

Gus Clarke

Gus Clarke was the **runner-up for the Mother Goose Award** with his first book *Eddie and Teddy*; he also won the Grand Prix de la Ligue des Familles in Belgium, a prize voted for by children. Gus understands families and every day situations and always sees events from an original angle, injecting humour and sympathy. He has created 15 picture books and 5 novelty books for Andersen Press.

'Gus Clarke has an extraordinary talent for imbuing the humdrum and ordinary with a touching and personal magic.'

'Gus Clarke has a keen eye for beaming, scheming children and a jaunty style.'

Independent on Sunday

Eddie and Teddy (1990)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Does Eddie need his Teddy? Or does Teddy need Eddie?

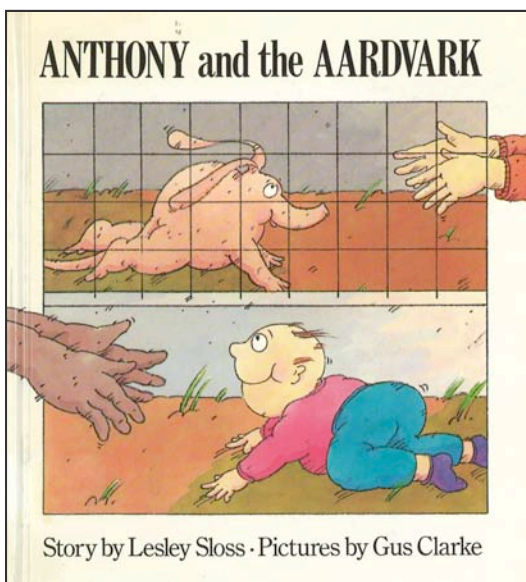
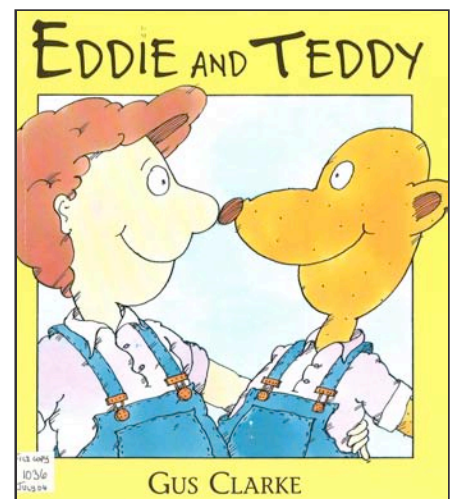
Eddie has always done everything with his teddy. In fact, he can't remember a time when Teddy wasn't there. So when he has to go to Big School without Teddy, he is very upset. But there is so much to do there, that he soon cheers up. Teddy is also upset, however, and nothing that Mum can do can cheer him up. They are both very relieved when it is time to pick up Eddie from school. And so Mum finds a way for Teddy to go with Eddie after all - in everything he does!

'One of the best books of the year... Small, concentrated and brilliant.' Anthony Browne

'A really good read-aloud.' Books for Keeps

'A refreshingly funny story between a feisty teddy bear and his boy.' Publishers Weekly

'One of the funniest books of the year... witty and bright with a wonderful punchline.' Books for Keeps



Anthony and the Aardvark (1990, text by Lesley Sloss)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

A case of mistaken identity!

Anthony doesn't look very like an aardvark. And an Aardvark doesn't look very like Anthony. But Anthony's grandparents, Mr and Mrs Jones, don't have very good eyesight, and when they take Anthony to the zoo and he decides to swap places with an aardvark, they don't notice – with hilarious results.

... Along Came Eric (1991)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

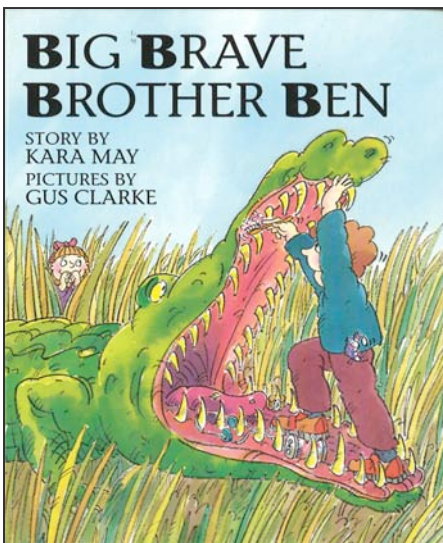
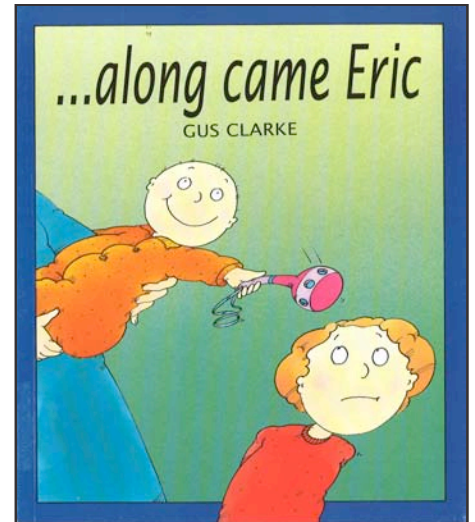
What is it like when a new brother or sister arrives?

Everybody liked Nigel, and best of all liked being Nigel. Then along came Eric. . . Gus Clarke's perceptive story, perfectly complemented by bright, humorous illustrations, provide a fresh look at a familiar sibling relationships as Nigel has to accept the presence of a new baby brother. . . who then has to accept the presence of a new baby sister!

'The funniest of several books particularly suitable for children with a baby brother. . . or sister.' Daily Telegraph.

'Brilliantly funny and perceptive story.' Books for Keeps

'Priceless... a wonderful comedy of errors.' Observer



Big Brave Brother Ben (1991, text by Kara May)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

A little sister knows what her elder brother is really scared of.

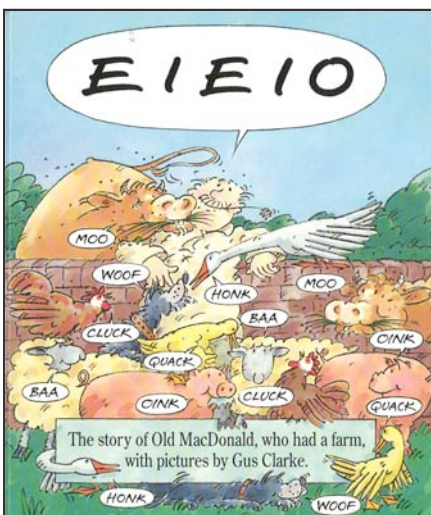
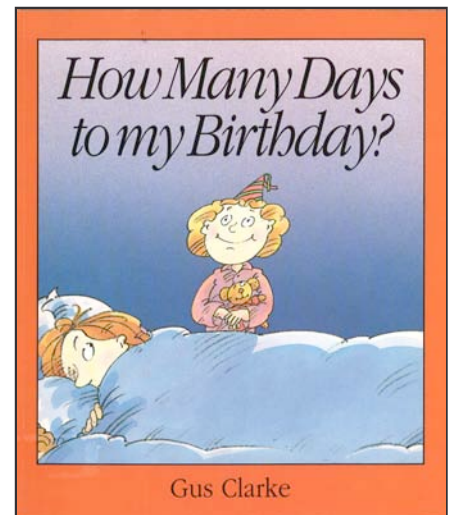
If Big Brave Brother Ben saw a vampire, 'I'd shake him by the hand and ask him in for tea! Vampires don't scare me! I'm ever so brave! I'M INCREDIBLY BRAVE!' In fact, Ben says he's not scared of anything, but his little sister knows better.

How Many Days to my Birthday? (1992)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Waiting for something seems to take long the younger you are.

Danny thought life was very unfair. Everyone seemed to have birthdays except for him. Mum re-assured him that he wouldn't have too long to wait. But it seemed like a long time to Danny...



EIEIO (1992)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

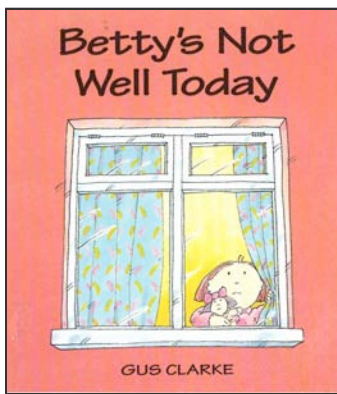
A traditional nursery rhyme mentioning every farm animal – but how could a real farmer cope with having every animal?

Old MacDonald had a farm, EIEIO.

And on that farm he had some ducks...

No problem. But add some pigs, one or two cows, a few hens, several sheep, all the geese and far too many dogs... Well, something had to happen.

All the fun of the traditional nursery rhyme but with a lot of extra laughs and a twist in the tail.



Betty's not well today (1993)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

What is it like being ill and having to stay in bed?

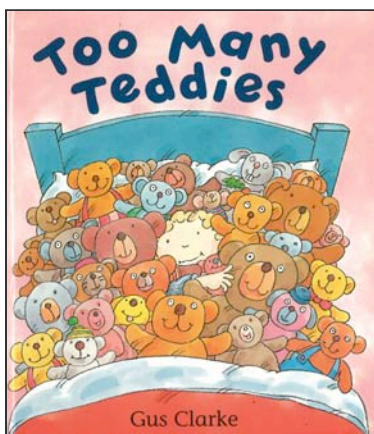
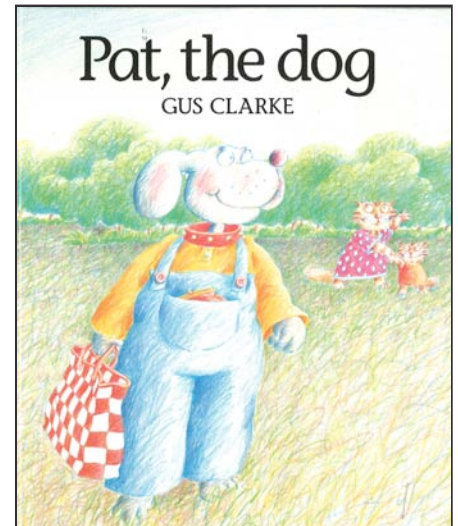
A little girl and her doll are sitting in bed imagining all the fun they could be having outside cycling in the park, playing at the seaside or even exploring the jungle with Dad. A visit by the Doctor soon puts things right, but a twist at the end will make every reader turn back to see what they've missed!

Pat the Dog (1994)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Children will love learning by heart Pat's ever lengthening shopping list.

Pat the dog is going shopping. All he wants is dog biscuits, but as he meets his friends one by one on the way to the supermarket, they all want to add something to his list. Squirrel wants some nuts, pig wants some washing powder and goat would like something for the kids' supper - they eat anything! Pat has a lot to remember, but everyone gets what they want. All except Pat himself, who has forgotten ONE thing - dog Biscuits!



Too many Teddies (1995)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

A funny story about why adults REALLY buy children presents, which will appeal to everyone, young and old, who recognises the situation.

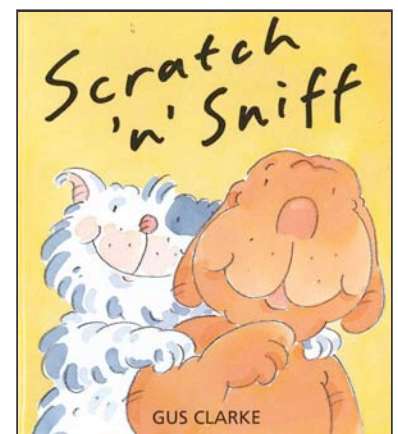
It all started the day he was born. 'A boy needs a bear,' said Uncle Jim. And that was the first of ... many. Over the years, Frank's collection of teddies grows larger and larger, until eventually there are just TOO MANY TEDDIES. Something has to be done. Everything works fine, until one day Uncle Jim decides that a boy needs a dog...

Scratch and Sniff (1996)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

A delightfully humorous detective tale, featuring a dog and cat.

Wherever Sniff the dog goes, he can smell a wonderful, mysterious smell - sausages, strawberries and ice cream, candyfloss, smokey bacon crisps and lots of other yummy things! He set off to find the source of this wonderful smell, but will Scratch the cat be all right while he is gone? Of course he will... Scratch has plans of his own. Could he have anything to do with the mysterious smell which entices Sniff from the house and leaves Scratch to his own devices? Children will love discovering the cause of the mystery in this wonderfully humorous tale.



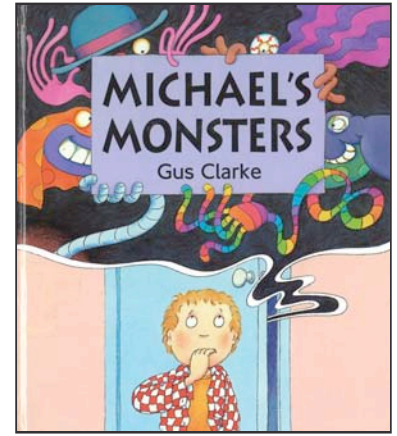
Michael's Monsters (1996)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Children will recognise Michael's fear of going upstairs alone, and will enjoy the way the tables are turned on the adults.

Michael needs to visit the bathroom, but he is afraid of the monsters lurking upstairs so he won't go unless someone stands at the bottom of the stairs to reassure him. One day, dad has had enough and he determines to show Michael that there are no such things as monsters. Or are there...?

Gus Clarke captures the humour of situations well known to many families and children will love the surprise twist at the end of Michael's Monsters, which pokes gentle fun at adults.



Nothing But Trouble (1996)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Nothing goes right for Maisie, but her good humour makes us laugh with her not against her!

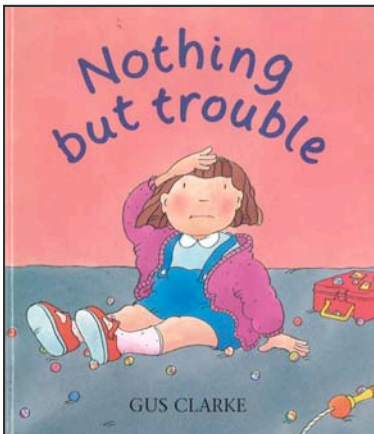
Poor Maisie! What a days she's having. From the moment she opened her eyes in the morning there seemed to be nothing but trouble. Children will love this humorously sympathetic account of Maisie's bad day and will join her in looking forward to a better day tomorrow.

'A perfect picture book – funny, warm and full of the hiccups of real life.' Irish Times

'Young schoolchildren will find this story very, very gratifying.'

Independent on Sunday

'...hits the spot every time...' Sunday Telegraph



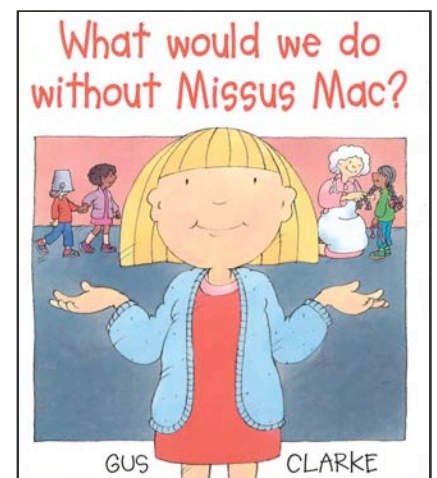
What would we do without Missus Mac? (1999)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

Mrs Mac is always there when the children need her!

In this delightful picture book, with a child's-eye view, Gus Clarke celebrates that most valuable of grown ups – the school helper. As in all his books for young children, humour and warmth characterize the illustrations and the rhythmic text delivers a satisfying ending.

Included in the National Library Scheme.



Max and the Rainbow Hat (2002)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

An amusing and compassionate story about learning to be positive and making friends.

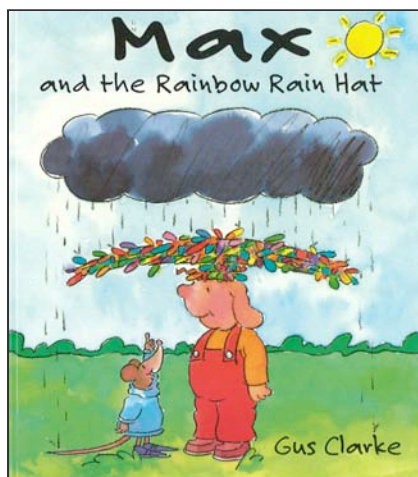
Max is always wet, because there is a permanent rain cloud above his head whenever he goes out. No-one else particularly likes the damp, so he finds himself on his own: well, he could talk to the flowers but they never have a great deal to say. Finally, he makes himself a rain hat, using twigs and feathers, and even string!

"Nice hat," says Rat, "It looks like a rainbow."

And he stays under the hat with Max to chat. But there isn't room for many others under the hat, so that night Max makes it bigger.

Then lots of people come to chat, and Max starts to have a strange new feeling. It is only when he realises that the rain cloud has gone (for a time!), and he doesn't need to wear the hat ALL the time, that he knows what it is: he's happy! Now he only needs to wear the hat in the rain.

'This amusing, inspiring story leaves a warm glow.' School Librarian



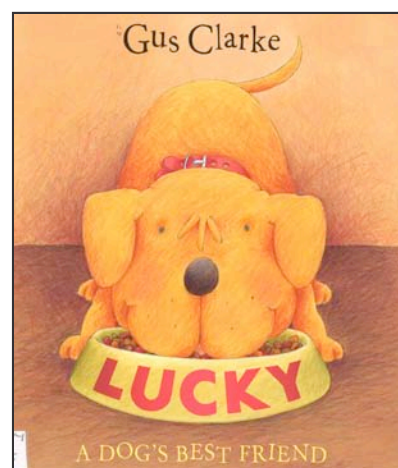
Lucky (2005)

230 x 200mm - 32pp

A warm-hearted, and hopeful, rescued dog helps his fellows at the animal shelter find families to fit.

Lucky doesn't know why, but one day he is taken away to a Dog's Home. He makes lots of new friends there, each with a different story to tell. But he sees that in the end every one of them leaves with a new set of people. He wonders if one day he will also find a new person . . . and of course, he does!

'A very appealing dog character . . . delivers an engaging dog's eye-view, and the artwork also provides humorous detail of dogs and new owners matching up with points of resemblance.' Jennifer Taylor, School Librarian



Novelty books

Ten Green Monsters (1993)

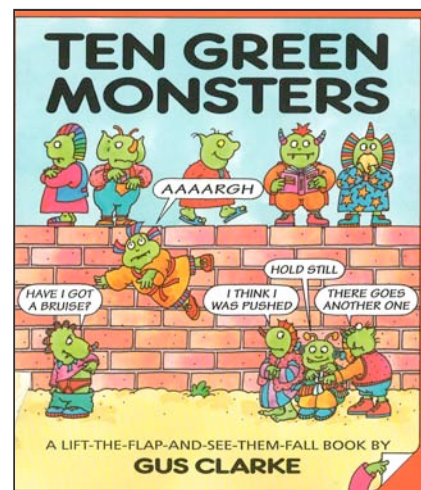
237 x 217mm - 28pp + flaps

This is a novelty book version of the well known 'Ten Green Bottles' rhyme with lots of fun and humour and things to look at as well as plenty of flaps.

Ten green monsters standing on the wall
Ten green monsters standing on the wall
Anf if one green monster should accidentally fall...

But was it an accident? Or was he pushed?

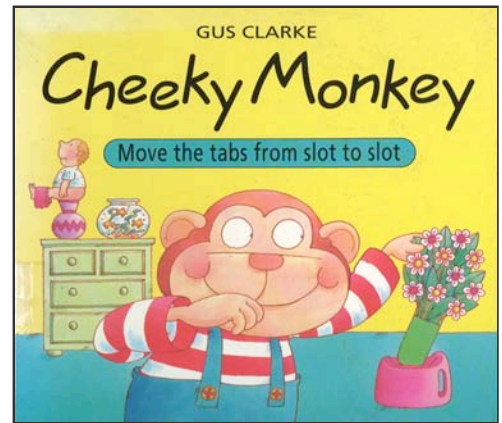
Find out in this monstrously jolly version of that old favourite "Ten Green Bottles". Lift the flaps to see just who will be the next to fall - and a lot more besides!



Cheeky Monkey (1995)

218 x 254mm - 14pp + tabs and flaps

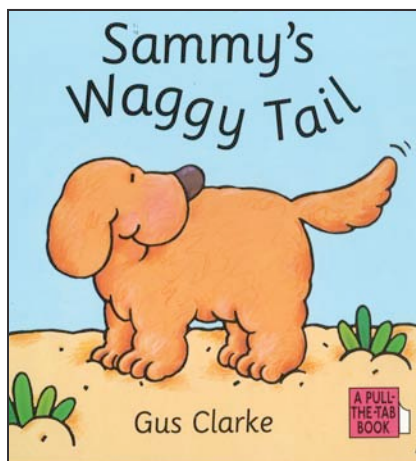
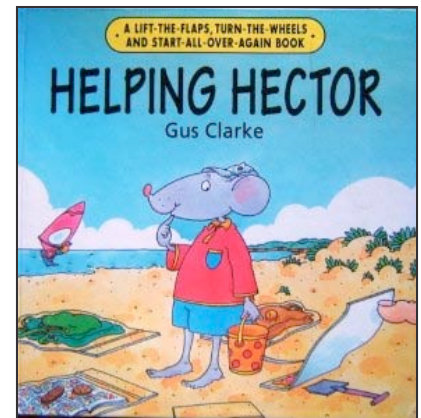
Cheeky Monkey loves to make mischief, and the removable tabs on every spread enable the child to help him create mayhem. Each double page spread shows an everyday scene, with various items depicted on tabs which slot in and out of the picture, which can be removed and put in the wrong place to mess things up. Throughout the book Cheeky Monkey is chased by Mr Neat and Tidy who appears when you pull the slip-slide mechanism on every spread. Two winning novelty ideas in one book guarantee hours of entertainment and hilarity.



Helping Hector (1995)

16pp

HELPING HECTOR is a novelty book with a difference because by turning the wheels on every spread the book will be different every time you read it. Children will get hours of fun playing with Hector over and over again.



Sammy's Waggy Tail (1998)

219 x 220mm - 16pp + tabs

Another original novelty book with simple, bright illustrations and a unique tab mechanism

Sammy is upset. He can't find his waggy tail. He visits his animal friends asking them if they have seen it, and they all try to help, but what they think looks like his tail never is. Eventually, his waggy tail reappears by itself, just at the time when his dinner arrives! Children will love looking for Sammy's tail and pulling the tabs to see if his tail is hiding.

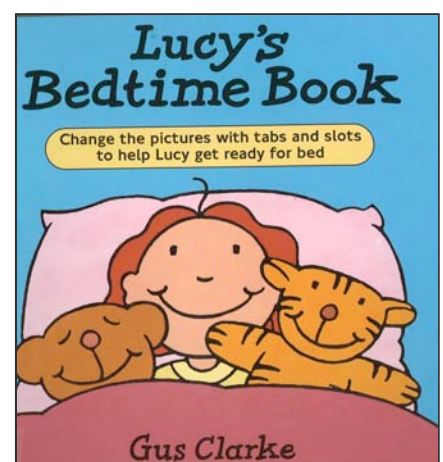
Lucy's Bedtime Book (1998)

226 x 225mm - 14pp + tabs

It's Lucy's bedtime and you can help her get ready for bed.

By pushing the cut-outs into the slots you can change the picture and help Lucy put away her toys, have her bath, brush her teeth and get into bed. You can play your part by pulling the tabs as well, from cleaning her blackboard right through to turning off her bedside light.

There is lots of fun and lots to do in this ingenious novelty bedtime book.



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