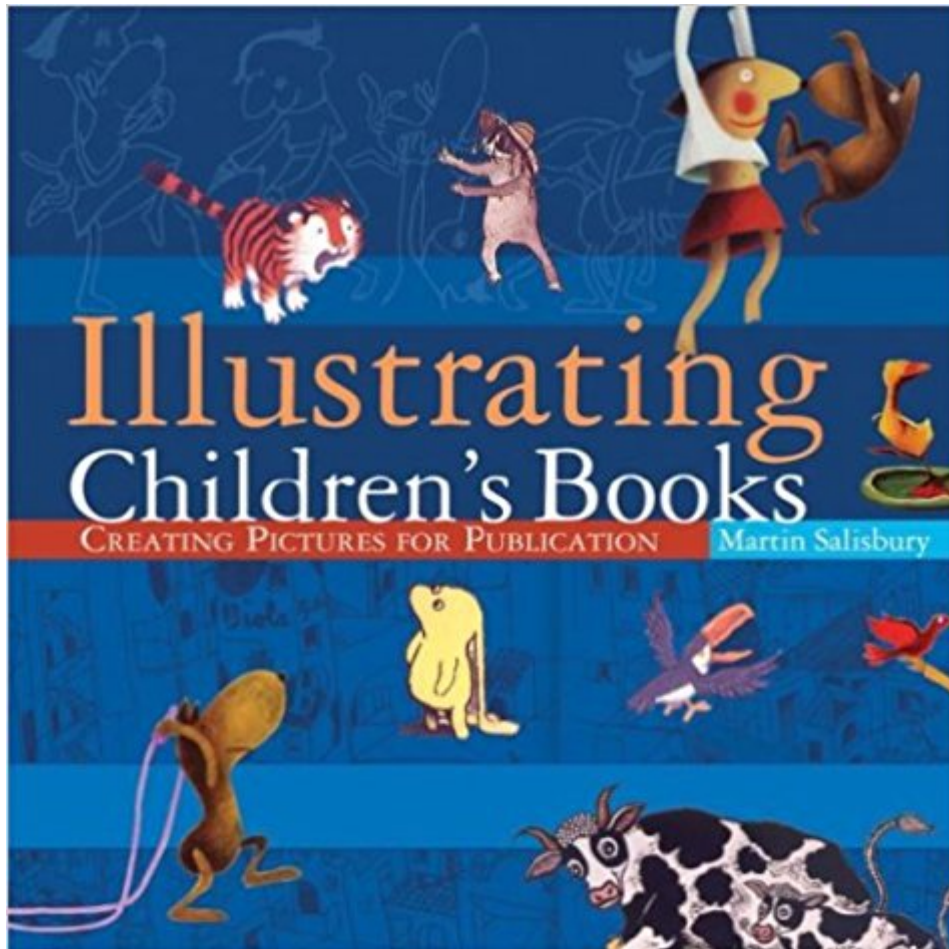




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# Illustrating Children's Books: Creating Pictures For Publication



## Synopsis

The successful book illustrator starts by understanding his author's flight of fancy, then rendering the ideas and actions imaginatively in pictorial terms. This unusual and inspiring book was written for art students and ambitious beginners. It instructs on methods of developing both imaginative powers and the technical artistic skills to produce high quality illustrations that will please authors and children's book editors. Separate chapters focus on: Media, materials, and techniques Developing different drawing styles to fit specific storytelling methods Instilling visual personality traits in story characters Creating effective sequential images for storyboards and picture book outlines Design, typography, and preparation for print Illustrating story books for older children Illustrating nonfiction and educational books Breaking into the children's book publishing business Here is solid, practical instruction for students of book illustration, enhanced with more than 250 how-to illustrations in color and black-and-white.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The chapters of this richly illustrated book touch on everything from media, materials, and techniques to design and typography, but the information given is not enough to actually teach the subject. Instead, the author gives readers a brief but interesting overview. For instance, in the chapter entitled "Character Development," Salisbury discusses mannerisms, facial expressions, and child-friendliness of characters, but doesn't tell readers how to actually create these effects on their own. However, this book does a very good job of addressing the many elements of illustration for

someone who is unfamiliar with the process. Topics such as "What to illustrate," "Dynamics of composition and layout," and "Type as image" give a more concrete concept of the profession and artistry. The featured artwork is all pulled from children's picture books to demonstrate the concepts in the related text. Some are spot illustrations, a character or scene cut from its background, while others are spreads reduced to fit within the page with accompanying text. Colorful and lively, the illustrative material is indispensable to the content. A fine choice for adults interested in illustration, or as a resource for someone new to discussing art in children's books. - Heather E. Miller, Homewood Public Library, AL Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

back cover *Illustrating Children's Books* The art of illustration for children has a long and rich tradition, and for generations has been beloved by countless readers. *Illustrating Children's Books* shows you how to create beautiful artwork for children. It examines the approaches taken by advanced-level students and leading artists, and describes how their ideas evolve from start to finish. Sketches and annotations reveal the techniques of successful children's illustrators and explain how to tackle fantasy, fairytale, realism, and nature drawings. Includes tips on working in a variety of media and offers advice on illustrating for different age groups and types of books. Teaches you how to interpret and enrich the text, build characters, and create vibrant settings that will stir readers' imaginations. You'll discover how to create storyboards and layouts, work to a brief, and present your work professionally. Martin Salisbury is Course Director for the Master of Arts Degree in Children's Book Illustration at Anglia University, Cambridge, England. Since graduating in illustration from Maidstone College of Art he has worked continuously as a book illustrator and painter alongside his academic post. He is a regular contributor to *Artists and Illustrators Magazine* and is co-editor of the graphic arts magazine *Line*. Martin lives in Cambridgeshire, England.

... I recently interested a prime New Zealand publisher in the idea of a book for intending children's book illustrators that would not only explain why but how to do it. The techniques, I told him; that's what most people leave out. Let's interview award-winning illustrators and ask them about the different techniques they employ and what materials and techniques they employ. Then a friend got a present from America: *Illustrating Children's Books* by Martin Salisbury. As soon as I saw it I knew someone had got there first and done it right. I immediately ordered two copies: for a mentee who has just completed her first children's picture book (*Am I Precious?* by Belinda McCallion. Bibli-Cool,

2014) and for my artist-daughter, A. Brice, whose first foray into the picture book world saw Haere Ra, Harry! by Kathy Berger Sewell was shortlisted for a Notable Book of the Year abroad. It is such involved creators that Salisbury writes for. Here is a book that is a perfect match of content and format with its intention and execution. Come to think of it, I need my own copy... I'd like to formally congratulate both author and publisher on what they have achieved - exactly what was wanted! I had no hesitation in clicking on each of those five stars.

Besides a cover that I find irresistible, this book contains a lot of useful information for someone who wants to illustrate a children's book. I appreciate the author legitimizes the use of computers in one section while bringing into high relief the traditional mediums in others. It doesn't go in depth about computer art, nor would it be up to date in 2014 if it had (the copyright date was a decade ago.) I use digital brushes (Carlyn Beccia's book on Digital Painting is more useful there, for example.) This one contains beautiful and interesting case studies. I personally like a lot of the visual examples described, which drew me to the cover in the first place and made it interesting to go behind the scenes on a lot of them. The book feels like it provides "something for everyone", whether your style is whimsical or realistic. Lots of pictures break up the text and the book manages to convey a lot in a well organized and concise way. Tends to be more broad than deep. It was definitely useful for not overwhelming someone dipping their toe in children's illustration and still gave meaty insight. I like reading about how technology is shaping art, despite varying attitudes toward traditional versus digital media out there. I wish there were more books out there that embraced digital art as a form or expounded on how it is influencing the landscape of children's book illustrations. Maybe it is so new that they have yet to be written...overall, this one is great for tips, techniques and case studies showing a variety of art forms: wood blocking, ink, paint, water colors, etc. Definitely something I will refer to often. A good "survey course".

The best one I've ever seen.

Great product!

very nice book, many pictures inside the explanations on how to draw were sometimes missing

This book it's good for an introduction to a lot about illustrating children's books. It covers several aspects and show a lot of examples. I recommend this for the amateur children illustrators.

Beautiful book, although the text is not so insightful. It is a very nice resume of many subjects, but with no deep approach.

Received book quickly and in perfect condition. Haven't finished reading it yet but has some good information.

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