

A dog. A nose. And a very empty tummy.

A fun rhyming picture book about Jed, a dog with an enormous appetite. When a broken fence gives him freedom to roam, his powerful nose leads him on a food-hunting adventure that may land him in trouble.

**Will this naughty dog learn
how to behave?**



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Ages 0–11

40 pages, paperback

Printed in NZ

100% Human Made

Jed, the Food Hunting Dog

Written by Pete Moffatt • Illustrated by Mike Howell

\$28.00 RRP • ISBN 9780473790691

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ABOUT THE BOOK

Why children — and grown-ups — love it

A humorous, engaging morality tale where good behaviour is rewarded and finally wins out over naughtiness — a delightful read for young animal lovers, with real adult appeal for whoever is reading aloud.



Rhyme that reads aloud

Written in rhyming couplets to keep young readers engaged and to support early language and phonetic reading.



A dog children know

Jed's endless appetite and mischievous antics land instantly with children and pet-loving families alike.



Illustrated throughout

Colourful, characterful artwork brings Jed's food-hunting escapades to life on every spread.



Book details

Format	Paperback, 40 pages
Size	280mm × 210mm
Ages	0–11
RRP	\$28.00
ISBN	9780473790691
Published	June 2026

Who it's for

- Shared reading at home, babies to confident readers
- Junior classroom read-alouds and phonics support
- Library story-time, with repeat-request appeal
- Gifting for dog-loving families

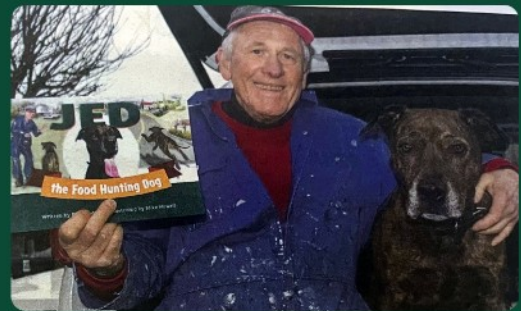
MEET THE REAL JED

He's a real dog, from a real family.

Jed is a staffy cross who lives in Mt Pleasant, Christchurch. Always keeping his owners, James and Tessa, on their toes, Jed has a strong knack for hunting out food that has been left around or unattended.

When the author's brother-in-law, John Taylor, came to repair the family's fence, Jed took his food three days in a row — working his way through a sandwich, nosing open a chilly bin, and finding the muffins hidden inside it. The fourth day went rather differently, and that is where the story came from.

As featured in Bay Harbour News, 16 July 2026.



John Taylor — "Poppa" in the book — and Jed.
Photo: Geoff Sloan / Bay Harbour News.

What readers are saying

“

Wow and double wow! Outstanding book with superb illustrations which capture the whole thrust of this VERY NAUGHTY DOG! ... It has a lot of adult appeal too ... perfect to be read to quite an age range.

“It's a great story, which is well enhanced by life-like, superb illustrations.”

“It's fantastic. My animal, dog-loving grandies will love it!”

“... so much pleasure, and great for teaching children some life skills in such a beautiful Jed way!”

And from the readers who matter most

“I could tell the book is very well done. It even gave me inspiration for me because I want to make a story like that book.”

YEAR 5/6 STUDENT

“I like the story because I feel it's something my Pepper would do. It is reality-based and I like stories like that.”

YEAR 5/6 STUDENT

“I love this book. Jed is cheeky in the food hunting mood!”

YEAR 1 STUDENT

The author & the illustrator

Pete Moffatt **AUTHOR**

My fondness for writing stories for children comes from my love of reading stories to them. As a school teacher many years ago, I loved sitting with a book in hand and watching children happily slip into story-land.

After hearing from my brother-in-law (Poppa) about his antics with Jed while fixing a fence, I retold the story — with some exaggeration and an imaginary ending — to my grandsons. Watching their reactions, I knew I had a story worth writing. I chose rhyming couplets to support children's phonetic reading.

Mike Howell **ILLUSTRATOR**

Over the past twenty years I have illustrated 30 books, ten of them featuring dogs. Each has had its own personality, and Jed is no exception. As a lifelong dog owner, I enjoy capturing the expressions and character that make dogs so lovable.

On his first visit, Jed posed at my feet while I sketched him, wandering off just once to investigate the rubbish bins. The only "AI" involved was Animal Inspiration.

How to order

Direct: copypress.co.nz — \$28.00 RRP plus shipping and handling

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Free resources

A printable Jed colouring-in page and a one-page info sheet are free to download and share.



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