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Do You Know?

Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

Hurray! October is here, and with it comes a month full of excitement and festivities! This edition is packed with fun and spooky surprises to make your Halloween extra special.

As the leaves change color and the air gets cooler, we have a lot to look forward to. From creative Halloween crafts and spooky stories to fun games and delicious recipes, there's something for everyone in this issue. Whether you're planning a costume party or just looking for some fun activities to do at home, we've got you covered.

We hope you enjoy this edition as much as we enjoyed putting it together. Don't forget to share your feedback and send us your stories, drawings, and Halloween costume photos. We love hearing from our creative readers!

Happy Diwali Happy Halloween

Dhruvin Dharmendra

Dhruvin Dharmendra



J.R.'s Biggest Fan Dr Sheila R. Thomas The Adventures Of SYD **Danielle Simone** Ry Ry and the Wonderful World of Why **Roland P Taylor** The Adventures of George **And Ruby Series** Sara Hansen Boo! **Erin Melody** Kiddie Canvas by KC 15 **Koraun Campblin** Mathéo And The Red Soldier **Alia Pierre-Louis** Maya's Birthday Wish Nikki McPhetridge **Birdie's Picnic Party** 25

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J.R.'s Biggest Fan is a story of a mother and son and the teaching of perseverance. In the story, the son tries many activities but is unsuccessful. His mom always encouraged him Never to Give Up! In the end, J.R. found something he could do well. This book also includes comprehension questions and activities.

www.raisingbrilliantblackboys.org www.drsheilathomas.com

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

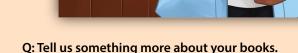
I am Dr. Sheila R. Thomas, an educational consultant, author, and trainer with over thirty years of experience in early childhood education. I am also a devoted wife, proud mother of three sons, loving grandmother, and dog mom—all of which bring joy, balance, and inspiration to my life. My work centers on empowering parents, educators, and children—particularly Black boys—through literacy, mentoring, and culturally responsive resources. Over the years, I have founded programs, written books, and designed trainings that provide families and educators with the tools they need to nurture children's social, emotional, and academic success. My personal and professional life are deeply connected, as the experiences I've had raising my sons and working with countless children have shaped the stories I tell and the resources I create. At the heart of everything I do is the belief that children deserve to see themselves positively represented in the stories they read and the spaces where they learn.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

My journey as a writer began in college, when I wrote a children's book as a class assignment. That task sparked my goal to become an author. As a teacher, I loved reading books aloud to the children in my classroom and to my sons at home, which deepened my appreciation for the power of stories. Over time, I realized how important it was for children to see themselves reflected in books, especially Black boys, who are too often underrepresented. This desire to create mirrors of their brilliance, courage, and potential became the foundation of my writing. The more I wrote, the more I envisioned stories that uplift families and inspire hope. What started as an assignment evolved into a lifelong calling to write books that change how children perceive themselves and the world.

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

I wrote J.R.'s Biggest Fan in 2020, the year I retired from teaching and when the world shut down because of COVID. That season of transition gave me the space and clarity to bring my story to life. The book was published, marking the first step in my journey as a children's author. J.R.'s Biggest Fan reflects perseverance and encouragement, inspired by the love between a mother and her son. Since its release, it has resonated deeply with families, educators, and children, reminding them to never give up on their dreams.



My books are written to inspire perseverance for both children and adults. They are designed to show children that they are capable of greatness and to remind adults that their encouragement and support can transform a child's future. J.R.'s Biggest Fan highlights the unwavering support of a mother who pushes her child never to give up. Mommy's Little SONshine and Yes, I Can are about affirmations and positive self-belief, encouraging children to recognize their strengths. I also wrote Raising Brilliant Black Boys, which is both a book and a set of affirmation cards, offering parents and educators tools to support boys' academic, emotional, and social success. Each of my works carries a message of resilience, love, and empowerment, reflecting both my family life and my career as an educator.

Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

These stories and characters didn't just come to my mind, they were born from my personal journey as a mother, grandmother, and educator. Raising three sons gave me a unique insight into the challenges and triumphs of raising Black boys in today's world. I drew from those experiences to create characters who embody the strength, determination, and hope I saw in my own children. My work in the classroom showed me the transformative power of culturally responsive stories and how children light up when they see themselves reflected in books. Every child deserves that moment of recognition and pride. These lived experiences, combined with my professional calling, inspired me to create stories that uplift, affirm, and inspire.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

Yes, my message to readers is to always believe in your brilliance and never underestimate the transformative power of reading. Books are not just stories; they are doorways to confidence, imagination, and opportunity. For children, reading builds a foundation that will carry them throughout their education and life. For parents and educators, reading with children creates bonds and builds trust that goes beyond the pages. Keep reading, keep affirming, and keep building futures filled with perseverance, joy, and success.

Dr. Thomas also has a YouTube channel for children ages 3-10 where she brings stories to life, builds confidence, and sparks imagination.

https://youtube.com/@tectkids?si=SylvVeezwAqnRQwJ





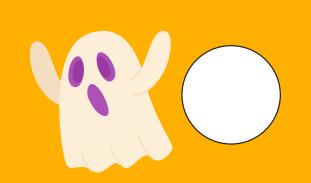
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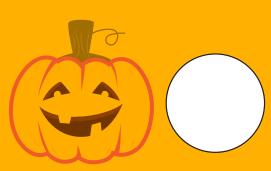
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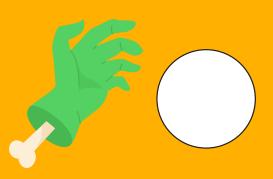
Hallowen T Spy



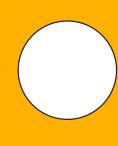






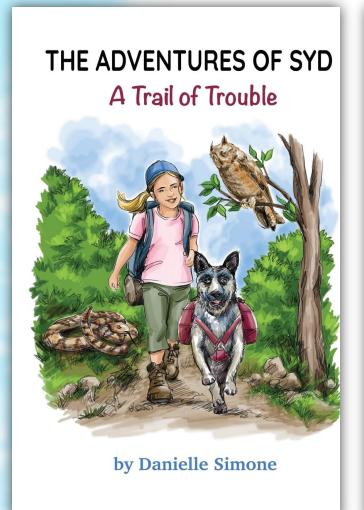


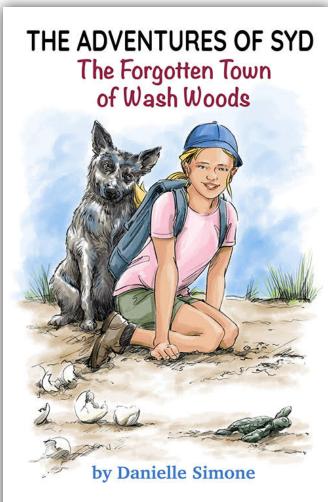




Author Interview

THE ADVENTURES OF SYD Lost In Bone Cave







Q: First tell us something about yourself.

I have been an Early Childhood Educator for over 30 years. A nana of 6, we have the most spoiled bougie blue heeler, Lucy!

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

In high school, I was the editor of the high school newspaper, The Witherwane, wrote for the yearbook, and dabbled in creative writing. In my 20's I took up adventure sports, and started writing about these as a freelancer for magazines to help cover trip costs. I attended one workshop hosted by children's author Amy Timberlake, and took a stab at a middle grade book. Thirty years later, with a new perspective on wanting to share my adventures with my grandchildren, I'm back with a middle grade series!

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

I wrote the first book in the series, A Trail of Trouble, in January 2024. Yes, it's published with Creative Mind Publications, and was released in October 2024. One fun note--it's not the book I sent the publisher (which was the book I wrote 30 years ago). She liked the book, but wasn't set on the story. Not that's the re-written version of The Forgotten Town of Washwoods.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

My books are set in real places that families can go and explore! They are designed to not only make children good stewards of our environment, but to help them understand the harmful impacts we are having on our environment (like global warming). The fictional stories are based on fact and impart a lot of knowledge, but the story captivates the reader and keeps them engaged.

Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

My books are based on adventures that I took in my younger years, and the things that transpired on these trips (like sitting in stinging nettle--no fun!). To bring these stories to life though, I needed to merge my current life--enter Lucy, otherwise known as Goose in our stories. She was what was missing from my very first book and I didn't even know it.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

There is an amazing world waiting outside for you to go explore, and it needs our help. We are dependent on our young readers, the next generation, to take up the task of caring for this awesome world we have been given.



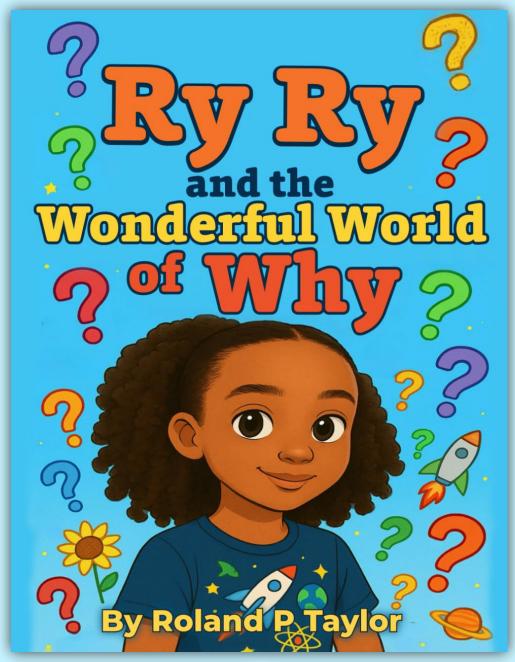


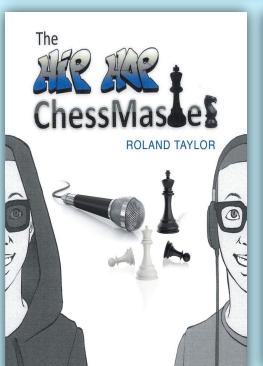
Halloween, Shadow Match

Find And Match The Correct Shadow Ob The Pumpkins



1 KIDLIOMAG







RURU and the Wonderful World of Why

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

My name is Roland Taylor and I, among other things, am a Children's Book Author. I have 3 books with a 4th on the way. I am a father and husband and for 3 of my books my children have been the inspiration for the stories.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

I've always been a writer. But my journey into publishing my books began about 10-12 years ago.

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

My first book is The Hip Hop Chessmaster and yes, it is published. This was about 10-12 years ago.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

The name of my book company is TaylorMadeBookCreations- Where we empower minds. And that is the motivation or our mantra. Empowering minds and motivating children to seek their dreams and aspirations. To be bold and unapologetic about their passions and things that they are interested in.

available at

amazon

Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

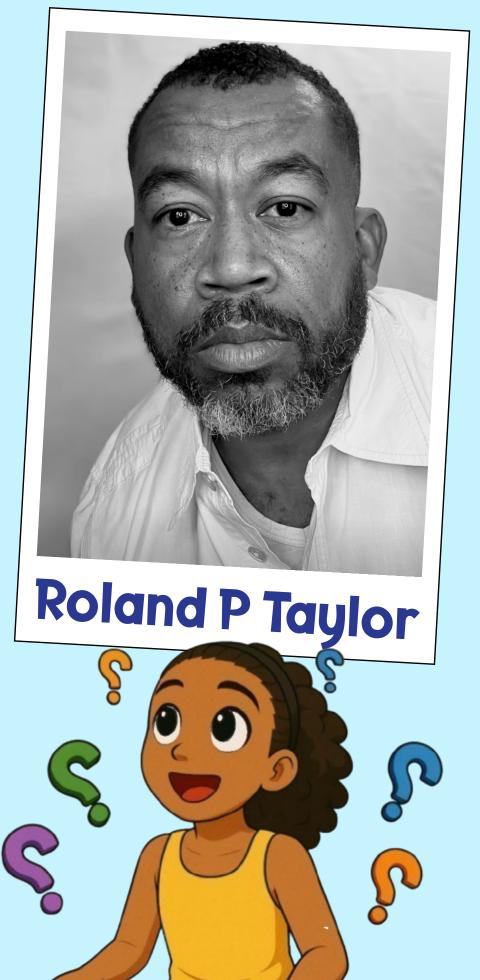
My children motivate me and they are my main characters.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

My purpose for writing is to encourage and to teach. As well as entertain. I didn't come up with this phrase, but it is a melding of entertainment and education...or, Edutainment. I want kids everywhere who read my books to walk away motivated to be the best versions of themselves. And to always be proud of who they are and what they are passionate about.

www.taylormadebookcreations.com









Sara Hansen

Q: First tell us something about yourself.

A: I live in lowa with my husband and our two lovable pups, George and Ruby, who inspired The Adventures of George and Ruby book series. I am a mom, a grandma, and a lifelong animal lover.

Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

A: I have always loved to write. I have mostly done business writing for my "real job" but have always journaled and been an avid reader since I was a child. I love children's books and enjoy reading out loud. One of my favorite things from raising my kids and now with my grandkids, is reading stories to them. Writing a children's book wasn't on my radar until I got these two puppies and began to notice just how much dogs and children share. Raising two puppies reminded me of my own children when they were little and how they had to learn everything, just like puppies do.

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

A: I wrote the first story in The Adventures of George and Ruby series in the fall of 2024. I loved how it turned out and enjoyed the creative writing process a lot. After testing the story with elementary age students, their positive response motivated me to keep going! The kids wanted to learn more about George and Ruby. These pups have the unique ability to connect with kids both in person and on the pages of a children's storybook. I had many other experiences with the puppies to share, so I kept writing. The books are now published - I launched the 5-book series and my website on July 1, 2025!

www.theadventuresofgeorgeandruby.com

The Adventures of George and Ruby

George and Ruby discover that everyone experiences the world in different ways - and that's perfectly okay! This story helps children understand their own sensory needs and encourages them to speak up for what helps them feel comfortable. Through empathy, friendship, and self-awareness, young readers learn the power of self-advocacy and respecting differences. SEL Themes: Self-Awareness, Communication Skills, Self-Advocacy.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

A: The book series combines two things kids love: animals and storytelling. Each book uses real life puppy training moments as mirrors for emotional growth, helping kids recognize and talk about their feelings in a fun, accessible way. The 5-book series aligns with social and emotional learning (SEL) concepts. The stories support kids in a variety of settings - the classroom, at home, or the counselor's office. Teachers need SEL lessons, parents need conversation starters, and counselors need child-friendly tools. There are coordinating educator companion guides and other materials to go along with the book series to help with learning and achievement in SEL concepts. There is also a line of fun character merchandise! You can check out the books and products at www.theadventuresofgeorge-andruby.com.

Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

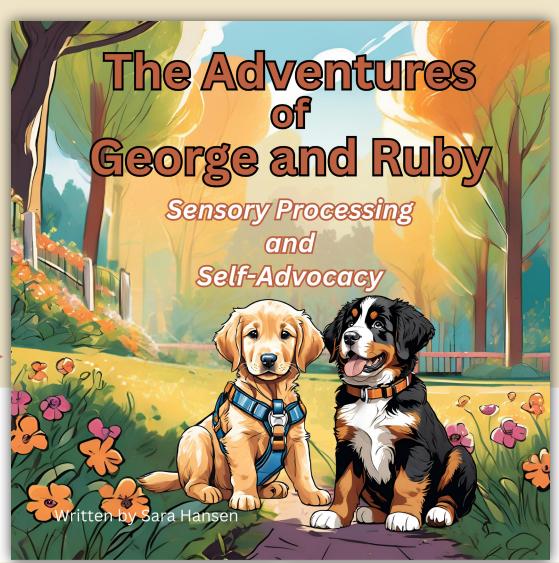
A: From day one, George and Ruby have made people smile. What began as fun social media posts (George and Ruby have a TikTok page), turned into stories children love. Through the ups and downs of puppy parenting, I realized just how much dogs and children share - especially when it comes to managing big feelings. This sparked the idea for the book series, which blends the joys of puppy adventures with the power of social-emotional learning.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

A: I hope these stories will bring joy to your home, classroom, or counseling office... and that you and the children in your life will grow right alongside George and Ruby.

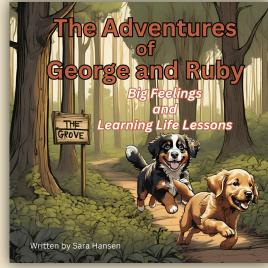
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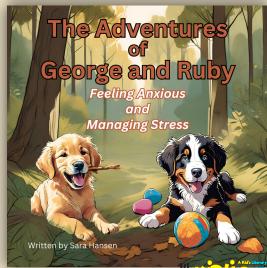




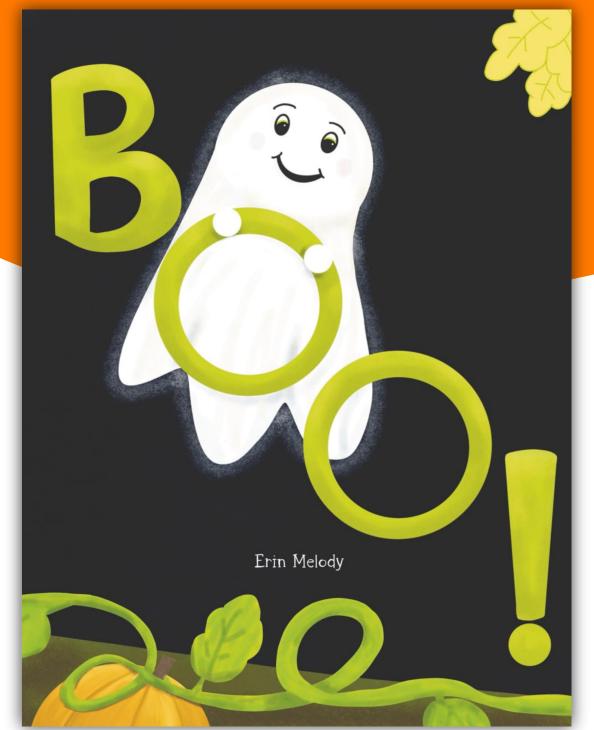












Q: First tell us something about yourself.

Hi! I'm Erin Melody—an author, educator, illustrator, and musician. Writing Boo! allowed me to bring all of my passions together—art, literacy, and music—into the fulfillment of a lifelong dream of becoming an author and illustrator. Boo! is my debut release, and the first of many stories I hope to share that blend heartwarming characters with musical concepts and themes of courage. Beyond writing, I also create products for teachers and families that celebrate learning, spark imagination, and bring a touch of joy to everyday life.



Q: How and when did your journey start as a writer?

My father was always a wonderful storyteller, and some of my favorite memories are of family dinners filled with his tales that had us all roaring with laughter. Growing up in a home where stories were told, silly songs were sung, and art was present left a lasting imprint on me. From a young age, I loved creating art and filling journals with stories of my own. I always dreamed of becoming a published author, and I'm thrilled that dream has come true with the release of my first book.

Q: When did you write your first story? Is it published or not?

I've been writing stories since I was young and still have notebooks filled with ideas and early drafts. Boo! is the first story I carried all the way through—from a simple idea and sketch to a fully illustrated, published book.

Q: Tell us something more about your books.

My stories are written to spark imagination while gently teaching life lessons. Boo! is playful and musical—it introduces children to bravery while weaving in simple music concepts. I want my books to be both entertaining and meaningful, something children can enjoy while parents and teachers feel good about sharing.

Q: How did these stories and characters come to your mind?

My story Boo! and the character Ivory were first inspired by a Halloween blow-up decoration we had—a cute little ghost that my kids affectionately named Spookly (long before there was another famous Spookley). It's a reminder that sometimes the simplest things you love can spark the best stories.

Q: Do you want to leave any message for your readers?

Yes! I want children, parents, and teachers to know that stories have the power to bring joy, courage, and connection. My hope is that readers feel inspired to be themselves, to embrace creativity, and to remember that learning can be magical. And to all the young readers out there—I hope you never stop singing, imagining, and dreaming big.







New Release

Birdie's Picnic Party

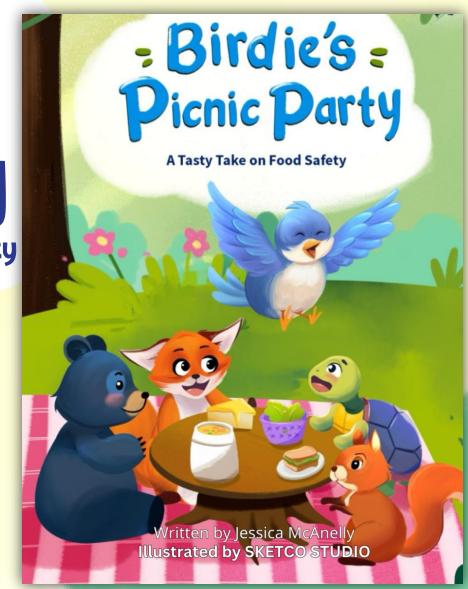
A Tasty Take on Food Safety

Join Birdie the bluebird and her adorable animal friends as they plan the perfect picnic—filled with fun, friendship, and food safety smarts! In Birdie's Picnic Party: A Tasty Take on Food Safety, young readers will follow along as Birdie leads her woodland crew through every step of picnic prep—washing paws and wings, keeping cold foods cold, and learning how to handle food the safe way.

www.jessicanicolemcanellybooks.com

available at

amazon





Jessica McAnelly is a dedicated health professional with a lifelong passion for educating others on the importance of food safety. A Registered Sanitarian and Dietitian with over 30 years of experience in the food safety and public health field. Her leadership roles include serving as President, Vice President and Governing Council member of the Central Texas Environmental Health Association. She is a sustaining member of the Junior League of San Antonio, a current member of the San Antonio Gardenia Club, a board member of the Comal Education Foundation and has held numerous leadership roles on PTAs and non profit boards throughout Comal and Bexar counties.

Match words with the correct pictures



Rabbit



Duck



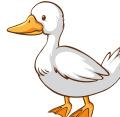
Bear



Frog

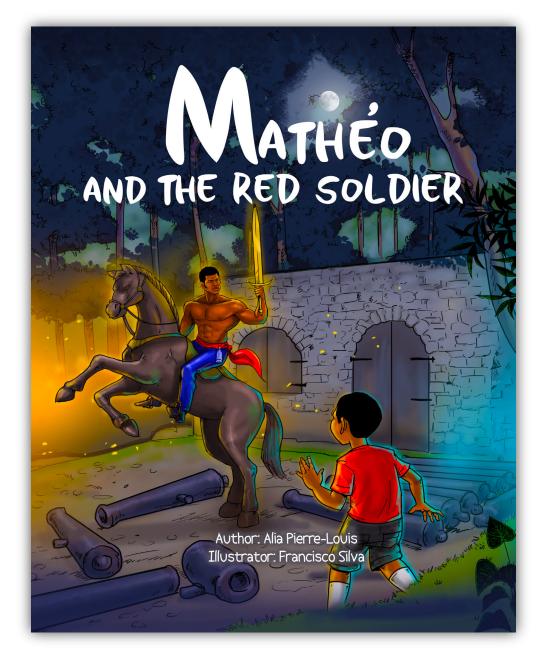


Hen



Deer





Mathéo and the Red Soldier

When danger strikes Fort-Jacques, a young hero rises. Matheo returns to Port-au-Prince after his magical encounter with Marie-Claire, the mermaid of Grand'Anse. But the peace is soon disturbed by a series of robberies in his neighborhood, forcing Mathéo to take action.

With the help of his loyal friends and the unexpected guidance of Dife, the legendary Red Soldier, Mathéo assembles a courageous team determined to protect their community. Through nighttime surveillance, bold strategies, and lessons learned from the past, the children discover that the true power of change lies in teamwork, courage, and hope.

Join Team Dife in this thrilling new adventure, filled with Haitian pride, magical dreams, and the strength of young voices ready to make a difference.





Alia Pierre-Louis

Q. Tell us something about yourself.

I'm Alia Pierre-Louis, an elementary education student and children's author. I live in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, where I proudly grew up. I recently became a mom to a lovely daughter whom I named Athena. My favorite is green, and I enjoy being alive.

Q. What inspired you to write your second children's book, and how does it differ from your first?

Haiti inspired me. When it comes to my writing, it usually does. I wanted to give kids a story where they see that change is possible if we put ourselves together to stand for what is right. My first book leaned more on folklore, while Mathéo and the Red Soldier's offers adventure, history, and resilience with a nice touch of magic through a dream.

Q. How do you think your experience from your first book has influenced your writing style or approach to storytelling?

Honestly, I always wanted to write, and my first book simply confirmed this. I like to be raw and authentic. Therefore, I approach my stories with vulnerability, and this helps me connect to how children see stories—what excites them and holds their attention, and what helps them learn. I also observe the daily lives of my nieces and nephews, who play the characters in my stories. It is all about blending truth with imagination.

Q. What's the most important lesson you've learned as a children's book author, and how has it shaped your writing?

That stories should empower as much as they entertain. Children should live their making a difference instead of being told they can. I focus on creating storylines with lessons that make kids feel seen, valued, and inspired.

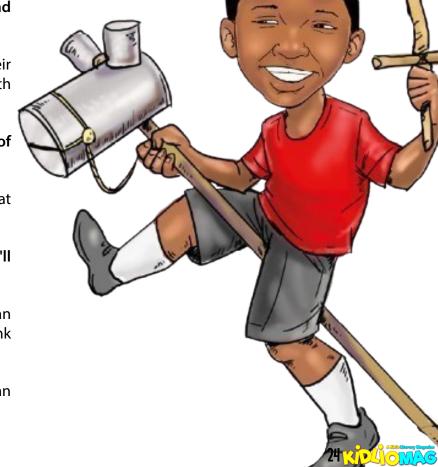
Q. How do you balance writing for children with the needs and expectations of parents, educators, and other adult readers?

I layer the stories—fun and adventure for kids, but also deeper values and culture that adults appreciate. That way, everyone finds something meaningful.

Q. How do you see your books impacting young readers, and what do you hope they'll take away from your stories?

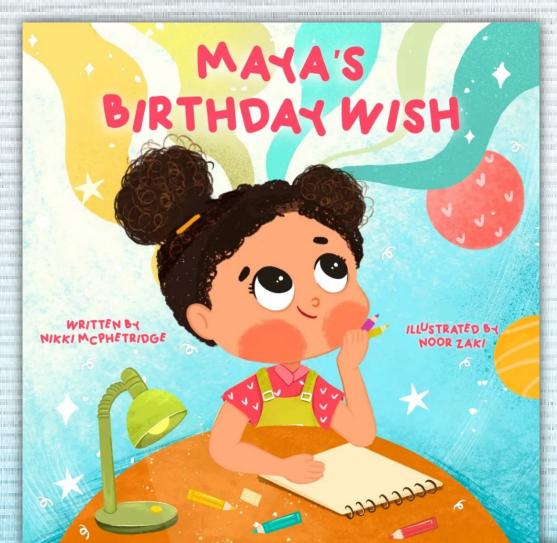
I hope they feel proud of their culture, brave in their choices, and confident that they can be heroes in their own lives. And, for them to see beauty and the divine in diversity. Thank you so very much for allowing me to speak about my work.

A special thank you to my editor, Justine from VivLiv Books, for allowing the Haitian culture to shine. Many blessings to you and Viv Ayiti!





MAYAS BIRTHDAY WISH



Maya is excited to celebrate her birthday! She has to decide what her special birthday wish is going to be. Could it be endless candy, flying unicorns, or something completely different? Maya sets off on a whimsical journey through her imagination, discovering that the best wishes come from the heart.



Nikki McPhetridge

Nikki McPhetridge is a first-time author, storyteller, and creator of Maya's Storyland- a whimsical world where imagination leads the way. As a mother, dreamer, and believer in the power of play, Nikki brings heartfelt stories to life that celebrate curiosity, kindness, and adventure.

"Maya's Birthday Wish" is the beginning of her literary journey and she is excited to share it with you!

www.mayastoryland.com amazon



Activity

Party Mess!

FIND OUT 8 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO SCENES.







Halloween Words Scramble

*

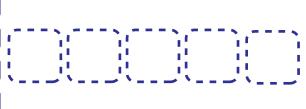
Look At The Pictures And Arrange The Words Carefully.



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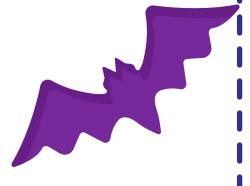


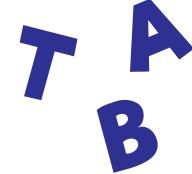
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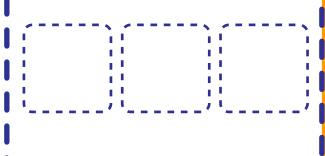




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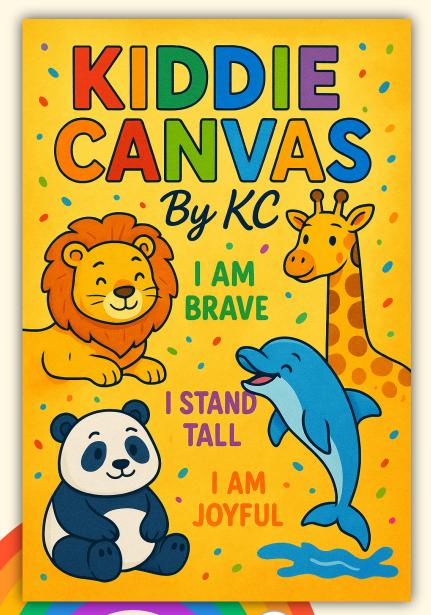






5 O 7 4 G

New Release¹



KIDDIE CANVAS

Kiddie Canvas by KC is an affirmation-based 3-in-1 activity book series created by a mother–son team, Elodie and Koraun. Each page is designed to inspire kids with positive affirmations, build literacy through fun writing practice, and spark creativity with coloring activities.

More than just a coloring book, Kiddie Canvas by KC encourages children to believe in themselves, explore their imagination, and enjoy meaningful screen-free time. It's a playful, confidence-building resource that kids and parents can enjoy together.

available at

amazon

Koraun Campblin

Elodie Romulus

Elodie Romulus and her son, Koraun Campblin, are the mother–son duo behind Kiddie Canvas by KC. What began as a fun idea between mom and son grew into a children's affirmation 3-in-1 activity book series that helps kids build confidence, practice literacy, and express their creativity. Together, they combine positive affirmations, writing practice, and coloring activities to create books that encourage screen-free fun and empower young minds. Their mission is simple: to spread positivity and inspire families to believe in themselves, one page at a time.



Affirmations

















The Kickboxing Bear Cub The Special Meeting

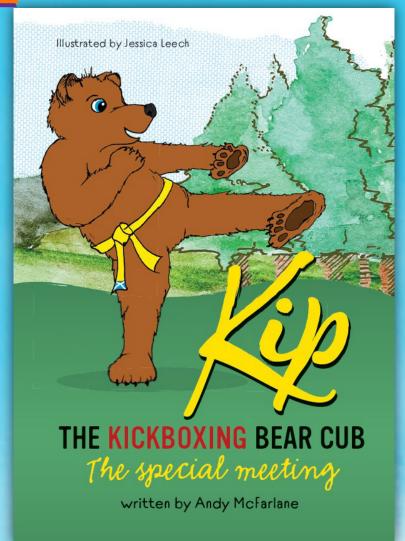
Kip is a bear cub that lives in the Highlands of Scotland but he's no ordinary bear cub. He is a kickboxing bear cub, training in martial arts for several years.

Through a range of characteristics, based on values taught to him through his martial arts training; Courtesy, Integrity, Self Control, Perseverance, Indomitable Spirit, Kip uses lessons that he's learned to help his friends and other bears be the best version of themselves.

The 'Kip the Bear Cub' children's picture book series offers a fun and exciting array of adventures that takes readers on a journey across continents from the Highlands of Scotland to the Polar Ice Caps of the Arctic, addressing topics that are an important part of children's learning and development such as inclusivity, sharing, resilience, sustainability and diversity.

available at

amazon







SHADOW BEARS

Match The Correct Shadows



















Andy McFarlane

Born and raised in Scotland, I am relatively new to the writing scene, with 'Kip the Kickboxing Bear Cub' being my debut book / series.

I don't have much of a writing or arts background, being a Chartered Civil Engineer and former Army Reservist, having served in the Parachute Regiment and latterly Royal Engineers over a successful career.

I do have a passion for martial arts; training and competing (briefly) in karate as a young kid, taking up amateur boxing in my late teens and twenties and over the last decade being involved in kickboxing, competing at international level - being a 3 x Kickboxing Tatami World Champion and holding a 2nd degree black belt

As part of my martial arts journey I enjoy coaching and developing others in the sport and hope to inspire more people across all age groups to live active and healthy lives through the promotion of martial arts in the book series.

Much of the experiences and lessons gained from my military and sports background have helped shape Kip and his adventures drawing out characteristics such as courage, discipline, resilience and problem solving; to name a few.

As a person I am dedicated father and husband, enjoying a lot of time travelling and spending time in the outdoors; kayaking, running, hiking and cycling – much of where his inspiration for writing comes from.



Bone Weigh

Match The Correct Missing Bones Of These Skeletons.

















DO JON KNOW ?

THE AUTUMN SEASON GOES BY THREE DIFFERENT NAMES: FALL, AUTUMN, AND HARVEST

AUTUMN IS SOMETIMES CALLED HARVEST OR HARVEST SEASON BECAUSE FARMERSARE HARVESTING THE FIELDS.

Americans Call Autumn Fall Because Of The **Leaves Falling From Trees**

There Is Less **Sunlight During**

Autumn. So Days Are Shorter **And Nights Are Longer.**

People Who **Live Near The Equator Don't** Have An Autumn Season

Scarecrows Have Been **Used ForThousands Of Years** To Protect Crops.



WHAT SONG DO VAMPIRES HATE? You Are Ly Sunshine How did the zombie become great a trick or treating?

WHERE DO FASHIONABLE GHOSTS SHOP? BOOTIQUES

Where do holidays? Boohamas

WHY DIDNT THE GHOST DANCE AT THE PARTY HE DIDN'T HAVE ANY BODY TO DANCE

38 KIP LINE CHARGE THE CONTRACT OF THE CONTRAC

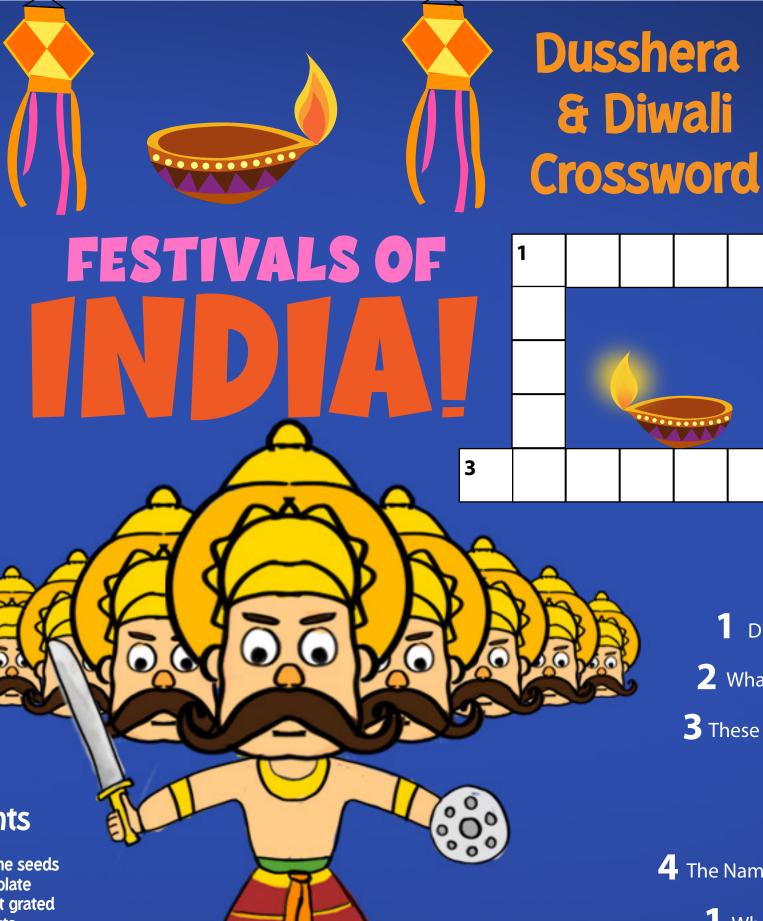
CHOCOLATE PEANUT LADO RECIPE

- 1. Take 1 thsp of ghee in a pan and roast the peanut on low flame for a few minutes.
- 2. Now take another pan and heat the remaining ghee and sesame seeds until the rawness is removed on low flame.
- 3. Now mix the crushed peanuts and grind sesame seeds paste and mix well keeping on low flame.
- 4. Now add the CHOCOLATE to it and mix well.
- 5. Then add half of the jaggery and mix.
- 6. Now add cardamom powder and mix well. Keep on low flame for a few minutes and off the stove.
- 7. Take the mixture out of the stove and let it cool for some time.
- 8. Now take some dough into your hand and put some chocolate and make it in the form of a ladoo.
- 11. Mix the sesame seeds into **COCONU**t powder.
- 12. Now roll the ladoo in this mixture and coat it.

13. Do the same with remaining dough and serve them. Enjoy!

Ingredients

3/4 cup white sesame seeds
1 cup Dark Chocolate
1/2 cup dry coconut grated
1/4 cup peanuts
1 cup jaggery
4 tbsp ghee



Across

- Diwali is festival of _____.
- 2 What Is Lit To Decorate Houses?
- 3 These Are Burst To Celebrate Diwali.

Down

- 4 The Name Of The Evil 10 Headed Demon.
 - What is Hindu Goddess called?
- Which Festival Celebrates The Victory Of Rama Over Ravan(Good Over Evil)



Creative Corner

