

Research, Documentation, & Collaboration

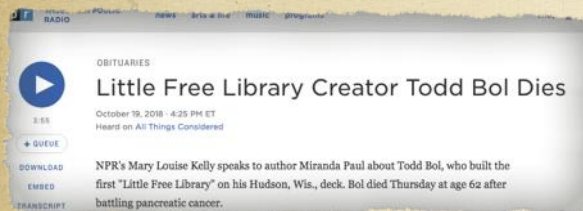
By Miranda Paul

- 2 Almost ALL trade picture books are sold off of a completed draft, not an idea or proposal—especially if you're a debut or new to that publisher.
- 2 Middle grade, YA, work-for-hire/IP, and other licensed nonfiction or informational fiction usually are assigned or sold off of a proposal + a sample. Recommendation: Write enough of it before submitting/selling to ensure you CAN actually write it, know where to find enough research out there, and have a vision for the whole thing.
- 2 Most of the research requirements, including costs, (for trade books) will fall on the author. You should not expect your editor to be an expert on the subject matter.

What kind of research?

Primary Sources

Eyewitness accounts (or as close to an original source as possible).



Secondary Sources

Interpretations or analyses of primary sources.

Tertiary Sources

Distillations of secondary/primary sources, used to locate facts or basic info.

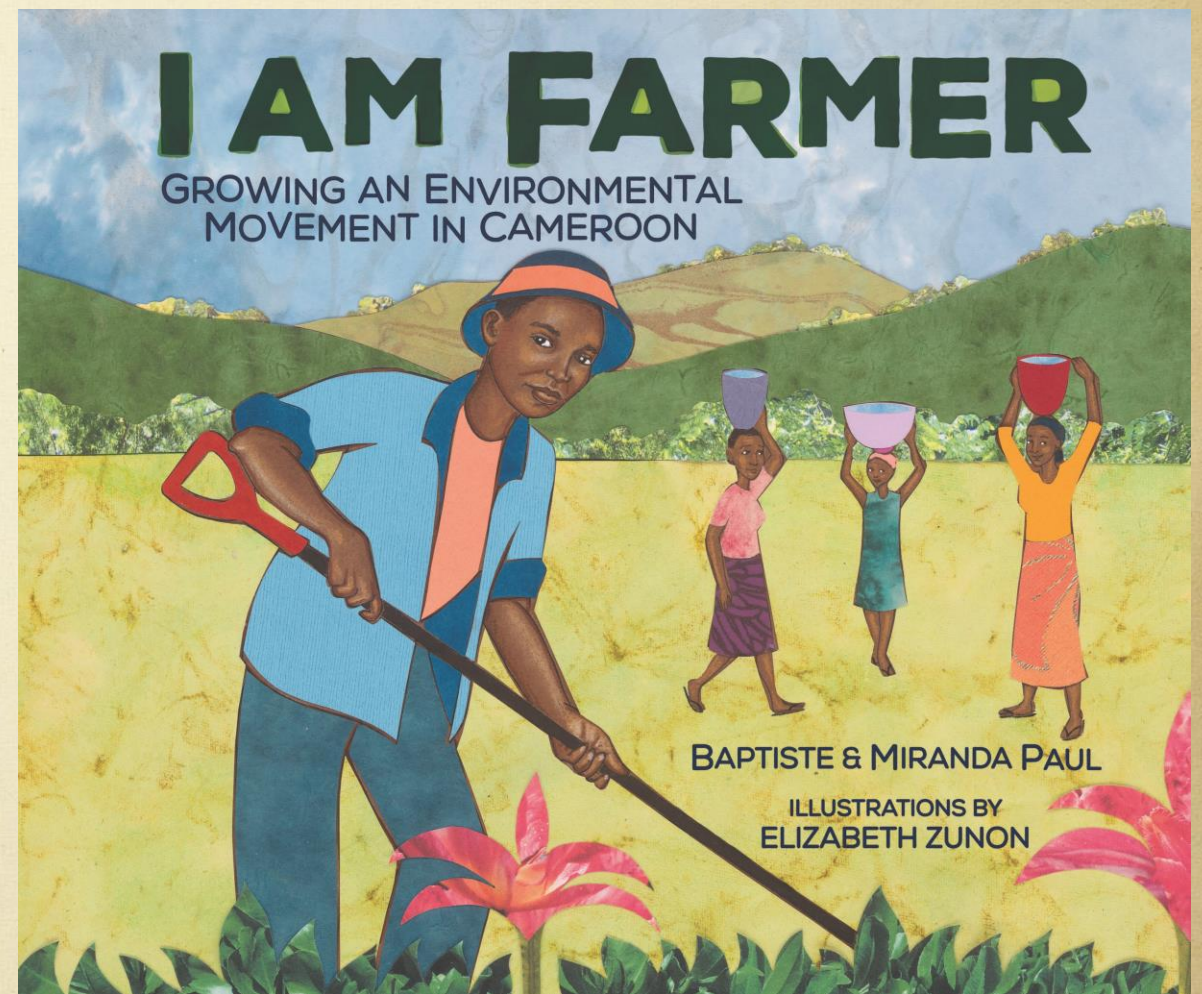
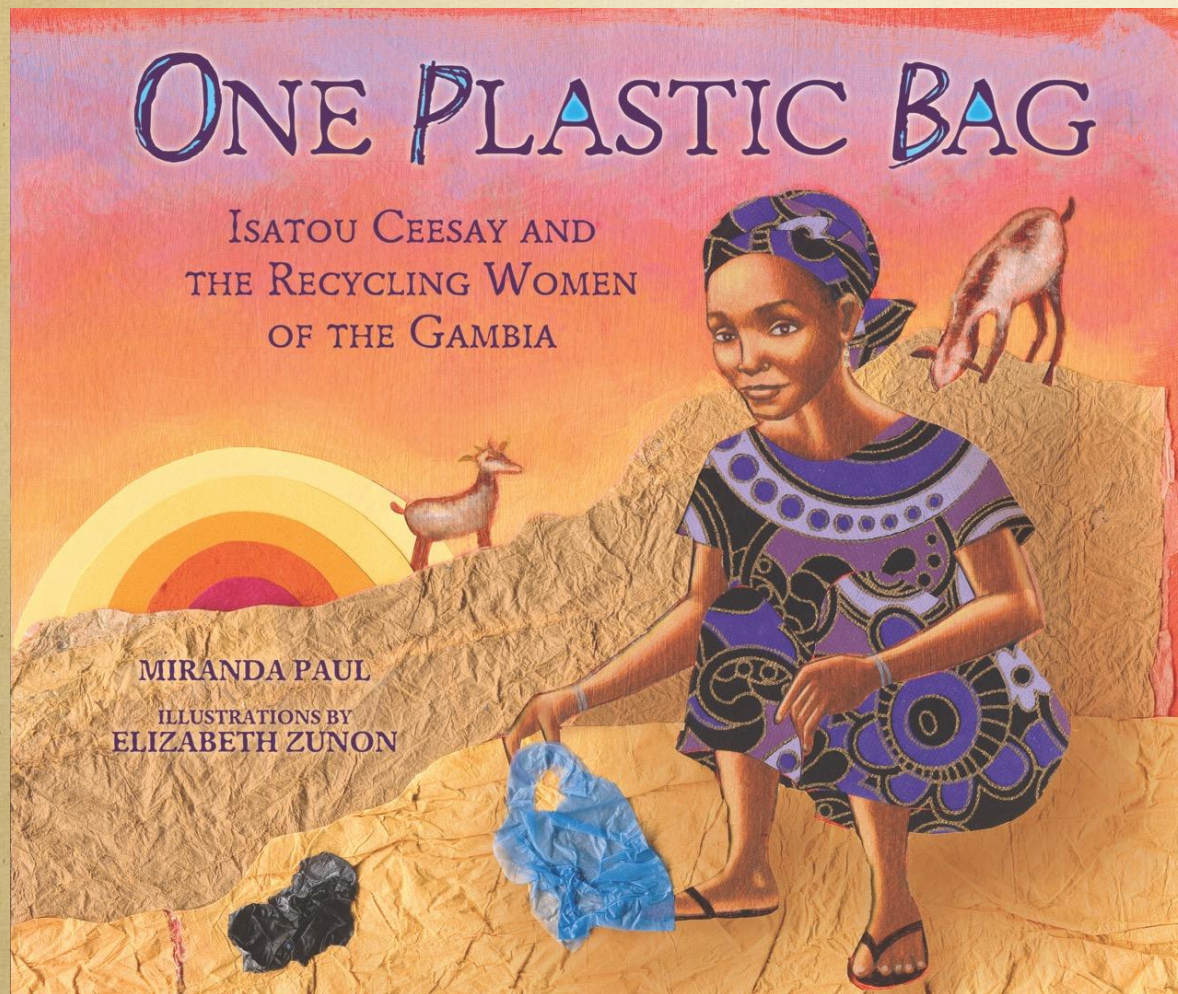


Here are two more detailed outlines:

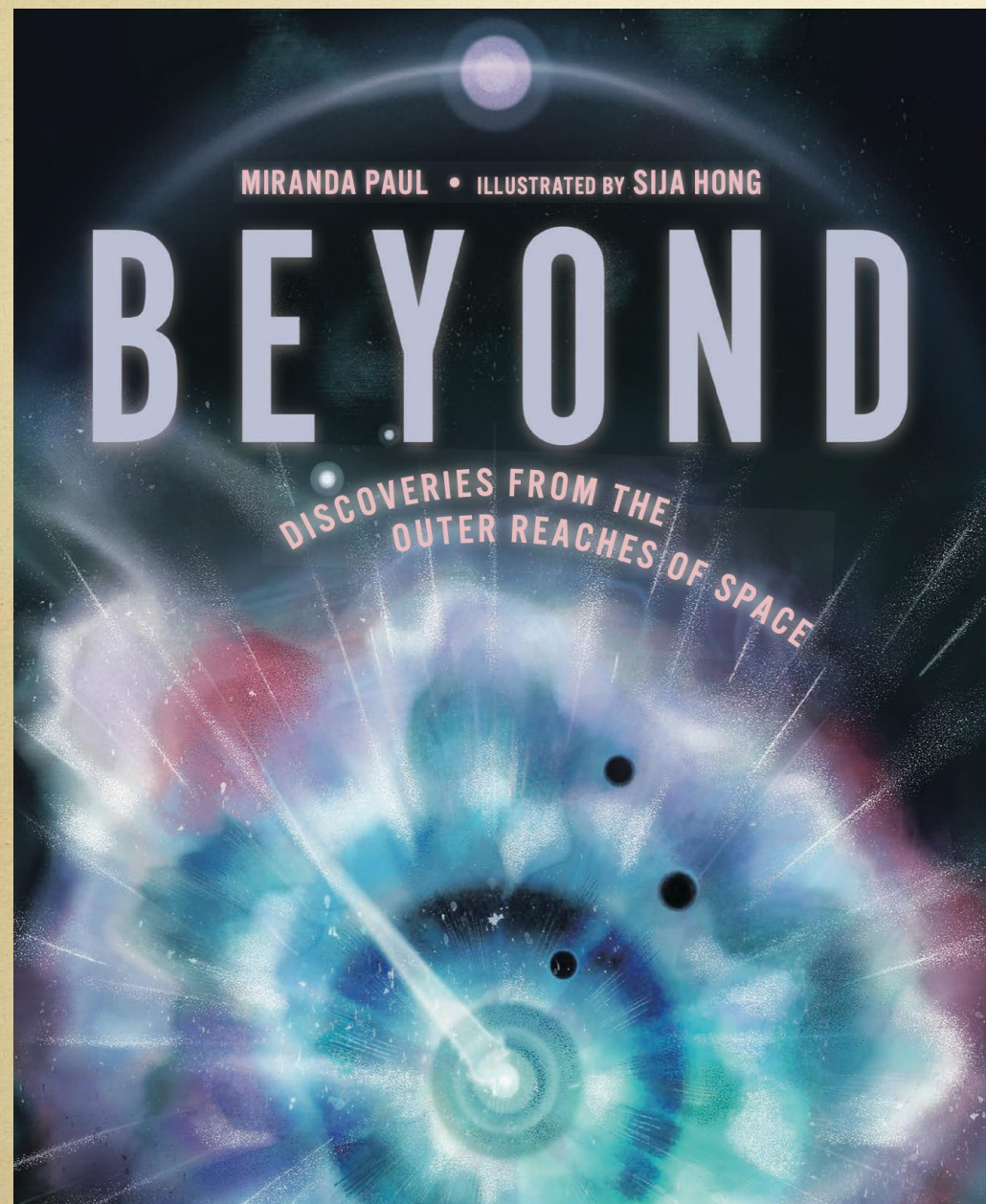
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<https://subjectguides.library.american.edu/primary>

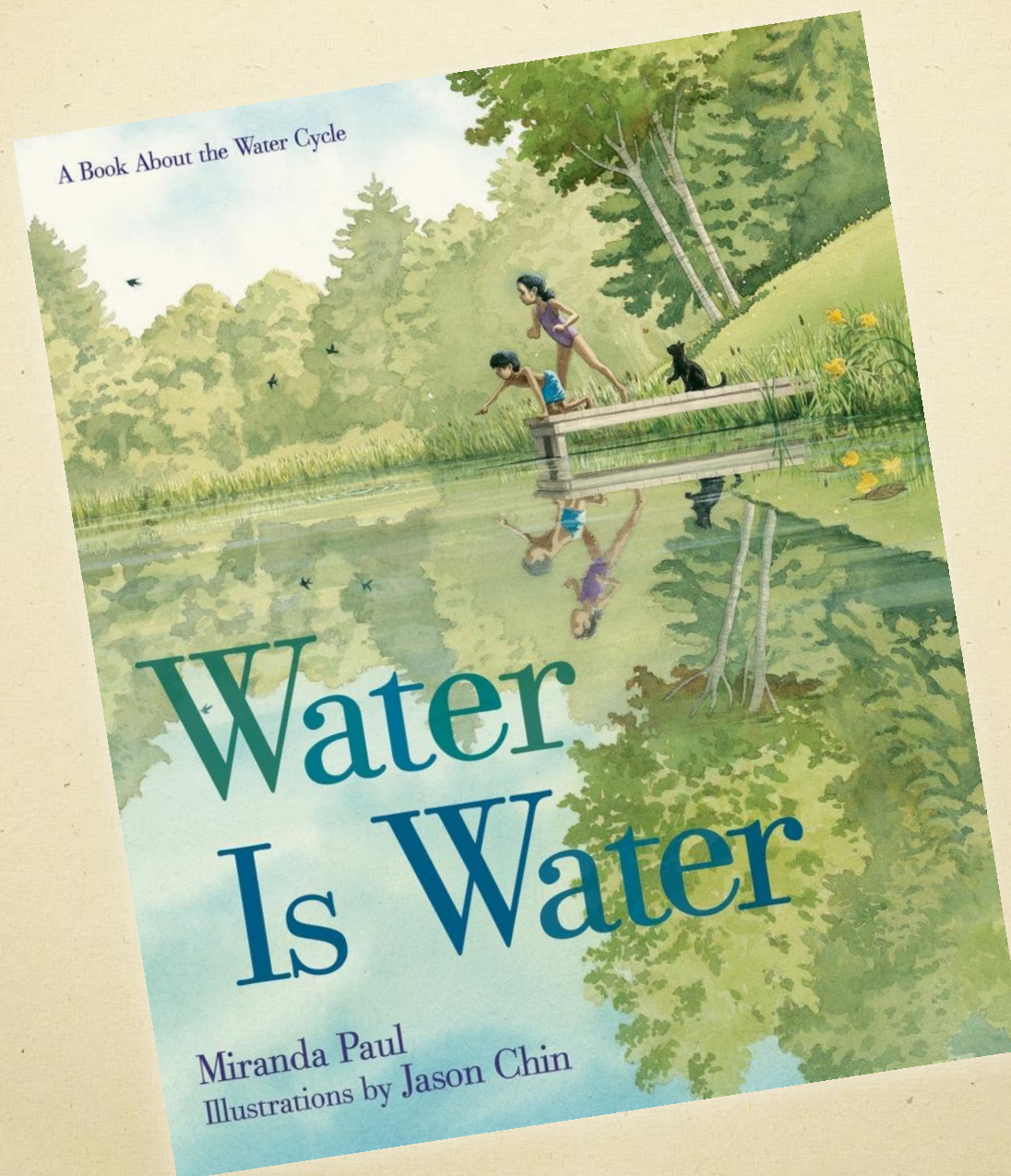
Primary Research



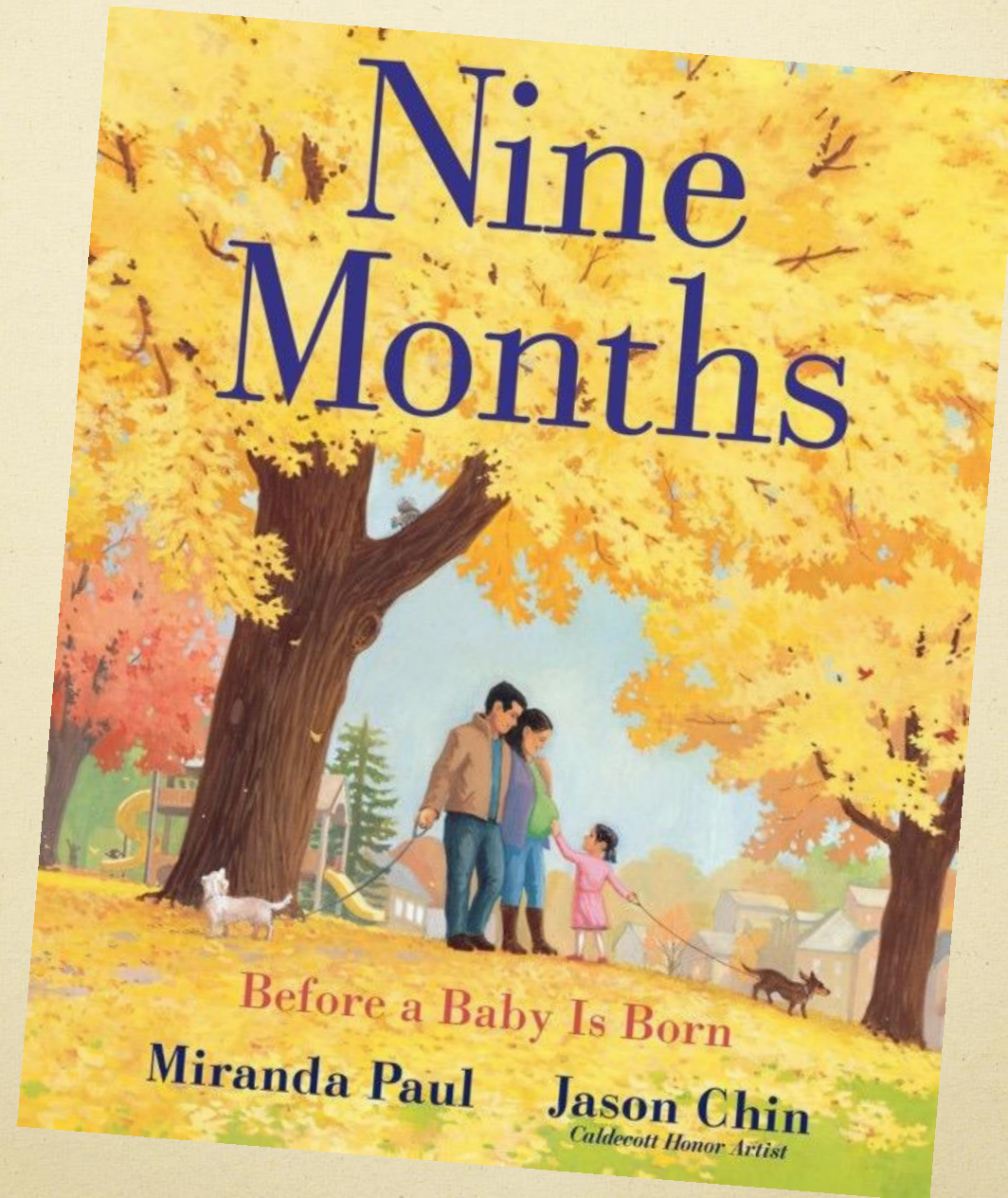
Primary & Secondary



Mostly Secondary



Secondary & Tertiary



Mostly Tertiary



Formats of Research

Books

Photographs

Videos

Articles or academic papers

Tangible items

Re-enactments or models

Visiting places/sites

Museums and Archives

Music

Interviews

Diaries / Journals

Scientific Studies

Surveys

Gov't records

Almanacs

Experts

Websites

Petting a kitten



Re-enactments or models



Five Senses! Immersion!

- Eating Food
- Speaking Language
- Work, school, everyday routines (transportation, etc.)
- Holidays & Cultural Celebrations
- Living locally
- Making friends / personal conversations and casual interactions
- Finding, touching, crafting objects specific to the story



What proximity are you to your subject?

- Is your research primary, secondary, or tertiary?
- Have you diversified your types of research and methods?
- Do you have other personal connections, experiences, or expertise in a subject matter?



Library of Congress

- Library of Congress Website is at loc.gov
- > Contains 17 million catalog records for books, serials, manuscripts, maps, music, recordings, images, and electronic resources in the Library of Congress collections.
- Many are public domain or property of the government, which means they are copyright-free.*
- <https://www.loc.gov/free-to-use/>



LOC Search Tips

—> Research and reference services pages, and use ASK A LIBRARIAN feature!

—> Home Page SEARCH BOX (is not good for physical books/items just yet, but is great for scanned/online items) -

Highly recommend you REFINE RESULTS, do ADVANCED SEARCH, or search a SPECIFIC DIGITAL COLLECTION (a.k.a. "Search this collection"; there are 335 digital collections; most are on people/biography or historical events/eras).

There are different ways to SORT your results, and your results may also include PROVENANCE (how the LOC got those papers), and RELATED MATERIAL (because sometimes the info is in someone's file who knew that person!).

Some boxes are searchable by the title or description, but the actual contents you'll have to MAKE AN APPOINTMENT to come in and see physically.

—> Manuscript reading rooms - link to online content and online finding aids. Before you come in person make a list of exactly which rooms/items/boxes/files you will want to see (and make sure they're actually IN the building you are visiting - some LOC items are stored in different buildings!)

LOC.GOV

LIBRARY
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OF CONGRESS

Everything

Search Loc.gov



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Digital Collections

Researchers

U.S. Copyright Office

Congress.gov

Law Library

Teachers

Advanced Search

Combine search words using guided menus.

Your Library

Use the largest library in the world online or in person! [More about the Library.](#)



Plan Your Visit



Research Centers



Ask a Librarian

✓ Everything

- Audio Recordings
- Books/Printed Material
- Films, Videos
- Legislation
- Manuscripts/Mixed Material
- Maps
- Notated Music
- Newspapers
- Periodicals
- Personal Narratives
- Photos, Prints, Drawings
- Software, E-Resources
- Archived Web Sites
- Web Pages
- 3D Objects

Hathi Trust Digital Library

- babel.hathitrust.org
- Tip: Items before 1923 - usually fully searchable; After 1923 is limited to excerpts because of copyright law and what's considered public domain.
- Tip: You WILL find mistakes & misspellings in historical documents and articles. Try searching all possible spellings of names / subject lines (sometimes even the headlines are misspelled!)

Other favorites



National Geographic
Universities

WorldCat

Project Gutenberg

Perseus Digital Library

NASA

USGS

NOAA

HARO (Help A Reporter Out)

Other DATABASES (ask a librarian)

Things that SHOULDN'T be in your bibliography as sources

- Wikipedia or other crowd-sourced encyclopedias
- Blogs
- Biased/slanted news or opinion media (see: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/how-biased-is-your-news-source-you-probably-wont-agree-with-this-chart-2018-02-28>)
- Other picture books or children's literature
- Sources that provided only well-known facts verifiable by a large number of materials (e.g. dictionary, encyclopedia type info - "the earth is round", "cats are mammals.")

Back Matter

- Bibliography
- Facts that couldn't be included, but of interest to / wondered by the reader
- Glossary or pronunciation guide
- Author's Note (tip: include your expertise, research, and any liberties taken or guesses made)
- Further Reading (tip: try to include more recently published books)
- Acknowledgements
- Quote sources
- For Further Reading / Study (books or links)
- Timeline
- Photos and/or photo credits



WHO is back matter for?

- DECIDE BEFORE YOU WRITE IT! (Ask your editor for advice)
- Librarians, Teachers, Parents
- Reviewers and Award Committees
- Kids (probably at or above the book's reading level)



WHY include back matter?

- Clarification
- Award Eligibility (see handout)
- Modeling Best Practices & Research Standard for students
- Authentication or Professionalism
- Educational Value or Extension
- Personal reasons

HOW MUCH back matter?

- Fiction - 1-2 pages, on average (0.5-1 spread)
- Nonfiction - 2-4 pages, on average (1-2 spreads)
- Consider whether your back matter will also have photos, charts, graphs, images or illustrations.
- Consider if some info can go on copyright page

What if you don't find enough? What if your research conflicts?

Reasons you might *fictionalize*:

- Not enough facts / access to credible sources or primary documents
- Only a small piece of the actual story might be interesting to a reader
- The subject matter is complex, boring, too mature, or inaccessible in some way to readers
- You want to freshen/liven up the perspective as a “way in” that’s relatable (e.g. invent a narrator character)
- Your intent is more literary or commercial than scientific or historical
- You do not have the appropriate permissions or cooperation

If you do fictionalize anything...

- Have a very clear purpose and rationale for doing so
- Add an author's note explaining liberties taken; clearly sort out for your readers what is fact and what isn't (or what is speculated and why you speculated it)
- Keep a record of sources and a log of research
- Remember that the STORY has to be just as good as any fiction story. The facts, science, or inspiration for a true story don't "make up" for lack of plot, character development, voice, etc. (This means your hook is NOT "it's based on something that really happened/happens in nature or history").
- Avoid information dumping, especially in fiction! Only include facts when relevant to the front story at hand, and present them in a way that makes sense to the narrative. (This is hard!)

Salt and Sage

<https://www.saltandsagebooks.com>

Tessera Editorial

<https://www.tesseraeditorial.com/meet-our-team>

We Need Diverse Books

Email miranda@diversebooks.org or Alaina LaVoie (alainalavoie@diversebooks.org) with info about

Writing Diversely

<https://www.writingdiversely.com/>

More resources on Authenticity Readers:

<https://authornews.penguinrandomhouse.com/working-with-authenticity-readers/>

Authenticity Readers

Salt and Sage

<https://www.saltandsagebooks.com>

Tessera Editorial

[https://www.tesseraeditorial.com/
meet-our-team](https://www.tesseraeditorial.com/meet-our-team)

We Need
Diverse Books

Email miranda@diversebooks.org or
Alaina LaVoie
(alainalavoie@diversebooks.org) with info
about what you're looking for and one of
us will pass your request on to our
networks.

Writing Diversely

<https://www.writingdiversely.com/>

More resources on Authenticity Readers:

<https://authornews.penguinrandomhouse.com/working-with-authenticity-readers/>

Research Can Be Dry. Don't forget to
keep these two things in mind
when deciding which facts to include:

TONE

- Attitude toward subject
 - Nonfiction argument



TAKEAWAY VALUE

- Universal theme
- Relatable experience to child reader
- Feelings that convey a subtle message (or messages)



Collaboration

in typical* order of appearance



- ❧ Co-authors
- ❧ Subjects or interviewees
- ❧ Critique Group, Beta Readers, Sensitivity/Authenticity Readers, Professional Critiquers
- ❧ Agent
- ❧ Editor (who often checks with other editors, sales/marketing, publisher)
- ❧ Fact-checker and/or expert reviewers* (this can sometimes come after illustrations if the illustrations are to be reviewed for accuracy as well)
- ❧ Art Director and Illustrator (communicate often through your editor)
- ❧ Copywriter or Proofreader (sometimes the copyeditor is the fact-checker, other times not)

❧ **typical for Miranda. Generally, once the book has gone to copyedits, you don't want to be requesting substantial changes! Do them before this point. Also, occasionally an organization in which the book becomes a partnership (this can happen at all different stages of development. If you plan to work with any group or organization to promote book sales, agree before signing a contract with the publisher or, at the very least, before publication.*

Bibliography Help!

- Citation Machine:
<http://www.citationmachine.net/mla/cite-a-book>
- Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab) -
<https://owl.purdue.edu/>
- EasyBib - <http://www.easybib.com/>
- Ottobib - great if you just have a list of ISBNs -
<https://www.ottobib.com/>

Questions

♡ Ask away!





Single Book Timeline

Prepping

(6 months-2 years)

- Research 1: **Content** (Overview)
- Research 2: **Market**
- Play with Approach and Big Idea
- Research 3: **Content** (books, papers, informational interviews)
- Play with Structure
- Research 4: **Deep Content** (in-depth interviews, hands-on)

Writing

(6 months-2 years)

- ❖ Play with Voice
- ❖ Draft
- ❖ Research 5: **Filling gaps**
- ❖ Critique Groups
- ❖ Re-write
- ❖ Research 6: **Content** (Fact-checking & Documentation)

Submitting

(1-2 years)

- Research 7: **Market**
- Submit and wait!
- Acceptance
- Complete book or revise
- Revise
- Final Acceptance
- Research 8: **Fact-check Art**
- Promotion
- Publication

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Allegheny woodrat. Reintroductions of populations into previously occupied habitats in New York, New Jersey and Indiana highlight the challenges to conservation efforts caused by *B. procyonis* (McGowan, 1993; LoGiudice, 2003; Smyser et al., 2013). In New York, it was determined that **neural larval infections with *B. procyonis* played an important role in a failed attempt to reintroduce Allegheny woodrats** (McGowan, 1993). A subsequent study by LoGiudice (2003) demonstrated that the **persistence of reintroduced populations of Allegheny woodrats was significantly decreased in habitats with high levels of *B. procyonis* contamination**. Populations of Allegheny woodrats remain along the Ohio River in Indiana. These populations have been monitored for several decades (Cudmore, 1983; Johnson, 2002), and **woodrat abundance was found to be significantly higher in habitats where *B. procyonis* was not found** (Page et al., 2012). Subsequent studies of the same populations of woodrats illustrate how individual populations of Allegheny woodrats experiencing the pressures of anthropogenic land-use are more vulnerable to *B. procyonis* than populations with low levels of anthropogenic land use (Smyser et al., 2012). Finally, experimental translocations of Allegheny woodrats into previously occupied and low-density sites in Indiana included implementation of a simultaneous mitigation strategy for *B. procyonis* (Smyser et al., 2013). **The successful translocations at sites receiving regularly distributed anthelmintic baits (targeting raccoons) demonstrates that consideration of *B. procyonis* in the development of conservation strategies can have significant benefits to imperiled populations** (Smyser et al., 2013).

A kinkajou photographed at New York State Zoo in Watertown

PHOTOGRAPH BY JOEL SARTORE, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTO ARK

[ANIMALSPHOTO ARK](#)

Kinkajou

COMMON NAME: Kinkajou

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Potos flavus*

TYPE: Mammals

DIET: Omnivores

GROUP NAME: Troop

SIZE: Head and body, 17 to 22 in; tail, 16 to 22 in

WEIGHT: 3 to 7 lbs

SIZE RELATIVE TO A 6 FT MAN:



Physical plant

H You don't want them in here.

K I clean it when everybody's gone.

H So these just get **mailed to you**. Not **refridgerated**

K They were frozen. Freeze them to keep the smell down.

H These aren't bad at all.

K These **arent** bad but a box **thorough** the mail would smell pretty bad because it would heat up.

R need more sugar

H Postal carrier would not like you

K We keep everything in the freezer. [shows me freezer] These are all guts here. Completed are on the left These are the poop samples.

Down there are left over.

H These are all guts of

K **racoons**

Looking at the pop structure of the worms and we are doing stable isotope analysis of the tissues so we can get an idea of what the animal was eating.

1:13

Do you know what a stable isotope is?

H I have known

K So carbon has different forms and they relate to different photosynthetic pathways in plants. Traditional. Most common photo pathway results in a **^{13}C molecule**. Both of the alternative pathways result in a **^{14}C carbon molecule**. So you get these different isotopic signatures when animals are eating. With the traditional photo pathway you would assume they are eating more traditional, native wild,

H normal

K normal stuff. With the alternative pathway is more common in grasses and corn is a grass

H Oh

K so you would, it would be safe to assume they are eating more **anthropogenically sourced food items**. That is imp **because if R switch to eating human foods, or garbage, they don't get as infected**. Not as many infected animals but if they are eating more native foods, like wild foods then they keep their infections going.

We are also looking at N. Rachel remind me of which isotopes of Nitrogen...

R 15

Woodrat

- Declines since 1970s
 - Habitat loss, decreases in food, death from roundworm
 - Loss of American chestnut
 - Some populations extirpated thanks to RRW
- Cash raccoon feces in their middens in cool, moist caves
- Evidence
 - Mahonk** NY problems in woodrat pop did not begin till raccoons expanded into that area.
 - Persistence** of reintroduce pops was decreased in habitats with high levels of RRW
 - Larval infections played important role in failed reintroductions.
 - In Indiana, pops higher where no RRW found.
- Where are they now? Along OH river in Indiana
- Study on isotopes C3 and C4

Raccoon Roundworm - OneNote

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Notebooks General Tongue Poetry Poop Train Dogs Fuel More Please Pumpkin Polar bear Cecum Raccoon ... + Search (Ctrl+E)

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- Poop
- Pocket
- Bugs Dont ...
- Bugs Dont ...
- Cooks New ...
- Gopher tortoise
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- 2015
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n
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College
Keep Urban Raccoons From Spreading Disease
e, an ecologist at Wheaton College in Illinois, got down and dirty, studying es around Chicago. They wanted to know if there were practical solutions for ritter's parasite. They tested raccoon poop from each site and found about 13 ed roundworm eggs. However, after baiting monthly for a year with a me laced with pyrantel pamoate (a drug used to deworm dogs and cats), he baited sites contained worm eggs.


Deep keeps raccoons from spreading disease

emerging Infectious Diseases, researchers lead by L. Kristen Page of Wheaton cs for protecting public health. Raccoons can carry Baylisascaris worms -- e rare but serious human infection. The Centers for Disease Control reports found in a number of states across the United States...



L. Kristen Page, Ph.D.
Ruth Kraft Strohschein Distinguished Chair & Professor of Biology
Wheaton, IL, US
Kristen.Page@wheaton.edu
Dr. Kristen Page studies disease transmission dynamics.

CONTACT SHAREPDFCV



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- Woodrat
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113,000 per day worm bi

13% infected dows they baited with n Antihelmenthic ba

Latrines found in t Greater likelihood areas or if food so food, garbage or b there.

Baylisascaris procyonis zoonosis baylisasc

Up to 82% o and 90% of raccoons are

zoonotic dis account for infectious di humans

Transmitted by th route

Infected animals : eggs/g of feces - c

Or 20,000 -2 gram of fece up to 250,00 gram.

a single latrine between 37 feces

Another option is latrines (by hand) (Red Dragon Vapo land. Held flame o red to white-hot.

Eggs last in wild u

+

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Raccoon Roundw

Woodrat

Misc

Topic

SPATCHES

Full Recovery from Baylisascaris procyonis Eosinophilic Meningitis

Poulomi J. Pai,* Brian G. Blackburn,†, Kevin R. Kazacos,‡ Rajasekharan P. Warriar,* and Rodolfo E. Bégué*

Infection by Baylisascaris procyonis is an uncommon devastating cause of eosinophilic meningitis. We report first case-patient, to our knowledge, who recovered from procyonis eosinophilic meningitis without any recognizable neurologic deficits. The spectrum of illness for this organism may be wider than previously recognized.

Eosinophilic meningitis is defined by >10 eosinophils/mm³ in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) or >10% eosinophils of the total CSF leukocyte count. In the United States, most common cause of eosinophilic meningitis is the

know I can trust her. Next year, Nathan will most likely be a leader. He works hard and gets a lot done, but he seems to like working alone. I know he knows all of the jobs, so I might depend on him.

Typically, I have one student lead on each project – but everyone helps out everyone else! We all meet together once a week, so we can keep up with each project.

Let me know if you need more clarification! Kristen

From <<https://outlook.live.com/owa/?path=/mail/inbox>>

4/23/18 Visit to Dr. Page's lab Impressions on drive over there Doo-care truck white and green Trees are accent pieces in this neighborhood. Statues in front lawns, white you're white woman with a vase of water pouring out over her shoulder. Train tracks are common in this area. Reminds me of poop train 6:20 story of guinea worms and Carter foundation - blister in skin makes you feel like you are on fire.

Kristen Page Chicago 1

Nathan

Kristen

Rachel

Layers. Daughter plays with pieces of paper. Her animals were in school. She is creative. Photography is her hobby. Student art work. Creative expression in

11/10/17

Dr. Page,

I write science books for young people and am working on one about the ever popular topic: feces. It will take a look at how scientists make discoveries from looking at poo.

I've been learning about *B. procyonis* and when I spoke with Tim Smyser, he mentioned that you worked together on a study. I see from the Wheaton College website that you have continued with this work with students as well. I would love to speak either with you or one of your colleagues who are working on this project.

Hoping this book will inspire the scientists of tomorrow!

Heather

p.s. I noticed that you went to Auburn University. I live in AL and had some great interviews and lab visits to Auburn while researching my upcoming book, *Something Rotten: A Fresh Look at Roadkill*.

20. WASHING-BEAR

Because they have a habit of rinsing and softening their food in water before they eat it, raccoons were once widely known as *washing-bears*. According to [*The Illustrated Natural History*](#) (1865), "when engaged in this curious custom [the raccoon] grasps the food in both its forepaws, and shakes it violently back and forward in the water." The name was probably first adopted into English from Germany, where raccoons are still known as *Waschbären*, or "wash-bears."

From <<http://mentalfloss.com/article/58331/22-brilliant-old-nicknames-animals>>