

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rare Is Everywhere
Written and illustrated by Deborah Katz

“To be rare is to be different in a special way.”

What makes us unique? Genes – they make people and animals different in surprising and amazing ways. In British Columbia, some black bears are white, and there’s even one cheetah in the world that has no spots at all. Many children feel alone in their differences, whether they are genetic, behavioural, or cultural. By revealing surprising differences within species in the animal world, this book shows young readers that uniqueness is something to be celebrated and that rare is, in fact, everywhere.

Rare Is Everywhere takes readers on a journey through the animal kingdom, revealing that grasshoppers can be pink, tigers can be white, and lobsters can be blue. Showcasing eleven incredible animals through vibrant illustrations and playful poetry, the book skillfully blends science with art and encourages children to recognize and accept diversity in themselves and in others.

Each page features a rare animal alongside its everyday counterpart, and accompanying rhyming text reveals both their shared traits and their differences. With a glossary that provides more information about each animal and the genetic changes that shape their appearance, *Rare Is Everywhere* is also a valuable resource. The target reading level is 5 to 9 years old, but all ages, and species, will enjoy this book.

Changes in our genes are responsible for most of the 7,000 rare diseases known in the world today. Rare diseases affect millions of people, the majority of whom are children. Unfortunately, most of these conditions are overlooked and underfunded. Proceeds from the sale of this book will be donated to the Rare Disease Foundation, an international organization that helps people – especially children – with rare conditions.

DEBORAH KATZ is a Vancouver, BC, nursing professor with nearly 20 years of experience in health care. She is also a writer and an artist whose work has appeared in local galleries and various publications. Before becoming a nurse, Deborah studied wildlife biology and loved learning about the incredible diversity of animal species and how genetic changes can make them stand out in ways that are beautiful and often breathtaking.

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For more information, please visit rareiseverywhere.com

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