



Kids Can Press



**SPRING
2022**

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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Family
9.9 in H | 7.9 in W

And J.J. Slept

Loretta Garbutt, Erika Rodriguez Medina

Key Selling Points

About an adopted new baby: topic not often found in picture books.
Author's debut picture book was one of *Kirkus Reviews*' Best Books of 2020.

Heartwarming focus: the comforts of being part of a family.

Summary

In this sweet tale of family life from the author of *A Stopwatch from Grampa*, a boisterous adoptive family welcomes their new baby boy - who, thankfully, has a unique requirement for sleeping!

When J.J. arrives at his new home, his family is bubbling over with excitement to meet him! The four children welcome their tiny new brother, then, when he falls asleep, Dad asks them to try to be quiet. In no time at all, though, the clamor of family life grows loud with drumming on the table, shouting across the room and chattering to the dog. But to everyone's surprise, J.J. sleeps through it all! Even when the children are running and yelling in his room, J.J. sleeps. "Not much seems to bother this little fella," says Dad. Well, as they discover, there is one thing that disturbs baby J.J.'s sleep . . .

Author Loretta Garbutt, whose debut picture book, *A Stopwatch from Grampa*, was named one of *Kirkus Reviews* Best Books of 2020, perfectly captures the small moments of family life that loom large to young children. Here, a family welcomes their newest member, who has been adopted, a situation not often portrayed in picture books. It's a heartwarming story that hits all the right notes: humor, a family focus and a delicious twist - the baby hates a quiet house! It offers a wonderful opportunity for conversations about what it means to be a family. The illustrations by Erika Rodriguez Medina warmly portray the busyness of the household and the closeness of the family members, along with loads of relatable and funny antics going on around the baby.

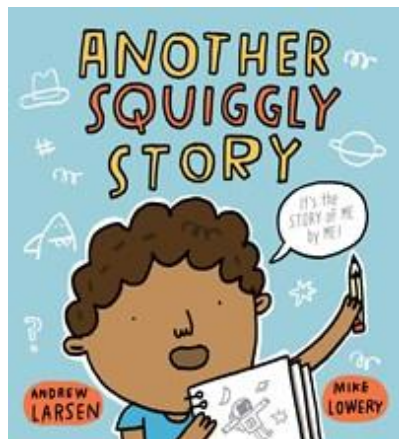
Contributor Bio

Loretta Garbutt is a children's book author, bookseller and voice actor known for her work on the popular children's television show *Max and Ruby*. Her debut picture book, *A Stopwatch from Grampa*, was named a Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2020. Loretta lives with her family in Toronto, Ontario.

Erika Rodriguez Medina is an illustrator and art teacher based in Vancouver, British Columbia. Her favorite things to illustrate are expressive characters, grumpy children and nature. She is particularly interested in mythology and folklore from her home country of Mexico. Her previous work includes *Margot and the Moon Landing*, *There Goes Patti McGee!* and *48 Grasshopper Estates*.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
10 in H | 9 in W

Another Squiggly Story

Andrew Larsen, Mike Lowery

Key Selling Points

Award-winning Andrew Larsen's sequel to *A Squiggly Story*.

Story panels and dialogue bubbles make a playful, accessible exploration of the writing process.

Strong ties to literacy curricula, also perfect for at-home supplementing.

Summary

In the inspirational sequel to Andrew Larsen's *A Squiggly Story*, a boy meets a blank page in this fun exploration of the writing process, celebrating self-expression, self-discovery and letting your imagination roam.

The young boy listens as Mr. Lopez tells his class about next week's assignment: write a story about yourself. "You can write about ANYTHING," he says, "as long as you write about YOU." Marcus is going to write about his hat collection. Alia is going to write about the vampires she talks about all the time. But all the boy can come up with is a title: "The Story of Me by Me." He can't figure out what it should be about. His sister suggests starting with lists - Things I Like, Things I Know. Only, the things all seem disconnected. Is there some way to connect them, and make them into a story?

The kindergartener who learned to use squiggles to write a story in award-winning Andrew Larsen's *A Squiggly Story* is now in second grade and learning to write an autobiography. Told in the same authentic child's voice, this playful book encourages readers to just start, even if they don't know how their story will go. It offers an accessible early language arts lesson on the writing process, exploring important basics (brainstorming, first draft, revising) and key terms (autobiography, editing, title, cover). Mike Lowery's bold illustrations incorporate story panels and dialogue bubbles, keeping the energy high and giving a fresh and modern feel to the pages. A strong tie-in with early literacy curricula, this book also works well for supplementary or at-home learning. It's a perfect choice to inspire the storyteller in every child!

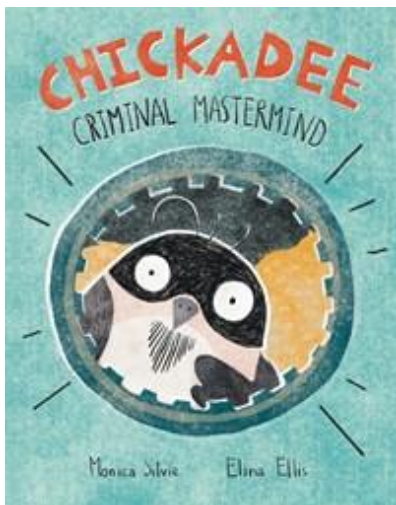
Contributor Bio

Andrew Larsen is the author of many books for children, including *Me, Toma and the Concrete Garden*; *A Squiggly Story*; *The Bagel King*; *In the Tree House*; *The Imaginary Garden*; and *The Man Who Loved Libraries*. Andrew lives in Toronto, Ontario.

Mike Lowery has illustrated many books for children, including *The Day My Mom Came to Kindergarten* and *A Squiggly Story*. Mike lives in Decatur, Georgia.

Illustrations





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36 Pages
Ages 4 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Humorous
Stories

10.3 in H | 8 in W

Chickadee: Criminal Mastermind

Monica Silvie, Elina Ellis

Key Selling Points

Seamlessly blends factual information about chickadees with an entertaining story. Perfect kid humor, with main character speaking to and looking directly at readers.

Hilarious irony: adorable bird doing "bad" things.

Summary

A flying masked bandit (code name: Chickadee) discovers he isn't quite who he thinks he is in this fresh and delightful tale about discovering one's true nature.

Meet Chickadee. Criminal. Rascalion. All-around bad seed. Sure, he started out obeying the rules, following his parents' advice about finding things to eat and staying away from houses. But then . . . winter arrives. And it's *so much harder* to find food in winter! So when Chickadee spies a "vault" full of "gold" near a house by the park (Wait, wasn't there something to remember about houses?), he cleverly devises a plan to snatch the "vault full of treasure" without getting caught! He is the King of Thieves! Only, hmm, the humans near the vault seem to *want* him to visit. Maybe Chickadee's not a criminal after all?

Monica Silvie's fun first-person storytelling will have readers falling in love with this cheeky and enormously appealing bird and his endearingly misinformed self-perception. Chickadee's growing understanding that he's not actually a criminal, and that what he really wants is a friend, adds a lovely poignancy to the humor. Elina Ellis's charming, hilarious illustrations bring the adorable Chickadee to life; the way he looks directly at readers with wide-eyed sincerity while he speaks to them is particularly effective. A spread at the back contains facts about black-capped chickadees - illustrated with comments from Chickadee himself - along with further reading and sources, making this both a terrific picture book read-aloud and a great supplement to life science lessons on characteristics and habitats of animals. With such a seamless blend of entertainment and information, learning has never been so much fun!

Contributor Bio

Monica Silvie practiced law for over fifteen years before returning to her earliest passion, writing for children. She has a certificate in illustration from Emily Carr University of Art and Design and lives in Vancouver, British Columbia. *Chickadee: Criminal Mastermind* is her first book.

Elina Ellis was born in Ukraine and has an MA in children's book illustration from Anglia Ruskin University. She creates both her own books and illustrates books for others, including *The Reptile Club* and *This Is the Path the Wolf Took*. She lives in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Illustrations





Clementine and the Lion

Zoey Abbott

Key Selling Points

Surprising plot twists, fantastically imagined storylines and dark(ish) humor make for a highly entertaining tale.

With her independent streak (and equally fiery orange hair), Clementine is an unforgettable character.

Will appeal to fans of Maurice Sendak and Roald Dahl.

Summary

A plucky and self-determined girl confronts an unexpected houseguest in this imaginative tale reminiscent of Roald Dahl and Maurice Sendak.

Since her parents are ogres of the worst kind, Clementine is rather relieved when her mother is snatched by dragons and her father is lost at sea in a bottle. Now she eats when and where she pleases. She does her hair as she likes, or not, depending on her mood. She is happy. But when a lion appears, uninvited, in her living room, Clementine's pleasant world is suddenly upended. And when he eats all the food and wrecks her home, Clementine realizes there's nothing she can do but leave. Or is there?

With its surprising plot twists, fantastically imagined storyline, and dark(ish) humor, Zoey Abbott's highly entertaining picture book offers young children a brave - and resourceful! - new heroine for their time. Clementine, a girl with an inspiring independent streak and an enormous mass of orange hair, is an unforgettable character who knows her mind and handles life with courage and aplomb. The inventively playful illustrations use small details to convey big emotions, sure to pull in children for a closer look. This book is full of the positive character education themes of self-respect, initiative, responsibility and teamwork. It also offers wonderful lessons on standing up for yourself, nonjudgment and finding friendships in unexpected places.

Contributor Bio

Zoey Abbott is the author-illustrator of *I Do Not Like Yolanda* and *Pig and Horse and the Something Scary*. She lives in Portland, Oregon, with her family.

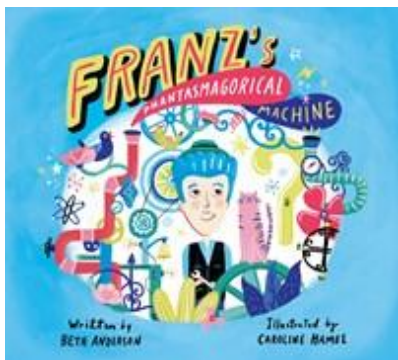
Illustrations



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Juvenile Fiction / Imagination & Play

11 in H | 9 in W



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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 5 to 8, Grades K to 3
Juvenile Fiction / Biographical
9 in H | 10 in W

Franz's Phantasmagorical Machine

Beth Anderson, Caroline Hamel

Key Selling Points

An engaging look at self-taught inventor Franz Gsellmann, whose work combined art and science.

Extols the joy of curiosity and inventing for inventing's sake.

Includes activities encourage kids to pursue their own ideas.

Summary

For every child who longs to make the most amazing thing, here's a delightful picture book biography of a determined self-taught inventor who never stops following the call to imagine, discover, create.

From the time he is a small boy, Franz is curious about machines and how they work. He wants to try to build his own. Even though he's needed to work on the family farm, and later marries and has a family of his own, Franz never gives up on his dream. He learns and tries and tests his ideas all on his own. And though many people don't understand or appreciate Franz's work, when his fantastic, complex creation is completed at long last, he finally finds an audience that recognizes his genius.

Beth Anderson's uplifting picture book biography offers an engaging look at the inspiring life of Franz Gsellmann, an inventor from rural Austria who, with no formal artistic or engineering training, built an elaborate, intricate machine called the Weltmaschine (World Machine). The well-told story extols the joy of curiosity and inventing for inventing's sake, and explores the concept of mechanical-kinetic sculptures, in which art and science intersect. Whimsical illustrations by Caroline Hamel help bring the subject to life. Supporting backmatter includes an author's note, resources, a biography of Franz, an explanation of the machine, a search-and-find activity and questions to get children thinking about their own ideas that could lead to fun classroom activities. This book has strong STEAM curriculum links, particularly in technology and structures, and valuable character education lessons in courage, perseverance and resilience.

Contributor Bio

Beth Anderson is a former educator and the author of *An Inconvenient Alphabet*, *Lizzie Demands a Seat!* and several other books for children. When she's not writing, she might be weaving, gardening, exploring nature or playing with her grandkids. Born and raised in Illinois, she now lives near the mountains in Colorado.

Caroline Hamel worked in graphic design and advertising before creating a travel diary that sparked a love for illustration. She has illustrated several books for French-language publishers and now works full time as an illustrator and designer from her home in Montreal, Quebec.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

40 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Fairy Tales &
Folklore

11 in H | 8.5 in W

Itzel and the Ocelot

Rachel Katstaller

Key Selling Points

Inspired by a traditional story from Salvadorian Indigenous people.
Environmental theme resonates today.

Rich storytelling and lush art make for a magical reader experience.

Summary

A gorgeous picture book inspired by a traditional Central American Indigenous story about a snake with the power to bring the rain, told in lyrical language and evocative art, and subtly conveying an environmental theme.

Itzel listens as her nana tells the story of when the giant snake would be awakened from its sleep: "And first with a whisper that would rustle the leaves, and then with a deep thunderous cry, the giant snake would bring the arrival of the rainy season." But now, since many no longer believe in the snake, her nana says, "It has returned to the place where the water is born." Now, Itzel and her nana are desperate for rain to water their bone-dry crops. So Itzel decides she must find and awaken the snake herself. She sets out in the night alone, but soon she is joined by an ocelot, and a bevy of other jungle creatures in need of the rain. And Itzel worries, is she leading them on a fruitless journey?

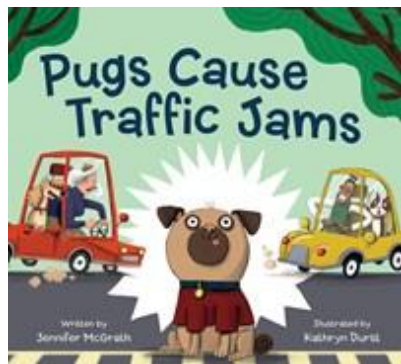
This rich, beautifully told folk tale from author and illustrator Rachel Katstaller was inspired by a traditional story she heard growing up in El Salvador. The story features words from an Indigenous language, Nawat, that was once on the verge of extinction and animals native to Central America, including the ocelot who becomes Itzel's guardian spirit. Lush dark-toned illustrations play with shadow and light to evoke the thrilling feel of a night spent deep in the jungle, giving the book a magical quality. An author's note provides further context and a glossary of Spanish and Nawat words. A perfect choice for character education lessons on courage, optimism and perseverance, with an environmental message sure to resonate with today's readers.

Contributor Bio

Rachel Katstaller is a children's book illustrator from El Salvador, a tiny country in the tropics of Central America. She now lives and works in a studio perched in the Austrian Alps, where she daydreams about eating croissants in Paris. Her cat, Hemingway, was named after a famous writer who was once mentored by Gertrude Stein.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Animals
9 in H | 10 in W

Pugs Cause Traffic Jams

Jennifer McGrath, Kathryn Durst

Key Selling Points

Funny, clever ode to one of the world's most beloved pets.

Perfect read-aloud: repetitive pattern will have children reciting the refrain on cue.

Easy to understand descriptions of dog breed characteristics.

Summary

Mayhem abounds in this romp of a story about a girl's search for her missing dog - and about the dog who's just chasing a wild adventure!

A girl races all over town looking for her lost pug, Kirby. As she asks one dog owner in town after another if they've seen her missing pet, readers are treated to poetically succinct depictions of every dog breed the girl comes across in the neighborhood. "Golden retrievers are pleasers. Poodles are overachievers. Border collies are always on the job." While at the same time, each alternating spread reveals the story of where her dog actually is, defined by the repeated phrase "But pugs cause traffic jams!" It's a dog's world of fun all around! Who could resist falling in love with this pug? (Hint: no one!)

Award-winning author Jennifer McGrath has crafted a funny, clever ode to the world's most beloved pets. The repetitive pattern of the catchy refrain "But pugs cause traffic jams" is sure to have children reciting it on cue, making this a lively storytime choice. Kathryn Durst's richly colored illustrations of the dogs and their perfectly paired people keep the visual interest high, while the speech bubbles add humor and energy. This delightful picture book with a strong focus on community is one that's sure to get children talking about dogs they have known, making it an easy jumping-off point for exploring animal traits and the unique characteristics of different dog breeds. It would also work well as a writing prompt for children to create their own descriptive dog or pet stories.

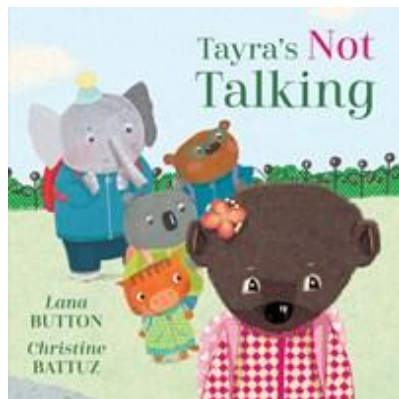
Contributor Bio

Jennifer McGrath is an Atlantic Canadian author of several books for children including *The Snow Knows*, winner of the Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award. Jennifer loves dogs of all kinds and lives in Hillsborough, New Brunswick, with Tikka the Labrador retriever (as well as a cat, a fish and a pony).

Kathryn Durst is a children's book illustrator who lives in Peterborough, Ontario, with her grumpy mini dachshund named Chili Dog. With a degree in animation from Sheridan College, she has worked with various animation studios, including an internship with Pixar Animation Studios. Kathryn now works full time as a children's book illustrator, and you can find her work in *Hey Grandude!* and *Grandude's Green Submarine*, written by Paul McCartney.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
9 in H | 9 in W

Tayra's Not Talking

Lana Button, Christine Battuz

Key Selling Points

Told in playful, cadenced rhyming text.

Perfectly captures kindergartners' emotions, including how it feels to be new and "different."

Excellent choice for discussing belonging, friendship and empathy.

Summary

There's a new kid in the kindergarten class, but she won't say a word! But ... does it really matter? This sweet story has a timely message: there are many ways to make - and be - a friend!

The students in Miss Seabrooke's kindergarten class don't understand why the new student won't respond when they talk to her. Speaking LOUDER doesn't help. Tayra doesn't even answer the teacher! Should they just leave her be? Maybe, Kitty decides, she can *show* Tayra things instead of *telling* her. Happily, it works! Soon the pair find they can communicate with gestures, dancing, drawings and smiles. And when the others see how much fun they're having, they join in, too! It seems words aren't the only way to connect and be friends!

In this charming picture book, Lana Button uses playful, cadenced rhyming text to explore the art of making a friend. This story sensitively captures a kindergartener's fears and uncertainties, especially around being new and "different" and models compassion, acceptance and friendship as a reassuring way for others to respond. Christine Battuz's expressive illustrations clearly convey the friends' emotions as they process this new experience and try to decide what to do about it. This book is a perfect springboard for discussions about feelings, friendship, differences and belonging. It's a strong choice for character education lessons on kindness, empathy, inclusiveness and caring.

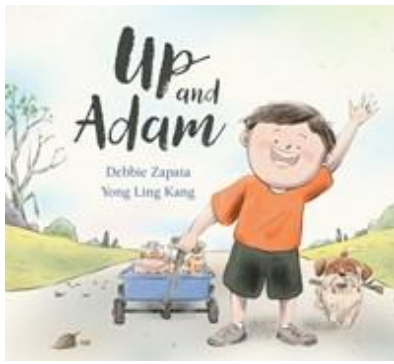
Contributor Bio

Lana Button works in early childhood education. She is the author of *Willow's Whispers*, *Willow Finds a Way*, *Willow's Smile* and *My Teacher's Not Here!* Lana studied theater performance at Concordia University in Montreal, and now lives in Burlington, Ontario, with her husband and three daughters.

Christine Battuz has illustrated over sixty books for children, including *Wade's Wiggly Antlers* and *What If Bunny's NOT a Bully?*, and has taught art to children of all ages. She lives in Bromont, Quebec.

Illustrations





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Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 3 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Fiction / Social Themes
9 in H | 10 in W

Up and Adam

Debbie Zapata, Yong Ling Kang

Key Selling Points

Perfect for World Down Syndrome Day, Canadian Down Syndrome Week, U.S. Down Syndrome Awareness Month.

Celebrates abilities rather than disabilities.

Fosters inclusion, community and contributing.

Summary

A winning, uplifting story about a boy with Down syndrome who helps his neighbors in the aftermath of a storm in a way only he can.

It's the morning after the big storm. Adam and his dog, Up, are finishing breakfast when Adam sees the mayor on TV asking everyone to pitch in with the cleanup. She says, "Now, it's time to get to work. *Up and at 'em!*" When Adam hears the mayor tell him and Up to get to work, he's on it! "We can help!" he says. All day, the pair do what they can - clearing the sidewalk, fixing a birdhouse, passing out cookies. But it turns out, Adam's most important contribution to his community is one he doesn't even think about - his smile. Because when anyone sees Adam smile, they smile, too. And as Adam says, "A pair of smiles can make a difference."

Debbie Zapata's sweet story scores on two fronts: it features an endearing and authentic representation of a child with Down syndrome, focused on his abilities, not disabilities, and it offers an inspiring model of how everyone can make a difference in their community. Adam's Down syndrome is not referenced in the story but is addressed in an author's note, which also includes information about Down syndrome, and resources. Adam's open-hearted and infectious smile lights the pages as he lifts spirits all over town in Yong Ling Kang's illustrations, which thoughtfully feature details in Adam's clothing and belongings that are sensitive to his needs. The book is full of positive examples of community, contributing and inclusion, and beautifully captures the character education themes of kindness, teamwork, initiative and citizenship.

Contributor Bio

Debbie Zapata is a children's book author who believes that kids need characters who look like them and who overcome obstacles and make a difference in the world. She also works as a therapist helping families who have children with special needs, as well as partners with school districts on diversity and inclusion. Debbie and her family live in Austin, Texas. *Up and Adam* is her debut picture book.

Yong Ling Kang was born in Malaysia and grew up in Singapore. She is fascinated by storytelling, and has honed her craft through picture books, manga, cartoons and formal schooling in an animation program. Yong Ling has illustrated several picture books, including *The Midnight Club*, *This House Is Home*, *Tanna's Owl* and *William's Getaway*. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

Illustrations





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Juvenile Fiction / Science & Nature
9.5 in H | 9.5 in W

When the Wind Came

Jan Andrews, Dorothy Leung

Key Selling Points

Acclaimed, award-winning author and storyteller Jan Andrews's last-ever picture book. A timely discussion-starter about natural disasters and loss.

Child's perspective highlights hope and the prospect of joy in dark times.

Summary

In this timely, poetic story of hope amid loss, acclaimed writer and storyteller Jan Andrews's touching picture book reminds us how, even on the darkest days, light can always be found.

It's a normal day, at first, for a girl on her family farm. But soon, the wind picks up. It blows harder and harder and harder. Her mother grabs her baby brother. Her father opens the door to the root cellar. The family piles in and sits in darkness. When they are finally able to emerge, their home is gone. Through a series of short sentences, many beginning with "I remember . . .," readers share with the girl her experience of shock, terror, sadness and, finally, hope.

Acclaimed, award-winning children's author and storyteller Jan Andrews's last-ever picture book contains a beautiful and grace-filled story of resilience. Using a child's point of view and the perspective of remembering, Andrews's expressive writing provides comfort as it portrays the way joy and laughter can be found in even the worst times. Dorothy Leung uses fluid lines to convey the energy and the emotional arc of the story as her images move quickly from ordinary to extraordinary. With so many natural and human-caused disasters affecting children every day, this deceptively simple book offers a gentle discussion-starter as it captures a universal experience through one specific story.

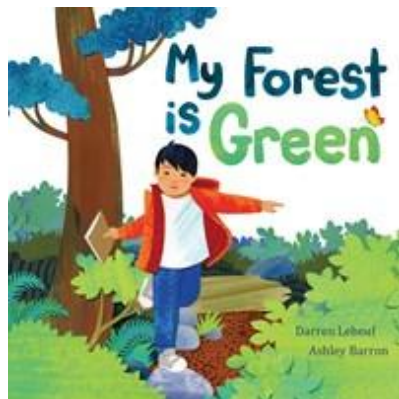
Contributor Bio

Jan Andrews is the award-winning author of numerous books for children, including *The Auction*, *The Very Last First Time*, *Stories at the Door* and *Rude Stories*. She has been a Governor General's Award finalist three times, was the founding president of Storytellers of Canada, and was appointed to the Order of Canada.

Dorothy Leung studied and worked in architecture before taking the headlong plunge into her illustration dream. In her work she strives to evoke empathy, nostalgia and wonder. She lives near Toronto, Ontario.

Illustrations





My Forest Is Green

Darren Lebeuf, Ashley Barron

Key Selling Points

Showcases a range of art techniques to encourage experimentation

Encourages noticing, describing and appreciating the nature all around, in every season

Poetic, lyrical text uses concrete and abstract adjectives to beautiful effect

Summary

A boy explores his urban forest, then interprets it through his art.

With art supplies in tow, a young boy explores the urban forest near his home, then interprets what he sees with his art. The boy is a keen observer who uses poetic, rhythmic language to describe the diversity he finds through all four seasons. His forest is both "fluffy" and "prickly," "dense" and "sparse," "crispy" and "soft." It's also "scattered and soggy, and spotted and foggy." His forest is made up of many colors - but he decides that "mostly it's green." Each aspect of the forest inspires the boy to create a different kind of art: charcoal rubbing, rock art, photography, sponge painting, snow sculpture, cut-paper collage. To this artist, there's always something new to discover, and to capture!

In this delightful picture book, Darren Lebeuf, an award-winning photographer, encourages small children to look closer at and appreciate the nature that surrounds them. And by providing such a broad range of ideas for artistic expression, it's sure to awaken the nature artist in every child. Bright, deeply textured illustrations by Ashley Barron bring the forest and the boy's artworks to vivid life. This story provides an excellent depiction of nature-based education in an outdoor classroom. The specificity of the concrete and abstract adjectives used in the text works as a perfect complement to primary science lessons on investigating, comparing and identifying the physical characteristics of plants and animals. This book also makes for an enjoyable, lyrical read-aloud.

Contributor Bio

Darren Lebeuf is an award-winning photographer based in Vancouver, British Columbia, with a background in design and visual communication. Darren has done numerous illustration projects for schools and charity organizations and also teaches illustration courses. He is also the author of *My Forest Is Green*, *My Ocean Is Blue* and *My City Speaks*.

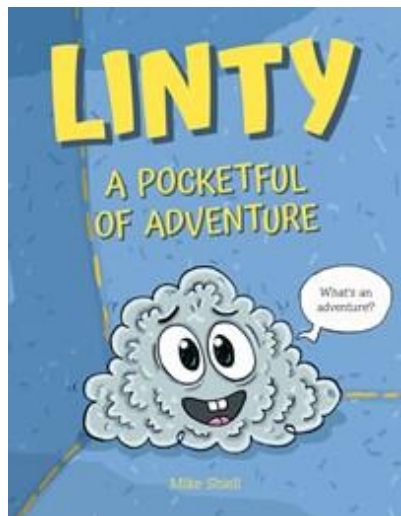
Ashley Barron has illustrated several picture books, including *My Forest Is Green*, *My Ocean Is Blue* and *Birthdays Around the World*. She enjoys teaching art classes and presenting her books to libraries and schools. She lives in Toronto, Ontario, with her partner and their three cats.

Illustrations



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Juvenile Fiction / Concepts
7 in H | 7 in W



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64 Pages
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Juvenile Fiction / Comics &
Graphic Novels

8.5 in H | 6.5 in W

Linty: A Pocketful of Adventure

Mike Shiell

Key Selling Points

Super-talented Mike Shiell's author-illustrator debut.

Funny graphic novels are in high demand for this reading level.

Encourages social-emotional learning.

Summary

Making his author-illustrator debut, Mike Shiell elevates the everyday to hilarious drama in this offbeat graphic novel for early readers.

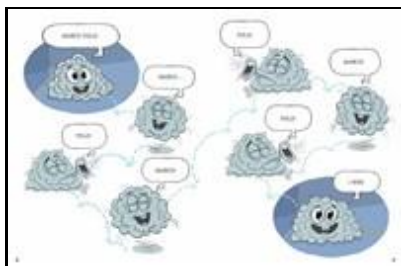
In the front pocket of a faded pair of hand-me-down jeans, a tiny ball of lint lives alone. The days are pretty much the same for Linty: Some cardio. Sightseeing ("So blue!"). Solo Marco Polo. Until one day, everything changes. A boy, who has finally grown into the jeans, has put them on. All Linty knows is that he's suddenly shaking and bouncing like crazy. And then visitors start arriving. There's an acorn, a coin, pizza crust. Linty is a bit overwhelmed at first. Soon, though, the pocket is packed, and he's learning all kinds of fun new things to do (imagine, Solo Marco Polo with friends!). But then, just as suddenly . . . Wash Day arrives. Is Linty's world about to be turned upside down, again?

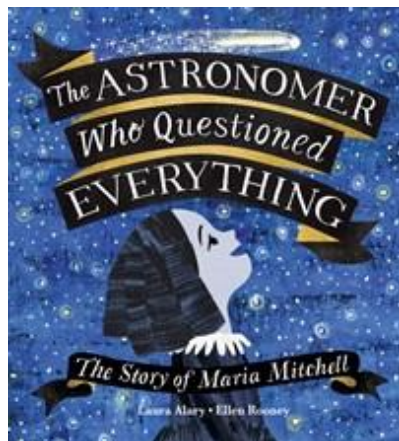
Cartoonist, animator and illustrator Mike Shiell makes his author-illustrator debut with this high-energy and very funny graphic novel for early readers. Silly and engaging, with loads of heart, it's the perfect book to place in the hands of any reluctant or emerging reader. The relatable emotions of the lovable main character as portrayed in the story and the expressive illustrations support social-emotional learning with themes of making friends, embracing what life throws at you, and finding the courage to try new things. And the busy, brightly colored pages full of hysterical dialogue, asides and antics (ever wonder what happens to lint when it goes through the washer and dryer?) enhance visual literacy.

Contributor Bio

Mike Shiell is a cartoonist, animator and illustrator. He is the creator of the animated short films, Melon Shorts and the Wandering Melon web comics series, as well as the illustrator of the Gross Science book series (written by Edward Kay). As a longtime animation director with Nelvana, Mike also directed a number of children's TV shows, such as the Emmy Award-winning *The Backyardigans* and *Mike the Knight*. He lives in Georgetown, Ontario.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525303487
Pub Date: 5/3/2022
\$18.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

36 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
10 in H | 9 in W

The Astronomer Who Questioned Everything

The Story of Maria Mitchell

Laura Alary, Ellen Rooney

Key Selling Points

Absorbing read with a teachable STEM component.

Maria Mitchell was a remarkably accomplished, though not well-known, nineteenth-century scientist and women's rights activist.

Inspiring guide to finding one's own way in the world.

Summary

Perfect for fans of STEM, this inspiring picture book biography tells the extraordinary story of pioneering astronomer Maria Mitchell.

Maria longed to travel beyond her small island of Nantucket. But she wasn't sure how. Her father taught her to look to the stars for guidance. If you knew how to read them, he said, the stars could tell you where you were, and where you needed to go. They spent hours scanning the night sky together through a telescope on the roof. Maria learned how to use astronomers' tools to measure and track time by the stars. But what could she do with her skills? Then, one day, she heard that a prize was being offered to the first person to find a new comet. Could this be the opportunity she was waiting for?

This absorbing picture book biography by Laura Alary tells the fascinating, though not well-known, story of a remarkable nineteenth-century woman scientist and women's rights advocate. After winning that prize for discovering a comet, Maria Mitchell would go on to become the first professional female astronomer in the United States, first female member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and one of the first female college professors. Beautifully illustrated with lovely textured artwork by Ellen Rooney, this is a well-told story with a teachable STEM component, supporting both science and social studies curriculums, that supports a growth mindset. It's also a wonderful guide sure to inspire readers to find their own way in the world. It includes backmatter that further describes Maria's impressive life and achievements.

Contributor Bio

Laura Alary believes in writing stories that make us bigger on the inside. She is constantly reading and wondering and learning so that she can keep up with all the questions her children ask --- especially about science and life on Earth. She grew up in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and currently lives in Toronto with her three children.

Ellen Rooney is an illustrator, designer and artist. She's originally from Massachusetts, but now lives in the southern Okanagan Valley in British Columbia. She loves graphic shapes, textured color, printmaking, drawing outdoors, painting --- and her hidden art powers are released when cutting up paper!

Illustrations





Can You Believe It?

How to Spot Fake News and Find the Facts

Joyce Grant, Kathleen Marcotte

Key Selling Points

Timely, go-to resource for today's tech-savvy kids.

Light, often hilarious tone and playful illustrations keep the information manageable.

Examples of deconstructed fake articles and a practice example to test learning.

Summary

For today's tech-savvy kids, here's the go-to resource for navigating what they read on the internet.

Kids Can Press
9781525303227
Pub Date: 6/7/2022
\$18.99/\$19.99 Can.
Hardcover

56 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Media
Studies
10 in H | 9 in W

Should we believe everything we read online? Definitely not! And this book will tell you why. This fascinating book explores in depth how real journalism is made, what "fake news" is and, most importantly, how to spot the difference. It's chock-full of practical advice, thought-provoking examples and tons of relevant information on subjects that range from bylines and credible sources to influencers and clickbait. It gives readers context they can use, such as how bias can creep into news reporting, why celebrity posts may not be truthful and why they should be suspicious of anything that makes them feel supersmart.

Young people get most of their information online. This must-read guide helps them decide which information they can trust - and which they can't.

Author and journalist Joyce Grant is an expert on how young people interact with and think about online media. Never judgmental, and often hilarious, she encourages readers to approach what they find online with skepticism and helps them hone their critical thinking skills to make good choices about what to believe and share. Engaging text is broken into manageable chunks, with loads of Kathleen Marcotte's playful illustrations on every spread to help explain tricky concepts. Two fake articles are deconstructed step by step using the information found in the book, and an additional article allows readers to test their skills. This comprehensive book has strong curriculum connections in language arts and social studies. Endmatter features a glossary, an author's note, sources and an index.

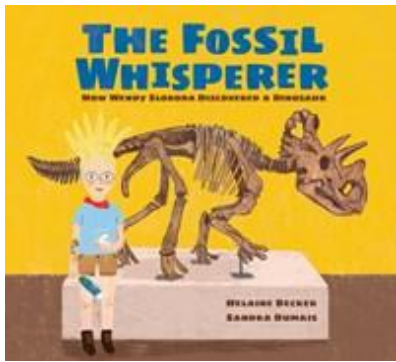
Contributor Bio

Joyce Grant is a freelance journalist and children's author. She created the popular website Teaching Kids News and has given hundreds of presentations at schools and libraries. She is also the author of the Gabby picture book series and two middle-grade novels. Joyce lives with her family in Hamilton, Ontario.

Kathleen Marcotte is an illustrator from the suburbs of Chicago. She earned her BFA in illustration at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA). She loves to create playful illustrations that can appeal to both children and adults and has been recognized by the Society of Illustrators, American Illustration and 3x3 magazine. She lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525304187
Pub Date: 6/7/2022
\$18.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 8, Grades P to 3
Juvenile Nonfiction / Biography &
Autobiography
9 in H | 10 in W

The Fossil Whisperer

How Wendy Sloboda Discovered a Dinosaur

Helaine Becker, Sandra Dumais

Key Selling Points

Remarkable true story of Wendy Sloboda's discovery of a new dinosaur species. *Wendiceratops* became a missing link in the story of horned dinosaurs' evolution.

Storytelling captures the independent and unconventional spirit of a rare female paleontologist.

Summary

A captivating look at the life of a modern-day fossil hunter who makes the find of a lifetime told by award-winning author Helaine Becker.

Wendy has an eye for the unusual and is skilled at finding things that others don't see. While on a school field trip at age 12, she spots one of those unusual things poking out of the ground, and it turns out to be a piece of fossilized coral that's 100 million years old. Wendy's thrilled! And soon, she gets hooked on finding fossils. When she grows up, Wendy turns her passion into her career and becomes a preeminent fossil hunter, known as the "fossil whisperer" around the world. But it's on a dig close to home where Wendy makes her most important discovery: *Wendiceratops*!

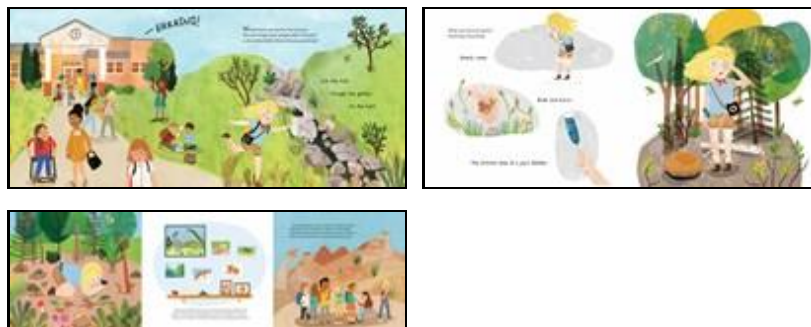
Bestselling author Helaine Becker brings to fascinating life the remarkable true story of Wendy Sloboda and her discovery of *Wendiceratops*, a dinosaur species that proved to be a missing link in the story of horned dinosaurs' evolution. Becker's narrative is full of energy, allowing Wendy's intelligence, independence and unconventional spirit to shine through. Sandra Dumais's illustrations keep the visual appeal high, cleverly presenting the modern-day story with loads of details while giving readers a feel for the past when dinosaurs roamed the land, including two intriguing gatefolds that reveal further secrets. This readable biography of a unique female role model in the male-dominated field of paleontology has strong STEM connections in life science and paleontology and applications in Earth history. It includes a biographical note, more information about *Wendiceratops* and fossil hunting, a timeline, a glossary and further reading.

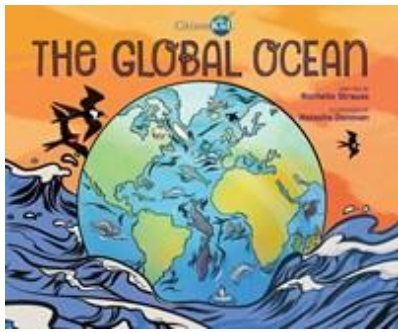
Contributor Bio

Helaine Becker is a bestselling children's author of more than ninety books, including *Hubots*, *Monster Science*, *Zoobots*, *The Big Green Book of the Big Blue Sea* and *Lines, Bars and Circles*. She is a two-time recipient of the Lane Anderson Award and a winner of the Silver Birch Award and the Red Cedar Award. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

Sandra Dumais is a children's book illustrator and owner of an online retail shop that sells prints and housewares. The picture books that she has collaborated on have received top honors from the Booksellers' Association of Quebec. Sandra lives with her family in Montreal, Quebec.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525304910
Pub Date: 5/3/2022
\$19.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

36 Pages
Ages 8 to 12, Grades 3 to 7
Juvenile Nonfiction / Science & Nature
Series: CitizenKid
9 in H | 11 in W

The Global Ocean

Rochelle Strauss, Natasha Donovan

Key Selling Points

Perfect tie-in for Earth Day (April 22) and World Oceans Day (June 8).
Positive, proactive approach to climate change and ocean conservation.

Contains numerous examples of ways to help.

Summary

The global ocean is in trouble. This beautiful and important book explores the issues - and what we can do to help.

Though we think of Earth's five oceans as separate and distinct, they are actually a linked system of circulating water that is one single ocean - the global ocean. This comprehensive and accessible overview explores the global ocean's enormous influence on the planet, as well as humans' often-detrimental influence on the ocean. But it also highlights some of the many ways people are working to restore and heal the global ocean - from everyday actions to large institutional projects - making the message of urgency as hopeful as it is accurate. Filled with fascinating information, stunning visuals and plenty of calls to action, readers will be inspired to discover what they can do to help heal Earth's most important feature and, ultimately, our planet.

Bestselling author Rochelle Strauss applies a positive, proactive approach to the urgent topics of climate change and ocean conservation in this gorgeous and unique depiction of the global ocean, based on the most current ocean science research. Engaging illustrations on every spread by award-winning Natasha Donovan are eye-catching and powerful. Examples of real people of all ages making a difference can be found in sidebars on each spread with more at the back of the book. Two sections list ways to help, one for children and one for the adults in their lives. There are many curriculum links in earth and life sciences, particularly in climate, environment, habitats, ecosystems and diversity of living things. Part of the CitizenKid series, this book encourages citizenship and engaging in the global community.

Contributor Bio

Rochelle Strauss is a bestselling children's book author, as well the director of education for the Toronto Botanical Garden. Through her work, Rochelle combines her love of nature and passion for stories to teach children about the wonders of the natural world. She lives with her family in Toronto, Ontario.

Natasha Donovan is an award-winning illustrator originally from Vancouver, British Columbia. She is a member of the Métis Nation of British Columbia. Natasha now lives on a tiny farm along with several wonderful creatures --- both of the human and the nonhuman variety --- in Deming, Washington.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525304385
Pub Date: 5/3/2022
\$18.99/\$21.99 Can.
Hardcover

32 Pages
Ages 4 to 7, Grades P to 2
Juvenile Nonfiction / Recycling &
Green Living
11 in H | 8 in W

Our Green City

Tanya Lloyd Kyi, Colleen Larmour

Key Selling Points

Delightfully conjures a utopian sustainable community of the future.
Hopeful and uplifting, unlike typical "doom and gloom" environmental messages.

Kid-friendly introduction to green technology and concepts.

Summary

A charming, child-friendly tour around an ideal sustainable city - with a uniquely positive environmental message from award-winning author Tanya Lloyd Kyi.

In this green city, neighbors take care of all living things: people, plants and animals, too! Many people choose a bicycle, scooter or their own two feet to get where they need to go. A family collects the rain to water their garden, while solar panels capture the energy from the sun; pipes gather heat from underground, and a windmill turns to power the community. Residents keep hens and hives in their yards, and care for flower beds that feed bees, birds and butterflies. Here, people all work together to make the city green. Can we do the same where we live?

Tanya Lloyd Kyi and Colleen Larmour have conjured a delightfully utopian sustainable community of the future, and they invite readers on an interactive journey to explore it. Unlike many children's books about the environment, this is a hopeful and uplifting book that encourages children to imagine what's possible, with neighbors from diverse backgrounds coming together to care for their surroundings and one another. Green technology and concepts are presented in an accessible way, covering topics from transportation to classrooms to food. Each spread includes a question that asks readers to search for something small in the illustration, and the abundant details in the rich and colorful art make the pages perfect for poring over. Backmatter shares environmentally friendly suggestions to try at home. Strong curriculum links to social studies and to physical, environmental and life sciences.

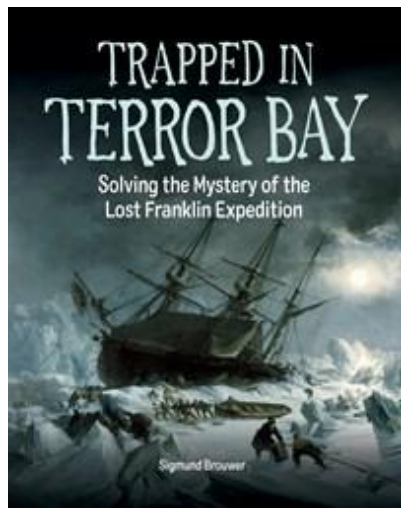
Contributor Bio

Tanya Lloyd Kyi is the author of more than 25 books for children and adults, including *This Is Your Brain on Stereotypes*, *Under Pressure* and *Mya's Strategy to Save the World*. Tanya lives with her husband and two teenagers in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Colleen Larmour is a children's book illustrator and author based in Northern Ireland. She studied on the Cambridge Art School master's course in children's book illustration and has illustrated several books, including *Let's Play: A Book About Making Friends*. She lives with her husband and two daughters in County Antrim.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525303456
Pub Date: 5/3/2022
\$18.99/\$19.99 Can.
Hardcover

160 Pages
Ages 12 to 16, Grades 7 to 11
Juvenile Nonfiction / History
9 in H | 7 in W

Trapped in Terror Bay

Solving the Mystery of the Lost Franklin Expedition

Sigmund Brouwer

Key Selling Points

Includes up-to-date findings, highlighting the importance of Inuit knowledge and oral history in uncovering the truth.

Based on science, heavy on forensics, and history, with strong curriculum links.

Enthralling narrative storytelling.

Summary

This enthralling and up close tale of the ill-fated Franklin expedition reveals bone-chilling details of what really happened in Terror Bay!

In 1845, Sir John Franklin's expedition set sail for the Arctic from England in search of the Northwest Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Not only did they not succeed, his two ships - HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror* - and their entire party of 129 men vanished, their fate a mystery that remained unsolved for decades. In 10 suspenseful episodes, the thrilling tale of that doomed polar mission is told from the points of view of the commander of the *Terror* and of those back home and the search parties who attempted to find them. Each episode also describes some of the modern-day searches, including the discovery of the lost ships, allowing readers to examine the evidence and consider the theories about what happened. It's a thorough and thoroughly captivating read about an intriguing story from the past.

Award-winning author Sigmund Brouwer packs loads of information, including the most up-to-date findings, into this original and engaging narrative. The highly graphic design includes historic photos, maps, a timeline and illustrations plus modern photos. The book highlights the importance of Inuit oral history and knowledge in solving the mystery. It was reviewed by an Inuit interpreter and elder. Sidebars throughout contain fascinating information about how technology and inventions at the time of the expedition brought about social changes, and mini-mysteries from history that ask readers to solve them using forensic science. There are strong curriculum links here to history, geography, Inuit studies, engineering, technology and applied science.

Contributor Bio

Sigmund Brouwer is the bestselling author of scores of books across many genres, from early chapter books to historical fiction. He lives in Red Deer, Alberta.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525303289
Pub Date: 6/7/2022
\$15.99/\$16.99 Can.
Hardcover

144 Pages
Ages 6 to 9, Grades 1 to 4
Juvenile Fiction / Readers
Series: Wednesday Wilson
7.3 in H | 5.3 in W

Wednesday Wilson Fixes All Your Problems

Bree Galbraith, Morgan Goble

Key Selling Points

Great fun, while encouraging ingenuity, creative thinking and resourcefulness. Engaging illustrations help with reading comprehension for emerging readers.

Sprinkled with business-oriented definitions.

Summary

In this second title in the early chapter book series about everyone's favorite young entrepreneur, Wednesday Wilson is only trying to help her brother when her latest business idea strikes!

Sometimes the best business ideas pop up when you least expect them. Or that's what happens to Wednesday Wilson, anyway, the morning her brother, Mister, locks himself in the bathroom because he's nervous about a school presentation. When classmate Emmet convinces Mister that a worry stone will calm his nerves, Wednesday offers Mister her marble - with the promise that a Worry Marble will fix all his problems! But then Wednesday starts thinking about just how many things kids get nervous about. And, hmm, she does happen to have a whole *collection* of marbles. Has Wednesday just hit entrepreneurial gold?

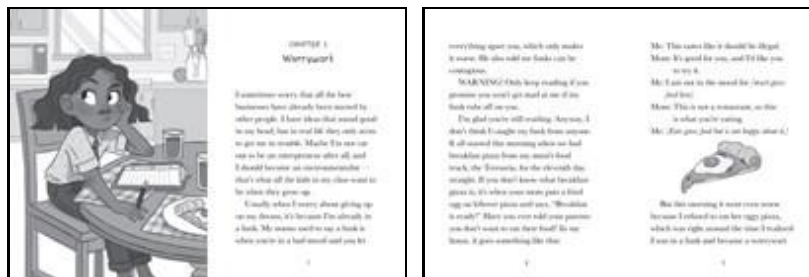
This is the second title in the early chapter book series by Bree Galbraith that follows the ever-evolving, but always entertaining, antics of girl entrepreneur Wednesday Wilson. The highly engaging series encourages ingenuity, creative thinking and resourcefulness. It's also loads of fun! Wednesday's enthusiasm and energy and her one-of-a-kind take on the world will delight and inspire. Short chapters enhanced by Morgan Goble's illustrations along with lists and clever business-themed definitions help bridge the gap for emerging readers. Wednesday has two moms, one is Black and one white, and the story features an expanding diverse cast of BIPOC and disabled characters. It also contains character education lessons on initiative and perseverance.

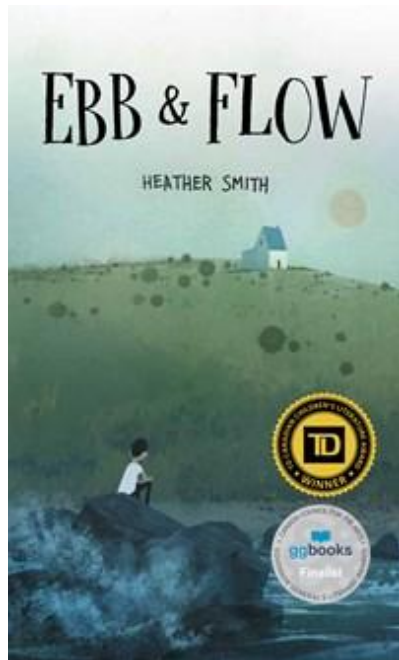
Contributor Bio

Bree Galbraith is a children's book author whose critically acclaimed books include *Usha and the Stolen Sun*, *Milo and Georgie* and *Once Upon a Balloon*. Bree holds a master's degree in creative writing from the University of British Columbia. She lives with her family in Vancouver, Canada.

Morgan Goble is a children's illustrator who has been drawing since she could first hold a crayon. She is a graduate of the Bachelor of Illustration program at Sheridan College. Morgan lives with her husband and their cat, Noni, in Oakville, Ontario. *Wednesday Wilson Gets Down to Business* is her first book.

Illustrations





Kids Can Press
9781525303357
Pub Date: 6/7/2022
\$9.99/\$11.99 Can.
Paperback

232 Pages
Ages 9 to 12, Grades 4 to 7
Juvenile Fiction / Stories In Verse
8.8 in H | 5.3 in W

Ebb and Flow

Heather Smith

Key Selling Points

Deceptively simple style appeals to both reluctant and avid readers.
Features fresh and innovative storytelling, using artfully wrought free-verse vignettes.

Showcases positive themes of empathy, resilience, courage and responsibility.

Summary

A powerful story of betrayal, forgiveness and self-discovery.

*One summer,
after a long plane ride
and a rotten bad year
I went to Grandma Jo's.
It was my mother's idea.
Jett, what you need is a change of scenery.
I think she needed a change of scenery, too.
One without me.
Because that rotten bad year?
That was my fault.*

Thus begins the poignant story, told in free verse, of eleven-year-old Jett. Last year, Jett and his mother had moved to a new town for a fresh start after his father went to jail. But Jett soon learned that fresh starts aren't all they're cracked up to be. When he befriended a boy with a difficult home life, Jett found himself in a cycle of bad decisions that culminated in the betrayal of a friend - a shameful secret he still hasn't forgiven himself for. Will a summer spent with his unconventional grandmother help Jett find his way to redemption?

Writing in artfully crafted free-verse vignettes, Heather Smith uses a deceptively simple style to tell a powerful and emotionally charged story. The engaging narrative and the mystery of Jett's secret keep the pages turning and will appeal to both reluctant and avid readers. This captivating book offers a terrific opportunity for classroom discussions about the many ways to tell a story and how a small number of carefully chosen words can have a huge impact. It also showcases the positive character traits of empathy resilience, courage, and responsibility.

Contributor Bio

Heather Smith is the author of numerous books for children and teens. *Ebb & Flow* was the winner of the TD Canadian Children's Book Award and the BMO Winterset Award, and was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, among many other honors. Originally from Newfoundland, Heather now lives in Waterloo, Ontario, with her family. Her east coast roots inspire much of her writing.

Illustrations

