

P Picture Books
E Early Readers
M Middle Grade & YA
N Non-Fiction & Education
G Graphic Novels
C Characters



KODANSHA

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

2024 Frankfurt



The Voice of the Snow

NEW!



In the morning, a boy wakes up to brightness outside his window. "It's snow! Everything's covered in snow!" He races out into the quiet, snowy world. This is a book that depicts the joy of conversing with nature using your five senses.

Ages 4+

32 pages / Nov. 2024



Downpour



Ages 4+

32 pages / 2018

Sold: China, Italy, Korea, Taiwan, USA, Vietnam

Writer

Yuko Ohnari

Picture book author. Works include *Dandan okāsan ni natte iku* (Gradually becoming a mother), *Momo* (Momo), *Kōfuku na shitsumon* (Questions for happiness), and *Kirei na iro to kotoba* (Pretty words and colors).

Illustrator

Koshiro Hata



Born in Hyogo Prefecture. Picture book author and illustrator. Illustrated *Kinō otōsan ga osoku kaetta, sono wake wa...* (Dad came home late last night because...) by Nobuko Ichikawa, which won the Noma Prize for Juvenile Literature.

Boo Boo Boo



When you talk to babies, they can't use words yet, so it's all about touching, looking, and listening. Boo-boo-boo may just sound like babble, but look at all the different things in the world that make that noise! You can probably think of even more besides the elephants and cars in this book.

Ages 0+

24 pages / 2013 / Sold: China, Korea



Squeeze Squeeze Squeeze



Ages 0+

24 pages / 2014

Sold: China, Korea

Babies need lots of hugs and this book introduces a variety of techniques. Hands, tummies, stuffed animals—all for the squeezing!

The Wait Ups



Ages 0+

24 pages / 2016

Sold: China, Korea

Wait up! This baby's socks are chasing him around, but what happens when the tables turn?

Coochie Coo



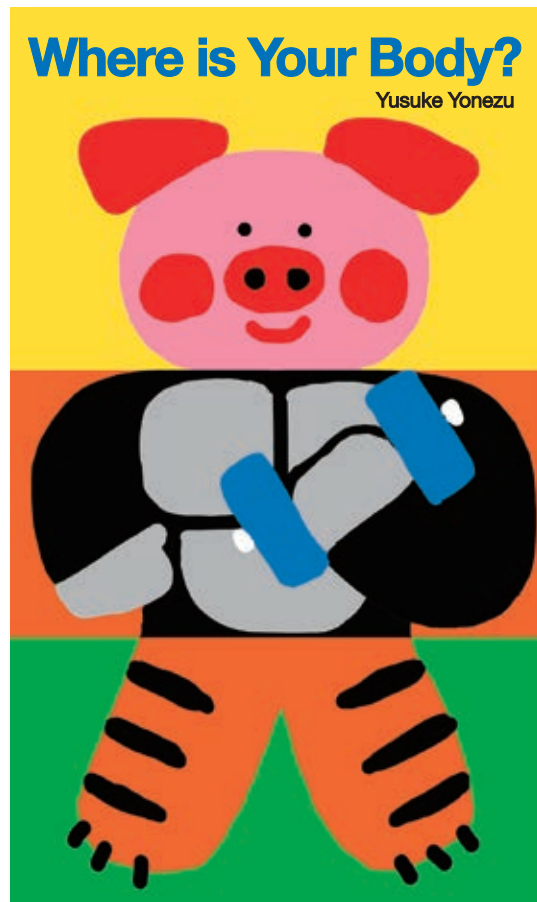
Ages 0+

24 pages / 2016

Sold: China, Korea

Coochie coo! Babies love to giggle and Mommy's hands are the best tickle bugs.

Where is Your Body? (Tentative) NEW!



Kids love turning pages!
With this book, split into three sections, they can search for the correct combination of head, body, and legs or mix and match to create mysterious creatures. It's sure to be page-flipping fun.

Ages 1+
16 pages / 2025 Summer



Author & Illustrator
Yusuke Yonezu

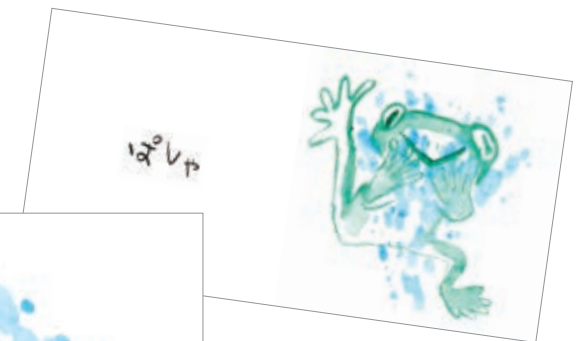
Born in Tokyo in 1982. Began his career as a picture book artist after being featured in the Bologna Illustrators Exhibition in 2005. Since then he has continued to publish simple, unique picture books which have garnered him fans around the world.

Show Me How You Wash Your Face NEW!



Frog, Raccoon, Rat, and Elephant all do a good job of washing their faces with a splash. Do you think you can wash your face, too? You'll feel so refreshed when you're done.

Ages 1+
27 Pages / Aug. 2024



Writer
Izumi Morito

Creative director at Hicosaka Mokuhan Koubou. Has designed food packages, ads, and more using Yuki Hicosaka's prints, beginning with *Pan dōzo*. He also plans events such as wood-block printing workshops and exhibitions put on by Hicosaka Mokuhan Koubou.

Illustrator
Chiki Kikuchi

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.



Let's Have a Snack NEW!



Ages 3+
24 pages / Feb. 2024
Sold: Germany

Hedgehog boils water to make tea, but it escapes out the window as steam. The animals chase after it, but the steam keeps rising higher and higher. Having given up, they are staring at the sky when...?



Writer
Hans ten Doornkaat

Born in 1952. Living in Switzerland. After being an editor and managing editor for many years, he began working on picture books. This book is an expanded version of an idea he first talked to his son about 30 years ago.

Illustrator
Yumi Shimokawara

Picturebook author and illustrator. See next page for bio.

Star Hunting



Ages 3+
32 pages / 2017
Sold: Bulgaria, China, Germany, Korea, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam

I Just Wanted to Say...



Ages 2+
24 pages / 2022
Sold: Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Korea, Russia, Thailand, Vietnam

The Hat



Ages 3+
24 pages / 2022
Sold: Korea, Russia, Vietnam, Germany, France

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, she won the 7th KFS Picture Book Grand Prix with a book that would become her debut title, *Hoshi o sagashi ni* (Star Hunting).

Tell me, Buddy NEW!



Ages 2+
27 pages / Sept. 2024

Have a Seat



Ages 2+
28 pages / 2018
Sold: China, Italy, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam

I'm the Big Brother



Ages 3+
24 pages / 2022
Sold: Portugal, Vietnam

Thank You, Buddy



Ages 2+
24 pages / 2022
Sold: Bulgaria, France, Italy

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



Ages 2+
28 pages / 2017
Sold: China, Germany, Italy, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand

The Baby of the Family



Ages 3+
24 pages / 2022
Sold: Vietnam

Lili and Nene's Acorn Pancakes NEW!



Lili the squirrel and Nene the mouse love to make pancakes. The sweet smell attracts all the animals. Then a big bear comes along...

This is a story full of tenderness with illustrations that will work up kiddos' appetites. Tajima's style is popular in France as well as Japan.

Ages 3+

32 pages / Sept. 2024



Author & Illustrator

Kaori Tajima

Born in Tokyo. Graduated from Musashino Art University. After working as a character merch designer, she became a picture book author. Her picture books published abroad include *NEIGE* and *Quand vient le PRINTEMPS* (Lirabelle).

Frannie and Melanie Series

Ages 3+

36 pages

Frannie and Melanie are sisters who run a soup shop. Their delicious soup brings happiness to their customers.

**Frannie and Melanie:
Soup Makers of the Forest**



Sold: France, China

**Frannie and Melanie:
A Splendid Recital**



Sold: France, China

**Frannie and Melanie:
A Joyous Soup**



Sold: France, China

Min the Bear Series

Ages 3+

Min is a cute little bear girl. These are stories about Min, who is the baby of the family, and her two big brothers.

**Min the Bear's
House**



36 pages

Sold: China, Taiwan

**Min the Bear's
Winter
Preparations**



40 pages

Sold: China, Taiwan

**Min the Bear's
Christmas**



40 pages

Sold: China, Taiwan

**Min the Bear
and Her Flower
Garden**



38 pages

Sold: China, Taiwan

Illustrator

Nami Adachi

Born in Tajimi, Gifu Prefecture. A picture book author and designer. Major works include the Kuma no gakko (The bear school; Bronze Shinsha) series among others.

Author

Hiroyuki Aihara

Born in Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture. A picture book author and essayist. Major works include the Kuma no gakko (The bear school; Bronze Shinsha) series among others.

Panda Exercise series

Ages 2+
32 pages

Over
400,000
copies
in print

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.



Panda Face Exercises

Follow the panda examples and try out these face exercises. Flap your ears like an elephant, wink like an owl, and more as you exercise your imagination along with your body. This book is guaranteed to have everyone laughing by the end.

2023



Sold: China, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam



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



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



Sold: China, Vietnam

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.

Lucky Bunny Lunny & Mx. Birthday NEW!



Ages 3+

32 pages / 2023

One day Lunny the little rabbit gets a visit from Mx. Birthday, a stork who celebrates everyone's birthday. The only issue is that Lunny doesn't know when bun's birthday is because bun has always been alone. After rounding up ducks, boar piglets, lions, and even an old tree who forgot his birthday, the group is ready to party, but Lunny confesses bun's birthday issue. Thankfully, bun's new friends suggest bun live in the forest with them and party with everyone.

Animation now available on the [ANIMEHON YouTube channel!](#)

Author & Illustrator
Tarout

A character artist. Each of his creations has a story filled with love and care. This sense of giving birth to something as his worldview has brought him great popularity not just in Japan but overseas as well. He has done work for brands such as Paul Smith and Starbucks and designed Shiitake Fortune-Telling characters.

The Apples Goes Rolling, Kololinko



Elephant tries to pick an apple, but it goes rolling, rolling, kololinko instead. Over Giraffe's back, over Hippo's back. How far will it go? Over the camels humps, kobulinko. Over the flamingo's feathers, furalinko. Who gets to eat the apple in the end?

Ages 1+
28 pages / 2011

Author & Illustrator
Taro Miura

Born in 1968 in Aichi Prefecture. He began working as an illustrator after graduating from Osaka University of Arts. After being selected for the Bologna Illustrators Exhibition, he has published picture books overseas including in Switzerland, Italy, and Spain.

Little Hedgehog's Wish



Little Hedgehog has another socially awkward moment on his paws in this sequel to *Little Hedgehog's Red Scarf*. If you place a flower crown in the middle of North Lake, your wish will come true... Squirrel wishes for a big acorn harvest, and Rabbit wishes to run faster, but Little Hedgehog won't share what he wished for. When they press him, he says that if you say your wish, it won't come true, which upsets them since they already told him theirs. Can Gramma Sheep help him realize what he should do to make up with his friends?

Age 4+

32 pages / 2019
Sold: Taiwan



Little Hedgehog's Red Scarf



Hedgehog is always cold, so Gramma Sheep knits him a red scarf. He loves it, but when he gets too warm playing with his friends Rabbit and Squirrel, he takes it off. When it's time to go home, he looks in all the places they visited but can't find his scarf anywhere. Yoshiko Harada portrays his sadness and guilt perfectly. Luckily, she also gives the story a warm, happy ending.

Age 4+

32 pages / 2019
Sold: Taiwan



Author & Illustrator

Yoshiko Harada

From Gunma Prefecture. Got her masters in Design from Tokyo University of the Arts in 1992. In 2001, she got another MA from the University of Wolverhampton and returned to Japan.

We Are Penguin Explorers: That Day Is Coming Soon



Heave and-a ho ho, heave and-a ho ho. The penguin explorers take a big sleigh to an island of ice on their canoe. And it seems like they're waiting for someone. Animals show up and wait with them until finally...? A perfect picture book for kiddos who can't wait for Christmas.

Ages 3+

32 pages / Oct. 2023
Sold: China

We Are Penguin Explorers: The Shady Ghost Ship



As the penguin explorers paddle along in their canoe, they encounter a shady seagull, a shady sea turtle, a shady dolphin, and a shady ghost ship!

Ages 3+

32 pages / May 2023 / Sold: China

We Are Penguin Explorers: The Southern Isle



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.

Ages 3+ 32 pages / 2022 / Sold: Korea, China



We Are Penguin Explorers (Early Readers)

The much-beloved Penguin Explorers early reader series was launched in 1991 and has sold over 500,000 copies in Japan and China. These penguins march to the beat of their own drum. That and the series's humor are the keys to its popularity.

Ages 6+ 78 pages / 1991 / Sold: China, Taiwan

Writer

Hiroshi Saito

Born in Tokyo. German literature scholar and author of children's literature. Professor at Asia University.

Illustrator

Jun Takabatake

Born in Aichi Prefecture. He received the Bologna International Award for Illustration for *Dare no jitenisha* (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).

Doctor Anton Series

Ages 3+
32 pages

Over 1.5
million
copies
in print

The Doctor Anton series uses gentleness and humor to show kids that a visit to the doctor doesn't have to be scary.



Doctor Anton

Doctor Anton is a kind veterinarian who always wears a smile. All sorts of animals come to his clinic each day. A 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.

2013 / Sold: China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea

Doctor Anton's Baby Checkup (tentative)



NEW!

2025
Sold: China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea

Doctor Anton Makes a House Call



2015 / Sold: China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea

Doctor Anton, It's a Piglet!



2017 / Sold: China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea

Doctor Anton, Helping Each Other



2022 / Sold: China, Thailand, Vietnam, Korea

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 *Barubaru-san* (Mr. Barbar the barber; text by Eriko Inui), *Unko!* (Poop!; text by Satoshi), and *Imo imo hori hori* (Digging for potatoes) among many others.

Mottainai Grandma Series

20th
Anniversary

Over 1.5
million
copies
in print

"Mottainai" isn't just a single word to represent the 3Rs—reduce, reuse, recycle—it also includes respect for Earth's irreplaceable resources. It's been 20 years since the Mottainai Grandma series was started to teach this concept through stories. Now the books are beloved by young environmentalists in not only Japan, but China, India, and other places around the world.

Mottainai Grandma's Grandama

This is a story of Mottainai Grandma when she was little and her grandma, who grows rice. She learns important lessons about gratitude, compassion for living things, and respect for life.

NEW!

Ages 3+
32 pages / March 2024



Mottainai Grandma Goes to the River



Ages 4+
36 page / 2019
Sold: China, India, Taiwan, Vietnam

Mottainai Grandma Let's Eat With Gratitude



Ages 3+
36 pages / 2009
Sold: India, Taiwan, Vietnam

Mottainai Grandma



Ages 3+
34 pages / 2004
Sold: China, India, Taiwan, Vietnam

Author & Illustrator
Mariko Shinju



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 Basan* (Mottainai Grandma), which won the Kenbuchi City Picture Book Village Award.

Pihotek: walking the Arctic With the Wind



Ages 6+

32 pages / 2022 / Sold: USA, Canada

Writer

Yasunaga Ogita

Arctic adventurer. Has been going on mainly solo expeditions in the Canadian Arctic Circle, Greenland, Hokkaido, and other arctic areas since 2000, 17 trips in all. In 2017, he was awarded the Naomi Uemura Adventure Award.



A polar adventurer and prize-winning illustrator team up on this picture book depicting a day in the life of a solo adventurer walking through the polar landscape. The wind beating on his cheeks, the animals who know how to live at the North Pole, the darkness spilling from the sky, and then...?

Animation now available on the ANIMEHON YouTube channel!

Illustrator

Nana Inoue

Author, artist. Various things to do with books. Went to study art in the US alone at age 16. Graduated from Musashino Art University. The special edition of her book *Kuma made no osarai* (Process for becoming a little bear; Be Nice Inc.) won a Silver Medal at the "Best Book Design from All Over the World" awards in Leipzig, Germany.

Pitch Black



Author

Takuma Takasaki

Creative director, novelist. Won many international advertising awards for Ad Council Japan's 30th Anniversary commercial, IMAGINATION/WHALE. Scriptwriter and producer for Wim Wenders's film *Perfect Days*.

When a teacher asks children to draw what is on their minds, one of the boys paints his paper pitch black. The teacher is surprised and tells him to paint a proper picture, but he doesn't stop. After school, when he goes home, in the morning, at recess—he's always painting more and more papers black. Soon his room is full of them. All the adults are worried. One day, however, something curious happens. What was he actually painting all this time?

Twenty years ago, a shocking TV commercial left a lasting impact with the message that children shouldn't be deprived of their imagination. Now that commercial has been transformed into this new picture book.

Ages 4+

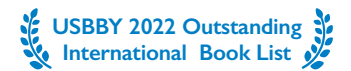
36 pages / 2021 / Sold: Taiwan, USA

Illustrator

Ken Kuroi

Born in Niigata Japan in 1947. Graduated from the Faculty of Education, Niigata University. Picture book artist. Illustrator.

The Book of Water



"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.

Ages 5+

32 pages / 2019

Sold: China, Sweden, USA

A Forest Picture Book



Ages 5+

32 pages / 1999

Sold: China

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.

The Sky Picture Book



Ages 5+

36 pages / 2011

Sold: China, USA

Illustrator

Ryoji Arai



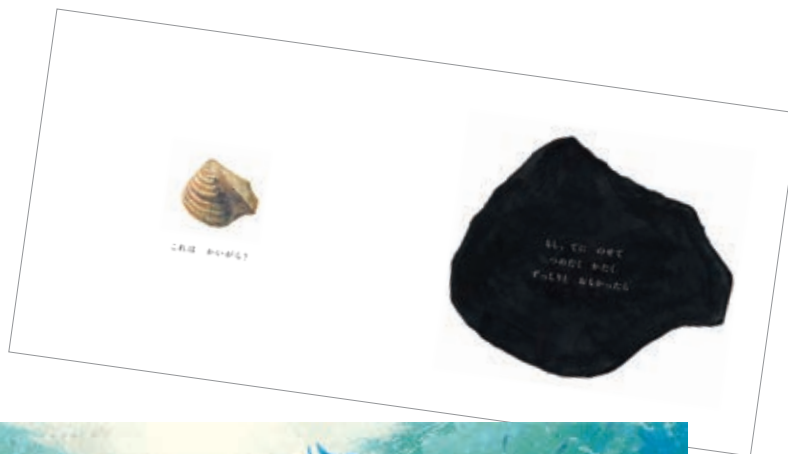
Born 1956 in Yamagata Prefecture. Released *MELODY* in 1990 and began creating picture books. In 1991 his work *Yukkuri to Jojoni* (Take-It-Easy and Little-by-Little) was exhibited as a Japanese representative for the Ezra Jack Keats Awards. He won a special award at the Bologna Children's Book Fair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

Treasures of the Sea



Ages 4+
32 pages
July 2023
Sold: Korea

As a spiritual successor to *Kurumi no naka ni wa* (Inside a walnut), which mixed a boundless imagination with the growth of a tree, Yuko Takao presents this book about seashells and how fossils are made. If you shake a shell and it rattles, that means there are tiny, little treasures inside. If a shell floats, that means it's a tiny, little boat from a far-off country. But what if it's more like a rock than a shell? That means it's a shell that lived millions of years ago and became fossilized as sand and mud settled over it. Shells tell the story of the sea, and Takao illustrates it beautifully.



Author
Yuko Takao

Born in Tokyo. Graduated from Tama Art University. After working in a toy company's design office, she went to the United States. She studies calligraphy, water painting, and copperplate engraving, among other media. After returning to Japan, she began her career as a picture book author.

The Curious Umbrella Shop



"Ugh! I hate the rain!" Remi just wants to go out and play, but the weather cramps his style. Refusing to use his mom's umbrella in place of his broken one, he races outside only for it to start raining so hard that he has to take shelter next to a shop. Inside, a cat offers him magical umbrellas, but the cat is actually the Spirit of Stormy Nights, and he tricks Remi into setting him free. Remi teams up with the traveling umbrella artisan and his collection of raindrops to defeat the spirit and clear up the storm. During the course of his adventure, he learns to see the beauty in rain and appreciate it as the source of all life—and his mom buys him a new umbrella at the end.

Ages 4+
32 pages / May 2023

A Curious Night at the Christmas Market

When Johann goes to the Christmas Market for the first time, he meets a nutcracker who tells him that the north wind has blown the star off the top of the tree. Can he help get her back into place? And why is the north wind so cranky to begin with? Charming illustrations bring a European Christmas tradition to life in this magical holiday tale.

Ages 4+
36 pages / 2019



Author
Ayuko Tanaka

Born 1972 in Fukuoka Prefecture and grew up in Miyagi Prefecture. Finished a graduate degree at Chelsea College of Arts in London. After working for a design firm, she started doing mainly art exhibitions. In 2000, she was selected to participate in the Bologna Children's Book Festival's picture book art exhibition. Her picture books include *Fiōra to fukō no majo* (Fiōra and the unlucky witch), *Marūshika to 12 no tsuki* (Maryushika and the twelve moons; text by Yuko Kanno) among others. She also does cover illustrations. Living in Paris.

Luchika the Hedgehog Series

Age 9+
2013-
Sold: China

This popular, evergreen series filled with poetic imagination tells sweet stories about the hedgehog Luchika and his friends who live in the fantastical land of Faerieae.



122 pages / 2013

Luchika the Hedgehog

Luchika the hedgehog is great friends with Saul the mole. One day the two of them, wanting to make some tasty jam, go into the forest to look for currants. There they encounter rain fish that fly through the sky and try to figure out who is playing the flute they hear...

Animation now available on the ANIMEHON YouTube channel!



Writer
Yuko Kanno

Born in Tokyo and graduated from Tokyo Jogakkan College. Known for her early readers series Sorata and Hinata and her series of seasonal cat picture books.

Illustrator
Yoko Kitami

Born in Kanagawa Prefecture. Her work was selected for the 2005 and 2015 Bologna International Picture Book Illustration Exhibition. In 2009, *Ru to Rinden: tabi to orusuban* (Rue and Linden: a journey) received the Bologna Ragazzi Award at the Bologna Children's Book Fair.



The Lost Key



130 pages / 2013

The Mysterious Trolley



162 pages / 2014

The Night the Stars Were Born



146 pages / 2014

Adventures in a Picture Book 1&2



114 pages / 2016



115 pages / 2016

The Halloween Lantern



146 pages / 2017

A New Year for the Land of Faerieae



162 pages / 2018

Mermaid Island



162 pages / 2019

Tuuli's Secret



162 pages / 2020

The Rainbow Egg



146 pages / 2021

The Little Evening Concert



144 pages / 2022

Where the Spirits Live



128 pages / 2023

When a Dragon Calls: The Curse of the Bow Witch

NEW!



Ages 10+
256 pages / Jan. 2024
Sold: Korea, Russia, Vietnam

Ten-year-old Mia was abandoned by her mother when she was small and lives in a poor village at the bottom of a valley surrounded by sheer cliffs with her aunt. The village is known as the village of offenders, and the only way to leave is to be called by a dragon. Unlike most people, Mia is scared to venture into the outside world, but when a dragon calls her, she goes to work in the gleaming lapis lazuli palace. There, Mia is discriminated against as a "valley child" and put to work taking care of an empty room. Is the voice she hears crying at night the legendary dragon knight who disappeared after being cursed? One day, Mia realizes it's coming from a little bag, and the gears of destiny begin to turn... Sachiko Kashiwaba delivers high fantasy that is both easy to read and compelling!



Ages 10+
338 pages / 2011
Sold: Germany, Indonesia, Korea, USA, Russia

Temple Alley Summer

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 a legend of resurrection has been 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.

**IBBY Honour List
2024 (USA)**
**Winner of the 2022
Mildred L. Batchelder Award**
**Winner of the 2022
SCBW Crystal Kite Award**



The Marvelous Village Veiled in Mist

During summer vacation, Lina goes on a solo trip to a place where her father once traveled. Passing through a misty forest, she finds a beautiful and somewhat eccentric town. This is the classic Japanese fantasy that inspired Studio Ghibli's *Spirited Away*!

Ages 10+
216 pages / 1975
Sold: China, France, Italy, Taiwan,
Thailand, USA, Russia, Korea



The House of the Lost on the Cape

Moeka is supposed to be taken in by relatives after losing her parents. Yurie is running away from her 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.

Ages 10+
274 pages / 2015
Sold: China, France, Thailand, Russia, USA

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 of 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.



The anime adaptation won two Kids' Jury awards at Les Toiles Filantes!

**A 2024 Mildred L. Batchelder
Award Honoree**
**A 2024 USBBY Outstanding
International Book**
**One of Kirkus Reviews' 10 Essential
Middle-Grade Books for Fall 2023 —
Starred Review**



A Strange Journey From the Basement

Mysterious customers show up in the basement of Chi's pharmacy when her niece Akane goes down to get some medicine. Alchemist Hippocrates from the Sapling Season Kingdom takes Akane and Chi to "the world next door" where they renew their contract for joint usage of the cellar. Adapted as an anime film called *Birthday Wonderland*.

Ages 10+
256 pages / 1981
Sold: China, France, Taiwan, Russia

N0.6 Series

Ages 10+

208-222 pages / 2003-2011

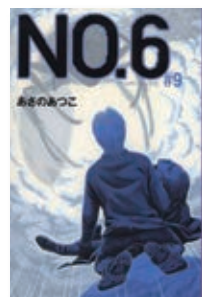
This nine-volume near-future survival adventure is about two boys trying to make the world more free and equal by confronting the morally bankrupt "ideal" city, No. 6.

Over **1.5 million** copies in print



The futuristic city No. 6 was built as the realization of mankind's ideals. Shion has lived there as an elite of the highest rank since he was two years old, but he's frustrated in such a strictly controlled environment. Everything changes for him on the night of his 12th birthday when he meets a boy who calls himself Rat... Adapted as an anime, as well as a manga and for the stage.

The English versions of the anime and manga have become cult classics.



Author
Atsuko Asano

Born 1954 in Okayama Prefecture. Won the Noma Children's Literature Prize, the Shogakukan Children's Publication Culture Award, and other children's literary prizes with the Batterii (Battery) series.

The Beast Player

3.1 million copies sold in print



Ages 11+

319-486 pages

2006-2010

Sold: China, France, Italy, UK, Russia

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.



A 2020 Michael L. Prinz Award Honoree

Author
Nahoko Uehashi

2014 Han Christian Andersen Award



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.

Soul Lanterns



The White Ravens
2014

The Shogakukan
Publication Culture Award

The Fukuda Kiyoto
Literary Award.

Ages 13+
189 pages
2013
Sold: USA, Germany

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 Balistrieri) 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.

Sonin, Shaman of Heaven's Mountain series

Asian fantasy featuring an unconventional shaman girl hero!

The setting of this story is three countries located on a peninsula. In one of the countries, Sai, towers Heaven's Mountain, where shaman girls with the power to dream—project their minds to learn what's happening in far-away lands—live.

The 40th Japanese Association of Writers
for Children Newcomer's Prize

The Golden Swallow

Protagonist Sonin was found at birth and taken to Heaven's Mountain that day by the previous generation's great shaman, who saw potential in her; however, when at age 12 Sonin is still unable to freely wield the power to dream, she is sent home. A few months later, the princes of Sai happen to visit her village. When she accidentally brushes the hand of the youngest one, Iwol, who can't speak, she realizes touch allows her to hear his inner thoughts. When Iwol learns that, he decides to hire her as a waiting maid and take her to the palace.

Ages 10+
258-262 pages
2003-2009



The Peacock of the Sea



The Star Called Akegarasu



The Dream Heron



Wings of the Land



Author
Yukimushi Sugano

Born in 1969 in Fukushima. In 2005, she won the 46th Kodansha Award of Children's Literature for Newcomers for *Sonin to tsubame ni natta ōji* (Sonin and the prince who turned into a swallow), which became her debut revised and expanded as *Tenzan no miko Sonin 1: Ōgon no tsubame* (Sonin, shaman of Heaven's Mountain: The golden swallow). That book won her the 40th Japanese Association of Writers for Children Newcomer's Prize.

Cells at Work Picture Books 1-5



Illustrator
Kumi Makimura

Born in Tokyo. Has created a number of manga and contributed illustrations to many books.

The hit anime and manga *Cells at Work* is now a series of graphic novel-style picture books!

Vol. 1 : **The "Blood'y Battle Between Bacteria and White Blood Cells**

What do your cells do when you get hurt? How do your cells fight bacteria when you get pneumonia?

Vol. 2 : **Fearsome Enemies! Influenza and Food Poisoning**

Vol. 3 : **A New Opponent! COVID-19**

Vol. 4 : **Injections Aren't Scary! Heatstroke and Mumps**

Vol. 5 : **Familiar Ailments! The Secrets of Colds and Bumps**

Ages 10+

36 pages / 2020-present

Sold: China, Taiwan

Original Creator
Akane Shimizu

Born in Tokyo in 1994. Mangaka. Winner of the 27th Shonen Sirius Newcomer Grand Prize. Her manga *Cells at Work* serialized in Monthly Shonen Sirius and the anime based on it are popular around the world.

The Singing Body NEW!



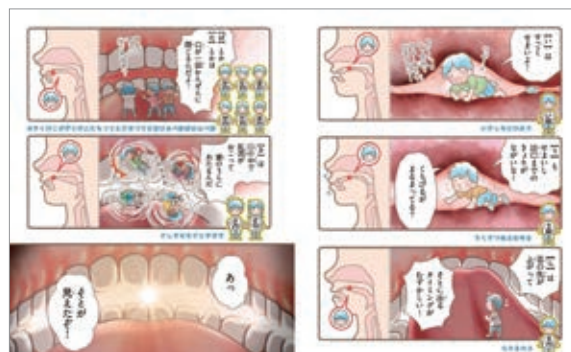
Ages 10+

32 pages / Jan.2024

Author
Shigeto Kawahara

Professor at Keio University's Institute of Cultural and Linguistic Studies specializing in linguistics and phonetics. Recipient of the Phonetic Society of Japan's Young Researchers Award in 2016 and 2023.

Many people are able to sing and talk without really thinking, but do you know what is happening inside your body when you do those things? This fun, educational graphic novel features the air you take into your body on its journey to becoming your voice.



Author
Yoichi Kitayama

Musician, guest professor(part-time) at Keio University's Faculty of Environment and Information Studies. As a member of the Gospellers, he's created countless hit songs while also teaching since 2012.

Illustrator
Kumi Makimura

See above for bio.

MOVE Comics Series

MOVE Comics — a Japanese graphic novel series. Enjoy stories of adventure and gain knowledge of nature, science, and life!

Wonders of the Dinosaurs Vol. 1-2



Ages 10+

144 pages / 2015 / Sold: Italy

The Earth and the Evolution of Life: 4.6 Billion Years of Secrets!



Ages 10+

140 pages / 2017

The world is full of wonders. Dinosaurs, insects, animals, the deep sea, the human body, space... Why were dinosaurs so big? What enables life in the dark, cold, deep sea? The children in these stories go on big adventures, wherever curiosity leads them, in places far outside their everyday lives. Readers get so sucked into this exciting manga, they're learning science before they even notice.

MOVE Comics Series

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Dinosaurs 1: The Birth of Dinosaurs and the Leap in their Evolution!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Dinosaurs 2: The Magnificence of Dinosaurs and Their Extinction!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Animals 1: Savannah, Here We Come!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Animals 2: The Big Amazon Adventure!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Insects 1: Welcome to the World of Insects!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Insects 2: Insect Survival Tactics!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Deep Sea: Deep Sea Creatures and the Giant Shark Revealed

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Human Body: Exploring Inside the Human Body!

MOVE Comics Wonders of the Human Body: Exploring Inside the Human Brain and Blood Vessels

MOVE Comics The Earth and the Evolution of Life: 4.6 Billion Years of Secrets!

MOVE Comics The Mysteries of Space and Life Revealed: Does Extraterrestrial Life Exist?

Galvania: When a Gal Adores Sylvanian Families

NEW!



July 2023



Dec. 2023



May 2024



One gyaru in love with Sylvanian Families and one serious member of the handicrafts club—though there was no reason for this pair of high school girls to ever meet, they bond over their shared obsession. Their pure adoration will give you all the warm fuzzies. "We had to make this explosion of love official," say the creators of Sylvanian Families, Epoch. This viral manga got over 6 million likes on Twitter.

Ages 10+

144 pages / Sold: France

Author
Kuko Okano

Mangaka. Wears kimono fashion as her usual style. Lives with her black cat.

Manga Coloring Book Series

Blue lock / Witch Hat Atelier / Attack on Titan

Official coloring books based on global manga hits are coming in autumn, 2024! Enjoy your favorite stories more deeply by coloring in and adding dialogue to carefully selected scenes.

All Ages 60 pages / Autumn 2024

BLUE LOCK COLORING BOOK



Sold: USA

ATTACK ON TITAN COLORING BOOK



WITCH HAT ATELIER COLORING BOOK

