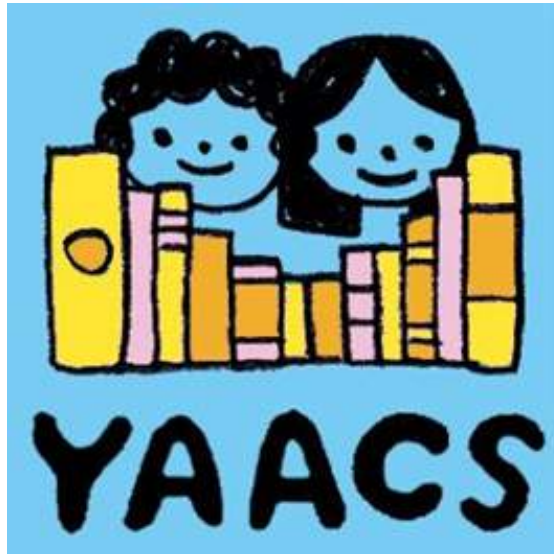


YAACING

SPRING 2021



NEWSLETTER FOR THE YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SECTION OF BCLA



YAACing is the quarterly newsletter of the Young Adults And Children's Services section of the British Columbia Library Association. We publish articles by librarians and library paraprofessionals serving children and teens. Topics range from library programs and events, to book reviews, storytime ideas, literacy tips and more! If you would like to submit something for consideration, please email yaacing@gmail.com

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Call for Submissions

Editor: Raoul Fernandes & Sabrina Gurniak

Art Director: Afton Schindel

Next Deadline: May 15, 2021

Message from the Outgoing Chair

I'm writing this message during the last spate of planning before Spring Break – It is hard to believe how different things are compared with this time last year. So much has been challenging, and yet it has been inspiring getting to know so many YAACS members this year from places further afield than the Lower Mainland. I have seen so much passion and commitment to serving children, young adults, families, and educators, and it is a gift to your communities. From fantastic continuing education events like **Mental Health Realities in Virtual Spaces for Teens and the Dungeons and Dragons** workshop, to resource sharing at our YAACS Meet Ups, we really have pulled together as a provincial network to inspire and support one another. I am so grateful for everyone's generosity and openness.

There is a lot to look forward to this spring! Our 4th annual (and 1st ever virtual) Youth Services Institute is happening on Tuesday, April 20 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. I hope you will be able to join us for a half-day of learning, sharing and connection. Highlights include a keynote address by J. Elizabeth Mills and resource sharing via our Human Library. Our AGM will follow the event. I also hope to see many of you at BCLC in May!

I am excited to welcome Kate Wood as incoming Chair, and thank her for all of her support this year in her role as Vice Chair and YAACing Co-Editor. Kate brings a lot of enthusiasm and experience to the role. We're lucky to have her.

Thank you to the hardworking YAACS crew for everything you do to help this community thrive, and thank you YAACing contributors and readers! There are many ways to be involved in YAACS, please reach out if you'd like to be involved!

All the best,

Patricia Lesku
Outgoing YAACS Chair
Digital Access Librarian, West Vancouver Memorial Library

Message from the Outgoing Editor / Incoming Chair

While I sit here with my coffee, sun streaming in the window and the promise of spring just around the corner, I reflect on the year that was 2020. While the year presented challenges for so many people, it also lent itself to be a year of immense growth, opportunity, and creativity. I again note how proud I am to be part of this incredible professional field and how fortunate I have felt to bear witness to the accomplishments of so many of my colleagues. Although we weren't able to connect as much in person over the past year, I am so thankful for the many opportunities I had to attend virtual workshops, YAACS Meet Ups, and professional development sessions that I may not have been able to attend were they held in person.

Looking forward, I'm excited to participate in our first ever virtual YSI with the marvellous J. Elizabeth Mills and to learn from the expertise of my colleagues during our Human Library. Don't forget to register! YSI will be on Tuesday, April 20 from 9:00am - 1:00pm.

I am also pleased to introduce you to the other half of the YAACING editing team, Sabrina Gurniak. Sabrina has already enthusiastically jumped in with both feet and has many wonderful ideas for YAACING. I can't wait to see what the next issues of YAACING hold! I am fully confident in Raoul and Sabrina and know they will be a terrific editing team.

As I step into the role of Chair, I thank Patricia Lesku for all her hard work as Chair during an incredibly challenging year, and I am extremely grateful that she will be there to guide me as I take on this new role. I look forward to what 2021 has to offer and hope that it is a gentler year on all of us!

Let's hope this spring allows all to get outside and enjoy this beautiful province in which we live, and to reconnect in person after so long of being apart. Don't forget to take time for yourself as we gear up for another season of Summer Reading Club!

Be safe, be well, and have a fabulous Spring!

Kate

Kate Wood
Library Assistant
Greater Victoria Public Library

Message from the Incoming Editor

Spring is the season of possibility, potential, and reinvigoration—one can almost smell it in the air and feel it on the skin. I think that's what many of us are holding onto, as we pass the one year anniversary of the pandemic. We're still not out of it, but I think we can allow ourselves some hope for a near future where we can live and connect with each other with more ease.

As a recent Library tech graduate, this opportunity to be a co-editor for YAACING has been a real honour and gift. It's been amazing to connect with some of the talented and creative people working in libraries, and to learn about the amazing, important work they're doing. A great example in this issue is in the winning story for SRC's Community Story Award by Kate Longley and Danielle Wing, that describes how two different North Vancouver library systems worked together to keep Summer Reading Club alive. Stephanie Usher introduces us to 2021's mystery-themed Summer Reading Club and, along with Alyse Hebert and Andrea Lukic, considers how to create necessary virtual spaces for teens during this time. We also have the 2nd part of Sarah Bagshaw's fascinating alphabet book chronology. Lastly, our regular columns from Jbrary and Sadie Tucker's New and Notable Books serve a feast of new and wonderful books.

I'd like to especially thank our outgoing editor, Kate Wood, for doing a wonderful job of getting me familiar with YAACING: the great work it does, and the potential for what it can do. I feel very confident in helping it continue to thrive, especially with our very capable new co-editor Sabrina Gurniak, who is very excited to connect with library professionals around the province, to learn from and be inspired by each other.

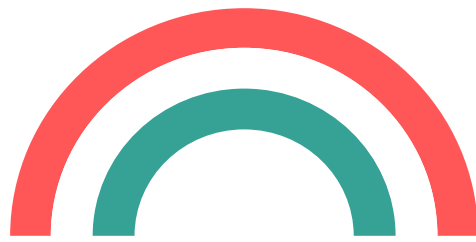
We have a lot to look forward to with the Youth Services Institute and YAACS AGM going virtual on April 20 and the virtual BCLC in May. We are also already looking forward to your submissions for our Summer issue! We'd like to work on how we can grow YAACing to include more of your stories, projects, and wisdom. It would be especially great to hear from library folks outside the Lower Mainland. In the meantime, enjoy this issue, enjoy the lengthening days, and take good care of yourselves.

On behalf of your YAACING editors,

Raoul

Raoul Fernandes
Library Tech Grad
Langara College

Sabrina Gurniak
Children's Librarian
Vancouver Public Library



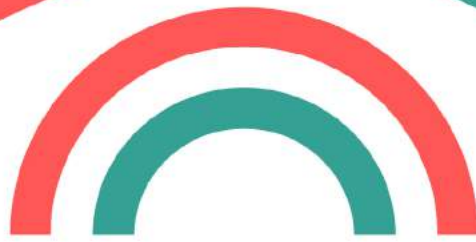
Tues, April 20, 2021
9 am to 1 pm

YOUTH SERVICES INSTITUTE (VIRTUAL)

Keynote speaker:
J. Elizabeth Mills

REGISTER NOW!
BCLA MEMBERS: \$20
BCLA NON-MEMBERS: \$30
STUDENTS: \$10

Register at
<https://bclaconnect.ca/2021-youth-services-institute/>



Tues, April 20, 2021
9 am to 1 pm

SCHEDULE

9:00-9:15am: Check-in & Chat

9:15am: Welcome from YAACS

9:20am: Ice Breaker

9:30-11:00am: Keynote Speaker - J.
Elizabeth Mills

11:00-11:15am: Break

11:15am -12:30pm: Professional
Human Library (in breakout rooms)

12:30-1:00pm: Reflection & Wrap Up

Register at
<https://bclaconnect.ca/2021-youth-services-institute/>

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AT YSI 2021

We are looking for approximately 10-20 YSI attendees willing to share their experiences in a human library meets AMA (Ask Me Anything) style breakout room discussion. No need to be an expert – just willing to have a conversation. These discussions will be 35 minutes long.

What's in it for you? A chance to share with people whose passions match your own.

Ideas of what we're looking for include (but are not limited to):

- I do a virtual Sensory Storytime. Ask me anything.
- I have run a hybrid virtual / in-person Book Buddies. Ask me anything.
- I have experience with outdoor programming. Ask me anything.
- I have great ideas about supporting teens' mental health. Ask me anything.
- I am the only Youth Librarian in my library system. Ask me anything.
- I work in Library Management. Ask me anything.
- Etc.

Please indicate if there is an age range (Early Years, Middle Years, Teen) that your AMA works best for.

If you are interested, or have questions, please contact Patricia Lesku at plesku@westvanlibrary.ca by April 1 at 5:00 p.m.

2021 BC SRC Community Story Award Winner

By Stephanie Usher

As we all know, 2020 was a difficult and an unpredictable year for libraries and the BC Summer Reading Club. So when we put out our call to find our Community Story Award winner this year, we wanted to celebrate the amazing work that libraries did in finding ways to bring SRC to their communities during this unprecedented time. We received a number of wonderful and heartfelt submissions that captured how libraries rose to the occasion for the children and families across BC and we couldn't be prouder. And without further ado, we are excited to announce that **Kate Longley** of North Vancouver City Library and **Danielle Wing** of North Vancouver District Public Library are this year's recipients of the BC SRC Community Story Award! Their winning story is featured below.



About Kate

Kate Longley is the Teen Services Librarian at the North Vancouver City Library. She feels extremely lucky to be supported in traveling this new programming terrain by working with such a collaborative youth team. During the lead-up to SRC 2020 she was inspired by conversations with library workers across libraries who have been endlessly amazing at sharing ideas.



About Danielle

Danielle Wing is a children's librarian at the Lynn Valley branch of the North Vancouver District Public Library. She has loved Summer Reading Club since she was a child and thinks it's the most exciting time of the year at any public library!

BC Summer Reading Club 2020: A Collaboration between Libraries

By Kate Longley and Danielle Wing

This year North Vancouver City Library and the North Vancouver District Public Library took the big step to coordinate our Children's and Teen Summer Reading Club program promotion to the schools and worked together to present exciting virtual programming.

It does not need to be said (not even one more time!) that 2020 was a challenging year. One of the first things we started thinking about when we closed to the public due to COVID, was how we would be able to offer our Summer Reading Club programs. SRC is such an important way for children in our community to stay connected to reading and the resources the library has to offer over the summer. At the time, many staff at libraries were laid off, and we had little idea of what others would be doing. Thank goodness for our library networks and communities, where we soon began to learn about the amazing work that BC Summer Reading Club was doing to create a virtual option for 2020.

Our next challenge was how to let youth in our community know that SRC would indeed be happening. Though we technically share a school district, our libraries had never collaborated on promoting SRC before. COVID turned out to be the motivation we needed.

To avoid confusion and overlap, we coordinated our messaging and programming. The youth teams and communications departments at our libraries worked together to create a joint promotional video for our local schools, with dignitaries from each of our communities, and staff from both of our libraries. We also put a joint advertisement for SRC in the local paper. Finally, we combined forces on a series of seven virtual author visits for children, sharing the programs on each of our websites in tandem.



Filming our promotional Video

When planning our virtual author visits, we quickly discovered that the possibilities were endless! Authors and illustrators were keen to connect with readers and the fees associated with the virtual visits were very reasonable. We hosted astronaut and author Dr. Dave Williams, as well as many other authors and illustrators including: Jim Ottaviani & Maris Wicks, Gale Galligan, Andy Runton, Rashin Kheiriyeh, Robin Stevenson and Mark Leiren-Young. Our readers were able to chat with them over Zoom and had the opportunity to ask questions and learn about writing and illustrating. This was an unusual summer for kids: one participant was set up in the bathroom (presumably because his parents were working from home in a small space), while another tuned in from the backseat of a car! It is safe to say that these virtual programs brought everyone together in a very unique way. This was an opportunity to try something new, exciting, and a little bit intimidating. Sharing the workload and supporting each other made all the difference.

Working together with another library system to coordinate our plan was exciting and empowering. As part of our decision, we not only promoted the exciting new virtual option for BC SRC, but also decided to retain the physical reading record as a possibility for our participants to pick up via library takeout until we re-opened our doors. Each of our libraries added our own flair, such as a community prize at NVDPL, and weekly prize draws at NVCL. In addition to our shared virtual author visits, each of our libraries promoted our own virtual programming and recorded storytimes.



Some families enjoyed the new online option while others were pleased to have the normalcy of the print materials. Comments from customers included:

“Our 3rd pick up. Sylvie (age 9) came this time and was over the moon to find her Summer Reading Card waiting for her! We all love Bambi Edlund’s illustrations! The booklets are always a lovely keepsake. Many thanks to you all”

NVDPL’s SRC packets: a special envelope with the Reading Record, stickers, bookmark, and more!

“The kids participated in the Summer Reading Club this year and the two previous years. Both missed having the medal ceremony in the square (thank you for making a big deal at the desk!). They liked the dinging on the computer as the days were ticked off (we did it in clumps) and getting the special badges. They also liked choosing fun login names (Bookdragon and Bookmonster). They liked not having to write down every day’s book. It was easy for them to stick with the reading”

Summer Reading Club usually brings with it our largest-scale children’s events of the year, including in person kick-off parties with a special entertainer, face painting, and more. Holding our medal ceremony has been important to our library and community in many ways, and is the culmination of a summer of reading for fun. Participants come to the library to share the excitement of receiving their well-deserved Summer Reading Club medals, have cake and to get their photo taken with the Chief Librarian and the Mayor. It’s difficult to recreate this type of large-scale event virtually, but we did our best. We extended medal pick up dates over a two-week period to avoid congestion, and created a photobooth in the children’s department for recipients to pose with their medals. One customer had this to say:

“I cannot tell you enough how important the medal will be this year. Kids need something to feel good about. After all that has been taken away this summer due to COVID. Thank you a lot for keeping this program alive even under these circumstances.

Please let all the staff know how much moms are thankful for you to keep this program. My daughters are really looking forward to their medal...”

We felt overjoyed to be able to work together to offer children the consistency and support they needed this summer. More than half of our usual number of participants registered for Summer Reading Club and picked up physical packages in the library with their reading record or used the online BC SRC portal to track their reading. Though we kicked-off and wrapped up the summer on a smaller scale than normal, we couldn’t have been happier about teaming up with our library neighbours to make participation in SRC the most accessible it could be and to make it a reality for our community participants to be recognized for their reading this summer.

Window display during the closure.



Kate Longley (North Vancouver City Library) and Danielle Wing (North Vancouver District Public Library)

BC Summer Reading Club 2021 – Crack the Case!

By Stephanie Usher

This summer, children and families across BC are invited to Crack the Case with this year's mystery-themed Summer Reading Club. We're excited to share all the things we've been working on and thrilled to see how libraries will bring this theme (with all of its endless potential for fun!) to their communities. Be sure to join us at this year's BCLA Library Conference where we'll be hosting a virtual conference booth and organizing a few sessions including a chat about representation in children's picture books with this year's SRC Artist, **Zoe Si**, and Equity, Diversity and Disability Justice Changemaker and Consultant, **Siobhan Barker**.



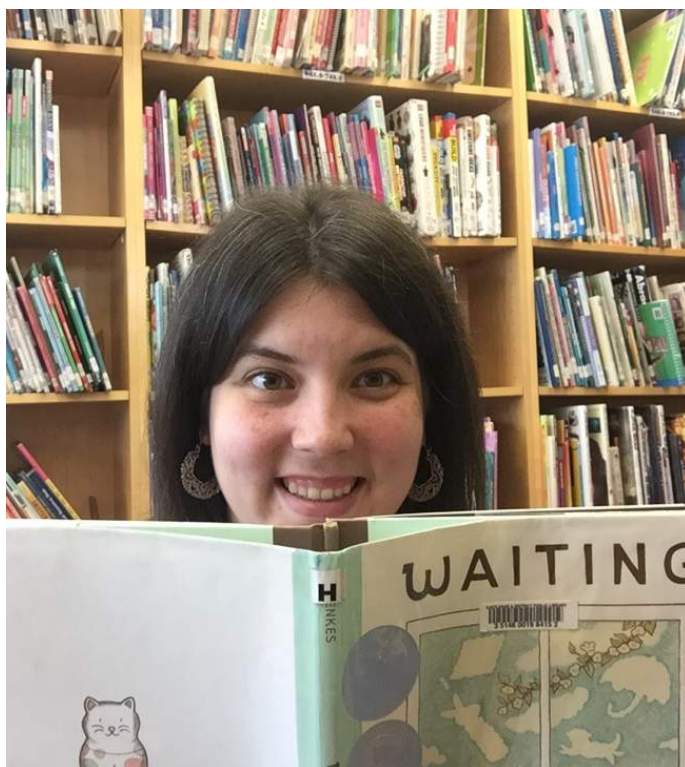
This year's SRC Artist Zoe Si and an early sketch from this year's artwork

This year, we're very fortunate to have both of our 2020 Co-Chairs, Alicia Dobbs and Laura Zaytsoff, return to their roles after a very unexpected summer. In their roles, they have coordinated with the SRC Content Creators and will be contributing to some of the virtual content we have planned this summer.



Get to know Alicia

I have been involved in Summer Reading Club at the New Westminster Public Library since 2013, and I have been thrilled to work on the program as co-chair for the last 2 years. Adapting the program to an online format in the midst of COVID closures and lockdowns was a wild ride, but I am looking forward to seeing how families and libraries across BC continue to use the new-and-improved BC SRC website to supplement their Summer Reading experiences this year. And of course, the highlight of every SRC is the artwork! Zoe Si has knocked it out of the park for our Mystery theme and I am so excited for everyone to see her fabulous work.



Get to know Laura

I am the Children, Youth, and Outreach Librarian at the Castlegar and District Public Library where we serve over 11,400 people in our community. One of my favourite parts of being a co-chair this past year was watching everyone on the SRC team come together to make sure that libraries and the kids and families that frequent them still had the constant of SRC in a summer where everything else had changed. It felt really good to team up and come up with something that still worked despite everything going on – I am so grateful to our amazing team!

When it comes to the SRC artwork, I love watching the tiny idea of a simple word ‘mystery’ turn into characters with personalities and

settings which truly pop out of the page. Zoe has done some truly whimsical and magical work this year and as always, I can’t wait for the rest of the province to see how everything looks come summer!

As with every year, I also just love watching all the pieces from around the province come together to make the SRC happen. We live in such a creative province – we are so lucky.

We would also like to acknowledge our amazing returning content creators for the wonderful work they've been doing to create the SRC Manual and finding creative ways to bring our various subthemes to life.

Many thanks go to the following for their contributions to this year's manual:

- Mehjabeen Ali and Surrey Libraries
- Corene Maret Brown and Port Moody Public Library
- Alicia Dobbs and New Westminster Library
- Gina Gaudet and Vancouver Public Library
- Wiena Groenewold and Fraser Valley Regional Libraries
- Laura Zaytsoff and Castlegar and District Public Library

We can't express how excited we are to watch this year's SRC unfold and we're looking forward to seeing all the extraordinary work that libraries do to make SRC happen for the children and families in their communities.

Stephanie Usher is the Provincial Coordinator of BC Summer Reading Club



We'll Link to That!

By Lindsey Krabbenhoft

New Storytime Books

The one tradition I have on Jbrary is writing up my favourite picture books published each year. This is the 8th year I've been doing it! Writing the 2020 list was challenging for a variety of reasons: I did a limited number of storytimes and I couldn't get my hands on physical copies of books while working from home. I had to draw on my knowledge of what makes a good storytime book, what types of books transition well to a virtual environment, and the myriad videos posted by other libraries ([and kids too!](#)) featuring read alouds of recently published picture books. You can read my complete [2020 Favourite Storytime Picture Books](#) list on Jbrary, but here I'd like to share ones I think work particularly well for a virtual storytime.



Beehive by Jorey Hurley

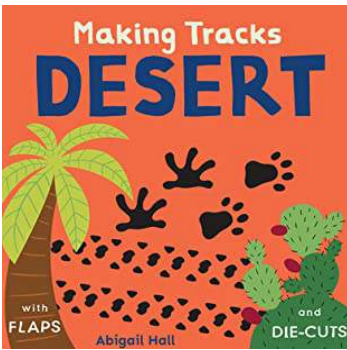
Bright illustrations make this one pop on screen. The near wordless storyline lets you fill in the blanks and spend as much or as little time on each page as you want. It could be fun to try a group oral storytelling activity if you've got a small group on a platform like Zoom who can mute and unmute when it's their turn.



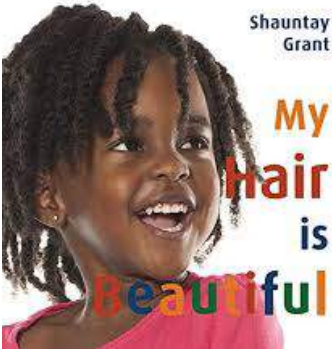
Hat Tricks by Satoshi Kitamura

Perfect for toddlers and preschoolers, this one includes a magical guessing game. If you feel like you're struggling to keep kids engaged with the stories in a virtual environment, grab this one for some fun interaction through both the repetitive phrase and dialogic reading it lends itself to so well.

Making Tracks series by Abi Hall

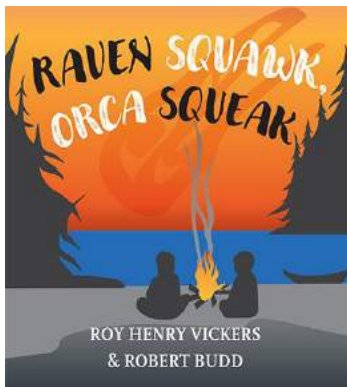


Have you found board books to be totally awesome for virtual storytime? Me too! Take advantage of your board books as their bright colours and smaller pages work great when holding up to a screen. This series has four new additions: City, Desert, Mountain, and Jungle. The lift-the-flap feature builds interaction as you reveal what made each set of tracks.



My Hair is Beautiful by Shauntay Grant

From Canadian poet Grant comes this board book all about self love. Highly recommended for babytimes where the little ones love looking at faces, especially ones filled with joy.



Raven Squawk, Orca Squeak by Robert Budd; illustrated by Roy Henry Vickers

This author/illustrator collaboration is back with another board book winner. Indigenous artwork and West Coast sounds fill the pages. The bright and high contrast images are especially good for kids with low vision. Recommended for babies and toddlers.



You Are Awesome! by Susann Hoffmann

The short, simple affirmative text assures kids they can be funny, smart, fast, calm, bold, kind, clever, silly, strong, loving, brave, creative, and helpful. I would encourage caregivers who are muted to repeat the phrase to their little one in their home after I read each sentence but switch it to the first person: I am awesome! Make sure to build in pause time between each page for this type of simulated group reading.

Any new virtual storytime book standouts that I missed last year? I'd love to hear about them at jbrary@gmail.com.

Lindsey Krabbenhoft is a Children's Librarian in Vancouver, British Columbia and one half of Jbrary, the online children's librarian treasure trove. She is also the co-founder of the [Library Services for Children Journal Club](#) and encourages any other research nerds to join. You can find Jbrary in its own little corner of the internet at <https://jbrary.com>

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY BOOKS

By Sadie Tucker

PICTURE BOOKS

(B=Baby, T=Toddler, PreS=Preschool,
K=Kindergarten)

TEN LITTLE FINGERS

KUBLER, ANNIE

B-T

A great contender for babytimes and toddler times! Little ones are illustrated doing a variety of actions such as clapping and raising their hands in the air.

DUCKS!

UNDERWOOD, DEBORAH

T-PRES

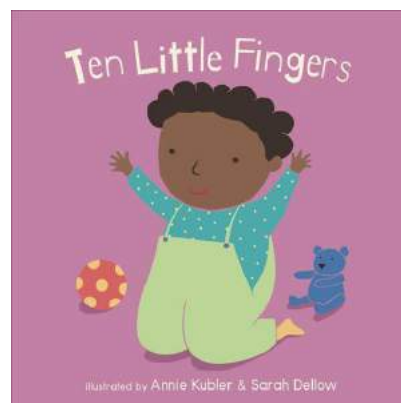
When a duck wanders away to follow a butterfly, it is shocked when it returns to its pond to find that the other ducks have vanished. It sets off to find them, following promising clues such as squawking sounds (trombones). Limited text and uncluttered illustrations make this a good choice for group storytimes.

I LOVE MY TUTU TOO!

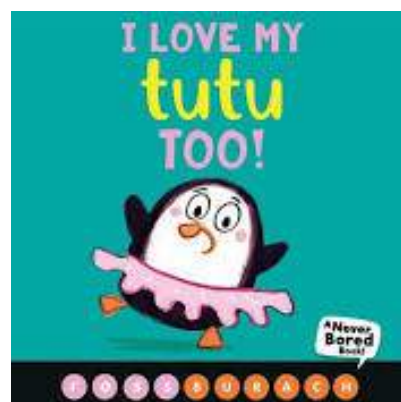
BURACH, ROSS

T-PRES

There are a whole lot of animals that love their tutus! A playful book about words that just might twist your tongue. A great option for storytimes.



DUCKS!

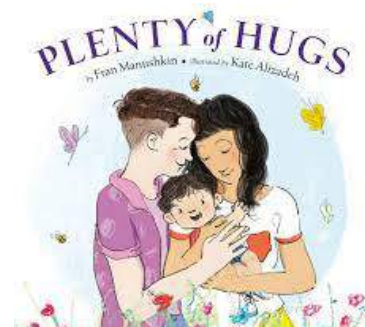


PLENTY OF HUGS

Manushkin, Fran

PreS-K

Two moms and their young child have an idyllic day exploring the countryside, visiting the zoo, and then having a cozy night in. Throughout the text there are indeed plenty of hugs.

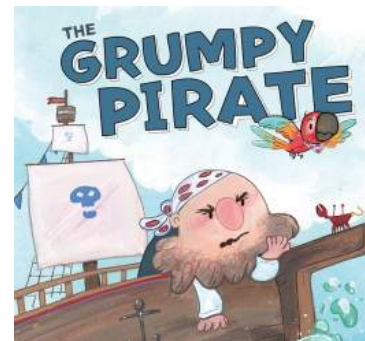


THE GRUMPY PIRATE

DEMAS, CORINNE

PRES-K

A pirate crew is fed up with their whiniest member, Gus. When the pirate queen gives him a parrot, the bird begins to echo everything that Gus says. Will this help Gus realise the error of his ways or drive the crew further 'round the bend? A good option for storytimes with themes of Social Emotional Learning.

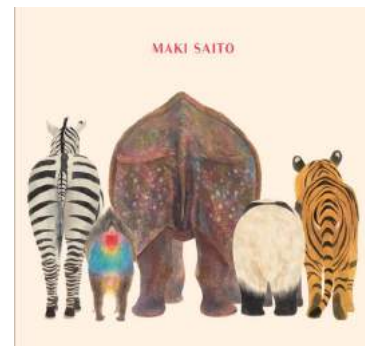


ANIMALS BRAG ABOUT THEIR BOTTOMS

SAITŌ, MAKI

PRES-GR.2

This book is exactly what it sounds like! A range of animals brag about why their bottoms are great. They are great for different reasons (some are cute, some are fluffy, some are really big), but they are all fantastic bottoms.



FAST FRIENDS

O'CONNOR, HEATHER

PRES-GR.2

A non-didactic book about someone who uses a wheelchair! Tyson has energy to spare and loves all things speedy. When Suze joins the class, Tyson quickly recognises a kindred spirit. Tyson is dying to be chosen as the one to push Suze's wheelchair during outside time, but his teacher keeps choosing other students. When will the teacher see that Tyson and Suze are a match made in heaven?

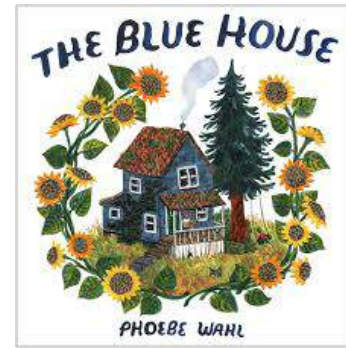


THE BLUE HOUSE

WAHL, PHOEBE

PRES-GR.3

Leo and his dad have lived in their blue house for as long as he can remember. When their landlord sells it, the family must say goodbye to their beloved home. A lovely book, although the font choice is unfortunate.



YOUR NAME IS A SONG

THOMPSON-BIGELOW, JAMILAH

PREK-GR.3

A young girl decides that she does not want to return to school because people have a difficult time saying her name. As she and her mother walk through the city, her mother lists off a series of names (most, but not all, originating in various parts of Africa) and describes the music they make. Phonetic spellings are provided for all names, including those of European origin.

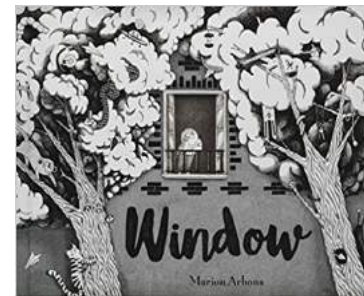


WINDOW

ARBONA, MARION

PREK-GR.3

As a girl walks down the street, she passes many windows, but what is going on behind those panes of glass? Luckily, the reader is able to find out! The imaginative, detailed scenes are sure to engross readers of all ages.

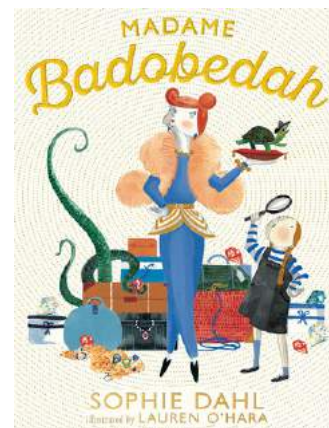


MADAME BADOBEDAH

DAHL, SOPHIE

K-GR.3

Mabel lives in a bed and breakfast owned by her parents. When a new long-term resident arrives, Mabel is sure that she is a villain. As the two slowly get to know each other, she learns that the old woman is actually a fantastic, imaginative playmate.



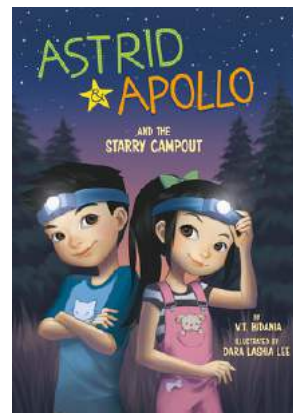
SCHOOL AGE

ASTRID & APOLLO AND THE STARRY CAMPOUT

BIDANIA, V. T

REALISTIC FICTION (CHAPTER BOOK)

Astrid and Apollo are excited to go camping. Well, Apollo is. Astrid is worried about being out in the dark and thinks it would be better to stay home. Will Astrid make it through the trip unscathed?



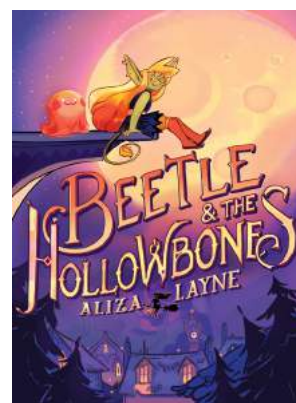
BEETLE & THE HOLLOWBONES

LAYNE, ALIZA

FANTASY (GRAPHIC NOVEL)

GRADES 3+

Beetle is a goblin that is training to be a witch, but she's never fully accepted her powers. When she discovers that her aunt plans to tear down the local mall, where Beetle's best friend (a ghost) is anchored, she must find a way to stop the demolition before it's too late. Add in some friend drama and a burgeoning romance, and Beetle's plate is piled high.



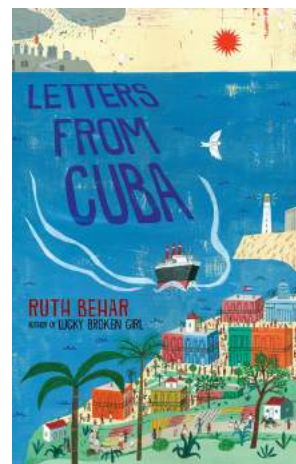
LETTERS FROM CUBA

BEHAR, RUTH

HISTORICAL FICTION

GRADES 3-7

It took three years, but Esther's father has earned enough money in Cuba to bring one member of his family over from Poland and that family member is Esther. As the Nazis' power increases in Europe, the pressure to get the family to safety is mounting. After Esther arrives in small-town Cuba, she discovers a warm, welcoming community and immediately begins to pitch in earning money to bring the rest of the family over.



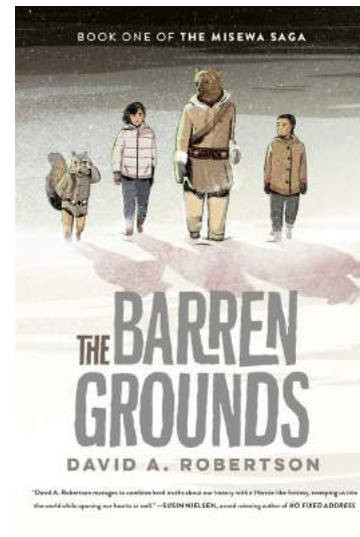
THE BARREN GROUNDS

ROBERTSON, DAVID

FANTASY

GRADES 3-7

A fantastic read-alike to *The Narnia* series — with a Cree twist. Morgan and Eli are not related but have been placed in the same foster home. It isn't horrible, but it isn't great either. When Eli disappears from the attic, Morgan follows him only to discover a barren world where wondrous creatures struggle to survive.



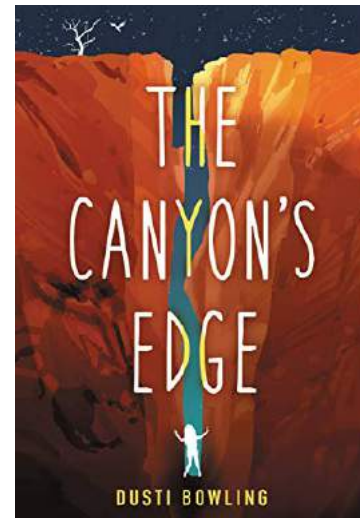
THE CANYON'S EDGE

BOWLING, DUSTI

ADVENTURE/SURVIVAL

GRADES 4-7

It's Nora's birthday. It's also the one year anniversary of her mom being killed in a random shooting. When a hiking trip with her father leads to being stranded in the desert without supplies, Nora is forced not only to fight for her own survival but also to face the trauma of her mother's loss.



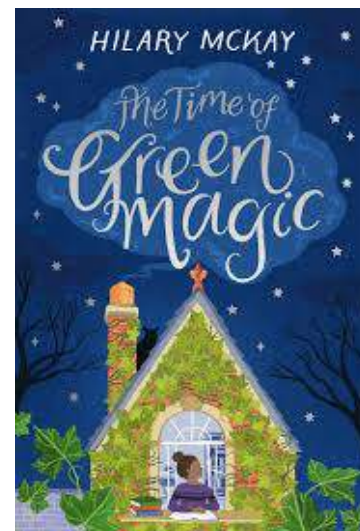
THE TIME OF GREEN MAGIC

MCKAY, HILARY

FANTASY/MAGICAL REALISM

GRADES 4-7

When Abi, Max, and Louis' parents get married and move them all into a charming, ivy-covered house, everyone struggles to settle in to their new blended family. That's totally normal. What's not normal are the magical happenings that each child begins to experience. Something is going on in the house and these new siblings will need to figure it out before someone gets hurt.



THE DRAGON WARRIOR

ZHAO, KATIE

FANTASY/ADVENTURE

GRADES 4-7

Faryn and her brother Alex have set off on a journey to reach the gods' banquet before the end of Lunar New Year. If they succeed, Faryn will be named Heaven Breaker and tasked with defeating the demons who are invading our plane. They might also find their father who went missing long ago.



EVERYTHING SAD IS UNTRUE (A TRUE STORY)

NAYERI, DANIEL

MEMOIR/REALISTIC FICTION

GRADES 4-8

Daniel, a refugee from Iran, is the only Persian kid in his class and he is bullied for it. Told through family stories and Persian folklore, and presented non-linearly, the novel follows Daniel as he struggles to survive with his soul intact. Painful, with moments of humour and beauty.



THE BOYS IN THE BACK ROW

JUNG, MIKE

REALISTIC FICTION/HUMOROUS FICTION/
ADVENTURE

GRADES 5-7

Matt and Eric are best friends and super close. In fact, classmates often tease them about being boyfriends (they're not). When they discover that Eric will be moving away, they decide to have an adventure as a tribute to their friendship: They will sneak away from a class trip and visit a nearby comics convention. Of course, nothing goes as planned.



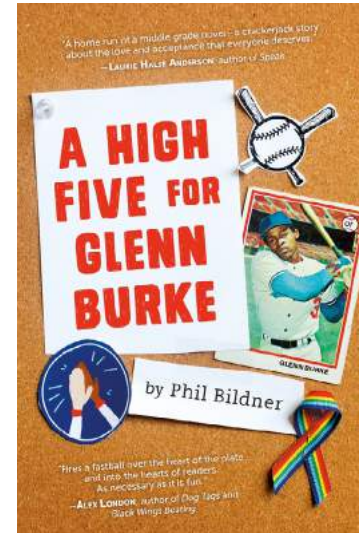
A HIGH FIVE FOR GLENN BURKE

BILDNER, PHIL

REALISTIC FICTION

GRADES 5-7

It's no secret that Silas loves baseball, so when he makes a class presentation on Glenn Burke, a baseball player in the 1970s, it probably isn't a surprise to his classmates. But Glenn Burke is more to Silas than just a great baseball player. Silas may not be Black, like Glenn Burke was, but he is gay and this is his first tentative step in coming out.



IKENGA

OKORAFOR, NNEDI

FANTASY/MYSTERY

GRADES 5-8

It has been a year since Nnamdi's father was killed and Nnamdi thirsts for justice. When the ghost of his father gifts him with a magical object that transforms him into a powerful vigilante, he is given the opportunity to solve his father's murder. But with great strength comes intense emotions that Nnamdi must learn to control before he does something that he regrets. Some reviews have noted that the book is quite violent.



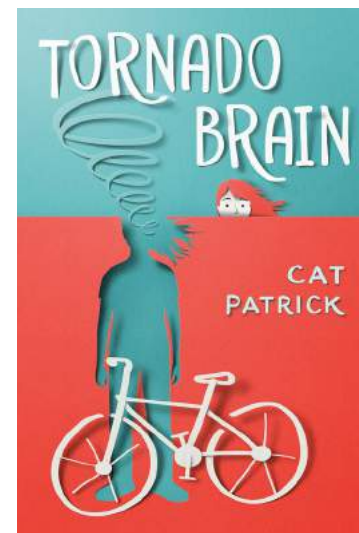
TORNADO BRAIN

PATRICK, CAT

MYSTERY/REALISTIC FICTION

GRADES 6+

Frankie is neurodiverse and struggles to fit in. The only people who seem to get her are Tess, her twin sister, and Colette, her best friend. Then Colette betrays Frankie's trust and the friendship is broken. Now Colette is missing and Frankie thinks she has clues that would help the police find her, but no one will listen.



High School

COME ON IN: 15 STORIES ABOUT IMMIGRATION AND FINDING HOME

SHORT STORY ANTHOLOGY

GRADE 8+

15 short stories written by popular YA authors feature the immigrant experience. Happily, not all of the stories involve immigrating to the US and the cast of characters are diverse on a number of fronts, including sexual orientation.



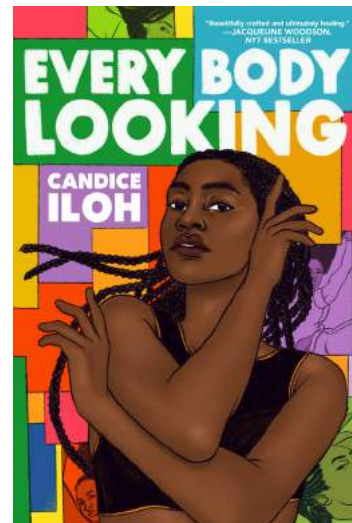
EVERY BODY LOOKING

ILOH, CANDICE

REALISTIC FICTION (NOVEL IN VERSE)

GRADE 8+

Having moved away from home to start university, Ada is in the novel position of deciding how she wants to live. Growing up, she was raised with strict Christian values, which encouraged women to be subservient. This led to her keeping quiet about being sexually assaulted and ignoring her love of dance. As she explores her new freedom, Ada begins to process her trauma and to decide who she will be.



LEGENDBORN

DEONN, TRACY

FANTASY

GRADE 8+

After the sudden death of her mother, Bree decided to attend a boarding school. She wants to be far away from reminders of her mom. Instead, she ends up discovering a secret society that fights demons and uncovers magically suppressed memories of the night her mom died.



THE EXTRAORDINARIES

KLUNE, TJ

ROMANCE/FANTASY

In a world where superheroes exist, Nick is obsessed with one superhero in particular: Shadow Star. He even writes thinly-veiled fanfiction about him. When he is rescued from a mugging by his heroic crush, Nick decides that it's time to become a hero himself. Full of humour and plenty of campy tropes.



SIA MARTINEZ AND THE MOONLIT BEGINNING OF EVERYTHING

VASQUEZ GILLILAND, RAQUEL

SCIENCE FICTION

GRADE 9+

Sia's mother was deported to Mexico three years ago and, everyone assumes, died trying to come back across the desert. When Sia witnesses a spacecraft bearing her long-lost mother, she is thrust into a high-stakes conspiracy and faces numerous dangers as she tries to rescue her parent.



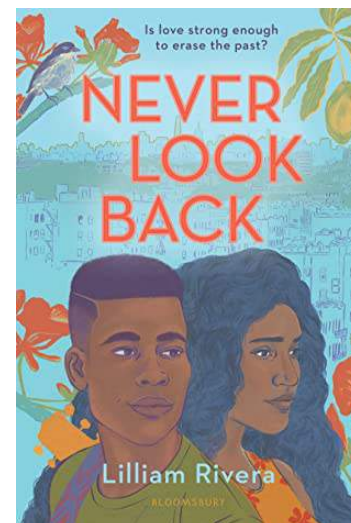
NEVER LOOK BACK

RIVERA, LILLIAM

ROMANCE/FANTASY

GRADE 9+

A modern retelling of Eurydice and Orpheus. Pheus, a gifted musician, is powerfully drawn to Eury. Dogged by a demon who hurts everything and everyone that she cares for, Eury is reluctant to engage with Pheus at all. When she is taken to the underworld, Pheus must use all of the talent and resources at his disposal to save his love.



THE FALLING IN LOVE MONTAGE

SMYTH, CIARA

ROMANCE

GRADE 10+

Saoirse doesn't believe in love, especially for herself. Why let herself or someone else get hurt? When she meets Beth, who is visiting Ireland from England, Saoirse is tempted but resolute. Then Beth suggests that they spend the summer doing every rom-com cliché they can think of and then, at the end, part ways — no strings. Is this a perfect plan or will feelings get in the way?



Sadie Tucker is a Children's Librarian with the Vancouver Public Library.

MENTAL HEALTH REALITIES IN VIRTUAL SPACES FOR TEENS: A WORKSHOP

BY STEPHANIE USHER, ALYSE HEBERT, AND ANDREA LUKIC

When we began to have conversations for a YAACS professional development opportunity, we knew we wanted to touch on how libraries are creating (or have the potential to create) virtual spaces, not just programs, for teens in a challenging and unpredictable time. And so we set out to seek the more nuanced ways library staff provide space for teens, whether through virtual programs, social media, take-and-make projects, etc. We also thought about ways to help the teens in our community find, build, and maintain social connections in a time when we're told to socially distance.

On February 17, we welcomed 18 public library staff from all over the province, representing a variety of library systems from urban to rural, as well as a staff member from a school library, to think about the teens in their community. We shared ideas and discussed educational practices for social emotional learning that we can incorporate into virtual teen programming. These practices, which create a foundation in building connections, include:

- **Create welcoming rituals** – engage in open-ended community building that allow for interactions that create connections between one another and the program material, like opening check-ins or prompts
- **Use engaging practices** – provide opportunities for individual reflection and small group interactions that encourage thinking, sharing, and listening such as a partnered discussion or a group share out

- **Use optimistic closures** - take time to reflect about the participation and identify the next steps and follow ups, and make real world connections; for example sharing what sparks one's curiosity or brings joy

We also wanted to highlight providing a space for teens to be themselves. We invite opportunities for library staff to encourage teens to utilize their various character strengths, to imagine their best selves, to explore their purpose, their identities, and contribute to their community; for example, with teen-led programming.

Participants were broken off into breakout rooms with different discussion questions and then brought back for a larger discussion. Some of the questions were:

- What behaviours and attitudes are you noticing in teens in your libraries? And how have those changed pre-COVID and during COVID?
- What could your library be doing to better support teens during the pandemic and what are the barriers? If you were allowed to make one change or gift your library one resource what would it be? (This can be programs, services, resources that you wish to offer)
- As you may know by now, mindfulness practices have been proven to show that they have positive impacts on our cognitive and emotional wellbeing. As program facilitators, how do we incorporate and model mindfulness practices into our virtual programming?

●FEATURES


We were able to share interesting ideas and talked about ways to continue to form connections with teens in the community such as the use of Discord, exploring video game programming, the pros and cons of screen time, and more. We created a resource handout for participants with articles and further information on social emotional learning and teen mental health.

Some takeaways for the facilitators are: host a program during the day, skip the introductions, jump into the discussion, and check that the Google Drive links work properly (Oh the joys of technology!).

We're excited to explore other pro-d opportunities and happy to share our resource lists as well.

Alyse Hebert, Andrea Lukic, and Stephanie Usher are the YAACS Continuing Ed Coordinators for Teens who work in Teen Services in the Lower Mainland for Burnaby Public Library and Vancouver Public Library.

YAACS presents mental health realities in virtual spaces for teens



Join us for this collaborative session where we will guide discussions around virtual services and social connection, including how we can explore tools and technology to reach youth who are underserved.

**wednesday, february 17, 2021
from 7:00 to 8:30pm
via zoom**

register by emailing
stephanie.usher@vpl.ca

FROM APPLE PIES TO ASTRONAUTS: A CHRONOLOGY OF ALPHABET BOOKS WITH APHORISMS, AMUSEMENTS, AND ANECDOTES – PART TWO

Revisiting the curated display created for iSchool@UBC LIBR594 – Directed Study done in conjunction with UBC Library's Rare Books and Special Collections.

Adapted from the exhibit and case labels written by Sarah Bagshaw & Laura Quintana. Exhibition poster = Jeff Porter Designs. All photographs from Sarah Bagshaw.

In February 2017 I mounted a display of alphabet books in the Rare Books and Special Collections library @ UBC. This was done with Laura for a directed study project under the supervision of Kathie Shoemaker and Chelsea Shriver. The display was opened in time for attendees of the Vancouver Children's Literature Round Table spring conference to visit on their breaks (held in Irving K. Barber building where Rare Books is). We had so much fun researching the development of children's literature, ABC books, picture book illustration, and looking at some incredibly old books as well as many new ones. I thought I could share some of the writing and images from this display in a multi-part series with YAACing members as a welcome distraction from our Covid-influenced lives.

Our journey continues through the alphabet with the case representing D, E, and F - and the Mid-Victorian era.

D E F



● FEATURES

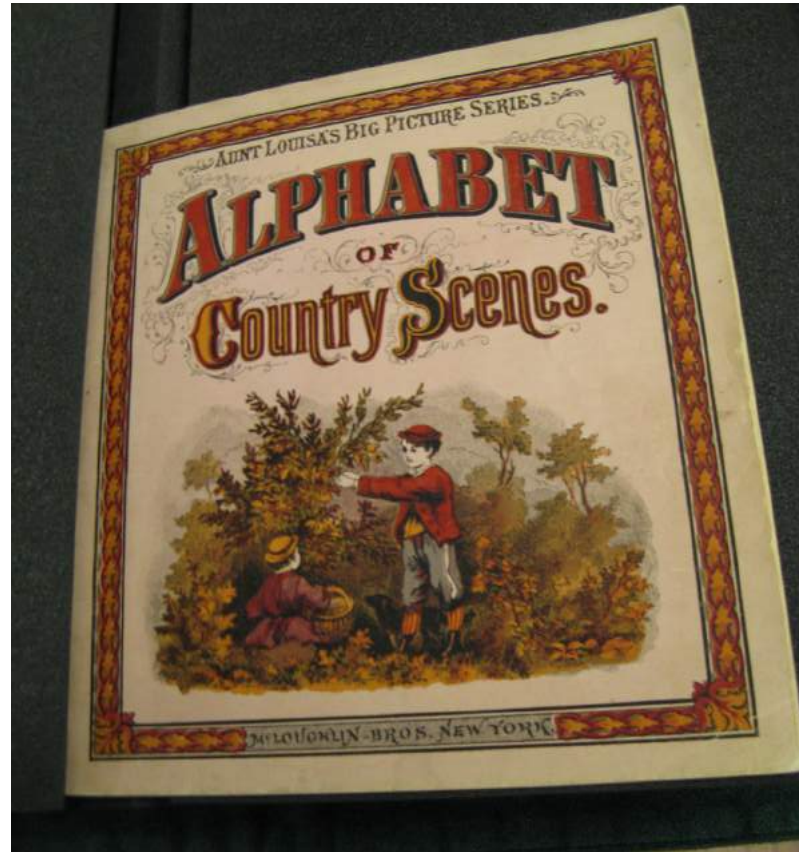
The second case illustrated the great change of the Victorian era. As the Age of Enlightenment moved into the era of the Industrial Revolution, lower middle class and many newly middle class families could afford to send their children to school instead of putting them to work. The increase in children of the lower classes attending charity schools or having private lessons in a teacher's home created a demand for more books. This demand, along with technological advances in printing, resulted in an increase in the publication of materials for young children.

The changes in printing and publishing brought on by the Industrial Revolution meant that books for children could now contain more complicated illustrations in colour and be mass produced. While social, moral, religious, and political flavours were still present, they were slowly replaced by tones of imagination and romanticism. Fairy-tales, adventure stories, and poetry were now published for children. This ability to mass produce affordable books allowed publishers to create “toy books” for learning and entertainment of the young. These books became illustrated objects to play with.

Many of these “toy books” were published by George Routledge & Co. and Frederick Warne & Co. These two publishing companies worked extensively with Edmund Evans, an engraver and printer who used oil colours and woodblocks. Evans commissioned artists like Randolph Caldecott, Walter Crane, and Kate Greenaway to create illustrations for many different types of children's books. There was a great variety available to young readers, from simple alphabet workbooks to lavishly illustrated nursery rhyme ABCs.

Case Two representing D E F (See photo) contained the following items plus extra information about a few:

- *Edith's Alphabet*. London: Frederick Warne & Co, 1866
- *Alphabet of Country Scenes*. New York: McLoughlin Bros, 1873.



◇ Many alphabet books portrayed familiar images of daily life. The pictures in this book show middle-class pastoral scenes paired with simple rhyming verses and large bold featured letters.

- Crane, Walter. *Walter Crane's Absurd A.B.C.* London: George Routledge & Sons Ltd, 1874.

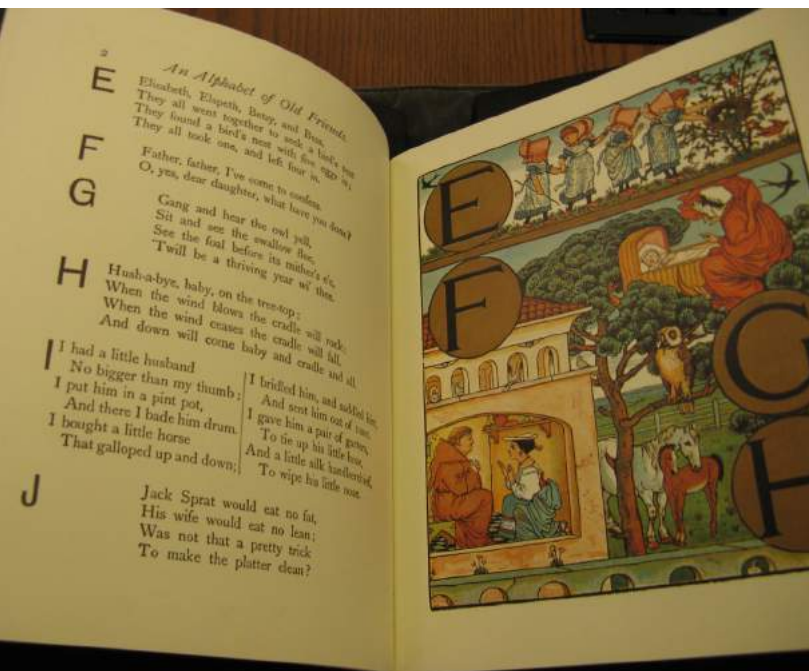
◇ Walter Crane (1845-1915) was born in Liverpool to a family of illustrators and publishers. He began work as a wood engraver, but then went on to a prolific career in the arts: designing, creating, and educating. Part of the Arts and Crafts movement of the late 1800s, Crane served as principal of the Royal College of Art in 1898. He produced ceramic designs



for pottery companies, including Wedgwood and created wallpaper designs for Jeffrey and Co. He worked in a variety of fields including: textiles, stained glass, furniture, and metalwork. Japanese woodblock prints influenced his style and is particularly noticeable in his children's book illustrations and designs.

- ◇ In 1865 he began working with the engraver and printer Edmund Evans illustrating for a series of “toy books”. It is the work for which he is remembered to this day. Crane was a pioneer in the realm of full-colour picture books for children and was one of the early illustrators to use the double-page spread for one piece of art. His children's books were so popular that William Morris commissioned Crane to design nursery wallpaper. Crane believed that illustration in literature for children was important and helped to foster learning.

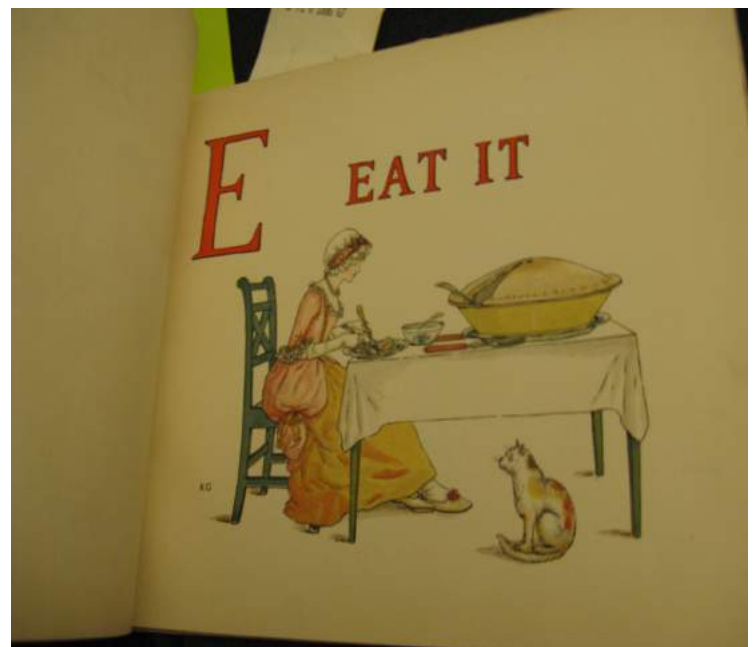
- ◇ Crane, Walter. *Mother Goose. The Alphabet of Old Friends*. Tokyo: Holp Shuppan, 1981. (Originally published 1875)



Greenaway, Kate. *Kate Greenaway's Alphabet*. London: George Routledge & Sons Ltd, 1885

- ◇ Kate Greenaway (1846-1901) was born in London but spent large portions of her childhood in the small country village of Rolleston. Greenaway was schooled in art at the Female School of Art in South Kensington and at the Slade School. She illustrated a variety of material but is most famous for her children's books. Introduced to Edmund Evans by her father, she joined Walter Crane and Randolph Caldecott in writing and illustrating many of the “toy books” that Routledge and Warne published to great acclaim.

- Greenaway, Kate. *A Apple Pie*. London: George Routledge & Sons Ltd, 1886.



- ◇ The matching of the letter, children's reactions in verbs, and the illustrations support letter learning and visual literacy in children. The familiarity of this rhyme, coupled with children in early 18th century dress, and scenery based on her childhood stays in the country, combined to make this an enduring classic. Greenaway's illustrations also led to a trend in children's fashion for the upper classes with Liberty of London using these images to design retail clothing.

- ◇ The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) established the Kate Greenaway Medal in 1955 in her name. It is awarded annually in the UK

●FEATURES

for distinguished illustration in a book for children.

D E F

To be continued in the next YAACing newsletter...

If you are interested in the full display text and accompanying bibliography, please email Sarah directly: Sarah.Bagshaw@vpl.ca

Sarah Bagshaw is a Children's Librarian at Vancouver Public Library, a book-lover, fibre enthusiast, gardener, and all-round geek.

Call for Submissions

YAACING is published quarterly and is always looking for submissions of interest to children's and teen specialists in BC libraries. We accept articles, program descriptions and ideas, conference reports, reviews, felt stories and more. If you would like to write a regular column, send us a brief pitch. Submissions should be no more than 1500 words, and sent in an editable format (not PDF). Please include a byline with your job title and workplace; for students, please include a byline with your school/program.

YAACING invites your contributions to our Reviews and Felt Story sections.

Reviews: Please send us reviews of books, blogs, websites, or other resources. Submissions should be no more than 300 words. Longer reviews may be considered for publication as featured articles.

Felt Stories: Share your creativity! YAACING is looking for felt story patterns. Submissions should include a printable pattern, photograph of the finished product, and related rhyme or note about the origin of the story.

The deadline for the next issue of YAACING is May 15th, 2021. Please email your submissions to the editors at YAACING@gmail.com.

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