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**Title:** Starry Messenger

**By:** Peter Sis

**Caldecott Honor Book**

**An ALA Notable Book**

**A *New York Times* Outstanding Children’s Book of the Year**

**A 1996 *Scientific American* Young Readers Book Award Winner**

“Celebrates the life, ideas, and genius of Galileo in a picture book that achieves a brilliance of its own. An original. – **Starred/*Booklist***

“The Author’s take on his exceptional subject avoids the usual, eye-glazing list of accomplishments and gives readers Galileo himself, who always had stars on his mind. – **Pointer/*Kirkus Reviews***

“Possesses a richness and density that are likely to enchant children and adults alike. Ultimately, *Starry Messenger* celebrates the power of freedom and thought, the pleasures of acute observation and the beauty of a dream held fast by one of the greatest astronomers of all time. **– Elizabeth Spires, *The New York Times Book Review***

“The pathos, the painstaking copies of Galileo’s famous sketches of the heavens, and the attention to current scholarship make this book a fascinating find.” – **Starred/ *School Library Journal***

“Radiant, brilliantly clear and utterly mysterious.” – ***The Washington Post***

“A glory and a marvel.” – **Peter F. Neumeyer, *The Boston Globe***

“A work of art from cover to cover, this is a book of rare quality. – ***Scientific American***

**First Line:** “For hundreds of years, most people thought the earth was the center of the universe, and the sun and the moon and all the other planets revolved around it.”

**Last Line:** “Finally, more than three hundred years later, the leaders of the very Church that had punished Galileo Galilei pardoned him, and they admitted that he was probably – in fact, surely and absolutely – right.”

**Vocabulary:** universe, revolved, tradition, observations, publish, Italy, scholars, merchant, Pisa, thrived, Benedictine Monastery, Santa Maria di Vallombrosa, luxuries, typhys, bubonic plague, argumentative, Aristotle, the Law of Falling Objects, The Law of the Pendulum, The Law of Floating Objects, hydrostatic, thermometer, geometric an military compass, compound microscope, astronomical telescope, constructed, spyglass, revealing, spectacles, gratifying, celestial, confute, Ptolemaic system, hypothesis, prominences, chasm, scrutinized, vexed, congeries, refute, illusions, concave lens, Medicean Stars, Grand Duke of Tuscany, Cosimo II, Hercules, Frankfurt, spectacular, Cardinal Maffeo Barberini becomes Pope, extravaganzas, torture, tradition, obliged, endowed, Inquisition, heresy, doctrine, condemned, pardoned

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**Title:** So You Want To Be An Inventor?

**By:** Judith St. George

**Illustrated by:** David Small

**An ABC Choices Book**

**A Teachers’ Choice Book**

**Back Cover:** “Do you like to tinker with machines that clink and levers that pull and dials that spin? You just might be the next Thomas Edison, Eli Whitney, or Alexander Graham Bell! But you don’t have to be an old man with white hair and wrinkles to be an inventor. Inventors have been kids and adults, dreamers, and loners, copycats and daredevils, men and women. Some of their inventions you may know, like the radio or the telephone. Others were so bizarre that they never made it – like the vacuum haircutting helmet or eyeglasses for chickens! Whatever your idea may be, this book is the perfect introduction to the sometimes zany, always interesting world of inventors and inventing.

“Lively energy infuses the work of the award-winning team.” – *Booklist*

“[A] funny and informative look at the history of inventions and their inventors and what it takes to become one…Small’s lively, fluid caricatures make for a winning collaboration.” – *School Library Journal*

**First Line:** “Are you a kid who likes to tinker with machines that clink and clank, levers that pull, bells that ring, cogs that grind, switches that turn on and off, wires that vibrate, dials that spin?”

**Last Line:** “It takes passion and heart, but those barriers could be broken by you!”

**Vocabulary:** tinker, cogs, damper, odometer, bifocal glasses, Connecticut, patriot, cranks, submarine, Revolutionary War, radio, reaping, scythe, reaper, pistons, lubricator, Scotland, telephone, whirling, helicopter, Labrador, fur trader, Eskimos, thawed, cockleburs, Velcro, sulphur, filament, platinum, carbonized bamboo, incandescent lamp, paddle wheels, steamboat, hoaxer, spacecraft *Apollo 11,* dishwasher, glamorous, Austria, torpedoes, Hitler, treading barn, trampled, slots, Eureka!, gong, graphaphone, iron lung, declared, alternating-current (AC ) motor, forged, huddled, incandescent lamp, movie camera, phonograph, windshield wipers, air bags, Detroit, cotton gin, dynamite, nitroglycerin, explosion, barge, barium, notches, glider, heap, sketched, snorkel, parachute, projector, telegraph, carbon, steel, converters, volts, watts, mackintosh raincoats, guillotine, diesel engine, unrefined, transistor, printing press, barriers

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**Title:** Science in the Renaissance

**By:** Lisa Mullins

**Contents:**

Rebirth and Discovery

Life of a Scientist

Mathematics

Astronomy

Physics

Medicine and Anatomy

Inventions and Technology

Exploration

Plants and Animals

The Occult Sciences

Changing Lives

Further Reading, Websites, Glossary, Index

**Glossary:**

**amateur –** not professional; not experienced, unskilled

**amber –** hard fossilized tree sap often used in jewelry

**astrologer –** someone who studies the stars and planets and uses them to predict human behavior

**celestial bodies –** the stars, planets and other objects seen in the night sky

**compass –** an instrument that shows the direction north

**equator –** an imaginary line around the middle of the Earth, dividing it into northern and southern halves or hemispheres

**horizon –** where the land, or water, in the distance appears to meet the sky

**Inquisition -**  a church court that punished those whom it felt were doing things that were against the church’s teachings

**metallurgists –** people who worked with metals

**monasteries –** places where monks or nuns lived to follow religious rules or practices

**navigate –** finding a ship’s course, position, distance traveled; finding the way to a place

**observatory –** a building from which to watch something, usually the night sky

**philosophy –** study of the rules or truths to be found about life or the universe, studied by philosophers

**proportion –** the measure of how two things relate in size

**quarantine –** to separate or isolate someone or something from contact

**ratios –** the measures of a proportional relationship between two things, written as two numbers separated by a colon

**theology –** the study of religion

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**Title:** Leonardo Beautiful Dreamer

**By:** Robert Byrd

**Back Cover:** “Study me, reader, if you find delight in me, because on very few occasions shall I return to the world, and because the patience for this profession is found in very few, and only in those who wish to compose things anew. Com, o men, to see the miracles that such studies will disclose.” – Leonardo Da Vinci

**Book Flap:** “It is not enough to believe what you see, you must also understand what you see.”

“A remarkable, ambitious man of the Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci is perhaps the most fascinating genius known to history. Celebrated in his own lifetime as a painter, prankster, and philosopher, Leonardo was also a musician, sculptor, architect, and engineer for dukes, popes, and kings. He was said to be strong, charming, confident, handsome – and notoriously unconcerned with finishing work he was hired to do. His notebooks reveal the questing, contradictory brilliance of an inventor of strange and wonderful machines, futuristic cities, terrible weapons of war, and angels and women of ethereal beauty. Though he called himself *omo* *senza lettere* – a man without letters – his thirst for knowledge proved insatiable, and his observations and explorations in an astonishing variety of fields – painting, sculpture, optics, astronomy, anatomy, botany, hydraulics, geology, mathematics, mechanics, weaponry, architecture – were groundbreaking.

 Despite his many talents, Leonardo completed very few of his projects and sometimes doubted whether he had achieved anything at all. For he was a questioner, a visionary – a dreamer first and foremost.

 In this richly layered picture book award-winning author-illustrator Robert Byrd distills his extensive research and lifelong love of da Vinci’s work into a celebration of the artist’s boundless imagination and intense, uncompromising investigations. Fact and anecdote bring Leonardo to life against a background of the political intrigue and flourishing culture of the Renaissance, while Byrd’s brilliant illustrations capture the spirit of Leonardo’s restless, probing notebooks. Sure to inspire lovers of history, art, science, and learning this gorgeous book is a striking tribute to an irrepressible mind – and to the potential that lies in the imagination of all who are curious.

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**Title:** The Apprentice

**By:** Pilar Molina Llorente

**Pictures by:** Juan Ramon Alonso

**An ALA Notable Book**

**Back Cover:** “Thirteen-year-old Arduino’s wish comes true when he is apprenticed to Cosimo di Forli, a renowned painter in Renaissance Florence. But one fateful night Arduino discovers that his churlish master is hiding a terrible secret in the attic. Will Arduino be brave enough to confront Cosimo, even if it means losing his dream forever?”

“Llorente’s story [is] engrossing…Her characterizations are excellent.” – ***School Library Journal***

“What Arduino learns about light and line, balance and composition, makes you pay attention to the black-and-white illustrations that show him at work.” – ***Booklist***

“A fast-paced read.” – ***Kirkus Reviews***

**Preface:** “During the Renaissance, which lasted from the fifteenth through the seventeenth century, the world witnessed an artistic movement out of which emerged some of mankind’s greatest creative achievements. Michelangelo’s statue of David, Brunelleschi’s cupola, and Botticelli’s *Primavera* are but a few of the masterpieces that survive as a testament to this rebirth of classical ideas and influences from ancient Rome and Greece.

 Florence, Italy, was the cultural capital of this world. Its system of patronage encouraged a spirit of civic competitiveness and pride, motivating an impressive number of painters, sculptors, and architects to adorn their city. Most noteworthy among the wealthy patrons was the ruling Medici family, which for several generations commissioned hundreds of works of art.

 Despite this ideal atmosphere, the artist’s job was never an easy one. Behind every masterpiece were long hours of hard work, anguish, even disappointment. In the story that follows, a young Florentine boy, Arduino, dreams of becoming a painter and taking on whatever challenges that may bring. The first is to become a painter’s apprentice.

 Every Renaissance artist had his or her beginnings, and in many ways Arduino’s story, though fictional, is a window on that world – on the everyday hardships, as well as the occasional triumphs, experienced by many a struggling young artist of the time.”

**First Line:** “My house was a small and pleasant one.”

**Last Line:** “I bowed to him, and continued back to the chapel.”

**Chapter One**

**Vocabulary:** gallery, bustling, tailor shop, postures, gestures, vendors, stalls, garments, breeches, basting, agility, embroidering, doublets, refining, illustrious, eternity, apprentice, fabrics, textures, drape, silk, cape, satchel, decayed, façade, dictating, bind, custom, proportion, piercingly, awkward, slacks, flickering, sinister

**Chapter Two**

**Vocabulary:** satchel, terra-cotta, halting, suffocate, abruptly, muttering, easels, studio, pigments, flasks, mortar, pestle, grind, precision, syncopated, smirked, altarpieces, sepia, composition, complexity, stammered, brocades, baubles, strewn, prank, doublet, heaving, hearth, shuttered, stable, trudged, morbid, meager, pallet

**Chapter Three**

**Vocabulary:** porridge, sluggish, fidgeted, gulp, ambled, canvas, haughty, protested, hoarse, intensity, fetching, bellows, threadbare, excursion, ledger, lute, alchemists, skeptical, basting, fringing, pursue

**Chapter Four**

**Vocabulary:** anguish, linger, banister, tapestry, alchemist, tattered, shackle, panel, specialists, tunics, imprisoned, commissions, traitor, stunned, timid, Commedia, savoring, meditating, mesmerized

**Chapter Five**

**Vocabulary:** roused, pallet, obligation, denounce, authorities, hearth, squinting, prying, scornful, incredulous, tyrant, pantries, plaster of Paris, purifying, aroma, compress, paddock, rapt, rancid, embers, lard, soldered, cowardice, venture, perspective, symmetry, composition, elegant

**Chapter Six**

**Vocabulary:** intense, despite, energized, roasted chestnuts, depths, bedchamber, drooling, magpie, adhesive, nobleman, hunched, peephole, woolen, cloak, dignified, impassively, entourage, luxurious, glared, marvelous, allegory, graces, festivities, bile, hypocrisy, exquisite, pouch, jingled, ducats, generous, distinguished, broth, charcoals, palettes, frenzy, vengeance, portfolio, mythological, ornamental, fresco, compresses, stifle, perforated, pallet

**Chapter Seven**

**Vocabulary:** furtively, feverishly, groan, clutching, backlighting, violent, four-poster bed, canopy, hinges, grimy, anguished, brusquely, nausea, delicate, fleur-de-lis, stammered, vicious, frigid, despicable, moldy, bellpulls, niche, nightcap, lantern, brisk, pace, embers, emerged, triumph, misery, envy

**Chapter Eight**

**Vocabulary:** betrayed, halt, nibbling, prestige, doom, harmonize, quavering, sputtering, gruffly, faltered, stunned, gesture, frail, banister, meager, avarice, inspired, distinction, ancestors

**Chapter Nine**

**Vocabulary:** contemplated, reluctant, proportioned, arches, vastness, ambassadors, suede, eternity, scaffolding, proportions, perforating, grudgingly, provisions, exotic, intimidated, azure, aviary, cherubs, fauns, carved, pews, betrothed, auburn, pensively, taffeta, rustling, destiny, feebly, dainty, scurried, bewildered, callused, vanished, ranting, jeopardized, coerced, condone, contemptible

**Chapter Ten**

**Vocabulary:** elation, widow, crate, drizzled, carbon, betrayed, basting, ceremonial, chestnuts, staff, averted, resolved, cobblestone, transpired, bemused, scaffold, debris, banished, babbling, candidly, reputation, modest

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**Title:** The Invention of Hugo Cabret

**By:** Brain Selznick

**Quill Award Winner**

**2007 Borders Original Voices Finalist**

***Los Angeles Times* Favorite Children’s Book of 2007**

***Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2007**

**Winner of the 2008 Caldecott Medal**

**National Book Award Finalist**

**#1 *New York Times* Bestseller**

***New York Times* Best Illustrated Book of 2007**

**Book Flap:** “Orphan, clock keeper, and thief, Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks – like the gears of the clocks he keeps – with an eccentric, bookish girl and a bitter old man who runs a toy booth in the train station, Hugo’s undercover life and his most precious secret are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo’s dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spell-binding mystery.

 With 284 pages of original drawings, and combining elements of picture book, graphic novel, and film, Brian Selznick breaks open the novel form to create an entirely new reading experience. Here is a stunning, cinematic tour de force from a boldly innovative storyteller, artist, and bookmaker.

**First Line:** “From the perch behind the clock, Hugo could see everything.”

**Last Line:** “These words.”

“Evokes wonder…like a silent film on paper.” – ***The New York Times***

“Visually stunning…raises the bar.” ***–San Antonio Express-News***

“Shatters conventions.” ***–School Library Journal,* starred review**

“Complete genius.” ***– The Horn Book*, starred review**

**Chapter 1 The Thief**

**Vocabulary:** perch, agitated, skidded, crumpled, clockworks, cogs, snatched, shuddered, handkerchief

**Chapter 2 The Clocks**

**Vocabulary:** illumination, cluster, abandoned, filtered, scavenged, planks, rickety, accumulating, slither, diligently, mechanism, tilted, crank, levers, miniature, peering

**Chapter 3 Snowfall**

**Vocabulary:** shuffled, grate, emerged, Paris, adjusted, decrepit, interlocking, summon

**Chapter 4 The Window**

**Vocabulary:** fiddled, booth, spying, wrestled

**Chapter 5 Hugo’s Father**

**Vocabulary:** flare, instinctively, cluttered, revealing, frayed, machinery, mechanical man, automaton, infinitely, acrobat, trapeze, complex, notches, grooves, rusty, magicians, artificial, shattered, midleap, intricate, disrepair, disassembled, obsessed, spectacles, apprentice, vaguely, horologists, flask, knuckles, jagged, barriers, planks, wreckage, accusation, rumblings, pierced, charred, debris, basin, spluttering, precisely

**Chapter 6 Ashes**

**Vocabulary:** dawn, staggered, smudges, cavernous, intricate, swirling, amid, bustle, stampede

**Chapter 7 Secrets**

**Vocabulary:** flanking, jangled, Jules Verne, Hans Christian Andersen, fairy tales, emerged, cogs, gears, scurried, accumulated, flinched, croissant, canister, skittered, exhaled, gambling

**Chapter 8 Cards**

**Vocabulary:** resentful, tempting, deftly, solitaire, captivated, squinted, trance, distinct, jangled, teetering, embossed, array, agitated

**Chapter 9 The Key**

**Vocabulary:** dawn, cautiously, dangled, whirring, newsreels, current, hoisted, glared, pigeons

**Chapter 10 The Notebook**

**Vocabulary:** disheveled, seizing, fiercely, dodged

**Chapter 11 Stolen Goods**

**Vocabulary:** darted, blurry, painstakingly, nib, clenched, glanced, illusions, translated, horology, dexterity

**Chapter 12 The Message**

**Vocabulary:** yelped, budge, imaginary, grasped, whirred, cascade, brilliantly, calibrated, extended, contraptions, torso, random, intensity, feverishly, stalked, accumulated

**Part Two**

**Chapter 1 The Signature**

**Vocabulary:** trembling, dangled, stunned, cradling, clutched, brooch, darning, armoire, winced, snatched, dredge

**Chapter 2 The Armoire**

**Vocabulary:** divert, parallel, hollow, molding, contents, scattered, frayed, wailed, brittle, instinctively, distracted, weeping

**Chapter 3 The Plan**

**Vocabulary:** hobble, jangling, grimacing, crooked, tilted, intriguing, inspiration

**Chapter 4 The Invention of Dreams**

**Vocabulary:** vast, lobby, captive, acclaim

**Chapter 5 Papa Georges Made Movies**

**Vocabulary:** mumbles, splinter

**Chapter 6 Purpose**

**Vocabulary:** straggled, devoted, Greek myths, Mount Olympus, chimera, phoenix, Prometheus

**Chapter 7 The Visit**

**Vocabulary:** guardrail, barreled, rammed, croissants, glinted, brandishing, hastily, impose, fondness, fragile, dredge, skeptical, archives, projector, shimmered, momentarily

**Chapter 8 Opening the Door**

**Vocabulary:** guttural, interspersed, chaos, poised, radiating

**Chapter 9 The Ghost in the Station**

**Vocabulary:** sprinted, flask, reeling, staggered, writhing, vultures

**Chapter 10 A Train Arrives in the Station**

**Vocabulary:** slippery, limousine, blurring, desperately, stumbled, barreling, metallic, throbbing, apprentice, scowling, eternity, vouch

**Chapter 11 The Magician**

**Vocabulary:** tuxedo, intervention, souvenirs, celestial, mended, gleaming, destination, squinted, podium, diligence, vaults, archives, catacombs, negatives, decaying, possession, fraction, confident, glimmering, laurel, gala, alchemist

**Chapter 12 Winding It Up**

**Vocabulary:** carriages, transform, emerged

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**Title:** Toys! Amazing Stories Behind Some Great Inventions

**By:** Don Wulffson

**Illustrated by:** Laurie Keller

**Back Cover:**

“Did you know that…

* Each year, Lionel Trains produces more than a million engines, cabooses, and other railroad cars? (If hitched together, they would make a toy train about fifty miles long.)
* King Louis XIV, Napoleon, and Queen Victoria all had collections of wind-up toys?
* In late nineteenth-century France, more than five million tin soldiers were made from discarded sardine containers?
* The youngest international champion in table tennis was eight-year-old Joy Foster of Jamaica?
* Play-Doh originally came only in white? (There’s a good reason for this: it started out as a product for cleaning wallpaper!)”

**Contents:**

Introduction

The Slinky

Seesaw

Lego

Tops

Mr. Potato Head

Playing Cards

Silly Putty

Windup Toys and Automatons

Hobbyhorses

Bicycles

Remote-Controlled Toys

Raggedy Ann

Toy Soldiers

Twister

Parcheesi

Checkers

Magic Rocks

Super Ball

Toy Trains

Play-Doh

Table Tennis

From Pinball to Video

Trivial Pursuit

Kites

Novelty Gags

Bibliography

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**Title:** Leonardo da Vinci A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #38: Monday with a Mad Genius

**By:** Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce

**Back Cover:**

“Why was Leonardo da Vinci interested in flight?

What are some of his most famous paintings?

Did he really keep notebooks just like Jack?

What do scientists today think of his ideas?”

**Contents:**

1. Leonardo da Vinci and His World
2. Leonardo in Florence
3. Leonardo the Dreamer
4. Leonardo the Scientist
5. Leonardo the Artist
6. People in Leonardo’s World
7. Death of a Genius

Doing More Research

Index

**Chapter 1 Leonardo da Vinci and His World**

**Vocabulary:** incredible, Italy, lyre, sketches, swooped, Renaissance, Europe, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Ospedale degli Innocenti or Foundling Hospital, Florence, architecture, patrons, mirror writing, smear

**Chapter 2 Leonardo in Florence**

**Vocabulary:** Medicis, palazzo, cathedral, Duomo, wares, utensils, vegetarian, poses, cramped, guilds, Verrocchio, apprentice, tempera, pigments, painting *The Baptism of Christ*, sculpt, portrait, patron, Duke Sforza – ruler of Milan, violin

**Chapter 3 Leonardo the Dreamer**

**Vocabulary:** armored, pierce, cranks, double-hulled boat, paddle boat, crossbow, machine guns, missiles, grenades, parachute, skydiver, hot air balloon, Sultan Bayezid II of Turkey, Nowegian engineer, (Aas, Norway), ornithopter, flotation device, helicopter, Mount Ceceri, apprentices, Milan, The Black Death, bubonic plague

**Chapter 4 Leonardo the Scientist**

**Vocabulary:** whirlwind, fossils, human anatomy, dissected, tendons, botanist, concluded, deposited, Raphael, Plato, *The School of Athens,* The Vitruvian Man

**Chapter 5 Leonardo the Artist**

**Vocabulary:** drape, cast, bronze, poses, prancing, disciples, *The Last Supper,* tempera, stable, World War II, restoration, *Mona Lisa,* technique, sfumato, Louvre Museum, Paris, *Battle of Anghiari,* Palazzo Vecchio, town hall

**Chapter 6 People in Leonardo’s World**

**Vocabulary:** Luca Pacioli, Isabelle d’Este, Marcantonio della Torre, anatomy, University of Pavia, Leon Battista Alberti, architect, Michelangelo Buonarroti, Sistine Chapel, Rome, mural, Donato Bramante, St. Peter’s Bascilica

**Chapter 7 Death of a Genius**

**Vocabulary:** Francis I, devoted, Cathedral of Saint-Florentin, France, National Library of Spain