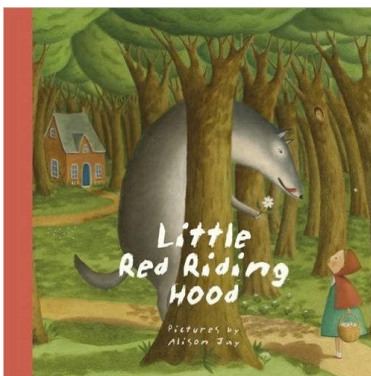


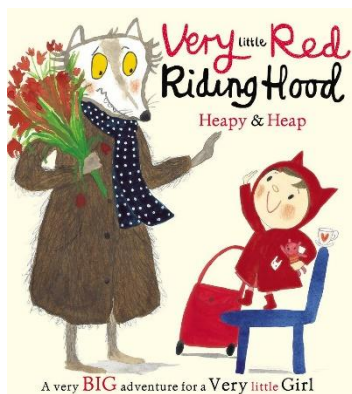
## A Rash of Red Riding Hoods

Little Red Riding Hood is one of the most frequently retold fairy tales and there are many variations on the tale of the red cloaked girl and her encounter with a wolf. Here is an updated version of our popular list.



***Little Red Riding Hood*** illustrated by Alison Jay  
Templar 9781848778733

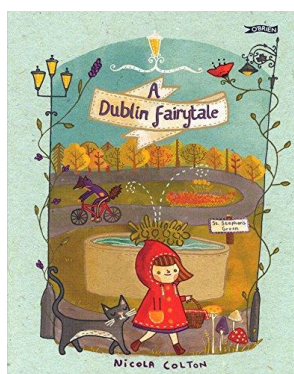
No-one comes to a bad end in this innocent version of the tale where Little Red Riding Hood dwells in Fairytale Village and sets out from her home in a tea shop presided over by proprietor Mrs Hood. There are many delights to be found in Alison Jay's crackle-glazed paintings in the background of which lurk many other fairy tales characters waiting to be spotted by the eagle eyed.



***Very Little Red Riding Hood*** by Teresa Heapy and Sue Heap  
David Fickling Books 9781849921459

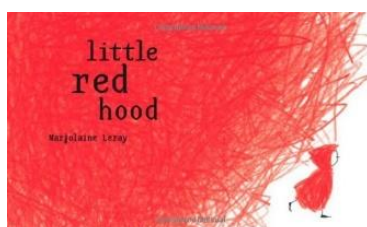
The Little Red Riding Hood in this version is an obstinate and determined tot, with a fearlessness borne out of total innocence. On meeting the wolf, she declares 'Foxy!' and gives him a big hug! Disarmed by this, the wolf joins Grandmama in playing with the little girl. Until, tables seemingly turned, he notices what big eyes, nose and mouth she has. What will happen next?





***A Dublin Fairytale*** by Nicola Colton  
O'Brien Press 9781847177742

Fiona dons her favourite red raincoat and sets off through the streets of Dublin (a sketch map indicates the significant points along her route) to take her sick Granny some special witches' brew to make her feel better. Her Mam warns her not to talk to anyone but the cheerful little girl can't resist stopping to help some magical creatures along the way with the result that, when she needs help, rescuers are on hand. Close attention to the pictures reveals several folk and fairy tale characters, including one who will inevitably play an important part in the tale.



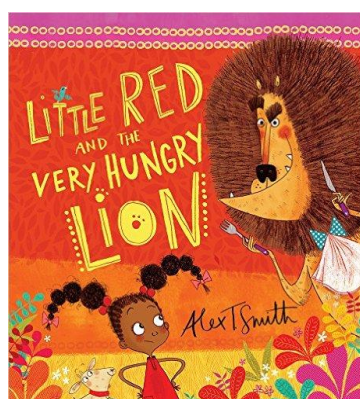
***Little Red Hood***, by Marjolaine Ray, translated from French by Sarah Ardizzone  
Phoenix Yard 9781907912009

This Little Red Riding Hood is a right little 'Madame'! In this wittily translated French picture book, our cunning heroine turns the tables on a not so wily wolf in a way reminiscent of the guile of Catherine Storr's 'Clever Polly'. The spare sketchy drawings are very expressive, using only black and red. This use of colour extends to the dialogue written in loopy (or is it 'loup'y?!) handwriting, black for the wolf's utterances and red for Little Red Riding Hood's, a device which could lend itself to paired reading.



***Little Red*** by Bethan Woollvin  
Two Hoots 9781447291398

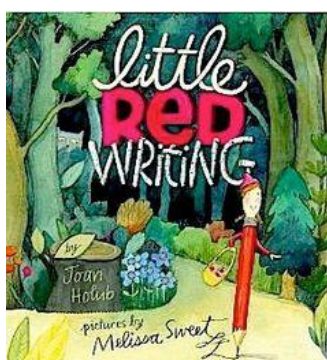
The story begins in the usual way, with Little Red Riding Hood setting off through the forest to Grandma's house and encountering the wolf along the way. Little Red is not scared for a moment. Nor is she fooled by his disguise once he has gobbled up Grandma and when she returns home to her mother, she is clothed in a new outfit. The illustrations are bold and striking like Little Red Riding Hood herself.



***Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion*** by Alex T. Smith  
Scholastic 9781407143903

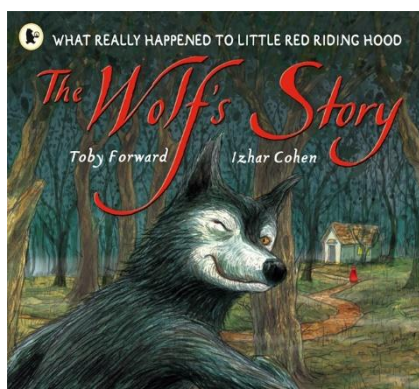
Alex T. Smith transposes the story to an African setting in which a small girl in a red dress waves goodbye to her father and sets off to visit her auntie who has phoned to say she is ill. Instead of a dark European forest, Little Red traverses a glowing light-filled landscape full of comical animals. That is, until she meets a very hungry lion. The lion has a very clever plan (or so he believes), depicted in a diagram which is an excellent lesson in story planning. Read on to find out what actually happens when Little Red and the lion meet again at Auntie's house.





***Little Red Writing*** by Joan Holub and Melissa Sweet  
Chronicle 9781452152097

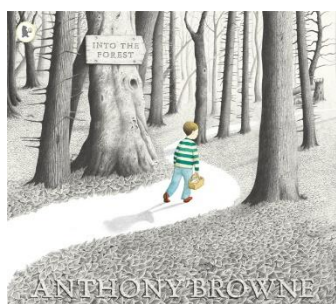
A class of pencils is being given a lesson in how to write a story. Will Little Red pencil be able to stick to the story path and not get lost in the ‘deep, dark, descriptive forest’ by using too many adjectives? What is a brave pencil to do when she hears a strange growling noise coming from Principal Granny’s office? Both author and illustrator have lots of fun playing with the whole writing process.



***The Wolf's Story*** by Toby Forward and Izhar Cohen  
Walker 9781406301625

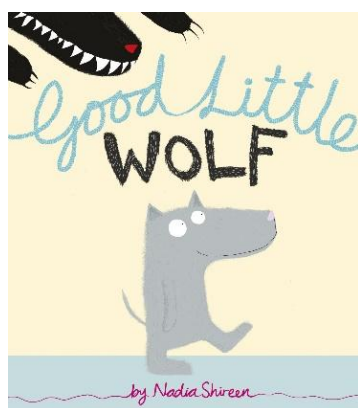
Subtitled ‘What Really Happened to Little Red Riding Hood’, this is the tale told from the viewpoint of the wolf who is determined to convince readers that the version we all know is mistaken. Apparently, the wolf was really an obliging soul, helping out Grandma with odd jobs and trying to protect her from the jaw-breaking toffee that Red Riding Hood always brings. However, his tone tells a different story, or does it? Interesting comparisons could be made with the film *Hoodwinked* which tells the story from different characters’ viewpoints.





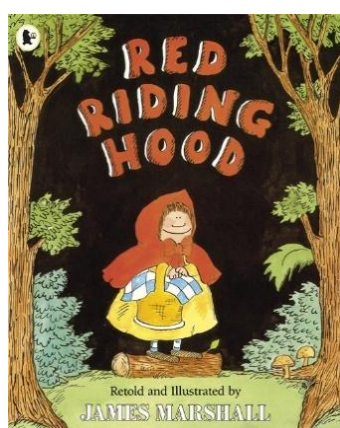
***Into the Forest*** by Anthony Browne  
Walker 9781844285594

A boy is asked by his mother to take a basket containing a cake to Grandma which entails following a path through the forest. Experienced readers will recognise the many intertextual links with several fairy tales, most notably Little Red Riding Hood.



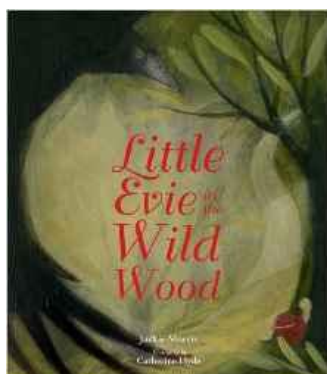
***Good Little Wolf*** by Nadia Shireen  
Jonathan Cape 9781780080017

Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood and a boy (Peter? The Boy Who Cried Wolf?) sit with awestruck faces alongside Rolf, a good little wolf, to hear the tale unfold. But is Rolf a proper wolf? Having encountered a big bad wolf, he tries to find out. A humorous picture book which plays on knowledge of well-known tales and which requires reading the pictures to appreciate the final joke.



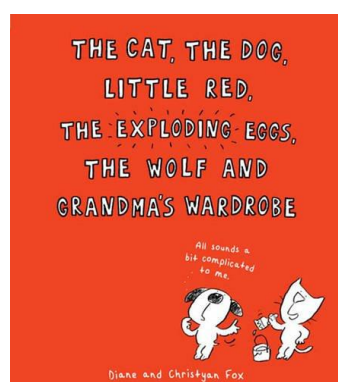
***Red Riding Hood*** by James Marshall  
Walker 9781406342130

The basic outline of the story in this highly humorous version doesn't deviate from the path of frequently recounted renderings but there many comic touches in both the text and the illustrations. For example, this time Granny is a vociferous old lady who is 'furious at having her reading interrupted' by the wicked wolf and annoyed that it was too dark to read inside his belly.



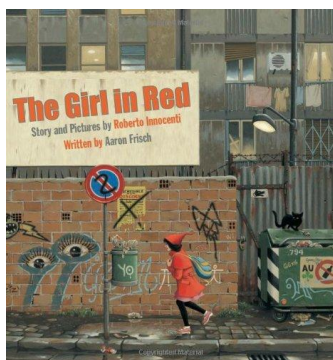
***Little Evie in the Wild Wood*** by Jackie Morris and Catherine Hyde  
Frances Lincoln 9781847807670

A story with strong echoes of Red Riding Hood. Little Evie meets a wolf in the wood, a she wolf with 'Great eyes, the better to see her with. Great ears, the better to hear her call. Sharp teeth like daggers, nose black as coal.' The poetic text, integrated within exquisite paintings, celebrates the wildness of the wood and how humans can share this with the creatures who dwell within it.



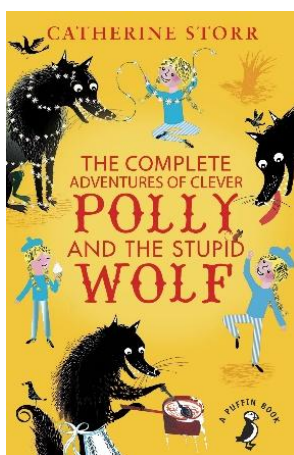
***The Cat, The Dog, Little Red, The Exploding Eggs, The Wolf and Grandma's Wardrobe*** by Christyan Fox and Diane Fox  
Words & Pictures 9781910277133

The cat is reading from a book 'about a little girl ... who always wears a red cloak with a hood.' The dog immediately assumes she is a superhero and demands to know what her special power is. The conversation continues with the cat reading from the book and the dog making comments and asking questions as he envisions a different kind of story. Or is it so different? The protagonists are represented in comic book style against a plain white background with little extra adornment.



***The Girl in Red*** by Aaron Frisch and Roberto Innocenti  
Creative Editions 9781568462233

In this modern version of the story, the forest is an urban jungle. As Sophia, a girl in a red coat, makes her way through the city streets, depicted in intricate detail, she meets a gang of jackals and is rescued by a hunter. But what is his true identity? A tale with two alternative endings – take your pick!



***The Complete Adventures of Clever Polly and the Stupid Wolf*** by Catherine Storr, illustrated by Marjorie-Ann Watts  
Puffin 9780141373379

Polly is visited over and over again by the Wolf, who is always plotting to eat her, but she is always just able to outwit him. The witty dialogue makes these short stories a pleasure to read aloud. Many intertextual links can be made with well-known fairy tales especially, of course, Red Riding Hood.





***Little Red Riding Hood*** app

Nosy Crow

This app enables children to play within the story by choosing Red Riding Hood's route to grandma, playing a variety of games and engaging with different characters along the way. The basic pattern of the story when she reaches her destination remains but the objects she picks up along the way help her to defeat the wolf. The text is read aloud in a child's voice and highlighted as it moves along. A version which is never told in quite the same way twice!



***Little Dead Riding Hood*** app by Emi Ordás and Luis

Murillo

Interactive Touch Book

A distinctly Gothic take on the tale in this darkly humorous app for older children. The drawings are like something out of a Tim Burton film (think *The Corpse Bride*). The text can be read aloud in English or Spanish.





### **Delving Deeper:**

Willesden Bookshop stock several Red Riding Hood variants, some of which are US imports. See their list *Twist in the Tale: Cultural Variants of Traditional Tales* at <http://www.willesdenbookshop.co.uk>

There are many versions in languages other than English. For example, look for *Caperucita Roja* in Spanish, *Rotkäppchen* in German, *Le petit chaperon rouge* in French.

For background to and discussion of the Red Riding Hood story, see:

Sandra Beckett: ***Recycling Red Riding Hood*** Routledge 9780415803670

Sandra Beckett: ***Red Riding Hood for All Ages: A Fairy-tale Icon in Cross-cultural Contexts*** Wayne State University Press 9780814333068

Alan Dundes (editor): ***Little Red Riding Hood: A Casebook*** University of Wisconsin Press 9780299120344

Catherine Orenstein: ***Little Red Riding Hood Uncloaked. Sex, Morality, and the Evolution of a Fairy Tale*** Basic Books 9780465041268

Jack Zipes (ed): ***The Trials and Tribulations of Little Red Riding Hood. Versions of the Tale in Sociocultural Context*** Routledge 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 9780415908351

