[Text reads: Library Storytime]

[The logo for Inner West Council]

[TERESA SAVAGE sits on a chair in the library]

Hello, everyone! Lovely to see you here.

I'd just like to start our storytime today by saying thank you to the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora nation for letting us use your land. We promise to look after it, the people and the animals too. So hello, land, hello, sky, hello, me, hello, friends! Thank you.

We're going to read some stories about penguins today. You might see these penguins, all these penguins here.

[Five toy penguins are sitting on the chair next to her]

I've got a grown-up daughter, she's very grown up now, but when she was a little girl, she loved penguins very much. And she used to collect them, and we always bought her penguins. And she had them all in her bed. And I've kept them, even though she's a very grown-up person now. But I asked her if I could bring them along to show them to you today and she was very happy to do that. So here they all are!

The first story I'm going to read to you is called 'Pink!'

[Teresa pick up a book with an illustration of a pink penguin on the cover]

It's by Lynne Rickards and illustrated by Margaret Chamberlain. And the publisher is Wacky Bee.

Let's get started.

Oh, look. You can see already there's something going on here.

[She opens the book and there are lots of penguins. On the next page is a pink penguin]

Pink! One sunny morning, Patrick woke up to find he had turned bright pink! His beak was pink, his flippers were pink, he was pink from head to foot.

"This is terrible!" cried Patrick. "What will all my friends say? Whoever heard of a pink penguin?"

"Don't worry, dear," soothed his mum, "Dr Black will soon sort you out."

[Mum penguin is wearing an apron]

But Dr Black was very puzzled. She looked in her big medical book. "A very cold penguin can turn blue." she said. "If you're feeling queasy, you can go a bit green. But pink is very unusual."

[Dr Black is also a penguin. She has glasses]

Dr Black closed her big book. "Perhaps you'll get used to being pink..." she said to Patrick.

"But I'm a BOY!" he shouted. "And boys can't be pink!" Hmm-hm.

When they got home, Patrick's dad opened another big book. It was called Birds Of The World.

[Patrick and his Dad look at the book]

"Look," he said to Patrick, "flamingos are pink, just like you."

Patrick looked. He saw hundreds of beautiful birds.

"Are some of them boys?" asked Patrick as he gazed at the picture.

"At least half of them", laughed his dad. "You see? Boys can be pink."

Patrick got teased at school for being pink.

[Pink Patrick is surrounded by black and white penguins]

"Don't worry, you'll get used to it soon enough." said Mum.

Patrick wasn't so sure. He didn't like being different from everyone else.

One Saturday morning, Patrick pulled out his rucksack. He put in his pyjamas and his favourite soft toy. "I don't fit in here anymore," he told his mum and dad. I'm going to Africa to see those flamingos. Patrick went to the water's edge. Africa was a long way north, but he was a very strong swimmer. He swam for seven days and seven nights. Here he is swimming.

[Patrick, with his blue rucksack, swims past schools of fish, octopus and turtles]

And when the water began to feel warmer, he knew he was nearly there. On the eighth day, Patrick arrived in a wide bay. On the shore, he saw hundreds of flamingos, just like in the picture. He waddled up to them and held out a pink flipper. "How do you do?" he said politely.

[Patrick stands in the middle of a group of pink flamingos]

The flamingos looked down at him curiously. They had long necks and spindly legs and were very, very tall.

"Will you join us for lunch?" one of them asked Patrick. "Oh, yes, thank you!" he said.

[Patrick is upside down under the water amongst the flamingos’ legs]

All the flamingos dipped their long, curvy beaks into the water and began skimming them back and forth. Patrick's beak was quite the wrong shape so he came up coughing and spluttering.

Poor Patrick would have to go hungry! After lunch, the flamingos had a nap.

They all stood on one leg and tucked their heads down. Patrick tried to stand on one leg too, but he was hopeless.

[The flamingos sleep, standing on one leg, Patrick topples over]

When sunset came, it was time to fly to the nesting ground. The flamingos flapped their wings and rose into the air like a big pink cloud. One small, pink penguin was left behind.

"This is no good!" said Patrick. He didn't belong here even though he was pink. It was time to go home.

[On the next page, Patrick with his rucksack on his back, is swimming home]

The next morning, Patrick set off. He swam for seven days and seven nights, until the water felt lovely and cold again.

Patrick's mum and dad were very pleased to see him.

"You must have missed your favourite breakfast!" said Dad. "I sure did!" said Patrick with his mouth full.

When Patrick went back to school, his whole class crowded around him.

[Patrick’s friends crowd around him, smiling]

"Where have you been, Patrick?" they asked, "We missed you!"

Patrick's teacher asked him to give a little talk about his travels. He stood at the front of the class with a big map and a pointer. "I went to Africa." Patrick told his friends.

"Wow, you swam all that way?" asked Billy.

Patrick nodded proudly.

"In Africa, the water is warm," he continued, "there were colourful fish and tall pink birds called flamingos that stand on one leg."

"Did you see one of those?" asked Lulu.

"I saw hundreds!" answered Patrick. "They were beautiful. But you know, they can't swim underwater or slide on their tummies like we can."

"Really?" said his classmates, "What a shame!"

[Patrick and his friends play in the snow and swim in the water]

After school, Patrick waddled home with his best friend Arthur.

"You know, Arthur," said Patrick, "I'm really glad I went to Africa."

"I'm really glad you came back!" said Arthur.

"Me too!" laughed Patrick. "Penguins belong at the South Pole. Even pink penguins."

"Especially pink penguins!" said Arthur happily.

That night at bedtime, Patrick said, "You were right, Mum, nobody teases me anymore." He snuggled down and smiled.

[Patrick is tucked up in bed]

Being different wasn't so bad after all.

[Teresa points to the pink penguin in the book]

And there he is. (CHUCKLES)

And none of these penguins are pink.

[Teresa points to the penguins sitting on the chair next to her]

But they do all slide on their bellies and swim in the water, and they can catch their lunch.

[She slides one along the chair on its belly]

[Teresa picks up another book]

The next story I have is another story about penguins. So this story is called And Tango Makes Three, and it's by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell and illustrated by Henry Cole. And the publisher is Simon & Schuster.

[On the cover is an illustration of two penguins and a baby penguin]

Let's have a look. And Tango Makes Three.

[Teresa turns the pages of the book. There are illustrations of the entrance to a park, a boy playing with a boat, people skating in front of the city skyline]

In the middle of New York City, there is a great big park called Central Park. Children love to play there. It has a toy boat pond where they can sail their boats. It has a carrousel to ride on in the summer and an ice rink to skate on in the winter. Best of all, it has its very own zoo.

Every day, families of all kinds go to visit the animals that live there.

But children and their parents aren't the only families at the zoo. The animals make families of their own.

[On the next page, different animals with their babies]

There are red panda bear families with mothers and fathers and furry red panda bear cubs. There are monkey dads and monkey mums raising noisy monkey babies. There are toad families and toucan families and cotton-top tamarin families too.

And in the penguin house, there are penguin families.

[Penguins stand in pairs]

Every year at the same time, the girl penguins start noticing the boy penguins. And the boy penguins start noticing the girls. When the right girl and the right boy find each other, they become a couple. Sometimes.

Two penguins in the penguin house were a little bit different. One was named Roy, and the other was named Silo. Roy and Silo were both boys. And they did everything together.

[Illustrations of the two boy penguins doing different things together]

They bowed to each other. And walked together. And they sang to each other. And they swam together. Wherever Roy went, Silo went too.

They didn't spend much time with the girl penguins, and the girl penguins didn't spend much time with them. Instead, Roy and Silo wound their necks around each other.

Their keeper, Mr Gramzay, noticed the two penguins and thought to himself, "They must be in love."

[Mr Gramzay has a bucket and is sitting with the other penguins]

Roy and Silo watched how the other penguins made a home. So they built a nest of stones for themselves.

[Roy and Silo bring stones to their nest]

Every night Roy and Silo slept there together, just like the other penguin couples. And every morning, Roy and Silo woke up together.

But one day, Roy and Silo saw that the other couples could do something they could not.

The mama penguin would lay an egg. She and the papa penguin would take turns keeping the egg warm until finally it would hatch. And there would be a baby penguin.

[The two boy penguins look at the other penguin couples with their babies]

Roy and Silo had no egg to sit on and keep warm. They had no baby chick to feed and cuddle and love. Their nest was nice, but it was a little bit empty.

[Roy and Silo look at their empty nest]

One day Roy found something that looked like what the other penguins were hatching and he brought it to their nest. It was only a rock, but Silo carefully sat on it, and sat, and sat.

When Silo got sleepy, he slept. And when Silo was done sleeping and sitting, he swam and Roy sat.

[The two boy penguins take turns sitting on their nest]

Day after day, Silo and Roy sat on the rock. But nothing happened.

[Silo and Roy look at the rock in their nest]

Then Mr Gramzay got an idea. He found an egg that needed to be cared for, and he brought it to Roy and Silo's nest.

[Mr Gramzay places an egg in their nest]

Roy and Silo knew just what to do. They moved the egg to the centre of their nest. Every day, they turned it so each side stayed warm.

Some days, Roy sat while Silo went for food. Other days, it was Silo's turn to take care of their egg.

They sat in the morning, and they sat at night. They sat through lunchtime and swim-time and supper. They sat at the beginning of the month and they sat at the end of the month and they sat all of the days in between.

[One of the boy penguins is sitting on the egg]

Until one day they heard a sound coming from inside their egg.

"Peep, peep, peep, peep!" it said.

Roy and Silo called back, "Squawk, squawk."

"Peep, peep!” answered the egg.

And suddenly, a tiny hole began to appear in the egg's shell.

[Gradually the crack in the egg gets bigger]

And then... Craaaack! Out came their very own baby!

[A baby penguin emerges from the egg]

She had fuzzy white feathers and a funny black beak.

Now Roy and Silo were fathers.

"We'll call her Tango," Mr Gramzay decided, "because it takes two to make a tango."

[Roy and Silo feed the baby penguin]

Roy and Silo taught Tango how to sing for them when she was hungry. They fed her food from their beaks. They snuggled her in their nest at night.

Tango was the very first penguin in the zoo to have two daddies.

Soon Tango grew strong enough to leave the nest. Roy and Silo took her for a swim, just like all the other penguin families. And all the children who came to the zoo could see Tango and her two fathers playing in the penguin house with the other penguins.

[Zoo visitors watch the penguins swimming in their enclosure]

"Hooray, Roy! Hooray, Silo! Welcome, Tango!" they cheered.

[The three penguins stand closely together]

At night, the three penguins returned to their nest. There they snuggled together. And like all the other penguins in the penguin house, and all the other animals in the zoo, and all the families in the big city around them, they went to sleep.

And they were very happy together.

And they called the baby Tango. Do you know there is a dance called a 'tango'? You can make two of the penguins do the dance together. (HUMS TANGO TUNE)

[Teresa picks up two of the toy penguins and makes them dance together]

Can you do that with your teddies?

Thank you, everyone. It's been lovely reading to you today.

All of these books are available from the Inner West Libraries and you can look on the website or the Facebook page to see more stories being told by local people.

Thank you.

[The logo for Inner West Council]

[innerwest.nsw.gov.au/eKids]