

# Everything's a story: the magic of children's literature

Our stories are born with us, shaped by what we see, hear, do and read. Some of our most memorable experiences and valuable lessons come from our childhood books. Postal authorities around the world recognise the importance of children's books and have celebrated some of the most beloved stories on postage stamps. You might think children's literature could be easily defined as "books for kids". Although one can classify and study literature according to genres, not all books fit into one and only one category. Not everyone organises literature genres in exactly the same way. I chose to organise them as follows:

## Plan:

Bibliography .....	1	4 Traditional literature .....	17
1 General .....	2	4.1 Fables .....	17
2 Early childhood picture books .....	3	4.2 Myths .....	19
2.1 Counting books .....	9	4.2.1 Norse mythology .....	19
2.2 Alphabet books .....	9	4.2.2 Romanian mythology .....	19
2.3 Read-aloud books .....	10	4.3 Fairy tales .....	19
3 Fiction .....	10	4.4 Legends .....	21
3.1 Fantasy .....	10	4.5 Folktales .....	22
3.2 Realistic fiction .....	14	4.6 Tall tales .....	24
3.3 Animal fantasy .....	15	5 Poetry and verse .....	25
3.4 Historical fiction .....	16	6 Non-fiction .....	28
3.5 Autobiographical fiction .....	17	7 In conclusion .....	28

With this exhibit I want to show the wonderful stories in literature, and their creators, through the medium of postage stamps. Thematic information is in black, using bold and *italic* type to highlight terms. Philatelic information is in dark blue. Scans are outlined in a blue frame and important information is in red.

United Kingdom 2021  
World Book Day slogan

Type 4093  
Integrated Mail  
Processor (IMP)  
using an inkjet printer  
2 to 4 March 2021



Great Britain 1994  
Noggin and the Ice Dragon

Printing: Photogravure  
Designers: Newell and Sorrell  
Perforation: Syncopated  
14¼ x 14¼

## 1. Bibliography

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# 1 General

**Cyprus – EUROPA 2010**  
0.51€ Children's Books



Printing: Offset lithography  
Format: Se-tenant  
Perforation: 13¼ × 13¼

**Finland – EUROPA 2010**  
0.80€ Children's Books  
(part of a minisheet)



Printing: Offset lithography  
by Joh, Enschedé  
Designer: Leena Lumme  
Perforation: 14 × 13½

**Aland Islands – EUROPA 2010**  
Children's Books

Printing: Offset lithography  
by The Lowe-Martin Group  
Designer: Kristina Digman  
Perforation: 13



**France – EUROPA 2010**  
0.70 € Children's Books

Printing: Photogravure  
by Phil@poste  
Designer: Marc Taraskoff  
Perforation: comb 13¼



**Sweden – EUROPA 2010**  
12 kr – Children's Books  
Illustration from Elsa Beskow's *Children of the forest* (1910)  
& Lena Anderson's *Maja's alphabet* (1984)  
Used on Cover

Printing: Recess by Stamp Printing Office of Royal Swedish Post  
Designers: Gustav Mårtensson, Lena Anderson & Piotr Naszarkowski  
Perforation: Syncopated 12¼

## 2. Early childhood picture books

These are books that provide a visual experience through the telling of a story using images. One of the hallmarks of picture books is that they are designed to be read aloud. These books are written for children from ages birth through age 6. What makes a picture book distinctive is that it conveys its message through a series of pictures with only a small amount, or none, of text. The illustrations are as important as, or more important than, the text in conveying the message.



**Isle of Man 2006**  
The tales of Beatrix Potter minisheet

Issued by: Royal Mail  
Printing: Offsett lithography

Designer: The Agency Ltd.  
Perforation: Harrow 13

**Beatrix Potter** (28 July 1866–22 December 1943) is one of the world's best-loved children's authors. At age 27, she sent an illustrated animal story to a sick child of a former governess, about four bunnies named Flopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail, and Peter. The illustrated letter was so well received that she decided to privately publish it. She is best known for her children's books featuring animals, such as *The tale of Peter Rabbit*, which was her first commercially published work in 1902. Her books, including *The tale of Jemima Puddle Duck* and *The tale of Tom Kitten*, have sold more than 250 million copies.



Post Office First Day Cover

year  
of the  
child  
1979

A Pollard  
91 8th Road  
Kew  
2090 JOHANNESBURG  
South Africa

By air mail  
Par avion

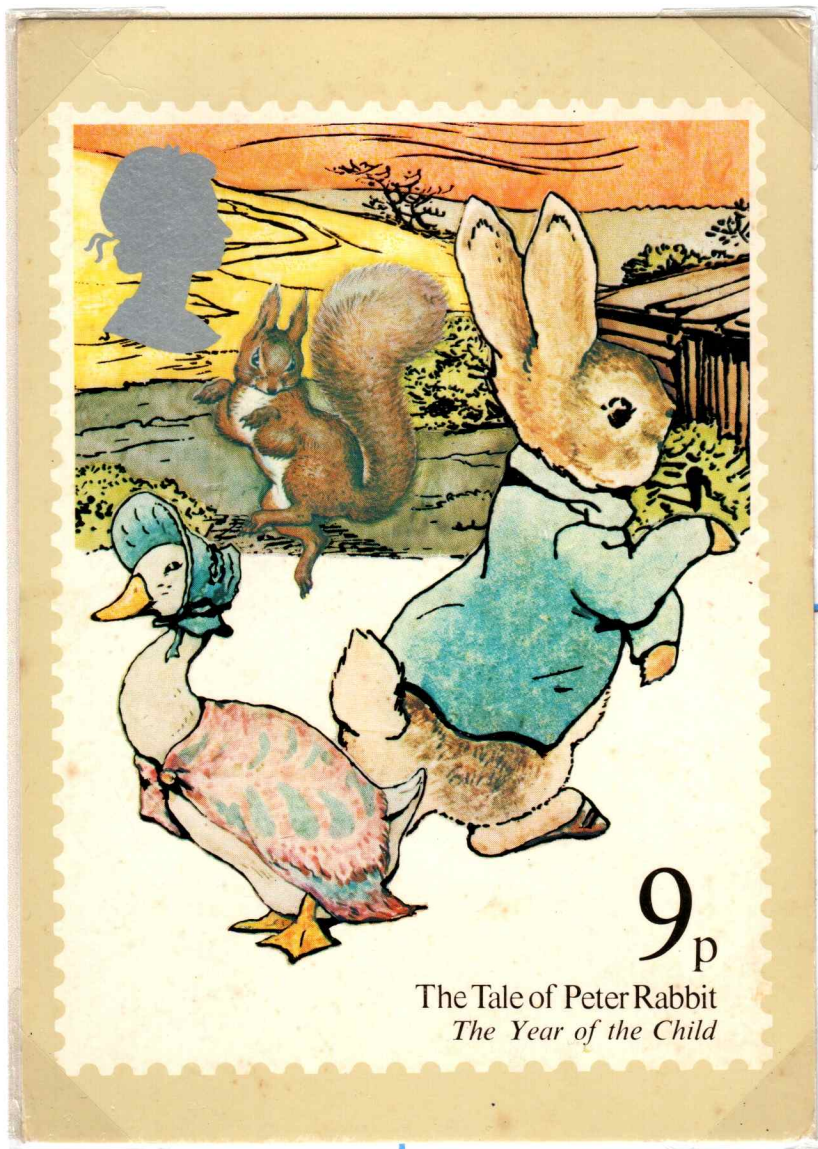
**Great Britain 1979**  
International Year of the child first day cover

Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: Edward Hughes Perforation: comb 14¼ × 14¾

**Peter Rabbit** is far more adventurous than his siblings: Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail. He is a mischievous, adventurous young rabbit who wears a blue jacket.

**Great Britain 2016**  
 Beatrix Potter souvenir sheet  
 The tale of Peter Rabbit

Printing: Offset lithography by  
 International Security Printers Ltd.  
 Designer: Charlie Smith Design  
 Perforation: 14½ × 14



**Great Britain 1979**  
 Children's book illustrations  
 (set of 4)  
 9p – The tale of Peter Rabbit  
 by Beatrix Potter.

Printing: Photogravure by  
 Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
 Designer: Edward Hughes  
 Perforation: comb 14¼ × 14¼

**Great Britain 1979**  
 PHQ card of  
 The Tale of Peter Rabbit with a scan of the verso



Children (United Nations' Year of the Child)  
 (The Tale of Peter Rabbit)  
 Reproduced from a stamp designed by Edward Hughes  
 ARCA FSIAD and issued by the Post Office on the 18 July  
 1979  
 price 8p

**Alderney 2013**  
The life of Beatrix Potter

Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
Designer: The Potting Shed  
Perforation: 13¼ × 13½



40p – **Beatrix Potter** in her childhood. The dog in the image is based on a springer spaniel called 'Spot'.



53p – **Beatrix Potter** enjoyed walking in the countryside around her hometown 'Near Sawrey'.



55p – **Beatrix Potter** feeding a duck, the scene is framed by the beautiful hills of the lake district in the background.



71p – **Beatrix Potter** is pictured drawing a cat on a basket in reference to the Peter Rabbit story.



63p – **Beatrix Potter** would often gather things to draw and include in her stories.



79p – **Beatrix Potter** enjoying a stroll through an idyllic farm.

**Great Britain 2016**  
Beatrix Potter

Printing: Offset lithography by International Security Printers Ltd.  
Designer: Charlie Smith Design  
Perforation: 14½ × 14



1st – The tale of Peter Rabbit



1st – The tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle



£1.33 – The tale of Squirrel Nutkin



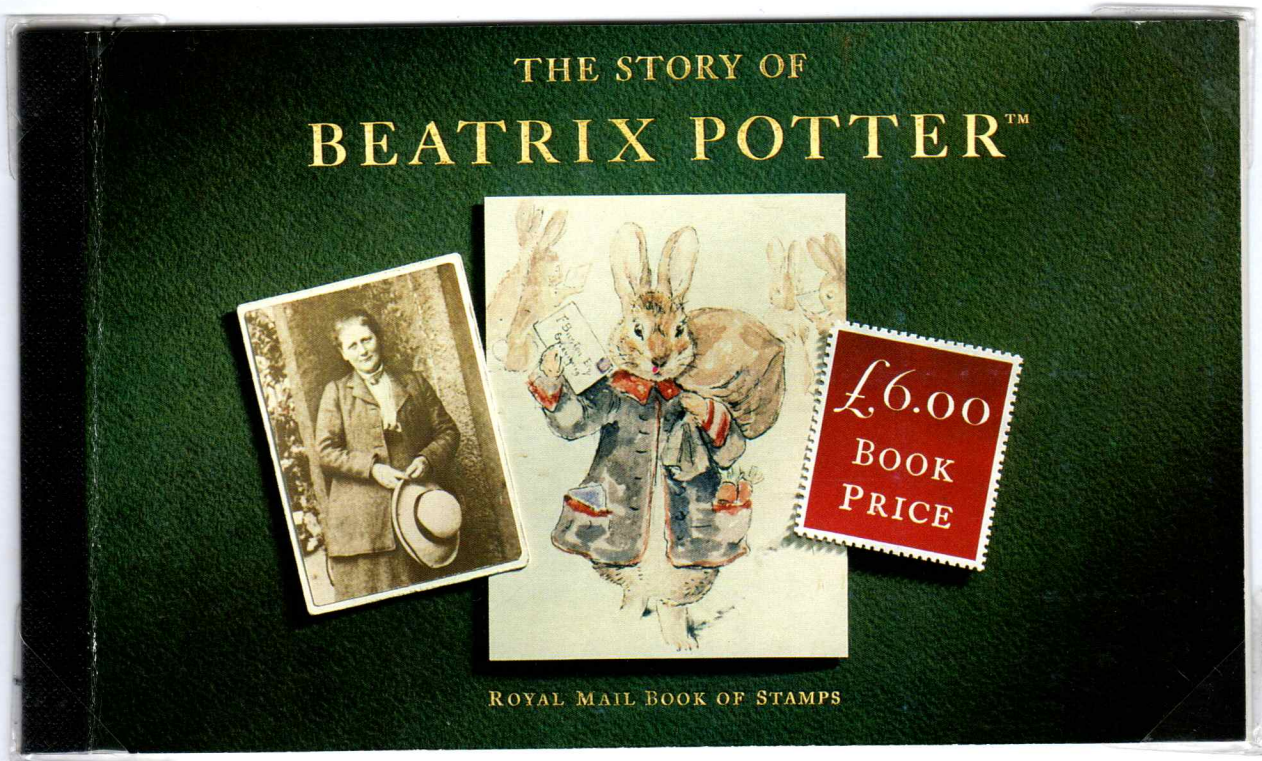
£1.33 – The tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck



£1.52 – The tale of Tom Kitten



£1.52 – The tale of Benjamin Bunny



Great Britain 1993  
The story of Beatrix Potter prestige stamp booklet

Printing: Offset lithography by Harrison & Sons Ltd. and House of Questa  
Designer: Andrew Davidson  
Contains booklet panes: SG X1012m, SG 1451aL, SG 1649a, SG N148L



Scan of pane number: DP199 with decimal Machins and cinderellas  
with drawings from various books by Beatrix Potter  
Face value: 2.16 £

Great Britain 1979  
Children's book  
illustrations  
(set of 4)  
11p – Winnie-the-Pooh

Printing: Photogravure by  
Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: Edward Hughes  
Perforation: comb 14¼ × 14¾



Alan Alexander Milne (18 January 1882–31 January 1956) was an English writer best known for his books about the teddy bear Winnie-the-Pooh.

**Winnie-the-Pooh** (also known as **Edward Bear**, **Pooh Bear** or simply **Pooh**) is a fictional anthropomorphic teddy bear.

**Frane Milčinski** (pen name Ježek; 14 December 1914–26 February 1988) was a Slovene poet, satirist, humorist and comedian, actor, children's writer, and director. *Sleepy Little Star* was written in 1952. Milčinski won the Levstik Award in 1959 for his story *Zvezdica Zaspanka* (*The Sleepy Little Star*).



**Slovenia 2006**  
Characters from children's books  
A – Sleepy Little Star

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Studio Arnoldvuga  
Perforation: comb 14

*Sleepy Little Star* is the youngest star in the sky. Because she constantly comes late to her work, the Moon sends her to Earth to punish her. She may return to the sky when she proves that she has learnt her lesson.

**Austria 2012**  
62c - The little I am me



**Mira Lobe** (born Hilde Mirjam Rosenthal; 17 September 1913–6 February 1995) was an Austrian writer of more than 100 children's books. Many of them were illustrated by Susi Weigel. Her picture book *I am me* was published in 1989.

A small animal is walking in a colourful flower meadow. It feels related to many other animals, although it is not the same as any it encounters – and slowly it begins to doubt itself. But then the little animal realises: I am not just someone, **I AM ME!**

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: P. Sachartschenko  
Perforation: comb 13%

**Bárður Oskarsson** (born 18 July 1972 in Tórshavn) is a Faroese children's writer, illustrator and artist, who has won several literary awards.

*A dog, a cat and a mouse* live together in peace and harmony. But ... they are all bored. They try to remember the good old days when they had much more fun. Then one day mouse hits dog's tail with a hammer and suddenly things take a turn!



Faroe Islands  
**Europa 2010**  
A dog, a cat and a mouse

Printing: Offset lithography  
by OeSD Austria  
Designer: Bárður Oskarsson  
Perforation: comb 13%

**Marie-Louise Gay**, one of Canada's best-loved creators of children's books, has published more than 60 titles and achieved international acclaim for her work. *Stella*, her brother Sam and their pet dog Fred explore the world around them, bringing readers along on their many adventures. The three spend a day in the forest, where Stella answers Sam's questions about the forest's inhabitants. They take a nocturnal walk to explore the moon and the stars in the company of raccoons, fireflies and bats. They enjoy a winter escapade, complete with snowballs, snow angels, and snow-covered trees.



LOWE-MARTIN, Design : q30 design inc., Illustration : Marie-Louise Gay  
Illustrations copyright – tous droits réservés © 2012, 2013 : Marie-Louise Gay  
(www.marie-louise-gay.com). Illustrations courtesy of / autorsées par  
Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press (www.houseofanansi.com).

**Canada 2013**  
Stella souvenir sheet,  
domestic rate

Printing: Lithography by Lowe-Martin  
Designer: Q30 desing Inc.  
Perforation: 12%

**Faroe Islands**  
**Europa 2010**  
 Moss Mollis' journey

*Printing: Offset lithography  
 by OeSD Austria  
 Designer: Janus á  
 Húsagarði  
 Perforation: comb 13¾*



**Janus á Húsagarði** (born 13 December 1975) is a Danish children's writer and illustrator.

***Moss Mollis' journey*** is about one of the small trolls in the Faroes that can stand the sun, a fact which enables it to travel around the islands at will. The journey commences at the bottom of the ocean where Moss Mollis picks up a pearl from an open horse mussel.

**Wilbert Vere Awdry** OBE (15 June 1911–21 March 1997), often credited as Rev. W. Awdry, was an English Anglican minister, railway enthusiast, and children's author. He is best remembered as the creator of ***Thomas the Tank Engine*** and several other characters who appeared in his *Railway Series*. In the second book in the series, *Thomas the Tank Engine*, Awdry wrote this "letter" to his son Christopher:

*Dear Christopher,  
 Here is your friend Thomas, the Tank Engine.  
 He wanted to come out of his station-yard and see the world.  
 These stories tell you how he did it.  
 I hope you will like them because you helped me to make them.  
 Your Loving Daddy*

**Great Britain 2011**

The 100th anniversary of the birth of Wilbert V. Awdry, 1911–1997

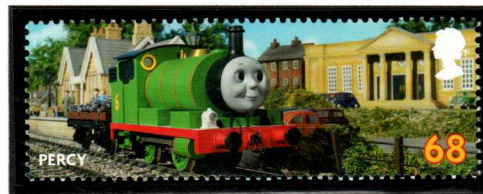
**Thomas** is a locomotive on The Fat Controller's North Western Railway on the Island of Sodor alongside *Edward the Blue Engine*, *Henry the Green Engine*, ***Gordon the Big Engine***, ***James the Red Engine***, ***Percy the Small Engine***, ***Toby the Tram Engine***, ***Daisy the Diesel Railcar***, and many other locomotives. Thomas works at the big station, fetching coaches for the big engines and longs for greater things beyond the station yard. Unfortunately, his efforts go wrong. However, after showing that he can be a useful engine following James' accident with some trucks, he is rewarded with his own branch line and two faithful coaches named *Annie* and *Clarabel*.



1st - Thomas the Tank Engine



66p – James the Red Engine



68p – Percy the Small Engine



76p – Daisy the Diesel Railcar



£1.00 – Toby the Tram Engine



£1.10 – Gordon the Big Engine

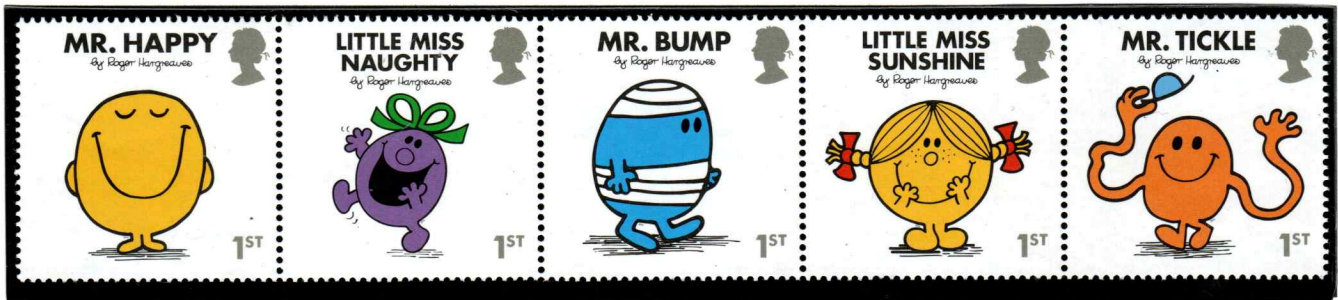
*Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
 Designer: Elmwood  
 Perforation: 14½ × 14*

**Roger Hargreaves** (9 May 1935–11 September 1988) was an English cartoonist, illustrator and writer of children's books. He created the **Mr. Men series**, **Little Miss series** and Timbuctoo series, intended for young readers. The simple and humorous stories, with bold, brightly coloured illustrations, have sales of more than 85 million copies worldwide in 20 languages.

Each book in the **Mr. Men** and **Little Miss** series introduced a different title character and their single dominant personality trait to convey a simple moral lesson. **Mr. Tickle** was the first Mr. Men character created by Hargreaves, inspired by his son Adam, who had asked him what a tickle looked like. Hargreaves responded with a round, orange figure with long, bendy arms. The stories are set in a fictional universe called "Misterland", which is inhabited by the Mr. Men and Little Misses themselves, as well as some ordinary human characters such as shopkeepers, doctors and postmen.

Great Britain 2016  
Mr Men and Little Misses  
set of 10, 1st each

Printing: Offset lithography by International Security Printers Ltd.  
Designer: Supple Studio  
Perforation: comb 14½



Mr Happy

Little Miss Naughty

Mr Bump

Little Miss Sunshine

Mr Tickle



Mr Grumpy

Little Miss Princess

Mr Strong

Little Miss Christmas

Mr Messy

## 2.1 Counting books

**Eric Carle** (25 June 1929–23 May 2021) was an American author, designer and illustrator of children's books. His picture book **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**, first published in 1969, translated into more than 66 languages and sold more than 50 million copies follows a very hungry caterpillar that consumes a variety of foods before becoming a butterfly. It incorporates elements that contribute to **early childhood education**, including **counting**, days of the week, and food.



Great Britain 2006  
68p – The very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

Printing: Offset lithography by De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Rose Design  
Perforation: comb 14½

## 2.2 Alphabet books

**Elizabeth "Lucy" Cousins** (born 1964) is a British author and illustrator of children's books. Her book **Maisy's ABC** features **Maisy Mouse** having some imaginative **alphabet fun** with her friends. She sails in a boat, flies a kite, dresses up as a queen, rides a train and makes music.



Great Britain 2006  
Animal tales  
68p – Maisy's ABC by Lucy Cousins

Printing: Offset lithography by De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Rose Design  
Perforation: comb 14½

**Graeme Rowland Base** (born 6 April 1958) is a British-Australian author and artist of picture books. His *Animalia* is an alliterative **alphabet book** and contains 26 illustrations, one for each letter of the alphabet. Each illustration features an animal from the animal kingdom (A is for alligator and armadillo, B is for butterfly, C is for cat, etc.) along with a tongue-twister utilising the letter of the page for many of the words.



Printing: Offset lithography by SNP Cambec  
Designer: Pendulum Design  
Perforation: comb 14 × 14½

Australia 1996  
50th Anniversary of Children's Book Council Awards  
45c - Animalia by Graeme Base



Variation:  
Self-adhesive with a phosphor frame  
Perforation: Serpentine die cut 11½

Great Britain 1988  
Death centenary of Edward Lear  
32p – Cat (from alphabet book)

Printing: Photogravure  
by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: The Partners  
Perforation: 14¾ × 14¾



*Nonsense Alphabets* was published in 1849. From the mid-1840s onwards, **Edward Lear** (12 May 1812–29 January 1888) made illustrated nonsense alphabets (also called "picture alphabets") as gifts for children of his acquaintance. Unfortunately, it is not known the name of the child or children for whom this alphabet was created.

## 2.3 Read-aloud books

**Pamela Kay Allen** (born 3 April 1934) is a New Zealand children's writer and illustrator. Her book *Who sank the boat?* tells the story a cow, a donkey, a sheep, a pig, and a tiny little mouse who lived beside the sea. One sunny day, they decided to go for a row in the bay.

Guess who sank the boat?

Australia 1996

50th Anniversary of Children's Book Council Awards  
45c – Who sank the boat? by Pamela Allen



Printing: Offset lithography by SNP Cambec  
Designer: Pendulum Design  
Perforation: comb 14 × 14½



Variation:  
Self-adhesive with a phosphor frame  
Perforation: Serpentine die cut 11½

## 3. Fiction

Fiction is literary works designed to entertain; the content being produced by the imagination of an identifiable author(s).

### 3.1 Fantasy

This is a fiction story with highly fanciful or supernatural elements that would be impossible in real life. It is set in an imaginary universe, often but not always without any locations, events, or people from the real world. Magic, the supernatural and magical creatures are common in many of these imaginary worlds.

**J R R Tolkien** (3 January 1892–2 September 1973) was an English philologist and author of the high fantasy works *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. *The Hobbit*, or *There and Back Again* is a children's fantasy published in 1937, being nominated for the Carnegie Medal and awarded a prize from the New York Herald Tribune for best juvenile fiction. It is a classic in children's literature and is one of the best-selling books of all time, with over 100 million copies sold.

*The Hobbit* is set in Middle-earth and follows home-loving Bilbo Baggins, the hobbit of the title, who joins the wizard Gandalf and the 13 dwarves of Thorin's Company, on a quest to reclaim the dwarves' home and treasure from the dragon Smaug. Bilbo's journey takes him from his peaceful rural surroundings into more sinister territory.



Great Britain 1998  
Magical Worlds: Classic Fantasy  
Books for Children (set of 5)  
20p – The Hobbit

Printing: Photogravure by  
De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Peter Malone  
Perforation: 15 × 14

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (27 January 1832–14 January 1898), better known by his pen name **Lewis Carroll**, was an English author, poet, mathematician, photographer and reluctant Anglican deacon. His most notable works are **Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** (1865) and its sequel **Through the Looking-Glass** (1871).

**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** is about a girl named Alice who falls through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world of anthropomorphic creatures. When Alice follows the **White Rabbit** down a rabbit hole, she finds herself in a land where she can change her size. She meets a Duchess with a pig for a baby, a Cook that throws spoons, a wise but mad **Cheshire cat**, the March Hare, Mad Hatter and a Dormouse. A **Caterpillar** shows her how to adjust her height by eating from the right and left sides of a mushroom.



**1979 Great Britain**  
Children's book illustrations  
(set of 4)  
13p – Alice's adventures  
in Wonderland

*Printing: Photogravure by  
Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: Edward Hughes  
Perforation: comb 14¼ × 14¼*

**Great Britain 1998**  
Magical Worlds: Classic Fantasy  
Books for Children (set of 5)  
63p – Through the Looking Glass



*Printing: Photogravure by  
De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Peter Malone  
Perforation: 15 × 14*

In **Through the Looking-Glass** the theme is chess. As in the earlier book, the central figure, **Alice**, enters a fantastical world, this time by climbing through a large looking-glass (a mirror) into a world that she can see beyond it. There she finds that, just as in a reflection, things are reversed, including logic. Among the characters Alice meets are the severe **Red Queen**.

**Maldives 1980**  
Alice in Wonderland



*Printing: Offset lithography by  
Format International Security Printers Ltd.  
Perforation: comb 11*



**C S Lewis** (29 November 1898–22 November 1963) was a British writer, literary scholar, and Anglican lay theologian best known as the author of *The Chronicles of Narnia* of which the ***Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*** form part. It is a portal fantasy for children published in 1950.

It is set in Narnia, a land of talking animals and mythical creatures that is ruled by the evil ***White Witch***. Four English children are relocated to a large, old country house following a wartime evacuation. The youngest, ***Lucy***, visits Narnia 3 times via the magic of a wardrobe in a spare room. Lucy's 3 siblings are with her on her third visit to Narnia. In Narnia, the siblings seem fit to fulfil an old prophecy and find themselves adventuring to save Narnia and their own lives. The ***lion Aslan*** gives his life to save one of the children; he later rises from the dead, vanquishes the White Witch, and crowns the children Kings and Queens of Narnia.

**Great Britain 1998**  
Magical Worlds: Classic Fantasy Books for Children (set of 5)  
26p – The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe



Printing: Photogravure by De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Peter Malone  
Perforation: 15 × 14

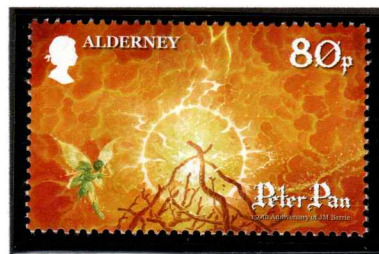
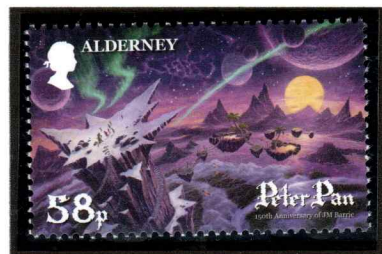
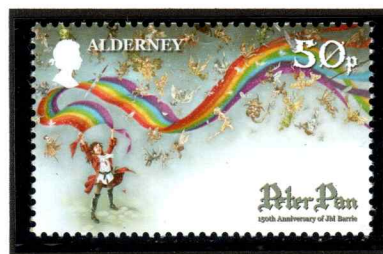
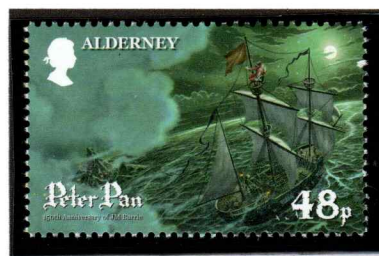
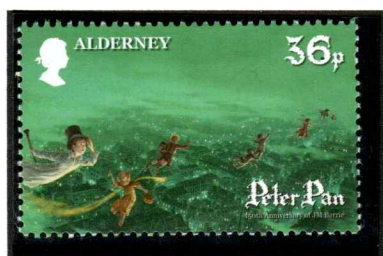
**Sir James Matthew Barrie**, 1st Baronet, OM (9 May 1860–19 June 1937) a Scottish novelist and playwright, remembered as the creator of *Peter Pan*. He was born and educated in Scotland and later moved to London.

***Peter Pan***; or, ***The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up***, is a work in the form of a 1904 play and a 1911 novel titled *Peter and Wendy*. Both versions tell the story of Peter Pan, a mischievous little boy who can fly, and has many adventures on the island of Neverland that is inhabited by mermaids, fairies, Native Americans, and pirates. The story also involves the characters *Wendy Darling* and her two brothers John and Michael, Peter's fairy *Tinker Bell*, the *Lost Boys*, and the pirate *Captain Hook*.



**Alderney 2010**  
3£ – Peter Pan minisheet

Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
Designer: Two Degrees North  
Perforation: comb 13½

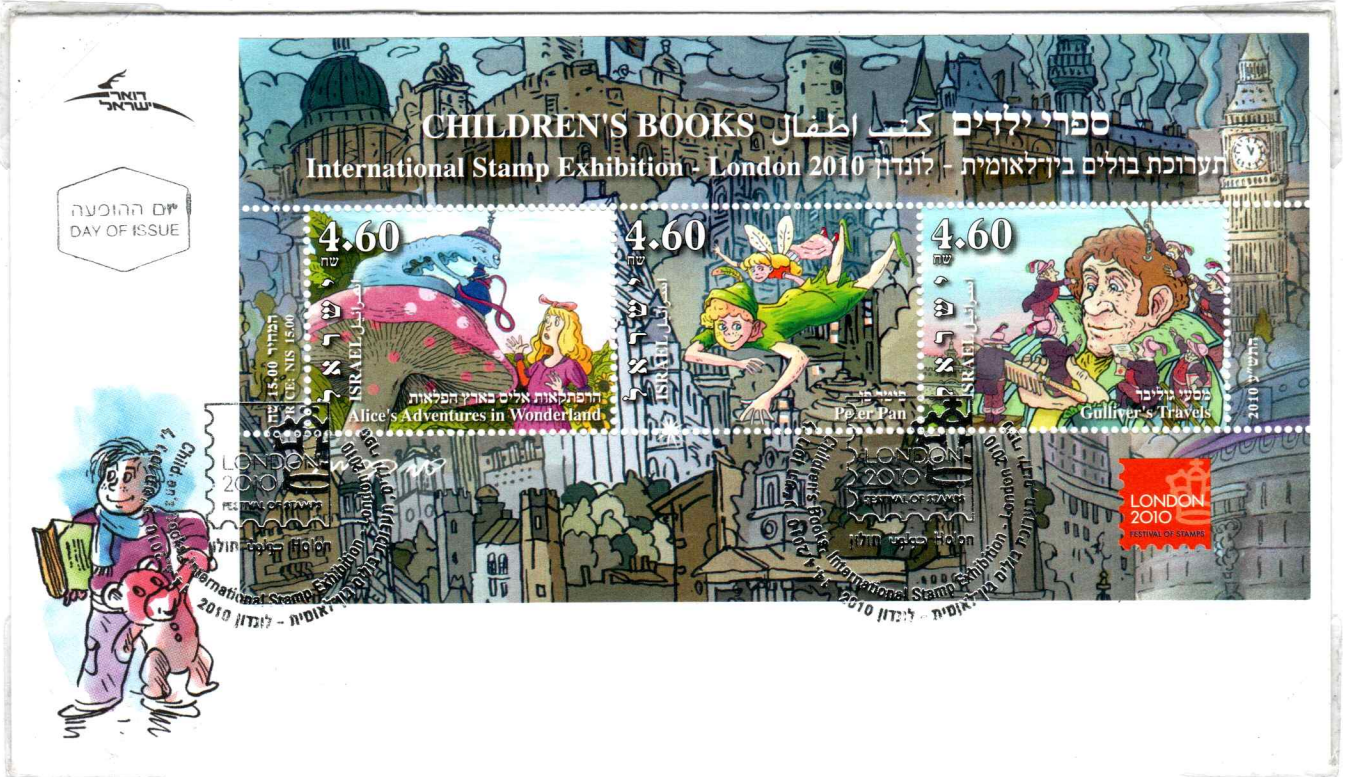


**Alderney 2010**  
150th Anniversary of the birth of JM Barrie

Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
Designer: Two Degrees North  
Perforation: comb 13½

Israel 2010  
International Stamp Exhibition London Minisheet (142 x 75 mm)

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designers: Danny Kerman & Yigal Gabai  
Perforation: 14% x 14%



Dominica 1980  
Scenes from Peter Pan  
(set of 9)

Printing: Offset lithography by  
Walsall Security Printers Ltd.  
Designer: Walt Disney Productions  
Perforation: comb 11



### 3.2 Realistic fiction

This is a fictional story set in modern times with events that could possibly occur. The idea that the novel is a full and authentic report of human experience. It attempts to represent subject-matter truthfully, avoiding speculative fiction.

#### Samuel Langhorne Clemens

(30 November 1835–21 April 1910), known by the pen name **Mark Twain**, was an American writer, humorist, and essayist.

*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is a picaresque novel by American author Mark Twain and it is among the first in major American literature written in vernacular English, characterised by local colour regionalism.



United States 1993  
Classic books (set of 4)  
29¢ - The adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Printing: Offset lithography and recess  
by American Bank Note Co.  
Designer: James Lamb  
Perforation: 11

**Astrid Anna Emilia Lindgren** (14 November 1907–28 January 2002) was a Swedish writer. She is best known for several children's book series, featuring *Pippi Longstocking*, *Emil of Lönneberga*, *Karlsson-on-the-Roof*, and *The Six Bullerby Children*, and for the children's fantasy novels *Mio, My Son*, *Ronia the Robber's Daughter*, and *The Brothers Lionheart*. In 2017, she was calculated to be the world's 18th most translated author and by 2010 sold roughly 167 million books worldwide.



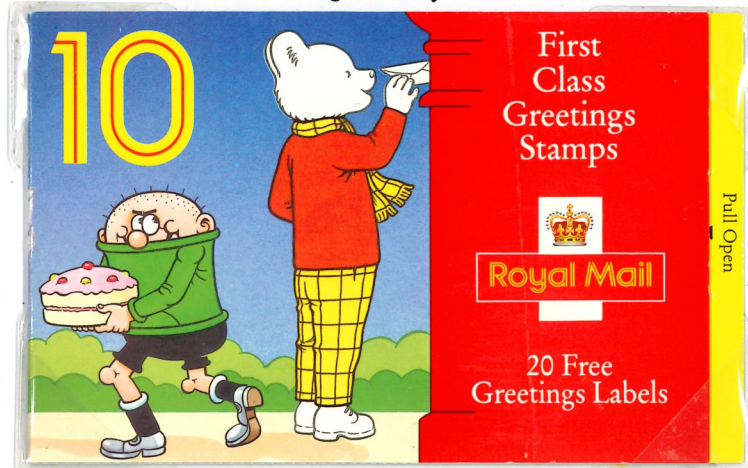
Sweden 1987  
First day cover:

The 80th anniversary of the birth of Astrid Lindgren, 1907–2002

Printing: Offset lithography and recess  
Designer: Zlatko Jakuš (main) with various others  
Perforation: 12½ three sided

### 3.3 Animal fantasy

This is fantasy where the main characters are anthropomorphic animals that display human characteristics. These are stories of quests, battles, cultures, and journeys with animals as their protagonists. The animals have human-type characteristics, relationships, dilemmas, and thoughts. Very few of these stories involve humans and in those that do, the animals remain the central characters.



Great Britain 1993  
10 × 1<sup>st</sup> Class booklet with  
*Ruper Bear* on cover

Printing: *Harrison & Sons Ltd.*  
Designer: *Newell and Sorrell*  
Rounded clasp

*Rupert Bear* is an English children's comic strip character and franchise created by **Herbert Tourtel** and illustrated by his wife, artist **Mary Tourtel**, first appearing in the *Daily Express* newspaper in 1920. **Alfred Bestall** took it over in 1935. About 50 million copies have been sold worldwide.

*Rupert* with his parents in a house in Nutwood, a fictional English village. He wears a red jumper and bright yellow checked trousers, with matching yellow scarf. Rupert's animal friends are his "chums" or "pals."



Great Britain 1994  
1st – Rupert Bear

Printing: *Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.*  
Designer: *Newell and Sorrell*  
Perforation: 14¼ × 14¼

**Thomas Michael Bond CBE** (13 January 1926–27 June 2017), an English author best known for children's books featuring *Paddington Bear*, whose adventures have sold over 35 million books worldwide, in over 40 languages.

*Paddington Bear*, the friendly, anthropomorphised spectacled bear from "darkest Peru", whose Aunt Lucy sends him to the United Kingdom, carrying a jar of marmalade. He has an old hat, battered suitcase, duffel coat and love marmalade sandwiches.



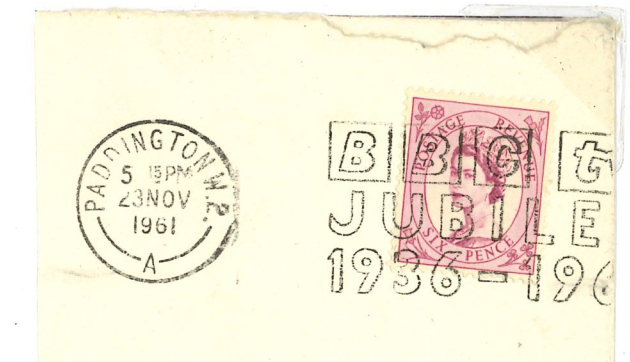
Great Britain 1994  
1st – Paddington Bear on Station

Printing: *Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.*  
Designer: *Newell and Sorrell*  
Perforation: 14¼ × 14¼



Great Britain 2023  
1st – Paddington with a jar of marmalade

Printing: *Lithography by Cartor Security Pring.*  
Designer: *Together Design*  
Perforation: 14½ × 14½



Postmark from Paddington, West London, posted on 23 November 1961.

**Joseph Rudyard Kipling** (30 December 1865–18 January 1936) was an English journalist, novelist, poet and short-story writer. He was born in British India, which inspired much of his work.

*Just So Stories* is a 1902 collection of origin stories for children. Nine of the thirteen *Just So Stories* tell how particular animals were modified from their original forms to their current forms by the acts of human beings or magical beings. For example, the *Whale* has a tiny throat because he swallowed a mariner, who tied a raft inside to block the whale from swallowing other men. The *Camel* has a hump given to him by a djinn as punishment for the camel's refusing to work (the hump allows the camel to work longer between times of eating). The *Leopard's spots* were painted by an Ethiopian (after the Ethiopian painted himself black). The *Kangaroo* gets its powerful hind legs, long tail and hopping gait after being chased all day by a dingo, sent by a minor god responding to the Kangaroo's request to be made different from all other animals.



Great Britain 2002  
1st Rudyard Kiplings *Just So Stories* self-adhesive booklet  
How the Whale got his Throat  
How the Camel got his Hump  
How the Rhinoceros got his Skin  
How the Leopard got his Spots  
The Elephant's Child  
The Sing-Song of Old Mans Kangaroo  
The Beginning of the Armadillos  
The Crab that played with the Sea  
The Cat that walked by Himself  
The Butterfly that stamped



Printing: *Photogravure by Walsall Security Printers Ltd.*  
Designer: *Izhar Cohen*  
Perforation: *Die Cut 15 x 14*  
Self-adhesive with 2 phosphor bands

Scan of the verso of the unfolded self-adhesive booklet

### 3.4 Historical fiction

This is a realistic story in a real-world setting in the historical past with events that are partly historical but largely imaginative. It is fiction in which a fictional plot takes place in the setting of particular real historical events. Authors also frequently choose to explore notable historical figures in these settings

**Robert Louis Stevenson** (13 November 1850–3 December 1894), a Scottish novelist, best known for works such as *Treasure Island*, *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *Kidnapped* and *A Child's Garden of Verses*.

*Treasure Island* (a.k.a. *The Sea Cook: A Story for Boys*) is an adventure and historical novel. Published in 1883, it tells a story of "buccaneers and buried gold" set in the 1700s.



3 sene  
Long John Silver, from "Treasure Island"

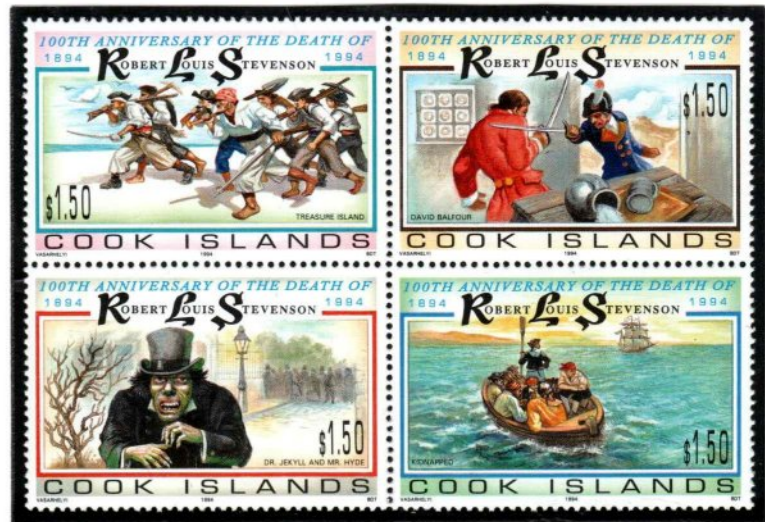
**Samoa 1969**  
75th Anniversary of the death  
of Robert Louis Stevenson

Printing: Offset lithography  
by De La Rue & Co. Ltd.  
Designer: Jennifer Toombs  
Perforation: 14 × 13½



7 sene  
Stewart and Balfour on the moor, from "Kidnapped"

*Kidnapped* is a historical fiction adventure novel, written for boys. It opens with David Balfour, setting off on a journey to his family's ancestral home at Cramond, Edinburgh. David soon begins to get the impression that his uncle is plotting against him and he finds himself unwittingly taken to sea on board the *Covenant*, with its rag-tag crew. Together, Alan and David the Jacobite over turn a murder plot, and embark on a series of swashbuckling adventures together, as their journey leads them back across Scotland.



**Cook Islands 1994**  
100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death  
of Robert Louis Stevenson  
(set of 4)

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Laszlo Gyula (Julian)  
Vasarhelyi  
Perforation: 14 × 14¼

**Kate Douglas Wiggin** (28 September 1856–24 August 1923) was an American educator, author and composer. She wrote children's stories, most notably the classic children's novel *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*, and composed collections of children's songs.

*Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm* is a classic American 1903 children's novel that tells the story of Rebecca Rowena Randall and her aunts, one stern and one kind, in the fictional village of Riverboro, Maine. Rebecca's joy for life inspires her aunts, but she faces many trials in her young life, gaining wisdom and understanding.



**United States 1993**  
Classic books (set of 4)  
29¢ - Rebecca of Stoneybrook Farm

Printing: Offset lithography and recess  
by American Bank Note Co.  
Designer: James Lamb  
Perforation: 11

**Charlotte Brontë** (21 April 1816–31 March 1855), was an English novelist best known for her novel **Jane Eyre**.

**Jane Eyre** is a bildungsroman that follows the experiences of its eponymous heroine, including her growth to adulthood and her love for Mr Rochester, the brooding master of Thornfield Hall.

**1980 Great Britain**  
Famous people: Victorian women in literature (set of 4)  
12p – Charlotte Brontë (Jane Eyre)

*Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: Barbara Brown  
Perforation: 15 × 14*



### 3.5 Autobiographical fiction

Autobiographical fiction refers to a story that uses made-up characters and events to represent an author's actual experiences. It is based in fact but not factual; or loosely based on real events versus serving as a true retelling of what happened.



**United States 1993**  
Classic books (set of 4)  
29¢ - Little house on the prairie

*Printing: Offset lithography and recess by American Bank Note Co.  
Designer: James Lamb  
Perforation: 11*

**Laura Elizabeth Ingalls Wilder** (7 February 1867–10 February 1957) was an American writer, teacher, and journalist and is best known for the children's book series **Little House on the Prairie**, published between 1932 and 1943, based on her childhood in a settler and pioneer family.

The **Little House on the Prairie** books comprise a series of American children's novels, based on her childhood and adulthood in the American Midwest (Wisconsin, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota and Missouri) between 1872–1894.

**Louisa May Alcott** (29 November 1832–6 March 1888) was an American novelist, short story writer, and poet best known for writing the novel **Little Women** (1868).

**Little Women** is a coming-of-age novel, originally published in two volumes, in 1868 and 1869. The story follows the lives of the four March sisters – Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy – and details their passage from childhood to womanhood. Loosely based on the lives of the author and her three sisters.



**United States 1993**  
Classic books (set of 4)  
29¢ - Little women

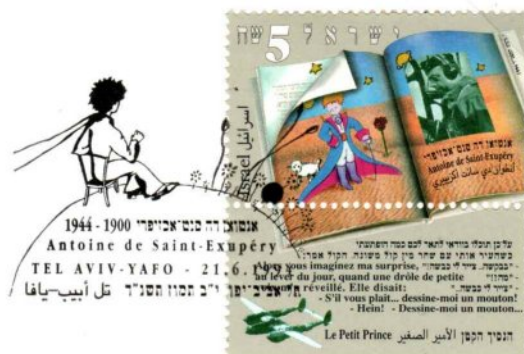
*Printing: Offset lithography and recess by American Bank Note Co.  
Designer: James Lamb  
Perforation: 11*

## 4 Traditional literature

Traditional literature consists of stories passed down orally and in written form throughout history, found in cultures throughout the world reflecting the norms of its people. Myths, fables, legends, tall tales, fairy tales, and folk tales are part of this genre.

### 4.1 Fables

A fable is a narrative usually featuring animals that behave and speak as human beings, told to highlight human follies and weaknesses. A moral, or lesson for behaviour, is woven into the story and often explicitly formulated at the end.



**Israel 1994**  
50th anniversary of the death of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

*Printing: Offset lithography  
Perforation: comb 14*

אנטואן דה סנט אקזופ'רי 1944 - 1900

**The Little Prince (Le Petit Prince)** is written and illustrated by French writer and military pilot **Antoine de Saint-Exupéry** (29 June 1900–c. 31 July 1944). The story follows a young prince who visits various planets, including Earth, and addresses themes of loneliness, friendship, love, and loss.



Cyprus 2012  
Aesop's fables  
Unfolded booklet with 5  
self-adhesive stamps  
0.34 € – The ant and  
the grasshopper

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Ioanna Kalli  
Perforation: Die cut 11½



**Aesop** (c. 620–564 BCE), a Greek fabulist and storyteller credited with fables collectively known as **Aesop's Fables**. An ancient literary work called **The Aesop Romance** tells an episodic, probably fictional version of his life, including the traditional description of him as a ugly slave who by his cleverness acquires freedom and becomes an adviser to kings and city-states.

**The Ant and the grasshopper** are about a grasshopper (in the original, a cicada) that has spent the summer singing and dancing while the ant worked to store up food for winter. When winter arrives, the grasshopper finds itself dying of hunger and begs the ant for food. The ant rebukes its idleness and tells it to dance the winter away. It sums up moral lessons about the virtues of hard work and planning for the future.

**The Hare and the tortoise** is about a hare who ridicules a slow-moving tortoise. Tired of the hare's arrogant behaviour, the tortoise challenges him to a race. The hare soon leaves the tortoise behind and, confident of winning, takes a nap midway through the race. When the hare awakes, he finds that his competitor, crawling slowly but steadily, has arrived before him.



Cyprus 2011  
Aesop's fables  
Unfolded booklet with 5 self-adhesive stamps  
0.34 € – The hare and the tortoise

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Ioanna Kalli  
Perforation: Die cut 11½

France 1998  
International Stamp Exhibition PHILEXFRANCE '99,  
Paris  
Paris mihi sheet  
3 F - Antoine de Saint-Exupéry "The Little Prince"  
5 stamps on sheet

Printing: Photogravure by Imprimerie des  
Timbres-Poste et des Valeurs Fiduciaires (ITVF)  
Designer: Charles Bridoux  
Perforation: comb 13

France 1995  
La Fontaine, 300 years of death  
2.80 F - Strip of 6 stamps  
and 2 thumbnails

Printing: Photogravure by Imprimerie des  
Timbres-Poste et des Valeurs Fiduciaires (ITVF)  
Designers: Charles Bridoux, Claudine Sabbatier & Roland  
Sabbatier

The Grasshopper and the Ant  
The Frog and the Beef  
The Wolf and the Lamb  
The Crow and the Fox  
The Cat, the Wessel and the Rabbit  
The Tortoise and the Hare



**Jean de La Fontaine** (8 July 1621–13 April 1695) was a French fabulist and one of the most widely read French poets of the 17th century. He is known above all for his fables.

Jean de La Fontaine collected fables from a wide variety of sources, both Western and Eastern, and adapted them into French free verse. They were issued under the general title of **Fables** in several volumes from 1668 to 1694 and are considered classics of French literature. Humorous, nuanced and ironical, they were originally aimed at adults but then entered the educational system and were required learning for school children.

## 4.2 Myths

Myths are stories of gods, religious accounts of the beginning of the world and creation. Myths express and confirm society's religious values and norms, with characters such as non-humans, gods, demigods, and other supernatural figures.

### 4.2.1 Norse mythology

#### Europa 2010

ISK 165 – The fate of the Gods

Printing: Offset lithography by Österreichische Staatsdruckerei  
Designer: Orn Smari Gíslason  
Perforation: 13% × 13%



Before the Norse (Vikings) converted to Christianity during the Middle Ages, they had their own native pagan religion. The centrepiece what we today call "Norse mythology": the set of religious stories that gave meaning to the Vikings' lives, revolving around gods and goddesses with characters, such as Odin, Thor, Freya, and Loki.

*The fate of the Gods* is an Icelandic children's book published in 2008 and deals with Nordic mythology written by Ingunn Ásdísardóttir, and illustrated by Kristin Ragna Gunnarsdóttir.

### 4.2.2 Romanian mythology

This is vibrant and scary, full of blood-sucking creatures, vicious and fickle lovers, and bloody battles, great and powerful heroes without age, and giants who keep guard over the earth! With dark forests, mysterious mountains, and, in many periods of history, enemies on all sides, the stories are often quite dark.

*The two-penny purse (Punguta cu doi Bani)* by Ion Creangă, first published in 1876. The story shows how a poor person can become wealthy. A variation of popular mythology, attested in antiquity, linked to domestic items (the hen and the rooster). If well cared for, "good housekeeping brings wealth".

**Ion Creangă** (1 March 1837–31 December 1889), was a Moldovan writer, occupying the middle ground between folkloric sources and an original contribution to a literary realism of rural inspiration.

#### Moldovia 2010

1.20 L, Punguta cu doi Bani



Printing: Offset lithography by Tipografia Centrală, Chișinău  
Designers: Vitalie Roșca & Yuri Leu  
Perforation: comb 14 × 14½

#### Moldovia 2000

25b – Ileana Cosânzeana

Printing: Offset lithography by Bundesdruckerei Berlin  
Designer: Filimon Hămuraru  
Perforation: comb 13%



*Ileana Cosânzeana* is a figure in Romanian mythology. She is represented as a beautiful and good-natured princess or daughter of an emperor or described as a fairy with immense powers.

## 4.3 Fairy tales

Such stories typically feature magic, enchantments, and mythical or fanciful beings. In most cultures, there is no clear line separating myth from folk or fairy tale. Prevalent elements include dragons, dwarfs, elves, fairies, giants, gnomes, goblins, griffins, merfolk, monsters, monarchy, pixies, talking animals, trolls, unicorns, witches, wizards, magic, and enchantments.

*Hansel and Gretel* is a German fairy tale set in medieval Germany and collected by the **Brothers Grimm**, and published in 1812 as part of *Grimms' Fairy Tales*. Hansel and Gretel are siblings who are abandoned in a forest and fall into the hands of a witch who lives in a house made of bread, cake, and sugar. The witch, who has cannibalistic intentions, intends to fatten Hansel before eventually eating him. However, Gretel saves her brother by pushing the witch into her own oven, killing her, and escaping with the witch's treasure.



#### Germany 1961

Stories of the Brothers Grimm: Hansel and Gretel

Printing: Offset lithography by Bundesdruckerei Berlin  
Designer: Albert "Bert" Jäger  
Perforation: 14 × 13%

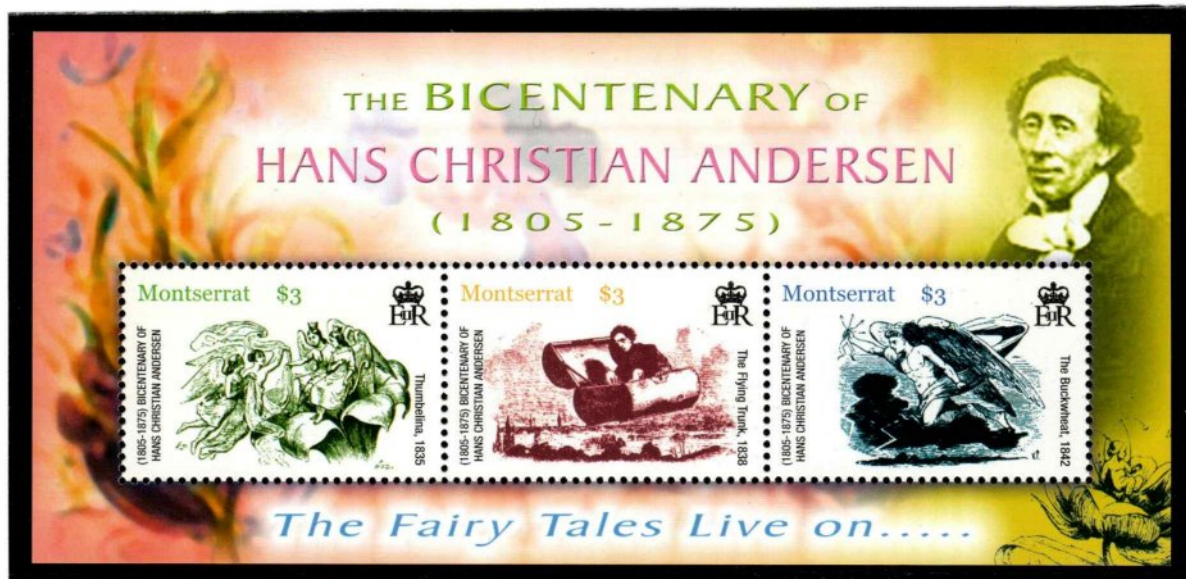
**Snow White** is a German fairy tale, first written down in the early 19th century. The **Brothers Grimm** published it in 1812 in the first edition of their collection **Grimms' Fairy Tales**. The fairy tale features elements such as the magic mirror, the poisoned apple, the glass coffin, and the characters of the Evil Queen and the seven Dwarfs. Jealous of Snow White's beauty, the wicked queen orders the murder of her innocent stepdaughter, but later discovers that Snow White is still alive and hiding in a cottage with seven friendly little miners. Disguising herself as a hag, the queen brings a poisoned apple to Snow White, who falls into a death-like sleep that can be broken only by a kiss from the prince.

**Grenada 1980**  
Snow White and the seven dwarfs

Printing: Offset lithography by Wallsall Security Printers Ltd.  
Designer: Walt Disney Productions  
Perforation: comb 11



**Hans Christian Andersen** (2 April 1805–4 August 1875) was a Danish author best remembered for his literary fairy tales. **Andersen's fairy tales**, consisting of 156 stories across nine volumes, have been translated into more than 125 languages.



**Montserrat 2005**  
The 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Hans Christian Andersen, 1805-1875 minisheet  
\$3 – Thumbelina 1835  
\$3 – The flying trunk 1838  
\$3 – The buckwheat 1842

Printing: Offset lithography by Beijing Stamp Printing House  
Perforation: 12¾

**Benedek Elek** (30 September 1859–17 August 1929) was a Hungarian journalist and writer, widely known as "The Great Folk-Tale Teller" of the "Szekely Hungarian" fairy-tales.

*The diamond purse* is about a poor woman who had a little rooster. The rooster scratched around on the garbage dump and one day, he found a diamond half-crescent. The Turkish emperor happened to pass by and forcefully takes it, but the brave rooster wouldnt rest until he regained the treasure he had found.



**Hungary 2009**

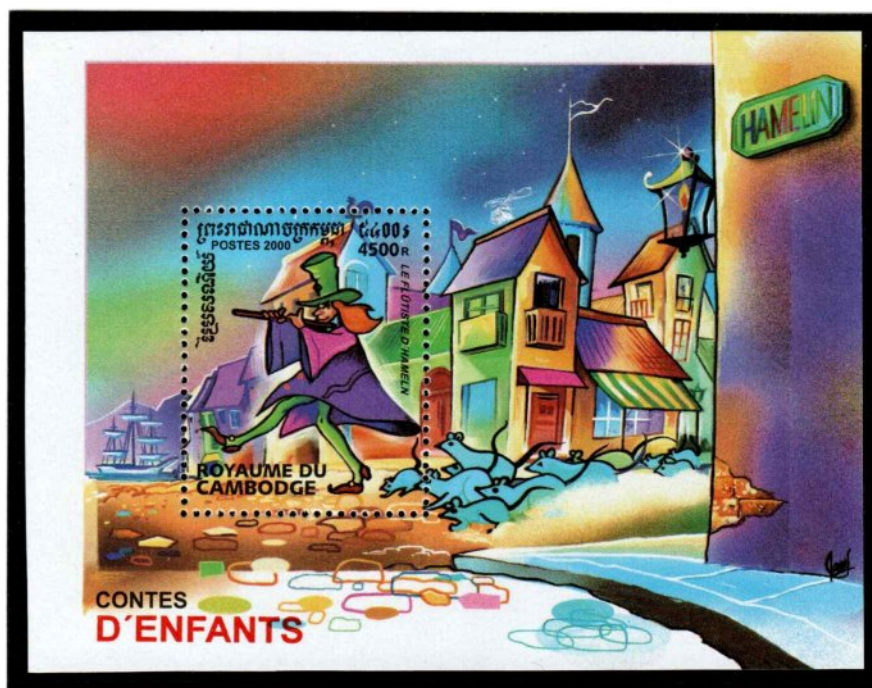
The 150th Anniversary of the Birth of Benedek Elek, 1859–1929  
 100+50 Ft – Portrait of Benedek Elek  
 100+50 Ft – King of Kacor  
 100Ft – Three little pigs  
 100Ft – The diamond purse

Printing: Offset lithography by Pénzjegynyomda  
 Designer: Edit Szalma  
 Perforation: comb 12 × 12½

#### 4.4 Legends

A legend features human actions, believed or perceived to have taken place in human history. It may demonstrate human values, and possess certain qualities that give the tale authenticity. It may include miracles. Legends may be transformed over time to keep them fresh and vital. Many legends operate within the realm of uncertainty, never being entirely believed by the participants, but also never being resolutely doubted.

The *Pied Piper of Hamelin* is the title character of a legend from the town of Hameln, Lower Saxony, Germany. The legend dates back to the Middle Ages. The earliest references describe a piper, dressed in multicoloured "pied" clothing, who was a rat catcher hired by the town to lure rats away with his magic pipe. When the citizens refused to pay for this service as promised, he retaliated by using his instrument's magical power on their children, leading them away as he had the rats. This version of the story has appeared in the writings of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, the **Brothers Grimm**, and Robert Browning, among others.



**Cambodia 2000**  
 Children's stories minisheet

Printing: Offset lithography  
 Perforation: comb 12½



Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
Designers: Atelier Acácio Santos & Túlio Coelho  
Perforation: Syncopated 13

Azores  
Europa 2010  
Children's books minisheet  
2 stamps, 0.68 € each

**Legend of the Seven Cities:**  
Legend has it that the Azores archipelago is what remains today of a wonderful and strange island. To fulfil a celestial promise for a daughter, a bitter king agreed to remain patient and hide the princess behind bronze walls for 30 years. However, his impatience got the better of him after 28 years; when he tried to break the walls down, a cataclysmic earthquake sank his kingdom. All that survived were the nine islands of the Azores and the princess's palace, which became the Lagoon of the Seven Cities; its green and blue waters reflecting the colours of her dress and shoes.

## 4.5 Folktales

Folktales or folklore are a traditional and culturally significant form of storytelling that has evolved over thousands of years, often originating from communal gatherings. Initially shared orally, these narratives entertain while conveying moral lessons, cultural beliefs, and historical insights. Common themes in folktales include adventures of heroes, explanations for natural phenomena, and the celebration of cultural events. These stories are passed down from one generation to the next.

Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Printing  
Designers: Atelier Acácio Santos & Túlio Coelho  
Perforation: Syncopated 11% x 12

Portugal  
Europa 2010  
Children's books minisheet  
2 stamps, 0.68 € each

An old Portuguese folk tale titled **O Macaco do Rabo Cortado** translates as **The monkey with the cut tail**. A monkey tries to fit into school by cutting off his tail, but when the teasing continues, he regrets it. Since the barber cannot reattach it, the monkey steals the barber's blade as payment. This starts a cycle: he trades an item to someone (a fish seller, a baker), changes his mind, and steals something more valuable when he cannot get the original back. The chain of theft finally ends when he acquires a guitar and is finally content.



The **Jackal and the Lion** is Xhosa folklore. The jackal repeatedly outsmarts the stronger lion through theft and deception. After a joint hunt, Jackal steals the meat for his family, hiding them atop a high rock accessible only by rope. Every time Lion tries to retaliate, Jackal escapes using quick-witted lies. When Lion tries to climb the rock to capture him, Jackal provides a fragile rope of mouse skins that breaks, sending Lion crashing to the ground, cementing Jackal's victory of wit over strength.



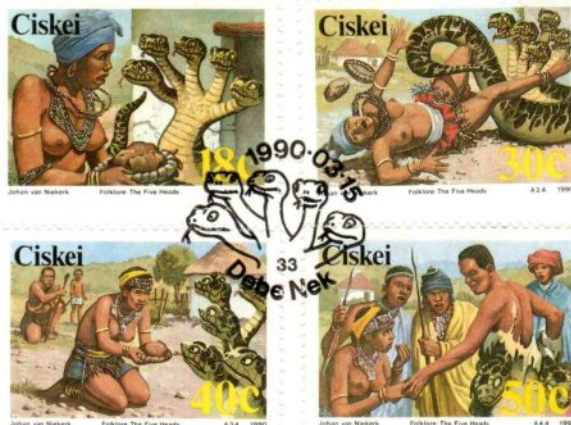
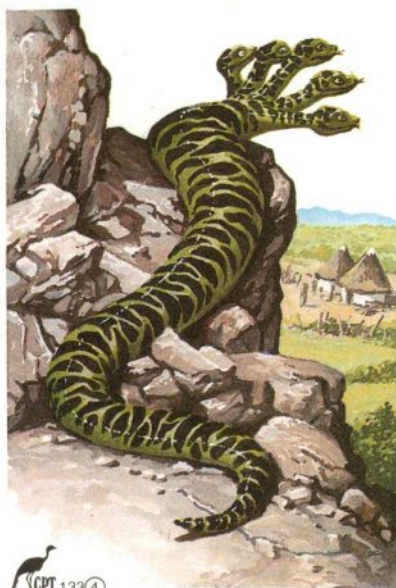
**Folklore:**  
3rd set in the series

1.31 ③ LCPT

**Ciskei 1989** First day cover  
Folklore: Legend of Little Jackal and Lion  
set of 4 stamps

Printing Offset lithography by Government Printer, Pretoria  
Designer: Jeff Huntly  
Perforation: 14 × 14¼

**The Story of Makanda Mahlanu (five heads)** is Xhosa folklore. This tale follows two sisters, Mpunzikazi and Mpunzanyana, who travel to marry a powerful chief. The eldest, Mpunzikazi, is arrogant and rude; ignoring the advice of animals and elders, travels without a traditional retinue, and fails to prepare a proper meal for her suitor. When she meets the chief, a terrifying five-headed snake, her poor character leads to her death. But, the younger, Mpunzanyana, is humble and respectful, following all the supernatural guidance she receives. Because of her kindness and poise, she successfully passes the chief's tests, leading him to transform into a man and take her as his most beloved wife.



LCPT 133 ④

**Folklore:** 4th set in the series

**Ciskei 1990** First day cover  
Folklore: Legend of five heads  
set of 4 stamps

Printing Offset lithography by Government Printer, Pretoria  
Designer: Ian Ellithorne  
Perforation: 14 × 14¼

## 4.6 Tall tales

This narrative depicts the wild adventures of extravagantly exaggerated characters. A tall tale is a story with unbelievable elements, as if it were true and factual. Some tall tales are exaggerations of actual events, for example fish stories ("the fish that got away"). Events are often told in a way that makes the narrator seem to have been a part of the story.

**Roald Dahl** (13 September 1916–23 November 1990) was one of the world's most imaginative, successful and loved storytellers. His stories are published in 49 languages worldwide. They continue to inspire the world's most creative collaborators, resulting in wonderful new movie adaptations, classical music, opera, plays and musicals.

**James and the giant peach** centres on a young English orphan boy who enters a gigantic, magical peach, and has a wild and surreal cross-world adventure with 7 magically altered garden bugs.



**Great Britain 2012**  
Roald Dahl's children's stories  
(set of 6)  
68p – James and the giant peach

Printing: Lithography by  
Cartor Security Print  
Designer: Magpie Studio  
Perforation: 14 × 14

**Great Britain 2012**  
Roald Dahl's children's stories  
(set of 6)  
£1 – The Twits

Printing: Lithography by  
Cartor Security Print  
Designer: Magpie Studio  
Perforation: 14 × 14



The story features **The Twits** (Mr. and Mrs. Twit), a spiteful, lazy, and unkempt couple who continuously play nasty tricks on each other to amuse themselves and exercise their devious wickedness on their pet monkeys.

**Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** features the adventures of young Charlie Bucket inside the chocolate factory of an eccentric chocolatier named Willy Wonka. It tells the story of a destitute young boy who wins a golden ticket to tour the mysterious and magical chocolate factory of Willy Wonka.

**Great Britain 2012**  
Roald Dahl's children's stories  
(set of 6)  
1st – Charlie and the chocolate factory

Printing: Lithography by  
Cartor Security Print  
Designer: Magpie Studio  
Perforation: 14 × 14



**Great Britain 2012**  
Roald Dahl's The BFG  
minisheet with 5 stamps

Printing: Offset lithography by Cartor Security Print  
Designer: Magpie Studio  
Perforation: 14 × 14½

The **BFG** is short for **The Big Friendly Giant**. **Sophie**, a young girl in an orphanage, cannot sleep. Looking out of her window, she sees a mysterious giant man in the street, carrying a suitcase and a trumpet. The giant sees Sophie, who tries to hide in bed, but the giant picks her up through the window. Sophie is carried to a large cave in the middle of a desolate land called Giant Country where the giant sets her down. Believing that he intends to eat her, Sophie pleads for her life, but the giant laughs and dismisses the idea. He explains that although most giants do eat humans, he does not because he is the BFG; he had carried Sophie off merely so she would not reveal that she had seen a real giant, which would put him at risk of being captured for a zoo-exhibit.

5 Poetry and verse

Poetry and verse are works in which word images are selected and expressed to create strong, often beautiful, impressions. These books are written at different reading levels that introduce readers to condensed language, and imagery, as well as creative expression and imaginative perceptions.

Ayin Hillel was the pen name of Hillel Omer (4 August 1926–30 June 1990). He was a landscape gardener by profession, is a children's poet who introduced a free, modernistic line into children's literature, full of humour and unusual metaphors. His best known works are the stories of eccentric Uncle Simcha.

His humorous poem *Why is the Zebra Wearing Pyjamas?* which first appeared in a book of that name published in 1961 was later reprinted in an anthology of his animal stories *Of Flies and Elephants* (1977) and illustrated by Alona Frankel, herself a well-known writer of short stories for children and one of the most important artist-illustrators of children's books since the 1980s.



Israel 1984  
Children's books  
30.00 IS – Why does the Zebra wear pyjamas?

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Ben Dov, Dror  
Perforation: comb 14  
With inscriptions on tabs

Israel 1996  
1NIS – Anda Amir-Pinkerfeld – Stars in a Bucket



Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Ronen Goldberg  
Perforation: comb 14

Anda Pinkerfeld Amir (26 June 1902–27 March 1981) was an Israeli poet and writer. Her most remembered work was written for children in rhyme and lyrics, and more serious writing helping children deal with loss. She wrote *Stars in the Bucket* in 1957.

Israel 1984 Right –  
Special presentation personally signed and numbered by illustrator Shmuel Katz

Shmuel Katz (18 August 1926–26 March 2010) was an Israeli artist and illustrator. He was born in Vienna and spent the Second World War in hiding in Hungary, after escaping from a concentration camp.

*Flat to rent* was written by Leah Goldberg and illustrated by Shmuel Katz. It is a story written in rhyme based on an East European folktale where the diverse residents of an apartment house get along fine, but when they try to rent a vacant room, each prospective tenant finds fault with one of them.

Hayim Nahman Bialik (9 January 1873–4 July 1934) was a Russian-Jewish poet who wrote primarily in Hebrew and Yiddish. He was among the founders of a new field of Hebrew children's literature and, as a result of his great influence, became commonly known as "the national poet".



Israel 1984  
Children's books  
20.00 IS – Flat to rent  
50.00 IS – Beyond the sea

Printing: Offset lithography  
Designer: Ben Dov, Dror  
Perforation: comb 14  
With inscriptions on tabs



*Beyond the sea* was written by Hayim Nahman Bialik and illustrated by Nahum Gutman. It appeared in the book *Children's songs and lyrics*.



ISRAELI POSTAGE STAMP, OCT. 1984: CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN ISRAEL.  
לאה גולדברג: "דירה להשכיר". איורים: שמואל כץ (ספרית פועלים)  
LEAH GOLDBERG: "FLAT TO RENT". ILLUSTRATED BY SHEMUEL KATZ

יום תהודיעה  
JOUR D'EMISSIION

24/67777

S. Katz



SPECIAL PRESENTATION, PERSONALLY SIGNED AND NUMBERED BY SHEMUEL KATZ

**Heinrich Christian Wilhelm Busch** (14 April 1832–9 January 1908) was a German humorist, poet, illustrator, and painter. He published wildly innovative illustrated tales that remain influential to this day. His mastery of drawing and verse became deeply influential for future generations of comic artists and vernacular poets. Busch remains one of the most influential poets and artists in Western Europe, being called the "Forefather of Comics".

**Germany 1990**  
125th anniversary of Max and Moritz

*Printing: Offset lithography by Bundesdruckerei Berlin  
Designer: Heinz Schillinger  
Perforation: comb 14*

**Max and Moritz: a story of seven boyish pranks** is a German language illustrated story in verse published in 1865. It is an inventive, blackly humorous tale, told entirely in rhymed couplets, about two boys who play pranks.



60+30 Pf – Widow Bolte  
70+30 Pf – Max asleep



80+35 Pf – Moritz watching  
Max sawing through bridge  
100+50 Pf – Max and Moritz



**Tristan da Cunha 1980**  
Christmas: Children's nursery rhymes  
minisheet with 9 stamps 15p each

*Printing: Offset lithography by John Waddington Security Print Ltd.  
Designer: Laszlo Gyula (Julian) Vasarhelyi  
Perforation: comb 13½*



Humpty Dumpty  
Hey Diddle Diddle  
Sing a song of Sixpence

Mary had a little lamb  
London Bridge  
Tom, Tom the Piper's son

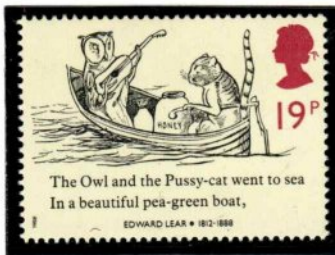
Little Jack Horner  
Old King Cole  
The Owl and the Pussy Cat

**Edward Lear** (12 May 1812–29 January 1888) was an English artist, illustrator, musician, author and poet, who is known mostly for his literary nonsense in poetry and prose and especially his limericks, a form he popularised.

***There was a Young Lady whose bonnet...*** limerick appears in ***A Book of Nonsense***, which is a whimsical collection of children's poetry created in the 19th century. This book is recognised for its playful use of nonsense verse and rhyme. Lear's work is emblematic of the Victorian era, showcasing an imaginative landscape where absurdity and humour reign. It engages young readers with its delightful characters and humorous situations, inviting them into a world of silliness. The book features a series of amusing limericks, each centered around eccentric characters, mainly "Old Men" and "Young Ladies," who find themselves in ludicrous and entertaining predicaments.

**Great Britain 1988**  
Death centenary of Edward Lear

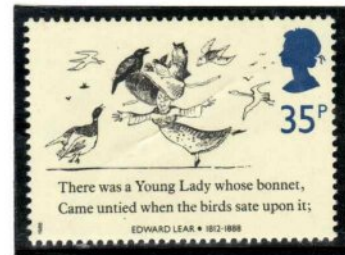
Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: The Partners  
Perforation: 14¾ × 14¾



19p – The Owl and the Pussy-cat



27p – Edward Lear as a Bird' (self-portrait)



35p – 'There was a young lady whose bonnet ...' (limerick)

***The Owl and the Pussy-Cat*** is a nonsense poem, first published in 1870. It features four anthropomorphic animals – an owl, a cat, a pig, and a turkey – and tells the story of the love between the title characters who sail off to marry in the land "where the Bong-tree grows". Lear wrote the poem for a three-year-old girl, Janet Symonds.



**Great Britain 1988**  
Death centenary of  
Edward Lear minisheet

Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designer: The Partners  
Perforation: 14¾ × 14¾

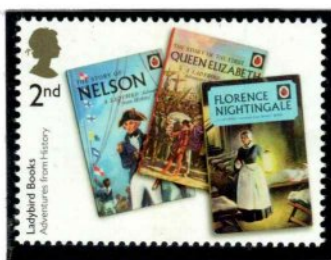
## 6 Non-fiction

These are books that are about real things, people, events and places. They provide factual information about a particular topic or concept, rather than being grounded in imagination.

**Ladybird Books** are a London-based publishing company, and publishes mass-market children's books. The company traces its origins to 1867, when Henry Wills opened a bookshop in Loughborough, Leicestershire. Within a decade he progressed to printing and publishing guidebooks and street directories. By August 1914, Wills & Hepworth had published their first children's books, under the Ladybird imprint. From the beginning, the company was identified by a ladybird logo, at first with open wings, but eventually changed to the more familiar closed-wing ladybird in the late 1950s. In the 1960s, Ladybird produced the **Learnabout series of non-fiction** books, some of which were used by adults as well as children. The pocket-sized hardback Ladybird measured roughly 11.5 cm by 18 cm. The first book in the line, Bunnikin's Picnic Party: a story in verse for children with illustrations in colour, was produced in 1940. Later series included **nature books** and a host of **non-fiction books**, including **hobbies and interests**, and travel.

Great Britain 2017  
Ladybird Books

Printing: Offset lithography by International Security Printers Ltd.  
Designer: True North  
Perforation: comb 14



2nd – Adventures from history



£1.40 – Hobbies and how it works



£1.40 – People at work



£1.57 – Nature and conservation



£1.57 – Achievements

## 7 In conclusion

A good book latches onto a child and won't let go. Their pages are treasured, passed across generations, stories shared among families as imaginations fire and children's faces glow with possibility. You never forget your favourite children's book. One of the best things about literature is that it allows us to bond with characters we love and can relate to. These characters take us on adventures and can make us laugh, think, cry and teach us important lessons.

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Valid only as part payment towards the mail-in offer stipulated overleaf. No cash equivalent offered.

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Royal Mail Stamps  
Ten at 13p  
Special Offer for 4 second class stamps  
See inside back cover for details

Great Britain 1986  
Books for children booklet  
Face value: 1.30 £

Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designers: Arnold Machin & Eric Stemp  
Contains booklet panes: SG X900x10  
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**Special Offer for 3 first class stamps**  
See inside back cover for details



Printing: Photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd.  
Designers: Arnold Machin & Eric Stemp  
Contains booklet panes: SG X955 x10  
Servedge at left

**Great Britain 1986**  
**Books for children – Rabbits booklet**  
Face value: 1.80 £

Scan from the inside of the booklet above with a special offer coupon from Royal Mail to receive a book written by **Richard Scarry**

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