

NEW PUBLICATIONS 2022 FALL





FUKUINKAN SHOTEN PUBLISHERS

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



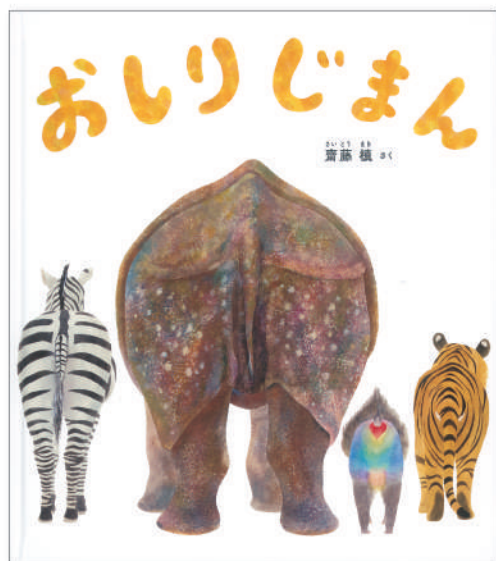
My Father's Dragon
by R. S. Gannett
translated by Shigeo Watanabe
illustrated by R. C. Gannett



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



nijntje
by Dick Bruna
translated by Momoko Ishii



Hardcover | H23.1 x W20.5 cm

24 pages | ¥900.-

ISBN: 978-4-8340-8649-2

Maki Saito

Picture book artist. Born in Tokyo, Japan. 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 her art works. One of the up-and-coming picture book artists in Japan.

By the
Same
Author



PENGUIN STRETCHING EXERCISES

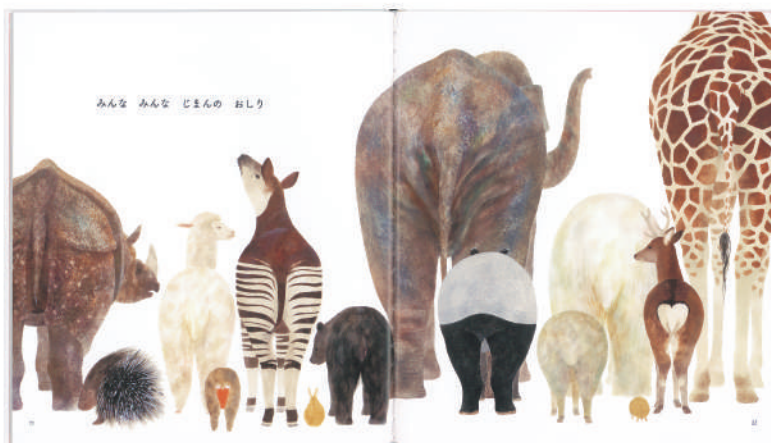
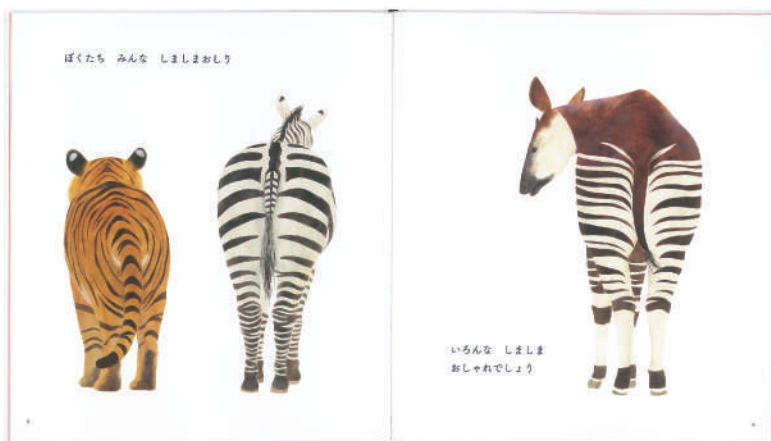


BABY ELEPHANT, WHAT DO YOU DO WITH YOUR TRUNK?

ANIMALS BRAG ABOUT THEIR BOTTOMS

by Maki Saito

Animals appear and brag about their bottoms. A rabbit says, “Look at my bottom, it's round and cute”, to which a hippo boasts “Mine is round and BIG, too!” Let's see bottoms with patterns like tigers, giraffes and zebras or bottoms that match in color of the faces. There are also fluffy bottoms and spiny ones. All are unique and something to be proud of!





Hardcover | H25.8 × W25.1 cm
36 pages | ¥1,400.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8670-6

ASSEMBLE AND RESEMBLE

by Tatsuya Tanaka

On the first page, you see 6 men in orange overalls; they seem to be working with some kind of building materials. Those materials look somewhat familiar..... actually they are the parts of a clothes pin! The miniature men assemble the parts, add a little more and, voila! It resembles a swing! Spread by spread, parts of familiar things such as tooth brush or eye-glasses are assembled. But then they resemble something totally different. Drive under the street lamps made of toothbrushes or dive into the eye-grass swimming pool. The renowned miniature artist T. Tanaka invites you into the miniature wonderland, all made from something you have at home. Enjoy the whole new world seen from the “miniature” point of view! Then try creating your own world where a thing resembles something unexpected.



Tatsuya Tanaka

Miniature photographer and “mitate” artist. Born in Kumamoto, Japan. Started his art project “MINIATURE CALENDAR” in 2011, in which he incorporates everyday objects into a miniature world, and has been presenting his miniature works on his SNS accounts every day. Currently has over 3.5 million followers on his Instagram account.



Hardcover | H26.6 x W19.5 cm
48 pages | ¥1,400.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8653-9

TRANSFORMATION OF THE CATERPILLAR

by Suzuko Momoyama

commentary and supervision by Takenari Inoue

The author of this book is a professional insect artist who loves caterpillars beyond all else. And you can see that from the exquisite and delicate artwork she displays. The book introduces the full transformation of three typical butterflies we can spot anywhere in Japan. It is not easy to view all of their transformational stages if it were not for the book. You would have to observe them very patiently to actually see such changes. First a cabbage white and then a swallowtail is shown in sequence. The different colors they become according to their stages are amazing. And last comes a small pale-silver colored butterfly, *curetis acuta*, which does not have a common name perhaps because of its restrictive habitat range. At the end of the book, an informative commentary is added to explain the stages of transformation.



Suzuko Momoyama

Caterpillar painter. Born in Tokyo, Japan. Spent her childhood in the suburbs of New York City. Has been raising insects since her elementary school days. Her starting point for painting was learning to make observation sketches using microscope in biology class. Aspires to create expressions that freely fly across the boundaries between natural science and art.



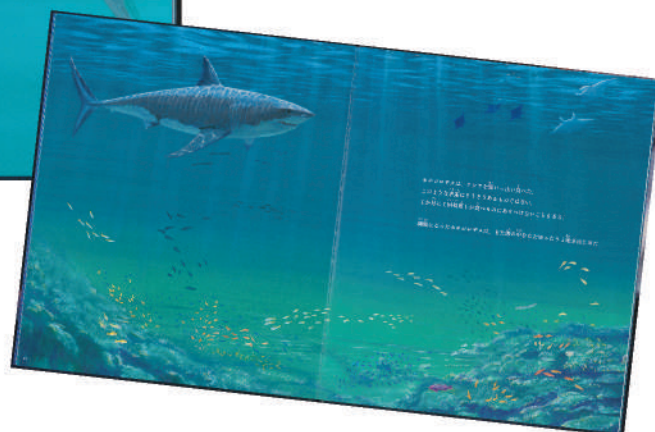


GREAT WHITE SHARK

text by Asako Numaguchi
illustrations by Shunichi Seki

A spectacular cover invites you into this book. It is all about the great white shark, one of the most powerful hunters of the sea. Some might recognize this face from the movie "Jaws". Let's watch how it hunts. It quietly moves towards its target and dives immediately under it without being noticed. Then at full speed, it rushes toward the sea surface and gulps down its prey. Fine scales enable it to swim fast like this. There are many small holes in its face which are called the Lorenzini organ. This organ senses light current emitted from others. It has a delicate nose as well in order to detect prey from far away. Let's see how they mate and have baby sharks. Only the lucky ones manage to become adult sharks. Enjoy the dynamic illustrations.

Hardcover | H29.6 x W25.6 cm
40 pages | ¥1,800.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8668-3



Asako Numaguchi

Shark journalist. Born in Tokyo, Japan. Completed a master's degree in Fisheries Science at Tokai University Graduate School of Marine Science and Technology. Has been committed to study the nature of sharks in the world and spread the information through variety of media.

Shunichi Seki

Painter. Born in Kanagawa, Japan. Completed a master's degree in Fine Arts at Tokyo University of the Arts Graduate School. Professor at Mie University Faculty of Education. Specializes in drawing still lifes and animals using the traditional oil painting technique.



Hardcover | H25.3 x W23.4 cm
56 pages | ¥1,600.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8642-3

ANNO'S JOURNEY X Netherlands

by Mitsumasa Anno

The delicate and exquisite touches with Anno's paint brush completed the tenth and final book of this series. The traveler arrived in the Netherlands and captured the beauty of this country. The characteristic canals and windmills, the ever so famous tulips blooming in Keukenhof and the cheese markets are just some examples. Artworks of prominent painters of the Netherlands such as Johannes Vermeer and Meindert Hobbema are taken in as a motif to create the picturesque townscapes. The notes are jotted down as if they were there to be a travel diary and are quite tasteful. The original artwork was discovered from Anno's studio after he had passed away in December 2020. He had commented prior to his death that he was going to do some pieces on the Netherlands next. So he has kept his word, adding this fine piece to more than 150 other picture books he had created during his lifetime.



Mitsumasa Anno

Picture book artist. Born in Shimane, Japan. One of the most popular and accomplished picture book artists in Japan. Is a winner of multiple first prizes for graphic excellence at the Bologna Children's Book Fair and the Hans Christian Andersen Medal for illustration, as well as many other honors and awards. Passed away in December 2020.

By the
Same
Author



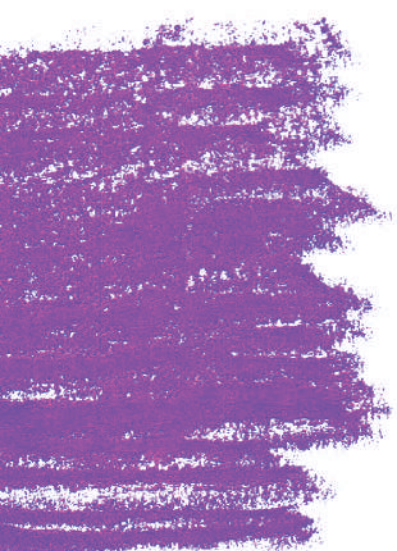
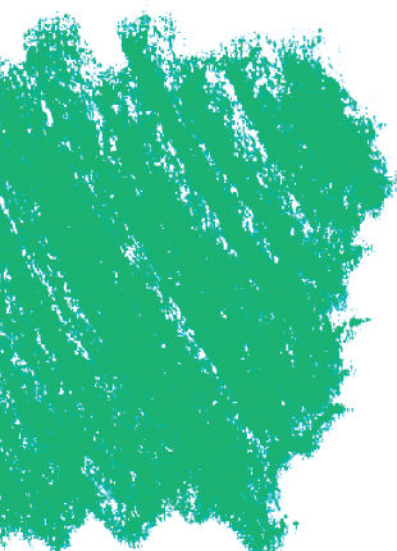
ANNO'S
ALPHABET



ANNO'S
MATH BOOKS



ANNO'S
MEDIEVAL WORLD



Picture Books

10 months – 2 years	10
2 years and up	14
4 years and up	18
5 years and up	24

Non-fiction

3 years and up	28
5 years and up	32
8 years and up	36

Story Books & Reference Books

.....	40
-------	----



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

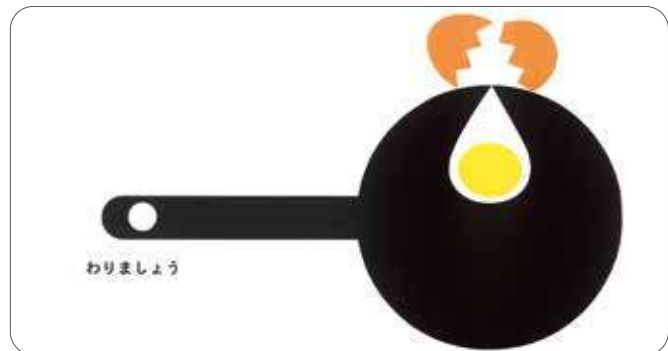
By the Same Author ●●●●●



FRIED EGGS

by Junko Masuda

The cover is eye-catching, to say the least. It looks as if two curious eyes are staring at you. In no time, you will see these “eyes” are actually eggs being fried in a pan, illustrated using simplified forms of circles and straight lines. The cover is so inviting that you just have to open the book and see what’s inside. There, you find a spread with only two eggs, followed by a spread with only a pan, and.... Before you know it, you are enjoying the step-by-step cooking of two-egg sunny side up. Clearly cut lines of paper-cut-work illustrations are brightly colored and they are easy for infant readers to appreciate. Enjoy the everyday moment of cooking and eating, which looks very special in this wonderful picture book!



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

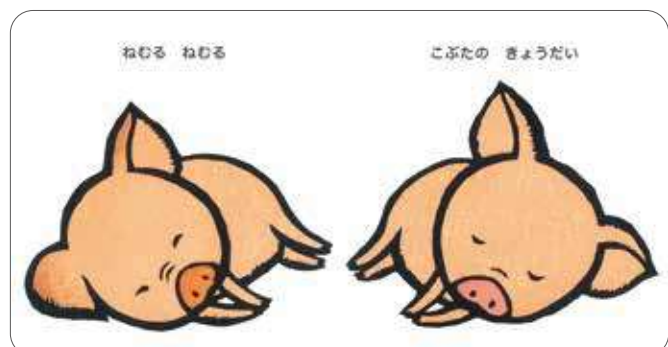
By the Same Author ●●●●●



WAKE UP, LET'S PLAY

by Nobuo Fukuchi

On the first spread, two piglet siblings are sleeping, one on each page. On the next spread, one of the piglets wakes up and nudges the other saying, “Wake up, let’s play.” The sleeping piglet mumbles “Later....” Oh yes, it happens. When one of the children is full of energy and wants to play, others may not be in the same mood. Toddlers may read this book remembering the time when he/she couldn’t get other (s) to join him/her, while babies will simply enjoy the cute illustrations and repetition. Text can be read aloud like a song, which will tickle young readers. The wood-cut-print illustrations show subtle expressions that make you smile. Enjoy the cute book of a cute story about cute piglets!



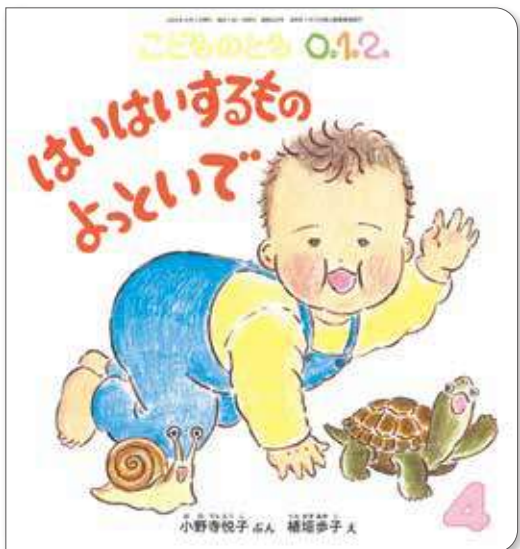


Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

A BUTTERFLY

by Ren Fujii

A yellow butterfly flies on the first spread. Against the very pale blue-green background, it looks so bright, light and delicate. On the next spread, the butterfly perches on yellow rape seed flowers. The flowers look even brighter yellow when the butterfly is on them. Spread by spread, the yellow butterfly visits familiar things, such as a shiny green frog or a brilliant red tomato. Expressed with torn-paper-collage illustrations, everything looks as tender as the powdery scales on butterfly wings. Be a butterfly (not the nervous one, but the restless one about to explode with joy) and take off into this wonderful picture book. Spring has finally come!



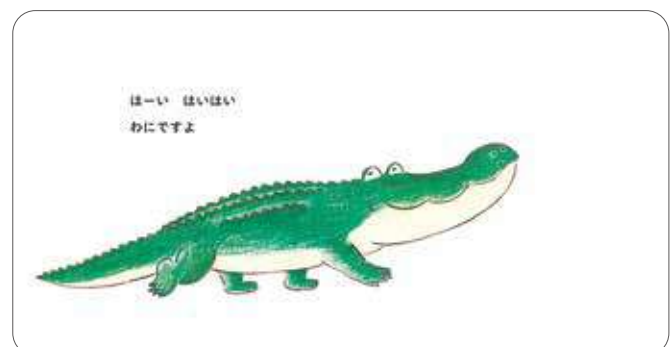
Boardbook | H20.0 × W19.0 cm
22 pages | ¥400.-

CRAWLING WITH ANIMALS

text by Etsuko Onodera

illustrations by Ayuko Uegaki

On the first spread you see a baby crawling. Look at his smiling rosy cheeks, pudgy little hands and fluffy hair. He is so happy and so proud of himself now that he can crawl! On the next spread, he sits up and calls out, "Who wants to crawl with me?" "I do, I do, I want to crawl with you!" A cute snail eagerly joins him and they both call out for more friends to join them, "Who wants to crawl with us?" Thus, a tortoise, a hedgehog, and a crocodile join the boy and they parade on. With rhythm, repetition, lovely illustrations and something that babies can actually do, this book is ideal as the first book for babies.



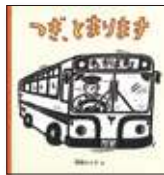
By the Same Authors ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



CHANGING ANIMALS

by Emiko Murata

What is this round thing on the cover? Two round eyes in a round face look at you invitingly, and your instinct tells you “This book must be fun!” On the first spread, however, you see a tortoise, everything tucked in its shell. It doesn’t move...it still doesn’t move...and the tension builds up until...POM! The tortoise pops its face out and greets you on the next spread. Other animals follow suit. Out of the mother kangaroo’s bag, a baby POPs out and grins to us. A peacock spreads its tail, puffer fish puffs up, and eggs hatch.... What a change! They are sure to make babies giggle with joy. The wood-cut-print illustrations capture the “critical” moment when animals change their forms. Enjoy the moment with a humorous sound, POM!



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

WAKE UP, SLEEPYHEAD!

by Yo Ueno

Toys and tools, when they are not being used and left on their own, seem to be asleep. Let’s wake them up! Dear alarm clock, are you still sleepy? Wake up, sleepyhead! And the alarm sets off on the next spread: tri-ri-ri-ri, good morning! Spread by spread, familiar things such as a cup, a fork, a bag and a stuffed bear appear and be awakened, and help you get ready to go out for a walk! Babies would enjoy the repetition of “wake up” and “good morning”. Toddlers would enjoy the book even more when they recognize the familiar items both in the book and in the house. Paper-cut-work illustrations add warmth to this fantastic book, and surely this will be the little ones’ favorite!





Hardcover | H20.2 × W19.1 cm
20 pages | ¥800.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8639-3

By the Same Author ●●●●●



LET'S COOK WITH A FRYING PAN!

by Azumimushi

Shall we cook something with a frying pan? CRACK! Gently drop an egg into it and we get a sunny-side up egg. Then a sausage. Sizzle, sizzle, sizzle...the sound along with the scent of the grill is something! And what is this creamy batter? Sizzle, sizzle, sizzle...and we get a favorite dish of all! Let's cook with a frying pan for a complete breakfast.



Hardcover | H20.2 × W19.1 cm
20 pages | ¥800.-
ISBN : 978-4-8340-8665-2

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



PLAYING ANIMALS

text by Yukihiisa Tokuda

illustrations by Kenji Oikawa

This is a picture book filled with playful animals with onomatopoeic descriptions. An elephant uses its trunk to splash water, a couple of bears play sumo thumping on the ring, three piglets turn somersaults rolling about and four monkeys display their handstands. The animals count up to ten with rhythmical sounds and movements. The colorful illustrations enhance the story.





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

MA-CHAN AND HER MANDARIN ORANGE TREE

by Kayako Nishimaki

When Ma-chan, a baby girl, was born, Dad planted a seedling of mandarin orange tree. When Ma-chan was old enough to hold a small watering can, she would water the small tree: Ma-chan's Mandarin, my own Mandarin, grow well and bear well.... Then, on Ma-chan's fourth birthday, the tree had five beautifully ripe mandarin oranges. Ma-chan took one orange for herself and tasted it. Sweet, fresh and delicious! She took another orange for Mom, then another for Dad. She couldn't leave out her dog and gave one to him. Now there was only one orange on Ma-chan's mandarin orange tree. What would she do with the last orange...? Illustrations with unique pink outlines give the peaceful warmth to the book.



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

SOMEONE IS ANNOYING ME

by Taro Gomi

On the first spread, a boy is at his desk, concentrating on crafting. (and assembling something with thread and paper.) Something flies over his head on the next spread, distracting him. The annoying "something" flies in front of the boy's eyes. The boy tries to catch the annoying thing, using whatever he has on his desk.... According to the author-illustrator, Taro Gomi, also known as "the magician of picture books", the idea for this book was born when he realized that the most annoying thing that distracts him is his own voice that keeps telling what he should or should not do. Enjoy the book, which is complete with humorous text, expressive illustrations and an unexpected twist in the end.



By the Same Author ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



THE ADVENTURE OF OSCAR'S LOST SHOE

text by Tetsuta Watanabe

illustrations by Chaco Kato

What would happen to a lost shoe? Open the book and find out what happened to the shoe, which Oscar accidentally dropped. The shoe gets kicked and hit and does lots of bouncing and leaping and flying before it finally (and miraculously) gets back to Oscar. The author's own experience of taking a walk with his son through the woods near Melbourne developed into this joyful book. The illustrator made the story even more cute and enjoyable with expressive illustrations of animals that are unique to the continent of Australia. Colorful letterings of onomatopoeia give the final touch to complete this humorous book. Let's take a walk into the Australian woods, but be careful that YOU don't drop or lose anything.



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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



PAPER CHAIN GARLANDS

text by Masami Kosaka

illustrations by Tomoko Hirasawa

What is she doing with so many strips of colorful origami paper? Yes, you guessed right! She is gluing strips to make a loop, and then connecting the loops into a paper chain garland. Look, now her paper chain turns into a pretty necklace: looks great on her! She makes another necklace for Mom and her friend Bunny. A tiny paper chain can be a crown for Squirrel and a long one is a sash for Bear. Who else wants paper chain accessories? A house! Let's make paper chain garlands, long enough to drape on the windows, hang from the roof or decorate the trees in the garden! Enjoy the heartwarming story, cute and expressive illustrations, then join the girl and her friends and create your own paper chain accessories!



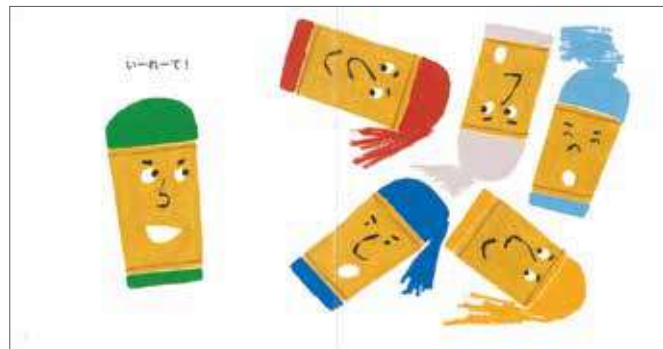


Paperback | H21.0 × W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

LET ME JOIN YOU!

by Jin Kitamura

On the cheerful orange cover, you see some toys with happy, eager-to-have-fun expressions. Trumpet, small shovel, crayon...things toddlers are surely familiar with. On the first page, the shovel calls out "Let me join you!" You see welcoming smiles of a small rake and a little bucket on the following spread, happily making a small mound, complete with a tunnel. "Let me join you!" A green crayon calls out, and all crayons of various colors enjoy painting a picture. Each toy on the cover joins their friends and have fun together. They seem so happy that you want to join them in the picture book! Better still, you can enjoy having fun with your friends using the toys you see in the book. After that, you and your friends can read this book together and have fun together!



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

HIDE-AND-SEEK IN THE SEA

by Tomomi Miyamatsu

On the first page, you see a grayish rock, an ordinary looking rock that can be found on any beach. Look again and can you tell who is hiding in the cracks? Are those black beady things their eyes? On the next spread, you meet crabs, coming out of the cracks and waving their scissors: here we are, did you see us? Spread by spread you meet a flounder in the sand, seahorses among seaweeds or some clownfish inside a sea anemone.... They are all skillfully hiding, but on the following spread, they come out and greet you. Make friends with the residents of the sea and play hide-and-seek with them. Little ones would love the repetition and expressive illustrations, while older ones will appreciate the fantastic paper-cut-artwork!



By the Same Author ●●●●●



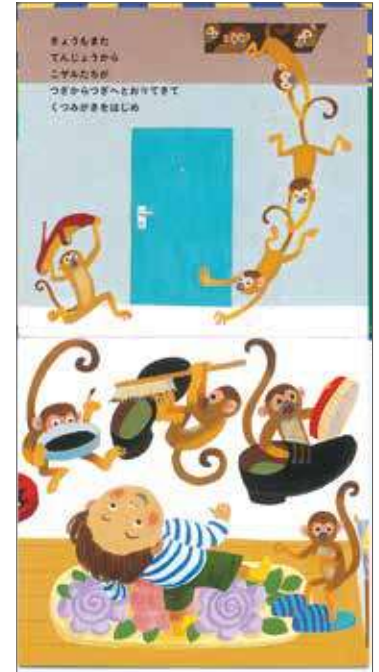


Hardcover | H21.6 x W20.4 cm
24 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8646-1

STAY AT HOME WITH ANIMALS

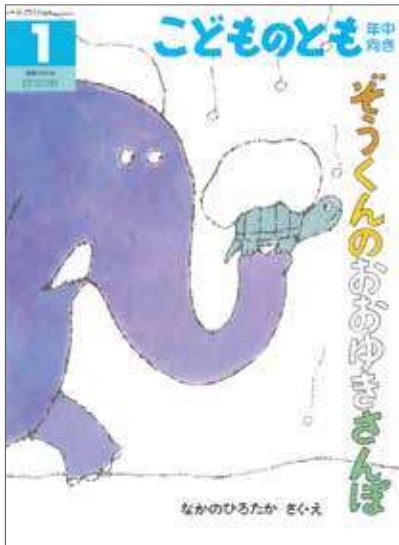
text by Shoichi Nejime
illustrations by Nana Furiya

Mom went grocery shopping and I was all alone in the house. That's when "they" came dancing out! The young monkeys slipped down from the ceiling and started shoe polishing, a sloth cuddled up between the beddings and the penguins cooled themselves off at the fridge. Animals come one after another to do crazy things in the house. A hilarious fantasy world unfolds with the boy's imagination.



By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





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

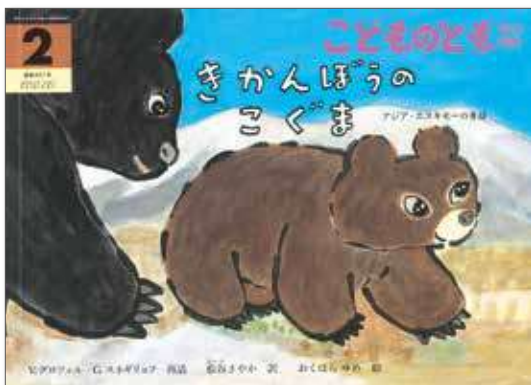
Further Titles ●●●●●



ELEPHANT'S SNOWY DAY'S WALK

by Hirotaka Nakano

It's snowing today! Mr. Elephant is happy to see the snow. "Well, I think I'm going out for a walk." Snow falls on Mr. Elephant's back while he is walking and...look! He has such a pile of snow on him. "Well, I think my friends will like it." Mr. Elephant walks on to show the snow on his back. Mr. Hippopotamus, Mr. Alligator and Mr. Tortoise are all happy to see Mr. Elephant and his snow, and at the same time they are happy to show off the snow on their own backs. Together they set out for a walk, and.... Beloved Mr. Elephant and his friends take yet another walk, this time, in the snow. With unique and humorous illustrations, the book, though its pages are filled with snow, will make you warm and happy!



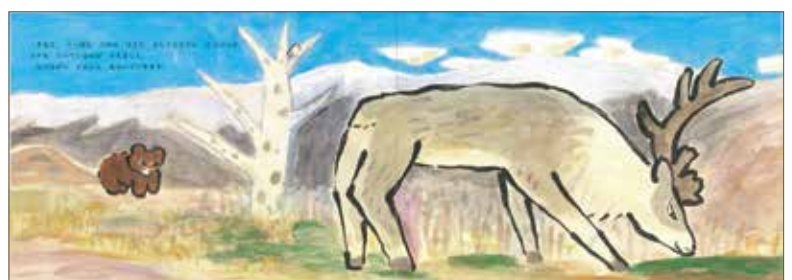
Paperback | H19.0 × W26.0 cm
32 pages | ¥400.-

AN UNRULY LITTLE BEAR

An Asian Eskimo Folk-tale

by Vladimir Glotser and Gennadii Snegiryov
Japanese text by Sayaka Matsuya
illustrations by Yume Okuhara

On the cover you see a mother bear and her son. Look how eager and determined the little bear looks! Mother bear shows which berries to eat or how to catch trout in the river, but the son insists he do everything by himself since he is already a "big boy". Tired of being treated as a little kid, the unruly bear decides that he wants to be something other than a bear. He tries whistling like a ground squirrel, running like a reindeer and flying like a duck.... Guess what he finally decides to be! An Asian Eskimo folk-tale is revived in this picture book with expressive illustrations by Yume Okuhara and Japanese text by Sayaka Masuya. Enjoy the lively book of an unruly and energetic little bear!





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

AS SPRING COMES

by Ikuko Watanabe

Is it raining while the sun shines? No, it's not rain; snow on the roof is melting and drip-dropping. Beyond that "rain", the sky is blue. Shall I venture out to the park? I need to put on my coat, cap, woolen scarf, gloves...maybe just a coat and gloves. Outside, the sun shines bright on the snow. A tiny stream appears where the snow has melted. Dandelion leaves are now reaching up toward the sun. Fish in the pond dance near the surface. Snow melted at the bottom of trees and left round openings; it is as if the woods are yawning after the long winter slumber, tucked in the blanket of snow. What's that hazy pinkish air above yonder trees? Are they flowering already? Close-up, the trees look almost bare; are they so full of energy that it oozes out as pink steam? Let's explore through the detailed illustrations and find the first signs of spring! The poetic text is both easy and beautiful!



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

CAUGHT A BIG FISH!

text by Tetsuta Watanabe
illustrations by Shinbo Minami

Grandpa said "Want to go fishing?" and I said "Yes!" "Get a big fish," said Grandma and made us rice ball lunch. Off we went on a boat and I caught a tiny fish. Grandpa put that tiny fish on the hook, and caught a middle-sized fish. Then again, Grandpa used the middle-sized fish as bait and caught a big fish. "Is this our dinner?" I asked, but Grandpa said no. "Let's try and get an even bigger fish with this big fish as bait." Can they catch an even bigger fish as planned? Enjoy the humorous conversation between a boy and his bold Grandpa, expressive illustrations and beautiful southern sea, and unexpected outcome!

By the Same Authors ●●●●●





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

QUIET, QUIET

by Yuki Nakano
illustrations by Nagako Suzuki

Nami and her cat are good friends...usually. Today the cat is nervous and won't let Nami come close. What's wrong with her? Actually, there is nothing wrong with either of them, but the cat is about to give birth to kittens. Is there anything Nami can do for her cat? Nami and Mom make a bed for the cat, where she can feel safe and comfortable. Then, all they could do was wait quietly. Nami whispers to Mom so that she won't disturb her cat. Nami nibbles her cookies so that her "crunch-crunch" won't disturb the cat. Is the tick-tick of the clock too loud and disturbing? Feel the quiet excitement that is almost electrifying, and then rejoice with mom cat that new lives are born. Cute and expressive illustrations bring warmth to this quiet but eventful book.

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



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

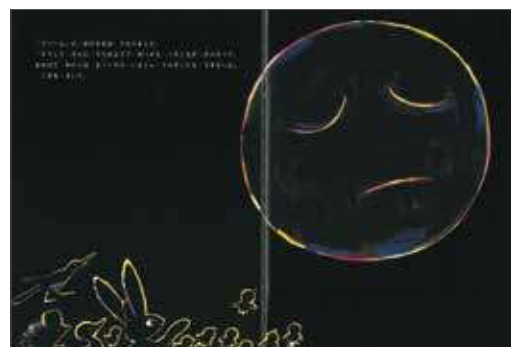
COME ON, THE SUN, WAKE UP AND SHINE US!

An Old Slovakian Folktale

text by Michiko Horiuchi
illustrations by Seiichi Horiuchi

Where does the sun live? The sun hasn't been out for three days. Let's go and wake him up! The chicks, each with a cute little bag with lunch-grains, set out to find the sun. They ask around where the sun lives, but nobody seems to know. Instead, they join the chicks and look for someone who knows where to find the sun. The growing party of chicks, a magpie, a rabbit, and a duck finally meets the hedgehog, who also joins the party and shows them the way. Can they find the sun and bring him out in the sky? A Slovakian folk tale, first translated by M. Horiuchi, published in Japanese in 1958, was revised in 1992 with new illustrations by her husband S. Horiuchi. The easy-to-read text and dynamic illustrations may seem classic but still shines bright among many other great books for children.

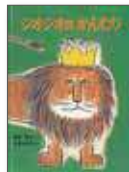
By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





Hardcover | H26.6 × W19.5 cm
28 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-2045-8

By the Same Author ●●●●●



PICNIC ON THE RAFT

text by Eriko Kishida
illustrations by Seiichi Horiuchi

What's that sound? When Bear was building a raft, curious Squirrel came and asked what he was doing. "I'm going to go down the river to the sea and have a picnic lunch there." Squirrel was fascinated. "Can I come with you?" When the raft was ready, Squirrel hopped on it and joined Bear. Water gently lapping and splattering, the raft glided down the river. Fox saw them and called out, "Where are you two going?" "To the sea. Come join us if you have a picnic lunch." As the raft went down the river, more passengers joined in on the raft. When they were finally on the beach, they enjoyed their lunch. Originally published in 1987, the book never gets old and is still fascinating with cute illustrations.



Hardcover | H19.4 × W26.8 cm
32 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8651-5

Further Titles ●●●●●



AUNT BABA GOES BERRYING

by Wakiko Sato

In the latest book of the beloved Aunt Baba series, she goes berrying. She was going to make delicious jam with the wild berries, but then, the tempting smell of freshly picked berries is just irresistible.... "Have one by oneself, have two together...." Would there be any berries left? Join Aunt Baba and her friends, and smell the warm air, taste the berries and sing with friends. But make sure that you bring some berries home!





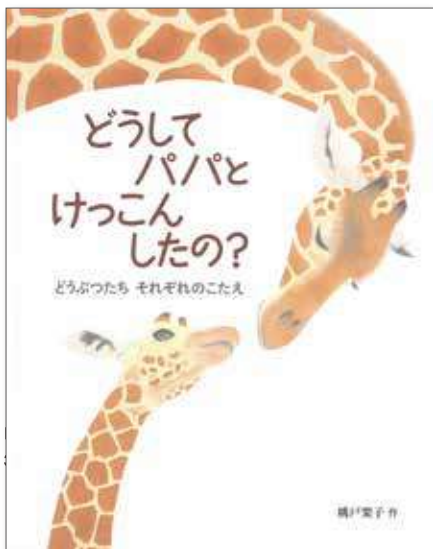
Hardcover | H19.4 x W26.7 cm
32 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8593-8

CROCODILE UNDER MY HOUSE

text by Shoichi Nejime
illustrations by Shinya Komatsu

A crocodile lives under my house. I go down there and brush his teeth every night.... Without any kind of explanation why a crocodile should live under a boy's house, the unique narrative sweeps you away to the fantastic world of "crocodile and I". Enjoy the happy nonsense, incredible usage of "brushing paraphernalia" and lovely illustrations!

By the Same Author ●●●●●



Hardcover | H27.6 x W22.1 cm
34 pages | ¥1,300.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8641-6

MOM, WHY DID YOU MARRY DAD?

Answers from Animals

by Kuriko Momoto

Mom, why did you marry dad? The author-illustrator comments that when her five-year-old daughter suddenly asked this question, she was at a loss for words. In the book, various animal babies ask the same question to their mothers. Animal moms have various answers; Penguin mom was impressed by the beauty of the pebble dad gave her. Lion mom loved how dad's mane was dark and lush. Ostrich mom thought dad's dance of courting was so attractive.... Animal mothers are never at a loss for words and they can be quite eloquent in telling why and how they were attracted. Beautiful illustrations are realistic enough, but slightly simplified to give a lot of expression on their faces and manners. Enjoy the various answers and illustrations of cute animal babies, and fall in love with this wonderful book!





THE BUSY DAYS OF OLD MR. BROAD BEAN AND MRS. PEA

text by Kyoko Matsuoka

illustrations by Nana Furiya

In this cute little house lives an old man with his wife. They are good natured, hard working old people, and they are quite content with their simple, cozy life. There is one drawback, however. Whenever they think of something, they cannot wait but start it right there and then. When Mrs. Pea remembers, in the middle of her lunch, how the peas in their vegetable garden have started to grow, she cannot finish lunch. She goes out to put some poles in the garden so that the bean vines can grow on them. But then she starts weeding, and because of the weeds in her hands, she thinks of rabbits, and goes to feed them.... The last gift from late K. Matsuoka shows us the important thing in life: Live each day, with lots of things to do and full of affection.

Hardcover | H23.1 x W19.5 cm

32 pages | ¥1,200.-

ISBN: 978-4-8340-8658-4

By the Same Author ●●●●●





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

SOAP & ERASER

by Kenji Oikawa

Soap meets eraser...they were destined to be friends. They both had large square figures when they were born. Soap was gently rubbed in hands and built lather and made people's hands clean. Eraser was gently rubbed against the sheet of paper and made eraser crumbs but cleaned off mistakes. By doing so, they lost their edges, and became rounder and very small. They both slipped away from hands and rolled on the floor and met each other under the cabinet. It's time to explore the house and have fun! Arranged like a comic strip, the adventure becomes very exciting. Join the fun, and be pleasantly surprised by the turn of events and the touching "grand finale".



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

INSECTS' SEASONAL LETTERS

text by Rien Ono

illustrations by Ayuko Akiyama

One look at the cover and you will know the book is illustrated by Ayuko Akiyama: who else can capture each feature of various insects and turn them into such lovely characters? The illustrations first appeared in a monthly magazine as individual illustrations of seasonal events throughout a year. Then, the author, Rien Ono, organized them into a correspondence between two friends, telling each other about the recent seasonal event. Bees sit in cherry blossoms and eat pollen dumplings. A cicada mother in a beautiful kimono attends the entrance ceremony of her larvae to elementary school. Dragonfly rescue team reviews evacuation procedures. Enjoy every detail of the book and fall in love with lovely insects. Then, you can write a letter and tell what a wonderful book you've just read!



By the Same Author ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



FIRST FLIGHT BY MYSELF

by Tomoko Akiyama

Today, Haru is going to visit her grandparents living in Okinawa, one of the southern islands of Japan. Sounds exciting, doesn't it? It's not a family trip, however. Haru is going to take a flight all by herself for the first time in her life! Will she enjoy the trip? The book starts where Haru and her family take a monorail train to the airport. Each spread is filled with wonderfully illustrated details of how you reach the airport, what you will see there and what you need to/can do before you finally seat yourself in the airplane. Though the world is experiencing a difficult time when people cannot travel easily or freely, you are free to go anywhere through books. So, open the book and take a flight to the southern island!



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

AUNT BABA AND MISCHIEVOUS CROWS

by Wakiko Sato

Beloved Aunt Baba is back! In this latest book, Chief Crow flies into Aunt Baba's garden, where apples are turning red. Aunt Baba and her animal friends are wondering when the apples are best to eat. Chief Crow offers to tell if the whole apples on the tree are good to eat, only if Aunt Baba would let him have just one bite (or rather just one peck). Aunt Baba is not really convinced, but agrees on "just one bite". Now look at the tree, a whole flock of crows are gathering to have "just one bite" EACH! Furious with the trick in his speech, Aunt Baba and her friends do everything to chase off Chief Crow and his minions.... Can they eat apples or are the crows too mischievous? Enjoy the lively (noisy in some pages) contest of wits and tasty outcome! One of the best books for toddlers who can now read by themselves.

Further Titles ●●●●●





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

MY FIRST FRIEND

text by Hashiru Hoshino
illustrations by Kanako Oshima

The moon rises and the day begins for the mice at their kindergarten. Today, a new friend joined their kindergarten. He was “new” in every way. Why does he have needles on his back? Where is his tail? Nobody has ever seen a hedgehog before, and he spoke a language that is also new to them. Can they ever be friends...? Mitch, who was too small to join the others in “sumo” wrestling, tried offering a building block. They were soon building a secret base together. Peek into the everyday life in the kindergarten. Everyone is different and still they have something in common, and it’s fun to learn something new about your friends. Expressive illustrations are very cute and precise, so you will soon learn to recognize who is who in the kindergarten!



By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



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

LET'S GO FOR A DRIVE!

by Izuru Endo

What do you think will happen if a professional car designer makes a picture book for children? Open the book and see for yourself: isn't it wonderful? The author's love for cars overflows in each page, and naturally all the pages are filled with a variety of cars. What better treat can there be for children at their “vehicle-frenzy” stage? In the book, a family drives their bright yellow car (Renault Kangoo) and goes camping. On their way, they see various cars; in the city, on busy streets, on highways and on the winding road in a mountain. The good thing is that you can see as many as 80 different cars in one trip, which doesn't happen very often. Enjoy each and every page to your heart's content and adore your favorite car as long as you want!





Hardcover | H26.6 × W21.6 cm
40 pages | ¥1,600.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8650-8

IN THE SPRING GARDEN

text by Tamami Sawaguchi
illustrations by Hiromasa Yonebayashi

It's early in the spring garden. A snail is crawling slowly on a wooden fence. A tree frog wakes in the midst of peonies in full bloom, his favorite spot to sleep. A bumblebee arrives and rustles inside the blooms to collect pollen. Wolf spiders move about and there are ones with white lumps on their bottoms. Those are moms-to-be carrying eggs. A cabbage white comes to a Philadelphia daisy glistening with morning dew. A grass lizard is after a jumping spider. And an amazing sight of baby mantises just coming out of their egg case is awesome. Then a gust of spring breeze sweeps the garden. A spring day has just started and the snail is still crawling along the fence. Lively, vibrant illustrations capture the start of a beautiful spring morning during a short span of time which the snail represents.



Hardcover | H26.6 × W19.3 cm
40 pages | ¥1,300.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8656-0

THE WATER OF LIFE

A Bulgarian Folktales

retold in Japanese by Yoko Yaoita
illustrations by Venelin Valkanov

There was an Old King with three sons. One day, He announced that he was going to entrust his country to the one who managed to get "The Water of Life", which was supposed to give the acquirer immortality. The three princes set out on a quest to find it. The youngest prince, brave and kind in character, was the first to reach the water. He met the water fairy there who gave him some water to take back with a special ring which would grant the wishes of the bearer. On his way back, the prince encounters his two elder brothers who were both in difficult situations. The prince used the special ring to save them, but the greedy brothers snatched the ring and the precious water from him. The youngest prince was grief-stricken and devastated over the incident. That was when the Golden Bird appeared to his rescue.



By the Same Author ●●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●

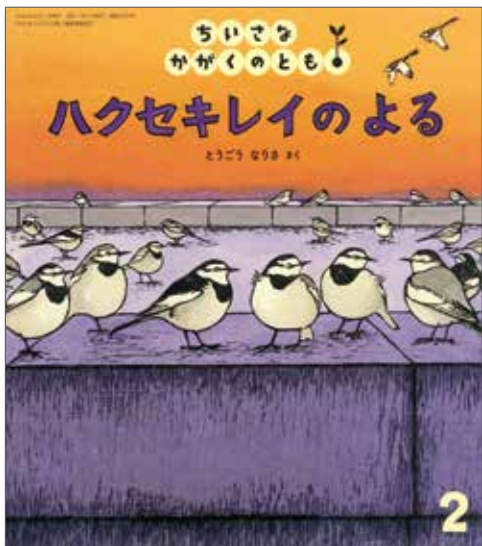


TODAY'S ICE IN MY BUCKET

text by Ryo Kisaka

photographs by Yasuo Takeda

This book is an observation of a simple blue bucket with a sheet of ice on its top every morning. The amazing thing is that not even one comes out the same. Why is that? According to the photographer, Mr. Takeda, the shape/texture of the ice you get on the top of a bucket depends on the outside temperature, the temperature movement during the night, the wind and the vibration of the ground it sits on. These climate conditions vary from day to day, therefore the ice you happen to get one morning is a one-time-one-meeting experience. The text aside the photographs give out an awe to the artwork the ice renders. Why don't you try to get up slightly earlier on a cold winter morning to see for yourself?



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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



WHITE WAGTAILS IN THE NIGHT

by Narisa Togo

White wagtails are one of the birds we can spot in town. These charming species will hop around wagging their black tails. Their white cheeks stand out in contrast with their black crowns and there is a fine line connecting the crown, eyes and beak. White wagtails have a habit of spending the day individually. Once it starts getting dark, however, they flock together to prepare to sleep. It is safer to sleep together. They tend to have a big nest tree somewhere at places like in front of a station. They go into the nest tree and find a comfy branch to rest on. Some busily groom themselves. One by one, the white wagtails poke its beak into its feathers and roll up into a ball shape. At the break of dawn the first one to notice it cries out to signal the arrival of the morning.





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

WHERE IS GRANDPA'S CAR NOW?

by Mitsu Mineo

Nacchan, a little girl, lives in a house with a blue roof in town. The house is next to a playground. One day, Dad told her that Grandpa and Grandma were heading to visit them in their car. Nacchan's grandparents live in the countryside and have quite a way until they reach her. The car goes over a mountain, crosses a bridge and proceeds along the seashore. Then they get on a highway and approach the town. This is an enjoyable Look & Find picture book for young children. So, let's see, where are Grandpa and Grandma now?



By the Same Author ●●●●●



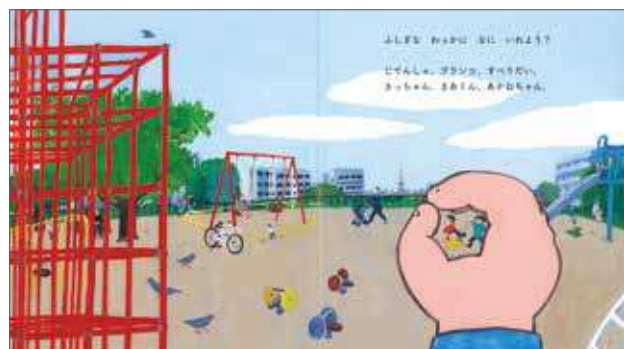
Paperback | H23.0 x W20.0 cm
24 pages | ¥400.-

WHAT CAN YOU PUT IN THIS TINY CIRCLE?

text by Yoko Tomiyasu

illustrations by Rimako Horikawa

At the beginning of the story a little boy shows you how to make a tiny circle. Use your index finger and thumb and make a circle with them. You see, you get a tiny circle. Now, cover up one of your eyes and try to look through that circle you've just made with your other eye. Then gently push that circle away from you. Alright, we are set now! First the boy sees John, his dog, but only its nose. Then the boy slowly backs up several steps, and what do you know, now John is completely inside the tiny circle! This works with even bigger things around you such as trucks and houses. The conception of near/far is introduced without "using" those abstract words but "sensing" them.



By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



WHAT CAN YOU HEAR AT THE ZOO?

text by Mayuko Sannomiya

illustrations by Naoko Kitamura

So here we are at the zoo! A little boy and his father have just arrived and are about to walk into the Asian Forest Area. Phoow phoppow, a rather high pitch pipe-like sound comes toward them. What is letting that sound out? The boy says it sounds like a song to him. They walk in that direction to find out. The author has actually walked around a real zoo to collect the sounds introduced in the book. When we think of an elephant crying, we think of it trumpeting. Elephants, however, trumpet only when they think they are encountering danger, so that is very unlikely to be heard at a zoo. Instead, you'll probably hear them splashing water with their trunks. Phushrrr bha, Bshupah chashowaah or something like this? And last but not the least, the mighty lion roar. What did that sound like?



THE NIGHT I MET FIREFLIES

by Hiroshi Tatenō

Dad took me out for a walk in the night. I held his big warm hand. He was heading somewhere and I just followed. The lights of the neighborhood dropped and the path seemed darker. I asked Dad to turn the flashlight on. A crescent moon was hanging in the sky. When we reached our destination, Dad suddenly turned the flashlight off. It got pitch black. And from nowhere, a dim light appeared. It was a firefly. One after another, they started to glow creating a pageant of lights. I caught one in my cupped hands and let it go. It left a smell of its own. Soft illustrations in pastel enhance the darkness of the night.



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

By the Same Author ●●●●●





Hardcover | H20.6 x W23.3 cm
 24 pages | ¥900.-
 ISBN: 978-4-8340-8648-5

THE RICE OMELET SINGS IN THE KITCHEN

by Yoshikazu Natsume

So what's for lunch today? I am standing in the kitchen with my Dad. We are going to cook a rice omelet together. I peel a carrot with a peeler; schz schz! It's Dad's role to chop. First, slice them; tkun tkun! Has to be smaller though; shg shg! Chop them up to the right size; swo swo! Then I tug on an onion skin to peel it; bitzi bitzi! Frying the ingredients, cracking some eggs open and beating them with a whisk all make a symphony of sounds. Adept illustrations are so realistic we can almost hear the sizzle!

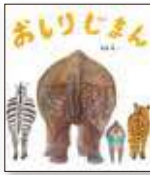
By the Same Author ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



A LARGE TREE AND SMALL ANIMALS

by Maki Saito

There must be several large trees in your neighborhood. Perhaps some have been there for such a long time that you don't even realize they are there. The large tree introduced in this book is a cherry tree. It also has been there for a long time, perhaps long before your own parents were born. Cherry trees are known for their bumpy rough barks. Barks like that have a tendency to develop into small bumps or hollows. These spots are actually quite attractive to small animals and birds. They sometimes end up nesting there. Let's look into the small creatures living in or around such large trees. You would be fascinated to learn how they are being protected by the tree.



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

CUTTLEFISH

by Ayano Omura

Are you a fan of cuttlefish in sushi? Well, this is not about cuttlefish to eat. The book introduces and focuses on the ecology of cuttlefish. Cuttlefish are good hunters. They have two long tentacle arms which stretch out readily in a fraction of a second. It has a beak that can crush the hard outer shells of shrimp and the like, and cut the prey into suitable size chunks for swallowing. Did you know that cuttlefish could change its own body color? A male cuttlefish turns its color into a light gray shade when it encounters a female. When it has hostility with another male cuttlefish over a female, it will turn the side facing the other into black while still keeping the light gray shade facing the female. They actually communicate using their body color! There is also an appendix to the book showing various cuttlefish with its name.





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

THE SECRET OF TULIP GROWTH

by Etsuko Yamane

Have you ever seen a tulip seed? We all know to plant tulip bulbs in the soil in autumn. Once the bulb is buried, it prepares for the coming spring to bloom. We know what kind of tulip we can expect for, the shape, color and so on, when we plant it. That is because the bulbs will pass down their genes. So how about their seeds? First of all, where are their seeds? After flowering, sometimes the pistil expands and becomes a fruit. When the fruit pops, you will get seeds from inside. You can also force this to happen by pollinating the pistil while the tulip is blooming. Let's see what happens when we plant these seeds! The secret of tulips is going to be revealed.



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

WATER AND ME

by Osamu Sakai

Perhaps you have had your Mom or some other grown-ups tell you to stop for a brief break and to get some water to drink. On very warm days or when you are exercising, you hear more of such comments in order to prevent heatstroke. They say that lack of water is dangerous for your body. So what happens if there is not enough water in our bodies? The bold and humorous illustrations show how the water travels inside your body and what it does along the way. Eventually, the remainder of it is discharged, this also with a meaning. The descriptions are simple and easy for a young child to comprehend. The story finishes up with a larger scope to see how water is all over the place surrounding you; a very unique and clever perspective!





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



BLUEFIN TUNA

by Tadaaki Okata

Bluefin tuna is one of the tunas we enjoy as sushi. It is probably the tastiest kind therefore called Hon-maguro, meaning 'real tuna'. We will take a close look and find out about their mode of life. Did you know that a bluefin tuna could swim at the speed of 100km per hour? And that is in the water! The secret is in their fins. Their tail fins are very stiff at the base. They can wiggle their tail fins faster and more powerful than most fish. And the other fins can be stored flat opposed to their counterparts. Flat means that there would be less water resistance. Their second secret is how they grow rapidly. In ten days or so after birth, they have grown enough to feed themselves freely. They reach the top of the ocean ecology system in a short period of time.



AQUATIC LIFE OF FIREFLIES

text & illustrations by Natsuko Imazu
supervised by Yuichi Ooba

Fireflies begin to fly once June arrives. Pick a night when the moon light is weak, and out we go to meet Genji fireflies. The males are slightly smaller with two luminous organs whereas the females have only one. Therefore the males glow stronger than the females. Basically, the males fly about and the females perch under leaves and branches waiting to mate. Once the mating is over, then the females fly to lay their eggs. Damp spots with fresh air along the river are good. And their aquatic life starts. Observations on how and when they glow are shown in authentic-looking hues with detailed illustrations following the process of growth of fireflies.



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





Hardcover | H25.3 × W23.2 cm
28 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8645-4

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



KON AND GON

The Wonder of the Voicing Mark

text by Michiyo Orita

illustrations by Junko Hayakawa

Dakuten, a voicing (diacritical) mark in Japanese Kana, is a peculiar thing. It's only a matter of two strokes but it makes a great difference. Let's see what difference it makes in this book with side-by-side stories; one story without, and the other story with Dakuten. Enjoy the happy nonsense with cute illustrations!



THE ANT FAMILY

text by Taku Shimada

illustrations by Kanako Oshima

Many of us often see ants, our neighbor, busily working. Not many of us, however, know what ants do or how the family grows larger. Open the book; easy text and accurate illustrations let you peek into the life of an ant family.



Hardcover | H25.3 × W23.2 cm
28 pages | ¥900.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8655-3

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●





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

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



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

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



WHAT IS CONCRETE?

text by Akira Hosoda

illustrations by Moriyasu Kowase

Take a good look around yourself. You will find out that there are so many things around us that are made of concrete. But do you know what concrete is? Where is it found? Or do we have to make it? As a matter of fact, concrete has been made ever since the times of Ancient Rome. Nowadays, there are various types of concrete. This book introduces the way concrete is made. It also explains how cement, the main material needed to make concrete, is created. We will find out about the principle of why concrete sets in the first place. Various construction technologies lead to the need of different types of concrete for the utmost results. Concrete plays an essential role in fulfilling sustainable development goals and supporting our daily lives.



EXPLORING THE WORLD OF FERMENTED SOYBEANS "NATTO"

text & photographs by Hideyuki Takano

illustrations by Sukeracko

Soybeans have gained a lot of popularity over these years in the western countries and are now largely accepted around the world. But how about the fermented version of them? Fermented soybeans are called 'natto' in Japan. They can be called soul food for the Japanese people. There is, however, a misconception that 'natto' only exists in Japan. The author takes us around the world to show us the variety of fermented bean cuisines. His research found out that they are prepared in a similar way. We use hay to wrap and ferment the beans but in other places leaves unique to the land are used. Some areas in Africa, they prepare certain beans into something quite similar to 'natto', an African style natto. Detailed illustrations and informative photographs enhance the exploration of fermented beans.





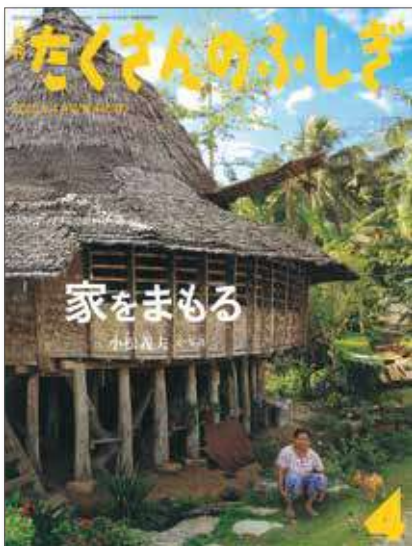
Paperback | H25.0 × W19.1 cm
40 pages | ¥700.-

OBSERVATION OF WILD JAPANESE SPARROWHAWKS IN EAST JAPAN

Their Urban Life

by Takayuki Hyodo

Sparrowhawks are roughly half the size of a regular hawk. A bulbul would be about the same size, so you could say they are quite small. Contrary to expectations, however, they are very aggressive. They would attack the mighty golden eagle which is much bigger and stronger than themselves. If necessary, they would even come towards human beings. After all, as small as they are, they are raptors. Their habitat used to be deep up in the mountains but started to move into urban areas around the 1980's. Detailed sketches and comments in this book will give us a full observation of sparrowhawks for the period they stay in Eastern Japan which is from mid-March to around September or October.



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

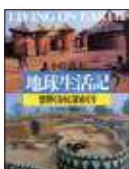
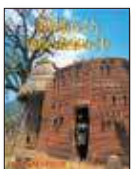
INGENUITY TO PROTECT HOMES AROUND THE WORLD

text & photographs by Yoshio Komatsu

From ancient times, people have devised their homes to live comfortably. In order to protect themselves from both natural and man-made disasters, people drew fully upon the strength of creativity. The author traveled around the world collecting images of ingenuity under this theme. Let's look into interesting examples of home protections; painting the entire town with indigo which is said to have a strong insect repellent effect, using steep natural cliffs and water hazards to ward off attacks from outside, and lifting the floor to survive the rainy seasons. During the years of the plague pandemic, people would paint images of Saints and Guardian Angels on windows and doorways so that evil would not come in. After all, protecting homes was and still is about protecting family and their daily lives.



By the Same Author ●●●●●





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

By the Same Author ●●●●●



POLE TO POLE

text & photographs by Naoki Ishikawa

The author/photographer of this book tells us about his grandeur experience traveling down through the globe in a project called “Pole to Pole”. He was just 22 years old when chosen to join this team with seven other members from seven countries. The journey started at the beginning of April from the North Pole. The team aimed to proceed using mostly human power unless not possible. The extreme heat in the Central America area was followed by very thin air in South America, going through high altitude. Once they reached the South Pole region they were greeted by the renowned intense wind and they reached their goal on the final day of that year. The author recalls that it was an experience to feel diversity with his whole body. Beautiful photographs add further information to the story.



THE MYSTERIOUS ECOLOGY OF JAPANESE DUNG BEETLES

by Hiroshi Tateno

I wonder if you know about this Japanese dung beetle. The imagoes are known to feed on dung and also use it to bring up their larvae. On the contrary, they have a gem-like shiny metallic colored body therefore quite beautiful. The colors vary depending on which region they inhabit. The author examines J. Henri Fabre's classic, “Souvenirs Entomologiques” and starts up a far-seeing scheme to find out about dung-balls prepared by imagoes to leave offspring. After plenty of trials and errors, new discoveries about the earth-boring females emerge. Struggles to breed the larvae continue and lead to other hypotheses. The answers have been there within Mother Nature but not yet known and the quest carries on.



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

By the Same Author ●●●●●





Hardcover | H25.6 × W19.6 cm
 40 pages | ¥1,300.-
 ISBN: 978-4-8340-8666-9

WHAT IS A BLACK HOLE?

text by Shin Mineshige

illustrations by Kyoko Kurabe

Have you ever heard of a black hole? It is probably the most amazing and mysterious celestial body in the universe. An average black hole is roughly about 50 km in diameter and the existing numbers of them are simply unknown. This is large enough to swallow an entire town. It is something that powerfully sucks in everything in the vicinity of it. Why does it do this? How do black holes emerge in the first place? If it is black, how do scientists find it? This book answers these questions and more in plain words with heartwarming illustrations.



Story Books & Reference Books



Hardcover | H21.6 × W15.5 cm
56 pages | ¥1,100.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8671-3
Ages 5+

By the Same Illustrator ●●●●●



SQUID NINJA

Now Recruiting Apprentices!

text by Moko Kato

illustrations by Yoshitaka Okada

I'm a Squid Ninja. As the fruits of severe training, I gained the full mastership as a Ninja. Now I'm ready to have apprentices and train them. Here is the brand new signboard to my school, which I calligraphed with my squid ink. Come, everyone, it's never too late to start a worthy training.... The first applicant was a sand borer (sillago) who wanted to learn how to avoid predators such as squid. Squid Ninja kindly shows how to "disappear", by changing the body color and melting into the sand floor, so that the predators won't see any fish. The problem is, the master IS one of the predators.... Enjoy the humorous narrative by a squid, intentionally de-energized illustrations, and find out why the Squid Ninja never has a real apprentice! For the Ninja, this is the question of "to be, or not to be".



FRIENDS IN THE FIELDS

Eight Stories about Grass Whistles

text by Tamae Hayashibara

illustrations by Tae Takegami



Hardcover | H20.6 × W15.3 cm
128 pages | ¥1,600.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8657-7
Ages 5+

By the Same Author ●●●●●



Story Books & Reference Books



Hardcover | H21.2 x W18.8 cm
112 pages | ¥1,500.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8663-8
Ages 5+

By the Same Author ●●●●●



THE HEDGEHOG'S ORIGINAL NOTEBOOKS

text by Sachiko Nanamori
illustrations by Yuko Takao

Tsunta the hedgehog is very shy. If his great-grandparents had asked him in advance, he would have said no, but they didn't give him the time to be shy. That's why he was unlocking his great-grandparents' house, to stay there as the caretaker. In the unfamiliar house in the unfamiliar village called "Blanket", he was planning to stay as quiet as possible. But then, the friendly neighbor and kind-hearted villagers didn't give Tsunta any other choice but to come out and make friends with them. What can Tsunta do for them to show his gratitude? Enjoy the heart-warming story and cute illustrations. The book provides the "recipe" for original notebooks, so you can be as creative as Tsunta and make your own original notebooks!



Hardcover | H21.6 x W15.3 cm
80 pages | ¥1,100.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8647-8
Ages 5+

By the Same Author ●●●●●



LITTLE SUMAKO OF THE TRAINING WHEELS FACTORY

by Sumako Yasui

Little Sumako is a happy-go-lucky girl. Her father runs a family business making training wheels for bicycles in Osaka. Naturally, Sumako enjoys bicycle-riding with training wheels attached to her own bike. Some friends were starting to get their training wheels off, but that did not bother Sumako at all. One day, however, her Dad came to her and announced, "Now Sumako, we're getting rid of your training wheels!" The training started and it just ruined Sumako's spring break. Day after day, she practiced in vain. And when the new semester started, she still was not able to ride without training wheels. But Sumako meets a new friend at school and she starts seeing a new world around her. A story of a girl growing in a factory town in Osaka surrounded by human empathy.



Story Books & Reference Books



OUR CLASSMATE, DOI-KUN IS A RACCOON DOG

text by Yoko Tomiyasu

illustrations by Taeko Ohshima

What would you do if, one morning, you learned that one of your classmates was actually a raccoon dog? Don't dismiss the question as unlikely or ridiculous, because this is exactly what happened in a very small elementary school at the base of a mountain. When all ten students agreed that their class slogan would be "Peace, Health, Honesty", one of the students thought, "I should be honest and tell the truth to my classmates." Thus, Doi-kun, formally known as a third-year "boy", was sitting in the classroom as a raccoon dog, revealing his true self. What happens afterwards? Open the book and enjoy the amazing outcome! The beloved story-teller Y. Tomiyasu is fascinating as ever. Along with expressive illustrations by T. Ohshima, the book is magnetic.

Hardcover | H20.6 x W15.3 cm

56 pages | ¥1,100.-

ISBN: 978-4-8340-8652-2

Ages 8+

By the Same Author ●●●●●



SADAKICHI! 4

text by Hirofumi Tanaka

illustrations by Sekaiichi Asakura

Welcome back to the fantastic, humorous and a bit philosophical world of Sadakichi! In this Fourth book, Sadakichi time-travels (again) to the Edo period, performs Rakugo (Japanese traditional art of storytelling) and makes others laugh, gets lost in the mountain, dances and sings, and helps his ancestor "exterminate a monstrous serpent". Is Sadakichi some kind of superhero? No, he is just an ordinary boy, who is afraid of darkness and ghostly creatures but pretending not to be. Get ready for the wonderful summer adventure with Sadakichi, and let's take a bold step into the unknown. Don't be afraid; nothing scary...the only thing you should be afraid of is being unable to be afraid. Enjoy the fun narrative and humorous illustrations that make you keep turning the pages!

Hardcover | H19.4 x W13.4 cm

288 pages | ¥1,400.-

ISBN: 978-4-8340-8654-6

Ages 8+

Further Titles ●●●●●



Story Books & Reference Books



Hardcover | H20.8 x W15.5 cm
248 pages | ¥1,500.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8643-0
Ages 8+

Further Titles ●●●●●



KEKE, THE HALF-WITCH GIRL

Spin-off Stories 3 of Kiki's Delivery Service

text by Eiko Kadono

illustrations by Miho Satake

Here comes the third book of the spin-off stories of Kiki's Delivery Service! This one, however, does not follow the former two in format. The story is actually 'written by' Keke, a half-witch girl who popped into Corico in Book 3 of Kiki's Delivery Service. Keke is now grown up and composes a story titled "Half-Witch - The Other Story". Tata is the heroine of the story. Tata's mother had passed away when she was only four years old. She thought of herself as a halfway made kid and was insecure about everything which made her a defiant girl. One day Tata found a book that used to belong to her late mother. Reading this, Tata sets out on a journey seeking her other half. Enjoy the work of Keke along with the Book 3 of Kiki's Delivery Service.



Hardcover | H21.6 x W15.3 cm
528 pages | ¥2,800.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8669-0
Ages 10+

THE SONG OF THE TREE OF LIFE

text by Etsuko Shindo

illustrations by Miho Satake

This is a story based on facts regarding the construction of the Divrigi Great Mosque and Hospital. This UNESCO World Heritage site was built more than 800 years ago in the deep mountains of Anatolia. People have been wondering why an architecture of this scale was erected there. Princess Turan of the Erzincan family was an independent girl wishing to live in liberty. She longed to marry a man who had his own thoughts and beliefs. Prince Ahmed Shah of the Divrigi family was the one. The two eventually got married and decided to work on a huge project building a grand mosque and a healing venue for their people. They wished to have the legendary Tree of Life in their mosque. A beautifully written saga with a prayer for peace.



Story Books & Reference Books



softcover | H17.9 × W13.0 cm
112 pages | ¥1,000.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8640-9

By the Same Author ●●●●●



WHATTY? SENSE OF WONDER OF THIS AGE

text by Mayuko Sannomiya

illustrations by Yayoi Ohno

Feeling or sensing something is said to be an inborn trait. We, sometimes, do not give it enough credit for what it does for us. This book gives us an insight to such “senses” with examples we can relate to. We can tell the changes of seasons in the air. We can tell if the process in cooking is going alright with the sounds the ingredients make. If you walk in your socks without your shoes on, the information you get from your feet are much more sensitive. It is a shame that we do not pay much attention to such skills we possess. This essay will make you want to try out feeling and sensing small things in daily life. Rachel Carson, an eminent American marine biologist once said, “It is not half so important to know as to feel.” The essay is titled in homage to Dr. Carson’s masterpiece.



LIVING TOGETHER

Scenery of Parents and Children

text by Naoko Higashi

illustrations by Izumi Shiokawa

In this modern society, we parents keenly realize how tough it is physically, mentally and financially to raise our children, the author says. A subtle mind is also a strong requirement which sometimes gets overdosed because of too much anxiety. This originally was a serial publication to share those worries and, at the same time, realize that child rearing should be more flexible and fun. The publication went on for six years and was compiled into this book. During this past decade, gender equality has been dealt with more and more as a topic. Even words like “a mother” or “a woman” carry different meanings than they did in the past. Hopefully, adjusting to such aspects and enjoying parenthood make your life colorful and delightful.



Hardcover | H19.4 × W13.3 cm
240 pages | ¥1,600.-
ISBN: 978-4-8340-8664-5

By the Same Author ●●●●●





FUKUINKAN SHOTEN PUBLISHERS, INC.

6-6-3, Honkomagome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8686, JAPAN

Rights & Permissions Dept.

Tel. +81 3 3942 2055 Fax. +81 3 3942 2067

international-rights@fukuinkan.co.jp

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