

Writers and Illustrators Submission Guidelines

BIRDSONG BOOKS

1322 Bayview Road, Middletown DE 19709

Manuscript & Art Acquisitions: Nancy Carol Willis, president.

Mission: Birdsong Books seeks to spark the delight of discovering our wild neighbors and natural habitats. We believe knowledge and understanding of nature fosters caring and a desire to protect the Earth and all living things. Our emphasis is educational trade books about North American animals and habitats.

Publishes one picture book/year. Seeking nonfiction/natural science animal life cycle picture books; and young reader nature/environment activity books. DO NOT SEND POETRY, RHYMING VERSE, OR FICTION.

Average word length: picture books: 800-1,000 plus extensive back matter; activity books: appropriate for subject and age range.

Recently published *Red Knot: A Shorebird's Incredible Journey*, by Nancy Carol Willis (ages 6-10, nonfiction picture book); *Raccoon Moon*, by Nancy Carol Willis (ages 5-8, natural science picture book); *The Robins In Your Backyard*, by Nancy Carol Willis (ages 4-7, nonfiction picture book).

How to Contact Birdsong Books

Writers: Submit complete manuscript package with SASE. Responds in 3 months. Publishes book 2-3 years after acceptance. Considers simultaneous submissions, if stated.

Illustrators: Accepts material from residents of U.S. Works with 1 illustrator/year.

Writer/Illustrator: Send book dummy, resume, samples/tearsheets, SASE.

Illustrations only: Send brochure, resume, samples/tearsheets, SASE. Responds only if interested. Samples returned with SASE.

Photography: North American animals and habitats. Send cover letter, resume, promo piece, stock photo list.

Tips: We are a small independent press actively seeking manuscripts and illustration styles that fit our narrowly defined niche. We are looking for writers and illustrators who do school programs or otherwise actively promote their books. We are only interested in nonfiction, natural science picture books or educational activity books about North American animals and habitats. Our books include several pages of back matter suitable for early elementary classrooms. Mailed submissions with SASE only. No email queries/submissions or phone calls, please. Cover letters should include a competitive analysis of the book idea and "sell" the author/illustrator.