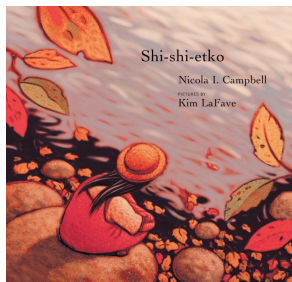


Supporting Learning about Truth and Reconciliation

Read Alouds

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/indigenous/10-books-about-residential-schools-to-read-with-your-kids-1.3208021>

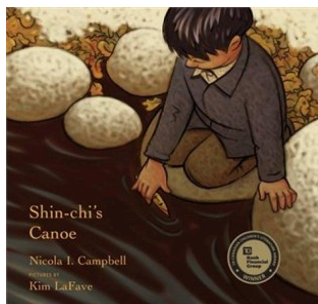
***Shi-shi-etko*, by Nicola Campbell (Ages 4-8)**



Shi-shi-etko by Nicola I. Campbell (Groundwood Books) *Shi-shi-etko* is a young girl who has four days before she leaves home for residential school. Her family has many teachings to share with her, about her culture and the land.

Campbell's story — and illustrations by Kim LaFave — follow *Shi-shi-etko* as she absorbs the world around her and collects a 'bag of memories' at the instruction of her grandmother. But she doesn't take the memories with her. Instead she buries them under a tree, for safekeeping while she is gone.

***Shin-chi's Canoe*, by Nicola Campbell (Ages 4-8)**

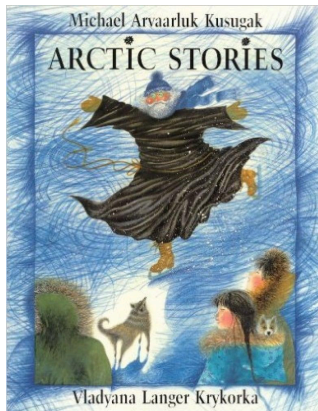


Shin-chi's Canoe by Nicola Campbell (Groundwood Books) This award-winning book tells the story of six-year-old Shin-chi as he heads to residential school for the first time with his older sister. It is the sequel to Campbell's *Shi-shi-etko*.

As the children are driven away in the back of a cattle truck, Shin-chi's sister tells him all the things they must remember about home. Shin-chi knows it will be a long time before he sees his family, not until the sockeye salmon return.

Shin-chi endures a long year of hard work, hunger and loneliness before returning home to his family with his sister.

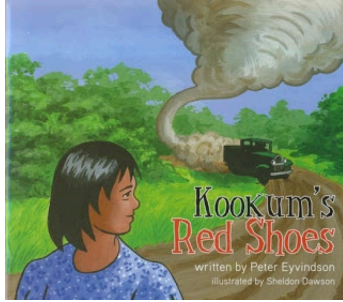
***Arctic Stories*, by Michael Kusugak (Ages 4-8)**



Arctic Stories by Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak (Annick Press) This trio of stories about a 10-year-old girl named Agatha is based on the childhood experiences of beloved Inuit author Michael Kusugak. The book begins with a tale of Agatha 'saving' her community from a monstrous flying object.

The book also includes the story of Agatha being sent away for school, "The nuns did not make very good mothers and the priests, who were called fathers, did not make very good fathers," Kusugak writes.

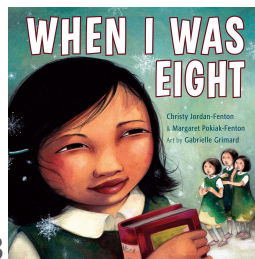
Kookum's Red Shoes, by Peter Eyvindson (Ages 4-8)



Kookum's Red Shoes by Peter Eyvindson (Pemmican Publications) An elderly Kookum (grandmother) recounts her experiences at residential school - a time that changed her forever. The book has been described as running parallel to the story of Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. "Her tornado had arrived. It rushed up and slammed to a halt just past the wonder world she had created," writes Eyvindson.

Throughout the story Kookum reveals what was lost in her life, and how goodness persisted.

When I Was Eight. Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton; illustrated by



Gabrielle Grimard, 2013

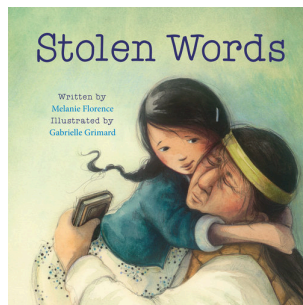
A picture-book format based on *Fatty Legs: a true story* and complemented by stunning illustrations

Olemaun is eight and knows a lot of things. But she does not know how to read.

Ignoring her father's warnings, she travels far from her Arctic home to the

outsiders' school to learn. The nuns at the school call her Margaret. They cut off her long hair and force her to do menial chores, but she remains undaunted. Her tenacity draws the attention of a black-cloaked nun who tries to break her spirit at every turn. But the young girl is more determined than ever to learn how to read. -

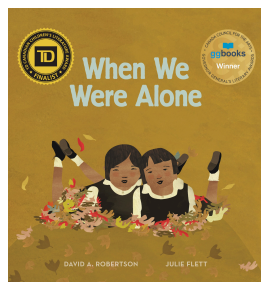
See more at: <https://bookcentre.ca/news/orange-shirt-day-reading-list#>



Stolen Words

When she asks her grandfather how to say something in his language — Cree — he explains how his language was stolen from him when he was taken to residential school. The little girl then sets out to help her grandfather find his language again.

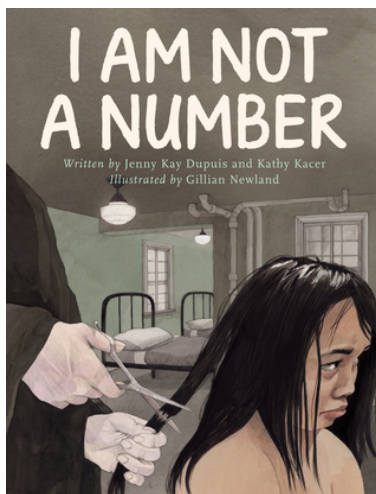
This title is also available in French as Les mots volés. -



When We Were Alone by Robert Davidson

A young girl is curious about her grandmother's long braided hair and beautifully coloured clothing. Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? Nókom (grandmother) explains about life in a residential school long ago, where everything was taken away. A story about a difficult time in history and, ultimately, of empowerment and strength. - See more at:

<https://bookcentre.ca/news/orange-shirt-day-reading-list#sthash.fkULYj8F.dpuf>



I Am Not a Number Written by Jenny Kay Dupuis and Kathy Kacer Illustrated by Gillian Newland Second Story Press, 2016

Based on the true account of Jenny Kay Dupuis's grandmother, this picture book tells the story of eight-year-old Irene who is taken from her Nipissing First Nation home by an Indian Agent and sent to live in a faraway residential school. Stripped of her name, frightened and homesick, Irene endures, holding on to her mother's words "Never forget who you are!" This title is also available in French as Je ne suis

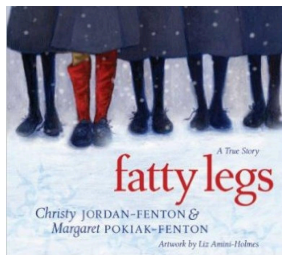
pas un numéro. - See more at:

<https://bookcentre.ca/news/orange-shirt-day-reading-list#sthash.qLJN3rKi.dpuf>

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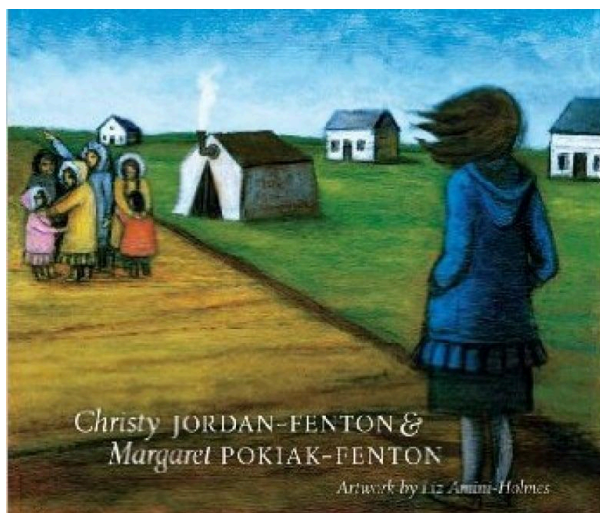
Fatty Legs: A True Story, by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton
(Ages 9-12)



Fatty Legs: A True Story by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton (Annick Press) Margaret, an 8-year-old Inuvialuit girl, wants to learn how to read so badly that she's willing to leave home for residential school to make it happen.

When she gets there a mean-spirited nun known as the Raven is intent on making Margaret's time at school difficult. But Margaret refuses to be defeated.

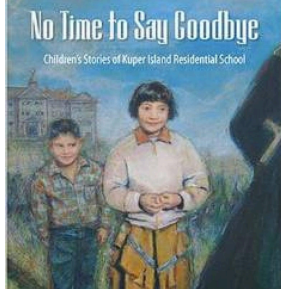
***A Stranger at Home: A True Story*, by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton (Ages 9-12)**



A Stranger At Home: A True Story by Christy Jordan-Fenton and Margaret Pokiak-Fenton (Annick Press) In this sequel to *Fatty Legs*, Margaret Pokiak is now 10 years old and can hardly wait to return home from residential school. But her homecoming is not what she hopes for. "Not my girl," is what her mother says when she arrives.

The story follows Margaret as she moves through feelings of rejection and tries to reconnect with her family, language and culture.

No Time to Say Goodbye: Children's Stories of Kuper Island Residential School, by Sylvia Olsen (Ages 9-12)



No Time To Say Goodbye by Sylvia Olsen (Sono Nis Press) This collection of fictional stories of five children sent to residential school is based on real life experiences recounted by members of the Tsartlip First Nation in B.C.

The children cope as best they can at Kuper Island Residential School but it's a far cry from the life they're used to.

The book is described as sometimes funny, sometimes sad.