



An Australian Government Initiative

3-9 September
**National Literacy
and Numeracy Week 2007**

Making a Difference

Great Aussie Reads for Aussie Kids

A list of great Australian kids' books
by Children's Author and NLNW
Ambassador Christopher Cheng

The views expressed in this booklet do not necessarily
represent the views of the Australian Government
Department of Education, Science and Training

A note to Parents and Caregivers

How do you find the right book for your child from all the thousands and thousands of books that are out there?

Often parents have trouble choosing books for children. This booklet should help you. It contains a wide range of great Aussie kids' books. There are books for younger children to listen to and for those who are learning to read.

For older children who are able to read, talk to your child. Find out what they like. Do they like adventure? Do they like sports? What about mystery? Or maybe humorous books? You'll find books like that in this list. And if they don't seem to get wrapped up in the book then keep tempting them with others. Remember that many adults like to try different cars before they decide which one is just right for them. So it is with kids and the books they read. They might need to try reading a few different books before finding the ones they really want. Later on, their tastes will probably change and they will move to other books. Fantastic!

Christopher Cheng

Great Aussie Reads for Aussie Kids

Welcome 2

Classic Fiction 3

Books that have stood the test of time

Series Fiction 4

For younger and middle/older readers. Great titles that will really get kids hooked into reading ... and if they like one title then there are more in the series to really grab them.

Fiction 6

Individual younger Fiction and middle/older Fiction books that kids love. These have been around for a while.

New Picture Books 8

Recently published Picture Books with wonderful illustrations and simple text.

New Junior Fiction 10

Recently published Junior Fiction with simple illustrations for children who are starting to read chapter books.

New Fiction 11

Recently published Fiction for children who want to really sink their teeth into some fantastic books.



This is my personal list of books that I really like ... I have them all on my bookshelves! Use it as a guide for choosing books that I really hope your young reader will love.

Many of these authors and illustrators have multiple titles; often I have chosen only one so check out their websites or ask your local bookseller for other books by these wonderful book creators.

All **new** books and most of the other titles are in print and should be available at all good bookstores.

And of course all of the books are created by Australian authors and/or illustrators.

There are more great Australian picture and fiction books coming so check back to the National Literacy and Numeracy Week website at www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au for other great titles. These will be updated throughout the coming months.

Not sure about how to read to your child? Then jump to the National Literacy and Numeracy Week website and download my *Read Aloud Hints for Parents and Caregivers*. This will give you some ideas.

Christopher Cheng

Christopher Cheng is an Australian children's author who is passionate about promoting the importance of literacy development. A NLNW Ambassador for the past three years, Chris' creative approach to the world of literature has resulted in fifteen published titles including a picture book, fiction and non-fiction. Chris' award winning picture book **One child** (illustrated by Steven Woolman) won the Wilderness Society Environment Award for Picture Books in 1998 (Australia) and the 2000 Skipping Stones Honour Book in the USA. His latest books are the historical novels **The Melting Pot**, seeing Sydney in 1903-4 and the impact of the newly legislated Immigration Restriction Act and **New Gold Mountain**, exploring the racially-based conflicts on the Lambing Flat goldfield in 1860-61 and its impact on the Chinese community, and the non fiction title **30 Amazing Australian Animals**.

Chris has taught in schools in NSW as well as working as an Education Officer at Taronga Zoo. Although he is now a full time author, Chris still regularly conducts workshops at schools, introducing students to the writing experience. He has also presented to students at schools and universities in the USA. For more information about Chris go to www.chrischeng.com

Classic Fiction

Books that have stood the test of time

A Little Bush Maid	Mary Grant Bruce	HarperCollins
Blinky Bill	Dorothy Wall	HarperCollins
I Can Jump Puddles	Alan Marshall	Puffin
Josh	Ivan Southall	UQP
Magic Pudding, the	Norman Lindsay	HarperCollins
Midnite	Randolph Stow	Puffin
Muddle-Headed Wombat, the	Ruth Park	HarperCollins
Nimbin, the	Jenny Wagner	Puffin
Pastures of the Blue Crane	Hesba Brinsmead	UQP
Playing Beatie Bow	Ruth Park	Puffin
Plum Rain Scroll, the	Ruth Manley	UQP
Seven Little Australians	Ethel Turner	Puffin
Snugglepot and Cuddlepie	May Gibbs	HarperCollins
Storm Boy	Colin Thiele	New Holland
Sun on the Stubble	Colin Thiele	New Holland
Tangara	Nan Chauncey	UQP

SERIES TITLE	FIRST TITLE	AUTHOR	
Cairo Jim	Cairo Jim on the Trail to ChaCha Muchos	Geoffrey McSkimming	HodderHeadline
Deltora Quest	Forest of Silence	Emily Rodda	Scholastic
Janna Mysteries (T)	Rosemary for Remembrance	Felicity Pulman	Random House
Keys to the Kingdom	Mister Monday	Garth Nix	Allen&Unwin
Lily Quench	Lily Quench & the Dragon of Ashby	Natalie Jane Prior	ABC
Max Remy	Max Remy In Search of the Time & Space Machine	Deb Abela	Random House
Obernewtyn Chronicles (T)	Obernewtyn	Isobelle Carmody	Puffin
Pagan Chronicles, the	Pagan's Crusade	Cathy Jinks	Allen&Unwin
Quentaris Chronicles	Quentaris in Flames	Michael Pryor & Paul Collins	Lothian
Rangers Apprentice	Ruins of Gorlan, the	John Flanagan	Random House
Roger Bacon	A Pig called Francis Bacon	Stephen Measday	HodderHeadline
Rowan	Rowan of Rin	Emily Rodda	Scholastic
Selby	Selby's Secret	Duncan Ball	Angus&Robertson
So	So Gross	J. A. Mawter	HarperCollins
Specky Magee	Specky Magee	Felice Arena & Garry Lyon	Puffin
Spy Girls	Secrets	Christine Harris	Scholastic
Tomorrow (T)	Tomorrow, When the War Began	John Marsden	PanMacmillan
Totally	Totally Creepy	Moya Simons	ABC
Un...	Uncanny!	Paul Jennings	Puffin

(T) Books with teenage themes

And for younger readers:

SERIES TITLE	FIRST TITLE	AUTHOR	
Chain of Charms	Gypsy Crown, the	Kate Forsyth	Pan Macmillan
Fairy Realm	Charm Bracelet, the	Emily Rodda	ABC
Floramunde Series	Willow Tree's Daughter	Pamela Freeman	Allen&Unwin
Gizmo	Gizmo, the	Paul Jennings	Puffin
Goblin	Gibblewort the Goblin	Victor Kelleher & Stephen Michael King	Random House
Hannah books	Skating on Sand	Libby Gleeson	Puffin
Pearlie	Pearlie in the Park	Wendy Harmer	Random House
Piccolo & Annabelle	Very Messy Inspection, the	Stephen Axelsen	Random House
Tashi	Tashi	Anna Fienberg	Allen&Unwin

These have been around for a while and kids love them.

There are books for younger readers (*) as well as older fiction books, and books with teenage themes (T).

27th Annual African Hippopotamus Race*	Morris Lurie	Puffin
45 & 47 Stella Street and Everything That Happened *	Elizabeth Honey	Allen&Unwin
Antonio S and the Mystery of Theodore Guzman	Odo Hirsch	Allen&Unwin
Ariel, Zed and the Secret of Life *	Anna Fienberg	Allen&Unwin
Big Bazoohley, the *	Peter Carey & Stephen Michael King	Random House
Book of Unicorns	Jackie French	Angus&Robertson
Boss of the Pool	Robin Klein	Scholastic
Bugalugs Bum Thief, the	Tim Winton	Puffin
Cannily, Cannily	Simon French	Puffin
Captain Mack	James Roy	UQP
China Coin (T)	Allan Baillie	Puffin
Daughter of the Regiment	Jackie French	Angus&Robertson
Dodger	Libby Gleeson	Puffin
First Book of Samuel, the	Ursula Dubosarsky	Puffin
Gasp *	Terry Denton	Puffin
Hating Alison Ashley	Robin Klein	Puffin
I Am Jack	Susanne Gervay	HarperCollins
I Hate Fridays	Rachel Flynn	Puffin

Jumpman Rule 1: Don't Touch Anything	James Valentine	Random House
Little Brother	Allan Baillie	Puffin
Lockie Leonard Human Torpedo (T)	Tim Winton	Puffin
Looking For Alibrandi (T)	Marlina Marchetta	Puffin
Maddie	Brian Caswell	UQP
My Life, My Love, My Lasagne	Steven Herrick	UQP
Nim's Island *	Wendy Orr	Allen&Unwin
Nips XI	Ruth Starke	Lothian
No Gun for Asmir	Christobel Mattingley	Puffin
Old Tom *	Leigh Hobbs	Puffin
Paw Thing, the *	Paul Jennings	Puffin
Penny Pollard's Diary *	Robin Klein & Ann James	Hodder Headline
Pigs Might Fly *	Emily Rodda	HarperCollins
So Much To Tell You (T)	John Marsden	Lothian
Space Demons	Gillian Rubinstein	Scholastic
Taronga (T)	Victor Kelleher	Puffin
Thunderwith (T)	Libby Hathorn	Hodder Headline
Two Weeks with the Queen	Morris Gleitzman	PanMacmillan

New Picture Books

Amy & Louis	Libby Gleeson & Freya Blackwood	Scholastic
Are you Hungry?	Tina Burke	Puffin
Bobbie Dazzler	Margaret Wild & Janine Dawson	Working Title Press
Crooked Little House, the	Margaret Wild & Jonathon Bentley	ABC Books
Dimity Dumpty, the Story of Humpty's Little Sister	Bob Graham	Walker Books
Eight	Lyn Lee & Kym Gamble	Scholastic
Fly, Kite, Fly!	John Winch	Little Hare
I've Lost My Kisses	Trudie Trewin & Nick Bland	Scholastic
Katie and Cleo Move In	Catherine Jinks & Andrew McLean	Penguin
Last Tree, the	Mark Wilson	Lothian
Little Jingle Says No!	Kerrie O'Connor & Craig Smith	Allen&Unwin
Lucy's Cat and the Rainbow Birds	Anthony Hill & Jane Tanner	Penguin
No Room for a Mouse	Kyle Mewburn & Freya Blackwood	Scholastic
One Blue Sock	Emily Ballou & Stephen Michael King	Random House
Only a Donkey	Celeste Walters & Patricia Mullins	Penguin
Quincy and Oscar	Kerry Millard	ABC Books
Rainbirds, the	David Metzenthen & Sally Rippin	Lothian
Ready, Set, Skip!	Jane O'Connor & Ann James	Penguin
Rex	Ursula Dubosarsky & David Mackintosh	Puffin

"The Trouble with Dogs!"	Bob Graham	Walker Books
Tough Ol' Teddy	Bruce Atherton & Elise Hurst	Lothian
Uno's Garden	Graeme Base	Penguin
Water Witcher	Jan Ormerod	Little Hare
What Will You Be?	Simon French & Donna Rawlins	Allen&Unwin
Two special wordless picture books for older readers:		
Arrival, the	Shaun Tan	Lothian
Midsummer Knight	Gregory Rogers	Allen&Unwin

*** Don't forget to see the list – **55 Australian picture books** produced for National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2006 at www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au for other wonderful titles.

Across the Dark Sea	Wendy Orr & Donna Rawlins	National Museum of Australia
Beastly Tales	Richard Tulloch & Terry Denton	Random House
Captain Clawbeak and the Red Herring	Anne Morgan & Wayne Harris	Random House
Clancy's Long, Long Walk	Libby Gleeson & Chantal Stewart	Puffin
Cool Bananas	Christine Harris & Bettina Guthridge	ABC Kids
Danny daVinci – the giant horse of Milan	Bruce Whatley & Rosie Smith	ABC Books
Emily's Rapunzel Hair	Cecily Matthews & Freya Blackwood	ABC Books
Fairy Four-Eyes	Penny Matthews & Emma Quay	Puffin
Happy Birthday x 3	Libby Gleeson & David Cox	Walker Books
Joke Trap, the	Richard Glover & Gus Gordon	ABC Kids
Mokie & Bik	Wendy Orr & Beth Norling	Allen&Unwin
Philomena Wonderpen is a very naughty teacher	Ian Bone & Janine Dawson	Puffin
Pirates Eat Porridge	Christopher Morgan & Neil Curtis	Allen&Unwin
Run, Kid, Run	Andrew Daddo & Craig Smith	ABC Kids
Shadow Brumby, the (Bonnie and Sam series)	Alison Lester & Roland Harvey	Allen&Unwin

Poetry and verse:

Doodledum Dancing	Meredith Costain & Pamela Allen	Penguin
Wicked Wizards and Leaping Lizards	Mark Carthew & Mike Spoor	Random House

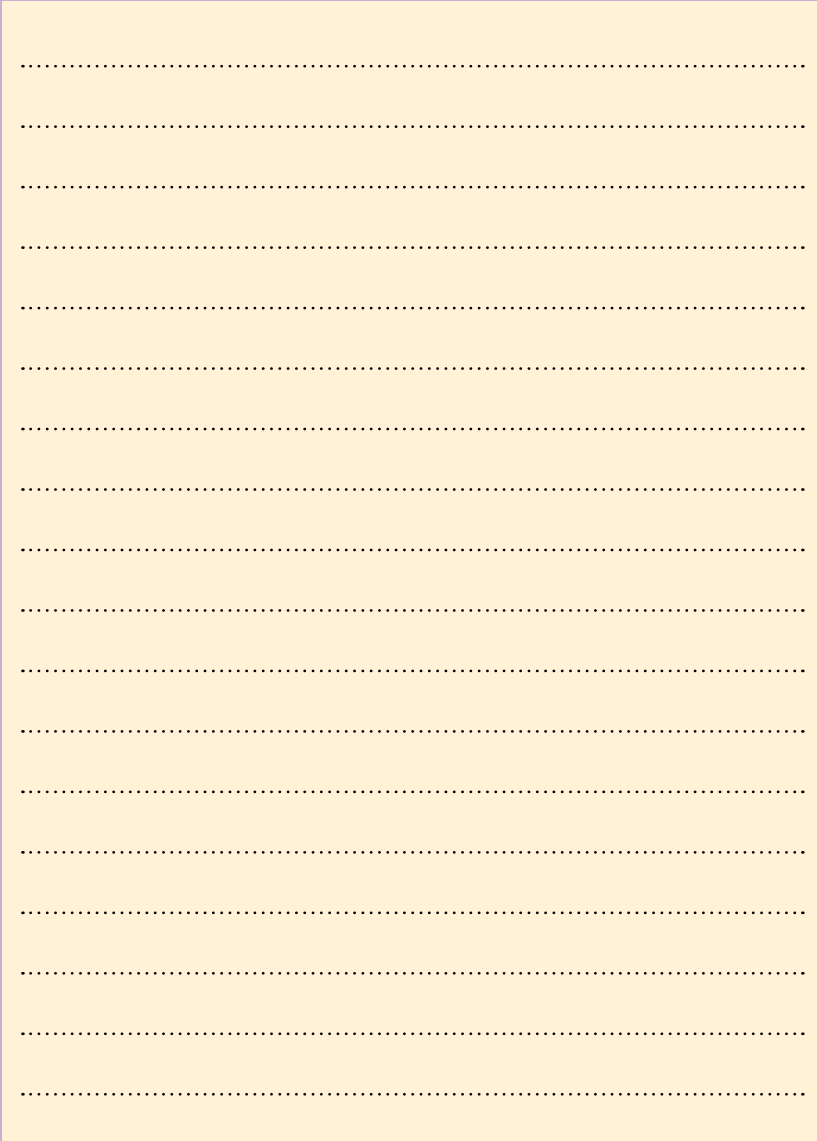
New Fiction

Annabel, again	Meg McKinlay	Walker
Cat's Mountain	Allan Baillie	Puffin
Danny Allen Was Here	Phil Cummings	Pan
Dragonkeeper	Carole Wilkinson	Black Dog Books
How to be a Great Detective	Ursula Dubosarsky	Puffin
Melting Pot, the	Christopher Cheng	Scholastic
Neighbours (the Floods)	Colin Thompson	Random House
Pharaoh, the boy who conquered the Nile	Jackie French	Angus&Robertson
Red Shoe, the	Ursula Dubosarsky	Puffin
Star of the Show	Nette Hilton	UQP
Third Prince, the	Rachel Flynn	Puffin
Totally Horse Mad (Horse Mad)	Kathy Helidoniotis	HarperCollins
Tuckshop Kid, the	Pat Flynn	UQP
Tunnels of Ferdinand	James Moloney	Angus&Robertson
Undys, the	Michael Wagner	Puffin
Unleashed (the Freewheelers)	JA Mawter	Angus&Robertson
Worry Tree, the	Marianne Musgrove	Random House

Poetry and verse:

Mulga Bill's Bicycle and other classics by AB (Banjo) Paterson	Bruce Whatley	ABC Books
If the World Belonged to Dogs	Michelle A Taylor	UQP
Ogre in a Toga	Geoffrey McSkimming	Scholastic

You might want to use this page as a record of the books that have been read, or maybe for other great books that must be read.



A large yellow rectangular area with horizontal dotted lines, intended for writing a list of books.

Great Aussie Reads for Aussie Kids

For other great titles, check out the National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2007 website:

www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au



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