

NOT REAL, BUT REALLY FAMOUS

There have been well-known critters of all kinds for a very long time in Canadian books, movies, songs, TV shows and more.

BATTY BOOKS

In this series — *Darkwing*, *Silverwing*, *Sunwing* and *Firewing* — by Canadian author Kenneth Oppel, the main character, Shade, is a silver-haired bat, a species that is found in Canada. *Silverwing* became an animated TV series in 2003.



THE LITTLEST HOBO

In this television show that ran from 1976 to 1985, a very smart German shepherd dog travelled from Canadian town to Canadian town, helping people along the way.

MUSICAL MEMORIES

You might not remember, but chances are that when you were younger, somebody played you a song about an animal, sung by a Canadian musician. “Baby Beluga” by Raffi, maybe, or the traditional Acadian song about a talking bird, “Au chant de l’Alouette,” or perhaps something from Anne Murray’s album *There’s a Hippo in My Tub*.

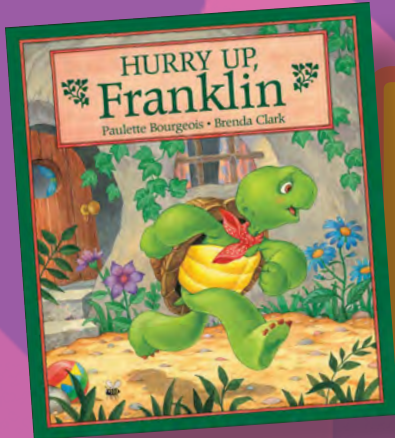


Kenneth Oppel, CP Images; Baby Beluga Album by Raffi ©1990 Troubadour Music Inc. Cover illustration by Ian Bell



LA SOURIS VERTE

Although its title means The Green Mouse, this kids' program, which ran from 1964 to 1971, was shown in black and white. Go figure!

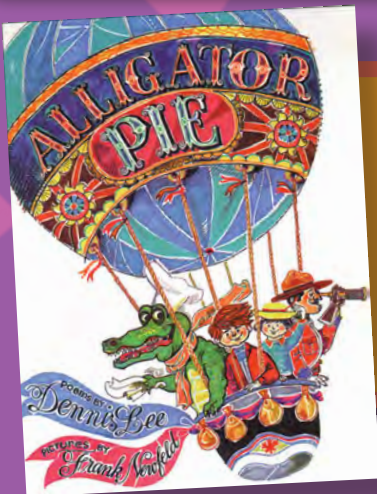


FRANKLIN THE TURTLE

Most Canadian kids know these books about the lovable turtle and his pals, written by Paulette Bourgeois and illustrated by Brenda Clark. Can you sing the theme song of the TV series? More importantly, why does a turtle have a pet fish?

THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

This book tells the story of three animals, based on the pets of the author, Sheila Burnford: a Siamese cat, a bull terrier and a Labrador retriever. The animals travel more than 400 kilometres across the wilderness of northwestern Ontario to find their human family. The book was first published in 1961, and made into a Disney movie in 1963.



REPTILE RHYME

Okay, so the animal isn't Canadian, but the author is. "Alligator Pie" by Dennis Lee is full of silly, bouncy rhymes like "If I don't get some, I think I'm gonna die!" The poem was first published in 1974.