



## Refugee Week 2025



### 2025 Theme – *Finding Freedom: Community*

Across the world millions of people live in fear for themselves, their family, their community, and their way of life. War and violence, political and religious persecution, natural disasters, and the effects of climate change are seriously impacting many of the world's people. The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) states that at the end of 2022 108.4 million people worldwide were forcibly displaced because of these events.

Throughout history there have been refugees, people forced to flee their homes and their country. Increased violence and wars, political and religious intolerance along with worldwide population growth has seen the number of people seeking refuge and asylum grow exponentially in the last 100 years.

Many refugees and asylum seekers are finding it increasingly difficult to find a safe and permanent haven where individuals and families can live without fear and be accepted as worthy contributors to their new home.

*The journey towards freedom represents the challenging path that many refugees take, escaping oppression and uncertainty for safety in a new place.*

*In these new spaces, community is more than just a physical place or a group of people; community is a lifeline. It offers refugees safety, belonging, and the strength to rebuild. Diverse communities bring people together, showing that our differences make us stronger, more united, and capable of facing challenges.*

*Community is where people find the strength to solve problems together, where voices are amplified, and where aspirations find direction and support. It's a space where everyone can feel safe, valued, and empowered to pursue their dreams without fear or judgment.*

*This Refugee Week, we celebrate the inclusive communities across Australia that open their arms to those seeking refuge, providing platforms for connection and a sense of belonging.*

*Refugee Week is coordinated by the Refugee Council of Australia*

## Refugees - A Select Bibliography

Many of the books listed have entries in our *Cultural Diversity database* or the *Picture Books for Older Readers database*. A link to these entries has been provided. The database entries include an annotation, subject headings or key concepts, Curriculum links and in the PBOR, free online additional resources.

### Picture Books (*please notes some of these titles are intended for older readers/students*)

ABDEL-Fattah, Randa. Illustrated by Maxine Beneba Clarke  
**11 Words for Love** Lothian Children's Books, 2022, ISBN: 9780734421203  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/11-words-for-love/>

ABOU-EID, Amal. Illustrated by Cara King  
**Tayta's Secret Ingredient**. MidnightSun, 2024. ISBN: 9781922858122

CAVOURAS, Czenya  
**Rainbow Bird**. Australians Against Racism Inc/Wakefield Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781862547735  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/rainbow-bird/>

CORFE, Elizabeth. Illustrated by Tim Ide  
**The Long Road to Safety: Abang Othow's Story**. ERA Publications, 2008. ISBN: 9781741204148

CUMMINGS, Phil. Illustrated by Phil Lesnie  
**Feathers**. Scholastic Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781760157357  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/feathers/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/feathers/>

DENT, Nick. Illustrated by Suzanne Houghton  
**Goat on a Boat**. Omnibus Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781760669164  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/goat-on-a-boat/>

DO, Anh and Suzanne DO. Illustrated by Bruce Whatley  
**The Little Refugee**. Allen & Unwin, 2011. ISBN: 97817423778329  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/the-little-refugee/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/the-little-refugee/>

FRAILLON, Zana. Illustrated by Grahame-Smith  
**Wisp: A Story of Hope**. Lothian Children's Books, 2018. ISBN: 9780734418043  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/wisp-a-story-of-hope/>

GEMMILL, Stef. Illustrated by Mel Armstrong  
**A Home for Luna**. New Frontier Publishing, 2019. ISBN: 9781925594843  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/a-home-for-luna/>

GEORGE, Angela May. Illustrations by Own Swan  
**Out.** Scholastic Press, 2016. ISBN: 9781743629000

GORDON, Kate. Illustrated by Krista Brennan  
**Amira's Magpie.** Wombat Books, 2021. ISBN: 9781925563986  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/amiras-magpie/>

GWYNNE, Phillip. Illustrated by Tony Flowers  
**Small Town.** Puffin Books, 2020. ISBN: 9781760893484

KOLBALD, Irena. Illustrated by Freya Blackwood  
**My Two Blankets.** Little Hare, 2014. ISBN:9781921714764  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/my-two-blankets/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/my-two-blankets/>

MARIN, Gabiann. Illustrated by Jacqui Grantford  
**A True Person.** New Frontier, 2007. ISBN: 9781921042195  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/a-true-person/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/a-true-person/>

MARSDEN, John. Illustrated by Matt Ottley  
**Home and Away.** Lothian Children's Book, 2008. ISBN: 9780734410566  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/home-and-away/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/home-and-away/>

OSBORNE, Tess. Illustrated by Zoe Osborne  
**Just like Me.** Little Steps Publishing, 2021. ISBN: 9781925839845

RAWLINS, Donna. Illustrated by Heather Potter and Mark Jackson  
**Wave: for those who come across the sea.** Black Dog, 2018. ISBN: 9781925381641  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/waves-for-those-who-come-across-the-sea/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/waves-for-those-who-come-across-the-sea/>

TEMPLE, Kate & Jol. Illustrated by Terri Rose Baynton  
**Room on our Rock: There are two sides to every story.** Scholastic Australia, 2018. ISBN: 9781742764108  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/room-on-our-rock-there-are-two-sides-to-every-story/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/room-on-our-rock/>

TYRONE, Roger Ibn  
**The Butterfly Refugee.** Minaret Mountain Books, 2019. ISBN: 9780648466604

VASS, Coral. Illustrated by Christina Huynh  
**Grandma's treasured shoes.** NLA Publishing, 2019. ISBN: 9780642279354

VESCIO, Robert. Illustrated by Andrea Edmonds  
**The Voyage.** EK Books, 2019. ISBN: 9781925820034  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/the-voyage/>

WALKER, Bic  
**A Safe Place to Live.** Bic Walker, 2011. ISBN: 97806465652163  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/a-safe-place-to-live/>

**We Are Home. A book by the Food Next Door Co-op.** Food Next Door Co-op, 2023.  
ISBN: 9780646886008

WHEATLEY, Nadia. Illustrated by Armin Greder  
**Flight.** Windy Hollow Books, 2015. ISBN: 9781922081483.  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/flight/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/flight/>

WILD, Margaret. Illustrated by Freya Blackwood  
**The Treasure Box.** Penguin/Viking, 2013. ISBN: 9780670073658  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/the-treasure-box/>  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/pbor-database/the-treasure-box/>

## Novels

ABDEL-FATTAH, Randa  
**When Mina met Michael.** Pan Macmillan, 2016. ISBN: 9781743534977

ATKINS, Clare  
**Between Us.** Black Inc, 2018. ISBN: 9781760640217  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/between-us/>

BRAXTON-SMITH, Ananda  
**Plenty: A place to call home.** Black Dog Books, 2014. ISBN: 9781742032429  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/plenty/>

CHASE, Diana  
**No More Borders for Josef.** Fremantle arts Centre Press, 2006. ISBN: 1921064374  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/no-more-borders-for-josef/>

**Dark Dreams: Australian Refugee Stories by young writers ages 11-20 years.** Edited by Sonja Dechian, Heather Millar and Eva Sallis. Wakefield Press, 2004.  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/dark-dreams-australian-refugee-stories-written-by-young-writers-aged-11-20-years/>

FRAILLON, Zana  
**The Bone Sparrow.** Lothian, 2016. ISBN: 9780734417138  
<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/the-bone-sparrow/>

GOODE, Katherine (for the Children's Interest Bureau)

***Jumping to Heaven: Stories about Refugee Children.*** Wakefield Press, 1997. ISBN: 1862544271

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/jumping-to-heaven-stories-about-refugee-children/>

GRANT, Neil

***The Ink Bridge.*** Allen & Unwin, 2012. ISBN: 9781742376691

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/the-ink-bridge/>

KIDD, Diana. Illustrated by Mei Yim Low

***Onion Tears.*** Puffin Books, 1989. ISBN: 0140347356

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/onion-tears/>

MURPHY, Sally. Illustrated by Sarah Davis

***Worse Things.*** Walker Books, 2020. ISBN: 9781760651657

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/worse-things/>

ORR, Wendy. Illustrated by Donna Rawlins

***Across the Dark Sea.*** National Museum of Australia Press, 2006. ISBN: 1876944452

<https://www.ncacl.org.au/cd-database/across-the-dark-sea/>