



Padmacandra

Don't Be Silly!

£12.99 HB | 2 Feb 2023

Padmacandra is an illustrator based in Norfolk, (regularly visiting London, Cambridge, Norwich, Brighton, The Malverns, Edinburgh and Dundee).

Building on previous experience as a mindfulness teacher, she has enjoyed leading events for children in libraries, bookshops and classrooms since her first book as illustrator “The Tale of the Whale” written by Karen Swann came out in 2021.



Books

The environmentally themed **Tale of the Whale** won the Derby Children’s Picture Book Award 2022, was shortlisted for the Klaus Flugge Prize for best new illustrator in 2022, and has been enjoyed widely in schools (see Spark Awards 2021) as a creative tool for literacy, empathy and environmentalism.

Padmacandra’s latest book, **Don’t Be Silly!** (published February 2023) is both authored and illustrated by her. An entertaining romp involving two lively children, one canny cat, one world weary Judge, a castle, two surprising grandparents, a caravan, and any amount of mice, this rather theatrical story has a strong repeating rhythm and phrase, that encourages fun participatory reading together. There is plenty to look at in the pictures for eagle eyed youngsters to spot. The book is aimed at children from 2 to 6 yrs old, and their grown ups.

This is a book in which the medium is the message: **a celebration of play**, and playfulness as a way to be creative and resourceful in the world.



Scallywag Press

“Don’t Be Silly!” Workshops



For classrooms, libraries or other venues, Padmacandra is offering two workshops any of which can be held in person or online.

See also the Scallywag Press Website for downloadable activity sheets, including:

- *make your own megaphone*
- *make and decorate hats,*
- *make-your-own-portrait-gallery templates.*

See also primary teachers notes for schools focusing on rhythm, storytelling and literacy.

Workshop 1 - Mouse Gallery

At the end of the book “Don’t Be Silly!”, we see that an artist mouse has been making their own personal gallery out of post-it notes.

1) Padmacandra will read the book with audience participation.

2) Thinking about the kinds of settings, objects and people we might find in a gallery portrait, we will create our own mini gallery of characters out of post-it notes, pens and crayons. A gallery template of “frames” will be provided for the portraits



Duration: 1 hour | Age range: 3 to 6 yrs | Cost: In-person - £170+ travel expenses, Online - £85.



Workshop 2 - Silly or Serious?

The book contrasts opposites in terms of mood between the cheerful children and the gloomy adults (until the tables are turned at the end of the book). There is scope for exploring facial expression and emotions.

In this workshop

- 1) Padmacandra will read the book with audience participation.
- 2) Then there will be a workshop in which the children will make simple “dolls” that can change expression (see also activity sheets on the Scallywag Press website if you would like to make these at home).
- 3) There will be some exploration of what different faces might look like with different emotions. (There will be no assumption of ability to read faces, and a cultivation of a mood of exploration).

Duration: 1 hour | Age range: 3 to 6 yrs| Cost: In-person - £170+ travel expenses, Online - £85.



Please contact: padmacandra@gmail.com or publisher@scallywagpress.com for more information, or to book an event

