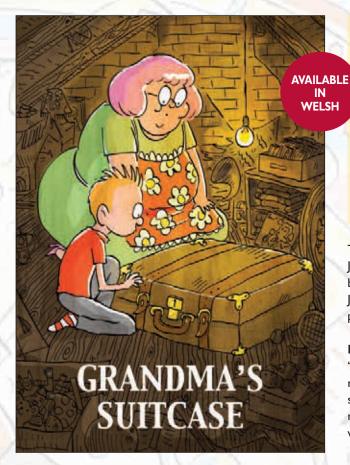


# Petra Publishing Literature for Learning





### Grandma's Suitcase



Title: Grandma's Suitcase

Author: Mike Church

Illustrator: Huw Aaron

Published in 2015

Age Group: 4+ years

44 pages - 210 x 297mm

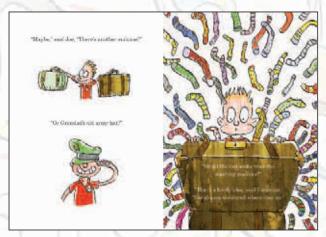
Cost: £5.99

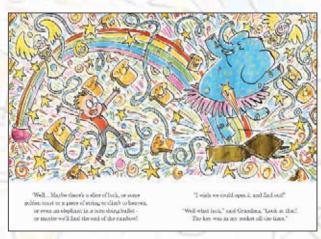
English and Welsh paperbacks

This is a story about a boy who thinks he's lost his imagination. Joe and his grandma set out on a quest to find it. She reads books, bakes cakes and has snowball fights on mountain tops. Joe's grandma is, quite possibly, the wisest woman on the planet and she has a cunning plan to save the day.

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

'Creativity' has become a buzzword in schools and is now recognised as a central part of the curriculum. This book will stimulate discussion around our imaginations and offers a range of activities that could be linked to the book. What would be in your suitcase?







A stunning realisation of the power of imagination. This story works at so many different levels - for adults, for children, for reading alone and for being read to at bedtime or any other time of the day, come to that. This is a story of relationship and love and above all, it is about the strength and power of the imagination we all have if we could only free it up.

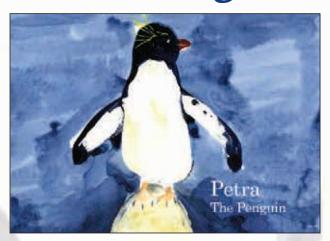
This is a magnificent achievement, something of which everyone involved should be proud. It is proof - if any was needed - that there is a writer in all of us. Free the imagination and who knows what might appear.

I loved the illustrations which provide a beautiful adjunct to the text. I defy any child not to be charmed by the visual imagery. All in all this is a wonderful book which deserves to be read for many years to come.

Phil Carradice Writer and Historian, 2015

Subject: Empathy, acceptance and migration

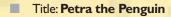
## Petra the Penguin



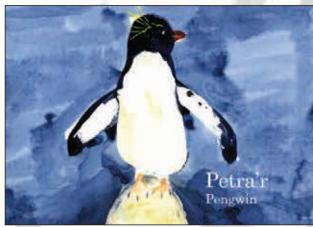
What happens to that odd little penguin that doesn't fit in? Find out as you go on a world-wide journey with Petra, everybody's favourite penguin, to see if she can find a place where she will be accepted and understood.

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This story helps children think about belonging and fitting in. It gives scope for discussion around bullying and helping others. The story promotes ideas around empathy, acceptance and migration, themes that are topical and vital for young people to grapple with.



- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Rachel Tudor-Best
- Published in 2014
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English and Welsh paperbacks

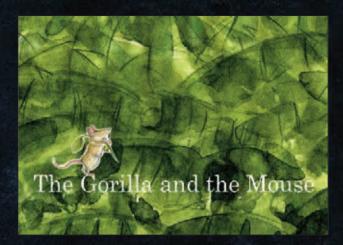






Subject: Controlling Emotions

### The Gorilla and the Mouse



- Title: The Gorilla and the Mouse
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Rachel Tudor-Best
- Published in 2015
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-0-9932075-2-5



All the little mouse wants to do is read his books in peace but the gorilla is making an almighty racket and wants bananas. The little mouse tries to teach him anger management strategies but it's not easy. Will the gorilla ever learn to control his temper and will the mouse get to read in peace?

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This is a lovely book for working on how we control our own human tempers. This story can also, more subtly, get people thinking about the incredible power and pleasure of reading.



I am thrilled to support this wonderful book and thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it happen. To the now published writers - the parents and their families who contributed to this wonderful book well done!

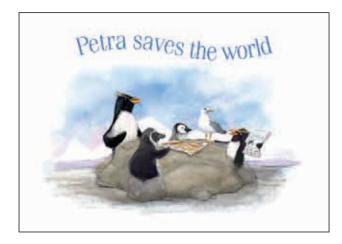
This book will always remain special and I have no doubt it will sew the seeds for Caerphilly writers of the future!".

I WANT SOME BANANASE!!!

**Counsellor Rhiannon Passmore** 

#### Subject: **Environment**

### Petra saves the world



Petra's back and she's not happy. Food is getting harder to find and she knows whose fault it is. Join Petra as she sets off to save the world from melting icebergs and over fishing.

Can Petra get her message across to the humans?

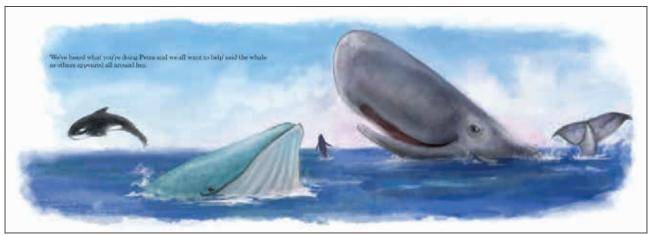
Will she save the world?

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This book throws up a range of environmental issues that can be discussed with children. There is information in the back of the book that can start debate about what we can all do to save the world for the next generations. There is also scope to talk about how people can get their point across if they're not being heard.

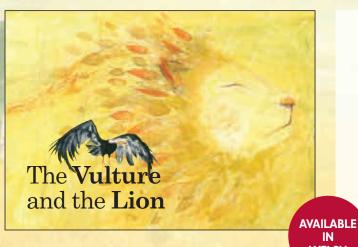
- Title: Petra saves the world
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2017
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 44 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-0-9956907-7-6







### The Vulture and the Lion



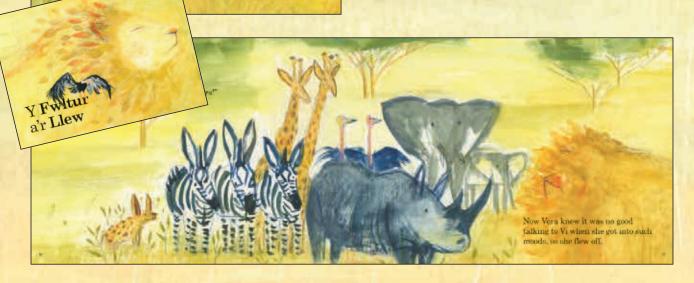
- Title: The Vulture and the Lion
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Rachel Tudor-Best
- Published in 2015
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English and Welsh paperbacks

WELSH

What happens if you're not happy with what you are or if you just fancy trying out another identity? Find out what happens when Vi the vulture decides she's fed up with being a scavenger and wants to try her hand at being ... a lion! She learns that being a leading lion is not all it's cracked up to be ... so will she learn to accept her lot in life?

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

Children try out many roles during their childhood as they grow towards their eventual adult identity. This book asks questions about who and what we might want to be in a fun way. This story cherishes our ideas of play and acting out who and what we want to be.



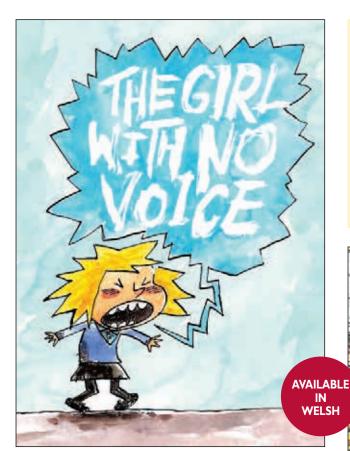


Michael Morpurgo focused his praise on 'The Vulture and the Lion' by saying:

All I can say is that this is a terrific story, beautifully told, funny and meaningful, inventive and original. And the illustrations are so perfectly in tune with the text, wonderful colours, and full of life. Children would love it. The child in me loves it! This is a very considerable achievement, and everyone involved should feel very proud. Bravo! Bravo!

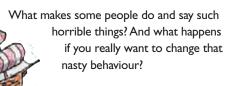
#### Subject: Bullying and communication

### The Girl with No Voice



- Title: The Girl with No Voice
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2016
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 36 pages 210 x 297mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-0-9956907-1-4



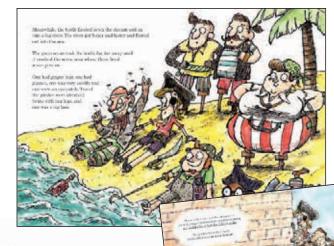


Find out how one little girl takes drastic action to be a better person and gets help from a very

surprising group for people.

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This is lovely book about how we can manage our difficult emotions. It is a heart-warming tale of change and throws up a range of issues around bullying and communication.





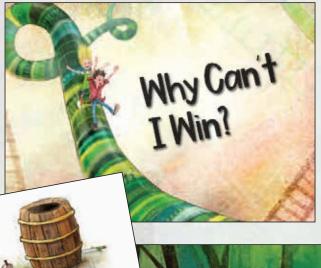
The book project in Derwendeg Primary was a really positive experience from start to finish for all involved. At the start of the project a few parents felt the task of writing a book was a huge challenge, which moved them outside their own comfort zone.

However, the parents worked closely with the author and illustrator for several weeks and had significant input to the book. By the end of the project all parents felt a great sense of achievement. The pupils of the school were so excited to read the book, and felt a huge amount of pride and respect towards their parents.

Mr S Davies Headteacher Derwendeg Primary School

Subject: Co-operation and compromise

## Why Can't I Win?



- Title: Why Can't I Win?
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2018
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9998933-8-5



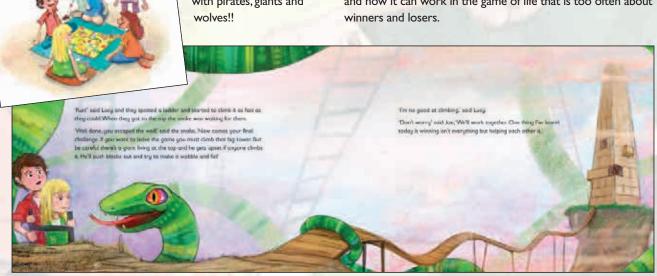
Some children just don't know how to lose gracefully do they (maybe some adults too)? It all starts with a game of snakes and ladders but there are many twists and turns before Lucy

and Joe can get out of the game. See if they learn how to lose well and deal with pirates, giants and

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

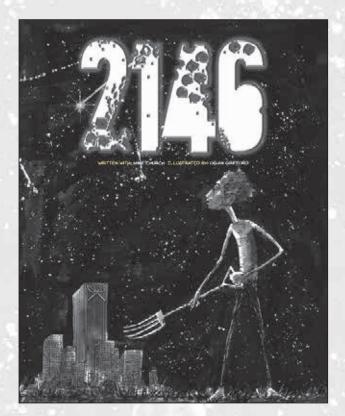
Self regulation and managing emotions can be difficult areas for children and this book invites readers to consider competition and how to deal with it.

The story can open debate about co-operation, compromise and how it can work in the game of life that is too often about winners and losers



#### Subject: Teen: thought provoking

### 2146



It is 2146 and, in a dystopian future, the flat earth society has taken over the world. Science has been outlawed and the magician decides who lives and who dies. Geoff Tate is beginning to question everything and he wants to know more.

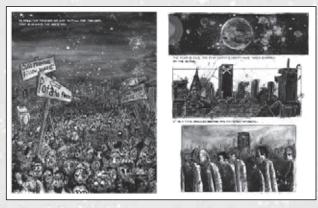
Will he meet the magician and will he get answers or, more to the point, will he live to tell his tale?

Notes for teachers / parents:

This novel has been used with teenagers and led to many thought provoking discussions. There are various spin off activities possible. Youngsters can make their own graphic novels, starting with their own zines. They can work on various areas of science and compile evidence (without the internet!) that convinces anyone that our planet is round. They might also research the flat earth society where members still believe the earth is flat.



- Title: 2146
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Osian Grifford
- Published in 2018
- Age Group: 14+ years
- 32 pages 200 x 250mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9995973-3-7





Subject: **Jealousy** 

## Goodbye Green Eyed Monster



- Title: Goodbye Green Eyed Monster
  - Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2018
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 44 pages 297 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9995973-0-6

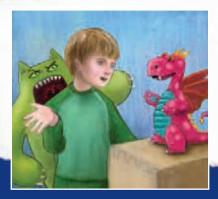




The green eyed monster lurks everywhere and can get inside all our heads if we're not careful. Tim's little dragon takes him on the ride of a lifetime to find out what family life is all about. Will Tim finally ditch the green eyed monster or will jealousy get the better of him?

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

Jealousy is a powerful driver of a lot of difficult behaviours in adults and children! Tim's story offers a way forward as he explores family life around the world. This book looks at animals around the globe and suggests we can celebrate others rather than being consumed by the famous green eyed monster.

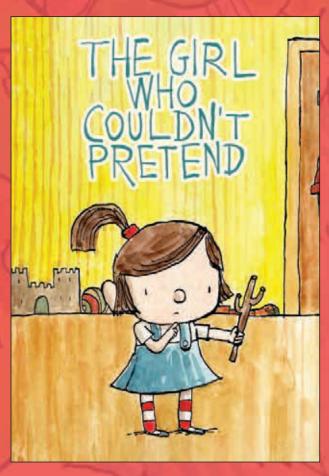




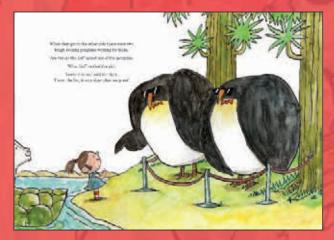


Subject: Fact versus fiction

### The Girl who couldn't Pretend



- Title: The Girl who couldn't Pretend
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2017
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 210 x 297mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-0-9957827-9-2





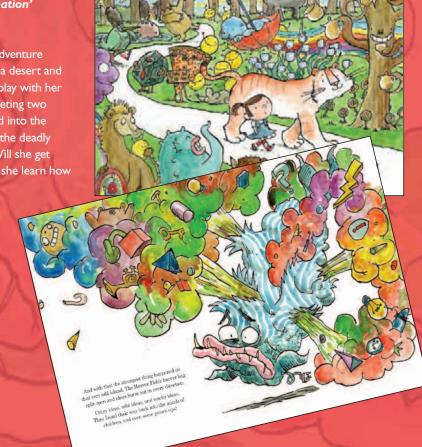
This book is a whacky adventure when a little girl gets lost in a desert and has to learn how to pretend play with her new friend the tiger. After meeting two penguin bouncers she's allowed into the oasis but has to watch out for the deadly Hoover Fish who steals ideas. Will she get

home in time for tea and, more importantly, will she learn how to pretend??

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This story helps children consider the magic of pretend play and grapple with ideas of fact versus fiction.





Subject: Global warming

## The Girl who could change the Weather



- Title: The Girl who could change the Weather
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2018
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 195 x 252mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9998933-9-2

When Josie gets struck by lightning something very strange happens. Has she really developed her own super power? Is she actually controlling the weather? Join her on an adventure as the evil weather man tries to use her power to get rich. Will Josie save the day or will her power be used just to make money?

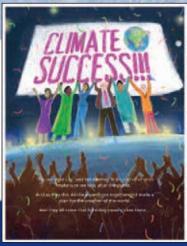
#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This book tackles global warming head on and offers a way in to discussion of weather phenomenon that is causing

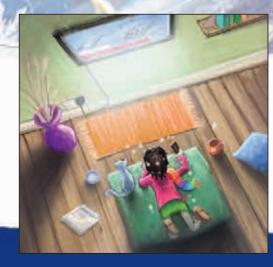
devastation around the world. It is also a worthy superhero tale of bullying and exploitation that gets resolved through teamwork and co-operation.











### Billy the Superhero



■ Title: Billy the Superhero

Author: Mike Church

Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke

Published in 2018

Age Group: 4+ years

44 pages - 220 x 280mm

Cost: £5.99

Bilingual paperback: ISBN 978-1-9995973-5-1



In 2017, an inquiry into loneliness and isolation recognised the benefits of intergenerational contact. Through interaction with older people, young people can gain confidence and learn to respect relationships. Local intergenerational practice has increased opportunities for children to gain experiential learning, negative stereotypes about ageing are being dispelled and young people are now expressing a wish to work in the caring field.

By creating opportunities for young people to connect with older people, we might encourage younger people to choose to work in this sector and eventually fill the caregiver gap. With increasing pressures in hospitals and the need to improve access to health and social care within the community, there is a drive to care for people in their own homes as much as possible.



This book hopes to introduce the topic of health and social care to children, encourage them to reach their potential and spark interest into its rewarding career prospects.

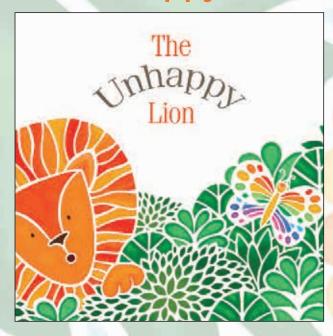






Subject: Identity

## The Unhappy Lion

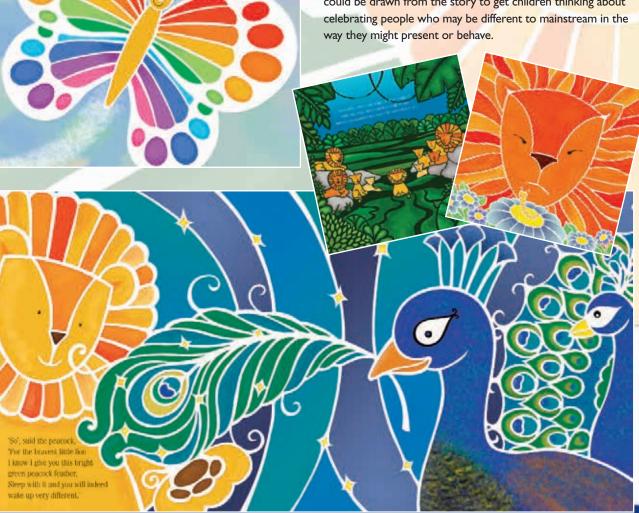


- Title: The Unhappy Lion
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Kelly Rosser
- Published in 2016
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 44 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-0-9934717-6-6

Leo doesn't like beef burgers or wildebeest kebab so starts to wonder if he really is a lion. Then he sees a butterfly flitting by and he is mesmerised. Could it be he has the soul of a butterfly trapped in a lion's body? Can Leo really get help and change? What about the bullying lion called Redd who is watching him all the way what is he really after?

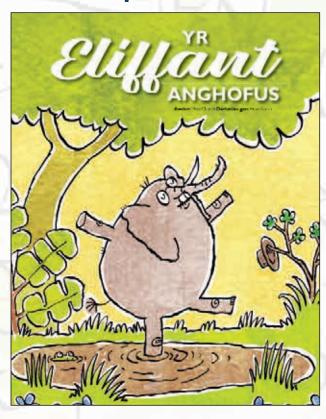
#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This book is a firm favourite with many as it deals positively with issues of identity. There are many discussion topics that could be drawn from the story to get children thinking about celebrating people who may be different to mainstream in the way they might present or behave.



Subject: Dementia

## The Elephant who Forgot

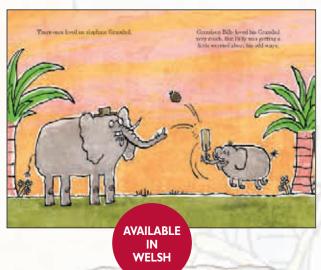


- Title: The Elephant who Forgot
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2015
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 32 pages 210 x 297mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English and Welsh paperbacks

Why is granddad starting to behave so strangely? Billy is getting very worried by his odd behaviours. Billy feels bad about it all but luckily mum is on hand to help explain what is happening and little Billy has a great idea to help.

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

This lovely story has become a best seller as it gives children an insight into dementia and its devastating consequences. This book invites follow up work and can inspire children to become dementia friends.







The Elephant Who Forgot is a touchingly beautiful insight into dementia. As someone who experienced my Grandmother's mental decline through dementia, I found this book to be so simple and perfect in it's explanation of the disease and how it can be explained to our children.

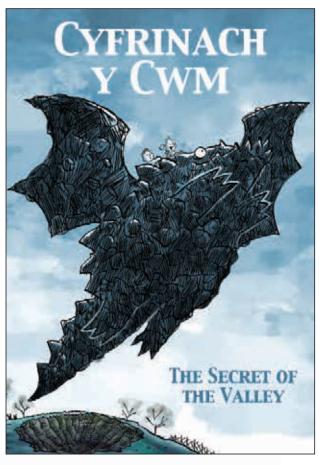
Accompanied by wonderful, fun illustrations and produced by a group of local parents, **The Elephant Who Forgot** is in my opinion a must read for everyone, adults included.

#### **Alex Winters**

CBeebies Bedtime Hour Presenter

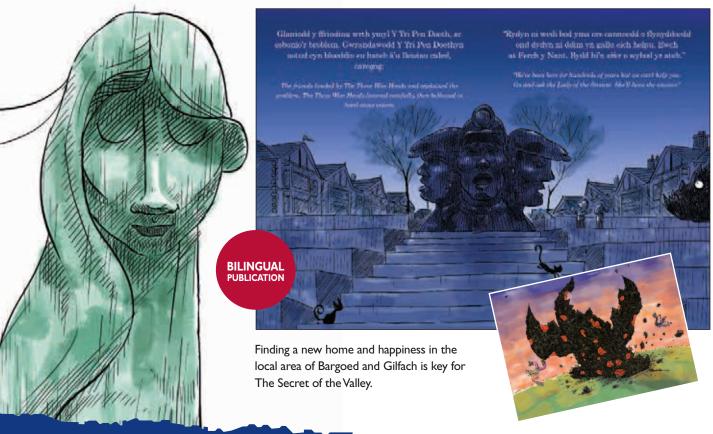


## The Secret of the Valley



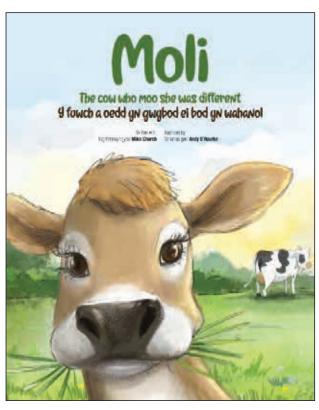
- Title: The Secret of the Valley
- Author: Michael Harvey
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2015
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 44 pages 210 x 297mm
- Cost: £5.99
- Bilingual paperback: ISBN 978-0-9932075-4-9





Subject: Autism

### Moli: The cow who moo she was different



- Title: Moli:The cow who was different
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 36 pages 220 x 280mm
- Cost: £5.99
- Bilingual paperback

Moli was different to all the other cows. Oh to look at her in a field you wouldn't notice anything unusual. You'd probably just say; 'Look kids there's a cow all on its own in a field.'

But Moli was very different to the others, she knew it and they knew it too. She was the only cow who hoarded twigs and kept a collection of them by the old oak tree. She loved lining them up and counting them. She could talk for hours about her twigs but she didn't want any other cows to touch them. An ideal tool for teachers working with autism.



## Won't you come to my house for Tea?



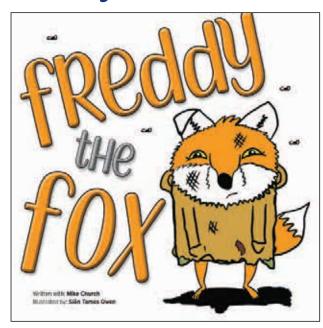
- Title: Won't you come to my house for tea?
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2017
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 44 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9998933-1-6

Sometimes making friends is not always easy. Sally the sheep is in danger of making friends with a wolf. Will she learn what friendship is really all about or will she end up on a dinner plate with mint sauce?

#### Notes for teachers / parents:

#### Subject: Adverse childhood experiences

## Freddy the Fox ~ (ACES)



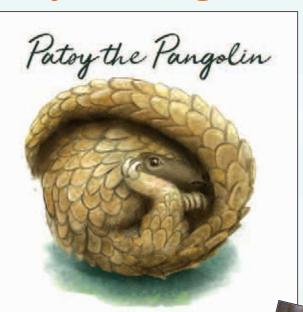
- Title: Freddy the Fox
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Siôn Thomas Owen
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 32 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9160994-5-6

Freddy the fox is an unhappy little cub. His mum and dad are too interested in fox hunting; they are in love with the thrill of the chase. Will Freddy's gran be able to help him get his life back together or has he lost that smile forever?





# Patsy the Pangolin ~ (ACES)



- Title: Patsy the Pangolin
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9998933-1-6

Patsy has lost her home and her family and things are going to get much worse! Should she trust the leopard who offers her a pangolin paradise or should she trust the gorilla and the zebra who can't believe she's never seen The Lion King?

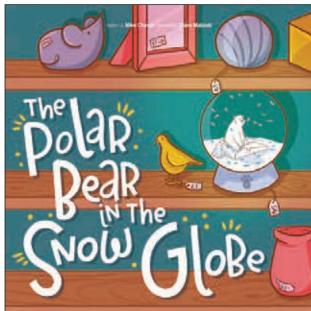
Join Patsy on her adventure as she fights for the

right to live ...



Subject: Adverse childhood experiences

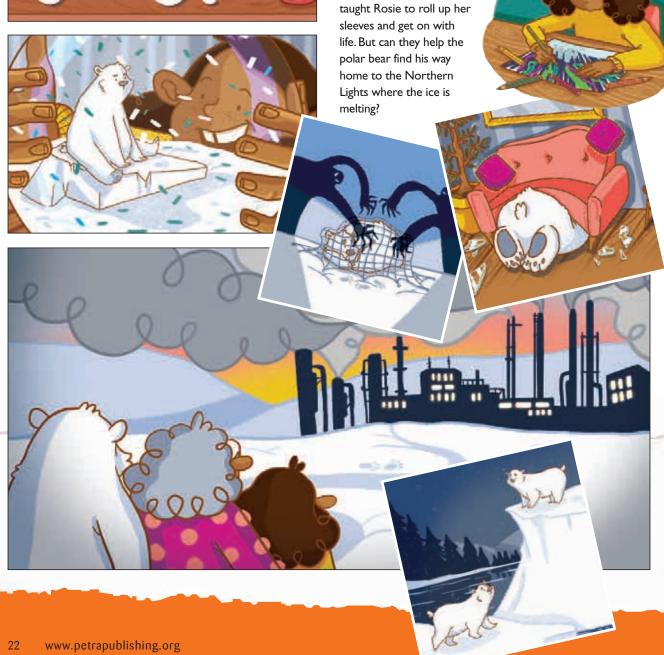
## The Polar Bear in the Snow Globe ~ (ACES)



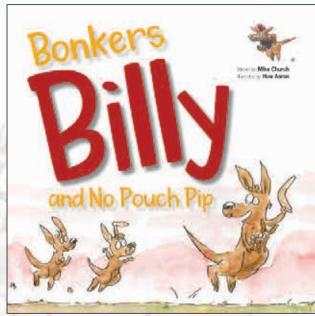
- Title: The Polar Bear in the Snow Globe
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Claire Mabbett
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years

What do you do when you find the polar bear from your snow globe hiding under the sofa?
Rosie's gran knows and she's

- 44 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9160994-3-2



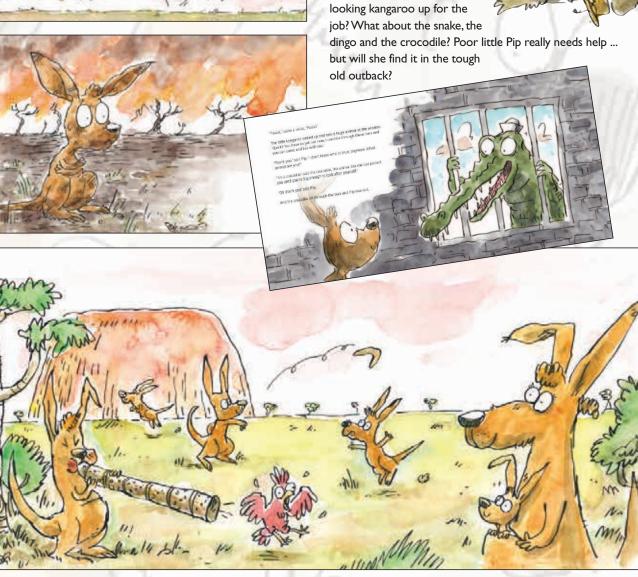
## Bonkers Billy and No Pouch Pip ~ (ACES)



- Title: Bonkers Billy and No Pouch Pip
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 36 pages 210 x 210mm
- Cost: £5.99

Pip has lost her mum and her pouch so who is going to look after her? Is Bonkers Billy the rough

English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9160994-4-9

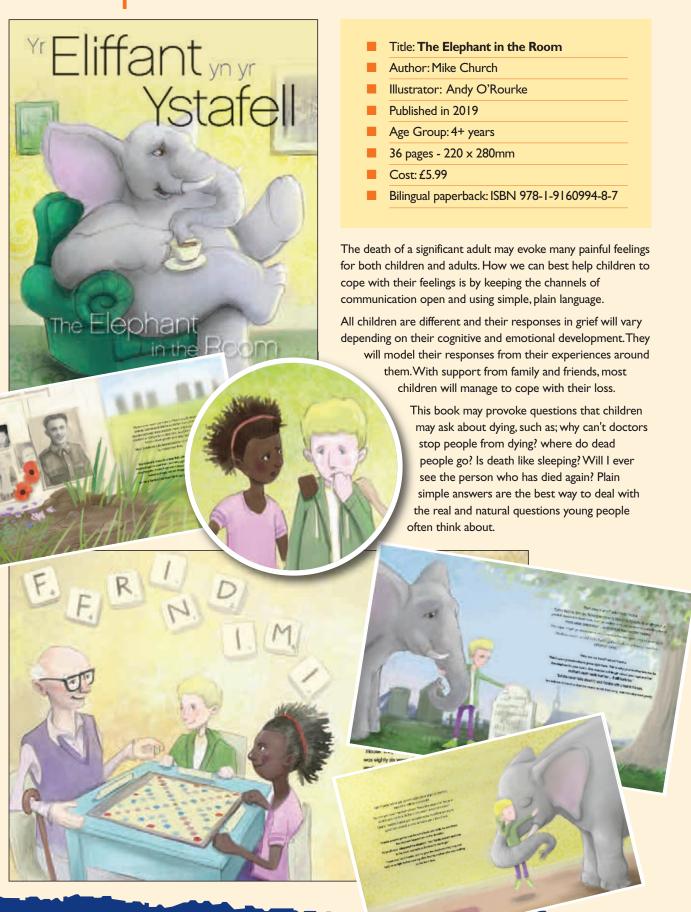


Subject: Obesity

### The Colossal Cat

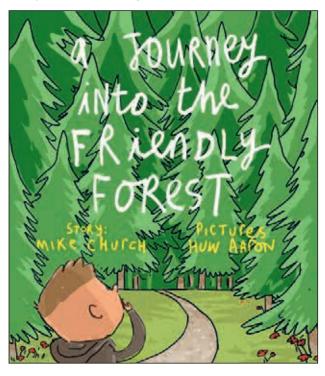


## The Elephant in the Room



#### Subject: Role Models

## A Journey into the Friendly Forest



#### Male role models or not?

There is a lot of talk about male role models and how a lack of them can lead to a variety of social problems. But the situation is a bit more complicated than many might think. This story tries to open up some discussion areas about what it

- Title: A Journey into the Friendly Forest
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Huw Aaron
- Published in 2019
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 210 x 240mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9160994-9-4

Is any male role model better than none?

What about the contribution of women? There is some evidence that mothers, grandmothers and female siblings and friends can have a significant positive impact on boys' development. The key seems to be people acting as mentors or guides who can influence values and behaviour. Boys need to come across people they can relate to positively, it might be that building relationships is the key regardless of gender issues.

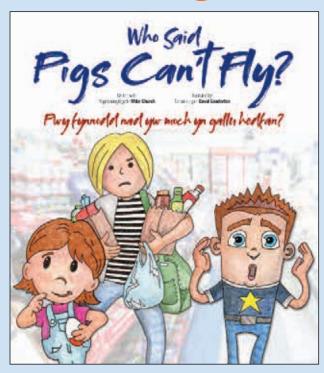
This book aims to open up the discussion for all of us around that topic.

What do you think?



Subject: Positive Roles in Community

## Who said Pigs Can't Fly



Political and cultural tensions, both past and present, have perpetuated a negative image of the Police across the UK and particularly in certain areas. This negative perception has resulted in communities for whom the Police often evoke a sense of fear, dread and a need for avoidance at all costs.

The purpose of this book is to break down these perceptions and promote the positive role that the Police play in regular society, with a particular focus on the fact that in the first instance, the Police are usually the first contact for people in dieters.

In addition of course, the Police have a vital role to play in law and order, by protecting the lives and property of citizens. They work hard to maintain order, catch lawbreakers and prevent crimes; and fulfilling this role can of course mean arresting people and bringing those arrested to justice.

- Title: Who said Pigs Can't Fly
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: David Ganderton
- Published in 2020
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 32 pages 210 x 240mm
- Cost: £5.99
- Bilingual paperback: ISBN 978-1-9163654-0-7

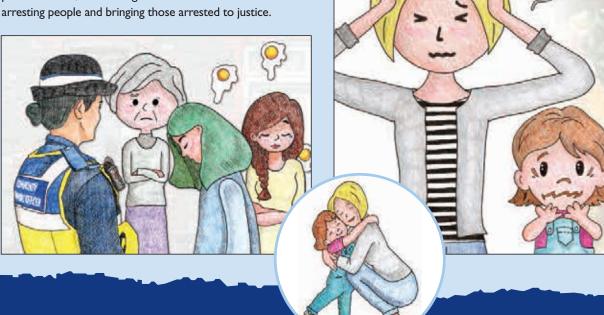


This book has been written by adults with school-aged children, who may have experienced or shared the perceived negativity of the image of the Police.

This book explores this theme for children and allows for a non judgemental method of addressing the public perception of this most vital of public services. The story gives an opportunity to promote understanding of the role of the Police and to develop and foster better relationships with the Police in our local communities.

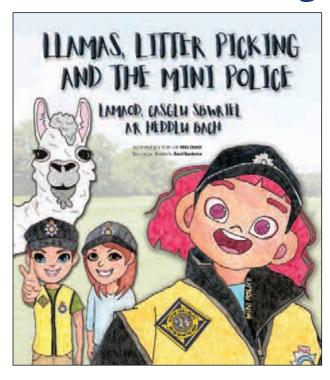
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Subject: Mini Police

## Llamas, Litter Picking and the Mini Police



Early intervention is a crucial component of policing, aiming to improve communication and engagement with children and young people. Research has shown that young people are more likely to have contact with the police and that this contact can often be adversarial and problematic. The Mini-Police or 'Heddlu Bach' as it has become known in Wales is a successful Gwent Police primary school engagement programme for children aged 8-11 (years 5 and 6). The aims of this initiative are to provide a fun and interactive way to introduce children to a positive experience of policing and to get them involved in the local community. The wider aims include building trust with communities, promoting

- Title: Llamas, Litter Picking and the Mini Police
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: David Ganderton
- Published in 2020
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 32 pages 210 x 240mm
- Cost: £5.99
- Bilingual paperback: ISBN 978-1-9163654-1-4

responsible citizenship and a sense of social responsibility, improving relationships between the police and young people and increasing skills such as self-confidence. Heddlu Bach also resonates with government strategy that seeks to work with children and young people to reduce their risk of becoming offenders or victims; build positive relations between the police and young people; and nurture their feelings of social responsibility so that they become



active citizens. This book fulfils all of the aims of Heddlu Bach. It has been written by adults with school-aged children, who may have experienced or shared the perceived negativity of the image of the police. This book explores these themes for children and allows for a non-judgemental method of

addressing the public perception of policing. The story gives an opportunity to promote understanding of the role of the police and to develop and foster better relationships with the police in our local communities.

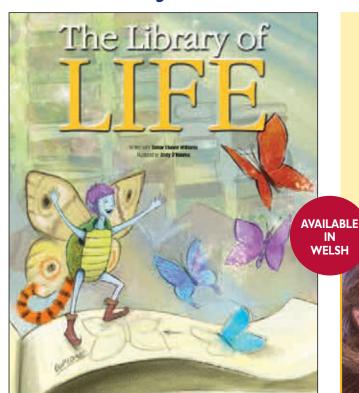


### Pirate Puw's Quest



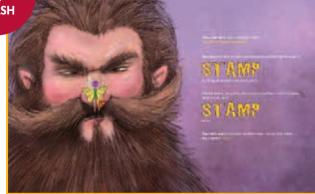
Subject: Climate Change

## The Library of Life



The Library of Life story was originally devised as part of a performance for the 2020 Earth Hour celebrations planned by Head4Arts. The original storyline was created by Tamar Eluned Williams, inspired by ideas contributed by children from Parc Bryn Bach Primary School, Tredegar and by Ben

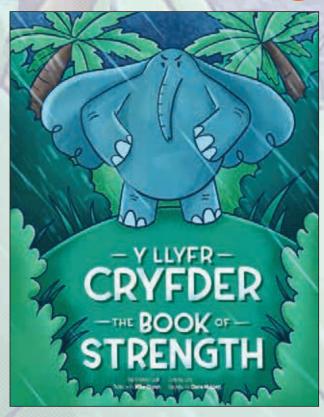
- Title: The Library of Life
- Author: Tamar Eluned Williams
- Illustrator: Andy O'Rourke
- Published in 2020
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 40 pages 220 x 280mm
- Cost: £5.99
- English paperback: ISBN 978-1-9163654-3-8





Subject: Mental Health

## The Book of Strength



Many of us would have experienced distress due to COVID-19 pandemic and what this has shown us all is how our circumstances impact our mental health. This is because our mental health is determined by the conditions in which we are born, grow, work, live, and age, and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of our daily lives.

This means it's about our sense of belonging, feeling safe and connected, having meaning, trust, and good relationships within our families and communities as much as our access to good housing, education, and employment. Those exposed to prolonged isolation, job insecurity, food poverty, or who are living in an abusive or stressful household will be significantly more impacted.

Too often when we talk about mental health we focus on the individual. We put the problem on the individual and we ask,



- Title: The Book of Strength
- Author: Mike Church
- Illustrator: Claire Mabbett
- Published in 2020
- Age Group: 4+ years
- 32 pages 220 x 280mm
- Cost: £5.99
- Bilingual paperback: ISBN 978-1-9163654-5-2



"What's wrong with you", but this is misleading and unhelpful. You cannot understand mental health without first considering somebody's circumstances.

The early years of life are vital in setting the foundations for good mental and physical health, but children live in circumstances that they are powerless to change. They cannot think their way out of their problems, and they are dependent on the adults around them.

This book introduces the idea that our mental health and resilience are determined by what has happened to us. Children should not be left to carry these burdens into their adult lives. It is hoped this book can help children and the grown-ups around them understand that we need to create the right condition for everyone to be able to thrive. To find the solutions and create a nurturing world we need to look at the story of our lives and ask ourselves how do we ensure both our physical and emotional needs are met?



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