

EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!

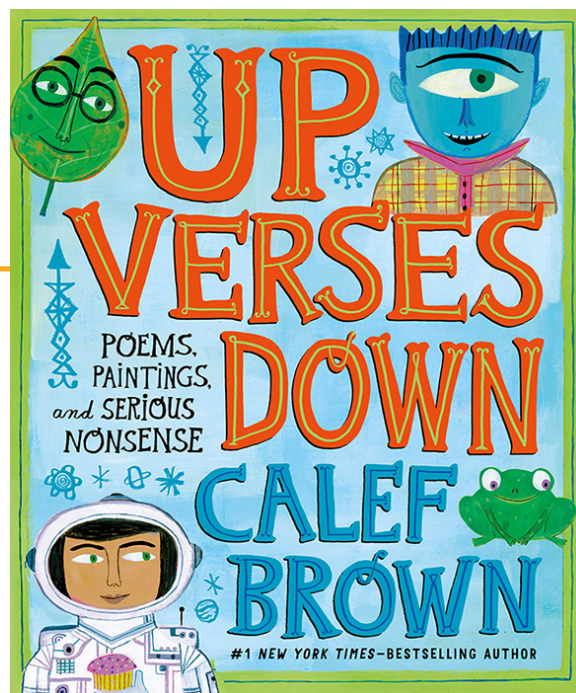
Meet the
author and illustrator



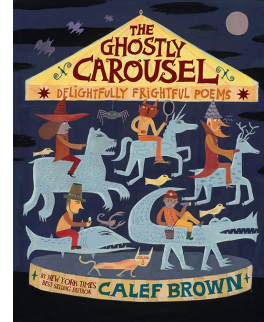
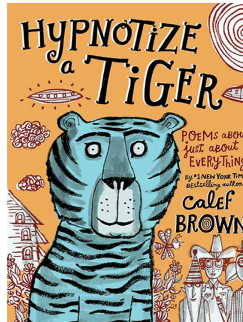
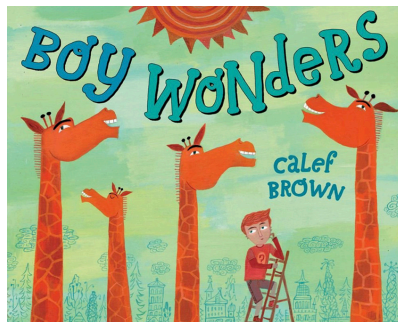
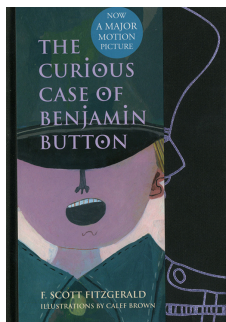
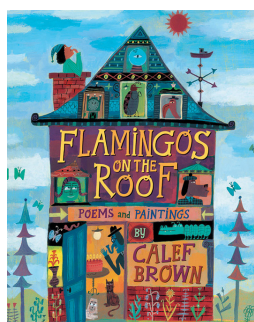
Calef Brown

Beginning in 1998, Calef has written and illustrated thirteen books for children. He spent almost every summer in Maine when he was growing up, and still has family in the mid-coast area. According to Calef, two things he likes a lot are musical language and serious nonsense, and both of these are quite prevalent in his ever-growing collection of children's books that creates a Calef Brown world of whimsy and wonderful weirdness!

Visit Calef's website: www.calefbrown.com



More from Calef:



EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

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.

LET'S TALK!

Discussion Questions

Do you think poems should rhyme? Why or why no

Watch the [VIDEO](#) "The art of the metaphor" and discuss metaphors in the poem - how it works, how it doesn't.

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE:

the use of words in a way that deviates from the literal meaning to create a richer, more vivid, or more complex understanding for the reader or listener

What are some examples of **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**?

How do Calef's illustrations enhance or complement his poems?

Is there a difference between poems and song lyrics?

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.

LET'S CREATE! Book-Inspired Art

Watch a couple [VIDEOS](#) from the Favorite Poem Project. Then create your own Favorite Poem video.

Spark your imagination: Using Appendix A, create a story about “What is behind the door?”

Calef likes to create funky creatures by combining two known creatures, like an Allicatte Gatorpillar (an alligator caterpillar). Make up your own hybrid creatures and draw pictures of them.

Write a memoir poem.

A **MEMOIR POEM** is a poetic form that explores personal memories, experiences, and reflections, often with a narrative structure

Model a poem after Calef’s “Rooster Says,” where the character would prefer something to be different (for example, a pencil that would like a new eraser and would like to write with ink instead of lead)

What two words are in MELLOWOODCHUCK?
What three words are in NERVOUSMELLYAK?
And what two words are in TYRANNOSAURUSNACK?

Combine words to create three of your own portmanteaus!

Word Crashes

*Also known as portmanteaus. Every heard of those?
A bit weird, I suppose -
words that combine and intertwine,
but this is where they shine! Observe
the MELLOWOODCHUCK and the
NERVOUSMELLYAK. Guess which
one will soon become a
TYRANNOSAURUSNACK.*

LET'S DIVE DEEPER! Explore More

[VIDEO](#) - How To: Introduction to Illustration

Song of Myself: Spoken Word Poetry in the Classroom

What is a [VISUAL THESAURUS](#)

[VIDEO](#) - First grade Students Inspired by Spoken-Word Artists

[VIDEO](#) - “Eliza’s Jacket” - a poem by Calef Brown, read by Daniel Pinkwater

LET'S DIVE DEEPER! **continued**

VIDEO - "Ickle Me, Pickle Me, Tickle Me Too" - written and performed by Shel Silverstein

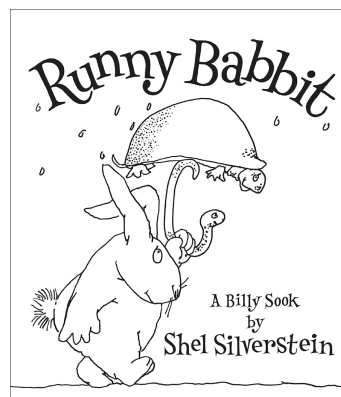
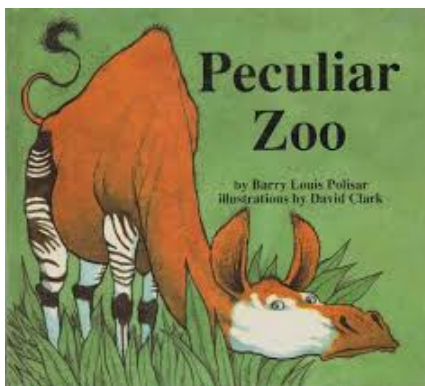
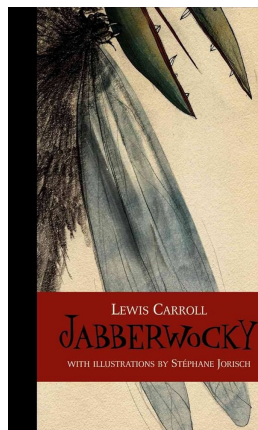
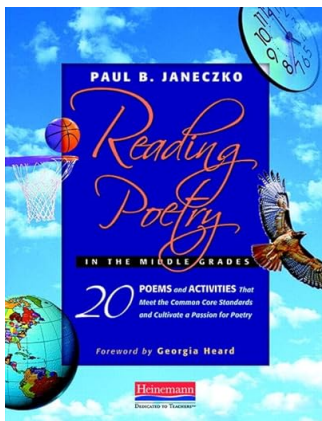
Rhyming Dictionary

INFO for Teachers on how to use Word Maps

WATCH Calef play "Biscuits in the Wind" on his guitar!

Calef Brown's **DOODLES**

READ MORE! **Text to Text Connections**



Name: _____

What is behind the door?