Jonathan Ball Publishers

CHILDREN'S HIGHLIGHTS

SEP & OCT 2026

Here are our top children's book picks for **September and October** 2026!

0 – 5 YEARS | GRADE 0 – R

Hug Me Little Kitten: Finger Puppet Book
9781778134050 | Chronicle Books | BB | R260

This sweet lap book for little ones features an adorable kitten, simple, child-friendly text, and two soft plush arms to cuddle and play with.

Hug Me Little Penguin: Finger Puppet Book
9781778134068 | Chronicle Books | BB | R260

This sweet lap book for little ones features an adorable penguin, simple, child-friendly text, and two soft plush arms to cuddle and play with.

Sissy Bear Advent Calendar Book Collection
by Beryl Davies
9781788088237 | Story Cover | BB | R755

Count down to Christmas with Sissy Bear in this advent calendar filled with 24 mini board book adventures!

Hello Hello Sounds by Brendan Wenzel
9781773219886 | Chronicle Books | BB | R195

A parade of wild animals squawks, squeaks, and howls its way across the pages of this colorful book!

How The Grinch Stole Christmas According to Dr. Seuss
9780593813553 | HarperCollins | PB | R260

What Feelings Do When No One's Looking
9781788088251 | Story Cover | BB | R260

Wow. It's really Grinchmas Time. This is the heartwarming retelling of the classic Dr. Seuss story.

She is ready to share no one knows what happened that fateful Christmas Eve in the heartwarming retelling of the classic Dr. Seuss story.

Joy bounces on a trampoline. Fear will wrap itself in a blanket. This disarmingly gorgeous picture book breathes life into the vast array of feelings.

6 – 9 YEARS | GRADE 1 – 3

Monster Doctor by Aaron Blecha
9781448824264 | Nosy Crow | PB | R260

Amateur vet Walt Wombleard is on an adventure to help the most poorliest creatures of all, monsters! To prove himself, he must treat three very toothache, claw and troll's tootsie, and more!

Alien King of the Universe #2: Today I Will Rule All the Earthlings!
by Thomas Flintham | PB | R250

Alan is convinced he was born to rule the universe, but since scheming up brilliant plans to fulfil his destiny. From accidentally shrinking themselves to raising an army...

Raymond & Lucifuzz: Poems to Grow With
by Joseph Coelho
9781444960617 | Bonnier Books | PB | R310

Beginning with shorter, simpler poems and progressing to more challenging verses, this is a poetry book that grows and grow with, alongside teachers and learners.

Donut Squad Destiny of the Donuts
by Neil Cameron
9781788088275 | Story Cover | BB | R310

The Donut Squad are back from the future, and guess what? It's the future, and they're ALL DONUTS! Whaaaaaaat?!? Can they save the future's nightmare coming to pass!

Pokémon Encyclopedia Hardcore Edition
9780593895153 | Penguin | HB | R450

Dive into the brand-new encyclopedia, packed with information from the popular animated series. Ash, Pikachu, and the Alolang Isle Trainers explore the Paldea region and more.

10 – 12 YEARS | GRADE 4 – 6

The Non-Non by Katherine Rundell
9781408872581 | Bloomsbury | PB | R270

A-Plus Academy #9: Song of Tomorrow
by Miss Rosa
9781788088190 | Nosy Crow PB | R240

Graduation is right around the corner, and after all of big decisions await! Choose the right friends. But, before they can choose their future, they have the difficult task of diving into chaos by a demon conductor.

Elsa & Maryam's Little Cafe by Jaweeni Hayat
9781419765667 | Duopy Books | PB | R230

Fi-Eee and Maryam's second adventure, the girls are back and this time before long the two girls have created a delicious new treat out of control ... will they ever find their way back to the cafe?

Mallory Towers Mystery Club #1: Kidnap at Midnight by Fleur Hitchcock
9781444966817 | Rabbit Books | PB | R230

Where does their classmate keep disappearing to? And why do they always be out of the stable? And who is the mysterious one who stifles Cindy the Mallory Towers pony? Can they solve this puzzle!

Rugg School: Stagstrum Showdown
by Lisa Williamson
9781399512433 | Duopy Books | PB | R260

Dad's new girlfriend is nice, but Gabby's determined to keep her distance. Now Natasha tries to replace her mum! Can Gabby stop her winning the Gaddy-on-the-Water talent show? A weekend away, it's the last thing anyone ever thinks will happen to them.

The Vector Chronicles: The Trouble with Magic
by Amy Wilson
9781788088312 | Nosy Crow | PB | R260

When Fray's hidden magic is revealed, he is forced back to Vector and his magical town from which his family have been exiled. With no one to trust, Fray must face powers he's sure have no very name as a talisman.

Weird by trust 2027 wild and wacky facts and photos! by National Geographic Kids
9780008513450 | Collins | HB | R260

This all-new 2027 children's annual is loaded with jaw-dropping, mind-blowing, believe it or not facts and bright, bold photography!

Celebrate Harry Potter Book Day with us on 8 October

Also available in Afrikaans!

13 – 16 YEARS | GRADE 7 – 10

Crime!

The Raven's Eye Rebellion by Claire Mulley
9781911679271 | Nosy Crow | PB | R260

When Gordan, Lea and Rosie discover a dead Scottish Wildcat in Blacks, they embark on a quest to unite the warring clans of the world, seeking justice for those who have been silenced or never allowed to read or write.

Haunting of Old Sydney by Jack Morley
9781838432312 | Rock the Boat | PB | R270

Peter and Adrian live in the shadow of the Sydney Cove, a cursed mansion on the hill. Desperate to reunite the family together, the brothers set out in search of their legendary sibling clue.

17+ YEARS | GRADE 11+

Crime!

Immortal Rose by Alexandra Bracken
9781911758945 | Tempest | TPB | R340

When a shocking murder rocks Rose above the kingdom vulnerable to a coup, Vale, whose 4 years old Princess Rose is the kingdom's only hope, begins stalling Immortal Rose - the kingdom's only hope against saving the king's life.

All the Queens Curses by Alyssa Hollingsworth
9781838432879 | Rock the Boat | PB | R300

A spellbinding, dark retelling of love and hate set in the stunningly divided Highlands. Nothing is what it seems in the world of curses. And in the fae realm, to break a promise only demands a price...

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PUZZLES & ACTIVITIES

Minecraft Annual 2027
9780008554538 | Collins | HB | R310

Pokemon Annual 2027
9780008554569 | Harrimale | HB | R310

Discover all there is to know about the last year of Minecraft in this action-packed annual, stuffed to the brim with amazing facts, step-by-step builds!

New friends, locations and stories in this year's annual. Discover across Paldea to discover new Pokémon and learn everything there is to know about this exciting new region.

Unofficial Fortnite 7 Annual 2027
9780008554774 | Harrimale | HB | R310

Cute & Cursed
9781837731161 | Buster Books | PB | R250

This action-packed annual takes you behind the scenes at the Fortnite 7 (S28 World Championship) event, and also your favourite Fortnite characters, their weapons and much more in this calendar.

Cute & Cursed features 30 adorably spooky illustrations that blend cosy, kawaii aesthetics with eerie, edgy undertones.

Cute & Cosy Cuddly Wordsearches
9781837732013 | Buster Books | PB | R250

Settle in with Cute & Cosy Cuddly Wordsearches, a comforting puzzle book filled with relaxing word games with adorable creativity.

Cute & Cosy Christmas Wordsearches
9781837732037 | Buster Books | PB | R250

Make the festive season extra cosy relaxing with Cute & Cosy Christmas Wordsearches, a joyful puzzle book filled with seasonal word games.

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LOCAL CHILDREN'S HIGHLIGHTS

SEP & OCT 2026

My First Sounds: Animals
9781788186148 | Hell | HB | R200 | 0 - 4 years

My First Sounds: Animals
9781788186148 | Hell | HB | R200 | 0 - 4 years

Five authentic nursery rhyme sound buttons capture young listeners' hearts, delivering giggles and more!

Five authentic animal sound buttons captivate young explorers' hearts, delivering roaring lions and more!

My words books: Ute se
9781788187152 | Hell | HB | R200 | 0 - 4 jaar

My words books: Dans
9781788187091 | Hell | HB | R200 | 0 - 4 jaar

Bring die wee hulle eie reel uit! pragtige plaatjie wat die kinders sal laat opwinding. Van wetlose wat sing tot gelukkige bruilof!

Vul vragtige gehalte sang die diereliedjie van die dorre se kinders sal laat opwinding. Van wetlose wat sing tot trompetter en leeus wat bul.

Tippie gaan stroef toe deur Lê de Villiers
9782194180551 | Hell | HB | R50 | 0 - 4 jaar

Tippie se pelje deur Lê de Villiers
9782194180544 | Hell | HB | R50 | 0 - 4 jaar

Vandag is dit Tippie se dag! Hy gaan by die dokter toesien. Die dokter gee hom 'n inspuiting vir Tyspie se hartjie!

Vandag gaan Tippie se pelje. Hy sal Fluit bulle in die lug, tuis sits in sy kamer en speel met sing en kniehoë.

Twee helwes maak 'n hele deur Marita van der Vyver
9780624097312 | Tafelberg | PB | R260 | 14+

Lisa word nie 'n Unisaa-vlieënier gedwyar om by haar pa se maatskappy te werk nie. Sy wanneer 'n vreeslikel foeier ontwikkel nie. Tot die ellendi Lisa uit haar dop kan kruip en een van die oorsake te leer!

Liewe Heksie en die robbedoes Kats by Verna Vels
9780796199585 | NB | PB | R260 | 6 - 9 years

Liewe Heksie se grootste avontuur ooit!
by Verna Vels
9780796199592 | NB | PB | R260 | 6 - 9 years

Wanneer die rare Geelhaas en 'n bande robbedoes Kats probeer om Liewe Heksie te steel, word Liewe Heksie en haar vriende meegesleur in 'n dolle jaagtog om Blomrelaxer te red.

Met haar radiopraatjarre, boeke en televisieskerm het Verna Vels 'n charakteriese wêreld van verhoeding vergeskaf. Hierdie boek vanaf die pen van die skrywer en illustreerder van Liewe Heksie en die Wonderwêreld van Wiesiepiesie, Verna Vels, gebring hulle karakters en stories saam om Liewe Heksie se tuisplaas bowerking van te laag soos nog nooit tevore nie.

Liewe Heksie's greatest adventure yet!

When the wicked Yellow Witch and a gang of robbedoes Kats try to steal Liewe Heksie's Silver Rose, Liewe Heksie and friends have to save Flower Land.

Through her radio programme, books, and television work, Verna Vels left behind a unique world of characters. Now, in early 2014, Verna reunited with the talented animation artist Alan Cameron and the pair have created a delightful animated series for pre-schoolers, Liewe Heksie Skis. This book weaves all the beloved characters and stories into one wonderful, new adventure - **one that, for the first time ever, will be available to English readers for the very first time.**

For more information, and for a review copy, please contact:
charlene@jbp.co.za
Please include your **full name**, **address**, and **phone number** in the email!

DEADLINE: 12 October 2026

[Please note that prices are subject to change.]

HAPPY READING
Chanté du Plessis