

Elizabeth Laskey

EDITOR | WRITER

Résumé
Science
Social Studies
Language Arts
Reference
Portfolio
Contact

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What I Deliver

Experienced • Reliable • Enthusiastic • Exacting

With 20 years of experience in the reference and educational publishing industry, I've become proficient at tailoring subject matter to specific audiences and conveying complex concepts to readers accurately and engagingly. For educational publishers, I develop and write standards-based content for science, social studies, and language arts programs. When you hire me, I view myself as part of your team and strive to deliver content that exceeds your expectations.

Skills Range

- Research
- Writing
- Rewriting
- Editing for readability
- Correlating
- Copyediting

Representative Projects

- Leveled Readers
- Pupil Editions
- Teacher Editions
- Ancillaries
- State-specific Test Prep
- Children's Trade Books

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Professional Profile

Accomplished writer and editor with more than 20 years of experience in educational and reference publishing.

- Proficient at tailoring subject matter to specific audiences, ranging from kindergarteners to PhDs.
- Adept at conveying complex concepts to young readers accurately and engagingly.
- Familiar with national and state standards (K–12) for science, social studies, and language arts.
- Skills Range: research; writing; rewriting; editing for content accuracy, readability, appropriateness for grade level, and safety concerns; correlating; and copyediting.

Representative Projects

Leveled Readers

Children's Trade Books

Pupil Editions

Teacher Editions

Ancillaries:

- Cross-curricular activities
- Hands-on science labs and activities
- State-specific test prep and practice
- Standardized tests and other assessments
- Skill-building exercises
- Extension/Enrichment activities
- ELL applications

Employment History

Full-time Freelance Writer and Editor

(May 1997–present)

Developed quality content from the initial concept phases through to the finished product for clients such as Encyclopaedia Britannica, McDougal Littell, Harcourt School Publishers, Scott Foresman, and many others.

Proof Positive/Farrowlyne & Associates

(January 1995–May 1997)

Senior Editor and Project Manager Developed, wrote, and edited teacher editions, pupil editions, and ancillaries for textbook projects. Coordinated schedules and maintained client rapport.

Encyclopaedia Britannica

(May 1983–December 1994)

Project Coordinator and Senior Copy Editor

Developed training procedures and supervised copy

editors working on Britannica Online. Copyedited and fact checked Britannica's in-depth scientific articles. Researched and wrote articles for Britannica's yearbooks.

Education

University of Illinois, Bachelor of Arts in English
(Phi Beta Kappa, Dean's List)

"Elizabeth came to the rescue on short notice. She takes the time to get a thorough understanding of a project before she begins, keeps me informed as the job progresses, and delivers high-quality work."

—Sarah Maineri
Project Editor, Curriculum Products
Delta Education, Inc.

Science

I've written more than a dozen children's science trade books including the Heinemann Library series **Wild Nature** and **Sea Creatures**, which was the recipient of a National Science Teachers Association **recommendation**. In addition, I've written a variety of materials for primary, middle, and high school science programs, with an emphasis on earth science and life science. I am thoroughly familiar with national and state science standards.

Representative Assignments

- Leveled Readers
- Children's Trade Books
- Pupil Editions
- Teacher Editions
- Hands-on leveled science labs
- Assessments and tests

Representative Clients

- Heinemann Library
- Scott Foresman
- Holt, Rinehart and Winston
- Delta Education
- McDougal Littell

"Elizabeth has a knack for synthesizing coherent results from difficult materials. She always remains sensitive to her audience."

—Bradley Hannan
Independent Editorial Consultant
Evanston, Illinois

Social Studies/History

I've written a wide variety of materials for primary, middle, and high school social studies/history programs. Projects include standards-based programs focusing on American history, world history, world cultures, geography, and contemporary social and political issues.

Representative Assignments

- Leveled Readers
- Children's Trade Books
- Pupil Editions
- Teacher Editions
- Hands-on projects and activities
- Standardized tests and other assessments
- Skill-building exercises (map, graph, and chart skills)

Representative Clients

- Prentice Hall

- EBSCO Information Services
- Houghton Mifflin
- Scott Foresman
- Harcourt School Publishers

“Elizabeth is a superb editor—intelligent, experienced, thorough, tactful, and conscientious.”

—Kirsti MacPherson
Language Arts Editor
McDougal Littell

Language Arts/Literature

I've written and edited a wide range of textbook materials for elementary, middle school, and high school language arts and literature programs. The projects I've worked on align closely with national and state language arts standards and offer an integrated approach to the study of literature, focusing on teaching essential critical thinking skills while introducing students to classic and contemporary works of literature.

Representative Assignments

- Leveled Readers
- Pupil Editions
- Teacher Editions
- Grammar minilessons
- ELL applications
- Reading strategies
- Writing handbook ("How to Craft a Composition")
- Tests and assessments

- Vocabulary strategies and exercises
- Cross-curricular activities

Representative Clients

- McDougal Littell
- Prentice Hall
- Scholastic
- SRA/McGraw-Hill

"Elizabeth is conscientious, efficient, and reliable.

She displays good editorial judgment and initiative and tackles complicated and obscure topics with gusto. I have always found her to be cooperative and respectful of deadlines."

—Anita Wolff

Executive Editor

Encyclopaedia Britannica

Reference and General Interest

I've researched and written hundreds of articles and have edited thousands more through the course of my career. Click [here](#) to read a few of them.

Topics

Archaeology

Art

Business

Environment

Geography

Health and Medicine

History

Industry

Literature

Movies

Music

Natural History

Physical Fitness

Religion

Science

Theater

Travel

Women's History

World Cultures

Representative Assignments

- Children's books
- Encyclopedia articles
- Book reviews
- Essays
- Biographical profiles
- Handbooks

Representative Clients

- Encyclopaedia Britannica
- St. James Press
- Boy Scouts of America
- Friends of the Chicago River
- Amazon.com
- Gale Research
- EBSCO Information Services

Writing Samples

Click on the link below to read a sample spread from a children's trade book I wrote for Heinemann Library's Sea Creatures series. The series received a **recommendation** from the National Science Teachers Association.

Sample Spread from *Seahorses*

Two multimedia biographies for children that I wrote for Harcourt School Publishers:

Cleofás Calleros

Lady Bird Johnson

Three articles I wrote for Encyclopaedia Britannica:

Chartres Cathedral

Montgomery Clift

Women's Land Army

Much of the work I do is owned by my clients and, thus, is not available for display on this Web site. If you would like to review additional writing samples, please **e-mail** me with a specific request.

Contact

I'm reachable 24/7 at elizabeth@myenvoy.com.

You can contact me by phone at **503.287.7862** or fax at **503.296.2031**. I am in my office weekdays between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:30 PM (Pacific Time).

I look forward to hearing from you!