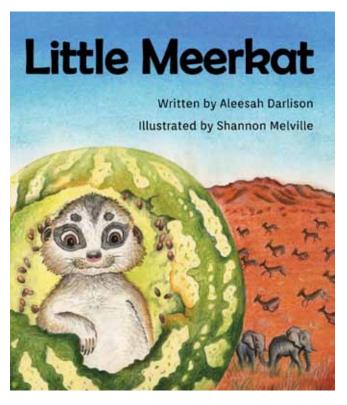
LITTLE MEERKAT



Author: Aleesah Darlison

Illustrator: Shannon Melville

Publication date: 1 March 2014

ISBN: 9781921632822

RRP: 24.99 (Hardback: 32 pages)

Little Meerkat is a humorous, lively and adventurous picture book for children 3 to 7 years. The main character, Little Meerkat, craves independence and adventure, so it's just as well his extended family are there to guide and protect him!

Aleesah chose to build her story around meerkats because they are loved and recognised the world over. This helps ensure children from all backgrounds, cultures and countries can connect with and learn from Little Meerkat's story.

Little Meerkat's aspirations, bravery and mis-adventures bring humour to a great story, and provided the illustrator, Shannon Melville, with the opportunity to create truly beautiful, richly coloured illustrations.

Using an internationally recognised animal as the main character to ensure children from all backgrounds, cultures and countries can connect with and learn from Little Meerkat's story, Aleesah Darlison has created this delightful tale for young children who want to be older than they are. There is something about meerkats that automatically endear them to us and Shannon Melville has captured this in her illustrations perfectly. Little Meerkat as the tribal warrior, as the stealthy scout, as the swimming champion add humour but more importantly they enable the reader to empathise with Little Meerkat and perhaps see themselves in him.

Barbara Braxton, Teacher Librarian and Book Reviewer

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