



NEW PUBLICATIONS 2023 FALL

FUKUINKAN SHOTEN PUBLISHERS, INC.

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

 FUKUINKAN SHOTEN PUBLISHERS



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History

Fukuinkan Shoten Publishers, Inc. has started its business in the year 1916 as a bookseller in Kanazawa, Japan. At first it specialized in books related to Christianity. Later on, it shifted to handling common books and started to publish exercise books for entrance examinations and pocket dictionaries for high school students. In 1952, the publishing department established itself on its own and moved its location to Tokyo. The department founded a new genre of child-care books such as “Haha no Tomo” and monthly published children's picture books such as “Kodomo no Tomo”.

Ever since, we have specialized in the publications of children's books and books about children to this day.



Mission

Our underlying policy is that picture books are “not for children to read on their own but for adults to read out for them”. We believe that picture books can be fully enjoyed only when repetitively read out to children bringing about enrichment to their hearts afterwards. Therefore, the picture books we deliver should be “outstanding ones created only by the greatest authors and artists of the day with their full efforts so that both children and adults could enjoy them together”. We have always hoped to publish picture books and story books that are unforgettable and stay in our readers' hearts for many years to come which is an unchanged goal we aim for.

Books

One of the major characteristic of our publication is perhaps our monthly picture books which were launched back in 1956 starting with the “Kodomo no Tomo” series, and now has expanded to seven different series to cater different age groups. The masterworks of “Guri and Gura” by Rieko Nakagawa and Yuriko Yamawaki, “Her First Shopping” by Yoriko Tsutsui and Akiko Hayashi and “Everyone Poops” by Taro Gomi were all produced through this monthly picture book series.

Apart from the monthly picture books, we have introduced the “Anno’s Journey” series by Mitsumasa Anno (1984 Hans Christian Andersen Award Winner for Illustration), the “Kiki’s Delivery Service” series by Eiko Kadono (2018 Hans Christian Andersen Award Winner for Writing) and other works which have been endeared by children all over the world for a long period of time.

At the same time, we have been introducing masterpieces from abroad such as the “Peter Rabbit” series by Beatrix Potter, “My Father’s Dragon” series by Ruth S. Gannett, the “Paddington Bear” series by Michael Bond and works by Dick Bruna.



Guri and Gura
by Rieko Nakagawa
illustrated by Yuriko Yamawaki



Her First Shopping
by Yoriko Tsutsui
illustrated by Akiko Hayashi



Everyone Poops
by Taro Gomi



Anno's Journey
by Mitsumasa Anno



Kiki's Delivery Service
by Eiko Kadono
illustrated by Akiko Hayashi



The Tale of Peter Rabbit
by Beatrix Potter
translated by Momoko Ishii



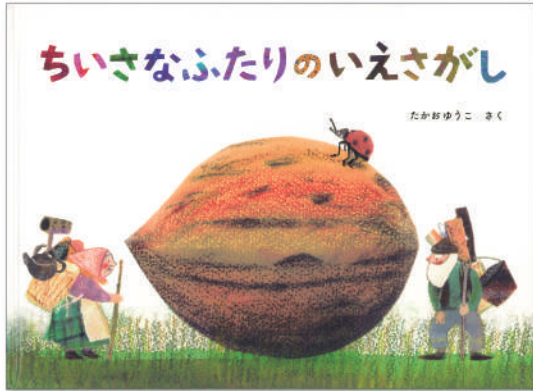
My Father's Dragon
by R. S. Gannett
translated by Shigeo Watanabe
illustrated by R. C. Gannett



A Bear Called Paddington
by Michael Bond
translated by Kyoko Matsuoka
illustrated by Peggy Fortnum



nijntje
by Dick Bruna
translated by Momoko Ishii

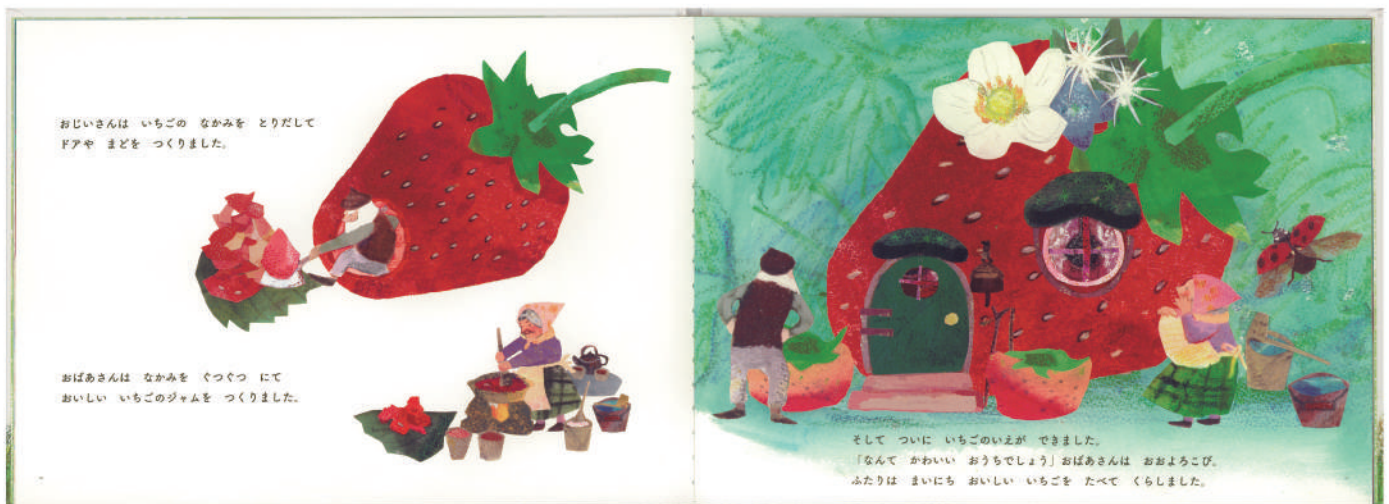


Hardcover | H19.4 x W26.8 cm
32 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8702-4

OUR HOME

by Yuko Takao

What kind of home do you live in? What kind of home would you like to live in? How about a home inside a strawberry? It smells sweet and you are never short of strawberry preserve. Would you rather live inside a watermelon? It's cool and spacious. In this fantastic book, a little elderly couple try living in various homes inside tasty fruits. Where do you think they end up? Let's travel through the beautiful illustrations and enjoy living in unique homes. Tasty and fun as their homes are, you will realize that "there is no place like home".



Yuko Takao

Born in Tokyo. Graduated from Tama Art University, Department of Graphic Design. After working in the design department of a toy company, moved to the United States and studied calligraphy, watercolor painting, and copperplate engraving. Has worked on many picture books and illustrations. Now lives and works in Saitama Prefecture.

By the Same Author



**KEROKERO BROTHERS
"WHERE IS THE POND?"**



**THE HEDGEHOG'S
ORIGINAL NOTEBOOKS**





Hardcover | H14.6 x W14.5 cm
20 pages | ¥800.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8695-9

BABY GOAT GOES FOR A WALK

by junos

A baby goat set out in the spring sunlight. A yellow butterfly followed suit. Off they went into the meadows full of blooms. The baby goat jumped over a tree stump. The butterfly cheered him. "You're good!" Then a rather big stone appeared. This time the baby goat had to leap to get over it. A hedgehog was watching this and praised its success! Then a big puddle came up. Again, the baby goat made a big leap over it. A frog watching from the puddle exclaimed "Hurray!" All four of them had a good time playing in the flower garden until they were tired and fell asleep peacefully together. Beautiful embroidery enhances the story that is perfect for a toddler.



junos

Embroidery artist. Mainly embroiders on clothing and accessories. The author of "junos's Embroidery Notebook: Plants, Animals, and Stories Drawn with Embroidery" (Graphic, Inc.). "Baby Goat Goes for a Walk" and "Where Do Animals Sleep?" are the artist's first picture books.



どこ どこ
こりすの ねどこ



WHERE DO ANIMALS SLEEP?

by junos

This book invites us into a heartwarming world of small animals. The author, an embroidery artist, displays each animal with exquisite picturesque embroidery and the rhythmical words that ask them where they sleep. Each of them explains their unique sleeping spots. The fox sleeps among the dandelions in the fields with plenty of sunshine, the squirrel sleeps in a tree hollow, the sea otter floats on the ocean with its body curled against the seaweed, and so on. You can see various small animals getting into their sleeping position and closing their eyes. This book makes a perfect goodnight story for the little ones.



Hardcover | H14.6 x W14.5 cm
20 pages | ¥800.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8696-6



Hardcover | H26.6 × W21.5 cm
40 pages | ¥1,400.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8713-0

MY GRANDPA'S BIG SNEEZE

by Yui Abe

I was always annoyed with my Grandpa's big sneeze. They were big with a capital B! One day when I was drawing, one of them suddenly hit me. ACHOO!! Everything flew up in the air. My crayons got scattered and my picture was gone. That was it! I was angry and told him how much I hated his sneezes. But he made excuses saying that his sneezes were extra special. How special could they be? He said that he could shake apples off a tree with one sneeze. Or he could scare off anything trying to attack us. He boasted that he could even take both of us up into the high skies. So I dared him. ACHOO! And he really went up high, so much so that I lost sight of him. Grandpaaaaa! Where did he go? Was he going to be alright?



Yui Abe

Born 1986 in Miyagi Prefecture. Studied illustration and picture book production at Palette Club School and Atosaki Picture Book Workshop. Has worked as a book cover designer and a theater promotional designer. Up and coming picture book artist who made debut in 2020.

By the Same Author



**AKAKY &
THE SNACK THIEVES**



TOUCH EACH OTHER





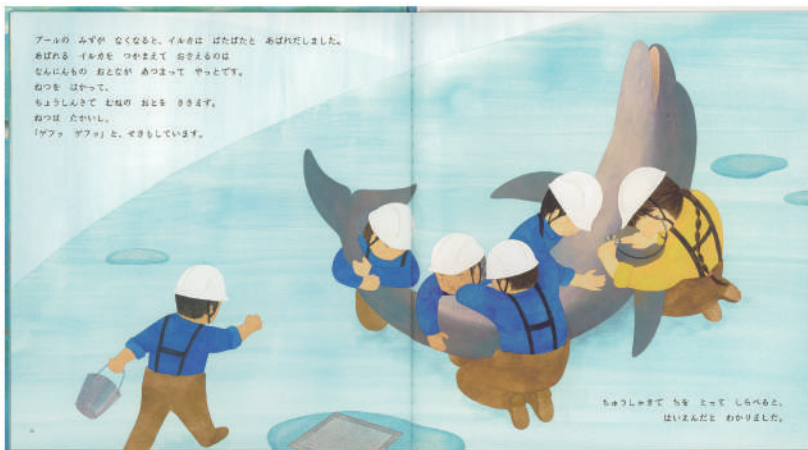
Hardcover | H25.3 x W23.2 cm
28 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8709-3

DOCTOR IN AN AQUARIUM

text by Mika Ohtsuka

illustrations by Maki Saito

A doctor in the aquarium starts her day with a walk around to observe the fish. There are various fish here; sea horses that weigh less than two grams, to whale sharks weighing over a ton. The doctor knows exactly what to do with each and how. How does she treat a weak stingray or an ill dolphin that swims exceptionally fast? Let's see.



Maki Saito

Picture book artist. Born in Tokyo. Studied Japanese Style Painting at Musashino Art University in Tokyo. Uses variety of techniques from paper collages and stenciled paintings to Japanese traditional dyeing technique "Bin-Gata" for art works. One of the popular picture book artists in Japan.

By the Same Illustrator



**PENGUIN
EXERCISE**



**BABY ELEPHANT,
WHAT DO YOU DO
WITH YOUR TRUNK ?**



**ANIMALS BRAG
ABOUT
THEIR BOTTOMS**

ピクルスとともだち

小風さち文 夏目ちさ絵



Hardcover | H21.5 x W18.5 cm
120 pages | ¥1,700.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8714-7



PICKLES AND HIS FRIENDS

text by Sachi Kokaze

illustrations by Chisa Natsume

Beloved Pickles is back! Little piglet Pickles lives with his parents and little twin sisters. It's been raining for days and he cannot go out and play. Mom and Dad say that rain clouds have to be blown away by the spring storm. So he goes out to find out more about the spring storm and meets a piglet, who has just moved in to live with his Grandma. They soon become good friends, and they are eager to explore their expanding world. Open the book, and hear the spring storm, see the rainbow, taste the amazingly huge watermelon, smell the bonfire and enjoy the sparks of fireworks! Charming story, wonderful writing style, and lively illustrations.....everything that makes up a good book is here!



Sachi Kokaze

Born 1955 in Tokyo and Lived in England from 1977 to 1987. Author/translator of many picture books. Won the Noma Children's Literature Newcomer Award in 1994 for a fantasy novel "Yubinuki Koji no Himitsu (The Secret of Yubinuki Lane)" published by Fukuinkan Shoten.

Further Titles

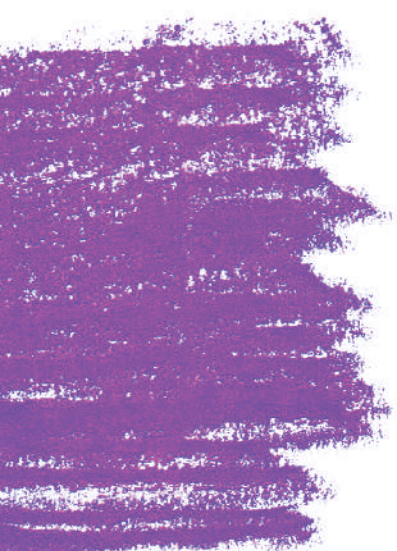
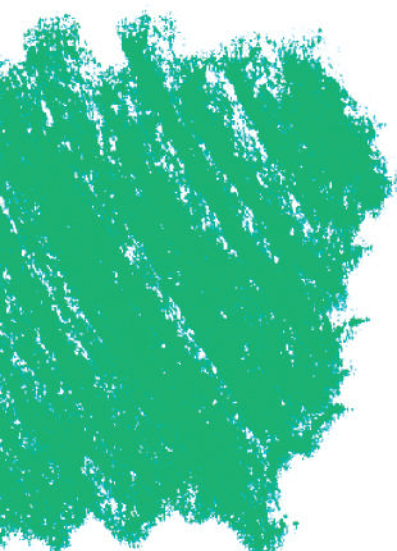


**PICKLES,
THE LITTLE PIG**



**PICKLES AND
HIS TWIN SISTERS**





Picture Books

10 months – 2 years	10
2 years and up	14
4 years and up	18
5 years and up	22

Non-fiction

3 years and up	27
5 years and up	30
8 years and up	36

Story Books & Reference Books

.....	40
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Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

HUSH-A-BYE, HUSH-A-BYE, SLEEP WELL

text by Kei Amano

illustrations by Yuko Onari

If you are looking for a good “good-night book”, this may be the one. On the cover you see a girl with a pink stuffed bunny in her arms. She hugs the bunny, tucks it in a fluffy little bedding, and whispers “hush-a-bye, sleep well”. The bunny is peacefully asleep. Spread by spread, the girl lovingly puts her toys to sleep and.... The author K. Amano, a poet of Japanese style short poems (Tanka), came up with this magical repetition that translates as “hush-a-bye, sleep well”. The water paint illustrations by Y. Onari also seem to have the magical power that makes readers peacefully fall asleep. So try not to fall asleep before you fully enjoy the book.



Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

HERE KITTY KITTY

by Mako Taruishi

On the cover you see the most adorable kitten with shining eyes. You want to make friends with the kitten, stroke the fur and hear the purring, but don't jump on the kitten and scare it away. It takes time to make friends with someone new. Let the kitten have the time to be curious, to hesitate then finally to make up its mind and come close to you. In the meantime, you can watch the cute kitten peeking out, grooming, yawning and turning its head to look back at you. Illustrated kitten is so cute that you can almost feel the fluffy fur. Just enjoy the overflowing loveliness!



By the Same Author ●●●●●●





Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



RATTLE RATTLE

text by Akemi Nakano
illustrations by Yuki Sasameya

On the first spread, you see a boy shaking a rattle: rat, ta, ta, rattle! On the next spread, a raccoon dog comes with a tambourine: tam, ta, ta, tam! It's fun enough to make some noise by yourself, but it's much more enjoyable if you play it together! Rat, ta, ta, tam, ta, ta, rattle, rattle tam! One by one, other animal friends join them with their instruments and the happy sound builds up to the grand finale on the final spread, where all the friends play together and make a joyous noise! Enjoy the rhythm and alliteration of the text by A. Nakano and wonderful illustrations by Y. Sasameya.



CHEEK CHECK!

text by Ryo Kisaka
illustrations by Maki Saito



Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Boardbook | H20.0 x W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●



POOON!

text by Sachi Kokaze
illustrations by Katsuji Wakisaka

The cute red airplane gets ready to fly, and finally, it takes off! Poon! The airplane encounters a bird. Poon! The airplane flies over the city. Poon! The airplane goes over Mt. Fuji. Even in the rain cloud, the airplane flies forth energetically. The author S. Kokaze came up with lots of cute onomatopoeia that give readers the fun feeling of flying freely. The textile designer, K. Wakisaka created simple but lively illustrations of the energetic red airplane. Open the book and the book takes you away into the sky. Enjoy flying!



Boardbook | H20.0 x W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

THE CRAWLING CATERPILLAR LOOKING FOR FOOD

by Yuko Tamura

On the cover is a little caterpillar, smiling and ready to crawl through the pages. The caterpillar starts crawling. It is looking for something to eat. As it crawls through a garden, other creatures such as ants or a bird come and go. They are “dangers” to the caterpillar, so it must hide. Can it safely find its favorite leaf and eat it? The text is full of fun rhythm and onomatopoeia. The story is lovely and scientifically accurate at the same time. The illustrations in this book are made with various pieces of fabrics, cut and pasted together. You can enjoy the book by reading it aloud, learning about caterpillars, or being marvelled at the fabric arts!





Hardcover | H20.2 x W19.1 cm
20 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8690-4

By the Same Author ●●●●●



A HAPPY PANDA

by MAYA MAXX

Pandas are lovely. You may wonder why there are such lovely creatures like pandas. Such wonder is condensed in this lovely book about a panda, where a cute panda eats bamboo grass, climbs a tree and falls asleep by mommy's side. Enjoy the dynamic and lovely illustrations by MAYA MAXX and fall in love again with pandas!



Hardcover | H20.2 x W19.1 cm
20 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8693-5

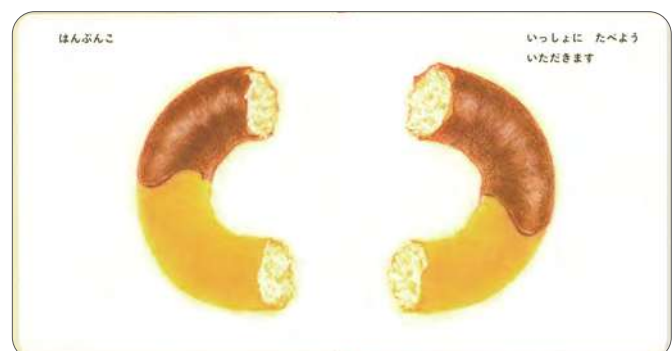
By the Same Author ●●●●●



LET'S SHARE IT HALF AND HALF

by Kyoko Mori

On the first spread, you see a tasty looking doughnut with chocolate icing. It sure is nice to have a whole doughnut, but wouldn't it be even nicer if you share it and its sweetness with someone you love? On every other spread you see something tasty; baked sweet potato, rice ball and toast with cheese. On the following spread, the potato shows the golden yellow inside and the melted cheese is stretched and divided between the pieces of bread. Half as they become, but twice as tasty they look! Enjoy the repetition and tasty looking illustrations, then share it with your beloved!





Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

THE BANANA GOES FOR A WALK

by Kenji Suzuki

Do you like bananas? How about leopards? If you like them both, you will love the illustrated banana on the first spread. A banana goes for a walk disguised as a leopard! Actually the black spots that appear on banana skin look like the leopard spots, but what a hilarious combination it is! The leopard-banana is chased by a man who loves leopards and wants to take it home. The leopard-banana has various narrow escapes, and all of them are so bizarre that you will never guess what awaits on the next spread. Enjoy the fantastic nonsense story and humorous and expressive illustrations. After this book, your banana never tastes the same as before!



Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

THE EASYGOING ARMADILLO

text by Eriko Inui

illustrations by Toshio Nishimura

Madi-Madi is an easygoing armadillo. He is very good at curling up like a ball. Today he was enjoying a walk, but he was surprised by a spider that came down right in front of his eyes. He curled up like a ball but he happened to be on top of a slope.... Down he went rolling, rolling, until...thud! He fell and fit perfectly into a hole on the ground. Try as he may, he couldn't uncurl himself and climb out of the hole. "Help!" He called up at the huge bird that flew past him, but the bird didn't hear him. So Madi-Madi laid back in the hole and.... Enjoy the rhythm and repetition of the text, expressive illustrations, and fall in love with Madi-Madi!



By the Same Authors ●●●●●





Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Authors ●●●●●



A DAY OF THE TRUCK

text by Etsuko Enomoto
illustrations by Ayumi Kamata

Look at the cover and say hello to Truck, a hard worker on a ranch. He is a special truck with a refrigerator, and he delivers milk to various shops. Today he has his refrigerator loaded with freshly packed milk and is going to a supermarket in a faraway town. He travels through fields and towns, but eventually gets stuck in a traffic jam. Can he deliver the milk in time? In hurry as he is, safety comes first. He must give way to an ambulance and stop at the closing gate of a railway crossing.... Be thrilled by E. Enomoto's lively text and fall in love with the lovely and expressive Truck, illustrated by A. Kamata.



Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



THE SONG OF SPRING NAP

text by Masako Matsuno
illustrations by Nana Furiya

Spring has come: it's getting warm, grasses are green, flowers smell good, and you are drowsy.... The text by M. Matsuno is a counting song full of rhythm and alliterations, and illustrations of simplified animals by N. Furiya are lovely and expressive. On the first spread, the sleeping animal is one boar piglet. A raccoon dog joins in and makes two sleepers. Several more animal friends all take a nap on the sunny field and.... Contrary to the sleepy and drowsy beginning, the song counts up to joyous "ten". So don't choose this book as a "good-night book", because kids would giggle and wriggle and ask for "once more!"





Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

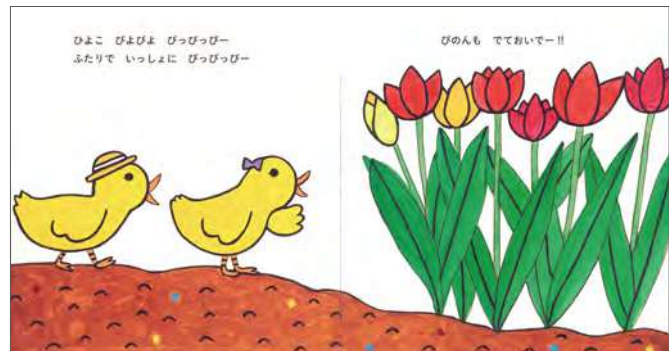
By the Same Author ●●●●●



THREE CHICKS TAKE A WALK

by Atsuko Nishimura

A chick is out for a walk, chirp, chirp, chirping. She calls for her sibling, and out from a grass bush jumps another chick. Together they go on, chirp, chirp, chirping. Then they call for their sibling and yet another chick rolls out from behind some flowers. The threesome are full of energy and curiosity as they explore their brand new world. They enjoy a walk, make friends with a frog, and dance around on a sunny field! The text is full of rhythm and onomatopoeia and it's also fun to read it aloud. The illustrations are dynamic and sensitive at the same time. So open the book and join the happy friends!

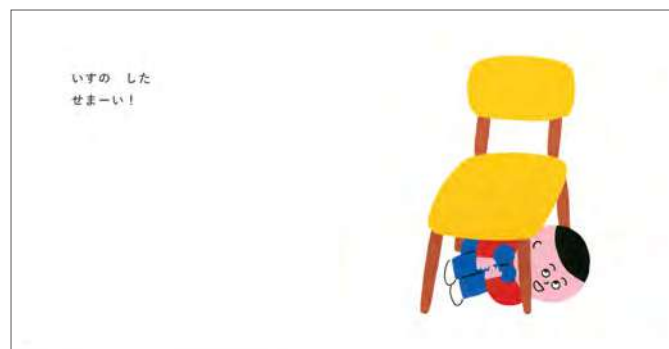


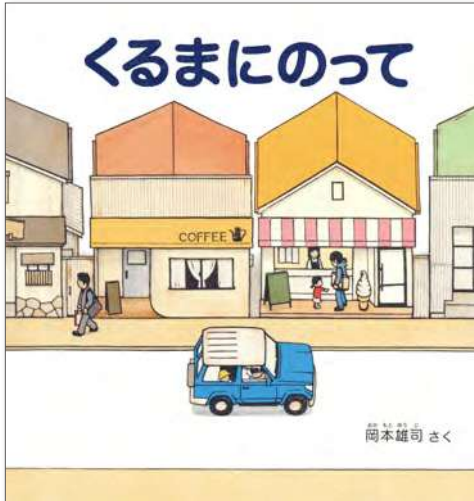
Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

SO NARROW!

by Kazuto Sasaki

Kids love narrow spaces. So it's quite understandable that a boy on the cover is happily sitting inside a cardboard box. Where else can he tuck himself into? He goes straight toward a chair...but doesn't sit on it. He curls up like a ball among the four legs of the chair. Look how happy he looks. He again walks purposefully toward cupboards and squeezes himself between them and enjoys the tightness. Spread after spread, he finds and enjoys the cozy tightness of various narrow places. It's amazing how the simple texts and simplified illustrations can be so expressive! Find yourself a narrow space, settle there with this book, and enjoy the tightness AND the book!





Hardcover | H21.6 x W20.4 cm
24 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8710-9

By the Same Author ●●●●●



GO BY CAR

by Yuji Okamoto

Hop into the car and let's go! A boy leaves home in a car to visit his grandma. On the way he sees many different vehicles, houses, shops and roads. He even gets to ride on a ferry! The precise illustrations of wood cut print are good enough to make you believe you are traveling in the book. So get ready and let's go for a drive in this wonderful blue car!



Hardcover | H21.6 x W20.4 cm
28 pages | ¥1,300.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8718-5

GOOD MORNING!

by Maiko Muro

Good morning! A cheerful tone to this greeting opens up the day. At the crack of dawn, the first bird wakes up. "Good morning!" It cries and flies over to the second bird to wake it up. Then the two of them rush off to other birds calling out, "Good morning!" Soon enough, you'll hear the familiar sounds of knock-knock echoing here and there. They fly into town and knock on the windows. It's always a beautiful sight to see the people of the town greeting each other with a warm "Good morning!" Little Micchan is no exception, as she rushes to her mother for a loving hug and a cheerful "Good morning!" Hope that today will be another happy day!





Paperback | H19.0 x W26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

THE RICE CAKE ROBBER AND THE POLICE MOUSE

by Ayaka Henmi

A rice cake maker called and reported a robbery. “A thief took a rice cake and ran into the hole in the wall. Please Mr. Policeman, hurry up and catch him!” So the policeman — or rather a police-mouse — lost no time in running into the hole and...found a large round rice cake that speaks. Wait, isn't it strange that a rice cake should speak? Sure enough, the police-mouse finds the thief hidden in the rice cake. They run, swim, drive and roll all over the house until.... Repetition, an unexpected turn of events, cute illustrations and happy ending.... Everything that makes a good book is here!



Paperback | H19.0 x W26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

A COIN'S JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD

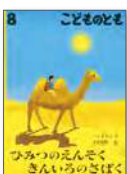
text by Sasara Kura

illustrations by Yuji Takahashi

One afternoon, a boy asked his dad for something to drink. Dad took out a 100 yen coin and gave it to the boy. Just when the boy tried to put the coin into the vending machine, it fell and started rolling down the slope. Where do you think the coin ends up? Little kids will enjoy the fun repetition of the text and unexpected turns of events, along with fantastic illustrations. A bit older kids might grasp the concepts of what money or currency is. Let's open the book and set out for the journey around the world. After all, it only takes 100 yen!



By the Same Author ●●●●●





DAIKICHI, THE SLEEPYHEAD CARPENTER

by Daisuke Ota

Once upon a time, there lived a very skilled carpenter called Daikichi. He was not only good at carpentry work, but he really cared for his tools. Though Daikichi was a great carpenter, he had one drawback: he was such a sleepyhead, he was late for work everyday. People were rather used to Daikichi starting his work around noon, but one Samurai was not so patient. Daikichi was told to get up early in order to build the stable for the lord, or else.... What should he do? Enjoy the unique ways Daikichi came up with, and find out how Daikichi finally made it to work in time. Expressive and detailed illustrations add colors to the humorous story.

Paperback | H26.0 x 19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●



KINUKO THE RACCOON DOG

text by Mai Tominaga

illustrations by Yuka Okuyama

Kinuko is a raccoon dog girl, who is quite good at turning into other things. She has practiced hard and finally learned to turn into a girl...except for her fluffy tail. So, Kinuko hid her tail inside her skirt and went out for a walk. She was happy to see the crows fly away from her, thinking she was a human girl. She was even happier to make friends with a girl, Tsukiko. But when Tsukiko was in panic and held on to Kinuko, what she grabbed was Kinuko's fluffy tail! Oh no, what now? Enjoy the lovely story and lively illustrations, and fall in love with these two friends. They may be a lot different from you, but it's always nice to learn something new or different about your friends.

Paperback | H26.0 x W19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●





Paperback | H 19.0 x W 26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

MIMI, WHERE ARE YOU?

by Nanako Matsuda

I'm Tantan, and Mimi is my sister. We don't look alike: I'm an orange cat and Mimi is a calico. "Go away!" I said to her because she suddenly jumped on me. "All right, then", she said and went away. Good, it's much better because I can keep toys to myself. I'm enjoying myself...not as much as I expected. Maybe I should find Mimi and have fun together. Now, where is she? In her favorite box? No, she isn't there. Ah, there you are, tucked between the folded shirts...no, it's only a shirt. Mimi, where are you...? Enjoy this amazing book narrated by a cat! The illustrations are lively and expressive, and readers can join Tantan and enjoy searching for Mimi, among deceptive illustrations.



Paperback | H 26.0 x W 19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

THE ANIMALS IN THE WOODS AND A SOAP

text by Keiko Murayama

illustrations by Yuriko Yamawaki

One day Crow came home to the woods and brought something with her. It was white, round shaped and smelled very good. Wise Owl told her that it wasn't food but a soap, which is used by humans to wash their body. Crow tried washing herself with the soap...bubble bubble, wash wash. She felt so good and clean that she wanted her friends to enjoy the soap. All the friends living in the woods, from the little mice to the huge elephant, came and enjoyed the soap. But where did the soap go...? First published in 1984, this adorable gift from the great artists is still as refreshing as a good smelling soap. The good thing is that, unlike soap, we can enjoy this book as long as we want!



By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Hardcover | H19.4 x W26.8 cm
32 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8716-1

THE GHOST'S SPINNING TOP TOURNAMENT

A Tale of Sakupi and Taropo

by Akane Nishihira

The sixth book of beloved Sakupi and Taropo is about spinning tops. A human boy Taro was invited to join a spinning top tournament. What's special about it? The participants are ghosts! Enjoy the extraordinary story about a ghost world, where even spinning tops are ghostly. The book itself is not ghostly, though, thanks to lovely and lively illustrations. Ready your own spinning top and let's join the tournament!

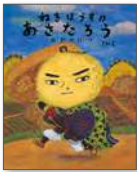
Further Titles ●●●●●





Paperback | H26.0 × W19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



HAIKU OF OGRE AND CROCODILE

text by Shoichi Nejime

illustrations by Kazuyoshi Iino

What is in common between ogres and crocodiles? Yes, they are scary. Then, is this a scary book full of monstrous creatures? No! This is the most lovable book you can enjoy all year round. The story starts on the new year's day, where the ogre and the crocodile eat rice cakes(mochi) together. It's a Japanese tradition to eat rice cakes on the first day of the year. Imagine an ogre and a crocodile having trouble with sticky mochi gummed to their sharp teeth. You will surely fall in love with them. Join them on various seasonal events — cherry viewing in spring or fireworks in summer — and get familiar with some fun japanese traditions!



Paperback | H26.0 × W19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

"OINO" A TALE OF WOLVES

text by Yoko Morimoto

illustrations by Akitaka Ito

When Ichiro happened to wake very early in the morning, he heard something whining. Did some wild animal come down to eat vegetables in the field and end up falling into the trap hole? Ichiro went to look and, for the first time in his life, saw a wolf. He had heard his grandparents talk of wolves, but there were few of them nowadays and he never expected to see one so close to his house. Grandpa hurried with a gun, but the wolf had two cubs. What now...? The book takes you to a village in the northern part of Japan, where people in those days called wolves "oino" and worshipped them as the messengers of the mountain gods.





Paperback | H 19.0 x W 26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

4 STORIES TOLD BY THE SPRING BREEZES

by Hoko Takadono

Haru-chan is feverish and has to stay in bed. She is wistfully thinking how nice it would be to be in a green field and twirl in the wind.... Now she is in a green field, and there is a red-roofed house at the end of a road. It's so inviting that she wants to visit the house. But then, three more roads appear all around her, each leading to houses of yellow, blue and green roofs. From each house comes a "spring breeze child" and each tells her what good deeds they have done. After a happy time with them, Haru-chan wakes up to find herself no more feverish. Was it only a dream? Read the illustrations as well as the text, and enjoy this wonderful book to the full!



By the Same Author ●●●●●



Paperback | H 26.0 x W 19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

THE KAMINARI FAMILY

text by Yoko Tomiyasu

illustrations by Kazumi Hanayama

On one of the cloud islands in the sky, there lived a family of Kaminari, thunder gods. This morning, five Kaminari siblings woke up to the calling of Kaminari Mamma, and sat down at a huge table to enjoy hot pancakes. Then Kaminari Papa got his big drum ready, and called for everyone: Time to work! Let's bring on some rain! Yes, the Kaminari family's job is to play their drums, call rain clouds, and then each rides a cloud to bring rain wherever it is needed. The youngest of the siblings, however, cannot ride very far on his tiny rain cloud. How can he be of help? Does anyone nearby need rain...? Enjoy the heartwarming story and fall in love with the cute Kaminari boy and his family!



By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Paperback | H26.0 x W19.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



THE EVER-CHANGING WIRE

text by Tamae Hayashibara

illustrations by Kenji Oikawa

Inside a carpenter's tool box lay a piece of wire, neatly wound. Today, however, the carpenter took it out of the box, thinking he didn't need wire. "That's where he's wrong!" thought the wire. "I'm always useful, and I'm going to prove it." So the wire changed himself into a ball and started rolling down the street. Soon he heard someone crying; "Will someone help me and get the hat?" A girl's hat with a ribbon was blown and stuck on a branch. "Leave it to me!" He changed himself into a spring and hop, hop! He reached the hat and dropped it on her head. The wire went on being useful and helpful, until..... Guess who was most grateful to the wire at the end!



Paperback | H19.0 x W26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

THE LITTLE YELLOW BUTTON

text by Yoko Kobayashi

illustrations by Yukiko Tanemura

Miho was on her way home, feeling down. She had recently moved to this town and still didn't have friends at her preschool. She was looking down when she came home, and noticed the yellow button by the gate. Oh! Did she drop this? No, every yellow button of hers is intact. Maybe the button belongs to someone who passes by our house. So Mom and Miho put the button in a plastic bag, put a note, hung it by the gate and waited for someone to come and claim it. Nobody came. Miho was sorry for the button and took it with her to the preschool, where she found a girl with a raincoat with one yellow button missing..... Enjoy the heartwarming story and lovely illustrations!





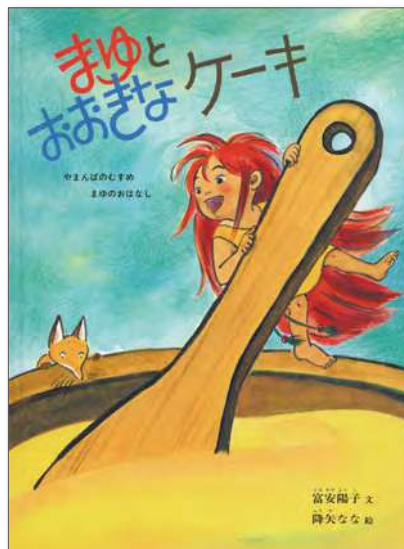
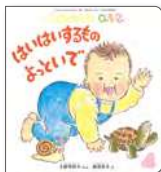
Hardcover | H19.4 x W26.7 cm
32 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8689-8

THE WISHES OF THREE BEAN SIBLINGS

text by Mai Tominaga
illustrations by Ayuko Uegaki

Out from an “otedama (a toy with beans as filling)”, three bean siblings fell. Now that they are out in the world, they wanted to be what they had long wished for. Will their dreams come true? Enjoy the rhythm and rhyme, humorous and expressive illustrations, and be thrilled as fate turns them into something unexpected!

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



Hardcover | H26.6 x W19.6 cm
32 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8703-1

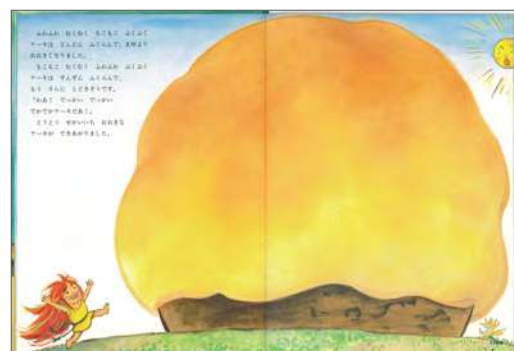
MAYU AND A BIG CAKE

A Story of Witch's Daughter

text by Yoko Tomiyasu
illustrations by Nana Furiya

Mayu decided to bake a gigantic cake for the Spring Party. She pulled out the largest bowl at home and mixed the batter. All she had to do was to bake it under the sun now. However, some clouds kept getting in her way. Mayu, with her super power, carries the batter all over in order to get it baked. A new episode of the popular series.

Further Titles ●●●●●





Hardcover | H26.6 x W19.6 cm
32 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8717-8

MONSTER PRESCHOOL NEXT DOOR

text by Ruriko Yamazaki
illustrations by Ayako Ishiguro

Welcome to Monster Preschool, can you find the entrance? It's right there at the end of the dark corridor in the corner of that toilet. Would you like to meet traditional Japanese monsters like Kappa and Snow Woman? This story is about a hilarious monster preschool full of them. Meet them with the rhythmical nonsense verses enhanced by humorous drawings.



Hardcover | H25.8 x W25.1 cm
32 pages | ¥1,500.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8720-8

SUMMER HOLIDAY

by Tomoko Aso

We all have fond memories of the summer holidays when we were children. The excitement lay in the extraordinary experiences. In Kouta's case, his cousins Yuko and Toshinobu visited his family with their parents. They went for a dip in the pool and then enjoyed some ice-cold somen noodles, a classic for summer lunch. Watermelon followed for dessert. After a short nap to rest, dusk was approaching and it was time for the festival at the local shrine. The children got into their traditional summer kimono, yukata. And the night closed with the grandeur of fireworks. Enjoy the splendor of a traditional Japanese summer holiday!

Further Titles ●●●●●





Paperback | H23.0 x W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

MY FIRST SLEDDING

by Rumi Yoshida

There are various things you can enjoy doing with the snow. Sledding is perhaps one of the popular choices children would make when asked. With a little practice, even a small child can learn to maneuver a sled. To start off, a grown-up could do the ride “with” the child and show them how to handle it. Two basics are to hold on to the rope tight, and to use one’s heels to bring it to a halt. The exhilarating feeling that the cold splash of air gives you is addicting and is precisely why sleds are a favorite of the children. Their bursting laughter and shining smiles while sledding are irreplaceable.



Paperback | H20.0 x W23.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

THE EBB AND FLOW OF THE TIDE

text by Tamami Sawaguchi

illustrations by Tetsuji Yamaguchi

Observing the ocean and showing the ebb and flow of the tide is the simple theme of this story. We stay at a beach for a full day in order to actually see the whole thing happen. The illustrations are detailed and dynamic, not forgetting to add the daily lives of the people who live near the beach, and perhaps make a living from the sea. Also, the onomatopoeia chosen to recreate the sound of the waves are superb. These two elements play important roles added to the developing changes of the beach. We hope the children are awed by the grandeur scale of the workings of nature.

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Paperback | H23.0 x W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●



WASHING MY PLUSH TOY

text by Hisano Okawa

illustrations by Yuki Kawasaki

After the rain, Haachan rushed outside with her plushy, Tannie, a big teddy bear. She accidentally tripped and Tannie fell into a puddle. Oh no, Haachan was in tears but her Mom said not to worry. She prepared a bucket of warm water for Tannie's bath. This was the first time Tannie got washed. Haachan was a bit worried and when Tannie was all clean, her worries reached their peak! Even after drying it well with a big towel, Tannie was somewhat damp and rough. Tannie seemed to have lost its fluffy warm texture. But Haachan discovers a difference the following day!



Paperback | H20.0 x W23.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

AFTER YOU, BUGS

by Akira Inagaki

On a fine spring day, a little boy set out for a walk with his mother. They chose to walk along a grassy path that ran along the river. That was when he noticed a procession of ants trying to cross the path. He squatted down to take a good look and said to them, "Hi there. After you, guys." The boy gently gave way to the ants. After a while, he encountered a pair of cabbage butterflies and then a grasshopper. He said again, "Hi there. After you, guys." The gesture of such a young child is so sweet and nice.





Paperback | H23.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●●



GOOD MORNING, DANDELIONS!

text by Fumi Nakamura

illustrations by Kazuo Kawakami

Sacchan went out to a nearby park with her Dad. On their way, they passed by a small field. It was filled with abundant dandelions! Their bright yellow color lit the area. Sacchan wanted to pick some and make a bouquet for her Mom. They decided to do so on their way back home. But to their surprise, the dandelions were all gone when they returned! Or, so they thought at first sight. Sacchan noticed that it was just that the flowers had closed! "Do you suppose they are asleep now?" she asked her Dad. He seemed to be surprised, too. So the two of them visited the place again the following morning. Sure enough, the dandelions were blooming and greeting them in the morning sun.



Paperback | H20.0 × W23.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●●



A MOTHER STINK BUG GUARDING HER EGGS

by Tetsuji Yamaguchi

A little girl spotted something on the backside of a dogwood leaf. There was a bug, and it had a heart-shaped mark on its back! The little girl shouted out, "Mom, there's something here." To this, her mother replied, "Oh, a stink bug. I suppose that's a stink bug." She greeted the bug and looked closer. That was when she noticed some greenish granular things under the bug's body. The girl uttered, "Eggs? Oh, you are a Mommy stink bug, aren't you?" The mother stink bug was protecting her precious eggs. A windy day came and the girl worried if the eggs were all right. Then it rained but the backside of the leaf did not seem to be affected. And finally, the babies arrived!



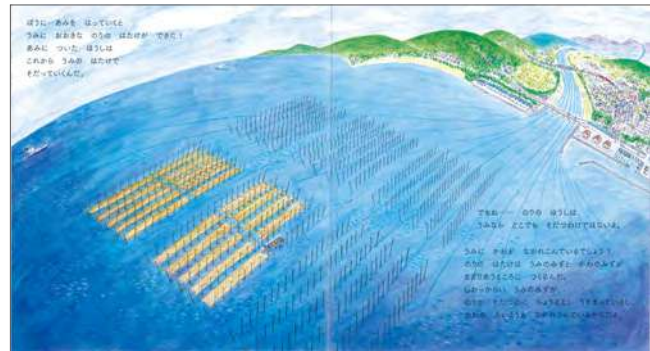


Paperback | H25.0 × W23.0 cm
28 pages | ¥400.-

NORI

by Eriko Satake

Children love NORI, which is 'laver' used in traditional Japanese cooking. It looks like a sheet of paper and can be torn with your hands. It goes very well with cooked rice. So what is NORI made from? It comes from the ocean but because the amount of natural NORI is so small, people actually cultivate it. The best place to do this is in the brackish waters. The nutrition in both river and sea water nourish the spores planted on big nets set in the water. They are harvested when they get about 15 centimeters long, and cut into strips to create square sheets. These sheets of NORI are air-dried for a full day and then swiftly grilled over heat. It gives NORI its crisp and savory flavor.



Paperback | H25.0 × W23.0 cm
28 pages | ¥400.-

LET'S BUILD HOUSES WITH TRIANGLES

by Rimako Horikawa

All you need to start off are some old newspapers and scotch tape. That's right, just these two! Use two sheets of old newspaper and fold one corner into a triangle with two even sides. Now you're ready to start rolling the rest until you reach the other side and get a long newspaper stick. Be sure to apply a piece of scotch tape to hold the very end of the stick so that it does not undo. You make two more sticks like this to have three in total. Place these three sticks in a triangle and tape the corners so that it keeps the triangle shape. By combining these triangles, we can build various houses! Let's see how. A craft project using the structure of the deltahedron.





Paperback | H25.0 × W23.0 cm
28 pages | ¥400.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●



FLORISTS

by Takako Hirono

A florist is one of the popular professions that children say they would like to do in the future. Many procedures, however, are hidden behind that brilliant atmosphere. Let's visit a florist run by a couple. Here is how a day at a florist begins. They drive out while it is still dark. They head for a flower auction market, where florists come to lay in stock. After choosing and buying flowers, they rush back to water-raise all of them. Customers and calls start coming in. They listen carefully to what their customers are looking for. Florists also make special bouquets and boutonnieres for weddings. This is a full day with two professional florists.



Paperback | H25.0 × W23.0 cm
28 pages | ¥400.-

Further Titles ●●●●●



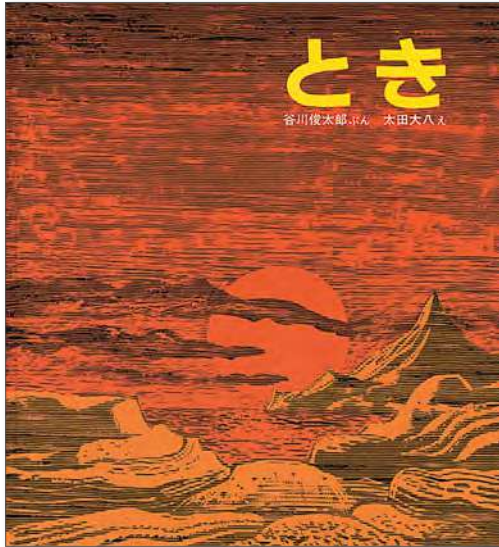
FLYING ANT DAY

text by Taku Shimada

illustrations by Kanako Oshima

When we think of ants, we tend to imagine them walking on the ground. But actually, once in their lifetime, ants fly in the air to mate. This is called a nuptial flight. The flight takes place on a humid day with less wind. The winged virgin queen ants and the smaller winged male ants prepare for flying. Of course there are predators awaiting them and they have to accomplish the mating surrounded by dangers. The mating is completed during the flight and the male ants die once their mission is fulfilled. Whereas, the queen ant flies down to the ground and removes her wings. She then starts to excavate a new colony. It is the start of another family.





Hardcover | H25.3 × W23.2 cm
24 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-2951-2

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



TIME & LIFE

text by Shuntaro Tanikawa
illustrations by Daihachi Ohta

The story starts with the word "When?", the theme word of this picture book. The line of time starts with the big bang, then a long long time ago, when life was primitive and then the time of the samurai when the warriors were around. It extends to this morning, a second ago and just this moment. Carefully chosen words and scratchboard illustrations express a keen observation on time.



Hardcover | H25.3 × W23.2 cm
24 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8451-1

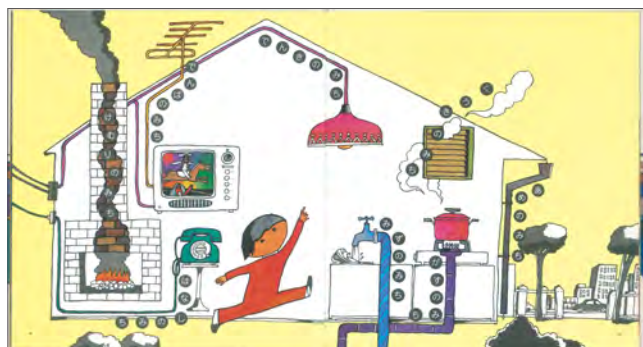
By the Same Author ●●●●●



LET'S WALK AND FIND THE WAYS EVERYWHERE

by Taro Gomi

Open the book, and the book opens your eyes to the variety of "ways". There are narrow ways or broad ways near your house. A seldom trodden path through the woods is also a "way" and a river can be a "way" too. Look up and can you see the ways for airplanes and helicopters? There are ways that go up and down: ladders, staircases, escalators, elevators are "ways" too. Ways are not only for humans: ways for tap water, electricity or rainwater.... First published in 1973, illustrated televisions or telephones may look old-fashioned, but the key idea is still fresh, inspiring and impressive. Enjoy one of the very first books by world famous Taro Gomi, and expand your world!





Hardcover | H25.3 × W23.2 cm
24 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8453-5

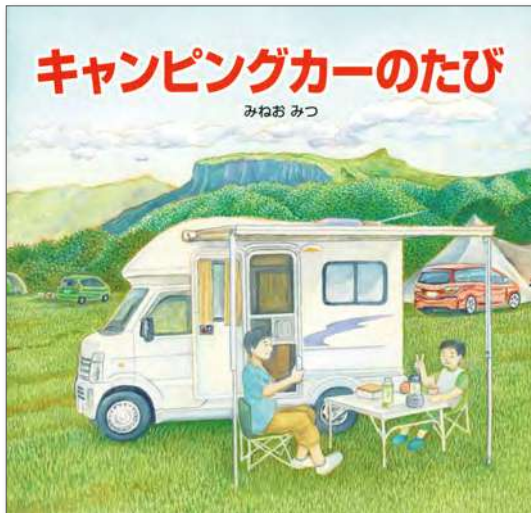
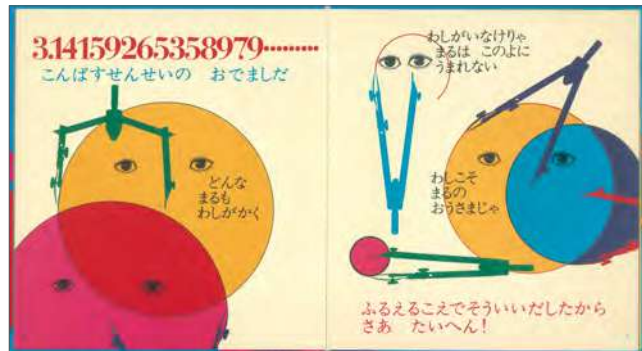
By the Same Author ●●●●●



THE KING OF CIRCLES

text by Shuntaro Tanikawa
illustrations by Kiyoshi Awazu

Look around yourself and you will find many items in the shape of a circle. A hilarious story folds out with such circle-shaped items claiming, "I am the King of Circles!" First a dish, then a pair of cymbals, and after that a tire, a ball-bearing, a pearl, an orange, and so on follow. The concept of being a circular shape is at the core but the storytelling itself unfolds in various directions. The vivid, bold, and colorful illustrations are jumping across the pages in full life. Along with them, the text creates rhythmical passages creating a harmony of energy. A collaboration with the poet, Shuntaro Tanikawa, and graphic designer, Kiyoshi Awazu.



Hardcover | H25.7 × W26.7 cm
32 pages | ¥1,500.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8711-6

By the Same Author ●●●●●



CARS FOR CAMPING

Travel, Eat, and Sleep in a Car

by Mitsu Mineo

A boy and his father set out on a trip in their camping car. The plan was to catch a ferry and reach two camping sites on an island across the ocean. They had named their car "The Slowpoke" as it could not run fast. It, however, provided a fabulous space. One could call it a secret base, perhaps? It would take you to places, you could cook and eat in it and even sleep in it! While traveling, the boy learned that there were many different types of camping cars with various equipment. Some galleys were equipped with hot water and others carried solar panels on the roof to generate electricity. The Slowpoke had a dinette that would convert into a bed. Let's find out about cars for camping!





Hardcover | H21.6 × W24.5 cm
 44 pages | ¥1,600.-
 ISBN: 978-4-8340-8708-6

CAN YOU CATCH THE SOUNDS?

A Story About Ears

text by Osamu Takatsu, Yoshito Endo
 illustrations by Kuniko Nagasaki

Have you ever wondered how we catch the sounds surrounding us? Well of course we catch them with our ears, don't we? That's right! But what are sounds to begin with? Sounds are delivered to us on aerial vibration. Big sounds are deep-surging waves whereas high sounds are waves of delicate vibrations. We have ears on both sides of our heads and the sounds reach us slightly off. Our brains detect the imperceptible difference and judge the direction of the sounds as well as where they emerged from. Both humans and animals catch these sounds and learn them to make use of them for daily life. Colorful illustrations enhance the story for an easier understanding of how we hear things.





Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

THE FLIGHT MECHANISM OF HELICOPTERS

text by Shigeru Saito

illustrations by Mizuki Yamamoto

A helicopter is a type of aircraft that can fly up, down, to your right and to your left quite freely. It can also stay in one place in the air which is called “hovering”. How can it achieve things like this? The secret lies in the wings called blades. These blades rotate, cutting the air to create a lift. But that alone is not enough. There is a tail wing that rotates to prevent the body from spinning in the counter-direction of the blades. There are so many other mechanisms in helicopters. Nowadays we see drones being used for various purposes. Similar technologies are shared and they operate on multi-rotors, too. They might become a breakthrough replacing motor vehicles someday.



FABULOUS JAPANESE HANDWRITINGS!

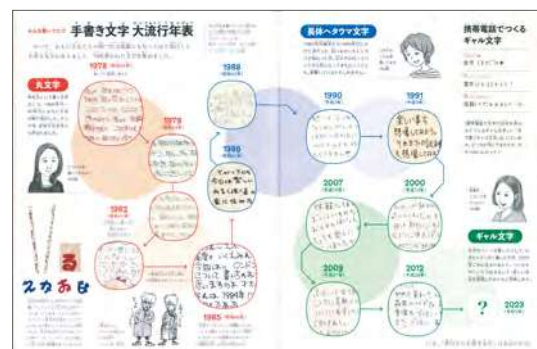
From Masters of Calligraphy to 5 year olds

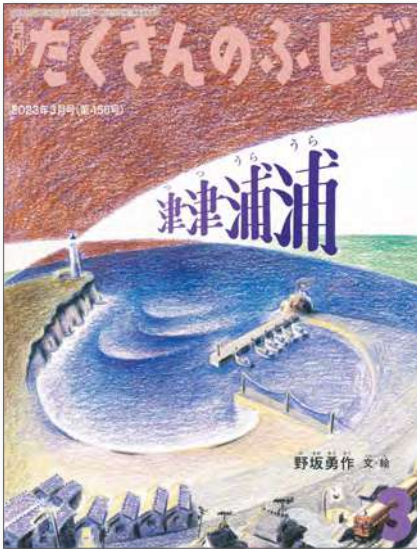
text by Natsuko Ihara

A Japanese calligraphy teacher shows us her collection of different handwritings. Her remarkable collection varies from masters of classic calligraphy to journalists to even nobody. She goes back 1,300 years to Wang Xizhi, the most outstanding name in Chinese calligraphic art whose writing has exerted enormous influence in Japan, and how it has eventually shaped the characters we learn at school. With everything becoming digital and keyboard, a good opportunity to think about why we still learn handwriting and calligraphy.



Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-





Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

By the Same Author ●●●●●



WHERE WERE JAPANESE RAILWAYS LAID?

by Yusaku Nosaka

One day, the author noticed that there are a number of stations with the kanji character “tsu” (meaning port/harbor) or “ura” (meaning inlet/bay/seaside) in Japan, and wondered why. Are there rivers or seashores close to such stations? He went around on trains to find out about such stations and came across an interesting fact. There were, in fact, 138 stations in Japan with either the kanji “tsu” or “ura” and if you connected these stations, they would make up a rough shape of Japan. The next quest was to look up stations with the kanji radical sanzui, which indicates “water”. A certain idea was starting to take shape in the author’s mind. Detailed research draws amazing discoveries.



WE COME FROM THE PAST AND GO TO THE FUTURE

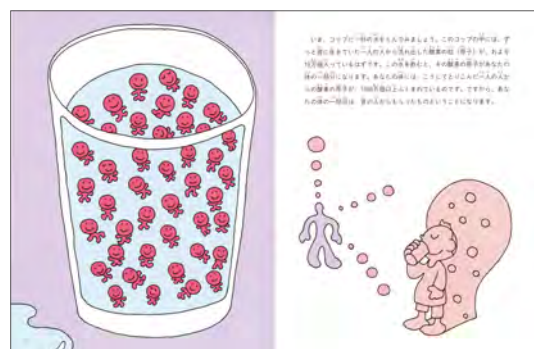
text by Kenta Fujisawa
illustrations by Maki Sasaki

This is a book of the ever so far-reaching theme, how we have been and will be existing in this wide universe? The author explains that we, in fact, connect to the past and the future. He states that all the atoms that form our bodies are the atoms once owned by organisms lived before us. In other words, our bodies contain substances handed over from the past. Then, what about connecting to the future? When we sit outside in the sun, for example, the sunrays that have reached us are partially reflected and reach out into space. This reflected light travels through the air for light-years. That is, our presence could be observed from a distant planet way into the future!



Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

COTTON CLOTH

From Seed to Fabric

text by Jin Shirai

illustrations by Hiroto Kumagai

photography by Koki Shimada

J. Shirai is a textile-dyeing artist. He specializes in dyeing fabric Jin for kimonos. But what is worthy of special mention about this artist is that he creates all his fabrics from scratch. It all starts with preparing the soil and sowing seeds to grow his own cotton. Mr. Shirai manually spins thread from this cotton. Once the thread is ready, he dyes it with natural sources around him. Then the weaving begins. The designing of patterns comes with experience, he says. It takes a whole year for this process which rewards him with beautiful cotton clothes. Detailed illustrations show us his meticulous work and endeavor.



Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

LUMINOUS MUSHROOMS

by Takehito Miyatake

Did you know that there are mushrooms that secretly glow in the dark woods at night? The author, Mr. Miyatake is an eminent photographer who has been capturing luminescent creatures and has won the Japan National Geographic Photography Grand Prix Award. This book includes a series of shots he has taken following luminous mushrooms around Japan. Mr. Miyatake learned from a specialist that when it comes to the varieties of luminous mushrooms, Japan possesses the most in the world. Luminous mushrooms propagate during the rainy seasons in Japan. Let's see the array of them glowing in the dark. Why do they glow in the first place? A hypothesis is made and proved with painstakingly taken photos.



By the Same Author ●●●●●





Hardcover | H25.6 x W19.6 cm
40 pages | ¥1,300.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8691-1

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



GOING DOWN INTO THE DEEP EARTH

text by Tetsuo Irifune

illustrations by Shun Sekiguchi

Grandpa, a geoscientist, invites Haruki and Ayu to a trip on his research vessel, The Diamond. He had named it that because it was specially built of diamond, a substance with the highest hardness of any natural material. This trip needed a sturdy vessel. So where were they heading for? They were going down into the deep earth! They passed through an area filled with semi-precious stones, peridots and garnets. It was so bright and glistening. Then a monotonous ride through a strange liquid followed. Finally they reached the inner core.... The adventurous ride is filled with plenty of surprises and is a long return trip of 10,000 kms.



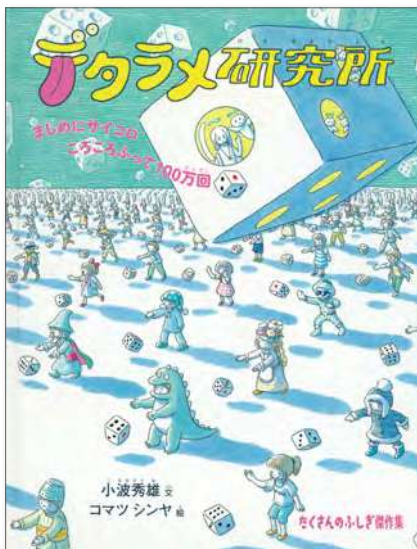
THE INSTITUTE OF RANDOMNESS

The Randomness Around Us

text by Hideo Konami

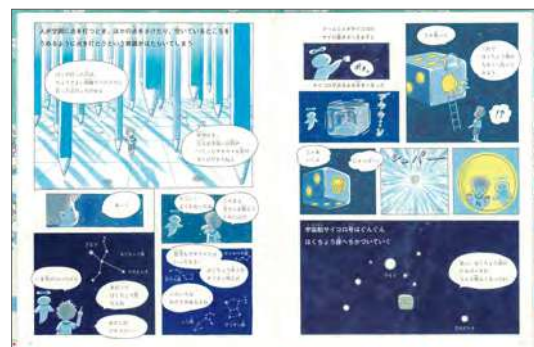
illustrations by Shinya Komatsu

Investigator R from the Institute of Randomness was sent to Earth on a mission. He was to research on how humans comprehended randomness. A human boy N meets him when rolling a dice and ending up with three consecutive "1"s. N called it a miracle while R explained it was simply randomness. So they go on rolling 60 times to gather real results. And the experiments go on. The story unfolds by explaining "randomness" and "probability" around our daily lives.



Hardcover | H25.6 x W19.6 cm
40 pages | ¥1,300.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8721-5

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



Story Books & Reference Books



Hardcover | H20.6 x W15.3 cm
152 pages | ¥1,400.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8719-2
Ages 5+

BNEE AND BOURDE, THE STORY OF PIGGY BANKS

text by Atsushi Yamashita
illustrations by Gen Hirose

Inside an old house standing on the hilltop, Bnee wakes up on her cushion: tingle tingle. Bourde is on his sofa, yawning. My stomach feels empty, Bnee says, it's time we get some bread. My back feels empty, Bourde answers, it's time we get some coins.... Who are they? They are piggy banks, complete with flowery paint on their body and a slit on their back. Since it's the day they go to the bakery, they set out eagerly: tingle tingle. They love the sound of coins inside them, they love the smell of freshly baked bread, they love coins and people who would drop coins in them, but they don't really like the crow who tells "lies". Make friends with Bnee and Bourde and meet their neighbors.



Hardcover | H21.6 x W15.3 cm
56 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8694-2
Ages 5+

THE MYSTERIOUS DRIVE IN A FURRY CAR

by Yuka Okuyama

"Maybe it's time we buy a new car." Dad said when Kota was looking adoringly at a silver car on the TV screen. Though Mom had different ideas about buying a new car, Dad came home one Sunday in a cool silver car. It was not brand new, and was amazingly cheap for the size, Dad explained. Now they are cruising through the town in their new silver car, but something is wrong. Everybody in the street is staring at them. Why is that? Open the book, jump into the car and buckle up! Let's go for a mysterious, wonderful and heartwarming ride in the unordinary car. Make friends with cute little boar piglets and be hungry for fresh seafood!



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TENKO'S SCHOOL LIFE

by Tenten Hosokawa

Tenko is a young Japanese marten. She is now worried because she is starting school today. “What kind of place is a school? Can I make friends with classmates?” Since she is rather shy, she is not very good at starting new things. When she was asked to introduce herself, Tenko was almost in panic. “What should I say, what should I do, wh...sho...do...?” and then, her “whashdo monster” invades her mind and makes her even more nervous.... Open the book and find out what she actually did on the first day of her school. The five short stories about Tenko’s school life are heart-warming and encouraging. After all, everybody is different from each other and that makes schools enjoyable!



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CORONPEK'S DAILY LIFE

by Takashi Kurihara

Coronpek is an ordinary kid just like you. He lives with parents, Pama and Mapa, and he has a dog called Suporta. Does he go to school? Seems like he doesn't. Does he have to study? Well, it doesn't look like he's doing that either. Let's take a look at what his week is like. He was lying on the grass relaxing when a stone roller came down the hill and flattened him. A gust of wind picked the flat Coronpek up and flew him into the sky. Then he got locked up in a maze because of a devil guy but somehow escaped cheating. Doesn't sound like an ordinary kid at all? Oh well, let's keep reading and share his adventures! Bright colorful illustrations enhance the hilarious story.



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MY SLIGHTLY SCARY NOTES

text by Yuusaku Kitano

illustrations by Kouji Morimoto

Yuuto was a boy who admitted he was easily frightened. So in order to overcome his weak spot, he decided to write down some “slightly scary notes”. After all, if he read those notes back later, he would be able to convince himself; “See, that was just SLIGHTLY scary, no big deal!” Yuuto is going to share some “slightly” scary short stories with us. The light-blue teddy bear staring at him with its glass eyeballs, a greenish disc he found when he was assigned to scrub the swimming pool at school, the goldfish ghost he encountered in the back streets, and the mysterious old TV dumped at the disposal site. We will encounter just a bit of scary but funny stories in the daily life of a boy.

