

Telling TALES

Scorpio Children's Books



PICTURE BOOKS



The Lighthouse Princess
SUSAN WARDELL, ROSE NORTHEY (ILLUS.) (PUFFIN)
PB NZ TITLE \$19.99

The Lighthouse Princess is almost perfectly happy. She takes care of the light that keeps ships at sea safe, catches fish off the balcony and swims with penguins and seals. But one day, a little fishing boat with green sails sets out just as a storm blows up... Poet Susan Wardell's debut picture book is a celebration of independence and friendship, with magical and award-winning illustrations by Rose Northey. 3+



My Mum is Queen of the Road
JENNIFER BECK, LISA ALLEN (HUIA)
PB NZ TITLE \$22.00

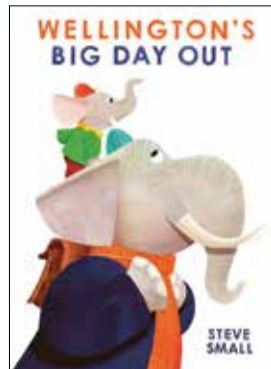
Ari and Isabella play with trucks and diggers, making roads in a sandpit. Ari tells Isabella that his mother is a roadworker and is called Queen of the Road. Isabella asks, does she wear diamonds? Does she sit on a throne? Ari answers no, and Isabella is puzzled until Ari reveals that when his mum turns her sign to Go, everyone cheers and waves at her – just like a queen. Also available in te reo Māori. 3+



A Perfect Wonderful Day with Friends
PHILIP WAECHTER (GECKO PRESS)
HB \$29.99 OUT IN JUN

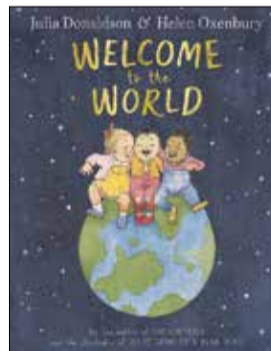
Raccoon decides to bake an apple cake. But he has no eggs, so visits his friend Fox, who needs a ladder to mend the roof. Badger will have one, but he needs help too, so they set off to find Bear. They stroll through meadows, meet up with Crow, nibble blackberries and find Bear fishing at the river. Laconic narration, ▶

funny dialogue and exquisite illustrations tell the story of a carefree day – a picture book to instantly capture the heart. 4+



Wellington's Big Day Out
STEVE SMALL (SIMON & SCHUSTER CHILDRENS BOOKS)
HB \$22.99

When Wellington is given a new jacket exactly like Dad's for his birthday, at first he's delighted. But his delight turns to disappointment when he discovers that it's too big. And what if it's not that the jacket is too big, but that he's too small? Well, Wellington's dad has a plan, and on an exciting day out Wellington learns that he's growing up exactly as fast as he should be. 3+



Welcome to the World
JULIA DONALDSON, HELEN OXENBURY (ILLUS.) (PUFFIN)
HB \$28.00 OUT IN JUL

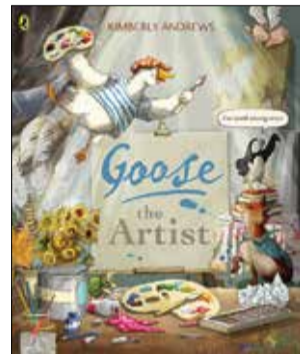
A joyful poem that explores new senses, people, places and experiences that babies and young children are having for the very first time. From the comfort of home to the adventure of the great outdoors, from family to first encounters with nature, *Welcome to the World* revels in the joy that comes with sharing this new world with children, and seeing it through their eyes. 3+



The Comet
JOE TODD-STANTON (FLYING EYE BOOKS)
HB \$32.99 OUT IN JUL

When Nyla has to leave her home in the countryside to start ▶

life again in the city, all she can think about is everything she misses from before. An exquisite and heartfelt picture book about the bewildering experience of moving house and how this can affect a child's sense of belonging, but also how it can open them up to new and wonderful experiences. 3+



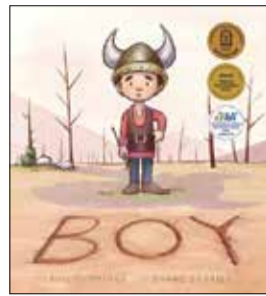
Goose the Artist
KIMBERLY ANDREWS (PUFFIN)
PB NZ TITLE \$19.99

Meet Goose, a passionate artist who wants to create a PERFECT portrait and win the village art competition. As Goose paints and paints to make the perfect picture, the deadline draws closer, the pressure mounts and Goose feels the cherished award slipping further and further out of reach. Then disaster strikes. Will anything or anyone help our tortured hero? 3+



Elephant Island
LEO TIMMERS (GECKO PRESS)
HB \$29.99

Caught in a storm, Arnold the elephant washes up on a tiny island. Along comes Mouse in a little dingy and Arnold steps aboard... uh-oh! They use the wreckage to make the island bigger. And here's Dog – can this boat take Arnold's weight? Uh-oh! None of the animals can save the shipwrecked elephant but each broken vessel provides new materials for another intricate construction. Soon there is a whole community and enough space for everyone! 3+



Boy
PHILLIP CUMMINGS (SCHOLASTIC)
PB \$19.99 OUT IN JUN

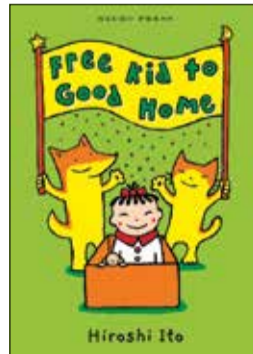
A war between the king and the dragon is tearing the land apart. Unknowingly, Boy runs into the middle of a fight. With a simple question, he makes them wonder why they are fighting, and helps them see how they could be much happier. A tender tale of power and perception. 3+ ▶

EARLY READERS



Little Tales of Hedgehog and Goat
PAULA GREEN, KIMBERLEY ANDREWS (ILLUS.) (PUFFIN)
PB NZ TITLE \$19.99 OUT IN JUL

A delightful illustrated novel for children, full of adventure and wisdom, tall stories and tiny poems. Goat is looking at the sky and dreaming of a best friend when she hears a strange squeaking coming from a ball of prickles. It's Hedgehog, and she is crying. This is the beginning of a most unexpected friendship. Though Goat is a creature of the day and Hedgehog hunts at night, life in their rolling paddock will never be lonely or boring again. 6+

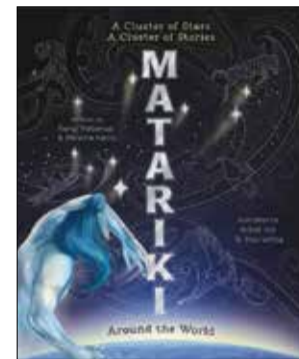


Free Kid to Good Home
HIROSHI ITO (GECKO PRESS)
PB \$19.99 OUT IN JUN

'When my potato-faced baby brother arrived, I realized I ▶

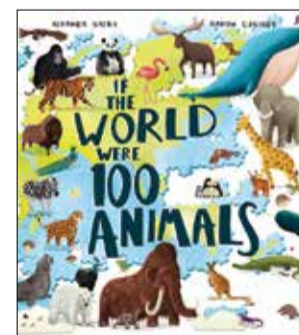
needed a new family. I took a box and used my best handwriting to write 'FREE KID', then waited for some new parents to take me home.' But waiting in a box like an abandoned pet changes the girl's perspective. This comical twist on sibling rivalry is translated from an enduring Japanese bestseller, now in its 31st edition. 5+ ▶

NON-FICTION



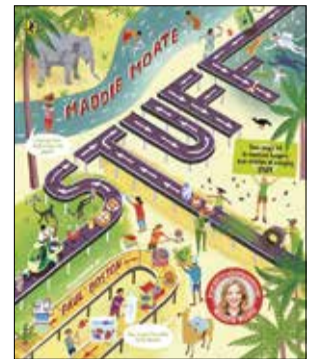
Matariki Around the World
MIRIAMA KAMO, RANGI MATAMUA, ISOBEL JOY TEAHO-WHITE (ILLUS.) (SCHOLASTIC)
HB NZ TITLE \$34.99 OUT IN JUN

The Matariki constellation is known by many different names and is celebrated by many cultures around the world. This beautifully illustrated book features 9 stories that explore the Māori Matariki stars, and 12 stories from different cultures around the globe that also reference this constellation. This beautifully illustrated collection of Matariki stories is a resource to treasure in homes, schools and libraries across Aotearoa New Zealand and the wider world. 5+



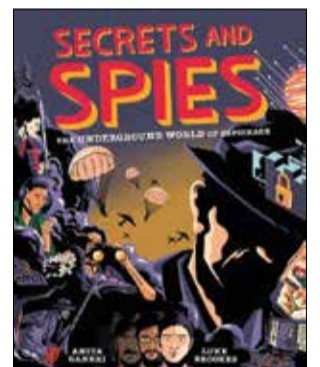
If the World Were 100 Animals
MIRANDA SMITH, AARON CUSHLEY (ILLUS.) (RED SHED)
HB \$22.99

There are estimated to be around 20 quintillion animals living on Earth, but it's tricky to picture so many animals! Instead, let's imagine just 100 animals at a time... What does this look like? How are animals divided up? Where in the world can wild mammals be found? And how 'wild' are they really? This book includes tips on how to protect the world we share – promoting empathy and supporting children in becoming global citizens. 5+



Stuff: Eco-Stories of Everyday Stuff
MADDIE MOATE, PAUL BOSTON (ILLUS.) (PUFFIN)
HB \$35.99

Do you ever wonder where your stuff comes from, and what happens to it when you're finished with it? Did you know that you can make paper out of elephant poo? And plastic packaging out of seaweed? This book is full of mind-bursting facts and extraordinary stories of the ingenious ways people around the world, and across history, have made, used and re-used the stuff around them. 6+



Secrets and Spies
ANITA GANERI, LUKE BROOKES (ILLUS.) (LITTLE TIGER)
HB \$44.99

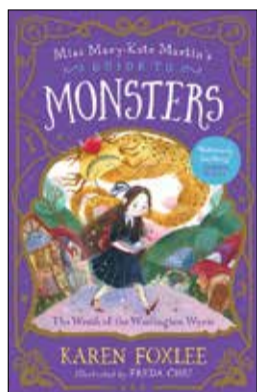
Prepare to go undercover and enter a world of secret missions, covert operations and classified information. Explore the history of espionage from ancient secret agents to modern-day surveillance, and read about the lives of infamous spies and their missions. Learn the language of spies and how to read codes and ciphers, then ask yourself the all-important question – could you be a spy? 7+ ▶

CHILDREN'S FICTION



Amorangi and Millie's Trip Through Time
LAUREN KEENAN (HUIA)
PB NZ TITLE \$26.00

Amorangi and Millie lost their mum. Their only clue to her whereabouts is a carving on a tree that says, 'I'm in the past! Rescue me!' To do this, Amorangi and Millie must travel up every branch of their family tree and collect an object from each ancestor they meet. But can they do it in time? In their travels, the children experience events in New Zealand history, along with changes in the town and landscape, the attitudes of people and the way they live their lives. 7+



The Wrath of the Woolington Wyrms: Miss Mary-Kate Martin's Guide to Monsters I
KAREN FOXLEE (ALLEN & UNWIN)
PB \$16.99

Dressed in sparkly red shoes and carrying her strawberry-scented notebook, Miss Mary-Kate Martin is accompanying her archaeologist mother to the tranquil English countryside to investigate some interesting bones found in an old well. But once they arrive, they realise that the village of Woolington is not as peaceful as it seems. Mary-Kate might be anxious but she is not afraid to get to the bottom of this monstrous mystery. 8+



Masher
FIFI COLSTON (PUFFIN)
PB NZ TITLE \$18.99

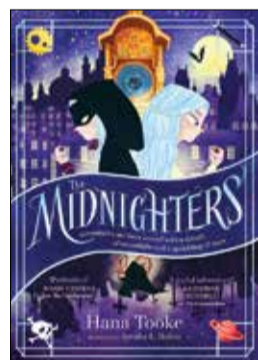
Twelve-year-old Freddie Foxworthy just wants to do arts and crafts. He finds them a lot easier to deal with than his peers, and far more rewarding. His latest project is to create a glove puppet from

papier-mâché. But when ashes from his metalhead neighbour's deceased bull terrier get into the mix, he finds he has accidentally made a growling puppet with an unpredictable mouth! A warm and funny novel about animal companions, imaginary friends, perceived enemies and finding your happy place. 8+



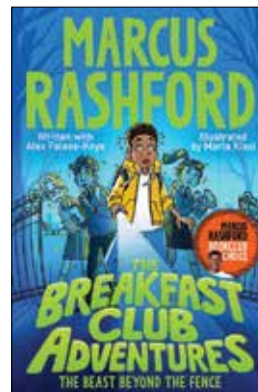
Hedgewitch
SKYE MCKENNA (WELLBECK)
HB \$24.99

When Cassie runs away from her dreary boarding school, in search of her missing mother, she ends up in the magical village of Hedgely and discovers she comes from a family of witches – women who protect Britain from the denizens of Faerie, who are all too real and far more frightening than the story books suggest. 9+



The Midnighters
HANA TOOKE (PUFFIN)
PB \$21.00 OUT IN JUL

In a family of scientists, there's not much room for superstition or omens – but they seem to follow Ema Vasková wherever she goes. When she is sent to stay with her eccentric uncle in Prague, she meets kindred spirit Silvie, and soon the girls are meeting for secret midnight adventures. But when Silvie goes missing, Ema must gather the courage to uncover the secrets of the one clue Silvie left as to her whereabouts – inside the mysterious Midnight Guild... 9+



The Breakfast Club Adventures: The Beast Beyond the Fence
MARCUS RASHFORD (MACMILLAN)
PB \$19.99

When twelve-year-old Marcus kicks his favourite football over the school fence, he knows he's never getting it back. Nothing

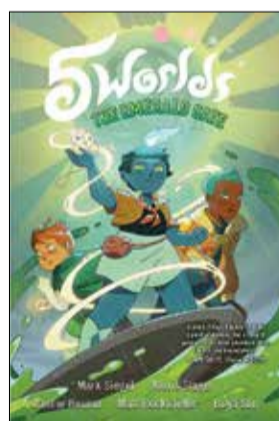
that goes over that wall ever comes back. But when Marcus gets a mysterious note inviting him to join the Breakfast Club Investigators, he is soon pulled into an exciting adventure with his new mates to solve the mystery and get his football back! This is a wild story full of fun-filled friendships, fantastical creatures and incredible investigations. 8+



The Lost Whale
HANNAH GOLD (HARPERCOLLINS)
HB \$22.99

Rio has been sent to live with a grandmother he barely knows in California, while his mum is in hospital back home. Alone and adrift, the only thing that makes him smile is joining his new friend Marina on her dad's whale watching trips, until an incredible encounter with White Beak, a gentle giant of the sea, changes everything. Dive into this incredible story about the connection between a boy and a whale and the bond that sets them free. 8+ **I**

GRAPHIC NOVELS



The Emerald Gate (v5, 5 Worlds)
MARK SIEGEL, ALEXIS SIEGEL (RANDOM HOUSE)
PB \$24.00

In the epic conclusion to the 5 Worlds series, the final battle looms as Oona, Jax, and An Tzu travel to a treacherous world to light the last beacon to save the 5 Worlds – but first they have to find it! Unfortunately, the journey on this strange, watery planet is their most dangerous yet. This is the final instalment of the graphic sci-fi fantasy series that's *Star Wars* meets *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. 8+



Horse Trouble
KRISTIN VARNER (FIRST SECOND)
PB \$27.99

Twelve-year-old Kate is laser-focused on her one true passion: horse riding. There's nothing Kate loves more than being around horses. But her best friend is allergic to them, so Kate has to take riding lessons without her. Kate's life feels like one unfair punishment after another. Can she get over it all... and get back on her horse? 8+



The Science of Surfing: A Surfside Girls Guide to the Ocean
KIM DWINELL (IDW)
PB \$21.00

The ocean is packed with plants, animals, water... and science! Ride the waves of knowledge with Sam and Jade as they explain all about the amazing wonders of the sea, and have a blast doing it. Have you ever wondered why the ocean has waves? Why do the tides change with the moon? Can dolphins really 'see' using sound? How does surfing actually work? *The Science of Surfing* is the coolest way to take a beach holiday and learn at the same time. 9+ **I**

YOUNG TEEN



Skandar and the Unicorn Thief
A.F. STEADMAN (SIMON & SCHUSTER)
HB \$22.99

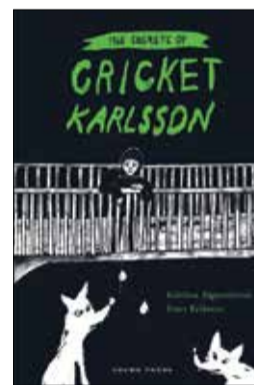
Soar into a world where unicorns are real – and deadly. They can only be tamed by the rider who hatches them. Skandar has only ever wanted to be a unicorn rider, and the time has finally come for him to take his Hatching Exam. But when the mysterious Weaver steals the most powerful unicorn in the

world, becoming a rider proves a lot more dangerous than he could ever have imagined. Get ready for unlikely heroes, elemental magic, fierce sky battles and ancient secrets. 10+



Mars Awakens
H.M. WAUGH (ALLEN & UNWIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS)
PB \$18.99

Raised in rival colonies on Mars, Dee and Holt have been brought up to hate even the idea of each other. But when a mysterious object crash-lands on a far-flung plain, they are both sent to investigate and their fates intertwine. Together they must battle epic storms and deadly bioclods while unpicking the web of lies they have been told about their planet. Will their bond be strong enough to withstand the arrival of a mysterious invader? 10+



The Secrets of Cricket Karlsson
KRISTINA SIGUNSDOTTER (GECKO PRESS)
PB \$19.99

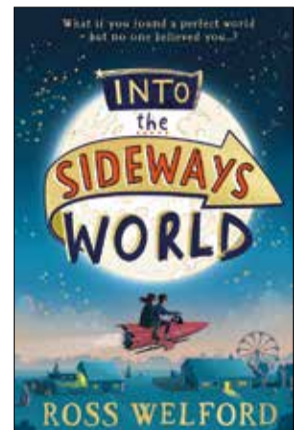
Cricket is going to become an artist just like her aunt, who loves cheese and always speaks her mind. Not like Cricket's mother, who is always dieting and sighs at everything. But now Aunt Frannie has lost her joy and Cricket's best friend has dumped her for the horse girls. This is a liberating, heart-warming and unexpected story about growing up, fitting in and sorting out the adults in our lives. 10+



Northwind
GARY PAULSEN (MACMILLAN)
PB \$19.99

When a deadly plague reaches the small fish camp where he lives, an orphan named Leif is forced to take to the water in

a cedar canoe. He flees northward, following a wild, fjord-riven shore, thrown from one danger to the next. But the deeper into his journey he paddles, the closer Leif comes to his truest self as he connects to the heartbeat of the ocean, the pulse of the sea. *Northwind* is Gary Paulsen at his captivating, adventuresome best. 10+



Into the Sideways World
ROSS WELFORD (HARPER COLLINS)
PB \$16.99

When Willa and Manny hear of a mysterious animal prowling their town, they are determined to prove it is real. Following the creature into a cave one full moon, they are swept into an alternate, ideal, world – one where pollution and conflict have been conquered decades ago. But when they return, no one believes them. And with a global war looming in their own world, their quest for proof of the Sideways World becomes ever-more urgent. 10+



Nisha's War
DAN SMITH (CHICKEN HOUSE)
PB \$18.99

Nisha's home is destroyed by war and she and her mother, Amma, flee to her father's ancestral house in England. When Amma falls gravely ill, Nisha is left to face her formidable grandmother alone. Grandmother's rules are countless, and she is even forbidden from climbing the old weeping tree. But when a ghost child beckons Nisha to sit under its boughs, and promises her Amma's life in return for three truths, its pull proves irresistible. 10+ **I**