

Matt Shanks

Author/Illustrator



Matt was born in Sydney, Australia and now resides in Melbourne. Sandwiched between the bush and beach, the inspiration for his short stories comes from a love of his unique country. His early fascination for the combination of words and pictures saw him complete a Bachelor of Design at the University of Sydney in 2003. It took him 10 years while working as a Creative Director at some of Melbourne's best design agencies to realise that this 'watercolour hobby' of his needed to be shared with more than just his wife and cat.

Simplicity, humour and the art of the unseen are strong themes in Matt's illustration work. He has now illustrated several books for children, including his popular Australian Nursery Rhyme series.

PUBLICATIONS

- Der Glumph*, 2019
- Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*, 2018
- Incy Wincy Spider*, 2018
- Eric the Postie*, 2017
- Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*, 2017
- Row, Row, Row Your Boat*, 2016

REVIEWS

Matt Shanks has turned the favourite song – *Row Row Row your boat* – into a wonderful new picture book with a quirky Australian theme. I can see young children happily reading and singing along to the text while they delight in the brightly coloured double-page spreads. Matt's vibrant and unique water-colour illustrations provide the perfect accompaniment to the lyrics of the text.

Row, Row, Row Your Boat reviewed by Wendy Fitzgerald, *The Children's Book Council of Australia, Reading Time*

AWARDS

Eric the Postie was a Notable Title in the CBCA Awards, 2018.

LINKS

www.mattshanks.com.au

