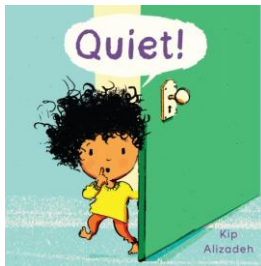


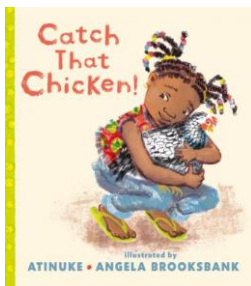
## Phonics in a Rich Reading Curriculum

### Developing Early Phonological Awareness:



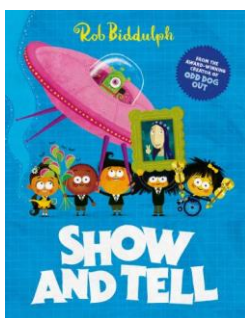
***Quiet!*** by Kip Alizadeh  
Child's Play, 9781846438882

A small brown skinned girl notes all the household sounds around her as she spends time throughout the day with her dad and baby brother. All the words for the onomatopoeic sounds are placed in the pictures beside the related object.



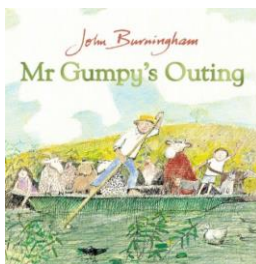
***Catch That Chicken!*** by Atinuke and Angela Brooksbank  
Walker, 9781406394504

No-one in Lami's village is as good at catching chickens as she is. Then, one day, she has an accident that means for a while she will not be able to chase chickens. However, resourceful Lami soon finds a solution! Angela Brooksbank's illustrations depict the busy life of the African village where Lami lives while Atinuke's brief text plays joyfully with alliteration and repetition.



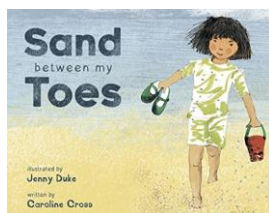
***Show and Tell*** by Rob Biddulph  
HarperCollins, 9780008318031

It's Show and Tell Day in Class 2L and each child has something more incredible than the last to display. And although the first item presented seems the most mundane it turns out to be the most magical. The children in this multi-ethnic class are introduced in alphabetical order and this, along with the rhyming text and the detail in the humorous illustrations, aids prediction and encourages joyful anticipation.



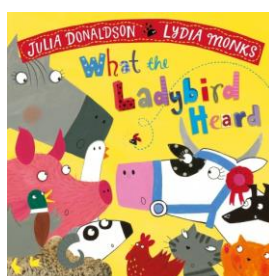
***Mr Gumpy's Outing*** by John Burningham  
Penguin, 9780099408796

Two children and a variety of animals insist on accompanying Mr. Gumpy on a boat trip - each request is a differently worded variation on the same basic theme. Despite his warnings to them not to get up to their usual tricks, the inevitable happens and they all fall in the water, but the day ends happily around the tea table.



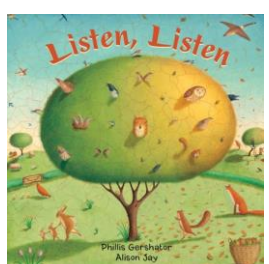
***Sand Between My Toes*** by Caroline Cross and Jenny Duke  
Child's Play, 9781786283498

Sparse rhyming text and carefully crafted language tells of a family's trip to the seaside, narrated by a young girl, and filled with familiar sensations and experiences: "Wave crashes, ball splashes. / Seaweed, shells, salty smells". The endpapers depict not only the passage of time as the sun is replaced by the moon, but also carries a memory of the day gone by, with the family's sandcastle standing proud on the beach.



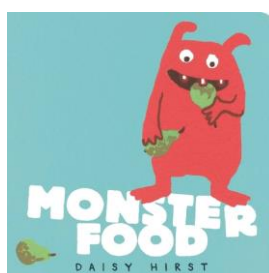
***What the Ladybird Heard*** by Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks  
Macmillan, 9781509862566

In this clever plotted rhyming tale, a ladybird overhears a secret plan to steal the prize cow. Through teamwork and communication the animals work together to foil the burglars and save the cow. The tactile illustrations feature an appealing, glittery ladybird to follow and feel throughout the story.



***Listen, Listen*** by Phillis Gershator and Alison Jay  
Barefoot Books, 9781846862014

Rhyming text – with the repeated invitation to “listen, listen” – and onomatopoeia come together to lead the young reader through an atmospheric series of seasonal landscapes and settings. Alison Jay's warm illustrations come with a clever cracked paint effect, like an aging canvas. The book closes with a 'search and find' image for each of the four seasons. Available in board book format only.



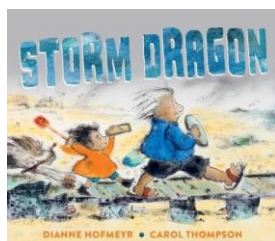
***Monster Food*** by Daisy Hirst  
Walker, 9781406389401

Learn all about the favourite foods of monsters in this light-hearted and engaging board book, with bold and friendly illustrations that will greatly appeal to young readers. Hirst's patterned rhyming text encourages prediction and leads to unexpected surprises: a spread showing monsters sensibly eating noodles and stew is followed by one of a little monster munching on a shoe. A playful read, and a lovely introduction to topics of food and nutrition.



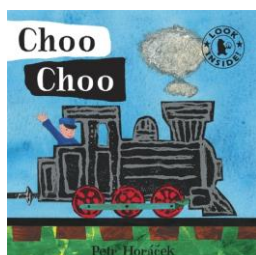
***Monster Clothes*** by Daisy Hirst  
Walker, 9781406389418

This delightfully engaging board book shows a series of colourful little monsters sporting alliterative outfits...but does it always have to be clothes? Hirst's playful text continually subverts linguistic expectations: we see Harriet wearing a hat, and Terrence? He tries on a tomato. Great for capturing the early experience of getting dressed, with bold and friendly illustrations that early readers will enjoy.



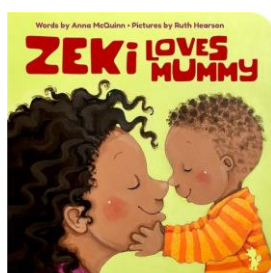
***Storm Dragon***, by Dianne Hofmeyr and Carol Thompson  
Otter-Barry Books, 9781913074272

A grandfather and grandchild engage in a day of imaginative outdoor play, exploring the beach on a wild and windy day and searching for dragons. This atmospheric book is packed with onomatopoeia and evocative language, formatted with different fonts and in speech bubbles, while the swirling and scrappy mixed media illustrations perfectly capture the sensations of a stormy day at the beach.



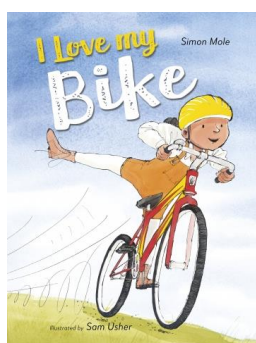
***Choo Choo*** by Petr Horáček  
Walker, 9781406325065

This engaging board book follows a noisy train on its journey over bridges and through tunnels to reach the seaside. Filled with onomatopoeia and prepositions, and with cut-out pages showing the rolling, changing landscape.



***Zeki Loves Mummy*** by Anna McQuinn and Ruth Hearson  
Alanna Max, 9781907825330

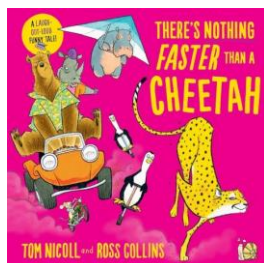
Spend a day in the company of Zeki and his mummy as they build dens, do yoga, paint pictures and cuddle on the sofa, told in rhyming text. Filled with carefully crafted moments shared between mother and child, and small relatable details in Hearson's illustrations that children will love poring over.



***I Love My Bike*** by Simon Mole and Sam Usher  
Frances Lincoln, 9780711256217

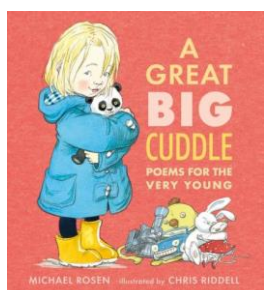
The unity of text and illustration in this book perfectly captures the ups and downs of learning to ride a bike for the first time. Sam Usher's ink and watercolour illustrations show the physicality of the young girl as she pedals, wobbles, swerves, and leans forward with determination. There is a poetry to Simon Mole's language, moving effortlessly from pacey to reflective, its

rhythms, rhymes, alliteration and vowel sounds fitting together like links in a bicycle chain. Depicts a mixed heritage family, a wonderful father-daughter relationship, and sings the joys of perseverance.



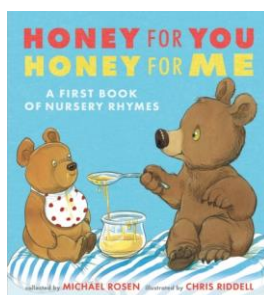
***There's Nothing Faster than a Cheetah***, by Tom Nicoll and Ross Collins  
 Macmillan, 9781529060553

A dynamic and entertaining picturebook, narrated by two unseen voices, in which a series of alliterative animals attempts to beat a cheetah in a race with increasingly absurd results - if a hippo in a hang-glider fails to be faster, perhaps squirrels on snowmobiles will succeed? Perfect for fans of the Oi Frog series, Cheetah also features two comedic twists, and a graphic showcasing the top speeds of all the animals depicted.



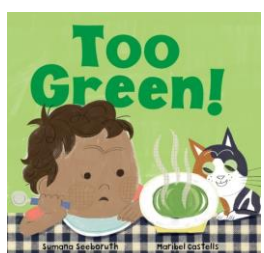
***A Great Big Cuddle*** by Michael Rosen and Chris Riddell  
 Walker, 9781406373462

Subtitled 'Poems for the Very Young', this is a collection children can have fun and identify with, enabling them to see the point of poetry. There are high production values surrounding this large and beautiful book with a happy marriage between word and pictures, the illustrations being like another version of each poem. The design of each spread is a joy, incorporating the use of different colours and sizes of fonts. The language is playful and rhythmic and impossible to read out loud without wanting to share it.



***Honey for You, Honey for Me*** by Michael Rosen and Chris Riddell  
 Walker, 9781406374636

A companion volume to *A Great Big Cuddle* and a collaboration between two former Children's Laureates, this is a first collection of nursery rhymes for the very young, packed full of rhymes, rhythms and onomatopoeia, perfect for sharing together and reading aloud. Familiar playground and bedtime songs sit alongside hidden gems, all of which are accompanied by exuberant illustrations and inviting, colourful design.

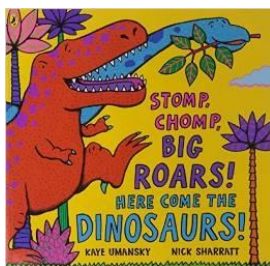


***Too Green!*** by Sumana Seeboruth and Maribel Castells  
 Barefoot Books, 9781646869930

Barefoot's 'Feelings & Firsts' board book series is perfectly designed to help toddlers to navigate early experiences and emotions. In *Too Green!*, a child works up the courage to try a new food for the first time after he helps his two mums to prepare the meal. Packed with lively rhymes and

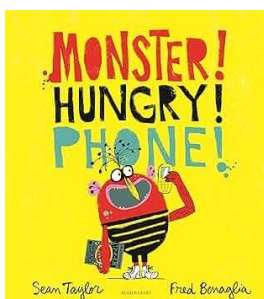


onomatopoeia - "Drizzle sizzle, whizz and whirr!" - with inclusive illustrations in a vibrant, retro style.



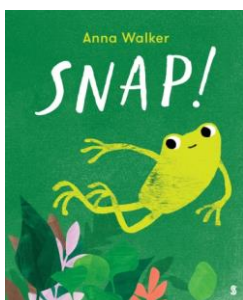
***Stomp, Chomp, Big Roars! Here Come the Dinosaurs!*** by Kaye Umansky and Nick Sharratt  
 Penguin, 9780140569353

Huge dinosaurs in luminous colours stomp, chomp and romp across the pages of this picture book of poems which can quickly be memorised. The poems are short and lively with dynamic rhythms, sometimes substituting dinosaur lyrics for those of well known rhymes: "One, two,/Three, four, five,/Five fat dinosaurs/Take a dive".



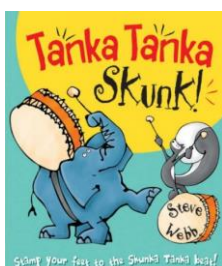
***Monster! Hungry! Phone!*** by Sean Taylor and Fred Benaglia  
 Bloomsbury, 9781526606808

Anarchic ink-splatter illustrations accompany this comedic story of a hungry and increasingly frustrated monster, who struggles to order a pizza because his mobile phone keeps redirecting his call. He gets through to a jaguar in Nicaragua, a ping-pong-playing panda, and even a space alien, but will he ever get the pizza he craves? An expressive, patterned text, in which the monster gets even more frazzled after each call, and featuring onomatopoeia, rhymes and repetition that make this a great text for reading aloud.



***Snap!*** by Anna Walker  
 Scribble, 9781914484346

A delightful book about a little frog's adventures in the forest, told entirely through onomatopoeia. Its lively, rhyming and alliterative language, coupled with an engaging patterned narrative and playful and dynamic text formatting, make this the perfect book for supporting engagement and predictions from the youngest of readers. *Snap!* is a joy to read and share aloud, with bright, expressive illustrations in both natural and vibrant tones which evoke the sensory atmosphere of a day in the forest. Even the endpapers carry meaning and delight: in the beginning, Frog's nervous little face peers out amidst a jungle of leaves; by the end, Frog is surrounded by friends, all happily peeping out from the undergrowth.

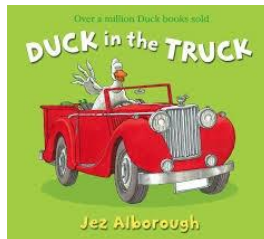


***Tanka Tanka Skunk!*** by Steve Webb  
 Penguin, 9780099439776

An elephant and a skunk set up a rhythmic repetitive drumbeat with which readers are encouraged to join in. Their other animal friends ranging from a

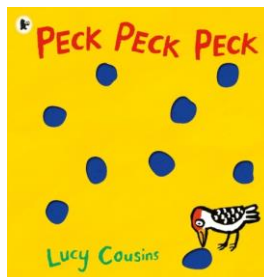
kangaroo to a spider enter the game with each syllable of their names forming a beat. Each animal is clearly labelled against a background of big blocks of colour.

## Introducing Blending and Segmenting – The Basic Code



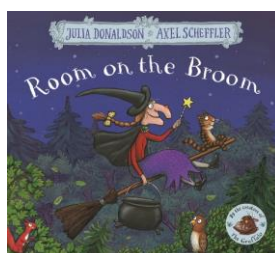
***Duck in the Truck*** by Jez Alborough  
HarperCollins, 9780007302628

A rollicking rhyme reminiscent of 'The House That Jack Built'. Duck's truck gets stuck in the muck and he enlists the help of other passing animals to get him out of this sticky situation, featuring hilarious comic-strip style illustrations.



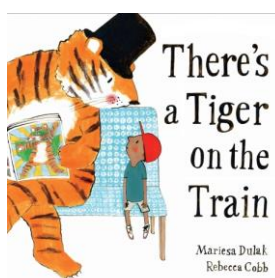
***Peck Peck Peck*** by Lucy Cousins  
Walker, 9781406355475

An exuberant text with a clever die-cut design feature. Follow along as a little woodpecker practises his new-found pecking skills, pecking holes in a tree, a gate, a door, and into a house where he pecks at all the objects, food and furniture inside. As he pecks, more and more holes appear in the book's pages, adding another level of engagement to the reading experience. With repetitive, rhyming text, and illustrated in Cousins' characteristically bold and bright style.



***Room on the Broom*** by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler  
Macmillan, 9781509804771

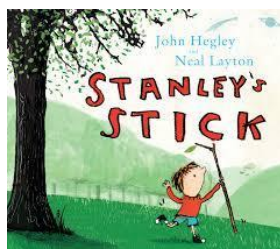
A witch takes several animals that have helped her find lost things up on her broom as passengers. In a climactic moment, the frog jumps for joy and the broomstick snaps in two, putting the witch in unexpected danger. With the aid of the witch's companions, a resolution is reached in this rollicking rhyme.



***There's a Tiger on the Train***, by Mariessa Dulak and Rebecca Cobb  
Faber, 9780571368341

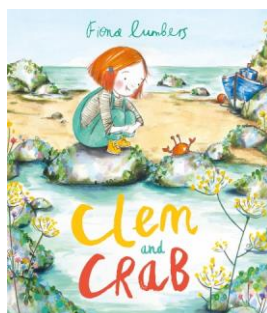
A tender and charming tale by a debut author in which a child and his father board a train, along with a cumulative parade of wild and wonderful animals, but the father is too distracted by his phone to notice all the action going on around them. Eventually, they reach their destination and enjoy

each other's company at the beach, where everything is alright because "Dad's hand was in my hand". Dulak's rhyming and onomatopoeic text make this a joy to read aloud, while the design makes dynamic use of font and formatting. With shades of John Burningham in the narrative and illustrations, this book has a classic feel to it, while also firmly located in the contemporary thanks to the theme of mobile phones, and a reminder to observe and engage with the world around you and the special moments it has to offer.



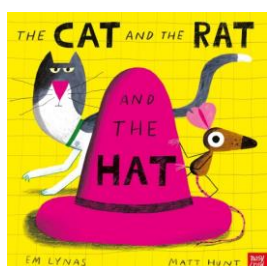
**Stanley's Stick** by John Hegley and Neal Layton  
Hodder 9780340988190

Stanley's stick is his constant companion, a toy with which he creates "game after sticky game." The endless uses to which he puts this natural object are wittily and affectionately described in often alliterative and always playful prose, the humour reflected in the collage illustrations. A tribute to children's imagination.



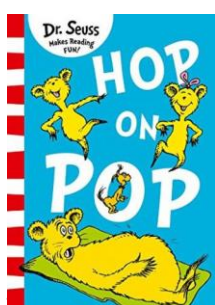
**Clem and Crab** by Fiona Lumbers  
Andersen, 9781783449149

Clem's encounter with a crab whose claw is caught in twisted plastic leads to the realisation for her and her classmates that everyone can play a part in protecting sea and shore and the wildlife that inhabits them: "Lots of small actions added together can make a big difference." This picture book's clear environmental message is reflected in the detail of the illustrations which also incorporate some gentle humour.



**The Cat and the Rat and the Hat** by Em Lynas and Matt Hunt  
Nosy Crow, 9781839941566

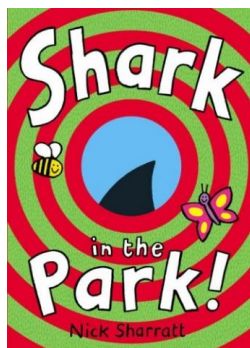
Expanding on the familiar rhyme 'the cat sat on the mat' and following a similar cumulative pattern as 'The House That Jack Built', this book nonetheless feels entirely fresh. A cat and a rat battle it out for ownership of a garishly bright pink hat, until a bat flies by wearing a fancy cravat, which the pair then directs their attention to - who will emerge victorious (and best-dressed)? Hunt's dynamic and slapstick illustrations are the perfect foil to Lynas' tongue-twisting text.



**Hop on Pop** by Dr Seuss  
HarperCollins, 9780008203900

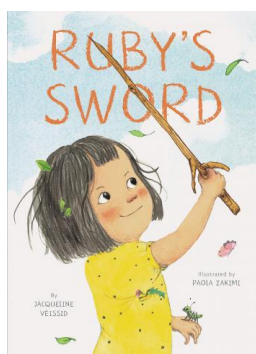
In zany Dr. Seuss fashion, pairs and groups of rhyming words are introduced on each page and then incorporated in crazy sentences, such as "HOP POP

We like to hop. We like to hop on top of Pop. STOP You must not hop on Pop.” An effective tongue-in-cheek parody of an old-fashioned phonics primer.



***Shark in the Park*** by Nick Sharratt  
Penguin, 9780552549776

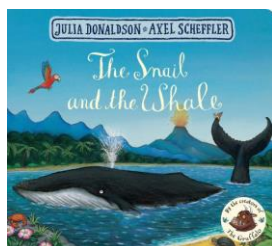
In this inventive hole-in-the-page book, Timothy Pope takes his new telescope to the park and seems to see sharks everywhere. However, when the page is turned and the whole picture is revealed, the viewer gets a different perspective. But is Timothy entirely wrong about there being a shark in the park? A repetitive text and picture cues support inexperienced readers.



***Ruby's Sword*** by Jacqueline Veissid and Paola Zakimi  
Chronicle Books, 9781452163918

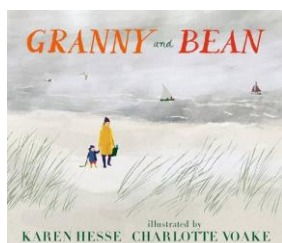
Ruby finds a stick that can be used in her imaginative games. The stick becomes a sword that fulfils many functions from fighting dragons to providing a prop for holding up a “magnificent castle” that Ruby constructs with her brothers to whom she has “granted” swords. The alliterative and onomatopoeic text is complemented by pictures which demonstrate Ruby’s activities, including her use of the stick/sword for mark-making in the soil – “The dirt needed decoration.”

### Exploring Alternative Graphemes and Pronunciations – Complex Code



***The Snail and the Whale*** by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler  
Macmillan, 9781509812523

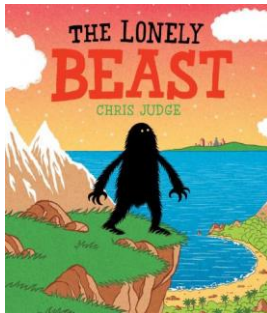
A tiny sea snail “with an itchy foot” has a great desire to see the world and hitches a ride on the tail of a humpback whale. They travel the seas together and see many wonderful sights, until one day the whale is “beached in a bay”, and the snail finds her own special way of saving her companion. The rhyming text is written in such a way that it points to elements in the pictures, making them inextricably entwined and mutually supportive, rather like the snail and the whale.



***Granny and Bean***, by Karen Hesse and Charlotte Voake  
Walker, 9781529516586



A tender and atmospheric picturebook which shows that so-called 'bad' weather need not be a barrier to spending an enjoyable time with family. *Granny and Bean* perfectly captures small, sensory moments shared at the beach, such as waves reaching their toes, cheeks chafed red by the wind, and sorting and collecting shells, with the relationship between grandmother and grandchild perfectly and affectionately drawn. The lyrical, figurative language and evocative grey illustrations, marked with splashes of colour, contribute to the familiar atmosphere of a day at the seaside.



***The Lonely Beast*** by Chris Judge

Andersen Press, 9781849392556

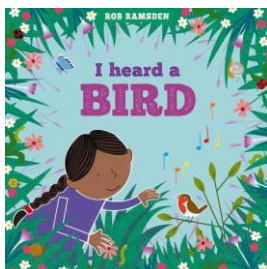
Have you heard of the Beasts? No, not many have. That's because they are very rare. This is the tale of one such Beast, who decides to take a dangerous quest to find others like him. Trekking over mountains and swimming across seas, he comes at last to a great city. There he finds many delights but sadly no Beasts, so he returns home, where a surprise awaits him.



***Beware the Blue Bagoo***, by Karl Newson and Andrea Stegmaier

Happy Yak, 9780711267824

An intrepid little detective is determined to get to the bottom of the rumours that have spread through her town about a grumpy, gobbling beast, but who really is the Blue Bagoo? This charming book calls to mind such titles as *The Grotlyn* and *The Gruffalo* in examining the role played by rumours in the creation of a monster that may not be all that it seems - there is also a lesson here about kindness, and making amends following a mistake. Stegmaier's bright and bold illustrations accompany Newson's text, with rhymes that contribute to the narrative storytelling, including the twist.



***I Heard a Bird***, by Rob Ramsden

Sallywag Press, 9781915252005

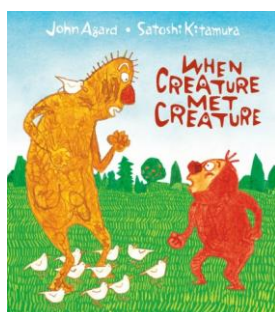
The fourth book in Rob Ramsden's 'In the Garden' series, which offers gentle introductions to the natural world for young readers. This title explores nature as a space for mindfulness and attentiveness - we meet a little girl who hears a singing bird, but the sound of two cats fighting scares it away. As she searches for the bird, she engages her senses and notices all sorts of little details in the garden - including, in a particularly calming spread, the sound of silence - before re-encountering her bird at the end. With lovely sensory language, and gentle rhymes and rhythms, this is an ideal text for helping young children slow down and engage with the world around them.



***The Great Paint*** by Alex Willmore  
Tate Publishing, 9781849767934

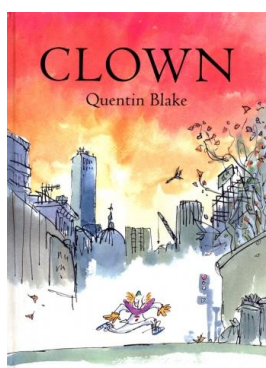
Frog is an artist who is prepared to try many techniques, including painting, sculpting, performance art. He feels that the swamp where he lives is rather dull so he sets out with his materials to make improvements to his friends' homes. However, they just do not appreciate his art. Frog is downcast but then he realises that there is one place where he can display his talents and no-one will object!

### Developing Early Older Readers



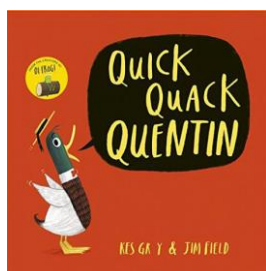
***When Creature Met Creature*** by John Agard and Satoshi Kitamura  
Sallywag, 9781912650507

A sophisticated and moving picturebook about communication of all kinds. It opens with Creature-of-No-Words, who lives a happy enough life of feelings and sensations, but is sometimes struck with a feeling "like the chill touch of ice" with no way to articulate or process it. He is found one day by Creature-of-Words, who with no words spoken understands his pain, and invites him to share her world of words with a "hug!". With delicately chosen poetic language by John Agard, and accompanying vibrant and expressive illustrations by Kitamura.



***Clown*** by Quentin Blake  
Penguin, 9780099493617

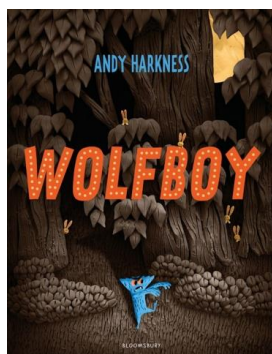
Most children will be familiar with Quentin Blake's distinctive illustrations. This is a wordless book but readers will need to bring their understanding of narrative informed by the conventions of comics to the story which has the cinematic quality of a silent film. The clown is an unwanted toy which comes to life and, after trials and tribulations, finds a happy home. The children's literature tradition that only children are aware that a toy is alive is maintained throughout.



***Quick Quack Quentin*** by Kes Gray and Jim Field  
Hodder, 9781444919578

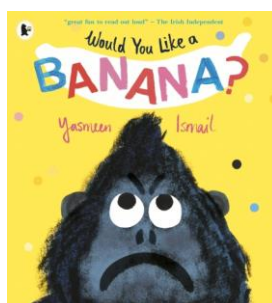
What happens when a vowel disappears? Quentin the duck's quack has lost its 'A' and he goes in search of a substitute. Animals from the farm offer him vowels from their names but none of them sound quite right. Then he visits the zoo where most of the animals can't cope with the names that would

result if they made this sacrifice: “The APES didn’t want to be PES”, “The CAMELS didn’t want to be CMELS.” But there is one animal who just might have an ‘A’ to spare... The repetition and pattern in the text support the less experienced reader at the same time as provoking some quacking questions about language.



**Wolfboy** by Andy Harkness  
Bloomsbury, 9781526622501

Wolfboy stomps beneath trees, splashes across creeks and leaps over steep ravines, growing hungrier by the minute as he looks for rabbits in the forest. Cumulative adjectives - "He was HUNGRY and HUFFY and DROOLY and GROWLY" - help to build the tension, and starkly-lit illustrations lend a horror film feeling to his hunt, which comes to a satisfying twist ending. Harkness' use of phonics and big feelings make this book a delight to read aloud.



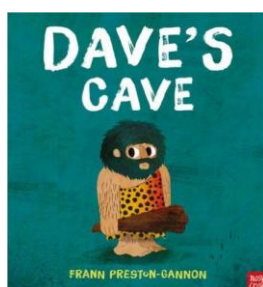
**Would You Like a Banana?** by Yasmeen Ismail  
Walker, 9781406394221

Reminiscent of *Green Eggs and Ham*, an unseen - and very patient - narrator tries to convince a hungry gorilla to at least try a banana, only to be met with the repeated refrain "I won't eat a banana". The repetition, coupled with persuasive rhythmic rhymes - "You might like one with some bread, or maybe standing on your head" - make this a brilliant book to read out loud, and the expressive digital collage-style illustrations add to the comedy.



**Hike** by Pete Oswald  
Walker, 9781406394351

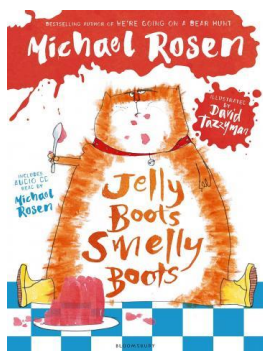
A nearly-wordless picturebook follows a father and child on a hiking adventure through the woods. They take in natural phenomena both large and small - the illustrations rich in detail - and overcome challenges together. The book closes with a return to home and a quiet reflection on their day, now immortalised in a family photo album.



**Dave's Cave** by Frann Preston-Gannon  
Nosy Crow, 9780857636249

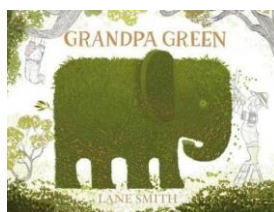
Stone Age Dave seek new cave. Will he find one he like? The seemingly simple staccato text, omitting auxiliary verbs and definite and indefinite articles, is surprisingly hard to imitate. It makes for humour and could lead children to speculate about why the author has chosen to write it in this

apparently ungrammatical way. A fun book to link with the history curriculum.



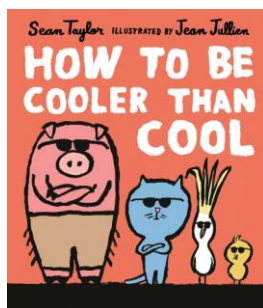
***Jelly Boots, Smelly Boots*** by Michael Rosen and David Tazzyman  
 Bloomsbury, 9781408873441

A terrific collection of poetry featuring poems that delight in language, playing with meaning, understanding (and misunderstanding!), rhyme and rhythm – the words virtually bounce off the page wanting to be read aloud - a poem like 'The Toddlers' is perfect to be spoken, sung, shouted, and danced. As well as nonsensical flights of imagination, we also get memories of childhood games and friendship. Meanwhile, other poems prompt questions that will inspire powerful discussion; encompassing topics of family, belonging, and heritage with great assurance.



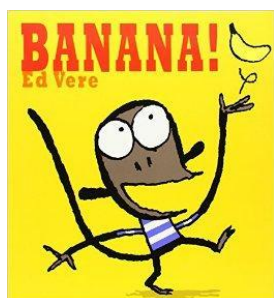
***Grandpa Green*** by Lane Smith  
 Macmillan, 9781447218357

A child movingly tells the story of his great grandfather's life in spare and simple language which still manages to incorporate historical and literary references. The important incidents in his life are recorded in his beautiful topiary creations. Now he is old and forgetful his memories live on in his garden which his great grandson looks set to continue maintaining.



***How to Be Cooler Than Cool*** by Sean Taylor and Jean Jullien  
 Walker, 9781406394429

Cat, Cockatoo and Pig take it in turns to don a pair of sunglasses, believing they will make them "cool". Instead, they find themselves with bruised egos as they fall off the slide, the see-saw and the swing, looking decidedly uncool. Can Chick find the elusive "cool" at last? A slapstick comedy about friendship and playtime, and how both are best enjoyed when being yourself.



***Banana!*** by Ed Vere  
 Penguin, 9780241330333

Two monkeys argue over a banana and which of them should have it, eventually finding the solution is to share it. The text is totally minimal, consisting only of the words 'Banana' and 'Please'. The humour in this story lies in reading the body language and facial expressions of the protagonists and interpreting the use of punctuation and font style in which the words appear in speech balloons.