

Christmas picture books

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Book Selector

With Christmas almost upon us, public librarians will once again be inundated with requests for Christmas picture books. They're not always easy to find in a hurry, especially during this busy holiday period when librarians are rushed off their feet. I've drawn up this book list to help librarians locate suitable books - quickly. In some libraries, the staff has made it easier for themselves by shelving Christmas books separately - a most sensible solution to this annual problem. This booklist could be used as an aid for other librarians to create a temporary Christmas collection of picture books from their stock. So here is a selection of Christmas picture books - some are simple retellings of the Christmas story, others have a Christmas theme or setting. Most of them are in English but there are a few (usually a bit older) in Afrikaans or isiXhosa. Because we have so few picture books in these languages, I have added a short list of Christmas books for older children (easy readers and so on) which are in isiXhosa or Afrikaans. Staff may want to have a display of Christmas books in their library and this will allow them a greater choice.

Ahlberg, Allan. **Chickens in the snow** / illustrated by André Amstutz.- Puffin, 2001. (*Fast fox, slow dog*)

Allan, Nicholas. **Father Christmas needs a wee!**- Red Fox, 2009.

Bedford, David. **I've seen Santa!** / illustrated by Tim Warnes.- Little Tiger P., 2005.

Bester, Annelize. **Kersvader se groot glips!** / geïllustreer deur Johann Strauss.- Fantasi, c2006. (*Droombos*)

Bright, Paul. **Grumpy Badger's Christmas** / illustrated by Jane Chapman.- Little Tiger P., 2009.

Brown, Rachel WN. **Small camel follows the star** / illustrated by Giuliano Ferri.- Whitman, 2007.

Bush, John. **Hoppy Christmas** / (illustrated by) Mary Henry McMillan.- Storytime Africa, 2004.

Butler, M Christina. **One snowy night** / illustrated by Tina Macnaughton.- Little Tiger P., 2004. (*A touch-and-feel book*)

Campbell, Rod. **Dear Santa.**- Campbell Bks., 2005. (*A lift-the-flap book*)

Child, Lynn. **Xoli and the Christmas Father** / illustrated by Frans Claerhout.- Vlaeberg, 1994.

Child, Lynn. **Xoli en die Kersvader** / illustrasies deur Frans Claerhout; [vertaler, Zirkea Ellis].- Vlaeberg, 1994.

Child, Lynn. **UXoli notata weKrismesi** / (illustrated by) Frans Claerhout.- Vlaeberg, 1994.

Clark, Emma Chichester. **Merry Christmas, Blue Kangaroo.**- HarperCollins, 2006.

Cousins, Lucy. **Maisy's Christmas day.**- Walker Bks., 2008. (*My friend Maisy*)

Currey, Anna. **The Christmas unicorn.**- Oxford U. P., 2006.

Daly, Niki. **Yebo, Jamela!**- Tafelberg, 2001.

Daly, Niki. **Yebo, Jamela!** / Afrikaans deur Linda Rode.- Tafelberg, 2001.

Dodd, Lynley. **Slinky Malinki's Christmas crackers.**- Puffin, 2006.

Donaldson, Julia. **Stick Man** / illustrated by Axel Scheffler.- Alison Green Bks., 2009.

Duffy, Carol Ann. **Another night before Christmas** / illustrated by Marc Boutavant.- J. Murray, 2005.

Dunbar, Joyce. **Hier is die ster** / geïllustreer deur Gary Blythe; vertaal deur Isolde Doubell.- Garamond, 1998.

Dunbar, Joyce. **This is the star** / illustrated by Gary Blythe.- Picture Corgi, 1998.

Dunbar, Joyce. **Yinkwenkwezi le** / imizobo ngu, Gary Blythe; iguqululwe esiXhoseni, SZ Zotwana.- Garamond, 1998.

Fitzgerald, Tina. **lingelosi neenkwenkwezi ziyabalisa** / [translated by] Koliswa Moropa; illustrated by Yvonne de Haas.- Eulitz, 1996. (*My first Bible series*)

Forward, Toby. **The Christmas mouse** / illustrated by Ruth Brown.- Anderson P., 2006.

Foster, Jesse. **The night before Christmas in Africa** / written by Jesse, Hannah and Carroll Foster; illustrated by Jean Christodoulou.- Vineyard International, 2004.

Freedman, Claire. **The Christmas angels** / illustrated by Gail Yerrill.- Little Tiger P., 2008.

Freedman, Claire. **The magic of Christmas** / illustrated by Gail Yerrill.- Little Tiger P., 2008.

Freedman, Claire. **On this special night** / illustrated by Simon Mendez.- Little Tiger P., 2008.

Godfrey, Jan. **Een nag vol sterre** / Honor Ayres; [in Afrikaans vertaal deur Danny Fourie].- Lux Verbi, 2006.

- Goodrich, Carter. **A creature was stirring: [one boy's night before Christmas]** / by Clement C Moore and Carter Goodrich; illustrated by Carter Goodrich.- Simon, 2007.
- Grogan, John. **A very Marley Christmas** / illustrated by Richard Cowdrey.- HarperCollins, 2008.
- Hendry, Diana. **The very snowy Christmas** / illustrated by Jane Chapman.- Little Tiger P., 2005.
- Herman, RA (Ronnie Ann). **The littlest Christmas tree** / illustrated by Jacqueline Rogers.- Scholastic, 2007.
- Horse, Harry. **Little Rabbit's Christmas**.- Puffin, 2007. (*Little Rabbit*)
- Hubery, Julia. **A Christmas wish** / illustrated by Sophy Williams.- Little Tiger P., 2007.
- lintsuku ezilishumi elinambini phambi Kwekrimesi** / izotywe ngu Jan Brett; [iguqulelwe esiXhoseni ngu Beatrice Nobuhle Somi].- Anansi Pub., c1993.
- Inkpen, Mick. **Tickly Christmas, Wibbly Pig!**- Hodder, 2006.
- Jeffers, Susan. **The nutcracker**.- HarperCollins, 2007.
- Joslin, Mary. **On that Christmas night** / illustrated by Helen Cann.- Lion, 2006.
- Kelly, Mij. **The happiest man in the world, or, The mouse who made Christmas** / illustrated by Louise Nisbet.- Hodder, 2009.
- Kinerk, Robert. **Bear's first Christmas** / illustrated by Jim LaMarche.- Simon, 2008.
- Koralek, Jenny. **Irharadiya yendlu yesigawu: ibali le Krimesi** / lisekelwe kwintsoni ebaliswe ngu William Barclay; izotywe ngu Pauline Baynes; [iguqulelwe esiXhoseni ngu Beatrice Nobuhle Somi].- Anansi Pub., c1996.
- Lawrence, Michael. **Baby Christmas** / illustrated by Arthur Robins.- Orchard Bks., 2007.
- Lee, Kate. **Just the job for Santa** / illustrated by Edward Eaves.- Campbell Bks., 2006.
- Lee, Kate. **Santa's suit** / illustrated by Edward Eaves.- Campbell Bks., 2006.
- Leeson, Christine. **The snow angel** / illustrated by Jane Chapman.- Little Tiger P., 2006.
- Leeson, Christine. **The very special Christmas** / illustrated by Gaby Hansen.- Little Tiger P., 2005.
- Louw, Vernon. **Kersfees sonder 'n boom: die geboorte van Jesus** / verwerk deur Vernon Louw; teks deur Marilyn Lashbrook; illustrasies deur Stephanie McFetridge Britt.- Christelike Uitg., c1994. (*Ek ook! boekies*)
- Maartens, Wendy. **Lena se bottelboom** / illustrasies, Anna-Carien Goosen.- Lapa, 2005.
- Maartens, Wendy. **Lena's bottle tree** / illustrations, Anna-Carien Goosen.- Lapa, 2005.
- McCaughrean, Geraldine. **Father and son** / illustrated by Fabian Negrin.- Hodder, 2007.
- Mitton, Tony. **Christmas wishes** / illustrated by Layn Marlow.- Orchard Bks., 2008.
- Murphy, Mary. **Little Owl and the star: a Christmas story**.- Walker Bks., 2005.
- Pallotta, Jerry. **Who will help Santa this year?** / illustrated by David Biedrzycki.- Scholastic, c2006.
- Prater, John. **Baby Bear's Christmas kiss**.- Red Fox, 2005.
- Prater, John. **Is it Christmas?**- Red Fox, 2004.
- Sawyer, Ruth. **IKrimesi engaqhelekanga yonyana zomkhandi zihlangu** / imifanekiso ngu Barbara Cooney; [iguqulelwe esiXhoseni ngu Feziwe Ngxola noJoy Goodwin].- Anansi Pub., c1998.
- Sawyer, Ruth. **Die merkwaardige Kersfees van die skoenmaker se seuns** / illustrasies deur Barbara Cooney; [vertaal deur Lydia Snyman].- Anansi Uitg., c1998.
- Schernbrucker, Reviva. **An African Christmas cloth**.- Jacana, 2005.
- Scotton, Rob. **Russell's Christmas magic**.- HarperCollins, 2007.
- Scribbler Elf. **The story of Santa Claus** / by Scribbler Elf; illustrated by the Elves.- Turner Pub., c1993.
- Shields, Gillian. **Sam's snowflake** / illustrated by Rosie Reeve.- Macmillan, 2008.
- Snow, Alan. **How Santa really works**.- Simon, 2004.
- Stanley, Mandy. **Lettice - a Christmas wish**.- Collins, 2003.
- Stoeke, Janet Morgan. **Minerva Louise on Christmas Eve**.- Dutton, c2007.
- Stohner, Anu. **Santa's littlest helper** / illustrated by Henrike Wilson; [English translation, Anna Trenter].- Bloomsbury Children's Bks., 2005.
- Sykes, Julie. **Bless you, Santa!** / illustrated by Tim Warnes.- Little Tiger P., 2004.
- Tebbs, Victoria. **Kersfees storie** / geïllustreer deur Melanie Mitchell; [vertaler, Marianne Peacock].- Pearson Education S.A., 2007. (*Sien en sê!*)
- Die twaalf dae voor Kersfees** / illustrasies deur Jan Brett; [Afrikaans deur Dinkie Mey].- Anansi Uitg., c1992.
- Van der Walt, Dux. **Ilokhwe ebomvu** / imizobo ngu Anneliese Voigt; iguqulelwe esiXhoseni ngu Sydney Z Zotwana.- Garamond, 1997.
- Van der Walt, Dux. **The red dress** / illustrated by Anneliese Voigt; translated by Isolde Doubell.- Garamond, 2004.
- Van der Walt, Dux. **Die rooi rok** / geïllustreer deur Anneliese Voigt.- Garamond, 2004.
- Vulliamy, Clara. **White Christmas**.- Orchard Bks., 2009. (*Lucky Wish Mouse*)
- Waddell, Martin. **Room for a little one** / illustrated by Jason Cockcroft.- Orchard Bks., 2004.
- Watt, Fiona. **The nativity** / illustrated by Rachell Wells.- Usborne, 2005. (*Usborne touchy-feely*)
- Whybrow, Ian. **Harry and the dinosaurs make a Christmas wish** / illustrated by Adrian Reynolds.- Puffin, 2006.
- Wildsmith, Brian. **The twelve days of Christmas**.- Oxford U.P., 2007.
- Willis, Jeanne. **Dear Father Christmas** / illustrated by Rosie Reeve.- Puffin, 2008.
- Wilson, Karma. **Mortimer's Christmas** / illustrated by Jane Chapman.- Simon, 2005.
- Wood, Alice. **One magical Christmas**.- Little Tiger P., 2009.
- Wybenga, Gretel. **Malie en Maggie en die maer Kersfees** / met illustrasies deur Alida Bothma.- Tafelberg, 1995.

Easy readers

- Dube, MP. **IKrimesi** / LN Zondi; imifanekiso izotywe ngu Chantelle Thome.- Shuter, 2005. (*Masiqhubele phambili*)
- Hunt, Roderick. **'n Kersfees-avontuur** / [illustrasies deur] Alex Brychta; [verwerking deur Antoinette Stimie].- Oxford U.P., 1995. (*Oxford storieboom*)
- Mhlophe, Gcina. **An African Mother Christmas** / Alzette Prins.- Maskew Miller Longman, 2002. (*Stars of Africa*)
- Ryan, Margaret. **Magic mischief!** / illustrated by Teresa Murfin.- Scholastic, 2003. (*Airy Fairy*) (*Young hippo*)
- Williams, Jacklyn. **Merry Christmas, Gus!** / illustrated by Doug Cushman.- Picture Window Bks., c2005. (*Gus the hedgehog*) (*Read-it! readers*)

