

If you're interested in pursuing children's books as a career, there are a number of excellent resources for you to expand your knowledge of the industry and I've listed them below. If you're serious, you have to approach this as a business and the next few years as part of your education. Attend seminars, workshops and conferences; join professional groups; read children's literature; subscribe to magazines and newsletters on the industry, etc. The competition is tough, so it's important that you love what you do, but those who persevere (& practice!) can succeed.

Submit your work to well-known and respected publishers. If its great work, you have a lot of luck and it fills a market need, it will be published - but it takes perseverance as well as continuously working to develop and hone your craft.

Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

(there are chapters around the country) - an excellent source for a wealth of information specifically on the children's literature market <http://www.scbwi.org>

Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market - a must-have book, published annually listing all of the markets that focus on children's publishing

The Purple Crayon: in particular, check out the "articles" section
<http://www.underdown.org/index.html>

Picturebook: the online resource for children's illustrators, publishers and book lovers
<<http://picture-book.com/>>

SCBWI - New England Chapter - articles

http://nescbwi.org/mod.php?mod=userpage&menu=408&page_id=13&PHPSESSID=f66ad6d4024e34b3256ff771df018bed

SCBWI - Michigan Chapter - Top Sites for Children's Writers and Illustrators

<http://www.kidsbooklink.org/indexlinksection.html>

Graphic Artists Guild: publisher of the Pricing & Ethical Guidelines handbook

<http://www.gag.org>

To pursue jobs, your portfolio is all important - include only your best work!

<http://www.catugeau.com/articles/advice1.html>

You might also consider not just book publishers, but children's magazines as well. Check out: <http://www.signaleader.com/childrens-writers> (links to publisher's online submission guidelines).

All the best!