

THE BOCKIN NEW DICTY OF a Wimpy Kid BOOK

from #1 international bestselling author

Jeff Kinney

Available now at all good bookstores nationwide and online www.penguinrandomhouse.co.za

Letter from: the editor

Hello Readers

I am always so grateful when December finally arrives and we're able to take a step back and reflect on the past year. Think back on all the good things that happened... maybe you finished a project that you've been working on for years, maybe you aced that incredibly hard test, or maybe you were there for a friend or family member who really needed you. Don't underestimate the value of loyalty and friendship. And take a moment to be proud of yourself... You deserve it!

So, whether you have maxed out your leave days for the year, or whether you've saved them all for a quiet December, we have you covered! Read on for our exciting selection of new books that you can read at your desk, on safari, or next to the pool.

But let's talk gifting first because we want to make this very easy for you... turn to pages 2 and 3 for the perfect stocking fillers for kids. And if you're looking for books for teenagers, or adults, turn to pages 10 and 11 respectively. Special mention has to be made of the brand new *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Diper Överlöde*, which is sure to be on most wish lists this festive season. And exciting news for Disney+ subscribers is that the

all-new animated movie, *Diary* of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules will be out on 2 December!

Jennifer Lynn Barnes is another author whose books will be sought after this festive season. Jennifer is the author of *The Inheritance Games* trilogy and on pages 6 & 7, she tells us all about her writing process, academic background and upcoming third book, *The Final Gambit*.

Now, while we realise we are biased, I had the Penguins lining up at my door, asking if they could please submit their favourite reads of 2022 in this issue. And so, with the amount of reading they do, you have to give credit where it's due and admit that this selection will be the very best of the best. You're welcome.

Here's wishing you all the very best for a wonderful festive season. Spread love, joy and kindness wherever you can. And lastly, as always, if there's anything you'd like to know, please contact us, we'd love to hear from you.

Happy reading!

fin

Kim Peters



Get in touch

For any queries, or for more information, contact us at thehuddle@penguinrandomhouse.co.za

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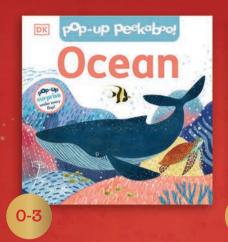
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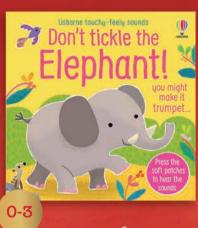
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DIPER ÖVERLÖDE!

Reading into the New Year Rappy New Year fellow book lovers!

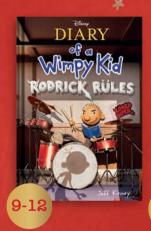
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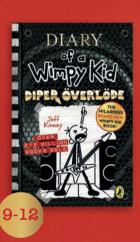




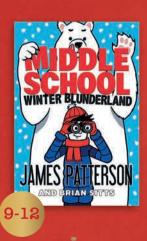
The perfect Stocking Fillers











Catch Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules on Disney+ on 2 December. The all-new animated movie is based on the second book in Jeff Kinney's wildly popular Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. Read the book first!

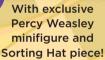


FUN & CAMES



















Full of characters from the world of BLUEY, children can use their crayons to bring each scene to life!

Out in December



Out in December





Wetlands

Salty oceans are not the only watery environments on Earth. Rivers, lakes, ponds, and large waterlogged areas known as wetlands are all crucial freshwater habitats - home to more than 100,000 species of plants and animals.

Marshes, swamps, bogs, and fens are examples of wetlands - flooded areas covered in water plants that are incredibly biodiverse inland habitats. They typically form close to rivers that periodically flood. or at the edges of lakes and oceans. The Pantanal in South America is the world's largest freshwater wetland, but other wetlands can contain salty water, or a mixture of both salty and fresh.

Pantanal

Fed by tributaries of the Paraguay River, the Pantanal has one of the highest concentrations of wildlife in South America. It is a seasonal wetland that largely dries out during the dry season, leaving pools and small lakes, and flooding again when rainfall resumes. Among its grasses, rushes, and other plant life, many animals make their home.

Yacare caiman

Millions of this crocodilian species live in the Pantanal, snapping up snakes, amphibians, and fish such as piranhas for food

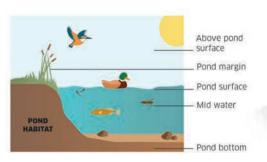
Paradoxical frog The tadpoles of the

paradoxical frog start off very large, up to 27 cm (10.7 in) long, but shrink as they develop into adults. Fully grown frogs. which hide in the murky water, are smaller - only up to 7.5 cm (3 in) long.



Freshwater habitats

There are two types of freshwater habitat. Lotic habitats include flowing water, such as in rivers or streams, whereas lentic habitats include calm or standing water, such as in lakes or ponds. From birds swooping in and out to slow-swimming fish, the diverse organisms in these habitats spend their time in different parts of the water. While some stay at the bottom, others thrive closer to the surface.



Giant water lily

The largest member of the lily family, the giant water lily only opens its white, fragrant flowers at night. The flowers turn pink after being pollinated by beetles.



This large bird with a

long upturned black bill

wades in shallow water

Giant lilypad Stretching up to 3 m (9.8 ft) across, the lilypads of the giant water IIIy are strong enough to support a small child.

Jaguar These big cats are strong swimmers and often wade through the water hunting for prey to crush with their powerful jaws.

South American lungfish

This large air-breathing fish swims in floodwater. To survive in times of drought. it burrows in the mud and surrounds itself with a waterproof layer of mucus.

Chiquitano cichlid

These small fish have special teeth in their throats that enable them to grind down the shells of snails.

Spotfin hatchetfish

Strong fins allow these fish to jump above the water to catch prev such as insects





GETTING TO KNOW: JENNIFER LYNN **BARNES**

Jennifer Lynn Barnes, author of The Inheritance Games series tells us all about her writing process, academic background and upcoming third book, The Final Gambit.

You began writing at only nineteen years old and sold your first books while in college. Where did this passion come from? Did you always know you'd be a writer?

I decided I wanted to be a writer in the first grade after writing a story about a little girl whose older brother discovers how awesome she is and vows to never tell her she can't play with him again. I continued writing stories throughout my childhood. By the time I was in my early teens, I'd gotten in the habit of writing the first few chapters of a new, exciting story, then forgetting about it, then starting another new story. My last year in high school, when I was seventeen, I decided that I wanted to actually finish a complete novel, so I made a rule for myself that I couldn't start a new project until I'd finished the one I was working on... and I did. For a couple of years after that, I wrote constantly. The summer I was nineteen, I wrote my seventh completed novel, and that later became my first published book.

You also have degrees in psychology, psychiatry and cognitive science. How does that

background help you when writing characters?

Writing and psychology are both ways of getting inside the heads of others and developing a deeper understanding of emotions, motivations, and relationships. My Ph.D. was in developmental psychology, and there is so much that I learned that plays an integral role in how I develop characters. I pay a lot of attention to things like attachment style, formative experiences, personality, and the effect of the family system on each individual in that system. Beyond that, I'm always looking for ways to bring my psychological expertise into my books, be it the psychology of "mind-reading," an understanding of psychopathy, or even animal cognition. On top of all of this, I spent years as a psychology professor whose research lab was dedicated to understanding the psychology of fiction and the psychology of fandom. My expertise is basically why we as a species like stories, the effects that stories have on those who consume them, and what it is about some specific stories that lead them to

inspiring large, passionate, and engaged fandoms.

You were a Fulbright scholar, you're currently a professor of psychology, and you've been constantly churning out books. Where do you find the motivation to do so much?

I always wanted multiple careers. Even as a small child, the goal was never just "writer." It was "writer and..." I loved having a dual career and am, to this day, so passionate about the science of stories! That said, in Fall of 2021 I realized that just because a person has the passion to do SO MANY THINGS doesn't mean they necessarily have the capacity to do them all, all of the time. So I made the difficult decision to step away from being a professor and focus on writing and my family.

Do you have a consistent writing routine and if so, what does it look like?

My writing routine and process are always changing! The one constant currently is that I tend to spend a good chunk of my day on what I call "pre-writing," so when I first sit down to write, my focus is on making a list of the scenes I want to write,

journaling for a bit about what I want those scenes to achieve in terms of both plot and character, and so on. The last thing I do before actually opening up my document to write is to handwrite the dialogue for the scenes. After I have all of the dialogue, then I open my document and write the whole scene, using the dialogue I've written.

Now, let's get into *The Inheritance Games*. Did you have the entire series planned out when you started writing, or did you let the story guide you?

When I started writing the first Inheritance Games book, I didn't know if my publisher was going to want a sequel, so I wrote book one with two plans: this is what I'm doing if the book is a standalone, and this is what I'm doing if they greenlight a sequel. I got the go-ahead on the sequel just as I sat down to do the revisions on book one, and the book got a new ending that pulled at threads that I had already planted, just in case! With The Hawthorne Legacy, I again didn't know whether or not I would get to write a third book, so I did much the same thing - I wrote a book that I thought would serve as a great series ender while simultaneously planting EVERYTHING I needed to execute my ultimate ending. Getting to write The Final Gambit was so satisfying, because that was when my grandest plans - and things that I had been working toward for two books, without knowing if I would get to write a third came to fruition.

Which character was your favourite to write and why?

I love writing Xander. He's just so smart, hilarious, and one of a kind. Any scene automatically becomes easier to write when Xander is in it, because he has SO MUCH ENERGY.

What kind of research did you do while writing the books? Were there any strange Google searches along the way?

There were A LOT of strange google searches, mostly in the form of "most expensive X in the world." You can do a search on pretty much any iteration of the phrase (most expensive cars in the world! Most expensive chess sets in the world! Most expensive lawn furniture in the world!), and the results are just a rabbit hole of interesting! I also spent a lot of time on real estate sites over the course of writing this series, as I constructed Hawthorne House in my mind (and later did the same for some of the Hawthorne vacation properties).

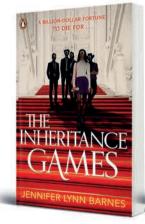
The Final Gambit – just like the rest of the series – is full of twists and turns. In your experience, what is the best way to surprise readers?

I think there are several tricks to surprising readers – for example, a surprise is just as much about the timing and pacing of the reveal as it is about the reveal itself. I like to stack reveals, so you think you've read the twist and aren't necessarily expecting ANOTHER twist right away. Or, if I think readers will be expecting something, I make it happen in a different place in the book (usually earlier) and thread a new question in at the same time. Ultimately, though, I'm a firm believer that the best twists aren't a result of the things that an author does to surprise the reader; they're the result of the things the author did to make it possible for the reader to guess the twist in advance. The clues have to be there for the twist to be satisfying!

Any advice for aspiring authors?

Read a lot, write a lot, and find things that you love to do that aren't reading or writing, both so you have an escape when you need one AND so that you're bringing a greater wealth of experience and knowledge to the table when you write.

Turn over to read an exclusive extract from The Final Gambit!







THE FINAL GAMBIT

As I waited for Jameson's call, my hand drifted toward the nightstand, to a small bronze pin in the shape of a key.

"Pick a hand." Jameson holds out two fists. I tap his right hand, and he uncurls his fingers, presenting me with an empty palm. I try the left – the same. Then he curls my fingers into a fist. I open them, and there, in my palm, sits the pin.

"You solved the keys faster than any of us," Xander reminds me. "It's past time for this!"

"Sorry, kid," Nash drawls. "It's been six months. You're one of us now."

Grayson says nothing, but when I fumble to put the pin on and it drops from my fi ngers, he catches it before it hits the ground.

That memory wanted to loop into another – *Grayson, me, the wine cellar* – but I wouldn't let it. In the past few months, I'd developed my own methods of distraction. Grabbing my phone, I navigated to a crowd-funding site and did a search for *medical bills* and *rent*. The Hawthorne fortune wasn't mine for another six weeks, but the partners at McNamara, Ortega, and Jones

had already seen to it that I had a credit card with virtually no limit.

Keep gift anonymous. I clicked that box again and again. When my phone finally rang, I leaned back and answered. "Hello."

"I need an anagram of the word *naked*." There was a hum of energy to Jameson's voice.

"No, you don't." I rolled over onto my side. "How's Tuscany?"

"The birthplace of the Italian Renaissance? Full of winding roads, hills and valleys, where a morning mist rolls out in the distance, and the forests are littered with leaves so golden-red that the entire world feels like it's on fire in the very best way? That Tuscany?"

"Yes," I murmured. "That Tuscany."

"I've seen better."
"Jameson!"

"What do you want to hear

about first, Heiress: Siena, Florence, or the vineyards?"

I wanted *all of it*, but there was a reason Jameson was using the standard Hawthorne gap year to travel. "Tell me about the villa." Did you find anything?

"Your Tuscan villa was built in the seventeenth century. It's supposedly a farmhouse but looks more like a castle, and it's surrounded by more than a hundred acres of olive orchard. There's a pool, a wood-fi red pizza oven, and a massive stone fireplace original to the house."

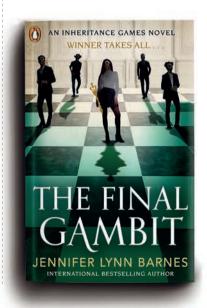
I could picture it. Vividly – and not just because I had a binder of photos. "And when you checked the fireplace?" I didn't have to ask if he had checked the fireplace.

"I found something."

I sat up, my hair falling down my back. "A clue?"

"Probably," Jameson replied.

"But to what puzzle?"

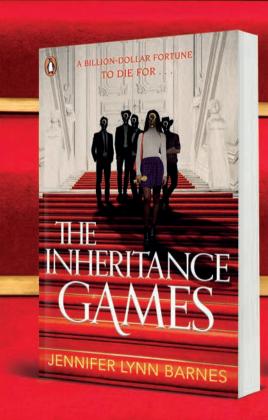


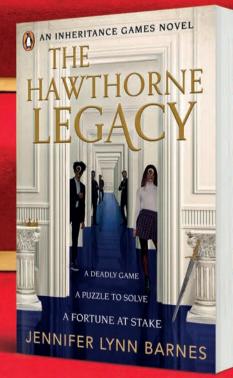
DEADLY GAMES.

PUZZLES TO SOLVE.

A BILLION-DOLLAR

FORTUNE TO DIE FOR..







EXCITING NEWS JUST OUT! THE BROTHERS HAWTHORNE BY JENNIFER LYNN BARNES WILL PUBLISH IN SEPTEMBER 2023... FOUR BROTHERS. TWO MISSIONS. ONE EXPLOSIVE READ.

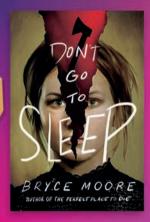
YOUNG ADULT READS

for the festive season...

Whether you love haunting mysteries, edge-of-your-seat thrillers, or fantasy fiction, you're sure to find something here to make the season a little merrier and a LOT brighter!



One life. One choice. One sacrifice.



This sweeping atmospheric tale boasts high-stakes action, terrifying monsters, and a dystopian setting perfect for fans of *The Hunger Games*.

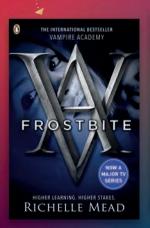




Soon to be a major motion picture...
read the entire series first!
Now a series streaming on Peacock

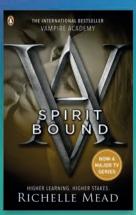












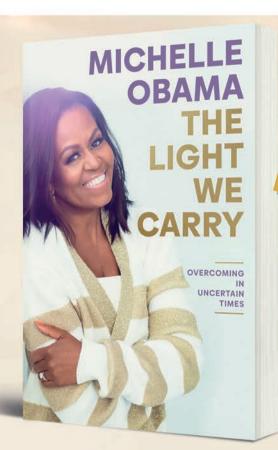




RELEASE RADAR

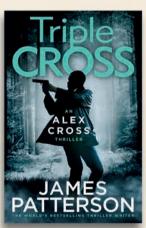
Books to get lost in, or gift, this festive season

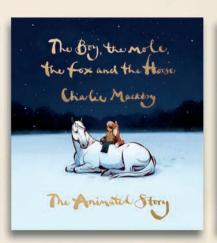
We become bolder in brightness



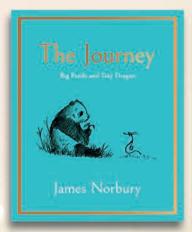


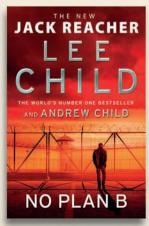


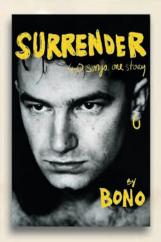












BUILD SOLUTION BUILD SOLUTION OF THE STATE O

IN OUR KIDS AND TEENS



If you are a parent, you've most likely come across the name, Naomi Holdt. Naomi is a renowned psychologist, speaker, blogger, mother, and friend and is passionate about mental health, gentle parenting, and helping people of all ages to live their best lives. In this issue, Naomi chats about the importance of building resilience in our kids and teens...

Undeniably, our world has been upside-down and back-to-front over the past few years. Unpredictable, chaotic, frantic-let's just say that the amount of "unknowns" have been astronomical. It's been hard enough for our adult selves to navigate this, but for our kids and teens whose brains are still developing, it's been a pretty ruthless time.

Despite the messiness of it all, as parents, what we really want is for our kids to be happy. We want them to be able to







withstand the inevitable knocks that life is going to deliver. We want them to be resilient.

So, how do we teach our children resilience?

As with everything related to parenting - here's the bottomline: It's never actually about our children. It's about us, as parents, and the things we can change within ourselves and in our homes to raise more resilient kids and teens. There are so many things I could talk about here, but in this article, I want to address one that's often "overlooked" yet so important.

This year has been a whirlwind. It's felt as if the hamster-wheel of life has been steroid injected. And as normal human beings on this seemingly never-ending physical and emotional rollercoaster, "rattiness", stress and complete exhaustion are an inescapable part of life's current humdrum.

In our moments of humanness, after long and tiring days, we're easily triggered. We yell easily. We "lose it" easily. (Reminder: We are completely normal, and completely human.)

But, and here's an important "but" to remember: "Losing it" results in disconnection from our children and although that may not seem like an obvious problem (especially when you feel like your pot-lid is about to explode in their presence and you need a breather), the most important aspect that we need to focus on in the parent / child relationship to build resilience in our children, is connection. Shouting, a human reaction to be humanly triggered, isn't helping our children's ability to "bounce back" after the inevitable knockdowns of life.

Unless you are a Tibetan monk with sixty years of meditation

practice on the top of a mountain, it's not likely that you are going to be the ever-calm and never-dysregulated parent.

So, what do we do AFTER the disconnection? How do we repair?

If you were raised in a home where your parents never dared utter the words "I'm sorry", this next part may feel a little foreign and uncomfortable to you. In this case, you also won't have the blueprint telling you it's okay to apologize to your kids. You might not even know how. Here it is: Not only is it okay, but it's critically important.

When we stuff up in any way, when we yell, when we lose it, and when we don't apologize and "own" our very human mistakes, our kids are the ones left feeling like they're to blame. The burden of the blame impacts significantly on their self-worth and their belief about their value in the world.

Bottom line: We leave our children with our messes if we don't take responsibility for them.

We're human... We're going to stuff up... Often...

"I'm so sorry... I'm human... I make mistakes too..." Said gently, said meaningfully - these are some of the most freeing, powerful, and deeply connecting words we can utter to our children.

An important side-note reminder though: As tempting as it is, and no matter what you think your child may have done to aggravate your emotional implosion, DO NOT utter the word "but" in any part of your apology. The word "but" invalidates everything that comes before it. It makes any apology null and void and places the blame straight back onto whoever we are apologizing to.

Another side note: Don't hang around waiting for an apology from your child (or guilt-trip them into giving you one). Our children don't need to change their behaviour (and certainly can't when we are yelling, losing our cool and not role-modelling regulation.) As adults, we need to change our response to their behaviour.

Usually, meaningful apologies are not followed by doors being slammed in your face. It's more likely you'll find little (and notso-little) arms stretching out in forgiving embraces. Our children get it. And when we own up to our imperfect human selves, it gives our children permission to love themselves as imperfect humans too.

Building resilience in your child begins with you as their parent owning your mistakes. Apologize sincerely when you've stuffed up. Like REALLY mean it. Own it. No "but's". No expectations of a return apology. It's amazing what magic happens in the spaces in which we are brave enough to own our humanity. By compassionately embracing our imperfections, we give our children one of the greatest gifts of resilience: The gift of unconditionally accepting their less-than-perfect selves within the safety of a deep and connected relationship.



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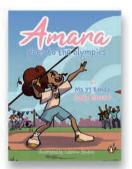
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PENGUIN COLONY PENGUIN COLONY READS

When we're not at our desks, you'll probably find us reading! Here are some of our favourite books of 2022.



Amara goes to the Olympics by Lady Zamar

Children, when smaller, are never sure of their talents and can get discouraged at athletics meetings. My daughter was one of them. She was horrible at the 100m sprint, but in grade 4, she realised she was very good at long distances. With her big heart, Little Amara will not let the bullies get her down. She gives her best in all the events and does them wholeheartedly. She shows that you don't have to be the best at everything but that you can still enjoy every moment.



Sonja Vorster Head of Children's Sales



Lorienne Brown Children's Marketer

Beasts of Ruin by Ayana Gray

I read *Beasts of Prey* last year when it was first released, and to say it was gripping is an understatement. So, you can understand that I was hesitant to read the sequel, *Beasts of Ruin*. Often sequels do not live up to the hype of the first book and I was afraid that this would be the case, however my fears were completely unjustified. Ayana Gray delivered another spectacular novel which I just could not put down. *Beasts of Ruin* is filled with fantastical beasts, magic, intrigue, gods, myths, and more! Now the only problem is waiting for the next book to be released. But luckily for us, Ayana has already submitted the next manuscript, so it shouldn't be long!





Vrydag is ek verlief deur Cecilia Steyn

Have you ever had to pretend to be someone's girlfriend? Or even worse, pretend to be in love with someone you can't stand? Well, welcome to Ella Olivia's first semester as a medical student. I know Ella Olivia's situation may sound odd, but it's about to get much worse. Elle gets forced to do a bunch of embarrassing things in public, all because she is fake dating the lead singer of the famous "Vuurvreter" band. Con is everything Elle despises; but how did she get herself in this predicament? And how does she get herself out of this?



Ena Stegmann Marketing Assistant: Education

Reader reviews

This month, Candice Spammer from @paperbacksandpurrs and Emily Smith from @Emiliedjie tell us what they're currently reading...



Reviewed by
Candice Spammer
Instagram:
@paperbacksandpurrs

The Final Gambit

You know that lost feeling after finishing a book series you really loved? That is exactly how I felt days after finishing this book.

Barnes kicks it up a notch in *The Final Gambit*. If you thought we uncovered a lot of secrets and solved a lot of puzzles in the first two books, nothing can prepare you for the absolute chaos in the final instalment of this trilogy. The mysteries in the first two books were just the tip of the iceberg.

While reading this, I grew even more fond of the characters in this series. I really adore the Hawthorne brothers and I would love to see more of them. I also enjoy Avery's character and how well she has adapted to her new life and to thinking like a Hawthorne.

If you've been contemplating if you should give this series a chance, this is your sign. GO. RUN. READ IT. Hands-down a favourite for me.



Fiona Moodie, Antjie Krog & Ingrid de Kok

Hierdie boek is nie gemaak vir 'n boekrak nie, maar vir 'n koffietafel. *Vetplantfeetjies* neem jou op reis na ons land se groot verskeidenheid van plante, met versies wat jou ore sal laat sing.

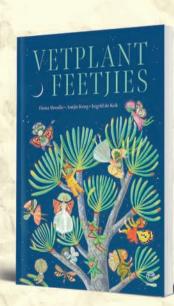
Dit is nie net gewone versies nie, jy leer regtig iets van elke vetplant en "Vetplant Feetjie". Jy sal kennis maak met feetjies soos Beeskloutjies en Bababoudjies, Vetmensie se Vabond, die Groenpêrel-fee en nog baie ander oulike feetjies.

Die illustrasies deur Fiona Moodie is eintlik soos klein skilderytjies wat ek sal wil raam. Fiona se illustrasies is wêreldbekend en is uitgestal onder andere in die Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art in New York.

'n Erfenisskat, nie net vir kinders nie, maar vir elke tuin-, plant- en vetplantliefhebber. Ek weet ek gaan dit oor en oor lees en is nou hard opsoek na 'n kopie van *Fynbosfeetjies*.

Jy kan die boek ook in Engels kry as Vetplant Fairies.

Moet nie vergeet om die versies vir jou plante te lees nie, hulle sal mal wees daaroor.



Reviewed by Emily Smith from Laerskool Muldersdrif Instagram: @Emiliedjie

Ons is jou kameraad in die klaskamer!



Ons katalogus van uitstaande boeke wat in die klaskamer gebruik kan word, groei jaarliks. Met skrywers en kenners soos Leon van Nierop en Thérèse Hulme in ons stal, is dit dan ook nie anders dat die boeke hoog aangeskryf word nie.

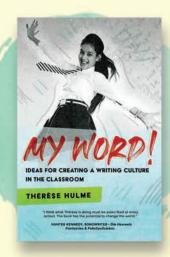
Ligte, kamera, aksie!

Druk speel- 'n Filmstudiegids vir die klaskamer, deur filmkenner en skrywer Leon van Nierop, is spesiaal geskryf om onderwysers te help om die hoe en wat van filmanalise beter te kan verstaan. Nie net help flimstudie met leerders se verbetering van visuele geletterdheid nie, maar dit bevorder ook kritiese denke. Volkleurfoto's van Suid-Afrikaanse films word gebruik om filmiese aspekte te verduidelik. Daar is ook 'n volledige hoofstuk oor die skryf van resensies (met voorbeeldresensies en voorbeeldfrases) én 'n studiegids ingesluit met voorbeeldtake, toetse en besprekingspunte.



Let's be creative!

My Word! Ideas for creating a writing culture in the classroom tells the stories of Thérèse Hulme and the young people that she's worked with during the last seventeen years. Thérèse has taught many



learners in some of the most marginalized communities in the Western Cape how to write and how to find their voices. Her narrative approach will, in turn, inspire teachers to shape a writing culture in their classroom. To assist teachers, the book contains many questions meant to help teachers critically examine existing practices and beliefs. The book also has practical exercises for learners, questions for teachers to ponder and discussions meant to bring new insights to the CAPS goals. It is especially the stories, poems, drama texts and spoken word pieces by the young writers that will capture readers' imagination.



En nou... 'n bundel vir die hoërskool

Tyd is 'n b**ksem en ander belaglik lekker tekste is 'n splinternuwe versameling van die beste gedigte, kortverhale, dramas en volksliteratuur vir die hoërskool, saamgestel deur Marieta Nel. In hierdie bundel lees jy stories, gedigte en dramatekste deur Zelda Bezuidenhout, Fanie Viljoen, Wendy Maartens, Hannes Barnard en nog vele meer. Hierdie versameling is perfek vir onderwysers en leerders, vir beide huistaal- en eersteaddisioneletaalsprekers en is ideaal om vir die kwartaal 3-projek te gebruik.

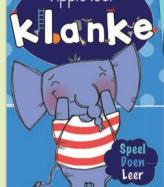
Hierdie bundel is die vierde in 'n reeks, saam met Die skool vir Rampspoedige Talente en ander gelukkige stories, Blinkertjies in Pa se baard en ander skitterende stories en The Vegan Vampire and Other Fantastic Fiction. 'n Aparte studiegids sal ook vir onderwysers beskikbaar wees wat addisionele inligting oor die tekste bevat.



Learns sounds











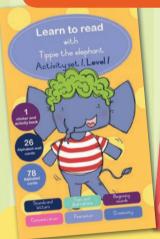
Pre-order Tippie learns sounds!

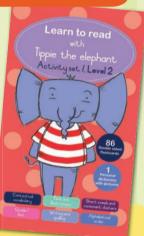
Tippie learns sounds was developed in collaboration with an occupational therapist. This series includes early learning and developmental outcomes to support phonemic awareness. There are 26 books in the boxset.



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Tippie is proudly South African and aligned with all the CAPS requirements.

Onderhoud met

Noreen Nolte



Noreen was een van die naaswenners van die LAPA Jeugromankompetisie, en wenner van die jongvolwassefiksie-afdeling met haar distopiese verhaal, *Uitverkies*. Ons vind bietjie meer uit.

Noreen, baie geluk met hierdie lekker wen! Vertel ons asseblief in 'n paar sinne waaroor die verhaal handel.

Baie dankie!

Uitverkies speel af na 'n wêreldoorlog wat die wêreld soos ons dit ken, uitgewis het. Zia is amper sestien en oorleef saam met 'n klein groepie mense in die bos, maar sy kan onthou dat hulle voorheen in die Kolonie gebly het – en dat die lewe toe aansienlik lekkerder was! Sy verstaan nie hoekom haar ouers die Kolonie vir 'n sukkelbestaan in die bos verruil het nie. Boonop voel dit asof haar ouers haar nie genoeg vertrou om die rede vir hulle besluit met haar te deel nie.

Onverwagse omstandighede veroorsaak dat Zia inderhaas besluit om op haar eie terug te keer na die Kolonie toe. Sy besef vinnig dat daar 'n paar dinge is wat nie strook met haar herinneringe nie...

Wat is vir jou die aantrekkingskrag van 'n distopiese verhaal?

Ek hou daarvan dat die storie iets is wat regtig kán gebeur, maar met die kinkel dat dit nog nie gebeur het nie. Dit maak dit interessant!

Watter distopiese verhaal, plaaslik of internasionaal, wens jy jy het geskryf?

Hunger Games deur Suzanne Collins en *Divergent* deur Veronica Roth. Ek kon dit nie neersit nie!

Wat is die lekkerste deel van skryf?

Ek hou die meeste van die skuurproses. Dis vir my lekker as ek op die punt kom waar ek voel daar het sowaar 'n storie "gebeur"! Dan kan ek dit net probeer verfyn en verbeter.

Wat kom eerste – die storielyn of die karakters?

Daar kom van iewers 'n idee en as dit interessant genoeg is, bly my kop daarmee besig. Later word dit 'n toneel, wat weer lei tot nóg 'n toneel. Dán het jy natuurlik karakters nodig en hulle ontwikkel daaruit.

Hoekom skryf jy vir jongmense? Sou jy eendag 'n volwasseroman aanpak?

Ek is mal oor kinder- en jeugboeke en was behoorlik hartseer toe my kinders nie meer wou prenteboeke uitneem nie! Miskien is dít maar die rede. Maar dan sal ek binnekort 'n moordstorie moet aanpak, want dit is my ander gunstelingleesstof!

'n Paar van jou boeke handel oor dans en jy is self 'n gekwalifiseerde balletonderwyser. Waar kom die liefde vandaan en beoefen jy self die kunsvorm? Ek het al op vier begin ballet doen en al dans ek nie meer nie, bly dit 'n groot liefde. Dit is



As jy 'n dag saam met 'n ander bekende skrywer kon deurbring, wie sou dit wees en hoekom?

Ek dink Suzaan Collins en Veronica Roth! Ek sou baie graag hulle antwoorde op die vrae wat jy mý vra, wou hoor.

As jy 'n karakter in enige boek kon wees, watter karakter en hoekom?

Ek dink ek sou daarvan hou om 'n baie dapper karakter te wees wat die slegte outjies behoorlik die stof laat byt! Miskien omdat ek alles behalwe dapper is.

Waarom dink jy is kompetisies soos LAPA se Jeugromankompetisie so belangrik?

Ek dink dit is wonderlik dat nuwe skrywers die geleentheid kry om 'n

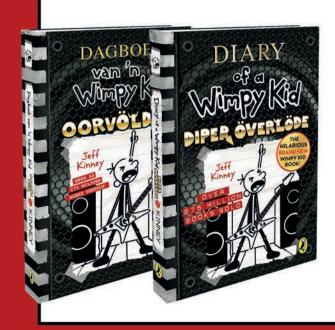
gelyke platform met gevestigde name te deel en hulle werk aan 'n uitgewer voor te lê. Vir my is 'n sluitingsdatum ook goeie motivering om iets klaar te maak... anders was my eerste boek waarskynlik nou nog net 'n paar hoofstukke op my rekenaar!





MARIE SOME NOISE FOR... PER OVERLÖDE

Design your very own band logo here!

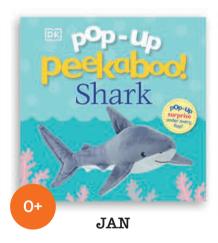


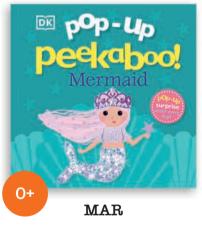


READING INTO THE INEW YEAR

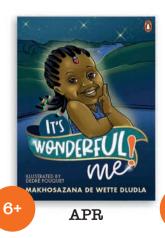
Happy New Year fellow book lovers!

May 2023 be filled with fairy tales, literary love stories, epic adventures, and marvellous mysteries.

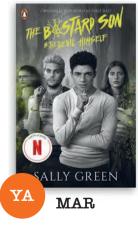


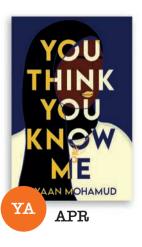














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