



# TEACHERS' NOTES

## RECOMMENDED FOR

Lower primary to upper primary  
Ages 6+; years 1–3

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## KEY CURRICULUM AREAS

- **Learning areas:** English, Visual Arts
- **General capabilities:** Creative and critical thinking, Ethical understanding, Literacy, Personal and social capabilities

## REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK

- The text and illustration blend is perfect for creative and critical thinking, especially for 5–6-year-olds who are looking for something fun, yet engaging to read.
- The story encourages young people to think about what it means to continue to strengthen their friendships and never give up on seeking new adventures.

## THEMES

- Honesty
- Strength in relationships
- Friendship
- Helping those in need
- Confidence in oneself
- Action and adventure
- Problem-solving
- Overcoming obstacles
- Motivation

## PREPARED BY

Penguin Random House Australia

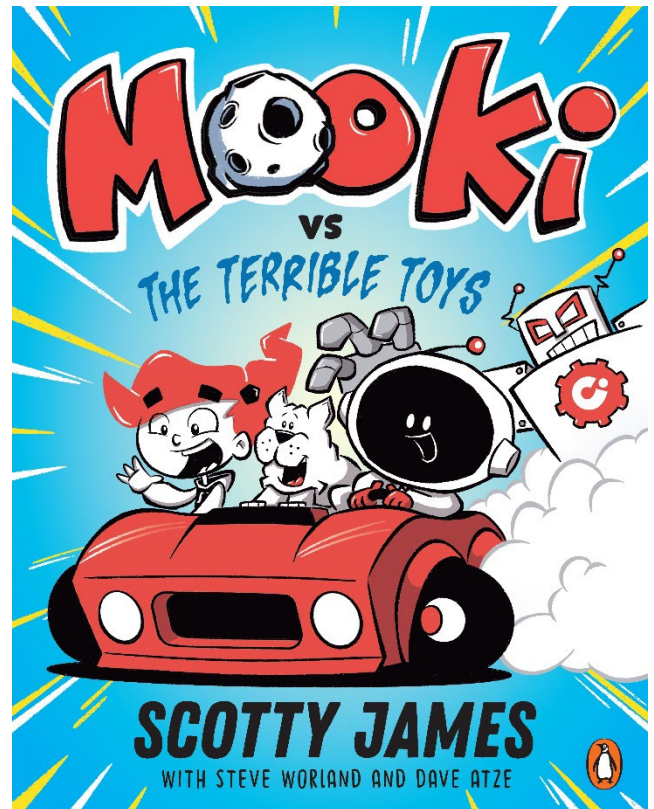
## PUBLICATION DETAILS

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## MOOKi vs The Terrible Toys

Scotty James

with Steve Worland and Dave Atze

## PLOT SUMMARY

Join MOOKi and his best friends Cindy and Ralph as they discover an AMAZING toy store, meet COOL new friends, face TERRIBLE new foes and go on a DARING rescue mission!

MOOKi will fly his spaceship alone, conquer the escalator from hell, join forces with a mega-brave tiny velociraptor, ride in the coolest car ever designed and teach the evil COG who is boss.

Created by Scotty James, one of Australia's most accomplished snowboarders, this story brings his childhood nickname and alter-ego, MOOKi, to a generation of young readers.

## ABOUT SCOTTY JAMES

With two Olympic medals, nine X Games medals and three World Halfpipe Championship gold medals, Scotty James is one of the most accomplished athletes in snowboarding today.

At the age of three, Scotty fell in love with the sport and at fourteen he started competing professionally, making history as one of the youngest athletes to ever compete in the Winter Olympics. Since then, Scotty has ascended to the top ranks and continues to break records and win championship titles. Renowned for his remarkable talent and groundbreaking performances on the halfpipe, he has cemented himself as a global icon who continues to push the boundaries of the sport with his unparalleled skills and relentless drive for excellence.

## ABOUT THE WRITER

Steve Worland has worked extensively in film and television in Australia and the United States. He wrote the screenplay for the smash hit Australian family film *Paper Planes* with director Robert Connolly, won the ACCTA award for best original screenplay for the same film, and adapted the movie into a bestselling novel for young readers.

Steve has written many screenplays, worked in script development and is the author of the action-adventure novels *Velocity*, *Combustion* and *Quick* as well as the charity joke book *The Bloke-a-saurus*, which he wrote with his brother, Gus.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Dave Atze is a freelance Illustrator from South Australia. Dave illustrates amazing books for kids, including Scotty James's MOOKi series, Anh Do's *The Champ* series, *Belly Button Fluff* and *Numbskull and Nincompoop*. He is often found at schools and libraries, teaching kids to draw and talking about his books.

As well as books, Dave creates creatures and characters for cartoons, comics, toys, video games and advertising.

During his time as an Illustrator, he has worked for some amazing clients including Penguin Random House, Anh Do, Scholastic, Allen and Unwin, Ford St Publishing, Redgum Book Club, Big Sky Publishing, Moose Toys, Zuru Toys, EB Games and Silver Sun Pictures.

## AUTHOR'S INSPIRATION

Off the slopes, as a child Scotty was encouraged to tap into his creative side and was often doodling cartoons and animations. Inspired by his childhood nickname 'MOOKi', Scotty brought this alter-ego to life through his drawing of a character of the same name, geared up in an astronaut suit and, of course, Scotty's signature red gloves. MOOKi was created as a symbol to always shoot for the Moon and dream big – values instilled in Scotty by his family from an early age.

Scotty embraces MOOKi as a constant reminder to conquer any hurdles that come his way. A proud husband, father, brother and uncle, with this debut book series Scotty hopes to inspire others to embrace their own inner MOOKi and fearlessly pursue their dreams.

## Pre-Reading Questions

1. MOOKi's best friends are Cindy and Ralph, and they are on another adventure. With your classmates, share things you like to do with your best friends.
2. Based on the front cover, what do you think the story is going to be about? Spoiler: pay attention to the robot!
3. If you read *MOOKi vs The Big Scary*, what are the similarities and differences between that front cover, and this front cover?
4. Do you think the title has anything to do with the big building on the back cover? You can also use the blurb to help with this question.
5. Briefly research synonyms (similar words) for the big, yellow words in the blurb on the back cover – this may give you a different perspective of the story.

## Recap on writing style & visual literacy in MOOKi

How do you believe you've improved on doing the things below that you learnt about in *MOOKi vs The Big Scary*? If you didn't read the first book, in what ways have you seen yourself grow in these areas?

- Facing challenges and problem-solving
- The importance of friendship and kindness
- Adventure and being curious



## KEY STUDY TOPICS

What's special about *MOOKi vs The Terrible Toys* is that the study topics tie in nicely to the first book. There is an overlap between persevering in problem-solving, why honesty in friendships is important, and to have confidence when you're on a new adventure.

### Why motivation and perseverance matters

#### Questions and activities

1. Consider what the word 'motivation' means. Create a mind map as a class.
2. Can you think of a time when you felt really excited to start something new? What made you feel that way? Discuss with the class what new things MOOKi, Cindy and Ralph are taking on.
3. Have you ever tried to do something difficult and wanted to give up? What made you keep going? Create a collage with pictures and words that represent things that motivate you. Use magazines, drawings or printouts.
4. Towards the end of the book, Ralph is taken away by a drone and MOOKi and Cindy work out how to get him back . . . it's a **rescue mission!** Form small groups of 3–4 and act out how they do this, thinking about specific things to help 'persevere' with your friends.
5. Make a chart with three goals you want to achieve. For each goal, write down small steps you can take to reach it and check them off as you complete them.

### Being open and honest in friendships

#### Questions and activities

1. Consider what the word 'honesty' means. Create a mind map as a class.
2. Can you think of a time when you told the truth, even though it was hard? How did it make you feel? This an example of an open and honest discussion, so feel free to talk about it with the classmates on your table.
3. MOOKi has never seen Cindy have a 'wobble' before, but he says to her: 'You know you can talk to me about anything, right?' Why do you think it was important for Cindy to share these thoughts and feelings with MOOKi?
4. How does being honest help build trust between friends? Think about how Ralph shared he was nervous to get into the elevator of the toy store, but MOOKi and Cindy promised him he'd be okay.

5. There are a number of instances in *MOOKi vs The Terrible Toys* where the friends are open and honest. Pick one, draw it out and write down a couple of dot points to show where you've experienced a similar situation.

### The excitement and confidence in adventure

#### Questions and activities

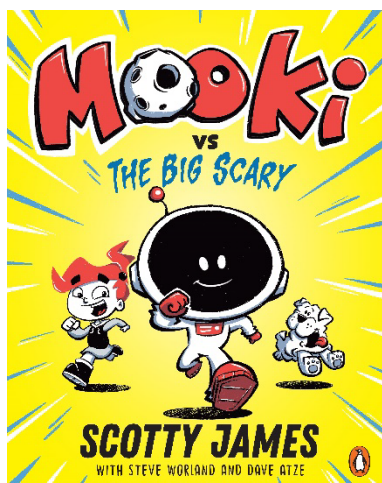
1. Consider what the word 'confidence' means. Create a mind map as a class.
2. MOOKi, Cindy and Ralph meet Miss Jenkinson, the plush eagle, who has never flown before, but the friends tell her that she'd be really good at it. Re-read this scene – how do MOOKi, Cindy and Ralph make Miss Jenkinson confident in her abilities?
3. In the same scene, MOOKi says: 'Practice makes permanent.' Have you heard a similar thing before? Discuss with your table what you think this means, and how it creates excitement and confidence.
4. Write a short story about a character who goes on a thrilling adventure – you could do this as a class. Include challenges they face and how they overcome them, gaining confidence along the way.
5. At the end of the book, MOOKi, Cindy and Ralph are all running away from Cog! How is this problem resolved? Research other books/films/stories that interest you that have this level of excitement and anticipation.

## KEY QUOTES

- MOOKi: 'Practice makes permanent!'
- Ralph: 'Bark! Bark! Bark!'
- Miss Jenkinson: 'This is so much better than my dreams!'
- MOOKi: 'You know you can talk to me about anything, right?'
- MOOKi: 'We just have to get through the nervous bit first.'
- Cog: 'That's – right – I – come – with – a – buzz – saw – accessory.'
- Cindy: 'Thanks for helping when I had my wobble.'



FURTHER READING FROM PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



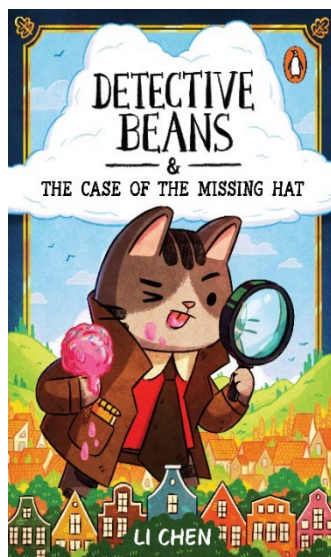
*MOOKi vs The Big Scary*  
by Scotty James

Join MOOKi and his best friends Cindy and Ralph on a **FUNNY** and **THRILLING** journey as they face **HEART-STOPPING** challenges and meet **AMAZINGLY UNEXPECTED** characters along the way.

They'll climb a towering mountain, outsmart some snappy Venus flytraps, face off with a fearsome yeti, and, you guessed it, confront The Big Scary itself!

To make it happen, MOOKi must dig deep to find his courage, Cindy must come up with answers to some difficult questions and Ralph must hold onto his nervous wees.

*Teachers' notes available.*



*Detective Beans and the Case of the Missing Hat*  
by Li Chen

In this hilarious full-colour graphic novel, Cat Town's best kitten detective is on the case – of his very own missing hat!

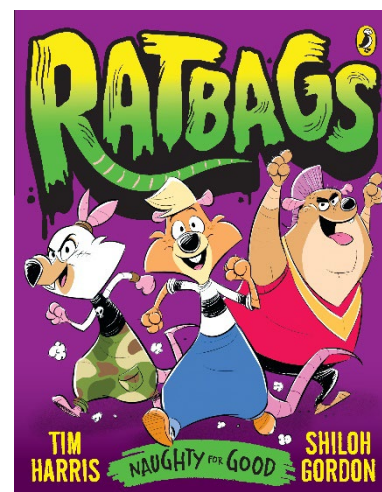
Detective Beans is available 24/7\* for all your mystery solving and ice-cream taste testing needs.

\* Except on school days, and after bedtime.

Today he's investigating the case of the missing hat. His missing hat. The clues take Beans all over Cat Town. He encounters philosophical pigeons, dodgy street magicians, lounge singers and soup chefs, and even a mysterious trash portal.

No one is a match for his crime-solving powers. But will Beans find his hat before Mum is expecting him home for dinner?

*Teachers' notes available.*



*Ratbags 1: Naughty for Good*  
by Tim Harris,  
Shiloh Gordon

From award-winning bestselling author and funnyman, Tim Harris, comes this stupendously rat-tastic new series. These are the Ratbags. They have pizza, and they are **NOT** afraid to use it.

Let's face it – rats are mischief. Rats are rule-breakers. Rats are ratbags. They're all the same. All, that is, except one ...

When Jigsaw runs into two of the most ratbaggy Ratbags known to rats, his orderly world is turned upside down and he pulls off one of the best pizza heists EVER! Will his newfound pizza obsession make Jigsaw the naughtiest Ratbag yet? Or will Jigsaw figure out how to be naughty – for good?!

**\*Books 2; 3; 4; 5 and 6 in the Ratbags series also available.**

*Teachers' notes available.*





## ORDER FORM

TITLE	AUTHOR	ISBN	SCHOOL YEAR	RRP	QTY	TOTAL
<i>MOOKi vs The Big Scary</i>	Scotty James	9781761347405	1-3	\$15.99		
<i>MOOKi vs The Terrible Toys</i>	Scotty James	9781761347429	1-3	\$15.99		
<i>Detective Beans and the Case of the Missing Hat</i>	Li Chen	9781761049477	2-4	\$17.99		
<i>Ratbags 1: Naughty for Good</i>	Tim Harris	9780143777441	1-3	\$14.99		
<b>TOTAL</b>						

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

<p>NAME: _____</p> <p>SCHOOL: _____</p> <p>ADDRESS: _____</p> <p>STATE: _____</p> <p>POSTCODE: _____</p> <p>TEL: _____</p> <p>EMAIL: _____</p> <p>ACCOUNT NO.: _____</p> <p>PURCHASE ORDER NO.: _____</p>	<p>PLEASE SEND ORDER FORMS TO YOUR LOCAL EDUCATION SUPPLIER.</p>
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