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Age 3-7 years
Lexile Read aloud

Belinda O'Keefe is a freelance copy editor and proofreader with a passion for language and books. She loves reading so much that she does it for a living, as well as for pleasure. In fact she can't remember the last time she was without a book to read! She lives in Christchurch with her husband, two boys, two cats, two rabbits, two minnows and a goldfish called Neville.

Belinda is on the committee of the South Island Writers' Association and was shortlisted for the Storylines Joy Cowley Award in 2016 and 2017. Her own two boys are her inspiration, as well as everything else life throws at her.

Richard Hoit is based in Papamoa, and has been illustrating children's books for over twenty years. He studied art and art history, and has had a passion for drawing and painting all his life. From whimsical to moody and humorous he can confidently interpret scripts and make them come alive. He has worked with numerous publishers and has illustrated books that have been published all over the world.



By Belinda O'Keefe * Illustrated by Richard Hoit

A rollicking, rhyming story of comeuppance

Two boisterous boys who made lots of noise, found it dreadfully hard to be good; always charging and barging, fighting and biting, and not acting quite as they should.

Patrick and Wayne drove their parents insane, but they could be good if they tried.
Still, they'd roar and they'd claw, they'd scoot and they'd shoot until someone eventually cried.



An action-packed, hilarious story about two wild, rascally boys and the trouble they cause in the garden, until the plants decide to teach them a lesson ... because, as the boys discover, plants have eyes and ears too!

- A light-hearted riot of a story with a little lesson
- A classic tale of comeuppance, told in clever, well-written rhyme
- Humorous and dramatic illustrations children will laugh out loud over

Praise for The Whale and the Snapper, also illustrated by Richard Hoit

"... beautiful illustrations and rhyming couplets that flow with a jaunty rhythm and a good dollop of Kiwi colloquialisms." — Magpies

"Richard Hoit's colour illustrations are splendid, combining realism with a cartoon touch. His whale is massive, dominating each picture, so that the tiny snapper seems heroic in her resolve." — Trevor Agnew



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