

Spirit Bear's PICTURE BOOKS & Other Reconciliation Resources FALL 2021

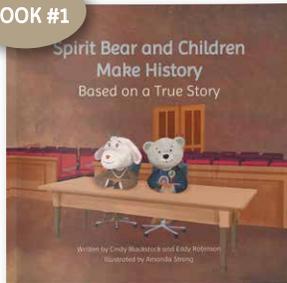


First Nations Child & Family
Caring Society of Canada

Société de soutien à l'enfance
et à la famille des Premières Nations
du Canada

Already Paw-pular (Backlist – Also Available in French)

BOOK #1



ISBN 978-1-7770091-6-8

ISBN 9781777009168



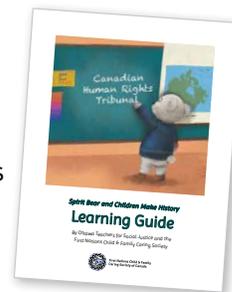
Spirit Bear and Children Make History Based on a True Story

By Cindy Blackstock & Eddy Robinson | Illustrated by Spotted Fawn Productions
Paperback, Picture book (2nd Edition) (2020) | \$12.95

Spirit Bear and Children Make History and learning guide was an Indspire Successful Practice in K–12 Indigenous education!

Originally published in 2017 (English, ISBN 978-1-7751914-0-7) and 2018 (French, ISBN 978-1-7751914-1-4), Spirit Bear's first book has been re-imagined in this 2nd edition to visually fit with the Spirit Bear picture book series.

When Spirit Bear's mom tells him about an important human rights case happening in Ottawa, Ontario, he makes the LONG trip (by train, his favourite way to travel) to go and watch, and to stand up for First Nations kids. And he isn't the only one! Lots of children come too—to listen, and to show they care. Spirit Bear knows that children can change the world because he's there to see it happen. This is the story of how kids—kids just like you—made a difference... with a bit of help from some bears and other animals along the way!



- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour
- 8.25" x 8.25" x 0.2"
- 54 pages

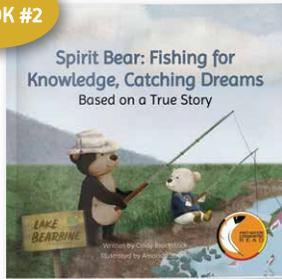
Free electronic learning guides in English and French are also available for parents, educators and others at Spiritbearrister.com



All of Spirit Bear's books include a timeline with key dates related to the story.

Already Paw-pular (Backlist – Also Available in French)

BOOK #2



ISBN 978-1-7751914-2-1

ISBN 9781775191421



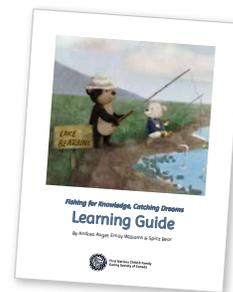
Spirit Bear: Fishing for Knowledge, Catching Dreams *Based on a True Story*

By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Amanda Strong

Paperback, Picture book (2018) | \$12.95

Winner of the 2019-2020 First Nation Communities Read and Periodical Marketers of Canada Indigenous Literature Award!

Spirit Bear is off on another adventure! Follow him as he learns about traditional knowledge and residential schools from Uncle Huckleberry and his friend, Lak'inswx, before heading to Algonquin territory, where children teach him about Shannen's Dream. Spirit Bear and his new friends won't stop until Shannen's Dream of "safe and comfy schools" comes true for every First Nations student.

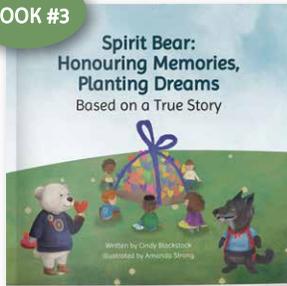


- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 52 pages
- All of Spirit Bear's books include a timeline with key dates related to the story. (See illustration on p.2)

A free electronic learning guide is also available for parents, educators and others at Spiritbearrister.com

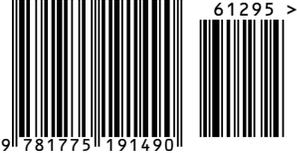


BOOK #3



ISBN 978-1-7751914-9-0

ISBN 9781775191490



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Spirit Bear: Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams Based on a True Story

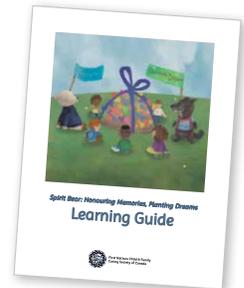
By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Amanda Strong

Paperback, Picture book (2019) | \$12.95

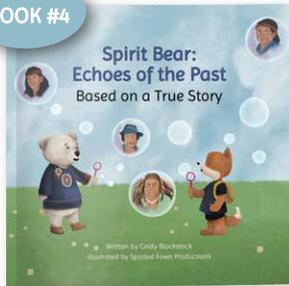
Spirit Bear is on his way home from a sacred ceremony when he meets Jake, a friendly dog, with a bag full of paper hearts attached to wood stakes. Jake tells Spirit Bear that school children and residential school survivors will plant the hearts when a big report on residential schools called the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC for short) is shared. The TRC will have Calls to Action so we can all help end the unfairness and make sure this generation of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children grow up healthy and proud!

- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" x 8.25" x 0.2"
- 66 pages
- All of Spirit Bear's books include a timeline with key dates related to the story. (See illustration on p.2)

Free electronic learning guides in English (French coming soon!) are also available for parents, educators and others at Spiritbearrister.com



BOOK #4



ISBN 978-1-7770091-3-7



**Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past
Based on a True Story**

By Cindy Blackstock | Illustrated by Spotted Fawn Productions

Paperback, Picture book (2020) | \$12.95

Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past has been selected as a Top Recommended Read for the 2021 TD Summer Reading Club!

It's been a long journey, and Spirit Bear needs a vacation! He and his family set out for Songhees and Esquimalt territories (Victoria, British Columbia) for their holiday adventure. Along the way, they see a statue of John A. Macdonald—Canada's first Prime Minister—being removed from the steps of Victoria City Hall. Some people have signs that say, "Save the statue," and others have signs that say, "The statue must go!" Spirit Bear and his family learn why people disagree and how we can learn from the good and bad parts of history to make better decisions now and for future generations of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit kids.

- Juvenile fiction
- Ages 6-12/Grades 1-6
- Full colour throughout
- 8.25" × 8.25" × 0.2"
- 62 pages
- All of Spirit Bear's books include a timeline with key dates related to the story. (See illustration on p.2)



Accompanying Resources



Free Indigenous Language Translations

Book 1, *Spirit Bear and Children Make History* is available in Cree (translated by Madeline Gamblin), and Carrier (translated by Dorothy Patrick and Alex Michell).

Book 4, *Spirit Bear: Echoes of the Past*, is available in Algonquin (translated by Bertha Chief and Kevin Chief).

Visit spiritbearrister.ca to download free electronic versions of the translated book.



Spirit Bear Animations

The film *Spirit Bear and Children Make History* is a stop-motion adaptation of the book by the same name. Released in 2020, the film is co-production of the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society (Caring Society) and Spotted Fawn Productions. The Caring Society believes strongly in sharing knowledge through diverse formats such as storytelling and visual media as way of engaging and honouring all learners. This is the first of three stop-motion films starring Spirit Bear. Stay tuned for new releases! Learn more at fncaringsociety.com/films.

About the Authors and Illustrators



Spirit Bear (Author)

Spirit Bear was born in a huckleberry patch in the Carrier Sekani territory in British Columbia. He is a *Bearrister*, which means when he sees something wrong, he has to learn about it and try to help. Spirit Bear represents the First Nations children impacted by the case on Jordan's Principle and First Nations child welfare at the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, as well as the thousands of other children who have committed to learning about the case and have taken part in peaceful and respectful actions in support of reconciliation and equity.



Cindy Blackstock (Author)

A member of the Gitksan First Nation, Cindy has been working for First Nations children for over 25 years, first as child welfare worker and now as the Executive Director of the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society and Professor of Social Work at McGill University. In case you haven't guessed, she is also the real-life inspiration behind Spirit Bear's fashion-loving friend, Cindy the Sheep!



Eddy Robinson (Author)

Eddy (Anishinaabe/Muskegowuk Cree) was born and raised in Toronto and, like many, he didn't really begin to understand the legacy and impacts of his father's experience at residential school until his adult years. With limited access to culture, it was the Drum that first set Eddy on the path to rediscovering his Indigenous identity. Since then he has traveled throughout North America as a noted speaker, artist, teacher, musician, educator, facilitator, trainer, and now writer.



Amanda Strong (Art Director and Illustrator)

Amanda is a Michif filmmaker, media artist, and stop motion artist currently based out of the unceded Coast Salish territory also known as Vancouver. Amanda's work explores ideas of blood memory and Indigenous ideology. Amanda has received numerous awards for her work, including the K.M. Hunter Artist Award for Film and Video, the Vancouver Mayors Arts Awards for Emerging Film and Media Artist, and the Clyde Gilmour Technicolor Award, selected by Alanis Obomsawin.



Spotted Fawn Productions (SFP) was founded in 2010 and incorporated in 2014 by Michif Owner/Director/Producer Amanda Strong. SFP is an Indigenous-led production company that is creative, community oriented with a focus on illustration, stop motion, 2D, 3D, and virtual reality animations. Their mission is to provide mentorship and training opportunities for emerging and diverse artists. They create space for Indigenous people, women and non-binary individuals to engage in the many aspects of film, animation and production.

The First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada is a charitable organization based in Ottawa, Ontario. The Caring Society provides reconciliation-based public education, research, and support to promote the safety and wellbeing of First Nations children, young people, families, and Nations. All proceeds from the sale of Spirit Bear's picture book series help ensure First Nations children can grow up healthy and proud!

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