



Submission Guidelines

Thank you for your interest in blue manatee press. Please note that due to the volume of submissions we receive each day, we cannot respond personally to each one, nor can we answer questions about these guidelines.

If we are interested in your idea, we will follow up with you within two to three months of submission.

All book proposals must include the following:

1. **Concept/idea.** A summary of your book as well as an overview of your intended purpose, tone, and any educational components, if applicable.
 2. **Word count and/or page count.** Please include either a word count or a page count and specify whether your proposed book is a **board book** or a **picture book**. If your proposed book does not fit either of these formats, it will not be considered for publication.
 - Board book - **14 pages** (7 spreads) and **0-100 words** total
 - Picture book - no longer than **40 pages** (20 spreads) and **no more than 1,000 words** total, although these numbers are slightly flexible. For our purposes, **200-500 words** is ideal.
 3. **Sample text.** The most complete draft of your book. This is different from the book's overall concept, mentioned above.
 4. **Sample illustrations,** if you are also the artist of the work. If you do not have an illustrator for your work, there is no need to send samples of what you think the illustrations should look like.
 5. **Target audience.** Who is the target audience for this book? Keep in mind that we mainly publish books appropriate for children ages 0 to 8.
 6. **Marketability.** Is there a place in the market for this book? If so, where? Who is buying this book and why?
 7. **Comparable titles.** Please include 1 to 3 comparable titles that are no more than five years old. Comparable titles are **books that already exist within the market and contain elements similar in concept or design to your proposed book.** (For example, if you are proposing a board book of animal sounds, a comparable title might be *Hi!* by Ethan Long, published in 2015.) After listing comparable titles, explain why your book is similar, different, and still relevant and/or needed.
 8. **Marketing plan.** Although we develop specific, targeted marketing plans for each of our books, we like to know what our authors and illustrators are already able and willing to do. Do you have a marketing plan in mind for your book? Are you particularly active on any social media platforms? Are there any organizations or contacts that you see being helpful in the marketing of your book?
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Please send your completed book proposal as an email attachment to **bluemanateepress@gmail.com** with one of two subject lines: "Board Book New Submission" or "Picture Book New Submission." If we are interested in your project, we will contact you within two to three months of submission.

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