



BIG LITTLE BLUE

DOUBLEDIPPERS!

RAYMOND MCGRATH

Delightful Bigsies and Littles are back, showcasing the importance of being kind and helping others.

Publication	FEBRUARY 2024
DoubleDippers #3	978-1-77543-836-6
RockyBottoms #2	978-1-77543-835-9
SandyPants #1	978-1-77543-834-2
NZ RRP	\$18.99
Printing	Full colour
Binding	Paperback
Format	229 x 153 mm
Extent	96 pp
Age	5-8 years
Rights	World

Raymond McGrath is an award-winning animation director, illustrator, designer and writer who has been working in children’s television and advertising for around 20 years. As well as illustrating books for other authors, such as the award-winning *The Little Ghost Who Lost Her Boo!* and Susan Brocker’s true-life animal stories, he has written and illustrated several books himself, including *That’s What Dragons Do!* Raymond lives in rural Auckland with his wife and four children, some cats and a Schnauzer.

There are three simply illustrated, playful stories in this graphic novel-style volume, each one featuring two friends, Big Blue and Little Blue. Each story is connected by a wellbeing theme, and is designed to offer children coping strategies for navigating friendships, understanding emotional responses, and the importance of mindfulness and being yourself.

- While Book #1 *SandyPants* showed how to be a good friend, and Book #2 *RockyBottoms* introduced the importance of sometimes just doing nothing, Book #3 *DoubleDippers* focuses on the enjoyment we can get from helping others.
- Meet a shellfish called Whetu, a bird called Shaggy and a penguin called Allie, all in need of help! And Bigsies and Littles discover it feels good to be helpful.
- Raymond McGrath has imbued his simple illustrations with bucketloads of character and humour, while at the same time managing to get a subtle message across.

Praise for BIG LITTLE BLUE by Raymond McGrath

“Raymond starts with a simple friendship idea, and then lets that idea simmer with such an inviting mix of HUMOUR and TENDERNESS and WARMTH in the conversation between friends. Take the idea of space. Or the idea of more than one friend. Or the idea of coming and going friends. And convert these into friendship wisdoms. Genius!”
— Poetry Box

“Set out in a graphic novel format with plenty of full page illustrated spreads among each story, the reader can enjoy these penguin’s quiet, undisturbed beach setting, as they spend time together. At the end of each story is a Fun Friend Fact – simply explaining a concept of friendship that Little Blue has just learnt.

Perfect for early primary school and all the puzzles and problems new friendships may bring, this is the first book in the series.”
— What Book Next

