



NEON  SQUID

# RIGHTS GUIDE

SPRING 2024

  
MACMILLAN  
Children's Books



## At Neon Squid, we believe the best stories are the real ones.

As part of the NASA Artemis missions, humans are heading back to the Moon. Hopefully, stowed away in their rocket will be a copy of *How to Survive on the Moon*. This witty survival guide is written by astrophysicist Joalda Morancy, who, when not writing books, is working on the actual lunar lander that will take the astronauts to the surface!

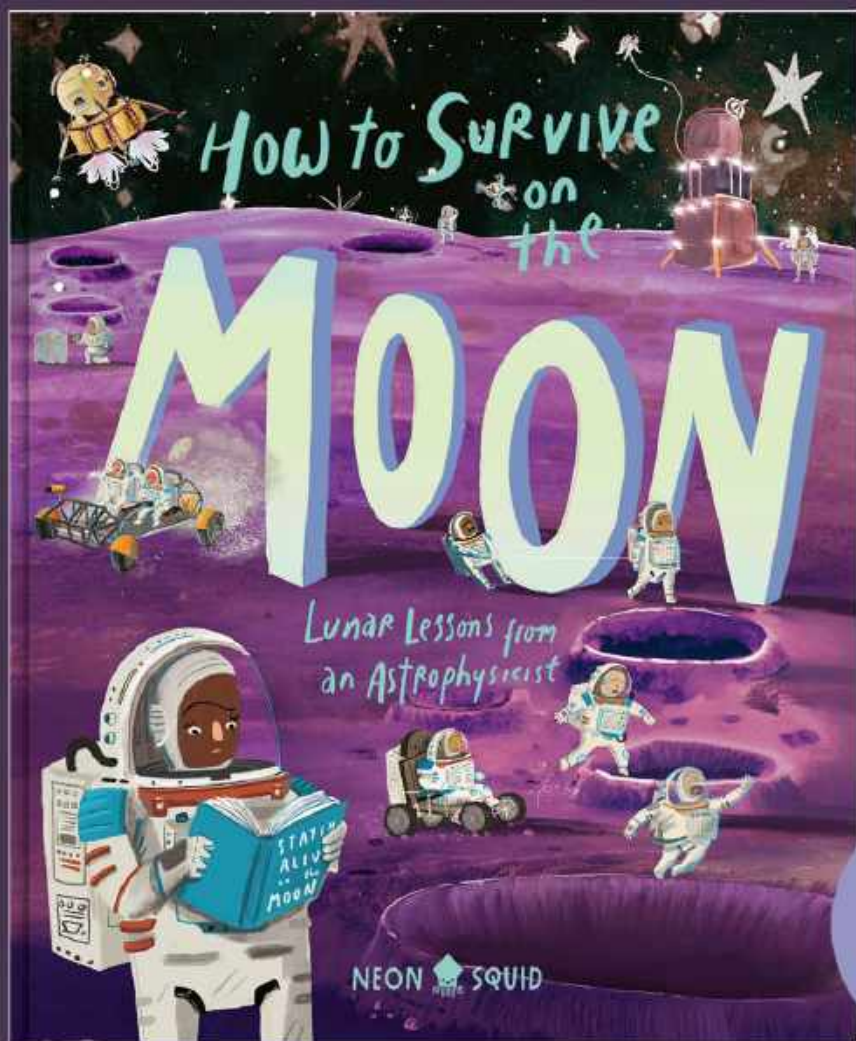
Back down on Earth we are releasing the third title in our critically-acclaimed *We Need to Talk About...* series, this time looking at divorce. Renowned divorce therapist Kate Scharff has been enlisted to tackle this trickiest of tricky subjects. We hope it will be a useful tool for both kids and parents.

And children who love nothing more than blood, guts and gore will be thrilled by *A Sick History of Medicine*. It's bound to make readers feel a bit queasy!

Fiona Jo Sam

Co-Publishers of Neon Squid





# How to Survive on the MOON

**An illustrated guide to lunar survival for kids from astrophysicist Joalda Morancy, ready for the NASA Artemis Moon landing.**

Future astronauts will learn how to dodge meteorites, shield themselves from dangerous radiation, and grow the food they'll need to survive away from our home planet. Morancy also lifts the lid on some of the coolest developments in lunar science – including the possibility of building underground cities in lava tubes and the giant catapult that could be used to get stuff back to Earth! Everything in the book is based on real, groundbreaking science and includes hilarious illustrations by award-winning artist Aaron Cushley.

**The author is building the NASA lunar lander!**

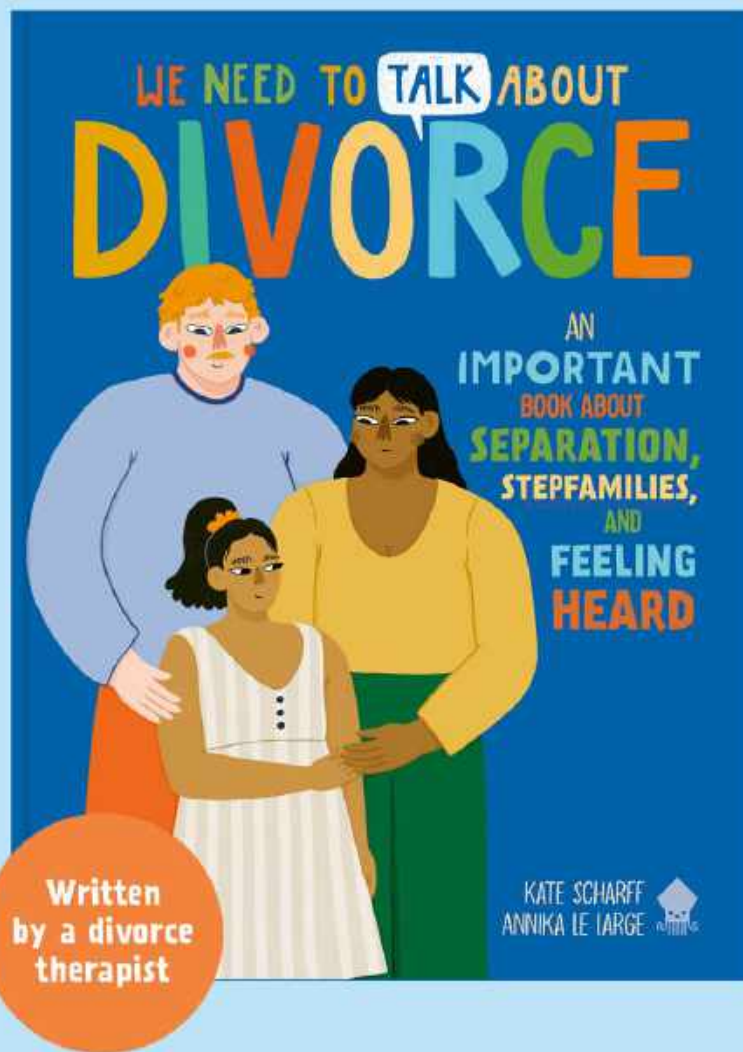


# WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT DIVORCE

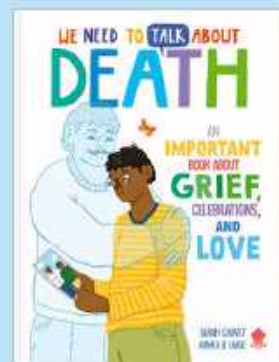
**A kid-centric guide for the children of parents going through a divorce or separation, written by internationally renowned divorce therapist Kate Scharff.**

This approachable book deals with concerns kids might have, from living in two homes to feeling forced to choose a side. A central theme of the book is enabling children to feel heard during the process and it includes lots of tips for how kids can talk to their parents. It's frank, honest, and open about the emotions involved in a divorce.

*We Need to Talk About Divorce* is the next book in Neon Squid's critically acclaimed series tackling subjects that are hard to talk about for kids aged 10 and above.



Also in the  
series

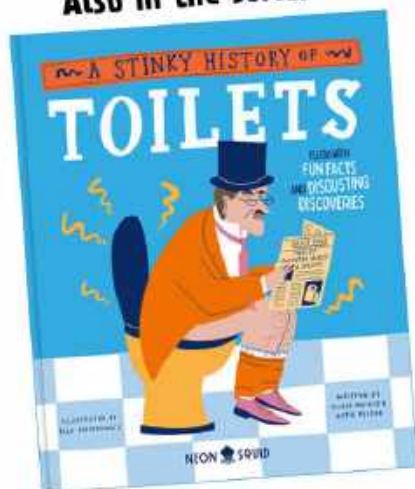




# A Sick History Of MEDICINE

**WARNING: NOT FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED.** This revolting history of medicine through the ages by doctor and historian Jelena Poleksic is full of blood, guts and gore!

Also in the series



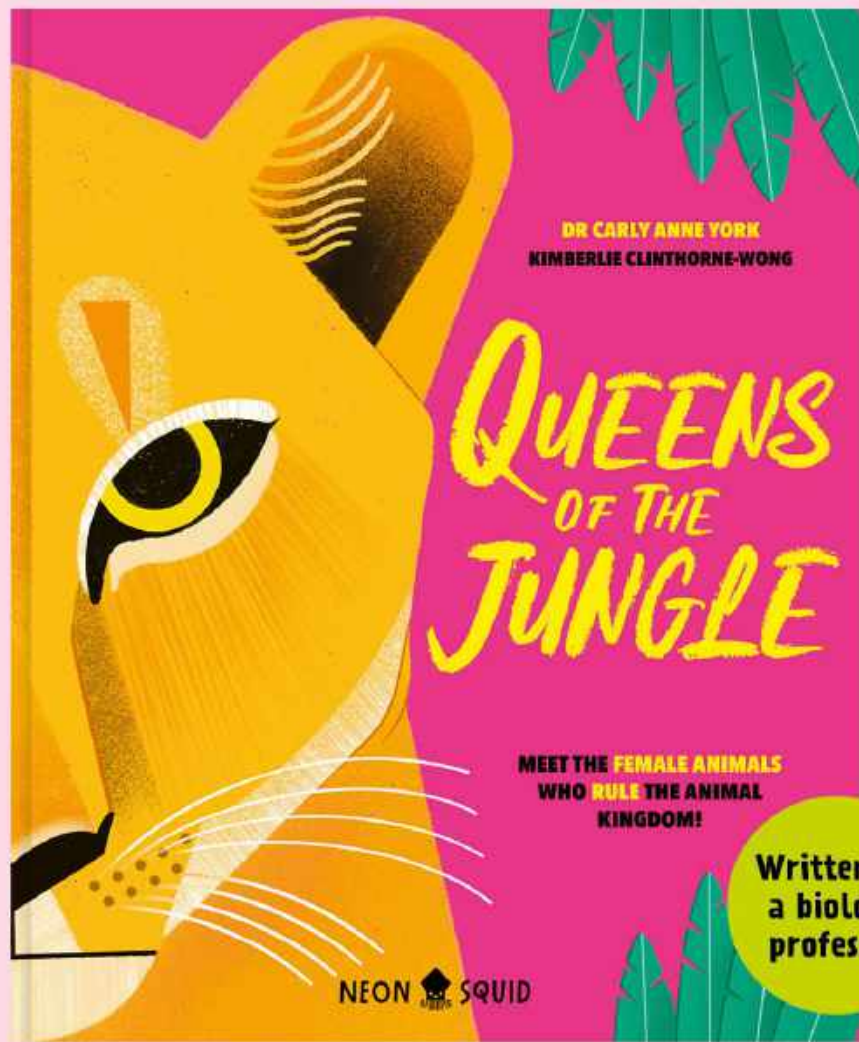
In this hilarious book kids will be whisked around the world to meet the medical innovators who pushed the boundaries of what was possible, with sometimes disastrous effects. They'll learn about the use of leeches, maggot-therapy (as gross as it sounds), dancing plagues, public dissections, grave robbers, electric eel treatments, exploding teeth, and much more!



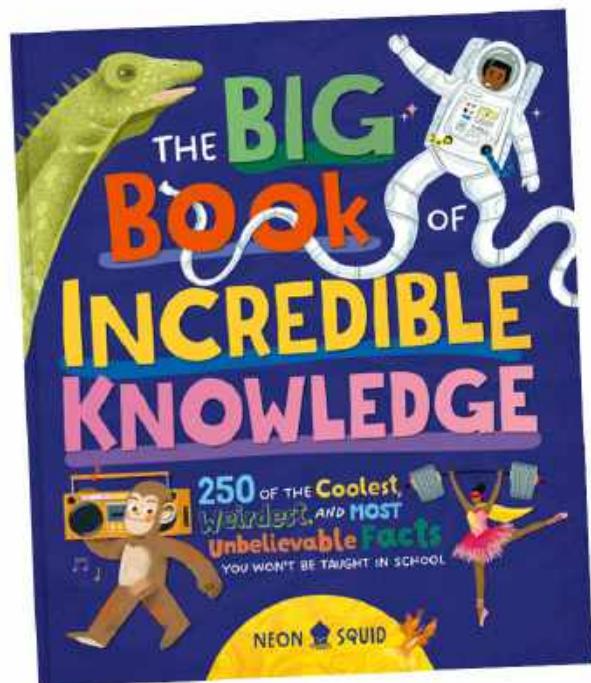
# QUEENS OF THE JUNGLE

Male lions are often referred to as the “Kings of the Jungle” because they are thought to be the strongest, bravest, and fiercest animals in the world. This is a myth. In fact, it’s the lionesses that hunt together and take down large animals to feed their entire pride, including the males!

In this book, readers will be inspired by other examples of girls getting it done. They’ll meet orca grandmothers who are in command of their pods, sex-changing clownfish, and backflipping female ants. They’ll be stunned by the female blanket octopus, who is 80 times bigger than the males of the species, and be left gobsmacked by an entirely female species of lizard!



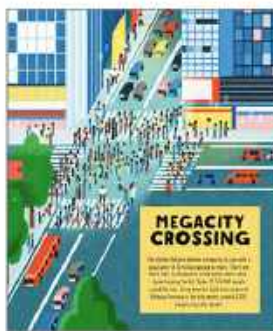


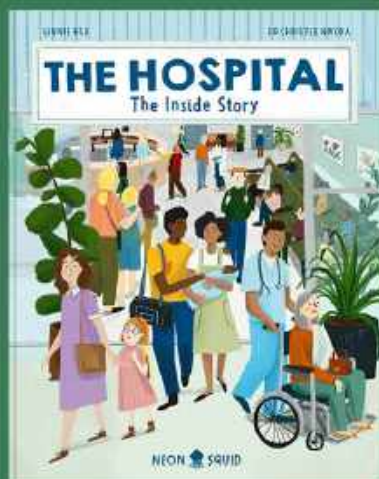


# THE **BIG Book** OF **INCREDIBLE** KNOWLEDGE

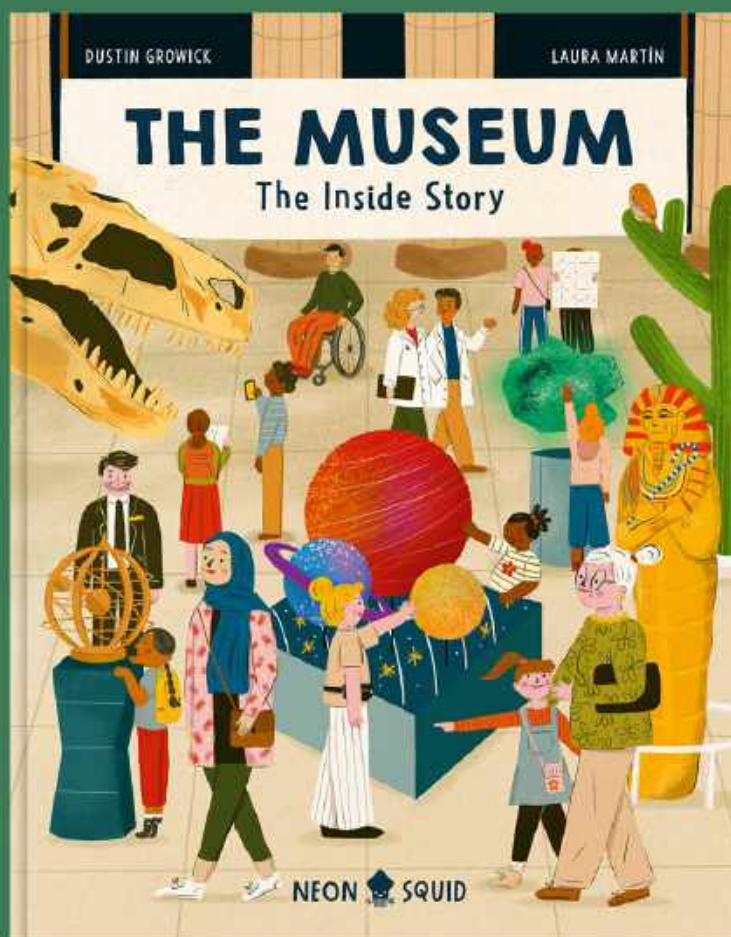
**Heard about the lizard that shoots blood from its eyes?  
Did you know that going on a rollercoaster can cure kidney stones?**

In this compendium of obscure facts readers will be treated to baffling knowledge they would never learn at school. Broken into chapters including geography, space, and history, a team of experts has scoured the world to find the silliest and most pointless facts it has to offer, including crucial life skills like how to walk on custard and how to unboil an egg. Readers will also discover the heartwarming story of a court jester called Roland the Farter – can you guess what his special skill was?





Also in the series



# THE MUSEUM

## The Inside Story

Find out what goes on behind the scenes at a natural history museum in this illustrated non-fiction story by tour guide Dustin Growick.

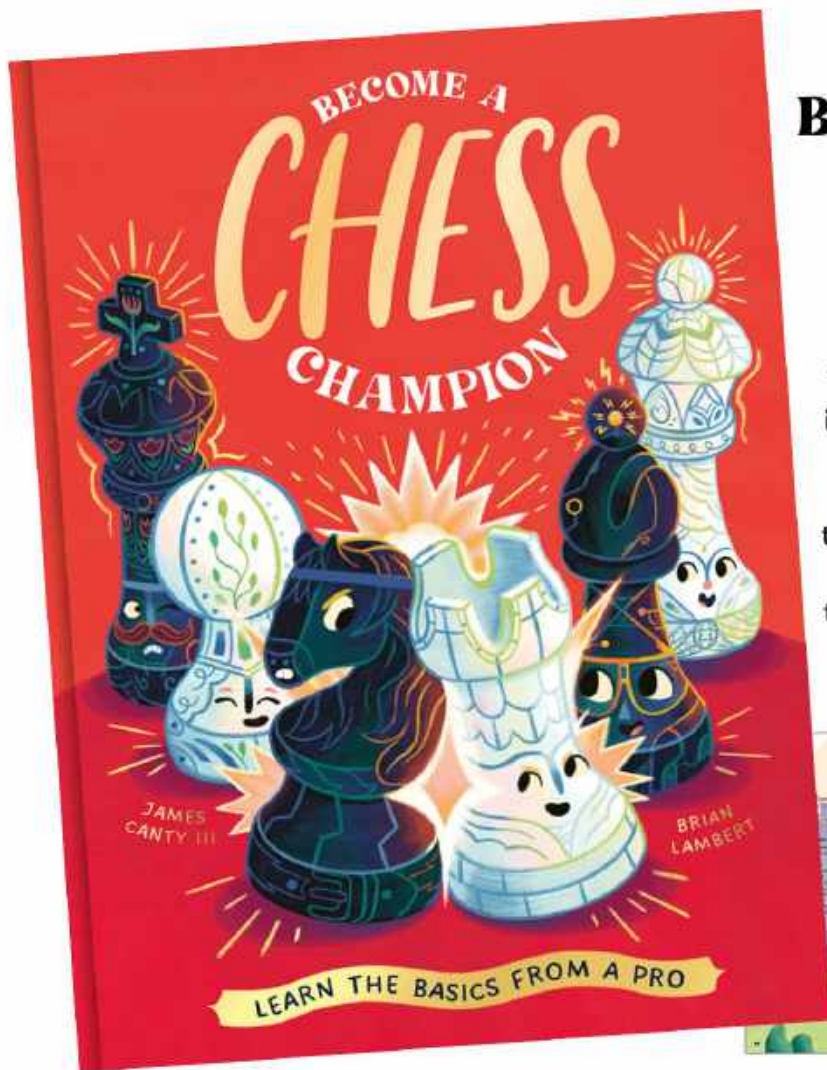
The book follows the exploits of several characters – including a family, a school trip, and some security guards – over the course of a busy day. Along the way readers will discover how the museum team put on exhibitions and how dinosaur fossils are carefully preserved. They will also gain access to the incredible vaults underground that store 99% of a museum's collections!



# BECOME A CHESS CHAMPION

Kids will learn how to master the basics of the classic board game in this fun guide from professional chess player James Canty III.

The book is structured like a chess course, with knowledge carefully introduced as readers turn the pages. The emphasis is on fun – mini games and chess puzzles teach important concepts. Readers will also meet the chess player who didn't lose a game for 30 years, the priest who invented the folding chess board, and the astronauts who had a chess match with people back on Earth! By the end of the book readers should be able to confidently take on their parents, guardians, or grandparents in a competitive game of chess.

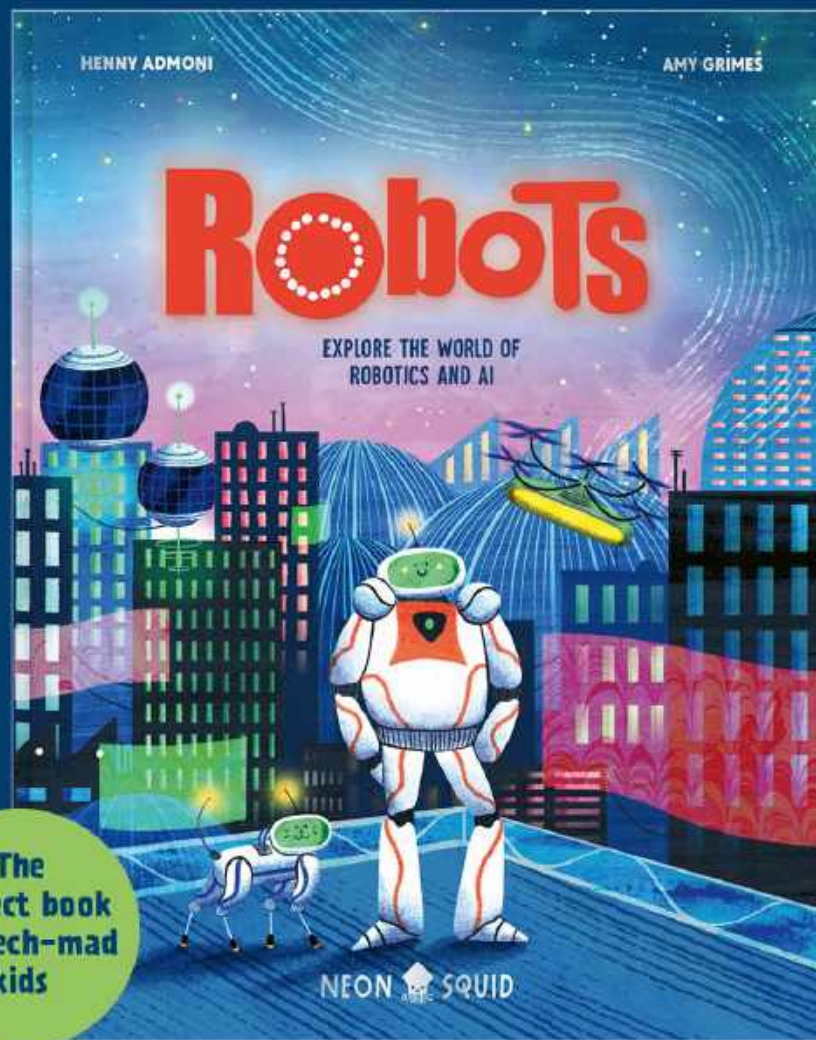


# Robots

The future is here. Explore the world of robots and artificial intelligence in this STEM book by robotics professor Henny Admoni.

Hang out in a factory with a pizza-making robot, blast into the past to meet robot statues in ancient Egyptian temples that spoke to worshippers, and encounter the slithering robot inspired by snakes! With beautiful illustrations by Amy Grimes, this illustrated book explains what robots are, how they are made, and how we can use them in all sorts of amazing ways – from driverless cars to robots helping in hospitals.

Also in the series



The  
perfect book  
for tech-mad  
kids



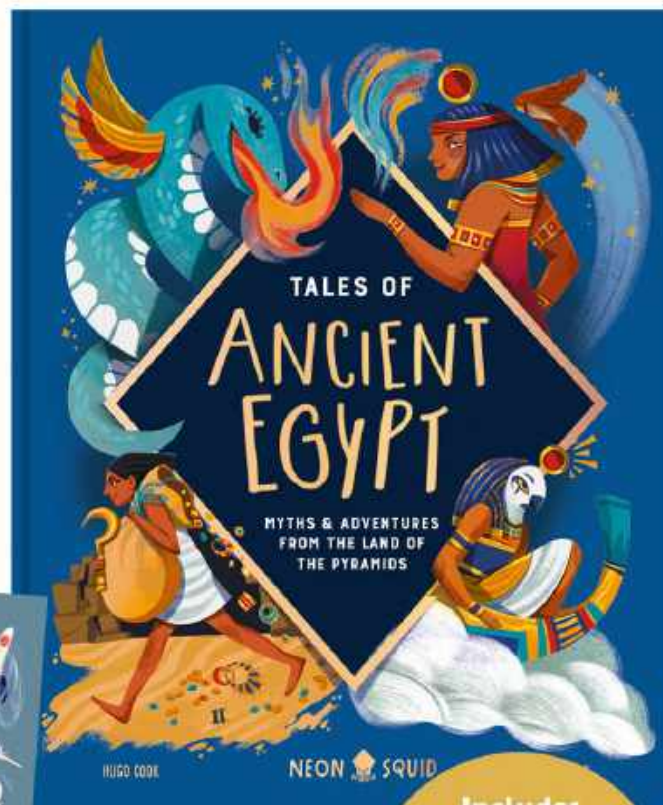
# TALES OF ANCIENT EGYPT

Everyone knows the story of Tutankhamun, but the ancient Egyptian civilization lasted for more than 3,000 years – which means there are loads more amazing tales to be told!

Egyptologist Hugo Cook has scoured ancient texts and translated hieroglyphs to bring readers stories of love, betrayal, and royal scandal featuring pharaohs, priests, gods, and goddesses. Readers will slip into a tomb at night with a band of mischievous tomb robbers, and witness epic battles featuring elephants and ostriches. Interspersed through the stories are pages explaining the rich history of ancient Egypt.



**Also in the series**



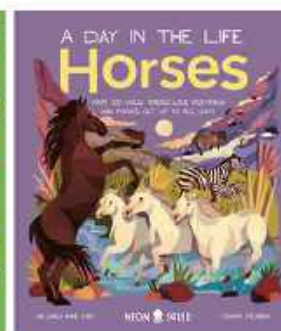
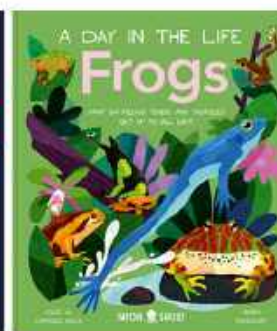
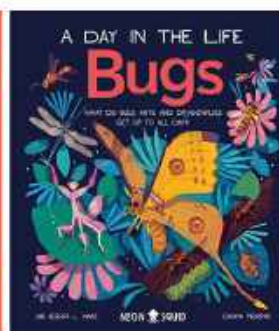
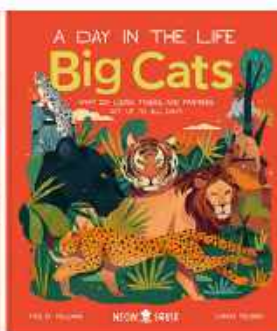
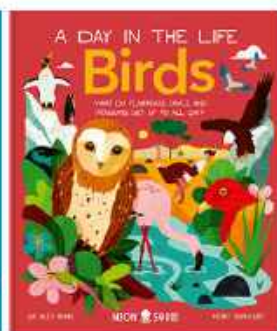
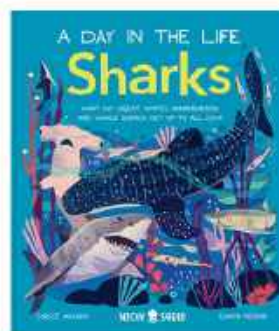
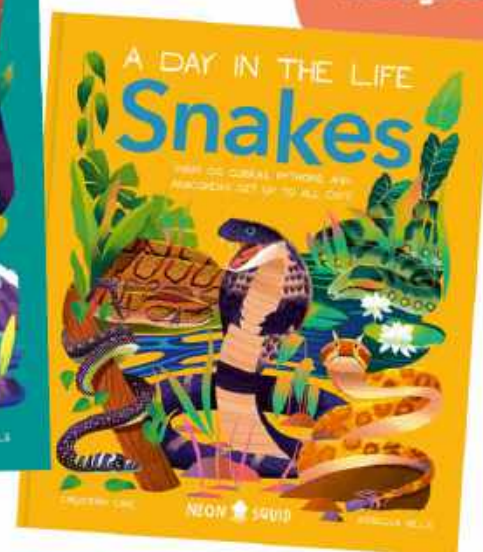
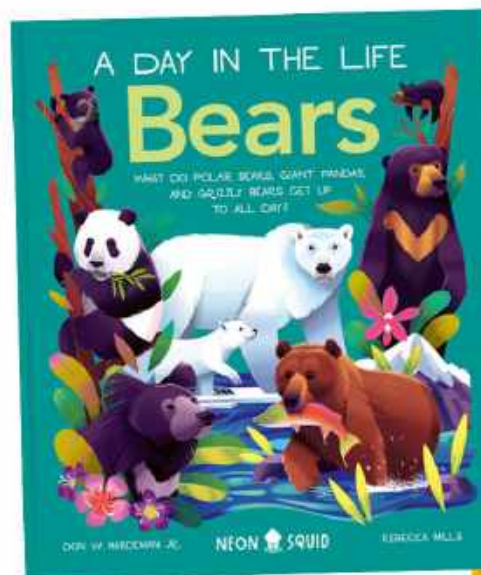
**Includes  
ancient stories  
translated for  
children  
for the first  
time!**

# A DAY IN THE LIFE

In this critically acclaimed narrative series kids will get to spend 24 hours with their favourite animals.

In *Bears* they will play in the snow with pandas, hunt salmon with grizzlies, and witness battling polar bears. In *Snakes* they'll come face to face with an anaconda on the hunt, some newly hatched cobras, and a snake that can fly! Each book is written by an expert and includes plenty of simple science explanations suitable for young readers.

Written by  
biologists





# Secrets of the Ocean

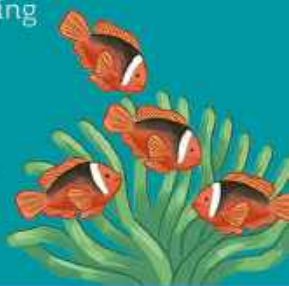


In this charming anthology of 5-minute bedtime stories by Alicia Klepeis readers will be guided under the sea to meet the amazing animals that live there.

In one story an orca grandmother teaches younger members of the pod how to find the best fish, while another looks at a mimic octopus as it shapeshifts to disguise itself from different predators. Kids will be thrilled by the tale of an otter and her cub playing in a kelp forest, and marvel at a jellyfish that looks like a fried egg! Each story in *Secrets of the Ocean* is based on the real biology and behaviour of these amazing wild animals, and at the end of each tale readers will find out more about the science that inspired the story.



Also in the series







Includes  
competitions  
from all  
over the  
world

# THE MIND-BLOWING WORLD OF EXTRAORDINARY COMPETITIONS

Cheese rolling races, baby crying competitions,  
pumpkin paddling races... it turns out there is  
nothing that humans won't compete at!

In this book readers will also be thrilled to find out about camel  
beauty pageants, air guitar championships, and the town that  
holds a legendary annual fruit fight. Through the stories of these  
competitions readers will learn about the societies and traditions  
that created them. Filled with fun facts, it's a perfect book for  
fans of Guinness World Records.





# PLANTS to the RESCUE!

In the ongoing fight against climate change, plastic pollution, and diseases, scientists are turning to an unlikely ally – plants!

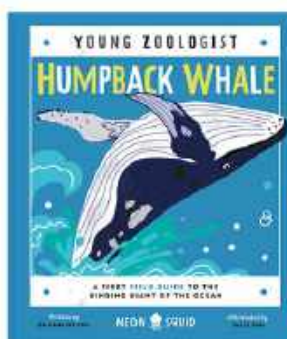
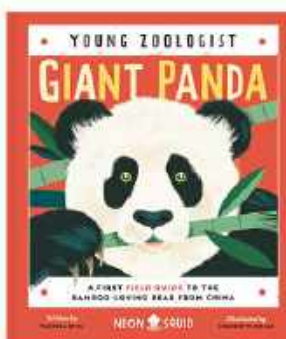
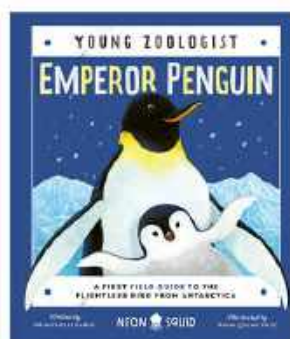
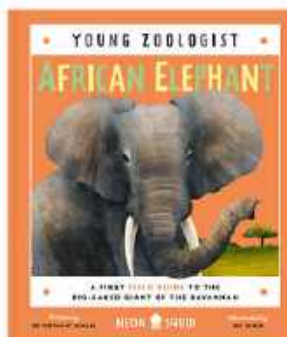
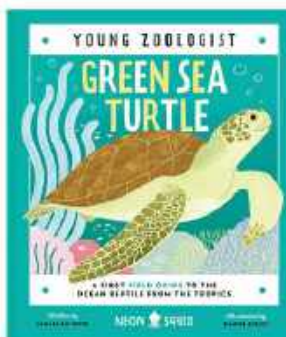
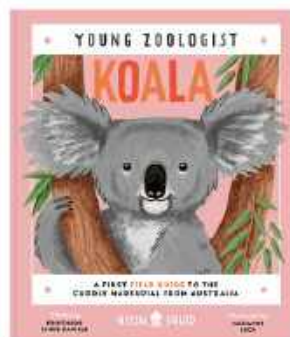
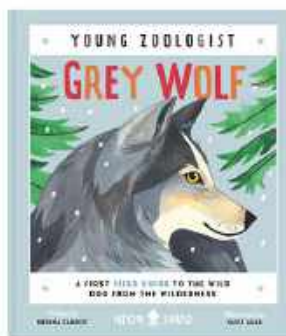
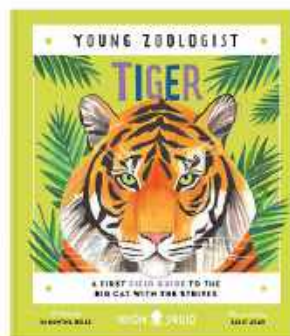
In this brilliant botany book by podcaster, TikTokker, and plant professor Dr Vikram Baliga, find out all about the spinach that can send emails, the fig trees used to create living bridges, and the glow-in-the-dark plants that might one day light your home. You'll also learn about the prickly cactus that can be turned into an eco-friendly bag and the algae that could clean up oil spills. You won't look at plants in the same way again!



# YOUNG ZOOLOGIST

Become an expert with this exciting series of collectable field guides aiming to inspire the next generation of zoologists.

In the latest additions to the series you will discover how to track a tiger by following its pawprints, and why wolves like to hang out with ravens! Each book in the series is written by an expert biologist.



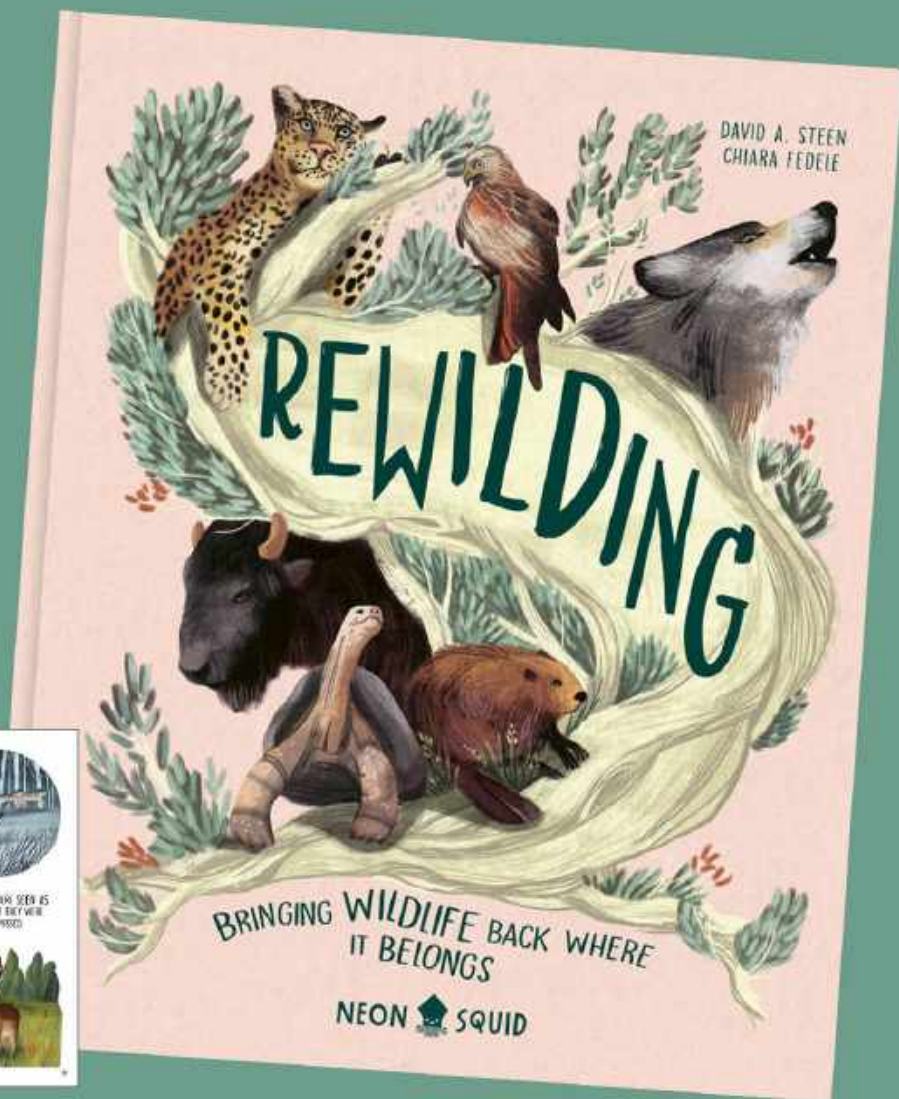


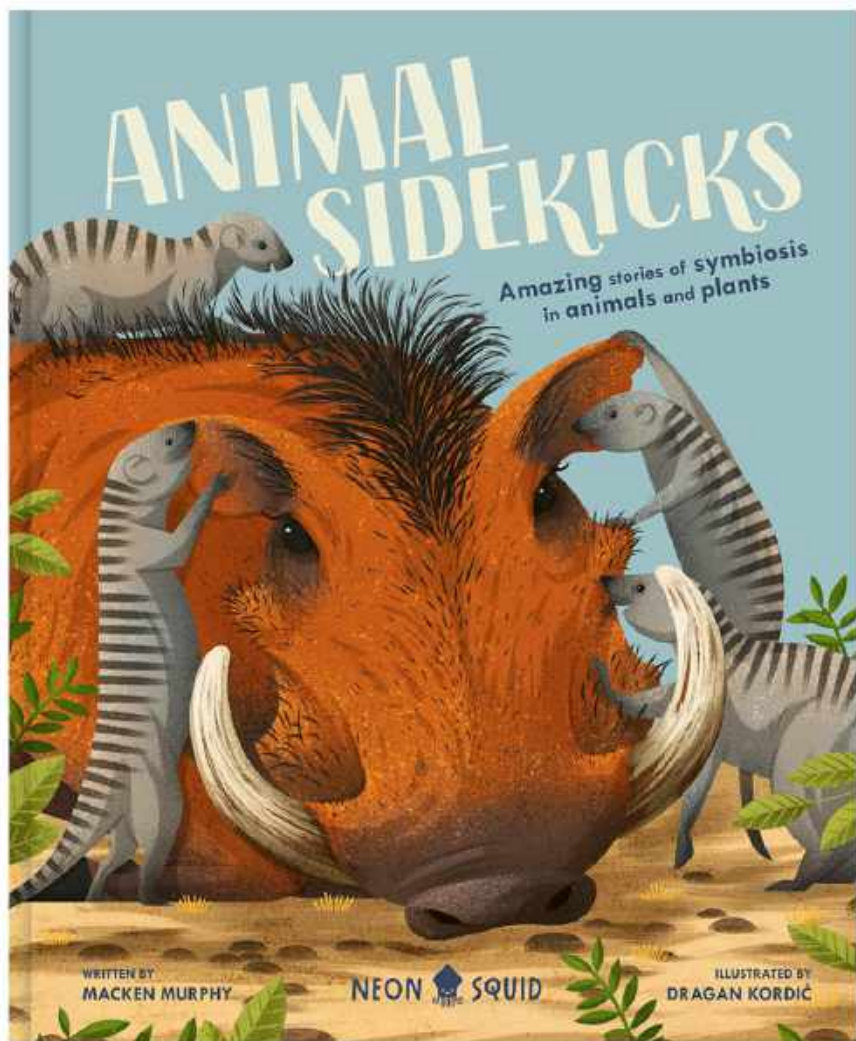
# REWILDING

Rewilding means returning animals or plants to places where they used to live. In this book, acclaimed biologist David A. Steen introduces some of the most amazing conservation stories from around the world.

You'll meet the condor chicks raised by hand puppets; ancient tortoises given a new lease of life, and super-rare toads in need of a shower! By the end of the book you'll be left with a key message: it's not too late to fix the planet.

An eco  
book with  
a positive  
message!





# ANIMAL SIDEKICKS

**Heard about the fish that clean shark teeth?  
Or the frog that lives with a tarantula? Welcome to  
the weird world of symbiosis – where animals form  
incredible relationships.**

Podcaster Macken Murphy introduces his favourite  
symbiotic relationships in his first kids' book.  
Along the way he explains the cool science behind  
the baffling behaviour of some animals and plants –  
from friendly alliances to pesky parasites.





# THE BOOK OF Sisters

## BIOGRAPHIES OF INCREDIBLE SIBLINGS THROUGH HISTORY

**Queens. Warriors. Witches. Revolutionaries.**  
History is full of sisters making their mark.

Meet incredible women in the pages of this book, from Queen Elizabeth II and Princess Margaret to tennis superstars Venus and Serena Williams. Through the stories of the sisters, readers will go on a tour of women's history, from the courts of imperial China to the French Revolution.

