

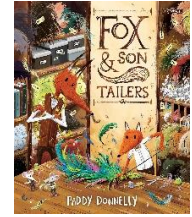


Our Best Picture Book 2025

Reading the shortlisted books at home

Fox & Son Tailers

by Paddy Donnelly



The Our Best Picture Book shortlisted books are for you and your child to read and enjoy together. So, find a comfortable and quiet place to read the book either to your child, or with them. 😊

The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story and predict what might happen next! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together!

Before you start reading the book together...

- Talk about the cover. e.g. What can you see?
- What do you think this book might be about?

During reading...

- Talk about the pictures.
- What do you think might happen next?

After reading...

- Was the story what you expected it to be about?
- What did you like and not like about this book?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- Which tail in the book is your favourite?
- Like Rory, what wild and wonderful ideas do you have about something you would like to do?

Praise your child...

- *Great idea!*
- *Good question!*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- Make and decorate your own tails at home using a variety of materials, for example, paper strips, ribbon, stuffed tights.
- Set up your own 'Fox and Son Tailers' shop at home with the tails you have made! Have a measuring tape ready to measure the customers! How much will each tail cost?

Here is a link to the author reading this book for you to listen to and watch together:

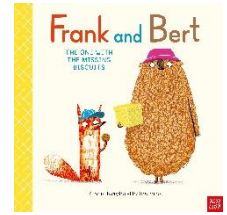




Our Best Picture Book 2024

Reading the shortlisted books at home

Frank and Bert: The One With The Missing Biscuits by Chris Naylor-Ballesteros



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The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next and use different voices for the characters! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together!

Before you start reading the book together...

- Read the title and author.
- Read the blurb on the back of the book.

During reading...

- Talk about any new words or interesting words.
- How do the characters feel?

After reading...

- What was the story about?
- Why do you think...happened?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- What has gone wrong on Frank and Bert's picnics?
- If you were Bert, what would you have said to Frank when he told the truth?

Praise your child...

- *Wow! You really understood that!*
- *I like how you...*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- What is your favourite biscuit and why? Draw yourself eating your favourite type of biscuit!
- Play having a picnic! (Or go on a real picnic!) What will happen during your picnic?!

Here is a link to the author reading this book for you to listen to and watch together:

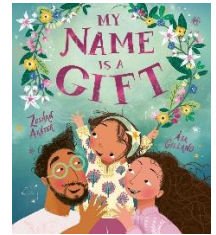




Our Best Picture Book 2025

Reading the Shortlisted Books at Home

My Name is a Gift by Zeshan Akhter



The Our Best Picture Book shortlisted books are for you and your child to read and enjoy together. So, find a comfortable and quiet place to read the book either to your child, or with them. 😊

The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story and think about what you both want to find out about weather! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together! Please remember to return the book to school so that other families can also enjoy reading this book together.

Before you start reading the book together...

- Read the title and author.
- Talk about the cover, e.g. What can you see? What do you think this book might be about?

During reading...

- Talk about any new words or interesting words.
- What do you think Sitara is thinking and feeling?

After reading...

- How did reading this story make you feel?
- How would you feel if someone says your name wrong?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- Sitara does different things with different people in her family. What do you like doing with your special people?
- Sitara makes a new friend in the story. Let's talk about who your friends are and what you like to do together.

Praise your child...

- *That is so lovely to hear!*
- *I like how you...*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- Can you think of things you like that start with each letter in your name? You could make a list or draw a picture of these things.
- Talk about your favourite names. The name Sitara means 'shine like a star' in the story. Do you know any other names that have a meaning?

Here is a link to the author reading this book for you to listen to and watch together:



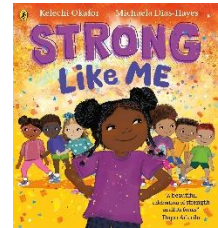


Our Best Picture Book 2025

Reading the shortlisted books at home

Strong Like Me

by Kelechi Okafor



The Our Best Picture Book shortlisted books are for you and your child to read and enjoy together. So, find a comfortable and quiet place to read the book either to your child, or with them. ☺

The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next and use different voices for the characters! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together!

Before you start reading the book together...

- Read the title and author.
- What do you think this book might be about?

During reading...

- Talk about the pictures.
- What do you think will happen next?

After reading...

- Can you think of all the different ways Kamara was strong in her story?
- Why do you think...happened?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- What do you think your 'special' thing is?
- Kamara's family call her 'Super Baby'. What is your family's nickname for you?

Praise your child...

- *I agree. I also think your 'special' thing is...*
- *I like how you...*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- Learn about some of the strong Black women mentioned at the back of the book. You could watch videos of Simone Biles' gymnastics routines or read about her in books like the *Little People, Big Dreams* series.
- Have a go at some sports day activities like jumping, climbing, lifting, throwing or racing like Kamara and her friends.

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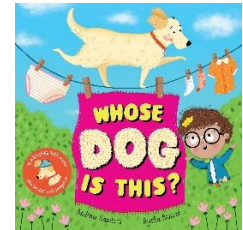




Our Best Picture Book 2025

Reading the shortlisted books at home

Whose Dog Is This? by Andrew Sanders



The Our Best Picture Book shortlisted books are for you and your child to read and enjoy together. So, find a comfortable and quiet place to read the book either to your child, or with them. 😊

The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next and use different voices for the characters! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together!

Before you start reading the book together...

- Talk about the cover. e.g. What can you see?
- What do you think this book might be about?

During reading...

- What do you think might happen next?
- How do the characters feel?

After reading...

- What was the story about?
- Who do you think might like to read this story and why?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- Who do you think the dog in the story is? (A secret agent or a pet?)
- What else would you have liked to have happened in this story?

Praise your child...

- *Wow! You really understood that!*
- *What a great imagination you have!*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- Draw a 'missing dog' poster, including a drawing of the dog, its name, what it is like and a reward for finding it.
- Why would a secret agent be at your house?

Here is a link to the author reading this book for you to listen to and watch together:



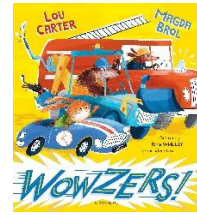


Our Best Picture Book 2025

Reading the shortlisted books at home

Wowzers!

by Lou Carter



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The main thing is that you have fun! You can discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next and use different voices for the characters! Use some of the prompts, questions and activities below to make the most of having this exciting new book at home to share together!

Before you start reading the book together...

- Read the title and author.
- What do you think this book might be about?

During reading...

- Use different voices for the different characters.
- How do the characters feel?

After reading...

- What did you find most interesting about this book?
- Why do you think...happened?

Some questions you can ask your child about this book...

- Rabbit saves up enough coins to buy a beautiful blue car. What kind of vehicle would you buy?
- At the end of the story, Rabbit and his friends are on a trip. Where do you think they will go? What will they do?

Praise your child...

- *Great idea!*
- *Good question!*

Follow up activities to try at home...

- Rabbit says 'Wowzers!' when he is excited. Can you think of other words which mean 'excited'? What makes you feel excited?
- Rabbit adds several gadgets to his car. What gadgets would you add to your car? Draw a picture of a car you'd like and its gadgets!

Here is a link to the author reading this book for you to listen to and watch together:

