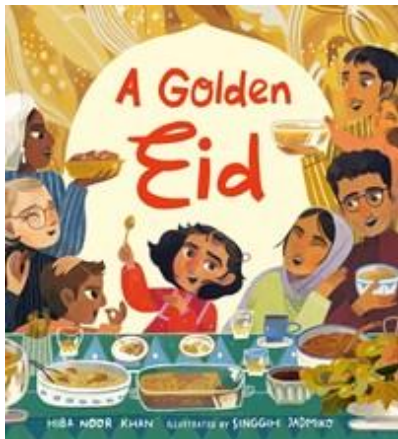


CANDLEWICK PRESS
Spring 2026





Candlewick
9781536251562
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays & Celebrations
Series: Festivals of the World
10.6 in H | 9.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Golden Eid: Festivals of the World

(A Vibrant Celebration of Muslim Traditions, Family, and Ramadan for Kids Ages 4-8)

Hiba Noor Khan, Singgih Cahyo Jadmiko

Summary

Get ready to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, commemorating the end of Ramadan, with Hafsa and her family.

Hafsa and her family have spotted a crescent moon in the sky and ended their long Ramadan fast. Now they are getting ready to spend Eid with their loved ones?decorating the house, donning fancy clothes, and preparing lots of delicious food, including halwa, Hafsa's favorite sweet treat. But when her father begins giving the food away to all the neighbors, Hafsa is worried that there won't be anything left for her! This warmly illustrated, heartfelt story, which centers the joys of community and sharing, includes a halwa recipe and a banner-decorating activity.

Contributor Bio

Hiba Noor Khan has worked as a physics teacher, a TV presenter, and a refugee advocate with the Children's Society. She is the author of several books for children, including *How to Spaghettify Your Dog* and *One Home: Eighteen Stories of Hope from Young Activists*. Her middle-grade historical fiction novel *Safiyyah's War* won the Jhalak Children's and Young Adult Prize and the Indie Book Award for Children's Fiction. She was commissioned to write *Malala* as part of the Extraordinary Lives series. She lives in Yorkshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Singgih Cahyo Jadmiko is an artist with a passion for painting and illustration. He graduated from the Bandung Institute of Technology in 2021 with a major in craft and ceramic design. *A Golden Eid* is his first picture book. He lives in Indonesia.

Illustrator Residence:Indonesia



Candlewick
9781536250084
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Technology
Series: Sunny Town Bunnies
9.8 in H | 10.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Bunnies in a Rocket

Philip Ardagh, Ben Mantle

Summary

Climb aboard for a zany, out-of-this-world ride from the team who brought us *Bunnies on a Bus*, *Bunnies in a Boat*, and *Bunnies in a Sleigh*.

They have traveled in a bus, in a boat, on Santa's sleigh and now, in their most epic adventure of all, the Sunny Town Bunnies are going to the moon! They've snuck their way onto a rocket ready to launch, and in no time at all they are streaking across the sky, through the atmosphere, and into outer space. What happens when they reach the moon? And how will they ever get back home again? It's one small step for a human but one giant leap for Bunnykind in this fantastic cosmic adventure brimming over goofy, lively fun.

Contributor Bio

Philip Ardagh is a prolific writer who has been published in more than forty languages around the world. His previous books in this series include *Bunnies on the Bus* and *Bunnies in a Boat*, both illustrated by Ben Mantle. Philip Ardagh is the author of the Eddie Dickens trilogy; *High in the Clouds*, cowritten with Sir Paul McCartney; and *Stinking Rich* and *Just Plain Stinky*, which won the Roald Dahl Funny Prize. He has also collaborated with illustrator Elissa Elwick on the Little Adventurers trilogy of picture books and *You Just Can't Count on Dinosaurs*. Philip Ardagh lives with his wife and son in England.

Author Residence: England

Ben Mantle is the illustrator of *Bunnies on the Bus* and *Bunnies in a Boat* by Philip Ardagh; *Follow the Track All the Way Back* by Timothy Knapman; *Dick, the Delightful Duck* by Kay Umansky; and *King of the Swamp* by Catherine Emmett. He is also the author-illustrator of *Frog vs. Toad* and the Dinostars series as well as *The Best Birthday Present Ever!* and *The Best Christmas Present Ever!* Ben Mantle lives in Leamington Spa, England.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536233377
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation

9.3 in H | 10.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Deep Blue: Swimming in the Big Blue Sea

Dashka Slater, Laura Hughes

Summary

Swimming in the ocean can be scary, until Kayla uses her imagination to overcome her fears in this lyrical story for readers trying something new.

When Kayla's favorite dolphin floatie loses its air at the beach, she wants to just sit on the sand. Daddy calls for her to play with him and her brother in the surf, but the DEEP BLUE SEA gulps sand out from underfoot, and a wave knocks her down, sending water up her nose. "I want to go home," Kayla says. "I can't swim without my dolphin." But Daddy reminds her that she knows how to swim and even how to hold her breath underwater. He hoists her up on his shoulders and wades into the sea. "You be the island," Kayla says. "I'll be the lighthouse." In a charming sequel to *Wild Blue: Taming a Big-Kid Bike*, author Dashka Slater and illustrator Laura Hughes take on another milestone moment, showing that with patience, a parent's easygoing support, and a creative mindset, a child can gain the confidence to tackle a daunting new experience—and grow from clinging to a dolphin floatie to swimming through the ocean just like a dolphin!

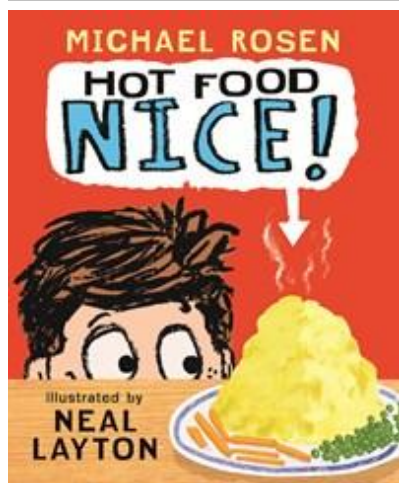
Contributor Bio

Dashka Slater is an award-winning journalist who writes for such publications as *The New York Times Magazine* and *Mother Jones*. She is the author of *Wild Blue: Taming a Big-Kid Bike*, illustrated by Laura Hughes, as well as many books of fiction and nonfiction for children and adults. Dashka Slater lives in Oakland, California.

Author Residence: Oakland, CA

Laura Hughes is the award-winning illustrator of Dashka Slater's *Wild Blue: Taming a Big-Kid Bike* as well as *Goodnight Tiger* by Timothy Knapman and many other books for children. Her work is also featured on greeting cards, wrapping paper, and stationery. She lives in Hastings, England.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536250060
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Family
10.5 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.3 in T |
0.7 lb Wt

Hot Food: Nice!

(A Silly Read-Aloud About Family, Food, and One Very Hot Potato - For Kids Ages 3-7)

Michael Rosen, Neal Layton

Summary

Michael Rosen's hilarious viral video poem is brought to life in picture book form by award-winning illustrator Neal Layton.

Young Michael thinks his dad knows everything. That is, until the fateful day when his family sits down to eat, and the potato is a bit hot. Michael knows to blow on the potato before eating, as does his brother and his mom. So why does his dad pop it straight into his mouth? Michael Rosen's amusing retelling of the tale of his dad and the too-hot potato has become one of his most widely beloved poems, with his own performance of it inspiring a meme: "Nice!" A funny slice of family life, told in delightful repetitive text, *Hot Food: Nice!* is published for the first time as a picture book with bold, silly illustrations sure to charm readers of all ages.

Contributor Bio

Michael Rosen is a poet and the author of many books for children, including *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury, which won the Nestlé Smarties Children's Book Prize; *A Great Big Cuddle*, illustrated by Chris Riddell; and *Michael Rosen's Sad Book*, illustrated by Quentin Blake. He received the Eleanor Farjeon Award for services to children's literature in 1997 and served as Children's Laureate in the UK between 2007 and 2009. Michael Rosen lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Neal Layton has illustrated more than eighty books for children. His books have won the UK's prestigious Nestlé Smarties Children's Book Prize and been short-listed for many other awards. He lives in England.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536237979
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Helen Yoon's Is This . . . ?
8.2 in H | 8.9 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.6
lb Wt

Is This . . . Spring?

Helen Yoon

Summary

When the joys of breathing in spring get hijacked by hacking and sneezing, find a delightful antidote in Helen Yoon's comical ode to a glorious season.

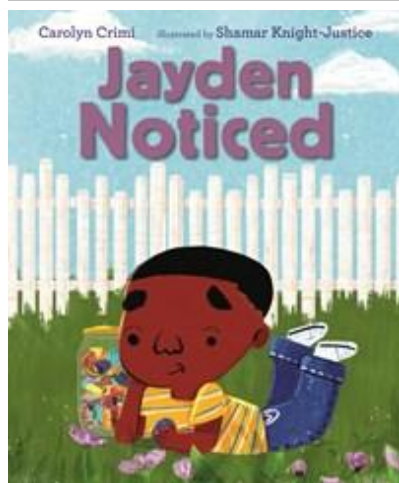
Hooray! It's spring! As one exuberant pup knows, spring means laundry waving on the line, romping in fields of flowers, and gentle, fragrant breezes. But wait . . . What's with the . . . *sniff, sniff* . . . What's with the . . . *Hurk! Haaa*. What's with the . . . *ah-ah-HACHOOO!* Oh no! This is terrible! Is spring . . . ruined? Sharing a few seasonal hacks in more ways than one, Helen Yoon celebrates as only she can: with bumbling affection, good humor, and slack-jawed wonder.

Contributor Bio

Helen Yoon is . . . very funny and very sharp. The creator of the first two books in this series, *Is This . . . Winter?* and *Is This . . . Easter?*, she is also the author-illustrator of *Sheepish (Wolf Under Cover)*, *Off-Limits*, *I'm a Unicorn*, and *Have You Seen My Invisible Dinosaur?* A professional illustrator and freelance concept designer, Helen Yoon lives in the Los Angeles area.

Author Residence: Northridge, CA

Illustrator Residence:Northridge, CA



Candlewick
9781536227307
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10.3 in H | 8.4 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Jayden Noticed

Carolyn Crimi, Shamar Knight-Justice

Summary

With the help of a rock he's collected, a child moving to a new house learns to embrace change and make a like-minded friend in this story celebrating our most thoughtful little observers.

Jayden notices everything. He notices the way the moon looks different every night as it peeks through the oak tree. He notices spiderweb wheels and egg freckles, mouse paws and rose petals. But most of all, Jayden notices rocks. Jayden collects a rock to go with everything: a homework rock, a Saturday rock, even enough wishing rocks to fill up a jar. But now that he and his family have moved to a different house, where the trees are too short, the color is off, and the mailbox is in the wrong place, will he find a rock to grant him courage—and help him make a new friend, maybe even a noticer like him? In a tender story for curious and observant little readers, Carolyn Crimi's text joins with Shamar Knight-Justice's expressive illustrations in a tale that offers comfort in the face of life's many changes.

Contributor Bio

Carolyn Crimi is the author of several books for children, including *Where's My Mummy?*, *Henry and the Buccaneer Bunnies*, and *Henry and the Crazy Chicken Pirates*, all illustrated by John Manders; *There Might Be Lobsters*, illustrated by Laurel Molk; and *Weird Little Robots*, illustrated by Corinna Luyken. She lives in Illinois.

Author Residence: Evanston, IL

Illustrator Residence: Atlanta, GA



Little Passenger

Deirdre Sullivan, Jessica Love

Summary

A tender picture book explores the journey of an unborn child toward birth, and the love it receives as it grows, in a perfect gift for new and expanding families everywhere.

Beloved, protected, and growing—from pea size to pumpkin size to baby—a little passenger is getting ready to meet the world. In this beautiful picture book evoking all the vulnerability, hope, and tenderness of pregnancy, Deirdre Sullivan’s simple, poetic words capture the inner dialogue and deeply felt connection between a mother and her unborn child. Jessica Love, creator of the celebrated *Julián Is a Mermaid*, brings her singular art to the pages in an inspired pairing sure to be treasured by expecting parents and older siblings-to-be.

Contributor Bio

Deirdre Sullivan is the author of several acclaimed books for young adults, including *Savage Her Reply*, *Perfectly Preventable Deaths*, and *Tangleweed and Brine*. *Little Passenger* is her first picture book. The recipient of the Children’s Book Ireland Book of the Year award and the An Post Irish Book Award, Deirdre Sullivan lives in Dublin.

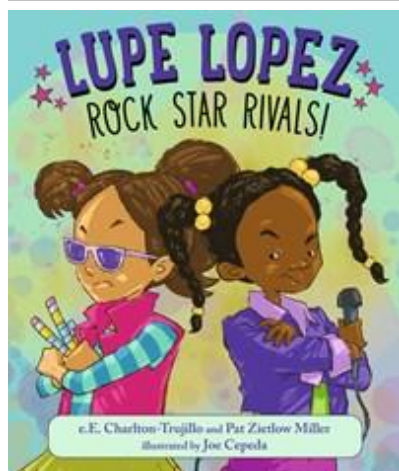
Author Residence: Ireland

Jessica Love is an actor and the author-illustrator of *Julián Is a Mermaid*, her debut picture book, which received the Stonewall Book Award, the Bologna Ragazzi Award, and the Klaus Flugge Prize, as well as *Julián at the Wedding* and *A Bed of Stars*. She has a BA in Studio Art from the University of California, Santa Cruz, as well as a graduate degree from Juilliard, and has appeared in plays both on and off Broadway. Jessica Love lives in Rhinebeck, New York.

Illustrator Residence: Rhinebeck, NY

Candlewick
9781536242942
Pub Date: 3/17/2026
On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 7, Grades K to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Family
9.8 in H | 9.4 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Candlewick
9781536239218
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Lupe Lopez
10.6 in H | 9.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Lupe Lopez: Rock Star Rivals!

e.E. Charlton-Trujillo, Pat Zietlow Miller, Joe Cepeda

Summary

The school talent show is days away, and Lupe Lopez has serious competition. Can she rock the notion that performing isn't about beaming the brightest—but about shining your light with others?

As Héctor P. Garcia Elementary's resident rock star, Lupe Lopez has it all. Friends. Fans. An all-girl band. Not to mention several shiny stars on the Reading Wall of Fame. But to officially claim the title of First-Grade Rock Star Supreme, Lupe needs to beam the brightest at Friday's class talent show, and to her surprise, there's a new girl in town. Radiant Reynosa can roll her arms into a wave, pop her hips and sway, stomp the court, jump kick, and forward flip. She can bounce beats and drum like nobody's business, and before Lupe knows it, her own star seems to be dimming in Radiant's shadow, and her attitude is driving her friends and fans away. Can Lupe find a sure way to shine—with friends by her side? Vibrant illustrations and taut, rhythmic text spiced with Spanish words ensure that there's a charm in this upbeat sequel to *Lupe Lopez: Rock Star Rules!* and *Lupe Lopez: Reading Rock Star!*

Contributor Bio

e. E. Charlton-Trujillo is a filmmaker and author of two previous Lupe Lopez titles —*Reading Rock Star!* and *Rock Star Rules!*—as well as the award-winning young-adult novel *Fat Angie* and its sequels, *Fat Angie: Rebel Girl Revolution* and *Fat Angie: Homecoming*. They live in California.

Pat Zietlow Miller, co-author of the previous two Lupe Lopez books, also authored the *New York Times* best-selling *Be Kind, My Brother the Duck*, and other books for young readers. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Author Residence: San Antonio, TX; Sun Prairie, WI

Joe Cepeda is an award-winning illustrator of more than thirty books for children, including *Lupe Lopez: Rock Star Rules!* Born and raised in East Los Angeles, he lives in Southern California.

Illustrator Residence: Claremont, CA



Candlewick
9781536234039
Pub Date: 3/24/2026
On Sale Date: 3/24/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Poetry
Series: Wondrous World
11.8 in H | 10.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Our Home, Our Only Home

Marion Dane Bauer, Sophie Diao

Summary

In a sweeping poetic achievement—and a clarion call to action—Newbery Honoree Marion Dane Bauer reckons with humankind's responsibility for the climate crisis, tracing a storyline from ice age to industrial age.

Born without fangs, claws, or wings, naked of fur or feathers, humans are the most vulnerable of Earth's creatures. Our strength rests in our knowing. Early on, we put our big brains to work to tame fire, and over eons, our discovery helped us grow. Just two centuries ago, we began using coal, oil, and gas—remnants of long-ago life hidden deep within a generous Earth—to fuel fire, light up our nights, and run machines. Fertilizers let us reuse the soil. Pesticides killed the competition. We even dreamed up a synthetic "wonder" material called plastic. But our big brains tuned out the devastating effects of these actions. Can our knowing unravel the greatest crisis we'll ever face? Stunning artwork evokes the climate emergency to scale in a third epic fusion of poetry and science from the author of *We, the Curious Ones* and *The Stuff of Stars*. Packed with hopeful action points, this portrait of a planet in peril is a plea to reconnect with our home, the source of all life, and a rallying cry for a generation coming of age just in time to turn things around.

Contributor Bio

Marion Dane Bauer is an award-winning author of more than one hundred books for young people, including *We, the Curious Ones*, illustrated by the husband-and-wife artist duo Hari and Deepti; *The Stuff of Stars*, illustrated by Ekua Holmes; and the Newbery Honor Book *On My Honor*. A former faculty member of the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA program in Writing for Children and Young Adults, she now writes full-time. Marion Dane Bauer lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Author Residence: Falcon Heights, MN

Sophie Diao is the author-illustrator of *Tiny Troubles: Nelli's Purpose* and the illustrator of *From Park to Playa: The Trails That Connect Us* by Nell Cross Beckerman, *I Am Golden* by Eva Chen, *Sarah and the Big Wave: The True Story of the First Woman to Surf Mavericks* by Bonnie Tsui, and other acclaimed picture books. She lives in Oakland, California.

Illustrator Residence: Oakland, CA



Candlewick
9781536233452
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10.6 in H | 9.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Planting Hope

Frederick Joseph, Paul Kellam

Summary

A child discovers a secret ingredient for nurturing plants—and for helping ailing loved ones, too—in this tender story by a two-time *New York Times* best-selling author celebrating the power of hope.

Everyone in Henry's family loves plants and gardening. So why can he never get his little plant to grow, no matter how hard he tries? His mom has been able to grow anything since she was young, and even cultivated a whole orchard to help feed people who were hungry. Henry imagines his mother as a great tree, with branches wrapping around the whole community. "People and seeds have a lot in common," his mom likes to say. "If you want them to grow strong, nourishment and sunlight aren't enough—they also need hope." When Henry's mom becomes sick and it looks like she may not recover, this belief that she's sown in her son becomes key to what happens next. Frederick Joseph, award-winning author of *The Black Friend*, offers a bighearted story about keeping hope alive in the face of grief—and a gentle allegory with an upbeat message about healing a fragile planet.

Contributor Bio

Frederick Joseph is a Yonkers, New York–raised two-time *New York Times* and *USA Today* best-selling author. His books include the poetry collection *We Alive, Beloved*; the nonfiction works *Patriarchy Blues*, *The Black Friend*, and *Better Than We Found It*, co-written with Porsche Joseph; the picture book *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever: The Courage to Dream*, illustrated by Nikkolas Smith; and the forthcoming YA novel *This Thing of Ours*. He was recognized with a 2021 International Literacy Association Young Adult Book Award, was named to the 2019 *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list for marketing and advertising, and is an activist, philanthropist, and poet. Frederick Joseph was also honored with a 2023 Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Vanguard Award and the 2018 Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award, and he was selected for the 2018 *Root* 100, a list of the most influential African Americans.

Author Residence: Long Island City, NY

Paul Kellam is a *New York Times* best-selling illustrator who earned a bachelor's in media arts and animation from the Art Institute of Jacksonville. He has colorfully illustrated various books, including *You Can Be a Good Friend (No Matter What!)* by Taraji P. Henson, *Kiki Finds Her Voice* by Kierra Sheard-Kelly, and *The Little Mermaid: Make a Splash* by Ashley Franklin, among many others. Paul Kellam resides in Florida with his bestie and their adopted dog-son, Baby.

Illustrator Residence: Jacksonville, FL



Candlewick
9781536248203
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10.5 in H | 10.2 in W | 0.3 in T |
0.9 lb Wt

Sasha Feels Shy

(A Book about Confidence, Friendship, and Social Skills for Ages 2-5)

Natalia Shaloshvili

Summary

Sasha wants to join in on a playdate, but her shyness keeps getting in the way. A kindhearted, funny, reassuring story for anyone who needs more time warming up in this socially extroverted world.

When Sasha arrives for a playdate at Leo's, she finds him charged up and ready to go. Waving a toy frying pan, he shouts, "I'm Chef Yummy. Step into my café!" Sasha pictures herself making fluffy pancakes, but her shyness quickly takes over. Leo is full of ideas, bouncing up and down as he invites Sasha to play rock stars or astronauts, but Sasha's reticence wins out every time. She wants to be Leo's friend, and she doesn't want to make him sad, but how can she get past this hurdle? With empathy, humor, and some truly adorable characters, Natalia Shaloshvili draws from her own childhood experiences to show that sympathy and understanding can go a long way—and might just lead to the start of a beautiful friendship. Anyone up for a game of space-rocker-pancake chef?

Contributor Bio

Natalia Shaloshvili is the creator of *Pavlo Gets the Grumps*. Originally from Ukraine, she published a number of picture books before moving to the UK, where she started her career as a fashion and editorial illustrator. She enjoys working with traditional materials such as acrylic and watercolor pencils. Natalia Shaloshvili lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536235845
Pub Date: 4/28/2026
On Sale Date: 4/28/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

48 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
11 in H | 8.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Soccer World

Scott Rothman, Daniel Duncan

Summary

Competitive twins are transported to a place where it's all soccer all the time—and where teamwork is paramount—in this perfect wish-fulfillment story for all the legions of young fans everywhere.

Twins Pete and Zoe live and breathe soccer. Pete is an all-star goalie, covering angles, batting away balls, and diving for saves on his way to a shutout. Zoe is the team's best striker, dekeing defenders, crushing corner kicks, and nutmegging the other goalie for a hat trick. But no matter how good they are at what they do, they're always arguing about whose job is more important on the field. Until one day, when a magical rolling ball whisks them off to a fantastical place called Soccer World, where everyone plays the game all day and all night. It's amazing! But can Pete and Zoe find a way to appreciate each other's talents and work *together* in order to win the championship? The author of *Basketball Town* delivers an action-filled companion sure to satisfy young soccer lovers everywhere.

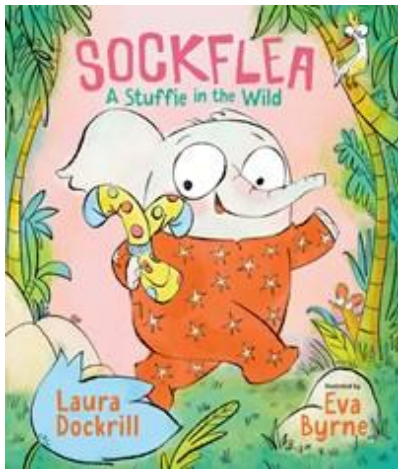
Contributor Bio

Scott Rothman is the author of *Basketball Town*, illustrated by Darnell Johnson; *Attack of the Underwear Dragon*, *Return of the Underwear Dragon*, and *Blue Bison Needs a Haircut*, all illustrated by Pete Oswald; *Parfait, Not Parfait!*, illustrated by Avery Monsen; and *Mako and Tiger: Two Not-So-Friendly Sharks*, illustrated by Mika Song. His humor writing has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *GQ*, *Maxim*, and *McSweeney's*, and he has sold screenplays to several major studios, including for the feature film *Draft Day*. Scott Rothman lives in Connecticut with his wife and three children.

Author Residence: Mystic, CT

Daniel Duncan is the author-illustrator of the picture book *South* and the illustrator of *Mr. Posey's New Glasses* by Ted Kooser, *The Purple Puffy Coat* by Maribeth Boelts, and *The Girl Who Could Fix Anything: Beatrice Shilling*, *World War II Engineer* by Mara Rockliff, among other books for children. Daniel Duncan lives outside London.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536245103
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
On Sale Date: 4/21/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
10.6 in H | 9.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Sockflea: A Stuffle in the Wild

Laura Dockrill, Eva Byrne

Summary

Rollicking and irreverent, this any-time ode to independence—and parental innovation—doubles as the vacation read-aloud of the year. Don't leave home without it (spare socks optional)!

This little elephant is going camping for the first time, and does *not* need to bring ANY STUFFIES. You don't need stuffies in the wild, OK? Not when you're FIVE! Not even when it's dark (very dark) and the sky is endless black, and there are *crunchy scrunchy* noises all around. Why didn't the grown-up insist on packing stuffies? Enter Sockflea, who may look like a rolled-up ball of grown-up socks, but NO. Sockflea has been sent by the stuffies back home to look after their friend on vacation. Bold, quirky character art by a *New York Times*-bestselling illustrator meets high action, slapstick humor, and genuine heart in a witty interactive romp. Brimming with personality, this playful picture book will charm young children test-driving their confidence while managing big emotions—and tickle their grown-ups to boot.

Contributor Bio

Laura Dockrill is an award-winning author, illustrator, and performance poet. She writes for young people of all ages, including novels and works of poetry and theater. Her picture books include *Angry Cookie* and *The Lipstick*, both illustrated by Maria Karipidou, and *Gray*, illustrated by Lauren Child. In 2020, she was nominated for a BAFTA for her short film *Goldfish*, which she cowrote. She lives in London

Author Residence: England

Eva Byrne is the acclaimed author-illustrator of *Along Came Coco: A Story About Coco Chanel* and *Supernana*. A *New York Times* bestselling illustrator with a background in fashion illustration, she lives on the West Coast of Ireland.

Illustrator Residence: Ireland



Candlewick
9781536249538
Pub Date: 3/17/2026
On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Science & Nature

11.1 in H | 10 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.9 lb Wt

The Big Green: A Story About the Great Green Wall of Africa

Ken Wilson-Max

Summary

In an upbeat story with bright, welcoming illustrations, Ken Wilson-Max conveys the excitement and hope created by a vast, community-powered project to bring more trees to sub-Saharan Africa.

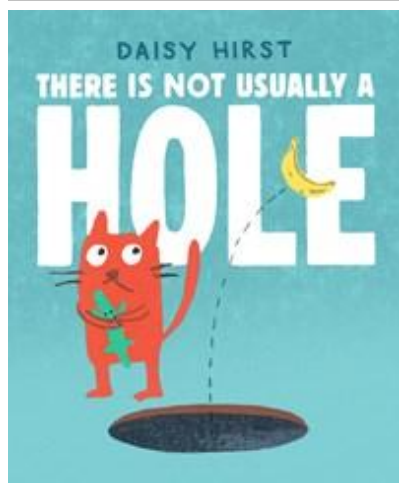
It's another hot day in Mali, at the edge of the desert, and Mariam and Issa know something special is about to happen. As they play in the shade and make clapping rhythms with their hands, Mum and Dad make their own kind of music with shovels, poking holes in the dry earth. When Uncle Cedric arrives, the children ask him what all the plants and baby trees in the back of his car will be for. "The future," he says, with a smile. Taking part in creating this future is a whole community of people: neighbors balancing buckets of water on their heads, children carrying unplanted seedlings into the cool shade, grown-ups planting and watering over and over again. It's all part of the Great Green Wall, a project intended to stretch across the African continent at the edge of the Sahara, affecting millions of people in eleven countries. As readers learn in a final informational spread, planting more trees not only helps reduce carbon in the air, it also helps prevent desertification, preserving the rainforest and all the living creatures who rely on it to survive.

Contributor Bio

Ken Wilson-Max was born and raised in Zimbabwe and studied design in the UK. He is the author-illustrator of many children's books, including *Astro Girl*, *Eco Girl*, and *Aqua Boy* and is the illustrator of *Terrible Horses* by Raymond Antrobus and the author of *The Drum*, illustrated by Catell Ronca. Ken Wilson-Max lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536250145
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Toys, Dolls &
Puppets

10.5 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.3 in T |
0.8 lb Wt

There Is Not Usually a Hole

(A Playful Read-Aloud About New Friendships and Sharing - For Preschoolers, Kindergarteners, and Kids Ages 3-5)

Daisy Hirst

Summary

A quirky, fun, and surreal story about new friendships (and snacks) for all curious little adventurers.

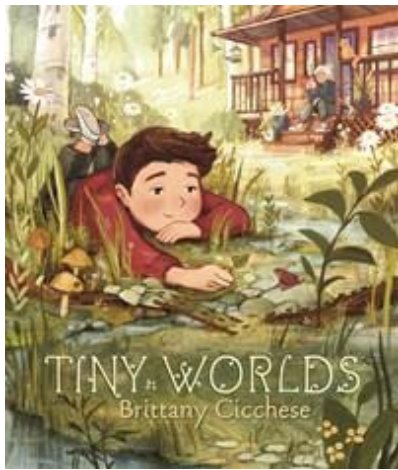
Betsy and her stuffed crocodile Philippa are out on a walk, when Betsy points to the ground. "There is not usually a hole." Then something comes out of the hole. It is a banana. Followed by a number of other unexpected items. Betsy is content to watch what happens, but when Philippa disappears down the hole, Betsy has to go find her. From master picture book creator Daisy Hirst comes a story of friendship and sharing, and realizing that more is indeed merrier.

Contributor Bio

Daisy Hirst is the creator of the internationally successful Natalie & Alphonse series, as well as the Ezra Jack Keats Illustrator Honor Book *The Girl with the Parrot on Her Head*, *Hilda and the Runaway Baby*, *Hamish Takes the Train*, and *I Like Trains*. Daisy Hirst lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536236521
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Family
10.9 in H | 9.4 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb Wt

Tiny Worlds

A Story About Appreciating the Small Things (A Gentle Picture Book That Celebrates Imagination and Grandparent Bonds - For Kids Ages 3-7)

Brittany Cicchese

Summary

Grandma's house isn't that big, but there's always enough room for a tiny world. . . . An introverted child finds grandness in the small things around him in this heartfelt intergenerational story.

When a young boy visits his grandmother's house, he doesn't just see scraps of ribbon lying around, mushrooms clustered under a log in the forest, or shells hiding along the beach. He sees tiny worlds where pie tins become playgrounds, ants become farmers, and tide pools teem with life waiting to be explored. Tiny worlds are full of whimsy and imagination, but they have one problem: He seems to be the only one who sees them. While at first Grandma keeps trying to draw him out, to a busy park or the beach or the zoo, eventually she realizes that her grandson's tiny worlds are big enough for her to meet him there. In her authorial debut, Brittany Cicchese offers a touching story and warm illustrations that celebrate the connection between a child and grandparent and encourage readers to appreciate the little things in life—and the sensitive souls who lead us to them.

Contributor Bio

Brittany Cicchese is an artist and writer with many years of experience working in public libraries. She illustrated Emily Jenkins's *The Kitten Story: A Mostly True Tale* and Meg Medina's *No More Señora Mimí*. Of this book, the first she has written, she says, "As a child, I often retreated to imaginary worlds when I felt overwhelmed, finding comfort in creating stories and building detailed playscapes. My fascination with tiny, secret worlds grew over time, and I loved seeing familiar, everyday objects in a completely new light . . . it was its own type of magic." Apart from creating, she enjoys connecting people with stories, exploring the Rocky Mountains, and browsing every new picture book at her local library. Brittany Cicchese lives with her family in Denver.

Author Residence: Centennial, CO

Illustrator Residence:Centennial, CO



Candlewick
9781536251623
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 6, Grades P to 1
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays & Celebrations
Series: Festivals of the World
10.9 in H | 10 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.9 lb Wt

Welcoming the Lunar New Year: Festivals of the World (An Educational Picture Book About Traditions, Food, and Family - For Kids Ages 4-6)

Lara Lee, Natelle Quek

Summary

Get ready to celebrate Lunar New Year with Ren and his family.

Ren and his family are preparing for the joyous New Year celebrations—cooking a feast and getting their home spick and span. When Ren accidentally ruins the dragon costume his mother was going to wear in the New Year parade, he turns to his neighbors for help. As they lend their assistance, Ren also learns about Lunar New Year traditions from around the world. Soon they are all celebrating and feasting together in this community-centered story from chef and food writer Lara Lee and richly illustrated by Natelle Quek.

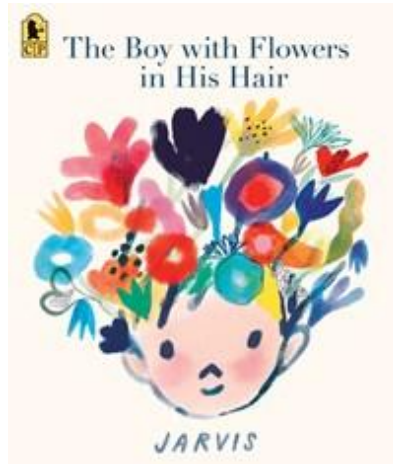
Contributor Bio

Lara Lee is an Australian chef and food writer of Chinese-Indonesian heritage. She is a regular contributor to *The New York Times*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Food & Wine*, and *Bon Appetit*. Her first book, *Coconut & Sambal*, was named one of the best cookbooks of 2020 by *The New York Times*, *Eater*, *National Geographic*, and others. This is her first book for children.

Author Residence: United Kingdom

Natelle Quek has been drawing for as long as she could hold a pencil, but her creative career began in 2016 when she started a small business producing lifestyle products based on her illustrations. Her work is influenced by popular culture, her heritage, and the natural world. She is the illustrator of *Dancing Dumplings for My One and Only* by Eva Wong Nava. Natelle Quek lives in London with her husband.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536250671
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10.6 in H | 9 in W | 0.2 in T | 0.4 lb Wt

The Boy with Flowers in His Hair

(A Gentle Picture Book About Friendship, Compassion, and Supporting a Friend Through Change - For Kids Ages 3-7)

Jarvis

Summary

"A sweet example of how to be a kind and supportive presence in the life of a struggling friend."—*Kirkus Reviews*

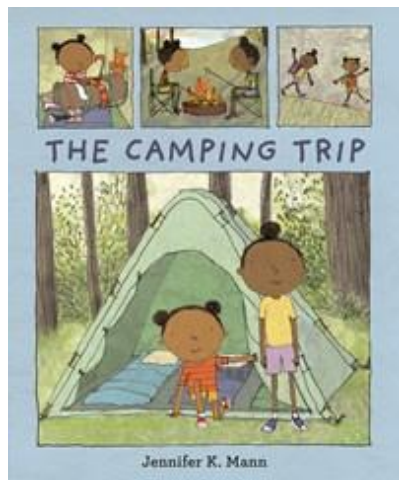
Everyone likes David, the boy with flowers in his hair. He's sweet and gentle, just like his colorful petals. David and his best friend have a great time together, finding the good puddles, making up songs, and running away from the bees. But one day David comes to school wearing a hat, and he is quiet. When he takes off the hat, his bright petals flutter down like butterflies. Now, where his flowers were looks twiggy and prickly, causing the other children to stay away. But David's best friend has an idea—a way to help David get his color back, wielding paintbrushes and plenty of love. Sensitively told and simply illustrated, Jarvis's story invites even the youngest children to talk about difficult subjects in an age-appropriate way—and feel inspired to support others when they face trying times.

Contributor Bio

Jarvis is the author-illustrator of *Tropical Terry*; *Follow Me, Flo!*; and *Alan's Big, Scary Teeth* and the illustrator of *Pick a Pine Tree* and *Pick a Pumpkin*, both written by Patricia Toht. He is also an animator who has worked as both a record jacket designer and an animation director. Jarvis lives in Manchester, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536250510
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

56 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
10.3 in H | 8.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Camping Trip

Jennifer K. Mann

Summary

"In this wonderfully nuanced picture book, Ernestine embraces new adventures and challenges."— *San Francisco Chronicle*

Ernestine is beyond excited to go camping. She follows the packing list carefully (new sleeping bag! new flashlight! special trail mix made with Dad!) so she knows she is ready when the weekend arrives. But she quickly realizes that nothing could have prepared her for how hard it is to set up a tent, never mind fall asleep in it, or that swimming in a lake means that there will be fish — *eep!* Will Ernestine be able to enjoy the wilderness, or will it prove to be a bit too far out of her comfort zone? In an energetic illustrated story about a first sleepover under the stars, acclaimed author-illustrator Jennifer K. Mann reminds us that opening your mind to new experiences, no matter how challenging, can lead to great memories (and a newfound taste for s'mores).

Contributor Bio

Jennifer K. Mann was an architect before turning to children's books full time. She is the creator of the picture books *Josie's Lost Tooth*, *Sam and Jump*, *Two Speckled Eggs*, and *I Will Never Get a Star on Mrs. Benson's Blackboard*. She and her family spend a week camping with friends every summer, always at the same campsite in a beautiful state park. They pack their rickety pick-up truck full of gear and dogs, put an old canoe on the roof, and spend the week hiking, exploring, swimming, paddling, cooking outside, telling stories, and sleeping in tents. Jennifer K. Mann lives on an island near Seattle with her husband, children, cats, dogs, and chickens.

Author Residence: Bainbridge Island, WA

Illustrator Residence: Bainbridge Island, WA



Zonia's Rain Forest

Juana Martinez-Neal

Summary

"A girl who lives in the rain forest begins each day by greeting her animal friends in this exuberant picture book crowned with an environmental message."— *Shelf Awareness*

Zonia's home is the Amazon rain forest, where it is always green and full of life. Every morning, the rain forest calls to Zonia, and every morning she answers. She visits the sloth family, greets the giant anteater, and runs with the speedy jaguar. But one morning, the rain forest calls to her in a troubled voice. How will Zonia answer?

Acclaimed author-illustrator Juana Martinez-Neal explores the wonders of the rain forest with Zonia, an Asháninka girl, in her joyful outdoor adventures. The engaging text emphasizes Zonia's empowering bond with her home, while the illustrations—created on paper made from banana bark—burst with luxuriant greens and delicate details. Illuminating back matter includes a translation of the story in Asháninka, information on the Asháninka community, as well as resources on the Amazon rain forest and its wildlife.

Contributor Bio

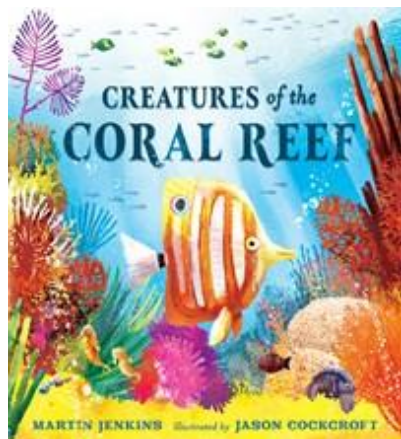
Juana-Martinez Neal is the Peruvian-born daughter and granddaughter of painters. Her debut as an author-illustrator, *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, was awarded a Caldecott Honor and was published in Spanish as *Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre*. She has also illustrated *La Princesa and the Pea* by Susan Middleton Elya, for which she won a Pura Belpré Illustrator Award, *Babymoon* by Hayley Barrett, and *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard, which won the Robert F. Sibert Medal. Juana lives in Arizona with her family. Visit her online at www.juanamartinezneal.com.

Author Residence: Scottsdale, AZ

Illustrator Residence: Scottsdale, AZ

Candlewick
9781536250527
Pub Date: 2/17/2026
On Sale Date: 2/17/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Science &
Nature
9.1 in H | 10.6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt



Candlewick
9781536250091
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 9, Grades K to 4
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science &
Nature
11.3 in H | 10.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Creatures of the Coral Reef

Martin Jenkins, Jason Cockcroft

Summary

Welcome to the wondrous undersea world of the coral reef, now under stress from climate change. Learn how scientists are seeking solutions and what people can do to help.

Imagine being a butterflyfish, living in warm waters, surrounded by strange rocky shapes in all colors. Some are long and branching, others resemble big round stones or lacy fans. This is the coral reef, full of burgeoning life, home to brightly colored fish, shrimps, octopuses, jellyfish, sea turtles, even sharks. In this rainbow-tinted world, millions of tiny creatures live inside little animals called coral polyps, producing food from which coral reefs grow and sustaining the butterflyfish and others in turn. Until, that is, something goes wrong—like when water temperatures rise, resulting in “coral bleaching” that leaves the beautiful formations a ghostly white. Martin Jenkins’s engaging prose and Jason Cockcroft’s brilliant illustrations introduce children to the wonders of a coral reef, while back matter delves further into the basics of climate change, how it affects the reefs, and positive steps we can take.

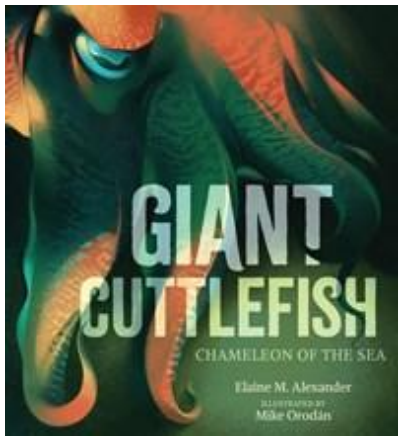
Contributor Bio

Martin Jenkins is a conservation biologist and the award-winning writer of many nonfiction books for children, among them the Find Out About . . . series, illustrated by Jane McGuinness; *The Emperor’s Egg*, illustrated by Jane Chapman; *A Walk Through the Rain Forest*, illustrated by Vicky White; and *Ice Journey of the Polar Bear*, illustrated by Lou Baker-Smith. Martin Jenkins lives in Cambridge, England.

Author Residence: England

Jason Cockcroft was born in New Zealand and grew up in the north of England. He is the author-illustrator of the picture books *Night Walk* and *How to Take Care of Your Dinosaur* and the illustrator of *The Wolf-Girl, the Greeks, and the Gods: A Tale of the Persian Wars* by Tom Holland. His debut fiction title, *We Were Wolves*, was long-listed for the Yoto Carnegie Medal. Jason Cockcroft lives in Yorkshire, England.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536229684
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
Series: Creatures of the Deep
10.1 in H | 9.4 in W | 0.3 in T |
0.9 lb Wt

Giant Cuttlefish: Chameleon of the Sea

Elaine M. Alexander, Mike Orodán

Summary

Follow the fascinating chameleon of the sea—a dazzling, hypnotic mystery that changes its appearance many times in order to survive and thrive.

Peering into the face of a giant cuttlefish is like gazing at a creature from another planet. Eight arms grow out of its head, two suckered feeding tentacles shoot out from pouches below its eyes, and a fearsome beak hooks its prey. In a blink, the giant cuttlefish changes the color and texture of its skin. Blending into its surroundings, the camouflaged fish evades predators, tricks prey, and throws rivals off-balance. With its otherworldly features, superior eyesight, and an ability to learn complex behavior, this remarkable cephalopod has survived for 500 million years. Elaine M. Alexander and illustrator Mike Orodán give readers a clear and close-up look at the smartest and largest of all mollusks, the rock star of the ocean, the chameleon of the sea: the giant cuttlefish. Back matter includes brief explorations into its life cycle, adaptations, hunting behavior, mating, and threats to survival, as well as a glossary and bibliography.

Contributor Bio

Elaine M. Alexander worked as a pizza cook, receptionist, bill collector, and freelance journalist before becoming a librarian. She is the author of *Anglerfish: The Seadevil of the Deep*, her first nonfiction picture book, illustrated by Fiona Fogg. In its review of *Anglerfish*, *Booklist* said, "Alexander probes the depths of the ocean in this fantastically illustrated study," while *Kirkus Reviews* called it "a fun and creepy fish tale brimming with scientific appeal." A fan of dark mysteries and the natural world, Elaine M. Alexander is fascinated by all things extraordinary and unique. Currently a youth services librarian at the Deep River Public Library, she lives with her family in Colchester, Connecticut.

Author Residence: Colchester, CT

Mike Orodán spent much of his childhood exploring the forest and countryside of Hungary, where he lived with his mother, then documenting his discoveries and adventures in makeshift notebooks. "Let's just say I was inspired by Sir David Attenborough and Mary Blair equally," he says. "Then, in 2013, I become a father to twin boys, and a new chapter began: I entered the world of children's books and never looked back." Mike Orodán lives in England with his family.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536225839
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

48 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Technology
Series: Material Marvels
11 in H | 8.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Glass: Looking In, Looking Out

Larissa Theule, Victoria Tentler-Krylov

Summary

The author of *Concrete: From the Ground Up* brings her illuminating and often dry-humored approach to reflecting on another marvel of the everyday world.

Meteoric collisions, volcanic eruptions, lightning strikes. Three catastrophes, all capable of producing glass—the stuff we use to protect us from the elements, send images, store energy, aid with everyday tasks, and make medical and scientific progress possible. With the help of human ingenuity, glass has evolved from its lumpy natural origins to a refined wonder that helps humankind see into the farthest reaches of outer space or the smallest particles of life on Earth. Glass is all around us and is one of the most versatile—and sparkling—wonders of the material world, still changing the way we build, the way we think, the way we see. Enlivened with speech bubbles and full of memorable facts, this thoroughly engaging intro to the history and STEAM applications of glass is fortified with a bibliography in the back matter.

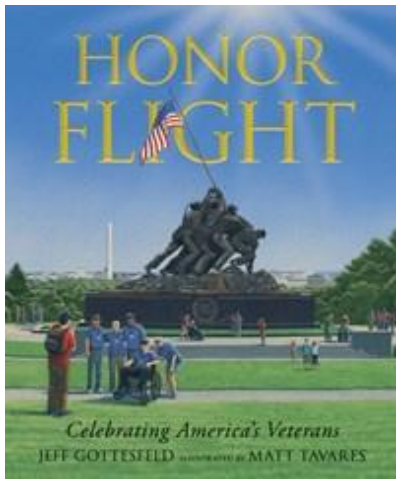
Contributor Bio

Larissa Theule is the author of several books for children, including the first book in the Material Marvels series, *Concrete: From the Ground Up*. She is also the author of *Kafka and the Doll*, illustrated by Rebecca Green, and *A Way with Wild Things*, illustrated by Sara Palacios. She was inspired to write about the history of materials science because she believes that tracking the course of human innovation can help guide us to where we're going next. Having lived in many different parts of the world throughout her life, Larissa Theule now lives in Southern California with her family and dog.

Author Residence: Pasadena, CA

Victoria Tentler-Krylov is a trained architect turned children's book author and illustrator, as well as an editorial illustrator. She grew up in Russia and studied architecture and urban design in New York City. She has illustrated several children's books, including *Love Is Hard Work: The Art and Heart of Corita Kent* by Dan Paley; *Sanctuary: Kip Tiernan and Rosie's Place, the Nation's First Shelter for Women* by Christine McDonnell; and *I'm Gonna Paint: Ralph Fasanella, Artist of the People* by Anne Broyles. Her author-illustrator projects include *Building Zaha: The Story of Architect Zaha Hadid* and *The High Line: A Park to Look Up To*. She has created three covers for the *New Yorker*. Victoria Tentler-Krylov lives just outside New York City with her family.

Illustrator Residence: Closter, NJ



Candlewick
9781536230154
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / History
11.8 in H | 9.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Honor Flight: Celebrating America's Veterans

Jeff Gottesfeld, Matt Tavares

Summary

The team behind *Twenty-One Steps: Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* join forces to create a touching companion book honoring military veterans and the program that keeps their contribution alive.

Located in our nation's capital are monuments dedicated to the service members who fought in the last century's wars. Visitors line up to gaze at the Iwo Jima Memorial, stark against the sky; the solemn Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; the national World War II Memorial with its circle of unity; the Korean War Veterans Memorial; and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, engraved with tens of thousands of names. It is here that the Honor Flight program has brought some 300,000 aging veterans, all of them deserving a chance to see their commitment and sacrifice honored and commemorated. Told in the voice of an anonymous veteran, Jeff Gottesfeld's first-person narrative conveys the emotional impact of a visit that not only encompasses a tour of the monuments but also includes moving tributes from friends and schoolchildren and ends with the kind of welcome home that some of the veterans had never received. Matt Tavares's striking illustrations bring readers close to both Washington's timeless monuments and the veterans whose role in history will never be forgotten. An afterword and notes from the author provide more information for curious readers.

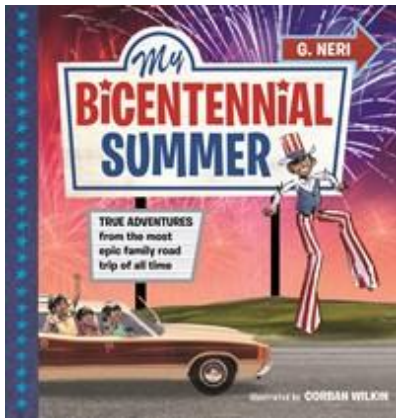
Contributor Bio

Jeff Gottesfeld is the author of *Twenty-One Steps: Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*, illustrated by Matt Tavares. An acclaimed writer whose work has won awards from the American Library Association, the Writers Guild of America, and the National Council for the Social Studies, he has previously written for adult, teen, middle-grade, and picture book audiences. Jeff Gottesfeld is based in Los Angeles.

Author Residence: North Hollywood, CA

Matt Tavares is the author-illustrator of *Crossing Niagara*, *Henry Aaron's Dream*, *There Goes Ted Williams*, *Becoming Babe Ruth*, and *Growing Up Pedro*, as well as *Zachary's Ball*, *Oliver's Game*, and *Mudball*. He is the illustrator of *Twenty-One Steps: Guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier* by Jeff Gottesfeld, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *Over the River and Through the Wood*, *Lady Liberty* by Doreen Rappaport, *The Gingerbread Pirates* by Kristin Kladstrup, and *Jubilee!* by Alicia Potter. He is also the creator of the modern Christmas tales *Red and Lulu* and the *New York Times* bestseller *Dasher* and its sequels. Matt Tavares lives in Ogunquit, Maine.

Illustrator Residence: Ogunquit, ME



Candlewick
9781536239577
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

96 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / History
10.3 in H | 9.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

My Bicentennial Summer: True Adventures from the Most Epic Family Road Trip of All Time

G. Neri, Corban Wilkin

Summary

Award-winning author G. Neri reflects on a childhood cross-country road trip with his family, sharing the wonder of America's most famous landmarks, the best (and worst) of its history, and the remarkable diversity of its people.

The year is 1976, and America is throwing its biggest birthday party ever—its bicentennial. What better way to celebrate than with an eight-thousand-mile road trip? In this vibrant follow-up to his travelogue, *My Antarctica: True Adventures in the Land of Mummified Seals, Space Robots, and So Much More*, author G. Neri recalls his family's real-life journey in a station wagon crossing twenty-six states in seven weeks, from California to Washington, DC, with only the aid of paper maps and transistor radios rather than smartphones and GPS. Young Greg is entranced by the variety of accents, strange foods, natural wonders, and historical attractions, from the Grand Canyon to the Statue of Liberty. He meets Civil War reenactors at Gettysburg, protesters in Philadelphia, pioneer wagon riders in Valley Forge, and his own rambunctious Texan cousins. And he glimpses the darker side of traveling as a family of color, pondering whether "We the People" includes people like him. Engaging text, sidebars, photos, and dynamic illustrations by Corban Wilkin create a personal snapshot of this extraordinary moment in US history, when a weary, post-Vietnam nation embraced the spirit of celebration. Back matter includes an author's note, history and travel facts, and recommended reading.

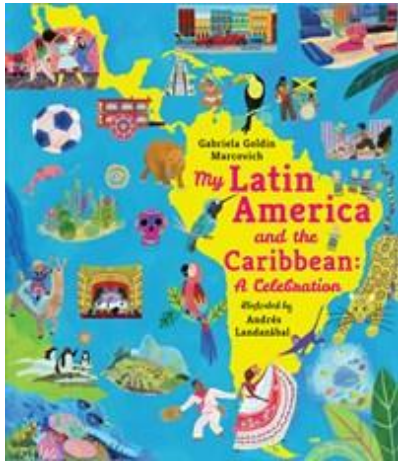
Contributor Bio

G. Neri is the award-winning author of many books for young readers, including *My Antarctica: True Adventures in the Land of Mummified Seals, Space Robots, and So Much More*; *Hello, I'm Johnny Cash*; *When Paul Met Artie: The Story of Simon & Garfunkel*; *Ghetto Cowboy*; *Polo Cowboy*; and *Christo and Jeanne-Claude Wrap the World: The Story of Two Groundbreaking Environmental Artists*. His books have been translated into multiple languages in more than twenty-five countries. He is a multiple National Science Foundation grantee and a founding co-chair of the Antarctic Artists and Writers Collective. He received an honorary doctorate from the State University of New York (SUNY) for his writing and his contributions to polar science outreach. He lives with his family on the Gulf Coast of Florida. He can be found online at gneri.com.

Author Residence: Tampa, FL

Corban Wilkin is an award-winning illustrator of several graphic novels and comics, including *My Antarctica: True Adventures in the Land of Mummified Seals, Space Robots, and So Much More*; *Grand Theft Horse*; and *The Time Traveling Dino Detectives of Antarctica*, all by G. Neri. His illustration work also appears in magazines, video games, and animations. He lives outside London.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536245059
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$21.99
Hardcover Picture Book

80 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Places
Series: My Amazing Adventures
11.6 in H | 10.3 in W | 0.5 in T |
1.7 lb Wt

My Latin America and the Caribbean: A Celebration (An Educational Nonfiction Picture Book About Cultures, Landscapes, and Biodiversity for Kids Ages 7-10)

Gabriela Goldin Marcovich, Andrés Landazábal

Summary

From teeming rainforests and city plazas to bright coral reefs and the sweeping ruins of civilizations, this wide-ranging portrait of the people, places, flora, and fauna of Latin America and the Caribbean—from ancient to modern times—is a magical bird’s-eye view.

Thousands of years ago, early humans crossed an icy land bridge between what is now Siberia and Alaska onto the American continent, gradually migrating south to build vibrant new societies and cultures, erect pyramids and great cities, and cultivate foods like maize, potatoes, tomatoes, and chocolate that still grace our tables today. Join a tiny migrating hummingbird for an enchanted tour of the dazzling biodiversity and human history of Latin America and the Caribbean. In spread after color-splashed spread, our bejeweled guide traverses volcanoes and barrier reefs to reveal howler monkeys and singing frogs, manatees and macaws, anteaters and alpacas. Ranging from the Amazon, our planet’s largest rainforest, to the Andes, Earth’s longest continental mountain range; from the magnificent civilizations of the Mayas, Aztecs, and Incas to the conquistadors and modern struggles for independence; from the sugar skulls and candle-lit cemeteries of Mexico’s Day of the Dead to Carnival in Brazil; and from cricket and football to salsa, reggae, and calypso, this friendly tour spiced with bright illustrations, maps, and an index offers young readers a taste of the extraordinary richness of this captivating part of the world.

Contributor Bio

Gabriela Goldin Marcovich is a historian based in Mexico City. This is her first book for children.

Author Residence: Mexico

Andrés Landazábal is a production designer, an art director, and the illustrator of *You, Me, We: A Celebration of Peace and Community* by Arun Gandhi and Bethany Hegedus, *Bear Helps the Forest (Maybe You Help, Too)* by Karen Lynn Williams, and *Lake Life with You* by Cindy Jin. He lives in Colombia.

Illustrator Residence:Colombia



Candlewick
9781536233605
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
11 in H | 8.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

The Bicycle Girl: Jyoti Kumari's Amazing Journey Across India

(A True Story of Bravery, Determination, and Family Love Set in India During the Pandemic - For Kids Ages 4-7)

Garen Thomas, Suhasini Raj, Maithili Joshi

Summary

Beautifully illustrated with scenes of contemporary Indian life, this inspiring (and true) story follows a young girl's remarkable bicycle journey across India to bring her father safely home as pandemic restrictions take hold.

It's early in the pandemic in India. The trains have been shut down to prevent contagion. For Jyoti, as for millions of migrant workers, getting home with her injured father will require enormous ingenuity and gumption. Follow the real-life story of a girl who—desperate for her father to survive—rode almost a thousand miles across India with him on the back of a hot-pink twenty-dollar bicycle. Her amazing story, relayed for a young audience by reporter Suhasini Raj and author Garen Thomas, is a portrait of an unassuming girl who made an extraordinary decision and became celebrated across India, breaking entrenched stereotypes of caste and gender. This story of love, determination, problem-solving, and a pink bicycle will speak to young people everywhere.

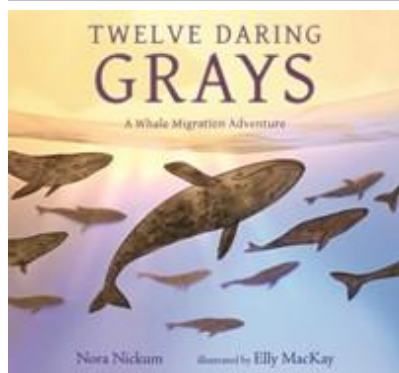
Contributor Bio

Suhasini Raj is a New Delhi-based reporter in the South Asia bureau of *The New York Times*. She has covered everything from the rise of Hindu nationalism under Prime Minister Narendra Modi to how India fared with COVID-19 to gender justice and climate change. In 2021, she and her colleagues won a Human Rights Press Award for a video revealing the plight of stateless Muslims in India.

Author Residence: New York, NY;India

Garen Thomas is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling children's book *Yes We Can: A Biography of President Barack Obama* and worked as a kids' book editor for Scholastic and Disney-Hyperion and its imprint Jump at the Sun, among other publishers. She lives in New York City.

Illustrator Residence:New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536234701
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
9.1 in H | 9.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Twelve Daring Grays: A Whale Migration Adventure

Nora Nickum, Elly MacKay

Summary

Follow a dozen brave gray whales in search of food as they take a high-risk, high-reward 170-mile detour off their already grueling migration route to the Arctic.

In February, some twenty thousand gray whales set off from Baja California on a long, hard journey north, toward food and survival. Hungry and thin, they push on week after week, past California, Oregon, and Washington to the tip of that state, where twelve of them peel off and make an eastward turn into the Salish Sea. There they will wait in the deep for the tide to rise, only to swim into the dangerously shallow waters of a mudflat, hurriedly plowing the bottom for food before the water recedes once more. Will their daring be rewarded? Will they survive to join their fellow whales in the Bering and Chukchi Seas? Elly MacKay's fluid, saturated artwork sets the stage for the whales' exciting journey, complementing Nora Nickum's lyrical, factual narrative. Back matter takes a deeper dive into the intriguing habits of gray whales and offers resources for curious readers.

Contributor Bio

Nora Nickum writes books for children about nature and STEM topics and leads ocean conservation work at the Seattle Aquarium. She is the author of the middle-grade nonfiction book *Superpod: Saving the Endangered Orcas of the Pacific Northwest*, about the toothed whales' plight and the people working to help them recover, as well as the picture book *This Book Is Full of Holes*, illustrated by Robert Meganck. Nora Nickum lives on Bainbridge Island in Washington State.

Author Residence: Bainbridge Island, WA

Elly MacKay is an acclaimed paper artist and award-winning creator of books for children. She wrote and illustrated *Frostfire*, *In the Clouds*, and *Red Sky at Night*, among other titles, and is the illustrator of many picture books, including *The Enchanted Symphony* by Julie Andrews and Emma Walton Hamilton, *I Am a Meadow Mermaid* by Kallie George, and *Zap! Clap! Boom! The Story of a Thunderstorm* by Laura Purdie Salas. Before pursuing a career in picture books, she taught in schools and was an educator in galleries. Elly MacKay lives in Owen Sound, Ontario.

Illustrator Residence: Owen Sound, ON



Candlewick
9781536250114
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Health &
Daily Living
Series: First Skills
10.9 in H | 10 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.9
lb Wt

We Can Help!: A First Book of First Aid **(An Educational Picture Book That Explores Basic First Aid, Empathy, and Helping Others - For Kids Ages 3-7)** Vivian French, Anna Simeone

Summary

From scrapes to scratches, head bumps to bruises, learn all about the basics of first aid with Nikki and Enzo.

Nikki and Enzo are playing a game about accidents . . . LOTS of accidents. When Nikki's dinosaur crashes into the train station and bumps his head, Enzo's mom, who's a doctor, introduces the two children to some simple first aid, like wrapping ice in a cloth and holding it to the bump. As the game continues, more casualties are discovered (or averted) thanks to Mom's practical advice on things like nosebleeds, allergies, sick stomachs, water safety, and how to get help quickly in an emergency. With a running narrative from prolific storyteller Vivian French, useful tips scattered throughout, and friendly illustrations by Anna Simeone, this charming story—kicking off the First Skills series—will keep young children engaged and serve as a valuable teaching tool for parents and teachers.

Contributor Bio

Vivian French has written more than 250 books for young readers, including *Growing Frogs* and *T. Rex*, both illustrated by Alison Bartlett; *Hello, Horse*, illustrated by Catherine Rayner; *From Here to There: A First Book of Maps*, illustrated by Ya-Ling Huang; and *Chick, Chick, Chick, Chick, Chicken!*, illustrated by Nanette Regan. Vivian French lives in Scotland.

Author Residence: England

Anna Simeone is a freelance children's illustrator based in Sopot, Poland. She loves working with traditional techniques using colored pencils, watercolors, and digital media. Anna Simeone has illustrated children's books for publishing companies around the world, including in Poland, Italy, France, and the UK.

Illustrator Residence: Poland



Candlewick
9781536230727
Pub Date: 3/17/2026
On Sale Date: 3/17/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
9.3 in H | 11 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb
Wt

When You See Us: The Mysterious World of Aquatic Insects

The Mysterious World of Aquatic Insects

Katherine Hocker, Svabhu Kohli

Summary

Think that mosquito you just swatted is nothing more than a pest? This poetic text and gorgeous artwork offer a closer look at the life cycles of aquatic insects. Prepare to be amazed!

*When you see us,
think of what we were
and what we became.*

Hiding underneath leaf fronds or nestled along the muddy floor of a pond are the eggs of numerous aquatic insects. They're not always easily observable, or even identifiable, but that doesn't mean they're not there. Their transformation is rapid, extreme, often hidden from the human eye—and truly incredible. Once you take a close-up look at these dramatic life cycles, from minuscule larvae to wondrous insects, you'll find it impossible to look at a dragonfly, a mayfly, a diving beetle, or even a mosquito the same way again. Katherine Hocker's lyrical narration and Svabhu Kohli's lush, inviting illustrations bring a renewed appreciation for aquatic insects that are often considered a nuisance, while detailing just how integral they are to our ecosystems and habitats. Back matter offers additional details on the insects, including what they eat, where they live, and how they move.

Contributor Bio

Katherine Hocker is an illustrator and teacher with a degree in biology and a graduate certificate in science communications. She is also the author of many books, including *I Was: The Stories of Animal Skulls*, illustrated by Natasha Donovan. She lives in Gustavus, Alaska.

Author Residence: Gustavus, AK

Svabhu Kohli is an independent visual storyteller deeply inspired by the natural world and its mechanics. Their work includes illustration, large-scale murals, design, sculpture, installation, photography, and film, focusing on the intersection of magical realism, art, science, and conservation. Svabhu Kohli lives in India.

Illustrator Residence:India



World Soccer Kings

Charles R. Smith Jr.

Summary

An exuberant collection of poems about soccer stars around the world crackles with Charles R. Smith's indomitable wordplay, matched by graphic, dynamic photos of the players in action.

Mercurial magician Lionel Messi is on a goal-scoring mission. Erling Haaland earns the nickname Striking Viking (*Hat trick! / Off the head / GOAL!*). Whether the poems in this book are cheering for the Pennsylvania Pelé, Christian Pulisic; Cristiano Ronaldo, with his record-breaking right; or "Blue Blur" Kylian Mbappé, who torches the net with his afterburn blast, Charles R. Smith Jr.'s high-energy verse, paired with stylized, kinetic photographs, celebrates the talents of an international roster of soccer superstars. End notes bring in more background on the subjects and delve into the way the author uses poetic forms to highlight each player's unique gifts.

Contributor Bio

Charles R. Smith Jr. is the author of *Hoop Queens* and *Hoop Queens 2* and the companion books *Hoop Kings*, *Hoop Kings 2: New Royalty*, *Black Diamond Kings: Heroes of Negro League Baseball*, and *Soccer Queens*. He is also the author of *Major Taylor: World Cycling Champion*, *Chameleon*, *Pick-Up Game: A Full Day of Full Court* with Marc Aronson, and the Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book *Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali*, illustrated by Bryan Collier. He is the recipient of an National Council of Teachers of English Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children as well as a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award for his photographs in *My People*, an adaptation of the Langston Hughes poem. Charles R. Smith Jr. lives in New York.

Author Residence: Hopewell Junction, NY

Candlewick
9781536234879
Pub Date: 3/24/2026
On Sale Date: 3/24/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

48 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
Series: Sports Royalty
11.8 in H | 8.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Candlewick
9781536252248
Pub Date: 3/24/2026
On Sale Date: 3/24/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

48 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
Series: Sports Royalty
11.8 in H | 8.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

World Soccer Kings

Charles R. Smith Jr.

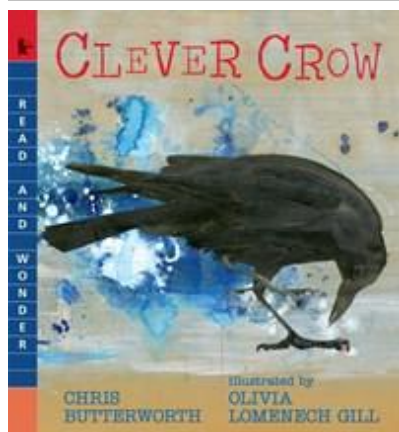
Summary

An exuberant collection of poems about soccer stars around the world crackles with Charles R. Smith's indomitable wordplay, matched by graphic, dynamic photos of the players in action.

Mercurial magician Lionel Messi is on a goal-scoring mission. Erling Haaland earns the nickname Striking Viking (*Hat trick! / Off the head / GOAL!*). Whether the poems in this book are cheering for the Pennsylvania Pelé, Christian Pulisic; Cristiano Ronaldo, with his record-breaking right; or "Blue Blur" Kylian Mbappé, who torches the net with his afterburn blast, Charles R. Smith Jr.'s high-energy verse, paired with stylized, kinetic photographs, celebrates the talents of an international roster of soccer superstars. End notes bring in more background on the subjects and delve into the way the author uses poetic forms to highlight each player's unique gifts.

Contributor Bio

Charles R. Smith Jr. is the author of *Hoop Queens* and *Hoop Queens 2* and the companion books *Hoop Kings*, *Hoop Kings 2: New Royalty*, *Black Diamond Kings: Heroes of Negro League Baseball*, and *Soccer Queens*. He is also the author of *Major Taylor: World Cycling Champion*, *Chameleon*, *Pick-Up Game: A Full Day of Full Court* with Marc Aronson, and the Coretta Scott King Author Honor Book *Twelve Rounds to Glory: The Story of Muhammad Ali*, illustrated by Bryan Collier. He is the recipient of an National Council of Teachers of English Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children as well as a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award for his photographs in *My People*, an adaptation of the Langston Hughes poem. Charles R. Smith Jr. lives in New York.



Candlewick
9781536250688
Pub Date: 2/17/2026
On Sale Date: 2/17/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
Series: Read and Wonder
9.8 in H | 9.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Clever Crow

Read and Wonder

Chris Butterworth, Olivia Lomenech Gill

Summary

For young bird-watchers and enthusiasts of the natural world comes a beautiful, eye-opening picture book about the familiar but ever-surprising crow.

Crows may not have flashy feathers, beautiful songs, or fancy flying skills, but if a crow looks at you with its small, round eye, you can be sure that it's thinking, as these birds have very big brains. Did you know that crows will use a stick to poke into a crevice to tease out tasty bugs? Or that they like to play like kids by tumbling down a snowy roof? Or that they remember where they hide their food—but sometimes only *pretend* to bury a treat to fool other birds? Original and accessible, with Chris Butterworth's welcoming text and gorgeous, expressive artwork from Olivia Lomenech Gill, *Clever Crow* is sure to generate newfound respect for these unassuming creatures that young readers come across every day.

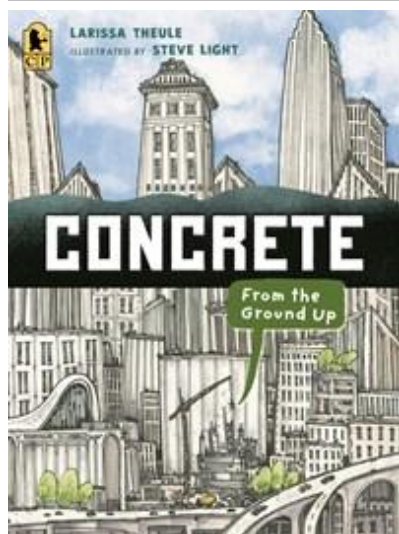
Contributor Bio

Chris Butterworth is the author of *Sea Horse: The Shyest Fish in the Sea*, illustrated by John Lawrence, *The Things That I LOVE about TREES*, illustrated by Charlotte Voake, *See What a Seal Can Do*, illustrated by Kate Nelms, and *How Did That Get in My Lunchbox? The Story of Food*, illustrated Lucia Gaggiotti. Chris Butterworth lives in Cornwall, England.

Author Residence: England

Olivia Lomenech Gill is the illustrator of *Where My Wellies Take Me* by Michael and Clare Morpurgo, which was short-listed for the Kate Greenaway Medal, as well as Michael Morpurgo's *Muck and Magic* and J. K. Rowling's *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*. Olivia Lomenech Gill lives in Brittany, France.

Illustrator Residence: France



Candlewick
9781536250534
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

48 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Technology
Series: Material Marvels
11 in H | 8.3 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Concrete: From the Ground Up

(An Educational, Nonfiction Picture Book Exploring the Science, History, and Engineering of Concrete - For Kids Ages 7-10)

Larissa Theule, Steve Light

Summary

"A delight."—*The Wall Street Journal*

From a lowly mixture of stone, sand, water, and cement have sprung sidewalks, streets, and skyscrapers, sturdy lighthouses and magnificent palaces, long bridges and massive dams. In ancient building practices, in modern engineering, and in the architecture of the future, humble concrete plays a mighty role in the creation of the human-made world. Brimming with facts and spiced with clever running narrative in the form of repartee-filled speech bubbles, *Concrete* is as intimate and entertaining as it is informative and visually sweeping. Curious readers of all ages—from would-be engineers to science and history buffs to retro-design lovers—will delight in this bold, one-of-a-kind guide to the (literal) bedrock of civilization, amplified by a bibliography in the back matter.

Contributor Bio

Larissa Theule is the author of several picture books for children, including *Kafka and the Doll*, illustrated by Rebecca Green, and *A Way with Wild Things*, illustrated by Sara Palacios. She holds an MEd from Gordon College and an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts and currently lives in Southern California.

Author Residence: Pasadena, CA

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536250503
Pub Date: 3/31/2026
On Sale Date: 3/31/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
Series: Animal Habitats
10.6 in H | 9.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Nest That Wren Built

Randi Sonenshine, Anne Hunter

Summary

"A familiar cumulative rhyme pattern here describes the activities of a pair . . . All in all, a delightfully readable and informative wrendition."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

In the rhyming style of "The House That Jack Built," this poem about the care and specificity that Carolina wrens put into building a nest is at once tender and true to life. Papa and Mama Wren gather treasures of the forest, from soft moss for a lining to snakeskin for warding off predators. Randi Sonenshine's lilting stanzas, woven with accurate and unexpected details about Carolina wrens, and Anne Hunter's gentle, inviting illustrations reveal the mysterious lives of these birds and impart an appreciation for the wonder of the life cycles around us. Back matter includes a glossary and additional interesting facts about wrens.

Contributor Bio

Randi Sonenshine is a middle-school literary coach and writer. This is her first picture book. She lives in northwest Georgia with her family.

Author Residence: Cartersville, GA

Anne Hunter has written and illustrated many picture books, including *Possum and the Summer Storm*, *Cricket Song*, and *Possum's Harvest Moon*. Originally from South Florida, she now lives in Vermont with her family.

Illustrator Residence:Shaftsbury, VT



Candlewick
9781536250664
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Sunny Town Bunnies
6.3 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.8 in T | 0.8 lb Wt

Bunnies in a Boat

(A Rhyming Adventure of Mischief, Friendship, and High-Seas Fun for Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kindergarteners)

Philip Ardagh, Ben Mantle

Summary

"Readers should prepare for a fast-moving adventure when a fluffle of rabbits embarks on a high-seas adventure . . . Harebrained fun that will leave you giggling."—*Kirkus Reviews*

Bunnies in a boat!

Bunnies in a boat!

Dashing and a-splashing!

Let's hope they stay afloat!

There are bunnies in a boat, and they're causing a maelstrom in Sunny Bay! The Sunny Town creatures are all out to play in the surf and sand when, *whoosh*, there goes a speedboat full of bunnies. Watch them crash into a sandcastle, whisk the sails off boats, zip their way to the airport, and run for the plane's cockpit . . . oh no! Philip Ardagh's rollicking, rhyming text is a joy to read aloud, while Ben Mantle's colorful visual gags and zany details make this a story kids will be bouncing to read over and over.

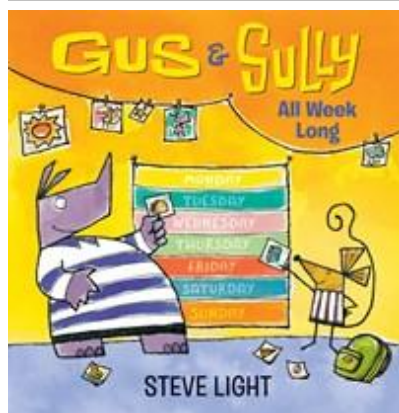
Contributor Bio

Philip Ardagh is the author of the companion book *Bunnies on the Bus*, illustrated by Ben Mantle. A prolific writer who has been published in forty languages, he is the author of the best-selling Eddie Dickens trilogy; *High in the Clouds*, cowritten with Paul McCartney and Geoff Dunbar; and *Stinking Rich and Just Plain Stinky*, winner of the Roald Dahl Funny Prize. He lives in Kent, England.

Author Residence: England

Ben Mantle is the illustrator of *Bunnies on the Bus* by Philip Ardagh, *Follow the Track All the Way Back* by Timothy Knapman, and many other picture books. He is also the author-illustrator of the Dinostars series as well as *The Best Birthday Present Ever!* and *The Best Christmas Present Ever!* Before turning to children's illustration, Ben Mantle worked in animation, including on Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride*. He lives in Brighton, England.

Illustrator Residence:England



Gus and Sully All Week Long

Steve Light

Summary

Join this amiable pair as they spend a week together in another sweet, funny story for little ones from award-winning creator Steve Light.

Friends Gus the rhino and Sully the mouse are excited to spend the week together having fun. While they may take a different approach to things – Gus’s tacos are a little too spicy for Sully, and Sully prefers building a book fort to reading – they enjoy each day. This gentle story reinforces the days of the week while also showing the joys of friendship and compromise.

Contributor Bio

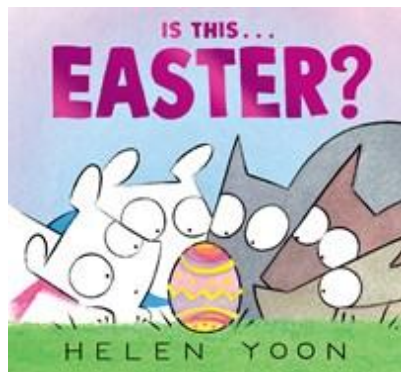
Steve Light is the creator of *Gus and Sully Watch the Weather* as well as the board books *Black Bird Yellow Sun*; *Mama Tiger, Tiger Cub*; *Up Cat Down Cat*; and *Have You Seen My Lunch Box?* Among his many picture books are *Have You Seen My Dragon?*, *Have You Seen My Monster?*, *Road Trip! A Whiskers Hollow Adventure*, and *A Spider Named Itsy*. He lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY

Candlewick
9781536238655
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

16 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Gus and Sully
7.6 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt



Candlewick
9781536246971
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
Series: Helen Yoon's Is This . . . ?
6.1 in H | 6.6 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.7
lb Wt

Is This . . . Easter?

(A Funny Holiday Board Book for Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kids Ages 2-5 -
Perfect for Easter Baskets)

Helen Yoon

Summary

"An instantly rereadable holiday must-have."—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

Look, an egg! An egg left by a bunny! What does that mean? It means it's time to celebrate . . . Easter! Or is it time to celebrate breakfast? In Helen Yoon's scenario, a difference of opinion arises between excitable pups, and the egg bearer (and ultimate squabble settler) is, naturally, an enormous, Zen-like bear wearing tiny bunny ears. As the bear demonstrates, whether it's decorating eggs or eating them, Easter is kind of . . . delicious! Helen Yoon's fresh and hilarious take on the Easter holiday—part of a quirky new series of picture books—is a delightful blend of bumbling affection and slack-jawed wonder.

Contributor Bio

Helen Yoon is . . . very funny and very sharp. The author-illustrator of *Sheepish (Wolf Under Cover)*, her critically acclaimed debut picture book, as well as *Off-Limits* and *I'm a Unicorn*, she is a professional illustrator and freelance concept designer. Helen Yoon lives in the Los Angeles area.

Author Residence: Northridge, CA

Illustrator Residence:Northridge, CA



Candlewick
9781536250602
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$9.99
Board Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Bedtime & Dreams
7.9 in H | 6.9 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.9 lb Wt

Just Because

Mac Barnett, Isabelle Arsenault

Summary

"Charming, playful, and extraordinary imaginings will galvanize young minds to find inspired answers to their own questions." —Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Why is the ocean blue? What is the rain? What happened to the dinosaurs? It might be time for bed, but one child is too full of questions about the world to go to sleep just yet. Little ones and their parents will be charmed and delighted as a patient father offers up increasingly creative responses to his child's nighttime wonderings. Any child who has ever asked "Why?" — and any parent who has attempted an explanation — will recognize themselves in this sweet storybook for dreamers who are looking for answers beyond "Just because."

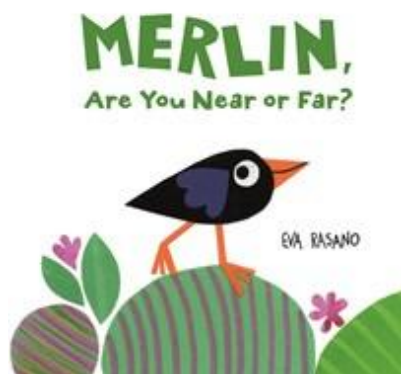
Contributor Bio

Mac Barnett is the author of many beloved picture books for children, including *Just Because*, illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault; *A Polar Bear in the Snow*, illustrated by Shawn Harris; and *John's Turn*, illustrated by Kate. He is also the author of several books illustrated by Jon Klassen, including *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole*, a Caldecott Honor Book and E. B. White Read-Aloud Award winner; the shape trilogy; and *The Wolf, the Duck, and the Mouse*, an E. B. White Read-Aloud Award winner. Mac Barnett lives in California.

Author Residence: Oakland, CA

Isabelle Arsenault is the creator of *Alpha* and the illustrator of several other picture books, including *Jane, the Fox, and Me* by Fanny Britt, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year; *Captain Rosalie* by Timothée de Fombelle; and *Cloth Lullaby: The Woven Life of Louise Bourgeois* by Amy Novesky. Isabelle Arsenault lives in Montreal.

Illustrator Residence: Montreal, Canada



Candlewick
9781536247145
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

24 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Merlin First Concept Board Books
6.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.5 lb Wt

Merlin, Are You Near or Far?

Eva Rasano

Summary

Up, down, in, out . . . Merlin, where are you going? Crisp, bold, stylish artwork delights toddlers as they learn about direction.

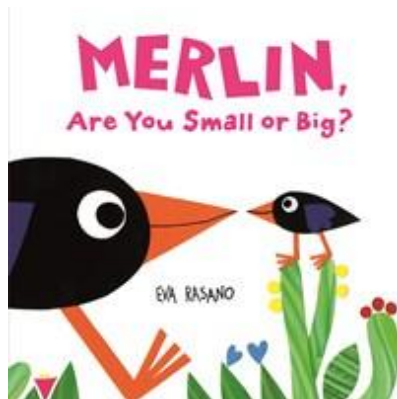
Merlin is an energetic bird who likes to fly every which way. He goes to the right, then to the left. He goes above and then below. He starts going straight, then he zigzags—who can ever keep up with Merlin? Sophisticated but accessible artwork features dynamic images in a vividly colorful collage style, making this concept board book a fun read-aloud for the youngest children and discerning parents and caregivers.

Contributor Bio

Eva Rasano is a children's book author and illustrator. Her brightly colored and intense collages immerse young readers in a good and welcoming world. She won the Italian Andersen Prize for best children's book in the birth to age three category. She lives in Cagliari, Italy.

Author Residence: Italy

Illustrator Residence:Italy



Candlewick
9781536247152
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

24 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Merlin First Concept Board Books

6.3 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.5 lb Wt

Merlin, Are You Small or Big?

Eva Rasano

Summary

Is Merlin smaller than an elephant? Bigger than a ladybug? Crisp, bold, stylish artwork delights toddlers as they learn about size.

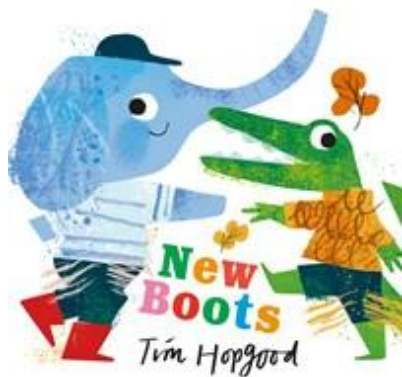
Meet a charming bird named Merlin who is smaller than some things and bigger than others. When he's flying past towering buildings he looks tiny, but to the worm he's approaching he seems enormous. Sophisticated but accessible artwork features dynamic images in a vividly colorful collage style, making this concept board book a fun read-aloud for the youngest children and discerning parents and caregivers.

Contributor Bio

Eva Rasano is a children's book author and illustrator. Her brightly colored and intense collages immerse young readers in a good and welcoming world. She won the Italian Andersen Prize for best children's book in the birth to age three category. She lives in Cagliari, Italy.

Author Residence: Italy

Illustrator Residence:Italy



Candlewick
9781536247442
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

30 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Cedric and Boo Books
7.5 in H | 7.5 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

New Boots

Tim Hopgood

Summary

Will a love of new footwear come between best friends? Cedric and Boo return in another delightful story for toddlers.

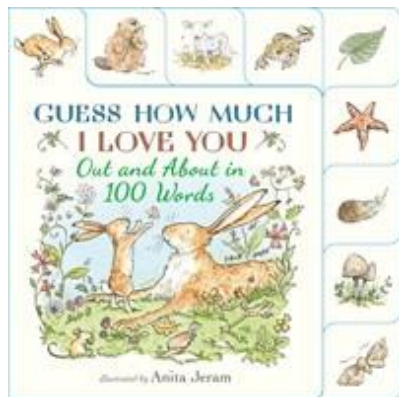
Boo the elephant has just bought a pair of shiny new boots. So shiny that he can see his face in them! He can't stand the thought of getting them dirty, so he decides to give up playing outside. But Boo misses playing in the park with his best friend, Cedric the crocodile, and can't help but join him in running through the autumn leaves. Now his boots are all muddy! But maybe all the fun he has with Cedric is more important. With a simple text and joyful illustrations, Tim Hopgood expertly navigates toddlers' big emotions in a second story about a charming pair of friends.

Contributor Bio

Tim Hopgood is an award-winning author and illustrator and the creator of *Two Birthdays*, the first story about Cedric and Boo. His other books include *The Happy Hut*; *My Big Book of Outdoors*; *What a Wonderful World*, a picture-book version of the song made famous by Louis Armstrong; and *Love, the Earth* by Frances Stickley. Tim Hopgood lives in Yorkshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536244328
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$12.99
Board Book

20 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Guess How Much I Love You
9.8 in H | 9.8 in W | 0.6 in T | 1.2 lb Wt

Out and About in 100 Words: A Guess How Much I Love You Book

(An Interactive First Word Book With Nature Scenes, Gentle Learning, & the Beloved Nutbrown Hare for Kids Ages 2-5)

Sam McBratney, Anita Jeram

Summary

Guess how many words you can learn together with Big and Little Nutbrown Hare! The beloved pair turn to naming things in the natural world for their youngest fans.

As Little Nutbrown Hare hops across some stones in a river, he sees so many interesting things—*fish* and *swans*, an *otter* and *beaver*, a *willow tree* and *reeds*, the *water* itself. Meanwhile, at a farm full of animals, Little Nutbrown Hare enthuses about all the new babies—a *hen* with her *chicks*, a *cow* with her *calf*, a *horse* with a *foal*, a proud *pig* and her *piglets*. Whether it's a pond full of ducklings and frogs and lily pads, or a meadow bursting with bees and butterflies and buttercups, the simple presentation of named objects and sweetly inviting illustrations offer an ideal setting for little ones to discover what nature holds—and to learn the words for what they see. A spinoff to the family classic *Guess How Much I Love You*, this is a read-aloud that will beg for many return visits.

Contributor Bio

Sam McBratney (1943–2020) is the author of the internationally best-selling classic *Guess How Much I Love You* and its sequel, *Will You Be My Friend?*, as well as *You're All My Favorites*, all illustrated by Anita Jeram. He is also the author of *Just You and Me* and *There, There*, both illustrated by Ivan Bates, and *Mindi and the Goose No One Else Could See*, illustrated by Linda Ólafsdóttir, among many other books for children.

Anita Jeram is the illustrator of *Guess How Much I Love You*, the *Guess How Much I Love You* storybooks, and *You're All My Favorites*, all by Sam McBratney. She has also illustrated several books by Amy Hest, including *Little Chick* and a series about Sam and Mrs. Bear, as well as *Skip to the Loo, My Darling!* by Sally Lloyd-Jones. Anita Jeram lives in Northern Ireland.

Illustrator Residence:Northern Ireland



Candlewick
9781536230031
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

26 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Leslie Patricelli Board
Books

7 in H | 7 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Spring!

Leslie Patricelli

Summary

Puddle, puddle, puddle, MUD! Our favorite bald baby celebrates a new season with an adorable friend.

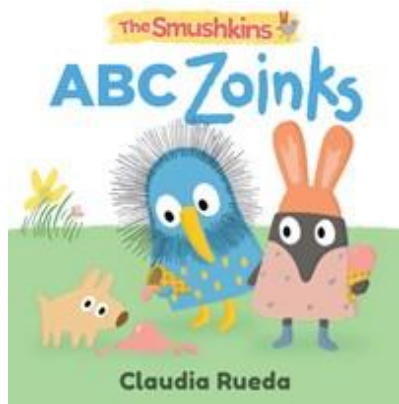
Squish! Squoosh! Squash! It's raining, but that's OK, because rain means that spring is here! Baby and a best buddy love to be outside, enjoying the tulips and daffodils, the leaves on the trees, the butterflies and bumblebees. Look, there's a bunny hopping! And a froggy plopping! Best of all is playing together in the slippery mud . . . oops! Good thing the rain is coming down to clean everyone off! Little fans and big ones alike will skip along with Baby in this salute to the season of everything new.

Contributor Bio

Leslie Patricelli is the author-illustrator of a series of best-selling board books about the irrepressible bald Baby. She is also the creator of the picture books *Faster! Faster!*, *Bigger! Bigger!*, and the *Boston Globe-Horn Book Award* Honor Book *Higher! Higher!*, among other books for children. She lives in Idaho.

Author Residence: Hailey, ID

Illustrator Residence:Hailey, ID



Candlewick
9781536236606
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

26 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: The Smushkins
7.6 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

The Smushkins: ABC Zoinks

Claudia Rueda

Summary

Who better than the goofy, irresistible Smushkins to act out an alphabet of sounds tailored to toddlers? The *ABZs* go down easy in a concept book that can't miss.

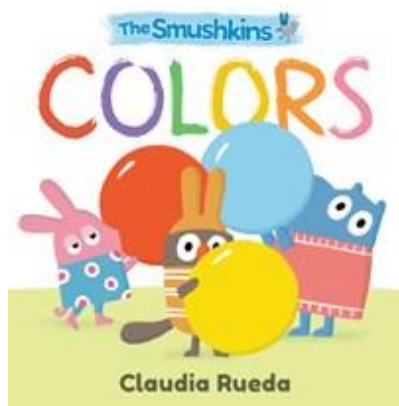
A is for a big-mouthed dog that goes *arf*. B is for the *boing boing boing* of three Smushkins riding bouncing balls. Look, there are some Smushkins at the door (*ding-dong*)! In a Smushkin's world, crackers are tasty (*nom nom*), log cars are speedy (*vroom*), and trampolines are the most fun of all (*yippee! yippee!*). Spend a busy day with the Smushkins, and you might just find yourself ready for sleep right along with them (*zzzzzoinks*). Claudia Rueda follows her delightful *Meet the Smushkins* with an aural alphabet featuring a lovable cast of characters toddlers are sure to visit again.

Contributor Bio

Claudia Rueda is an author and a *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books for children, including *Meet the Smushkins*. Her books have been published in the United States, Mexico, and Spain and have been translated into sixteen languages. A Hans Christian Andersen Award nominee and an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award nominee, Claudia Rueda is originally from Colombia, where she went to law school and art school and worked as a political cartoonist before studying children's book illustration at UC Berkeley and receiving a master's in creative writing from Lesley University. She lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536236590
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

24 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: The Smushkins
7.6 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

The Smushkins: Colors

Claudia Rueda

Summary

Whether blowing up a balloon or watering a garden, colors abound around the adorable Smushkins—and toddler fans will be excited to discover a world of colors.

When Smushkins shake a brilliant autumn tree, what do they get? A massive pile of red leaves to jump into! When a Smushkin twirls some cotton candy at the fair, what comes next? A cloud of pink! In a Smushkin's world, dogs dig up bones in white snow, painters paint themselves into a purple corner, and friends jump together into luscious brown puddles. Reading a bedtime book might lead to a sleepy black doze, but check out the multicolored celebration with all the Smushkins at the end. Claudia Rueda mines the world of the familiar as her gentle characters introduce a rainbow of colors to the youngest of readers.

Contributor Bio

Claudia Rueda is an author and a *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books for children, including *Meet the Smushkins*. Her books have been published in the United States, Mexico, and Spain and have been translated into sixteen languages. A Hans Christian Andersen Award nominee and an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award nominee, Claudia Rueda is originally from Colombia, where she went to law school and art school and worked as a political cartoonist before studying children's book illustration at UC Berkeley and receiving a master's in creative writing from Lesley University. She lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536238440
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$10.99
Board Book

18 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Interactive
Adventures
Series: A Draw & Erase Adventure
8.5 in H | 8.5 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

This Superhero Needs Your Help!

(An Interactive Dry-Erase Board Book with Wipe-Clean Marker for Kids Ages 4-6)

David LaRochelle

Summary

Do you have what it takes to be a superhero? Just grab the included marker and start drawing—there are crooks to be caught!

Gadzooks! Dr. Dreadful is causing chaos all over town. Quick—pick up the dry-erase marker that comes with this book and put your drawing skills to work. This superhero needs help blocking an army of robot mice, getting some babies back their stolen candy, and cleaning up a playground. It's up to YOU to complete the book. Once you're done, just wipe off the pages and test your drawing prowess again. From David LaRochelle, Geisel Award-winning author of *See the Cat* and its sequels, comes a clever, interactive adventure tailor-made for creative kids, enthusiastic doodlers, and anyone who's ever dreamed of being a superhero.

Contributor Bio

David LaRochelle is the author of *Isle of You*, illustrated by Jaime Kim, as well as *How to Apologize*, *Go and Get with Rex*, *Mr. Fox's Game of "No!"*, and the *See the Cat* series, all illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka. He searches for gold doubloons in White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Author Residence: White Bear Lake, MN

Illustrator Residence: White Bear Lake, MN



Candlewick
9781536247459
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
On Sale Date: 4/21/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

30 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Cedric and Boo Books
7.5 in H | 7.5 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.9
lb Wt

Two Birthdays

Tim Hopgood

Summary

Cedric and Boo are best friends! But will they still be best friends after a birthday mishap? A delightful story about making things right—and sharing special days with the ones you care for most.

Cedric the crocodile and Boo the elephant are the very best of friends. So when Boo's birthday comes around, the two of them celebrate together with lots of ice cream and presents. It's an excellent day! But when the day comes for Cedric's birthday and it's time for Boo to give him his best wishes, Boo completely forgets. Can he ever make it up to his best friend? Tim Hopgood tells a sweet and simple story about unintentional slipups—and the resilience and joys of true friendship.

Contributor Bio

Tim Hopgood is an award-winning author and illustrator whose books include *My Big Book of Outdoors*; *What a Wonderful World*, a picture-book version of the song made famous by Louis Armstrong; and *Love, the Earth* by Frances Stickley. Tim Hopgood lives in Yorkshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536248227
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Transportation
Series: Your Things
6.2 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.6
lb Wt

Your Truck

(A Board Book with Minimalist Illustrations That Explores Ownership, Imagination, and Perspective)

Jon Klassen

Summary

From Caldecott Medalist Jon Klassen comes the first board book in the *Your Things* series for the youngest of children.

This is your truck.

It is yours to have.

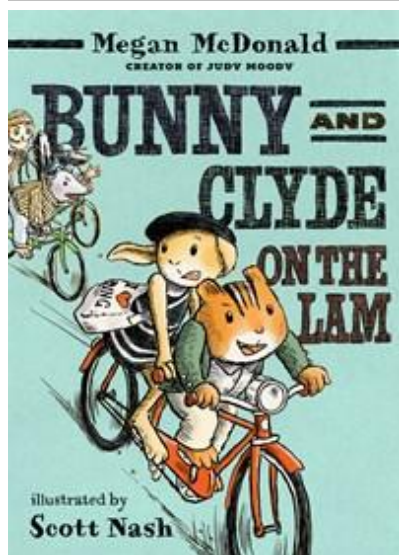
Your truck is red, but it could be other colors too. It can carry things around, like a chair and table, a dog, or a horse. It will wait for you until you tell it to go, then it will go wherever you want, as far as you want, whenever you want. At the end of the day it will sleep, and you can sleep, too. Jon Klassen brings his minimalist's touch to a soothing story of a simple object that a child can command and befriend, one that is there whenever the child chooses to visit it. Building on the quiet but evocative world he created in *Your Farm*, *Your Forest*, and *Your Island*, Jon Klassen invites young children to consider more things that are theirs and theirs alone, reinforcing that they have a right to things like solitude, exploration, and companionship.

Contributor Bio

Jon Klassen is the creator of the *Your Places* board book series, including *Your Farm*, *Your Forest*, and *Your Island*. He is the author and illustrator of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling *I Want My Hat Back*, which won a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, and its companions *This Is Not My Hat*, which won a Caldecott Medal and a Kate Greenaway Medal, and *We Found a Hat*, named a *Publishers Weekly* Best Children's Book of the Year. He is also the creator of *The Rock from the Sky* and *The Skull*, and the illustrator of *Extra Yarn*, *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole*, *Triangle*, *Square*, and *Circle*, all by Mac Barnett. Originally from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Jon Klassen now lives in Los Angeles.

Author Residence: Los Angeles, CA

Illustrator Residence: Los Angeles, CA



Candlewick
9781536240306
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

160 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: Bunny and Clyde
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Bunny and Clyde On the Lam

(A Funny Middle Grade Chapter Book Full of Escapes, Mix-Ups, and Big Mistakes - For Kids Ages 5-8)

Megan McDonald, Scott Nash

Summary

They couldn't be outlaws when they tried, but now they're being framed as fall guys? Judy Moody creator Megan McDonald and illustrator Scott Nash bring back the lovable pair for a comedy full of mischief, magic tricks, and misperceptions.

Thornton's shiny new coin has vanished into thin air! Did someone steal it? All eyes fall on Bunny and Clyde, two bad bunnies at the scene of the crime. But wait! They're not *bad bunnies*. For one thing, Clyde is a chipmunk. For another thing, every time they've *tried* to be bad, they somehow came out looking as good as gold. Now, when they really are *I-N-N-O-C-E-N-T*, everyone decides they're guilty? In a tight spot like this, there is only one thing for a declared pair of outlaws to do.

"RUN!" says Bunny.

"RUN!" says Clyde.

They're on the lam! Will the fugitives be able to outrun the possum posse and shake their bum rap? Buckle up for another wild and wicked ride with Bunny and Clyde!

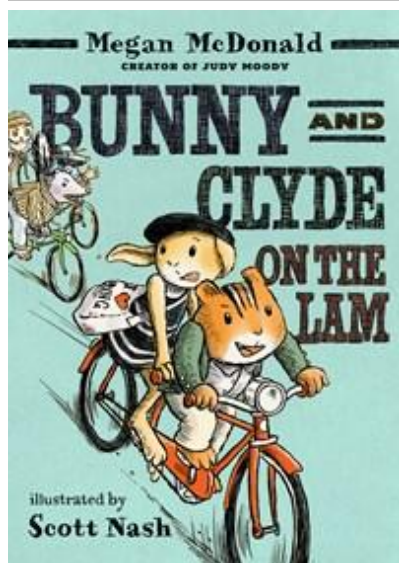
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the popular Judy Moody and Stink series for older readers and the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children, including two books in the Fairy Door Diaries early chapter-book series. Megan McDonald lives in California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Scott Nash is the creator of the illustrated middle-grade novel *The High-Skies Adventures of Blue Jay the Pirate* and the early reader *Tuff Fluff* and is the illustrator of many other children's books. In 2016, he and Nancy Gibson-Nash founded Illustration Institute. Scott Nash lives on Peaks Island off the coast of Maine.

Illustrator Residence: Peaks Island, ME



Candlewick
9781536251784
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

160 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: Bunny and Clyde
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Bunny and Clyde On the Lam

(A Funny Middle Grade Chapter Book Full of Escapes, Mix-Ups, and Big Mistakes - For Kids Ages 5-8)

Megan McDonald, Scott Nash

Summary

They couldn't be outlaws when they tried, but now they're being framed as fall guys? Judy Moody creator Megan McDonald and illustrator Scott Nash bring back the lovable pair for a comedy full of mischief, magic tricks, and misperceptions.

Thornton's shiny new coin has vanished into thin air! Did someone steal it? All eyes fall on Bunny and Clyde, two bad bunnies at the scene of the crime. But wait! They're not *bad bunnies*. For one thing, Clyde is a chipmunk. For another thing, every time they've *tried* to be bad, they somehow came out looking as good as gold. Now, when they really are *I-N-N-O-C-E-N-T*, everyone decides they're guilty? In a tight spot like this, there is only one thing for a declared pair of outlaws to do.

"RUN!" says Bunny.

"RUN!" says Clyde.

They're on the lam! Will the fugitives be able to outrun the possum posse and shake their bum rap? Buckle up for another wild and wicked ride with Bunny and Clyde!

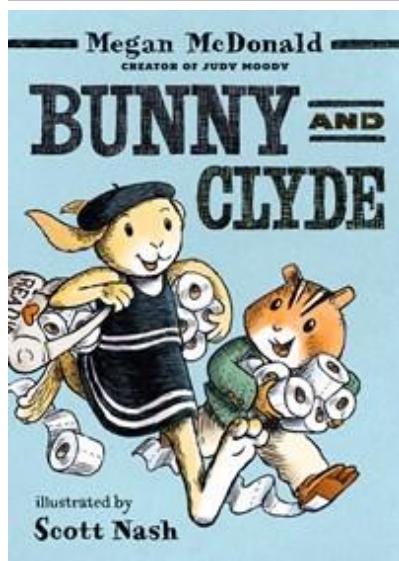
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the popular Judy Moody and Stink series for older readers and the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children, including two books in the Fairy Door Diaries early chapter-book series. Megan McDonald lives in California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Scott Nash is the creator of the illustrated middle-grade novel *The High-Skies Adventures of Blue Jay the Pirate* and the early reader *Tuff Fluff* and is the illustrator of many other children's books. In 2016, he and Nancy Gibson-Nash founded Illustration Institute. Scott Nash lives on Peaks Island off the coast of Maine.

Illustrator Residence: Peaks Island, ME



Candlewick
9781536238198
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

144 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: Bunny and Clyde
7.8 in H | 5.6 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.3
lb Wt

Bunny and Clyde

(A Funny Middle Grade Chapter Book - For Kids Ages 5-8)

Megan McDonald, Scott Nash

Summary

"The clever plot is anchored by Bunny and Clyde's Hollywood gangster-speak, tongue-in-cheek dialogue, and groan-worthy puns, all of which will charm young readers. . . . Delightful."—Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

Get ready for a wild ride with Bunny and Clyde! These by-the-rules buddies, a rabbit and a chipmunk, are sick and tired of being good. For once, they want to know what it's like to be baddies—rotten to the core! They want thrills and excitement! But to get really good at being bad, they're going to need some experience. What if the dastardly duo started returning library books late *on purpose*? Or borrowing markers *without asking*? Everyone knows it's a swift downhill slide from there—as long as there's an unprotected piggy bank in town! Unless, of course, their best attempts at mastering bad deeds are strangely misconstrued. Author Megan McDonald brings her quick wit and ear for dialogue, matched by Scott Nash's deft animal characterizations, to a hilarious caper of criminal intentions gone awry.

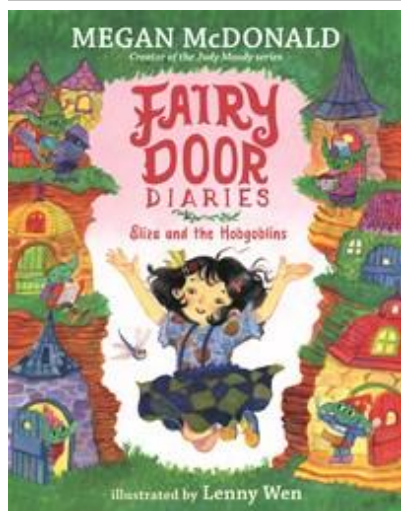
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the popular Judy Moody and Stink series for older readers and the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children. Megan McDonald lives in California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Scott Nash is the creator of the illustrated middle-grade novel *The High-Skies Adventures of Blue Jay the Pirate* and the early reader *Tuff Fluff* and is the illustrator of many other children's books. In 2016, he and Nancy Gibson-Nash founded Illustration Institute. Scott Nash lives on Peaks Island off the coast of Maine.

Illustrator Residence: Peaks Island, ME



Candlewick
9781536216363
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 9, Grades K to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Fairy Door Diaries
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Hobgoblins

Megan McDonald, Lenny Wen

Summary

Eliza has a second adventure on the other side of the fairy door—and must call on her wits when a band of impish hobgoblins follows her home—in this enchanting tale by the award-winning author of the Judy Moody series.

What's that? Eliza hears faint music coming from behind the teeny-tiny fairy door she created low on the wall. So she presses her ear to the door and—*shwoosh!*—is whisked into the red, rocky land of hobgoblins, leaving behind the heaps of toys and books that were strewn around her room (along with her mother's orders to clean them up). Luckily, Eliza discovers that the pointy-hatted hobs love to play, love a mess, and can grant wishes! But when she wishes that Hobby, Nobby, and Tobby would help her with her room, she learns that what hobgoblins *actually* love is playing tricks—and as they burst into her space, it's clear that she's fallen for their trickery. Can she outrun their mischief before they decorate all of her walls with crayon and turn her ceiling fan into a hobgoblin merry-go-round? Just maybe . . . but only if she can come up with a few tricks of her own! Megan McDonald's follow-up to *Eliza and the Flower Fairies*, illustrated in glowing full color by Lenny Wen, is sure to be happily devoured by every child who fervently believes in fairies and other magical folk.

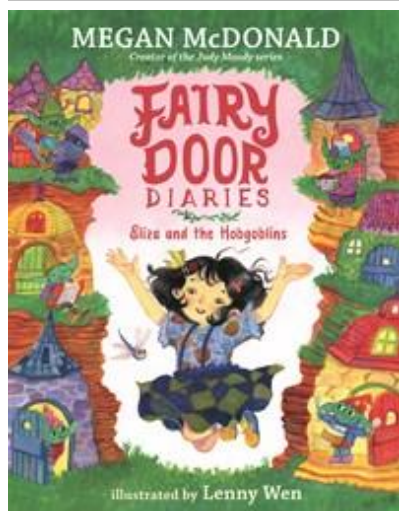
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the hugely popular Judy Moody and Stink series, for older readers, the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers, and the first chapter book Bunny and Clyde. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children. She earned a BA in English from Oberlin College and an MLIS degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Megan McDonald now lives in Sebastopol, California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Lenny Wen loved nothing more as a child than escaping into her imagination and filling paper with stories, drawings, and doodles. As an adult, she pursued her passion for storytelling and children's book illustration when she wasn't working, going to class, or helping her parents run their business. She is the illustrator of *Smiling Eyes* by Linda Sue Park and *Old Friends* by Margaret Aitken, among other books, and the author-illustrator of *Spicy Spicy Hot!* and *Wolfgang in the Meadow*. Born in Indonesia, Lenny Wen now lives in Austria.

Illustrator Residence: Austria



Candlewick
9781536251791
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 9, Grades K to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Fairy Door Diaries
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Hobgoblins

Megan McDonald, Lenny Wen

Summary

Eliza has a second adventure on the other side of the fairy door—and must call on her wits when a band of impish hobgoblins follows her home—in this enchanting tale by the award-winning author of the Judy Moody series.

What's that? Eliza hears faint music coming from behind the teeny-tiny fairy door she created low on the wall. So she presses her ear to the door and—*shwoosh!*—is whisked into the red, rocky land of hobgoblins, leaving behind the heaps of toys and books that were strewn around her room (along with her mother's orders to clean them up). Luckily, Eliza discovers that the pointy-hatted hobs love to play, love a mess, and can grant wishes! But when she wishes that Hobby, Nobby, and Tobby would help her with her room, she learns that what hobgoblins *actually* love is playing tricks—and as they burst into her space, it's clear that she's fallen for their trickery. Can she outrun their mischief before they decorate all of her walls with crayon and turn her ceiling fan into a hobgoblin merry-go-round? Just maybe . . . but only if she can come up with a few tricks of her own! Megan McDonald's follow-up to *Eliza and the Flower Fairies*, illustrated in glowing full color by Lenny Wen, is sure to be happily devoured by every child who fervently believes in fairies and other magical folk.

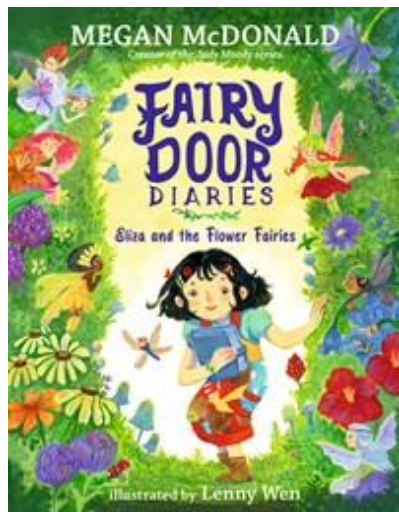
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the hugely popular Judy Moody and Stink series, for older readers, the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers, and the first chapter book Bunny and Clyde. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children. She earned a BA in English from Oberlin College and an MLIS degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Megan McDonald now lives in Sebastopol, California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Lenny Wen loved nothing more as a child than escaping into her imagination and filling paper with stories, drawings, and doodles. As an adult, she pursued her passion for storytelling and children's book illustration when she wasn't working, going to class, or helping her parents run their business. She is the illustrator of *Smiling Eyes* by Linda Sue Park and *Old Friends* by Margaret Aitken, among other books, and the author-illustrator of *Spicy Spicy Hot!* and *Wolfgang in the Meadow*. Born in Indonesia, Lenny Wen now lives in Austria.

Illustrator Residence: Austria



Candlewick
9781536243949
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 9, Grades K to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Fairy Door Diaries
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Fairy Door Diaries: Eliza and the Flower Fairies

(A Magical Middle Grade Chapter Book Full of Secrets, Forest Adventures, and Whimsical Surprises - For Kids Ages 5-9)

Megan McDonald, Lenny Wen

Summary

"[A] joyful tale of learning to believe in oneself and rejoicing in magic both grandiose and mundane."—*Publishers Weekly*

To some, the low door in Eliza's bedroom might look like an ordinary entrance to a crawl space under the stairs. But to a believer like Eliza of the Elves, it's the door to the Land of UnderStair, a secret hideout all her own. In that crawl space, festooned with twinkling lights, Eliza keeps her favorite book, her collections of precious items, her stuffed animals, and her new diary. And in that crawl space is another door, a teeny-tiny one that can transport Eliza to a world of tangerine sun and lemon-pudding sky, a place where flower fairies perch on every bloom and a new flower springs up whenever you pick one. But in a far corner of that world, Eliza tries to pick a strangely beautiful flower—"Nooooo!" cries her friend Poppy—and things soon go terribly awry. Can a brave, wilting Poppy rescue Eliza from beyond the hedgerow before the Demon Wind steals all the flower fairies' scents, leaving the snapdragons with no snap? In this launch of a new series, Megan McDonald brings her well-honed flair for wordplay to delicious villains like the witches Wolfsbane and Belladonna as she follows a child with a big imagination to a different fairy realm in each book. Lenny Wen's delightful, richly colored artwork brings Eliza's world to life with fanciful details sure to have readers creating their own cozy retreats—and visiting magical lands beyond the door.

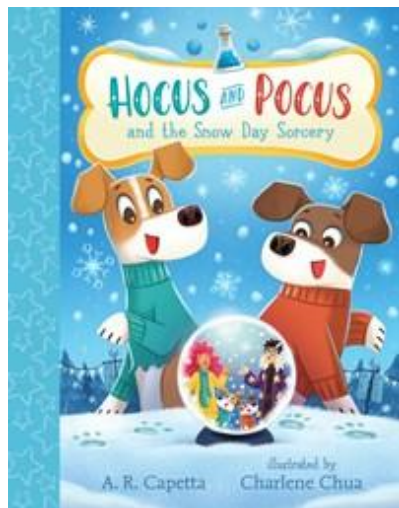
Contributor Bio

Megan McDonald is the author of the popular Judy Moody and Stink series for older readers, the Judy Moody and Friends series for beginning readers, and the first chapter book *Bunny and Clyde*. She has also written many other chapter books and picture books for children. Megan McDonald lives in California.

Author Residence: Sebastopol, CA

Lenny Wen is the illustrator of *Smiling Eyes* by Linda Sue Park, among other books, and the author-illustrator of *Spicy Spicy Hot!* and *Wolfgang in the Meadow*. Born in Indonesia, Lenny Wen now lives in Austria.

Illustrator Residence: Austria



Candlewick
9781536224948
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Hocus and Pocus
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Hocus and Pocus and the Snow Day Sorcery

A. R. Capetta, Charlene Chua

Summary

It's time for the town Winter Solstice party and puppies Hocus and Pocus are ready to help out with their own special magic! This sweet series continues with plenty of spells, friends, and snowy fun.

Everyone in Inkwell is excited for the Winter Solstice Party, including magical puppies Hocus and Pocus. Pocus wants to play in the snow, and Hocus wants to eat snowflakes! Finally, the longest night of the year arrives, and everybody turns out to celebrate with maple popcorn, hot cider, and enormous pumpkins (thanks to a plant warlock). The only thing missing is . . . snow! Without a fresh dusting, how can Hocus and Pocus's friends make snow sculptures and race snowflakes? The puppies notice a new striped tent at the edge of the party: *Nimbus the Sorcerer! Handmade Wishes!* Hocus and Pocus know just what to wish for. Nimbus pulls a magical snow globe from behind their back and warns the puppies to be careful—this is a very big, very delicate wish. Despite the sorcerer's warning, the snow (and ice!) soon gets out of control. Luckily, the citizens of Inkwell have a few cozy charms up their sleeves. This latest adventure glows with warmth and winter magic.

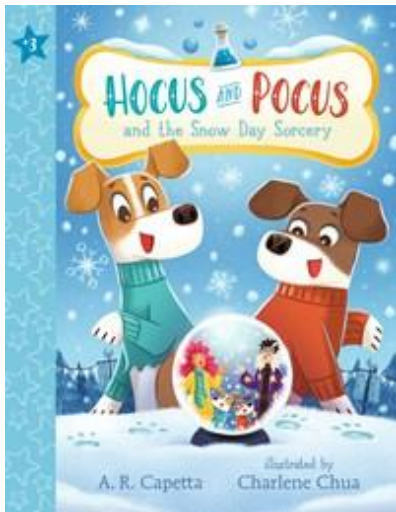
Contributor Bio

A. R. Capetta is the author of numerous young adult novels, including *Costumes for Time Travelers*, *Echo After Echo*, *The Lost Coast*, and Lambda Literary Award winner *The Heartbreak Bakery*. The Hocus and Pocus series is their first foray into writing for younger readers. A. R. Capetta lives in a small town in the mountains with their family, including two dogs who make *almost* as much mischief as Hocus and Pocus.

Author Residence: In the mountains

Charlene Chua (she/they) is the author-illustrator of *Hug?* and *The Pink Pajamas* and the illustrator of numerous books for young readers, including the Stonewall Book Award winner and Lambda Literary Award finalist *Love, Violet* by Charlotte Sullivan Wild; *Bye Bye, Binary* by Eric Geron; and the Amy Wu series by Kat Zhang. Charlene Chua lives near Toronto.

Illustrator Residence: Hamilton, ON



Candlewick
9781536249668
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

96 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Hocus and Pocus
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Hocus and Pocus and the Snow Day Sorcery

A. R. Capetta, Charlene Chua

Summary

It's time for the town Winter Solstice party and puppies Hocus and Pocus are ready to help out with their own special magic! This sweet series continues with plenty of spells, friends, and snowy fun.

Everyone in Inkwell is excited for the Winter Solstice party, including magical puppies Hocus and Pocus. Pocus wants to play in the snow, and Hocus wants to eat snowflakes! Finally, the longest night of the year arrives and everybody turns out to celebrate with maple popcorn, hot cider, and enormous pumpkins (thanks to a plant warlock). The only thing missing is—snow! Without a fresh dusting, how can Hocus and Pocus's friends make snow sculptures and race snowflakes? The puppies notice a new striped tent at the edge of the party: *Nimbus the Sorcerer! Handmade Wishes!* Hocus and Pocus know just what to wish for. Nimbus pulls a tiny snowglobe from behind their back, and says to be careful—this is a very big, very delicate wish. The puppies try, but their excitement gets away from them, and soon it is TOO snowy for the party (and Hocus's feet are pawsicles!). Luckily, the citizens of Inkwell have a few cozy charms up their sleeves. This latest adventure glows with warmth and winter magic.

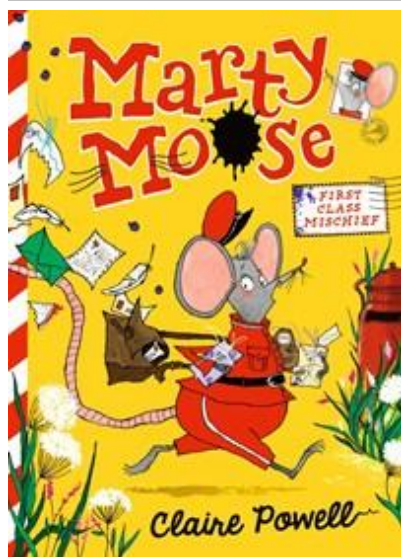
Contributor Bio

A. R. Capetta is the author of numerous young adult novels, including *Echo After Echo*, *The Lost Coast*, and Lambda Literary Award winner *The Heartbreak Bakery*. The Hocus and Pocus series is their first foray into writing for younger readers. A. R. Capetta lives in a small town in the mountains with their family, including two dogs who make *almost* as much mischief as Hocus and Pocus.

Author Residence: In the mountains

Charlene Chua is the author-illustrator of *Hug?* and the illustrator of numerous books for young readers, including the Stonewall Book Award winner and Lambda Literary Award finalist *Love, Violet* by Charlotte Sullivan Wild; *Bye Bye, Binary* by Eric Geron; and the Amy Wu series by Kat Zhang. Charlene Chua lives near Toronto.

Illustrator Residence: Hamilton, ON



Candlewick
9781536247800
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

160 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Marty Moose
7.4 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.8 lb Wt

Marty Moose: First Class Mischief

Claire Powell

Summary

Who knew delivering the mail could be so perilous? A silly, mischievous story of independence, self-confidence, bravery, and friendship.

Just because you're small doesn't mean you can't be brave.

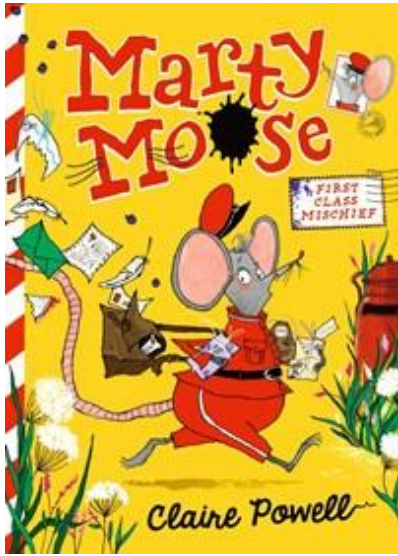
That's the advice Great-Aunt Ada gives Marty Moose for his first day on the job as a mailmouse for the Little Ditch Post Office. With his mailbag in hand, Marty is ready to follow in her footsteps, but filling them proves difficult even with the help of a scrappy and energetic bunny named Nibbles. When a pair of pesky neighbors prevents him from delivering his last package, Marty and his new friend Nibbles must figure out together how to finish the job, even if that means breaking the rules. With lively, funny, and characterful illustrations and a charming narrative voice, this series first is just right for newly confident readers.

Contributor Bio

Claire Powell is a children's book maker, character designer, and illustrator. This is her authorial debut. Her collaborations with Beth Lincoln, Kes Gray, and Simon Farnaby were all bestsellers, and she has also illustrated books for Dermot O'Leary, Jeanne Willis, Peter Bently, and Michelle Robinson. Claire Powell lives in Derbyshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536250213
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

160 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Marty Moose
7.1 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.5 lb Wt

Marty Moose: First Class Mischief

Claire Powell

Summary

Who knew delivering the mail could be so perilous? A silly, mischievous story of independence, self-confidence, bravery, and friendship.

Just because you're small doesn't mean you can't be brave.

That's the advice Great-Aunt Ada gives Marty Moose for his first day on the job as a mailmouse for the Little Ditch Post Office. With his mailbag in hand, Marty is ready to follow in her footsteps, but filling them proves difficult even with the help of a scrappy and energetic bunny named Nibbles. When a pair of pesky neighbors prevents him from delivering his last package, Marty and his new friend Nibbles must figure out together how to finish the job, even if that means breaking the rules. With lively, funny, and characterful illustrations and a charming narrative voice, this series first is just right for newly confident readers.

Contributor Bio

Claire Powell is a children's book maker, character designer, and illustrator. This is her authorial debut. Her collaborations with Beth Lincoln, Kes Gray, and Simon Farnaby were all bestsellers, and she has also illustrated books for Dermot O'Leary, Jeanne Willis, Peter Bently, and Michelle Robinson. Claire Powell lives in Derbyshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536227581
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

80 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Orris and Timble
8.2 in H | 6.4 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Orris and Timble: Star Stories

Kate DiCamillo, Carmen Mok

Summary

In a soaring conclusion to a moving trilogy, national treasure Kate DiCamillo shows how friendship, trust, and stories—lived and shared—transform us.

Orris and Timble are friends. Orris is a rat, Timble is an owl, and they meet each night in an old barn to share stories. One night, Timble asks a fateful question: “Why don’t you ever leave the barn, Orris?” Strong and brave, the owl offers to carry the rat on his back. Orris will be able to see it all for himself—the rivers and fish, roads and farms, mountains and coyotes. But why would Orris leave the barn when all he needs is there: his books, the moon and stars above, and Timble’s nightly tales of high-flying adventure? What would *you* do if you had the chance to fly? In the final installment of an exquisitely illustrated and deeply felt early-reader trilogy, two-time Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo reveals how trust and friendship can lift us into our best lives.

Contributor Bio

Kate DiCamillo is one of America’s most beloved storytellers. She is a former National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, a two-time Newbery Medalist, and the author of *Orris and Timble: The Beginning* and *Orris and Timble: Lost and Found*. She lives in Minneapolis.

Author Residence: Minneapolis, MN

Carmen Mok is the award-winning illustrator of *Orris and Timble: The Beginning* and *Orris and Timble: Lost and Found*, as well as several acclaimed picture books, with experience in product design, hand-lettering, and graphic design. She studied studio art at the University of Waterloo and craft design at Sheridan College, both in Ontario. Carmen Mok lives in Toronto.

Illustrator Residence: Toronto, ON



Candlewick
9781536239010
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

112 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Shermy and Shake
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Bossy Best Friend

Kirby Larson, Shinji Fujioka

Summary

Fastidious Shermy and freewheeling Shake face a substitute teacher, fall for a shelter dog, and keep their friendship sparkling in their latest big-hearted adventure.

Shermy loves going to second grade. Well, except when the substitute teacher does the lessons out of order (spelling before recess and social studies during math time?). His friend Shake, however, goes with the flow. Maybe that's why their friendship works. Whether it's writing letters to their favorite authors, making homemade toys for the animal shelter, or coming up with New Year's resolutions for each other ("Stay a reading superstar!" Shake writes), the two pals' personalities always seem to balance out. But when Shermy adopts Wally, a lovable shelter dog, he gets so busy with training that he has less time for Shake—who eventually stops asking to do stuff together. And one day, Shermy hears about moving boxes at Shake's house. Is Shake moving away? Shermy is so worried he feels like he can't breathe. Wise Grandpa Gordy tells Shermy friendship is a big responsibility—just like having a dog—and that it blossoms with TLC.

Contributor Bio

Kirby Larson is the author of the Newbery Honor-winning historical novel *Hattie Big Sky* as well as the *New York Times* bestselling nonfiction picture book *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle*. She is also the author of the first two books in the Shermy and Shake series. She lives with her family in Washington State.

Author Residence: Kenmore, WA

Shinji Fujioka is the illustrator of the first two books in the Shermy and Shake series. *Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Nice Neighbor* was his first book. He lives with his family in Japan.

Illustrator Residence: Tustin, CA



Candlewick
9781536251883
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

112 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Shermy and Shake
7.8 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Bossy Best Friend

Kirby Larson, Shinji Fujioka

Summary

Fastidious Shermy and freewheeling Shake face a substitute teacher, fall for a shelter dog, and keep their friendship sparkling in their latest big-hearted adventure.

Shermy loves going to second grade. Well, except when the substitute teacher does the lessons out of order (spelling before recess and social studies during math time?). His friend Shake, however, goes with the flow. Maybe that's why their friendship works. Whether it's writing letters to their favorite authors, making homemade toys for the animal shelter, or coming up with New Year's resolutions for each other ("Stay a reading superstar!" Shake writes), the two pals' personalities always seem to balance out. But when Shermy adopts Wally, a lovable shelter dog, he gets so busy with training that he has less time for Shake—who eventually stops asking to do stuff together. And one day, Shermy hears about moving boxes at Shake's house. Is Shake moving away? Shermy is so worried he feels like he can't breathe. Wise Grandpa Gordy tells Shermy friendship is a big responsibility—just like having a dog—and that it blossoms with TLC.

Contributor Bio

Kirby Larson is the author of the Newbery Honor-winning historical novel *Hattie Big Sky* as well as the *New York Times* bestselling nonfiction picture book *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle*. She is also the author of the first two books in the Shermy and Shake series. She lives with her family in Washington State.

Author Residence: Kenmore, WA

Shinji Fujioka is the illustrator of the first two books in the Shermy and Shake series. *Shermy and Shake, the Not-So-Nice Neighbor* was his first book. He lives with his family in Japan.

Illustrator Residence: Tustin, CA



Candlewick
9781536248180
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover

128 Pages
Ages 5 to 7, Grades K to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Unicornia
8 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Unicornia: Rainbow Roller Skates

(A Magical Chapter Book for Kids Ages 5-7 about Friendship, Fun, and Rainbow-Sparkle Roller Skating)

Ana Punset, Diana Vicedo

Summary

The sixth magical book in the sparkling unicorn-adventure series.

It's the day of the Magical Unicorn Show and Claudia is excited to watch Chai and the other unicorns perform. But – *oh no!* – she and her friends have missed the flying bus! How will they ever get there in time? Find out in this whizzy airborne adventure, filled with unicorn acrobatics, sparkling skies, and zooming skates.

Contributor Bio

Ana Punset is a best-selling author of books for children, including the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Barcelona and has always dreamed of flying with unicorns.

Author Residence: Spain

Diana Vicedo has been a freelance illustrator for more than ten years. Her illustrations have appeared in children's books and on designs for children's fashion, games, motion graphics, and apps. She is the illustrator of the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Valencia, Spain.

Illustrator Residence:Spain



Candlewick
9781536248197
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

128 Pages
Ages 5 to 7, Grades K to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Unicornia
8 in H | 5.5 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Unicornia: Rainbow Roller Skates

(A Magical Chapter Book for Kids Ages 5-7 about Friendship, Fun, and Rainbow-Sparkle Roller Skating)

Ana Punset, Diana Vicedo

Summary

The sixth magical book in the sparkling unicorn-adventure series.

It's the day of the Magical Unicorn Show and Claudia is excited to watch Chai and the other unicorns perform. But – *oh no!* – she and her friends have missed the flying bus! How will they ever get there in time? Find out in this whizzy airborne adventure, filled with unicorn acrobatics, sparkling skies, and zooming skates.

Contributor Bio

Ana Punset is a best-selling author of books for children, including the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Barcelona and has always dreamed of flying with unicorns.

Author Residence: Spain

Diana Vicedo has been a freelance illustrator for more than ten years. Her illustrations have appeared in children's books and on designs for children's fashion, games, motion graphics, and apps. She is the illustrator of the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Valencia, Spain.

Illustrator Residence:Spain



Candlewick
9781536248166
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover

128 Pages
Ages 5 to 7, Grades K to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Unicornia
8.3 in H | 5.8 in W | 0.7 in T | 0.9 lb Wt

Unicornia: The Frozen Palace

(A Magical Chapter Book for Kids Ages 5-7 about Friendship, Teamwork, and Winter Adventures)

Ana Punset, Diana Vicedo

Summary

The next sparkling adventure in the shimmering Unicornia series, featuring a school trip to an incredible frozen palace.

Claudia is going on a school field trip to the wintriest and most incredible place ever: the Frozen Palace. The walls are made of sparkling ice, there are penguins everywhere and you can fly with unicorns, or with reindeer! Without a doubt, this is the most magical place EVER. But when Claudia and her friends get lost, can they find the way out of the palace? Find out in this snow-dusted festive adventure packed with magic, snowflakes, and unicorns.

Contributor Bio

Ana Punset is a best-selling author of books for children, including the first two books in the Unicornia series, *Unicornia: Learning to Fly* and *Unicornia: A Magical Birthday*. She lives in Barcelona and has always dreamed of flying with unicorns.

Author Residence: Spain

Diana Vicedo has been a freelance illustrator for more than ten years. Her illustrations have appeared in children's books and on designs for children's fashion, games, motion graphics, and apps. She is the illustrator of the first two books in the Unicornia series, *Unicornia: Learning to Fly* and *Unicornia: A Magical Birthday*. She lives in Valencia, Spain.

Illustrator Residence:Spain



Candlewick
9781536248173
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$6.99
Trade Paperback

128 Pages
Ages 5 to 7, Grades K to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Unicornia
8 in H | 5.6 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.6 lb
Wt

Unicornia: The Frozen Palace

(A Magical Chapter Book for Kids Ages 5-7 about Friendship, Teamwork, and Winter Adventures)

Ana Punset, Diana Vicedo

Summary

The next sparkling adventure in the shimmering Unicornia series, featuring a school trip to an incredible frozen palace.

Claudia is going on a school field trip to the wintriest and most incredible place ever: the Frozen Palace. The walls are made of sparkling ice, there are penguins everywhere and you can fly with unicorns, or with reindeer! Without a doubt, this is the most magical place EVER. But when Claudia and her friends get lost, can they find the way out of the palace? Find out in this snow-dusted festive adventure packed with magic, snowflakes, and unicorns.

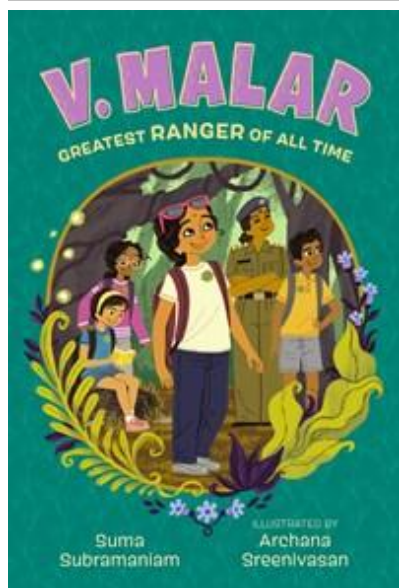
Contributor Bio

Ana Punset is a best-selling author of books for children, including the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Barcelona and has always dreamed of flying with unicorns.

Author Residence: Spain

Diana Vicedo has been a freelance illustrator for more than ten years. Her illustrations have appeared in children's books and on designs for children's fashion, games, motion graphics, and apps. She is the illustrator of the other books in the Unicornia series. She lives in Valencia, Spain.

Illustrator Residence:Spain



Candlewick
9781536229127
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover

128 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: V. Malar

8.6 in H | 5.9 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.6 lb Wt

V. Malar: Greatest Ranger of All Time

(A Nature-Packed Middle Grade Tale of Friendship, Forests, and Finding Your Purpose)

Suma Subramaniam, Archana Sreenivasan

Summary

When Malar wins a weekend at an animal reserve, she *really* wants to see a tiger—but the bigger challenge might be adjusting to being away from home and getting along with the other campers!

V. Malar is headed to Camp Kurinji, a well-known tiger reserve in South India, and she couldn't be more excited—or nervous. She'll be participating in a program for students to learn more about nature conservation and the animals that call the reserve home. Malar wants to see a tiger more than anything, but it's also her first time away from home. Will the other kids want to be her friends? Will she miss Amma and Appa and the farm? It doesn't help that the camp isn't what she expected: the food is different, the hikes are exhausting, the other campers don't seem to like her, her special sunglasses from Appa go missing, and they have a few close run-ins with a monkey. But with a little patience and a lot of support from her camp counselor, Selvi madam, could Malar's tiger dreams—and her hope to make friends and become the Greatest Ranger of All Time—come true? In this second V. Malar adventure set in the rainforests of India, readers curious about the animals and plants in the story can find more in the back matter, along with a glossary, source notes, and author's note about India's tiger reserves.

Contributor Bio

Suma Subramaniam is a poet and children's book creator. She is the author of many books for children, including *Namaste Is a Greeting*, illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat, and the first book in the V. Malar series. She lives in Woodinville, Washington.

Author Residence: Bothell, WA

Archana Sreenivasan is the illustrator of several books for children, including the first book in the V. Malar series, and her work has been selected for the Society of Illustrators Original Art Show. She is also the author-illustrator of a board book, and her work has appeared in magazines and comics and on book covers. She lives in Bangalore, India.

Illustrator Residence: India



Candlewick
9781536250572
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

264 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Bink and Gollie
8.9 in H | 6 in W | 0.6 in T | 1.2 lb
Wt

Bink and Gollie Three in One

(A Middle Grade Chapter Book Collection Full of Friendship, Humor, and Imagination - For Kids Ages 6-9)

Kate DiCamillo, Alison McGhee, Tony Fucile

Summary

Collect the complete — and completely marvelous! — Bink & Gollie series in a beautifully designed edition full of visual and textual humor.

Whether exploring the wonders of the state fair, attempting to set a world record, or just relaxing with some pancakes and peanut butter, Bink and Gollie are irresistibly witty, imaginative, and adventurous — just the sort of friends young readers love. Kids can savor all of their outrageously funny escapades, created by the brilliant pairing of authors Kate DiCamillo and Alison McGhee with illustrator Tony Fucile.

The collection includes:

Bink & Gollie

Bink & Gollie: Two for One

Bink & Gollie: Best Friends Forever

Contributor Bio

Kate DiCamillo is the author of *The Tale of Despereaux*, which was awarded the Newbery Medal; *Because of Winn-Dixie*, a Newbery Honor book; *The Magician's Elephant*, a New York Times bestseller; and six books starring Mercy Watson, including the Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book *Mercy Watson Goes for a Ride*, among other titles. Kate DiCamillo lives in Minneapolis.

Alison McGhee is the award-winning author of books for all ages, including *Song of Middle C*, illustrated by Scott Menchin; the #1 New York Times bestseller *Someday*, illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds; the young adult novel *All Rivers Flow to the Sea*; and the adult novel *Shadow Baby*, a Today Show Book Club selection. Alison McGhee lives in Minnesota.

Author Residence: Minneapolis, MN;

Tony Fucile is the author-illustrator of *Let's Do Nothing!* and the illustrator of Hallie Durand's *Mitchell's License*. He has spent more than twenty years designing and animating characters for numerous feature films, including *The Lion King*, *Finding Nemo*, and *The Incredibles*. Tony Fucile lives in the San Francisco Bay area.

Illustrator Residence: Laguna Beach, CA



Candlewick
9781536241617
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

320 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Magicalia
7.9 in H | 5.4 in W | 1 in T | 0.8 lb
Wt

Magicalia: Thief of Shadows

(A Middle Grade Fantasy Novel Where Secrets, Emotions, and Magic Collide)

Jennifer Bell

Summary

Bitsy and Kosh are on the run in this second page-turner in the fantasy adventure series from Jennifer Bell, featuring mind-boggling magicores and amazing science.

When Kosh is accused of being the notorious thief the Shadowsmith, he and Bitsy must go into hiding before Kosh is arrested. Determined to prove that Kosh is innocent, Bitsy, Kosh, and their friend Mateo set out to find the real villain. But they have something the Shadowsmith desperately wants, something the conservatoire also needs for protection. Can Bitsy, Kosh, and Mateo figure out who the true culprit is before time runs out and someone catches them? Starring fantastical magical creatures conjured from different emotions, the Magicalia series of young middle-grade fiction is essential reading for fans of Pokémon and Skandar, with a twist of science and gaming.

Contributor Bio

Jennifer Bell worked as a children's bookseller at a world-famous bookshop before becoming an author. Her debut novel, *The Uncommoners: The Crooked Sixpence*, was an international bestseller. In addition to the Magicalia series, she is the author of the Agents of the Wild adventure series for younger readers; *Wonderscape*, a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month that was inspired by some of her favorite heroes from history and her love of gaming; and *Legendarium*, which celebrates incredible legends from around the world. Jennifer Bell lives in London.

Author Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536251401
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

320 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Magicalia
7.6 in H | 5.2 in W | 0.8 in T | 0.6 lb Wt

Magicalia: Thief of Shadows

(A Middle Grade Fantasy Novel Where Secrets, Emotions, and Magic Collide)

Jennifer Bell

Summary

Bitsy and Kosh are on the run in this second page-turner in the fantasy adventure series from Jennifer Bell, featuring mind-boggling magicores and amazing science.

When Kosh is accused of being the notorious thief the Shadowsmith, he and Bitsy must go into hiding before Kosh is arrested. Determined to prove that Kosh is innocent, Bitsy, Kosh, and their friend Mateo set out to find the real villain. But they have something the Shadowsmith desperately wants, something the conservatoire also needs for protection. Can Bitsy, Kosh, and Mateo figure out who the true culprit is before time runs out and someone catches them? Starring fantastical magical creatures conjured from different emotions, the Magicalia series of young middle-grade fiction is essential reading for fans of Pokémon and Skandar, with a twist of science and gaming.

Contributor Bio

Jennifer Bell worked as a children's bookseller at a world-famous bookshop before becoming an author. Her debut novel, *The Uncommoners: The Crooked Sixpence*, was an international bestseller. In addition to the Magicalia series, she is the author of the Agents of the Wild adventure series for younger readers; *Wonderscape*, a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month that was inspired by some of her favorite heroes from history and her love of gaming; and *Legendarium*, which celebrates incredible legends from around the world. Jennifer Bell lives in London.

Author Residence: England

336 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
8.1 in H | 5.8 in W | 1.1 in T | 0.8
lb Wt

Kate McGovern

Maple is running for president of the sixth grade against popular Sonia Shah in this contemporary story of friendship, family, and community action, a follow-up to *Welcome Back, Maple Mehta-Cohen*.

Contributor Bio

Author Residence: Cambridge, MA



Candlewick
9781536243314
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

336 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Nell O'Dell Hates Quests

Emily B. Martin

Summary

What happens when the quest finds *you*, despite your best efforts? A reluctant adventurer sets off on an unexpected journey in this broadly appealing fantasy that's at once earnest and self-aware, funny and heartfelt, and thoroughly charming.

Nell O'Dell yearns for a quiet life tending her garden and caring for her chickens. Unfortunately, her family runs the bustling Crossroads Inn—accommodating all species of patron, from fairies to fauns to half-giants, most of them questers on their way to seek glory and fortune. What's more, her parents are retired questers themselves, and everyone assumes that Nell will follow in their footsteps. Then the day comes when a letter arrives from the government, threatening the inn and all that Nell holds dear, and someone needs to go on a short journey to the capital to take care of it. Nell is the only one available—but that's fine, because it's just a boring business trip, not a quest! Even if she does find herself up against an excitable travel partner, a thief in the night, a stolen treasure, a mysterious knife . . . Lively black-and-white illustrations by the author embellish this breezy, big-hearted adventure that will satisfy both longtime questers and first-time visitors to the genre.

Contributor Bio

Emily B. Martin splits her time between working as a park ranger and as an author and illustrator, resulting in her characteristic eco-fantasy adventures. Her books include the illustrated middle-grade science fantasy *A Field Guide to Mermaids*, the YA duology *The Outlaw Road*, and the *Creatures of Light* trilogy. An avid hiker and explorer, she uses her experiences as a ranger to inform the characters and worlds she creates on paper. She lives in South Carolina.

Author Residence: Pendleton, SC



Candlewick
9781536247978
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

288 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Relic Hamilton
7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Relic Hamilton, Genie Hunter

Joseph Coelho, Hyun Song We

Summary

Genies grant wishes! But everyone forgets they're imprisoned in those lamps for a reason . . . A gripping new adventure series from a Carnegie Medalist and former UK Children's Laureate.

Relic Hamilton is just your average twelve-year-old, living a quiet life with his grandfather above their old antique shop in Chinatown in London. Until, that is, the day he's polishing some mysterious brass lamps in the basement and something extraordinary happens. He feels spine-chillingly cold. Breathless. *Scared*. And there it is—a real live genie standing before him. But this is no kind, benevolent genie. This one is evil . . . and it feeds on hope.

Ghostbusters meets *Raiders of the Lost Ark* meets Pokémon (with a genie twist) as award-winning author Joseph Coelho follows Relic to the heart of a fast-paced underground community of dedicated genie hunters. Led by the excitable Professor Latimer and the über-cool Doctor Raphaella, they will travel together in their one-of-a-kind jet, the *Aladdin*, on a secret mission to chase down rogue genies before they wreak havoc on the world. Vividly and imaginatively written, with a humorous cast of cool characters, this first in a trilogy is brought to life in twenty black-and-white illustrations by Korean artist Hyun Song We.

Contributor Bio

Joseph Coelho, an award-winning poet, playwright, and author of picture books and nonfiction, was the UK Children's Laureate from 2022 to 2024. The Relic Hamilton trilogy was inspired by his time studying archaeology in college. His books include *The Boy Lost in the Maze*, which won the Yoto Carnegie Medal; *Werewolf Club Rules*; *Overheard in a Tower Block*; *The Girl Who Became a Tree: A Story Told in Poems*, which was short-listed for a Carnegie Medal; *Ten-Word Tiny Tales to Inspire and Unsettle*; and *Ten-Word Tiny Tales of Love*. Joseph Coelho works regularly as a performance poet, and his plays for young people have been performed by various British theater groups. Originally from London, he now lives in Edinburgh.

Author Residence: England

Hyun Song We is a character designer and animator whose clients include Pixar, Sony, Netflix, WarnerBros, and others. He lives in Korea.

Illustrator Residence: Republic of Korea



Candlewick
9781536247985
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

288 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
Series: Relic Hamilton
7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Relic Hamilton, Genie Hunter

Joseph Coelho, Hyun Song We

Summary

Genies grant wishes! But everyone forgets they're imprisoned in those lamps for a reason . . . A gripping new adventure series from a Carnegie Medalist and former UK Children's Laureate.

Relic Hamilton is just your average twelve-year-old, living a quiet life with his grandfather above their old antique shop in Chinatown in London. Until, that is, the day he's polishing some mysterious brass lamps in the basement and something extraordinary happens. He feels spine-chillingly cold. Breathless. *Scared*. And there it is—a real live genie standing before him. But this is no kind, benevolent genie. This one is evil . . . and it feeds on hope.

Ghostbusters meets *Raiders of the Lost Ark* meets Pokémon (with a genie twist) as award-winning author Joseph Coelho follows Relic to the heart of a fast-paced underground community of dedicated genie hunters. Led by the excitable Professor Latimer and the über-cool Doctor Raphaella, they will travel together in their one-of-a-kind jet, the *Aladdin*, on a secret mission to chase down rogue genies before they wreak havoc on the world. Vividly and imaginatively written, with a humorous cast of cool characters, this first in a trilogy is brought to life in twenty black-and-white illustrations by Korean artist Hyun Song We.

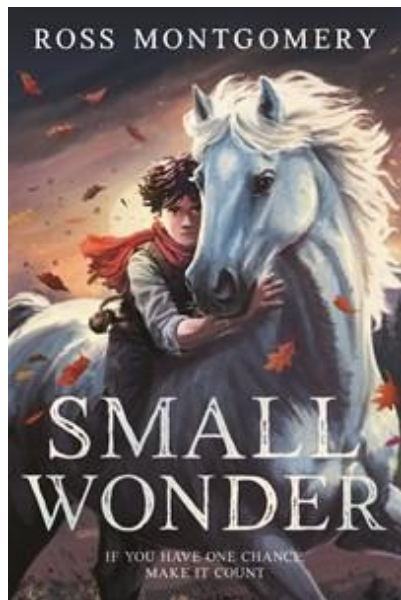
Contributor Bio

Joseph Coelho, an award-winning poet, playwright, and author of picture books and nonfiction, was the UK Children's Laureate from 2022 to 2024. The Relic Hamilton trilogy was inspired by his time studying archaeology in college. His books include *The Boy Lost in the Maze*, which won the Yoto Carnegie Medal; *Werewolf Club Rules*; *Overheard in a Tower Block*; *The Girl Who Became a Tree: A Story Told in Poems*, which was short-listed for a Carnegie Medal; *Ten-Word Tiny Tales to Inspire and Unsettle*; and *Ten-Word Tiny Tales of Love*. Joseph Coelho works regularly as a performance poet, and his plays for young people have been performed by various British theater groups. Originally from London, he now lives in Edinburgh.

Hyun Song We is a character designer and animator whose clients include Pixar, Sony, Netflix, WarnerBros, and others. He lives in Korea.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence: Republic of Korea



Candlewick
9781536252026
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

224 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.3 in H | 5.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Small Wonder

Ross Montgomery

Summary

A heartwarming middle-grade adventure about the bond between two brothers, their faithful horse, and a surprising legacy. A deserving follow-up to *I Am Rebel* from a beloved author twice short-listed for the Costa Children's Book Award.

Remember everything I taught you, Small Wonder. Take care of Leaf. Take care of Pebble. I've done all I can. The rest is up to you . . .

Tick, called Small Wonder by his grandfather, lives peacefully at the edge of Ellia, along with his little brother and faithful horse. But then a deadly assassin arrives. Enemies are invading and the kingdom is in danger. Tick has six moons to get to Kings' Keep and warn their ruler. Traveling through forests and over mountains, encountering bandits and rogue knights, Tick is determined to honor his grandfather's last words of advice . . . *Make it count.*

Contributor Bio

Ross Montgomery is the award-winning author of several acclaimed novels, including the Waterstones Children's Book of the Year *I Am Rebel*. He is also the author of the picture books *Penguin Huddle* and *Ant Party*, and the upcoming *Pog and Pickle's Great Escape*, all illustrated by Sarah Warburton. He lives in London with his wife and their cat, Fun Bobby.

Author Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536252460
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Small Wonder

Ross Montgomery

Summary

A heartwarming middle-grade adventure about the bond between two brothers, their faithful horse, and a surprising legacy. A deserving follow-up to *I Am Rebel* from a beloved author twice short-listed for the Costa Children's Book Award.

Remember everything I taught you, Small Wonder. Take care of Leaf. Take care of Pebble. I've done all I can. The rest is up to you . . .

Tick, called Small Wonder by his grandfather, lives peacefully at the edge of Ellia, along with his little brother and faithful horse. But then a deadly assassin arrives. Enemies are invading and the kingdom is in danger. Tick has six moons to get to Kings' Keep and warn their ruler. Traveling through forests and over mountains, encountering bandits and rogue knights, Tick is determined to honor his grandfather's last words of advice . . . *Make it count.*

Contributor Bio

Ross Montgomery is the award-winning author of several acclaimed novels, including the Waterstones Children's Book of the Year *I Am Rebel*. He is also the author of the picture books *Penguin Huddle* and *Ant Party*, and the upcoming *Pog and Pickle's Great Escape*, all illustrated by Sarah Warburton. He lives in London with his wife and their cat, Fun Bobby.

Author Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536239256
Pub Date: 2/24/2026
On Sale Date: 2/24/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
8.1 in H | 5.9 in W | 1.3 in T | 1.1
lb Wt

Sweet, Tart

Kara Thom

Summary

After witnessing the tragic death of a racehorse, eleven-year-old Halle finds herself caring for the horse's best friend, a grieving pony named Rocky. A heart-tugging story of patience, love, and hope.

Halle thinks starting sixth grade in a brand-new school might help her forget about what happened at the racetrack. But she's wrong. She can't sleep at night because when she closes her eyes, she sees the last moments of Carver D'esprit, a horse who died the day Halle went to watch the races with her family. When Halle learns Carver came from nearby Oak Creek Stables, she is compelled to go there and learn more about him. The owner introduces her to Carver's best friend, a pony named Rocky. Rocky is standoffish at first, but as Halle cares for him, they both begin to open up. When Halle finds out that Oak Creek Stables is suddenly on the verge of being sold to a housing developer, she feels everything slipping out from under her—what will happen to the horses, to Rocky, and to the memory of Carver D'esprit? This heartfelt story of loss and light follows Halle as she experiences the interconnectedness of endings and beginnings and learns that love still multiplies, even during grief.

Contributor Bio

Kara Thom is the author the Go! Go! Sports Girls series, *Hot (Sweaty) Mamas: Five Secrets to Life as a Fit Mom*, *Becoming an Ironman: First Encounters with the Ultimate Endurance Event*, and the children's book *See Mom Run*. Her poetry has been published in *Lucky Jefferson*, *Sport Literate*, the 2020 Texas Poetry Calendar, and several online journals. She was the 2018 recipient of the Gaia Fenna Memorial Fellowship at Tofte Lake and a finalist for the 2019 Julia Darling Poetry Prize. This is her first middle-grade novel. She lives in Minnesota with her family.

Author Residence: Chaska, MN



Candlewick
9781536251241
Pub Date: 4/21/2026
On Sale Date: 4/21/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

224 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Fiction / Fantasy
7.6 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

The Magician Next Door

Rachel Chivers Khoo, Alice McKinley

Summary

An enchanting adventure about a flying house and the power of friendship.

Ten-year-old Callie is desperately homesick. She misses everything about living in London—the apartment building where everyone has known her since she was a baby, her best friend, all the places that remind her of her mother, who died three years ago. She doesn't care to get to know Northern Ireland, no matter how friendly her next-door neighbor Sam is. Then a magical house crash-lands upside down in Callie's backyard, and its magician, Winnifred, turns to Callie for help. The Wanderdust that powers the house and keeps it (and Winnifred) healthy has flown away, leaving Winnifred at the mercy of malicious fairies and dangerous giants. She can't leave her house, so it's up to an eager Sam and a reluctant Callie to find the missing Wanderdust and bring it home again. And maybe, along the way, figure out what *home* means to Callie.

Contributor Bio

Rachel Chivers Khoo is the author of *The Wishkeeper's Apprentice*. She spent much of her childhood reading books from her local library, and when she was nine, she promised an invisible tiger that one day she would write her own stories. She lives in Oxford, England, with her husband, two young sons, and far too many books.

Author Residence: England

Alice McKinley wanted to be a dalmatian when she grew up. But unfortunately, she didn't have a magician next door to make that dream a reality, so she ended up becoming an author-illustrator instead. Her books include *The Dodos Did It!* and *Nine Lives Newton*. Alice McKinley lives in England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536251234
Pub Date: 4/14/2026
On Sale Date: 4/14/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

288 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Humorous
Stories
Series: Clarice Bean
7.3 in H | 5.4 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Clarice Bean, Smile

Lauren Child

Summary

With her school project overdue, the irrepressible Clarice ponders big themes, like the delicate balance of life on Earth, the nature of happiness, and how even the smallest person can make a difference.

Clarice Bean is thinking about all the endangered things: the BIG creatures, the LITTLE creatures, the plants and the trees. If only she can stop daydreaming, she might come up with a subject for her big school assignment—or is daydreaming part of the creative process? Meanwhile, it's not just the planet that needs help; there's her whole family too—like a forgetful granddad who keeps falling and a dad who is literally getting sick from a stressful office merger (whatever that may be). Welcome back to the beloved world of Clarice Bean, whose books have sold more than six million copies worldwide and garnered huge critical acclaim. As always, Lauren Child brings her signature quirky humor and enchanting black-and-white illustrations to this smile-inducing story about honoring your unique gifts—and using them to make things better.

Contributor Bio

Lauren Child is the author-illustrator of many picture books, including *The New Small Person*, *Absolutely One Thing*, and *A Dog with Nice Ears*, as well as the Charlie and Lola, Ruby Redfort, and Clarice Bean series. She has won numerous awards, including the prestigious Kate Greenaway Medal. Lauren Child lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536250480
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$9.99
Trade Paperback

72 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Poetry
11 in H | 8.6 in W | 0.3 in T | 0.7
lb Wt

Marshmallow Clouds: Two Poets at Play among Figures of Speech

(A Lyrical Book of Poems That Invites Readers Into Nature, Wonder, and Creative Expression)

Connie Wanek, Ted Kooser, Richard Jones

Summary

"A finer collection of poetry you couldn't hope to find . . . Wanek and Kooser revel in evocative metaphors that are deepened and appreciated with the aid of Richard Jones' hypnotic watercolors."—NPR.org

A freewheeling romp through the world of imagery and metaphor, this quietly startling collection of thirty poems, framed by the four elements, is about art and reality, fact and fancy. Look around: what do you see? A clown balancing a pie in a tree, or an empty nest perched on a leafless branch? As poet Connie Wanek alludes to in her afterword—a lively dialogue with former US Poet Laureate Ted Kooser—sometimes the simplest sights and sounds "summon our imaginations" and cry out to be clothed in the alchemical language of poetry. This compendium of the fleeting and unexpected turns the everyday—turtles, trees, and tadpoles; cow pies, lazy afternoons, and pillowy white marshmallows—into poetic gold. A brilliant and timeless collaboration that evokes both the mystery and grandeur of the natural world and the cozy, mundane moments of daily life, this exquisitely illustrated collection is the go-to gift book of the season for poetry fans of all ages.

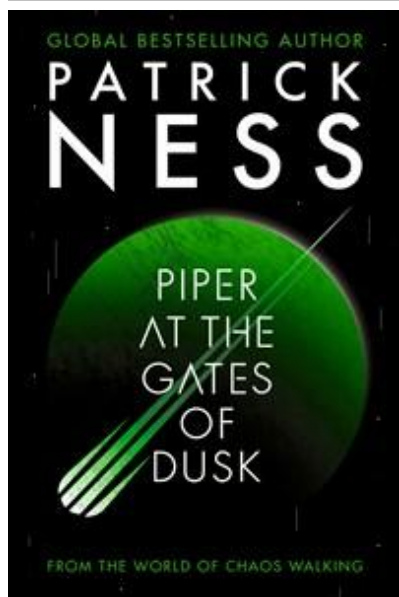
Contributor Bio

Ted Kooser was the US Poet Laureate from 2004 to 2006 and won a Pulitzer Prize for his book of poems *Delights & Shadows*. His picture books include *Bag in the Wind* and *The Bell in the Bridge*, both illustrated by Barry Root; *House Held Up by Trees*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year, illustrated by Jon Klassen; and *Mr. Posey's New Glasses*, an International Literacy Association Children's Choice, illustrated by Daniel Duncan. Ted Kooser lives in Garland, Nebraska.

Author Residence: Mendota Heights, MN; Garland, NE

Connie Wanek has been writing since her hand could hold a pencil. She is the author of four books of poetry, including *Rival Gardens: New and Selected Poems*, the second book in the Ted Kooser Contemporary Poetry Series. She lives in Duluth, Minnesota.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536248302
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

352 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Action &
Adventure
Series: The New World
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Piper at the Gates of Dusk

Patrick Ness

Summary

Two-time Carnegie Medalist Patrick Ness makes a thrilling return to the world of Chaos Walking with this launch of the extraordinary New World trilogy.

It's been twenty years since the monstrous war that almost tore New World apart, and there's a new generation on the planet. Todd and Viola's sons Ben and Max have known only peace growing up on the family farm outside a bustling human settlement. They dream of the usual things, like school and adventure, until the nightmares begin . . .

A sudden sickness has infected the young people of New World with Noise in the form of their worst thoughts about themselves. Some suspect the Spackle, the indigenous people with whom humans have a very uneasy truce. Others wonder about a connection to a mysterious object looming in the sky. And then, one by one, the children of New World begin to disappear.

Ben, with his mother's logical mind, and Max, with his father's courageous heart, become caught up in separate quests for answers, journeys that will test their beliefs in their parents, each other, and in their very existence on the planet.

Patrick Ness makes a masterful return to New World in this timely work of science fiction, one that looks at the interplay of fear, power, and propaganda, and at the stories we tell ourselves.

Contributor Bio

Patrick Ness is the author of the critically acclaimed and best-selling Chaos Walking trilogy, as well as *Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody* and its sequel, *Chronicles of a Lizard Nobody: The Hat of Great Importance*. He wrote the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *A Monster Calls* (inspired by an idea from Siobhan Dowd), which won both the Carnegie Medal and the Kate Greenaway Medal, was a *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize Finalist, and was made into a major motion picture for which he wrote the screenplay. He is also the author of *More Than This*, *Release*, *Different for Boys*, *The Rest of Us Just Live Here*, and *Burn*. His many accolades include two Carnegie Medals, an Olivier Award, the *Guardian* Children's Fiction Prize, the BookTrust Teenage Prize, and the Costa Children's Book Award. Patrick Ness lives in Los Angeles and London.

Author Residence: Los Angeles, CA



Candlewick
9781536243833
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$19.99
Hardcover

208 Pages
Ages 12 And Up, Grades 7 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Romance
7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Slow Burn

Bethany Rutter

Summary

A sporty, feel-good, body-positive rom-com pits a plus-size teen against her bullies to prove what she already knows—that she has exactly the right stuff.

Sixteen-year-old Ruby has worked hard to be happy in her body, even when other people—including her brother and her PE teacher—insist there's something wrong with her for being fat. All Ruby cares about is hanging out at the skate park this summer with friends. But her brother's bullying words get under her skin, and in order to prove to him (and her impressionable little sister) that fat girls can do anything, Ruby finds herself signed up for the annual 5K Dawson Dash. There's just one problem: She can't run. The cute new boy next door can, however, and when Ollie offers to help her train, Ruby takes him up on it, even if it means he'll see her at her sweatiest and most vulnerable. Young athletes of all stripes, especially those marginalized in sports due to body differences, will find a hero in good-humored Ruby. With its all-audience appeal, her joyful story delivers upbeat romance and affirmation that our bodies are just right, just the way they are.

Contributor Bio

Bethany Rutter is a writer, podcaster, and author of novels for young readers and adults, including *No Big Deal* and *Melt My Heart*. Cohost of a podcast about all things books, *What Page Are You On?*, Bethany Rutter lives in Southeast London.

Author Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536251647
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$12.99
Trade Paperback

Ages 12 And Up, Grades 7 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Romance

7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Slow Burn

Bethany Rutter

Summary

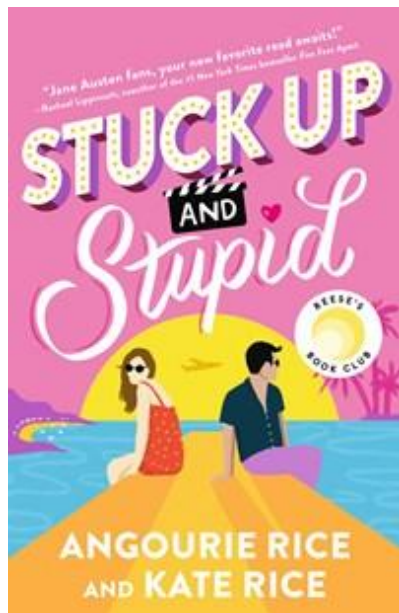
A sporty, feel-good, body-positive rom-com pits a plus-size teen against her bullies to prove what she already knows—that she has exactly the right stuff.

Sixteen-year-old Ruby has worked hard to be happy in her body, even when other people—including her brother and her PE teacher—insist there's something wrong with her for being fat. All Ruby cares about is hanging out at the skate park this summer with friends. But her brother's bullying words get under her skin, and in order to prove to him (and her impressionable little sister) that fat girls can do anything, Ruby finds herself signed up for the annual 5K Dawson Dash. There's just one problem: She can't run. The cute new boy next door can, however, and when Ollie offers to help her train, Ruby takes him up on it, even if it means he'll see her at her sweatiest and most vulnerable. Young athletes of all stripes, especially those marginalized in sports due to body differences, will find a hero in good-humored Ruby. With its all-audience appeal, her joyful story delivers upbeat romance and affirmation that our bodies are just right, just the way they are.

Contributor Bio

Bethany Rutter is a writer, podcaster, and author of novels for young readers and adults, including *No Big Deal* and *Melt My Heart*. Cohost of a podcast about all things books, *What Page Are You On?*, Bethany Rutter lives in Southeast London.

Author Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536251210
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

400 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Fiction / Romance
7.8 in H | 5.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Stuck Up and Stupid

Angourie Rice, Kate Rice

Summary

An ordinary girl. A Hollywood star. A love story that could change everything. *Pride and Prejudice* gets a modern twist from two debut authors who know their material—and deliver it with heart and hilarity.

Lily has the whole summer stretched out before her—endless days of sunshine and friends at beautiful Pippi Beach. Then superstar Dorian Khan arrives, with his party of Hollywood types. While most of the locals, including Lily's glamor-obsessed mum, are thrilled to be so close to the A-listers, Lily can't help but see them as superficial and arrogant, especially Dorian, the most famous of them all. But as Lily's and Dorian's paths continue to cross, she begins to wonder if she's got him all wrong. Playwright Kate Rice and her daughter, Hollywood actor Angourie Rice, team up to write a teen romance novel from those who know firsthand what the international film industry is really like. Inspired by the ever-popular Austen fandom, *Stuck Up and Stupid* is for a generation of teens who are definitely NOT looking for love.

Contributor Bio

Angourie Rice is an actor whose credits include starring roles in the movie-musical *Mean Girls* and Apple TV+'s *The Last Thing He Told Me* as well as supporting roles in the MCU Spider-Man movies. She is also a writer, producer, and host of the literary podcast *The Community Library*. She lives in Melbourne, Australia.

Kate Rice is an AWGIE Award-winning playwright with a PhD in ethical creative process and has written plays with and for young people. Her work has been commissioned by Melbourne City of Literature, Curtin University, Deckchair Theatre, Barking Gecko Theatre, Darwin Theatre Company, Darwin High School, and Corrugated Iron Youth Arts. She lives in Melbourne, Australia.

Author Residence: Australia;Australia



Candlewick
9781536250633
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

28 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Transportation
Series: Tus Cosas
5.3 in H | 7 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.6 lb
Wt

Tu camioneta

(Un libro ingenioso con arte minimalista que explora la pertenencia, la imaginación y la perspectiva para niños de 2 a 5 años)

Jon Klassen, Ana Izquierdo

Summary

From Caldecott Medalist Jon Klassen comes the first board book in the *Your Things* series for the youngest of children.

This is your truck.

It is yours to have.

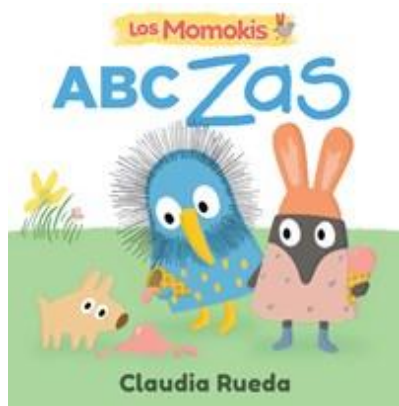
Your truck is red, but it could be other colors too. It can carry things around, like a chair and table, a dog, or a horse. It will wait for you until you tell it to go, then it will go wherever you want, as far as you want, whenever you want. At the end of the day it will sleep, and you can sleep, too. Jon Klassen brings his minimalist's touch to a soothing story of a simple object that a child can command and befriend, one that is there whenever the child chooses to visit it. Building on the quiet but evocative world he created in *Your Farm*, *Your Forest*, and *Your Island*, Jon Klassen invites young children to consider more things that are theirs and theirs alone, reinforcing that they have a right to things like solitude, exploration, and companionship.

Contributor Bio

Jon Klassen is the creator of the *Your Places* board book series, including *Your Farm*, *Your Forest*, and *Your Island*. He is the author and illustrator of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling *I Want My Hat Back*, which won a Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor, and its companions *This Is Not My Hat*, which won a Caldecott Medal and a Kate Greenaway Medal, and *We Found a Hat*, named a *Publishers Weekly* Best Children's Book of the Year. He is also the creator of *The Rock from the Sky* and *The Skull*, and the illustrator of *Extra Yarn*, *Sam and Dave Dig a Hole*, *Triangle*, *Square*, and *Circle*, all by Mac Barnett. Originally from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Jon Klassen now lives in Los Angeles.

Author Residence: Los Angeles, CA

Illustrator Residence: Los Angeles, CA



Candlewick
9781536250589
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

26 Pages
Ages 3 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Los Momokis
7.6 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Los Momokis: ABC Zas

Claudia Rueda

Summary

Who better than the goofy, irresistible Smushkins to act out an alphabet of sounds tailored to toddlers? The *ABZs* go down easy in a concept book that can't miss.

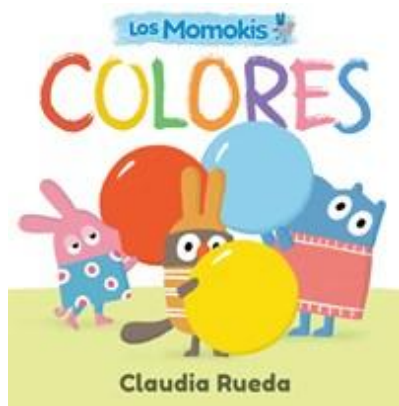
A is for a big-mouthed dog that goes *arf*. B is for the *boing boing boing* of three Smushkins riding bouncing balls. Look, there are some Smushkins at the door (*ding-dong*)! In a Smushkin's world, crackers are tasty (*nom nom*), log cars are speedy (*vroom*), and trampolines are the most fun of all (*yippee! yippee!*). Spend a busy day with the Smushkins, and you might just find yourself ready for sleep right along with them (*zzzzzinks*). Claudia Rueda follows her delightful *Meet the Smushkins* with an aural alphabet featuring a lovable cast of characters toddlers are sure to visit again.

Contributor Bio

Claudia Rueda is an author and a *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books for children, including *Meet the Smushkins*. Her books have been published in the United States, Mexico, and Spain and have been translated into sixteen languages. A Hans Christian Andersen Award nominee and an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award nominee, Claudia Rueda is originally from Colombia, where she went to law school and art school and worked as a political cartoonist before studying children's book illustration at UC Berkeley and receiving a master's in creative writing from Lesley University. She lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536250596
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

26 Pages
Ages 3 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
Series: Los Momokis
7.6 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Los Momokis: Colores

Claudia Rueda

Summary

Whether blowing up a balloon or watering a garden, colors abound around the adorable Smushkins—and toddler fans will be excited to discover a world of colors.

When Smushkins shake a brilliant autumn tree, what do they get? A massive pile of red leaves to jump into! When a Smushkin twirls some cotton candy at the fair, what comes next? A cloud of pink! In a Smushkin's world, dogs dig up bones in white snow, painters paint themselves into a purple corner, and friends jump together into luscious brown puddles. Reading a bedtime book might lead to a sleepy black doze, but check out the multicolored celebration with all the Smushkins at the end. Claudia Rueda mines the world of the familiar as her gentle characters introduce a rainbow of colors to the youngest of readers.

Contributor Bio

Claudia Rueda is an author and a *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books for children, including *Meet the Smushkins*. Her books have been published in the United States, Mexico, and Spain and have been translated into sixteen languages. A Hans Christian Andersen Award nominee and an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award nominee, Claudia Rueda is originally from Colombia, where she went to law school and art school and worked as a political cartoonist before studying children's book illustration at UC Berkeley and receiving a master's in creative writing from Lesley University. She lives in New York City.

Author Residence: New York, NY

Illustrator Residence: New York, NY



Candlewick
9781536247213
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$15.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
Series: Las primeras experiencias
de Maisy
7.5 in H | 9.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Maisy juega fútbol

Lucy Cousins

Summary

Wow, look at the crowd! Maisy and friends play a rousing game of soccer in a read-aloud sure to have aspiring little players cheering.

Maisy and her friends can’t wait to play soccer! Maisy puts on her uniform, laces up her sneakers, and heads to the field. Charlie, Tallulah, and Dotty are on the blue team, while Maisy, Cyril, and Eddie are on the red. Let’s play! Soon enough the game heats up, with plenty of action, excitement, and suspense. Who will be the first team to make a goal? Whatever the score, it’s all in good fun, and everyone is still the best of friends at the end!

Contributor Bio

Lucy Cousins is the creator of the beloved Maisy series. She is also the author-illustrator of the widely acclaimed *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children’s Book of the Year, as well as *I’m the Best* and *Hooray for Fish!* Lucy Cousins lives in Hampshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536247220
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Sports & Recreation
Series: Las primeras experiencias de Maisy
7.5 in H | 9.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Maisy juega fútbol

Lucy Cousins

Summary

Wow, look at the crowd! Maisy and friends play a rousing game of soccer in a read-aloud sure to have aspiring little players cheering.

Maisy and her friends can’t wait to play soccer! Maisy puts on her uniform, laces up her sneakers, and heads to the field. Charlie, Tallulah, and Dotty are on the blue team, while Maisy, Cyril, and Eddie are on the red. Let’s play! Soon enough the game heats up, with plenty of action, excitement, and suspense. Who will be the first team to make a goal? Whatever the score, it’s all in good fun, and everyone is still the best of friends at the end!

Contributor Bio

Lucy Cousins is the creator of the beloved Maisy series. She is also the author-illustrator of the widely acclaimed *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children’s Book of the Year, as well as *I’m the Best* and *Hooray for Fish!* Lucy Cousins lives in Hampshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick
9781536247206
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Las primeras experiencias
de Maisy
7.5 in H | 9.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Maisy va al dentista

(Un primer viaje al dentista para niños, lleno de apoyo, descubrimientos y confianza)

Lucy Cousins

Summary

On his first trip to the dentist, Charley gets lots of moral support from Maisy and friends in a full-length story readers will be eager to sink their teeth into.

Maisy's friend Charley has a wiggly tooth! He's going to the dentist for the first time, and he's a little nervous. Luckily, Maisy, Tallulah, Eddie, and Cyril are happy to accompany Charley to the dentist's office, where they make some fun discoveries: a twirly chair that goes up and down, a special cup to spit in, and a proper tooth-brushing demonstration. Charley gets an X-ray, a smiley button, and a book to take home, but what will happen with his wiggly tooth?

Contributor Bio

Lucy Cousins is the creator of the beloved Maisy series. She is also the author-illustrator of the widely acclaimed *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year, as well as *I'm the Best* and *Hooray for Fish!* Lucy Cousins lives in Hampshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536247190
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$7.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Health & Daily
Living
Series: Las primeras experiencias
de Maisy
7.5 in H | 9.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

Maisy va al dentista

(Un primer viaje al dentista para niños, lleno de apoyo, descubrimientos y confianza)

Lucy Cousins

Summary

On his first trip to the dentist, Charley gets lots of moral support from Maisy and friends in a full-length story readers will be eager to sink their teeth into.

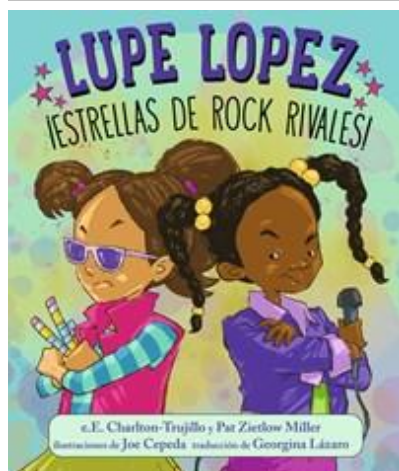
Maisy's friend Charley has a wiggly tooth! He's going to the dentist for the first time, and he's a little nervous. Luckily, Maisy, Tallulah, Eddie, and Cyril are happy to accompany Charley to the dentist's office, where they make some fun discoveries: a twirly chair that goes up and down, a special cup to spit in, and a proper tooth-brushing demonstration. Charley gets an X-ray, a smiley button, and a book to take home, but what will happen with his wiggly tooth?

Contributor Bio

Lucy Cousins is the creator of the beloved Maisy series. She is also the author-illustrator of the widely acclaimed *Yummy: Eight Favorite Fairy Tales*, a *New York Times Book Review* Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year, as well as *I'm the Best* and *Hooray for Fish!* Lucy Cousins lives in Hampshire, England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick
9781536250657
Pub Date: 2/10/2026
On Sale Date: 2/10/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
Series: Lupe Lopez
10.6 in H | 9.1 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Lupe Lopez ¡Estrellas de rock rivaless!

e.E. Charlton-Trujillo, Pat Zietlow Miller, Joe Cepeda

Summary

The school talent show is days away, and Lupe Lopez has serious competition. Can she rock the notion that performing isn't about beaming the brightest—but about shining your light with others?

As Héctor P. Garcia Elementary's resident rock star, Lupe Lopez has it all. Friends. Fans. An all-girl band. Not to mention several shiny stars on the Reading Wall of Fame. But to officially claim the title of First-Grade Rock Star Supreme, Lupe needs to beam the brightest at Friday's class talent show, and to her surprise, there's a new girl in town. Radiant Reynosa can roll her arms into a wave, pop her hips and sway, stomp the court, jump kick, and forward flip. She can bounce beats and drum like nobody's business, and before Lupe knows it, her own star seems to be dimming in Radiant's shadow, and her attitude is driving her friends and fans away. Can Lupe find a sure way to shine—with friends by her side? Vibrant illustrations and taut, rhythmic text spiced with Spanish words ensure that there's a charm in this upbeat sequel to *Lupe Lopez: Rock Star Rules!* and *Lupe Lopez: Reading Rock Star!*

Contributor Bio

e. E. Charlton-Trujillo is a filmmaker and author of two previous Lupe Lopez titles—*Reading Rock Star!* and *Rock Star Rules!*—as well as the award-winning young-adult novel *Fat Angie* and its sequels, *Fat Angie: Rebel Girl Revolution* and *Fat Angie: Homecoming*. They live in California.

Pat Zietlow Miller, co-author of the previous two Lupe Lopez books, also authored the *New York Times* best-selling *Be Kind, My Brother the Duck*, and other books for young readers. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Author Residence: San Antonio, TX; Sun Prairie, WI

Joe Cepeda is an award-winning illustrator of more than thirty books for children, including *Lupe Lopez: Rock Star Rules!* Born and raised in East Los Angeles, he lives in Southern California.

Illustrator Residence: Claremont, CA



Este es un cuento

(Una celebración de los libros, la imaginación y la experiencia en la biblioteca para niños de 4 a 8 años)

John Schu, Lauren Castillo

Summary

Children’s literacy advocate John Schu and Caldecott Honor recipient Lauren Castillo celebrate the power of finding the perfect book—in a story that’s more relevant than ever.

This is a word on a page.

This is a page in a book.

This is a book on a shelf . . . waiting.

With a sea-horse kite in hand, a child heads out with Dad to the library. On the way they stop at a park, joining lots of people, some of whom are flying kites, too. At the library, a person toting a big pile of books hands over a story on a favorite subject: the sea horse. All around, there are readers poring over books, each with their own questions, ideas to explore, hopes for the future, and imaginations ready to spark. With a warm, lyrical text and tenderly expressive illustrations, John Schu and Lauren Castillo invite us to imagine the myriad ways that books can foster connection and understanding—and how they can empower children, through their own passions, to transform the world.

Contributor Bio

John Schu is the author of *This Is a School*, illustrated by Veronica Miller Jamison. He is also a children’s librarian at Bookelicious and a part-time lecturer at Rutgers University. He was previously the Ambassador of School Libraries for Scholastic Book Fairs and has worked as a classroom teacher and school librarian. He travels all over the world visiting schools and meeting with students, teachers, and administrators as he advocates for the people and things he cares about most: kids, books, schools, and the libraries—and librarians—that connect them. John Schu lives in Naperville, Illinois.

Author Residence: Naperville, IL

Lauren Castillo is the award-winning illustrator of many books for children, including Kirkus Prize finalist *Imagine* by Juan Felipe Herrera, *Happy Like Soccer* by Maribeth Boelts, and *Yard Sale* by Eve Bunting. She is the author-illustrator of the Caldecott Honor Book *Nana in the City*. Lauren Castillo dreams and draws in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Illustrator Residence: Harrisburg, PA

Candlewick
9781536250640
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Books & Libraries
Series: Este es nuestro mundo
9.8 in H | 10.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Candlewick
9781536250626
Pub Date: 2/17/2026
On Sale Date: 2/17/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

40 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Science &
Nature
9.1 in H | 10.6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

La selva de Zonia

Juana Martinez-Neal

Summary

"A girl who lives in the rain forest begins each day by greeting her animal friends in this exuberant picture book crowned with an environmental message." —*Shelf Awareness*

Zonia's home is the Amazon rain forest, where it is always green and full of life. Every morning, the rain forest calls to Zonia, and every morning she answers. She visits the sloth family, greets the giant anteater, and runs with the speedy jaguar. But one morning, the rain forest calls to her in a troubled voice. How will Zonia answer?

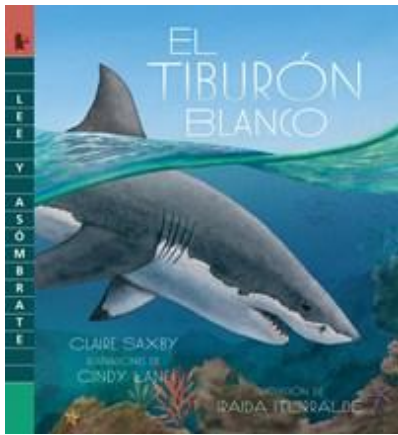
Acclaimed author-illustrator Juana Martinez-Neal explores the wonders of the rain forest with Zonia, an Asháninka girl, in her joyful outdoor adventures. The engaging text emphasizes Zonia's empowering bond with her home, while the illustrations—created on paper made from banana bark—burst with luxuriant greens and delicate details. Illuminating back matter includes a translation of the story in Asháninka, information on the Asháninka community, as well as resources on the Amazon rain forest and its wildlife.

Contributor Bio

Juana-Martinez Neal is the Peruvian-born daughter and granddaughter of painters. Her debut as an author-illustrator, *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, was awarded a Caldecott Honor and was published in Spanish as *Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre*. She has also illustrated *La Princesa and the Pea* by Susan Middleton Elya, for which she won a Pura Belpré Illustrator Award, *Babymoon* by Hayley Barrett, and *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story* by Kevin Noble Maillard, which won the Robert F. Sibert Medal. Juana lives in Arizona with her family. Visit her online at www.juanamartinezneal.com.

Author Residence: Scottsdale, AZ

Illustrator Residence: Scottsdale, AZ



Candlewick
9781536251555
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$8.99
Trade Paperback

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
Series: Lee y asómbtrate
9.8 in H | 9.1 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

El tiburón blanco

Lee y asómbtrate (Un libro álbum informativo y educativo que explora la vida oceánica y la ciencia marina para niños de 5 a 8 años)

Claire Saxby, Cindy Lane

Summary

Follow a female shark as she heads to warm waters for the sake of her young in a lyrical, fact-filled look at one of the ocean's top predators.

The great white shark swims on. Her tail sways from side to side; her fins keep her balanced. She travels the fast lane where she can, cruising invisible seaways.

As she traverses her ocean home, the great white shark's charcoal skin blends with the dark depths of the ocean, her white belly floating pale below. She carries seven pups in her belly, and her job is to give them the best possible chance at survival. Her journey will take her where she needs to go to stay nourished until she gives birth, far from shore. Set in a stunning underwater world, Claire Saxby's signature poetic prose, offset by running facts, and Cindy Lane's striking illustrations showcase the power and grace of one of the ocean's most misunderstood creatures.

Contributor Bio

Claire Saxby is the author of numerous picture books, including *Kookaburra* and *Dingo*, both illustrated by Tannya Harricks, *Emu*, illustrated by Graham Byrne, and *Koala*, illustrated by Julie Vivas. Claire Saxby lives in Melbourne, Australia.

Author Residence: Australia

Cindy Lane was born in and grew up in Sydney, Australia, lived by the Great Barrier Reef in Queensland, and now has her studio by the Indian Ocean in Perth. She loves to make her own paints with materials she finds in nature, and she collects water from around the world to use in her paintings. Seawater from across Australia was used in *Great White Shark*, her first picture book

Illustrator Residence: Australia

The Traitors: The Official Search and Find

Candlewick Press

Summary

Step into the treacherous world of *The Traitors* with this search-and-find puzzle book based on the Emmy-winning TV sensation.

Welcome to *The Traitors*—where nothing is as it seems.

Step inside the world of the most addictive, iconic, and talked-about reality show on the planet. Based on the global TV phenomenon *The Traitors*, this thrilling search-and-find adventure invites you to uncover hidden clues and expose the cloaked betrayers lurking in plain sight.

Perfect for fans of the TV show and puzzle lovers alike, this immersive book will test your observational skills and challenge your inner detective. Filled with drama, suspense, and unforgettable moments, *Search and Find: The Traitors* is a must-have for any superfan or truth-seeker.

Can you catch the Traitors before it's too late?

Contributor Bio

The Traitors is a BAFTA- and Emmy-winning psychological reality show in which treachery and deceit are the name of the game.

Alex Paterson is a leading children's illustrator and animator whose work has been exhibited in the Cartoon Museum in London.

Illustrator Residence:England

No Image
Available

Candlewick Entertainment
9781536254990
Pub Date: 1/13/2026
On Sale Date: 1/13/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 10 And Up, Grades 5 And Up
Juvenile Nonfiction / Games & Activities

11 in H | 8.3 in W | 1.3 lb Wt



Candlewick Entertainment
9781536237771

Pub Date: 4/21/2026

On Sale Date: 4/21/2026

\$8.99

Board Book

24 Pages

Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under

Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals

Series: At the Zoo

7 in H | 7 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Babies at the Zoo

Smithsonian Institution, Lala Watkins

Summary

Oooh! Discover some impossibly cute baby animals at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, in a fun photographic board book created in collaboration with the Smithsonian.

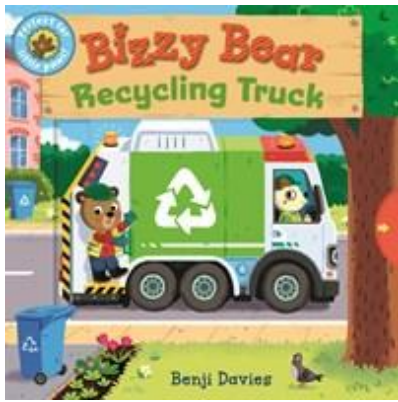
What's more fun than watching animals? Watching *baby* animals! Bear cubs frolic together on a bright spring day. Sweet seal pups snuggle up to their mamas. And cheetah cubs love to lounge peacefully in the grass. With a rhyming text, photos of favorite animals, and doodles and drawings by Lala Watkins adding to the playful effect, this adorable board book offers a peek at the youngest zoo residents—for little enthusiasts of all species.

Contributor Bio

Lala Watkins is the illustrator of the companion books *Lunchtime at the Zoo* and *Snow Day at the Zoo*. She is also the author-illustrator of *Little Boo's Halloween Party* and *Little Santa's Workshop* and the illustrator of *Sankofa: A Culinary Story of Resilience and Belonging* by Eric Adjepong. She lives in sunny Florida.

Lala Watkins is the illustrator of the companion books *Lunchtime at the Zoo* and *Snow Day at the Zoo*. She is also the author-illustrator of *Little Boo's Halloween Party* and *Little Santa's Workshop* and the illustrator of *Sankofa: A Culinary Story of Resilience and Belonging* by Eric Adjepong. She lives in sunny Florida.

Illustrator Residence:Jacksonville, FL



Bizzy Bear: Recycling Truck

Benji Davies

Summary

A new addition to the interactive series that's perfect for little ones who love garbage and recycling trucks.

Bizzy Bear, the star of the series that's sold over twenty million copies worldwide, is back and off to the recycling center in this novelty board book full of tabs to slide, push, and pull. Enjoy a ride on the recycling truck, navigate the busy streets, and sort and process the colorful materials with Bizzy Bear and his friends as they work together to do their part in helping the earth.

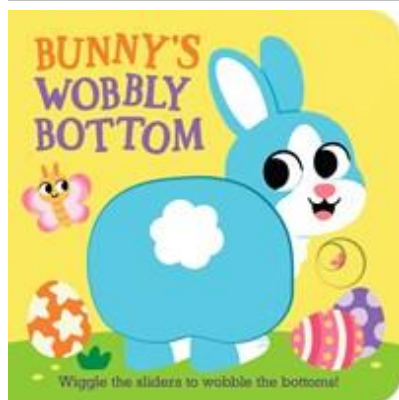
Contributor Bio

Benji Davies is the illustrator of the incredibly successful *Bizzy Bear* series, which are published in twenty-three languages. He is also the illustrator of *Also an Octopus* by Maggie Tokuda-Hall and the author-illustrator of *Grandad's Island*. Benji Davies lives in east London with his family.

Illustrator Residence:England

Candlewick Press
9781536247961
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

8 Pages
Ages 0 to 2, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Recycling &
Green Living
Series: Bizzy Bear
7.1 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.3 lb Wt



Candlewick Press
9781536246681
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

10 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Holidays &
Celebrations
Series: Wobbly Bottoms
7.1 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.5
lb Wt

Bunny's Wobbly Bottom

(An Interactive Slider Book - A Perfect Easter Basket Stuffer for Babies & Toddlers)

Kit Frost, Sam Rennocks

Summary

Wiggle the sliders to wobble the bottoms! Hunt for Easter eggs with the bunnies in this fun and cheeky board book series that builds fine-motor skills as toddlers play.

Can you join the bunnies as they do the Wobbly Bottom dance? The bouncy rhyming text and bright art are sure to draw toddlers to this funny story offering a different element to move on every page. But what's the most fun of all in this silly and irresistible board book? Wiggling all the bottoms around!

Contributor Bio

Kit Frost is a picture book author and editor who loves walks in the countryside, reading, and doing crosswords. She enjoys creating fun, adorable characters and seeing them come to life. She lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Sam Rennocks is a British illustrator who has worked with clients all over the world creating vibrant and fun images for magazines, books, and games. His passion for art is inspired by ancient history and the natural world, especially cute animals.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick Press
9781536246773
Pub Date: 1/27/2026
On Sale Date: 1/27/2026
\$9.99
Board Book

22 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Five Little... Lift-the-Flap
Books

7.1 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Five Little Chicks

(An Interactive Board Book with Farmyard Surprises, Joy, and Discovery for Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers)

Lily Murray, Holly Surplice

Summary

Find the missing chicks in this lift-the-flap board book.

Join this fluffy little family on a beautiful walk through the countryside. There's so much to see as Mama Hen and her brood wind through a flowery meadow, a bluebell wood, a field full of lambs, and a busy farmyard. Along the way, they meet all kinds of baby animals and their parents. But wait—the chicks are disappearing one by one. Whatever could they be up to? Lift the flaps to find the chicks and discover a fantastic surprise ending.

Based on the nursery rhyme "Five Little Ducks," this lift-the-flap board book is a perfect gift for Easter or to share any day of the year.

Contributor Bio

Lily Murray has worked as a writer and editor for more than fifteen years. The author of *Dinosaurium*, illustrated by Chris Wormell; *Beneath the Waves*, illustrated by Helen Ahpornsir; and the Five Little series, she enjoys walking, bird-watching, reading with her children, reading without her children, and talking to her dog. She lives in the UK.

Author Residence: England

Holly Surplice was born and brought up near Dumfries, Scotland, where living on a farm nurtured a fascination for and love of animals that continues to feed her work as an artist and illustrator today. She is also the author-illustrator of *Guinea Pig Party* and *Hush-A-Bye Bunny*. After traveling as far from home as the Galapagos, she now lives and works in Edinburgh with her husband, their young daughter, and a Dalmatian named Marbles.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick Press
9781536247947
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

24 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Health & Daily
Living

6.7 in H | 7.3 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Funny Face, Sunny Face

Sally Symes, Rosalind Beardshaw

Summary

"A nice choice for those learning how to name the parts of the body, an enjoyable read and, of course, a proper goodnight book."—Kirkus Reviews

Loosely following a child's daily routine, this charming and beautifully illustrated book celebrates all things toddler. Richly detailed scenes, cute characters, and rhyming text assure that even the youngest of children will join in, and adults will take pleasure in the colorful illustrations, however many times they're asked to read!

Contributor Bio

Sally Symes has designed, written, and illustrated many books with numerous talented partners. She lives in England with her husband, two children, and Bumble the cat.

Author Residence: England

Rosalind Beardshaw has illustrated several picture books for children. She lives in York, England, with her partner, young son, and baby daughter.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick Press
9781536248906
Pub Date: 1/6/2026
On Sale Date: 1/6/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

14 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: I'm A... Shaped Board
Book Series

7.1 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

I'm a Bunny

(A Shaped Board Book Full of Animal Sounds, Lively Rhymes, and Interactive Fun for Babies and Toddlers)

Carly Blake, Matthew Scott

Summary

Each uniquely shaped page reveals a new animal, alongside a playful sound to join in with.

Packed with bright art from Matthew Scott, these toylike pages are sure to hold the attention of babies and toddlers. Little ones will love to *BAA*, *CHEEP*, and *BOING* along as they meet lambs, chicks and bunnies.

Contributor Bio

Carly Blake has been a children's book editor for more than fifteen years, working on everything from pop-up and board books to nonfiction and picture books, including the best-selling Ology series. She works as a senior commissioning editor for Templar Publishing. Carly Blake is based in the UK and lives near Cambridge.

Author Residence: England

Matthew Scott is an award-winning illustrator whose bold, colorful artwork can be seen in children's books as well as on toys, games, apps, and television. His work begins with sketches using pencil and paper, which he then colors digitally using various programs and scanned textures. He is also the illustrator of *I'm a Car* and *I'm a Dinosaur*.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick Press
9781536246704
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

10 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Wobbly Bottoms
7.1 in H | 7 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.5 lb
Wt

Kitten's Wobbly Bottom

Kit Frost, Sam Rennocks

Summary

Wiggle the sliders to wobble the bottoms! Join a crew of kitten friends for an adorable bottom-wobbling, giggle-worthy adventure in this fun and cheeky board book series that builds fine-motor skills as toddlers play.

Can you join the kittens as they do the Wobbly Bottom dance? With a simple rhyming text, and colorful illustrations, this sweet and silly story will be hard for toddlers and little cat lovers to resist. But what's the most fun of all in this interactive board book? Wiggling all the bottoms around!

Contributor Bio

Kit Frost is a picture book author and editor who loves walks in the countryside, reading, and doing crosswords. She enjoys creating fun, adorable characters and seeing them come to life. She lives in London.

Author Residence: England

Sam Rennocks is a British illustrator who has worked with clients all over the world creating vibrant and fun images for magazines, books, and games. His passion for art is inspired by ancient history and the natural world, especially cute animals.

Illustrator Residence:England



Candlewick Press
9781536247930
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$8.99
Board Book

24 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Nursery Rhymes
8 in H | 8 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Old MacDonald's Things That Go

Jane Clarke, Migy Blanco

Summary

**"A great singalong that proves that Old MacDonald still has new tricks."
—Kirkus Reviews**

Old MacDonald's farm is full of pigs, cows, sheep, hens, and horses, but what he really loves is his *colossal* collection of vehicles! From bicycles, tractors, and buses to boats, fire engines, and airplanes, there are *lots* of things that go on Old MacDonald's farm. And the animals love to join in with the fun, too. Perfect for anyone who loves farmyard animals *and* vehicles.

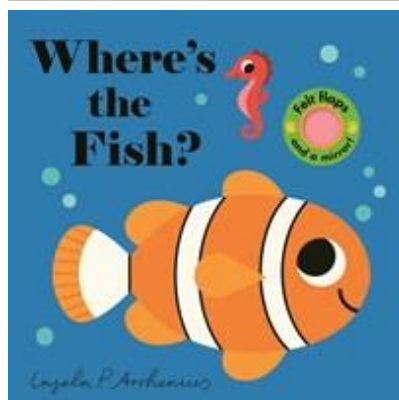
Contributor Bio

Jane Clarke is the author of more than seventy books for young children, including *Who Woke the Baby?* She enjoys visiting schools and loves animals, country walks, fossil hunts, meeting up with her sons and their families in the U.K. and U.S., and having fun with her grandchildren.

Author Residence: England

Migy (pronounced "Miggy") **Blanco** spent ten years working in advertising and editorial illustration before moving to Buenos Aires, where he developed a children's book style that is bold, magical, and eye-catching. He now lives in the U.K. and is enjoying nature and exploring new inspiration.

Illustrator Residence: England



Candlewick Press
9781536248890
Pub Date: 4/7/2026
On Sale Date: 4/7/2026
\$9.99
Board Book

10 Pages
Ages 0 to 2, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Where's The
7.1 in H | 7.1 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Where's the Fish?

Ingela P Arrhenius

Summary

Talented and prolific illustrator Ingela P. Arrhenius's artwork pops in this new addition to the best-selling felt flaps series, which has sold over two million copies! Five stylishly illustrated spreads depict a series of animals found in the ocean, including a crab, dolphin, lobster, and clownfish, all hidden beneath bright felt flaps. With a mirror on the final page, this is the perfect book to share with very little ones.

Contributor Bio

Ingela P. Arrhenius is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer who has always loved to draw. She is the author-illustrator of *My First Book of New York*, *My First Book of London*, *My First Book of Paris*, *Animals*, *City*, *Pop-up Ocean*, *Pop-up Jungle*, and *Pop-up Things That Go!* as well as the illustrator of *Alphabet Street* and *Christmas Street*, both written by Jonathan Emmett; this lift-the-felt-flap series; and the best-selling Peekaboo You series of board books. Ingela P. Arrhenius lives in Sweden.

Illustrator Residence:Sweden



Candlewick Press
9781536247770
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$9.99
Board Book

10 Pages
Ages 0 to 2, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Where's The
4.2 in H | 4.4 in W | 0.6 in T | 0.2
lb Wt

Where's the T. Rex?: A Stroller Book

Ingela P Arrhenius

Summary

A new stroller edition from this best-selling series, complete with a strap, felt flaps, and a mirror!

Five beautifully illustrated spreads show a series of dinosaurs that include a stegosaurus, a diplodocus, a triceratops, and a T. rex all hiding behind bright felt flaps. Now available in a smaller format with a sturdy hook-and-loop strap, this stroller book is perfect for babies and toddlers on the go.

Contributor Bio

Ingela P. Arrhenius is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer who has always loved to draw. She is the author-illustrator of *Animals*, *City*, *Pop-up Ocean*, *Pop-up Jungle*, and *Pop-up Things That Go!*, as well as the illustrator of this series of lift-the-felt-flaps books. Ingela P. Arrhenius lives in Sweden.

Illustrator Residence:Sweden



MIT Kids Press
9781536236385
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
10.4 in H | 8.8 in W | 0.4 in T | 1 lb Wt

After the Rain

Eleanor Spicer Rice, Fiona Lee

Summary

Gorgeously illustrated and brimming with accessible science, this joyful picture book explores the wonders of the natural world *after* it rains. Puddle-hopping optional!

What happens once the rain stops? To a young child out exploring with her grandmother and dog, the world smells of summer green and turtles and warm bricks. That after-rain smell, known as petrichor, signals to seeds, *You can come up now!* Bees buzz out of their hives and sip from puddles. Butterflies desert their leafy umbrellas. The rain itself becomes water vapor, which forms clouds. And not everyone ventures up and out. With the sun's return, worms wriggle deep down in search of shelter while fungi converse with the tangled roots of trees. Illustrated with the sparkling glow of a busy landscape after rain, spreads include relevant "words to say after the rain," such as *evaporation* and *humidity*, in a form that provides context for the meaning. This deceptively simple and imminently shareable picture book by a leading scientist introduces key concepts with energy, gentle humor, and age-appropriate language, inspiring curious readers of all ages to pull on rain boots and beeline for the door.

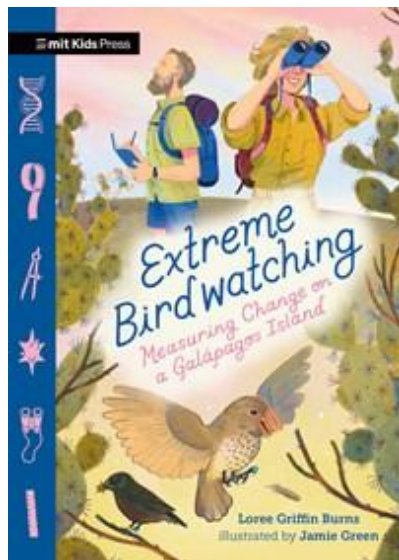
Contributor Bio

Eleanor Spicer Rice, PhD, is an entomologist and the author of many nonfiction books, including the three titles in the Your Hidden Life series: *Unseen Jungle: The Microbes That Secretly Control Our World*; *Your Pets' Secret Lives: The Truth Behind Your Pets' Wildest Behaviors*; and *Undercover Conversations: Eavesdrop on the Natural World*. She lives in Raleigh, North Carolina, with her husband, sons, dogs, hermit crabs, an assortment of spiders and insects, and a small but valiant flock of homing pigeons.

Author Residence: Raleigh, NC

Fiona Lee is the illustrator of *Can't Stop Kissing That Baby* by K. L. Going, *Bark Ship Bonnie* by Stephanie Staib, *Ways to Say I Love You* by Madeleine Cook, and other acclaimed picture books. Originally from Vermont, she now lives on Martha's Vineyard with her husband and two children.

Illustrator Residence: West Tisbury, MA



MIT Kids Press
9781536232806
Pub Date: 3/3/2026
On Sale Date: 3/3/2026
\$16.99
Hardcover

64 Pages
Ages 7 to 10, Grades 2 to 5
Juvenile Nonfiction / Animals
Series: Discovery Chronicles
8.8 in H | 6.3 in W | 0.5 in T | 0.6 lb Wt

Extreme Birdwatching: Measuring Change on a Galápagos Island

Loree Griffin Burns, Jamie Green

Summary

A treasure trove for science classrooms, citizen scientists, and budding biologists, this “you-are-there” account of a landmark study of wild finches going about their finch-y business captures the scientific process in action.

Daphne is an island. Not one you’d choose for a vacation. There are no sandy beaches, resorts, hotels, or houses. No tall trees to make shade. The steep, rocky sides of a volcanic Galápagos island are not inviting, and most who visit this part of the world sail right past. But Peter and Rosemary Grant are not most people. A husband-and-wife team, the Grants came to this singular place with a singular goal: to study two species of wild finch. For decades, the scientists and their students counted, cataloged, and observed finches on a remote mile-wide island. Through teamwork, painstaking observation—extreme bird-watching, extreme plant study, extreme seed counting—and careful beak measurements, the group of committed scientists proved step-by-step, over forty years, how finch beaks change in response to their environment. Weaving accessible biology and the scientific process into an inspiring conversational narrative, this second title in the Discovery Chronicles series—packed with resources and back matter—concretely honors the value of hard journeys, the vision and ambition behind tedious tasks, and the astonishing power of curiosity.

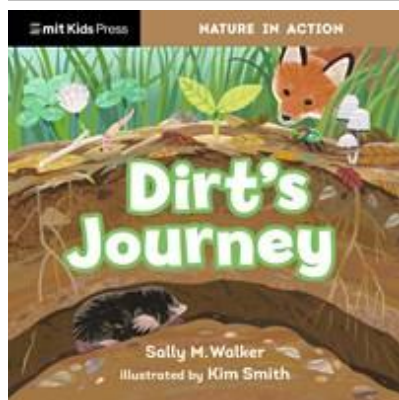
Contributor Bio

Loree Griffin Burns is a biologist and the author of many acclaimed nonfiction books for children, including the debut title in the Discovery Chronicles, *One Long Line*, also illustrated by Jamie Green, as well as *Honeybee Rescue: A Backyard Drama*, illustrated by Ellen Harasimowicz, and *Life on Surtsey: Iceland’s Upstart Island*. Her books have won numerous accolades, including American Library Association Notable designations, a *Boston Globe-Horn Book* Honor, an International Reading Association Children’s Book Award, a Green Earth Book Award, and two AAAS/Subaru Prizes for Excellence in Science Books. She lives in upstate New York, where she writes, teaches, and studies her insect neighbors.

Author Residence: Westport, NY

Jamie Green is the illustrator of multiple books for young readers, including *One Long Line* by Loree Griffin Burns and *Mushroom Rain* by Laura K. Zimmerman, and was named the Society of Illustrators Zankel Scholar in 2019. Their work explores the natural world, along with themes of human connection, travel, history, and movement. Jamie Green lives in Greenville, South Carolina, and can often be found either in the corner of a café or on trails in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Illustrator Residence: Bolingbrook, IL



MIT Kids Press
9781536236576
Pub Date: 3/10/2026
On Sale Date: 3/10/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

14 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
Series: Nature in Action
6 in H | 6 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Dirt's Journey

Sally M. Walker, Kim Smith

Summary

Bits of rock, plants, and living creatures—what are they all ingredients for? An award-winning nonfiction author offers the youngest explorers a closer look at nature’s wonders in action.

Rocks crumble, battered by ice, wind, and water. Plants wilt, trees fall, and old bones, fins, and feathers break apart. What then? Step by step, Sally M. Walker’s simple narration lets the youngest soil scientists learn how dirt is created, becoming home to animals as well as conduits for nutrients that help to continue the life-giving cycle. Kim Smith’s inviting landscapes capture a range of forest flora and fauna, from mushrooms to pinecones, foxes to chipmunks, birds to snails. A note to parents suggests bringing the learning to life by encouraging questions and observations of the natural world.

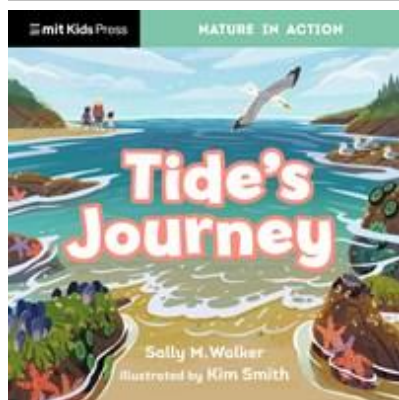
Contributor Bio

Sally M. Walker is the award-winning author of more than sixty books for children, including the first two board books in the Nature in Action series, *Rocks’ Journey* and *River’s Journey*, as well as the picture books *Out of This World: Star-Studded Haiku*, illustrated by Matthew Trueman, and *Trees: Haiku from Roots to Leaves*, illustrated by Angela Mckay. Sally M. Walker lives in Illinois.

Author Residence: Dekalb, IL

Kim Smith is the *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books, including the first two books in the Nature in Action series. In addition, she has worked on children’s games, puzzles, animation, 3D displays, posters, and magazines. When she’s not busy illustrating, she spends time exploring and painting in the great outdoors. Kim Smith lives in Calgary, Canada.

Illustrator Residence: Calgary, AB



MIT Kids Press
9781536236569
Pub Date: 3/10/2026
On Sale Date: 3/10/2026
\$7.99
Board Book

14 Pages
Ages 0 to 3, Grades P And Under
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
Series: Nature in Action
6 in H | 6 in W | 0.3 lb Wt

Tide's Journey

Sally M. Walker, Kim Smith

Summary

High tide, low tide . . . what happens when the tides flow? An award-winning nonfiction author offers the youngest explorers a closer look at nature's wonders in action.

When ocean waters face the moon, waves move toward the sandy dunes and salty water floods the beach. Driftwood bobs on top of waves and fish swim freely below. But what happens when the water retreats and the tide is low? Step by step, Sally M. Walker's simple narration lets the youngest oceanographers follow changes to the shoreline as the tide goes in and out. Kim Smith's art captures the waves in motion, the treasures deposited on the beach, and the living things nearby, from shorebirds to sea plants, from crabs and sea stars to children happily exploring the shore. A note to parents suggests bringing the learning to life by encouraging questions and observations of the natural world.

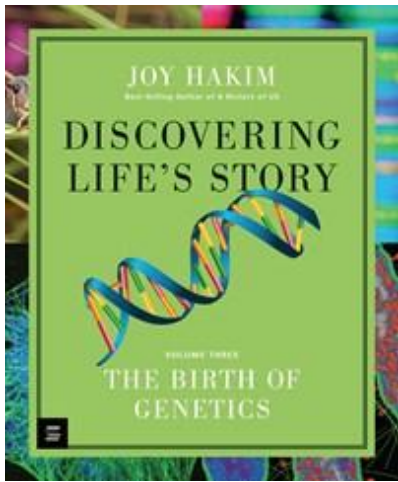
Contributor Bio

Sally M. Walker is the award-winning author of more than sixty books for children, including the first two board books in the Nature in Action series, *Rocks' Journey* and *River's Journey*, as well as the picture books *Out of This World: Star-Studded Haiku*, illustrated by Matthew Trueman, and *Trees: Haiku from Roots to Leaves*, illustrated by Angela McKay. Sally M. Walker lives in Illinois.

Author Residence: Dekalb, IL

Kim Smith is the *New York Times* best-selling illustrator of more than thirty picture books, including the first two books in the Nature in Action series. In addition, she has worked on children's games, puzzles, animation, 3D displays, posters, and magazines. When she's not busy illustrating, she spends time exploring and painting in the great outdoors. Kim Smith lives in Calgary, Canada.

Illustrator Residence: Calgary, AB



MITeen Press
9781536222951
Pub Date: 2/3/2026
On Sale Date: 2/3/2026
\$24.99
Hardcover

196 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Nonfiction / Science & Nature
Series: Discovering Life's Story
9 in H | 7.5 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Discovering Life's Story: The Birth of Genetics

Joy Hakim

Summary

Can we crack the code to life itself? In the third volume in the Discovering Life's Story series, scientists compete to decipher the genetic blueprint behind all life on earth.

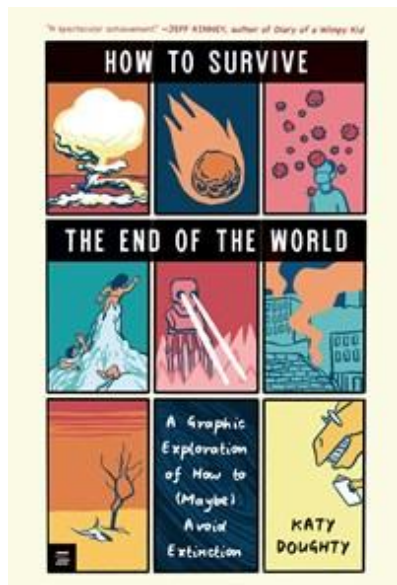
It's the dawn of the twentieth century. Darwin has theorized that traits get passed down through generations, and Mendel has come up with a mathematical formula that predicts how traits reappear over time. But a key mystery remains: is there a recipe for living beings? If there is, where is it hidden? With the help of powerful new microscopes and x-rays, scientists peer ever closer into cells, searching for answers. They find chromosomes, tight coils of DNA, mutations that introduce new variations in species, and proteins that dictate how living things function. Walter Sutton observes that chromosomes come in pairs. Nettie Stevens discovers the X and Y chromosomes that define biological gender. And Rosalind Franklin, James Watson, and Francis Crick compete to be the first to understand DNA's structure. But is it proteins or DNA that carry the secrets to life's blueprint?

In *Birth of Genetics*, Joy Hakim, author of the best-selling series *A History of US*, continues charting the path of human discovery as scientists race to unravel our genes and the mysteries they hold.

Contributor Bio

Joy Hakim is the best-selling author of *A History of US*, a ten-volume history of the United States that has sold over three million copies. She also wrote the much-lauded *Story of Science* series (Smithsonian) that includes *Einstein Adds a New Dimension*. The author of the first two books in the *Discovering Life's Story* series, *Biology's Beginnings* and *Evolution of an Idea*, Joy Hakim has worked as a teacher, newspaper writer, and editor and currently lives in Maryland.

Author Residence: Bethesda, MD



MITeen Press
9781536232790
Pub Date: 3/31/2026
On Sale Date: 3/31/2026
\$24.99
Hardcover

256 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Nonfiction / Comics & Graphic Novels
9 in H | 6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

How to Survive the End of the World

A Graphic Exploration of How to (Maybe) Avoid Extinction

Katy Doughty

Summary

In a full-color debut, a graphic novelist takes an engrossing, gleefully existential deep dive into the many ways that humanity could—and almost did—meet its end.

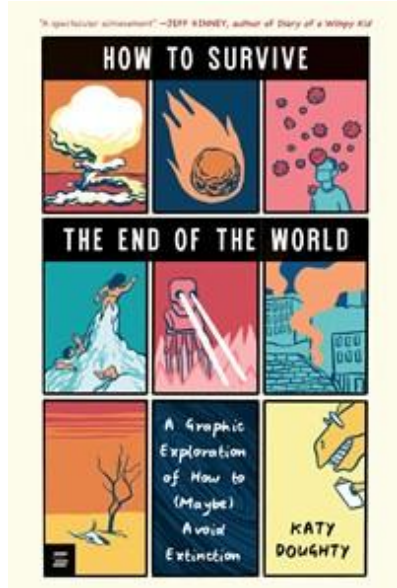
Since 99.9 percent of all species that have lived are extinct, it's bound to be our turn eventually, right? So what's most likely to kill us? A well-timed asteroid? Some new robot overlords? With wit and dry humor, debut graphic novelist Katy Doughty blends science and history to explore our chances of surviving disasters such as plagues, global warming, and alien invasion. Drawing on interviews with experts in fields like infectious diseases, AI, and interplanetary exploration, she combines cutting-edge research with compelling visuals: mugshots of the deadliest microbes, graphs of the winners and losers of mass extinction events, and a whole lot of dinosaur drawings. For apocalypse aficionados, the morbidly curious, and the just plain curious, this is your antidote to existential dread—a timely, imaginative, and ultimately hopeful take on humankind's ability to survive the odds.

Contributor Bio

Katy Doughty is a California-born, Texas-bred, New England-educated designer and illustrator who holds a BFA in illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MPH from Boston University's School of Public Health. Her unique interdisciplinary background fuels her interest in the intersection of visual communication, research, and healthcare. She lives in Boston with her husband.

Author Residence: Medford, MA

Illustrator Residence: Medford, MA



MITeen Press
9781536242829
Pub Date: 3/31/2026
On Sale Date: 3/31/2026
\$14.99
Trade Paperback

256 Pages
Ages 14 And Up, Grades 9 And Up
Young Adult Nonfiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels
9 in H | 6 in W | 0.8 lb Wt

How to Survive the End of the World

A Graphic Exploration of How to (Maybe) Avoid Extinction

Katy Doughty

Summary

In a full-color debut, a graphic novelist takes an engrossing, gleefully existential deep dive into the many ways that humanity could—and almost did—meet its end.

Since 99.9 percent of all species that have lived are extinct, it's bound to be our turn eventually, right? So what's most likely to kill us? A well-timed asteroid? Some new robot overlords? With wit and dry humor, debut graphic novelist Katy Doughty blends science and history to explore our chances of surviving disasters such as plagues, global warming, and alien invasion. Drawing on interviews with experts in fields like infectious diseases, AI, and interplanetary exploration, she combines cutting-edge research with compelling visuals: mugshots of the deadliest microbes, graphs of the winners and losers of mass extinction events, and a whole lot of dinosaur drawings. For apocalypse aficionados, the morbidly curious, and the just plain curious, this is your antidote to existential dread—a timely, imaginative, and ultimately hopeful take on humankind's ability to survive the odds.

Contributor Bio

Katy Doughty is a California-born, Texas-bred, New England-educated designer and illustrator who holds a BFA in illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design and an MPH from Boston University's School of Public Health. Her unique interdisciplinary background fuels her interest in the intersection of visual communication, research, and healthcare. She lives in Boston with her husband.

Author Residence: Medford, MA

Illustrator Residence: Medford, MA



Templar
9781536244038
Pub Date: 3/24/2026
On Sale Date: 3/24/2026
\$18.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
10.6 in H | 10.6 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

A Home Is a Nest

Emma Carlisle

Summary

Perfect for new or expecting parents, this glowing tribute to the welcoming and care of little ones mirrors our human world with the animal world.

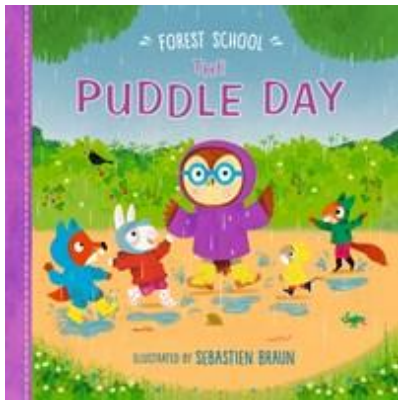
Home is not just a place, but a feeling—a feeling of comfort, love, and stability. As gorgeous watercolor illustrations depict a couple welcoming home their new baby, Emma Carlisle brings young readers into the homes of animals building nests, feeding babies, singing little ones to sleep, and settling in for the night. Exploring the concept of homes and families in nature, this stunning picture book quietly and tenderly captures the rhythms of life that all creatures share. In a large format made for snuggling and sharing, *A Home Is a Nest* is the perfect gift for new or expecting parents.

Contributor Bio

Emma Carlisle is the highly acclaimed author-illustrator of *What Do You See When You Look at a Tree?*, which was short-listed for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize; *Time Runs Like a River*; and *Lion Practice*, which was nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal and the Klaus Flugge Prize. Emma Carlisle lives in England.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England



Templar
9781536244014
Pub Date: 4/28/2026
On Sale Date: 4/28/2026
\$14.99
Hardcover Picture Book

32 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Sports &
Recreation
Series: Forest School
9.8 in H | 9.8 in W | 1.3 lb Wt

Forest School: The Puddle Day

Ruth Symons, Sebastien Braun

Summary

Deep in the woods, the friends are gathering. It's time for Forest School!

Join Mouse, Squirrel, Fox, and Rabbit for a Forest School adventure—in the rain! Out in the woods, they will learn about the weather, make friends, and get creative on this wet, rainy day. No matter the weather, the Forest School friends always learn something when they head out into the wild. Embracing the Forest School focus on play and exploration, this series will have little ones itching to get outdoors and have adventures of their own.

Contributor Bio

Lizzie Noble is a forest childcare provider with more than eight years of experience running creative, play-based forest school sessions with a focus on exploration, storytelling, and creativity to discover the wonders of the natural world.

Sebastien Braun is the author-illustrator of many books, including *Raj and the Best Day Ever!* and *Raj and the Best Vacation Ever!*, as well as the illustrator of the Can You Say It, Too? series, the Baby on Board series, and the Forest School series. After graduating, he spent a few years teaching art before taking the plunge as a freelance illustrator. Apart from creating pictures, his favorite pastimes are making toys from wood, playing with his children, and riding his vintage road bike through England's Cotswold Hills.

Illustrator Residence:England



Templar
9781536247480
Pub Date: 1/20/2026
On Sale Date: 1/20/2026
\$17.99
Hardcover Picture Book

24 Pages
Ages 2 to 5, Grades K And Under
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
Series: Emma Dodd's Love You
Books

8.2 in H | 8.1 in W | 0.4 in T | 0.6
lb Wt

Very Special You

(A Heartwarming Story of Parental Love in Rhyming Text - For Toddlers, Preschoolers, and Kids Ages 2-5)

Emma Dodd

Summary

This heartwarming story from Emma Dodd is a celebration of the joy that little ones bring.

A sheep revels in the wonder and uniqueness of their lamb and is filled with love when they spend time with together. With foil throughout and an uplifting message about being an individual and deserving your place in the world, this is the perfect story to share with a loved one.

Contributor Bio

Emma Dodd has created many books to critical acclaim. She works from a studio in England. When not working, she and her family spend as much time as they can surfing and walking in all weather.

Author Residence: England

Illustrator Residence:England