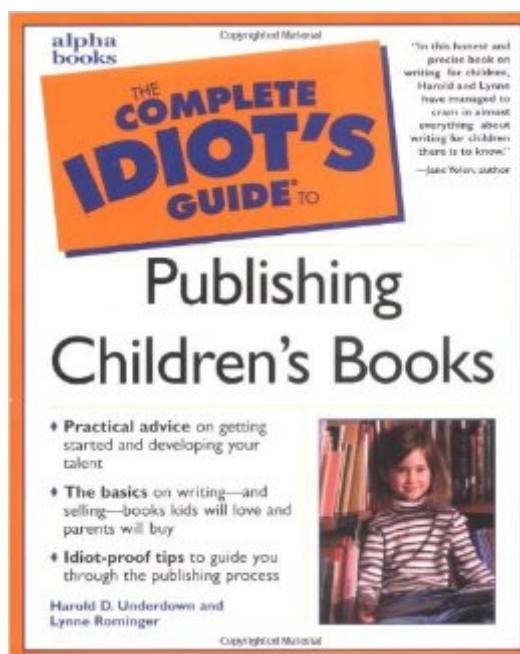


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# Complete Idiot's Guide To Publishing Children's Books



## Synopsis

Children's book publishing is one of the most difficult fields of publishing for new authors to get into. "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Publishing Children's Books" gives potential authors tips, inside information, and detailed instructions for everything from how to prepare a proposal to how to get an agent. Detailing the differences between picture books, juvenile fiction, and the young adult novel, the book also covers branding, series, and licensing, discusses writing styles and character development, and explains forming illustrator partnerships.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Publishing Children's Books, Second edition, by Harold D.

Underdown To write a succinct review of a book which so thoroughly covers all the aspects of Children's publishing from idea to book store events after it is published, is a monumental task. Underdown begins with an over view of writing children's books in general and quickly moves into introducing you to the nitty-gritty of the publishing world. The book is divided into Five parts that each contains a complete plan. (...). Each section moves you seamlessly along the path to publication and beyond with a plethora of examples, links and helpful guidance. In part three Underdown takes you on a guided tour of specific publishers explaining just how they chose their books and what their editors do. It gives you a new perspective into the very busy lives of the editors of these houses. It helps you to understand the reason it takes so long to get your acceptance or

rejection and why many times a rejection can't be personalized. The way ...Publishing Children's Books is written, be you writer or illustrator, you can pick and choose which chapters or sections interest you, each chapter is complete in itself, but I recommend reading from cover to cover. As an author of several published novels and other works, I still garnered important hints, tips and information from Underdown's well presented material. Throughout Underdown has placed invaluable information as extras in side bars/boxes such as: Vocabulary, which explains the terms used. Class Rules which gives the reader warnings or cautions. Can you Keep A Secret, tips and resources as well as suggestions are found in these. Play Ground Stories give real life anecdotes from other children's authors.

If you're just getting into writing for children and you'd like some inside information on how it all works, this book is for you. Yes, it answers basic questions about what types of children's books are out there and who draws the pictures for picture books, etc. But it also goes into detail about submissions (with examples of cover and query letters), working with editors (what's it like to be one?), what to expect in a contract (what are the basic clauses?), how to approach marketing (getting the word out on you and your book), who does what at a publishing house (why do changes happen and who makes them?), etc. It's like having one of the top people in the biz talk you through everything-you-wanted-to-know-about-children's-publishing but not might have even thought to ask!! admit to lurking in the Writing Reference section of my local bookstores just for fun--I love a good "how to" guide. I own many "How to Write for Children" books, but Harold Underdown's Idiot's Guide to Publishing Children's Books is NOT a writing technique book! It tackles all the other aspects of a kid lit career. I have recommended the first edition of this book over and over to people who are interested in learning the basics of the biz, and I was glad to see this second edition was out. It has all the great info that was packed into the first book, plus more. New chapters just for illustrators have been added (one basic "so you want to illustrate" chapter, and one on how to submit). A new chapter on agents has been added (the first edition had only a page on this). There are a bunch of other changes throughout (you can check Harold Underdown's website under "Second Edition FAQ" if you really want details about the differences in the editions).

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