

Rebellion at Eureka

By Alan Tucker
Publisher: Omnibus Books / Scholastic
ISBN 9781742994314 SCIS: 1903922
\$16.99

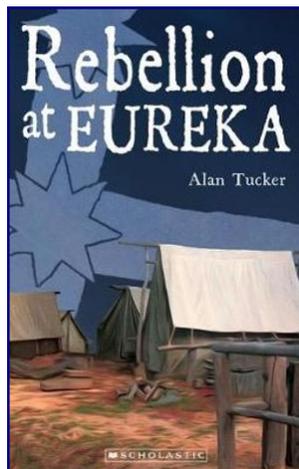
PRIMARY FICTION
BOOK OF THE
MONTH

Blurb:

August 1854: At thirteen, Alf has just finished school and wants to make decisions about his future. But his mum has uprooted their life in Melbourne and insisted he help her set up a store in Ballarat on the goldfields.

While Alf's not sure what he wants to do, he definitely knows he doesn't want to be a storekeeper for the rest of his life. As Alf makes friends with Peter Lalor and the local diggers, he realises that gold fever is just one of many things ruling life on the goldfields. But how can Alf gain independence from his mother and help his friends?

Rebellion is rumbling and is about to shake the goldfields to their core.



Lamont Review:

It's 1854 and gold fever has hit Victoria. Alf and his mother decide to leave Melbourne and head to Ballarat to open a store. At 13, Alf is not sure what he wants to do with his life. But Alf soon discovers that the goldfields have many problems, and he must decide where his loyalties lie.

This is a great novel about life on the goldfields, in particular at Eureka. Full of lots of wonderful characters and with many historical figures involved in the story, it will be a great introduction to the Eureka rebellion for your students.

Friendship, trust and hard work are some of the central themes, along with dealing with corruption and unfairness from figures in authority.

This will be enjoyed by readers in Year 5 and up.

Reviewed by Michelle

Mermaid Holidays #1: The Talent Show

By Delphine Davis & Illustrated by Adele K. Thomas

Publisher: Puffin/Penguin

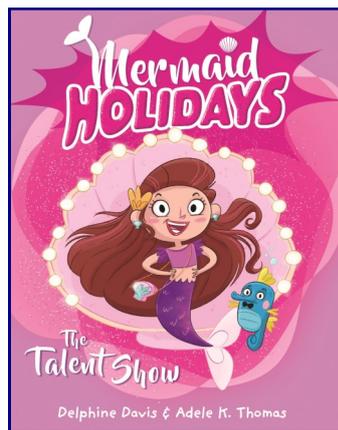
ISBN 9780143796510 SCIS: 1911240

\$9.99

Blurb:

Sophia, Willow, Chloe and Olivia have been best friends since they were merbies. Even though they don't go to school together, whenever they come home to Turtleville for the holidays, they are inseparable.

This holidays, something super exciting is happening - Turtleville's first Talent Show! Sophia can't wait. She was born to perform! The besties enter as a group, but will Sophia's love of the spotlight ruin everything?



Lamont Review:

Best friends Sophia, Willow, Chloe and Olivia are so excited to be home from school for the holidays. And they are even more excited when they discover that their town is having the first ever talent show!

But what starts out to be something so fun, suddenly takes a turn for the worst. Sophia will only focus on what she is good at, and keeps dismissing her friend's abilities.

Can they turn it around and work together to put on a great performance?

This is a great story that highlights the need to compromise and think of others feelings, not just your own!

This is the first title in a delightful new series aimed at emerging girl readers.

Reviewed by Sam

Super Sidekicks #1: No Adults Allowed

By Gavin Aung Than
Publisher: Puffin/Penguin
ISBN 9780143795865 SCIS: 1906873
\$9.99

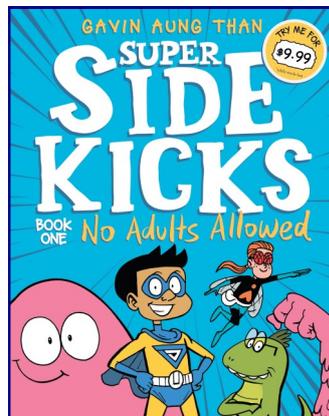
Blurb:

Superheroes have it easy. They don't have to clean their secret headquarters, wash the alien bloodstains out of their costumes or be responsible for taking Super Mutt out for a walk. No, they leave all that for their sidekicks like me, while they get all the credit!

I'm Junior Justice, but you can call me JJ, and I think it's time we made our own team. The Super Sidekicks!

Are you with me?

Being a superhero sidekick isn't as fun as you think. You do all the work, beat the bad guys and save the planet, only for your grown-up partner to get all the credit. Junior Justice is sick of it, so he and his sidekick pals, Flygirl, Dinomite and Goo, have decided to form their own super team.



Lamont Review:

Junior Justice, Flygirl, Dinomite and Goo are superhero sidekicks. They are sick of being pushed around and not getting any credit for all their hard work, so they come up with a plan to create their own team.

However, trouble is never far away when Goo's evil master, Dr Enok is around. Can the team band together and rescue Goo, and prove to their adult superheroes that they have what it takes to be superheroes in their own right?

This is a fabulous way to introduce your students to the graphic novel format, and there are extensive teacher resources that have been prepared by the publisher and are available on our website that explain in step-by-step detail how a graphic novel is made.

This will be enjoyed by all primary school aged readers, especially those that love superheroes, and will be a great title for reluctant readers.

Reviewed by Sam

Sherlock Bones and the Natural History Mystery

By Renee Trembl

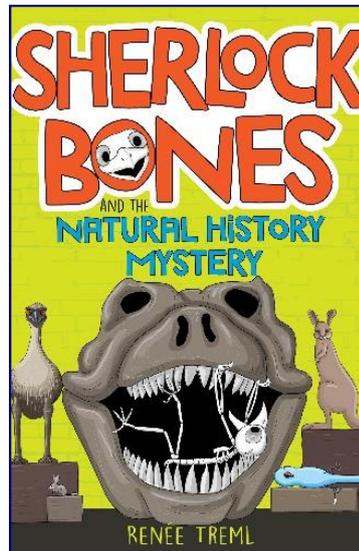
Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781760523954 SCIS: 1906888

\$14.99

Blurb:

Hi there, I'm Sherlock Bones. Who is Sherlock Bones, you ask? Well, I don't like to brag, but my trusty side-kick Watts says I'm the greatest detective in our whole museum. Don't you, Watts? Watts...? You might not be able to hear Watts, because he's technically a stuffed parrot, but I always know what he's thinking. And right now he's thinking: Can we solve the mystery of the missing Blue Diamond and save the Museum of Natural History, before it's too late?



Lamont Review:

Join Sherlock Bones and his side kick Watts at the Natural History Museum as they try to piece together the mystery of the missing Blue Diamond.

Follow them on an adventure through the museum as they try to put the clues together. Could it be the security guard? Or maybe the mysterious Grace who has appeared out of nowhere?

This is a fun, illustrated fiction title that is perfect for any readers aged 6-9.

Although it looks lengthy, the words are quite concise and the addition of the many illustrations and museum facts that are scattered throughout the story make it a great transitional book for those wanting to extend their reading from picture books.

Reviewed by Sam

This is Home: Essential Australian Poems for Children

Illustrated by Tania McCartney & Selected by Jackie French

Publisher: National Library of Australia

ISBN 9780642279385 SCIS: 1906333

\$34.99

Blurb:

In *This Is Home*, much-loved author Jackie French has gathered a poem for every child and every mood. What do you feel like doing today? Sit beside a bush campfire with Oodgeroo Noonuccal, watch people going by with Henry Lawson, float away with Alison Lester, learn to read with Andy Griffiths or be brave with Shaun Tan.

Ideal for sharing with the whole family, this extensively illustrated edition brings together old favourites and sure-to-be new favourites in an indispensable addition to children's bookshelves. From poems that whisper to poems that roar, from words of tranquillity and heartbreak to those of the witty and absurd, there is something within these pages to make everyone feel at home.



Lamont Review:

Poetry is a genre that we don't often delve into with our Standing Order selections, but we felt that this one was a stand out and would be a valuable asset to your collection. The contributors included are truly amazing!

As Jackie French alludes to in the introduction, not all the poems are for everyone, but there is so much variety in this collection that we are sure readers will find something that sparks their interest and give them at least an introduction to this style of writing, if they have not been exposed to it before.

The 'Where to Start' section at the front of the book is a great resource to make the collection more accessible. It features headings such as 'If you love animals, then you may also love:'.... and 'If you want to hear whispers from the past, listen: ...' This will help steer your students in a direction that they are interested in.

As the poems are so varied, there are poems suitable for all ages from 7 years and up.

Reviewed by Sam