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Local author taken back to her childhood with pre-school readings

Having grown up in the Northern Beaches of Sydney, author Jacqui Brown is enjoying giving back to her community with readings of her new eBook, *Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String*, to children at local pre-schools.

'I come from a family of readers,' said Jacqui. 'One of the strongest memories of my own childhood is the whole family absorbed in books. I love seeing children engaged with stories, and being excited about the different adventures reading can take them on.'

Author readings are new and fun for young children. 'They are always keen to ask questions about the story, tell me about their own pets, or talk about their favourite characters in the book,' said Jacqui. The visits help them understand that an author is not just a name on a front cover, but a real person, and encourages interest in how stories work and how books are made. The children then join in with colouring activities from the *Miss Bobby-Socks and Friends* website after the reading.

Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String is an eBook, so Jacqui usually presents it with a digital projector, which the children find engaging and exciting. They can follow the string on the big screen as Miss Bobby-Socks chases it through the story. It also introduces them to reading material coming in different formats. Parents can download a copy of the eBook for their kids at home for only \$3.99 from Amazon Australia.

Image: Author Jacqui Brown reading at Little Bloomers Pre-School at Frenchs Forest



Image: Author Jacqui Brown with Little Bloomers PreSchooler Zoe Stewart.



Jacqui recently read *Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String* at Little Bloomers Early Learning Centre at Frenchs Forest. 'At Little Bloomers Preschool, we are always ready to support our local community artists, authors and more,' said Mr Vatche Demirjian, Centre Manager. This delightful centre has been running since late 2009 with Long Day Care for 30 children a day aged between 3 and 6 years. They are currently accepting enrolments for 2015, and wait listing for 2016. Jacqui will be returning to read her second book, *Miss Bobby-Socks and the Rainbow*, at Little Bloomers later in the year.

Kids' Book Review said: 'Jacqui Brown's delightful narrative, complemented by Gail Yerrill's gorgeous illustrations, makes for a beautiful story full of character, colour and fun, which children will want to read again and again ... *Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String* is a certain thumbs up.' See the full review at: <http://www.kids-bookreview.com/2015/07/ebook-review-miss-bobby-socks-and-giant.html>

Image: *Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String* front cover

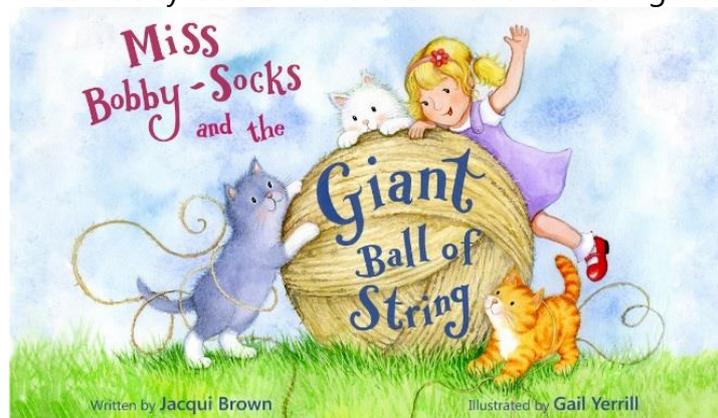


Image: Author Jacqui Brown with Softie, the inspiration for the picture book series.



Jacqui Brown is a cat lover who lives in Sydney, Australia, with her husband and her cat, Softie. She is currently undertaking a Master of Creative Writing at Macquarie University.

Gail Yerrill is a freelance illustrator and artist whose works include children's books, greeting cards, gift wrap, mugs, bags, in magazines and on television. She lives in England with her husband and two children. www.gailyerrill.com

Book Details:

Miss Bobby-Socks and the Giant Ball of String written by Jacqui Brown and illustrated by Gail Yerrill.

Publication Date: 16 May 2015

Available at: www.amazon.com

Price: \$2.99 USD

Age Group: 2+

Extent: 21 pages

Links: www.missbobbysocks.com

www.facebook.com/missbobbysocks

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