidents finds Gully travelling to France in a fishing boat – all by himself!

BOOKS PICTURED: The sisters club, The windspinner, Charlie and the rocket boy



PICTURE Books

Echo and Hush. V M Jones

Echo and Hush are sheepdogs, a huntaway and an eye-dog. Together they work to bring the sheep off the mountains. One day Hush stays home. Echo has to work twice as hard to round up the sheep. Echo keeps doing all the work while Hush's puppies grow. Then the farmer enters Echo in the dog trials.

Small knight and George and the royal chocolate cake. Ronda Armitage

The Small Knight, Mum and Dad Knight are preparing for a visit by the king. Big Cook has made a wonderful chocolate cake. The wild brigands, hiding in the woods smell the cake. They creep in and steal it. Small Knight and George go after them, into the dark, dark woods, to rescue the "special Royal Chocolate Cake"



Mending Lucille. J R Poulter & Sarah Davis

A young girl is missing her mother, who left in an airplane. She thinks about her a lot. After a while she starts travelling with Daddy on the long trips in his big truck. She takes Lucille, her favourite doll everywhere. Lucille is torn, but Daddy's mending doesn't work. One day they meet Chrissie a waitress in a restaurant. She mends Lucille, and finds her way into their hearts.

How the ladies stopped the wind. Bruce McMillan

Strong winds blow in Iceland. The ladies in the village are tired of being blown over and decide to plant some trees. They plant some trees and ask the chickens to fertilize them. However the sheep discover the tasty buds on the trees and eat them. The ladies order more trees and put up a

fence. They put the sheep out with the cows and hope they leave their new trees alone.

The pencil. Allan Ahlberg

A lonely pencil draws a boy, a cat and a dog. Then the pencil draws a paintbrush which colours everything in. Together the pencil and paintbrush draw more and more things. The trouble starts when pencil draws a rubber which keeps rubbing out more and more drawings.

Daft bat. Jeanne Willis

The other young animals think that bat is very strange. She thinks that the sky is above and the grass below. They ask Wise Owl to talk to bat to see if she is dangerous. Wise Owl asks some questions, then he makes the young animals hang upside down from a branch to see the world from Bat's point of view.

BOOKS PICTURED: Echo and Hush, Small knight and George and the royal chocolate cake, Mending Lucille, How the ladies stopped the wind, The pencil

Grow it, cook it

Simple growing instructions and tasty recipes make this book well worth reading for both children and adults. There are clear instructions for growing many common vegetables. Once you have harvested them there are some tasty recipes to make. All the plants are shown growing in pots. Fruit is not neglected; strawberries, blueberries and lemons are there too. The book begins with gardening basics: pots, compost, how plants grow from seed to seedling and from flower to fruit. There are also pictures illustrating basic cooking instructions. See also: *Grow it, eat it*.

The story of the orchestra. Robert Levine

The CD supplied with this book makes it easy to learn something about classical music. Listen to the first 12 tracks as you read about composers from Vivaldi to Leonard Bernstein. The second part of the book introduces the instruments in the orchestra. Tracks 13-27 start with the violin, taking you through the string section, then the woodwind (flute, etc), brass (trumpet, etc), percussion (drums, etc), finishing with the harpsichord in the keyboard section. Last of all the work and history of the conductor is discussed.

Our planet: change is possible. Myspace community with Jeca Taudte

Here are lots of ideas to help you live a 'greener' life. Composting, using long-life light bulbs, and turning off appliances are all ideas we have met; but how about deciding whether it is greener to buy imported organic vegetables or ones grown down the road using pesticides and artificial fertilizers? This book sets out ideas you can use that

have effects on a personal, local or global scale. There is also a glossary and list of on-line resources.

30 amazing Australian animals. Christopher Cheng

Australia is home to many amazing animals, both native and introduced. This book tells us about 30 of them. It includes natives like the bilby, red kangaroo and the blue-ringed octopus and introduced animals. As well as facts about their life and diet, this book includes some poems and anecdotes.

Boy overboard: the play. Patricia Cornelius

This play is an adaptation of the book by Maurice Gleitzman. When the authorities discover Jamal's mother is running an illegal school his parents decide they must leave Afghanistan and go to Australia. Travel is difficult and the children get separated from their parents. At last they are all reunited in Australia. However Australia isn't the rich and friendly place they were expecting.

Non-FICTION



BOOKS PICTURED: Grow it, cook it, The story of the orchestra, Our planet: change is possible, 30 amazing Australian animals

News from CHILDREN'S



Summer Reading Programme

We have three reading programmes this summer. They start on **Friday 12 Dec**.

- **Dive into reading**, the summer reading programme for independent readers.
- **Read with me** is for children who are being read to, or need assistance with their reading.
- **Read what you like** is the programme for teens.

For details enquire at your local library.

Some New Zealand books for Summer

Picture Books

- **A summery Saturday morning.** Margaret Mahy
- **Pavlova & presents.** John Parker
- **The fizzy orange soft drink.** Janet Slater Bottin

Fiction

- **Holiday time in the bush.** Ruth Dallas
- **To the harbour.** Stanley Palmer
- **One day in the summer holidays.** Elena Petrov

Non-fiction

- **How to catch fish.** Colin Anderson
- **A walk to the beach.** Chris Gaskin
- **Kiwi adventures: rafting.** Frank Saxton



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