# Foreign Rights Guide Children's Frontlist 2024

# **EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE PUBLISHING**

CSIRO Publishing is an editorially independent science publisher and part of Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)



CSIRO Publishing has an internationally recognised program producing titles for academic, professional and trade audiences. We produce over 35 new books each year, and maintain a backlist of over 600 titles.

Our program covers animal, plant and soil science, technology, agriculture, environmental management, natural resources, sustainability and ecology.

Our children's list is aimed at introducing young readers to themes in ecology, conservation and biology.

As well as books, we publish 29 peer-reviewed journals in animal, physical and plant sciences, health, agriculture and the natural environment, and *Double Helix*, a science magazine for kids aged 8–13, targeted at STEM.



# **CONTENTS >**

**OCEANS AT NIGHT** 

TARDIGRADES: NATURE'S TOUGHEST SURVIVORS

OUR WORLD FULL OF WONDER

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CARNIVOROUS PLANTS

THE OPAL DINOSAUR

**DUNG BEETLE ON A ROLL** 

# **FORTHCOMING TITLES 2025**

PEEP, PEEK, HIDE & SEEK [WORKING TITLE] OVER THE DESERT OCEAN THE WORLD FROM HERE

THIS DROP OF WATER

# **RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**

WOLLEMI: SAVING A DINOSAUR TREE DIPROTODON: A MEGAFAUNA JOURNEY POLLINATION: HOW DOES MY GARDEN GROW?





# **DETAILS**

**Picture Book** 

Publication: June 2024 **Category: Picture Book** Age: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm **Binding: Hardback** RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486317233 **Rights Held: World** 

# **OCFANS AT NIGHT**

# As night-time nears, a world of creatures comes alive in our oceans.

Settle in and explore the wonderful world under the waves, and see what animals do from sunset to sunrise. From penguins to sharks, giant squid and plankton, discover the fascinating after-dark lives of ocean creatures.

Oceans at Night showcases the beauty and wonder of life below the sea, so dive deep and discover what happens while you sleep!

# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Explores the world's oceans from dusk to dawn.
- Lyrical text and beautiful illustrations of the world under the waves. •
- Introduces fascinating sea animals and their unique features. •



## PREVIOUS TITLE: THE VOYAGE OF WHALE AND CALE

- Notable Book, The CBCA Eve Pownall Award for Information Books 2023
- "As usual, CSIRO Publishing have given us another superb read, one that asks more questions than it answers, and to the curious mind of the child, that is a perfect book!" - The Bottom Shelf
- "Not only is this book one where you can't help falling in love with the soft and dreamy illustrations on every page, but at the back of the • book there are many more facts which will blow your mind about these incredible and magnificent mammals." - Good Reading Magazine
- "Packed between the most beautiful of ocean-themed endpapers adorned with whales, penguins and sea lions is a plethora of . information that will fascinate and amaze."- A Word about Books

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

#### Dr Vansessa Pirotta is

a wildlife scientist and science communicator. Her work is primarily focused on the use of innovative technology for wildlife conservation. Vanessa has travelled the world for humpback whale research, and her most famous research involves the use of



Author Photo © Gary Heery

drones to collect whale snot!

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Cindy Lane is an award-winning artist and illustrator, with a passion for the ocean and its inhabitants. Nature provides Cindy with inspiration as well as materials to make her own paints, which she's used in this book.



Author Photo © Cindy Lane

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NOT THE COVER - SAMPLE ILLUSTRATIONS ONLY

# TARDIGRADES: NATURE'S TOUGHEST SURVIVORS >

# There are many creatures with incredible survival superpowers, but tardigrades are among the smallest and most amazing!

They've been found in astonishing places, from the top of a mountain to the bottom of an ocean. They've even survived a trip into space!

What exactly are these astounding little creatures, nicknamed moss piglets?

What tricks do they use to survive?

And why are so many scientists studying them?

Find out in Tardigrades: Nature's Toughest Survivors.



# **DETAILS**

Publication: October 2024 Category: Picture Books Age Range: 6–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486316052 **Rights Held: World** 

# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- An informational story about tardigrades, a remarkable micro-organism that has survival superpowers.
- Encourages young children to be curious about micro-organisms, and to engage in simple science investigations.
- Inspires discussions about advances in medical research, space travel and the likelihood of life surviving on other planets.
- From the award–winning author of acclaimed picture book, *The Way of the Weedy* ٠ Seadragon (CSIRO Publishing, 2021).

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Anne Therese Morgan began her working life as a teacher and is now a fulltime writer. Her picture book The Way of the Weedy Seadragon (CSIRO Publishing, 2021) was a CBCA Notable Book, a finalist in the Crystal Kite Awards, shortlisted in the Wilderness Society's Environment Award for Children's Literature and won a Whitley Award commendation.



Author Photo © Peter Vertigar

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jennifer Falkner is an illustrator and independent designer. Her work is inspired by a passion for Australian flora and fauna.



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DRAFT COVER ONLY

# Wild Wonders coming Feb 2025!

Book 2:

Our World of

# **DETAILS**

Publication: November 2024 **Category: Picture Books** Age Range: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 280mm × 215mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486318155 **Rights Held: World** 

# OUR WORLD FULL OF WONDER >

Our world is full of amazing natural wonders. From sparkling seas and towering trees, to valleys, lakes and waterfalls, there are extraordinary places that seem too magical to be true but can be found right here on planet Earth.

There are ghostly green lights of the aurora borealis near the North Pole, and exquisite rainbow mountains in China. There is a lake in Australia so pink it looks like fairy floss, and giant crystal caves hidden below Mexico.

These are just some of the incredible places you will discover in Our World Full of Wonder

Shall we go explore?



# NATURAL WONDERS INCLUDED >

- Aurora borealis, North Pole
- The Great Barrier Reef, Australia
- The Rainbow Mountains, China
- Reynisfjara (black sand beach), Iceland
- Lake Hillier, Australia
- Sequoia National Park, United States of America
- Catatumbo lightning, Venezuela ٠
- The Cave of the Crystals, Mexico
- Valley of Flowers National Park, India
- Iguazu Falls, Argentina and Brazil
- Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park, Madagascar
- Vaadhoo Island (Sea of Stars), Maldives •



# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Uses lyrical narrative, vibrant ٠ illustrations and fascinating facts to encourage readers to learn more about the natural world.
- Introduces readers to a diverse range ٠ of places and phenomena found across Earth that they may not have heard of. Endmatter includes a world map showing where all of these fascinating places can be found.
- Will appeal to both younger children as a read-aloud story and primary children interested in non-fiction texts.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jevita Nilson is a children's author with a love for nature, words, and all things wondrous. She writes heartfelt lyrical fiction and non-fiction picture books to inspire curious kids.



Author Photo © Amy Marshal

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Jess Racklyeft is an author and illustrator. She particularly loves illustrating plants and animals and sharing her love of the Australian bush. She is the illustrator of Iceberg (Allen & Unwin) and The Forgotten Song (CSIRO Publishing), which was named as 2024 Notable in the CBCA Awards.



Author Photo © Jess Racklyeft

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Author Photo © Amy Marshal

# DETAILS >

**Picture Books** 

Publication: February 2025 Category: Picture Books Age Range: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 280mm × 215mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486318667 Rights Held: World

# OUR WORLD OF WILD WONDERS >

Earth's wildlife is nothing short of extraordinary. There are colour-changing chameleons in the forests of Madagascar and cliff-climbing goats in the European Alps. There are fluorescent fish in the depths of the Mariana Trench and bushfire-surviving echidnas in the Australian bush.

*Our World of Wild Wonders* explores the unique animal species that inhabit our planet. Some mighty, some meek, but all wondrous in their own unique way.

Shall we go explore?



# WILDLIFE INCLUDED >

- Monarch butterflies, Mexico
- Alpine ibex, European Alps
- Hector's dolphins, New Zealand
- Flamingos, Kenya
- Echidna, Australia
- Deep sea creatures, Mariana Trench
- Panther chameleon, Madagascar
- Emperor penguins, Antarctica
- Sea otters, North America
- Starlings, British Isles
- Leopard, Africa
- Fireflies, United States of America



# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Uses lyrical narrative, vibrant illustrations and fascinating facts to encourage readers to learn more about the Earth's wildlife.
- Introduces readers to a diverse range of animal species and explores the unique adaptations that help them thrive on Eart. Endmatter includes a world map showing where all of these fascinating animals can be found.
- Will appeal to both younger children as a read-aloud story and primary children interested in non-fiction texts.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Jevita Nilson is a children's author with a love for nature, words, and all things wondrous. She writes heartfelt lyrical fiction and non-fiction picture books to inspire curious kids.



Author Photo © Amy Marshall

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# DETAILS

Publication: June 2025 Category: Picture Books Age Range: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486319527 Rights Held: World

# THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CARNIVOROUS PLANTS >

# Explore the weird and wonderful world of carnivorous plants!

From plants that eat meat to those that trap prey with sticky leaves, and others that have slippery sides keep insects inside, this book explores the amazing . . . and sometimes creepy, world of carnivorous plants.



# SPECIES INCLUDED >

- 'Betty's Bay' Bladderwort
- White topped American pitcher plant
- Roundleaf Sundew
- Venus Flytrap
- Rainbow plant
- Spoon leaved Sundew, forked Sundew
- Cape Sundew

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- Waterwheel plant
- Aquatic Bladderwort
- Tropical Pitcher plants
- Thread leaved Sundew
- Albany Pitcher Plant
- Cobra Lily Pitcher

# KEY SELLING POINTS

- Introduces the world of carnivorous plants through stunning illustrations and fun rhyming text.
- Showcases the amazing variety of carnivorous plants.
- Explores the variety of trapping methods carnivorous plants use to catch prey.
- Highlights the important role carnivorous plants play in the ecosystem and why they need to be protected.
- Learn more about the featured plants in an extended information section at the end.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Suzanne Houghton is an award-winning author and illustrator of several books, including *Wonderful Wasps* (CSIRO Publishing, 2022), *Life in a Hollow* (CSIRO Publishing, 2023) and *Where are all the Christmas Beetles?* (CSIRO Publishing, 2023).

# PREVIOUS TITLES >

Wonderful Wasps (written by Katrina Germein and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)

**Award:** Shortlisted, The Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards 2023: 5 to 8 age category.

*Life in a Hollow* (written by David Gullan and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)

Where are all the Christmas Beetles? (written and illustrated by Suzanne Houghton)







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# THE OPAC

# THE OPAL DINOSAUR >

Millions of years ago, a small dinosaur slips and scrambles, before sinking into the earth. Her bones lie under the soil, slowly transforming into something wonderful. Then, one day, a miner spies a shimmer of blue and green.

*The Opal Dinosaur* explores the amazing discovery of rare opalised bones. Follow the journey as the bones are found, forgotten and then finally identified as an exciting new dinosaur species.



# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Explores the Cretaceous period and the intriguing creatures that roamed the Earth at that time.
- Explains the fascinating process of how fossils and opal are formed.
- Tells the story of the discovery and identification of a new Australian dinosaur species.
- Shows how palaeontologists identify fossils.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Yvonne Mes** is an author and illustrator from Brisbane. Yvonne coordinates Brisbane based writers' group, Write Links, and is a frequent speaker at schools and literary events.



Author Photo © Derek Freeman

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

**Sylvia Morris** is an illustrator with a background in mathematics, who combines her analytical and creative puzzle solving skills with her love of reading in her illustrations. She has been shortlisted for the CBCA Award for New Illustrators (2023).



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## DETAILS >

Publication: August 2024 Category: Picture Books Age Range: 6–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486316793 Rights Held: World

# DUNG BEETLE ON A ROLL >

# Bigger is not always better. Sometimes the smallest of creatures can have the biggest impact . . . even with dung!

Explore the fascinating and incredibly important role that tiny dung beetles play in our environment. From pushing dung balls that can weigh up to 50 times more than they do, to recycling nutrients in our soil, these beetles are really quite exceptional!

Written and illustrated by the award-winning Sandra Severgnini, *Dung Beetle on a Roll* is a delightful encounter with these small but important beetles.



# **KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Shows the importance of some of our smallest creatures, who can have a huge impact.
- Explores the critical role that dung beetles play in our environment.
- Engages younger readers through captivating text and enchanting illustrations from awardwinning creator Sandra Severgnini.

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

**Sandra Severgnini** is an author and illustrator of numerous award-winning books. Her fascination for the amazing world around her inspires her words and brings sensitivity and humour to her illustrations.



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**DETAILS** 

Publication: August 2024 Category: Picture Books

Age Range: 5–9 year olds

Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm

Extent: 32 pages

Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486318872 Rights Held: World

# Recent Highlights

# **EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE PUBLISHING**

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# DETAILS >

**Picture Boo** 

Publication: August 2023 Category: Picture Book Age Range: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm x 250 mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486316083 Rights Held: World

# WOLLEMI: SAVING A DINOSAUR TREE >

# Deep in the forest, an ancient tree waits to be found and protected for future generations

The Wollemi Pine has survived ice, fire and the passing of many generations. But will a bushfire be the final threat to this living fossil?

This fascinating tree existed up to 200 million years ago, and after its chance discovery, everyone wants a dinosaur tree. But how will we protect it? How can we make sure the Wollemi's secret location is not discovered and damaged?

*Wollemi: Saving a Dinosaur Tree* explains the unique and critically endangered status of the Wollemi Pine and explores what actions can be taken today to contribute to the conservation of this rare and beautiful tree.

# AWARDS >

Longlist – Children's Book Council Awards 2024 – Eve Pownall Award

# REVIEWS >

- 'This scientific and environmental success story, akin to a modern-day fairy tale, makes Wollemi an enriching and visually delightful read.' – CBCA 2024 Book of the Year Awards Judges' Comments
  - "This is another remarkable publication from CSIRO Publishing shining the spotlight on yet another unique Australian creature so that our youngest readers can start to build their awareness and knowledge or the amazing things we share this landscape with, and hopefully, with that knowledge and awareness, become its protectors." *The Bottom Shelf*

# WOLLEMI PINE LOCATIONS >

- Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (London, UK)
- Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh (Scotland)
  - Royal Botanic Gardens Glasnevin (Dublin, Ireland)
  - Belgium National Botanic Gardens (Brussels, Belgium)
- Hortus Botanicus (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)
- Vienna Botanic Gardens (Vienna, Austria)
- Frankfurt Pamengarten (Frankfurt, Germany)
- Disneyland Tokyo (Japan)

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- Taiwan National Museum (Taipei, Taiwan)
- Kingsbrae Garden (St Andrews, NB, Canada)

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR >

Samantha Tidy is an award-winning children's author who seeks out stories that connect her readers with the natural world and each other. A passionate permaculturalist, gardener and chicken fancier, she lives in Canberra.



Author Photo © Samantha Tidy

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR >

Rachel Gyan is an illustrator passionate about artful storytelling. She is the illustrator of *Plantastic1* and enjoys studying Australian flora and wildlife, drawing inspiration from her surroundings to capture the beautiful

and sometimes quirky

nature of Australia in



Author Photo © Rachel Gyan

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her work.



# DETAILS

Publication: October 2023 **Category: Picture Book** Age Range: 6–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250 mm **Binding: Hardback** RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486316762 **Rights Held: World** 

# DIPROTODON: A MEGAFAUNA JOURNEY >

# This enthralling and fascinating story, with fabulous illustrations, brings this extinct giant back to life.

Diprotodon: A Megafauna Journey features the largest marsupial that ever lived, and its Ice Age environment.

Diprotodon leaves the protection of his family herd to find his own place in the world. He is vulnerable, and survival will be challenging. Follow him as he discovers his surroundings and encounters other creatures along the way.



Highlights the challenges Diprotodon

Features captivating illustrations by

faces from the environment and other

**FEATURES** 

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way in the world

Pleistocene era.

animals.

Andrew Plant.



# REVIEWS

"Children will be enchanted and awed Follows a young diprotodon finding his by this story of giants, dangers, survival and dramatic change on the continent Explores the megafauna that existed they know as Australia. [...] As always, 2.6 million to 11,700 years ago, in the CSIRO have produced a marvellously engaging, high-quality book of reliable scientific knowledge. " – CBCA Reading

Time

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bronwyn Saunders is a passionate citizen scientist who delights in sharing facts about Australia's natural history with readers.



Author Photo © Jenny Dettrick

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Andrew Plant is a Melbourne-based illustrator, author and science educator. He loves creating books about almost any subject, and is passionate about sharing that creativity with kids.



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## DETAILS >

Publication: February 2023 Category: Picture Book Age Range: 5–9 year olds Extent: 32 pages Dimensions: 250mm × 250mm Binding: Hardback RRP: AUD \$24.99 ISBN: 9781486313235 Rights Held: World

# POLLINATION: HOW DOES MY GARDEN GROW? >

# Discover the different ways that pollination happens in our gardens and backyards.

A child's day in the garden with their Gran and Pa leads to a wonderful exploration of pollination.

Join them in discovering how pollination happens in our gardens and backyards, and the importance it has for our environment. Meet the animals involved in pollination and the plants that depend on pollination to produce our fruit, vegetables and even our clothes!

Created by an award-winning author and illustrator.



# REVIEWS

"*Pollination: How Does My Garden Grow?* is an important part of nature's life cycle. Christopher Cheng and Danny Snell have done a great job of creating a narrative nonfiction picture book packed full of details that will help children (and adults) understand something that happens around us all the time, but which we might not really see or take much notice of."– *Kids' Book Review* 

"For even though young city kids might now know that bees are important, in this intriguing book they learn not only of the bees' critical role in the survival of the planet as they flit from flower to flower, but also all the other pollinators who carry the precious gold dust - appropriate that it is gold, in the scheme of things - from plant to plant, not only providing food for humans but also for their own kind so that the cycle can continue on." – *The Bottom Shelf* 

"This simple colourful book shows active grandparents (albeit with beard and glasses) sharing their knowledge and homegrown food with their beloved grandchild. There are many positive aspects to this book apart from the information imparted along the way. There is the lovely relationship between the generations, family members of various backgrounds and the reality of urban living in an apartment without a backyard" – *CBCA Reading Time* 

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Christopher Cheng** adores writing, especially picture books. He has been shortlisted for the CBCA and NSW Premier's Literary awards, and won the Wilderness Society's Environment Award for Children's Literature. He is Co-Chair of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Advisory Council. His previous book *Bear and Rat* (Penguin Random House Australia) sold in ten territories.

Author Photo © Daniel Woo



# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Danny Snell has been working as an illustrator for over 20 years. His picture books have won awards including the CBCA Eve Pownall Award, the Wilderness Society's Environment Award for Children's Literature and more.



Author Photo © Danny Snell

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# CONTACT US >

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Jordan Meek Rights and Sales Officer E: jordan.meek@csiro.au W: publish.csiro.au

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Bringing Diprotodon to Life What beaches can teach us: learning while exploring

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Instagram LinkedIn Facebook X (Twitter)