



# Gail Gibbons

Author Photo by Kent Ancliffe

"I love working with bright, bold, beautiful colors. I also have a real love for nonfiction writing and am happy that my work lets me delve deeply into so many different kinds of topics. The research for any of my books takes a great deal of time and effort. To me, putting a nonfiction book together is like watching the pieces of a puzzle finally fitting together. Bit by bit the book takes form. I really enjoy learning about things and introducing them to children in words and pictures.

"The process for doing most of my books is very much the same. First I must have an idea that really interests me. Then I do some writing. I always find an expert on the topic I am writing about to make certain that what I have written is accurate. I work with my editors on the text until it is as good as it can possibly be. Then I do rough sketches for the cover and the pages. Once I have discussed everything with my editors and the art director we decide what changes I should make. Then I do the finished artwork. Once I have finished the artwork I send it to the publisher to have it all printed and bound into books."

Gail Gibbons grew up writing stories and drawing pictures to fit the words, and wishing she

lived in the country. After graduating from the University of Illinois with a bachelor of fine arts degree, she became involved in television graphics. This led her to work on a children's TV show, where her desire to write and illustrate children's books was rekindled. Eventually Gail became a full-time writer and moved to rural Vermont, where she could have a garden and as many pets as she wanted.

"I really enjoy learning about things and introducing them to children in words and pictures."

Gail has written more than 140 books and has made countless visits to schools. The feedback she gets from children is invaluable and often inspires ideas for future projects. Gail and her husband, Kent Ancliffe, have a dog named Wilbur and two cats, named Miles and Davis. They live in Vermont in a passive solar house that Gail's husband

built and on an island off the coast of Maine.

For more photos, stories, and information about Gail, visit the official Gail Gibbons site at [www.gailgibbons.com](http://www.gailgibbons.com).

Check out [www.holidayhouse.com](http://www.holidayhouse.com) for educational materials including the "Explore the World of Science with Gail Gibbons Educators' Guide" and the "A Year with Gail Gibbons Activity Guide."



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