

Toittoi 14

Reading Notes

You might like to begin by leafing through the journal with your group and taking a look at all the fantastic artwork.

Listed below are some ideas of which pieces to read with your group. Feel free to choose your own or ask the students what they would like to read. They might like to take turns reading aloud.

We hope you enjoy sharing Toittoi 14 with your young writers and artists!

Recommended reading in Issue 14

Years 1-2

The Long Night on page 78 is a magical short story about a nighttime adventure on a dragon. The rhythmic pattern of Poppy's writing makes this a lovely one to read aloud and you can discuss what your readers would do if they owned a pet dragon.

You could also try:

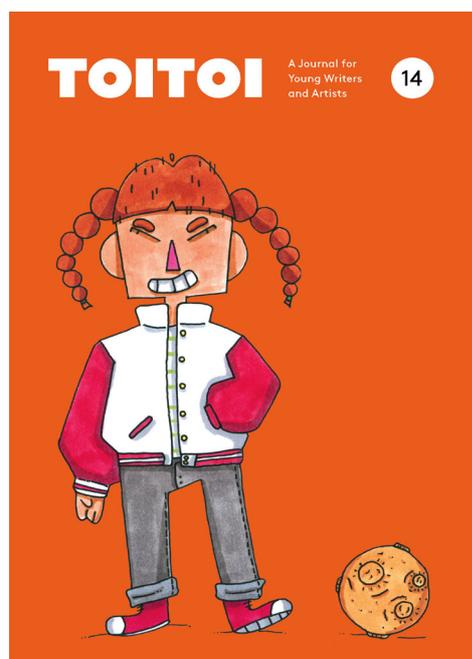
- *Sausages* on page 18 - a humorous poem with a lovely dynamic between Tama and his dad;
- *What Am I?*, page 98 - a descriptive poem about a mole. What other animal riddles can your readers come up with?

Years 3-4

Steve on page 26 is an hilarious story about a young fly who takes a nosedive and wakes up in hospital. His heart's desire is to have a name. But flies don't have names - do they? Brainstorm other story ideas about animals with a secret wish.

You could also try:

- *The Chicken in the Attic* on page 24 - an wacky poem that will leave you wondering;
- *Deep Cavern*, page 6 - a thrilling encounter with a stingray in an underwater cave.



Years 5-6

Wild Conditions on page 40 is a story about a hiking adventure in a blizzard with a fantastic ending. The tension builds beautifully and your readers will want to pore over the artwork. When you're finished, ask them to turn to the inside back cover to reveal the yeti!

You could also try:

- *A Narrow Escape* on page 20 - fast-paced action about fighting off bad guys and angry bears;
- *Kina is Disgusting* on page 86 - a cleverly-crafted rhyming poem about diving for kina;
- *Night Practice* on page 60 - a short, intense poem that brings a late-night game to life.

Years 7-8

Biosphere 2 on page 100 is an mysterious story written through diary entries. The main character is trapped in a biosphere, where dark forces seem to be at work. Will she make it out? Ask your readers if they know what a biosphere is. What other futuristic locations would make a good setting for a thrilling detective story?

You could also try:

- *New School* on page 32 - a thoughtful poem about how it feels to move to a new school;
- *The Climb* on page 92 - an intriguing short story with a mysterious ending;

Long Stories

If you have a bit of extra time and would like to read to your group, you could try these fantastic longer stories:

- *Broken City* on page 50 - a suspenseful story about being left behind in dystopian Wellington;
- *A Bright Future* on page 82 - a hopeful story of the fortunes of three generations in Paeroa;