



A Summery Saturday Morning

Jam

***The Boy with Two Shadows* - Margaret Mahy**

Published by Picture Puffin, RRP \$19.99 each.

This trio of Mahy classics highlights the author's talent for spinning yarns from everyday activities.

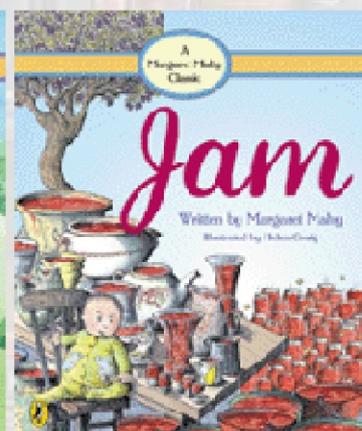
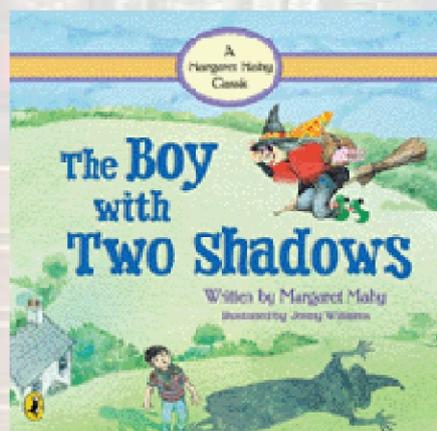
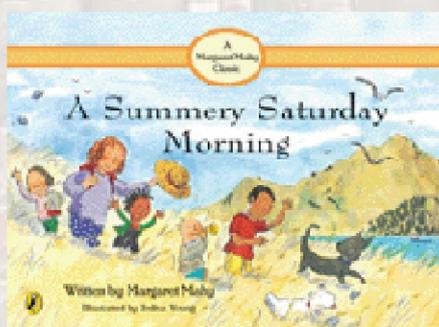
Jam features a father who is proud of his scientist wife and elects to be a stay-at-home Dad. Helen Craig's busy illustrations show a happy, quirky family who work well together. The father zooms through the chores, then wonders what to do next. Ripe plums catch his attention and his creativity is unleashed. Plum jam soon fills jars, jugs and vases. Sandwiches, scones and puddings are filled with jam. It even fixes the leaking roof and bathroom tiles. The family begins to have jammy nightmares. Where will it end?

Mahy's imagination takes flight in *The Boy with Two Shadows*. The boy is a pleasant young lad who looks after his shadow. He's too polite to refuse when a witch asks him to also take care of her shadow. The witch flies off on holiday and her mischievous shadow gets the boy into trouble. He's a resourceful boy and tries to put things right. Charming illustrations by Jenny Williams showcase the country setting and village life.

Walking the dogs is an energetic adventure in *A Summery Saturday Morning*. A smiling mother and her children hurry after two dogs that chase everything that moves. The rhyme picks up speed as everyone races up and down hills toward the harbour. However, the dogs are in for a surprise when they get to the beach. Selina Young's watercolours capture the tawny grasses and summery scenes.

Stylish end papers add to the appeal of all three books. Enjoyable new editions of Mahy word wizardry.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.



Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.