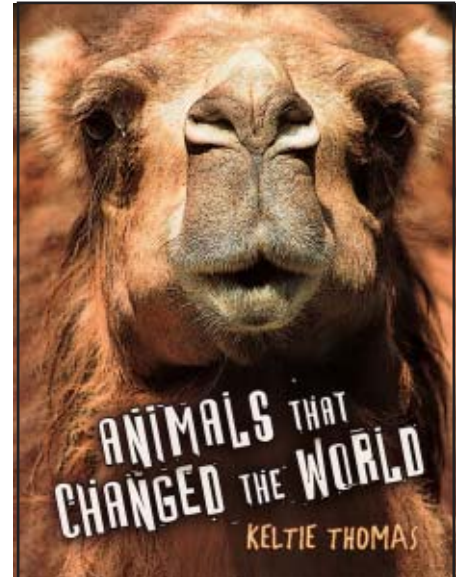


Animals That Changed the World

by Keltie Thomas

Chances are you've heard that our world is different than any other known in the universe. But did you know that's because animals make it so? No? Well, where else do birds fly in the sky, fish swim in the sea, and oodles of other animals walk, run, and crawl over the land? Our world is animals' only known romping and stomping ground. What's more, as animals romp, stomp, tromp, eat, poop, and fart—and work for people—they are changing the world as we know it right under our noses.

Sound far-fetched? Animals have changed the world since they first set foot, paw, and claw on Earth. Long ago, the ancient ancestors of animals and all living things, microbes called bacteria, created an atmosphere on Earth that allowed life to thrive and evolve into the animals, plants, and people you know today. Get set to discover all this and more in my book of animals that changed the world.



Thematic links:

History

Science

Social Studies

Activity Ideas:

- Create your own planet. What alien life forms would live there? How would they influence the environment? How would they shape daily life on the planet? Give your planet a name and draw a picture of it.
- What would the world be like today if dinosaurs ruled the world instead of humans? Write a comic strip or graphic novel about dino life on Earth in the year 2012.
- Where do rats fit on the family tree of life? How would world history be different if rats had never existed? What niche do rats occupy in the world's ecosystems today? How would the world be different if rats suddenly vanished off the face of the Earth? Research the answers to these questions and present your findings in a computer slide presentation.

Hackmatack

2012

Keltie Thomas

author of *Animals That Changed the World*



K is for a kooky sense of humour. I love to laugh and the odd thing about it is that most jokes and the “world’s funniest videos” leave me stone-faced silent and completely unmoved. But when I do bust a gut at the movies, often I’m the only person laughing in the theatre.

E is for explorer. Writing books makes me feel like a modern-day explorer. I dive head-first into fascinating topics, sink neck-deep into research, meet interesting people, probe burning questions, and uncover incredible facts and stories.

L is for love. I have loved books ever since I first learned to read. When I was a kid, I loved to curl up in a chair with a good book and a really good story can still keep me up all night.

T is for totally curious. I want to know what makes the world turn and what makes people tick. I want to know why we are here...if the universe really exploded out of a big bang ...if aliens are alive and kicking in another universe...and if so, do they have any human DNA?

I am...a Canadian...a writer...a reader...a yogini not Houdini.....a friend...a listener...a movie junkie...a country road cyclist...a voter...a dreamer...a thinker...a doer...a survivor...a traveler...a seeker.

E is for effervescence and naming “the elephant in the room”—a huge problem that no one can ignore but everyone is trying to avoid—two qualities I admire in people.

Selected Awards

Animals that Changed the World

Shortlist, Science in Society Children’s Book Award, 2011

Shortlist, Information Book Award, 2011

How Figure Skating Works

Finalist, Silver Birch Award, 2011

Finalist, Rocky Mountain Book Award, 2011

Shortlist, Information Book Award, 2010 *Inside Hockey*

Finalist, Silver Birch Award, 2010

Finalist, Rocky Mountain Book Award, 2009

Some Other Books by Keltie Thomas

How Football Works, Maple Tree Press, 2010

How Figure Skating Works, Maple Tree Press, 2009

Inside Hockey, Maple Tree Press, 2008

Hackmatack 2012

Canada from Above

by Heather Patterson

I love Canada. While I was an editor of children's books, I worked with authors on many projects about Canada. I loved the work and I learned a lot.

For some of the books, it was part of my job to hunt down photographs and get permission to use them. In my research, I came across a few great photos taken from the air – photos that made me go, “Wow, I get it!” about somewhere in Canada. It struck me that that's what an aerial photo can do:

it can explain the unexplainable; it can be a “Eureka!” moment that provides not only understanding, but a sense of wonder.

Eureka! I thought. Maybe I could create a book using only aerial photos of Canada, so kids could have some of this insight. I said to myself — the photos must be spectacular; they must be taken from overhead, looking down; as directly overhead as possible. They must represent all provinces and territories of Canada. They must reveal a natural feature of Canada OR a manmade one. They must surprise kids regarding the existence of something OR inform them about the nature of something.

The hunt was on. I searched out, assembled and stared at thousands of photographs, knowing I would only be able to use thirty or so. My guidelines certainly helped me to narrow down my choices, but it was really tough. I decided that I would like to “pair” the photographs on each page spread, so that there was some relationship between the two – design, pattern, angle, colour or subject. That helped to clinch the final thirty choices.

I knew I wanted to accompany each photograph for the curious reader, with some information about its subject and location. I took great care to be accurate, and I was determined to keep it short, because I didn't want to get in the way of the stars of this book — the photographs. I hope I succeeded.

Thematic links:

Geography: Canada as part of the planet Earth; the vastness of Canada's physical area; the wide range of its landforms, climates and seasons

Social studies: Canada's varied cultures and communities – old and new, big and small, rural and urban

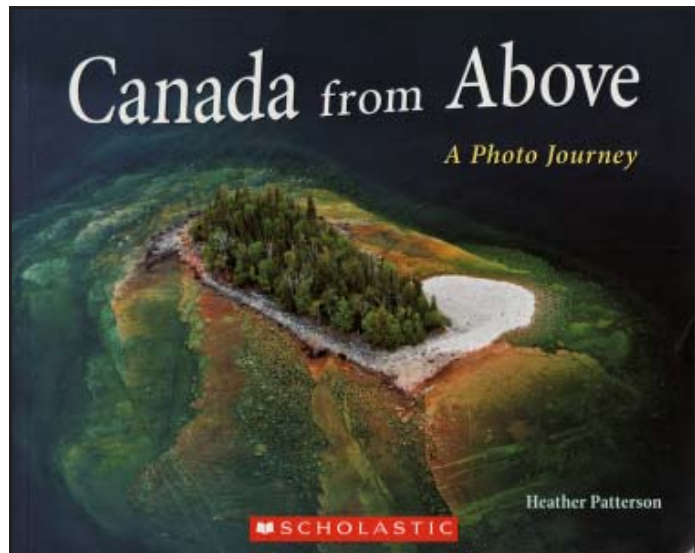
Natural science: Canada's rocks, trees and wildlife; its rivers, lakes and oceans

Activity Ideas:

- Develop a project contrasting the geography depicted in two of the photographs.
- Develop a project contrasting the cultures or the human industry/involvement in two of the photographs.
- Using a map of Canada, identify and/or mark the sites shown in the photographs.

Develop designs inspired by colours and patterns in nature and in manmade works apparent in the photographs.

Study the aerial photographs; either assemble a scene/collection of objects, or simply select from their surroundings; and take “aerial” photos from their “eye” height, looking straight down.



Hackmatack 2012

Heather Patterson author of *Canada from Above*



I like books a lot. I learned to like them at a very young age. As I listened, the words took me somewhere new... into Mr. McGregor's garden with Peter Rabbit, or across a busy Boston street with Mrs. Mallard and her ducklings. And the pictures! When I could read for myself, my dad had to coax me away from the picture book shelves at the library and over to the chapter books. (But I think no one is ever too old for picture books.)

I like kids a lot. I became a teacher, then a mother of three, and then an editor of children's books. I even got to write some books for kids. How perfect is that?

I like Canada a lot. My parents were born in the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia – their ancestors having arrived in the 1700s. I was born in Vancouver, B.C. One year was spent in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and then the family moved to Toronto, Ontario, where I have lived ever since. These days, in the home I share with my husband, I nourish my interests in words, grandkids, quilting, curling, yoga and nature (especially wild birds and trees), among other things. I am thrilled to have seen and experienced all ten of Canada's provinces, and I look forward to visiting our three territories some day.

Selected Awards

Canada From Above: A Photo Journey

OLA Best Bet, Non-Fiction for Children and Young Adults, 2010

A Poppy Is to Remember

Nominee, Hackmatack Award, 2005-2006

Nominee, Shining Willow Award, 2005

Some Other Books by Heather Patterson

I Am Canada, Scholastic Canada Ltd., 2006 (also available in French)

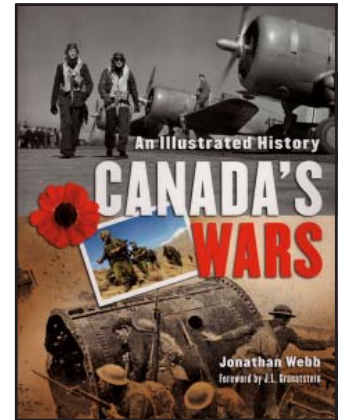
A Poppy Is to Remember, illustrated by Ron Lightburn, Scholastic Canada Ltd., 2004 (also available in French)

Pioneer Christmas Crafts, Scholastic Canada Ltd., 1999 (also available in French)

Thanks for Thanksgiving, illustrated by Mary Jane Gerber, Scholastic Canada Ltd., 1998

Canada's Wars: An Illustrated History

by Jonathan Webb



Canadians are lucky. We live in a country that has rarely been threatened from outside attack. We are so safe that we often forget that Canada's armed forces have played a large part in wars and peacekeeping operations all over the world.

In *Canada's Wars*, I try to explain how and why we have been involved in these conflicts. Each one has been different. We sent voyageurs to Egypt in the 1860s. We sent cavalry to South Africa in 1899. Canadian troops fought in important battles in Europe in the First World War. They famously led the way to victory in the last hundred days. Again, in the Second World War, Canadians were involved in terrible engagements, in Italy, France and Holland – even as far away as Hong Kong. By the end of that struggle, we had the fourth largest navy in the world.

I bring the story as nearly up-to-date as possible. I tell stories about Canadians in action from Korea to Afghanistan. I pay special attention to some of Canada's many war heroes. These include a Métis marksman, the woman who became known as "Queen of the Hurricanes," even a brave Newfoundland dog.

Wars are terrible. But sometimes it is necessary to fight for what we believe. In those terrible times, Canadians have given us many reasons to remember them with pride.

Thematic Links:

Army, Navy, Air Force
War, peacekeeping, national defence
The machinery of war: guns, warships, tanks, aircraft
Courage, duty, patriotism

Activity Ideas:

- Identify and describe five Canadians who have shown exceptional courage in war.
- Show on a map of the world all the places where Canadians have fought.
- Describe 24 hours in the life of a Canadian soldier in the trenches of the Western Front in 1917.
- Describe five major battles that Canadians have taken part in.

Hackmatack

2012

Jonathan Webb

author of *Canada's Wars: An Illustrated History*



My father served as an officer in the Royal Canadian Navy in the Second World War. He never talked much about his experience in the war but I know it helped make him the way he was. He met my mother, an English woman who served in the Royal Navy's auxiliary service, when he was on leave in London and she came to Canada after the war as a war bride.

I take pride in what my parents did in the war. I am grateful that I have never had to fight in a war as they did. And yet, Canada still has armed forces and Canadians still are called on to risk their lives in wars and peacekeeping operations around the world. I think it is important to understand what they do and why they do it. Canada's wars are part of our present reality.

I studied history at university. As an editor (which is my day job), I have worked with historians on all kinds of books. In my own books, whether I am writing about Mars, art theft or zoos, I always start with the history. I think the only way to properly understand the present is by understanding what went on before. I am working now on a book about the Vietnam War.

Selected Awards

Seal First Novel Award for *Pluck: A Novel*

Nominated for Red Maple Award for *Journey to Mars*

Starred review in Canadian Children's Book Centre publication, *Best Books*, for *Canada's Wars*

Some Other Books by Jonathan Webb

Pluck: A Novel, McClelland & Stewart, 1983

What's a Zoo Do? Key Porter Books, 1995

Stolen: The Gallery of Missing Masterpieces, Madison Press, 2008

Journey to Mars: Quest for the Red Planet, Madison/Scholastic, 2009

Canada's Wars: An Illustrated History, Madison/Scholastic, 2010

Case Closed? Nine Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science

by Susan Hughes

Egypt's first female pharaoh disappears around 1457 BCE — was she murdered? Find out how DNA closes the case. The ancient Arabian Peninsula city of Ubar vanishes, seemingly without trace. Find out how old maps and modern space shuttles help solve the mystery. Sir John Franklin's 1845 expedition to find the Northwest Passage is never heard from again. Find out how spectroscopy points to some probable explanations.

Case Closed? examines these and six other mysteries from ancient and modern times. Accompanied by photos, maps, diagrams and illustrations, this book reveals how modern science sheds new light on people, vessels and entire civilizations throughout history that simply vanished. In some cases, the mystery has been solved. In other cases, readers can examine the latest evidence and decide for themselves. I loved doing the research for this book. I learned so much! I did most of my preliminary research online. Then I got in touch with the people involved in the “cases,” usually by email. I asked them many questions. Almost everyone I contacted for information was extremely helpful in passing along details about their experiences.

I love learning about events from first-hand sources. It's so exciting! I hope you'll enjoy this aspect of *Case Closed?*!

Thematic Links:

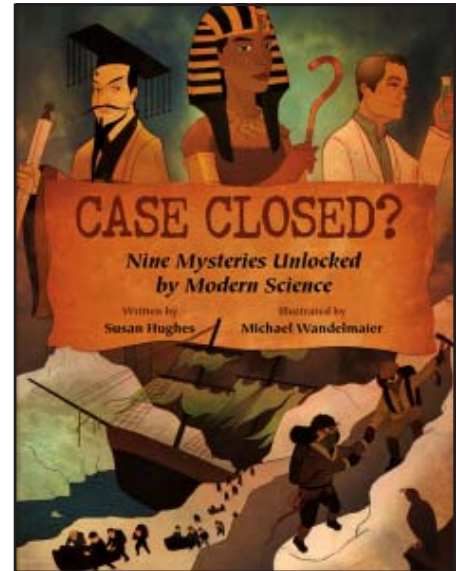
Skills & Strategies (critical thinking)

History (ancient civilizations)

Technology (scientific method)

Activity Ideas:

- Read the introduction. Jot down any questions you have. Record what type of scientific tool you might use to investigate the mystery. Then read on to find out what really happened!
- Research to find another example of someone or something mysteriously vanishing. (There were many examples that I didn't have room to include in my book!) Explore whether science played a part in the search to find answers, and if so, how.
- Go to the library or look online to find out more details about the people and places in my book.



Hackmatack 2012

Susan Hughes

author of *Case Closed? Nine
Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science*



I have been writing for as long as I can remember! When I was in grade four, some neighbourhood friends and I formed a writer's club. We enjoyed sharing our work with one another. We had one rule: when we made comments, we always had to start with saying something positive! That way, our writing improved, and we all stayed friends.

After I graduated from university, I wasn't sure what kind of job I wanted. But one day I was looking at notices on a student work board at the university. One caught my eye: Editor wanted. I applied to the children's publishing house and was accepted. I learned how to edit books. At the same time, I kept on with my writing. Soon my books — both fiction and non-fiction — began to be accepted for publication. I've been editing and writing ever since.

My best advice for anyone wanting to be a writer is: Do it. Sit down and write. Do it every day. And read. Read lots.

Selected Awards

Case Closed? Nine Mysteries Unlocked by Modern Science

Junior Guild League choice

2011 Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12, as selected by the National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council (US)

Utah Beehive Informational Book Award nominee 2012

Some other books by Susan Hughes

Off to Class: Incredible and Unusual Schools around the World, Owl Kids, tbp fall 2011. Virginia, Kids Can Press, 2010.

Canadian Birds, Scholastic Canada, 2010.

Wild Paws series, Scholastic Canada, reprinted 2009.

No Girls Allowed: Tales of Daring Women Dressed as Men for Love, Freedom and Adventure, Kids Can Press, 2008.

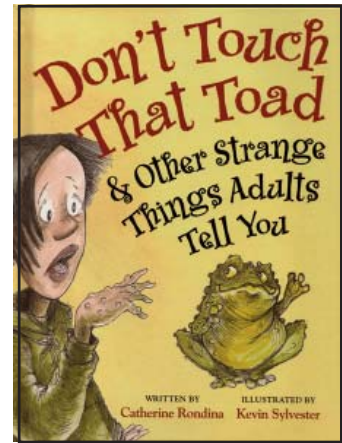
Raise Your Voice, Lend a Hand, Change the World, Scholastic Canada, 2007.

Earth to Audrey, Kids Can Press, 2005.

Coming to Canada, Maple Tree Press, 2005

Hackmatack 2012

Don't Touch That Toad and Other Strange Things Adults Tell you by Catherine Rondina



Ever wonder why adults say the things they do? I always have and I'm an adult! Why can't you swallow bubble gum? Do you really have to wait an hour after eating before going swimming? Will a cat always land on its feet? These are all the sorts of things I was told when I was a kid and I've told them to my children too. That's sort of where the idea for writing this book came from. I began to wonder why adults say some of these odd things and where did these crazy ideas come from anyway? As I began to research for the book, what I found even more fascinating was that some of these sayings were based on history, some were ancient beliefs, others were scientific fact, and a few were just plain silliness. I figured kids would enjoy finding out the truth behind some of these wacky parental, do's and don'ts. I know I did! Don't Touch That Toad and Other Strange Things Adults Tell You gives young readers a chance to arm themselves with the facts, while enjoying a laugh or two. But don't laugh too hard - you'll give yourself the hiccups and then have to turn to page 35 in the book, to find out how to get rid of them!

Thematic Links:

Language Arts:

Genre, Literature, Understanding Humor

Science & Technology:

Life Science

Human Body

Activity Ideas:

* Create your own list of "strange things adults tell you" - Have everyone in the class submit one entry. Then research and experiment to find out the truth behind the claim. Have your teacher help collect the final findings in a book for the your classroom.

Hackmatack 2012

Catherine Rondina

authors of *Don't Touch That Toad and Other Strange Things Adults Tell You*



I love reading and writing! I've been a writer for over 22 years and I written over 1,700 articles and had 8 books published. But reading wasn't something I always loved. In fact, I wasn't a very good reader in elementary school. It wasn't until my Grade 4 teacher convinced me to read my first chapter book, *Charlotte's Web* that I fell in love with reading! Actually, that's when I knew I wanted to be a writer, just like E.B. White. So, I spent many years writing as much as I could. I wrote for newspapers, magazines, educational companies and book publishers. I wrote about all sorts of things for both adults and children. My work covered many different subjects, from music and sports, to Internet safety and rollercoaster riding. Eventually, I found that my writing for children brought me the greatest sense of pleasure. I enjoyed exploring, learning, and remembering what it felt like to be a kid.

Today, my husband and I live in Richmond Hill, Ontario, with our three children. I teach writing courses for adults who want to learn how to write for kids. I visit schools and libraries all the time, speaking to young readers about my writing. I'm currently at work on two new books and in case you were wondering, I've touched a lot of toads!

Selected Awards

"The 10 Worst Things About the Internet" was part of "The 10" series that won the 15th Annual Teacher's Choice Award for Children's Books in 2009.

Some Other Books by Catherine Rondina

The 10 Worst Things About the Internet, Rubicon/Scholastic, 2008

Lying: Deal With It Straight Up , James Lorimer & Company, 2006

Literacy Power: Book A, Nelson Thomson, 2006

Rudeness: Deal With It If You Please, James Lorimer & Company, 2005

Gossip: Deal With It Before Word Gets Around, James Lorimer & Company, 2004

Literacy Power: Book G, Gage Learning Corporation, 2003

Hackmatack 2012

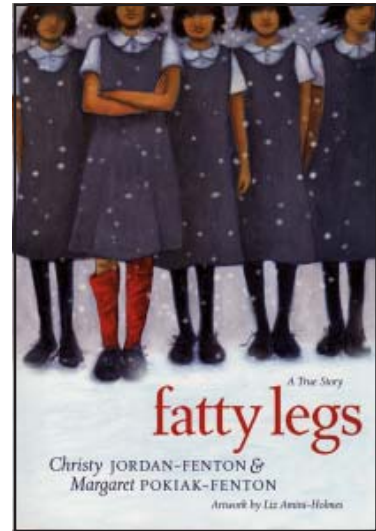
Fatty Legs: A True Story by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

Margaret/ Olemaun is an Inuvialuit girl living on a remote island in the high Arctic. She dreams of being able to read, but realizing her dream means travelling for several days by boat to a residential school that everyone has warned her about. Seeing her determination cannot be quashed, her father reluctantly agrees to take her.

At the school, her hair is cut, she is forced to wear scratchy, ill-fitting clothing, forbidden from speaking her only language, and is singled out by both the school bully, Katherine and the cruelest nun, the Raven, all on the first day. Without her family, she must now face her fears alone in order to survive the next two years.

She endures hours of hard chores and humiliation with stoicism, but when the Raven makes her wear a bright red pair of stockings that earn her the nickname *Fatty Legs*, Margaret digs deep to draw on her own inner strength and take a stand.

What Margaret did with those stockings remained a secret for over sixty years, before she told her daughter-in-law, Christy who retells it in this rare story of triumph from the residential school era. Complimented with archival photographs and illustrations.



Thematic links:

Residential school

Inuit/ Inuvialuit/ First Nations/ Native Peoples

Arctic

Bullying

Courage/ bravery

Self-esteem

Activity Ideas:

- Contact the authors to set up a free Skype classroom visit with Margaret/ Olemaun (tworiverscowmama@yahoo.ca).
- Have the students talk about a time when they were bullied, how it made them feel, how they dealt with it, and what other things they could have done.
- Invite an elder to come and speak to the class (arrange through a local Friendship Centre or Reservation).

Hackmatack

2012

Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

authors of *Fatty Legs: A True Story*

I have lived a life fuelled by dreams. My early childhood in Alberta was a dream, where waking to find calves and lambs in the bathroom on early spring mornings, and receiving horses as birthday gifts were as common place as brandings, rodeos and cattle drives.



When I was seven, I moved with my mother and younger brother to an apartment in the city of Red Deer. I could never get used to the sounds of traffic and neighbors and I often retreated into my imagination to escape. I guess it's no surprise that I won my first writing contest that year and discovered that dreaming in class got you sent to the principal's office, but writing those dreams on paper earned you awards. When I wasn't writing I spent hours with children like Roald Dahl's James and Mordecai Richler's Jacob Two-Two who both overcame adversity through the use of their own wits. I also loved camping and dancing. I wanted to be an astronaut, because I loved the stars, an explorer, because I was adventurous, and a writer, because I liked nothing better.

I quickly discovered that I was not astronaut material and I listened to way too many grown-ups who didn't think writing was practical, so I opted to seek out adventure and became an infantry soldier, later attending a military university in Vermont. I also studied in Australia, taught wilderness survival in the United States, and worked with street children in South Africa. When I returned to Canada I even rode bare back broncs in the rodeo.

The dreams keep coming true and I hope that the books I write will encourage others to hold tight to their dreams and follow them wherever they may lead... even if the destination is the stars.

Margaret Pokiak-Fenton was born on the Baillie Islands in the Arctic Ocean, en route with her nomadic family to their winter hunting grounds on Banks Island where she spent her early years. Being Inuvialuit, her young childhood was filled with hunting trips by dogsled, and dangerous treks across the Arctic Ocean for supplies, in a schooner known as the North Star. At the age of eight, she travelled to Aklavik, a fur trading settlement founded by her great-grandfather, to attend the Catholic residential school there. Unlike most children, she begged to go to the school, despite the horrific reputation of residential schools, because she wanted nothing more than to learn how to read.



Margaret later settled in Tuktoyaktuk where her family had relocated. While working for the Hudson's Bay Company there, she met her future husband Lyle, who was employed on the Dew Line project. She followed him south to Fort St. John. Together they raised eight children.

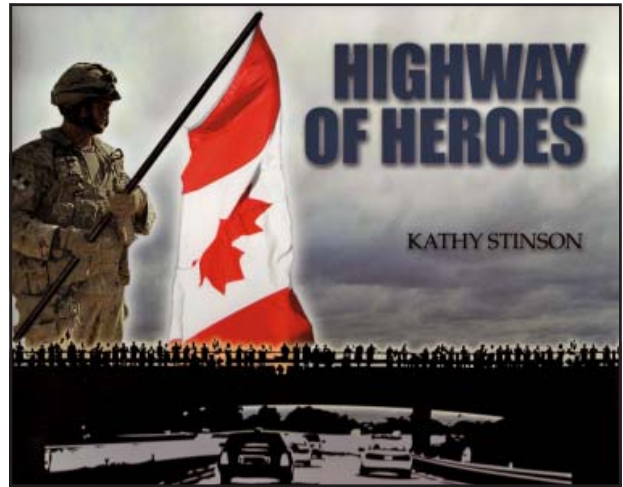
Margaret is well known for her traditional handmade Inuit crafts and has showcased them at the Northern Arts Festival many times. Most Saturdays she can be found at the local farmer's market in Fort St. John where she sells her beautifully beaded and adorned crafts and the best bread and bannock in the North Peace.

Hackmatack 2012

Highway of Heroes

by Kathy Stinson

Highway of Heroes is a photographic picture book about the remarkable way that Canadians have come to honour fallen soldiers from all over Canada along the stretch of Highway 401 known as the Highway of Heroes. It tells the fictional story of one boy's journey along the route after his dad has been killed in Afghanistan and the factual story behind the Highway of Heroes phenomenon.



Thematic Links:

Heroes
Making a Difference in the World
Canada
Canadian History
Remembrance Day

Activity Ideas:

A downloadable Teacher's Guide is available at <http://www.fitzhenry.ca/Download/guides/HighwayOfHeroesEducatorsGuide.pdf>

Hackmatack 2012

Kathy Stinson

author of *Highway of Heroes*

I sorted mail, taught school and waited tables before figuring out that what I really wanted to do was write. I've since written picture books, young adult novels, historical fiction, short stories, biography, and other non-fiction. I'm a mom, stepmom and grandmom living in a small town with my partner, Peter Carver and our dog, a cool dude named Keisha.



Selected Awards

A Pocket Can Have A Treasure In It.

National Parenting Publications Awards (NAPPA) Children's Products Honors Award

Red Is Best:

Toronto Chapter 1ODE Award

Some Other Books by Kathy Stinson

Marie-Claire, Penguin Canada, 2010

Love Every Leaf: The Life of Landscape Architect Cornelia Hahn Oberlander, Tundra Books, 2008

Writing Your Best Picture Book Ever, Pembroke Publishers, 1994

The Fabulous Ball Book, Oxford University Press, 1993

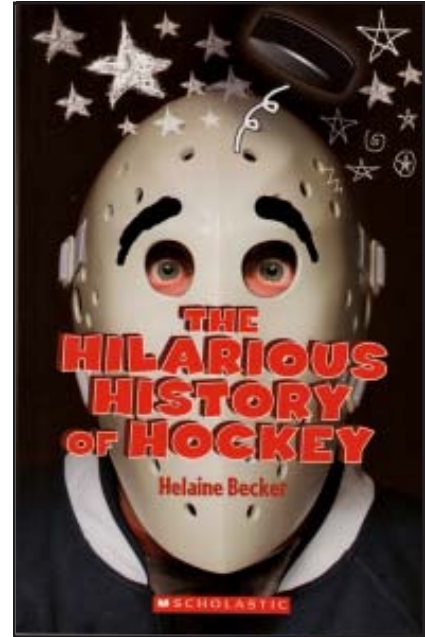
Writing Picture Books: What Works and What Doesn't, Pembroke Publishers, 1991

Hackmatack 2012

The Hilarious History of Hockey

by Helaine Becker

Hockey is Canada's favourite sport because it's so darn funny. If you don't agree, that's because you haven't read *The Hilarious History of Hockey* yet. Get the giggle-worthy goods on the great game and see for yourself just how side-splittingly silly (He shoots – he snores!!!!) hockey really is. Find out what the original six players used for sticks, skates and pucks (psst –frozen moo poo was involved.). Learn about the most outrageously lopsided games ever played. Join the Stanley Cup on its historic travels to igloos, race tracks, and the tippy top of a ferris wheel. Chock full of tongue-in-cheek trivia, comical quotations, nutty news reports and knee-slapping anecdotes from hockey's past, everything in this book is true true true – and hilarious too too too.



Thematic links:

History
Geography
Sport
Canada
Gender Equality
Racism
Olympics
Character Development

Activity Ideas:

- Choose your favourite funny story from the book and illustrate it as a comic. Who was the 'best' hockey player of all time? Choose your favourite and describe why.
- Design a new, funny version of the Stanley Cup, or a logo for your own hockey team.
- No joke - Girls have played hockey since the very earliest days. Put together a time line illustrating their involvement, beginning with Isobel Stanley and continuing right up through the 2010 Canadian Women's Olympic win.
- Get out there and play some hockey, of course!

Hackmatack 2012

Helaine Becker

author of *The Hilarious History of Hockey*

Helaine Becker is an award-winning writer of books for children. She has written over 40 books, including the best-selling [Looney Bay All-Stars series](#); popular non-fiction, including [Magic Up Your Sleeve](#), [Secret Agent Y.O.U.](#) and [Boredom Blasters](#); picture books and young adult novels.



She also writes for children's magazines and for kids television. She recently wrote and developed Dr. Greeny's Mad Lab, a segment on Planet Echo, an environmental science show airing on APTN, and is hard at work on several other TV projects.

Helaine is a popular presenter and performer at schools across Canada and the US. She was selected twice to tour for Canadian Children's Book Week. She went to Yukon in 2006 and Nunavut in 2008, and has presented at the Orange County (California) Children's Festival, the Festival of Women Writers, Frye Fest, Weaving Words, and other major venues.

Both an American and Canadian citizen, Ms. Becker attended high school in New York and graduated cum laude from Duke University in another century. She is married, with two sons, and is an active swimmer, runner, cyclist, and compulsive read-aholic. She has an orange belt in karate and is contemplating going for her grapefruit belt.

Helaine loves bright shiny colorful things, especially happy faces and flowers. She is crazy about fluffy dogs, coral reefs, ice cream and color-changing nailpolish.

Selected Awards

Silver Birch Award (2X winner, one time shortlist)
Red Cedar Award (nominated 4 x one time winner)
Hackmatack Award
Rocky Mountain Award
Information Book Award short list (2x)

Some Other Books by Helaine Becker

The Haunted House That Jack Built, Scholastic Canada, 2010
Magic Up Your Sleeve, Owlkids, 2010
The Quiz Book for Boys, Scholastic Canada, 2010
What's the Big Idea?, Owlkids, 2009

Hackmatack 2012

New Brunswick Kids Cook

by Marilyn Lohnes

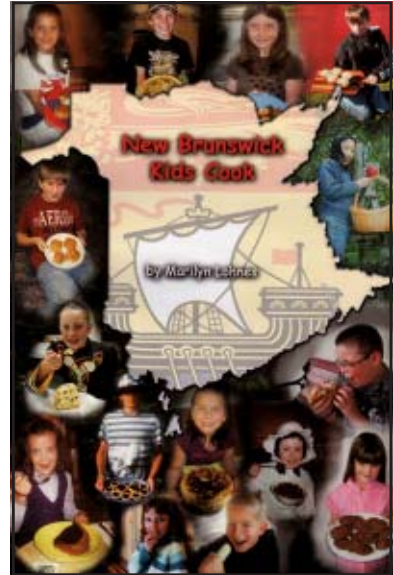
Yes, this book is a cookbook – but it’s so much more than that. In fact, if you don’t learn something new about New Brunswick, I’d be really, really surprised!

The book is about kids like you – kids who were excited to show off their New Brunswick. It’s kind of like having your very own tour of the province, only all you have to do is sit back and read about it.

At each of the 15 stops, the young hosts provide you with interesting facts about the area. Did you know, for example, that New Brunswick will soon have one of the largest cranberry bogs in North America? Maybe even the largest. Or, did you know that New Brunswick has a unique type of soil called Holmesville? There’s lots of really interesting stuff inside the book.

And yes, I’m sure you haven’t forgotten – it is a cookbook. Each chapter features 2 recipes that you can try at home. You can learn about some of our important food products, while eating your way through New Brunswick.

Enjoy!...and, of course, you are welcome to come back for seconds!



Thematic Links:

Math – metric conversions, fractions, math activities (included in activity guide)

History – Acadians, Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Loyalists

Geography – New Brunswick, Appalachians, Geographical exploration

Language – French, Gaelic, creative writing, language activities (included in activity guide)

Cooking

Activity Ideas:

A 76 page activity guide for this book is available for download at

www.marilynlohnes.com.

Hackmatack 2012

Marilyn Lohnes

author of *New Brunswick Kids Cook*

I've moved a lot of times in my life! By the time I made it to New Brunswick I was pretty sure it was where I wanted to settle down. I've been here 15 years now, and I hope I'll be here for a long, long time. That is, if New Brunswick decides to keep me!

I grew up loving both reading and writing. At 9, I had my own library, where I loaned out books to my friends – even stories I had written myself. In fact, one of my first stories won an award in grade 6. I started working in libraries when I was 10. No, I wasn't paid back then. I volunteered to help sort and shelve books at my school library. Why, you ask? So I could get the best books to read! 6 years and 4 moves later I had my first paying library job. I went on to university and became a professional librarian. I've been doing that for over 20 years now.



When I worked as a children's librarian, I started writing some really goofy puppet scripts, like Triceratops and the Saber-Tooth Bears, and they got published. Then I started writing other books that would help teachers and children's librarians. I still write silly puppet scripts that get published, but now I'm trying to write more and more about New Brunswick, so that kids can learn about this beautiful province.

Back then I helped bring other author to New Brunswick through the Canadian Children's Book Week, and the Hackmatack Program, so it's super special for me to now be one of the Hackmatack authors!

I live in Fredericton with my adventurous husband, Richard, and my very lazy cat, Nina. We (meaning Richard and I – not the cat) enjoy discovering new parts of the province by driving, hiking, and kayaking. Nina prefers to stay home and keep the couch warm for us. Oh yeah, and I like cooking too!

Selected Awards

BBKT pick *F is for Fiddlehead*

Some Other Books by Marilyn Lohnes

ABC Literacy Storytimes, Upstart Books, 2008

F is for Fiddlehead, Sleeping Bear Press, 2007

Storytime Puppet Zoo, Upstart Books, 2005

Fractured Fairy Tales: Puppet Plays and Patterns, Upstart Books, 2002

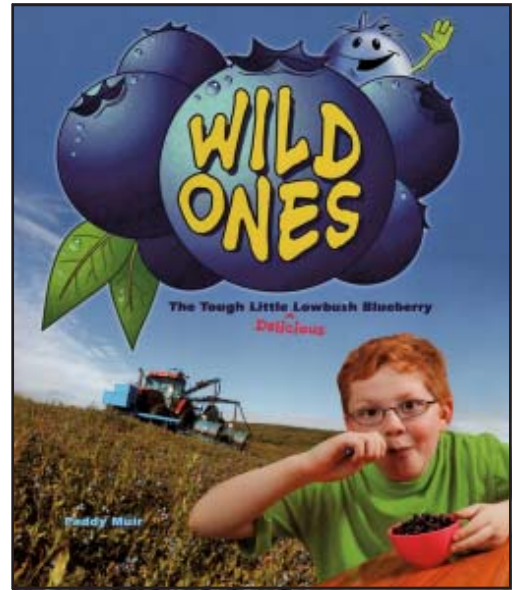
Finger Folk, Alleyside Press, 1999

Wild Ones: The Tough Little Delicious Lowbush Blueberry

by Paddy Muir

The little wild blueberry is an amazing plant. It was growing here in North America long before most humans and it has a colourful history. It has a mind of its own and takes orders from nobody! In Eastern Canada some growers have learned how to encourage the berry's growth and today the world is learning that it is not only tasty but also very good for us. The publisher and I hope

Wild Ones will inspire children to look at their food with interest and curiosity. Instead of just accepting that everything on our plates comes from the grocery store and often in a package, we can all ask questions. Where does it come from? How did it grow? How did it get to this table? Is it good for me? There's a story behind every meal and the little wild blueberry is a delicious place to start.



Thematic Links:

Natural history
Canadian history
First Nations traditions
Agriculture
Bees and pollination
Harvesting
Food processing
Nutrition
Exporting

Activity Ideas:

- The book contains two recipes for readers to make using wild blueberries and how-to instructions for drying fresh wild berries.
- There's a card for fun free song inside the back cover. Download it, listen, then sing along.
- Little wild blueberries are farmed in only a few parts of Canada but they grow in lots of other places too. Find out if they grow in your region. If they don't, see if you can find a fruit or vegetable that's special to where you live.

Hackmatack 2012

Paddy Muir

author of *Wild Ones: The Tough Little Delicious Lowbush Blueberry*



I can't remember a time when I didn't write. My mom says I was so delighted to learn how to spell my name that I celebrated by using her only lipstick to scribble it all over her dressing table. Fortunately, I soon learned how to channel my enthusiasm into stories using pencil and paper. I also loved to read and it was a huge treat was when the library van called at our village school in England. We didn't have a school library, just three bookshelves for all grades. I was often allowed to help the teacher choose the books that would fill those shelves for the year.

As an adult it took many years for me to discover that my love of writing could also be a paying job. I have been a freelance writer since 1989. This means I work at home, writing things like reports, articles, books and websites for companies and the government. I love discovering how things work. Freelance writers also meet lots of interesting people while doing their research. The internet has made research a lot easier but it's amazing how much stuff on the net is wrong! I have to check all my sources very carefully.

I live in Halifax with my husband and our adorable dog Freyja who came to us as a rescue. When I'm not writing or reading, I try to keep wild creatures from eating the vegetables and flowers in my garden. And I love to hike, sing and play the recorder—but not usually at the same time.

Selected Awards

Canadian Children's Book Centre Award

Another Book written by Paddy Muir

Love from Katie, Nimbus Publishing, 1991