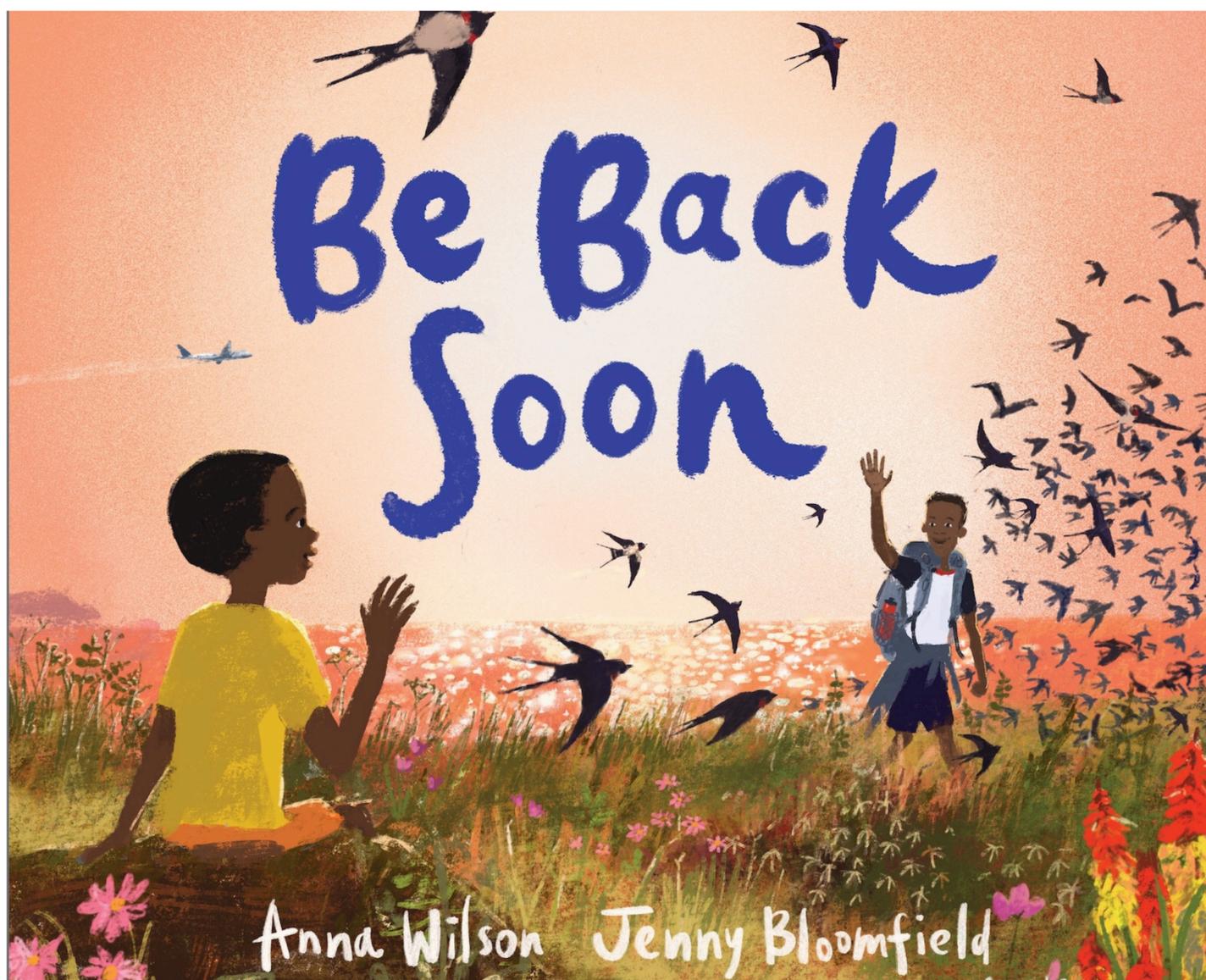


# The Carnegies



## The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources



# Be Back Soon

## Carnegie Medal for Illustration

**Illustrator: Jenny Bloomfield**

**Age range: 4+**

### Description:

A simple heartfelt story drawing parallels between human and animal journeys and how these form part of a global story. The gentle, sketchbook-like quality creates intimacy and emotional resonance. Swallows are used as a constant visual reminder that migration occurs in all worlds. There's a beauty to the panoramic spreads which showcase the expansive nature of the natural world but also the sense of isolation that Mo feels when separated from his brother Bibi for the summer.

Themes:

- Migration
- Belonging
- Brothers
- Emotions
- Natural world

### Shadowing Ideas:

1. Be Back Soon is partly about the annual migration of swallows from the southern to northern hemisphere. Many types of bird migrate as do other animals, including mammals and insects. Choose one to research and create your own illustrated fact file, using the one at the end of Be Back Soon as a guide.
2. In Be Back Soon, Mo is very sad that his big brother, Bibi, is going away to work. Translate this short conversation between the two brothers into a few different languages (you choose):  
  
Mo: "I will miss you."  
Bibi: "Don't worry, I'll be back soon."
3. Several different animals are portrayed by Jenny Bloomfield in Be Back Soon. How many can you spot and which is your favourite? Create your own piece of artwork depicting your chosen animal, using the medium of your choice