

Nuts & Bolts

“THE MASTER HAS FAILED MORE TIMES THAN THE BEGINNER HAS EVEN TRIED.”

STEPHEN MCCRANIE

Single Book Timeline

Prepping

(6 months-2 years)

- Research 1: **Content**
(Overview)
- Research 2: **Market**
- Play with Approach and Big Idea
- Research 3: **Content**
(books, papers, informational interviews)
- Play with Structure
- Research 4: **Deep Content**
(in-depth interviews, hands-on)

Writing

(6 months-2 years)

- ❖ Play with Voice
- ❖ Draft
- ❖ Research 5: **Filling gaps**
- ❖ Critique Groups
- ❖ Re-write
- ❖ Research 6: **Content**
(Fact-checking & Documentation)

Submitting

(1-2 years)

- ▶ Research 7: **Market**
- ▶ Submit and wait!
- ▶ Acceptance
- ▶ Complete book or revise
- ▶ Revise
- ▶ Final Acceptance
- ▶ Fact-check Art
- ▶ Promotion
- ▶ Publication



Submission Resources

www.Publishersmarketplace.com

SCBWI The Book, available to members at
www.Scbwi.Org

Publisher's Weekly Children's Bookshelf
newsletter, free
[HTTPS://WWW.PUBLISHERSWEEKLY.COM/PW/BY-
TOPIC/CHILDRENS/INDEX.HTML](https://www.publishersweekly.com/pw/by-topic/childrens/index.html)

Laura Purdie Salas, *Writing for the Educational
Market*,
[https://mentorsforrent.Wordpress.Com/ebooks
/ed/](https://mentorsforrent.wordpress.com/ebooks/ed/)

2020 Writer's Market

From keyboard to printed page
[Https://www.Scbwi.Org/wp-
content/uploads/2013/09/from-
keyboard_2014.Pdf](https://www.scbwi.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/from-keyboard-2014.pdf)

Submissions Packet

▶ Work-for-hire Packet

1. Cover Letter
2. Resume
3. Writing Samples

▶ Royalties Submission

1. Cover Letter
 2. Manuscript
- OR
1. Cover Letter
 2. Proposal
 3. Writing Samples

Pitches
&
Queries

Cover Letter

August 12, 2010

ADDRESS

Xxx

xxxx

Dear XXXXXX,

At Springmingle in Atlanta you encouraged me to lean into the humor in my “Most Dedicated Mom” manuscript. I think you will find the enclosed manuscript packed with laughs—and plenty of yuck-appeal.

Bad Boys of the Bug World takes a humorous look at the top ten rudest young bugs. Some bugs pass gas, some litter, and others wear their poop. The voice is fun, conversational and irreverent enough to appeal to the trade market. The content (correlated to the National Science Standards) will easily cross over into the classroom.

You may remember my passion for teaching children about insects. Working with thousands of students a year, I’ve figured out which rude, crude dudes hook kids. Even the reluctants can’t resist reading about brain-slurping bugs.

This is a simultaneous submission. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Montgomery

Enc.
SASE
Manuscript
Resume

Formatting

- ▶ Publisher-specific guidelines
- ▶ Industry standards
 - ▶ Black, 12-point, Times New Roman or Arial
 - ▶ Standard 8.5x11 page
 - ▶ Margins of at least 1 inch on all sides
 - ▶ Double-spaced
 - ▶ Left-justified with .5 inch indent on paragraphs (not tab or spaces)

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Front matter: 400 Words
Back matter: 900 Words

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BUGS DON'T HUG

Heather L. Montgomery

Bugs are not like us.

Bugs don't give "good morning" kisses. They don't strip off their **pjs**, or even comb their hair.

And, bugs don't hug.

Bugs don't use a spoon or fork.

But baby crickets do get eggs.

A mother short-tailed cricket lays extra, tiny eggs. She made the special eggs for her baby's first breakfast.

[Baby cricket: I like mine runny. Yummy!]

The Proposal

Includes:

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ Target Audience/Potential Markets
- ▶ Comp Books
- ▶ Author Bio/Platform
- ▶ Table of Contents
- ▶ Sample Chapters (typically 3)

Optional

- ▶ Series Potential
- ▶ Visuals
- ▶ Influencers
- ▶ Curriculum Connections

