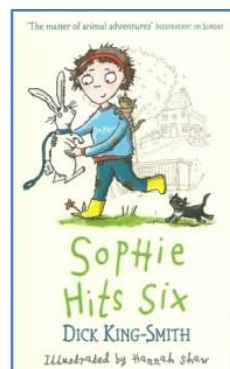
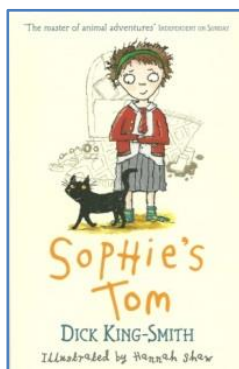
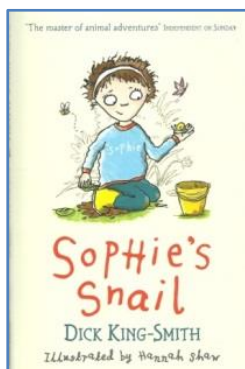


## Meet Sophie

### Dick King-Smith in the key stage 1 classroom



Sophie is the star of Dick King-Smith's story books for younger readers. All the books in this series are ideal for teachers to share with children at key stage 1.

Sophie is a wonderful, independently-minded character who lives with her family – mother, father and twin older brothers. The tales are realistic, funny and engaging especially as they feature many events that will be common to children in their first years at school.

### Children should be read to every day at school

The very best way to introduce Sophie is to read the books aloud to children. The chapters are the perfect length for an end-of-day story. Listening to their teacher read aloud is so important for children during the primary school years when they are becoming readers. These books will make the experience a pleasure for adults and children alike.

### Lots of topics to follow up

Many of Sophie's 'adventures' can lead to further class exploration. Each chapter tackles a different aspect of Sophie's life, providing plenty of scope for discussion and individual response. There is information to be considered (e.g. looking for maps and pictures of the Highlands of Scotland when Aunt Alice comes to visit). Many chapters involve Sophie making decisions (e.g. Sophie stamps on Dawn's toy pony. Why does she refuse to apologise?). These stories help children to empathise and offer teachers many opportunities to talk about classic childhood dilemmas such as falling out with friends, telling tales and being kind.

### Revisit Sophie's stories as a reader

As they become confident readers themselves, many children will enjoy revisiting the Sophie stories to read to themselves. At this stage of reading development, knowledge of the story can be a great advantage to the newly 'fledged' reader. Children who are starting to read alone and just moving on to books with chapters need:

- Unthreatening amounts of print on each page
- Vocabulary which is age-appropriate but unrestricted

- Language which allows children to understand without having to stop to work out words and meanings
- Confidence that comes with familiar characters and situations

At this stage, a series of books such as the Sophie stories can provide exactly what the new reader needs.

There are six Sophie adventures to choose from:

- Sophie's Snail
- Sophie's Tom
- Sophie Hits Six
- Sophie in the Saddle
- Sophie is Seven
- Sophie's Lucky