

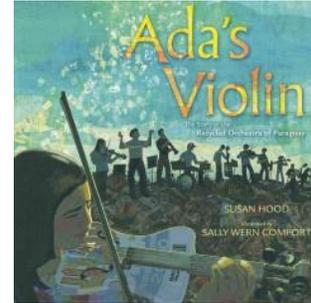
**Children's Literature
Association
of
Utah**

**Beehive Informational Book
Nominees
2018
Book Activities**



Ada's Violin: he Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay
by Susan Hood

Illustrator: Sally Wern Comport
Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers
Publication date 2016
ISBN 978-1481430951
Grade Level: Kindergarten-3rd
Number of Pages 40



Description:

Ada Ríos grew up in Cateura, a small town in Paraguay built on a landfill. She dreamed of playing the violin, but with little money for anything but the essentials, it was never an option...until a music teacher named Favio Chávez arrived. He wanted to give the children of Cateura something special, so he made them instruments out of materials found in the trash. It was a crazy idea, but one that would leave Ada—and her town—forever changed. Now, the Recycled Orchestra plays venues around the world, spreading their message of hope and innovation.

General Review:

Hood's (Rooting for You) beautifully narrated true tale begins in Cateura, a "noisy, stinking, sweltering slum" of Paraguay. That is where Ada Ríos lives with her family, recyclers (gancheros) who collect and sell trash from the nearby landfill. When engineer Favio Chávez begins teaching music to at-risk children there, Ada learns the violin, and she and other students play instruments made from recycled trash. Comport (Love Will See You Through) employs a vibrant collage technique, using pictures of food labels, tires, and other detritus to form colorful, almost ethereal backdrops. Light-infused scenes of gancheros picking through mountains of trash, children playing soccer in Cateura's streets, and Ada practicing violin all include hopeful shades of yellow. Torn bits of a musical score edge out the garbage scraps as the story progresses. When the Recycled Orchestra gains fame, its members perform in some of the world's biggest, brightest cities: "Buried in the trash was music. And buried in themselves was something to be proud of." An author's note expands on this uplifting, instructive story; a Spanish-language edition is available simultaneously.

-Publishers Weekly

Themes:

Persistence, recycling, music

Author/Illustrator Information:

Susan Hood is the author of more than 200 picture books and easy readers for children including, *Fix-It Man*, *Rooting for You*, and *The Tooth Mouse*. <http://www.susanhoodbooks.com/>

Sally Wern Comport has illustrated numerous picture books and novels, including *Brave Margaret: An Irish Adventure*. She has also made various large-scale public, private, and institutional artwork and operates Art at Large Inc. <https://www.jacketflap.com/sally-wern-comport/138573>

Discussion Questions:

1. If you walked around the town of Cateura, what do you think you would see, hear, and smell?
2. What did Ada's grandmother Mirian teach her about music? What did her father teach her?
3. Favio Chávez changed Ada's life. How did she spend her time before he arrived? How did she spend time after he arrived? What did he teach her about music and respect?
4. Explain the meaning of the following sentence: "A symphony of sound helped to lift them [the gancheros] beyond the heat, the stench, and their aching backs." In what ways did the music lift them?
5. What did the children in the Recycled Orchestra discover at the end of their performance with a world famous rock band? How do the words and illustrations show this?
6. Favio Chávez said, "The world sends us garbage. We send back music." What does he mean by this?

Activities:

1. Learn more about the Recycled Orchestra by watching the 60 Minutes video "The Recyclers: From Trash Comes Triumph" at <https://youtu.be/YxUuKthY1dQ>
2. Discover how to make your own musical instruments out of recycled objects! You can get inspiration at How We Learn's website for activity ideas: <http://HowWeElearn.com/Spectacular-Homemade-Musical-Instruments/>
3. Learn about the country of Paraguay by visiting the following websites:
 - a. Activity Village at <http://ActivityVillage.co.uk/Paraguay>
 - b. Easy Science for Kids at <http://EasyScienceforKids.com/All-About-Paraguay/>
 - c. Geography for Kids: Paraguay at <http://Ducksters.com/Geography/Country.php?country=Paraguay>
4. Read Ada's Violin in Spanish! Check out *El violín de Ada: La historia de la Orquesta de Instrumentos Reciclados del Paraguay*

Source:

A Common Core Curriculum Guide to Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay
http://www.susanhoodbooks.com/sites/default/files/Adas_Violin_CG.pdf

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

The Bear and the Piano by David Litchfield

Echo by Pamela Muñoz Ryan

Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin by Lloyd Moss

Nonfiction Titles:

Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music by Margarita Engle

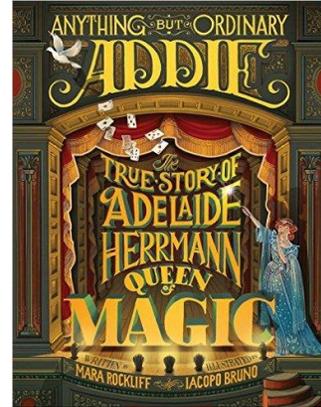
Stepping Stones by Margriet Ruurs

Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews

Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees by Franck Prevot

Anything but Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Herrmann, Queen of Magic by Mara Rockliff

Illustrator: Iacopo Bruno
Publisher: Candlewick
Publication date: April 12, 2016
ISBN 978-0763668419
Grade Level 1 – 4
Number of Pages 48



Description:

Some girls are perfectly happy never doing anything out of the ordinary. But Addie was anything but ordinary. She longed for thrills and excitement! At a time when a young lady appearing onstage was considered most unusual, Addie defied convention and became a dancer. And when she married the world-famous magician Herrmann the Great, she knew she had to be part of his show. Addie wanted to shock and dazzle! She would do anything to draw the crowds, even agree to be shot out of a cannon. But when Herrmann the Great died, Addie couldn't disappoint her loyal fans — the show had to go on. What could she do? She would perform the show all by herself!

General Review:

Gr 2–5—From the team responsible for *Mesmerized: How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery That Baffled All of France* (Candlewick, 2015) comes another excellent picture book biography, this time about someone less well known but truly intriguing. Adelaide Herrmann (1853–1932) never wanted to be like other girls: she was determined to stand out and dazzle the world. She secretly joined a dancing troupe, scandalizing family and friends. When that got old, the young woman learned to ride a bicycle, which eventually led to her meeting and marrying Alexander Herrmann, aka Herrmann the Great, a famous magician. Addie began working as Alexander's assistant and took over the act when he died. Life was never ordinary again. Rockliff tells Addie's story with panache, the words bouncing across the page, with varying sizes and typefaces to highlight and emphasize important ideas. Bruno's pencil and digitally colored illustrations are a homage to another time, with individuals and scenes made to look like cutout paper dolls and layered onto backgrounds. A detailed author's note provides further details about Herrmann's life and story, which was lost to the world for a long time. VERDICT Picture book biographies about groundbreaking women are always welcome, and this one is sure to please readers, young and old.—Jody Kopple, Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA
School Library Journal

Themes:

Magicians, Women's History,

Author/Illustrator Information:

Mara Rockliff is the author of many books for children, including *THE GRUDGE KEEPER* and *CHIK CHAK SHABBAT* as well as the award-winning picture books *ME AND MOMMA AND BIG JOHN* and *MY HEART WILL NOT SIT DOWN*. Under the pen name Lewis B. Montgomery, she wrote all twelve books in the popular *Milo & Jazz Mysteries* chapter book series. Rockliff is also the author of *GET REAL: WHAT KIND*

OF WORLD ARE YOU BUYING?, a tween-friendly guide to the social and environmental impact of our shopping choices, which has become required reading in middle schools across the United States and around the world. She lives in eastern Pennsylvania with her family. Visit her online at mararockliff.com.

Discussion Questions:

1. How was Addie “anything but ordinary”? What made her extraordinary or special?
2. What challenges did Addie face achieving her dreams?
3. What other women do you know about who have overcome challenges?

Activities:

1. Practice Addie’s magic trick included in the book.
2. Research and compare other pioneering women who are anything but ordinary.
3. Design paper dolls of groundbreaking women inspired by Bruno’s illustrations.
4. Learn about Harry Houdini and play an escape the room game
5. Watch modern magician Margaret Steele perform Addie’s famous trick, Cornucopia, in period dress set to historical music. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwB55EP9ZSY>

More Resources:

Candlewick Anything but Ordinary Addie Activity Kit.

http://www.candlewick.com/book_files/0763668419.kit.1.pdf

Magic Tricks for Kids - Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/user/webMagicSchool/featured>

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

Probuditi! by Chris Van Allsburg

The Secret of the Great Houdini by Robert Burleigh

The Vanishing Coin by Kate Egan

Horten's Miraculous Mechanisms : Magic, Mystery & A Very Strange Adventure by Lissa Evans

Nonfiction Titles:

Mesmerized: How Ben Franklin Solved a Mystery that Baffled All of France by Mara Rockliff

Harry Houdini: The Legend of the World’s Greatest Escape Artist by Janice Weaver

Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl’s Courage Changed Music by Margarita Engle

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Maker’s Strike of 1909 by Michelle Markel

I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark by Debbie Levy

Abacadabra! Fun Magic Tricks for Children by Kristin Kelly

Big Magic for Little Hands by Joshua Jay

Bubonic Panic: When Plague Invaded America by Gail Jarrow

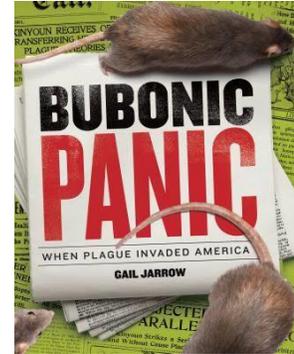
Calkins Creek, an imprint of Highlights

Publication date 2016

ISBN 9781620917381

Grade Level 5-12

Number of Pages 200



Description:

In March 1900, San Francisco's health department investigated a strange and horrible death in Chinatown. A man had died of bubonic plague, one of the world's deadliest diseases. But how could that be possible? *Bubonic Panic* tells the true story of America's first plague epidemic--the public health doctors who desperately fought to end it, the political leaders who tried to keep it hidden, and the brave scientists who uncovered the plague's secrets.

General Review:

"If the term bubonic plague conjures up images of medieval Europe, this disquieting book will shift your frame of reference a little closer to home: San Francisco in the early 1900s. Jarrow looks at plague throughout history and medical research into its causes, before zeroing in on its resurgence in the late nineteenth century, when it arose in Asia and reached Honolulu. She offers a detailed portrayal of its medical and social consequences when it struck in California, initially in San Francisco's Chinatown. Thoroughly researched and clearly presented, the text offers a direct window into the period. The intertwined themes of prejudice against Asian Americans, public health officials hampered by politicians, and mistrust of scientific research (which indicated that fleas carried plague from rodents to humans) make the story complex, revealing a good deal about human nature as well as the period and the disease itself. In addition to the many well-chosen period photos and prints, the illustrations include a few color photos of plague-ridden bodies. An informative book on an unusual topic." -Booklist

Themes:

Biology; Disease – Epidemics, Plague; Scientific Discovery; American History; Government (Public Health, Federal Government, Courts); Chinese Immigration; Civil Rights

Author Information:

Gail Jarrow is a graduate of Duke University and Dartmouth College. She lives in Ithaca, New York. Ms. Jarrow is the author of nonfiction books and novels for ages 8-18. Her nonfiction books have earned the YALSA Award Nomination for Excellence in Nonfiction, an Orbis Pictus Recommendation by the National Council of Teachers of English, the Jefferson Cup, as well as Kirkus Reviews and School Library Journal Best Books and VOYA Honor Book distinctions. www.gailjarrow.com

Discussion Questions:

1. Can true stories be as exciting and engaging as fiction? Why?
2. Ask several students to share what they know about the plague or another topic. Where did they get their information (TV, nonfiction books, movies, fictional stories)? Once they have shared their ideas, ask the other students to consider if everything they've heard is true. What makes them believe some of the information they've heard, but not other information? How could they verify if what they heard is true? What might be some negative consequences of

never finding out whether something is true, simply believing or disbelieving it without any further research?

3. What role does fear play in this book? What were the consequences of fear in responding to the plague?
4. Were the civil rights of the Chinese Americans violated? If so, how? Could that happen today?
5. Do you think it's important to study diseases that occurred in the past? Why or why not? How or why would studying past human diseases be different than just studying diseases that affect us today?
6. What connections or parallels can be made with things in our world today?

Activities:

1. Create a public health pamphlet or video about plague. Include steps to prevent exposure to the disease and reduce the chance of getting sick.
2. Research and give a presentation on a current disease or health issue. Topics could include: Influenza (H5N1 Avian Flu or H1N1 Swine Flu), Ebola, Vaccinations, Zika, etc.
3. Have a Black Plague Simulation: <http://classroomcompulsion.blogspot.com/2012/04/weve-been-infected.html>
4. Develop a plan for responding to an epidemic or crisis today. How would you prepare? What would you need? Who should be included in your plan?

More Resources:

Lesson Ideas, including a Teacher Guide <http://www.gailjarrow.com/forteachers.html>

BBC Education – The Black Death <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/z7r7hyc/revision>

Radio Interview with the author <http://outofboundsradioshow.com/shows/gail-jarrow-2/>

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

Chasing Secrets by Gennifer Choldenko

City of Orphans by Avi

A Death-Struck Year by Makiia Lucier *for older readers

Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson *for older readers

Nonfiction Titles:

An American Plague: The True and Terrifying Story of the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793 by Jim Murphy

Angel Island: Gateway to Gold Mountain by Russell Freedman

Breakthrough! How Three People Saved “Blue Babies” and Changed Medicine Forever by Jim Murphy

The Ebola Epidemic: The Fight, the Future by Connie Goldsmith

Florence Nightingale: The Courageous Life of the Legendary Nurse by Catherine Reef

Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never-Ending Search for a Cure by Jim Murphy & Alison Blank

Patient Zero: Solving the Mysteries of Deadly Epidemics by Marilee Peters

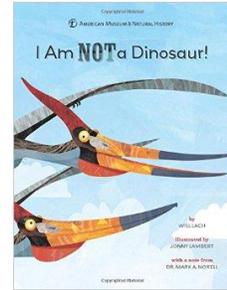
The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights by Steve Sheinkin

Red Madness: How a Medical Mystery Changed What We Eat by Gail Jarrow

Terrible Typhoid Mary: A True Story of the Deadliest Cook in America by Susan Campbell Bartoletti

I am NOT a Dinosaur! By American Museum of Natural History & Will Lach

Illustrator: Jonny Lambert
Publisher: Sterling Children's Books
Publication date: 2016
ISBN 978-1454914914
Grade Level: Preschool – 2
Number of Pages: 40



Description:

Way back in time, astonishing creatures lived on our planet. But they weren't all dinosaurs! In this fun, fascinating book, you'll meet some of these amazing prehistoric creatures, from a very big fish with 7-inch teeth to a flying reptile.

General Review:

"Young dino-enthusiasts will love this new title that uses short, rhyming sentences to introduce some nondinosaur prehistoric creatures, including saber-toothed cats, woolly mammoths, and pterosaurs. Each spread highlights a beast based on skeletons from the fossil collection of the American Museum of Natural History, giving a brief introduction to the animal and an illustration of the creature as it may have appeared in its natural habitat. The book tries to clarify for budding paleontologists the differences between dinosaurs and nondinosaurs from prehistory. The rhymes are whimsical yet still informative. Beautiful cut-paper collage artwork features each prehistoric animal, often with a young one in tow, on a plain, bright background, filling the space and drawing the eye. Back matter includes a bit more material about each creature, as well as a time line that shows when each existed in relation to the others. The author also explains the technical definition of a dinosaur, which is helpful for understanding why some are not considered dinosaurs. VERDICT A lovely and enlightening introduction to prehistoric creatures and a welcome addition to any elementary collection on prehistoric creatures." —School Library Journal

Themes:

Prehistoric animals, fossils, dinosaurs, science

Author Information:

Will Lach is an author of children's books about science, art, and music, including Vincent's Colors and Can you hear it? He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, daughter, and son.

<https://www.abbeville.com/authors/will-lach-277>

Illustrator Information:

Jonny Lambert is an author, illustrator, designer, and paper engineer of over 350 children's books. He lives in West Sussex, England, with his wife, daughter, and a menagerie of animals.

<http://www.plumpuddingillustration.com/work/?page=1&artist=168&name=&cat=1&id=131>

Discussion Questions:

1. Are there any animals that you haven't heard about before?
2. Why are some of these animals not considered dinosaurs?

Activities:

1. Have the kids make their own timeline of when these creatures were alive on the planet.
2. Take about what prehistoric means.
3. Have them try to identify different fossils.
4. Make their own cave art.
5. Play Dough Fossils
6. Vote and Graph it-Have the children vote for their favorite prehistoric animal and graph the results. Which animal did most children like the best?
7. Would a prehistoric animal be a good pet? Have the children vote which animal would be a good pet. Record the results on a graph. What is the result? Discuss with the children that a why or why not they might not be a good pet.
8. Have the kids pick a prehistoric animal and use cut-paper collage artwork.
9. Pick your favorite prehistoric animal and find out which time period it lived in.

More Resources:

Website for the American Museum of Natural History <http://www.amnh.org/>
The Natural History Museum of Utah <https://nhmu.utah.edu/>

Similar Books:**Fiction Titles:**

Giraffe's Can't Dance by Giles Andreae
How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth by Michelle Robinson

Nonfiction Titles:

Barnum's Bones: How Barnum Brown Discovered the Most Famous Dinosaur in the World
by Tracey Fern and Boris Kulikov
Prehistoric Actual Size by Steve Jenkins
How Big Were Dinosaurs? By Lita Judge

Masters of Disguise: Amazing Animal Tricksters by Rebecca L. Johnson

Millbrook Press
Publication date 2016
ISBN-10: 1512400874
Grade Level 5 - 8
Number of Pages 48



Description:

In the animal kingdom, survival is the name of the game—and not everything is as it seems. A number of animals rely on particularly clever tricks to fool predators or prey. A baby bird mimics a poisonous caterpillar. A moth escapes bats by making sounds that interfere with the bats' echolocation. A tiny rain forest spider builds a big spider "puppet" out of bits of dead leaves, insect parts, and other items. Find out more about some of nature's most bizarre and bloodthirsty con artists and meet the scientists who are working to figure out just how they pull off their amazing tricks.

General Review:

Gr 4–7—Duped! Hoodwinked! Bamboozled! Animals have long developed fantastic traits and abilities, or disguises, to help them survive and navigate their environment. Johnson hooks readers with gripping descriptions, close-up photographs, and profiles of the various scientists dedicated to studying these animals. Each creature and scientist combo is given four pages—just enough to whet readers' appetites. As Johnson includes more recent discoveries (Cyclosa, the "puppeteer spider," was discovered only in 2012), readers will feel the rush of learning something before anyone else. Scientists working in both field and lab are presented in candid photographs. With an almost equal number of men and women scientists featured, this work makes it easy for today's students to picture themselves in similar scientific shoes. VERDICT This exciting and easy-to-digest title will make for an excellent purchase and addition to booktalk lists. School Library Journal

Themes:

Presents animals that use camouflage and mimicry to survive, including the harlequin filefish, the gliding lizard, and the cuckoo finch.

Author/Illustrator Information:

Rebecca L. Johnson writes award-winning nonfiction for children and young adults. Her books have been widely recognized for excellence in science writing by the American Library Association, National Science Teachers Association, Children's Book Council, Society of School Librarians International, and many other organizations.

<http://www.rebeccajohnsonbooks.com/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Why are these animals 'masters of disguise'? Is it important for their survival?
2. If you were in a forest in the Wasatch Mountains, how would you disguise yourself from a predator?

Activities:

1. Camouflage yourself to blend in in a rainforest and a desert.
2. Make color copies of creatures in this book and the mix and match to come up with a wacky new animal.

More Resources:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/search-results/?q=camouflage>

<http://www.audubon.org/news/proceed-caution>

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

Spectacular Spots by Susan Stockdale

Where's the baboon? by Michaël Escoffier

Nonfiction Titles:

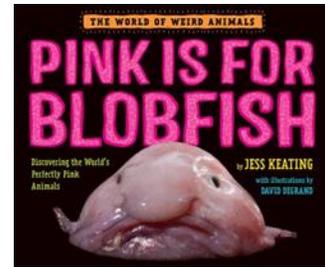
When Lunch Fights Back: Wickedly Clever Animal Defenses by Rebecca L. Johnson

Lots of Spots by Lois Ehlert

Pink is for Blobfish by Jess Keating

Pink is for Blobfish: Discovering the World's Perfectly Pink Animals (The World of Weird Animals) by Jess Keating

Illustrator: David Degrand
Knopf Books for Young Readers
Publication date 2016
ISBN 0553512277
Grade Level Kindergarten – 3
Number of Pages 48



Description:

"An informative introduction to the weirdest, wildest, pinkest creatures in the animal kingdom"--

General Review:

Gr 1–4—Keating explores 17 animals, including amphibians, insects, fish, reptiles, birds, and mammals from around the world—all of them pink. The cover alone, which depicts a glossy pink blobfish against a matte black background, will attract plenty of attention, and the subject matter will hold it. The first page, with text in neon pink letters against a black background, teases, "Think you know pink? Think again." Among the animals covered are the naked mole rat, the pinktoe tarantula, and the roseate spoonbill. On each spread, Keating introduces a different strange and fascinating creature; included are a full-body photo, a funny cartoon illustration, a brief paragraph of information, a listing of basic facts, and a high-interest inset, all contrasted against a variety of vibrant backgrounds. A range map is included on the final spread. VERDICT A popular addition for larger collections or those in need of materials on nontypical animals.— School Library Journal

Themes:

Unusual animals that all happen to be pink.

Author/Illustrator Information:

As a zoologist turned middle grade and picture book author, Jess Keating has been sprayed by skunks, bitten by crocodiles, and been a victim to the dreaded paper cut. Her MY LIFE IS A ZOO series earned two Kirkus stars, a Red Maple nomination, a Rocky Mountain Book Award nomination, and a spot on the LA Times Summer Book Pick List. <http://jesskeating.com/>

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is it important to preserve animals? Does it matter that the blobfish exists?
2. What unusual animals live in Utah?
<http://dwrccdc.nr.utah.gov/rsgis2/search/SearchSelection.asp?Group=MAMMALIA&Species=VERT>

Activities:

1. Make a blobfish out of pink pom poms and Styrofoam.
2. Share books about other unusual ocean animals.

More Resources:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC31PBmBfs_2ndHPLd9fkjZw

<https://www.smores.com/u/jesskeating>

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

The Blobfish Book by Jessica Olien

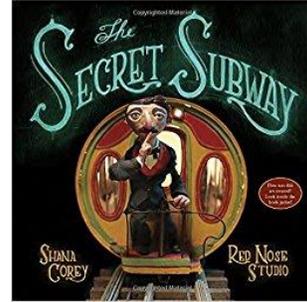
Octonauts and the Undersea Eruption by Meomi (Firm)

Nonfiction Titles:

Unusual Creatures: a Mostly Accurate Account of Some of the Earth's Strangest Animals by Michael Hearst

The Secret Subway by Shana Corey

Illustrator: Red Nose Studios
Schwartz & Wade
Publication date 2016
ISBN 978-0375870712
Grade Level Preschool – 3
Number of Pages 40



Description:

From an acclaimed author and a New York Times Best Illustrated artist comes the fascinating, little-known—and true!—story of New York City’s first subway.

General Review:

A long-forgotten chapter in New York City history is brilliantly illuminated.

In mid-19th-century New York, horses and horse-drawn vehicles were the only means of transportation, and the din created by wheels as they rumbled on the cobblestones was deafening. The congestion at intersections threatened the lives of drivers and pedestrians alike. Many solutions were bandied about, but nothing was ever done. Enter Alfred Ely Beach, an admirer of “newfangled notions.” Working in secret, he created an underground train powered by an enormous fan in a pneumatic tube. He built a tunnel lined with brick and concrete and a sumptuously decorated waiting room for passenger comfort. It brought a curious public rushing to use it and became a great though short-lived success, ending when the corrupt politician Boss Tweed used his influence to kill the whole project. Here is science, history, suspense, secrecy, and skulduggery in action. Corey’s narrative is brisk, chatty, and highly descriptive, vividly presenting all the salient facts and making the events accessible and fascinating to modern readers. The incredibly inventive multimedia illustrations match the text perfectly and add detail, dimension, and pizzazz. Located on the inside of the book jacket is a step-by-step guide to the creative process behind these remarkable illustrations.

Absolutely wonderful in every way. (author’s note, bibliography, Web resources) (Informational picture book. 6-10)

-Kirkus Review

Themes:

Subways, New York, History

Author/Illustrator Information:

Chris Sickels, the creative force behind Red Nose Studio, creates an eccentric world we'd all like to visit. Red Nose Studio’s illustrations appear in advertising, magazines, books, newspapers, packaging, character development and animation. His work has been honored by virtually every award institution or annual and has been featured in HOW, Print, Creativity, Communication Arts, 3x3 Magazine and American Illustration. He has twice been honored with the Carol Anthony Grand Prize award from the Society of Illustrators 3-D Salon. Two of his short films, The Red Thread Project and Innards, were selected to screen at the 2005 and 2006 Los Angeles International Short Film Festival. He authored and

illustrated The Look Book, and has illustrated the children's books Here Comes The Garbage Barge, The Beginner's Guide to Running Away From Home, and The Secret Subway which is to be released in 2016.
<http://www.rednosestudio.com/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you know about time period in the book?
2. How did people travel? What types of important historical events were taking place in the 1860s?

Activities:

1. Study New York City's subway system:
[:https://www.google.com/search?q=metro+map+nyc&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjy7bkteLQAhWr4IMKHevAB4wQ7AkIYA&biw=1440&bih=763](https://www.google.com/search?q=metro+map+nyc&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjy7bkteLQAhWr4IMKHevAB4wQ7AkIYA&biw=1440&bih=763)
2. Have reader's create an imaginary subway system in their city
3. Study the illustration style of Red Nose Studios

More Resources:

Into the Future With Shana Corey's "The Secret Subway" | A Lesson Plan

<http://www.slj.com/2016/12/collection-development/into-the-future-with-shana-coreys-the-secret-subway-a-lesson-plan/#>

Similar Books:

Fiction Titles:

Lost in NYC: A Subway Adventure: A TOON Graphic by Nadja Speigelman

Subway by Christoph Niemann

Subway by Anastasia Suen

Nonfiction Titles:

Subways by Mary Winget

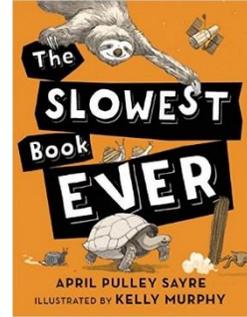
Secret subway : the fascinating tale of an amazing feat of engineering by Martin Sandler

Transportation inventions : from subways to submarines by Sandra Will

A subway for New York by David Weitzman

The Slowest Book Ever by April Pulley Sayre

Illustrator: Kelly Murphy
Publisher: Boyds Mills Press
Publication date: 2016
ISBN: 978-1620917831
Grade Level: 2-7
Number of Pages: 176



Description:

Readers will explore an astounding variety of information about all things slow—in nature, geology, art, outer space, etc.

General Review:

"Science and nature rub shoulders with pop culture and history in Sayre's ode to slowness.... The tone is humorous but never silly, and the facts are backed up with sources and more details in the endnotes. The light tone and engaging writing are perfectly complemented by the pen-and-ink drawings that accompany every entry, and the design invites lingering and sharing. Students will love picking up and carrying this volume around to read and think about in free moments." —School Library Journal

Themes:

Slow, trivia, quick facts

Author/Illustrator Information:

April Pulley Sayre is an award-winning author of more than 60 science books for children and adults, including the popular *Rah, Rah, Radishes!*, *Stars Beneath Your Bed* (an ALA Notable Book), *Eat Like a Bear* (an ALA Notable Book), and *Vulture View* (a Geisel Honor book).

<http://www.aprilsayre.com/>

Kelly Murphy

<http://www.kelmurphy.com/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What is the slowest animal?
2. How long is the Great Wall of China?
3. What color was the Statue of Liberty originally?

Activities:

1. Wait a Minute (page 18): Set stop watch for 1 minute. Ask people of all ages to tell you without looking at a clock, when a minute has passed. Compare and see if younger people or older people are closer.
2. Try a snails pace (page 27): Put a snail on a ruler and see how long it takes to cross it.
3. The slowest mail I have received (page 36): Mail something through snail mail at www.realsnailmail.net.

4. Signs of the times (page 88): Do some penny experiments.
 - a. <https://sciencebob.com/clean-pennies-with-vinegar/>
 - b. <https://sciencebob.com/clean-pennies-with-vinegar/>
5. Take a slow day (page 105): Do everything that day slow-eating, walking, etc.
6. Lots of slow activities on pages 126-129

Similar Books:

Nonfiction Titles:

Weird but True Series

100 Things to Know Before You Grow Up by Lisa Gerry

Brain Games: The Mind-Blowing Science of Your Amazing Brain by Jennifer Swanson

Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March by Lynda Blackmon Lowery as told to Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley

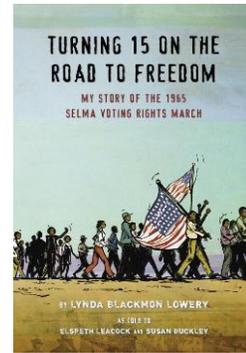
Dial Books

Publication date 2015

ISBN 978-0-8037-4123-2

Grade Level: 5th and up

Number of Pages 144



Description:

Lynda Blackmon's story about being the youngest person marching for African American voting rights in 1960s Alabama.

General Review:

One of the youngest participants in the 1965 voting rights march in Alabama, Lowery provides a moving first-person account of her experience. Through this thought-provoking volume, the picture of an incredibly courageous young woman emerges. Lowery effectively conveys the enormity of the injustices in her world and the danger that those she knew encountered daily. Lowery shows what people, including children, are capable of when they stand together. Readers will appreciate what the author endured, including being jailed nine times before she turned 15. Lowery includes many intricate details, such as what the marchers ate and where they slept. The illustrations are a mix of photographs and cartoonish drawings, which bring a graphic novel-like feel to this memoir. A concluding chapter explains the fight for voting rights and contains short biographies of those who died for the cause. This is an honest, powerful historical work, straight from the source. -Heather Acerro, Rochester Public Library, MN (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. -School Library Journal

Themes:

justice, civil rights, coming of age

Author/Illustrator Information:

Lynda Blackmon Lowery, the youngest person to take part in the Selma Voting Rights March of 1965, now works as a case manager at a mental health center, and still lives in Selma, Alabama.

<http://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/authors/239582/lynda-blackmon-lowery>

Elspeth Leacock and Susan Buckley are writers, editors, and friends who have collaborated for many years to tell the stories of American history. Elspeth, who grew up in New York City, and Susan, who grew up in a small town in Louisiana, share a love of storytelling and history. Both live in New York today. They have written five books together, as well as others independently.

<http://www.historymakersnow.com>

PJ Loughran began his career doing illustrations for the Op-Ed pages of the New York Times while attending Parsons School of Design. Since then PJ has created over 2000 illustrations for clients including Sports Illustrated, Esquire, GQ, and Rolling Stone, among many others. In addition, PJ was an adjunct professor at Parsons from 1998-2006. He has also been a frequent guest lecturer at schools and design organizations nationwide. PJ lives just outside Chicago with his wife, three children and their two dogs Willy and Lily. <http://www.pjillustration.com/about>

Discussion Questions:

1. What feelings or life experiences pushed Lynda Blackmon to march for voting rights?
2. How did the marchers impact the community and the country?
3. Why do you think it was so important for Lynda to let Governor Wallace know she was in the crowd at the end?
4. Are there any current events to which you can compare this?
5. What rights do you feel strong enough to march for?

Activities:

1. Create a visual timeline with the voting rights march and at least five other significant events that happened during the civil rights movement. Include one photograph or drawing for each. Write a short paragraph in your own words to describe each event.
2. Use a Venn diagram to compare two civil rights marches--either historical or some that have taken place in recent months. What are the similarities and differences in the marches and what people want to accomplish?
3. Create a collage to describe the themes in this book. Write a short paper to explain your collage. Present it to your class or to a small group.

More Resources:

PBS--The Civil Rights Movement: A Time for Change Lesson Plan

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/lessons_plans/the-50th-anniversary-of-the-march-on-washington-lesson-plan-a-time-for-change/

PBS--From Selma to Montgomery: An Introduction to the 1965 Marches Lesson Plan

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/lessons_plans/an-introduction-to-the-1965-marches-from-selma-to-montgomery/

Video: Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom with Lynda Blackmon Lowery

https://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=7124

Similar Books:

Because They Marched: The People's Campaign for Voting Rights that Changed America by Russell Friedman

Marching for Freedom: Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary by Elizabeth Partridge March by John Lewis

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice by Phillip M. Hoose

**Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's super-soaking stream of inventions by
Chris Barton**

Illustrator: Don Tate
Charlsbridge
Publication date 2016
ISBN 978-1580892971
Grade Level 1-4
Number of Pages 32



Description:

Picture biography of Lonnie Johnson, the African-American rocket scientist and inventor of the Super-Soaker.

General Review:

/ Starred Review */* A tinkering African-American boy grows up to become the inventor of a very popular toy. Lonnie Johnson always tinkered with something. As a kid, he built rockets and launched them in the park amid a crowd of friends. (He even made the rocket's fuel, which once caught fire in the kitchen. Oops.) As an adult he worked for NASA and helped to power the spacecraft Galileo as it explored Jupiter. But nothing is as memorable in the minds of kids as his most famous invention (to date): the Super-Soaker. While testing out a new cooling method for refrigerators, Johnson accidentally sprayed his entire bathroom, and the idea was born. However, the high-powered water gun was not an instant success. Barton shows the tenacity and dedication (and, sometimes, plain good timing) needed to prove ideas. From the initial blast of water that splashes the word "WHOOSH" across the page (and many pages after) to the gatefold that transforms into the Larami toy executives' (tellingly, mostly white) reactions—"WOW!"—Tate plays up the pressurized-water imagery to the hilt. In a thoughtful author's note, Barton explains how Johnson challenges the stereotypical white, Einstein-like vision of a scientist. A delightfully child-friendly and painfully necessary diversification of the science field. (Picture book/biography. 4-8)(Kirkus Reviews, March 15, 2016)

Themes:

Picture biographies, STEM, inventors, African-American lives

Author Information:

From chrisbarton.com: "Chris Barton is the author of picture books including bestseller *Shark Vs. Train*, Sibert Honor-winning *The Day-Glo Brothers*, and Texas Bluebonnet Award Master List books *The Amazing Age of John Roy Lynch* (2016-17) and *Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions* (2017-18). His new books in 2016-17 include *88 Instruments* and *Mighty Truck: Muddymania!*. He visits schools by the score and also loves speaking to professional gatherings of librarians, educators, and his fellow writers. Chris and his wife, novelist Jennifer Ziegler (*Revenge of the Flower Girls*, *How Not to Be Popular*), live in Austin, Texas, with their family. For more information about Chris, please visit www.chrisbarton.info."

Discussion Questions:

1. Lonnie Johnson has had a long career as a scientist and inventor. Why do you think author Chris Barton chose to focus his book on the Super Soaker?
2. Lonnie Johnson had to overcome a lot of struggles in his life. What were some of them? How did he do it?
3. Have you ever had a great idea for a new toy or game? What would you need to do in order to make your dream product a reality?
4. What character traits helped Lonnie Johnson succeed in spite of the struggles he had to overcome? What are some character traits you have that will help you succeed in spite of struggles you face?

Activities:

- **Super Soaker VS Traditional Squirt Gun:** have students take turns squirting a traditional squirt gun and a compressed-air soaker made using one of Johnson's patents. Measure the distance. Discuss why the Super Soaker is more powerful than a conventional squirt gun. Reference: <http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/water-blaster3.htm>
- **Inventor's Fair:** Use the ideas for inventions generated by students during the discussion to hold a mini inventor's fair. Have students make scale drawings of their inventions, describe how they would work, and brainstorm how to bring their inventions to the market.
- **What's A Patent:** Explore the information found on the US Patent Office's For Kids page, which includes games and activities, coloring pages. See <https://www.uspto.gov/kids/activities.html>

More Resources:

1. <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-37062579>
2. <http://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/water-blaster3.htm>
3. <http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/super-soaker-inventor-lonnie-johnson/>
4. http://greatscienceatgreatrivers.pbworks.com/w/file/attach/59958807/ss0910_10.pdf
5. <https://www.uspto.gov/kids/activities.html>

Similar Books:

Mr. Ferris and His Wheel: by Kathryn Davis

Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors: The story of Elizabeth Blackwell by Tanya Lee Stone

The Inventor's Secret: What Thomas Edison told Henry Ford by Suzanne Slade

I am Jane Goodall by Brad Meltzer

Timeless Thomas: How Thomas Edison changed our lives by Gene Barretta