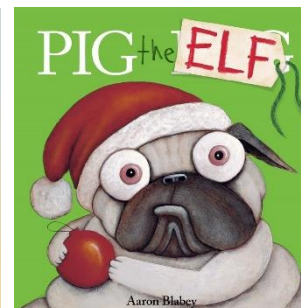
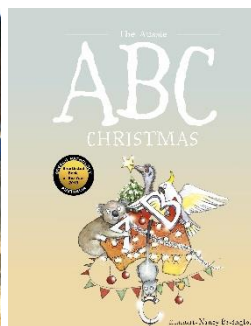
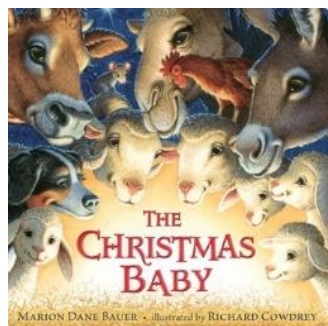
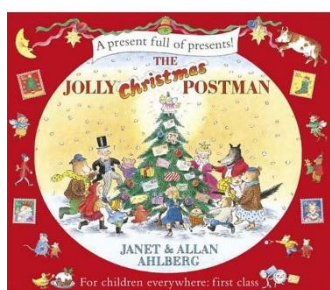




Children's Books Reviewed

CHRISTMAS BOOKS

*A selection of new and old favourites for everyone
to enjoy and share at Christmas*



The Jolly Christmas Postman by Janet and Allan Ahlberg 1991/2011

It's Christmas Eve and the Jolly Postman is delivering greetings to various fairy-tale characters - there's a card for Baby Bear, a game appropriately called 'Beware' for Red Riding Hood from Mr Wolf, a get-well jigsaw for hospitalised Humpty Dumpty and three more surprise envelopes containing letters, cards, and more.

The Christmas Baby by Marion Dane Bauer 2015

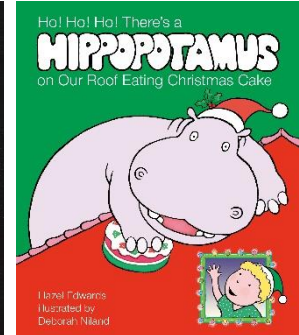
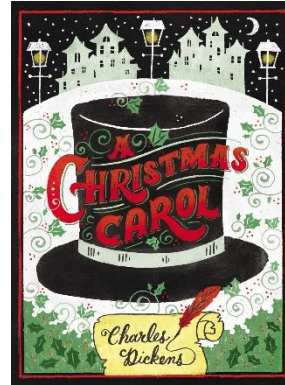
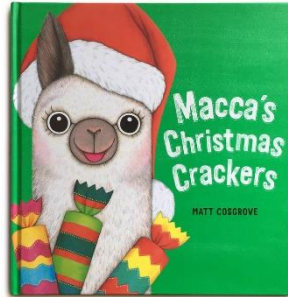
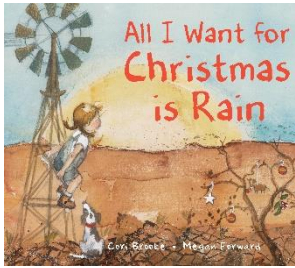
This beautiful retelling of the Nativity story celebrates the timeless joy of Christmas and of welcoming a new baby into the world. When Mary and Joseph's child was born, the good tidings spread from the animals in the manger, to the shepherds in the fields, to the kings in distant lands, and even to the angels in the heavens.

The Aussie ABC Christmas by Nancy Bevington 2018

Going to the beach, eating ice cream and having a barbeque are just some of the things that make an Aussie Christmas great. Explore the Australian way of celebrating Christmas whilst navigating each letter of the alphabet.

Pig the Elf by Aaron Blabey 2016

Santa was coming! It was bigger than big! No-one loves Christmas more than Pig. And the world's greediest Pug will stay up all night to get his presents. When Pig yips at Santa and finds himself joining in on the flying sleigh ride, things quickly get out of hand in a way that is pure Pig pandemonium.



All I Want for Christmas is Rain by Cori Brooke, 2016

An Australian Christmas is threatened when drought takes hold. A little girl has only one wish—for rain. Will her wish come true? An engaging and entertaining way for children to stay aware of the current drought situation in Australia.

Macca's Christmas Crackers by Matt Cosgrove 2018

Christmas is here! Macca loves Christmas time and he especially loves finding the perfect gifts for his friends! But with no money in the piggy bank, how will Macca surprise his friends on Christmas Day?

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, numerous editions available

Ebenezer Scrooge is a mean, miserable, bitter old man with no friends. One cold Christmas Eve, three ghosts take him on a scary journey to show him the error of his nasty ways. By visiting his past, present and possible future, Scrooge learns to love Christmas and the people all around him.

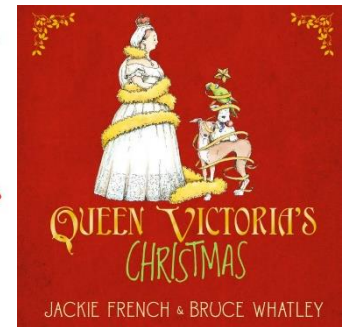
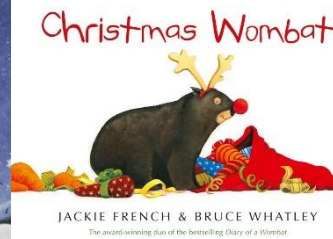
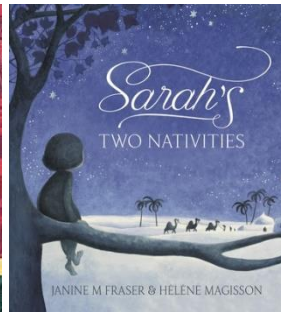
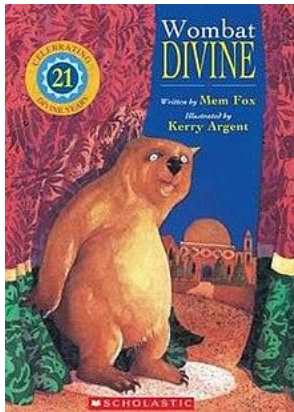
Ho! Ho! Ho! There's a hippopotamus on our roof eating Christmas cake by Hazel Edwards illustrated by Deborah Niland 2018

There's a hippopotamus on our roof getting ready for Christmas. And he's excited just like me! Share the joy and fun of preparing for a family Christmas with your favourite characters from the best-selling picture book series, *There's a Hippopotamus on Our Roof Eating Cake*.

The Christmas Wish by Lori Evert, 2013

Long ago, a brave little girl named Anja wanted to be one of Santa's elves. So, she leaves a note for her family and heads out into the snowy landscape. From a red bird to a polar bear to a reindeer, a menagerie of winter animals help Anja make her way to Santa. This Nordic tale is illustrated with extraordinary photographs.





Wombat Divine by Mem Fox illustrated by Kerry Argent 1995

Wombat loved Christmas. He loved the carols and the candles, the presents and the pudding, but most of all he loved the Nativity Play. Wombat loves the Nativity Play so much that he tries out for every part, but he doesn't seem to be right for any of them. Luckily, wise Emu knows the perfect role for a sleepy wombat, and it's the best Nativity Play ever.

Sarah's Two Nativities by Janine M Fraser illustrated by Helene Magisson 2019

Sarah loves her two grandmas – Grandmother Azar tells Sarah stories from the Holy Koran, while Grandmother Maria tells her stories from the Bible. At Christmas time, Sarah snuggles in each of her grandmothers' laps and listens to two nativities stories. A beautiful celebration of a multicultural family at Christmas.

Christmas Wombat by Jackie French illustrated by Bruce Whatley 2012

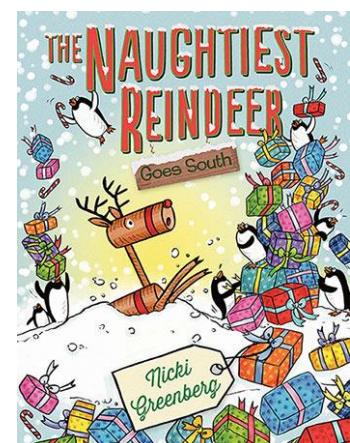
It's Christmas - from a wombat's point of view. It's Christmas! And it's Christmas for Mothball the Wombat, too. She eats, she sleeps, she scratches, but on Christmas Eve ...

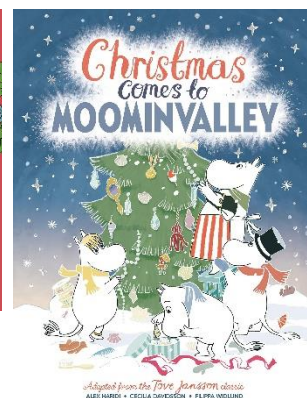
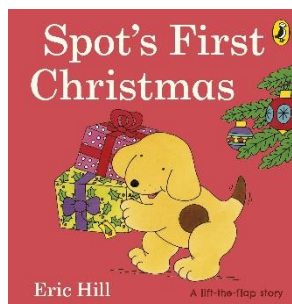
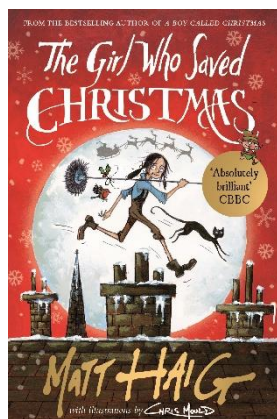
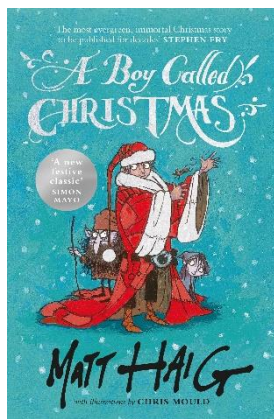
Queen Victoria's Christmas by Jackie French illustrated by Bruce Whatley 2014

Something strange is happening at the palace and the dogs can't work it out. The cooks are busy... are royal visitors arriving? Mysterious parcels are arriving. And most curious of all... what is that tree doing in Prince Albert's study? A story of the first 'traditional' Christmas, complete with a Christmas tree and presents for the family, as seen from the point of view of Queen Victoria's dogs.

The naughtiest reindeer goes south by Nicki Greenberg 2016

If only Mrs Claus had listened! Letting Ruby lead the sleigh is a recipe for disaster. Ruby's wild ride lands her in a world of trouble, and very far from home. Poor Ruby is stranded, the presents are scattered... and the local penguins are very, very grumpy. How can the naughtiest reindeer avert a Christmas disaster this time?





A boy called Christmas by Matt Haig illustrated by Chris Mould 2015

The true story of Father Christmas - A tale of adventure, snow, kidnapping, elves, more snow, and an eleven-year-old boy called Nikolas, who isn't afraid to believe in magic. The idea for the series came to Matt Haig when his son asked what Father Christmas was like as a boy.

The Girl Who Saved Christmas by Matt Haig illustrated by Chris Mould 2016

It is Christmas Eve, and all is not well. Amelia Wishart is trapped in Mr Creeper's workhouse and Christmas is in jeopardy. Magic is fading. If Christmas is to happen, Father Christmas knows he must find her. With the help of some elves, eight reindeer, the Queen and a man called Charles Dickens, the search for Amelia - and the secret of Christmas - begins . .

Spot's First Christmas by Eric Hill 2013

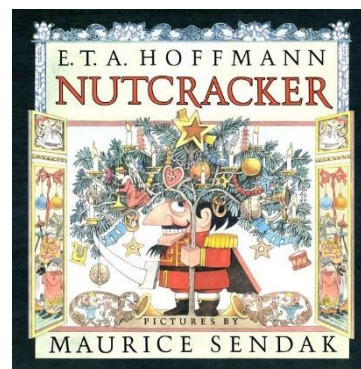
Spot finds out about Christmas trees, carol-singers and presents from Father Christmas. This classic lift-the-flap tale by Eric Hill is reissued in the popular board book format with a new foil cover and reoriginated art throughout.

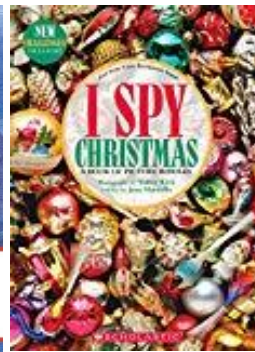
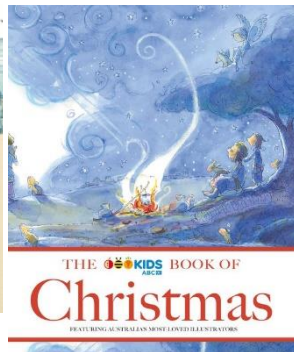
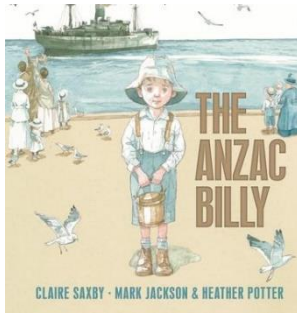
Christmas comes to Moominvalley by Alex Haridi, Cecilia Davidsson, Tove Jansson; illustrated by Filippa Widlund. 2018

An illustrated re-telling of Tove Jansson's classic story *The Fir Tree*, in which the Moomins are woken up from their winter sleep to be told that 'Christmas' is coming. The only trouble is, the Moomins have no idea who, or what Christmas is. Translated from the Swedish.

The Nutcracker by E.T.A. Hoffmann illustrated by Maurice Sendak 1984. Many different versions and editions of this story exist.

This wonderful tale has enchanted readers for almost two hundred years. It has inspired artists and composers and has become a classic Christmas ballet. Clara finds a nutcracker under the Christmas tree which comes alive and after defeating the evil Mouse King in battle, whisks her away to a magical kingdom.





The Anzac Billy by Claire Saxby illustrated by Mark Jackson & Heather Potter 2019

During World War I, Australian and New Zealand soldiers on the front were sent Christmas care packages in a tin billy. This is the heartwarming story of a little boy packing a billy with all his father's favourite things, added to by mum and grandma, even though he realises there is no way that the billy can actually go to a particular soldier.

The ABC Book Of Christmas by Mark Macleod, 2018

Australia's most-loved children's illustrators have chosen their favourite Nativity scene to illustrate. Featuring the work of Gaye Chapman, Bettina Guthridge, Wayne Harris, Sally Heinrich, Ann James, Stephen Michael King, Caroline Magerl, Beth Norling, Cheryl Orsini, Sally Rippin, Gregory Rogers, Judith Rossell and Anna Walker. A beautiful version of the Christmas story.

I spy Christmas: a book of picture riddles with photographs by Walter Wick; riddles by Jean Marzollo and new bonus challenges by Dan Marzollo and Dave Marzollo 2019

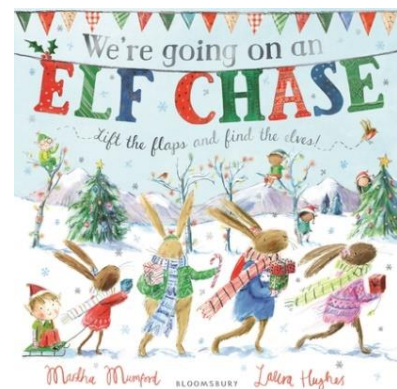
Rhymes invite the reader to find hidden objects in photographs of Christmas items. Colourful and engaging.

The Night Before Christmas by Clement Moore, illustrated by Angela Barrett 2013

A beautifully illustrated version of Clement Moore's 1822 classic. This special children's story, written in rhyme, is filled with good cheer, festive celebrations and the magical enchantment of Santa Claus. Illustrated by Angela Barrett, each detailed illustration brings alive the nostalgic, snow-covered world of Christmas Eve.

We're Going on an Elf Chase by Martha Mumford & Laura Hughes 2018

Four bunnies set off on a jolly Christmas lift-the-flap adventure to find ten little elves hidden under the flaps. You'll have to run, run, run if you're going to catch them all! And there are lots of obstacles along the way, from clippy-cloppy reindeer to roaring polar bears and flippy-flappy penguins. Stuffed with festive frolics.





The First Christmas: the King James version by Jan Pienkowski 1984/2014

With words from the King James Bible, the nativity story is brought gloriously to life with illuminated pages of silhouettes set against glowing colours. The beautiful design and gold highlights throughout make this a true classic

12 Days of Christmas by Roger Priddy, 2009

This beautiful board book with touches of gold foil throughout is a real Christmas treat. The cumulative text is a joy to sing or say, and children will love to count each of the gifts – from one partridge in a pear tree to twelve drummers drumming. This is just one of the many beautifully illustrated editions of this traditional English song.

One Christmas Wish by Katherine Rundell illustrated by Emily Sutton 2017

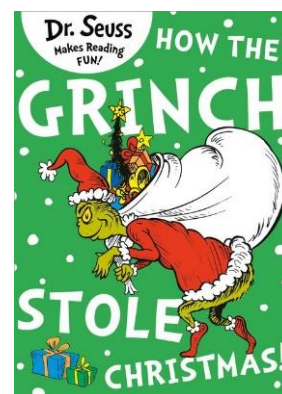
It's Christmas Eve and Theo - left at home with a babysitter - sees an odd-looking star out of his window and decides to make a wish. He wishes that he had some friends to keep him company. Moments later the Christmas decorations begin to disentangle themselves from the tree behind him, ready to wreak a little havoc ...

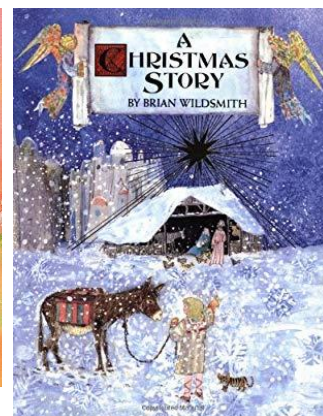
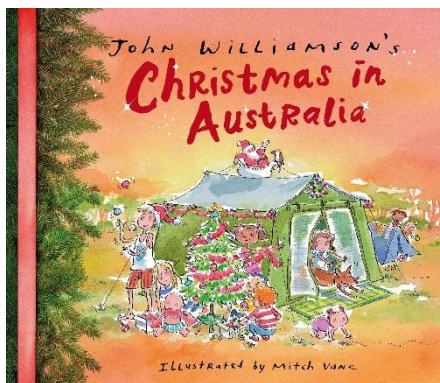
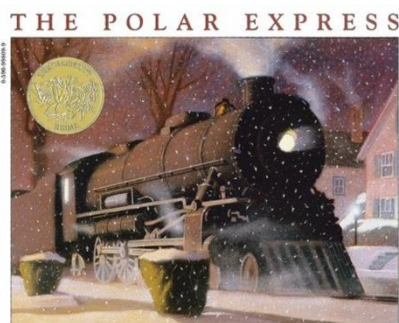
The Advent Storybook – 24 Stories to Share Before Christmas by Antonie Schneider illustrated by Maja Dusikova 2005

Benjamin Bear cannot wait for Christmas to come. To help the time pass more quickly, his mother tells him that every day when he opens a door on his Advent calendar, she'll tell him a story about another little bear and his long, arduous journey to Bethlehem.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas by Dr Seuss 1973/2016

"The Grinch hated Christmas! The whole Christmas season!
Now, please don't ask why. No one quite knows the reason... With a heart two sizes too small, the Grinch is the meanest creature you'll ever meet. He hates Christmas and the whole festive season. But when he hatches a dastardly plot to steal Christmas, he's in for a big surprise!





The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg, 1985/2017

This is an exciting story of a little boy's trip to the North Pole. He wakes up on Christmas Eve to some loud sounds. When he looks out of the window, he sees a gigantic steam train. The wonderful train conductor asks him to hop on. And the boy sets off on the greatest adventure of his life toward the North Pole, where Santa Claus lives.

John Williamson's Christmas in Australia by John Williamson, illustrated by Mitch Vane 2017

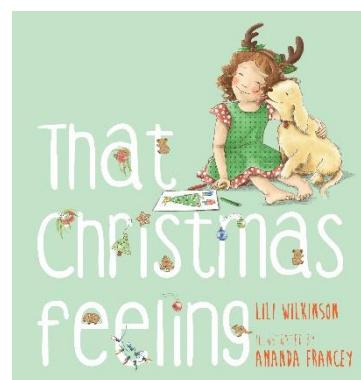
It's Christmas in Australia and Dad wants that perfect Christmas family photo, but someone is always missing! From Australian singer-songwriter, John Williamson, comes this hugely popular family song, brought to life by Mitch Vane.

A Christmas Story by Brian Wildsmith 1989/2007

Rebecca, a young girl living in Nazareth, accompanies a small donkey searching for his mother to a stable in Bethlehem, where they both witness a special event. It is their perspective on the Nativity story that gives the book such an intimate, innocent, and child-centred appeal.

That Christmas Feeling by Lili Wilkinson & Amanda Francey 2017

Dottie is waiting for the Christmas feeling to arrive - that fizzy, excited feeling, where everything is a bit magical. But this year, Dottie, her brother, Jem, and their dog, Shortbread, are staying with Grandma and Grandpa. A gorgeous, heart-warming story about misplacing the Christmas spirit, and finding it again.



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