

BIG ISSUE

SPRING KIDS COVER COMPETITION

What is the Big Issue Kids Cover Competition?

The Big Issue Kids Cover Competition is an opportunity for young people to design a cover for one of the UK's most iconic magazines. The competition has become an annual tradition, running for a decade at Christmas and Spring. One lucky winner will have their design featured on a special edition of the Big Issue magazine this Easter, which will be seen by thousands of readers. We will also be offering a special prize for the best group entry – from a school or nursery class or any other group of youngsters who send in a bundle of brilliant entries. We'll print as many pictures as we can squeeze onto our page!

'Creativity is essential for the upbringing of children. I'm excited to be a judge and I'm looking forward to seeing the entries!'

Axel Scheffler
GUEST JUDGE

Make PEACE!

Our popular Kids Cover Competition is back!

This year's theme is PEACE. What does it mean to you? It could be spreading a little love, or some happy animals playing together instead of preying on each other. The world looking harmonious; something funny about peace, love and understanding. Surprise us!

The winning cover will be on sale across Britain from Monday 30 March, in time for Easter.



The cover competition winner will receive this specially created exclusive artwork by Axel Scheffler!



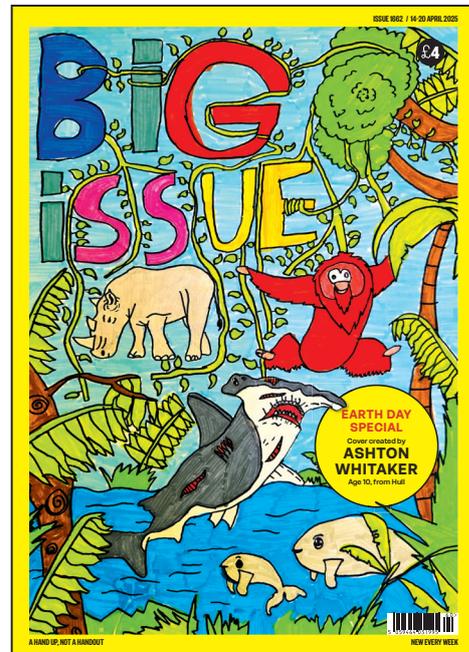
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Ten facts about Big Issue

- 1** The Big Issue exists to create opportunity for the most vulnerable and marginalised people in the UK. Many of those people have experienced homelessness.
- 2** Selling The Big Issue is a job. We call the people who sell Big Issue our vendors.
- 3** Vendors buy copies of the magazine for £2.50 and sell them on for £5. In this way they earn a living.
- 4** Big Issue was launched in 1991. We celebrate our 35th birthday this year!
- 5** Over the last three decades Big Issue has sold more than 220 million copies in the UK.
- 6** More than 100,000 people have sold Big Issue – more than could fit into Wembley Stadium.
- 7** Altogether, our vendors have earned more than £150m by selling the magazine.
- 8** Big Issue is a “social business”, which means that it is not purely set up to make a profit. Instead it has a social goal – to end poverty in the UK.
- 9** Big Issue’s co-founder John Bird now sits in parliament, in the House of Lords. He uses his position to fight for vulnerable and marginalised people.
- 10** Big Issue has inspired more than 100 other street papers around the world. These magazines all work in the same way as Big Issue. We all offer “a hand up, not a handout”.

(Below) Christmas cover by Arnold Sam in 2023; (right) Ashton Whitaker’s winning cover from 2025



How to enter:

To get involved, look out your pens, pencils, paints or graphic design apps and create a picture that will catch everyone’s attention, help our vendors sell more copies, and who knows, even bring about world peace.

Please use an A4 or an A3 sheet and make sure the drawing is portrait not landscape (that means the drawing is tall rather than wide). Make sure to include the words: BIG ISSUE on the drawing and send it to us by 11 March.

The competition is open to anybody up to the age of 13. There will be an individual winner who will see their design on the cover, plus special recognition for the best group entry. There is no limit to the number of entries from a group but please note we are unable to return artworks, though we will print as many as we can fit on our pages!

Send all entries with a name, age, address and telephone or email contact to us by 11 March.

Post: Spring Kids Cover Competition, Big Issue, 43 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 1HW

Email: editorial@bigissue.com and write KIDS COVER COMPETITION in the subject line. Make sure that your image is high resolution. Also drop us a note if you have any other questions about the competition or Big Issue!

