ISSUE 5 2025

Teacher Essentials

BOOK AN ADVENTURE!

BOOK WEEK 16–23 AUG 2025



801. NEW! CBCA SHORTLIST 2025 BARGAIN PACK 24 books, 32-176 pp. \$581.73 TE \$439.00

SAVE \$142.73



802. BOOK ERASER CLASS REWARD PACK SET OF 30 ERASERS Celebrate Book Week by rewarding your students with cute book erasers!

30 erasers in assorted designs. \$60.00 TE \$33.00



803. NEW! SENSORY SOFT SQUEEZE SEAT

Designed to squeeze a child's torso when sitting, providing a gentle hug and sense of security. *Measures 32-176 pp. Maximum weight 50kg.*

SAVE \$100.99

\$449.99 TE **\$349.00**



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CBCA BOOK OF **SHORTLIST** 2025

Congratulations to all of the incredible authors, illustrators, and publishers who made this year's list! Unlock the adventure of 2025's best of children's literature with our exclusive value packs—featuring every shortlisted title from each category.



BOOK WEEK AUG 2025





TELL A STORY



812. NEW! The Story Writer's Handbook Katrina Nannested brings her renowned storytelling to a fun and inspiring writing guide for upper primary students. 192 pp.

\$26.99 TE \$25.00





BIG MAGNETIC CHALK BOARD!



813. Tell a Story Magnetic Board

The ultimate storytelling board! Includes 75 thick wooden magnetic pieces that include people from different ages, genders, ethnic background, professions as well as buildings, vehicles, trees, animals and more.

Board measures 85 x 45cm. Includes 75 wooden magnetic pieces. \$119.99 TE \$115.00



JULIA DONALDSON - AXEL SCHEFFLER



814. 'Book An Adventure' Picture Book Pack 6 books (4 hardcovers, 2 softcovers), 24-64 pp. \$124.94 TE \$59.00



815. 'Book an Adventure' Chapter Book Pack 6 books, 112-160 pp. \$93:94 TE \$52.00 SAVE \$41.94



816. 'Book an Adventure' Novel Pack 6 books, 192-416 pp. \$106.94 TE \$52.00 SAVE \$54.94

TELL A STORY - BRAND NEW READ-ALOUDS



817. NEW!

The Thank You Book Piggie wants to thank EVERYONE. But Gerald is worried Piggie will forget someone important. 64 pp. \$12.99 TE \$12.00



818. NEW! The Day the Crayons Made Friends

Duncan's crayons are off again, this time determined to befriend his toys. 40-pp hardcover. \$24.99 TE \$20.00



819. NEW! The Girl in the Painting

A beautiful narrative nonfiction story about one of Australia's most iconic paintings, Shearing the Rams. 32-pp hardcover. \$26.99 TE \$22.00





820. NEW! The Emperor's Egg The emperor gives every child in his kingdom an egg to help decide who will be his heir. How will Ren present his unhatched egg to the emperor? 32-pp hardcover. \$24.99 TE \$20.00

Swapna Haddow The almost true story of stuff that actually happened in a library A librarian weaves increasingly outrageous tales in response to the relentless childhood question: why not? 24 pp. \$16.99 TE \$10.00 Daron Parton



FULL STEAM AHEAD!



823. Place Value Discs: **Decimals to Whole Numbers**

Colour-coded according to place value, these foam discs allow students to visually track what happens when they regroup numbers in both addition and subtraction. 250 foam discs, each measuring 2.5cm diameter. \$29.99 TE \$28.00







824. Money Matters 2-Pack

The Money Matters series of picture books provide a gentle means of promoting concepts of money management, boosting self-esteem and reinforcing good behaviour. Each 32 pp.

\$33.98 TE \$22.00



825. Primary Bucket Balance

Students can measure, estimate, or compare and contrast liquids or dry items with this convenient bucket balance. Measures 42 x 17 x 15cm.

\$49.99 TE \$45.00



30 MAGNETIC TILES

826. NEW! **Rainbow Geometry Pack**

Featuring hexagons and triangles in every colour, this pack will encourage learners to explore geometry through play. Contains 6 hexagons, 12 equilateral triangles, 12 isosceles triangles, inspiration book.

Brainome

\$69.00 TE \$66.00



827. NEW! STEM Explorers Geo-Glow Art Students use pegboards and removable glow-bands to craft glow-in-the-dark art pieces. 122 pieces.

\$49.99 TE \$46.00



CLASSROOM STAPLES

BALANCE, SIT

OR BOUNCE!





830. Wiggle Seat Sensory Chair Cushion - Mint

Wiggle seats provide an outlet for excess energy by allowing children to quietly move while working, enabling them to better focus and be more productive. Measures 33cm diameter. Includes hand pump. \$39.99 TE \$36.00

10 UNIQUE BEAN BAGS

831. My Feelings Bean Bags

829. Bouncy Board Students can jump and balance

\$99.99 TE \$92.00

in different positions to release

excess energy and boost focus. Measures 55 x 40 x 11cm.

Touch, toss, and talk about the emotions depicted on each tactile beanbag for a multi-sensory emotional learning experience.

10 bean bags, each measuring 10 x 10cm. \$49.99 TE \$45.00



832. Fidget Box

Fidget tools can help reduce stress and anxiety, and they are great for improving fine motor skills, coordination, and dexterity. They can also aid in focus, attention, and staying calm, especially for students who have extra energy and hyperactivity. 18 assorted fidget tools.

\$44.99 TE \$39.00



834. NEW! **Classroom Caddie - Blue** This rotating organiser features eight lock-in storage trays made from clear plastic-perfect for easily spotting what's inside! 30cm diameter, 13cm tall. \$49.99 TE \$49.00 Accessories not included.

FOR MORE PRODUCT INFORMATION VISIT: SCHOOLESSENTIALS.COM.AU

OUR AUSTRALIA



835. NEW! My Australia Set

Take a trip to the Australian outback, with a wooden playscape featuring landmarks, flora, and fauna. 23 pieces.

\$124.99 TE \$119.00



836. NEW! Adventures on the Dreaming Path

Join Uncle Rolly, Emily, and Jacob for adventures through Dreamtime stories, yarns and activities that connect us to Country. 140-pp hardcover. \$29.99 TE \$28.00









837. NEW! Fantastic Facts About Australia Pack How much do you really know about Australia? Dive in to masses of mini articles on everything you could ever want to know about Australia. 4 books, each 32 pp. \$79.96 TE \$65.00









838. NEW! Australian Transport 4-Pack This bright and informative series looks at the development of our transport systems and what they mean for life in Australia today. 4 books, each 32 pp.

\$79.96 TE **\$59.00**





REPEARLE OVER PEEDER LIGHTURE & RACHEL GERGE

840. NEW! Rakali of the Riverbank Explore the perilous night life of the Australian native water rat. 32-pp hardcover. \$26.99 TE \$22.00

839. NEW! Quoll Follow the Eastern quoll on her nightly hunt to find food for her pups. 32-pp hardcover. \$26.99 TE \$22.00

OUR AUSTRALIA

841. NEW! Weaving Country

Walert is finally old enough to learn basket weaving from her grandmother but what lessons do a pair of cheeky blue wrens have in store? 32-pp hardcover. \$26.99 TE \$22.00







842. NEW! Baabinje's Backyard A colourful and wise picture book about a grandmother's love for her garden, her Country and her family. 32-pp hardcover. \$24.99 TE \$20.00



843. Democracy and the Australian Government 4-Pack This series provides a comprehensive introduction to the Australian law-making process, and insight into how the government and wider Australian society function. *Each 32 pp.*

\$79.96 TE \$49.00 SAVE \$30.96



844. Australian States and Territories 8-Pack This series covers the geography, Indigenous

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history and culture, economics, government, maps, timelines and little known facts about each Australian state or territory. Each 32 pp. \$159.92 TE \$79.00 SAVE \$80.92





845. NEW! This Bird Discover the birds that share our urban spaces. 64-pp hardcover. \$32.99 TE \$27.00



846. NEW! Find that Bird Discover the world of birds with this portable guide-covering over 175 species and packed with 200 vibrant colour photos. 96 pp. Measures 18 x 13cm. \$14.99 TE \$13.00



847. NEW! The Great Dawn Choir Celebrate the dawn chorus and the beautiful native Australian birds that take part in it each morning. 32-pp hardcover. \$26.99 TE \$22.00



SPOTLIGHT ON: TWO OF AUSTRALIA'S FAVO



ALPACAS IN SPACE

From best-selling Australian author/illustrator, MATT COSGROVE, comes the twelfth instalment in the Macca and Dharma picture book series, *Alpacas in Space*.

Join the countdown as intrepid astronauts, Macca the Alpaca and his best pal, Al, blast off into outer space.

It's an epic, cosmic adventure where anything is possible ... because they're using their imaginations!

We had the pleasure of chatting with author/illustrator, Matt, about his latest book. Here's what he said.

Q&A with MATT COSGROVE

Tell us in your own words about your new book, *Alpacas in Space*.

Alpacas in Space is the brand-new Macca the Alpaca book. In it, Macca and his best pal, Al, launch into space on an out-of-thisworld adventure, using the power of their imaginations.

With over 1.5 million Macca and Dharma books in print, why do you think the series has been so successful?

Macca is cute and kind, the illustrations are bright and colourful, and the stories all have a sweet message, but are also (hopefully!) tonnes of fun to read. Plus, the series serendipitously started just as the whole world seemed to collectively realise alpacas are awesome!

What was the most rewarding aspect of illustrating this book? And do you have a favourite spread?

Illustrating traditionally is slow going, but the process of creating the pictures by hand is artistically fulfilling and very soothing—if you can ignore the deadlines!

Creating the double-page spread of Macca and Al's rocket blasting off into the stars was definitely my favourite. It's such a cool subject and was also technically challenging so it was genuinely a blast to create. And I love to imagine that when kids reading the book get to that spread, they'll need to rotate the book to point the rocket into space, so it will be an exciting moment and actually transform the book from a static object into a truly interactive one.



See the back cover for this and other fun new picture books!

What medium and what process did you use to create the illustrations?

All the illustrations are created old-school style, by hand. After I lay down a wash of watercolour paint to block out the areas of colour, I then spend hours drawing over the top, creating the texture and details through layers and layers of coloured pencil, with a few finishing touches of gouache paint.



If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

Super speed! I am slow at everything writing, drawing, thinking, reading, running, housework, everything! Being fast would be a wonderful novelty for me and would certainly come in handy with all my deadlines!

What do you like to do when you are not creating books?

When I'm not making books myself, I'm hanging out in libraries reading other people's books or browsing in bookstores buying other people's books. I'm a book tragic. My TBR pile is a toppling tower!



MATT COSGROVE is a best-selling, award-winning author and illustrator who lives in Sydney with his wife and two children. He spends his days writing and drawing and loves making kids laugh. His series with his wife Eva Amores, Worst Week Ever, has sold into over 50 countries, making is a worldwide smash hit!

He likes chocolate, avoiding social interactions and more cho<u>colate.</u>



SCHOLASTIC SCHOLASTIC

OURITE CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK SERIES



TWO CRANKY BEARS

Two bears, one hill. Everything was fine until they reached the top and that's when fine turned quickly into . . . 'MINE!' Can these cranky bears learn to share?

We got the inside scoop from author/illustrator, Nick, on his brand-new release. Here's what he said.

Q&A with NICK BLAND

Can you tell us in your own words a little about what our beloved Bear and his old friend Polar Bear get up to when they meet again?

I think the opening line sums it up pretty well.

...Two bears, one hill, everything was fine... until...

When two bears each think they're the first to find a hill of snow, do they agree to share? Or do they take a longer, more



adversarial path towards co-operation? A bit of each, it turns out.

Do you have a favourite spread in the book, and what is it you like about it?

I particularly like the very simple page where the two bears are standing back-toback after the sun has gone down and the moon is yet to rise. Polar Bear is looking up, perhaps waiting for the moon to arrive and Bear is looking down wondering what is lurking in the water below. I like how much this page says with such simple variations on the similar page at the beginning of the book. There's the tension of two adversaries suddenly being so close, and their separate anxieties about outside forces that are about to change everything on the next page.

What medium and what process did you use to create the illustrations?

The illustrations are 100% acrylic. Unlike most of my books, I actually painted this one from the first page to the last. The process is very simple, I draw the page in pencil onto watercolour paper and paint over it.

Two Cranky Bears is the ninth book in the Very Cranky Bear series, with over 4 million in print. What do you think makes it so popular with parents and young children?

I honestly think it's because a bear looks like a person in a bear suit. But there's no doubt that a well-executed rhyming structure sticks in the mind and encourages multiple reads.

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Do you have a favourite character in the series?

As a Northern Territorian, I particularly liked Boris Buffalo as a character. But I've also returned to Polar Bear because I like drawing him.

When you are not working on your books, what keeps you busy in your spare time?

To be honest, I'm always working on books. When I'm procrastinating, I listen to podcasts, play chess with grumpy old men, potter around the block and improve my studio.



NICK BLAND

is an internationally best-selling, awardwinning author and illustrator.

Nick was born on a farm in Victoria's

Yarra Valley, the son of two school teachers. When he moved to the bush at the age of 6, he discovered a wonderful new world, and his creativity bloomed. Nick always wanted to be a cartoonist and a writer, but it wasn't until he got a job at a bookshop in his 20s that he finally found a way to bring those two loves together. Untrained, he spent the next couple of years reading every picture book that hit the shelves and began discovering his style as a storyteller and illustrator. He now lives in tropical Darwin, where he works full time as an author and illustrator.

See the back cover for this and other fun new picture books!







ISSUE 2025 Ć

> PULL OUT POSTER HANG ME UP IN YOUR CLASSROOM!

HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

THE HISTORY BOX

Encourage students to step back in time and take part in the events of Australia's past. Written to strongly support the history component of the Australian Curriculum: HASS.

Each box comes with digital access to all content. You will be asked to activate your Access Code, which will create an account for you to log into. Here you will |find a digital display of all content should you wish to project that content onto a screen for a whole class to view. Please note, however, that this content is not in the form of downloads so can't be shared.

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848. The History Box An Inquiry Approach (Year 3)

Boxed set of 64 Text Cards (16 x 4 copies each) and 32 Starter Cards (two activities per card), each 21 x 15cm.

\$375.00 TE \$275.00





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850. The History Box An Inquiry Approach (Year 5) Boxed set of 72 Text Cards (18 x 4 copies each) and 36 Starter Cards (two activities per card), each 21 x 15cm.

\$375.00 TE \$275.00

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849. The History Box An Inquiry Approach (Year 4) Boxed set of 76 Text Cards

(19 x 4 copies each) and 38 Starter

Cards (two activities per card), each 21 x 15cm.

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851. The History Box An Inquiry Approach (Year 6)

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852. Oxford Atlas (Foundation to Year 2) 10-Pack Buy in bulk and save! *Each 112 pp.*







853. Oxford Atlas (Years 5 to 6) 10-Pack Buy in bulk and save! Each 216 pp. \$439.50 TE \$349.00 SAVE \$90.50



PHONICS BOOK PACKS



854. Reading Champions Readers Pack Every title in this bumper collection has been expertly levelled for children aged five and over who are starting to read independently. 30 books, each 24 pp.

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855. NEW! Decodable Books Kindergarten Set 1: 15-Book Set Give your early readers a strong start as they explore new sounds and build phonological awareness, phonics skills, and confidence with high-frequency words. 15 books, each 12 pp.

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856. Decodable Big Books Fiction Group instruction of the Science of Reading is made

simple with six big books covering Letters and Sounds phases 2-4. 6 big books measuring 42 x 30cm, each 8pp. \$69.99 TE \$65.00





857. Decodable Big Books Non-Fiction Group instruction of the Science of Reading is made simple with six big books covering Letters and Sounds phases 2-4. 6 big books measuring 42 x 30cm, each 8pp. \$69.99 TE \$65.00





858. Jill Jet - Decodable Chapter Books Boxed Set Decodable stories designed to help students review and master letter sounds, with controlled text aligned to Phase 3 of Rainbow Phonics. 6 books, 40-44 pp + slipcase. \$49.99 TE \$49.00



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BOOK TUB!





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BOOK A BARGAIN!





872. Pig the Blob Pig is the world's LAZIEST Pug. There's nothing that can make him put down the snacks and get off the couch! Or is there...? 24-pp hardcover. \$18.99 TE \$5.00



WAYL & ANGLES

R. Crumble and Jan

SAV

\$14.99

Full of candy and soda and thick mozzarella, Pig was a hardcore, full-time sofa dweller.





Teacher Essentials

ISSUE 5 2025

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878. NEW! Earthspeak Join a family walk to a cultural place to see, hear and feel how the elements shape our lands. 32-pp hardcover.

\$26.99 TE \$20.00



included.



879. NEW! Find me on the Coast Discover how life survives and thrives on the world's coastlines. 40-pp hardcover. \$29.99 TE \$25.00





SEE PAGE 12 FOR AN EXCLUSIVE Q&A WITH MATT COSGROVE!

880. NEW! Alpacas in Space Macca and Al have a cosmic adventure! 24-pp hardcover. \$19.99 TE \$12.00



SEE PAGE 13 FOR AN EXCLUSIVE Q&A WITH NICK BLAND!

HALF PRICE!

881. NEW! Two Cranky Bears Can two cranky bears learn to share? 32-pp hardcover. \$19.99 TE \$10.00



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