

Sally Rippin

HOLIDAY
PROGRAM

Issue
#2

The Spotty Vacation

Includes:

COMPLETE OUR
READING
CHALLENGE!

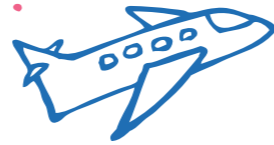
Let's have a
FANCY
dinner party
at home!

Plus HEAPS more!





Welcome back!



How has everyone been?
I've had a bit of a cold, so I'm writing this letter all cozy in bed with my puppy, Billy, at my feet. I'm lucky that I love reading and writing so I don't mind a day in bed. Sometimes it's nice just to rest a little bit, isn't it?

When I was little and I would get sick, my mom would make me a bed on the couch and bring me lemon and honey to drink. That always made me feel very special.

We have lots of fun activities for you this week, including writing your very own story and setting up a fancy dinner party. We also get to meet a superfan, Olivia, and learn some meditation tips to help us feel calm.

I hope you all have a lovely week and look forward to seeing you next time!

Lots of love,
Sally
XXX



Read with Sally!

Sally has some SUPER-DUPER ideas for having fun inside. You can draw, make a tent, write to a friend and MORE.

↪ PUSH PLAY!



↪ PUSH PLAY!

Have you read *The Spotty Vacation* yet? Why don't you read along with Sally and see if you can finish it by yourself!

Mail Bag!



Meet Olivia! She's a **super-duper** Billie B. Brown fan, and an incredible reader. Her mom asked her some questions so we could get to know her better!

↪ PUSH PLAY!



Olivia!



Olivia loves SLIME!

Olivia's favorite Billie B. Brown book is *The Bad Butterfly*!



Oh no, not again! Some of the letters have disappeared from these Billie B. Brown words. Fill in the missing **middle** sound for each of these words. Can you read the words now that they have been fixed?



A

h_s

s_t

h_d

O

h_t

sp_ts

n_t

U

b_t

f_n

r_g

E

g_t

b_d

s_t

I

s_t

b_t

b_g



Billie was very lucky to travel on a plane to visit her grandma.



Have you ever traveled on a plane before?

Write about a time that you've been on a plane. Maybe it was to go on a vacation too! Draw a picture to match.

If you haven't been on a plane, write about where you'd like to go on a plane and draw a picture to match.

A large area with horizontal dotted lines for writing and drawing.

Billie wrote a **fantastic list** of fun things she'd like to do with her grandma. Write a list of some of the things you would like to do with your grandma or grandpa, or with an aunt or uncle!



List:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.





When Billie realized she wouldn't be able to complete the original list of things she wanted to do with her grandma, she got very **creative!** Billie was able to plan so many fun things to do without leaving the house. She made her own zoo, had an indoor picnic and visited the pretend ice cream shop and shoe store. Billie and her grandma also watched a movie and ate popcorn - in Billie's very own movie theater!

What is something creative and fun you could do at your house?



Write about what you could do and draw a picture to match.





There are lots of words in Billie B. Brown *The Spotty Vacation* that we know how to read. We call these words **high-frequency words** because we see them all the time.

Look at all these words below. Count how many times you find each word and write down the answer.

Which word did you find the most?



with for for you
 for is the the
 you you for
 you the you for
 with as you
 as as you
 for is the the
 you you with
 you as for for



is	the
as	you
with	for



Which word did you find the most?

.....

How to Host a FANCY Dinner Party!

With Billie B. Brown!

Having a proper dinner party is not at all like having an ordinary old dinner. It's a party! So it has to be special.

First of all, you have to think about how many people you are going to invite. This can be a bit tricky because you don't want to leave anyone out, but inviting a lot of people can be a lot of work. And everyone needs somewhere to sit! Billie usually invites her mom and dad and her best friend, Jack, who lives next door. And of course Billie's little brother, Noah, has to come - even though he makes a bit of a mess. Sometimes, not everybody can come along, and that's OK. You can invite them next time!

Billie finds the most fun thing about dinner parties is the decorating part. Sometimes she spends so much time decorating that she forgets about the dinner part! But that's OK. Because even if you are just having toasted sandwiches for dinner, if it looks fancy, it will feel fancy.

THINGS YOU NEED FOR A FANCY DINNER PARTY:

Flowers

Not just in a vase, but all over the table. If you don't have flowers you can pick in your yard, why not draw some instead? Check out the paper flower template on the next page!



Food

Fancy food is OK, but Billie doesn't really like a lot of fancy food so she just chooses her favorite foods instead. Billie's favorite dinner party menu looks like this:

Tablecloth

This can be particularly handy if you don't have a table you can use. Put the cloth on the floor and then: voilà! You have a fancy dinner party picnic! Just be careful of crawling baby brothers. They get into everything!

MENU

ENTREE

Rice crackers and dip

MAIN COURSE

Spaghetti Bolognese

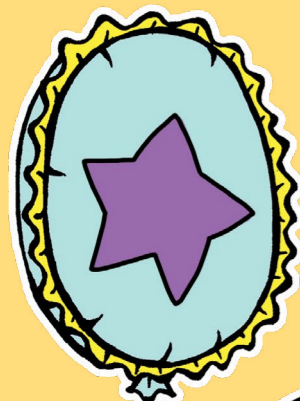
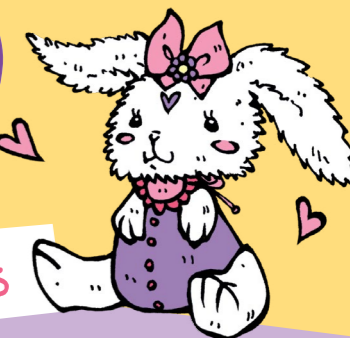
DESSERT

Ice cream with chopped bananas AND sprinkles!

Can you guess which courses Billie can make all by herself, and which one she asks for help with?

Guests

The most important part! Sometimes Billie's mom and dad are too busy to come to Billie's fancy dinner parties, so she invites her dolls instead: Claudia and Tomoko, and Mr. Fred, her teddy bear. But not Stinky, because she is a bit ... well, you know ... stinky!



Invitation Template!

Fill this out or use as a guide to make your own FANCY invitations for your guests!

Dear

You're invited to a
very FANCY dinner party!

Date

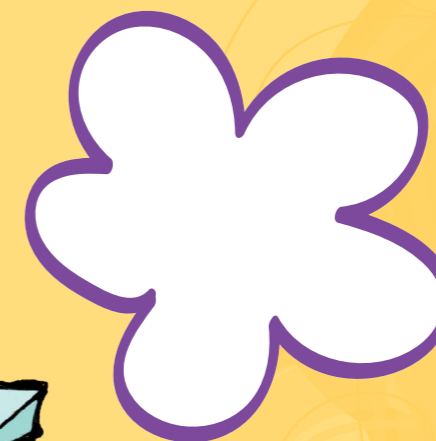
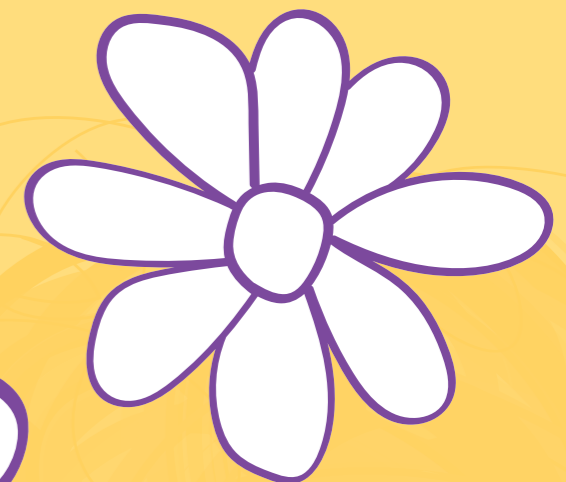
Time

Location

From

Paper Flower Template!

Trace these flowers onto paper
and color them in to use as decorations on
the table!
Or draw your own!



Billie B. Brown LOVES TO READ!

She reads in bed, she reads on the couch, she reads in the bathtub – sometimes she even reads up a tree!

Where is the strangest place you've read a book?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



It's time for a Billie B. Brown CHALLENGE!

Try and check off five of these reading challenges this week ... or more!



Read in bed – under the covers with a flashlight!



Read when you're eating breakfast.



Read in bed!



Read five times in one day!



Read to your pet, or favorite toy.



Read a book and write a book review.



Take turns reading a sentence with someone else.



Read a chapter standing up!



Read a book and then draw a new cover for it!



Read a picture book to your family – pretend you're the teacher!



Make a cubby and read in it.



Read a book about animals.



Read curled up on the couch.



Read a funny book.



Get someone to read a chapter out loud for you!



Read your best friend's favorite book and call them to chat about it!

How to write a GOOD STORY

Over the next three issues, Billie B. Brown author Sally Rippin is going to share her tips for writing a story. How exciting! Here is **PART ONE.**

2 A PINCH OF DESCRIPTION.
Don't worry about adding too much description into your stories in the beginning. Just use a little bit to help us picture where your story is set. Is it in a spooky house? Is it in a jungle? Is it on another planet? Try using all your senses to describe the world. What can we see? What can we hear? What kind of mood do you want to create for your reader?

Do you ever tell your mom or dad all the details about what happened over the course of your day? Well, that's kind of a story, but not really.

A good story needs a **beginning**, a **middle** and an **end**.

I know that sounds easy, but, believe me, it isn't! I've been writing stories for years and I still find it hard!

So, I thought I'd give you some tips that might help you. Think of it like a recipe. Here are the ingredients you'll need:

1 A HANDFUL OF CHARACTERS.
These can be a lot of fun to invent. You can come up with characters by drawing them or writing down lists of things that make them interesting. What makes them laugh? What makes them cry? What makes them angry? What are they afraid of? What is one thing about your character that they are too embarrassed to tell anyone about?

3 A GREAT BIG DOLLOP OF ACTION!
This is the most important part – it's the part that will make your reader want to keep reading. Show us your character, set your scene, then start the action bubbling by throwing into the pot one great big **PROBLEM**.

4 A SATISFYING RESOLUTION.
This is the bit where everything comes together at the end. All your character's problems have been fixed and sometimes they have even learned something about themselves or the world.

This week, invent some good characters and describe the world they live in.

Next week I'll show you how to come up with a **BIG PROBLEM** to get your story started.

Happy writing!



Question time with AKI FUKUOKA

The amazing illustrator of Billie B. Brown!

What is your favorite picture of Billie B. Brown that you've drawn?

The iconic picture of Billie in a tutu on the cover of *The Bad Butterfly*. After trying out over a hundred different character designs that were just not right, that picture was the final design I drew, and we knew straightaway that we had finally met our Billie! It's a very special drawing to me and definitely my favorite!



Where do you live?

I live on a little piece of land surrounded by native bush and rolling hills in the upper north of New Zealand. We have planted lots of fruit trees and have a little vegetable patch to feed my hungry little boys. We are not far from the beach and my husband loves to go fishing and diving whenever he has free time.

Do you have any advice to aspiring artists about how they might become illustrators?

Enjoy drawing, so that you want to draw and continue to draw every day! Practice makes you improve at anything over time, including drawing. Don't compare yourself to others; instead, only compare yourself to yourself-from-yesterday! If you can draw slightly better than how you drew the day before, then you are improving. Keep repeating this and your path to becoming an illustrator will open up naturally!

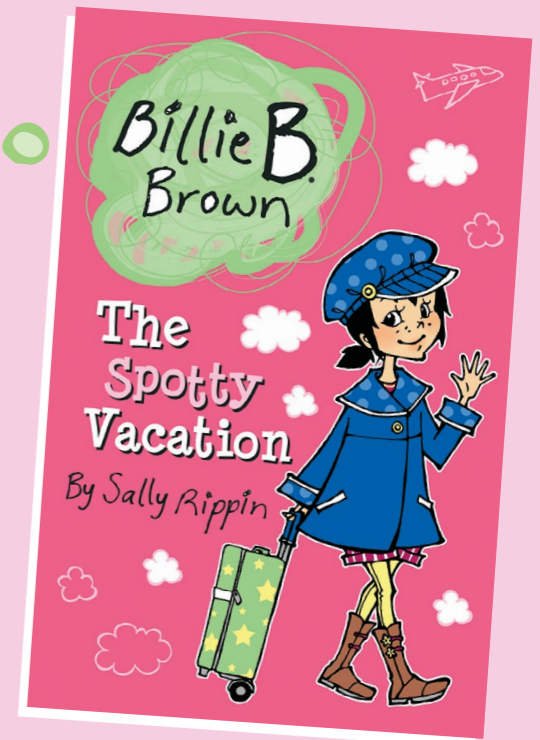
The Spotty Vacation

QUIZ!

How well do YOU know the

Billie B. Brown book,

The Spotty Vacation?



Take this quiz to find out!

1 In *The Spotty Vacation*, what does the "B" in Billie B. Brown stand for?

6 In Chapter Three, what does Billie turn the family room into?

2 Fill in the blank! Billie is going to stay with her _____ for a whole week.

7 Billie tries on lots of shoes until she finds a pair that matches her T-shirt. What color are they?

3 Circle the right answer! Billie and her grandma travel by ...

8 What do Billie and Grandma make to eat at the movies?

train bus plane horse and cart

9 Fill in the blank! One morning Billie makes an adventure _____ out of cushions.

4 Which of these is not on Billie's list of fun things to do? Circle the right answer!

zoo movies shopping cleaning

10 Where does Billie get to play Waterworld?

5 Billie has chicken pox. Who else in her family has it?

MEDITATION

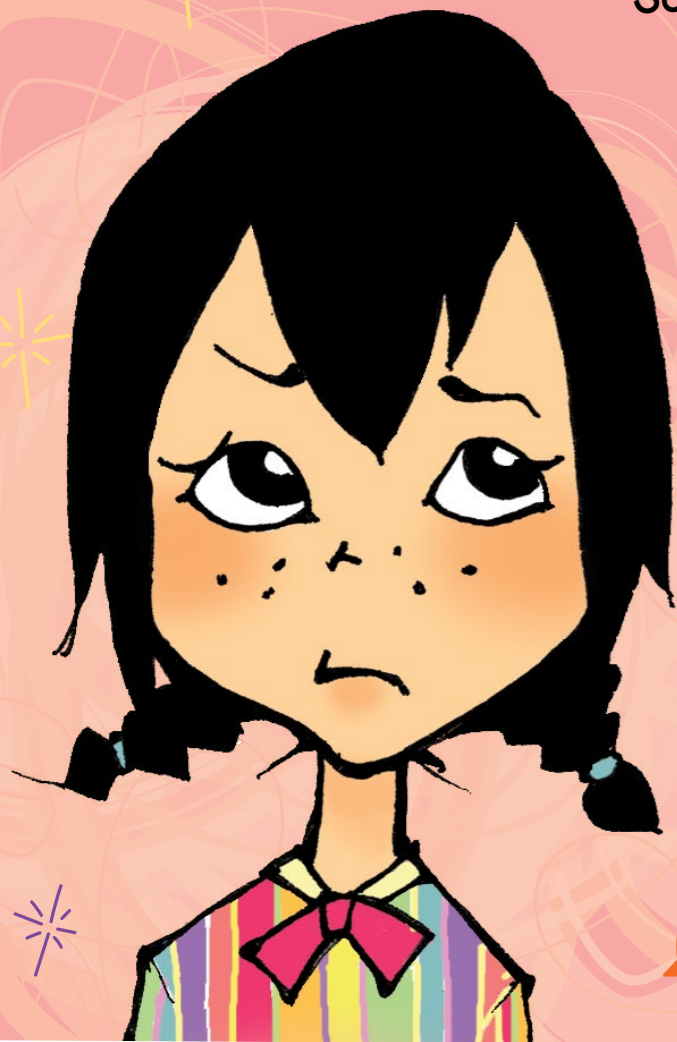
with Caitlin Cady!

Billie B. Brown sometimes gets **ANGRY** or **FRUSTRATED**. Sometimes she can't get her mind to slow down.

When our thoughts and feelings are buzzing around, it can be a bit stressful! Have you ever felt that way?

At school, Billie B. Brown's class sometimes does Brain Rest with Ms. Walton... That's another word for meditation.

Caitlin Cady knows all about meditation and is here to guide you through a couple exercises! Get comfortable and have a go!

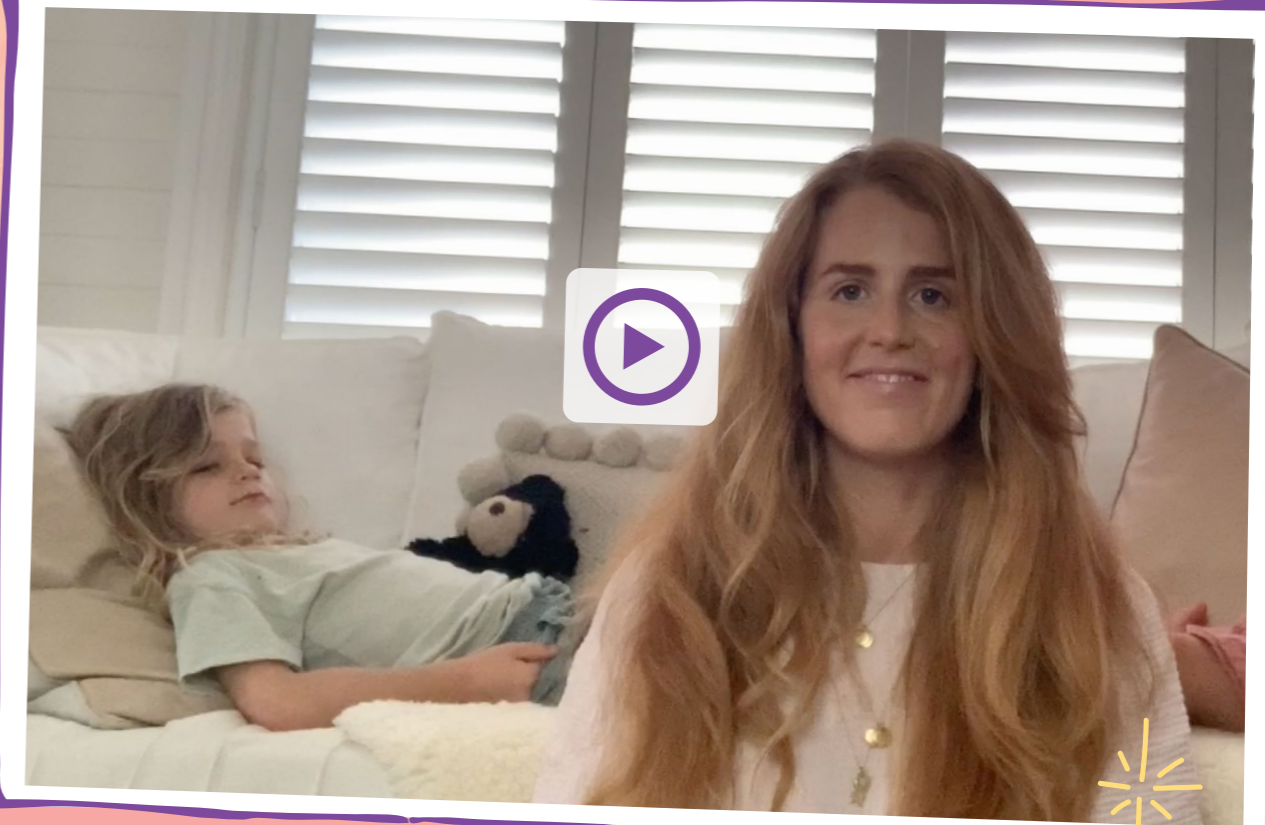


You can find more fun activities to help you understand and work through your feelings in [Kane Miller's Mindful Kids series](#).



Let's lay down and have a relaxing **RAINBOW REST** with Caitlin!

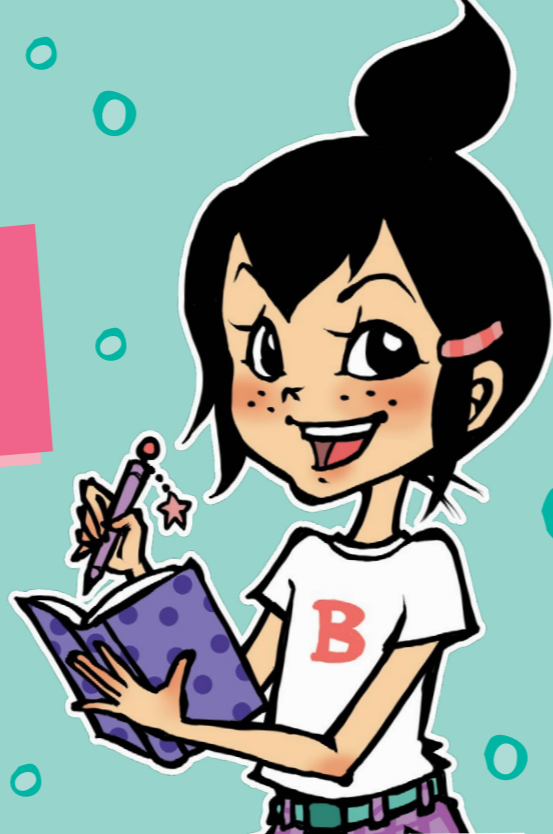
PUSH PLAY! ↘



PUSH PLAY! ↗

Stand tall like a tree, shake like a leaf, and use your imagination to practice **SUNSHINE MEDITATION** with Caitlin!

Do you keep A DIARY?



Billie B. Brown does!

Sometimes it's fun to look back and see how much you have grown up!

The best thing that happened this week was

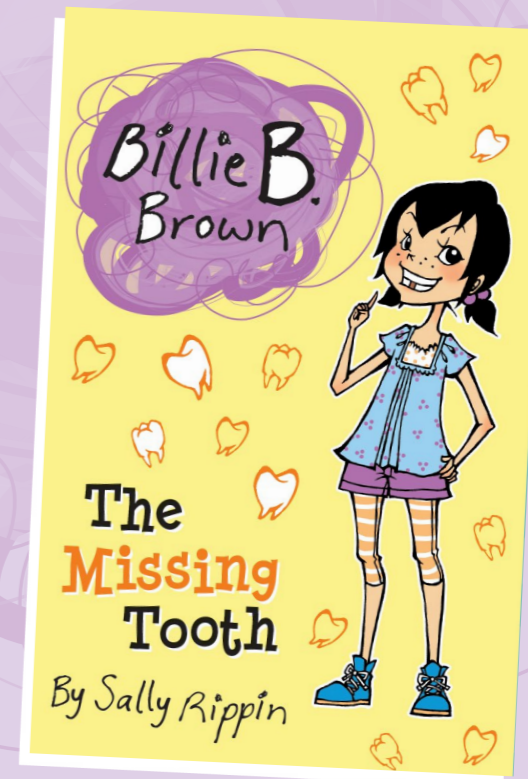
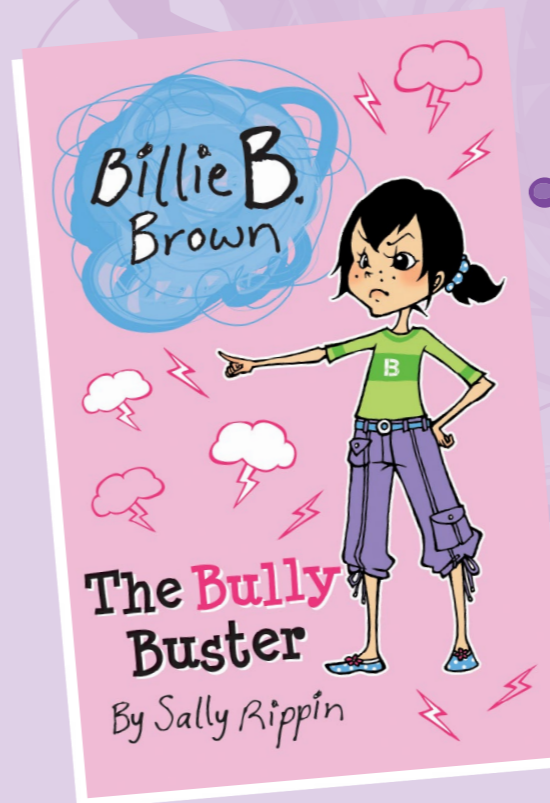
This week, I have been reading

by

Something that made me smile was

The funniest joke I have heard is

If I could have a superpower, it would be



Don't miss Billie's latest adventures!



USBORNE
BOOKS & MORE

Kane Miller
EDC PUBLISHING