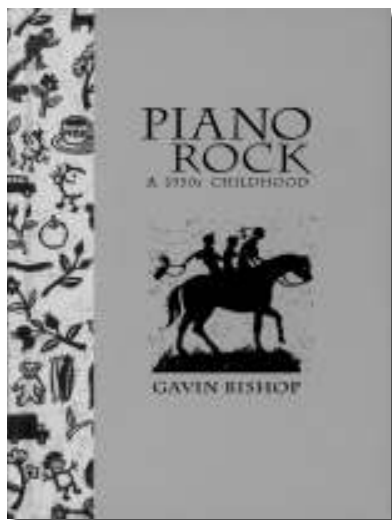




2009
FINALISTS

NON FICTION



Piano Rock: A 1950s Childhood

Gavin Bishop

Random House New Zealand

ISBN 978-1-86979-010-3 hb, RRP \$34.99

Target Age 8+

Gavin Bishop tells the story of his idyllic 1950s childhood, growing up in Kingston beside beautiful Lake Wakatipu. It's the gentle coming-of-age story of a boyhood spent racing around outside, building huts, eating girdle scones and roast mutton, catching eels, watching the train, riding to school on horseback, having a bonfire on Guy Fawkes Night - and lots more.



Gavin Bishop is a renowned children's book author and illustrator who has won many prizes and awards. Gavin was born in Invercargill of Pakeha, Tainui and Ngati Awa descent. He lives in Christchurch, working full-time as a writer and illustrator of books for children. He has written and illustrated over 30 picture books that have been published in New Zealand and overseas.

Last year his book *Rats!* was a picture book finalist in the New Zealand Post Book Awards. His book *Snake and Lizard* (with Joy Cowley) won the Junior Fiction category and was the 2008 Book of the Year.

Great Activity and Event Ideas...

1. Create a 1950s display of memorabilia featuring some of the items mentioned in the book eg the Box Brownie Camera.
2. Make a timeline of memorable moments from the 1950s. Include Sir Edmund Hilary climbing Everest and the Coronation of Elizabeth 2.
3. Research what school was like in the 1950s. What was in the curriculum? Run a school day exactly as it would have been in the 1950s.
4. Invite members of your local Rock 'n Roll dance club to do a demonstration for you and teach you some dance steps.
5. Imagine you are living in the 1950s without all the things you take for granted that hadn't been invented. Describe a day in your life through a diary entry.



New Zealand Post
BOOK AWARDS

children & young adults

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Activity

Design an advertising poster for a cutting edge product from the 1950s. Use your knowledge of the decade to decide what people at that time might have really wanted more than anything.

