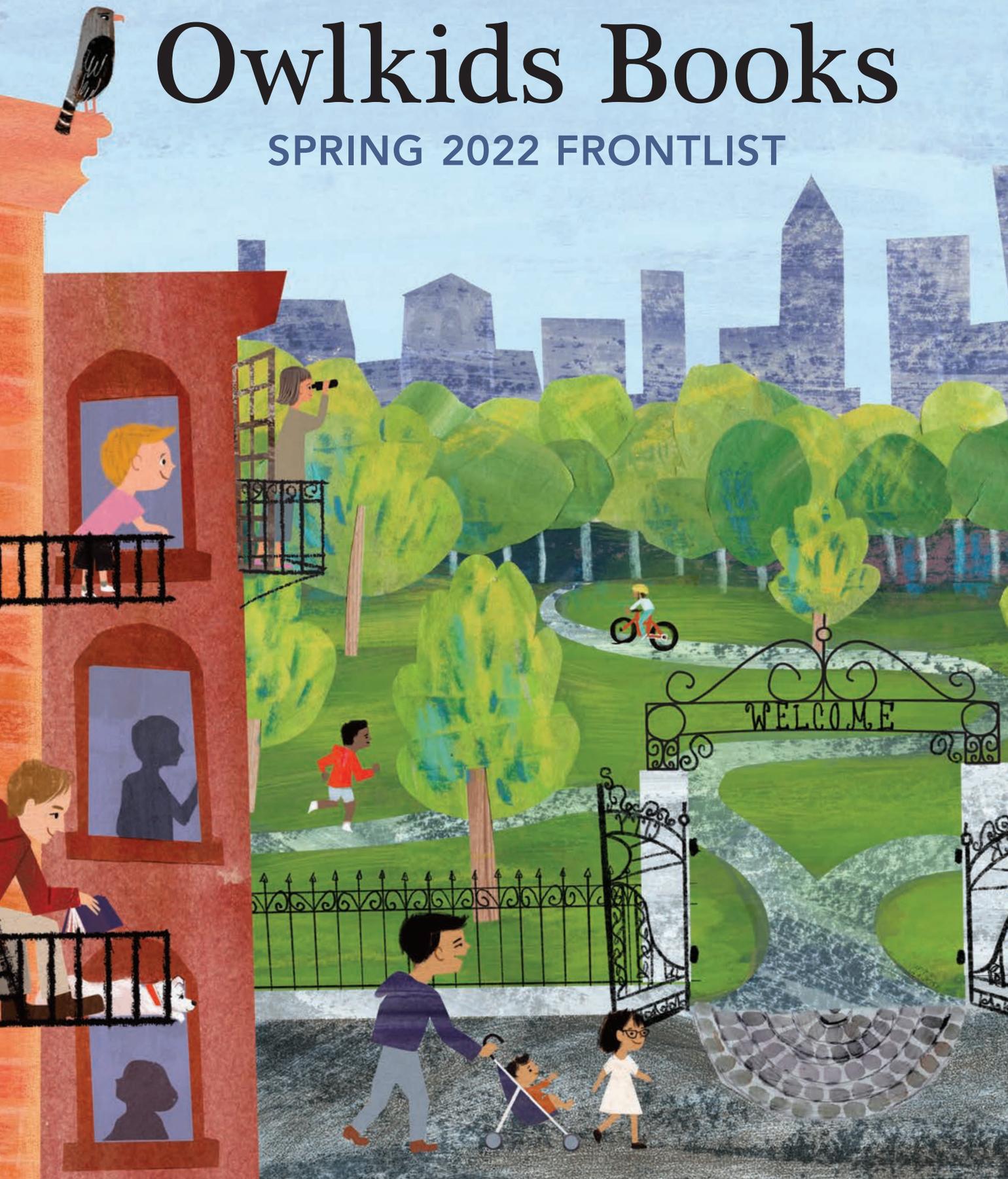


# Owlkids Books

SPRING 2022 FRONTLIST



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Dear Reader,

Welcome to our Spring 2022 catalog! The season is packed with a variety of beautiful books, and we hope you find some new titles to spark your interest here.

One of the most exciting pieces of news is that Owlkids Books has a new online home. We have redesigned **OwlkidsBooks.com** with lots of features to help you discover our books and the resources that accompany them.

On the site, you can find free downloadable activities and teacher's resources by age and grade level, as well as recent videos and catalogs. You can meet our team, or browse the blog, where we will share weekly highlights—media, reviews, interviews with our authors and illustrators, and more. You can also sign up for our e-newsletter for a weekly delivery of our top picks on topical themes, straight to your inbox.

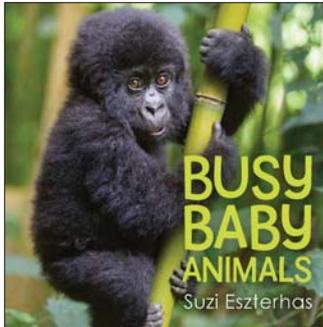
As always, you can find our review copies on NetGalley and Edelweiss, or join us on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter for regular updates. We look forward to connecting with you!

Sincerely,

Karen Boersma  
Publisher, Owlkids Books



# Meet baby animals from around the world!



## Busy Baby Animals

By Suzi Eszterhas

Baby animals aren't just cute—they get up to lots of interesting activities, too! In this adorable board book, readers will meet babies climbing, babies dining, babies cruising, babies grooving, babies with their families, and more.

Stunning photographs from award-winning wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas showcase the lives of baby animals and their families in the wild and are paired with simple rhyming text, giving young readers a chance to learn about new animals while giggling along with the babies' antics. Great for nature lovers, this is a playful, accessible introduction to wild animals from around the world.



SUZI ESZTERHAS is an award-winning wildlife photographer who is passionate about conservation and connecting children with nature. Her photographs have been published in over 100 magazine cover and feature stories in publications around the world, including *National Geographic Kids*, *Ranger Rick*, and *TIME*. When not in the field, she lives in Petaluma, California.

May 2022

24 PAGES • 7 x 7 • AGES 0–3

BB • \$12.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-446-7



CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Rhyming

**Social Studies:** Animals; Habitats; Characteristics of Living Things

READING LEVELS

Grade: K

Fountas & Pinnell: C

Reading Recovery: 4

Lexile® Measure: NP

COMMON CORE

RI.K, W.K, SL.K, L.K

Inquiry

Early Childhood

## Key Features

- New from award-winning wildlife photographer Suzi Eszterhas, author of the *Baby Animals* series, *Moto and Me*, and *Panda Opposites*
- Exposes young readers to wildlife in their natural habitats
- Board book format is ideal for the youngest readers

## Also by Suzi Eszterhas



BB • \$12.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

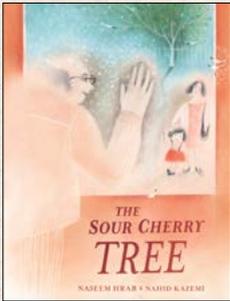
ISBN 978-1-77147-330-9



HC • \$16.95 CDN / \$14.95 US

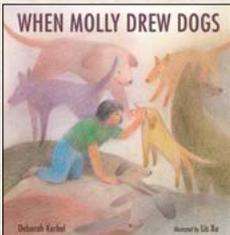
ISBN 978-1-77147-322-4

## Also Recommended



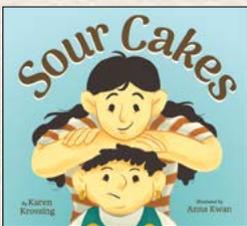
HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-414-6

★ Kirkus



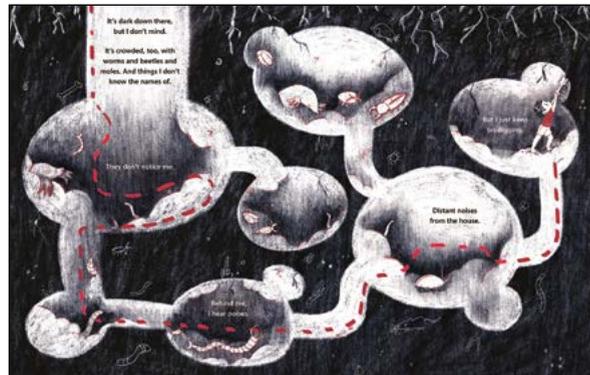
HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-338-5

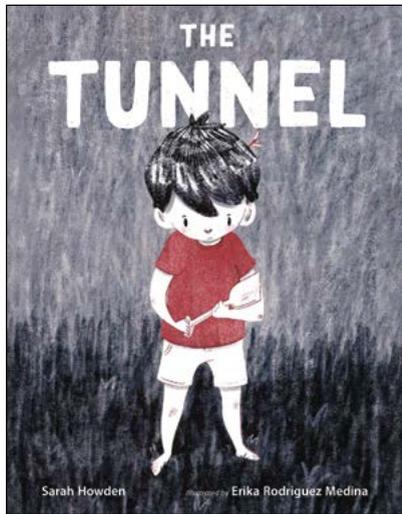
★ Quill & Quire



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-397-2

## A spare, powerful story about taking space to process difficult feelings





## The Tunnel

Written by Sarah Howden • Illustrated by Erika Rodriguez Medina

After something bad happens, a boy feels sad and gray. Mom and Aunt Cheryl try to talk about it, but he feels like running away. So he picks up a shovel and starts digging a tunnel from his room, deep down and into the backyard. Out there, far from the lights of the house, it's dark enough that he could disappear. But the quiet distance also gives him the space he needs to see his family's love and start returning home.

Heading back, the journey upward is different. He notices familiar details and tunes in to his senses. The tunnel isn't so scary this time. The boy emerges into his room just as Mom peeks in. When she notices a twig in his hair, he is ready to talk about the tunnel and finds warmth in her gentle acknowledgment: "You came back."

Quiet, emotionally resonant text is paired with grayscale drawings accented with red in this thoughtfully layered exploration of coping with tough emotions, and taking time and space to heal.

**SARAH HOWDEN** is the author of several books for children, including *5-Minute Stories for Fearless Girls* and *Cone Cat*. She lives in Toronto, Ontario, with her husband and daughter and their two rambunctious cats.

**ERIKA RODRIGUEZ MEDINA** is an art teacher and illustrator currently living and working in Vancouver, British Columbia. Comfortable with both traditional and digital media, she prefers organic shapes and natural-looking textures, which will find their way into everything she makes. If asked, Erika will tell you that her favorite things to illustrate are expressive characters, grumpy children, and subjects related to plants and nature.

March 2022

32 PAGES • 8 x 10.25 • AGES 4–8

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-427-6



CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading

**Character Development:** Social-Emotional Learning

READING LEVELS

Grade: 1

Fountas & Pinnell: 1

Reading Recovery: 16

Lexile® Measure: AD460L

COMMON CORE

RL.1, W.1, SL.1, L.1

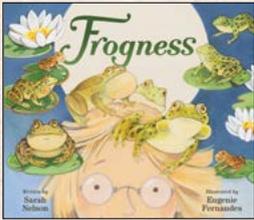
Social - Emotional Learning

Character Development

## Key Features

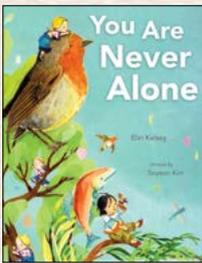
- Richly imagined metaphor explores healing after trauma, grief, or anxiety
- Simple storyline makes a heavy topic accessible to young readers
- Social-emotional learning connection to processing emotions
- Emphasizes the value of time, space, and distance as coping mechanisms

Also by Sarah Nelson



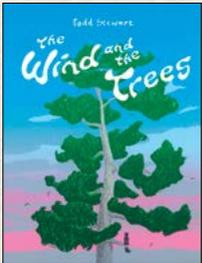
HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-375-0

Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-315-6

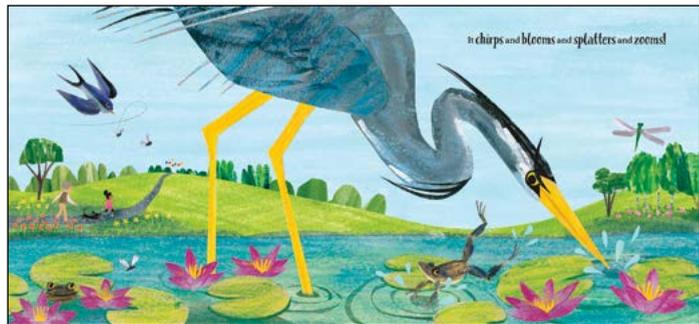
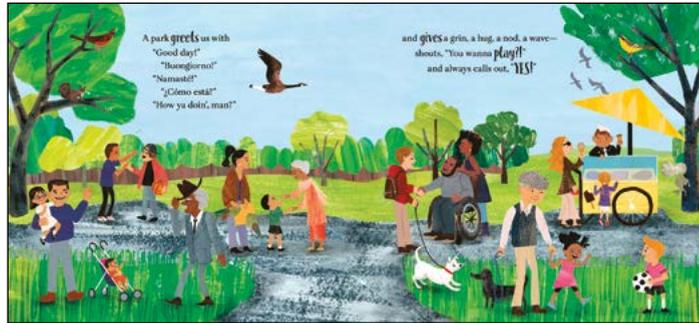
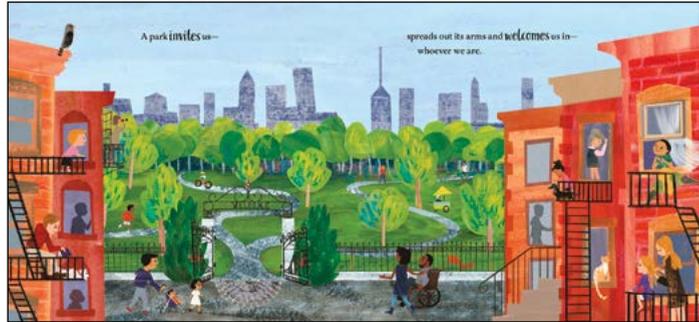
- ★ Kirkus
- ★ Foreword

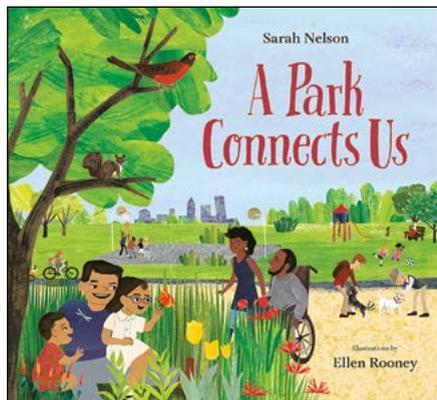


HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-433-7

- ★ Kirkus
- ★ Publishers Weekly

## A celebration of urban parks and the many ways they connect us to community and nature





## A Park Connects Us

Written by Sarah Nelson • Illustrated by Ellen Rooney

This picture book excursion through a city park invites readers to discover how shared green spaces bring us together. Lyrical, upbeat text illuminates the abundant gifts the park offers. Vibrant mixed-media illustrations show a diverse group of visitors as they explore this communal space. Children frolic; couples wander; flowers bloom and birds zoom; friends and families picnic and play ball or simply sink their toes peacefully into the present moment. Meanwhile, rolling hills and green trees enfold visitors in nature's beauty. Encouraged by the sense of unity the park creates, the visitors come together for a joyful dance party and a march for peace and equality. Spread by spread, we see how urban parks are for everyone—whatever we are.

This love letter to public parks depicts an inclusive and accessible space where community flourishes. Without a screen in sight, it gently hints at the adventures to be had offline and encourages readers to venture into nature and connect with their neighborhoods. Back matter provides a brief history of urban parks in North America and highlights park successes around the world.

SARAH NELSON is a poet and teacher, and the author of several books for young children, including *Frogness* and the *I Like the Weather* series. Sarah's stories and poems explore a variety of themes, but she especially loves writing about nature and often spots book ideas in the parks around her Minnesota home as they hop, honk, or pedal past.

ELLEN ROONEY is a collage artist and picture book illustrator. Originally from the state of Massachusetts, she now lives in the southern Okanagan Valley in British Columbia with her husband and dog.

March 2022

32 PAGES • 10.5 × 9.5 • AGES 3–7

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-450-4



CURRICULUM

**Social Studies:** Local Communities;  
Global Communities

READING LEVELS

Grade: 1

Fountas & Pinnell: 1

Reading Recovery: 16

Lexile® Measure: AD470L

COMMON CORE

RL.1, W.1, SL.1, L.1

Inquiry

## Key Features

- Presents a range of park visitors spanning different cultures, ethnicities, abilities, and identities in an accessible space
- Great read-aloud with detailed, colorful illustrations and poetic text
- Highlights environmental stewardship, mindfulness, and exploring nature in a city

March 2022

32 PAGES • 8.125 x 9.75 • AGES 3–7

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-441-2



CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Reading

READING LEVELS

Grade: 1

Fountas & Pinnell: H

Reading Recovery: I4

Lexile® Measure: AD570L

COMMON CORE

RL.1, W.1, SL.1, L.1

Inquiry

## Key Features

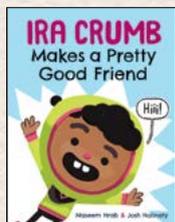
- A fun, accessible look at dance trends over the decades
- Highlights intergenerational relationships and shared interests
- Dynamic watercolor illustrations will encourage readers and their families to get moving together

## Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

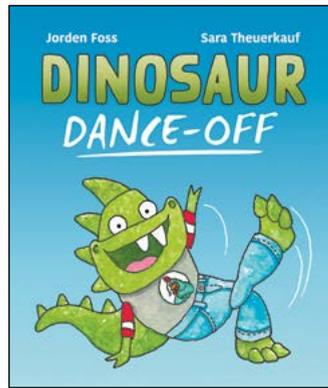
ISBN 978-1-77147-394-1



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-171-8

# A dancing dinosaur discovers his family has some sweet moves



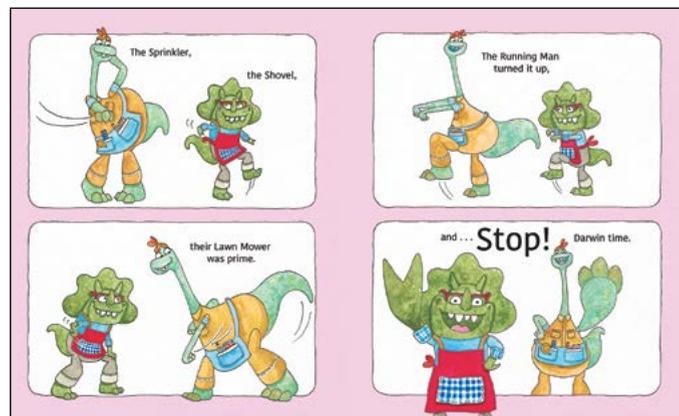
## Dinosaur Dance-off

Written by Jorden Foss

Illustrated by Sara Theuerkauf

Darwin the Dinosaur *loves* to dance, but he needs someone to join his troupe. When Mom and Dad offer to show him their moves, Darwin laughs. There's no way his prehistoric parents can groove like him, he thinks ... until they show off some funky Jurassic dance steps! When Grandma arrives and throws down some old-school grooves, Darwin's jaw drops. His family's moves are fly! Together, the troupe dances until they drop, and Darwin goes to sleep dreaming of his crew and all their fresh moves.

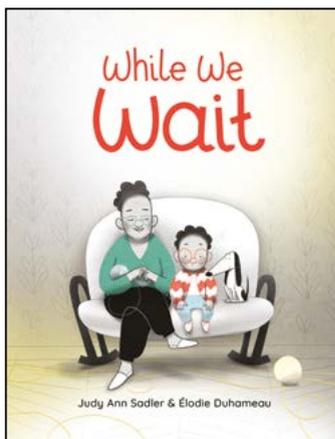
This lively romp invites readers to explore trendy dances throughout history, from the Cha Cha Slide to the Cabbage Patch. Vibrant watercolor illustrations will encourage readers and their families to try some of these steps, too. Don't miss this energetic celebration of intergenerational sharing and quality time with family.



JORDEN FOSS is the cofounder of Steel & Oak, a craft brewery in New Westminster, British Columbia. He is a father and husband, as well as a fan of dinosaurs and front porches, and he values family, friends, high fives, and awesome dance moves.

SARA THEUERKAUF is originally from Nova Scotia and works as both an illustrator and architect in Vancouver, British Columbia. Sara's work takes joy in the details and reflects her affinity for nature, design, textiles, and good food. Her sketchbook accompanies her on all adventures.

# This gentle play on patience shows a boy and his grandma knitting the perfect gift



## While We Wait

Written by Judy Ann Sadler

Illustrated by Élodie Duhaméau

A boy and his grandmother are waiting for ... *something*. While they wait, they sit and knit, they stretch, they rock, they dance, they snack, and they talk. But still, time passes *slowly*.

As the hours go by, they fill the day together. They sit and knit and wait. Until—it's finally time! The long wait is over when the boy's

parents come home with a special arrival. We see what the boy and his grandma have been creating together: a handmade gift for the newest member of their family, created with love.

With a soft color palette and simple, lyrical text lending a rhythmic beat, *While We Wait* is a sweet lesson in patience that shows some things are well worth waiting for.



JUDY ANN SADLER is the bestselling author of over 25 books for kids, including a series of craft books. Her books have been translated into many languages and have sold over a million copies around the world. Judy Ann loves being creative every day. She lives in London, Ontario, where you can often find her knitting caps for her grandkids.

ÉLODIE DUHAMEAU has always loved to draw. After studying graphic design and working as a graphic designer and an art director in her native France, she made the switch to illustration, and now does editorial and advertising work as well as picture books. She creates her sketches with pencil and paper and completes the art digitally. Élodie lives in Montreal, Quebec.

March 2022

32 PAGES • 8.25 x 11 • AGES 3–7

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-440-5



CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading

**Character Education:** Caring; Patience; Self-Regulation

READING LEVELS

Grade: 1

Fountas & Pinnell: G

Reading Recovery: 12

Lexile® Measure: AD450L

COMMON CORE

RL.1, W.1, SL.1, L.1

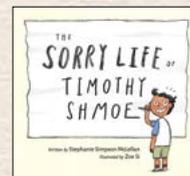
Social - Emotional Learning

Inquiry

## Key Features

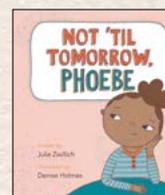
- Depicts a warm intergenerational relationship between grandson and grandmother
- Social-emotional learning connection to self-regulation
- Highlights crafting as an outlet for patience, creativity, and resourcefulness

## Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-393-4



HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-172-5

April 2022

24 PAGES • 7.75 x 9.5 • AGES 3–7

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-465-8



**Language Arts:** Reading; Critical Thinking  
**Health and Physical Education:**  
Gender Expression  
**Character Education:** Inclusivity;  
Kindness; Self-Respect; Respect

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2

Fountas & Pinnell: J

Lexile® Measure: AD520L

COMMON CORE

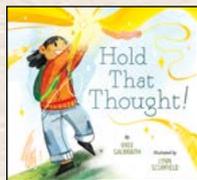
RL.2, W.2, SL.2, L.2

**Social - Emotional Learning**

## Key Features

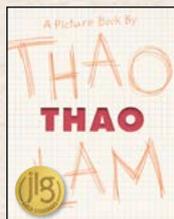
- Supports play, imagination, and mutual respect
- Powerful message against associating color and clothing with gender
- Illustrations portray a diverse group of characters delighting in pink

## Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-294-4



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-432-0

# A joyful celebration of self-expression and uniqueness



## Pink Is for Everybody

Written by Ella Russell

Illustrated by Udayana Lugo

A group of kids is stuck inside on a rainy day, and they're feeling gloomy ... until they discover a pink treasure chest! Inside they find a collection of items that turn their gray day into a playground of pink. Pink is for painters and palace-dwellers, aliens and astronauts, dancers and dragons! In a parade of

exuberance that celebrates all things pink, one surly cat stands apart and teaches the kids a gentle lesson about choosing what you love, no matter who you are, while respecting the unique preferences of everybody around you.

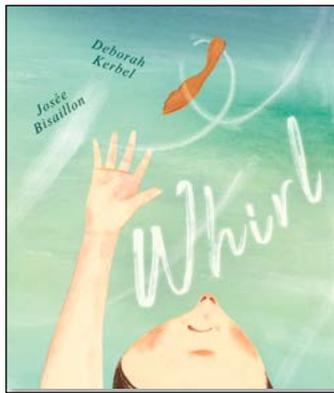
This uplifting ode to self-expression goes beyond the binary expectations of gender to emphasize the importance of creativity and acceptance. It invites readers into a welcoming space where different clothing, toys, and colors are enjoyed by all. With a diverse cast of kids and inclusive, gender-neutral language, this book encourages children to embrace their true colors.



ELLA RUSSELL grew up in a house that had a box full of costumes for rainy-day play. The box allowed them to become anybody they wanted—from a swashbuckling pirate to a proper palace-dweller. Ella lives in Toronto, Ontario, with two cheeky but lovable fur-balls named Saffron and Juniper.

UDAYANA LUGO worked as a designer of products, interiors, and graphics before her love of drawing and children's books led her to become a children's book illustrator. Udayana was born in Russia, grew up in Mexico City, and now lives in Richmond, British Columbia, with her husband and two kids.

# One whirligig's journey reveals the delights of the natural world

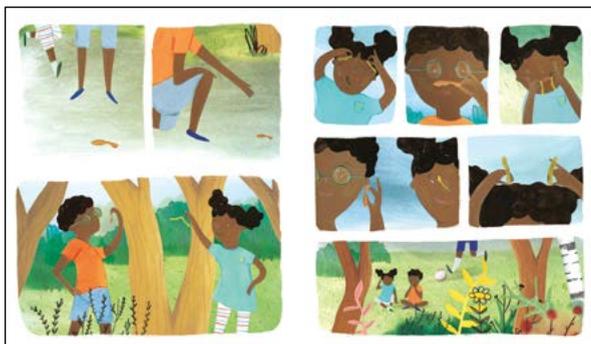


## Whirl

Written by Deborah Kerbel  
Illustrated by Josée Bisailon

A stray whirligig, or maple key, is picked up by the wind and begins a long, wordless journey through a local neighborhood. It twirls and flips through a family's backyard. It slips beneath skateboard wheels and sneakers in the park. It falls into the hands of a few curious kids, who include it in their games and artwork. Eventually, the whirligig finds a place to rest. With the help of a nosy bird and a tender puppy paw, it is dropped into a forest and firmly planted in the ground. Years later, a family that encountered the whirligig on its journey takes a walk in the forest and meets the seed again—this time as a fully grown maple tree!

This gentle meditation on the cycle of life wordlessly draws connections between humans and nature. The dynamic and detailed artwork supports visual literacy and will spark discussion about plant life cycles. And the whirligig's journey on the wind may encourage readers to venture into green spaces and observe them with care and curiosity.



DEBORAH KERBEL is an award-winning author who writes picture books, books for middle-grade readers, and YA novels. Her recent works include *Fred & Marjorie*, *This House Is Home*, and *When Molly Drew Dogs*. Deborah lives and writes in Thornhill, Ontario, with her husband, two teens, and a rescue schnoodle named Freddie.

JOSÉE BISAILLON has illustrated more than forty picture books, three of which have been nominated for a Governor General's Literary Award. She creates her illustrations with a mix of collage, drawing, and digital montage. Josée lives near Montreal, Quebec, with her husband, their three children, and one hairless cat.

April 2022

32 PAGES • 9.5 x 11 • AGES 4–8

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-428-3



CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Literacy Behaviors; Reading Skills and Strategies; Media Literacy

**Science:** Needs and Characteristics of Living Things; Daily and Seasonal Changes; Inquiry-Based Learning

READING LEVELS

Grade: K

Fountas & Pinnell: A

Lexile® Measure: NP

COMMON CORE

RL.K, W.K, SL.K, L.K

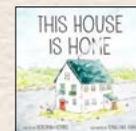
Inquiry

STEM

## Key Features

- New from Governor General's Literary Award nominees Deborah Kerbel and Josée Bisailon
- Celebrates spending time in nature
- Illustrations bursting with detail encourage observation and inquiry
- Back matter provides further information about maple keys, also known as whirligigs

## Also by Deborah Kerbel



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-380-4



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-411-5

March 2022

24 PAGES • 9 x 9 • AGES 4–8

HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-468-9



**Science:** Sustainability and Stewardship; Environment; Needs and Characteristics of Living Things

**Language Arts:** Reading

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2

Fountas & Pinnell: K

Lexile® Measure: AD690L

COMMON CORE

RL.2, W.2, SL.2, L.2

Inquiry

STEM

## Key Features

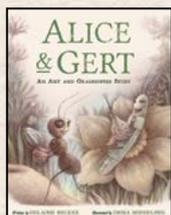
- Supports themes of sustainability and environmental stewardship
- Features a strong female main character with two moms
- Great for kids with interests in nature, gardening, and the outdoors
- Depicts a nontraditional family in a rural environment

## Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

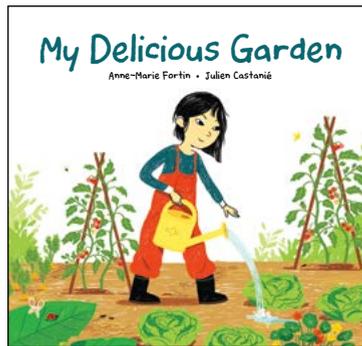
ISBN 978-1-77147-308-8



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-358-3

# A girl lovingly tends to her garden through the seasons



## My Delicious Garden

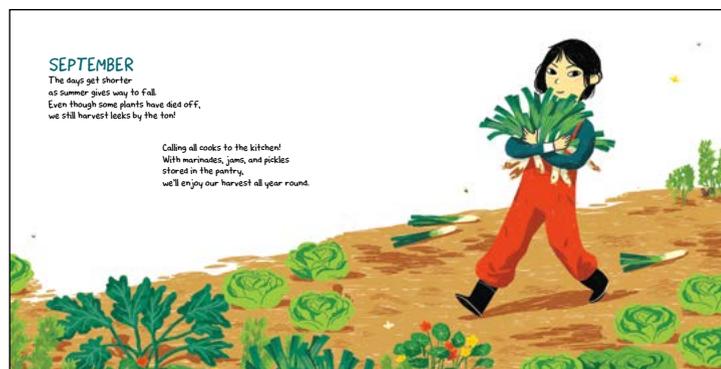
Written by Anne-Marie Fortin

Illustrated by Julien Castanié

In the depths of winter, one young girl is already dreaming of planting her very own vegetable garden. In January, she sketches out the rows of lettuce, the trellis for the peas, and a large plot for the tomatoes while she waits for warmer weather. March

is time for sowing the seeds in eggshells, and April gives way to the first leaves of her seedlings.

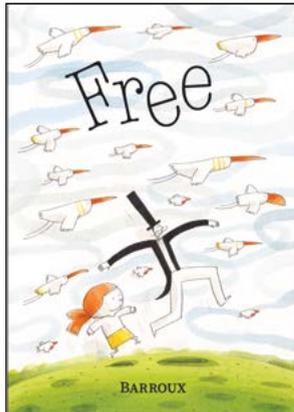
As the seasons change from spring to summer, she (with the help of her moms) spreads compost and turns up the soil to finally plant her veggies into the earth. As the months go by, she lovingly weeds, waters, and cares for her garden until it's time to harvest a bounty big enough to share with family and friends! *My Delicious Garden* celebrates the joy of growing food from seed and is a cozy exploration of the connections between nature, food, and community.



ANNE-MARIE FORTIN has been in the literary world for nearly 15 years. She now works as deputy director general of the Communication-Jeunesse association, where she specializes in reading mediation for young audiences. She is passionate about local children's literature, birds, and gardening. *My Delicious Garden* is her first book for young people.

With ten years of experience as an illustrator and artistic director, JULIEN CASTANIÉ enjoys creating illustrations for children's books, novel covers, board games, and screen-printed posters.

# A celebration of thinking outside the box—or cage!



## Free

Written and illustrated by Barroux

The Great Bird Circus is headed to a big show, but they run into trouble when they reach the border. Paloma and the ringmaster are allowed to cross—but their birds need paperwork, and lots of it! The situation seems hopeless, unless ... what if there's more than one way to get across?

With Paloma's quick and creative thinking, the troupe is able to outwit the bureaucracy and come up with a solution: they free the birds from their cages, and while Paloma and the ringmaster drive across the border in their truck, the birds fly overhead! When the circus is reunited on the other side, Paloma suggests the birds don't need cages—they can fly free.

Minimal text, light humor, and loose illustrations work together to express big ideas simply in this uplifting story that prizes problem-solving and creative thinking.



BARROUX lives in Paris, France, and has studied photography, art, sculpture, and architecture. He is well known for his own children's books, as well as for the many books he has illustrated (more than 100!), including *Sometimes a Wall*. Barroux believes that the world needs fewer borders and more birds, fewer politicians and more poets.

April 2022

40 PAGES • 8 x 11.25 • AGES 3–7

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-451-1



CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Reading; Media Literacy

READING LEVELS

Grade: 3

Fountas & Pinnell: P

Lexile® Measure: AD240L

COMMON CORE

RL.3, W.3, SL.3, L.3

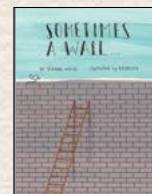
Social - Emotional Learning

Inquiry

## Key Features

- Minimal text and evocative art foster visual literacy
- Features an optimistic, resilient, and creative main character
- Humor in the text and art lighten a story that can be interpreted on different levels

## Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-373-6

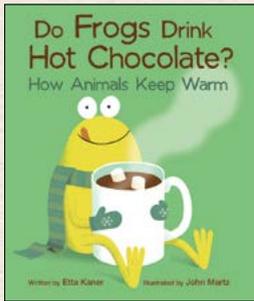


HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

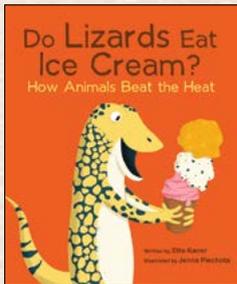
ISBN 978-1-77147-344-6

- ★ Booklist
- ★ Kirkus
- ★ Publishers Weekly

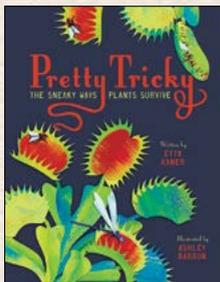
Also by Etta Kaner



PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-483-2



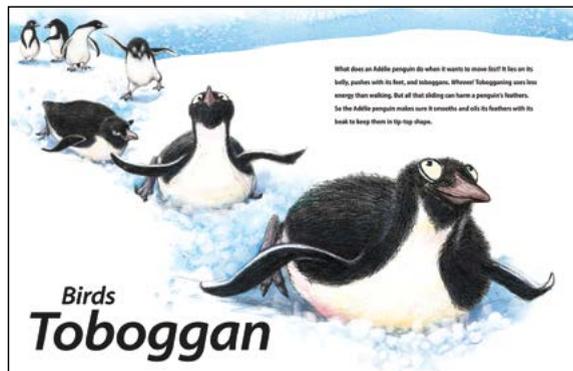
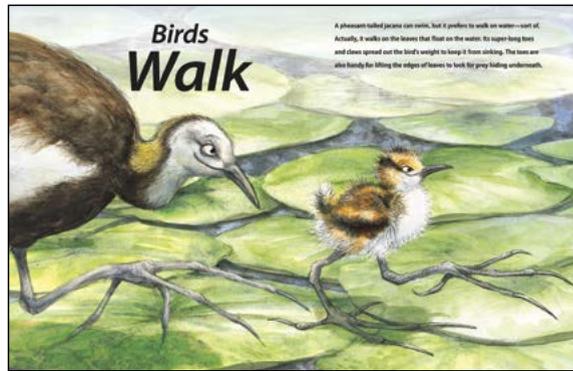
HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-398-9



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US  
ISBN 978-1-77147-369-9

- ★ Booklist
- ★ Kirkus Best of 2020

# A funny and informative look at birds and their unique behavioral adaptations





## Dig, Dance, Dive

### How Birds Move to Survive

Written by Etta Kaner • Illustrated by June Steube

Birds can do a lot more than just fly! Did you know some of them can dig, dance, dive, and dabble? This non-fiction book introduces readers to an assortment of fascinating birds and their surprising behaviors. Readers will learn about flightless birds like the Adélie penguin, which toboggans down hills on its belly, or the kakapo, which climbs up trees to escape danger. Even birds that fly have quirky survival behaviors—like the barred owl, which can turn its head almost all the way around, or the blue-footed booby, which dives from great heights to catch fish.

Written by prolific children’s non-fiction author and educator Etta Kaner and whimsically illustrated by artist June Steube, *Dig, Dance, Dive* invites readers to greet all sorts of amazing feathered friends in a fun and informative exploration.

ETTA KANER writes for both children and educators. Many of her books have won awards such as the Silver Birch Award, the Henry Bergh Award, the Animal Behavior Society Award, the Science Writers and Communicators of Canada Award, the *Scientific American* Young Readers Book Award, and the Science in Society Book Award. Etta lives in Toronto, Ontario.

JUNE STEUBE has created illustrations for books, magazines, posters, museum exhibits, and film. Her clients include *The Caterpillar* magazine, Canada Post, the Canadian Museum of Nature, and the Royal Canadian Mint. *Dig, Dance, Dive* is her first picture book. June lives in Ottawa, Ontario, with her husband and their two indoor cats.

April 2022

40 PAGES • 8.5 x 11 • AGES 6–9

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-439-9



CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading

**Science:** Physical Characteristics of Animals; Animal Adaptations; Habitats and Environment

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2

Fountas & Pinnell: L

Lexile® Measure: 700L

COMMON CORE

RI.2, W.2, SL.2, L.2

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

2-LS4-1

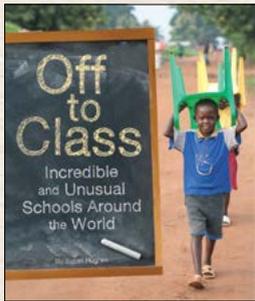
STEM

Inquiry

### Key Features

- Written by award-winning author and educator Etta Kaner
- Includes birds from across the globe, with curriculum links to animal adaptations, evolution, and biology
- Non-fiction text delivered in a fun and playful way

## Also Recommended



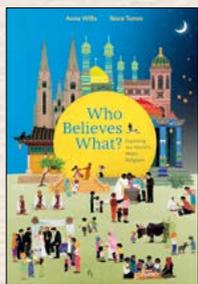
PB • \$14.95 CDN / \$14.95 US  
**ISBN 978-1-926818-86-3**

★ **Quill & Quire**

- Shortlisted for the Ontario Library Association's Silver Birch Non-Fiction Award, 2014
- Shortlisted for the Saskatchewan Young Readers' Choice Diamond Willow Award, 2012
- Shortlisted for the Atlantic Library Association's Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award, 2013
- Shortlisted for the British Columbia Library Association's Red Cedar Book Award, 2012
- Shortlisted for the Canadian Children's Book Centre's TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, 2012
- Shortlisted for the Canadian Children's Book Centre's Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children's Non-Fiction, 2012

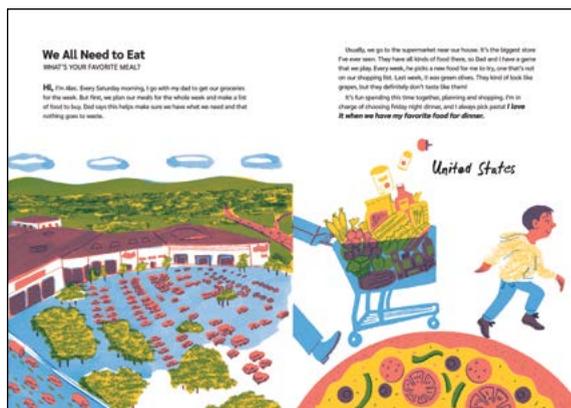
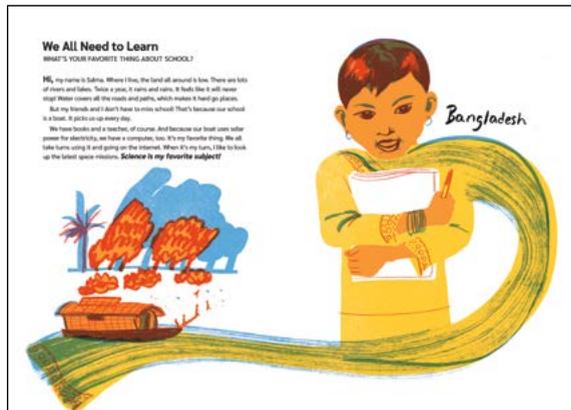
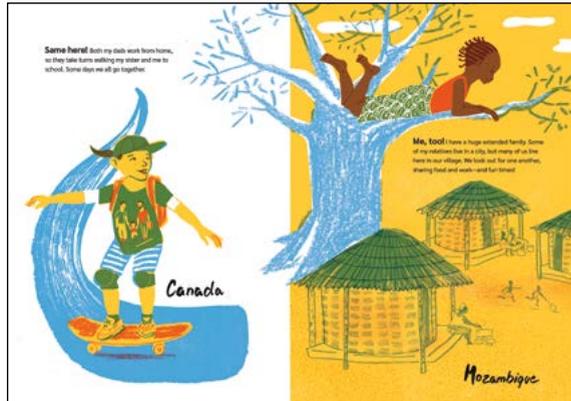


PB • \$9.95 CDN / \$9.95 US  
**ISBN 978-1-77147-352-1**



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US  
**ISBN 978-1-77147-333-0**

# Explore how kids around the world live and the common needs that unite them



April 2022

64 PAGES • 7.75 x 11 • AGES 8–12

HC • \$21.95 CDN / \$19.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-307-1



CURRICULUM

**Studies:** Local and Global Community;  
Global Awareness; Citizenship;  
Cross-Cultural Studies

READING LEVELS

Grade: 3

Fountas &amp; Pinnell: N

Lexile® Measure: 660L

COMMON CORE

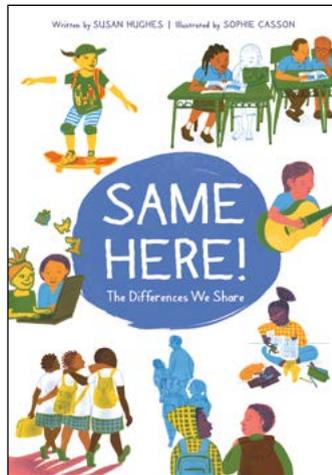
RL.3, W.3, SL.3, L.3

Inquiry

Diversity

## Key Features

- New from Susan Hughes, the acclaimed author of *Off to Class* and other bestselling books
- Profiles kids from a variety of locations and socio-economic backgrounds
- Invites inquiry and discussion about cultural diversity and global citizenship



## Same Here! The Differences We Share

Written by Susan Hughes • Illustrated by Sophie Casson

Children around the world live vastly different lives from one another—different cultures, different geographic and socio-economic realities, differing access to health and education. Despite these differences, they all share common needs: the need to feel loved and protected, the need to have a place to live, the need to learn, to eat, to play, to share, and to dream for the future.

Grounded in careful and extensive research, this book by bestselling author Susan Hughes introduces readers to kids from around the world and the lives they lead. The child-centered narrative and playful illustrations explore how education, family, free time, and other aspects of daily life look different depending on who you are and where you live.

Perfect for fostering a global worldview, *Same Here!* encourages kids to draw connections to their own lives while learning about the experiences of others.

SUSAN HUGHES has written many books, both fiction and non-fiction, for children of all ages, including *Carmen and the House That Gaudi Built*, *What Happens Next*, and *Off to Class*. Susan is a freelance editor, writer, and story coach. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

SOPHIE CASSON has illustrated a number of children's books, including *The Artist and Me*, a finalist for the Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award, and *Helen's Birds*. Her highly acclaimed illustrations have also appeared in many international publications, including *The Globe and Mail*, *The New York Times*, and *The Financial Times*. Sophie lives in Montreal, Quebec.

April 2022

72 PAGES • 5.5 x 7.25 • AGES 6–9

HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-456-6



CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Reading

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2

Fountas & Pinnell: M

Lexile® Measure: 490L

COMMON CORE

RL.2, W.2, SL.2, L.2

Inquiry

## Key Features

- First in the new chapter book mystery series *The Weird Sisters Detective Agency*
- Addresses themes of creative problem-solving, cooperation, and belonging
- Introduces important ideas of diversity, tolerance, and open-mindedness in a playful and humorous way

## Also Recommended



PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-345-3



PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-385-9



PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-400-9

# The first book in a mystery series featuring three sleuthing sisters



## The Weird Sisters: A Note, a Goat, and a Casserole

Written by Mark David Smith • Illustrated by Kari Rust

One spring evening, three strange visitors arrive in the town of Covenly. Sisters Hildegurp, Yuckmina, and Glubbifer are hoping to start fresh with a new business: a pet store! Their first customer is nine-year-old Jessica Nibley, who has lost her pet goat and hopes the sisters can help track it down. But when the sisters discover a mangled note with missing pieces that suggests they aren't welcome in town, they suddenly have *two* mysteries to solve.

Jessica and the sisters jump on a broomstick and fly off to investigate. As they collect clues and get closer to solving the cases, Covenly residents start to look beyond the sisters' unusual appearances and welcome them to the community as they are.

The first volume in this whimsical chapter book mystery series is filled with hilarious misunderstandings, clever wordplay, and dynamic illustrations. The sleuthing sisters, who are inspired by the three witches from *Macbeth* (there's even a recipe for a witch's stew!), invite Covenly residents and readers to look past appearances and embrace people for who they are, weirdness and all.

MARK DAVID SMITH is the author of *The Deepest Dig* and *Caravaggio: Signed in Blood*. A public school teacher, he lives in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia.

KARI RUST is the author and illustrator of *Tricky* and *The House at the End of the Road*. Kari has a background in character animation and design, and her hand-drawn images are full of warmth, style, and humor. A graduate of Emily Carr University of Art and Design, Kari lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

# Unlikely bug buddies bring the science of compost heaps to life



## Bee & Flea and the Compost Caper

Written by Anna Humphrey • Illustrated by Mike Deas

Bee is spending another beautiful, boring day pollinating flowers in the backyard when a visitor named Flea gallops onto the scene on a dog's back. Flea is the one and only agent of the Fenced-in-Area Law Enforcement Agency (the F.L.E.A. for short) and she's heard about trouble in the compost heap: it's erupted into a wild frenzy, and Flea needs to investigate. Enlisting Bee in the investigation, the pair flies off to the scene of the crime, where they discover compost critters dancing, slime-surfing, and playing games of dodge-poop. But is there more to this compost chaos than meets the eye?

This hilarious hop through the compost heap is the first book in a primary chapter book series featuring Bee and Flea. Lively black-and-white illustrations bring the crime-fighting team to life, while stealthy, accessible STEM content introduces readers to the tiniest composting creatures and how they make backyards bloom.

ANNA HUMPHREY is the author of the Clara Humble series, the Megabat series, and other novels for middle-grade and young adult readers. She lives with her family, her three cats, and zillions upon zillions of mind-boggling microscopic critters in Kitchener, Ontario.

MIKE DEAS is an author and illustrator of many picture books and graphic novels. From his studio, Mike feels fortunate to hear the frequent humming of busy bees. He lives with his family on sunny Salt Spring Island, British Columbia.

April 2022

120 PAGES • 6 x 8.25 • AGES 6–9

HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-420-7



CURRICULUM

**Earth Science:** Environment; Soil

**Life Science:** Characteristics of Living Things; Diversity of Living Things; Ecosystems; Habitats; Insects; Nature; Plants; Pollination

**Character Education:** Perseverance; Teamwork

READING LEVELS

Grade: 3

Fountas & Pinnell: O

Lexile® Measure: 540L

COMMON CORE

RL.3, W.3, SL.3, L.3

Inquiry

STEM

### Key Features

- New from Anna Humphrey, the critically acclaimed author of the Megabat and Clara Humble series
- First in a new flat-out funny STEM chapter book series Bee & Flea
- Strong curriculum ties to ecosystems, insects, and nature
- Touches on themes of teamwork and curiosity

### Also by Anna Humphrey



PB • \$12.95 CDN / \$10.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-386-6



PB • \$12.95 CDN / \$10.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-401-6

★ Kirkus



PB • \$13.95 CDN / \$11.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-423-8

March 2022

256 PAGES • 5.5 x 8 • AGES 8–12

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-521-1



Also Available in Hardcover

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$17.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-405-4

CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Reading Comprehension

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2–7

Fountas & Pinnell: S

Lexile® Measure: 730L

COMMON CORE

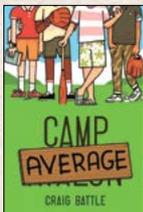
L, RF, RL, SL, W

Character Development

## Key Features

- Third and final book in the award-winning Camp Average series, new in paperback
- Great summer reading selection
- Fast-paced and funny, with a focus on ball hockey

## Also Recommended

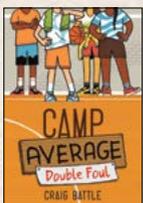


PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-412-2



Kirkus



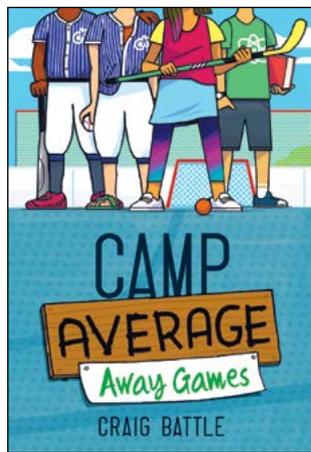
HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-309-5

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-449-8

# In the final book of the hit Camp Average series, this summer is definitely not average



## Camp Average: Away Games

Written by Craig Battle

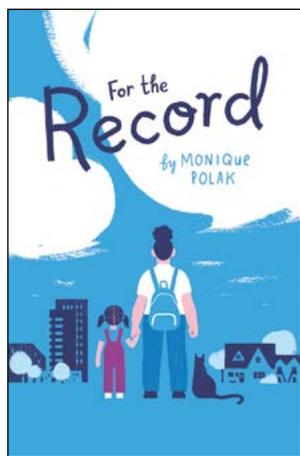
It's another summer at Camp Avalon—also known as Camp Average to its campers—only this year, things are anything but normal. Mack and Andre are spending the summer at rival Camp Killington, where the competitive campers seem intent on making them suffer.

Meanwhile, at Camp Average, Miles is trying to keep the peace—which is not easy, due to obnoxious newcomer Garth and his pranks. On top of that, Miles has another impossible task on his plate: getting Mack and Andre back on home turf.

Things come to a head when Mack and Andre are forced apart, and Cassie challenges Garth to a do-or-die ball-hockey showdown. Will the Camp Average crew find their way back together and come out on top? In this third and final addition to the series, the campers rally to support each other and discover once more how teamwork and cooperation win.

CRAIG BATTLE likes to think he's as funny as Pat from the Camp Average series, but he's probably more funny like Winston's short shorts. The author of seven books for middle-grade readers, Craig has worked as a journalist, coach, and camp counselor. Now an editor of stories big and small at Sportsnet.ca, he lives in Toronto, Ontario with his wife and son.

# A middle-grade novel thoughtfully explores the realities of parents' divorce



## For the Record

Written by Monique Polak

Twelve-year-old Justine's parents are recently divorced. She and her little sister, Bea, go back and forth between their parents' homes in Montreal. Their mother, whose anxiety manifests as the need to control, believes that Justine and Bea's father and beloved half sister are a bad influence on them. So she enlists Justine in collecting evidence that would lead to her getting sole custody.

Justine accepts her mother's view of her father at first and begins writing detailed notes about his behavior: He doesn't stick to Bea's strict bedtime. He's late dropping them off at school. He makes sandwiches with *white* bread. But when Justine crafts an outright lie for her mother's court case, she starts to question her mother's behavior, and her own.

This thoughtful, supportive look at parental alienation and its impact on children tenderly balances this difficult topic with moments of joy, love, and connection. Throughout the book, Justine's clever, unique voice guides readers as she navigates complicated family dynamics and summons the courage to tell the truth, no matter the consequences.

MONIQUE POLAK is the author of over 25 books for kids and young adults, including the non-fiction book for teens *I Am a Feminist: Claiming the F-Word in Turbulent Times* and the Quebec Writers' Federation Literature Prize winner *What World Is Left*. Monique teaches English literature, creative writing, and humanities at Marianopolis College in Montreal, Quebec.

March 2022

256 PAGES • 5 x 7.75 • AGES 9–12

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-437-5



CURRICULUM

Language Arts: Reading

READING LEVELS

Grade: 2

Fountas & Pinnell: M

Lexile® Measure: 620L

COMMON CORE

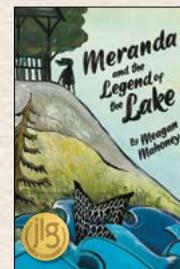
RL.2, W.2, SL.2, L.2

Character Development

### Key Features

- New from Monique Polak, author of over 25 books for kids and young adults
- Middle-grade novel with engaging, child-centered narration
- Addresses the widespread phenomenon of parental alienation
- Back matter includes resources for readers who are experiencing similar situations

### Also Recommended



HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-434-4

March 2022

32 PAGES • 8 x 10 • AGES 4–8

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-519-8



Also Available in Hardcover

HC • \$19.95 CDN / \$18.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-287-6

CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading Comprehension

**Math:** Patterns

READING LEVELS

Grade: K–5

Fountas & Pinnell: N

Lexile® Measure: AD590L

COMMON CORE

RF.3, RI.3, SL.3, W.3, L.3

NEXT GENERATION SCIENCE STANDARDS

3-PS2-1, 3-LS1, 3-LS3, 3-LS4, 3-ESS2

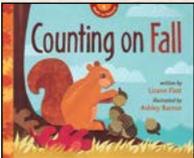
STEM

Inquiry

## Key Features

- Named a K–12 Outstanding Science Trade Book by the National Science Teaching Association
- Excellent STEM pick with links to math, space, weather patterns, the human body, and more
- Encourages kids to observe and inquire about the world around them
- Author's note provides further detail about patterns in nature and the human body

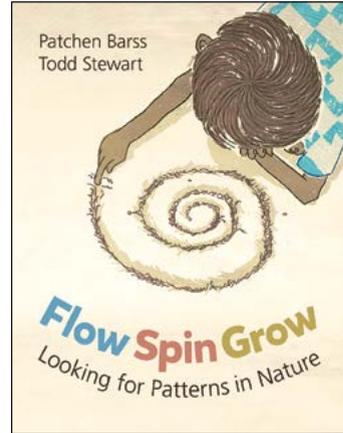
## Also Recommended



PB • \$9.95 CDN / \$8.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-310-1

# Look around you and discover nature's incredible patterns



## Flow, Spin, Grow

### Looking for Patterns in Nature

Written by Patchen Barss • Illustrated by Todd Stewart

Branching, spiraling, spinning—you can find patterns almost anywhere in nature, if you look for them. This book introduces kids to some major patterns in the natural world. Just as the branches of a tree spread upwards into the sky, roots branch deep into the ground. Branches also spread through our bodies, inside our lungs and veins. Storms and snail shells spiral; electrons and galaxies spin.

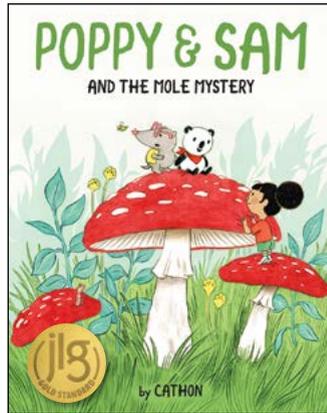
With brief text and full-spread illustrations, this book is designed to inspire kids to observe, discover, and explore hidden structures and shapes in the natural world around them. Why are things the way they are? This question, key to scientific inquiry, runs throughout the text.

Artwork in multilayered screen prints shows how the natural world is inherently beautiful, from the curve of your ear to the spiraling arms of our galaxy. Kids will come away with a deeper understanding that we are all connected to nature and part of its infinite patterns.

PATCHEN BARSS has written, edited, and produced stories about science, research, and culture for more than 20 years. His writing has appeared in *Nautilus* magazine, *Scientific American*, *The Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, and *Toronto Star*. He has been a producer at CBC Television and the Discovery Channel, and has a longstanding fascination with patterns and nature. He lives with his family in Toronto, Ontario.

TODD STEWART is an illustrator and a self-taught screen printer in Montreal, Quebec. Trained as a landscape architect and urban planner, Todd culls his images from experience and from his surroundings; they reflect a search for meaning in new and familiar places. He is the author and illustrator of *The Wind and the Trees*, and the illustrator of *See You Next Year*.

# Strawberry-sized sleuths Poppy and Sam are back on the case!



## Poppy and Sam and the Mole Mystery

*Written and illustrated by Cathon*

It's a new day in the garden, and Poppy and Sam are paying a visit to their friend Snuggles Molesy. But Snuggles is in a pickle, looking for a lost pair of pretty pink glasses! Sleuths Poppy and Sam begin to investigate: all around the garden, along the shore of the creek, and even inside the pies Snuggles had been baking. Along the way, they ask the other critters they encounter.

Poppy and Sam don't have much luck finding the glasses, but they do come across a variety of other treasures: a flowered umbrella, a flute, a yellow spinning top, and more. By the end of the story, they set up a whimsical lost and found with all the objects—and finally find the rosy specs, while their fellow garden friends find misplaced treasures of their own.

The second Poppy and Sam adventure, this picture book/graphic novel hybrid is full of friendly characters, charming details, and a fun and suspenseful storyline that will be sure to delight young readers.

CATHON is an artist and creator of children's books and comics. She studied visual arts and media at the Université du Québec à Montréal, and is also the illustrator of *A Fire Truck for Chuck* in addition to several books in French. Cathon lives in Montreal, Quebec.

March 2022

48 PAGES • 7.5 x 9.5 • AGES 5–8

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-520-4



Also Available in Hardcover

HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-379-8

CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading; Visual Literacy

READING LEVELS

Grade: K–4

Fountas & Pinnell: L

Reading Recovery: I9

Lexile® Measure: 500L

COMMON CORE

RL.2, L.2, RF.2, SL.2, W.2

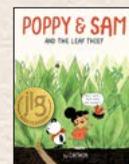
Character Development

Inquiry

### Key Features

- A picture book/graphic novel hybrid, new in paperback
- Second book in the Poppy and Sam series
- Adorable, cartoon-like illustrations depict a quirky garden setting with plenty of details to discover

### Also in This Series



HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-329-3

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-482-5



HC • \$18.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-418-4

March 2022

64 PAGES • 6.5 × 8.5 • AGES 7–10

PB • \$11.95 CDN / \$9.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-527-3



Also Available in Hardcover

HC • \$17.95 CDN / \$16.95 US

ISBN 978-1-77147-277-7

## CURRICULUM

**Language Arts:** Reading Comprehension;

Early Reading

**The Arts:** Visual Literacy

## READING LEVELS

Grade: 1–5

Fountas & Pinnell: O

Lexile® Measure: GN510L

## COMMON CORE

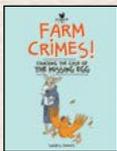
W.3, SL.3, RF.3, L.3, RL.3

Character Development

## Key Features

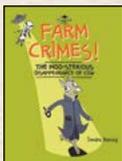
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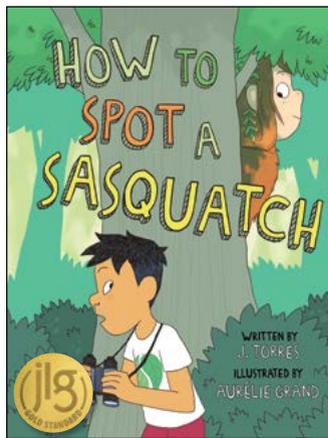
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# An action-packed graphic novel that shows no friendship is impossible



## How to Spot a Sasquatch

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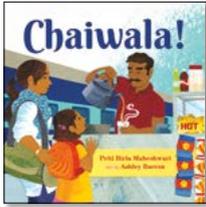
On a camping trip with the Junior Rangers, Jay feels like the odd one out. He's determined to get a photo of Bigfoot—but none of his friends believe Bigfoot exists. But if there's no such thing as Bigfoot, why is there a giant footprint? And who is stealing all the snacks?

Meanwhile, Sass the Sasquatch and her curious forest friends are playing practical jokes on the campers. On the last day of camp, disaster strikes when Jay falls into a rushing river. Sass comes out of the woodwork—despite her parents' warnings to stay away from humans!—just in time to save his life. Soon after, Jay and Sass become fast friends, proving that nothing is impossible when it comes to friendship.

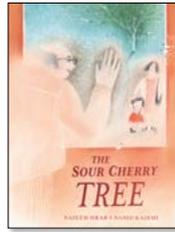
Told in ten short chapters, this is an accessible book with an action-packed story line perfect for building early literacy skills, with sequential illustrations that provide contextual clues to the text.

J. TORRES is a Canadian comic book writer, born in Manila, raised in Montreal, and educated at McGill University. Perhaps best known for his run on DC Comics' *Teen Titans Go!*, he also adapted the Chirp TV tie-in book series and writes the *Chirp* comic in *Chirp* magazine. He has written for animation and television. Before writing comic books, Torres was an ESL instructor. He currently resides in Whitby, Ontario, with his family.

AURÉLIE GRAND graduated from Capilano University in British Columbia and now works as an illustrator in Montreal, Quebec.

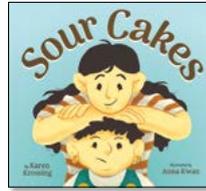


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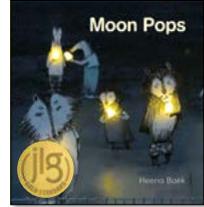


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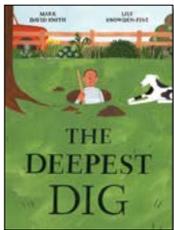


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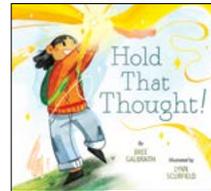
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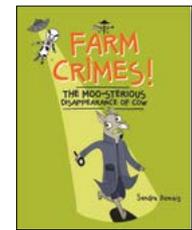
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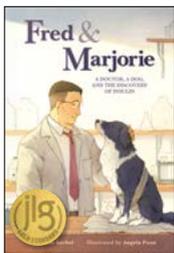
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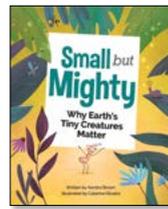
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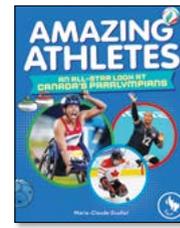
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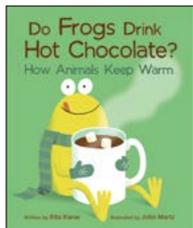
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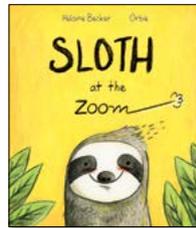
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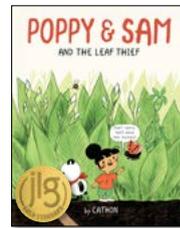
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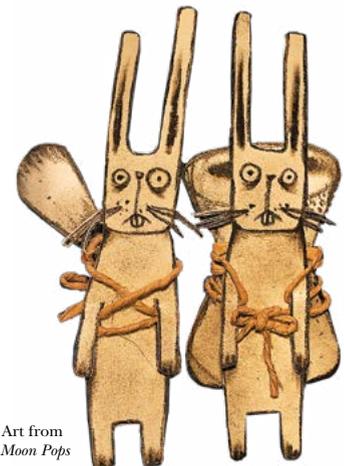
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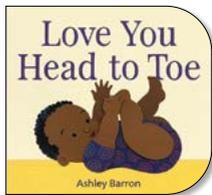


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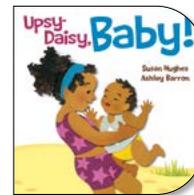
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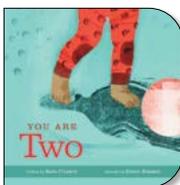
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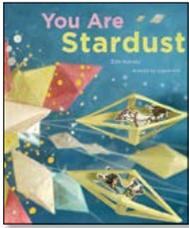
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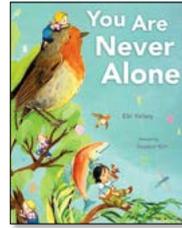
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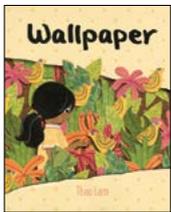
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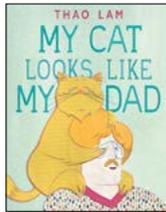
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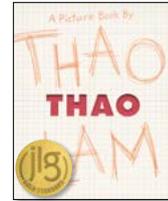
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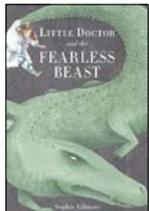


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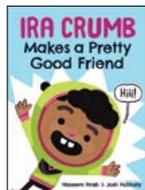


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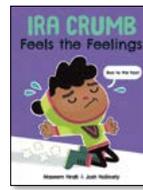


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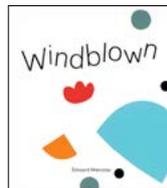


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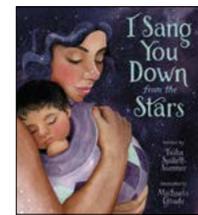


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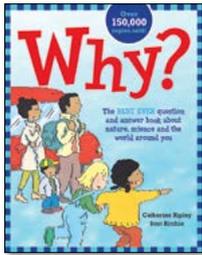
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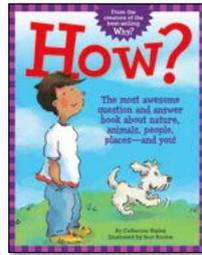
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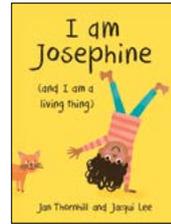
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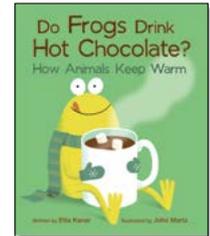
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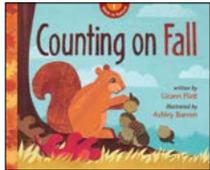
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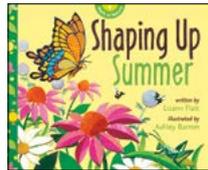
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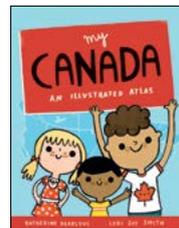
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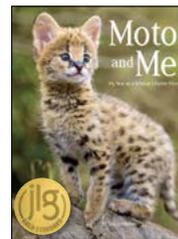
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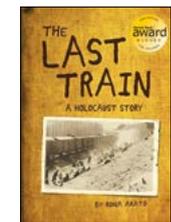
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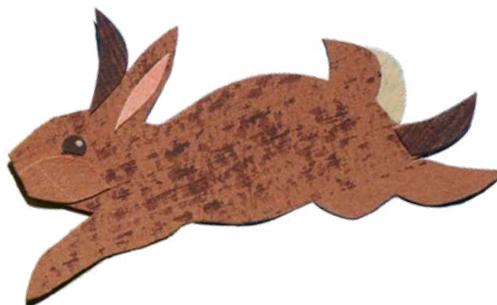
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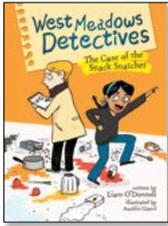
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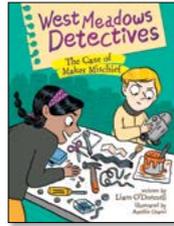
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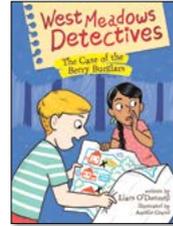
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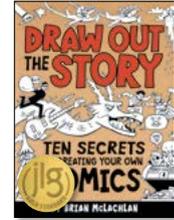
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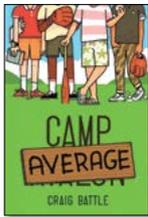
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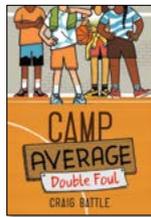


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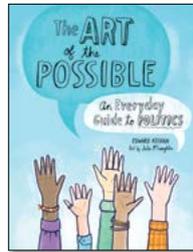


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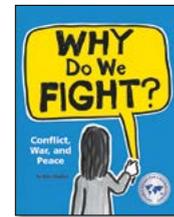


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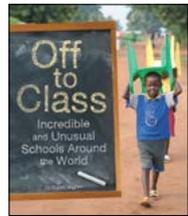
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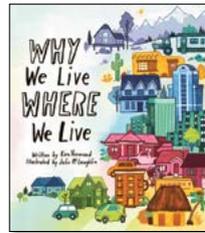
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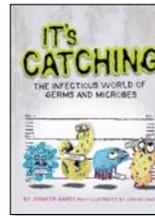
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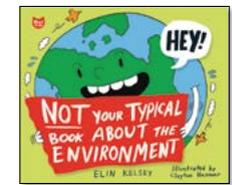
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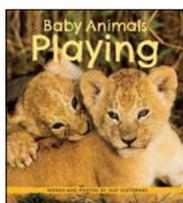
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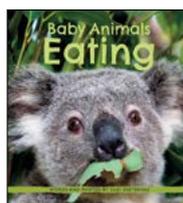
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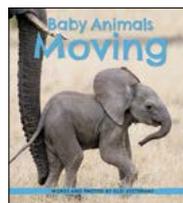
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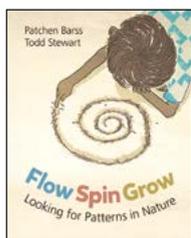


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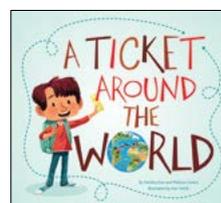


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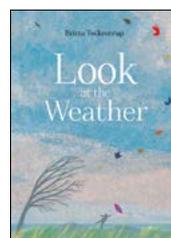


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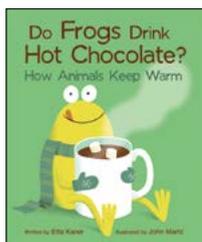
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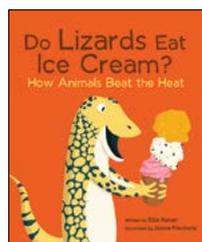
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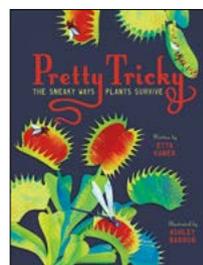
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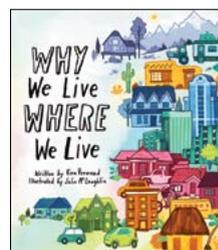
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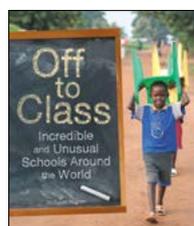
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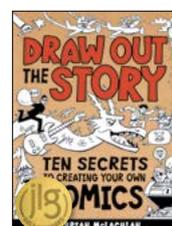
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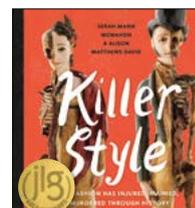


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