

Axel Scheffler



Axel Scheffler is a famous illustrator known for drawing animals, funny characters, and magical scenes in children's books. He is best known for working with author Julia Donaldson on books like **The Gruffalo**, **Room on the Broom**, and **Stick Man**.

Childhood

- Born in **Hamburg, Germany** in 1957
- Loved to draw from a very young age
- Enjoyed reading comics and watching cartoons
- Once said he was a "**quiet and shy child**"
- Dreamed of becoming an artist, but wasn't sure how

Education

- Studied **History of Art** for a short time in Hamburg
- Moved to England in his twenties to study art
- Attended the **Bath Academy of Art** (now Bath Spa University)
- Studied **visual communication and illustration**
- Lived in a big artists' house while studying

Career

- First job was drawing for magazines and newspapers
- Started illustrating children's books in the 1980s
- Became well known after illustrating **The Gruffalo** in 1999
- Has illustrated more than **150 books**
- Works with many authors but is best known for his partnership with **Julia Donaldson**
- His style is fun, quirky, and full of personality

Quotes

"I don't think I'm very good at drawing – I just draw in my own way."

"Children's books are very important. They shape the way children see the world."

"I still feel lucky every day to do what I love."

Art

