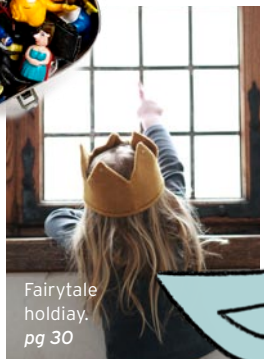




Outside the box design.
pg 4

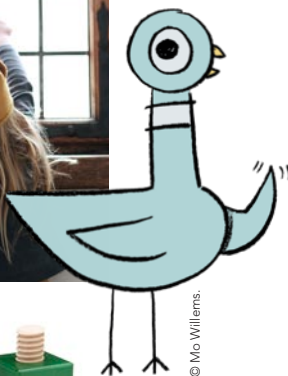


Fresh
fun with
plastic
toys.
pg 27



Fairytale
holdiaiy.
pg 30

Mo Willems:
kid-lit legend.
pg 37



© Mo Willems.



Nuts and bolts.
pg 9



Bright is
the word on
the streets
this autumn.
pg 19

Welcome

Everywhere I turn these days there's a little bundle on the way. Is it any wonder that babies are on my mind? If they're on yours too, you might be interested in our special feature on layettes. It's filled with helpful tips on all the garments you need to get your newborn through their first few weeks.

My own son (now 6) is growing before my very eyes, almost magically sprouting out of his t-shirts and jeans. That's not the only magic he can do. His current obsession with conjuring inspired 'Hocus Pocus' on page 17. You'll find lots of clever ideas for apprentice sorcerers, including the all-time classic rabbit-out-of-a-hat trick.

Littlies aren't left out when it comes to fun. Joel Henriques offers up a quick project – 'Fleece Play Squares' on page 40 – that's going to amaze you with the way it holds their interest. If you're feeling extra crafty, you'll find some neat things to do with those pesky plastic toys that multiply in your home on page 27.

Our featured illustrator this month is the legendary Mo Willems (page 37). If you haven't yet read one of Mo's books (and we find that hard to believe) then here's a good place to figure out which one you'll start with. Mo's sense of humour is infectious; so don't be surprised when you end up laughing along with your brood at bedtime.

What are your ingredients for a perfect holiday with the kids? Regular contributor, photographer Monika Elena shows us a family friendly side of Copenhagen on page 30 that may tip the balance in its favour for you.

Closer to home, our fashion feature this month is all about what's hip with the neighbourhood gang. Word on the street is that colour rules.

Jenny Lacey
Editor in Chief

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lmnop

LAUGH • MAKE • NURTURE • ORGANISE • PLAY



Perry & Indie in Sydney
Photographed by Ian MacPherson

ISSUE 14

lmnop.com.au



ALEXANDRENA PARKER

STREET SMARTS, PAGE 19

Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?

'A' for Alex.

Name a favourite childhood game.

The card game 'snap'.

Were you a tree climber or a reader?

Tree climber!

A childhood activity you wish you could still do.

I still do them all...

How would your parents describe you as a child?

Extremely talkative.

Favourite childhood toy?

Polly Pocket. I do still have it, but I've lost the little fairies that live inside.

Favourite book growing up?

Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney.



FILIPPA ASVED

ART OF PLASTIC, PAGE 27

Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?

It is the 'g' in lowercase and the Danish æ, (ae). I particularly love the g for its form.

Name a favourite childhood game.

Monopoly – and I had to win.

Were you a tree climber or a reader?

I was a tree climber. It was a bit dangerous and I loved it.

A childhood activity you wish you could still do.

I think I can do most of the things, but I would love to do it with the same kind of innocence and courage.

How would your parents describe you as a child?

Creative, imaginative, tomboy, loving, happy, caring, outgoing and loved to sing and dance.

Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?

A flopping doll. She survived until the mice had her for dinner some years ago. I also loved my doll house and spent hours decorating and making new stuff for the house. I still have most of the furniture.

Favourite book growing up?

Mis Med de Blå Øjne by Egon Mathiesen.



DARCY HEMLEY

MEET VALERIE GORDON, PAGE 7

Your favourite letter of the alphabet and why?

'E', because it's the first letter of my 4 year old's name.

Name a favourite childhood game.

Duck Duck Goose.

Were you a tree climber or a reader?

Tree climber.

A childhood activity you wish you could still do.

See favourite game above!

How would your parents describe you as a child?

Precocious, funny and very social.

Favourite childhood toy? And do you still have it?

My stuffed animal, "Bear" and yes – in storage.

Favourite book growing up?

The Velveteen Rabbit by Margery Williams.



ON THE COVER

Perry wears: **Sudo** Urban Jungle Jacket, A\$119, Mr Sling Shot tee, A\$39, and Submarine Jean, A\$89, sudo.com.au

Indie wears: **Sudo** Fireworks Jacket, A\$139, Carbon Copy Shirt, A\$69, sudo.com.au; **Quicksilver** Skinny Surf Blue Jean, A\$59.99, biird.com.au

Photographed by Ian MacPherson

Styled by Sunitra Martinelli

Produced by LMNOP Productions

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ODDS AND ENDS



Hoop-La

Looking for a way to display some of those enchanting toys people keep giving your child? Pop them on this whimsical circle shelf. Lovingly handcrafted from solid Australian White Ash or Blackwood and bent using 19th century Scandinavian technology, these sturdy pieces turn the practical into the fanciful. Create a scene using miniature Victorian dolls, or set out the alphabet. As they grow older, your child will no doubt have their own ideas for arranging their cherished belongings to suit their budding sense of style.

brideandwolfe.com.au



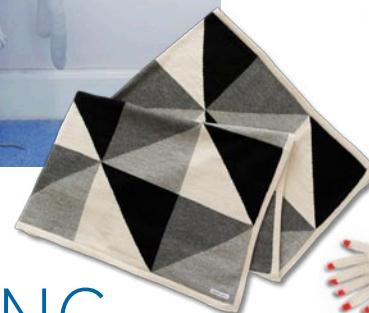
ODDLY ENDEARING

Looking at LuckyBoySunday's quirky summer collection is like visiting a pet shop – you want to take them all home. Who could resist the lopsided charm of Jazzman or a higgledy piggledy Favourite Place pillow? Designed in Denmark, every piece, from the Fancy Finger keyring to the Bobby Blanket comes with solid fair trade credentials. Which makes them even more welcome in your home.

Available at kidostore.com



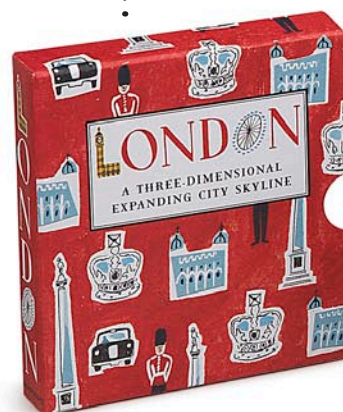
Text by ELIZABETH BENTLEY



LONDON SCENE

Revisit 12 famous London sights from Buckingham Palace to The Royal Observatory, stylishly illustrated in this cut-paper, fold-out citiscape.

London, Walker Books, A\$12.92, pagesandpages.com.au



ODDS AND ENDS



Text by ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Out of the box

There are some pretty exciting designs for kids' work and play spaces these days. French duo Agnès et Agnès have certainly raised the bar. Their new collection for kids was five years in the making and offers a fresh new take on the traditional toy box, desk, bookcase and bedside table. Using simple birch plywood and coloured cubes, they've deconstructed the elements of each piece and put them back together in a way that's reminiscent of Escher.

Visit agnesetagnes.com for details.



FIESTA FUN

Looking for a novel birthday decoration? These colourful fabric party decals from Pop and Lolli are a complete party pack, with balloons, bunting, presents and more. Match them with your choice of themed decal guests, also available online. They're pretty robust, so you can invite them next year too.

Congratulations! & Celebrations! Birthday Overlay,
Pop & Lolli, US\$160, popandlolli.com

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ORGANIC BABY
by Little Chipipi



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www.littleliving.com.au



Relative Confusion

Want to see how Dad looks in Grandma's skirt? Handmade from plantation forest wood, these six magnetic figures of fun split in two so you can mix and match kooky family combinations. How many crazy relations can you come up with?

Magnetic Wooden Family Puzzle, A\$34.95, tigertribe.com.au



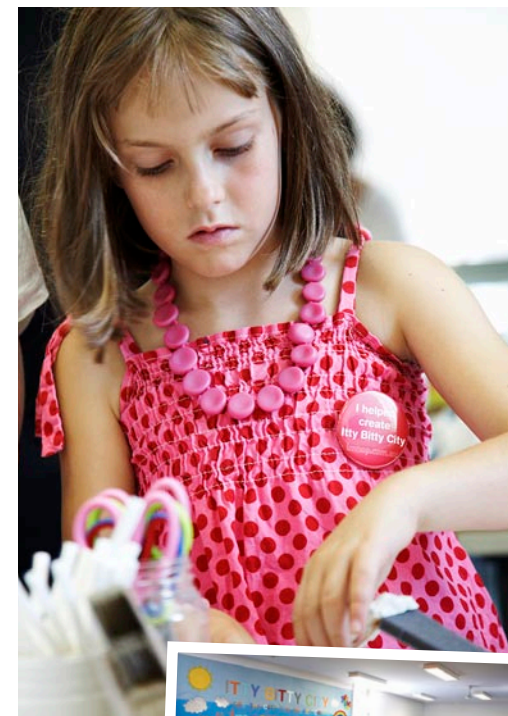
ONLINE EXTRA

WE BUILT THIS CITY

To help launch Art Month in Sydney in March, LMNOP invited kids and parents in the community to help create the Itty Bitty City.

With help from our very own Joel Henriques (Made by Joel) we kickstarted the City with a few iconic buildings like Luna Park and the Opera House. Our 'town planners' rose to the challenge magnificently, as you'll see from the pics of the City posted on our website. It was a lot of work, but everyone had a lot of fun, too. And it was wonderful to see how involved the kids were in creating their version of an urban space.

To see the full story, the pictures and to find out how you can make your own City at home, visit lmnop.com.au/2011/02/we-built-this-city/



Our 'town planners' got to work and helped create the Itty Bitty City in just 2 hours.



Photos: Ian MacPherson



PAPERKLIP design

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www.paperklipdesign.etsy.com

Meet Valerie Gordon

AUGUST'S MUM

Confectioner Valerie Gordon has some sage advice on how to make sure a family business doesn't sour your home life.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY Darcy Hemley



It's a family thing – Valerie's partner in work and life, Stan with their son August. Above right: Valerie's homemade preserves. Right: the couple outside their Los Angeles store, Valerie Confections.

LMNOP: How were you inspired to start your business?

VG: I started baking at the age of eight and making cookies was my favourite after school activity. My partner Stan and I co-founded Valerie Confections almost seven years ago, but it wasn't our first venture together. For years we made gifts together under the label "Tall and Small Productions" (for reasons that are very clear when you see us standing next to each other), our collaborations together were actually a wonderful testing ground.

LMNOP: What advice would you give to other parents trying to start a business?

VG: Structure a support system before starting your dream business! Solicit the assistance of friends and family who might be available for last minute babysitting, cushion your savings account and, if possible, schedule a professional house cleaner!

LMNOP: How do you juggle your business with parenthood?

VG: There is no magic formula. I have yet to meet a working mother who doesn't suffer from some level of guilt or anxiety over leaving her child for work. I try to have dedicated time with August...so no emails, phone calls, or recipe testing! If we only have 2-3 hours together each day I make him the absolute focus during that time.

LMNOP: What's your biggest challenge as a parent?

VG: Finding time for myself. It's incredibly difficult to prioritize alone time when there are constant demands from family and work. It's a cliché but I certainly "perform" better at both jobs when I give myself permission to take a break.

LMNOP: Describe your ideal family day.

VG: Our favorite family day would include a lazy morning with pancakes, eggs and the newspaper. Once we gather a bit of energy, we would head to the farmer's market for delicious, seasonal provisions. We might stop at an ice cream shop or a bookstore, then home for hours of leisurely cooking and noshing.

LMNOP: The best piece of advice you'll ever give to your son?

VG: Be honest with yourself.

Valerie Confections, valerieconfections.com



Favourite family destination

New York City.



Best bedtime read

The Donut Chef by Bob Staake.



My son looks forward to...

"Stay at home day!"

Styled by JENNY LACEY

Photographed by IAN MACPHERSON

Roll-up, roll-up

Let their imaginations run away to the circus every day with the vintage-style charm of Mae's *Faraway Circus* wall decals. They're easy to stick onto almost any surface without damage and they're reusable too. Not all pieces shown.

Faraway Circus, Mae, A\$119.95, lovemae.com.au



NUTS AND BOLTS

Safe and easy to use, bright sparks will love mastering their fine motor skills with these sturdy solid wood toys.

Nic Toys, A\$26.50
funformfunction.com



BEACH BUILDERS

Make your sandcastles the envy of the beach with these professional-looking tools. Includes a trowel, spreader and spirit level.

Spielstabil, A\$25.95, funformfunction.com

GO DOTTY

No cups, no brushes, no mess! Just pure arty fun in 6 rainbow hues. Simply invert bottles and press the tip on the paper to start dot painting.

Do-A-Dot Art!, US\$14.99
dotart.com



DOUGH-LICIOUS

Soft, non-crumbly dough that stands up to lots of creative play and lasts for up to a year stored in its container.

Mary's Softdough, A\$22.48
hocusadabra.com



CLEVER CRAYON

Ingeniously designed as an easy-to-grip first crayon for toddlers and a stackable toy to boot.

Playon Crayon, A\$17.45
studioskinky.com



PLAY

Toys, craft and stationery to tickle the imagination.



FLOWER CHILD

Made from felt and sweetly pretty, these tiny dolls are part of every little girl's fairytale setting.

A\$20 each, funformfunction.com

FISHY FUN

This clever memory game will test their powers of observation.

Dejeco, US\$13.98, amazon.com



BOTANICAL BRILLIANCE

These 6 vibrant colours are made from fruits, vegetables, flowers and spices with natural food-grade ingredients.

Glob, US\$24, globiton.com



TICKETS, PLEASE

Zoom around the floor with this iconic Melbourne tram and lift the roof to let the passengers off at each stop.

Make Me Iconic, A\$90, makemeiconic.com



THREE LITTLE DUCKS

Move over rubber ducky – these colourful ducks float and pour for endless bathtime fun – then stack neatly when the splashing's over. BPA, phthalate and PVC-free.

Skip Hop, A\$17.95, urbanbaby.com.au

PLAY



Leaf Lessons

Too cold to play in the leaves? These rustic, handmade puzzles let them enjoy nature indoors, instead. Match the six leaves – Oak, Dogwood, Beech, Ivy, Maple and Cottonwood – to their shapes and names. Measuring 8.5 x 11 inches, the puzzle uses non-toxic paints and is finished with homemade beeswax polish.

Wooden Leaf Puzzle, Just Hatched, US\$38, justhatchedtoys.com

Text by ELIZABETH BENTLEY

In the Bag

Like to lose the plastic? These handy Lunchskins take the landfill issues out of lunch on the go.

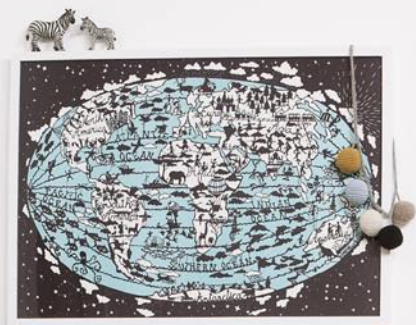


Made from quick-drying, certified food-safe cotton, these colourful *Lunchskins* are a hip alternative to plastic ziplock lunch bags. Just pop them in the dishwasher after each outing. Available in a range of vibrant colours, designs and sizes.

Reusable Sandwich Bags, from CA\$8.49 each, Lunchskins, raspberryykids.com

lmnop.com.au

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few weeks in a brave new world.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY IAN MACPHERSON
STYLED BY JENNY LACEY



IT'S A SNAP

Onesies like these won't ride up and make layering clothes a breeze. Have a selection of short, long-sleeved and sleeveless. This page: *Marquise* Bodysuits, from A\$13.95, marquise.com.au for stockists; *Vulli* Sophie the Giraffe, A\$33.95, babysgotstyle.com.au; Opposite page: *Marquise* Embroidered Baby Singlet, A\$8.95, marquise.com.au for stockists.

Gone are the days when you were expected to hand-sew the layette – your baby's first set of basic clothes and accessories. But that doesn't mean selecting what, and how much to buy isn't a daunting prospect for new mums.

The following guide should serve you (or the new mum you're buying for) well for the first few weeks. Of course, you don't have to confine yourself to basics – feel free to add in a pretty dress or a sweet set of overalls.

Sizing up. Babies start small and grow fast. If you're not sure, buy on the bigger side and they'll grow into it. Unless your baby is premature, three months is a safe bet. Start with sizing in the 0000 to 000 range.

Easy does it. Their fragile little bodies won't stand much fussing, so think about how simple each garment will be to put on and take off. Anything that ties up around the neck is a no-no (choking hazard). Go for easy fastenings like snap buttons and wrap-around or front-buttoned suits and nightdresses. Anything that does up at the back will drive you potty, so avoid them until your baby is able to sit up to be dressed.

Wrap it up. Muslin wraps! You can never have too many of them. As swaddling, sun-shield, breastfeeding modesty shawl and even impromptu wash-cloth, they are officially mother's best friend. Choose a heavier fabric for winter-born bubs.

Top to toe. Don't forget the hat. Soft stretch cotton beanies or pilot's caps with ear flaps provide good protection from both winter chills and summer sun. Socks are worth including, but if it's chilly, it's much easier to keep them toasty in a footed studsuit.

Softly, softly. Your baby's skin is sensitive, so look for good quality brands like Marquise for their first garments. You want fine, breathable, 100% cotton with an elastic stretch and a good weave that won't lose its shape. And check inside too. You don't want the inside seams to rub. Flat-locked seams make sure there's minimal skin irritation. Lastly, absolutely everything should be machine washable.

Sizing

0000 – newborn to 3 months

000 – 3 months

00 – 6 months

0 – 9 months

1 – 12 months

2 – 24 months

Layette List

6 singlets

6 – 8 snap button bodysuits

2 spencers

2 – 4 footed and footless leggings

2 romper suits

2 footed studsuits

2 sleeping bags

2 nightgowns

Accessories

2 beanies

2 pairs of socks

2 pairs of booties & mittens

1 cardigan

Muslin Wraps

All items are from the Marquise Essentials collection unless otherwise noted. Visit marquise.com.au for stockists.



Singlet



Bodysuit



Spencer



Footed legging



Romper suit



Footed studsuit



Sleeping bag



Nightgown



Beanie



Socks



Muslin wraps



Booties & Mittens

Weegoamigo, A\$9.95 each,
urbanbaby.com.au



TOP AND TAIL

Protect new little heads from sun, wind and rain without itching with a cotton cap. Bloomers are a sweet choice if it's warm. Little booties make a stylish alternative to socks when you're going out. *Marquise* Beanie, A\$6.95, *Marquise* Bloomers with frill, A\$12.95, *Marquise* Booties, A\$8.95, marquise.com.au for stockists; *Mastro Geppetto* Coccio rattle, ¥2,940, mastrogeppetto.jp

TEXT BY ELIZABETH BENTLEY



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charmed, i'm sure.

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fabric wall stickers
for boys & girls...

www.lovemae.com.au



Shake it up

Next time you're in the mood for crafty fun, these plant-based paints get things started in a jiffy. Simply fill the jar with water and shake. It blends and thickens instantly into 2–4 oz of paint. Choose from a range of botanical hues – Lemon Verbena, Blueberry, Pomegranate and Basil.

Easy Shake Jars, Glob, box of 4 colours, US\$20, globiton.com

★ Hocus Pocus ★

Everyone wants to be a master of illusions these days. Here are a few items to put on your junior magician's shopping list.

Photographed by **IAN MACPHERSON**

Text by **ELIZABETH BENTLEY**



HAT TRICK

Every magician needs something to pull out of his top hat. This puppet works a treat.

Folkmanis Puppet, A\$44.95,
kaleidoscope.com.au





BUNNY ACT

Made from natural fibres, Balthazar the Magician and Mirabelle, his lovely knitted assistant, know how to warm an audience.

Blathazar the Magician & Mirabelle, US\$46 each
blablakids.com

CONJUROR'S CAPE

As every magician knows, the magic won't happen in just any old outfit.

Little Heros Wizard Cape
A\$32.95, monkeypuzzletoy.com.au



TRICKY TUMBLER

See if you can figure out how this mysterious glass produces a hanky or other object from it while it's clearly empty.

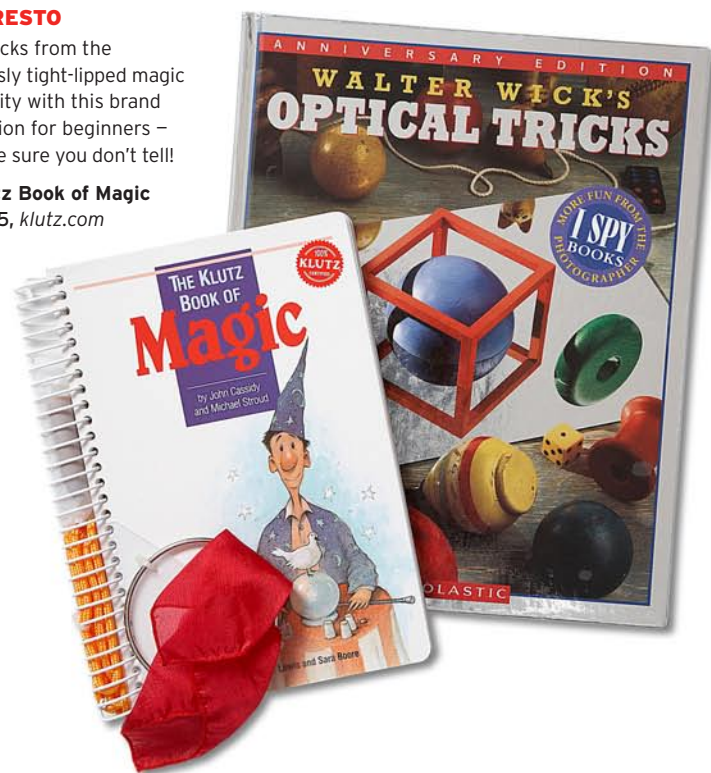
Magic Mirror Glass, A\$9.95
australiangeographic.com.au



HEY PRESTO

Learn tricks from the notoriously tight-lipped magic community with this brand new edition for beginners – and make sure you don't tell!

The Klutz Book of Magic
US\$16.95, klutz.com



ABRACADABRA

The most miraculous thing about magic is the way it helps kids improve coordination, concentration and confidence. This beautifully presented wooden set includes 10 easy to perform tricks, including secret silks and the disappearing ball.

Deluxe Magic Set, A\$79.95, entropy.com.au



SEEING IS BELIEVING

Baffle your brain into seeing things with this amazing optical illusions book.

Walter Wick's Optical Tricks
US\$10.19, amazon.com





Street Smarts

Colour rules on the streets of your local neighbourhood this season.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **ALEXANDRENA PARKER**
STYLED BY **SUNITRA MARTINELLI**

Oobi Percy striped sweater, A\$54.95, oobi.com.au
MT by Mini Treasure Kids Joshua jean, A\$89.95,
minitreasurekids.com Chipe gymboots, A\$79.95,
kidostore.com



This page: **Mini Rodini** Stripe dress, A\$65, kidostore.com; **big by Fiona** leggings, A\$37.95, biird.com.au; **Rare Rabbit** beads, A\$19.95, rarerabbit.com


Opposite page: **Purebaby** cardigan, A\$54.95, biird.com.au; **DKNY** cotton elastane top, A\$75, call +612 9269 0749 for stockists; **Purebaby** skirt, A\$44.95, biird.com.au; **Soonca** hairclip, A\$7.95, soonca.com; **Huggalugs** Heartstrings leg warmers, A\$15, huggalugs.com.au; **Starfire** rollerskates, A\$119.95, skaterhq.com.au




Minti Bat hoodie, A\$84.95, and **Soft Gallery** Carla over size tee, A\$109, both kidostore.com; **Knuffle Kid** Lolly Leg leggings, A\$28, knufflekid.com; **Rare Rabbit** Cameo necklace, A\$49.95, rarerabbit.com



big by Fiona Tibetan style top, AS\$69.95, lace tee, AS\$32.95, and rib leggings, AS\$32.95, all bird.com.au; **Soonca** Apple hairclip, AS\$7.95 a pair, soonca.com; **Tip Toey Joey** shoes, AS\$99, jussyfeet.com.au



Minti Ziggy Bear long sleeve tee, A\$39.95, kidostore.com; **Oobi** Classic jean, worn with stylist's own chain, A\$44.95, oobi.com.au; **Chipie** gymboot, A\$79.95, kidostore.com; **Toetum** denim cap, A\$19, shorties.com.au; **Little Tom** dinosaur brooch, A\$9.90, rarerabbit.com



Soft Gallery Coco dress, A\$145, kidostore.com; **Fiona** Lace tee, A\$37.95, biird.com.au; **Sunbird** Pemba Pants, €33.75, sunbirdkids.com; **Chillikids** Fiona boot, A\$89.95, chillikids.com.au; **big by Fiona** multi colour feather headband, A\$39.95, biird.com.au

Twin standing: **Fred Bare** Space t-shirt, A\$44.95, and **Quicksilver** jeans, A\$59.95, both biird.com.au; **Little Nutty by Nutcase** Silver Fly helmet, A\$99, kidostore.com

Twin sitting: **Munster** Trekker long sleeve tee, A\$49.95, kidostore.com; **Little Rivet Jeans** Peg Leg jeans, A\$69.95, littlerivetjeans.com; **Nutcase** Street Candy Swirl helmet, A\$99, kidostore.com; **Diesel Kids** high-top, A\$135, fussyfeet.com.au; Both scooters courtesy of TC & Mel.



Sunbird Hunter's Sweater, €30,
sunbirdkids.com; **The Good Surf by**
Fred Bare jean, A\$86.95, biird.com.au;
Little Tom dinosaur necklace, A\$19.95,
rarerabbit.com; **Adidas** street shoe,
A\$60, fussyfeet.com.au



DKNY leather jacket,
A\$680, call +612 9269 0749
for stockists; **big by Fiona**
multi colour feather headband,
A\$39.95, biird.com.au;
Rare Rabbit leather cuff
with chocolate flower,
A\$19.95, rarerabbit.com





This page: **Scotch Shrunk** sweater, A\$99.95, biird.com.au; **Munster** Bleaches jeans, A\$74.95, munsterkids.com.au

Opposite page: **Mini & Maximus** Feather Crown tee, US\$34, miniandmaximus.com; **Fiona** Baby Fine tee, A\$36.95, biird.com.au; **Missie Munster** Baggy Pant, A\$49.95, munsterkids.com.au; **Sportsgirl** Navaho Feather Suede necklace, A\$19.95, sportsgirl.com.au



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Created by **FILIPPA ASVED**



ART OF PLASTIC

Instead of breaking your ankle on those amusing little plastic toys that seem to breed in your home, why not make them into something fun?

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **SOFIE HELSTED**
STYLED BY **FILIPPA ASVED**

lmnop.com.au



A.



B.



C.

Here are three simple ideas to inspire the contemporary designer in you. Collect all your plastic figures, round up a few extra supplies and you're ready to get started.

A. MARVELLOUS MOBILE

Supplies:

Plastic figures

Gold spray paint

Thin metal string

Beads

How to: Spray the figures with gold paint and leave them to dry. Next, arrange the order of the mobile with the heaviest items at the bottom. Mix your figures, as you like, and add a splash of colour by placing a bead or two in-between. Start by wrapping the last figure with the thin metal string (the one that will hang in the bottom) and add the rest.

B. FIGURES FRAMED

Supplies:

Plastic figures

A frame (this one is from IKEA)

Cardboard canvas

Spray paint

Glue gun

How to: Set out all your figures inside an old cardboard box. Paint all the figures in the same colour using spray paint. The box will keep the paint from spreading everywhere. When they're dry, arrange them on the cardboard canvas the way you want them to be displayed. Glue your plastic figures on using a glue gun and then frame and hang your modern art on the wall.

C. PRETTY JEWELS

Supplies:

Plastic figures

Fishing line

Beads

How to: Decide the way you want the figures to hang on your necklace. Once you've got them in order, wrap the string around each figure to secure tightly. You could intersperse beads with the figures if you like.

Got a few hundred plastic figurines hanging around? Here's a novel way to play with them.



Text by **ELIZABETH BENTLEY**

Photographed by IAN MACPHERSON



All Mapped Out

Visit Africa in an afternoon and Budapest before bedtime. With this cool monochromatic World Map wall poster, kids can roam the globe and plan new adventures every day. Stickers sold separately.

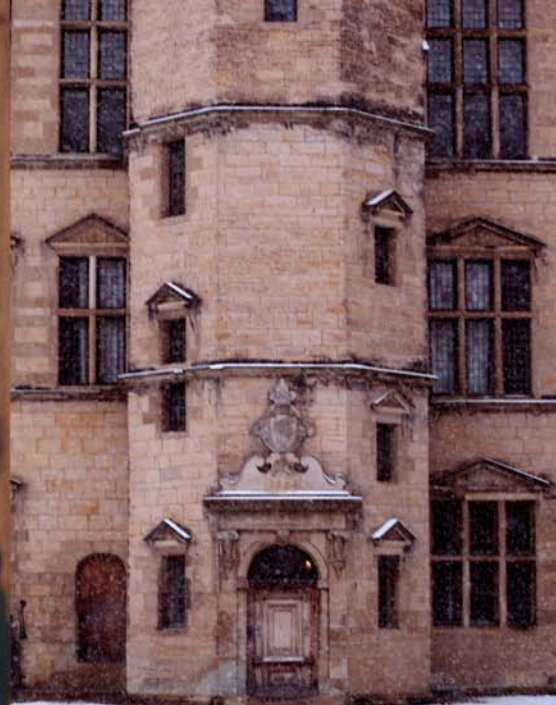
World Map poster, A\$22, Country Sticker Sets, A\$6.95 each,
studioskinky.com



FAIRYTALE KINGDOM

A family trip to the land of Hans Christian Andersen is every bit as magical as his stories.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **Monika Elena**
TEXT BY **Elizabeth Bentley**



Kronberg Castle



*Above right:
Ornate tiles
at Rosenberg
Castle. Right:
The Little
Mermaid.*



It was the home of one of the greatest storytellers the world has ever known, and provided the inspiration for one of the greatest playwrights. If you ever wondered whether Copenhagen was worth a trip, then wonder no more. It's a place where imaginations run wild.

Come summer, the parks and gardens come alive with locals and tourists basking in the late evening sunshine. One of the continent's oldest pleasure gardens, the Tivoli, throngs with concert-goers, thrillseekers and nature lovers out for a stroll. Cafés spill onto the streets and the national obsession with ice cream reaches a fever pitch.

But even in winter, Copenhagen is a haven of delights. Since a good many months are spent in sub-zero conditions, the Danes have perfected the art of entertaining children indoors. Children are welcomed and catered for in some of the finest galleries and museums in Europe.

So don't be shy. Your own Copenhagen fairytale awaits.



*The gardens at
Rosenberg Castle.*

TRAVEL WITH KIDS



Left: The Circus Museum offers hours of dress-up fun.
Below: Louisiana Museum of Modern Art.



See

Kronberg Castle

3000 Helsingør, Denmark

Phone: +45 4921 3078, kronborg.dk

The setting for Shakespeare's greatest play, this impressive Renaissance castle stirs the imaginations of young and old. Kids will love hearing about the legend of Holger Danske, the stone figure who, legend has it, will come alive when Denmark is threatened by a foreign enemy.

Circus Museum

Hovedporten 6, 2650 Hvidovre

Phone: +45 3649 0030, circusmuseum.dk

Watch them juggle or act the clown at this fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the greatest show on earth. Come away with great memories and wild stories from the circus world.

Tivoli

A/S 3 Vesterbrogade, DK - 1630

Phone: +45 3315 1001, tivoli.dk

You'll find it hard to tear yourselves away from the delights of one of the oldest amusement parks in the world. Older kids will thrill to the wild rides, while littlies will love the Dragon Boats and the beautiful park. The concert halls and theatres will satisfy the hungriest of culture hounds.

Louisiana Museum of Modern Art

Gl. Strandvej 13, 3050 Humlebæk

Phone: +45 4919 0791, louisiana.dk

Art isn't just for adults. The Louisiana provides space for kids to explore their own creative side with a range of stimulating activity workshops. While they're busy honing their talents, you can discover some of the most exciting contemporary art in the world today.



Riding high at the Tivoli.

Clowning around at the Circus Museum in Hvidovre.



Watch them juggle or act the clown at this fascinating behind-the-scenes look at the greatest show on earth.



Make a name for yourself in LEGO at the Louisiana Museum in Humlebæk.

See

SMK: National Gallery of Denmark

Sølvgade 48-50, DK-1307 Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3374 8494, smk.dk

One of the best things about Danish culture is that it includes all ages. Here, there's a special Children's Museum of Art, with exhibitions at children's eye level. The permanent collections also have special Children's Stations where kids can explore art in new, kid-centric ways.

Experimentarium

Tuborg Havnevej 7 – 2900, Hellerup

Phone: +41 3927 3333, experimentarium.dk

Weather not too welcoming? This techno-savvy museum offers hours of absorbing hands-on investigations into what makes things work. Sail a ship through a series of locks, pump water or build a house with a big crane.

Eat

Royal Cafe

Amagertorv 6, 1160 Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3312 1122, theroyalcafe.dk

They need food, you need retail therapy. This quirky establishment combines both. Inside there's an eclectic décor the owners call 'Funky Baroque' and a fun fusion of traditional Danish smørrebrød and sushi called Smushie as well as homemade Danish cakes and desserts. While they're filling up, you can get your fill of some of the best Danish brands, including Georg Jensen and Bang & Olufsen.

The á la Menthe

Radhusstræde 5 B, Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3333 0038

You may wonder what a Moroccan teahouse is doing so close to the North Pole, but once inside and downstairs in this snug, cushion-covered homage to the Orient, you'll be too interested in sampling their Moroccan delicacies and sipping some refreshing mint tea to care.



The Royal Cafe



Above: The Danish cakes are hard to resist at The Royal Cafe. Left: Mint tea at The á la Menthe.



Right: Hands-on learning at Experimentarium.



Poster art at SMK.



SMK: National Gallery of Denmark.

This page: Taking inspiration from nature at the Louisiana Museum. Opposite page clockwise: Pedal power is big in Copenhagen; A slice of the Orient at The á la Menthe; enjoy a slice of heaven at La Glace; flowers in Stroget.





Groovy wallpaper
at Retro Villa



Cupcakes at The Royal Cafe



Breakfast at La Glace.



La Glace

Skoubogade 3, 1158 Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3314 4646, laglace.dk

Any visit to Copenhagen must include a stop at La Glace. Founded in the middle of the city in 1870, it's the oldest and arguably the best confectionery in Denmark. Breakfasts are a treat, but many wait until later in the day when they can indulge in one of the over-the-top cakes and a mug of sublime hot chocolate.

Shop

Retro Villa

Badstuestræde 17, 1209 Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3315 4058, retrovilla.dk

Bring home more than just memories. How about some original retro wallpaper from Retro Villa? Owner and designer Mette Helena Rasmussen has developed a unique, vivid style that's just perfect for kids. You'll also find beautiful handmade accessories in-store.

Crème de la Crème à la Edgar

Møntergade 10, DK-1116 Copenhagen K

Phone: +45 3336 1818, cremedelacremealaedgar.dk

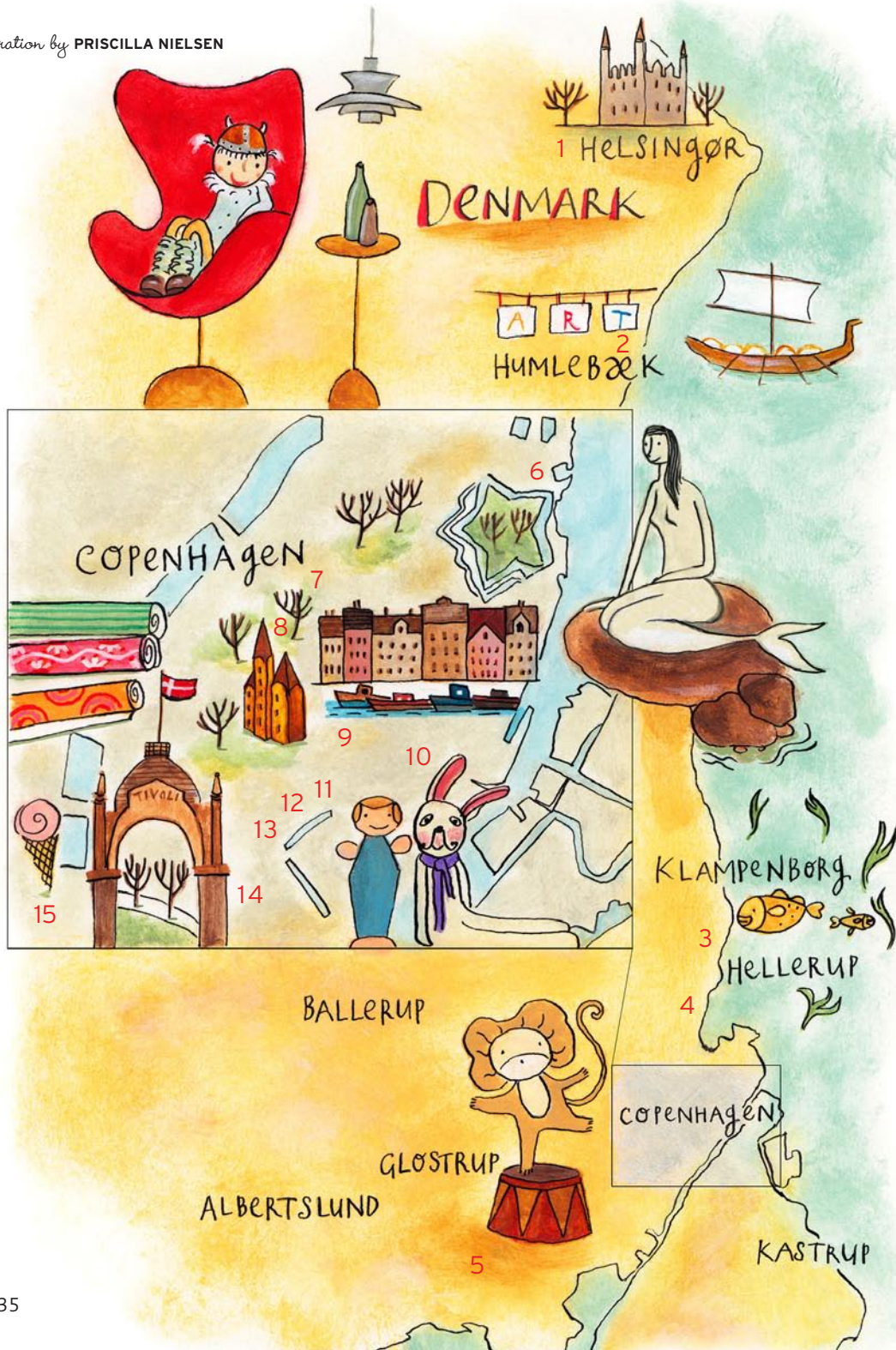
Put this store on the top of your shopping list. It's a downstairs space selling the most beautiful handmade lovelies. Browse some of the world's most sought-after kids brands, including Holly's Baby, Marimekko and Finger in the Nose, as well as treasures designed by owner Helle Høgsbro Krag herself.



Left & below:
Crème de la
Crème à la
Edgar.



Handmade treasures at
Crème de la Crème à la Edgar



CITY TOUR

COPENHAGEN

1. Kronberg Castle

3000 Helsingør, Denmark
+45 4921 3078, kronborg.dk
Hamlet's Castle in all its Renaissance glory.

2. Louisiana Museum

Gl. Strandvej 13, 3050 Humlebæk, +45 4919 0791 louisiana.dk
Modern art that lets kids get their hands dirty.

3. Denmarks Akvarium

Kavalerigården 1 DK-2920, Charlottenlund +45 3962 3283 denmarksakvarium.dk
Spend an afternoon with the life aquatic.

4. Experimentarium

Tuborg Havnevej 7 – 2900 Hellerup, +41 3927 3333 experimentarium.dk
A fun, practical approach to exploring the way the world works.

5. Circus Museum

Hovedporten 6, 2650 Hvidovre, +45 3649 0030 circusmuseum.dk
Make 'em laugh at this homage to the circus arts.

6. Little Mermaid

Langelinie Allé 17, 2100 +45 3325 7400 visitdenmark.com
Created in honour of the city's most famous citizen, Hans Christian Andersen.

7. SMK: National Gallery

Sølvgade 48-50, DK-1307 +45 3374 8494, smk.dk
Enjoy children's workshops and special kids exhibitions.

8. Rosenberg Castle

Øster Voldgade 4A, 1350 +45 3315 3286, dkks.dk
Go castle-hopping in the centre of Copenhagen.

9. Canal Tours

Nyhavn 3, DK-1051 +45 3296 3000 canaltours.com
A relaxing way to see the sights, including the Little Mermaid.

10. Crème de la Crème à la Edgar

Møntergade 10, DK-1116 +45 3336 1818 cremedelacremealaedgar.dk
Possibly one of the cutest kids' stores on the planet.

11. Royal Cafe

Amagertorv 6, 1160 +45 3312 1122 theroyalcafe.dk
Ever had a smushie? Here's the place to try one.

12. Retro Villa

Badstuestræde 17, 1209 +45 3315 4058, retrovilla.dk
Funky wallpaper isn't the only reason to stop by this cool design store.

13. A la Menthe

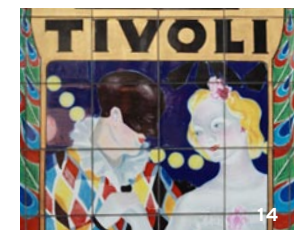
Radhusstræde 5 B +45 3333 0038
Rest between shopping jaunts with a relaxing mint tea.

14. Tivoli

A/S 3 Vesterbrogade DK – 1630, +45 3315 1001 tivoli.dk
Take a wild ride, meet a character from a fairytale or enjoy a concert.

15. Paradis

Gasværksvej 2, 1656 +45 3535 7902 paradis-icecream.com
Heaven-sent for ice cream lovers of all ages.



GOOD VINTAGE

In today's mass produced society, it's nice to find places where the unique, the quirky and the authentic can live again. Whether it's an original 60s dress, a lovingly restored desk and chair, or a toy from your parents' generation, your child will have as much fun sifting through this online vintage store for treasures as you do.

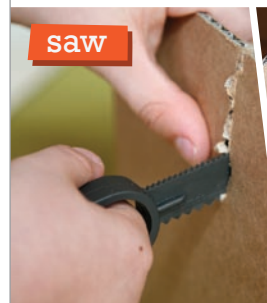
littlevintage.fr

Photographed by M.CROTTO



reusable connectors,
endless playful possibilities

create things from
the stuff around you



saw



punch



connect



angle

madeo™



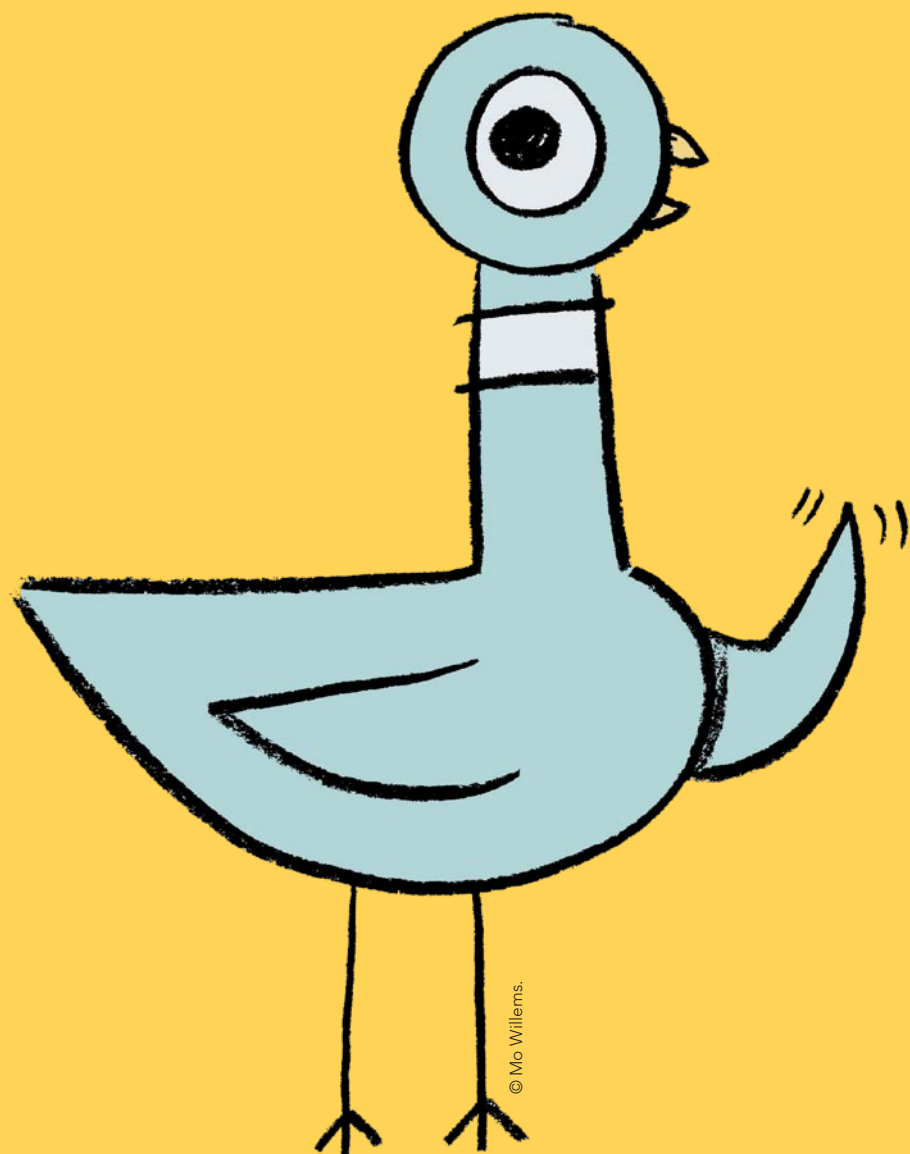
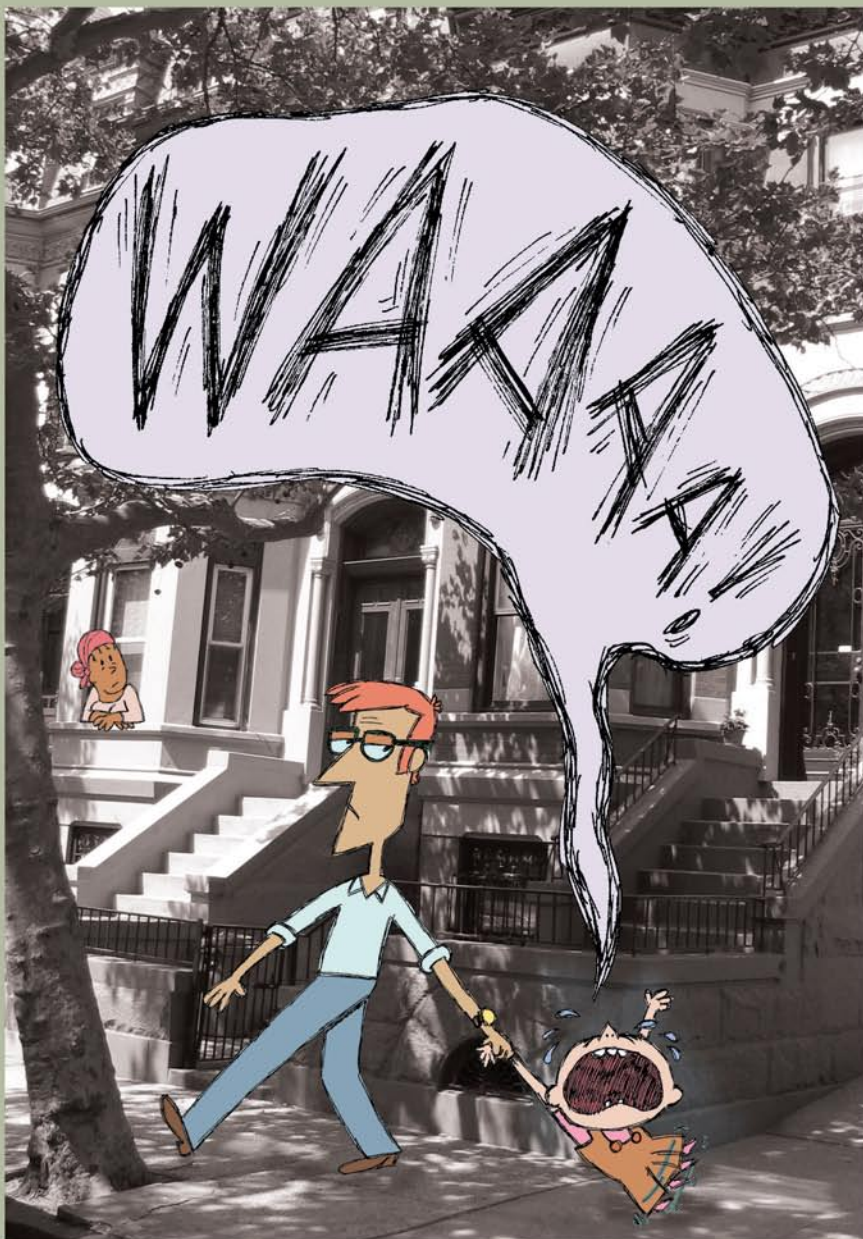


Photo: Marty Umans

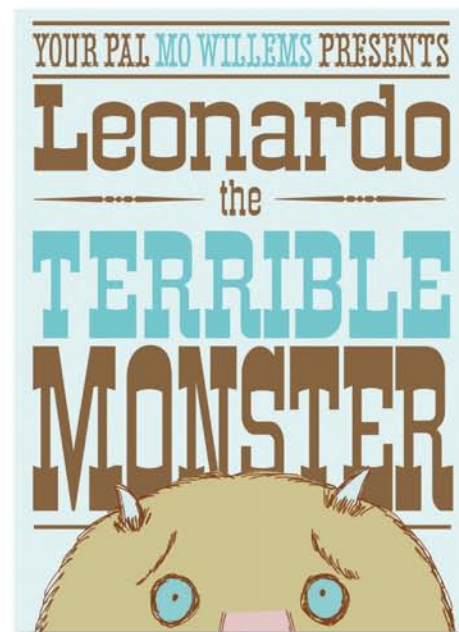
MO'S MAGIC

Whether it's a *Sesame Street* sketch or a song in gibberish, award-winning author and illustrator Mo Willems has an uncanny ability to tickle a child's funnybone.

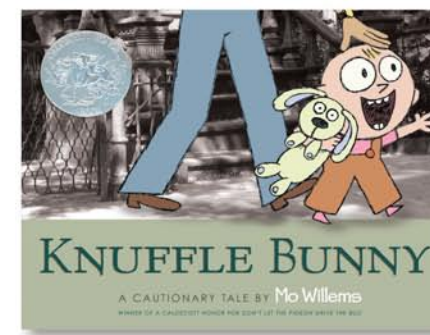
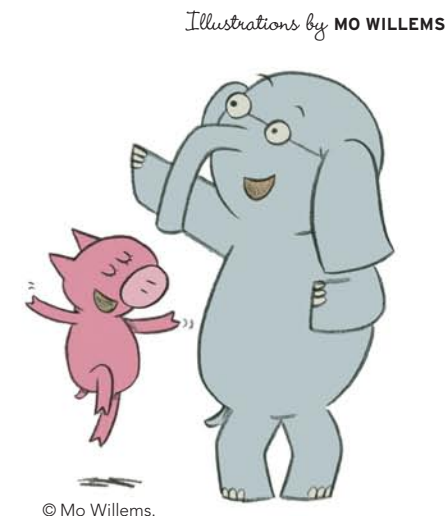
TEXT BY Elizabeth Bentley



Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale. © Mo Willems.



Top left: A truly terrible monster befriends a nervous boy. Above: Willems' version of the Odd Couple – a bold piggie and a nervous elephant. Right: An award-winning lost-and-found tale.



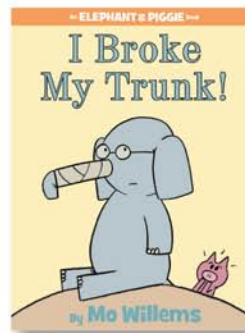
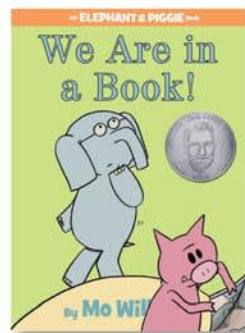
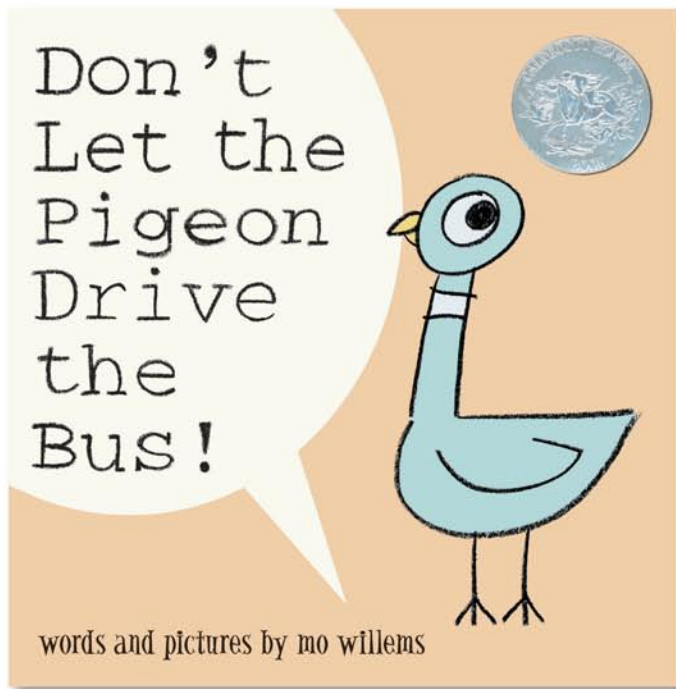
“You have to write about jealousy, love, hatred, laundromats – really, the basic core emotions.”

According to award-winning illustrator and author Mo Willems, there's a lot of storytelling juice in ears.

His bestselling book character, and now star of the hit musical *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Musical* started life as Knuffle Bear. Sadly, Bear just couldn't handle the range of emotions required of an inanimate stuffed toy. By adding long ears, Knuffle came alive – able to look surprised, sad, or even ashamed.

It's Willems' unique way of expressing ideas that has made him a favourite with children and parents alike. Not to mention the critics. Willems' shelves now groan under the weight of three Caldecott Honors, two Theodor Seuss Geisel Medals, two Carnegie Medals, six Emmys and a Geisel Honor.

Willems earned his kid-lit stripes as a writer and animator on the legendary educational TV show, *Sesame Street*. There, he says he learned two things: how to write for children and that he liked doing it.



Above: The first in Mo's popular book series about a pigeon. Right: Early readers love the Elephant & Piggie series.

Mo's Cast of Characters:

Amanda & Her Alligator

Elephant & Piggie

Knuffle Bunny

Pigeon

Edwina the Dinosaur

Leonardo the Terrible
Monster

Wilbur the Naked
Mole Rat

Big Frog

Cat the Cat

"You have no cultural modifiers. Your audience, these people, have not been around long enough to know who the Beatles are, or what the Arc de Triomphe is, or the difference between a Cadillac and a Subaru," he told local Massachusetts television in a recent interview. "You have to write about jealousy, love, hatred, laundromats – really, the basic core emotions."

He began writing children's books in 2003, with the *New York Times* bestselling *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* Since then, he's produced a small library of comic picture books, including the *Elephant & Piggie* early reader series; *Edwina, The Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct*; and *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed*.

Today, Willems has swapped the urban dash of Brooklyn, New York for the sleepy charms of small town Massachusetts, where he lives with his family and gets to walk his daughter to school.



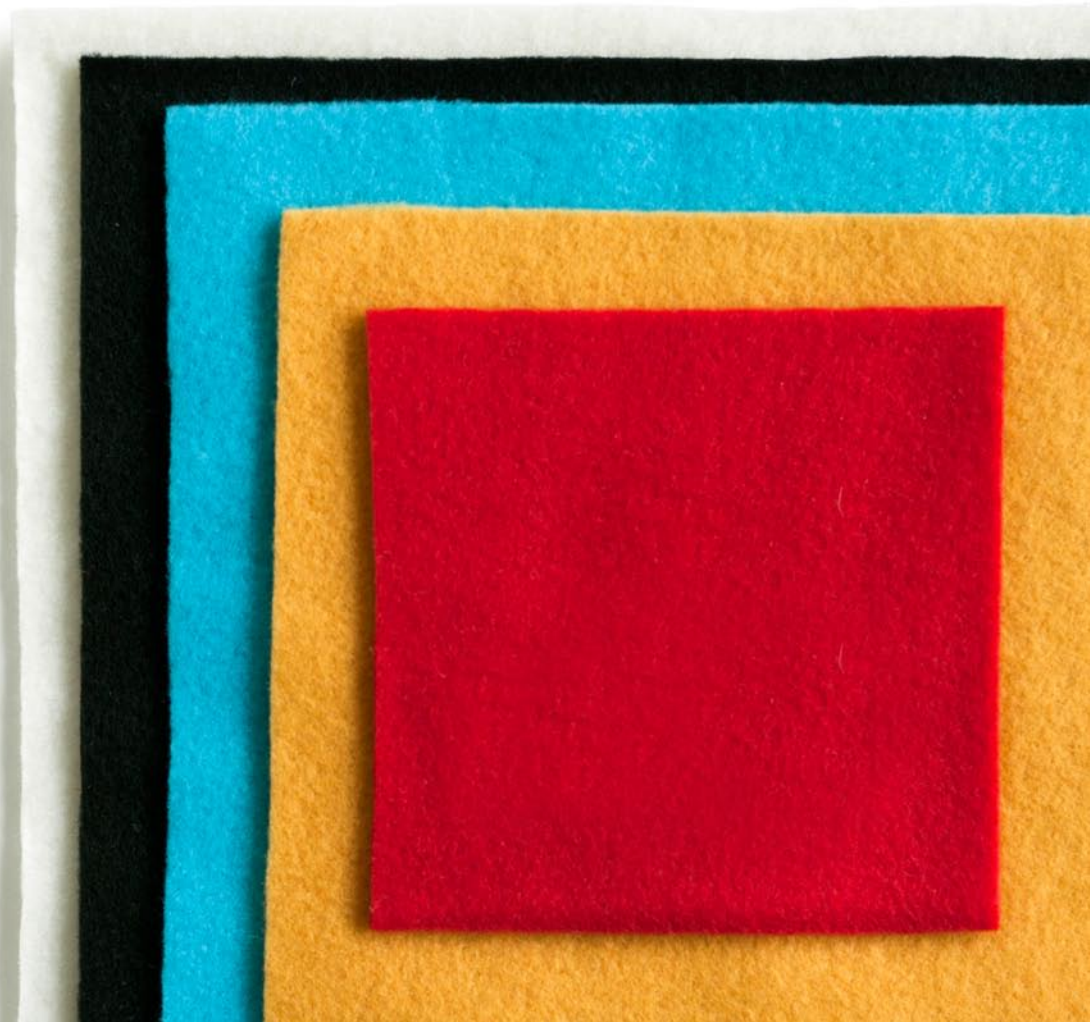
Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale. © Mo Willems.

fleece play squares

made by joel

They say the simple things in life are often the best. Here's proof – an easy craft project that hits the bullseye with the littlies.

CREATED BY JOEL HENRIQUES



www.sudo.com.au
03 9555 4489



materials

Fleece or felt pieces

Scissors

how-to

Ridiculously simple to make, these colourful fabric squares are lots of fun for little ones to stack, pull apart and stick together in different ways.

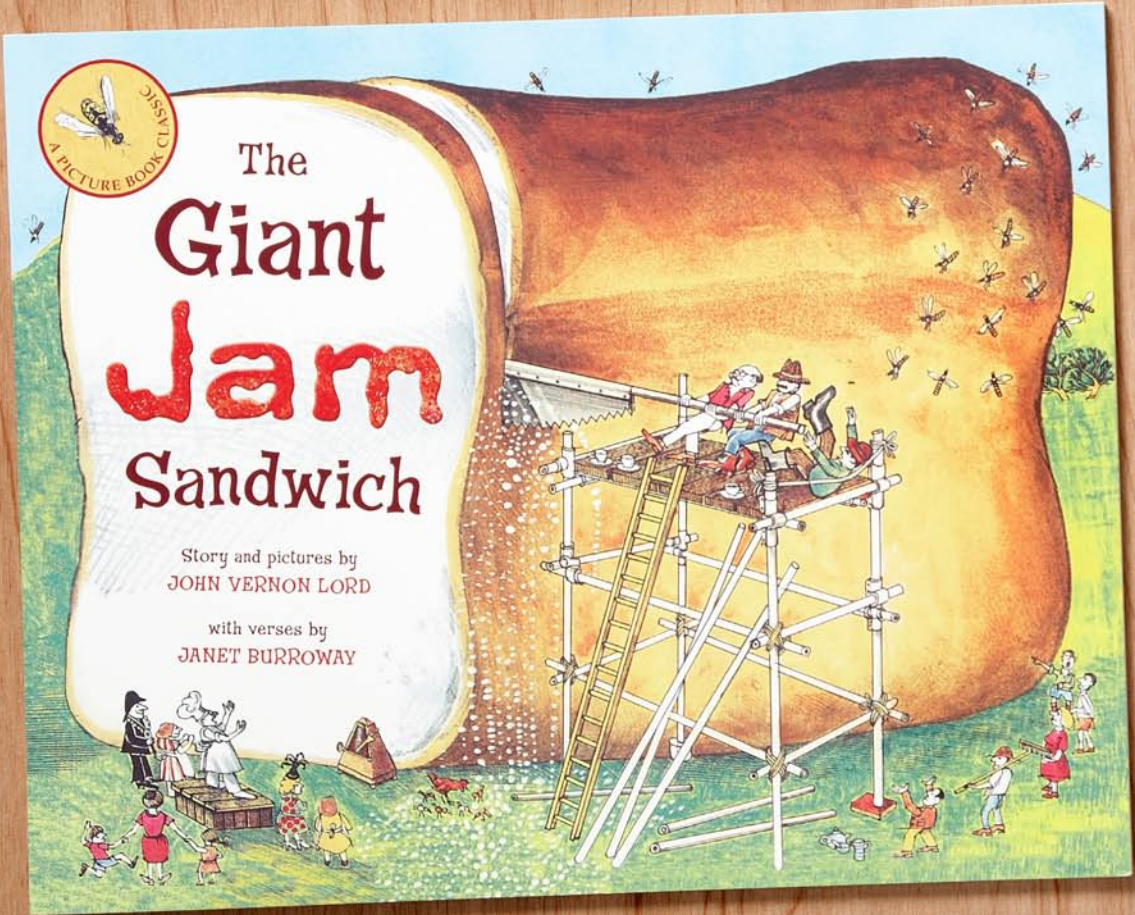
one. Gather five different kinds of fleece in a range of colours (felt will work just as well).

two. Cut out different square sizes so the squares will nest on top of each other.

three. Stack your fleece squares together and let your toddler loose on them.

Visit madebyjoel.blogspot.com to see more great craft ideas made by Joel.





RETURN DATE

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FROM THE LIBRARY OF
 LMNOP

The Giant Jam Sandwich

by John Vernon Lord
 with verses by Janet Burroway
 A\$17.95, dymocks.com.au

A true English classic, still in print nearly forty years after it was first published, this is the sort of picture book that will be read and reread for generations to come.

The story centres on the citizens of the rural English village of Itching Down. We are told, with wonderful rhyming couplets by American professor and novelist Janet Burroway that, one day, the town was invaded by no less than four million wasps! An urgent town meeting is convened to discuss the scourge and the town baker (a man named Bap) comes up with a genius plan to get rid of them by making an industrial-sized strawberry jam sandwich to use as bait.

And there you have it: cleverness, hard work and collaboration are the order of the day. Along the way there is much dancing and jubilation and hidden treats for those who like to pour over every scene – like the unlucky trio who are harangued and chased over almost every page. The deceptively simple illustrations are endearing and Burroway’s rhyme scheme is flawless and funny. It all makes for the impression that Itching Down would be a very nice place to live. Indeed, it’s a nice place for repeat visits, as any child-grown will tell you as they settle in to share it with a new generation of book lovers.

LEFTOVERS



Photo: Nabil Elderkin

CAMEO KIDS

These sweet, contemporary takes on the old-fashioned Victorian cameo capture the innocence of childhood in the medium as well as the moment. Ordering a custom portrait of your child is easy-peasy – just email your photos through with the relevant details and decide whether you want to receive it as a print or a PDF. Creator Ellen loves to discuss ideas too – email her directly at info@happythought.co.uk

Custom Silhouette Portraits, from US\$27, etsy.com/shop/happythought



Art House

You don't have to schlepp to the local gallery every weekend to introduce your youngsters to art. Online outfit Little Collector has persuaded a clutch of world-class artists to create limited edition prints to spark active young imaginations. Artists include legendary designer Cynthia Rowley, Margaret Morrison and Bo Bartlett. Simply choose the size and frame if you want one – and make some space on the wall. There are so many great prints to decide between, your kids might have their own little collection before long.

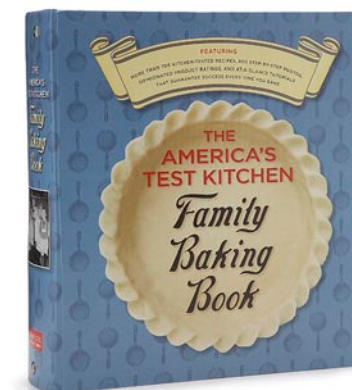
Visit littlecollector.com to see the entire range.

Above: *Fisher Price People* by Margaret Morrison; Bottom: *Magical Thinking* by Bo Bartlett, both from US\$40.

BAKER'S DELIGHT

Wish you could knock out a batch of cookies for an afternoon play-date without breaking a sweat? The America's Test Kitchen Family Baking Book has more than 700 foolproof, step-by-step recipes to make all your baking dreams come true. Every recipe has been tested as many as 20 or 30 times, and they range from basic to more complex, so there's plenty of inspiration for beginners and more experienced cooks. With a wealth of photos and troubleshooting tips on common baking problems, the Family Baking Book is 100% user-friendly. Your home will be filled with delicious aromas (and the sounds of satisfied munching) in no time at all.

The America's Test Kitchen Family Baking Book, **US\$34.95**, amazon.com



MINI COOL

Forward-thinking design outfit Mini & Maximus knows just what gets noticed in the playground – fun, edgy imagery and earth-conscious ingredients. Each year, founders Megan Villa and Sophie St-Onge work with different artists to produce original ideas for the brand (and they're always on the lookout for fresh blood). Their latest collection once again highlights their creative approach to wearable art, with funky, age-appropriate prints on bamboo and cotton or 100% organic cotton tees and tanks. Kids can even decorate their bedroom walls with posters of their favourite design.

miniandmaximus.com

LMNOP PARTNER DIRECTORY

