



GETTING READY TEXT CHOOSER

What type of Children's Book illustrator are you?
What text should you pick to illustrate?

To get a children's book illustration gig, you want to create a pitch. Your pitch should include an example of your work based on a portion of a text that you've illustrated. How do you know which text to illustrate? How do you choose? I thought I'd make this chart for you to help you find the best fit. Use this as a springboard to gain insight into the varieties of texts and into which type will allow you to connect most fully with the text. ***The point is that you want to choose a text that allows your illustration to shine.*** — Lilla

	JESTER HIPSTER	INTROVERT	MS. OR MR. PERSONALITY	SHERLOCK	ADVENTURER	MADAME BODONI
Who you are:	You are witty, amusing, clever.	You love to use lots of paint to create a mood. You are a deep thinker, a sensitive soul.	You have a gift for drawing characters, creatures, critters.	You like realistic, scientific, historical, and detail-oriented work. Research is fun for you.	You like to dream of landscapes, scenes, worlds, magical places.	You love typographic design, hand-lettering. You tend to doodle in hand-lettering.
What medium is for you?	Typically punchy, colorful, and fairly graphic, but there are no rules to this one. Bring your own aesthetic to this.	Oil, pastel, watercolor, gouache, etc. Any medium that creates a vibe.	Any medium as long as the reader can clearly see the expressions on the faces of your characters.	Any medium that allows you to draw detailed work, such as crisp black line or pencil with shading, etc.	Paint and pastel is for you! Any medium that allows you to create your magical landscapes!	Any. Vector or traditional media.
How you'll shine. What type of text you should pick:	Jokes, limericks, riddles, quirky stories. Pick texts that have opportunities for you to show your kind of wit, whether it's goofy, dark, pun-based, sight gags, subtle humor. Match the type of wit with your sensibility.	Drama, poems, fairy tales. Stories that evoke feelings. Texts where the characters interact with interesting psychological themes that you would enjoy illustrating.	Texts with lots of characters such as children or animals or even anthropomorphized items like a pencil that's a person. Stories where the characters have loads of personality and they interact with each other.	Stories that allow you to dig deep into research. It might be an historical text, a story that takes place in a different time or place, or a type of culture such as pioneers or pirates where you can add loads of informative details.	Magical, moody. 'Wide-angle' scenes—that is, the text depicts scenes that you can display on a double-page spread. Stories that cover territory; for example, the characters move from town to mountains to the sea.	An ABC book? Any text that strikes you. You can embellish an initial capital, as in an illuminated manuscript. If you are going to handletter the text, either choose a text with few words, or only hand-letter key phrases of the text.
Text suggested for you:	Wobbles in Jelloville	The Enchanted Apple	Wobbles in Jelloville	Nico and the Library of Things	The Enchanted Apple	Wobbles in Jelloville