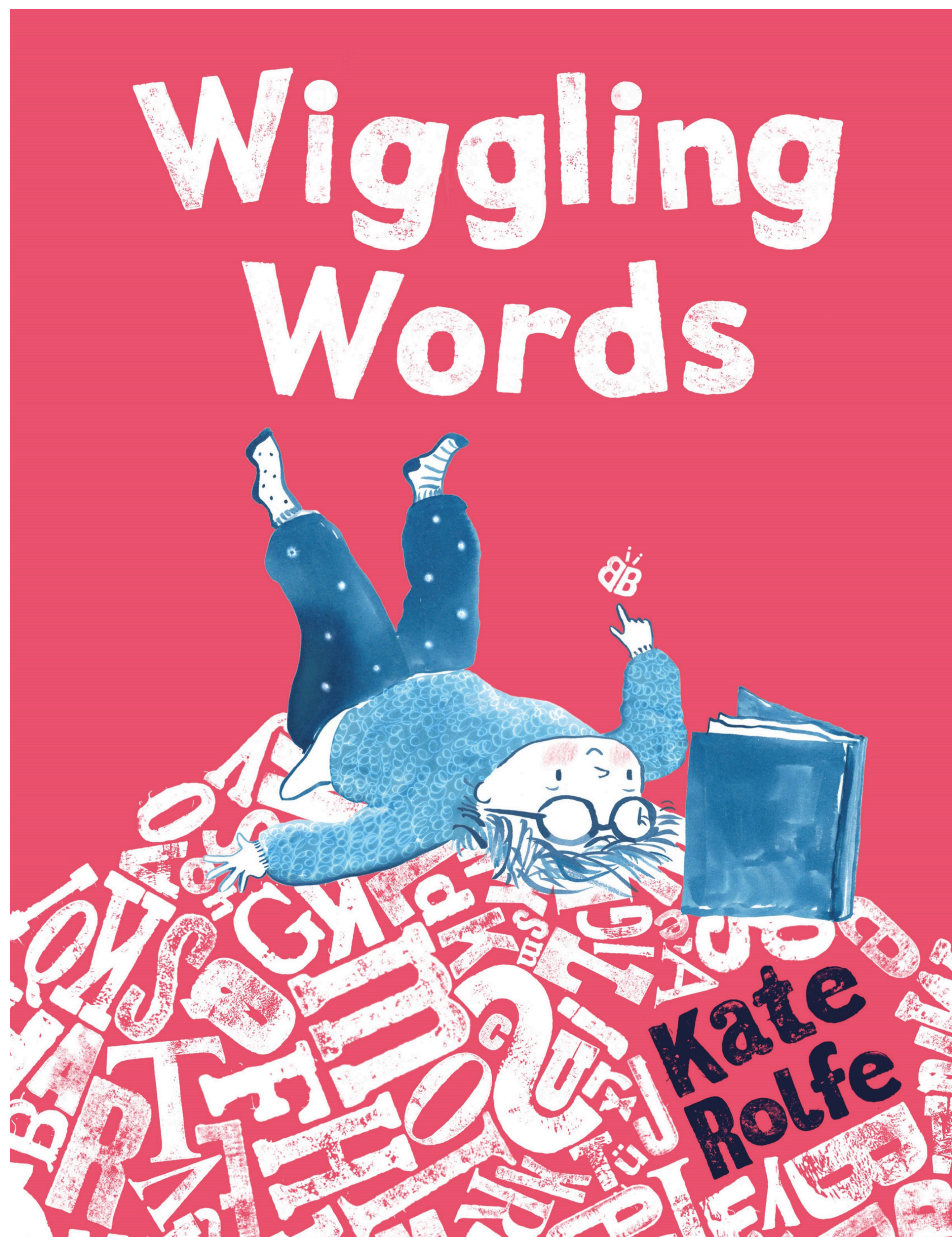


The Carnegies



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources

Wiggling Words

Carnegie Medal for Illustration

Illustrator: Kate Rolfe

Age range: 4+

Description:

The child at the centre of the story is endeavouring to read, but the letters continually jump and jumble. Words and letters are used as building blocks for the illustrations creating playful and imaginative layers. The colour palette is striking throughout and there's plenty of movement to lend both energy and pace to the story.

Themes:

- Reading
- Dyslexia
- Stories
- Neurodivergence
- Emotion

Shadowing Ideas:

1. Create a collage that mixes your own drawings with words and letters that you may have cut from a newspaper, a magazine or an old book or have printed out.
2. Explore the endpapers and discuss any differences you notice between the front endpapers and the back endpapers. What might they tell us about what happens in the story?
3. In her letter at the end of the book, Kate Rolfe mentions that she uses a piece of card with a letterbox shape cut in to help her read big chunks of text. These are sometimes called 'word windows' or 'reading windows'. Make your own using a piece of coloured card and then decorate it. You could add words of encouragement, empowering phrases or quotes from a favourite story.