



# Great Reads for the Holidays 2011



The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) has compiled a list of great Canadian books, for kids of all ages, for the 2011 holiday season. While the CCBC does not sell these items, they can be purchased directly from your local bookseller or wholesaler.



**The Canadian Children's Book Centre**  
**[www.bookcentre.ca](http://www.bookcentre.ca)**

# Picture Books

## **A Bedtime for Bear**

**Written by Bonny Becker**

**Illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton**

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010

\$20.00 HC 978-0-7636-4101-6

48 pages, full-colour, 11" x 9 1/2"

IL: Ages 5-7 RL: Grades 1-2

Bear has many rituals to complete before bed – he sets out his glass of water, adjusts his nightcap, fluffs his pillow and needs absolute quiet – and everything must be just right. When an unexpected guest comes to spend the night, he disrupts Bear's routine and causes quite a stir. This irresistible tale of Bear and Mouse will delight young children and parents alike.

FRIENDSHIP | ROUTINES | MANNERS

## **Canadian Railroad Trilogy**

**Written by Gordon Lightfoot**

**Illustrated by Ian Wallace**

Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2010

\$24.95 HC 978-0-88899-953-5

56 pages, full-colour, 9 5/8" x 12 1/2"

IL: Ages 8 and up RL: Grades 5-6

Highly acclaimed, award-winning illustrator Ian Wallace brings Gordon Lightfoot's beloved song to visual life with his sweeping landscapes and evocative portrayals of the people who lived the building of the railroad. This book includes Gordon Lightfoot's music and lyrics, a brief history of the railroad, notes on the illustrations and further reading.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY | TRAINS | CANADA |  
RAILROAD WORKERS

## **The City Speaks in Drums**

**Written by Shauntay Grant**

**Illustrated by Susan Tooke**

Halifax: Nimbus Publishing, 2010

\$26.95 HC with CD 978-1-55109-766-4

\$19.95 HC 978-1-55109-758-9

32 pages, full-colour, 8 7/8" x 11 1/4"

IL: Ages 6-10 RL: Grades 4-5

The sounds of the city create a fast-paced and exciting rhythmic poem as two boys from Halifax explore their neighbourhood. Basketball players, musicians, dancers and children bring the sounds of the city to life. Vivid, eye-catching illustrations capture the action and sights of this east coast city.

POETRY | DANCE | MUSIC | HALIFAX

## **A Flock of Shoes**

**Written by Sarah Tsiang**

**Illustrated by Qin Leng**

Toronto: Annick Press, 2010

\$19.95 LIB 978-1-55451-249-2

\$8.95 PB 978-1-55451-248-5

32 pages, full-colour, 9" x 9"

IL: Ages 2-5 RL: Grades 1-2

Abby loves her pink-and-brown sandals and wears them everywhere until one day they flip off her feet and head south for the winter. It's not until February that she falls in love with her white-and-blue boots, but come spring, they board the north-bound train for the summer. As Abby sits and waves sadly to her beloved boots she hears a swish!

SHOES | IMAGINATION | SEASONS

## **Fred and Pete at the Beach**

**Written and illustrated by Cynthia Nugent**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$19.95 HC (jacket & PLC) 978-1-55469-126-5

32 pages, full-colour, 10 3/8" x 9"

IL: Ages 4-8 RL: Grades 3-4

Meet Fred and Pete, two dogs with very different personalities. When their human leaves them at home for being naughty, Pete decides they can find their own way to the beach. Join them as they hitch rides in anything with wheels and see where they finally end up.

DOGS | FRIENDSHIP | PETS | ADVENTURE

## **Giraffe and Bird**

**Written and illustrated by Rebecca Bender**

Toronto: Dancing Cat Books, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-1-897151-84-6

32 pages, full-colour, 10" x 12"

IL: Ages 3-6 RL: Grades 1-2

Giraffe and Bird are an odd couple who can't live with or without each other. When they've finally had all they can take, they part ways – but how will they weather the coming storm? Giraffe will have nowhere to hide from the lightning, and Bird will have no shelter from the thunder. This hilarious tale shows how two so-called enemies are really rather dependent upon each other.

FRIENDSHIP | GETTING ALONG

## **Grandma's Gloves**

**Written by Cecil Castellucci**

**Illustrated by Julia Denos**

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010

\$19.00 HC 978-0-7636-3168-0

26 pages, full-colour, 8 3/4" x 10 1/2"

IL: Ages 5-7 RL: Grades 1-3

Grandma loves her flowers and is always on her knees – talking to her roses or laughing with her birds of paradise. Her "most special flower of all" is her granddaughter with whom she spends many precious moments. One day Grandma falls ill and soon passes away, leaving her beloved garden and gardening gloves behind. It's now the granddaughter's turn to pass along the knowledge her grandmother bestowed upon her.

GRANDMOTHERS | INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS |  
FLOWERS | DEATH

## **Making the Moose Out of Life**

**Written and illustrated by Nicholas Oldland**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55453-580-4

32 pages, full-colour, 8 1/4" x 8 1/4"

IL: Ages 3-7 RL: Grade 2

Moose may live in the wild but he isn't wild at all! Wondering if he's missing out on something, he tries to find the answer on the Internet and in a crystal ball but to no avail. Taking life by the antlers, he sets out on a sailboat and is caught in a raging storm. Marooned on a desert island, Moose finally learns how to live life to the fullest.

TAKING CHANCES | FRIENDSHIP | SPORTS | SURVIVAL

## **The Red Scarf**

**Written and illustrated by Anne Villeneuve**

Toronto: Tundra Books, 2010

\$19.99 HC 978-0-88776-989-4

36 pages, full-colour, 9 3/8" x 11 1/4"

IL: Ages 4-10 RL: Grades 1-2

One day a taxi driver finds a red scarf left behind in his cab by a customer. Determined to find the scarf's owner, the cabbie unknowingly walks into a world filled with strange characters. Before he knows it, the cabbie becomes part of the show. Young readers will relish this almost wordless picture book about a seemingly ordinary day that quickly turns into an extraordinary adventure. This book was first published in French as the award-winning *L'écharpe rouge*.

CIRCUS | MAGIC | ANIMALS | ADVENTURE

## Roslyn Rutabaga and the Biggest Hole on Earth!

Written and illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay

Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-0-88899-994-8

32 pages, full-colour, 9 1/4" x 9 1/4"

IL: Ages 2-5 RL: Grade 2

Roslyn would really like to meet a penguin so she's going to dig a hole – not a tiny mouse hole or a medium-sized rabbit hole but the biggest hole on earth. But finding the perfect place to dig may be more of a challenge than she'd thought. Filled with Marie-Louise Gay's delightful illustrations, this tale of the imaginative and determined young Roslyn will appeal to little adventurers everywhere. This title is also available in French as *Roselyne Rutabaga remue ciel et terre!*

RABBITS | ANIMALS | IMAGINATION

## Silas' Seven Grandparents

Written by Anita Horrocks

Illustrated by Helen Flook

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$19.95 HC 978-1-55143-561-9

32 pages, full-colour, 8 1/2" x 10 3/4"

IL: Ages 4-7 RL: Grade 2

Usually Silas loves having seven grandparents dote on him, but sometimes it's all a bit too much. When Silas's parents go away on a business trip, all of his grandparents want him to stay with them, but that's just not possible. How will Silas resolve this problem without hurting the feelings of any of his grandparents?

GRANDPARENTS | FAMILY | PROBLEM SOLVING

## Spork

Written by Kyo Maclear

Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-1-55337-736-8

32 pages, full-colour, 7 1/4" x 9 5/8"

IL: Ages 3-8 RL: Grade 2

Spork is neither a spoon nor a fork. He tries to be more spoonish, but the forks think he's too round. He tries to be more forkish, but the spoons think he's too pointy. Finally a messy thing arrives, and Spork finds his place at the table. This humorous "multi-cutlery" tale is a charming story for anyone who has ever struggled to find his or her place in the world.

DIVERSITY | FITTING IN | SIMILARITIES | DIFFERENCES

## Stanley's Little Sister

Written by Linda Bailey

Illustrated by Bill Slavin

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$17.95 HC 978-1-55453-487-6

32 pages, full-colour, 10 1/4" x 9 1/4"

IL: Ages 3-7 RL: Grade 2

Stanley knew he wasn't supposed to chase the cat, but who invited her to live here anyway? Not Stanley! But knowing he's supposed to be a good dog Stanley tries to be friendly. He even seeks advice from his friends at the dog park, but nothing works. Will this cat ever warm up to Stanley?

DOGS | CATS | PETS | FRIENDSHIP

## Violet

Written by Tania Duprey Stehlik

Illustrated by Vanja Vuleta Jovanovic

Toronto: Second Story Press, 2009

\$14.95 HC 978-1-897187-60-9

24 pages, full-colour, 8 3/4" x 8 3/4"

IL: Ages 4-8 RL: Grade 2

When Violet starts at a new school, she wonders why she's not the same colour as her parents. You see, her dad is blue, her mom is red and she is purple-violet. Her mother gently explains how she is a bit of both her mom and her dad and that she shouldn't worry about being like others — she should just be herself.

SELF ACCEPTANCE | DIVERSITY | COLOUR

# Beginning Readers / Early Chapter Books

## I Eat a Rainbow

(My World)

Written by Bobbie Kalman

St. Catharines, ON: Crabtree Publishing, 2010

\$18.95 LIB 978-0-7787-9412-7

\$6.95 PB 978-0-7787-9456-1

16 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 4-7 RL: K-Grade 1

Eating fruits and vegetables every day in as many colours of the rainbow as possible helps us get all the important vitamins and other nutrients we need to stay healthy. Vibrant photographs accompany simple text describing the food colours. An activity asks readers to identify foods that belong to rainbow colour groups.

FOOD | COLOURS | NUTRITION

## Music by Morgan

(First Novels)

Written by Ted Staunton

Illustrated by Bill Slavin

Halifax: Formac Publishing, 2010

\$14.95 HC 978-0-88780-928-6

\$5.95 PB 978-0-88780-926-2

64 pages, b&w, 5" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 6-9 RL: Grades 2-3

Morgan isn't happy when his parents sign him up for floor hockey. He'd much rather take piano lessons. When Aldeen Hummel, the Godzilla of Grade Three and a good hockey player, is signed up for piano, they craft a plan to trade places. How long can they fool the coach, the piano teacher and their parents?

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES | FRIENDSHIP | HUMOUR

## My Healthy Body

(My World)

Written by Bobbie Kalman

St. Catharines, ON: Crabtree Publishing, 2010

\$18.95 LIB 978-0-7787-9427-1

\$6.95 PB 978-0-7787-9471-4

16 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 4-7 RL: Grades 1-2

Images of children getting exercise and eating healthy foods help show young readers the things that their bodies need to stay healthy. Simple text encourages children to make healthy decisions, including brushing their teeth after meals and getting regular checkups at the dentist and doctor. It also teaches children how to wash their hands thoroughly, while singing the "Happy Birthday" song.

EXERCISE | HEALTHY EATING | HYGIENE

## Sam's Ride

(Orca Echoes)

Written by Becky Citra

Illustrated by Amy Meissner

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$7.95 PB 978-1-55469-160-9

57 pages, b&w, 5 1/4" x 7 5/8"

IL: Ages 7-9 RL: Grades 2-3

Sam, a seven-year-old boy, is devastated when his mother leaves him for two weeks on his grandfather's ranch. When Sam is forced to overcome his fear of riding in order to help rescue Grandpa, he learns a lot about himself and forms a special bond with his grandpa.

HORSES | RIDING | FEARS | BONDING | INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

# Junior Fiction

## After the Fire

**Written by Becky Citra**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-246-0

186 pages, 5" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-13 RL: Grades 5-7

Melissa's family have been the victims of a fire and live on little money. When her mom announces they're spending a month at a remote lakeside cabin, Melissa is less than pleased. As Melissa gets to know Alice, a mysterious girl with a strange fantasy life, she spends more time with her mom and brother and begins to realize the value of family.

FAMILY | RELATIONSHIPS | COMMUNICATION | LYING | HEALING

## The Big Swim

**Written by Cary Fagan**

Toronto: Groundwood Books, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-0-88899-969-6

\$9.95 PB 978-0-88899-970-2

128 pages, 5" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-5

Ethan's never been to summer camp before so he's not sure what to expect. Things don't turn out too badly, though, as his cabin mates are okay guys and he's not the worst at everything. When a new kid named Zachary arrives, things change, and Ethan is asked to take a risk he doesn't want to take.

SUMMER CAMP | FRIENDSHIP | RISKS

## Crossing to Freedom

**Written by Virginia Frances Schwartz**

Toronto: Scholastic Canada, 2010

\$8.99 PB 978-0-545-98978-7

231 pages, 5 1/4" x 7 5/8"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 5-7

Eleven-year-old Solomon is on the most dangerous journey a slave can take. He's on his way to Canada and, he hopes, a life of freedom. When his grandfather is injured during the last leg of the journey, Solomon must continue on alone. As he attempts to create a new home in Canada, it soon becomes apparent that racial prejudice is not restricted to the south. Solomon must persevere to gain true freedom.

SLAVERY | UNDERGROUND RAILROAD | FREEDOM | 19TH CENTURY CANADA | RACIAL PREJUDICE

## The Dark Deeps: The Hunchback Assignments II

**Written by Arthur Slade**

Toronto: HarperCollins Publishers, 2010

\$18.99 HC 978-1-55468-356-7

314 pages, 5 3/4" x 8 3/4"

IL: Ages 10 and up RL: Grade 6

In this second instalment of the Hunchback Assignments, Modo and Octavia are searching for the cause of the sinking of several ships. When their ship gets hit, Modo is thrown overboard and saved by an unlikely underwater rescuer. Not alone in his pursuit for the truth, Modo meets a beautiful and mysterious French agent. But with the Clockwork Guild closing in, how he will get back to the surface?

SPIES | SCIENTISTS | VICTORIAN ERA | OCEANS | SUBMARINES

## Dog Lost

**Written by Ingrid Lee**

New York: Scholastic Inc., 2008

\$18.99 HC 978-0-545-08578-6

\$8.99 PB 978-0-545-08605-9

197 pages, 5 3/4" x 7 3/4"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-6

Mackenzie has never had a dog before, so when his dad drops Cash on his bed one night, he's thrilled. Mackenzie's dad has a temper, though, and when the dog growls at him, he abandons her in a deserted part of town. Cash waits for Mackenzie to find her, but when Mackenzie doesn't show up, the dog intuitively finds ways to survive her exile.

PETS | ABANDONMENT | SURVIVAL | HEROES

## The Giant-Slayer

**Written by Iain Lawrence**

New York: Delacorte Press, 2009

\$21.00 HC 978-0-385-73376-2

\$24.99 LIB 978-0-385-90393-6

292 pages, 6" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-6

As Laurie visits the children in the polio unit, she weaves them a tale about Colosso, the rampaging giant, and Jimmy, a tiny boy whose destiny is to become the giant-slayer. While Laurie embellishes the tale with gnomes, unicorns, gryphons and other fanciful creatures, the children all begin to recognize their counterparts in the story. Eventually the children take over as narrators, changing their lives in startling ways.

FANTASY | GIANTS | POLIO | STORYTELLING

## Growing Up Ivy

**Written by Peggy Dymond Leavey**

Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2010

\$12.99 PB 978-1-55488-723-1

250 pages, 5 1/4" x 7 1/4"

IL: Ages 10 and up RL: Grades 5-6

During the summer of 1931, Ivy Chalmers is sent to stay with her paternal grandmother in Larkin, Ontario, so her mother can pursue an acting career in New York City. Ivy's estranged father, Alva, arrives unexpectedly, but is no Prince Charming – rather, he's an illiterate peddler. Ivy befriends Charlie Bayliss, but, unbeknownst to both of them, they share a secret connection.

FAMILY | 1930s | GREAT DEPRESSION

## The Orphan Rescue

**Written by Anne Dublin**

**Illustrated by Qin Leng**

Toronto: Second Story Press, 2010

\$8.95 PB 978-1-897187-81-4

124 pages, b&w, 5 1/4" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grade 4

It's 1937, and Poland is suffering from the effects of the Great Depression. Miriam and David live with their grandparents after the death of their parents. Unable to remain in school, Miriam works in a butcher shop while David faces a worse fate – he is sent to the Jewish orphanage. When the unscrupulous orphanage director sends David out to perform dangerous work in a factory, Miriam must do everything she can to save her brother.

CHILD POVERTY | EXPLOITATION | ORPHANAGES | GREAT DEPRESSION | POLAND

## Ortega

**Written by Maureen Fergus**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-1-55453-474-6

224 pages, 5 1/4" x 7 7/8"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-6

Ortega was a baby gorilla when he was taken from his mother by scientists who taught him to talk, read and write. Now they want to send him to school, but Ortega is scared. What if the other kids think he's a freak? When the unthinkable happens, Ortega is worried he'll lose everything he's come to know.

GORILLAS | EXPERIMENTS | SCIENTISTS | FRIENDSHIP | ANIMAL RIGHTS

## Stolen Child

Written by **Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch**

Toronto: Scholastic Canada, 2010

\$8.99 PB 978-0-545-98612-0

154 pages, 5" x 7 3/4"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-5

Nadia? Gretchen? Larissa? Who is she really? A young girl arrives in Canada after the end of World War II, having spent five years in a Displaced Persons' camp. As she tries to adapt to another new life, she begins to remember a time before becoming Gretchen. Will Nadia be able to uncover her true identity – the one that was stolen from her by the Nazis?

WORLD WAR II | LEBENSBOHN | UKRAINE | 1950s | NAZIS

## A Terrible Roar of Water

(Disaster Strikes)

Written by **Penny Draper**

Regina: Coteau Books, 2010

\$8.95 PB 978-1-55050-414-9

159 pages, 5 1/4" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grades 3-4

When 12-year-old Murphy reaches the harbour one cold day in 1929, he sees that the water's been sucked right out of it! Recalling the old-timer's warning, he must alert his family and friends that a tsunami is on the way. But can a young boy do a man's work? Can he save his aunt and cousins? Can he save himself? Book Five in the series.

HISTORICAL FICTION | NEWFOUNDLAND | TSUNAMIS | 1920s | FISHING

## Vanishing Girl

(The Boy Sherlock Holmes)

Written by **Shane Peacock**

Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009

\$21.99 HC 978-0-88776-852-1 |

\$11.99 PB 978-0-88776-234-9

307 pages, 5 1/8" x 7 5/8"

IL: Ages 10 and up RL: Grades 5-6

When a wealthy young girl vanishes as if by magic in Hyde Park, Sherlock Holmes is once again driven to prove himself. An innocent boy's survival depends on Holmes's ability to solve the mysterious puzzle of the vanishing girl. The case takes Sherlock Holmes racing to the countryside, to the coast and into the lair of a menagerie of exotic, dangerous creatures. Book Three in the series.

DETECTIVES | VICTORIAN LONDON | MYSTERY

## Walking Backward

Written by **Catherine Austen**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-147-0

167 pages, 5" x 7 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-5

When Josh's mother dies in a suspicious car crash, he, his father and brother have no faith to guide them and no idea how to deal with their grief. As he struggles through the mourning period, Josh makes death his summer research project and learns about religious rituals, guilt and the stages of grief.

GRIEF | GUILT | DEATH | MEMORIES

# Middle Years Fiction (Hi-Lo)

## Blob

(Orca Currents)

Written by **Frieda Wishinsky**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$16.95 LIB 978-1-55469-182-1

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-181-4

98 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 10-14 RL: Grade 4

Eve is starting a new high school and things couldn't be worse. She has gained weight over the summer, lost her best friend and become the target of a cruel girl's bullying. When she joins a mentoring program called Girls Helping Girls, she learns to accept herself, make new friends and help others.

SELF-IMAGE | BULLYING | FRIENDSHIP

## Branded

(Orca Currents)

Written by **Eric Walters**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$16.95 LIB 978-1-55469-268-2

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-267-5

109 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 10-14 RL: Grade 4

Ian's schoolmates are in an uproar about the new school uniforms they're being forced to wear. When Ian discovers the uniforms are being made under unfair conditions, he and his friends convince their social-justice class to stage a protest against the uniforms. Will his schoolmates support him when they are threatened with suspension?

SOCIAL JUSTICE | CHILD LABOUR | SCHOOL

## Flying Feet

(Orca Sports)

Written by **James McCann**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-290-3

141 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 10-14 RL: Grade 4

Jinho is frustrated with his traditional tae kwon do training. When he meets a trainer from an underground mixed martial arts club, the prospect of fighting without boundaries is exciting. However, the more involved he gets, the more he realizes fighting without rules or referees is dangerous. What will happen when he faces an opponent named The Ripper?

TAE KWON DO | FRIENDSHIP | RESPECT | ETHICS

## Oil King Courage

(Orca Sports)

Written by **Sigmund Brouwer**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-197-5

232 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 11 and up RL: Grade 5

When the Edmonton Oil Kings discover that Reuben Reuben has a hockey game as unforgettable as his name and his Inuit heritage, life changes in a hurry for him and his best friend, Gear. A wealthy businessman sponsors a three-on-three pond-hockey tour across the western Arctic, but things are not what they seem, and there's a lot more at stake than prize money.

HOCKEY | MYSTERY | WESTERN ARCTIC | INUIT HERITAGE

# Young Adult Fiction

## Black Bottle Man

Written by Craig Russell

Winnipeg: Great Plains Publications, 2010

\$14.95 PB 978-1-894283-99-1

176 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 14 and up RL: Grade 8

It's 1927, and Rembrandt is the only child in the tiny community of Three Farms. When his aunts grow desperate for babies of their own, they make a deadly deal with the man with the magic black bottle. Rembrandt, Pa and Uncle Thompson, looking for a champion capable of defeating the Black Bottle Man, are forced to move every 12 days or terrible things happen.

FABLES | CHAMPIONS | HISTORICAL FICTION | TRAVEL NARRATIVE

## Dust City

Written by Robert Paul Weston

Toronto: Puffin Canada, 2010

\$21.00 HC 978-0-670-06396-3

299 pages, 5 7/8" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grade 7

Dust City is a gritty metropolis known for its fairydust, and the entire population of foxes, ravens and hominids is hooked. Henry Whelp, son of the infamous Red Riding Hood Killer, finds himself on a trail that may lead to proof of his father's innocence after a murder at the Home for Wayward Wolves forces Henry to escape. He'll soon discover the horrifying secret behind fairydust.

FAIRY TALES | MAGIC | DRUGS | CRIME | MURDER | INVESTIGATIONS

## Hunger Journeys

Written by Maggie de Vries

Toronto: HarperTrophyCanada, 2010

\$14.99 PB 978-1-55468-579-0

278 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 13 and up RL: Grades 7-8

Teenaged Lena and her friend Sofie leave their starving families to travel by train to Almelo in search of food. When the girls' false papers are discovered by German soldiers, they are pulled off the train. With the help of Albert, a German soldier, they board the train once again, but will making this soldier's acquaintance lead Lena and Sofie into more trouble? And where will Sofie's relationship with her soldier boyfriend lead?

WORLD WAR II | AMSTERDAM | GERMAN OCCUPATION | FRIENDSHIP

## Minerva's Voyage

Written by Lynne Kositsky

Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2009

\$12.99 PB 978-1-55488-439-1

238 pages, 5 1/4" x 7 1/4"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grades 6-7

Kidnapped by a pirate with a plot to steal gold, Robin Starveling and Peter Fence are shipwrecked on the Isle of Devils. The boys solve ciphers and make their way through gloomy forests and winding labyrinths to a cave, a wizard-like old man and a treasure finer than gold.

ADVENTURE | PIRATES | KIDNAPPING | 17TH CENTURY | SHIPS | DESERTED ISLANDS | TREASURE

## Queen of Hearts

Written by Martha Brooks

Toronto: Greenwood Books, 2010

\$14.95 PB 978-0-88899-828-6

208 pages, 5" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grades 6-7

It's 1941, and Canada is two years into World War II. Fifteen-year-old Marie-Claire Côté begins a war of her own as she and her siblings are stricken with tuberculosis and are sent to a sanatorium to "chase the cure." Marie-Claire longs for privacy, finds a loyal friend in her roommate and falls for fellow patient Jack Hawkings, the 19-year-old musician with the heart-stopping smile.

TUBERCULOSIS | DEATH | WORLD WAR II | FRIENDSHIP | REDEMPTION | 1940S

## Somewhere in Blue

Written by Gillian Cummings

Montreal: Lobster Press, 2010

\$14.95 PB 978-1-897550-84-7

334 pages, 5 1/2" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 14 and up RL: Grades 9-10

Sandy is sinking deeper and deeper into her grief after her father passes away. Her mother seems to be moving on, but Sandy can't understand how she can do that so soon. Her best friend is struggling with her own problems at home, and the two girls begin to drift apart. And now the boy next door wants to be something more than just a friend. Can Sandy resurface before it's too late?

DEATH | LOSS | RELATIONSHIPS

## A Spy in the House

(The Agency)

Written by Y.S. Lee

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010

\$20.00 HC 978-0-7636-4067-5

335 pages, 6" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 13 and up RL: Grades 7-8

Mary Quinn, an orphan and thief sentenced to die on the gallows, is rescued by a woman posing as a prison warden. In her new home, Miss Scrimshaw's Academy for Girls, Mary is educated and trained to be an investigator for the Agency. In her first assignment, Mary must pose as a lady's companion to infiltrate a rich merchant's home in hope of tracing his missing cargo ships. Book One in the series.

DETECTIVES | DETECTIVE AGENCIES | VICTORIAN LONDON | MYSTERY

# Teen Fiction (Hi-Lo)

## Picture This

(Orca Soundings)

Written by Norah McClintock

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$16.95 LIB 978-1-55469-139-5

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-138-8

109 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grades 3-4

Ethan lives in a foster home, struggling to put his life on the right track. Involved in a photography program for at-risk kids, he finds himself threatened by someone who wants his camera. But what's on his camera that would make someone try to kill him? Ethan must stay out of trouble's way as he tries to solve the mystery.

FOSTER HOMES | MYSTERY | MURDER

## Reaction

(Orca Soundings)

Written by Lesley Choyce

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2010

\$16.95 LIB 978-1-55469-278-1

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-277-4

98 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grade 3

Zach and Ashley have been dating for a while when they discover Ashley is pregnant. Confused and scared, they struggle — trying to decide on the right thing to do. Their friends and families all have different reactions, and when they come to terms with this, Zach and Ashley realize only they can decide what is right for them.

TEEN PREGNANCY | CHOICES | FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

### **Skin Deep**

(SideStreets)

**Written by Sandra Diersch and Gerri London**

Toronto: James Lorimer, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55277-475-5

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55277-474-8

160 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grades 3-5

When Corinne's mother is diagnosed with breast cancer, things that once seemed important to her — like her hair and makeup — no longer matter. But things happen for a reason, and out of all the sadness has come a new friendship, a new closeness to her mother and a realization of the importance of family.

BREAST CANCER | FAMILY | RELATIONSHIPS | GRIEF

### **Stalked**

(SideStreets)

**Written by Christine Hart**

Toronto: James Lorimer, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55277-534-9

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55277-533-2

143 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grades 5-6

Best friends Amy and Elise are stoked about their summer jobs. Two months, no parents and a dreamy 20-something boss on a remote Vancouver Island resort. Amy needs a glowing recommendation to secure her place in college and decides to flirt with her boss to get it. She soon discovers what happens when you play with fire.

ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIPS | SUMMER JOBS

### **Thief Girl**

(SideStreets)

**Written by Ingrid Lee**

Toronto: James Lorimer, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55277-539-4

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55277-538-7

152 pages, 4 1/4" x 7"

IL: Ages 12 and up RL: Grade 4

Sixteen-year-old Avvy Go straddles the line between the immigrant neighbourhood where she lives and works and the established neighbourhood where she attends high school, the line between right and wrong and the line between telling secrets and keeping them.

IMMIGRANTS | STEALING | RESTITUTION | RELATIONSHIPS

## Graphic Novels & Manga

### **Camilla d'Errico's Burn**

**Written by Camilla d'Errico and Scott Saunders  
Illustrated by Camilla d'Errico**

New York: Simon Pulse, 2009

\$12.99 PB 978-1-4169-7873-2

160 pages, b&w, 5 7/8" x 8 3/8"

IL: Ages 13 and up RL: Grade 7

Burn was once human until Shoftiel, a metallic angel of death, took everything from him. Emerging from the rubble, Burn and Shoftiel discover their bodies have become one — neither human nor machine, but a freak union of both. As mankind struggles against the sentients for survival, Burn must overcome Shoftiel's genocidal programming to retain what's left of his humanity.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE | WAR | HUMAN SURVIVAL | MANGA

### **Media Meltdown**

(Graphic Guide Adventure)

**Written by Liam O'Donnell**

**Illustrated by Mike Deas**

Victoria: Orca Book Publishers, 2009

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55469-065-7

65 pages, full-colour, 5 3/4" x 8"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 3

When a greedy developer tries to force the sale of local farmland, Pema, Bounce and Jagroop decide to expose the crooked dealings through the media. When they discover the developer is a major advertiser and can kill the story, they learn that news and advertisements are not always truthful. How can they safely make their voices heard?

MEDIA LITERACY

### **Tower of Treasure**

(Three Thieves)

**Written and illustrated by Scott Chantler**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$17.95 HC 978-1-55453-414-2

\$8.95 PB 978-1-55453-415-9

112 pages, full-colour, 6 1/4" x 9 1/4"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 3

An acrobat in a travelling circus, 14-year-old orphan Dessa Redd, is looking for her long-lost twin brother. Hungry and desperate, she and Fisk, the circus strongman, are recruited by Topper, the circus juggler, to rob the royal treasury. A series of adventures ensue as the three thieves travel from one end of the world to the other in search of Dessa's brother. Book One in the series.

HISTORICAL ADVENTURE | MIDDLE AGES

## Biography, Memoir & Speaking Out

## Folktales

### Fatty Legs

**Written by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton**  
**Illustrated by Liz Amini-Holmes**

Toronto: Annick Press, 2010

\$21.95 HC 978-1-55451-247-8

\$12.95 PB 978-1-55451-246-1

104 pages, full-colour, 6 1/4" x 9"

IL: Ages 10-12 RL: Grades 4-5

On a trip to Aklavik with her father, Margaret is mesmerized by the dark-cloaked nuns and the pale-skinned priests. She knows they hold the key to the greatest of the outsiders' mysteries – reading. Even though her father warns her that her spirit will be worn down and made small, she begs to attend the school. At the hands of a cruel and heartless nun, Margaret suffers humiliation, but emerges with her spirit intact.

INUIT | RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS | BIOGRAPHIES

### Green Careers: You Can Make Money and Save the Planet

**Written by Jennifer Power Scott**

Montreal: Lobster Press, 2010

\$16.95 PB 978-1-897550-18-2

240 pages, two-colour, 6 1/4" x 7 3/4"

IL: Ages 13 and up RL: Grade 7

In this book we meet inspiring young people who love being a part of the environmental job market. The eco-market is booming with jobs for engineers, activists, business experts, fashion designers, organic chefs and more. Also included are useful facts about universities and eco-organizations, photographs of the featured eco-professionals, an index and resources for career planning.

ENVIRONMENTAL CAREERS | VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

### Piece by Piece:

#### Stories About Fitting into Canada

**Edited by Teresa Toten**

Toronto: Puffin Canada, 2010

\$20.00 HC 978-0-670-06849-4

183 pages, 6 1/4" x 9 1/4"

IL: Ages 14 and up RL: Grades 7-8

This anthology features 14 stories by some of Canada's finest authors who were born overseas and struggled to fit in with their new homeland. The stories range from joyful to mortifying, humorous to heartwrenching, and young adults will connect with their desire to belong and be accepted. This book was not just written for those "new kids," but everyone who has ever tried to fit in.

IMMIGRANTS | BIOGRAPHIES | SHORT STORIES

### Tim Horton: From Stanley Cup to Coffee Cups

(Larger than Life)

**Written by Don Quinlan**

Markham, ON: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2010

\$22.95 HC 978-1-55455-148-4

\$9.95 PB 978-1-55455-046-3

72 pages, full-colour, 7" x 9 1/4"

IL: Ages 8 and up RL: Grades 4-5

In a brilliant career that spanned 22 seasons, Tim Horton achieved what many hockey players only dream about. He is viewed as one of the legends of the game. As impressive as his career was, it was his work ethic, sense of humour and dedication to his team, friends and family that made him stand out. Includes full-colour and archival photographs, statistics and illustrations throughout.

HOCKEY PLAYERS | BIOGRAPHIES

### The Little Hummingbird

**Written and illustrated by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas**

Vancouver: Greystone Books, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-1-55365-533-6

32 pages, b&w, 7" x 10 1/4"

IL: Ages 4-12 RL: Grades 1-2

This inspiring tale is based on a South American indigenous story about a courageous hummingbird who defies fear in her attempt to save the forest from fire. Evocative artwork complements this optimistic story that encourages everyone to take responsibility for their home and the planet. A message from Nobel Peace Prize laureate Wangari Maathai and facts about the hummingbird are included. Originally published in 2008 by Greystone Books as *Flight of the Hummingbird: A Parable for the Environment*.

HUMMINGBIRDS | INDIGENOUS TALES | ENVIRONMENTALISM

# History & Culture

## Canada's Wars: An Illustrated History

Written by **Jonathan Webb**

Toronto: Scholastic Canada / Madison Press, 2010 |

\$24.99 HC 978-0-545-98026-5

128 pages, full-colour, 8 3/4" x 11 1/4"

IL: Ages 10 and up RL: Grades 6-8

From the Nile Expedition of 1884 to the World Wars, from Korea to the Gulf War, Canadian soldiers have fought and died for their country. This book provides an overview of the wars, with detailed stories of combat and the home front, and of heroes both well-known and unsung. The narrative, combined with stunning photographs, paintings, archival posters and artifacts, brings these many historical moments to life for readers of all ages.

WARS | MILITARY HISTORY | ARMED FORCES

## Case Closed? Nine Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science

Written by **Susan Hughes**

Illustrated by **Michael Wandelmaier**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-1-55453-362-6

88 pages, full-colour, 9" x 11 1/4"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grades 5-6

In each of these nine mysteries, readers get the opportunity to read the historical file on the case, meet investigators from various scientific backgrounds who are researching each mystery and study the tools and techniques they have at their disposal. As modern science sheds new light on each mystery from ancient to modern times, readers will learn whether these scientific detectives can finally declare — CASE CLOSED!

HISTORY | TECHNOLOGY | SCIENCE

## The News

(Groundwork Guide)

Written by **Peter Steven**

Toronto: Groundwork Books, 2010

\$18.95 HC 978-0-88899-822-4

\$11.00 PB 978-0-88899-823-1

144 pages, 5" x 7"

IL: Ages 14 and up RL: Grades 9-10

Is the news we receive today accurate, reliable and complete? Or is it unreliable, superficial and insulting? Author Peter Steven looks at issues that surround the way news is delivered today. He examines how levels of literacy have increased newspaper circulation and how the Internet has opened the world up to some restricted societies. He reminds us that not all of the trends are bad and that news means different things to different people.

PRESS | REPORTERS | MEDIA LITERACY

# Nature

## Eagles

(Exploring the World of...)

Written by **Tracy C. Read**

Richmond Hill, ON: Firefly Books, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55407-647-5

\$6.95 PB 978-1-55407-656-7

24 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 5

Learn about North America's bald and golden eagles — renowned for their size, powerful physique and skillful hunting strategies. This informative book explores the strengths and abilities of these two mighty raptors, how they are alike and what differentiates them from each other. Readers will also discover why eagles live in different areas and hunt different prey.

BALD EAGLES | GOLDEN EAGLES | BIRDS

## Foxes

(Exploring the World of...)

Written by **Tracy C. Read**

Richmond Hill, ON: Firefly Books, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55407-625-3

\$6.95 PB 978-1-55407-616-1

24 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 5

Meet the red fox — the only fox that has managed to make much of the planet its home. Learn about the natural skills and strengths that have helped it become the most successful carnivore on the planet and discover where they live, how they raise their young and what hunting strategies they use. Readers are also introduced to the North American Arctic fox, grey fox and swift fox.

FOXES | RED FOX | NORTH AMERICA

## Raccoons

(Exploring the World of...)

Written by **Tracy C. Read**

Richmond Hill, ON: Firefly Books, 2010 | \$16.95 HC

978-1-55407-626-0 | \$6.95 PB 978-1-55407-617-8

24 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 5

The common raccoon has migrated from the wetlands and forests to our suburbs and cities where it has learned to adapt to urban living. One of the world's most accomplished omnivores, it eats animal and plant matter and will live wherever it can find fresh water, food and a safe place to make a den. Learn how its intelligence, anatomy and natural skills have made it a successful inhabitant.

RACCOONS | ADAPTATION | MAMMALS

### **Uumajut: Learn About Arctic Wildlife!**

**Written by Simon Awa, Anna Ziegler and Stephanie McDonald**

**Illustrated by Romi Caron  
Translated by Leah Otak**

Iqaluit: Inhabit Media Inc., 2010

\$14.95 PB 978-1-926569-08-6

30 pages, full-colour, 10" x 8"

IL: Ages 4-10 RL: Grade 4

This beautifully illustrated book takes readers from the tundra to the sea and ice, teaching children about a wide variety of Arctic animals. This rare look at the Canadian North showcases a fascinating ecosystem that we often forget is a large part of our country. Written in both English and Inuktitut.

ARCTIC ANIMALS | INUIT | ARCTIC | INUIT LANGUAGES

### **Wolves**

(Exploring the World of...)

**Written by Tracy C. Read**

Richmond Hill, ON: Firefly Books, 2010

\$16.95 HC 978-1-55407-646-8

\$6.95 PB 978-1-55407-655-0

24 pages, full-colour, 8" x 8"

IL: Ages 8-12 RL: Grade 5

The grey wolf has a reputation as a fierce predator but it is also a social animal, living in groups called packs and sharing the tasks of hunting and raising the young. They have been observed to be playful, friendly and loyal. Learn more about these fascinating creatures and how conservation efforts are helping to restore their numbers.

WOLVES | GREY WOLF | CANINES

# Plays

### **Munsch at Play: Eight Stage Adaptations for Young Performers**

**Written by Irene N. Watts**

**Original stories by Robert Munsch**

**Illustrated by Michael Martchenko**

Toronto: Annick Press, 2010

\$24.95 HC 978-1-55451-230-0

80 pages, full-colour, 6 1/4" x 9 1/4"

IL: Adult

The eight wonderful plays in this collection — adapted from Robert Munsch books — require minimal sets, props and costumes and can be performed by small groups or whole classes. Irene Watts incorporates many drama conventions into her staging suggestions (e.g., tableau, mime, soundscapes, etc.), which makes this a useful resource for teachers with limited experience in drama and shows teachers how easily stories can become drama performances.

PLAYS | IMPROVISATION | MIME | MOVEMENT | TABLEAU | SOUNDSCAPES

# Science & Technology

### **Evolution: How We and All Living Things Came to Be**

**Written and illustrated by Daniel Loxton**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

\$19.95 HC 978-1-55453-430-2

56 pages, full-colour, 8 1/2" x 11"

IL: Ages 10-13 RL: Grades 5-6

The amazing story of life on earth is discussed in this comprehensive introduction to the theory of evolution. Including topics from Charles Darwin to modern-day science, such frequently asked questions as these are answered: how do we know that evolution happens and, if it does, where are the transitional fossils? Enhanced with computer-generated images, illustrations and photographs, this account of how evolution works is a fascinating read.

EVOLUTION | SCIENCE | CHARLES DARWIN

### **Mission to the Moon**

**Written by Alan Dyer**

New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2009

\$23.50 HC 978-1-4169-7935-7

80 pages, full-colour, 10 1/4" x 12"

IL: Ages 9-13 RL: Grades 6-7

From liftoff to splashdown, this is the story of an incredible journey — the story of the Apollo missions to the moon. Stunningly illustrated, it covers everything from the start of the space program to the legendary mission when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon to the construction of the shuttle. A DVD and poster are included.

THE MOON | SPACE TRAVEL | APOLLO MISSIONS

# Sports

### **Game Day: Meet the People Who Make it Happen**

**Written by Kevin Sylvester**

Toronto: Annick Press, 2010

\$21.95 HC 978-1-55451-251-5

\$12.95 PB 978-1-55451-250-8

188 pages, full-colour, 5 3/4" x 8 1/2"

IL: Ages 9-12 RL: Grades 4-6

Read about 20 inspirational people whose behind-the-scenes jobs make the sports we see the best they can be. Meet Jimmy MacNeil, the "Greatest Zamboni driver in the world"; Lynn Welch, a tennis chair umpire who has worked all four Grand Slams and three Olympics; and Bobby Freeman who outran bullies and became the organist for Major League Baseball's Arizona Diamondbacks! Learn how a team is more than just the athletes!

SPORTS | CAREERS

# Magazines

## chickaDEE

Toronto: Owlkids

[www.owlkids.com/chickaDEE](http://www.owlkids.com/chickaDEE)

\$4.50/issue

\$34.00 one-year subscription (10 issues)

ISSN 0707-4611

IL: Ages 6-9

Filled with comics, puzzles, crafts and jokes, *chickaDEE* will keep kids busy for hours.

Meet the animal of the month; mail in your jokes, riddles and tongue twisters to the "Mish Mash" section or try one of Dr. Zed's zany science experiments. Each issue features a fun theme such as "Super Scary Stuff," "Amazing Reptiles" or "The Green Issue."

SCIENCE | NATURE | STORIES | CRAFTS

## Kaakuluk: Nunavut's Discovery Magazine for Kids

Iqaluit: Inhabit Media Inc.

[www.inhabitmedia.com](http://www.inhabitmedia.com)

\$7.95/issue (1-2 issues per year)

ISSN 1918-1256

IL: Ages 6-9

*Kaakuluk* is a fact-filled, bilingual magazine about Nunavut for curious kids, north and south! Each issue includes activities, traditional stories and articles about life in the Arctic. This magazine is printed in full-colour with photographs and illustrations throughout that will be sure to capture the attention of young readers.

ARCTIC | TRADITIONAL STORIES | ACTIVITIES



## About the Canadian Children's Book Centre

The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 1976. We are dedicated to encouraging, promoting and supporting the reading, writing, illustrating and publishing of Canadian books for young readers. Our programs, publications, and resources help teachers, librarians, booksellers and parents select the very best for young readers.

At the heart of our work at the Canadian Children's Book Centre is our love for the books that get published in Canada each year, and our commitment to raising awareness of the quality and variety of Canadian books for young readers.

Our programs, such as TD Canadian Children's Book Week and the TD Grade One Book Giveaway, are designed to introduce young Canadian readers not only to the books all around them, but to the authors and illustrators that create them. Our quarterly magazine *Canadian Children's Book News* and the semi-annual *Best Books for Kids & Teens* selection guide are designed to help parents, librarians and educators discover the world of Canadian books and to help them to select the best reading material for young readers.

The Canadian Children's Book Centre reaches well over half a million people each year, and we're still growing. Please check out our programs and publications, and see how we can help you, and you can help us, to bring Canadian books and young readers together.



**The Canadian Children's Book Centre**  
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du Canada

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