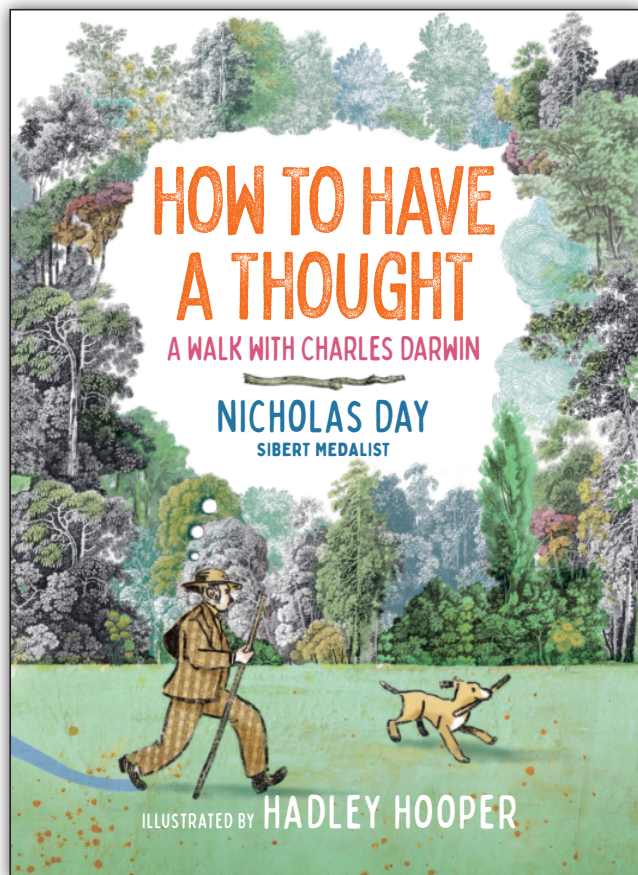


# HOLIDAY HOUSE



## EDUCATOR'S GUIDE



Neal Porter Books  
HC: 9780823458509 · Ebook: 9780823464999

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Take a walk with Charles Darwin in this electrifying new picture book from Sibert Medalist Nicholas Day.

How do you work through a complicated idea, solve a tricky problem, or make a big discovery? Charles Darwin had a lot of ways to do it. He paced in circles and hit rocks with a stick. He studied the bones of his dinner. He even rode around the world on a boat called the *Beagle*.

Sibert Medalist Nicholas Day's conversational text has all the charm of a true story told by your smartest, most interesting friend. With Hadley Hooper's engrossingly textured illustrations, *How to Have a Thought* is both an introduction to Darwin and an invitation to live with brilliant curiosity.

### *How to Have a Thought A Walk with Charles Darwin*

by Nicholas Day

illustrated by Hadley Hooper

★“Slyly chatty and insightful.”

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

★“Sibert Medalist Day transforms Charles Darwin's daily walking routine into an enchanting blueprint for creative thinking.”

—*Kirkus Reviews* (starred review)

★“Edifying and delightfully quirky . . . Textually and visually, *How to Have a Thought* roots for contemplation, creativity, new perspectives and time in nature.”

—*BookPage* (starred review)

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Rocks and sticks are important objects to Charles Darwin. What important objects or collections do you have in your life? Why are they important to you?
- Take a close look at the first few pages. What descriptions and objects do the author and illustrator use to introduce Darwin? What first impressions do you have about Darwin from these pages?
- Explain Darwin's method of calculating his walks. How would you describe Darwin's walks and the purpose behind them? Contrast Darwin's way of measuring his walks with the technology used to record activity today.
- The theme of a book is the central idea—the main thing the book wants to tell you. The main character in this book is Charles Darwin, but what do you think is the book's theme? What else is the book telling you?
- Charles Darwin took walks when he had a problem to solve. What do you do when you have a problem at school, home, or in the neighborhood? Discuss how this action or habit helps solve your problem.
- Darwin always walked alone, except when he was with his dog, Polly. Why can being alone be good for thinking?
- The illustrator creates art using printmaking, painting and collages. Point out specific examples of each art style. How is a collage an effective way to display big thoughts?

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

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR



**Nicholas Day** has been a wine salesman, a wedding cake baker, a fairground maintenance man, and a stay-at-home father. He is the author of the Sibert Medal-winning title *The Mona Lisa Vanishes: A Legendary Painter, a Shocking Heist, and the Birth of a Global Celebrity*, illustrated by Brett Helquist, and *Nothing: John Cage and 4'33"*, illustrated by Chris Raschka. His writing has also appeared in *Slate*, *Salon*, *The Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and *The Atlantic*, among other publications. He lives with his family in Buffalo, New York.

### ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR



**Hadley Hooper** is a painter and illustrator whose artwork has been exhibited in galleries and museums in major cities such as San Francisco, Toronto, New York, Denver, and Santa Fe. As a picture book illustrator, she has worked with bestselling authors such as Patricia Maclachlan, Liz Garton Scanlon, and Jan Greenberg. She lives in Denver with her partner and their dog.