The new BookTrust's Writer-Illustrator in Residence is Sarah McIntyre and here is her new blog...!

The Big Red Book Show


"Here are the three things I want to focus on for the next six months:

Make BAD drawings!

You might say, '...What?? I thought the whole point was to be good at drawing!' But that way of thinking often leads to people scrunching up their papers and giving up. Drawing is something anyone can do; don't be afraid to make mistakes... your out-of-control lines can make you laugh, and sometimes you'll even discover new interesting ways of drawing in a shape you made that looks just plain wonky. Be kind to your drawings, forgive them their foibles, and keep making more drawings. Sometimes the bad drawings are funnier or resonate more than photo-realistic drawings. If you want photo-realism, take a photo!

• Draw with other people!

Drawing with other people can be fun; it helps us get ideas and discover drawing challenges. Help create the kind of community that encourages each other, where it's okay - even fun - to make mistakes together.

* Remember illustrators!

Pictures can be an amazing way into stories. When you're raving about a book with pictures, don't forget to mention the name of the illustrator. Illustrators can be hugely inspiring to people of all ages! Read more out about my #PicturesMeanBusiness campaign and discover simple but effective ways you can support the amazing illustrators we have working in Britain right now.

Have a look at my website to see what kind of books I make, and click on each book cover for fun book-related drawing activities.
Sometimes drawing’s a lot of carefree fun, and sometimes it’s backbreaking hard work. But pictures are awesome, they can speak to everyone, and I look forward to reveling in them with you! “

Visit my website: http://www.jabberworks.co.uk
Twitter: @jabberworks
Instagram: @jabberworks
Blog: http://jabberworks.livejournal.com
Facebook: @illustratrix and @reeveandmcintyre

Sarah is a great friend of National Share a Story Month and she has offered us the use of her activity sheets – have a look at her website (http://www.jabberworks.co.uk) for ideas for your own illustrations and comics.

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