

Diverse And Multicultural Titles Reading List



1492, NEW WORLD TALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Richard Young Judy Dockrey Young
ILLUSTRATOR: Morgan Menter

DESCRIPTION

A collection of authentic stories from the years around 1492. These tales have been carefully crafted to sound as exciting and mysterious as they were when first told five hundred years ago by sailors around a lantern on a ship, shared by explorers reclining around a campfire, enjoyed by Native Americans in a grass hut, whispered inside a stone palace in the Totonac city of Zempoala, or fondly remembered by an adventurer back home in Europe.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** U / **LEXILE:** 1000L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-73-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

ADVENTURES OF HIGH JOHN THE CONQUEROR

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Steve Sanfield
ILLUSTRATOR: Wendell Hall

DESCRIPTION

High John the Conqueror, sometimes called simply High John or John, was a slave trickster who always outwitted Old Master. Much like Greek slave Aesop's animal characters, High John was the subject of a series of subversive narratives whose mission was to outsmart his oppressors. Tall tales of High John's exploits flourished during slavery, but after emancipation they fell out of circulation, and his antics were all but forgotten.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** R / **LEXILE:** 970L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874837-74-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

AFRICAN-AMERICAN FOLKTALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Richard Young Judy Dockrey Young
ILLUSTRATOR: Kenneth Harris

DESCRIPTION

This collection of African-American folktales highlights the unbroken chain of a rich oral tradition. The stories share the richness and variety of a cultural heritage that has crossed the Atlantic, survived slavery, and triumphed over the ignorance of racism and bigotry.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** T / **LEXILE:** 850L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874833-09-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANANSI AND THE POT OF BEANS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Bobby Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Did you ever wonder why spiders have no hair? After reading this African trickster tale, you will know. When Anansi goes to help his grandmother, he can't resist her steaming, hot pot of beans. Co-authors Bobby and Sherry Norfolk take a wonderful new look at a classic African story.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 540L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-11-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANANSI AND THE SKY KINGDOM

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this story from West Africa, Anansi the spider uses his wits, his trickster skills, and the help of his friends to bring light to the world.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 570L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-81-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANANSI AND THE TUG O'WAR

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this trickster tale from Africa, Anansi proves to Elephant and Killer Whale that in a battle of wits, brains definitely outdo brawn.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 580L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-25-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANANSI AND TURTLE GO TO DINNER

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this trickster tale from Africa, Anansi learns the value of being a good host. He also learns the truth of the old saying, "what goes around, comes around."

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 520L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-56-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANANSI GOES TO LUNCH

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Anansi is invited to three parties and wants to attend them all. He gives each of his hosts a rope to tug, ties the other end around his own waist, and waits to be summoned when the food is served -- but when all of the food is ready at the same time, Anansi is caught in the middle!

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 630L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-52-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

ANCIENT AND EPIC TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR: Susan Gaber

DESCRIPTION

Heather Forest's artful prose and keen curatorial selection brings an array of ancient tales of adventure, quest and heroics to life for modern readers. This multicultural anthology presents pivotal episodes from epic tales such as Gilgamesh, Beowulf, the Odyssey, the Ramayana, and more. The collection illuminates large-scale narratives that were passed on and preserved through the oral tradition long before being captured in written form by early scribes. With the publication of Epic and Ancient Tales, Heather completes her long awaited trilogy of Tales From Around the World including Wonder Tales and Wisdom Tales. These epic narratives remain relevant today as they provide insights into the complexity of human relationships and the intimate, personal journey of anyone seeking to understand the meaning of life. This collection of timeless stories includes Norse legends, Greek myths, Japanese folktales, Persian stories, Irish Ballads and Chinese lore. Offering a global overview, this anthology of concise retellings also provides endnotes with cultural and historical background to inspire readers' further inquiry into these enduring tales.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:** 840L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-87-4 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-1-941460-35-1

ARCHER AND THE SUN

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this classic story from China, we learn why the sun comes up in the morning and goes down at night. We also discover why a certain farm animal is there every morning to greet the sun.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 510L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-78-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

ASIAN TALES AND TELLERS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Cathy Spagnoli
ILLUSTRATOR: Paramanasivam Samanna

DESCRIPTION

In this abundant and kaleidoscopic collection, Spagnoli includes stories from Japan, India, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Laos, Tibet, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, China, Indonesia, Taiwan, Burma, and Nepal. After profiling modern Asian storytellers practicing traditional storytelling styles, she arranges the stories around dominant Asian themes such as harmony and friendship.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 920L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874835-26-7 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874835-27-4

BEAR, THE BAT, AND THE DOVE: THREE STORIES FROM AESOP

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this collection of three lesser known Aesop Fables, you will learn why bats fly at night, why you should pick your friends carefully, and why even a tiny ant could be your guardian angel.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 740L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-10-7 / **HARDCOVER:**

BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND MORNING

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Patrick M. Mendoza
ILLUSTRATOR: Bryon Taylor

DESCRIPTION

In the shadows lurking between midnight and morning, the imagination reigns. "Real" and "imagined" become simply words with shifting boundaries and slippery definitions.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 940L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-07-3 / **HARDCOVER:**

BIG QUIET HOUSE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR: Susan Greenstein

DESCRIPTION

This story opens with "There once was a man whose house was very small," and it continues, "It was cluttered with things from wall to wall." With a tiny, cluttered house, giggling children, and a snoring wife, the poor man can't get a good night's sleep. If only, he thinks, I had a big quiet house! He throws off his covers and goes to visit the wise old woman at the edge of the village. Surely she can help him solve his problem. And she does, but not without giving him some very unusual advice. "Bring

a chicken into your house," she suggests. And when that doesn't work, she has him add a goat, a horse, a cow, and even a sheep. The ending of the story proves, as so many ancient folktales do, that quite often, nonsense makes the best sense of all. Susan Greenstein's bold illustrations—white pencil on black surface with watercolor - carry the reader through the warm interiors and peaceful nights of the shtetls of Eastern Europe.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 610L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874836-04-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-62-8

BILLY BROWN AND THE BELLY BUTTON BEASTIE

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Bobby Norfolk Sherry Norfolk
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION Every night when Billy Brown's mother puts him to bed, she tells him to keep his covers on his bed but he ignores her advice, then the belly button monster steals his belly button and the fun begins.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 720L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874838-31-2

BROKEN TUSK: STORIES OF THE HINDU GOD GANESHA

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Uma Krishnaswami
ILLUSTRATOR: Maniam Selven

DESCRIPTION This collection of Hindu folktales for middle readers features stories about the Hindu god, Ganesha, who is easily recognized because of his elephant head. Krishnaswami introduces the stories by recalling her own introduction to Ganesha and goes on to offer a mythological context for the tales. Included among these classic stories are "Ganesha's Head," "The Broken Tusk," and "Why Ganesha Never Married." Most of the stories come from Hindu legend; one comes from Mongolia,

where Ganesha made his way into the Buddhist tradition. The simple pen-and-ink illustrations support the themes, and a helpful pronunciation guide and glossary are also included.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 5th-7th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** U / **LEXILE:** 920L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-06-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

BURIED TREASURES OF TEXAS

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** W.C. Jameson
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION Part of the colorful history of Texas includes legends of outlaw loot, pirate hoards, buried mines, and Santa Anna's lost pack-train carrying gold. This book contains 31 legends ranging from lost fortunes of Native Americans, French pirates, Spanish explorers, and Mexican soldiers, to the early exploits of German and Scotch-Irish settlers. These unique tales from the people of the Lone Star State highlight their adventures and struggles in search of lost mines and forgotten treasures.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Y / **LEXILE:** 1240L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874831-78-8 / **HARDCOVER:**

BURIED TREASURES OF CALIFORNIA

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** W.C. Jameson
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION After reading these 30 revived tales of wealth and splendor, you will be tempted to throw some supplies into a backpack like the '49-ers of old and head west. Although stories of lost gold and silver veins are abundant ("Mysterious Blue Ledge of Gold," "The Curse of the Mormon Silver Ledge"), they in no way represent all of the wealth hidden in California's geography and folklore. Does Death Valley hold more than just sand and arid desert; is it also the "Canyon of Lost Gold" and site of the "Golden

Gravels of Goler Wash?" Is the long California coastline covering secrets ("Gold in the Sand") and hidden riches ("Lost North Beach Million," "Five Hundred Pound Silver Ingot")? Are the sprawling metropolises now covering the priceless artifacts of an emperor ("The Hollywood Bowl Treasure")? Outlaws, prospectors, Indians, loners and Mexicans throw themselves into all the adventure and intrigue. California's mountains, deserts, beaches, and cities—as well as sunken treasure—are all encompassed in this collection.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 1340L

ISBN **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874834-06-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

BURIED TREASURES OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** W.C. Jameson
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION Modern-day counterparts of the Spanish conquistadors and the early nineteenth-century settlers still cling to the image of El Dorado and the promise of riches. The folklore of the land still exerts its magical pull as the pickup truck has replaced the horse and mule, but treasure hunters still travel with little more than their dreams and hopes. They can be found even now in the mountains and the valleys of the American Southwest, still searching for the elusive riches that have been lost or remain buried in the rugged terrain.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Y / **LEXILE:** 1240L

ISBN **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874830-82-8 / **HARDCOVER:**

CAJUN FOLKTALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** J.J. Reneaux
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION Nationally acclaimed storyteller J.J. Reneaux has compiled highly engaging animal stories, fairy tales, ghost stories, and humorous tales from her native Cajun culture.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 5th-7th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 780L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874832-82-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874832-83-9

CLEVER MONKEY: A FOLKTALE FROM WEST AFRICA

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION When two greedy jungle cats discover a large piece of cheese, they can't decide how to divide it fairly. The clever monkey comes to their rescue. Or so they think. After reading this trickster tale from West Africa, you will think twice before asking a monkey for help.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** G / **LEXILE:** 540L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-01-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

CLEVER MONKEY RIDES AGAIN

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION A big, bully lion is no match for our old friend the Clever Monkey in this retelling of a classic story from West Africa.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 630L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-28-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

CLEVEREST THIEF

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Padma Venkatraman
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

When the head of a Buddhist monastery decides to pick a successor, he sends the young monks out to accomplish one task. The monks must each steal something, but they must steal in such a way that no one knows they have stolen.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 740L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-82-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

CONTEST BETWEEN THE SUN AND THE WIND: AN AESOP'S FABLE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR: Susan Gaber

DESCRIPTION

Based on a fable from Aesop, the Sun and the Wind test their strength by seeing which of them can cause a man to remove his coat, demonstrating the value of using gentle persuasion rather than brute force as a means of achieving a goal.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 460L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-66-9 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874838-32-9

COOL CATS COUNTING

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Sherry Shahan
ILLUSTRATOR: Paula Barragan

DESCRIPTION

A splashy, colorful, rhythmic illustration of numbers 1-10 in both English and Spanish.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** E / **LEXILE:** 480L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-57-5

DANCING TURTLE: A FOLKTALE FROM BRAZIL

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR** **AUTHOR:** Pleasant DeSpain
 ILLUSTRATOR: David Boston

DESCRIPTION Turtle loves to dance and play the flute, but her exuberance puts her at risk when her music attracts the attention of a brave hunter who brings her home to make turtle stew. After she is caught, her only hope for escape is the hunter's children and her own wit. This folktale, first told by the indigenous people of Brazil, is now told throughout Latin America. Like the people of Latin America, Turtle always seems to survive any challenge by using her courage and wit. Beautiful watercolors radiant with the dense foliage and hardy wildlife of the Amazon rain forest guide the reader through this timeless adventure story.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 570L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874835-02-1

THE DRUM: A FOLKTALE FROM INDIA

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR** **AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland
 ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION In this story from India, a poor boy's dream of having a drum takes him on an unlikely journey of discovery. He meets several people who guide him along the way. In time, he learns to make his own "magic" in this world.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 660L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874838-02-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

EARTH CARE: WORLD FOLKTALES TO TALK ABOUT

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

This collection of traditional tales and proverbs from over twenty ethnic groups touches upon both human and ecological themes such as environmental protection, the care of other creatures, and the connection of all things in nature.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** S / **LEXILE:** 690L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874837-84-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

ELEVEN NATURE TALES: A MULTICULTURAL JOURNEY

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain

ILLUSTRATOR: Joe Shlichta

DESCRIPTION

In this new millennium, we are faced with a critical question: are we willing to work together to ensure the survival of the planet? Eleven ancient stories address this challenging issue through tales of natural elements such as the sun, moon, stars, ocean, wind, fire, mammals, reptiles, birds, insects, rocks, trees, and humans.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** S / **LEXILE:** 670L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-58-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

ELEVEN TURTLE TALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain

ILLUSTRATOR: Joe Shlichta

DESCRIPTION

If you love animal stories or like turtles, then this collection of eleven turtle stories is for you. Turtle carries the world on her back: this story has been told by different cultures around the world for generations. Like Mother Nature, Turtle is unhurried, wise, and enduring. She walks on land, swims in water, and breathes the air and so embodies three of the four elements of creation. We have much to learn from Turtle in these timeless, classic turtle stories.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 4th-6th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** P / **LEXILE:** 760L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874833-88-1

EMERALD LIZARD

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain

ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

For the past three decades, Pleasant DeSpain has explored Latin America—its people, customs, cultures, and especially the myths and legends. The tales in this collection are full of compassionate souls, tricks and humor, explanations of nature and geography, and, as always, memorable characters and places. Mario Lamo-Jiménez's Spanish translation that accompanies the English version reverberates with the rich, vibrant quality that has become the bench mark for the best stories from Latin America.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 4th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** T / **LEXILE:** 730L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874835-52-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

FEATHERS: A JEWISH TALE FROM EASTERN EUROPE

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest

ILLUSTRATOR: Marcia Cutchin

DESCRIPTION A wise rabbi uses a pillow full of feathers to teach a gossipy villager a lesson on what happens when a person's reputation and trust are harmed by someone's negative, mean-spirited remarks.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 550L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-55-1

FIESTA!

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Sherry Shahan
ILLUSTRATOR: Paula Barragan

DESCRIPTION A colorful romp celebrating traditional festivals and holidays in Latino culture with a festival for each month of the year, written in both English and Spanish

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** P / **LEXILE:** 920L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874838-61-9

FIRST MUSIC

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Dylan Pritchett
ILLUSTRATOR: Erin Bennett Banks

DESCRIPTION When the animals get together in the jungle, they discover that the noise that they have been making is indeed music. Celebrated author and master storyteller Dylan Pritchett weaves a tale that helps us discover that we all have music inside just waiting to come out when the time is right. This original award winning story is based on the model of traditional African folktales.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 440L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-76-6

FIVE-MINUTE TALES: MORE STORIES TO READ AND TELL WHEN TIME IS SHORT

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

As a companion to her award-winning story collection Three Minute Tales, Margaret Read MacDonald has compiled another delightful collection of entertaining stories from around the world edited especially for the tastes and interests of young readers.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** O / **LEXILE:** 600L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874837-82-7 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-81-0

FORTY FUN FABLES: TALES THAT TRICK, TICKLE AND TEACH

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss

ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Animals don't talk but they appear in fables to tell us about our very human selves. This classic collection of whimsical stories is told simply with wit that appeals to children of all ages. In reading these tales, the lessons of many cultures are passed along and wisdom is shared. Young readers will be highly engaged and entertained by the fools, tricksters, and clever characters who appear in these timeless stories.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-4th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** N / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-77-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

GHOST CATCHER

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR: Kristen Balouch

DESCRIPTION

This story is a retelling of a traditional Bengali tale in which a kind and generous Indian barber, pressed by his father and then his wife to earn more money, cleverly persuades a ghost to bring him riches.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 660L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874838-35-0

GHOSTWISE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Dan Yashinsky
ILLUSTRATOR: Kevin Sollows

DESCRIPTION

For this mix of “midnight stories,” Dan Yashinsky has collected ghost stories and other strange and scary tales from around the world. From Cathy Miyata's ghost story from Japan to Jamie Oliviero's Central African tale about the limits of grief to Gail de Vos's contemporary legend about a ghostly premonition from Canada, Ghostwise offers true stories, tall tales, and scary yarns. These spooky stories are rooted in many cultures: some are old tales retold, others are new tales created, all are told by masters of their craft who have successfully made the transition to the written word in this collection.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** X / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-99-4 / **HARDCOVER:**

GIRL WHO WORE TOO MUCH

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald
ILLUSTRATOR: Yvonne Davis

DESCRIPTION

In this timeless tale from Thailand, a girl cannot decide which of her many silken dresses and lavish jewels to wear to the dance, so she wears them all. Her foolish decision teaches her a valuable lesson.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 170L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-93-5 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874835-03-8

GO TO SLEEP, GECKO!: A BALINESE FOLKTALE

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald

ILLUSTRATOR: Geraldo Valerio

DESCRIPTION

Gecko may be small, but he has a giant-sized problem. Every night he is awakened by the fireflies outside his window, and when Gecko doesn't get his rest, he gets a little grumpy. So he goes to Elephant, the head of the village, to complain. His request that the fireflies stop working at night sets off a comical chain of problems for everyone in the village and complicates everyone's life. Through this cumulative tale from the Balinese tradition, Gecko learns that his well-being depends on that of the entire village, and he finally goes to sleep, a little wiser.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Pre-K-3rd / **LEXILE:** 430L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-92-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-80-3

GREEK MYTHS, WESTERN STYLE

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Barbara McBride-Smith

ILLUSTRATOR: Katrina Kelso

DESCRIPTION

When she was a young girl, Barbara McBride-Smith was introduced to the ancient Greek myths, but she didn't quite hear them correctly. When her teacher told her they lived in the cradle of western civilization, young Barbara thought she said Western civilization—as in central Texas, around about Waco, where they seemed to fit right in. Ol' Man Zeus, after all, was a gun-totin' Big Daddy, sort of the J.R. Ewing of

Mount Olympus. You know Aphrodite, the school basketball queen or Pandora the debutante, the best guitar picker around was Orpheus-Tom T, and wasn't Medusa the one who started the fashion trend known as Big Hair? With her incurable Texas drawl, feminist sympathies, and cheerleader's do-right attitude, master storyteller Barbara McBride-Smith spins the Greek myths as you've never heard them before.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 810L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-17-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874835-24-3

GROWING GOLD

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Padma Venkatraman

ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

In this story from India, a farmer's three lazy sons don't want to work, they just want to make a lot of gold. When their mother tells them about gold buried in the field, they discover the value of a good day's work.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 690L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-60-2 / **HARDCOVER:**

HIDDEN FEAST: A FOLKTALE FROM THE AMERICAN SOUTH

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss

ILLUSTRATOR: Don Tate

DESCRIPTION

When the barnyard animals are invited to a party by their neighbors, they dress in their Sunday best and set off for a day of merriment. But when dinnertime arrives, the famished animals are perplexed to find a simple meal of cornbread. Most of them are polite, but Rooster turns his beak up in disgust and rudely leaves the party, missing the treasures hidden for the guests. The surprising twist at the end of the story explains why, ever since, Rooster scratches in the dirt. Martha Hamilton and

Mitch Weiss capture the rhythms and idioms of this rural Southern tale, and Don Tate's whimsical acrylics serve up a regular hoedown of fun.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 620L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-58-2

HOLY MOLÉ! A FOLKTALE FROM MEXICO

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Caroline McAlister
ILLUSTRATOR: Stefan Czernecki

DESCRIPTION Carlos is working in the kitchen of the Mexican monastery when the cook enters the room in a panic. The Spanish Viceroy is on his way for a surprise visit and will arrive by noon, expecting dinner. What will the brothers feed this important ambassador to the king? Carlos tries to stay out of the way as lunch is hastily prepared, but his curiosity gets the best of him. His eagerness results in a moment of crisis, followed by what the brothers can only assume is a miracle. This story, inspired by the Mexican folk tradition, explains the origins of molé, the popular national dish that combines chocolate with turkey, spices, and nuts. Stefan Czernecki's amusing, angular illustrations capture the chaos in the kitchen as well as the folk tradition behind the tale.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 540L

ISBNS **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-75-9

HOW AND WHY STORIES

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION Did you ever look carefully at a spider's web? If their purpose is strictly to catch flies, why do spiders weave such beautiful, intricate webs? Did you ever wonder what causes thunder? Why is the sea salty? How did tigers get their stripes? In this

collection of delightful tales from around the world and through the ages, each story explains why an animal, plant, or natural object looks or acts the way it does.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** V / **LEXILE:** 830L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874835-61-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874835-62-5

HOW TIGER GOT HIS STRIPES: A FOLKTALE FROM VIETNAM

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION Many years ago, the proudest animal in the jungle was not the peacock. The proudest animal was the tiger. In this timeless folktale from Vietnam, we see how Tiger's pride leads him to covet wisdom and, with the help of a wise farmer, earn his stripes.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** H / **LEXILE:** 650L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874837-99-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

ITALIAN-AMERICAN FOLKLORE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Frances M. Malpezzi William Clements
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION Italian-Americans compose one of the largest ethnic groups in the United States. Unfortunately, they have often been portrayed negatively in fiction and film based on stereotypes and prejudices. These entertaining stories highlight a rich cultural heritage that has often been neglected.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 6th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 1300L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874835-33-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

JEWISH-AMERICAN FOLKLORE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Josepha Sherman
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

This collection of traditional Jewish-American stories includes lunar holidays and everyday observances; wonder tales from the Sorcerer's Apprentice; a Jewish version of Cinderella; tales of dybbuks, golems, and other supernatural beings; and superstitions and traditions surrounding birth, marriage, and death.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 960L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874831-93-1 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874831-94-8

JUAN BOBO SENDS THE PIG TO MASS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Ari Acevedo
ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

In Puerto Rico, there are many stories about Juan Bobo, a young man with a good heart but little common sense. In this tale, Juan Bobo's mother tells him to take care of their pig while she goes to church. When the pig won't stop grunting, Juan Bobo decides that the pig must want to go to church as well.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** H / **LEXILE:** 610L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-83-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

MAGIC APPLE: A FOLKTALE FROM THE MIDDLE EAST

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Rob Cleveland
ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

Three brothers embark on separate journeys to different parts of the world to fulfill their father's dying wish. In their journeys, they visit distant lands, find curious treasures, and learn the true meaning of unselfish giving when they need to work together to save a life.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 720L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-00-8 / **HARDCOVER:**

MAGIC POT

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

In this story from China, when a woodcutter finds a magic pot that makes two of everything that he puts inside of it, he thinks all of his troubles have disappeared! Or have his troubles merely doubled?

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 640L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-27-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

MEXICAN AMERICAN FOLKLORE

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: John West
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

Mexican-American traditions are richly nourished by the folkways of three cultures: Indian, Spanish, and Mexican. This comprehensive look at the Mexican-American world includes a range of traditional proverbs, riddles, stories and folksongs.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 6th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 1330L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874830-59-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

MOMENTOS MAGICOS/MAGIC MOMENTS

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Olga Loya

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

In Latin American culture—with its blend of Indian, Spanish, Catholic, and African influence—magic is a part of the everyday world. Momentos mágicos, or magic moments, can come in many forms. For storyteller Olga Loya, magic occurs every time an ancient story is passed from teller to listener. The sixteen stories here are full of momentos mágicos. Presented in equally vibrant English and Spanish, they include stories of the supernatural, such as the Mexican tale of La Llorona, the Wailing Woman; of animals and tricksters, such as the Mayan story of how Monkey tricked Crocodile; of strong women, like Blanca Flor (White Flower); and myths, such as La Diosa Hambrienta, the hungry goddess. In stories from Mexico, Cuba, Guatemala, the Yucatan, Nicaragua, Baja California, Puerto Rico, and the Mayan Popol Vhu, Olga Loya works her magic to create humorous, vital, and powerful renditions of centuries-old legends.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-7th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-97-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

MORE READY-TO-TELL TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: David Holt Bill Mooney

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

This collection of world tales focuses on stories originating from nearly every continent. They are short, gripping stories that "kick in fast," including comedy, trickster, tall tales, and family themes for middle and young readers.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Y / **LEXILE:** 930L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874835-83-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

NATURAL MAN: THE TRUE STORY OF JOHN HENRY

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Steve Sanfield

ILLUSTRATOR: Peter Thornton

DESCRIPTION

This timeless ballad has been part of American folklore for over a century. Born with a hammer in his hand, John Henry discovers his true calling as a steel-driving man but he inevitably meets his match in a race against a steam drill that provides a powerful metaphor for the disruption and loss of innocence created by the industrial age. Thornton's charcoal drawings deftly capture the triumphal spirit of this cautionary tale.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** P / **LEXILE:** 910L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-85-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

OF KINGS AND FOOLS

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Michael Parent Julien Olivier

ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

Bubbling with beautiful princesses, dragon-slaying underdogs, and crafty tricksters, these Franco-American stories explore a heritage that has become known as "a quiet presence." Co-authors Parent and Olivier recount the lutin's tricks on farmers, the Jack-like adventures of Ti-Jean, Pierre and his modern-day chainsaw, a beautiful princess conquering an evil witch, and family stories passed down from generation to generation. Meet Michael's grandfather, Honoré Fournier, who spoiled his grandchildren with kindly generosity, and Alexis Lacasse, Julien's grandfather, who didn't let a prank stop him from arriving to dinner on time. Life in Franco-American families revolved around two entities: family and church. The authors address these two important aspects and how they have influenced their stories. Olivier and

Parent inherited their families' love of stories and continue that legacy by sharing their ancestry and heritage in this charming book.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 6th-9th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** Z / **LEXILE:** 840L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874834-81-9 / **HARDCOVER:**

PICKIN' PEAS

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Margaret Read MacDonald
ILLUSTRATOR: Pat Cummings

DESCRIPTION A clever, singing rabbit eats his way through the pea patch until Little Girl snatches him up and he is soon singing a new tune as he plans his escape. With a nod to Brer Rabbit, Pickin Peas is adapted from two folktales collected in Alabama and Virginia. The lively storytelling voice of award-winning author Margaret Read MacDonald, combined with Pat Cummings' bright, bold contemporary illustrations, makes this timeless battle-of-wits an instant classic.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** L / **LEXILE:** 150L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-1-939160-83-6 / **HARDCOVER:**

PRICELESS GIFTS: A TALE FROM ITALY

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR: John Kanzler

DESCRIPTION A humorous retelling of an Italian tale in which a Genoese merchant, richly rewarded for solving an irritating problem for the king of the Spice Islands, causes a greedy rival to try and gain a fortune in the same way.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** M / **LEXILE:** 750L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-88-9

ROOSTER'S NIGHT OUT

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss

ILLUSTRATOR: Baird Hoffmire

DESCRIPTION

In this chain story from Cuba, Rooster learns that he needs a lot of help from his friends to get cleaned up in time for Heron's party. Then the real fun begins.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** H / **LEXILE:** 740L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-26-8 / **HARDCOVER:**

SISTER TRICKSTERS: ROLLICKING TALES OF CLEVER FEMALES

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Robert San Souci

ILLUSTRATOR: Daniel San Souci

DESCRIPTION

Everyone remembers the exploits of Br'er Rabbit and his cohorts Br'er Fox, Br'er Possum, and other sly characters. But while these tales were circulating among slaves in the southern United States, another set of stories was passed along just as enthusiastically, only here the clever tricksters were female. Who better to tackle the stories of these sister tricksters than the San Souci brothers? Utilizing a contagiously rhythmic, pitch-perfect dialect, writer Robert gleefully interprets the exploits of Molly Cottontail, Miz Grasshopper, Miz Duck, and Miz Goose against worthy (and not-so-worthy) foes such as Mistah Slickry Sly-fox, Mistah Rooster, and Mistah Bear. Brother Daniel's comically realistic paintings capture the slapstick frenzy of these characters engaged in battles of wits against the rural Southern landscape that nourished the tales in their infancy.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 2nd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** S / **LEXILE:** 1050L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-91-9

SPICY HOT COLORS: COLORES PICANTES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Sherry Shahan
ILLUSTRATOR: Paula Barragan

DESCRIPTION

Colors explode off the page in this energetic, jazzy picture book introducing readers to colors in both English and Spanish. In a style brimming with rhythm and syncopation, author Sherry Shahan introduces nine colors by interweaving images and dance steps. Ecuadoran artist Paula Barragán's illustrations capture the rhythm and vivacity of the text. This book, which Publishers Weekly called "a feast for the eyes and ears," received a NAPPA Gold Award and was featured on the PBS Kids program "Between the Lions".

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** E / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-15-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-41-4

SPIRITS DARK AND LIGHT: SUPERNATURAL TALES FROM THE FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Tim Tingle
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

In the Native American tradition, a strong connection exists between the spirit world and the natural world. It is believed that what happens in one has a definite impact on the other. In this collection, Choctaw storyteller Tim Tingle draws from the rich heritage of the Five Civilized Tribes - the Creek, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Seminole nations.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** W / **LEXILE:** 890L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-78-0

STOLEN SMELL

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

In this story from Peru, we meet a baker who is so stingy that he wants to charge people just for smelling his baked goods. When the baker takes his case to court, the wise judge decides to teach the greedy man a well-deserved lesson.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 720L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-38-1 / **HARDCOVER:**

STONE SOUP

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR: Susan Gaber

DESCRIPTION

Two hungry travelers arrive at a village expecting to find a household that will share a bit of food, as has been the custom along their journey. To their surprise, villager after villager refuses to share, each one closing the door with a bang. As they sit to rest beside a well, one of the travelers observes that if the townspeople have no food to share, they must be "in greater need than we are." With that, the travelers demonstrate their special recipe for a magical soup, using a stone as a starter. All they need is a carrot, which a young girl volunteers. Not to be outdone, another villager contributes a potato, and the soup grows as others bring corn, celery, and other vegetables and seasonings. In this cumulative retelling of an ancient and widely circulated legend, author Heather Forest shows us that when each person makes a small contribution, "the collective impact can be huge." Susan Gaber's paintings portray the optimism and timelessness of a story that celebrates teamwork and generosity

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** K / **LEXILE:** 310L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-02-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-98-7

STORIES OF HOPE AND SPIRIT

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Dan Keding
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

Throughout history, Eastern Europe has been a battlefield, a crossroads, a place of conflict, and a place of resolution. The folk stories in this collection tell about challenges and obstacles as well as the strength, wit, hope, and courage necessary to overcome them.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** O / **LEXILE:** 750L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-27-8

SURF WAR !: A FOLKTALE FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald
ILLUSTRATOR: Geraldo Valerio

DESCRIPTION

Sandpiper finds her daily stroll on the beach interrupted by Whale, who boasts that he is ruler of the sea. Sandpiper responds with equal bravado, asserting her rights to the sand and seawater. Soon the rivals are calling in their cousins, and the beach and sea are filled with shorebirds and sea mammals of every stripe. The standoff grows ominous as Whale leads his cousins in an assault on the beach, eating the sand from under the birds. Sandpiper retaliates by ordering her cousins to drink up the ocean. Soon the landscape is filled with fish, crabs, and sea creatures gasping for survival. How will this end? The outcome of this timely yet timeless nature tale suggests that we are all connected in the ecological chain.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 310L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874838-89-3

TALES OF CATS (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

This collection of nine short stories features a range of cat "tales" from different countries that are especially worth sharing. You will find stories that explain why cats choose women over men, how cats trick other (in cat's view) "lesser" animals, how cats outwit humans, and how cats wait patiently for their time in the sun.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 670L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-13-1

TALES OF ENCHANTMENT (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES BOOK 7)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

A collection of nine traditional tales about leprechauns, dwarfs, shape shifters and other enchanted creatures from various countries, including Russia, Norway, and Germany.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 640L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-11-7

TALES OF HEROES (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 4)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

Nine inspiring folktales about heroes and their heroic feats, including selections from Hungary, Switzerland, India, Japan, and other parts of the world. Each of these classic stories shares an inspiring message of courage and perseverance.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 710L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-66-0

TALES OF HOLIDAYS (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 5)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION These nine short folktales feature stories about traditional holidays celebrated from Czechoslovakia, Russia, France, the United States, and other parts of the world.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 690L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-67-7

TALES OF INSECTS (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 6)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION Nine traditional tales about insects from various parts of the world, including Mexico, Japan, Jamaica, and Fiji.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 590L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-68-4

TALES OF NONSENSE & TOMFOOLERY (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 2)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

A hilarious collection of short folktales from all over the world featuring silly characters, nonsensical situations, and general tomfoolery.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 830L

ISBNS

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-45-5 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-70-7

TALES OF TRICKSTERS (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 1)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

This book contains nine short traditional and very entertaining folktales about tricksters, featuring selections from Persia, India, Poland, France, and other parts of the world.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 770L

ISBNS

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-44-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-69-1

TALES OF WISDOM & JUSTICE (THE BOOKS OF NINE LIVES, 3)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

This collection of classic and timeless short folktales from Mexico, Israel, Poland, and other parts of the world demonstrates wisdom and justice.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 880L

ISBNS

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-46-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874836-71-4

TALES TO FRIGHTEN AND DELIGHT (BOOKS OF NINE LIVES)

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Don Bell

DESCRIPTION

A collection of nine traditional scary stories from various parts of the world, including Japan, Uruguay, and other countries. The stories are sure to entertain young readers.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:** 650L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874839-16-6 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-12-4

THIRTY-THREE MULTICULTURAL TALES TO TELL

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Pleasant DeSpain
ILLUSTRATOR: Joe Shlichta

DESCRIPTION

When a story shares a universal message, it finds its way into that pantheon of folktales that is shared with many diverse cultures. These classic 33 tales, collected from Brazil, China, Korea, Russia, Tibet, Africa, America's native peoples, and other lands are chosen for their timeless, shared values.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** R / **LEXILE:** 770L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874832-66-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874832-65-5

THREE-MINUTE TALES

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Margaret Read MacDonald
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION This global collection of 80 very short tales from Europe, Asia, the Americas and even a story from Africa include chants, scary ghost stories, humorous stories and more.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** O / **LEXILE:** 590L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874837-29-2 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-8748-3728-5

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE: WORLD TALES KIDS CAN READ & TELL

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss
ILLUSTRATOR: Carol Lyon

DESCRIPTION This collection of 31 stories comes from all over the world, and different variations can be found in a variety of cultures that have been passed over the grapevine and been adapted by diverse cultural traditions.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-5th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** R / **LEXILE:** 880L

ISBNs **PAPERBACK:** 978-0-874836-24-0 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-8748-3625-7

TRICKSTER TALES

AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR **AUTHOR:** Josepha Sherman
ILLUSTRATOR: David Boston

DESCRIPTION People of all ages love to watch the escapades of tricksters. In modern times, we watch Bugs Bunny, Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote, even Ace Ventura and Bart Simpson. But these contemporary characters have roots in antiquity. The trickster is a universal archetype, found in every culture: Anansi among the African people, Coyote in the American Southwest, Raven in the Pacific Northwest, Rabbit in the American South, the leprechaun in Ireland, and Fox in South America.

READING LEVEL **INTEREST:** 3rd-4th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** O / **LEXILE:**

ISBN

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-50-5 / **HARDCOVER:**

WELL OF TRUTH: A FOLKTALE FROM EGYPT

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Martha Hamilton Mitch Weiss

ILLUSTRATOR: Tom Wrenn

DESCRIPTION

When Goat, Rooster, and Donkey decide to try their hand at farming, Donkey learns the price of being greedy and discovers that the truth will always come out in the end.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: Pre-K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** I / **LEXILE:** 520L

ISBN

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874838-80-0 / **HARDCOVER:**

WHEN TURTLE GREW FEATHERS: A TALE FROM THE CHOCTAW NATION

**AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR**

AUTHOR: Tim Tingle

ILLUSTRATOR: Stacey Schuett

DESCRIPTION

In this Choctaw variant of Aesop's fable "The Tortoise and the Hare," master storyteller Tim Tingle reveals some unexpected twists and expands the cast to include a wild turkey, a colony of ants, and a cheering squad of Little Bitty Turtles as well. When Rabbit boastfully challenges Turtle to a race, Rabbit gets his comeuppance and Turtle gets a little assist from his winged friend, Turkey. In the process, we learn why Turtle's shell is cracked and why you never see Rabbit racing Turtle today. The bold and vibrant illustrations capture not only the grasslands of the High Plains but also the demeanor of its animal inhabitants and the humor of the tale.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** M / **LEXILE:** 590L

ISBN

PAPERBACK: 978-1-939160-21-8 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874837-77-3

WHY ALLIGATOR HATES DOG

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: J.J. Reneaux
ILLUSTRATOR: Donnie Lee Green

DESCRIPTION

Deep in the Cajun country of Louisiana, Alligator is king of the swamps—king to everyone that is, except a sassy clever old Dog. Storyteller J.J. Reneaux's musical rendering of this classic Cajun folktale explains how the feud between Alligator and Dog got started in the first place. When Alligator finally corners Dog in his swamp hole, he falls for the oldest trick in the book and barely escapes with his life back to where he belongs. After being tricked by Dog, Alligator thinks he's a lot smarter. As he floats alone in the dark swamp water waiting for Dog, he promises that next time he'll get that Dog for sure. But will he? The combination of Cajun dialect and beautifully illustrated acrylic paintings, capture the unique flavor and mystery of the region.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: K-3rd / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** J / **LEXILE:** 510L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874836-21-9 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-12-3

WISDOM TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR:

DESCRIPTION

This collection of fifty folktales and parables was selected from diverse story traditions such as Sufi, Zen, Taoist, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian, African, and Native American. Comprised of ancient plots both poignant and comical, this anthology contains simple truths, common sense, and the promise that we can benefit from past generations' experience. Wisdom tales offer useful insights into life's joys and sorrows that all of us experience.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 5th-8th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** T / **LEXILE:** 840L

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-79-6 / **HARDCOVER:** 978-0-874834-78-9

WONDER TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUTHOR &
ILLUSTRATOR

AUTHOR: Heather Forest
ILLUSTRATOR: David Boston

DESCRIPTION

Traditional stories have endured generation after generation because they resonate on a human scale. These 27 classic folktales remind us of wisdom so elemental it is often lost in the rush of everyday life. In these stories, sometimes common sense makes no sense at all.

READING LEVEL

INTEREST: 3rd-6th / **FOUNTAS & PINNELL:** 0 / **LEXILE:**

ISBNs

PAPERBACK: 978-0-874834-22-2 / **HARDCOVER:**
