



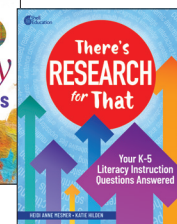
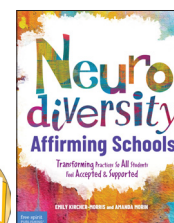
# Buzzworthy Announcements

August 2025

## Awards

**Neurodiversity-Affirming Schools** (9798885543972) 19th Annual National Indie Excellence Award Winner, Education

**There's Research for That** (9798765971734) 19th Annual National Indie Excellence Award Finalist, Education



## Reviews

**Thank You, Sun** (9798885544887)  
by Dan McCauley

"A fun and inspirational read."  
—*Children's Bookwatch*,  
Midwest Book Review,  
July 2025



"It's easy to forget how much sheer beauty there is in the world, and how it's right there for us to enjoy. This sweet, simple tale serves as a needed reminder."  
—*Washington Independent Review of Books*, July 2025

**Hi, Worry. Bye, Worry!** (9798885545211)  
by Elizabeth Verdick and Olivia Rae



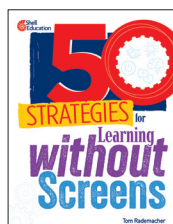
"A whimsical and accessible guidebook for children experiencing anxiety. This guide is a great choice for elementary SEL shelves and curriculum and respects its audience."  
—*School Library Journal*, August 2025



**Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures**  
(9798885546416)  
by Christine Alemshah

"This gentle story, informative and appealing in equal measure, celebrates a loving tradition that links family and friends across great distances . . . a touching story, replete with cultural detail and built-in curricular extensions."  
—*School Library Journal*, July 2025

**50 Strategies for Learning without Screens** (9798765965733)  
by Tom Rademacher



"While discussing soft skills, applied digital schools and new media literacies, [Tom Rademacher] stresses the importance of students creating and participating. The book defines a framework of deeper learning, which offers a set of competencies that students must master to develop a keen understanding of academic content and apply their knowledge to problems in the classroom and on the job."  
—*School Administrator Magazine*, August 2025

## Features, Articles & Highlights

**I See You Care** (9798885540773) was named one of the Best Children's Books of the Year 2025 by the Children's Book Committee of Bank Street College of Education. (June)

**Hands Are Not for Hitting** (9781575422008) and **Teeth Are Not for Biting** (9781575421285) are listed as two books that can help adults create conversations around behaviors in a Parade article about [habits parents and grandparents shouldn't ignore](#). (June 3, average monthly visitors: 19,723,675)

**James Finds the Beat** (9798885545303) was included on Black Children's Books and Authors list of [28 picture books by Black authors for Black Music Month](#). (June 5, average monthly visitors: 725)

Nanny to Mommy published a listicle of [35 must-reads to support positive classroom behavior](#) and included: **Voices Are Not for Yelling** (9781575425009), **Hands Are Not for Hitting** (9781575422008), **Feet Are Not for Kicking** (9781575421582), **Teeth Are Not for Biting** (9781575421285), **Words Are Not for Hurting** (9781575421568), and **Sharing Time** (9781575423142). (June 14, average monthly visitors: 1,603)

The summer 2025 Children's Book Council theme for their summer showcase was [An Ocean of Stories](#); they included four of our books: **Going Blue** (9781631987465), **Laney Dances in the Rain** (9781631986659), **Make a Splash!** (9781631987496), and **Thank You, Rain** (9798885544870). (June 23)

Erin Walsh, author of **It's Their World** (9798885547949), wrote an article for Edutopia about [using values-alignment messaging to teach healthy digital habits](#). (June 12, average monthly visitors: 499,005)



# Buzzworthy Announcements

August 2025

## Features, Articles & Highlights

The [Edelweiss Little Linguists list](#) features four of our titles: #109 **Viento en la colina** (9798765962046, Exploration Storytime), #121 **Si te sientes muy feliz** (9798765961629, Exploration Storytime), #54 **¡Ya tienes teléfono!** (9798885545204, Laugh & Learn), and #61 **El acoso es algo muy doloroso** (9798885545136, Laugh & Learn)

The Children's Book Council [booklist for Disability Pride Month](#) includes **Addy's Chair to Everywhere** (9798765922477), **I Think I Think a Lot** (9798885540087), **Molly's Great Discovery** (9798885540254), **More Than What Eyes See** (9798885547307), and **Sonia and the Super-Duper Disaster** (9798885543903). (July)

**Sometimes Stormy** (9798885546980) and **Tummies Flip, Hearts Skip** (9798885543811) were included in Publishers Weekly's children's [fall 2025 preview issue](#). (July 14, average monthly visitors: 355,018; print distribution: 68,000) PW also featured four Free Spirit titles and the Disability Books for Kids series in the [spring 2026 sneak preview](#). (July 22, average monthly visitors: 355,018)

**Squirrels Scamper** (9798885544566) was included in the [August new release roundup](#) on Black Children's Books and Authors. (July 11, average monthly visitors: 725)

Christine Alemshah, author of **Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures** (9798885546416), was interviewed on Mary Boone's site, [answering six questions](#). (July 15) She was also interviewed for Maria Marshall's [picture book buzz](#). (July 23)

San Jose State University made Neurodiversity-Affirming Schools (9798885543972) a required text for one of their fall 2025 education courses.

The Children's Book Council included **Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures** (9798885546416), **Hi, Worry. Bye, Worry!** (9798885545211), and **I See You Wonder** (9798885540810) in [August Hot Off the Press](#). (July 31)

**Lulu and the Hunger Monster™** (9781631985461) was mentioned in a [USA Today opinion article](#). (July 27, average monthly visitors: 65,734,692)

## Interviews

Mélina Mangal, interviewed by Lydia Lukidis, talks about [social-emotional learning as well as her two new Outside Our Window books](#), **Birds Sing Their Words** (9798885544542) and **Trees Stand Tall** (9798885544559). (June 4)

Deborah Farmer Kris was interviewed on Melinda Wenner Moyer's [Now What newsletter about the power of awe and her book](#) **Raising Awe-Seekers** (9798885549349). (June 11, average monthly visitors: 34,510)

Heidi Anne Mesmer and Katie Hilden appeared on the Triple R Teaching podcast to [talk about their new book](#), **There's Research for That** (9798765971734), and how research can answer common questions teachers have about implementing the Science of Reading. (June 16, listenership: 1k-10k monthly listeners)

Free Spirit Publisher Kyra Ostendorf was interviewed in School Library Journal about [picture books that connect](#) and featured the Mini-Musical Tales from Bird Mountain School (**Bravo for Backstage!**, 9798885544030; **Chicken Predicament**, 9798885544061; **The Great Dance-On**, 9798885544092) and **Tummies Flip, Hearts Skip** (9798885543811). (July issue, average monthly visitors: 107,822; print distribution, 23,000)

Deborah Farmer Kris appeared on a segment of CBS Morning Plus, talking about [how we can help kids rediscover wonder in a distracted world and her book](#) **Raising Awe-Seekers** (9798885549349). (August 4, average monthly visitors: 45,774,216)

## Upcoming Author Events & Webinars

September 6: **Christine Alemshah, Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures** (9798885546416), book signing at Barnes & Noble, Victorville, CA

September 13: **Joy Jones, The Sky Is Not Blue** (9798885544153), appearance at Baltimore Book Festival, Baltimore, MD

September 14: **Gabriella Aldeman, Paula's Patches** (9781631987335), appearance at Baltimore Book Festival, Baltimore, MD

September 14: **Rasha Hamid, Hello, Beech Tree!** (9798885540377), appearance at Milford Readers and Writers Festival, Milford, PA

September 23: The Best in Fall Nonfiction Webinar hosted by School Library Journal.

September 24: **Christine Alemshah, Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures** (9798885546416), storytime at Pretend City Museum, Irvine, CA

October 1: TCM presents [Idea to Page: A Children's Book Author Showcase](#), panel discussion, virtual

October 3–5: Connie Bergstein Dow, **Tap and Rap, Move and Groove** (9798885540520), participation on Cincy Bookstore Crawl, Cincinnati area, OH & KY

October 18: **Lucy Payne & Sue Strom, Academic Intervention Success** (9798330903740), presenting a book-related session at the NCTM conference, Atlanta, GA

October 24–25: **Richard Cash**, keynote speaker at New Mexico Association for the Gifted conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico

October 25: **Christine Alemshah, Bea's Balikbayan Box of Treasures** (9798885546416), Liwanag Lit Festival, Long Beach, CA

November 11: Free Spirit Publishing presents picture books in *School Library Journal* webinar

November 19: **Chris Amirault, Spark Learning in Young Children** (9798765971956), leading a session at the National Association for the Education of Young Children annual conference, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL



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