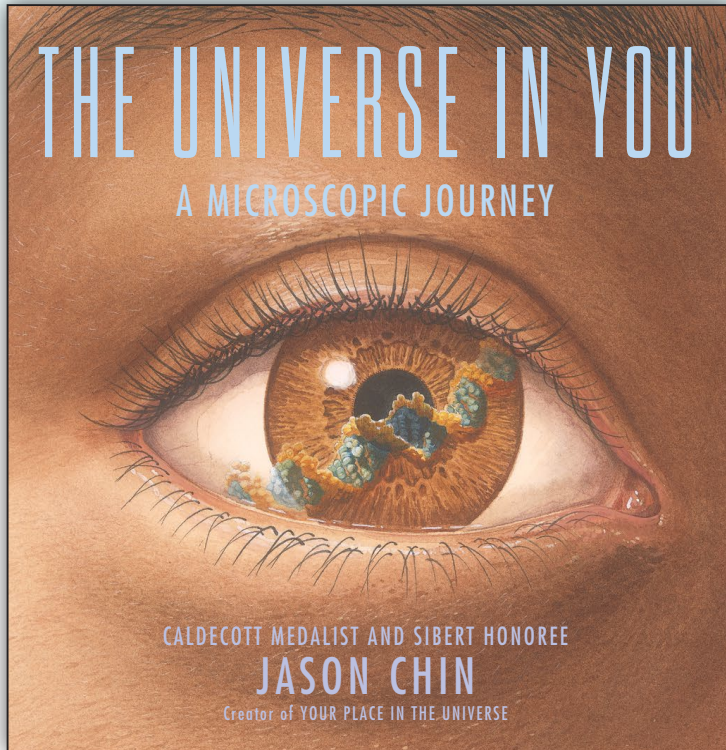


HOLIDAY HOUSE EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



Neal Porter Books · 9780823450701

The Universe in You *A Microscopic Journey*

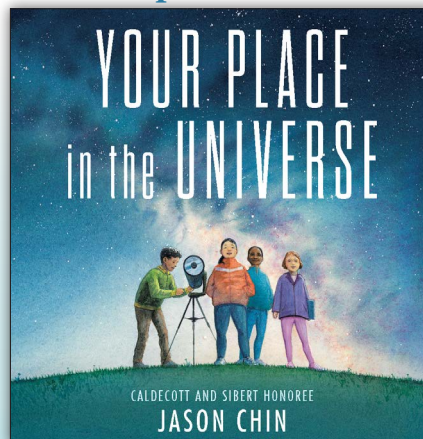
by Jason Chin

ABOUT THE BOOK

Caldecott Medalist Jason Chin's companion book to the award-winning *Your Place in the Universe* explores the world of the very small, delving deep into the microscopic spaces just beneath our skin.

From Jason Chin, Caldecott Medalist for *Watercress* and Cook Prize-winning author and illustrator of *Your Place in the Universe*, comes *The Universe in You: A Microscopic Journey*, about the very small, from the tiniest mammals to the intricate structures of microscopic organisms and subatomic particles that make up every human body. This deep dive into an unseen world explores the building blocks of all matter and life, demonstrating how much we have in common with everything around us.

Companion Book



Neal Porter Books
HC: 9780823446230 · PB: 9780823452453
e-book: 9780823448784



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#TheUniverseInYou

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Define nonfiction. Consider the title of the book and discuss why this book is classified as nonfiction. Study the cover of the book. Discuss why the Museum of the Desert is an appropriate beginning for this microscopic journey. Note the girl in the wheelchair and follow her throughout the book.
- The group of students is listening to the museum guide. The girl in the wheelchair is distracted by something she sees. What does she see? How do her eyes point the reader to the next page? Explain how a break in the last sentence and a tiny illustration on each page creates curiosity about the fact on the following page.
- Chin discusses the size of various living things. Take a meter stick and record and label on paper the measurement of each living thing introduced. For example, the calliope hummingbird is eight centimeters. Show the length of this hummingbird. At what point is it impossible to take a measurement? How do you think scientists study these living things?
- Discuss the function of cells. Why are they called “living machines”? What is the importance of nuclear pores? Consider the description of DNA on pp. 10–11 and discuss why it has become so useful in medical science, criminal investigation, and discovering family members.
- Note the illustration of the girl’s eye on p. 17–18. How does this image connect to the opening page? Explain how her eye reveals what she discovers. What is she thinking and feeling? Study the last double-page spread. Discuss why the museum guide and the children are watching the girl.
- What does the information at the end of the book contribute to the understanding of each living thing in the story? How does the Author’s Note at the end of the book explain the title of the book? Why is the Note on the Illustrations an important explanation?

Guide created by Pat Scales, retired school librarian and independent consultant, Greenville, South Carolina.

ABOUT THE CREATOR



Jason Chin is a celebrated author and illustrator of children’s books. He received the Caldecott Medal for his illustrations in Andrea Wang’s *Watercress*, also a Newbery Honor book and an APALA Award Winner. His book *Grand Canyon* was awarded a Caldecott Honor, a Sibert Honor, and the NCTE Orbis Pictus Award. He is also the author and illustrator of *Your Place in the Universe* and the illustrator of *Nine Months: Before a Baby is Born* by Miranda Paul. Jason lives in Vermont with his wife and children.



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