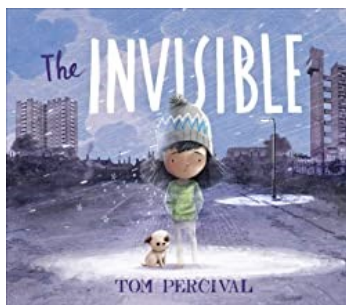


# Spring into a book

## RAB book recommendations for Easter

### Picture books



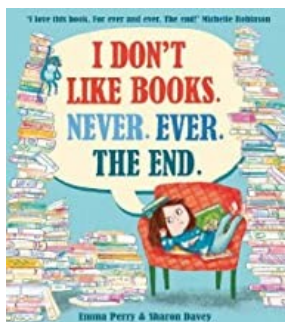
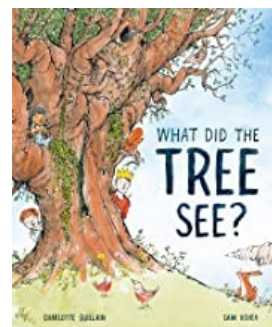
Our infants were lucky enough to have a virtual visit from Tom Percival earlier this week and he was absolutely fantastic. 'The Invisible' is his latest picture book which explores the forgotten people in society and how they feel invisible.

Isabel and her family don't have much but one day, there isn't enough money to pay their rent and bills so they have to leave their home full of happy memories and move to the other side of the city.

Isabel decides that it is up to her to make a difference! A very beautiful story!

'What Did the Tree See' is a brilliant non-fiction book by Charlotte Guillain and Sam Usher which explores the life cycle of trees and the history that they will have seen in their time. I loved reading the book and then walking around the countryside wondering about the events that the trees would have witnessed. I'd imagine that some of them would have some brilliant stories to tell.

At the back of the book there's some great science, detailing the life and stages of oak trees. Then this is followed by a historical timeline which sets out all of the events that the tree in the story has lived through, up to and including the pandemic. Any curious nature lovers will enjoy this book.

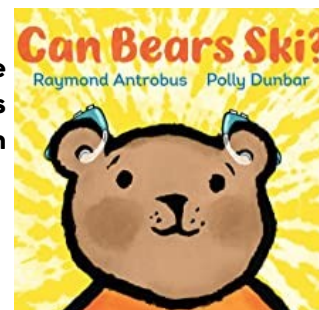


The title of this book is bound to cause a reaction in children, they'll either agree that they 'Do Not Like Books. Never. Ever. The End!' or they'll be outraged that somebody could feel that way! My daughter had to cover up the 'don't' part as she thought it was preposterous!

I love the way that Emma Perry has made a story that celebrates all of the best things about books and the adventures that they take you on. It has the same ethos as me, nobody can hate reading, they just haven't found the right book yet!

'Can Bears Ski' by Raymond Antrobus and Polly Dunbar is so far my favourite picture book of the year. I believe that children need to see themselves in books and this is superb for any child that wears hearing aids. Equally these books also help children to empathise with others and to understand how others feel and live.

Can Bears Ski perfectly describes what it is like as a child with hearing loss and the journey to getting hearing aids. I love it and I know that you will to!



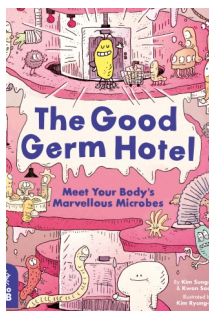
'Milo Imagines the World' by Matt De La Peña and Christian Robinson explores our prejudices. A young boy called Milo, travels on a train to visit his mum. He sits with his sister and draws what he thinks the other travellers are like and where they are going.

Once he reaches his destination, he realises that he may have been unfair with some of his judgements and dreams up new alternative lives that they may be living. This is great to start discussions about other people's lives and how people aren't always what we expect.

# Spring into a book

## RAB book recommendations for Easter

### Chapter books for younger readers



I'm not sure if you've heard, but there has been a virus that has been spoken about lots lately... Children have heard lots about germs, 'The Good Germ Hotel' gives them more information about germs and how 'good germs' are needed to keep us healthy.

This book is not strictly a chapter book but it is longer than a picture book so it has fallen into this category... I love how this non-fiction book gives us lots of information about our bodies and the illustrations are fascinating. Each time I've read this with children I have been amazed at what they have taken from it and the rich discussions that it has sparked.

Danny Wallace is a brilliantly hilarious author who never fails to put a smile on my face. 'The Day the Screens Went Blank' is a child's worst nightmare... One day, all technology stops working... Obviously this causes widespread panic!

Stella and her family set off on a mission to check up on Grandma... but a long journey without phones and sat-nav is never going to be easy.

The message is a good one. Without screens and actually talking to each other and spending quality time together isn't actually as bad as they thought!



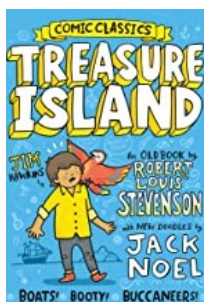
Maz Evans is one of the best comedy writers for children at the minute. Her previous series 'Who Let the Gods Out?' has been loved by many children over the years and 'Vi Spy' is just as brilliant.

Vi's mum is a retired super spy who is desperate for a normal life. Vi's dad, a famous super villain who everyone thought was dead, re-emerges on the scene. As you can guess, this spells trouble! Vi decides that she wants to become a spy like her mum and enlists the help of her nan to get her way and earn a place at spy school! Exciting and hilarious!

Vikings is always a favourite topic at school and now there is a new Viking book that will be loved by all fans of 'How To Train Your Dragon'. Cat Wheldon's 'How To Be A Hero' matches two equally useless heroes as they try to prove themselves!

It pokes fun at history and shows just how ridiculous some of the Norse gods were.

Historical facts mixed with a great story, excellent illustrations and a few laughs make this a perfect book for lower juniors.



Jack Noel is bringing classics back and making them more accessible for younger readers. The mix of illustrations and text are perfect for those that prefer a shorter story.

Treasure Island is a superb pirate story that needs no introduction and I'm pleased that the story is being introduced to younger readers. It may even inspire some children to read some older classics afterwards.

So join Jim Lad on his piratey adventures and meet the brilliant characters that he encounters.



# Spring into a book

## RAB book recommendations for Easter

### Chapter books for older readers



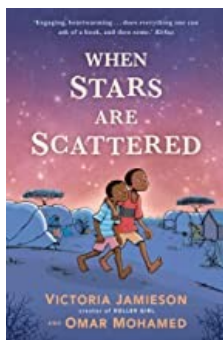
'Show Us Who You Are' is a brilliant novel by Elle McNichol that will really make you think! Who decides what perfect is? Why would we want to change the things that make us all different?

Cora is autistic and we follow her as she starts a new friendship with Adrien. Adrien's Dad owns 'Pomegranate Technologies' which is a company that creates holograms of people so that when they die, their families can still see a version of them.

Cora loves the idea of this and offers to help so that they can make more realistic neurodivergent holograms. But is everything as it seems?

I am a massive fan of Sci-Fi books and this really grabbed my attention (mostly from the gorgeous front cover). 'City of Rust' by Gemma Fowler is set in the future where life on Earth has been changed dramatically by human waste. Many people now either live in slums on the ground, high rise glass cities or in spaceships up in the skies.

Railey and her bio-robotic gecko Atti find that it is down to them to save the world from a trashbomb (lots of junk in the atmosphere that has combined and about to fall to earth). This is brilliantly exciting and I couldn't put it down.

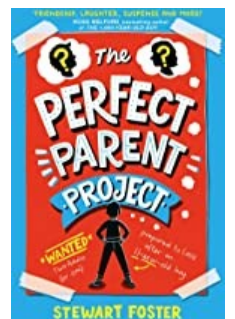


I love graphic novels, but some people feel that they don't count as proper books. This is the graphic novel that will convince everyone of the power of them. We follow the lives of two young refugees as they navigate life in a refugee camp. Will they be stuck there forever or will they be lucky?

'When Stars are Scattered' By Victoria Jamieson is based on Omar Mohamed's true story and the notes at the end fill in on the missing details. This is a highly emotive story that I implore everyone to read! But don't forget to keep some tissues handy, you may shed a tear or two!

Why wait for the perfect family to find you when you could start your own search to find the perfect parents to adopt you? Fed up with constantly moving from different foster families. Sam starts 'The Perfect Parent Project'. Can he find his dream family? Or does he just need to appreciate what is in front of him?

Stewart Foster has written a fantastic novel that will make you want to adopt every child without a family. Everyone loves a happy ending and this one will put a huge smile on your face!



Zillah Bethell's 'The Shark Caller' is a brilliant novel set in Papua New Guinea.

Blue Wing's parents were killed by an infamous shark and so she lives with the local shark caller. Their lives are rocked once again when Maple and her father move to the island from America and they are charged with looking after the new arrivals. Blue Wing and Maple don't exactly hit it off from the start, but their friendship grows and grows. The girls bring out new qualities in each other and they have adventures and make self discoveries.

There is a huge twist which I have to bite my tongue so that I don't let slip—read it and find out what it is!