

No Shelf Control

Edition 26: June 2023

David Wolstencroft The Magic Hour

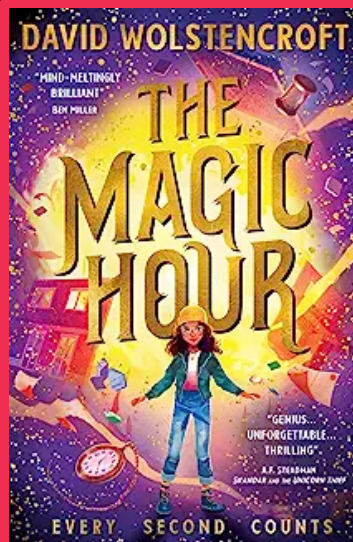
This month, we are celebrating the fantastic new novel from David Wolstencroft as our **BOOK OF THE MONTH!** I'll be honest, if someone told me that there was a way to gain an extra hour in my day I'm not sure that I would care about any negative consequences until it was too late.

In 'The Magic Hour' Ailsa is always late and nothing is going well, even her house just blew up... She is in desperate need of some luck. Fortunately it turns up at exactly the right time - The Magic Hour - A whole extra hour in the day for certain people. Some learn a new skill, others relax. Homework seems the best starting place for Ailsa, as well as building friendships. Unfortunately, as you can imagine, there is a catch... But it is not one she finds out straight away and it is certainly not one that I'm going to give away in this review (you'll have to read it to find out...)

The whole book has a cinematic feel to it, as often books written by tv/film writers do. David previously wrote the BBC series 'Spooks'. The deadly mix of magic and deception make this the perfect novel to read in a group - whether as a family bedtime story or as a class novel - so that you can all enjoy the twists and turns together. This is an exceptional story that is bound to be loved by all readers that find their way to the Magic Hour.

The Magic Hour is out now from Scholastic for £7.99

Below, we've picked four other books that explore clocks and time in various ways that may interest readers if they enjoyed 'The Magic Hour'.



Books



Reviews



Chats



Greenwild

Pari Thomson & Elisa Paganeli

Macmillan 9+

In search of her missing mum, Daisy Thistledown escapes boarding school and heads off on an adventure. She finds a hidden door which leads her to a world of plants and magic, Greenwild! This magical story has great ecological messages about the importance of looking after the plants in our world.

Luna and the Treasure of Tlaloc

Joe Todd-Stanton

Flying Eye Books 6+

A brand new Brownstone adventure that brings historical legends into a great graphic novel series. In this adventure is set in the Aztec. Luna is different from the other Brownstones and she steals and collects treasures, but will an encounter make her change her ways?



Welcome to our Table

Laura Mucha, Ed Smith & Harriet Lynas

Nosy Crow 5+

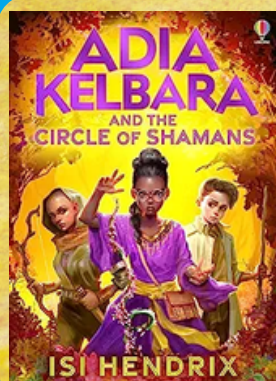
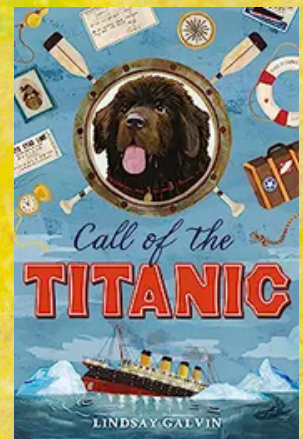
A book to make your tummy rumble. Travel around the world finding the traditional dishes and delicacies that children eat all over the globe. It will definitely inspire you to try some new amazing foods!

Call of the Titanic

Lindsay Galvin

Chicken House 8+

The stories of Sid, a young cabin steward on the Titanic, and Clara, a stowaway on the Carpathia, are intertwined on the fateful night when the Titanic collides with the iceberg. Mix in a mischievous dog and a mysterious sea serpent and you are left with a fascinating story that will hook in all readers!

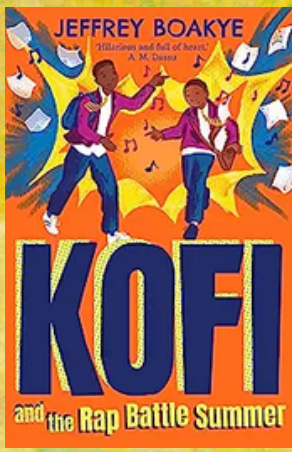


One To Wait for...

Adia Kelbara - Isi Hendrix

Usborne - September 23

This looks like it is going to be an extremely exciting fantasy. Adia's uncle and aunt think that she is a demon and when she starts to develop powers, she starts to believe them!



Kofi and the Rap Battle Summer

Jeffrey Boake

Faber & Faber 8+

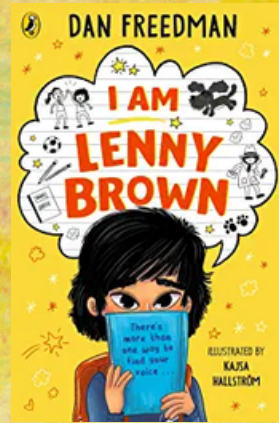
Kofi and his schoolmates are all obsessed with music. The trouble is no-one can remember the lyrics... When Kofi finds out that his best friend Kelvin has a photographic memory, they team up to share the lyrics in a magazine for their friends. It is not long before the teachers recognise Kofi's leadership qualities. Will this turn into the best summer ever?

I am Lenny Brown

Dan Freedman

Puffin 4+

Lenny Brown is a selective mute, he can only talk to his mum and his dog, Rocky. This obviously makes moving to a new school pretty tricky... He struggles to make new friends and fit in. Lenny has to find a new way to communicate and when he does... Well, everyone quickly realises how amazing he actually is! A super story about finding your voice!



Vivi Conway

Lizzie Huxley-Jones

Knights of 8+

A modern tale that is soaked in Welsh mythology. When going to a swim, Vivi finds the legendary sword Excalibur (yes THAT Excalibur!) and what follows is a magical adventure featuring monsters, new friends and a ghostly dog. An amazing story that perfectly brings old tales ready for modern audiences!

Interdimensional Explorers

Lorraine Gregory & Jo Lindley

Farshore 8+

Just when Danny is complaining that nothing exciting ever happens... He falls through a locker and ends up in an Interdimensional Lost Property Office! I mean that has to be classed as exciting, doesn't it? He is now tasked with returning these lost items back to their rightful homes across the galaxy - Unfortunately there are some evil aliens that are desperate to stop Danny returning some items...



One You Might Have Missed

Otherland - Louie Stowell

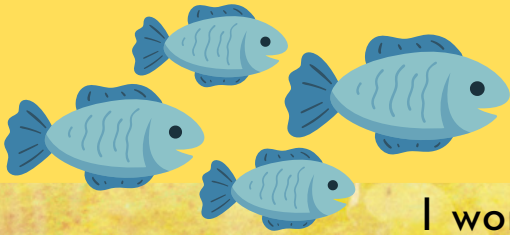
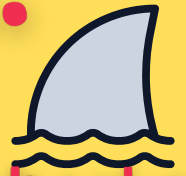
Nosy Crow - 8+ May 2021

Otherland was our first ever Book of the Month, but since then Louie's Loki series has gone on to take the limelight away from her earlier books. Otherland is an amazing fantasy story that deserves the chance to be bumped back into the limelight and adored by all!

9 Books about...

Fish!

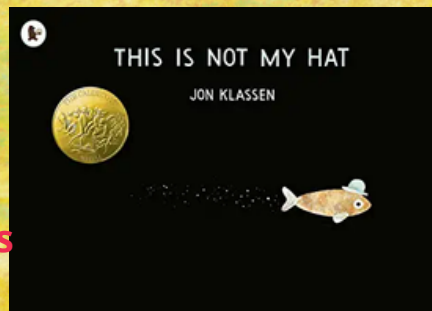
(And sharks)



I won't lie, inspiration for this month's back page came from my dinner... Eating fish and chips and pondering "What are the best books about fish?" I blame the heat..

1. This Is Not My Hat

Jon Klassen



2. Blob Fish

Olaf Falafel



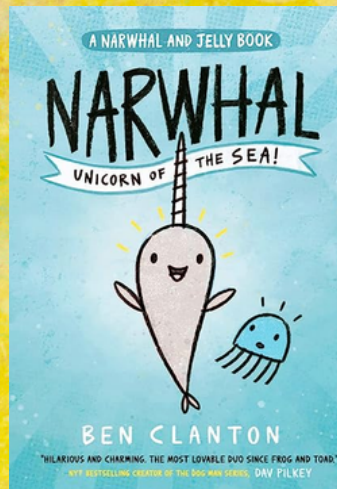
3. The Odd Fish

Naomi & James Jones



4. Narwhal Unicorn of the Sea

Ben Clanton



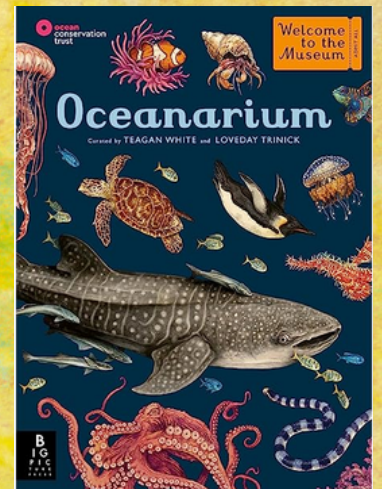
5. The Big Book of Blue

Yuval Zommer



6. Oceanarium

Teagan White & Loveday Trinick



7. Meet the Oceans

Caryl Hart & Bethan Woolvin



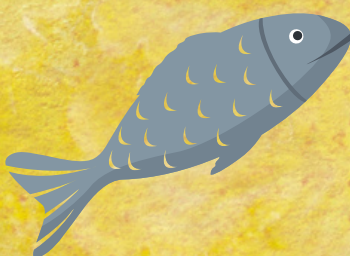
8. Everything You Know About Sharks is Wrong

Dr Nick Crumpton & Gavin Scott



9. The Shark Caller

Zillah Bethell



If you have any questions or have a book released soon that you feel deserves a place on the newsletter: Email us - MisterBodd@outlook.com