

Village School Children's Book of the Month June 2020
Reviewed by Lynn Anair, After School Program Director
Everything Is Connected by Jason Gruhl and illustrated by Ignasi Font.

Everything Is Connected is a boldly illustrated book about the invisible thread that connects us all. The book begins with our own selves and how our organs are connected and work together to help the body function as a whole. It then expands to how we are connected to others in our families, friends and outward to the world. On one page, it says "you're connected to friends and teachers at school" and the opposite page has an illustration of someone standing in front of a television display like we might see at a store (the illustration shows television stations from around the world), interesting during this time of home-learning - how much it resembles online Zoom classes.

The thread continues to weave along the pages, wrapping around planet earth and how we are visibly and invisibly connected to every human, forest critter, cow herds at farms and even creepy crawly snakes and tarantulas; to dinosaurs that used to roam the earth.

We Humans have made music, art, books and medicine; as well as being impacted by the scary and messy things. We are connected by happy and sad, love and poverty, hunger and peace. We are connected to all the creatures on earth- the slimy and scaly, snuggly and bristly.

We are connected to outer space, much like we saw firsthand recently with the SpaceX launch to the International Space Station and saw astronauts Bob and Doug in their capsule as they started their journey along with a stuffed toy dinosaur. We can now see them and their fellow astro/cosmonauts on the ISS.

This is a great book for this new time of learning to live in a new and unfamiliar way, and how we are learning to adjust and adapt to staying connected. It is geared for preschool through grade 3, though it can be enjoyed by any age.