

Lola In The Middle

By Cecily Anne Paterson
Publisher: Wombat Books
ISBN 9781925563900 SCIS: 1958500
\$16.99

PRIMARY FICTION
BOOK OF THE
MONTH

Blurb:

Lola is Centre on the netball court, and knows how to keep the team working together from the middle.

But netball is not the only situation Lola is always stuck in the middle of—what with her parents fighting all the time, and not to mention her best friends hating each other.

When her netball team looks like they might be in the State Finals, Lola steps up as captain. But she's got bigger problems of her own when the doctor says that she might have to stop playing netball all together.

Lola feels like she's losing from all sides. Can she ever stand up for herself? Or will she always be stuck in the middle?



Lamont Review:

Lola has moved schools a lot because her Dad is in the navy. She finally feels settled at Kangaroo Valley Primary and has joined the netball team and made good friends.

When she hears her Mum and Dad fighting, she starts to worry. Add to that the problem of being diagnosed with diabetes, and trying to get her life back to normal, and Lola feels caught in the middle of everyone.

This is a great story about dealing with a life threatening illness and standing up to your friends, even when it's hard.

Lola is a resilient character who always tries to keep the peace, but learns that sometimes you have to face your problems head on.

Reviewed by Michelle

Teacher Notes prepared by the publisher are available for this title on our website
www.lamontbooks.com.au

Her Perilous Mansion

By Sean Williams

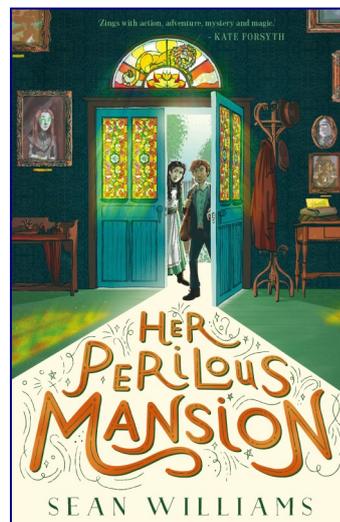
Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781760877361 SCIS: 1958487

\$16.99

Blurb:

In a strange mansion miles from anywhere, an orphan named Almanac and a twelfth daughter named Etta find themselves working - and bickering - side by side in the largely deserted rooms. But soon they realise that the house and its inhabitants are not quite what they seem, and there's more at stake than just their jobs. Can they solve the puzzle of Her Perilous Mansion before it's too late? Her Perilous Mansion is pure delight! A funny, clever and joyous fantasy for children that zings with action, adventure, mystery and magic, the pages flying past as if by wizardry.



Lamont Review:

Etta and Almanac do not know each other, but both receive mysterious letters offering them a job at a very big and mostly deserted mansion. But when they both arrive, they realise that there is a mystery to be solved and it involves a spell that is keeping them trapped.

This is an intriguing novel that students who love a mystery, a few ghosts, and magic will thoroughly enjoy. Etta and Almanac are great characters, who each have their own strengths and weaknesses - and if they are going to survive, then they will need to work together and use all their intelligence and determination!

A perfect book for all students in upper primary.

Reviewed by Michelle

As Fast As I Can

By Penny Tangey

Publisher: University of Queensland Press

ISBN 9780702262814 SCIS: 1958491

\$16.99

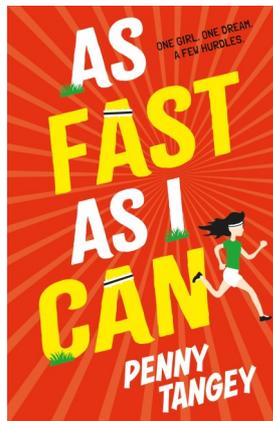
Blurb:

One girl. One dream. A few hurdles.

Ten-year-old Vivian is determined to win a medal at the Olympic Games one day. Problem is, she hasn't found a sport she's any good at yet. But everyone says if you work hard enough you can achieve anything, right? So when Vivian discovers she has a talent for cross country running, finally, her Olympic dream might actually come true.

But then a family illness is uncovered and all of Vivian's plans begin to unravel. Can she keep her dream alive? Or will she be stopped in her tracks?

A funny, heartfelt novel about resilience, acceptance and dreaming big.



Lamont Review:

Vivian loves sport and loves the Olympics, and she is determined that one day she will go to the Olympics and represent Australia. The only problem is, she doesn't quite know in what sport yet.

She has always shared this dream with her best friend Olivia, or as they are both known 'Olivian' as they are always together. But things are changing fast, and Olivia suddenly does not have the same enthusiasm as Vivian.

Vivian stumbles across cross county running, and realises that she is actually very good at it! Maybe she has found her sport after all. But with her Mum being diagnosed with an illness and it being hereditary, will Vivian's dreams be over before they have begun?

This is a fabulous story about friendships both old and new, having a dream, being determined and being resilient. A fantastic read for those in upper primary.

Reviewed by Sam

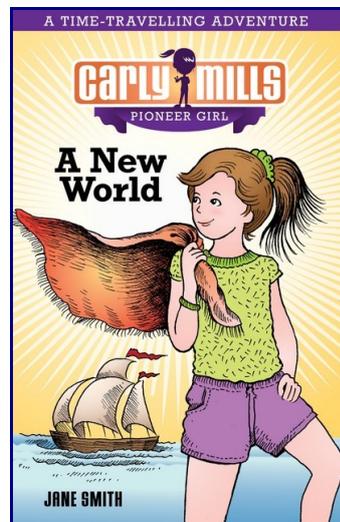
Teacher Notes prepared by the publisher are available for this title on our website
www.lamontbooks.com.au

Carly Mills Pioneer Girl - A New World

By Jane Smith & Illustrated by Pat Kan
Publisher: Big Sky Publishing
ISBN 9781922265074 SCIS: 1964787
\$12.50

Blurb:

A groundbreaking new time-travelling fiction book that celebrates the courage and contribution of some of the world's most inspiring pioneering women! It's not easy coming to the city all alone when you're a young country girl. It's even harder when a strange discovery sends you back in time to 1841! Carly Mills is about to learn how dangerous Sydney can be for a lonely colonial girl... and how hard it is to move in a corset! Caroline Chisholm tells her that kindness and friendship can make the world a better place. Could Mrs Chisholm be right?



Lamont Review:

When Carly picks up an old shawl while visiting the Immigration Museum in Sydney, she couldn't have known what would happen next...

When she wrapped it around her shoulders, Carly was instantly transported to 1841, back to when Sydney was receiving shiploads of immigrants hoping for a better life. Being a young girl, Carly is quickly offered refuge by Caroline Chisholm, who has made it her life mission to help the poor girls who were arriving in Australia with nothing.

We then witness the marvellous work that Caroline Chisholm did!

In modern times, it makes Carly realise that as a country girl, and with a new friend Dora at her side, maybe going to boarding school in Sydney is not too hard after all.

A great work of historical fiction highlighting the amazing Australian pioneering women, which will be a great addition to fiction shelves!

Will be best suited to those aged 8—12, with an interest in history.

Reviewed by Rob

Tilda Teaches Cartwheels

By Amy Adeney & Illustrated by Katie Alexander

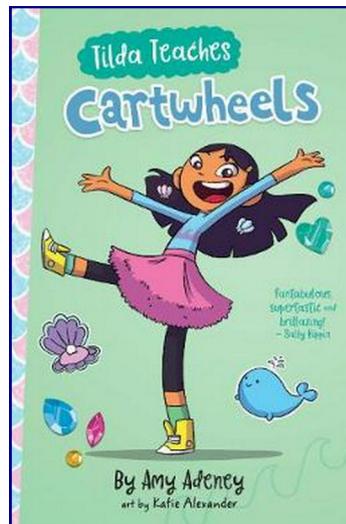
Publisher: Five Mile Press

ISBN 9781925970982 SCIS: 1965030

\$12.99

Blurb:

Tilda is so excited to show Binky and Harry what a superstar swimmer she is, with her splashy splashes and fishy flips. But when she realises she can't swim properly, Tilda is embuzzled. That's right, embarrassed and puzzled! Maybe Tilda will feel better if she teaches her friends something actually fun like cartwheeling! Tilda's cartwheel class is super fun, until it rolls out of control .



Lamont Review:

In this first book in a new series, we are introduced to Tilda and her BFF's, Harry and Binky, or her 'TEAM' as she refers to them - Totally Excellent Awesome Mates.

Tilda is so excited as they are having swimming lessons at school - and she is a superstar swimmer! Or is she?

When things don't go to plan, Tilda decides that learning cartwheels would be more useful and fun than swimming. So Tilda decides, as she knows she wants to be a teacher one day, to run her own class. But can Tilda learn that there is an art to teaching, and it is more than just telling others what to do?

This is a delightful new series that youngers readers, in particular girls, will love. It highlights important lessons about friendship and confidence, and the words that Tilda puts together to describe things will have your emerging readers trying new ones of their own!

Reviewed by Sam