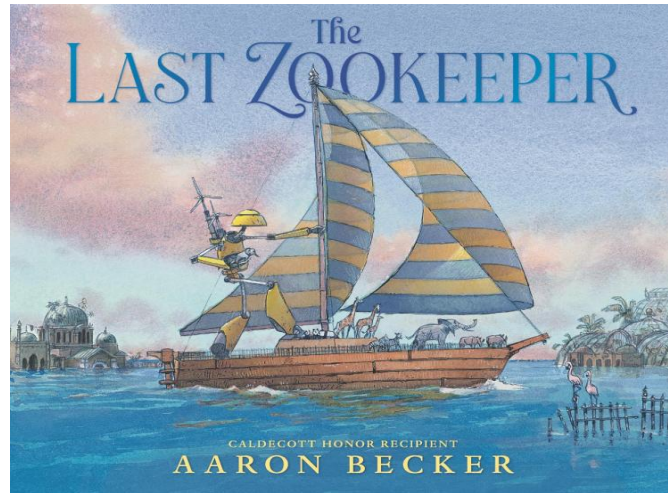


Reading Teachers = Reading Pupils
Lower Key Stage 2 Creative Writing Challenge



The Last Zookeeper by Aaron Becker is one of our 2026 Reading Teachers = Reading Pupils books. We are challenging Lower KS2 pupils across the country to participate in our creative writing challenge inspired by *The Last Zookeeper*.

The Last Zookeeper tells a story using pictures rather than words. Read the book together as a class. Take time to discuss what you can see and what is happening in the pictures. And write down any interesting words and ideas on the board.

Can you tell Nora's story in your own words?

Use the words on the board and the sentence starters below to help you. Try to include a **beginning, middle and end.**

Beginning:

1. One morning, Nora woke up to find something unusual at the zoo...
2. It all started when Nora noticed ...
3. Nora had never seen anything like it before...

Middle:

1. Suddenly, the animals began to act in a very strange way, and Nora knew ...
2. Nora discovered.....
3. Just when Nora thought he was safe, something surprising happened that....

End:

1. In the end, Nora learned an important lesson about
2. Finally, everything returned to normal, but Nora would never forget.....
3. The adventure had taught him something he would always remember...

Share your robot adventures! Send your stories to education@cheltenhamfestivals.org by **Thursday 19th March 2026**. One lucky winner will be awarded a prize and a certificate!