

COAST KIDS GC REVIEWS  
THE LATEST IN BOOKS,  
APPS & ENTERTAINMENT



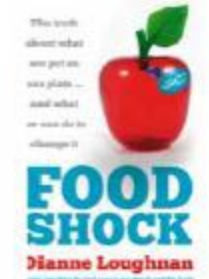
THE ELF ON THE SHELF ARRIVES IN AUSTRALIA!

Since its launch in 2006, *The Elf on the Shelf*® has sold over 2.5 million copies in the US, capturing the hearts of children who have embraced the magic of adopting their very own scout elf, sent by Santa Claus. This November makes the first time the gift set will be available in Australia.

At the start of each Christmas season, the elf appears to serve as Santa's eyes and ears, and every night it travels back to the North Pole to report in. The gift set includes a North Pole pixie-elf, hardbound children's book and keepsake box. Children can register their elf online to receive an official adoption certificate as well as a special letter from Santa.

This special hide-and-seek game creates fantastic, fun-filled family memories in the lead up to Christmas. More at [www.theelfontheshelf.com](http://www.theelfontheshelf.com)

**WIN: We have 2 Elf on the Shelf kits for your family to start this wonderful tradition. To be in with a chance, go to [www.coastkidsgc.com.au](http://www.coastkidsgc.com.au) and enter via the competition section.**



Apps

Apps can be a holiday life-saver for parents, particularly if you're working, on the phone, trying to enjoy the rest of your meal, or have an appointment, all with junior in tow! Here are two you may not have discovered which are recommended by the CK team.

COUNTING WITH THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR

Eric Carle's famous book about a fruit-munching caterpillar has been turned into a fun educational game with a mathematical skew. Your child identifies, counts and adds the foods over five levels, ensuring it appeals to a range of ages.

MAGIC PIANO

From Bruno Mars to Mozart, play the hottest songs effortlessly on the #1 piano game. This app by Smule is a virtual piano that warps into magical shapes, with over 500 songs and more added each week. As kids get older, it will teach them to play an array of songs too, from pop hits to classics. FREE.

Books

LEMONY SNICKET

This is the first new series by Lemony Snicket since his phenomenally successful "A Series of Unfortunate Events", which has sold over 60 million copies worldwide and has been translated into 39 languages. "All the Wrong Questions" is Lemony Snicket's first authorised autobiographical account of his childhood and will be told in four volumes featuring illustrations throughout by critically acclaimed artist, Seth. "Who Could That Be at This Hour?" is the first volume in the series, launching internationally in e-book and print formats 23 October. **Hardie Grant Egmont, RRP \$16.95.**

AUSTRALIA'S GREATEST INVENTIONS & INNOVATIONS

Christopher Cheng and Lindsay Knight

The whole family will love this complete compendium of Aussie ingenuity. We know about Vegemite, the Hills Hoist and Vics lawnmower, but did you realise Australians also invented wi-fi, the ultrasound, plastic bank notes, dual flush toilets, spray-on skin for burn patients and the baby safety capsule? This fascinating book covers the inventions, their creators and how their creativity solved the problem. **Random House, RRP \$24.95.**

THE WILL TO LIVE, THE COURAGE TO DIE Tracy Roberts

This is the true story of Sydney man, Peter Blisborough, who after a tragic surfing accident on Easter Sunday in 2010, suffered permanent spinal cord injuries. The book accounts Peter's life before and after the accident, and tells of his ultimate brave decision to turn off his life support system. Though confronting, this book is a joyous celebration of Peter's life. Written by his niece, Tracy Roberts, it also helps educate people on the difference between spinal injuries and spinal cord injuries. **A&A Publishing RRP \$34.99.**

FOOD SHOCK Dianne Loughnan

Everyone wants to eat fresh, clean, nutrient-rich food that is ethically produced as well. But the vast majority of food in Australia is mass-produced in an industrialised system and the results are not as palatable as the everyday shopper might imagine.

Our fruit and vegetables are sprayed with pesticides and herbicides, many of which have been banned overseas for years. Our beef is more often than not produced in feedlots, where cattle are dosed with antibiotics. Our chickens are 'spin chilled' in a chlorine solution to help preserve them, and also to whiten the meat. Then there are genetically modified crops... the list goes on! In *Food Shock*, author Dianne Loughnan, former journalist and now commercial beef producer, investigates the issues surrounding food production and encourages us to ask some important questions.

More at [www.exislepublishing.com.au](http://www.exislepublishing.com.au) RRP\$29.99.