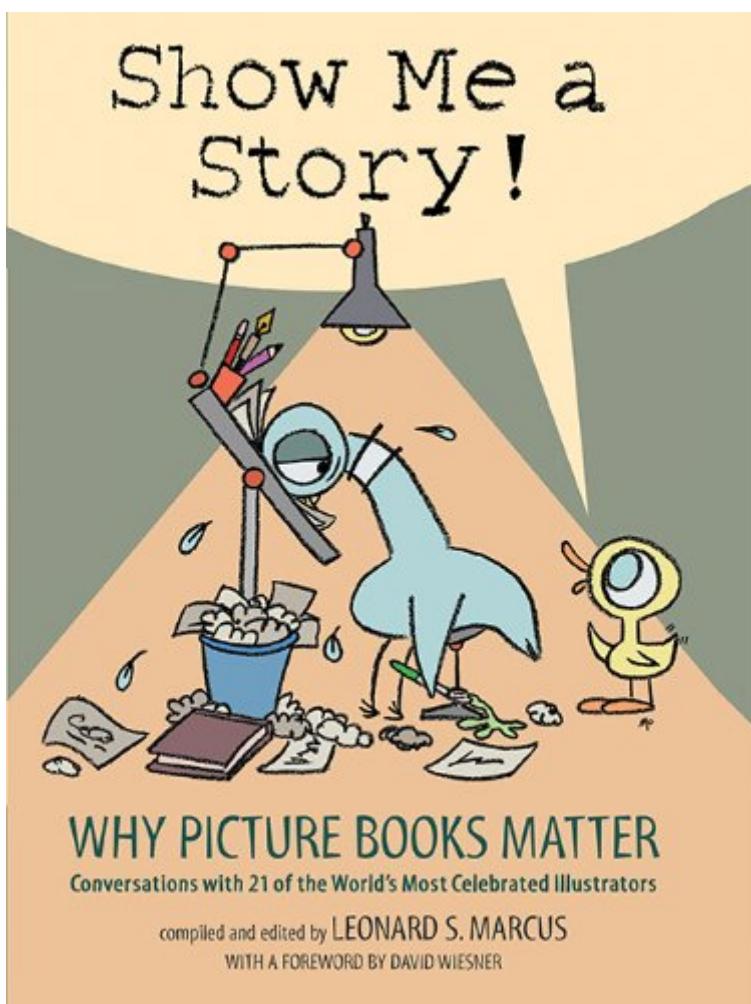


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# Show Me A Story!: Why Picture Books Matter: Conversations With 21 Of The World's Most Celebrated Illustrators



## Synopsis

Will inspire, inform, and delight those of any age who are engaged in or by the arts. Renowned children's literature authority Leonard S. Marcus speaks with twenty-one of the world's most celebrated illustrators of picture books, asking about their childhood, their inspiration, their creative choices, and more. Amplifying these richly entertaining and thought-provoking conversations are eighty-eight full-color plates revealing each illustrator's artistic process in fascinating, behind-the-scenes detail. This inspiring collection confirms that picture books matter because they make a difference in our children's lives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I LOVE this book! I have a whole new appreciation for some of these authors. I know you'll think I'm crazy but I've never been a huge Eric Carle fan. But after reading why he made the books the way he did, I love him for it! Please read picture books to your kids, even the older ones! We push our

kids to read chapter books too soon, and they miss out on a whole world of information, stories, and more in picture books!

I love reading about illustrators and their stories of how they became illustrators. This is what this book is. The author interviewed the artists and then wrote down their stories. Plus, there are examples of each illustrator's work.

As a retired librarian/teacher, I spend much of my spare time reading to children. The teacher in me insists that I preface all stories with introductions to the author and artist. *Show Me A Story* is a valuable tool as well as fun to read. In the 20-question conversation with each illustrator I learn his/her style, techniques and bio--just enough for me to share with kindergartners. The book is easy to navigate because it is alphabetically arranged. There is a good index and there are lists of titles by the illustrators, source notes, and credits for illustrations and photographs. These are all placed within easy reach at the back of the book. *Show Me...* is well made; it has sturdy paper, strong binding, good sized type and wide margins. Nothing text "booky" about it. It's a delight.

Looking at the mass of childrens trade books can be overwhelming for a college student, so when I found this book I saw an opportunity to organize some of my lectures around the illustrators that bring the books to life. Not surprisingly, the artists interviewed by Leonard S. Marcus cross referenced each other at times though their experiences were varied. The multicultural perspective, so important in our classrooms, was underscored by the differences in style and impressions of the different illustrators.. The individual missions of the artists focused on various facets of the craft .For examples, Mo Willems comes out of the CTW and has been trained in child development, making him aware of the needs of his audience. Others, such as Maurice Sendak, don't aim their books at children, though they comprise a huge part of his following. As a Philadelphian I was happy to see more than one of the illustrators who have a connection to my community. The easy to read interviews make this book a great read for every book lover. Who among us hasn't looked forward to the color illustration when turning the pages of a beloved book. Read this book and enjoy.

Leonard S. Marcus is invaluable to all in the children's picture book field AND others who have interest in it. Book after book by Mr. Marcus have proved most excellent!!!

Love picture books.

Had to wait until the very end to see illustration samples. But the interviews are inspiring and fascinating peeks into the lives of famed illustrators.

I enjoyed this so much I ordered another one as a gift. The interviews with each author is enlightening and personal.

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