

## Biography

Natalie Russell is a Dundee based author of children's picture books. Since the publication of her first title, *Hamish the Highland Cow* in 2003, Natalie has continued to create books whilst teaching illustration and printmaking within Scottish art institutions.

These include Dundee Contemporary Arts Print Studio, Edinburgh College of Art and currently, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee.

Natalie has published twelve titles with leading international publishing houses, such as Bloomsbury Children's Publishing, Macmillan Children's Books and Compendium Inc. Seattle. Her work has been published within the United Kingdom and other countries including USA, Japan, China, Korea, Thailand, Germany and Turkey.

In 2004, Natalie was shortlisted for the Scottish Booktrust Early Years Award (Best New Illustrator) with *Hamish the Highland Cow* (Bloomsbury).

In 2009, she was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal with *Moon Rabbit* (Macmillan). *Lost for Words* (Macmillan) became runner up in the Scottish Children's Book Awards 2015. The book was included in the Bookbug Family Pack which was gifted to Primary 1 children throughout Scotland.

Natalie was invited to be a Mentor on the Picturebooks Mentoring Scheme (2012/13 & 2014/15) for emerging Scottish Illustrators.

In 2017, Natalie illustrated *Because I had a Teacher* written by New York Times Best Selling Author, Kobi Yamada. The title has gained international success and has been published in over ten languages. A further two books in the series have now been published - *Because of You, Mom* and *Because of You, Dad*.

She regularly attends literary events at learning institutions, libraries and book festivals to promote reading, literacy skills and related image making practices.