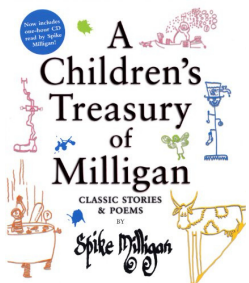


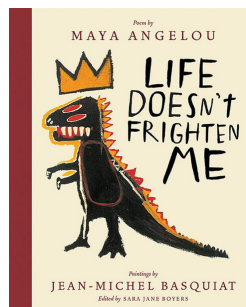


Introduce children to the wonderful world of poetry with Mr Dilly's Top of the Poems!

Use this book list to explore all the poems Mr Dilly featured in his Top of the Poems film, plus a whole host of fantastic poetry books for children, curated in collaboration with children's book blogger, The Book Activist (www.thebookactivist.blog).



A Children's Treasury of Milligan by Spike Milligan. Spike regarded children as an entirely different species who lived in a secret, magical world that very few adults understood. Illustrated throughout with Spike's own artworks, this is an ideal read-alone or read-aloud book featuring the much loved poem *On the Ning Nang Nong* amongst many others. Published by Virgin Books. All ages.

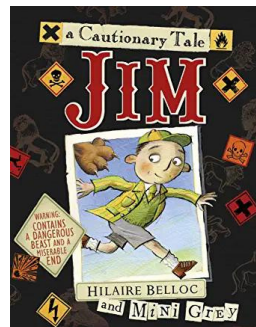


Life Doesn't Frighten Me by Maya Angelou. A brave, defiant poem that celebrates the courage within each of us. Powerful illustrations by Jean-Michel Basquiat capture childhood imaginings and create a place where every child, can experience their own fearlessness. Published by Abrams. Age 5+

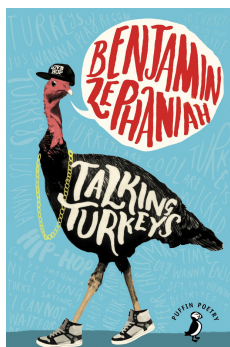


Chocolate Cake by Michael Rosen

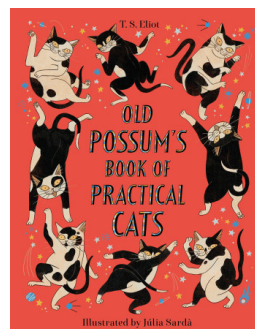
This is Michael Rosen's joyous celebration of every child's favourite treat, chocolate cake. Brought to life as a picture book with brilliant illustrations by Kevin Waldron, you won't be able to resist this chocolate-y treat -the perfect poem to get the imaginations going! Published by Puffin. Age 5+



Jim, Who ran away from his Nurse, and was eaten by a Lion by Hilaire Belloc. Award-winning illustrator, Mini Grey brings this classic poem to life with lively illustrations. First published in 1907, this word of warning about the dangers of being spoiled is the perfect tongue-in-cheek corrective for little ones who have been a little overindulged! Published by Red Fox. Age 5+



Talking Turkeys by Benjamin Zephaniah. An unconventional collection of straight-talking poems about heroes, revolutions, racism, love and animal rights, among other subjects, that will entice many new readers to poetry. Includes the much enjoyed *Talking Turkeys*. Published by Puffin. Age 9+.

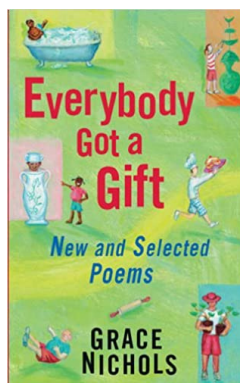


Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T.S. Eliot. One of the best-known poetry collections of all time and home to the infamous *Macavity the Mystery Cat*! This stunning new full-colour version, illustrated by Júlia Sardà, is the perfect way to enjoy these classic poems. Published by Faber. Age 5+



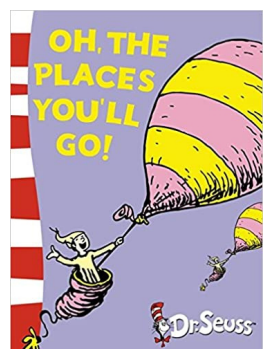
Cherry Moon Little Poems Big Ideas Mindful of Nature by Zaro Weil

Wonderfully original, Cherry Moon poses big questions about life encouraging children of every age to explore the power, enchantment and sheer wonderfulness of nature. With illustrations by Junli Song, it includes the delightful poem *Hide and Seek*. Published by Troika Books. Age 7+



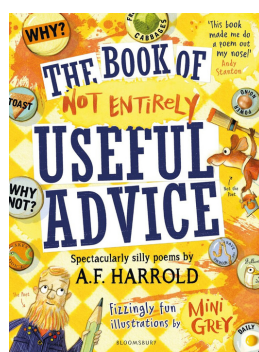
Everybody Got a Gift by Grace Nichols

An anthology containing many old favourites and some wonderful new poems. The poems in this book are a celebration of all the best qualities in humans and in nature. Includes the lively feline favourite, *Cat Rap*. Published by A.C & Black Ltd. Age 7+



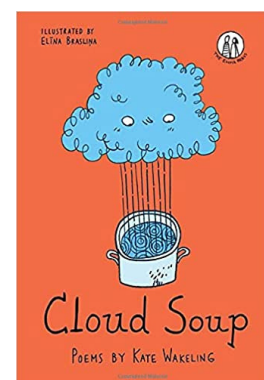
Oh, the Places You'll Go! by Dr Seuss.

This Dr. Seuss classic has carried us through life's ups and downs – from fun times and triumphs, to lurches and slumps! Take an entertaining look at the adventures life has in store for all of us if we're brave enough to take the first step! Published by Harper Collins. All ages.



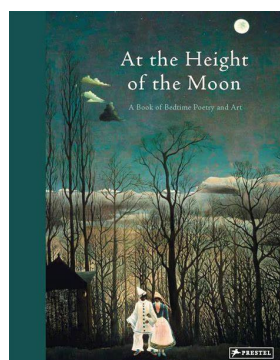
The Book of Not Entirely Useful Advice by A.F. Harrold.

A riotous poetry collection that encourages readers to think critically, packed with silly rhymes and witty wordplay, positively bursting with fun--and advice. Poems like *The Peril's of Breakfast* work seamlessly alongside Mini Grey's vibrant art to create visual gags that will have readers in stitches. Published by Bloomsbury. Age 9+



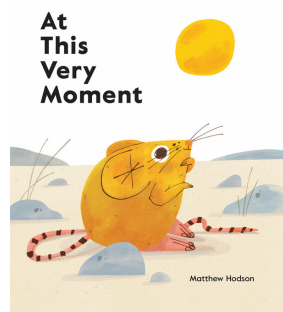
Cloud Soup by Kate Wakeling.

Encourage readers to look more closely at clouds, water, dust and trees, and to reflect on the bigger and knottier areas of life, as Kate's quieter poems sit alongside funny ones. All perfectly paired with illustrations by Elina Brasliņa to inspire the imagination. Published by The Emma Press. For ages 9+



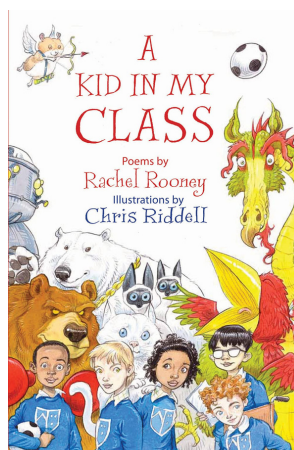
At the Height of the Moon by Various.

A simply stunning anthology of artwork, poetry and prose which should grace all bookshelves and shines a light on the beauty of art in both words and pictures. A beautiful book to introduce children to both art and poetry. Published by Prestel. Ideal for families and sharing.



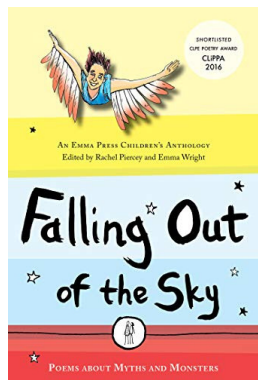
At This Very Moment by Matthew Hodson.

This is a beautifully poetic picture book using simple but evocative language to describe all the amazing things that are going on around the world right now. Invites the young reader to be present in the moment and to feel at one with the world we live in. Published by Cicada Press. Age 3+

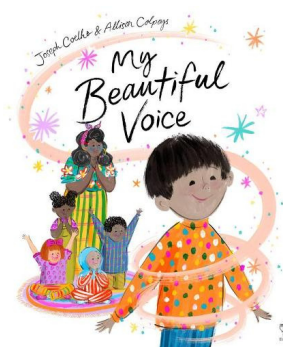


A Kid in My Class by Rachel Rooney.

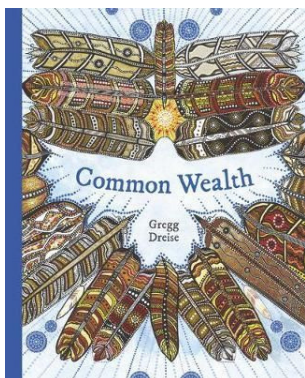
They're all here...every kid in the class has their own poem. The pushy one, the shy one. The whizz kid and the daydreamer. The best friender and the kid who runs in his wheelchair. The tough kid, the poet. And not forgetting the class hamster. All brilliantly brought to life by the master of illustration, Chris Riddell. Published by Otter-Barry Books. Age 9+



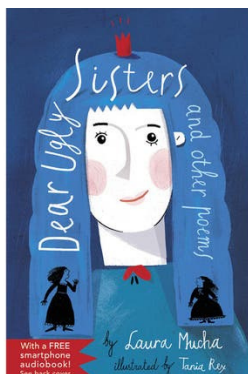
Falling Out of the Sky: Poems about Myths and Monsters by Various. A treasury of poems which retell classic myths, legends and fairytales from across the world. Full of alternate viewpoints and new versions of old stories, this is a great introduction to poetry. Published by The Emma Press. Age 9+



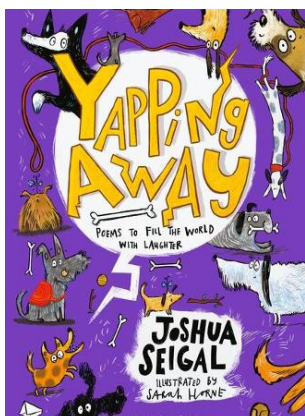
My Beautiful Voice by Joseph Coelho A lyrical picture book about a shy child unlocking the power of their voice through poetry, with the helping hand of a special teacher. Accompanied by beautiful illustrations, showing us everyone has a voice no matter how small they might be. Published by Frances Lincoln Publishers Ltd . Age 4+



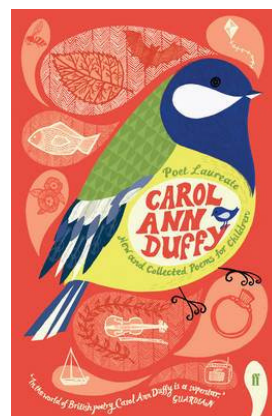
Common Wealth by Gregg Dreise. A powerful illustrated slam poetry picture book about togetherness and Australian and Indigenous history. For older readers, this picture book portrays a persuasive vision of unity through slam poetry. Published by Scholastic. Age 9+



Dear Ugly Sister sand Other Poems by Laura Mucha. A debut collection which features *Dear Key Workers* a poem written collaboratively with children around the world to say thank you for their help during the pandemic. Lively and eclectic, with illustrations by Tania Rex and all manner of poetry styles to suit all manner of readers. Published by Otter-Barry Books. Age 7+



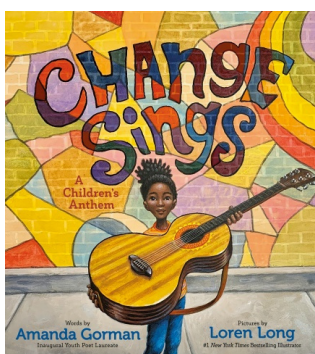
Yapping Away by Joshua Seigal From hilarious to heartfelt poems - and everything in between - this collection offers something for everyone. Discover the eight steps for having a successful tantrum, and why you should NEVER attend a Teddy Bear's Picnic, with lively illustrations by Sarah Horne. Published by Bloomsbury. Age 3+



New and Collected Poems for Children by Carol-Ann Duffy. From her dazzlingly debut *Meeting Midnight* through to her newest, brightest poems, Carol Ann Duffy's writing for younger readers has always bubbled with wit and humour, intelligence and affection, and introduced us to many strange and wonderful characters along the way. Published by Faber & Faber. Age 9+



What Are Little Girls Made of? by Jeanne Willis. Think you know your favourite classic nursery rhymes? In this witty reworking of popular nursery rhymes, illustrated by Isabelle Follath, Georgie Porgie doesn't dare to make the girls cry, Little Bo-Peep's sheep are all present and correct thank you! Published by Nosy Crow. Age 3+



Change Sings by Amanda Gorman. In this stirring, picture book by the presidential inaugural poet, anything is possible when our voices join together. Illustrated by Loren Long, a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes in the world, in their communities, and in most importantly, in themselves. Published by Puffin. Age 5+