

Susan Burnash

Storyteller, Empathy Builder, and Creative Spark

Meet Susan Burnash

Susan is a children's book author passionate about helping young readers explore themes of self-discovery, artistic expression, and the unique traits of some of the diverse animals in their world. Since childhood, these themes have always resonated with her.

As a child, Susan always had a passion for reading. Growing up in a family of active and loud boys, tall for her age and extremely shy, it was in books that she found comfort and a sense of belonging. She also found her passion for writing and storytelling.

Today, she is writing books for young readers who are on their own journey of self-discovery and adventure. Her debut book, *Spot or Not?* tells the story of a blue spot struggling with identity and purpose. He ultimately finds his meaning as a critical element in a piece of Pointillism art. The first in the *More Than Art Series*, it is a lyrical mix of storytelling and art education.

Her second book, *Wally's Grab and Run*, focuses on the challenges of being in the foster care system through the lens of a dog. The book uses storytelling to give voice to named emotions while creating opportunities for dialogue between children in foster care and those who support them. Future books in the *Foster Love Series* will follow Wally's journey as he navigates a new home, new people, and new adventures.

A hybrid graphic novel and narrative nonfiction book titled *Jeepers Peepers: Amazing Animal Eyes* is slated for release at the end of 2025 or early 2026.

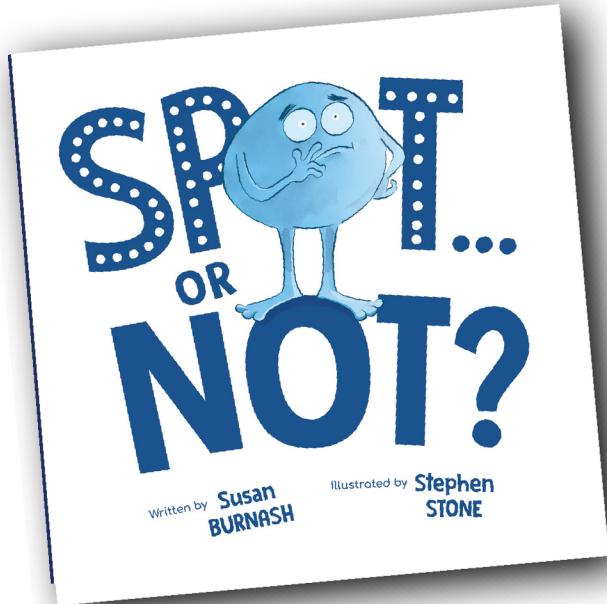


“Writing for children is a sacred trust; each story embodies a heartfelt promise to guide young hearts with honesty, empathy, respect, and unwavering love.”

Download the [full media kit](#) here

Learn more at www.YodaBooks.com

About the book



A journey for identity and purpose

from Childrens Book Author
Susan Burnash

For Kids 4 - 8

About the Book: Spot or Not?

A blue spot is having an identity crisis. It doesn't know its purpose or where it belongs. When it looks at the usual places where spots are found, they don't feel right. When it explores other identities, it can't relate. Could this spot be too close to see the big picture? Should it step back for a new point of view? Find out what happens when a spot changes its perspective to discover if it is a **Spot or Not?**

Embark on a lyrical journey that teaches us to look beyond names and expectations to discover our true identity and purpose. With a nod to the big picture concept of Pointillism Art, *Spot or Not?* connects the beauty of self-discovery to the uniqueness of art. The book provides information about Pointillism art, its artists, and its history. It also includes a hands-on Pointillism activity that can be used in the classroom or at home. The first in a series of picture books with an art-focused twist for kids.

Perfect for teachers, homeschoolers, STEAM curricula, and International Dot Day in September.



This book brings so much truth for a youngster (even a grown-up). You felt the touch of the author's words and heart as she wrote this children's book. A child's identity is crucial as they connect the dots of life, dreams, hope, and creativity inside them.

Elizabeth Mihalovich



This is a great book for the toddlers and preschoolers in your life, who are at that stage of developing a sense of self. Kids will love the playful illustrations and simple text, while adults will appreciate the underlying exploration of self-identity. The colorful history at the end of the art technique called pointillism is a fabulous bonus for readers of all ages.

Carrie Karnes Fannin

Discover more at www.YodaBooks.com

A peek inside



Look REAL close. Do you see SPOT?

He looks so **BLUE**.

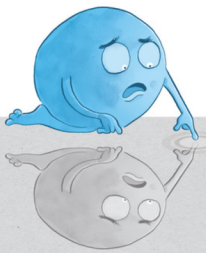


I AM...



a lot!

I wish I knew,
just **WHO** I AM.



Am I **ALONE**?
Is there a **PLAN**?

Do I belong upon a **CAT**?



Or on a **DOG**?

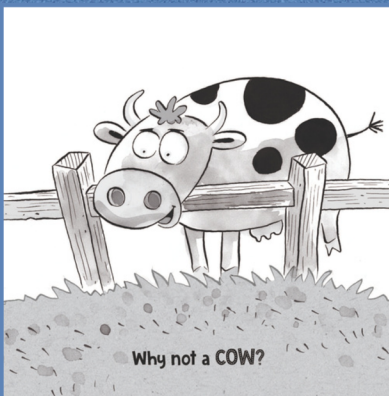


Imagine that?

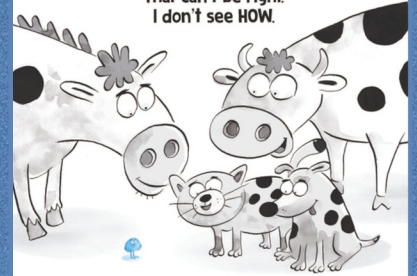
Maybe a **HORSE**?



Why not a **COW**?



That can't be right.
I don't see **HOW**.



Their spots are **BIG!**
I'm very small

Perhaps I'M **NOT**...



a **SPOT** at all?

Is it a
Spot or Not?

Find out as the journey
for identity and
purpose continues...

(here's a little hint!)



Coming Soon!

More books in the More Than Art Series



Where story and art intersect!

The *More Than Art Series* takes children on an ongoing adventure of a blue spot (*or is he a dot?*) as he tries to discover his identity and meaning through art. Each book introduces the main character and readers to famous artists, art movements, museums, and the galleries that are part of the artistic landscape of Paris and France. The books also include back matter with detailed information to extend the learning experience and fun activities for kids to do in class, at home, or in a homeschool environment.

Series titles include *Dot and Seurat*, *The Search for Art*, and *Dot and van Gogh*. Each is written to entertain, educate, and encourage self-expression through creativity. All are ideal for children, educators, STEAM curricula, and International Dot Day, which takes place annually in September.

Themes & Benefits:

- *Self-Discovery & Identity*: Encourages children to explore their individuality and unique purpose.
- *Perspective & Growth*: Teaches the importance of embracing new viewpoints and looking beyond labels.
- *Finding Community*: Highlights the beauty of being part of something bigger and meaningful.
- *Creativity & Expression*: Inspires readers to express themselves through art, imagination, and creativity.
- *Art History*: Introduces children to art history, famous artists, and creative art techniques.



This series will be an excellent resource for children, parents, and teachers. The discussion about Pointillism in Spot or Not? along with examples, and a project kids and adults can do together, is a beautiful way to illustrate the book's theme of self-discovery and self-expression through art.

Evan Lindsey

Press Release for Spot or Not?

“A lovely story that educates, too! Kids learn that a dot is more than just a dot. When combined with other colored dots, they can create something beautiful and unique.”

Robert Zienta, Teacher

New Children's Book *Spot or Not?* Encourages Self-Expression Through Art

Local children's book author Susan Burnash has released a new picture book titled *Spot or Not?* The first in the *More Than Art Series*, for children 4 –8, the book tells the lyrical story of a blue spot searching for identity and purpose. Through various encounters, the spot learns that it is not what its name suggests. Instead, it is a dot and part of a community of diverse dots that together create a unique piece of Pointillism art. Pioneered by Georges Seurat, Pointillism is a painting technique that uses small, distinct dots of color to form images.

Burnash employs Pointillism as an illustrative metaphor to teach children about the significance of individuality, while emphasizing their role and purpose within a larger context. Each book in the series will extend the metaphor while introducing kids to art movements, history, and the value of creative expression. With information about the history of Pointillism, its painters, and notable art pieces, Burnash hopes that *Spot or Not?* and her *More Than Art Series* will find their home in school libraries, classrooms, and homeschool environments, where they can be used to entertain, encourage, and educate children about the value of artistic expression.

The author has also created opportunities to extend the learning experience by including a hands-on "Create Your Own Pointillism Activity" in the back of the picture book, and a separate *Spot or Not? Kids Dot Art Activity Book*, which features original art from the picture book. The books are available online through Amazon, IngramSpark, and Barnes & Noble.

Author Bio: Susan Burnash is a passionate storyteller who brings a unique blend of narrative and artistic insight to children's literature. With a background in storytelling through marketing, public relations, and video production, Susan is committed to creating stories that inspire self-love, acceptance, and creativity among young readers.

Picture Book Key Details:

- Book Title: *Spot or Not?*
- Author: Susan Burnash
- Genre: Children's Fiction
- Publish Date: May 2025
- Paperback ISBN: 9798991343817 (IngramSpark and Amazon)
- Ebook ISBN: 9798991343824 (Amazon only)
- Hardcover ISBN: 9798317663469 (Barnes & Noble only)

Dot Art Activity Book Key Details:

- Title: *Spot or Not? Kids' Dot Art Activity Book*
- Author: Susan Burnash
- Genre: Children's Art Activities
- Publish Date: May 2025
- ISBN: 9798991343862 (Amazon and Barnes & Noble)
- ISBN: 9798991343893 (IngramSpark)
- Format: Paperback

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For more information about Susan Burnash and her other children's books visit www.YodaBooks.com

Interview Questions

Media Interviews & Discussion Topics

Susan is available for interviews in print, TV, radio, podcasts, and blogs. Her experience as a columnist, and radio co-host, along with her passion for storytelling with a focus on early education and emotional learning, make her a compelling guest to discuss a range of topics, including those outlined here.

What inspired you to write *Spot or Not?*

I've always been passionate about helping children explore their emotions and express themselves creatively. *Spot or Not?* was born out of the idea that a child's journey for identity and purpose is universal. I wanted to create a story that encourages all children to embrace that journey and to look to art as a perfect medium for self-expression.

How is Pointillism art introduced?

Spot or Not? tells the story of a blue spot's journey to find answers about its identity and purpose, which ultimately is found in a piece of Pointillism. Using Pointillism as a metaphor for self-discovery and community, children can learn about this art movement in an engaging way. The book's backmatter also includes information about its history, artists, and more.

What educational themes are included in the storyline?

The book touches on several key themes:

Identity and Self-Discovery:

Encouraging children to explore their individuality.

Perspective and Growth:

Teaching the importance of seeing the bigger picture.

Art Appreciation: *Introducing children to Pointillism and art history.*

Creative Expression: *Utilizing hands-on activities that foster creativity.*

What do you hope children take away from *Spot or Not?*

I hope children take away a deeper understanding that that every individual has their own unique identity and purpose. And the journey to discover that as they grow up is universal and should be embraced and respected. Also, that art provides a safe and exciting place for self-expression and contribution to the beauty and diversity of the world around them.

What other children's books can we expect to see soon?

I'm excited about completing the next books in the *More Than Art Series*, including *Dot and Seurat* and *The Search for Art*. These stories will continue to blend themes of identity, purpose, and self-discovery through art. I also have the first in another picture book series coming out soon. It explores the emotions and challenges children experience in foster care. (*Wally's Grab and Run*.)

Reviews for Spot or Not?

Hear what librarians and educators have to say!



Heather M Wood, B.S.Ed, M.L.I.S
District Teacher Librarian
Bellevue Community Schools

Spot or Not? is an exceptional picture book that offers numerous learning opportunities for children. It invites educators—whether art teachers, classroom teachers, librarians, or parents—to explore various teaching directions and learning experiences with their students.



Elizabeth Boyd
District Librarian
North Callaway R-I School District

I am always trying to incorporate books into the curriculum, both within my library and in the classroom. This book does just that! There are SEL opportunities along with fun rhyming schemes for early readers, as well as an activity to explore the art and history of Pointillism.



Sophia Garcia Smith
Media Specialist
Cumberland Elementary School

The storytelling aspect of *Spot or Not?* is a great way of sparking interest in pointillist art in a fun and accessible way. The book itself offers librarians and art teachers a wonderful opportunity to collaborate on a lesson, combining literacy, art appreciation, and hands-on creativity.

For more reviews from parents and other adults [click here](#).

www.YodaBooks.com



Thank you!

For taking the time to review my author's media kit. If you have any questions or would like to arrange an interview, author visit, or other event, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you!

Susan Burnash

To download the full media kit, author photo, or book cover, [click here](#) or visit [www.YodaBooks.comMedia Kit](http://www.YodaBooks.comMediaKit) at

AUTHOR STORYTELLER EDUCATOR



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