



May 2003. Senior Editor: Elizabeth Lindstrom. Published by Cobblestone Publishing Company. Mail: 30 Grove Street, Suite C, Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458. Phone: (800) 821-0115. Web site: www.cricketmag.com. Monthly, September through May. Subscriptions: 29.95/year (nine issues); contact for special subscription offers and rates outside the United States.

Odyssey: Adventures in Science is published by Cobblestone Publishing Company, a firm that also produces several other periodicals for youth ages 10-15 (see the review of *Cricket* in *MCR*, volume 10, number 4).

Cobblestone and the Cricket Magazine Group, both reputable publishing firms, joined forces in July 2000. *Odyssey* is an award-winning 52-page magazine. Its theme-based issues allow young people to explore the hottest trends in science in remarkable detail—everything from asteroids to dinosaurs and many things in between. The May 2003 issue “is dedicated to the crew of Columbia and all those who helped to make her 28 missions possible.” Although not published in the summer, *Odyssey* magazine provides a link to “summer fun” that features astronomy-related stories and projects. Also, through *Odyssey*, young people can get news of the latest scientific discoveries, mind-boggling puzzles, and creative hands-on activities. Kids are invited to contribute stories to *Odyssey* with their own scientific adventures. Nine interesting articles beginning with “Mars in 2003: It’s the Best!” and continuing with “The Water of Mars” and seven others, complete this issue, which is weighty with knowledge and invitations to learn more.

Stone Soup. ISSN 0094-579X. Published by Children’s Art Fund. Mail: P.O. Box 83, Santa Cruz, California 95063. Phone: (831) 426-5557. E-mail: editor@stonesoup.com. Web site: www.stonesoup.com. Bimonthly. Subscriptions: \$5.50 (single issue); \$33.00 (one year); \$54.00 (two years).


Celebrating its thirtieth year of existence in 2003, this serial makes the claim that it is “unique among children’s

magazines—it’s the only magazine made up entirely of the creative work of children.” Subtitled “The Magazine by Young Writers and Artists,” *Stone Soup* features writing and art by and for youth ages 8 to 13. Contributors’ guidelines are available on the web site, as are recordings of select authors reading their works.

In this 48-page 7” x 10” publication with no advertisements, readers are offered original stories, poems, and illustrations. For those with Internet access, the web site highlights additional artwork, stories, and poems by Navajo children. Published six times a year, in January, March, May, July, September, and November, *Stone Soup* is printed on high-quality paper and has made its mark with continuous publication for many years.

Brand New Planet. Publisher: John Honderich. Published by the *Toronto Star*. Mail: *The Toronto Star*, One Yonge St., Toronto, ON M5E 1E6. Phone: (416) 367-2000. E-mail: lettertoed@thestar.ca. Web site: www.thestar.com. Weekly. Available free on the Internet and in print.

Written by young people, the *Toronto Star*’s weekly tabloid, *Brand New Planet*, has become a major hit with the tweens (9- to 14-year-olds) of the greater Toronto area. Accessible from the *Star*’s home page, www.thestar.com, “the Planet,” as it is known on the street, is largely written by teens and edited by the newspaper’s copy editors. *Brand New Planet* is distributed to subscribers on request and also in bulk quantities to schools, libraries, and 400 other “family-oriented” locations in the area. The 16-page tabloid was launched January 15, 2003, and, according to publisher John Honderich, “the unique thing about *Brand New Planet* is that it’s the first time we’ve created a newspaper for one specific readership group. We feel this much younger group really deserves a newspaper they can call their own—where they can express their views and opinions and read about the news that affects them and their friends.”

Toronto is home to a myriad of cultures and is claimed to be the most multicultural city in North America, a fact reflected in the published submissions. Also available online, *Brand New Planet* contains short stories in a variety of genres (I enjoyed a mystery story, “Burgatory Mystery,” appearing online in June), an advice column, and “the assignment of a lifetime,” which is an advertisement for two reporters, age 9-14, one boy and one girl, who will be chosen based on a submitted essay. In addition, a column exhibiting all sorts of timely topics, “Speak Out,” is touted as a writing tool for kids, a safe avenue for putting ideas and feelings on paper. There are other interesting-for-youth articles on wakeboarding and water parks, among other topics. For parents and others with suspicions, the *Toronto Star* provides its privacy policy as well as safety suggestions for kids about the hazards of giving personal information to others via the Internet. Edited by adults but written by teens, *Brand New Planet* is a winner. Great job, *Toronto Star!* 

New from
Children's Book Press

Going Home, Coming Home

Story by
Truong Tran

Illustrations by
Ann Phong

ISBN: 0-89239-179-0

Bilingual English/Vietnamese



When Ami Chi spends the summer in Vietnam, where her parents were born, she learns that it's possible to call two places home.

★ from the **Vietnamese American** community

Xochitl and the Flowers

Story by
Jorge Argueta

Illustrations by
Carl Angel

ISBN: 0-89239-181-2

Bilingual English/Spanish



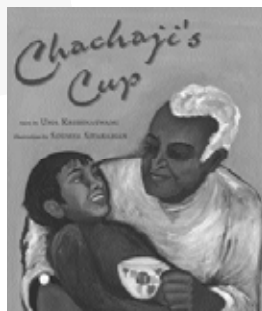
Xochitl and her family, new arrivals in San Francisco from El Salvador, create a beautiful plant nursery in place of the garbage heap behind their apartment, and celebrate with friends and neighbors.

★

Chachaji's Cup

Story by
Uma Krishnaswami

Illustrations by
Soumya Sitaraman



In this tender intergenerational story, Neel discovers that Chachaji's chipped teacup holds the story of his family, uprooted during the 1947 partition of India and Pakistan.

★ from the **East Indian American** community

Drum, Chavi, Drum!

Story by
Mayra L. Dole

Illustrations by
Tonel

ISBN: 0-89239-186-3



Chavi's music teacher believes that only boys should play drums in Miami's *Calle Ocho* Festival, but Chavi knows she is a good musician and looks for a way to prove it.

★ from the **Cuban American** community

Lakas and the Manilatown Fish

Story by
Anthony D. Robles

Illustrations by
Carl Angel

ISBN: 0-89239-182-0



A vivacious talking fish leads a Filipino American boy, his father, and a bunch of neighborhood characters on an adventure through San Francisco's historic Manilatown.

★ from the **Filipino American** community

SUPER CILANTRO GIRL

Story by
Juan Felipe Herrera

Illustrations by
Honorio Robledo Tapia

ISBN: 0-89239-187-1

Bilingual English/Spanish



A young girl is transformed into a superhero and flies off to rescue her mother, who is being detained at the Mexican border.

★ from the **Mexican American** community