

TIPS ON CREATING A GOOD BOOK COVER

A book cover has to get someone's attention in 5 seconds and tell them a little bit about the book — what it might be about.

Don't try to show or draw the whole story. The cover needs to give you a feeling like exciting, happy, sad, scary. You can also show one or two characters or draw one simple scene.

The title must be bold and the most important words.

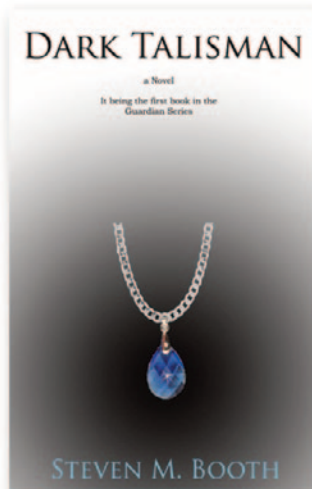
Make sure the author's full name is on the cover. It is usually at the bottom.

Choose colors that go with the book's topic (what it's about).

Make sure you have a nice margin on all four sides. This means not to put your words or important parts of the pictures too close to the edges of the cover.

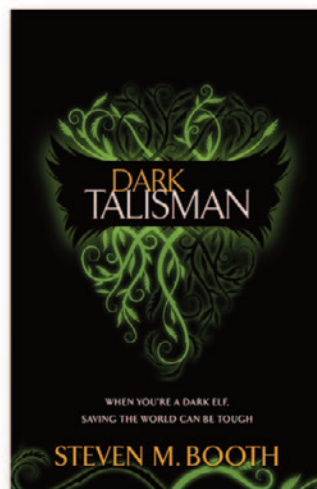
Think of creative ways to put the words and your pictures together instead of putting each piece far away from each other. The pieces of a cover are kind of like a puzzle.

Look at other book covers for ideas, but don't copy them exactly.



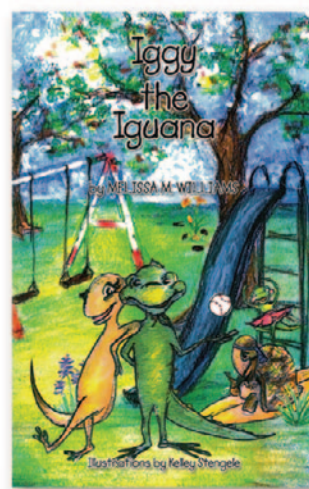
NO.

Boring.
Words and pictures don't fit together.
Not creative.
Words are too close to edges.



YES!

Interesting.
Words and pictures fit together.
Good colors for this story.
Easy to read.



NO.

Too much happening in the picture.
Can't read the words.
Confusing.



YES!

Fun picture in a fun shape.
Can tell it's at school.
Easy to read.

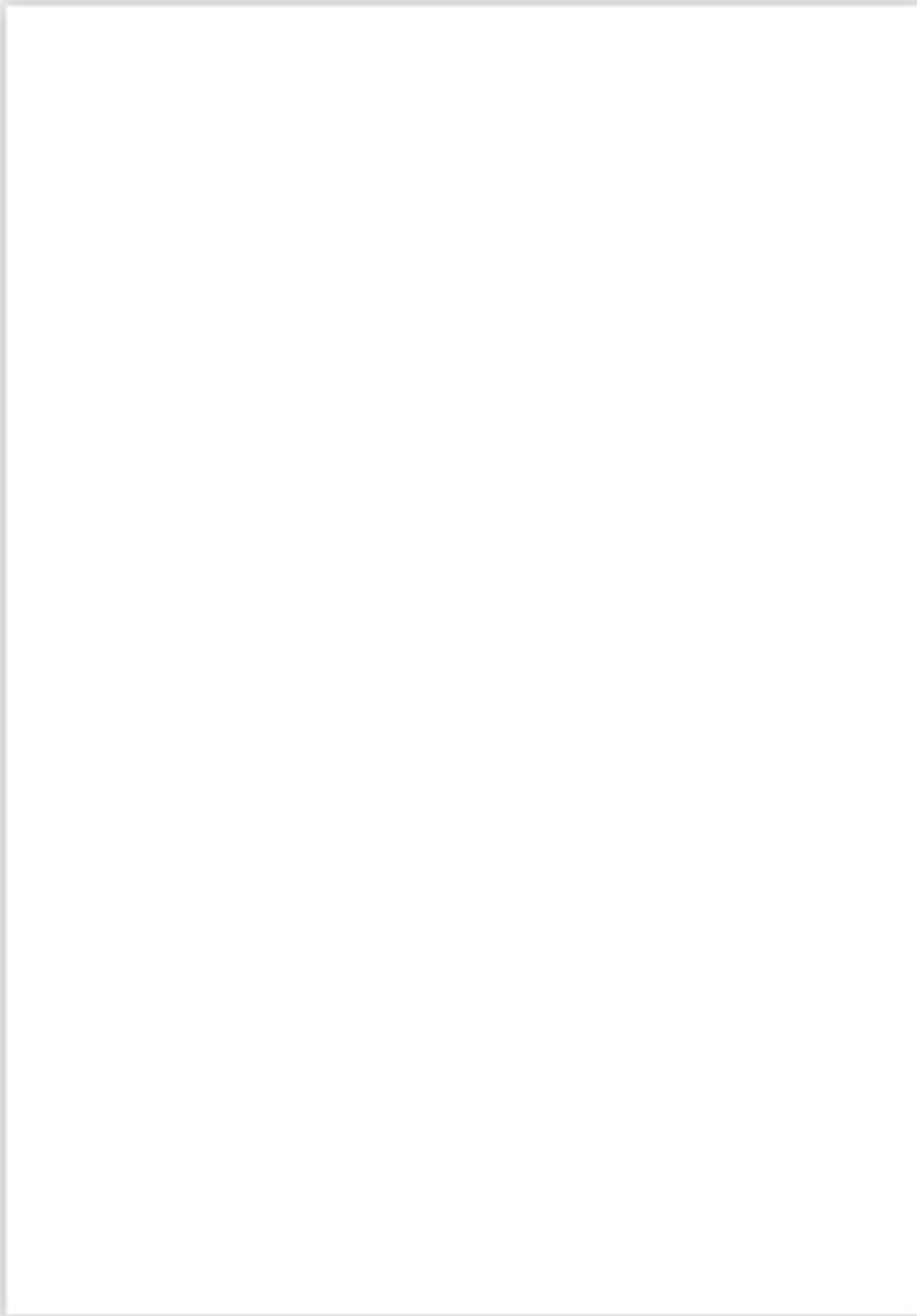


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CREATE YOUR OWN BOOK COVER DESIGN!



BOOK DESIGN

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IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START...

If you're not sure what your book should be about, you may want to use the children's book idea and details below to get started. This is all about being creative with the purpose of designing a cover that helps sell the book.

Title: Bunny and Bird Play Ball

Author: (your name goes here)

Illustrated by (your name goes here)

Characters Bunny, Bird, and Snake

Story synopsis:

Bunny and Bird are playing catch when their ball rolls down a hill into the woods. They go into the woods and meet Snake, who has their ball. At first, they're afraid of Snake, but when Bunny learns why he has the ball, they find out that he's really a nice snake. They all decide to be friends and play ball together.

NOTE: This is not a real book and will not be published.

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We love to mentor talented and enthusiastic young designers and authors. If you would like to have a conversation to encourage your student, please e-mail us to discuss how we can do this together. The fee is \$30 for a 30-minute phone or FaceTime call.

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