

BOURNVILLE  
**BookFest**  
FOR SCHOOLS

# Resource Pack

for Parents and  
Children at Home

Written and developed for  
Bournville BookFest  
by Everybody Reads CIC



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All activities are based around the videos which will go live on our website  
1-5 March 2021:

[www.bournvillebookfest.com/schools](http://www.bournvillebookfest.com/schools)

# 1. Benjamin Zephaniah



## About Benjamin Zephaniah

Benjamin was born on 15th April, 1958 in Handsworth, Birmingham where he grew up. His mum was from Jamaica and was a nurse and his dad a postman from Barbados. He left school when he was only 13. He was dyslexic and unable to read or write but loved poetry so much he taught himself to do both and was able to get his poetry published. He describes himself as a poet, writer, song-writer and musician and loves performing his poems live for audiences.

Benjamin has used his own experiences in his poetry, some of which are funny, others hard hitting and political. He supports Aston Villa football team.

## About performance poetry

The oral tradition of sharing stories, songs and poems came thousands of years before the written word. Poets used rhythm, rhyme and repetition to make their poems memorable and historically their performance was incredibly important, this is still true today.

You can read Benjamin's poems in the book *Funky Chicken* which some of the activities are based on.

## ACTIVITY

After hearing Benjamin perform, you can explore either the poems he shared or this short poem called *Clever Trevor*, which begins: "Oh no, bless my soul, Clever Trevor's scored a goal.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zcftsbk> You may want to play it through a few times so that you and your child can hear and understand it fully.

Depending on the ability of the children you may then want to explore the poem more deeply by using open questions. The aim is to get your child thinking about what they have heard. Act as an interested listener. If you thought the answer was incorrect, ask them 'how they came to that?' You may be surprised. Some questions you can ask could be:

- Tell me...was there anything you liked about this poem?
- Was there anything that you particularly disliked...?
- Was there anything that puzzled you?
- Were there any patterns...any connections that you noticed... ? (see table below for some ideas)

Poetry Device	Definition	Example
Rhyming	When lines end in the same sound.	"soul" rhymes with "goal"
Alliteration	When words start with the same sound (not necessarily the same letter)	<i>Cool, calm Kate; Peter Piper Picked Peck of Pickled Pepper; I am da Rapping Rasta.</i>
Onomatopoeia	A word that imitates a sound.	<i>The bee buzzed; Anisha gulped down her tea.</i>
Word Repetition	When repeated words or sounds are used.	<i>Oh no bless my soul, Clever Trevor's scored a goal.</i>

Whilst not a device, humour is a tool also used in poetry to engage listeners.

# ACTIVITY

Materials required – paper, pencil and a poem to be read out loud



Illustrating a poem. Illustrator and author Chris Riddell illustrates poems whilst they are being read.

Here is a YouTube video of him illustrating a poem by AF Harrold *The Troll Song*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixaHLT0bTcU>

Chris Riddell has illustrated a series of poetry books where he has drawn straight onto the poems as they have been laid out in the book. See video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PXPUC-DZ9bA>

Read a poem by Benjamin Zephaniah (or another one that you may have available) that may encourage children to have images to illustrate.

Using the book *Funky Chickens why not try:*

*This Orange Tree* - Page 47

*Pencil Me In* - Page 88 & 89

*Funky Chicken* - Page 90 & 91

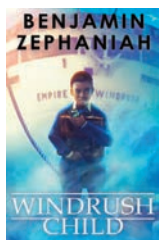
## What next?

Other useful resources:

The Children's Poetry Archive has resources, information and live poetry readings to listen to.

<https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/>

Also written by Benjamin Zephaniah (suitable for children aged 9-13)



### Windrush Child

Benjamin Zephaniah shows us what it was like to be a child of the Windrush generation.

Leonard is shocked when he arrives with his mother in the port of Southampton. His father is a stranger to him, it's cold and even the Jamaican food doesn't taste the same as it did back home in Maroon Town. But his parents have brought him here to try to make a better life, so Leonard does his best not to complain, to make new friends, to do well at school – even when people hurt him with their words and with their fists.

### Other authors/poets

For children aged 9-13 - *Love that Dog* by Sharon Creech

A book written in verse form, based in a classroom, but helps to explore poetry and tells us of Jack discovering poetry. It is a moving and memorable story about a boy and his dog and his growing passion for poetry.

*101 Poems for Children* chosen by Carol Ann Duffy (A Laureate's Choice) (ages 5+)

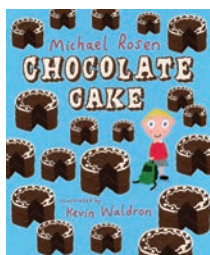
Featuring such classic poems as 'The Owl and the Pussycat' by Edward Lear and Lewis Carroll's 'Jabberwocky' alongside Edwin Morgan's 'The Loch Ness Monster's Song' and 'Balloons' by Sylvia Plath.

## 2. Michael Rosen



### About Michael

Michael Rosen is a poet, performer, broadcaster, author and scriptwriter. Michael was born on 7th May 1946 in Harrow, London. In 2007 he became the Children's Laureate, a role which he held until 2009. While Laureate, he set up the Roald Dahl Funny Prize which gives awards to the funniest children's books of the year. He was in hospital in 2019 with COVID but is now home and has written a new book called *Rigatoni the Pasta Cat*.



### About the illustrator of *Chocolate Cake*

Kevin Waldron was born and raised in Dublin. His first book, *Mr. Peek and the Misunderstanding at the Zoo* won the Bologna Ragazzi Opera Prima Award in 2009. He has illustrated another book written by Michael Rosen called the *Tiny Little Fly*. Kevin now lives in New York.

### About Poetry

Poetry is another way of telling stories. It uses sounds, rhyme, rhythm and sometimes the way it is laid out on a page to tell the story. Poetry is a great way to teach children about language. Looking at the sounds, rhyme, rhythm, imagery and layout of a poem can help to develop a child's reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.

*To make the activity easier you could get a copy of the book. However, the activities can be done by watching the video and using the resources below.*

## ACTIVITY

Have you or your child heard of any of Michael's poems before? The most famous book they may have heard of that Michael has written is – *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* which is now also an animated film. This was based on an old folk song.

Michael has a YouTube channel where he performs his poetry that you could watch together.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/artificedesign>

## ACTIVITY

Explain that in writing the poem, Michael has used different writing methods to help readers understand how much he LOVES eating chocolate cake.

See the next page for an activity to identify how a some of these have been used in part of the poem. You can use boxes to note them down.

**Adjectives**

**An adjective is a word that describes a noun**  
(the name of a thing or a place)

**The beautiful red ball bounced past the window.**

**Onomatopoeia**

**A word that imitates a sound.**

**The bee buzzed; Anisha gulped down her tea.**

So I got up out of the bed....  
Shhhhh!!!  
I mustn't wake my brother up!  
Along the passage...  
Careful not to tread on the creaky floorboard  
Outside Mum and Dad's bedroom, because if they wake up  
and find me I'll be in BIG TROUBLE.

So, really quiet.

CREAKKKK!

Are they still asleep?  
Yes. OK. Along the passage...

Down the stairs...

Into the kitchen...

Open the cupboard...

And...

Yeahhh! There it is!!!

So I take it out...  
Just have a look at it.

Mmmm.

Look at it, yeahhhh...

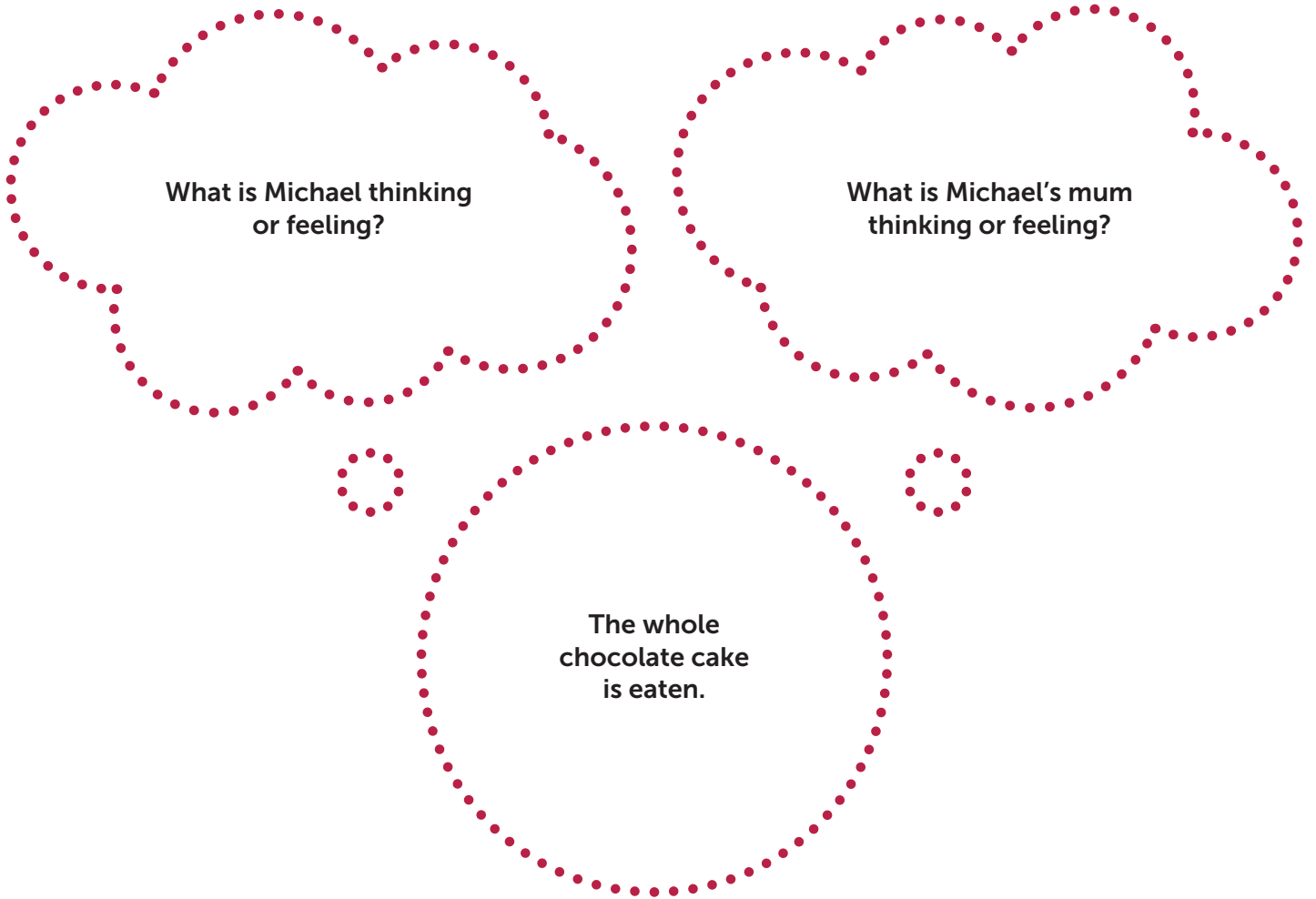
Oh, what's this? Oh... mmm... and then I notice some little crumbs on the plate. So I think, if I lick the end of my finger I could pick up some of those crumbs and no-one would know anything about it.

Chooka, chooka, chooka, chooka, chook!

What adjectives can you find?

Can you spot an example of onomatopoeia?

Can you come up with other flavours of cake using alliteration?  
E.g. Sweet Succulent Strawberry



I know what Michael is thinking because:

.....

.....

.....

I know what Michael's mum is thinking because:

.....

.....

.....

## What next?

**Other useful resources:**

*Poems by Michael Rosen, including Chocolate Cake.*

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/uploads/store/mediaupload/765/file/Michael%20Rosen%20poems.pdf>

**Other poems in book form written by Michael:**

- We're Going on a Bear Hunt* – this was adapted by Michael from a folk rhyme.
- Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly and Gravy*
- Bananas in My Ears*

**Other books illustrated by Kevin Waldron**

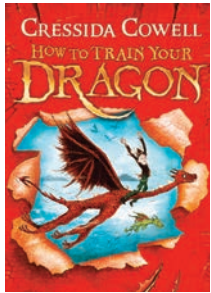
*Mr Peek and The Misunderstanding at the Zoo* – written & illustrated by Kevin Waldron.

# 3. Cressida Cowell



## About Cressida Cowell

Cressida is the author-illustrator of the *How to Train Your Dragon* and *The Wizards of Once* book series, and the author of the Emily Brown picture books. She was born on 15 April 1966 and grew up in London spending holidays on a small island off the west coast of Scotland. Cressida is currently the Children's Laureate. *How to Train your Dragon* was made into an animated film in 2010 and there are now 3 films in total.



## About *How to Train Your Dragon*

*How to Train your Dragon* is Book 1 of a 12 book series and introduces Hiccup who is a smallish Viking. In this first book Hiccup must lead ten students to train their dragons or be banished from the tribe for ever.

The book contains guidance on speaking Dragonese, information and statistics all illustrated by Cressida herself.

## ACTIVITY

Why not read a passage from the book and/or watch a trailer or the film of *How to Train our Dragon*.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKiYulsPxYk>

## ACTIVITY

Learning to speak Dragonese

Dragons are the only creatures who speak this language but so too can Hiccup. Why don't you have a try. Look at page 84 in book 1 for some phrases and hear Cressida pronounce them here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u96Kc\\_R8iKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u96Kc_R8iKA)

## ACTIVITY

Work out your Viking Name

Find the initial of your first name and then the month you were born in.

Put them together with THE in between to find your full name.

<b>A</b> HAIRY	<b>B</b> GRUNT	<b>C</b> SMELLY	<b>D</b> ODIUS	<b>E</b> SNAKE-EYES	<b>F</b> QUIETLY	<b>G</b> SQUISHY	<b>H</b> PANTS
<b>I</b> GOBBER	<b>J</b> BURP	<b>K</b> FISHLEGS	<b>L</b> BUMBLE	<b>M</b> UNDERBELLY	<b>N</b> PURPLE FACE	<b>O</b> DRIBBLE	<b>P</b> DOGSBREATH
<b>Q</b> CLUELESS	<b>R</b> RANCID	<b>S</b> FISHFACE	<b>T</b> BIGNOSE	<b>U</b> PICKLE	<b>V</b> SNOT	<b>W</b> HICCUP	<b>X</b> DROOLER
	<b>Y</b> SPIT	<b>Z</b> BELCH					
<b>JANUARY</b> UNWASHED	<b>FEBRUARY</b> DANGEROUS	<b>MARCH</b> AXE-HEAD	<b>APRIL</b> WARTHOG	<b>MAY</b> BALD-ONE	<b>JUNE</b> FARTER	<b>JULY</b> UNREADY	<b>AUGUST</b> PARPER
	<b>SEPTEMBER</b> TOELESS	<b>OCTOBER</b> TOOTHLESS	<b>NOVEMBER</b> FIERY	<b>DECEMBER</b> GIFTLESS			



# What next?

Why not watch the film or read some more books in the series:

## *2: How To Be a Pirate*

Can Hiccup find Grimbeard the Ghastly's treasure before Alvin the Treacherous gets his sneaky hands on it?

## *3: How to Speak Dragonese*

Alvin the Treacherous steals Hiccup's copy of How to Speak Dragonese.

## *4: How to Cheat a Dragon's Curse*

Fishlegs has been struck with deadly Vorpentitis. The only cure is rare and almost impossible to find ... a potato. But where on Berk will Hiccup find such a thing?

## *5: How to Twist a Dragon's Tail*

Someone has stolen the Fire Egg. Now the Volcano on Volcano Island is active and the tremors are hatching the eggs of the Exterminator dragons!

## *6: A Hero's Guide to Deadly Dragons*

Hiccup is lost in the Library Labyrinth and the Driller-Dragons and Madguts and Murderous are on the prowl. Hiccup's birthday is not going to be the quiet affair he wanted. Book 6 also includes a comprehensive Dragonese Dictionary.

## *7: How to Ride a Dragon's Storm*

Hiccup has three months, five days and six hours to discover America, get back to Berk, save his father, battle Polarserpents, AND win the annual Inter-Tribal Friendly Swimming Race.

## *8: How to Break a Dragon's Heart*

Hiccup must battle Berserks, dodge Scarers, complete the Impossible Task and save Fishlegs from being ed to the Beast! All while being hunted down by an old enemy. Will he do it?

## *9: How to Steal a Dragon's Sword*

Dragons are starting to revolt against their Masters. The waters have risen, flooding fields and washing whole villages away. But worse still, the wicked witch Excellinor has returned.

## *10: How to Seize a Dragon's Jewel*

The Dragon Rebellion has begun. But what can Hiccup do, he is all alone and in exile, hunted by both humans and dragons? Can he find the Dragon Jewel, mankind's last and only hope?

## *11: How to Betray a Dragon's Hero*

High up in the treacherous mists of the Murderous Mountains, Hiccup and the Company of the Dragonmark are in hiding. The witch's Spydragons are guarding the shores of Tomorrow - but Hiccup is determined to become King of the Wilderwest.

## *12: How to Fight a Dragon's Fury*

The very last in the series. It is the Doomsday of Yule. At the end of this day, either the humans or the dragons will face extinction. As Doomsday draws to an end can Hiccup be the Hero of the hour? Will the dragons survive?

# The Wizards of Once series – *By Cressida Cowell*

## About the book series

The Wizards of Once is an exciting high-adventure series set in an ancient, magical time, full of Wizards, Warriors, Giants and Sprites.



## Book 1 – *The Wizards of Once*

Once there was Magic, and the Magic lived in the dark forests. Until the Warriors came ... Xar is a Wizard boy who has no Magic and will do anything to get it. Wish is a Warrior girl, but she owns a banned Magical Object, and she will do anything to conceal it. In this whirlwind adventure, Xar and Wish must forget their differences if they're going to make it to the dungeons at Warrior Fort. Where something that has been sleeping for hundreds of years is stirring ...

## ACTIVITY

### Drawing

The Wizards of Once has a Magic Spoon and Key in the books. Ask your child – what do you think they might look like if they were magic? Encourage them to draw what they might look like. Have a look around the house to see if you can gather together some keys and spoons so that they can examine them and use them for ideas for their drawings.

Then once complete, have a look at how Cressida draws her illustrations of the spoon and key. The Video is just over 1 minute long so you may need to play it through a few times:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3gXDqtsLPg>

## ACTIVITY

### Art, drawing and other activities

Why not visit BookTrust's At Home web pages with lots of ideas and activities to have fun with. For all ages from 4+ <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/fun-at-home-with-authors-and-illustrators/>

# What next?

Why not try the rest of the series?



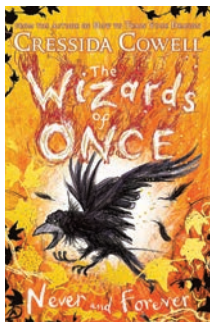
## Book 2 - *The Wizards of Once: Twice Magic*

Witches are creating havoc in the Wildwoods and danger lurks behind every tree trunk. Wish is in possession of a powerful, Magic Spelling Book; Xar has a dangerous Witchstain on his hand. Together they can save the Wildwoods from the curse of the Witches but they are separated by the highest wall imaginable, and time is running out ... It was unlikely that these heroes should meet in the first place. Is it possible they are destined to meet TWICE?



## Book 3 - *The Wizards of Once: Knock Three Times*

Wish and Xar are now outlaws on the run, hunted by Warriors, Wizards and worst of all, by WITCHES ... Can they find the ingredients for the Spell to Get Rid of Witches before the Kingwitch gets his talons on Magic-that-Works-on-Iron? Their next Quest is the most terrifying and treacherous of all ... And someone is going to betray them ...



## Book 4 - *The Wizards of Once: Never and Forever*

Xar and Wish have found the ingredients for the Spell-to-get-rid-of-Witches. Now the Kingwitch is calling them to the lake of the lost. But first they must mix the potion in the Cup of Second Chances ... Can they defeat the hungry Tatzelwurm monster and escape with the cup? And will the spell be strong enough to lift the CURSE OF THE WILDWOODS... or will Witches reign FOREVER?

### Other books about Magic and Wizardry:

*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* - JK Rowling  
*Nevermoor* - Jessica Townsend  
*The Land of Roar* - Jenny Mclachlan  
*The Nowhere Emporium* - Ross Mackenzie  
*The Strangeworlds Travel Agency* - LD Lapinski  
*The Great Brain Robbery* - PG Bell

# 4. Steven Butler & Steven Lenton



## About Steven Butler

Steven Butler grew up in Kent, but now lives in London. He is an author as well as an actor, dancer and trained circus. Steven trained at the Italia Conti Academy of Theatre Arts and The Toronto Circus School and he has starred in *Peter Pan*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and as *Henry* in *Horrid Henry Live and Horrid!* His primary school headteacher was the author Jeremy Strong!



## About Steven Lenton

Steven Lenton is originally from Congleton in Cheshire, where his family run a pom-pom factory, but he now splits his time between Brighton and London, where he works from his shared studio. Steven has two degrees (a BA & an MA) in animation and has worked as a successful animator and art director for children's television.



## Book 1

### Nothing to See Here Hotel

A hotel for magical creatures, where Frankie Banister lives with his parents who run the hotel. When a goblin messenger arrives at The Nothing to See Here Hotel, announcing the imminent arrival of the goblin prince Grogbah, Frankie and his family rush into

action to get ready for their important guest. But it soon becomes obvious that the Banister family are going to have their work cut out with the demanding prince and his never-ending entourage, especially when it turns out the rude little prince is hiding a secret...



## Book 2

### You Aint Seen Nothing Yeti

Frankie Banister and his guests are looking forward to celebrating the summer holiday of Trogmanay. But when a snow-storm blows in with the Yeti family a number of mysterious guests arrive & something sinister seems to be taking over the hotel.



## Book 3

### Sea-ing is Believing

Frankie Banister and his family are preparing to celebrate Grandad Abraham's 175th birthday by bringing back his ghost. The visiting spook reveals a secret underwater wing of the hotel that's been hidden for years but are there other secrets in the briny ballroom?



## Book 4

### Fiend of the Seven Sewers

Frankie is kidnapped and dragged off to a secret cistern-city in the depths of the sewers. Frankie is going to have to outwit old enemies and rely on new friends if he ever wants to see his hotel home again.

## ACTIVITY

### Story-mapping

When you have read Book 1 use the Story Mapping Template at the end of this pack to explore the story. Story maps are useful to improve comprehension and to explore the different elements of the book.

## ACTIVITY

### Illustration

In Book 1 we are introduced to Hoggit. Illustrator Steve Lenton has a video explaining step by step how you can draw your very own illustration. It is around 10 minutes long. See:

<https://uk.video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&p=youtube+steven+lenton+nothing+to+see#id=4&vid=27eef27d530f3624c02cd99ff4df4b59&action=click>



## What next?

### Other books by Steven Butler

*The Wrong Pong*

Award winning funny books for 5-7 year olds

*Dog Diaries*

A book series ideal for younger readers.

*Awesomely Austen: Northanger Abbey*

A funny, accessible retelling of Jane Austen's classic.

## ACTIVITY

### Writing your own story

Using the Story Mapping Template map out your own story thinking about the setting and characters and what you might include in the beginning, middle and end.

## ACTIVITY

### Illustration

On pages 14 & 15 of Book 1 there is an illustration of the inside of the hotel. Why don't you get your child to plan and draw a room that they would love to see in their hotel. Have a look at Frankie's room which is in the middle - he has a globe, pictures, a fireplace, noticeboard. What would they like to have in their room if they could have ANYTHING?



### Other books by Steven Butler

*Shifty McGifty & Slippery Sam* books – in picture book and first chapter book format

*The Hundred and One Dalmations* – picture book format.

Also Steven has an illustration in *The Book of Hopes* on page 145 Collated By Katherine Rundell – Read for free <https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>

# 5. Katherine Rundell

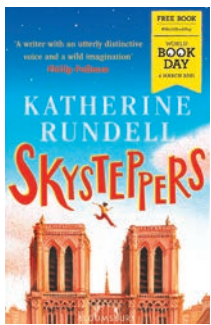


## About Katherine

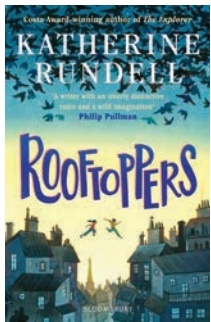
Katherine is an award winning children's writer and academic in English Literature. She was born in Kent and grew up in Zimbabwe before moving to Belgium when she was 14 years old. She studied at Oxford University and now lives in London and sometimes Oxford.

## World Book Day 2021 Title – *Sky Steppers*

Available for £1 or free using your World Book Day voucher. This World Book Day book takes place a few years before the adventures in *Rofoftoppers* and can be read in any order.



High above the streets of Paris live the rooftoppers, a secret gang of children who eat, sleep and tumble amongst the chimney pots. It's a perilous life, but for Matteo and Mercedes the adventure is only just beginning. Caught up in a long-standing feud that threatens their existence amongst the stars, they find themselves on a hunt across Paris, tearing across the roofs of Versailles and the Louvre, searching for hidden treasure in a race against Henri Danglars – the enemy who would seek to destroy that which they love best.



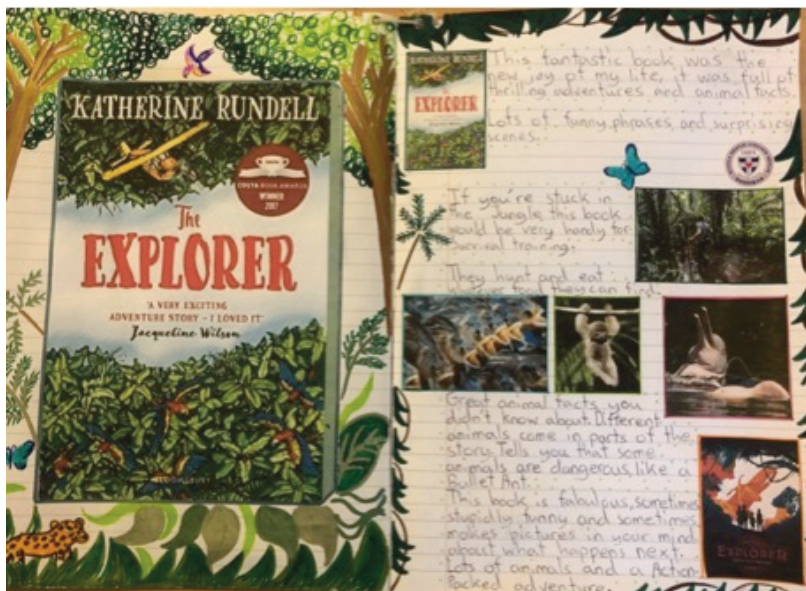
## *Rofoftoppers* - Illustrated by Marie-Alice Harel

Everyone tells Sophie that she was orphaned in a shipwreck. Sophie is convinced her mother is still alive and she's determined to find her. High up above the city of Paris, a group of children live secret lives on the rooftops. The book is a thrilling adventure about following your dreams, believing in yourself and never ignoring a possible.

The book won The Waterstones Children's Book Prize and also The Blue Peter Book Award when it was first published.

## ACTIVITY

Resources required: Paper or exercise book, pencils, pens, colours.

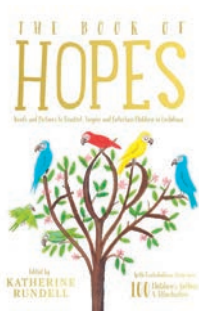


## Create a Book Scrapbook

Instead of writing just a book review, why not make your own scrapbook with individual pages based on the book? This type of book-journaling to increases creativity and is a great way to keep track of the books read. An example of *The Explorer* – one of Katherine Rundell's titles

# What next & more activities

Some of Katherine's other books

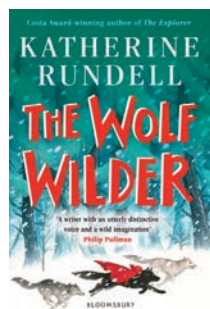


## The Book of Hopes

This is a collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures with contributions from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators. The collection is dedicated to the doctors, nurses, carers, porters, cleaners and everyone working in hospitals. Katherine edited the stories and wrote *The Young Bird Catcher* on Page 366.

The book (and story) can be read online free of charge:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/family-zone/9-12/book-hopes/>



## The Wolf Wilder

Feodora and her mother live in the snowbound woods of Russia. Ten minutes away, in a ruined chapel, lives a pack of wolves. Feodora's mother is a wolf wilder, who teaches tamed animals to fend for themselves, and to fight and to run, and to be wary of humans. Feo is a wolf wilder in training and

when the Russian Army threaten her very existence, she is left with no option but to run away. An adventure story about standing up for the things you love.

Bloomsbury Publishing have produced a resource pack with more activities:

[https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/the-wolf-wilder-teachers-notes-pb\\_web.pdf](https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/the-wolf-wilder-teachers-notes-pb_web.pdf)



## The Explorer

- Multi award winning book

Fred watches as the mysteries of the Amazon jungle pass by below him. He has always dreamed of becoming an explorer and making history. If only he could land and look about him. As the plane crashes into the canopy, Fred is suddenly left without a choice. He

and the three other children may be alive, but the jungle is a vast, untamed place. With no hope of rescue, the chance of getting home feels impossibly small. Except, it seems, someone has been there before them ...

Bloomsbury Publishing have produced a resource pack with more activities:

<https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/ExplorerTeacherpack.pdf>



## The Good Thieves

- Foyles book of the year

Vita Marlowe arrives in New York by boat from England. Her grandfather Jack has been cheated out of his home and possessions by a notorious conman with Mafia connections. Vita is desperate to make him happy again and finds a

pickpocket along with two boys with unusual skills to help with her plan to outwit his enemies and recover his home.

Bloomsbury Publishing have produced a resource pack with more activities:

<https://media.bloomsbury.com/rep/files/The%20Good%20Thieves%20Teaching%20Notes.pdf>

# 6. Tom Palmer

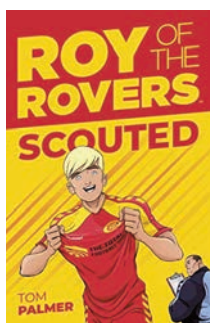


## About Tom

As a child Tom didn't enjoy reading and his mum encouraged him with newspapers and magazines about football. There were no books about football for children. Gradually he came to love books and studied for A levels when he was 21. Tom has worked in a bookshop and a library while he wrote his books. Tom has written around 40 books and won lots of awards.

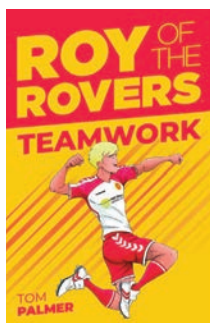
## Roy of the Rovers Series

*Roy of the Rovers* is a British comic strip about the life of a fictional footballer named Roy Race who played for Melchester Rovers. It continued with his son Rocky who also played for Melchester. The comic strips first started in 1954 and ran until May 2001. The publisher Rebellion have updated the legendary *Roy of the Rovers* comic for a new audience. Alongside Tom's 6 chapter books, are a series of graphic novel comic books written by Rob Williams.



### Book 1 – Scouted

Roy Race is a totally normal 16 year old. He just happens to be the best striker in Melchester, too... Roy always dreamed of becoming a professional footballer and playing for Melchester Rovers, the team he's supported his entire life, but he never thought he had a chance - until now.



### Book 2 – Teamwork

Roy Race is living the dream. After all, how many 16-year-olds get to play up front for their favourite football team? Except life as Melchester Rovers' new star striker isn't easy. Everyone's looking at him differently, social media is a nightmare, and Rovers are still stuck at the bottom of the league.



### Book 3 – Play-Offs

The end of the season is here, and it's make or break for Roy Race and Melchester Rovers. Against all odds, Roy and his teammates are closer to getting Rovers promoted. However, if they fail to reach League One, then Rovers' owner Barry Cleaver plans to sell up, destroying Melchester Rovers for good.





#### Book 4 – *On Tour*

After a whirlwind season that saw him become centre forward for his beloved Melchester Rovers and score a bagful of goals, helping them secure promotion into League One, he's now recognised as one of the best young footballers in the country. But something strange is afoot as he is kept apart from his team.



#### Book 5 – *From the Ashes*

Roy Race watched the home ground of his beloved Melchester Rovers, burn to the ground. The club is in serious trouble and Roy was sold by cash-strapped Melchester to their greatest rivals, Tynecaster. But now Roy needs to find a way back to Rovers, and fast - or there won't be a club left to return to...



#### Book 6 – *Rocky*

The final story told from the perspective of a female footballer - Rocky Race, Roy's younger sister. A struggling student and brilliant footballer, Rocky is struggling to find her own way - as a person and a player - and she's going to need all her grit and determination to do it.

## ACTIVITY

How to develop a Growth Mindset

Read Chapter 1 – either from the book or from Tom's sample on his website:

<https://www.tompalmer.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Scouted-chapter-1-and-2.pdf>

## ACTIVITY

*Children (and adults) with a fixed mindset believe that you are born good (or not so good) at something and that practice won't really make a difference. This activity may help to encourage children to think differently.*

### Points to discuss:

The chapter starts with Roy practicing his football all through his summer holidays. He had read that to be really good at something you have to practice doing it 10,000 times.

1. What do you think about that?  
Do you think practicing will make any difference? If so, what difference would it make if he practiced every day of the summer holidays, or three times a week, or just once a week?
2. Sometimes, when something doesn't go right it is easy to give up.  
In the Chapter we just read can you think of anything that happened that may have made Roy want to give up? What would you do? What did he do?
3. At the end of the Chapter Roy didn't feel like he had done enough to keep his place in the team, although the manager Yunis seemed to be happy. What do you think matters most – that you come out on top or win something, even if you don't try your best or that you don't win but have tried your hardest? Can you think of any examples when you have done your very best but it still wasn't good enough to win? What was positive about that?
4. Can you think of anything that you would like to get better at? It could be a sport, or learning a new skill such as the volley that Roy had been practising, improving your spelling, learning some maths that you have struggled with or learning a new hobby. Can you think of ways, strategies, to get better at something? What would you need to improve? Do you need to ask someone for help? Read about how to improve or watch a video? Who can support you as you learn your skills?

## ACTIVITY

### Writing

Roy and Rocky of the Rovers Writing Kit. Tom has created a set of eight writing activities inspired by this book series and you can download them free of charge here: <https://royoftherovers.com/shop/free>

## ACTIVITY

### Writing – using comics to develop writing skills

The books by Tom were created from graphic novel comic books written by Rob Williams and illustrated by Lisa Henke. Tom used the comic strip to think about what he needed to include in his stories.

Tom has developed an activity around Book 5 *From the Ashes* which can be used as a stand-alone activity. In this student pack all the resources are included for children to look at the comic strip, answer some questions then develop their own piece of prose. Tom has then included his own prose which you can read out to the group once they have all finished their own writing. The pack can be downloaded free of charge from here: <https://www.tompalmer.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Roy-worksheet-2020.pdf>

## ACTIVITY

### Reading

Once you have read all the books by Tom in Roy of the Rovers series you can send off your information to Tom to receive a signed poster certificate:

Email: [admin@tompalmer.co.uk](mailto:admin@tompalmer.co.uk) with the Subject: Roy of the Rovers poster certificate

# ACTIVITY

## Colouring and Illustration activities

Sharp-shooter Rocky is testing her brother Roy's goal-keeping skills. Can you add a crowd or maybe some more players and colour them all in?

<https://www.tompalmer.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Rocky-Roy-colouring.pdf>

## A picture of Roy to colour in and design a new football kit for Melchester Rovers

<https://www.tompalmer.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Roy-of-the-the-Rovers-colouring.pdf>

## Learn to draw Rocky with illustrator Lisa Henke

<https://www.tompalmer.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Rocky-drawing-2.pdf>

# What next?

## Other football books by Tom Palmer

*Foul Play* (book 1 of a crime and football series) Danny is obsessed with two things: football - and investigating crimes. So when England and City footballing hero Sam Roberts is reported missing the day after Danny saw him being taken, blindfolded, into the bowels of the City FC stadium late at night, he's determined to get to the bottom of it.

*Football Academy* (Football books for age 6-9 year olds) Jake loves football and dreams of becoming a professional footballer. He's worried about his height though - what if he's too small for football? But on the day of his trial Jake is quick on the ball and scores - he's made it! But someone at the club wants to make his life difficult.

*Secret FC* - Published by Barrington Stoke as a more accessible read. Aimed at 6-10 year olds.

Lily, Zack and Khal can't believe it when the new headteacher at their school bans football in the playground. What will they do at break-time now? Then Zack has a brilliant plan and a very secret football club is formed.

## Other books written by Tom Palmer

*After the War* - The Second World War is finally over and Yossi, Leo and Mordecai are among three hundred children who arrive in the English Lake District. Having survived the horrors of the Nazi concentration camps, they've finally reached a place of safety and peace, where they can hopefully begin to recover. Inspired by the true story of the Windermere Boys

*Armistice Runner* Lily has lots of worries. She's struggling to compete in her fell-running races and, worse, she's losing her gran to Alzheimer's. But then she discovers her great-great-grandfather's diaries from the First World War. Could his incredible story of bravery help her reconnect with her gran and even give her the inspiration she needs to push through and win?

*D-Day Dog* Jack can't wait for the school trip to the D-Day landing beaches. It's his chance to learn more about the war heroes he has always admired - brave men like his dad, who is a reserve soldier. But when his dad is called up to action things at home spiral out of control. Jack is drawn to a true story of, Emile Corteil who in June 1944 parachuted into France with his dog, Glen. Jack is determined to find out what happened to them.

## Graphic Novel Comic Books by Rob Williams and Lisa Henke

Book 1 - Roy of the Rovers: Kick Off

Book 2 - Roy of the Rovers: Foul Play

Book 3 - Roy of the Rovers: Going Up

Book 4 - Roy of the Rovers: Transferred

Book 5 - Roy of the Rovers: All To Play For

Book 6 - Roy of the Rovers: Pressure

# Appendix

## Story Mapping Template (1)

**Title:**

**Author:**

**Illustrator:**

**Setting:**

**Characters:**

**Beginning:**

**Middle:**

**End:**