

# Librarian Resources

## *Merevale Creek Farm · A four-book seasonal series*

Everything you need to assess, acquire, shelve and promote the series: reading-level data, comparable titles, series order, and format details.

### Series overview

|                        |                                                          |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Age range</b>       | 6–9 years · UK Years 2–4 · US Grades 1–3                 |
| <b>Format</b>          | Chapter book · 12 chapters · ~16,000 words · illustrated |
| <b>Curriculum</b>      | KS1 / KS2 · CASEL-mapped · PSHE-friendly                 |
| <b>Books in series</b> | 4 books · Seasonal · standalone or sequential            |

A four-book seasonal chapter-book series set on Merevale Creek Farm. Each book follows Zoe, a Rottweiler, as she earns the trust of the farm animals through patient, consistent kindness. Every chapter retells a named public-domain fable; 48 unique fables across the series. The central theme of prejudice overcome by behaviour rather than argument is never stated directly; it is shown. This makes the series unusually strong for inference and discussion work.

### Reading level & classification

#### Interest age

6–9 years. Works as a read-aloud for ages 5+ and as independent reading from around age 8.

#### Reading age

Approximately 7–8 years for independent reading. Vocabulary is deliberately stretching in places; context usually clarifies meaning, making it a strong inference text.

#### Dewey / genre shelving

Fiction · Junior chapter books · Animals & farm life · Fable retellings · SEL / character education

#### Themes & subject headings

Prejudice · Belonging · Trust · Patience · Fables · Farm animals · Dogs · Seasonal stories · Social-emotional learning

### Series reading order

Each book is fully standalone: characters and setting are reintroduced in every volume. Sequential reading rewards returning readers with deepening character knowledge, but no book requires a previous one.

**Book 1** Zoe and the Great Summer Jubilee · Summer · Zoe arrives on the farm · Theme: prejudice & trust · Out now (released 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026)

**Book 2** Mabel and the Merevale Creek Mystery · Autumn · Harvest Supper · Lead: Mabel · Theme: patience & belonging · Out 2026

**Book 3** Squashy and the Winter Gathering · Winter · Winter Gathering · Lead: Squashy · Theme: belonging without transformation · Out 2027

**Book 4** Chewy and the Spring Awakening · Spring · Spring Fair · Lead: Chewy · Theme: landing & commitment · Out 2027

## Comparable titles & read-alikes

For readers who enjoyed Merevale Creek Farm, or to assess where the series fits in your collection.

### ***Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White***

Farm animals, quiet wisdom, friendship earned over time. The tonal and thematic ancestor of the series.

### ***The Sheep-Pig by Dick King-Smith***

An outsider animal earns a place on the farm through unusual behaviour. Similar age range and British countryside setting.

### ***The Hundred-Mile-an-Hour Dog by Jeremy Strong***

Dog protagonist, UK setting, same age range. Readers wanting more dog-centred chapter books.

### ***Aesop’s Fables, various editions***

For readers who want to explore the source material. Each Merevale chapter names its fable, ideal for paired reading.

### ***The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate***

Animal narrator, empathy and belonging themes, quiet moral depth. Slightly older readership (8–10) but strong thematic overlap.

### ***Varjak Paw by SF Said***

Animal protagonist overcoming prejudice and fear through earned respect. Strong cross-cultural themes, similar chapter-book format.

## Edition & format details: Book 1

|                          |                                                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Title</b>             | Zoe and the Great Summer Jubilee                                   |
| <b>Series</b>            | Merevale Creek Farm, Book 1                                        |
| <b>Publisher</b>         | Merevale Publishing                                                |
| <b>Publication date</b>  | 2026 (Released 01 July)                                            |
| <b>Format: paperback</b> | ISBN: 978-1-9195129-6-9 · 15.24 x 0.81 x 22.86 cm · page count 142 |
| <b>Format: ebook</b>     | ISBN: 978-1-9195129-8-3                                            |
| <b>Illustrations</b>     | Full-colour chapter openers + spot art throughout                  |
| <b>Word count</b>        | ~16,000 words · 12 chapters                                        |

|                                      |                                                       |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Distribution (UK)</b>             | Peters / Gardners / Bookvault / MerevaleCreekFarm.com |
| <b>Distribution (US / worldwide)</b> | Amazon                                                |

## Display & promotion ideas

- Seasonal display. Each book is tied to a season; rotate the series display quarterly alongside seasonal non-fiction and poetry collections.
- Paired with Aesop. Shelve or display alongside a good Aesop's Fables collection. Every Merevale chapter names its source fable, making paired reading natural.
- Book group starter. The discussion prompts and worksheets in the classroom pack work equally well for library reading groups. The blue butterfly (hidden in every illustration) makes a good shared discovery activity.
- Shelf talker. A ready-to-print shelf-talker panel is included below.

## Shelf talker

### **Zoe and the Great Summer Jubilee** (Merevale Creek Farm, Book 1)

A farm full of animals who've decided to distrust the new dog, and a new dog who's decided to prove them wrong, one quiet act at a time. Ages 6–9. KS1/KS2. Illustrated. Standalone.

## Contact

For review copies, additional bibliographic data, or further collection development notes:  
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