Table of Contents

Children’s Frontlist  2

Recently Published for Children  10

Henry and Friends  18

Stories in 50  19

How Nature Works  20

Tilbury House Nature Books  22

Children’s Backlist Highlights  24

Marshall Wilkes Art Books  28

Literature and the Arts  29

New England Living  30

Gardening, Self-Help, and Maritime  31

Index  32
Magnificent Homespun Brown
A Celebration
Samara Cole Doyon • Illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Thundering brown.
Like a boisterous, crackling dive
into a mountain of autumn-dried leaves
on my grandpa’s lawn.
As my shrieks of joy and triumph shoot to the top of the clear, pale sky,
the last remnants of fragile foliage release their grip on bare branches
and come tumbling down in defeat.
Thundering brown . . . like my power.

Magnificent Homespun Brown is an exploration of the natural world and family bonds through the eyes of a young, mixed-race narrator—a living, breathing, dazzlingly multi-faceted, exuberant masterpiece, firmly grounded in her sense of self-worth and belonging. This is a story—a poem, a song, a celebration—about feeling at home in your own beloved skin.

If Walt Whitman were reborn as a vibrant young woman of color, this is the book he might write. America, we hear you singing! With vivid illustrations by Kaylani Juanita, Samara Cole Doyon sings a carol for the plenitude that surrounds us and the self that each of us is meant to inhabit.

Samara Cole Doyon (Portland, ME) is both a second-generation Haitian American and a proud Mainer, with half of the roots of her family tree reaching generations deep into the soil of the Pine Tree State. She is a freelance writer, teacher, wife, and mother. She has been a regular contributor at Black Girl In Maine Media and has been featured in the “Deep Water” poetry column of the Portland Press Herald.

Kaylani Juanita’s mission as an artist is to support the stories of the underrepresented and create new ways for people to imagine themselves. Her work has appeared at the Society of Illustrators and the BBC website, and she is the illustrator of the picture books Ta-Da! and the critically acclaimed When Aidan Became a Brother. She lives in the Bay Area in California. Look for her online at kaylanijuanita.com and @kaylanijuanita on Twitter and Instagram.

A joyous celebration of racial identity.

$16.95 hardcover • ISBN 978-0-88448-797-5 • 9 x 10 • 32 pages
Illustrated in color throughout • Ages 8 to 12 • PICTURE BOOK/POETRY
Gloria loves to sing, dance, and act in her bedroom, but not in public. No way. Gloria’s big problem makes sure of that, following her wherever she goes and constantly reminding her that she’s anxious and frightened, that she’s not good enough, and that everyone will laugh at her. Anxious Gloria worries all the time, about everything.

Until, one day, Gloria summons all her courage to try out for a community theater production. She marches herself to the audition, and her big problem marches right in behind her. She gets up on stage, and her big problem takes a seat in the front row and starts to laugh at her. And then at last she yells “STOP!” and her big problem shrinks to a little problem, and Gloria wins a part in the play.

Picture books are a great way to explain big concepts to children. Gloria’s Big Problem reassures kids that anxieties are common, not weird, and that being brave doesn’t mean having no fear—it means overcoming the fears we have.

Sarah Stiles Bright teaches college English and writes from Portland, Maine. She is the author of Wind Bird, a children’s story based on Passamaquoddy legend. She lives with her Bernese mountain dog and has two grown children who are resoundingly present in Gloria.

Mike Deas (Salt Spring Island, British Columbia) fine-tuned his drawing skills and imagination at Capilano College’s Commercial Animation Program in Vancouver, then worked as a concept artist, texture artist, and art lead in the video game industry in England and California before returning to his native British Columbia.

The Acadia Files series uses real-world scenarios to make scientific inquiry relatable.

“An excellent series that will help its audience look at the world in a new way.” —Foreword Reviews

Acadia Greene has done science in summer, autumn, and winter. In the fourth and final book of this series, she carries her search for answers into the spring, investigating meteors and mass extinctions; germination and pollinators; parasites, ticks, and Lyme disease; and pesticides and malaria. Finally, looking back through her notebooks, she puts together her scientific inquiries from all four seasons into a holistic understanding of the natural world. Acadia is curious, determined, bold, and bright—a wonderful STEAM ambassador!

Katie Coppens (Freeport, ME; katiecoppens.com) is an award-winning middle-school teacher and a columnist for Science Scope, the magazine of the National Science Teachers Association.

Holly Hatam (Whitby, Ontario; hollyhatam.com) combines drawings, photography, and texture to create illustrations that pack energy and personality. Her picture books include Dear Girl; What Matters (SONWA children’s awards honorable mention); Dear Boy; and the picture book series Maxine the Maker.

The Acadia Files
Book Four, Spring Science
Katie Coppens
Illustrated by Holly Hatam

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THE ACADIA FILES
Book Four, Spring Science

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Illustrated in color throughout
Ages 6 to 10
PICTURE BOOK/FICTION/MINDFULNESS
The Arabic Quilt
An Immigrant Story
Aya Khalil
Illustrated by Anait Semirdzhyan

Kanzi’s family has moved from Egypt to America, and on her first day in a new school, what she wants more than anything is to fit in. Maybe that’s why she forgets to take the kofta sandwich her mother has made for her lunch, but that backfires when Mama shows up at school with the sandwich. Mama wears a hijab and calls her daughter Habibti (dear one). When she leaves, the teasing starts.

That night, Kanzi wraps herself in the beautiful Arabic quilt her teita (aunt) in Cairo gave her and writes a poem in Arabic about the quilt. The next day her teacher sees the poem and gets the entire class excited about creating a “quilt” (a paper collage) of student names in Arabic. In the end, Kanzi’s most treasured reminder of her old home provides a pathway for acceptance in her new one.

This authentic story with beautiful illustrations includes a glossary of Arabic words and a presentation of Arabic letters with their phonetic English equivalents.

The Arabic Quilt
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ISBN 978-0-88448-754-8
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Illustrated in color throughout
Ages 6 to 10
PICTURE BOOK/FICTION

RELATED TITLE:

LAILAH’S LUNCHBOX
A Ramadan Story
$16.95 hardcover
978-0-88448-431-8
(See page 26)

For the fiftieth anniversary of Earth Day, a mythic framing of climate change and one little girl’s response.

When the Earth Shook
Words by Lisa Lucas
Pictures by Laurie Stein

Alya and Atik are stars. Their job is to twinkle in the night sky over Earth, and for billions of years they do it well. Plants stretch toward them. Animals look up at them. And, eventually, humans gaze up at them and marvel. But then humans invent powerplants, factories, and cars, and smog pours into Earth’s atmosphere. It becomes harder and harder for Alya and Atik to do their jobs—until, finally, the stars yell at Earth, and Earth feels sick and begins to shake, and things look pretty dire.

The clueless king’s response is to command Earth to stop shaking. But a little girl named Axiom tells the king to hush, then tells humans what they must do to make the Earth feel better.

When the Earth Shook presents climate change to kids because it will be their job to help save the Earth. Bravo, Axiom! Keep using that huge megaphone until the earth no longer shakes! Axiom’s list of instructions to humans—some well-known and others new but critically important—appears in the back of the book.

Lisa Lucas started her career writing for Reader’s Digest and has written children’s books, scripts for movies and television, and historical fiction for middle-grade readers. She has received the CIBC Children’s Miracle Maker Award and the Canada Post Community Literacy Award.

Laurie Stein has illustrated children’s literature for many Canadian and U.S. publishers. Lisa and Laurie teamed up a decade ago and have created more than thirty children’s books together, tackling such contentious subjects as refugee children, climate change, and sexual violence. Their belief that children deserve to know the truth inspires their work, which was recently recognized by The Canadian Children’s Book Centre. Both Lisa and Laurie live in the Toronto area.

When the Earth Shook
$17.95 hardcover
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11 x 8.5 • 36 pages
Illustrated in color throughout
Ages 5 to 9
PICTURE BOOK/FICTION

RELATED TITLE:

HAWKSBILL PROMISE
A Sea Turtle’s Journey
$17.95 hardcover
978-0-88448-430-1
(See page 14)

An immigrant journalist and blogger who has taught at all levels from preschool to college. The Arabic Quilt is based on events from her childhood, when she immigrated to the U.S. from Egypt with her parents and siblings. She lives in Toledo, Ohio, with her husband, Abdalrahman, and their two children.

Anait Semirdzhayan lived in diverse cultures in numerous countries before settling in the Seattle area with her husband. The Arabic Quilt is the fifth picture book she has illustrated.
Crow
Oh, shiny-black and noisy crow,
you are the loudest bird I know,
gathered with your friends in trees,
cawing harshly on the breeze.
You’re not a vegetarian,
for you eat frogs, worms, mice, and carrion.
When you find food,
you call your friends—
your cawing never seems to end.
And could this fact be much absurder?
A group of you is called a murder!
In winter roosts ten thousand deep,
what you murder is our sleep.

Common Critters
The Wildlife in Your Neighborhood
Poems by Pat Brisson
Illustrated by Dan Tavis

Common Critters celebrates neighborhood wildlife in verse. A familiar cast of characters—worms, slugs, caterpillars, ladybugs, robins, mourning doves, houseflies, spiders, squirrels, skunks, and others—crawls, runs, buzzes, and fits through these lively poems, which show how exotic these seemingly ordinary creatures really are. Dan Tavis’s humorous illustrations crank up the delight, and a child wanting to learn more will find it in the natural-history backmatter. Pat Brisson employs a variety of verse forms and includes a back-of-book feature called “A Peek into the Poet’s Toolkit.”

Pat Brisson has written 20 books for young readers, including The Summer My Father Was Ten; Sometimes We Were Brave; and Next Door. Pat Brisson employs a variety of verse forms and includes a back-of-book feature called “A Peek into the Poet’s Toolkit.”

Dan Tavis is a 24-year-old illustrator living in New Hampshire. He has been doodling ever since his first math class in elementary school. He has a passion to illustrate characters that emotionally connect with the viewer and tell stories through a visual narrative. Dan created the illustrations for Common Critters with watercolor, ink, and digital media.

The true story of a father and son from Spain who helped to build America.

The Spanish architects Rafael Guastavino Sr. and Jr. designed more than one thousand iconic spaces across New York City and the United States, including the Manhattan Federal Reserve Bank, the Nebraska State Capitol, the Great Hall of Ellis Island, the Oyster bar at Grand Central Station, the Elephant House at the Bronx Zoo, the tiled vaults under the Queensboro Bridge, the central dome of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, and the Boston Public Library. Written in the voice of the son, who was eight years old in 1881 when he immigrated to America with his father, this is their story.

American cities—densely packed and built largely of wood—were experiencing horrific fires, and the Guastavinos had the solution: The soaring interior spaces created by their tiled vaults and domes made buildings sturdier, fireproof, and beautiful. But the father, unable to speak fluent English, could not win design commissions and had to take work as an illustrator; it was the son who finally fulfilled their dreams. Immigrant Architect is an introduction to architectural concepts and a timely reminder of immigrant contributions to America. The book includes four route maps for visiting some of the many Guastavino-designed spaces in New York City: uptown, midtown, downtown, and Prospect Park.

Berta de Miguel is a trained architect specializing in the restoration of historic structures and has worked regularly in Guastavino-designed spaces. Her Guastavino work is included in the documentary El Arquitecto de Nueva York, by Eva Vizcarra, which was selected for the Gold Dolphin at the Cannes Short Film Festival and for Best Biography recognition in the New York Festival World’s Best TV & Films Festival.

Kent Diebolt is the Founding Partner of Vertical Access LLC, dedicated to the inspection, investigation, and documentation of monumental historic buildings. Former president of the Association for Preservation Technology, he is an expert in Guastavino projects throughout the United States.

Virginia Lorente is an architect based in Valencia, Spain, who has written, illustrated, and published the children’s book on architecture My Favorite Houses, which won the Sierra@d’Or prize in Spain in 2013.

Immigrant Architect
Rafael Guastavino and the American Dream
Berta de Miguel and Kent Diebolt
Illustrated by Virginia Lorente

$19.95 hardcover
11 x 9 • 60 pages
Illustrated in color throughout
Ages 8 and up
ILLUSTRATED HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY

MONUMENT MAKER
Daniel Chester French and the Lincoln Memorial
Kent Diebolt
Illustrated by Virginia Lorente

$19.95 hardcover
(See page 10)
This is the story of how a farmboy became America’s foremost sculptor after launching his career with the Minuteman Statue in Concord, Massachusetts. And it’s the story of how Dan’s entire life prepared him to craft the statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial. Thanks to Dan’s lovingly created tribute to the towering figure of his youth, Lincoln lives on as the man of marble, his craggy face and careworn gaze reminding millions of seekers what America can be. Now Dan French has his tribute too, in this exquisite biography that brings history to life for young readers.

**MONUMENT MAKER**
Daniel Chester French and the Lincoln Memorial
Linda Booth Sweeney
*Illustrated by Shawn Fields*

This is the story of how a farmboy became America’s foremost sculptor after launching his career with the Minuteman Statue in Concord, Massachusetts. And it’s the story of how Dan’s entire life prepared him to craft the statue of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial. Thanks to Dan’s lovingly created tribute to the towering figure of his youth, Lincoln lives on as the man of marble, his craggy face and careworn gaze reminding millions of seekers what America can be. Now Dan French has his tribute too, in this exquisite biography that brings history to life for young readers.

**READ THIS BOOK IF YOU DON’T WANT A STORY**
Richard Phillips
*Illustrated by Eric Zelz*

Mr. Book With No Story wants his pages uncluttered by pictures and plot lines, but images, questions, and ideas keep invading the unruly pages he is trying to police, ignoring his efforts to chase them away. In this fun, zany tribute to the creative process, the bumbling blusterer of the first page inspires empathy and affection by the time the last page chimes in. The messages are simple: Stories are fun, and all of us can tell them.

**IF MONET PAINTED A MONSTER**
Amy Newbold
*Illustrated by Greg Newbold*

Edward Hopper’s monster lurks outside the nighthawks’ diner. James Whistler’s monster rocks in her chair. Monsters invade masterpieces by Dorothea Tanning, El Greco, M.C. Escher, Jean Michel Basquiat, Giuseppe Archimboldo, Rene Magritte, Henri Rousseau, Franz Kline, Frida Kahlo, Bob Thompson, Henri Tou- louse-Lautrec, Thomas Hart Benton, and Helen Frankenthaler. And the monster emerging from Claude Monet’s waterlilies is unforgettable.

Our guide for this romp through reimagined masterpieces is an engaging hamster. Thumbnail biographies of the artists identify their iconic works.

While visiting the Musée Picasso in Paris, Amy Newbold (Salt Lake City, UT) wondered how famous artists would paint the things kids imagine—a monster under the bed. She shared the idea with her husband, award-winning illustrator Greg Newbold (gregnewbold.blogspot.com), and the result is the strikingly innovative three-book overview of art history culminating with If Monet Painted a Monster.
In *Three Lost Seeds*, the natural forces that propel seeds on their challenging journeys are a subtle metaphor for the hardships faced by displaced children. Each of the three seeds in this story—a cherry seed in the Middle East, an acacia seed in Australia, and a lotus seed in China—somehow survives, sprouts (in the case of the lotus seed, a hundred years later), and ultimately flourishes. Backmatter features about seed-inspired art projects and the natural history of seeds complete the book.

In *Is 2 A Lot? An Adventure with Numbers*, two is not a lot of pennies, but it is a lot of smelly skunks. Ten is not a lot of popcorn pieces, but it is a lot of chomping dinosaurs. While Joey’s mom explains the context of numbers, Joey’s imagination transforms their car ride into an odyssey through a land of fantastic objects and animals in numbered ranks.

"Fun and engaging."
— Kirkus Reviews

"Very highly recommended."
— Midwest Book Reviews
HAWKSBILL PROMISE
A Sea Turtle’s Journey
Written and illustrated by Mary Beth Owens
In spare prose on pages saturated with Caribbean color or brooding in ghostly moonlight, a craggy, ancient jumby tree narrates the struggle of a hawksbill turtle to fulfill the promise encoded in her DNA. Backmatter about the endangered hawksbill turtle is included.

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Ages 5 – 8 • F&P level P; Lexile 930

HAVE I EVER TOLD YOU?
Shani King
Illustrated by Anna Horváth
This book holds the message of dignity that every child on this earth deserves to hear: You are loved. You matter. You make me smile, just by being you.

Indie Excellence Award
Next Generation Indie Book Award

“A lovely literary and artistic rendering.”
— Kirkus Reviews

“A perfect bedtime story.”
— Multicultural Review

“Vibrant colors and rich details.”
— School Library Journal

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8 x 8 • 32 pages
PICTURE BOOK/FICTION
Ages 2 and up • F&P level M; Lexile 770

MY BUSY GREEN GARDEN
Terry Pierce
Illustrated by Carol Schwartz
In this lyrical evocation of a garden, newly arrived bugs, bees, and birds appear with each turned page, while a chrysalis changes unnoticed until, on the last page, a butterfly emerges and flies away across the garden’s well-tended borders. Thumbnail natural histories of the garden’s creatures appear in backmatter.

“A Cooperative Children’s Book Center Best Book of 2018

“Powerful words of love and encouragement.”
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“Uplifting and upbeat, an affirming message all children should hear.”
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Also available: Hardcover $16.95, 978-0-88448-495-0

THANKS TO THE ANIMALS
Allen Sockabasin
Illustrated by Rebekah Raye
Little Zoo Sap and his family are moving from their summer home on the coast to their winter home in the deep woods. When the baby tumbles off the end of the sled unnoticed, the animals of the forest come to the rescue in this Native American story of thanks for the natural world.

Top 10 Native American Books for Elementary Schools—American Indians in Children’s Literature

“A lovely literary and artistic rendering.”
— Kirkus Reviews

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— Multicultural Review

“Vibrant colors and rich details.”
— School Library Journal

“Uplifting and upbeat, an affirming message all children should hear.”
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THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON
The Story of Apollo 11’s Third Man
Alex Irvine
Illustrated by Ben Bishop
Junior Library Guild Selection

This graphic novel of the Apollo 11 moon-landing mission of 1969 follows astronaut Michael Collins, commander of the lunar orbiter, to the far side of the moon, recounting his thoughts and observations while his fellow mission members are on the moon’s service and he is alone in the orbiter, more distant from humankind than anyone before or since.

“Makes the vastness of space felt in nearly every panel!”
— Publisher’s Weekly

LIFE UNDER ICE
Exploring Antarctic Seas
SECOND EDITION
Mary M. Cerullo
Photography by Bill Curtsinger
A HOW NATURE WORKS BOOK

The animals that live under Antarctic ice are amazingly varied and well adapted. Seals, penguins, enormous sponges, and fish with blood like antifreeze are just a few of the creatures captured in their unique habitat. Backmatter traces the impacts of climate change on life in the waters beneath a frozen desert.

Editor’s Choice, Audubon Magazine

“Brilliant, crisp, color photos taken above and below the water and smooth, clear narrative.”
— School Library Journal

“Stunning underwater photographs.”
— Booklist

FINDING THE SPEED OF LIGHT
The 1676 Discovery That Dazzled the World
Mark Weston
Illustrated by Rebecca Evans
Junior Library Guild Selection

More than two centuries before Einstein, using a crude telescope and a mechanical timepiece, Dutch astronomer Ole Romer measured the speed of light. How he accomplished this when most scientists didn’t even believe that light had a speed makes a great story that is presented with charm, humor, and visual precision in this full-color hybrid between graphic nonfiction and a nonfiction comic book.

TWO MEN AND A CAR
Franklin Roosevelt, Al Capone, and a Cadillac V-8
Written and illustrated by Michael Garland

The day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt went to the U.S. Capitol to make his now-legendary Day of Infamy speech to Congress. Was the armored car that carried him that day the one built in 1928 for gangster Al Capone? True or not, this urban legend reveals unexpected parallels in the lives of a great president and a notorious gangster.

“Realistic portraits of the men and depictions of the era.”
— Publishers Weekly

“Stunning portraits of the men and depictions of the era.”
— Kirkus Reviews

For more How Nature Works books, see pages 20 – 21.
THE STORY IN 50 SERIES is introduced by National Book and Newbery Honor Award-winner PHILLIP HOOSE.

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Gale Eaton

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**DON’T MESS WITH ME**
The Strange Lives of Venomous Sea Creatures
Paul Erickson
Photographs by Andrew Martinez

Scorpions and brown recluse spiders are fine as far as they go, but if you want daily contact with venomous creatures, the ocean is the place to be. What is it about watery environments that favors so many venomous creatures?

**CBC Best Books 2019**
“Guaranteed kid appeal.” —Kirkus Reviews

**“An eye-catching and pleasingly gross introduction to venomous sea creatures, with extremely helpful back matter.” —School Library Journal**

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NONFICTION/NATURE • Ages 8 – 12

**ONE IGUANA, TWO IGUANAS**
A Story of Accident, Natural Selection, and Evolution
Sneed B. Collard III

Natural selection and speciation are all but ignored in children’s nonfiction. To address this glaring deficiency, award-winning children’s science writer Sneed Collard traveled to the Galapagos Islands to witness the animals that led to Charles Darwin’s groundbreaking discovery. The result is a fascinating tale of two iguanas, one land-based and one marine, that evolved from a single ancestor millions of years ago.

**Junior Library Guild Selection**
★ **STARRING REVIEW — Kirkus Reviews**
“A beautiful book.” —Youth Services Book Review

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NONFICTION/NATURE • Ages 8 – 12 • F&P level V

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SECOND EDITION
Mary M. Cerullo
Photographs by Bill Curtsinger

Fish that live in tropical seas are like city dwellers, packed into reefs and surrounded by life in great variety and urgent motion, day and night. Fish that swim through cold oceans are like country folk, spread out, moving more slowly, surrounded by food but not variety.

“An intriguing and focused look at animal adaptation.” —Publishers Weekly

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**CITY FISH, COUNTRY FISH**
How Fish Adapt to Tropical Seas and Cold Oceans
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28 MARSHALL WILKES ART BOOKS

29 LITERATURE & THE ARTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INDEX OF TITLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACADIA FILES, THE 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ana and the Sea Star 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic Quilt, The 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art of Francis Hamabe, The 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astronaut Annie 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be Unstoppable 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bees in the City 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before We Eat 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat of Dreams 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddy Bench, The 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribou Alphabet, A 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catching Air 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte's Bones 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Fish, Country Fish 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Critters 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daddy Played the Blues 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Mess with Me 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Down East 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.B. White on Dogs 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extreme Survivors 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eye of the Whale, The 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Side of the Moon, The 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding the Speed of Light 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Wardlaw: Crossing Borders 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria's Big Problem 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have I Ever Told You? 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawksbill Promise 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HENRY AND FRIENDS 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Is Kind 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Audition on Camera 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOW NATURE WORKS 20 – 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Da Vinci Painted a Dinosaur 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Monet Painted a Monster 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If Picasso Painted a Snowman 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If You Are a Kaka, You Eat Doo Doo 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigrant Architect 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Palm of Your Hand 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is 2 a Lot? 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffery Becton: The Farthest House 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kunu's Basket 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lailah's Lunchbox 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lemonade Hurricane, The 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life in Your Garden, The 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Under Ice 16, 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnificent Homespun Brown 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine: The Wilder Half of New England 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine on Glass 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine's Favorite Birds 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man for All Oceans, A 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| MARSHALL WILKES ART BOOKS 28 |
| Masterpiece Robot 25 |
| Melena's Jubilee 24 |
| Miss Pinkeltink's Purse 25 |
| Monument Maker 10 |
| Most People 26 |
| Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean 24 |
| Mother Earth's Lullaby 23 |
| My Busy Green Garden 15 |
| New England Gardener's Year, The 31 |
| NO! I Won't Go to School 27 |
| One Iguana, Two Iguanas 20 |
| One Man's Meat 29 |
| Our Friendship Rules 25 |
| Pass the Pandowdy, Please 26 |
| Philip Barter: Forever Maine 28 |
| Philip Frey: Here and Now 28 |
| Pier at the End of the World, The 22 |
| Read This Book If You Don't Want a Story 10 |
| Real Sisters Pretend 12 |
| REIMAGINED MASTERPIECES 11 |
| Restoring Your Historic House 31 |
| Rubio and Julienne 27 |
| Sailing Around Nantucket 31 |
| Say Something 26 |
| Season of Flowers, A 23 |
| Secret Bay, The 22 |
| Secret Galaxy, The 22 |
| Secret Pool, The 22 |
| Sergio Sees the Good 18 |
| Soda Bottle School, The 24 |
| Story I Want to Tell, The 29 |
| STORY IN 50 BOOKS 19 |
| Story of Ambition in 50 Hoaxes, A 19 |
| Story of Civilization in 50 Disasters, A 19 |
| Story of Medicine in 50 Discoveries, A 19 |
| Story of Travel in 50 Vehicles, A 19 |
| Story of Maine in 112 Objects, A 30 |
| Sylvia Rose and the Cherry Tree 25 |
| Talking Walls 25 |
| Thanks to the Animals 15 |
| Three Lost Seeds 12 |
| TILBURY HOUSE NATURE BOOKS 22 – 23 |
| Two Men and a Car 17 |
| Tyaja Uses the THINK Test 18 |
| Walking 29 |
| Welcoming Babies 27 |
| When the Bees Fly Home 23 |
| When the Earth Shook 7 |
| While You're Here, Doc 30 |
| Who Belongs Here? 25 |
| William Irvine: A Painter's Journey 28 |
| William Irvine: At Home 28 |
| World Never Sleeps, The 22 |

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