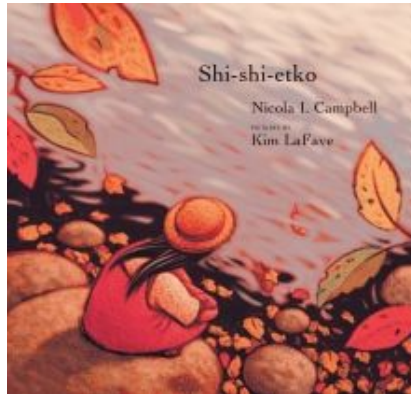
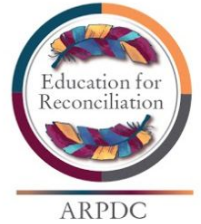


K - 3 Indigenous Literature for Classroom Use



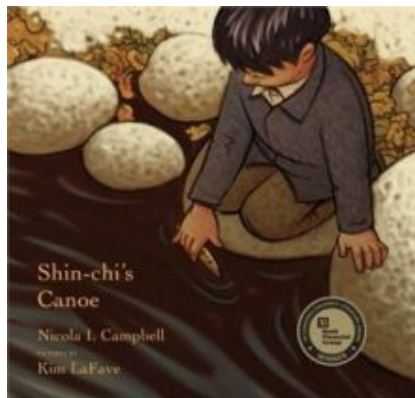
Shi-shi-etko by Nicola Campbell

(Ages 4-8)

Groundwood Books

Shi-shi-etko is a young girl who has four days before she leaves home for residential school. Her family has many teachings to share with her, about her culture and the land. The story follows Shi-shi-etko as she absorbs the world around her and collects a 'bag of memories' at the instruction of her grandmother. But she doesn't take the memories with her. Instead she buries them under a tree, for safekeeping while she is gone.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/10-books-about-residential-schools-to-read-with-your-kids-1.3208021>



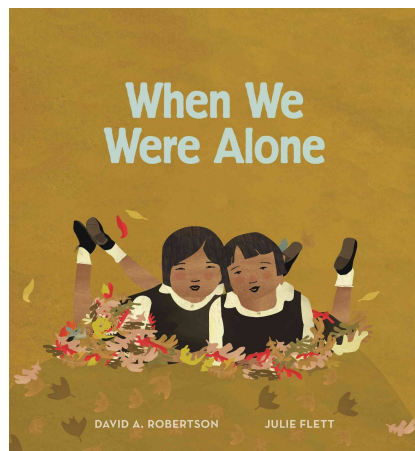
Shin-chi's Canoe by Nicola Campbell

(Ages 4-8)

Groundwood Books

This award-winning book tells the story of six-year-old Shin-chi as he heads to residential school for the first time with his older sister. It is the sequel to Campbell's *Shi-shi-etko*. As the children are driven away in the back of a cattle truck, Shin-chi's sister tells him all the things they must remember about home. Shin-chi knows it will be a long time before he sees his family, not until the sockeye salmon return. Shin-chi endures a long year of hard work, hunger and loneliness before returning home to his family with his sister.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/10-books-about-residential-schools-to-read-with-your-kids-1.3208021>



When We Were Alone by David Robertson

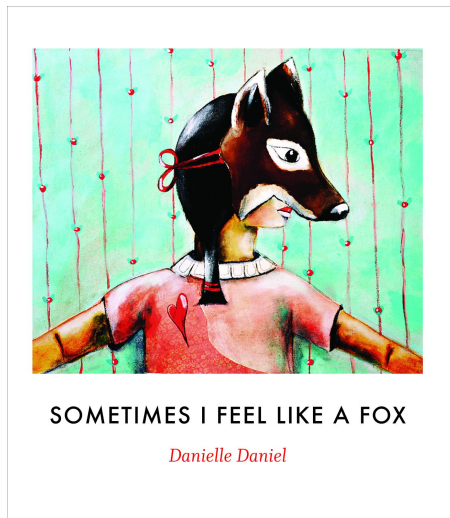
(Ages 4 - 8)

Portage & Main Press, 2016

When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things about her grandmother that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long braided hair and wear beautifully coloured clothing?

Source:

<https://www.portageandmainpress.com/product/when-we-were-alone/>



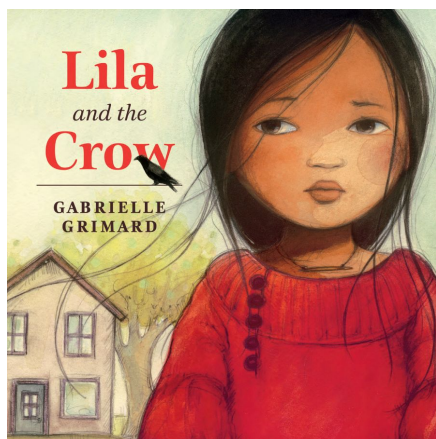
Sometimes I Feel Like A Fox by Danielle Daniel
(K - 2)

Groundwood Books 2015

Twelve young speakers explain how they identify with a totem animal from the Anishinaabe tradition. Each child wearing an animal mask and using the repeating pattern, "sometimes I feel like," declares how he/she shares the traits associated with that animal, for example, protectiveness (bear) or kindness (deer). This book is suitable for introducing imaginative play, character traits and First Nations education. Additional extensions include using concept of clans to describe the many social groups to which children belong. Readers may also want to research the use of masks in cultures throughout the world.

Source:

http://books.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AbCat_2015_Final_forWeb.pdf

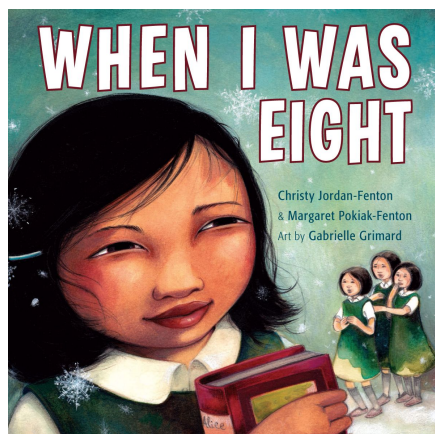


Lila and the Crow by Gabrielle Grimard
(K - 3)

Annick Press 2016

Lila has just moved to a new town and can't wait to make friends at school. But on the first day, a boy points at her and shouts: "A crow! A crow! The new girl's hair is black like a crow!" The others whisper and laugh, and Lila's heart grows as heavy as a stone...

Source: <http://www.annickpress.com/Lila-and-the-Crow>



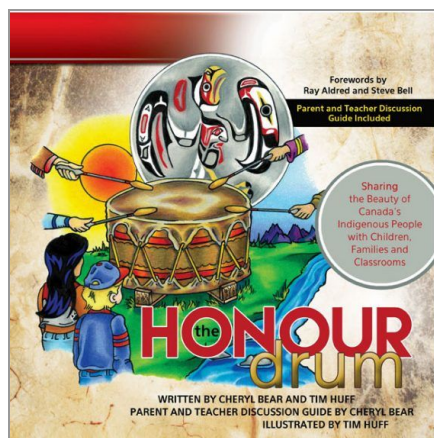
When I Was Eight by Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

(Grades 1 - 4)

Annik Press 2013

Olemaun is eight and knows a lot of things. But she does not know how to read. Ignoring her father's warnings, she travels far from her Arctic home to the outsiders' school to learn...

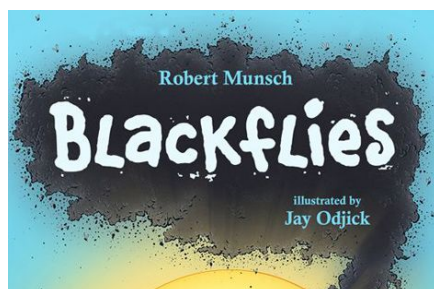
Source: <http://www.annickpress.com/When-I-Was-Eight>



***The Honour Drum* by Cheryl Bear and Tim Huff**

Willard & Associates Consulting, 2016

The Honour Drum is a uniquely envisioned and crafted project shared between an Indigenous woman from the west coast and a non-Indigenous man from Ontario to reach children, families and classrooms across Canada and around the world with a message of great beauty and truth that should not be ignored. *The Honour Drum* is a love letter to the Indigenous people of Canada and a humble bow to Indigenous cultures around the world.



***Blackflies* by Robert Munsch & Jay Odjick**

Scholastic Canada Ltd

One day Helen wakes up and it's SPRING! The snow has melted and the sun is shining. But Helen knows that the blackflies will be coming out soon. So she does what any smart kid would do: she sends her little sister outdoors to check! When the blackflies and mosquitoes carry her away, Helen tells her dad, who rushes outside and is carried away himself. Now Helen needs to rescue BOTH of them, along with a wolf and a very clever bear. . .

Source: <http://www.scholastic.ca/munsch/books/blackflies.php>

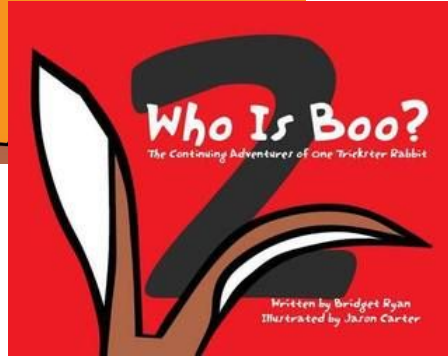
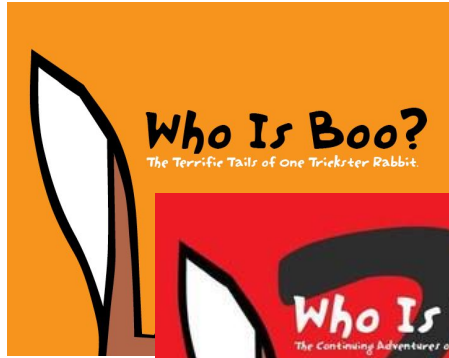


***Sweetest Kulu* by Celina Kalluk & Alexandria Neonakis**

Inhabit Media 2014

This beautiful bedtime poem, written by acclaimed Inuit throat singer Celina Kalluk, describes the gifts given to a newborn baby by all the animals of the Arctic. Lyrically and tenderly told by a mother speaking to her own little "Kulu," an Inuktitut term of endearment often bestowed upon babies and young children, this visually stunning book is infused with the traditional Inuit values of love and respect for the land and its animal inhabitants.

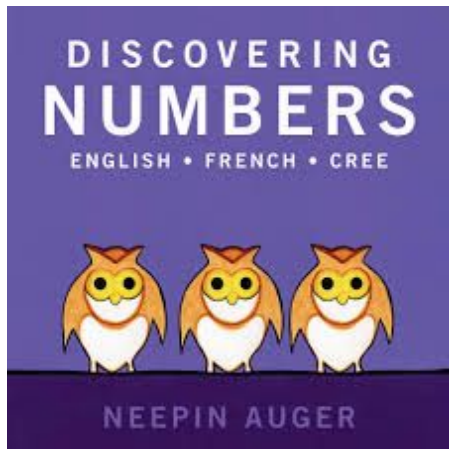
Source: <http://inhabitmedia.com/2014/09/20/sweetest-kulu/>



Who Is Boo? By Bridget Ryan & Jason Carter

Who Is Boo: The Terrific Tales of One Trickster Rabbit, is a new Canadian 66-page illustrated children's book that chronicles a perpetually curious rabbit who is in a continual race around the world and along the way, meets many animals. The title character is inspired by Nanabozho, a trickster figure in Ojibwe mythology, but the story itself is inspired from the trickster characters prevalent in all ethnicities. The first of a series of adventure stories about 'Boo' is about curiosity that leads to wonderment that leads to helpfulness!

Source: <http://www.whoisboo.com/#about>

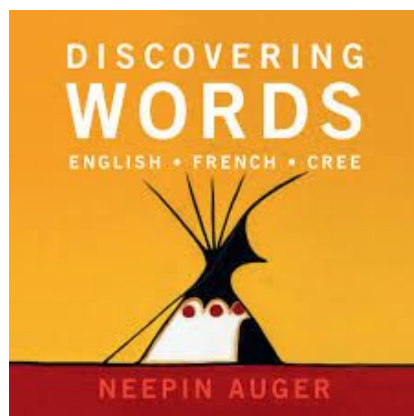


Discovering Numbers by Neepin Auger (Grades K - 5)

Rocky Mountain Books

In this small counting board book, each number from 1 to 10 is featured on its own page. The numeral is accompanied by the number word written in English, French, and Cree. The matching pictures use objects or animals important in Aboriginal cultures: one world, two fish, three owls, four feathers, five flowers, six butterflies, seven sweetgrass bundles, eight teepee pegs, nine teepees, and ten arrowheads. A final page compiles all the pictures and labels the objects. The illustrations could be used to discuss aspects of traditional and modern Aboriginal cultures.

Source: http://books.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AbCat_2015_Final_forWeb.pdf

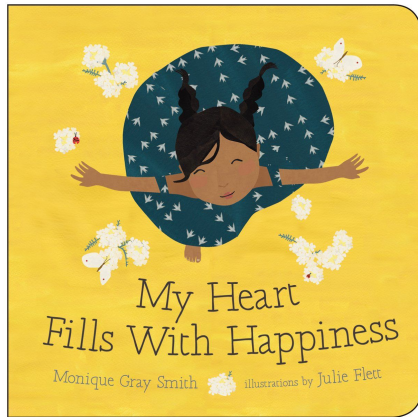


Discovering Words by Neepin Auger (Grades K - 5)

Rocky Mountain Books

Each page of this small alphabet board book features an animal or object appealing to young readers. Many important aspects of Aboriginal cultures are featured such as canoe, drum, moccasins, sweat lodge, and teepee. Other times it is in the illustration itself such as Métis beading on a jacket or a woman's long dark braid. Each picture is labeled in English, French, and Cree. A final page compiles all the pictures.

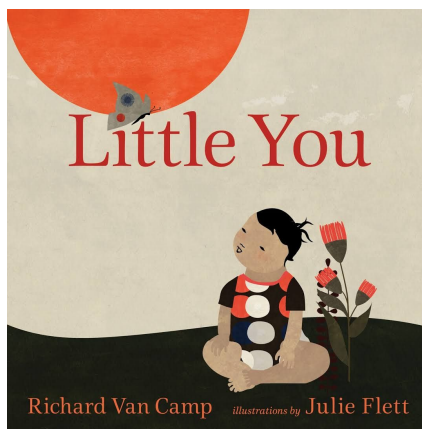
Source: http://books.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/AbCat_2015_Final_forWeb.pdf



My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith & Julie Flett
Orca Books, 2016

The sun on your face. The smell of warm bannock baking in the oven. Holding the hand of someone you love. What fills your heart with happiness? This beautiful board book, with illustrations from celebrated artist Julie Flett, serves as a reminder for little ones and adults alike to reflect on and cherish the moments in life that bring us joy.

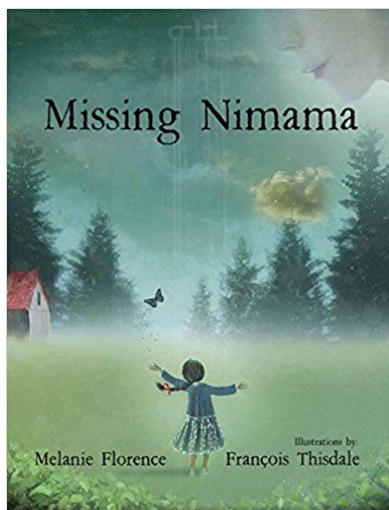
Source: https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/26586438-my-heart-fills-with-happiness?from_search=true



Little You by Richard Van Camp & Julie Flett
(Early Learning)
Orca Books, 2013

Richard Van Camp, internationally renowned storyteller and bestselling author of the hugely successful *Welcome Song for Baby: A Lullaby for Newborns*, has partnered with talented illustrator Julie Flett to create a tender board book for babies and toddlers that honors the child in everyone. With its delightful contemporary illustrations, *Little You* is perfect to be shared.

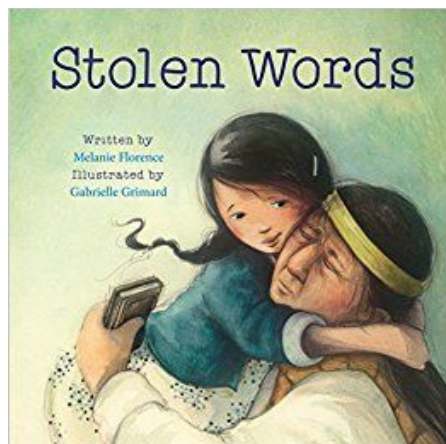
Source: https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17074068-little-you?from_search=true



Missing Nimama by Melanie Florence & François Thisdale
(ages 8+)
Clockwise Press, 2015

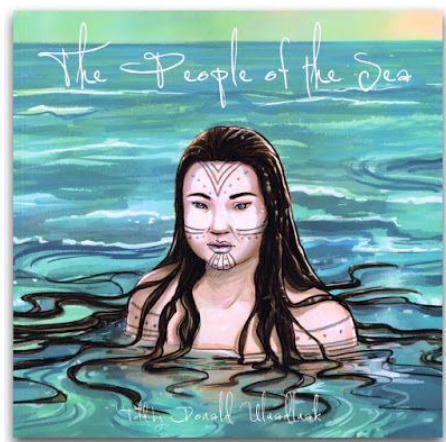
Missing Nimâmâ is told in two voices, distinguished both on the page and with the font. The first voice is that of Kateri, a young girl, who lives with her *nôhkum* (grandmother) and dreams and longs for *nimâmâ* who is one of the lost Indigenous women whose disappearances have been shamefully ignored. The second voice, in italicized text, is an ethereal one, that of Kateri's mother, who calls her daughter *kamâmakos*, her beautiful little butterfly, and who watches over her as she goes to school, is loved by her *nôhkum*, grows into a young woman, marries and becomes a mother herself.

Source: <https://canlitforlittlecanadians.blogspot.ca/2015/11/missing-nimama.html>



Stolen Words by Melanie Florence & Gabrielle Grimard
Second Story Press, 2017

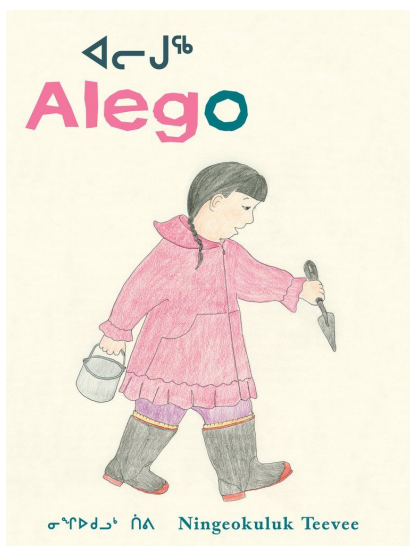
The story of the beautiful relationship between a little girl and her grandfather. When she asks her grandfather how to say something in his language – Cree – he admits that his language was stolen from him when he was a boy. The little girl then sets out to help her grandfather find his language again. This sensitive picture book explores the intergenerational impact of the residential school system that separated young Indigenous children from their families. The story recognizes the pain of those whose culture and language were taken from them, how that pain is passed down, and how healing can also be shared.



The People of the Sea told by Donald Uluadluak,
Illustrated by Mike Motz
(Ages 5 - 8)
Inhabit Media, 2017

The supernatural can be frightening but all the more when based in a true story. This is a true story. It is the story that was told by Nunavut Elder **Donald Uluadluak** of a childhood encounter that revealed a bridge between the world of his Inuit life and the myths of his people.

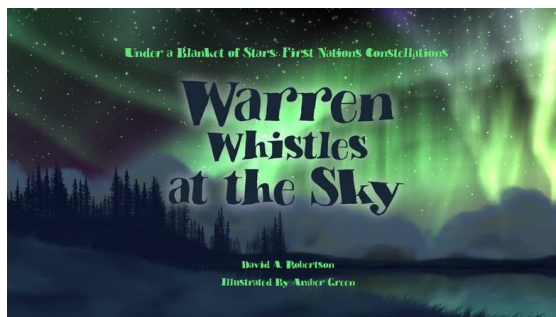
Source: <https://canlitforlittlecanadians.blogspot.ca/>



Alego written by Ningeokuluk Teevee
(Ages 3 - 7)
Groundwood Books, 2009

This is a beautifully simple story, written in Inuktitut and English, about a young Inuit girl who goes to the shore with her grandmother to collect clams for supper. Along the way she discovers tide pools brimming with life – a bright orange starfish, a creepy-crawly thing with many legs called an ugjunnaq, a horn shaped sea snail and a sculpin. This is an enchanting and utterly authentic introduction to the life of an Inuit child and her world.

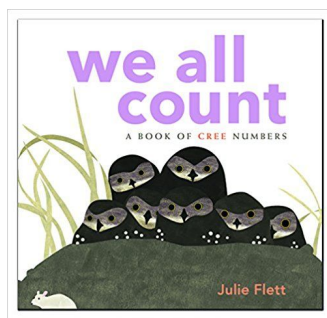
Source:
<https://houseofanansi.com/collections/imprint-groundwood/products/alego>



Warren Whistles at the Sky by David A. Robertson and Illustrated by Amber Green
Manitoba First Nations Education Resource Centre Inc.

A young boy remembers a story an Elder told him about the northern lights. But are they really spirits dancing? And will they come down and take him away if he whistles at them?

Source: <https://mfnerc.org/product/warren-whistles-at-the-sky/>



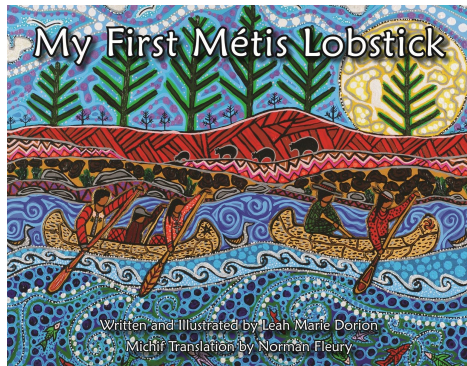
We All Count by Julie Flett
(K - 3) Board book
Native Northwest 2014



Relatives With Roots by Leah Dorion
(K - 3)
Gabriel Dumont Publishing

Relatives With Roots: A Story About Métis Women's Connection to the Land is a heartfelt story about a Métis grandmother who takes her granddaughter out into the bush to teach her how to pick traditional medicines. As the granddaughter learns the traditional beliefs and stories about how the Métis people use the plants for food and medicine, she feels happy to be a Métis child with access to such wonderful cultural knowledge. This charming and vibrant book introduces young readers to key concepts in the traditional Métis worldview while focusing on the special relationship between a young Métis girl and her grandmother.

Source: <https://gdins.org/product/relatives-with-roots/>



My First Métis Lobstick by Leah Dorion,
translated by Norman Fleury
(K - 3)
Gabriel Dumont Publishing 2016

My First Métis Lobstick takes young readers back to Canada's fur trade era by focusing on a Métis family's preparations for a lobstick celebration and feast in the boreal forest. Through the eyes of a young boy, we see how important lobstick making and ceremony was to the Métis community. From the Great Lakes to the present-day Northwest Territories, lobstick poles—important cultural and geographical markers, which merged Cree,

Ojibway, and French-Canadian traditions—dotted the landscape of our great northern boreal forest. This little known aspect of Métis history vividly comes to life through Leah Marie Dorion's crisp prose and stunning gallery-quality artwork. Includes an audio CD with narrations by Leah Marie Dorion in English, and Norman Fleury in Michif.

Source: <https://gdins.org/product/my-first-metis-lobstick/>