

EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!



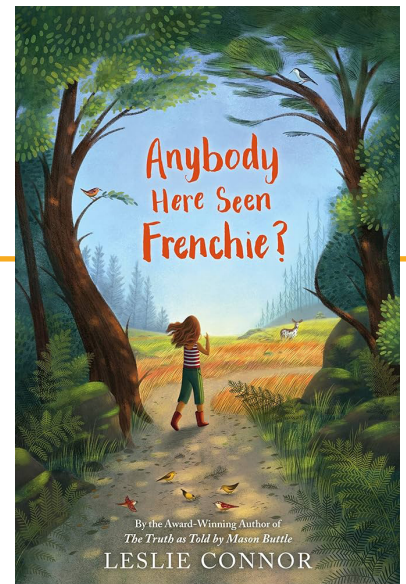
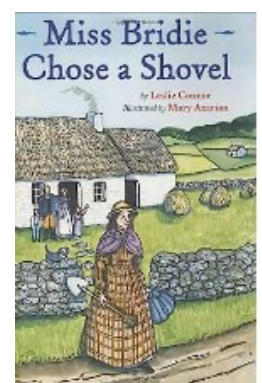
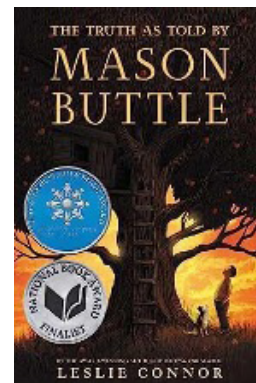
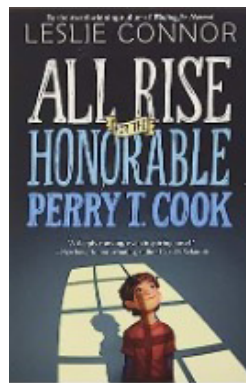
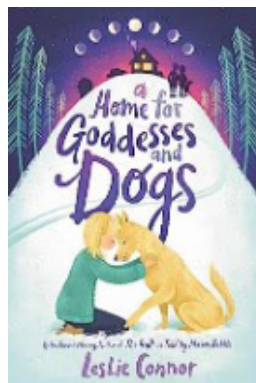
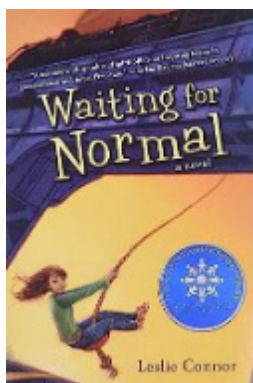
MEET LESLIE

Leslie Connor is the author of several award-winning books for children, including two ALA Schneider Family Book Award winners, *Waiting for Normal* and *The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle*, which was also selected as a National Book Award finalist. Her other books include *All Rise for the Honorable Perry T. Cook*, *Crunch*, and *The Things You Kiss Goodbye*. She lives in the Connecticut woods with her family and three rescue dogs. You can visit her online at: WWW.LESLIECONNOR.COM

Listen to Leslie read the first chapter aloud [HERE](#).

Resource for Teachers: [TEACHING ABOUT AUTISM](#)

Read more from Leslie:



EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

LET'S BEGIN! BEFORE READING THE BOOK

Use the Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) questions below to orient readers, and to help guide a group discussion. Begin by taking a quiet moment to look closely at the book jacket, allowing time for observation and contemplation of the images.

- *What is going on in this picture?*
- *What do you see that makes you say that? (provide evidence)*
- *What more can we find?*

Watch this [VIDEO](#) for a quick VTS demo

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Please contact Alison Johnson at Island Readers & Writers, 207-460-6828 or ajohnson@islandreadersandwriters.org.

STANDARDS Covered throughout this Explore More Book Guide:

SL.1. Prepare for and participate in conversations across a range of topics, types, and forums, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.

SL.2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

SL.3 Present information and supporting evidence appropriate to task, purpose, and audience so listeners can follow the line of reasoning and incorporate multimedia when appropriate.

R.4. Read various texts closely to determine what each text explicitly says and to make logical inferences; cite specific textual evidence to support conclusions drawn from the texts.

R.5 Provide an accurate summary of various texts; determine the central idea(s) or theme(s) and analyze its development throughout each text.

R.6. Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

R.8 Analyze the structure of various texts, including how the features and components relate to each other and the whole.

R.9. Assess how perspective or purpose shapes the content and style of various texts.

R.10 Evaluate the argument and specific claims in various texts.

ESS1 Earth's Place in the Universe

LET'S TALK! Discussion Questions

TAKING A CLOSER LOOK AT THE BOOK

1. Spend some time thinking about this statement by Aurora:
"...the point is not to find everything at once. You love the hunt, and if possible, you don't take all the treasure when you do find it. Also, not getting disappointed if it takes a while to find the thing you want."
What do you think she means?
2. Why do you think Frenchie was drawn to the needlepoint purse? Have you ever had an object that brought you comfort?
3. Aurora is always pleased when she notices that someone actually "sees" Frenchie. What do you think she means by this and why do you think it matters to her? To really see someone, what do you have to do?
4. Look up **ORIOLES** to find out if there is any significance to Frenchie's call sounding most like this bird.
5. Have you ever been separated from your best friend? How did this make you feel? How did you bridge the separation to maintain your friendship?
6. Aurora says to Frenchie on page 15, "I bet you don't get in trouble do ya?" Why do you think she says this when they've only just met? Who usually gets in trouble and why?

LET'S CREATE! Book-Inspired Art



1. Aurora collects rocks and is always searching for Tourmaline. Create your own rock collection, label with names/type of rock, date and location found. Use these **QUESTIONS** to help guide some questions.

For example; you might split them into the 3 types; igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic.

2. Become a bird watcher! Notice details! Take a nature walk and journal about what you see. Look up close to see all the minute details. Write a poem about your discoveries. Use the **LIST** from the Maine Audubon Society to help document your observations.

3. Aurora's friends have an Indian food truck. One of her favorite recipes is Potato & Pea Samosas with tamarind sauce. Try making your own with this **RECIPE!**

LET'S DIVE DEEPER! [Explore More](#)

1. Learn about the Mark Mendel Barn Poems
2. Fellow author Judy Bradbury talks about Frenchie in this [BLOG POST AND GUIDE](#)
3. About piebald deer: [THE PRESENCE OF PIEBALDS — MAINE WOODLAND OWNERS](#)
4. Learn about the inspiration for the quarry: [STONE DESIGNS & THE GRANITE GARDEN GALLERY](#)
5. Check out these [DISCUSSION GUIDES](#) for Leslie Connor's books: *Anyone Here Seen Frenchie?* and *The Truth As Told by Mason Buttle*
6. Read more about finch & folly birds: [BIRDS IN OUR MAINE WOODS](#)
7. You can dig for tourmalines! [DIG MAINE GEMS](#)
8. Check out this mineral & gem museum in Bethel, Maine: [MAINE MINERAL & GEM MUSEUM](#)

LET'S READ MORE!

Text to Text Connections

