



## MORAG STYLES

Reader in Children's Literature and Education,  
University of Cambridge  
Fellow of Homerton College

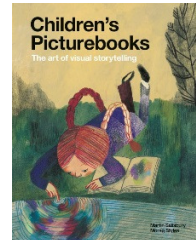
***"I am fascinated by musicality in children's narratives and how they lend themselves to learning."***

*"My research areas are in children's literature, reading and its history, poetry and visual literacy. I also teach at the faculty, as there are specialist postgraduate degrees in Children's Literature. I supervise, lecture and co-ordinate as well as lead on a range of research projects. I work with external organisations on different projects, including advocacy and curating."*

Inspiring people no. 1: The world's first professor of children's poetry

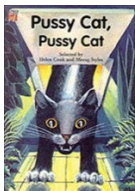


*"As a child, my experience and engagement with children's literature was essential, transformative and to some extent life-saving. It was within the characters, fictitious worlds, images and stories that transported me to a different reality and offered an alternative perspective. The work I do now is an extension of this."*



### Children's literature is...

*"... dynamic, political, intelligent and always interesting from a historical perspective – you can read a lot about how society perceives childhood by exploring children's literature."*



*"There is a strong sense that there are many histories that have not been explored, because they have been told pictorially or orally. One example of this would be the nursery rhyme. My research in the nursery rhyme is inextricably linked to women's history and to oral traditions."*

### Favourite authors...

*"There are so many! There are also illustrators, as children's literature is very much centered in visual literacy. Increasingly my research has led me to contemporary Caribbean literature, which I am really enjoying."*



Morag Styles was interviewed by Liat Rosenthal for Action for Children's Arts

### The future for children's literature...

*"I think this needs to be situated within the wider discussion of how children today learn – and this cannot be discussed without opening up the debate about technology and its use in educational contexts. There is a growing appreciation of children's literature and more writers are interested in creating work for young audiences."*

