

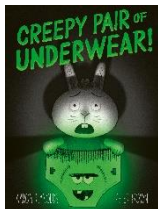
FEDERATION OF CHILDREN'S BOOK GROUPS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD 2026 BOOKS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

Creepy Pair of Underwear!

Written by Aaron Reynolds and illustrated by Peter Brown

Published by Simon & Schuster

ISBN: 978-1398542037



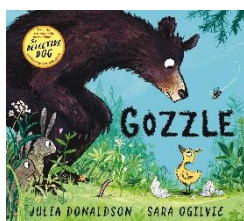
Jasper Rabbit is desperate to prove he is not a little rabbit anymore. When he spots the Creepy underwear in the shop with his mum, he begs for a pair to show how brave he is. When the pants glow eerily in the dark as he puts them on, he begins to wonder if it was a good idea. The comic style illustrations and effective use of colour move the quirky story along as Jasper explores ways of getting rid of the pants. Will he succeed?!

Gozzle

Written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Sara Ogilvie

Published by Macmillan

ISBN: 978-1529076417



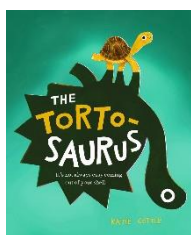
This beautifully illustrated story is about a gosling who, once hatched, imprints on the first thing she sees: a large grizzly bear. Hence, "Gozzle" is born. She follows bear everywhere, and the hilarious consequence of her attachment gives pages of amusement as bear tries to escape her clutches. As Gozzle grows, she meets Gus, another young goose, who teaches her swimming, flying and winter migration. Bear misses Gozzle through the winter, but she returns in the spring, eventually rewarding bear with five grandchildren!!

The Tortosaurus

Written and illustrated by Katie Cottle

Published by Little Tiger

ISBN: 978-1838917265



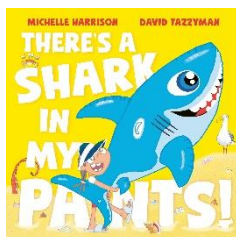
Dot is starting a new school, and she desperately wants to fit in. But Dot is shy and she finds it hard to pluck up the courage to join in. When her teacher asks about their pets, Dot sees a way to make friends but is pretending her tortoise, Monty, is a tortosaurus a good idea? Things spiral out of control, but Dot learns that the best way to make true friendships is to be yourself. A lovely story about being true to yourself.

There's a Shark in my Pants!

Written by Michelle Harrison and illustrated by David Tazzyman

Published by Simon & Schuster

ISBN: 978-1398511552



Hilarious and imaginative picture book that captures childhood worries with warmth and wit. Through playful rhymes and joke-filled, cartoon-style illustrations, the story follows a girl on her family holiday. She is convinced there is a shark lurking in her underwear. But is it really there? The escalating absurdity delights young readers while gently reassuring them about facing fears. Perfect for storytime, it blends humour, rhythm, and heart into a memorable, laugh out loud adventure. A joyful read for families everywhere and classrooms.