

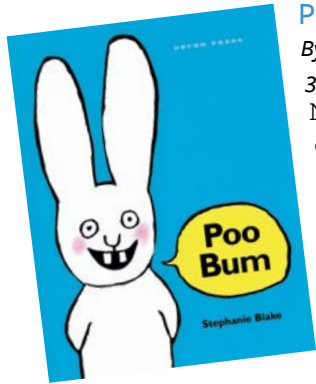
Kids' books

Charming tales of dragons and buses, naughty rabbits, interactive first words and a book for cooks

By **Frances Chan**

POO BUM

By **Stephanie Blake** (Gecko Press) \$19.99, 3 years+



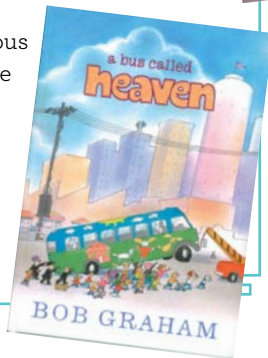
No matter how much we try to discourage it, toilet humour can be an endless source of giggles for kids (and adults!). Children will love *Poo Bum* because it's all about it – it's the only thing a little rabbit can say... until he meets a hungry wolf. There are laugh-out-loud surprises in this story, and it'll be on high rotation for

ages. Bright illustrations and a large font make it an easy and enjoyable read.

A BUS CALLED HEAVEN

By **Bob Graham** (Walker Books) \$29.99 (hardback), 3 years+

When an abandoned bus appears on the street, Stella decides to adopt it and, together with her neighbours, moves it to her front garden. The whole community spruces up the bus and makes it a vibrant shared space for young and old. But when a tow truck arrives to take the bus away does clever Stella have a plan to save it? Graham's endearing tale has a multicultural, animal-loving, feel-good factor.

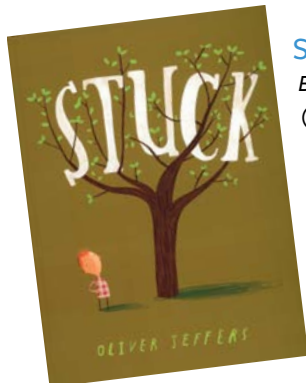


STUCK

By **Oliver Jeffers** (HarperCollins) \$29.95 (hardback), 3 years+

Jeffers has won a string of awards for his children's books featuring his unique figurative style and handwritten font. *Stuck* is no exception – the cute illustrations bring the innocent yet absurd story to life: when Floyd's kite gets stuck in a tree he throws all manner of things to try and dislodge

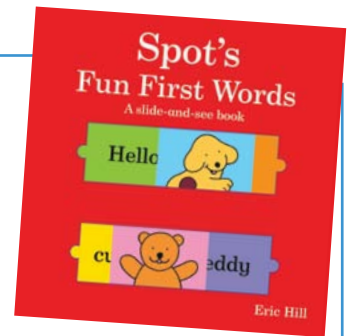
it. Coming up in May, Jeffers will appear at the Auckland Writers and Readers Festival.



SPOT'S FUN FIRST WORDS

By **Eric Hill** (Penguin) \$17.99, 0-4 years

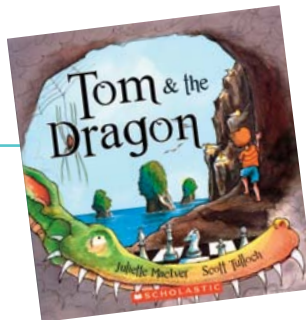
Lovable characters and slide-and-see pictures make this a sure winner for toddlers. And parents will be thankful for the sturdy board-book pages. The sliding pics team up adjectives and nouns to describe Spot's favourite things. An excellent concept executed well. If you like this, *Spot's Busy Days* is also out in March, featuring first words from popular places.



TOM & THE DRAGON

By **Juliette MacIver**, illustrated by **Scott Tulloch** (Scholastic) \$19.50, 3-7 years

Tom wants to play at the pier but his mother warns of a fire-breathing dragon waiting to trick little boys. In a jaunty tumble of rhymes the dragon's evil-doings are revealed. The twist comes when Tom *does* meet the dragon but the dragon is not what is expected – he is afraid of boys – and the other side of the story is told. Fears give way to fun and foes become friends.



Reader treat!

WE CAN COOK

By **Jessica Fishman Levinson** and **Maja Pitamic** (New Holland) \$29.99 (hardback), 3 years+

Bonding with your children in the kitchen is a worthwhile activity, as there are always results to eat!

This book has step-by-step instructions on how to include your child in the cooking process and introduces all the food groups in creative ways. We also love the activities, such as grow your own sandwich fillings, making table settings and exploring flavour with a blindfold game. Makes learning fun in the kitchen.

We have five copies of *We Can Cook* to give away. To enter, email treatme-LT@acpmagazines.co.nz with 'Cook' in the subject line. Entries close 30 March 2012.

