

# YAACING



*Spring 2016*

BCLA LGBTQ  
Interest Group  
Blog

Program:  
If You Give a  
Kid a Muffin

Booklist:  
Canadian  
Immigration:  
Understanding  
Ourselves and  
Others



# YAACING

Spring 2016



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## Call for Submissions

YAACS (Young Adults and Children's Services) is a section of the British Columbia Library Association. Founded in 1980, our members include librarians, teacher-librarians and other library workers interested in services to youth in British Columbia. Our purpose is to promote the exchange of ideas among library personnel who work with children and young adults.

YAACING is published 4 times per year.

**Editors:**  
Alicia Cheng  
Jane Whittingham

**Art Director:** Afton Schindel

If you are interested in submitting anything for publication, send it to [yaacing@gmail.com](mailto:yaacing@gmail.com)

Next Deadline: **May 15, 2016**

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Does it seem to anyone else that the children's departments of our libraries are becoming more and more popular? I'm sure location has much to do with this – I work in a library surrounded by new condo towers seemingly sprouting like mushrooms – but I'm curious if others have seen increased crowds. I know that at least in the Lower Mainland, people are being squeezed into smaller and smaller residential spaces, and libraries become their living rooms and indoor playgrounds.

The role of Children's and Teen Services has if anything become even more crucial as funds for our public schools become a smaller and represent a smaller percentage of our provincial budget. It's important that library systems, sometimes preoccupied with getting on the latest cutting-edge bandwagons, don't lose sight of the central role youth services play in the lives of the public, and in turn in the public's support of libraries. This year, our current Vice Chair Kristen Rumohr served on the Program Committee evaluating proposals for sessions at the 2016 BC Library Conference.

A much more important aspect of Kristen's life, her impending maternity leave, has compelled her to remove herself from our normal "chain of succession" at YAACS (one year as Vice Chair, one year as Chair, one year as Past Chair). As I write this we are currently looking for nominations from those inclined to step into the roles of Chair and Vice Chair beginning after the Conference in May. We also need a Red Cedar Representative.

Meanwhile, great things have been happening! Our social media presence continues to grow on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest. Our Continuing Education committees put together a well-attended workshop, Get Graphic, in Vancouver, with attendees from as far away as Squamish! Vancouver Island will host a Youth Services Professional Development Day in Courtenay in April, and we'll see a session on makerspaces for teens in the Lower Mainland later this spring.

I've really enjoyed serving as Chair this year, and look forward to continue participating in our effort to represent the large "footprint" of children's and teen services on our profession!

Jon Scop  
YAACS Chair  
[jon.scop@bpl.bc.ca](mailto:jon.scop@bpl.bc.ca)

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

After another long winter, spring is starting to return to communities across British Columbia. Green is slowly replacing brown and white as the dominant colour in our environments, as grass and trees return to life and flowers start emerging from the earth.

Spring has traditionally been seen as a time of change, and nowhere is this truer than here at YAACING. We're saying farewell (for now at least!) to one of our columnists, Kaitlyn Vecchio, and wishing her all the best as she starts her maternity leave. And we're welcoming a new editor, Jane Whittingham, to the YAACING team.

We've got some great articles this issue that will hopefully inspire you this spring as you embark on new adventures at your library.

Alicia Cheng and Jane Whittingham  
YAACING Editors  
[yaacing@gmail.com](mailto:yaacing@gmail.com)

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# Summer Reading Club

Welcome to the 2016 BC Summer Reading Club!

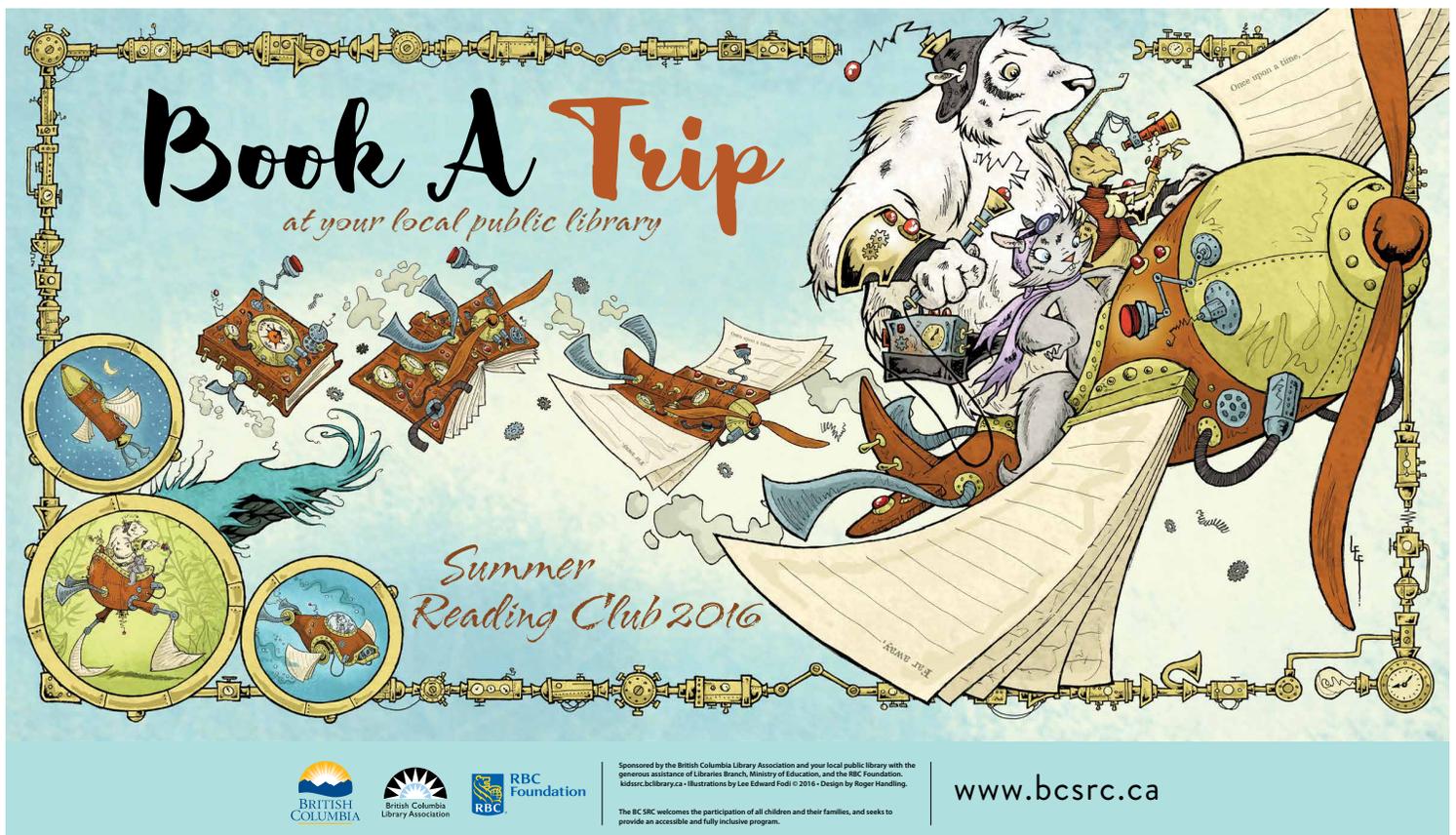
Fun, imaginative and a little fantastical, our 2016 artist, [Lee Edward Fodi](#) has done a fantastic job of realizing this year's theme: *Book a Trip!*

## The Poster

Meet our three travellers: Engineer Polar Bear (PB, for short), Navigator (Travel Bug, of course), and our Pilot, the Flying Squirrel (Amelia Squirrel-hart, anyone?!). One glance and it's clear that these three have seen some things, done some things, and are ready for... anything!

On the left, you'll notice a grassy launch pad and nearby, a curious-looking book covered in dials, knobs, buttons, and gadgets. With the push of a button and a liberal dash of sound effects (we like "sputter", "rattle", "bang", and "whoosh", but feel free to use whatever you have on hand!), the book is transformed into a marvelous flying-machine. Once again, our three travelers are off!

The stories our travelers can tell! Happily for us, a few snapshots from previous trips adorn the steampunk-style frame: there's the time they explored outer space... the time they went deep-sea diving... oh, and the summer they trekked through the jungle!



# The Reading Record and Stickers

The cover of the 2016 Reading Record is the portal to a summer of travel! In the centre, a large compass is marked with the four cardinal points: Here, There, Near and Far. Fact is, there's no place this magical book won't go, be it around the planet or around the corner, back to the past or into the future... or to a new world altogether! Best of all, you only need to *Book a Trip!* to get there!

And, of course, whoever's name is on the front of the Reading Record naturally becomes the author of their own summer travelogue.

Each postcard-style panel of the reading record features another chapter in the travels of our three friends: PB, Travel Bug, and Amelia Squirrel. Whether they are hot-air ballooning, visiting friends in outer space, or transforming their way out of a prickly situation, we know adventure is close at hand!



As always, on the back of each of the seven weekly panels there is room for kids to log their daily reading by recording titles, pages, or minutes read, or simply by colouring in the icons.

For extra fun, we've included an interactive element on the eighth panel. A small drawing prompt invites kids to transform the magical book and take a trip fuelled by their own imaginations. When kids *Book a Trip!*, the



Lee Edward Fodi is the author and illustrator of award-winning children's books, including the *Chronicles of Kendra Kandelstar*. He lives in Vancouver with his wife and unhelpful cat. He loves traveling the world, exploring exotic places.

To learn more about Lee and his work, please visit [www.leeefodi.com](http://www.leeefodi.com)

**Take a trip to BCSRC.CA for more fun things to do this summer!**

Sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association and your local public library. For more information, visit [www.library.ca](http://www.library.ca), the Ministry of Education, and the BCC Foundation - [bcsrc.library.ca](http://bcsrc.library.ca)

Illustrations by Lee Edward Fodi © 2016. Design by Roger Handberg.

destinations are, of course, endless!

In the top right-hand corner of the weekly recording panels, an outline is ready to be filled in with a sticker (just like a stamp on a postcard!). You may have noticed there's only room for 6 stickers, instead of the usual 7. It's not a mistake!

The first sticker will be used to complete the compass. (You'll notice, too, that the centre of the compass is greyed out a little.) By completing the compass, kids can *activate* their own portal book and see where it takes them!

## Wish You Were Here!

Once again, our amazing graphic designer, Roger Handling, has designed a special bonus for the BC SRC! This year's bonus is a "Book a Trip" postcard!

On the front of the postcard, a black and white drawing prompt invites children to draw and colour our three travellers into a new adventure. What vehicle will the magical book be transformed into? Where will it go? Who will our travellers meet along the way?

On the back of the postcard, kids are invited to write and tell someone about a great book they've read this summer. They might mail the postcard to a friend or grandparent, or address it to "Dear Reader" and have it displayed as part of one of your summer programs.

This item will be included in your Core Package, with quantities equal to your reading records. You are welcome to use them in any way that best suits your community: you might hand one out to each child who participates, use them as prizes for programs or community events, or create an entire program around them! We very much look forward to seeing what you choose to do!

The BC Summer Reading Club would never be able to go anywhere without the incredible talents and hard work of some amazing people:

**Kate Adams of Richmond Public Library**  
(Committee Chair)

**Emily Olsen of Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System** (In-Coming Committee Chair)

**Victor Or of Surrey Public Library**  
(Content Creator)

**Anne Martin of Vancouver Public Library**  
(Content Creator)

## Book A Trip at your local public library



**Christine Conroy of Fraser Valley Regional Library**  
(Content Creator)

**Susan McCowan of Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System** (Content Creator)

**Morgan Peltier of Fort St. John Public Library**  
(Content Creator)

**Tina Lee of Burnaby Public Library**  
(Content Creator)

**Julie Carter of Vancouver Island Regional Library**  
(Content Creator)

**Roger Handling, Terra Firma Digital Arts**  
(Graphic Designer)

**Neil Firkins, BC Libraries Co-op** (Web Design)

**Mari Martin, Director, Libraries Branch,**  
**Ministry of Education**

**Michael Burriss and the staff at Interlink**

**Allie Douglas, Office Manager, BCLA**

**Angie Ayupova, Admin Assistant, BCLA**

**Annette DeFaveri, Executive Director, BCLA**

*The BC Summer Reading Club is sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association and public libraries throughout British Columbia, with support from the Province of British Columbia, through Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education, and the RBC Foundation.*

Cynthia Ford  
SRC Coordinator  
[bsrc@bclibrary.ca](mailto:bsrc@bclibrary.ca)

# Stellar Award Update

## The Stellar Awards are back!

The Stellar Award, B.C.'s Teen Reader's Choice Award, is back! After a two year hiatus in which a winner was not declared, the 2015/16 Stellar Award looks to make a comeback and promises to be better than ever. With a renewed focus on social media through our new Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr accounts, we're working to generate renewed interest in the award. Several public libraries in the Lower Mainland have joined our efforts by reading the nominated books with their Teen Advisory Group, and at least one high school on Vancouver Island is running a Stellar Awards campaign. We think this is all great news for our rebuilding year, and are confident we will be declaring a winner in style this spring!

The Stellar Award celebrates Canadian Young Adult literature, and is an opportunity for youth to discover Canadian authors and connect with their peers across the province. The award is entirely volunteer-driven, and it is only made possible through the support of public libraries and schools across B.C. That's where you come in!

Voting takes place April 18-22, and we would love to have teens from your community participate in our award process by submitting short book reviews. Please [contact us](#) for ways to get involved, and encourage the teens in your life follow us on social media. Also, watch for the launch of our brand new website coming very soon!



[@StellarAward](#)



[stellarbookaward](#)



[stellaraward.tumblr.com](#)

# Red Cedar Awards Gala

The annual gala for the Red Cedar Awards will take place on May 7th in the Alma VanDusen room of the Vancouver Public Library's Central Library. The Young Reader's Choice Award (YRCA) Society of BC committee is very excited to announce that the following Red Cedar nominees will be attending the event:

## **Fiction**

Dan Bar-el, author of *Audrey (Cow)*; Tundra.

Becky Citra, author of *Finding Grace*; Second Story Press.

Glen Huser, author of *The Elevator Ghost*; Groundwood Books.

Kate Jaimet, author of *Dunces Rock*; Orca.

Richard Scrimger, author of *Zomboy*; Harper Collins.

## **Non-fiction**

Nick Gray and Laura Scandiffio, author of *Escape from Tibet*; Annick Press.

Michelle Mulder, author of *Every Last Drop: Bringing clean water home*; Orca.

Nikki Tate and Dani Tate-Stratton, authors of *Take Shelter: At home around the world*; Orca.

Kira Vermond and Julie McLaughlin, authors *Why We Live Where We Live*; Owl kids.

We are also very happy to announce that Kidsbooks will be supporting and attending the gala, ensuring that copies of the nominated titles will be available to purchase on the spot by attendees.

Keep up to date with the latest Red Cedar activities on our [blog!](#)

Cathy Mount  
Chair, Red Cedar Award  
[redcedaraward@gmail.com](mailto:redcedaraward@gmail.com)

# BCLA LGBTQ Interest Group Blog

On behalf of the BCLA LGBTQ Interest Group, we'd like to introduce YAACS members to our exciting new [website](#).

We've launched this website in the hopes that it will enable our group to:

- Reach out to LGBTQ library staff throughout British Columbia,
- Provide resources for LGBTQ library staff and allies working to create safe and welcoming spaces within our communities,
- Advocate for LGBTQ library staff and community members in our province.

We will be regularly posting engaging and informative content on our blog, including:

- Book reviews and recommended reads/views/listens
- Examples of community-led work or community voices from across B.C.
- Spotlights on what other provinces are doing to serve LGBTQ communities
- Information on relevant, topical issues facing libraries and LGBTQ communities today
- Interviews with an interesting and diverse group of individuals
- And more!

Working with children, teens, and families is a vital aspect of providing services to LGBTQ patrons within our communities, and our website will hopefully offer resources and content that will support YAACS members in their work and professional development.

As well, we encourage YAACS members to consider contributing content to our website. Do you know about a great LGBTQ community resource in your area? Have you heard about a new LGBTQ program or initiative at a library within B.C. or around the world? Is there an issue or question that you'd like to discuss with your library peers? Get in touch! We would love to hear from you.

We look forward to connecting with everyone, and welcome you to join us on this new adventure.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Krabbenhoft and Jane Whittingham  
Co-Convenors, BCLA LGBTQ Interest Group  
[lmkrabbenhoft@gmail.com](mailto:lmkrabbenhoft@gmail.com); [janekwhittingham@gmail.com](mailto:janekwhittingham@gmail.com)

# Get Graphic! YAACS Continuing Education Graphic Novel Workshop

Thanks to all those who attended the recent Get Graphic panel presented by the YAACS Continuing Education Committee. Our awesome graphic novel experts were Natalie Schembri, Virginia McCree, and James McCann. Please email Tina Lee at [tina.lee@bpl.bc.ca](mailto:tina.lee@bpl.bc.ca) if you would like copies of the presentation slides or handouts. Participants discussed and learned all about the exciting world of graphic novels, and came away with some great ideas for incorporating graphic novels into library programming. A portion of the event was filmed and will be posted on the YAACS YouTube Channel soon. To learn more about upcoming events, remember to join the YAACS mailing list and connect with us on social media.



[www.facebook.com/bcyaacs](http://www.facebook.com/bcyaacs)



[youtube.com/user/YAACSweb](http://youtube.com/user/YAACSweb)



[twitter.com/YAACSBC](http://twitter.com/YAACSBC)



[www.pinterest.com/yaacs](http://www.pinterest.com/yaacs)

[YAACS BCLA website.](#)

Or join the YAACS mailing list by subscribing [here.](#)



icons by Ruslan Corel

See you at our next event!

Cheers,  
Dana, Jane, Tina  
YAACS Continuing Education Committee  
[yaacsbc@gmail.com](mailto:yaacsbc@gmail.com)

## KAITLYN'S PROGRAMMING CORNER

**Sing It Babies!**

By Kaitlyn Vecchio

I've decided to write an article sharing my favourite songs & rhymes from my babytime programs. I thought this was a fitting topic, as this will be my last column for Kaitlyn's Programming Corner for a year, as I'm going to be on maternity leave! Babytime is one of my favourite programs. It's a great way for the library to create a social environment for new moms and their babies to connect with each other. It's also amazing how much babies change in just a year's time, so watching them grow and change over the 12 months they attend the program is amazing. Here are some of my favourite babytime songs. I have a bunch more, so if you're interested send me an [email](#), and I'll be happy to share! Enjoy!

**TICKLE & ACTION SONGS****Wake Up Toes**

Wake up toes (2X)

Wake up toes and wiggle wiggle wiggle

Wake up toes (2X)

Wake and wiggle in the morning.

**Slowly, Slowly**Slowly, slowly, very slowly (*walk fingers up arm slowly*)

Creeps the garden snail.

Slowly, slowly, very slowly

Up the wooden rail.

Quickly, quickly, very quickly (*run fingers up arm*)

Runs the little mouse.

Quickly, quickly, very quickly

Round about the house.

**Five Fat Peas**

Five fat peas in a pea pod press

One grew

Two grew

And so did all the rest

They grew and they grew

They did not stop

Until one day the peas went...POP! (*Clap during pop*)**Kissy Kissy Baby**

Kissy kissy fingers, Kissy kissy toes

Kissy kissy baby on his Kissy kissy nose

I love to kiss your fingers, I love to kiss your toes

I love to kiss my baby on his kissy kissy nose

**BOUNCING SONGS****Dickery Dean**What is the matter with Dickery Dean? (*Bounce*)

He jumped right into the washing machine!

*(Let child fall between your knees)*

Chug, chug, chug, chug

Chug, chug, chug, chug (*Agitator motion*)Nothing's the matter with Dickery Dean (*Bounce*)

He dove in dirty, and he jumped out clean!

*(Lift baby down and up.)***A Hippopotamus**

A hip, a hip, a hippopotamus

Got on, got on, got on a city bus

And all, and all, and all the people said,

"You're squishing us!" (*hug baby*)

A sheep, a sheep, a sheep got on a city bus

and all, and all, and all the people said,

"Baaaack up!" (*lean back*)

A cow, a cow, a cow got on a bus

And all, and all, and all the people said,

"Mooooove over!" (*Lean to the side*)

### **The Bouncing Mouse**

Boing boing squeak!  
Boing boing squeak!  
A bouncing mouse is in my house  
He's been here for a week.  
He bounces in the kitchen  
and he bounces in the den  
He bounces in the living room  
Catch him if you can!

### **ZOOM ZOOM ZOOM**

Zoom zoom zoom we're going to the moon  
Zoom zoom zoom we're going to the moon  
If you'd like to take a trip, climb aboard my rocket  
ship  
Zoom zoom zoom we're going to the moon  
5, 4, 3, 2, 1, BLAST OFF!

### **STANDING SONGS**

#### **Mama's Little Baby Loves Dancing**

Mama's little baby loves dancing, dancing  
Mama's little baby loves to turn around.  
Mama's little baby loves dancing, dancing  
Mama's little baby loves to boogie on down  
Lean to the left,  
Lean to the right  
Hug that baby nice and tight!  
Lean to the left  
Lean to the right  
Hug that baby nice and tight!  
Mama's little baby loves dancing, dancing  
Mama's little baby loves to turn around.  
Mama's little baby loves dancing, dancing  
Mama's little baby loves to boogies on down.

#### **The Cuckoo Clock**

Tick tock, tick tock, I'm a little cuckoo clock  
*(Swing side to side)*  
Tick tock, tick tock, it is one o'clock  
Cuckoo *(Bend down with baby)*  
Continue with two, three, four, five... o'clock.

### **LULLABIES**

#### **I See The Moon**

I see the moon, the moon sees me  
under the leaves of the old oak tree  
please let the moon that shines on me  
shine on the ones I love.  
Over the mountain, over the sea,  
back where my heart is longing to be  
Please let the moon that shines on me  
shine on the ones I love.

#### **Sailing, Sailing**

Sailing, sailing, over the water,  
Sailing, sailing over the sea  
Sailing, sailing over the ocean  
Sail back home to me

#### **May There Always Be Sunshine**

May there always be sunshine  
May there always be blue skies  
May there always be mama  
May there always be me

#### **Yo Te Amo**

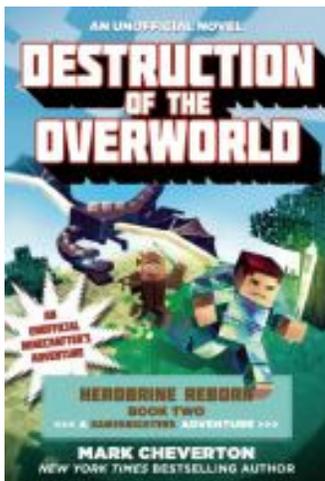
Yo te amo, yo te amo  
All day long I sing this little song to you  
Yo te amo, yo te amo  
Darling I love you

*Kaitlyn Vecchio is a Children's Librarian at the  
Prince George Public Library.*

# JUNIOR JIVE

By Alise Nelson

Minecraft. If you have children, or work with them in any capacity, you've probably heard of this game. And you have probably also heard of the wildly popular *Gameknight999* series of novels by Mark Cheverton. With 10 *Gameknight* books published, and another five on the way by January 2017, the Minecraft book craze shows no sign of slowing down. Here are a few of my favourite middle grade Minecraft or video game related series, as well as some suggestions for computer based Science Fiction novels. Ideas for a feature series, perhaps?



## 1. *Gameknight999* series by Mark Cheverton

After Cheverton's son was a victim of cyber bullying, he wrote the first of his series, *Invasion of the Overworld*, as a way to help teach kids about cyber bullying, and its effects on others.

Each three book sub-series includes a different message for kids including the importance of friendship, managing responsibilities, getting along with siblings and father/son relationships. So far, there are three complete sub-series called *Gameknight999*, *Mystery of Herobrine*, and *Herobrine Reborn*. This year will see the completion of *Herobrine's Revenge* and the *Birth of Herobrine*.



## 2. *Unofficial Gamer's Guide* series by Winter Morgan

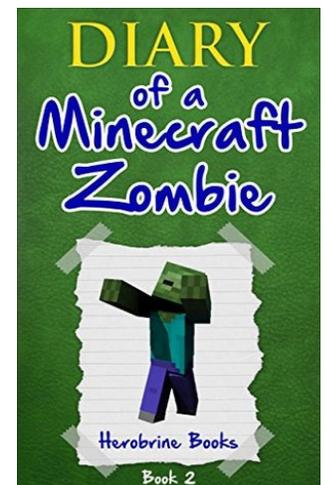
Winter Morgan is the pseudonym for an elusive author who supposedly lives in New York with a Minecraft loving son. While some have complained that books themselves are too simply written, they are quick

paced and full of adventure. Minecraft lovers will be delighted by the helpful tips and hints the author drops throughout the pages.

## 3. *Diary of a Minecraft Zombie* series by Herobrine Books

A veritable wealth of Minecraft based literature, Herobrine Books brings us its take on the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, but with zombies. It's definitely a

fluff series, but an incredibly funny one. Herobrine Books is also the creator of Minecraft tributes *Steve Potter*, *Galaxy Wars*, *The Mobbitt*, and *Interview with an Enderman*, although hopefully that particular title goes over the heads of its intended audience. I'm choosing to highlight *Diary of a Minecraft Zombie* because it is by far the most lengthy of their series, currently standing at nine books, but also because it is available in paperback format as opposed to Kindle only.



#### 4. Hero's Sword series by M.E. Sutton

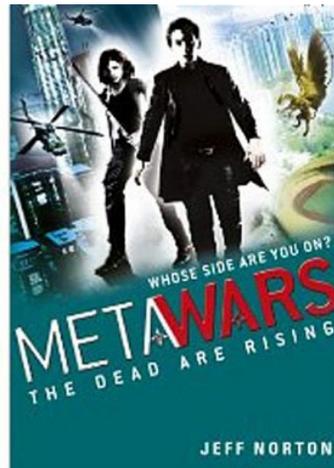


Who says gaming isn't for girls? As a bullied 13 year old, Jaycee Hiller often wishes she could transport herself out of her life and into her favourite video game. When she picks up a magic video game controller her wish come true! What happens when you go from holding a plastic

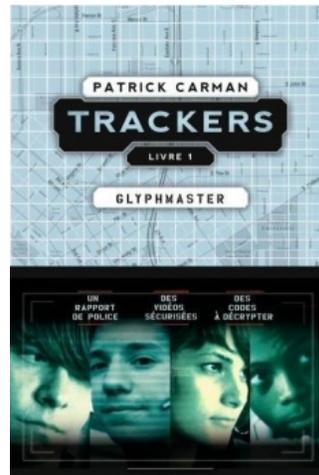
controller to holding a real sword? As Jaycee grows and becomes the hero of her own game, she also develops life skills for the real world.

#### 5. MetaWars series by Jeff Norton

This series is for lovers of the movie *Tron*. Warring factions, called Millennials and Guardians, are in a brutal battle over control of the Metaspere, an online virtual world. When Jonah assumes his deceased father's avatar and enters the virtual world, he realizes that the lines between the factions are much blurrier than he'd initially thought. *MetaWars* is a fast paced thrill ride of a series that will entice kids to put down their controllers and pick up a book. This series leans more towards the upper side of the Juniors age range. As an added bonus, Jeff Norton is Canadian.



#### 6. Trackers by Patrick Carman

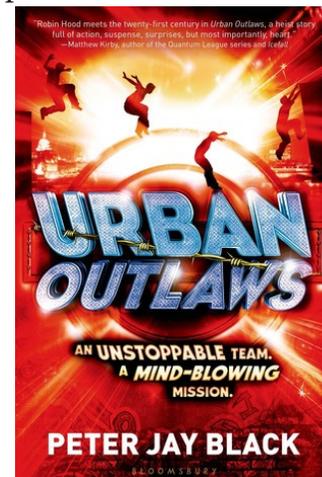


*Trackers* follows the story of four kids as they become entangled in a high-tech game of cat and mouse with a dangerous hacker. Told through interrogation transcripts, Carman uses a multi-media format that combines printed text with online videos accessible by passwords

given throughout the books. Computer savvy kids will love all the references to hacking, coding and high tech gadgets. The combination of reading and videos may be a relief to kids who are more comfortable with screen time than just engaging with a printed page.

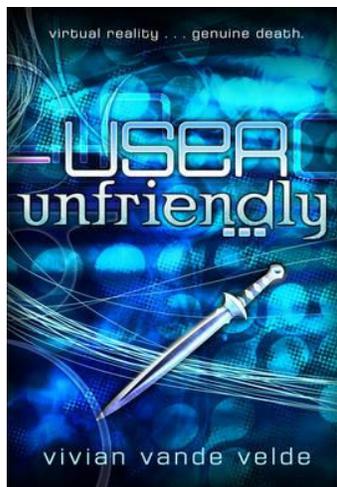
#### 7. Urban Outlaws series by Peter Jay Black

A modern day techno-Robin Hood story, *Urban Outlaws* follows the story of five genius orphan children linked by their shared sense of justice. Using their hacking skills to return stolen money, the kids soon find themselves in a battle to control a super computer called Proteus. Evil computers, super viruses, and gadgets galore fill the pages of this action-packed British series.



## 8. Rasmussem Corporation series by Vivian Vande Velde

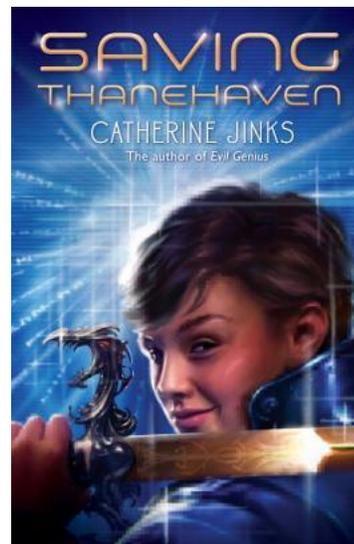
The first book (*User Unfriendly*) in Vande's Rasmussem Corporation series is a little dated, but *Heir Apparent* and *Deadly Pink* were published more recently and both feature female protagonists. The series takes place during a giant virtual reality game in which players plug the game into their brain and physically enter the action. In *Heir Apparent*, Giannine becomes trapped in the game and must complete the challenges in order to return to real life. But if her character in the game dies too many times, Giannine will also die in the real world. *Deadly Pink* follows the story of Grace who must enter a Rasmussem game in order to rescue her sister. Themes in this book are a little mature for younger Junior readers, but tweens and younger teens will enjoy the story.



the first book in the series could have benefitted from an additional read-over by an additional editor (this improves in subsequent books), the story itself is solid and contains enough twists and turns to generate substantial interest in picking up the next installment.

## 10. Saving Thanehaven by Catherine Jinks

Noble the Slayer is a computer game character, except he doesn't know it. When a piece of malware called Rufus convinces him of his own sentience, the two travel through the computer to gather allies in their bid for freedom. But things are never as simple as they seem and soon chaos descends on the world of Thanehaven. Jinks uses action and humour to teach readers about computer concepts such as data storage, file transfers and deleting files/programs.



Enjoy!



## 9. Elementia Chronicles series by Sean Fay Wolfe

Inspired by *The Hunter Games*, *Harry Potter* and *Avatar: the Last Airbender*, Wolfe completed the first book in the *Elementia Chronicles* when he was just 16 years old. As an avid gamer and budding game designer himself, Wolfe fills the pages of his debut novel with action, suspense and well developed characters. Although

*Alise Nelson is a Reader's Advisor and purchaser for the Juniors collection at the Prince George Public Library.*

DISPATCHES OF A RURAL LIBRARIAN

**Go Local!**

By Amy Dawley

One of the things I like best about living in a small community is the shared experience. In a small community like Gabriola, we all live in close proximity to one another and the island is like one big neighbourhood. In working with little people, this means that there is a solid shared experience on which I can draw from for storytime content and conversation starters with kids. For example, all Gabriolan children recognize and understand taking the ferry—it is a shared experience for them. They also all hear the barks of the sea lions and see the deer and wild turkeys wandering around our streets, yards, and gardens.

I'd like to share this storytime I made especially for the children of Gabriola as way to inspire you to think about what makes your own rural community special. Do you have resident moose or bears that people see all the time? Is there a really big hill, or perhaps a bridge that everyone will recognize? Consider celebrating your community by hosting a special locally-themed storytime just for your littles! They will be thrilled with the opportunity to share what they know about where they live.

**Welcome Song:**

*Hello and How Are You?*

**Warm Up Song:**

*Put Your Finger On Your Nose*

**Song (and/or On the Felt Board)**

*Did You Ever See a Turkey?*

(Credit: [Miss Sarah Storytime](#))

Did you ever see a turkey, a turkey, a turkey  
 Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?

With red ones and orange ones and yellow ones and brown ones

Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?

Did you ever see a turkey, a turkey, a turkey

Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?

With purple ones and green ones and pink ones and blue ones

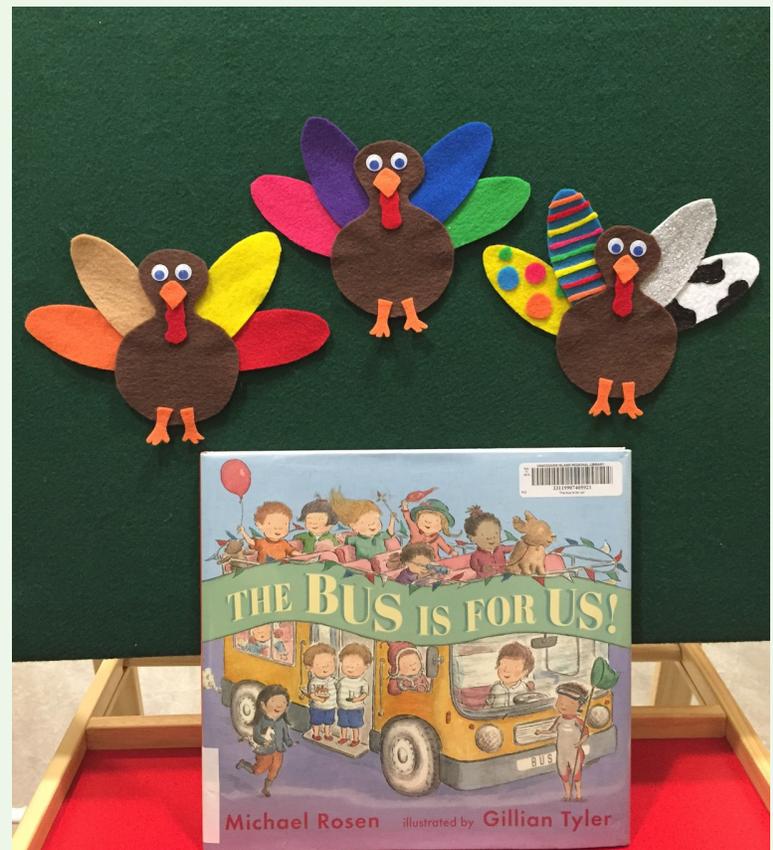
Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?

Did you ever see a turkey, a turkey, a turkey

Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?

With striped ones and dotted ones and sparkly ones and cow ones...?

Did you ever see a turkey with feathers so bright?



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**On the Felt Board:**

*There's Something in My Garden*  
(Credit: [SurLaLune Storytime](#))

There's something in my garden, now what can it be?  
There's something in my garden that I really can't see.  
Hear its funny sound... RIBBIT RIBBIT RIBBIT!  
A frog is what I found! RIBBIT RIBBIT RIBBIT.

There's something in my garden, now what can it be?  
There's something in my garden that I really can't see.  
Hear its funny sound... QUACK QUACK QUACK!  
A duck is what I found! QUACK QUACK QUACK!

There's something in my garden, now what can it be?  
There's something in my garden that I really can't see.  
Hear its funny sound... NIBBLE NIBBLE NIBBLE!  
A deer is what I found! NIBBLE NIBBLE NIBBLE!

**Book:**

*I'm a Turkey* by Jim Arnosky  
Gabriola has a few flocks of lovely wild turkeys that call our island home. This is a fantastic book that provides some great child-friendly facts about wild turkeys as part of the story.

**Standing Rhyme:**

*Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, Turn Around*

**Fingerplay:**

*2 Little Turkeys*  
(Patterned on *2 Little Blackbirds*)

2 little turkeys on the way to the ferry,  
One named Hank, and one named Harry.  
Get out of the way Hank! (Beep beep!) Gobble,  
gobble, gobble.  
Get out of the way Harry! (Beep beep!) Gobble,  
gobble, gobble.  
Come back Hank! Gobble, gobble, gobble.  
Come back Harry! Gobble, gobble, gobble.

**Book:**

*The Bus is For Us!* By Michael Rosen

Gabriola has a community bus service that is operated by volunteers called GERTIE. For many children, it is the only form of public transit, other than the ferry, that they have experienced. This is a great story that covers many forms of transportation like riding a bike, riding in a car, riding a horse, or being in a boat. The bus is celebrated as being special because it is for everyone.

**Fingerplay**

*Slowly, Slowly*  
(Credit: [Jbrary](#))

Slowly, slowly, very slowly  
Creeps the garden snail.  
Slowly, slowly, very slowly  
Up the garden rail.

Quickly, quickly, very quickly  
Runs the little mouse.  
Quickly, quickly, very quickly  
Into its little house!

**Goodbye Song:**

*It's Time to Say Goodbye*

If you'd like to bounce your own special locally-themed story time ideas off another person or need help brainstorming, I'd love to help! Drop me a line any time at 250-247-7878 or at [adawley@virl.bc.ca](mailto:adawley@virl.bc.ca).

*Amy Dawley is the Customer Services Librarian II at the Gabriola Island Branch of the Vancouver Island Regional Library. In 2013 Amy received the British Columbia Library Association's Young Adult and Children's Service Award in recognition of exceptional service to children and youth in British Columbia.*



# We'll Link to That!

By Dana Horrocks and Lindsey Krabbenhoft

Spring break is just around the corner, and we wanted to equip you with a range of independent programs to have in your children's space when kids come through your doors during the day. Also known as passive programs, these programs do not require a library staff person to supervise. They have no definitive start and end time other than when you put them out and take them down. Though most are geared towards school-age kids, younger ones can often participate with the help of an adult. Here are some of our favourite ideas!

## 1. SPRING BUNNY SCAVENGER HUNT

The cutest bunnies on the internet if you ask us. Hide these book character bunnies around your library and have kids find them and either write their names or draw their costumes. All files included - just print and go!

## 2. WHO HATCHES? SPRING SCAVENGER HUNT

Lisa at *Thrive After Three* is the queen of scavenger hunts. Her latest one features fish, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals all hiding within their eggs. Send your patrons on an egg hunt!

## 3. STORY ACTION PODS

*Bryce Don't Play* has shared a variety of different ways to get kids writing. Her Story Action pods present kids with a writing prompt and the tools of the trade (paper! pencils! crayons!). We especially love the [robot themed pod](#) based on *Boy + Bot* by Ame Dyckman.

## 4. POST OFFICE IN THE LIBRARY

Rebecca at *Sturdy for Common Things* set up an adorable post office station where kids can fill out postcards to send to another library branch, give to a friend, or respond to the question of the month. We love how she incorporated local history too.

## 5. TABLE TOP TIME

Sometimes it's the simplest of ideas that provide the aha! moment. *Hafuboti* shared this super easy drop-in activity that kids of any age can participate in. Cover tables with butcher paper and leave out drawing supplies. We recommend having a nice display of drawing and sketching books nearby for an added collection bonus.

## 6. TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES

This awesome program is basically an obstacle course crossed with a character party. Kids are encouraged to travel between stations and test their ninja skills like agility and composure all the while channeling the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles! It's easy on supplies but big on fun and Erin even shares extension

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activities if you want to build on the TMNT theme.

## 7. STORYWALKS

These were started in Vermont and refer to reproduced images from a picture book which have been displayed in an outdoor or indoor space for families to explore. Rebecca at Sturdy for Common Things put together an [incredible Halloween themed indoor storywalk](#), complete with activities which is well worth checking out. These can be a bit of work up front but are pure magic!

## 8. LIBRARY LEND A FRIEND

Especially fun around spring break or the summer holidays lend out popular characters (laminated of course!) and have your young readers report back about what they got up to with their new friend.

## 9. WEEKLY SHOWDOWN

While there are lots of great ideas in this post we love how simple yet engaging Angie's Weekly Showdown is. Post a provocative question like trains vs. planes in a highly visible spot and let your patrons decide!

## 10. 9 WEEKS OF POP-UP PROGRAMMING

This is a treasure chest of independent program ideas- try one or try them all! Amy had teen volunteers run the pop-up sessions, each one featured a maker activity suitable for preschoolers to middle schoolers.

Do you have a favourite passive program that we missed? We'd love to hear about it, give us a shout at [jbrary@gmail.com](mailto:jbrary@gmail.com).

*Dana Horrocks and Lindsey Krabbenhoft are Children's Librarians at the Vancouver Public Library.*

## WHO'S ON THE FELT BOARD?

# Pete the Cat

By Susan Pierce

*Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons*

Story by Eric Litwin and created and illustrated by James Dean

I chose *Pete the Cat* for a felt story because it is very interactive. There are parts to sing and count together, and repetitive phrases that get children participating. You can learn the song on Youtube and sing it during the telling (chanting works fine too!). I am artistically challenged so I got inspiration from Youtube in the form of some kindergarten drawings that I then blew up and cut out in simple shapes. Everyone loves Pete the Cat because he's groovy! Have fun!

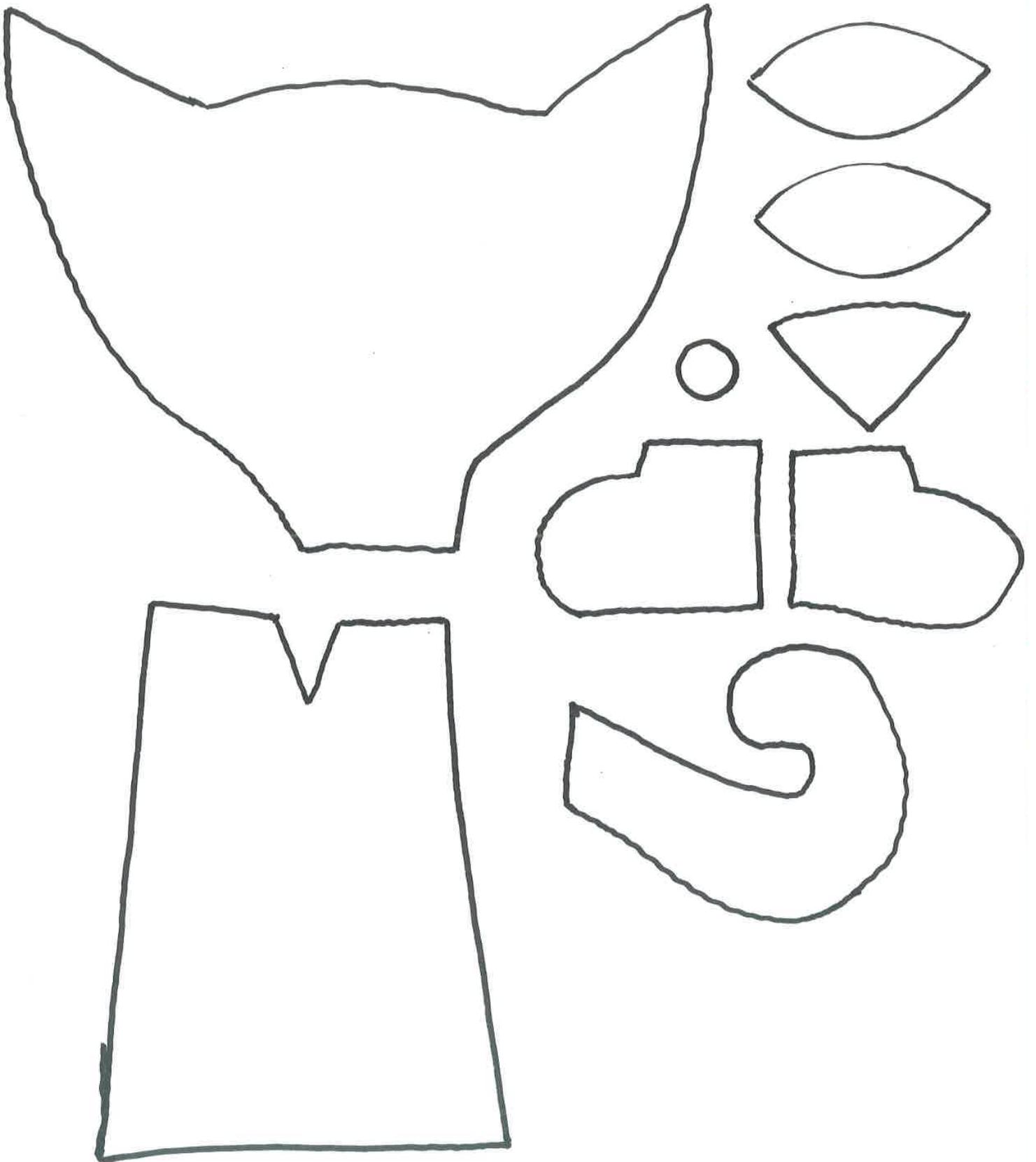
Template Inspiration:



source: [larremoreteachertips.blogspot.com](http://larremoreteachertips.blogspot.com)



*Susan Pierce is a Customer Service Librarian for Parksville, Port Hardy, Port McNeil, Port Alice, Sointula, and Woss Branches at the Vancouver Island Regional Library.*



# IF YOU GIVE A KID A MUFFIN PROGRAM

By Gail Harris

I've been fortunate to present the *If You Give a Kid a Muffin* storytime (babies to age 5) most Friday mornings in the Whalley-City Centre area since 2003. Many families are now bringing their second, third, or fourth children! It's a bit of a value-added program, as the Rotary Club provides us with funding to offer a snack at the end of the storytime. I wanted to provide a bit more to the families, so I started printing a booklet of everything we'd covered that month. This also allowed me to feel less pressured to make and stick to a rhyme sheet each week, and I usually find that individual sheets get eaten by babies and distract parents. Over the years, I've added a literacy tip and also the sign language words that I incorporate at the beginning of each program. The "Other books" section developed because I wanted to share all the wonderful books I found for each theme with the families, even if I couldn't use them all at storytime.

## JANUARY 2016

### Themes:

Happy New Year, Owls, Mice

### Tip of the Month:

January 26 was Family Literacy Day. Why not start off the new year by learning new words? Try making a Family Word Wall. With cardboard and markers (or a white board, chalkboard, whatever you have) learn a new word together every day and write them on your word wall. Can you make a sentence with the words on your wall?

This tip and more family literacy fun can be found at: <http://abclifeliteracy.ca/fld/15-minutes-of-fun>

### Some books we enjoyed this month:

*Tap the Magic Tree* by Christie Matheson

*When Lucy Goes Out Walking: a puppy's first year* by Ashley Wolff

*Who Hoots?* by Katie Davis

*Night Owl* by Toni Yuly

*Lunch* by Denise Fleming

*Little Mouse and the Big Cupcake* by Thomas Taylor

### Other books you might enjoy:

*What Forest Knows* by George Ella Lyon

*Chicken Soup With Rice* by Maurice Sendak

*Little Owl's Day* by Divya Srinivasan

*Such a Little Mouse* by Alice Schertle

*My Hand in Your Hand* by Mark Sperring

*Eeny, Meeny, Miney, Mo and Flo* by Laurel Molk

*Little Elliot, Big Family* by Mike Curato (new book!)

## New rhymes and songs this month:

### Four Seasons

There are four seasons (hold up 4 fingers)  
And I can name them all.  
Winter and Summer  
Spring and Fall

### Hello New Year (Tune: Are You Sleeping?)

Hello, new year (wave)  
Hello, new year  
Goodbye old (wave other hand)  
Goodbye old  
In with the new year (bring arm in)  
In with the new year  
Out with the old (push other arm away)  
Out with the old

### I'm A Tall, Tall Tree

This is my trunk, (*point to body*)  
I'm a tall, tall tree, (*hold arms up like branches*)  
In the springtime, the blossoms cover me  
(*open hands like flowers*)  
This is my trunk, (*point to body*)  
I'm a tall, tall tree, (*hold arms up like branches*)  
In the summer, the breezes blow through me.  
(*raise arms and wave them back and forth*)  
This is my trunk, (*point to body*)  
I'm a tall, tall tree, (*hold arms up like branches*)  
In the autumn, the apples grow on me. (*fists*)  
This is my trunk, (*point to body*)  
I'm a tall, tall tree, (*hold arms up like branches*)  
In the winter, the snowflakes land on me.  
(*flutter fingers down*)

### Seasons Turn

Seasons turn like a big round ball (*roll hands*)  
Winter and spring, summer and fall.  
Seasons turn like a big round ring (*roll hands*)  
Summer and fall, winter and spring

### Where is Bear? (Tune: Are You Sleeping?)

Where is bear? Where is bear?  
(*hide hand behind back*)  
Here I am. Here I am. (*bring out hand*)  
How are you this winter?  
Very tired, thank you.  
Go to sleep. Go to sleep.  
(*cover hand with other hand as if in a cave*)

Now let's pretend it's springtime and it's time for bear to wake up. Can you yell Wake up bear?!

### Where is bear? Where is bear?

Here I am. Here I am. (*bring bear out of cave*)  
How are you this springtime?  
Very hungry, thank you  
Find some food, find some food  
(*put hand behind back*)

### The Boy In The Barn

A little boy went into a barn, (*hold up index finger*)  
And lay down on some hay.  
(*lay finger down on other hand*)  
An owl came in and flew about,  
(*arms fly at sides like owl*)  
And the little boy ran away. (*run finger behind back*)

### Flap Flap Little Owl (Tune: 10 Little Indians)

Flap, flap, flap, flap little owl,  
Flap, flap, flap, flap little owl,  
Flap, flap, flap, flap little owl,  
Early in the evening.

Repeat with:

-Soar, soar, soar, soar little owl...late in the evening  
-Sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep little owl...early in the morning.

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### **Poof! I'm a Giant**

Poof! I'm a giant, huge in size.

*(stand up tall, hold out arms)*

Poof! I'm an owl with big yellow eyes.

*(fingers circle eyes)*

Poof! I'm a mouse with an ee-ee-ee! *(squat down)*

Poof! This is best, now I'm back to me.

*(stand up, thumb on chest)*

### **WHOOOO? said the Owl** (by Lillian Moore)

Whooooo? said the owl

In the dark old tree

Wheeeee said the wind with a howl

Wheeeee!

Whooooo?

Wheeeee!

Whooooo?

Wheeeee!

They didn't scare each other

But they did scare

Who? *(point to self)*

Me!

### **Wise Old Owl** (Tune: Frere Jacques)

Wise old owl, wise old owl,

In the tree, in the tree.

Who-oo are you winking at?

Who-oo are you winking at?

Is it me? Is it me?

### **Hickory Dickory Dock**

Hickory dickory dock

*(swing arm back and forth like a clock pendulum)*

The mouse ran up the clock *(run fingers up to head)*

The clock struck one *(clap once)*

The mouse ran down *(run fingers back down body)*

Hickory dickory dock *(swing arm)*

Repeat with:

- The clock struck two, the mouse said boo
- The clock struck three, the mouse said whee
- The clock struck four, there is no more

### **I Had a Little Mouse**

(See and hear it here: <http://www.deschuteslibrary.org/kids/earlylit/videos/IHadaLittleMouse.aspx>)

I had a little mouse who never would eat his cheese

All he ever wanted to do was bounce upon my knees.

Bounce upon my knees, bounce upon my knees.

All he ever wanted to do was bounce upon my knees.

### **The Little Mice**

(by Kathy Reid-Naiman, on CD Zoom Zoom Cuddle & Croon)

The little mice go creeping, creeping, creeping  
*(creep fingers of one hand around slowly)*

The little mice go creeping

All through the house

The big black cat goes stalking, stalking, stalking  
*(“pounce” one hand around)*

The big black cat goes stalking

All through the house

The little mice go scampering, scampering, scampering  
*(scamper fingers quickly)*

The little mice go scampering,

All through the house. *(hide fingers behind back)*

## Little Things

Little red bug, (*hold up index finger*)

Little red bug

Where have you been?

I've been under the rug,

(*cover finger with other hand*)

Said little red bug.

Little butterfly, (*make a butterfly by linking thumbs and fluttering hands*)

Little butterfly,

Where have you been?

I've been way up high, (*reach butterfly hands up*)

Said little butterfly.

Little brown mouse, (*hold up index finger*)

Little brown mouse,

Where have you been?

I've been all around the house (*scamper finger around*)

Said little brown mouse.

**M-O-U-S-E** (Tune: Bingo)

There is an animal that's so small

And mouse is its name-o

M-O-U-S-E, M-O-U-S-E, M-O-U-S-E

And Mouse is its name-o

**The Mouse and the Cheese** (by Lee Bock)

There was a little mouse (*hold up index finger*)

And she found a piece of cheese

She gave a piece to this one

(*run index finger up each finger on other hand*)

And she gave a piece to this one

And she gave a piece to this one

And she gave a piece to this one

And she ran through a hole in the wall!

(*run hand up arm and tickle*)

**Ten Little Mice**

1 little, 2 little, 3 little mice

4 little, 5 little, 6 little mice

7 little, 8 little, 9 little mice, 10 little mice go – squeak!

## New Signs We Learned this Month:

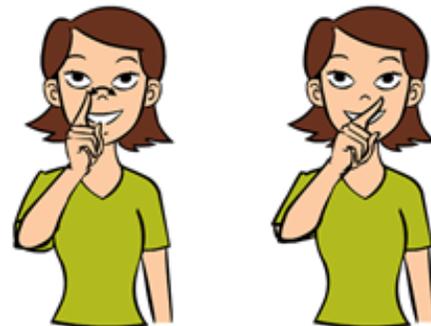


**Year** - made by forming both hands into fists (sign for the letter "S"). If you are right handed, rotate your right hand completely around the left. The right hand should come to rest on top of the left.

**Owl** - Make your hands into circles and hold them up in front of your eyes. Twist your hands inward and outward.



**Mouse** - use your index finger to flick back and forth across the tip of your nose.



Sources: [babysigns.com](http://babysigns.com) and [lifeprint.com](http://lifeprint.com)

Gail Harris is a Youth Services Librarian with  
Surrey Public Libraries

# CANADIAN IMMIGRATION: UNDERSTANDING OURSELVES AND OTHERS

By Gwen Doran

Canada is proud of its multiculturalism and continues to welcome many immigrants each year. Children in Canada are often in school with immigrants, have immigrant neighbors, or are immigrants themselves. The importance of having books written for children that encourage cultural understanding and empathy for the immigrant experience is vital to welcoming all immigrants to Canada. This annotated bibliography will not be exhaustive, but will review several types of books that are available for children on the topic of immigration.

My personal interest in this subject has to do with being an immigrant to Canada myself. In addition, I was previously an English as a Second Language teacher in the United States where I worked with many immigrant children, and so good materials for teachers to explore the historical, current, and emotional impact of immigration are of interest to me. I purposefully included some story-like nonfiction and a few historical fiction books to increase the range of book type explored on the topic.

Overall, I found most books on this subject to be very text-dense with high reading levels. I am curious whether there are any general books on immigration for younger children. Does the public school curriculum influence the targeted audience of publishers? Do younger children have access to books about immigration generally, or only through ethnically specific picture books? Another crucial point is that the reading level of all of these books is completely unrealistic for any new immigrants who are English Learners. So while it's important for them to hear stories like theirs and to know they have a place in this country made of immigrants—none of the books on immigration that I found are written at an appropriate reading level.

Note: Any books indicated as “Many ethnicities” likely include the major Canadian immigrant groups such as: Early French and English settlers; American blacks; European prairie settlers; Home children; War brides; Guest children; Jewish orphans; and early Chinese immigrants.

**Burtinshaw, Julie. *The Freedom of Jenny*. Vancouver: Raincoast Books, 2005. Print.**

Historical fiction. Black-American. Ages 8-12.

*The Freedom of Jenny* is an uncommon story about an American black slave, Jenny, making her way to Vancouver Island from Missouri in 1858. The focus of the story is on freedom, education, and belonging as Jenny and her family cope with loss and face constant prejudice as they try to find a new home after purchasing their freedom. Although *The Freedom of Jenny* does not focus on the experience of being an immigrant, it is a valuable story to represent black American immigration to Western Canada. The significance of coming to the West Coast sets this story apart from stories of arriving in Canada via the Underground Railroad. While the story is compelling, the writing is not very engaging. *The Freedom of Jenny* often feels too much like a history textbook, trying to pack

in the details of the surroundings and situation rather than focusing on Jenny's story. Burtinshaw focuses much more on the slave experience and the pioneer experience than on the immigrant experience. However, Jenny reflects on feelings of loneliness and a desire to return to "home" in Missouri, a feeling shared by many immigrants.

**Hodge, Deborah. *The Kids Book of Canadian Immigration*. Toronto: Kids Can Press Ltd., 2006. Print.**

Informational nonfiction. Many ethnicities. Ages 6-12.

This widely available information book is fully illustrated in colour, unlike many other immigration books which primarily use photographs—making it stand out visually. It is predictably organized chronologically by groups of immigrants such as "French Settlers". Throughout the book there are sidebars linking the group of immigrants with current or historical Canadians of a highlighted heritage helping to illustrate how contemporary Canadians all have some immigrant or aboriginal heritage. A few of the other immigration books mention the aboriginal peoples of Canada, but Hodge spends a full two pages discussing aboriginal history in Canada-- a very welcome and respectful decision. A small detractor from the longevity of the book, each chapter includes a timeframe subheading such as "35 to 75 years ago" which is now outdated by a decade. The book includes images of real paintings and historical documents in addition to the illustrations, but noticeably no photographs. There is a glossary, but the words included in it are not identified in the text through the use of bold print or some other means. The reading level is most appropriate for ages 8-12, but the format (very large, hard cover, and illustrated) and title of the book would likely be most appealing to younger children. *The Kids Book of Canadian Immigration* would be particularly valuable as a classroom resource for research projects, but deserves a place in any type of school, public, or home library as a comprehensive and rich resource on immigration.

**Maki, Wilma. *Weaving a Country: Stories from Canadian Immigrants*. Alternatives to Racism. Vancouver: Pacific Educational Press, 2003. Print.**

Informational nonfiction. Many ethnicities. Ages 10-14. 10♀ 10♂

If you can get past the poorly designed front cover, *Weaving a Country* contains several charming stories of both immigrants and their descendants. *Weaving a Country* uses a unique organization system of key steps in the immigration process such as "Leaving Home", "Adjusting to Canada", and "Finding an Identity" which are very different than the organization by immigrant group, or chronology that most other books use. The sections are made up of a summary and followed by a short collection of stories from varied immigrant backgrounds ranging in time from 1773 to 1994. Maki uses fiction and non-fiction for sources, drawing on diaries and fictional stories alike including excerpts from books such as *Tales from Gold Mountain* (see suggested reading). Maki effectively uses sidebars filled with interesting historical details. Additionally, several short poems written by immigrants are incorporated into the narrative, adding variety and increased representation of additional ethnic backgrounds. This book is a very rich historical resource, but is too dense for younger children on their own. While there is a glossary, it could be improved as a tool by emphasizing the text to signal the reader to its presence in the glossary. Published by the UBC Education Department press, this book lives up to expectations as a high quality educational resource.

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**Marineau, Michele. *The Road to Chlifa*. Trans. S. Ouriou. Northern Lights Young Novels. Red Deer: Red Deer College Press, 1995. Print. Trans. of *La Route de Chlifa*. Montréal: Québec Amérique, 1993.**

Historical fiction. Lebanese. Ages 15-19.

Marineau's promising book about a Lebanese immigrant to Canada is a disappointment. Originally written in French, the translation is awkward and often too strange to overlook. The book is divided into three parts, with parts one and three taking place in Canada, while part two is the protagonist's memory of his trip to Chlifa in Lebanon. Parts one and three were guilty of heavy overuse of Quebecois slang from the 90s- which unfortunately dates the book and makes it hard to understand for a wider audience. The style of narration switches between letters written by the protagonist, Karim, an unnamed observer narration, and third person narration. While a creative choice, the different styles did not flow well from one to the other, reducing the cohesiveness of the story. Particularly obnoxious, characters are used to espouse the thinly veiled philosophical beliefs of the author towards immigration in a show of overt didacticism. Reflecting the reality of many war experiences, *The Road to Chlifa* does not shy away from rape, murder, and other violence. While Marineau may have meant to show high school life in Canada as exaggerated and ridiculous compared to Karim's very mature and horrific experiences in Lebanon as a commentary on the stark contrast of his (and many other refugee) experiences with life in Canada, it does not translate or age well.

**Skrypuch, Marsha F. *One Step at a Time: A Vietnamese Child Finds Her Way*. Toronto: Pajama Press Inc., 2012. Print.**

Biography. Vietnamese. Ages 6-10.

*One Step at a Time* is a short story about Tuyet, a Vietnamese orphan refugee adopted by a Canadian family in the 1970s. She dreams of running and playing outside with her siblings, but has a clubbed foot as a result of polio contracted in Vietnam. In this short vignette, children can empathize with difficulties of learning a new country when you don't understand the language around you, have dreams reliving the war you left, or you are unfamiliar with customs such as birthday candles on a cake. Tuyet is given a clear, and authentic voice by the author. The book includes photographs from Tuyet's Canadian family as well as some archival photographs of the medical tools that would have been used to fix her leg. The biography reads like a novel, while still being very informative about what life was like for at this one refugee child from Vietnam. *One Step at a Time* focuses on family, safety, belonging and love-- all relevant themes for children. This personal and genuine story could be used effectively for lessons or for children interested in child experiences different from their own.

**Welldon, Christine. *Pier 21: Listen to My Story*. Halifax: Nimbus Publishing Limited, 2012. Print.**

Narrative nonfiction. Many ethnicities. Ages 8-12. 5♀ 4♂

This charming collection of children's stories of immigrating through Pier 21 is an essential addition to any library. The book reads like a companion book for the museum at Pier 21, but is equally strong read anywhere. The book is divided into sections based on the group of immigrants, such as Home Children or Hungarian Canadians who would have arrived in Canada through Pier 21 or Pier 2 between the 1890s and 1971, when Pier 21 closed. Each section begins with a

short overview of the experiences of the group and the historical context for why they immigrated at that time. Each chapter then consists of a short story written from the perspective of a child immigrant from that group based on primary documents. The stories include understandable yet funny anecdotes such as one child's desire to have a pet beaver in Canada. *Pier 21: Listen to My Story* includes many historical photographs with clear captions. Sidebars with interesting facts or funny stories add to the narrative. The book uses large print and attractive, colourful borders. It includes a quality timeline, glossary, and index, with glossary words indicated in blue throughout the text. This book focuses on the child's experience of immigration in a convincing and relatable way. Welldon successfully creates an intimate exchange with children from Canada's past in this noteworthy narrative.

**Winnick, Nick, ed. *Immigration. Canada, Past, Present, Future*. Calgary: Weigl Educational Publishers Limited, 2009. Print.**

Informational nonfiction. Many ethnicities. Ages 8-12.

A straightforward overview book of Canadian immigration, this book is bold and flashy in presentation. Rather than grouping by immigrant waves or types, Winnick organizes *Immigration* chronologically backwards by decade starting with the 2000s and ending with the 1900s. As a result the content is light on early immigration and focuses on more recent immigration trends. *Immigration* does an excellent job of highlighting the policies that shaped Canadian immigration patterns in the 20th century. The book pays special attention to the many groups of refugees who have found safety in Canada. The content of the book focuses on the social, political, and economical push and pull factors that influence immigration. Another strength of the book are the excellent informational text features such as timelines, clear headings and subheadings, tables and charts and relevant photographs. Winnick also uses bold colours, which make it more attractive to young readers, although the text is still quite small and dense. There is a very short glossary and simple index which could be improved upon. *Immigration* presents the policies, laws, and patterns of immigration in Canada rather than focusing on the human aspect, making it unique.

**Young, Beryl. *Charlie: A Home Child's Life in Canada*. Toronto: Key Porter Books Limited, 2009. Print.**

Biography. English. Ages 8-12.

*Charlie* is the fascinating and impressive life story of a young English boy who came to Canada as a "home child" in 1911. When Charlie was 13, his father died of pneumonia leaving Charlie's mother to provide for seven children. Unable to feed so many in the early 1900s, his mother made the difficult decision to separate her children and send them to various orphanages and "homes" (like an orphanage but they would accept children who were not strictly orphans). After only a few months in London, Charlie signs a contract to work as an indentured servant for a family in Canada until he is 18 years old. *Charlie* reveals some of the hardships that many Home Children experienced, but also the advantages and opportunities in Canada that would not have been available to him in England. Charlie participates in WWI as a soldier, and when he returns to Canada he joins the RCMP and proves himself the model citizen. Young, Charlie's daughter, conveys her love and respect for her father through his story, which she writes with a convincing voice. A story about a very young immigrant to Canada is the perfect subject for a children's book. *Charlie* is a wonderful addition to any library.

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## Suggested Further Reading

Bradford, Karleen. *A Desperate Road to Freedom*. Dear Canada. Toronto: Scholastic, 2009. Print.

Hughes, Susan. *Coming to Canada*. Maple Tree Press. Print.

Lunn, Janet. *The Hollow Tree*. Toronto: Knopf Canada, 1997. Print.

---. *Shadow in Hawthorne Bay*. Toronto: Lester & Orpen Dennys, 1986. Print.

McNaughton, Janet. *To Dance at the Palais Royale*. St. John's: Tuckamore Books, 1996. Print.

Pignat, Caroline. *Greener Grass*. Calgary: Red Deer Press, 2008. Print.

Renaud, Anne. *Island of Hope and Sorrow: The Story of Grosse Île*. Canadian Immigration Series. Montréal: Lobster Press, 2007. Print.

---. *Pier 21: Stories from Near and Far*. Canadian Immigration Series. Montréal: Lobster Press, 2008. Print.

Smucker, Barbara. *Underground to Canada*. Toronto: Clarke Irwin, 1977. Print.

Yee, Paul. *Tales from Gold Mountain: Stories of the Chinese in the New World*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre Limited, 1989. Print.

*Gwen Doran is a student in the Masters of Library and Information Studies program at the University of British Columbia iSchool. This annotated bibliography was originally developed for LIBR 520: Survey of Literature and Other Materials for Children.*

## REVIEWS



Lawson, JoArno. *Sidewalk Flowers*.  
Toronto: Anansi Press, 2015.

Review by Sadie Tucker

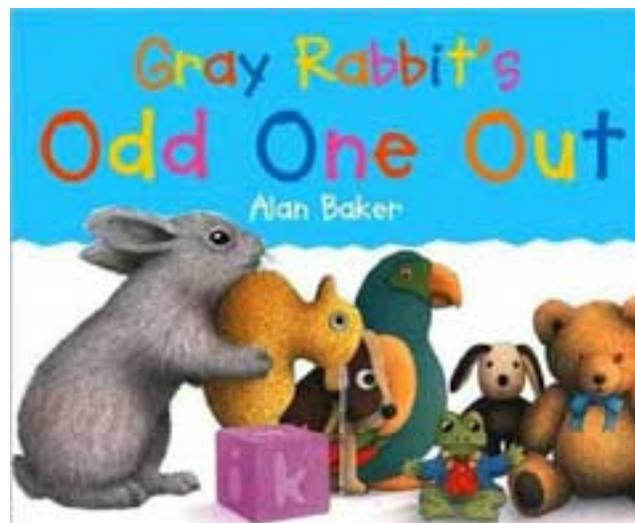
This book is beautiful in both its artistry and content. A little girl finds flowers on her walk home and then shares them with all those she encounters. The artwork is stunning; the use of colour adds more to the story than words ever could. The sentiment, one of finding beauty everywhere and sharing it with others, is lovely.

Wordless picture books are great partly because of how strongly they support dialogic reading. Without any text to rely on, the (adult or child) reader is forced to engage with the story on a level that they may not be used to. It also means that the story can be adjusted for just about any age range. I cannot recommend this lap book highly enough.

Baker, Alan. *Gray Rabbit's Odd One Out*. New York : Kingfisher, 1995.

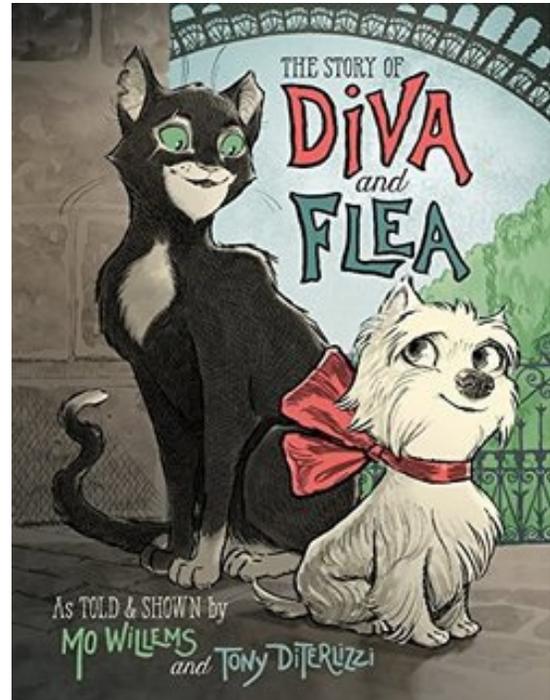
Review by Sadie Tucker

A sweet, simple book that is still in print. Gray Rabbit can't find his book and so decides that he must clean up. Each page has a pile of items, with one item the odd one out. After much tidying, Gray Rabbit finds his book and reads himself to sleep. The illustrations are lovely and detailed, with a blank background to really draw attention to the pictures. Children will enjoy picking out the misfit items, a sure-fire way to draw in reluctant audience members. I like how the reader is brought back to the beginning by Rabbit's unearthing of the book. A simple story arc for young children, but satisfying.



Willems, Mo and DiTerlizzi, Tony.  
*The Story of Diva and Flea*. New York  
: Hyperion Books for Children, 2015.  
Review by Sadie Tucker

This is a great book for children who are phasing out of picture books. It's the story of Diva, a small dog who has never left the courtyard of her Paris apartment building, and Flea, a cat about town (or *flâneur*), who strike up an unlikely friendship. This is a cute, humorous book about two friends with two very different lives who challenge each other to push their boundaries. The illustrations are expressive and complement the story perfectly, while the exotic (to North Americans, anyway) locale will introduce young readers to new landmarks and culture. This title is sure to please!



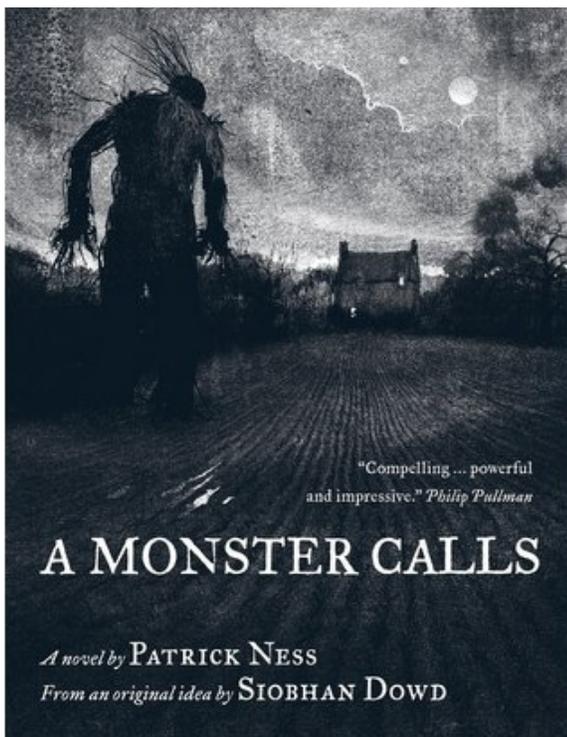
Ness, Patrick, and Dowd, Siobhan.  
*A Monster Calls*. Somerville, Mass. :  
Candlewick Press, 2011.

Review by Sadie Tucker

Conor's mother has cancer, life at school is hellish, and he is dogged by a recurring nightmare that he doesn't even want to think about. To make matters worse, he has begun to be visited by a tree monster who announces that he will tell Conor three stories and after those stories have been told, Conor will recount his own true story.

This book perfectly depicts the isolation and emotional repression that many exhibit when faced with seemingly overwhelming adversity. Conor is a young man in great pain who is unable to verbalise his suffering or reach out for help. Observing his journey is painful, but worthwhile.

The text is accompanied by eerie sketches that complement the story well. The novel is not long, and with a 13-year-old protagonist, is suitable for young teens. That being said, the book is so great that it can be enjoyed by teens and adults alike.



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icons by Ruslan Corel

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<https://bclaconnect.ca/divisions/young-adults-and-childrens-section>

