Whether it’s children’s non-fiction or wimmelbook, whether bestseller or hidden gem, fairy tale or modern history: our books for youngsters enchant readers with imaginative and exciting stories. Insel Verlag has been publishing bound, high-quality picture and children’s books since 1969. At the time, Insel Verlag published renowned national and international authors such as James Krüss, Hans Traxler, Mordillo or Nicola Bayley. Insel Verlag has always combined tradition and modernity as well as contemporary literary content with greatest artistic quality. The bibliophile-literary design of Insel’s books – including the bibliophile series Insel Bücherei, which was established in 1912 – unites not only canonical classics but also illustrated and uniquely designed collections of fairy tales, sagas and legends.

Our books created for children 1+ are especially geared towards the needs of our youngest: the stories consist of simply and comprehensibly told short texts that lend themselves perfectly to being read aloud and that delight toddlers’ eyes with their bright colours and clear designs. They include children’s book classics by Attilio Cassinelli and colourful picture books by Will Millard and Camilla Reid. Our books for children 3+, among them the popular series *Little People, BIG DREAMS* created by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara, whose volumes are published by Insel Verlag as board and picture books in German translation, tell exciting and educational stories about courageous personalities and deal with small and big challenges of everyday life in easily understandable texts. Jörg Hilbert, who has published more than one hundred works as the author and illustrator of children’s books – including the adventures of *Ritter Rost* – is now published by Insel Verlag with Coco Stolperbein and Schwein allein. Our young adult books for readers 12+ explore fantastic worlds and offer a lot of space to dream and be enthralled. *The Mirror Visitor* quartet by Christelle Dabos and Kiran Millwood Hargrave’s *The Way Past Winter* were great successes. Part I – *Der Wind in meinen Händen* – of Marion Perko’s Vega-series has been published in August 2022 and part II – *Der Sturm in meinem Herzen* – is planned to be published in Autumn 2023. Recent acquisitions are Nadia Shireen’s *Grimmwood* as well as the *Kjendiscrush*-series by Kristi Kristoffersen.

The publishing house places great importance on high literary quality, a high standard of content, contemporary themes and a particularly high-quality design. The artistic book projects by the award-winning Rébecca Dautremeur, such as *Les riches heures de Jacominus Gainsborough*, find a home at Insel, as do sophisticated non-fiction books for children and young adults, e.g. Albert Einstein’s *Theory of Relativity* and *Great Philosophers* by Clive Gifford.

Keep discovering new worlds in books – beautifully designed children’s books and gripping YA novels
**Little People BIG DREAMS** series by *María Isabel Sánchez Vegara* (since 2019)

Bestselling titles, selection below:

Bound, half-linen [ca. 20.2 × 24.8 × 1.2 cm, 326 g] — starting Age 3+

Children’s books on environmentalism and nature

Environmental protection is a vital topic for children. They take an interest in the environment that surrounds them from a very young age and it is particularly important for them to live in a world that has a future. In order to learn how to treat our planet carefully and to understand the importance of environmentalism and sustainability early on, our children’s books and picture books provide a playful introduction to the topic.
PICTURE BOOKS / STAND ALONE NOVELS, SELECTION:

Die Spiegelreisende by Christelle Dabos, originally published as La Passe-Miroir (Gallimard jeunesse, #1 2013)

YOUNG ADULT-SERIES, SELECTION:
Celebrity series by Kirsti Kristoffersen / originally published as Kjendiscrush (Cappelen Damm, 2022)
Henrike Wilson/Christiane Schwabbaur

Never Give Up!

YOU CAN DO IT!

All beginnings are difficult. This little bird also knows a thing or two about that. The big day has arrived, it’s time to leave the nest. But that’s pretty high! Will it be OK? Just don’t look down for too long. It can’t be helped, it has to be done. Well then: focus, take a run-up, spread your wings – and jump... Rats, that went wrong! Only one thing to do: keep at it and don’t lose heart. An unflappable, loveable little bird – masterfully illustrated with expressive and delightful drawings by Henrike Wilson!

A BOOK OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND A MOOD BOOSTER FOR READERS BIG AND SMALL!

Henrike Wilson, born in 1961, studied graphic design and painting in her hometown of Cologne and in the USA. Today she lives in Berlin where she works as a freelance illustrator. She has illustrated the picture books Santa’s Littlest Helper Travels the World, Brave Charlotte and Die Kleine Schusshexe (stories by Anu Stohner). The New York Times called Brave Charlotte one of the best-illustrated books of the year. Henrike Wilson has also illustrated books by Rafik Schami, Jostein Gaarder and David Grossman.

Christiane Schwabbaur worked as a full-time editor for many years before she decided to spread her wings and stay in the publishing business as a freelance editor and agent. She lives in Munich with her family.
Mrs. Right and Mr. Important live side by side peacefully and amiably – everything is in order: the lawn is trimmed, the car is parked properly, and naturally it is clean. Until one day the attic is converted and a new family moves in: the Stolperbeins, including their cat and their daughter Coco. And Coco brings a great deal of messiness into the wonderful order Mrs. Right and Mr. Important have created...

In catchy rhymes, children’s book author Jörg Hilbert tells a story of living together in our colourful society, of acceptance and of friendship.
Jörg Hilbert
Lonely Pig

»The pitiful pig moans: ›I am so alone, that’s not right‹.«

Together with his newfound companions, Pig meets even more friends, a crocodile, gnomes, a giant and many more. But Pig still feels very lonely and abandoned. But is that really the case? Of course not!

In catchy rhymes, Jörg Hilbert talks about loneliness. But also about the fact that you are not always alone when you think you are.
So cold! And so much snow! Mimi Catt, a snow-white and very clever cat, would prefer nothing more than to stay in her small, cozy basement flat. Even though a nasty mud-brown pug just did his business right in front of Mimi Catt’s window. And on top of it all, a huge ocean liner is stuck in the frozen canal outside the flat! »How is this possible?«, Mimi Catt wonders. But once she meets the captain and the sailors aboard this mysterious ship with whom she can sing such glorious songs all day and all night long, nothing really astonishes her anymore and together with the seafarers she enjoys the most beautiful and craziest winter of her life.

»›Guys, now only solidarity can help us!‹, yelled Mimi Catt, and everyone cheered.«

An enchanting winter’s tale by the award-winning author and translator Esther Kinsky

A story featuring Mimi Catt, the clever feline who lives next to the Landwehrkanal in Berlin

With numerous songs by the author that can be sung to familiar or newly invented melodies
»Jimi the Polar Bear was lying in the arms of the sleeping child, his paws crossed. It was 1 very young polar bear the size of a puppy and he hardly dared to breathe so as not to wake the child. The child was dreaming that Jimi was lying in its arms and told him 1 story.«
Thus begins the short poetic story of Jimi the Polar Bear and the child Emma, told by the great Austrian poet Friederike Mayröcker, with twelve illustrations by one of the most renowned picture book artists, Angelika Kaufmann.

»I can’t say that something has changed. I don’t feel old. And sometimes it even gets to the stage that I run around barefooted in Deinzendorf like a child.« Friederike Mayröcker
Hugh Lofting
The Story of Doctor Dolittle

The physician John Dolittle lives in the small town of Puddleby-on-the Marsh, and he is not on good terms with the local people. Things are entirely different with the animals, he is able to help even the sick crocodile. Many patients end up staying with the shy doctor after their treatment, find a spot in the garden or in the house, because he knows how to speak their languages! All of this becomes too much for Dolittle’s surly sister and she moves out. No »normal« patients were coming to the surgery anymore anyway …

When a new and incurable animal disease breaks out in Africa, Dolittle and his loyal friends decide to charter a ship, despite the lack of money, and set off for the unknown continent to help the animals there.

This edition of Hugh Lofting’s 1920 children’s classic has been illustrated by the masterful Reinhard Michl, whose specialty is drawing animals, for the Insel-Bücherei. A magnificent rediscovery!

»If you go on like this, none of the best people will have you for a doctor.« – »But I like the animals better than the »best people,« said the Doctor. »You are ridiculous,« said his sister, and walked out of the room. 

Hugh Lofting
The Story of Doctor Dolittle
With illustrations by Reinhard Michl
(Original title: Die Geschichte von Doktor Dolittle. Mit Illustrationen von Reinhard Michl)
approx. 124 pages
Clothbound
Release: March 2023

Rights available

Hugh Lofting, born in the UK in 1886, worked as a land surveyor and civil engineer before settling as a freelance writer in New York. World War I took him to the front in Flanders, where he created the character of Doctor Dolittle in letters to his children. From the letters, The Story of Doctor Dolittle was published in 1920 and it was followed by numerous other world-famous adventures with Doctor Dolittle. Lofting died in Topanga, California, in 1947.

Reinhard Michl, born in Hausen in 1948, studied graphic design after completing an apprenticeship as a typesetter and went on to attend the Academy of Fine Arts, Munich. He is one of the most renowned German illustrators of children’s books; with his illustrations, Irina Korschunow’s Der Findefuchs became a classic of the genre. Most recently, he published Reineke Fuchs in the Insel-Bücherei. Michl’s work has been shown nationally and internationally and has received numerous prizes. Michl lives in Munich.
Marion Perko
Vega – The Wind in My Hands

When the wind comes to life and the rain becomes a danger, the storm gets a soul and weather a face:

Germany 2052: The hot, dry summers are causing the people to suffer. To alleviate the water shortage, Vega works as a weather maker – she manipulates the clouds and brings rain. But she has a secret: unlike her colleagues, she doesn’t use chemicals and drones to do so. Because Vega can call up wind and rain with the power of her thoughts.

When children are injured in a mysterious weather accident, Vega becomes a target. How is she supposed to prove her innocence when no one is allowed to know about her gift? She receives unexpected help from Leo, a young scientist who is researching the nature of storms. In her search for the truth, Vega delves deeper and deeper into a web of influential environmental authorities, activists and corporations ... Who can she trust? And how can she protect the people she loves?

THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF A SPECTACULAR SERIES IN TWO VOLUMES

A GRIPPING STORY ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

FOLLOW VEGA INTO THE EYE OF THE STORM

Marion Perko
Vega – The Wind in My Hands
Vega # 1
(Original title: Der Wind in meinen Händen.
Vega Band 1)
384 pages
Clothbound
Release: November 2022

Rights available

Marion Perko is a literary and media scholar. She worked in various YA publishing houses for ten years before setting up her own business as an editor, writing coach and author in 2016. She lives in Eastern Bavaria and writes children’s and YA fiction.
Marion Perko
Vega – The Wind in My Heart

The story of a courageous and extraordinary heroine continues – wind, weather:

Vega has been captured by Bioverse, a weather making corporation that is researching a powerful tool: with the knowledge about Vega’s gift, they intend to initiate the computer programme Baal, which enables them to control the weather around the world.
Vega seemingly agrees to cooperate but really she is searching for a way to escape Bioverse. When she finally manages to flee, she looks for an ally to stop Baal.
But is EcoQuest truly pursuing the same goals? And what is motivating Esper, who keeps risking his life in increasingly dangerous missions? When Leo turns up and tries to win back Vega’s trust, Vega goes for broke: because Baal has been activated and thunderstorms of unknown magnitudes are threatening everything she holds dear.

Marion Perko
Vega – The Storm in My Heart
(Original title: Vega #2 – Der Sturm in meinem Herzen)
approx. 450 pages
Clothbound
Release: Autumn 2023

Rights available

Marion Perko is a literary and media scholar. She worked in various YA publishing houses for ten years before setting up her own business as an editor, writing coach and author in 2016. She lives in Eastern Bavaria and writes children’s and YA fiction.

Selected Backlist:
Vega – Der Wind in meinen Händen (2022); Vega #1
Rights available

THE SECOND INSTALMENT OF THE SPECTACULAR DILOGY
INTELLIGENT AND SUSPENSEFUL FANTASY
FICTION ON ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTEMPORARY TOPICS – OUR CLIMATE
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