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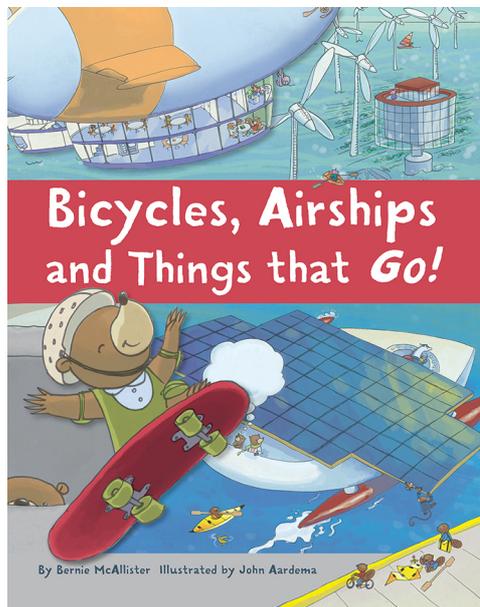
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New Children's Press Introduces Sustainable Design & Technology to Children Ages 3-8

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 inspired by real life design and technology, which is labeled throughout the book. The sources (designers, makers, and others) are listed in the back and online.

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 books, though wonderful, 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 that their work is often confronted 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 adults will 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, set in a landscape of renewable energy, urban farms, and active lifestyles. 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.”

The book is available now for order through online retailers or local bookstores. There’s also a free, down-loadable teaching/learning guide and the book fits 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