



## RECOMMENDED FOR

Pre-school/ Lower primary  
(ages 2+)

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## KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- English: Literacy, critical and creative thinking, personal and social capability
- Sciences; Living things
- Art: Visual Artworks and Design

## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- To discuss new vocabulary and respond to texts
- To learn to identify colours.
- To use the text as a springboard for cross curricular teaching, such as the wonders of glow worms.

## THEMES

- Relationships – family, play
- Bedtime rituals
- Colours

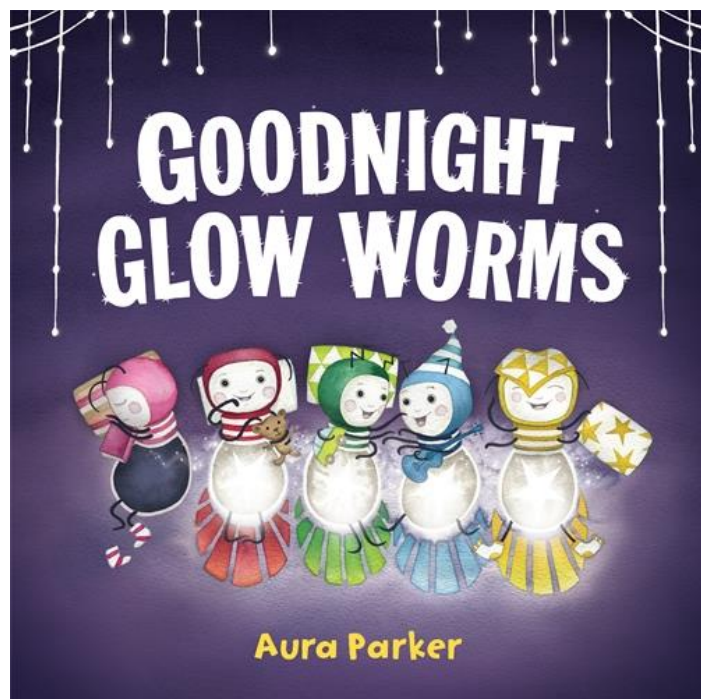
## PUBLICATION DETAILS

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## Goodnight Glow Worms Aura Parker

## PLOT SUMMARY

From the creator of the delightful *Meerkat Splash* comes a cuddly, snuggly bedtime book for 2+, full of joyous, playful illustrations and bouncing rhyme - with a perfect ending to send little ones happily off to sleep.

*Goodnight, Glow Worms shining bright,  
Time to dim your Glow Worm light.  
Glow Worms gleaming, beaming round,  
Can't switch off and can't wind down.*

Five young glow worms who live together in a cave are having trouble switching off their glow worm lights for sleep, until they realise it's a goodnight kiss they're missing. Then one by one the glow worms switch off and go to sleep. But Glow Worm Yellow can't go to sleep until she finds her lost blankie! She searches high and low through their cave home and eventually finds it in a very unexpected place...

## ABOUT THE CREATOR

Aura Parker is an illustrator, writer and designer who creates delightful picture books, prints and textiles. Her work is joyful, imaginative and brimming with details to explore. Aura Parker's storytelling through words and pictures inspires imagination, courage and confidence in young readers. Aura works with watercolour, gouache, pen and coloured pencil with digital composition. She works from a studio in Sydney. *Goodnight Glow Worms* is her second picture book with Penguin Random House, following the delightful *Meerkat Splash*.

## CREATOR'S INSPIRATION

If you have ever seen glow worms in real life, you will know how enchanting they can be. They look like a magical, starry night sky glowing in the blackness! I have seen them in Australia and New Zealand quite a few times now.

When I was a kid, I had terrible trouble getting to sleep. At bedtime, I would constantly get out of bed, request snacks (usually cheese, yes I love cheese) and insist on more and more bedtime kisses. When I look back, I think I probably drove my parents nuts! Maybe I was just a little scared of the dark, but I have certainly never been able to switch off easily.

*Goodnight Glow Worms* joins these two ideas together, the wonder of glow worms and switching off for bedtime. I also have three kids of my own who are very close in age. When they were little, I had many dramas trying to get everyone to sleep at the same time. Do you ever have trouble getting to sleep?

I had a lot of fun writing this book, and drawing glow worms, they make me laugh. My glow worms look like little light bulbs with heads. Bugs make interesting characters. It is fun making them expressive, as they have an extra set of limbs to work with - even antennae can be expressive. In the first drafts, the glow worms were not going to sleep at all! After a lot of rewriting I eventually got all those glow worms off to sleep. I wanted the rhyme to sound soothing, and the repetition to be calming.

Do you think this story would help you sleep?

## KEY STUDY TOPICS

### English

- Read the writing on the back of the book (the blurb). What do you expect the book

will be about? Do you have any questions? Are those questions answered in the story?

- How many characters are in this story? Do you think things other than people can be characters in a story? How does that work? Can you think of other favourite stories that have non-human or non-living characters?
- Find three words in the book that are new to you. Try to work out what they mean from the context (the way they are used and the words and pictures that surround them).
- Read the notes from the Creators Inspiration. Do you have any special rituals when going to sleep at night? Describe them.
- Activity: Create a book trailer for this book.

## Visual Literacy Discussion

When Glow Worm Yellow loses Blankie, the text doesn't ever tell the reader where it is. Blankie is nice and clear so the reader can easily find it, even though Glow Worm Yellow can't. This is a good example of text and images working together to tell the story. Did you see where Blankie was straight away? Or did it take a couple of pages?

Compare and contrast page 6-7 (*Tired Glow Worms, snug in bed...*) with spread 10-11 (*Goodness, Glow Worms, what's gone wrong?...*).

- How has Aura used the layout of the page to help tell the story?
- The sense of calm and order of 6-7 where they are all neatly in bed, is disrupted in page 10-11 where we see the Glow Worms are half off the page, their eyes are boggly, wired and overtired. The shapes made by the Glow Worm lights change too, from calm in 6-7 to flashing and crazy busy by 10-11.
- How does this use of colour and line help tell the story?



On page 12 there is no text, (the pillow fight).

- What do you think is achieved by having four small illustrations here?
- Perhaps a sense of time passing or that the Glow Worms have been awake for a long time.

### Science: Facts About Glow Worms

- *What are glow worms?* They're not actually worms, they are the larvae stage of a fungus gnat (a small flying bug wings, in the same family as flies and mosquitos).
- *How big are they?* The larvae are only a few millimetres long – barely able to be seen, if it wasn't for their light.
- *What colour are real glow worms?* In *Goodnight Glow Worms*, we have five different coloured glow worms, but in real life, all glow worms give off a pale blue-green light.
- *Where are they found?* They are found only in Australia and New Zealand in dark wet places like caves.
- *How do they glow?* There is a chemical reaction in their see-through abdomen.
- *Why do they glow?* To attract bugs to eat, like mosquitoes, midges and cockroaches.
- *How do they catch them?* With sticky silk threads (similar to spiderweb) which hang down, like fishing lines or lures.
- *What do glow worms turn into?* They will eventually go through metamorphosis (just as a caterpillar becomes a pupae in cocoon then turns into a butterfly, but glow worms turn into a gnat – which looks like a large mosquito).
- *Are glow worms really as nice to each other as in Good Night Glow Worms?* Glow worms are territorial (they guard their own space) and will fight with, and even eat their neighbour if they get in the way. Yikes!

### Creative Arts: Singing Activity

#### **Twinkle, Twinkle, Glow Worm Bright**

(Sing to the tune of *Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star*)

*Twinkle, twinkle, Glow Worm bright,  
Time to dim your Glow Worm light.*

*Up above the cave so high,*

*Like a diamond in the sky.*

*Twinkle, twinkle, Glow Worm bright,  
Time to dim your Glow Worm light.*



FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



**Meerkat Splash**  
by Aura Parker

*Meerkats cleaning, washing. Woooo! Slipping, sliding, swimming too.*

Follow Meerkat Red into the burrow and join all the colourful meerkat friends for one big crazy bathtime! But who makes the biggest MEERKAT SPLASH?

Aura Parker's playful rhyme and energetic illustrations combine to create the perfect picture book for the very young about colours and bathtime.



**The Last Peach**  
by Gus Gordon

From internationally award-winning picture book creator Gus Gordon comes this delightful story about friendship and sharing.

One fine summer's day two bugs discover the most beautiful peach of the season and are faced with a dilemma... Who should eat it?

*Teachers' resources available.*



**What's Up Top?**  
by Marc Martin

What's at the top of the ladder? Is it a hat? Is it a cat? Is it a snail on a whale?

Simple, playful and absurdist, this new picture book by Marc Martin is about imagination and creativity. Reminiscent of *Press Here* by Herve Tullet, *Dr Seuss* and *I Want my Hat Back* by Jon Glasson.

*Teachers' resources available.*



## ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	AGE	RRP	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Goodnight Glow Worms (hardcover)	Aura Parker	9780143792918	2+	\$24.99		
Meerkat Splash (hardcover)	Aura Parker	9780143792895	2+	\$19.99		
The Last Peach	Gus Gordon	9780670078912	4+	\$24.99		
What's Up Top?	Marc Martin	9780143783886	3+	\$24.99		
<b>TOTAL</b>						

PLEASE NOTE THAT PRICES ARE RECOMMENDED RETAIL ONLY AND MAY HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE TIME OF PRINTING. PRICES ARE GST INCLUSIVE.

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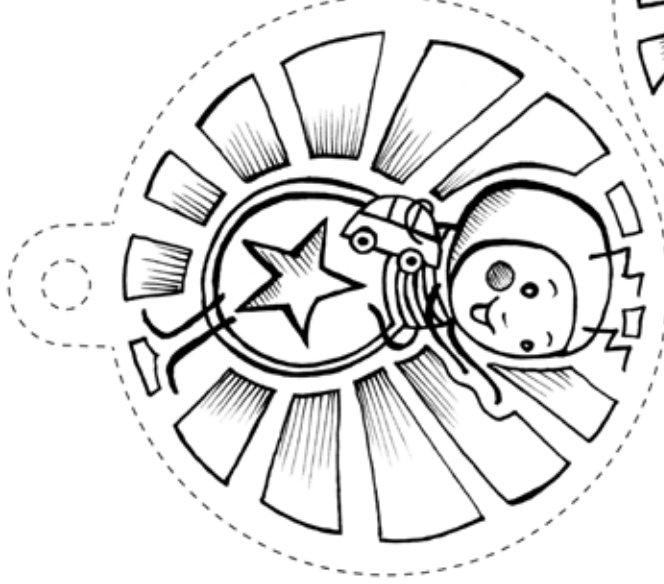
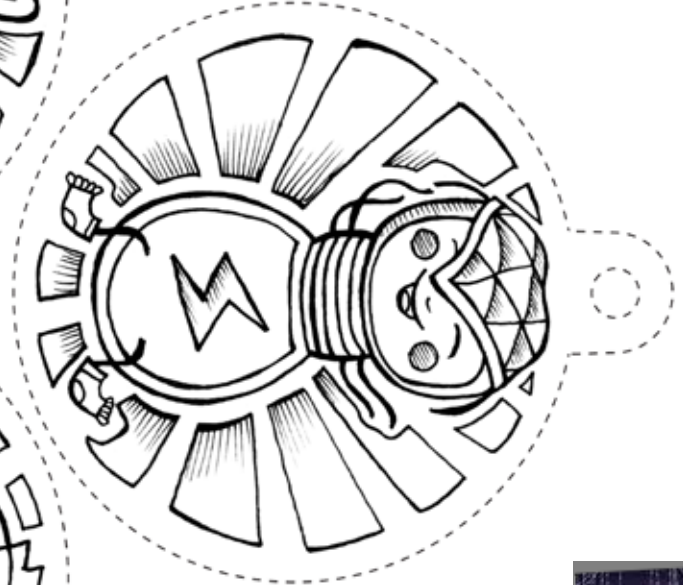
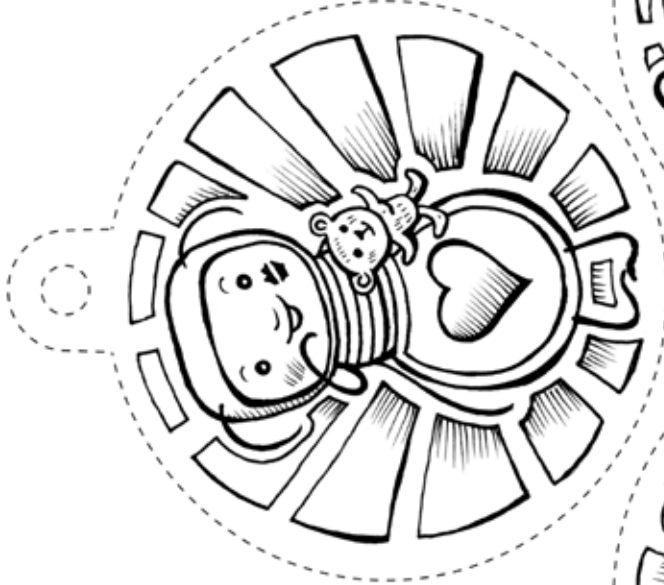
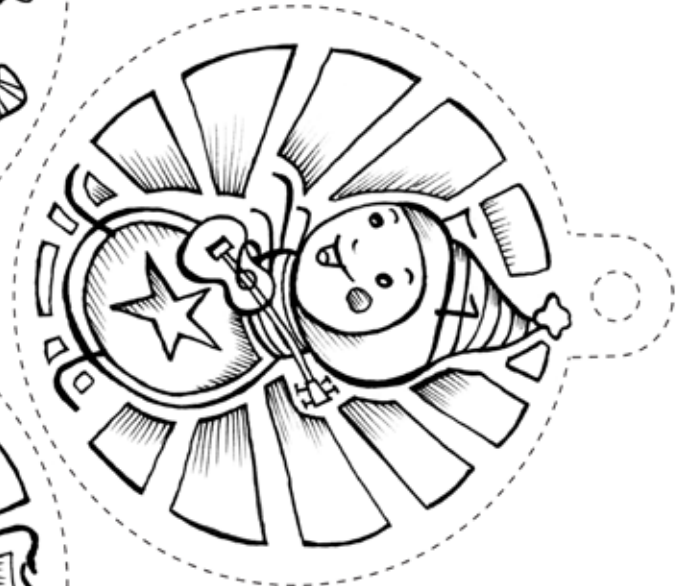
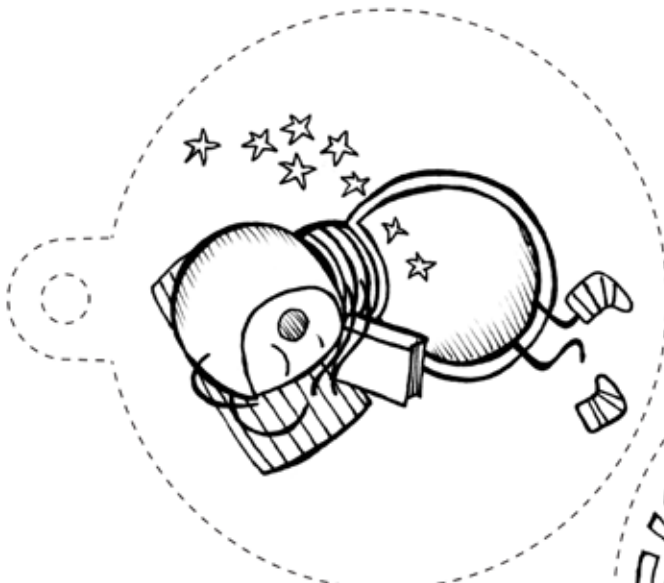






# Create your own Glow Worm bunting!

1. Colour in the Glow Worms.
2. Cut along the dotted lines.
3. Punch a hole in the circles at the top.
4. Use string to thread them all together and hang up wherever you like.



# GOODNIGHT GLOW WORMS



**Aura Parker**

Goodnight, Glow Worms shining bright,  
Time to dim your Glow Worm light.

Glow Worms gleaming, beaming round,  
Can't switch off and can't wind down.

Will the Glow Worms ever get to sleep?

**A cuddly, snuggly bedtime book by Aura Parker, full of joyous, playful illustrations and bouncing rhyme – with a perfect ending to send little ones happily off to sleep.**

MEET THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR, AURA PARKER  
Aura is an artist, illustrator, writer and designer based in Sydney, Australia. Her storytelling through both words and images is joyful and brimming with details to explore. Aura works with watercolour, gouache, pen and coloured pencil with digital composition. Her first picture book with Penguin Random House, *Meerkat Splash*, was released in 2019.

