



# Armadillo

[www.armadillomagazine.co.uk](http://www.armadillomagazine.co.uk)

## Book Reviews 2020

### Contents

#### Books Reviewed

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| 1. Picture Books     | Page 2  |
| 2. Junior Books      | Page 5  |
| 3. Young Adult Books | Page 8  |
| 4. Non-Fiction Books | Page 11 |

## Picture books in 2020

### **A Bear Named Bjorn**

Delphine Perret, *Autumn*

### **A Hat for Mr Mountain**

Soojin Kwak, *Spring*

### **Alfred's Adventures in the Children's City**

Imogen Alexander and Rose Feather, illus.  
Rose Feather, *Autumn*

### **The Blue Giant**

Katie Cottle, *Autumn*

### **Born Bad**

C K Smouha, illus. Stephen Smith, *Spring*

### **Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**

Ian Fleming, adapted by Peter Bentley, illus.  
Steve Antony, *Winter*

### **The Cockerel and the Fox**

Retelling by Helen Ward, *Autumn*

### **Crying is like the Rain**

Heather Hawk Feinberg, illus. Chamisa  
Kellogg, *Autumn*

### **Dance like a Flamingo**

Moira Butterfield, illus. Claudia Boldt, *Winter*

### **Dinosaurs vs Humans**

Matt Robertson, *Spring*

### **Do Grannies Have Green Fingers?**

Fransie Frandsen, *Autumn*

### **The Dragon Machine**

Helen Ward, illus. Wayne Anderson, *Spring*

### **Elephant in my Kitchen!**

Smriti Halls, illus. Ella Okstad, *Autumn*

### **Every Night is Pizza Night**

K Kenji Lopez-Alt, illus. Gianna Ruggiero,  
*Winter*

### **The Ferocious Chocolate Wolf**

Lizzie Finlay, *Spring*

### **Fish**

Brendan Kearney, *Winter*

### **Futuristic Fairy Tales: Goldilocks in Space**

Peter Bentley, illus. Chris Jevons, *Winter*

### **Garden Jungle**

Helene Druvet, *Spring*

### **Girl From the Sea**

Margaret Wild, illus. Jane Tanner, *Winter*

### **Gloria's Big Problem**

Sarah Stiles Bright, illus. Mike Deas, *Spring*

### **Good Guys, Bad Guys**

Joanne Rocklin, illus. Nancy Carpenter,  
*Autumn*

### **Greta and the Giants**

Zoe Tucker, *Spring*

### **Hey, Water!**

Antoinette Portis, *Spring*

### **The Huffalots**

Eve Coy, *Autumn*

**Hugo**

Atinuke, illus. Birgitta Sif, *Autumn*

**I Am Brown**

Ashok Banker, illus. Sandhya Prabhat, *Spring*

**I Am One**

Susan Verde, illus. Peter H Reynolds, *Winter*

**I Am Perfectly Designed**

Karamo Brown and Jason “Rachel” Brown,  
illus. Anoosha Syed, *Autumn*

**If You Come To Earth**

Sophie Blackall, *Winter*

**Ig Pig and Og Frog**

Sophie Burrows, *Autumn*

**In the City**

Holly James, illus. Hannah Tolson, *Autumn*

**Kind**

Alison Green, foreword Axel Scheffler, illus. 38  
Kind Illustrators, *Winter*

**Last: The Story of a White Rhino**

Nicola Davies, *Winter*

**The Last Tree**

Emily Haworth-Booth, *Spring*

**The Legend of the First Unicorn**

Lari Don, illus. Nataša Ilinčić, *Spring*

**Like the Moon Loves the Sky**

Hena Khan, illus. Saffa Khan, *Spring*

**Lisette’s Green Sock**

Catharina Valckx, trans. Anthony Shugaar,  
illus. Catharina Valckx, *Autumn*

**The Littlest Bandit**

Ali Pye, *Spring*

**Little Blue House Beside the Sea**

Jo Ellen Bogart, illus. Carme Lemniscates,  
*Autumn*

**The Longest, Strongest Thread**

Inbal Leitner, *Spring*

**The Lost Leopard**

Jonny Marx, illus. Xuan Le, *Autumn*

**Marney’s Mix-Up**

Jane Rushmore, illus. Sally Darby, *Winter*

**Meet Monster**

Ellen Blance and Ann Cook, illus. Quentin  
Blake, *Autumn*

**Merrylegs**

Pam Smy, *Winter*

**The Midnight Fair**

Gideon Sterer, illus. Mariachiara Di Giorgio,  
*Winter*

**The Moonlight Zoo**

Maudie Powell-Tuck, illus. Karl James  
Mountford, *Spring*

**My Mama**

Annemarie van Haeringen, trans. Bill  
Nagelkerke, *Spring*

**My Rhino Is Better Than Yours**

Bec Barnes, *Autumn*

**The Old Truck**

Jerome Pumphrey, illus. Jarrett Pumphrey,  
*Spring*

**One World**

Micheal Foreman, *Spring*

**Nine Lives Newton**

Alice McKinley, *Spring*

**The Nine Lives of Furry Purry Beancat.**

**The Captain's Cat**

Philip Ardagh, illus. Rob Biddulph, *Winter*

**Penpals Forever**

C K Smouha, illus. Jürg Lindenberger, *Autumn*

**Pirate Stew**

Neil Gaiman, illus. Chris Riddell, *Winter*

**The Pirates are Coming!**

John Codon, illus. Matt Hunt, *Spring*

**The Problem with Problems**

Rachel Rooney, illus. Zehra Hicks, *Spring*

**Rabbit's Spring Gift**

Anita Loughrey, illus. Lucy Barnard, *Autumn*

**Rain or Shine**

Ronald Heuinck, *Spring*

**Rhinocorn Rules**

Matt Carr, *Spring*

**The Song of the Nightingale**

Tanya Landman, illus. Laura Carlin, *Winter*

**The Sorcerer's Apprentice**

Gerda Muller, *Spring*

**The Stone Giant**

Anna Höglund, *Winter*

**The Tale of a Toothbrush. A Story of Plastic in our Oceans**

M. G. Leonard, illus. Daniel Rieley, *Spring*

**Talking Is Not My Thing**

Rose Robbins, *Spring*

**The Teeny Weeny Genie**

Julia Donaldson, illus. Anna Currey, *Winter*

**To the Island**

Patricia Forde, illus. Nicola Bernardelli, *Winter*

**Two Bears**

Patricia Hegarty, illus. Rotem Teplow, *Spring*

**Unstoppable**

Adam Rex and Laura Park, *Autumn*

**Waiting for Wolf**

Sandra Dieckmann, *Spring*

**What's in the Truck?**

Philip Ardagh, illus. Jason Chapman, *Winter*

**What's That Noise?**

Naomi Howarth, *Spring*

**Where Happiness Begins**

Eva Eland, *Spring*

**While We Can't Hug**

Eoin McLaughlin, illus. Polly Dunbar, *Winter*

**Who's Your Real Mum?**

Bernadette Green, illus. Anna Zobel

**Wild is the Wind**

Grahame Baker-Smith

**Willow the Armadillo**

Marilou Reeder, illus. Dave Mottram, *Autumn*

**The Worry (Less) Book**

Rachel Brian, *Winter*

**The Wolf's Secret**

Myriam Dahman and Nicolas Digard, illus.

Julia Sarda, *Winter*

## Junior books in 2020

### **A Clock of Stars: The Shadow Moth**

Francesca Gibbons, illus. Chris Riddell, *Winter*

### **A Most Improper Magick**

Stephanie Burgis, *Winter*

### **A Poem For Every Day of Autumn**

ed. Allie Esiri, *Winter*

### **Agent Zaiba Investigates: The Missing Diamonds**

Annabelle Sami, *Spring*

### **Agents of the Wild: Operation Honeyhunt**

Jennifer Bell and Alice Lickens, *Spring*

### **Alice In Wonderland Graphic Novel**

Russell Punter, *Spring*

### **Anna Gain and the Same Sixty Seconds**

Guy Bass, illus. Steve May, *Spring*

### **Attack of the Smart Speakers**

Tom McLaughlin, *Spring*

### **The B on Your Thumb**

Colette Hiller, illus. Tor Freeman, *Winter*

### **The Beast and the Bethany**

Jack Meggitt-Phillips, illus. Isabelle Follath, *Autumn*

### **The Boy Who Made the World Disappear**

Ben Miller, illus. Daniela Jaglenka Terrazzin, *Autumn*

### **Brand New Boy**

David Almond, illus. Marta Altes, *Winter*

### **Chocolate Milk, X-Ray Specs and Me**

Bethany Walker, illus. Jack Noel, *Winter*

### **Cloudburst**

Wilbur Smith and Chris Wakling, *Spring*

### **Clouds Cannot Cover Us**

Jay Hulme, *Spring*

### **Crater Lake**

Jennifer Killick, *Spring*

### **The Cure for a Crime**

Roopa Farooki, *Spring*

### **Dragon Mountain**

Katie and Kevin Tsang, illus. Petur Antonsson, *Winter*

### **Elsetime**

Eve McDonnell, illus. Holly Ovenden, *Winter*

### **Evernight**

Ross McKenzie, *Spring*

### **The Faraway Truth**

Janae Marks, *Spring*

### **Fighting Fantasy: Crystal of Storms**

Rhianna Pratchett, illus. Eva Eskelinen, *Winter*

### **Ghoul Scouts: Welcome to Camp Croak!**

Taylor Dolan, *Spring*

### **The Greatest Inventor**

Ben Brooks, *Winter*

### **Hello, Universe**

Erin Entrada Kelly, *Autumn*

**The Highland Falcon Thief**

M. G. Leonard and Sam Sedgman, illus. Elisa Paganelli, *Spring*

**The House of One Hundred Clocks**

A.M. Howell, illus. Saara Soderlund, *Spring*

**The House on Hoarder Hill**

Mikki Lish and Kelly Ngai, illus. Steve Wells and Maxine Lee, *Spring*

**The Island That Didn't Exist**

Joe Wilson, *Winter*

**Jumbo: The Most Famous Elephant Who Ever Lived**

Alexander Stewart, illus. Emily Sutton, *Winter*

**The Kid Who Came From Outer Space**

Ross Welford, *Spring*

**King of the Swamp**

Catherine Emmett, illus. Ben Mantle, *Winter*

**Lena the Sea and Me**

Maria Parr, trans. Guy Puzey, *Autumn*

**The Lost War Dog**

Megan Rix, *Winter*

**Malice in Underland**

Jenni Jennings, illus. Hannah Peck, *Winter*

**The Marvellous Land of Snergs**

Veronica Cossanteli based on the original by E.A. Wyke-Smith, illus. Melissa Castrillón, *Winter*

**The Mask of Aribella**

Anna Houghton, *Spring*

**Max and the Midnights**

Lincoln Pierce, *Spring*

**Meesha Makes Friends**

Tom Percival, *Winter*

**Midnight's Twins**

Holly Race, *Autumn*

**Mina Mistry (sort of) Investigates: The Case of the Disgusting School Dinners**

Angie Lake, illus. Ellie O'Shea, *Winter*

**Mustafa's Jumper**

Coral Rumble, illus. Charlotte Cooke, *Spring*

**My Name is River**

Emma Rea, *Autumn*

**Nowhere on Earth**

Nick Lake, *Autumn*

**Orion Lost**

Alastair Chisholm, *Spring*

**Otto Tattercoat and the Forest of Lost Things**

Matilda Woods, *Spring*

**The Pear Affair**

Judith Eagle, *Autumn*

**Poems Aloud**

Joseph Coelho, illus. Daniel Gray-Barnett, *Autumn*

**Rebel with a Cupcake**

Anna Mainwaring, *Autumn*

**Roxy & Jones: The Great Fairytale  
Cover-Up**

Angela Woolfe, *Winter*

**The Secret of Magic: The Forbidden Box**

Natassa Louppou, *Winter*

**Shoe Wars**

Liz Pichon, *Winter*

**Snow Foal**

Susanna Bailey, *Spring*

**Sofia the Dreamer and Her Magical Afro**

Jessica Wilson, *Autumn*

**Sticky Pines: The Bigwoof Conspiracy**

Dashe Roberts, *Spring*

**The Strangeworlds Travel Agency**

L D Lapinski, *Autumn*

**Talking to the Moon**

S.E. Durrant, *Spring*

**That Time I Got Kidnapped**

Tom Mitchell, *Autumn*

**Threads of Magic**

Alison Croggan, *Spring*

**Too Small Tola**

Atinuke, Oninye Iwu, *Spring*

**Voyage of the Sparrowhawk**

Natasha Farrant, *Winter*

**We Are Bound By Stars**

Kesia Lupo, *Autumn*

**Willow Wildthing and the Swamp  
Monster**

Gill Lewis, illus. Rebecca Bagley, *Spring*,  
*Autumn*

**Winterborne Home for Vengeance and  
Valor**

Ally Carter, *Spring*

**The Wizard in my Shed: The  
Misadventures of Mervyn the Wild**

Simon Farnaby, illus. Claire Powell, *Winter*

**Wonderscape**

Jennifer Bell, *Autumn*

**The Worst Class in the World**

Joanna Nadin, illus. Rikin Parekh, *Autumn*

**Wulfie: Stage Fright**

Lindsay J. Sedgwick, illus. Josephine Wolff,  
*Winter*

**Zombierella: Fairy Tales Gone Bad**

Joseph Coelho, illus. Freya Hartas, *Winter*



## Young Adult books in 2020

### **A Kind of Spark**

Elle McNicoll, *Autumn*

### **A Throne of Swans**

Katherine and Elizabeth Corr, *Spring*

### **A Treason of Thorns**

Laura Weymouth, *Spring*

### **Are You Watching?**

Vincent Ralph, *Spring*

### **The Arrival of Someday**

Jen Malone, *Winter*

### **Asking for a Friend**

Kate Mallinder, *Autumn*

### **Aurora Rising**

Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff, *Autumn*

### **Blood Moon**

Lucy Cuthew, *Autumn*

### **The Boy I Am**

K. L. Kettle, *Winter*

### **The Bridge**

Bill Konigsberg, *Winter*

### **The Cheerleaders**

Kara Thomas, *Winter*

### **The Colours that Blind**

Rutendo Tavengerwei, *Autumn*

### **Dear Justyce**

Nic Stone, *Winter*

### **The Deep Blue Between**

Ayesha Harruna Attah, *Winter*

### **Deleted**

Sylvia Hehir, *Autumn*

### **Delivered**

Sylvia Hehir, *Winter*

### **Echo Mountain**

Lauren Wolk, *Autumn*

### **Follow Me, Like Me**

Charlotte Seager, *Spring*

### **The Forest of Ghosts and Bones**

Lisa Lueddecke, *Winter*

### **Gloves Off**

Louisa Reid, *Spring*

### **Grief Angels**

David Owen, *Spring*

### **Girl of the Ashes**

Hayley Barclay, *Winter*

### **The Girl Who Became A Tree**

Joseph Coelho, illus. Kate Milner, *Winter*

### **The Girl Who Stole an Elephant**

Nizrana Farook, *Spring*

### **Havenfall**

Sara Holland, *Spring*

### **Hello Now**

Jenny Valentine, *Autumn*

**I, Ada**

Julia Gray, *Winter*

**The Infinite**

Patience Agbabi, *Spring*

**Incendiary**

Zoraida Córdova, *Autumn*

**Infinity Son**

Adam Silvera, *Spring*

**The Inheritance Games**

Jennifer Lynne Barnes, *Winter*

**Into the Real**

Z. Brewer, *Winter*

**Jane Eyre**

Charlotte Brontë. A retelling by Tanya Landman, *Spring*

**The Key to Fear**

Kirstin Cast, *Winter*

**Lalani of the Distant Sea**

Erin Entrada Kelly, illus. Lian Cho, *Spring*

**Last Lesson**

James Goodhand, *Autumn*

**Loveboat Taipei**

Abigail Hing Wen, *Spring*

**Monstrous Devices**

Damien Love, *Spring*

**Love on the Main Stage**

S.A. Domingo, *Autumn*

**Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know**

Samira Ahmed, *Autumn*

**Melt my Heart**

Bethany Rutter, *Autumn*

**Nothing Ever Happens Here**

Sarah Hagger-Holt, *Spring*

**The One That Got Away**

Jan Mark, *Spring*

**Poisoned**

Jennifer Donnelly, *Winter*

**Punching the Air**

Ibi Zoboi and Yousef Salaam, *Winter*

**Queen of Coin and Whispers**

Helen Corcoran, *Spring*

**The Reckless Afterlife of Harriet Stoker**

Lauren James, *Winter*

**Run, Rebel**

Manjeet Mann, *Spring*

**Savage Her Reply**

Deidre Sullivan, illus. Karen Vaughan, *Winter*

**SLAM! You're Gonna Wanna Hear This**

Nikita Gill, *Winter*

**Sofa Surfer**

Malcom Duffy, *Spring, Winter*

**Song Beneath the Tides**

Beverley Birch, *Autumn*

**Thorn**

Intisar Khanani, *Spring*

**The Truth Project**

Dante Medema, *Winter*

**Unpregnant**

Jenni Hendricks and Ted Caplan, *Spring*

**What Kind of Girl**

Alyssa Sheinmel, *Spring*

**What Momma Left Me**

Renée Watson, *Spring*

**Wink**

Rob Harrell, *Spring*

**Winter White and Wicked**

Shannon Dittmore, *Winter*

**Wonderland**

Juno Dawson, *Autumn*

**Wrecked**

Louise Reid, *Winter*

**The Year We Fell From Space**

Amy Sarig King, *Spring*

**Yes, No, Maybe So**

Becky Albertalli and Aisha Saeed, *Spring*

## Non-Fiction books in 2020

### **1 to 20 Animals Aplenty**

Kate Viggers, *Spring*

### **100 Children's Books that Inspire Our World**

Colin Salter, ed. Hetty Hopkinson, *Autumn*

### **A Climate in Chaos**

Neal Layton, *Autumn*

### **A is for Avocado**

illus. Carolyn Suzuki, *Spring*

### **A Natural History of Fairies**

Emily Hawkins, illus. Jessica Roux, *Winter*

### **A World of Art**

Helena Hunt and James Brown, *Winter*

### **An Emotional Menagerie: Feelings from A-Z, Winter**

### **Backward Science**

Clive Gifford, illus. Anne Wilson, *Autumn*

### **The Bat Book**

Charlotte Milner, *Spring*

### **Be A Super Awesome Artist: 20 Art Challenges Inspired by the Masters**

Henry Carroll, illus. Rose Blake, *Winter*

### **Be Plastic Clever**

Amy and Ella Meek, illus. Sarah Goodreau, *Autumn*

### **Big Green Crocodile**

Jane Newberry, illus. Carolina Rabei, *Spring*

### **Britannica All New Children's Encyclopedia: What We Know and What We Don't**

Michael Bright, John Farndon, Dr Jacob F. Field, Abigail Mitchell, Cynthia O'Brien, Jonathan O'Callaghan, illus. Mark Ruffle and Jack Tite, *Winter*

### **Darwin's Rival. Alfred Russell Wallace and the Search for Evolution**

Christine Dorion, illus. Harry Tennant, *Spring*

### **Discovering Energy**

Johannes Hirn and Veronica Sanz, illus. Eduard Altarriba, *Spring*

### **Dyslexia and Me: Expert Tips and Mindful Activities for Young People with Dyslexia**

Amy Rainbow, *Winter*

### **Economics for Beginners**

Laura Bryan and Andy Prentice, illus. Federico Mariani, *Autumn*

### **Empire's End – A Roman Story**

Leila Rasheed, *Spring*

### **Every Second**

Bruno Gibert, *Autumn*

### **Everybody has a Body**

Jon Burgerman, *Spring*

### **Exam Attack: A Practical, Positive Guide to Exam Success and Beating Stress**

Nicola Morgan, *Winter*

**Exploring the Elements: A Complete Guide to the Periodic Table**

Isabel Thomas, illus. Sara Gillingham, *Winter*

**The Farm That Feeds Us**

Nancy Castaldo, illus. Ginnie Hsu, *Autumn*

**Fearless: How to be Your True, Confident Self**

Liam Hackett, *Spring*

**Fearless: The Story of Daphne Caruana Galizia**

Gattaldo, *Winter*

**Flower Power: The Magic of Nature's Healers**

illus. Olaf Hajek, text by Christine Paxmann, *Spring*

**Fox: A Circle of Life Story**

Isabel Thomas, illus. Daniel Egnéus, *Winter*

**Get Ahead in Chemistry from the Periodic Table to the Apocalypse**

Tom Whipple, Illus. James Davies, *Autumn*

**Get Ahead in Physics**

Tom Whipple, illus. James Davies, *Spring*

**Gods, Goddesses and Heroes: Mythology from Around the World**

Marzia Accatino, illus. Laura Brenlla, *Winter*

**Happy, Healthy Minds: A Children's Guide to Emotional Wellbeing**

illus. Lizzy Stewart, *Winter*

**History Atlas**

Thiago de Moraes, *Winter*

**Hoot and Howl Across the Desert**

Vassilili Tzomaka, *Spring*

**How Many Mice Make An Elephant? And Other Big Questions About Size and Distance**

Tracey Turner, illus. Aaron Cushley, *Winter*

**The Human Race**

Sean Callery, illus. Donough O'Malley, *Winter*

**Interview with a Tiger and Other Clawed Beasts Too**

Andy Seed, illus. Nick East, *Winter*

**Invisible Nature A Secret World Beyond our Senses**

Catherine Barr, illus. Anne Wilson, *Autumn*

**Lift-The-Flap Questions and Answers About Plastic**

Katie Daynes, illus. Marie-Eve Tremblay, *Spring*

**Love Your Body**

Jessica Sanders, illus. Carol Rossetti, *Winter*

**Marvellous Magicians**

Lydia Corry, *Autumn*

**Me and the World: An Infographic Exploration**

Mireia Trius, illus. Joana Casals, *Winter*

**The Miracle of Hanukkah**

Malachy Doyle, illus. Christopher Corr, *Spring*

**The Missing**

Michael Rosen, *Spring*

**Music and How it Works: The Complete Guide for Kids**

Charlie Morland, illus. David Humphries, *Winter*

**Nature's Light Spectacular**

Katy Flint, illus. Cornelia Li, *Autumn*

**Our World in Pictures, Countries, Cultures, People and Places**

Andrea Mills, *Winter*

**Philosophy for Beginners**

Jordan Akpojaró, Rachel Firth and Minna Lacey, illus. Nick Radford, *Autumn*

**Question Everything**

Susan Martineau, illus. Vicky Barker, *Winter*

**Real Life Disasters**

Susan Martineau, illus. Vicky Barker, *Winter*

**Respect Consent, Boundaries and Being in Charge of You**

Rachel Brian, *Spring*

**The Secret Life of Spies**

Michael Noble, illus. Alexander Mostov, *Winter*

**The Secret Life of Trees**

Moira Butterfield, illus. Vivian Mineker, *Autumn*

**The Seedling That Didn't Want to Grow**

Britta Teckentrup, *Spring*

**Sometimes I Feel**

Sarah Maycock, *Spring*

**Space Maps: Your Tour of the Universe**

Lara Albanese, illus. Tommaso Vidus Rosin, *Winter*

**The Tale of a Toothbrush**

M G Leonard, illus. Daniel Rieley, *Autumn*

**This Book is Anti-Racist**

Tiffany Jewell, illus. Aurélie Durand, *Winter*

**Tricky Spellings in Cartoons for Children**

Lidia Stanton, *Winter*

**Turn and Learn: Weather / Our World**

Isabel Otter, illus. Hannah Tolson, *Spring*

**Tyrannosaurus Rex: A Pop-Up Guide to Anatomy**

Douglas Dixon, illus. Rachel Caldwell, *Spring*

**Warriors, Witches, Women**

Kate Hodges, illus. Harriet Lee-Merrion, *Spring*

**What's the Issue: Fake News**

Tom Jackson, illus. Cristina Guitian, *Winter*

**When Darwin Sailed the Sea**

David Long, illus. Sam Kalda, *Autumn*

**Wild City: Meet the Animals Who Share Our City Spaces**

Ben Hoare, illus. Lucy Rose, *Winter*

**World of Wonder: Mountains**

Charlotte Guillain, illus. Chris Maddon, *Autumn*

**The World's Most Magnificent Machines**

David Long, illus. Simon Tyler, *Winter*

**Yayoi Kusama Covered Everything in  
Dots and Wasn't Sorry**

Fausto Gilberti, *Spring*