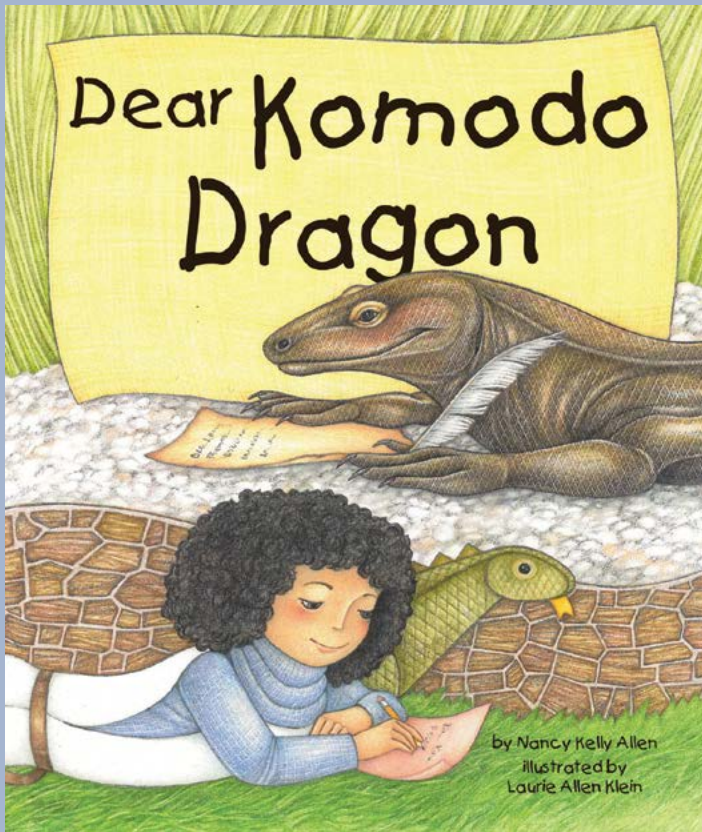


# ABOUT THE BOOK

Lots of children have pen pals but one little girl has a real-life dragon—a Komodo dragon—for a pen pal! Leslie plans to be a dragon hunter when she grows up. When she and Komodo become pen pals, the wise-cracking dragon adds a generous helping of humor to letters that are chock full of accurate, interesting facts. Leslie learns not only about the world's largest lizard, but also about the dangers they face. As their friendship builds, will Leslie change the way she thinks about dragons?

This fictional story includes a 4-page For Creative Minds section in the back of the book and a 30-page cross-curricular Teaching Activity Guide online. *Dear Komodo Dragon* is vetted by experts and designed to encourage parental engagement. Its extensive back matter helps teachers with time-saving lesson ideas, provides extensions for science, math, and social studies units, and uses inquiry-based learning to help build critical thinking skills in young readers. The Spanish translation supports ELL and dual-language programs. The interactive ebook reads aloud in both English and Spanish with word highlighting and audio speed control to promote oral language skills, fluency, pronunciation, text engagement, and reading comprehension.



Release Date: February 10, 2018

Ages 4 - 9 · 32 pages · Trim size 8.5 x 10 inches

Hardcover: 9781607184492, \$17.95  
Paperback: 9781607184607, \$9.95  
English ebook: 9781607184829  
Read-aloud ebook: 9781607184997

Spanish: *Querido Dragón Komodo*  
Paperback: 9781607184652, \$11.95  
ebook: 9781607184874  
Read-aloud ebook: 9781607185185

German: *Lieber Komodowaran*  
Paperback: 9781643514819, \$11.95  
ebook: 9781643514826  
Read-aloud ebook: 9781643514840

## CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

### *For Creative Minds*

Find out more about dragons through fun facts and activities in the book's For Creative Minds Section.

Topics include:

- Conservation
- Dragons by the Numbers
- Physical and Behavioral Adaptations

The learning doesn't end in the For Creative Minds section; an extensive teaching activities guide is also available on [Arbordalepublishing.com](http://Arbordalepublishing.com).

This book has been vetted by Christine Lewis and Kate Davis, zoo educators at the Birmingham Zoo, and Alison F. Manka, school and aquarium programs manager at the Greensboro Science Center.

### *Classification Information*

*Dear Komodo Dragon* will appeal to kids of any age; however, young readers may be guided to the book based on the following reading level assessment:

- Accelerated Reader: 3.5
- Lexile: 630
- Fountas and Pinnell: M

Bisac Codes include: Juvenile Fiction

- JUV002220 - Animals / Reptiles & Amphibians
- JUV002270 - Animals / Dragons, Unicorns & Mythical
- JUV030020 - People & Places / Asia

For educators, Arbordale has aligned this book to NGSS, Core and state standards in science, math and social studies.



# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Award-winning author Nancy Kelly Allen is a retired school librarian who spent her days reading to children and her nights writing for them. Eventually, writing led her down the trail to publication. She has written over forty children's books, including *The First Fire: A Cherokee Folktale* for Arbordale. Nancy has a master's degree in Education from Morehead State University and a master's in Library and Information Science from the University of Kentucky. Nancy lives with her husband and two dogs in a log cabin in Kentucky. Visit her website at [www.nancykellyallen.com](http://www.nancykellyallen.com).

# ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Award-winning illustrator Laurie Allen Klein has been a freelance artist for nearly 25 years. Over the last several years, she has worked as the on-staff artist for a marine park, where she does everything from painting life-size sea animal murals, to illustrating children's activity books. Laurie has illustrated *Saving Kate's Flowers*, *Balloon Trees*, *Fur and Feathers*, *The Ghost of Donley Farm*, *If a Dolphin Were a Fish*, *Little Skink's Tail*, *Meet the Planets*, *Solar System Forecast*, *They Just Know* and *Where Should Turtle Be?* for Arbordale. Laurie lives in Florida. See more of her artwork at [www.lauriekleinarts.com](http://www.lauriekleinarts.com).



# Arbordale Publishing

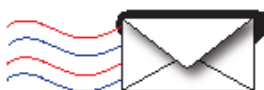
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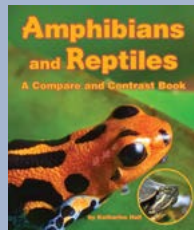
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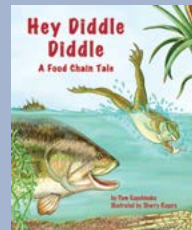


## LEARN MORE ABOUT LIZARDS IN...



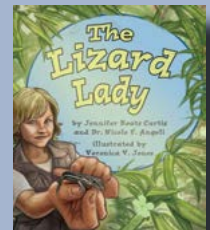
AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES

Amphibians and reptiles are similar but different and are often confused. Ponder the similarities and differences through photos and simple nonfiction text.



HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

Sing along while learning about food chains. Which animal comes out on top, and which is a snack? Find out about the circle of life and the part each creature plays.



THE LIZARD LADY

A day in the life of a scientist is anything but boring! Co-author Nicole F. Angeli, aka The Lizard Lady, saves critically endangered St. Croix ground lizards.