

# Foreign Rights Guide Children's Frontlist 2024-2025

## EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE PUBLISHING

CSIRO Publishing is an editorially independent science publisher and part of Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)



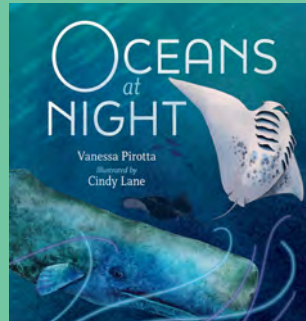
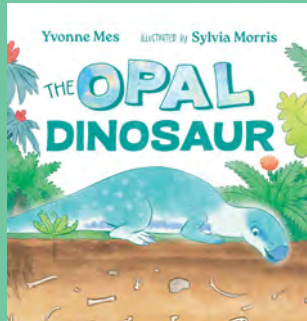
**PUBLISHING**

CSIRO Publishing has an internationally recognised program producing titles for academic, professional and trade audiences. We produce over 35 new books each year, and maintain a backlist of nearly 700 titles.

Our program covers animal, plant and soil science, technology, agriculture, environmental management, natural resources, sustainability and ecology.

Our children's list is aimed at introducing young readers to themes in ecology, conservation and biology in an engaging and informative way.

As well as books, we publish 28 peer-reviewed journals in animal, physical and plant sciences, health, agriculture and the natural environment, and *Double Helix*, a science magazine for kids aged 8–13, targeted at STEM.



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Draft cover - not final

## THE GREAT SHARK EGG CASE HUNT >

It's time to go on an egg hunt. But not a chocolate egg hunt, or a chicken egg hunt – we're going on a shark egg case hunt!

Some sharks, rays and skates lay eggs, which are protected in egg cases that come in lots of shapes and sizes. Once a baby shark has wriggled out, these egg cases wash up on beaches around the world just waiting to be found.

Join our citizen scientists as they enjoy a day at the beach and discover some weird and wonderful shark egg cases. You may even be inspired to become an egg case hunter yourself!



### INTERNATIONAL RELEVANCE >

- Worldwide citizen science project which saw eggcases recorded from British Isles (99% in 2022), North America, Canada, Denmark, France, Israel, Ecuador, South Africa and many more. Species have been reported from 30 countries!
- Partner organisations who have created Eggcase ID Poster Guides:
  - Wales (Project SIARC)
  - Portugal (APECE)
  - Turkey (Mersea)
  - Spain (Sanamares)
  - Australia (CSIRO)

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Inspired by the Great Eggcase Hunt, a global citizen science project to record shark, skate and ray egg cases found around the world.
- Learn how to identify shark egg cases and explore their diverse habitats.
- Introduces beachcombing as a fun and accessible activity for the whole family to get involved in science.
- Discusses shark biology and reproduction, as well as the importance of conservation.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Kasey Whitelaw** is a marine biologist, educator and children's writer. She has an interest in connecting children to science and nature, sparking their wonder and curiosity through storytelling and education.



Author Photo © Fiona O'Grady

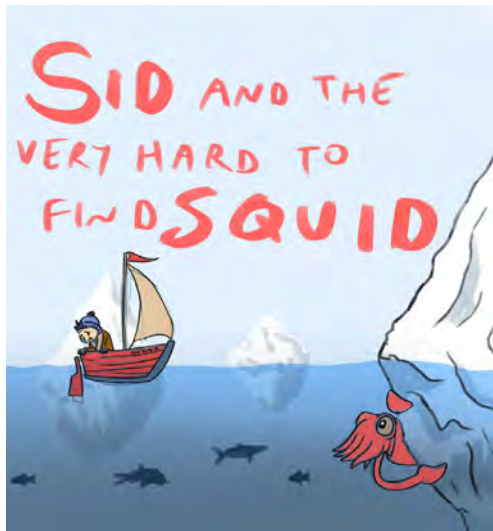
### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Sylvia Morris** is an illustrator with a background in mathematics, who combines her analytical and creative puzzle solving skills with her love of reading in her illustrations.



Author Photo © Sylvia Morris

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## SID AND THE VERY HARD TO FIND SQUID >

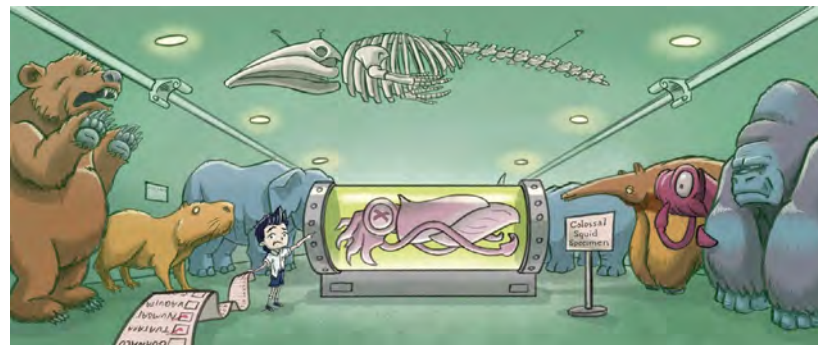
**No one has ever seen a colossal squid in the wild, but Sid is determined to be the first. Join Sid on his quest to find this incredibly rare animal.**

Along the way, Sid encounters other strange creatures until he eventually discovers . . . that sometimes the joy of exploration is more about the unexpected journey, and not the ending.

Look closely and you might just find a colossal squid too!

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- A playful journey of exploration and unexpected discoveries.
- Uncovers the secrets of the world's largest invertebrate, the colossal squid.
- Fabulous illustrations featuring a cheeky colossal squid hidden in the pages.



Draft cover - not final

### DETAILS >

Publication: April 2025  
Age Range: 5-9 years old  
Extent: 32 pages  
Dimensions: 250mm x 250mm  
Binding: Hardback  
RRP: AUD \$26.99  
ISBN: 9781486319664  
Rights Held: World

### ABOUT THE CREATOR >

Dr James O'Hanlon is a scientist, writer and illustrator who has travelled the globe uncovering the secret lives of mysterious animals. If it is hard to find, and lacks a backbone, James has an unsatiable desire to find out what it is and what it does.



Author Photo © Mike Terry

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Sample illustration - not cover design

## LUCKY'S STAR >

On a quiet, spring morning, something strange falls from the sky and lands on a small country town. Lucky watches as 'stars' rain down on the fields and farms, but just what are these unusual objects? And what will Lucky do with her own special find?

*Lucky's Star* explores the fascinating true story of the Murchison meteorite. The pieces of space rock that were discovered in Murchison, Victoria, provided clues about the origins of life on Earth. Fragments from the meteorite contain the oldest material ever found – stardust!



## MURCHISON METEORITE MUSEUMS >

Pieces of the Murchison Meteorite have travelled to other museum collections and are still being studied. These museums include:

- Smithsonian, Washington D.C (20kg)
- Field Museum, Chicago (52kg)
- Museums Victoria (3.5kg)

More information can be found here:  
<https://museums victoria.com.au/article/the-murchison-meteorite/>

## KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Creatively introduces the story of an internationally significant, Australian scientific event.
- Introduces the Murchison meteorite, one of the most-studied space rocks in history, containing clues about the formation of the planets, the solar system and the origins of life on Earth!
- Features detailed fact pages to inspire deeper learning and understanding.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Mark Greenwood** is a history hunter. His award-winning books examining history and multicultural themes have been published and honored internationally.



Author photo © Frances Andrijich

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Lucia Masciullo** is an award-winning children's book illustrator born and bred in Livorno, Italy. She has illustrated more than 30 books, among which a CBCA Honour Book and Prime Minister Award short-listed title.

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Author Photo © Alex Kwong

## RESCUE ROBOTS: WORKING TO SAVE AND PROTECT US [WORKING TITLE] >

**There's no place a rescue robot won't go for you. They head right into a roaring fire, deep under a collapsed building, into the radiation zone of a nuclear power plant and on rough seas. They cover many roles, including search and rescue, exploring the ocean floor, repairing satellites and even cleaning hospitals.**

These robots need to be brilliantly designed and equipped. Think dozens of joints, flight capabilities, laser technology for mapping, remote cameras or even the ability to spray hundreds of gallons of water per minute at a fire. And then we need great human-and-robot teamwork to be successful.

Explore the fascinating world of robots in this exciting book. Discover how the animal world inspires robot designers, the cutting-edge technology working to save lives and look at the exciting developments that are just around the corner.

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Explores the role that rescue robots play to help save lives.
- Features scientists, researchers and rescue teams from around the world.
- Will include breakout boxes, 'did you know', fun facts etc.

### DETAILS >

Publication: June 2025  
Category: Middle Grade  
Age Range: 8-12 year olds  
Extent: 120 pages  
Dimensions: 250mm x 215mm  
Binding: Paperback  
RRP: AUD \$32.99  
ISBN: 9781486318421  
Rights Held: World

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Smriti Daniel isn't a roboticist, but she had a lot of fun interviewing several of them for this book. She's a journalist, editor, and presenter, and this is her second book for children.

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Author Photo © Suzanne Houghton

## THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CARNIVOROUS PLANTS >

Have you ever heard of a meat-eating plant? Or a plant that traps spiders and flies?

Welcome to *The Wonderful World of Carnivorous Plants*, where sticky leaves and slippery stems are just some of the fascinating ways some plants capture their food. Explore the unique features and adaptations of these plants and the important role they play in our environment.

Let's start out with this beauty:  
one I'm sure you'll know.  
It's called the Venus flytrap,  
the star of every show.

It gobbles up mosquitoes  
and the flies that irritate.  
It happily snacks on spiders,  
and thinks that slugs taste great.



### SPECIES INCLUDED >

- 'Betty's Bay' Bladderwort
- American pitcher plant
- Round-leaved Sundew
- Venus Flytrap
- Rainbow plant
- Spoon leaved Sundew, Forked Sundew
- Cape Sundew
- Waterwheel plant
- Aquatic Bladderwort
- Tropical Pitcher plants
- Albany Pitcher Plant
- Cobra Plant

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Introduces the world of carnivorous plants through stunning illustrations and fun rhyming text.
- Showcases the amazing variety of carnivorous plants.
- Explores the variety of trapping methods carnivorous plants use to catch prey.
- Highlights the important role carnivorous plants play in the ecosystem and why they need to be protected.
- Learn more about the featured plants in an extended information section at the end.

### DETAILS >

Publication: April 2025  
Category: Picture Books  
Age Range: 5–9 year olds  
Extent: 32 pages  
Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm  
Binding: Hardback  
RRP: AUD \$26.99  
ISBN: 9781486319527  
Rights Held: World

### ABOUT THE CREATOR >

Suzanne Houghton is an award-winning author and illustrator of several books.

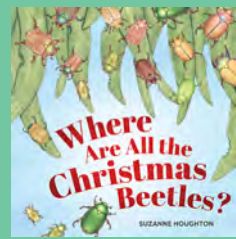
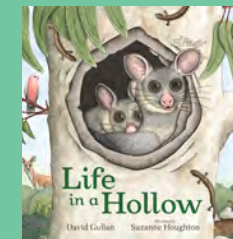
### PREVIOUS TITLES >

*Wonderful Wasps* (written by Katrina Germein and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)

**Award:** Shortlisted, The Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards 2023: 5 to 8 age category.

*Life in a Hollow* (written by David Gullan and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)

*Where are all the Christmas Beetles?* (written and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)



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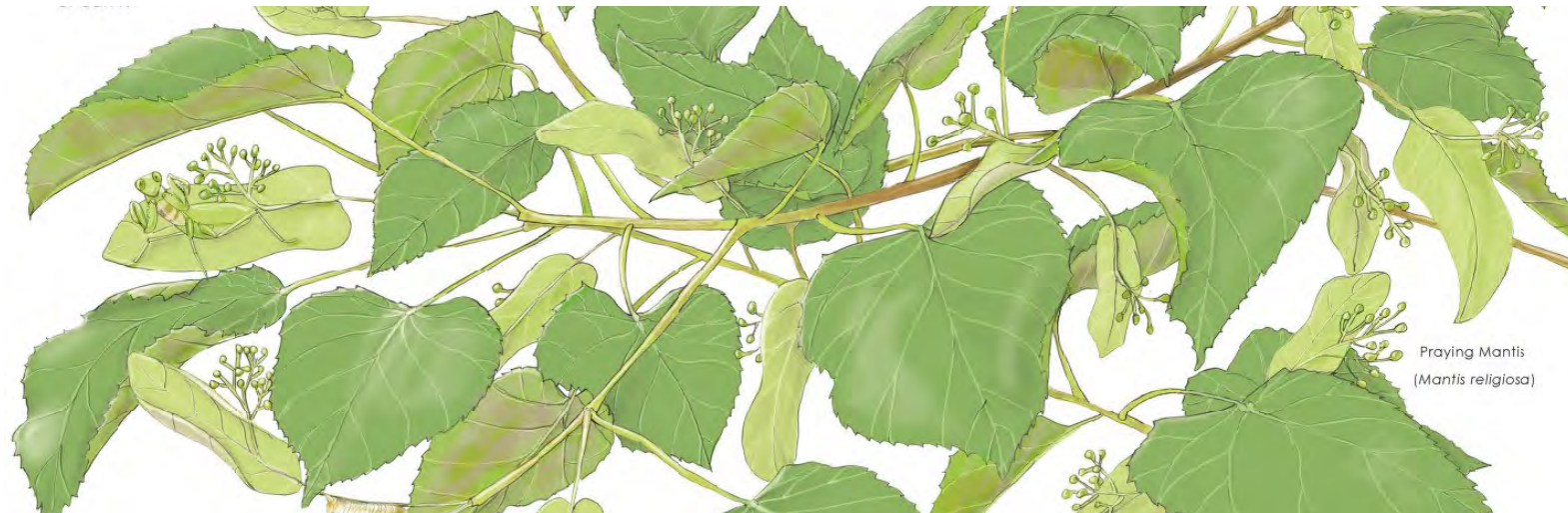
NOT THE COVER – SAMPLE ILLUSTRATIONS ONLY

## LOOK, SEE, FIND [WORKING TITLE] >

Discover frogs that look like leaves, spiders that disguise as flowers, crabs camouflaged as sponges and seahorses hidden in coral.

With stunning illustrations and engaging text, this book will delight readers in spotting species as they camouflage within their natural habitats.

Uncover how species use camouflage to protect themselves, find food, find a mate and to seek new habitats.



Praying Mantis  
(*Mantis religiosa*)

### DETAILS >

Publication: October 2025  
Category: Picture Books  
Age Range: 5–9 year olds  
Extent: 32 pages  
Dimensions: 250mm x 250mm  
Binding: Hardback  
RRP: AUD \$26.99  
ISBN: 9781486319886  
Rights Held: World

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Explores animal camouflage, from insects to birds, to crabs and frogs.
- Entertaining and fun book, which engages children as they seek to find the hidden animals.
- Stunning illustrations.
- Features species and habitats from around the world.

### ABOUT THE CREATOR >

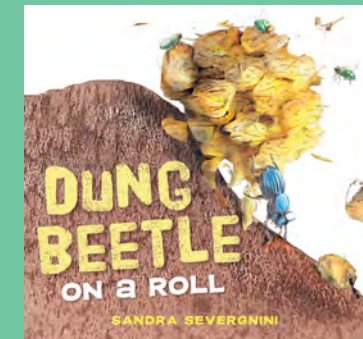
Sandra Severgnini is an author and illustrator of numerous award-winning books. Her fascination for the amazing world around her inspires her words and brings sensitivity and humour to her illustrations.



Author Photo © Sandra Severgnini

### PREVIOUS TITLE >

*Dung Beetle on a Roll*



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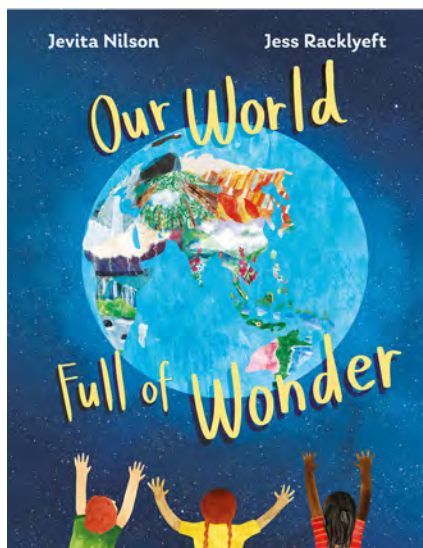
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## OUR WORLD FULL OF WONDER >

**Our world is full of amazing natural wonders.**

From sparkling seas and towering trees, to valleys, lakes and waterfalls, there are extraordinary places that seem too magical to be true but can be found right here on planet Earth.

There are ghostly green lights of the aurora borealis near the North Pole, and exquisite rainbow mountains in China. There is a lake in Australia so pink it looks like fairy floss, and giant crystal caves hidden below Mexico.

These are just some of the incredible places you will discover in *Our World Full of Wonder*.

Shall we go explore?



### NATURAL WONDERS INCLUDED >

- Aurora borealis, North Pole
- The Great Barrier Reef, Australia
- The Rainbow Mountains, China
- Reynisfjara (black sand beach), Iceland
- Lake Hillier, Australia
- Sequoia National Park, United States of America
- Catatumbo lightning, Venezuela
- The Cave of the Crystals, Mexico
- Valley of Flowers National Park, India
- Iguazu Falls, Argentina and Brazil
- Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park, Madagascar
- Vaadhoo Island (Sea of Stars), Maldives



### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Uses lyrical narrative, vibrant illustrations and fascinating facts to encourage readers to learn more about the natural world.
- Introduces readers to a diverse range of places and phenomena found across Earth that they may not have heard of. Endmatter includes a world map showing where all of these fascinating places can be found.
- **"Our World Full of Wonder is a parent's and educator's dream"**  
- *Books+Publishing*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Jevita Nilson** is a children's author with a love for nature, words, and all things wondrous. She writes heartfelt lyrical fiction and non-fiction picture books to inspire curious kids.



Author Photo © Amy Marshall

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Jess Racklyeft** is an author and illustrator. She particularly loves illustrating plants and animals and sharing her love of the Australian bush. She is the illustrator of *Iceberg* (Allen & Unwin) and *The Forgotten Song* (CSIRO Publishing), which was named as 2024 Notable in the CBCA Awards.



Author Photo © Jess Racklyeft

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## DETAILS >

Publication: November 2024

Category: Picture Books

Age Range: 5–9 year olds

Extent: 32 pages

Dimensions: 280mm × 215mm

Binding: Hardback

RRP: AUD \$24.99

ISBN: 9781486318155

Rights Held: World

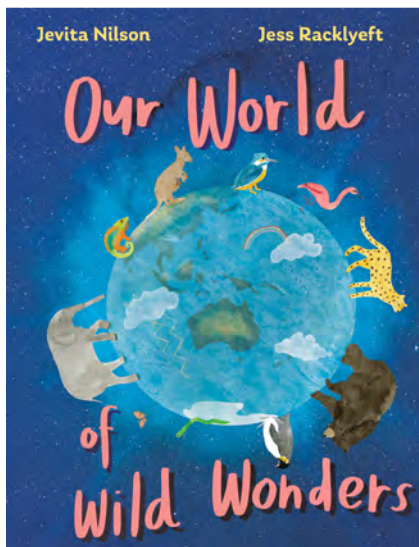


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## OUR WORLD OF WILD WONDERS >

Earth's wildlife is nothing short of extraordinary. There are colour-changing chameleons in the forests of Madagascar and cliff-climbing goats in the European Alps. There are fluorescent fish in the depths of the Mariana Trench and bushfire-surviving echidnas in the Australian bush.

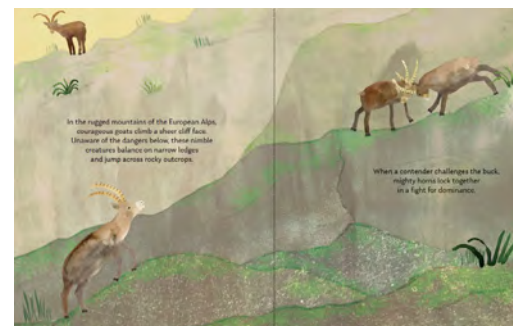
*Our World of Wild Wonders* explores the unique animal species that inhabit our planet. Some mighty, some meek, but all wondrous in their own unique way.

Shall we go explore?



### WILDLIFE INCLUDED >

- Monarch butterflies, Mexico
- Alpine ibex, European Alps
- Hector's dolphins, New Zealand
- Flamingos, Kenya
- Echidna, Australia
- Deep sea creatures, Mariana Trench
- Panther chameleon, Madagascar
- Emperor penguins, Antarctica
- Sea otters, North America
- Starlings, British Isles
- Leopard, Africa
- Fireflies, United States of America



### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Uses lyrical narrative, vibrant illustrations and fascinating facts to encourage readers to learn more about the Earth's wildlife.
- Introduces readers to a diverse range of animal species and explores the unique adaptations that help them thrive on Earth. Endmatter includes a world map showing where all of these fascinating animals can be found.
- Will appeal to both younger children as a read-aloud story and primary children interested in non-fiction texts.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Jevita Nilson** is a children's author with a love for nature, words, and all things wondrous. She writes heartfelt lyrical fiction and non-fiction picture books to inspire curious kids.



Author Photo © Amy Marshall

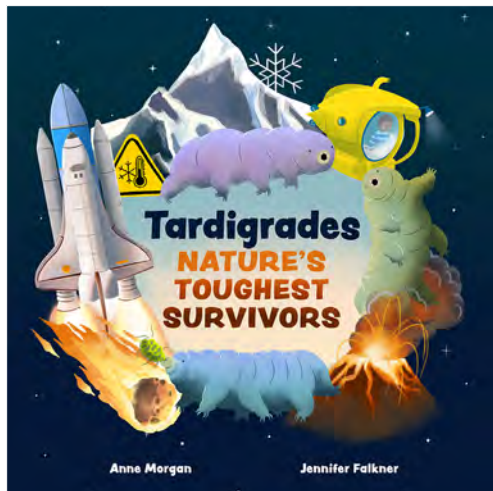
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**Jess Racklyeft** is an author and illustrator. She particularly loves illustrating plants and animals and sharing her love of the Australian bush. She is the illustrator of *Iceberg* (Allen & Unwin) and *The Forgotten Song* (CSIRO Publishing), which was named as 2024 Notable in the CBCA Awards.



Author Photo © Jess Racklyeft

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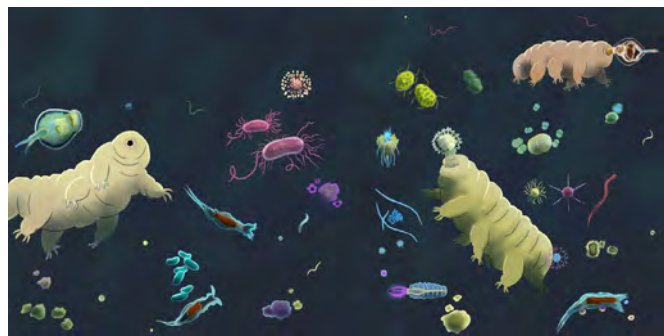
## TARDIGRADES: NATURE'S TOUGHEST SURVIVORS >

Discover the survival superpowers of tardigrades, tiny little animals that are terrifically tough.

Tardigrades are one of the toughest creatures in nature! These tiny little animals, nicknamed 'moss piglets' or 'water bears', have incredible survival superpowers.

They've been found in astonishing places, from the top of a mountain to the bottom of an ocean. They've even survived a trip into space!

*Tardigrades: Nature's Toughest Survivors* showcases these astounding little creatures and their remarkable ability to survive.



### DETAILS >

Publication: October 2024  
 Category: Picture Books  
 Age Range: 6–9 year olds  
 Extent: 32 pages  
 Dimensions: 250mm x 250mm  
 Binding: Hardback  
 RRP: AUD \$24.99  
 ISBN: 9781486316052  
 Rights Held: World

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Explores the survival superpowers of tardigrades, which are remarkable microorganisms.
- Shows how one microscopic creature can be remarkably tough.
- Includes engaging illustrations from Jennifer Falkner.
- From the award-winning author of acclaimed picture book, *The Way of the Weedy Seadragon* (CSIRO Publishing, 2021).

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Dr Anne Therese Morgan began her working life as a teacher and is now a full-time writer. Her picture book *The Way of the Weedy Seadragon* (CSIRO Publishing, 2021) was a CBCA Notable Book, a finalist in the Crystal Kite Awards, shortlisted in the Wilderness Society's Environment Award for Children's Literature and won a Whitley Award commendation.



Author Photo © Peter Vertigan

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

Jennifer Falkner is an illustrator and independent designer. Her work is inspired by a passion for Australian flora and fauna.



Author Photo © Jennifer Falkner

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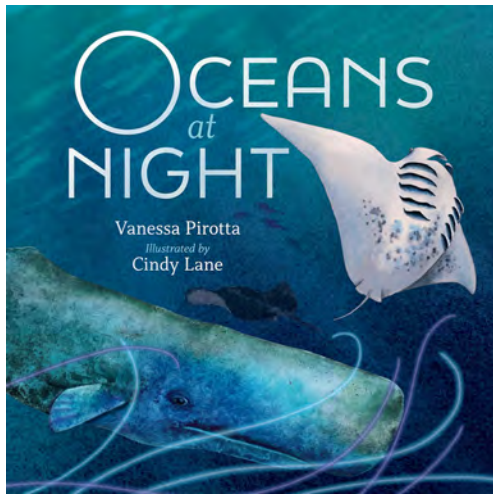
# Recent Highlights

## EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE PUBLISHING

CSIRO Publishing is an editorially independent science publisher and part of Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)



**PUBLISHING**



## OCEANS AT NIGHT >

As night-time nears, a world of creatures comes alive in our oceans.

Settle in and explore the wonderful world under the waves, and see what animals do from sunset to sunrise. From penguins to sharks, giant squid and plankton, discover the fascinating after-dark lives of ocean creatures.

*Oceans at Night* showcases the beauty and wonder of life below the sea, so dive deep and discover what happens while you sleep!

### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Explores the world's oceans from dusk to dawn.
- Lyrical text and beautiful illustrations of the world under the waves.
- Introduces fascinating sea animals and their unique features.



### DETAILS >

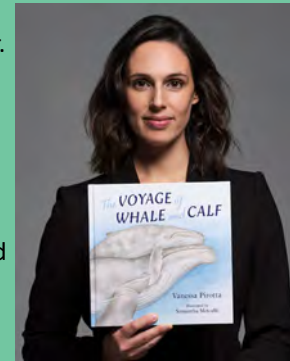
Publication: June 2024  
 Category: Picture Book  
 Age: 5–9 year olds  
 Extent: 32 pages  
 Dimensions: 250mm x 250mm  
 Binding: Hardback  
 RRP: AUD \$24.99  
 ISBN: 9781486317233  
 Rights Held: World

### REVIEWS >

- "It is books like this that ignite the thirst for knowledge. Written to inform the young independent reader and encompassing creatures from little penguins returning to feed their youngsters to the almost-mythical giant squid, this is one that could begin a journey that will last a lifetime."— *The Bottom Shelf*
- "The poetic words used to describe each of the diverse animals is perfectly pitched at a young audience. The movement of each creature is felt, as is the swell and rise of the ocean." — *ReadPlus*
- "Pirotta manages to weave lyricism and beauty into her descriptive text and simplifies difficult concepts to make them comprehensible for young readers. Honestly, every page is a stunner and every page carries fascinating facts kids will lap up."— *Little Darlings*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Dr **Vansessa Pirotta** is a wildlife scientist and science communicator. Her work is primarily focused on the use of innovative technology for wildlife conservation. Vanessa has travelled the world for humpback whale research, and her most famous research involves the use of drones to collect whale snot!



Author Photo © Gary Heery

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Cindy Lane** is an award-winning artist and illustrator, with a passion for the ocean and its inhabitants. Nature provides Cindy with inspiration as well as materials to make her own paints, which she's used in this book.



Author Photo © Cindy Lane

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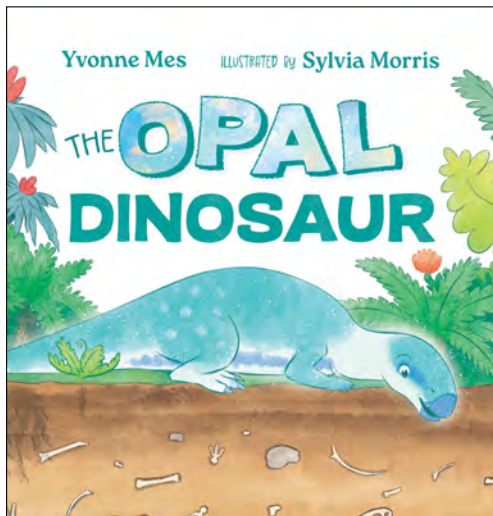


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## THE OPAL DINOSAUR >

Millions of years ago, a small dinosaur slips and scrambles, before sinking into the earth. Her bones lie under the soil, slowly transforming into something wonderful. Then, one day, a miner spies a shimmer of blue and green.

*The Opal Dinosaur* explores the amazing discovery of rare opalised bones. Follow the journey as the bones are found, forgotten and then finally identified as an exciting new dinosaur species.



### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Explores the Cretaceous period and the intriguing creatures that roamed the Earth at that time.
- Explains the fascinating process of how fossils and opal are formed.
- Tells the story of the discovery and identification of a new Australian dinosaur species.
- Shows how palaeontologists identify fossils.

### REVIEWS >

"Based on fact and true findings, *The Opal Dinosaur* is an adventure back in time and into the future. Sensitively hued illustrations capture the drama and beauty of the Cretaceous period in Gondwana land in soft shimmering tones." – *Kids' Book Review*

"I am sure this attractively presented story, which so successfully blends imagination and information will become an instant favourite. It sets a standard that makes it a must for all home and school libraries." – *Story Links*

### DETAILS >

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 Extent: 32 pages  
 Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm  
 Binding: Hardback  
 RRP: AUD \$24.99  
 ISBN: 9781486316793  
 Rights Held: World

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Yvonne Mes** is an author and illustrator from Brisbane. Yvonne coordinates Brisbane based writers' group, Write Links, and is a frequent speaker at schools and literary events.



Author Photo © Derek Freeman

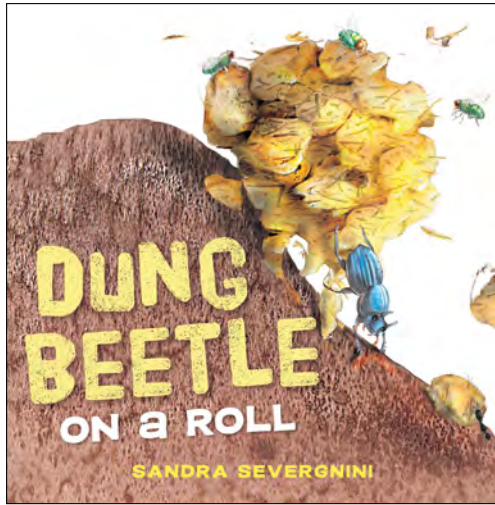
### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Sylvia Morris** is an illustrator with a background in mathematics, who combines her analytical and creative puzzle solving skills with her love of reading in her illustrations. She has been shortlisted for the CBCA Award for New Illustrators (2023).



Author Photo © Sylvia Morris

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## DUNG BEETLE ON A ROLL >

**Bigger is not always better. Sometimes the smallest of creatures can have the biggest impact . . . even with dung!**

Explore the fascinating and incredibly important role that tiny dung beetles play in our environment. From pushing dung balls that can weigh up to 50 times more than they do, to recycling nutrients in our soil, these beetles are really quite exceptional!

Written and illustrated by the award-winning Sandra Severgnini, *Dung Beetle on a Roll* is a delightful encounter with these small but important beetles.



### KEY SELLING POINTS >

- Shows the importance of some of our smallest creatures, who can have a huge impact.
- Explores the critical role that dung beetles play in our environment.
- Engages younger readers through captivating text and enchanting illustrations from award-winning creator Sandra Severgnini.

### REVIEWS >

"*Dung Beetle on a Roll* offers skillful illustrations and surprising insight into the fascinating world of these small but important beetles." – *Books+Publishing*

"Stealthily concealed amidst the humour and the completely adorable illustrations is, of course, lots of factual information about fabulous dung beetles and how they help the environment." – *Just So Stories*

## ABOUT THE CREATOR >

Sandra Severgnini is an author and illustrator of numerous award-winning books. Her fascination for the amazing world around her inspires her words and brings sensitivity and humour to her illustrations.



Author Photo © Sandra Severgnini

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