



# BOOKS FROM

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# Norway

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The Norwegian Library Association's Section for Children and Young Adult co-operated with Norwegian IFLA members on this project in our country. The project was announced with information and publicity in Norwegian library and literature periodicals, on the internet via blogs and discussion-groups for librarians and people interested in literature. Children's librarians sent their suggestions to the Norwegian Library Association, and more than 100 picture books were nominated.

The final list of picture books consists of titles that both met the IFLA criteria and got the largest number of votes. The librarians say that these books are excellent stories to promote in their work with story-telling for children in kindergarten and primary schools. These books are highly recommended by the librarians, and we are proud to send this list to an international selection of the world's best picture-books.



## 1 Bjørn F. Rørvik • Gry Moursund, ill. **Bukkene Bruse på badeland [The Billy Goats Gruff in Waterworld]**

Cappelen Damm, 2010 • ISBN 9788202295882

One day the three Billy Goats Gruff set off to the hills. Suddenly they notice a sign that shows them the way to Waterworld. "Ohhh, please!" begs the littlest Billy Goat Gruff. He would rather go to Waterworld this summer. "And then we don't have to cross the bridge either. It's so

scary with that troll!" says the youngest goat. The big Billy Goat Gruff gives in and off they go to Waterworld. But when the three Goats don't cross the bridge the troll comes to Waterworld. And the troll is really angry!

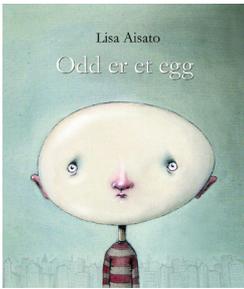


## 2 Stian Hole • Stian Hole, ill. **Garmanns sommer [Garmann's Summer]**

Cappelen, 2006 • ISBN 9788202259228

Garmann is anxious about starting first grade as he is not ready. He can not cycle, he does not dare to put his head under water and none of his teeth are loose yet. It's urgent – school starts tomorrow! It's the last day of summer and Garmann's three old aunts come to visit. Garmann discovers that adults are also scared

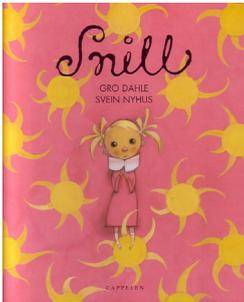
sometimes. His aunts are afraid of having to use a walker, harsh winters and of having to leave all behind when death comes. In the end Garmann isn't any less nervous about starting school, but he knows anxiety is a part of life. 2007 Bologna Ragazzi Award winner.



**3** Lisa Aisato • Lisa Aisato, ill.  
**Odd er et egg [Odd is an egg]**  
Gyldendal, 2010 • ISBN 9788205399204

Imagine that your head is an egg. It can break any minute. What would PE (Physical Education) lessons and ball games be like? How do you think you would enjoy a walk in Pinecone Forest? Or riding your bike in dangerous traffic? Not much?

7 years old Odd is fully aware of all those things, because his head is an egg. Every morning he carefully covers his head in towels to keep it safe. Then one day Odd meets Gunn.



**4** Gro Dahle • Svein Nyhus, ill.  
**Snill [Nice]**  
Cappelen, 2002 • ISBN 9788202221324

Little sweet Lussie is so nice, so nice. So nice that one day she just disappears. No one noticed her: "Her mother forgot that she was there. Her father forgot that she was there. The teacher forgot that she was there.

And all the pupils forgot that she was there". When no one sees or hears her, she slips into the wall. Will she ever be able to find the way out?

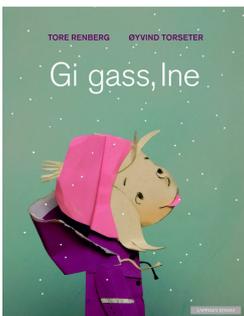
This book received the Brage Prize 2002.



**5** Henrik Hvoland • Torill Kov, ill.  
**Johannes Jensen føler seg annerledes [Johannes Jensen Feels Different]**  
Cappelen, 2003 • ISBN 9788202224462

Johannes Jensen is a crocodile that works in a tax office. He feels different and tries to find out why. Could it be that he wears a bow tie? Is he adopted? Or is it because he has a tail? He ties up

his tail but this leads to trouble balancing. He falls and hits himself and ends up at the emergency ward. There he meets Doctor Fjeld. This is a turning point for Johannes Jensen.



**6** Tore Renberg • Øyvind Torseter  
**Gi gass, Ine [Step On It, Ine]**  
CappelenDamm, 2010 • ISBN 9788202325626

This is an imaginative and playful story about the siblings Ine and Hasse. Ine is the oldest. She has lost one tooth, is light on her feet and tough in her heart. Hasse is her baby brother with a pacifier and diapers. Whenever he is asked a question, he replies with either a "yes" or a

"tractor". Ine and Hasse are going to chop down a tree. They bring an axe into the forest. But after a while all the animals in the forest come out to watch them. And then the animals want to come home with them!



**7** Trond Brønne • Per Dybvig  
**Venner [Friends]**  
Aschehoug, 2005 • ISBN 9788203246906

Five animals, who live on a farm, decide to get to know each other. They invite each other home and try to eat each other's food. This is a lovely

story which in very few words tells a lot about how friendship works.

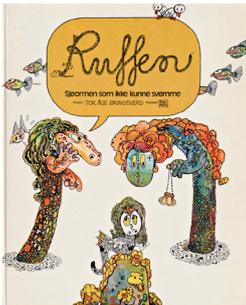


## 8 Kari Stai **Jakob og Neikob [Yesper and Noper]**

Samlaget, 2008 • ISBN 9788252170870

Jakob and Neikob live together and are good friends even though they are very different. Jacob says YES to everything and Neikob says NO. "Hey Neikob. You wouldn't say no to a road trip?" "NO", responds Neikob. On the road they meet a thief!

He takes their muffins and says he wants to steal their car. 'Yes,' replies Jacob, a little too fast. After several thoughtless YES answers, they end up being swallowed as crocodile-food. Will they ever be able to escape from the crocodile's stomach?



## 9 Tor Åge Bringsværd • Thore Hansen, ill. **Ruffen, sjøormen som ikke kunne svømme [Ruffen, the sea serpent who couldn't swim]**

Gyldendal, 2005 (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1977) • ISBN 9788205313255

This is a timeless story about Ruffen who is an outsider and can not swim and play with the other young sea serpents. He is in fact afraid of water. Ruffen is afraid of water, but when the Octopus becomes stuck, Ruffen helps free

him and in return the Octopus teaches him to swim. Ruffen becomes the best sea serpent at swimming, and when a ship is wrecked in a storm, it is only Ruffen who dares to swim out and save the big American boat.

## 10 Alf Prøysen • Vivan Zahl Olsen, ill. **Geitekillingen som kunne telle til ti [The kid who could count to ten]**

Gyldendal Tiden, 2003 (1<sup>st</sup> ed. 1975) • ISBN 9788205278943



This is a classic story about a young goat who can count – until ten. He counts all the animals he meets. The other animals become angry and afraid when he says he is going to count them, and one after another they run after the kid. In the end they all enter a boat. But the boat

is only classified for ten animals. When the crew discovers that the kid can count, they scream: "Hurry up and count us!" Luckily they are exactly ten. The young goat remains at the boat to count passengers.