

# BOOKRAPT™

THE BAY OF PLENTY CHILDREN'S LITERATURE ASSOCIATION INC  
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## Stories for 6 year olds by New Zealand authors

**Publisher: Random House New Zealand**

**RRP \$19.99**

Top-notch New Zealand authors have contributed to this enjoyable collection of 25 stories. Margaret Mahy, Patricia Grace, David Hill, Janice Marriott, and Barbara Else are a few of the writers who add their distinctive story-telling skills to the selection. The great range of themes includes summer holidays, family celebrations, school stories, and quite a lot of food.

There's a recognisably Kiwi atmosphere to the collection, which is a rare pleasure amongst the current overload of international books. Light-hearted humour is a feature of many of the stories. Plus, there is often a clever twist to the tale to surprise and delight readers. Children will relate to many of the situations the characters find themselves in, which could provoke much discussion and, "I remember when..." scenarios.

The brightly-coloured cover and end papers have instant appeal. Each story has a few black-and-white line drawings to break up the text and help children who are transitioning to chapter books. The large-size typeface will make it easier for young readers to keep their place on the page.

These stories are perfect for a read-aloud session in the classroom or library. Some very confident six-year-olds may manage to read the stories by themselves, or students could be paired in a shared reading situation. The collection is also well-suited for family bed-time reading.

**Reviewed by children's book author,  
Jean Bennett**

