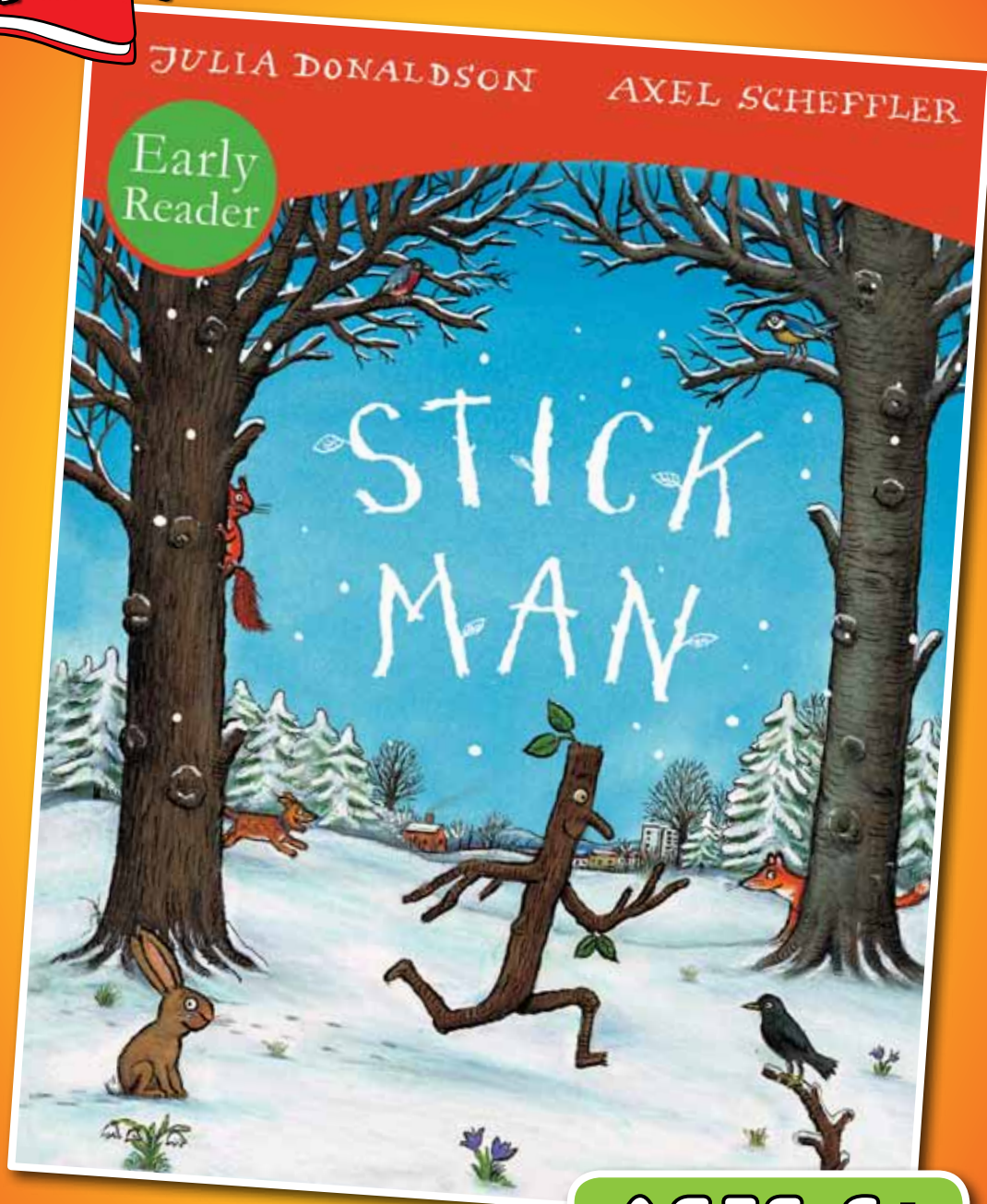


 SCHOLASTIC

**Book
Talk**



AGES 6+

**Engage and inspire your
pupils with a Book Talk!**

Look out for this book
at your Book Fair!



AGES 6+

Price	£4.99 / €6.10
Case	Read Alone
Author	Julia Donaldson
Illustrator	Axel Scheffler
Publisher	Alison Green Books

Using this book in your classroom

Themes

The themes in this delightful rhyming story include **hope**, **courage** and the **love** families have for each other.

Summary

“Stick Man lives in the family tree
With his Stick Lady love and their stick children three.”

But one day, Stick Man leaves the family tree and gets caught up in an incredible sequence of adventures. A dog plays with him, a girl uses him as a Pooh-stick, a swan makes him part of her nest... Each adventure takes him further and further from his family. Will he ever get back to the family tree? At last, winter comes and Stick Man finds himself lying in a fireplace, waiting for the fire to be lit! Is this the end for Stick Man? Fortunately not, and with a little help from Santa himself, Stick Man is delivered back to his family, just in time for Christmas...

Did you know?

- Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler first met over 20 years ago, when Julia was a songwriter for the children's TV programme *Playdays*.
- Their bestselling classic picture book *The Gruffalo* has been translated into 30 languages including Breton, Faroese and Gaelic!

The Story Session

1. Introducing the book

- Show the front cover to the children. Ask: "Who do you think is the main character in this story? What kinds of adventures do you think a Stick Man could have?"
- Read the first two pages of the story, and then pause to share the children's predictions. Ask: "What might the dog do to Stick Man? What will happen next?" Turn the page to see if they were right.

2. Reading the story

- Encourage the children to read the rest of the story independently, or to contribute to a group reading. For example, you could ask the children to take turns in reading what Stick Man says, while you read the narration and other characters' voices.
- Pause after Stick Man escapes from the swan's nest and sails out to sea, and encourage the children to make predictions about what will happen next.
- Ask the children how they think Stick Man feels towards the end of the story when he is lying in the fire place. Can they think of any way Stick Man could escape? Who do they think the 'Stuck Man' might be?
- At the end, ask: "Do you think this makes a good ending for the story? Do you think Stick Man will want to go on any more adventures? How do you think Stick Man and his family feel at the end?"

3. Follow-up

- Encourage the children to act out the scene between Stick Man and his family, when he gets home at the end of the story. What would they say to each other?
- In small groups or pairs, the children could discuss a time when they were lost or worried. What was the problem? How did it get sorted out in the end? After discussing this, they could write a few paragraphs describing how they felt during their worrying time, and afterwards when everything was OK again.
- Children could watch and listen to Julia Donaldson reading this book:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3lCfKhsOsY

YOU TELL US

- Did you use these notes to have a Book Talk in class? • Were they helpful?
- Are there any changes you'd like to see to make them more useful?

We're always happy to hear your comments, so please email us at
bookfairs@scholastic.co.uk or bookfairs@scholastic.ie