

Spring Picture Books



Andersen Press



GECKO PRESS



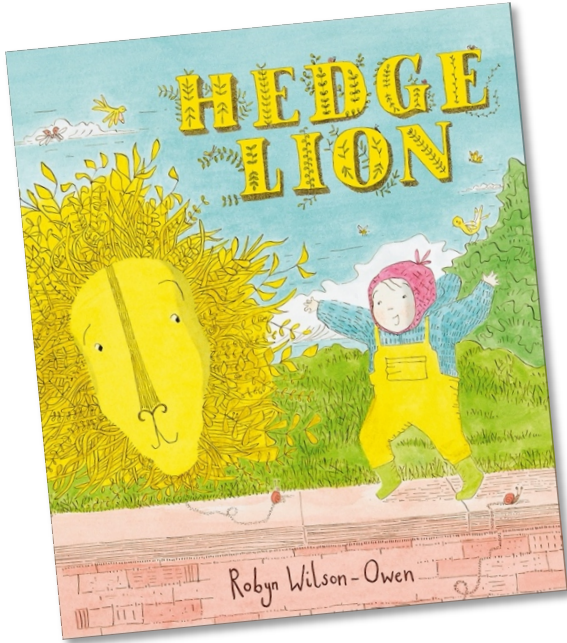
Lantana



Lerner PUBLISHER SERVICES



Andersen Press



Learn to find your inner ROAR with Ida and her hedge-lion friend.

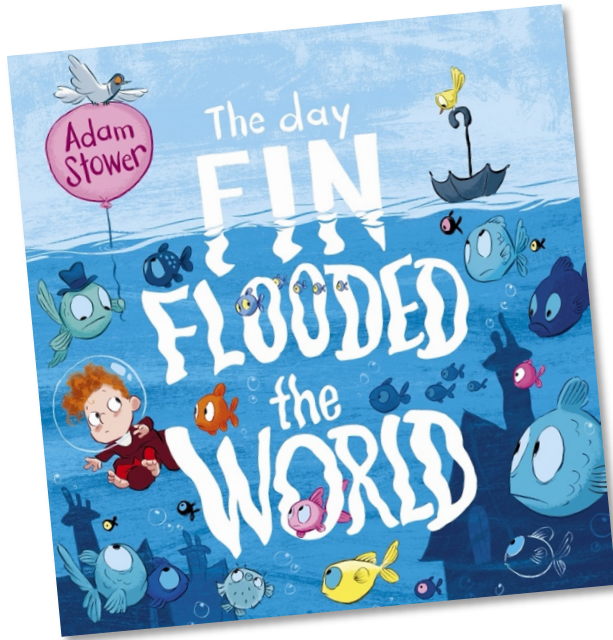
Highlights

- Promotes learning to be confident in yourself, and encouraging others to do the same.
- Stunning artwork in dip pens and ink washes from author/illustrator Robyn Wilson-Owen.

IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32



The Day Fin Flooded the World



Forgetful Fin floods the world and the fish have never been happier, but what about everyone else?

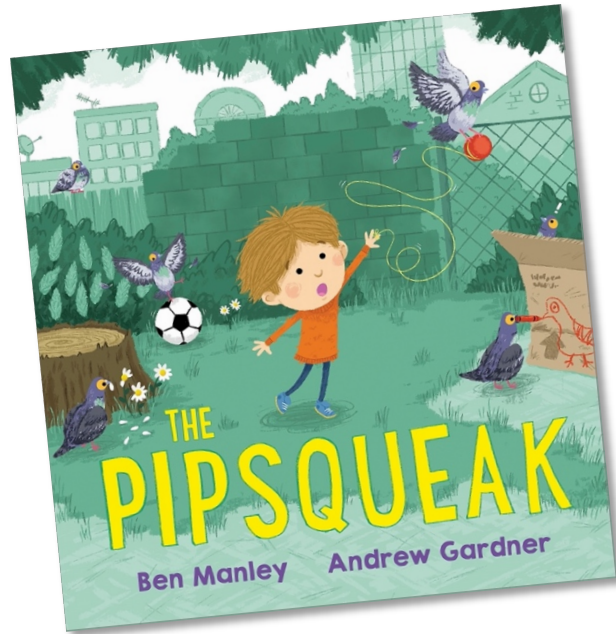
Highlights

- A hilarious and fantastical cautionary tale of how forgetting to do one small thing can have very big consequences.
- Bright and vivid reduced palette brings the underwater world to life.



IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32

The Pipsqueak



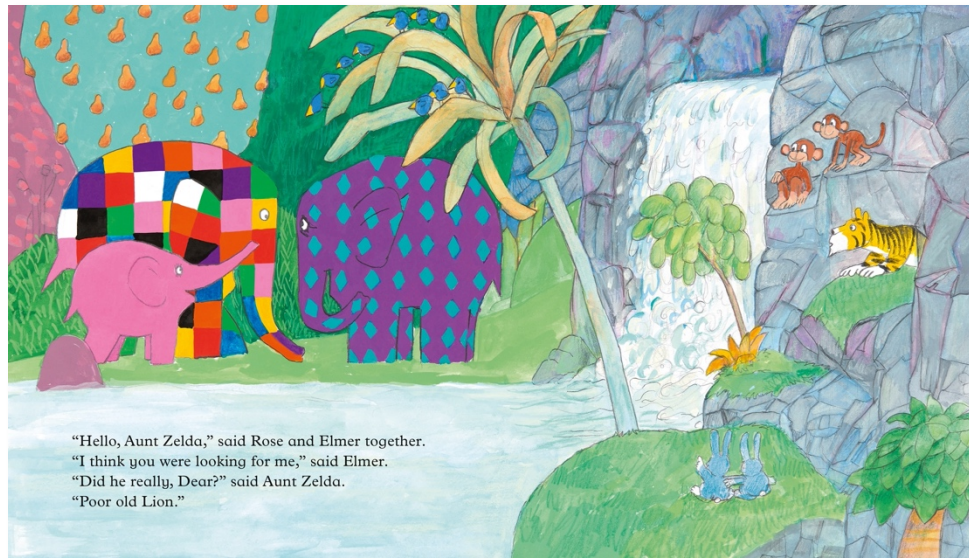
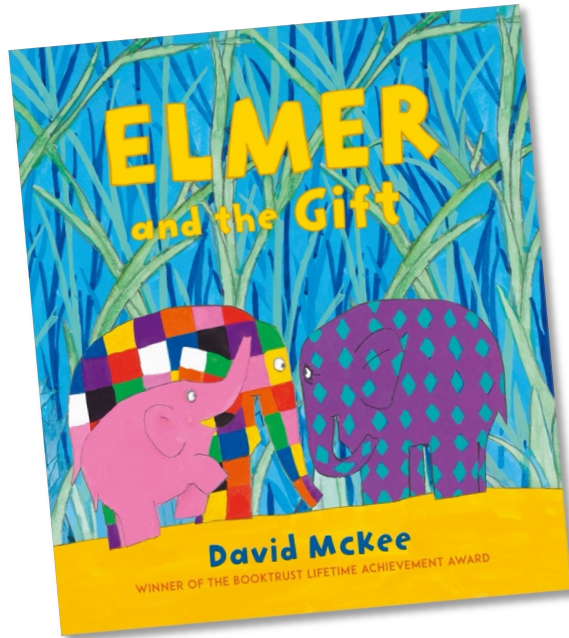
Just like Pip, you don't need super powers to be a hero... or to make enemies into friends.

Highlights

- Pip stands up to a bully and offers friendship when he sees she's just lonely.
- Andrew Gardner draws much of his influence from his time living in Osaka, Japan.



IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32



"Hello, Aunt Zelda," said Rose and Elmer together.
"I think you were looking for me," said Elmer.
"Did he really, Dear?" said Aunt Zelda.
"Poor old Lion."

Aunt Zelda was supposed to be passing on a gift to Elmer, but she can't remember what, or where, it is . . .

Highlights

- A kind and gentle look at themes relating to elderly relatives, such as dementia, with love, patience and respect.
- The 30th and final Elmer storybook from BookTrust Lifetime Achievement Award winner David McKee.

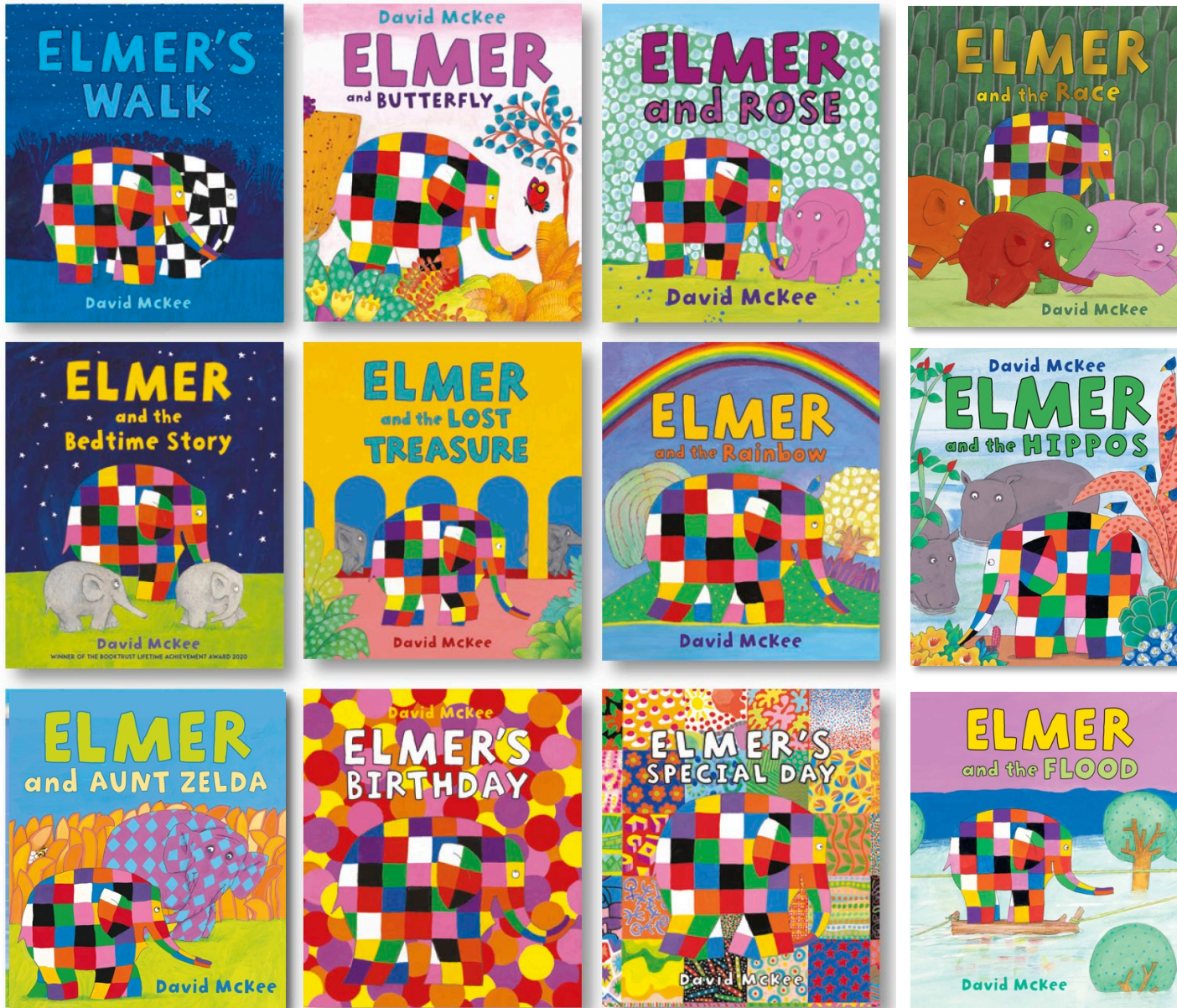
'A gently conveyed and strong message for young readers with elderly family members of their own. A tender tale featuring a beloved hero.' *Kirkus Reviews*

IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32



ANDERSEN PRESS USA

Elmer series

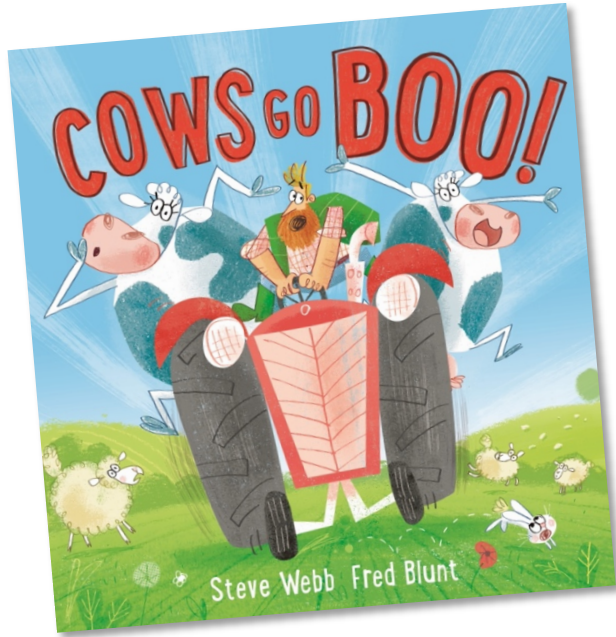


Highlights

- Much-loved picture book series from master storyteller David McKee, celebrating difference, inclusivity, kindness and friendship.
- Over 10 million copies of Elmer books have sold worldwide, and have been translated into over 50 languages.

IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32

Cows Go BOO!



The cows on Farmer George's farm don't say 'moo', they say 'BOO!' It drives him wild, but he has an idea about how it could be useful on the farm . . .

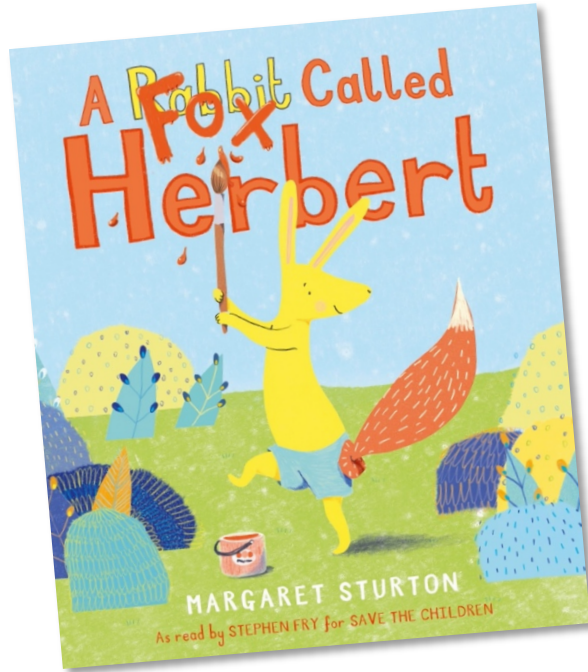
Highlights

- A hilarious twist on the animal noise book trope.
- The text is simple and repetitive and the illustrations are full of humour, perfect for the younger picture book age.



IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32

A Fox Called Herbert



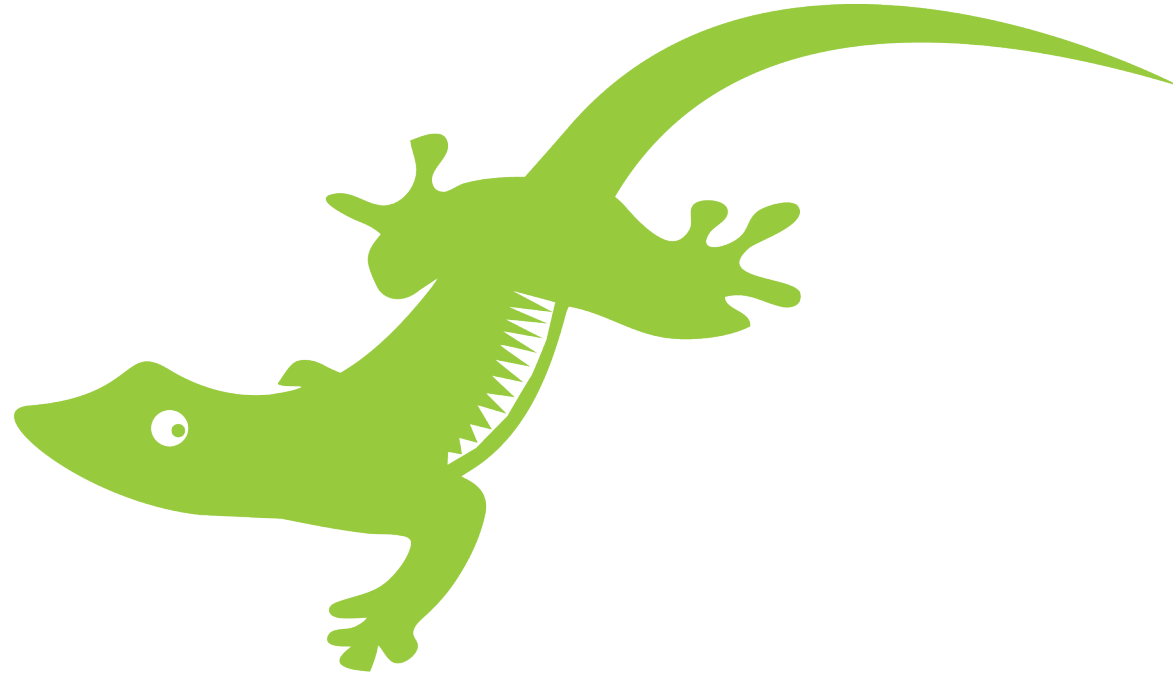
Even though Herbert is a rabbit, he's most comfortable when he's dressed as - and acts like - a fox . . . But will Mummy understand?

Highlights

- A gentle look at a mother and child relationship, where the child identifies with something other than what's expected.
- Great conversation starter for young children in the classroom and at home.

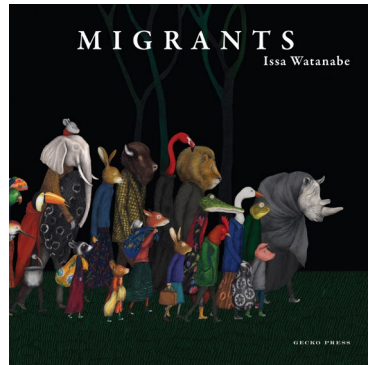
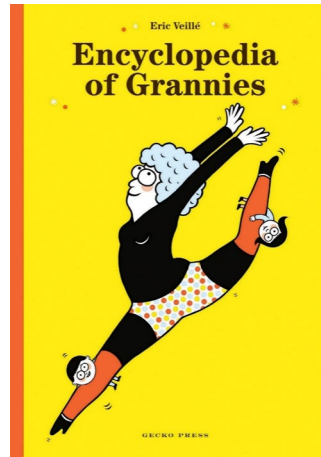
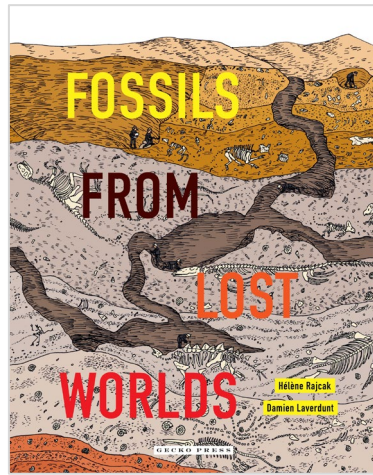
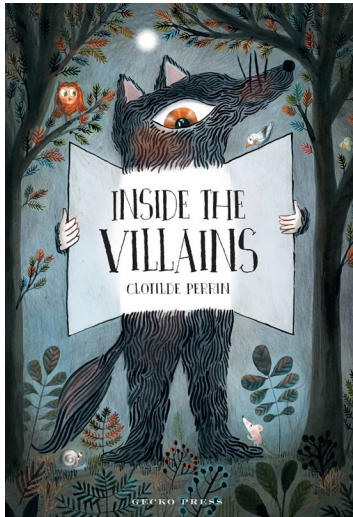
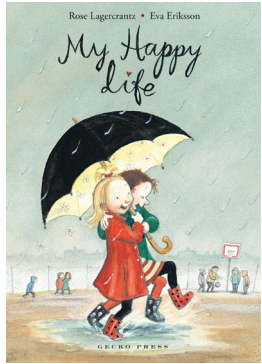
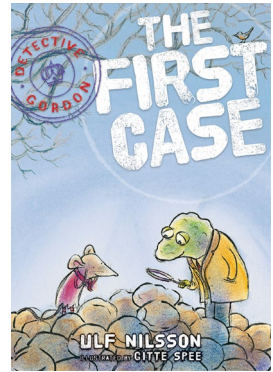
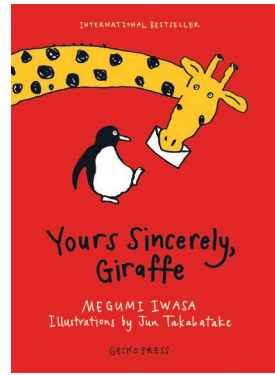
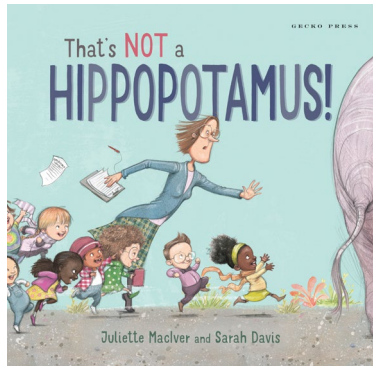
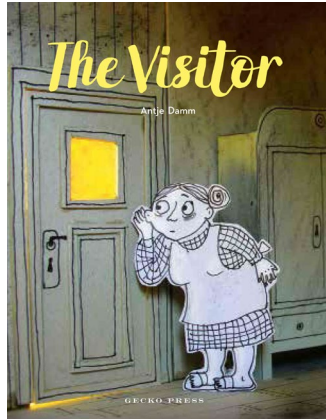
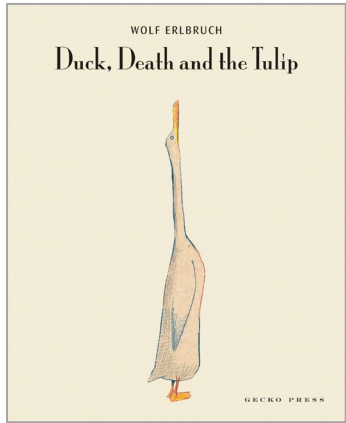
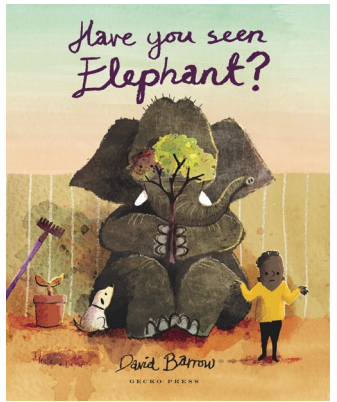
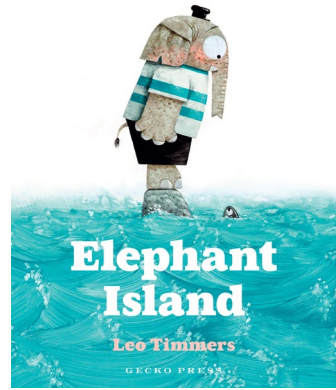
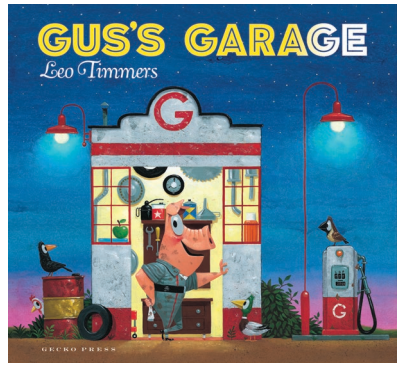
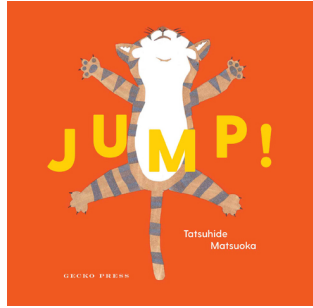
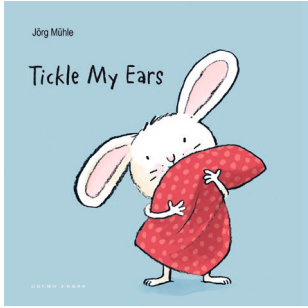
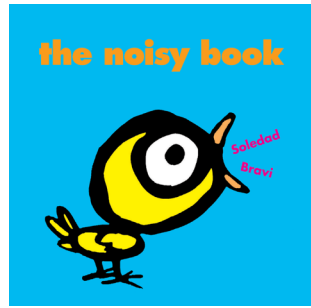


IL: Pre K-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 32



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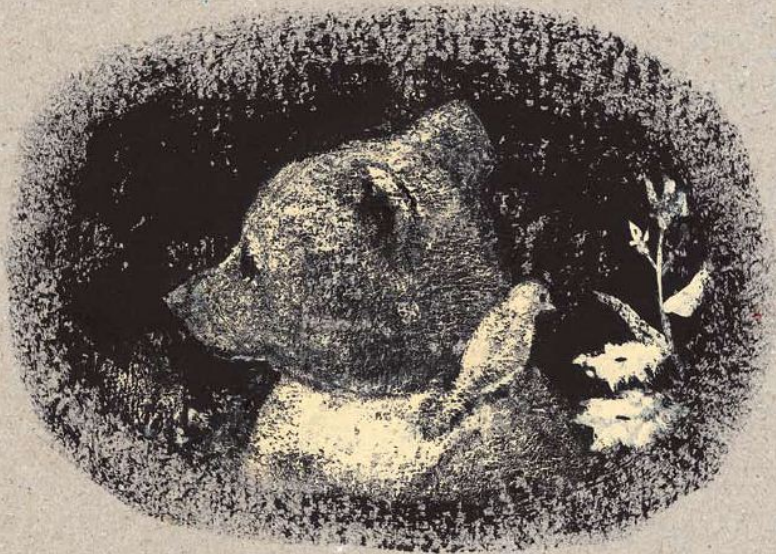
curiously good books



A peek at Spring 2023



The Bear and the Wildcat



Written by Kazumi Yumoto and illustrated by Komako Sakai

GECKO PRESS

The Bear and the Wildcat

Kazumi Yumoto & Komako Sakai

Hardcover

February

\$19.99





“... as long as you show me what’s inside that pretty box of yours.”



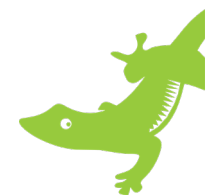
Bear hesitated, but then he opened it. The little bird lay peacefully on the bed of fragrant petals. The wildcat looked at him for a long time. Then he raised his head.



“A touchstone for talking about loss.”
Publishers Weekly, starred review ☆

“Quietly contemplative, mingling hope
and healing, this is a book that will offer
comfort to many.”
Kirkus Reviews, starred review ☆

“A tender story...[and] forward-looking
book for children who have loved and
lost.”
The Wall Street Journal



The Bear and the Wildcat



Written by Kazumi Yumoto and illustrated by Komako Sakai

GECKO PRESS

5 to infinity

Sensitively explaining the topic of grief and loss in a way that speaks to any age.

Free downloadable teacher notes



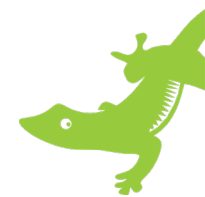


What's That, Jack?

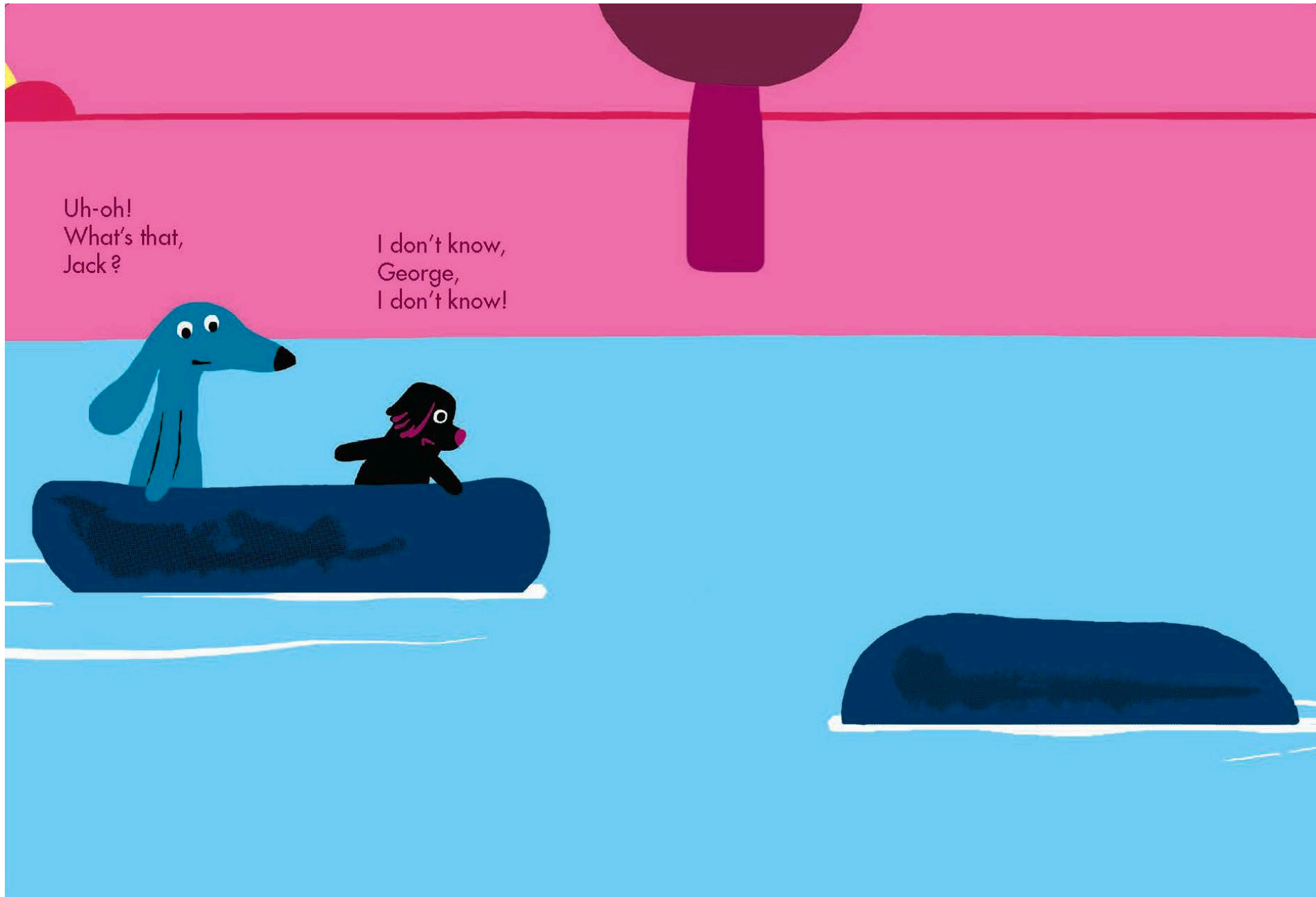
Cédric Ramadier &
Vincent Bourgeau

Hardcover with rounded corners
April
\$18.99











2 to 5 years

Foster imaginative play and spark creative ideas in preschoolers.

Free activity sheet





Perfect Presents!

Anke Kuhl

Hardcover

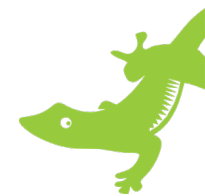
May

\$9.99















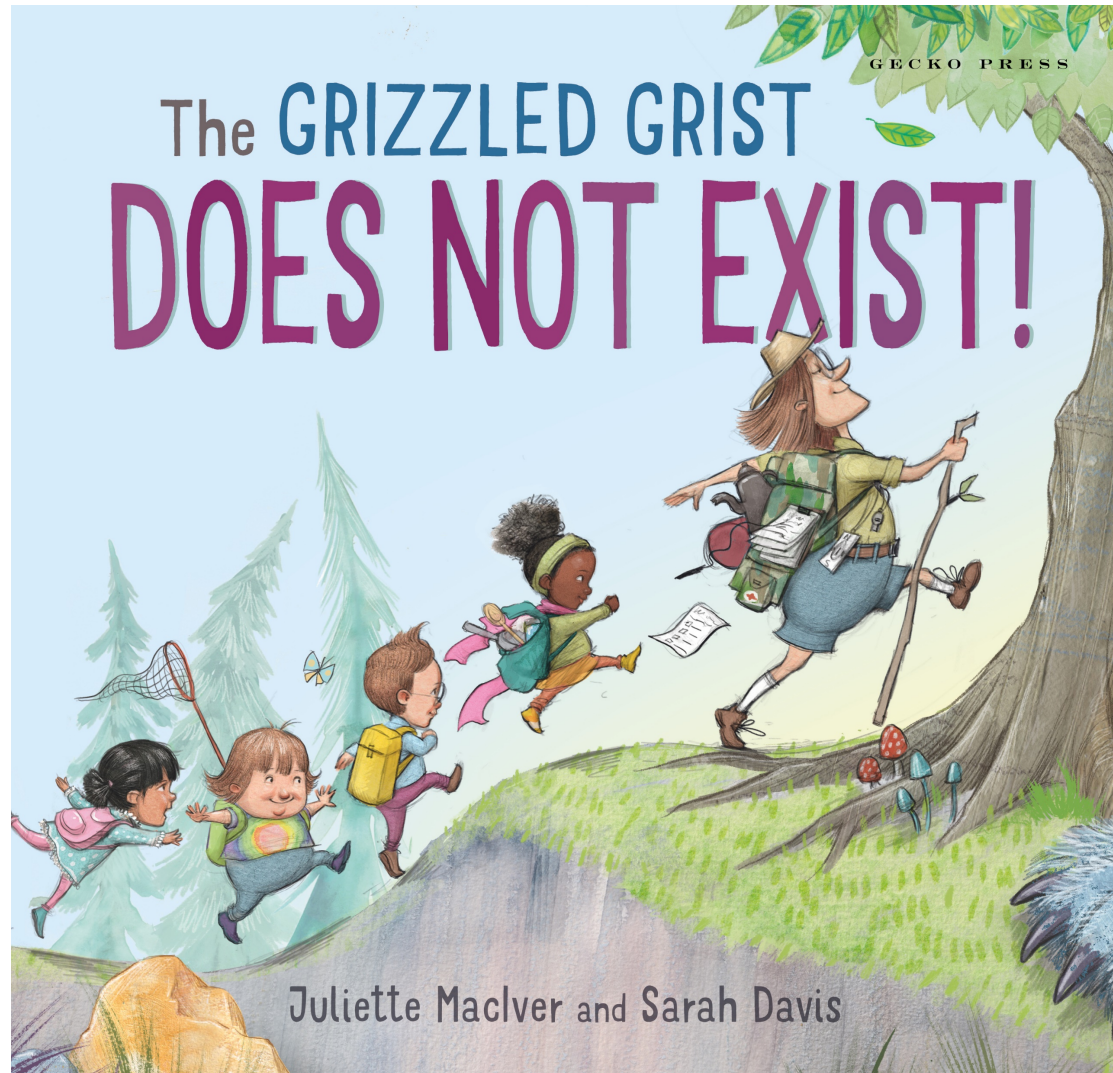
3 to infinity

For anyone who understands about having a friend with different taste.



Highlights from Fall 2022



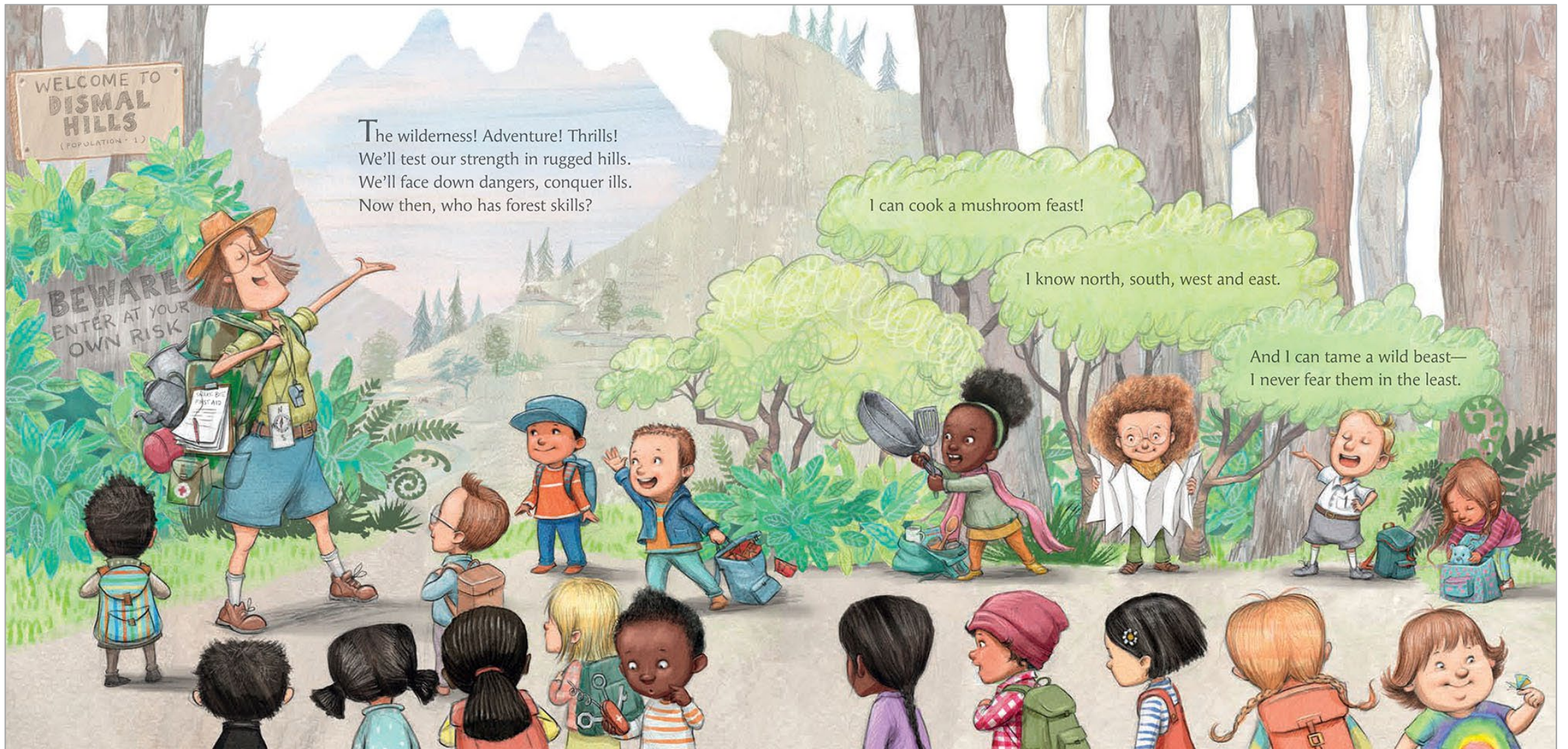


The Grizzled Grist Does Not Exist!

Juliette MacIver & Sarah Davis

Hardcover
Fall 2022
\$18.99





The wilderness! Adventure! Thrills!
We'll test our strength in rugged hills.
We'll face down dangers, conquer ills.
Now then, who has forest skills?

I can cook a mushroom feast!

I know north, south, west and east.

And I can tame a wild beast—
I never fear them in the least.



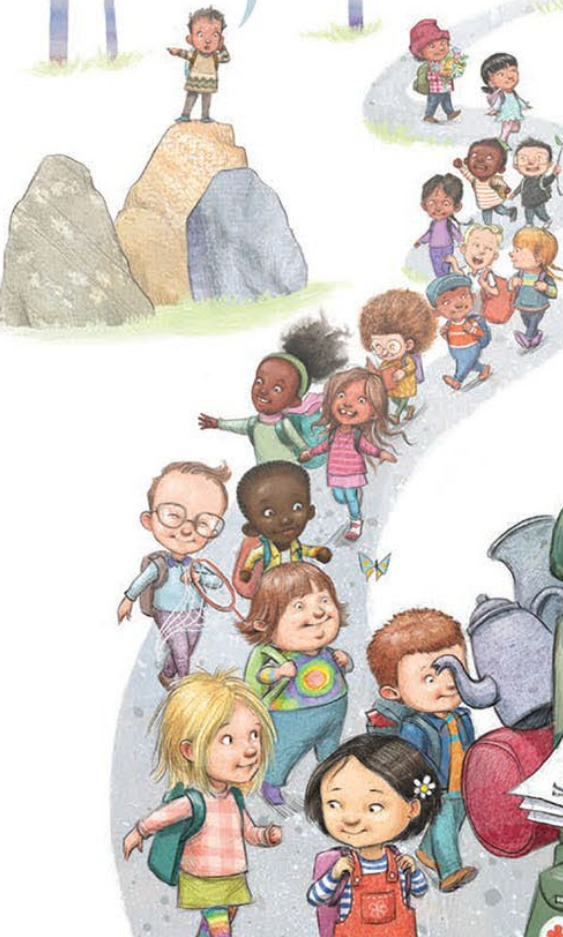
Up Dismal Hills the teacher strides.
The children frisk.
And Liam hides.



A Hider moves with soundless ease
and treads as softly as the breeze.
At times, a Hider barely breathes—
but what is this the Hider sees?



Excuse me, Miss. A sign there said
a Grizzled Grist is up ahead!



Grizzled Grist?

She flicks her wrist.

The Grizzled Grist
does not exist.





The sun sinks low in Dismal Hills.
There's no time now for hiding skills—

Look out, Ms. Whisk! Don't cross that gap!
The Grizzled Grist has laid a trap!

Trap? You'll drive me round the twist.
You know there is no—



With greedy eyes and gleeful whoop,
the Grist cavorts around the group.
He cackles as he stirs his gloop.

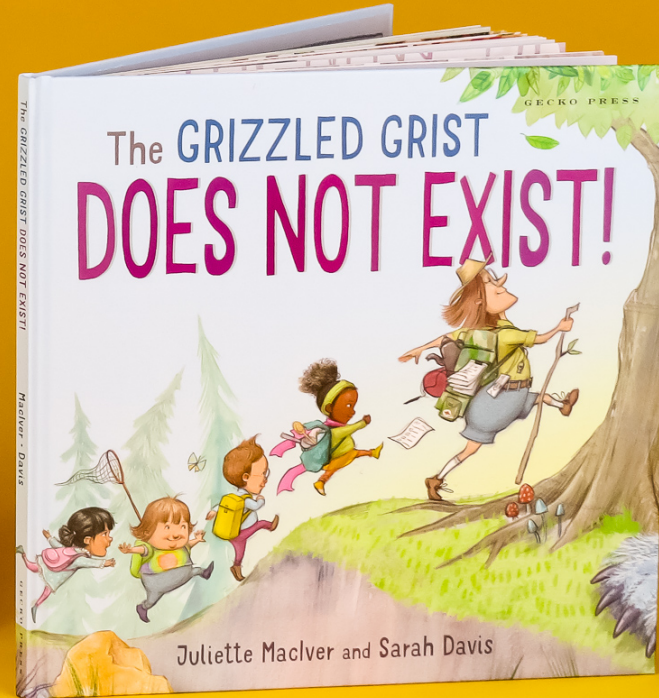
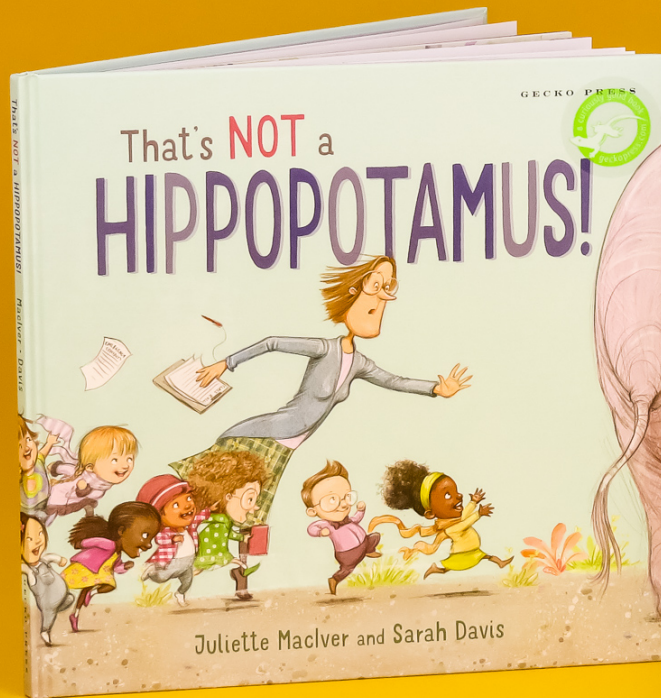
Tonight, it's Cream of Children Soup!

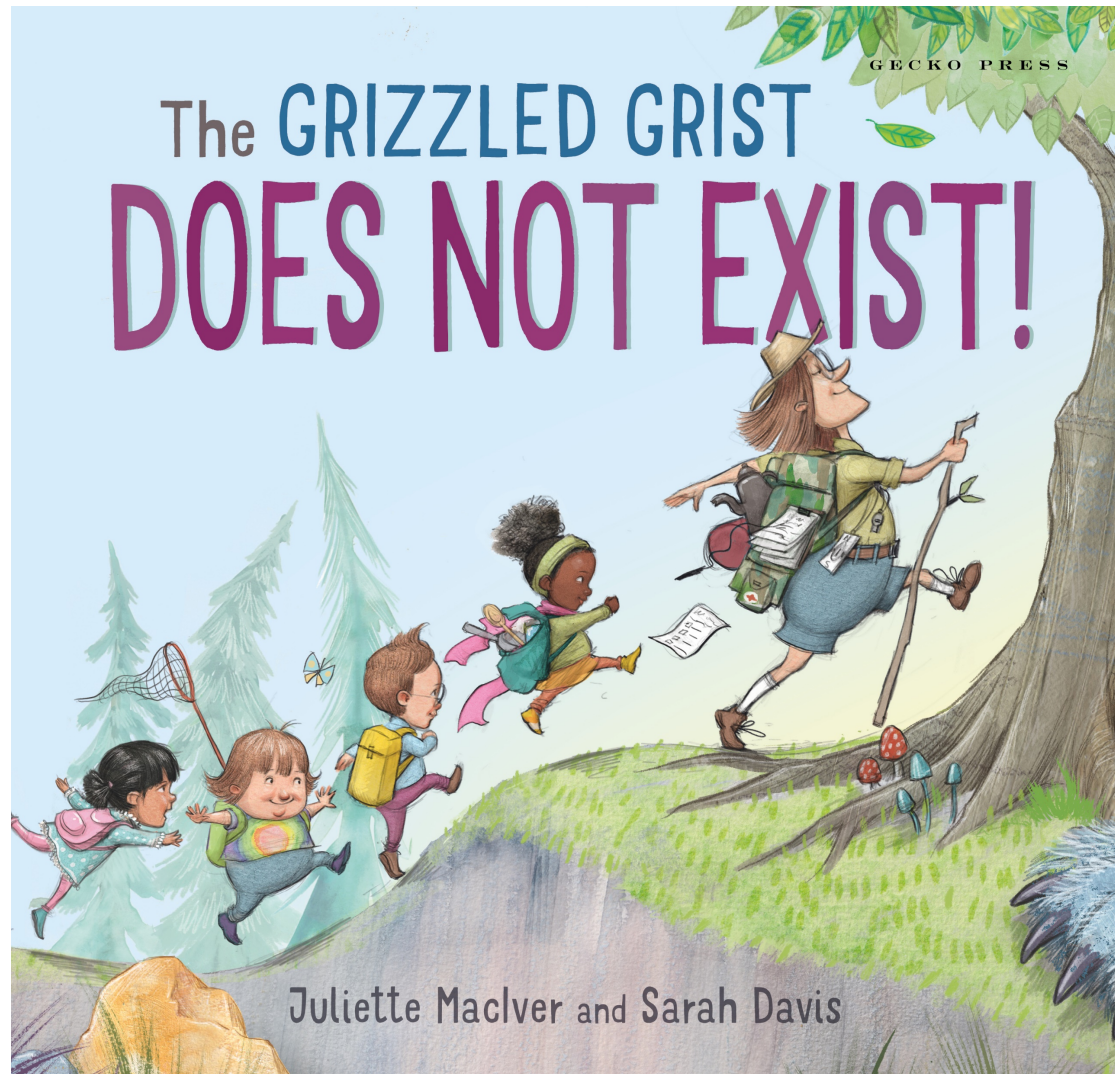


We're doomed, Ms. Whisk! It's finis diem!
And, what's worse,
he's eaten Liam!







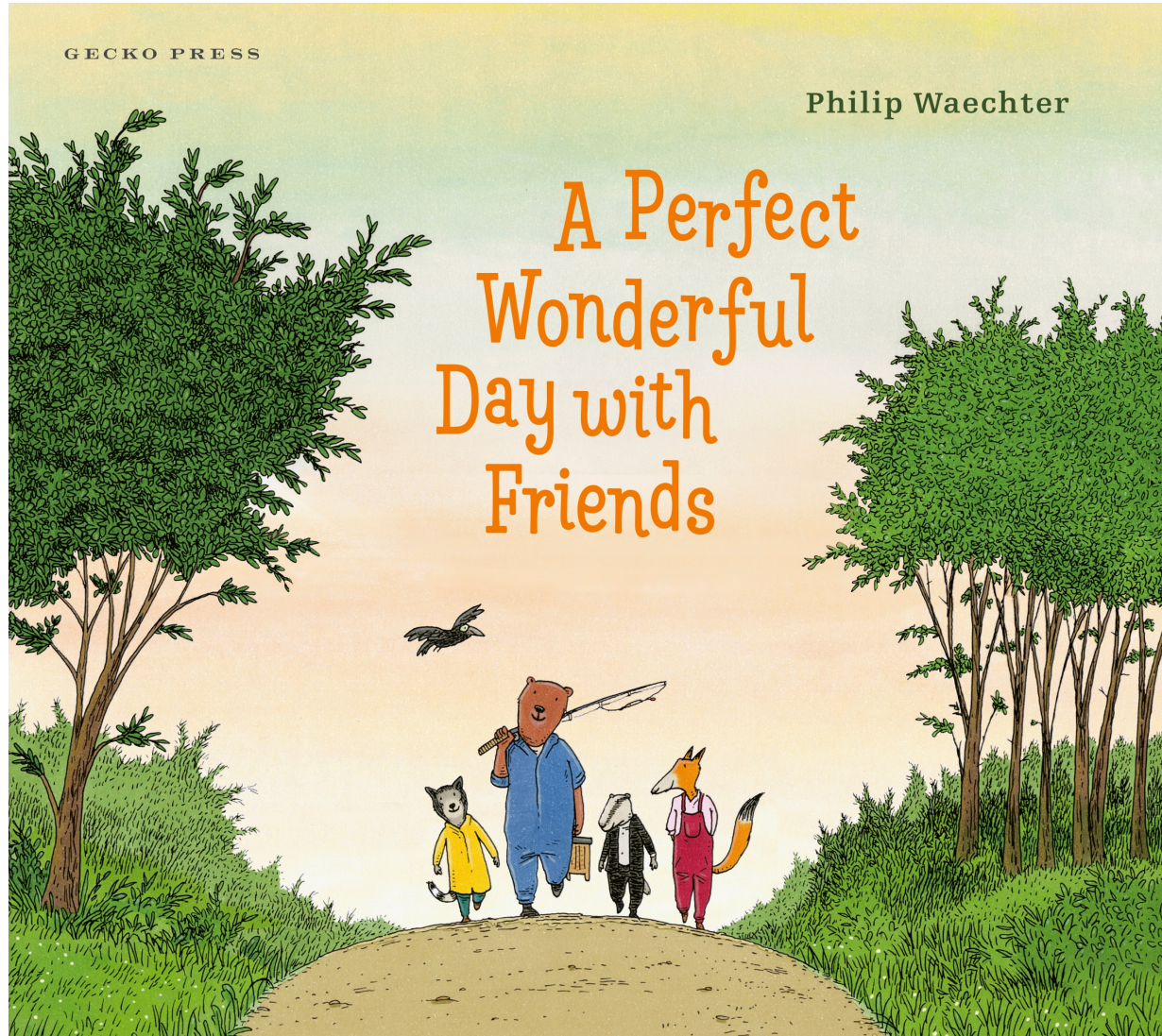


4 to 7 years

For children who love a shout-along read-aloud, spotting the hiding grist, and calling out the refrain.

Free activity sheet.





A Perfect Wonderful Day with Friends

Philip Waechter

Hardcover

Fall 2022

\$18.99

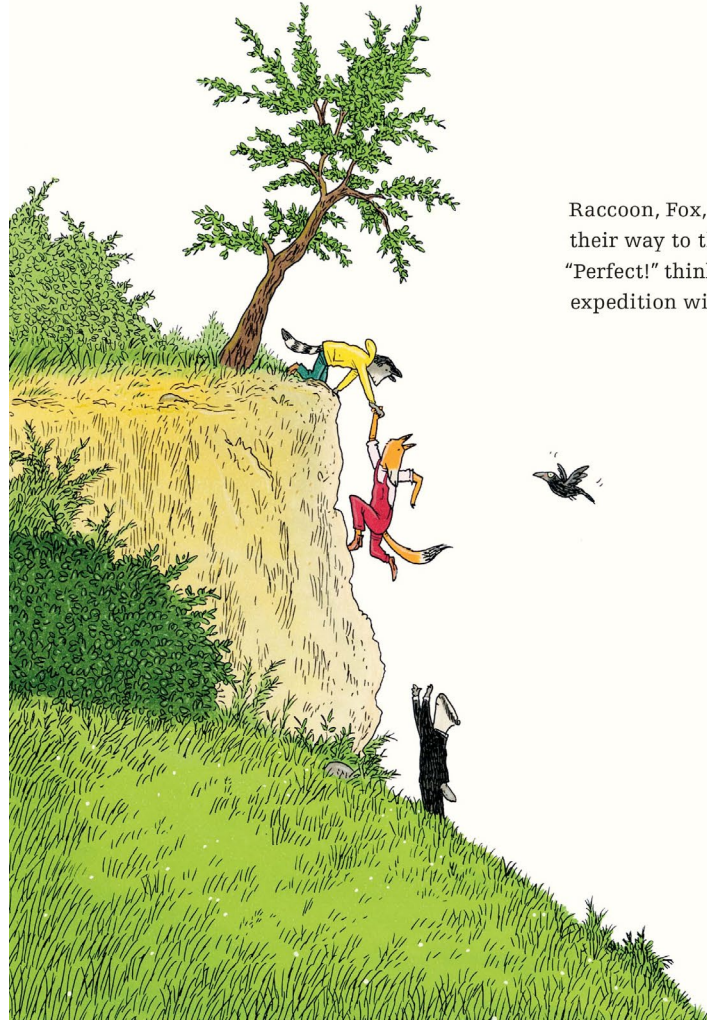




"I'll just pop over to Fox's house," thinks Raccoon.
"Fox always has eggs because she has chickens."

Fox is hard at work.
"What are you doing?" asks Raccoon.
"The rain's coming in here," says Fox. "I have to repair
the roof, but I can't quite reach it."
"Let's go to Badger's," says Raccoon. "He has everything—
he's bound to have a ladder."





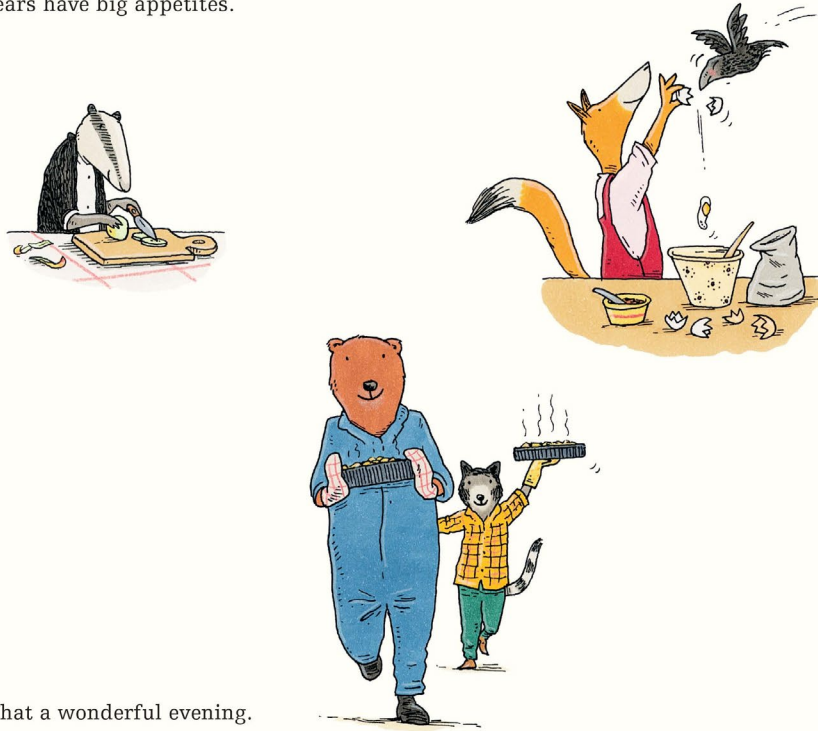
Raccoon, Fox, Badger and Crow make their way to the river.
"Perfect!" thinks Badger. "A climbing expedition with Raccoon, Fox and Crow."



They find Bear on the riverbank, fishing.



At last they can bake apple cake at Raccoon's house.
One for Fox, Raccoon, Badger and Crow, and one for Bear.
Bears have big appetites.



What a wonderful evening.
What a perfect, wonderful day!



“It all adds up to a calm, perfect, wonderful day that young readers and their parents will find almost as nice as the real thing.”

The Wall Street Journal

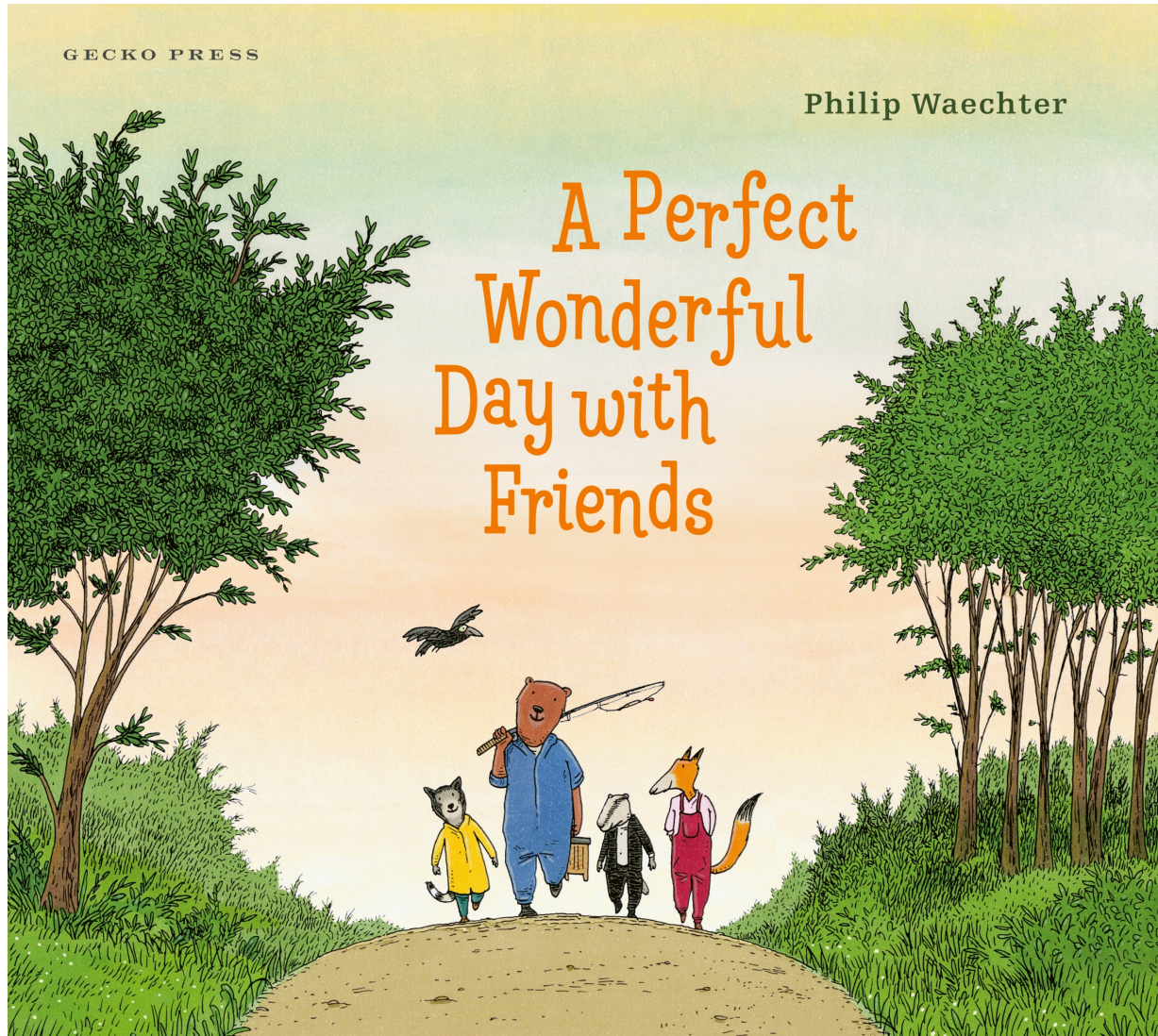
“A picture book about simply being alive. This is a story about a day when you are being observant and finding adventure wherever you can”

School Library Journal

“Friendly characters, a satisfying story, and a happy ending for all...a rewarding choice for reading aloud.”

Booklist



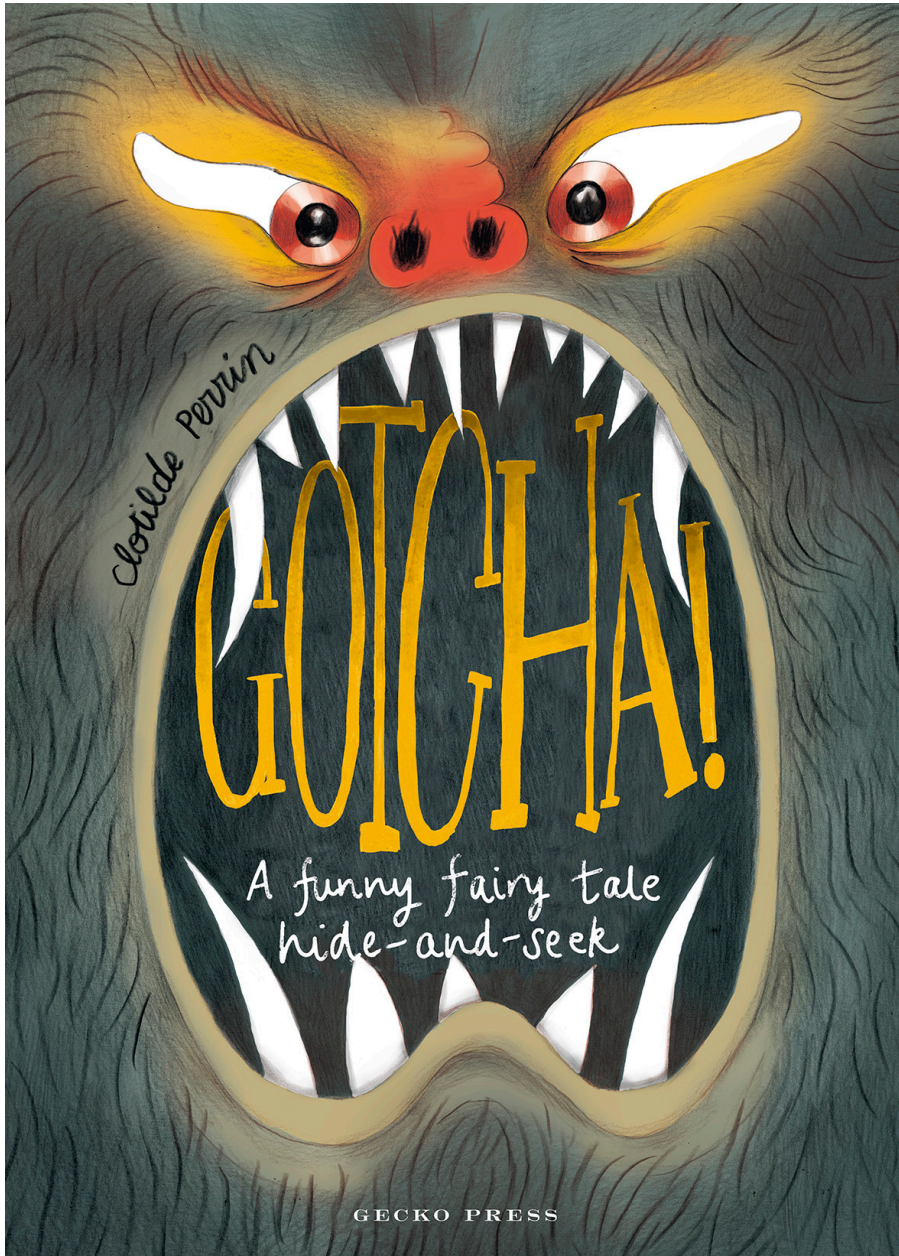


2 to 5 years

For children who love a cozy read-aloud and sharing the refrain.

Free activity sheet and downloadable teacher notes





Gotcha!

Clotilde Perrin

Hardcover

Fall 2022

\$28.99



LOOK OUT!

Here comes a nasty
hairball

With frightful fur
and feculent feet!

Uh-oh, it's looking this way.
It's coming to get you!

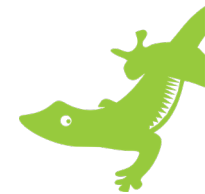


QUICK!
Hide in this
little brick house.

The hairball is prowling,
sniffing, searching.
It's drumming on the door.

Nobody open up!





HANG ON!
I've read about villains like you before.
You don't scare me!
I don't need to hide
from monsters.

So come and get me!
I'm waiting right here.
I'm going to pound you into dust!

Where are you,
you bunch of collywobblers
Show yourselves!

Wait! Don't run off now.
COME BACK!





and is never seen again.
The end (for ever).



LOOK OUT!

Three frightful monsters are coming — they want to gobble you up!
Quick, hide inside these fairy tale houses — with the three little pigs, Hansel and Gretel and Sleeping Beauty.
They won't find you here!

Explore 3
houses from
basement
to attic

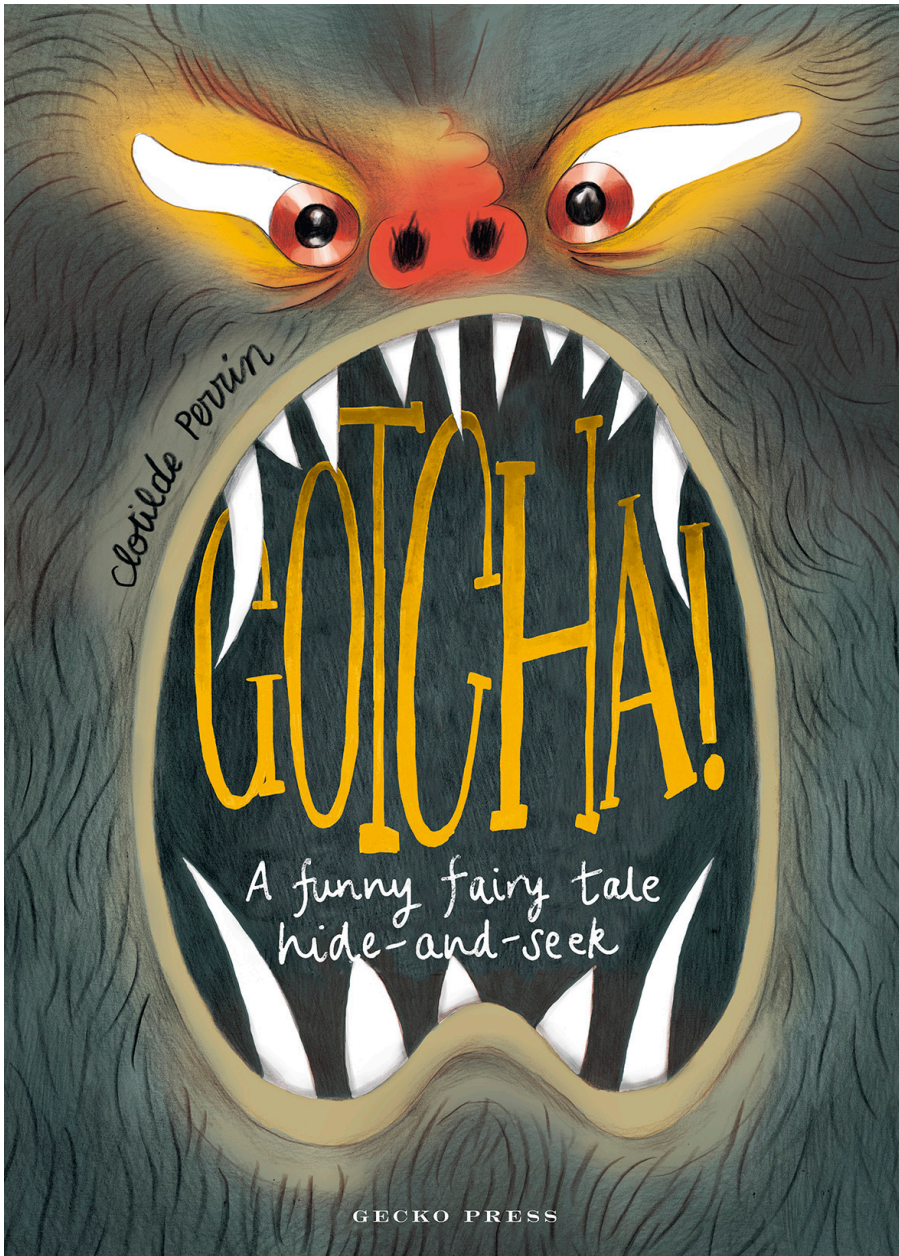


Find
ingenious
hiding places

Lift
40 flaps



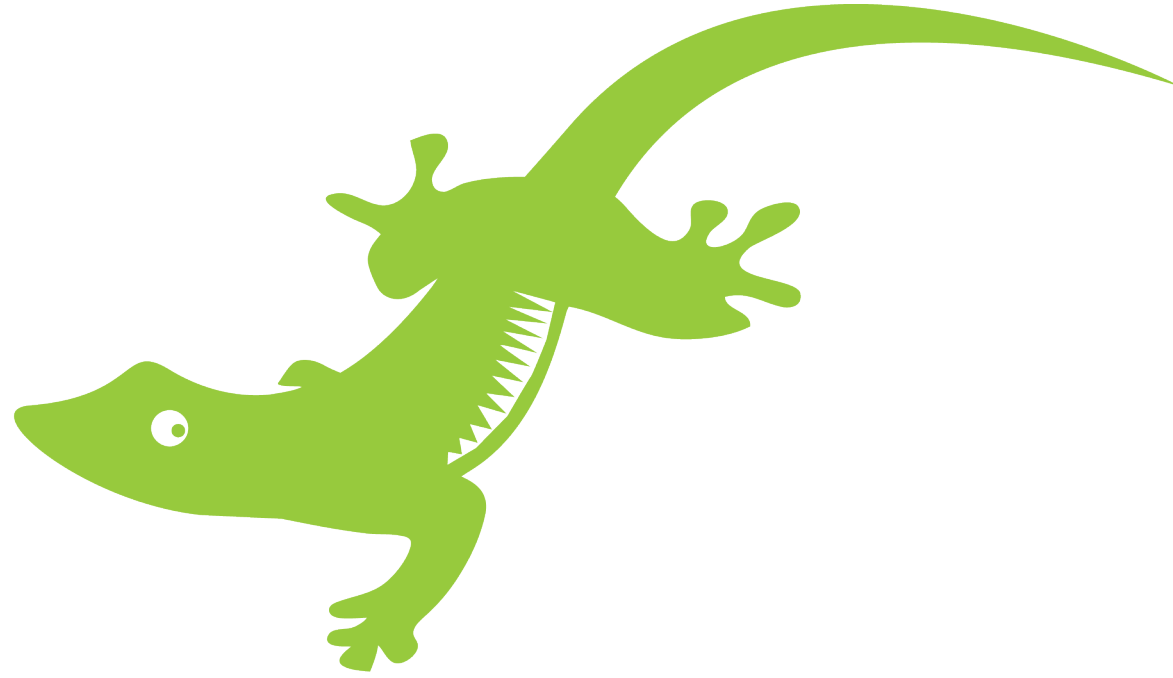




Ages 6+

Flaps and fairytales,
for families or to explore
alone, and for all of us to
send the monsters
packing.





GECKO PRESS

curiously good books



Sign up to our monthly newsletter

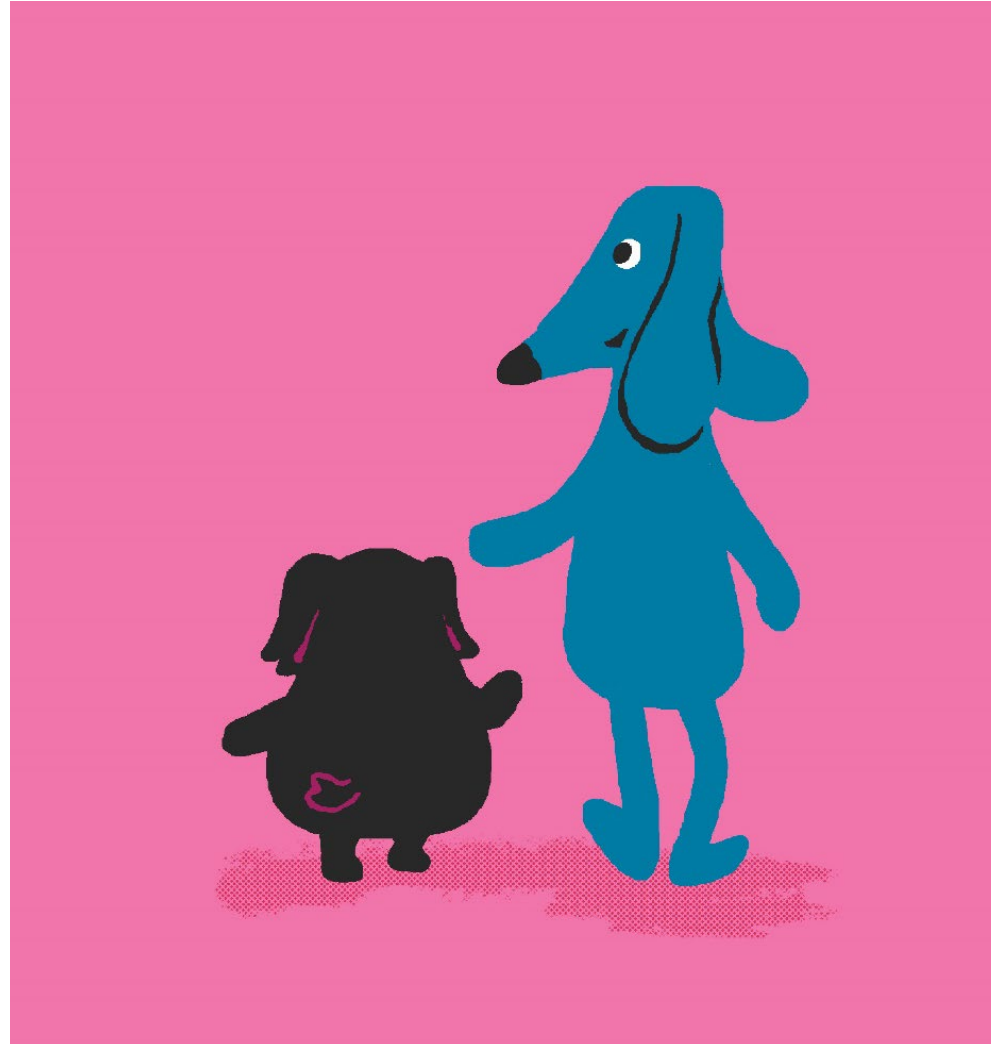


Receive themed book recommendations,
information on our new children's books, activity sheets, competitions and more.

geckopress.com



Thank you and bye-bye!





Lantana

Because *all* children deserve to see themselves in the books they read





My Mommy Marches

Samantha Hawkins and Cory Reid

An inspiring picture book about the power of peaceful protest and marching for one's beliefs.

- Increasingly relevant in the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests, the #MeToo movement and Greta Thunberg's environmental campaigns.
- A helpful conversation-starter for families wishing to explore social topics with young children in gentle and sensitive ways.

IL: Grades PreK - 3; RL: GRADE 2; PAGES: 32



“You should see my mommy when she marches,” boasts a proud child in this inspiring picture book about taking a stand. Its messages applicable to a range of social justice situations, the story stands as an evergreen reminder that, when it comes to speaking truth, ‘sometimes you have to say it with your feet.’”

—Foreword Reviews



IL: Grades PreK - 3; RL: GRADE 2; PAGES: 32



Watch Me Bloom

Krina Patel-Sage

A beautifully-illustrated bouquet of haiku poems for budding naturalists

- Featuring common house flowers and commonly-gifted flowers, as well as garden flowers and wildflowers
- Informed by wellness principles to encourage children towards mindful living with a 'Floral Fun Fact' section at the back

“Along with being racially and culturally diverse, the smiling, wide-eyed cast includes a youngster using a prosthetic limb, an adult couple of ambiguous gender in a Christmas scene, and what appears to be a same-sex couple in a Hindu-style wedding. A bright bouquet of poems, petals, and values.”

—Kirkus Reviews



My Mommies Built A Treehouse

Gareth Peter and Izzy Evans

- An uncomplicated and joyful celebration of family life in a same-sex parent household**
- Explores the joy of undertaking outdoor activities and pursuing a common goal, with women undertaking traditionally 'male' activities like construction work
 - An energetic, rhyming text, perfect for reading aloud

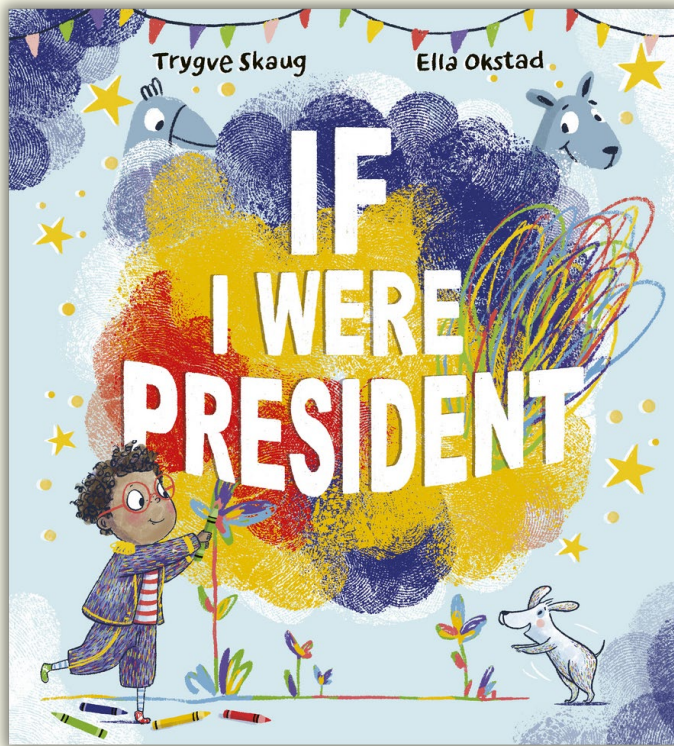
IL: Grades PreK - 3; RL: GRADE 2; PAGES: 32



"A fun read with an important underlying message, My Mommies Built a Treehouse is a thoroughly kid friendly and original story that would be especially appropriate for family, daycare center, preschool, elementary school, and community library collections for children ages 4-6."

—Midwest Book Reviews





If I Were President

Trygve Skaug, Ella Okstad & Rosie Hedger

A joyful picture book that puts the child at the very heart of politics and social change

- Insightful and topical social commentary made playful and accessible for young children
- Empowering a child reader to believe in themselves and make their voice heard – perfect for group or classroom discussion around the question: what would you change?

IL: Grades PreK - 3; RL: GRADE 2; PAGES: 40



"A child with outsized ambitions imagines what he would do if given the powerful position of the president. The rules are rewritten to be more fair— 'we're all on the same team, after all.' Inky fingerprints fill in the background of this bustling, hopeful, and quirky story about addressing challenges with flair."

—Foreword Reviews

Starlet Rivals

Puneet Bhandal

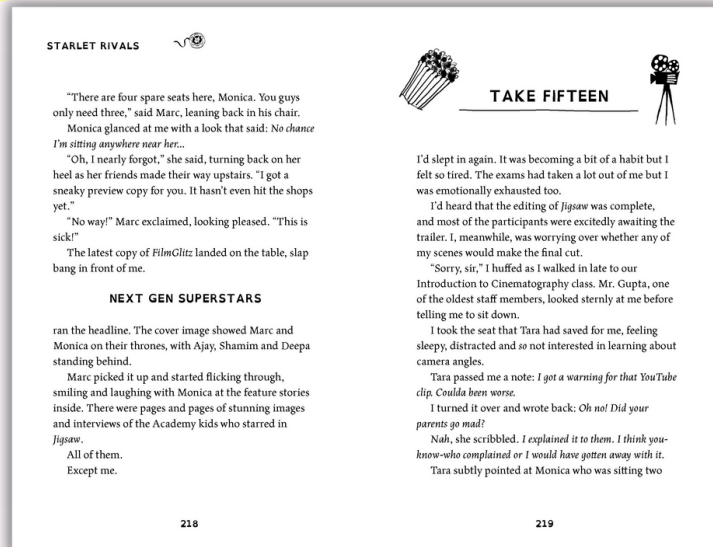
Dazzling first book in the Bollywood Academy series, charting the adventures of students at a Bollywood stage school in India

– Follows the emotional highs and lows of Bela, an "outsider" in Bollywood and a talented dancer, who must compete with the children of movie stars to gain attention in the industry

– An aspirational novel for 8+ readers, particularly suited to those with an interest in the arts, the stage, or fashion



IL: Grades 4-7; RL: GRADE 5; PAGES: 264

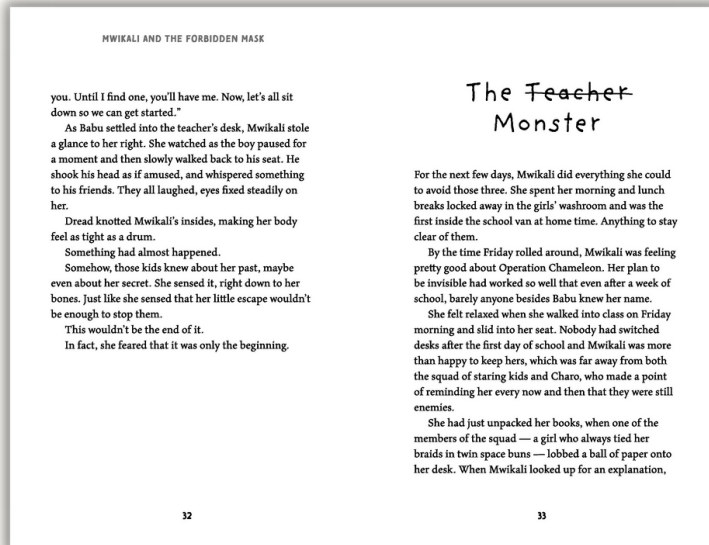


“Bela dreams of Bollywood stardom – but can a girl from her less than privileged background have a chance of winning the national Dance Starz competition, and a place at a prestigious Mumbai stage school? A deliciously readable addition to the stage-school story canon for song-and-dance fans of 7+.”

**—The Guardian,
Children's Book of the Month July 2022**



qÖH Grades 4-7 33 -ÖH GRADE 5; PAGES: 228



Mwikali and the Forbidden Mask

Shiko Nguru

Thrilling first book in the Intasimi Warriors series, a fast-paced fantasy adventure inspired by East African mythology

– Follows Mwikali as she moves to a new school in Nairobi and discovers she is descended from an ancient bloodline of legendary Kenyan warriors

– Underpinned by strong friendships, urgent mysteries to solve, and the overarching idea that true power comes from believing in yourself

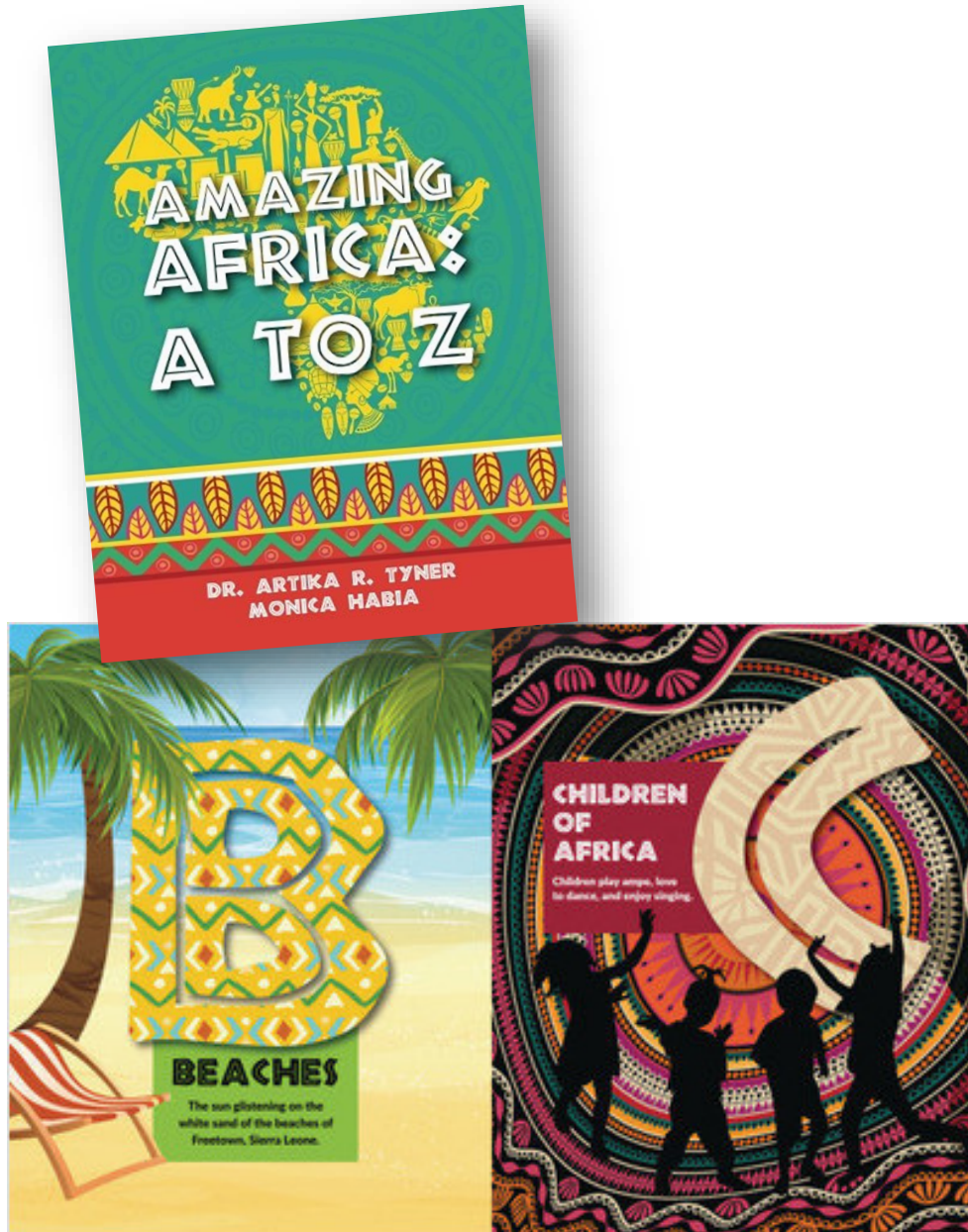
“Rich in Kenyan culture, Shiko Nguru’s fantasy novel follows as a girl finds her magic. With its important lessons about self-acceptance and its action-packed scenes of fighting monsters, Mwikali and the Forbidden Mask is a delightful fantasy novel.”

—Foreword Review *STARRED*



PLANTING PEOPLE
GROWING JUSTICE

JUSTICE FOR GENERATIONS

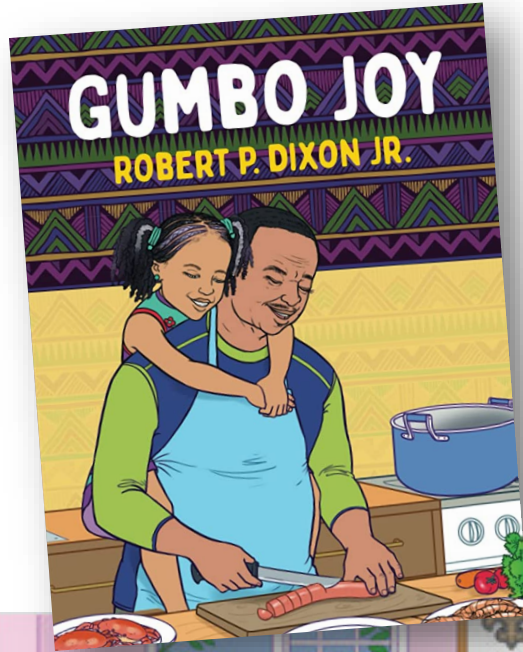


Highlights

- A fun and resourceful book that takes children and even adults on a visual journey throughout the continent of Africa.

“Like all of her exceptional books, Dr. Artika Tyner is committed to creating a world of inclusion through information leading to understanding... This book is a must read for everyone.” –Kathleen Ismail

IL: Grades K-2 RL: Grade 1 Pages: 34



Eight family members rush into the kitchen: PawPaw, MawMaw, Auntie, Uncle and four cousins.

MawMaw greets everyone with a hug, gentle kiss and a solemn reminder to "wash their hands when entering her kitchen."

Highlights

- A young girl learns of the cultural significance of the pot of gumbo she cooks with her father each Sunday.
- It connects her with her culture, history, and heritage. As the aroma of gumbo fills the air, her father reminds her that "Gumbo is the smell of love." When family members arrive for the meal, it's a joyful celebration of family, love, and culture.

IL: Grades 1-3 RL: Grade 2 Pages: 28

Justice Makes a Difference: The Story of Miss Freedom Fighter, Esquire



Highlights

- Through conversations with her grandma and their shared love of books, Justice learns about important women and men throughout history who changed the world. Justice learns how each leader was a champion for advancing justice and improving the world, and she dreams of becoming a change maker, too.

“This is a MUST have in classroom and home libraries!” –Terrise Elise

IL: Grades K-5 RL: Grade 3 Pages: 32

Spring Picture Books



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