

## IZZY GIZMO



## RESOURCE PACK

written by Polly Ives with Music in the Round

*Original commission funded by Arts Council England, Mayfield Valley Arts Trust, JG Graves, Sheffield Town Trust, Sheffield Bluecoat & Mountpleasant Foundation, Sheffield Church Burgesses Trust and Andrew McEwan Fund*

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# WELCOME!

We are really pleased that you are part of the *Izzy Gizmo* project.

Music in the Round commissioned this new piece of music from composer Paul Rissmann, setting the book by Pip Jones and Sara Ogilvie (published by Simon & Schuster) and with new digital animation by Vic Craven. The piece will be performed by presenter Polly Ives and the musicians of Ensemble 360. The project includes teachers' INSET sessions, workshops in schools and concerts in live music venues. It will engage thousands of children aged 3-7 and their grown-ups.

You can buy the book from Music in the Round's website [www.musicintheround.co.uk](http://www.musicintheround.co.uk), where you can also buy the CD recording.

Extra thanks goes to Paul Rissmann, Kate Beaumont and Tina and Arabella for their help in devising this pack.

## ABOUT THIS PACK

Rich cultural experiences are vital for children and this new musical story is about resilience, perseverance, kindness, freedom and joy.

This pack introduces the participation elements in the concert as well as some extra activities that you might like to explore in your nursery, classroom or home.

These have been designed to link to children's everyday learning and can be related to the EYFS framework and KS1 of the national curriculum. The primary focus of this project is on Music and Literacy, but there are many ways to incorporate STEM subjects and other areas of learning. These activities also benefit children's personal, social and emotional development (including building self-confidence and self-awareness, forming positive relationships with others, and understanding feelings and behaviours). They use different methods of learning: playing and exploring, active learning & creating, and thinking critically.

We hope there is something here for music specialists as well as teachers and practitioners who feel less confident with music. We also appreciate that it can be challenging to incorporate these activities into your own schemes of work and learning criteria, but hope that our suggestions can signpost you to ideas within which you will find lots of flexibility to enjoy exercising your own creativity. We would value your feedback on using these resources, which can be shared with us using the contact details at the end of the pack.

# IZZY GIZMO MUSIC

## Warm-ups

Children can warm up their bodies and use their voices expressively with the vocal and physical exercise at the start of the 'Learn the Songs' YouTube video <https://tinyurl.com/IGlearnthesongs>. This includes many of the actions and vocal effects that happen in the concert.

## The songs

There are three songs that the audience joins in with that you can learn before the concert. Watch the 'Learn the Songs' YouTube video presented by Polly here <https://tinyurl.com/IGlearnthesongs>.

We have included the music notation at the back of the pack.

## 1. Izzy's Theme

*"Izzy Gizmo loved to invent,  
she carried her tool bag wherever she went  
in case she discovered a thing to be mended,  
a gadget to tweak to make it more splendid."*



- The first song is about the main character, Izzy Gizmo, a bold young girl who loves inventing.
- Polly will show everyone when to start singing by saying ‘Off we go!’
- Encourage children to use their smiley singing voices.
- You could discuss the rhyming words to help them feel the musical phrasing.

## 2. It's a Duff

*“It’s a duff I’ve had it and I quit.  
It’s a duff I’ve had it and I quit.  
It’s a D U F F  
D U F F  
D U F F [huff]  
It’s a duff I’ve had it and I quit!  
It’s a duff I’ve had it and I quit.  
One, two, three it’s a DUFF!”*



- We sing this song 3 times in total. We sing it three times throughout the story and each time Izzy gets more and more frustrated. Perhaps discuss how the music changes each time to demonstrate those emotions.
- The children spell out the word ‘Duff!’. All join in with the actions in the video to help with the energy of the note lengths of D.U.F.F!
- The “Huff!” is the sound of a huff and not the actual word.

### 3. You Can't Give Up

*POLLY: "You can't give up, you can't give up  
WITH POLLY: "You can't give up, you can't give up  
POLLY: Sometimes you need to try again  
WITH POLLY: Sometimes you need to try again.  
and again, and again, and again, and again  
If you want to succeed"*

- In this song, Grandpa is encouraging Izzy to not give up and to keep trying again and again! He is a kind and wise man. What kind of singing voice should we make for this?
- Think about how you make the 'p' sound at the end of 'up', the 'n' at the end of 'again' and the 'd' in succeed.



# MORE MUSICAL ACTIVITIES YOU COULD EXPLORE

1. Research the musical instruments that will be in the concert. Linking to the Science curriculum, discuss what materials they are made of and link the key characteristics of groups / 'families' of instruments (wind, string, brass)? What do they each sound like? How do you play them? How can you change the sound?

Brass instrument



Woodwind instruments



String instruments



2. Listen to online/ recorded pieces of music that link to the characters and action in the story e.g.

- [SAINT SAENS \*Aquarium\* from \*Carnival of the Animals\* \(when Izzy dives into the pond!\)](#)
- [JOHN ADAMS \*Short Ride in a Fast Machine\*, VARESE \*Poème électronique\* or VERDI \*Anvil Chorus\* \(electronic, mechanical, fixing!\)](#)
- [VAUGHAN WILLIAMS \*The Lark Ascending\* \(flight\)](#)
- [DELIBES \*Pizzicato from Sylvia\* \(the ladies drinking tea under the hairdryer!\)](#)
- Do let us know your own suggestions!

Can you spot some of the same instruments in these videos?  
What sounds would you make for these characters in the story?

3. Make your own instruments/ sound-makers using everyday objects that you can see in the book or that you have at home (e.g. saucepans/ tool toys, plastic cups).
- Play the rhythms of some of the words or sentences in the book e.g. *Grandpa!, Wake Up! or Time to get up!*
  - Can you split into two groups and play different rhythms at the same time?
  - How else could you develop your rhythm patterns?



4. Either using your instruments or your bodies, you can explore more complex rhythms and how to work as a musical ensemble.
- Explain to the children you are going to use different parts of their body to make music and pretend to be an orchestra.
  - Start with the head – bounce hand up and down and say "BOING, BOING"
  - Then add one sound each time, keeping the same order beginning again each time from the start.
  - Push finger onto nose and say "Honk, Honk"
  - Pull one ear lobe then the other and say "Ding, Dong"
  - Clap hands and say "Clap, Clap"
  - Tap knees and say "Tap, Tap"
  - Stamp feet and say "Stamp, Stamp"



- i. If you are standing up – you can wiggle your bottom and say "wiggle, wiggle"
  - j. Put them all together and you have your own ensemble!
5. Experiment with composing your own version of one of the illustrations in the book *Izzy Gizmo*. Take a double–page with lots of actions and excitement.
- Sit in a circle and explore the sounds of each element of the illustration. What does it sound like? What does it feel like?
  - Give each element of the scene a sound. These could be noises made with your voice, using body percussion, your invented musical instruments, or percussion instruments in your classroom.
  - Give each sound to a different group of children and take it in turns to hear their sounds one by one.
  - Take turns being the composer of your new musical picture. Maintain a steady rhythm and give each child a chance to stand in the middle and choose which elements to bring in. Encourage them to experiment with when to start and when to stop. Can they find gestures to make the sounds loud and soft? What happens when they combine different overlapping sounds? How can they create drama and tension to tell the story of Izzy Gizmo using their sounds?

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERACY

1. Read and re-read the book with the children, to build up fluency & **confidence in word-reading** and to develop their love of literature. You could also explore a range of fiction and non-fiction books that relate to the themes of the book (perhaps *Rosie Revere, Engineer*) and books by the same author and illustrator. (Have they read *Detective Dog*?)
2. Discuss the story encouraging the children to ask and answer questions and listen to what others say. **Recite, re-tell and re-create** poems to develop their confidence in using their own voice. Can they do the different voices for Grandpa and Izzy?

3. Discuss their **favourite words and phrases**. What do they like/ dislike about the text and why? Pick out the 'action' words (tumble, Kapooof, bump, loop the loop, twizzle, wallop, tinker, flapped). Can the children suggest different ways of saying the words really dramatically and musically? Can you create a Word Board, where the children write their favourite words?
4. Encourage children to recognise and join in with predictable phrases and **rhyming patterns** (e.g. *need/ succeed* or *electronics/ Spagsonic!*) You could make a matching game using all the rhyming pairs in the book.
5. Can the children **relate to the story with their own experiences**. Instead of using parts of the shower head/ blow driers, what utensils or equipment do they have at home/ nursery that they could dismantle? Do they have something at home that needs fixing?



6. Discuss **characterisation and emotions**. Discuss Izzy's character – how would you describe her?

Look at her different faces throughout the story – can you copy them? Which words would you use to describe each face?

- What type of music would the composer write for each emotion? (Would it be loud/ quiet? Fast/slow? High/low? Lots of instruments or just 1? Happy/ sad etc)
- How would you feel if you were in Izzy's position?
- Do you have any wise and kind people suggesting how you could do things better?
- Is there something that you find challenging that you need to 'try, try, try again if you want to succeed'.



# MORE CREATIVE AND S.T.E.M. ACTIVITIES/ UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

1. Play the game 'I packed my tool bag and in it I put...'. Take turns at suggesting traditional items (as well as more whacky ideas) and remembering the list.
2. Inspired by the inside book cover design, the children could create their own cog patterns using a range of materials (potato or circular object printing, glitter, paper cutting).



3. Word Art - ask the children to draw/ mark-make some images that they imagine with some of the action words from the book e.g. wild, kapoof! Aargghh!, Loop the loop, twizzle, flap, dive. Remember they can't do it wrong!



- Can they draw their own invention, like the Beard-tastic. Perhaps draw a second picture of when it breaks?!



- Create your own invention using construction toys and tools. Discuss all the different parts, what they do and what materials they're made of.
- [Watch CBeebies's Maddie](#) explain how a bird can fly.
  - Can you make a paper aeroplane and explore how to make it fly better? [[see this template](#) for an aeroplane, helicopter and glider or use the simple flying machine template on page 18]
  - How else could you suggest you fix the crow in the story?
- [Here](#) is a Twinkl Marariki Feather colouring page – perhaps listen to the suggested flying music.
- Make a display of crows, all with their own flying machines, using the template on page 17.

Links:



More listening ideas:

[Barber Night Flight](#) (flight)

[Honegger Pacific 231](#)(engines, trains)

[Stockhausen's Helicopter Quartet](#)

What reminds you of engines in the music? Repetitive rhythms? Fast rhythms? Do they get faster? Are they loud/ soft?

[Stravinsky's The Firebird: Infernal Dance](#) (birds and flight)

[Scriabin's Symphony No. 2 in C minor, Mov. 2](#) (birds and flight)

Can you draw the birds in these pieces? Do these birds fly fast or slow?

# THE SONGS (NOTATION)

## Izzy Gizmo's Song

$\text{♩} = 120$  **4** *mf*

I - zzy Giz - mo loved to in - vent, she

7 **1**

ca - rried her tool bag where e - ver she went

10

in case she dis - co - vered a thing to be men - ded, a

13 **4**

ga - dget to tweak to make it more splen - did.



# You Can't Give Up

$\text{♩} = 132$   
*Polly sings:*  
*mp*

You can't give up, you can't give up,

7 *Sing with Polly:*

You can't give up, you can't give up.

*Polly sings:*  
*mf*

Some - times you need to try a - gain.

17 *Sing with Polly:*

Some - times you need to try a - gain,

23 *Sing together:*

and a - gain, and a - gain, and a - gain, and a - gain.

28

If you want to suc - ceed\_\_\_\_\_

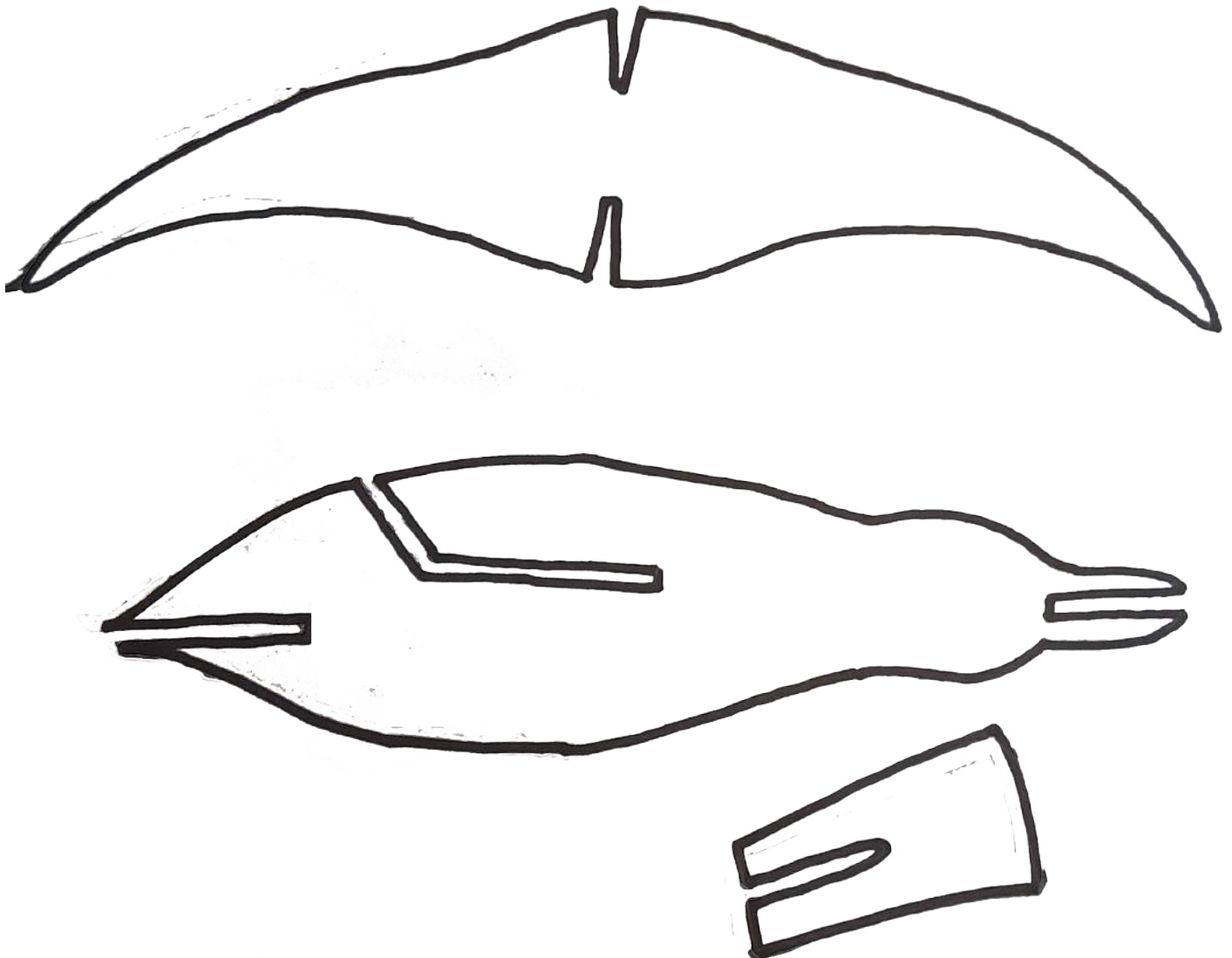


## Izzy's Crow - template

You will need:

- Cardboard or stiff paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Thread

1. Cut out the shapes below
2. Decorate the bird - what can you add to help the crow to fly? Is there something you can attach to help them fly - just like Izzy Gizmo!
3. Slide the wings and tail into the slots to create a 3D bird
4. Find the centre of balance and hang the birds up using a loop of thread

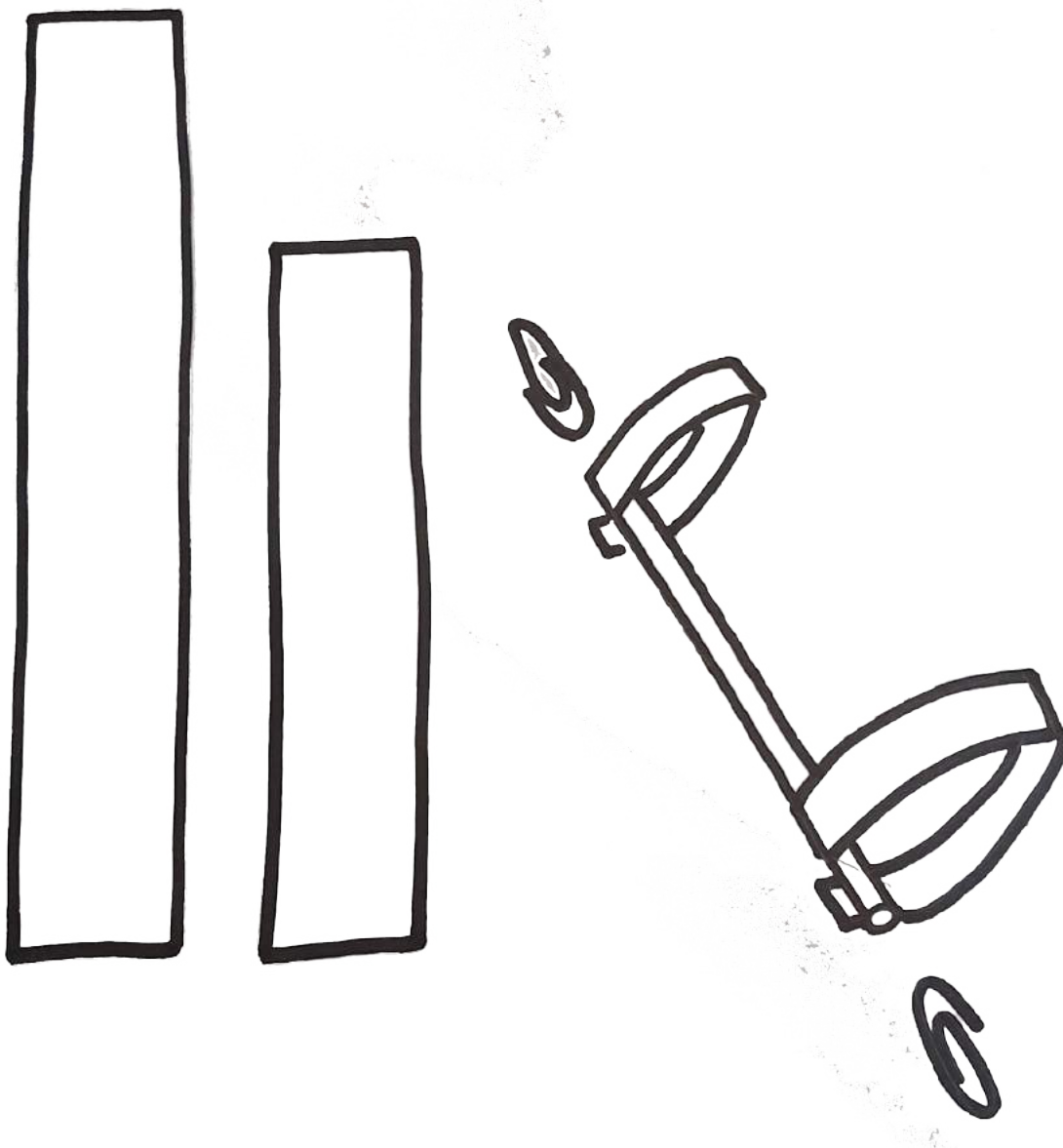


## Flying machine - template

You will need:

- Paper
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paper clips
- Straws

1. Cut out two strips of paper, one 20cm x 3 cm and one 15cm x 3cm
2. Make a loop out of each strip and
3. use the paper clips to attach to each end of the straw. Use the small end of the paper clip to fit into the straw.
4. Hold the glider with the small loop at the front and launch. How does it fly?
5. What can you add to make it fly better? What happens if you change the size of each loop?



# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

## Polly Ives – Presenter and Narrator



As a children's concert presenter, Polly regularly works with Music in the Round, Ensemble 360, London Philharmonic Orchestra, London Mozart Players and Wigmore Hall. She has also worked with CBeebies, Royal Opera House, Southbank Sinfonia, European Brandenburg Ensemble and the Beatrix Potter Attraction and has performed live on BBC Radio 3's *In Tune*. She has performed most of the well-loved children's concert pieces but has also commissioned and premiered many new pieces for young audiences.

Polly is a highly experienced children's workshop leader; often specialising in music to support speech and language and child-led creativity. She has enjoyed projects with Wigmore Hall's *Chamber Tots*, LPO's MiniHarmonics and The Big Malarkey Festival in Hull. Polly has devised, managed and delivered training days, INSET sessions and conferences for Early Years practitioners, musicians, workshop leaders and students across the UK. She has devised, presented and written many online resources for early years practitioners and KS1 teachers, including many YouTube videos.

When she had her first baby, she founded Concerteenies, which has rapidly expanded into a live music series for 0-11 year olds across the region. In 2020, Concerteenies won a Royal Philharmonic Society 'Inspiration' award for their Lockdown work which included a 24-Hour Soundtrack with musicians from around the world, a wealth of home learning resources and home concerts, an intergenerational project in care homes with Age Better and South Yorkshire Association and five new Musical Story commissions. [www.concerteenies.com](http://www.concerteenies.com)

As a cellist, Polly performs with chamber ensembles, orchestras, bands and TV and film session work. She has also coached the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain and the City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra.

To find out more, visit [www.pollyives.com](http://www.pollyives.com)

## Paul Rissmann – Composer

Paul Rissmann is a composer, presenter and music educationalist based in London. He currently holds the position of Amateur for the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO) and is Children's Composer in Residence at Music in the Round. Paul's commissions range from electronic music for Microsoft to orchestral music for the LSO. His interactive composition *Bamboozled* for orchestra and audience has been performed by over 45,000 people and in 2012 was performed at an Olympic Torch relay by the Philharmonia Orchestra. Paul has performed all over the world and has recently worked with Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, Valery Gergiev and the LSO in Trafalgar Square, Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Philharmonia, and Nicola Benedetti and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Paul guest-presented *Classics Unwrapped* for BBC Scotland and also created a critically-acclaimed series of music discovery concerts for adults called *Naked Classics*. In 2014, he was the creative director for the Channel 4 (UK) documentary *The Addicts' Symphony*, which explored how music can be therapeutic in overcoming addiction.

He has won a British Composer's Award (BASCA) and awards from both the Royal Philharmonic Society and the Royal Television Society, and was appointed an Associate of the Royal Academy of Music (ARAM). [www.rissmann.co.uk](http://www.rissmann.co.uk)

Watch a film about how Paul writes music for Music in the Round.

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvqlakOXVlg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvqlakOXVlg)

## Author

Pip Jones lives in West England with her partner, her two daughters and a real invisible cat (it doesn't catch mice, but it doesn't need a litter tray either, so there are pros and cons). She writes a lot. She even owns a writing cloak! And she spends days on end working out how to get good rhymes, such as 'snuffle' and 'kerfuffle', into stories. Pip won the inaugural Greenhouse Funny Prize in 2012 with Squishy McFluff: The Invisible Cat!, her first book.

## Illustrator

Sara was born in Edinburgh and lives in Newcastle upon Tyne in the UK. She is represented by NB Illustration Agency. Sara studied illustration and printmaking at Edinburgh College of Art where she received a BA Hons and a PG diploma. In the early 2000s Sara was an artist and lecturer at Minneapolis School of Art and Design, USA and more recently she has spent time at Malaspina Printmakers in Vancouver, Canada. Sara is an illustrator and printmaker who enjoys the challenge of a wide range of subjects. She is inspired by anything from old wives tales and household appliances, to street life, trying to spell sounds, second-hand bookshops and pedestrian oddballs – the stranger the better! Sara's beautiful illustrations have been used in children's picture books, and is able to turn her

hand to many other diverse design and advertising projects and editorial illustration.

## Ensemble 360 – Musicians



Ensemble 360, a versatile group of five string players, five wind players and a pianist resident with Music in the Round, performs in Izzy Gizmo. Ensemble 360 has gained an enviable reputation across the UK, not only for the quality and integrity of the members' playing, but also for their ability to communicate the music to a range of different audiences. They believe in concerts being informal, friendly and relaxed occasions, and perform 'in the round' wherever possible.

Ensemble 360, with Music in the Round's Children's Composer in Residence, Paul Rissmann, and narrator Polly Ives, has established a unique brand of children's concerts that play to sell-out audiences. The ensemble regularly runs schools' workshops, as well as performance and composition classes with a variety of age groups.

Outside Ensemble 360, the musicians all have careers of great success including being members of orchestras such as the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie, Philharmonia, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Northern Sinfonia, Camerata Bern and the Manchester Camerata. They have performed across the UK as well as across Europe, America and Japan in venues including the Concertgebouw, Berlin Philharmonie, Musikverein and Carnegie Hall.

[www.ensemble360.co.uk](http://www.ensemble360.co.uk)

## Music in the Round

Music in the Round is the largest promoter of chamber music outside London. We take our unique, informative style of performance to numerous venues around the country as well as presenting two concert series and an annual Sheffield Chamber Music Festival at our home venue, the Crucible Studio.

Excellence and access are central to all we do. Our concerts are, wherever possible, played in the round, and feature lively spoken introductions, sometimes pre-concert talks and post-concert opportunities to meet musicians.

The musicians of Ensemble 360 are at the heart this programme, delivering activities for all ages and levels of ability.

Visit Music in the Round's online shop for the CDs of *Izzy Gizmo*, *Giddy Goat*, *The Chimpanzees of Happytown*, *Stan & Mabel*, *Stan & Mabel and the Race for Space*, *Sir Scallywag and the Battle of Stinky Bottom* and *Crazy Creatures*.

[www.musicintheround.co.uk](http://www.musicintheround.co.uk)

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## CONTACT US

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