

Christchurch City
Libraries
Ngā Kete Wānanga-o-Ōtautahi

Holiday Reading 2012

*A selection of
children's and young
adults' books*

Photo by Rebekah Tregurtha.

Holiday Reading 2012 is only a small selection of the many new titles added to Christchurch City Libraries during the year. We hope you will find something here to excite, enthuse, enthrall and inform you. Any title may be reserved online, over the phone or at one of our libraries.

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Previous Holiday Reading lists can be found at:
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Picture Books

Pamela Allen Mr McGee and the elephants (NZ)

Here's another adventure of Mr McGee, this time with elephants, one, two and three. A chance to perform and share the fun, so come and join in everyone.

Catherine and Laurence Anholt Babies, babies, babies!

Babies love eating, babies love playing, babies love laughing! A special funny bunny is hiding in the illustrations. Can you find him?

Mac Barnett Extra yarn

With a supply of yarn that never runs out, Annabelle knits for everyone and everything in town until an evil archduke decides he wants the yarn for himself.

Graeme Base Little elephants

The wheat is ripe, but the harvester is broken and a plague of locusts is on the way. It looks as if Jim and his mother may lose the farm. But when Jim show kindness to a stranger, their fortunes are set to change in the most surprising way imaginable!

Gavin Bishop Bruiser (NZ)

Bruiser is a machine on a mission, ploughing up hillsides, trampling down paddocks and crushing rocks. Until, one day, a little chick and a nest fall right in front of him. What will Bruiser do?

Megan Bowers-Vette Mangu and mā (NZ)

A first focus board book for babies, with an emphasis on kiwiana.

Ben Brown The Great Orlando (NZ)

Sunday Jones is a boy with a loving mother who protected him from a miserable and cruel father. Then his mother dies, leaving Sunday's father to make his life a misery. For the end of year concert, Sunday decides he will be a magician, The Great Orlando and for his final act, he disappears... Illustrated by Helen Taylor.

Anthony Browne One gorilla

One gorilla, two orang-utans and three chimpanzees. Explore the family of primates and learn to count from one to ten with all the colour and drama of the natural world.

John Burningham Tug of war

Hare, Hippopotamus and Elephant live together, but not happily, for Hippopotamus and Elephant are forever teasing poor Hare. One day, Hare decides to teach his friends a lesson, and so the great tug of war begins

Sue DeGennaro The pros and cons of being a frog

Frogboy and Camille are best friends but they are very different. Camille speaks in numbers and Frogboy likes to dress up. With Camille's help he finds that dressing up as a frog is perfect for him, but when he tries to convince his friend to be a frog too, his plan goes terribly wrong.

Lynley Dodd Slinky Malinki early bird (NZ)

Slinky Malinki likes to wake up very early in the morning. He thinks his family should too, but do they agree?

Michaël Escoffier A mammoth in the fridge

If you find a mammoth in your fridge, there are two questions you should ask: 'How did it get there?' and 'How do you get it out?' A surreal and very funny book.

Candace Fleming Oh, no!

A series of animals falls into a deep hole, followed by a hungry tiger, only to be saved at last by a very large rescuer.

James Foley In the lion

In the city there's a zoo. And in the zoo there's a lion. And in the lion there's.

Catherine Foreman The cat's pyjamas or Ngā kahumoe o te ngeru (NZ)

A cat has a different pair of colourful pyjamas for every night of the week, and every night they lead to the most delightful dreams. Well, nearly every night!

Michael Foreman Friends

Bubble is a goldfish, who swims round and round unhappily in his tank. Cat is his friend and wishes he could show him the world. One day, Cat has an idea to set Bubble free. But is Bubble ready to swim off into the world and leave behind his friend? A sweet story with beautiful illustrations.

Edward Gibbs I spy on the farm

Look through the hole and use the clues to guess; then turn the page to reveal the animal. Children will learn to predict the animals by noise, colour and eventually letter.

Gus Gordon Herman and Rosie

Set in New York, this gorgeous picture book is a story about friendship, life in the big city, and following your dreams.

Emily Gravett Matilda's cat

Climbing trees, playing with wool. Matilda is sure her cat will love these things, but he doesn't seem very enthusiastic. Undaunted, she thinks up new ways to amuse her reluctant playmate. Tea parties? Dressing up? Or what about a nice bike ride? As the beleaguered cat goes from nonplussed to terrified, Matilda gets a pet and more frustrated. After all, what use is a pet if it doesn't want to play?

Michael Hall Cat tale

Three adventurous and inquisitive cats named Lillian, Tilly, and William J. have an exciting afternoon playing together. A bright, colourful and clear book.

Chris Haughton Oh no, George!

Harris is off to do some shopping. "Will you be good, George?" he asks. George the dog hopes he can. He really wants to ... but chocolate cake is just so very delicious and he does love to chase cat... What will George do now?

Julia Hubrey A hare, a hound and shy mousey brown

There's a hare in the air, there's a hound on the ground, and watching them both is shy Mousey Brown...and so begins an enchanting adventure, complete with danger, silliness, bravery and romance. Mouse is tiny but bold, Hound is vast and menacing, Hare doesn't have a clue and, between them, someone has to come out on top.

Julie Hunt The coat

The Coat stood in a paddock at the end of a row of strawberries. It was buttoned up tight and stuffed full of straw and it was angry. 'What a waste of me!' it yelled. Then along came a man. 'I could do with a coat like that,' the man said. Together, swooping and swinging, they travelled to the Cafe Delitzia, and had the night of their lives. Illustrated by Ron Brooks.

Oliver Jeffers The moose belongs to me

Wilfred thinks he owns a moose, but does the moose know? And who is the old lady who calls him Rodrigo? A story set in sweeping landscapes.

Jon Klassen This is not my hat

From the creator of the bestselling and award-winning "I Want My Hat Back" comes a second wry tale. When a tiny fish shoots into view wearing a round blue top hat (which happens to fit him perfectly), trouble could be following close behind. So it's a good thing that enormous fish won't wake up. And even if he does, it's not as though he'll ever know what happened, will he?

Leonore Klein Henri's walk to Paris

A boy named Henri from the small city of Reboul, France decides to try to walk to Paris to see the sights, until he stops along the way to take a nap under a tree and loses his direction.

David LaRochelle It's a tiger!

A child imagines that he is in a story where he encounters a tiger at every turn. Will he be able to escape in the mountains? On an island? In a cave? A fail-safe read-aloud reminiscent of We're going on bear hunt.

Peter McCarty The monster returns

When the monster that Jeremy created threatens to return, Jeremy enlists his neighbours to help him with a creative solution to the problem.

Margaret Mahy The man from the land of Fandango (NZ)

The man from the land of Fandango is coming to pay you a call! He wears a hat with a tassel and a polka-dot tie - and he juggles and bounces and dances with bears, bison, baboons, kangaroos and even dinosaurs. He's wonderful and amazing - so watch out for him, and watch carefully - because he only appears every 500 years!

Margaret Mahy Mister Whistler (NZ)

Absentminded Mister Whistler always has a song in his head and a dance in his feet. In a rush to catch the train, he is so distracted he loses his ticket. Is it in the bottom pockets of his big coat or the top pockets of his jacket? Perhaps he slipped it into his waistcoat. Where is Mister Whistler's ticket? Illustrated by Gavin Bishop.

Douglas Melling Hugless Douglas and the big sleep

Douglas is very excited about Rabbit's sleepover, but he collects so many friends along the way that soon it's a big squash in Rabbit's small burrow! Can Douglas think of a way for them all to get some sleep?

Kate Messner Over and under the snow

Over the snow, the world is hushed and white, but under the snow is a secret world of squirrels and snowshoe hares, bears and bullfrogs, and many others who live outside in the woods during the winter.

Kyle Mewburn (NZ) Seesaw Po

Po the hippopotamus and his friends love the playground, even though Po is so big that he has trouble fitting on! In the end, however, his kindness to a tiny ant is repaid in an unexpected way.

Christoph Niemann That's how!

A very imaginative boy answers a girl's questions about how different kinds of vehicles work. Don't expect to find factual information here, but be prepared to laugh!

Alison Reynolds A year with Marmalade

When Maddy's family relocate for a year, she must leave behind her cat, Marmalade, and her best friend Ella. The story of the growing friendship between Marmalade and Ella is set against a backdrop of the changing seasons.

Michael Rosen Blue

One evening when Raffi can't sleep, a magical flying cat called Blue appears and takes him on an adventure through the night sky. The next day, Raffi feels a little bit different. He is happier, and has more confidence. He even finds himself reassuring his brother that walking home in the dark is no problem at all it's fun! Illustrated by Michael Foreman.

Michael Rosen Te haere ki te rapu pea/We're going on a bear hunt

The classic picture book has been translated into Te Reo Māori by Kawata Teepa!

Nick Sharratt My Mum and Dad make me laugh

Mum is crazy about spots, Dad loves stripes. No wonder they make their son laugh, mind you, they think that he's funny in his grey plain clothes. Packed with glorious patterns of stripes and spots, this book also contains a clue on each spread as to the nature of the little boy's obsession.

Bob Shea I'm a shark

A boastful shark is not afraid of anything, which impresses his underwater friends until they ask about spiders.

Mark Sommerset I love lemonade (NZ)

After being tricked into eating Little Baa Baa's Smarty tablets, Quirky Turkey decides it is payback time. But has Quirky got what it takes to pull the wool over Baa Baa's eyes? A follow-up to the comedic Baa baa smart sheep.

Martin Springett Kate & Pippin

Photographs and simple text reveal the true story of a fawn which, abandoned by her mother and brought to live on a farm, is raised by Kate, a Great Dane which has never had puppies of her own.

Philip Stead Bear has a story to tell

It was almost winter and Bear was getting sleepy. But first, he had a story to tell. And so Bear sets out to tell his friends, but with winter fast approaching they are all far too busy to listen. Will anyone be awake to hear his story?

Naoko Stoop Red knit cap girl

In the forest, there is time to wonder about everything. Red Knit Cap Girl wonders about flowers, butterflies, leaves and clouds. But most of all, she wonders about the Moon. A gentle story, illustrated on wood grain by the author.

Sally Sutton Demolition (NZ)

Busy workers and noisy machines demolish an old building and build a new playground. Includes a pictorial glossary of all the machines with a short caption of what each machine does.

The Tjong Khing The birthday cake mystery

Whose birthday party is it? What mischief are the three monkeys making? Who steals the necklace? And will Dog ever finish making the birthday cake? There are multiple stories to find and follow, and countless things to discover in this wordless book from Gecko Press.

Leo Timmers The magical life of Mr Renny

A colourful picture book about Mr. Renny, an artist who suddenly finds his paintings coming to life. Published by Gecko Press.

Hervé Tullet The book with a hole

As each page is turned, the hole in the centre of the book becomes a space for different things. Questions and activities encourage children to imagine the various possibilities. By the author of "Press here."

Mo Willems Duckling gets a cookie

Pigeon is very angry when the duckling gets a cookie just by asking politely.

Mo Willems Goldilocks and the three dinosaurs

Once upon a time, there were three hungry Dinosaurs: Papa Dinosaur, Mama Dinosaur and a Dinosaur who happened to be visiting from Norway. One day for no particular reason they decided to tidy up their house, make the beds, and prepare pudding of varying temperatures. And then for no particular reason they decided to go someplace else. They were definitely not setting a trap for some succulent, unsupervised little girl. Definitely not!

Jeanne Willis Hippopotamus

Hippopotamus had a spotamus on her bottomus! "It's Measles!" said Weasel. "It's Hippopox!" said Fox. "It's Jungle Fever!" said Beaver. But in the end the spotamus turned out to be something hilariously unexpected.

Salina Yoon Do cows meow?

Do cows sing? Do cows coo? All I know is cows go moo! Lift the flaps of this colourful and bold book.



Younger Readers

Tedd Arnold Ride, Fly Guy, ride!

While riding in the car with Buzz and his father, Fly Guy gets blown out of the window and finds himself riding in a variety of vehicles.

Annie Barrows No news is good news

Ivy and Bean try to make money by writing a newspaper about Pancake Court but the neighbours are not pleased to read about themselves. Book eight in the Ivy + Bean series.

Melanie Drewery Fishing fame (NZ)

Max really wants to catch a fish big enough so that his name can go on the Fishing Fame Board. He and his cousin Dan steal one of their uncle's paddle boats, which are not for fishing! Max and Dan get stuck at Shark Point, and a gigantic shark gets caught in their lines, pulling their paddle boat along and throwing them overboard!

Sarah Garland Azzi in between

Azzi and her parents are in danger. They have to leave their home and escape to another country on a frightening journey by car and boat. With a kind helper at the school, Azzi begins to learn English and understand that she is not the only one who has had to flee her home. But Grandma has been left behind and Azzi misses her more than anything. Will Azzi ever see her grandma again? Drawing on her own experience of working among refugee families in Nelson, the author tells, with tenderness and humour, an exciting story.

Sally Gardner Operation Bunny

Emily's neighbour dies leaving Emily a mysterious inheritance: an old shop, a small bunch of golden keys and a cat called Fidget. It's the beginning of an adventure of a lifetime as the old Fairy Detective Agency comes back to life.

Andy Griffiths The 26-storey treehouse

Come and check out the 26-storey tree house, it has an anti-gravity room, an ice-cream-skating rink and a crocodile pit!

Diana Wynne Jones Vile visitors

Two hilarious stories, reissued in one volume. What would you do if the worst visitors in the world came to stay?

William Joyce The flying books of Mr Morris Lessmore

Morris Lessmore loves words, stories and books; after a powerful storm carries him to another land, dreary and colourless, he finds a single book in colour that leads him to an amazing library where, he learns, the books need him as much as he needs them.

Margaret Mahy The Margaret Mahy treasury (NZ)

This republication merits inclusion as it is being released with an audio CD of Mahy reading some of her work.

Kyle Mewburn Dako-snappysaurus (NZ)

Arg goes hunting with his dad and the older Neanderthals. They stop at a beach where everyone falls asleep. When Arg wakes up he notices that his dad has floated off and a dinosaur is about to have him for breakfast. Can Arg save his dad from the hungry dakosaurus? A book in the Dinosaur Rescue series.

Francesca Simon Mr P's naughty book

Mr P's naughty book has the perfect punishment for every naughty act in the world. Each day Mr P's telephone rings with parents desperate for his advice. But the naughty book never seems to get it quite right with chaotic results!

Geronimo Stilton Geronimo Stilton and Thea Stilton Series

These series are perennially popular and both have had new titles come out this year. An exciting combination of mystery, humour and graphic elements.

Mo Willems Listen to my trumpet

When Piggie plays her new trumpet for Gerald, the elephant decides he must be honest in his response. A book for beginner readers, part of the successful Elephant and Piggie series.

Older Readers

David Almond *The boy who swam with piranhas*

Stanley Potts is just an ordinary boy, but when all the jobs in Fish Quay disappear his Uncle Ernie develops an extraordinary fascination with canning fish. Suddenly their home is filled with the sound of clanging machinery and the stench of mackerel! Stan, however, has his own destiny, which leads him via a hook-a-duck stall to Pancho Pirelli, the blue-caped madman who swims with piranhas. And as Stan delves into the waters, he finally discovers who he really can be. Illustrated by Oliver Jeffers.

Katherine Applegate *The one and only Ivan*

When Ivan, a gorilla who has lived for years in a down-and-out circus-themed mall, meets Ruby, a baby elephant that has been added to the mall, he decides that he must find her a better life.

John Boyne *The terrible thing that happened to Barnaby Rocket*

From the moment Barnaby Rocket comes into the world, it's clear he's anything but ordinary. To his parents' horror, Barnaby defies the laws of gravity and floats. Desperate to please his parents, Barnaby does his best to keep both feet on the ground but he just can't do it. One fateful day, the Brocketts decide enough is enough. Barnaby has to go. Betrayed, frightened and alone, Barnaby floats into the path of a very special hot air balloon and so begins a magical journey around the world, with a cast of extraordinary new friends.

Susan Brocker *The drover's quest (NZ)*

Rumour is flying around the 1860s West Coast gold fields that Tom McGee has struck it rich and found a nugget of gold as big as a man's fist. So no one is surprised when next his campsite is found wrecked and abandoned. But one person is convinced Tom is not dead, his headstrong daughter, Charlotte. A good horse rider, she disguises herself as a boy and joins a cattle drove across the Southern Alps. Charlie is in for the ride of her life - and the stakes couldn't be higher.

Daide Cali *Ten little insects*

In this innovative graphic novel, ten very different insects, each with something to hide, are brought together to a mysterious house on a secluded island for the weekend. Then, one by one, they start dying in very unusual circumstances. Inspired by Agatha Christie's *Ten Little Indians*.

James Dashner *A mutiny in time*

When best friends Dak and Sera stumble upon the secret of time travel they're swept up in a centuries-long secret war for the fate of mankind. Recruited by the Hystorians, a secret society that dates back to Aristotle, the kids learn that history has gone disastrously off course. The first title in the Infinity Ring series, a multimedia series, similar to the *39 Clues*.

Kate De Goldi *The ACB with Honora Lee (NZ)*

On Saturday mornings Perry and her father visit her Gran, Honora Lee, at the Santa Lucia rest home, but Gran never remembers them. Perry discovers her Gran has an unconventional interest in the alphabet, so she decides to make an alphabet book with the help of Honora and the others.

Barbara Else *The Queen and the Nobody Boy (NZ)*

Hodie is the unpaid odd-job boy at the Grand Palace in the Kingdom of Fontania. Fed-up, he decides to leave and better himself. The young Queen, 12 year old Sibilla, is fed-up, too. Sick of gossip about her lack of magical ability, she decides to run away with Hodie, whether he likes it or not.

Brian Falkner Maddy West and the tongue taker (NZ)

Maddy West can speak every language in the world. When she is asked to translate some ancient scrolls, Maddy is excited. But the scrolls hide many secrets. Secrets that send Maddy on a wild adventure with a stowaway ninja, a mysterious monkey, a Bulgarian wrestler, and a fiendish witch.

John Flanagan Outcasts

There is only one way to become a warrior. Boys are chosen for teams called Brotherbands and must endure months of gruelling battles in the treacherous sea. Can a group of Outcasts emerge victorious? The first book in the Brotherband series, by the author of the popular Rangers Apprentice series.

Jackie French Pennies for Hitler

Georg is smuggled out of WWII Germany to war-torn London and then across enemy seas to Australia where he must forget his past and who he is in order to survive. A companion to Hitler's Daughter.

Morris Gleitzman After

In the fourth part of Felix's story, continuing his adventures in World War Two, he faces perhaps his greatest challenge to find hope when he's lost almost everything, including his parents. As Europe goes through the final agonizing stages of the war, Felix struggles to reconcile hatred and healing. He's helped by a new friend, but if he should lose her as well...

Andy Griffiths Just doomed

How do you know if you are doomed: The school bully says, 'Touch me again and you're dead'... and you touch them again; You are pushing a lawnmower up a steep hill and you slip and fall forward and the lawnmower starts rolling back down and mows your face off; You jump out of a plane and go to pull the ripcord off your parachute only to realise that you're not wearing a parachute!

Jill Harris At the lake (NZ)

Two brothers, Simon and Jem, are itching to start their summer holiday with their granddad - a whole month at the lake. The friendly lake has changed, though. There are barbed-wire fences, the farm has become a holding yard for old houses guarded by a fierce dog, and there's a caretaker whose wife and kids look terrified. What's going on behind the new fences? Why can't Simon stop himself from being mean to his brother? And just how far will he go to face up to his fear and find out what's really happening?

Sonya Hartnett Children of the king

Cecily and Jeremy have been sent to live with Uncle Peregrine in the country, safe from the war, along with a young refugee named May. But when Cecily and May find two mysterious boys hiding out in a nearby castle ruin, and Jeremy runs away to London to help in the war effort, several destinies come together to make an extraordinary adventure.

Des Hunt Steel pelicans (NZ)

Pelly and his new friend Afi have stumbled upon drug ring operating between their school and near Afi's bach. The pair are well on the way to collecting the evidence they need to bust the operation, when Dean, Pelly's friend, joins them from Australia. In no time at all, Dean's bomb-making obsession threatens not only the investigation but also lives.

Eva Ibbotson Abominables

A hundred years ago, in the Himalayas, the daughter of an English earl is kidnapped by a huge hairy monster. In a secret valley Agatha is introduced to a family of motherless yetis and devotes her life to their upbringing. But as the decades pass, tourists come to the mountains, a hotel is built and yeti-hunters arrive. Agatha knows that there is one place in the world where they would be protected, and they set off on a hugely entertaining road trip half way across the world. Published from an early manuscript found posthumously.

Rachael King Red rocks (NZ)

When Jake stumbles upon a perfectly preserved sealskin, hidden in a crevice at Red Rocks, he's compelled to take it home and hide it under his bed, setting off a chain of events that threatens to destroy his family. Red Rocks takes the Celtic myth of the selkies, or seal people, and transplants it to New Zealand.

Jeff Kinney The third wheel

A Valentine's Day dance at Greg's middle school has turned his world upside down. An unexpected twist gives Greg a partner for the dance and leaves Rowley the odd man out. But a lot can happen in one night, and in the end, you never know who's going to be lucky in love. The newest book in The Diary of a Wimpy Kid series.

Derek Landy Kingdom of the wicked

Magic is a disease. Across the land, normal people are suddenly developing wild and unstable powers. Infected by a rare strain of magic, they are unwittingly endangering their own lives and the lives of the people around them. Terrified and confused, their only hope lies with the Sanctuary. Skulduggery Pleasant and Valkyrie Cain are needed now more than ever. Book Seven in the Skulduggery Pleasant series.

Michael Morpurgo A medal for Leroy

Michael doesn't remember his father, an RAF pilot lost in the war. And his French mother, heartbroken and passionate, doesn't like to talk about her husband. But then Auntie Snowdrop gives Michael a medal, followed by a photograph, which begin to reveal a hidden history. Inspired by the true story of Walter Tull, the first black officer in the British army.

R.J. Palacio Wonder

Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie Pullman has been home-schooled by his parents for his whole life, in an attempt to protect him from the stares and cruelty of the outside world. Now, for the first time, Auggie is being sent to a real school and he's dreading it. One of the most universally praised books of the year.

Marcus Sedgwick Fright forest

Raven Boy has amazing night vision and can talk to animals. Elf Girl is light of foot, sharp of mind and...elfish all over. Before they know it they are plunged into some very strange, creepy, altogether spooky and hilarious adventures as they save their world from trolls, ogres, witches and things that slither and slide in the fiendish forest. The first book in the Elf Girl and Raven Boy series.

Lemony Snicket Who could this be at that hour?

When Lemony Snicket was 13, he ran away and started working for a covert organisation to undermine a mysterious conspiracy. An uncommon mystery, the first in the All The Wrong Questions series from the author of A Series of Unfortunate Events.

Jacqueline Wilson Emerald star

After the death of her beloved mama, Hetty sets off to find a real home at last - starting with the search for her father. Even when she is reunited with her beloved childhood sweetheart Jem, Hetty still longs for adventure - especially when an enchanting figure from her past makes an unexpected reappearance. Could a more exciting future lie ahead for Hetty Feather?

Glenn Wood The brain sucker (NZ)

Lester Smythe has a black heart. He has invented a dangerous brain-sucking machine that removes the goodness from its victims, and he intends to use it to rid the world of all human kindness. But Lester did not count on thirteen-year-old Callum McCulloch and his two best friends, Sophie and Jinx.

Young Adults

Jodi Lynn Anderson *Tiger Lily*

Fifteen-year-old Tiger Lily receives special protections from the spiritual forces of Neverland, but then she meets her tribe's most dangerous enemy--Peter Pan--and falls in love with him.

Jessie Andrews *Me and Earl and the dying girl*

Up until senior year, Greg has maintained total social invisibility. He only has one friend, Earl, and together they spend their time—when not playing video games and avoiding Earl's terrifying brothers—making movies, their own versions of Coppola and Herzog cult classics. Until Greg's mom gets the genius idea that Greg should befriend Rachel, who has cancer. Against his better judgment and despite his extreme awkwardness, he does. When Rachel decides to stop treatment, Greg and Earl make her a movie, and Greg must abandon invisibility and make a stand.

Leigh Bardugo *Shadow and bone*

Orphaned by the Border Wars, Alina Starkov is taken from obscurity and her only friend, Mal, to become the protégé of the mysterious Darkling, who trains her to join the magical elite in the belief that she is the Sun Summoner, who can destroy the monsters of the Fold.

Fleur Beale *The boy in the olive grove* (NZ)

On the night of her seventeenth birthday Bess Grey sees images of a witch-burning unfold in front of her as if in a movie. She also sees images from a different time: lovers, and the girl, she's sure is/was herself. When she meets Nick she recognises him as the boy. There's an immediate connection. She falls in love with Nick but her difficult mother interferes, forcing Bess to make the hardest decision of her life. She must decide whether to lose her mother or the boy she loves

Deborah Burnside *YES* (NZ)

Luke believes the Young Enterprise Scheme will make him and Marty rich and popular, and along the way will capture the heart of his elusive love. Reluctantly Marty says yes. And what comes next is a whole lot bigger and weirder than he could ever have imagined.

Francesca Block *Pink smog*

Weetzie is a thirteen-year-old school outcast mourning the life her family lost when their cottage in the Los Angeles hills burned down. When her father leaves her alcoholic mother without telling either of them where he is going, Weetzie learns how to stand up for herself and to find beauty in even the most difficult situations.

Kristin Cashore *Bitterblue*

Years have passed since the young Princess Bitterblue, and her country, were saved from the vicious King Leck. Now Bitterblue is the queen of Monsea, and her land is at peace. But the influence of her father, a violent psychopath with mind-altering abilities, lives on. Two thieves, who have sworn only to steal what has already been stolen, change her life forever. They hold a key to the truth of Leck's reign. And one of them may also hold a key to her heart. Companion to *Graceling* and *Fire Eight*.

Cassandra Clare *City of lost souls*

Can the lost be reclaimed? What price is too high to pay for love? Who can be trusted when sin and salvation collide? When Jace vanishes with Sebastian, Clary and the Shadowhunters struggle to piece together their shattered world. Book five in the *Mortal Instruments* series.

Kady Cross *The girl in the steel corset*

Finley is a servant in steampunk England. She has a dark side that has led her into trouble and confrontations in the past. Griffin, The Duke of Greythorne, helps her to use her abilities to stop a fiendish plot. A *Harlequin Teen Romance* title.

Michael Grant BZRK

Charles and Ben Armstrong, conjoined twins and owners of the Armstrong Fancy Gifts Corporation, have a goal: to turn the world into their vision of utopia. No wars, no conflict, no hunger. And no free will. Opposing them is a guerrilla group of teens, code name BZRK, who are fighting to protect the right to be messed up, to be human. This is no ordinary war, though. Weapons are deployed on the nano-level. The battleground is the human brain. The first book in a new series.

John Green The fault in our stars

Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to re-examine her perspective on love, loss, and life.

Mandy Hager The nature of ash (NZ)

Ash McCarthy thought he finally had it made: away from home and all its claustrophobic responsibilities, he's revelling in the freedom of student hostel life. But life is about to take a devastating turn, when two police officers knock on his door. Their life-changing news forces him to return home to his Down Syndrome brother Mikey, and impels him into a shady world of political intrigue, corruption, terrorism and lies . . . so many lies.

Michelle Harrison Unrest

Elliott secures a live-in job at one of England's most haunted locations. There he finds Sebastian, the ghost of a long-dead servant boy hanged for stealing bread. He also meets the living, breathing Ophelia, a girl with secrets of her own. She and Elliott grow closer, but things take a terrifying turn when Elliott discovers Sebastian is occupying his body when he leaves it. And the more time Sebastian spends inhabiting a living body, the more resistant he becomes to giving it back. Worse, he seems to have an unhealthy interest in Ophelia. Unless Elliott can lay Sebastian's spirit to rest, he risks being possessed by him for ever, and losing the girl of his dreams...

Rachel Hartman Seraphina

In a world where dragons and humans coexist in an uneasy truce and dragons can assume human form, Seraphina, whose mother died giving birth to her, grapples with her own identity amid magical secrets and royal scandals, while she struggles to accept and develop her extraordinary musical talents.

Maureen Johnson The name of the star

The day that Louisiana teenager Rory arrives in London to start a new life at boarding school is also the day a series of brutal murders breaks out over the city, killings mimicking the horrific Jack the Ripper. Rory is the only one who saw the killer. And before she becomes his next victim, Rory will need to learn the truth about the secret ghost police of London and discover her own shocking abilities. The first book in The shades of London series.

Sherryl Jordan Ransomwood (NZ)

Spurned by her lover, and with her uncle threatening to marry her off to his odious widowed brother, Gwenifer is almost relieved to be sent away to escort the magistrate's old, blind mother to Ransomwood, where the tears of the statue of the Holy Mother are said to have healing qualities. Together with Harry, the village halfwit, who is escaping a sentence of hanging for being in charge of an ox that trampled a child almost to death, they embark on a perilous journey ... each of them looking for a different kind of healing.

Ron Koertge Lies, knives and girls in red dresses

Free-verse reveals true stories behind well-known fairy tales, some reset in modern times, as a strung-out match girl sells CDs to drug users, Little Red Riding Hood admits that she wanted to know what it is like to be swallowed whole, and Cinderella's stepsisters are duped.

Nick Lake *In darkness*

“Shorty” is a Haitian boy trapped in the ruins of a hospital when the Haitian earthquake hits. Yet as Shorty waits alone in darkness for a rescue that may never come, he becomes aware of another presence, one reaching out to him across two hundred years of history. It is the presence of slave and revolutionary leader Toussaint L’Ouverture, whose life was marred by violence, and whose own end came in darkness. What unites a child of the slums with the man who would shake a troubled country out of slavery? Is it the darkness they share . . . or is it hope?

Margo Lanagan *Sea hearts*

Rollrock island is a lonely rock of gulls and waves, blunt fishermen and their homely wives. Life is hard for the families who must wring a poor living from the stormy seas. But Rollrock is also a place of magic - the scary, salty-real sort of magic that changes lives forever. Down on the windswept beach, where the seals lie in herds, the outcast sea witch Misskaella casts her spells - and brings forth girls from the sea...

John Larkin *The shadow girl*

The shadow girl never imagined she’d live on the streets. After her parents disappear, life with her aunt and uncle takes a sinister turn. Terrified that the authorities will believe her uncle over her, she flees. She tricks her way into a new school and pretends to have a loving family. No one knows she sleeps in rail yards, sand dunes and abandoned houses. At school she meets the author she will call on years later. Together they piece together the story of how she survived, who helped her, and the friend she wishes she could have saved.

Jack Lasenby *Calling the Gods (NZ)*

Banishment is the cruellest punishment, and Selene is being driven out unjustly by her own people. A story of violence, love and courage, of leadership and betrayal, a tale of a young woman’s heroic

David Levithan *Every day*

Every day a different body. Every day a different life. Every day in love with the same girl. It’s all fine until the morning that A wakes up in the body of Justin and meets Justin’s girlfriend, Rhiannon. A has found someone he wants to be with—day in, day out, day after day. persistence against impossible odds.

Pittacus Lore *The rise of nine*

The last survivors of an alien race, John, Number Six, and Number Seven desperately try to find the rest of the Lorien Nine before it’s too late to defeat the Mogadorians. The third book in the Lorien Legacies series that started with “I am number four.”



Marie Lu Legend

What was once the Western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbours. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem. From very different worlds, June and Day have no reason to cross paths - until the day June's brother, Metias, is murdered and Day becomes the prime suspect.

Jonathan Maberry Flesh & bone

Benny, Nix, Lilah and Chong journey through a fierce wilderness that was once America, searching for the jet they saw in the skies months ago. If that jet exists then humanity itself must have survived ...somewhere. Finding it is their best hope for having a future and a life worth living, but the Ruin is far more dangerous than any of them can imagine. Fierce animals hunt them. They come face to face with a death cult. And then there's the zombies—swarms of them coming from the east, devouring everything in their paths. The third book in this zombie dystopia series.

Anna Mackenzie Finner's shore (NZ)

Can Ness risk returning to the Island of Dunnett, the home she narrowly escaped three years ago? If she does, what will she find? How will she deal with the legacy of her defection and the scars it has left on those she loves?

Marissa Meyer Cinder

Cinder, a gifted mechanic, is a cyborg. She's a second-class citizen with a mysterious past, reviled by her stepmother and blamed for her stepsister's illness. But when her life becomes intertwined with the handsome Prince Kai's, she suddenly finds herself at the centre of an intergalactic struggle, and a forbidden attraction.

Garth Nix Confusion of princes

"I have died three times, and three times been reborn, though I am not yet twenty in the old earth years by which it is still the fashion to measure time. This is the story of my three deaths, and my life between. My name is Khemri."

Elizabeth Pulford Broken (NZ)

Critically injured in a motorbike accident, Zara lies in a coma. She is caught between many worlds, a world of her hospital room and anxious family, and that of her memories and a dream-like fantasy where she searches for her brother Jem. Zara's adventures in her subconscious unlock dark secrets of a troubled past which Zara must face up to in order to accept her future. The fantasy elements are presented in graphic novel format.

Veronica Roth Insurgent

War looms as conflict between the factions and their ideologies grows. And in times of war, sides must be chosen, secrets will emerge, and choices will become even more irrevocable—and even more powerful. Tris must fully embrace her Divergence, even if she does not know what she may lose by doing so. The second title in the Divergent series.

Sarah Silverwood The London stone

The prophecy has come to pass. The London Stone has been stolen and the Dark King rules the Nowhere. Only Mona and the new Seer dare to stand against him, leading an underground rebellion in the frozen wasteland but what chance do they have, against both the Army of the Mad and Arnold Mather's soldiers?

Maggie Stiefvater The Raven Boys

Though she is from a family of clairvoyants, Blue Sargent's only gift seems to be that she makes other people's talents stronger, and when she meets Gansey, one of the Raven Boys from the expensive Aglionby Academy, she discovers that he has talents of his own and that together their talents are a dangerous mix.

Jonathan Strahan (ed.) *Under my hat: tales from the cauldron*

A collection of stories about witches by popular children's writers including Neil Gaiman, Jane Yolen, Garth Nix and Margo Lanagan.

Laini Taylor *Days of blood and starlight*

Art student and monster's apprentice Karou finally has the answers she has always sought. She knows who she is--and what she is. But with this knowledge comes another truth she would give anything to undo: She loved the enemy and he betrayed her, and a world suffered for it. Sequel to *Daughter of smoke and bone*.

Vikki Wakefield *Friday Brown*

Seventeen-year-old Friday Brown is on the run—running to escape memories of her mother and of the family curse. And of a grandfather who'd like her to stay. She's lost, alone and afraid. She finds a friend, gets involved in a gang and now she is on the run.

Elizabeth Wein *Code name Verity*

Oct. 11th, 1943—A British spy plane crashes in Nazi-occupied France. Its pilot and passenger are best friends. One of the girls has a chance at survival. The other has lost the game before it's barely begun. As a secret agent captured in enemy territory, she's living a spy's worst nightmare. Her Nazi interrogators give her a simple choice: reveal her mission or face a grisly execution. As she intricately weaves her confession, Verity uncovers her past, how she became friends with the pilot Maddie, and why she left Maddie in the wrecked fuselage of their plane.

John Whaley *Where things come back*

Seventeen-year-old Cullen's summer in Lily, Arkansas, is marked by his cousin's death by overdose, an alleged spotting of a woodpecker thought to be extinct, romances, and his younger brother's sudden disappearance. Winner of 2012 Printz award.

Information books, poetry and fairytales

Auckland Art Gallery *I spy NZ art (NZ)*

An alphabet book based on New Zealand works of art in the collection of the Auckland Art Gallery.

Jennifer Beck *Maumahara ki tērā Nōema/ Remember that November (NZ)*

It's almost Guy Fawkes Night, and at the school speech competition Andy talks about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot. The children cheer excitedly, thinking Andy will win the contest. But then, Aroha gets up, wearing a white feather in her hair, and tells the story of another fifth of November - the invasion of Parihaka in 1881.

Nicholas Brockelbank *Nic's cookbook (NZ)*

Cooking is becoming quite the fashionable thing these days, and you only have to watch an episode of Junior Masterchef to realise that there are a lot of kids out there who have amazing culinary ability! Nic Brockelbank is one of these, and he shares some of his favourite recipes in this book.

Jane Brocket *Spotty, stripy, swirly*

Dotty, stripy, straight and swirly--patterns are all around us. How many different patterns can you find pictured in this book?

Eduardo Bustos *Going ape!*

Presents an introduction to some of the world's primate species, with informative facts about such animals as chimpanzees, macaques, gibbons, baboons, orangutans, and gorillas.

Carmen Callil (ed.) *Stop what you're doing and read this!*

In any 24 hours there are so many demands on your time and attention – make books one of them. A collection of essays about the transformative power of reading: the way it inspires us, the tangible impact it can have on our wellbeing, and the importance it holds for us now and will continue to hold in the future.

***Kathy Ceceri* Robotics**

An introduction to the exciting field of robotics, which gives kids the basic tools for creating their own robots using ordinary craft materials and parts salvaged from recycled toys and other household devices.

***Chase Art Companies (ed.)* Dr Seuss the cat behind the hat**

An exuberant and beautifully produced book that juxtaposes the secret art of Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel) with his iconic children's art.

***Nicola Davies* Deadly!**

Stabbing and strangling, poisoning and drowning, electrocuting, exploding, dive-bombing and even death by gluing. Throughout the animal kingdom, creatures great and small have evolved to become masters of murder: from dive-bombing peregrine falcons to exploding carpenter ants, from electric eels to spitting cobras.

***Sarah Ell* Sirocco the rock star kakapo (NZ)**

This book tells the story of the remarkable parrot who has become a worldwide sensation. The narrative follows Sirocco's journey from sick chick to conservation superstar, with sidebars of more specific information about the kakapo and the Kakapo Recovery Programme

***Helen Frost* Step gently out**

Close-up photos and lightly-rhymed declarative verse capture a bug's-eye view of nature and encourage children to experience the world outside their doors with care and openness. Includes insect facts.

***Dan Green* Human body factory**

Whether it's toxic signs and workers wearing biohazard suits in the large intestine, lab workers in dinghies mixing gastric juices in the stomach with a giant whisk, or park keepers on the skin keeping things clean among glades of gently swaying hairs and sweat-gland sprinklers, we promise that kids will never think about their bodies in the same way again.

***Kaltham Al-Ghanem* Hamda and Fiskaira**

The Cinderella story is known across the world in many versions. Retold here is the version known in the Arabian Gulf, in which a fisaikra fish comes to the rescue of Hamda and brings her together with the man of her dreams.

***Blythe Grossberg* Asperger's rules!**

Packed full of information, this book covers common school situations and the uncommon challenges that they can present to a child with Aspergers. Kids will find the how-to for understanding and communicating with peers and teachers, standing up for and taking care of themselves, setting realistic goals, and making friends.

***Steve Jenkins* Just a second**

What can happen in just a second, a minute, or an hour? How can we measure time? What exactly is time? In this title, the author brings forth different ways to think about time beyond the hands we see every day on a ticking clock.

***Diana Wynne Jones* Reflections on the magic of writing**

This collection of more than twenty-five papers, chosen by Diana herself, includes fascinating literary criticism (such as a study of narrative structure in *The Lord of the Rings* and a ringing endorsement of the value of learning Anglo Saxon) alongside autobiographical anecdotes about reading tours (including an account of her famous travel jinx), revelations about the origins of her books, and thoughts in general about the life of an author and the value of writing.

***Robyn Kahukiwa* Te marama (NZ)**

Describes the tikanga and tales surrounding the moon, and its phases.

***Louise Fulton Keats* My Grandma's kitchen**

My Grandma's Kitchen is both children's book and cookbook, featuring a fun rhyming story and whimsical illustrations, along with 30 recipes. The food is fresh, simple and perfect for making with children and will encourage them to get involved in cooking.

Robert Klanten and Hendrik Hellige (eds.)
Little big books

Reflecting a broad range of styles, methods, and materials, the images and concepts featured here provide an insightful overview of the most important aesthetic developments over the last several years. An introductory text puts the current work into the historical context of classic illustrated books for children. A valuable resource for illustrators, parents, grandparents, and anyone who is looking for compelling illustrated children's books beyond teddy bears and cats.

Jacky Klein **What is contemporary art?**

An introduction for children aged eight and over to art made since the 1960s. Featuring art from The Museum of Modern Art in New York, its lively and engaging text introduces the art and ideas to young readers, encouraging children to engage directly with the artworks. The full range of contemporary practice is explored, from painting and sculpture to film, photography, performance and installation.

Teruyuki Komiya **Life-size farm**

With informative facts and illustrations accompanying the photographs that depict the animals at features in their actual life size (or at least as much of it that fits on the page!), Life-Size Farm brings readers eye to eye with a variety of farm animals.

Alison Lester **Sophie Scott goes south**

Sophie Scott is only nine years old, but she's going to Antarctica on an icebreaker with her dad, the ship's captain. During the voyage to Mawson Station and back, Sophie keeps a diary. She sees icebergs, penguins, seals and whales. She makes new friends, wonders at the southern lights and even becomes stranded in a blizzard!

Daniel Lipkowitz **Batman visual dictionary**

Celebrate the action-packed world of LEGO Batman and LEGO DC Super Heroes with all of the vehicles, weapons, locations, gadgets, and minifigures.

John McCrystal **Shackleton Bear goes south**

Ever since he learned that he is named after a Famous Polar Explorer, Shackleton Bear has wanted to travel to Antarctica to see what his namesake saw. Come with him as he learns and experiences the wonders of the sub Antarctic islands, the Southern Ocean and, of course, Antarctica.

Margaret Mahy **The word witch (NZ)**

This republication merits inclusion as it is being released with an audio CD of Mahy reading some of her work. Edited by Tessa Duder and illustrated by David Elliot.

Anthony L. Manna & Soula Mitakidou **The Orphan**

In this variation on the Cinderella story set in Greece, a girl mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters manages to captivate the prince, with help from Mother Nature and her children.

Leonard Marcus **Show me a story**

In compelling interviews by the acclaimed Leonard S. Marcus, twenty-one top authors and illustrators reveal their inside stories on the art of creating picture books.

Orion Childrens **Where's Dogmatix?**

Find Asterix, his pet Dogmatix and their friends in a variety of fun, action-packed scenes.

Laura Purdie Salas **Bookspeak**

Presents a series of poems which pay tribute to the limitless worlds available through books, as characters plead for sequels, strut fancy jackets, and have a raucous party in the aisles after a bookstore closes for the night

Hélène Rajcak **Small and tall tales of extinct animals**

A journey around the world of extinct animals, combining cartoons with naturalist drawings, and mythology with science. Published in English by Gecko Press.

Jon Richards LEGO Harry Potter

From the multiple variations of Harry and Ron to the unique characteristics of Snape and Voldemort, readers can learn about each minifigure and the magical sets they star in, in this book all about LEGO Harry Potter sets.

Michael Rosen Fantastic Mr Dahl

Just how did Roald Dahl get into writing? What ingredients in his life turned him into the kind of writer he was? Michael Rosen comes up with some of the answers to these key questions in his lively biography of the world's Number 1 storyteller. Full of stories and funny anecdotes from Roald Dahl's school days and family life.

Elizabeth Rusch The mighty Mars rovers

The story of the two robot vehicles, Spirit and Opportunity, that were sent to explore Mars, lasting far past their projected lives of 3 months and sending back invaluable images of the environmentally hostile planet.

Martin Salisbury & Morag Styles Children's picturebooks

Children's picture books are the very first books we encounter, and they form an important, constantly evolving, and dynamic sector of the publishing world. But what does it take to create a successful picture book for children? This book covers all the stages of creating a picture book.

Jorge Santillan When's the Doctor?

Can you spot the Doctor, Rory, Amy and the TARDIS in Ancient Rome, Victorian London and the far future? With loads to find, these incredibly detailed images will keep you searching for hours!

Colin Thompson The amazing illustrated floodopedia

Now that they're safely ensconced in Castle Twilight as the supreme rulers of Transylvania Waters, the Flood family of witches and wizards have decided to share their immense wisdomness, magic and bacon-orientated secrets and history with you even though you are mere pathetic humans.

Cristina Urrutia Who will save my planet?

A wordless introduction to the impact human activities have on the planet offers juxtaposed spreads of unblemished versus abused examples of nature, from a sparkling waterfall beside a garbage-clogged river to a beautiful green parrot beside a dull-feathered, caged bird.

Richard Walker Who am I?

Building on fundamental questions about what it means to be human, a thought-provoking exploration of human identity draws on biological, psychological and social sciences to provide coverage of topics ranging from language and DNA studies to anti-aging technologies and how emotions help us to interpret the world.

Marcia Williams The elephant's friend and other tales from ancient India

This is a treasure trove of Indian animal stories for children to enjoy again and again. These eight individual stories form a magical collection of India's best-loved animal folk tales.

Robert Winston That's life!

Put the buzz back into biology with Professor Robert Winston. What makes Earth an ideal place for life to survive? A well designed and illustrated book.

Check out our Christchurch Kids Blog

You can:

- Read book reviews and write your own.
- Watch movie and book trailers.
- Tell us what you think by commenting, writing posts and voting in polls.
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