

# Celebrate Kindness Booklist

Celebrate acts of kindness and share a culture of anti-bullying using these book recommendations. These books will appeal to primary children in Foundation Stage, KS1 and KS2. Featured on this list is the bestselling novel *Wonder* by R J Palacio, a story of kindness, acceptance and friendship which inspired the creation of Kindness Day.

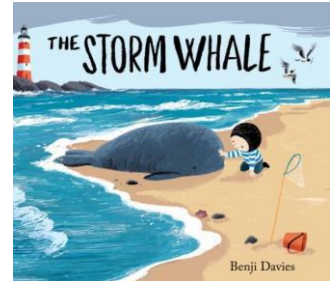
## Foundation Stage

***The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies**

**Simon & Schuster 9781471115684**

Noi lives a self-sufficient life with his dad by the sea in an isolated home reminiscent of the fishing huts at Hastings. One day he finds a little whale washed up on the sand and takes tender care of it until his dad persuades him that they need to return it to its aquatic home. The picture where they do this is especially striking. Two small figures are side by side clad in yellow coats and sou'westers in a tiny fishing boat on a wide and choppy sea, with the whale's tail seemingly waving farewell to them

*A teaching sequence for *The Storm Whale* is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website.*

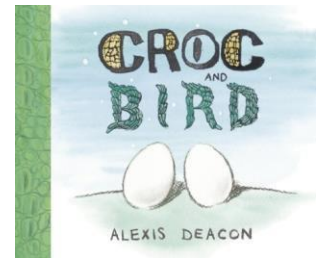


***Croc and Bird* by Alexis Deacon**

**Red Fox 9780099451228**

Croc and Bird hatch out from eggs lying side by side on the sand and assume that they are brothers. They nurture and shelter each other but the day comes when they realise that they are not brothers after all. Will they follow nature's course or allow the behaviour they have learned from each other and the interdependency of their early lives to influence what happens?

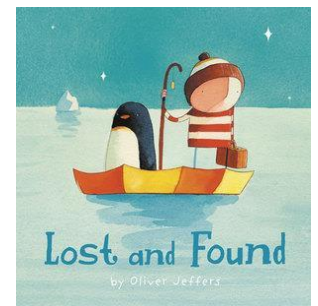
*A teaching sequence for *Croc and Bird* is available for free on the [Power of Pictures](#) website. Watch a film of the author Alexis reading it [here](#)*



***Lost and Found* by Oliver Jeffers**

**HarperCollins 9780007150366**

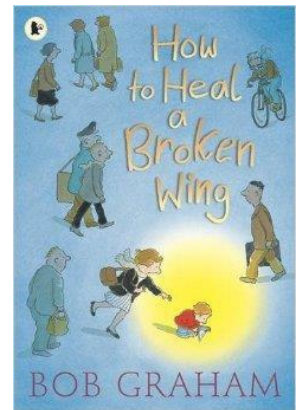
This endearing picture book begins with the simple statement 'Once there was a boy and one day he found a penguin at his door.' His anxiety that the penguin seems to be lost leads the boy to find a way to return his friend to the South Pole, only to discover that the reason for the penguin's sadness is not what he supposed at all. In the wide, well-designed pages, the focus is entirely on the central figures of the boy and the penguin.



## Key Stage One

***How to Heal a Broken Wing* by Bob Graham**  
**Walker 9781406325492**

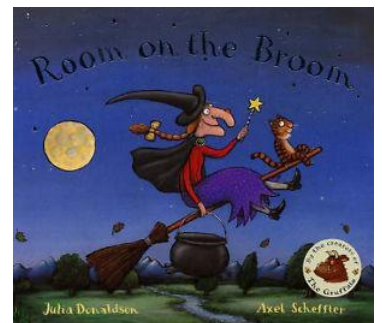
This story of how an injured bird is found on a city street and cared for by a small boy is told with the minimum of words but using wonderfully expressive illustrations in a layout which uses comic strip conventions. The message about caring for other creatures and helping to restore their freedom is beautifully conveyed in pictures in which the eye is skilfully drawn to the most significant elements.



***Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson. Illustrated by Axel Scheffler**  
**Macmillan 9780333903384**

A witch takes several animals that have helped her find lost things up on her broom as passengers. In a climactic moment, the frog jumps for joy and the broomstick snaps in two, putting the witch in unexpected danger. With the aid of the witch's companions, a resolution is reached in this rollicking rhyme.

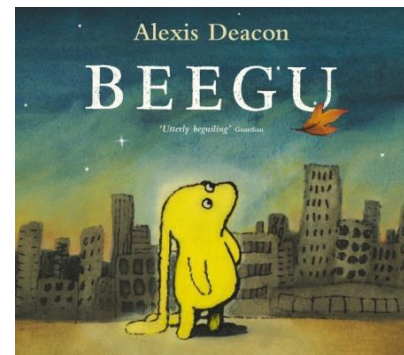
*A teaching sequence for The Gruffalo is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website*



***Beegu* by Alexis Deacon**  
**Red Fox 9780099417446**

A small creature from outer space lands on Earth accidentally. She finds the Earth creatures unfeeling and unfriendly, until she finds a box of unwanted puppies, and then a school playground full of small creatures who 'seemed hopeful'. Empathy is evoked by both the brief text and the distinctive illustrations which portray Beegu against the background of a stark and empty urban landscape.

*A teaching sequence for Beegu is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website.*



## Key Stage Two

***There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom* by Louis Sachar**  
**Bloomsbury 9780747589525**

Bradley Chalkers is the boy no-one wants to sit next to in class. His only friends are a collection of animal ornaments in which he confides. When he visits Carla, the new school counsellor, Bradley's life starts to change in this tender and funny story.

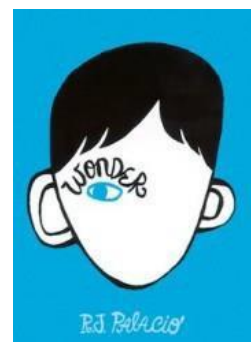
A teaching sequence for 'There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom' is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website.



***Wonder* by R J Palacio**  
**Corgi 9780552565974**

Ten year old August is going to school for the first time. His mother has home schooled him up till now because he has a congenital facial disfigurement. How will he cope day to day? How will other children respond to him? Will they be able to see beyond his outward appearance? This moving and ultimately uplifting novel tells the story of August's first school year switching between his own voice and those of people significant to him during that time.

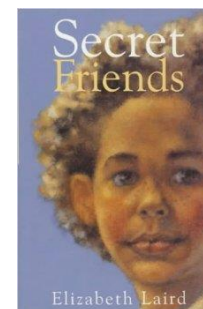
A teaching sequence for *Wonder* is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website.



***Secret Friends* by Elizabeth Laird. Illustrated by Jason Cockcroft**  
**Hodder 9780340664735**

Tragedy strikes unexpectedly in this well-written short novel that deals sensitively with the serious subject of bullying amongst girls. The themes of loyalty and the sometimes negative influences of peer pressure could provoke much fruitful discussion.

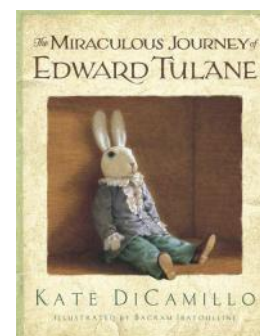
Elizabeth will be talking about her new book *Welcome to Nowhere* at our [Reflecting Realities, British Values in Children's Literature](#) Conference on March 1<sup>st</sup>



***The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* by Kate DiCamillo. Illustrated by Bagram Ibatoulline**  
**Walker 9781406360660**

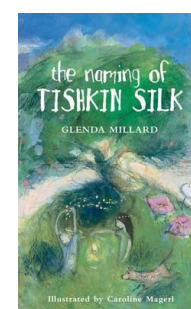
Edward Tulane is a much-loved china rabbit who falls overboard on a sea voyage, and there follows a picaresque narrative in which our hero falls into many different hands, learning to love as well as being loved on the way, until he reaches a satisfying conclusion to his journey. The illustrations add to the air of a reinvented old-fashioned story.

A teaching sequence for *Edward Tulane* is available for subscribers to the [Power of Reading](#) website.



***The Naming of Tishkin Silk* by Glenda Millard Illustrated by Caroline Magerl**  
**Phoenix Yard 9781907912245**

The first title in a series of short novels known as the Kingdom of Silk by Australian writer Glenda Millard. She has a genius for letting the plot unfold so that the reader gradually comes to an interpretation of what is going on and an understanding of the characters and their motives. Griffin and his five older sisters, known as the Rainbow Girls, are part of a loving and welcoming family who are not afraid to behave unconventionally and show their feelings. The stories deal



with emotional subjects in ways which touch the heartstrings but avoid false sentimentality.

## **Some other great suggestions from teachers received via Twitter:**

*Norris the Bear who Shared* by Catherine Rayner

*The Present* by Bob Gill

*The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein

*The Smartest Giant in Town* by Julia Donaldson

*Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister

*The Lost Thing* by Shaun Tan

*Love Monster and the Last Chocolate* by Rachel Bright

*Cowboys Can be Kind (Marvellous Manners)* by Timothy Knapman and Jimothy Oliver

*I Want a Friend* by Tony Ross

*What Friends Do Best* by Jonathan Emmett

*The Key That Swallowed Joey Pigza (Joey Pigza 5)* by Jack Gantos and David Tazzyman