

Sally Rippin

HOLIDAY
PROGRAM

Issue
#6

The Honey Bees

Includes:
Meet superfan Remy!

COOK with Billie!

Yummy honey
pikelet recipe!

SALLY LEARNS
ALL ABOUT BEES!





Hi, everyone!

I'm so happy to see you back for this issue of the holiday program.

We have so many amazing, incredible and super-duper things for you to do this time!

And I have another new Billie story to share with you: *The Honey Bees*. It's about lots of different things we can do to care for our planet, including looking after honey bees. They are such amazing little creatures and they are so important for our planet!

Thank you everyone for all your lovely letters, drawings and book reviews, too.

Lots of love,
Sally
xxx



Read with Sally!

Did you know bees help grow our fruits and vegetables? Find out more buzzy bee facts with Sally!

↶ PUSH PLAY!



Sally Rippin



↶ PUSH PLAY!

Have you started *The Honey Bees* yet? Why don't you read along with Sally and see if you can finish it by yourself?

7 SUPER-DUPER

QUESTIONS

with Remy!

REMY lives in the Australian countryside with her mom and dad and two big sisters. They moved from the city a few years ago and now have a **HUGE BACKYARD** full of fruit trees, vegetables and even **CHICKENS!**

When it came time to write a new Billie B. Brown book, Sally asked Remy for some ideas, and she suggested she should write about "R, R, R."

1 What does R, R, R stand for? And why is this important?

Remy: REUSE, REDUCE, RECYCLE. If you reduce, reuse and recycle then there's less trash in the world, and trash is bad for the environment. If people throw trash in the ocean, turtles might think it's a jellyfish, and eat it and die.



2 What are things we can do at home to help look after our planet?

Remy: Recycle cans, glass, paper and plastic. Don't use plastic bags. Also plant trees and grow vegetables.

4 Do you have a special job you do at home? Like feed the chickens?

Remy: I collect the chicken eggs. I also help mom with gardening and we cook with the veggies we grow in the garden. With my sisters I also take our Silkie chicken, **OREO**, for long walks in a wagon filled with towels. It's not really a job though, we just like to do it.

6 Apart from making honey, why are bees important? Don't they just want to sting us?

Remy: Bees pollinate flowers. If we didn't have bees, we wouldn't have flowers and fruit.

7 Do you have a favorite Billie book?

Remy: I love *The Strawberry Thief*, but I also really love *The Honey Bees!*

3 What do you like the most about living in the country?

Remy: No traffic. I can ride my bike around and I see lots of koalas, kangaroos and birds. I can't imagine a kangaroo or koala in Melbourne except for at the zoo!

5 Who is your favorite chicken?

Remy: I have a baby Polish chicken called **ROBBY**, and she (I think she's a girl) looks like she has a wheat farm on her head!



“Oh dear,” says Billie. “You’re right. I haven’t been a good friend today. I didn’t even notice how scared he was. Maybe he won’t want to be my friend anymore?”



Luckily, Billie B. Brown knows how to be a great friend and she made sure her best buddy, Jack, was OK after all!

What makes you a good friend?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....



Write down the name of one of your friends. What makes them a good friend to you?

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Draw a picture of yourself being a good friend.



I love to read and I know you do too! Did you know it is really important to think about what we are reading as we read it?



I wonder if you were practicing this today while you were reading *The Honey Bees*. Read the two sentences and circle what happened

first in the story. **Good luck!**



Billie and Jack hide under the table.

Or

Billie decides to make compost with Jack for the class project.

Billie is worried that Jack won’t want to be her friend anymore.

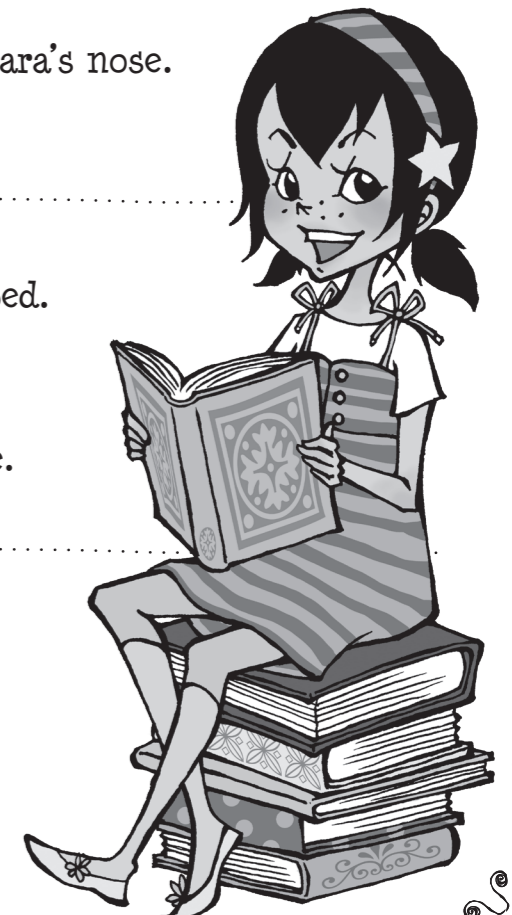
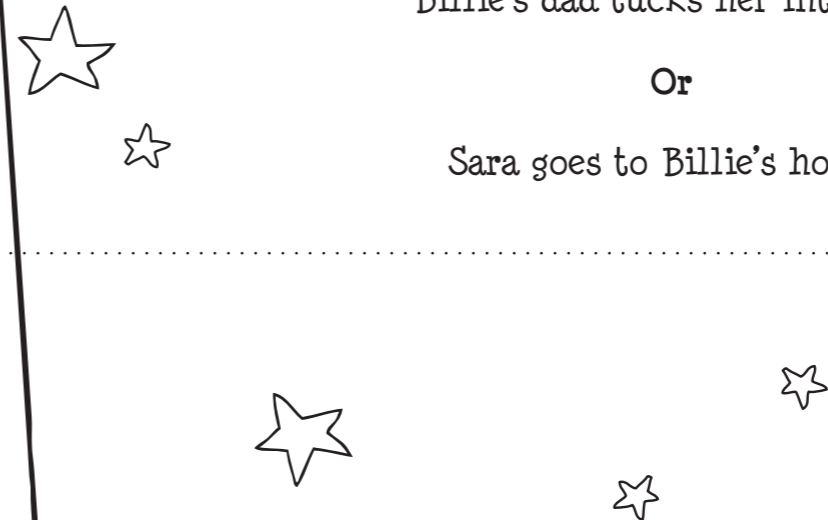
Or

The bees fly out the window past Sara’s nose.

Billie’s dad tucks her into bed.

Or

Sara goes to Billie’s house.



At school Billie, Jack and Sara are learning all about ways to take care of the planet. They know about “reduce, reuse and recycle,” vegetable gardens and compost.



Think of three things you could do to take care of the planet, then finish off the sentences below.

1. I can

2. I can

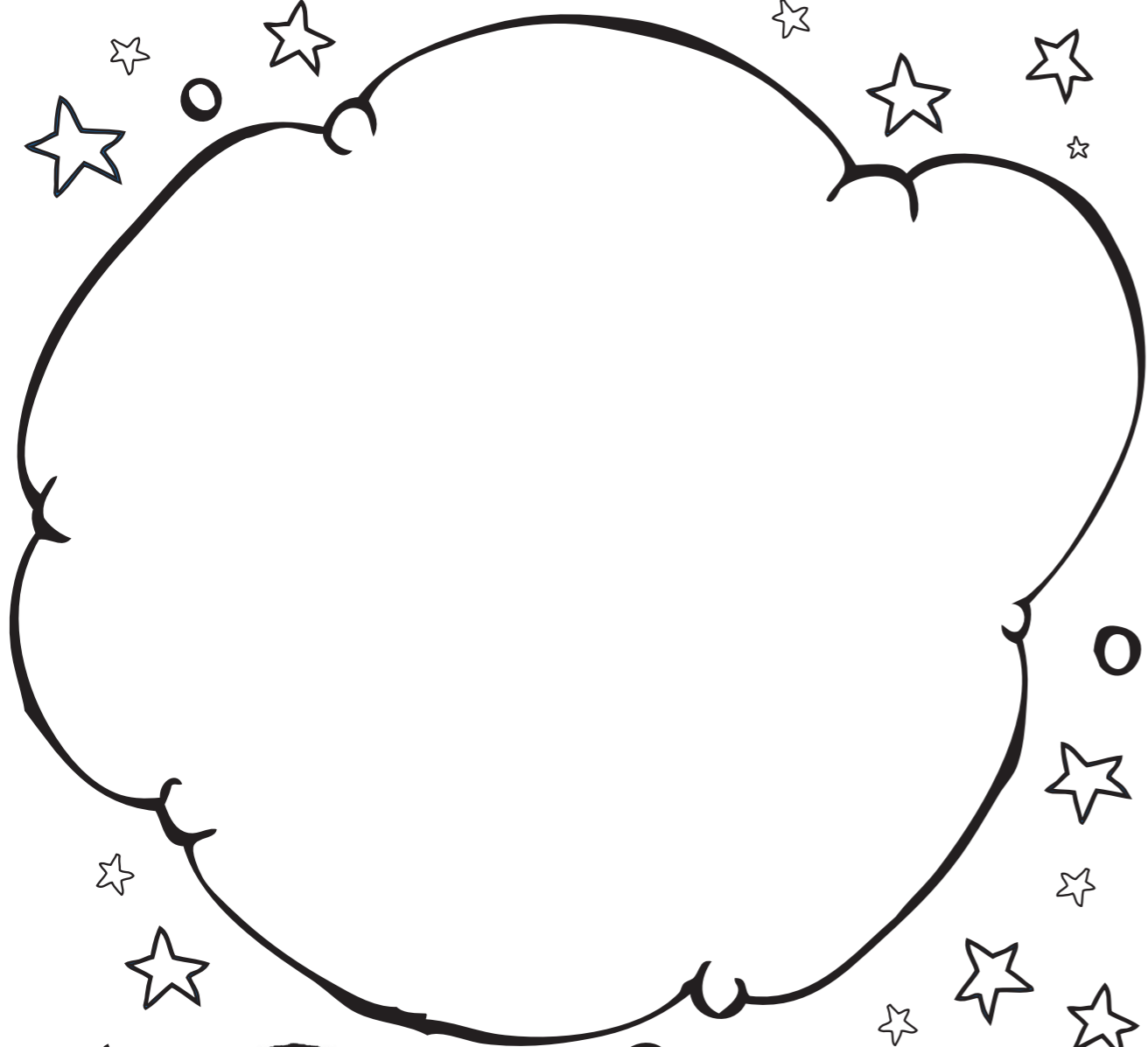
3. I can

Draw a picture to match your writing.

Super-duper coloring!

Billie LOVES to color, almost as much as she loves making sandcastles!





**Billie the
hairdresser wants
to give you a
haircut with her
purple scissors.**

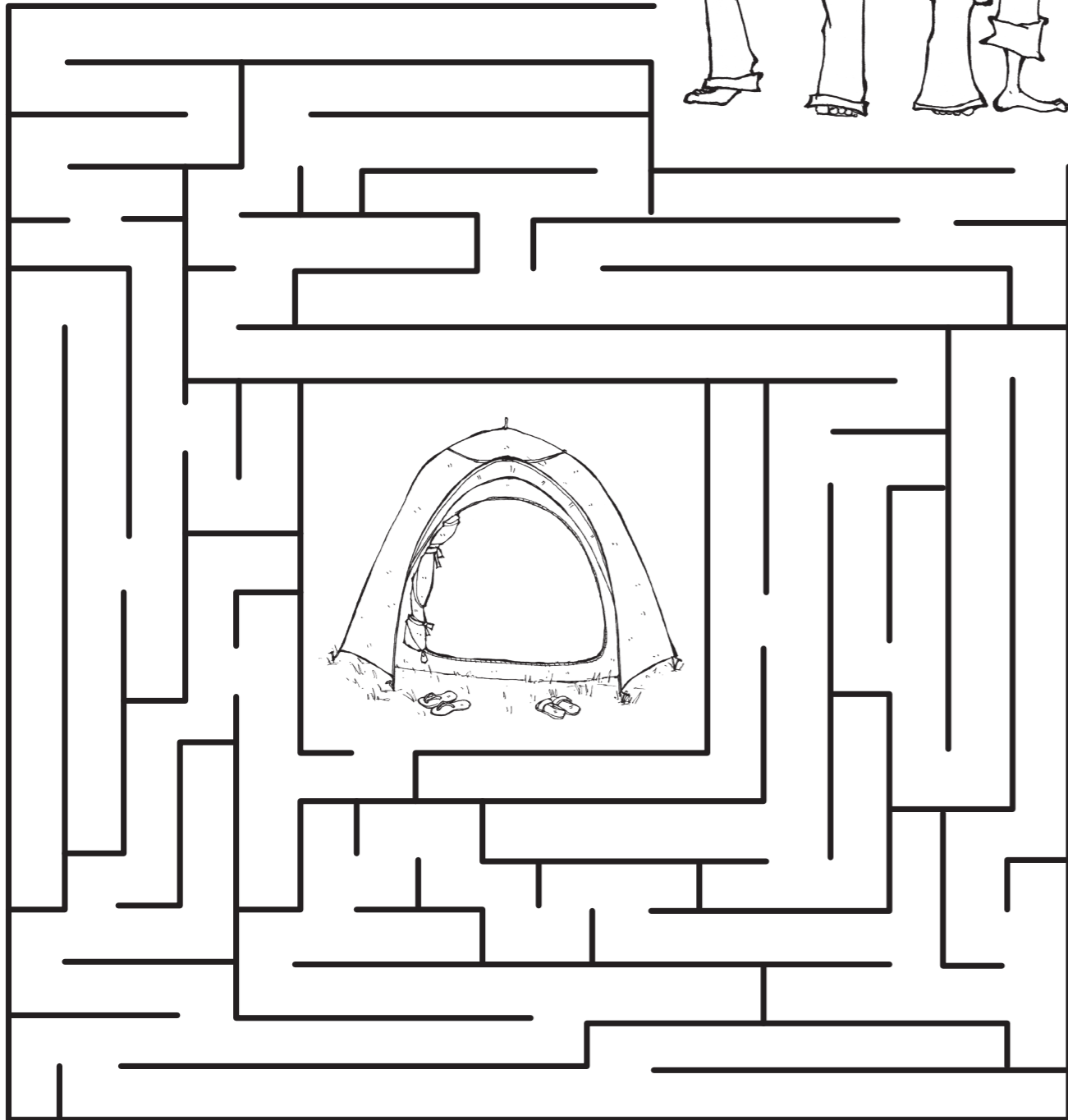
Draw what you think
it might look like.

Dot-to-dot!
Connect the dots
to finish this
picture of Billie.



A-MAZE-ing!

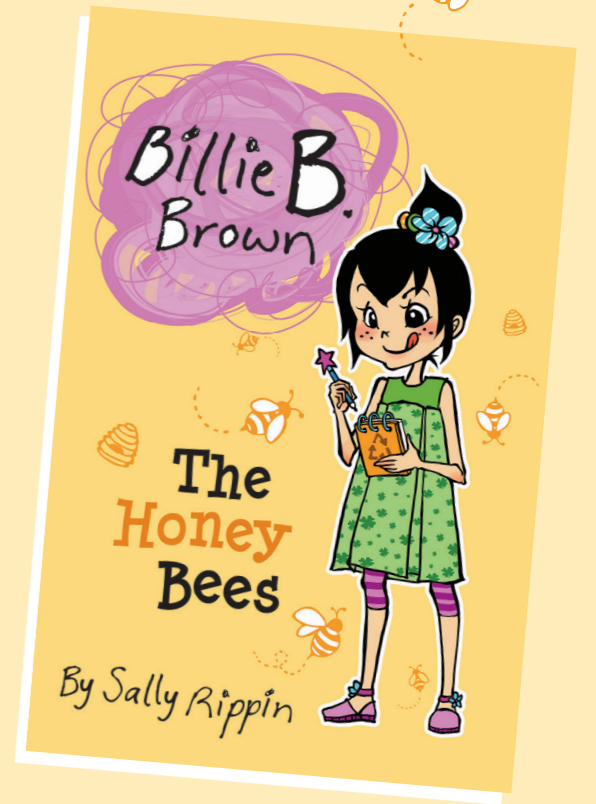
Billie and Jack have made a twisty, turny maze in the backyard. Can you help them find their way back to the tent?



The Honey Bees QUIZ!

How well do YOU know the Billie B. Brown book, *The Honey Bees*?

Take this quiz to find out!



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

2 Fill in the blank! The new girl in Billie's class is called _____.

3 Circle the right answer! To get the bees to leave the classroom, Sara opens a

book window jar
bag of chips

4 At school, what is Billie learning how to look after?

5 Billie wants to care for the planet by doing the three Rs. What do they stand for?

6 Which of these did Sara have on her farm? Circle all the right answers.

chickens elephants
honey bees

7 Billie learns that bees pollinate flowers. What will that help the flowers grow into?

8 Fill in the blank! Billie can't have a beehive at home, so she thinks the _____ should get one instead.

9 When Jack got stung by a bee, where did he have to spend three days?

10 At the end of the story, what does Billie think the school should get?

Answers 1. Bees 2. Sara 3. Window 4. The planet 5. Reduce, reuse, recycle 6. Chickens and honey bees 7. Fruit and vegetable 8. School 9. In the hospital 10. Compost



Learn About Bees

with Sally!



I'm lucky enough to have a little place in the country where I go to write my Billie books. There are lots of kangaroo families up there, lots of very noisy birds, and I've even seen an echidna a few times, too!

Recently I decided it might be nice to have some bees on the property, as bees are so important and in lots of places in the world they are finding it hard to survive. You probably already know that bees make delicious honey, but you might not know that they also pollinate blossoms on trees and plants, which then grow into fruit and vegetables. So clever!

So, I contacted a local beekeeper and he is going to put a beehive on my property. He told me I will need flowers to feed the bees, so I have planted lots of flowering native trees. The bees will also need water nearby. Luckily, I have a couple of dams with plenty of water in them.



Daniell

Daniel, the beekeeper, is coming soon so I will make sure I share some photos with you. But I also thought it might be useful for me to know a little bit more about my new neighbors. So here are some fun facts about bees that I researched on the internet.

DID YOU KNOW?

1 Bees live in honeycomb structures built from beeswax called hives. There are three types of bees in a colony: drones, workers and queens.

2 The queen bee lays all of the eggs in a colony. She is busiest in the summer months, when she can lay up to 2,500 eggs a day!

3 Worker bees are females. They look after the hive and fly around looking for food. The average worker bee lives for just five to six weeks. During this time, she'll produce around a twelfth of a teaspoon of honey.

4 Male bees are called drones and they do not have a stinger. Their job is to mate with the queen to produce more bees.

5 Beeswax comes from the abdomen glands of a worker bee. They use the wax to form the honeycomb.

6 Bees are amazing at flying. They fly at a speed of around 15 miles per hour and beat their wings 200 times per second!

7 Honey is made from the nectar and sweet deposits that bees collect from plants and trees. Honey is stored in honeycomb as food for the colony. Luckily, there is always some left over that we can share too!

Now that you know more about bees, make sure you say hello next time you see one fly past. They won't hurt you if you leave them alone. They are much too busy making honey! Bzz! Bzz! Bzz!

See you next issue. I'm off to have a banana-and-honey sandwich with sprinkles, just like Billie!

How to Make HONEY PIKELETS



Billie **LOVES** cooking! Sometimes she makes simple things like banana-and-honey smoothies. Sometimes she makes special treats like honey pikelets. No matter what she wants to cook, she always asks a grown-up if it's OK before she starts. And she always, always asks for help when she's using the stove or oven. You should do that, too!

Here is Billie's special recipe for honey pikelets. **YUM!**



METHOD:

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon sugar

INGREDIENTS:

$\frac{2}{3}$ cup milk
1 egg
2 tablespoons butter
Honey

1.

Put the plain flour, baking powder, salt and sugar into a mixing bowl, and mix them together with a wooden spoon.

2.

Pour $\frac{2}{3}$ cup of milk into a measuring cup. Crack open the egg and pour it into the cup, too. Whisk the milk and the egg together.

3.

Pour the wet mixture into the dry mixture. Whisk them together until you have a lovely smooth batter.

4.

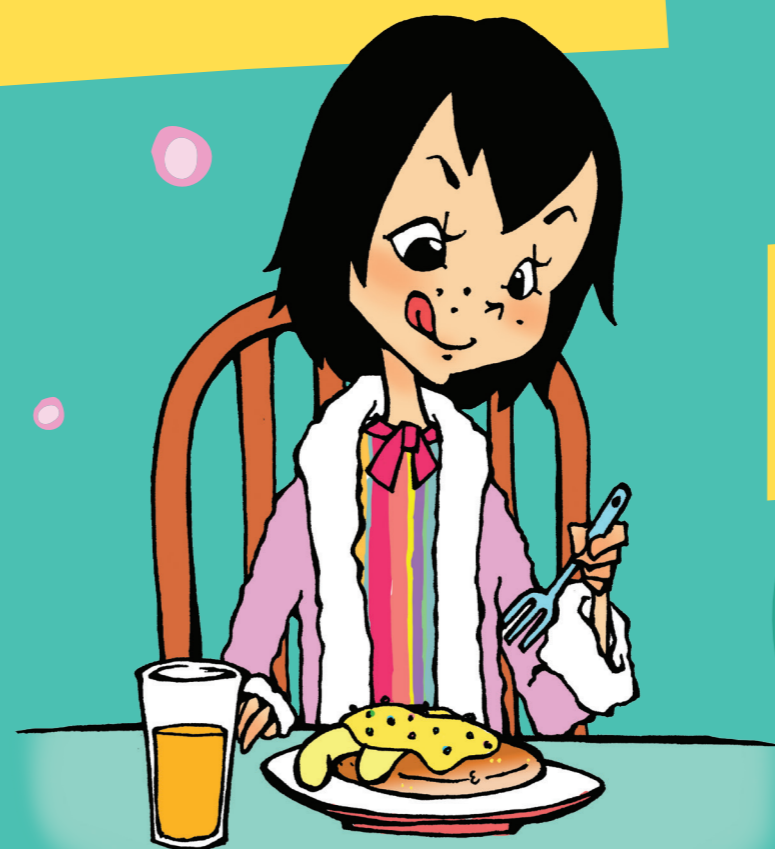
Ask a grown-up to heat a frying pan. Add 2 tablespoons of butter and let it melt.

5.

Spoon small dollops of batter into the pan. As soon as small bubbles appear in the pikelets, flip them. They'll be ready soon after that.

6.

Pop your pikelets on a plate. Drizzle honey over the top and dig in!



Don't forget to wash your dishes!

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

Billie B.
Brown

The Hat
Parade

By Sally Rippin



Next issue!

The Hat Parade

is a **BRAND-NEW** Billie B. Brown book! Have you read it yet?

Billie really wants to win the school hat parade. She has made lots of amazing hats! But when Billie gets stuck in bed with a horrible cold, will her hat parade plans be ruined?

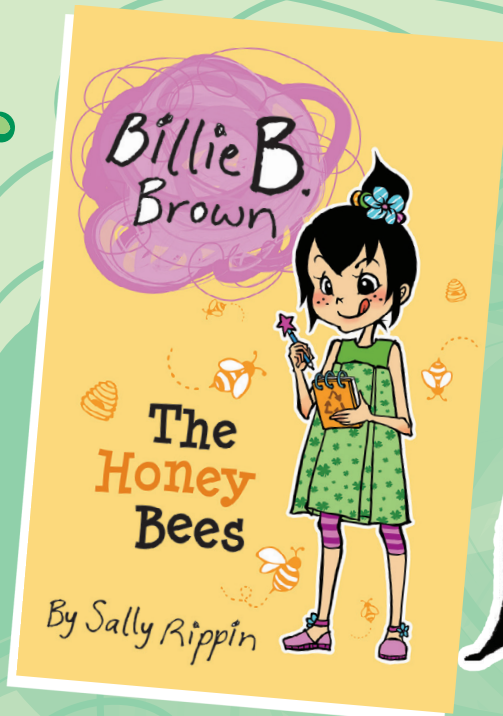
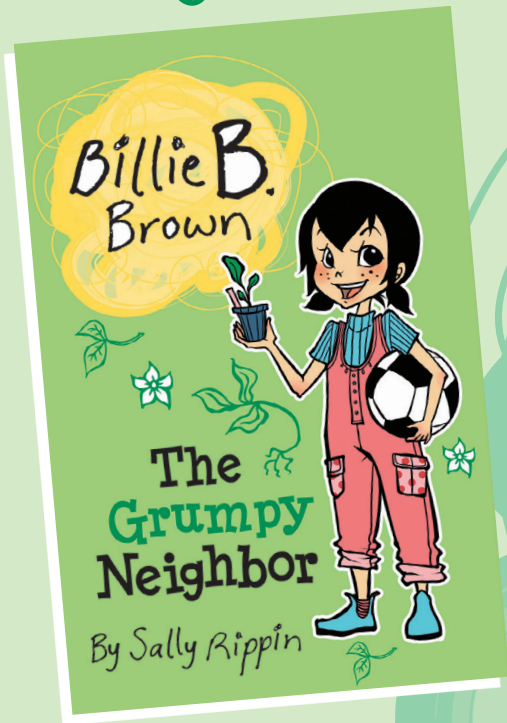
Sally interviews a designer!

Activities!

Tips to stay healthy!

And much more!





Don't miss all
of Billie's latest
adventures!