

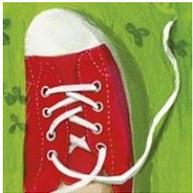
EUROLIS

Eurotoolbox



Polish
Collection

Special Theme 2019
Environment



2019

Eurotoolbox – What is that?

A handy tool pack for travelling by car in Europe? – an investment package for saving your hard-earned Euros? – or a free resource for librarians and teachers who need to inspire children with the latest children’s books in European languages?

If you chose the last of these options you’d be right on the button.

Eurotoolbox is a resource collection which has been put together by *Eurolis* a group of expert librarians in the cultural centres of France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Poland and Spain with the assistance of CILIP (Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals) in the UK.

All the books in the collection have been specially chosen for you, they are the very best recently published in the following original languages: French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. The English language is represented as well, thanks to a donation by CILIP of the books shortlisted for the Carnegie and Kate Greenaway children’s books awards in the current year.

With many years of production experience and feedback from the users, the expert team of librarians have built a resource which enables librarians and teachers to use over 90 books in each collection for individual reading or group sessions in their own library or the schoolroom for a month at a time at no cost to their organisation other than onward transportation to the next location in the UK.

Enquiries for all bookings to:

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Special Theme 2019: Environment

Lolek

By *Adam Wajrak*

This heart-warming book tells a story of a stray dog, named Lolek. Lolek is a shaggy creature with a traumatic past and a heart of gold, whose only dream is to find his folks. It turns out not to be an easy task, considering he lives in the Białowieża Forest. Adam Wajrak's inspiration for writing this book was the author's real life encounter with a dog that quickly became a part of his family.



The author: Adam Wajrak, born in 1972 in Warsaw, is an environmental activist and acclaimed journalist. He moved to a village Teremiski in the Białowieża Forest in 1997 and has lived there since. Throughout his career he has been actively involved in many pro-wildlife campaigns. He's an author of numerous educational books about natural world for children including *Wajrak's Animals* and *The Real Scout's Guide*.

The illustrator: Mariusz Andryszczyk is a freelance designer and illustrator. He is also an author of illustrations of Natalia Osińska's novels, including *Fluff* (recommended in the age group 12+)

Lolek

Adam Wajrak

Mariusz Andryszczyk

ISBN: 978-83-268-2556-9

Agora SA, 2017

Recommended Age: 5+

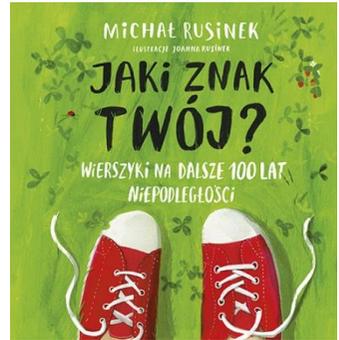
Children's Books (5+)

*Polish
Collection*

Jaki znak twój?

by *Michał Rusinek*

This collection of short poems for children was inspired by the 100th anniversary of Poland regaining its independence in 1918. Every adult in Poland can recite an old and catchy, yet slightly outdated poem that taught generations of Polish children of national symbols and patriotic attitude: 'Jaki znak Twój? Orzeł Biały!' (What's your emblem? White Eagle!). Rusinek's collection is a refreshing attempt to bring up to date important questions concerning what it means to be Polish in the 21st century.



The author: Born in 1972 in Cracow, **Michał Rusinek** is a writer, translator and lecturer in Literature at Cracow's Jagielloński University. He worked as a personal assistant to one of the greatest Polish poets and recipient of Literary Nobel Prize, Wisława Szymborska. He is an author of many books for children, some of which he co-wrote with his sister, Joanna.

The illustrator: **Joanna Rusinek**, born in 1978 in Cracow, is an illustrator, designer and writer. A graduate from the Academy of Fine Arts in Cracow, she focuses mostly on traditional styles of illustration.

Jaki znak twój? Wierszyki na dalsze 100 lat niepodległości

Michał Rusinek

Joanna Rusinek

ISBN: 978-83-240-5072-7

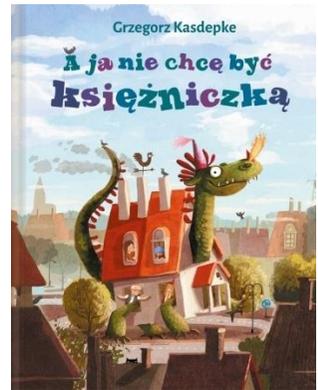
Znak Emotikon, 2018

Recommended Age: 5+

A ja nie chcę być księżniczką

by *Grzegorz Kasdepke*

Marysia is not your usual little girl. She loves role-play in the fantasy world of castles and knights and always chooses to be a dragon. Her family often wonders why such a pretty girl doesn't want to be a princess. This beautifully illustrated book shows the importance of being able to follow one's heart from the earliest age.



The author: **Grzegorz Kasdepke**, born in 1972 in Białystok, is an author of books for children and young adults, screenwriter and journalist. From 1995 to 2000 he was an editor-in-chief of a legendary kids magazine Świerszczyk. He is a recipient of the Medal for Merit to Culture Gloria Artis for his contribution to Polish culture and national heritage.

The illustrator: **Emilia Dziubak**, born in 1982, is an illustrator and author or co-author of 36 books for children. A graduate from the Fine Arts Academy in Poznań, she is one of the top Polish illustrators of the younger generation.

A ja nie chcę być księżniczką

Grzegorz Kasdepke

Emilia Dziubak

ISBN 978-83-10-12837-9

Nasza Księgarnia, 2015

Recommended Age: 5+

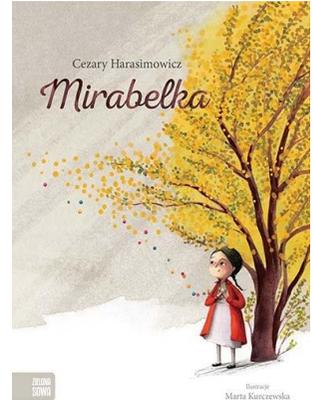
Mirabelka

by *Cezary Harasimowicz*

The narrator of this book is a wild plum tree growing in one of the Warsaw neighbourhoods, Muranów. The tree silently witnessed a vast amount of history, surviving the Second World War, the establishment and demolition of the Warsaw ghetto, and post-war communism only to be cut down in modern times to make space to new apartments. It is a bittersweet story of Warsaw's difficult history and a homage to the victims of war, especially the Jewish community, told in a manner suitable for children. Even though the plum tree is gone, the memories of the city prevail.

The author: **Cezary Harasimowicz**, born in 1955 in Łódź, is an acclaimed playwright, author and actor. He is one of the best Polish screenwriters whose work focuses on the important topics and problems plaguing the modern world. His film about the search for freedom behind the Iron Curtain, *300 Miles to Heaven*, was honoured with the European Film Academy Award in 1989. He is a co-author of *Fairy Tale Therapy*, an anthology of fairy tales designed to provide valuable life lessons for children and adults.

The illustrator: **Marta Kurczewska**, born in 1977, is an illustrator of numerous publications for children. She closely collaborates with the Zielona Sowa publishing house.



Mirabelka

Cezary Harasimowicz

Marta Kurczewska

ISBN 978-83-80-73771-6

Zielona Sowa, 2018

Recommended Age: 9-11

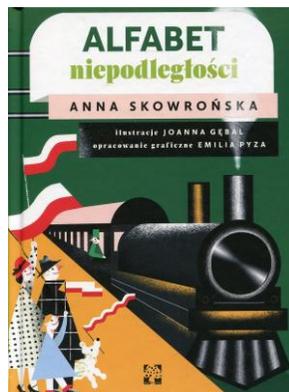
Alfabet Niepodległości

by Anna Skowrońska

The *Alphabet of Independence* is another book published to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Poland's independence regained in 1918. Through a number of slogans, it presents the most significant figures and events of the interwar period, including some less obvious details often omitted during typical history lessons. The slogans are catchy and make the learning process more exciting.

The author: **Anna Skowrońska** is a writer of history books for children. She co-founded Muchomor, a publishing house that specialises in biographies and historical books for children, promoting not only high quality writing but also artistically interesting graphic design. It was one of the first publishing houses on the Polish market to introduce philosophical books for children. Skowrońska is also an author of *Alphabet of Poland*.

The illustrator: **Joanna Gębal** is a press and book illustrator and graphic designer. She graduated from the Faculty of Graphic Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She took part in collective graphics and illustration exhibitions in Warsaw, Poznań, Katowice, Milwaukee, Kiev, and Riga.



Alfabet Niepodległości

Anna Skowrońska

Joanna Gębal

ISBN: 978-83-65650-16-0

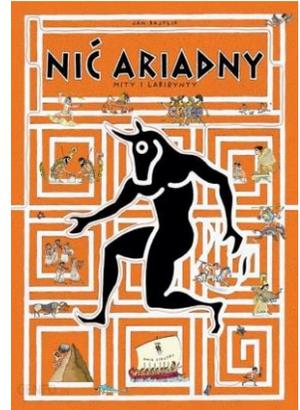
Muchomor, 2018

Recommended Age: 9-12

Nić Ariadny. Mity i labirynty

by Jan Bajtlik

This large-format album presents the world of ancient culture and Greek mythology through remarkably drawn labyrinths. Each of the huge illustrations invites the reader to search for a right path to the next page, following selected 'threads' of the most famous Greek myths. During this journey, the reader encounters various key mythology figures, such as Prometheus, Minotaur or Hercules, and participates in important historical and legendary events.



The author and illustrator: Jan Bajtlik, born in 1989, is a graphic artist and graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. He specializes in illustration, poster, and graphic novels. His most successful work, an activity book for children *Typogryzmoł* (2014) was translated into six languages including English (*Alphadoodler*, Tate Publishing 2016) and awarded with the Bologna Ragazzi Award. He also achieved many successes as a press illustrator. He collaborated with Time Magazine, The New York Times, and Forbes Magazine, to name the few.

Nić Ariadny. Mity i labirynty

Jan Bajtlik

ISBN: 978-83-65341-99-0

Dwie Siostry, 2018

Recommended Age: 7+

Books for Teenagers (12+)

*Polish
Collection*

Tabletki na dorosłość

by *Dorota Suwalska*

The main character of this story is a teenage boy Marek, who goes by a nickname he hates, Microb. The only thing he dreams about is to grow up. He is fed up with his own parents who constantly argue, with his peers who bully him, and with his teachers who won't leave him alone. He creates a blog where he describes his sorrows. A mysterious user Magik leaves a comment under one of his posts, directing Mikrob to a shop where he can buy pills for adulthood. Excited teenager, despite initial doubts, decides to take a chance that leads him to an unforgettable adventure.



The author: **Dorota Suwalska**, born in 1967 in Sochaczew, is a writer, artist and cultural animator. She is a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw where she received MA in Painting, completed Postgraduate Course of Pedagogy and studied Animated Film. She has written three volumes of poems and novels for children and teenagers. Her works have been translated into Spanish, Catalan, Ukrainian and Slovenian.

The illustrator: **Marta Ruszkowska**, born in 1986, is a graphic designer and illustrator. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Cracow. She runs art classes for people over sixty and organizes workshops for children.

Tabletki na dorosłość
Dorota Suwalska
Marta Ruszkowska
ISBN: 978-83-7420-768-3
Adamada, 2018
Recommended Age: 12+

Fluff

by *Natalia Osińska*

Fluff is a beautiful and touching novel exploring themes of growing up, looking for one's identity, young love and friendship. Two main characters, Matylda and Wika, couldn't be more different, yet the relation between them will lead both to posing and answering possibly some of the most important questions of their lives. This book is a valuable insight into the fragile but complex world of teenagers' feelings.

The author: **Natalia Osińska** is a nationally acclaimed writer of young adult literature. Her novels describe the lives of Polish LGBTQ youth. Osińska graduated from the Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. Her literary debut was the novel *Fanfik*, which was listed on the 2016 List of Treasures by the Museum of Children's Books in Poland. The sequel, *Slash*, was published in 2017. *Fluff* is a third book in the series.

The illustrator: **Mariusz Andryszczyk**, born in 1986 is a freelance designer and illustrator. He is also an author of illustrations to *Lolek* by Adam Wajrak (a Special Theme recommendation).



Fluff

Natalia Osińska

Mariusz Andryszczyk

ISBN: 978-83-268-2807-2

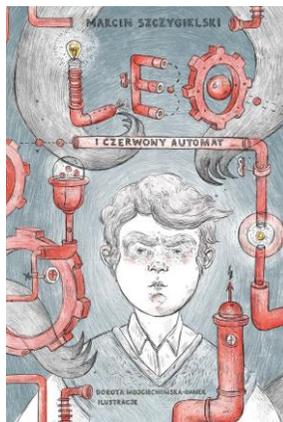
Agora, 2019

Recommended Age: 12+

Leo i czerwony automat

by *Marcin Szczygielski*

Leo's hometown is so old that all of its citizens forgot its name. No one minds though, since the town is both enormous and magnificent and people live happily there, acting kindly to one another. At least, that was the case until recently, when something has drastically changed. Leo has to go on a dangerous mission to save his hometown and its citizens. This fast-paced story, told skilfully and with humour, examines themes that might seem difficult, leaving the reader wanting more.



The author: Born in 1972 in Warsaw, **Marcin Szczygielski**, is a writer, journalist and graphic designer. He is an author of theatrical plays and novels for adults and teenagers. Each of his publications aimed towards younger readers received numerous awards and recognition awards in literary contests, whereas novels *Czarny Młyn* and *Za niebieskimi drzwiami* have been incorporated into the extracurricular reading list for Polish elementary schools.

The illustrator: **Dorota Wojciechowska-Danek**, born in Szczecin, is a writer and illustrator of many books for children. Her literary debut *Parzyiółko* came out in 2018.

Leo i czerwony automat
Marcin Szczygielski
Dorota Wojciechowska-Danek
ISBN: 978-83-63841-46-1
Latarnik, 2018
Recommended Age: 12+

Jak ziarnka piasku

by *Joanna Jagiełło*

Nina and Anna are best friends until Nina decides to end her life. Anna, trying to cope with the overwhelming tragedy, begins a painful search into her friend's past to learn more about the motives. The novel carefully yet poignantly explores extremely sensitive subjects such as suicide but also the toll of the extensive use of social media and its impact on mental health.



The author: **Joanna Jagiełło**, born in 1974 in Warsaw, graduated from English Language at the University of Warsaw. She worked as a journalist, teacher and editor. She is an author of many young adult novels and two collections of poems.

Jak ziarnka piasku

Joanna Jagiełło

ISBN: 978-83-10-13344-1

Nasza Księgarnia, 2018

Recommended Age: 14+

Szeptane

by *Paweł Beręsewicz*

Filip and his school buddies want to buy tickets for the Champions League's finals but they need to find the way to get the money first. They pick up many random jobs – pushing leaflets to sleepy passers-by at 5 am or writing fake product reviews online. The latest book by Paweł Beręsewicz illustrates the dilemmas of contemporary teenagers and the dangers of virtual world.



The author: **Paweł Beręsewicz**, born in 1970 in Warsaw is a writer, poet, translator and lexicographer. He writes novels, short stories and poems for children. He is a laureate of the Gulliver award, i.e. a literary competition of the Polish Society of Book Publishers. He is also a prominent translator of children's literature into Polish, including Mark Twain's *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

Szeptane

Paweł Beręsewicz

ISBN: 978-83-10-13344-1

Nasza Księgarnia, 2018

Recommended Age: 14+

Partners

*Polish
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The EUROTOOLBOX is a joint project of:



