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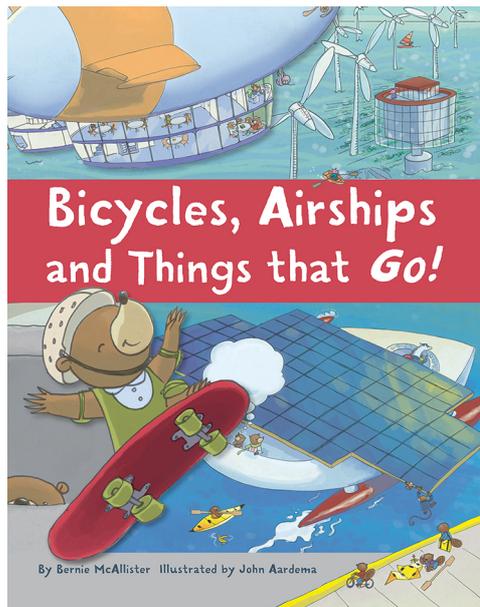
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New Children's Press Introduces Sustainable Design & Technology to Children Ages 3-8

Launch title follows a family's trip to the science center, traveling through playful landscapes inspired by real life technologies that entertain while educating



London, UK and Seattle, WA. Wind turbines, wave energy machines, solar brief cases, cargo bikes, fold-up cars and bus-top gardens are just some of the design and technology featured in the launch title from Kids Future Press. The book, *Bicycles, Airships and Things that Go* (short title *Bicycles, Airships*) is available now for order through online retailers or local bookstores.

Publisher A.B. Thorpe founded the press after experiencing how her own kids loved the classic children's "technology" picture books from 50 or more years ago, by authors such as Richard Scarry and Virginia Lee Burton. These are wonderful books, but they represent ideas of progress from a time when energy and environmental limits were relatively unknown and climate change was barely

understood. Kids Future Press is updating the "technology" story with new visions of progress for the 21st century.

The Press is reaching out directly to networks of entrepreneurs, advocates, designers, policy makers and academics who, like Thorpe herself, work on sustainability issues and want to share this work with kids. "A traditional publisher wouldn't know this audience," she commented, "but we know they work on issues such as renewable energy, bicycle infrastructure or green building, and are often confronted daily with political struggles, technical setbacks, or funding challenges. The book visualizes the successful outcome of all this work in one simple story—and makes the ideas accessible to kids." Children in the Press's test families love the book, but the book will make these adults smile too.

Bicycles, Airships tells of a lively family trip to the science center. Bikes, skateboards, snowboards, boats, trains, and airships figure into the story, where travel is powered by renewable energy in a landscape inspired by real-life design and technology for sustainability. For intrigue and humor there are bumbling spies shadowing the family. For a challenge there's a Solar Hornet — the only animal with built-in solar panels — to find on every page.

Working with illustrator John Aardema to bring author Bernie McAllister's story to life, Thorpe realized it takes a thorough understanding of sustainability to make it blend in. Aardema commented, "Thorpe's knowledge of sustainability, for example renewable

energy, transportation, and green building, helped me in creating a detailed world—one that’s possible for all of us, even today.”

In the book, technologies and designs are labeled, and the real-life sources that inspired them are listed in the back (and online with links). So any adult, no matter their background, can share these ideas of sustainable design with children. There’s also a free, down-loadable teaching/learning guide and the book ties in well with agendas for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math).

Visit <http://kidsfuturepress.com/new> for a video “flip through” of *Bicycles, Airships and Things that Go*, as well as images and information about of the book. Digital review copies are available to qualified reviewers.

About Kids Future Press

Kids Future Press is on a mission to publish picture books that help 3- to 8-year olds see the exciting, motivating and entertaining side of the design and technology for a sustainable future. Our main audience is kids in the lives of people like us—parents, grandparents, guardians and others who work on sustainability and want to share it with children.

www.kidsfuturepress.com

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About the picture book *Bicycles, Airships, and Things that Go*

Does your child like bikes, skateboards, snowboards? What about boats, trains, or airships? If so, this title is for you. Powered by renewable energy, the story follows a family’s trip to the science center where they’re delivering a special package. Bumbling spies secretly try to steal the package at every turn. There’s a hidden solar hornet to find on each page. Hold on to your cycle helmets for this exciting family ride!

Order through Amazon or local bookstores.

Author Bernie McAllister, Illustrator John Aardema

Paperback, 30 pages, color, 8” x 10”

\$12.99, £10.00, €14.00, \$ CAN 17.00, 18.00 AUD