

30 books for 4s & 5s

Better Beginnings is a Western Australian early literacy program developed and managed by the State Library of Western Australia and delivered through public libraries.

It connects families with books through free book boxes. Better Beginnings strives to improve literacy and learning outcomes for all WA children by encouraging families to read, talk, sing, draw and play with their child every day.

www.better-beginnings.com.au



Australian author/illustrator



Western Australian author/illustrator



STATE LIBRARY

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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How to Draw a Dragon

Written and illustrated by Kate Talbot
ALBERT STREET BOOKS, 2024



Piranhas Don't Eat Bananas

Written and illustrated by Aaron Blabey
SCHOLASTIC PRESS, 2019



Bees Are Our Friends

Written by Toni D'Alia
Illustrated by Alice Lindstrom
HARDIE GRANT CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING, 2022



One is a Snail, Ten is a Crab

Written by April Pulley Sayre and Jeff Sayre
Illustrated by Randy Cecil
WALKER BOOKS, 2004



Kind

Written and illustrated by Jess McGeachin
A&U CHILDREN, 2022



Crunch! Kaboom!

Written by Connor Mills and Clodagh Starr
Illustrated by Alison Mutton
FREMANTLE PRESS, 2025



A Crocodile in the Family

Written by Kitty Black
Illustrated by Daron Parton
LOTHIAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, 2020



Where the Lyrebird Lives

Written by Vikki Conley
Illustrated by Max Hamilton
WINDY HOLLOW BOOKS, 2022



Birdsong By the Billabong

Written by Maura Finn
Illustrated by Cate James
AFFIRM KIDS, 2025



Going for Pippies

Written by Wilaaran Laurie
Illustrated by Tori-Jay Mordey
MAGABALA BOOKS, 2025



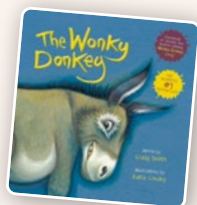
Chip

Written and illustrated by Kylie Howarth
HARDIE GRANT CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING, 2018



If You Run Out of Words

Written and illustrated by Felicity Sala
ABRAMS BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS, 2024



The Wonky Donkey

Written by Craig Smith
Illustrated by Katz Cowley
SCHOLASTIC INC, 2009



The Train at the End of My Street

Written and illustrated by Tom Jellett
AFFIRM KIDS, 2025

If your child prefers to read factual books instead of story books, that's ok! Visit your local public library to find books on topics that interest your child.



Australian
author/illustrator



Western Australian
author/illustrator



The Midnight Chew
Written by Sally Morgan
Illustrated by Karen Blair
FREMANTLE PRESS, 2025



**Australian Animals:
From Beach to Bush**
Written and illustrated by Brentos
AFFIRM KIDS, 2023



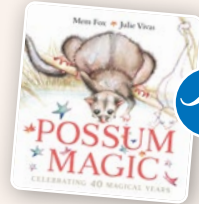
Find Out About Animal Homes
Written by Martin Jenkins
Illustrated by Jane McGuinness
WALKER BOOKS, 2021



Dinosaur in My Pocket
Written by Ashleigh Barton
Illustrated by Blithe Fielden
LOTHIAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, 2024



Happy Barry Capybara
Written and illustrated
by James Foley
SCHOLASTIC AUSTRALIA, 2024



Possum Magic
Written by Mem Fox
Illustrated by Julie Vivas
OMNIBUS BOOKS, 1983



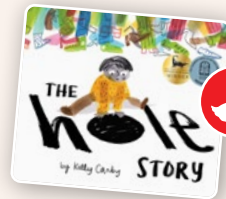
Frank's Red Hat
Written and illustrated
by Sean E Avery
WALKER BOOKS, 2022



Searching for Treasure
Written by Johanna Bell
Illustrated by Emma Long
A&U CHILDREN, 2025



**When Dinosaurs
Roamed Australia**
Written and illustrated by
Sarah Jane Lightfoot
AFFIRM KIDS, 2024



The Hole Story
Written and illustrated
by Kelly Canby
FREMANTLE PRESS, 2018



The Big Cooe
Written by Jack Carty
Illustrated by Natasha Carty
SCHOLASTIC PRESS, 2026



Antarctica
Written and illustrated
by Moira Court
FREMANTLE PRESS, 2019



You Choose
Written by Pippa Goodhart
Illustrated by Nick Sharratt
PUFFIN, 2022



Molly the Pirate
Written by Lorraine Teece
Illustrated by Paul Seden
MAGABALA BOOKS, 2017



Charlie's Whale
Written by Libby Gleeson
Illustrated by Hannah
Sommerville
LOTHIAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS, 2022



Nanna Croccles
Written and illustrated
by Susan Joy Lu
SCHOLASTIC AUSTRALIA, 2025

The books on this list
have been selected by
the Better Beginnings
team of children's
literature specialists and
are favourites of many
children and their families.

To find your
nearest public
library, visit the
Library Finder on
our website



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book shown here?**
For more book suggestions,
visit the Book Finder on the
Better Beginnings website:



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child can have their own
FREE library card?**

Make book browsing and
borrowing at your local
public library a regular
part of your week.

Story sharing
sessions may be held at
your library too. Just ask!