

EXPLORE MORE BOOK GUIDE

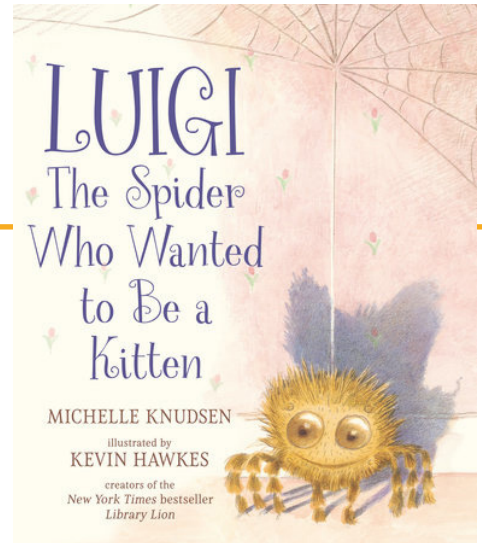
Activities, tools & resources for learning with this book!

Meet the illustrator



Kevin Hawkes is an author/illustrator of over 50 acclaimed picture and chapter books. In school, he was the quiet kid who liked to read and draw. He ended up living in Maine after getting started in Boston where his family spends a lot of time together working on things that inspire them, such as wood carving, weaving, sewing, gardening and blacksmithing. His children have been very lucky to have grown up experiencing the many books he has illustrated.

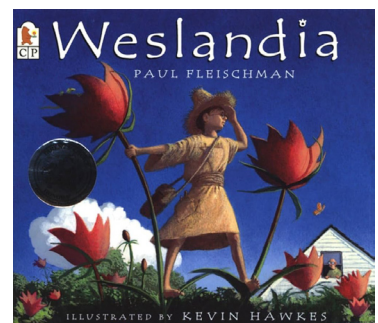
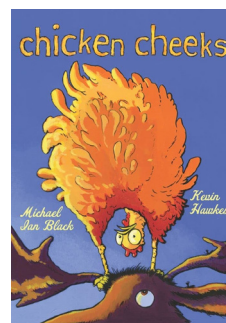
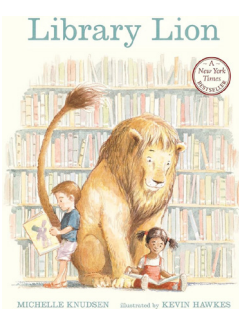
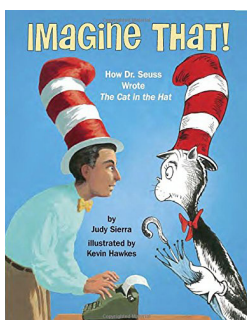
Visit Kevin [ONLINE](#).



I liked to draw spaceships, race cars, castles and monsters. I didn't like to draw cats or bicycles. A cat riding a bicycle is still a hard thing to draw!!

– Kevin Hawkes

Read some more from Kevin:



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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.

LET'S TALK!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think “Luigi” decides to go along with pretending he is a kitten?
2. Discuss a time when you wanted to be someone/something else in this world. What made you choose this? How do you think you would be treated?
3. Talk to your classmates about the lesson or **moral** of the story.
4. What surprised you most in this story?

MORAL:

the lesson, message, or principle that can be learned from a story, event, or experience.

LET'S CREATE (AND DO)! Book-Inspired Art

1. **Self-Acceptance:** Write a thank you letter to yourself about the qualities you are happy you have.
2. **SPIDER VS KITTEN:** Use the Venn Diagram in Appendix A to compare the two types of characters.

SELF-ACCEPTANCE:

the ability to embrace and acknowledge oneself fully, including strengths, weaknesses, emotions, and experiences, without judgment or self-criticism.

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.

Interpersonal Skills

3. Many people would not want to have a spider as a pet. Would you? Is there a creature that you might be afraid of? Fold a piece of paper in half. On the left side draw the animal you chose that scares you. On the right side, draw the same animal as a new friendly character.

Writing Extension: Write a short story or a poem about your new character.

4. **Respect:** Choose someone in your life you respect. Campaign for them to receive the “respect award” by creating a poster listing two or three reasons why people should vote for them if they were running for an elected position. **Extension activity:** Design your own respect award.

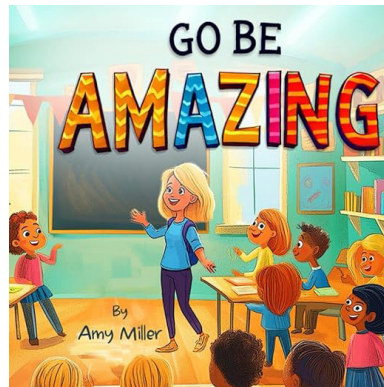
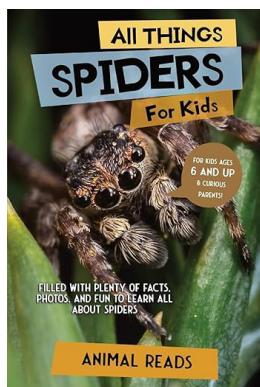
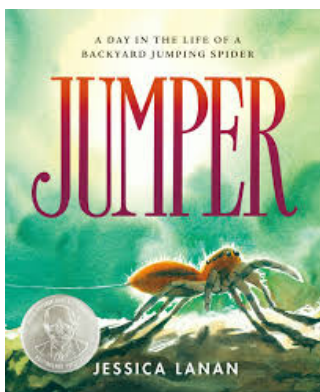
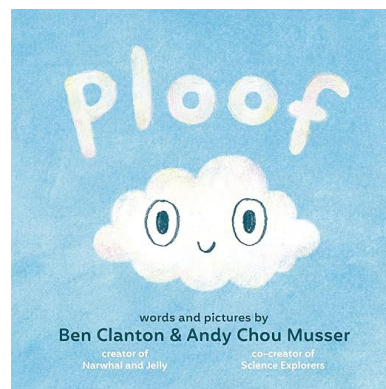
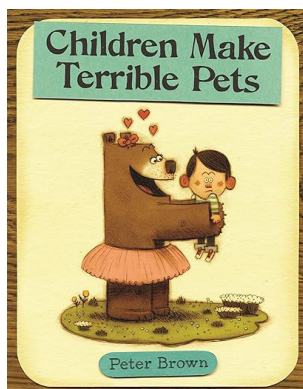
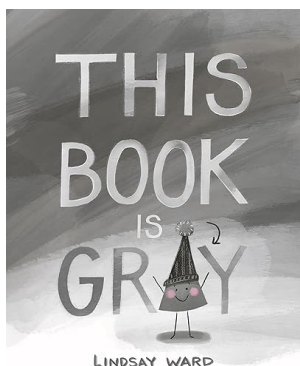
RESPECT:

admiring (someone or something) deeply, as a result of their abilities, qualities, or achievements.

LET’S DIVE DEEPER! Explore More

- Michelle Knudsen and Kevin Hawkes **DISCUSS** *Luigi, The Spider Who Wanted To Be A Kitten*
- Watch this **VIDEO** to learn more about spiders.
- **7 SURPRISING FACTS** about spiders + activity

LET’S READ MORE! Text to Text Connections

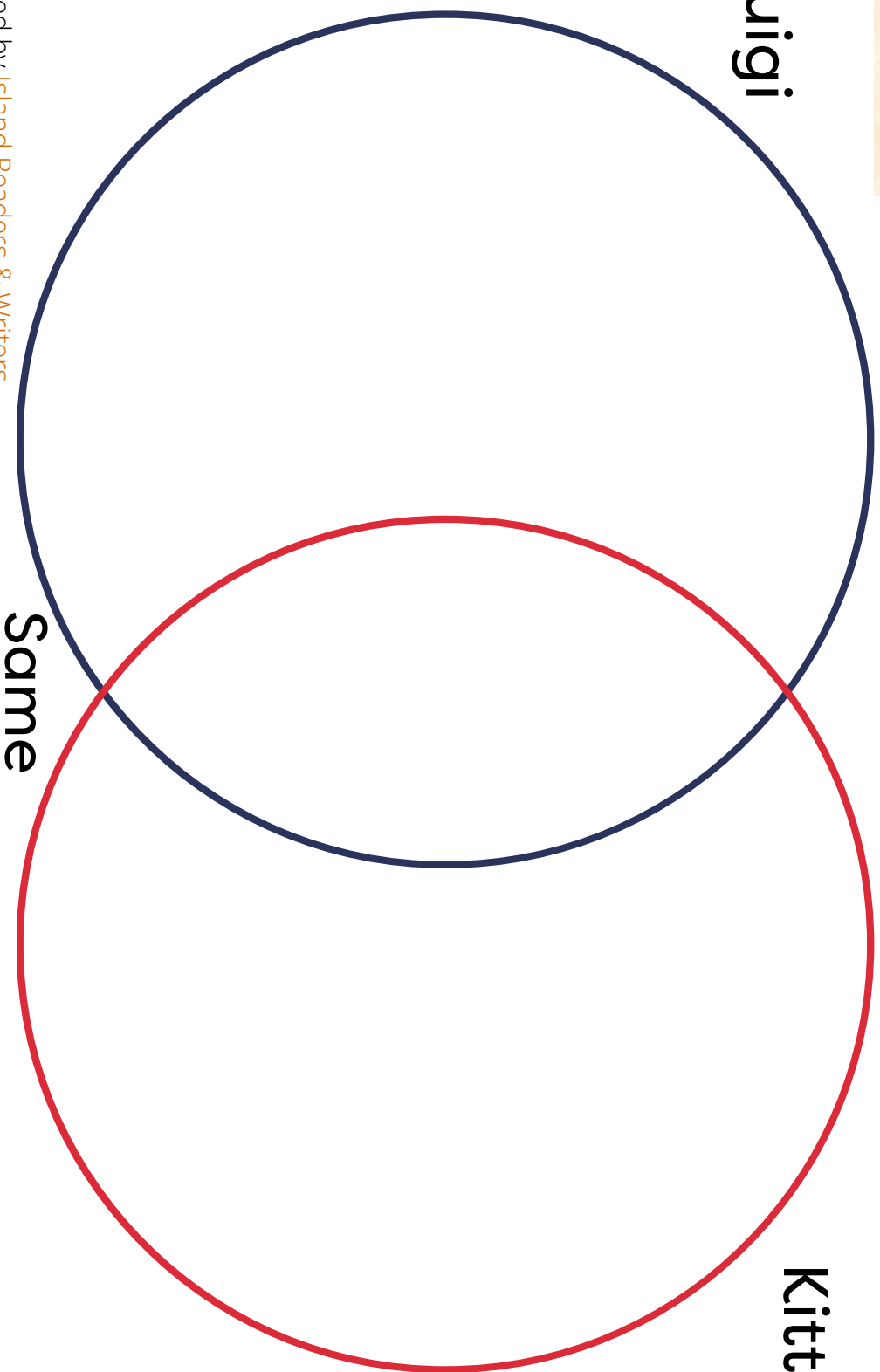




**Luigi, the Spider Who Wanted to Be a Kitten,
Use the Venn Diagram to compare the two types
of characters.**

Luigi

Kitten



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