



KODANSHA

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

2023 Bologna

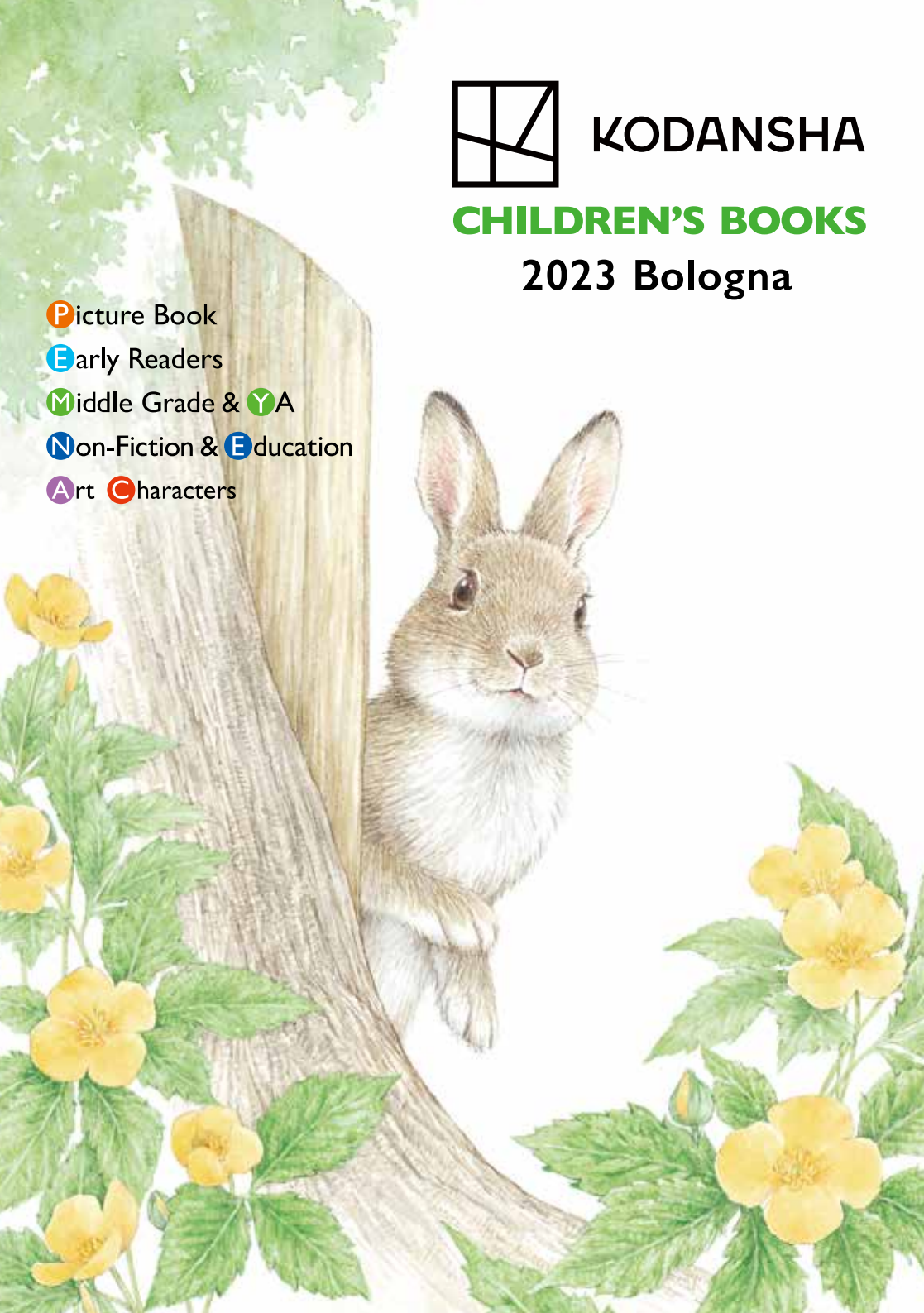
Picture Book

Early Readers

Middle Grade & **YA**

Non-Fiction & **E**ducation

Art **C**haracters



Forest Home Advice



Rabbit lives in a tree in the mountains and loves to help his fellow creatures find places to stay. He knows just the room for each woodland animal. When a pair of Sunda scops owls is looking for a place to raise their chicks, he shows them to a hole in an apple tree. When a dormouse is looking for a place to fatten up and spend the winter, the rabbit has him covered. The rabbit is almost like a real estate agent as he responds to the other animals' requests in this heartwarming story.

Age 3+

32 pages / March 2023



Come for a Meal —It's My Treat



Age 3+

32 pages / 2021

Writer

Kumiko Moichi

Born in Iwate Prefecture. Won the Hirotsuke Fairy Tale Award for *Ochiba ochiba tonde ike* (Autumn leaf, autumn leaf, fly away).

Illustrator

Yumi Shimokawara

Picturbook author and Illustrator, See profile next page for details.

Thank You, Buddy



Age 2+

24 pages

May 2022

Hey, So...



Age 2+

24 pages

Sold: Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Germany

Have a Seat



Age 2+

24 pages

Sold: China, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam

Plip-Plop, Plip-Plop, Are You All Right?



Age 2+

24 pages

Sold: China, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand

Star Hunting



Age 3+

32 pages

2017

Sold: China, Germany, Korea, Thailand

Author & Illustrator

Yumi Shimokawara



Born in Tokyo Prefecture. Started taking an illustration correspondence course with Kodansha Famous Schools in 2001 and then learned wildlife drawing at a school managed by KFS In 2013, the school won the 7th KFS Picture Book Grand Prix. This award-winning work became her debut title, *Hoshi wo Sagashite ni* (Star Hunting).

Panda Exercise series

Age 2+

300,000
copies
sold

A tulip, a banana, a rice ball, an airplane... Have fun pretending to be all sorts of familiar things with panda friends. You won't be able to help but move your body as you turn each page. This series will enrich both your heart and your body.



32 pages / 2023

Panda Buddy Exercises

Grab a buddy and follow the pandas. Become a see-saw, a railroad crossing, hula-dancers and more as you exercise your imagination along with your body. This book is perfect for siblings or parent-child playtime.



Sold: China, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand



Sold: China, France, Italy, Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam



Sold: China, France, Italy, Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand



Sold: China, Vietnam



Sold: China

Author & Illustrator

Satoshi Iriyama

Born in Tokyo. His picture books include the Piyo-chan series, *Oyasumi nasai no oto* (Good night sounds), *Koro koro panda* (Roly poly panda), *Yuru yuru panda* (Rock and sway panda), *Pocketto neko* (Pocket kitty), *Masuku o tottara* (When you take your mask off), and more.

We Are Penguin Explorers: The Southern Island



Heave and-a ho ho, heave and-a ho ho! The penguin explorers land on the southern isle and begin their expedition. They are unfazed by their "dangerous" encounters with a lion, a python, and a crocodile, and equally unfazed when a dinosaur shows up.

Age 3+

32 pages / 2022 / Sold: Korea

We Are Penguin Explorers (Early readers)

The Penguin series, which is loved by children who have outgrown picture books as books they can read on their own, was launched in 1991. Penguin Explorers" has been a big seller in Japan and China, selling over 500,000 copies. The secret behind the popularity of the series is the penguins' own pace and their humorous calls to each other.

Age 3+

78 pages / 1991 / Sold: China, Taiwan



We Are Penguin Firefighters (Early readers)

A funny bunch of penguins comes to a southern isle with a heave and-a ho ho. Where there's no smoke, there's no fire, but these penguin firefighters are here to put it out anyway—even if their activities only annoy the animal inhabitants.

Age 3+

78 pages / 1993 / Sold: China, Taiwan



Writer

Hiroshi Saito

Born in Tokyo. German literature scholar and author of children's literature. Professor at Asia University. See profile on 16p for details.

Illustrator

Jun Takabatake

Born in Aichi Prefecture. He received the Bologna International Award for Illustration for *Dare no jitensha* (Whose bicycle?; Froebel-Kan). He won the German Children's Literature Prize 2018 for his book *Boku wa Afrika ni Sumu Kirin to iimasu* (I am a giraffe living in Africa; written by Megumi Iwasa; from Kaiseisha).

Can You Tidy Up?



Age 3+

24 pages / 2021

Tidying up is something every child needs to learn to do. Cut-out spaces highlight an airplane, a bear, and so on, so every page turn emphasizes the feeling of achievement kids get from putting an object back where it goes. Teach your child where their things belong and watch their abilities blossom day by day.



Can You Get Dressed?



Age 3+

24 pages / 2021

Jumble, Jumble, Perfect!



Age 3+

24 pages / 2021

Author & Illustrator

Yukimi Konno

Born in 1978. Her other books include *Mite sawatte oboeru a i u e o no ehon* (See, touch, and remember a i u e o), *Mite sawatte oboeru kazu no ehon* (See, touch, and remember numbers; both from Shufunotomoshia), the *Ohime-sama shiiru ehon* series (Princess sticker picture books; Kodansha).

We're Getting a Cat Tomorrow



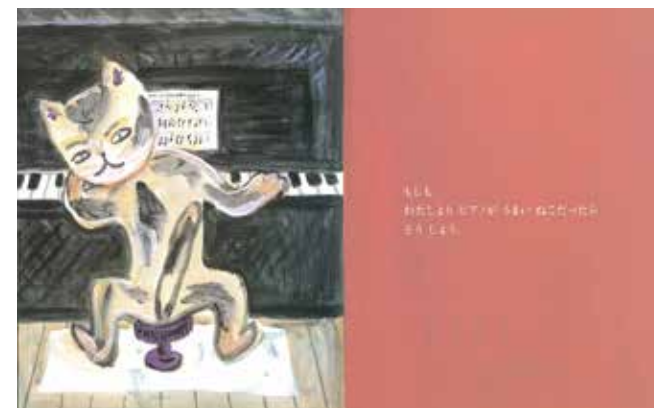
A little girl learns her family is getting a cat tomorrow, but what kind of cat will it be? She hopes it will be cute like a doll, but her mom teases her, saying, "What if it's as big as a lion?" That gets the girl's imagination working: What if it's always stealing my snacks? What if it's better at piano than me? The scenarios get more and more fanciful until finally, the next day, the adorable cat shows up.

Age 3+

24 pages

2000

Sold: China, Korea



Author

Chihiro Ishizu

Born in Aichi Prefecture. She received a Bologna Ragazzi Special Award in 1999 with *Nazonazo no tabi* (The riddle journey; illustrated by Ryoji Arai; from Froebel-Kan) and won the 2001 Japan Picture Book Award for this book.

Illustrator

Yuki Sasameya

Born in Tokyo. He has won numerous awards including a silver medal at the Dommelhof International Print Biennale, the Shogakukan Award for Painting, the Kodansha Publication Culture Award for Illustrations, and the Japan Picture Book Award.

The Hat



A bunch of animals find a lovely blue hat lying in the meadow. Whose could it be? It's too small for Elephant and Donkey. It doesn't fit the Goat, Rabbit, or Mouse either. Then a human boy comes along—"Oh, that's where it was!"—and the hat fits him perfectly.

Age 3+
20 pages
2022

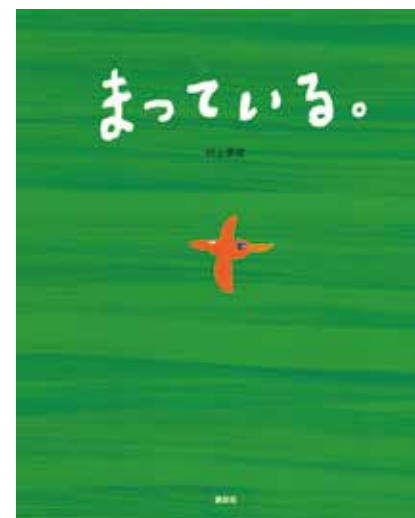


Author & Illustrator

Yura Komine

Born in Kumamoto Prefecture. Studied painting at Tokyo University of the Arts and in 1985 she went to France to study at École des Beaux-Arts. After returning to Japan in 1994, she became known as a picture book author, illustrator, and doll maker. She won the 10th Japan Picture Book Award with *Sakurako no tanjōbi* (Sakurako's birthday; Doshinsha) and the 18th with *Tomodachi dekita yo* (I made a friend!; Bunken). She received the 47th Kodansha Publishing Culture Award for picture books with *Urugōru no Kurukuru-chan* (Twirly from the Music Box; Kodansha).

Waiting



Waiting is natural. A child waits for a fish to bite. A spider waits for bugs to get trapped in its web. Sea birds wait for the tide to shift. Everyone has to be patient for something, but what do your senses pick up while you're waiting quietly? You might be surprised how much is happening around you if you open your awareness to the world.

Age 3+
32 pages
2020



Author & Illustrator

Yasunari Murakami

Born in Gifu Prefecture. He has received special mentions in the Bologna International Awards for Illustration, a golden plaque in the Biennial of Illustration Bratislava, and the Japan Picture Book Awards Grand Prize.

Black



Age 5+

35 pages / 2022

A dog named Kuro (black) restlessly paces around his doghouse missing his friend. *Will I be able to see you?* After a lonely night, morning finally comes and they can play together again.

The Book of Water



USBY 2022 Outstanding
International Book List

"Earth is a planet of water. Humans are all children of this water planet. Water is the origin of humans. This poem is an ode to water," said Hiroshi Osada of this work. Now set to vibrant illustrations by Ryoji Arai, it makes a beautiful picture book and great follow up to the pair's books about the forest and the sky.

Age 5+

32 pages / 2019

Sold: China, USA, Sweden

White and Black



Age 5+

36 pages / 2019

Sold: Korea

A curious white cat makes friends with a black dog. They couldn't be more different, yet they have plenty in common as they play in the nature that surrounds them. The cat wonders, *Why, why do I miss you?* but to the reader, it's obvious. Every child understands the melancholy of their friend going home for the day and the joy of seeing them again soon.

A Forest Picture Book



Age 5+

32 pages

1999

Sold: China

The Sky Picture Book



The White Ravens
2012

Best Illustrator,
2021 Northern Lights
Book Awards

Age 5+

36 pages

2011

Sold: China, USA,
Vietnam

Writer

Hiroshi Osada

Born 1939 in Fukushima prefecture. Debuted with the poetry collection *Warera shinsen na tabibito* (We novel travelers) in 1965. After that he was active as a poet and received the Mainichi Publishing Culture Award 1982, and the Robo no Ishi Literary Award in 1991. He continued writing award winning poetry until his death in 2015.

Illustrator

Ryoji Arai

Astrid Lindgren
Memorial Award
2005 Winner

Born 1956 in Yamagata Prefecture. Released *MELODY* in 1990 and began creating picture books. In 1991 his work *Yukkuri to Jojoni* (Take-It-Easy and Little-by-Little) was exhibited as a Japanese representative for the Ezra Jack Keats Awards. He won a special award at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 1999.

Author & Illustrator

Chiki Kikuchi

BIB Golden Apple
2013

BIB Plaque
2019

Born 1975 in Hokkaido Prefecture. Debuted in 2012 with *Shiro neko kuro neko* (White cat black cat; from Gakken Plus) and won a Golden Apple at the 2013 Biennial of Illustration Bratislava (BIB) for it.

Doctor Anton Series



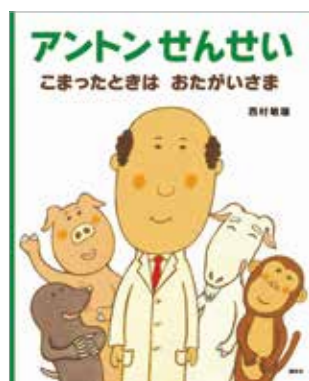
Age 3+

32 pages / 2013

Sold: China, Taiwan, Vietnam

Doctor Anton is a kind veterinarian who always wears a smile. All sorts of animals come to his clinic each day. A chicken rooster who lost his voice, a tiger with a tummy ache, an alligator whose jaw came unhinged... No matter how scary the patient may seem, Doctor Anton listens closely and cures what ails them. Even kids who hate going to do the doctor can enjoy reading about familiar animals.

680,000
copies
sold



Doctor Anton, Helping Each Other

NEW!

One night, a big storm hits. "I wonder if everyone is okay..." Doctor Anton the veterinarian is worried. The next morning, sure enough, there's a lot of trouble in the animal village. It's too much for Doctor Anton to handle on his own. When things get tough, it's important for everyone to help each other.

Age 3+

32 pages / 2022

Sold: China



Doctor Anton Makes a House Call

Age 3+

32 pages / 2015

Sold: China,
Taiwan, Vietnam



Doctor Anton, It's a Piglet!

Age 3+

32 pages / 2017

Sold: China,
Taiwan, Vietnam

Author & Illustrator

Toshio Nishimura

Born in Aichi prefecture. Graduated from Tokyo Zokei University's design department. After working as an interior/textile designer, Nishimura entered the picture book field. He is able to capture children's hearts immediately with his humorous stories and painting style. His picture books include *Barubarusan* (Mr. Barbar the barber; text by Eriko Inui), *Unko!* (Poop!; text by Satoshin), and *Imo imo hori hori* (Digging for potatoes) among many others.

Mottainai Grandma Series

Over 1
million
copies!

The Mottainai Grandma series helps kids understand how precious things are and encourages an attitude of consideration and respect for others. People around the world are realizing that the concept of "mottainai" is useful in food education and for thinking about climate change. The new book depicts the water cycle in a way that is easy for children to grasp. Follow a single drop of water down a river to see how it is connected to animals, plants, and every sort of life form.



Mottainai Grandma Goes to the River

Mottainai Grandma takes a boy upstream to learn why throwing trash in water is harmful. There they meet a baby river, and when they journey downstream together, they find...?

The next lesson from this hugely popular character is a reverence for nature, and it takes place somewhere familiar—a riverside. All living things need water; it's unfair for humans to pollute it. This book encourages kids to keep our precious water clean.

Age 4+

36 page / 2019

Sold: China, India, Taiwan, Vietnam



Mottainai Grandma

Age 3+

34 pages
2004

Sold: China, India,
Taiwan, Vietnam



Mottainai Grandma Let's Eat With Gratitude

Age 3+

36 pages / 2009

Sold: India, Taiwan, Vietnam



Mottainai Grandma Goes to the Magic Land

Age 5+

34 pages / 2009

Sold: India

Author & Illustrator

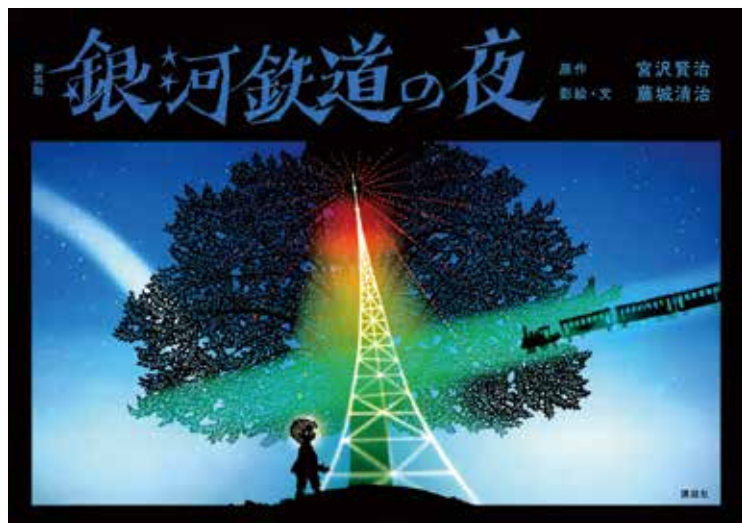
Mariko Sinju



Studied picture book design in Osaka and New York. Her first book, *A Pumpkin Story*, was released in the United States in 1998. In 2004, she released *Mottainai Bāsan* (Mottainai Grandma), which won the Kenbuchi City Picture Book Village Award.

Night on the Galactic Railroad

BIB Golden Apple
1983



Age 8+

52 pages / 2022 / Sold: China, Korea

Follow best friends Giovanni and Campanella on a mysterious train that flies across the Milky Way. They vow to go together to forever in search of true happiness, but only one of them returns... This new edition includes an afterword from 98-year-old Fujishiro on the occasion of this BIB Golden Apple Award-winning book's 40th anniversary.

Text & Shadow picture

Seiji Fujishiro

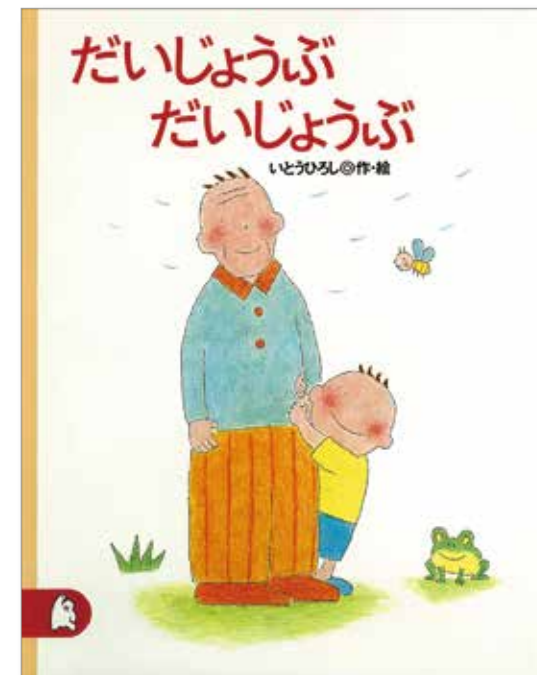
Born in 1924 in Tokyo. He began oil painting at the age of 12 and was selected for the Dokuritsu and Shinseisaku exhibitions. After World War II, amidst a shortage of supplies, he began creating shadow puppets and developed them into a unique form of artistic expression. In addition to a BIB Golden Apple in 1983 for the original edition of this book, he has also been awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbon, a Fourth Class Order of the Rising Sun decoration, and many other honors.

Original Author

Kenji Miyazawa

1896-1933. Poet and fairy tale author. Though unrecognized during his lifetime, his unique worldview became known after his death, and he is now a nationally symbolic creator. *Night on the Galactic Railroad* has inspired many anime and novels including *Galaxy Express 999*.

You'll Be Fine, You'll Be Fine



Age 5+

31 pages
1995

Sold: China, Taiwan

A little boy goes on world-expanding walks with his grandpa, but the more experiences he has, the more his anxieties grow. Not everyone is nice to him, and sometimes sad things happen. But his grandpa always tells him he'll be fine. Later, the boy returns the consideration. This book is a gentle reminder not to catastrophize because the word isn't all bad. Winner of the Kodansha Publishing Culture Award.

Author & Illustrator

Hiroshi Ito

Born in 1957 in Tokyo. Graduated from Waseda University with a major in education. He is best known for his Osaru no mainichi series (Monkey life) and has won the Robo no Ishi Award for Children's Literature, the Noma Prize for Juvenile Literature, and the Ehon Nippon Prize Readers Award.

Monster Encyclopedia Series

Monster Encyclopedia: At School



A New TV
animation
series has
begun!

Over 1.6 million copies sold in Japan! Adapted as both anime and a live-action movie. The secret to this series's popularity is finding humor in the spookiness and always offering a solution to give readers peace of mind. These books come with the message that no matter what life throws at you, "you'll be fine!"

34 volumes and counting!

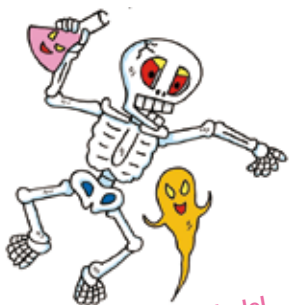
Age 9+

80 pages

2014

Sold: Taiwan

Goofy Monsters



The Skeleton Model



Beethoven on the poster



Hanako-san
in the Toilet

From Monster Encyclopedia: At School

1.



If you forget something at school, you mustn't go back at night to get it—especially not to the science room.

2.



Because the science room at night...
...is a monster paradise! And the scariest of all is....the skeleton model!

3.



Once he grabs you, he won't let go till morning. He'll make you dance for hours and hours.

4.



To avoid all of that, you need to not go to the science room at night. But if the skeleton model grabs you, pretend to be a dog by barking, "Woof! Woof-woof-woof!"

Writer

Hiroshi Saito

Born 1952 in Tokyo Prefecture. Won the Kodansha Award for New Writers of Children's Literature for *Rudorufu to Ippaiattena* (Rudolf and Gotta Bunch), the Noma Prize for New Writers of Children's Literature and the Robo-no-Ishi Young Readers Award for *Rudorufu tomodachi hitoridachi* (Rudolf with friends and on his own), as well as the the Noma Prize for Children's Literature for *Rudorufu to Sunō Howaito* (Rudolf and Snow White).

Illustrator

Etsuyoshi Miyamoto

Born 1954 in Osaka Prefecture. After working in graphic design, he switched to illustrating and authoring picture books. Winner of the Kodansha Character Creation Award, the Sankei Shimbun Advertising Award, and the Parco Parody Prize.

The Letz Series

Stories written purely from a child's point of view by Hico Tanaka are paired with the mega-popular Shinsuke Yoshitake's illustrations in the Letz series. These were Yoshitake's first children's books and now they are available in a new edition.



Letz in Mom's Tummy

Five-year-old Letz ponders the mysteries of the womb. "When you were in my tummy, you were connected to me by your belly button." But wouldn't that have to be outside her tummy? Does Mom have a belly button inside, too? This is the story of how a little kid imagines the story of their birth.

Age 6+
64 pages
Sold: China

Writer Hico Tanaka



Born in 1953 in Osaka Prefecture. Majored in literature at Doshisha University. In 1990, he won the first Muku Hatoju Children's Literature Prize for *Ohikkoshi* (Dad moves out). In 1997, he won the 44th Sankei Children's Book JR Award for *Gomen* (Sorry). In 2017, he won the Japan Association of Children's Book Writers Award for his series *Naritate Chūgakusei* (Freshly minted middle-schooler). Chairman of The Children's Literature Review.

Illustrator Shinsuke Yoshitake

Born 1973 in Kanagawa Prefecture. Completed a Master's in Plastic Art and Mixed Media at Tsukuba University. *Ringo kamo shirenai* (It Might Be an Apple) won first place in the 6th moe Picture Book Store Prize and the 61st Sankei Children's Literature Publishing Culture Award for Art. His books are popular around the world.



1.



"This reminds me of when Letz was in my tummy."

2.



"You're a blessing from the heavens, Letz."

3.



"But inside a tummy, all kinds of stuff comes falling down on you. There's nothing much to be happy about."

4.



"Next time I'm born, I'll fall down from the heavens."

Letz and A Cat



Age 6+
64 pages
2018 / Sold: China

Letz's Stool



Age 6+
64 pages
Sold: China

Letz Runs an Errand



Age 6+
64 pages
Sold: China

Temple Alley Summer



Age 10+

338 pages
2011

Sold: Germany, USA

Winner of the 2022
Mildred L. Batchelder Award

Winner of the 2022
SCBW Crystal Kite Award

Author

Sachiko Kashiwaba



Born in Hanamaki, Iwate Prefecture in 1953. Graduated from Tohoku Pharmaceutical University. In 1974, while still a student, she won the Kodansha Award for New Writers for Children's Literature for a work that Kodansha published as *Kiri no mukō no fushigi na machi* (*The Marvelous Village Veiled in Mist*; tr. Christopher Holmes). It won the 9th Japan Children's Literature Association Newcomer Award in 1976 and went on to become a steady seller known as the inspiration for Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*. As one of Japan's best fantasy writers, Kashiwaba's works have won numerous awards and been adapted into animations.

In the middle of the night, Kazu wakes up with a need to go to the bathroom and sees a strange girl leaving his house. A ghost? The next day, Kazu goes to school and is surprised to find the girl in his class. Strangely enough, his classmates say that she has been in their class for a long time! As Kazu pursues the mystery, he learns that the legend of resurrection was passed down in a temple in his town. There are ghosts who resurrect unnoticed and live among humans. A multilayered fantasy work that incorporates a medieval European tale within a Japanese-style narrative.



The Marvelous Village Veiled in Mist

During the summer vacation, Lina went on a trip alone to a town where her father had once traveled. Passing through a misty forest, she finds a beautiful and somewhat eccentric town. This is a Japanese fantasy masterpiece that inspired Studio Ghibli's "Spirited Away."

Age 10+

216 pages

Sold: China, France, Italy, Taiwan



A Strange Journey from the basement

Akane was visiting Aunt Chi's pharmacy when suddenly a strange gentleman and a dwarf appeared from the basement. Accompanied by Hippocrates, an alchemist from the "Land of Time Tree Buds," and his apprentice Pipo, Aunt Chi and Akane set off for "the world next door." This work was made into an animated film as "Birthday Wonderland".

Age 10+

256 pages

Sold: China, Taiwan, France



The House of the Lost on the Cape

Moeka is supposed to be taken in by relatives after losing her parent. Yurie is running away from his abusive husband. A mysterious old lady gives them a hand. This book is a fantasy themed around the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and Tsunami featuring three women who end up living together as a kind of family.

Age 10+

270 pages

Sold: China, USA



The Beast Player



3.1
million
copies sold

Banished from her homeland where the Toda are the army's deadliest weapon, raised in the lonely mountains where the beautiful but savage Royal Beasts soar wild, Elin is fated to discover the lost secret of the beasts, those that must not be tamed, and unlock the political taboo that has maintained the balance of power between the forces of nature, gods, and human tribes.



Age 11+

319 ~ 486 pages

2006 ~ 2010

Sold: UK, China, South Korea

Taiwan, Sweden

Winner of the 2020
Michael L. Prinz Award

Author
Nahoko Uehashi



Nahoko Uehashi is the winner of the Jury of the International Board on Books for Young People's 2014 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Writing. The Beast Player is an epic fantasy series admired for its "tenderness and a great respect for nature and all sapient creatures." (JBBY) The Moribito and The Beast Player series were animated and broadcast on NHK. Uehashi's works are read all over the world. The Moribito series has been translated into: English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, and traditional and simplified Mandarin; The Beast Player series has been translated into French, German, Swedish, Korean, and traditional and simplified Mandarin.

2014 Han Christian
Andersen Award

Soul Lanterns



The White Ravens
2014

The Shogakukan
Publication Culture Award

The Fukuda Kiyoto
Literary Award.

Age 13+

189 pages

Sold: USA

12-year-old Nozomi was born and raised in Hiroshima, where the atomic bomb was dropped, but she had never thought too much about it. Then the art club she belongs to at school decides to do a Culture Festival project on the theme of asking adults close to them about the day they were bombed. One man's girlfriend died... One woman's son died... Nozomi listens to the brutal stories of each person who lost someone precious to them. These stories are not portrayed in a horrifying way, but conveyed with a quiet prayer for peace. The final lantern floating ceremony scene, colorful and beautiful, resonates in the hearts of readers.

This book was translated into English and published by Delacorte Books for Young Readers in March 2021 under the title *Soul Lanterns* (tr. Emily Balistreri) and was selected as one of the Best Books 2021 by School Library Journal in the United States.

Author

Shaw Kuzki

Born in Hiroshima. Second generation A-bomb survivor. Received her MA from Sophia University. She has won numerous awards, including the Japan Juvenile Writers Association Prize and the Sankei Children's Book Award.

The Mirage Queen Series



Series: 2002~ 15 volumes

Over **1.3 million** copies!

The great thief Queen has a whimsical personality, but Queen knows what they like when it comes to a heist. When Queen finds something that fits their sense of aesthetics, they steal it in the most elegant and ambitious way possible.

Age 10+

257 • 320 pages



A Warning from the Queen: Mirage Queen, Episode 0

This is the first story the Thieving Queen appears in. A strange note arrives: "Prof. Kuraki's new artificial intelligence will be stolen when it is completed in three years." When Queen sends a follow-up note three years later, Great Detective Kiyoshiro Yumemizu is on the case!

Age 9+

384 pages

Author

Kaoru Hayamine



Author of the Kiyoshiro Yumemizu series, which has sold over 3.6 million copies, former elementary school teacher Kaoru Hayamine is the master of mysteries for kids where no one gets killed. His series Tom & Soya in the City has also sold over 1.8 million. He has received the Utsunomiya Childrens' Award a record-setting three times and is celebrating 30 years as an author.

The Mysterious Library and the Difficult Partner



Age 10+

160 pages
2022

Sold: Korea

Demon Lord Grymon keeps ruining the world's stories by stealing important parts! Guarding the world's stories are the mystery library librarians—the Story Masters.

Hinata is tasked with rescuing the world of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales by searching for the stolen Key Parts. And her Story Master partner is none other than Andersen himself! She's excited to immerse herself in Andersen's stories, but it turns out he's pretty hard to work with.

Writer

Reiko Hiroshima

Born in Kanagawa Prefecture. Won the Junior Adventure Novel Prize for *Suiyō no mori* (Forest of the water sprite) and the Utsunomiya Children's Prize for *Korei no ori* (Cage of the fox spirit). She is best known for her Zenitendo series (Kaiseisha).

Illustrator

Natsumi Eguchi

Born in Tokyo. Mangaka. Winner of the the Seiun Award for Best Comic for *Hozuki no reitetsu* (*Hozuki's Coolheadedness*).

The Evolution of Whales



Age 10+
40 pages
September 2022

Whales are mammals, but did you know that they evolved from animals who used to live on land? From the four-legged Pakicetus to the massive blue whale with its efficient system of baleen plates for feeding, Hiroya Minakuchi charts the emergence of different types of cetaceans over the course of millions of years of evolution in this nonfiction picture book with stunning illustrations by Takashi Oda.

Writer

Hiroya Minakuchi

Photographer, journalist. Born in Osaka Prefecture and graduated from Kyoto University with a degree in zoology. His photography collections, picture books, and other non-fiction works primarily focus on marine mammals. He won the 22nd Kodansha Publishing Culture Award for Photography with *Orca Again* and the 5th Japan Picture Book Prize with *Makkō no uta shiroi ōki na tomodachi* (Song of the sperm whale: our big white friend).

Illustrator

Takashi Oda

Painter, illustrator. Born in Mie Prefecture, and received an MA in Fine Art from Tokyo University of the Arts. Specializes in oil painting and murals. Does work for museum exhibitions, renderings for encyclopedias, picture books, and more. Teaches in the faculty of manga at Kyoto Seika University.

Supervision

Toshiyuki Kimura

Chief of the biology section at the Gunma Museum of Natural History. Born in Aichi Prefecture. Did a Master's at the Nagoya Graduate School of Science and completed a PhD. Specializes in vertebrate paleontology and cetology.

The Long, Long Journey of Our Bones



Age 7+
36 pages
2017
Sold: China, Taiwan

Winner of a JASCL Honken
Best Book Prize in 2018

The next generation
in the Association of Studies for
Picture Books's BOOKEND 2018

Winner of a Children's Welfare
Culture Award in 2019

4.6 billion years ago, Earth was formed, and many lifeforms came into being as the lands and seas stabilized: unicellular organisms, multicellular organisms, relatives of fish who lived in the sea, animals who climbed up onto land... Explore the fascinating evolution of bones, as well as how humans are connected to our ancestors from the primordial sea via the ocean we always carry inside us.

Writer

Motoko Matsuda

Born 1955 in Yamaguchi Prefecture. In 1989 she went freelance after working for a publishing company. Her own works include *Honehone tankentai* (Bone explorers) and *Yamori no yubi kara fushigi na tēpu* (The mysterious tape from the gecko's fingers) among others.

Illustrator

Kazuo Kawakami

Born 1959 in Hokkaido Prefecture. Graduate of Hokkaido Designer Gakuin. Went freelance in 1986 after working at a design firm. In addition to doing illustrations for textbooks and magazines, he also has illustrated picture books such as *Yama no gochisō donguri no ki* (Feast of the land: the acorn tree) and *Yamanashi* (Yamanashi).

Supervision

Akihiko Sakuragi

Professor at Takarazuka University. Born 1954 in Tokyo. Graduated from Tokyo University's Faculty of Science, became a Doctor of Medicine. His specialization is in 3-D shape analysis of bones.

Supervision

**GUNMA MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY**

Scenic Secrets: How'd It Get Like That?



Age 8+

36 pages / 2018

Scenery isn't just pretty—it's full of discoveries and surprises. Akiyo Masuda takes us on a backstage tour of some amazing sights to learn the natural processes behind the view. Why does the Grand Canyon have stripes? How are fjords formed? How come Lake Natron is bright red? These and other puzzles are answered with kid-friendly science! Explore 15 scenes from 13 different countries.

Writer

Akiyo Masuda

Born in Shizuoka Prefecture. Graduated from Nihon University. Writes articles in a wide variety of fields including travel, culture, food, and scenery. Books include *Marugoto Nihon no sekai isan* (All of Japan's world heritage sites; Kodansha).

Supervision

Kosei Yamaguchi

Associate professor in Toho University's Faculty of Science. After graduating from Tokyo University, he got his Ph.D. at Penn State. He took his current position after being an adjunct at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a researcher at the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology. He has also taught in Waseda University's School of International Liberal Studies. His specialties include geochemistry, geology, and astrobiology.

Storybook Science Series Genetic Engineering / How a Glowing Mouse Will Change the Future



The Storybook Science series fosters a science-doing mindset by introducing the surprises and emotional impact of science through stories.

When Tanto's grandmother is diagnosed with cancer, she is offered gene therapy to lessen the strain on her body, but when Tanto hears the word "gene," he wonders if his grandma will be turned into a mutant. That's how he starts researching to learn what genes actually are.

Age 11+

80 pages
2022

Author

Shigemori Morikawa

Born in 1957 in Tokyo, raised in Oita Prefecture. Mother of a boy and two girls. Graduate of Tokyo University's law department. Kisetsufu member. Won the Ogawa Mimei Literary Award's grand prize with *Aodaishō no hibi* (Rat snake days) and the Japan Association of Writers for Children Prize with *Maresuke no niji* (Maresuke's rainbow; Komine Shoten).

Illustrator

Kiyotaka Ishii

Born in 1976 in Shizuoka Prefecture. Won the Japan Picture Book Award and the Kodansha Publishing Culture Award for Picture Books with *Futte kimashita* (It started to rain; by Izumi Motoshita; Kodansha). *Okodademasen you ni* (I wish they wouldn't get mad at me; by Shigenori Kusunoki; Shogakukan) was selected as the assignment for the 55th All-Japan Youth Book Report Contest.

The Giant Encyclopedia of World Yokai



All Ages

368 pages

2022

Sold: France

A carefully selected collection of Shigeru Mizuki illustrations depicting yokai from around the globe.

This book introduces yokai inhabiting Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia, and Oceania and also features sections on evil creatures from Greek mythology and demons from around the world. The original artwork has been scanned with high-end color management tech to faithfully reproduce the fine line work and subtle coloring.

Author

Shigeru Mizuki

Born in 1922 in Tottori Prefecture. Mangaka who is always famous as a yokai painter and researcher. His works include Gegege no Kitaro and Akuma-kun among many others. In 1991 he was awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbon. He traveled the world in pursuit of yokai and spirits. In 1996, he became president of the World Yokai Association and held the World Yokai Summit. He was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun in 2003.

STAR WARS × MANGA ARTISTS ARTBOOK

Your favorite scenes and characters from the Star Wars universe appear as you've never seen them before in this art book featuring a total of 45 Japanese manga artists, including *Mobile Suit Gundam THE ORIGIN*'s Yoshikazu Yasuhiko, *Noragami: Stray God*'s Toka Adachi and *ACCA 13-Territory Inspection Department*'s Natsume Ono. Well-known, popular artists have been selected to express their own interpretation about Star Wars. This Volume is must-have for both Star Wars and manga/comics lovers.

Age 6+

96 pages

2019



All Ages

24 pages

2022



© Disney

Disney Yummy Yummy!! Look and Find

This is a Look and Find book of handmade Disney sweets. Lots of Disney characters are transformed into delicious handmade sweets such as chocolates, cookies, and rice dumplings. And they are hidden in many places in this book. This cute book will melt your heart!

STUDIO GHIBLI The Complete Works

From Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind to their latest film, *Earwig and the Witch*, this book introduces all 26 Ghibli works! *Earwig and the Witch* is the studio's first completely CG film. Get the inside scoop from director Goro Miyazaki about how it was made and read an interview with producer and managing director Toshio Suzuki. This is a must-read volume if you want to learn about the Studio Ghibli's past and future!



All Ages

160 pages / 2021

Sold: China, France, Italy, Korea, Spain, Taiwan, USA