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Chook Doolan: Rules are Rules

Chook Doolan: The Newest Pet

written by James Roy, illustrated by Lucinda Gifford

Publisher: Walker Books Australia

RRP \$9.99 each

These books are both about Simon Doolan. Simon has good ideas and a heart of gold, but he isn't very brave. In fact, he has been given the nickname 'Chook' because he is so chicken.

The stories feature every-day events. Simon's walk to school features in *Rules are Rules*, and a school pet day in *The Newest Pet*. All books are perfectly pitched for boys who are graduating to chapter books. The text is large, the sentences and chapters are short, and the vocabulary is simple. Most double-spread pages feature an amusing illustration by Lucinda Gifford.

The books are so easy to read that all but the youngest readers should be able to tackle them with minimal help, and the gentle humour in these stories means that adults will enjoy reading them aloud.

While some young boys will prefer more exciting and heroic heroes, others will identify with Chook's insecurities. Any child who likes the *Hey Jack* series will probably enjoy these titles in the *Chook Doolan* series.

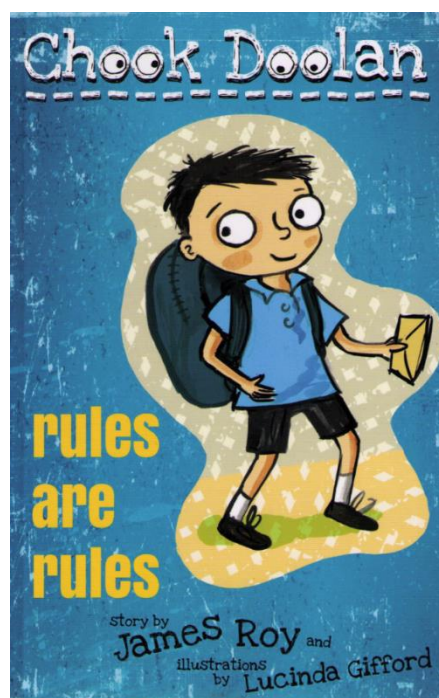
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**Reviewed by children's
librarian, Penny Guy**



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