



THE CHILDREN'S
BOOK COUNCIL
OF AUSTRALIA
NSW BRANCH

Kids' Corner

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ILLUSTRATION
BY DAVE PETZOLD





WELCOME to our JUNE 2021 KIDS' CORNER

GUEST ILLUSTRATOR: DAVID PETZOLD

David has been Shortlisted for the 2021 CBCA Award for New Illustrators for his book, *SEVEN SEAS OF FLEAS* (Starfish Bay Publishing). See more in *KIDS' CORNER* May 2021

I am an author and illustrator from Lennox Head, Australia.

My picture book stories and illustrations are very much inspired by nature and adventure and I love looking at the world in different ways.

For the cover illustration, I wanted to show how all things in life are connected and part of one big, wandering story. I also wanted it to be fun and bright. Initially, I had the idea of having lots of different shapes with animals and plants inside them, but when I started sketching this, I realised it didn't really speak of connection or wandering and that's when I had the idea to add a winding snake. I also added lots of different textures, scribbles and patterns to show the diversity of nature and the environment. I used graphite pencil, ink and oil paint to create the line-work and textures.



Then I scanned everything and added the colour in the computer.

Instagram www.instagram.com/dave_petzold/

Website www.davepetzold.com.au/seven-seas-of-fleas

WELCOME TO KIDS' CORNER for JUNE 2021

Guest Illustrator DAVID PETZOLD'S dramatic cover leads KC for JUNE 2021 into:

PLANNING STORIES with worlds of stories from "things inside a suitcase" with Ursula Dubosarsky and using the POETRY POWER of "whispers that are hiding inside your imagination" with Wendy Fitzgerald.

CREATING WORLDS with Shaun Tan talking about some of the worlds he has created and discovering a travelling suitcase of stories and authors from Oliver Phommavanh.

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT as NAIDOC WEEK helps "Heal Country" and special days help us learn about aspects of the environment.

They all blend into ideas for new stories as we get ready with more BITS OF BOOK WEEK through the **COLLIDE** book trailer competition and become involved with the CBCA shortlists for Older Readers and Younger Readers through **KBOYE- Kids Book of the Year Event**





Shaun TAN

characters and concepts. <https://www.shauntan.net/new-page-2>

CREATING OTHER WORLDS with SHAUN TAN

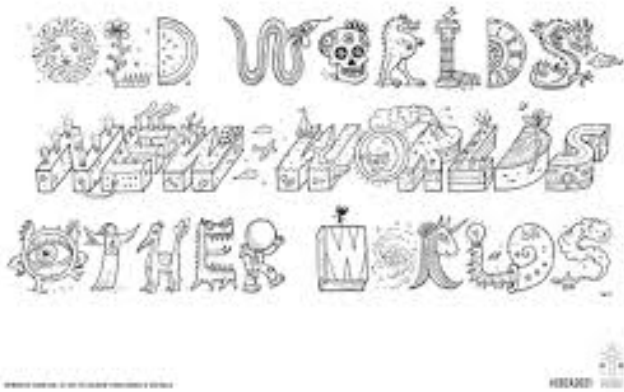


Image <https://www.allenandunwin.com/authors/t/shaun-tan>

The father with the suitcase is a reference with my 2006 graphic novel The Arrival, a book which so perfectly fits with the 2021 theme. It's an alternate history (other world) about an immigrant entering a new country (new world) set in the late 19th century (old world).

the biggest nod to the past. In many ways, Australia is the oldest of all worlds, at least in terms of a continuous living culture.

I seem to get a lot of ideas when not looking for them, just by walking around, washing dishes or in some kind of transportation – I used to get a lot of ideas on long haul plane flights (back in the day!) for some reason, and always had a little pocket notebook I could scribble in on those occasions.



One of my favourite letters . . . in the 'Old Worlds, New Worlds, Other Worlds' text you've illustrated is the unicorn because it's something I would never normally draw – I'm not a fan of unicorns! But my daughter likes them, so I thought she'd enjoy seeing that there.

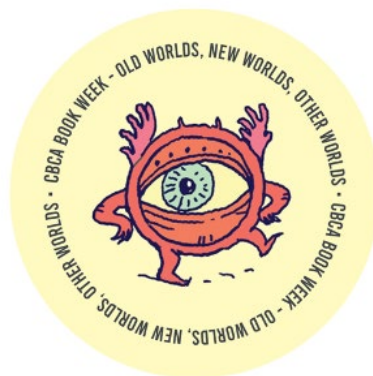
My Book Week memories from childhood include LOTS of dress-ups (notably stretching the definition of 'book' considerably) and nice displays at our school library, lots of book week activities and the special reverence given to short-listed titles.

For many children, book week has something that is a real privilege to be a part of. It bears mentioning that I once won a second-place prize the make-your-own-book competition that was run during book week.

I like to work in a very small room in the front of a house when illustrating. It's nothing very fancy and has not changed significantly since I started drawing in my bedroom as a kid. I still draw on the same wooden table I began drawing upon around the age of three or four.

Reading books with my own children confirms my suspicion that children have just as much to teach their parents by asking simple, straightforward questions about life that we oldies may have long forgotten to check.

*This article has been adapted from a full interview with Shaun that is part of the ZART ART CBCA BOOK WEEK 2021 project book and art box package. Further details of workshops and publications related to CBCA BOOK WEEK 2021 are available through the **ZART ART** website <https://www.zartart.com.au/zartstatic/page/book-week-workshops>*



CREATING A WORLD FROM THINGS INSIDE A SUITCASE

with **URSULA DUBOSARSKY**
AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN'S LAUREATE

<https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/the-current-laureate>



It's such a strong feeling, when you create something. Like growing wings and becoming airborne ... You start with a blank piece of paper with nothing on it. Then you write a word and another word and another and before long hey presto! There on the page in front of you is something that never existed before.

Your own mind is a suitcase full of things that can be turned into stories. Or you could even use a real suitcase - that's how I wrote my book "The Strange Adventures of Isador Brown". I started with an old school satchel that I got from a garage sale. Then I wandered around the house looking for things that my character, Isador, might have inside it. I found five completely different things and slipped them in.

Then I put my hand into the satchel, eyes closed, like a lucky dip, and pulled out one of the objects. I looked at it, felt it in my hand and wondered. And I began to write about it. I kept on writing until I ran out of ideas.

So I did it again. I closed my eyes and took out another object and the story continued. (It was a STRANGE story all right). I kept doing this until I ran out of objects. By that time my mind was so full of ideas for the story I didn't need any more help!

Hmm, I wonder what things YOU would put inside YOUR satchel – and what new world you would create?

Happy writing, until next time, from Ursula and Magpie

PS I reckon the Laureate Magpie would be pretty good at collecting some interesting objects!

PPS Remember to check out my free monthly writing activity for BLUE MOON – oops I mean JUNE. (It's all about rhyming slang – ha!) You'll find it on the Laureate website, along with lots and lots of other things for you to do, play with and think about.
<https://www.childrenslaureate.org.au/>

A note from Oliver - I spend more than half my year, visiting schools across Australia and the world. I love making kids laugh and getting them pumped up for reading. I also do creative writing workshops, with a focus on humour.

My recent books include: *Brain Freeze*, *Don't Follow Vee* and *Natural Born Loser*, but am also known for *Thai-riffic!*, *Con-nerd* and *The Other Christy*. Yes, I have put together an author suitcase.



STORIES THAT TRAVEL with OLIVER PHOMMAVANH

<http://www.oliverwriter.com>

A travelling suitcase is basically an author trapped in a bag.

Well, not the actual author, but it's the next best thing, because it's like an author has popped out of the suitcase to visit your school.

It contains books, a folder filled with notes and behind-the-scenes works, as well as videos for kids to connect with the author. The best thing about the suitcase is that there is a journal for kids to write in, and then the authors get to read that feedback and comments.

What's in the suitcase?

My suitcase contains the usual books, posters, bookmarks, notes and a USB stick filled with exclusive videos. But it also has a few things to showcase my likes and interests. I wanted the kids to actually get to know me, outside of my books. I made sure my suitcase to be different and fun, so it stands out. My actual suitcase is an R2-D2, because I love Star Wars. I've included some plush toys, which is something that I always bring on school visits. I also had some video game magazines and comics, because I'm a huge nerd. I've also included a wig and mask, so kids can dress up, so they can be funny characters.



Follow up activity

Hey kids, you can make up your own virtual author suitcase. Pick your favourite author or illustrator. Imagine that you were going to introduce your friends, class or another school to this author.



What kind of things would you include?

Here are some suggestions:

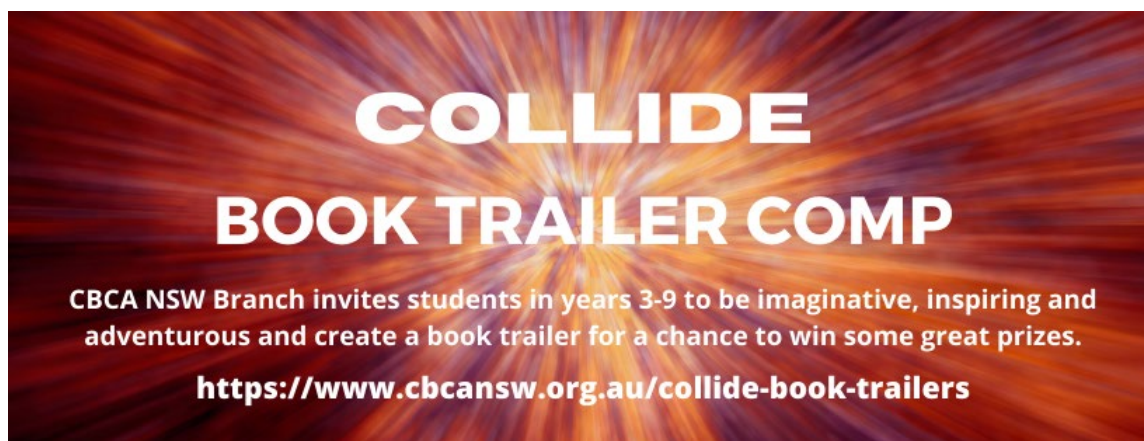
- lists of books
- objects that relate to the books or the characters
- quotes from the author from their website or blogs featuring their books
- relevant YouTube clips
- reviews of the books by the kids
- a list of Q & A for a potential author visit
- Try to find out what your favourite author likes and dislikes. Then add something that could connect to their own interests.



SUITCASE LIST FOR MY AUTHOR OR ILLUSTRATOR

BITS OF CBCA BOOK WEEK – COLLIDE

<https://www.cbcansw.org.au/collide-book-trailer>



Create your own book trailers based on one of the 2021 CBCA NOTABLE BOOKS

THREE CATEGORIES:

Year 3-4 | Years 5-6 | Years 7-9

KEY DATES

- Trailers can be submitted until August 2, 2021
- The winner in each category will be announced and the Book Trailer shown at our 2021 Kids Book of the Year Event – **KBOYE** on August 20, 2021

PRIZES

Thanks to Tristan Bancks the winning student from each category will win a student subscription to his Young Writers' Story School.
Each winning student will also receive a \$250 Book Voucher thanks to Rotary North Sydney.

Check out the **2020 WINNERS:**

<https://www.cbcansw.org.au/collide-book-trailers-winners>

Top feedback from our 2020 judges:

Make sure you ask someone to edit your video for correct spelling and punctuation.



Check our website for some special hints for making great videos with **THANKS** to our judges: **Tristan Bancks, Deb Abela and Nathan Luff.**

BITS OF CBCA BOOK WEEK - KBOYE



CBCA NSW Branch KIDS BOOK OF THE YEAR EVENT



- ✚ Friday 20 August 2021 online @ 11.15 - 12.00 (on demand after)
- ✚ 2 sessions – High School and Primary School

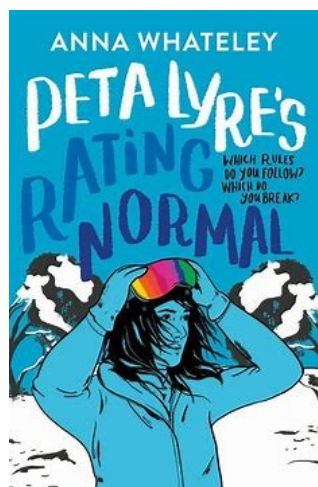
Free for CBCA member schools & Individual Members

\$25.00 Non-member schools

BOOK NOW: <https://www.trybooking.com/BRNDD>

for the opportunity to win a bundle of books for your school.

JOIN OUR GUEST SPEAKERS:



2021 SHORTLISTED AUTHOR ANNA WHATELEY

<https://annawhateley.com/petalyre/>

will share with HIGH SCHOOL students her title:

PETA LYRE'S RATING NORMAL

Peta Lyre's Rating Norma is a contemporary YA novel set in suburban Brisbane bayside, and follows sixteen-year-old Peta through a difficult year of change, and questions of self, gender, sexuality, and friendship. Peta has ADHD and is autistic. With sensory issues and a gift for words and puzzles her mind is a busy place.

Following her therapist's rules for 'normal' behaviour, Peta lives in a state of dissonance. Can she decide which rules to follow, and which to break? Can she survive falling in love, and still keep rating normal?



and **NAT AMOORE** <https://www.natamoore.com/>

who will share with PRIMARY STUDENTS **THE RIGHT WAY TO ROCK**

Mac comes from a family of rock! As far as his mum is concerned, there is no other acceptable music. But Mac's secret passion for Broadway musicals cannot be kept down.

When he meets Flynn, another Broadway enthusiast and joins Watterson's Secret Society Of Broadway Musical Appreciation (aka SSOBMA) his entire world changes.

Driven by a desire to 'Save The Arts', Mac's passion for music, his new friendship with Flynn and a whole lot of teamwork culminate in the creation of Watterson's first ever original musical – inventively titled 'Watterson: The Musical'. Let the show begin!



Hear from students reviewing the Older Readers CBCA Short List and the Younger Readers CBCA Short List for 2021.

CBCA Book of the Year winners will be announced online at noon hosted by CBCA SA Branch.



WRITE NOW



Write about a **WORLD** in the **PAST**, the **PRESENT** or the **FUTURE**
Write about something you can **SEE**, **HEAR**, or **TOUCH**



POETRY POWER with Wendy FITZGERALD

As a retired primary teacher, Wendy's favourite thing to do is to encourage kids to love reading and to write their own stories and poems. She's a past president of the CBCA NSW Branch Inc Northern Sydney Sub-Branch and she loves to teach creative writing workshops for kids at Kuring-gai Art Centre in Sydney.



POETRY POWER and HELLO TO HAIKU

Hi - I'm **Wendy Fitzgerald** and I like to play with words, rhythm, and rhyme. I like to jiggle ideas around and make patterns of words on a page. Sometimes, I like to write down my feelings. If I feel angry, or worried, or happy or sad - I write about it and something magic happens. I don't know why, but usually I start to feel better on the inside.

Today, we're going to write some very short poems - Haiku poems. Haiku is an old type of Japanese poetry with only 3 lines. Traditionally Haiku poems were written about nature or the environment. But today, you can write about anything you like as long as you follow this plan.

Choose a topic- (try writing about something you love to do)

1. Make a list of words about your topic.
2. Clap as you say each word and count the syllables. Write that number next to the word.
3. Play around with your words and create your haiku.
4. Remember to use this pattern-

First line - must have 5 syllables.

Second line - must have 7 syllables.

Third line - must have 5 syllables.

Here are some Haiku poems I made up.

<i>Listen for whispers that are hiding inside your imagination.</i>	<i>Keys of black and white hammer out a funky beat on my piano</i>	<i>Make pictures with words. Breathe in the smells and senses. Hear thoughts pop like corn.</i>
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Maybe you'd like to write some funny haikus.

<i>Sometimes mum gets mad. Don't know why she yells at me. I love making mess.</i>	<i>My dog is the best. He likes to eat my homework. I tell him not to.</i>	<i>My teacher made me sit here and write a haiku. I'll just write one more.</i>
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Now you've got the idea, so . . .

*Jump in, have a go.
Don't feel afraid. It's time now.
Time to sit down and ...*

*Magic those whispers
that are hiding inside your
imagination.*
Cheers - WENDY FITZGERALD



WAYS WITH WORDS - DESERT, DESERTIFICATION, DROUGHT

“Desertification is the degradation of land in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas. It is caused primarily by human activities and climatic variations. Desertification does not refer to the expansion of existing deserts. It occurs because dryland ecosystems, which cover over one third of the world's land area, are extremely vulnerable to overexploitation and inappropriate land use. Poverty, political instability, deforestation, overgrazing and bad irrigation practices can all undermine the productivity of the land.”

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/desertification-day>

NAIDOC WEEK JULY 4-11

HEAL COUNTRY, HEAL OUR NATION

NAIDOC Week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

*“Country is inherent to our identity.
It sustains our lives in every aspect - spiritually,
physically, emotionally, socially, and culturally.*

It is more than a place.



When we talk about Country it is spoken of like a person.

Country is family, kin, law, lore, ceremony, traditions, and language. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples it has been this way since the dawn of time.

Through our languages and songs, we speak to Country; through our ceremonies and traditions we sing to - and celebrate Country – and Country speaks to us.

Increasingly, we worry about Country.

For generations Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been calling for stronger measures to recognise, protect, and maintain all aspects of our culture and heritage for all Australians.

We have continued to seek greater protections for our lands, our waters, our sacred sites and our cultural heritage from exploitation, desecration, and destruction.”

<https://www.naidoc.org.au/get-involved/2021-theme>



NAIDOC POSTER 2021

The 2021 National NAIDOC Poster, 'Care for Country' was designed by Gubbi Gubbi (the sunshine Coast region of Queensland) artist **Maggie-Jean Douglas**.

Maggie-Jean has always 'had an appreciation for anything that involved creating' and her earliest memories of being inspired by art came from her Aunty's artworks.

Her artwork, **Care for Country**, is about how Country has cared for and healed First Nations.

CARE FOR COUNTRY

*When creating **Care for Country**, I kept in mind that this meant spiritually, physically, emotionally, socially and culturally.*


I choose to create a bright and vibrant artwork that included the different colours of the land but showed how they came together in our beautiful country and to make people feel hopeful for the future.

I've included communities, people, animals and bush medicines spread over different landscapes of red dirt, green grass, bush land and coastal areas to tell the story of the many ways country can and has healed us throughout our lives and journey.

Maggie-Jean Douglas



LINKS 4 U – this information was adapted from:

 <https://www.naidoc.org.au/news/maggie-jean-douglas-wins-2021-national-naidoc-poster-competition>

 Gubbi Gubbi artist wins coveted NAIDOC Poster competition

 <https://www.naidoc.org.au/news/gubbi-gubbi-artist-wins-coveted-naidoc-poster-competition>







 **NAIDOC LOGOS and BANNERS** <https://www.naidoc.org.au/resources/naidoc-logo-and-banners>




ENVIRONMENT – OCEANS – DESERTIFICATION



Taking care of our world can be as basic as:

-  picking up your own rubbish or taking it home to recycle.
-  making sure your family and friends plan and use recycling bins at home – so, clean up your room and the outside and earn money with the recycling stations around your town.
-  using every bit of food - excellent for budding chefs inventing new food combinations.
-  eating healthy food - fresh IS best. Local produce is cheaper and easier to access.
-  cutting down on the amount of junk plastic you use and collect. Do you really NEED those latest gimmicks available with burgers at 'drive thru'?
-  **There are many days and ways throughout the year to keep our efforts and minds on the many aspects of caring for the environment.**

✚ Check the Australian Government's Calendar of Key Agriculture, Water and Environment Events 2021 . For example:

<p><u>WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY</u> 5 June REIMAGINE.RECREATE.RESTORE</p>	 <p>LET'S SAVE THE WORLD TOGETHER World Environment Day: 5 June World Ocean Day: 8 June</p>	<p><u>WORLD OCEANS DAY</u> 8 June THE OCEAN: LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS</p>
<p><u>WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT (17 June)</u></p>		

FIND OUT ABOUT KIDS MAKING A DIFFERENCE with BTN specials:

✚ **BTN Sustainability special**

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/environmental-sustainability-special/12133114>

✚ **Greta's passionate UN Speech**

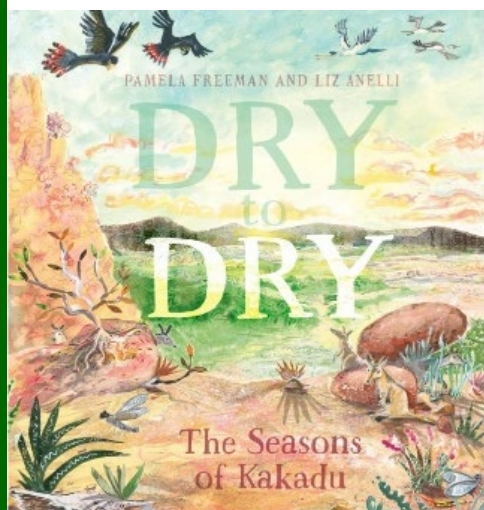
<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/newsbreak/gretas-un-speech/11542200>

✚ **Climate Change Court Battle 9 March 2021** **BTN**

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/amsterdam2022/13214900>

✚ **Clean-up Australia**

<https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/clean-up-australia/13215162>



BOOKS WITH ENVIRONMENTAL THEMES

Dry to Dry: the Seasons of Kakadu (Walker Books)

by **Pamela Freeman** <https://www.pamelafreeman.com/> and

Illustrated by **Liz Anelli** <https://lizanelli-illustration.com>

Seasons of the year and how they influence the environment in the diverse environments of Kakadu.

"Illustrating the thousands of living things contained in this book took a lot of trekking up waterfalls, crouching in mosquito infested bushes and avoiding crocodiles. Followed by months in my studio painting, drawing, cutting and sticking. It was all totally worth it." - Liz Anelli

See how Liz creates the illustrations

<https://lizanelli-illustration.com/project/dry-to-dry/>

Liz Anelli's process for ***Dry to Dry*** – Youtube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6C6ManZKU5U>

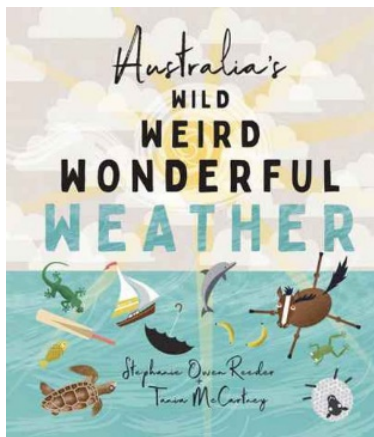
Iceberg (Allen & Unwin) by **Claire Saxby** <https://clairesaxby.wordpress.com/>

Illustrated by **Jess Racklyeft** <https://jessesmess.com/>

Antarctic nights and star-filled skies signal the start of our journey as we follow an iceberg through seasons after it plunges into the ocean.

An iceberg is born into spring and travels through the seasons before dying in a new spring.





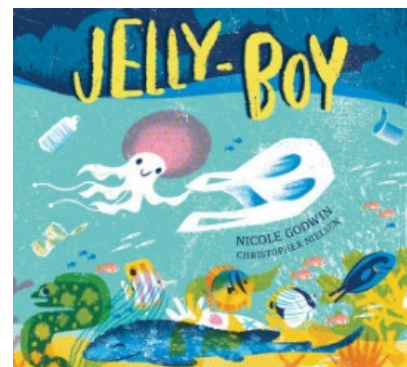
Australia's Wild Weird Wonderful Weather (NLA Publishing)
by **Stephanie Owen Reader** <https://stephanieowenreeder.com/>
Illustrated by **Tania McCartney** <http://www.taniamccartney.com/>

We had so much fun collaborating on this book, finding out all sorts of amazingly weird and wonderful things about the weather in general, and Australia's weather in particular. This included everything from hamburger-shaped raindrops to snow falls on Uluru and flying dolphins. We were also impressed by Indigenous weather knowledge, amazed at how animals can sense the weather and alarmed by the effects of climate change.

Stephanie Owen Reeder

Jelly-Boy (Walker Books) by **Nicole Godwin** <https://nicolegodwin.com/>
Illustrated by **Christopher Nielsen** <http://www.chrisillo.com/> (Walker Books)

What happens when a jellyfish falls in love with a plastic bag she mistakes for a jelly-boy?



HOPE: 50 Ways to Help Our Planet Every Day Penguin Random House Australia

Help Our Planet Every day. From the city to the country to the coast, we all live in different ways. We share this one world and can make it better by sharing the facts, practical tips, activities in this simple guide to making a difference. Don't be afraid to start! PRH

READ ON AND ON AND ON . . . NEW BOOKS



The Cat Thief - Pat Simmons
www.patsimmonswriter.com.au
illus by Liz Duthie
<https://www.lizduthie.com/>
Little Pink Dog Books
<https://littlepinkdogbooks.com/the-cat-thief/>

Olive wants a cat...badly! She's desperate. She's determined. But the local cats are NOT impressed. Will Olive find just the right cat? Release date JULY 2021



Can't Say It Went to Plan - Gabrielle Tozer
<https://gabrielletozer.com/> (A & R)

When school is over EVERYONE goes on Schoolies to celebrate - unless:
-your best friend dies. your parents decide you are NOT going, your boyfriend bales out, you stand up for a rock star groupie, or you actually miss being away from your family. Then, you can't say it went to plan.

The Ballad of Melodie Rose

Kate Gordon – UQP

From the author of *The Heartsong of Wonder Quinn* comes a life-affirming tale of belonging, being brave and being seen.

When Melodie Rose is abandoned on the doorstep of Direleafe Hall, she realises she must be a ghost. Strangely, she is not sad. With the three other ghostly girls who haunt the school and a gloomy crow on her shoulder, Melodie has never felt more at peace. Finally, she has a place to call home.

So, when the Lady in White arrives with plans to flatten the beloved school, Melodie Rose must act fast to save all she holds dear. But what can one powerless ghost do?



Enjoy the holidays with lots to read and discover. Do something different.



Try setting a different kind of alphabet goal to complete over the break – like eating some food to match *each letter of the alphabet* OR finding a street name around your area for *each letter of the alphabet* OR using a new word for *each letter of the alphabet*. OR. . . make up a suitcase starring YOU as the FAMOUS PERSON OR choose three types of exercise like push-ups and add doing 5 more of each one each day.

OR. . . do something good for the environment each day and make a difference in your neighbourhood OR . . . READ good books! – OFCOURSE!

Happy reading always. Cheers- Morrie and Jackie

This issue of **KC** was compiled by Jackie Hawkes with the help of LOTS of people who love reading, writing, and thinking. Your ideas for **KIDS' CORNER** are always welcome. jackie.hawkes7@gmail.com

