

2015  
SASKATCHEWAN

# AWARDS

# WILLOW

YOUNG READERS' CHOICE



THE  
WILLOW  
AWARDS

**SYRCA**  
The Willow Awards Inc.

**GOLD PATRONS**



**EVRAZ**

**SILVER PATRONS**



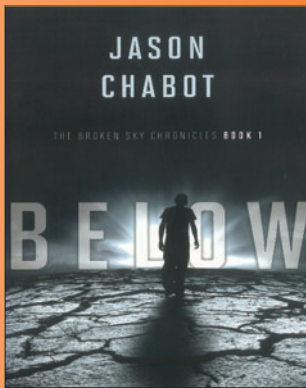
**BRONZE PATRONS**



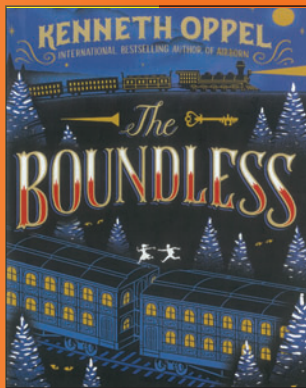
## Snow Willow (gr. 7-9)



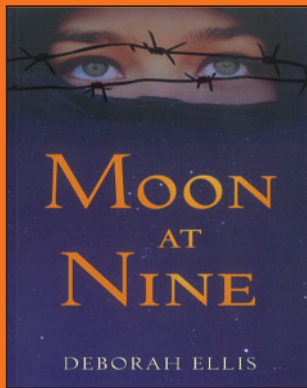
**The Art of Getting Stared At**  
by Laura Langston  
Razorbill, © 2014



**Below**  
by Jason Chabot  
HarperTrophyCanada, © 2014



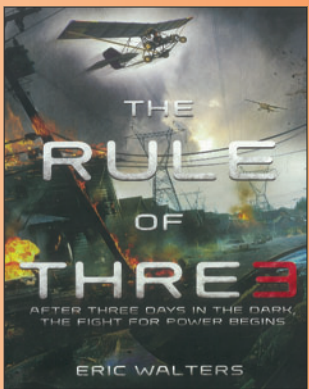
**The Boundless**  
by Kenneth Oppel  
HarperCollinsPublishersLtd., © 2014



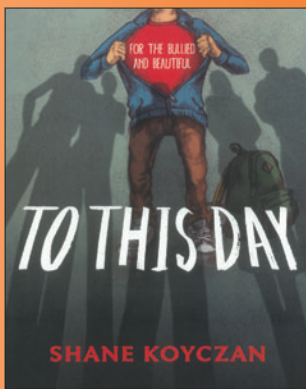
**Moon at Nine**  
by Deborah Ellis  
Pajama Press Inc., © 2014



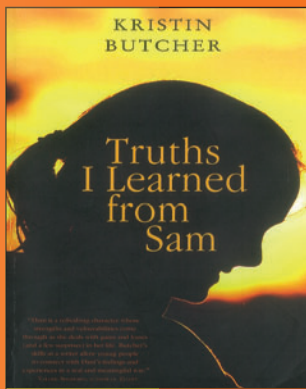
**Rocket Blues**  
by David Skuy  
Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2014



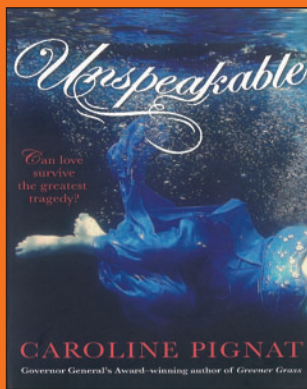
**The Rule of Three**  
by Eric Walters  
Razorbill, © 2014



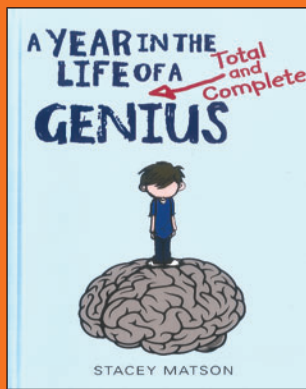
**To This Day**  
by Shane Koyczan  
annick press, © 2014



**Truths I Learned from Sam**  
by Kristin Butcher  
Dundurn, © 2013

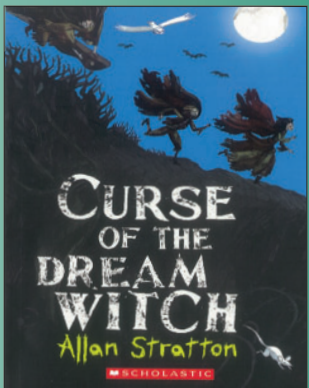


**Unspeakable**  
by Caroline Pignat  
Razorbill, © 2014



**A Year in the Life of a Total and Complete Genius**  
by Stacey Matson  
Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2014

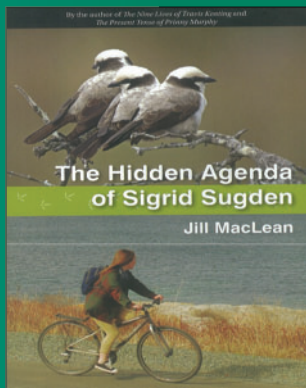
## Diamond Willow (gr. 4-6)



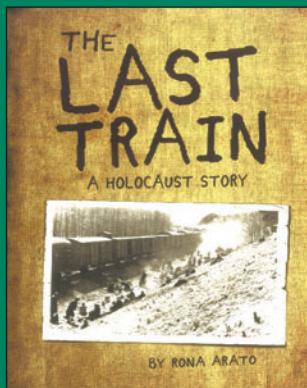
**Curse of the Dream Witch**  
by Allan Stratton  
Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2013



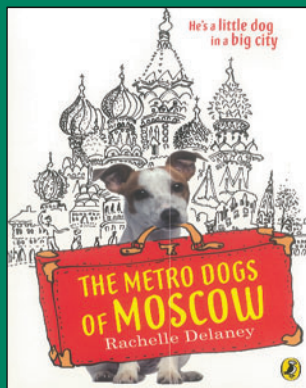
**The Great Bike Rescue**  
by Hazel Hutchins  
Orca Book Publishers, © 2013



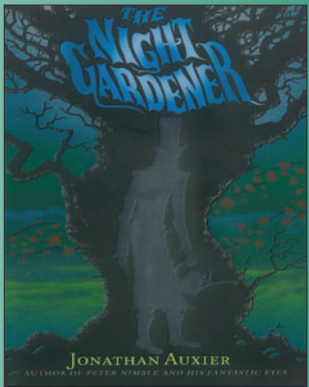
**The Hidden Agenda of Sigrid Sugden**  
by Jill MacLean  
Fitzhenry & Whiteside, © 2013



**The Last Train  
A Holocaust Story**  
by Rona Arato  
Owlkids Books, © 2013



**The Metro Dogs of Moscow**  
by Rachelle Delaney  
Puffin, © 2013



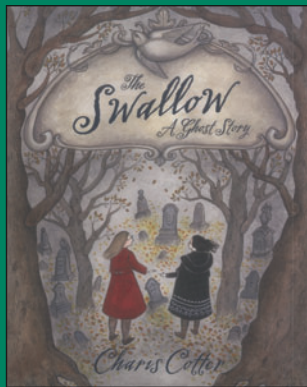
**The Night Gardener**  
by Jonathan Auxier  
Puffin, © 2014



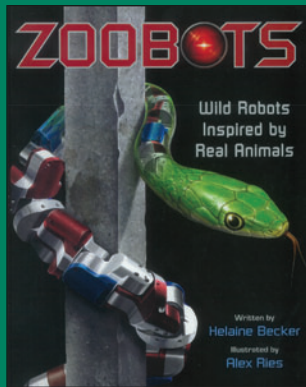
**Seconds**  
by Sylvia Taekema  
Orca Book Publishers, © 2013



**The Spotted Dog Last Seen**  
by Jessica Scott Kerrin  
Groundwood Books, © 2013

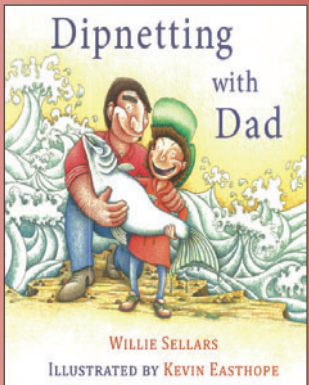


**The Swallow  
A Ghost Story**  
by Charis Cotter  
Tundra Books, © 2014



**ZooBots: Wild Robots Inspired by Real Animals**  
by Helaine Becker  
Illustrated by Alex Ries  
Kids Can Press, © 2014

## Shining Willow (gr. K-3)



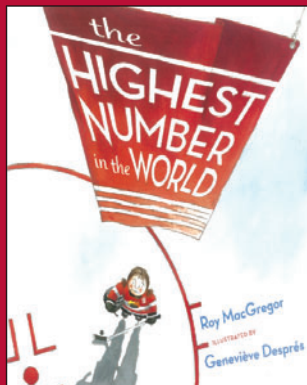
**Dipnetting with Dad**  
by Willie Sellars  
Illustrated by Kevin Easthope  
Caitlin Press, © 2014



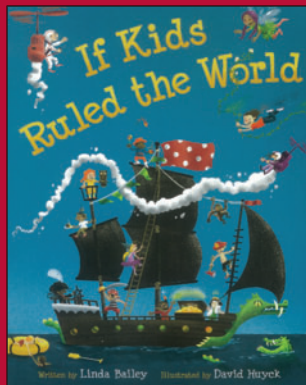
**Fox and Squirrel**  
by Ruth Ohi  
North Winds Press, © 2013



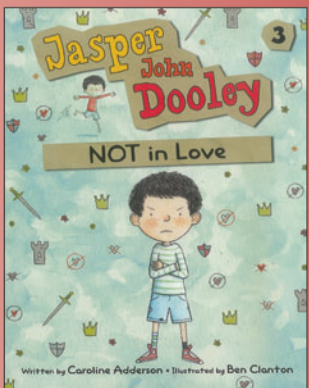
**Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin**  
by Chieri Uegaki  
Illustrated by Qin Leng  
Kids Can Press, © 2014



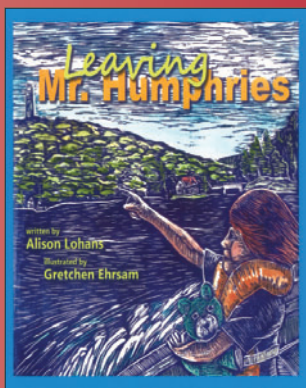
**The Highest Number in the World**  
by Roy MacGregor  
Illustrated by Geneviève Després  
Tundra Books, © 2014



**If Kids Ruled the World**  
by Linda Bailey  
Illustrated by David Huyck  
Kids Can Press, © 2014



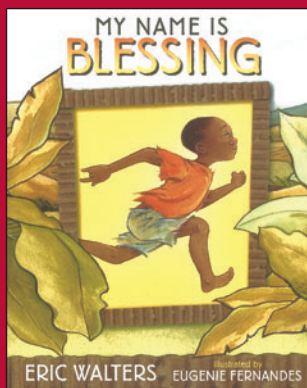
**Jasper John Dooley NOT in Love**  
by Caroline Adderson  
Illustrated by Ben Clanton  
Kids Can Press, © 2014



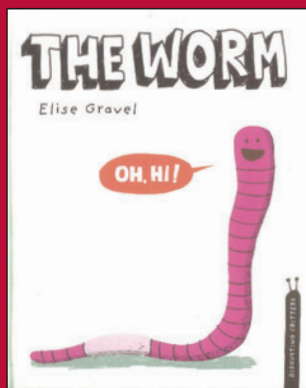
**Leaving Mr. Humphries**  
by Alison Lohans  
Illustrated by Gretchen Ehrsam  
Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, © 2013



**The Most Magnificent Thing**  
by Ashley Spires  
Kids Can Press, © 2014



**My Name Is Blessing**  
by Eric Walters  
Illustrated by Eugénie Fernandes  
Tundra Books, © 2013



**The Worm**  
by Elise Gravel  
Tundra Books, © 2014



# 2015 Who Can Vote

Saskatchewan students must read or have heard read the minimum number in each category to vote for that award.

**Snow Willow Award:**  
At least 3 of the 10 titles.

**Diamond Willow Award:** At least 4 of the 10 titles.

**Shining Willow Award:**  
At least 5 of the 10 titles.

**Voting Deadline:**  
**March 31, 2016**

**To Vote Go To:**  
**www.willowawards.ca**

**Find at:**  
**www.willowawards.ca**

- Online Voting Ballots
- Vote Summary Forms
- Book sticker order form
  - Student projects
  - Learning activities
  - Author biographies
  - Book reviews
- Commenting feature



**SYRCA**  
The Willow Awards Inc.

**GOLD PATRONS**

PotashCorp  
Helping Nature Provide

EVRAZ

**SILVER PATRONS**

SaskEnergy

**BRONZE PATRONS**

Book Brier Patch  
www.bookbrier.ca

United Library Services

<p><b>The Art of Getting Stared At</b> by Laura Langston Razorbill, © 2014 ISBN: 978-0-670-06750-3</p> <p>Sloane has two weeks to produce a film for a scholarship application, and she must work with a boy she thinks is lazy. Then comes a horrifying discovery – Sloane finds a bald spot on her head. Horror turns to devastation with a diagnosis of alopecia areata. Can Sloan produce her film and keep her condition a secret?</p>	<p><b>Below</b> by Jason Chabot HarperTrophyCanada, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-44340-779-3</p> <p>On the barren plains of Below, Hokk lives in exile. Overhead, on the floating islands of Above, Elia is trapped in a life of endless toil and drudgery. Then a tremor in Above sends Elia's world crashing into Hokk's, and into a battle for the very earth and sky around them.</p>	<p><b>The Boundless</b> by Kenneth Oppel HarperCollinsPublishersLtd., © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-44-341027-4 (pbk)</p> <p>Will's adventure starts when he boards The Boundless, the longest locomotive in the world. After witnessing a murder, he must work his way from the caboose to the first class section – with the murderer on his tail. Sasquatches, bog-dwelling hags and illusions abound aboard the Titanic of trains!</p>	<p><b>Moon at Nine</b> by Deborah Ellis Pajama Press Inc., © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-927485-59-0 (pbk)</p> <p>It's 1988 when fifteen-year-old Farrin, daughter of a wealthy family in Iran, meets Sadira, and her life changes forever. But as their friendship develops into something deeper, events take a dangerous turn in a place where there is only one outcome for being gay – execution. Based on real-life events.</p>	<p><b>Rocket Blues</b> by David Skuy Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-4431-3375-3 (pbk)</p> <p>Rocket is cut from his AAA hockey team because he's too small. He reluctantly joins an AA team. Things only get worse when Rocket learns that his new team doesn't take hockey seriously. Rocket will have to realize that while hockey is his passion, it is not his entire life.</p>
<p><b>The Rule of Three</b> by Eric Walters Razorbill, © 2014 ISBN: 978-0-1431-8752-3 (pbk)</p> <p>Computers around the globe shut down in a viral catastrophe. As resources dwindle and chaos descends, sixteen-year-old Adam sees his neighborhood band together for protection. Adam understands that having a police captain for a mother and a retired government spy living next door are his keys to survival.</p>	<p><b>To This Day</b> by Shane Koyczan annick press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-55451-639-1</p> <p>Born of Shane's own experiences of being bullied as a child, this extraordinary poem expresses the profound and lasting effects of bullying on an individual, while affirming the strength and inner resources that allow people to move beyond the experience. Illustrated by thirty artists from around the world.</p>	<p><b>Truths I Learned from Sam</b> by Kristin Butcher Dundurn, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-459-70690-3 (pbk)</p> <p>Dani's mother is getting married – again. Dani is sent to stay with an uncle she didn't know she had in a small community she didn't even know existed. It promises to be the summer from hell. But Dani's uncle turns out to be an okay guy. And she finds romance, too. Until the bottom falls out.</p>	<p><b>Unspeakable</b> by Caroline Pignat Razorbill, © 2014 ISBN: 978-0-14-318755-4 (pbk)</p> <p>As a stewardess aboard the Empress of Ireland, Ellie is drawn to Jim, the solitary fire stoker. After tragedy strikes, Ellie tries to convince herself that Jim survived, even when so many others didn't. Then a journalist approaches Ellie to tell her story, offering to pay her with Jim's journal, perhaps providing a clue to Jim's fate.</p>	<p><b>A Year in the Life of a Total and Complete Genius</b> by Stacey Matson Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-443-13317-3</p> <p>Arthur Bean, soon-to-be a rich and famous author, has set two goals for himself: to win the writing contest at school and to win the heart of his secret crush, Kennedy. But his life has had some major twists and turns lately, and the recent loss of his mother definitely complicates things.</p>

## Diamond Willow Award Nominees - Read at least 4

<p><b>Curse of the Dream Witch</b> by Allan Stratton Scholastic Canada Ltd., © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-4431-1937-5 (pbk)</p> <p>The king and queen of Bellumen owe the Dream Witch a huge debt – the heart of their daughter, Olivia. Desperate to save her, they seek help from Prince Leo, but he's dangerous and can't be trusted. Olivia and her two friends set out on a dangerous mission to rescue their kingdom.</p>	<p><b>The Great Bike Rescue</b> by Hazel Hutchins Orca Book Publishers, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-4598-0478-4 (pbk)</p> <p>The summer's off to a lousy start – Levi and his best friend Riley both have their bikes stolen. The boys soon discover a string of bicycle thefts in the area. With so many potential suspects, including Levi's childhood nemesis Emily Grimshaw, will Levi and Riley identify the culprit and find their beloved bikes?</p>	<p><b>The Hidden Agenda of Sigrid Sugden</b> by Jill MacLean Fitzhenry &amp; Whiteside, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-55455-279-5 (pbk)</p> <p>Sigrid is a member of the Shrikes – the toughest, most terrorizing group of girls in school. One day they go too far, and Sigrid makes a decision that turns the Shrikes against her. Trying to reinvent herself, she finds that overcoming her bad girl image is much harder than she thought it would be.</p>	<p><b>The Last Train A Holocaust Story</b> by Rona Arato Owlkids Books, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-926973-62-3</p> <p>When Nazi forces invade Hungary, the young Jewish Arato brothers and their mother endure unimaginable hardships. Their situation grows increasingly desperate. They go from living in a ghetto to a work camp, then to a concentration camp, and are finally stranded on a German freight train. Then fate changes everything.</p>	<p><b>The Metro Dogs of Moscow</b> by Rachelle Delaney Puffin, © 2013 ISBN: 978-0-14-318414-0 (pbk)</p> <p>JR is an embassy dog living with his human at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow. Bored with his scheduled life, JR escapes to go exploring. He befriends some wily strays, who show him a new world. When his new friends disappear, JR must use his street smarts to solve the mystery of Moscow's missing dogs.</p>
<p><b>The Night Gardener</b> by Jonathan Auxier Puffin, © 2014 ISBN: 978-0-1431-8997-8 (pbk)</p> <p>Abandoned Irish siblings, Molly and Kip, travel abroad to work as servants for a family at a crumbling English manor house. But the house and its inhabitants are not quite what they seem. Soon the children are confronted by a mysterious presence and an ancient curse that threatens their very lives.</p>	<p><b>Seconds</b> by Sylvia Taekema Orca Book Publishers, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-4598-0403-6 (pbk)</p> <p>Jake, an avid cross-country runner, does everything right with his training, but he always comes in second. Determined to win, Jake joins an elite running club to push himself harder, leaving no time for friends or family. Jake thinks he's found his ticket to winning, but is winning really everything?</p>	<p><b>The Spotted Dog Last Seen</b> by Jessica Scott Kerrin Groundwood Books, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-5549-8401-5 (pbk)</p> <p>After witnessing a deadly accident, Derek is assigned repair duty at the local cemetery for a school project. He fears that visiting the cemetery will reignite his nightmares. However, his assignment uncovers a secret code, a time capsule, a mysterious author and a gravestone that may finally put his nightmares to rest.</p>	<p><b>The Swallow A Ghost Story</b> by Charis Cotten. Tundra Books, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-77049-591-3</p> <p>Sharing a wall between their attics, ghost-obsessed Polly and quiet Rose discover they are neighbours. Polly learns Rose can actually see and talk to ghosts. Maybe Polly will finally see one, too! But is there more to Rose than it seems? And why does she look so ... ghostly?</p>	<p><b>Zoobots: Wild Robots Inspired by Real Animals</b> by Helaine Becker Illustrated by Alex Ries Kids Can Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-55453-971-0</p> <p>Zoobots are real robots being created by copying the unique skills of animals. Meet Stickybot III, a speedy, robotic climber with feet like a gecko, and Robobot, a drone to be used for dangerous surveillance missions. These are just two of the twelve fantastic robotic creatures being brought to life.</p>

## Shining Willow Award Nominees - Read at least 5

<p><b>Dipnetting with Dad</b> by Willie Sellars Illustrated by Kevin Easthope Caitlin Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-927553-53-6</p> <p>A young aboriginal boy comes of age as his grandfather and father teach him the traditional method of river salmon fishing known as dipnetting. The importance of aboriginal traditions, family, storytelling, community living and coming of age are eloquently told and colourfully illustrated.</p>	<p><b>Fox and Squirrel</b> by Ruth Ohi North Winds Press, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-4431-1914-6</p> <p>Fox and Squirrel are friends. Every time they're together, Squirrel can only see the differences between them. Fox reminds Squirrel of the many things they have in common. Colourful illustrations together with simple prose deliver a humorous and important message.</p>	<p><b>Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin</b> by Chieri Uegaki Illustrated by Qin Leng Kids Can Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-894786-33-1</p> <p>Despite her brother's teasing, Hana signs up to play at the school talent show after having only three violin lessons. She takes inspiration from her grandfather, a concert violinist, and she practices every day and perseveres. This is a heart-warming story about family, discipline and the celebration of music.</p>	<p><b>The Highest Number in the World</b> by Roy MacGregor Illustrated by Geneviève Després Tundra Books, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-77049-575-3</p> <p>When nine-year-old Gabriella is selected to play on a winning hockey team, she is given the number 9 jersey. She is so disappointed, because she wanted to be number 22, like Hayley Wickenheiser. Her Grandmother steps in to tell her the touching history of the legendary number 9 in hockey.</p>	<p><b>If Kids Ruled the World</b> by Linda Bailey Illustrated by David Huyck Kids Can Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-55453-591-0</p> <p>How would the world be different if kids ruled the world? There would be no bedtimes or bathtimes, and there would be dinosaurs in the park and birthday cake every day. Share the fun in a perfect world from a child's point of view. This book is great for enriching storytimes and for inspiring discussions.</p>
<p><b>Jasper John Dooley NOT in Love</b> by Caroline Adderson Illustrated by Ben Clanton Kids Can Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-55453-803-4</p> <p>Jasper has a challenge. He has been paired with Isobel for reading at school, and he suspects she's in love with him. He even goes to her house to play, and thinks he will hate it, until he finds out she has a trampoline. How can Jasper keep on jumping and still make Isobel NOT be in love with him?</p>	<p><b>Leaving Mr. Humphries</b> by Alison Lohans Illustrated by Gretchen Ehrsam Your Nickel's Worth Publishing, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-927756-07-2 (pbk)</p> <p>Josh must spend time with his Grandfather and Aunt Judy at their lake cabin. He takes his teddy bear, Mr. Humphries, along for comfort and support. Josh faces lots of challenges, but when Mr. Humphries has an adventure of his own, Josh isn't sure he's ready to let him go.</p>	<p><b>The Most Magnificent Thing</b> by Ashley Spires Kids Can Press, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-55453-704-4</p> <p>A little girl decides to build "the most magnificent thing" with the help of her canine best friend. She has a plan, but making "the most magnificent thing" turns out to be harder than she thinks. This story illustrates the creative process, requiring persistence, perspective, and belief in oneself.</p>	<p><b>My Name Is Blessing</b> by Eric Walters Illustrated by Eugenie Fernandes Tundra Books, © 2013 ISBN: 978-1-77049-301-8</p> <p>Based on a true story, this warm-hearted, beautifully illustrated book tells the story of a young Kenyan orphan with a physical disability. His name, Muthini, means suffering. Even though he lives a very hard life, his great heart and spirit shine through, and they call him Baraka, which means blessing.</p>	<p><b>The Worm</b> by Elise Gravel Tundra Books, © 2014 ISBN: 978-1-77049-633-0</p> <p>Fun facts about the lowly worm are presented with a sense of humour and with colourful cartoons in this easy-to-read introduction to nonfiction. Talking worms in humorous illustrations respond in speech bubbles to factual information that is given. The gross factor will also delight many young readers.</p>