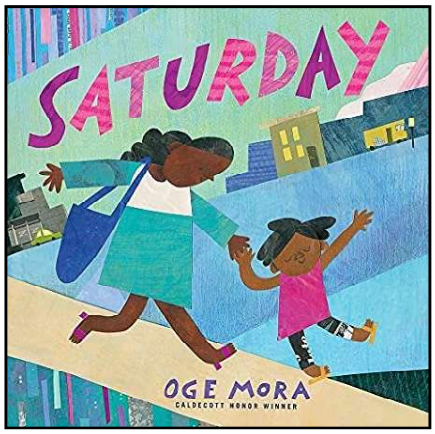
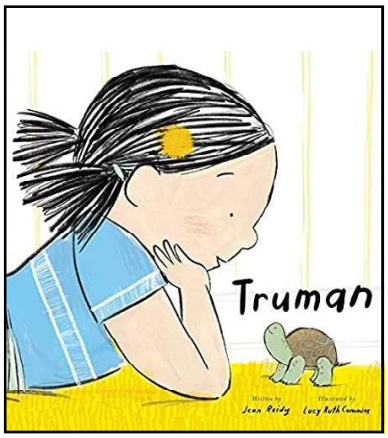
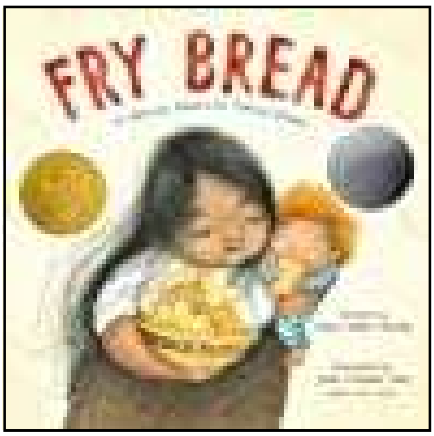
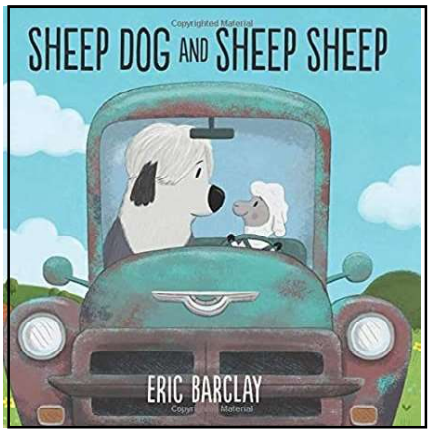
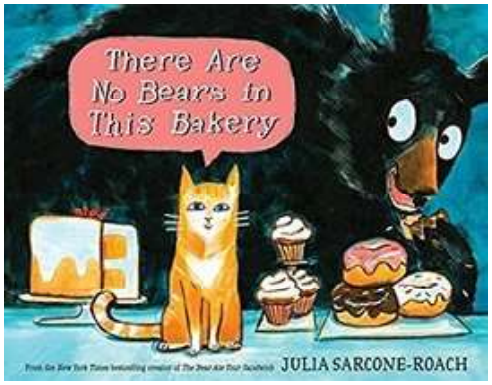
Ladybug Picture Book Award
2020 Voting Guide

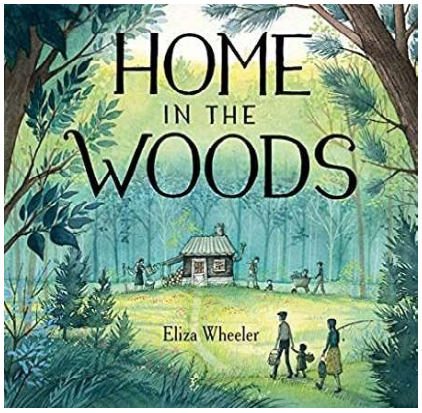


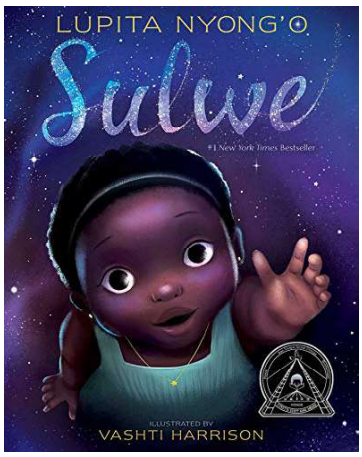


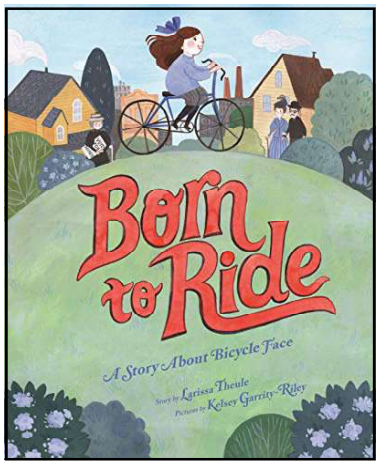


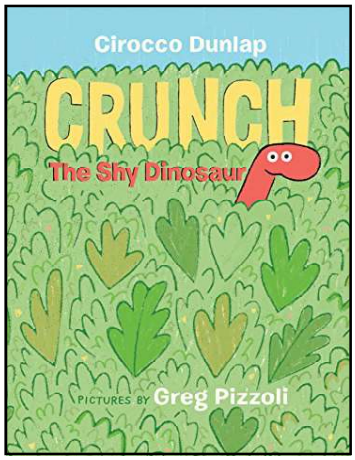


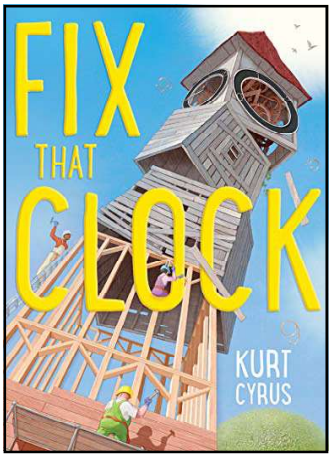












Sponsored by the Center for the Book
at the New Hampshire State Library
Learn more at http://ladybug.nhbookcenter.org

The Ladybug Picture Book Award is a program of the Center for the Book at the New Hampshire State Library and is designed to promote early literacy and honor the best in recent children's picture books. A committee of children's librarians from around the state selects 10 picture book titles each spring. Then, during November, New Hampshire children from preschoolers to those in third grade choose the award winner. The winning picture book is announced at the end of the year.

To be considered for nomination, a picture book must meet the following criteria:

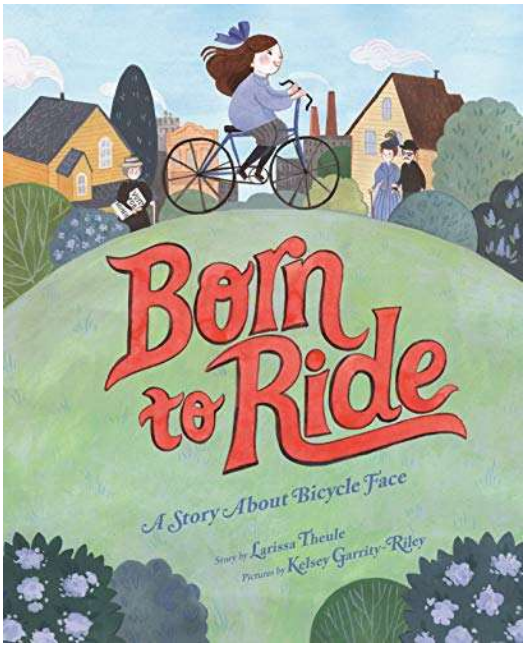
- be published, in its current edition, within the last three years
- be in print
- have an author and illustrator both residing in the United States
- possess strong child appeal
- have artistic quality with text that supports the illustrations
- not be a title previously nominated (visit our website for a list)

Voting may be held anywhere there are Granite State kids of eligible Ladybug voting age (up to 3rd graders). To be a voting site you must make all nominated books for that year available to your voters (this can be through storytimes, making the books available for kids to read themselves, or to take home, or a combination of these).
Voting materials for 2020, including a picture ballot, printable tally sheet, and the online tally form are all available at http://ladybug.nhbookcenter.org. There is also an order form to purchase voting and book stickers and several customizable flyers you can download to help promote your Ladybug events.

Voting may be conducted in any way that works for the voting site—picture ballots, raised hands, gathering near the book (Iowa-caucus style), putting an object in a container by the chosen book (like a penny raffle), or whatever you come up with that results in a count of votes for each nominated title that reflects the choices of the kids involved.

Votes must be received at the State Library, either through the online ballot or on an official tally sheet, by 4:30pm, Friday, December 11, 2020 in order to be counted.

This guide includes information and activities about each of the ten titles nominated for the 2020 Ladybug Picture Book Award. This information was compiled by Mary Russell, Director, Center for the Book at the NHSL with input from Felicia Martin, Ladybug Picture Book Award Committee Chair, and Karen Landsman, Hooksett School District.



Born to Ride: A Story about Bicycle Face
by Larissa Theule, illustrated by Kelsey Garrity-Riley (Harry N. Abrams, 2019)

Louise Belinda Bellflower lives in Rochester, New York, in 1896. She spends her days playing with her brother, Joe. But Joe gets to ride a bicycle, and Louise Belinda doesn't. In fact, Joe issues a solemn warning: If girls ride bikes, their faces will get so scrunched up, eyes bulging from the effort of balancing, that they'll get stuck that way FOREVER! Louise Belinda is appalled by this nonsense, so she strikes out to discover the truth about this so-called "bicycle face." Set against the backdrop of the women's suffrage movement *Born to Ride* is the story of one girl's courageous quest to prove that she can do everything the boys can do, while capturing the universal freedom and accomplishment children experience when riding a bike.

About Larissa Theule

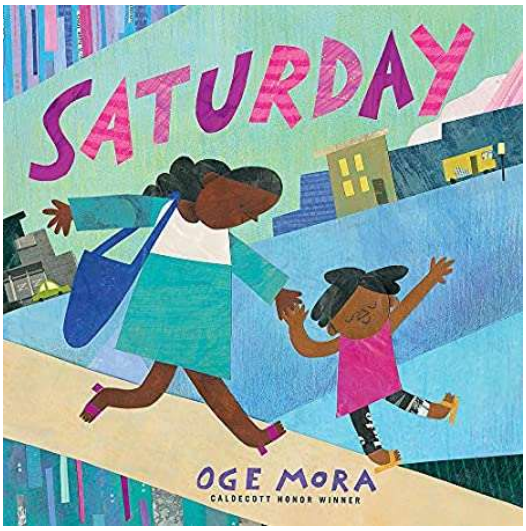
Larissa Theule lives in Pasadena, California where she rides a bicycle and cultivates her own bicycle face. Her website is http://larissatheule.com

About Kelsey Garrity-Riley

Kellsey Garrity-Riley grew up in Germany and Belgium and now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York. Her website is http://kgriley.com

Activities & Links

- You can see how to draw the main character and bicycle from the story at https://kidlit.tv/2019/06/ready-set-draw-the-girl-bike-from-born-to-ride/
- There are bicycle safety worksheets from the National Highway Safety Traffic Administration, including word searches and dot-to-dots at https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/bike/bskitboth/3152bskit/pages/section1/section1toc.html
- Kids can learn more about the Women's Suffrage movement at https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/history/womens-suffrage-movement/ and https://www.historyforkids.net/womens-suffrage.html
- The Victorian Cyclist blog at https://thevictoriancyclist.wordpress.com has lots of pictures of cyclists, male and female from the 1890s.



***Saturday* by Oge Mora (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2019)**

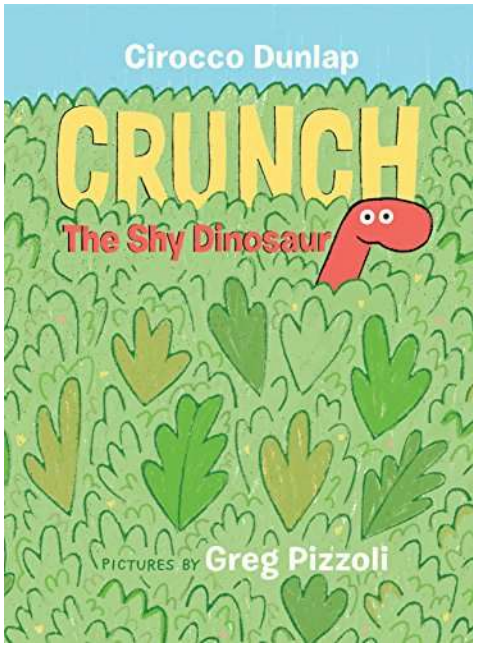
Today will be special. Today will be splendid. Today is Saturday! This is the day Ava and her mother cherish. Saturday means: story time, salon time, picnic time, and this week…. The best puppet show ever! But what happens when life doesn't exactly deliver on its promise? Join a mother and daughter on an up-and-down journey that reminds them of what's *best* about Saturdays: precious time together.

About Oge Mora

Oge Mora grew up in Columbus, Ohio and graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). Her picture book debut, *Thank You, Omu!,* won LOTS of awards and was a past Ladybug Picture Book Award nominee. Her website is http://ogemora.com

Activities & Links

- There is a video of the author reading her work at https://youtu.be/G_TKhaMv-cI
- There was an interview with the author about this book at We Need Diverse Books (https://diversebooks.org/qa-with-oge-mora-saturday/)
- Discussion question: Ava and her Mom have a Saturday routine. What routines do you have in your family?
- Discussion question: One of the themes in this story is dealing with life's ups and downs. What are some of the ways that you deal with situations that don't go the way you want them to?
- If you want to make your own hand puppets, just like Ava and her Mom, there is a video that shows how to make 5 easy paper puppets from Easy Kids Craft at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-n4A_rabcwg



***Crunch, The Shy Dinosaur* by Cirocco Dunlap, illustrated by Greg Pizzoli (Random House Books for Young Readers, 2018)**

Psst. Over here. Did you see that brontosaurus on the cover? He doesn't leave the bushes often, so its lucky you saw him at all! He's very shy, but he's very friendly. Would you like to meet him? Open this book carefully and follow my lead. We'll see how things go, but there's a good chance you'll end up with a new friend! Ready? Here we go…

About Cirocco Dunlap

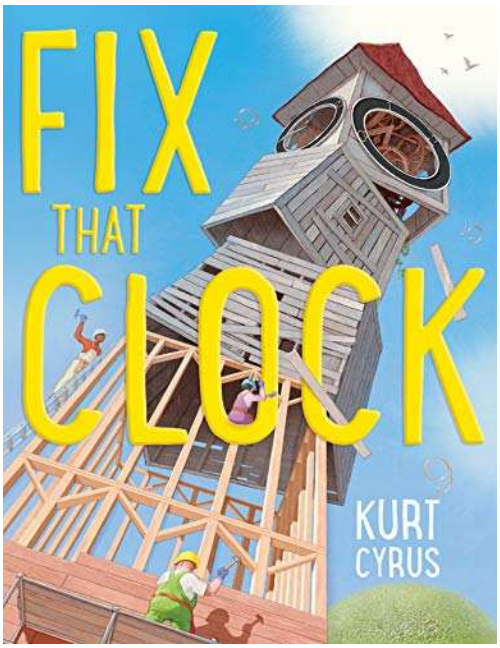
In addition to writing this picture book, Cirocco Dunlap writes for television and creates short films. She lives in Los Angeles. Her website is http://ciroccodunlap.com/

About Greg Pizzoli

Greg Pizzoli writes books as well as illustrating them and lives in Philadelphia with his wife and their dog and cats. His website (which was under construction in June 2020) is at http://gregpizzoli.com. You can follow him on Instagram at https://www.instagram.com/gregpizzoli/

Activities & Links

- There is a trailer for this book at https://youtu.be/da6QFoSYlho
- Scholastic has a variety of dinosaur resources and activities which are discussed at https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/blog-posts/meghan-everette/dig-scholastic-dinosaurs-and-teacher-freebies/
- The Pocket of Preschool blog has a post full of dinosaur fun at https://pocketofpreschool.com/dinosaur-themed-activities-centers-for-little-learners/
- Get facts about dinosaurs from The Dinosaur Museum at https://www.thedinosaurmuseum.com/dino-facts
- Discussion question: How can you tell if someone is feeling shy? What might they need from you? What helped Crunch?



Fix That Clock by Kurt Cyrus (HMH Books for Young Readers, 2019)

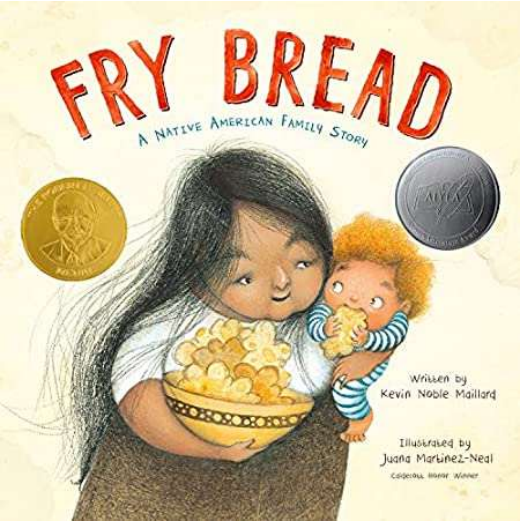
Tock… Tick… Clunk! Time has not been kind to this old clock tower. But with heads full of math and hands full of tools, our hardworking crew will quickly set things straight.

About Kurt Cyrus

Kurt Cyrus has written and/or illustrated lots of books, including *Hibernation Station* and *Tadpole Rex*, both of which were past Ladybug Picture Book Award nominees. He lives in Oregon. His web site is https://kurtcyrus.com

Activities & Links

- Education World's telling time lesson plans: https://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson312.shtml
- Rhyme activities from *Scholastic*: https://www.scholastic.com/parents/books-and-reading/raise-a-reader-blog/3-best-rhyme-games-kids.html
- Make your own paper plate clock: https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/paper-plate-clock-craft-4164110
- *All Kids Network* has a variety of ideas for crafts focused on shapes: https://www.allkidsnetwork.com/crafts/shapes/
- Compilation of famous clocks from around the world: https://pre-tend.com/the-most-famous-clocks-in-the-world/



Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story **by Kevin Noble Maillard, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal (Roaring Brook Press, 2019)**

Fry bread is food.
It is warm and delicious, piled high on a plate.
Fry bread is time.
It brings families together for meals and new memories.
Fry bread is nation.
It is shared by many, from coast to coast and beyond.
Fry bread is us.
It is a celebration of old and new, traditional and modern, similarity and difference.

About Kevin Noble Maillard

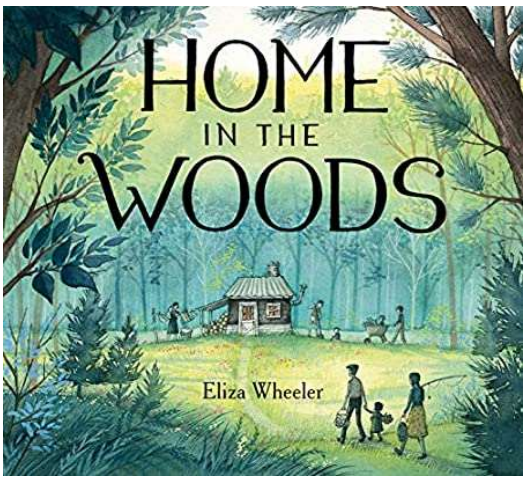
Kevin Noble Maillard is a member of the Seminole Nation, Mekusukey band and is originally from Oklahoma. He now lives in New York City. His website is http://kevinmaillard.com/

About Juana Martinez-Neal

Juana Martinez-Neal is an illustrator and author and her previous publications include *La Princesa and the Pea* and *Alma and How She Got Her Name*, both of which were past Ladybug Picture Book Award nominees. Her website is http://juanamartinezneal.com/

Activities & Links

- The Author's Note in this book includes lots of background information about the activities and symbols that appear in the book.
- There is a recipe for Fry Bread included in the book. There is another one, with videos at https://www.thespruceeats.com/native-american-fry-bread-4045432
- The author and illustrator were guests on the Children's Book Podcast in 2019. Listen at https://lgbpodcast.libsyn.com/kevin-noble-maillard-and-juana-martinez-neal
- *School Library Journal* featured this book in an article with LOTS of ideas for teaching this book. http://www.theclassroombookshelf.com/2020/02/fry-bread-a-native-american-family-story-a-love-letter-to-indigeneous-nations-and-communities/
- The Anti-Defamation League created a discussion guide about this book for educators (https://www.adl.org/media/13689/download) and one for families (https://www.adl.org/media/13690/download)
- There was an interview with the author on New York's WFUV. Listen at https://wfuv.org/content/fry-bread-celebrates-native-heritage



***Home in the Woods* by Eliza Wheeler (Nancy Paulsen Books, 2019)**

This stunningly beautiful picture book from New York Times bestselling author-illustrator Eliza Wheeler is based on her grandmother's childhood and pays homage to a family's fortitude as they discover the meaning of home.

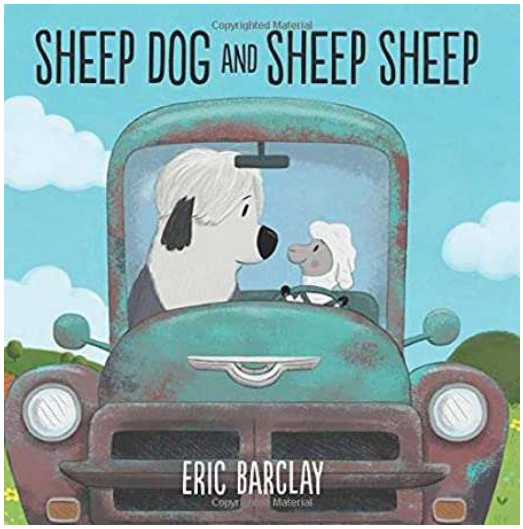
Eliza Wheeler's gorgeously illustrated book tells the story of what happens when six-year-old Marvel, her seven siblings, and their mom must start all over again after their father has died. Deep in the woods of Wisconsin they find a tar-paper shack. It doesn't seem like much of a home, but they soon start seeing what it *could* be. During their first year it's a struggle to maintain the shack and make sure they have enough to eat. But each season also brings its own delights and blessings--and the children always find a way to have fun. Most importantly, the family finds immense joy in being together, surrounded by nature. And slowly, their little shack starts feeling like a true home--warm, bright, and filled up with love.

About Eliza Wheeler

Eliza Wheeler grew up in northern Wisconsin in a family of musicians, teachers, and artists. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Her website is at https://wheelerstudio.com/

Activities & Links

- Check out a behind-the-scenes video of the author at work at https://youtu.be/gMNcoEvtSUU
- The website *Kids Gardening* provides activities and lesson plans for teachers and parents to assist kids in learning and growing through gardening, and engaging their natural curiosity and wonder: https://kidsgardening.org/
- The *US Forest Service* website offers an Educator Toolbox with background resources organized by grade level to help kids understand forests and grasslands. The website also offers professional development opportunities and resources for educators. https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/conservationeducation/educator-toolbox
- *Parents* magazine has a variety of nature inspired crafts for kids: https://www.parents.com/fun/arts-crafts/kid/nature-inspired-crafts-ideas-for-kids/
- *Martha Stewart's* website also provides a variety of nature craft ideas for kids: https://www.marthastewart.com/275439/nature-crafts-for-kids
- The NH PBS website is a great source for information about the changing of seasons, as well as ideas for activities related to this subject: https://nhpbs.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/evscps.sci.life.boutseas/about-the-seasons/



Sheep Dog and Sheep Sheep
by Eric Barclay (HarperCollins, 2019)

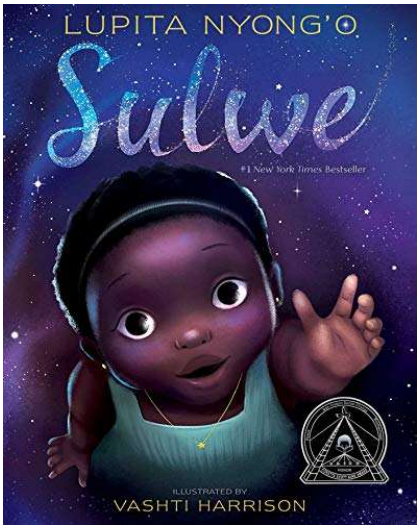
"Who are you?" Sheep asks when she bumps right into a very hairy someone. "I'm the sheep dog!" the someone says. "I watch the sheep." Holy begonia! Wait one minute! Isn't Sheep the sheep expert? Of course she is. In fact, she's the one who should show the sheep dog exactly what he needs to do to get the job done. With lots of humor and the perfect amount of irony, *Sheep Dog and Sheep Sheep* follows an accidental friendship that is irresistible from the first page.

About Eric Barclay

Eric Barclay grew up in a small Texas town and currently lives in Texas with his wife, two daughters, a dog, and two cats. His website is http://www.ericbarclay.com/

Activities & Links

- Discussion question: What makes a good friendship?
- Harper Collins Publishers collected 14 books about unlikely friendships at https://www.harpercollins.com/childrens/unlikely-friendships-childrens-books/
- Make your own sheep with craft ideas at https://iheartcraftythings.com/10-sheep-crafts-for-kids.html
- Find fun facts about sheep at https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/sciencefacts/animals/sheep.html
- The American Kennel Club has compiled 10 facts about the English Sheepdog at https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/10-interesting-facts-about-the-old-english-sheepdog/
- Learn even more about sheepdogs at http://www.oldenglishsheepdogclubofamerica.org/breed_info/history.php
- Discussion question: What dangerous situations come up in the story?



***Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o, illustrated by Vashti Harrison (Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2019)**

From Academy Award–winning actress Lupita Nyong'o comes a powerful, moving picture book about colorism, self-esteem, and learning that true beauty comes from within.

Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. She is darker than everyone in her family. She is darker than anyone in her school. Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything.

In this stunning debut picture book, actress Lupita Nyong'o creates a whimsical and heartwarming story to inspire children to see their own unique beauty.

About Lupita Nyong'o

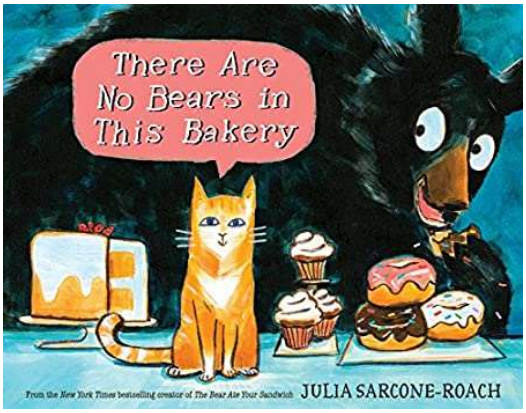
Lupita Nyong'o is an actress and author who was born in Mexico City, Mexico and was raised in Kenya from the age of one. She now lives in Brooklyn, New York. In 2013, she won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the film, *12 Years a Slave*.

About Vashti Harrison

Vashti Harrison is a writer, illustrator and filmmaker originally from Onley, Virginia. She now lives in Brooklyn, New York. Her website is https://www.vashtiharrison.com/

Activities & Links

- Common Core Curriculum Guide for *Sulwe:* https://d28hgpri8am2if.cloudfront.net/tagged_assets/5367491/9781534425361_cg_sulwe%20curriculum%20guide.pdf
- The Anti-Defamation League created a discussion guide about this book for educators: https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc
- Discussion question: Can you relate to Sulwe? If so, how?
- The author was a guest on *Good Morning America* where she discussed her inspiration for the book, *Sulwe*. See the interview here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyxaVWUAYSk
- Discussion question: Have you ever been teased or excluded because of your appearance? What happened? How did you feel?



There Are No Bears in This Bakery by Julia Sarcone-Roach (Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2019)

The creator of the New York Times bestselling The Bear Ate Your Sandwich brings us another sly story of a hungry bear and a smooth-talking narrator.

A tough gumshoe of a cat--the name's Muffin--protects his territory: The Little Bear Bakery. But there are no bears here. Not on Muffin's watch.

One night, Muffin hears a suspicious noise. Mouse? Raccoon? Bat? Nope, not the usual suspects. But Muffin hears . . . growling. Could it be? Yup. A bear. Just a cub. Whose stomach is definitely growling. Muffin's got this case solved--clearly this bear needs some donuts.

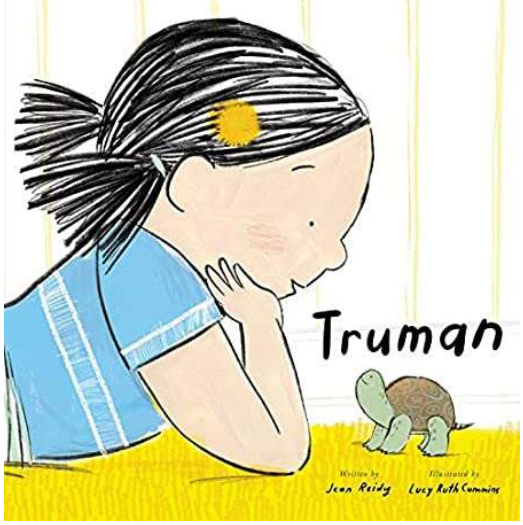
In this wonderfully noir-tinged tale, Julia Sarcone-Roach gives us another funny story of a hungry bear in the wrong place at the right time. This tale is sly and sweet, with sprinkles on top.

About Julia Sarcone-Roach

Julia Sarcone-Roach grew up in Arlington, Virginia, studied film and animation at the Rhode Island School of Design, and now lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she paints pictures, eats sandwiches and looks for bears. Her website is https://www.rodeenliterary.com/julia-sarconeroach

Activities & Links

- Make your own paper plate bear: https://www.craftymorning.com/paper-plate-bear-craft-kids/
- Make your own bear mask: https://www.firstpalette.com/printable/bear-mask.html
- National Geographic Kids has a list of Black Bear facts: https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/animals/general-animals/black-bear-facts/
- Lesson plans and activity ideas for this book: http://books4learning.blogspot.com/2019/03/there-are-no-bears-in-this-bakery-julia.html
- Make your own paper cupcakes (https://artsycraftsymom.com/cupcake-crafts-for-kids/) and paper doughnuts (https://www.craftsbycourtney.com/how-to-crafts/fun-donut-craft-for-kids/) for a mini bakery!
- Discussion question: What food do you eat when you are as hungry as a bear?



***Truman* by Jean Reidy, illustrated by Lucy Ruth Cummins (Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019)**

Truman the tortoise lives with his Sarah, high above the taxis and the trash trucks and the number eleven bus, which travels south. He never worries about the world below…until one day, when Sarah straps on a big backpack and does something Truman has never seen before. She boards the bus! Truman waits for her to return. He waits.And waits. And *waits*.
And when he can wait no longer, he knows what he must do. Even if it seems…*impossible*!

About Jean Reidy

Jean Reidy lives in Colorado, right across the street from her neighborhood library.
Her website is http://jeanreidy.com

There is a profile of her in *Kite Tales: SCBWI Chapter Newsletter* at
http://jeanreidy.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/KIteTales_with_Profile.pdf

About Lucy Ruth Cummins

Born in Canada, she is the youngest of six children, and her family lived in an actual log cabin. She grew up in Cortland, New York, and she now lives with her little family in Brooklyn, New York. Her website is http://lucyruthcummins.squarespace.com/

Activities & Links

- A story-time and curriculum guide from the publisher https://jeanreidy.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Truman_Storytime-and-Curriculum-Guide.pdf
- Making turtles is a great craft project. You can make them from applesauce containers (http://www.whatilivefor.net/2019/04/recycled-turtle-craft.html), paper plates (https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/paper-plate-turtle-craft/), tissue paper (https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/tissue-paper-and-paper-plate-turtle-craft/), or paint and a potato masher (https://happytoddlerplaytime.com/potato-masher-turtle-craft/)