

SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS OFFICIAL READING LIST — 2018

AUSTRALIA / NEW ZEALAND

PRE-K-K

PICTURE BOOK

Blast Off!

by Shelly Unwin, illustrated by Ben Wood

Book Description: Join two junior astronauts as they rocket around the solar system discovering what is unique about each planet in a funny and fact-filled adventure.

Author's Residence: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Publisher: Penguin Random House

Publication Date: April 30, 2018

Author's Website: shellyunwin.com

Dig, Dump, Roll

by Sally Sutton, illustrated by Brian Lovelock

Book Description: Squash-a-creaka, splosh-a-squeaka. What's at work? Here's a clue: it will roll the ground for you. Roller! Roller!

Coming through!

Author's Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Publisher: Walker Books

Publication Date: March 1, 2018

Finding Granny

by Kate Simpson, illustrated by Gwynneth Jones

Book Description: Edie has the perfect grandmother. But when Granny has a stroke, the person Edie loves doesn't seem to be there anymore. Or is she?

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: EK Books

Publication Date: July 1, 2018

Author's Website: katesimpsonbooks.com

The Hole

by Kerry Brown, illustrated by Lucia Masciullo

Book Description: One by one, a group of animals come upon a strange black hole in the middle of the woods. What is lurking down below?

Illustrator's Residence: Merrimac, Queensland

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books Australia

Publication Date: April 23, 2018

Illustrator's Website: LuciaMasciullo.com

I've Got Eyes! Exceptional Eyes of the Animal World

by Julie Murphy, illustrated by Hannah Tolson

Book Description: Animals describe their special eyes—bulging, hiding, handlebar, double-decker, and more. STEM, animal adaptations, and diversity for readers 4-8 by zoologist/author Julie Murphy.

Author's Residence: Melbourne, Victoria

Publisher: Amicus Ink

Publication Date: August 2018

Author's Website: juliemurphybooks.com

Mamie

by Tania McCartney

Book Description: Mamie leaves her magical home and sails far away. Will she find new friends in this strangely beautiful land?

Celebrating the life of May Gibbs.

Author's Residence: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Publisher's Name: HarperCollins Children's Books

Publication Date: November 2018

Oma's Buttons

by Tania Ingram, illustrated by Jennifer Harrison

Book Description: A heartwarming story about the unique bond between a granddaughter and her grandma, celebrating family and precious shared memories.

Author's Residence: Adelaide, South Australia

Publisher: Penguin

Publication Date: April 2, 2018

Author's Website: taniaingram.com

Reece Give Me Some Peace!

by Sonia Bestulic, illustrated by Nancy Bevington

Book Description: Reece is a very cheeky, curious young boy who loves making NOISE, or is that making music? Will his mother ever get any peace?!

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Big Sky Publishing

Publication Date: September 2018

Author's Website: soniabestulic.com.au

Scaredy Cat

by Heather Gallagher, illustrated by Anil Tortop

Book Description: How long is the bond between a child and a beloved pet? A little girl shows how far she will go to protect her four-legged friend.

Author's Residence: Ipswich, Queensland

Publisher: New Frontier Publishing

Publication Date: January 5, 2018

Author's Website: aniltortop.com

Sebastian and the Special Stack of Stories

by Kelly Hibbert, illustrated by Susanne deGennaro

Book Description: Where can you find the best spot to hear a story when you're the smallest and slowest one in a big family? Sebastian knows.

Author's Residence: Adelaide, South Australia

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books Australia

Publication Date: January 1, 2018

Author's Website: kellyhibbert.com

Spirit

by Cherri Ryan, illustrated by Christina Booth

Book Description: A girl makes a tiny ship, called Spirit, sailing her

every day and nurturing her every night. What happens when Spirit faces her greatest challenge?

Author's Residence: Brisbane, Queensland

Publisher: Black Dog Books

Publication Date: July 1, 2018

Author's Website: cherriryan.com

Waiting for the Night

by Julie Thorndyke, illustrated by Anna Seed

Book Description: *Waiting for the Night* is an entrancing bedtime book of lilting verse and striking full-color spreads depicting Australian fauna in a stunning array of landscapes.

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Interactive Press

Publication Date: April 2018

Author's Website: jthorndyke.wordpress.com

GRADES 1-2

EARLY CHAPTER BOOK

Olivia's Secret Scribbles: My New Best Friend

by Meredith Costain, illustrated by Danielle McDonald

Book Description: Olivia is Ella's cheeky little sister from the Ella Diaries. But now it's her turn to tell her story. Find out what she's really like!

Author's Residence: Melbourne, Victoria

Publisher: Scholastic Australia

Publication Date: February 2018

Author's Website: meredithcostain.com

NONFICTION

How to Help a Hedgehog and Protect a Polar Bear

by Jess French, illustrated by Angela Keoghan

Book Description: Find out how to help endangered animals around the world as you discover the little things you can do to make a big difference.

Illustrator's Residence: Hamilton, New Zealand

Publisher: Nosy Crow

Publication Date: August 2, 2018

Illustrator's Website: thepicturegarden.co.nz

PICTURE BOOK

At the End of Holyrood Lane

by Dimity Powell, illustrated by Nicky Johnston

Book Description: A poignant yet uplifting picture book that deals with domestic violence in a way that provides understanding and offers hope to young children.

Author's Residence: Gold Coast, Queensland

Publisher: EK Books

Publication Date: September 2018

Author's Website: dimitypowell.com

Bruno: The Boisterous Blue Dog from the Bush

by Robyn Osborne, illustrated by John Phillips

Book Description: A timeless Aussie tale celebrating the friendship between Bob the bushie and his best buddy, Bruno the blue dog.

Author's Residence: Tinnanbar, Queensland

Publisher: Big Sky Publishing

Publication Date: September 3, 2018

Author's Website: robynosborne.com

Dogasaurus

by Lucinda Gifford

Book Description: What if you found a strange egg in a mysterious forest and brought it home? And when it hatched, out popped a baby DINOSAUR! But what would you do when it grows . . . and GROWS . . . and GROWS?

Author's Residence: Melbourne, Victoria

Publisher: Scholastic Australia

Publication Date: May 1, 2018

Author's Website: lucindagifford.com

The Dream Bird

by Aleesah Darlison, illustrated by Emma Middleton

Book Description: George is a day child. At nighttime, he struggles to sleep...until Gran tells him a bedtime story about the magical Dream Bird.

Author's Residence: Buderim, Queensland

Publisher: Wombat Books

Publication Date: April 15, 2018

Author's Website: aleesahdarlison.com

Granny McFlitter the Champion Knitter

by Heather Haylock, illustrated by Lael Chisholm

Book Description: Based on true events, a lively rhyming story about a sprightly granny who knits warm jumpers for shivery rescued penguins after an oil spill.

Author's Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Publisher: Penguin Random House New Zealand

Publication Date: March 2018

Author's Website: heatherhaylock.nz

Is it the Way You Giggle?

by Nicola Connelly, illustrated by Annie White

Book Description: Everyone is special in their own way. Is it the way you giggle or the way you wiggle? A heartwarming picture book celebrating our differences.

Illustrator's Residence: Melbourne, Victoria

Publisher: New Frontier Publishing

Publication Date: April 2018

Illustrator's Website: anniewhite.com

Jacaranda Snow

by Catherine Greer, illustrated by Helene Magisson

Book Description: Jacaranda Snow is about one family that lives with less money but plenty of love and optimism.

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Wombat Books

Publication Date: January 9, 2018

Author's Website: helenemagisson.com

Marvin and Marigold: A Stormy Night

by Mark Carthew, illustrated by Simon Prescott

Book Description: On a wild and stormy night, Marvin and Marigold are scared. The wind rattled windows, whistled, and whirled as lightning bolts cracked and thunderclaps swirled.

Author's Residence: Montrose, Victoria

Publisher: New Frontier Publishing

Publication Date: October 31, 2018

Author's Website: markcarthew.com.au

Scaredy Cat

by Heather Gallagher, illustrated by Anil Tortop

Book Description: When a little girl's beloved Scaredy Cat goes missing, she calls on readers to help her find him, with surprising results.

Author's Residence: Victoria

Publisher: New Frontier Publishing

Publication Date: May 1, 2018

Author's Website: heathergallagher.com.au**Under the Southern Cross**

by Frané Lessac

Book Description: Nighttime in Australia, animals are waking, people are exploring, discoveries are being made—under the Southern Cross. A fantastic picture book tour of Australia after dark.

Author's Residence: Fremantle, West Australia

Publisher: Walker Books Australia

Publication Date: October 1, 2018

Author's Website: franellessac.com**Visiting You**

by Rebecka Sharpe Shelberg, illustrated by Andrea Edmonds

Book Description: A heartwarming celebration of the power of love, and how it's our similarities, not our differences, that matter most.

Illustrator's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: EK Books

Publication Date: March 1, 2018

Illustrator's Website: andreaedmonds.com**GRADES 3-5****ADVENTURE*****The Extremely Weird Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls***

by Adam Cece, illustrated by Andrew Weldon

Book Description: This is the first book in the Huggabie Falls trilogy, the funniest, craziest, weirdest series ever written, so far.

Author's Residence: Adelaide, South Australia

Publisher: Text Publishing

Publication Date: January 4, 2018

Author's Website: adamcece.com***The Fastest Ship in Space***

by Pamela Freeman, illustrated by Yvonne Low

Book Description: To get to Earth, galactic travellers Katie and Sam must evade Space Station security, smugglers, and even their parents on the fastest ship in space.

Illustrator's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Christmas Press

Publication Date: June 29, 2018

Illustrator's Website: yvonnelow.com***Quark's Academy***

by Catherine Pelosi

Book Description: A junior fiction adventure complete with humorous dialogue, mad plotting, and peculiar characters for readers aged 8-12.

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Hachette Book Group

Publication Date: February 2018

Author's Website: catherinpelosi.com**HISTORICAL FICTION*****The Dog with Seven Names***

by Dianne Wolfer

Book Description: Dog's life on a remote Australian farm is perfect, until War arrives and Dog's family evacuates. How can Dog return to the girl she loves?

Author's Residence: Albany, Western Australia

Publisher: Penguin Random House

Publication Date: July 2, 2018

Author's Website: diannewolfer.com***Marvellous Miss May, Queen of the Circus (Heritage Heroes Series)***

by Stephanie Owen Reeder

Book Description: The true story of May Wirth, who in the early 1900s overcame a traumatic childhood to become the best circus bareback rider in the world.

Author's Residence: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Publisher: National Library of Australia Publishing

Publication Date: February 2018

Author's Website: stephanieowenreeder.com**ILLUSTRATED INFORMATIONAL BOOK*****From Dinosaurs to Diprotodons: Australia's Amazing Fossils***
by Danielle Clode

Book Description: This fossil adventure takes you to the best sites to learn about the incredible Australian prehistoric animals that once roamed this ancient land.

Author's Residence: Adelaide, South Australia

Publisher: Museum Victoria

Publication Date: August 1, 2018

Author's Website: danielleclode.com.au**NONFICTION*****Australia Remembers: Anzac Day, Remembrance Day and War Memorials***

by Allison Paterson

Book Description: Explores the history and traditions of Australia's commemorative days and war memorials while inviting the reader to reflect and never forget.

Author's Residence: Sunshine Coast, Queensland

Publisher: Big Sky Publishing

Publication Date: October 2018

Author's Website: allisonmarlowpaterson.com**PICTURE BOOK*****My Storee***

by Paul Russell, illustrated by Aśka

Book Description: Book about overcoming dyslexia to express great imagination and creativity. Aimed at both children with literacy difficulties and as an educational tool for confident readers.

Illustrator's Residence: Perth, Western Australia

Publisher: EK Books

Publication Date: August 1, 2018

Illustrator's Website: askaillustration.com

Waiting for the Night

by Julie Thorndyke, illustrated by Anna Seed

Book Description: Dingoes dancing on tiptoes . . . Sugar Gliders munching on spiders . . . These are just some of the things our native creatures do to get ready for their nighttime. What do you do?

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Interactive Press

Publication Date: March 28, 2018

Author's Website: jthorndyke.wordpress.com

Wisp: A Story of Hope

by Zana Fraillon, illustrated by Graham Baker Smith

Book Description: Idris is born into a refugee camp. When the Wisp arrives, everyone who holds it finds their memories and hopes reawakened. But what happens when Idris holds it?

Author's Residence: Melbourne, Victoria

Publisher: Orion

Publication Date: August 28, 2018

Author's Website: zanafraillon.com

REALISTIC FICTION

Rudi Hooper's Super Pooper-Scooper

by Alan Horsfield, illustrated by Nancy Bevington

Book Description: Morris and Rudi have never received much acclaim. This all changes when big brother Rudi becomes the official doggie dropping ranger in the Tidy Towns scheme.

Author's Residence: Craiglie, Queensland

Publisher: Big Sky Publishing

Publication Date: January 2018

Author's Website: alanhorsfield.com.au

The Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee

by Deborah Abela, illustrated by Aleksei Bitskoff

Book Description: A heartwarming story about a shy, anxious girl—who's a brilliant speller—and her family, who encourages her to enter the Stupendously Spectacular Spelling Bee.

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Sourcebooks

Publication Date: April 8, 2018

Author's Website: deborahabela.com

GRADES 6-8

ADVENTURE

The Green Sash

by Alys Jackson

Book Description: A glimpse into the early life of the infamous Australian bushranger Ned Kelly as he saves a fellow schoolboy from drowning.

Author's Residence: Adelaide, South Australia

Publisher: The School Magazine

Publication Date: July 2018

Author's Website: alysjackson.com

CREATIVE NONFICTION

Kate Sheppard: Leading the Way for Women

by Maria Gill, illustrated by Marco Ivancic

Book Description: Kate Sheppard's extraordinary story about how she won the right for New Zealand women to vote—the first country in the world to do so.

Author's Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Publisher: Scholastic New Zealand

Publication Date: November 1, 2018

Author's Website: mariagill.co.nz

FANTASY

Lintang and the Forbidden Island

by Tamara Moss

Book Description: Lintang is back for her second swashbuckling adventure. This time she's travelling to the pirate queen Captain Shafira's home country, the forbidden island of Allay.

Author's Residence: Western Australia

Publisher: Penguin Random House Australia

Publication Date: January 29, 2018

Author's Website: tamaramoss.com.au

GRAPHIC NOVEL

Scarlet Hood

by Mark C. Evans, illustrated by Isobel Lundie

Book Description: A time-travelling hoodie, angry Vikings, a ferocious dragon . . . could Scarlet's day get any worse? How about meeting the schoolyard bully, Greta the Cruel?

Author's Residence: Perth, Western Australia

Publisher: Salariya Book Co.

Publication Date: March 28, 2018

Author's Website: mark-c-evans.com

NONFICTION

Anzac Animals

by Maria Gill, illustrated by Marco Ivancic

Book Description: Read the heartwarming true tales of the mascots and working animals that helped Anzac soldiers, sailors, pilots, and medics do their jobs in wartime.

Author's Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Publisher: Scholastic

Publication Date: March 2018

Author's Website: mariagill.co.nz

Zeroes and Ones: The Geeks, Heroes and Hackers Who Changed History

by Cristy Burne

Book Description: A book about the creators of digital technologies. It's about what ordinary people can do with creativity, determination, and a bunch of zeros and ones.

Author's Residence: Perth, Western Australia

Publisher: Brio Books

Publication Date: August 2018

Author's Website: cristyburne.com

GRADES 9-12**CONTEMPORARY FICTION*****Catch Me When You Fall***

by Eileen Merriman

Book Description: Seventeen-year-old Alex Byrd is having the worst and best day ever. A blood test shows her leukaemia has returned, but she also meets Jamie Orange.

Author's Residence: Auckland, New Zealand

Publisher: Penguin Random House

Publication Date: January 2, 2018

Author's Website: eileenmerriman.co.nz***The Centre of My Everything***

by Allayne L. Webster

Book Description: Four points of view. One night that changes everything. Funny, shocking, real.

Author's Residence: South Australia

Publisher: Penguin Random House

Publication Date: February 2, 2018

Author's Website: allaynewebster.com***The Harper Effect***

by Taryn Bashford

Book Description: The heartwarming and empowering comeback story of a girl who learns to win from a boy who has lost everything.

Author's Residence: Peregian Springs, Queensland

Publisher: Skyhorse Publishing

Publication Date: May 15, 2018

Author's Website: tarynbashford.com**HISTORICAL ADVENTURE*****Sweet Adversity***

by Sheryl Gwyther

Book Description: Abandoned during the Great Depression, Addie McAllister and Macbeth, her Shakespeare-quoting cockatiel, must face the most perilous adventure of a lifetime.

Author's Residence: Brisbane, Queensland

Publisher: HarperCollins Children's Books Australia

Publication Date: June 18, 2018

Author's Website: sherylgwyther.net**MENTAL HEALTH*****The Happiness Quest***

by Richard Yaxley

Book Description: Tillie Bassett is sad and she doesn't know why. Her quest to understand happiness unlocks secrets and realizations.

Author's Residence: Brisbane, Queensland

Publisher: Omnibus Books

Publication Date: August 1, 2018

Author's Website: richardwyaxley.com**REALISTIC FICTION*****Out of the Cages***

by Penny Jaye

Book Description: After three years in the brothels of Mumbai, Meena finally has a chance of freedom. But escaping the brothel is only the start of being free.

Author's Residence: Sydney, New South Wales

Publisher: Wombat Books

Publication Date: July 1, 2018

Author's Website: pennyjaye.com**SPECULATIVE FICTION*****Hive***

by AJ Betts

Book Description: When Hayley, a fifteen-year-old beekeeper, discovers water dripping from a ceiling, her understanding of the world will never be the same.

Author's Residence: Perth, Western Australia

Publisher: Pan Macmillan Australia

Publication Date: June 26, 2018

Author's Website: ajbetts.com