



PARENTS' CHOICE
FOUNDATION®
Since 1978

**Parents' Choice Award Winning Toys, Games, Books,
and Music that Bridge the Classroom to the Playroom**



Who We Are

Established in 1978, Parents' Choice Foundation is the nation's oldest nonprofit guide to quality children's media and toys.

What We Do

- We search out and recommend products that help kids grow - imaginatively, physically, morally and mentally - fairly priced products that are fun, safe and socially sound.
- We advocate playful learning.
- We champion reading.



We Believe...

that children are born scientists, musicians, creatives, linguists, and artists.



We Believe...

that children's toys and media help children build and hone skills through play.



We Believe...

that children should practice kindness, generosity and empathy.



We Believe...

that learning is fun, and we want kids to know that, too.



We Believe...

that STEAM learning begins with a box of Cheerios.



We Believe...

in teaching children *how* to learn, not just what to learn.



Parents' Choice Awards

WE WERE THE FIRST. WE ARE THE MOST TRUSTED

Established in 1978 as a 501c3, Parents' Choice Foundation was first to create a way to recognize and celebrate quality children's media and toys. Forty years later, we're still first in our field.

AN AWARD WORTH WINNING

Our criteria are rigorous employing objectivity, respect, and expertise – and all with a keen sense of play. Learning is fun – and we want kids to know that.

THE PARENTS' CHOICE AWARDS® SEALS

Are internationally recognized and respected icons of quality and in the last 5 years have appeared on more than 6 million product packages.

WE RANK ABOVE AND GO BEYOND

In a review of 10 standalone Toy Awards programs, Parents' Choice ranks 1st in Twitter and Facebook followers with 2x as many as the next comparator.

Parents' Choice Awards®

Testing Process



The Parents' Choice Awards® is the nation's oldest program created to recognize quality children's media and toys: books, toys, music and storytelling, magazines, software, videogames, television, websites and mobile apps.

- The Parents' Choice Awards® judges are experts in their industry and interests, from dinosaurs to digital media and from mathematics to making mayhem.
- The Parents' Choice Awards committee members hail from families across the country.
- Our product evaluation process is lengthy and comprehensive.
- It's a multi-tiered process with its roots in a four-page questionnaire that queries the product's developmentally appropriate content and challenges, the product's design and function, the educational value, long-term play value, and the benefits to a child's social and emotional growth and well being.

Poll Q.1

Poll Q.2

Poll Q.3

Toys



The Play Gym

Ages: Infant - 2 yrs.

Manufacturer: Lovevery

Price: \$140.00

Rarely do we cite packaging claims, but The Play Gym is indeed, "a whole year of play in one box." Made with sustainable wood and organic materials, not only is it safe for infants, the color scheme is appealing to all. The five development zones, each thoughtfully designed and executed, offer, encourage, and promote different sensory systems.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





dimpl

Ages: 10 Months & Up

Manufacturer: Fat Brain

Price: \$12.95

This cleverly designed toy of silicone bubbles built into a sturdy plastic frame is as gratifying in the bathtub as it is in a high-chair or car-seat. Made of 100% food-grade silicone, this easy to clean, no parts to lose, take anywhere toy is irresistible, captivating, and fun.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





LALABOOM 5 in 1 Beads

Ages: 10 Months & Up

Manufacturer: Fat Brain

Price: \$19.99

The colorful and "can't wait to touch" 30-piece LALABOOM bead set provides an open-ended supply of play and developmental opportunities—encouraging exploration, creativity and delightful adult-child co-play.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





My Buddy & Me SUV

Ages: 1.5 - 5 yrs.

Manufacturer: Simplay3

Price: \$99.99

This easy to assemble durable plastic "grow-with-me" SUV styled riding toy features space for two children, a large handle for parents, rotating wheels for easy turns, and the option to transform from a toddler push car to a manual foot-to-ground car for preschool kids.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Stacking Garden Friends

Ages: 18 Months & Up

Manufacturer: Tender Leaf Toys

Price: \$24.99

An ecofriendly toy in materials and concept, young stewards of the environment took turns carefully placing the 14 wooden plant, garden equipment and animal shapes on the stacking tree. They quickly learned about balance, testing which shapes worked where.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Farm to Table

Ages: 3 - 8 yrs.

Manufacturer: KidKraft

Price: \$199.99

The modern and sleek design of this play kitchen features clever details such as, window planter boxes growing "choppable" carrots and onions held together with Velcro[®], a stove top that lights up and makes simmering noises, a refrigerator with an ice cube maker that dispenses pretend cubes (included), a farmhouse sink, a chalkboard to create a menu, and more.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Our Generation Awesome Academy

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Maison Battat Inc

Price: \$129.99

This 76-piece school room playset is designed to fit 18" dolls. With real life working accessories like a clock, a fire alarm, classroom lights and a recess bell, a chalkboard with chalk and a glow-in-the-dark whiteboard, the curriculum focuses on pretend play.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Pop-Oh-Ver Stove and Counter Top Sets

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Kangaroo Manufacturing

Price: \$39.99

With these ingenious slipcovers, any straight back chair can become a pretend stove or a countertop. The innovative configuration and modern design serve up pretend play from role playing to construction.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Folkmanis® Puppets

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Folkmanis, Inc.

Price: Starting at \$27.99

With styles ranging from the representation of a frog's life cycle, to the common opossum, to the mythical dragon and narwhal, and much, much more, Folkmanis puppets encourage storytelling, role playing, and pretend play.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice reviews.





My Family Builders™ Toy Set

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: My Family Builders

Price: \$69.95

Teaching young children to respect diversity and differences is important. Learning that through play is invaluable. The 48 piece set of mix-and-match wooden magnetic play pieces designed as heads, bodies and legs lets kids (and adults) create families that look like the families they know and see.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.

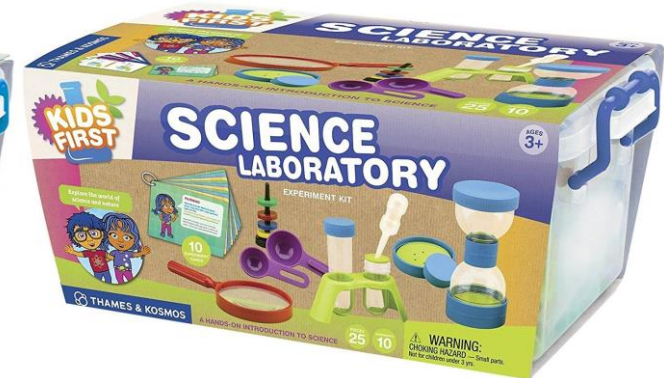




Thames & Kosmos Kids First Kits
Ages: Starting at 3 & up
Manufacturer: Thames & Kosmos
Price: Starting at \$49.95

This line of entry level science kits for kids are a great hands on introduction to concepts and topics covered in more advanced kits. With easy to follow, comprehensive instruction booklets, engaging experiments, and subjects including coding, engineering, and chemistry, there's a kit to fit any science minded kid.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Rigamajig Junior Kit

Ages: 5 & Up

Manufacturer: Heroes Will Rise

Price: \$350.00

The lightweight wooden pieces of this 157-piece heirloom quality building set are sturdy yet easily manipulated by small hands. The interesting variety of shapes, sizes, and materials allows for countless hours of building. An investment in Rigamajig is an investment in learning. The creativity, problem solving, sustained attention, collaboration and cooperation skills built by this set, deliver a big ROI from play. Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.



Games



Where's Bear?

Ages: 2 & Up

Manufacturer: Mindware

Price: \$17.99

This game playfully teaches colors, taking turns, listening, following directions, sorting, classifying, vocabulary development and social interaction. The Parent Guide adds more ways to play, learn, connect and explore—together.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Panda Rollers™ Game

Ages: 3 - 5 yrs.

Manufacturer: Educational Insights

Price: \$19.99

With its clever premise, appealing box, and call of the wild (preschoolers that is), this quick to learn game fully engages players as they seamlessly practice identifying and recognizing colors, matching patterns, taking turns, and sharpening fine motor and visual discrimination skills.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Tiny Polka Dot

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Math for Love

Price: \$14.99

Let's show math a little love. Tiny Polka Dot is a card deck set of 16 games to teach counting, arithmetic and logic. As examples, children ages 3+ play Hungry Numbers, a game in which players "feed" a numeral card to its corresponding dot card. Players ages 5+ can Dot Fives, when taking turns to match a pair of cards that add up to 5.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Tell-A-Tale (Barnyard Edition)

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Getta1Games

Price: \$16.99

Game play in this cooperative storytelling game is delightful: the roll of the dice prompts the story and the placement of the corresponding game pieces add dimension and context. The player who rolls first is the one who starts and finishes the story. Or not. There rules are few, the hours of playful learning are many.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Pass The Pup

Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: PlayMonster

Price: \$17.99

As the name implies, this game is a cute and cuddly take on the classic "Hot Potato" game – with a four-legged twist. The player holding the pup when the music stops must draw one of the 14 dog-themed action cards and act it out – all while learning turn taking, vocabulary and listening skills in the process.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Five Little Fish

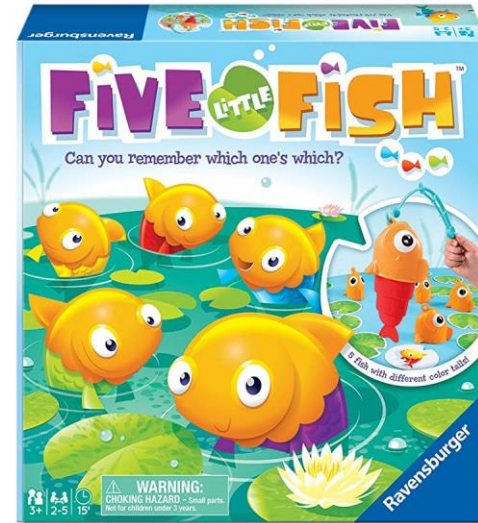
Ages: 3 & Up

Manufacturer: Ravensburger

Price: \$19.99

Our young testers were immediately hooked on this colorful fishing game. From 2 - 5 players use their turn-taking, memory, matching and fine motor skills to find, catch and/or release the colorful plastic fish with retractable tails.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.



Puzzles



Chugga Choo

Ages: 2 & Up

Manufacturer: MindWare

Price: \$17.95

Chugga Choo is a color matching game that meets puzzle problem solving in the train yard. The object of the game is to assemble four train puzzles with an engine, three filled boxcars and a caboose —all of matching colors.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





I Am LiL' Sloth

Ages: 5 & Up

Manufacturer: Madd Capp Games

Price: \$17.99

Sloths are having "a moment" right now and this suitable for hanging 100-piece poster size puzzle is a fun and thought-provoking way to get little ones in on the trend. An included booklet contains facts about sloths and their habitat.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.



Music



Home is Family

Ages: Infant - 8 yrs.

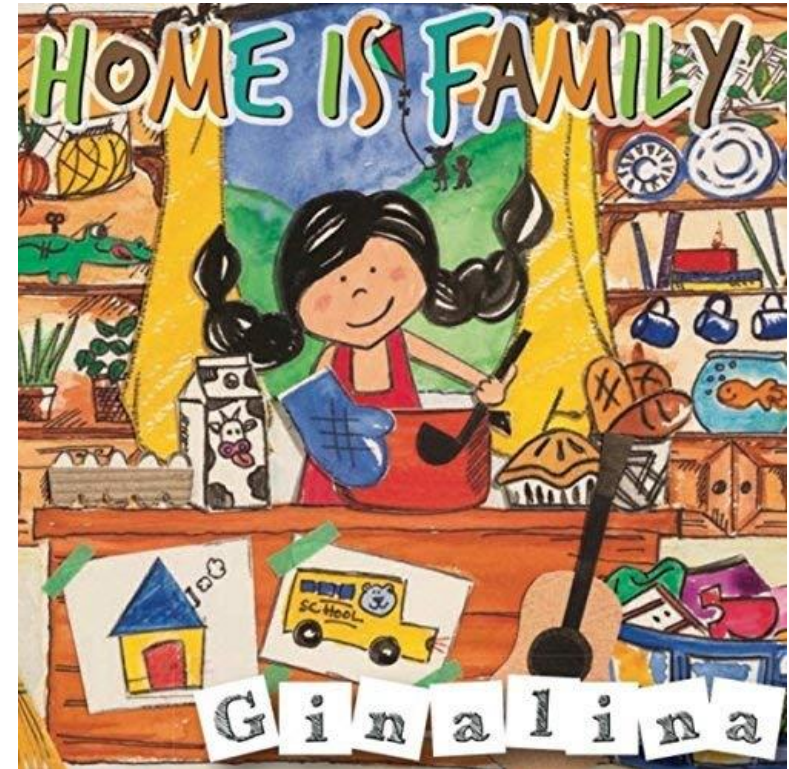
Artist: Ginalina

Producer: Ginalina Music

CD Price: \$9.99

A voice of singular loveliness and one sweet, sunny song after another (with family as her celebratory theme) make this new album by Canadian folksinger/songwriter/guitarist Gina Lam- known professionally as Ginalina-an occasion to savor.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Big Backyard

Ages: All Ages

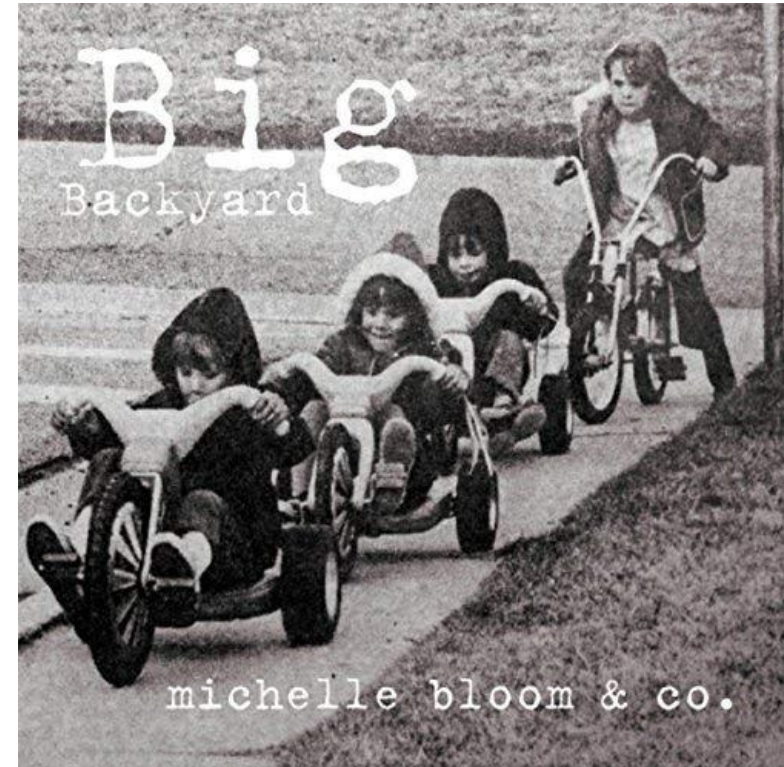
Artist: Michelle Bloom & Co.

Producer: Sweet Lime Records

CD Price: \$14.00

This debut album from California-based singer/songwriter Michelle Bloom, is a wind swept, semi-nostalgic look back to her own childhood, and her children's. The music reminds this listener of the heydays of 70's acoustic and electric folk.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





High Five

Ages: 1 - 8 yrs.

Artist: Laura Doherty

Producer: Laura Doherty Music

CD Price: \$15.00

Laura Doherty's signature folk-pop stylings and her gift for making young listeners feel that she is singing directly to and for them infuse this new album with cozy fun and notable, kid-respecting warmth.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Blue Skies and Sunny Days

Ages: 4 & Up

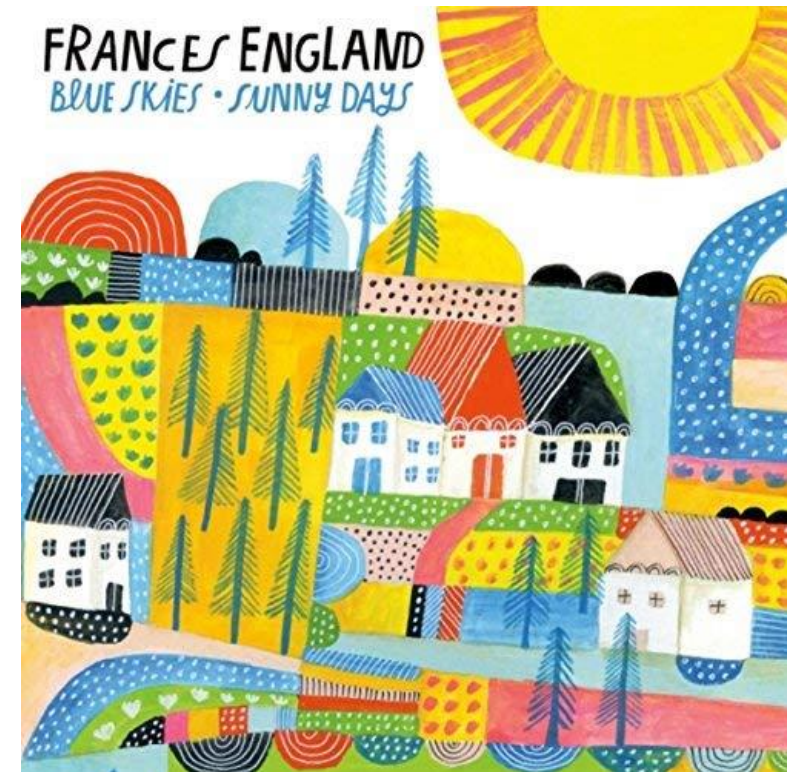
Artist: Frances England

Producer: Frances England

CD Price: \$15.00

The "blue sky, sunny day" theme of England's new release offers listeners of all ages (adults, too) a heart-happy uplift through observances of those days in childhood when everything goes right, when a parent and child "play hooky," taking together time, and more.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Curated Parents' Choice Spotify Playlists:

[Parents' Choice Audio Awards 2018 Summer "Play"list](#)

[2018 Fall Parents' Choice Audio Awards Playlist](#)

Books



Hooray for Birds!

Ages: 2 - 5 yrs.

Author: Lucy Cousins

Publisher: Candlewick Press

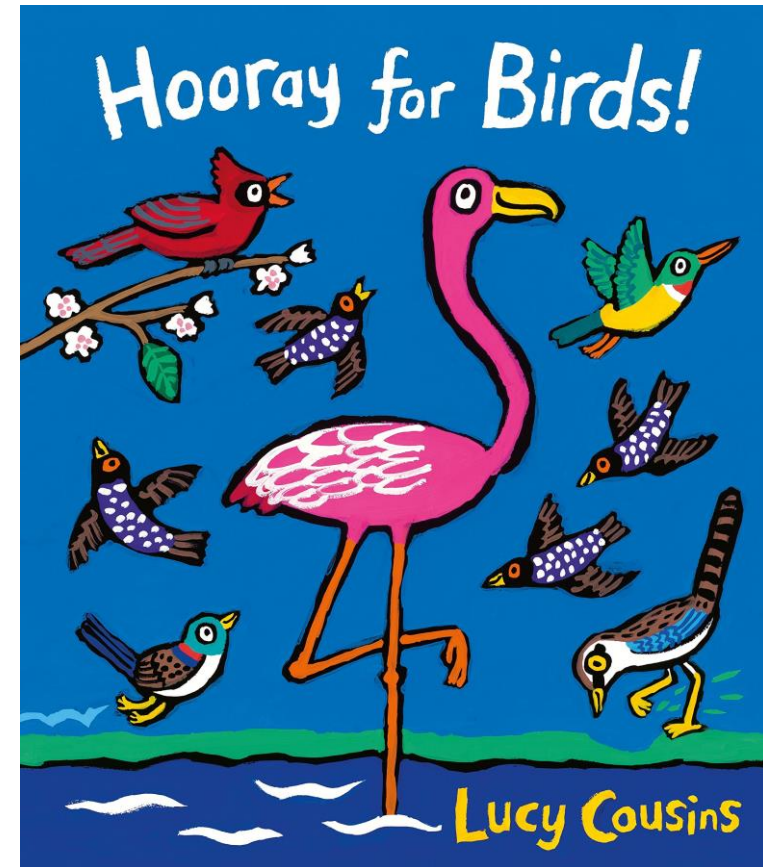
Hardcover Price: \$15.99

Author/illustrator Lucy Cousins offers a 24 hour challenge: be a bird, for just one day.

"Flap your wings and you can fly,/higher and higher,/ up, up in the sky." "Scratch the ground with your feet. Catch a fly with your beak."

With calls and poses and waddles and song, every page is inviting, vibrant and filled with joy.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





I Just Want to Say Goodnight

Ages: 2 - 5 yrs.

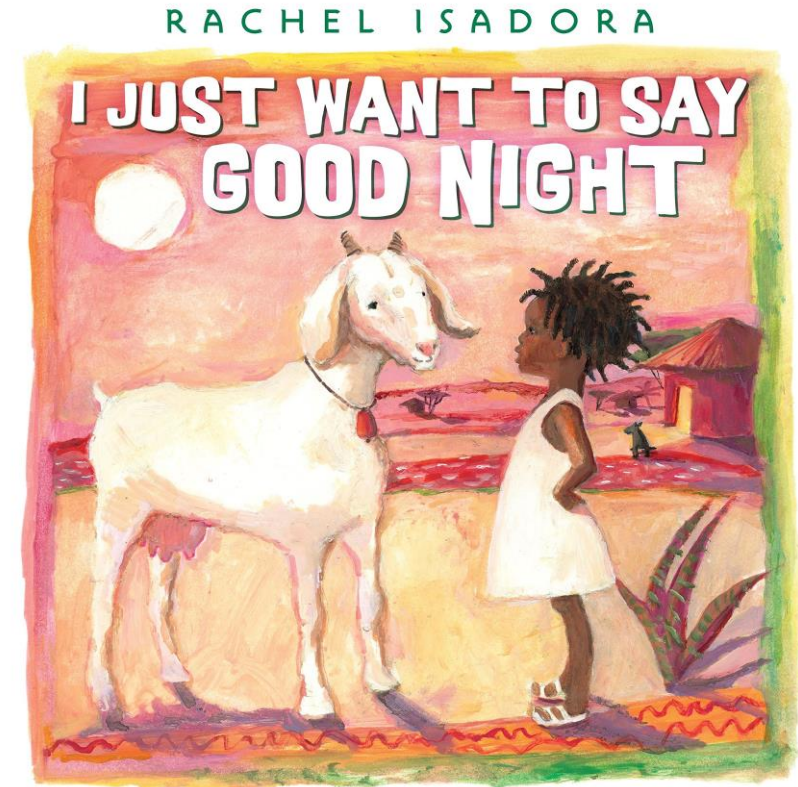
Author: Rachel Isadora

Publisher: Penguin Putnam for Young Readers

Hardcover Price: \$16.99

Via Isadora's pink and yellow palette, the lovely, evocative, loosely framed, double-page oil paintings capture the essence of the African landscape around sunset; the depictions of our young heroine aptly express her personality. Lovely and gently humorous.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Also An Octopus

Ages: 3 - 7 yrs.

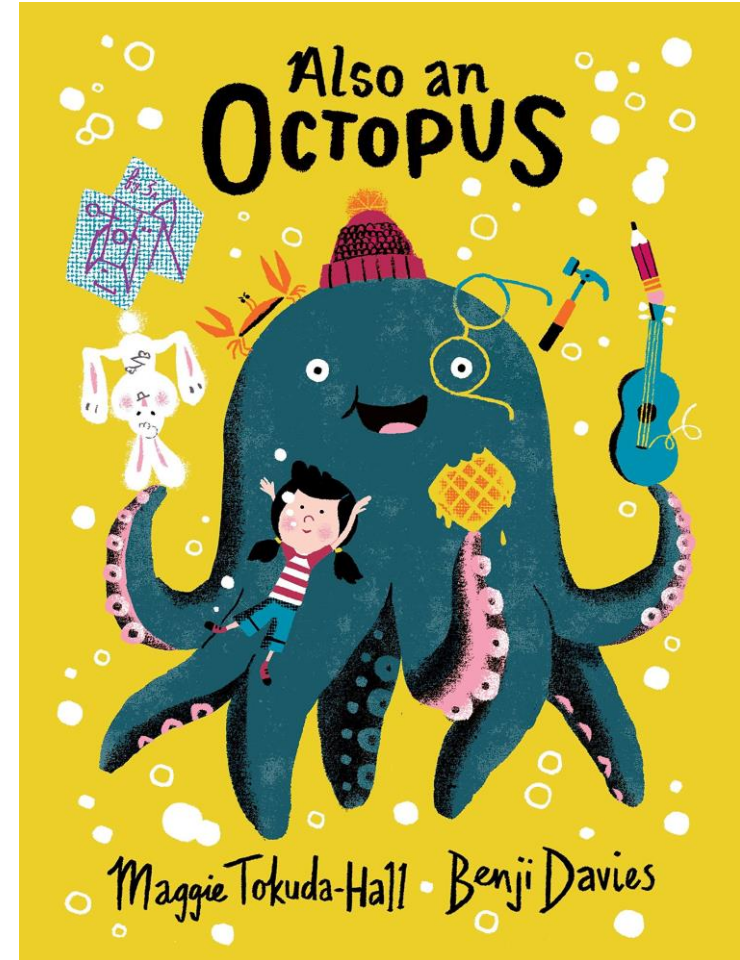
Author: Maggie Tokuda-Hall, **Illustrator:** Benji Davies

Publisher: Candlewick Press

Hardcover Price: \$16.99

First-time children's author Maggie Tokuda-Hall and veteran illustrator Benji Davies have teamed up to create this highly original, gentle charmer, a picture book for young children doubling as a guide to the art of storytelling.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





In the Past: From Trilobites to Dinosaurs to Mammoths in More Than 500 Million Years

Ages: 3 - 7 yrs.

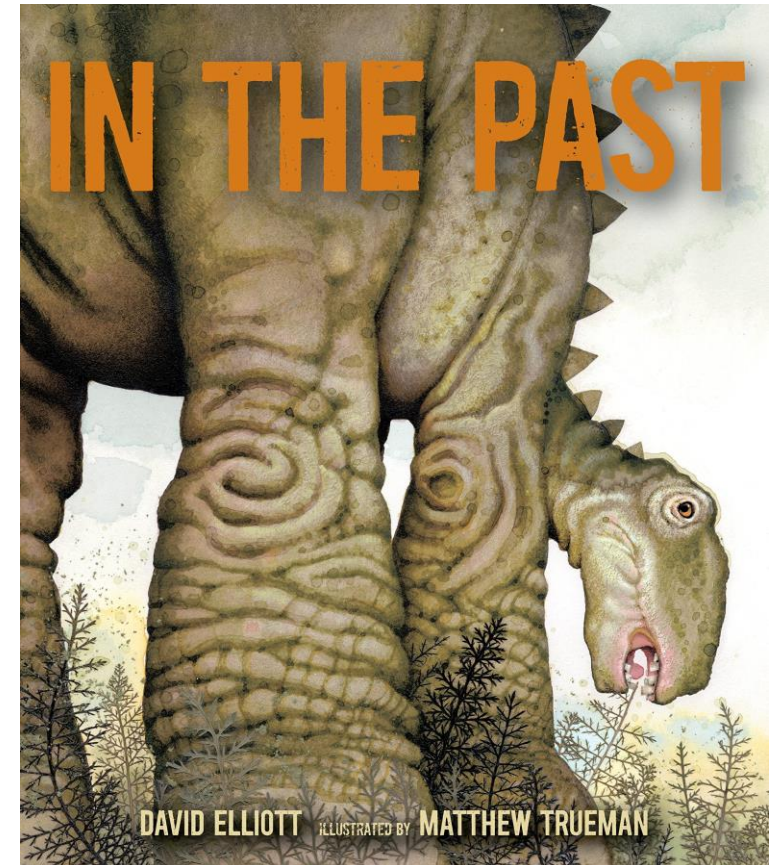
Author: David Elliott, **Illustrator:** Matthew Trueman

Publisher: Simon & Schuster

Hardcover Price: \$17.99

Beginning with Trilobites from the Cambrian Period and ending with the Quaternary Period, a combination of informed, witty, and sometimes soulful poems and eye-popping, mixed media close-up views offer a feast for young paleontology enthusiasts.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Rube Goldberg's Simple Normal Humdrum School Day

Ages: 5 - 7 yrs.

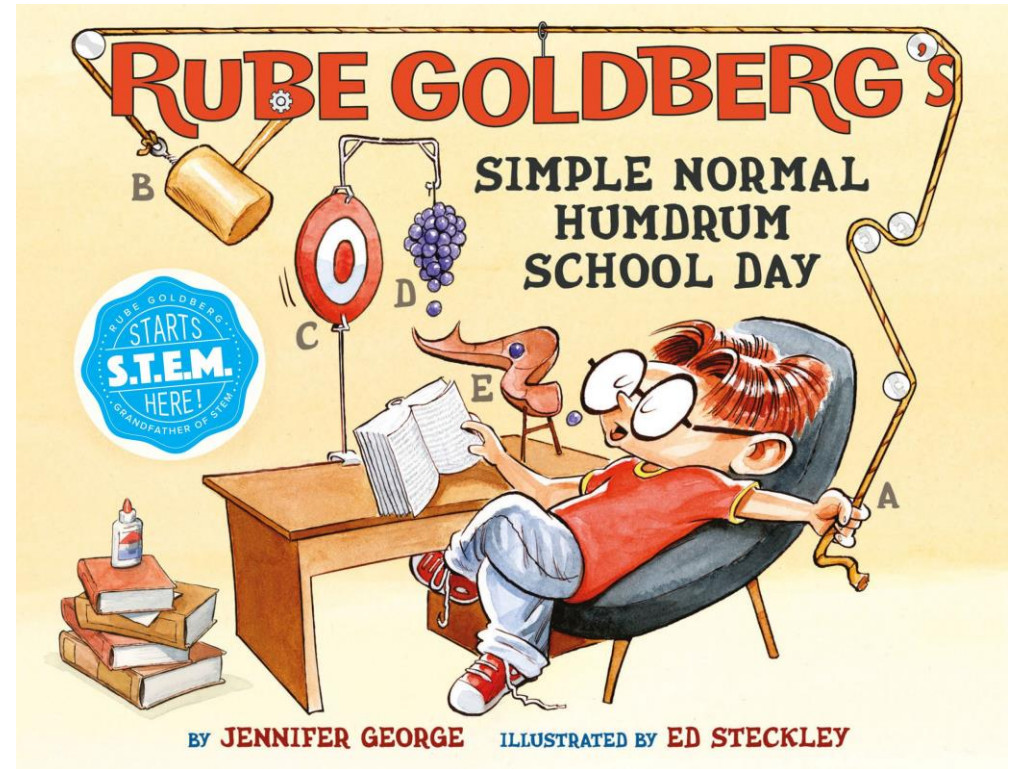
Author: Jennifer George, **Illustrator:** Ed Steckley

Publisher: Abrams Books for Young Readers

Hardcover Price: \$17.95

Designed to make young readers laugh, each two-page spread reveals a precarious machine that clearly took Rube considerably more work to design than it would have taken him to simply get dressed and walk out the door.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Her Right Foot

Ages: All Ages

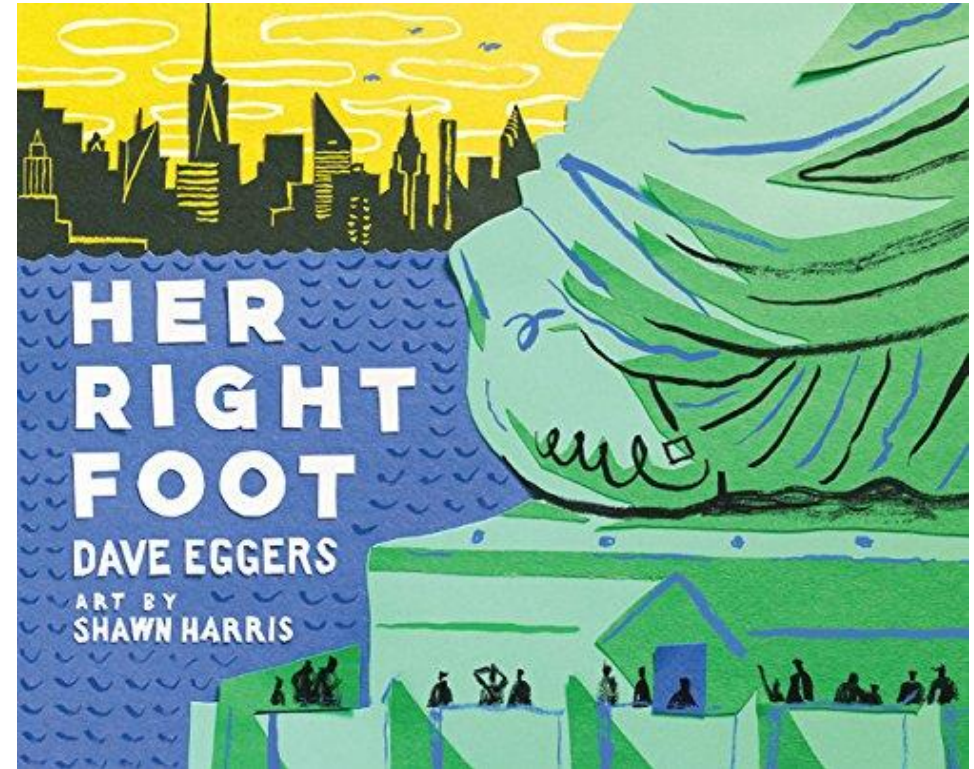
Author: Dave Eggers, **Illustrator:** Shawn Harris

Publisher: Chronicle Books

Hardcover Price: \$19.99

The foot in the title belongs to the Statue of Liberty, and the symbolism of that right foot, revealed at the end of this humorous, subtly thought-provoking, and visually striking picture book may well elicit a lump in the throat.

Click [here](#) for the full Parents' Choice review.





Thank you for your time!

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