



## Ossiri and the Bala Mengro

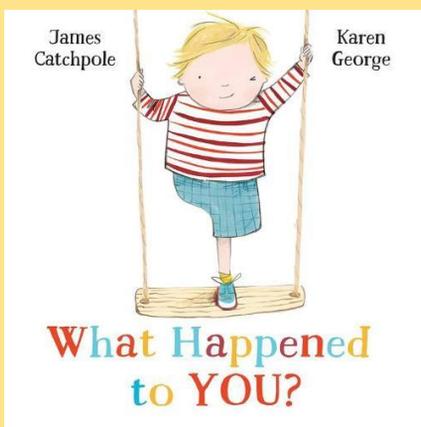
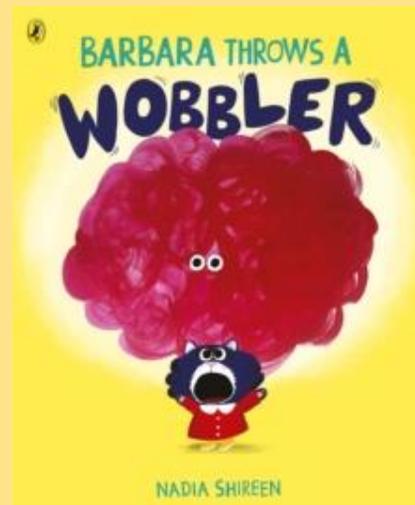
Richard O'Neill and Katharine Quarmby 4+

A Traveller girl creates her own musical instrument from a willow branch and lots of recycled objects. She plays enthusiastically, but it sounds awful. Ignoring warnings not to awaken the ogre in the hills, Ossiri goes there to practise playing her instrument? Will she wake the ogre? Will he appreciate her playing? Told by a Romani storyteller.

## Barbara Throws a Wobbler

Nadi Shireen 4+

Barbara is furious, ready to explode. She doesn't really understand her feelings until she meets her 'wobbler' and realises that she can take charge of it. A reassuring way of explaining the range of emotions involved in feeling angry.



## What happened to you?

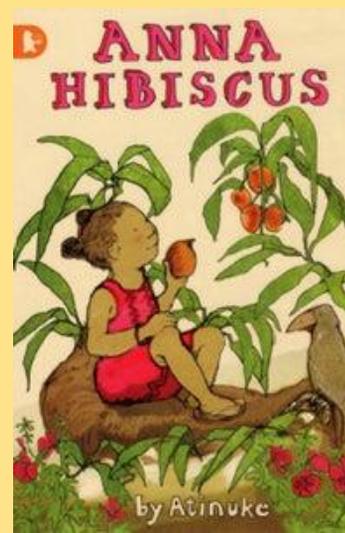
James Catchpole and Karen George 4+

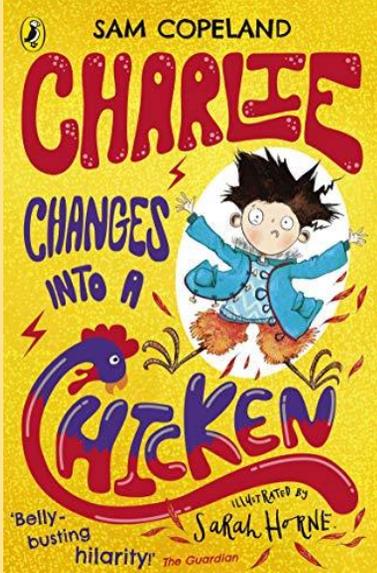
Jo just wants to play sharks and pirates but the other children keep asking why he only has one leg. Funny, read story about disability, which emphasises what children have in common, rather than their differences.

## Anna Hibiscus series

Atinuke 7+

Young Anna is a life force, intent on making a difference in her African community. Original and understated, this is a charming depiction of modern-day family life in west Africa.





### Charlie Changes into a Chicken series

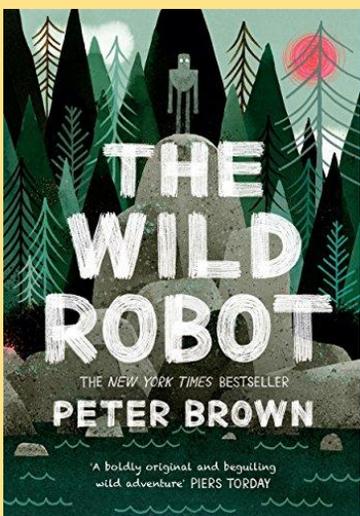
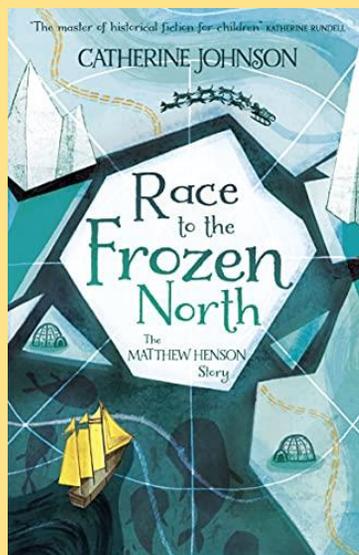
Sam Copeland and Sarah Horne 7+

Every time Charlie is stressed or worried, he changes into an animal with hugely inconvenient consequences. Highly enjoyable, laugh-out-loud read – an easy way to open up an exploration of what anxiety looks like.

### Race to the Frozen North

Catherine Johnson 8+

Wonderfully well-researched book about an important black explorer who was written out of history. Matthew Henson was the first American to reach the North Pole, and this is his life story.



### The Wild Robot 8+

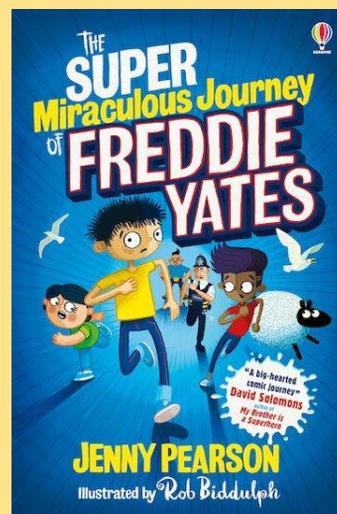
Peter Brown

When robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time, she discovers that she is alone on a remote, wild island. She has no idea how she got there or what her purpose is - but she knows she needs to survive. As Roz slowly befriends the animals, the island starts to feel like home - until, one day, her mysterious past comes back to haunt her.

### The Super Miraculous Journey of Freddie Yates

Jenny Pearson and Rob Biddulph 9+

When Freddie's Grams dies, he worries that his family circle is scarily small and it goes in search of his biological father. A great read, combining a memorable adventure with deep emotion – and two great friends who stand alongside Freddie no matter what.





Front Desk series

Kelly Yang 9+

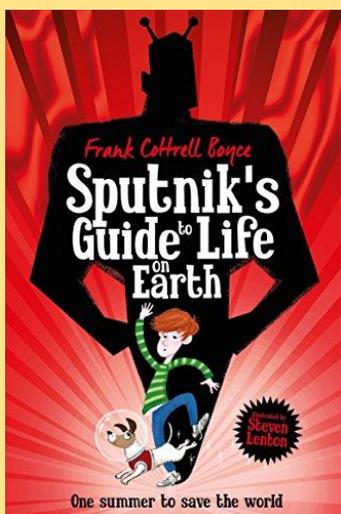
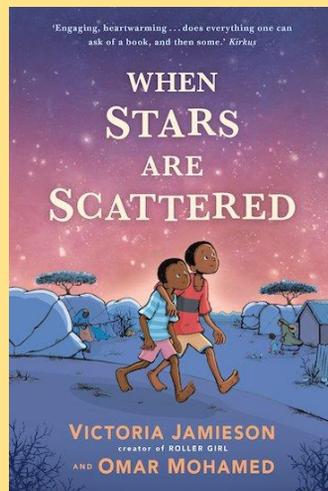
Mia’s hard pressed immigrant family are running a motel for the greedy owner – Mia is on the front desk. Their sense of community leads to them hiding other immigrants in empty rooms. A great read, bring new perspectives on discrimination and injustice, with a gusty, loveable heroine.

When Stars are Scattered

Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed 9+

A heart-wrenching true story about life in a Kenyan refugee camp that will restore your faith in real-life happy endings.

Omar and his brother Hassan, two Somali boys, have spent a long time in the Dadaab refugee camp. Life in the camp isn't always easy. The hunger is constant . . . but there's football to look forward to, and now there's a chance Omar will get to go to school .



Sputnik’s Guide to Life on Earth

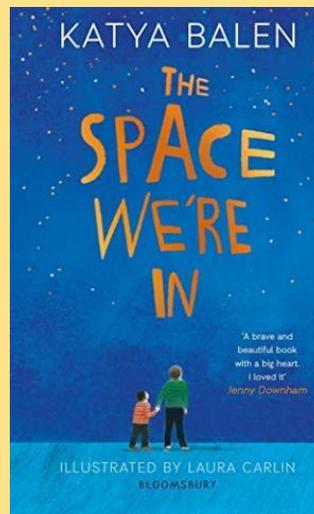
Frank Cottrell Boyce 9+

Sputnik is an alien tasked with writing a guidebook to Earth, wo struggles to understand how human work. With new, shy friend Prez, he learns about the planet’s very best things. Exuberant, witty writing with a strong emotional core.

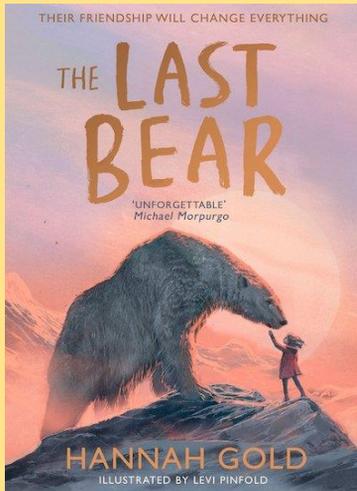
The Space We’re In

Katya Balen 10+

Both heart breaking and hopeful, this beautifully written novel focuses on Frank and his younger brother, Max, who has autism. Sensitively explores their lives and feelings when their mother dies and their universe falls apart.



## Ones you might have missed...



### The Last Bear Hannah Gold 8+

There are no polar bears left on Bear Island. At least, that's what April's father tells her when his scientific research takes them to this remote Arctic outpost for six months. But one endless summer night, April meets one. He is starving, lonely and a long way from home. Determined to save him, April begins the most important journey of her life...

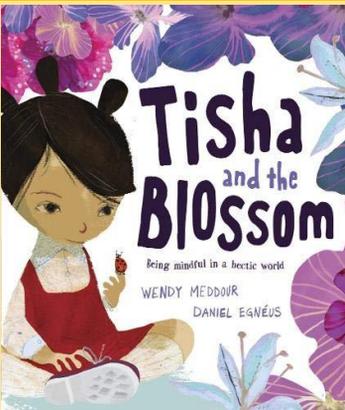
### The Shark Caller Zillah Bethell 9+

Blue Wing is desperate to become a shark caller, but instead she must befriend infuriating newcomer Maple, who arrives unexpectedly on Blue Wing's island. At first, the girls are too angry to share their secrets and become friends. But when the tide breathes the promise of treasure, they must journey together to the bottom of the ocean to brave the deadliest shark of them all...

Dive beneath the waves with this spell-binding adventure of friendship, forgiveness and bravery, set on the shores of Papua New Guinea, perfect for fans of Katherine Rundell and Eva Ibbotson.



## Ones to wait for...



### Tisha and the Blossom Wendy Meddour 4+

We all have busy lives and little Tisha and her family are no exception. With life always moving at such a pace, Tisha must 'hurry up' to get ready for school on time, 'hurry up' to finish her drawings before break time, and 'hurry up' to tidy up before she goes home. But hurrying up all the time can be exhausting. Thankfully, Tisha's Mummy knows a special game to help them all slow down when everything becomes too much . . .

### Rollercoaster Boy Lisa Thompson

Todd and Laurie's dad is either on top of the world, taking them on fun adventures, or down in the depths and sleeping all the time. In the middle of the night, he bundles them into the car and drives them to the Paradise Hotel. Todd and Laurie have the run of the place, and meet Scout, the daughter of the owner, who tells them about the night many years ago when a famous novelist vanished from her room on the top floor, which was locked from the inside... with clues to crack, a mystery to solve, and Dad to worry about, this holiday is full of twists and turns.

