

Kathy MacMillan: Author, ASL Interpreter, Librarian, Signing Storyteller Press Kit

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All Titles by Kathy MacMillan

See following pages for detailed information on each title.

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

Board Books:

Little Hands Signing Series:

Nita's First Signs (Little Hands Signing Series #1). Familius Press, 2018. Board book ISBN 978-1945547676.

Nita's Day: More Signs for Babies and Parents (Little Hands Signing series #2). Familius Press, 2020. Board book ISBN 978-1641701488.

Nita's Food Signs (Little Hands Signing series #3). Familius Press, 2025. Board book ISBN 978-1641709514

Picture Books:

The Runaway Shirt. Familius Press, 2020. Hardcover ISBN 978-1641702515; eBook ISBN 978-1641702515.

Children's and Young Adult Nonfiction:

She Spoke series:

She Spoke: 14 Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World. Familius Press, 2019. Hardcover ISBN 978-1641701310; eBook ISBN 978-1641701310.

She Spoke Too: 14 More Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World. Familius Press, 2024. Hardcover ISBN 9781641707510.

Discovering the United States: Delaware. ABDO, 2024. Hardcover ISBN 9781098293789.

Discovering the United States: Washington, DC. ABDO, 2024. Hardcover ISBN 9781098294199.

American Life in the 1940s. ABDO, 2023. Hardcover ISBN 9781532198038.

Super Cities! Baltimore. Arcadia Publishing, 2023. Paperback ISBN 9781467198981.

Early Animal Encyclopedias: Cats. ABDO, 2022. Hardcover ISBN 9781098275716.

Understanding Bipolar Disorder (Mental Health Guides). BrightPoint Press, 2020. Hardcover ISBN 978-1682829851.

Young Adult Fiction:

Sword and Verse series:

Sword and Verse (Sword and Verse series #1). HarperTeen, 2016. Hardcover ISBN 978-0062324610; Paperback ISBN 978-0062324627; eBook ISBN 978-0062324634; Audiobook ISBN 978-1504694759.

Dagger and Coin (Sword and Verse series #2). HarperTeen, 2018. Hardcover ISBN 978-0062324641; Paperback ISBN 978-0062324658; eBook ISBN 978-0062324665.

Adult Nonfiction:

Little Hands and Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together, second edition. Hands Up Press, 2022. Paperback ISBN 978-1667875255.

Storytime Magic series:

- *Storytime Magic* (Storytime Magic series #1). ALA Editions, 2009. Paperback ISBN 978-0838909775.
- *Kindergarten Magic* (Storytime Magic series #2). ALA Editions, 2011. Paperback ISBN 978-0838910696.
- *Multicultural Storytime Magic* (Storytime Magic series #3). ALA Editions, 2012. Paperback ISBN 978-0838911426.
- *Baby Storytime Magic* (Storytime Magic series #4). ALA Editions, 2014. Paperback ISBN 978-0838912164.
- *More Storytime Magic* (Storytime Magic series #5). ALA Editions, 2016. Paperback ISBN 978-0838913680.

A Box Full of Tales: Easy Ways to Share Library Resources through Story Boxes. ALA Editions, 2008. Paperback ISBN 978-1439201312.

Try Your Hand at This!: Easy Ways to Incorporate Sign Language into Your Programs. Scarecrow Press, 2005. Paperback ISBN 978-0810854475.

Kathy MacMillan - Author Bios

Find high-resolution author headshots at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>



Long Bio (133 words):

Kathy MacMillan (she/her) is an award-winning writer, nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter, librarian, and signing storyteller. She writes picture books (including *The Runaway Shirt* and the *Little Hands Signing* series from Familius Press), children's nonfiction (including the *She Spoke* series from Familius Press and *Super Cities!: Baltimore* from Arcadia Publishing), middle grade fantasy (the *Chronicles of Cavallon* series under the pen name Kim Forester), and young adult fantasy (*Sword and Verse* and *Dagger and Coin*, both HarperTeen). Her debut novel, *Sword and Verse*, was a finalist for the Compton Crook Award. She has also published eight resource books for educators, librarians, and parents, including 5 volumes in the bestselling *Storytime Magic* series from ALA Editions. Kathy lives in Baltimore, MD. Find her online at KathyMacMillan.com or on Twitter and Instagram at @kathys_quill.

Shorter Bio (75 words):

Kathy MacMillan (she/her) is an award-winning writer, nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter, librarian, editor, and signing storyteller. She writes picture books, children's nonfiction, and middle grade and young adult fiction. Her recent nonfiction book, *She Spoke Too*, was named Foreword INDIES Best Juvenile Nonfiction Book of the Year. She has also published eight resource books for educators, librarians, and parents. She lives in Baltimore, MD. Find her online at KathyMacMillan.com or on Instagram @kathys_quill.

Very short bio (39 words):

Kathy MacMillan (she/her) is an award-winning writer, nationally certified American Sign Language interpreter, librarian, and signing storyteller. She writes picture books, children's nonfiction, young adult fantasy, and resource books for librarians, educators, and parents. Find her online at KathyMacMillan.com.

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Instagram: @kathys_quill

Facebook: @kathysquill

YouTube: youtube.com/KathyMacMillanAuthor

Nita's First Signs



Little Hands Signing Series #1

Familius Press, 2018

by Kathy MacMillan

Illustrations by Sara Brezzi

ASL/Deaf Culture Advisor: Dr. Barbara Kannapell

Board book ISBN 978-1945547676

Ages 0-4

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

American Sign Language makes it easy to communicate with your child, and Nita makes it fun! *Nita's First Signs* teaches ten essential signs for every parent and child to know, including eat, more, hungry, milk, all done, ball, play, love, please, and thank you. A simple story about Nita and her parents teaches each sign in context, and repetition throughout the story makes them easy to practice. Even better, each page slides open to reveal accurate instructions on how to make each sign, plus tabs on the side of each page make it simple to locate every sign for later reference. Baby sign language collections aren't complete without Nita!

- 2018 Foreword INDIES Award Silver Winner
- Featured in BookRiot's "6 of the Best Baby Sign Language Books for Parents"

"*Nita's First Signs* is a wonderful introduction to the world of American Sign Language for children. The book is not only entertaining and creative with its depiction of signs, it encourages the reader to go to a video source as a means to reinforce the signs learned through real-time instruction. In the end, *Nita's First Signs* demonstrates the value and fun of learning sign language for ALL infants, toddlers, children AND adults, regardless of whether they are Deaf or hearing or hard of hearing." – Marlee Matlin, award-winning Deaf actress, author, and activist

"This unique and fabulous book teaches ten popular ASL signs to enable basic communication between babies who are not yet talking and their parents. Ten commonly used words (such as more, thank you, all done, please, eat, and hungry) are highlighted. Slide-out panels contain simple instructions along with pictures that name and illustrate each sign. Color-coded tabs will help parents easily find the signs they are looking for. In addition to being beautifully illustrated, the construction of this book is amazing. This book will appeal to children and adults of ALL ages for the simple story, the lovely illustrations, and the access to American Sign Language that it provides." – Betsy Diamant-Cohen, creator of the award-winning Mother Goose on the Loose early literacy program

"Choosing to teach your baby sign language can open the door to meaningful communication earlier than expected and help defray frustration in the future. *Nita's First Signs* is a wonderful way to start that journey with your child." – Alison H. Scott, MD, FAAP, founder/CEO of Baby Doc Box

Nita's Day: More Signs for Babies and Parents



Little Hands Signing series #2

by Kathy MacMillan

Illustrations by Sara Brezzi

ASL/Deaf Culture Advisor: Jevon Whetter

Early Childhood Advisor: Louise Rollins

Familius Press, 2020

Board book ISBN 978-1641701488

Ages 0-4

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

Nita and her family are back in an all-new adventure that teaches 10 basic American Sign Language signs for babies and their grownups to use throughout the day: wake up, change, clothes, eat, potty, go, play, bath, book, and bed. A simple story about Nita and her parents teaches each sign in context. Even better, each page slides open to reveal accurate instructions on how to make each sign, plus tabs on the side of each page make it simple to locate every sign for later reference. No signing book collection is complete without Nita!

- Winning Selection: Bookstagang Best of 2020 Picture Books
- Featured in BookRiot's "6 of the Best Baby Sign Language Books for Parents"

"Kathy MacMillan has again created another engaging ASL board book for families that is sure to both entertain and educate...A must for every collection!" – Dr. Betsy Diamant-Cohen, Executive Director, Mother Goose on the Loose, LLC

"Tabbed pages make flipping to the correct sign easy for sleep-deprived parents using the book as a reference. Short, simple, descriptive sentences put the signs in context. Brezzi's stylized cartoons are clear and accessible, employing a wide range of patterns and unusual colors...Deaf culture, ASL, and early-childhood content were vetted by experts, making it suitable for Deaf children or families who want to incorporate sign into their daily routine. A handy resource for hearing and Deaf families alike." – *Kirkus*

"*Nita's Day: More Signs for Babies and Parents* is not just for children, it engages parents as well and serves as a great introduction for anyone wanting to learn the basics of American Sign Language" - *The Children's Book Review*

Nita's Food Signs



Little Hands Signing series #3

by Kathy MacMillan

Illustrations by Ekaterina Ladatko

ASL/Deaf Culture Advisor: Jevon Whetter

Early Childhood Advisor: Louise Rollins

Familius Press, 2025

Board book ISBN 978-1641709514

Ages 0-4

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

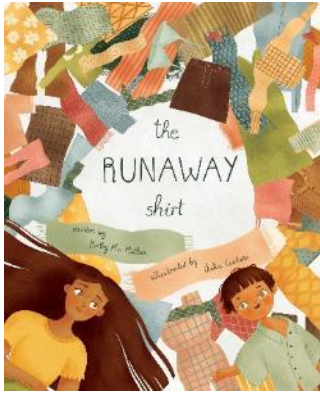
American Sign Language makes it easy to communicate with your child, and Nita makes it fun! With adorable illustrations by Ekaterina Ladatko, Nita and her family learn 10 ASL food signs throughout the day, from bananas to bread, and a cookie for dessert, putting each sign in context. Even better, each page slides open to reveal accurate instructions on how to make each sign, plus tabs on the side of each page make it simple to locate every sign for later reference. No signing book collection is complete without Nita!

“Fun and informative from cover to cover, “Nita’s Food Signs: An Interactive ASL Board Book” is an ideal interactive board book introduction to American Sign Language and unreservedly recommended for family, daycare center, preschool, and community library Board Book collections for children ages 1-3.” – Andrea Kay, *Midwest Book Review*

“The signing instructions are very clear and easy for children to understand. Each page contains vibrant colors and engaging illustrations that children will enjoy. This book would make a great addition to any preschool classroom and household seeking to promote diversity...This story can also aid ASL comprehension and would be a great starting point for learning simple food signs. ASL is useful for young children who have not yet begun speaking, giving them another tool to express themselves. Therefore, this book is highly recommended.” – 5-Star Review, *Children’s Literature*

“Kathy MacMillan has done it again! Literacy for all children is foundational! Reading for young children should involve many senses to help scaffold early literacy for Deaf and nonDeaf children. In the series about Nita and her family, the author not only fosters engagement with the book through written print, stimulating art, and kinesthetic participation cultivating learning printed English, but also supporting literacy via American Sign Language (ASL). Research has shown that children that are taught and/or exposed to ASL at a young age (both hearing and Deaf children) have higher reading and writing scores at an older age as well as having fewer tantrums, boosting vocabulary, and more. Littles who learn some ASL do not have to fully be fluent in Sign Language to reap the benefits of higher reading scores.” – Dr. Lisalee D. Egbert, Professor and Coordinator for ASL & Deaf Studies

The Runaway Shirt



by Kathy MacMillan

Illustrations by Julia Castaño

Familius Press, 2020

Hardcover ISBN 978-1641702515

eBook ISBN 978-1641702515

Picture book

Ages 3-6

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

Laundry is a chore, but when a child climbs in the basket, everything becomes a game. Follow along as this mother takes a break from folding clothes to join her child in the delightful laughter of imagination. In *The Runaway Shirt*, housework and pretend play come together to transport readers to a kid's world of wonder and excitement. Each page of charming illustration is a work in joy and mirth. Who knew folding laundry could be so much fun?

“A sweet depiction of how even a mundane task can turn into a fun game given some imagination, patience, and love.” – *School Library Journal*

“Many a young reader will giggle in recognition of similarly enacted pretend games of their own.” – *Kirkus*

“In a creative blend of housework and pretend play, *The Runaway Shirt* welcomes you to witness the world through a child's eyes: where the simple folding of laundry is the launchpad for a world of runaway clothing and disappearing shirts. This charming read portrays the loving bond between parent and child, and the joy of nurturing your child's imagination...Don't be surprised if your own littles beg for laundry day after this one!” – Maya Espiritu, MaiStoryBookLibrary

She Spoke: 14 Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World



by Kathy MacMillan and Manuela Bernardi

Illustrated by Kathrin Honesta

Familius Press, 2019

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1641701310

eBook ISBN: 978-1641701310

Children's nonfiction

Ages 5 and up

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

When the world tells you to stay quiet, do you listen, or do you speak up? In *She Spoke: 14 Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World*, with the touch of a button readers can hear Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dolores Huerta, Dr. Maya Angelou, Dr. Jane Goodall, Shirley Chisholm, Susan Shown Harjo, Hillary Rodham Clinton, Leymah Gbowee, Dr. Temple Grandin, Justice Sonia Sotomayor, Tammy Duckworth, Dr. Joanne Liu, Abby Wambach, and Malala Yousafzai. Through succinct profiles, stunning portraits, and the original voices of these women, *She Spoke* will inspire readers of all ages to share their own truths and change the world.

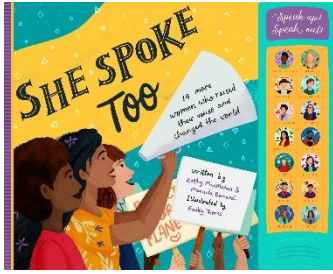
- Bookstagram Choice Award Winner – Best 2019 Anthology of Women for Young Readers
- Selected by Rise: A Feminist Book Project 2020 Booklist

“The words are all inspirational, and so are the stories. Better still, as examples for budding activists, along with the predictable recitations of jobs, honors, and successes, the overviews often acknowledge failures, cannily characterizing them as first steps or as means to some greater end. A chorus of voices for justice and change, diverse alike of identity and cause.” – *Kirkus*

“*She Spoke* is a unique anthology of trailblazing women that pairs their stories with their voices. (Remember those books with buttons on the side that play nursery rhymes or farm animal sounds? Like that, but WAY better.)...The concept is brilliant and like nothing I’ve ever seen – to hear these incredible women’s voices saying their iconic words is truly magical.” – Bookstagram Choice Awards

“When we first laid our eyes on this book, illustrated by Kathrin Honesta, there were several audible gasps, posts to social media, and several copies set aside for our own budding young feminists. We’ve stocked up on this amazing collection of outspoken women biographies, which literally has the audio of their famous words available at a push of a button. When your two year old is parroting Abby Wambach and Malala Yousafzai you know you’ve made a smart decision in purchasing this book.” – “What we’re reading: Reviews from the staff at Bartleby’s,” *Manchester Journal*, August 30, 2019

She Spoke Too: 14 More Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World



by Kathy MacMillan and Manuela Bernardi

Illustrated by Becky Thorns

Familius Press, 2024

Hardcover ISBN: 978-1641707510

Children's nonfiction

Ages 5 and up

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

When the world tells you to stay quiet, do you listen, or do you speak up? In *She Spoke Too: 14 More Women Who Raised Their Voices and Changed the World*, with the touch of a button readers can hear Mother Jones (Mary Harris Jones), Gerda Weissmann Klein, Patsy Takemoto Mink, Judy Heumann, LaDonna Harris, Antonia Hernández, Dr. Mae Jemison, Jacinda Ardern, Zuzana Čaputová, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Kamala Harris, Maria Ressa, Shamsia Hassani, and Greta Thunberg. Through succinct profiles, stunning portraits by illustrator Becky Thorns, and the original voices of these international women, *She Spoke Too* will inspire readers of all ages to share their own truths and change the world.

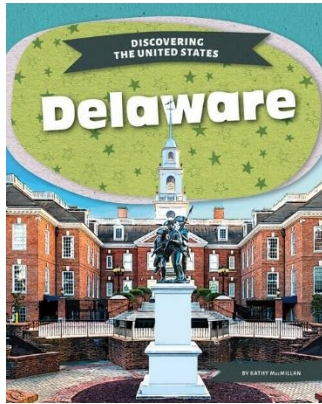
- Gold Winner, Foreword INDIES Best Juvenile Nonfiction Book of the Year 2024
- Selected as a Notable Social Studies Trade Book 2025 by the National Council for the Social Studies and the Children's Book Council (CBC)
- Finalist, Imadjinn Awards, Children's Book Category

STARRED REVIEW: "Thorns's vibrant illustrations, blending paint and digital art, bring these women to life, surrounded by symbols of their causes. Each profile features a poignant quote from the activist as well as a thought-provoking discussion point that encourages readers to consider their own potential impact. VERDICT This book is a vital addition to any nonfiction collection, for anyone seeking inspiration to dream bigger than they thought possible."—Jessica Clark, *School Library Journal*

"From cover to cover, *She Spoke Too* is thoughtful, compelling, and well-organized. I loved that the authors' chose to feature women from a diverse array of backgrounds, occupations, ethnicities, abilities, faiths, and countries of origin, so that young readers might more readily see themselves reflected on the page. I can't think of anything better than a book that inspires and empowers children to embrace their full potential and *She Spoke Too* does just that." - ReadingForSanity.com

"This picture book introduces the reader to fourteen women who learned to use their voices to improve the lives of others...The two-page spread for each woman gives the reader an illustration of the woman, with a quick fact box for personal details. The right side of the spread references ways in which readers can become involved to make their voices heard." – Children's Literature

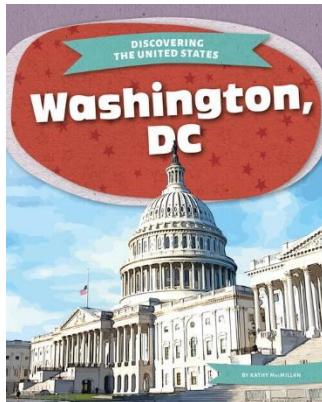
Discovering the United States: Delaware



by Kathy MacMillan
ABDO, 2024
Grades 2-5
Hardcover ISBN 9781098293789

From learning about the history of Dover Green to walking through Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware is full of adventures. This title introduces the state's people, culture, and places to visit. Easy-to-read text, vivid images, and helpful back matter give readers a clear look at this subject. Features include a table of contents, infographics, a glossary, additional resources, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Kids Core is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDO.

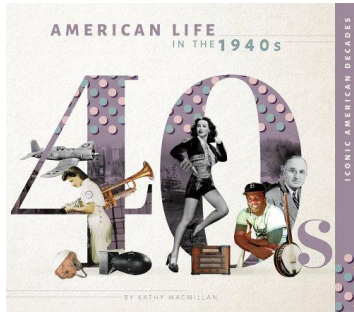
Discovering the United States: Washington, DC



by Kathy MacMillan
ABDO, 2024
Grades 2-5
Hardcover ISBN 9781098294199

From visiting the White House to watching cherry blossom trees bloom, Washington, DC, is full of adventures. This title introduces the district's people, culture, and places to visit. Easy-to-read text, vivid images, and helpful back matter give readers a clear look at this subject. Features include a table of contents, infographics, a glossary, additional resources, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Kids Core is an imprint of Abdo Publishing, a division of ABDO.

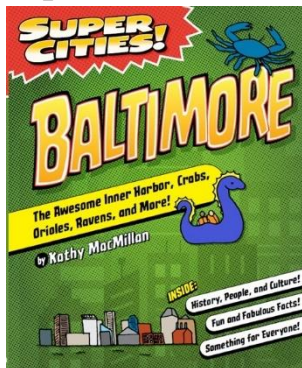
American Life in the 1940s



by Kathy MacMillan
Iconic American Decades series
ABDO, 2023
Hardcover ISBN 9781532198038
Young adult nonfiction
Grades 6-12

American Life in the 1940s takes a look at the major events that occurred throughout this decade and offers information on the demographics of the United States at the time. Readers will gain an understanding of the politics, conflicts, science, inventions, pop culture, fashion, and sports of the decade, and they will learn about the legacy the 1940s left behind. Features include a glossary, a timeline, references, websites, source notes, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards.

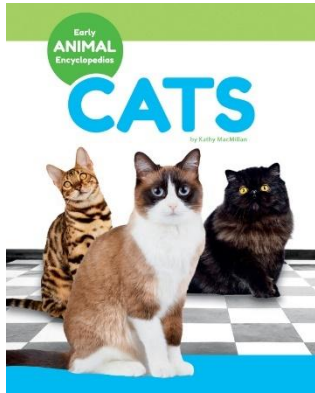
Super Cities! Baltimore



by Kathy MacMillan
Arcadia Publishing, 2023
Paperback ISBN: 978-1467198981
Children's nonfiction
Ages 8-12
Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

"Sometimes the coolest places are right outside your front door. Learning about Baltimore's interesting and unique culture has never been so super fun! "After 19 years of living in Baltimore, 10 of them spent covering the city streets on a bicycle (my only mode of transportation during that time), and seven moves across the city's neighborhoods, I didn't think there was much left for me to discover about Charm City. Even so, I'd be hard-pressed to compile an exhaustive list of everything that makes our city the greatest. Kathy MacMillan's done some of the work for us in Super Cities! Baltimore. I sat down to read the book with my six-and-a-half-year-old daughter, Mila...'I basically liked all of the book,' Mila told me after we'd finished reading. 'It felt like I was really there.'" - "Mother/Daughter Corner: Ana and Mila Hart Review 'Super Cities! Baltimore'" at BaltimoreFishbowl.com

Early Animal Encyclopedias: Cats



by Kathy MacMillan

ABDO, 2022.

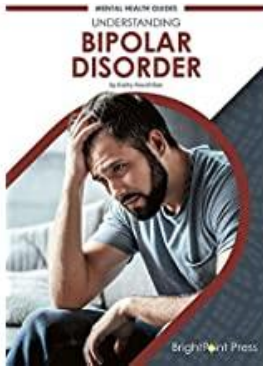
Hardcover ISBN 978-1098275716

Children's nonfiction

Grades PreK-4

This early encyclopedia introduces readers to many cat breeds. From hairless cats to cats with curly fur or ears, each breed is special in its own way. This book highlights each cat's appearance, behavior, and history. It also features a map of the breed's place of origin. Features include a glossary, additional resources, and an index. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards.

Understanding Bipolar Disorder



by Kathy MacMillan

Mental Health Guides series

BrightPoint Press, 2020

Hardcover ISBN 978-1682829851

Children's/Young Adult nonfiction

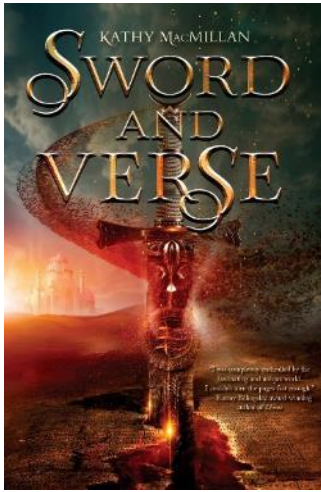
Ages 8 and up

Bipolar disorder causes intense mood swings. Sometimes people with bipolar disorder feel energetic and excited. At other times, they feel tired and depressed. *Understanding Bipolar Disorder* explores what this disorder is like, how it can affect people's lives, and how it can be treated.

This series features:

- Important teen topics at a lower reading level
- Clean and accessible design and format
- Leveled text and infographics

Sword and Verse



Sword and Verse series #1

by Kathy MacMillan

HarperTeen, 2016

Hardcover ISBN 978-0062324610

Paperback ISBN 978-0062324627

eBook ISBN 978-0062324634

Audiobook (narrated by Emily Rankin) ISBN 978-1504694759

German: *Feuer und Feder*. Beltz, 2017 Hardcover ISBN 978-3407747969; Paperback ISBN 978-3407748928

Spanish: *Tinta y Fuego* (Spanish) Montena Paperback ISBN 978-8490438275

Young Adult Fantasy

Ages 14 and up

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

In a sweeping fantasy that award-winning author Franny Billingsley calls “fascinating and unique,” debut author Kathy MacMillan weaves palace intrigue and epic world-building to craft a tale for fans of Rae Carson and Megan Whalen Turner.

Raisa was just a child when she was sold into slavery in the kingdom of Qilara. Despite her young age, her father had been adamant that she learn to read and write. But where she now lives, literacy is a capital offense for all but the nobility. The written language is closely protected, and only the King, Prince, Tutor, and Tutor-in-training are allowed to learn its very highest form. So when she is plucked from her menial labor and selected to replace the last Tutor-in-training who was executed, Raisa knows that betraying any hint of her past could mean death.

Keeping her secret guarded is hard enough, but the romance that’s been blossoming between her and Prince Mati isn’t helping matters. Then Raisa is approached by the Resistance—an underground rebel army—to help liberate the city’s slaves. She wants to free her people, but that would mean aiding a war against Mati. As Raisa struggles with what to do, she discovers a secret that the Qilarites have been hiding for centuries—one that, if uncovered, could bring the kingdom to its knees.

- Finalist, 2017 Compton Crook Award

“I was completely enthralled by the fascinating and unique world that Kathy MacMillan has created. The depth and skill she demonstrates with her ability to build an original mythology based on words and the power of language are highly unusual for a first-time novelist and I couldn’t turn the pages fast enough.” – National Book Award finalist Franny Billingsley

“A tense, romantic fantasy epic about prejudice, political struggle, and the power of words, *Sword and Verse* kept me guessing at every turn. Kathy MacMillan is a writer to watch.” — R.J. Anderson, Andre Norton Award-nominated author of *Ultraviolet*

“Sword and Verse is a slow burn, a thoroughly crafted novel in every sense of the word.”— *RT Book Reviews*

“[T]his is a highly satisfying novel with an exciting conclusion. Filled with romance, political intrigue, and rebellion, this stand-alone page-turner will be in high demand by fantasy lovers.” — *Voice of Youth Advocates*

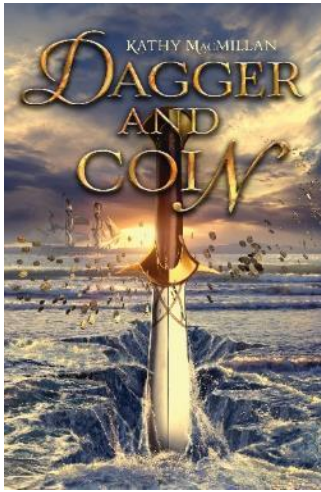
“Fans of Megan Whalen Turner will enjoy MacMillan’s debut novel...MacMillan explains the complicated political twists and turns clearly, and her characterizations are layered and believable.” — *Publishers Weekly*

“Literacy becomes the key to liberation in a thoughtful debut fantasy.” — *Kirkus*

“MacMillan’s love of learning, knowledge, and literacy shapes both plot and character development, while raising ethical questions with no easy answers. Beneath what appears to be a romantic fantasy, discerning readers will find complex, broader issues among the predictable comforts of the genre.” — *Booklist*

“MacMillan has created a believable world, complete with its own mythology.” — *School Library Journal*

Dagger and Coin



(Sword and Verse series #2)

by Kathy MacMillan

HarperTeen, 2018

Hardcover ISBN 978-0062324641

Paperback ISBN 978-0062324658

eBook ISBN 978-0062324665

Young Adult Fantasy

Ages 14 and up

Find high-resolution book cover images at <https://kathymacmillan.com/press-kit/>

Soraya Gamo was meant to be queen of Qilara, until an Arnath slave rebellion destroyed the monarchy and the capital city. Now, improbably, she sits on the new Ruling Council beside her former enemies, finally holding the political power she always wanted – but over a nation in ruins. As she works to rebuild Qilara, she can, at last, use what everyone once told her to hide: her brain.

But not everyone is ready to accept the new equality that the Ruling Council has decreed between the Arnathim and Qilarites. So when a slave ship arrives in the city, full of Arnathim captured before Qilara fell—the civil unrest that has been bubbling since the rebellion erupts.

Forced to confront her own prejudices, Soraya struggles to gain the trust of the Arnath people she once disregarded and establish peace in what has become chaos. With the threat of attacks high, Gelti, a former guard captain, trains Soraya in self-defense. As the two grow close, tension within the city ramps up, with danger, betrayal, and deception meeting Soraya everywhere she turns. Friends become foes, adversaries become companions, and the clashing of classes threatens to unravel all the good Soraya has been trying to do. Can Soraya, raised to be a proper Qilarite lady, learn to be a true leader? Or will the sins of her past forever haunt the footsteps of her future?

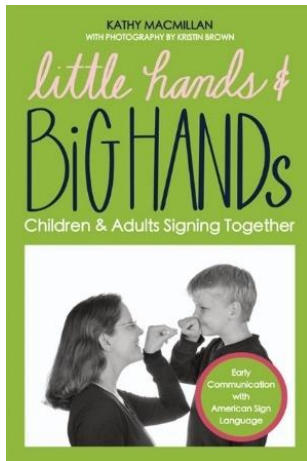
"Rich in politics, intrigue, and betrayal, *Dagger and Coin* is a complex feminist fantasy featuring a tough and prickly ex-princess that I couldn't help but adore." – Heidi Heilig, author of *The Girl from Everywhere*

"[A] riveting fantasy sequel...Soraya's compelling narration makes the minutiae of management as thrilling as the betrayals, murders, and desperate gambits propelling the plot...A fine balance of political intrigue, relationship drama, and thoughtful characterization." – *Kirkus*

"MacMillan builds tension slowly, and soon readers will be locked into the wrangling for power and influence that goes into forging a new foundation." – *Booklist*

"MacMillan has created a complex, nuanced world. Strong female characters taking the lead in a fast-paced plot will appeal to fans of fantasy, mythology, and works by Kristin Cashore... Those who haven't read the first title in the series will not be disappointed or confused. A good choice for fantasy shelves." – *School Library Journal*

Little Hands and Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together



Second edition
by Kathy MacMillan
with photographs by Kristin Brown
Hands Up Press, 2022
Paperback ISBN 978-1667875255
Adult

Research shows that using American Sign Language with young children can

- reduce frustration for both caregiver and child
- increase IQ
- stimulate language learning
- enhance bonding
- raise a child's self-esteem
- improve everyday life and communication!

Little Hands & Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together offers solid background information on signing with children ages birth to six, along with hands-on games, fingerplays, songs, and more that caregivers, librarians, and educators can use to smooth transitions, calm a fussy child, or engage a stubborn one. Each activity is accompanied by photos of the relevant signs.

“Author and ASL educator Kathy MacMillan has brilliantly combined the world of ASL with early literacy activities...Explanations and research support are seamlessly woven into each activity...I highly recommend this resource to anyone working with children from birth to age six.” -Betsy Diamant-Cohen, creator of the award-winning Mother Goose on the Loose early literacy program

Storytime Magic



Storytime Magic series #1
by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker
with illustrations by Melanie Fitz
ALA Editions, 2009
Paperback ISBN 978-0838909775
Adult

Enriching and supplementing storytelling programs with fingerplays, flannelboards, and other props will be a cinch thanks to this generous sampling of art and craft ideas, songs, sign language and action rhymes.

This time-saving resource includes

- Thematic organization to make program planning easy
- Recommended books for each theme
- Easy-to-follow craft and flannelboard patterns
- Quick Tips boxes that enhance the early literacy component

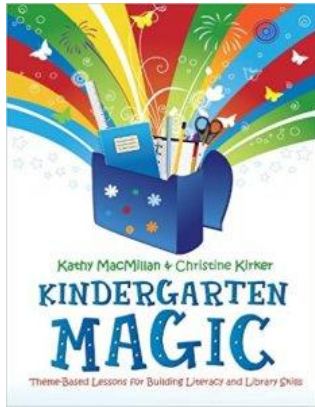
A unique addition to the programming shelf, this treasure trove of storytime tools is designed to help veteran librarians refresh and enliven ongoing programs, while providing novice storytime planners what they need to get started!

“Organised into chapters based on 16 themes, it is easy for the reader to find a story and associated activity to bring storytimes to life. Although written for librarians, the chosen themes follow topics common to many units of work in early education, and the stories and activities could easily be adapted by teachers to enhance either an integrated or trans-disciplinary unit of work.” – *Australian Library Journal*

“There are lots of ideas here on common themes both in the real world and the world of imagination.” – *Teacher Librarian*

“Both new and veteran storytellers will appreciate this book.” – *School Library Journal*

Kindergarten Magic



Storytime Magic series #2
by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker
with illustrations by Melanie Fitz
ALA Editions, 2011
Paperback ISBN 978-0838910696
Adult

This time-saving program planner for librarians and classroom teachers alike includes everything you need to get started—reading lists, flannelboard patterns, poems, songs, easy crafts, even take-home activities to extend the learning process. The many creative ideas packed inside include:

- Activities keyed to popular classroom themes, with one chapter for each week of the school year
- Lessons that reinforce skills in key learning areas such as reading, writing, and math
- American Sign Language and Spanish language activities that make diversity awareness a part of children's learning
- Teachable concepts that can be mixed and rearranged for maximum flexibility, complementing classroom schedules

Both veterans and novices will find plenty to help make kindergarten days richer, more rewarding, and more fun. Order your copy today and pick up tips for your school, preschool and library!

“Kindergarten Magic provides a time-saving, idea-promoting framework for kindergarten library lessons with an emphasis on fun and interaction... This book would be an excellent addition to a school librarian's collection to complement lesson planning and allow for quick ideas when faced with a spontaneous lesson. In addition, public library children's librarians would find this resource useful to assist in creative ways to build library skills into storytime sessions.” – Australian Library Journal

“MacMillan and Kirker's new book is a must-have resource for school librarians or teachers who work with kindergartners. The authors have combined their experience in children's librarianship, storytelling, and American Sign Language to design 36 thematic library units that support kindergarten benchmarks for early literacy... Highly recommended.” – Booklist

Multicultural Storytime Magic



Storytime Magic series #3
by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker
with illustrations by Melanie Fitz
ALA Editions, 2012
Paperback ISBN 978-0838911426
Adult

Storytime audiences grow ever more diverse, and materials used in programs must reflect that richness of experience. Multiculturalism need not be an occasional initiative attached to particular holidays. Best-selling authors MacMillan and Kirker offer a new paradigm for multicultural programs, one in which diversity is woven into any and every storytime, no matter what the topic. Arranged thematically around dozens of popular storytime themes, *Multicultural Storytime Magic* features

- original and traditional resources from all over the world that will enrich storytimes for ages 2-5
- concrete book recommendations, fingerplays, and other activities that can be integrated into existing storytimes
- download links for flannelboard and stick puppet patterns, and illustrations of American Sign Language signs

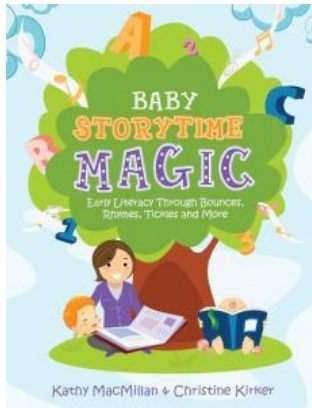
With numerous activities and programming suggestions, this book will seamlessly integrate and enhance cultural awareness for children all year round.

“The content, organization, and resources included in *Multicultural Storytime Magic* make it a useful tool for youth services librarians in public libraries or school librarians who serve preschoolers and kindergarteners. It will help librarians incorporate multicultural touches into their regular storytimes or put together an entire storytime dedicated to a specific culture or country. Highly recommended.” – *The Idaho Librarian*

“*Multicultural Storytime Magic* does provide a very good range of themes with an excellent selection of age appropriate stories, songs and crafts with a multicultural flavour. The book really does offer 44 storytime themes which weave diversity into every topic. It would be a useful addition to the storytelling toolkits of school and public librarians.” – Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services

“Both beginning storytellers and seasoned librarians can benefit from these fresh ideas.” – *School Library Journal*

Baby Storytime Magic



Storytime Magic series #4
by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker
with illustrations by Melanie Fitz
ALA Editions, 2014
Paperback ISBN 978-0838912164
Adult

Whether you've been presenting baby storytimes for fifteen years or fifteen minutes, you probably already know that the first five years of life are key for brain development and early literacy. Many public libraries have instituted baby and toddler programs, but finding exciting materials for baby storytime that go beyond nursery rhymes can be a challenge. *Baby Storytime Magic* is a treasure trove of new and exciting ideas for programs, all of which revolve around themes from a baby's world. Inside this resource you'll find

- Fingerplays, bounces, flannelboards, activities with props, songs, American Sign Language activities, and more, with items arranged by type of material
- Tips for planning storytimes, with advice on logistical issues such as age grouping, scheduling, formats, and physical setup
- Guidance on involving caregivers in baby storytimes, including suggested scripts for explaining the benefits of each activity and how to use it at home
- Age-appropriate book recommendations
- Information on the stages of early childhood development, plus an appendix of recommended additional resources
- A thematic index to find the right storytime activity quickly
- Links to full-sized, downloadable flannelboard patterns, craft patterns, and worksheets

Packed with ready-to-use activities, reducing prep time substantially, this book is a valuable early literacy tool for every children's librarian.

"This will be a go-to book time and again, for ideas, for planning, and for resources for any adult working with children under age 2, and sometimes older." – *American Reference Books Annual*

"Whilst there are many storytime/rhyme time book resources available on the market, what sets *Baby Storytime Magic* apart is that each suggested title is accompanied by a 'literacy bit' – this is a suggested script for the facilitator to use to explain to caregivers the benefits of a particular activity and how to use it at home... This book is a smart purchase for any public library, early education centre or professional providing activities for babies." – *Australian Library Journal*

More Storytime Magic



Storytime Magic series #5
by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker
with illustrations by Melanie Fitz
ALA Editions, 2016
Paperback ISBN 978-0838913680
Adult

MacMillan and Kirker’s knack for creating storytimes that engage and delight young ones have made their previous books bestsellers. Now they’re back with an all new assortment of original fingerplays, transitional rhymes, movement songs, flannelboards, sign language rhymes and other activities to spice up storytimes for ages two and up. This ready-to-go sourcebook for children’s librarians, early literacy specialists, and other adults who work with young children offers everything needed to plan and host quality storytimes, including

- more than a dozen thematic groupings of activities, featuring such fun topics such as “All About Me,” “Bugs and Insects,” “Fairy Tales and Castles,” and “People in my Neighborhood”;
- recommended storytime books for each theme, along with material lists, patterns for flannelboards and stick puppets, and illustrations of American Sign Language signs; and
- coding for each entry indicating which Common Core State Standards for Kindergarten skills it supports.

Using the guidance and activities contained in this book, storytimes will be more magical than ever!

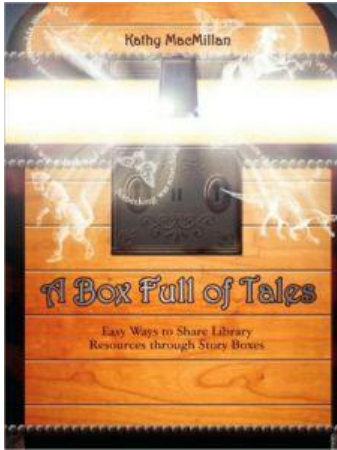
“Another excellent resource from this author pair, this title presents songs, stories, and activities arranged by themes, such as fairy tales, animals, friends, and food. The stories and songs include originals and adaptations alike, and many of the tunes are sung to well-known traditional songs...With fun activities and timely information on the CCSS, this is an ideal choice for administrators, librarians, and parents eager to promote current literacy standards.” – *School Library Journal*

“MacMillan and Kirker continue their successful formula for helping librarians and others who plan stories and activities for children aged two and up...a welcome addition for public and school library professional collections.” – *American Reference Books Annual*

“The authors do a very good job of providing activities that can be used for different age groups as well as different time allotments and settings.” – *School Library Connection*

“...a worthwhile purchase for any youth department where there is a focus on storytime.” – *Booklist*

A Box Full of Tales: Easy Ways to Share Library Resources through Story Boxes



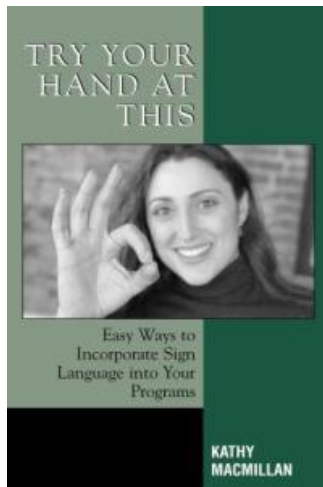
by Kathy MacMillan
ALA Editions, 2008
Paperback ISBN 978-1439201312
Adult

Children's programming made easy. Really easy.

What librarian doesn't dream of offering more and better children's programs with less effort? In Maryland's Carroll County, story boxes have made this impossible dream come true for twenty years. Now Kathy MacMillan outlines the proven story box system for sharing an array of successful programs. Including step-by-step instructions from concept through implementation and supplemented by programming tips, *A Box Full of Tales* also offers detailed plans for 50 great story boxes, including suggested books, fingerplays, songs, props, crafts, and American Sign Language.

"The idea of story boxes to share program resources is brilliant—so much so that it's a wonder that it is not a more prevalent practice...Even children's librarians who don't work in multibranch systems will find this guide extremely valuable for its theme-based program outlines, whether or not they choose to create story boxes." – *Library Journal*

Try Your Hand at This!: Easy Ways to Incorporate Sign Language into Your Programs



by Kathy MacMillan
Scarecrow Press , 2005
Paperback ISBN 978-0810854475
Adult

Try Your Hand at This is a user-friendly guide for librarians and other personnel involved in library programming. From how to set up sign language programming for all ages to dealing with interpreters, publicizing programming to the public and the Deaf community, and evaluating and improving the library's sign language collection, Kathy MacMillan speaks with the voice of experience. She excels at dispelling the numerous myths surrounding deafness and sign language. This handbook is an indispensable tool for all library personnel looking to reach out to the Deaf and hard-of-hearing communities.

“...guides library programming personnel through the common pitfalls of new learners of ASL and the background knowledge necessary to introduce ASL in context, and offers practical information on establishing community partnerships, working with interpreters, and marketing programs. The text also includes sample programs for all ages - baby, toddler, preschool, elementary and middle school, and family programs - annotated bibliographies of ASL resources and materials to use with sign language, games and crafts for ASL programs, a glossary of terms relating to sign language and deafness, and a visual glossary of commonly used storytime signs.”
– *Reference and Research Book News*

“Library program planners will want to read Kathy MacMillan's new book, *Try Your Hand at This: Easy Ways to Incorporate Sign Language into Your Programs*. MacMillan explains how to work with interpreters to provide programming to the Deaf community and dispels some of the myths about deafness and sign language. She also addresses how to set up programming involving sign language for all ages and offers advice on how to publicize the programs to the public and within the Deaf community.” – *American Libraries*

School and Library Programs

See complete program descriptions, rates, availability, and booking information at <https://kathymacmillan.com/book-an-appearance/>

For All Ages:

Read, Sign, and Play: In this high-energy author storytime, Kathy MacMillan shares her books, along with American Sign Language songs and action rhymes.

Stories By Hand: Interactive storytelling programs that teach basic American Sign Language for all ages. Many themes available, including:

- ASL ABCs
- Flying Fingers of Fall
- How Do You Sign “Snow”? Winter Signs
- Once Upon a Sign
- The SIGN-a-long Sing-a-long
- American Sign Language Safari
- Signs of Spring
- Signs Under the Sea
- Summer Signs

For Babies, Toddlers, and Preschoolers:

Little Hands Signing: Interactive theme-based storytimes that combine age-appropriate signs and activities with solid information for caregivers. Many topics available, including

- First Signs
- Bedtime Signs
- Celebration Signs
- Family Signs
- Feelings Signs
- Food Signs
- Nice Play Signs
- Playtime Signs
- Safety Signs
- Weather Signs

For Ages 6 and Up:

She Spoke: Learn about inspirational women who spoke up for change.

For Ages 12 and Up:

Meet the Author: A lively conversation with author Kathy MacMillan, highlighting the book(s) of your choice.

For Adults:

Sign with Your Child: Research shows that signing with all children stimulates language development, eases communication, supports early literacy, and defuses frustration for parents and children alike. Kathy MacMillan, author of the *Little Hands Signing* series, introduces the whys and hows of signing with children and shares hands-on activities you can use throughout the day.

Workshops and Webinars

See complete program descriptions, rates, availability, and booking information at <https://kathymacmillan.com/book-an-appearance/>

Writing Workshops/Webinars (for ages 12 to adult):

- Choices and Consequences
- Cultivating Craft
- Formatting Your Manuscript for Submission
- Kidlit Market 101
- Middle Grade/Young Adult Fiction Revision Workshop
- Picture Book Revision Workshop
- Professional Communication for Authors
- The Secrets of Show, Don't Tell
- So You Want to Publish a Book
- Storybuilding
- Storytime Bootcamp for Published Authors and Illustrators
- Taking off the Training Wheels: From Fanfiction to Original Fiction

Professional Development Workshops/Webinars (for adults):

- Create a Calmer Classroom with American Sign Language
- Hands Up!: American Sign Language for Library Staff (6-week series; Beginner, Intermediate, and Review levels available)
- Little Hands Signing in the Classroom
- Little Hands Signing in Storytime
- Multicultural Storytime Magic
- Sign, Baby, Sign!: Signing with Babies and Toddlers
- Storytime Stuff (fresh ideas and practical tricks to liven up programs)
- Welcoming Deaf Patrons to Your Library
- Welcoming Deaf Kids and Families to Your Library
- Working with a Sign Language Interpreter