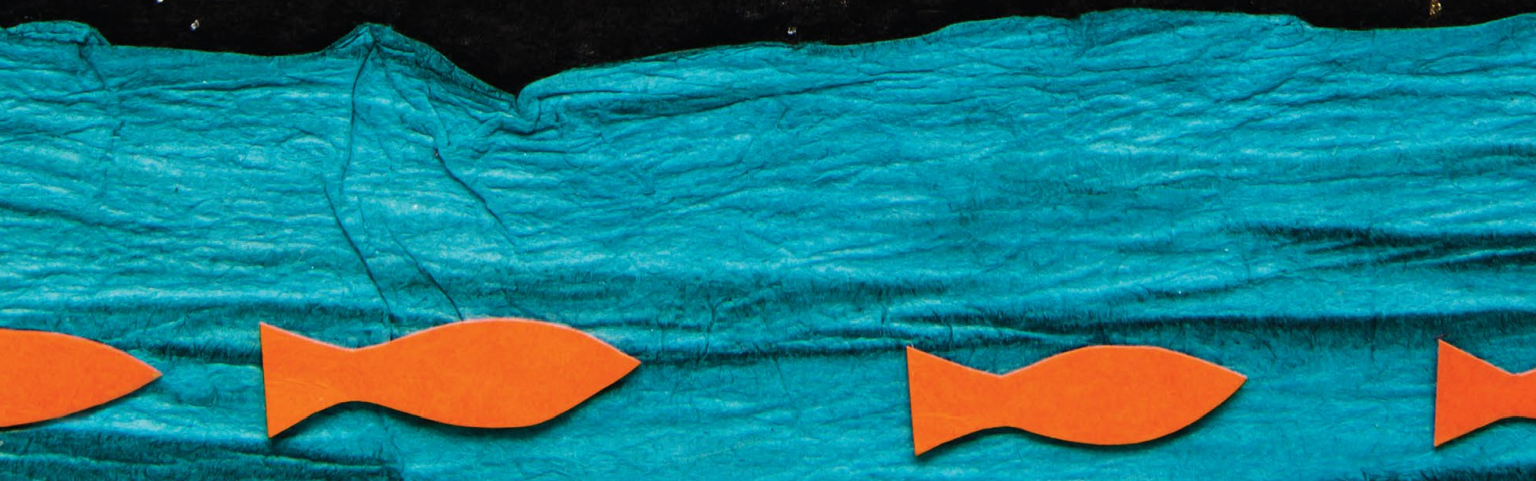




FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

2023
EDITION



Celebrating **Indigenous** Picture Books





FROM SEA TO SEA TO SEA

Celebrating **Indigenous** Picture Books

2023 Edition



Présidente d'honneur vice-royale :
Son Excellence la très honorable Mary Simon Gouverneure générale du Canada

Viceregal Patron:
Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon
Governor General of Canada

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Shawna Davis [Gitksan/Nisga'a]. *Majagalee: The Language of Seasons*. Photograph by
Toonasa Jordana Luggi [Wet'suwet'en/Dakelh]. McKellar & Martin, 2022.

The names and spellings of the Indigenous authors, illustrators
and translators' Nations reflect how they identify themselves in their
books and related materials at the time of production.

*IBBY Canada strives to make the world a more inclusive, equitable,
and connected place through the power of children's books.*

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Governor General of Canada

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WELCOME – TAWÂW!

Welcome to the 2023 Edition of *From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books*! I encourage you to celebrate this collection of 25 of the best Indigenous picture books published in Canada between 2020 and 2022. Care was taken to ensure that this collection reflects the diversity of First Nations, Métis and Inuit voices from sea to sea to sea, and that the titles are available and in print for anyone who wishes to access them. Please promote by reading and sharing the titles within this collection, as I hope you have for the titles curated within the first two collections (*From Sea to Sea to Sea: Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books* 2018 and 2021 editions).

Many people were involved in the creation of this special collection. Many thanks go out to the selection committee, who considered almost 100 titles in curating this collection. They are: Allison Taylor McBryde, children's collection librarian, North Vancouver District Public Library; Joanne Schwartz, award-winning author and children's librarian with the Toronto Public Library; Lorisia MacLeod (James Smith Cree Nation), Online Reference Coordinator with The Alberta Library and Chair of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations; Nancy Cooper (Rama First Nation), First Nation Consultant at the Southern Ontario Library Service. Special thanks also to Mary Beth Leatherdale, award-winning author and editor who is Founding Project Co-Chair of *From Sea to Sea to Sea* along with Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis and was also Consulting Member to this edition. And last, but not least, thank you to Patti McIntosh, President of IBBY Canada, for her support of the selection committee.

Many thanks to designer Sean Simpson and to the production team members Kathleen Keenan and Claire Caldwell for constructing this lovely catalogue.

Finally, thank you so much to the publishers, who tirelessly support the catalogue by submitting titles, providing images, and helping to promote the collection.

We have confidence that this catalogue can help to guide you to some wonderful, quality board books and picture books. We live in an exciting time, with new picture books written by Indigenous authors and/or illustrated by Indigenous artists published more and more frequently. I encourage you to continue to read titles written and illustrated by Indigenous people and update your own collections as new titles become available.

Please celebrate the titles in this collection with us by using the hashtags #ReadIndigenous and #Indigenouspicturebooks and tagging @IBBYCanada on social media.

We hope you enjoy reading the catalogue and the titles within as much as we have!

Sincerely,

Colette Poitras (Métis Nation of Alberta)

Project Chair



The Move. Heritage House Publishing, 2022.



Inhabit Education, 2021. 9781774502839

[illegible]

Inhabit Media, 2022. 9781772274332



8

Berry Picking at Four Mile Bay. Inhabit Education Books, 2021.



Thunder and the Noise Storms. Annick Press, 2021.

Ansloos, Jeffrey [Cree] and Shezza Ansloos [Cree].

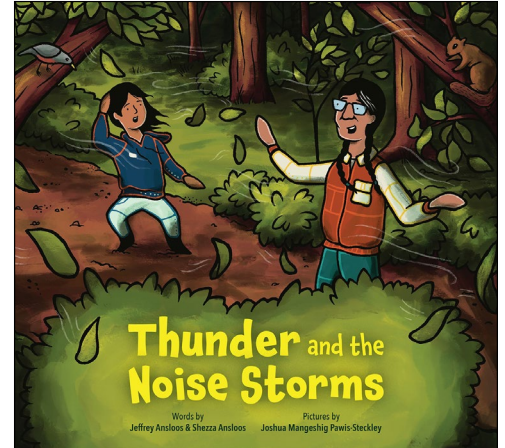
Thunder and the Noise Storms.

Illustrated by Joshua Mangeshig

Pawis-Steckley [Anishinaabe].

Annick Press, 2021. 9781773215587

Loud noises are hard for Thunder. They make him feel stormy inside, like a noise storm. After an incident at school, Mosom comes to pick up Thunder. They go for a walk in the forest and Mosom teaches Thunder about the concept of “mamaskasitawew” or “to listen with wonder.” Mosom and Thunder listen hard for the natural sounds all around them. Mosom says “Thunder, Thunder, listen with wonder.” Thunder, with help from Mosom, calms the noise storm inside of him.



Armstrong, Juliana [Nipissing First Nation].

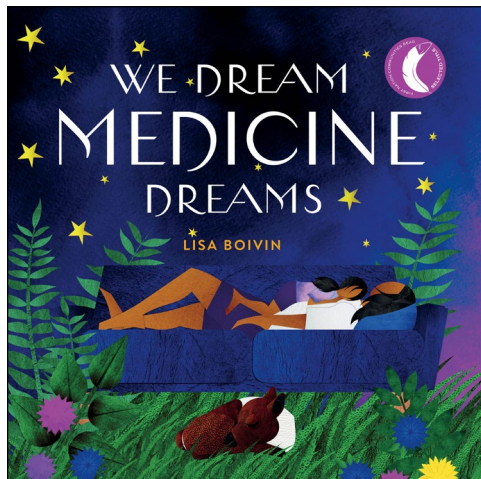
This is What I've Been Told / Mii Yi Gaa-Bi-Wiindmaagooyaan.

Medicine Wheel Publishing, 2021. 9781989122693.

This Is What I've Been Told / Mii Yi Gaa-Bi-Wiindmaagooyaan is a tribute to Ojibwe teachings, passed down through the generations, as well as a tribute to Anishnaabemowin, the Anishnaabe language. The reader

learns how Gookmis (grandmother) and Mishoomis (grandfather) teach their grandchild what they learned from their own grandparents. They share lessons about culture, identity, language and living a good life. Every other page has a heading with a word or phrase in Anishnaabemowin, as well as the translation in English. (Also available in bilingual French and Anishnaabemowin edition.

C'est ce qu'on m'a dit / Mii Yi Gaa-Bi-Wiindmaagooyang. French translation by Marie-Christine Payette. Medicine Wheel Publishing, 2021).



Boivin, Lisa [Deninu K'ue First Nation].

We Dream Medicine Dreams.

HighWater Press, 2021. 9781553799870

Grampa teaches his grandchild the importance of dreams, that there is “medicine in our dreams.” Through dreaming of animals, we learn how to face life’s challenges. He shares lessons from the bear, the hawk, the caribou and the wolf. It is through these medicine dreams and teachings that we learn how to understand the world and how to cope with grief. We also learn the power of connection, kinship and healing through culture.

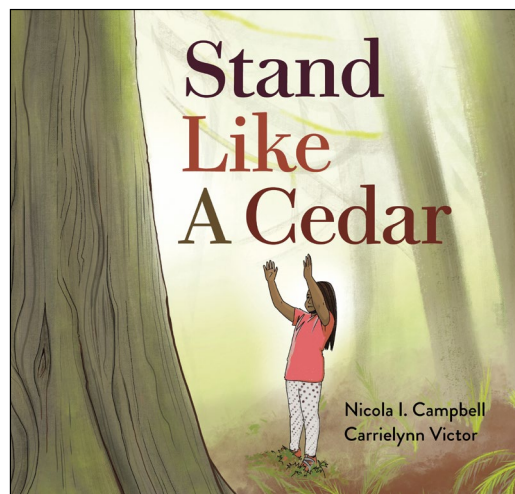
Campbell, Nicola I. [Nl̓eʔkepmx̌, Syíl̓x and Métis].

Stand Like a Cedar.

Illustrated by Carrielynn Victor [Coast Salish/European].

HighWater Press, 2021. 9781553799214

Going for a canoe ride, walking on the land through the changing seasons, this story takes you on a journey through a child’s eyes. The book asks, “Who did you see, who did you hear?” Children are reminded to take care of one another and the land, to honour and be thankful for all of Earth’s creatures. The title includes a glossary at the back with Nl̓eʔkepmxčín, Stó:lō Halq’eméylem and Syíl̓x (Okanagan) nsyilxcen phrases and words, their phonetic pronunciations, the English translations and a translation guide. (Also available in French. *Debout comme un grand cèdre*. French translation by Sylvie Nicolas. Éditions Hannenorak, 2021.)



Bear, Alberta-Rose [Cree] and Kathleen O'Reilly.

Nimosôm anima / nimihšômiš

ta-minciwēnciman / Grandfather's Reminder.

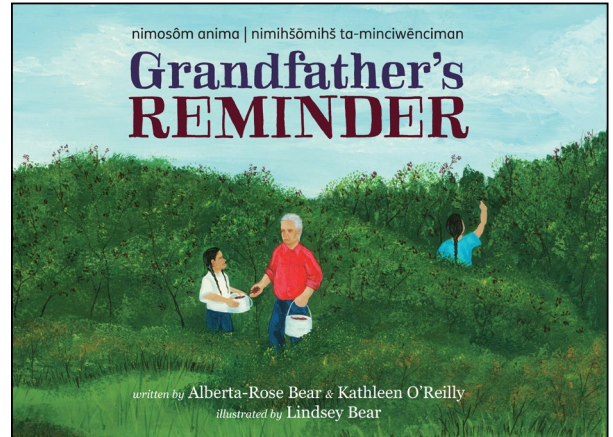
Illustrated by Lindsey Bear [Cree]. Plains Cree

translation by Solomon Ratt [Stanley Mission].

Saulteaux translation by Lorena Cote [Saulteaux]

and Margaret Cote [Saulteaux].

Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, 2022. 9781988783826



Told in paskwâwinîmowin (Plains Cree),

anihšināpēmowin (Saulteaux) and English, this story

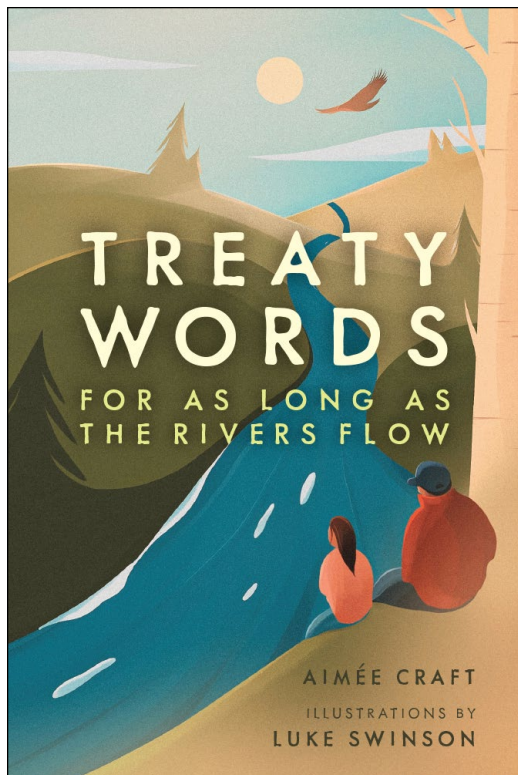
of an outing to pick chokeberries beautifully illustrates the need for gratitude and respect for Mother Earth.

Both Grandfather and Grandmother have opportunities to teach important lessons to their grandson as he impatiently tries to pick berries beyond his reach and breaks a branch. They gently pass on the knowledge that their grandson needs to be a future caretaker of his environment. An afterword includes a Plains Cree and Saulteaux pronunciation guide.



Nimosôm anima / nimihšômiš ta-minciwēnciman / Grandfather's Reminder.

Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, 2022.



Craft, Aimée [Anishinaabe/Métis].

Treaty Words: For as Long as the Rivers Flow.

Illustrated by Luke Swinson [Anishinaabe].

Annick Press, 2021. 9781773214962

This beautiful little book is like a prayer shared with all of creation. A young girl and her mishomis sit and visit out on the land as winter makes way for spring. They notice all the sounds that surround them. They share tea. Mishomis talks about the treaties. These are treaties not just with the settlers, but the treaties in creation that ensure our survival. We are reminded that the treaties were never meant to be just transactions. Instead, they were reminders that all parties agree to work together (aagooiidiwin).

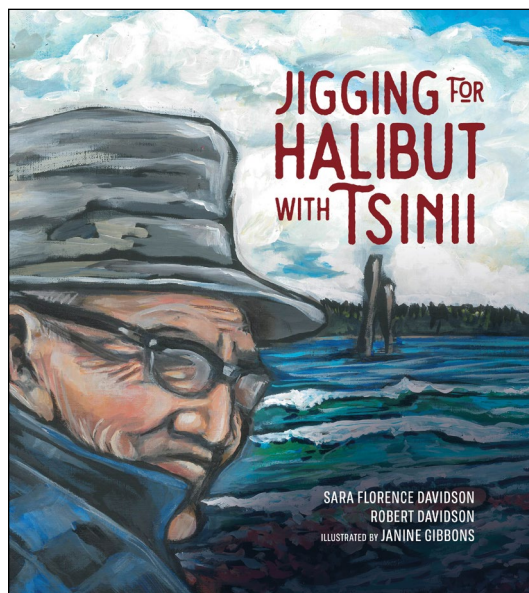
Davidson, Sara Florence (Sgaan Jaadgu San Glans) [Haida/Settler] and Robert Davidson [Haida].

Jigging for Halibut with Tsinii.

Illustrated by Janine Gibbons [Haida].

HighWater Press, 2021. 9781553799818

From the stunning painting of seagulls circling on the endpapers, to the rich browns, green and blues of the land and ocean, this visual feast accompanies a gentle, rhythmic and poetic text as a boy and his grandfather row with the tide to the halibut bank. Few words are shared throughout the day, but patience, gratitude and traditional skills are subtly passed on in Haida artist Robert Davidson's memories of fishing with his grandfather. This is one of four titles available in the Sk'ad'a Stories series from the same authors and illustrator. The series currently includes *Learning to Carve Argillite* (2021), *Returning to the Yakoun River* (2022), and *Dancing with Our Ancestors* (2022).





Jigging for Halibut with Tsinii. HighWater Press, 2021.



Majagalee: The Language of Seasons. McKellar & Martin, 2022.

Davis, Shawna [Gitksan/Nisga'a].

Majagalee: The Language of Seasons.

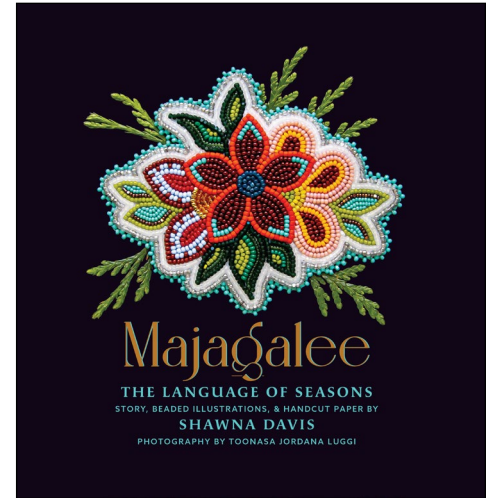
Photographs by Toonasa

Jordana Luggi [Wet'suwet'en/Dakelh].

McKellar & Martin, 2022. 9781990458002

Traditional beadwork and hand-cut paper backgrounds by Shawna Davis are arranged and photographed to create stunning illustrations that tell the story of the changing seasons, starting with winter's end. Each page is a poetic vignette describing the various plants and animals that signify the seasonal cycles.

Spring rain brings majagalee, the sweet wildflowers; firewood and roses bloom in summer, and the salmon is abundant; fall brings the red and gold shower of changing leaves; and as winter comes again, bear prepares for his long sleep. The gratitude and reverence for the land are deeply felt in this unique, artistic expression.



George, Doris [Cree] and Don K. Philpot.

k̄-āciwīkicik / The Move.

Illustrated by Alyssa Koski [Kainai Nation].

Swampy Cree translation by Doris George and Don K. Philpot. Heritage House Publishing, 2022. 9781772934097

k̄-āciwīkicik / The Move depicts the impact of community displacement on one elderly couple and draws upon the authors' familial and personal experiences with the forcible relocation of Chemawawin First Nation in northern Manitoba in the 1960s. While the old man is resigned to living out his remaining days in the barren and lifeless

landscape to which they have been relocated, the old woman draws upon the power of hope, and her faith in traditional customs and knowledge, to bring life — nature and family — to their new home. And in the end, through her beliefs, life blooms: "It's good here," she says. "We will provide for ourselves. That is all." The painterly illustrations show the contrasting landscapes, moving from bleak greys to inviting earth tones. A fascinating authors' note describes the "shaping" of the story and the authors' back-and-forth between English and Cree as they created the text for this unique and mystical book.



Johnston, Aviaq [Inuk].
Grandfather Bowhead, Tell Me A Story.
 Illustrated by Tamara Campeau.
 Inhabit Media, 2021. 9781772272970

by Aviag Johnston

illustrated by
Tamara Campeau

GRANDFATHER
BOWHEAD,
TELL ME A STORY

Kelly, Masiana [Inuk/Dene].

The Dancing Trees.

Illustrated by Michelle Simpson.

Inhabit Media, 2021. 9781772273694

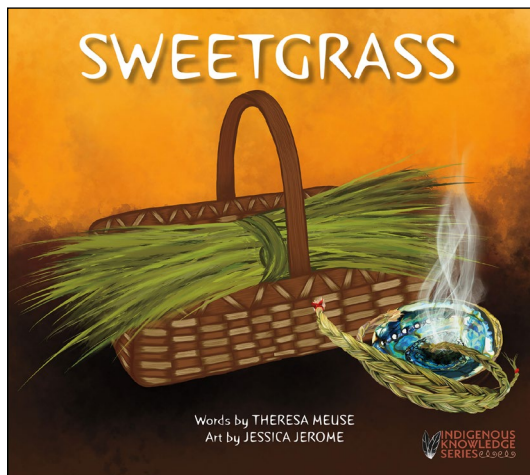
Thomas loves to tell tall tales. He tells embellished stories about what a good harvester he is and how well he can live on the land. His friends grow tired of his tales and challenge him to prove it by spending a night alone in the forest with only his backpack. He shows little respect for the environment, as he litters and strips the bark of trees. The trees, seeing and hearing his disrespect for the environment, start to dance, uproot and move so that he is unable to find his way back until he changes his ways. From this experience, he learns about environmental stewardship, speaking the truth, humility and respect for the lessons of his Elders. (Also available in Inuinnaqtun Roman orthography. *Numiqut Napaaqtut*. Innuinnaqtun translation by Rosemarie Meyok [Inuk], Gwen Angulalik [Inuk], and Julia Ogina [Inuk]. Inhabit Media, 2021. Also available in Inuktitut syllabics. ᐃᓕᓕᓕᓕ ᐃᓕᓕᓕᓕ. Inuktitut translation by Jeela Palluq-Cloutier [Inuk]).



Grandfather Bowhead, tell me a story
of all the voyagers you have met.

Little Arvaq, I've met geese who have
travelled halfway across the world,
but they do not know the feeling of home that
I have with you.

Grandfather Bowhead, Tell Me A Story. Inhabit Media, 2021.



Meuse, Theresa [Bear River First Nation].

Sweetgrass.

Illustrated by Jessica Jerome [Listuguj]
Mi'kmaw First Nation].

Nimbus Publishing, 2022. 9781771089333

Warren and his cousin Matthew are getting ready to pick sweetgrass with Auntie. As it is his first time, Warren has many lessons to learn. This gentle story with vivid illustrations is a lovely way for children of all ages to learn about the Mi'kmaq way to harvest sweetgrass and the importance of family and community, as well as sharing, reciprocity, giving thanks respectfully and environmental stewardship.

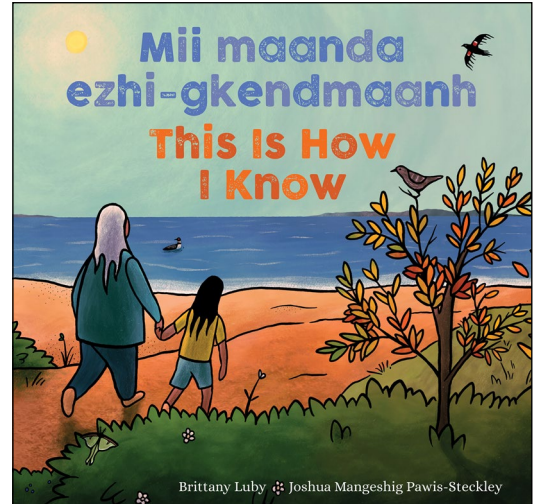


Mii maanda ezhi-gkendmaan / This Is How I Know. Groundwood Books, 2021.

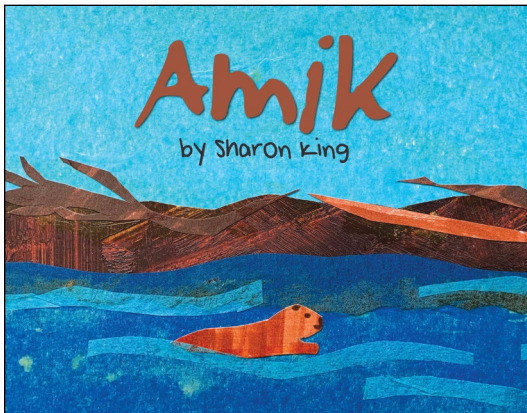
Luby, Brittany [Anishinaabe descent, paternal ancestors from Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3].

Mii maanda ezhi-gkendmaanh / This Is How I Know.

Illustrated by Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley [Anishinaabe]. Anishinaabemowin translation by Alvin Ted Corbiere [Anishinaabe] and Alan Corbiere [Anishinaabe]. Groundwood Books, 2021. 9781773063263



“When yellow Bumblebee collects purple fireweed with me, and we spy brown Screech Owl asleep in the tree... This is how I know summer.” The glorious sights, sounds and colours of the four seasons are celebrated in *Mii maanda ezhi-gkendmaanh / This Is How I Know*. The reader looks over the shoulder of the narrator, a young girl, and her grandmother and travels with them through the year to see and feel what makes each season special. Drawing upon the author’s and the illustrator’s childhood memories, and time they spent with Knowledge Keepers on the Great Lakes, the story beautifully evokes an appreciation for the interconnectedness of the generations — and of the elements of our natural world. The illustrations, in the style of Woodland art, further this appreciation with amazing detail, as we see lakeside settings with the sun setting into an “orange dream” in the summer and an orange star “showing bedtime is near” in the spring. Also available in Braille.



King, Sharon [Potawatomi].

Amik.

KegeDonce Press, 2021. 9781928120285

This dual language (Anishinaabemowin/English) board book tells the story of amik the beaver as he goes about his day busily working to build a dam. We are shown many of the other beings in creation doing their jobs. The spider builds her web, the bear looks for berries and the birds fly overhead and sing their songs. At the end of the day, amik goes home to his family. The book teaches in a simple, easy-to-read format. The paper-collage art was also created by the author.



Inhabit Media, 2021. 9781772272987

the bowhead, the polar bear, and more. (Also available in Inuinnaqtun Roman orthography. *Huradjat Titiraujaqtait: Qalvik*. Inuinnaqtun translation by Rosemarie Meyok [Inuk]. Inhabit Media, 2021. Also available in Inuktitut syllabics. ᐃᓕᑦ ᐱᐱᑦᑐᓚᑦᔭᓕᑦ ᑦᔭᑦᓂᑦ. Inuktitut translation by Jaypeetee Arnakak [Inuk]. Inhabit Media, 2022.)



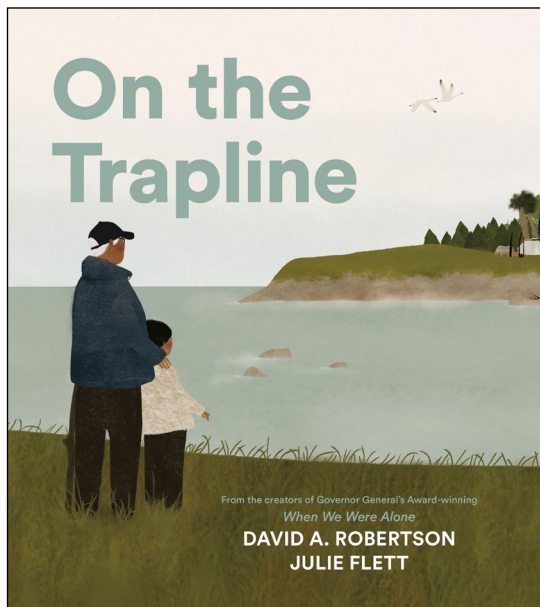
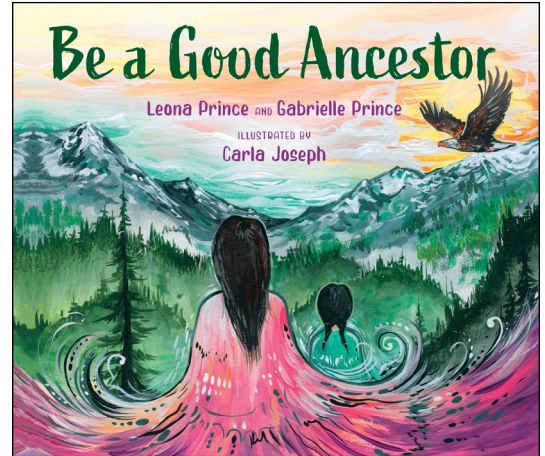
Prince, Leona and Gabrielle [Lake Babine Nation and Nak'azdli Whut'en / Likh Tsa Mis Yu (Beaver) Clan].

Be a Good Ancestor.

Illustrated by Carla Joseph [Cree].

Orca Book Publishers, 2022. 9781459831407.

With stunning simplicity and elegance, Leona and Gabrielle Prince capture the relationships between everything from the smallest elements in our lives to the largest. Following a repetitive pattern —“Seeds become seedlings. Seedlings become trees. Trees become forests. Forests become oxygen” — the words explore connections from the natural world to human relationships. The artwork reflects the beauty and flow of the language with glowing portraits of bears, salmon, eagles and landscapes.



Robertson, David Alexander. [Swampy Cree].

On the Trapline.

Illustrated by Julie Flett [Cree/Métis].

Tundra Books, 2021. 9780735266681

Moshom (Grandfather) and his grandson fly up north to visit the trapline, which is where Moshom once hunted, fished and lived off the land. The reader learns the importance of such things as sharing, kindness and respect for Elders. Lessons also abound about family, the land, culture, the food, chores and the traditional lifestyle. The book includes notes from the author and the illustrator, as well as a glossary of the Swampy

Cree words used throughout and a pronunciation guide. (Also available in French. *Ligne de trappe*. French translation by Brittany Luby [Anishinaabe descent, paternal ancestors from Niisaachewan Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty #3] and Arnaud Bessière. Éditions Scholastic, 2021.)



.....
Sainte-Marie, Buffy [Cree].

Still This Love Goes On.

Illustrated by Julie Flett [Cree/Métis].

Greystone Books, 2022. 9781771648073
.....

Inspired by Buffy Sainte-Marie's song of the same name, this book evokes the rhythm of the seasons and the sound of the drum. She compares her words to "taking photos with my heart of the things I see on the reserve." Love is the touchstone of this song — love for sun-drenched meadows, the smell of sweetgrass, the sound of jingle dancers and her endless love for nature, family and culture. Julie Flett's solid blocks of blue, gray, green and white are broken by patterns of flying geese, stampeding buffalo, footprints in the snow,

meadow flowers — and babies, parents, families. This is a book to love, cherish, listen to, sing and share with every child.

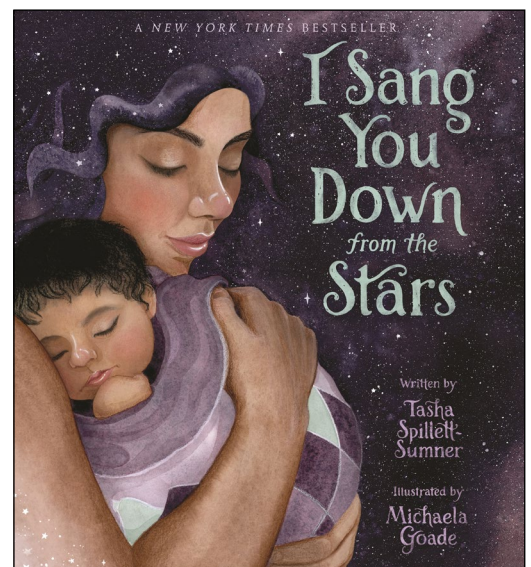
.....
Spillett-Sumner, Tasha [Cree/Trinidadian].

I Sang You Down from the Stars.

Illustrated by Michaela Goade [Tlingit].

Owlkids Books, 2021. 9781771474085
.....

Pastel, organic watercolours go beyond the natural world to the cosmos with a flowing, star-studded breeze that travels from page to page and follows a woman's journey through the seasons and her pregnancy. The mother gathers eagle plumes, cedar and sage for the baby's bundle and creates a star blanket to welcome the baby, who arrives in the spring. The lyrical text honours the patience, the hopes and the dreams of every mother as she says "I loved you before I met you. Before I held you in my arms. I sang you down from the stars."

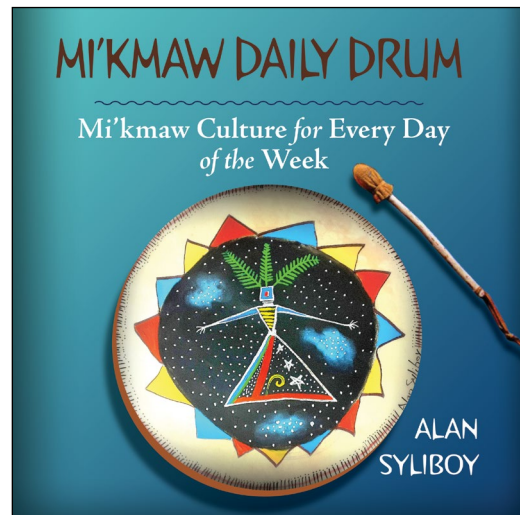


Syliboy, Alan [Mi'kmaq].

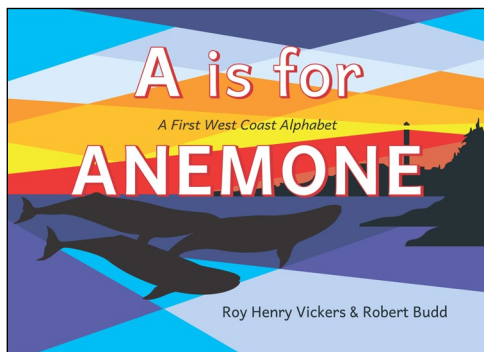
Mi'kmaq Daily Drum: Mi'kmaq Culture for Every Day of the Week.

Nimbus Publishing, 2020. 9781771088893

Syliboy introduces the Indigenous petroglyph style of art that decorates his drums. The “drum is the heartbeat of Mother Earth.” Each page in this colourful board book unites representations of turtle, caribou, bear, whale and cultural references to Muin, Spirit Woman, the eight-point star and the round dance with the names of the days of the week in Mi'kmaq and English.



I Sang You Down from the Stars. Owlkids Books, 2021.



Vickers, Roy Henry [Tsimshian, Haida and Heiltsuk] and Robert Budd.

A is for Anemone: A First West Coast Alphabet.
Harbour Publishing, 2021. 9781550179477

With his iconic bold colours and silhouetted images, Roy Henry Vickers introduces the west coast to the youngest readers.

Simple rhyming sentences introduce animals from dogfish to

orcas, geography from islands to valleys, and culture from paddlers to totem poles. The glowing sunsets and rainbows are enhanced by slick black raised tactile outlines, patterns and reflections, which will encourage children to touch the hidden clamshells, fish, whales and totems.

Whitecrow, Darcy [Ojibwe/Dakota] and Heather M. O'Connor.

Runs With the Stars.

Illustrated by Lenny Lishchenko.

Second Story Press, 2022. 9781772602388

Noozhis loves his grandfather's Ojibwe horses, especially pregnant Star. Each day, as he helps with their care, he repeatedly asks to hear the story of how the tiny herd has survived over the years. Passionate about the horses, Noozhis even dreams about Star's foal just before she is born, illustrating the deep, loving bond between the boy and the herd. An afterword tells the real story of the Ojibwe horses, also known as the Lac La Croix Indigenous Pony, and the efforts of Fred Isham, and others, that rescued them from near extinction. (Also available in dual-language English/Anishinaamebowen edition. *Wijibibamatoon Anangoonan/Runs with the Stars*. Anishinaabemowen translation by Kelvin Morrison (Kiitaabines) [Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation]. Second Story Press, 2022.)





Runs With the Stars. Second Story Press, 2022.

Addendum to the 2018 and 2021 Editions of

From Sea to Sea to Sea:

Celebrating Indigenous Picture Books

New editions and titles in series

- Burton, Wilfred [Métis]. *Road Allowance Kitten: Broken Promises*. Illustrated by Christina Johns [Métis]. Michif translation by Norman Fleury [Métis]. Gabriel Dumont Institute, 2021. 9781926795942
- Gray Smith, Monique [Cree/Lakota]. *My Heart Fills with Happiness / Nijiikendam*. Illustrated by Julie Flett [Cree/Métis]. Anishinaabemowin translation by Angela Mesic & Margaret Noodin [Ojibwe]. Orca Book Publishers, 2021. 9781459825390
- Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson) [Gitxsan Nation]. *The Frog Mother*. Illustrated by Natasha Donovan [Métis]. HighWater Press, 2021. 9781553799016
- Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson) [Gitxsan Nation]. *The Wolf Mother*. Illustrated by Natasha Donovan [Métis]. HighWater Press, 2021. 9781553799788
- Hetxw'ms Gyetxw (Brett D. Huson) [Gitxsan Nation]. *The Raven Mother*. Illustrated by Natasha Donovan [Métis]. HighWater Press, 2022. 9781774920039
- Qitsualik-Tinsley, Rachel [Inuk/Cree] and Sean Qitsualik-Tinsley [Scottish/Mohawk]. *Tanna's Lemming*. Illustrated by Tamara Campeau. Inhabit Media, 2022. 9781772274233
- Sellers, Willie [T'exelc Williams Lake]. *Hockey with Dad*. Illustrated by Kevin Easthope. Caitlin Press, 2021. 9781987915808
- Van Camp, Richard [Tłıchq]. *Little You / Gidagaashiinh*. Illustrated by Julie Flett [Cree/Métis]. Anishinaabemowin translation by Angela Mesic & Margaret Noodin [Ojibwe]. Orca Book Publishers, 2021. 9781459825505
- Van Camp, Richard [Tłıchq]. *We Sang You Home / kiki-kîwê-nikamôstamâtinân*. Illustrated by Julie Flett [Cree/Métis]. Plains Cree translation by Mary Cardinal Collins [Saddle Lake First Nation]. Orca Book Publishers, 2022. 9781459836365



We All Play. Greystone Books, 2021.

Using the Collection

This list reflects the most current attitudes and approaches to Indigenous literature today. Having these titles in your collection will allow children to find the books they need at the right moment.

Creating a caring environment

When using the books in this collection, it's important to create a caring environment where readers can ask questions and explore perspectives. Some topics may be difficult for readers. Be prepared to be faced with potentially sensitive topics or challenging, thought-provoking conversations. Come with strategies for facilitating and encouraging discussions that will prepare, engage and inform readers. Readers who are learning about issues that have affected their own lives, their families and/or communities, such as the residential school system, may find discussions very challenging. Consider raising awareness of support services available to readers and their families in the event that discussing the topic has a personal impact.



The Dancing Trees. Inhabit Media, 2021.

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