



For little people
with big dreams.



MEDIA RELEASE: THE ADVENTURES OF KENZIE-MOO by Tanya Savva

Illustrated by Emma Stuart
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THE STORY BEHIND THE BOOK

In 2016, Tanya, a single mum to Mackenzie who was born with a range of special needs (including blindness), was working full time and was deeply frustrated with her life. Mackenzie hadn't reached certain developmental milestones. Tanya knew she needed to work less and spend more time with her daughter. But she was exhausted and couldn't see how she could do it.

Inspired by a single conversation with a man who simplified his life and went travelling in a motorhome, she thought: 'I can do that.' It took a year to prepare for the adventure, but she packed up their lives, bought a caravan and for five months, drove Mackenzie from Sydney to Cape Tribulation, experiencing the magic of Northern New South Wales and Queensland, Australia.

She learned to back up and tow a caravan, manage their routine on the road, and home-school Mackenzie, acting as a full-time mum, therapist and teacher. It was a different kind of exhausting but it brought untold rewards - one of her happiest moments was witnessing Mackenzie read her first words in braille with her.

On their trip, they met all sorts of people who supported them and gifted them experiences (like a helicopter ride and swimming with a dolphin). Tanya kept a leather-bound journal to capture their experiences and document Mackenzie's reactions to their adventures.

Though she had never written a children's story before, one night she sat down and wrote the story from start to finish to enter it into a competition. She found Emma Stuart, the illustrator to add another magical dimension to the text.

While readers with sight can enjoy the beauty of the illustrations, we are reminded that Mackenzie 'sees,' just in a different way. Tanya's hope is that their adventures will inspire people to believe that they can do whatever they set their hearts to – no matter their 'disabilities', perceived shortcomings or the hand they have been dealt in life. This book is her way of sharing some of Mackenzie's light, to teach us to appreciate what we have and to understand that happiness is available to all of us, regardless of our hardships.

BLURB

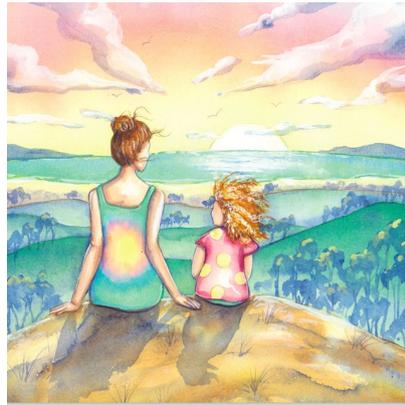
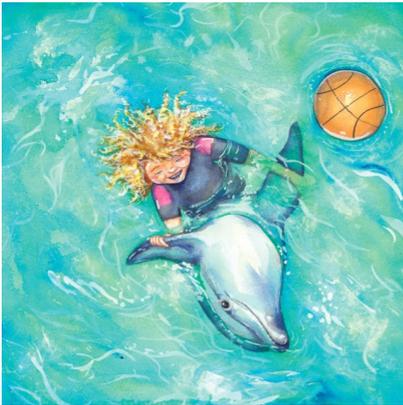
Imagine seeing a dolphin without your eyes.

What's it like to walk through a rainforest, fly in a helicopter or swim in the ocean if you cannot see?

Join Kenzie-Moo and her mum as they journey around Australia in a caravan where she meets a seal, sails on a boat, flies through the sky, using her cane and her big brave heart to navigate.

As she delights in the sounds and sensations around her, Kenzie-Moo invites you to explore the world in ways you've never experienced before.

'Next time you're on an adventure, close your eyes to see.
Sense the world a little differently. Maybe you'll see it just like me.'



ABOUT TANYA SAVVA

Tanya's life changed when her daughter, Mackenzie, was born blind. Inspired by Mackenzie to live a life of light and joy, she left her career as an occupational therapist to pursue a more soul fulfilling path. In 2016 she took Mackenzie around Australia in a caravan and began her writing journey as a travel blogger. Tanya combines her wellness and life coaching with yoga and mindfulness and runs retreats for mothers of children with additional needs.

Tanya is writing a memoir about raising a child with special needs as a single mother, and the choices she's made to live aligned with her soul purpose, in the face of adversity. She is passionate about empowering women who care for others to create inner freedom and joy no matter their circumstances.

Mackenzie is a magical and confident young girl who continues to triumph through challenges she has faced since birth. She is an exceptional storyteller, horse rider and piano player and creates joy and laughter wherever she goes with her cheeky and hilarious disposition. A true creative spirit, she shares her unique vision of the world with all those whose lives she touches.

To follow Tanya and Mackenzie's journey, visit www.tanyasavva.com

'An exquisitely written and illustrated story of courage that will open your heart and eyes to new ways of seeing; and a testament to one mother's love for her daughter.'

– Joanne Fedler, internationally bestselling author

'*The Adventures of Kenzie-Moo* is an educational and inspiring story for children with a thought-provoking message about embracing difference.'

- Juanita Pirozzi, reviewer

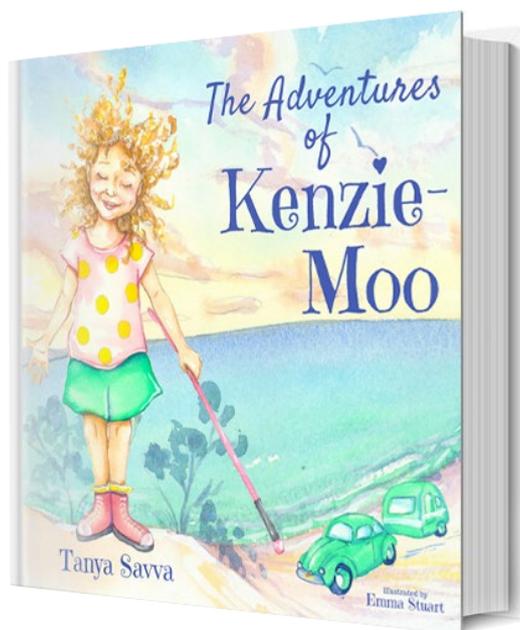
REVIEW by Juanita Pirozzi

This picture book introduces young readers to Kenzie-Moo, a young girl who was born blind. Kenzie-Moo and her mum travel along the East Coast of Australia with their caravan in tow. Using her sense of sound, taste, smell, and touch, Kenzie-Moo describes her exciting holiday experiences; from going on a helicopter ride in the Hunter Valley to swimming with a dolphin in Coffs Harbour to walking through Daintree Rainforest.

This lovingly told and beautifully illustrated book teaches kids about what life is like for a visually impaired child so they can learn about accepting people with special-needs. It can also help parents of such children by encouraging them not to let their disability prevent them from enjoying opportunities such as travel. Tanya Savva, whose daughter, Mackenzie, was also born blind; based her book on the Australian road trip they took in 2016.

***'My daughter isn't an excuse for why I can't follow my heart's desires –
she is the reason for why I should.'***

- Tanya Savva



To book Tanya as a speaker, please email: tanya@tanyasavva.com

To pre-order the book (and get a free download of the audio version of the book spoken by Mackenzie), please go to: <https://www.tanyasavva.com/the-adventures-of-kenzie-moo/>

To learn more about how Tanya turned her dream of writing a children's book into a reality, please go to: <https://www.tanyasavva.com/publishing>